

great guns.'”(1) On the following morning Mason and his party crossed the river and received “many courtesies” from the commander of the fort. (2)

The fall of the Pequots put an end to Indian depredations; and the prospect of an enduring peace brought increased prosperity to the river settlements. The fort was maintained at its former strength; the commander was watchful, but a warlike vigilance was not required; he could now practice husbandry without the aid of “great guns,” and hold a parley without calling for his “sword, pistols and carbine.”

The Narragansetts were now the most powerful of the tribes in this vicinity, and promptly asserted their supremacy by demanding tribute from their neighbors. The Montauks declined to acknowledge their power, preferring the friendship of the settlers, and Wyandanch, Sachem of the Montauks, came to the fort to ask for peace and trade with the settlers promising to pay tribute in wampum. Gardiner granted his request, and assured him of friendship and protection so long as his tribe kept their pledges to the English. Such was the situation of affairs when the engagement of Commander Gardiner with the Saybrooke Company expired, which was in the summer of 1639.

Lion Gardiner's life and experiences at Saybrooke Fort would not be entirely complete without stating that his newly married wife, with her maid, was an occupant of the fort and shared with him its deprivations and dangers and bore him two children, first, David, born April 29th 1636; and, second, Mary, (3) born August 30th, 1638. David was the first child born of English parents in Connecticut.

(1) Bancroft's Hist. of the U. S. Vol. I. 407.

(2) Vide Mason's History of the Pequot war.—Mass. Hist. Coll., VIII, 2nd series, 120-152.

(3) This daughter married Jeremiah Conkling of East Hampton, L. I., ancestor of the Conkling family of New York—notably Judge Alfred Conkling and his sons Hon. Roscoe Conkling and Col. Fred'k A. Conkling.

VIII.—MANCHONACK *alias* ISLE OF WIGHT.

Gardiner early comprehended the situation of affairs at Saybrooke and wrote Winthrop, soon after the latter departed from the fort, saying: “it seemes wee have neather masters nor owners;” at the same time, said he, “there shall be noe cause to complayne of our ffidelitie and endeavours to you ward;” yet, if not provided for, “then must I be ffocused to shift as the Lord may direct.” (1)

Notwithstanding every discouragement Gardiner remained at his post and fulfilled his contract to the end; and, when “ffocused to shift,” was fortunate in securing from the Indians the possession of a large island in Long Island Sound, called by them *Manchonack*, signifying, by tradition, “a place where many had died.” The original deed of purchase bears date May 3, 1639, by which “*Yovawan*, Sachem of Pommanoc, and *Aswaw*, his wife,” convey their “Island called Manchonat” to “*Lion Gardiner*, commander of the forte called Saybrooke fort als Pashpeshauks, at the mouth of the river of Kennecticot.” (2) According to tradition the consideration paid was “one large black dog, one gun, a quantity of powder and shot, some rum and a few Dutch blankets.” (3) Subsequently Gardiner procured a grant of the same island, called by the English *Isle of Wight*, from an agent of

(1) Vide Supra, pp. 35-36.

(2) Vide Supra, p. 75, note (a). Also, the following:—C. C. G.

HARTFORD, August 15, 1883.

MR. C. C. GARDINER, St. Louis, Mo., Dear Sir: I send you a copy of the Deed of Gardiner's Island. The uniform tradition of the purchase from Waiaundance is, as you will see, unfounded. Waiaundance, as Gardiner mentions in his narrative, was a younger “brother of the old Sachem of Long Island,” who “dwelt at Shelter Island,” and was not, at the date of this deed, himself, Sachem. Pommanoc was an Indian name of Long Island—or rather of the east end of the Island. Yovawan, the old Sachem, may have been the elder brother of Waiaundance, who was called by the English, Poggatacut. See Prime's History of L. I., p. 91.

Yours Truly,

(Signed) J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL.

INDIAN DEED OF GARDINER'S ISLAND: “Knowe all men by these presents, that we YOVAWAN Sachem of Pommanoc and ASWAW his wife for ten coats of trading cloath to us before the making hereof payd and delivered by LION GARDINER commander of the forte called Saybrooke fort als Pashpeshauks at the mouth of the River of Kennecticot, doe hereby for us and our heirs and successors grant, bargaine and sell unto the said LION GARDINER all that our Island called Manchonat wth the appurtenances and all our right, title and demand of, in and to the same, to have and to hold the said Island wth the appurtenances unto the said LION GARDINER his heirs and assigns forever. IN WITNESS whereof we have hereto sett our hands and seales the third day of the month, called, by the English, May in the yeare by them of their Lord written one thousand six hundred thirty and nine, 1639.”

[Signatures and seals not given in copy.]

From the original draft by Thomas Lechford.—J. H. TRUMBULL.

(3) This tradition is not well founded, as will be seen by reading the Indian Deed.—C. C. G.