

8. When the *General Court* had agreed on this great Enterprize, it is surprizing to think, with how profound a *Secrecy*, so many Members in the Centre of so populous, observing and inquisitive Town as this, for so many Days, kept their Consultations; 'till the various Parts of the Plan were settled, Committees chosen, and all things ripe for enlisting Soldiers, hiring Vessels, buying Materials and Provisions: And as surprizing to see with what a general *Silence* all these Things were done in this City and Land; and the Army and Fleet equipp'd and ready to sail, while the rest of the World had scarce any Intelligence of our Preparations.

9. As soon as ever the *Design* was known among us, it was a marvellous Thing, that when *this Province* had lately lost so many hundred Men *Volunteers* in the sad Expedition to *Carthage*, not One in Ten being alive to return, their Wives left Widows, and their Children Orphans; — yet to see so many *likely Men*, and I conclude the most of them Owners of Land and Houses, or Heirs of the same, and many Religious, in all our Towns, readily lifting even as private Soldiers; with the small Wages of *Twenty-five Shillings*, New Tenor, a *Month*, to leave their gainful Farms and Trades, as well as Parents, Wives and Children; all as *free Volunteers*, to serve their God, their King and Country, in this hazardous Enterprize: Yea, more to enlist than the Court desired: And that so many Men of distinguished *Figure*, should cheerfully offer themselves—even Four of his MAJESTY'S *Council* for *this Province*, among them the Hon. *William Pepperrell*, Esq; the first of the Council; as also the Hon. *Deputy Governor* of *Connecticut Colony*; and divers Others of public *Esteem* and *Character*.

10. It was wonderful also to see that during those *Two* usually stormy Months of *February* and *March*, the only Season for our Preparation, GOD was pleased to give us such a *constant Series* of moderate and fair *Weather*, as in that Time of the Year has scarce ever been known among us: So that there was hardly any Impediment to our Officers going about and enlisting, or of our Soldiers in marching, or our Vessels in fitting, or our Coasters in bringing us Provisions, or our Committee of War in their various Preparations, 'till all were ready to sail.

11. The extraordinary Thought, Contrivance, Order, Management and quick Dispatch, not only of HIS EXCEL-