

the approaches. Within the city Carleton had a very difficult course to follow. The leading British merchants, with one Adam Lymburner at their head, were more than disaffected. On the very day the Governor entered the city one of them named Williams had at a public meeting endeavoured to prevail on the citizens to surrender, but Col. McLean ordered him to be silent, and on the 22nd November it became necessary to order all those who would not take up arms to leave the city; this at once disclosed the traitors, who, with Lymburner at their head, retired to the Isle of Orleans to await the issue and hail it with "God save the King," or "Congress forever," according to circumstances.

These scoundrels were discontented at the Quebec Act and had been tampered with by the agents of the Rebels; it is no wonder then that Carleton was obliged to keep his troops inside the walls, a single false move on his part would have lost England the only foothold she had on the American Continent, within one year the great British empire in America had crumbled away through the imbecility of statesmen and soldiers.

Meantime Montgomery's position was becoming perilous, having effected a junction with Arnold he advanced to the Plains of Abraham and summoned the city, but Carleton would hold no communications with him. Batteries were opened but the fire from the city demolished them as soon as erected; having no artillery heavier than 12 pounders and all hope of assistance from the traitors within the city being at an end, it became necessary to effect something before the severity of winter closed the campaign.

To add to his perplexities the Canadians who had hitherto looked on the quarrel with complacency now felt it necessary to strike for their own peculiar views of constitutional government; the zealous republicans who had come amongst them out of a feeling of pure philanthropy to enable them to achieve their freedom, turned out to be vulgar tyrants, and in the eyes of the Canadians, thieves as well, they treated them with contempt, purchased their provisions and food with inconvertible paper currency which could never be redeemed, and took what they wanted without scruple; moreover General Richard Montgomery had been amongst them in 1759 as a Captain of Grenadiers in the service of that country to which he was now a traitor, and had been employed in the barbarous and inhuman burning of the villages and farms of those very Canadians especially a series of cruelties closely approaching murder could be traced home to him and it was well remembered that he commanded the attack on St. Joachim in which the gallant curé of that village fell sword in hand in defence of the helpless women and children which this same Richard Montgomery put to the sword without pity.

The effect of all this was speedily develop-

ed, his supplies were intercepted, his movements watched, reinforcements of Volunteers began to pour into the beleaguered city, the winter commenced with unusual severity he had no shelter for his troops and all his movements were well known in the city, as a last and desperate effort he determined to attempt the capture of Quebec by escalade, and for this purpose had a number of ladders prepared in camp and waited for a dark night to make the attempt. But Carleton, fully aware of all his plans, was on the alert having manned all his exposed parts with his most trusted troops, commanded by vigilant officers, Canadian and English, quietly awaited the result.

On the morning of the 31st December, 1775, just before daybreak, Montgomery's force formed into four columns of attack marched on the city; the right led by himself in person was designed to advance by what was then known as Drummond's wharf, now Champlain street, the left led by Arnold was to pass through the St. Rochs suburbs carrying the barricades and batteries of the Saulte-au-Matelot, this force was about 450 men, Montgomery's over 600, while a smaller force under Major Brown threatened the works on Cape Diamond, another detachment under Livingston attacked the St. John's Gate, this last band being composed of rebels recruited from the British population in the colonies.

At 4 a. m. two rockets from the Rebel lines gave the signal to advance and also warned the garrison so that when Major Brown and Livingston reached their respective posts they were received by a heavy fire of small arms and artillery and easily beaten off. The real plan of the attack had now developed itself; Montgomery had advanced to the Pres de Ville on Champlain street the outer barrier of which had been purposely left undefended, but within 50 yards a battery confronted him, the gunners at their pieces with lighted matches, he was so surprised that he halted and turned around to confer with his officers and then turned to rush on the battery but at that moment the officer in command gave the orders to fire and a deadly volley of grape and musketry was poured into the advancing column sweeping away its whole formation, killing Montgomery and several other officers and so disheartening the rest that Col. Campbell who succeeded to the command was compelled to make a precipitate retreat.

Arnold's column at this time was advancing to the attack but being himself struck down with a musket shot from the ramparts, his men were led by Captain Morgan formerly a wig maker in Quebec but a brave soldier, who marched up to the barrier and carried it by escalade; here he was joined by Lt. Col. Greene and the rest of the column but were detained longer than they ought to have been by the onslaught of a party of citizens who finding their rendezvous in the

hands of enemies at once attacked them with impetuosity and were only driven back by hard fighting disputing the ground foot by foot; by this time they had taken possession of all the houses between the first and second barriers which they were preparing to scale but were driven off by the defenders and the ladders pulled inside the barricade, a fierce contest now ensued the Canadians forcing the houses and putting the rebels to the sword, and being now assailed in rear they surrendered at discretion. Following up this success the battery which Arnold had captured at St Roch's was also carried by assault.

The loss of the rebels in killed did not exceed 50 men, that of the British was trifling but all Arnold's column remained as prisoners in their hands.

The death of their principal leader, a man of great ability as a soldier, was a severe blow to the rebels, his body with that of twelve others was taken from the same heap recognized and buried with military honors.

Carleton satisfied with allowing Arnold to waste away his strength knowing the spring would bring the hostilities of the people upon him did not attempt to molest his further operations; the rebel force withdrew to a distance of three miles and their spent a miserable winter decimated by the small pox and scurvy but pleased at the idea of blockading Quebec.

The first campaign of the rebels had closed and there can be no doubt notwithstanding the failure of the invasion of Canada when success was within their grasp it had been a brilliant one for their cause they had shown every soldierly quality and their opponents had displayed none, on the contrary their imbecility and helplessness served to cover the rebel cause with the halo of success.

Some secrets leak out about the flying machine called the "aviator," about which the Californian papers boast so much. One of the journals describes a trial of that machine and innocently remarks that the benefit of the steering appendage could not be determined, as the machine was guided round the room by means of the cords attached. It was also "easily elevated or depressed by means of small cords at the bow and stern." Altogether it seems to have been as fair a trial of the machinery as might be afforded by walking around with a hand balloon, and the astonishment at its success is about as reasonably exhibited as it would be at finding that a little management would keep the little globe under perfect control.

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