

far that may be an objection with the French against venturing their ships there, I will not take upon me to say. I am well assured, that the late Sir *Peter Warren*, who had the chief command at sea in the intended Expedition against Canada in 1746, was, from the inquiry he then made in America, concerning the practicableness of wintering a Fleet in the river St. Lawrence, so fully persuaded of it, that in case that Expedition had proceeded, and he had found it too late in the season to have effected it that year, he determined to winter the ships under his command in one of the harbours there, the name of which I don't immediately recollect.

As to the letter-writer's proposal, that an English Fleet destined for an Expedition against Louisbourg or Canada, should winter in North America, it is, I think, not only practicable but very adviseable : but I must differ from him in what he says in his postscript, viz. " No Captain of a man of war ought to be consulted about wintering in Halifax ; not one of them will give his vote for it, as there are no public divisions there." For to my knowledge, several of these Officers have themselves wintered in North America, and would be very proper to be consulted ; nor can I entertain so base an opinion of them, as to suppose, that they would ever let their Pleasures come in competition with the service of their King and Country.

The influence, which he observes, *Lord Loudoun* has gained over the North Americans, must certainly be of great advantage to his *Lordship*,  
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