

bankrupt, and Knox was absent from duty for three months prosecuting the defaulting trustee. On February 3, 1754, he addressed a petition to Lord George Sackville asking for his pay during his absence, and the petition was granted.¹ In 1741 he purchased a Lieutenancy in the 43rd,² and accompanied the unfortunate expedition against Louisbourg in 1757. He continued to serve in America until after the capitulation of Montreal in 1760. On January 8, 1761, he was appointed Captain of an Independent Company of Foot, afterwards the 99th Foot.³

The regiment was disbanded in 1763,⁴ and the Captain retired on half pay. By a letter addressed to the Secretary of State at War, dated January 15, 1763,⁵ it appears that Captain de la Gall of the 43rd had agreed to resign from the regiment in favour of Captain Knox; but, owing to the sudden death of Captain de la Gall, the arrangement was not completed. At this period Major Byng of the 99th Regiment was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the same regiment, and Captain Knox hoped to succeed him, but in spite of the influence of the Countess of Shelburne, who took an interest in the affairs of the Captain, the promotion was not made. On May 10, 1763, Lord Barrington wrote that "his Majesty was not pleased to give any order with respect to the Brevet Rank."⁶ Knox was keenly disappointed on the receipt of this communication, although he put a good face upon it, and "Begged leave to observe with a Most hearty Assurance, that there is not a Man in his Service or his Dominions, that will, not only acquiesce, or more Chearfully submit to his Majesty's Royall Will & pleasure upon all occasions, than I shall." His disappointment was intensified, no doubt, by the fact that a certain

¹ Record Office, Dublin. Petitions to Lord Lieutenant, carton 242.

² Memorandum from War Office, November 4, 1909.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Public Record Office, W.O., 1, vol. 985.

⁶ *Ibid.*