

in the harbour. The garrison and the inhabitants of the town, over four thousand in all, were conveyed to Brest. The fall of the strongest fortress in America before a little army of New England farmers and fishermen caused the wildest delight at Boston and the deepest chagrin at Versailles.

In 1755 it was again taken by the British. Early in June, Admiral Boscawen, with thirty-seven ships of war, and one hundred and twenty transports conveying 12,000 troops, appeared off the harbour. For six days a rough sea, dashing in heavy breakers on the iron coast, prevented debarkation, the French



CASEMATES, LOUISBOURG.

meanwhile actively throwing up earthworks all along the shore. Early on the seventh day, Wolfe, with a strong force, gallantly landed through the surf, and seized the outworks of the fort. The siege was vigorously pressed by day and night for seven weeks. Madame Drucourt, the wife of the Governor, inspired the garrison by her heroism. During the bombardment, she often appeared among the soldiers on the ramparts, and even fired the great guns, and encouraged with rewards the most expert artillerymen. With her own hands, she dressed the wounds of the injured, and by the exhibition of her own courage enbraved the hearts of the defenders of the fort. Every effort, however, was in vain. The