

and one of the number distinguished himself; after having himself pointed his gun, he shot accurately into the reëntrant angle that had been assigned to him for a mark. But he refused to repeat it, notwithstanding the solicitations of the French,—alleging as reason for his refusal, that, having attained in his very first attempt that degree of perfection to which he could aspire, he ought not to hazard his fame by a second trial. But the cause of their chief astonishment was those several zigzags which, forming the different branches of a trench, are so many covered ways, very useful for protecting the besiegers against the guns of the besieged. They examined with an eager curiosity the manner in which our French grenadiers proceeded to give to this sort of work the perfection which it required. Having been taught by their eyes, they very soon tried their hands at the practical part. Armed with shovels and pickaxes they were seen making a covered way to the fortified rock, the attack on which had fallen to their lot. They pushed it forward so well that they were very soon within gunshot. Monsieur de Villiers, brother of Monsieur de Jumonville,<sup>32</sup>—an Officer whose mere name is a eulogy,—improved these advances by coming, at the head of a Body of Canadians, to attack the outer intrenchments. The action was sharp, disputed for a long time, and deadly for the enemy. They were driven from their first position, and it is to be presumed that the great intrenchments would have been carried that very day if their capture could have decided the surrender of the fort. Every day was marked by some splendid act on the part of the French, the Canadians, and the Savages.