

Wood-cutting in the winter, under strong escort, formed a necessary and healthful exercise. In the summer there were excursions in search of fruit to the forsaken orchards of the unfortunate Acadians, who had been deported from their homes in Nova Scotia in 1755. News travelled slowly. The second expedition against Louisbourg, that under Amherst and Wolfe, was successful, and the capitulation was signed on July 26, 1758. It was not, however, until September 6 that the welcome intelligence was made known to the fort at Annapolis, where Knox had remained. On that day a sloop from Boston came into port. When it was near the wharf, Knox called out, "What news from Louisbourg?" The Master simply replied, "Nothing strange!" This did not satisfy one of the soldiers, who with some warmth said, "Damn you, Pumpkin, is not Louisbourg taken yet?" "Ay, about a month ago," answered the Master, "and I have been there since. But if you have never heard it before I have a good parcel of letters for you." Knox adds: "Words are insufficient to express our transports of joy at this speech, the latter part of which we hardly waited for. Instantly all hats flew off and we made the woods resound with our cheers and huzzas for nearly half an hour."

The 43rd had to spend another winter at Annapolis and Fort Cumberland, and it was not until April, 1759, that the regiment received orders to hold itself in readiness to proceed on an expedition to Quebec. In due course it set out. Knox arrived at Louisbourg on May 24. He found the garrison in a state of great activity. Admiral Saunders and General Wolfe had been there for some time, and everyone was on the alert. Most of the troops had been reviewed by the General under a new system. Some commanding officers, who expected to be reviewed, had told the General that it had not been in their power either to learn or to practise the new exercise. To this Wolfe replied: "Poh! Poh, new exercise—new fiddlestick; if they are otherwise disciplined and will fight, that's all I shall