



THE PREMIER  
HALIFAX

Tenth  
June  
1935

Dear Mr. Eaddall:

I regret more than I can say that your letter of April sixth remains unanswered, but the fact was that during the session and practically all the time since, the pressure of work has been so great that I have been wholly unable to keep up with it.

In reply to your inquiry I may say in the first place that the story of my Gaelic speech to Mr. Ramsay Macdonald was very much exaggerated. I knew before he came here that he did not speak Gaelic and consequently I did not make a speech in Gaelic, or in any other language for that matter, to greet him. After I went on board the boat at Digby to welcome him to the Province, and after we had chatted for some minutes the reporters and photographers arrived and wished to take some pictures. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald and I were asked to shake hands and he said to me as we were in the act of grasping hands: "What shall we say?" I believe that the photographers wish their subjects to be talking at the time when pictures are being taken to give their pictures more animation, and on the spur of the moment I uttered the words, "Cead Mille Failte", which means one hundred thousand welcomes. I do not think that the words were heard by the reporters and even if they were heard they were probably not understood. Afterwards some reporters asked me what we had talked about, not merely when the pictures were being taken, but generally, and I replied that we had spoken of Scotland and the Old Country, of the people of Scottish descent in this Province, and other kindred matters. They asked me if we had spoken Gaelic and I replied that we had not, as Mr. Macdonald is not familiar with that language. Some reporter apparently seized on the idea that I had addressed him in Gaelic and that he was unable to reply, and this apocryphal account of our conversation gained great publicity.

I fear that by this time you have written the story without the information which you asked for, but as I have said in the beginning, much of my correspondence has had to stand aside during the past weeks and months.

With cordial regards, I remain

Yours very truly,

Thomas H. Eaddall, Esq.,  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

*Am. error. Should be "cead," as explained to me personally by Mr. Macdonald Aug 12/35 JHR*



CANADA

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE  
FOR NAVAL SERVICES

O t t a w a,  
December 14th, 1943.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

It was a delight to have your letter of December 8th, and to have a copy of the Canadian edition of "The Pied Piper of Dipper Creek", which I shall read with the utmost interest, and I am sure, pleasure.

I often think of Nova Scotia. In fact, it is never very far from my thoughts, and I believe that you have done more than anyone else in recent years to bring something of the life of Nova Scotia to the eyes and minds of a very large body of the reading public.


We have had no really widely read writer since Haliburton's time. He, himself, of course, was a pioneer, not only in Nova Scotia, but in the whole field of American humour, and it was a great pleasure for me, as my last public act as Premier of Nova Scotia, to officiate at the ceremony marking the restoration of the Haliburton Homestead at Windsor.

You have now gained access to the leading magazines of two worlds and I hope that you will not let your pen rust.

When I wrote a little foreword for Miss Dennis' book "Cape Breton Over", I was able to point out, I think accurately, that the last ten or twelve years have seen a relatively great production of books on or about Nova Scotia. Many of them, of course, are not, in any sense of the word, great books, but I like to hope that just as one hundred years ago, the Province enjoyed a period of great literary achievement, so today we may be able to witness a rebirth of letters in the Province, which has given more to history and literature than any other part of Canada. I shall watch your career with the warmest interest and the greatest hope.

Yours very truly,

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,  
Liverpool,  
N. S.

  
(ANGUS L. MACDONALD)



THE PREMIER  
HALIFAX

March 10th, 1952.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

A friend of mine and his wife have been visiting Williamsburg, and this is an extract from the letter which I have just had from him:

"We have spoken so often about the similarity of the restored buildings here, and the still-used buildings in Halifax."

You have been in Williamsburg, and I never have. Is his judgment good?

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

*M. Audouard*

T.H. Raddall, Esq., LL.D.,  
Liverpool,  
Nova Scotia.

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March 12*