

esteemed a king amongst poets,
but he must be king of some new-
found land, and, like another
Alexander indeed, searching after
new worlds, have sovereignty of
Nova Scotia. He was born a poet,
and aimed to be a king; therefore
would he have his royal title from
King James, who was born a king,
and aimed to be a poet. Had he
stopped there it had been well:
but the flame of his honour must
have some oil wherewith to nourish
it. Like another King Arthur, he
must have his knights, though nothing
limited to so small a number . . .

(Alexander Hume, An Early Poet. Pastor
of Logie and His Intimates" by
R. Menzies Ferguson. M.A. p. 129.)

Annapolis Royal,

Sept. 30, 1945.

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

Among the Nova Scotians
there is nothing about Nova
Scotia's own fascinating story -
a story that any Nova Scotia
author right well feel proud
to tell and just now, on the
eve of the revival of the tourist
business, would be doing Nova
Scotia a bit of propapanda
service in telling.

One of the visitors in the

But surely there is material for a very interesting novel in the story of the young Scottish Knight, Sir William Alexander who, seeing that the countries of Europe were establishing colonies in the New World became ambitious for Scotland (and himself) and went to his King with the plea that he wouldnt ask for a New Scotland in the New World but that already there was a New Spain, a New France and a New England there. Sir Thomas Urquhart made this criticism of him: "It did not satisfy his ambition to have a laurel from the Muses and be

Museum (Fort Anne) said recently, "He makes history popular" and your "Roger Sudden" is very frequently referred to most favourably by the visitors.

The more I tell the story of Nova Scotia to the visitors the more I feel that someone (a Nova Scotian, of course) should build a romance about it and write an historical novel.

You will gather from the preamble that I am writing you in the hope that the idea will appeal to you. I trust you will pardon my not "minding my own business".

Debt and Failure.

Then the glorified colonization scheme in Order of Barons of Nova Scotia to aid and expedite the scheme. - The problem of money and colonists to be solved through it. Probably to make the scheme more ^{realistic &} interesting to the privileged Barons the colony was granted a coat of arms and a flag.

(The only province in Canada with a flag; the oldest colonial flag in the British Empire!)
Taking session at Edinburgh Castle N.S. at
A slow-moving scheme. Four
Years later (1629) the Scotch colonists came under Sir William Alexander's son. (There must have been many)

There is a good number of books pertaining to the Nova Scotia colonization scheme in the Fort Anne museum library with items pertaining to ~~the~~ it and Port Royal (unfortunately, practically none, ~~no~~ record of the life of the Scotch at Port Royal) but a considerable number of references to Port Royal) marked.

In 1929 there was a celebration of the 300th anniversary of the coming of the Scotch settlers (at Annapolis Royal).

In 1921 there was a celebration of the 300th anniversary of the granting of the Charter to Sir William Alexander. A tablet given by the Government of Nova Scotia was unveiled at Annapolis Royal.

This requires no acknowledgement.

Yours very truly,

H. Laura Hardy -

interesting events connected with their leaving Scotland, and settling at Port Royal.

In 1630, the first British woman of whom there is any record in Canada was at Port Royal - Lady Home, the wife of Sir George Home. (A story centers around that event, surely.)

The story of the Indian taken to Scotland - the entertainment given.

Three years' occupancy of the colony ^{only} after a long drawn out ambitious scheme! But Nova Scotia has three important reminders of it - her ^{Latin} name, her coat of arms and her unique flag.

(Wouldn't it be a good way to make Nova Scotia better known to Old Scotland and Old Country people in general if she flew a flag of Nova Scotia on that bit of Nova Scotia at Edinburgh Castle? A tablet could give the required information.)

October 1st, 1945.

Dear Miss Hardy,

It was most kind of you to write, and I am very grateful for your suggestion about Sir William Alexander. He is indeed a most interesting character, and his order of knighthood and his other airy schemes for fame and fortune in this corner of the new world have always impressed me as romantic in the extreme. Of course I have specialised in the 18th century, and it is quite a jump back to William's time, but that is no obstacle if the material were available for study.

I have a certain reverence for history, and in my historical tales I always make a careful study of the background, partly for my own satisfaction, partly because I feel that an historical novelist has a certain responsibility. In this case I feel that a very careful study of the period in England and Scotland would be necessary, since a great deal of the story takes place there. This is not to be undertaken lightly. But the chief stumbling block is the dearth of information about the Scots colony at Port Royal. The actual settlement of the Scots in Alexander's romantic "New Scotland" is surely the point of the whole story. One would have to draw very heavily on one's imagination to fashion it out of whole cloth.

Nevertheless it is something to think about, and I shall keep it in mind. Next time I am in Annapolis I shall have a look at the material, if that is possible. I spent some days there in September but didn't drop into the museum because I knew how busy you must be.

I love the description of the Order of Baronets of N.S. as given in the patent by Charles I -- "Every one of them and their heirs male to weare and carrie about their neckes in all time coming an orang tannie silk ribbon, whereupon shall hang pendant in a scutcheon argent a sultaire azure thereon, and an inescutcheon of the armes of Scotland" ... etc.

And the list of rights ... "the right to remit sentences, the right of receiving gifts in marriage, the right to erect gallows and gibbets, the right of cul de fosse, of franche court, of sokman, of sak, of thole, of thane, of inhangthief, of outhangthief, of outwark, of wavi, of week, of vensome, of pit and gallows ... etc." It sounds rather like Lewis Carroll, or Dean Swift perhaps.

At the present I am hard at work on another novel, a sea story of Nova Scotia and the Caribbean during the Napoleonic wars, which I hope to finish (indeed I have contracted to have it in my publishers' hands) next May, for publication in the autumn.

Again thanks, and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Miss Laura Hardy,
Annapolis Royal.