

and after much difficulty, and many threats on the part of the Ojibwas, the few Englishmen left alive in this region started for Montreal by way of Lake Huron and the Ottawa, and left the entire upper lake country to the savage hordes, and the few French settlers who had become rooted to the soil.

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## CHAPTER XV.

### THE LAST SIEGE OF QUEBEC.

"The Americans united their forces under Generals Montgomery and Arnold, and advanced against the famous old fortress.—*High School History*, page 351.

The American colonies had drawn the sword against the motherland and had determined to drive the British from this continent. Washington, the commander of the forces, knew that while the British held Montreal and Quebec, they really held the key to this continent, and so he despatched Montgomery against Montreal and the West, and Colonel Benedict Arnold against Quebec, by the difficult route of the Kennebec and the Chaudière. In case Arnold were unsuccessful in his attempt, Montgomery was to join him, and the two were to make a united effort to drive the English from the stronghold Wolfe's courage and perseverance had won.

Arnold's march is one of the most remarkable in the history of war. He embarked on the Kennebec towards the latter part of September, and struggled for days against that rapid stream, then portaged his canoes across the high land to the Chaudière, and swept down that turbulent river towards the St. Lawrence. After thirty days of severe toil, his troops found themselves reduced to the necessity of killing some dogs they had with them for food, and some even endeavored to devour the very moccasins they wore. On the fourth of November they reached a French settlement, where they procured food, and some of the famished soldiers ate so greedily that they died from the effect of their gluttony, and left their bones to bleach on the line of march. On the eighth, Point