

It is not pretended that any frontier can be hermetically sealed against hostile incursions, or that every man's land can be guaranteed against the spoiler; individuals will and must suffer in the common cause, and, if it is the highest privilege of freemen to make sacrifices in defence of their independence, so it is the first duty of the Commonwealth to compensate their sacrifices, in due time, as has been before suggested. The line of the Ste. Croix may, no doubt, be easily forced at many points, by superior numbers. The farmer and the lumberman, become soldiers in self-defence, will fall back with their flocks and herds, their household stuff and families, to strong defensive positions in the rear. Woodstock, on the St. John's River, and Fredericton, the beautiful capital of New Brunswick, offer just the positions wanted. An intrenched camp at the Grand Falls would maintain and protect the communications on the left bank of the St. John's, between the mouth of the Madawaska and the cities lower down the stream. Here, earthworks and intrenchments, with which the siege of Sebastopol has made us all familiar, planned before hand, and ready to rise at the magic touch of patriotism, would rapidly cover a population, handy with the axe and spade, and marksmen with the rifle. These men, trained systematically, but simply, as recommended in the Annual Report of the Adj.-General of Militia for 1869, p. 11, par. 15, and armed with the best weapon, would be able to hold their own against tenfold odds, until diversions, reduced numbers, and General Frost, the leader of our winter array, poured "iron sleet in arrowy shower" on the retreating and discomfited foe. Fredericton and Woodstock are both so situated that an easy communication could be maintained with the left bank of the St. Johns River, securing re-inforcements and supplies, and means of retreat, if ever required, to stronger positions in a more difficult country, while a glance at the map will show that so long as Fredericton is held strongly,