

CHATEAUGUAY.

BY HENRY MOTT.

DIED in Montreal, on Wednesday June 5th, 1872, CHARLES LABELLE, well known in the city, as one of the heroes of Chateauguay. He was born at St. Eustache in 1775, and was, therefore, 97 years of age at time of his death. Under the name of "*Old Chateauguay*," the deceased veteran was well known, and there are few who have not listened to his recital of the events of 1812-15, as the old soldier was extremely garrulous, and never tired of

"Shouldering his crutch,
And showing how fields were won."

The Battle of Chateauguay was fought on 25th October, 1813, when 4,000 American troops were routed by not more than 300 Canadian militia. The whole brunt of the action fell upon the advanced corps under the command of Colonel de Salaberry.

The battle was fought in front of the first line of intrenchments, at the abattis, and at the ford in the rear. On this part of the field, De Salaberry commanded alone, and to him is to be ascribed the glory of the victory. *The Canadian troops remained in position, and slept that night on the ground on which they had fought.*

The French population of Lower Canada are justly proud of the victory of Chateauguay, it having been fought by French Canadian Militiamen.

It is no part of my duty to give the details of the battle but it is always pleasing to speak of bravery, especially when displayed in a just cause.

Of Captain Longtin it is recorded, that on the commencement of the action he knelt down at the head of his company, and offered up a brief and earnest prayer:—"And, now,