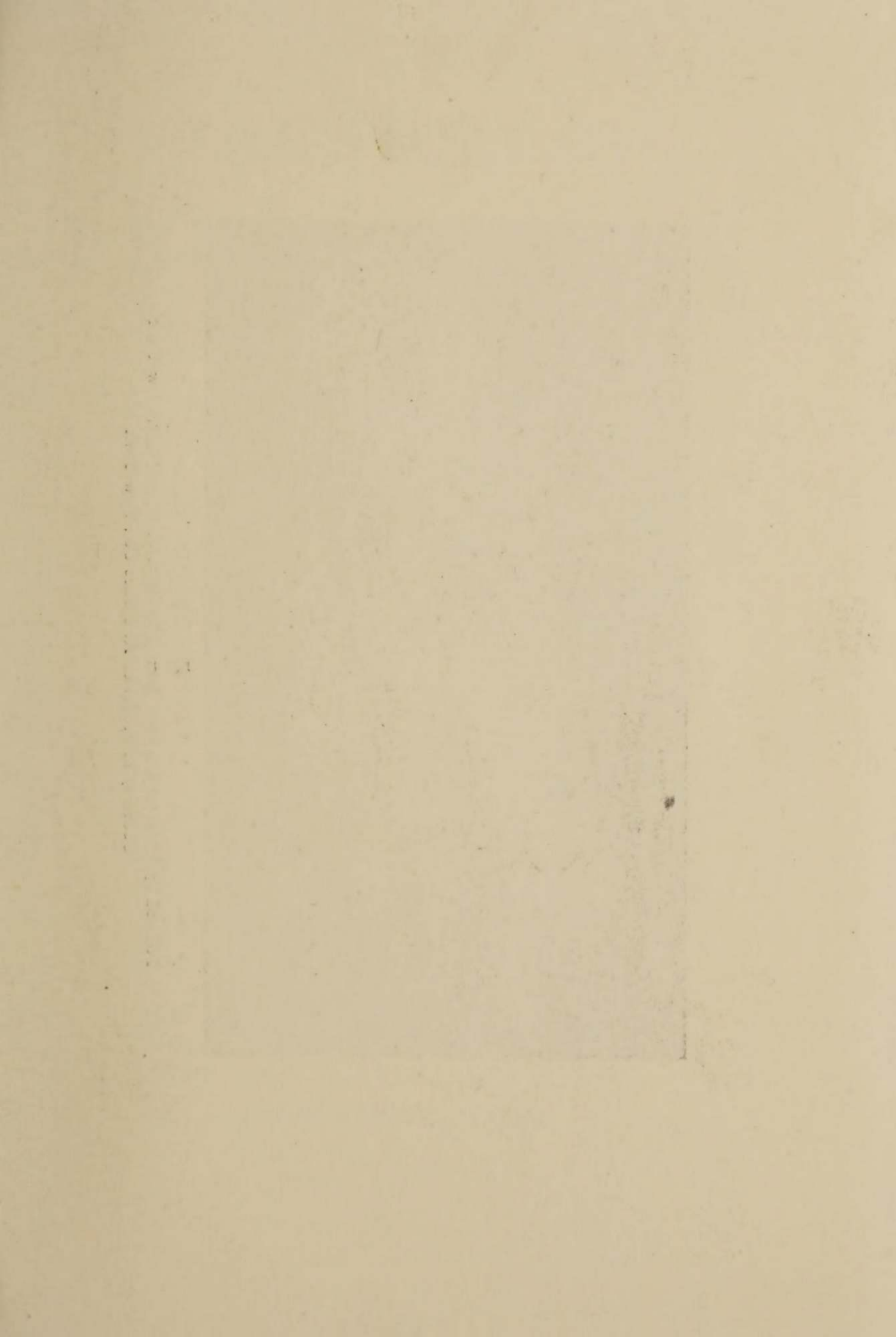




Nancy  
Hanks  
Lincoln  
Public  
Library







“ WEATHER BEATEN ”

Painted by Winslow Homer. Owned by Mrs. F. S. Smithers, New York  
Courtesy of Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York

# THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

BY  
RUPERT SARGENT HOLLAND

••

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF  
PORT WAINESBORO, VERMONT  
WAINESBORO, VERMONT  
PRINTED BY THE WAINESBORO PRESS CO., INC.

THE PROUTS NECK ASSOCIATION  
PROUTS NECK, MAINE

Copyright 1924  
by  
The Prouts Neck Association  
Prouts Neck, Me.

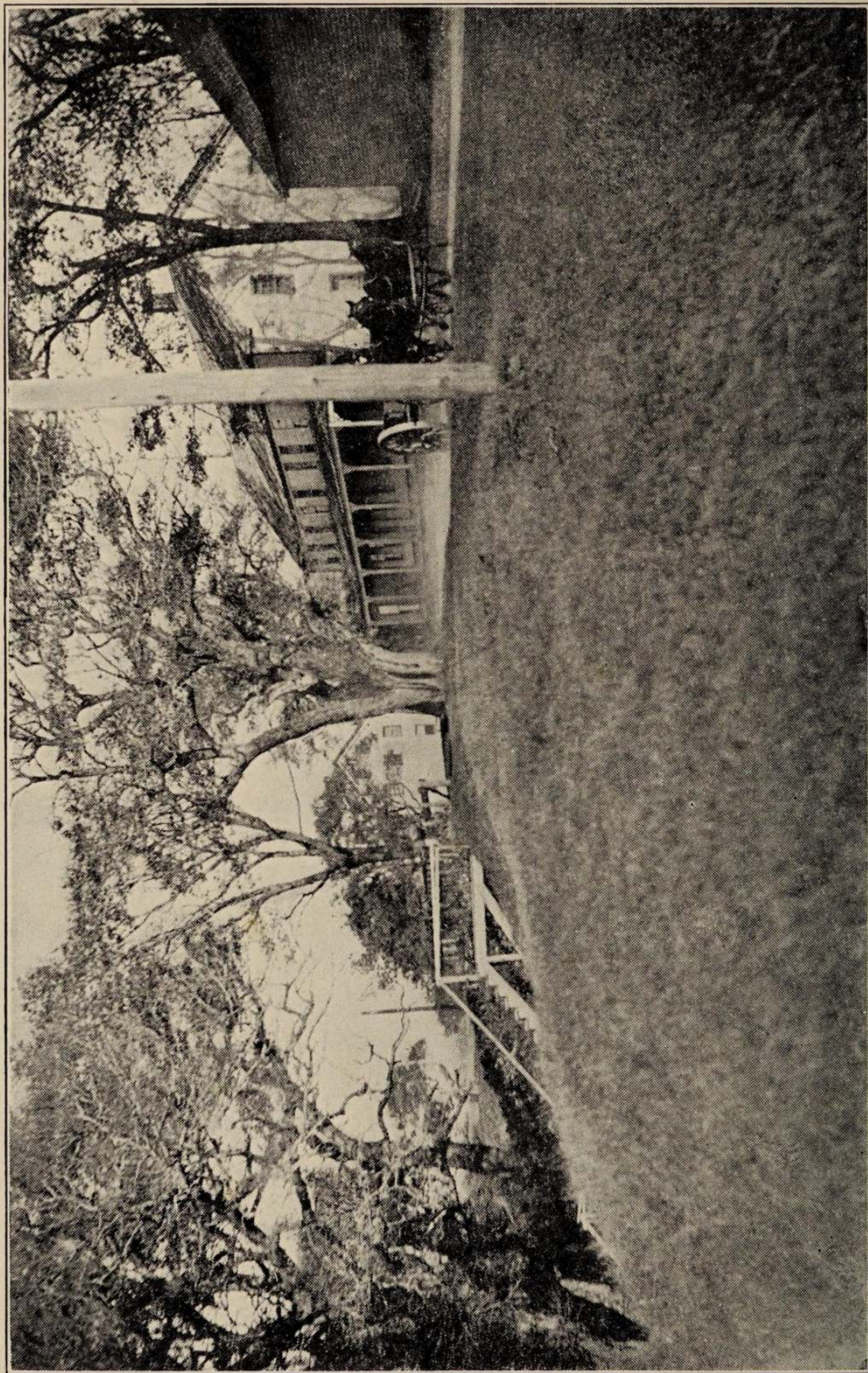
Printed in U. S. A.  
THE COSMOS PRESS, INC., CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

1560653

DEDICATED  
TO THE MEMORY OF  
FRANK MOSS  
ARTIST AND DEVOTED WORKER  
FOR THE WELFARE OF  
PROUTS NECK

••

97.50 MacLean 12-31-70 FTR



PROUTS NECK HOUSE, OR MIDDLE HOUSE

Said to have been built by Timothy Prout and reconstructed by Alexander Kirkwood  
It was the residence of Captain Thomas Libby



The idea of collecting and putting in book form some of the interesting incidents in the history of Prouts Neck originated with Mr. Frank Moss, who some years ago printed for private distribution an account of the Neck as it was in 1886 and some of the changes that had since occurred. Copies of this pamphlet were rare, and Mr. Moss and some of his friends wished to add other material of interest and bring it up to date, making a book that, published by the Prouts Neck Association, should interest summer residents in the story of this beautiful headland and in the endeavors to preserve its native charms. Such a book was planned, and some of the material for it collected, by Mr. Moss and Mr. Freeman Hinckley in 1923.

The purpose of this book is twofold: to furnish information about a settlement on the Maine coast that has had a very eventful history, and to set before the reader such a statement of the work of the Association — its care of the woods and the roads, the paths and the Marginal Way, the Thomas Library, the bathing beach, the fire department — as will serve to show the importance of its activities and lead to its support.

The chief sources of information that have been used in this story of Black Point and Prouts Neck are *The History of Scarborough, from 1633 to 1783*, by William S. Southgate (Collections of the Maine Historical Society); *The Settlement of Scarborough and Old Prouts Neck*, by Augustus F. Moulton; *The Sokoki Trail*, by Herbert Milton Sylvester; *The Historical Sketch of Prout's Neck*, by Frank Moss; and the notes made by Dr. James W. Holland of interesting facts told him by various people who were familiar with the history of the Neck. Grateful acknowledgment is made of indebtedness for the use of this material.

The historical map was drawn by Dr. James W. Holland, who made a careful study of the topography of the Neck and the neighboring country. Much research went to the making of this map, and it should add greatly to the interest and value of the book.

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

“Weather Beaten.” Painted by Winslow Homer . . .	<i>Frontispiece</i>
	FACING PAGE
Prouts Neck House, or Middle House . . . . .	v
Harris Seavey’s Stage Coach and a View toward the “Willows” . . . . .	5
“The Clam Diggers.” Painted by Frank Moss . . . . .	9
Captain John Wiggin’s “Hotel” . . . . .	13
“The Fog Warning.” Painted by Winslow Homer . . . . .	17
Bathing Beach about 1890 . . . . .	21
Bathing Beach about 1890 (another view) . . . . .	25
Corduroy Path to the Sanctuary . . . . .	29
“The Meadow.” Painted by Frank Moss . . . . .	37
Seavey’s Shack, Inner Bay, Prouts Neck . . . . .	41
Board Walk through Woods, Prouts Neck . . . . .	45
Club House and Bay . . . . .	53
Garrison Cove, Prouts Neck . . . . .	57
“Easy Alley.” Thirteenth Hole . . . . .	59
Plan of Golf Course . . . . .	63
Eleventh and Twelfth Fairways . . . . .	67
Map, by James W. Holland . . . . .	69



# THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

∴

## I. THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

THE first English name associated with Prouts Neck is that of John Stratton, who came to the islands off the Neck some time prior to 1630, or a few years after the settlement at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and there carried on a profitable business, trading with the Indians on the one hand and on the other with the English and French fishing vessels that constantly visited the coast. Similar traders were already established on other islands, a thriving commerce was being done at Monhegan, and on Richmond's Island Walter Bagnall had set up his trading house in 1628, where he was murdered in 1631 by Indians in retaliation for his unjust dealings with them. There are no records to show who were associated with John Stratton nor how much of a trading post he had, but his name appears to have been given not only to the two islands

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

but to a considerable part of the adjacent mainland as well, which was referred to in 1641 as "Stratten's Plantation." After some years he gave up his trading and moved to Salem, where he was settled in 1637.

It was Captain Thomas Cammock, nephew of the Earl of Warwick and a member of the Council of Plymouth in Massachusetts Bay, who became the first legal proprietor in what is now the town of Scarborough, being granted by the Council of Plymouth in 1631 a tract of fifteen hundred acres between the Black Point and the Spurwink Rivers. Here he came in 1633 and set up his residence, living somewhat after the manner of a feudal lord, claiming the exclusive rights to fishing and fowling, and apportioning land to tenants, from whom he received fees and rents.

The records seem to show that Cammock's original house was built on the headland that is now known as Prouts Neck. It was apparently located near the shore on the western side, a

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

little to the south of the present garage of the West Point House. Later, at the time when Henry Jocelyn joined Cammock and his wife, another house was built, the site of which was the high ground just above Ferry Rock at the mouth of the Black Point or Scarborough River. *The History of Scarborough* says that "Jocelyn resided with Captain Cammock near the Ferry Rocks." This dwelling is generally referred to in the histories and maps as Jocelyn's house. Beyond Ferry Rock was a stretch of shore better suited to shipping and receiving goods from vessels than any place on the Neck, and there it was that cargoes were usually landed. Many of Cammock's tenants, however, lived along the Spurwink River, a considerable distance from the Neck and Ferry Rock.

Cammock's grant of fifteen hundred acres was popularly called Black Point, a name supposed to have been given to it by voyagers along the coast because of its thick forests of evergreen. This grant began at Black Rock on the

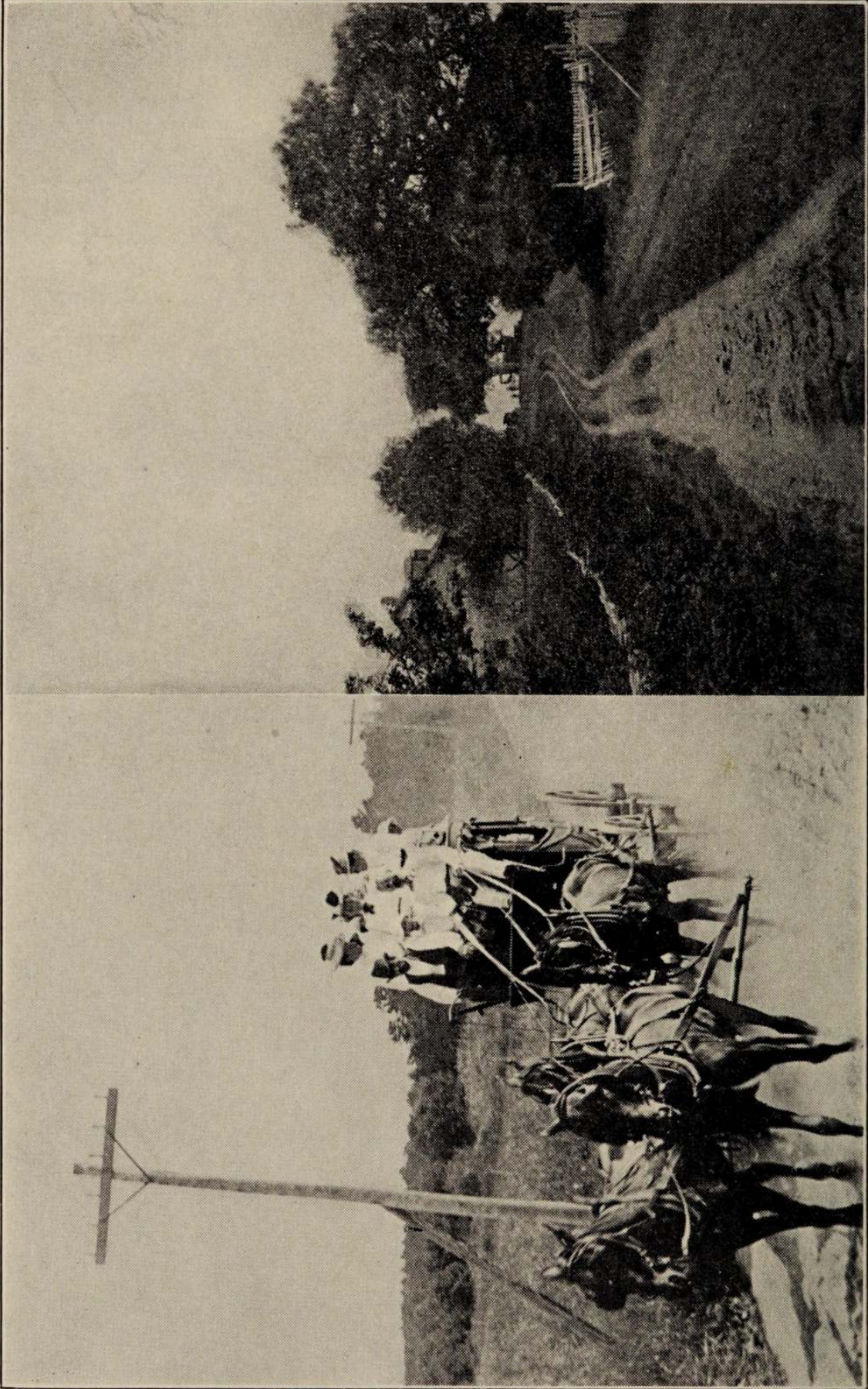
## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Black Point or Scarborough River, followed the river to Ferry Rock and the bay, thence around the Neck, along the shore to the northeast as far as the Spurwink River, up that river to the grove at the westerly branch of the Spurwink, and from there ran in a direct southwesterly line to the point of beginning at Black Rock. Most of the settlers lived near the coast or the rivers, the interior being largely a wilderness, from which Indians came to trade with the white men.

At Black Point Captain Cammock was joined in 1635 by his friend Henry Jocelyn, who, like the Captain, had formerly been an agent at Piscataqua. There Cammock and his wife Margaret and Henry Jocelyn dwelt until in 1643 the Captain sailed to the West Indies. He died at Barbados, and by his will directed that his estate should go to his wife for her lifetime and then to his "well-beloved friend" Henry Jocelyn. To Jocelyn he also entrusted the care of his wife, and Jocelyn for a time managed the







**HARRIS SEAVEY'S STAGE COACH**

(At left) Dr. Hyde driving, and Harris Seavey sitting on his right hand. The coach was later used in the production of Kate Douglas Wiggin's play, *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*

**A VIEW TOWARD THE "WILLOWS" IN THE '70'S**

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Black Point property for Margaret Cammock, and then, marrying her, became the proprietor of the Cammock grant.

In 1636 a new settlement was made at Blue Point — afterwards called Pine Point — across the Black Point River; and in 1651 a hamlet was established at Dunstan Landing, three miles up the river, the land being acquired by grant from Indians, representatives of Wickwarrawaske, the Sagamore of Owascoag, to whom that part of the country was reputed to belong. In 1658 it was agreed that Black Point, Blue Point and Stratton's Islands should be called Scarborough.

The colony at Black Point increased in population more rapidly than its neighbors — possibly because it was the farthest removed from the wandering bands of Saco Indians — and soon became one of the most important places on the coast. It was here that most of the business of Scarborough was transacted. John Jocelyn, younger brother of Henry, wrote in

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

1671, "Six miles to the eastward of Saco and forty miles from Georgiana (York) is seated the town of Black Point, consisting of about fifty dwelling houses, and a magazine or *doganne* scatteringly built. They have a store of neat and horses, of sheep near upon 7 or 800, much arable and salt marsh and fresh, and a cornmill. To the southward of the Point (upon which are stages for fishermen) lie two small islands; beyond the point north eastward runs the river of Spurwink."

Travel to the northeast was facilitated by the Spurwink ferry, for according to the record of a court held at the house of Robert Jordan July 12, 1658 it was "Ordered yt Mr. Ambrose Boaden shall keepe the Ferry over Spurwink River to Mr. Robert Jordan, to ferry passengers from thence as occasion serveth. In consideration whereof the said Boaden is to have 2 pence for every person he ferryyeth or carrieth over in prsent pay, and 3d for every such pson as hee bookes down. Ambrose Boaden willingly at-

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

tempts of the Ferry on ye Tearmes by the Court appoynted.”

On the southwest there was also a ferry, across the Black Point River; but in 1680 complaint was made that the town was derelict in providing transportation. Says the record in 1682, “The Court upon examination of the case acquit the Town of this presentment, and finds John Start as by testimony appearing hath undertaken ye ferry wrby hee stands lyable to answer any Neglect in ye Premises.” The court thereupon ordered Captain Joshua Scottow to provide a better ferryman.

The only road was a rude trail known as the King’s Highway, which started at Boaden’s ferry on the Spurwink, crossed the Black Point plains to Jocelyn’s house and connected with the ferry on the Black Point River.

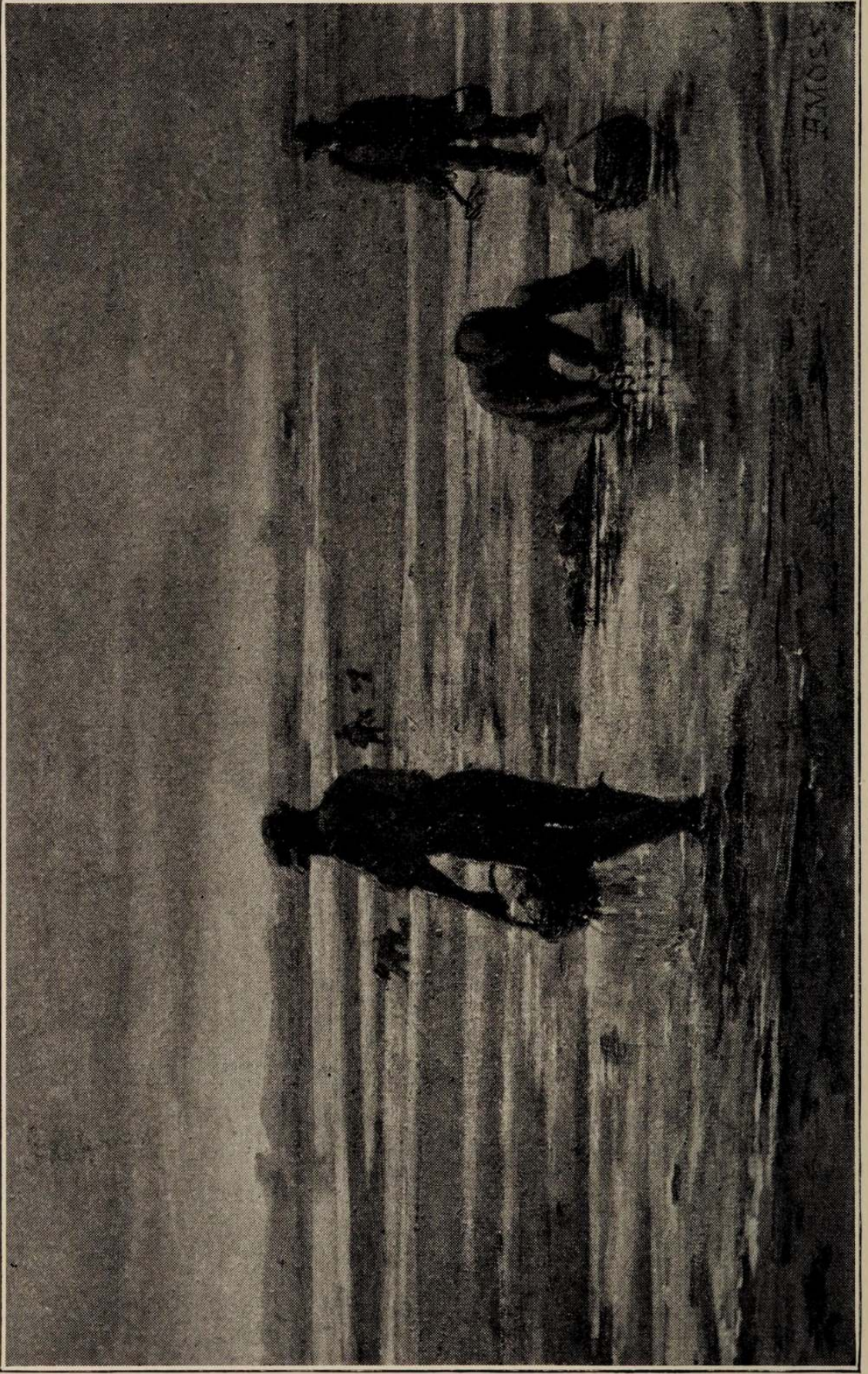
Henry Jocelyn gave a great deal of attention to his Black Point property and was active in many ways in promoting the welfare of his tenants and the other settlers, but presently

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

shipping began to desert the Scarborough River and, finding the business less profitable than in the early days of his proprietorship, he mortgaged in 1666 the Cammock patent to Joshua Scottow for three hundred nine pounds, nineteen shillings and tenpence. Scottow had already purchased a considerable tract of land in the neighborhood, including the hill that is now known by his name. He did not come to reside in Scarborough until about 1670, although he made frequent visits to his estates. For a time Jocelyn appears to have acted as overseer for Scottow, and in 1671 Jocelyn transferred to him for the additional sum of one hundred and eighty pounds all his interest in Black Point.

Jocelyn still continued to serve as manager of the property for the new owner, and it was probably under his direction that a garrison house, or fort, was built on the western side of the Neck, above what was called Garrison Cove. This was located between the present Cammock House and the Willows. It was known some-





"THE CLAM DIGGERS"

Painted in oil by Frank Moss. Owned by Frank S. White, Milton, Mass.



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

times as Jocelyn's garrison, sometimes as Scot-tow's. Near it was "the Doganne," an arsenal where ammunition was stored.

With the increase of settlers the Indians became restive. All along the New England coast were now the houses of white men, and white men were beginning to push into the western lands. Scarborough, called by the Indians Owascoag, or "place of much grass," on account of its wide marshes, was being wrested from the tribes that had so long enjoyed it. Until 1675 the Indians and the English settlers had been fairly friendly, but in that year trouble began.

King Philip, the great Indian leader, visited Maine in an effort to unite the New England tribes against the common invader; his attempt, however, had little effect, owing largely to the pacific disposition of Squando, the Sagamore of Saco, who was, according to Cotton Mather, a praying Indian who kept the Sabbath and went to hear the Word preached, and was very well

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

disposed toward the settlers. At this particular time a most unfortunate event occurred. Some reckless English sailors came upon an Indian squaw with her papoose in a canoe as they were crossing the Saco River. There was a saying that Indians could swim naturally like dogs, and to test the truth of the theory the white men upset the canoe. Unhappily the saying proved false, the papoose sank, and the mother had great difficulty in rescuing the child. The woman was Squando's wife and the baby his son. Not long after the child died, and the Sagamore, attributing its death to the upsetting of the canoe, called on his tribe for revenge against the English.

In September, 1675 the Indians made a sudden attack on Blue Point and killed Robert Nichols and his wife. The next month they fell upon the settlement at Dunstan, killed two men, and burned most of the houses. The strongest fort along that stretch of shore was Henry Jocelyn's garrison house at Black Point, and

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

there the settlers brought their families for protection from the Indians. According to contemporary opinion this house on Cammock's Neck — as the place was popularly called — might easily withstand all the Indians in the province if it were properly defended.

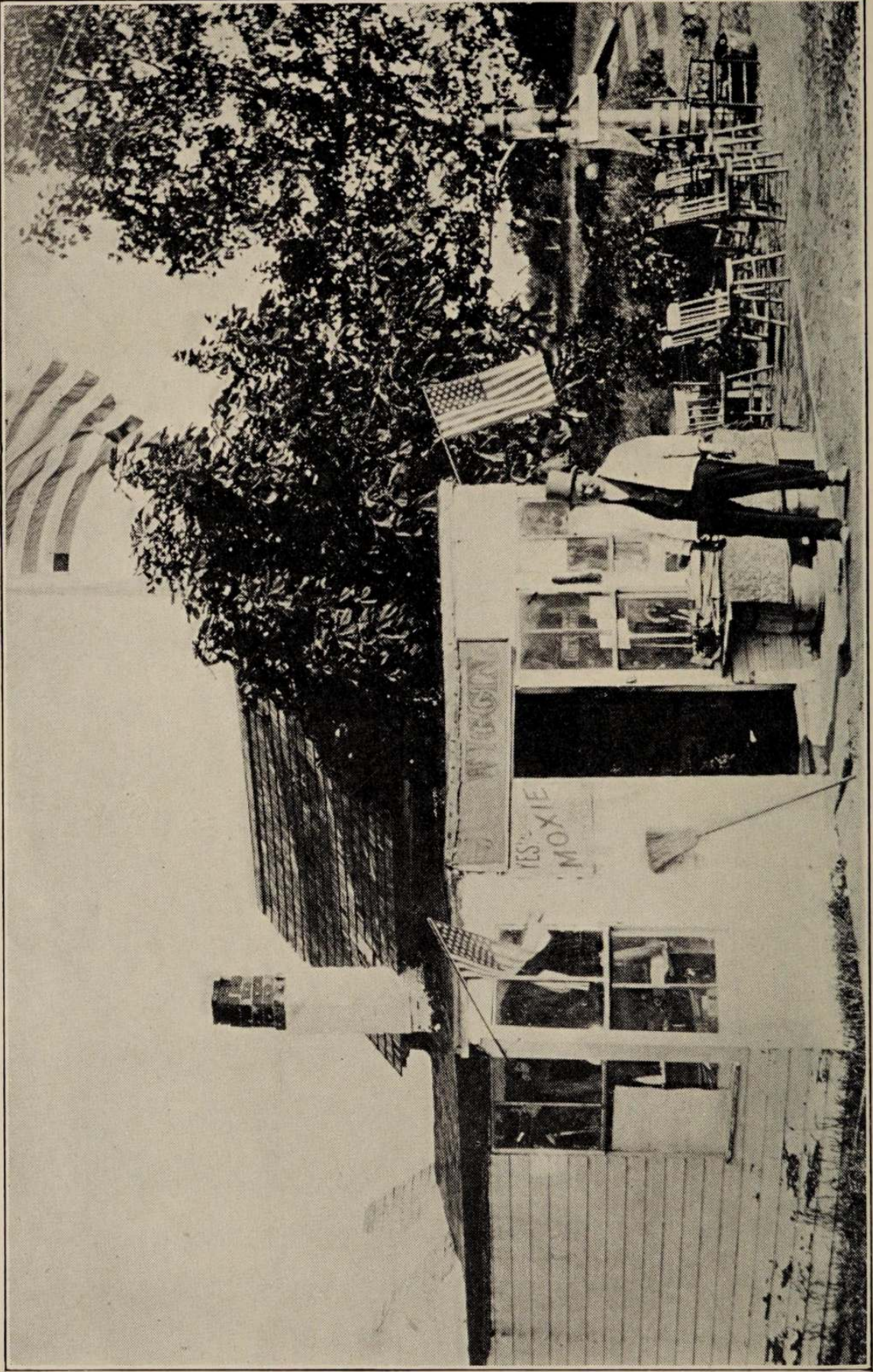
In October, 1676 a band of about a hundred Indians appeared before Jocelyn's garrison house with evil intent. Their leader was a famous chief named Mogg, sometimes called Mogg Heigon, the original of Whittier's Mogg Megone. He had mixed much with the English and was well acquainted with many of the Black Point settlers. For several days the Indians remained in the neighborhood, without attempting to force their way into the stronghold, a feat that they knew would be difficult, if not impossible. Having taken stock of the situation, Mogg, who was on familiar terms with Jocelyn, went to the fort alone and suggested a parley with Jocelyn, who commanded the garrison in the absence of Captain Scottow. Jocelyn, believing the In-

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

dians meant to make some amicable arrangement, agreed to the proposal, and, going out from the fort, had a long talk with Mogg. The latter offered to allow the settlers to leave in safety, taking all their goods with them, on condition that they should surrender the garrison house. Jocelyn did not immediately agree, but returned to the fort to consult with his men. To his utter surprise he found that all the garrison, with the exception of his own family and servants, had put off from the Neck in boats. Under those circumstances there was nothing for him to do but surrender, and this he did, he and his family becoming Mogg's captives. The Indians treated them well, and the Jocelyn family were among the white prisoners who were set free the following spring. Then the Jocelyns moved, according to report, to the greater security of the Plymouth Colony.

The Indians did not burn the garrison house on the Neck and soon withdrew from the neighborhood. Early in the next year most of the





CAPTAIN JOHN WIGGIN'S "HOTEL"

The captain in the foreground. This stood above the western beach near where the present board walk entrance to the Country Club joins the highroad

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

settlers returned, and, peace having been declared between the Indians and the Massachusetts government, the white men set to work to till their farms again. Mogg, however, was bent on making trouble, treaty of peace or no, and in May, 1677 he came again with a band of warriors to the Black Point fort. This was now in charge of Lieutenant Tippen, an officer who had been sent with a party of soldiers from Boston. For three days the Indians laid seige, killing three men and capturing one. On the third day Mogg, while leading an assault, was shot and killed by Tippen, and the loss of their leader caused the Indians to take to their canoes and make off toward York.

A little more than a month later a desperate battle took place near the Nonsuch River. Captain Benjamin Swett, with forty English soldiers and two hundred friendly Indians, was sent on an expedition against the red men around the Kennebec. The ships carrying this force anchored off Black Point, and, the captain

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

being informed that Indians had been seen in the vicinity apparently intending to revenge themselves for the loss of Mogg, he went ashore with a detachment of his men, planning to pursue the enemy. Some of the settlers joined him. "The next morning, June 29th," writes Swett's biographer, "the enemy showed themselves on a plain in three parties. A large decoy, supposed to be the main body of the Indians, feigned a retreat, and were pursued a distance of two miles from the fort, when the English found themselves in a most exposed situation, between a thicket and a swamp, upon the declivity of a hill, and instantly from an ambush on each side great numbers of Indians, rising with a war whoop, fired at once upon the two divisions, and turning so violently and suddenly upon them, threw the young and undisciplined soldiers into confusion. Swett with a few of the more resolute, fought bravely on the retreat, till he came near the fort, when he was killed;



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

sixty more were left dead or wounded, and the rest got into the fort.”

The Indians also had suffered heavy losses during their pursuit of two miles, and soon after retired inland, without attacking the garrison.

This battle was fought in the Scarborough meadows, and the ambush was at Moor's Brook, not far from the present Black Point school-house.

The next year a treaty of peace was concluded with the Indians at Casco, now Portland, and for a space there was no open strife. But the Scarborough settlers had lived so constantly in fear of the hostile war whoop that they took what measures they could to ensure their defense. Captain Scottow proposed to the Black Point men in 1681 that they should build a large stockade fort on his land, a fort stronger and more centrally located than the garrison house on the Neck. This was built of palisades flanking a ditch and wall, and was one of the best forts to be found in the province. It was

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

situated on a ridge in the present Atlantic House fields, and a portion of one of the bastions may be traced at the edge of the woods. With this stronghold to retreat to at first sight of a painted redskin the farmers could work in their fields and the housewives in their cottages with a greater feeling of safety.

Ten years after the treaty of peace at Casco war clouds rose again. Incited by the French, the Indians of Maine grew hostile. The English settlers now found themselves opposed by the men of two races, and the contest was unequal. On May 15, 1690 the French and Indians in overpowering force captured Fort Loyal on Falmouth Neck, and massacred the garrison. This was the signal for the men of Scarborough to fly while they had the chance. If Fort Loyal had fallen the fortification built by Scottow, strong though it was, could not withstand the foe. Cotton Mather says in his history of the war, "The garrisons at Papoodack, Spurwink, Black Point and Blue Point were so





“ THE FOG WARNING ”

Painted by Winslow Homer. Courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

disanimated by these disasters, that without orders they drew off immediately to Saco — and from Saco in a few days also they drew off to Wells — and about half Wells drew off as far as Lieut. Storer's." In a letter written that May from Portsmouth to the authorities at Boston, the writer said "that three or four hundred people, mostly women and children, had arrived at Portsmouth from the eastward, and that the vessels reported *that Black Point, Richmond's Island, and Spurwink were burning as they passed.*"

Within a week or two after the descent of the French and Indians from the north Black Point was as empty of English settlers as on the day when John Stratton had first arrived there. The enemy destroyed Jocelyn's garrison house and Scottow's great fort, as well as the homesteads, among which was probably the house Cammock had built above Ferry Rock Point.

## II. THE SECOND SETTLEMENT

FOR twelve years the land that had belonged to Cammock, Jocelyn and Scottow was abandoned to occasional Indian hunters. No ships stopped off the coast, for what had once been a prosperous trading post was now only wilderness.

Sometime in the fall of 1702 or in the following spring a sloop that had sailed from Lynn anchored in the bay at Black Point. On board were eight men with their families, John Larabee, Charles Pine, four Libbys and two others. Deciding to make a settlement, they used the sloop as a shelter until they were able to build a fort on the Neck. This was located on the western side, near where the garage of the West Point House now stands. It was situated near a ravine, by which it was possible to slip out to the neighboring beach without being seen. For a year this little band of hardy pioneers were the only inhabitants of Scarborough, and they apparently relied on the endurance of the

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

peace that had been made between the English and the French and Indians.

Little reliance was to be placed, however, in treaties made by these enemies of the English settlers, and in August, 1703, in spite of their professions of peace, a force of five hundred French and Indians made a sudden descent upon all the settlements from Casco to Wells. At Purpooduck (the name of this place is variously spelled in the histories), where nine families had settled, the enemy killed twenty-five people and captured eight. At Spurwink they killed some and made prisoners of twenty-two. At Saco eleven were killed and twenty-four captured. Then the whole force of five hundred, under the command of the Frenchman, Beaubasin, marched to attack the garrison at Black Point. The defenders numbered only eight fighting men, but their leader, John Larrabee, was a man of intrepid courage, each of the eight was an expert marksman, and their fort on the Neck was stoutly built.

Beaubasin sent a flag of truce offering terms of

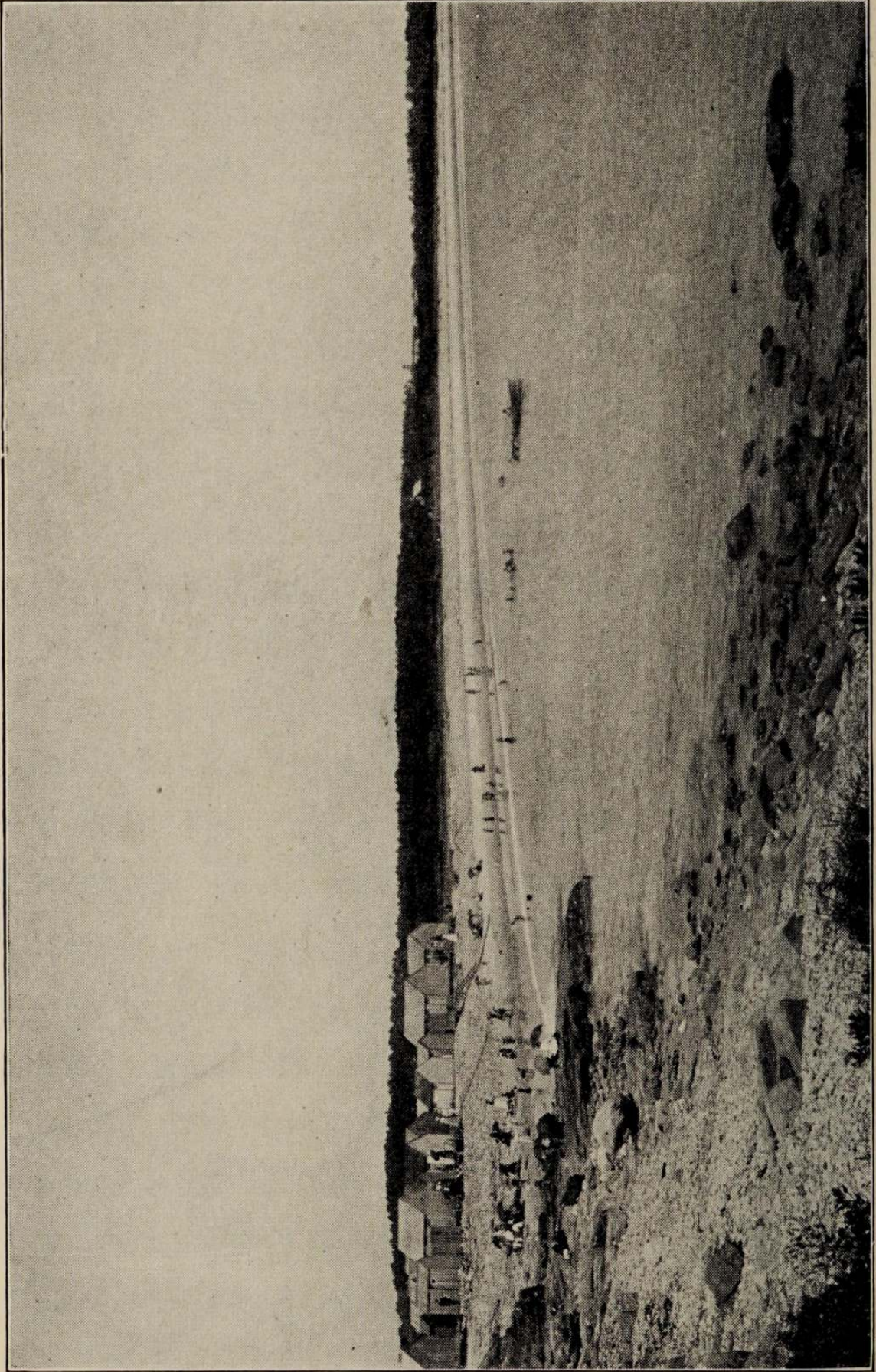
## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

surrender, but Captain Larrabee refused to capitulate or treat with the enemy on any terms whatever. The situation of the fort afforded an opportunity for undermining it, and the Indians, directed by the French, set to work to accomplish this. A high bank protected the sappers from the shots of the defenders, and it would have been the height of folly, in view of the disparity of numbers, for any of the garrison to venture outside the walls. All that Larrabee and his men could do was to prepare to give the enemy a warm reception when they should have driven their tunnel to the cellar of the fort.

Before the Indians had dug half the distance, however, there came a heavy rain storm, which lasted two days. The light, porous soil gave way under the rain, and filled up a large part of the excavation. The sappers were now exposed to the fire of the garrison, and Larrabee's men immediately took advantage of this, with such success that the enemy abandoned the attack and marched away in search of easier prey.







BATHING BEACH ABOUT 1890

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

More settlers now came to Black Point and Scarborough, and the country between the Saco River and Casco Bay commenced to resume some of its former appearance of prosperous farmland. The settlements that were now being made inland served as buffers to those along the coast, protecting them from assaults by the Indians and providing them with outposts of information as to the movements of possible enemies. In 1720 the town records were brought back from Boston, whither they had been carried in the flight of 1690, and a town government was reorganized. In addition to the farmers there were a number of the new settlers who subsisted altogether by fishing and hunting. Charles Pine, a famous hunter who had been one of John Larrabee's companions in the fort, built his house on the shore above the Blue Point Ferry, from which Pine Point derives its name; and Newbry's Point, on the southeastern end of Pine Point, was so called because of the dwelling there of William Newbury, another celebrated hunter.

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

These men made a business of catching beaver, which were then very plentiful in the Nonsuch River. There were also wolves and bears, for the killing of which the town paid a considerable bounty. Most of the travelers to and from this part of the province passed across the ferry, and the Ordinary, or house of the ferryman, at Ferry Rock, was the favorite resort of hunters and trappers.

The farms were small, and were within easy reach of the garrison houses and forts. The farmers depended on the salt marshes for the hay needed by their cattle through the winter. In the spring the cattle, except a few milch cows, were turned loose and left to provide for themselves until autumn. They were all distinguished by their owners' marks, which were entered in the Town Book, so as to prevent any controversies.

Of fish and game there were plenty. In ordinary seasons the crops of Indian corn, vegetables and grain were abundant. Fish, furs and lumber

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

were exchanged at the trading posts or with occasional ships for supplies or household goods. After 1720 roads began to be built; there was an overland route to Portsmouth and Boston, and stage coaches came into use.

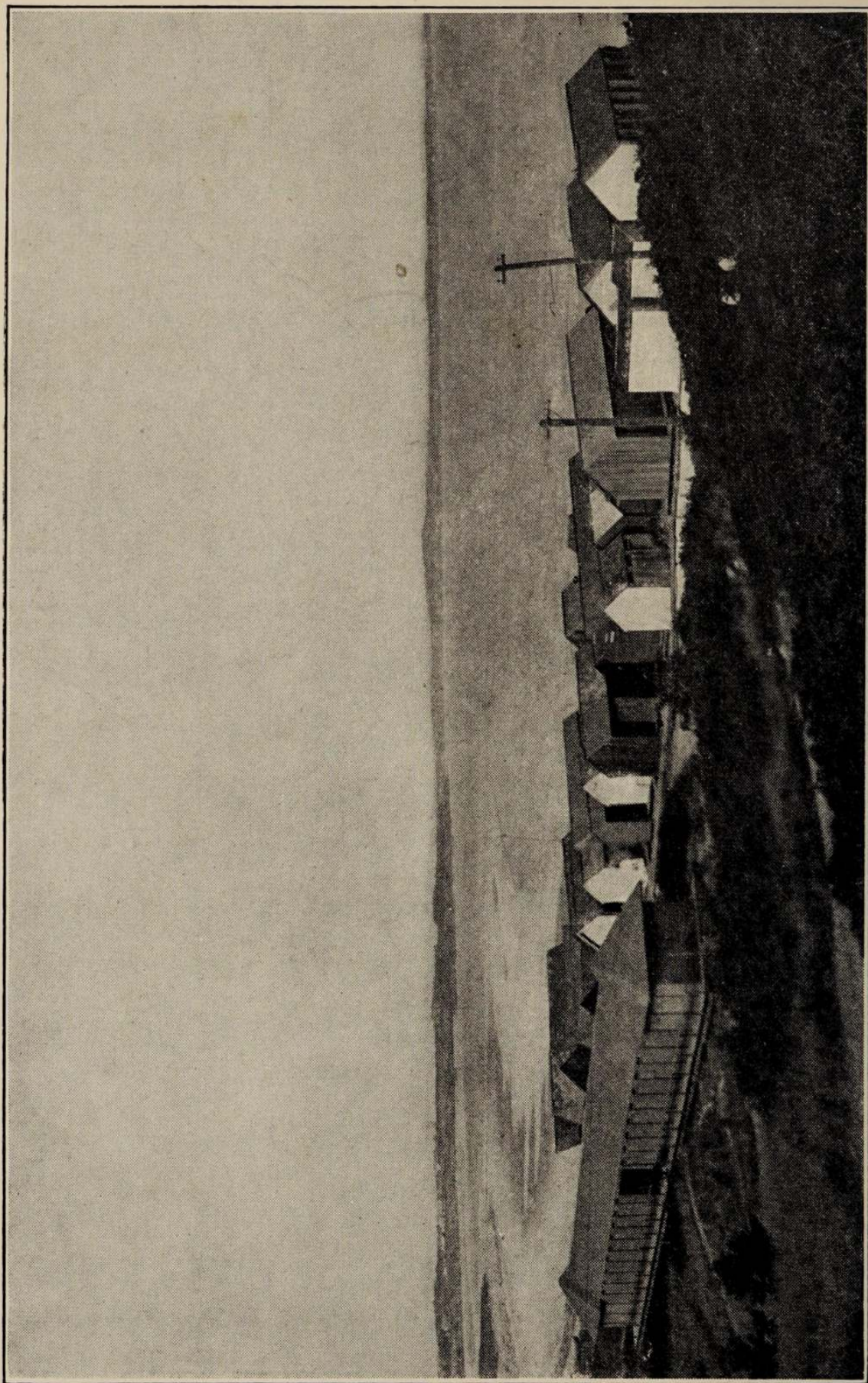
As early as 1641 the Black Point settlers had applied to Governor Winthrop for a minister. The first one of whom any record appears was the Reverend John Thorpe, of whom it is only known that Jordan and Jocelyn complained of him to the court in 1659 for "preaching unsound doctrine." In 1680 Captain Scottow conveyed to the Reverend Benjamin Blackman twenty-four acres near Ferry Rock, upon which the latter settled; but a few years later he moved to Saco. That he was a man of marked business ability, whatever may have been his talent for preaching, is shown by the fact that he became the proprietor of nearly one-fourth of the whole township in which he settled, owning every mill privilege on the eastern side of the river, together with almost the entire site of the present town.

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

In March, 1685 it was agreed by the townsmen that "a minister should have fiftie pounds a yeare and a house to live in." In July it was ordered "that there should be a minister's house built upon the plaines," and Captain Scottow was instructed "to git a minister for the Towne as soon as may be possibly." A minister was obtained in 1686, the Reverend George Burroughs, who had graduated at Harvard in 1670. He had been preaching at Falmouth, had been driven away by the Indians in 1675, but had returned in 1683. How long he stayed at Black Point is not definitely known, but very possibly he remained until the desertion of the town in 1690. Later he went to Salem, where, in spite of his upright character and excellent reputation, he was put to death for the alleged crime of witchcraft in 1692.

A church had been built before 1671. Jocelyn speaks of "our Church, which was built upon a plain little more than half a quarter of a mile from our dwelling-house." Jocelyn's house was





BATHING BEACH ABOUT 1890 (another view)



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

near Ferry Rock, and the site of the church is said to have been on the slight eminence to the north that overlooks the marshes from the present golf course. This church was destroyed by the French and Indians in 1690.

After the French and Indian retreat from John Larrabee and his men at Black Point in 1703 the relations between the settlers and the Indians were more friendly, and white men and red frequently competed in athletic sports. A game called "base" was a favorite with both races, and the beach at Garrison Cove on the Neck furnished a fine ground for it. Gradually the Indians withdrew from the neighborhood, and when peace was made between England and France by the Treaty of Utrecht it was generally supposed there were no red men in the vicinity of Black Point.

Among the settlers was a man named Richard Hunniwell, who in the earlier troubled times had won the nickname of "Indian killer." On an autumn morning in 1713 a party of twenty men,

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

headed by Hunniwell, left the garrison house on the Neck to collect and drive in the cattle, which had been left to graze at large during the summer. No Indians had been seen recently, and the only man of the party who was armed was Hunniwell, and he only with a pistol. In an alder thicket at the west end of the Great Pond two hundred Indians were concealed, and as the company of settlers passed by on their way to the woods the Indians fired at them. Hunniwell fell at the head of his men, and only a single survivor escaped the ambush and got back to the garrison with the tidings. Nineteen settlers were massacred, and this tragic event gave the name to the stretch of water between the high-road and the beach, which is known as Massacre Pond.

In later days there were occasional outbursts. In 1723 Indians raided Black Point, killed Sergeant Chubb of the fort there and Thomas Larrabee and his son Anthony while they were at work in the fields. For this and similar de-

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

predations elsewhere the government of the province sent four companies of soldiers to break up the Indian settlement at Norridgewock, and when this had been accomplished delegates of the Penobscot tribe made a treaty of peace at Boston, which brought to a close another of these sporadic outbreaks.

With the second establishment of the town in 1720 progress began to be made in various directions. There had been a "corn mill" in use at Black Point as early as 1663 and another at Dunstan in 1680. Now saw mills were built in rapid succession, most of them along the Non-such, where the valley furnished excellent timber. Strange to say, part of the lumber was used for paying the schoolmasters. In March, 1729 a committee of three was appointed "to see that there be a school carried on in town this year." The next year it was voted "that there be a Schoolmaster hired in town this year that can read and write well," and also "that the school be kept the first quarter of a year at Dunstan,

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

the second at Black Point, the third at Dunstan and the fourth at Black Point." In 1737 it was voted "that Mr. Robert Bailey be schoolmaster this year in this town; that it be kept all the year on Black Point side, and that Mr. Bailey be paid 75 pounds in lumber for his services." Four years later Samuel Fogg was allowed "32 pounds in lumber for keeping school 6 months in Black Point Meeting House."

The settlements of Maine, industrious and thrifty, prospered during the peace, which was, however, broken again by the declaration of another war between England and France. In April, 1747 Indians appeared in Scarborough; but now they found strong fortifications where before there had been only unprotected houses. Fifteen or twenty forts had been built in the town, of various forms and sizes. Some were simple blockhouses, constructed of squared logs, one and a half stories high, about twenty feet square, and having a row of portholes on each side. Others, which were occupied by a number





CORDUROY PATH TO THE SANCTUARY

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

of families in times of danger, were much more extensive. Some of these had a second story, and this projected horizontally a foot or more, so as to give an opportunity to fire at any enemy who might try to scale the walls. Of one such fort it is related that eleven families resided there for seven years in perfect harmony, for "the war without made peace within."

After 1749 Scarborough suffered little from the Indians, but during the early wars few towns in New England had lost so many men in proportion to their population. The settlement at Black Point had borne most of the burden, having furnished nine-tenths of the settlers who had fallen. In 1758 Louisburg was captured, and in the next year occurred the conquest of Quebec. With the surrender of Montreal French power in America came to an end and the whole of Canada was ceded to England. This news filled all New England with thanksgiving, and nowhere was there more rejoicing than among the settlers at Black Point.

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

With peace came prosperity. Maine was no longer debatable land, homes and farms were secure, and the labor that had formerly been expended on building stockades and forts could be used on the construction of post roads and school and meeting houses. In the Revolutionary War Scarborough played the same patriotic part as other settlements in New England. Far from the field of action, the people had to depend for most of their information on uncertain rumors, passing from mouth to mouth. It is said that the only newspaper taken in Black Point at that time was received by Captain Timothy McDaniel. The meeting house was the place of assembly for all the town, and Sunday the time. Regularly on that day — provided the mail had arrived according to schedule — Captain McDaniel took his seat on the doorstep of the meeting house at the close of the morning service and read to the congregation, eagerly gathered about him, the latest news of the war. There was a great celebration when



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

word came of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown and another on the declaration of peace. These were stirring events, but they had little to do directly with the history of Black Point.

### III. PROUTS NECK

CAPTAIN THOMAS CAMMOCK, as has already been related, received his title of ownership to the Black Point lands directly by patent from the Council of Plymouth in 1631. This property he left to his wife for her lifetime, then to his friend Henry Jocelyn. Jocelyn married Margaret Cammock, and so became the proprietor of the Cammock patent. In 1671 Jocelyn transferred all his interest in Black Point to Captain Joshua Scottow.

Scottow owned many ships and did an extensive business in fishing until the French and Indians harried the coast settlements. He died in Boston in 1698, leaving his Black Point lands to his wife Lydia, with remainder to his children. Mrs. Lydia Scottow died in 1707, before the re-establishment of the town government in Scarborough. The Black Point property was then in the charge of the executors of Captain Scottow's will, Judge Sewall and Scottow's two

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

sons-in-law, Major Thomas Savage and Captain Samuel Checkley. In 1728 Samuel Checkley, the surviving executor, conveyed the Neck and all the original Cammock patent land, containing more than three thousand acres, to Timothy Prout, Merchant, of Boston, for five hundred pounds. Timothy Prout, a descendant of one of the oldest families of Boston, had married Lydia, the daughter of Major Thomas Savage, Scottow's son-in-law.

Timothy Prout, with his wife and children, took up his residence on the rocky headland which had been known as Cammock's Neck and Black Point Neck, and which was now called Prout's Neck. His house was on the eastern side. He cleared the eastern, northern and southern sections for farming and used the remainder for pasture land. Near the present Southgate House was the site, according to tradition, of a dairy house built by Timothy Prout in 1744. He had also built a ferry house at Ferry Rock Point in 1741. Later Captain

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Alexander Kirkwood, a Scotchman, married Timothy Prout's daughter Mary, and built a house on the southwestern side of the Neck. Timothy Prout died in 1768, and his heirs made a division, by which his son Joseph received the paternal dwelling and a tract of land on the east, and the Kirkwoods a tract on the southwest.

Toward the close of the century the whole Neck came into the possession of the Kirkwoods. They conveyed a large tract on the eastern side to Timothy Prout Hicks, a grandson of Timothy Prout. He sold this later to Robert Libby, of Scarborough.

In the settlement of the various Prout and Kirkwood real estate transactions Judge Robert Southgate, of Dunstan, took a prominent part, and received, it is said for his legal services, land on the Neck. As attorney for the Prouts and the Kirkwoods he conveyed a tract on the southwest to John Libby, Jr., and Thomas Libby, 3d. Early in the nineteenth century the headland had become Libby's Neck — it was so called by

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

that family — the eastern side belonging to Robert Libby, and the western side to John Libby, Jr. and Thomas Libby, 3d. So the title to it stood until 1830, when Thomas Libby bought the other holdings and became the sole owner.

**1560653**

Thomas Libby lived in a double one-story house on the western front. It was located on substantially the site of Jocelyn's garrison house. It is said to have been built originally by Timothy Prout and reconstructed by Alexander Kirkwood. Later a second story was added to it. This dwelling, well known to all the countryside as the Captain Thomas Libby house, was a farmhouse where fishermen could get their fish dressed and cooked and secure lodging for a few days in the fishing season. Later summer boarders were taken, and it became the first hotel on the Neck, given the name of the Prouts Neck House or Middle House. In time it fell into disrepair and disuse, and was finally purchased by Charles E. Morgan, Jr., who moved it

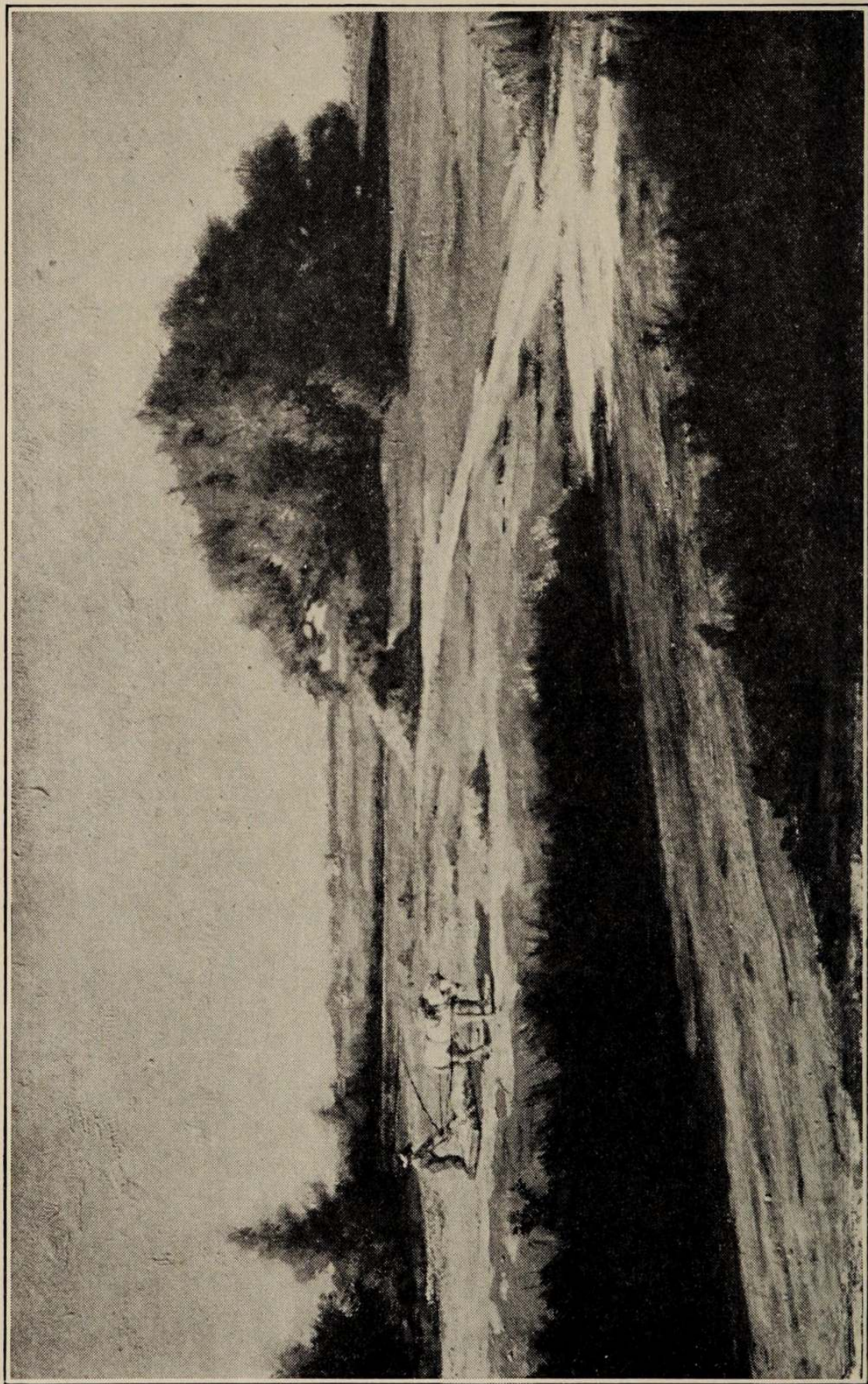
## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

back from the road and converted a part of it into a summer cottage.

It was in Captain Thomas Libby's day that the Neck — called by the owners Libby's, but by others Prout's — began to become popular with summer visitors. Silas Libby, the elder son, was given land to the southwest of his father's house, and built a small boarding house, the original of the present Cammock House. The second son, Benaiah, built to the eastward, and his house took its name from the beautiful trees that lined the highroad and became known as the Willows. These three houses, in a line on the western shore, overlooking the wide bay and the mouth of the Scarborough River, were the first hotels of Prouts Neck.

Captain Thomas Libby died in 1871. His children, Silas J., Benaiah and Minerva, divided the western tract of land into separate homesteads. A grandson built the West Point House near the site of the old fort defended by John Larrabee. In 1878 John M. Kaler built the





“ THE MEADOW ”

Painted in oil by Frank Moss about 1890. Landscape on the present golf course  
Owned by Robert P. Jellett, Montreal



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Southgate, named for the Judge who had been one of the most distinguished citizens of the town and who had owned land on the Neck. Ira C. Foss chose the sea-swept point on the southwest for the location of the Checkley. Land for summer homes was in demand, and the Libbys placed their large holdings in the public market.

The western boundary of the original Black Point grant was the river that flows into the bay, which has been consecutively called the Owascoag, Black Point, and Scarborough River. Near its mouth this stream divides, and the branch that is nearest to Ferry Rock Point is Libby's River, the next the Nonsuch, the third Mill Creek, and the main current that flows under the railroad bridge is the Owascoag or Dunstan.

The eastern boundary of the Black Point grant was the Spurwink River, where Ambrose Boaden kept the ferry that crossed to Robert Jordan's at Buena Vista. West of the Spurwink

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

lies the wide stretch of sand and the cluster of cottages that are called Higgins Beach from the Higgins homestead on the river. Adjoining this are the high cliffs, known as Hubbard's Rocks, which form the sea front of the Jordan farm, and which extend, with many long ledges and curving stony beaches, to the Kirkwood Inn and the Atlantic House.

From that point stretches Scarborough Beach, a magnificent crescent, reaching to Prouts Neck. Back of the beach near the western end is Great or Massacre Pond. The site of the Indian ambush of 1713, in which nineteen settlers were killed, was south of the pond and between it and the present highroad. North of the pond and at the edge of the Atlantic House woods, near the house of John M. Kaler, was where Scottow's fort was built in 1681, when it was decided that the garrison house on the Neck was too small and too far distant to offer proper protection to the farmers in their fields.

Scarborough Beach runs out in a point, off

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

which lies Shooting, or Seal, Rock and the western part of the crescent is sometimes called Prout's Beach. Here are the present bath-houses, and above this end of the shore, where the Neck juts out from the mainland, formerly stood the Jocelyn Hotel, destroyed by fire in 1909.

The Neck itself, a headland of some 112 acres, is roughly triangular in shape. Following the line of shore from the northeastern beach there are ledges, cliffs and coves, many of which have names. Cunner Rock overlooks the beach, and a little farther on is John Jocelyn's Cave, named for the brother of Henry Jocelyn, who spent nine years at Black Point, and who described his adventures in New England in a curious book entitled *The Voyages of John Jocelyn Gent*. Beyond this cave are the Pulpit or Castle Rocks, and offshore lie the Seal Rocks, where are often to be seen herds of the harbor seal. Eastern Cove, with its beaches of white and pink sand, curves out to Eastern Point, a low-lying ledge

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

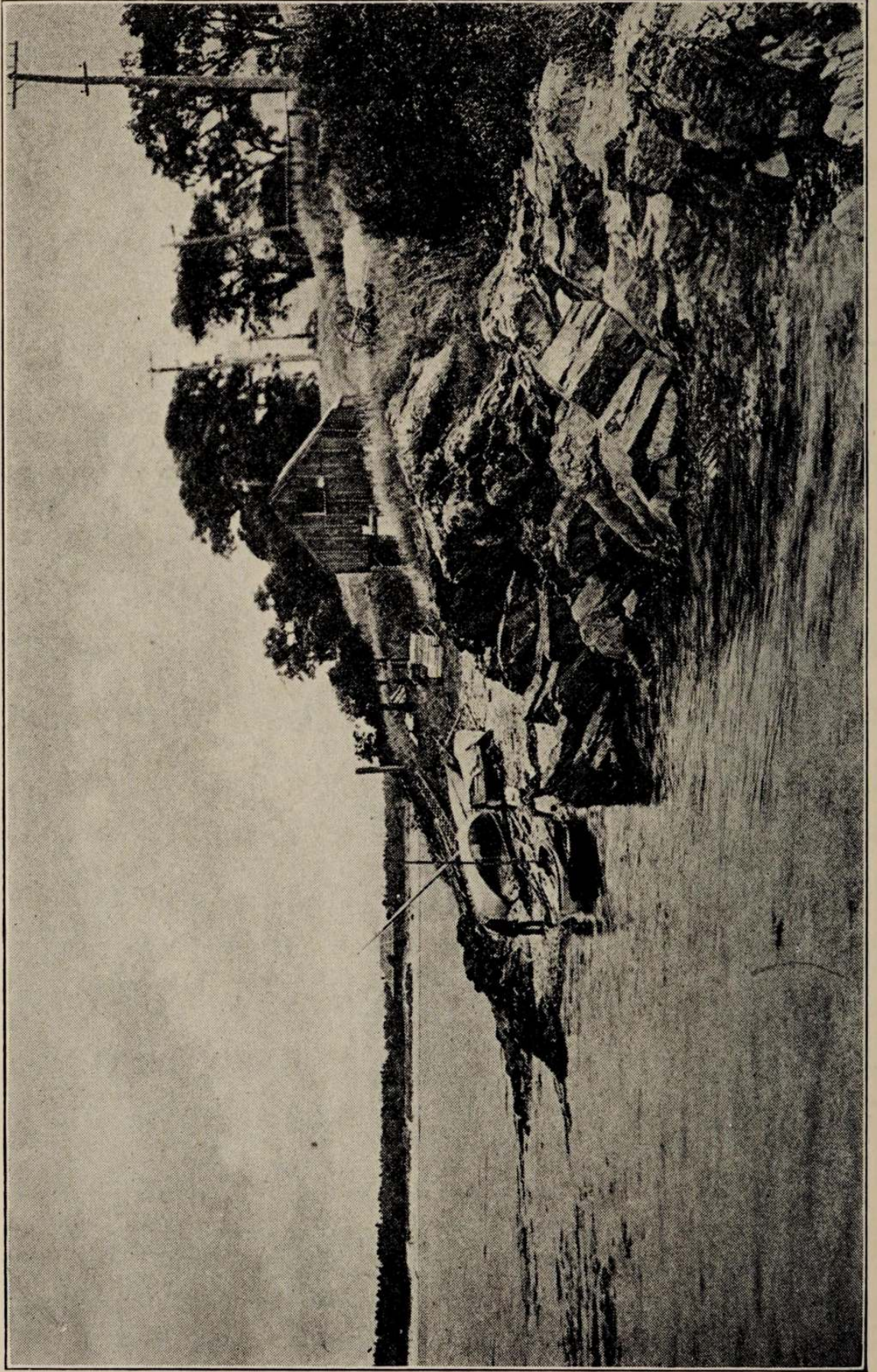
that forms one of the triangular points of the Neck.

On the side that fronts the open ocean the shore rises to the Gilbert Rocks, to Kettle Cove, to Spouting Rock and to Cannon Rock. These are known as the High Rocks, and were formerly called the Kirkwood Rocks, in honor of Alexander Kirkwood. These splendid cliffs give way to lower ledges at the southwestern point of the triangle of the Neck, where stands the Checkley Hotel. Off the shore on this side are the two islands, the larger Stratton's Island, the smaller Bluff Island.

The third side of the Neck lies along the bay, paralleling the town road that runs from the Checkley inland. This part of the shore was the Garrison Cove of Henry Jocelyn's day, and on this side were Jocelyn's garrison house, Larabee's fort and the Captain Thomas Libby house.

The Neck ends at the Southgate, which stands on high ground above the beach that curves to





SEAVEY'S SHACK, INNER BAY, PROUTS NECK

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Ferry Rock, from which travelers embarked to cross the river to Blue Point, or to Pine Point, as the nearer settlement later came to be called. Around the headland of Ferry Rock is another beach, the site of the wharf and the flake yards, and another headland, Black Rock, on the edge of the marshes. Back from Ferry Rock and on the present golf course was the site of Henry Jocelyn's dwelling, and on the shore Timothy Prout had his ferry house.

There is much stray information about Prouts Neck in the early nineteenth century, and some of it may be worth recording here. Wild game was plentiful, water fowl in particular abounding, there being several varieties of coots, whistlers, Labrador ducks, old squaws, shel-drakes, dippers, teal, and black ducks. A hunter one day found in the cove between Stratton and Bluff Islands a flock of ducks so closely packed together that at the first shot he killed eighteen, at the second fourteen, and at the third ten. The islands at that time

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

were only used for pasture, there being no houses on them and only a few trees. The owners kept oxen to haul lumber in the back country during the winter, and in the spring the oxen were ferried to the islands lean, and brought back in the autumn fat and sold for beef. A new lot was then bought for the lumbering season. Occasionally the water would become low in the springs on the island and sometimes cattle would swim two miles and land in the cove near Thomas Libby's house.

Indians used to come to the Neck in canoes and camp on Eastern Point during the summer to hunt for seals and porpoise and to fish. There was a ready market for seals; the average one gave thirteen gallons of oil, which was used for lamps, and the skin was used for moccasins.

One winter a school of the humpback whale, estimated as numbering perhaps a hundred, ten spouting at a time, was seen inside Stratton's Island. Great blue herons were common on the Neck; they nested in the fir trees, and some-



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

times five nests were found in a single fir, the eggs being the size of hen's eggs.

The swamps and woods in the neighborhood of Black Rock were once the home of large flocks of wild pigeons, from which the marshes took the name of Pigeon Swamp. Later this became the haunt of big gray herons, frequently seen on the sand flats of the bay at low tide.

As late as 1844 there was a wharf or pier between Ferry Rock and Black Rock where four schooners, or "Bankers" as they were called, were moored, and from which they sailed to fish for cod on George's Bank and the Banks of Newfoundland. There were also at one time salt works on the shore, shallow trenches in which the sea water evaporated and crystallized. The salt was used to preserve or pickle the codfish until they were dried in the flake yards above the beach. Clams could easily be obtained for bait on the flats of the river, and sometimes eight to ten bushels were dug at a single tide. Later the most that could be obtained was two bushels.

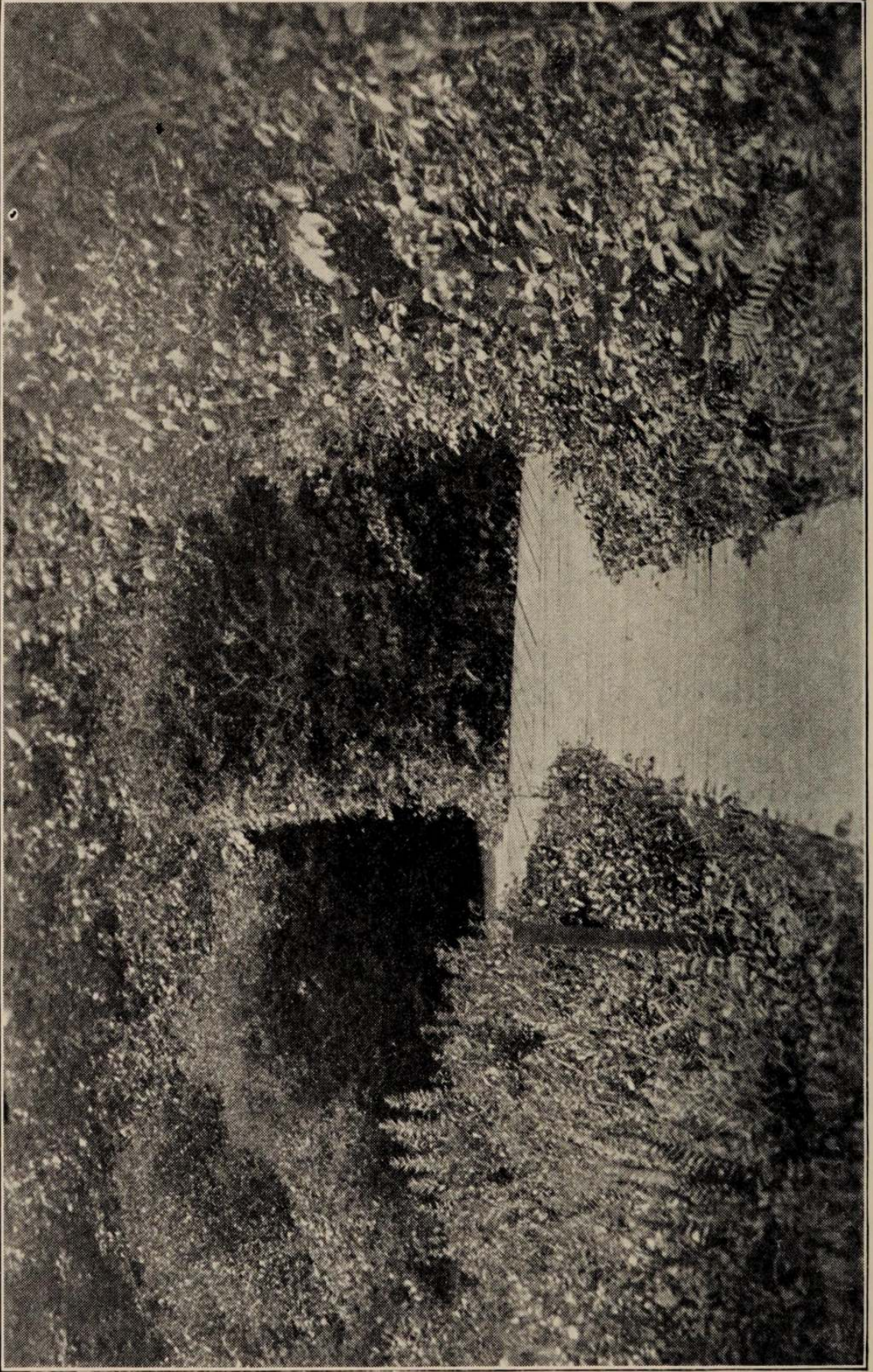
## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Scarborough clams were famous throughout the country.

There is much more verdure on the Neck now than there was when Thomas Libby acquired his property. Then there was an orchard and some garden land and the woods, about in extent as they are now, and the rest was pasture, called the Great Pasture. The young maples, birches, hickories, and even the balsams and spruces were not allowed to grow up by the browsing cattle. The point where the Checkley is located was called the West Pasture, and here the farmers cut the best hay.

Some of the hickories, which are said to grow no farther north on the coast than Scarborough, are reputed to be nearly a hundred years old. The willows were planted on the western shore by Captain Joseph Pillsbury more than eighty years ago, he bringing them as saplings from Dunstan. At the same time Thomas Libby planted the elms near his house. When holes were being dug to set out some poplars behind





BOARD WALK THROUGH WOODS, PROUTS NECK

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

the Willows Hotel the skeleton of an Indian chief was found in a sitting position, decorated with wampum and round copper beads. It was surrounded by twelve other skeletons, and this is supposed to have been the burial place of Mogg and his warriors who fell in the attack on Jocelyn's garrison house.

On the lawn in front of Frank J. Hale's cottage is a patch of giant knotweed, and here it is said there were to be seen in 1840 the cellar and well of Thomas Cammock's original house. In laying the foundation for the brick garage of the West Point House in 1911 large basement stones were unearthed which were identified as the ruins of Larrabee's fort.

The land now occupied by the Country Club, and extending to Ferry Rock, known as the Ethan Wiggin farm, was used to pasture sheep. The sheep kept down the tree growth back of the dunes, and the pines that are now so plentiful there have sprung up in recent times.

In the 1860's and 70's Captain Thomas Libby's

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

house was popularly called "the picnic house." Sunday schools for twenty miles around came there for their picnics. They would fish, dig clams and pick berries. The Libbys cooked the fish and clams for the picnickers, and provided tables and benches for dinner under the trees. A large spreading willow tree stood close to the porch of the Willows House, and there was a curving flight of steps from the porch up into the tree, where there was a seat, a haven of great delight for small children. Another attraction was a room on the second floor of Captain Libby's house where there was a collection of shells and articles made of hair, wreaths of everlasting and various pieces of handiwork made by the women of the household. There was also an old spinet and a spinning wheel, chairs painted with bright flowers, and braided rag mats. The Libby House, both for its interesting furnishings within doors and for the charm of its grounds without, was the most notable dwelling in the township.

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

In the early days of the third settlement of Prouts Neck — that by the summer visitors — Captain John Wiggin had a primitive dwelling, referred to by him as a “hotel,” on the edge of the shore in front of the Southgate. It was a one-story building with three rooms, and here the Captain sold lobsters, fish, cakes, candy, and anything else for which there was a demand. He also supplied dories for boating. A loquacious, convivial character, he made an unusual appearance in a long-tailed coat, red flannel shirt, high boots into which his trousers were tucked, and a high hat of gray felt. His hotel justified its name, if not in its size or appointments, at least in the fact that it furnished many a hungry wayfarer with eggs, bread and butter, steamed clams, fried fish and coffee of a sort. It did a considerable business, for the next nearest shop was the “two-mile store” at the top of the hill where the Spurwink Road branches off from the road to Scarborough Station.

Another picturesque character was Harris

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Seavey, who brought the mail and supplies from the railroad station to the Neck in his Wild West coach. This equipage was of authentic vintage and had crossed the plains in its day, but never did it show to better advantage than when, driven at a thrilling pace over the dusty road by the skillful Harris, it drew up, with much creaking of brakes, before the Prouts Neck House.

Most of the earlier of the summer cottages were located away from the shore, the land along the cliffs in particular being regarded as much too exposed to storms to be attractive for dwellings. The fields that bordered the rocks were also more or less bare of bushes and trees. On the bay side and in the meadows in the central part of the Neck, where the woods afforded protection from gales, many of the first cottagers built. Among these were the Merricks, Miss Agnew, Mrs. Gilbert, Charles E. Thomas, and Frank Moss. When Mr. Moss first came to Prouts Neck, in 1886, there were only five or six



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

cottages there, all of them of the simplest type. Charles Savage Homer, Sr., located near the Checkley Point and his sons Winslow and Arthur built near the paternal roof. Later the Homer cottage near the Checkley was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Savage Homer, Jr.

The sea and the rocks, the woods, the beaches, the dunes and marshes provided a wealth of beauty for the eye in search of color. Charles E. Thomas in water colors and a few small oil paintings caught the break of a wave on the beach or the distant sweep of sea meadows. Frank Moss painted the sandy roads winding up through the dunes, the twisted pines and spruces, the sunsets over the water, all those aspects of nature that allure by refinement of color and repose of line; his pictures make a wonderful gallery of the quiet, pastoral quality of a land along the sea. Winslow Homer saw ocean and shore in their sombre, majestic moods.

To no painter has it been given to depict the unending conflict between the sea and the land

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

with greater genius than to Winslow Homer. He had been an artist-correspondent during the Civil War, and afterwards, returning from study abroad, had painted the negro shanties and cotton fields of the South, New England homes and hillsides, the forests and rivers of the North with their guides, lumbermen and trappers. In all his work was vigor and independence, absolute honesty of presentation, and a profound appreciation and understanding of the American atmosphere. It was, however, when he came to the coast of Maine and studied the sea in storm that he found the subject that appealed above all others to his artist's temperament.

His cottage was built close to the shore and the sea was his constant companion. In storms he would rise before dawn to study the rage of the waters. He lived the life of a hermit or of a devotee; nothing was allowed to distract his attention. Often he stayed there during the hardships of winter, sometimes alone, sometimes with a single servant. In all the history

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

of art there are few such examples of absorbed devotion to work.

When he wanted a figure he found a model in some Scarborough fisherman or country woman. The scenes of his paintings "The Fox Hunt" and "Flight of Wild Geese" are the dunes of the Scarborough beaches. "The Fog Warning," "The Lookout — 'All's Well,'" "Eight Bells" are filled with the drama of the seacoast. His greatest pictures, however, deal with the sea alone, the sea booming over ledges, triumphant and baffled, vanquished and victor in one.

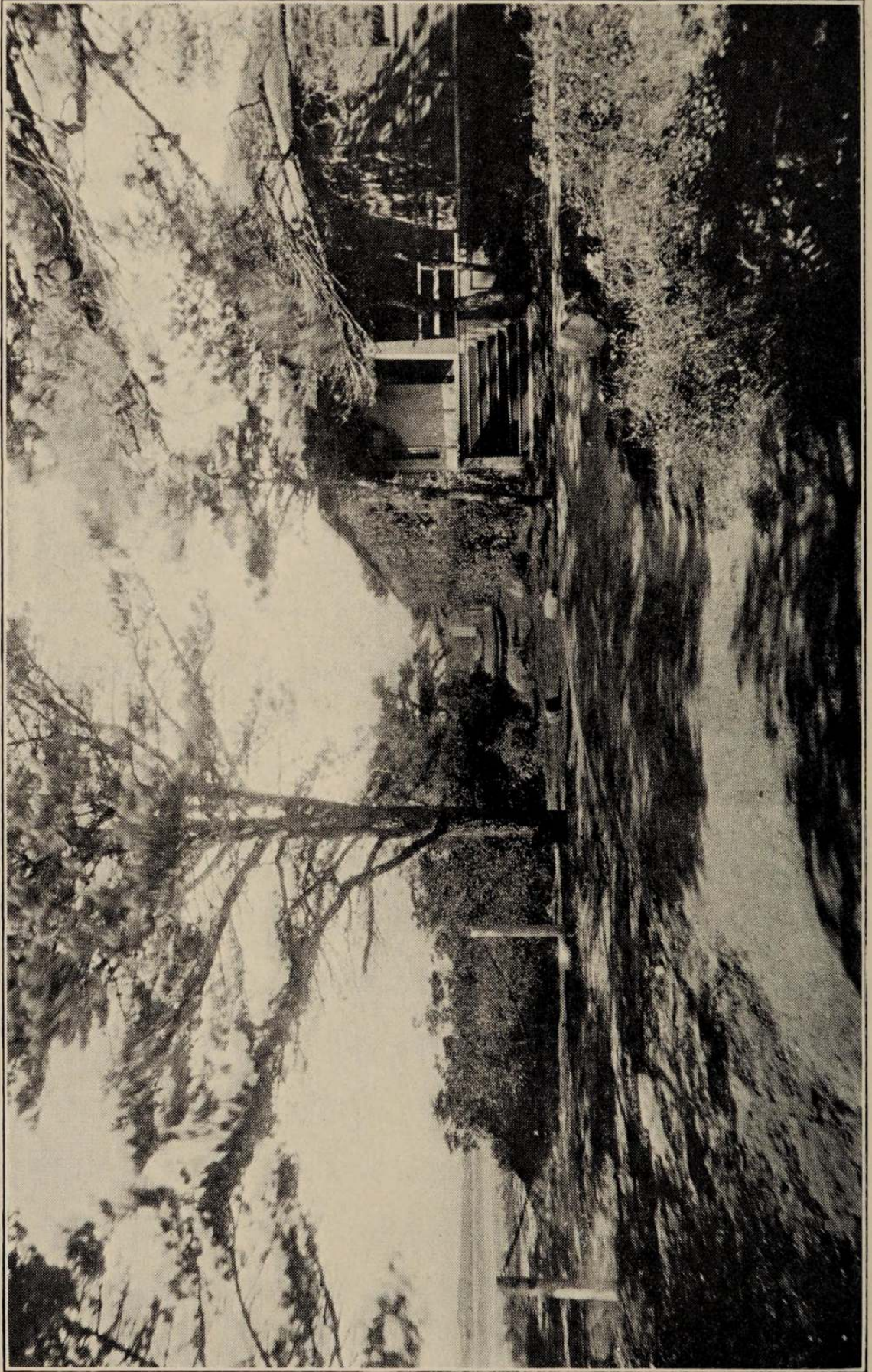
"The Maine Coast," "Cannon Rock," "The Northeaster," "High Cliff — Coast of Maine," "Weather Beaten," these are his greatest achievements. The sky, the sea, the wind-driven foam, and the mighty bulwarks of rock that defend the land from invasion are all that concern the painter in these noble canvases. They are portrayed with power and absolute fidelity, and withal with a stern simplicity that belongs to Homer alone.

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

One of America's greatest painters — perhaps the greatest of all painters of the sea — found his truest inspiration in the waters and rocks of Prouts Neck.

Gradually the lure of the rocky coast made more and more of an appeal to cottage builders. Sites were chosen for summer homes on the opposite side of the Checkley from the bay, in the wilderness, as it were. The shore here was more exposed to storms from the ocean and barren of trees or much vegetation, but there was a wide view of the open sea and in the foreground were the ledges and cliffs against which the waves tossed their white crests in fine weather or thundered in gales. On the summit above the highest of the cliffs the Hydes and the Cheneys built their cottage, and named it the Barnacle. The Putnams built their house, Driftwood, to the east of the Barnacle. These two were for some time the outposts on the cliffs, and it was for their use that a new road was constructed,





CLUB HOUSE AND BAY  
View down path toward first tee and Locker House, Prouts Neck

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

the private road that, starting at the Checkley, makes the circuit of the Neck.

There was now a post office and general store, run by Frank Seavey, situated between the Prouts Neck House and the Willows. The Checkley was the social centre; here dances and theatricals were given, and tennis tournaments played on the two courts between the hotel and the ocean. There were baseball games with teams from Grand Beach and Biddeford Pool in the Merricks' meadows. Catboats and canoes began to displace the old-time dories, and parties up the river for lunch or supper at Eaglesnest were very popular. Buckboards were in vogue for driving and haywagons for moonlight rides. Harris Seavey's stage coach was often chartered for an expedition to Mitchell's on the Spurwink River for lobster suppers. Clambakes and rock teas and excursions to Portland by bicycle offered a variety of entertainment.

Then a game new to America began to be talked about and the era of golf came in. On

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

the Merricks' property in the centre of the Neck a course of six holes was arranged. This soon proved too small, and enterprising cottagers looked for new grounds. In 1900 some sheep pastures were rented up the road near Scarborough Station, and the Owascoag Golf Club was formed.

Dr. James Nevins Hyde was the president, and John R. Meeker — to whom Prouts Neck has always been largely indebted for the golf it has enjoyed — took charge of the course. Whatever it may have lacked in the way of velvety fairways and putting greens was made up for by picturesqueness and sporty hazards. On the second hole there was a wide and deep sand pit about a hundred yards from the tee and many a golfer labored here long with his niblick before he could cross the bridge. Other holes were checkerboards of juniper and blueberry bushes running up and down hill. One drive had to be made up a steep hillside with no view of the green and a guess as to the right direction.



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

But there were tees of hard-baked sand and small stubbly putting greens, and many a player got his first taste for the ancient and royal game on the Owascoag links. Harris Seavey drove his stage coach loaded with golfers from the Prouts Neck House to the course and such as couldn't get seats on the coach took their bicycles and wheeled along the road. A room in a near-by cottage housed the golf clubs and served as headquarters. A bell was hung by the gate to the course, and when that bell was rung the players, no matter where they were, stopped their game and hurried back to the house; that is, they did if they meant to go back by the coach, which wouldn't wait for laggards.

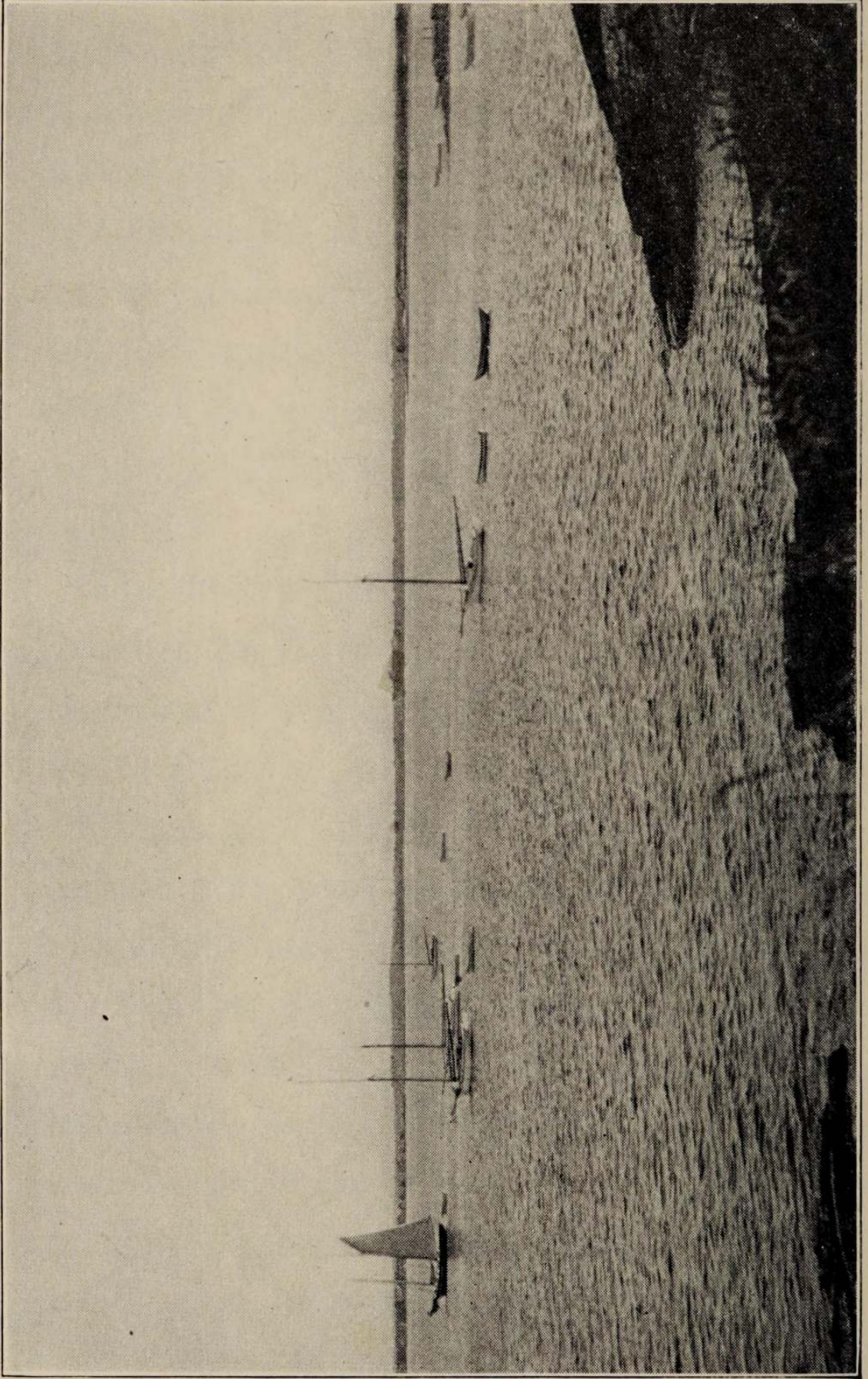
The Owascoag Golf Club thrived; on the Neck the hotels enlarged their accommodations and more cottages were built. There was now an Episcopal church. Charles E. Thomas, with public spirit and the desire to make people happy, had left his cottage to trustees to be used as a library. In 1902 new tennis courts

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

were built on land adjoining the Southgate and a boathouse on the western shore. Here water sports were held every summer. Ira C. Foss, the proprietor of the Checkley, built the water tower. A board walk was laid through the edge of the woods — popularly known as “the Merrick-go-round.” Bathhouses were added to the original little primitive cluster on the bathing beach.

The Prouts Neck Association had been organized in 1887, with J. Vaughn Merrick as president, Thomas B. Merrick as treasurer, and Frank Moss as secretary and beach committee. Its first object was the establishment of a beach service, the purchase of a lifeboat, the building of a boathouse, and the maintenance of a boatman. The Association has done much for the welfare of the Neck; it has had the roads and boundaries surveyed, thoroughfares constantly improved, arranged for the installation of a telegraph service, a better water supply, the policing of the Neck, the sanitation system; in





GARRISON COVE, PROUTS NECK

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

short, has taken charge of those thousand and one details that make for the welfare of a community.

There were several fires on the Neck, one of which destroyed the Jocelyn Hotel and several houses near by. Had not the wind been blowing toward the ocean there might have been much more destruction, as there were no means at hand to check the conflagration. As a result of this fire a movement was set on foot to organize a fire patrol service, and largely through the efforts of Mr. Moss an appropriation was obtained from the town for the purchase of a truck equipped with the necessary apparatus to fight fires. This service has been constantly improved, thanks to the generous interest of many members of the Association.

The original Association has now a most valuable and efficient aid in the Women's Auxiliary, which has taken in its charge the care of the woods and paths, the employment of experts on the protection of trees and bushes, and the rais-

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

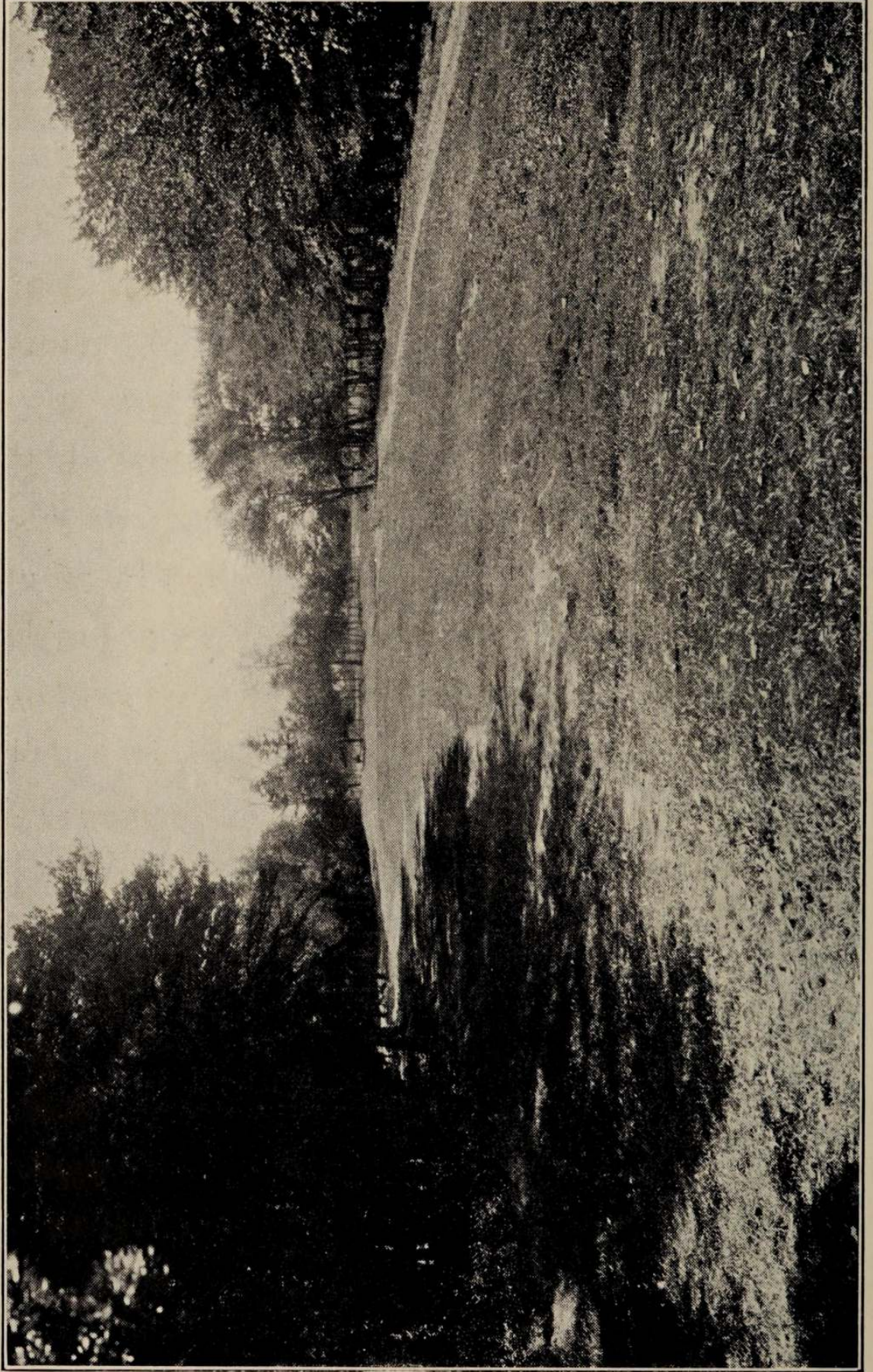
ing of funds by public entertainments for the work of the Association.

Prouts Neck is now a game sanctuary, and to this is due the great variety of birds to be found here in the summer.

Many reasons led to the organization of the Country Club. The Owascoag golf course was too far away from the Neck for convenience; the tennis courts by the Southgate were few and difficult to keep in condition for playing; the need was felt for a clubhouse that should serve as a social centre, for afternoon tea, for dancing and for theatricals. Moreover there were rumors that the Ethan Wiggin farm, which stretched from the town road to Ferry Rock, might be acquired by a trolley company as a terminal, and this it was thought would greatly affect the charm of the Neck.

The Wiggin farm would make an admirable site for a country club and would ensure the preservation of a beautiful tract of land closely adjacent to the Neck. The project was taken





“ EASY ALLEY ”  
Thirteenth Hole. Prouts Neck Golf Course



## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

up in September, 1906, and through the generous agency of P. W. Sprague and George S. Motley the land was bought for the club. Tennis courts were built and a capacious club house. At the same time land was secured farther up the road for a nine-hole golf course. This was opposite Massacre Pond; on one of the slopes had stood the original Black Point church, and across its fields had run the primitive King's Highway of Henry Jocelyn's day. At the time of the purchase it was largely grass and woodland; near the road stood the house of Henry Lee, a picturesque fisherman well known to all the Neck, who had served as a model in some of Winslow Homer's paintings. Work was at once begun on the golf course, which took the place of the Owascoag links.

A path was cleared through the woods from the Country Club to a point near the golf house, which made the latter easy of reach. A pergola was built between two of the tennis courts as a memorial to Mrs. George P. Putnam, who had

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

done so much by her skill in horticulture to beautify Prouts Neck. Later Mr. Sprague, the president of the club, presented a men's locker house of the most approved construction. To Mr. Sprague's interest and generosity from its inception much of the present success of the Country Club is due.

In 1923 it was decided to enlarge the golf course from nine to eighteen holes. This opens up the land back of Western Beach, Ferry Rock and the river, connects with the main club house, and provides a course that for natural beauty, with its views over marshes, woods and waters, is unrivaled on the coast.

In the work of building this new course Frank H. Anson was one of the leaders, and his suggestions as to improvements and the assistance he gave in many ways was of the greatest service.

The possession by the Country Club of this large tract of land, extending from the highroad to the Scarborough River, is of inestimable value to the Neck, both as a protection against possi-

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

ble undesirable neighbors and because it retains the shore of the bay and the river in all their natural charm. Another of the great beauties of the Neck, the woods with the Sanctuary, are also secured for public benefit. The Sanctuary is the property of the Prouts Neck Association by gift of Charles S. Homer, Jr. and the rest of the woods have been added to the original gift by purchase, the funds having been raised by popular subscription.

To care for these woods, for the beautiful marginal way which encircles the Neck, and for the roads, which, with the exception of the one leading from the Southgate to the Checkley, are all private roads, is one of the main interests of the Association.

The woods are called the Homer Woods, and in the Sanctuary is a tablet, placed there — to quote the inscription — “In appreciation of the generosity of Charles Savage Homer, who gave these woods to the people of Prouts Neck, and of the genius of his brother Winslow Homer, who with his brush gave Prouts Neck to the world.”

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Winslow Homer's studio-cottage, on the walls of which hang a number of his sketches and studies, is open on certain days, and many visitors come every summer to the home of this great painter.

Prouts Neck has had many owners, Cammock and Jocelyn and Scottow, Timothy Prout, Alexander Kirkwood and Thomas Libby; but none of them have cared more for its beauty or done more to preserve its native charm than the men and women, coming from many cities, who have made their summer homes here. Some have delved into its history. C. Emma Cheney, the wife of Bishop Charles E. Cheney, wrote a delightful little volume, *Mistress Alice Jocelyn: Her Letters*, in which are related the impressions and experiences of a young English girl, supposed to be the niece of Henry Jocelyn, who visited Black Point in 1642. Augustus F. Moulton has dealt with the actual history of the Neck in his writings, *The Settlement of Scarborough* and *Old Prouts Neck*. The Homers and the Merricks, the Hydes, the Cheneys, the Put-

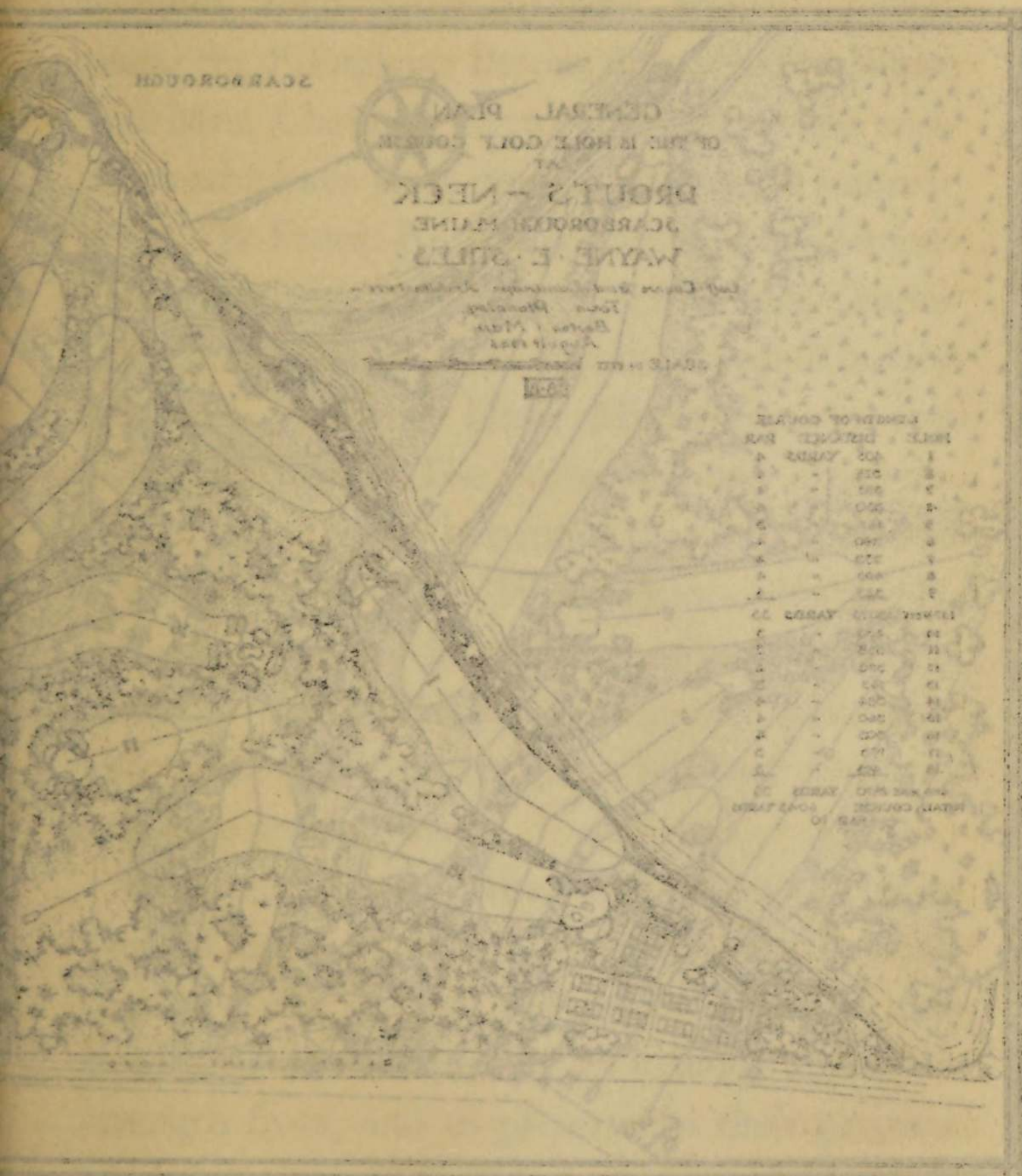
SCARBOROUGH

GENERAL PLAN  
 OF THE 18 HOLE GOLF COURSE  
 AT  
 BROOKS - NECK  
 SCARBOROUGH MAINE  
 WAYNE E. STILES

Scale 1 inch = 100 yards  
 1908  
 Plans & Maps  
 Town Planning  
 100, Essex Street, Boston, U.S.A.

LENGTHS OF COURSE

HOLE	DISTANCE	PAR
1	400	4
2	375	4
3	390	4
4	360	4
5	410	4
6	380	4
7	370	4
8	390	4
9	380	4
10	400	4
11	370	4
12	380	4
13	390	4
14	370	4
15	380	4
16	390	4
17	370	4
18	380	4
19	390	4
20	370	4
21	380	4
22	390	4
23	370	4
24	380	4
25	390	4
26	370	4
27	380	4
28	390	4
29	370	4
30	380	4
31	390	4
32	370	4
33	380	4
34	390	4
35	370	4
36	380	4
37	390	4
38	370	4
39	380	4
40	390	4
41	370	4
42	380	4
43	390	4
44	370	4
45	380	4
46	390	4
47	370	4
48	380	4
49	390	4
50	370	4
51	380	4
52	390	4
53	370	4
54	380	4
55	390	4
56	370	4
57	380	4
58	390	4
59	370	4
60	380	4
61	390	4
62	370	4
63	380	4
64	390	4
65	370	4
66	380	4
67	390	4
68	370	4
69	380	4
70	390	4
71	370	4
72	380	4
73	390	4
74	370	4
75	380	4
76	390	4
77	370	4
78	380	4
79	390	4
80	370	4
81	380	4
82	390	4
83	370	4
84	380	4
85	390	4
86	370	4
87	380	4
88	390	4
89	370	4
90	380	4
91	390	4
92	370	4
93	380	4
94	390	4
95	370	4
96	380	4
97	390	4
98	370	4
99	380	4
100	390	4



# THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

Winslow Homer's studio-cottage, on the walls of

which hang a number of his sketches and studies

is open on certain days, and many visitors come

every summer to see the great painter

Prouts Neck

and Jocelyn

Alexander Knapp

none of them

to preserve its native

men, coming from

have made their summer

have come into its

the Bishop Charles

done in the volume

Prouts Neck which

and experiences

posed to be

visited

borough and Old Prouts Neck. The Homers and

the Homers, the Homers,

the Homers,

the Homers,

the Homers,

the Homers,

the Homers,

SCARBOROUGH

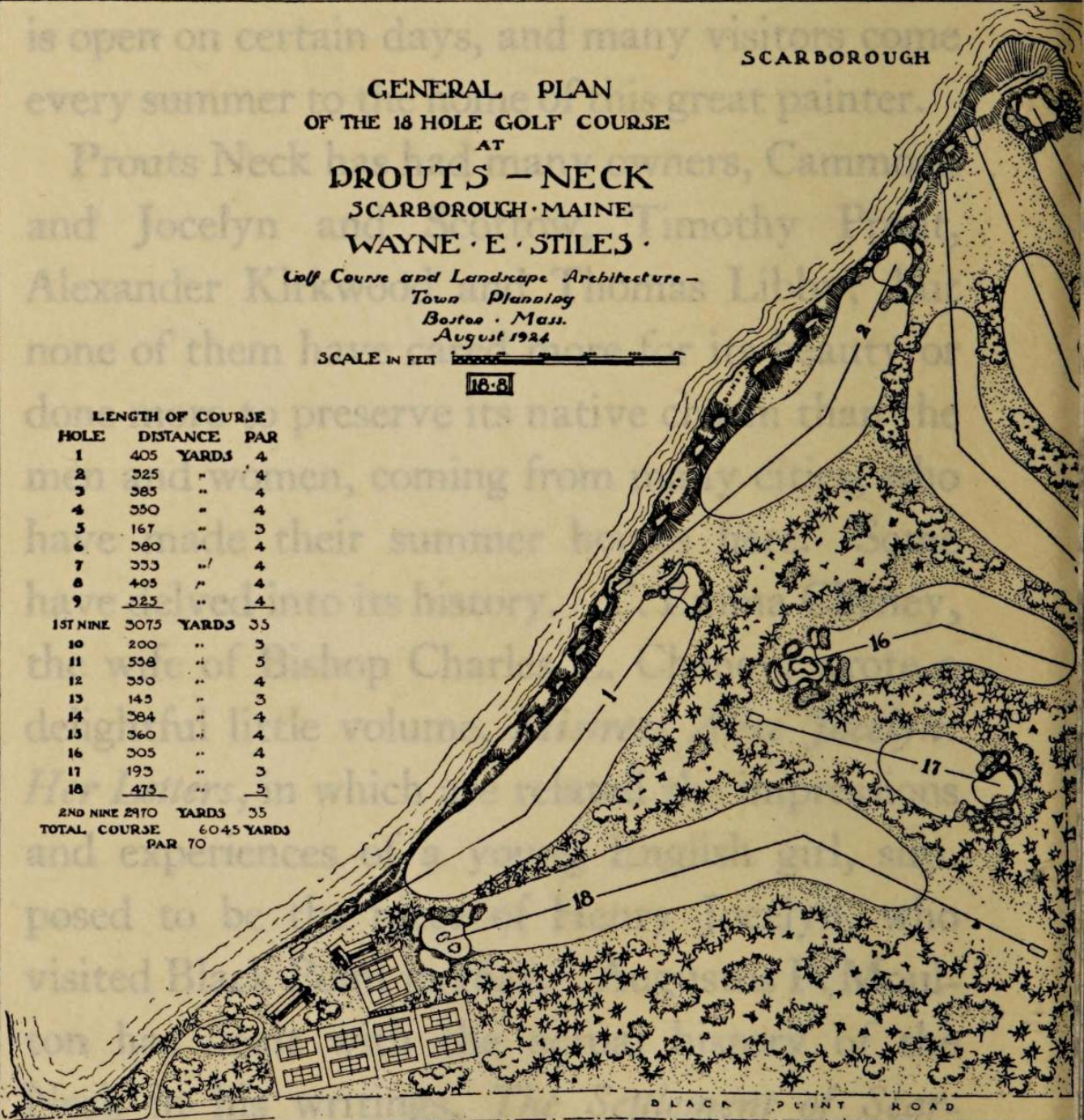
## GENERAL PLAN OF THE 18 HOLE GOLF COURSE AT DROUTS - NECK SCARBOROUGH - MAINE WAYNE · E · STILES ·

*Golf Course and Landscape Architecture -  
Town Planning  
Boston · Mass.  
August 1924*

SCALE IN FEET

18-8

LENGTH OF COURSE			
HOLE	DISTANCE	YARDS	PAR
1	405	YARDS	4
2	325	"	4
3	385	"	4
4	350	"	4
5	167	"	3
6	380	"	4
7	353	"	4
8	405	"	4
9	325	"	4
1ST NINE		3075	YARDS 35
10	200	"	3
11	558	"	5
12	350	"	4
13	145	"	3
14	384	"	4
15	360	"	4
16	305	"	4
17	195	"	3
18	475	"	5
2ND NINE		2970	YARDS 35
TOTAL COURSE		6045	YARDS PAR 70

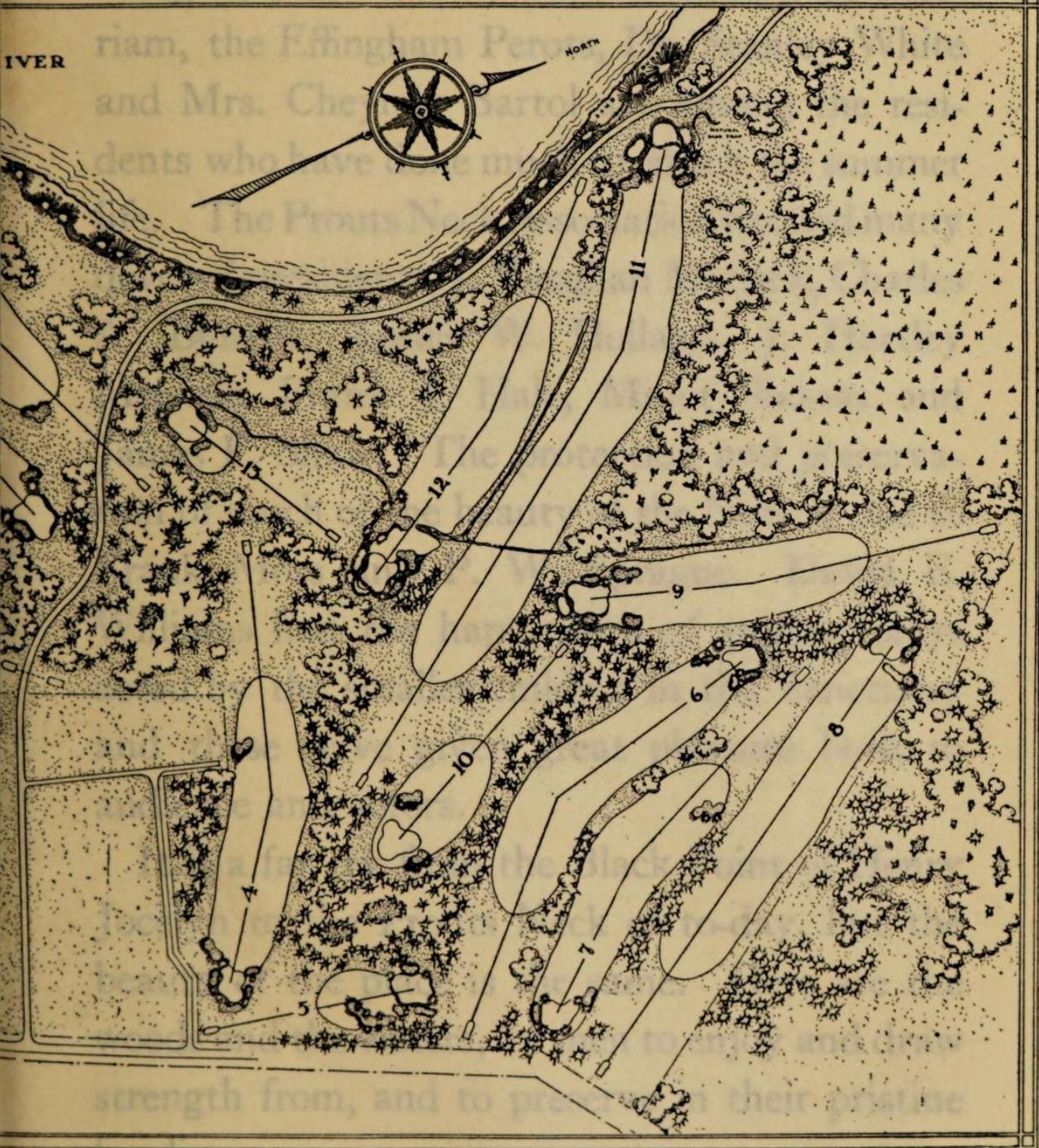


# THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

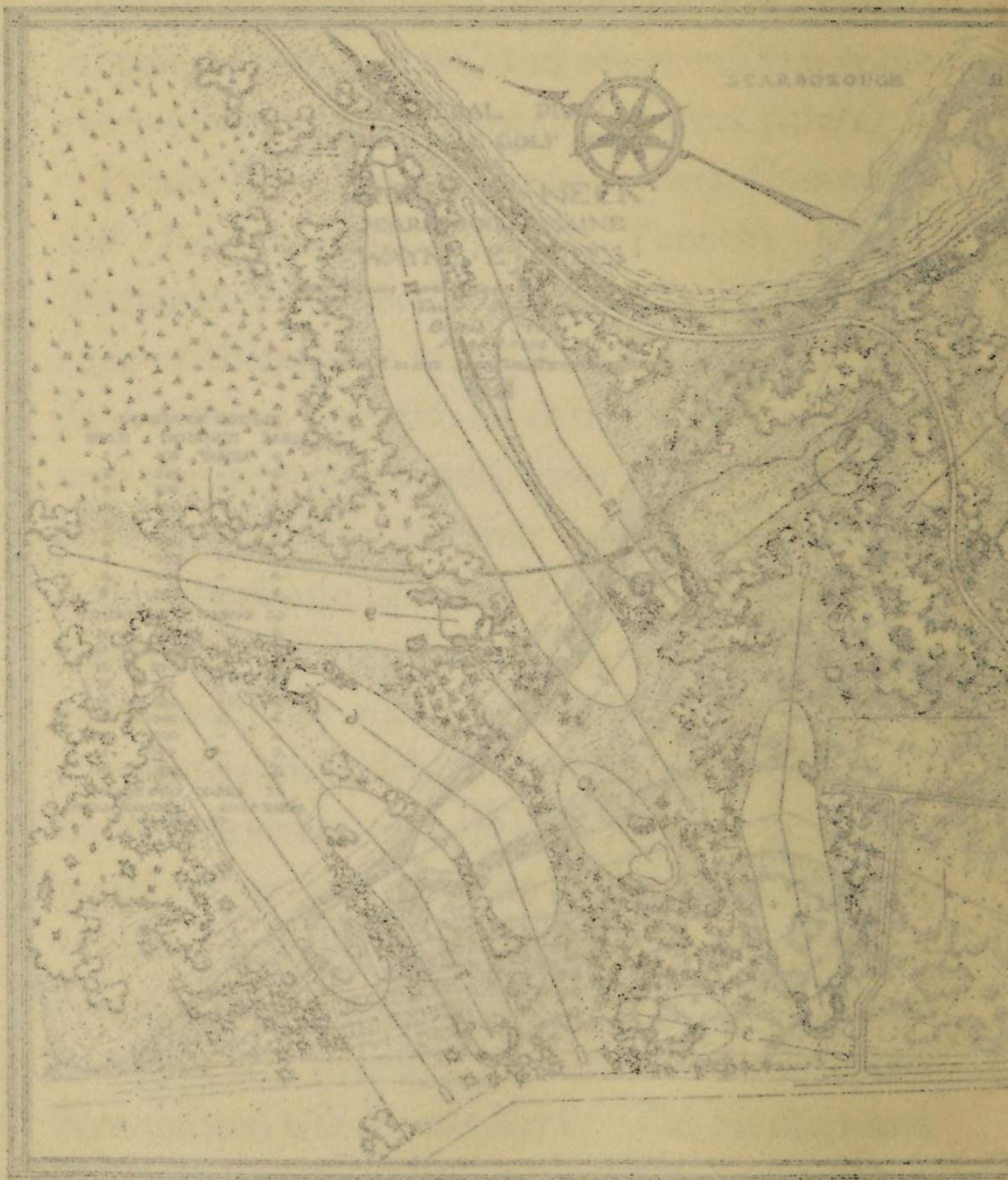
names, Dr. Edward N. Whittier, Charles E. Morgan, John S. Allen, G. M. H. C. M.

riam, the E. H. (the) Per  
and Mrs. Ch. (the) W. (the)  
dents who have (the) m  
The Prout's N

IVER



strength from, and to pre  
loveliness.





## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

nams, Dr. Edward N. Whittier, Charles E. Morgan, John Sailer, General Henry C. Merriam, the Effingham Perots, Dr. Stanley White and Mrs. Cheyney Bartol are among the residents who have done much to enrich the summer life. The Prouts Neck Association has had many devoted presidents, J. Vaughan Merrick, Charles A. Burditt, James W. Holland, J. Hartley Merrick, Frank J. Hale, Minot Simons and James F. Shaw. The protection and preservation of much of the beauty of the Neck is due to Frank Moss and P. W. Sprague. David E. Williams had the happy idea of staging plays acted by the smaller children in the Sanctuary and these have given great pleasure both to audience and actors.

It is a far cry from the Black Point of Henry Jocelyn to the Prouts Neck of to-day, but the beauty of the place is the same. Here are the woods and the waters, for men to enjoy and draw strength from, and to preserve in their pristine loveliness.



## COLONIAL CHRONOLOGY

*Reprinted from the map herein, made by James W. Holland*

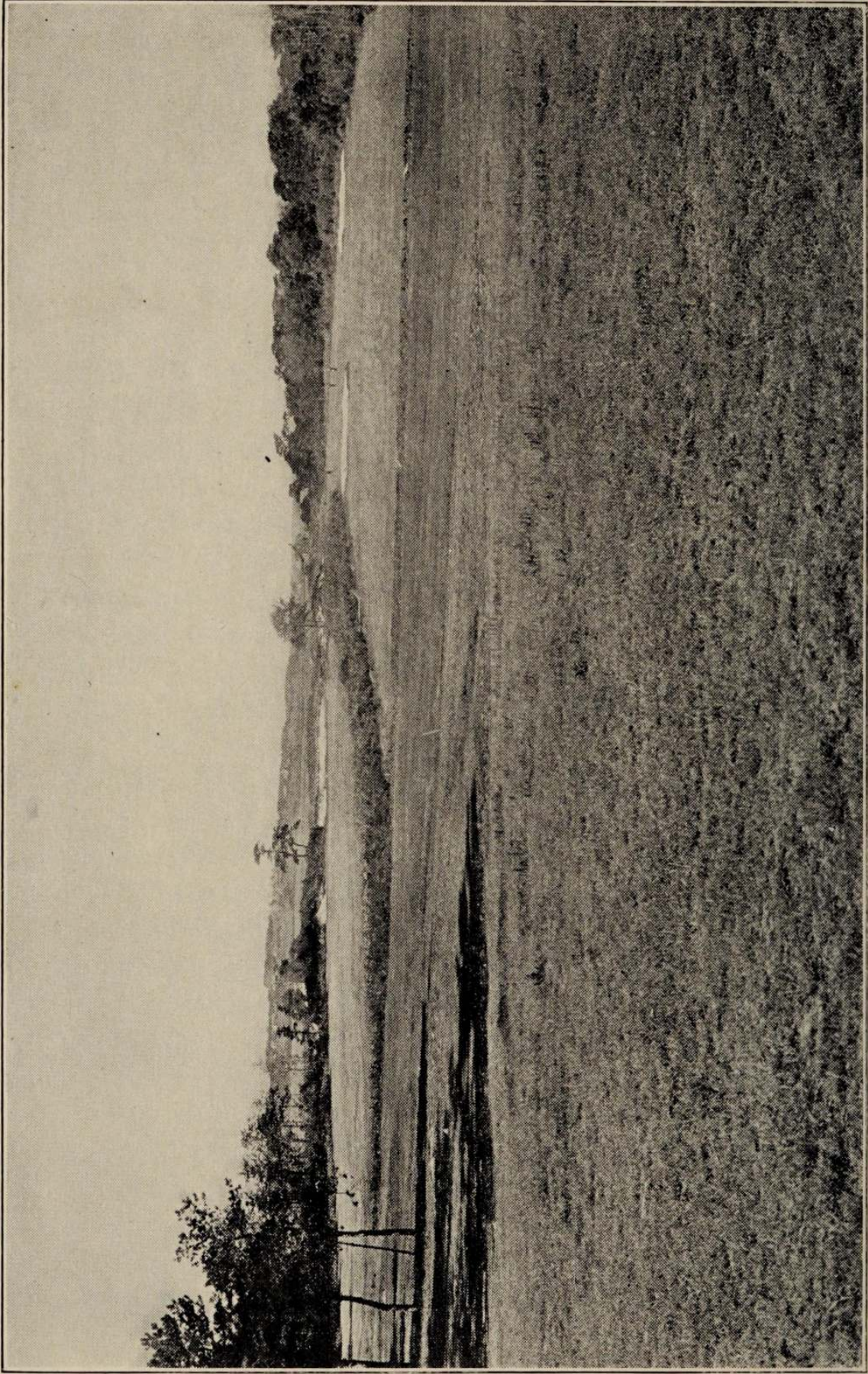
- 1603. Martin Pring in the *Speedwell* discovered this coast.
- 1607. The Plymouth Company sent Gilbert to settle near the mouth of the Kennebec River.
- 1620. The *Mayflower* landed at Plymouth, Mass.
- 1631. Stratton's Islands settled as stated in patent to Thomas Cammock, nephew to Earl of Warwick.
- 1633. Cammock settled on Black Point where the garrison fort was afterward placed.
- 1635. Henry Jocelyn settled at Ferry Rock.
- 1659. Black Point church built.
- 1663. John Libby settled.
- 1675. King Philip's War.
- 1676. Black Point garrison surrendered to the Indians under Mogg Megone, who was killed next year in an assault.
- 1678. End of the war, after the battle June 26, 1677 on Moore's Brook in which out of 300 whites Captain Swett and 60 men were killed.
- 1679. Purchase of Maine by the Massachusetts colony.
- 1681-1690. Scottow's fort of 100 acres sheltered the settlers when Indians attacked.
- 1689-1699. King William's War.
- 1690. Sack of Falmouth and retreat from Black Point of all the whites.
- 1691. New charter uniting the province of Maine to the colony of Massachusetts Bay.
- 1692. Execution of Reverend George Burroughs at Salem for witchcraft.
- 1702. Second settlement of Scarborough.
- 1703. Queen Anne's War. Defense by Captain Pine.
- 1710. Port Royal, N. S., taken from the French.
- 1713. Ambush and massacre of 19 settlers. Peace.
- 1720. Second organization of the town government.
- 1722. Indian War.
- 1725. Treaty with the Indians.
- 1745. King George's War. Capture of Louisburg.
- 1748. Peace.
- 1754. French and Indian War.
- 1758. Louisburg captured again.
- 1759. Quebec taken.
- 1763. Canada ceded to England.

## KEY TO HOLLAND MAP

*Names of owners or occupants of cottages,  
Prouts Neck, Maine: 1924*

- |                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Walter Perry                | 29. Dr. W. Pearce Coues         |
| 2. M. Libby                    | 30. Lyons (Tea House)           |
| 3. Hoxie (Mrs. Samuel Leavitt) | 31. Miss Catherine Stanton      |
| 4. Frank V. Noyes              | 32. Mrs. Charles Savage Homer   |
| 5. P. W. Sprague               | 33. Winslow Homer (studio)      |
| 6. Mrs. R. C. Grant            | 33A Mrs. Effingham Perot        |
| 7. W. H. Kohling               | 34. Herbert G. Fairfield        |
| 8. " " "                       | 35. Charles A. Burditt          |
| 9. P. W. Sprague               | 36. St. James' Church           |
| 10. Forest House               | 37. William E. Winchester       |
| 10A J. Hartley Merrick         | 38. Stanley White               |
| 11. Marvin H. Gates            | 39. Miss Emily W. Sailer        |
| 12. P. W. Sprague              | 40. George B. Berger            |
| 13. W. W. Poole                | 41. Mrs. Henry C. Merriam       |
| 14. F. M. Newcomb (store)      | 42. Abner Kingman               |
| 15. Mrs. Charles E. Morgan     | 43. Samuel S. Sewall            |
| 16. Estate J. B. Merrick       | 44. Mrs. Frank H. Anson         |
| 17. Golf Club House            | 45. James F. Shaw               |
| 18. J. Vaughn Merrick          | 45A Mrs. Effingham Perot (res.) |
| 19. Mrs. Frank Moss            | 46. Charles C. Hyde             |
| 20. Thomas Library             | 47. George P. Putnam            |
| 21. Mrs. Russell Griffin       | 48. Stuart W. Webb              |
| 22. George F. Henderson        | 49. James M. Farr               |
| 23. Rosamond M. White          | 50. Miss Mary Caldwell          |
| 23A George S. Motley           | 51. Mrs. C. Cheyney-Bartol      |
| 24. V. T. Shaw                 | 52. Ralph B. Wilson             |
| 25. Frank J. Hale              | 53. Frank W. Chandler           |
| 26. F. E. Parkhurst            | 54. John R. Meeker              |
| 27. Charles L. Homer           | 55. John R. Meeker (res.)       |
| 28. Miss Theodora S. Butcher   | 56. John J. Walton              |





ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH FAIRWAYS  
Prouts Neck Golf Course

## THE STORY OF PROUTS NECK

- |                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 57. P. W. Sprague (res.)   | 64. David E. Williams        |
| 58. Mrs. James W. Holland  | 65. Frank S. Smithers        |
| 59. Freeman Hinckley       | 66. Frank S. Smithers (res.) |
| 60. Miss Elizabeth Gilbert | 67. James M. Farr (res.)     |
| 61. Clinton W. Davis       | 68. Minot Simons             |
| 62. William B. Goodwin     | 69. Maxwell Savage           |
| 63. P. Shaw Sprague        | 70. Miss Helen Wheeler       |

### *HOTELS*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (A). Checkley   | (E). Southgate  |
| (B). West Point<br>(Behind this was site<br>of Cammock's house) | (On the front lawn was<br>Timothy Prout's dairy<br>house) |
| (C). Cammock  | (In 1675 site of doganne<br>or magazine)                  |
| (D). Willows  |   |







SKETCH MAP OF PROUTS NECK, MAINE  
and Vicinity.  
J.W. Holland, 1910







Nancy  
Hanks  
Lincoln  
Public  
Library