

1690. the bank of a river,<sup>1</sup> over which there was a very narrow bridge; the head of this bridge he had seized, leaving the English no other way to approach him.

The Sieur Hertel repulses the English at a bridge.

They pressed forward to cross the bridge; and, despising the small number of the French, engaged with great confidence. Hertel let them advance, without firing a shot; then suddenly sprang upon them, sword in hand; at the first blow, he killed eight, wounded ten, and forced the rest to abandon the battle-field. In this action he lost his nephew, the gallant Crevier,<sup>2</sup> and a Sokoki Indian. La Fresniere, his eldest son, received a musket-ball in the knee, of which he will bear the glorious marks to his grave. He is still a captain in Canada; he distinguished himself subsequently, on many occasions; and, as became the eldest son, shared his father's piety.<sup>3</sup>

He joins Mr. de Portneuf.

After so brilliant an action, Hertel thought only of retreating, and did so with judgment and success; but, after marching some days, he was compelled to leave, in the hands of the Indians, his son, who was unable to sustain any longer the hardships of the march. At the same place, Hertel learned that the party from the Government of Quebec was only two days distant, and had not yet come into action. On learning this, he dispatched his nephew, Gatineau, to the Governor-General, to report the success of his own expedition; he, at the same time, permitted the Sieur Maugras, who had brought him the five Algonquins, to return with them to Saint Francis, and he himself prepared, with the rest of his party, to join, at Kaskebé, that from Quebec.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wooster River. Belknap's New Hampshire, i., 207.

<sup>2</sup> De Monseignat says four killed. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 471; De la Potherie, iii., p. 77; and Le Clercq, Etablissement, ii., pp. 394-5, give no number.

<sup>3</sup> Zachary Hertel, Sieur de la Fresniere, was a seconded lieutenant in

1695, and captain in 1731. Daniel, Une Page de Notre Histoire, p. 470.

<sup>4</sup> Narrative of Occurrences, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 472. The prisoners were left to the Indians; and Cotton Mather, Magnalia, Book vii., p. 69, details their sufferings at the hands of Hopehood, the Indian chief. See also, Drake's Indian Captivities, p. 109.