

1882

A Sketch of Bangor

George F. Godfrey

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A SKETCH OF BANGOR

BY

GEORGE F. GODFREY,

With Illustrations from Photographs by the Author.



BOSTON:

JAMES R. OSGOOD AND COMPANY.

1882.

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BOSTON.

“A town has a character as much as an individual, and becomes known by it, at home and abroad. I never knew a decent person who did not enjoy the ATMOSPHERE, so to speak, made of the social, moral, and business qualities of this city.”

HON. JOHN A. PETERS, *at the Bangor Centennial Dinner.*

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EUROPEAN AND NORTH-AMERICAN R.R. WHARF.

LUMBER DOCKS.

PENOBSCOT RIVER FROM BREWER BRIDGE.

I.

SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH.

I.

SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH.

JACOB BUSWELL came to Bangor in 1769, and settled on the banks of the Penobscot River, near the foot of what is now Newbury Street. Others from Massachusetts and elsewhere soon followed him.

The settlement was originally called and written *Condeskeag*. Later, when it became large enough to be incorporated,

its name was Sunbury; but in 1791 an act of incorporation was obtained, and the town was named Bangor, from an old psalm-tune popular at that time.

For thirty years succeeding the advent of the first pioneer, few people came to this locality,—there being but 277 inhabitants in 1800; in 1830 there were but 2,868.

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

In 1834 Bangor was incorporated a city. At present (1882) its population is about 20,000; but being the shire-town of Penobscot County, centrally located at the head of navigation on the Penobscot River, and the headquarters of a large lumber business, it gives the impression of being much more populous. Surrounded as it is by numerous small towns and a large agricultural district, it is a trade-centre of no little importance.

The towns most closely associated with Bangor by location, social relations, and business interests, aggregate a popu-

lation of more than twenty thousand (making about forty thousand people within a radius of a few miles); and they may be considered a part of the city in so far as they go to give it business activity and a cosmopolitan appearance. Among these, Hampden, Hermon, Levant, Orrington, Brewer, Oldtown, and Orono are the most important: the latter, the seat of the State College, is a pretty town containing many fine residences.

There are four railroads terminating in Bangor,—the Maine Central, Euro-

pean and North American, Bangor and Piscataquis, and the Eastern Maine. The number of trains arriving and departing daily, on all these roads combined, is thirty-four.

Four telegraph companies centre here, — the Western Union, Mutual Union, Moosehead Lake, and the Castine. There is a Telephone Exchange, extensively patronized in the city, with wires connecting with several of the neighboring towns.

There are ten lines of stages carrying passengers and mails to the vari-

ous parts of the country, including the "Tally-ho" line, which makes two trips daily to Mount Desert.

During the summer there is a daily line of magnificent steamboats between Bangor and Boston, which touch at all the principal ports on the Penobscot River. There is also a fine steam-line to Bar Harbor, Mount Desert, as well as a fleet of stanch steamers for towing and excursions on the river, besides a grand pleasure-barge of ample proportions: so that the Penobscot presents, aside from its natural beauty, a scene

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

of much activity. Rowing-parties glide smoothly along, and sail-boats and small steamers with pleasure-parties enliven the scene with music and laughter. Vessels, large and small, are constantly arriving from other ports, or are putting to sea, laden with the products of the Maine forests and farms.

During the hot season the various resorts on the river are much frequented

by residents of Bangor, many of whom have neat cottages at Fort Point, Castine, Northport, Islesboro', and Camden.

As a port of entry, Bangor is of much importance. In 1880, according to the last published report of the harbor-master, the number of vessels of all kinds (not including small fishing-craft) which arrived, was 2,068, aggregating 393,795 tons.

II.

INDUSTRIES AND SOCIETIES.

II.

INDUSTRIES AND SOCIETIES.

ONE of the former industries of magnitude in this locality was shipbuilding ; but, since the decline in American shipping, it has somewhat fallen off. A large amount of tonnage is still owned here, however ; and vessels are constantly being built and repaired.

Brick-making is an industry of great

importance, many millions being annually made and exported.

The harvesting of ice has become an important industry, employing many men during the winter months, and furnishing freight to hundreds of vessels during the summer, besides giving a fair profit to those engaged in the business.

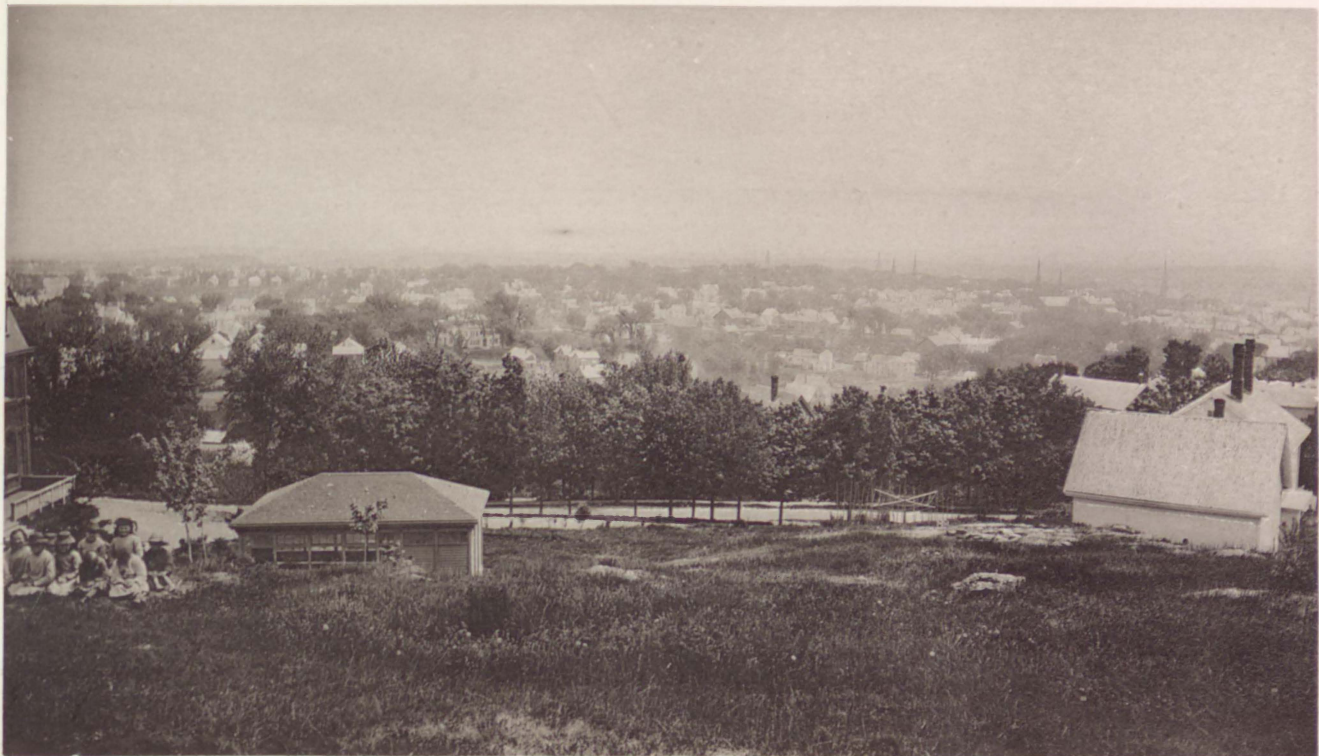
There are founderies, machine-shops,

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

flouring-mills, planing-mills, large coo-
perage establishments, a pottery, manu-
factories of furniture, doors, sashes, and
blinds, carriages, boots, shoes, and moc-
casins, etc.

The greatest industry, however, is that
of lumber. Few people not engaged in
this business are aware of its magni-
tude in all its branches. The Penobscot
River and its tributaries drain a vast
area of territory; and every brook that
runs into them, which is large enough
to float a few logs, is made a means for
conveying the forest products to market.

From the time the lumberman goes into
the woods in the fall, until his logs
are cut, hauled to the shore of the
stream, measured, counted, and marked,
driven, in the spring, to the main boom
some twenty miles above Bangor, sorted,
rafted, sold to the manufacturer, con-
veyed to the various mills on the Penob-
scot, sawed into all kinds of long and
short lumber, and then shipped abroad,
so many trades and professions are em-
ployed that a detailed account of them
would require too much space for this
sketch.



HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO.

BOSTON.

VIEW OF EAST SIDE FROM THOMAS' HILL.

In the year 1872 the value of manufactured lumber sold was, in round numbers, \$4,000,000 : the amount of long lumber surveyed was more than 246,000,000 feet. The amount of laths, shingles, clapboards, pickets, and staves aggregated more than 275,000,000.

Railway-ties, ship-knees, telegraph-poles, cedar posts, spool-stuff, shoe-lasts, hemlock-bark, and many other products of which no record is kept, are annually shipped, by rail or sea, in great quantities.

The total amount of long lumber sur-

veyed at this port, from 1832 to 1881 inclusive, is 7,475,586,780 feet. Of this, about 5,500,000,000 feet have been surveyed since 1851, showing that the supply increases with the demand. In fact, most of the forest products which naturally find a market at this port will last for centuries.

There are five national banks in the city, with an aggregate capital of a million dollars, and two savings banks with large deposits ; several strong and prosperous insurance companies, both for marine and fire ; two daily and three

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weekly newspapers, and two monthly periodicals, besides two new weekly papers, published for the advancement of a political party.

A public library, with 17,400 volumes ; the Bangor Mechanic Association, Board of Trade, Horticultural Society, Art Association, and various literary and social clubs.

A Children's Home, and a Home for Aged Women : both institutions have handsome buildings, finely located and well managed.

The Bangor Fuel Society, Humane

Society, Hibernian Mutual Benevolent Society, and other charitable associations.

Reform Club, Women's Christian Temperance Crusade, Young Men's Christian Association, Bangor Young Men's Bible Society, Convent of Mercy, and St. Xavier's Academy for Young Ladies, and numerous smaller societies and institutions for the promotion of good morals and education.

There are a company of infantry, two military bands, and a fine orchestra. A beautiful Masonic building, with two

INDUSTRIES AND SOCIETIES.

lodges, one Commandery, one Council Royal and Select Masons, Royal Arch Chapter, and De Bouillon Conclave No. 2 Knights of the Red Cross of Con-	stantine; four lodges of Odd Fellows, one lodge Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Honor, and one Grand Army post.
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HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO.

BOSTON.

VIEW OF EAST SIDE FROM COURT STREET.

III.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ETC.

III.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

THERE is a new opera-house; and there are numerous tasteful and well-arranged public halls, the largest of which, "Norombega," built in 1855, has been the scene of many stirring events. Its walls have echoed with ringing words for the right, for justice, and for the freedom of the slave.

Here, in time of war, the pulse of

the populace was quickened and its patriotism awakened by the eloquent appeals and noble thoughts of the greatest orators of the land, many of whose voices will be heard no more.

In peaceful times the classical oratory of Edward Everett; the silvery tones of Wendell Phillips's voice; the scholarly essays of Theodore Parker; the philoso-

phy of R. W. Emerson; the learned discourses of Drs. Bellows and Chapin, and of Proctor the astronomer; the earnest speeches of William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglas, Beecher, Gough, and scores of others,—have enlightened the people.

Here Grant has spoken his monosyllabic piece, Lord Lisgar charmed his audience, Gov. Wilmot of New Brunswick brought forth tears and cheers with his emotional rhetoric, and the noted English Bradlaugh has pronounced his communistic harangue. On

its platform the masters in political argument have taken their stand. *Garfield*, Winter Davis, Thomas H. Benton, Henry Wilson, Horace Greeley, Zachariah Chandler, David Dudley Field, B. F. Butler, Senators Sherman, Logan, Morton, Blaine of Maine, and hosts of other great expounders of political doctrines, not forgetting Bangor's honored citizen, Hannibal Hamlin.

Before the foot-lights on its stage, the most noted interpreters of the drama have worn the buskin; and the greatest musical stars with melodious strains

and "sweet lyric song" have charmed their hearers.

The county buildings (court-house and jail, costing \$160,000) are surrounded by large, well-kept lawns, shaded by fine old elms. They are built of granite and brick, are commodious buildings, centrally located, tastefully designed, and supplied with all the modern conveniences.

The State arsenal and grounds (costing \$75,000) occupy a commanding position in the environs.

The United-States Custom-House and

Post-Office is a granite structure, convenient in arrangement, of good proportions and handsome design. Its cost is estimated at \$250,000.

The system of water-supply in Bangor is certainly as perfect as can be desired. Every householder, for the petty sum of five dollars a year, can have an abundance of pure Penobscot-river water. At nearly every street-corner is a hydrant for use in case of fire. The city owns several steam fire-engines; but they are used only in great emergencies, or in the suburbs beyond the reach of the water-

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

mains. Hose-companies are located in different parts of the city, manned by efficient corps of firemen. They promptly respond to every alarm of fire, and, on reaching the hydrant nearest their destination, attach the hose thereto, through which a powerful stream immediately rushes, forced by the great stationary engines located at the water-works, which night and day throughout the year are constantly in motion, pumping and driving over a million gallons of water daily through more than twenty-two miles of mains. Public drinking-fountains for

man and beast are centrally and conveniently located in various parts of the city.

In the centre of Kenduskeag Bridge is a hydrant, usually concealed from sight, to which on gala days is attached an iron nozzle three inches in diameter, from which belches a great stream of water to a perpendicular height of more than two hundred and fifty feet, making one of the most remarkable hydraulic displays.

As a consequence of this excellent system of water-supply, there are very

few fires in the city; and it is hardly possible for a great conflagration to take place. Since its introduction in 1875 no fire has gone beyond the building in which it originated, and the average annual loss has been less than fifteen thousand dollars.

Insurance rates are naturally very low; and this compensates in a great degree for the taxes, which, chiefly on account of the temporary embarrassment of a railroad enterprise in which the city engaged, are at present higher than is desirable. A few political aspirants, and

rich men of an economical turn of mind, have taken advantage of this state of affairs; and their dispiriting complaints have had the bad effect of cutting off expenditures, in some cases, in the wrong direction. The educational fund has been reduced, and the schools have suffered in consequence. Happily they are now growing in prosperity.

It is to be hoped, that, when all those who have objected to improvement in public education go to a better land, they will there be severely reprimanded by Abigail Ford, who, in 1773, taught the

first school in Bangor. Peace to her ashes.

The city has now sixty-five schools, employing ninety-eight teachers.

It is a matter of pride that the city's credit is of the highest standard, its longest six-per-cent bonds selling at twenty-four per cent premium.

Bangor is and always has been patriotic. It was from here that the first response, in this State, to Abraham Lincoln's call for troops in 1861 was given. The first enlistment for the war of the

Rebellion was also in this city, and the first man to enlist was Captain Levi Emerson.

Here it was, that on one occasion during the war the mercurial temperament of the people was raised to such a height as to be irrepressible; and at high noon the types, press, and entire paraphernalia of a disloyal newspaper were thrown from its windows and burned in the public square, to the sound of ringing church-bells and the shouts of the populace.



HELIO TYPE PRINTING CO.

BOSTON.

BROADWAY.

IV.

WEALTH AND PROSPECTS.

IV.

WEALTH AND PROSPECTS.

DURING the last decade, according to the census of 1880, there was a slight decrease in the population of Bangor, which to its citizens seems unaccountable, as there has been much new building, and there are comparatively few houses to let. The city will grow slowly but surely. Its location is such that it will always be a centre of trade

and travel, and the surplus wealth of its citizens will necessarily be employed in enterprises that will accrue to its advantage.

The water-power in its immediate vicinity is unsurpassed in the world; and, as a prominent woollen-manufacturer expressed it, "The capitalists of Bangor have only to get a little educa-

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

tion in the manufacturing of cotton and woollen to set the spindles and looms in motion."

The manufacture of lumber, the purchase of timber-lands, and the building of ships, have been the chief methods of investment. Surplus funds to a great extent have been sunk in Western mines and other speculative follies, or buried in bonds where none but the owner, not even the tax-collector, derives any benefit therefrom.

The amount of forest-land owned and controlled by citizens of Bangor is amaz-

ing to those unfamiliar with the subject. Imagine 1,200,000 acres, nearly 2,000 square miles, or a territory, which, if joined in one compact mass, would be nearly double the size of the State of Rhode Island, under the control of one man, and some idea can be had of the vast extent of these possessions. This is an exceptionally large property; but there are many individuals and estates who count their acres by from one hundred thousand to more than three hundred thousand, or from one hundred to nearly five hundred square miles each,

and a greater number the area of whose domains are reckoned only by scores of thousands of acres.

There are about 8,500,000 acres of wild land in the State, of which nearly one-half is owned or controlled here. In other words, not far from six thousand square miles (one-fifth of the total area of the State, or a territory as large as the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island combined) has its proprietorship here.

The timber on these lands is constantly being cut; but it grows fast,

and, but for fire, would be practically inexhaustible. What the proprietors need, is an association employing wardens authorized by the State to arrest all ignorant and careless sportsmen who leave their camp-fires burning. Making a few guilty men suffer for their indifference would create a wholesome regard for the rights of property among all those who take the privilege of enjoying the woods of Maine.

The railroads which centre in Bangor have opened a large and yet undeveloped territory, covered with good farm-

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ing-lands, and abounding in products which are ever increasing in demand.

The quarrying of slate, near the route of the Bangor and Piscataquis Railroad, is already assuming large proportions. Its quality is superior, and said to be surpassed by none in the world. The iron mines of Piscataquis County are owned in this city. They grow in importance each year. A railroad, built by Bangor enterprise, connecting them at Milo with the Bangor and Piscataquis Railroad, is now nearly completed.

The natural beauty of the scenery of

Maine, its salubrious climate in summer, its freedom from violent storms and tornadoes, its numerous rivers and lakes and picturesque hills and mountains, the absence of malarial diseases, of hay-fever, and pestilential plagues of all kinds, annually attract crowds of pleasure-tourists and seekers of health.

To provide for the comfort of these, Bangor capital is already to a certain extent employed in furnishing facilities for travel, and in supplying the adjacent resorts with the necessaries and luxuries of life. But there is still a

WEALTH AND PROSPECTS.

future for Bangor enterprise in this | and it is to be hoped that foreign capi-
direction: new hotels must and will be | tal will not reap all the advantages
built in the lake and mountain regions, | therefrom.

V.

SOCIAL FEATURES.

V.

SOCIAL FEATURES.

BANGOR is delightfully situated. It is intersected by the Kenduskeag stream, on either side of which are sunny hills covered with lovely homes.

The business portion of the town is located on the low land bordering the stream and fronting the broad Penobscot River.

The streets throughout the city are

lined with magnificent shade-trees, the elm predominating. Elegant residences abound, and well-kept lawns and beautiful gardens are the rule rather than the exception.

The inhabitants seem to vie with each other in their love of flowers and desire for neatness round about their homes. Nearly every house has its little garden

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or plot of greensward, and in many of them may be seen ornamental fountains scattering in graceful spray the cool waters of the Penobscot.

It has been called the "Queen City of the East," and justly. Its location is commanding; and, where Nature has failed to give it sufficient beauty, the taste and ambition of its inhabitants have given generous aid. Its outward appearance in summer is certainly unsurpassed by any small city. Add to its picturesqueness and neatness the important fact that few places can com-

pare with it in point of the general health of the inhabitants, and you have the most important features necessary for a residence.

Socially, Bangor is a leading centre. There is much individual wealth among its inhabitants, as well as a great deal of refinement and culture. There are few communities where so large a proportion of its sons and daughters have been extensive travellers. Hospitality is the rule among all classes. In winter the city is gay. The frosty air is invigorating, the trees are bare of leaves,

and all the landscape is covered with a sheet of dazzling white. Men and women and children go out in all weather, without regard to frost or snow. The streets are merry with tinkling bells; and, on pleasant days, young men accompanied by their sweethearts, papas with their families, and jockeys with their trotters, hold high carnival, speeding their nags with jingling bells on the road to Hampden.

Sleighting-parties to suburban towns for a supper, a dance, and a ride home by moonlight; coasting down the long,

icy hills; and skating at the rink with music by the band,—are amusements much in vogue.

Small social gatherings and large private parties are numerous. In a notice alluding to one of the latter, the editor of a foreign journal who was present makes complimentary reference, of which the following is a brief extract:—

“The music was particularly excellent. . . . The picture would reveal indications of opulence, culture, taste, and beauty, which few cities of equal size could reveal: many twice the size could

not do so. . . . The hospitalities were of an elegant character, and on a sumptuous scale."

Associations devoted to art and literature prevail. Reading-clubs are popular, and dancing is a favorite amusement with young and old.

The Opera House, unsurpassed for its beauty and convenience by any outside the largest cities, is one of the centres of attraction; and in it are witnessed the best plays. The principal theatrical and operatic stars find their way here during the season. In the lan-

guage of the profession, Bangor is the "best show town" in the State. Booth, Jefferson, Barrett, Janauschek, Cary, Gerster, Brignoli, Thomas, Gilmore, and all the lesser lights, favor with their presence the lovers of music and the histrionic art.

Bangor is never behindhand in giving generous aid to suffering communities abroad, whether from pestilence, flood, or fire, as recipients of its good will and the practical application thereof will readily acknowledge.

It is the seat of one of the oldest

and most celebrated religious institutions in the country,—the Bangor Theological Seminary. Its various buildings are located in spacious grounds commanding a fine view; and, with its grand old shade-trees and green lawns, it adds much to the beauty of the city. It has a library of sixteen thousand volumes, and an able staff of professors. Among the many eminent divines who have been connected with it may be named the late Drs. Leonard Woods, Enoch Pond, and George Shepard; also Drs. Harris and Barbour, now of Yale Col-

lege; and Hamlin, late president of Robert College, Constantinople. A liberal spirit prevails with the professors of this school as well as with the Orthodox clergy of the city, and there is less harsh judgment pronounced by individuals on account of religious belief than in most communities.

Bangor can name among those who have occupied the pulpits of its various churches many distinguished clergymen. The late Dr. John Cotton Smith of New York was formerly rector of the St. John's Episcopal Church. The cele-

brated Methodist, Mark Trafton, was a Bangor boy, and began his preaching here. The late Dr. S. L. Pomroy for more than twenty-three years occupied the pulpit of the First Parish Church; and the late lamented George B. Little, and the Rev. Dr. Newman Smythe, now of New Haven, followed him many years later.

Professors Frederic H. Hedge, Joseph H. Allen, and Charles C. Everett, now of Harvard College, were for fifteen, seven, and ten years respectively, in the order named, pastors of the Uni-

tarian Church; and Samuel L. Caldwell, now president of Vassar College, for twelve years ministered to the spiritual welfare of the First Baptist Society.

There are fourteen churches, which have cost, in round numbers, \$400,000. Besides those worshipping in these houses, are several small religious societies holding meetings in halls and in various suburban chapels.

Bangor has furnished its fair quota of literary men and women, many of whom have gained a national reputation.

SOCIAL FEATURES.

In history, religious writings, poetry, novels, articles in the leading periodicals, the world has been made the richer by contributions from its citizens. In the bibliography of the town in the history of Penobscot County, published 1882, a list of the writings of nearly two hundred authors is given.

VI.

ROUTE FOR A DRIVE.

VI.

ROUTE FOR A DRIVE.

THE following is given as a good route for a drive through the city. Starting from West Market Square, up Hammond Street to Court Street, up Court to Ohio, down Ohio to High, through High to Union, up Union to Third, through Third to Cedar, up Cedar to West Broadway, up West Broadway to Union, up Union to Highland, across Highland to the summit of Thomas Hill. Here a short rest will give an opportunity for a fine view of the east side of the city, as well as to enjoy a grand prospect of the country for many miles around. To the north may be seen the Piscataquis, or Ebeeme Mountains; east of them Passadumkeag Mountain looms up in the distance, to

the right of which a range of hills extends along the horizon for many miles towards the south; among them the most prominent are Peaked, Black Cap, and Saunders' Mountains, Wiswell and Swett's Hills,—all famous resorts for picnics and pleasure-parties from the city.

Returning through Highland to Union, on the way the pretty Dixmont Hills may be seen on the western horizon; down Union to Main (making a short detour through Summer Street), through Main to Kenduskeag Bridge, across the

bridge to State Street, State to French, French to Garland, Garland to Center, Center to Jefferson, thence to Division, through Division to Kenduskeag Avenue, up Kenduskeag Avenue as far as "Lovers' Leap," which is well described in the following extract from an article in the "Home Journal" of Gardiner: " 'Lovers' Leap' is a vast precipice on the banks of the Kenduskeag. . . . Tradition says that a pair of Indian lovers, persecuted by their 'cruel parents,' dumped themselves therefrom into the bubbling stream below. It was a spot judiciously

ROUTE FOR A DRIVE.

selected, and we cheerfully commend it to all lovers desiring a speedy exit from this world or matrimony. It is a grand resort with lovers to this day, though the wholesome example of our Indian friends is now very rarely followed. On Sundays, particularly, crowds flock to this place, drawn thither, some by love of nature, and some by other motives, perhaps more worthy, perhaps not. It is a pretty place to stroll in, and we cannot find it in our hearts to condemn those who there 'turn from Nature up to Nature's God.' We advise all who visit

Bangor not to forget to visit 'Lovers' Leap.'"

Returning through Kenduskeag Avenue to Montgomery Street, up Montgomery to Fountain Street, where another fine view may be had; down Fountain to Congress Street, across Congress to Broadway, through Broadway to State, up State to Essex, Essex to Garland, Garland to Grove, Grove to State, State to East Summer Street, return on State to Newbury, down Newbury to Hancock, through Hancock and Washington to Exchange, thence to place of beginning.

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This drive need not occupy more than an hour and a half or two hours, taking it leisurely.

There are many pleasant streets not named in this route, and some interesting localities which would well repay a stranger to visit.

Mount Hope Cemetery, on the river-road two miles from the city, is a beautiful spot.

The city water-works are well worth visiting. A drive up the Valley Avenue along the Kenduskeag is pretty. A visit to some of the great saw-mills would

be of interest, and a short trip down the river and back makes a delightful holiday.

Surely, summer tourists must find much to interest them, though they be entire strangers. There are four large and well-appointed hotels, all with genial landlords, who give their guests the best that their experience and moderate charges will allow.

Most well-to-do citizens of Bangor are proprietors of their own homes: few fine houses are ever offered for rent, and house-rent is low.

ROUTE FOR A DRIVE.

There is little poverty in the town. When a case of suffering is discovered, the good people and charitable societies attend to it with commendable promptness.

The city provides well for its paupers, having a large and well-appointed almshouse, where all the indigent who are not too proud to accept of its hospitalities are cared for. Beggars are almost

unknown; and either the climate or the nature of the laws is uncongenial to the professional tramp, for he is not a frequent visitor.

For a seaport as well as the headquarters of a great lumbering business, which naturally brings to the low quarters of the town rough characters from the sea and the backwoods, there is very little drunkenness and crime.

VII.

A STRANGER'S IMPRESSIONS.

VII.

A STRANGER'S IMPRESSIONS.

THE following selections, taken from the correspondence of a distinguished English divine to the "World" newspaper of London, England, will give special interest as showing the impressions produced on the mind of an observing foreigner while visiting Bangor.

. . . "The sail up the Penobscot River on a fine summer's morning is charm-

ing. The villages dotted here and there, with their white cottages, backed by pine forests, have a beauty all their own, distinct from any thing on the Hudson (the Rhine of the United States), but by no means suffering in any thing but diminution from the comparison. Every thing needful for travellers can be obtained on board the fine boats which ply

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between Boston and Bangor,—bed and board, in addition to the conveniences of the elegantly appointed drawing-room saloon. . . . The sunrise was magnificent; the water smooth as oil, and burnished like liquid gold; the air keen and appetizing. From Rockland up the Penobscot River is a continuous panorama of quiet beauty—bays, islands, villages, pine forests—until one of the largest cities in Maine is reached,—Bangor. . . . This city has a population of between twenty and thirty thousand residents. Its buildings, mostly of wood, are con-

structed with neatness and taste, many even with elegance. Most of the Americans prefer wood to brick; and some of the most *recherche* dwellings, mansions for size, are of wood. It may be that my visit to Bangor is made under exceptionally favorable circumstances, . . . but it seems to me a most desirable place of residence. In summer-time the heat is never so oppressive as in Boston and New York. In winter, when the rivers are blocked with ice, sleighing, skating, and all kinds of out-door exercise, develop the social life of the place

to such an extent as to make the winter at Bangor, severe though it is, the most enjoyable time of the year. There are fourteen churches here, most efficient schools, large public halls, fine stores, capacious hotels, and the streets are all more or less hilly, with an orderly irregularity which adds very much to the charm of the place.

“I have explored almost every street, and failed to find any really poor people, — people, that is, who are in doubt as to where the necessaries of life are to come from; nor have I seen any thing

like open drunkenness, although for several days the militia of the State have been encamping here,—an event which brought together great crowds from the surrounding districts. . . . Bangor is a good illustration of the fact that the absence of a State-established religion tends to soften down the asperities of sectarianism. In this city we have denominationalism without sectarianism. It has been my privilege, in making a longer stay here than at any other point on my travels, to receive invitations to social gatherings, which have enabled

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me to form a pretty deliberate judgment on this question; and it has been unspeakably gratifying to me to discover that social intercourse is not at all confined within denominational lines. Congregationalists, Baptists, Unitarians, Episcopalians, mingle without the slightest reserve or restraint; and all have done me the honor of attending the services that I have conducted. . . . People who suppose that 'down East' is a synonyme for semi-civilization, as we sometimes hear in England, would be utterly astonished at the intelligence, refinement,

culture, and wealth of Bangor. I suppose, that, in proportion to the number of inhabitants, there are more people here who keep some sort of carriage than in any other town in New England. This riding everywhere seems to me one of the mistakes made by Americans. If they have to go the distance of a mile, they order out a horse, and ride, and then suppose they have been 'taking exercise.' . . . I am sure of one fact,—that we shall quit Bangor and its immense lumber-wharves, its hills and dales and pleasant waters, with very great

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regret. Nowhere have we encountered so many English-looking faces, nowhere had access to so many pleasant homes, nowhere met with such lavish hospitality. Our natures would be cold indeed if we did not henceforth number among our friends some of those who have done all that in them lay to make us feel 'at home' on American soil; and

we strongly advise any of our readers, who may be contemplating a trip to these shores, to put Bangor down among the cities to be visited."

In closing this sketch, it is gratifying to be permitted to append the beautiful hymn written by one of Bangor's most gifted daughters on the occasion of the city's centennial celebration in 1869.

CENTENNIAL HYMN.

CENTENNIAL HYMN.

BY FRANCES L. MACE.

I.

God of our days! thy guiding power
Sustained the lonely pioneer
Who first, beneath the forest-shades,
His evening camp-fire kindled here.
To thee, a welcome sacrifice,
Its smoke ascended to the skies.

II.

God of the years! as summers fled,
Within the wild new homes were reared,
New gardens bloomed, new altars flamed,
And songs of praise the sabbaths cheered,
Until the fair young city stood,
Gem of the Eastern solitude.

A SKETCH OF BANGOR.

III.

God of the centuries! to-day
A hundred years their tale have told;
And, lingering in their solemn shade,
We listen to the days of old.
To us, how vast the centuries' flight!
To thee, as watches in the night.

IV.

God of eternity! thy hand
To nobler hills has beckoned on
The fathers, who, by many toils,
For us this pleasant dwelling won.
With them, hereafter, may we raise
Celestial cities to thy praise!