

LETTER

FRØM

WILLIAM SHIRLEY, E_{fq} ;

GOVERNOR of Massachuset's Bay,

To his Grace the

Duke of Newcastle:

WITH

A JOURNAL of the Siege of Louisbourg, and other Operations of the Forces, during the Expedition against the French Settlements on Cape Breton; drawn up at the Desire of the Council and House of Representatives of the Province of Massachuset's Bay; approved and attested by Sir William Pepperrell, and the other Principal Officers who commanded in the said Expedition.

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A LETTER from Wil-

liam Shirley, Esq; Governor of Massachuset's Bay, to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

Louisbourg, October 28, 1745.

My Lord Duke,



HE Council, and House of Representatives of the Province under my Government, having taken Occasion, in a late Address to me, to desire, that upon my Arrival here, "I

"would give Orders, that a full Account of the Proceedings of the New-England Forces raised under my Commission, for the Reduction of Cape Breton, during the late Siege of this Place, to the Time of its Surrender, should be transmitted in the most effectual Manner, and as soon as posifible, to his Majesty," I have caused the inclosed Account of their Proceedings and Services, from their first landing at Canso, to the Time of the Surrender of this Place, to be taken upon the Spot, from Persons who were privy to every Part of the Transactions, and to be laid before Sir William Pepperrell,

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and other principal Officers of the Army, for their Perusal and Attestation; and am perfuaded, from my own Observations upon the Spot, as well as the Accounts of these Gentlemen, that it contains a just Representation of the Conduct and Behaviour of the Troops in the Reduction of this Place; and now take the Liberty to transmit it to your Grace, pursuant to the Assembly's Request to me. The Sum of this Account is, That the New-England Troops having failed from Canso the 29th of April, till which Time they were detained there by the unufual Quantity of Ice in Chappeau-Rouge-Bay, came to an Anchor the next Morning, between Nine and Ten, in the Bay, at the Distance of about two Miles from Flat-Point-Cove, where being difcovered by the Enemy, a Party of about 150 Men were detached from Louisbourg, under the Command of Captain Morepang and M. Boularderie, to oppose their landing: That General Pepperrell having made a Feint to land a Party in Boats at the Cove, in order to draw the Enemy thither, did, by a Signal from the Vessels, cause those Boats suddenly to row back, and join another Party of Boats under his Stern, out of which were landed. at two Miles Distance from the Cove, about one Hundred of our Men, before the Enemy could come round to oppose them, who, notwithstanding the Enemy had the Advantage of being covered by their Woods, attacked them so briskly, that they killed six of them upon the Spot, took as many Prisoners, (among

mong whom was M. Boularderie) wounded feveral more, and, after exchanging some Shot, put the rest to Flight, (some of whom were taken Prisoners the next Day,) with the Damage fustained on our Side, of only two Men's being slightly wounded: That 2000 of the Troops were landed the fame Day, and the Remainder, being near 2000 more, the Day following: That, on the next Day, a Detachment of 400 of our Men marched round to the North East Harbour, behind the Range of Hills there, where they burnt all the Enemy's Houses and Stores in that Neighbourhood, at the Distance of about a Mile from the Grand Battery, whereby fuch a Terror was struck into them, that the same Night they deferted that Battery, leaving the Artillery, confifting of 28 Cannon of 42 lb. Shot, and two of 18 lb. and the Ordnance Stores belonging to it, (except their Powder, which they threw into a Well) fo precipitately, that they only spiked up their Cannon in a slight Manner, without knocking off any of the Trunnions, or doing other Damage to them, and but very little to the Carriages: That the next Morning, being the 3d of May, a Party of about fifteen or fixteen of our Men discovered that the Enemy had abandoned the Grand Battery, and drove off a Party of them, which attempted to reland there, that Morning, in Boats, notwithstanding they stood on the open Beach, exposed to the Fire of the Enemy's Cannon from the Town, and their Musquetery from the Boats: That notwithstanding

withstanding an incessant Fire from the Enemy's Cannon and Mortars in the Town, at the Distance of 5913 Feet from it, and, from the Island Battery, at the Distance of 4800 Feet, our Troops, by the next Day, cleared three of the Cannon in the Grand Battery, which pointed against the Town, and returned their Fire upon the Enemy there, and also from other of the Guns, which pointed against the Island Battery, and were, by Degrees, unspiked in a few Days: That our Troops, within the Compass of 23 Days from the Time of their first landing, erected five Fascine Batteries against the Town, confisting of Cannon, some of 42 lb. Shot, others of 22 lb. and others of 9 lb. Mortars of 13, 11, and 9 Inches Diameter, with some Cohorns; all which were transported by Hand, with incredible Labour and Difficulty, and most of them above two Miles, all the Ground over which they were drawn, except fmall Patches, or Hills of Rocks, being a deep Morass, in which, whilst the Cannon were upon Wheels, they feveral Times funk fo deep, as not only to bury the Carriages, but the whole Body of the Cannon likewife: Horses and Oxen could not be employed in this Service, but all must be drawn by Men themselves, up to the Knees in Mud at the same Time; the Nights in which the Work was to be done, cold and Foggy, their Tents bad, there being no proper Materials for Tents to be had in New-England, at the Outset of the Expedition: But notwithstanding these Difficulties, and many

many of the People's being barefooted, and almost without Cloaths, by Means of this Service, in which they had worn them out, and their being taken down with Fluxes, so that at one Time there were 1500 Men incapable of Duty, occasioned by their Fatigue, they went on chearfully without being diffeouraged, or murmuring, and, by the Help of Sledges, transported the Cannon and Mortars over these Ways, which the French had always thought impassable for such heavy

Weights, and was indeed impracticable by any People of less Resolution and Perseverance, or less Experience in removing heavy Bodies; and besides this, they had all their Provisions and heavy Ammunition, which they daily made Use of, to bring from the Camp over the same Way upon their Backs.

To annoy our People in making their Approaches, and carrying on their Batteries, the Enemy erected new Works, where they mounted some Cannon, from whence, as well as from the Cannon of other Batteries, and from their Mortars, they continually maintained a strong Fire, till their Cannon was silenced by being dismounted, or having their Men beat off by our Cannon.

The most advanced of our five Batteries, which was finished on the 17th of May, was within the Distance of 250 Yards from the West Gate of the Town; so that from this Battery several of the Enemy were killed by our Musquetery, as were some of our Men by the Enemy's from the Walls; and indeed

this

this Battery was so near the Enemy's Works, that our Men were obliged to load the Cannon there under the Fire of their Musquetery, which was very sharp on both Sides, the Enemy generally opening the Action every Morning with the Fire of their Small Arms upon this Battery, for two Hours, which was constantly returned with Advantage on our The Execution done from these, and the Grand Battery, was very confiderable: The West Gate was entirely beat down, the Wall adjoining very much battered, and a Breach made in it at about 10 Feet from the Bottom of the Wall. The Circular Battery of 16 Cannon, 24 Pounders, near the West Gate, (and the principal one against Ships next to the Grand Battery, and Island Battery) was almost entirely ruined, and all the Cannon, but three, difmounted. Their North East Battery, confisting of two Lines of 42 and 32 Pounders, in all seventeen Cannon. another principal Battery against Ships, was damaged, and the Men beat off from their Guns. The West Flank of the King's Bastion belonging to the Cittadel, and the Battery there of fix 24 Pounders, which pointed to the Land Side, and greatly annoyed our Works, was almost demolished. Two Cavaliers of two 24 Pounders, each raised during the Siege, and two other Cannon of the same Weight of Metal, run out at two Embrazures, cut through the Parapet near the West Gate at the same Time, (all pointing against our Batteries) were damaged and filenced.

The Cittadel was very much damaged; feveral Houses in the City entirely demolished, and almost every one more or less hurt; and Maurepas-Gate, at the Easternmost Part of the City, shatter'd: And as cross Fires from the Cannon and Mortars, and even from our Musquetery, ranged through the Houses and Streets in every Part of the City, and through the Enemy's Parades. whereby many were killed, it drove the Inhabitants out of their Houses into Casmates. and other cover'd Holds, where they were obliged to take Refuge for several Weeks: And besides this, the Fire from the Grand Battery damaged also the Barracks of the Island Battery.

During this Time, our Parties of Scouts fo thoroughly ranged the Woods, that they seldom returned without bringing in some Prisoners, which very much confined the Enemy within their Walls, who were constantly worsted in all Skirmishes, and repulsed in every Sally which they made, and frequently by an inferior Number of our Men, and with very little Loss, upon these Occasions, fustained on our Side, the Chief of which was a Party of 18 of our Men stragling contrary to Orders, being furprized and cut off by a large Number of Indians, and another of Nine, coming on Shore, out of one of the Cruizers, to water, without their Arms, being likewise surprized and cut off by some Indians. That on the 26th of May, after some ineffectual Preparations for making an В Attack

Attack upon the Enemy's Mand Battery, which is a strong Fort built on a rocky Island, at the Entrance into the Harbour, mounted with 30 Cannon of 28 lb. Shot, and having feveral Swivel Guns upon its Breaft Work, and two Brass 10 Inch Mortars, and 180 Men, it was at Night attempted by a Party of 400 of our Men in Boats; but from the Strength of the Place, and the Advantage which the Enemy had by being under Cover, and our Men exposed in open Boats, the Surf running high, our Men not being thoroughly acquainted with the best Place for landing, and the Enemy besides (as is most probable) being apprized of their Defign, they were repulfed with the Loss of having about 60 killed and drowned, and 116 taken Prisoners; yet under these Disadvantages feveral of them advanced within the Enemy's Battery, and maintained a Fight with them for some Time before they surrendred, and killed some of them: That it being judged of the utmost Consequence to make ourselves Masters of the Island Battery, as it was thought extremely dangerous for His Majesty's Ships to have entered the Harbour 'till the Enemy could be annoyed in that Battery; and it being after the last Attempt thought impracticable to reduce it by Boats. it was determined to erect a Battery near the Light-House opposite to it, at 3400 Feet distance from it; and the fame was, by the 11th of June, notwithstanding the almost insuperable Difficulties, which attended the drawing

(II) drawing of the Cannon up a Reep Bank

and Rock, raised in such Manner, as not to be exposed to more than sour of the Enemy's Cannon, and at the same time to slank a

Line of above twenty of their Guns; and two Eighteen Pounders were on that Day mounted, and began to play, and by the 14th of June, Four more Cannon of 18 lb. Shot were added, and on the 15th, a Mortar of 12 Inches Diameter was removed thither, out of which 19 Bombs were thrown, 17 whereof fell within the Island Battery, and one of them upon the Magazine; and this, together with the Fire from our Cannon, to which the Enemy was very much exposed, they having but little to shelter them from the Shot, which ranged quite through their Line of Barracks, fo terrified them, that many of them left the Fort, and ran into the Water for Refuge. And now, the Grand Battery being in our Possession, the Island Battery (esteemed by the French the Palladium of Louisbourg) so much annoyed from the Light-house Battery, that they could not entertain Hopes of keeping it much longer; the Enemy's North-East Battery being damaged, and so much exposed to the Fire from our advanc'd Battery, that they could not stand to their Guns ; the circular Battery ruined, and all its Guns but three dismounted, whereby the Harbour was disarmed of all its principal Batteries; the West Gate of the City being demolished, and a Breach made in the adjoining Wall; the west Flank of the King's Bastion almost B 2 ruined:

ruined; and most of their other Guns, which had been mounted during the Time of the Siege, being filenced; all the Houses and other Buildings within the City (fome of which were quite demolished) so damaged, that but one among them was left unhurt; the Enemy extremely harraffed by their long Confinement within their Casmates, and other covered Holds, and their Stock of Ammunition being almost exhausted, Mr. Duchambon sent out a Flag of Truce to the Camp on the 15th Day of June in the Afternoon, defiring time to consider of Articles of Capitulation, which was accordingly granted them 'till next Morning, when they fent Articles in, which were rejected by the General and Commodore, and others proposed by them in their Stead. and accepted by the Enemy: And Hostages being exchanged on the same Day for the Performance of the Articles, on the 17th of June the City was surrendred to Mr. Warren and General Pepperrell, and the Garrison, confifting of about 650 Regular Troops, and the Inhabitants of the City being about 1300 effective Men, besides Women and Children. made Prisoners by Capitulation, with the Loss on our Side of no more than 101 Men killed by the Enemy and all other Accidents from the Time of their Landing to the Reduction of the Place, and about 30 who died of Sickness.

I omit mentioning the Breaking up of the Settlements at St. Peters, and eight other Fishing Settlements upon this Island; and the Burning Burning of several Houses at St. John's Island within the Time of the Siege, by Companies

put on board some of our Cruizers.

By this Representation of the Services of His Majesty's Land Forces, I would not be underflood to intend to exclude his Majesty's Ships from their just Share in the Reduction of this Place. Mr. Warren, upon whom I very much depended from the Beginning for Affistance and Success in this Enterprize, did, upon his receiving Orders by his Majesty's Sloop Hind, the 9th of March, to proceed to Boston, and concert Measures with me for the Protection of Nova Scotia, and the Annoyance of the Enemy's Settlements, &c. immediately proceed with his Majesty's Ships Superbe, Mermaid, and Launceston, under his Command, for Boston; but upon getting Intelligence at Sea of the Departure of the New-England Land Forces for Canso, tho' he was then within 30 Leagues of Boston, without Refreshments, or his Complement of Ordnance-Stores, and one of his Ships not very fit for immediate Service, fail'd directly for that Place; where having overtaken the Forces, and conferred with the General by Letter, upon his Majesty's Service in the Expedition; and it being thought adviseable by both, that the Ships should directly proceed before Louisbourg Harbour to cut of all Supplies' and Intelligence from the Enemy, immediately proceeded there, and most effectually blocked up the Harbour; and by engaging and taking the Vigilant, a Frenth Ship of War of 64 Guns.

Guns, bound for Louisbourg with some Ordnance Stores, cut off from the Enemy all Hopes of any Supplies or Succours, and gave great Spirits to the Land Forces in carrying on the Siege; and afterwards, upon his Majesty's Ship Chester's Arrival from England to reinforce him, and receiving Advice that the Canterbury and Sunderland were following, determined to enter the Harbour as foon as those Ships should join him, and attack the Town and Batteries with his Majesty's Ships, whilst the Land Forces made an Affault upon the City by Land; which was agreed on, between Mr. Warren and the General, to be made the 16th of June, and the Ships were accordingly clearing on the 15th of June, in order to enter the Harbour, but were prevented by the Enemy's making Proposals for a Capitulation: And indeed Mr. Warren offered his Assistance for His Majesty's Service in every Shape. It is unnecessary for me to trouble your

Grace with a Detail of the Plans proposed during the Siege for a more speedy Reduction of the Place; as far as I can judge, it was effected most happily in the Manner which it was reduced in, as the Success of the Event was much more secure in this Way; and it has cost fewer Lives; and the Place was gained without the least Damage being done to any of his Majesty's Ships.

I hope these Services of the New-England Troops in the Field, which seem to have equalled the Zeal of the Massachuser's Council and Assembly within their Province, for His Maiesty's

Majesty's

Majesty's Service, upon this Occasion, may be graciously accepted by His Majesty, as a Proof of that perfect Duty and firm Loyalty which, I am persuaded, all the Colonies concerned in the Reduction of this Place (but especially that of the Massachuset's Bay, for which I can more particularly answer) bear to His Majesty's facred Person, and to his Government, and of their ready Disposition to promote the general Welfare of his Dominions: And I humbly beg of your Grace to lay this Account before His Majesty, in such Manner as your Grace shall think most proper.

I am, &c.

William Shirley.



JOURNAL

Of the SIEGE of

LOUISBOURG, &c.

HE Forces raised within the Province of the Massachuset's Bay, being about 3250 Men, exclusive of Commission Officers, embark'd the 24th of March, 1744-5, in seven Weeks from the time of issuing Governor Shirley's Proclamation for raising them, under Convoy of the Shirley-Galley, then in the Employ of that Government, and now his Majesty's Frigate Shirley, Captain Rous Commander, and arrived the 4th of April at Canso, appointed by the Governor to be the Place of Rendezvous for the Transports and Cruizers, and for a Communication of Intelligence between himself at Boston, General Pepperrell's Camp before the Town of Louisbourg, and Mr. Warren from the Ships before the Harbour, and for lodging all Stores not in immediate Use in the Camp and Fleet, where they found the New-Hampshire Forces, being 304, inclusive of Commisfion Officers, arrived four Days before them, and were joined the 25th of the same Month by the Connecticut Forces, being 516, including Commission Officers. Chapeaurouge Bay, which was the Place appointed for landing the Troops, being so fill'd with Ice, as to make their landing impracticable before, they were detained there till the latter End of the Month; in which Time the General drew up and reviewed the Forces on Canso Hill, and formed the several Detach-

Detachments ordered to be employed in the feveral Attacks proposed to be made immediately after their landing at Flat Point Cove, within three Miles of the Town of Louisbourg, to the W.S. W. and four Miles distant from the Grand Battery to the S. W. according to the Plan of Operations concerted at Boston, and there given him in Charge by the Governor's written Orders. During the Stay of the Troops there, a Blockhouse was erected on Canso Hill, and called Cumberland, the Flag being hoisted on his Royal Highness's Birth Day, picketted without, and defended by eight Cannon of nine Pound Shor, and to be garrifon'd by two Companies of Soldiers of 40 Men each, besides Officers. From thence two arm'd Sloops were fent to Bay Verte, to take or destroy some Vesfels that, according to Information, were to carry Provisions from thence to Louisbourg. April 18.

And the 18th of April the Renomee, a French Ship of War of 30 Guns, nine Pounders, with 300 Seamen and 50 Marines, being charged with publick Dispatches, fell in with the arm'd Vesfels in the Service of the Massachuset's Government before Louisbourg Harbour, where she maintained a Running Fight with them, but got clear by out-failing them. This Ship afterwards fell in with the Connecticut Troops under the Convoy of their own Colony Sloop, and the Rhoad Island Sloop, the latter of which she attacked and damaged confiderably; but finally the Sloop got off, as did the Troops with their other Convoy during the Engagement. And after having made two more Attempts to push into the Harbour, and been again hindred and chased by the Massachuset's Cruizers, returned to France without without having delivered her Packets; from whence the failed again the Beginning of July, with fix Ships more, being the Brest Squadron, for Louisbourg.

The 22d of April Captain Durell, in his Ma-April 22. jefty's Ship Eltham of 40 Guns, arrived at Canso from New-England, having received Orders from Mr. Warren for that Purpose.

And on the 23d Mr. Warren, in his Majesty's April 23. Ship Superbe of 60 Guns, with the Launceston of 40 Guns, Captain Calmady, and the Mermaid of 40 Guns, Captain Douglas, under his Command, and after staying there some Hours, and having conferr'd with the General by Letter, Mr. Warren, with the rest of the King's Ships, sailed to cruize off Louisbourg.

On the 29th of April the Troops embarked April 29. in four Divisions of Transports, and failed for Chapeaurouge Bay, under Convoy of one arm'd Snow and two arm'd Sloops in the Service of the Massachuser's Government, under Fire of whose Cannon they were to land. And at the same Time a Detachment of 270 Men, under the Command of a Colonel, and Convoy of an arm'd Sloop in the Pay of the New-Hampsbire Government, were sent to St. Peter's, a small French Settlement on Cape Breton, with Orders (pursuant to the before-mentioned Plan of Operations) to take the Place, burn the Houses, and demolish the Fort, which was accordingly effected.

On the 30th of April, between Nine and Ten April 30. in the Morning, the Fleet, having the main Body of the Troops on board, came to an Anchor in Chapeaurouge Bay, at the Distance of about two Miles from Flat Point Cove; upon the Discovery

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of

Cannon, and rang their Bells in the Town, to

alarm and call in their People living in the Suburbs, and fent out of the Town a Detachment of about 150 Men, headed by Captain Morepang and M. Boulerdrie, late an Officer in the Regiment in France, to oppose Duke of the landing of our Troops; upon the Sight of which, the General made a Feint of landing a Party of our Men in Boats at Flat Point Cove, in order to draw the French thither, (which had its Effect;) and upon a Signal from the Vessels, the Boats returned, and joined another Party of Boats under his Stern, from whence, under the Fire of our Cannon, was landed, two Miles higher up the Bay, about 100 of our Men. before the Enemy could get up with them; and upon briskly attacking them, though under the Advantage of being covered with their Woods, after exchanging some Shot, killed six of them upon the Spot, took as many Prisoners, (among whom was M. Boulerdrie) and wounded feveral others; forced the Remainder to make a precipitate Flight towards the Town, with the Loss of some others, who were the next Day taken Prisoners before they recovered it, which was done with the Damage on our Part of only two Men being flightly wounded. On the fame Day about 2000 of the Troops were landed without any farther Opposition.

n. On the next Day, being the 1st of May, the Remainder landed, and begun to get Provisions and Stores ashore. The landing of Provisions, Ammunition, and heavy Artillery, was attended with extreme Difficulty and Fatigue, there being no Harbour there, the Surf almost continually running

running

running very high, so that frequently for some Days together there was no landing any Thing at all; and when they did, the Men were obliged to wade high into the Water to save every Thing that would have been damaged by being wet. They had no Cloaths to shift themselves with, but poor Defence from the Weather; at the same Time the Nights were very cold, and generally attended with thick heavy Fogs, by Means whereof it was near a Fortnight before they could get all their Stores on shore; and notwithstanding all possible Care to prevent it, many Boats and some Stores were lost.

On May the 2d a Detachment of 400 Men May 2. was fent round behind the Hills to the North East Harbour, where they got about Midnight, and burnt the Enemy's Houses and Stores, about a Mile distant from the Grand Battery:

And on the 3d of May we took Possession of May 3. the Grand Battery which the Enemy had deferted, owing, as it is supposed, to the Surprize they were in, from the firing the Houses in the Neighbourhood. They had abandoned this Battery in fo much Hurry and Confusion, that they had only spiked up their Guns, without breaking off any of the Trunnions, or much damaging their Carriages. There were found here 28 Cannon of 42 Pound Shot, and two of 18 Pound, 350 Shells of 13 Inches, and 30 Shells of 10 Inches, and a large Quantity of Shot. The fame Day a Party of the Enemy in Boats attempted to regain the Possession of it, but were beat off by about 15 or 16 of our Men, who had before taken Possession of the Battery, and stood on the Beach exposed to the Enemy's Musquetery from the Boats, and Cannon from the Town, which

Distance from the Grand Battery to the Island Battery is 4800 Feet. This Battery commands the whole Harbour from the Entrance between

the Lighthouse Point and the Island Battery. Two Flanks of two Guns each point from hence against the Town, and a Line of 10 Guns against the Island Battery. The Remainder to the North East Part of the Harbour. By the Fire from hence during the Siege, the Cittadel and Houses in the Town suffered very much, as also the Barracks at the Island Battery. The Towers of this Battery were something damaged, one Man killed and a few wounded by the Enemy's Cannon, which fired very briskly. upon it, as did also their Mortars from the Town and Island Battery, especially at the Beginning. In a few Days the Camp was formed about Half a Mile from the Place where they made a Feint of landing, but without throwing. up Lines, depending only upon their Scouts and Guards; but afterwards they encamped regularly, and threw up Lines near the Place of landing their Stores; and Scouts during the Siege were constantly sent out, who seldom return'd

May the 4th, we began to fire from the Grand Battery, from three Cannon which had been cleared, as likewise to bombard the Town from Greenbill, being the Place where the first Battery was planted, of one 13 Inch Mortar, one of 11 Inches, and one of nine Inches, two Cannon nine Pounders, and two Falconets, being two Miles distant from the Camp, 1550 Yards from

without bringing some Prisoners, and very much confined the Enemy within their Walls, and prevented their making frequent Sallies.

May 4.

the Cittadel. Five hundred Men were order'd to sustain this Battery; but finding the nine and eleven Inch Mortars would not reach the City, they were removed

The 7th of May, and planted with 10 Co-May 7. horns at the Distance of 900 Yards from the Cittadel, where a Battery was erected

The 10th of May, of four 22 Pounders. May 10. The 13th two of them bursted, owing to May 13. their not being found.

The 15th of May, four 22 Pounders more May 15. were brought to this Battery, as also the two 9 Pounders and 13 Inch Mortar from Greenbill. From this Battery the City was bombarded, and as the Shot from this Battery ranged through the Centre of the City, it damaged not only the West Flank of the King's Bastion, which it flank'd, but also the Cittadel and the greatest Part of the Houses in the Town, and even Port Maurepas in the Eastermost Part of the City. This Battery was sustained by the same Forces that sustained the Battery at Greenbill. The Damage received at this Battery was the breaking the Trunnion of one Cohorn, and bursting another; fix Men wounded, of whom one died by the Bursting of two 22 Pound Cannon. One Man killed and two wounded by the Enemy the fame Day

The 25th of May, the 13 Inch Mortar was May 25. bursted, and a Bombardier wounded, occasioned by some Flaw in the Shell, which broke in the Mortar. Another 13 Inch Mortar from Boston was mounted in the same Place, and play'd the eighth Day after the other was bursted. The Transporting the Cannon was with almost incredible Labour and Fatigue, for all the Roads

over which they were drawn, faving here and there small Patches of rocky Hills, was a deep Morass, in which, while the Cannon was upon the Wheels, they feveral Times funk, fo as to bury not only the Carriages, but the whole Body of the Cannon likewise. Horses and Oxen could not be employ'd in this Service. but the whole was to be done by Men themfelves, up to the Knees in Mud; at the fame Time the Nights, in which the Work was done, cold, and for the most Part foggy; their Tents bad, there being no proper Materials to be had for Tents in New-England, at the Time the Forces were raised: But not with standing all these Difficulties, and the People being taken down chiefly with Fluxes, fo that at one Time there was no less than 1500 incapable of Duty, occasion'd by their Fatigue, they went on chearfully, without being discouraged or murmuring; and by the Help of Sledges of about 16 Feet in Length, and five Feet in Width, and 12 Inches thick, they transported the Cannon over these Ways, which the French had always thought impaffable for fuch heavy Bodies, and was, indeed, impracticable by any People of less Refolution and Perseverance, or less Experience in removing heavy Weights; and besides this, they had all the Provisions, Powder, Shot and Shells that they daily made Use of, to transport over the same Ways upon their Backs. During this Time the French erected two Cavileirs of two Guns each upon the Rampart of one of the Faces of the King's Bastion, planted a great Number of Swivel Guns upon the Wall facing the Harbour, and to secure the low Wall at the South East Part of the Town, added to the Top

Top of it a Plank-work picketted, to raise it to the same Height with the rest of the Wall, and a Range of Pallisadoes at a little Distance within the Walls, and raised a little Battery of three small Guns upon the Parapet of the lower South Bastion fronting Cape Noir, a small Hill which very much commands the Town.

May the 7th, a Flag of Truce was sent into May 7. the Town with a Summons to deliver it up to his Britannick Majesty: To which an Answer was returned by M. Duchambon Commander in Chief, That the King his Master having entrusted him with the Defence of the Island, he could not hearken to any such Proposals till after the most vigorous Attack, and that he had no Answer to make but by the Mouth of their Cannon.

The 8th of May, the Enemy made a Sally May 8. out, but were foon repulfed.

The 13th, notwithstanding all the Care and May 13. Vigilance of the Men of War and the Colony Cruizers, a Snow from Bourdeux got in, which they attempted to fire by a Fire-Ship from the Grand Battery, but in vain.

May the 16th, the Cohorns and nine and May 16. eleven Inch Mortars were removed to a Hill within 440 Yards of the West Gate; from whence they annoy'd the Enemy very much, and received no Damage at all. A Party of 100 Men came out of the Town in the Night, and landed near the Lighthouse Point, and the next Day attempted to surprize a Party that was posted at the Lighthouse, who sirst discovered the Enemy from an Eminence, where they were on Guard: Forty only of our Men advanced towards them: The Parties met in a Wood, and the Enemy were routed; sive of them killed, and the

fore the Town, to hinder Boats from landing under their Walls. At the same Time our Men of War and Cruizers were very diligent, and took several Prizes. And

May 19. On the 19th of May there was an Engagement off the Harbour, in Sight of the Camp, between some of our Ships and a French Man of War.

May 21. The 21st 2 Letter came to the General from the Commodore, acquainting him he had taken the Vigilant, a French Ship of 64 Guns; besides the Superhe, the Mermaid, Eltham, Massachuser's Frigate, and Shirley Galley, were all in the Engagement, and at the taking of her. Three Days after the taking the Vigilant, Capt. Edwards, in the Princes Mary of 60 Guns, joined the Commodore; and the next Day, Capt. Cornwall, in the Hestor of 40 Guns.

The 20th of May the North West Battery, commonly called Titcomb's Battery, was erected, bearing North West by West about 800 Yards Distance from the West Gate, and two 42 Pounders mounted, which were brought from the Grand Battery; and about a Fortnight after were brought three 42 Pounders more. This Battery did great Execution against the Circular Battery: By Means of this Battery and the Advance Battery, not only the West Gate was demolished, but a large Breach was made in the Wall to within ten Feet of the Bottom of the The Circular Battery was almost entirely demolished; but three Guns out of sixteen were left standing, and these so exposed to the North West Battery, that nobody could keep the Platform. The West Flank of the King's Bastion was almost entirely ruined, but in some Measure repaired with Timber. This Battery. the

the Advance Battery, and the Eight Gun Battery, were fultained by 1350 Men. After many fruitless Preparations for an Attack on the Island Battery, it was attempted

On the 26th of May at Night, by a Party of May 26. 400 Men; but from the Strength of the Place, and the Advantage the Enemy had of being under Cover, and our Men exposed in open Boats, which a Musket Ball would fink, the Surf running very high, and their not being thoroughly acquainted with the best Place of Landing, they were repulsed with the Loss of about 60 killed and drowned, and 116 taken Prisoners.

The 10th of June, the Chefter arrived from June 10.

England, and joined the Commodore; and,

On the 12th the Canterbury and Sunderland; June 12.

as did likewise the Lark, with a Store-ship under her Convoy, bound to Annapolis Royal. It being of the utmost Consequence to be Masters of the * Island Battery, and, after the last Attempt, thought impracticable to reduce it by Boats, it was determined to erect a Battery near the Light-house opposite to it, which would be 3400 Feet distant, and in such a Manner, as to be exposed to the Fire of but sour of the Enemy's Guns, and at the same Time to stank a Line of above 20 of their Guns; which, notwithstanding the almost † insuperable Difficulties that at-

The Hand Battery is a firong Fort at the Entrance into the Harbour, mounted with 30 Guns 28 Pounders, and feven Swivels, having two Brass ten Inch Mortars, and garrifon'd with 180 Men.

[†] The Difficulties were, transporting the Cannon in Boats from Chapeaureuge Bay, to the Eastward of the Light-house; the getting them up the Bank of the Shoar, which was a steep craggy Rock; the hawling them a Mile and a Quarter over an incredible bad Way of Hills, Rocks, and Mozasses.

tended it, was happily effected, and two 18 Pounders mounted the 11th of June; 7une 14. Men. And by the 14th four more, sustained by 320 Powder growing short, the Fire had for some Days been very much slacken'd, and the French began to creep a little out of the Cafmates and Covers, where they had hid themfelves during the greatest Fierceness of it; but this being the Anniversary of his Majesty's hapby Accession to the Throne, it was determined to celebrate it as became loval Subjects and good Soldiers; and Orders were given for a general Discharge of all the Cannon from every Battery, at Twelve o'Clock; which was accordingly done, and follow'd by an incessant Fire all the rest of the Day; which much disheartened the Enemy, especially as they must be senfible what must be the Consequence of this new Battery. It was now determined, as foon as possible, after the Arrival of the Canterbury and Sunderland, to make a general Attack by Sea and Land: Accordingly they arriving the next Day, all the Transports were order'd off to take out the spare Masts and Yards, and other Lumber of the Men of War. The Soldiers were employ'd in gathering Moss to barricade their Nettings, and 600 Men were fent on board the King's Ships at the Commodore's

June 15. The 15th, than ever. When the Mortar began to play from the Light-house Battery upon the Island Battery; out of 19 Shells, 17 fell within the Fort, and one of them upon the Magazine, which, together with the Fire from

Time to

Request: The large Mortar was order'd to the Light-house Battery; and a new Supply of Powder arriving, the Fire was more sterce from this the Cannon, to which the Enemy was very much exposed, they having but little to shelter them from the Shot that ranged quite through their Barracks, so terrified them, that many of them left the Fort, and run into the Water for Refuge.

The Grand Battery being in our Possession: the Island Battery being so much annoy'd by the Light-house Battery; the North East Battery so open to our Advance Battery, that it was not possible for the Enemy to stand to their Guns; all the Guns in the Circular Battery except three being difmounted, and the Wall almost wholly broke down; the West Gate demolished, and a large Breach in the Wall adjoining; the West Flank in the King's Bastion almost ruined; all the Houses and other Buildings almost tore to Pieces, but one House in the Town being left unhurt, and the Enemy's Stock of Ammunition growing short, they fent out a Flag of Truce to the Camp, defiring Time to consider upon Articles of Capitulation. This was granted till the next Morning, when they brought out Articles, which were refused, and others fent in by the General and Commodore, and agreed to by the Enemy: Hostages were exchanged; and

On the 17th of June, the City and Fortresses June 17. were surrendred, and the Garrison and all the Inhabitants, to the Number of 2000, capable of bearing Arms, made Prisoners, to be transported to France with all their personal Effects. During the whole Siege, we had not more than 101 Men killed by the Enemy and all other Accidents, and about 30 died of Sickness. And according to the best Accounts, there were killed of the Enemy within the Walls, about 300, besides Numbers that died by being confined within the Casemates.

WE the Subscribers having perused the beforewritten Journal and Account of the Proceedings of the New-England Land Forces, during the late Expedition against the French Settlements on Cape Breton, to the Time of the Surrender of Louisbourg, to all which Proceedings we were privy, do hereby certify, that the same contains a just Representation of the Transactions and Occurrences therein set forth, and of the Behaviour of the said Forces. In Wilness whereof, we have bereto subscribed our Names.

Louisbourg, Ost. 20, 1745.

Wm. Pepperrell, Lieutenant General and Commander in Chief of the New-England Forces.

S. Waldo, Brigadier General of the Land Forces, and Colonel of the Second Regiment.

Sam. Moore, Colonel of the New Hampshire Regiment.

Simon Lothrop, Lieutenant Colonel of the Connecticut Regiment.

Richard Gridley, Lieutenant Colonel of the Train of Artillery.



F I N I S.