

tion. Amongst the acquirements of my father the management of the sword was not the least, and amongst his virtues, that of endurance was not the most conspicuous, so that his adversary being already in a posture of defiance with his naked sabre; he drew his likewise. From the onset my father perceived his own superiority and made use of it only on the defensive, which increased the fury and of course the inferiority of the grenadier. After a few minutes display of skill and coolness on one side, and of rage and madness on the other, my father perceived that it became necessary to put a stop to the sport, and seized an opportunity of disarming him, by a wound in the sword arm. Scarce had thus the business been ended than three or four grenadiers of the same regiment, sprung up from behind a hedge, where they had witnessed the whole transaction, without being perceived by the actors in the bloody farce. My father looking on these new comers as avengers of their comrade, began to put himself in a posture of defence, but was most agreeably disappointed at not having another opportunity of displaying his skill, by the assurance he received that, far from coming as his enemies, they came to return him thanks for his lenity towards the fellow who had shewn himself so unworthy of it: and after having commended the bravery and forbearance of my father, who, they declared, had several times the life of his antagonist in his power, they entreated the honor of his accompanying them to the quarters of the grenadiers of Auvergne, that he might there receive the thanks of them all, and be a witness to the punishment that should be inflicted on the brutal conduct of their unworthy comrade.

The sameness of garrison duty in time of peace, not agreeing with the active disposition of my father, he left the land service and went to sea.

*To be continued.*