

as abundance of deep water. Beyond question it was the Penobscot that he had in mind, and actually visited, as the Norombega River. It is so well known that the Penobscot was accepted at that period as the Norombega, that it would be idle to argue the question. Champlain and Lescarbot, in the following century, never doubted this, though they were disappointed upon finding no evidence of the City, which, perhaps, was never anything more than an Indian village carrying on a trade with the French and English in peltry. The French had other trading places, and notably, that of Boston Harbor and the Charles River, as John Smith testifies, and evidences of their occupation may yet be established; but, nevertheless, the Norombega will probably be identified with the noble Penobscot.*

This voyage of Walker, so thoroughly attested as to leave no doubt with regard to its performance, had express reference to the plans of Sir Humphrey, which the latter proceeded to execute in 1583. It is not indicated that Walker was the navigator of the expedition, though he may have been. At all events he represented Sir Ferdinando, and probably was a layman like Robert Salterne, supercargo of Pring in 1603, and who afterwards became a clergyman of the Establishment. At any rate, Walker the commercial man in search of "Hyds" disappears after the voyage, while Walker the clergyman appears immediately as a chaplain upon the high seas. A manuscript that might have given light on the subject has been injured by fire.† Still we may notice that, June 23, 1583, Fenton speaks of

* We may here append a translation made from the manuscript of Jehan Allefonsee in the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, Paris, who was on this coast in 1542, and describes Norombega and its River, though like the most of the accounts of that period, it is two degrees out of the way in latitude. In his estimate of the river, it will be seen he takes in all the water from White Head to Mount Desert. He says: "The River is more than forty leagues wide at its entrance, and retains its width some thirty or forty leagues. It is full of Islands, which stretch some ten or twelve leagues into the sea, and are very dangerous on account of rocks and shoals. The said river is in 42 N. L. Fifteen leagues within this river there is a town called Norombega, with clever inhabitants, who trade in furs of all sorts; the towns folk are dressed in furs, wearing sable. I question whether the said river enters the Hochelaga. For more than forty leagues it is salt water, at least so the town folk say. The people use many words which sound like Latin. They worship the sun. They are tall and handsome in form. The land of Norombega lies high and is well situated." This, every visitor to this stately and imposing region knows to be true; but the "Latin" came of the old disposition to follow phonetic resemblance.

† In the Cotton MSS. British Museum (Otho E. VIII. fol. 130) is a letter by Walker to the Earl of Leicester, written when at the point of sailing. Owing to the ravages of the fire it is more or less undecipherable, but the best possible version is appended. The blank spaces show where the edges of the manuscript were burned off:—

" . . . Barnes with . . . d me with greate frendlynesse
 . . . ever bounden vnto yor L for sendinge m . . . synce my
 deplure fro the courte, I have byn . . . have taken instytutyō and inductyon into
 the . . . fyllacke wherhe her Matie bestowed xpo me, and . . . for, to Sr John
 Arundell: The Byshopp shewed . . . curtesye he myghte: and assured me of his
 frend [ship] he knowethe that it was her Maties to geve, wher . . . It granted: my
 moste humble sute vnto yor good . . . yor L would be a meanes vnto her Matie that
 I . . . dyspensed with to keepe my lyving vntyll I retorne fro the indians: Mr
 Cudworthe wyll bringe yor L the . . . to be assygned, wch Mr Secretary wyll procure
 at . . . L fyrst wrot yf, for yf I may have my poore lyvynge . . . my comynce
 agayne, I shall thinke my selfe well satisfy . . . I am now somewhat in debte, and
 the pytt thereof (the tyme of my absence) wyll dyscharge the same, to the greute quyet-
 ness of my cōcyence. And for my selfe bothe harte and hande I wyll cotynue and ever
 remayne as faythfull a s'rvaunte as ever yor L had in s'rvice:

Whereof I hope yor L shall have good experyence yf ever I retorne The allmyghtye