

Sent 2 books, autographed,
& Stevenson, Dec 15/49,
& a covering letter

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
HALIFAX, N.S.

This is from Lieut-Governor
J. A. D. McCurdy
Dec 5, 1949

My dear Dr. Radall.

While in Ottawa recently
I had dinner with Mr & Mrs.
John Stevenson. of 398

Wilbrod St.

Mr Stevenson has been
a sort of interpreter of Canadian
affairs for newspapers in the
old country and was associated
with the Toronto Mail & Globe on
their Editorial Staff.

He has admired your book.
"Warden of the North" and is
most anxious to obtain from

You two copies, one containing
a short inscription to
Lady Tweedsmuir. the wife of
Canada's former Governor General
and the other for himself. -
both to be autographed
by yourself. - He asked
me to write to you asking
for your indulgence -
if you would be so
kind to do this I
know that Mr Stevenson
would be very much
pleased. - He will of
course communicate with you

with his thanks and charges whatever
they may be. Mr Stenson is one
of the outstanding authorities on
all things relating to Scotland —
and is a delightful conversationalist.
You would enjoy him I know —
My many thanks.

Sincerely yours

John Murray

5/12/49

398 WILBROD STREET
OTTAWA
Dec 21-49

Dear Mr Raddall,
I was delighted to get your letter of December 16 and delayed replying to it until the books arrived as they did this morning. It is exceedingly good of you to present me with a copy of your book "Halifax, Warden of the North", which I rate as a book of the highest merit, accurate, historically, teeming with vivid pictures of personalities and events and written in a refreshingly original style. Its value as an addition to my library will be doubled by your autograph. So I am very grateful to you for such a welcome gift.

I am sure Lady Tweedsmuir will be equally grateful when she receives the book which I will send off today and in writing to her I will include your tribute to her husband, whom I knew first about 1908. Tweedsmuir's youngest brother and my own were very intimate friends ; in the first world war they served together as subalterns in the same company of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and were killed in the same month on the Somme. Tweedsmuir was a very generous helper of young literary men and women but he was a very curious and complicated character and his bizarre accent, a mixture of Glasgow and Oxford, always irritated me as it did many other Scots. I first made your literary acquaintance through "The Piper of Dipper Creek" in Blackwood's and I have derived much enjoyment from your writings ever since. So I feel in debt to your Lieutenant-Governor, who is a great friend of mine for his happy role in bringing me into personal contact with you. I will take this opportunity of wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and again with many thanks,

I am,

yours very sincerely

John A. Stevenson.

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

CABLE, HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

COUNSEL

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C., LL.D.

56 SPARKS STREET

OTTAWA,

CANADA

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. MERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

December 27, 1949

My dear John,

When you were here a few weeks ago you undertook to procure for me two copies of Mr. Raddall's book on Halifax, one to be inscribed to me and one for Lady Tweedsmuir, to whom I promised the book for Christmas. I asked you to send me the bill for both. The other day when I was lunching with John Stevenson, he told me that he had received two copies from you, one inscribed to himself and one to Lady Tweedsmuir, to whom he had sent the volume. I can assume one of two things only, (a) that you got mixed up in your memory, (b) that Mr. Raddall declined to sign the book on my behalf. If the latter is true I shall understand although I am sorry. If the former is the case I can only assume that you were so bewildered by the confusion of heavy drinking and heavy gambling in which you were involved that you mixed up John Stevenson and myself. If the latter is the case will you please ask Mr. Raddall to inscribe a book to me and one to H.M. Tomlinson, the famous British author, who is a friend of mine. I have already written to Mr. Tomlinson about Mr. Raddall's book and would like to send him a copy. Perhaps with your usual clarity you will unravel the mystery for me.

If Mr. Raddall will accept the homage of an unknown admirer perhaps you will be good enough to convey it to him. I think his book a masterpiece, almost unique in the history of British literature and certainly one of the best books ever written in Canada.

Please give my kindest regards to your lady.

Yours sincerely,

Leonard W. Brockington

LWB:FC

His Honour,
The Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia,
Government House,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

*See attached note from A.S. McLeod
On Dec. 31st I asked Brockington to autograph
copies of "Halifax", one for himself, one for
H.M. Tomlinson.*



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
HALIFAX, N.S.

My dear Doctor -

I have a terrible confession to make.
When I wrote you concerning the books, I
mixed up the names of John Stenison &
Leonard Brocklyn. I wrote Stenison some
time ago but he did not reply & put me
straight. However I received today the
enclosed letter from Brock. and would ask you
to please carry out his request. It may
be a lot of bother for you and if so I am
sorry. Brock's tribute to you & the book
will be I think something worth keeping.
in your files - He is a great fellow &
a good friend of mine -
Very many thanks & all the
best for 1950 - Sincerely,

John Stenison

29/12/49

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

COUNSEL

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C., LL.D.

CABLE, HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

56 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA,
CANADA

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. HERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

January 5, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Raddall,

I thank you very much for your letter and for the two books which arrived today. I have written to H.M. Tomlinson and have sent him his copy of "Halifax". I had already mentioned your book to him in a previous letter. I am sure he will enjoy it.

I do not know whether you have run across "Eastern Approaches" by Fitzroy McLean and "Merchantman Rearmed" by my friend Sir David Bone. I think they both would please you. Perhaps you will let me know whether you have seen them.

I am very sorry that your Lieutenant-Governor made an error. As it resulted in a pleasant letter from you and a happy solution to all difficulties, I have forgiven him.

I am enclosing my cheque for the two copies of your book which arrived today as I have some knowledge of the burden that falls upon good-natured authors. I would also like to pay for the two books which you sent to Mr. Stevenson. If he has paid for them himself perhaps you will destroy the second cheque. I do not like to ask him. If he has paid I will do my best to adjust matters with him.

What Lady Tweedsmuir will think of my promise to send her your book and her receipt of it from Stevenson I do not know. She can be a merry lady, however, and will probably laugh, although in viceregal retrospect she may think that Lieutenant-Governors should not be the subject of even a mild hilarity.

You may be interested to know that your book was first recommended to me most highly by a very discriminating and able old lady, Mrs. Walter Nichol, widow of the late owner and

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

Thomas H. Raddall, Esq.

- 2 -

January 5, 1950

publisher of the Vancouver Province and also the mother-in-law of Rollo Mainguy.

I hope if ever you come to Ottawa you will do me the honour of lunching with me. If I come to Halifax I would like to call upon you.

I hope you will bring us more treasure from that Nova Scotian vein of gold which you have discovered and developed so splendidly.

With best wishes for your peace and joy in many
New Years,

Yours sincerely,



LWB:PC
Encl.

January 10th, 1950

Dear Mr. Brockington,

Thank you for your letter, and for your desire to pay for the books. However, I sent Mr. Stevenson his copies with my compliments, and I hope you will let me retain the pleasure of presenting you with yours. Hence I return the cheques. I'm sure Lady Tweedsmuir would enjoy the story of that roundabout gift, and I hope Stevenson told her.

It was good of you to send copies of your addresses on "Building A Nation", and "William Oslar", which I have read with deep interest and appreciation. I had not known that Oslar was a Cornishman, like my father, and I'm tempted to send your words to Rebecca West, who has described that particular branch of the Celts as "the dark sceptical Celts of Cornwall". But perhaps it would serve if I merely quoted Blackmore: "A Cornishman of more than average excellence, and better than any two men to be found in Devonshire, or any four in Somerset" -- and added "Scepticism and all".

Please come and have a meal with us if you are ever down this way.

Sincerely,

Mr. L.W. Brockington, C.M.G., K.C., B.A., LL.D., D.C.L.
56 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Canada.

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

COUNSEL

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C., LL.D.

CABLE, HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

56 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA,
CANADA

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. MERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

January 13, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Raddall,

I thank you very much for your letter. I am hereby appealing against your decision. The only reason for what might have appeared an impertinent incursion into your life was my admiration for your book. I most certainly do not intend to allow the wish I expressed to the Lieutenant-Governor to impose a financial burden upon you. I am willing to compromise. I return one cheque which I hope you will cash. In return for your kindness to me I will obtain and send to you as soon as I can, "Eastern Approaches" and "Merchantman Rearmed". My secretary is going over to the bookstore opposite this office to see if she can pick up a copy of "Eastern Approaches" today. If she is able to, it will be included with this letter.

H. M. Tomlinson wrote me a couple of days ago, telling me of a visit he had made to the Governor and Company of the Gentlemen Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay, and contrasted the lunch he received and the reception he was given with the wistful looks with which he gazed through the portals to Hudson's Bay House when he was a little boy at an elementary school in London, with vague yearning and determination one day to visit Canada and to write a book about it. He also told me that he intends to write to you as soon as he has had an opportunity of reading a copy of "Halifax", which is on its way to him at present.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Leonard Brockington
P.S. Please don't burden your typewriter with a lot of letters following my name. Trinity College School used them in the pamphlet they printed. I don't except in notation.

LWB:FC
Encl.

P.S.S. "Eastern Approaches" is in order but will not be available for a few days. It will be sent to Liverpool as per airtel returns to Ottawa.

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

COUNSEL

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C., LL.D.

CABLE, HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. MERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

56 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA,
CANADA

February 2, 1950

Thomas Raddall, Esq., LL.D.,
Liverpool,
Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall,

I am enclosing a copy of Sir David Bone's book, as I
promised. "Eastern Approaches" is not yet in but some copies
will arrive at the local bookshop very soon.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Leonard W. Brockington

LWB:PC
Encl.

Answered Feb 24/50

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

COUNSEL

CABLE. HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. MERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C., LL.D.

55 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA,
CANADA

March 7, 1950

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

Dear Dr. Raddall,

"Eastern Approaches" arrived this afternoon and I
am sending it to you forthwith, in accordance with my promise. I
hope you will enjoy it as much as I did.

I shall be interested to know when you hear from
H.M. Tomlinson, who received your book and intended to read it and
to write to you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



LWB:PC
Encl.

GOWLING, MACTAVISH, WATT, OSBORNE & HENDERSON

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

COUNSEL

LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, K.C. LL.D.

CABLE, HERSON
TELEPHONE 2-1781

56 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA,
CANADA

E. GORDON GOWLING, K.C.
DUNCAN K. MACTAVISH, K.C.
J. DOUGLAS WATT, K.C.
ROBERT M. FOWLER
JOHN C. OSBORNE
GORDON F. HENDERSON
RONALD C. MERRIAM
ADRIAN T. HEWITT
JOHN CAMPBELL VIETS
G. PERLEY-ROBERTSON

March 16th, 1950.

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

My dear Mr. Raddall:

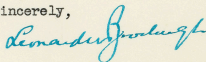
I had a letter to-day from Sir David Bone. The following paragraph will be of interest to you:

"I am interested to hear of Mr. Raddall reading my book and, of course, recall that there is mention of Halifax, N.S. in it. Nothing much though, but Halifax is a familiar and friendly port to me. I would be very interested to read Mr. Raddall's history of Halifax for, although I paid many visits there, I cannot recall any serious information gotten from books about it. Curiously, I was better informed about Louisbourg and its vicinity, for I knew Senator J. S. MacLennan well and have, as a cherished possession, his good book on Louisbourg."

Would you mind inscribing one of your books to him and sending it to him at 22 Athole Gardens, Glasgow, W 2, Scotland. I am enclosing my cheque in payment. I have told him that the book will reach him shortly.

I hope that you are well and planning some more printed delights for us.

Yours sincerely,



LWB:FN
Encl.

May 5th, 1950

Leonard W. Brockington Esq., K.C.,
56 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Brockington,

After an inordinate delay our local bookseller has at last received his shipment of "Halifax, Warden of the North", and I have sent off a copy to Sir David Bone, autographed, and with a covering note to explain the lapse of time since you promised him the book. My copy of "Merchantman Rearmed" is now being read with pleasure by my friend Commander J.H.S. Macdonald, who did much convoy escort work during the late war. Like me he went to sea at fifteen, and has admired Bone ever since he first read "The Brass-bounder", years ago.

In the meantime I have been thoroughly enjoying "Eastern Approaches", an amazing account of an amazing man -- or I should say men. The Major Jones (mentioned on page 320) who dropped into Slovenia and raised a merry war there all by himself, is a Nova Scotian. His brother was for a time adjutant of my (Reserve Army) regiment during the late war, and from him I heard a few hints of what was going on; but I had no idea of the scope and punch of those operations until you sent me Maclean's book. One can't help wondering if Maclean is satisfied to settle into the petty warfare of politics after such a career. His insight into the Russian (not to mention the Jugoslavian) mind ought to be useful in these times.

No word yet from H.M. Tomlinson; but then "Halifax, Warden of the North" is not a book to be taken in a hurry.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

The **ODEON** THEATRES (CANADA) LIMITED



20 CARLTON ST., TORONTO 1, CANADA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, C.M.G., Q.C., LL.D.

11th April,
1955.

Thos. H. Raddall, Esq.,
Liverpool,
Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

It was a great pleasure for me to see you when you were in Toronto. I am very sorry, that owing to the necessity of your quick return, I had no further opportunity of talking with you. I hope that if you are coming to Toronto again, you will let me know, as I would very much like to renew our acquaintance. I am glad that you enjoyed the pictures. It is also pleasant for me to realize that we share the friendship of Kenneth Mackenzie.

When you were here I mentioned a series of articles in 'Country Life' on Hythe. My wife has found the back numbers but I find to my sorrow that my memory was at fault, as the articles were about Rye. If you would still like them, I would be very glad to send them to you.

In the meantime, would you please tell me whether you have seen the book on Edinburgh by Sacheverell Sitwell. In fine literary style and a unique historical background, it shares a most enviable distinction with a certain book on Halifax. If you have not a copy, I will be delighted to give you one.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

L. W. Brockington

April 14th, 1955

L.N. Brockington, Esq.,
20, Carlton Street,
Toronto 1, Canada.

Dear Mr. Brockington,

It was so good of you to write and to remember my interest in Hythe. On my journey home from Toronto I picked up a particularly virulent influenza bug which not only laid me low for a long time but fastened upon me a hangover in the form of "nerves", something strange to me and all the worse for that. Only in the past few days have I been able to do much work on the novel that has been my chief occupation for the past year and which I had hoped to finish about the end of this month.

All of which seems a long-winded way of saying that I have fallen behind with my correspondence along with everything else, for I wanted to thank you again for a delightful dinner and a most interesting evening, and I was sorry that my travel arrangements obliged me to rush off at an ungodly hour the next morning. (And what a silly business that was, in view of what followed! I might have given myself another day or two in Toronto and certainly another meeting with you, a definite pleasure. I shall get in touch with you when I am in Toronto again, you may be sure.)

I have not seen Sacheverell Sitwell's book on Edinburgh, a city that has a warm interest for me, not least because it was in a sense my Alma Mater although strange to say I have never set foot there. It was George Blackwood, in his old-fashioned offices at 45 George Street, who gave me my start in the peculiar art of writing for publication; and my several years' connection with Hoga, carried on entirely by mail, was an apprenticeship of the finest kind.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

May 15th, 1955

Dear Mr. Brockington,

I've read "Edinburgh" with a very pleasant mixture of interest and pleasure and a strong dash of envy for the style. What a picture! I'm not sure that all Scots would enjoy it -- there's a sharp jab with a poniard under the western side of the kilt here and there -- but they couldn't help reading every word of it. I always thought Auld Reekie got its nickname from the chimneys, but after this revelation I should say the reek of blood had more to do with it. I can only hope that the small plot of ground outside Edinburgh Castle which is officially part of Nova Scotia was chosen for its comparative innocence. Our only other representation in that line was singularly unfortunate. When Angela Burdett Coutts and Charles Dickens first tackled the matter of slum clearance in London they went to Bethnal Green and picked on a spot known as Nova Scotia Gardens, "which was nothing but a vast dung-heap, played upon by the dirty, ragged, barefooted children of thieves and prostitutes. The place was cleaned up and by 1862, Columbia Square, four blocks of model flats, had been built, accommodating about a thousand people."

Hail Columbia. And my very deepest thanks.

Sincerely,

January 31st 1957

Dear Mr. Brockington,

I'm forwarding today a copy of my book on Halifax inscribed to the Leslies -- and making sure that it is addressed to you and not John Stevenson or some other astonished worthy.

You do get about the world. I should like nothing better than to hear your reminiscences of Delhi and I hope you'll give me that pleasure the next time I'm in Toronto, for I still recall the delightful hour or two we had together on my visit a few years ago.

I'm just emerging from a deep plunge into Canadian history which has occupied me for most of the past two years -- a volume for Doubleday's series, the period 1763-1850. Now I must turn to a little book on the famous old Nova Scotia privateer "Rover", which I've promised to MacMillan's. This will take me to the Spanish Main, in spirit anyhow. Nowadays (especially when I look at the snowdrifts outside my window) I wish I'd never left the sea in the flesh.

With every good wish,

The **ODEON** THEATRES (CANADA) LIMITED



20 CARLTON ST., TORONTO 1, CANADA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON, C.M.G., Q.C., LL.D.

26th April,
1957.

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

Dear Mr. Raddall:

I hope that you are well and that I shall have an opportunity of seeing you again very soon. Please let me know if ever you are coming to Toronto.

I returned two or three weeks ago from leading the Canadian Delegation to UNESCO. I spent some five or six weeks in Delhi and found my visit almost the most exhilarating and exciting experience of my life. I would like to tell you about it when I see you.

In the meantime, would you mind inscribing your book on Halifax in the form suggested below? Brooke Claxton's daughter is marrying General McNaughton's son, who, for the purposes of inheritance, changed his name to Leslie. I want to send these young people a present and I have thought it would be acceptable to them if I asked a few of my Canadian literary friends to inscribe some of my favorite Canadian books, which I believe they would treasure. I am, therefore, asking Donald Creighton, Ned Pratt, A. M. Lewer, and yourself, to help me. I would be much obliged if you would send me as soon as you can a copy of your book on Halifax with the following suggested inscription:

Inscribed for Lieutenant Colonel Edward M.D. Leslie, D.S.O.
and Mrs. Leslie

With all good wishes on the occasion of
their marriage.

February 16th, 1957.

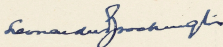
with your own name at the end of the inscription.

- 2 -

I am enclosing my cheque for \$7.00 to cover the cost of the book and the postage. I hope you will not mind doing this for me, as I know it will bring pleasure not only to the bride and bridegroom but also to their parents.

With all good wishes to you.

Yours sincerely,



L. W. Brockington

LWB/mr
enc.