

lowing, was engaged by Warren in the "Superbe" and Captain Tyng in the "Massachusetts" and captured, with a large amount of supplies and munitions of war, being the first of a fleet expected from Brest at Louisbourg. Pepperrell, by advice of his own council of officers, on the 26th, declined Warren's proposal of the 24th, they fearing that by agreeing to it they would give the command to Warren, and with it the credit of the capture should it prove successful, and suggested his manning the "Vigilante" from his own fleet, and also stating that the army itself would attempt the capture of the Island Battery. This was the chief defence of the harbor, mounting thirty-two guns, and commanded at short range its entrance from the ocean.

On getting Pepperrell's answer, Warren, on the same day, the 26th, again wrote him urging at least the six hundred men to man the "Vigilante," his fleet being at the time short of men; but Pepperrell again declined. The very next night, the 27th of May, two hundred men of the army were embarked in boats to take the Island Battery. They made a brave attack, but unfortunately were utterly defeated with a loss of sixty killed and one hundred and sixteen wounded.*

Two days after this disaster, on the 29th of May, Warren again in a letter to Pepperrell urged his former plan, saying he was sorry his views and those of his officers "had so little weight;" quotes Shirley's letter of the 28th of January, received by him at Antigua, suggesting that if he, Warren, could "come and take command of the expedition it would be, I doubt not, a most happy event for His Majesty's service," and then continues: "I do not mention this from any desire of command, because I think it impossible to do one's duty well in two capacities both by sea and land, especially as I pretend to know very little of the latter, but to show my opinion," which "in conjunction with the captains under my command, might have some weight and force with you." In the same letter he further says: "I am ready and desirous to make the ships useful as possible at all haz-

* Niles's History of the Indian and French Wars.