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Whitehall, August 19.

Journal of the Landing of His Majesty's Forces on the Island of Cape Breton, and of the Siege of Louisbourg, extracted from Major General Amherst's Letters to the Right Honourable Mr. Secretary Pitt, dated June 11 and 23, and July 6, 23 and 27.

On the 28th of May I had the good Fortune to meet Admiral Boscawen with the Fleet and the Troops coming out of the Harbour of Halifax. Lieutenant General Bragg's Regiment, from the Bay of Fundy, joined the Fleet this Day.

The 29th we had fine Weather; the Ships kept well together; the Whole consisted of 157 Sail. The Dublin went very sickly into Halifax.

The 30th the Wind blew hard in the Afternoon; the Ships were greatly dispersed.

The 31st the Wind sometimes contrary, obliged us to tack, and it blew fresh.

The 1st of June Capt. Rous in the Sutherland came from off the Harbour of Louisbourg, said, two Ships had got in the 30th; that there were 13 Sail in the Harbour. We saw the Entrance of Gabarus at Night.

The 2d it was foggy in the Morning; about Twelve saw Louisbourg and the Ships in the Harbour. The Fleet, with about a Third of the Troops, anchored in Gabarus Bay; and this Evening, with Brigadier General Lawrence and Wolfe, I reconnoitred the Shore as near as we could, and made a Disposition for Landing in three Places the next Morning, in case the Troops arrived.

The Enemy had a Chain of Posts from Cape Noir to the Flat Point, and Irregulars from thence to the Bottom of the Bay; some Works thrown up at the Places which appeared practicable to land at, and some Batteries.

On the 3d most of the Transports came in this Morning, all was prepared for Landing; but the Surf on Shore was so great, it was impossible to land. This Day Brigadier General Whitmore arrived from Halifax, at which Place I have left Colonel Monckton to command. As one Bay was found to have less Surf than the others, a Disposition was made to land the next Morning in one Place instead of Three.

The 4th the Wind and Surf were so very high, that Admiral Boscawen told me it was impracticable to land.

The 5th a great Swell and Fog in the Morning, and the Admiral declared it still impracticable to land.

The 6th an Appearance of Change of Weather, in the Morning early: I was resolved to seize the first Opportunity; the Signal was made to prepare to land between five and six o'Clock, and at Eight all the Men were in the Boats: The Fog came on again, and the Swell increased during the Time the Men were getting into the Boats, and the Admiral again declared it impracticable to land. I ordered the Troops on Board their respective Ships, first acquainting them with the Reason for so doing.

The 7th the Weather bad in the Morning; in the Afternoon the Swell rather decreased, and gave us great Hopes of Landing at Day-break the next Morning, for which Orders were given; and Bragg's Regiment, who were in a Number of Sloops, to sail under Convoy, by the Mouth of the Harbour, to L'Anse-au-Loup; sending at the same Time a Proportion of Artillery destined for the Light House Point, with Orders to make all the Show they could of Landing, but not to land till further Orders, intending to draw the Enemy's Attention on that Side.

From the 2d to this Time, the Enemy has been Reinforcing their Posts, adding to their Works, cannonading and throwing Shells at the Ships, and making all the Preparations they can to oppose our Landing. Seven Transports were now missing with Troops on Board, Three of which came in at Night. The

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Admiral gave all necessary Orders for the Frigates to cover our Landing.

On the 8th the Troops were assembled in the Boats before Break of Day, in three Divisions; and Commodore Durell having viewed the Coast by Order of the Admiral, and given me his Opinion the Troops might land, without Danger from the Surf, in the Bay on our Left, the Kennington and Halifax Snow began the Fire on the Left, followed by the Grammont, Diana and Shannon Frigates in the Center, and the Sutherland and Squirrel upon the Right. When the Fire had continued about a Quarter of an Hour, the Boats upon the Left rowed into the Shore, under the Command of Brigadier General Wolfe, whose Detachment was composed of the four eldest Companies of Grenadiers, followed by the Light Infantry, (a Corps of 550 Men, chosen as Marksmen from the different Regiments, serve as Irregulars, and are commanded by Major Scott, who was Major of Brigade) and the Companies of Rangers, supported by the Highland Regiment, and those by the 8 remaining Companies of Grenadiers.

The Division on the Right, under the Command of Brigadier General Whitmore, consisted of the Royal, LaCelles, Monckton, Forbes, Anstruther and Webb, and rowed to our Right by the White Point, as if intending to force a Landing there.

The Center Division, under the Command of Brigadier General Lawrence, was formed of Amherst's, Hopson's, Otway's Whitmore's, Lawrence's, and Warburton's, and made, at the same Time, a Show of Landing at the Fresh Water Cove. This drew the Enemy's Attention to every Part, and prevented their Troops, posted along the Coast, from joining those on their Right.

The Enemy acted very wisely, did not throw away a Shot, till the Boats were near in Shore, and then directed the whole Fire of their Cannon and Musketry upon them. The Surf was so great, that a Place could hardly be found to get a Boat on Shore. Notwithstanding the Fire of the Enemy, and the Violence of the Surf, Brigadier Wolfe pursued his Point, and landed just at their Left of the Cove, took Post, attacked the Enemy, and forced them to retreat. Many Boats overset, several broke to Pieces, and all the Men jumped into the Water to get on Shore.

So soon as the left Division was landed, the first Detachments of the Center rowed at a proper Time to the Left, and followed; then the Remainder of the Center Division, as fast as the Boats could fetch them from the Ships; and the right Division followed the Center in like Manner.

It took up a great deal of Time to land the Troops; the Enemy's Retreat, or rather Flight, was through the roughest and worse Ground I ever saw; and the Pursuit ended with a Cannonading from the Town, which was so far of Use, that it pointed out how near I could encamp to invest it: On which the Regiments marched to their Ground, and lay on their Arms. The Wind increased, and we could not get any Thing on Shore.

The Loss of His Majesty's Troops at Landing is, Capt. Baillie and Lieut. Cuthbert, of the Highland Regiment; Lieut. Nicholson of mine, 4 Serjeants, 1 Corporal, and 38 Men killed, 21 were of my Regiment, (the Grenadiers) of which 8 were shot, and the rest drowned in trying to get on Shore.

Five Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 1 Corporal, and 51 Men wounded; and of the five Companies of Rangers, 1 Ensign and 3 Private killed, 1 wounded, and 1 missing.

On the Enemy's Side, 2 Captains of Grenadiers, and 2 Lieutenants, are Prisoners; 1 Officer killed, and an Indian Chief: Several Men likewise killed; and, I imagine, about 70 Men taken Prisoners: They were sent on Board as fast as possible. By some of the Prisoners I had Intelligence, that M. St. Julien, Colonel, commanded in the Cove: That there were