

The two following letters of Major Pynchon are here introduced, for the purpose of giving some idea of the state of things that existed on the Connecticut river, at the period when Capt. Appleton took command of the forces in that quarter.

Major John Pynchon to Governor Leverett.

SPRINGFIELD, Oct. 8, 1675.

HONORED S^r,

I desired M^r Russel to give yo^u an acc^t of y^e sore stroake upon Pore distressed Springfeild, w^{ch} I hope will excuse my late doeing of it. On y^e 4th of Oct. o^r soldiers w^{ch} were at Springfeild, I had called all off, leaving none to secure .y^e Towne, y^e comissioners order was so strict. That Night, word was sent to us that 500 Indians were about Springfeild, intending to destroy it; so y^t y^e 5th of Oct. wth about 200 of o^r soldiers, I marched down to Springfeild where we found all in flames, about 30 dwelling houses burnt downe, & 24 or 25 Barnes, my Corn Mille, Sawmill & other Buildings. Generally, men's hay & corne is Burnt, & many men, whose houses stand, had their goods burnt in other houses w^{ch} they had caryed y^m too: Leift. Cooper & 2 more slayne, & 4 psons wounded, 2 of w^{ch} are doubtfull their Recovery. The L^d hath made us to drink deepe of the cup of sorrow. I desire we may Consider y^e operation of his hand & what he