

Captain ordered Jim, to return and set Fire to it, which he did so effectually, that in a few Minutes the whole was in a Blaze. As complaining of this Hardship to our cruel Persecutors would have no more effect than speaking to the Wind, we addressed ourselves to the Almighty for his Protection, with a becoming Resignation to whatever might be our Fate. When we set off from my House it was about three o'Clock in the Afternoon, we directed our Course right back in the Woods about Half a Mile, they bid us put down our Luggage, and the Captain ordered Jim and me to go and hunt Horses to carry my Wife and the Luggage, which we accordingly did, but not getting any, we went to the aforesaid Hicks's, and in going down the Lane towards the House Jim took hold of me by the Shoulder, and in approaching the House, always kept me between him and it, thinking they would not shoot at me, and if they did, I should screen him from the Shot; when we came up to the Door of the House, which was open, he quitted me, and jump'd into the House, with his Tomahawk in one Hand and Gun in the other, but found the People all gone, for on the Alarm aforesaid, the whole of the Family, seven in Number, had deserted the House, and were making towards a Fort, but, unhappily for them, fell in with another Party of said Indians, who murdered two of them, and took the rest Prisoners [as I afterwards was informed by the Inhabitants of Conococheague.] When he found that the House was deserted, he rumaged up such Things as pleased him best, and carried 'em to some Distance where he laid them down, then he set Fire to the House, and ordered me to gather up all Things that were of Use to the Owners and put them therein, and at the same Time bid me set Fire to the Barn, in which was a large Quantity of Grain, and likewise to several Barracks of Grain and Fodder that stood by it, which I seem'd heartily to comply with, but purposely avoided firing the Barn and Grain by employing myself in gathering up the first mentioned, and burning them. When all Things were thrown in the Fire that was near the House, we went to make up our Bundles in order to make off, but Jim looking about him, discovered that the Barn, &c. were not fired according to his Orders; he ask'd me what was the Reason I had not done it? I excus'd myself by telling him I was fully employ'd in burning the other Things; he then hastily ran and took a Brand of Fire, and quickly set them all in Flames. We then made the best of our Way with the Plunder to the Place where we had left Capt. Jacob and my Wife, found their Bundles, but they gone, while I was conjecturing the Reason, Jim gave a Whistle, and the Captain answer'd; (who had mov'd himself to some Distance, for Security, lest I should by some Means or other kill Jim, and bring the white People upon him). When he discovered where they were, we ran to him, and Jim related our Success, and told how well (as he said) I had behaved. Upon which the Captain gave me his Hand, and said, 'Well done Brother, you shall go to War with us to-morrow.'

My Wife's Relation of what pass'd betwixt her and Captain Jacob, after I and Jim went away to catch Horses, is as follows: 'She was very uneasy to be left alone with Captain Jacob, and desired to go after us to help catch the Horses; but he would not suffer it, saying, She was not able, and she must stay with him till we returned, further adding, that she need not be afraid of him for he would not hurt her; he then threw a Shirt of mine to her, and an old Petticoat, order'd her to strip and put on the Shirt and Petticoat, which she complied with, and while she was doing it, he turn'd his Back on her, and went to some Distance with the other Indian's Bundle, and plunder'd it of such Things as he liked. When he return'd he took the Cloaths she pull'd off and put them in his Bundle, and bid her not tell Jim what he had done; then they mov'd off to some Distance, where we found them.'

About Sun-down we pitched on a Place for our Lodging, and our next Business was to get Wood and make a Fire, round which we sat without Distinction; which to Persons in our Circumstances, may be esteem'd a Mark of no small Condescension.

My Wife being emboldened by the Familiarity of our Masters ask'd them several Questions touching their Reasons for using the English as they did, seeing they had always treated the Indians (particularly the Delaware and Shawanese) with the greatest Friendship: To this they answer'd, 'That when a Number of Indians offer'd to join G-----l B-----k against the French, he did not use them

well, and had threaten'd to destroy all the Indians on the Continent, after they had conquer'd the French, and they were inform'd by the French, the Pennsylvanians, Marylanders and Virginians had laid the same Plot.' She then ask'd, what they intend'd to do with those they took Prisoners: To which the Captain answer'd, 'That they had been order'd by the French to bring them all to the Ohio, when you get there, you shall live well, and be given as Kindred to our Friends. (Which I did not believe, as they told my Wife one Story, and me another; but expect'd every Moment to be sacrific'd by them; yet so far as I could learn, the French were to allow them a certain Sum per Scalp and for Prisoners, if they were young, and fit for Business; but the old People and Children they kill'd and scalp'd, as well as such as were refractory and not willing to go with them.)' She then ask'd them if they did not think it a Sin to shed so much innocent Blood? They answer'd, 'That the French were better off than the English, for they had a great many old Men among them that could forgive all their Sins, and these Men had often assur'd the Indians it was no Sin to destroy Hereticks, and all the English were such. They then told me not to be afraid that they should abuse my Wife, for they would not do it for Fear of affronting their GOD (and pointed their Hands toward Heaven) for the Man that affronts his GOD, will surely be kill'd when he goes out to War; this, continued they, is what makes the English have such bad Luck.'

They sat up eating Bread and Cheese, and dry'd Peaches, and smoking Tobacco, (which they got at Hicks's) having had no Tobacco, as they told us, for four or five Days, and were in great Want of it. While they were thus employ'd, I heard a Noise, which I could not tell the Reason of. The Indians observing my listening, said, 'It is nothing but the Spirit of that Son of a Whore whom we kill'd.' My Wife then ask'd them if they were not afraid of his Spirit? They answer'd, 'No! for they were frequently us'd to see them, not only of white People, but of the Indian Nations they were at War with; but that Spirits could not hurt them.'

About two Hours before Day our Masters being tired with Acts of Cruelty, began to think of composing themselves to Rest. They first shew'd us where and how to lie, then laid down themselves with their Guns under them, lest we might use them to their Prejudice: Being thus disposed, it was not long before they fell into a deep Sleep, which my Wife being watchful to observe, began to think on making use of the Opportunity put into our Hands of making an Escape: She communicated her Sentiments in Whispers to me, and it is reasonable to think, I should readily concur in whatever might have a Prospect of accomplishing what I so ardently desired: But as a Miscarriage in an Attempt of this Nature would infallibly have prov'd our Ruin, common Prudence required we should act cautiously, and be sure they were in reality in as deep a Slumber as they pretended to be: To this end, we got up, and went to the Fire, under Pretence of mending it, and warming ourselves, (and indeed we stood in need of it having Nothing to defend us from the Inclemency of the Weather, but a single Blanket). In all which we made so much Bustle and Noise, as we judg'd might awake Persons in an ordinary Sleep: But finding they still snored on, I took up a Tankard, and told my Wife I would go towards a Spring, at which I had been frequently before, and if after I had got there they still slept on, desired she might follow: And added, that if they should awake ere we got off, our having the Tankard might convince them we really wanted to quench our Thirst.

When we took leave of our cold Lodging, we had no Intention of separating: For tho' we left the Fire at different Times, we intend'd to meet at the Spring, but after I had got there, and waited some Time, I at last saw her coming, I threw down my Tankard intending to hide myself on the other Side the Run in a Thicket till she came up; but in my Hurry, I ran against a Sapling which stunn'd me, and I lay in this Condition some Time (during which I suppose my Wife came to the Run and not finding me made the best of her Way off). When I recovered, I went on in the best Manner I could till Day began to dawn, when I found myself within Sight of a House, to my unspeakable Joy: When I advanced near it I knew the Place, which however was quite abandoned by the Dwellers.

Having now a tolerable good Knowledge of my Situation I made directly to the next inhabited Part of Conococheague; when I got there, I was

informed that a Company of Three Hundred Men from Marb-Creek were out in quest of the Enemy under Colonel Hamilton; I joined myself as soon as I could with these, intending to return with them and try to find out my Wife, with whose Condition I was now more affected, being out of Danger myself.

We went on viewing the Devastation, till we came to Adam McConnell's Plantation, where we met with a Party of Ten Men, who had separated from this Company some Time before: These brought in a Woman who they said was found by them at an Oven in great Distress; and whom, upon my nearer Approach, to my unspeakable Surprise I found to be my Wife.

After greeting each other in the most affectionate Manner, with Tears of Joy, we returned Thanks to that Indulgent Being who led us safe through the Wilderness, and preserved us from the Jaws of Death. When she recovered her Transports, we desired a Relation of her Adventures from the unhappy Moment she and I parted; which she gave in Substance as follows:

[What happened to ELIZABETH FLEMING, in her Escape from Captain Jacob, may be expected in our next.]

CHARLES-TOWN, South-Carolina, February 19.

SINCE our last, we have learnt, that the Acadians who lately robbed the House of Mr. John Williams at Santee, tho' it was thought they would have laid their Bones in the Swamp they had got into, have escap'd from thence, and crossed the River at Maxwell's Bluff, on a Bark Log.---We hear, that People in the Country are determin'd that no more of them shall escape that Way, or any other by Land; but it is probable these may reach Fort du Quebec, or Canada (as we hear, some have hinted they could easily find the Way) unless intercepted in some of the neighbouring Colonies thro' which they must pass.

February 26. His Majesty's Ship Garland, Captain Arbutnot Commander, soon after the convey'd the Store Ship into Providence, sail'd on a Cruise from thence against the French.

ANTIGUA, February 3.

On Sunday arriv'd here the Paragon, John Thibou, Master, who sail'd from hence the 3d of December, for Cape Francois, with a Flag of Truce from his Excellency, having on board a French Jesuit, and two Ladies lately taken in the Duc d'Acquitaine by Commodore Frankland's Squadron: From him we have the following Particulars:

He arriv'd at the Cape the 11th of December, 1755, and applying to Governor Chattenoye deliver'd him the Letter from his Excellency General Thomas, and also shew'd him his Commission. After having Translated it into French, he answer'd, that, as War was not declared, he did not look upon it as a Truce, but as a Vessel come to Trade: He told him there was an absolute Necessity for detaining him until he received an Answer from the General Governor residing at Porto Prince in the Bight of Lugan, the Post arriv'd from thence every Tenth Day.---The Captain found, that the Reason for this was as follows: A French Frigate, which had land'd Troops and warlike Stores for that Port, then lay there, with 25 Troops and Stores on board for Porto Prince, and was bound from thence to the Mississippi, with 50 Swiss Troops and Stores for the Garrisons there; but as two of our Men of War, who had taken some of their Ships, and cut one out of Porto Paiz since the Captain's Arrival, were then Cruizing off Cape Nichola, they imagin'd that if he sail'd before the Frigate, he would run down and inform them of her coming out, as they sail'd in her Track, so that, in his opinion, they could hardly miss her. They exclaim'd greatly against Governor Knowles, and say the Ships would not have cruiz'd there but by his orders. They have now at Cape Francois upwards of 300 Sail of Ships, several of which are ready to Sail but afraid to put out. Their King's Sloop, which Guards the Coast, narrowly escap'd being taken by one of our Ships in her Passage from Porto Prince to this Cape. The French at this Cape are making all due Preparations against an Invasion: They have 400 Negroes at Work Intrenching round the Cape, several Mechanics employ'd in repairing their Garrisons, others making new Carriages for their Guns, which are, he says, as good as ever he saw. Their Fortress, at the Entrance of this Port, mounts 42 Thirty Two Pounders, another small Battery within that mounts 18 Eighteen Pounders, the Walls thereof of slight and of no great Thickness, and lying under the Declivity of a Hill, so that a few Broadbides from our Ships would choak up their Cannon with the Ruins of their Walls behind, which would do more Execution than our Shot. A Number of Ships of War may easily pass these two Forts, as the Distance is but short, by taking the Advantage of a fresh Sea Breeze, which comes in about Ten in the Morning, and at Times blows very hard. After these Dangers are past, a breast the Town, are 54 Eighteen Pounders to play against level with the Sea, in a Line at the Head of the Town, their Walls and Embrasures but slight. There is nothing more to obstruct, but the Inhabitants, which, including the Troops, when they mounted Guard on Christmas Eve, were 4000: They have amongst their Troops many Swiss, who, as they have told the above mentioned Captain, would willingly Exchange their Service for the English, their Pay being small. Cape Francois is a pleasant Town, but very Sickly, and mostly Foggy, owing to its being seated under the High Land: Their Buildings are Low, but Pleasant; it abounds in fresh Provisions, Roots and Greens; the Canes in common are 22 and 24 Feet long, and very Thick, Price of Sugar 20s. per Cent, Melasses, 18s. per English Hoghead, Rum at 6l. duty, Indigo 10s. 6d. per Pound, Coffee 6d. per Pound. The Captain, as a Subject of Great-Britain, thought it his Duty to inform himself of the State of the French Affairs,

and made it his Business to enquire he here gives an Account. The Forts along the Coast, one at Places where there is a Convoy are Three, principal Officers, the Governor, who at the Arrival of which a great Number come here of the best Slave on Board, as tenant du Roi, next in Post to the Town Major: Several others On the 28th of December he had the whole Time he was there with an Officer, on Board, and but when sent for by the Governor, Serjeant Major, who would not the S. No Person nor Boat Vessel, nor durst any of their Prisons whatever, except French, their Town: The Captain of Prison, and kept there during on board. Capt. Thibou comes that it was very hard to make own Vessel, and not to suffer with a few Refreshments; but Reasons for it. Guard Boats round, hailing every Ship they them to keep a good Watch, amongst them, for the Vessels the Trees in a Wood. He was Water, and Wood by the Governor.

P. S. The Entrance into this is somewhat dangerous; the is furnished with an Iron bound Reforms the Channel; in which, thro' the Passage, are several Log Buoys, and Flag Staffs with small Flags: On the first, on one; farther Southerly are Barrels blue and white ones continual Ships coming in. They had than 4 Fathom Water.

NEWBERN, in New

We hear from Salisbury, in Robbers (under the Command whom they call their Captain) lately infested our Frontier. Several committed several Robberies, a Man; that having fortified the Mountains, they carried off broke open a Store there, and of Goods: About a Fortnight (named Cumberland) surrendered Evidence; who declares, they rob till they got a Booty; with the French, and pilot them in but by the Care and Vigilance their Fort has been reduced to and are now in Rowan Goal, a caped. There are 40 Horsemen hoped they will be suppressed and to their Country deserv'd.

BOSTON

Extract of a Letter from an Officer Nova-Scotia, dated Feb

Col. Scott having fitted some Drefs of the Canadians and sign Brewer Commanded, being Snow fell towards Memramouc that Road before he met with the him imagining them to be on would have taken six more immen- nefs of the Serjeant who fired, fore were obliged to return with Prisoners upon Examination at Monsieur Beauhebere, Mon. De with 18 Canadians, and about miles, to the Number of 1000 (opposite the Isle of St John) to Country.---That Monsieur Beauhebere with a Party to fall upon Wood.---Upon which Col. Scott Monsieur Beauhebere; and by was agreed to prepare 500 Men Whereupon all the Taylors were Stockings, Cafes for their Friscoats, and the French Prisoners When our Preparations were a Defetter came to us (a German first at Halifax) who acquaint being march'd with about 1300 with a Certainty of Success, as before to reconnoitre, who had they reported) to have kill'd Orders were not to discover their sured us that he knew the very would halt, and that he would him in the Night.---This to and 'twas immediately resolv'd Men which Col. Scott himself gan our March at 11 o'Clock was ever march'd, being half L Water: We got to the with'd but to our great Mortification the and by the Hurry and Eagerness to the House where we imagin'd too, which making an Alarm in vain to seek further. We our Men, and in two Hours, fet we had scarce quit the Woods w up their Yell, and gave us a England Men quickly return'd, the whole facing about pursued to little Purpose.

The Indians in their first Dis- Read, and another of Warbur were hurt; the Indians upon to scalp them; but the Rear w