

from camp to visit friends, led by curiosity, turned aside to view the sad remains. On sight of the woman and her tender offspring, notwithstanding all their firmness, the sympathetic tear stealing down their furrowed cheeks betrayed the anguish of their hearts. On being shown the body of the sacrificer they paused a moment, instinctively placed their hands on their swords, half withdrew them from their scabbards, then muttering forth an oath or two of execration with their eyes fixed on the ground in silent sorrow, they slowly wended their way." This recalls the last line of the victims' epitaph, "And Indignations half unsheath their swords."

SLAVERY AND NEGROES IN WETHERSFIELD.—Slavery was not limited to the black race alone. It is probable that most of the earliest slaves in the Colony were Indians, prisoners of war. Not only were such captives sold to servitude, but their progeny were born slaves, or "servants;" as bondmen were sometimes called, down to 1700. Some were sent to the West Indies, and blacks, or mulattoes, brought back in their stead. We give some facts regarding slavery in Wethersfield.

When JOHN LATIMER died, in April, 1662, he left an Indian slave, appraised at 24 pounds; while a negress and child, also belonging to him, were together appraised at 22 pounds.

In February, 1687-8, SAMUEL SMITH was required by the Court of assistants to pay to "the daughters of *Neccesasion*, an Indian," four yards of trucking-cloth, or twelve bushels of Indian Corn, for having carelessly killed their parent, at said Smith's house in Wethersfield.

In 1690, Mr. SAMUEL WOLCOTT was complained of, in the same Court, for beating his servant *Shumackpock*; evidently an Indian.

Among the earliest slaveholders must have been LEONARD CHESTER. When he died, in 1648, a "Neager maide" belonging to him was appraised at 25 pounds.