Carrister

by Mowitt in 1775, which he witnessed, is printed in Vol. 5, Collections of the Maine Historical Society. In a letter to John Gardiner, then a law student in London, in the year 1765, Mr. Bailey gives a very glowing account of the progress of the new settlement in Pownalborough,—that new farms were being rapidly cleared, all the land was taken up, manufactures started, and vessels loaded there direct for Europe. Land was worth more in what is now Dresden, about that time, than it is at present.

He gives an account of the Indian raid on Swan Island in 1750, when the Whidden-Noble family was carried off, and tells a humorous story of the frightened soldier who reported to Capt. Lithgow at Fort Richmond that he got the news of the murder of Capt. Whidden and his whole family from Capt. Whidden's own mouth.

Of the conference with the Indians by Sir Wm. Pepperell, and others, commissioners appointed by Gov. Shirley, in 1753, Mr. Bailey affirms that the Indians got the better of the commissioners in argument. I expect soon to obtain a photographic copy of the original parchment treaty negotiated at that time at Fort Richmond.

In his very minute description of the flora of this eastern country he calls our butternut tree the lemon walnut, and in speaking of the vegetable products affirms that 800 bushels of potatoes per acre had been raised. And he mentions Capt. Whidden's 50 bushels of wheat from a bushel of seed, on Swan Island.

Of natural phenomena, he affirms that the Auroral light was first observed in New England in 1715. The Memorial History of Boston gives the year 1719. His description of the climate and weather might have been written to-day. There has been no change. And his account of the Kennebec scenery is true to nature, and finely written. He speaks of islands and says Seguin was wooded, which is true, as it was not cleared of trees until 1795, when the first light-house was established there. In his account of rivers, he gives the lake Sebim as the source of the Kennebec. By whom was it called Moosehead? His chapter on bays and harbors on our coast is as short as is a certain chapter on snakes in Ifeland, for he says the whole coast is a succession of bays and harbors, and then he stops.

When we consider the wildness of his surroundings, the means of communication, and the privations incident to the situation, we wonder how he could write so much and oftentimes travel 10, 20, or 50 miles by water or through a wilderness to conduct a service or marry a couple.

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