

And as to the second ; these Troops might have been landed by the middle or latter end of May at furthest ; which would have given them five months at least to have effected the reduction of Louisbourg ; a time much more than sufficient for 11,000 *Regular* Troops to have done it in against the opposition of 3,500 *Irregulars*, which the writer of the Bristol letter says the Garrison of Louisbourg consisted of : the New England men, in *their* Expedition against it in 1745, did it in forty-seven days with 4000 *Irregulars* against a Garrison of 650 *Regular* Troops, and about 1600 inhabitants and fishermen capable of bearing arms.

It might possibly have taken up some time for the Troops to carry the Redoubts, which may be supposed to have been erected by the French since the last Expedition ; but if the Island was covered with them, they could have held out but a short time against the force of the Besiegers, and the City after that would have been a very easy Conquest ; for its weakness, I must observe to you, consists in the small extent of it, and the works within it ; which exposes the inhabitants and soldiers in every quarter to the cannon and bombs of the Besiegers ; so that the former must be obliged to quit their houses and betake themselves (as must also the soldiers when off duty) to their casemates, which are extremely damp and unwholesome ; and *that* must soon reduce them to such extremities, as would oblige them to surrender

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