

but married in Canada and descendants have been traced back to him. He was baptized in Canada under the name of Andre Frey.<sup>1</sup>

A letter from Ichabod Plaisted to Capt. John Hill of Saco, dated 9 June, 1693, says, "Last night we had four persons carried away from the garrison by the Indians, and one wounded. The place was at Sturgeon Creek. And those carried away were Nicholas Frost's wife and two children and the Widow Smith." This was the wife of Nicholas Frost, the "beaver trader." Nicholas Frost himself must have been captured about this time and was reported as in captivity at Norridgewock in 1695 and as drowned in 1698.<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Frost and her children returned to Kittery. They must have lived on the farm long occupied by the Clark family of Eliot.

Major Charles Frost had long been hated by the Indians. They found their opportunity for revenge 4 July 1697. As he was returning from church at Great Works, about a mile north of his garrison house he fell into an ambush. Dennis Downing was shot with him and also Phebe, wife of John Heard. This has been taken to be Dennis Downing the blacksmith, but some think it was his son of the same name.<sup>3</sup> The night after Frost's burial the Indians opened his grave, took out the body, carried it to the top of Frost's hill and suspended it upon a stake. His resting place was marked some years later with a flat stone, on which is a rudely chiseled inscription, "Here lyeth intrrd ye body of Mj. Charles Frost ager 65 years Decd July ye 4th 1697." The spot where he was slain is near a large boulder, on which is a suitable inscription. It is known as Ambush Rock.

Tradition says that the wife of John Heard was wounded and tried in vain to remount her horse. She begged her husband

<sup>1</sup>A full account of him, by Miss C. Alice Baker, was published in *The Gazette and Courier*, Greenfield, Mass., 1 March, 1902.

<sup>2</sup>See *Old Eliot*, Vol. IV, p. 88.

<sup>3</sup>A letter found in Massachusetts Archives, dated 5 July 1697, was written by Richard Waldron to Lt. Gov. Stoughton, in which he says, speaking of Major Charles Frost, "himself & seven or eight in company yesterday in the afternoon coming homeward from Meeting at Nechowonke were ambushed by ye enemy. The Major and one Heard's wife were shot down dead, Heard and young Downing wounded, the latter mortally. They discovered about 8 or 10 Indians." This Dennis Downing, Jr., had a grant of land, 16 March 1694, which was laid out, 21 Dec. 1709, to his brother, Joshua Downing, at Beaver Dam.