

Pitt who aimed at nothing less than the extinction of their dominion in America. With this end in view an expedition was fitted out, in 1758, against Louisbourg. The command was given to Admiral Boscawen who had elsewhere distinguished himself for bravery and discretion.

On the first of June the white sails of the English fleet were seen off Louisbourg, but on account of the stormy and tempestuous weather, it was not until the eighth that a landing, under Wolfe, was effected. Batteries were soon erected and the siege began in good earnest. Wolfe afterwards the Hero of Quebec seemed ever present in the strife encouraging, planning and pressing forward operations. An abating and ever nearing storm of shot and shell was poured into the doomed town. The place became at length most untenable; so untenable, indeed, that, on the twenty-fifth of July, Drucour, the Governor, hoisted a flag of truce. Negotiations were completed and the terms of capitulation signed at midnight. On the morning of the twenty-sixth the Union Jack floated over the wreck of that bulwark of the French Dominion in the New World.

This, the first decisive victory for the upholders of, and the perpetuation of free institutions in the new land so bravely won, filled the hearts of New Englanders as well as Old Englanders with joy. They saw the final triumph near at hand and from the pulpits of the one came poems of praise for a fallen Babylon, and the public places, of the other from end to end of the land, glowed with the beacon fires of gladness over a defeated foe.

Medalists too, were not slow in contributing to the public joy. Although not so loud or so brilliant, their indelible work is more lasting and more apparent to us who live "in these degenerate days" than songs of triumph or fires of joy. No less than eleven medals chronicle this event varying in design and excellency of workmanship, some, the work of skilled artists, are beautiful in themselves, but others, the work of untrained men, are only treasured for the events they