

Kittell, *your wife and all your child is well; and all them prisoners taken at Nashua is all well. This writing by your enemies, Uskattugun and Gunrashit, two Sagamores.*"

When this letter was taken to Boston, Mr. Leverett, the governor, immediately despatched the messengers again to the sachems, and desired them to give a plain and direct answer to his first demand. "When this letter was come," says Mrs. Rowlandson, "the chiefs met to consult about the captives, and called me to them, to inquire how much my husband would give to redeem me. When I came and sat down among them, as I was wont to do, then they bid me stand up, and said *they were the general court*. They bid me speak what I thought he would give. Now knowing that all we had was destroyed by the Indians, I was in a great strait; but I ventured however to say *twenty pounds*, and *Tom and Peier*, the Indian messengers, bore the offer to Boston."

The negotiation ended by the sachems' desiring that Mr. Rowlandson, and good man Kettel should send for their wives and children, promising they should return home in safety. The anxiety with which Mrs. Rowlandson expected the arrival of the convoy that was to take her back to her husband and friends may easily be imagined: but before that happy time came she met with another disappointment, which she thus describes:—

"About two days after the departure of the Indian messengers to Boston, came a company of Indians to us, nearly thirty, all on horseback. My heart skipped within me, thinking they had been Englishmen, at the first sight of them: for they were dressed in English apparel, with hats, white neckcloths, and sashes about their waists, and ribbons upon their shoulders. But when they came near, there was a vast difference between the lovely faces of Christians, and the foul looks of those heathen, which much damped my spirits again." The regimentals in which these men were dressed were taken from the English soldiers whom they had slain. At length, 'On a Sabbath-day, the sun being about an hour