

this honorable Court will bee pleased to Consider Your peticconers Case and find a way that your petitioner may be Releved & your petitioner shall pray

THOMAS FFOOTMAN.¹

John Davis certified that he impressed Thomas Footman on the 20th day of June 1690, by order of Major Vaughan, for the expedition to Winipisiocke. Accompanying this petition is an account of "Lowis and Cristan Willames," [Lewis and Christian Williams of Portsmouth] "of ther Charg to Thomas fottman for his tendance and seven months diate during the Cure in which time the said fottman was not able to put on his Cloathes which is 7 shillings and 16 pence a week." John Davis certified that the bill of the "Cerorgon" [chirurgion, surgeon] was six pounds.

It appears from the above that the fight began at "Newtown," an undefined locality, north of Turtle Pond and extending to the upper part of Oyster River and towards Wheelwright's Pond.

The French and Indians seem to have had little regard for solemn treaties of peace. That made at Pemaquid was suddenly broken by the attack upon Oyster River, 18 July 1694, said by captives to have been talked of in the streets of Quebec two months before. Pike's Journal records the terrible event in the following laconic sentences: "The Indians fell suddenly & unexpectedly upon Oyster River about break of day. Took 3 garrisons (being deserted or not defended) killed & carried away 94 persons, & burnt 13 houses. This was the first act of hostility committed by them after y^e peace concluded at Pemiquid."

There were warnings that led some persons to be apprehensive of danger, warnings which were long remembered and interpreted with suspicion. Col. Richard Waldron wrote to Governor Dudley, under date of 22 September 1712, thus: "Cap^t Davis tells me y^t last night at oyster river in the dead of y^e Night there were doors knock'd at & Stones flung at Some Garrisons, to find out who liv'd in their houses & whether any watch was kept in their Garrisons, as the enemy did y^e Night before Oyster river was Destroy'd & Wee are well assured Some Scouts of the Enemy are now near us."²

The account of this attack as given by Dr. Belknap in his History of New Hampshire is said to have been drawn from manuscripts in the possession of the Smith family of Durham.

¹ Collections of the Maine Historical Society, 2d Series, Vol. 4, pp. 382-3.

² Collections of the Maine Historical Society, IX, 330.

But little can be added thereto from public records and published histories. On Tuesday evening, 17 July, the enemy to the number of about 250 concealed themselves in the woods and divided into two bands, one for the north side of the river and the other for the south. The latter began the attack somewhat prematurely. John Dean, who lived near the Falls, on the north side of the river, arose before day to catch his horse, intending to leave home in the morning. He was fired upon and killed. The report of the gun was heard and warning was thus given to some households. The undefended fled to the nearest garrisons, and some were killed in their flight. Mrs. Dean and her daughter were captured and her house was burned. They were taken to a spruce swamp and left in the care of an old Indian who had a violent headache. He asked her for a remedy and she replied, "occapee," the Indian term for rum. He drank freely and she and her daughter made their escape. They hid in a thicket during the day and then went down the river in a canoe to Burnham's garrison, where they found protection.

The next house attacked seems to have been that of Ensign John Davis, who lived perhaps half a mile below the Falls. He surrendered on the promise of safety, yet he, his wife and several children were killed, and his house was burned. Two daughters were made captive, one of whom became a nun in Canada and never returned. The other returned and became the wife of Peter Mason. A sister of Ensign Davis, who was the widow of James Smith before mentioned, was living at the house of her brother and was killed at the same time with her sons, James and Samuel, after having been carried into the woods. The statement has been made that the oldest son of Mrs. Smith escaped to the river but was there shot. This may be doubted, since John Smith, her son, lived to marry Elizabeth Buss and have a numerous family. Two daughters also were spared, as subsequent deeds clearly show.

The next house below Davis' was the Burnham garrison, on a hilltop, easily defended by its situation. Hither fled Moses Davis, who had heard the first shot that killed John Dean. Ezekiel Pitman and family, who lived only a gun-shot's distance from Burnham's, were alarmed by shouts. They escaped through one end of the house while the Indians were entering the other, and, protected by the shade of trees, made their way to the Burnham

garrison, on which no serious attack seems to have been made. Tradition in the Burnham family says that the yard-gate had been left open that night, and ten Indians were sent to surprise the garrison. They were fatigued and fell asleep on the bank of the river near the house. John Willey with his family spent that night at the Burnham garrison. He had been kept awake by toothache and heard the first gun fired. He immediately closed the gate and shouted to the Pitman family. The shout awaked the Indians, who at once made the attack upon the Pitman dwelling.

The next house below Ezekiel Pitman's was that of Stephen Jenkins, who had bought the place of William Williams. He lived on the hill, about where the present old house of Benjamin Mathes stands. On the 26th of July 1694, only eight days after the massacre, it was recorded in the Probate Court, that "administration on the estate of Stephen Jenkins of Oyster River, who was killed by the Indians and left several small children, was granted to his brother, Jabez Jenkins of Kittery, Maine." Ann, wife of Stephen Jenkins, was carried into captivity and returned in time to give testimony in the trial of the noted Indian chief, Bomazeen, at Boston, who escaped with his life at this trial and was slain in the attack on the village of the Norridgewocks, in 1724. The deposition of "Ann Jenkins, her within written testimony," dated 11 June 1695, gives many details of this massacre.

Ann Jenkins, of full age, Testifieth & saith, that at Oyster River, on the eighteenth of July last past, in the morning about the dawning of the day my husband being up went out of the dore, & presently returning cried to me & our children to run for our lives, for the Indians had beset the town: whereupon my husband & myself fled with our children into our corne field, & at our entrance into the field, Bomazeen, whome I have seen since I came out of captivity in the prison, came towards us & about ten Indians more: & the sd Bomazeen then shot at my husband and shote him down, ran to him & struck him three blows on the head with a hatchet, scalped him & run him three times with a bayonet. I also saw the said Bomazeen knock one of my children on the head & tooke of her scalp & then put the child into her father's armes; and then stabbed the breast. And Bomazeen also then killed my husband's grandmother & scalped her, and then led me up to a house and plundered it & then set it on fire & carried me & my three children into captivity, together with the rest of our neighbors, whose lives were spared, being at first forty nine: but in one miles goeing, or thereabouts, they killed three children, so there remained forty six captives. & that night the company parted & the captives were distributed, but before they parted I, this deponent, numbered one

hundred and fourty of Indians & fourteen frenchmen & then, when I tooke account, there were more firing at Woodmans garrison & at Burnhams garrison, but the number unknown to me. Myself with nine captives more were carried up to penecook & were Left with three Indians, & that party went to Greaten, Bomazeen being their Commander. In nine days they returned & brought twelve captives: & from thence with their canoes, sometimes a float, & sometimes carried, untill that we came to Norridgeawocke, which took us fifteen dayes, & staid about two months there, then dispersed into the woods, twoe or three families in a place, & kept moving toe & froe, staeing about a week in a place, until they brought us down to pemaquid & delivered us to Capt. March. Bomazeen was my Master; his wife my Mistriss, untill Bomazeen was taken at pemaquid; after that I belonged to his wife, untill about two months before I was brought down to pemaquid; for then the Indian Minister, called prince Waxaway, bought me, when I was brought to great weakness and extremity by their bad usage, and showed me great kindness; by whose means, under God, my life was preserved. My mistriss was very cruel to me & I was cruelly whipt seaven times & they intended so to proceed, once a week, untill they had killed me; but that the Indian Minister had compassion on me & rescued me. That Indian Minister also bought three captives more, and freed them from their hard usage. Their names are Nicholas Frost, Sarah Braggonton and Thomsand Drue.

The mark of W AN JENKINS.

Notice that the manual sign of Ann Jenkins was W. Was her maiden name Williams? The Nicholas Frost mentioned in her deposition was the beaver-trader of Kittery, now Eliot, Me. Sarah Braggonton was doubtless of the family of Arthur Bragdon of York and Thomsand Drue was Thomasine, or Tamsen Drew of whom we shall learn more a little later.

Mention is made in the above deposition of a house near to Jenkins' that was plundered and set on fire. This must have been the house of the Rev. John Buss, who was at the time away from home. His house, which was the parsonage, together with the church, stood near the bank of the river, or perhaps a few rods therefrom, on higher ground. His family hid among the trees till the enemy withdrew. The church, which stood near the parsonage, was not burned at this time and religious services were held there after 1718.

The fact that Bartholomew Stevenson was appointed, 4 August 1694, administrator of the estates of his brothers, Thomas and Joseph Stevenson, leads to the inference that these two brothers perished in this massacre. They lived near the garrison of Thomas Drew, who, according to Probate Records, "was killed by Indians and left no will." Administration was granted to his widow

Mary, 30 July 1694. Thomas Drew has been confused with Francis Drew, who married Lydia Bickford. The latter surrendered the garrison at Drew's Point, on promise of quarter. He is supposed to have killed an Indian, whose bones were found in the house after it was burned. Francis Drew attempted to escape and ran towards the Adams garrison but was overtaken by the Indians, bound and tomahawked. His wife was carried away and was rendered so feeble by hunger that she was left to die in the woods. "Administration on the estate of Francis Drew of Oyster River, who was killed by the Indians and left no will, granted to his brother, John, Nov. 16, 1694." Two years later administration on the estate of Francis Drew was granted to his oldest son, Thomas, he being "now returned out of the hands of the Indian Enemy." This Thomas Drew had been married about six months to wife, Tamsen, and lived with his father. He was taken to Canada and his wife to Norridge-wock, whence she returned after about four years, to become the mother of fourteen children. The following deposition by her sheds further light on the massacre of 1694:

The Deposition of Damsen Drew lately dwelling att Oyster River in Piscataqua.

This Deponent maketh Oath that on or about the last day of August [evidently an error of memory] in the year 1694 she this Deponent being in Bed with her Husband they heard a great Tumult and Noise of firing of Guns which awakened her out of her sleep, and she understanding that the Indians were in arms & had encompassed the House, willing to make her escape, she endeavored & att last got out of the window and fled, but the Indians firing fast after her she returned to the House and her father in law took her by the hand and haled her into the House again, where upon she endeavored to get out at another window, but the Indians had besett that, so she returned to the other Room where her friends were, and the window of that Room being open an Indian named Bombazine (as she was then informed & has since seen and known him in the Prison at Boston) caught hold of her Arm and pulled her out att the Window & threw her violently upon the ground, she being then with child & when he had so done he went into the House to plunder, when another Indian named Assurowlaway (who could speak good English) came to her & told her she would receive no hurt & took her and carried her into the woods, And further this Deponent saith not.

The mark of DAMSON x DREW.

Boston, May 23^d 1698.

Tamsen Drew "was delivered of a child in the winter, in the open air and in a violent snow storm. Being unable to suckle her child or provide it with food, the Indians killed it. She lived

fourteen days on a decoction of the bark of trees. Once they set her to draw a sled up a river against a piercing northwest wind and left her. She was so overcome with the cold that she grew sleepy, laid down and was nearly dead when they returned; they carried her senseless to a wigwam and poured warm water down her throat, which recovered her." Belknap's History of New Hampshire, p. 141. Footnote by John Farmer, giving traditional information obtained from John Smith.

There were fifteen in the Drew family at the time of the massacre. John Drew was put out of the window and escaped, probably to be killed by Indians a few years later. Benjamin Drew was about nine years old. He was carried over Winnipiseogee and made to run the gauntlet till he was cut down with tomahawks. Thomas Drew and his wife, Tamsen, lived to very old age and, dying about the same time, were buried in the same grave.

The Matthews, or Mathes, garrison seems to have resisted attack and probably sheltered some of the neighbors. All houses between this and the Burnham garrison were, doubtless, burned.

The Adams garrison stood south of the road to Durham Point and not far from the ruins of the brick house built by Washington Mathes. This garrison was burned, and Charles Adams and wife, his son, Samuel, and wife, and eleven others were killed. The wife of Samuel Adams, being then pregnant, was ripped up. They were all buried in one grave, near the Mathes Cemetery. A son, Charles Adams, survived his father but a few months, and so this branch of the Adams family ceased to transmit the surname, though descendants of the first Charles Adams are many in the Tasker, Nock, Durrell and Bickford lines.

After setting fire to the Adams garrison the Indians attacked the garrison of Thomas Bickford at the extremity of the Point. Bickford's defence of his house seems to have been about the only item of special interest in this massacre that the Rev. Cotton Mather thought worthy of being recorded in his *Magnalia Christi Americana*. He says:

Several persons remarkably escaped this bloody deluge, but none with more bravery than one Thomas Bickford, who had an house, a little pallisadoed, by the river side, but no man in it besides himself. He dexterously put his wife and mother and children aboard a canoe, and, sending them down the river, he alone betook himself to the defence of his house, against many Indians that made an assault upon him. They first would have persuaded him with many

fair promises, and then terrified him with as many fierce threatenings, to yield himself; but he flouted and fired at them, daring 'em to come if they durst. His main strategem was to change his livery as frequently as he could; appearing sometimes in one coat, sometimes in another, sometimes in an hat and sometimes in a cap; which caused his besiegers to mistake this one for many defendants. In fine, the pitiful wretches, despairing to beat him out of his house, e'en left him in it; whereas many that opened unto them upon their solemn engagements of giving them life and good quarter, were barbarously butchered by them.

Abigail, Judy and Elizabeth Willey were captured and were still in captivity in 1699.

John Edgerly, grandson of the first Thomas Edgerly, is the authority for the statement that his uncle, Thomas Edgerly, lived at Ambler's. That must mean that he lived where John Ambler afterward lived, who bought, in 1703, the place where now lives the Hon. Jeremiah Langley. This Thomas Edgerly, Jr., married Jane Whedon in 1691. The above named authority relates that "upon hearing the Indians he, his wife, and her sister jumped out of bed and got down cellar, leaving their children in bed; the Indians came in, killed the children, and one or two persons living in the other end of the house were taken; they looked into the cellar, but did not go down. They rifled the house and fired it; as soon as they were gone he put the fire out." This Thomas Edgerly removed to Exeter in the year 1700.

Thomas Edgerly, senior, sent a petition to the Governor and Council at Strawberry Bank. It has no date but it was considered in Council 20 July, so that it must have been written the next day after the massacre. It is as follows:

Whereas it has pleased God to cast affliction upon him and his Neighbours by the sudden incursion of the Indian Enemyes, having his Son wounded, now Remaining at Strawberry Bank under Capt. Packers hand, and his dwelling house burned, and his goods Destroyed.

Humbly Desires your Consideration of his Low Condition and that you would Graunt him and his Neigh^rs Liberty to make the house of John Rand Deceased a Garrison ffor the Security and defence of some of the Remaining ffamilies adjacent, and to Graunt us supply of six men, and we shall always pray ffor your happiness and Prosperity. [N. H. State Papers, Vol. XVIII, p. 640.]

John Rand, mentioned in this petition, married Remembrance, daughter of John Ault, and sister to Rebecca, wife of Thomas Edgerly. The old farm of John Ault, bordering on Plum Swamp brook, had been divided between Edgerly and Rand. It stretched

from Little Bay back into the woods, and on this farm was the Rand-Edgerly garrison, wherein soldiers were quartered after the time of the massacre, soldiers impressed from Hampton. The Probate Records declare that administration on the estate of John Rand and Remembrance Rand was granted to John Rand, probably their son, and that his bond, dated March 1694/5, had for sureties Thomas Edgerly and Edward Leathers. It is probable that John Rand and his wife, Remembrance, perished in the massacre. A boy, named Samuel Rand, was redeemed from captivity in 1695 and Remembrance Rand was still a captive in 1710. Thomas Edgerly, senior, his son Joseph and a daughter were taken captive. The rest of the family got into a canoe and as they were setting off the Indians fired upon them and mortally wounded his son, Zechariah. Among the captives returned, 17 January 1698/9, were Elizabeth Edgerly and Susanna Edgerly, while Joseph Edgerly was then remaining in captivity. He returned in 1706. See Coll. of the Maine Historical Society, 2d Series, Vol. V, 516.

Early tradition records that one Kent (it must have been Joseph Kent, if the tradition be true), upon hearing firing, got up and looked out, when he saw Indians waiting for him. He was so surprised that he did not stop to awake his family, but secured himself in a drain that led from the house, where he lay all day. His family were soon after aroused by the firing, about which time the Indians that were around the house retired to assist their companions, who were besieging the Drew garrison. This gave Kent's wife an opportunity to escape with her children.

It seems that the Indians also molested at this time the inhabitants along the shore of Great Bay and those living on the road from Oyster River Falls to Lamprey River. Peter Denbow was carried into captivity, where he yet remained in the beginning of 1698/9. The Indians seem to have hastened back by the same way they came, the main road leading from Bickford's Ferry to the Falls. They assembled with their captives in the meadow west of the Burnham garrison and, making some insulting signs, one of them was shot at long range.

The following petition implies that the Indians attacked another part of the town:

January 8th 1694/5

To ye honored President & Council now sitting at New Castle, in ye Great Island.

The humble Petition of William Graves humbly sueeth y^e your honours would please to take into your consideration y^e distressed estate and condition of your poor Petitioner, who at y^e last desolation at Oyster River was wounded by y^e enemie & his estate demolisht, who since hath been a long time with the Chirurgeon for cure & by y^e blessing of God hath arrived to a good measure of health; but hath not wherewithall to answer y^e Doctor, nor to help himself, humbly craveth some succour & reliefe therein; whereby you will do a very charitable Deed and oblige him to pray for your honours prosperity,

Your humble Petitioner

WILLIAM GRAVES.

[N. H. Province Papers, II, 147.]

There was another petition, without date but considered in Council 20 July, 1694, together with that of Thomas Edgerly, so that both must have been written 19 July 1694, the next day after the massacre. It shows that all the families at Lubberland were driven away, perhaps through fear of an attack. It shows, too, that in 1694 the whole shore line from Mathes', or Crummett's Creek, to Lamprey River was known as Lubberland.

The condition of Luberland is such: we had a good Garrison last summer but was cut down and Burnt, and for want of a Garrison the Inhabitants are forced to leave the place and flie for Refugg. If itt were possible to save the place wee who know the vallue vallues itt at about four hundred pounds of provisions and movables: provided the cattle Breaks in y^e Corn, itt will be much damage. It is y^e generall vote y^t Capt. Matthews should com^d the Garrison. Our request is for 15 or 20 souldiers to assist this place.

Belonging to the place, Betwixt Capt Matthews and Lamp . . . River, the contents as follows:

Capt. Mathews	Wm Durgin and three sons.
Fran: Mathews	Tho. Morris
Jo ^a Benicke [Bennett]	Jo ^a Piner [Pinder]
Jo ^a Doe	Hen. Marsh
Samson Doe	David Davis
Elias Critchett	Abra Benicke [Bennett]
	Jo ^a Cromwell [Crommett]
	Jer ⁱ Cromwell [Crommett]

[N. H. Prov. Papers, II, 147.]

Now we may follow the other party of Indians in their work of slaughter and burning on the north side of the river. Remember that all this savagery was justified under the name of war between Christian nations and their allies and was about as civilized and "glorious" as any wars have been till within recent years. We

do not tomahawk and burn enemies now; we blow them to pieces with shells and bombs.

In the Jones family the tradition has been preserved that Ensign Stephen Jones "in the night heard the barking of dogs and thought the wolves were about. He got up and went some distance from the house to take care of swine. Returning he went into a flanker, got on the top of it and sat there with his legs hanging down on the outside. An Indian fired at him; he fell back, and the bullet entered the flanker betwixt where his legs hung. A band of Indians from behind a rock a few rods from the garrison kept firing on the house." The inhabitants of ungarrisoned houses in that vicinity fled to Jones' garrison. Some were killed in the attempt, among them a woman named Chesley. Tradition says that Hester Chesley, who married John Hall, escaped by jumping from an upper window, with a babe in her arms. One account says that five by the name of Chesley were shot, but these may have been killed in subsequent raids, tradition not being careful as to chronology. Robert Watson, who lived about a quarter of a mile away on land he bought of Walter Jackson, was killed with others of his family. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Kent, returned from captivity and married Dea. John Ambler. Accompanying the inventory of her first husband's estate are items of expense, among which are twenty pounds "for my ransom" and two pounds "to a frenchman who promised to redeem my son therewith," "besides Cloathing my self when I came naked out of Captivity."

In connection with this the following information, found in the records of Canada, is of interest. On the 8th of April 1697, there was baptized, "*sous condition*," an Englishman named Joseph Houatson, aged 17. On 3 June 1715, the curate of Boncherville baptized Marie Josef Robert Ouetsen, daughter of Joseph Robert Ouetsen and Marie de Mers. On the 11th of April 1717, J. R. Ouatsenne, son of Robert Ouatsenne and of Anne hesemenne (?) an Englishman of the village of Piscataqua was married to Angclique Benard Carignan. Here we may have a clue as to who was the first wife of Robert Watson of Oyster River, and we learn that Robert's son, Joseph, married and remained in Canada.

The wife of Edward Leathers was killed and some of her

children. A woman named Jackson was slain, perhaps Ann, wife of Walter Jackson.

Edward Small found refuge in Jones' garrison. He married Mary, daughter of Capt. John Woodman, and soon after this massacre removed to Monomoit, now Chatham, Mass. The following letter is of historic interest:

¹Son Edward and daughter mery Smalle: A store of Love to you: by thes you may knowe that I received yours and that we ar not without feres of further trobeles by the Indons: by Reson there of: I cannot yet aduys you: to macke Anny preparation: Hom ward: until wee heve further proued: thayr keeping of the peace: Lest your Returen should be so unsesonebl that it might be As much dameg to you: as your Remouing thether: thay haue not as yet: yousd anny Hostility: tourds ye Englesh I have sent you A thousand of good bords by William Eldrege your brother Jonathan cannot yet sell your Hors: any thing Lick to the worth of Him: senc His order to sell Him wee ar all in Resonebel good Halth threw gods marsy: your brothers and sisters Remember thayer Loues to you:

from your Louing father
JOHN WOODMAN

Oyster River
July 26: 1700

This for Edward
Smalle at monamey

Mrs. Judith (Davis) Emerson was taken and held in captivity several years. Tradition says that her aged mother, whose maiden name was Jane Peasley of Haverhill, Mass., was captured and dismissed by one band of Indians. She hid in a field of corn and another band discovered and slew her. Among the captives remaining in the hands of the Indians, 17 January 1698/9, was Judah [Judith] Emerson. See Coll. of Maine Historical Society, 2d Series, Vol. V, p. 516.

The tradition is still told in Durham that Judith Emerson was redeemed from captivity by a Mr. Morrill for two shirts, one of which he took from his back. Samuel Emerson, thinking his wife was dead, went to Portsmouth to complete arrangements for a second marriage. There he met an old acquaintance and told him his designs. The acquaintance, knowing that some captives had just arrived from Canada and that Mr. Emerson's wife was among them, said, "I bet a double drink of grog your wife is in

¹In 1889 Mr. Lucien Thompson learned of the existence of the original letter in the possession of Mrs. M. A. Sanborn of Barnstead. Her grandfather was Samuel Pitman of Durham, who married Sarah, daughter of Edward Small, and removed to Barnstead. Mr. Thompson had the letter photographed and has presented a copy of it to the N. H. Historical Society.

town." The bet was taken, whereupon Mr. Emerson was conducted into the presence of his wife. It is needless to say that the second marriage was indefinitely postponed, and it faded into a traditionary possibility. The Emerson family were living at this time at Back River, Dover.

Old Mr. Robert Huckins, many of whose family had been slain in the massacre of 1689, was killed at this time. The Jones garrison was burned before 1732.

Below Jones' garrison were those of Bunker, Smith and Davis, all of which were successfully defended. Lieut. James Davis sent his family away by water and with the help of his brother, Serg. Joseph Davis, defended his garrison, extinguishing the fire applied to it. Sergt. Davis was fired upon by three Indians. He stooped and a bullet split a sappling just above his head. He shot an Indian, whose bones were found in a swamp soon after.

The Meader garrison was abandoned and was burned. The family escaped by boat. Near by a man named Clark was shot and another man named Gellison, while he was going from one house to another for powder. A brother of the latter jumped into a well for safety and was unable to get out. He died next day soon after having been rescued from his hiding place.

Three Indians were sent to attack the house of William Tasker, at the foot of Moharimet's Hill in what is now Madbury. An Indian looked into a small window and inquired if it was not time for them to get up. Mr. Tasker replied with a shot from his gun which mortally wounded the Indian, who with bitter screeches was carried off by the other two. The family immediately fled through the woods to the Woodman garrison.

Probate Records inform us of another family broken up at this time, not mentioned in any of the traditional accounts. It was that of John Derry, who lived near William Tasker, in Madbury. Administration on his estate was granted, 18 May 1698, to his widow, Deliverance, who married Nathaniel Pitman before 7 January 1698. Her petition of the latter date "humbly showeth, that in the years 1694 yo^r petition^{rs} House was burnt by the Indians and our cattle killed, as also most of our children; my husband, one child, and yo^r Petition^r taken Captives, in which Captivitye my husband dyed; none but your Petition^r returned." The child was Joseph Derry, and what became of him is not known. John Derry's name is among the list of captives returned

17 January 1698/9, but this may be an error, since there is no subsequent mention of him.

Both parties of Indians met at the Falls after their raids on the south and north sides of the river and made an attack on the garrison of Capt. John Woodman, which resisted the attack and remained, with bullets in its timbers, till 1896, situated at the head of Beard's Creek.

The following letter, dated 21 July 1694, adds some historical touches to the picture. It tells us who the Indian was that got drunk on "occabee," at the suggestion of Mrs. Dean. Mass was said by each of the two priests, who accompanied this expedition, just as Chaplains went with British and American regiments, and for a similar purpose. We may suppose they did what they could to prevent cruelty and to soften the ferocity of savages. We know on good evidence that some Roman Catholic priests and missionaries among the Indians in Maine were kind to captives, bought them out of slavery, and secured their release. The place where mass was said is thought, by Miss Mary P. Thompson, and with good reason, to have been on a ledgy hill-top, not far from the Woodman garrison. The tradition that the priests made chalk-marks on the pulpit of Parson Buss' church is interpreted by her as the writing of some verse from Holy Writ or from the Credo. The fact that the meeting house was not burned during this raid is evidence that they had some respect for the place.

To Gov. Phipps,

May it ples yo^r Excell.

Since the Lft Govern^rs of 18th inst anothe^rs come to our hand. The Indians verie numerous. Not less than three hundred. Douie who signed the Peace was there, a woman who was Douies servant made her escape, by reason of his being drunck. Saith Douie did tell her that they did expect 600 Indians more, that the Mangwaits were joined with them, and judge some Southern Indians were there. There is two Fryars among the Indians who after victory said Mass twice, the Indians did spred 6 or 7 miles and engaged all at once. Oyster River in a manner Ruined, only about 20 houses left, the rest layd waste. Unless we have a supply of men from yourself Oyster River must be deserted. If Oyster River be deserted, the Enimie will have an inlett to the whole Country, for the Majest^s Service and Security of the Country desire you would forthwith Supply us with one hundred men, with ammunition & Provision to be posted for preservation of these Out places. We are dispatching some souldiers into our Outward garrisons, according to the ability of this Province upon the alarms with all expedition. We dispatched from the Severall Towns one third of the Militia in this Province for Release of

Oyster River, but before they came here the Enimie was drawn of and could not be met with; its judged Eighty persons killed & taken, abundance of cattle killed. Last night three Indians seen, severall Guns fired. Judge the Enimie is still bordering upon us, but we want assistance to pursue them, the Enimie being so numerous. Desire that orders may be given to Justices and all Constables for the Dispatch of Expresses. Not doubting of yo^r Rediness to assist us, we being ready to afforde our assistance, according to our ability, to your parts in case the Enimie should invade yours,

We crave your answer by this—ers.

By order of the Lt. Govern^r & Councill
WM. REDFORD: *Dept. Secry.*

[N. H. Province Papers, II, p. 129]

To sum up the results of this Indian raid, it may be positively stated that the houses of the following persons were burned, three of them being garrisons, viz., house owned by Nathaniel Hill and occupied by John Dean (The houses of Nathaniel Hill and Bartholomew Stevenson near by were not destroyed), houses of Ensign John Davis, Ezekiel Pitman, Stephen Jenkins, Rev. John Buss, Charles Adams, Thomas Edgerly, Joseph Meader, Robert Watson, John Derry, William Leathers, John Drew, William Jackson, and probably houses of the Chesley, Stevenson, and Willey families. Thus we have the sixteen houses and garrisons mentioned by the Rev. John Pike in his Journal.

Among the slain were John Dean, Robert Huckins, Robert Watson and two or more children, the mother of Mrs. Judith Emerson (who was Jane Peasley Davis), sister of Mrs. Emerson, Ensign John Davis, wife and two children, Widow James Smith and two sons, a Mr. (Abraham?) Clark, two men named Gellison, Stephen Jenkins and child, Francis Drew and wife, Lydia, Benjamin Drew, fifteen in the family of Charles Adams, two children of Thomas Edgerly, Jr., grandmother of Stephen Jenkins, Mrs. Edward Leathers, Mrs. Jackson, Zacheriah Edgerly, several children of John Derry, and probably Thomas and Joseph Stevenson and John Rand and wife, Remembrance. Thus forty-nine or more are known.

Among those carried into captivity were certainly John Derry and his wife and son, Joseph, Hannah Watson and her son, Joseph, Sarah Davis and her sister, Mary, Ursula Adams, Mrs. Ann Jenkins, Thomas Drew and wife, Tamsen, Abigail and Judy and Elizabeth Willey, Elizabeth and Susanna and Joseph Edgerly, Mrs. Judith Emerson, Peter Denbow and Remembrance Rand,

making twenty known captives. Thus sixty-nine or more out of the ninety-four reported by the Rev. John Pike are accounted for. There were probably some captives, unknown by name, who never returned.

Twenty soldiers were sent to defend garrisons at Oyster River, and Capt. John Woodman reported, 6 January 1695/6, that they were posted as follows: at his own garrison, 2; at Meader's, 3; at Davis', 2; at Smith's, 3; at Burnham's, 2; at Bickford's, 4; at Edgerly's [where John Rand had formerly lived], 3; at Durgin's, 2; at Jones', 2; at David Davis', 2.

In his fourth return, 5 February 1695/6, he reports soldiers posted as follows: at Meader's, 2; at Smith's, 1; at Bunker's, 3; at Jones', 2; at Burnham's, 2; at Edgerly's, 2; at David Davis', 2.

The account of Oyster River people for their maintenance of soldiers from 24 May 1697, unto 4 October 1697, was rendered by Capt. John Woodman as follows:

Joseph Smith for 2 soldiers, 18 weeks, 07:04:00; James Bunker for 1 soldier, 18 weeks, 03:12:00; Ensign Jones for 1 soldier, 18 weeks, 03:12:00; Mr. Thomas Edgerly, 1 soldier, 18 weeks, 03:12:00; John Woodman, 2 soldiers, 18 weeks, 07:04:00. [See N. H. Province Papers, II, 253.]

The Indians seem to have had a special spite against the inhabitants of Oyster River, or their attacks there were so little opposed that they returned often for easy spoils. We are indebted to Pike's Journal for the following brief items of subsequent molestations:

August 27, 1696, "David Davis killed by the Ind^{ns} at Lubberland."

November 15, 1697, "Tho: Chesley Sen: slain by y^e Indians not far from Johnsons Creek. Will Jackson taken at the same time & at same time made his escape."

April 25, 1704, "Nath. Meader was slain by y^e Indians at Oyster River, not far from the place where Nicholas Follet formerly lived."

June 1, 1704, "Samuel Tasker was slain by 8 or 9 Indians at Oyster River."

August 19, 1704. "Joseph Pitman slain by the Indians, as he was guarding some mowers, not far from Oyster River Meeting-house."

November 4, 1705, "Sab. Nath Tibbetts of Oyster River was carried away by the Indians about sun-set."