

*bourg*, free from any Annoyance, and laying up the Transports in such manner, that the Troops might have it in their Power to retreat to them upon an Emergency; that the City of *Louisbourg* had no Batteries upon the Land Side; and the Extent of it was so small, that every House in it was exposed to the Bombs and Cannon of the Besiegers; which must oblige both Inhabitants and Soldiers when off Duty, to retire into the Casemates, that were extremely damp and unwholsome.—That the Grand Battery, which could not make any Defence by Land, and from the beforementioned State of it appeared not to be tenable, when attacked on that Side, would probably be deserted on the first Approach of an Enemy; and that by getting Possession of it, and erecting Fascine Batteries near the Light-House, and in other convenient Places, it would be difficult, if not impracticable for any Ships to enter the Harbour against the Fire from them.—Upon all which Accounts it was extremely improbable that the Place should hold out long against a Body of 3 or 4000 Men without Succurs from *France*, which might be prevented from receiving Intelligence of its Circumstances in time to send it Relief, by the armed Vessels, which might be collected in the Colonies, and would be a sufficient Force to intercept whatever might come from *Canada*, as also any Merchant Ships with Provisions from *France* in the Spring.