

Richard Dunham, Indian Captive

1769 February 25 (Saturday). There came in also a stranger who says his name is *Richard Dunham*, that he has been in Captivity ten Years etc. Deacon Wood took him home with him.

1769 February 26 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Eph.* 4.30, first Clause. *Richard Dunham* desired to give Thanks in the Assembly. I took him home to Dinner and invited to come here after Meeting.... *Dunham* was here with us at Evening. Deacon *Wood* also came and brought with him Neighbour *Zebulun Rice*. *Dunham* lodges again at Deacon Woods. May God be gracious to the poor Man and grant him spiritual Deliverance!

PROVIDENCE, February 18.

Last Week passed through here, in his Way to Barnstable, the Place of his Residence, *Richard Dunham*, who in the Year 1763 was wounded and taken Prisoner near Detroit, by a party of French and Indians: He belonged to the New-England Forces, and was in a Detachment under Captain *Dalzell* when taken. The unparalleled Sufferings of this unfortunate Person, were they minutely recounted, must excite Emotions of Pity and Compassion in the most obdurate Breast: During the Engagement his Jaw-Bone was shivered by a Ball, which passing through his Mouth, tore away Part of his Tongue, and destroyed some of his Teeth. The Ball being poisoned, his Wound was never thoroughly cured, and has now become loathsome to himself. He, with five other Prisoners, were sold from one Indian Nation to another, till they arrived at the Spanish Main, where they endured a long and cruel Captivity; frequently seeing their Fellow Prisoners burnt at a stake, or inhumanly butchered by the Savages. Being sent out to hunt with five others, attended by three Indians, in crossing a Lake in a Canoe, they threw the Savages over, and after travelling 13 Days, got to North-Carolina.

Boston News-Letter, Feb. 23, 1769, p. [1].