

For quite too much to force one man alone  
 To beat an army, take a garrison,  
 Sent Hayden in, who, with his sure steeled-blade,  
 Joining the General, such a slaughter made,  
 That soon the Pequots ceased to oppose  
 The matchless force of such resistless foes."

I hold in my hand "the sure steeled-blade" made famous by the prowess of our ancestor that day. This sword cut the bow-string which, an instant later, would have sent an arrow aimed with deadly precision at Capt. Mason; and probably the next blow fell upon the head of the Indian. This sword remained in the family of the oldest son until the third Daniel removed to East Windsor, when it remained in the hands of his brother Thomas at Haydens. From the family of Thomas it passed, within the memory of one of them, to the hands of the late Rev. Dr. Thomas Robbins, who deposited it with the Connecticut Historical Society, through whose courtesy I am enabled to show it here to-day. The chain of evidence which makes this sword historic seems unbroken. I accept it without reserve.\*

William Hayden had granted to him at Hartford a lot in Soldiers' Field, as a recognition for his services on that occasion, and after his death the court granted to his heirs fifty acres more.

The record of William Hayden's land in Hartford bears date 1639, the first year of the record book, and the Windsor records give us the date of the birth of his son Daniel, September 2, 1640. This date was chosen for the reunion, the 245th birthday of the first Connecticut-born Hayden.† The record of Daniel's birth on the Windsor records shows William Hayden a resident at Windsor at the time. This is further proved by Matthew Grant's record, made 1674, in which he "set down anew the times of the birth of children that have been born here," and he there gives the date of Daniel's birth Sept. 2, 1640.

\* Trumbull's *History of Connecticut* makes Sergeant Davis cut the bow-string; but from Capt. Mason's account of the fight, Davis was fighting to gain an entrance into the fort on the opposite side, and was not with the Captain in the fight.

† Add ten days for new style gives us the 12th, which comes this year on Saturday, too late in the week for such a gathering.