

children, they got the best shelter they could. On the day after their arrival they were all regaled with fresh salmon, which were caught in great numbers in the harbor, and which were furnished the new comers at the standard price of $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. The whole of the city was then a perfect state of wilderness : the wood was dreadfully thick and greatly encumbered with windfalls. Each man as he arrived, drew one of our city lots, which he proceeded forthwith to clear, and the next operation was to put up a log house. I am indebted to Daniel Hatfield, almost the sole survivor of those who arrived here in May, 1783, for many facts connected with the arrival and settlement of the Loyalists. Mr. Hatfield tells me that he drew a lot in the south cove, near the present Marine Hospital, and that he cut down upon it with his own hands spruce trees 15 inches in diameter.

In June another fleet arrived and vessels continued coming all the season, and by the succeeding winter there could not have been less than 5,000 inhabitants on a spot which a few months previously had reposed in the silence and solitude of the primeval forest. The disbanded soldiers of the 42nd Regiment drew their lots chiefly upon Union street, and they erected almost a continuous line of log-houses from York Point to the Back Shore. At the east end of Union street, at the back of the Block House and all around the Back Shore, there was a thrifty growth of spruce, very large and handsome trees. King Square was then a very thick cedar swamp, and I have heard several amusing anecdotes from persons who had been lost in its labyrinths, one in particular, of an inhabitant who wandered about a whole day in search of his lost cow. King street was partially settled the first winter. The father of the present Messrs. Sears drew the lot on King street where their store now stands, and I well remember the late Mr. Sears telling me in his life time that the surveyor went with him to show him his lot in the bushes, and that after some search they found the right blaze on a spruce tree