

of each page. My friend, Mr. Victor H. Paltsits of the Lenox Library, to whom I am indebted for much valued assistance in connection with the present study, has called my attention to a very interesting contemporary reference to the book. The *Monthly Review* for March 1775 (page 281), gives its title, with the original price as 1s 6d, and the following comment;—"We find nothing very extraordinary or providential in either of the Author's escapes.—His difficulties, however severe they may have felt to himself, appear to have been such as usually attend travelling and navigating in a northern climate during the winter.—His plan for reconciling the differences, &c. is favourable to the claims of America, but not likely to be adopted." These strictures are not unjust from the reviewer's point of view, for the title is a somewhat exaggerated statement of the contents of the work; its value to us is such as was never contemplated by either author or reviewer. As to its price of 1s 6d, it is interesting to note that a copy brought \$8.00 at a sale in 1878. So greatly have such works increased in value since then, however, and so intense is the rivalry of wealthy libraries and collectors for the possession of such rare Americana, that a copy would unquestionably bring a very much higher price were it to come into the market to-day. A second edition of 1775 is mentioned in a catalogue of the John Carter Brown Library (at Providence, R. I.), but I am informed by the present librarian, Mr. George Parker Winship, that this statement rests upon a clerical error and no such edition is in that library. Allibone's "Dictionary of Authors" gives the date of the work as 1775, but this also is apparently an error.

Of the author, Gamaliel Smethurst, we know but little. The Narrative appears to show that he was an Englishman who came to Marblehead, Massachusetts, and fitted out a trading vessel, in which, under a license from the Governor of Quebec, he went to trade with the French and Indians in Bay Chaleur. The narrative shows that in October 1761, he was, through the cowardice of the captain, abandoned at Nepisiguit (now Bathurst Harbor) by his own vessel, and made his way thence to Fort Cumberland, requiring over six weeks for the journey which today can be accomplished within as many hours. Later he went to Halifax and thence to Marblehead, but he appears to have returned to Nova Scotia soon after. In 1763 (Nov. 22), as the records of the Crown Land Office at Fredericton show, he obtained a grant in the Township of Cumberland, no doubt at Baie Verte, where his "settlement," mentioned in the narrative, was situated. In 1765 he was elected to represent Cumberland County in the Leg-