

the naval and military officers, Wolfe landed one night alone upon the hostile shore, and walked two miles up the country. He found that there were no real difficulties in the way of debarkation, and that no preparations had been made to oppose it. When he returned to the fleet he reported the result of his observations, and strongly, but vainly, urged the general to land, and at once attack Rochefort. Finally, he pledged himself to carry the place, should three ships of war and 500 men be placed at his disposal. The proposal was neglected : however, the zeal and daring shown by the gallant young soldier on this occasion confirmed Pitt in the estimate which he had formed of his character. Some more days were wasted in inaction, and at length the expedition, having destroyed the unimportant fortifications of Aix, returned ingloriously to England. Wolfe's merit was thrown out in strong relief by the incapacity of those under whom he served while they were despised he was honoured. The rank of brevet-colonel on the 21st of October of that year was his first reward.

On the 23rd of January, 1758, Mr. Pitt made Wolfe brigadier-general, and gave him the command of a brigade under Amherst, in the expedition against Louisburg, disregarding the mere official routine of seniority. Events soon proved the wisdom of the selection. From thenceforward Wolfe's biography is English history. However, it may be added that he was made colonel of the 67th Foot on the 21st of April, 1758. In January, 1759, Pitt again selected him for service. This time he was to command in chief : he was gazetted as major general, and intrusted with the conduct of the arduous expedition against Quebec.

Wolfe was a plain man : his features were sharp, his forehead somewhat receding, his hair sandy or red and, contrary to the fashion of the time, was not powdered ; his skin was coarse, fair, and freckled, but his mouth wore a smiling and gentle expression, and his eyes were blue and benignant. He