

galliot, and two fireships. The capture of Boston was not his sole object. His instructions were, to press matters so as to leave the port of Brest (where part of his squadron was fitted out) by the 25th of April, at the latest, and to proceed to Rochelle, where he was to meet Commo-dore de Magnon, with the vessels fitted out at Rochefort.

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He was then directed to use all expedition to reach Placentia Bay at the earliest moment, and anticipate the English, who were said to be bent on recovering all they had lost in Newfoundland the year before, and even in expelling the French completely. In case he found the enemy besieging Placentia, he was to attack them, and in case they had already sailed he was to follow them, whether they had succeeded or not, and fight them. After defeating them, he was to sail to Pentagoët, and at the same time dispatch a ship to Quebec to inform the Count de Frontenac of his course, so as to enable that Governor to proceed to Pentagoët, with the 1500 men whom he was to hold in readiness. This junction effected, the fleet, after taking the troops on board, was to proceed to Boston without loss of time, and, after capturing that city, follow the coast to Pescadoué, destroying all the settlements as far inland as possible, so that the English could not for a long time restore them.

The Count de Frontenac's advanced age having led the King to doubt whether he would be able to command the regulars and militia on this expedition in person, his Majesty had left him on this point at perfect liberty, either to take the field in person or to substitute the Chevalier de Vandreuil in his stead, who in that event was to be in all matters subordinate to the Marquis de Nesmond, while the Count de Frontenac, if he came, was to command the land forces independently.

If, after taking Boston and ravaging New England, there was still time for another conquest, the fleet had orders to go to Manhatte, and after reducing that city to the King's obedience, leave the Canadian troops there, who on their homeward march to their colony could ravage New York.