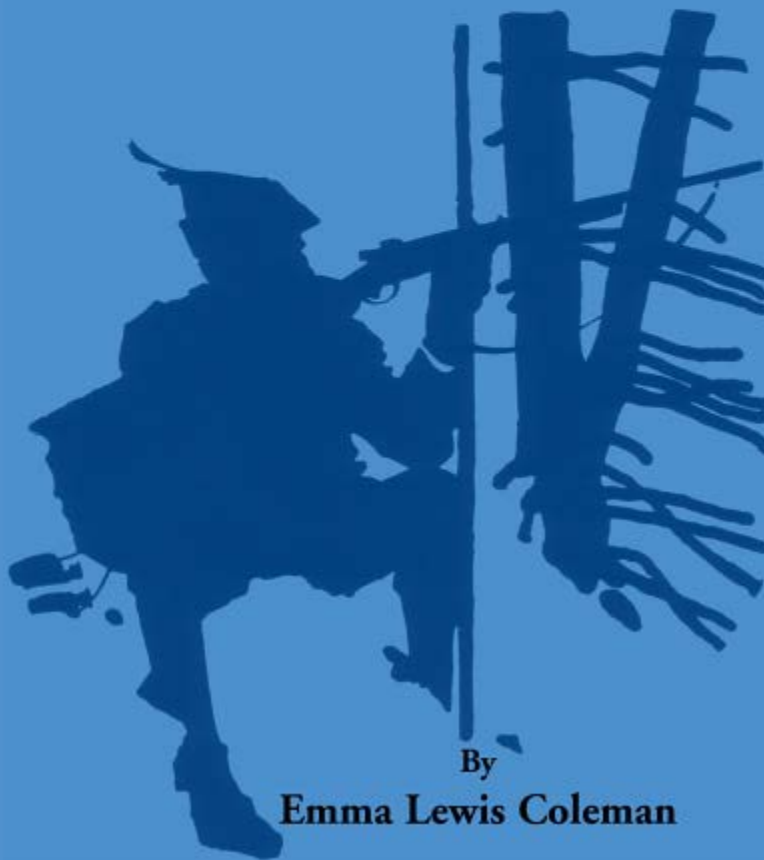


# NEW ENGLAND CAPTIVES CARRIED TO CANADA

*Between 1677 and 1760  
During the French and Indian Wars*

VOLUME 1



By

Emma Lewis Coleman

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## CHAPTER VIII

SALMON FALLS, CASCO BAY, SANDY BEACH (RYE) AND RIVER  
ST. JOHN



ARKMAN says that Louis XIV "had done his best for **Canada**, and had got nothing for his pains but news of mishaps and troubles." In 1689 Callières, governor of Montreal and acting-governor of the colony, went **to** beg further help from His Majesty, and laid before him an alluring plan for the destruction of the nearest settlements of **New England** and the town of **New York**, whereby "the Iroquois, deprived of English arms, would be at the mercy of the French." But when he came back, accompanied by Frontenac, who in spite of his seventy years was again appointed governor, they learned that the *French* had been at the mercy of the Iroquois and knew that their great plan could not succeed. Still it was necessary **to** revive the spirits of the soldiers and people, **to** which end three war-parties were formed respectively at Montreal, Three Rivers

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and Quebec to strike at border settlements of New York, New Hampshire and Maine. The first to be ready went from Montreal to Corlaer (Schenectady). The Indians—less than half the command—were from the missions of *Sault Saint-Louis* and the Mountain.

Previously Frontenac, to encourage them and to prevent their becoming friendly with the English, had promised to pay ten crowns for every scalp brought in; now he changed the reward because there were all the time war-parties in the field and often scalps were produced about which nothing could be learned; consequently scalps were reduced in price, and for every prisoner

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brought from near Boston or Orange twenty crowns was promised and for others ten crowns.<sup>1</sup>

Corlaer was burned and they brought back prisoners and horses laden with spoils; "But y<sup>e</sup> Snow was so Extream Deep y<sup>t</sup> it was impossible for any woman to march a mile. So y<sup>t</sup> they took none but men<sup>2</sup> and boys that could march." So wrote Peter Schuyler on Feb. 15, 1689/90. After describing the brutalities committed, he adds, "But what Shall we Say, we must Lay our hands upon our mouth and be Silent. It is Gods will and Pleasure and we must Submit; it is but what our Sinns and Transgressions have Deserv'd."<sup>3</sup> John Pynchon, writing to the Council from Springfield in July, 1689, about the Dover massacre, the dangers at Northfield and the using of Maquas against the enemy, was less submissive. He believed that man's power availed but little, but said: "Let us take y<sup>e</sup> more heart to follow God w<sup>th</sup> o<sup>r</sup> Prayers Night & day & never to give him rest til he hath made o<sup>r</sup> jerusalem a Quiet habitation."<sup>4</sup> It had been voted three days before Pynchon wrote the above to engage the Mohawks (Maquas) to destroy the eastern hostile Indians, promising "for their Incouragement" eight pounds for every fighting man's head or scalp.<sup>5</sup>

SECOND WAR PARTY  
SALMON FALLS

*Tuesday, March 18, 1689/90.*

The second party left Three Rivers January 28 led by François Hertel, known in Canadian annals as "*Le Héros*." With him were his three eldest sons, twenty-five Frenchmen and as many Indians; "half one and half t'other" says Mather, "half Indianized French, and half Frenchified Indians." The Indian leader was Hopehood, who had once been a servant to some man in Boston.<sup>6</sup> After two months of hardship they reached the little village by the Piscataqua River on the night of March 27.

<sup>1</sup> Que. Docs., I, 579.

<sup>2</sup> One of whom was John Lahey, who married Mary Swarton of Casco.

<sup>3</sup> Arch. 35, 239.    <sup>4</sup> Arch. 108, 178.    <sup>5</sup> Arch. 107, 161.

<sup>6</sup> "Hist. of the Indian and French Wars," Niles.

A French prisoner examined at Portsmouth the next day stated "yt their Designe was not against this place when they came forth, but principally against monsieur Tyng<sup>7</sup> & the place where he lived, but, he saith, the Indians who were their principle pilots did often vary in their opinions about w<sup>t</sup> place to fall upon."<sup>8</sup>

Was this the French prisoner "who was so tenderly treated that he embraced & professed the Protestant religion" as says Cotton Mather? Even allowing for that gentleman's prejudice and accepting Abiel Holmes's criticism that he "believed more and discriminated less than becomes a writer of history," yet is it pleasant to read of a convert to Protestantism for the Canadian records teem with converts to Catholicism.

Lying hidden in the forest the enemy waited, then "Made their onset between break of day & Sunrise when most were a bed & no watch kept neither in fort nor house."<sup>9</sup> Houses were burned, inhabitants murdered and fifty-four captives taken, mostly women and children, few of whom we find.

Small writing for the Council to the Governor of Connecticut

Sewall, writing for the Council to the Governor of Connecticut on March 24, says: "On Tuesday . . . about 60, 1/2 French, 1/2 Indians fell upon Salmon Falls abt Break of day k. w'd & carried away seventy nine persons. We know not of above 2 Fr kill'd & 2 Indians & one French taken who says are in pay from y<sup>e</sup> French King & several other parties out. Name of y<sup>e</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Mons<sup>r</sup> Artel Surpris'd our People, finding y<sup>m</sup> without any watch, burnt many Houses."<sup>10</sup> Lawrence Hammond in his "Journal"<sup>11</sup> says: "Not one Indian was known to have been killed."

An exaggerated French account states that two thousand horned beasts perished in the stables!

Two Indian scouts brought news of the coming of the English from Piscataqua and Hertel hurried his retreat. He was overtaken at Wooster River where in the skirmish his son, Hertel de

<sup>7</sup> Capt. Edward Tyng lived at Casco, his brother Jonathan at Dunstable.

<sup>8</sup> Arch. 35, 325. <sup>9</sup> Letter from Portsmouth. Arch. 35, 326.

<sup>10</sup> Arch. 35, 362. <sup>11</sup> "Mass. Hist. Pro.," 14, 126.

la Frésnière, was wounded and Louis Crevier, his nephew, was killed. Sending part of his force with the prisoners to Quebec, and learning at an Indian village where he left his wounded son that le Sieur de Portneuf had not yet struck his blow, and was distant but two days' journey, he, with the rest of his men, joined the Quebec force near Casco Bay.

It was in this year, because of his forty years' service, that François Hertel applied for Letters of Nobility, but when Frontenac later asked that the fees be omitted because of the Hero's poor financial condition, Colbert, answering for the King in 1698, said if he were too poor to pay for the seals he was too poor to support the position and so denied him.

*Continues*

*Captives*

Barnard, Benjamin's wife

Goodwin, Thomas

Mehitable (Plaisted)

Grant, Martha (Mills | Smith)

Smith, John

Hurtado (or Fortado), Elizabeth

Key, John

John, Jr.

James

Abigail

Oicbac, Jean Baptiste—(?)

Read, John

Mrs.

Rogers, Robert

Short, "Six or seven children of the family" of Clement

Tozier, Richard, Jr.

Elizabeth (Wentworth | Sharp)



GRANT, **MARTHA** (**Mills** | Smith).

B. 18 June, 1653, dau. of Thomas **Mills** and Mary Wadleigh (who was the daughter of John of Saco and Wells). **Martha** was the widow of Christopher Grant; her first husband having been James Smith.

At Montreal "On Monday, 29 June 1693 was solemnly baptized *sous condition* an English woman named in her country, Marthe, whose name was kept in baptism, born in Sacio in New England 8 Jan. (old style or 18 new style) 1653 of the marriage of Thomas **Mills**, native of Excester in Old England and of Marie

<sup>14</sup> Written also de la Naudière.

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## CARRIED TO CANADA

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Wadele native of Brestol near London and married to the late Jaques Smith, inhabitant of Barwic in New England, having been captured there the (illegible) March 1690 by Mr. Artel living for three years in the service of Monsieur Crevier at St. François. Her godfather was Monsieur Pierre Boucher *Ecuyer* Sieur de Boucherville *officier dans le detachment de la Marine*. Her

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de Boucherville *officier dans le detachment de la Marine*. Her godmother Dame Marie Boucher, widow of Monsieur de Varennes, Governor for the King at Three Rivers.

Martha mills

Boucherville

Marie boucher

E. Guyotte curé

Jean Crevier, in whose service Martha Mills Grant lived, was seigneur of Saint-François and father of the lieutenant who had been killed at Salmon Falls. In 1693 the seigneur was himself captured when harvesting his grain near the fort and was carried to New York by the Iroquois, who tortured him frightfully. Major Schuyler paid “£ 50 for his redemption from y<sup>e</sup> flames.” He must have died in Albany soon after.<sup>15</sup> Martha Mills’s first husband, James Smith, died in 1687. Her second, Christopher Grant, was either killed in the attack or died in captivity as administration of his estate was granted 24 February, 1689/90. In her baptismal record Martha is called the widow of Smith. As godmother of Samuel Sentar (1696) and of Jeanne Wannanemin (1698) she is the widow of Grant and signs as Martha Mills.

Mr. Stackpole says she was redeemed.

SMITH, JOHN.

Son of James and Martha (Mills).<sup>16</sup> At Montreal: “On Sunday 3 May 1693, was baptized a young English child aged seven years and nine months, as having been born the 26 July old style or 5 August N.S. 1685 at Barwic, town of New England of Jacques Smith and of Martha Mills his wife Protestants the child cap-

<sup>15</sup> N. Y. Docs., IV, 66, and “Hist. de Saint-François-du-Lac.”

<sup>16</sup> James Smith’s will names four children—John the last.

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tured in war the 18 March 1690 and living in the service of Mr Dargenteuil, *Lieutenant du détachement de la marine*. He was named Jean Batiste by his godfather Mr Jean Batiste Daillibout, *Sieur des Musseaux*, Lieut. *du détachement de la marine*. The godmother was Damoiselle Felicité Le picard, wife of Mr Daillibout de Coulonges, the baptism was solemnly made by Messire Francois Dolie de Casson, *Grand Vicaire de Monseigneur l'Illustrissime et Reverendissime* Bishop of Quebec."

After his redemption John married Elizabeth —, lived in Berwick and was the father of eleven children.