

William
Williams
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A. D. 1814. frigate, the *Phebe*, and a sloop of war, the *Cherub*, so hard a fought battle for two hours and a half, that their commanders were forced to concede to Porter and his brave men, the merit of well earned, imperishable glory. To this succeeded the capture of the British *Epervier*, April 29, by Captain Warrington in the *Peacock*. Next the defeat of the British at Chippewa, July 4, by *General Brown*; and his second sanguinary battle, July 25, at Bridgewater, near Niagara Falls, with the army under *General Drummond*: Also the capture of the British sloop of war, probably the *Avon*, by Captain Blakely, in the *Wasp*; which he was obliged to leave, in consequence of an attack by two other vessels of war. The defeat of *Sir George Provost* at Plattsburgh, Sept. 5th; and the splendid victory of Commodore Chauncy, Sept. 11, on Lake Champlain. The unsuccessful attack of the British upon Baltimore, and the battle, Sept. 17, between the forces of *General Brown* and *General Drummond*, connected with the preceding events, acquired to the American arms fresh and verdant laurels. If the enemy, in August, could boast of capturing Washington, the seat of our National Government; it was an exploit, basely tarnished by the Vandal destruction made of the Capitol, President's House and the Public Offices.

Washington city taken.

Manufactures.

But though war be an evil, and its effects were severely felt by the eastern people; it had manifestly become promotive of the mechanic arts and manufacturing establishments. Our country abounded with materials; men of wealth and business were ready to make heavy investments in factories; and the General Court, this year incorporated about *thirty* Companies for the purposes of manufacturing cottons, woollens, duck, glass, files, wire and other articles.

General valuation.

Nine new

According to the State valuation, revised and completed this year, the taxable property in Maine amounted to nearly one million and a half of dollars; and the taxable polls were upwards of fifty-one thousand.* There were *nine* towns established this

* Rateable Polls.	Counties.	Valuation.	Ratio of \$1,000.
9,293	York	\$288,522,07	\$42,12
9,577	Cumberland	338,495,07	48,08
10,093	Lincoln	253,464,91	38,93
7,398	Kennebeck	174,538,19	27,25
6,852	Hancock	168,973,13	26,08
1,984	Washington	47,611,93	7,40
2,480	Somerset	69,181,55	10,49
4,130	Oxford	102,354,42	15,78
51,807		1,443,141,17	216,13
115,832 in Massachusetts proper.			

CHAPTER XXVI.

The British take possession of Eastport—Their transactions in that quarter—St. Georges' river visited by the enemy—Castine seized upon and occupied by the enemy—Expedition up the river Penobscot—The Adams destroyed—Possession taken of Hampden and Bangor—The rapine and conduct of the enemy in the towns upon the Penobscot—Return of the squadron to Castine—The militia, called to arms, encamp at Wiscasset—A proclamation by the British commanders—Castine, a port of entry—Machias seized upon by the enemy—Government instituted by General Sherbrook over his New Province—Oath of allegiance required—A British vessel taken—Mails stopped at the river—Custom-house at Hampden—Great trade—Smuggling—Agency to Halifax—Business at Castine—News of peace—Jackson's successes at New-Orleans—Hartford Convention—Castine evacuated.

THOUGH the losses and privations of our Eastern citizens were A. D. 1814. great during the two first years of the war, no portion of their territory had been actually invaded. At an early period, two Small force stationed at Eastport. companies of Militia, detached from the Brigade of General Blake, upon the Penobscot, were stationed at fort Sullivan, in Eastport, under Major Philip Ulmer, and were relieved within a year by regular troops. Of these, George Ulmer, Esq. was commissioned by the President, the Colonel-commandant. On receiving the appointment, he resigned the office of Major-General of the 10th Militia division, which he was then holding; and was succeeded by David Cobb, who had been Lieutenant-Governor of the State. It was Colonel Ulmer's design and duty to prevent, if possible, all smuggling and illicit intercourse with the enemy; in the faithful discharge of which, he gave to the inhabitants some affront. Hence the government substituted in his place Major Perley Putnam of Salem. His command extended so far as to include a slight fortification, manned by 30 men, at Robbinston, under a Lieutenant, as well as to the garrison on Moose Island, where he had about 70 men.

A. D. 1814. On the 5th of July, a small British expedition, secretly despatched from Halifax, was joined by a fleet, six days from Bermuda; and the whole, consisting of the *Ramilies*, a 74, having on board the Commodore, Sir Thomas Hardy,—the *Martin* sloop of war,—the brig *Borer*,—the *Breame*,—the *Terror*, a bomb-ship—and several transports, carrying a large body of soldiers commanded by Colonel Thomas Pilkington, arrived abreast of Eastport on the 11th of the month, when the Commodore demanded a surrender of the Fort, allowing only five minutes for an answer.

July 5.
British expedition.

July 11.
Visit Eastport.

The fort shall be defended against any force whatever, was Putnam's reply; and he prepared to meet an assault. But through the importunate persuasions of the inhabitants, he was reluctantly induced to order his flag struck, without resistance. By the terms of capitulation, all the public property, consisting of four 18-pounders, two sixes and the munitions of war, were lawful prize—the soldiers surrendering, were put on board the enemy's prison-ship,—the five commissioned officers were admitted to their parol, and all private rights and interests of the inhabitants were to be respected.

1,000 men
landed
there.

Forthwith, upwards of 1,000 men, principally the 102d Regiment of Infantry and a battalion of Artillery, with females and children appendant, were by means of the barges set on shore from the shipping; and about 50 or 60 pieces of cannon were also landed. Possession was taken of the fort, and the British flag immediately hoisted. The captors then seized upon the custom-house property, and took \$9,000 in treasury notes unfinished, which they by menaces, pressed the collector to sign. But he absolutely refused, declaring that 'death would be no compulsion.' Prizes were made of several vessels; large quantities of goods were seized for breach of blockade; and all property belonging to other persons, than the inhabitants of Eastport, was pronounced forfeit.

Security
promised to
the people
if they were
quiet.

Next day, Lieutenant-Colonel Fitzherbert sent a letter from St. Andrews, to John Brewer of Robbinston, Brigadier-General of the Militia in Washington county, stating, by order of Major-General Sir John C. Sherbrook, that the object of the British government in the present expedition was to 'obtain possession of *the Islands in Passamaquoddy bay*;—as being within the British boundary line; that there was no design to carry on offensive

' operations against the people resident on the main, unless their A. D. 1814.
 ' conduct should provoke severities; and that if they continued
 ' quiet, neither their persons nor their property would be in the
 ' least molested.' Also the commanders, Hardy and Pilkington,
 on the 14th, issued a proclamation in the name of the Prince
 Regent, declaring, that the municipal laws established by the
 American government, for the peace and tranquillity of those
 Islands, would remain in force; and commanding them all to con-
 vene on the 16th at the school-house in Eastport, and take the
 oath of allegiance to his Britanic Majesty, or within seven days,
 depart the Islands. Reluctantly about two-thirds of the Islanders
 submitted to the requirement. The enemy then declared, he had
 possession of what was his due by the treaty of 1783, and no
 more. Immediately batteries were erected; between 40 and
 50 cannon were mounted; a deputy-collector of the customs
 was appointed; and the squadron then departing, left upon the
 Island about 800 troops.

A trade was opened by the British at Eastport, which pre- A trade
opened.
 sented the citizens of Maine, with strong temptations to enter into
 an illicit intercourse with the enemy. So scarce were provisions
 upon Moose Island, that pork was worth 50 dollars by the barrel,
 and the soldiers were put on short allowance. No article was
 permitted to be carried from it, without an equivalent in some-
 thing eatable, received from the main; and whatever was fresh,
 commanded the highest price. The inhabitants were fully aware
 of their distressed condition. Sales of real estate were daily
 made to the British, till stopped by proclamation; and all were
 anxious to get away.

The National government and its agents, now resolved effect- Provisions
carried to
the enemy.
 ually to prevent smuggling. Yet men would presume to drive
 cattle towards the lines for the enemy, in defiance of law or
 rulers. Only a short time elapsed, ere the collector at Machias
 seized one drove, bound thither, and another, flying through the
 woods, hardly avoided arrest.

Next, the British sent a party to drive Lieut. Manning and his Manning re-
tires to Ma-
chias.
 company, from their station at Robbinston; who being unable to
 stand a siege, on the approach of the enemy, destroyed whatever
 they could not carry away, and retired to Machias. Soon after
 this, a body of men, despatched in barges from two armed ships,

A. D. 1814. lying at the mouth of St. George's river, entered in the night-time, without opposition, the fort below Thomaston, spiked the guns, destroyed the munitions of war and buildings, set fire to one vessel, and towed away two others. It is said the barges ventured within a mile of Knox's wharf, near the old Fort; and were only hastened back by the appearance of daylight. So bold was this adventure, that it excited a general and extensive alarm. Colonel Foote of Camden, ordered out a great part of his regiment, to guard and defend the neighboring coast and country; a draft was made upon the militia of Bangor and its vicinity, to join the regular troops in the garrison at Castine; and Machias had reason to expect a visit from the enemy every hour. Business at the latter place, was suspended; many inhabitants made preparations to remove to places of more safety; and Judge Campbell, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, appearing in the court-house, on the first day of the annual August term, found no suitors, and therefore adjourned the Court without day.

A bold feat
at St. George's
river.

Castine and
Machias
alarmed.

Expedition
against Cas-
tine.

To supply the troops at Halifax with provisions, for which they were suffering, *Capt. Barrie*, in the *Dragon*, of 74 guns, was despatched to that station, from the Chesapeak, with 800 barrels of flour and other articles, attended by their captured vessels, which had on board some freights. On his arrival there, an expedition was speedily planned against Penobscot and Machias. The fleet consisted of three 74s, the *Dragon*, *Spenser* and *Bulwark*; two frigates, late from the Mediterranean, the *Burhante* and *Tenedos*; two sloops of war, the *Sylph* and *Peruvian*; an armed schooner called the *Pictu*; a large tender and ten transports. The number of troops embarked were about 3,000.* Lieutenant-General *Sir John C. Sherbroke* had the paramount, and Major-General *Gosselin* the immediate command of the land forces, and *Edward Griffith, Esq.* Rear-Admiral of the white, commanded the naval squadron.

August 26.
Fleet leaves
Halifax.
Sept. 1.
Arrives at
Castine.

The fleet left Halifax, August 26, and on Thursday, Sept. 1, rode into the harbor of Castine,—sounded, and came to anchor. So formidable was their appearance, that the troops at

* Some said there were 6,000 embarked. It is only certain that the forces consisted of the 62d and 98th regiments, 2 rifle companies of the 60th regiment; and a detachment of royal artillery;—possibly in all, 3,600 men, besides women and children, attached to the army.

the garrison and their commander, supposing all resistance would be worse than futile, did not so much as wait for a summons to surrender, but instantly discharged the cannon, blew up the fort, and fled for safety up the bay. In the course of the day, a large body of troops were set on shore, possession was taken of the fortification, the court-house and other buildings were entered, and occupied as barracks for the soldiers, and parts of the best dwellinghouses were taken for the accommodations of the officers. A flag was soon despatched across the bay to Belfast with a message to the people, that if they made no resistance, they should not be injured. Still it was followed by General Gosselin with 600 men in two armed vessels, who took possession of the town. To parties of the soldiery, longing for fresh provisions, and eager for the enjoyment of a rural range, permission was given to visit the neighboring plantations; and after revelling upon the rarities, the best and most palatable they could find, the whole party in a few days returned to Castine.

A. D. 1814.
Belfast visited.

A part of the fleet, consisting of the Dragon, the Sylph and Peruvian, the Harmony, a transport, and a prize-tender, all under Capt. Barrie, carrying about 500 infantry, riflemen, or "sharp-shooters," and a small train of light-artillery, under Col. Henry John and Major Riddle, proceeded without delay, up the waters of the Penobscot, and came to anchor in Marsh bay; where the shipping lay, about four or five leagues below Bangor harbor, during the night.

A squadron proceeds up the river Penobscot.

A few weeks previously, the United States' corvette, Adams, a sloop of war, rated at 18 guns, and mounting 24, had been with extreme difficulty, taken up the river by her commander, Capt. Charles Morris, and was then lying at the mouth of the Sowadabscook stream in Hampden, for repairs. It seems she had met with the singular success of capturing, within the short space of three months, a ship, two brigs and a schooner; and was afterwards, on the 17th of August, cast upon the shores of the Isle of Holt, in stress of weather, and was hardly preserved from total wreck. Capt. Morris was now engaged in refitting her for another cruise; and as soon as tidings by a herald from Castine, were communicated to him and Brigadier-General Blake of Brewer, and the news spread, that the fleet was ascending the river, all had the best reason to suspect the object of the enemy was the destruction of the Adams, and the capture of two valu-

The Adams at Hampden, Capt. Morris.

A. D. 1814. able merchant-vessels, the Decatur* and the Victory, at anchor
Decatur and off Hampden village. Morris, without loss of time, hoisted out
Victory.

Morris' bat- the cannon upon Crosby's wharf, and formed two batteries, one
teries. of 14 guns upon that place, and the other of 9 guns upon a com-
manding eminence, 50 rods below, and not far from the water ;
from which he was able to rake destructively, any approaching
ship. To the militia, who by the General's orders were coming
in by companies, during the day, mixed with volunteers, Morris
offered a supply of muskets and ammunition, if they were desti-
tute ; and determining to make all possible resistance, he assigned
to Lieut. Wadsworth the command of the hill-battery, and that
on the wharf to Lieut. Lewis.

Defensive
measures.

In the afternoon, he met Gen. Blake, his officers and some of
the most influential citizens in a council of war ; where he was
much chagrined to find indecision and disunion, which, with the
discouraging remarks made, directly tended to raise doubts as to
the expediency of resistance, or our ability to repel the enemy.
He and others assured their opposers, that no one ought to repose
confidence of safety in British magnanimity :—' No,' said he,
' our arms must be our defence ;—keep the enemy from outflank-
' ing me, and I will prevent his ascending the river, by the bat-
' tery ;—these are our respective duties and we must discharge
' them.' But the whole day was spent in query, without any
specific well digested plan of operations, and without the energy
indispensable to military control. No entrenchment,—nor yet the
slightest breastwork was prepared ; nay, if there were in all the
deliberations any real result, it was, that a line of battle be form-
ed, resting the right wing on the meeting-house, and the left on
the high ground towards the hill-battery. By the Adjutant's re-
turns at night, the whole number in arms was about 500 militia-
men from the vicinity, principally belonging to Colonel Grant's
regiment, a part of Captain Trafton's troop of horse, and Captain
Hammond's company of Artillery, with two brass four-pounders.
They had also taken from the Adams, an 18 pound carronade,
mounted, which was planted in the highway, near the meeting-
house, and well manned.

The winds being light and adverse, the Dragon did not weigh

* The Decatur, Brown, master, had arrived here, July 19th, from Ro-
chelle, with a rich cargo of brandy, wine, oil and silks.

anchor during the day; but the residue of the squadron with A. D. 1814. great exertion, ascended a couple of leagues, into Bald-hill-cove, Enemy land at Bald-hill cove. and landed at sunset, on the west bank, two miles below Morris' batteries, about 500 light troops, including a small train of Artillery. The militia continued under arms, and Morris' men stood by their guns, all night; for it was reported by our videttes, that the enemy was unquestionably preparing to move both by land and water as early as daylight, and before, if favored by the wind and weather. But the night was rainy and dark, and the morning foggy; so that the enemy did not appear upon the land in view of our lines, till about eight of the clock. As he The militia discharge their arms and retreat. advanced with a quick step, our soldiery were commanded to reserve their fire till he was near, and then take aim. They discharged a few rounds; when it was perceived, that the line was broken near the centre, and the men had begun to retreat without orders. The example was contagious; and all the exertions of the officers to rally them anew, were without effect. Major Chamberlain, Captain Trafton, Adjutant Gilmore, and David J. Bent,* a non-commissioned officer of the Artillery, who had command of the great gun, in the highway,—all discovered activity and valor. Bent was among the last to leave the ground; and most of the officers and many of the soldiers were filled with pain and regret to witness a retreat in the midst of confusion, which could not be without dishonor.

The moment the armed vessels, which were preceded by barges full of soldiers, were discovered by Capt. Morris, he opened Morris retires. a raking fire of grape and canister shot upon them from the battery, which he continued with spirit and effect, for about 20 or 25 minutes; when he perceived that the militia were retreating, and the British would, if he remained there, soon outflank him in the position taken; he therefore spiked his guns, set fire to the Adams and the store-house, and retreated with his brave companions to Bangor, and thence, through a back woody road, to Kennebeck.

Within one hour after the firing was begun, the vessels and Pillage of Hampden. the village of Hampden, were in full possession of the enemy.

* Chamberlain and Gilmore were afterwards Colonels of the Regiment; Trafton, General of the Brigade; and Bent, Major of the squadron of Artillery.

A. D. 1814. Hence, succeeded a scene of abuse, pillage and destruction, which were a disgrace to the British name. Sixty or seventy of the principal inhabitants were seized and put under hatches; and at sunset, were removed to the cabin of the Decatur, where they were restrained during the night, without fresh air, fresh water, or any quiet sleep.—Next day, it is true, all except ten or twelve of the principal men, were admitted to their parol, while those still kept in custody, were put on board a prison-ship, where they were detained till another day, before they were set at liberty. The people were treated with abusive language,—their houses and stores were rifled,—their cattle killed,—some of their vessels were burnt,—and a bond was exacted from the town in the penal sum of \$12,000, conditioned to deliver certain others at Castine, in October. Suffice it to say, that the losses and damages sustained by the people of Hampden, as subsequently ascertained, amounted to 44,000 dollars. In the midst of the rapine, a committee waited on Capt. Barrie, and told him they expected at his hand the common safeguard of *humanity*, if nothing more. He replied, ‘I have none for you. My business ‘is to burn, sink and destroy. Your town is taken by storm, and ‘by the rules of war, we ought both to lay your village in ashes, ‘and put its inhabitants to the sword. But I will spare your ‘lives, though I mean to burn your houses.’ A messenger was then despatched to General Sherbroke at Castine, upon the subject, who returned an order not to burn without dire necessity.

The enemy
arrive at
Bangor.

The enemy’s vessels proceeded without delay up the river; and at the same time, about two thirds of the troops took up their march by land, towards Bangor. From this place, flags of truce were sent by land and water, to the advancing commanders; but the best terms which could be obtained were ‘unconditional submission.’ When the Peruvian, Sylph, Harmony and transports entered the harbor, a few congreve rockets were thrown from them over the village, two cheers were given, and all the shipping anchored at the mouth of the Kenduskeag. Barrie rode up on horseback, in company with Col. John and Major Riddle, at the head of the detachment. Arriving about noon, he first demanded of the inhabitants, provisions and barracks for troops; and threatened to give them leave to plunder the village, if there was not a compliance with his requirements instantly. The Court-house, two school-houses, a dwellinghouse, and one