

man of a party that sallied: in the fort they \* shot and scalp'd one of the Indian prisoners as a reprisal for the Indians shooting and scalping of serjeant Mc Neal; and burn two French houses as a reprisal for the two English houses burnt; several English living without the fort were captivated, but soon ransomed by the French.

From this time until the French war in the spring, anno 1744, this neglected non-effective garrison of Annapolis continued in a profound peace, and supine indolence. In the beginning of the present French war, the fort of Annapolis was in a miserable condition; the garrison soldiers did not exceed eighty men, capable of fatiguing duty; hogs and sheep from without passed the fosses or ditches, and mounted the ramparts at pleasure.

War was declared by Great Britain against France (the French had declared war some weeks before) ann. 1744, March 29; the proclamation of war did not arrive in Boston until June 2; the French of Cape-Breton were more early in their intelligence, and the garrison of the not tenable post of Canso could not (in case the general instructions were such) have timely advice to abandon it; accordingly about 900 men, regular troops and militia, were by M. Duquesnel governor, sent under M. Du Vivier from Louisbourg; they seize Canso May 13; there were four incompleat companies of Phillip's regiment in garrison, not exceeding 80 men, with a man of war tender; the French burn the small settlement; conditions were, to be carried to Louisbourg, and to continue there one year, and thence to be sent to Boston or Annapolis; but were sent to Boston sooner.

In June a few small vessels (Delabrotz, afterwards taken by the Massachusetts-Bay province snow privateer, commander) from Louisbourg annoy St. Peter's, and some

\* In some Christian countries such reprisals in cold blood upon people not personally guilty, would have been deemed barbarous and inhumane.

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