

Thigh was carried away by a Cannon Ball, and whose Death was much regretted, he being a very good Officer.

Our Batteries continued firing, and beat down great Part of the Defence where the Attack was intended, but as they could not carry on the Approaches, by Reason of the Inundation aforementioned, nor were there Men sufficient to begin a new Attack, or carry on the Siege, the Admiral had only to endeavour to make a Breach in the Curtain, at the Distance he then was; which being found impracticable, the Enemy having opened a mask'd Battery of six Guns in the very Curtain they then were attempting to make a Breach in, and began to open another in the Curtain adjoining, so that their Fire became much superior to ours, nine of our Guns being disabled; the Admiral hereupon called a Council of War on the 30th of September, where the State of their Affairs being taken into Consideration, and it appearing, that the Strength of the Army was reduced above 700 Men, since taking the Field, and daily lessening by Sickness, occasioned by their Fatigue; that the Ships of War could be of no Service against the Enemy's Works, having cannonaded a whole Day without apparent Effect; that the Monsoon and rainy Season were daily expected, which would not only oblige them to raise the Siege with the Loss of the Artillery and Stores, but in all Probability render the Rivers impassable, destroy the Roads, and cut off the Retreat of the Army to Fort St. David, besides the Risks of the Ships being driven off the Coasts: For these Reasons it was unanimously resolved, to embark the Stores and Cannon, and raise the Siege.

From the 1st of October to the 4th they were employed in getting off their Things from the Shore; on the 5th they set Fire to the Batteries, and reembarked the Sailors; and the 6th in the Morning the Army began to march for Fort St. David, and having demolished the Fort of Aria Coupan in their Way, they arrived the next Evening at Fort St. David.

The several little Rivers the Army had to pass the last Day, were so swelled, and the Roads so full of Water from the heavy Rain that fell the Night before, as to make it evident they had moved but just in Time, as another such Shower would have rendered them impassable in many Places.

The Garrison of Pondicherry, by the best Accounts the Admiral could procure, consisted of 1800 or 2000 Europeans, and nigh 3000 Blacks; and his whole Strength, when he marched from Fort St. David, (exclusive of 120 Dutch, lent from their Settlements, and 2000 Blacks) consisted of 2690 Soldiers, 148 Artillery People, and 1097 Seamen; out of which we lost, during the Siege, 757 Soldiers, 43 Artillery Men, and 265 Seamen.

As to the Blacks, tho' they were so numerous, they were of no other Use than to lay on the Skirts of the Camp, to prevent our being surprized or harrassed by the Blacks of the Enemy; for they never would maintain any Post they were put in, without Europeans being continually sent to support them. The Enemy are said to have lost 500 Europeans in the Course of the Siege.

Rear Admiral Griffin, in his Letter of the 15th of August at Fort St. David, writes, that he was then going to Trincomale with the Ships under his Command, to clean and refit, that he

should remain there, till the Beginning of January, then proceed to the Cape of Good Hope, and remain there till the 15th of April, for other Ships of his Squadron to join him, and then proposed to sail for England.

Whitehall, March 7, 1748-9.

A PROPOSAL having been presented unto His Majesty, for the Establishing a Civil Government in the Province of *Nova Scotia* in *North America*, as also for the better Peopling and Settling the said Province, and extending and improving the Fishery thereof, by granting Lands within the same, and giving other Encouragements to such of the Officers and Private Men lately dismissed His Majesty's Land and Sea Service, as shall be willing to settle in the said Province; And His Majesty having signified His Royal Approbation of the Purport of the said Proposals; The Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations do, by His Majesty's Commands, give Notice, That proper Encouragement will be given to such of the Officers and Private Men lately dismissed His Majesty's Land and Sea Service, as are willing to accept of Grants of Land, and to settle with or without Families in the Province of *Nova Scotia*.

That Fifty Acres of Land will be granted in Fee Simple to every Private Soldier or Seaman, free from the Payment of any Quit-Rents or Taxes for the Term of Ten Years; at the Expiration whereof no Person to pay more than one Shilling per Annum for every fifty Acres so granted.

That a Grant of ten Acres, over and above the said fifty Acres, will be made to each Private Soldier or Seaman having a Family, for every Person, including Women and Children, of which his Family shall consist; and further Grants made to them on the like Conditions, as their Families shall increase, or in Proportion to their Abilities to cultivate the same.

That Eighty Acres, on like Conditions, will be granted to every Officer under the Rank of Ensign in the Land Service, and that of Lieutenant in the Sea Service, and to such as have Families, fifteen Acres, over and above the said eighty Acres, for every Person, of which their Families shall consist.

That Two hundred Acres, on like Conditions, will be granted to every Ensign, Three hundred to every Lieutenant, Four hundred to every Captain, and Six hundred to every Officer above the Rank of Captain in the Land Service; as also the like Quantity of Four hundred Acres, and on the like Conditions, to every Lieutenant in the Sea Service, and Six hundred Acres to every Captain; and to such of the above-mentioned Officers as have Families a further Grant of Thirty Acres will be made over and above their respective Quotas for every Person of which their Families shall consist.

That the Lands will be parcelled out to the Settlers as soon as possible after their Arrival, and a Civil Government established, whereby they will enjoy all the Liberties, Privileges and Immunities enjoyed by His Majesty's Subjects in any other of the Colonies and Plantations in America under his Majesty's Government; and proper Measures will also be taken for their Security and Protection.

That all such as are willing to accept of the above Proposals, shall, with their Families, be subsisted during their Passage, as also for the Space of Twelve Months after their Arrival.

That they shall be furnished with Arms and Ammunition, as far as will be judged necessary for their Defence, with a proper Quantity of Materials and Utensils for Husbandry, clearing and cultivating their Lands, erecting Habitations, carrying on the Fishery, and such other Purposes as shall be necessary for their Support.

That all such Persons as are desirous of engaging in the above Settlement, do transmit by Letter, or personally give in their Names, signifying in what Regiment or Company, or on board what Ship they last served, and, if they have Families, what Number