

commanded by Colonel Young, formed a *corps de réserve* ; Major Dalling, with a corps of light infantry, covered the right flank ; Hazzen's rangers and a company of volunteers, commanded by Capt. Donald McDonald, a brave and experienced officer, covered the left. The battalions had each two field-pieces. While the line was forming, I reconnoitred the enemy, and perceived their van busy throwing up redoubts, while their main body was yet on the march. I thought this the lucky minute, and moved the whole in great order to attack them before they could have time to form ; they were beat from their works, and Major Dalling, with great spirit, forced their corps of grenadiers from a house they occupied to cover their left. Here he and several of his officers were wounded ; his men, however, pursued the fugitives to the second line, which checked our light infantry, who immediately dispersed along the front of our right, which prevented Col. Burton from taking the advantage of the first impression made on that left flank. The light infantry was immediately ordered to clear the front and regain the right ; but in attempting this, they were charged, thrown into confusion, retired to the rear, and never again could be brought up during the action. As soon as I perceived this, I ordered Major Morriss, with Otway's battalion, to wheel up and cover the right flank. This recovered everything there ; but a very little while after the left gave way, though they had early made themselves masters of two redoubts. I ordered Kennedy's from the centre and the 3rd battalion to sustain them, but they were too late. The disorder spread from the left to the right, and the whole retired under the musketry of our block-houses, abandoning their cannon to the enemy. Nothing more could now be done but to give the troops time to rest and endeavour to keep the enemy out of the town. The chief engineer being wounded, I ordered Capt. Holland to visit the works, and all the officers and men to parade for work at five next morning. This evening, the French fleet anchored off the Foulon.

Quebec, 25th May, 1760.