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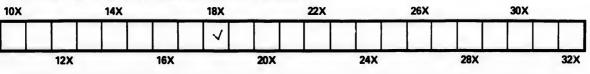


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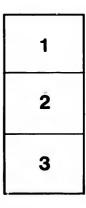
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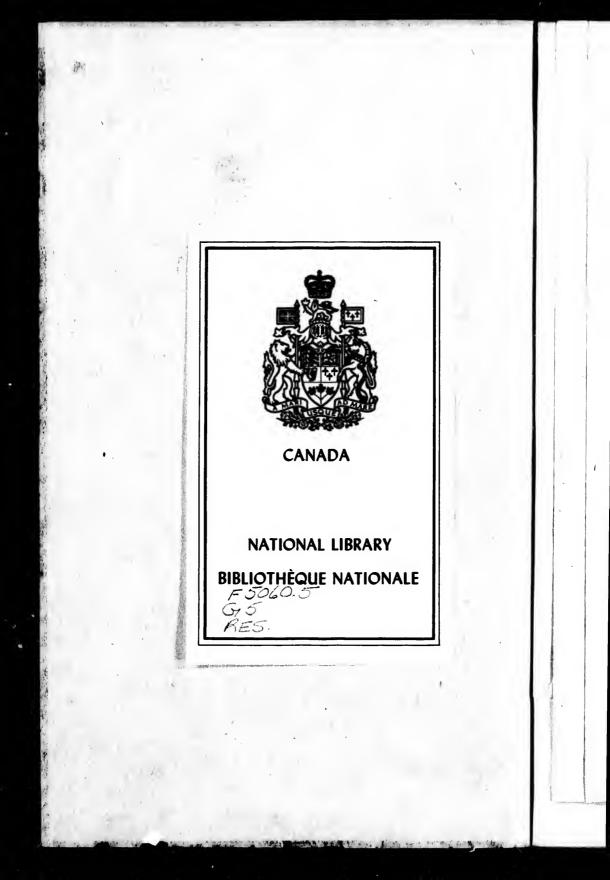
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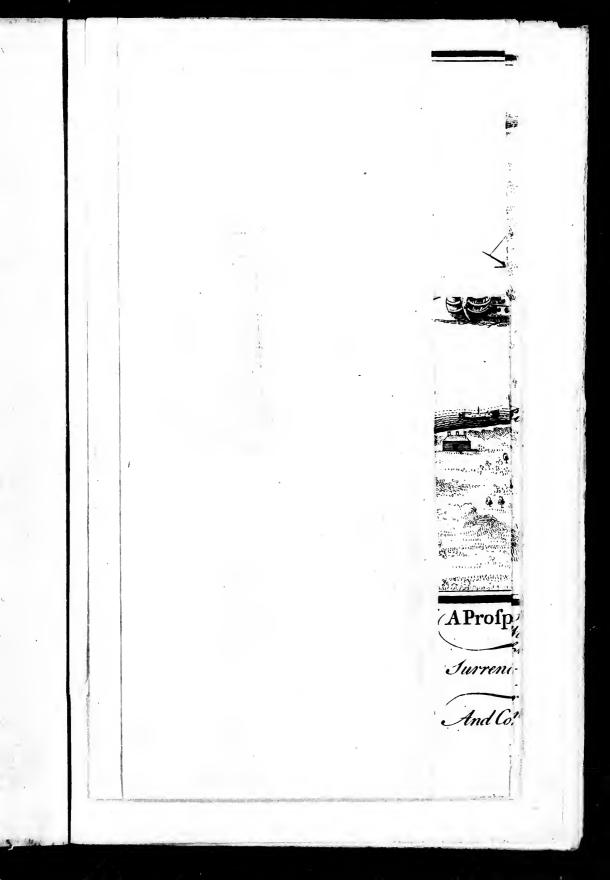
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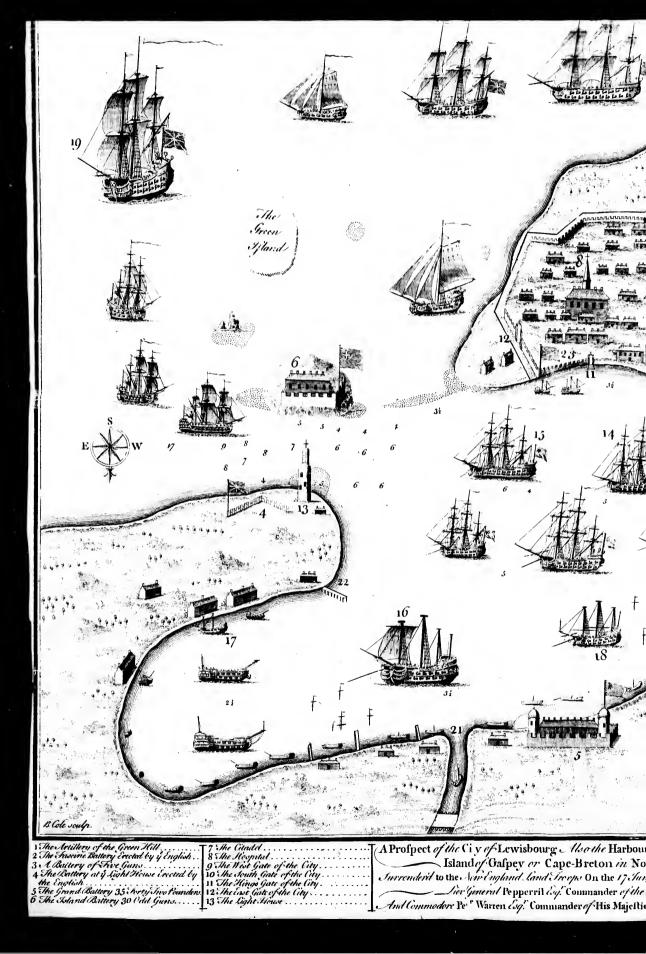


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JOURNAL

Of the Late

S I E G E

BYTHE

TROOPS from North America,

AGAINST

The French at CAPE BRETON, the City of LOUISBOURG, and the Territories thereunto belonging.

SURRENDERED

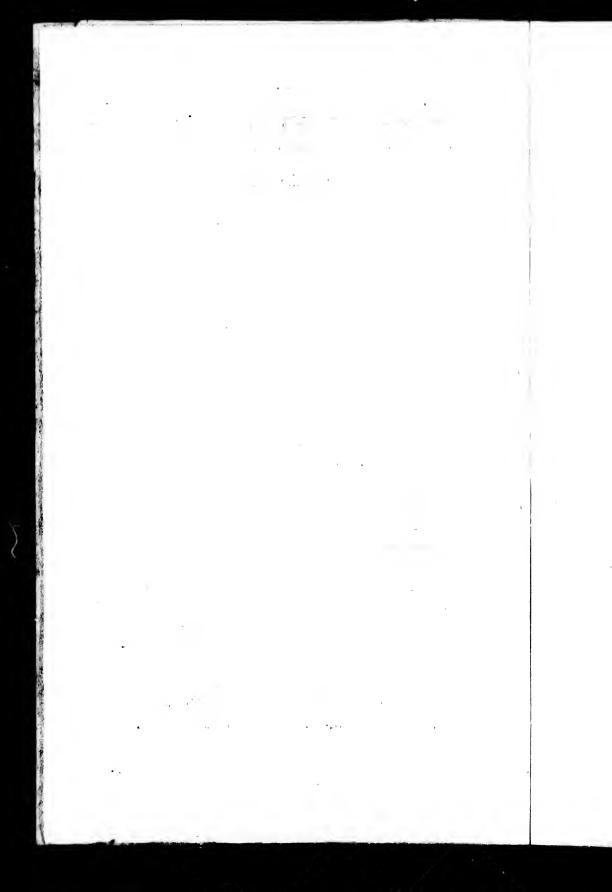
To the ENGLISH, on the 7th of June, 1745, after a Siege of Forty-eight Days.

BY JAMES GIBSON,

Gentleman Voluntier at the above Siege.

LONDON: Printed for J. NEWBERY, at the Bible and Sun? in St. Paul's Church-Yard. MDCCXLV.

A





TO THE

COMMISSION'D OFFICERS of the Troops at the late Siege against the City of Louisbourg, and the Territories thereunto belonging in North America.

My dear Brethren, and Fellow-Soldiers,



Urfuant to your Requeft, I here prefent you with a *Journal*, which I kept whilft the Siege was laid againft the City abovemention'd.

If it fhould contribute in the leaft to your Pleafure in the Recollection of that fignal Victory which you obtain'd, by the Bleffing of God, thro' your great Courage and good Conduct, over your Enemies at *Cape Breton*; or be of Service to you in any A 2 other

other Respect whatever, I shall not think my Labour ill bestow'd.

Gentlemen, as you voluntarily left your Families, yourFortunes, your Occupations, and whatever elfe you held moft dear, to enter the Field in the Service of your Country against the strong Holds of a potent Enemy; against a well wall'd, and well garriton'd City; against strong Batteries, in short, and large Cannons, I heartily congratulate you on your good Success, and doubt not but your Heroic Atchievements will be transmitted down, with Honour, to latest Posterity.

In regard to the poor Soldiers, who left their Families and their respective Callings for no other Confideration than fourteen Shillings sterling per Month, besides the Prospect of a little Plunder, as Occasion offer'd, of which they were difappointed, I hope they will be taken care of, and meet with a Reward in fome Measure proportion'd to their Service and their Merit; fince their Disappointment was wholly owing (as you are fenfible) to our generous Treatment of the Enemy, even when we had fecur'd our Conquest : For by the Terms of Capitulation, the French were not only allow'd to carry off all their Effects without the least Molestation, but were transported, at our Expence to Old France.

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France; infomuch, that the Soldiers, as I before hinted, had no Opportunity of making any Advantage of their good Succefs, which otherwife they might have confiderably improv'd.

The Place, Gentlemen, which we have thus happily made our own, may with Propriety be call'd the Key of *Canada*, and *North America*.

The Island is near a hundred Miles long; and has feveral fine Harbours in it very commodious for the Fifhery; whereof that at *Louifbourg* is the principal. The City is not only well wall'd, but as it has feveral wide Trenches and Flankers, it may properly be faid to be compleatly garrifon'd. There is likewife a very grand Battery, directly opposite to the Mouth of the Harbour, the Ordnance whereof confifts of above thirty Pieces of Cannon, all forty two Pounders.

The Island Battery, moreover, which is planted at the Mouth of the Harbour, is of equal Strength and Force.

Opposite to the Island Battery there is also a very fine and commodious Light-House, as well as a noble Harbour for the largest Ships.

Near the Shore and grand Banks, which are about twenty Leagues Distance, there are Fish in Abundance,

As

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As to the Climate, 'tis exceeding fine for curing Fifh, and rendering them fit for a foreign Market. Here are Mackarel and Herrings in Plenty, both fat and large for Baits.

The Land here produces very good Wheat, Rye and Barley; and the Meadows the best of Grass. Besides these Commodities, here are fine Beach Wood and Flake, for the mutual Benefit of the industrious Fisherman and the Farmer.

This Port commands not only Cape Sable Shore, Canço, and Newfoundland; but the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and by Confequence, Canada. It is a Safeguard likewife to the whole Fifhery, as well as to Foreign Veffels.

I have been inform'd by a French Gentleman, that the Settlement of the Ifland of Gaspey cost his most Christian Majesty nine Million and an Half of Money : And fince the War commenc'd, the Repairs that have been made to all the several Batteries have been attended with great Expence.

As to my own particular Part, no fooner was the Expedition propos'd at *Bofton* in *New England* by the Government, but I inftantly promoted the fame, and thro' my Means fome Hundreds enter'd into the Service: And as I had the Honour to bear his

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his Majefty's Commission in the Royal Regiment of Foot Guards in Barbadoes, by Virtue of that Commission I voluntarily engag'd in this Expedition, without the least Pay or Allowance for my Service, or Provision, during the whole Siege: And no fooner was it over, but I affissed in the Transportation of the French Inhabitants to Old France; having pass'd my Word to proceed in a Transport both to France and England.

Give me leave here to remind you of my Readinefs to ferve this Expedition in all Respects : You remember, I doubt not, the tedious Marches which I made after the Enemy, and the imminent Danger I was in at the North-East Harbour, which is about ten Miles from the grand Battery, where, with four Men only, I was loading a Schooner with Plunder. Whilft we were bufy in the Houfe where our Cargo lay, no lefs than a hundred and forty French and Indians, with a Shout, fired a Volley against it: Whereupon two of the Men jumpt out of the Window, and were thot dead, even after they had cry'd out Quarter. After this, tho' the French and Indians enter'd the House, the two other Men and my felf to happily conceal'd ourfelves, as that we were not discover'd. Some thort Time after they withdrew, and we made

.

made our Escape to the grand Battery, the with great Fatigue; for we were forced to take to a thick Wood, and run thro' great Swamps, not daring to appear in the Road, for Fear of a Surprize. At last, God be thanked, we arrived fase at the grand Battery, and receiv'd the repeated Congratulations of our Friends, on Account of our happy Deliverance, which was look'd upon as almost miraculous.

I hope, Gentlemen, I shall not be thought vain in making mention of one other dangerous Exploit in which likewife I came off with Success.

At about 2 o'Clock in the Morning, with the Affiftance of but five Men, I carried a Fire-ship under the Guns of the City Batteries to the King's Gate, where I fet fire to the Train, and fo quick was the Effect of it, that I loft my Breath till I got After this we went in our upon Deck. Boat under the Guns of the circular Battery before we could go over to the Weft Side of the Harbour, for Fear of being difcover'd by the Fire. The French, indeed, fired feveral Times at us, but we happily receiv'd no Damage. We arrived fafe foon after at the Grand Battery; and no fooner had the Fire took the Powder, but it tore up the Decks of the Ship, and threw fuch a Quantity of Stones into

Vi

into the City, that they not only broke down a large Spire of the King's-Gate, but the End of a large Stone-house, and burnt three small Vessels, &c. besides.

As the Morning was very dark, the Inhabitants were ftrangely furpris'd at fuch an unexpected Act of Hoftility.

I have nothing farther to add, but that I have prefix'd to this Journal a Plan of the City, the Garritons, the Harbour, and Light-houfe, \mathfrak{Sc} . which I hope will meet with a favourable Reception from you, and be thought at the fame Time an acceptable Service to the Publick.

As to what Batteries shall hereafter be thought neccessary to be built, or what Repairs ought immediately to be made to those that are still standing, I hope a true and faithful Account thereof will speedily be deliver'd in to those whom it may more immediately concern, and that proper Persons who are well Wishers to their King and Country may be appointed, as soon as conveniently may be, to put the fame in Execution. I am, with all due Respects, Gentlemen,

B

Dated July 3, 1745, in Louisbourgb-Harbouron board the Speedwell, bound for France with French Inhabitants.

Your humble Servant,

JAMES GIBSON. P. S.

VIĮ

viii D E D I C A T I O N.

P. S. I shall here take the Liberty to transcribe a Letter Verbatim, which I receiv'd from Major William Hunt.

Royal Grand Battery of King George the Second, at Cape Breton, in North America. July 4th, 1745.

Capt. James Gibson,

· · · ·

I Do, in Behalf of myself and others the commission'd Officers, return you hearty Thanks for the Copy of your Journal during the Siege against the City of *Louisbourg*, at *Cape Breton*; And as you are going to *France* with the *Frencb* Inhabitants, and so for *England*, we wish you Success, and that you may, for your Charge and Courage, have great Encouragement, as you did so voluntarily proceed in the above Expedition at your own Expence. I am,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant,

WILLIAM HUNT, Major.

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JOURNAL OFTHE

Siege of the City of Louisbourg, &c.

Tuesday, APRIL 30, 1745.



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HIS Day our Men of War, Privateers, and Transports, arriv'd fafe at *Caboruch-Bay* in *Cape Breton*, from *Canço*, where we lay from the fecond Day of this Instant

April to the 28tb, at which Time we anchor'd within five Miles of the City of Louisbourgb. No fooner were our Whale-Boats got out in order to land our Troops, but Capt. Morepang came down from the City with fourfcore and feven Men to prevent their Attempt. Our Privateers, however, lying at Anchor near the Shore, fir'd finartly at them, and in the mean Time B 2 we

A JOURNAL of the Siege

we landed fome hundreds of Men, who went in Purfuit of the Enemy. We kill'd fix of them, and took five Prifoners, and, in fhort, totally beat them off. Nay more, we prevented them from getting into the City, and oblig'd them to fly for fhelter into the Woods.

Wednefday, MAY 1.

Our Troops march'd towards the Grand Battery, and fet fire to ten Houfes, the Inhabitants being fled into the City. The Flames fo furpris'd the Soldiers in the aforefaid Battery, that both they and their Captain (one *Carey* by Name) made the beft of their Way by Water into the City; whereupon feveral of our Companies took poffeffion of the Place, and at Day-break hoifted up King *George's* Flag.

Thursday 2.

The French perceiving the English Flag hoisted up, fir'd Shot and Bombs from the Island Battery, and all the other Batteries in the City, against the Grand Battery inceffantly Day and Night; but to no Purpose; for they all went over us. Whereever they faw two or three Men together, they would fend a Bomb, or a Parcel of Shot after them. The Guns which we found in

II

in the Grand Battery were plugg'd, and their Carriage-Wheels, &c. cut by the French.

Friday 3.

The City and Batteries fir'd fmartly all Day and Night with Bombs and Cannon against the Grand Battery. One of our Guns being drill'd, we fir'd into the City; and the first Shot, being unexpected, kill'd 14 Men.

Saturday 4.

The City Batteries, &c. play'd as fast as possible with Bombs and Cannon against our Grand Battery. As we had two of our Guns drill'd, we fir'd against the City with good Effect; for we took St. John's, and St. Peter's, and burnt them. We took likewise about 20 Prisoners; but the others made their Escape in the Woods. We took, moreover, several finall Vessels, and fome Plunder.

Sunday 5.

The French fir'd but a few Guns and Bombs against us. This Day the first Protestant Sermon was preach'd in the Mass-house at the Grand Battery. The Text was taken out of 100th Pfalm ver. 4, and 5. In the Evening we fir'd smartly against

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A JOURNAL of the Siege

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against the City with our two Pieces of Cannon.

Monday 6.

Our Company confifting of 96 Men march'd to the North-East Harbour, which was ten Miles from the Grand Battery, and drove the Inhabitants into the Woods. Our Grand Battery, having several Guns drill'd, fir'd smartly against the City and Island Battery; they however fir'd but feldom at us.

Tuesday 7.

Our Scout at the North-East Harbour, loaded a Schooner with Plunder, and a Shallop with excellent Fish. Tho' the City and other Batteries fir'd fmartly against the Grand Battery, yet they did no Damage. We, on the other Hand, having several Guns drill'd, fir'd smartly against the City and Island Battery, and every Gun did Execution.

Wednesday 8.

The Grand Battery fir'd all Day against the Island Battery and City, with good Effect; the City and other Batteries, however, fir'd but seldom at us. One of our Guns happen'd to split, by which Accident one of our Men was hurt.

Thur fday

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Thursday 9.

Our Grand Battery, having 20 Guns drill'd, and their Carriages repair'd, fir'd fmartly against the City and Island Battery. We faw feveral Shot go through the Roofs of three Houses; as also, several Chim, neys, and the Ambeseers of the Batteries, knock'd down.

Friday 10.

A fmall Scout, of 25 Men got to the North-Eaft Harbour. I and four more being in a Houfe upon Plunder, 140 *French* and *Indians* came down upon us firft, and fir'd a Volley, with a great Noife. Two jump'd out of the Window, and were fhot dead. With great Difficulty the other two and myfelf got fafe to the Grand Battery. They afterwards kill'd 19 of the remaining 20.

Saturday 11.

A Company this Day march'd to the North-East Harbour, and buried the Men that were kill'd Yesterday. They burnt likewise every House in the Place with the Mass-house, Fish-stages, and Warehouses. They destroy'd, moreover, about 100 Shalloways, and took 40 Prifoners,

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14 *A* JOURNAL of the Siege foners. The Grand Battery fir'd fmartly against the City.

Sunday 12.

Not one Gun fir'd from the Island Battery this Day. The Grand Battery, however, and our other Batteries fir'd finartly against the City to very good Effect; for not a Gun was return'd. We had a Sermon in the Mass-house at the Grand Battery. The Text was taken from the 27th Verse of the 9th Chapter of the Hebrews.

Monday 13.

At 3 o'Clock this Afternoon a large French Snow came round the Light-boufe, the Wind being East-North-East. She was oblig'd to run into the Harbour of Louisbearg. Tho' our grand Battery, and other Battery fir'd at her, yet she kept clofe aboard the Ifland Battery and the City, till fhe grounded against the This Veffel came from King's-Gate. France, laden with Stores for the Fifhermen. This was the only Veffel that got in after we had taken pofferfion of the Grand Battery. The City and Island Battery fir'd as fast as possible against the Grand Battery till the Snow grounded. At Night we got a large Scooner, fill'd with Combustibles; put a finall Sail on her

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her, and carried her between the Ifland Battery and the City. So foon as the Fire took the Train, the *French* fir'd from the City and Ifland Battery against the Schooner, and the Grand Battery, no less than 30 Shot. One of our Men was kill'd by Landgrage, and feveral were wounded. Our Gunner likewife was kill'd at our Fascine Battery, through the Missfortune of a Gun's splitting.

Tuesday 14.

There was a North-Eaft Storm of Wind and Rain this Day. The City fir'd finartly againft our Fascine Battery. Our Batteries, on the other Hand, fir'd against the City with good Effect. In order to prevent the Loading of our Guns at the Fafcine Battery, the *French* fir'd finall Arms, as foon as we had discharg'd our Cannon; but they did no Manner of Execution.

Wednesday 15.

This Day the City fir'd feveral Bombs and Guns against our Fascine Battery. We fir'd 28 Guns, and several Bombs, which did great Execution in the City; for they broke down the Wall of the Circular Battery, and the Ambusers.

С

Thur Iday

Thursday 16.

Our Artillery from the Green-Hill threw above 50 Bombs and Balls into the City, which drove down Chimneys, and Roofs of Houfes. The City, indeed, fir'd fmartly, but not a Gun was heard from the Island Battery. Two of our Guns at the Grand Battery fplit, by which Misfortune two of our Men were wounded.

Friday 17.

Captain Roufe convoy'd fix Transports from Boston with four Months Provision for our Land Army. Capt. Gayton likewife arriv'd from Boston with Military Stores. The City fir'd finartly all Day against our Fascine Battery, and the Island Battery threw three Bombs against the Grand Battery. We dragg'd feveral 42 Pounders from the Grand to the Fafcine Battery, notwithstanding it was two Miles diftant, and the Way rough. • One Hundred French went out of the City by Water, and landed at the Back of the Light house, in order to cut off our Men; but as we were appris'd of their Intention, we engag'd them, kill'd three, wounded feveral, and took the Captain of their Company Prifoner. One of our Indian Friends was

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was hurt very much by the fpliting of one of our Guns.

Saturday 18.

The City fir'd as fast as possible against our Fascine Battery and Artillery at the *Green-Hill*. We, on the other Hand, shot several of the *French* with our small Arms, at the City Wall from our Fafeine Battery, as it was but 25 Roods Distance.

Sunday 19.

This Day a fad Accident happen'd at our Fafcine Battery. Two Barrels of Powder took fire, and kill'd feven of our Men. Tho' all our Batteries fir'd fmartly against the City, yet the Island Battery did not fire a Gun for feveral Days; and the last Shells they threw were half fill'd with Bran; from whence we might reasonably conjecture, that they grew short of Powder. We had a Sermon preach'd to Day, and the Text was the 11th Verse of the 17th Chapter of Exodus.

Monday 20.

Two French Ships and a Snow were taken, and fent into Caboruch-Bay. Commodore Warren and the other Ships are ftill out in chace of a Man of War. The C_2 City

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orts fion ketary Day and the 42 tine iles un-Vaht but we femhds

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City fir'd all Day against our Fascine Battery. All our Batteries fir'd so fmartly against the City, that some of the Ambusers on the South Side were beaten down at the Circular Battery. Two hundred of our Men march'd on a Scout to the North-East Harbour. Capt. Fletcher sont his Boat associate to take in Water. Ten Men were kill'd, and sour csap'd.

Tuefday 21.

This Day the Scout of 200 Men return'd to the Grand Battery, and brought with them a French Doctor, and feven other Captives, having first burnt the Maishouse, and all the other Houses; as also deftroy'd a confiderable Number of Fishing Shalloops, and the Fish-Stages. Commodore Warren fent in the French Man of War that had been chas'd for feveral Days. She is a fine new Ship of 64 Guns, call'd the Vigilant, and laden with Stores, a great Number of large Guns, and a large Quantity of Powder; befides Stores for the City of Louisbourg, and other Stores for a 70 Gun Ship which is building at A large Brigantine arriv'd this Canada. Day from France, and came into our Fleet, thro' Miftake, as the Weather was very foggy. She was laden with Brandy and Stores. A Scout of 200 Men march'd out

out after fome hundreds of French and Indians, who were coming down, as we heard, upon our Camp. The Scout return'd, the Enemy moving off, and brought in fevenCows and feveral Calves and Goats, Gc. Our fmall Battery, with two Pieces of Cannon, fir'd on the City, and did great Execution : And notwithstanding our other Battery fir'd fmartly against the City with good Effect, yet the City did not return a Gun : Neither had the Ifland Battery fir'd a Gun for feveral Days. At the King's-Wharf, we found thirty Pieces of Cannon funk from 6 to 12 Pounders. This is the Place where the Men of War heave down. 'Tis a long Wharf that is plank'd for fpreading and mending of Sails; and a large Ship may lie along Side of it. The Vigilant loft 60 Men; we only five.

Wednesday 22.

This Day the City fir'd as quick as poffible againft us; we, on the other Hand, fhot 'feveral of the *French* who were on the City Wall, with our fmall Arms from the Fafcine Battery; and as the *French* Gunner was luckily kill'd likewife in the City by another Shot, they hoifted their Flags half Maft upon that Occasion. This Day a fifty Gun Ship join'd our Fleet.

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Thurfday

Thursday 23.

This Day a great Number of our Men were bufily employ'd in furnishing near fifty of our Whale-boats with Paddles, Ladders, &c. and about 12 o'Clock 500 Men of the Land Army and Marines embark'd from on board the Man of War, with a View of making themselves Mastress of the Island Battery; but at that Time there arose such prodigious a Fog, that they could not see where to land, notwitstanding they were in the Nut of the Shore. When it began to clear up they were oblig'd to draw off, tho' at that Time there were but 14 Men in the Island Battery.

Friday 24.

The Fleet, this Day appearing off the Mouth of the Harbour, made a gallant Show. At Night, five of our Men and myfelf went on board a Ship which we first fill'd with Combustables, and then carried her under a small Sail by the Iron Battery till we had grounded her against the King's-Gate belonging to the City. No fooner was the Train fet on Fire, but the City fir'd smartly against us; and when we took Boat, we were oblig'd to row under the Mouth of their Cannon, till we got

got on the Western Side of the Harbour. This Fireship did as much Execution as we could reasonably expect; for it burnt three Vessels, and not only beat down the Pinacle of the King's-Gate, but great Part of a Stone-house in the City: And as this was transacted in the Dead of the Night, it put the Inhabitants into an uncommon Consternation.

Saturday 25.

This Day the Fascine Battery fir'd fmartly against the City Wall, and not only beat down a great Part of it, but much damag'd the Citadel, which gave us great Hopes of Success. The City, indeed, in Return, fir'd both their Cannon and their sagainst the faid Battery, but to little or no Effect.

Sunday 26.

This Day a Scout, confifting of 153 Men befides myfelf, march'd to the Weft-North-Weft Part of this Ifland, which is 25 Miles Diftance, or thereabouts, from the Grand Battery. We found two fine Farms upon a Neck of Land that extended near 7 Miles in Length. The firft we came to was a very handfome House, and had two large Barns, well finish'd, that lay

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A JOURNAL of the Siege

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lay contiguous to it. Here likewife were two very large Gardens; as also, fome fine Fields of Corn of a confiderable Height, and other good Lands thereto belonging, befides Plenty of Beach-Wood and Fresh Water. In this House we took feven Frenchmen, and one Woman Prife-It was not much more than five ners. Hours before our Arrival, that 140 French and Indians had been killing Cattle here, and baking Bread, for Provisions in their March against our Men, who were at that Time poffefs'd of the Light-These were the very fame Band, boule. or Company, that murder'd 10 of our Men at the North-East Harbour on the 10th Instant, and shot the two Men that jumpt out of the Window, as is more particularly mention'd in the Article of that At that unhappy Juncture they Day. took one Serjeant Cockrin Prifoner; and notwithstanding he had made it his whole Study from that Time to humour and oblige them, yet, after a Dance this Day, they fell upon him, and in a most barbarous Manner cut off the Ends of his Fingers; after that, they flit them up to his Hand. When this Scene of Cruelty was over, they enter'd upon a new one; and in the first Place cut off the Tip of his Tongue, and in an infulting Manner bid him speak Englifk:

Englifb; after that they cut off fome Part of his Flefh, and made one of his Fellow Prifoners eat it; then they cut his Carcafe up like a Parcel of inhuman Butchers, and to fhew their laft Marks of Malice and Refentment threw it into the Sea.

- The other Houfe was a fine Stone Edifice, confifting of fix Rooms on a Floor, all well finish'd. There was a fine Walk before it, and two fine Barns contiguous to it, with fine Gardens and other Appurtenances, befides feveral fine Fields of Wheat. In one of the Barns there were 15 Load of Hay, and Room fufficient for threefcore Horfes, and other Cattle, At our Departure from the first Farm we set all we left behind us on fire ; and turning back, at a finall Diftance, we faw fome Hundreds of the Enemy hovering round the Flames. We likewife fet fire to, and reduc'd the laft Farm, as well as the First, to Ruins. Here we took three Men in a Boat which was laden with Provisions, and failing down to the City of Louisbourg. This laft House was fituated on the Mouth of a large Salmon Fifhery which was fome few Roods wide; and about half a Mile above it there was a large Pond of frefly Water which was near four Miles over.

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Monday 27.

This Day we return'd with our Scout, confifting of 154 Men, to the Grand Battery all well, and in high Spirits. At 12 o'Clock our Whale-boats were well fix'd with Ladders, and two hundred Men at least, if not more, attempted to scale the Walls of the Island Battery. The French difcover'd the fame; and as foon as our Boats came near to Shore, the French fir'd their large Cannon loaded with Langrage, which deftroy'd feveral of our Boats as well as our Men. Those that actually landed fought till Sun rife, and then call'd for Quarter. Out of the Number that went to the Island Battery 154 of our Men were miffing. By two that deferted from the French, we were inform'd, that 118 of our Men were taken, and carried Prifoners into the City; fo that in that bold Attempt we loft only fix and thirty Men. The French, who were at that Time in the Battery, were between three and four Hundred.

Tuefday 28.

This Day not only the Grand Battery but our other Batteries fir'd finartly on the City. We faw the Shot beat down feveral

ral Chimneys, and go through the Roofs of feveral Houfes. This Day a Scout of 400 Men march'd towards Scatteree, upon an Information that a great Number of French and Indians were marching towards our Camps in order to cut them off. As our Scout was marching down a Hill at the North-East Harbour, they came all on a fudden upon 160 French aad Indians, who, in a great Confernation ran up another Hill that was full of Trees and forti-As our People were fied with Rocks. only in an open Garden, as it were, the French and Indians fir'd finartly at them; but notwithstanding their advantageous Situatior, we kill'd 37, and wounded 41, as we were inform'd by the French Captain's Wife, whom we had taken Prifoner; and they kill'd only ten of ours. The French and Indians made off in fuch a Hurry, that they did not ftay to bury their Dead. This was the fame Company that was at the Weft-North-Weft Neck of Land on Sunday the 26th Inftant. We took their Shalloways laden with Provisions, \mathfrak{C}_c .

Wednefday 29.

ThisDay our Scout, confifting of 400 Men, march'd to *Scatteree*, where we burnt feveral Houfes, and took fix Men and three Women Prifoners. *Scatteree* is about 20 D 2 Miles

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Miles from the Grand Battery. Laft Night we (for I was amongft them) lodg'd in the Woods. The *French* and *Indians* drew off. Our Batteries fir'd finartly againft the City.

Thurfday 30.

This Day our Scout abovementioned of 400 Men return'd to the Grand Battery well, and in high Spirits, &c.

Friday 31.

Rain and Fog. — Not a Gun was fir'd this Day on one fide or the other.

Saturday, JUNE 1.

This Day our Batteries play'd finartly against the City with their Bombs and Cannon. The Island Battery did not fire a Gun for feveral Days together, and the City but a few.

Sunday 2.

Laft Night we rais'd a great Part of a new Battery at the Light-house. Two hundred Men were at work upon it. 'The French, at the Island Battery, when they faw it in the Morning were not only furpris'd, but fo incens'd at the Progress our Men had made, that they fir'd as fast as poffible

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pofiible with their Bombs and Cannon upon them, and oblig'd them to draw off. One Flanker of this Battery fronts the Sea, and the other is directly oppofite to the Ifland Battery; fo that we can fweep the Platform of the Ifland Battery and command all the Shipping that goes in or comes out. The *French* laid a Boom from the Eaft Battery to that of the Weft, in order to prevent any of our Firefhips from annoying the City, or any of our Boats from Landing. We had a Sermon on the following Words, *Prepare to meet* thy God, O Zion.

Monday 3.

This Day a Veffel arriv'd from Bofton with a large Mortar-piece, which was landed, and drawn to the Light-houfe Battery. We had Advice from the Captain that 1000 Men were voluntarily rais'd to reinforce our Troops here; and that we might expect them very foon. We had farther Advice, that the French Fleet of Men of War were ftopt at Breft by our Englifth Men of War. We had moreover, 600 Barrels of Powder arriv'd from Bofton, befides Stores for the Army. This Supply of Ammunition came very opportunely; for we had not Powder fufficient for any more

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more than four Rounds at the the Grand Battery. This put new Life and Spirits into all of us.

Tuefday A.

This Day we fir'd our Cannon and Bombs against the City. Both of our Mortars prov'd fo defective, that it was not thought faste to make use of them any more. Whereupon a Privateer Snow was fent immediately to *Anapolis* for a fresh Supply. We heard such a great Number of Guns str'd at Sea, that we concluded there was a smart Engagement between our Men of War and the *French*.

Wednefday 5.

Laft Nigl t was taken and brought in a French Ship of 14 Carriage Guns, and above 300 Ton, laden with Beef, Pork, Butter, Cheefe, Peafe, Beans, Brandy, Salt, and other Stores for the Fifhery. This was the Ship, it feems, which we heard in the Engagement Yefterday. The Fafcine Battery play'd finartly with their Bombs and Cannon, and to very good Effect. In the Morning, the French drank to us from the City Wall, we being fo near that we could fpeak to each other.

Thur (day

Thurfday 6.

This Day the French Priloners that were taken in the Vigilant, and fome others who were made Captives by Land, were carried on Board Captain Gayton, and feveral other Transports, and the Prizes bound for Boston, being in Number upwards of 1000 Men.

Friday 7.

This Day the Prizes and Prifoners fet fail for *Bofton*, under the Convoy of Capt. *Gayton*, and *Snelling*. Our Battery fir'd fmartly.

Saturday 8.

This Day we fent a Flag of Truce to the Governor of the City of Louisbourg, with a Letter from the Captain who was taken in the Vigilant Man of War, wherein he gave Advice, that both he and his Men were treated in a handfome Manner by the Englift, and defir'd to know the Reafon why the Englift did not meet with the like civil Treatment and good Quarters at the North-Eaft Harbour and IflandyBattery, when requefted.

Sunday 9:

Two Steitzers last Night deferted the French

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French Guards in the City, and came to our Grand Battery, w o inform'd us, that there was no Meat to be had in all the City; and that the French fublished wholly on Salt-fifh, Bread, and Peafe. They affur'd us likewife, that there were but about 100 Barrels of Powder left for all their Batteries : To this they added, that the first Gun that we drill'd, and fir'd from the Grand Battery, kill'd 14 of their Men. - This Day our Men of War went in Chafe of a large Ship (which prov'd to be a Man of War) to join our Fleet from England. Two valuable Prizes were taken, and tent to Bofton. A large Sloop of 110 Tons from Canada, laden with Provision, and bound for Louisbourg, was chas'd by one of our Privateers, and ran on Shore at the Back of the Light-Houfe. About 50 Men made their Efcape. We got the Veffel off without any Damage.

Monday 10.

This Day our New Battery, at the Light-Hou/e, play'd with three Pieces of Cannon against the Island Battery. Our South Flanker fwept the West Platform, fo that they could not load their Cannon. The French would have jumpt out of the Ambascers into the Sea; but when they found we had but three Guns mounted, they fur d

fir'd Bombs and Shot, as fast as possibly they dar'd to load from the North Flanker. It was all no Purpose, however; for we beat down Part of their Garrison-house.

Tuesday 11.

This Day a Scout of 230 Men (amongst whom I was one) march'd out of the Grand Battery to Scatteree, we being inform'd by fome Prifoners, that feveral Hundreds of French and Indians were coming down upon our Camps. Two of our Transports landed fome Ordnance and Provisions at the Light-House. Tho' the French at the Island Battery fir'd Bombs and Shot in the Morning as fast as possibly they could, yet they did no Manner of Damage. Last Night two Boats came fafe into the Harbour with Powder and Ball. We had 200 Men at work a-nights at the Light-houfe Battery. All our Batteries fir'd fmartly against the City, and with good Effect. As their Shot and Bombs fell short, we imagin'd that their Powder was near fpent.

Wednesday 12.

For three Nights paft our Boats brought in Provisions and Stores from Caboruch-Bay, by the Island Battery, without the least Interruption. This Day our Scout E of

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of 230 Men return'd from their March, and found the Enemy were mov'd off. Yefterday two Men of War from England join'd our Fleet. The City threw 62 Bombs againft us from three o'Clock in the Afternoon, to eight the next Morning, and a great Number of Shot befides, which did no great Damage. However, our Bombs and Shot beat down feveral Chimneys and Roofs of Houfes, \mathfrak{Sc} .

Thursday 13.

Yefterday the City fir'd 17 Bombs and Shot against a finall Battery which we had erected about a Mile from the Grand Battery. Five of them were 42 Pounders. Last Night we carried a Schooner out of the Harbour. Tho' the Island Battery fir'd twenty odd Bombs and Shot likewife against our Ligh-house Battery, yet they did no Damage. Our Bombs and Shot, on the other Hand, did considerable Execution.

The Ships of War which lay at Anchor before the Harbour, are these that follow, viz.

Commodore Warren, in the Superb, The Hector, The Altham, The Launceston,

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The Princefs Mary, The Mermaid, The Chefter, The Canterbury, The Sunderland,

The Lark,

The Vigilant, a Man of War of 64 Guns taken from the French.

Befides' thefe, feveral 20 Gun Ships from New England; alfo Snows, Brigantines, and Sloops of Force, in all above 20. And moreover 85 Transports.

Twenty French Prizes were taken to this Day.

A large Privateer Brigantine, of 18 Carriage Guns, and 120 Tons, was fitted out, and was to fail the Day we landed; but the *French* immediately fcuttled and funk her in the Harbour.

Yesterday we got up a fine Sloop which the *French* had funk, laden with Plank and Timber, intended for a new Platform, the Foundation whereof was laid at the West Part of the Grand Battery, and was to be finish'd this Year; but we have fav'd them that Charge and 'Trouble.

Friday 14.

Laft Night the large Mortar from Boston was convey'd to the Light-house Bat-E 2 tery,

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tery, which play'd against the Island Battery feven Pieces of Ordnance, and one Mortar, which beat down not only the End of the Garrison, but all the Chimneys and Part of the Roof : As also the North Ambafeers, and difmounted feveral Guns. When the French faw a Bomb coming they would jump out of the Ambaseer's into the Sea. As the City was highly difgusted at this Battery, they fir'd 46 Bombs, and as many Shot. On the other Hand, our feveral Batteries play'd all Day long, and fir'd 160 Bombs befides Shot. Ladders are at this Time fitting in order to fcale the Walls of the City: A great Number of Shalloways likewife are now fitting in order to land Men from the Fleet, or take up Men in Cafe a Man of War should be funk as she came into the Harbour.

Saturday 15.

This Day our whole Fleet of Men of War, Privateers, and Transports, made a gallant Appearance before the Harbour. A Flag of Truce came from the City, at 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon to our Camps, and offer'd to deliver up the City on the Terms we propos'd on our Demand of the City, and the Territories thereunto belonging, in the Name, and on the Behalf of our Sovereign Lord King *George* the Second,

cond. The Confideration of fo important an Affair, was poftpon'd till eight o'Clock the next Morning, at which Time the Flag of Truce agreed to attend. Whereupon all our Batteries ceas'd firing till farther Orders.

Sunday 16.

The French Flag of Truce came out of the City to our Camps, at 8 o'Clock this Morning; and it was then finally agreed and determin'd, by Capitulation, that the French should have all their perfonal Effects, and likewife be transported to France at the Expence of the English.

The faid Articles being thus fettled and adjusted, we have now Liberty to march into the City with our Land Army. The Men of War likewife, the Privateers, and Transports, may now without Interruption anchor in the Harbour, $\mathfrak{Sc.}$

Monday 17,

This Day the French Flag was ftruck, and the English one hoifted up in its Place at the Island Battery. — We took possifieffion early in the Morning. — We hoisted likewise the English Flag at the Grand Battery, and our other new Batteries: Then fir'd our Cannon, and gave three Huzza's. At two o'Clock in the Afternoon

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noon, Commodore Warren, with all the Men of War; as also the Prize Man of War of 64 Guns; our twenty Gun Ships; likewife our Snows, Brigantines, Privateers, and Transports, came all into Louisbourg Harbour, which made a beautiful Appearance. When all were fafely moor'd, they proceeded to fire on fuch a victorious and joyful Occafion. About 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon our Land Army march'd to the South Gate of the City, and enter'd the fame, and fo proceeded to the Parade near the Citadel, the French Troops at the fame Time being all drawn up in a very regular Order. Our Army receiv'd the ufual Salutes from them, every Part being perform'd with all the Decency and Decorum imaginable. And as the French were allow'd to carry off their Effects, fo our Guards took all the Care they poffibly could to prevent the common Soldiers from pilfering and ftealing, or otherwife giving them the leaft Moleftation. The Guard and Watch of the City, the Garrifons, &c. were deliver'd to our Troops.

Tuesday 18,

Laft Night a Ship came againft the Mouth of our Harbour, and lay there becalm'd. In the Morning a Man of War tow'd

tow'd out, and fir'd two Shot at her. She anfwer'd with one, and then ftruck. Whereupon fhe was tow'd into the Harbour by our Boats. She prov'd to be a Storeship of 20 Guns, about 300 Ton from *France*, and very valuable.

Wednesday 19.

This Day, upon the nearest Computation that could be made, it was agreed on both Sides, that fince the English had laid Siege to the City, &c. that 9000 Shot, and 600 Bombs had been discharg'd by the English against the French.

Thursday 20.

The Guns being mov'd from one of our finall Batteries to the Grand Battery, the Ambafeers were levell'd.

Friday 21.

The Guns being mov'd from the Fafcine Battery into the City, the Ambafeers were levell'd.

Saturday 22.

More Guns mov'd to the City. — The Guns likewife at the Light-house were difmounted.

Sunday

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ill the lan of Ships; Priva-Louisautiful ioor'd, torious 'Clock arch'd nd ento the Troops i up in iy reevery ecency as the f their e Care comealing, t Moch of re de-

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Sunday 23.

A Sermon preach'd at the Grand Battery from the following Words in the third Chapter of the Revelations, Behold I fland at the Door, Sc.

Monday 24.

Very foggy—We heard feveral Guns at Sea. It prov'd to be Captain Roufe from Anapolis, with three Mortars, Shells, and Shot.

Tuesday 25.

A great Number of Men were employ'd to get up the Veffels which were funk in the Harbour by the *French* the very first Day we landed. We are in Hopes they will prove valuable.

Wednesday 26.

Last Night we got off two French Vessels that had been haull'd ashore. When our Men got up, the Vessels sunk.

Thursday 27.

This Evening feveral Shallops came in from the Island Scattaree with French Inhabitants,

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habitants, and furrender'd themfelves on the Terms mention'd in the Capitulation with the *French* in the City.

Friday 28.

From this Day to July the fourth, we were preparing Vefiels for the Transportation of the French in Louisbourg to Rochfort in Old France.

$\mathcal{J}ULY$ 4.

This Day cleven Transports fet fail together with the *Launceston* Man of War, a 40 Gun Ship, Captain *Man*, who was our Convoy, Commander.

There were feveral Occurrences which were very remarkable during the Siege.

In the first Place, all the Houses in the City (one only excepted) had fome Shot through them more or less; fome had their Roofs beat down with Bombs: As for the famous Citadel and Hospital they were almost demolish'd by Bombs and Shot.

The next Thing remarkable was, that from the first Day we began the Siege to that of our marching into the City, it was fuch fine Weather, that we did not lose one fingle Day in the Profecution of our F Defign,

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Defign. And moreover, that from the 17th of June to the 4th of July, (which was the Day we fail'd for France, with the French Inhabitants) it either rain'd, or the Weather was very foggy: Upon which a Frenchman made the following Remark, that the Virgin Mary was peculiarly kind to the English, in fending them fair Weather during the whole Siege, and then in changing it to Rain and Fog, as foon as it was over.

I shall conclude my *Journal* of the late Expedition, and Siege against the City of *Loui/bourg*, and the Territories thereunto belonging with the following Additions.

After we had march'd into the City, I waited on a Gentleman who was inviolably attach'd to the King of France, in Queen Anne's War. This Gentleman had taken the New England Country Galley; he affifted likewife in the taking of 70 Sail of Veffels more on the Coaft of New England; and now in the abovemention'd Siege, he came out of Louisbourg with fourfcore and feven Men, in order to prevent our Troops from landing, but was happily beat off; this Gentleman, I fay, told me, that he had not had his Cloaths off his Back, either by Night or Day, from the first Commencement

mencement of the Siege. He added, morever, that in all the Hiftories he had ever read, he never met with an Inflance of fo bold and prefumptuous an actompt; that 'twas almost impracticable, as any one would think, for only 3 or 4000 raw, undifciplin'd Men, to hay Siege to fuch a ftrong, well fortified City, fuch Garrifons, Batteries, &c. for should any one have ask'd me, faid he, what Number of Men would have been fufficient to have carried on that very Enterprize, he should have answer'd no less than thirty Thousand. To this he tubjoin'd, that he never heard of, or ever faw fuch Courage and Intrepidity in fuch a Handful of Men, who regarded neither Shot nor Bombs: But what was still more furprifing than all the reft, he faid, was this, namely, to fee Batteries rais'd in a Night's Time; and more particularly the Fafcine Battery, which was not five and twenty Roods from the City Wall; and to fee Guns, that were forty two Pounders, dragg'd by the English from their Grand Battery, notwithftanding it was two Miles diftant at leaft, and the Road too very rough.

May Courage, Refolution, Life and Vigour, be forever confpicuous in all our English Officers, and Soldiers! for Victory, F 2 under

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under God, depends principally on their Care and Conduct: And may the Example of the above-nam'd French Captain, animate us to be bold and daring in a just Cause! In a Word, may it induce us faithfully to discharge the great, the important Trust repos'd in us, by Virtue of the Commissions which we bear under our most gracious Sovereign Lord King George !

Should this be the happy Effect of that Gentlemen's Example, then we may daily expect to make large Additions to his Majefty's Dominions; then we may hope, with juft Grounds, to defeat the common Difturber of our Peace and Tranquility; to humble his Pride, and make him tributary to us; then, in fhort, we may reafonably expect to fee *Halcyon* Days throughout his Majefty's extensive Dominions, and fecure our most excellent Conftitution both in Church and State.



IN

I N order to give our Readers a tranfient Idea of the ill Treatment we met with at *Rochfort* in *France*, I fhall here take the Liberty, not only to tranfcribe a *Letter* which I wrote on that Subject to an intimate Friend, but the *Petition* which Twelve of us, in Behalf of ourfelves and Fellow-Sufferers, fign'd, and fent in the most fubmitlive Manner to Commodore *Mac Lemarrough*, who, like an inhuman Savage, turn'd a deaf Ear to our Complaints, and rather added to our Miferies, than any ways reliev'd us.

The Copy of the LETTER.

Honoured Sir,

PUrfuant to your Requeft, I here give you a true and impartial Account of the cruel and barbarous Treatment which we met with from the *French* at *Rochfort*, in *France*.

On the Fourth of July last Fourteen Cartells, with the Launceston Man of War, set Sail from Louisbourg at Cape Breton, for France, with French Inhabitants. No soner were we arriv'd in the

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the Roadstead of Rochfort, but Commodore Mac Lemarrough, in a Ship of 74. Guns, oblig'd us to come to, under his Stern, in 13 Fathom of Water. We obey'd, and fhew'd our Pafiports, which when he had read, he infifted that every Master should deliver into his Hands his particular Journal. Some, looking on it as an unreafonable Demand, with Refolution oppos'd it, but were confin'd in Irons on his Ship for their Refufal. Soon after he fent for me on Board, and I attended accordingly. Being admitted into the Cabin, he order'd me to fit down at his Green Table, and give an Account of my own Proceedings in Writing; which Orders I readily complied with. Having tinifh'd my Declaration, I deliver'd it into his Hands, and upon the Receipt of it, he told me in direct Terms, that the Cartells could expect no Favour at Rochfort; and that, as for my own particular Part, fince he was credibly inform'd by feveral of the Paffengers, that I had been a very bufy, active Fellow against the Interest of his Moft Christian Majefty at Louisbourg, in cafe he could find out any Article whatever that was in the leaft contradictory to the Declaration I had deliver'd, that he would fend me to the Tower. Whereupon he immediately fent on Board. for

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for my Trunk, and infifted on my giving him the Key. I did, and he took out all my Papers, and read them over in the first Place; after that, he broke open the Letters which I had directed for London. Those indeed he feal'd up again, and having put them into the 'Trunk, difmifs'd me. His next Orders were, that the Cartells should not prefume to go on Board their Convoy the Launceston on any Pretence whatever, without his Permiffion : He charg'd us likewife not to go on Shore; and gave ftrict Orders to the Garrifon to watch us Night and Day; and in cafe any of us attempted to fet foot on Shore, the Guards were directed to fhoot us without asking any Questions about the Matter. His Severity, in fhort, extended fo far, as not to permit a Boat to bring us the leaft Supply of any Nature or Kind whatfoever; infomuch, that we were oblig'd to live wholly on falt Provisions, and drink Water that was ropy, and very offenfive to the Smell for above fix Weeks fucceffively. When this cruel Commodore fet fail with his Fleet, with about two Hundred fail of Merchantmen and feven Men of War for Hispaniola, another Commodore immediately fupplied his Place. On Sunday Eve he fent out a Yaul, with Orders for all the Cartells to unbend their Sails.

Sails. We did as directed, and on Monday-Morning his Men came in their Long-Boat, and carried all our Sails on Shore into the Garrifon, which furpriz'd us to the last Degree, as we had been detain'd fo long, and liv'd in Expectation of our Pafsports every Day. At this unhappy Juncture, Capt. Robert Man, who was Commander of the Launceston, was taken violently ill of a Fever; and notwithstanding Interceffion was made that he might be remov'd on Shore, as the Noife on board affected his Head too much, yet the Favour was inhumanly deny'd him; and every Officer in the Ship befides. As to the poor English Prisoners, they were us'd in a most barbarous Manner; for their principal Food was Horfe-beans, and about an Inch of Beef once in about 24. Hours : Befides, they were fo close imprifon'd, that fome of them fainted away for want of Air: And had not it been for the private charitable Relief which they receiv'd from a good old Protestant Lady, feveral of them must have been actually ftarv'd: Nay, moreover, when any of them were fick, the would vifit them, and bring them Prayer-Books, and other Books of Devotion, which the conceal'd in a Cheft underground; and then would ex-

exhort them to put their Truft and Confidence in God, who in his own due Time would deliver them out of the Hands of their arbitrary, and blood-thirfty Enemies. And if any died, fhe would fend Coffins privately by Night for the Removal of their Bodies, and bury them at her own Expence. One of these poor Wretches was in fuch a weak and fickly Condition, that being thirfty, and inclining his Head to drink out of a Stone Font, had not Strength to raife it again, and by that Means, was unhappily ftrangled. All, in fhort, that liv'd to come on Board, were fo weak that they could fcarce crawl upon the Deck.

As our Treatment from the French was in every Refpect fo cruel and inhuman, a Petition or Remonstrance to Commodore Mac Lemarrough was drawn up, and fign'd on the 25th of August, 1745. by Twelve of us: The Purport whereof was as follows.

That the Petitioners were taken up at the City of Louisbourg, in his Britannic Majesty's Service on the 20th of June then last past, in order to transport the French Inhabitants of that City to Rochfort.

That the Petitioners were well affur'd by General Pepperill and Commodore Warren; as also, by the commanding G Officer

ſononghore s to 'd fo País-Jun-Lomı vionding ht be board e Faand As to e us'd their nd aut 24. e imaway en for they Lady, Itually ny of them, other l'd in would exOfficer of Louisbourg, that, as the Terms of the Capitulation were fo generous, in regard to the Inhabitants, that there was no Doubt to be made of their Meeting with a like generous Treatment in France, and that the Petitioners would be difpatch'd to England without Delay.

That the Petitioners had been arriv'd above 20 Days, and that they and their Men fuffer'd very feverely for want of fresh Provisions; that great Numbers of them lay fick, and that the Cause, as they humbly conceiv'd, was their living on falt Provisions entirely, and drinking nothing but ropy Water that was noisom to the Smell.

That the Petitioners had been deny'd all Manner of Supplies for their Veffels, tho' never fo abfolutely neceffary.

That, if the Petitioners had Leave to fail directly for *England*, it would be fome confiderable Time before they could be difpatch'd from thence.

That, as the Petitioners Return to New England would at beft be very late in the Year, and their Voyage by Confequence very cold, comfortlefs, and dangerous, every Day was very valuable to them; and befides, that their being detain'd fo long was very expensive.

The Petitioners therefore pray'd, that his Honour would take the Premisses and their e Terms erous, in here was Meeting *France*, be dify. n arriv'd and their want of nbers of a sthey og on falt nothing a to the

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d, that Tes and their their unhappy Sufferings into his ferious Confideration, and order fuch Relief, in regard to their Provision, Necessaries for their Vessels, and their speedy Difpatch, as to his Honour should seem most meet.

Inftead, however, of meeting with any Favour or Indulgence, by Virtue of the above Petition, all the Cartells were order'd to unbend their Sails; their Sails were carried on fhore into the Garrifons, and the Guards directed to fhoot every *Englifbman* that attempted to go on Shore, without afking any Queftions whatfoever. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JAMES GIBSON.



