

St. John's in Newfoundland Sept. 20th
1762

Dear Sir

I have but just time enough to acquaint
you with some of the circumstances of our retaking

St. John's which are as follows

My Lord Selville finding that the Enemy did
not intend to visit him at Halifax sail'd from
thence with three Ships to Cruise off the Harbour
and if possible to prevent the Enemy getting any
succours from France, he was join'd at that Station
by the Antelope, and Syren, which made his fleet
equal in number but not in strength to that of the
Enemy in the Harbour; Lt. Col. Amherst being
appointed to the command of the Expedition sail'd
from New York with two Companies. to Halifax

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SCOTTISH RECORD OFFICE

REFERENCE C021487

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where he embark'd two Companies of our Regt. and three
Companies of the Royal & five Companies of Provincials
we sail'd from thence the 7.th Jun^o to Louisbourg when
we embark'd five Companies of the 15.th Regt. then our
little army being compleat we consisted of about
850 Regulars & 500 Provincials, with these we sail'd
westward from Louisbourg the 7.th Jun^o the 11.th we
fell in with my Lord Selville's Squadron off the
Bay of Bulls. Measures being concerted between
the Sea and Land Officers we came to anchor in Torbay
the next Day. the 13.th the Troops landed with very
little Opposition, and march'd to invest the Place.
it being necessary to force a strong pass in order to
secure a landing for our Artillery & Morses, two Corn^{ets}

they were attacked and drove 350 of the enemy from
a very advantageous post with very little loss on
our side, the 14.th took possession of some high ground
the 15.th had another skirmish, with the same
disproportion in numbers, in which we were likewise
successful but with more loss, 16.th Having got
possession of the high ground about the Fort. landed
artillery & stores the 17.th made a Bomb Battery wh.^{ch}
opened about 2 o'clock at night and fired incessantly
with 14 mortars all night, in the morning of the
18.th the enemy beat a parley and with the necessary
preliminaries surrendered themselves prisoners of
war to the number of 440 exclusive of Officers.
Our loss in the whole is 12 killed & 28 wounded
one Officer killed & 3 wounded these are the most
material circumstances that I can recollect.

I expect to be at Halifax all Winter and will be
glad to hear from you as often as possible
My best respects to M^{rs} Fleming Compl^{ts} to
all friends and Jam

Dear Sir

Your Ms. 06. d. 26. 1787.

I have a good deal to do at
present with the Wounded
most of them are very bad
they being extremely near
to the Enemy

Yours
F. Forbes

1787
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