

to Detroit. Detroit, Mackinaw and all the Canadas, in fact, were surrendered to the British arms by the capitulation of Montreal. The River shut up and we were obliged to wait, about twenty miles above Montreal, for the winter. In the Spring we moved on & did not arrive at Detroit until about

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Maxwell was engaged in teaming between Amherst and Boston. At the request of John Hancock, at whose warehouse he was loading his wagon, Dec. 16, 1773, he joined the celebrated Boston tea party. He says in his narrative, concerning this event: "We mounted the ships and made tea in a trice; this done, I took my team & went home as an honest man should." In April, 1775, he was again in Boston with his team, and went out to Bedford to join the minute men. He fought at Concord and Bunker Hill, as a lieutenant, and was in Gates's army till the spring of 1778, when he resigned, being vexed at not receiving promotion. Raising a company of volunteer rangers, he operated along the Mohawk and the upper Susquehanna, and in 1779 united his band with Sullivan's army. Upon the conclusion of Sullivan's famous campaign, Maxwell returned home to Buckland, Mass., when he was chosen to represent his town in the state constitutional convention at Cambridge, taking his seat Oct. 28, 1779. He was a militia captain in the Shay rebellion of 1787, and afterwards a delegate to the state convention which accepted the federal constitution. He also served in the Massachusetts legislature of 1796, taking stand in favor of Jay's treaty. In 1800, he removed to Butler county, Ohio, and in 1812 did valiant service at the head of a party of scouts, in piloting Hull's army through to Detroit. After serving as a captain in the desperate battle of Brownstown, with great honor, he was taken prisoner at Detroit, with Hull; and when he returned to his home in October his house was mobbed and burnt, it having been falsely reported that he had favored Hull's surrender. But Lewis Cass and others hastened to befriend the old ranger; and General Miller referred with enthusiasm to the gallant services rendered his country by "Old Major Maxwell." In 1818, Major Maxwell, then seventy-six years of age, made a horseback tour from Detroit,—then his home,—to New England and back, for the sole purpose of revisiting the scenes of his early exploits. He died about 1830, aged some eighty-eight years, and reported to have fought in twenty-two desperate battles. In 1818, a fragmentary narrative of his stirring career was taken down at his dictation by his friend, Gen. James Miller, aided by Lieut. John S. Allanson. This fragment was published in 1865, in the *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, vii., pp. 95-116, where its existence is not generally known, nor is it readily accessible. We republish such portion of the narrative as refers to Major Maxwell's experiences in the Northwest,—between the time he re-enlisted under Rogers, in the fall of 1760, to go to the Western ports, and the close of the Pontiac war in 1763, when he retired, for a time, to private life.—ED.