

the river Becaguimec, where the enterprising little town of Hartland now stands. The articles supplied to the Indians by Mr. Dibblee in 1790 included a quantity of corn, beans and potatoes for planting, 23 axes and 30 hoes. No doubt the axes and hoes would appear but rude implements to our thrifty modern farmers, but the Indians found them a vast deal better than the stone implements of their grandsires. Mr. Dibblee paid 8 shillings each for axes and 4 shillings for hoes.

In the various reports transmitted to the commissioners of the New England Company, Mr. Dibblee gives the names of about 120 Indian families. Some of these are purely Indian names, as Franwagemic, Pemmyhawick, Aquahartis, Pellacola, Ellazonpa, Sernacola, Earsong; others show the influence of the French, as for example, Augustin, Bazil, Pierre, Sabatis, Nuel, Nicolas, Francis Xavier, Meductic. More recent intercourse with the English appears responsible for such names as, Peter, Joe, Grand John, Joseph Wilmot, Little Joe, Molly Bisket, Joseph Murray, Joe Murray and Joe Murray-sis. A queer intermixture of nationalities appears in such names as Pierre Peter, Francois Peter, John Tobec, Sabatis Tobec, Michel Meductick, Nuel Priest, Joseph Lurgorstai. By comparing the list of names given in the appendix with the list in Kidder's Revolutionary operations in Eastern Maine and Nova Scotia, p. 284, it will be noticed that some of the Indians living at Woodstock, in 1788, were with Col. John Allan at Machias in 1780. In some cases there is a considerable difference in the spelling of the same name; for example the Indian known to Col. Allan as Tomma Esquatapan, is manifestly the same called by Mr. Dibblee, Thomas Quodpan. The Governor Tomah, of Mr. Dibblee's papers, was probably a son of the renowned old chieftain Pierre Tomah, who died and was buried at Saint Andrews prior to the year 1784.

As a rule the Indian families were small, not averaging more than three children. One Indian at Meductic had a family of nine, but the instances in which there were more than five children were exceedingly few. Modern Indian families are rather larger, a fact due in all probability to an admixture of French blood.

Although the labors of Frederick Dibblee were not successful as regards making permanent converts of the Indians of Meductic, yet his services in promoting their welfare and establishing kindly relations between them and the English settlers at a critical period, should never be passed over in any faithful account of the settlement of the upper St. John region.