

1710. in-chief of all the troops of the Queen of England on the continent of America.

Condition
of the
garrison.

On the 6th the enemy landed on both sides of the river, the stronger force on the fort side.¹ De Subercase did not contest their landing or occupy several difficult positions where he might have checked them, or lay any ambuscades for them, because he could not depend on either soldiers or settlers, and was convinced that not a man whom he might send forth would ever return. Hence from the outset he despaired of saving the place for the King. His only aim was to come forth with honor to himself, as he had not three hundred effective men, and the besiegers numbered three thousand four hundred men, besides officers and sailors.²

The enemy
besiege
him.

The troops which landed, finding nothing to oppose their march, advanced directly on the fort; but when the Governor got them within range of his guns, he opened such a galling fire that he checked them, killed many, and even compelled them to fall back under shelter of a rideau, covered by which they entered the wood and marched on.³ The next day they crossed a mill stream, where two hundred men might have cut them to pieces; but the Governor had not imagined that they would undertake to pass it that day, as they seemed busy planting their cannons and supporting a galliot which had begun throwing shells the day before.⁴ Some settlers and Indians at first skir-

¹ Col. Reading and Rednap with a company of marines and 150 men under Maj. Mullens. Penhallow, p. 59. Cols. Vetch and Walton landed on the north side with Mascarene's grenadiers. *Ib.*

² De Gannes says the English were only 1400 including the Re-dein (Redding) regiment of 600 men.

³ De Gannes denies that he fired at all, or had guns in battery till after the capitulation, when 3 volleys with blank cartridges were to be fired on both sides. Hutchinson also

ii., p. 167, notes this passage and says he finds nothing of it in the English accounts.

⁴ De Gannes attributes the discouragement of the garrison to de Subercase, who made no effort to check the English advance, and prohibited firing on them. Hutchinson, *ii.*, p. 165, says the French threw shot and shells, but may merely follow Charlevoix.

⁵ De Gannes says all kept out of range except this galliot. Penhallow says it threw seven shells, which the fort returned.