

is perhaps the most favoured inlet which old ocean has in all his wanderings around the earth. On the north-east bank of this Bay, Dartmouth is situated, thus possessing in winter a genial south-western aspect, which in summer is luxuriantly fanned by direct breezes from the Atlantic. But inviting situation, and favouring skies, cannot make amends for the evil acts of the creature man; a creature seemingly small insignificant and helpless among the animals of earth, yet who has over and over again proved himself the demon or the guardian angel of every scene which he looks on. Civilized or savage, the same moral traits are on his character, and he is every where capable of being the greatest friend or enemy below the skies. In the year 1750, some white men of Europe, impelled by their characteristic spirit of enterprise, found themselves on the borders of this noble Bay, and attracted by the natural advantages of the site of Dartmouth, finding the low ground protected by hills to the north and east, a copious stream fed by many lakes running from the interior to the harbour—observing the capabilities and the beauty of the spot, they settled on it, intending it as their city of refuge, the home of their children, and the resting place for their own remains. But the red men beheld those encroachments on their fishing and hunting grounds with jealousy, and collecting on the Basin of Mines like a black and portentous cloud, they traversed the rivers and lakes noiselessly, and descending by night on the hapless settlers at Dartmouth, they swept the spot like a tempest, and scalped or carried away captive, the greater portion of the strangers. Terrified by such a scourge, Dartmouth was neglected, and Halifax in consequence grew up rapidly. In 1784, a few families from Nantucket, removed to the deserted village, to establish there a depot for the south sea fishery. A commercial failure—which often does more evil than the incursions of savages—checked the new settlement in 1792; disgusted by disappointment, and encouraged elsewhere, the settlers moved their habitation once more, and Dartmouth lost its second chance of becoming a place noted among the cities of the new world. The natural beauty of its situation, and its proximity to Halifax has at length nursed up a pretty village on the spot; it goes on increasing and improving, and many think, that at no distant day it will be