

ent situation for landing in the harbour of St. John, all in good health.

We remained comfortably on board ship till we could explore for a place in the wilderness suitable for our purpose of settlement. Those who came on other ships were in some cases sickly, or precipitated on shore. Here again we were favoured.

A boat was procured for the purpose of exploration, and David Pickett, Israel Hait, Silas Raymond and others proceeded sixty miles up the River Saint John. On their return they reported that the inhabitants were settled on intervale land by the river—that the high lands had generally been burned by the Indians, and there was no church or church minister in the country.

They were informed of the existence of a tract of timber land that had not been burned on Belleisle Bay, about thirty miles from the harbour of St. John, which they had visited. They viewed the situation favourably for our purpose of settlement. Whereupon we all agreed to disembark from on board the good ship *Union* and proceed thither. We departed with Captain Wilson's blessing, and embarked on board a small sloop all our baggage.

The next morning with all our effects, women and children we set sail above the Falls and arrived at Belleisle Bay before sunset.

Nothing but wilderness before their eyes, the women and children did not refrain from tears!

John Marvin, John Lyon and myself went on shore and pitched a tent in the bushes and slept in it all night. Next morning every man came on shore and cleared away and landed all our baggage, women and the children, and the sloop left us alone in the wilderness.

We had been informed the Indians were uneasy at our coming, and that a considerable body had collected at the head of Belleisle. Yet our hope and trust remained firm that God would not forsake us. We set to work with such resolution that before night we had as many tents set as made the women and children comfortable.

Next morning we discovered a fleet of ten Indian canoes slowly moving towards us, which caused considerable alarm with the women. Before they came within gunshot one who could speak English came to let us know, "We all one brother!" They were of the Micmac tribe and became quite friendly, and furnished us plentifully with moose meat.

We soon discovered a situation at the head of Belleisle Creek suitable for our purpose of settlement with church and school.

No surveyor was appointed until July when Frederick Hauser was commissioned with directions to survey and allot our land according to our wishes.

He commenced where we had designed for our church and school house in Kingston with a road six rods wide and surveyed twenty-two

lots numbering on each side. Before the lots were exposed for draft it was agreed that one acre of each adjoining corner of the four first numbers should be allotted the place for the church and school house, and that lot number one on the west half should be reserved for the parsonage. The water privilege to be reserved for those who would engage to build a grist and saw mill, and saw boards enough for our church and school house.

Accordingly the lots were drawn and the numbers fell to the persons named in the grant.

Whereupon every man was jointly employed clearing places for building, cutting logs, carrying them together by strength of hands and laying up log houses, by which means seventeen log houses were laid up and covered with bark, so that by the month of November every man in the district found himself and family covered under his own roof and a happier people never lived upon this globe enjoying in unity the blessings which God had provided for us in the country into whose coves and wild woods we were driven through persecution. Here, with the protection of a kind Providence we were perfectly happy, contented and comfortable in our dwellings through the winter, and on Easter Monday met together, and as a secondary means to promote religion, elected the following person preparatory for the church, namely:

#### WARDENS.

David Pickett and Joseph Lyon.

#### VESTRYMEN.

John Lyon,	James Ketchum,
Israel Hait,	Silas Raymond,
Jonathan Ketchum,	Ephraim Lane
Andrew Patching,	James Moore,
Elias Scribner,	Seth Sealey,
John Fowler,	Thomas Sumner.

The Rev. John Sayre who ministered to us at Eaton's Neck soon after his arrival in the fall fleet removed to Maugerville.\*

The Rev. John Beardsley† officiated for us

\*The Rev. John Sayre was missionary at Fairfield, Conn., where he had a trying experience during the Revolutionary War. In a letter dated Nov. 8th, 1779, he speaks of the hardships endured by the Loyalists at the hands of both the contending parties. In his church the hangings were torn down, the leads stripped off, bullets fired through the windows, and the entire buildings exposed to every sort of wanton desecration. His congregation were subjected to every kind of oppression—fined and imprisoned on the most frivolous pretences. Mr. Sayre himself was confined to his house and garden and proclaimed an enemy to his country, and all persons were forbidden (under threat of severe penalty for disobedience) to have any manner of dealing with him. "This order was posted up in every store, mill, mechanical shop and public house in the county, and was repeatedly published in the newspapers. Yet we wanted for nothing; our people under cover of night supplying us with the comforts and necessities of life."

On July 7th, 1779, the British troops under General Tyron landed at Fairfield and set fire to the town. "The ungovernable flames," writes Mr. Sayre, "soon extended on all sides and in a few minutes left me with a family consisting of wife and eight children destitute of food, house and raiment. My loss included my little all."

†Rev. John Beardsley, of Stratford, Conn., was for some time stationed at Poughkeepsie, N.Y. During the war he was chaplain in Col. Beverley Robinson's regiment, and with it came to New Brunswick. He was the first clergyman to officiate at St. John and Kingston, after the landing of the Loyalists. From 1786 to 1802 he was stationed at Maugerville. Retiring from active work, he then resided at Kingston, where he died in 1810.