

HALIFAX. N. S. 1 December 1953

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

Dear Tom:

In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo concerning a book entitled <u>The</u> <u>Present State of Nova Scotia</u>, I may say that we have it too. Its title page is as follows:

The PRESENT STATE of NOVA SCOTIA with a brief ACCOUNT OF CANADA, and the BRITISH ISLANDS on the coast of NORTH AMERICA.

The Second Edition, corrected and enlarged. Illustrated with a map.

Sunt ingeniorum monumenta, quae saeculis probantur. Livy. C'est le nombre du peuple, et l'abondance des alimens, qui forme la vraie force, et la vraie richesse d'un royaume. Fonelon.

EDINBURGH: Printed for William Creech, Edinburgh; end sold by T. Cadell, and G. Robinson & Co. London.

M.DCC, LXXXVII.

<u>The author of this volume</u>, as listed in a 1935 Catalogue of Secondhand Books, of Thomas Thorp, London, <u>Gias S. Hollingsworth</u>, about whom I have virtually no information. There was as you will have inferred a first edition of this work, which is described in catalogues of Thorp and also of Bernard Quaritoh, where it is given the title of <u>An</u> Account of the Present State of Nova Scotia, Svo, Edinburgh, 1786.

Note: - The author states that he is not a Loyalish but Yours sincerely. 12: " He when seas can be only a former of proceed out of a a volvino of these auffrongs. I be use probably a feed. He is weak of sched & write is obraycal based on primaral (obversations y seas of his bufferences and predictions are shrevely accused to whether the aleson C.B. Fergusson. Assistant Archivist. anti-anerican. & probably was a naval officer dury, the was with zubilguest employment as d N.B. & Mild --J.H.R. to the constant N.S.



Stuffex 1955.

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

Dear Tom:

I am very sorry that you have not been in the best of health and that you found yourself unable to undertake the work of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, but I am glad that you are now much better and I wish to thank you for your congratulations on my appointment to that Board. I realize, too, that the duties incumbent upon membership in that Board would serve to distract you from your main endeavour, and for that reason that it is better for both yourself and your readers that you do not have to devote any of your time to than.

Thank you for your letter of the 4th instant and for your kind words with respect to myself. While I remain on the Board I shall of course try to act in the best interests of Nova Scotia and shall always be happy to receive any suggestions that you might be good enough to offer.

With cordial regards and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Ferguso ne

September 9th, 1957

Dear Bruce,

I'm leaving for New Hampshire shortly to spend some time in the scenes of Frances Wentworth's life at Portsmouth and at Wolfeboro, and to do some research in the archites and collections there and in Doston.

By explictes in all directions for letters of here have drawn almost a complete blank so far. Copies of those known to exist reveal her as a lively and copious letterwriter, even in old age, and surely some of her correspondents must have preserved a little batch for porterity.

I am going to England later or (probably in the spring) and while there I shall seen I can find. Can you furnish me with a to-whom-therasy-concern letter, stating who I am and what I do? This would be of much service in identifying syself to archivists and librarians in the States and in England.

With my regards,

Sincerely.

Dr. Bruce Fergusson, Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Halifax.N.S.



HALIFAX, N. S.

September 11, 1957.

To Whom it May Concern

This is to certify that Dr. Thomas H. Raddall, F. R. S. C., of Liverpool, N. S., one of Canada's most outstanding authors, is about to visit the United States and England for the purpose of gathering material relating to Lady Wentworth (1745-1813), wife of Sir John Wentworth, Governor of New Hampshire (1766-1775) and Nova Scotia (1792-1808).

Dr. Raddall, who was born in England, removed to Nova Soctia with his parents in 1913. As a youth he joined the Merchant Marine and served as radio operator in naval transports and in ships of the Canadian Merchant Marine. During the next few years he was employed as radio operator in coastal duty with the Government Telegraph service or as book-keeper for a Nova Soctian wood pulp mill. He began his writing career in 1928, when his first short stories appeared in Blackwood's Magazine. Since that time he has become widely known as a short story writer, a novelist and an historian. Two collections of his short stories - <u>The Pied Fiper of Dipper Creek</u> and <u>Tambour</u> - brought him the Governor General's sawad. Such novels as <u>His Majesty's Yankees, Fride's Fancy</u> and <u>The Nymph and the Lamp</u> have won wide acclaim. In 1948 Dr. Raddall again won the Governor General's award for <u>Halifax, Warden of the North</u>. He is a former Vice-President of the Canadian Authors' Association and lives with his wife and family in Liverpool, N. S.

Fergusoro6.

ARCHIVIST.

October 21st, 1957

Dr. Bruce Fergusson, Fublic Archives, Helifax, N.S.

Dear Bruce.

The Archivist of Northamptonshire, Angland, informs no that the correspondence of the Fitzaillian family contains letters written by lady Frances Wentworth (about twenty in all) at intervals of years between 1775 and 1809. We have proceed them and remarks that they are full of complainte about her life, adding his personal opinion that "they do not seem to be of any great interest." Of course, that might be of little interest to the Archivist of Rowtherptonshire could be of much interest have or in New Rampshire. Other letters of here, copies of which I have seen, were also full of complaints - she was the complainting type, finding life a personal tragedy whenever things got a bit dull -- but along with the complaints the gave revealing little details of hereelf and her activities and Joints.

You may or may not want copies of these English letters for the P.A.H.S. In case you do. I attach a copy of the letter dates and reference numbers as given to me by:-

> Hr. P.I.King, N.A., Archivist, Northamptonshize Record Office, Lamoort Hall, Morthampton, England.

Mr. King informs me that there would be no great difficulty in having copies made, and that of course microfilms would be chasper than photostats.

Sincerely,



HALIFAX. N. S. February 10, 1959.

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

Dear Tom,

There has been talk, as you are well aware, of celebrations along the South Shore to commemorate this year the 2000th anniversary of the founding of such communities as Chester, Liverpool and Barrington.

I realize that such celebrations would be in line with statements which have been printed in a number of books in years gone by; but as for myself, I am not convinced that any one of those communities was <u>settled in 1759</u>. However, knowing that you have devoted much time to the early history of the South Shore, I should appreciate having your views. In short, do you have proof that any or all three of these communities was begun in 1759? While I should only be most happy to say that these celebrations should take place this year, if there is evidence to justify commemoration at this time, I do not wish to appear to be behind the wrong date.

There is no doubt that agents of the proprietors for these townships inspected the area in which they were concerned in 1759; but my present opinion is that settlement did not begin in Chester and Liverpool until 1760, and in Barrington until 1761. For that reason I should appreciate it greatly if you would be good enough to drop me a note dealing with this subject.

With kindest regards,

Yours stincerely, Fergusso

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVIST.

CBF-wm.

Dr. Bruce Fergusson, Provincial Archivist, Halifax, N.S.

Dear Bruce.

The date so often given as the year of the first settlement of Liverpool has its root in Governor Lawrence's report to the Lords of Trade and Flantations dated June 16, 1760, in which he stated "The first setllers are arrived at Liverpool" — and so on. He in turn obviously had in mind a letter to him dated June 1, 1760, from Charles Norris the surveyor, who wrote "Left the inhabitants of Liverpool in high spirits, extremely pleased with their situation and the choice they have made for a township." Norris of course was referring to the main expedition lad by Captain Sylvams Cobb in that year.

However the <u>first</u> settlers were John and Sammel Doggett and a few others, including Sammel's father in Law Thomas Foster, who arrived and built homes the year before, i.e. 1759. Thomas Foster had secured a grant of 100,000 acres here dated Sep 1, 1759, and the Doggetts had long been active in emlisting settlers for a proposed township at laverpool.

In 1761 John Degett petitioned the Council at Halifax, mentioning that in 1757 Governor Lawrence had encouraged him to accept a grant in Nova Scotia and settle a township. He had traveled through New England and gathered a number of settlers, but received nothing for his expenses. He added, "For fiftherm months past your memorialist has employed his whole time in promoting the settlement of Liverpool, and as many of the indicas identias settlers arrived there very poor, was obliged to supply them and to shelter them in his own house for a considerable time."

Some of Lawrence's statements in his report of June 16, 1760 are optimistic balderdash. Thus he states, "The people on shore are at present occupied in preparing houses for the reception of their families, for the more speedy effecting of which they brought with them, and immediately erected three saw mills upon a very fine river, which takes its rise as I am informed not far from Annapolis, and runs through the body of the setLament."

To put a dam on a river the size of the Mersey would have taken the better part of a summer, for they would have had to wait for low water to do it, and incidentally the first falls were nearly 2½ miles above the settlement. In any case we know that the first dam and mill at those falls were built by Perkins and his associates years later. The first actual samill was built on a brook which flowed past the settlement and into the Mersey at tidewater. This was still in contemplation when the "froprietors" held their first recorded meeting on July 1, 1760, and mentioned among other things that "the men who are undertaken to build a samill" shall be granted certain privileges. Captain Sylvamus Cobb himself had no faith in the immediate erection of a samill. for he brought the complete sawn timbers of his own house from New England. Even this had not been erected when the Proprietors met on July 1, for they were obliged to hold their first meeting in the blockhouse, "Fort Morris", certainly one of the first if not the first building to be created. And they held their second meeting on July 2, 1760, in the home of John Doggett -- one of the men who came the previous year. Note, too, that when they decided to lay out the first street on July 1 they mentioned "Squire Doggett's store" as one terminus of the road.

with regard to your other questions, I don't know much about the settlement of Chester.

Barrington was settled after Liverpool. In fact some of the first settlers of Barrington came to Liverpool first, and put in a miscrable winter in one or two huts here before going on to Sarrington the next year. A manuscript history of Shelburne by the Hon. Thomas Robertson, written years ago, refers to this incident time:-

"Edmmd Doane landed in Barrington on Walker's Point June 7, 1761, and found the apple trees, which formerly belonged to the French, in full bloom. He had left his Cape Cod home in the autumn of 1760, but being driven by gales to the eastward he was compelled to winter in Liverpool."

With my best regards,



HALIFAX. N. S.

February 17, 1959.

Dr. Thomas Raddall. Liverpool, N. S.

Dear Tom.

Many thanks for your very kind letter of the 13th instant concerning the arrival of the first settlers at Liverpool, Chester and Barrington, and for the trouble to which you have gone in answering my inquiries. The proposed celebration of the bicentennial of the establishment of these communities has come to the notice of the editors of the Canadian Historical Review.and they have asked me to write a brief note for inclusion in their next issue. That assignment makes it necessary for me to be either certain of my dates or cautious in my memorandum.

At present my guess is that the first settlers at Chester did not arrive until. 1760 and that the first of the founders of Barrington did not arrive until 1761. As to Liverpool. I should like to have documentary evidence, if such is at all possible, although I recall some Frenchman having said that documents are the pitfalls of historians. From your comments regarding the first settlement of Liverpool. I infer that tradition is the basis for your statement that the first settlers arrived there and built their homes in 1759. If you have something more than tradition, however, I should be most happy to be informed of it, for I should like if at all possible to make plain that the first settlers did arrive there in 1759. There is evidence to show that agents for the proprietors did examine the territory and did receive the formal documentary grant of the township in that year. But as late as December 11, 1759. according to the copy of a document which I have seen, Joseph Patten and Thomas Foster, "a Committee for the Proprietors of the Township of Liverpool. at Port Seignior &ca." who were then at Halifax, submitted a memorial to the authorities, asking that transportation and some allowance of provisions be given by the government to the fishermen and farmers intending to settle at Liverpool. Furthermore, Governor Lawrence reported to the Board of Trade on May 11, 1760, that he had sent Mr. Morris, the Surveyor, along the coast to the westward to lay out and adjust the limits of the townships for fishery, at one of which, namely Liverpool, there had already arrived 50 families and six fishing schooners. This is the sort of information on which I should have to base my memorandum, in which I may also mention the possibility that a few settlers remained at the site in 1759, if tradition or other evidence warrants such a statement. But the documentary evidence which I possess rather inclines me to 1760 than to 1759.

If you can assist me in strengthening the case for 1759, I should be greatly obliged to you.

With best regards,

Vours sincerely, Fergure PROVINCIAL ARCHIVIST.

February 19th, 1959

Dr. Bruce Fergusson, Provincial Archivist, Halifax.N.S.

Dear Bruce,

It seems a trivial point, I suppose, but Liverpool tradition insists that the first permanent settlers built their homes in 1759, and on that the townsfolk base their 200th amiversary this summer.

I quite understand your own position, and I can appreciate your Frenchman who said that documents are the pitfalls of historians. In this case if you stick to documents you must accept Lawrence's report with its patently false assumptions that the Liverpool pioneers built their town plus three sawnills on the Barsey River as soon as they arrived in 1760. The only documentary reference here is the Proprietors' Book, which shows that they did not begin to lay off the town or build a small sawnill on the Mill Brook until after July 1, 1760, and that the Donget buildings were then standing on the spot.

The Liverpool tradition, which I first encountered 35 years ago and has not changed since, is as follows. The Doggetts and others from Cape Cod had been could here each summer for some years previous to 1750, chiefly to net salmon in the river, but also to eatch codiish in the bay. They dried their catch on what was called Fish Foint (afterwards known as Fort Foint) and slept on board their vessels for safety against Indians who might prove out of the woods at night. In 1759 the Doggett families folt safe enough to build houses and fish stores and to winter here -- the first to do so. They had already persuaded many others to join them in the spring of the next year, and the popule came. The settlers of 1760 had a terrible time in their own first winter, and they only survived because the Doggetts, John and Samuel, were experienced in the local woods under winter conditions and were able to show the others where and how to hum moose and same rabbits in the snow. There the tradition ends.

Now, in considering Lawrence's statements, let us look at a few physical facts. As Perkins shows, there was a large and valuable salmon fishery in the Mersey Elver in those early days. After the town had been settled some years the salmon run fell off, from too much metting; but salmon were so much more valuable than cod that Perkins and others in later years were sending vessels to net other rivers as for away as Labrador.

So the primary concern of the first settlers at liverpool was the salmon run, which began in May and slackened towards the end of June when the river began to run low. The people who came in the spring of 1760 must have busied themselves at once with the salmon; and the netting place was at what is still called Salmon Island, at the head of sloop navigation on the river and more than two miles above the site of Liverpool. During this time they must have lived aboard their vessels, anchoring them at the head of tidewater.

To say, as Lawrence does, that the men spent this valuable period in clearing the townsite, building houses and three sawalls on the Mersey, just doesn't make sense. Morris himself apparently did no more than walk about the harbor woods and point out the rough boundaries of a town site. The Proprietors' record of their first meeting shows that little else had been done until July 1, 1760 except to build a blockhouse which they called Fort Morris. I doubt if they found time to cut a single tree beyond the Doggetts' small clearing until near the end of June.

I use interested to note from your letter that Joseph Patten and Thomas Foster were in Helifax on Degember 11, 1759, submitting a memorial regarding the movement of settlers at Liverpool. This was the rough winter season, the time of heavy-seas and north-east snowstorms. Even with favorable winds, and at the closest possible course of sailing, these men would have had to cover 400 miles if they came to Halfax from Cape Cod. But it was only an easy day's sail from the traditional first settlement at Liverpool.

Finally, let me quote the late Robert Long, a lifelong student of Liverpool documents and lore, whose typewritten and well bound "Annals" are in the possession of the Queens County Historical Society. (William Inglis Norse presented a duplicate set to the library of Acadia University. There was a third set, actually. Possibly you have it.)

"We have always looked upon John Doggett as the Moses who led the company to the promised land, with Samuel Doggett as his Aaron." Not, you'll notice. Captain Sylvarms Cobb, who led the main body here in 1760.

Sincerely. Note: - I did not pursue this matter farilor with Forgusson, who like most archivids disdained tradition and worshipped dycuments, even though tradition that makes good sense contains much truth, whereas any document could have been written by a lias or by someone careless of facts. James F. More, who publiched his History of Queens borinity in 1873, was born at Liverpool, N.S. in 1802 & made a voyage to Halifan during the War of 1812. At that time some of the original settlers were still living, & many others whe were sons of daughters of the pioneers. So More was in a position to know the facts when he stated (on pages 13 and 144) That there were some arrivals in 1759. among others he knew abeal Harlow, born in Millon in 1797, who died aged 99 in 1896. abial's grandfather Robert Harlow was a Leverport primer, the uncestor of all the Herlows in Queens County. On the distiff side, he well remembered his grandfather Barnabas Freeman, who also came with the first settlers. (see dilitions, leverpool advance, June 24, 1896)



HALIFAX, N. S.

February 23, 1959.

Dr. Thomas H. Raddall. Liverpool. N. S.

Dear Tom.

Thank you very much for your letter of the 19th instant concerning the founders of Liverpool and the tradition in the community with regard to its founding. A copy of Robert Long's manuscript is in the Dalhousie University Library and I have had it reproduced on microfilm for the Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

The chief difficulty which I have to get over is to try to reconcile the local tradition with the reports submitted by Charles Morris, the surveyor, who was sent down to Liverpool in the spring of 1760 and who on more than one occasion stated that the town of Liverpool was begun in 1760. I shall have to present a statement of both tradition and documentary evidence and let it go more or less at that.

I should wish, however, to claim the earliest possible authentic date of origin for the South Shore communities which are planning celebrations this year. But in the case of Chester, I am forced to disagree emphatically, even though DesBrisay, in his County History, quoted Seccombe's Diary allegedly in the year 1759 with respect to that community. My careful examination of that Diary, however, convinces me that it has been tampered with and that its earliest entries are for the year 1761, not 1759. Likewise, I doubt if there is any documentary evidence which would warrant a celebration at Barrington by way of a bicentenary this year.

Voure Ferguson.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVIST.

CBF-wm.

Dr. C.Bruce Fergusson, Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Halifar, N.S.

Dear Bruce,

Usu will remember James and Jedidah Gorham from your footnote (page 55) to the Champlain Society's edition of Simson Perkins' Dary 1700-39.

James died in 1944, his wides Jedidah in 1849. They apparently had no children, and Jedidah's will conveyed the whole Gorban estate to a trust for local benevolant purposes -- church, school, tamparance hall, etc. For many years the Trust remained in the hands of a local self-perpetuating board; but after Wonld thar Two the current board decided to convey it to the Tastern Trust Company, of Halifax. This was done; and in this Company's hands, through wise reinvestment, the Trust has grown to a considerably larger sum.

One tiem in the Corken Trust, as originally set forth, was the care and repair of a small wooden school erected in 1612 by Janes Corkan. Throughout the years the Trust has kept the building in good repair; but, as you may readily understand, the building is now an anochroniam, too small to accumulate more than a fraction of the Tour's children, and too sukward in its architectural design to be adapted to modern sanitary and other standardo.

The Toxn Council intend to build a configurably larger school for children of the junior grades, and they are proporting an application to the courts for a change in the original terms of the Corham Trust. This would permit them to dispose of the old building and to use the appropriate portion of the Corham Trust fund to pay part of the cost or uplace of the new school.

In this connection, Hon. W. Kernedy Jones HPP, who is the town's legal consultant, has asked us to write an afficiavit stating that James and Jedidah Corham died childless. It is to satisfy the courts that no modern claimant may now arise to dispute a change in the tarms of the Trust.

I am willing, for it seems to me the new proposal would be quite in accordance with the Gorhams' original intentions, and all up information leads to the conclusion that James and Jediah had no heirs of the flosh. However I'd like to check every possible source. May I therefore twouble you to look in the Gorham file of the late T. Bronton Smith's geneelogical studies, and see what — if anything — he has to say about James and Jediah and their apparently childless emistence?

Needless to say, my affidavit would be made in my name alone, and the Archives would not be involved in any way.



HALIFAX. N. S. January 24, 1961.

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

Dear Tom,

I have received your letter of the 21st instant in regard to James and Jedidah Gorham. James, son of Jabez Gorham, was born at Flymouth, Mass., on September 7th, 1760. He married Jedidah, daughter of Nehemiah Tracy of East Haddam, Conn., at Liverpool, N. S., August 23, 1787. T. B. Smith quotes Long as saying that James Gorham had no children but that he adopted a daughter, who afterwards settled in Annapolis County. At present I do not know the name of this supposed adopted daughter.

James Gorham had a number of brothers and sisters. Smith lists the following: Mary, Jabez, Hannah, Lucy, Mercy, Prince, Lydia, Isaac and John, the first three of which were born at Plymouth, and the remainder at Liverpool.

F. E. Crowell lists James, who died young; Jabez, who died in infancy; Mary, who married a Dunlap of Sable River; Jabez, who went to Nova Scotia with his parents and afterwards returned to Flymouth; Hannah, who married a Coops, and lived in Milton; Lucy, who married James Morton of Liverpool; Mercy, who married Dennis Freeman; Lydia; Prince, who married Rebecca Mullins; Isaac, who married Dinabeth Tonge; and John, who married Hanha Freeman.

Perhaps it will be of interest to add that James Gorham's wife, Jedidah, had a sister, Susannah, who married Benajah Collins of Liverpool, N. S.

With cordial regards,

Yours sincerely,

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVIST.

CBF-wm.

January 25th. 1961

Mr. W.S.Kennedy Jones, Q.C.,

Liverpool, N.S.

....

re Gorham Trust

Dear Mr. Jones,

James and Jedidah (Tracy) Oorhan were muried at Liverpool N.S. on August 23, 1787. James died in 1841. his video Jedidah in 1849. Fast and present students of Liverpool history have found, in the records of the time, no mention whetever of children born to them. The tradition here is that they had nows, hence their generous gifts for benevelent purposes during their lifetime, and afterwards the complete disposal of their estate in the Gorhan Trust. I feel safe in stating therefore that

James and Jedidah Corhan had no issue.

Sincerely,

November 4, 1961

Dr. Bruce Fergusson, Provincial Archivist, Halifax, N.S.

Dear Bruce,

Further to our conversation in Halifax :-

Robert D. Bass, in "The Grocen Dragoon", in which he combined, with peinstaling detail, the biographics of Banastre Tarleton and Mary "Perdita" Robinson, says on page 372:-

"On the Continent Mary's fame spread, From the press in Halls in 1797 case the German version of "Hubert von Sevroc'. Later in the your, as the German readers developed a taste for Gothicism, the press in Leipzig, accepting a manuscript for which Mary could find as English publisher, brought out 'Julis St. Laurence'."

In listing the written works of Mary Robinson (page 463) Bass includes:-

"Julie St. Laurence", Nauck, Leipzig, 1797. "Julia (sic) St. Laurence", A Novel, Nauck, Leipzig, 1812.

In a lotter to me dated March 17, 1955, Professor Bass wrote, " I could not find out any of the details of several of the novels listed under my bibliography of Mary Robinson. I think that they give were novels she dashed off and could not get published in England. They may have been spurious. There are no copies in the English libraries of several, including Julie Saint Leurence. This part of the bibliography was furnished me by the Earl Marx University in Leipzig, wide which was the old University of Leipzig."

It was good to have a chat with you again.

Sincerely.

de was Thary , Toberson aber.



Coburg Road, HALIFAX. N. S. May 11th, 1972

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

Dear Tom: -

I am delighted that the University of King's College has seen fit to honour itself and to give you well deserved recognition by conferring an Honorary Degree upon you. I am sorry that the day of Convocation was a wintry one, but I am sure the warmth of the occasion more than countered the weather outside.

Yours sincerely

6. Bruce Ferge

CBF: jm

C. Bruce Fergusson Provincial Archivist

Answered 12/22