

Henry Knox and the Miracle at Dorchester Heights — American Minute | The Moral Liberal



Knox portrait painted by Charles Wilson Peale circa 1784. General Knox wears the newly cast Society of the Cincinnati medal, brought from Paris by Major Pierre L'Enfant. Knox initiated the formation of the Society as a fraternity of American and French officers of the American Revolution.

American Minute with Bill Federer

25-year-old Colonel Henry Knox unbelievably moved 59 cannons 300 miles from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston. On the night of March 4, 1776, with wagon wheels wrapped in straw to muffle the noise, the cannons were strategically put on Dorchester Heights overlooking Boston Harbor. The next morning, British troops were shocked.

On MARCH 6, 1776, General Washington ordered:

Thursday...being set apart by...this Province as a day of fasting, prayer and humiliation, 'to implore the Lord and Giver of all victory to pardon our manifold sins and wickedness, and that it would please Him to bless the Continental army with His divine favor and protection,' all officers and soldiers are strictly enjoined to pay all due reverence on that day to the sacred duties of the Lord of hosts.

On March 17, amidst a violent storm, British General Howe evacuated his ships and 3,000 men from Boston. General Washington wrote to his brother,

John Augustine Washington, March 31, 1776:

Upon their discovery of the works next morning, great preparations were made for attacking them; but not being ready before the afternoon, and the weather getting very tempestuous, much blood was saved and a very important blow...prevented. That this most remarkable Interposition of Providence is for some wise purpose, I have not a doubt.

The Moral Liberal contributing editor, [William J. Federer](#)

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