

May 18th, 1954

Dear Mr. Warwick,

Thanks for your very interesting letter. The song of Tarleton's Legion went to a tune lost now. Indeed most of the words are lost. Haliburton quotes a couple of lines in his book "The Old Judge", where he gives a portrait of one "Captain Tygart", a veteran of the Legion, badly wounded at Cowpens, oppressed with his ill fortune in Nova Scotia, and drinking himself to dementia in the village tavern. The rest quoted in my story consists of brief and garbled snatches handed down in local tradition, which I fitted together as best I could.

If you have access to the Toronto Public Library or that of the University you will probably find the published Collections of The Nova Scotia Historical Society; and in Volume 28, published in 1949, you will find a full account of Tarleton's Legion in a paper I read before the Society.

I have looked up the list of recorded Loyalist grants in Nova Scotia but cannot find the name of Zebulon Shippy. Many of the grants were not recorded properly, of course, and a large number of Loyalists did not take up land at all, merely settling in one of the established towns and practising a trade or profession. I do find that a Peter Winn (I can find no Wings) of Westchester, N.Y., took up a 200-acre grant in Cumberland County, N.S. in 1784. A Francis Winn took up a 200-acre lot on the Shelburne-Annapolis military road in 1786. (This road has now vanished.) An Ezekiel Bates, of the King's Carolina Rangers, took up a 100-acre grant at Country Harbor N.S. in 1784. And a William Win (not Wing), of the South Carolina Regiment, took up a similar grant at the same place at the same time. The Crown Land clerks weren't fussy about spelling names, and these Winns or Wins may have been Wings.

Parish records were few and scattered in the Loyalist settlements, and fewer still have survived. I doubt if anybody in the N.S. Historical Society could help you in that respect.

Quite a number of Tarleton's men were Highland Scots who had settled in North Carolina, amongst them two sons of the famous Flora Macdonald, who were officers in the corps. Hence, I suppose, the Gaelic cry "ho-ro-aha" which appears in the song. Oddly enough the "Scottish" district in North Carolina is holding a large celebration and reunion this summer, and a band of girl pipers from Nova Scotia is going down there to take part.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Melville Warwick,
Sunnybrook Veterans' Hospital,

June 8th, 1954

Dear Mr. Warwick,

I return the two books today, duly autographed. I am sending also, under separate cover, the original copy of my address on Tarleton's Legion, with a few photostats of documents. The photostats are poor, but they were the best I could get with the equipment available here at the time. Please return the address and photostats when you have read or copied what you want.

Again I have to thank you for a most interesting letter. Your experiences in hunting up English records remind me of a promise I made myself long ago, and which I've not yet been able to fulfill -- that of going to England and hunting up the records of my own family. If I'm ever to do it the effort must be made within the next few years..

With every good wish for your recovery from what seems to me a rather grim operation, although you speak of it lightly,

Sincerely,

J. Melville Warwick, Esquire