

**HISTORY OF THE
TOWN OF
WALDOBORO, MAINE**

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History of the Town of Waldoboro, Maine by Samuel L. Miller

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SAMUEL L. MILLER

**HISTORY OF THE
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WALDOBORO, MAINE**



Yours truly
Law. L. Miller

HISTORY

of the Town of

WALDOBORO,

Maine,

By

SAMUEL L. MILLER.

ILLUSTRATED.

487253

EMERSON, PRINTER,
WISCASSETT,
1910.

PREFACE.

In the preparation of the History of Waldoboro we have responded to the request of many residents and former residents of the town. Nearly forty years ago we began to collect information for this work, and many who freely gave this information have passed to the life beyond. In no sense have we attempted to make this a genealogy.

In the prosecution of the work we have availed ourselves of the records of the town, county, State and United States. We have consulted books, pamphlets and traditionary information. From the Massachusetts archives at the State House, Boston, the Boston Public Library, the Maine Historical Society, Eaton's Annals of Warren, and Johnston's History of Bristol and Bremen, we secured much valuable information. We are under especial obligation to Prof. Henry L. Chapman of Bowdoin College, William D. Patterson, Esq., of Wiscasset, A. R. Reed, Esq., of Waldoboro, and others for assistance.

We hope our critical readers will take into consideration the many difficulties involved, reconciling conflicting statements, and verifying tra-

ditions, especially in the first twenty-five years of our history, for which we have no written records. The German language, too, has been a source of much inconvenience.

With this brief explanation we submit the History of Waldoboro.

SAMUEL L. MILLER.

Waldoboro, June 1, 1910.

CHAPTER 1.

THE WALDO PATENT.

A history of the Town of Waldoboro, Maine, properly begins with an account of the MUSCONGUS, or WALDO PATENT. In 1606 a grant was made to the Plymouth Company of the northern part of the territory claimed by the English. During the previous year Capt. George Weymouth had been dispatched across the Atlantic, and on the 17th of May had anchored at Monhegan.¹ In 1607 the Plymouth Company established what is known as the Popham colony, at the mouth of the Kennebec river, which, however, only remained one year. In 1614 the Plymouth Company sent out from London Capt. John Smith, who, ranged the coast from Penobscot to Cape Cod. On his return, prince Charles, afterwards, king Charles I, being presented a map of the territory, gave it the name of New England. This name was officially recognized in the charter by which that monarch granted the territory between 40° and 48° N. latitude, to "The Council of Plymouth," which, in 1620 took the place of the "Plymouth Company."

Monhegan was at this time a general resort

1. Indian name for Grand Island.

for European fishermen and traders. Temporary settlements were also made on the mainland. John Brown was located at New Harbor as early as 1621 and in 1625 obtained from the Indian Sagamores Samoset and Unongoit, in consideration of fifty skins, a deed of the land between Broad Bay and Damariscotta river, to the extent of twenty-five miles into the country. John Brown and his descendants remained there till driven away by the Indians. They claimed the land under this deed till the adjustment of 1812.

About 1630 serious apprehensions were entertained that the Council of Plymouth would be dissolved. Laboring under this fear the Council made various hasty grants, among which was the grant, March 23d, 1630, to Beauchamp and Leverett, called the "Lincolnshire, or Muscongus Patent," or grant. Its extent was from the seaboard between the rivers of Penobscot and Muscongus,¹ to an unsurveyed line running east and west and so far north as would, without interfering with any other patent, embrace a territory equal to thirty miles square and included nearly all of the present counties of Waldo and Knox, and a portion of Lincoln. The grant was made to John Beauchamp of London, and Thomas Leverett of Boston, Lincoln County, England.² No price was paid

1. Called by the Indians *Serenobscus*.

2. Eaton's *Annals of Warren*.