WHERE DID NEW HAMPSHIRE PRODUCTS GO?

When New Hampshire was an English colony, its most important industries were fish, fur, and forests. Not all of these were used up in New Hampshire, though! Merchants in Portsmouth shipped these products to different places in the world. Let's learn where they went and how they were used.

Most of the raw materials shipped out from Portsmouth went back to England. Fish, like cod and halibut, were used for food. Furs from New Hampshire were very popular with rich people in England. They especially loved beaver fur! The weather gets very cold in Europe in the winter. Beaver furs kept people very warm. The British mostly used lumber from New Hampshire to build ships. They would ship entire trees across the Atlantic Ocean to use as masts! Shipbuilders also used New Hampshire lumber to build the hulls of their new ships.

England made a law that its American colonies could only sell their products to other places controlled by England. Lots of fish and lumber was shipped from Portsmouth to the British colonies in the Caribbean. The lumber from trees in New Hampshire was much better for building houses than the trees native to the islands. Salted cod was given to enslaved people to eat.