

IV.—*The Monument to Wolfe on the Plains of Abraham, and the Old Statue at "Wolfe's Corner."*

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(Communicated by George Stewart, D.C.L., and read June 23, 1904.)

In a correspondence addressed to the Editor of *The Chronicle*, Quebec, July 8th, 1903, a loyal Englishman, of London, England, H. O. Mordaunt, Esq., as one of the thousand visitors to Quebec, praises this beautiful city, its unique panorama, fine buildings and statues, etc., but goes on to remark:—

"But will you allow a visitor from the Old Country to point out how, in one respect, Quebec has fallen far short of what might naturally have been expected of her. I refer to the column erected to the memory of Wolfe. A hero so illustrious in the Annals of the Empire, and associated at all times with the early history of Quebec, is surely deserving of something better than this insignificant and mutilated memorial, utterly dwarfed by the huge jail at its side, and not easily found, owing to the site selected being a side lane."

The truth of these remarks must be admitted to a certain extent. It may be said in extenuation thereof, that no appeal has ever been made to the public in general to raise funds for the purpose of erecting such a befitting monument on the Plains as one erected to Wolfe and Montcalm, in the Governor's Garden, in the year 1828.

The existing column, though modest in appearance, is not altogether unbecoming, when it is remembered that it was due to the public spirit and liberality of the few British officers serving in Canada, at the head of whom stood Sir Benjamin D'Urban, then Commander of the Forces therein, who had it erected in the year 1849, to replace the former dilapidated one, a truncated column, which was buried underneath, and which had been raised by Lord Aylmer in the year 1832, at his private expense.

Now that these Plains have lately been purchased by the Government of the Dominion, and have been given over to the city, they are, by express agreement, set apart as public domain for all time, with the view of making a park which shall be dedicated to the memory of the gallant foes who fought the celebrated battles thereon. Thus, the occasion is offered to take the proper steps to build, among others, a monument in keeping with the brilliant victory and glorious death of Wolfe; and more appropriate as commemorating the immense political results which followed this pregnant event in North America.