

H. DAVID ARCHIBALD

868 Melton Drive,
Mississauga, Ontario,
November 26, 1973.

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

Dear Tom:

It was a wonderful experience being with you in Newfoundland this past summer, notwithstanding the relative absence of salmon. I am enclosing a copy of a picture of you taken on the "pulpit" overlooking the salmon pool. You seem to be somewhat contemplative - perhaps considering which fly might be used to attract that thirty-pounder that is swimming around somewhat nonchalantly in the waters below.

I think I mentioned that my brother-in-law, Max Shepard, has been an avid reader of your books for many years. This year for Christmas I plan to give him your book "Halifax - Warden of the North". I would particularly like to give him a copy that has been inscribed by you to him. I am, therefore, enclosing a copy of the book for your inscription.

Ruth and I have just finished re-reading your book "The Governor's Lady". This is a tremendous book and well worthy of the reward that you received for it. We were impressed not only with the fascinating story but also with the high quality of the research which served as a foundation for the story and was reflected throughout.

With warm personal regards.
David B.

November 29, 1973

Dr. H. David Archibald,
868 Melton Drive,
Mississauga, Ontario.

Dear David:

Thank you for that excellent photograph. I think that pensive look can best be interpreted as, "What the devil am I doing wrong?"

Except for a few days with my son-in-law on the Main Southwest Miramichi the previous summer, I hadn't had a salmon rod in my hands for more than forty years, so I could hardly do anything right. I think, too, that the guides were chary of taking an old gentleman with a game leg into places where a canoe might upset.

But it was a lot of fun, and I couldn't have wished for better company than "Mit", Gordon, you, and your cheerful ladies, all in the midst of that marvellous scenery.

After the installation of hydro-power dams in our Mersey River in 1929, the salmon were shut out, and because the trout-fishing remained superb on the Mersey watershed for many years I was happy to settle for that. On foot and by canoe I covered the whole off it, hunting and fishing and just plain wandering, right down to about 1960, with the onset of osteo-arthritis in my right hip. Consequently the trip on the Serpentine was like a dream of happy days in the past.

I'm glad that you and Ruth have enjoyed re-reading "The Governor's Lady". I enjoyed the research for it, especially going over the ground of the Wentworth travels in New Hampshire, England and Belgium.

*With best wishes to Ruth & yourself,
Tom*