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SMUGGLING IN MAINE DURING THE WAR OF 1812.

The war of 1812 was not wholly popular with the inhabitants of the coast towns of Maine. The embargo Act of April 4, and the declaration of war against Great Britain by Congress, June 18, 1812, brought matters to a head. The maritime interest could only see ruin and disaster ahead. The war began, of course many people sustained the government, and enlisted to fight in its behalf. It was an unequal contest in this State. Great Britain flooded our waters with its men of war. Many of our people went into privateering, others embarked in smuggling, or the importation of contraband goods. I am inclined to think that many United State soldiers would fight a British soldier, who would be very tender towards British goods. The State was full of British goods from St. Croix to Kittery. All kinds of schemes were invented to get them into Maine. It has been stated that both governments winked at the violation of the laws relating to goods contraband of war. Castine,* while under British control, from Sept. 1, 1814, to April 27, 1815, was a noted place. After the war was closed the Collector of Customs undertook to collect duties on the goods there at the evacuation of the British. John Tappan and others protested to Congress against it on the ground that they had paid duties to the British; Congress and the Supreme Court sustained them in their protest. British merchant vessels were captured with goods of enormous value, in Penobscot Bay—one of \$40,000, one of \$80,000, one, the Betsy and Ann,

*His. Castine, pp. 173, 174.

Island, containing ten acres; the six last mentioned Islands situated north of the Isle of Holt; Island marked F, near Deer Island thoroughfare, containing ten acres; Island marked N, west of the Isle of Holt, containing twenty acres; Island marked B, south of the Isle of Holt, containing seven acres; Head Island, south of the Isle of Holt, containing seven acres; Easton's Island, containing twelve acres; and Tent Island, containing six and an half acres; each situated south-west of Little Deer Island; Partridge Island, between Little Deer Island and Tent Island, containing seven acres; Island marked D, containing twelve acres and three-fourths of an acre; Island marked F, containing sixty-two and an half acres; Harbour Island, containing forty-two acres and three-fourths of an acre; Black Island, containing ninety-two and three-fourths of an acre; Island B, containing twenty-eight acres; each of the five last mentioned Islands situated in Egamoggin Reach; Diana's Island, south-west of Little Deer Island, containing seven acres; Burnt Island, off the mouth of George's River, containing two hundred and twenty acres; Green Island, containing ten acres, near the south end of Matinic; Matinicus, containing seven hundred and forty-four acres; Noman's Land Island, north-east of Matinicus about a mile, containing twenty acres; Ten-Pound Island, near Matinicus, containing twenty acres; Wheaton's Island, joined to Matinicus by a bar, containing ten acres; Seal Island, near Matinicus, containing sixty-five acres.

REV. JAMES LYON, OF MACHIAS.

Rev. James Lyon, the first settled minister east of Wiscasset, was graduated at Princeton (Nassau Hall) College, N. J., 1759. He was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1762. He was ordained by the same body, Dec. 5, 1764, as a missionary, and was sent to Onslow, Nova Scotia, where he labored several years.

July, 1771, the proprietors of Machias, in compliance with the terms of the grant of their township by the General Court, agreed to settle a Protestant minister, and voted to hire one to preach the gospel in that place. £84 was raised for the purpose. In August, 1771, Judge Stephen Jones, of the committee to employ the minister, being in Boston, found Mr. Lyon there, he having left Nova Scotia. Judge Jones induced Lyon to go to Machias on trial. He went there with his family, and began to preach Dec. 5, 1771. In the spring of 1772 the people invited him to remain on

NOTE—A John Lyon in Machias and wife Sarah, their daughter Sally, b. Jan. 21, 1792; m. John Dennison, Jr., Feb. 11, 1810.

a salary of £84 yearly and £100 as a settlement. This offer he accepted. Mr. Lyon, during the Revolutionary war, was an ardent patriot, fighting as well as preaching. During this period he and his family suffered great hardships. The lumbering business, upon which the people largely depended, was almost stopped, and they were reduced to extremity for want of provisions. In the intervals between preaching and writing sermons, the minister fished and dug clams to furnish food for his family. The war passed away, and a brighter day dawned upon Machias. New settlers came in, many of whom, with some of those already there, were of a character superior to those in new settlements generally. Sept. 12, 1782, a Congregational Church was organized, and Mr. Lyon became the minister. He was not installed by any ecclesiastical body. Two feeble churches at Blue Hill and Deer Isle, without pastors, were the nearest. Rev. Thomas Moore, of Wiscasset, Rev. Josiah Winship, of Woolwich, and Rev. Francis Winter, of Bath, were the nearest ordained ministers. Travel was by water. Under the circumstances, Mr. Lyon was probably installed by the Church and Town of Machias, a proceeding not new in those days.

Mr. Lyon was a man of ability, a good preacher. He was a fine musician, and printed a work thereon, and also other books of a religious nature. He was, as far as I can learn, the first author in Maine who printed books of his own composition. Mr. Lyon continued to preach at Machias, until his death, Oct. 12, 1794, at the age of 59. In the history of Princeton College, 1872, by Rev. Samuel D. Alexander, it is said that "Mr. Lyon went to Newtown, Long Island, in 1782, and supplied the Presbyterian Church there until the Spring of 1785." No tradition of the fact exists at Machias, and there must be some error in regard to it. Mr. Lyon married Martha Holden. Their children, the two first of whom were born in Nova Scotia, and the others in Machias, were :

- i. LUDLUM, b. Jan. 1, 1769.
- ii. PHEBE, b. Sept. 26, 1770, m. John Kelly, of Machias; she d. at about 1792; children:
 1. John Simpson Kelly, b. Dec. 9, 1788, of Machias; m. Sarah Seavey; she d. June 29, 1860, aged 70; he d. Jan. 29, 1864.
 2. James Lyon Kelly, b. Mar. 1, 1790.
 3. Martha Lyon Kelly, b. Nov. 18, 1791; m. Moses Hanscom.

- 4. Betsey Bowden Kelly, b. May 5, 1793; m. Josiah Noyes.
- iii. JAMES, b. Jan. 20, 1772.
- iv. JEREMIAH, b. Jan. 26, 1775; d. Dec. 13, 1783.
- v. MARTHA, b. May 1, 1777; d. July 12, 1788.
- vi. HANNAH, b. Nov. 15, 1779; m. Wm. E. Smith, of Machias. Children:
Stephen, b. 1797; Maria, 1800; James, Harrison T.
- vii. HENRY, b. May 20, 1782; m. Betsey Crocker, of Machias. Son (probably) James C. Lyon, d. Machias, Oct. 23, 1847, age 35.
- viii. SARAH S., b. Jan. 24, 1784.
- ix. AMELIA, b. Oct. 17, 1786; m. William Mellus, of Machias.

A POLITICAL LETTER OF 1813.

(Contributed by Rev. C. M. Blake, of San Francisco.)

“BANGOR, March 30th, 1818.

GEN. JOHN BLAKE,
MR. SILAS WINCHESTER,
MR. ZENAS ROGERS,
MR. WM. COPELAND. }

GENTLEMEN:—At a meeting of a respectable number of citizens of the northerly part of the County of Hancock assembled at Bangor, on the 29th instant,

Resolved, That we highly approve of the nomination of His Excellency, Caleb Strong, Esquire, for Governor, and His Honor William Phillips, Esquire, for Lieutenant-Governor, and that we will use all honorable means to promote their election.

Resolved, That we also approve the nomination of the Honorable Stephen Jones, William Abbot, and Joshua Head, Esquires, for Senators for the districts Lincoln, Hancock, and Washington; and recommend a full support of the Federalists and Friends of Peace in this part of the district for their election.

Resolved, That as the peace and prosperity of the United States essentially depend on the election of such men as advocate an honorable termination of the ruinous war in which we are engaged, we will each of us consider it an incumbent duty to use our utmost exertions to insure the election of said candidates.

Voted, That Charles Hammond, Enoch Brown, Joseph Leavitt, Josiah Kidder, Jedediah Herrick, Samuel Call, John Barker, Moses Patten, Thomas Bradbury and William Hammond, junior, be a committee to write to the principal Federalists and Friends of peace in the several towns and plantations in the northerly part of the County of Hancock, requesting their hearty concurrence in the doings of this meeting.

“GENTLEMEN:—In pursuance of the preceding vote, the committee communicate to you the foregoing resolves, and although we have no doubt of the election of the Federal Candidates, yet we consider it of the highest importance that there be an overwhelming majority, as we