

falling of the wind, bore but a partial part of the engagement, the stress laying upon the *Carleton* and *Maria* schooners, which were both much shattered. On board the latter was General Carleton, who had a very narrow escape, a cannon shot passing close to him, as he was giving directions to an officer, and which the General with that coolness and intrepidity that so much distinguishes his character, took no notice of, but turning round, gave his orders with as much composure as if he had been in the most perfect state of security.

"This place, which is called the key to Canada, when the works are compleated, will be of great strength; there are temporary barracks at present, both for soldiers and artificers. The old barracks, as well as the fort the Americans destroyed when they abandoned the place, (1776) were formerly quite surrounded with woods, but are now clear for some distance round.

"From this place, I was sent to Isle-aux-Noix, which is the advance post of the army, at which the 20th regiment is stationed. This island is about a mile and a half in length, and three quarters of a mile in breadth; it was entirely covered with wood, but at present greatly cleared, and before the winter is over, we imagine it will be entirely so. Although so late in the year, and in this severe climate, the regiment stationed there is encamped, and likely to continue so till after Christmas, as it will be that time before the block-houses intended for them are finished.

"The soldiers, not only at the Isle-aux-Noix, but likewise at St John's, have been very subject to the scurvy, not having any other than salt provisions, but by drinking plentifully of spruce beer, they are now all in perfect health, which clearly proves that liquor to be a powerful antiscorbutic. It is so much known in England, as to need no description; the only difference between the spruce there and here is, that here it is made with the branches of the tree itself, and there with the essence."

Anbury addressed his friend again from Montreal; on the 27th February 1777, as follows: "Since my last, I have been again to St John's, where, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, the artificers and ship-wrights are all busily employed. We have raised upon the Lakes, in addition to the force of last summer, a curious vessel, called a *Radeau*, which formerly belonged to the French, and was sunk by the Americans near this place: it is a castle of itself, of a monstros