

oak, brought to this country one hundred years ago, and is still in a splendid state of preservation. It seems to have been the local residence of the commanders at the fort, and among these may be mentioned Colonel Scott and Colonel Beresford, though one source of information indicates that the latter was on the retired list. Colonel Beresford exchanged his English residence with one Lister, a local land proprietor, for all the land lying between what is now known as Sucker's Brook and Parker's Brook."

The first officer stationed at the head of the Basin was Captain John Goreham. In September, 1749, he carried to what is now Sackville materials of all kinds for barracks, and an armed sloop was ordered by Governor Cornwallis to assist him. His instructions were to remain with his company of rangers all winter.

Captain, afterwards Lieut.-Col. Goreham, and his brother Joseph, also an officer, were employed on military duty in Nova Scotia before the founding of Halifax.

Captain John was with Colonel Noble's New England troops at Grand Pre, but was absent when the memorable attack was made by the French, in which the commander of colonial troops and his brother lost their lives. He was returning from Annapolis with a despatch from Governor Mascarene when he met the provincials in retreat. He afterwards came to Halifax with Mascarene to meet Governor Cornwallis, and was sent to the head of the Basin, as before stated, with his rangers, to build Fort Sackville and scour the woods between the fort and Windsor for Indians. In 1752 he was appointed to the governor's council. The two brothers, Goreham, saw considerable service from the time of the taking of Louisburg by Sir William Pepperall down to the time of the revolutionary war in America. John Goreham commanded at Cumberland during Eddy's rebellion, and was tried by court martial for favoring the Cumberland rebels and reprimanded. Joseph Goreham rose to be a Major-General in the British army.

He married at Halifax, Ann, daughter of Captain John Spry, Royal Engineers, who afterwards settled at Spryfield, back of the North-West Arm. Lieut.-Col. Joseph later commanded at Placentia, Nfld. They were the sons of Col. Shubal Goreham, of Barn-

stable, Mass, an old Indian fighter on the frontiers of the province.

John was not a favorite with Cornwallis, who said "he was no soldier." Likely enough this was old country prejudice against a colonial who was acquainted with the methods of Indian warfare, of which Cornwallis had no experience. Cornwallis would have removed him from his command, but had no power, as Goreham held a commission in the regular army. Descendants of Joseph Goreham's daughter, Ann Spry, are living in England.

John Thomas, a surgeon in Winslow's expedition of 1755 against the Acadians, informs us that after the New England troops had finished their work hunting down the remaining Acadians that he left Fort Edward (Windsor or Pisquid) on the 6th December, 1755, early in the morning. On the 7th he says: we marched early this morning, at half-past seven. The land abounds with birch and hemlock, the soil very good, but very stony. We encountered not far from a freshwater river, called the Twelve Mile River, it being about 12 miles from Sackville. This river abounds with salmon.

On the 8th the troops resumed their march. Thomas says: we had some rain. We marched early this morning, bad travelling, marched over bogs, high hills, rocky and uneven ground, but the soil appears to be good. It abounds with birch and hemlock. We travelled twelve miles, and came to a small fort at the head of a fine large basin, called Halifax Basin. The fort is called Fort Sackville, it contains near an acre of ground. It is built with pickets, four square, has but one cannon and a few swivel guns, no blockhouse, and in my opinion may be easily taken. It is generally garrisoned with one captain, one subaltern, and fifty men. When we arrived at this fort it was almost sunset. We concluded to continue at the fort for the night. It is ten miles from Halifax, and the travelling excessively bad.

8th Dec. Pleasant day. We all lodged at Fort Sackville last night. Major Preble marched in the morning with his party for Halifax.

I got a passage in a boat for Halifax and came down the Basin and landed in the town at 3 p. m. It is eight miles by water from Fort Sackville; this basin abounds with codfish and