

expedition—shared a similar fate. So that in consequence of these mishaps, Virginia was occupied prior to Maine. The expedition of Captain Newport, to the Chesapeake, which sailed December 19, 1606, landed at Jamestown, May 13th, 1607.

“On the 31st of May, 1607, the first colony to New England sailed from Plymouth for the Sagadahoc, in two ships—on, called the *Gift of God*, whereof George Popham, brother of the Chief Justice, was commander; the other, the *Mary and John*, whom Raleigh Gilbert commanded—on board which ships were one hundred and twenty persons, for planters. They came to anchor under an Island, supposed to be Monhegan, the 31st of July. After exploring the coast and Islands, on Sunday, the 9th of August, 1607, they landed on an Island they called St. George, where they had a sermon, delivered unto them by Mr. Seymour, their preacher, and returned aboard again. On the 15th of August, they anchored under Seguin, and on that day the *Gift of God* got into the river of Sagadahoc. On the 16th, both ships got safely in, and came to anchor. On the 17th, in two boats, they sailed up the river—Capt. Popham in his pinnace, with thirty persons, and Capt. Gilbert in his long boat, with eighteen persons, and ‘found it a very gallant river; many good Islands therein, and many branches of other small rivers falling into it,’ and returned. On the 18th, they all went ashore, and then made choice of a place for their plantation, at the mouth or entry of the river, on the west side, (for the river bendeth towards the nor-east and by east,) being almost an Island, of good bigness, in a province called by the Indians ‘Sabino’—so called of a Sagamo, or chief commander, under the grand bashaba.

“On the 19th they all went ashore, where they had made choice of their plantation, and where they had a sermon delivered unto them by their preacher, and after the sermon the President’s commission was read, with the laws to be observed and kept.

“George Popham, gent., was nominated President, Capt. Raleigh Gilbert, James Davies, Richard Seymour, Preacher, Capt. Richard Davies, and Capt. Harlowe, were all sworn assistants; and so they returned back again.

“Thus commenced the first occupation and settlement of New England, and from which date the title of England to the new world remains unquestioned. At this place they opened a friendly trade with the natives, put up houses and built a small vessel, during the autumn and winter.

“On the 5th of Feb., 1608, George Popham died, and his remains