

war, broke out. On the Massachusetts Files is the following record, 1675:— “On 24th September ordered, that a commission be issued forth to Captain Samuel Appleton, to command a foot company of 100 men.” His destination was the frontier towns on the Connecticut River, where Captain Lathrop’s Company was destroyed on the 18th September. On the 4th October he was appointed “Commander in Chief, of the army in those parts, by whose industry, skill, and courage,” says Hubbard, his neighbour, “those towns were preserved from running the same fate with the rest, wholly or in part so lately turned into ashes.” This appointment was in pursuance of the request of Major Pynchon, to resign the chief command, in consequence of the loss of his barns, &c., a short time previously, in the conflagration of Springfield. To his letter to the Council making this request, under date 30th September, 1675, is appended the following postscript:— “Capt. Appleton is a man y^t is desirous to doe something in this day of distress; being very sensible of y^e cause and people of God, at stake, and is much to be commended and encouraged, and upon that account to be preferred before many y^t dare not jeopard their lives in the high places of y^e field.” On the 19th October, a violent assault was made upon Hatfield by 700 or 800 Indians, who were repulsed after a sharp conflict, as described by Hubbard, who says, “Major Appleton’s sargent was mortally wounded