

were mostly on an island on the west of the channel, near to which the boat had to pass, and the wind blowing strong from the east, drifted the boat towards the shore, where the Indians were, as the steering-oar had been abandoned by the steersman. During this time, two of the Indians succeeded in getting on board of the boat. One of them mounted the roof, and fired in from the fore part; but he was soon shot, and fell off into the river. The other Indian took the steering-oar, and endeavored to steer the boat to the island. He was also shot, and brought down in the boat where he fell. During all this time the Indians kept up a hot fire. The boat was fast drifting towards a sand-bar near the shore, and they would all have been murdered had it not been for the brave, resolute conduct of an old sailor on board, called Saucy Jack (his surname I do not remember), who, during the hottest of the fire, jumped over at the bow, and pushed the boat off, and where he must have stood, the boat was literally covered with ball marks, so that his escape seemed a miracle.* They also reported that early the day before the attack, they were lashed to the other boat drifting, and that they had grounded on a sand-bar and separated, since which time they had not seen or heard anything of the other boat, and thought probably that it had fallen into the hands of the Indians.

This created an additional alarm among the inhabitants. The same evening my boat returned, the men becoming too much alarmed to proceed. That night sentinels were posted by the inhabitants within the breast-works, who saw, in imagination, a great many Indians prowling about in the darkness; and in the morning there was a great variety of opinion, as to what was the best to be done for the safety of the place, and appearances betokened a great deal of uneasiness in the minds of all classes.

* Gov. Reynolds adds, that Saucy Jack, as he was called, was a sailor by profession on the lakes and ocean, and had been in many battles with the British during the War of 1812-15; he was large and strong, and possessed the courage of an African lion, and seizing a piece of the setting pole of the boat which was about four feet long, and had on the end a piece of iron, which made it a more weighty and formidable weapon, he used it with great effect when the Indians attempted to board the boat, knocking them back into the river as fast as they approached. Such an instance of signal heroism is enough to render any man famous, and we should be glad to learn more of Saucy Jack's history. L. C. D.