

again to her hiding place amongst the berberry bushes, where she remained till the savages decamped.

Having thus wonderfully escaped from destruction, she had the happiness to find that her sons and daughter had found a safe retreat, and that even her house had been preserved. This she always attributed to the influence of the grateful Indian whom she had once sheltered.

Though often and strongly solicited to place herself in security among her friends at Portsmouth, she determined to remain in her own house, saying that it was her duty to do so, for if she abandoned it, her good neighbours in Dover would be in still greater danger from the attacks of the Indians. Few men perhaps would have shown more real courage than this lady, who for ten whole years succeeding that in which Dover was surprised and Major Waldron murdered, ably and heroically defended her little fortress against the almost incessant harassing attacks of a crafty enemy.

There is not perhaps a single family in New England descended from its early settlers, who does not possess some faithful records of the cruel sufferings and horrible privations endured by their ancestors, and of the daring courage and heroic fortitude with which they were borne. New England ladies may now "live at home at ease," with no more fear of an incursion of Red Indians than the ladies in Regent's Park; but it was not so a hundred years ago, and even at a much less distant period, families living in thinly peopled districts have been attacked, robbed, and even murdered by wandering parties of Indians.

In the year 1755, there lived on Swan Island in the river Kennebec, a Captain Whidden, with his wife and family. One of his daughters was married to a Mr. Noble of Portsmouth in New Hampshire, and she with her husband and seven children lived with her father. There were also in the house a son of Captain Whidden's, a young lady named Mary Holmes and a man-servant. The house was pretty well fortified in order to secure the inhabitants from the attacks of Indians, who, neverthe-