

others, was one which showed but little manœuvre; the importance of sharp-shooters was but little attended to in the field at that time. General Wolfe's grand plan was to allow the enemy to come within a few yards' distance of us at Quebec, not to throw away our shots at random, but to fire upon their columns with additional balls, and then rush upon them with fixed bayonets. It may be here observed that at the present day we hear of no such systematic *politesse* as that of our regiment of Guards taking off their hats to their opponents, and asking them to pay them the compliment of giving the first fire. There are few troops bigotted to so severe a point of honor at the present day, such frivolous salutations being considered as almost too unnecessary an appeal to the feelings of an enemy, when accompanied by so heavy a shower of musket-balls, as we are told was directed towards the French battalions by the English column at Fontenoy. The serried body of our troops in that battle was a column simply formed in consequence of their wings being galled by the batteries on the right and left, and falling back on the centre. A French military writer therefore ascribes the general formation of columns, to fear arising from a circumstance of this nature (*La peur forme des colonnes*). The weight of so huge a body defeated every separate brigade that was brought