And the singing of the centuries¹⁵ is in our wistful ear,

As the cataract keeps a-rhyming the story of the year;

When its prehistoric routine was disturbed by battle-storm,

Where its silvered wreathings wimple out, in ripples retiform,

As if 'twere brooklet once again, before it runs aglee,

Into the great St. Lawrence and its broadening to the sea.

In its awe-inspiring presence, we can read the tale anew,

How a counter rage of torrents across its torrent flew;

Repentigny daring Townshend,16 from his shelterings from above;

The Centurion issuing challenge, 17 to Dc Lévis' every move;

While Murray waits the signal, the lower ford to ward,

As the Grenadiers intrepid rush over the spray-wet sward.

Will they silence the approaches, and disarm the near redoubt?

Is there field enough for two brigades, when beyond the ford they're brought?

Behold the Grenadiers advance, beyond the outer breach,

Heedless of danger, out of rank, beyond precaution's reach!

God grant they meet no dire mishap, in their reckless raid pell-mell!