

Not long after he reached Louisbourg, Commodore Warren was joined by three ships of the line sent to him from England, the "Canterbury" and "Sunderland," sixty guns each, and the "Chester," of fifty guns.

On June 1st, Warren, suspecting that the enemy were ignorant of the capture of the "Vigilante," with her valuable cargo of supplies and ordnance, wrote Pepperrell proposing a plan to have her French commander write to Duchambon on the ill-treatment of prisoners by his garrison, and describing his own good treatment and that of his men on Warren's ships. This suggestion was adopted, and thus the Governor and his garrison learned of her loss to them and the additions to the English fleet, thus discouraging them and so tempting them to a surrender.*

After the transfer of Colonel McDonald's marines to the land, and the land forces to the ships, at a meeting of the officers it was deemed best not to enter the harbor with the ships until the Island Battery was taken, and a plan to capture it from boats was formed. But on the 11th of June three more ships, the "Princess Mary," the "Hector," and the "Lark," joined the fleet, from Newfoundland, and Commodore Warren felt so strong that he gave up the idea of taking the Island Battery, and decided to sail into the harbor with the first fair wind and attack both battery and city. He and Pepperrell arranged a joint attack by land and sea. The preparations were completed on the 14th, and the next day, the 15th, Warren was to sail into the harbor and Pepperrell to attack on the land side at the Westgate. On that day, while Warren and Pepperrell were conferring on shore, Duchambon, the French Governor, sent a flag of truce with a letter, proposing a suspension of hostilities preparatory to negotiations for a surrender. This letter was addressed to both Warren and Pepperrell, and they sent a joint reply complying with his request, and giving him till eight o'clock the next morning to surrender, promising "humane and generous treatment," signing it thus—

* Letters referring to capture of Cape Breton, in Massachusetts Historical Society.