

the fortifications were by no means so strong as they appeared.

From this safe retreat raids were made on the colonial fishing fleet and expeditions fitted out against the coasts of Nova Scotia and New England. The colonists so continued to long for its capture: that one or two expeditions were organized for that purpose but they came to nothing. Although more populous than Canada, the separate and almost independent English colonies were weak in organization. They, instead of acting together kept up constant disputings or quarrelling with their governors about prerogatives and powers, refusing to vote the supplies and men necessary for the defence of the country until some trivial dispute should be granted. Meanwhile the French colony, less populous and so dependent that ~~sub~~ at the dictates of the king it could not move hand or foot, but with a united front and supplied with money, munitions and men by that king, seemed to be victorious in every direction, dealing devastation all along an unguarded frontier. Especially, after the battle of the Monongahela did the Canadians, by the aid of their Indian allies, spread death and desolation throughout the border settlements of Pennsylvania and Virginia. In the mean time the generals, sent out from England by Newcastle to conduct the war, proved so incompetent that they more often led their troops to ambush and disaster than to victory. Defeat following defeat told of the encroachments of their northern neighbours. The extinction of the "American Colonies" seemed at hand. Although a crusade against the modern Babylon was preached from the New England pulpits the New Englanders seemed paralyzed.

But at length a change came. Pitt, by the will of the English people, was made Prime Minister and new generals—competent men—superseded Newcastle's favorites. Hope again seemed to revive throughout the colonies, the French were brought to a stand-still. But that did not satisfy