

at the battle of Quebec, on the Plains of Abraham,—and also their covering the retreat of a portion of the French army to Point-aux-Trembles—the re-appearance of the cavalry in the following spring, in advance of the army, previous to the battle of St. Foy—and the many important services performed by them, we shall devote this article largely to quotations.

How nearly too we were in not having so reliable a historian to quote from, may best be judged from the description of his first visit to Montmorenci Falls. He says:—"There being no particular commands for me, and as I had some spare time on my hands, I ventured to take a walk to the westward, and view more distinctly the Leap (as the French term it) of Montmorenci and the enemy's entrenchments. * * * I had very high paid very dear for my inquisitiveness; for while I stood upon the eminence with a paper and pencil in my hand, making some observations on this cascade, the advantageous situation of the enemy on the opposite side of it, with the superiority of his ground over the left of theirs in point of height, and the natural strength of the country all around me, I was hastily called to by one of our sentinels, when, throwing my eyes about, I saw a Frenchman creeping under the eastern extremity of their breastwork, next the main river, to fire at me; this obliged me to retire as fast as I could, out of his reach, and making up to the sentry to thank him for his attack. He told me the fellow had snapped his piece twice, and the second time it flashed in the pan, at the instant I turned away from the fall."

It was due to the constant vigilance of the French troops on all sides of Quebec, maintained too at considerable loss, that the last decided General Wolfe "that the enterprise of storming Quebec should be given up as too desperate to hope for success." This was on the 21st August, and it was with the greatest concern that the whole army heard, next day, that their admirable General was ill of a slow fever. The French now reproached their watchfulness, especially as the news of General Amherst's success at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and the reduction of Niagara, would be likely to have a depressing effect upon their army. The advantage of having a small body of mounted men to follow and harass the English troops, keeping them constantly on the *qui vive* is alluded to at page 34, Vol. 1:—"The enemy have got a squadron of three hundred light cavalry, well accoutred and appointed, to act occasionally, on foot or horse-back, as circumstances may require," showing too that the *subreus* understood the advantage of being able to use their carbines dismounted.

On the 26th August His Excellency General Wolfe was recovering, to the inconceivable joy of the whole English army, and as fine weather had set in, scouting parties were sent in all directions under experienced officers, to lay waste the country and stop the Canadians gathering their harvest. In most of the distant parishes, such as Beaumont, Chateau-Richer, Isle-aux-Coudres, St. Paul's Bay, and Point Levi, success attended the English rangers, but in the immediate neighborhood of Quebec they were not so successful.

On the 7th September, in obedience to orders, "Admiral Colvilles" squadron weighed early this morning; at six o'clock they doubled the mouth of the Chaudière, which is nearly half a mile over, and at eight we came to an anchor off Cape Rouge; there is a spacious cove into which the River St. Michael discharges, and within the mouth of it are the enemy's floating batteries; a large body of the enemy are well entrenched round the cove, (which is of circular form) as if jealous of a descent in those parts: they appear very numerous, and may amount to about one thousand six hundred men, besides their cavalry, who are clothed in blue, and mounted on neat light horses of different colours; they seem very alert, parading and intermarching between the woods on the heights in their rear, and their breast-works, in order to make their numbers shew to great advantage. The lands all round us are high and commanding, which gave the enemy an opportunity of popping at our ships this morning as we tacked in working up. I did not

hear of any damage sustained, though they were a little troublesome. Upon our coming to an anchor they turned out their floats, and ranged them in great order; their cavalry dismounted, formed on the right of the infantry, and their whole detachment ran down the precipice, with a ridiculous shout and manured their works." The troops which had been put into boats rowed up and down without landing, and finally were ordered back to the ships, it having been decided to force a landing next day, but the weather setting in so bad, the orders were countermanded, and on the 10th September, 1,520 men were landed on the south shore at St. Nicholas, upon which a parcel of canoes started from the north shore, with some fifty men, to cross over and watch the movements of the English; but being attacked by the armed boats and floating batteries, who poured grape shot into them, drove them back ashore, where they scrambled up the precipice, and got behind a breast-work of corded fire-wood. "By the time they had gained the summit, and got under cover, they were re-inforced, and discharged several volleys at our boats, who still edged towards the shore, as if intending to land, and it is not improbable but they expected we should make a descent there, for in a short space of time their numbers increased, and we could observe from our ships several officers on horse-back, who seemed to be employed in forming and animating their men."

BATTLE OF QUEBEC.

Thursday, 13th September, 1759.

Before day-break on this ever-memorable day, the English troops made a descent upon the north shore, a little to the eastward of Sillery, and the rapidity of the current fortunately carried the boats with the light troops still further down towards Cape Diamond. By day-light the whole of General Wolfe's army was formed on the top of the hill, and drove in the chain of sentries posted along the summit of the heights, who had continued to fire upon the landing parties up to the last moment, picking off some officers and men. At six o'clock the march towards the town was halted by the appearance of the French on the heights between them and the city, and orders given to form up in battle array, the fight commencing with artillery fire from the French, also a musketry fire from their Indians and other marksmen. Knox says:—"About eight o'clock we had two pieces of short brass six-pounders playing on the enemy, which threw them into some confusion, and obliged them to alter their disposition, and Montcalm formed them into three large columns; about nine the two armies moved a little nearer each other. The light cavalry made a faint attempt upon our parties at the battery of Sillery, but were soon beat off, and Monsieur de Bougainville, with his troops from Cap Rouge, consisting of five companies of grenadiers, cavalry, Canadian volunteers, savages and militia, two thousand and sixty in all, came down to attack the flank of our second line, hoping to penetrate there; but by a masterly disposition of Brigadier Townshend, they were forced to desist, and the third battalion of Royal Americans was then detached to the first ground we had formed on after we gained the heights to preserve the communication with the beach and our boats."

From the diary of a French officer, published at page 98, speaking of the haste to engage the English and the quality of troops which formed the reserve, we take the following: "Our Generals, thinking we could do the business without the aid of M. de Bougainville, who was advancing from Cape Rouge with the flower of the army, ordered us to march up and engage the enemy." Again we learn from an old order published at page 116. "Dispositions générales pour s'opposer à la descente des Anglais depuis la rivière St. Charles jusqu'au Saut de Montmorenci; de même que pour se retirer derrière la dite rivière St. Charles dans le cas que l'on fut forcé dans la descente, pour défendre cette rivière; et ordre de bataille pour combattre et camper, pendant toute la campagne.

To be continued.