

away together, Spencer and Graham having bid us adieu and gone in another direction.

I thought so too. It seemed fitting to me that his great stature and eagle face should belong to the race which took England and gave it the blood of which it boasts the loudest. Which stock on the French side, I may add, also has given us the most trouble.

"What is he, and what is he doing here?" I asked of Culverhouse, who knew the gossip of the town, while I had arrived but recently from duty at Albany.

"He is one of the great seigneurs of Canada," replied Culverhouse, "and he has come here on behalf of Montcalm to treat with Loudoun for an exchange of prisoners. The earl having finished his cabbage-planting at Halifax, may now be able to attend somewhat to the war."

Culverhouse spoke with bitterness. Never was there a greater laggard than our commander-in-chief, and it was as galling to the English officers, his brethren, as it was to us, whom he said he came to protect. The earl was but a day back from Halifax, where he had nobly earned the title of cabbage-planter, and we were wondering what garden he would cultivate next. Coming back from Halifax, when off the Massachusetts shore, he had received a message from Governor Shirley, sent out in a small boat, giving the dreadful news from William Henry. So he had arrived in New York, telling, ere his foot had scarce touched the landing, of the terrible things he was going to have done to M. Montcalm, how he had sent a message to Webb to chase the impudent Frenchman back to Canada, and how he