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William and Betsey Alexander

1762-1848 William, the oldest child of David Alexander and Anna Ewing, was born November 13th, 1762. He was too young to enter the army at the commencement of the Revolution, but he took advantage of the first opportunity after reaching a proper age.

The British fleet on the Maine coast had remained under the command of the much hated Mowat since the destruction of Falmouth in October, 1775, and after the disastrous defeat of the Bagaduce (Castine) expedition in the summer of 1779 increasing alarm was felt that his vessels might again return to the safe and beautiful harbor within Casco Bay. Accordingly, on the 3d of September, 1779, the General Court called for a regiment of militia to take the place of those of Colonels Jackson and Mitchell, which had temporarily garrisoned the Neck.

This gave young Alexander his opportunity, and on the 23d of September, 1779, although not yet eighteen years old, but within the age