

Moerdyke, sought to defile through Cochlaer under cover of the woods of Wynendale.

Oudenburg had been early secured; and on the morning of the 28th the cavalry were sent to Hooglede, under Cadapon, who dispatched parties to Ichteghem, when some squadrons of French Horse appeared in sight. Without attacking, Cadagon now hastened to Tourout, upon which point Webb had commanded the entire escort to concentrate; and the whole forming a junction, they began their march steadily upon Wynendale.

There ere long the glitter of steel announced the presence of the enemy.

At the head of 150 horse, General Webb and Count Nassau Loudenburg rode forward to reconnoitre, and plainly saw the columns of La Mothe, drawn up in a heathy plain, through an opening between the wood and a low copse. Through this avenue Webb pushed his cavalry to occupy their attention under Count Lottum; while to embarrass them still more, the quartermasters and grenadiers were posted among the bushes which skirted the ground where the enemy were to pass.

As fast as our battalions issued from the woody defile, they were ranged in order of battle by Webb, who formed them into lines, and threw two regiments into the woods on either flank, rested his right on the ancient castle Wynendale. Who came on with an aspect of steady resolution, and in strength nearly three to one.

He opened a cannonade from nineteen pieces, and under cover of it closed up with musketry. The action was severe while it lasted. The regiments formed into the woods, as a cloud of the grenadiers and skirmishers who were posted among the brushwood, reserved their shot till the enemy's line was passed, when they open a murderous fire on their flanks and rear, at a distance of a few yards. They were thrown into the most complete disorder, and never recovered from it; but seemed to get more and more bewildered, amid the clouds of fleecy smoke that curled up from the brushwood and rolled away before the wind.

They broke and fled, in spite of the exertions of their leaders to rally them, and the long convoy passing in the meanwhile into Menin without the loss of a single wagon. The conflict lasted two hours. The loss of Webb's force was 912 of all ranks, killed or wounded; that of the enemy was alleged by the prisoners taken to be nearly 4,000; and the survivors fled in such confusion that they left behind them in the wood all their guns, for which, however, they returned the following day.

The gallantry of this exploit excited great admiration, and General Webb was honoured by the thanks of Parliament which had assembled that year and approbation of the queen. Seven years afterwards, with two other generals, named Ross and Stuart, he "was laid aside" by George I.

The labours of the siege were immediately resumed with fresh energy; and as Eugene was able to superintend them in person, hopes of a speedy and glorious termination were encouraged.

A new expedient was resorted to by Vendome to avert this catastrophe. He marched a column from Scheldt through Ghent, and joined La Mothe between Moerdyke and the canal that connects Bruges with Plassendael. He opened the sluices there, as they had done elsewhere, and laid the whole country under water to the very border of the dyke. He then reinforced the garrison at Nieuwport; established a post with 1,600 horse and foot in rear of Lefinghen, and completely cut off all communication between the lines and Ostend.

Marlborough no sooner heard of these plans than he hastened to prevent; but he was too late. The whole face of the country now resembled a vast sea, out of which the houses, windmills and woodlands stood but half submerged,

and it was only by packing ammunition in skins, and conveying these in flat-boats, that further supplies could be sent to the front; and a curious kind of warfare was maintained amid the watery waste, boat fighting with boat and wagon with wagon.

It was amid this state of matters that Marshall Auverquerque, one of the most able of the allied commanders, died.

On the 22nd of October, after sixty days of open trenches, Marshall Blouffiers proposed to capitulate; and as an act of justice to his gallantry and skill he was permitted to name his own terms. He yielded up the town and retired into Vaubun's citadel, to sustain there, with the remains of his garrison a second siege. His cavalry was permitted to march to Douay, taking with them the wives and families of all the officers and soldiers.

By the 14th of November Prince Eugene had effected a lodgment on the counterscarp of the citadel of Lisle; on the 17th of that month the troops had stationed themselves on the glacis of the second covered way.

The siege was pressed with all the vigor which the exhausted state of the magazines would permit. To recruit these, numerous parties were from time to time sent into France, to sweep away corn, cattle and other supplies from the open country; while Marlborough, as he had hitherto done, maintained a commanding position, so as to cover both beseigers and foragers; and to Vendome and Berwick it became palpable now that any attempt to rescue Lisle was impossible.

On the 8th of December Marshal Bouffiers beat a parley and yielded up the citadel, from which he and his garrison came forth with all the honors of war; and marched to Douay; and so ended one of the most remarkable sieges of these brilliant campaigns.

The Gatineau.

Our first experience of a run over the Gatineau Valley Railway, which took place in the latter part of July, will long to be remembered, and one which we hope soon to repeat. Our destination was Venosta, some 40 miles north of Ottawa. The splendid scenery, from the moment we left the Union Depot, Ottawa, until we, two hours later arrived at our terminus, is indescribable; so beautiful, so enchanting was the view of the Gatineau River that we could not afford to loose one moment from watching the many scenes as the winding and turning of the train constantly brought them to our view. How shall we find words to sketch the varied splendors of this historic river and the numerous lakes and mountains which thickly spot this region and which we viewed, in all their wealth of summer verdure as they were brought within sight. The train skirts the bank of the river, until it reaches the town of Low. It then leaves the river and goes north through the forest. These wooded lands of the Gatineau are of particular beauty and the eye is ever on the alert to catch a glimpse of the scenes which are presented.

One of the most beautiful resting places—about 1½ miles from Venosta station—is Gleeson's Lake. It is the property of Mr. James Gleeson, who, besides the lake is the fortunate possessor of 400 acres of mountain and forest surrounding it. The lake is deep and abounds in fish, while on three sides are mountains which make this a picturesque spot indeed. It is the intention of Mr. Gleeson to erect a modern summer hotel on the shore of the lake, which will be supplied with up-to-date conveniences. All trains will by met, and tourists, pleasure seekers and sportsmen be conveyed to one of the most ideal and conveniently reached of summer resorts on the Gatineau. Gleeson's lake is one of the largest on the Gatineau, and contains all varieties of fish, and on the mountains are larger game.