

hostilities on this larger scale, it is doubtful whether we have ever had a winter campaign in Canada, unless we should so recognize Montgomery's expedition, and the subsequent blockade of Quebec. Rigaud's expedition against Fort William Henry marching 1,400 strong in the dead of winter through the snow, was but a raid after all. It was only "La Petite Guerre" swollen to large proportions. The same may be said of Drummond's winter campaign, when in two dashes across the frozen Niagara in the bitter cold of late December he raided the American frontier from Fort Niagara to Buffalo.

The campaigning of armies stopped with approaching winter. Bradley in his "Fight with the French for North America" says: "On the approach of winter it was the custom of the colonial forces after leaving slender garrisons of permanent troops in a few isolated snow-bound outposts, to disband and to disperse, each man to his own home. Each spring the colonies had to form practically a new army." With raw levies such as these, loosely organized and ill-equipped to resist even the chill winds of autumn, the necessity for this custom is obvious. On the other hand, though the army disappeared, Rogers and his hardy rangers spent the winter months in raiding Canada. Like their French opponents in "La Petite Guerre," they were well equipped to resist the cold, and could travel swiftly over the snow-covered land, bringing ample provisions with them. To quote from Bradley again: "It is hardly necessary to remark that campaigning on any serious scale was out of the question in the northern colonies till the woods and the lakes had been loosened from their winter burden by the warm winds of April. Even armies in Europe went into winter quarters and suspended operations by a sort of unwritten agreement." Yes, they did, but would armies in Europe to-day go into winter quarters and suspend operations? The operations in Manchuria were not suspended during the winter, and yet the climate of Manchuria is severer than that of Western Europe. So severe in fact that one is inclined at first sight to compare it with that of Eastern Canada, until one comes to the question of snow. The accompanying tables showing the average monthly winter temperatures experienced by the Japanese army in the vicinity of Mukden, compared with the temperatures for the same months observed at Montreal, show a fair conformity, with the balance, if any, pointing to somewhat colder conditions at Montreal. But when one looks at the snow record the conditions are widely different. In the six months from November to April, Montreal had 60 days in which snow fell, Mukden but 16. The total snow fall at Montreal during these months amounted to 130 inches, deeply covering the ground. At Mukden the snow fall was so slight that it had no deterrent effect upon wheeled transport. In direct contrast to the Canadian season, the winter conditions of Manchuria with the bare frozen ground converting marshes, fields, rivers and streams into one continuous hard surface added greatly to transport facilities.

But the climatic factor of cold—of bitter winter cold—is as potent there as in Canada. How did the Japanese soldier meet it? MacPherson states: "At the battle of Sha-Ho in October, 1904, the second Japanese army remained entrenched in a position extending some ten miles along the Sha river, with troops of the second line cantoned in the villages in the rear. "This was the position until the battle of Hei-kou-tai, which started on the 25th January and lasted till the 29th. "On the 24th, the day before the conflict started, the weather changed suddenly, falling to a low point, and the relative humidity increased, with the wind from the north. On the 26th snow began to fall, and the weather was at its worst on the 27th, 28th and 29th, the closing days of the battle. The air was then saturated with moisture, and the high relative humidity caused it to become a good conductor of heat from the body. To this fact more than to the actual lowness of the temperature, is to be attributed the effects of the cold." The 5th Japanese Division advanced into the fight on the 27th, the third day