

to the King after the capture of that place by the English. But his condemnation is particularly reserved for those east of the Penobscot, who had gone a distance to acknowledge themselves British subjects including most, if not all, of the people at Union River, Nashkeag and Deer Island, and two or three at Frenchman's Bay, and Goldsborough.\* Dr. Caleff tells us that about a hundred of those who were well disposed showed their good will by coming in on July 19, with their Captain, John Perkins, and helping three days to clear the ground in front of the fort.† McLean explained that the attitude of the people to the east of Boston, who were in want and distress, seemed in general friendly, but that they were prevented from any marked demonstration by the threats of the enemy. Their open allegiance, he thought, could be won only when they should be furnished a force strong enough to afford them complete protection in their persons and property. However, he had to admit the existence of a division of sentiment among the inhabitants, remarking that "numbers of young men of the country had gone westward, and attempts have been made to raise the people, though hitherto without success.‡ The force under McLean's command was certainly not large enough to inspire the remaining population with feelings of safety and reviving loyalty; but, small as it was, it was nevertheless reduced by the withdrawal of Captain Barkley with four of his warships in order to shield the coast of Nova Scotia against the threatening presence of nine American vessels, which had recently been sighted in the offing. Thus, only the *Albany* was left to stand guard at the mouth of the Penobscot, the solitary ship being in turn protected by a battery erected for that purpose.

The fort was not yet half completed when the American fleet "to the number of thirty-seven sail of all sizes," with

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\*St. Croix Courier series, L.

†Caleff, *Siege of Penobscot* (Ms. in Harv. University Library); Batchelder, John Nutting, 79; St. Croix Courier series, LI.

‡Report of the Am. Mss. in the Roy. Inst. of G. Brit., I, 460, 462.