

THREE SHIPS.

Three ships there be a-sailing
Betwixt the sea and sky;
And one is Now, and one is Then,
And one is By and By.

The first ship is all for you—
Its masts are gold, its sails are blue,
And this is the cargo it brings:
Joyful days with sunlight glowing,
Nights where dreams like stars are growing,
Take them, sweet, or they'll be going!
For they every one have wings.

The second ship is all for me—
A-sailing on a misty sea
And out across the twilight gray,
What it brought of gift and blessing
Would not stay for my caressing—
Was too dear for my possessing,
So it sails and sails away.

The last ship, riding fair and high
Upon the sea, is By and By.
O Wind, be kind and gently blow!
Not too swiftly hasten hither,
When she turns, sweet, you'll go with her—
Sailing, floating, hither, thither—
To what port I may not know.
—Harriet F. Blodgett, in *St. Nicholas*.

THE FOUNDING OF WOODSTOCK.

The Pioneers Arrive at Meductic.—The Old Durham Boats.—Origin of the Name of "Woodstock."—The Grant to de Lancey's Battalions.

[No 42]

As stated in our last article it was probably early in the year 1784 that the pioneer band of white settlers under their leader Lieut. Benjamin P. Griffith arrived at Woodstock. They had received from government a quantity of provisions and supplies of various kinds together with a boat to carry them to their destination. The boat was in all probability patterned after the style of the famous "Durham boat" so generally used upon the river in early days. It was a rude and primitive craft 30 or 40 feet in length and about 8 feet in width, provided with a keel but flatter in the bottom than an ordinary boat, furnished with oars and also with a mast upon which under favorable circumstances a square sail was hoisted. This mast served a yet more essential purpose in upholding above the bushes along the river bank the stout tow-line whereby a crew of four or five men dragged the boat through swift water and rapids. There was then no tow path cleared along the banks, but numerous rocks long since removed, and ugly rapids, now greatly improved by the expenditure of much money and labor, rendered the task of propelling the heavily laden boat up the river no easy one for the old soldiers of de Lancey's brigade. However they were used to campaigning and they pushed right on despite the obstacles in their path until they reached their destination. At the site of the old Meductic village they saw the ruins of fortifications and abandoned cornfields formerly cultivated by the Indians. Their eyes were gladdened by the indications of the natural fertility of the soil henceforth to be their own.

The Indians had abandoned their historic camping ground and retired to the Madawaska region. Conscious of the double part they had played during the revolutionary war they were a little uncertain how their conduct would be regarded by the men of the late provincial regiments. They accordingly retired as the loyalists advanced up the river. A little later, finding their fears groundless they returned in considerable numbers.

The lands allotted to de Lancey's brigade were densely wooded.

On the lower St. John there had been extensive forest fires not long before the coming of the loyalists. A great gale on Nov. 3rd 1759 had levelled the woods near the bay of Fundy (in much the same manner they were destroyed by the "Saxby gale" of 1869) and fires once kindled amongst fallen timbers ran in the most destructive fashion. The forest at Woodstock being remote from the sea coast escaped the gale of 1759 just as a century later it did the "Saxby gale."

On the flats and intervals in the vicinity of the town of Woodstock there are still standing here and there a few giant elms of the primeval forest. The writer examined in the summer of 1893 the stump of one of these venerable trees that grew near the road side on his father's place and counted 325 concentric rings showing this old elm had been a sapling in the days of Queen Elizabeth, and there is now standing on the adjoining farm of Mr. Stephen Peabody a yet larger and probably still older tree. The existence of such establishes the fact that there has not been any general forest conflagration in the vicinity of Woodstock for more than 300 years. To clear a densely wooded country was in itself no light task to men unaccustomed to wielding the axe. The trees were many of them of huge size, the axes were not always of the best and they were of a pattern that would be regarded by our modern lumberman with the utmost disdain. Yet with such implements and with such trees to cut, down our forefathers, unskilled foresters though they were, set manfully to work; the axe rang through the woods and one by one the old forest monarchs swayed and trembled and finally fell with thundering crash that awoke the echoes for miles around. No doubt many a weary toiler as he surveyed the slow progress made in clearing a spot for his humble log dwelling wished that nature had been less lavish in her "stock of wood." And here we pause to enquire whether the origin of the name of our town and parish is to be found in such a circumstance as this. It would really seem so, prosaic though the idea may be. There seems to have been no connection between the name "Woodstock" and that of the former residence of any of the first settlers, nor was there any English statesman or notable public character in honor of whom the new settlement might have been named whose title was in any way connected with "Woodstock." The only theory therefore that can be advanced is that the unbroken forest surroundings suggested to the founders of Woodstock the name by which their settlement should henceforth be known.

First impressions it may be observed do not always suggest the most euphonious names. However it might have been far worse. The writer very well remembers an amusing incident that happened one dark night at the old railway passenger station

just below the creek some years ago. The streets of Woodstock were then unlighted. It was the spring of the year and the train was very late in arriving. Among the passengers was an unfortunate Irishman with his bundle in hand started in quest of a hotel. In the darkness he wandered into the goose pond near the station house the bottom of which was largely composed of brick clay. He soon wandered out again, only to find the beaten track not much better. "What is the name of this town?" he inquired of the first citizen he met. "This is Woodstock," was the reply. "Are ye shure?" said Pat, "for when I landed in it I thought it was Mud-stock."

The old Indian name of Meductic clung to the locality for several years after the arrival of the first settlers and frequently occurs in old letters and documents referring to the Woodstock settlement. For example Munson Jarvis writing from St. John, August 5th, 1788, to his brother in England, says that their nephews William and Randolph Diblee, with their brother-in-law John Bedell, had taken up lands "at Meductic," 130 or 140 miles up the river, where the lands were much better than at Kingston. The report of the society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts for the year 1789 states, "The Province of New Brunswick is daily increasing and there are several places where ministers may soon be wanted, about Petitcodiac, Sussex Vale, Oromocto, and Meductic, where the inhabitants begin to be numerous." Rev. Frederick Diblee in the memoranda connected with his Indian school (extending over the years 1788 to 1791) sometimes speaks of "Woodstock," but quite as often of "Meductic." However, in course of time the more modern word supplanted the older.

It was not until the 15th day of October, 1784, that the grants to de Lancey's first and second battalions was issued under the great seal of Nova Scotia; on the same day grants were made to several other loyalist regiments. The grant to de Lancey's men, very slightly abridged, reads as follows:

"George the Third by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith and so forth. To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Know ye that we of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for us and our heirs and successors do give and grant unto Robert Brown, etc. [here follow the names of all the grantees] a tract of land containing 24,150 acres in the County of Sunbury in the Province of Nova Scotia, being 44 lots of land on the west side of the St. John river and 3 Islands (Meductic and two other islands next above it); the said lot being known by the numbers from 1 to 48 both inclusive, except lots 10, 11, 12, 13; situate lying and being, beginning at an ash tree on the west bank of the River St. John about two miles below the island called Meductic, then to run west by the magnetic needle 360 chains of 4 rods each, thence north 700 chains, thence north 25 degrees east 365 chains, thence east to the river aforesaid and thence down stream to the bounds first mentioned, including Meductic Island and 2 other islands next above it, containing in the whole by estimation 24,150 acres more or less, being all wilderness land with all woods, underwoods, timber and timber trees, lakes, ponds, fishing waters, water courses, profits, commodities, appurtenances and hereditaments whatsoever. . . . Saving and reserving all mines of gold, silver, copper, lead and coals and all white pine trees. . . . Each grantee to pay a quit rent rent of 2 shillings for every 100 acres to be paid on Michaelmas day, the first payment to be made ten years from the date of the grant and yearly thereafter. Grantees to clear and work 3 acres for every 50 acres, or else to clear and drain 3 acres of swampy or sunken ground and to put and keep on every 50 acres accounted barren 3 neat cattle and continue the same thereon till 3 acres for every fifty be fully cleared and improved, and if no part be fit for present cultivation without manuring and improving the grantee to erect one good dwelling house, at least 20 by 16 feet. And if any part of the said tract be stony or rocky ground the grantee shall, within 3 years, employ and continue to work for 3 years one good able hand for every 50 acres digging and stone quarry or mine."

This grant was given under the great seal of Nova Scotia and signed, "John Parr, Esq., captain, general and commander in chief."

The number of grantees was but 110 in all, which is but a small proportion of those who were enrolled in the two battalions. There can be but little doubt that many of the men were discharged at New York and did not come to New Brunswick. Of those who arrived in St. John many took lands elsewhere in consequence of the delay in locating and surveying their grant.

The general boundary of the deLancey grant was about the same as that of the present parish of Woodstock, except that it began not at Eel river but two miles above. In our next article we shall endeavor to give the locations of the original grantees with the present owners of their lands.

W. O. RAYMOND.

The Baltic Canal.

The Baltic Canal, which has just been opened, will be a great benefit both to commerce and to military strategy. It has long been manifested to German statesmen, first, that trade was greatly hampered by the long route around Denmark, making it indispensable to procure some means of transit for freight and passenger vessels between the Baltic and the North Seas, and, secondly, that there was an equally powerful strategic motive—to provide transit for war-ships. In 1887 the work was actually begun, and it is now completed. The canal starts from Kiel on the Baltic, crosses the province of Holstein, and joins the Elbe at Brunsbuttel, between Hamburg and Cuxhaven. War-ships from Kiel, the German Toulon, may now pass to the North Sea without going through foreign waters. The canal is on the sea-level. The lock at the Elbe entrance will always be open except at ebb or high tide, while that at Kiel may remain open for six months of the year. The canal's depth is 30 feet, its width at water-surface 210 feet, and its length about sixty miles. It is widened in several places, so that ironclads of over 10,000 tonnage may pass each other. The estimated cost, \$37,440,000, has not been exceeded. Since a speed of six miles an hour is to be allowed, the journey from sea to sea should be accomplished in ten or twelve hours. At this rate, English steamers going to the Baltic would save twenty-four hours over their present course, and steamers from Hamburg to the Baltic, forty hours. It is anticipated that about 18,000 ships, representing 7,500,000 tons, will use the canal every year, thus avoiding the long and often stormy passages by way of the Skager Rack and the Cattegat.

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1. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are a combination of valuable medicines in concentrated form as prepared by the eminent Physician and Author, Dr. A. W. Chase, with a view to not only be an unfailing remedy for Kidney and Liver troubles, but also tone the Stomach and purify the Blood, at a cost that is within the reach of all. The superior merit of these pills is established beyond question by the praise of thousands who use them—one pill a dose, one box 25 cents.

2. When there is a Pain or Ache in the Back the Kidneys are speaking of trouble that will ever increase unless relieved. We have the reliable statement of L. B. Johnson, Holland Landing, who says: I had a constant Back-Ache, my back felt cold all the time, appetite poor, stomach sour and belching, urine scalding, had to get up 3 or 4 times during night to urinate, commenced taking one Kidney-Liver Pill a day; Back-Ache stopped in 48 hours, appetite returned, and able to enjoy a good meal and a good night's sleep; they cured me.

3. Constipation often exists with Kidney Trouble, in such a case there is no medicine that will effect a permanent cure except Chase's combined Kidney-Liver Pill, one 25 cent box will do more good than dollars and dollars worth of any other preparation, this is endorsed by D. Thompson, Holland Landing, Ont.

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Delicate women need not be told how much they would give to get and STAY well. If their blood is free from the poisonous ferments of the Kidneys and Liver, they will never know what "weakness" is. The blood is the source and sustainer of health it cannot be kept pure except the Kidneys and Liver do their work naturally. Something is needed to insure free and natural action of these organs, one 25 cent box of Kidney-Liver Pills will prove to any sufferer they are a boon to women, can be used with perfect confidence by those of delicate constitution.

One Kidney-Liver Pill taken weekly will effectually neutralize the formation of Uric Acid in the blood and prevent any tendency to Bright's Disease or Diabetes.

For purifying the Blood and renovating the system, especially in the Spring, one 25 cent box is equal to \$10 worth of any Sarsaparilla or Bitters known. Sold by all dealers, or by mail on receipt of price, EDMANSON, BATES & CO., 45 Lombard Street, Toronto.

Undiscovered Gold.

The fact that the partially explored district of the Yukon tract in Alaska yielded about \$250,000 in gold during the last mining season, is generally taken to imply that the Alaska district will be one of the most important American gold producers in the near future, if the means of access to and communication with that territory can be easily maintained. In some claims the yield has been as high as \$1 or \$1.50 to the pan; and it is evident that if water could be obtained in a satisfactory supply the gold fields of Alaska might eventually show as large an output as some of the most famous camps in California. According to some reliable reports, the gold belt of Alaska extends over a district from 75 to 100 miles wide, beginning at some point in the Arctic Circle and extending down. It is already known that indications warrant the supposition that the belt is at least 900 miles long in Alaska and Canada, and it would not be strange if it should be proved that the gold belt extends practically along the whole of North America, from the Arctic Circle to southern Mexico. The mountain regions of Manitoba and British Columbia have not been thoroughly prospected as yet, so that it is impossible to speak with perfect positiveness on this point, but it is at least certain that so far as any very large tracts of the Rocky Mountain section of North America has been examined closely by skilled prospectors, the existence of rich mineral fields has been brought to light. Some eminent scientists of Europe have predicted that within 100 years the gold supplies of the world will be exhausted; but the developments of the last two years tend greatly to weaken the force of such a prediction. Viewing the situation dispassionately, it seems fair to conclude that the gold production of the coming century will not only be far greater than that of the century which is now closing, but that it will also fail to exhaust the world's stores of gold, as far as they shall have been located by that time.—Boston Advertiser.

Little Isabel's mother had very injudiciously allowed the child to drink weak tea with her meals instead of milk. One day Isabel was taken out to lunch at a friend's house, and the friend, never dreaming that a child would drink anything other than milk, placed it before her in a broad, low, fancy cup. The child gazed at the milk in silence for a while, and then astonished her hostess by remarking disdainfully, "I are no cat."—New York Tribune.

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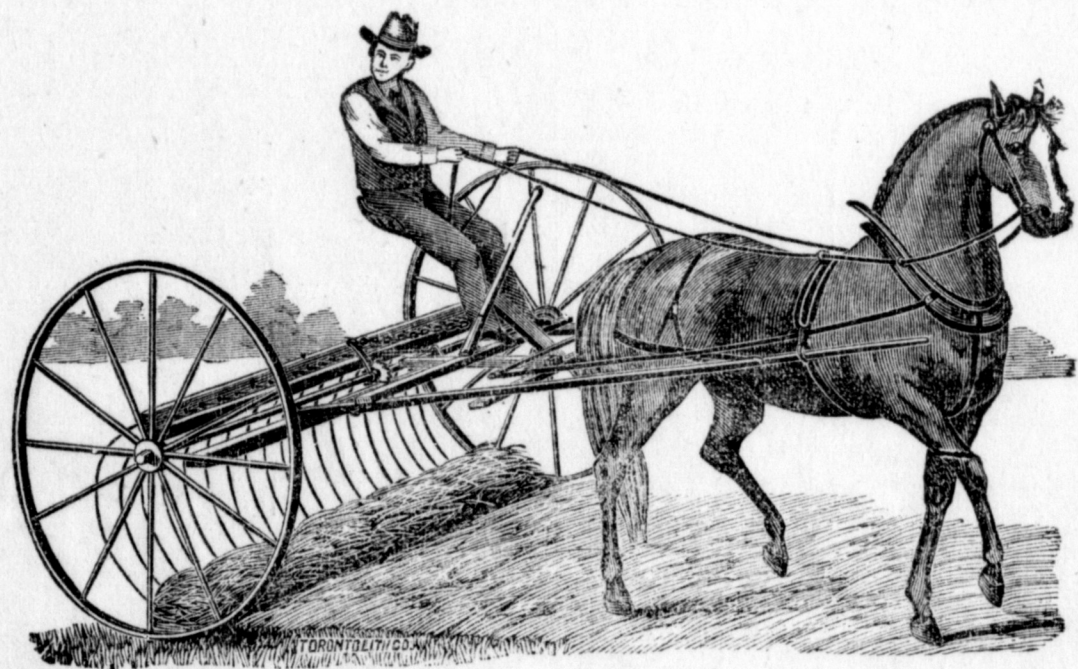
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WOODSTOCK, N. B., JUNE 19, 1895.