

WRITINGS IN MAINE HISTORY
Books

During the month of September, members of the Maine Historical Society will receive two publisher's announcements, both mailings have been authorized by the Standing Committee in order to enable members to purchase three Maine titles of unusual interest at a discount if they so desire.

The first announcement will contain welcome news that William Willis' *History of Portland* will be available in mid-November. The 1865 revised edition is being reprinted by the New Hampshire Publishing Company in cooperation with the Maine Historical Society. It seems singularly appropriate that this valuable old classic should reappear in this, our sesquicentennial year. Not only was Willis president of the Society from 1855 to 1865, it was his *History of Portland* (Part I) which made up the bulk of the first volume of *Collections* ever published by this Society.

For the past three or four years, the New Hampshire Publishing Company has been extremely active turning out superb reprints of great regional interest. In this day of shoddy reprints, wherein our gratitude at having a title back in-print outweighs our judgment of quality, New Hampshire Publishing Company reprints stand out like a beacon. Thick, quality papers, crystal clear registration, superb, original design -- these high standards are met in every title examined thus far.

Of particular interest to readers of the *Newsletter* are the following recent reprints:

Springer, John S. *Forest Life and Forest Trees*.

(1851) Reprint, New Hamp. Pub. Co., 1971.

Hubbard, Lucius L. *Woods and Lakes of Maine*.

(1888) Reprint, New Hamp. Pub. Co., 1971.

Carter, Robert. *Carter's Coast of New England*.

(A new edition of *A Summer Cruise on the Coast of New England*, 1864) New Hamp. Pub. Co., 1969.

In addition to the above titles, the New Hampshire Publishing Company has courageously reprinted two key bibliographies which, though New Hampshire oriented, are of obvious interest to students of Maine history:

Bent, Allen H. *A Bibliography of the White Mountains* (1911). Reprint, New Hamp. Pub.Co., 1971.
Hammond, Otis G. *A Check List of New Hampshire Local History* (1925). Reprint, New Hamp. Pub. Co., 1971.

An old converted textile mill, right across the Salmon Falls River in the little town of Somersworth, New Hampshire, houses this extraordinary enterprise presided over by publisher John Ballentine. A real bonanza for lovers of regional history and well-made books.

The second publisher's announcement will excite those members with a special interest in the history of Maine's prime industry, lumbering. The Maine Studies Committee, University of Maine at Orono, will offer their latest publication to members of the Historical Society at a special discount price: David C. Smith's *A History of Lumbering in Maine, 1861-1960*, published in August. At the same time, the Committee has provided for a reprinting of Richard G. Wood's earlier study (1935) *A History of Lumbering in Maine, 1820-1861* with a new introduction by David C. Smith. Since the volumes complement each other, both will be offered to members of the Society by the Maine Studies Committee at discount prices.

The Maine Studies Series, of which Smith's *History of Lumbering, 1861-1960* is number ninety-three, has been published since the 1920's (2nd series) generally with so little fanfare that many students of Maine history have forgotten or are unaware of how much good material is still available in the series. In recent years, volumes have become far more appealing to the eye, and we understand that plans are underway to further bolster the series.

Smith's new book covering the period 1861-1960 is of fundamental importance to any study of Maine's history, obviously, and we are indeed pleased that the Maine Studies Committee is willing to offer this special package to members of the Society. The book will be fully reviewed on these pages in a future issue.

Shipton, Clifford K. *Sibley's Harvard Graduates, 1764-1767, volume 16.* Boston, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1972.

One of the events of Summer, 1972 was the arrival of volume sixteen of *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*. Always a rich storehouse for the historian, this volume encompassing four graduating classes, is no exception. With his customary breadth of knowledge and droll wit, Clifford Shipton has once again managed to breathe life into many a dusty old 18th century grad.

The following Maine men received full biographical entries: *Class of 1764*: Thomas Lancaster (1742/43-1831) of Scarborough, a classmate of Governor Caleb Strong. *Class of 1765*: Stephen Hall (1743-1794) of Portland, Timothy Langdon (1746/7-1808) of Wiscasset, Nathaniel Sparhawk (1744-1814) of Kittery, John Thompson (1740-1828) of Standish and South Berwick, Joseph Willard (1738-1804) of Biddeford and Scarborough, president of Harvard 1781-1804, and founder of its medical school. *Class of 1766*: William Pepperrell Sparhawk (1746-1816) of Kittery. *Class of 1767*: Moses Holt (1743/44-1772) of Portland, Edward Oxnard (1747-1803) of Portland, whose valuable manuscript diaries are in the collections of the Maine Historical Society.

Portraits are provided of Nathaniel Sparhawk, Joseph Willard, and William Pepperrell Sparhawk. Of course the index to *Sibley's* turns up many more Maine names, and simply *must* be used since references frequently involve much more than a passing mention.

Ray, Roger B. *The Indians of Maine: A Bibliographical Guide.* Portland, Maine Historical Society, 1972.

This publication, the second in Maine Historical Society's series of bibliographical guides, has just gone to press, and members of the Society will receive their copies in the mail within a fortnight. Copies may be purchased by non-members from the Society for \$2.50 post paid.