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Historical Sketch.

QUEBEC.

The history of Quebec is interesting, but too long to be detailed. It has sustained three sieges. The first was in 1680. A considerable army marched from New England, under the command of the governor of that province, to invest the place by land whilst an English fleet sailed up the St. Lawrence to attack it by water. The army was conducted by a party of Iroquois, inimical to the French, but who abandoned their allies in the night of the wilderness, in consequence of which the provincials were dispersed, and returned home as they could. Meanwhile, a force was landed from the fleet to make a diversion, but they were promptly attacked by the French and forced to retreat with great loss. This expedition, therefore, totally failed.

The second was more fortunate. The great Lord Chatham, justly alarmed at the progress the French armies were making in North America, foresaw that the north western continent must soon obey one or other of the rival powers. A formidable armament for the time, consisting of about 15,000 men, in 250 transports and conveyed by 20 men of war, was fitted out with so much expedition, that it arrived in the river St. Lawrence, in June 1759. It was commanded by General Wolf and Admiral Saunders. Notwithstanding this promptitude, the enemy was prepared to meet it. He first made a bold attempt to burn the fleet in the river by fire-ships; it was well conducted and would probably have succeeded, if he had not set fire to them too soon.

Point Levi was first taken and carried by the English, from whence the town was bombarded. The French, to prevent an investment, had posted their principal force at Montmorenci. The ground was very strong. Wolf attacked them with the flower of his troops, consisting of all his flank companies; he could not, however, with the most heroic exertions, force their strong positions, and was compelled to retreat to his *batteaux*, leaving 1500 of his men on the field. This loss, together with the approach of winter, would have justified a frigid calculating general in giving up the enterprise; but Wolf was resolved to conquer or die. He did both.

As he could not gain the heights of Abraham by one route, he tried another, which the enemy thought impracticable. He landed his men higher up the river, at the Ance de Mer, since called Wolfe's cove. It is the only assailable acclivity on the whole coast; and although now there is a horse road made down the slope to the water, at that time it was covered with brush wood, and had not even a path.

On the morning of the 13th of December, before day break, the advanced party gained the heights. The whole army consisting of about 5000 men, followed; upon which, Montcalm, the French governor, with equal rashness and presumption, drew out the garrison and gave battle. The contest was not long in deciding—both commanders fell. They shew a rock of grey granite, rising above the sod, in a hollow (which is rounded by travellers knocking off fragments), in which the illustrious Wolfe breathed his last; and this is the only monument that exists to commemorate the hero in the very country which he conquered.

The enemy was panic struck, and capitulated; otherwise, if he had collected his scattered forces, which would have troubled that of the victors, and held out a few days until the severe weather set in, the siege must have been raised.

The last enterprise against Quebec was planned with great judgment and executed with no less spirit and vigour, so that it had nearly proved successful.

The Canadians had as yet no time to appreciate the freedom, happiness and security they enjoyed under the British government, when the American revolution broke out, and set them all in a flame with the hopes of a speedy independence. The Congress, taking advantage of these sentiments, determined on the conquest of the country; and so certain were they of succeeding, that they actually made a provision in their declaration of independence, to admit Canada into the union as a fourteenth State.

On the other hand, the military force in the Province was at that time very weak. It scarcely amounted to 2000 regulars and provincial militia, that could be depended on. But it possessed a Governor in Gen. Carlton, who was not to be daunted with difficulties, great as they were.

The Republicans having reduced Crown Point and Ticonderoga, became masters of Lake Champlain. From thence Montgomery marched at the head of 3000 men to invade Canada. Fort St. John was the key of the province on that side. It was a place of considerable strength, built on the 6th of September 1775. Montgomery appeared before it, without either cannon or ammunition. He marched further on however, and surprized the castle of Chambly, where he found both. He then counter-marched & took St. John's. The place being bravely defended by Major Preston, this retarded the progress of Montgomery for near a month, and gave time for Carlton to prepare for a defence.

That general had collected all his disposable

Had the expedition been delayed a fortnight, or even a week longer, it had as certainly failed, as some expeditions have done during the revolutionary war, from the same cause.

force on board some armed vessels, to defend Montreal; but Montgomery succeeded with his flotilla in driving them up the river, upon which Montreal capitulated. Carlton was compelled to effect his escape in the night by gliding down the stream with muffled oars. He reached Quebec in safety, but General Prescott and his armed craft were obliged to surrender to Montgomery.

Whilst this distinguished officer was making a regular conquest of Canada above Quebec, Arnold was detached, in the middle of September, from Boston, with 1500 New Englanders. After enduring incredible hardships he penetrated the wilderness and appeared on the banks of the St. Lawrence opposite Quebec, on the 9th of November. His arrival was so prompt and unexpected, that he seized five fishing boats on that side of the river, and although the English had two frigates and some smaller vessels in the river yet he contrived to ferry his men over during a dark night.

At the same time that Arnold arrived before Quebec, General Carlton joined the garrison from Montreal.

The garrison consisted of about 80 regulars and 500 seamen and marines, collected from all the vessels in the river. To these were added about as many provincials and English inhabitants. The whole force was insufficient to man half the works. The winter had now set in. Montgomery, however, marched from Montreal and joined Arnold before Quebec on the fifth of December.

The town was first summoned, but Carlton would not suffer the flag of truce to approach the walls. The Americans then opened a six gun battery against the works, whilst they threw shells into the town from Point Levi. But this proving mere children's play against such a fortress, and the weather becoming insupportably severe, it was resolved to attempt the town by escalade.

The assault took place the last morning of the year 1775, during a very heavy fall of snow. It must be observed, that both the lower and upper towns, on the side next the water, were at that time open, and only protected by occasional temporary defences.

Montgomery formed four divisions of his little army. Two of these were to make demonstration of an assault from the plains of Abraham, in order to draw the strength of the garrison to that quarter, whilst the other two divisions, headed by Montgomery and Arnold, made the real attack. The first led on his round the base of the rock, with a view of gaining the upper town by Prescott Gate, which was then only a barrier of palisades. The other attacked by the suburbs of St. Rocquet.

The path Montgomery took was not more than 7 or 8 feet broad, with the perpendicular rock on one side, and the water on the other. Across the path, about half way round the base of the rock, a breast work was thrown up, mounted with two nine pounders. It was commanded by the captain of an armed vessel and a party of seamen. The morning just began to dawn; the snow fell so thick and so constant, that the steps of the assailants in the new fallen snow, made no noise. As they approached within a few yards of the works, a dreadful and indistinct sound was heard, and the defenders challenged. No answer was returned. A short and awful pause ensued—whilst it is probable Montgomery was preparing for the assault. Then, without seeing a single person, he two guns loaded with grape, were fired.

As the attacking party could scarcely form four abreast, and were in close order, the effects of the discharge were terribly destructive. Groans and confusion now exposed the attack, which a few more discharges entirely dispersed. Yet, for two hours after, the defenders did not venture out from behind their breast work, nor did they imagine the destruction they had made. Montgomery and his principal officers fell.

Meanwhile Arnold stormed and took a battery of four guns, though obstinately defended; but he had his leg shattered in the attack, and was obliged to be carried off. The garrison now recovered from its alarm; a party sallied out, and attacked Arnold's division in the rear, who after bravely defending themselves for three hours, were at last compelled to surrender themselves prisoners of war.

Montgomery's fate was not yet known. The snow had covered the bodies of the killed and wounded, and they were at length discovered by an arm and a leg here and there projecting above the surface. Although Carlton held the revolutionists in the utmost contempt and hatred, yet his esteem for their general was such, that he granted military honors to his remains, which are interred near port St. Louis. Thus fell in the prime of life Richard Montgomery. In him the qualities of the gentleman, the scholar and the soldier, were united.

In consequence of the partiality of the Canadian inhabitants, the Americans were enabled to keep possession of part of the country until the ensuing spring. Arnold having received reinforcements, and being acquainted with the extreme weakness of the garrison, renewed the blockade of Quebec. At length the Isis man of war and two frigates, having forced their passage through the ice, arrived in the basin with reinforcements, in the beginning of May. Immediately, on the 6th of the same month, General Carlton sallied out at the head of the garrison to attack the enemy's camp—upon which the republicans scampered off in the greatest confusion, leaving every thing behind them, and in two months Canada was entirely clear of the Americans.

From our late disputes with the United States, Quebec was likely to expect another hostile visit. But with such additional strength as its works have lately received, and with such an ally as a Canadian winter it may "laugh a siege to scorn." Whilst the British flag waves triumphant on the ocean, Quebec can never be taken; and experience has proved that whatever power possesses that fortress must be masters of the Canadas.—[*British Repository of Arts.*]

Political.

Admirable corruption.—Since that stupendous fraud of the Yazoo, we have seen or heard of nothing that surpasses what is detailed in the following article. The corruption of rotten boroughs, and bribery by posts and pensions in England, have their match, and to the full, by the transaction which we are now to notice. Let it be viewed in any shape that any one may please, it amounts to nothing more or less than a bribe, to secure votes or friends to the ruling party. "If you are a democrat and friend to 'the administration, you may subscribe to 'our bank,'" say *Levi Lincoln & Co.* We may well say—what next? Those who acquire support by such detestable means, cannot long be respected, unless the whole body of the people has become so corrupt and vicious, that virtue and honor have become disgusting, as reproaching those who possess neither. We will not detain our readers, or endeavor to excite any additional detestation for that which we think every honest man of all parties must feel, from what is here detailed.—[*Norfolk Leager.*]

From the Salem Gazette of August 9.

STATE BANK.—This is managed as a powerful engine of bribery and corrupt influence. We confess that in the simplicity of our heart and in charity for the purity of the motives of many of the dominant party we did not anticipate such early display of wickedness as we now behold.—The constitution and the principles of republican government are defied and contemned. Such distinctions are made and such a line drawn between citizens of the same community who cannot think alike, as the constitution abhors;—for the instrument allows freedom of opinion and liberty of speech, but the faction which is now in the seat of power has caused to dread and therefore is resolved to destroy both. It is unblushingly avowed that the new Bank is intended as a machine to create democrats and destroy federalists. In this state there has been so much clamour by this very party against Banks, Bank directors and exclusive Privileges, that constantly required them to discountenance all. It appears that in each county an electioneering committee has been appointed, who through the influence of the New Bank are to act as the Almoners of democratic bribes and commissioners of official corruption. Before any man can subscribe for stock, he must, in this republican land, submit to be catechised upon his thoughts and intentions, and must pledge and obligate himself to pursue a designated course. In this county (Essex) the agency have so much shame and so much regard to public morals and the honor of the Country, that they have not given public notice that they have assumed the office of pimps to democracy and panders for tyranny and despotism.—But Farmer Lincoln is never ashamed, and never blushed. Read the following advertisement from the last *Exis*:

The original Petitioners, who obtained from the Legislature, in their last session, a charter for a state bank, on the expectation that its benefits would be diffused as extensively as possible among the FRIENDS OF THE GOVERNMENT [i. e.] the democrats throughout the Commonwealth, have assigned to the county of Worcester the liberty of subscribing, as its proportion of the capital stock, Two Hundred Thousand Dollars. The undersigned are authorized to receive subscriptions from individuals of the above described character, who will retain and fill up their shares in conformity to the public views of the original Grantees. They also, severally, hold subscription papers, and hereby give notice, that the subscriptions must be completed, and return thereof made, in the town of Boston, on or before the 15th day of August next. The character, conditions, and all the particulars of this Institution, may be learned from an Inspection of the act which created it, and which has been communicated in the public prints.

*Levi Lincoln,
Edward Bangs,
John Sparr,
Abraham Lincoln.*

Worcester, July 21.

Now, gentle reader, what are the characters of these men, what are their public services and private virtues? These are a true specimen of the whole faction—greedy and needy office hunters—fleecing the people of their money—and laughing in their sleeve at the popular delusion by which they prosper. "*Levi Lincoln*" was late member of Congress; Attorney General of the United States, with a fat salary; Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, would have been Governor if he had not been blind, and if his party could have seen its way clear; was, as well as the notorious and profligate Alexander Wolcott, nominated as judge of the supreme court of the United States, with a fat salary; is now the subtle, sly and bloody Councillor who has the care and rule of Gerry. "*Edmund Bangs*" for his fealty to democracy is to be baked into a judge at the batch

of appointments to be made in a few days. He has been candidate for congress, is a member of the state legislature, drafted the answer of the house to the governor's speech which answer is printed in the state papers containing eight instances of incorrect orthography and three of incorrect syntax, as well as innumerable blunders in fact and absurdities of principle: as a debater in the house he is an eternal spinster, and will hum and buzz and speak like a purring steam: he is withal a tin-coat and like Sullivan's country attorney. "*John Sparr*"—The General, is a member of the house and wished to be a member of Congress, and was and probably will this week again be one of the Sessions Justices. "*Abraham Lincoln*" is brother of the bloody Farmer the modern Robespierre.—a member of the House—sometimes Trustee of the *Exis*, and at the meetings of the trustees to consult the welfare of that journal, he obtained so many cold bites that he now exhibits such a broadness of countenance and rotundity of stomach that he expects and probably will be appointed to the comfortable station of Sheriff of Worcester county—he is one of the apostate federalists of Hone—in cockade times during the reign of John Adams, Sheriff Abraham was royal, and aided in the "system of domiciliary vexation" by serving as collector of excise upon coaches, &c. Ten years ago it would not have been believed, that such men influenced by such motives, would have dared to insult and mock the people by such a series of depraved, mercenary, and corrupt measures as we now behold publicly avowed and defended.

From the Salem Gazette.

FRENCH VICEROYS.—The infamous Godoy treacherously abandoned the kingdom of Spain, to the "Love" of Napoleon and the fraternity of France.—For a long time before the "contest for the government" arose between the two nations, the treasures and the strength of Spain were devoted to the will and pleasure of France. By intrigues and douceurs France obtains absolute sway over nations that boast of freedom, and preserve the forms of independence. French spies, and agents are stationed near every free government; and we have no reason to suppose that our own nation is regarded with indifference. We have the testimony of Fauchet, a French minister, which our democrats cannot consistently dispute, that many of our grave, sober, philosophical, liberty loving patriots have their prices.

If the secret and confidential letters from France to certain men in this country should be displayed for public inspection, we undoubtedly could form as accurate a price current of democratic patriotism, as merchants can in respect to American lumber and potash by letters from Liverpool.

A short time since, Mr. Genet, the French minister, who was the confidential bosom friend of Jefferson, and the idol of democracy during the presidency of Washington, published a pamphlet, which unfolds some facts not generally known, confirming the fears of those who tremble for the fate of our country. The following is an extract from page 18:—

"It cannot be denied that Mr. Jefferson made in France his entry on the diplomatic stage: he studied, at the court of Louis, the art of Machiavel and from a courtier of the king became a courtier of the people; when the fire of the revolution first broke out, the most profuse doses of flattery and adulation were lavished upon him by the leading characters at that period; those marks of respect and confidence have been continued since, and the French ambassador brought to him and Mr. Madison, in 1793, decrees of the national assembly naturalizing them both French citizens; the written answer of Mr. Madison, expressive of his gratitude, his admiration, and his devotion, was transmitted to France by the same minister; and the bloody Robespierre, who opened that letter, was very much pleased at his civism. Mr. Jefferson, an older fox, took care himself of his answer."

These two philosophers now have absolute and uncontrolled dominion over this ill fated country. He that questions their infallibility or doubts the wisdom or expediency of any of their measures, is denounced as an old tory, not by those only who use street language, and cry, "Go up build head," to every Revolutionary Patriot, but even Gerry calls it rebellion, and hints at exile and confiscation as the portion of those who will not cease to declare that French influence has infected our rulers, and that it is increasing, and ought to be diminished.

Genet, a Frenchman, thus describes Mr. Madison:—

"A diminutive Valetudinarian economist; whose civic crowns are composed of polemical writings, abortive motions, French Citizenship, prohibitory laws, miscarried negotiations, and a great deal of adulation and flattery in his Secretaryship."

FROM THE CONNECTICUT MIRROR.

Coming out.—A few weeks ago, Mr. Robert Smith, who had been Secretary of the Navy under Mr. Jefferson, and Secretary of State under Mr. Madison, and by the latter was turned out of office, found out that he owed it to the people to state the reasons why he and his master had quitted, and accordingly came out with a pamphlet of some length, filled with stories—rich enough to convince any man possessed of two grains of understanding, and one of civility, that honesty had not been our policy. Upon this, some loud cater