

second was the destruction of Braddock's army in the American forests ten years later.

At Dettingen, owing to the illness or absence of the senior officers, Wolfe's old regiment was commanded, it will be remembered, by a major; at Fontenoy it was led into action by a captain. This gentleman wrote to Wolfe immediately after the battle describing it, and the latter quotes several paragraphs of his correspondent's in a letter to his father from Ghent. One is accustomed to think of Fontenoy as a monument of unflinching endurance and discipline. It is a little surprising to find a responsible officer, who was in the thick of the action, qualifying his praise with hints of over-rashness and impetuosity on the part of the men.

Barrel's regiment soon after marched out of Ghent to take the place of one of those that had been decimated at Fontenoy. Ghent itself fell shortly afterwards into the hands of the French, and Ostend also surrendered. In the midst of all these rebuffs to the arms of the Allies, the British troops on the Continent were suddenly recalled to protect their native land against what was in some respects a more formidable foe, for on the 25th of July Charles Stuart had landed in the north. Depression and consternation reigned throughout England. At another time some elation might have been felt at the news that four thousand New England volunteers, backed by an English naval squadron, had captured Louisbourg from the French, and that the whole island of Cape Breton had surrendered to the British crown. The alarm in England, however, was much too great to be soothed or mitigated by triumphs that were certainly remote and seemed to be unimportant. For so