

1690  
 Forecast of  
 M. de  
 Frontenac.

General added another not less necessary. Vessels were expected from France, and it was to be feared that they would, mistrusting nothing, rush blindly into the hands of the English. Frontenac, alive to everything, and maintaining, amid the confusion of a surprise, a wonderful presence of mind, on the same day dispatched two canoes, well equipped, by the little channel of Isle Orleans, with orders to those whom he sent, to go as far as they could to meet these vessels and notify them of what was going on. He at the same time also commenced, and the next day completed, an eight-gun battery on the height beside the fort.<sup>1</sup>

Fortifications  
 of the place.

Thus the fortifications began at the palace, on the bank of the little river St. Charles, ran along to the Upper Town, which they surrounded, and terminated on the mountain towards Cape Diamond. A palisade had been continued from the palace all along the beach to the Seminary wall; there it was closed by inaccessible rocks called the Sailor's Leap,<sup>2</sup> where there was a three gun battery. A second palisade, erected above the first, ended at the same place, and was to cover the fusileers.

The lower town had two batteries, each of three eighteen pounders, and occupying the intervals between those in the upper town. The outlets of the city, where there were no gates, were barricaded with good beams and barrels full of earth to serve as gabions, and pedereroes mounted on top. The road leading from the lower to the upper town, was intersected by three different intrenchments of barrels and bags full of earth, with a sort of chevaux-de-frise.

In the course of the siege a second battery was thrown

<sup>1</sup> De Monseignat, Relation, &c., N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 484.

<sup>2</sup> The Sault au Matelot, was so called from the fact that a dog, called Matelot, or the Sailor, jumped down there. Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 204

<sup>3</sup> De Monseignat, Relation, &c., *Mercure Galant*, Janv., 1691; Ternaux, *Archives des Voyages*, ii., p. 431. De la Potherie, iii., p. 113. Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 417-420. None of these mention the chevaux de frise.