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Journal of Capt. Joshua Heaths Proceedings in his
Command of a Party of ten Men raised by Order of
the State of New Hampshire, Posted at Conway in
N. H. State for scouting the woods in that Department

- 1776
July 12th I the said Joshua Heath, received my Orders from the
Committee of Safety at Dover to Enlist N. ten Men
13th I went from Dover to Portsmouth, to buy arms &
Ammunition for the use of the Town of Conway
14th Got the said Arms and Ammunition carried up
to Dover
15th Spent the Day at Dover in getting the Arms
repaired &c.
16th proceeded with the Arms and Ammunition on my
Journey towards Conway and got them to Wolfborough
17th Arrived with them at Conway
18th Spent in calling the Committee of Safety in Conway
19th together, and in Delivering the said Arms and
Ammunition into their Custody &c.
20th Spent those Days in Conway by desire of the Committee
who ordered the Company to meet to receive the Arms
21st and Ammunition, who came together and those
Articles were delivered to them accordingly

July 22^d prepared myself and horse to proceed on the business of

Enlisting said Party

23^d Rode to Sandwich on that Business

24th Rode to Canterbury and in the evening Enlisted six men

25th went to Concord and Enlisted four men, which completed the Party and gave them six Days to Equip themselves for the Service

26th
27th
28th
29th
30th
31st } tarried at Concord to see the men Equip &c

Aug. 1st } got the men together Viewed their Equipments &c and
2^d } Ordered them to be at Conway in six Days

3^d Went to Dacet to make return of what I had done and to receive Bellitting Money and found the Committee were not to meet that week so by advice of Gen^l Tolson I tarried at Dacet waiting for said Meeting till the

12th when V. Committee met and received my return and gave me Orders for the Bellittings Money having received the Money rode to Dover that Day

13th went to Wobborough

14th Arrived at my own House in Conway where I found my Men were arrived except two of them

15th

th
13 The 2. two men arrived this Day the Committee of safety
in Conway examined my Orders, and told me that
they looked upon my men to be sent for the Good of the
Town and that they the S. Committee ought to have the
Ordering out of business for them, and proposed that they
be Employed in Building Forts in the Town, mending
highways - whereupon I told them I would be glad they
would look upon my Orders again - for that I held
myself bound to obey ~~them~~ and as I was thereby
directed to Employ them in scouting, and as the
Colonies were united for their common defence I
thought it my duty to take a party and proceed directly
to such places in the wilderness where it was most
likely to meet with the Indians if any of them were
coming against any of our Settlements in this part
of the Country within this or the neighbouring
Colony - the Comm^{tee} then asked me how many men
I intended to take with me. I told them six -
They then asked me what I intended the rest of my
men should do while I was gone. I told them I
intended they should hold themselves in the
utmost readiness for action in case the appearance
of an Enemy should call for it;

and

and that they should not leave the Fort round
my House ~~more~~ more than three hours at a time
without Orders - upon which one of the Committee viz
Col. Andrew McMillan Replyd, If you will not let them
to work (meaning as before mentioned) I will report you
to the Comm^{tee} at Fort, I answered him that he might
do it as soon as he pleased for that I should not do it
till I had Orders from that Comm^{tee} to let them to work

16th Took five of my men (Capt. Miles Indian Interpreter being
one of them) and set out for Ambagog Lake, which is
Eastward of Amarasoggin River and marched fifteen
Miles and Camped

17th Marched over to Amarasoggin River and Camped

18th Marched about three miles down to Mr Ringes and
Spent the rest of the Day in fixing our Packs for
our further march &c

19th Marched down the River about two miles and crossed
it - then steering about north about eight miles & Camped

20th Marched on the same Course and about ten o'clock got
into the Township of Snygs where we found some felled
Trees - from thence marched on till we came near a
Large pond where we found a large Old Indian Incampment
and tarried there that Night

²¹
21. Marched on the same course and about five o'clock
after noon when we gained the Summit of a large
beach-Hill, and there I climbed a Tree, from whence I
discovered Ambagag Lake - after which I went for it went
about three miles and Camped

22. Mounted Packs before the sunrise and marched for the
Lake and at twelve o'clock got to S. Lake and took a small
River that run into the South East end of it, and
marched up about three miles where we found great
Signs of Indians but none new, and there Camped.

23. Very early in the morning fell a Large white Pine tree
made a canoe of it, and went down the River in it
about three miles when we came to an Island at
the mouth of S. River and Camped upon it

²⁴
24. Embarked on board our canoe and went about half
way down the Lake, and Camped upon a large point
of Land where there was great Signs of Indian

²⁵
Incampments but no new Signs of them there Camped.

25. Proceeded in our canoe down the Lake, and about
two o'clock after noon got into the main branch of
Amaraoggin River and went up the same some
miles and discovering nothing new, we turned down
River about two miles & Camped

th
26 went down River in our Canoe about three Miles and
came to some falls in R. River, carried by our Backs and
went down River about six Miles and Camp

th
27 went down River in our Canoe about two Miles when we
came to some falls, when ~~we~~ there came on a hard Rain
which obliged us to Camp and as it rained hard for three
Days we tarried there that time here we found and buried
the Bones of a young man who came from Iribuk ~~of~~
May and died at this place

th
30 We went down River in our Canoe (sailing part of
the men marched by Land) till night came on
and then Camp

31 kept on down River part in our Canoe & part on Shore
till we came to the Indian Carrying Place that leads from
Amaraoggin to the head of Ammanofuck River that
runs into Connecticut River and Camp

Sept. 1. Being came to some great falls in the River we turned
our Canoe down the same, but she lodged upon a Rock
in the falls so that we could not recover her again
which obliged us all to march by Land, so we marched down
River about six Miles and Camp

2. Marched down River about eight Miles & came to a large
falls & Camp

- 3^d Marched down River about seven miles which brought
us into Shelburne and Camp —
4th Marched to Mr Kinges in the same place and put up
there, and as we were all much fatigued we carried
there three Days to recruit —
5th Mounted Backs and set out for Conway and marched
about ten miles and Camp —
6th Marched on homewards, within about seven miles
of home and Camp —
7th Arrived at our Quarters in Conway —

Altho I discovered no new signs of
the Indians in all my Marches in the foregoing Scout,
yet I have discovered ~~the~~ the water passages thro the
Mountains thro which the Indians used formerly to come
against us when under the Influence of the French, &
as they must always be made use of by an Enemy to
come from Canada against this part of the Country,
it gave me reason to think those Passages ought to
be watched ^{more} narrowly than I ever before thought of —
and as I thought there must be some Indians on
Hennebec River, I thought it might ^{be} of great Service to
the

the Publick to find them and see whe^{ther} they were
disposed to be friendly to us or not. therefore sent Capt. Josiah
Miles ^{with} two men upon that discovery, and accordingly he
marched ~~for that purpose~~ on the 11th of September for that
purpose, and hereunder follows a journal of his
march &c.

14th The S. Josiah Miles set out this Day with two men
designing for Hennebec, and on the Twentieth Day
of 9. month. got to Amaraflaggin River in a Place
called Sudbury-Cannada

15th Made a canoe and two Sleds

16th Went down River in our canoe about seven miles
and found a place where three or four Indians had
newly camped, and where we tarried over night

20th Went down River about four miles which brought us to
the mouth of Ellyes River which runs into Amaraflaggin
River, and found a place where it appeared there had been
about ten Indians camped and had not been gone more
than three or four Days. There I camped that Night, &
as there were sundry things the Indians had left
which gave me reason to think they would soon
be

be there again I thought I would reconiter the
Country round there to see if I could find them —
21 We went in our canoes up S. Elises River about ten
Miles and finding nothing of them, nor any new
signs, I returned down River to the Indian Camp again
and tarried there over night —

22 I left the Indian Camp ~~and~~ went down Amaraⁱⁿfoggin
River about four Miles to a fall in S. River where I
found signs of Indians so new that I was sensible
they were above that place, then I returned up River
again about a Mile to a River running into the
South side of Amaraⁱⁿfoggin River where I thought
the Indians might be, and there I camped —

23 Spent the Day in reconitering S. River and finding
Nothing of them returned down to the mouth of it & camped —

24 I proceeded up Amaraⁱⁿfoggin River to the Indian Camp
at the mouth of Elises River where I camped —

25 I proceeded up Amaraⁱⁿfoggin River about six or seven
Miles to the Mouth of a River called Miles, little
Amaraⁱⁿfoggin running into the South side of great
Amaraⁱⁿfoggin River and camped —

th 26 Went up 3 Miles Little Amarepoggin in search for the Indians about four Miles, and there struck off westerly to a Pond at the head of Songo River (which runs into Sabacook Pond) and Camped —

th 27 This Day in reconnoitering the woods about said Pond I met with an Indian named John Kaptst ^{met-} Ahapmym. I asked him wheather he knew of any other Indians in that part of the Country he answered yes, and that they were at Rockamaush and the northern branches of Amarepoggin River & being about seven or eight men and their Families — I asked him if he would come into Bigwacket with me to see Capt. Heath — He seemed unwilling at first, but upon my telling him one of my men had cut his knee so badly with an axe he could not travel, and I wanted him to help me get him over to Bigwacket &c, upon which he consented and went, and in an hour brought his Squat Sister, and we set out with him his Squat Sister, and came about five Miles and Camped —

th 28 We came on homeward and got into the lower part of Fryeburg and Camped —

th
29th Came to Cap^t. Heath in Conway, the said Indian being brought
to me the v^c. Joshua Heath. I asked him why he had been
absent from Bigwacket so long— he replied because he could
not get any Ammunition here— I then asked him if he and
the other Indians he had informed Cap^t. Miles of, would come
in and join with us if they could be supplied with Ammunition
and other things they stood in need of— He answered yes
with all their hearts— upon which I agreed to give him
Soldiers pay for twenty two Days Provision & Ammunition
if he would go and get those Indians together at the mouth of
Elipes River, where I would meet him & them the 22^d Day to
know their minds, and after we had agreed I gave him a bounty
of about five Dollars Value out my own pocket, & having
discharged one of my other men to make room for him he
went off upon the business—

th
30th I sent ~~four~~ men, scouting above Shelburn—

Oct. 3rd: I sent Cap^t. Miles and one man with him to after Ahase-
=pommet to watch his motions telling him I would meet
him the tenth Day ^{after} at the head of Kuzer Pond near the
Lower part of Fryeburg— which would be the 13th of said month
and accordingly the said 13th I went and met Cap^t. Miles
at

at said place accordingly, who Informed me he had watched the Indian without discovering himself, and found ^{that} he had gon on the business he was sent upon. —

th
14 I took Capt Miles & the man he had with him and we all went for Amrapoggin to meet the Indians according to my agreement with Ahasampommet, and on my way I met a Squaw and two young Indians, I asked the Squaw to go with me and see what the Indians I was going to meet agreed upon. so we camped there that night —

th
15 We all set out for Amrapoggin ~~river~~ and arrived there the 18th of 8th month where we lay at the mouth of Elfish River Ahasampommet met us with Indian men, five Squaws and four children, where we tarried that night expecting some more would come —

th
19 I asked the Indians if they had lately been into any English place — They said they had not for five months — I then asked them why they had not. — They answered saying they could by nothing and that they were obliged to kill Moose with bows and arrows — I then asked if they would come in to join us if I would go and get the Court to get supply them with Necessaries —

They

They replied they would with all their hearts and bring
other Indians with them - and after returning me thanks,
they trusted me with a pack of Beaver to buy Newspapers
for them, and they being almost naked gave me an
Acct. of a number of articles they wanted, and then I left
them bringing one young Indian fellow with me, and
got home the 22^d Day of said month, when I found the
Scout I had sent the 30th of September to scout back of
Shelburn had come in, Reported they saw Nothing of
any Enemy and were gone to their respective homes -
upon which the rest of my men desired to be discharged
and I discharged them accordingly, and then I proceeded
to make out my Pay Roll, my Account of Supporting
said men and this Journal