

speakes. Yet that y^e Towne did not utterly perish is cause of grt Thankfullness.

As soone as o^r forces appeared, y^e Indians all drew off so y^t wee saw none of y^m:— sent out scouts y^t Night & y^e next day, but discovered none, neither can we satisfye o^rselves wh^{ch} way they are gon, their Tracts being many ways. We think they are gon downe y^e River. O^r last discovery was of a Considerable Tract upwards. O^r indeavors here are to secure y^e houses & Corne y^t is left. Providence hath obstructed o^r goeing out wth y^e Army & w^t can be done I am at a great loss: O^r People are under grt discouragement, Talk of Leaving y^e Place; we need y^r orders & direction about it. If it be deserted, how wofully doe we yield & encourage o^r insolent enmy, & how doth it make way for y^e giving up of all y^e Towns above: If it be held, it must be by strength & many soldiers, and how to have provision, I meane bread, for want of a Mille, is difficult: y^e Soldiers here already complaine on y^t acc^t, although we have flesh enough; & this very trouble, I meane noe Mille, will drive many of o^r Inhabitants away, especially those y^t have noe corne, & many of them noe houses, w^{ch} fills & throngs up every Roome of those y^t have to go there wth y^e soldiers (w^{ch} yet we cannot be wthout) now increasing o^r Numbers: so y^t indeed it is very uncomfortable living here, & for my owne pticular, it were far better for me to goe away, than bee here where I