

Primary documentation

**The Battle of Great Falls
(Wissantinnewag-
Peskeompskut
Battlefield), King
Philip's War (1676)**

Reading Companion

Got questions? Please contact
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Connecticut Archives – Colonial Wars, Series I, Doc. 60

April 6, 1676

...being disipatted this day and Cannot sett Untill tomorrow when we intend to Consider what is most expedient we just now have intelligence off three men killed att Hadley where none had so before been donne, also off some scouts sent towards Deerfield who have discovered sundry wigwams with fires not farre from thence what those things will occasion the Bay forces to doe or send to us about we know nott, they sent mr Nowell to us already for our Conjunction to have moved up 20 miles above Quabaug towards Lanchaster where there masters (as they call them) signi fyed that they had intelligence off a 1000 off the enemies Butt we Returned answer to that, we were yet in Capacity to supply our helpfulness then, By reason of the Majors illness and that off exhance of our souldiars, etc.....

Connecticut Archives – Colonial Wars, Series I, Doc. 67

April 29, 1676

...Such things will weaken the enemies strength and spirits: and rationall it is to thinke y^t might [illegible] be undertaken [illegible] against them here in conjunction wth what is in other parts it might at such a time sinke thier harts & brake their rage and power; and make them much more reall for peace than yet they are Sundry things are spoken here by those Indian Messeng^{ers} now returned to yo^rselves that give us to understand they take Little heede to the truth in their relations. And that they doe (especially he y^t belong to these parts) labr^d to rep^rsant the enemies stake as much to their advantage as may be whether aggreing wth the truth or noe.”

...The spirite of man wth us are more than ever heightened wth desire & earnestnesse to be going forth against the enemy have bin [illegible] moving for liberty & would Some they might obtaine is this night And shall the Lord incline and direct you to order any volunteers to other help hither; they would [illegible] more of o^{rs} than rea son would y^t we should spare ready to sayn wth them in the enterprize [illegible] thoughts are that it would too much to adbantyaage to have a paryt of faithfull Indians joyning wth the English....

Connecticut Archives – Colonial Wars, Series I, Doc. 71

May 15 1676

[71a]

...in the bay that they have Certain intelligence from the Eastward y^t the Mohawks have taken & slew twenty six of o^r enemies...As to o^r moving up to ye Indians at their fishing place I cannot but judge we have

sate still when God hath called us to be up and doing & verily feare God will charge it upon us for sloth and neglect if following his guiding providence whe he hath bin leading to advantageous ways of coming upon them such as we cannot expect at a nerest time. They sitt by us secure wthout watch, busy at their harvest worke storing themselves with food for a yeer to fight against us and we let theme alonge to take the full advantage that ye selves would afford them by there wise nor enemy. They [illegible] the evening thought but

[71b]

But this morning Providence hath alarm^d us wth another voice & call seeming to Speake to us that the Season is not yet past and that we are necessitated to take hold of it before it be quite gone ffor about sunrise came into Hatfield one Thomas Reede, a Souldier who was taken captive when Deacon Goodman was slain: He Relates y^t they are not planting at Deerfield and have been so these three or four days or more. Saith further that they dwell at the falls on both sides of the River; are a Considerable number; yet most of them old men and women. He cannot judge that there are both Sides of the River above 60 or 70 fighting men. They are secure high and comfortable boasting of great things they have done and will doe. there is Thomas Eames his daughter and children hardly used: one or two belonging to Medfielde I thinke two children belonging to Lancaster. The night before Last they came down to Hatfield upper meadows have driven away many horses and Catall to the number of fourscore and upward as they judge: many of these this man saw in Deerfield meadow: and found the barrs putt up to keepe them in. This being the State of things we thinke the Lord calls us to make some try and what may be done against them suddainly wthout further delay; and therefore the Concurring resolution of men here seems to be to goe out against them too morrow at night so as to be wth them the Lord assisting before breake of day It would be strength and rejoycing to us might be favord wth some helpe from yourselves, but if the Lord deny that to us you Cannot or see not your way to assist or goe before us in the undertaking, I thinke or men will goe with suche of or own as we can raise truysting him wth the issue; rather than to sett still and tempt God by doing nothing. Should yo^r Indians know anything of this motion they may be under temptation to give intelligence of it to the enemy. We need guidance and help from heaven: We humbly begge yo^r advice and help if it may be And that wth Comitting you to guidance and Hassing of y^e most High Remain

Yo^r Worps: in all humble Sarvice J^{no} Russell

Altho this man speakes of their numbers as he judath yet: thay may be many more for we perceive their number varies and thay are going and Coming so that there is no trust to his guesse.

Will: Turner
John Lyman
Isack Graves

Connecticut Archives – Colonial Wars, Series I, Doc. 74

May 22, 1676

...Some more of o^r Souldiers have dropped in there o^r Last; some on Satturday or & on Satturday night troo yesterday. And one this morning : and about noon one M^r Atherto[n] came in to Hadley. So that now the number of those wanting is either eight or nin[e] and thirty. Some were wandering on the West mountains on Satturday who were not wounded whether for Providence may yet guide them in or noe we know not we are not quite wthout hopes of some of them.

As to the number of the enemy Slain; many of the Souldiers Say they guessed them to be about fourscore y^t lay upon the ground. But Serjeant Richard Smith Saith he had time and took it to run them over by [illegible] going from wigwam to wigwam to doe it & also what was between y^r banke and th^e water. and found them about an hundred he hath sometimes S^d SixScore but stande to y^e y^t they were above 100 . seventeene being in a wigwam or a two little higher up than the rest.

Likewise Will^m Draw a souldier y^t terms to be of good behavior & Credit being two or three Soldiers to stand in a secure place below the banke, more quiet than he thought was [illegible] for the time; he asked them why they had stood there saith they answered that they had seen many goe down the falls and thy would endeavo^r to tell how many. Here upon he observed wth them : until he told fifty; and they S^d to him that those made up Six score and ten . Some of them also were Slain in their pursuit of or^s where so many of or^s fall. Hence we Cannot but judge that there were abov^e 200 of them Slain

Our Scouts being out his this night have discovered that the enemy abide Still in the place where they were on both Sides y^e River and in the Island; and fires in the Same place where o^r men had burnt the wigwams. So that they judge either that Philip is com to them or some Souldiers of his Company from Squakeaheags, Paquiog and other places . Hereupon it seems most probable if not contendable[?] that their pur=pose is to abide here at least for some spare time as having the advantage of of place best suited to shift for their Safety being on both sides the River on the Islands and their fort those by Deerfield River and amide the deplorable places sitt for time to lurke in & escape by Where we would humbly propose it to you^r Consideration whether Providence doth not off[?]: at and Call to y^r accepting this opportunity & improving of it speedily before it slip[?]: and whether we may not look y^t thr taking them here wtha Small [illegible] help of English and Indians may not be likely to be a great ad= vantage then greatest number when they are removed hence they hav^e planted as Is judged 300 acres of choice ground at Deerfeild : their fish is there not yet fitt to Carry away and their place such as they can thay can shift almost every way from [illegible] So y^t we Count them likely to abide a while.

Massachusetts State Archives – Volume 69

April 25, 1676

...the soldiers here are in great distress for want of clothing, both linen and woolen. Some has been brought from Quabaug, but not an eight of what we want.

There is come into Hadley a young man taken from Springfield at the beginning of last month, who informs that the enemy is drawing up all their forces towards these towns, and their headquarters are at Deerfield.

Roger L'Estrange, *A New and Further Narrative of the State of New-England, Being A Continued Account of the Bloody Indian-War, From March till August, 1676* (London, UK: F.B. for Dorman Newman, 1676)

Ca. May 19, 1676

[P. 12]

About a fortnight afterwards, the fore mentioned Captain Turner, by Trade a Taylor, but one that for his Valour has left behind him an Honourable Memory, hearing of the Indians being about Twenty miles above them at Connecticut River, drew out a Party at Hadly and Northampton, where there was a Garrison; and marching all night, came upon them before day-break, they having no Centinels or Scouts abroad, as thinking themselves secure, by reason of their remote distance from any of our Plantations; ours taking this advantage of their negligence, fell in amongst them, and killed several hundreds of them upon the place, they being out of any posture or order to make any formidable resistance, though they were six times superior to us in number; But that which was almost as, much, nay in some respect more considerable then their lives, we there destroyed all their Ammunition and Provision, which we think they can hardly be so soon and easily recruited with, as possibly they may be with men: We likewise here demolish Two Forges they had to mend their Armes, took away all their materials and Tools, and drove many of them into the River, where they were drowned, and threw two great Piggs of Lead of theirs, (intended for making of bullets) into the said River: But this great successe was not altogether without its allay, as if Providence had designed to checker our joys and sorrows; and lest we should sacrifice to our won Nets, and say, Our own Arms or prowess hath done this, to permit the Enemy presently after to take an advantage against us;...

Roger L'Estrange, *A True Account of the Most Considerable Occurrences that have apned in the Warree Between the English and the Indians in New England, From the Fifth of May, 1676, to the Fourth of August last* (London, UK: Printed for Benjamin Billinsley at the Printing-Press in Cornhill, 1676)

Ca. May 19, 1676

[P. 3]

Upon the same day we had Newes by a Post, of a fight upon *Connecticut* River between *Deerfield* and *Squakheg*, there were about an hundred and sixty of our souldiers under the command of Captain *Holyoke*, and Captain *Turner*: The occasion of the engagement was this, The *Indians* having stolen and driven away much Cattle from *Hatfield* and those Towns adjoining, and our men perceiving by the track which way they went, learned at last where the *Indians* Rendezvous was; and picking out of the several Garrisons, as many souldiers as could conveniently be spared, resolved to Attaque them, it being a great Fishery place called *Deerfield Falls*.

Our souldiers got thiter after a hard March just about break of day, took most of the *Indians* fast asleep, and put their guns even into their Wigwams, and poured in their shot among them, whereupon the *Indians* that durst and were able did get out of their Wigwams and did fight a little (in which fight one *Englishman* only was slain) others of the *Indians* did enter the River to swim over from the English, but many of them were shot dead in the waters, others wounded were theriein drowned, may got into Canoes to paddle away, but the paddlers being shot, the Canoes over-set with tall therein, and

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the stream of the River being very violent and swift in the place near the great Falls, most that fell over board were born by the strong current of that River, and carried upon the Falls of Water from those exceeding high and steep Rocks, and from thence tumbling down were broken in pieces; the English did afterwards find of their bodies, some in the River and some cast ashore, above two hundred.

But as the English were coming away wit the plunder they had got, there was a noise spread among some of them, of *Sachem Philip's* coming down upon them; with a thousand men: which not being weighed as it might have been by the English, whether it were true or false; a fear possessed some part of the English, whereby they fell into a disorder, and thereby Captain *Turner* and several of his Souldiers were slain and others to the number of two and thirty. But Captain *Holyoke* exhorted them not to be terrified, saying God hath wrought hitherto for us wonderfully, let us trust in him still: and reducing his men into close order made a safe and a valiant retreat, and preserved the Souldiers under him; that there were bu few of them slain, and the Souldiers so cut off were surpriz'd by a Party of the Enemy belonging to the *Indians* at *Deer-field-falls*, who having gotten before our forces had laid and Ambush, the chiefest execution of which was through too much fear of our Men whereby the disordered themselves; thus God by this mixture of his Providence would hide pride from our eyes, who perhaps might have been too much lifted up by our success: several loads of dryed fish the English found, and were forced to consume there.

They also found and demoslised the *Indian* Smiths Forge, which they had there set up for the mending of their Guns. Some *Indian* Women (since that taken Prisoners) do say and affirm that there were slain in that ingagement with them four hundred of which number were seventy of the *Wampang*s, or *Phillip Sachems* men: and that he had of his own proper Company not any great number left, and that were it not for him and one *Sachem* more, the *Indians* would glady yield to any terms of Peace with the English.

Douglas Edward Leach, Ed. *A Rhode Islander Reports on King Philip's War: The Second William Harris Letter of August, 1676* (Providence, RI: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1963)

Ca. May 19, 1676

[P.77]

...One Captain Turner of Boston, a Baptist, with 120 men, he and all of them being volunteers and all Baptists and Baptist sympathizers...

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The English came upon the enemy in the morning, found them asleep, and slew some hundreds of them. But very many of the Indians got into canoes, that is, small boats, some made of trees and others of the bark of trees, in order to flee across the river. The English pursued them, firing at those on the river, thereby throwing them into consternation, and killing some who were steering the canoes. the place being near a high waterfall (that is to say, a place in the river where the rocks extend across it, over which the water runs and then falls down a great distance below the above-mentioned rocks onto other rocks), the canoes and the Indians were driven by the force of that great river over the rocks and down the very dreadful drop, to be overwhelmed and dashed to death against the rocks, a loss of many desolate Indian souls. ...

Afterwards a few of the English were going after some other Indians, but being told by a captive English boy that a great party of Indians was coming, the English hastened away. On their route the Indians had laid ambush in a swamp, but as the English were not all together, only part of them went that way. The ambushing Indians slew many of that group, in fact, about thirty-eight. Four of five men (some say more) the

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Indians caught alive, and tortured them as follows: They tied their hands up spreading [torn] upon the one [torn] and the other upon another, and likewise set two stakes at a distance, to which they tied their feet. Then they made a fire under each of them, gashing their thighs and legs with knives, and casting into the gashes hot embers to torment them. This also somewhat stanches the blood so that they do not bleed to death so soon, but remain alive to torment longer...

Increase Mather, *A Brief History of the Warr With the Indians in New-England* (Boston, MA: John Foster, 1676)

Ca. May 18, 1676

[P. 48]

May. 18. This day happened which is worthier to be remembered. For at *North-hampton, Hadly*, and the Towns thereabouts, two *English* Captives escaping from the Enemy, informed that a considerable body of *Indians*, had seated themselves not far from *Pacomptuck*, and that they were very secure: so that should Forces be sent forth against them, many of the Enemy would (in probability) be cut off, without any difficulty. Hereupon the Spirits of Men in those Towns were raised with an earnest desire to see and try what might be done. They sent to the neighbours in *Connecticut* for a supply

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of men, but none coming, they raised about an hundred and four score our of their own towns, who arrived at the *Indian Wigwams* betimes in the morning, finding them secure indeed, yea all asleep without having any Scouts abroad; so that our Souldiers came and put their Guns into their Wigwams, before the *Indians* were aware of them, and made a great and notable slaughter amongst them. Some of the Souldiers affirm, that they numbered above one hundred that lay dead upon the ground, and besides those, others told about an hundred and thirty, who were driven into the River, and there perished, being carried down the Falls,...

...And all this while but one *English-man* killed, and two wounded. But God saw that if things had ended thus; another and not Christ would have had the Glory of this Victory, and therefore in his wise providence, he so disposed as that there was at last somewhat a tragical issue of this Expedition. For an *English* Captive Lad, who was found in the Wigwams, spake as if *Philip* were coming with a thousand *Indians*: which false report being famed (*Fama bella stant*) among the Souldiers, a pannick terror fell upon many of them, and they hasted homewards in a confused rout: In the mean while, a party of *Indians* from an Island (whose coming on shore might easily have been prevented, and the Souldiers before they set out from *Hadly* were earnestly admonished to take care about that matter) assaulted our men; yea, to the great dishonour of the *English*, a few *Indians* pursued our Souldiers four or five miles, who were in number near twice as many as the Enemy. In this *disorder*, her that was at this time the chief Captain, whose name was *Turner*, lost his life, he was purused through a River, received his Fatal stroke as he passed through that which is called the *Green River*, & as he came out of the *Water* he fell into the hands of the *Uncircumcised*, who stripped him, (as some who say they saw it affirm it) and rode

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Away on his horse; and between thirty and forty more were lost in this Retreat.

Within a few days after this, Capt. *Turners* dead Corps was found a small distance from the River; it appeared that he had been shot through his thigh and back, of which its judged he dyed speedily without any great torture from the enemy. However it were, it is evident that the English obtained a victory at this time, yet if it be as some Indians have since related, the Victory was not so great as at first was apprehended: For sundry of them who were at several times taken after this slaughter, affirm that many of the Indians that were driven down the Falls got safe on shore again, and that they lost not above threescore men in the fight: also that they killed thirty and eight English men, which indeed is just the number missing. There is not much heed to be given to Indian Testimony, yet when circumstances and Artificial arguments confirm what they say, it becometh and impartial *Historian* to take notice thereof; nor is it to be doubted but the loss of the enemy was greater then those Captives taken by our Forces abroad did acknowledge. Some other Indians said that they lost several hundreds at this time, amongst whom there was one Sachem. I am informed that diverse Indians who were in that battell, but since come in to the English at *Norwich*, say that there were three hundred killed at that time, which is also confirmed by an Indian called *Pomham*, who saith that of that three hundred there were an hundred and seventy fighting men.

William Hubbard, *A Narrative of the Troubles with the Indians* (Boston, MA: John Foster, 1677)

Ca. May 18, 1676

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But the great Company of the enemy, that stayed on that side of the Country, and about *Watchuset Hills*, when the rest went towards *Plymouth*, though they had been disappointed in their planting, by the death of *Canonchet*, were loth to loose the advantage of the fishing season then coming in; wherefore having, seated themselves near the upper Falls of *Connecticut River*, not far from *Deerfield*, and perceiving that The English Forces were now drawn off from the lower towns of *Hadly* and *Northampton*, now and then took advantages to plunder them of their Cattle, and not fearing any assault from our Souldiers, grew a little secure, while they were upon their Fishing design, insomuch that a couple of English lads lately taken captive y the enemy, and making their escape, acquainted their friends at home how secure they lay in those places, which so animated the Inhabitants of *Hadly*, *Hatfield*, and

Northampton, that they being willing to be revenged for the loss of their cattle, besides other preceding mischiefs, took up a resolution with what strength they could raise among themselves (partly out of garrison souldiers, and partly of the Inhabitants) to make an assault upon them, which if it had been done with a little more deliberation, waiting for the coming of supplies expected from *Hartford*, might have proved a fatal buisness to all the said Indians; yet was the victory obtained more considerable then at first was apprehended: For not having much above an hundred and fifty fighting men in their Company, they marched silently in the dead of the night, May 18. And came upon the said Indians a little before break of day, whom they found almost in a dead sleep, without any Scouts abroad, or watching about their wigwams at home; for in the evening they had made themselves merry with new milk and rost beef, having lately driven away many of their milch cows, as an English woman confessed, that was made to milk them.

When they came near the Indians rendezvouze, they alighted off their horses, and tyed them to some young trees at a quarter of a miles distance, so marching up, they fired amain into their very wigwams, killing many upon the place, and frightingn others with the sudden alarm of their Gunns, made them run into the River, where the swiftness of the stream carrying them down a steep Fall, they perished in the wa-

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ters, some getting in to Canooes, (small boats made of the barks of Birchen trees) which proved to them a *Charons* boat, being sunk, or over-set, by the shooting of our men, delivered them into the like danger of the waters, giving them thereby a passport into the other world: others of them creeping for shelter under the banks of the great river, were espied by our men and killed with their swords; Capt. *Holioke* killing five, young and old, with his own hands from under a bank. When the Indians were first awakened with the thunder of their guns, they cried Our *Mohawks*, *Mohawks*, as if their own native enemies had been upon Them; but the dawning of the light, soon notified their error, though it Could not prevent the danger.

Such as came back spake sparingly of the number of the slain; some say there could not in reason be less then two or three hundred of them that must necessarily perish in the midst of so many instruments of destruction managed against them with much disadvantages to themselves. Some of their prisoners afterwards owned that they lost above three hundred in that Camizado, some whereof were principal men sachems, and some of their best fighting men that were kilt, which made the victory more considerable then else it would have been; nor did they seem ever to have recovered themselves after this defeat, but their ruine immediately followed upon it...

The Indians that lay scattering on both sides of the river, after they recovered themselves, and discovered the small number of them that

assailed them, turned head upon the English, who in their retreat were a little disordered, for want of the help, of the eldest Captain, that was so enfeebled by sickness before he set out, that he was no way able for want of bodily strength (not any way defective for want of skill or courage) to assist or direct in making the retreat: For some of the enemy fell upon the Guards that kept the horses, others pursued them in the reer, so as our men sustained pretty much damage as they retired, missing after their return thirty eight of their men: And if Capt. *Holioke* had not played the man at a more then ordinary rate, sometimes in the Front, sometimes in the flank and reer, at all times encouraging the Souldiers, it might have proved a fatal business to the assailants. The said Capt. *Holiokes* horse was shot down under him, and himself ready to be assaulted by many of the Indians, just coming upon him, but discharging his pistols upon one or two of them, who he

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presently dispatched, and another friend coming up to his rescue, he was saved, and so carried off the souldiers without any further loss.

It is confidently reported by some that were there present at this engagement, that one told above an hundred Indians left dead upon the place; and another affirmed that he told near an hundred and forty swimming down the Falls, none of which were observed to get alive to shore, save one.

The loss that befell our men in the retreat, was occasioned principally by the bodily weakness of Capt. *Turner*, unable to manage his charge any longer, yet some say they wanted powder, which forced them to retire as fast as they could by Capt. *Tuners* order.

It is said also by one present at the fight, that seven or eight in the reer of the English, through haste missed their way, and were never heard of again; and without doubt fell into the Indians hands, and it is feared some of them were tortured.

About seven dayes after this, they were minded to try the chance of Warr again, and see if they could not recover their loss, by returing the like upon the English: for,

May 30. A great number of them appeared before *Hatfield*, fired a-Boat twelve houses and barns without the Fortification of the town, driving away multitudes of their Cattle, and their Sheep, spreading themselves in the meadow near the town: which bravado so raised the courage of their neighbours at *Hadly*, that twenty five resolute young men ventured over the river, to relieve *Hatfield* in this distress...

Daniel White Wells and Reuben Field Wells, *History of Hatfield, Massachusetts, in three parts* (Springfield, MA: F.C.H. Gibbons, 1910).

[Hope Atherton Account Pp. 86-87]

[Jonathan Wells Account Pp. 463-466]

[P. 463]

I shall give an aount of the remarkable providences of God wards Johnathan Wells Esq then aged 16 yearss and 2 or 3 months who was in this action [at the Falls fight, May 19]. He was wth the 20 men y^t were obliged to fight wth the enemy to recover their horses; after he mounted his horse a little while (being yhen in the rear of y^e company), he was fir^d at by three Indians who were very near him; one bullet passed so near him as to brush his hair another struck his horse[‘s] behind a third struck his thigh in a place which before had been broken by a cart wheel & never set, but the bones lap^d & so grew together so y^t although one end of it had been struck and the bone shatter^d by y^e bullet, yet the bone was not wholly loss^d in y^e place where it had knit. Upon receiving his wound he was in danger of falling from his horse, but catching hold of y^e horse’s maine he recovered himself. the Indians perceiving they had wound’d him, ran up very near to him, but he kept y^e Ind^s back by presenting his gun to y^m once or twice, & when they stoped to charge he go trid of them & got up to some of y^e company, [In this flight for life, as appears by another scrap of our MSS., he stopped and took up behind him Stepehn Belding, a boy companion of sixteen years, who thus escaped.] Capt. Turner, to whom he represented y^e difficulties of y^e men in ye rear & urgd y^t he either turn back to y^t relief, or tarry a little till they all come up & so go off in a body; but y^e Capt. replid he had

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‘better save some, than lose all,’ and quickly y^e army were divided into several parties, one pilot crying out ‘if you love your lives follow me’; another y^t was acquainted wth ye woods cry^d ‘if you love your lives follow me.’ Wells fell into the rear again and took wth a small company yt separated from others y^t run upon a parcel of Indians near a swamp & was most of y^m killed. They then separated again & had about ten men left with him, and his horse failing considerably by reason of his wound, & himself spent wth bleeding, he was left with one John Jones, a wounded man likewise. He had now got about 2 miles from ye place where yy did y^e exploit in, & now y^y had left y^e track of y^e company & were left both by y^e Indians y^t persued y^m and by their own men that should have terried with y^m. These two men were unacquainted wth y^e woods, & without anny track or path. J. W. had a gun & J. J. a sword. J. J represented y^e badness of his wounds, & made his companion think they were certainly mortall, thd therefore when yy separarted in order to find the path, J. W. was glad to leave him, lest he sh^d be a clog or hindrance to him. Mr. W. grew faint, & once when ye Indians prest him, he was near fainting away, but by eating a nutmeg, (which his grandmother gave him as he was going out,) he was reviv^d. After traveling awhile, he came upon Green river, and fold it up to y^e place call^d y^e Country farms, and pass doer

Green river, & attempted to go up y^e mountain, but as he assend'd the hill he faint'd & fell from his horse;...

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The Indians have given the account following to Jonathan Wells, Esq., viz.: That the Monday after the fight, 8 Englishmen that were lost came to them and offered to submitt themselves to them, if they would not put them to death, but whether they promised them quarter or not, they took then, and burnt them; the method of Burning them was to cover them with thatch and put fire to it, and set them a running: and when one coat of thatch was burnt up, they would put on another, & the barbarous creatures that have given this account of their inhumanity, have in a scoffing manner added, that the Englishmen would cry out as they were burning, 'Oh dear! oh dear!' The Indians themselves account it very unmanly to moan or make ado under the torments and cruelties of their enemies who put them to Death."

Sylvester Judd, History of Hadley (Springfield, MA: H.R. Hunting & Company, 1905).

June 22, 1676.

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The complaint of Martha Harrison, which was substantiated by testimony before the Commissioners of Hadley, June 22, 1676,

"Martha Harrison of Hadley, widow, makes complaint against John Belcher of Braintree, a soldiers in Capt. Turner's company, for being the culpable occasion of the death of her husband, Isaac Harrison, a wounded man, riding upon his own horse, who fell from his horse, being faint, and this John Belcher, who was behind him, rode from him with Harrison's horse, though he entreated him not to leave him, but for God's sake to let him ride with him.

Stephen Belden of Hatfield testified that he, riding behind Jonathan Wells, saw Isaac Harrison on the ground rising up, and heard him call to the man on his horse, 3 or 4 rods before, to take him up, saying he could ride now; the man rode away, and both Jonathan Wells and I called him to go back, and he would not. This was when we were returning from the fight at the falls."

John Easton, Franklin B. Hough, Editor, A Narrative Of the Causes which led to Philip's Indian War, of 1675 and 1676, by John Easton, of Rhode Island (Albany, NY: J. Munsell, 1858)

August 24, 1676 (Ca. May 19, 1676)

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Wenanaquabin of Pawtuxett saith, that he was not at the wounding of John Scott, but was at that Time living at Abiah Carpenters, and he could cleer him. Abiah Carpenters being sent for, before his face saith, that he went away form their House

some time in May, 1675, and did not see him againe, nor could heare of him till towards Winter, which he saith is true. The said Wenanaquabin further saith, that he did not come to Warwick till Night after the Towne was burned, and after owned that he saw Nechett and Indian there. The said Nechett, to his Face affirmed that he saw him at Warwick at the burning the Towne with his Gun, about Noone. The said Wananaquabin also confesseth, that he was at the Fight with Capt. Turner, and there lost his Gun, and swam over a River to save his Life.

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Voted guilty of the Charge, and that he shall be putt to Death after the same Manner, and Time and Place as Quanopin.

- Note: Quanopin's sentace was "that he shall be shott to death in this Towne on the 26th Instant, and about one of the Clock in the Afternoone. P. 23.

John Wecopeak, on his Examination saith, that he was never out against the English, but one Time with other Narragansett Indians about the Month of March last, against a Towne upon Conecticut River called in Indian Pewanasuck, and at that Time their Company burned a Barne and two dwelling Houses, and killed two Englishmen, and that he was not at the burning of Pettacomscutt, but was at that Time with Indian John, William Heiffermans Man, removeinge their Wigwams, but shortly after he was sent downe by the Sachems to fetch off two dead Indians from thence, and saith that Georg Crafts Wife was shott with a Slugg, and chopt in some Parts of her Body with a Hatchett, and saith she did not crye hoe. Also saith, that he was at the Fight with Capt. Turner, and run away

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by Reason the Shott came as thick as Raine, but said alsoe, that he was at a great Distance. Butt John Godfree and William Heifferman saith, that he the said Wecopeak told them, that he saw Capt. Turner, and that he was shott in the Thigh, and that he knew it was him, for the said Turner said that was his name.

Voted guilty of the Charge, and to dye as the others.

Orange Chapin, *The Chapin Genealogy* (Northampton, MA: Metcalf & Company, 1862). **Ca. May 17, 1676**

[P. 4]

On May 17, 1676 one Soldier Japhet Chapin of Northampton, inscribed in his account book that

“I went out to Volenteare against the ingens the 17th of May, 1676 and we ingaged batel the 19th of May in the moaning before sunrise and made great Spoil upon the enemy and came off the same day with the, Los of 37 men and the Captin Turner, and came home the 20th of May.”

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