

guardians of the soil, fell fast under the axes wielded by the strong arms of the English pioneers, who lived under canvas and in rough shanties hastily put up for temporary occupation. The work of clearing and building went on vigorously, and by the middle of October some hundreds of houses were in course of erection, and many had been completed. The town had been laid out and divided into blocks and streets, and the settlers comfortably housed, before the forest on the opposite side of the harbour was invaded.* The latter was then the home and hunting-ground of the Micmac Indians. This tribe

*Shortly after the settlement of Halifax, Major Gilman erected a saw-mill in Dartmouth Cove. It was doubtless situated on the stream which flows from the Dartmouth Lakes, but the exact site I have been unable to ascertain. The land laid out for the saw-mill appears under the name of Ezekiel Gilman, on an old plan in the Department of Crown Lands, Halifax. The boundary of the plot began on the above stream, at a spot close to the present Presbyterian Church, or about thirty chains from Collins's Point, near the Chebucto Marine Railway. From thence it ran north 55° east, about sixty chains; thence north 35° west for about forty-two chains; thence south 55° west, for seventy-two and a half chains; thence south 35° east, for about fifty chains, or until it reached the stream before-mentioned. This embraced half of the First Lake, and land to the south east and south-west of it. A plan of the Harbour of Chebucto and Town of Halifax, which appeared in *The Gentleman's Magazine* for July, 1750 (page 295), shows three streams falling into Dartmouth Cove. The middle one of these is called "Saw Mill River." This name was probably intended to have been applied to the most northern of the three, and the transposition may have been an error of the draughtsman. A building marked "Major Gilmot's" (Gilman's?) appears near