

gives them but too great opportunities to annoy and interrupt our Fishery." And after stating that every spring ships and supplies are sent out from France, continues in these words: "The only time, therefore, to attempt with the most advantage the taking of the place will be at the breaking up of winter, and before their ships come from France, and this may be done, and for the expedition I am persuaded that four or five thousand men may be raised in New England, if the officers, as they were for the expedition against the Spaniards, be appointed in these provinces, but then I presume it will be necessary that they be disciplined before they embark."

Again, on the 19th of June, 1743, in a "state" for the Duke of Newcastle, dated at New York, Governor Clarke reiterated his proposal a second time, saying: "But before we begin that work"—the proposed taking of Canada—"I presume to think we ought to take Cape Breton, a place well fortified, and from whence the French can annoy our fishery at Newfoundland, and guard their own navigation to and from Canada. That place is such a thorn in the sides of the New England people, that it is very probable that a large body of men may be raised there to assist in any such design." This document is in the same volume as that first mentioned, on page 229.

How true Governor Clarke's words were, and how perfectly his proposition and design were carried out, the result, just four years after the first, and two years after this last, statement was written, conclusively proved.

Although first proposed by a Governor of New York, the actual expedition was solely due to William Shirley, Governor of Massachusetts Bay. Defeated in his own Legislature, on first proposing the enterprise, he only succeeded, on a reconsideration, by a majority of *one*. To Shirley, and to Shirley alone, is due the greatest credit for the event we are now commemorating. He aroused the people, and his energy directed their action. He selected all the officers for his army, except the second in command, Roger Wolcott (whose appointment Connecticut made the *sine qua non* of her five hundred and sixteen men joining in the ex-