

The Ancestor from whom I am directly descended on my Father's side and whose movements have effected the lives of succeeding generations was Jonathan Eddy born about 1726 in Norton Mass. Jonathan Eddy served in the Colonial Wars in 1755 he served under Col. John Winslow in the expedition to Nova Scotia which expelled the Acadians and during the reduction of Canada he was a Captain of a company of Mass. colonials who took over Fort Cumberland Nova Scotia thus releasing British regulars for duty before Quebec. The colonies wishing to have a loyal population in Nova Scotia induced many of the soldiers to settle there and in 1763 Jonathan Eddy moved from Mass. to near Fort Cumberland and remained there until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. As Canada remained loyal at that time and as those in sympathy with the Revolution were not safe he and many others fled back to Mass. He served during the Revolution and was used probably mainly as an Agent to contact the Indians. He was known as Colonel but I am not sure that he ever had an authorized commission as such.

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Date: 1880

Description: Reminiscences of Edwin H. Eddy of a visit to a logging camp.

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About 1783 Congress donated Grants of land to 20 of these refugees from Nova Scotia and Jonathan Eddy received a Grant of about 300 acres on the East side of Penobscott river Maine about 6 miles north of Bangor and later known as "Eddington plantation"

Here Jonathan Eddy moved his family in 1784 to develop the property

It is clearly evident service during the colonial war and the revolutionary war - disrupted the ordinary peace time pursuits and he made this movement as the best course to pursue

The above is only a brief outline of the reason why my Father and my sisters and brother and self were born in Maine

My Father was born at Eddington in 1819 - The property bordered the Penobscott river which drains a very large watershed its upper branches reaching nearly to Canada and tributary to its waters there was a great forest area of Pine spruce and Hemlock timber

When my Father was about 18 years old he decided he would not be a Farmer - His brother Jonathan Eddy 9 years older than he had entered the lumber business and 3 of his 4 sisters married men working in the lumber industry

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About that time say 1837 and for the next half century the lumber business was the leading industry in that area

There was a natural Water power at Oldtown 6 miles above Eddington and there were located water power saw Mills - The logs were floated down the river to this point - converted into lumber then the lumber made into rafts and floated down to Bangor where it was loaded into vessels for Boston, New York etc and also to some extent for Export

To Oldtown went my Father the fall he was about 15 years old and hired to go up river into the woods for the winter

He was told to report at Oldtown on a certain date and on arrival was directed to a Batteau loaded with supplies - A fleet of many batteaus was leaving that day 2 men to a boat one in the bow and one in the stern

The process was to paddle up the river until dark, make a hasty camp, cook supper and to rest. Then up in the morning, breakfast and the fleet of batteaus ready to start at day break and so on from day to day under orders of the Foreman

If they came to rapids they could not navigate they landed, unloaded their supplies, carried

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them up and around the falls, reloaded and so on until they arrived the place they were to operate during the winter

Here they first had to cut down the trees and construct a log camp and barn for the horses or oxen

In the meantime the Oxen or horse had come overland with wagons sleighs and logging equipment

I think my Father was a man of unusually strong character - He continued to work in the woods winters on Drives in the spring and about the log booms of the saw mills during summer. Wages were small but recognizing the limits of his education one winter he used his hard earned savings to attend an Academy at Foxcroft Maine where he improved his education somewhat

Father was very frugal but never stingy - He did not use intoxicants or tobacco. He saved his money and soon became a small proprietor and increased it as years went on

He made one important decision early. It was that he would not marry until he had saved \$1,000 and as he told me he did not marry until he had saved about \$5,000.

When I was born November 1863 Father owned a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> interest in the very substantial partnership of Cutler Thatcher & Co. they owned a large water

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power saw mill at Bradley Maine

Later Mr Thatcher withdrew from the firm which was known as Cutler + Eddy - Mr Cutler managed the office and sold the lumber while my Father looked after supplying the logs and the manufacturing

We moved to Bangor early in 1870 I was 6 years old

As I grew older I was frequently at the saw mill with my Father and I can recall 3 trips with him up into the Maine woods

I will try to describe one trip when I was about 17 years old

Moose-head lake is 40 miles long and the West branch of the Penobscott river winds around the East and North sides and continues in a N.W. direction

Father had a camp that winter on a tributary stream I think 15 to 20 miles North of the N.W. Carry (N.W. End) of Moose-head lake that was about 1880

At that time the railroad from Bangor came to an end about 12 to 15 miles South of the South end of Moose-head lake.

So one morning about the end of March we left Bangor and went to the end of the railroad here had lunch at the station - then took the stage for the village of Greenville at the foot of the lake

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They needed an extra horse at camp so that after noon Father purchased a horse an old sleigh and some supplies and early next morning started to drive around the East side and on to camp It took 2 full days about 60 miles and I recall we arrived at Camp about an hour after dark 3 Days + 2 nights from Bangor

The camp made of logs was in 2 parts Entering in center of one end - one saw in the center of a long aisle a long wood stove - on either sides were the beds for the men - One long bed on each side - the men slept head to the wall feet to aisle - the mattress was made of small spruce or fir boughs covered with one long blanket and over the men who slept like so many clothes pins over the outside blankets sewn together as one

These beds were built about 3 ft from the floor and in front of each bed was a long bench chair height so when the men dressed or undressed they used the benches and either sat on the benches or beds during the evening

I cannot recall just how many men there was but I think between 25 and 30 and with one or two exceptions all had been there all winter - Many of the men were from New Brunswick Canada

The foreman had a small place partitioned off

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on one side near the front door - just room for a top & lower bunk and a chest - for shirts mittens tobacco etc - the bare necessities

The first night when at 9 P.M. all were required to 'turn in' as it was termed the foreman said Mr Eddy I have only one extra bunk in my little place what about the boy? Then a man spoke and said give him to me Mr Eddy Joe and I can make room for him between us - so off with coat vest trousers and shoes and in I went Men to the right of me, men to the left of me and across the aisle another bed full the same way

Men tired with swinging axes etc all day out doors were tired enough physically to sleep soundly - they had no mental strain so no exhausted nerves to keep them awake and the rule was to be up early hour breakfast and walk out perhaps a mile or so to start actual work at day light

An extension attached at the rear end of the Bunk house served as dining room & kitchen and the cook & his helper had their sleeping bunks in one corner it was called the Cook house.

During all those lumbering days in Maine and on the long drives in the spring their diet was very limited being so far away from the source of supplies

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In this case supplies were shipped from Bangor by rail to end of railroad then by waggon to foot of Moosehead lake thence by steamer 40 miles up the lake to N.W. Carry, then again by waggon or sleigh into Camp, besides supplies for the men there must be hay + oats for the horses all of which required experience and intelligent planning

It was an entirely different era from present day Motor transportation

It was found in this industry that Beans furnished more muscle + resistance for their weight than any other food. For breakfast we had Beans, Biscuit + Tea no sugar or milk. Outside the camp frozen were 2 or 3 sides of beef and also some kegs of salt Mackeral. The men had lunch in the woods close to their work. The Cooks helper brought it out on a sled in firkins - made a fire warmed the beans and bread and made Tea - At night much the same fare Molasses used in place of butter and at night usually ginger bread or cookies

About twice a week probably on Sunday the Cook would cut off with an Ax a large piece of Beef thaw it out and serve it in a stew Also about once a week he would cook salt Mackeral. to do this he would several fish together by their tails, go out to the near by streams that served as a Water supply, cut a hole in the ice

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then drop the fish into the running water and suspend them by a stick through a loop in the string extending across the hole in the ice

I recall what a treat that was even more than the beef

We spent about a week at camp and I vividly recall the <sup>sun</sup> morning we left

Just as we finished breakfast. Father said Men just a minute please - I am going out today we will break camp in about 2 weeks - I have brought money enough with me to give each of you \$10 to \$15 apiece as you may need - The foreman will give your Pay slip which will be paid as you come out. Will that be satisfactory?

Father then took from his pocket containing about \$300 an Envelope which he gave the Foreman in sight of all the men

The foreman took it and put it in his chest which he locked and they all went off to work foreman all while Father and I were sent by sleigh out to the N.E. Carry so called and from which a stage was then running on certain days over the lake ice to Greenville at the foot of the lake

Over-night at the NE Carry 20° below zero. The room we slept in had no heat whatever but I was surprised to see way up there in the

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