

## LOUISBOURG

ing names which overshadow in importance anything saved from their sites. Waterloo was an obscure Belgian hamlet until Napoleon and Wellington met there. There are scores of places in Europe known to all on account of their past, while their contemporary importance is so little that they merit mention only in a local guidebook.

What is there in its history to bring Louisbourg into the same rank as those places? We cannot dwell on its history as a colony for that is as dead as the tradings of Phoenicia, but two events happened which make it important, first, the capture by the New England colonists in 1745; secondly the capture in 1758; the first, so to speak, the result of an impulse; the second, one of the important events of the great Seven Years War, fought in India, America and in Europe.

The direct result of the first was ephemeral, the treaty of peace which concluded the war restored Louisbourg and its dependencies to France; but the indirect results were more enduring. For the first time, the militia of New England engaged in regular warfare. A siege, I take it, is the most conventional of all