

capacity, is perhaps equalled by few, and exceeded by none; and when riper years have matured a sound judgment, the great talents he possesses in the art of war will shew themselves to advantage; yet, if I can read right, though no man doubts his courage, he is not sanguine in his expectations of reducing the place, and can depend on nothing but surprise, some bold and unexpected stroke, or as the French call it, *coup de main*; for this no troops in Europe are so fit as ours for resolution, and a contempt of death are characteristic of an English soldier.

How many lives must be lost of the few troops we have before we can hope to succeed; had General Amherst been able to have joined us, something might have been done: as it is, he comes too late, for either the place will be taken, or we must return to England before he arrives: in the latter case