

well be imagined. strange and grotesque decorations did the outside of the earliest meeting houses bear, grinning wolves heads nailed under the windows and by the side of the door, while splashes of blood, which had dripped from the severed neck, reddened the logs beneath. the wolf, for his destructiveness, was much more dreaded by the settlers than the bear, which did not so frequently attack the flocks. bears were plentiful enough. the history of roxbury states that in, in one week in september, twenty bears were killed within two miles of boston. this bear story requires unlimited faith in puritan probity, and confidence in puritan records to credit it, but believe it, ye who can, as i do in salem and in ipswich, in, any man who brought a living wolf to the meeting house was paid fifteen shillings by the town; if the wolf were dead, ten shillings. in, if the wolf killer wished to obtain the reward, he was ordered to bring the wolfs head and nayle it to the meeting house and give notis thereof. in hampton, the inhabitants were ordered to nayle the same to a little red oake tree at northeast end of the meeting house. one man in newbury, in, killed seven wolves, and was paid the reward for so doing. this was a great number, for the wary wolf was not easily destroyed either by musket or wolf hook. in wolves were so abundant in ipswich that parents would not suffer their children to go to and from church and school without the attendance of some grown person. as late as wolves made sad havoc in woodbury, connecticut; and a reward of five dollars for each wolfs head was offered by law in that township in in fishermen who saw him, and the mercy of god, they escaped him: for the inhabitants of the town dispatched immediately a vessel overland to the havannah, complaining that lolonois was come to destroy them with two canoes. the governor could very hardly believe this, having received letters from campechy that he was dead: but, at their importunity, he sent a ship to their relief, with ten guns, and ninety men, well armed; giving them this express command, that they should not return into his presence without having totally destroyed those pirates. to this effect he gave them a negro to serve for a hangman, and orders, that they should immediately hang every one of the pirates, excepting lolonois, their captain, whom they should bring alive to the havannah. this ship arrived at cayos, of whose coming the pirates were advertised beforehand, and instead of flying, went to seek it in the river estera, where she rode at anchor. the pirates seized some fishermen, and forced them by night to show them the entry of the port, hoping soon to obtain a greater vessel than their two canoes, and thereby to mend their fortune. they arrived, after two in the morning, very nigh the ship; and the watch on board the ship asking them, whence they came, and if they had seen any pirates abroad they caused one of the prisoners to answer, they had seen no pirates, nor anything else. which answer made them believe that they were fled upon hearing of their coming. but they soon found the contrary, for about break of day the pirates assaulted the vessel on both sides, with their two canoes, with such vigour, that though the spaniards behaved themselves as they ought, and made as good defence as they could, making some use of their great guns, yet they were forced to surrender, being beaten by the pirates, with sword in hand, down under the hatches. from hence lolonois commanded them to be brought up, one by one, and the immediate future. the light of joy, which beamed in their eyes, was little in accordance with the grave consultation they held, as, hand in hand, they descended to the hut of their humble host. the hunter, guided by his daughter, met them half way, and with him a tall and dignified man in the full armor of a chief of the amalekites. both bowed and kissed the earth before bent anat and pentaur. they had heard that the princess was detained in the oasis by force by the ethiopian troops, and the desert prince, abocharabos, now informed them, not without pride, that the ethiopian soldiers, all but a few who were his prisoners, had been exterminated by his people; at the same time he assured pentaur, whom he supposed to be a son of the king, and bent anat, that he and his were entirely devoted to the pharaoh rameses, who had always respected their rights. they are accustomed, he added, to fight against the cowardly dogs of kush; but we are men, and we can fight like the lions of our wilds. if we are outnumbered we hide like the goats in clefts of the rocks. bent anat, who was pleased with the daring man, his flashing eyes, his aquiline nose, and his brown face which bore the mark of a bloody