

C. H. L. JONES  
P. O. BOX 485  
LIVERPOOL, NOVA SCOTIA

August 5, 1939.

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

Dear Tom:

I am sending you my friend Jim Curran's book, "Here Was Vinland", which proves, if he is right--and I don't think he is at all right--that the Norsemen never came anywhere near Nova Scotia, and they went by airplane from somewhere around the Labrador Coast to all points east, west, north and south dropping tokens and tools and other things for Jim and his friends to find as they went along.

I haven't read the book yet, although I read two or three of the articles in the Sault News. However, Jim Curran is an honest, sincere lad and he may believe entirely what he has written, and some of his evidence may indicate one thing and some another. When you have digested it we will have a talk about it. I am going West again and when I come back will foregather.

I think probably the most striking statement in the book is on the title page, which reads: "America's Strangest Story."

I told him some time ago that we still maintain that the first American child on the American Continent was born in St. Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia, and nothing would convince us to the contrary.

Yours sincerely,

*C. H. L. Jones*  
CHLJ

CHLJ:VB

C. H. JONES  
HALIFAX CITY  
P. S.

July 15th, 1939.

Mr. T. H. Raddall,  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

My dear Tom:

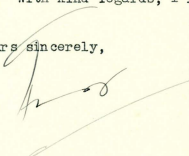
Last night I dined with the Governor General and afterwards we engaged in a general conversation. We were talking about Nova Scotia when His Excellency said, "There is one man down there I want to meet - Tom Raddall." He then proceeded to pay your works many compliments, and finally said that he looked upon you as Canada's best story writer.

He said all this before he knew that you and I had ever been associated. Apparently he has read everything you ever wrote in Blackwood's. He knew all about the shoe-trees story and I gave him some further details.

I have promised him that when he comes to Nova Scotia you will be on tap to meet him, and I know you will enjoy it. I had a thoroughly good time talking to him on all kinds of subjects, and am today giving him a copy of the "Rover" and the "Markland" Sagas.

I'll be down in Nova Scotia soon and look forward to seeing you. With kind regards, I remain

Yours sincerely,



CHLJones  
JWD

*Re answer*

R. H. L. JONES  
ADEMURITY  
P. O.

August 1, 1941.

My dear Tom,

It has been a matter of regret with me that our paths have not crossed and that we could not sit down and talk for a couple of hours about old times and literary happenings.

I am surprised to hear that there is not a copy of the "Markland Sagas" in the Yarmouth Library. I thought we had already sent a copy there but I am asking Miss Borgel to deliver to you a copy and I would be pleased if you would send it to the Library with our joint compliments.

I am much interested in your having signed a contract to do an historical novel of Nova Scotia. As I once told you, I have a good theme for an historical novel of Nova Scotia. I have never given you the particulars but sometime I am going to write it, if I ever do get the time. As you know, my time is pretty well absorbed in Quebec. Bert and the other boys are bearing the brunt of the Mersey operations and I give them what time I can on my visits and, of course, talk to them or write them every day.

The next time I go down I want to meet you and we will have a good old fashioned crack about many things, including cabbages and coconuts, etc.

My very best regards.

Yours sincerely,

*R. H. L. Jones*

CHLJones  
N.

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

Dictated by Colonel Jones  
and signed in his absence.

C. H. L. JONES  
UNIVERSITY  
P. O.

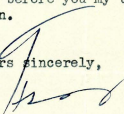
February 28, 1942.

Dear Tom,

I see by the papers that you have been listed with the immortals by the Saturday Evening Post and I congratulate you, both as a friend and as a former collaborator.

I hope some day, when I have retired from this crazy whirl of making paper, that I will be able to take time to spread before you my trilogy which will make a grand yarn.

Yours sincerely,



CHLJones  
N.

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

*Arvid. Mar 5/42*

W.H. LITCHES  
ALBERT TAYLOR  
110

November 27, 1944.

Dear Tom,

The "Halifax Herald" of November 18th carried an article "In the Nova Scotia of Long Ago". Reference to yourself and to the "Markland Sagas" and the "Saga of the Rover" brought back the old days when we had so much fun getting these out.

I have ordered a copy of "Roger Sudden" and look forward to receiving and reading it. From the reviews it seems to be very good.

My congratulations to you on the great success you are making as an author and with kindest regards, I remain,

  
Sincerely,

Mr. T. H. Raddall,  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

CHLJ/H

November 29th, 1944.

Dear Colonel Jones,

Many thanks for your very kind letter of the 27th. "Roger Sudden" is enjoying quite a vogue, in this part of the world at any rate -- I haven't heard from my publishers on results elsewhere. The book is to be published in the United States next spring, and possibly in Great Britain as well.

With regard to "Saga of the Rover" and "The Markland Sagas"; these modest children of ours have now achieved considerable fame and have in fact become quite a prize to collectors of Canadiana. I have been deluged with requests for them and I daresay you have had the same experience. The other day in Halifax my publishers' representative, George Foster, suggested that we permit a printing of the books for sale to the public on a royalty basis. I told him I would consult you in the matter but personally I was dead against it. The value of a limited and private edition lies in the very fact that it is limited and private. A public issue would greatly lessen the aesthetic value of the original. Let the collectors scramble for the original editions if they like.

I gave away my last spare copy long ago to Dr. James Martell of the Nova Scotia Archives. Have you much of a supply left? If so, could you spare me one or two of each?

I daresay you know that Colonel Fred Ford died a day or two ago in Toronto. We bury him here tomorrow with full military, Legion and Masonic honors. The arrangements have fallen to me -- quite a business, but I think all will go smoothly.

Legion work is increasing fast; we have 30 newly discharged men in Liverpool alone, all with pension, gratuity and rehabilitation problems. Much of the burden inevitably falls upon the president in a small branch like this; my house has become a sort of Mecca for service men in trouble, and what with these personal visits plus phone calls, letters and telegrams my writing hours are badly shot. It seems to me that before very long there will have to be a full-time Veterans' Welfare officer in every county town. The Queens County boys now in the service will have at least \$500,000 coming to them in gratuities and rehabilitation grants when the war ends; compared to that the salary and expenses of a competent man to administer veterans' affairs in the county would be a very small item indeed. I can think of a number of good men now serving who would be happy to have the job and who would handle it well. As it stands there is only one Veterans' Welfare officer for the whole province, a monstrous bottleneck already and getting worse all the time; and this situation must obtain in every province of the Dominion.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

February 23rd, 1945.

Dear Colonel Jones,

I wrote you in the latter days of November, acknowledging your letter of November 27th and mentioning a proposition of my publishers for a public edition of "Saga of the Rover" and "The Markland Sagas". I've had no reply -- apparently my letter was lost in the pre-Christmas rush -- so here's the matter again.

Our two little books have now acquired a certain fame in certain circles, and particularly they have become something of a prize to collectors of Canadiana. I have been deluged with requests for them and I daresay you have had the same experience. Last fall in Halifax my publishers' representative, George Foster, suggested a printing of the books for sale to the public on a royalty basis. I told him I would consult you in the matter but personally I was dead against it. The value of a private and limited edition lies in the very fact that it is private and limited. A public issue would greatly lessen the aesthetic value of the original. Let the collectors scramble for the original editions if they wish.

Have you much of a supply left? I gave my last spare copy to Dr. James Martell of the Nova Scotia Archives. I wonder if you could let me have a copy or two of each? I want one particularly for Glen Crowell, a district supervisor of schools down here.

The war goes well. Surely this summer will see the end of German resistance. Their resolve to stick it out to the bitter end means simply a most thorough licking -- the kind of licking they avoided by signing the armistice in 1918. This time the licking will stick. As for the Japs, I don't expect to see them sticking it out long after Germany collapses. They're taking a terrific beating in the Pacific as it is, and the war has come to their front door. The prospect of all the Allied forces free to descend upon them must be worrying them desperately, and a great many of the fire-eating officers, naval and military, who dictated the aggressive policy of Japan are now dead.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

