

George Whitefield, the famous preacher, gave the army for a motto for its flag, "Nil desperandum Christo duce;" and one of the chaplains carried a great hatchet, to destroy the images in the French churches. Shirley sent to Commodore Warren, commander on the West India station, for coöperation, but he declined, having no orders. Greatly disappointed, Shirley however concealed this fact, and embarking on the 4th of April, the provincial army reached Canseau in safety, but were detained there by ice for two weeks. Here they were rejoiced by the arrival of Warren, who had received orders from home to assist them, and who after consulting with Pepperrell, proceeded to cruise before Louisbourg. On the 13th, the army arrived near Louisbourg, the first intimation of its coming being the appearance of the transports. The landing was effected without difficulty; and the siege being at once formed, Lieutenant-colonel Vaughan with some New Hampshire troops, marched round to the northeast part of the harbor by night and set fire to some warehouses with naval stores and liquors. The smoke was carried across the harbor into the Grand Battery, whose occupants were so terrified that they spiked their guns and fled into the city, and Vaughan, occupying the battery next morning, drilled the guns and turned them upon the city with effect. During fourteen successive nights, and some foggy days, the hardy New Englanders did oxen's work, drawing across a morass within plain view of the fortress and reach of its guns, the heavy guns for a breaching battery; hauling them on sledges by shoulder-straps through mud knee-deep. Duchambon, the French commander, was summoned on the 7th of May, in vain; the attack was vigorously pushed, and five breaching batteries erected, which destroyed the western gate of the town, and injured the circular battery. But so well constructed were the fortifications, and so vigorous the defense, that five successive attacks on the batteries of the island at the harbor's mouth were all repulsed, the last with a loss of nearly 200 men. Warren, however, had taken the Vigilant, a French seventy-four, with 560 men and a vast quantity of military stores intended for the town, but which seasonably supplied some painful deficiencies in the camp of the besiegers. This unwelcome news was carefully thrown in the enemy's way; preparations were at the same time made for a general assault; and Duchambon, who had not dared to make any sorties, by reason of the very mutinous disposition of his men, found himself under the necessity of offering to capitulate. On the 16th of June, accordingly, the town surrendered