

the erection of the strong fortification of Louisburg (named after the French King) in 1720, on the south-east coast of the island.

The French were not long on Cape Breton before they commenced instigating the Indians to attack the English settlers at Cape Canseau and in Nova Scotia, and the war of 1744 in Europe was followed up with perseverance and ability by the garrison of Louisburg in its attacks on Nova Scotia. The Massachusetts Government sent aid to Annapolis, then besieged by the French and their Indian allies—the Indians of Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Pigwogat and others aided the New England colonists: a furious and savage war was carried on between both parties, and the Government of Massachusetts determined on attacking Louisburg, which the French had been twenty-five years fortifying, and though not then completed, at an expense of thirty million of livres.

Louisburg, when attacked by the New Englanders, was environed, two miles and a half in circumference, with a rampart of stone from thirty to thirty-six feet high, and a ditch eighty feet wide, with the exception of a space of two hundred yards near the sea, which was enclosed by a dyke and a line of pickets. The water in this place was shallow, and numerous reefs rendered inaccessible to shipping, while it received an additional protection from the side fire of the bastions, of which there were six, and eight batteries, containing embrasures for 148 cannon, but of which forty-five only were mounted, and sixteen mortars. On an island at the entrance of the harbour was planted a battery of thirty cannon, carrying twenty eight-pound shot; and at the bottom of the harbour was the grand or royal battery of twenty-eight cannon, forty-two-pounders, and two eighteen-pounders. The entrance to the town was at the west gate over a drawbridge, near which was a circular battery, mounting sixteen guns, of fourteen-pounds shot. Governor Shirley