

whale boats and landed everything in a store at Woodman's Point.* Captain West seized William Hazen and James White and brought them as prisoners to the old fort. Colonel Allan decided to leave them on parole with their families at Portland Point till he had a stronger force at his command, or until the determination of the authorities of Massachusetts should be known. The next day he proceeded up the river, leaving Capt West, Lieut. Scott and a detachment "to guard the falls and annoy the enemy should any come to repair the fort." The detachment at the mouth of the river was increased to sixty men by the arrival of a reinforcement from Machias under Colonel Shaw. Instructions were given to them to "range from Hazen's round to the Old Fort" in order to guard against any landing on the part of the British. The situation of the settlers during their stay was a very unpleasant one.

On being apprised of the state of things at St. John, the British authorities sent the war sloop "Vulture" there. She came up the harbor and anchored "within cannon shot" of Mr. Simond's house at Portland Point, where Allan's party lay in waiting. Forty men from the sloop attempted to land, but upon being fired on, returned on board. Nothing further seems to have been attempted until the arrival of the ship "Mermaid" and sloop "Hope" a few days later. Captain West learned on June 30th that the British were landing near "Mehoganish"† in eight barges. He posted thirty men in ambush "in the woods that conducts to the falls." They discovered the British troops when at the distance of gunshot, and were preparing to attack them when they suddenly found themselves surrounded by a flanking party on both sides of them. They were obliged to fly with the loss of a number killed or taken prisoners. Tradition says that on this occasion Messrs. John Jones and Samuel Peabody offered their services to Major Studholme as guides, and furnished information as to the whereabouts of the enemy. Stud-

* The location of Woodman's Point is established by an old deed of conveyance, dated July 28, 1783, in which James Woodman sold his property to Phineas Lovett for £60. The property is described as: "One certain Lot or Tract of Land situate, lying & being in the Township of Conway in the County of Sunbury, known by the name of Point Pleasant, with three Dwelling Houses and one Store house thereon standing, said land containing 170 acres by estimation and is bounded as followeth: that is to say beginning at a marked Seader Tree leaning over the water, standing on the Bank by the side of the West Bay adjoining the falls and from thence running West 47 rods, then running Northerly & Westerly to a marked Seader standing by the water of Misketo Cove and from thence running Easterly & Southerly by Saint Johns River untill it Cum to the Seader Tree first mentioned."

† Manawagonish or Duck Cove.

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