

brave army. It falls to me to speak of Commodore Warren and his fleet, and their action during the siege.

Commodore, later Sir Peter Warren, K.B., belonged to the ancient family of the Warrens of Warrenstown, in the county of Meath, just west of Dublin, one of the "English-Irish" families "within the pale," whose estates in Ireland, part of which descended to him, were originally granted to his ancestors in Strongbow's time. His father, Captain Michael Warren, and his grandfather, Captain Thomas Warren, both sprung from a long line of distinguished military men in Irish annals, were officers in the trying times of the wars in Ireland in the seventeenth century. His mother was Catherine, daughter of Sir Christopher Aylmer, Baronet, of Balrath, in the same county of Meath, and widow of Sir Nicholas Plunkett, Baronet; her mother being Margaret, third daughter of Matthew, fifth Lord Louth, by his wife Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Fitz William of Meryon. Sir Peter, the youngest child of his parents, was born at the family home in Warrenstown, in 1703. His father dying in 1712, his elder brother, Oliver Warren, a young lieutenant in the navy, succeeding to the family estates and their management, and the care of his father's family, resigned and returned to Ireland. This brother, three years later, in 1715, placed Peter in the care of their maternal uncle, Admiral Lord Aylmer, then one of the highest officers in the British Navy, to be brought up in that service—a choice of life which met his own wishes exactly. Under his uncle's instructions and care, united to his own good sense, alacrity, and attention to his duties, young Warren showed such talent in his profession that he was commissioned a lieutenant in 1722, at the early age of nineteen. Of attractive manners, quick in perception and action, but clear-headed and calm in judgment, his promotion was rapid.

On April 17th, 1726, he was made a post-captain and appointed to the "Grafton," ship of the line, and ordered to the Mediterranean. Two years later, in the spring of 1728, Captain Warren was transferred to the "Solebay," with orders to carry the King of Spain's despatches to his Viceroy in Mexico, to carry out the preliminaries of the peace then