

a great advance in the price of all timber and all sorts of naval stores."

The contents of one paper commences as follows:

"Bath, Me., Dec. 11, 1801.

"An agreement between the Master, and seamen of the 'Brig Valerius'—the year William King purchased her—, the captain being named Robert Harding, the crew consisting of a mate and six seamen.

Another as follows:

"Boston, Mass., Aug. 26, 1802.

"Ship 'Confidence' (standing in the name of Messrs. King and Porter,) in account with Eben L. Boyd," whose wife was a sister to William King's wife. Boyd was a commission merchant. The name of this vessel I do not find on the Bath custom house list.

In 1806 an insurance of \$8,000 was put upon the ship "United States." The premium was \$800 for a year.

In Cork, Ireland, April 7, 1807, Messrs. Lecky and Mark wrote as follows:

"We wish to appraise our American friends that by a late regulation our government seems determined to put the navigation laws in full force with respect to neutrals bringing goods to this country not the actual products of the country to which they belong; we therefore recommend our friends at your side not to ship any goods not the actual products of the United States, as such goods in future will not be permitted to entry, but must be bonded for exportation."

"Norfolk, Va., April 9, 1807.

"Your schooner 'Eagle', Capt. Woodward, arrived here this day after a passage of thirty days."

The name "Eagle" I do not find on the Bath custom house list.

May 7, 1807, ship "Vigilant," "drawing 12½ feet of water, Robert Bosworth, Captain, from Charleston, S. C.," was piloted "from Point Linas through the Rock Channel into the Port of Liverpool," for which service the sum of £6.11.3 was paid. The little well preserved paper containing the record is now before me.

The name of "Vigilant" as well as

that of "Eagle" I do not find on the Bath list.

From Baltimore, Md., April 28, 1807, William King was informed by Capt. Robert Harding that for \$5,500 he had sold at auction his ship, as she was too large for the West India and too small for the European trade, but Capt. Harding fails to disclose her name. The Captain continues: "I have set my heart on the new ship, but if she is gone before my return home and you should conclude to build another that will do, I think a ship of 280 to 300 tons of easy draught and an easy sailer that will take 800 bales of cotton, and will not draw over 13½ feet of water, the best."

A letter in William King's own hand, dated at Bath, Nov. 29, 1808, and addressed to Matthew Cobb of Portland reads as follows:

"Sir: The ship owners in this quarter of the District of Maine consider a meeting of those persons concerned in commerce desirable at this time for the purpose of consulting and advising as to the best mode of explaining to the Government the true situation of our commercial interest in this section of our country.

"Such a proceeding is rendered more necessary at this time on account of the many propositions before congress, any one of which if adopted cannot but effect the persons engaged in the lumber business (in particular) very injuriously, as the business will neither pay the expense of a circuitous rout to a market nor of arming in defense.

"As it is intended that this meeting shall not be influenced by party considerations at all, it has been proposed that as many names from one of the political parties as the other shall be made use of in calling the meeting, which is suggested shall be held in Brunswick early in December, and it has been proposed that two gentlemen at Portland, two at Kennebunk, two at Wiscasset, two at Brunswick, two at Topsham and two at Bath shall be designated to call the meeting, and that the persons designated shall be of different political creeds at each place.

"Should you, sir, and your friends think favorably of the proposed meeting will you permit your name to be

made use of for the purpose of notifying the same with others to be hereafter named?

"Please let me have your answer as soon as convenient for should anything be done on this line no time should be lost.

"I am, sir, respectfully
Your Obedient Servant,
"William King."

The outcome of Mr. King's proposition as above indicated I have no means of knowing.

From Portland, January 12, 1839, a petition signed by a committee consisting of seven of the leading merchants of the town was addressed to William King, which commences as follows:

"Sir: The undersigned in behalf of themselves and others beg leave to address you upon the subject of their misfortunes. Being involved in difficulties and embarrassments from which they cannot entertain the most distant hope of being extricated without the interference of the state Legislature of which you are a member, is the only apology for troubling you."

The petitioners continue at considerable length, and make their troubles known. They were ready to surrender every cent of their property, but they wished to retain unincumbered their credit, but what action was taken I cannot state.

A letter dated at Liverpool July 7, 1809, informs Mr. King that his ships "Vigilant" and "Huron" are ready to sail for Boston, and the "Reserve" and "Reunion" will also sail soon, and "we have put up the 'United States' for Norfolk, Va."

I have presented the family connections of Capt. R. King Porter (Richard K. Porter) and stated that he was a nephew of William King.

I have stated also that in 1806 Capt. Porter was in command of the brig named "Huron," and that in 1811 he was in command of the ship named "United States." In 1806 he was

twenty-two years of age, and there was indeed an air of smartness about him at that time. He made repairs on his uncle's vessels when in foreign countries that his uncle would not in this which gave his uncle no little vexation of spirit on account of expense incurred. Before me are twenty letters he wrote beginning Feb. 8, 1807, and fifty-seven letters written and other documents prepared by Dr. Aaron Porter, his father, between the dates of June 23, 1799, at Biddeford, and Sept. 5, 1832, at Portland.

In one the doctor states that he is the administrator on his father's estate at Boxford, Mass., which tends to show the location of his native town.

Jan. 22, 1813, after the doctor had moved from Biddeford to Portland he made for William King, from whom he was expecting pecuniary aid, an inventory of his estate "as estimated in January of 1811," as follows:

"In Biddeford, lot, building,	
fruit trees and two acres	
of land,	\$1,000.00
"Farm, 250 acres, @ \$10,	2,500.00
"House and lot by Maxwell's,	1,500.00
"Nursery trees and chaise	
house,	500.00
"Ship yard,	1,000.00
"Carpenter's house and	
land,	400.00
"Wm. Perkins' house and	
lot,	500.00
"Stephen Perkins,	200.00
"Smith house and garden,	400.00
"Three acres salt marsh,	50.00
"Twenty dogs in two saw	
mills on Saco Falls,	
@ \$100,	2,000.00
	<hr/> \$10,050.00"

Then follows a long list of farms and buildings located in different places, including a half of the Boxford, Mass., farm, estimated at \$3,000, and debts due him, amounting to a total of \$85,964.00.

He then shows in detail that in 1811, before the war commenced, his

rents amounted to \$1,150 in Biddeford and his half of the Boxford farm \$200 more, but in 1813, in consequence of the war there was general poverty, and he was circumscribed on every side, not being able to collect a cent from his practice, or sell a square foot of farm land.

Capt. James Oliver writes William King from Liverpool July 8, 1809, as follows:

"I have had three men run away from the ship and one fall from the main top yard.

"On the morning of July 4 all the American ships in this port displayed their colors, and about one o'clock in the afternoon a mob hauled them all down, tore, carried away and dragged many of them in the streets. Luckily no American made any resistance or there would have been murder committed. In the evening the mayor called out his forces and cleared the streets of the rioters."

On March 16, 1810, Capt. Porter wrote:

"We have had a very severe gale of wind, and it lasted four days. About thirty sail of vessels were driven on shore which is in possession of the French and all were burned. There were eight Americans among them, the only one belonging to Kennebec was the ship named 'Commoner,' belonging to Hallowell, Capt. Colbourn. She was burnt.

(Signed) R. King Porter."

Again Capt. Porter writes William King as follows:

"Cadiz, Feb'y 4, 1810.

"Sir: It is now eighteen days since we arrived at this port, twelve of which we were in quarantine. Have not yet began to discharge. Everything is in such a fluctuating state it is impossible to do any business. The people are so alarmed at the reports that the French army is on the march to attack this place that there is nothing doing but preparing for a siege. Every lighter is in the employ of the government transporting troops, provisions, etc. There are at least twenty sail of American vessels in the same situation as my own. Many that have been unloaded ten days can

get neither salt for a cargo or anything for ballast. The few last days we have reports that a part of the French army has advanced within thirty miles of this city, but I think it is a hundred away. There are a great many English merchants here and have large stocks of goods on hand, which they want to get away, but there are not vessels enough to carry what they want to get off.

"Your nephew,
"R. King Porter."

From a letter dated Cadiz, Feb'y 24, 1811, from the same to the same as the preceding, I have made a condensed extract, as follows:

"I have been here thirty-seven days and only a third of my cargo has been discharged. Government has purchased all the provisions in the place and so kept all the lighters employed. The French army has possession of all the country about here, and have command of the river. The army is only some three miles off—nothing but the Bay of Cadiz separates us. The army is said to be strong and every day increasing. King Joseph has been down and taken a peep of the situation. The place has been strongly fortified since I have been here, and may now be defended forever, if the inhabitants will consent to be cut off from the country which appears doubtful. As there is a strong English and Spanish fleet here there is no danger at present. There are now reports that Napoleon is advancing with powerful reinforcements, so think I shall get a good freight.

"Please inform my brothers in Bath that you have heard from me, if you receive this.

"R. King Porter."

The vessel it appears from further correspondence got away safely with a cargo of salt.

From Demerara, Aug. 8, 1810, Capt. John Lane writes:

"I arrive here after a passage of forty-seven days. Sold my cows for 72 dollars and took pay in rum and molasses. Sixty head of cows arrived before me and sold for 64 dollars each."

"Savannah, Jan. 10, 1811.

"The ship 'United States' has arrived here. Several freights have been offered but nothing that meets

the approbation of Capt. Porter. The great number of English ships here and their extreme anxiety to get away before the first of February has caused the price of timber to advance to the enormous sum of \$12½ per 1,000 feet and even at this price is scarce. I feel no anxiety for the ship on account of freight, as British vessels will not be admitted after the first of February, Americans will be wanted. It is settled that the existing law does not prevent the clearing for Great Britain after that period."

Thus writes as above a commission merchant at that place.

Under date of March 4, 1811, at Liverpool one of William King's captains, whose signature I cannot decipher writes him as follows:

"I arrived at this place after a disagreeable passage of fifty days and the loss of a man and a boat. There is more or less failures here every day, and I candidly believe if the non-intercourse law is carried out strictly, England must comply with our terms, for the merchants will all fail together. I should advise every American who has property here to make sure of it as fast as possible. There are now only two or three persons whose credits are good."

A commission merchant at Liverpool March 9, 1811, informed William King of the arrival there of "your ship 'Reserve,' but on account of the enforcement of the 'orders in chambers' cannot state whether or not I can procure a return freight for her." He then expresses the hope that the "Ann" and "Reunion," two of William King's vessels then in port, "may be allowed to land their cargoes."

A few days later another shipping merchant sends out a circular letter from the same place, to his American friends, an extract of which reads as follows:

"Our Government has at last taken into consideration the distressed state of the commercial part of this country, and we have great pleasure in stating, a bill has just passed Parliament, granting six millions sterling to be distributed amongst those

Houses who may require assistance. This liberal grant will be of the greatest service to the country, and in a very short time we shall undoubtedly see confidence restored and trade assume its former vigor."

On March 18, 1811, Henry Dearborn, (a well known character in history), then collector of the port of Boston, Mass., wrote William King as follows:

"Dear Sir: I have been informed that there are two respectable men who will, if required, testify that a large part of the cargo of your vessel was taken on board after the second of February; of course it will become necessary for me to seize the vessel.

"Yours with esteem,
H. Dearborn."

"To Hon. William King."

This is the man who dominated the Federal party of Massachusetts, whose son-in-law, Joshua Wingate, Jr., wanted the office of governor of Maine in 1821 and again in 1822, or the father-in-law wanted it for him as the family of Dearborns held about all the monied offices of the state. It will be remembered that I have noticed Joshua Wingate, Jr., and may have occasion to do so again; and in passing I want to say there was the same love displayed seventy-five and a hundred years ago for office as now, or the evidences of a desire to succeed in the attempt was far more desperate then than now, and there was political bossism then as now, and the chief in this region was William King as early as 1811,—many facts to establish the truthfulness of the assertion being before me, only one of which I can use, as follows:

Abiel Wood, Jr., banker, politician and largest ship owner of his region of country, who was the grandfather to Joseph Wood, Esq., of Portland, editor of the "Maine Coast Cottager," under date of Wiscasset, July 31, 1811, closes a political letter to William

King as follows: "There should be more offices or less office seekers."

The extracts here presented, and many more I might present, furnish conclusive proof of the difficulty and hazard of doing a mercantile business during the "embargo", "non-intercourse," "orders in council" and during the time the war of 1812 to '15 was on. Much was left to the discretion of commanders of vessels, many of whom were very illiterate. The wisest under such a trying condition of unsettlement, laws and edicts made hastily, were liable to error.

Maine was largely interested in the ship building industry, having the men to construct, and material for use, near at hand and men to serve as sailors. William King's experiences were the experiences of the general public.

It was January 25, 1795, when the petition of William King, Dr. Benjamin James Porter, who was his brother-in-law, and eighteen others for a bridge over the Androscoggin river at Brunswick, was approved by the state legislature. The act states that the structure must be "twenty-eight feet wide, beginning at the mill, called the Noyes' mill, in Brunswick, thence running to the middle rock of the river, and from said rock to the great rock, so called, below the great mill at Topsham." The proprietors were to collect toll of all patrons, a list of amounts to be collected accompanying the act of incorporation.

I have alluded to the fact that William King was chosen at an open town meeting at Bath, with others, soon after his location there, to procure a gospel minister.

A state legislative act establishing the Congregational society was approved February 13, 1804. I find but three names upon the petition, Dummer Sewall being the first. The

name of William King does not appear.

A BELL FOR BATH.

Part of a business letter under date of November 10, 1805, written at Boston, Mass., by Messrs. Frazier, Savage & Co.—Frazier being a brother to Mr. King's wife—reads as follows:

"If Capt. Springer does not sail before tomorrow we shall send down a Bell for the meeting house, the weight of which is 1000 pounds. A larger one could not be obtained under three or four weeks, but we have agreed with Mr. (Paul) Revere that if the bell (altho' a good ton'd one) should not meet your wishes, he must receive it back again, and cast a larger one by your paying the expense of the same."

"The first bell for Bath," the history of the town states, on page 469, "was placed upon the North church, and is now in use on City Hall." The bell shipped to Mr. King is more than probable the one to which the Bath historian alludes, and lacks a couple of years of being a century in age.

THE BATH ACADEMY.

March 16, 1805, the state legislative act incorporating the Bath academy was approved by the governor. The names of William King and Dr. Benjamin Jones Porter of Topsham appear with others. A condition was that \$3,000 should be raised by subscription, then the state would appropriate a half township of land—a tract "three miles square."

The "Year Book" of 1831, page 77, states that the Bath academy had a land grant consisting of 11,500 acres, and the Female academy of the same place, incorporated in 1808, had another of the same size.

William King was a member of the Massachusetts State legislature when the boys' Bath academy was incorporated. A letter addressed to him reads as follows:

Bath, Feb'y 21, 1805.

"William King, Esq.

"Dear Sir: Your ship sailed this day. I left her abrest of Mr. Cobb's mills, under whole sail and a good wind. Clapp's went on Sunday; the tide was not very favorable and the Charterer having no confidence in the Pilot (Lunt), I went down with her myself. It was extremely cold.

"Col. Small has sent you the petition for the (Bath) Academy. It went on Monday last. I really hope it will obtain a handsome allowance from the Government. You may with safety pledge that the subscription hereabouts will amount to about \$3,000. Here in Bath \$1,000 will be received and in Georgetown and Woolwich the inhabitants are very fond of the movement, and will strain every nerve to accomplish the object.

"I am, Dr. Sir, your

"Ob't serv't,

"Peleg Tallman."

"N. B. I think if you were to write a subscription paper you might get considerable among your members.

P. T."

Peleg Tallman was a sea captain, who became one of the largest ship owners of the region, who dabbled in politics, being an ardent Republican—Democrat.

Another letter addressed to Hon. William King, October 9, 1818, "or to the Trustees of the Bath Academy," by the two gentlemen residing at Waterville, having in charge the Bath academy land grants, reads as follows:

"We have just returned from a visit to the Dead river and regret extremely to inform you that the timber there seems vastly different than it did at our former visit. Both in quality and quantity it falls exceedingly short. Of about forty trees cut by the appraisers and our men, many of them, the fairest which could be picked, not one proved sound, most of them being rotten both top and bottom. Though the land is marked 'first quality' by the surveyors, we feel confident we saw not over two hundred sound trees."

"Respectfully your ob't serv'ts,

"Asa Redington,

"Nath. Gilman."

AS A MANUFACTURER.

From Bath, November 30, 1809, a let-

ter was sent William King, that read as follows:

"Sir: At the request of Dr. Porter, (Benjamin Jones Porter) I have been to Wiscasset to see Silas Lee, Esq., (a lawyer there) to learn if he would like to take a part with us in the Cotton Business, as there are about seven or eight shares not yet taken. He wish'd me to leave the Subscription paper with him until next Sunday and in the meantime he would see his friends in Wiscasset and endeavor to get it completed. He will be at your house on his way to Portland next Monday and leave it with you, and I will call for it on Tuesday. I was obliged to stay at Mr. Joseph Day's at the Ferry last night, owing to the river being so full of ice, and as he could not make change for my expense I left it unpaid. If he should call on you before Tuesday I will thank you to permit Mr. Emerson (Mr. King's clerk) to pay him the sum due, which is ninety cents for myself and horse.

"Yours most Respectfully,

"Jas. S. Simmons."

Following the preceding, next in order of the material before me, is my memoranda of the state legislative act of incorporation of the "Brunswick Cotton Manufacturing company," March 4, 1809.

The building erected, which was on the Brunswick side of the falls of the Androscoggin river, at that place was a wooden three story structure, where yarn only was manufactured from raw cotton for hand looms when weaving was a home industry, but according to tradition the enterprise was not a success in all respects, and the company was reorganized, and an application made to the state legislature for a new charter, which was granted and approved by the governor October 24, 1812, the corporation adopting the name of the "Maine Cotton and Woolen Factory Company." The persons named in the act were Jonathan Page, Robert Eastman, Samuel Page, James Jones, Daniel Stone, Naham Haughton, David C. Magoon and John B. Swanton, the name of William King, for a wonder, not appearing, but the new

company agreed to exchange with him a half share in the new for a whole share in the old corporation.

In addition to the letter presented in the foregoing, here is another dated at Brunswick, July 10, 1809—four months after the one I have presented, as follows:

"To Gen. William King:

"The Second assessment of 320 Dollars on your shares in the Brunswick Cotton Manufactory will become due on the 20th instant.

"Yours respectfully,

"Wm. Stanwood,

"Treasurer of B. C. M."

"P. S. A former assessment of 80 Dollars on your shares remains unpaid."

The next letter I find is addressed to "Hon. William King, Merchant, Bath," and reads as follows:

"At an adjourned meeting of the Stock holders of the Brunswick Cotton Manufactory at Stoddard's Inn, Oct. 6, 1813—

"Voted—That this meeting be adjourned to meet at this place on Monday the 18th inst. at eleven O'clock before noon.

Nath. Poor, Clerk."

"Sir: Above is a vote of the Stock holders of the B. C. M. at their last meeting.

"With considerations most respectful, your ob't humble servt,

Nath. Poor."

The following is a characteristic letter of William King, in his own hand. "Mr. Robinson" to whom reference is made below was Thomas D. Robinson, Mr. King's bank cashier and political lieutenant. The name of the person to whom addressed, the letter does not disclose.

"Bath, March 23, 1814.

"Sir: Mr. Robinson observes that he has repeatedly notified you to pay the note given on account of the Factory.

"I am confident unless more atten-

tion is paid to this business that no note will ever pass at this Bank with your name upon it—and further, I am confident that no one ever ought to.— A note was handed to the Directors the last discount day to take up your old one, and the ten per cent has not been paid. I think the Directors will take up the business this day and no doubt they should order the note to be sued, and I can only say they will not do their duty unless they do.

"Yours,
William King."

"Brunswick, August 30, 1815.

"I, the subscriber, hereby certify that William King has this day bought at public Auction One Share in the Brunswick Cotton Manufactory, numbered fifty-nine, for thirty-one dollars and fifty cents.

"Samuel Davis, Treasurer."

"Brunswick, Jan. 12, 1817.

"Received of William King Eleven hundred and twenty Dollars in full for an assessment on thirty-two shares in the Brunswick Cotton Manufactory." [The whole number was sixty and his numbers are given in the receipt.] "Said assessment laid Oct. 2d, last."

"Saml. Davis—Treas."

It appears by public records that William King sold, in 1821, his thirty-seven shares, which was the controlling part, to the "Maine Cotton and Woolen Factory Company," for \$3,700.

The last notice served on Mr. King reads as follows:

"Brunswick, Aug. 10, 1824.

"Sir: You are hereby notified, that there will be a Statute Meeting of the Proprietors of the Maine Cotton and Woolen Factory Company, holden at their counting room in Brunswick, on the Tuesday preceding the Wednesday of September next, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the choice of officers for the ensuing year; also to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

"By order of the Directors of said Company,

"A Bourne,
Clerk of the Maine Cotton and Woolen Factory Company."

"GREAT FIRE IN BRUNSWICK."

(Portland Argus, Dec. 16, 1825.)

"An extra sheet from the Herald office at Brunswick of Tuesday last gives the following account," which was copied by the Argus:

"Thursday evening, Dec. 13, at eleven o'clock a. m., the fire broke out. It caught in the Cotton and Woolen mill, and in two hours the whole square from the factory to Demerits on the corner of Mill street was prostrate. The whole number of buildings burned were twenty-six, consisting of two factories, five dwelling houses occupied by eleven families, two stores, two saw mills, one grist mill, and a number of mechanic shops. Bath was applied to for assistance. The mercury was thirteen degrees below zero. The loss was \$100,000."

I am unable to find a file of the "Brunswick Herald." It was short lived.

Of individual, or of William King's loss in particular, I have at present no means of knowing, but the mills were rebuilt, and are now in a flourishing condition though the water privilege is not half utilized, which is of the cascade order, its appearance at times being of a sublime nature. And another thing that excites wonderment—is, what induced the two young men, Messrs. King and Porter, to buy into the privilege and attempt such an immense structure as the toll-bridge must have been!

LAND SPECULATIONS.

Some two miles from Bath William King owned a tract of land called the "Rock House Farm," which he cultivated to quite an extent. The origin of the farm house, made of stones, or cause of its construction, is conjectural. I have been quite near but never close to it. One tradition is that the house was constructed by a club of Englishmen for a shooting gallery, but another and the more reasonable is that it was erected as a

place of refuge during the war of 1812-15, should the town fall into the hands of the English. But I will not dwell on the matter and pass on to take up another matter equally as difficult to comprehend, as follows:

"Know all Men by these presents that I, W. King of Bath, in the County of Lincoln, Esquire, hereby constitute and appoint James White of Dorchester in the County of Norfolk, Esq., [no state named] my attorney for me and in my name to surrender to the Treasurer of the New England Mississippi Land Company, ten of the Scrip or Certificates of the Trustees of said Company, numbered from 1083 to 1092, both inclusive, for ten thousand acres each amounting in the whole to one hundred thousand acres of Land, with full power and authority to receive in lieu thereof all the Dividends of the United States Stock, called Mississippi Stock, which may be due thereon conformably to the decree of the Commissioners of the United States and the settlement of the affairs of the Company by the Directors thereof, sanctioned by said Company with power also to give release and discharge to said Treasurer, which may be necessary and usual * * * * *

"In witness whereof * * * * *

this tenth day of June, 1816.

"W. King."

"Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of
M. J. F. Wingate,
W. R. Porter."

The document is in the hand of Mr. King. He seems to have had but little use for lawyers, doctors or ministers.

Whether or not William King originated the idea of his becoming a great land proprietor or simply came into a movement with the object in view as a second does not appear sufficiently plain from the data at hand for me to state definitely nor does the date appear when he and Messrs. Moses Carleton and Abiel Wood, "both of Wiscasset in the County of Lincoln; Samuel Dana, of Groton, County of Middlesex, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquires, and William King of Bath, in said County of Lincoln, Esquire," pur-

chased "No. 3 Range I, Bingham's purchase," located in what is now Franklin county, this state, twenty miles north-erly of Farmington, comprising terri-torially what is now known as the town of

KINGFIELD

and, perhaps, a part of Lexington and Concord, as Mr. King owned later a large amount of land in these two towns, the three towns comprising a line running East and West.

The four were business men of large practical experience.

1—Moses Carleton, Esq., was a lawyer at Wiscasset. He died there in 1857, aged 90 years; his wife died there a year before, aged 93 years.

2—Hon. Abiel Wood has been briefly noticed. He was born in Wiscasset, a son of Abiel Wood, who was a Brigadier General, 11th Div. 1st Brig. of Me. Militia. Abiel, Sr., died March 1st, 1814, aged 54. Abiel Jr., was a Federalist, represented Wiscasset in the Mass. Gen. Court in 1807-11-16. He was opposed to the war of 1812-15 and was sent to the U. S. House of Representatives in consequence in 1813, where he served one term. He was cashier of the Wiscasset bank, owning at one time over \$20,000 in stock. He was a delegate to the convention that drafted the State Constitution, in 1819, and was appointed by Gov. William King as one of his councillors. He was a bank commissioner, and died at Belfast while on an official visit, Oct. 25, 1834, aged 62 years. (Another record says Nov. 2).

His residence, then unoccupied, was pointed out to me last year at Wiscasset.

3—Samuel Dana was born in Groton, Mass., June 26, 1767. His father was Rev. Samuel Dana of that town, a liberal Congregational clergyman, but meeting with trouble growing out of his views relative to the war of the Revolution he quit the pulpit, studied law and became a lawyer.

Samuel, Jr., became a lawyer also, and had a large practice in Groton and vicinity. Samuel Emerson Smith who became Governor of Maine, in 1831, was a law student of his in

1813, as was Luther Fitch of the Portland Municipal court.

Samuel Dana, Jr., held many offices. He was Chief Justice of the Circuit court of his district from 1811 till 1820; a member of the Mass. Legislature, both house and senate, Member of Congress in 1814, Presidential Elector in 1820, and died at Charlestown, Mass., Nov. 20, 1835, to which place he had removed, after the death of his wife which was the year before, on May 11, there having appeared in the last years of his life a lack of fixedness of purpose in his business transactions.

Thus the associates of William King at the commencement of the settlement of the inland tract of land to the location of which I have alluded, but the following, which is a copy of an interesting original letter before me sheds additional light upon the nature and history of one of the number associated with Mr. King:

"Boston, Mass., July 15, 1811.

"My Dr. Sir—I was sorry that your affairs required you to leave this place so soon after the Legislature rose. I wanted one whole day with you free from interruptions. I wish I could refrain from reviewing the expressions of a sentiment with which I have too often troubled you, namely: my own future prospects as to property. I do not represent myself to you as an indigent or dependent man, far otherwise, but yet, looking forward, beholding around me a wife who from the disparity in our ages is likely to survive me, six children to whom I have given existence and must provide for, besides the pleasure which results from the contemplation, that I may be in a situation when I need not labor for my daily bread, is not (in my mind) a small care.

"Could I be dismissed from all public employment & left to work exclusively for myself six years, I believe that I should not fear for a future subsistence; but I am now told (excuse the vanity of the suggestion often made to me) that I must go into the newly created Court or it will wither & die, or pass into the hands of Federalists. If this is so, surely, as much as I may relent, I ought to go upon the Bench in which case my yearly earnings from all sources would not exceed \$2,000.

"This day I have received from Mr. Gray, [Hon. William Gray, one of the rich men of Mass., and twice Lieut-Governor] as chairman of the committee a communication addressed to Messrs. Bond, Tuttle, Bridge, Varnum and myself authorizing us to obtain subscriptions to the State Bank to the amount of \$200,000. You will probably have a similar one, but not having seen my associates I do not know what is to be done. Why I address you is to learn whether I cannot in an honorable, honest & correct manner derive some personal benefit from it or in some way make some money from the Bank. And I now ask your advice & direction. You will not think it more than I have a right to claim from our long & I can say very sincere and fervent friendship. You must be as particular as you may deem necessary for my understanding. And give me an answer as soon as your leisure will permit.

"As you are in weekly receipt of newspapers from this place you know all the news I have. Accounts from all parts of the commonwealth give the Legislature a most excellent character.

* * * * *

"With the highest regard,

"I remain yr's,

"Samuel Dana."

The town of Kingsfield is $5\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ miles square. Through it, from North to South, runs the Carrabasset river, a stream of rapid moving water, sufficient in quantity to supply power for twenty mills. The forests at the time of settlement were of rock maple and other hard wood trees—of soft wood, mostly spruce and hemlock. Along the river the soil was good, but back from the river it was sandy and unproductive, the northerly part mountainous.

The settlers were adventurers without money. The first one I cannot name.

Mr. King seems to have been the "head center" in the enterprise. He held the "power of attorney." Bonds for land titles were given and notes received, the price agreed upon was from fifty cents to two dollars per acre, time for payment, five years, payments quarterly with interest.

Before me are ten of the original

bonds, signed and dated at "Kingsfield" in 1815. When the first settler located I cannot say. The "State Year Book" states the town was settled about 1806, and was incorporated Jan. 24, 1816, when the letter "s" was left out of the name. Nathaniel Dudley seems to have been Mr. King's first agent. Some of Mr. King's letters to Mr. Dudley with two sketches of Mr. King are printed in the "Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder," Vol. 1, pages 95 to 106. The first letter from Mr. King is dated, Bath, February 24, 1813, at which time Mr. Dudley was building a mill.

Under date of March 18, 1816, Mr. King writes his agent a letter from which I here present an extract, as follows:

"I cannot refrain from stating to you the satisfaction I feel in common with the Republican-Democrats generally at the very great changes which have taken place since I last saw you.

"Vermont commenced by a thorough change of men. New Hampshire has now followed her example; it can truly be said that Federalism falls in the same proportion as the country rises. As there is not, perhaps, a nation in the world at the present day that has a higher standing than our own among the nations of the earth, we are, therefore, to conclude that we are to have very little more opposition from Federalism after the present year."

October 15, 1815, Joseph Knapp received a bond for the "easterly half of lot No. 2, in the sixth Range of Lots in said Kingsfield, for Knapp's promissory notes for \$100, to be paid in quarterly yearly payments within five years with interest."

September 30th, 1819, Joseph Knapp conveyed his title for a "valuable consideration" to Rufus K. J. Porter, son of Dr. Benjamin Jones Porter, hence a nephew of William King.

It was October 11th, 1817, that William King informed Nathaniel Dudley,

his agent at Kingfield, that his nephew, Rufus K. J. Porter of Topham, intended to engage in farming and was about to start for the wilderness of Kingfield for the purpose of selecting land, and then added: "As he is very little acquainted with the business of clearing wild land, I think, if you can obtain the improvements of a good piece reasonably, it would be better for him than to take a tract entirely new. A farm on the intervale would be, I think, most likely to please him. I wish you would look around with Mr. Porter and so let me know what improvements can be had and at what price."

Rufus K. J. Porter was, in 1817, when he went to Kingfield, eighteen years and one month of age. When Joseph Knapp conveyed his land and improvements to him, for "a valuable consideration," he was nineteen years and eleven days of age. In 1820, he was united in marriage with Miss Ruth, daughter of Joseph and Eunice (Carver) Knapp. For the half lot, located about a mile westerly of the village, improvements, and a story and half house, which was burned some years since, William King paid Joseph Knapp \$500.

In addition to the cares of his own farm, young Mr. Porter seems to have been in the employ, as an agent, of his uncle, William King, and besides, he purchased the improvements on other tracts of land. With his uncle he had a long account who charged him, October 25, 1825—

"For 100 merino sheep, @ \$10,	\$1,000
"For 50 merino lambs, @ \$5,	250
"For 60 mixed, @ \$5,	300
	<hr/> \$1,550

The sheep raising branch of farming there does not seem, from the data before me, to have been a success. Great results were expected from the merino breed, so much so that such men as Hon. Samuel Dana engaged in

the enterprise, but only to meet with disappointment and loss.

Before me are several of young Mr. Porter's letters addressed to his uncle at Bath and marked "Free"—signed "Rufus K. J. Porter, P. M.," and forty-seven from other persons residing in Kingfield, together with a few from Anson and Lexington, the earliest dated 1815, the latest, 1834, from which I propose to present a few gleanings—the whole, if they could be printed, would be interesting reading for the residents of that region, if not the general public.

"Kingfield, Oct. 18, 1815."

It appears that at this date a mill had been built on the stream passing through lot "No. 3 in the Third range of lots," when the lot was conveyed to Solomon Stanley, Esq., with a half of the mill privilege, reserving for the proprietors the other half and "all the necessary accommodations on the shores on each side the Falls for mill conveniences, with the necessary road ways to the mill," for the sum of \$100, \$25 of which amount to be paid each year with interest.

"Kingfield, Dec. 28, 1816.

(From William King's agent.)

"Agreeable to your directions, I have attended to your business and have taken notes of settlers to the amount of \$2,200, which will be forwarded the first opportunity. There are six or seven more I have not seen. "Esquire Stanley, or as some term him, 'our Smuggled Justice'—a term for which I cannot account—says he 'cannot sell his claim on the mill privilege to advantage with your restrictions, but the inhabitants of the town generally want you to adhere to them.'"

"Nathaniel Dudley."

"Kingfield, April 26, 1817.

"To William King, Esq.

"Necessity calls loud for your attention. Your neglect in sending the balance of your tax (\$38.32) has caused me trouble. The town of Kingfield is laboring under many embarrassments which must be remedied. Our circumstances, on account of unforeseen expenses, as a town, are very

distressing, and must so remain till after the harvest.

*"Simeon Knapp, Collector."

"November 4, 1819.

"I am disappointed in receiving money so I cannot pay Esquire Stanley the \$350 as I agreed to at this time for the mill, unless I get assistance, therefore I make this statement to you, as you have a large interest in the town, and now own the one half.

"The price was \$500. I had \$150, which I paid over, and have repaired the mill. Perhaps you can think of something that will answer the very thing I have mentioned.

"Thomas Butler."

September 11, 1819.

Thomas Fillebrown, blacksmith, for \$130 transferred his claim to a certain lot of land located on the westerly side of 'Seven mile brook,' in Kingfield, to Esquire Stanley, Luther Hathaway and Tristram Norton, which, in 1822, went to William King for a "valuable consideration."

"Kingfield, Apr. 10, 1822.

(Young Mr. Porter to Wm. King.)

"Dear Uncle: The saw mill is now doing business and goes remarkably well, but there is an unaccountable want of calculation in Stanley's management. I called on him several times and named to him the necessity of the mill's being employed and he has often stated that he would commence sawing in a few days. The mill, however, has done but a very little till within a few days. Half of the logs might now have been sawed but seven-eighths remain untouched. The saw from Bath would not answer the purpose so got one from Anson.

"There are at the mill 250 pine logs besides numberless spruce and hemlock, nearly one hundred of which belong to me.

"The grist-mill remains in the same condition as when you were here last fall.

"I wrote you that about eighty acres of trees had been felled and got in readiness for fire, and I had discharged the hands.

"I find difficulty in obtaining seed—hay-seed in particular, and should more trees be felled, the difficulty will be increased. The trees adjoining the felled piece, should the fire get among them, would cost more to prepare for the fire, as the underbrush would be

burned as well as the hollow trees, and, when felled, the fire would go through the ground again.

"Hay-seed is so scarce that I am obliged to promise cash for 400 pounds at ten cents per pound. I am now employed in getting out fence stuff to secure the sheep but shall commence soon in jerking in the felled trees.

"The sheep are not doing well in consequence of being kept too close, and too many in a flock.

"The cotton cloth you name is in good demand, and if you could send some cheap broadcloth twenty per cent could be made in paying off the help here.

"I am in need of two hogsheads of salt, two quintle of fish, a half barrel of molasses and an ox-cart. If you can send all to Waterville I can go there for them. I want for the saw-mill about forty pounds of board nails and the same amount of shingle nails.

"Your nephew,

"Rufus K. J. Porter."

"Kingfield, July 24, 1822.

"I shall be unable to make arrangements with all the settlers respecting their crops. If you are here three weeks before the corn is disposed of you can manage matters as you please.

"I sowed on the burn 23 bushels of wheat, 3 of rye, 10 of oats, planted 80 bushels of potatoes, (seed ends) 2 bushels of corn and one of beans.

"I shall need an advance of \$100 to pay off the help.

"The carding machine does very well, and Mr. Little is very well satisfied with the situation.

"Your Nephew,

"Rufus K. J. Porter."

Before me, next in order, is an agreement, signed May 28, 1823, between William King and Nathaniel B. Chadbourn, in the original writing by which it appears that William King agreed to "erect a Bark House, and prepare the necessary pits, with a Bark Mill, in a suitable place within the Town of Kingfield, and advance \$600 for hides towards stocking the yard." Mr. King was to have six per cent for the investment, Chadbourn to do all the work, and the two to divide profits.

Esquire Stanley is now heard from as follows:

"Oct. 21, 1823.

"If agreeable to you I would like to take the mills again. I am aware I have some bitter enemies in town who wish to drive me out of the mills, and even out of the town. I know I have done the best I could for the mills and for your Honor. I know persons have complained to you, and have said they would have sawed nights, but I have felt it not for our interest to pay one dollar per night for men not accustomed to the work.

"Concerning the money I owe you, I think if you could know the benefit it would be to me in taking me out of bondage and setting me free it would give your Honor great satisfaction, and place me under great obligations to you. I ask not for a gift only that you make an extended credit.

"This from your very humble servant,
Solomon Stanley."

"Jan. 11, 1825.

"Mr. Chadbourn informs me you wish to contract with some person to get 5000 rails and 1000 cedar posts, that you may fence the Wing farm.

"I have cut and cleared a road to and through a large cedar swamp that lays on the northwest side of your lot in the nearest direction to the Mills, where there is cedar enough. Chadbourn says you will allow on the land rent. I suppose you want a good five rail fence and will pay for the same by the rod when completed. I cut the trees clean as I go and then select the best. If you can assist me to a yoke of cattle it would be of great advantage to me. I have good keeping for them.

"Your Ob't Servant,

"Edmund Dudley."

"P. S. Your clover mill will commence running tomorrow."

Upon March 17, 1825, Esquire Stanley again writes William King, alluding to his creditors' demands, and then engages in a sort of religious exhortation quoting certain passages of the Bible relative to riches and the loss of souls in consequence of obtaining great fortunes, and closes thus: "N. B. Be pleased to forgive my boldness."

"Solomon Stanley."

"Kingfield, Sept. 24, 1827.

"Dear Uncle—The saw and grist

mill are doing about the same as last year. Mr. Little says 'he shall have as much wool to card as he can handle the present season.' Mr. Chadbourn is attending to his tanning business and will finish some of his upper leather soon. I expect to finish clearing the dry land in my cut-down this fall; the remainder, which is wet, next spring.

"Affectionately, your Nephew,
"Rufus K. J. Porter."

"Kingfield, Nov. 28, 1828.

"Mr. Bradbury arrived at this place on the thirteenth. He left the lame ox at New Sharon. I am sorry that you did not send up a better team; there is not more than one yoke fit for logging.

"Lemuel Bartlett."

"Kingfield, March 25, 1829.

"I got through work in the woods the last day of February. The snow got so deep it was not profitable to stay longer.

"We got in 1137 logs which will make 606,039 feet of boards. Your team arrived here the 17th inst. The snow is now as deep as any time this winter.

"I called on Mr. Brooks according to your directions and he said 'he could not get the money.' I then called on Esquire Stanley and he said 'he had made arrangements with Esq. Norton to pay the note sometime this season.' So I did not get any money of either, therefore I must borrow some to meet expenses.

"Lemuel Bartlett."

"Kingfield, March 14, 1829.

"When you were last here at Kingfield you will recollect I gave you some account how your business had been managed.

"Now, as respects the proposition you made me to stop on your place, I will inform you that I would be pleased to stay if I could do it with safety to myself, but I find myself and property continually harrassed from a most inveterate enemy who regards neither principle nor the law. You know something of the injury I have suffered, and it is becoming worse and worse. A few days since my young horse was taken in the night time and all the hair was sheared from his neck and tail. What will be done next I cannot tell.

"If you do not come up soon I wish you to write me what business you want me to attend to, for Mr. P. is pretending that he had orders from you to manage your affairs.

"If you wish me to put up a barn on the farm as we talked last fall I wish to know it so I may get the frame before the snow is gone."

"Abraham Smith."

"Kingfield, Nov. 30, 1829.

"I think six shillings per day for a man to survey lumber high wages, but if you cannot get one less it must be paid.

"I have been to Farmington and purchased 1800 lbs of pork and 70 bushels of corn at six shillings per bushel, but can get no more at these prices. As I am obliged to pay money for our supplies I wish you to send me \$50. If the weather should hold cold we shall go to the woods next week.

"Lemuel Bartlett."

"Kingfield, Jan. 18, 1830.

"Your lumbering business at Spruce stream is lively and a success. Your neat stock is in good order and without loss of cattle, or sheep. It is very probable you will have hay enough too for your stock.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, February 20, 1830.

"Your teams at Spruce stream are to leave camp in one week from today by order of Col. Berry, your agent. They say they have cleared the lots there.

"One of your oxen came to his death in the supply team, which Bradley drove, by eating too much provender at one of the camps.

"The stock under my care is well—no deaths or sickness among the sheep, thus far this season. Your Merino sheep at Otis' began to die off some time ago, and 'tis said they are very poor in flesh. When I write you again I shall give you a more particular account of Tom Otis and his management in regard to your stock and farm he occupies if you wish it.

"Mr. Webster wants to know what you will do with him about the tanning business as soon as possible.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, June 30, 1830.

"Your directions about the hides came to hand duly and the team was sent according to directions."

"The wool was as follows: Merino and common, 540 lbs., 80 lbs. of which I received from Otis. Of the common, about 200 lbs, making four packets, sent to Augusta by team. I have three black fleeces and 17 pounds pulled wool which I can get worked at the halves.

"Your hemp seed I received and prepared six acres of the best tillage land and sowed in drills in due order, but unfortunately the seed has proved to be poor, or damaged, so not more than one in fifty came up. When I discovered the trouble I seeded the land to oats.

"The Porter farm is not yet disposed of. I have sowed five or six bushels of wheat there and nine bushels of oats, and planted an acre of potatoes and repaired the fences. The prospect there for hay is slim, the fields having been grazed so severely in the spring the last few years. Otis left there the 10th of May. I presume you have not heard of his keeping the products of the place and pretending the place did not raise anything, that he did not keep the buildings in repair and that he converted the fence stuff to his own use, etc., etc.

"Your receipts from the Granary, by me put up, is 133 bushels for the logging concern and some before I was employed.

"To boards sawed, according to Lane's account, ninety thousand.

"One-fourth of all the toll from the clover mill is six hundred pounds.

"Mr. Chipman, who is engaged here for you by the month at present, will take the Porter farm at halves, provided you will make some repairs on the buildings. He will take 100 or 150 of the sheep and a half-dozen of the cows, a yoke of oxen, some of the farming tools, pay half of the taxes, etc., according to the custom here. He has a family and appears to be a steady and fair minded person.

"I will inform you that I have put a man on my place at the halves and I have moved to the mills, so devote my whole time to your interest, with as much economy as I am capable.

"For labor I am paying one half in grain and the other half to go on the interest account of land purchases.

"Breadstuff from the mill, the product of the cows, and what can be gathered from the fields will go far towards boarding the farm help.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, June 30.

"I have gone on with your business according to your wishes. I have hired four men by the month and have cleared off the choppings, sowed thirty bushels of wheat, ten of oats, planted eight acres of corn and three of pota-

toes, all of which appear to be flourishing.

"We are now repairing the old barn, and next week expect to put up the new one.

"In consequence of managing the farm this way, I have been obliged to buy supplies and seed and now am under the necessity of asking you for \$35.

"I would like two barrels of flour, twelve to fifteen bushels of corn, one barrel of mackerel, two hundred of dry fish, one barrel of molasses, and nails and irons for building what you may think necessary.

"Your affairs here in general are prosperous, and your land is selling fast. Nine or ten applicants for lots this spring.

"Abraham Smith."

"Kingfield, May 28, 1832.

"I have contracted for the floor plank and have them stuck for seasoning. Mr. French is preparing the hard wood.

"We have succeeded in repelling the assaults of the bears by trapping the ringleader and compelling his associates to flee to a more distant forest. Mr. Page, upon the Butler farm, is progressing. The young Blanchards are cutting bushes.

"Ed. Dudley."

"Kingfield, June 13, 1832.

"I have succeeded in finishing planting, which in a common season would be considered very late, and am now working out your road tax which is \$60.

"I have sowed ninety bushels of seed and planted five acres of corn and potatoes, having spared no labor with the plow and harrow.

"There are ninety of the common sheep with twenty lambs. This flock has decreased less than any flock hereabouts.

"Chipman says he has lost twenty-five of his best sheep by bears, and other wild animals, and about thirty lambs. I have sent a hunter with traps and hope to break up the haunt."

"Kingfield, September 18, 1832.

"Mr. Luce has been absent about a fortnight, during which time the channel through the ledge has been cut and abutments built. All the necessary preparation for the floom has been made and Mr. Luce has returned for putting in the same. 'Tis highly probable the mill will be started in about four weeks.

"I am engaged in harvesting the thirty acre piece, and am quite successful in obtaining laborers without paying much money in advance. The part requiring the sickle will be completed today.

"The two young Pullens wish to purchase some land on the usual terms. They would prefer a lot with a small house on it and something else done. Will you say what place they may have with price set?

"Ed. Dudley."

"Kingfield, Oct. 3, 1832.

"Since I wrote you last a trench has been cut to the pan, or ledge, and layers of timber put down backed by a thick, heavy wall from the abutment to the extent of seventy feet westerly, and planked sufficiently to prevent the water from flowing into the mill yard front of the mill in high freshets."

The account of what was being done on the mill was continued at considerable length, then a description of the farm work was indulged in, which I omit. The letter continues as follows:

"Mr. Brett is still solicitous to learn if you will let him have the Wing house, to be moved onto a spot where he can repair it to live in, while he is building one; if not he will be under the necessity of moving out of town as he has no place for his family. As he has furnished a considerable amount of timber and has quite a bill for blacksmith work done for the mills, and on farming utensils, there would be no risk in accommodating him. He is a good mechanic and has a promising family.

"Mr. Washington Pullen wishes to take half or all the place which J. Johnson is on. He can have Johnson's right for \$25. There is no prospect of Johnson's ever paying you.

"Mr. Moses Mills wishes to purchase the hundred acres adjoining the Maston place, upon the northerly side. He wants it for a pasture, and is able to pay for it.

"Mr. George Peterson wishes to purchase the easterly half of the hundred acres which Ira Durell is upon and will pay down a pair of steers worth twenty-five or thirty dollars.

"Mr. Chas. Pike wishes to purchase the building spot adjoining himself, upon the bank westerly of his including the blacksmith shop which he

owns upon your terms stated. He would like thirty or forty acres of land above Norton's, on the east side of the road.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, Oct. 18, 1832.

"Probably the corn mill will be started next week. A new cleanser was found to be necessary, which is being built. Mr. Brooks is repairing the fulling mill. Mr. Blanchard will commence repairing the clover mill next week. I found the abutments upon the east side gullied out by the great freshet and employed Mr. Judkins to make the repairs. The young Blanchards are making wall and have four of the working cattle, and Page has one yoke, which makes my team scant. Another yoke is absolutely necessary.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, Oct. 31, 1832.

"The mill is in operation and grinds with very great despatch. It is presumed that not a mill within the State of Maine can be found that can compete successfully with it. It grinds a bushel of old, hard corn in a little less than five minutes. The cleanser and bolter required more attention than I expected. The flour mill is not quite completed. The fulling mill is in operation.

"The work upon the farm progresses each day agreeable to your directions.

"The Messrs. Blanchard are making wall. Mr. Page upon the Butler place is not inclined to divide any part of the crop at present, and evidently not at all, excepting the hay, if he can prevent it.

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, February 5, 1833.

"If my charge for labor for the days when I should have been at rest the past year is illegal, and my services unsatisfactory, surely, I am not entitled to reward, and cannot of course make another engagement, but if you think I have been faithful, and merit the pay received and due me then I will engage with you another year upon the following conditions—namely:

"Independent of any restrictions imposed by any person excepting yourself, I will occasionally labor, and manage your stock and farming interest for the sum of twenty dollars per month (boarding myself) from the first day of April next till the following last day of November, with the privi-

lege of boarding the laborers whom I employ to work with me at the rate of one bushel of wheat per week, or nine shillings in money. Your answer solicited within one month.'

"Edmund Dudley."

"Kingfield, March 17, 1833.

"Dear Sir. I have not received a reply to my letter, nor anything whatever from you respecting my continuance in your service after the last day of this month. As you have the conditions stated in writing, 'twould be exceedingly interesting to me to know the determination to which you have arrived, that I may be at liberty to arrange my own affairs.

"I completed in due time all the thrashing of grain intended for marketing. The oats reserved for seed in the old barn I delayed a spell for the purpose of getting the new barn clear of straw, but the work will be done this week and the straw fed out to the cattle.

"The stock is in good plight. The sheep have gained in quality since winter commenced. You will have, 'tis probable, a good deal of hay to summer over.

"I did not think to make engagement with you for a little necessary supply of bread-stuff when you were here. If you can do it please write me at once.

"Probably among the many enquiries relative to affairs here in Kingfield you have been informed of an indictment issued against me by the Grand Jury on complaint of Tom Otis & B. Foster, for defending myself against an impudent and violent assault by Otis sometime last summer, at which time an examination was had before a Justice of the Peace selected by both parties when an acquittal was ordered.

"Last Thursday I attended at Norridgewock a session of the Court of Common Pleas and after a little plea was made by the county attorney and reply by the Def't the case was given to the jury who, after some time, reported 'not agreed,' but receiving some further instructions retired again, and after much discussion returned a verdict against the Def't, whom the Judge discharged with a fine of five dollars only. The jury were divided upon the question of personal defence, and decided that it would have been more proper on the occasion for the Def't to have used the Yankee fist, or the Irish Shillaly, than the dirk. It was made to appear be-

fore the court that Otis made an assault and battery upon myself in the street while I was engaged with a small knife in whittling, in consequence of which he got in some degree whittled himself before he could be induced to break his clinch and stand back a little.

"Respectfully, your humble serv't,
"Edmund Dudley."

"To Gen. King."

I have alluded to Nathaniel Dudley, Esq., who acted as William King's agent at Kingfield. He went from Mt. Vernon to the Plantation of Kingfield, going from Raymond, N. H., to Mt. Vernon about the year 1800. The above noticed Edmund Dudley was probably Nathaniel's son.

March 1, 1858, from Boston, Mass., Deane Dudley, born in Kingfield, a grandson of Nathaniel, Deane residing in Bath at the time of William King's death (1852) sent to the Franklin Patriot, at Farmington, a very interesting short article for publication. It may be seen on pages 95-98, vol. I, of the Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder.

"Kingfield, April 22, 1833.

"Mr. Peabody commenced plowing this morning the large field southerly of the barn, [which shows the season to have been very early that year.]

"The cows that Mr. Dudley had last year I have let out for a year at \$5 each. I have hired C. B. Butler and Wm. K. Dudley to assist Mr. Peabody for nine months at \$12 per month, most of the wages to be retained by you on account (of land rent.)

"Mr. Bourne wants to work for you at \$13 per month and turn it in on his land notes. He wants to work on the place at the Mills.

"Mr. Johnson commenced on the mill on the 8th. It is now mostly framed, but will not be raised at present for fear of freshets.

"Samuel Usher."

These old letters give a lucid idea of life in the region of Kingfield at the time of writing them, and suggest the question: "Upon what did the laborer subsist when only \$13 per month was received and the amount to go to pay for land notes?" Bad as Ireland.

Kingfield, May 13, 1833.

"The saw mill was raised the 30th of last month, and you have the best frame you ever had at this place.

"I have hired Mr. Abbott and Mr. Clough to work with Mr. Johnson for six shillings per day till the mill is finished. I cannot hire good men for such work for less money where they owe you.

"We have been visited with a heavy wind and many buildings are injured. Your tan-barn will require in consequence a new roof and shingled with short shingles.

Your barns will not hold half your hay this year as you have much left over.

"Mr. Gould has returned the second time from Canada and has not got any money. What will you have done with the oxen and cow he had of Mr. Thompson?

"I have hired Mr. Otis' second son for \$10 per month and have it turned in on his notes.

"Samuel Usher."

From Kingfield, June 1st., 1833, Ira Blanchard informed "Mr. William King, Esq.," that Mr. Gould would not give up the oxen so he has purchased a fine pair of five-year-olds, measuring six feet and two inches, for \$65.

"Kingfield, June 5, 1833.

"I can get a barn frame put up, 40x60, for \$150. The timber must be hauled four to five miles and this is a busy part of the year, hence the extra cost. I will put it up for \$130 provided I can have your carts as I have none of my own. The timber I should, at this price, cut on your own land where it can be found. I will turn one half on your land bills.

"The saw mill will be finished this month, and what will you have done with it?

"Will you let out any of your wool on shares as several persons have applied?

"Samuel Usher."

Kingfield, June 10, 1833.

"Everything is promising. The sheep have wintered well and have thirty lambs—Chipman's flock have thirty more. The old house Mr. Gower lived in I have taken down to get plank to plank the mill flume, for the walls were all covered with plank.

"Samuel Usher."

"Kingfield, July 25, 1833.

"I forwarded your letter to Stephen Landers but he does not conform to your requirements.

"Peabody commenced haying last Monday in the large field. The grass is all that can be made on the ground. Your barns will not hold more than half the hay and grain."

"Samuel Usher."

My supply of information relative to the settlement of Kingfield and what transpired there obtainable from old letters ceases at this date, but we will look at the town with Concord and Lexington added through a manuscript prepared by William King, and is in his own hand, but without date. It is a sort of inventory of his land possessions in the region of Kingfield, as follows:

"Valuation of land in Kingfield."

"5,030 acres unimproved.

"7,574 do do

"425 do owned by town.

"13,029 acres @ 50 cents, \$6,514.50

"10,385 acres, (say) ——— 3,000.00

\$9,514.50

"Valuation of Land in Concord, No. 1, 1st. Range."

"1,819 acres of wood Land.

"911 " unimproved.

"13,592 " "

"1,976 " "

"18,298 @ 50 cents, \$9,149
Deduct, 1,000

\$8,149

"Valuation of Land No. 2, 1st. Range."

"1,053 acres unimproved.

"515 " "

"1,280 " "

"20,000 " "

22,848 acres @ 50 cents, \$11,424
"Deduct, \$2,000

\$9,424

The town of Concord was incorporated Jan. 25, 1821.

The town of Lexington, March 4, 1833, but February 24, 1885, not being able to maintain a town organization returned to that of a plantation.

Mr. King had also large land pos-

sessions in the town of Anson, located a little southerly of the towns I have mentioned but manuscript communications from these towns are less numerous than from Kingfield, but are equally or more interesting. The first is dated, Anson, Jan. 3, 1820, and is very long, from which I will present a few extracts.

"The last time you were here at Anson and Kingfield I expected to have seen you relative to some deeds of possession & Bonds I hold as collateral security for debts due me and wish your disposition, more particularly now that there are various stories afloat about what you intend to do respecting your claims when the time of the Bonds expire, or, rather, perhaps I should say, what will be done. I will plainly state to you, Sir, the interest I have in the persons in Kingfield, and wish you to have the goodness to inform me of what I must do, or how to manage so I may receive my pay, or be secure and your interest not injured. I have made a general rule, when parties owe me who cannot pay, (and one great reason why they owe me is on account of two cold seasons,) to take their land Bonds as collateral security and sometimes quit claim deeds, and unless a disposition to defraud is manifested, I wait in expectation of receiving my money sometime, but in no instance have I enforced my claims so as to compel settlers to quit the land.

"I am satisfied from what I know of the quality of the land in Kingfield that it will be in time the first farming town of the county and when the land is settled around in the adjoining wilderness that Kingfield will be a place of considerable business.

"I hope, Sir, you will excuse me for taking so much liberty in writing.

"I am, yours respectfully,

"James Dinsmore."

"Hon. Wm. King."

"Anson, May 18, 1823.

"I should like to have you notify me when you are coming to this place, as a number besides myself wish to see you upon business, particularly Capt. Rowe, the collector of Concord, who says he has been called upon two or three times, and has been obliged to borrow \$20 on your account, while waiting for a remittance from you.

"I was at Kingfield a month since.

The people there appeared very busy in getting in their crops. Mr. Porter was clearing land; your saw mill was going; your clothier was digging up stumps on the land southwesterly of Stanley's, and the worst I heard was that Stephen Wing's wife has another child born blind. Is there no way of helping these poor unfortunates? Why not propose to the State Legislature for aid as in cases of deaf and dumb?

"James Dinsmore."

"Anson, Oct. 23, 1824.

"I have just returned from Kingfield and Mr. Stanley wished me to write you concerning the mill, etc.

"There is considerable smutty wheat this season and the mill at Strong (Hunter's) has a smut cleaner and people are going there to have their wheat ground. Stanley suggests the propriety of getting one and making some other alterations to insure your share of custom, and wishes you to write him immediately. He has heard you do not intend to come up till the middle of November, and so is very anxious to know if you can oblige him with the money he talked about with you. His place is now under mortgage for \$250 and he owes his brother's widow \$900 for which she will take \$250. One hundred dollars additional would clear him of debt and then he could mortgage the whole to you."

The foregoing is taken from a manuscript letter written by James Dinsmore to "Hon. William King." Mr. Dinsmore, after writing as above, launches into a "history of the politics of the county," as he terms it, but as he does not use the whole of the names of the persons to whom he alludes, the confidential exposures made are not of public interest, but the manner of conducting politics and assailing office-holders has not undergone much change in the eighty years last passed. Mr. Dinsmore closes as follows:

"I do not wish to resign the register's office unless I am sure of the clerk's. If I was only sure the Governor would nominate me if Gould is rejected I should feel safe in resigning. The Presidential question brightens even here in this dark region of [John Q.] Adamsites and

there are daily additions to the Crawford party.

"Yours Respectfully,
"James Dinsmore."

"Anson, Jan'y 23, 1828.

"Hon. Wm. King—

"Dear Sir: Capt. Rom called last Monday and informed me that Hilton and others had commenced taking lumber from your lands in Concord but he had not been up to see what they were doing. I considered on the subject a few moments and then took my horse and sleigh and proceeded forthwith to the scene of action where I arrived early on Tuesday morning I believe too early for Hilton, for the weather being extremely severe, he had not started with his team when I passed his house. When I arrived on your timber lands I found the roads excellent in every direction. I found Ebenezer C. Felkin and Cornelius Jackson near the line between lots No. 7 and in the 4th Range with four oxen and a good log on their sled which they had hauled about twelve rods when I met them; they proceeded about one hundred rods with the log after I passed them when they dropped it from their sled and left the woods with great haste taking their oxen and chains with them and I saw no more of them. I remained on the grounds four or five hours and according to my estimation saw about one hundred pine trees of the best quality which had been recently cut on lots No. 7 and good roads cleared to them. I put a private mark on each, although not particularly authorized from you so to do. I am informed that the Hiltons have purchased a public lot adjoining yours and that the lumber taken from your lands is to be hauled onto that belonging to the Hiltons and there left for the present. I saw 30 or 40 logs already placed there on which were evidently taken from your lands. I was also informed that a man by the name of Longly was engaged in taking lumber from your lands northward of No. 8 and hauling it to the Kennebec River. The Hiltons from Anson are again connected with Elisha—one of them went up to Concord with his team on Saturday last.

"Yours Respectfully
"E. Cobb."

"Lexington, June 10, 1833.

"There are a number of persons who are desirous of settling for their lands but I am not able to give out

numbers for want of a Plan of the Town.

"I have sowed about fifty acres of wheat, and what I have sowed with oats and planted amounts to about fifty acres more.

"If I board your men I shall be under the necessity of having from you some supplies, which you had better send from Bath to Waterville, as you can purchase much cheaper than I can. I wish for three or four barrels of flour, twelve to fifteen bushels of corn, four or five hundred weight of dry fish, or some mackerel, and a small chest of tea.

"Our stock is doing extremely well. I am raising eleven calves.

"Abraham Smith."

"Lexington, June 29, 1833.

"I will inform you that the town has raised eight hundred dollars to be expended on highways. Your assessment amounts to two hundred and sixteen dollars, and mine to forty-five dollars.

"The town has accepted several new roads—one from Concord to Embden, one from here to Kingfield, one from the northwest part of the town to the county road, and one on the east side of Sandy stream, and your tax is divided among them.

"Respecting the farm, everything in general appears well.

"I have sold one lot of land in the northeast part of the town which begins a new settlement there.

"Abraham Smith."

I have alluded to a land grant made to the Bath Academy and presented some extracts from a letter addressed to the trustees of the school by Asa Redington, who had made a re-examination of the lot having in view its purchase, but his fact is not shown by the letter itself. His denunciation is so outspoken relative to the impressions he claimed he had received at the second examination plainly shows a "cat under the meal" somewhere, but not visible without careful study.

It appears the lot was located on the Dead River, northerly of William King's Plantations.

Redington, otherwise known as Judge Redington, a Bowdoin college graduate of 1811, and LL. D., who died

a rich man at Lewiston, was a schemer. For a period of two years he was the preceptor of Gorham Academy, commencing his labors there immediately after his graduation. Hon. Isaac Reed's first wife was his daughter. Mr. Reed was a shipbuilder at Waldoboro, and politician, whose name was used by the Whig party in 1854 as a candidate for state governor, when the united friends of the "Maine Law" and the "Know Nothing" party elected Hon. Anson P. Morrill and thus broke, in the State of Maine, the back bone of the Democratic party. Mr. Redington's second wife was the widow of Capt. Samuel Longfellow of Gorham, whose maiden name was Sophia Storer of Saco.

A letter from William King throws light upon the situation, as follows:

"Bath, May 9, 1818.

"Nathaniel Dudley, Esq., Kingfield.

"Sir: The proprietors, or rather the trustees of the half township granted to the Bath Academy, have sold to Nathaniel Gilman and Asa Redington, Esqs., the half of said township. As these gentlemen are desirous of making a road to the land, and as it will be interesting to your town to have the road pass through your place, I hope you will aid these gentlemen in making the road, at least so far as to the extent of your town. And should you aid them a little farther, I have no doubt you will find it interesting to your settlement.

"Will you have the goodness to advise with your friends on this subject, so that such encouragement shall be given these gentlemen as will induce them to make the road through your place?

"I will thank you to name to these gentlemen a capable person to pilot their people in a route the best and most direct to the Academy lands.

"Respectfully your ob't servant,

"W. King."

Nathaniel Gilman's second wife was a niece of the wife of William King. Her maiden name was Miss Joanna Boyd. She resided in the King family at Bath. Mr. Gilman was a rich man who

resided at Waterville and left a large family. He was intimately connected with the college there.

What became of Mr. King's great landed estate forms an interesting inquiry which I cannot with data at hand fully solve. When evidence appeared that his mind was yielding to the influences that produce mental dissolution in old age the management of his affairs was placed with Asa Redington, LL. D., who, on the 5th day of November, 1851, at Hapgood & Brown's tavern at North Anson, sold at public auction thirty thousand acres of land located in the towns of Kingfield, Lexington and Concord. He was aided by Thomas D. Robinson, William King's bank cashier, political lieutenant and many years confidential friend.

When Messrs. Redington and Robinson made sales most of the Kingfield farm went to Mr. Amos E. Dolbier, whose wife is a grand niece of William King. Upon his purchase is located the village of the town—the village of Kingfield.

For a period of half a century Mr. Dolbier has been in trade in Kingfield and Farmington and on the 6th day of June next he and Mary Ann Porter, his wife, who is a granddaughter of Dr. Benjamin Jones Porter, will have spent fifty-eight years of married life together!

I have stated from information derived from printed reports that Kingfield seems to be, as regards population, on the decline, but from a statement just received which I cheerfully herewith present, am glad to learn the village is now more prosperous than ever before, as follows:

"KINGFIELD,
"Franklin County."

"Twenty-two miles north of Farmington, at the terminus of the Franklin & Megantic R. R., on the direct route to the Dead River region, lies Kingfield.

"Nestling at the foot of Mt. Abraham (3,587 feet high), on the banks of the Carrabassett River, and surrounded by limitless forests and fertile farms, it affords unsurpassed facilities for lumber manufacturing.

"The new Kingfield & Dead River R. R. makes easy communication with the famous sporting grounds of Dead River, and furnishes an outlet for the vast amount of white birch, of which this section surpasses that of any other part of the State of Maine, besides spruce and poplar in abundance.

"Already important industries have been established, giving employment to from one hundred to three hundred men. The Jenkins & Bogert Manufacturing Co. (capital stock, \$50,000), manufacturing wooden novelties, have two mills, an enameling factory, blacksmith and machine shops, giving employment to nearly one hundred persons, and will immediately build an extension to their main building of two stories 56 feet long, making their main factory 36x141 feet.

"During the last two years the population has nearly doubled, several families having come from Massachusetts to make it their permanent home.

"There is a large hotel, four churches (two built in 1895), a good high school, a savings bank, located in the recently erected building of the Alhambra Building Co., in which is the law office of H. S. Wing, Agency of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., store, and K. of P. hall. A system of water works is proposed in the near future. Pure water is abundant, and the general health of the community excellent.

"One of the principal attractions to visitors is the old mansion of Ex-Gov. King, Maine's first Governor, erected in 1821, and is now in a remarkable state of preservation. The immediate vicinity of Kingfield furnishes a great variety of fish and game, being less frequented by sportsmen than the region beyond."

"POLITE ASSEMBLYS."

How far William King indulged in the pastime of dancing I cannot state. While a member of the Massachusetts Great and General Court at Boston, 1808, he received an invitation as follows:

Sir. The Managers of the
Social Balls Request William
King, Esq., to accept the enclosed.
Per Order,

Daniel Hastings, Sec.
Concert Hall, Feb. 16.

"The enclosed" is in print on paper
8x10 inches and reads as follows:

SOCIAL BALLS.

IMPRESSED with the necessity of
the observance of order and propriety,
in every polite assembly, the Managers
of the Social Balls have adopted the following

REGULATIONS,

To which they request strict attention,
viz.

1. Tickets, issued to Subscribers, are not, in any case, to be transferable;—and a gentleman will not be admitted before first producing a ticket.

2. Strangers may be admitted with the approbation of the Managers; but the subscriber who introduces a stranger, must pay to the Secretary five dollars for his ticket—and indorse the ticket. Strangers must be introduced to the Managers, in order that proper attention may be paid to them.

3. Drawing for places will commence precisely at 7 o'clock. The Lady drawing No. 1, First Set, will call the First Dance. The Lady drawing No. 2, Second Set, will call the Second Dance. Then a Voluntary by Ladies' Numbers. After which the Drawing will recommence. The Lady drawing No. 1, Third Set, will call the First Dance;—the Lady drawing No. 2, Fourth Set, will call the Second Dance. Voluntaries by the Ladies' Numbers will succeed. A Lady will not be entitled to her place unless she produces her Number, if required by a Manager. Should a Number be wanting, the Lady producing the next Number will be entitled to the place. Should any Lady set down before the dance is ended, she will be considered as infringing on these regulations.

4. A Lady having been at the Head of the set when a Dance has been called, must take her place at the bottom, when the Dance is finished.

5. A Subscriber is entitled to introduce three Ladies—and no more. The Gentlemen are reminded, that

they will not be in full dress without Powder and Shoe-Buckles.
Boston, Jan. 14, 1808.

THE SCARBORO TURNPIKE ROAD.

A hundred years ago the highway from Dunstan to Portland was very crooked and was located over hill and dale with a ferry at Fore river.

February 25, 1794, William Vaughn and others were constituted a corporation for the purpose of bridging Fore river. On March 4, 1800, the time was extended nine months by the General Court, the time specified for completing the bridge having expired.

True, Portland could be reached via Long Creek and Stroudwater village from Saco and Dunstan, and thus avoid the ferry, but the way was very crooked with many ups and downs with ledges and mire places for the traveler to encounter.

The King family took in the situation. In improvements to the way the family saw a paying investment. A petition was accordingly started, and June 24, 1802, a turnpike road corporation was established by the General Court which act was added to and amended February 18, 1803, and then it was declared that "Robert Southgate, Esq., William King, Cyrus King, Dr. Benjamin J. Porter, Joseph Leland, Ebenezer Libby, Maj. Joseph Libby, William Thompson, Esq., Reuben Libby, James March, John Watson, John M. Milliken and Samuel Milliken shall be a Corporation by the name of 'The First Cumberland Turnpike,' for the purpose of laying out, making and keeping in repair a turnpike road in Scarboro, to commence at the bridge near the dwelling house of Nathaniel Moses, from thence running across the upland and marsh in a southwesterly course, between the dwelling houses of Edward and Jeremiah Milliken until it meets the county road near Edward Milliken's dwelling.

ing." The rates of toll to be as follows: "For each phaeton, chariot and other four wheeled carriages, twenty cents; for cart or sled drawn by two oxen or horses six cents," etc., etc.

Various provisions were made in the act, one of which was that a copy of the expense, etc., of building the way should be filed with the Secretary of State. The western terminus was at that part of Dunstan now known as the "Four Corners," a term derived from the fact that at that point the road to Dunstan Landing and the county road cross each other. The old Dr. Southgate residence stood in a southeasterly direction from the "Four Corners" in what is now an open field, which tradition tends to prove that the Landing road was then located some rods easterly of the present way, which tradition also tends to show that the old King house stood upon the westerly side of the Landing road and not upon the easterly side as the remaining part of the residence is now seen. Since the location of the turnpike road, which was a little over a mile in length, located mostly upon salt marsh, the Dr. Robert Southgate large brick house as now seen has been built. A little easterly of the brick house upon the southerly side of the turnpike road the toll house and gate were erected.

The building of Vaughn's bridge and the turnpike road created a good deal of uneasiness among the people of Stroudwater village because the enterprise took away the travel and changed the current of trade. And then there arose jealous feelings between the stockholders of the bridge and the road, and the owners of stage lines felt aggrieved on account of tolls required, (\$75 annually), and permission was obtained to construct a new way from a point easterly of Scottow's Hill towards Stroudwater, making Portland a mile nearer to Dunstan, as it was

claimed, than via the turnpike and Vaughn's bridge, the way then built taking the name of "Paine road," which name is still retained, Paine being interested in stage lines and a citizen of Portland where he was an innkeeper. This was in 1815.

Stowed away for protection by Mr. C. Thornton Libby in one of the safety deposit vaults in Portland is a bundle of papers relating to the Scarborough turnpike which I have not examined. Mr. Noah Pillsbury of Dunstan retains the last treasurer's book, opened Jan. 31, 1834, by Horatio Southgate, Esq., and closed April 1, 1860, when the turnpike corporation went out of existence.

Before me are several well preserved letters written by Dr. Robert Southgate, the first of the name at Dunstan. One of these is very lengthy, dated Sept. 13, 1817, addressed to Hon. Willim King and relates wholly to the turnpike and bridge, the substance of which I will here use:

"Mr. Maynard of this place informs me that Andrew Ritchie, Esq., has requested him to obtain my opinion relative to reducing the toll on the turnpike in order to regain the travel, as such a course would be advantageous for us as well as the proprietors of Vaughn's bridge. I wrote Mr. Ritchie I thought it best to take off all the toll from the turnpike and then for the bridge to pay over to the turnpike corporation a respectable part of the tolls received at the bridge. The turnpike cost about half the sum it took to build the bridge, and usually there has been received at the turnpike gate about a third as much as at the bridge. Mr. Ritchie informed me that he had consulted with Mr. Gray [probably "Billy" Gray, a rich man of Salem] and "they" had concluded to offer the turnpike corporation \$100 per year for ten years to 'lay open the turnpike gates.' Mr. Ritchie seems to be of the opinion that the turnpike is an incumbrance to the prosperity of the bridge, but such is not the case."

Dr. Southgate then enters into an argument to show that it was the opening of the new way via Stroudwater

in 1815 that had hurt the bridge.

The doctor then states that he is informed that the collection at the bridge amount to \$20 per week, and as an individual he would be willing to accept \$300 in semi-annual payments from the bridge for a period of ten years, but would not act till William King had been heard from.

By a letter dated Aug. 1, 1818, it appears that Messrs. Ritchie and Gray were willing to pay the \$300 yearly to the turnpike corporation to open their gates to the public.

January 31, 1834 the 77th six months' dividends of the turnpike was declared and the ownership of stock was as follows:

"Horatio Southgate, 14 shares,	\$70
"Gov. William King, 5 shares,	\$25
"Cyrus King's heirs, 7 shares,	\$35
"Salmon Chase's heirs, 2 shares,	\$10
"Benjamin Milliken, 2 shares,	\$10
"Esther Lancaster, 1 share,	\$5
"Moses Libby, 1 share,	\$5
"Moses Libby, 1 share,	\$5
Total number of shares,	33

Some years the stock paid over \$10 per share.

In 1856, or thereabouts, the county was petitioned to make the turnpike free for all time, and over the turnpike road the County Commissioners laid out a county way and awarded \$2,000 damage to the turnpike stock holders.

January 1, 1857, the capital stock amounting to \$2,046 was divided as follows:

"Horatio Southgate, 15 shares,	\$930
"Cyrus King's heirs, 7 shares,	\$434
"William King's heirs, 5 shares,	\$310
"Seth Libby, 1 share,	\$62
"John M. Milliken, 2 shares,	\$124
"Moses Libby, 1 share,	\$62
"William Pitt Preble, Jr., 1 share,	\$62
"L. D. M. Swett, 1 share,	\$62
Total number of shares, 33,	\$2,046.

In addition to what the county paid the Town of Scarboro on April 1, 1860, handed the stockholders \$500, when the final distribution of \$614.59 was made as follows:

"Horatio Southgate,	24 shares."
"Cyrus King's heirs,	7 shares."
"John M. Milliken,	2 shares."
Total number of shares,	33.

I have stated that the building of the turnpike was a real King family affair, and so it was, as the records show, most of the stock remaining in the name at the time of the final dissolution of the corporation.

The tracks of the Portland and Sa-co electric railway are now laid upon the old turnpike road bed, and otherways the general public pass over it. The ground is historical as it is all around. Upon it occurred the slaughter of the English settlers of more than two hundred years ago by the Indians. As the region is entered from Portland, Scottow's Hill forms the northerly boundary line of the horizon, towering above which appears the mansion house of Richard King, Jr., who was a brother to the Governor, but a few rods from which Scottow and his associates held their courts in Scottow's garrison house and where Richard King, Jr., constructed his vessels, the story of one written at the time, I propose to tell later.

At the easterly termini of the turnpike, where the large clump of trees is seen, a fourth of a mile distant, in a southerly direction, the Vaughn mansion house stood which went to John Maynard, Esq., the father to the wife of Gen. Neal Dow, also to the second wife of Henry Smith, who was the father to the celebrated Rev. Henry Boynton Smith, then to Seth Storer, Esq.

The Storer mill has now disappeared that stood close to the highway, mill dam, pond and nearly the whole of the stream are gone.

A SCOTTOW HILL VESSEL.

There is a tradition at Dunstan that Richard King, Jr., an elder brother to William King, built vessels on Scottow Hill. Look that way at the high

land in passing in an electric car over the old turnpike and repeat the tradition and the entertainer would be viewed as a romancer, but the following, copied from a well preserved manuscript letter, in an excellent hand, must convince the doubter of the truthfulness of the tradition:

"Brunswick, Oct'r. 7th, 1816.
"Gen. William King, Esq.,
"Bath.

"Sir: In the year 1810, your Brother Richard applied to me to aid him who was then under embarrassments on account of sundry claims against him occasioned by the building a vessel and I contracted with him for a half of the vessel at a fair price, became responsible for his debts, rigged the vessel, & in connection with him went to Rhode Island & from there to New York, with a determination to sell the craft. We had a fair price tendered at Rhode Island & I urged your Brother by every influence in my power to accept the offer as it was rather more than the amount of the bills, but so sanguine was he that he could obtain more, he insisted upon proceeding to New York where he also refused another offer but not so favorable as the former, immediately upon which some very unfavorable intelligence arrived from France which sunk the value of the vessel twenty-five per cent. We deemed it most prudent to discharge the crew; but the vessel continued to depreciate for several months, and winter coming upon us, Mr. Codman procured a market for her at about \$2,300—nearly a thousand dollars less than we might have had for her at Rhode Island.

"I opened a store in the country about the same time I engaged with your Brother, some ten miles from Scarboro, & owed for half the stock, but being absent so long the young man left in charge embezzl'd the goods, died very suddenly, and thus involving myself and family in ruin. Previous to my leaving home I supplied your Brother & his son with clothing for the voyage & his family during his absence with provisions to the amount of notes as follows:

"One note,		\$36.97
"Interest,	\$10.96	
"One note,		24.64
"Interest,	6.69	

"One note,		3.50
"Interest,	.82	
"	\$18.47	\$65.11

"He has uniformly held out the prospect that you would pay the above named claims, observing that his interest is under your control. I am now extremely embarrassed & so much so that I broke up my family last fall, Mrs. Emerson in connection with myself suffering during the winter from solitary confinement, not communicating my distressed condition to my two sons—Rufus & William, the former having disbursed on my account more than a thousand dollars & William twelve hundred. My prospects for the coming winter are deplorable, but I am not willing to call upon my sons any further.

"If you will accept the following named proposal, altho' involving an unreasonable sacrifice on my part, it will result in my favor & will be received gratefully as an act of beneficence.

"I will discount the whole amount of interest and accept an order on Mr. Green & my son for the amount of the principal. If this is not acceptable I will take one half of the principal, and an order on your Brother for the other half in produce of his farm & chiefly in potatoes.

"I will thank you for an answer tomorrow, hoping you will accept the first named proposition.

"Your Ob't Serv't,

"Jos. Emerson."

Under the heading of "Trade Partners" I noticed Joseph Emerson and presented a letter of his written to William King in 1806 relative to his son William becoming a clerk to William King, which he did, then a partner in trade with Peter H. Green, at Bath, where they conducted a very large mercantile business.

Joseph Emerson seems to have been a man of culture. His penmanship was excellent, he spelled correctly, and his grammar was of the best—far in advance of some of the specimens of college graduates. And thus it was with William Emerson, the son of Joseph.

A letter dated at Dunstan, Sept. 2,