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CABLE ADDRESS "MACBURRAL"
TELEPHONE 3-7265

HON. C. J. BURCHELL, Q. C.
F. D. SMITH, Q. C.
W. H. JOST, Q. C.
C. W. BURCHELL
S. P. CHISHOLM
G. H. MCCONNELL
M. D. MACDONALD

CANADIAN PACIFIC BUILDING
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

December 16, 1960

Mr. Thomas Raddall
Liverpool
Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Raddall,

I think I have read all your novels,
and with a great deal of interest and pleasure.

I listened with interest to your talk
on Mr. Justice Thomas Chandler Haliburton on GAZETTE
last week.

I am not sure whether or not you are
familiar with the case of Bank of Nova Scotia vs. Mr.
Justice Thomas Chandler Haliburton, which is reported
in Volume II, Nova Scotia Reports, page 350, in which a
unanimous decision was rendered against him in favour
of the Bank of Nova Scotia for £887 10s 3d.

The evidence in the case shows that
Sam Slick may have been a good writer of novels, but a
very poor business man.

I believe that this the only case in
which the Appeal Court of Nova Scotia decided an action
in which one of their brother judges was involved.

The Judges who delivered the decision
in the Appeal Court were:

Hon. Brenton Haliburton, Chief Justice
Mr. Justice DesBarres, and
Mr. Justice Dodd.

If you are not familiar with this
case you will find a copy of it in Nova Scotia Reports,
Vol. II, page 350, in the office of any lawyer in Nova
Scotia.

Yours faithfully,

CJB:mb

W. J. Sweeney

December 19, 1960

Mr. C. J. Burchell,

Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mr. Burchell,

It was very kind of you to write, and I'm glad you have enjoyed my books.

I did not know about the law case between Bank of Nova Scotia and Mr. Justice T.C. Haliburton, and I shall look it up in Nova Scotia Reports at the first opportunity. I'm not surprised to learn that, in spite of his law training and experience, he was a poor business man. (What writer ever was good at that? -- the exceptions like Kipling and Shaw merely prove a sad rule!)

As I mentioned on Gazette, few people ever realised the labor involved in Haliburton's books. His characters were usually such rollicking creatures, and the books came out in such a steady procession, that everybody thought he drew them out of his tall Victorian hat. My own experience has taught me otherwise; and apart from the sustained mental effort think of the drudgery of hand-written manuscripts! I take off my low Elizabethan hat to him.

With my thanks and good wishes,