

1690. seen advancing on that same side, filled with soldiers ;  
 but as the French could not guess in what precise spot they would attempt a landing, the enemy found no one to oppose them.<sup>1</sup> As soon as the troops were landed, de Frontenac sent a detachment of the militia of Montreal and Three Rivers to harass them. These were joined by some farmers of Beauport, but the whole numbered only about three hundred men,<sup>2</sup> and the English were at least fifteen hundred, drawn up in battalions in very fair order.<sup>3</sup>

Moreover, as the ground at that place was marshy, set with thickets and cut up with rocks, the tide low, and no way to reach the enemy except to march through the mud, they could only be attacked by skirmishers and squads. For the same reason the English could derive no advantage from their superior numbers. Hence that day there was no fighting except in Indian style.

This fashion not only disconcerted the English, who were unaccustomed to it, but even prevented their knowing how small a number they had on their hands. The action lasted about an hour, the Canadians bounding from rock to rock, all around the English, who durst not scatter ; the constant fire they kept up did no great injury to men who did nothing but appear and vanish, and whose shots all told, because the battalions kept drawn up close.

<sup>1</sup> De Monseignat, Relation, &c., N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 487. Account sent by La Fleur de Mai, (Ib., p. 457). De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique, iii., p. 117. He brings it in abruptly, omitting part of de Monseignat. Walley, Journal on the Expedition, (Hutchinson, History of Massachusetts, i., p. 472), says, "he landed Oct. 8, O. S., with between 1200 and 1300 men. La Hontan, Voyages, i., p. 213, says, the boats made three trips, and supposed they landed 1000 or 1200 each time. He says the spot was opposite Isle Orleans, a league and a half below

Quebec. Smith, History of Canada, i. p. 104, says they landed at La Canardiere. Mather (Magnalia, B'k II., p. 50), after mentioning that the force was reduced by small-pox, gives 1400 as the force that landed.

<sup>2</sup> La Hontan says 200 men and 50 officers ; and adds that they were posted in a bushy tract, three quarters of a mile wide and half a league from where the English landed. Voyages, i., p. 214.

<sup>3</sup> The French estimate of the English numbers is pretty close. Walley supposes the French force 7 or 800. Journal, &c., p. 473.