

owned many acres of land, some of which are still held by members of the Starin family. "He had," says the late William J. Bacon of Utica, N. Y., "strong common sense and great integrity;" and, possessing unflinching courage, zeal and loyalty to the cause of the Colonies, in their endeavors to throw off the yoke of the mother country, he became a prominent object for seizure by the enemy. Many attempts were made to capture him, which, by his great shrewdness and presence of mind, he escaped. A great number of anecdotes, illustrative of the extraordinary means used by the Indians to capture or kill him, might be related. One of these adventures is thus told in his *Recollections of Oneida County*, by the late William Tracy, who heard it from one who in turn received it from the lips of Judge Starin himself, several years after the war.

The event took place some time late in November, and about the year 1778 or 1779. He had, for some purpose, gone into the woods at some distance from his home, and while there, by chance, came suddenly upon a party of hostile Indians, who were prowling about the settlement. Before he became fully aware of their presence, he had got so completely in their power, that flight or resistance were out of the question. He was seized with every demonstration of hellish delight, and rapidly hurried away in a contrary direction from his home, and southward of the Mohawk, until his captors supposed themselves out of the reach of pursuit, when they directed their march westward, and at night reached a small uninhabited wigwam at a little more than a quarter of a mile from the right bank of the Oriskany creek, above Clinton,