

The Ancestor



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The Family History Society of Newfoundland & Labrador, Inc.

The Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, Inc.

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The Society was founded in October 1984 to foster interest in Newfoundland and Labrador ancestry, to help researchers locate information, and to give members opportunities to communicate with each other and share their research efforts. The office of the Society is located at 50 Pippy Place, unit 19, St. John's. Hours: phone (709) 754-9525 for further information.

Meetings are held in St. John's. They usually include a guest lecturer, and sometimes take the form of a workshop. The Annual General Meeting is held in the Spring of each year. Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, September, October, and November. Meetings may be held in person and/or online and begin at 7:30pm.

ANCESTOR

Editors: **Frederick Smith, Ethel Dempsey, Cindy Tedstone,**
Newfoundland Strays Editor: **Patrick Walsh**
In Memoriam Editor: **Patrick Walsh**

The Ancestor is a quarterly publication of the Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, Inc. Members are invited to submit articles and book reviews for publication. The Editors and Board of Directors reserve the right to publish contributions when space permits. The Editors and Board of Directors assume no responsibility for errors or opinions expressed or implied by contributors. All articles in the journal hold copyright and may NOT be reproduced without the consent of the respective authors and the Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc.

The Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

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Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, Inc.

EDITORS: Frederick R. Smith, Ethel Dempsey, Cindy Tedstone,
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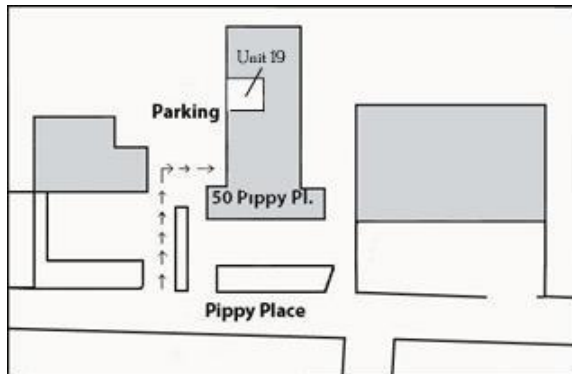
Subscription to *The Ancestor* is available to individuals or institutions for \$42 per year and includes membership in the Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador. Life membership is also available for \$700. Membership is for a twelve month period beginning on the date fees are received.

We request non-Canadian members remit dues in US currency to offset the additional cost of postage.

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OFFICE LOCATION

Our office is located in 50 Pippy Place, Unit 19. From Pippy Place turn right into the driveway on the left of the building.



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Cover Photo: "My Mystery Photograph". See article page 112 this issue of the *Ancestor*.



THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Frederick R. Smith

It has been a great summer with good weather and lots of office visits by people from across North America.

We were happy to have a summer student, Miss Emily Benson, who spent a couple of months working on the Society's files and taking care of visitors. We thank her for her excellent work and hope that the training she received in our office will be of assistance to her in her career after she finishes university. Emily's work was sponsored by the Canada Summer Jobs Program. We thank the Government of Canada for this support. We also thank the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for its support under the Cultural and Economic Development Program (CEDP). The CEDP grant is crucial in helping the Society pay its rent and insurance.

While we don't want summer to end, we are looking forward to the fall program. We are booking the speakers for the upcoming lectures but would like to hear from the membership as to what kind of topics you would like explored and suggestions for speakers for the fall-winter program. To date we have no indication of when we will be able to hold in-person talks, but we have been told by our visitors that our virtual presentations are very important for people with Newfoundland and Labrador connections but who live in areas where travel to meetings is not possible.

This summer with COVID 19 restrictions being eased, many people have been able to visit communities across the province. If you have noted interesting and useful collections of genealogical information, please let us know. It would be useful if you could list the names and locations of people you met in your travels, and send us a copy. That kind of information is valuable for researchers who are investigating family names. Many communities have had several prominent family names that were in these communities for generations. There were always some families that moved to different localities, sometimes for work and often because of resettlement. Tracking their movements is of great value to genealogical researchers. On a larger scale, numerous people have moved from the Province to other parts of North America. This is also important to genealogists.

Sadly, so many Newfoundland and Labrador churches and religious properties are being lost within a relative short time period. If you know of a community that has records such as births, marriages and deaths that are in danger of being lost, please let us know or ask the local people to contact us; we can preserve the records (or copies) so they will always be available for the community and researchers, worldwide.

When you are researching a family, often original documents, such as birth certificates, are not available. So you may have to depend on family memory. Memory is sometimes wrong but it is all you have. Often, years later, documents are found that show the correct information. If you read an article in *The Ancestor* that you can correct, please let us know. Our readers will appreciate it.

Good luck with your research.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

PUBLICATIONS

The following are available in hardcopy for sale at the office:

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Trinity, T. B., NL

Index of names, baptisms, marriages, and burials

1753-1867

\$25.00

1867- Early 1900s

\$25.00

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Basilica marriages, St. John's, NL

Index by surnames (bride and groom) 1793, 1797-1821, 1855-1874

\$25.00

St. James Anglican Church baptisms, King's Cove, B.B., NL

Index by surnames 1835-1900

\$25.00

There are about 4600 marriages in the Basilica records, sorted by bride's surname, bride's birth name and by groom's surname. There are about 2400 baptisms in the King's Cove records.

Copies of The Ancestor \$11.50

NOTE: Postage is not included in the prices listed on this page.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday: 12:00noon-3:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am-2:00pm

NOTE: The office will be closed on statutory holidays, and when weather is sufficiently inclement that the city's schools are closed.

All request for research, articles and general information should be directed to the main office at 709-754-9525, e-mail at fhs@fhsnl.ca or by regular mail.

The Ancestor relies on its members and general public to submit articles regarding their family histories, community histories and other historical events related to family history. In order for us to continue to publish the Ancestor we need you to continue to send in articles and pictures. E-mail us at ancestor@fhsnl.ca

If you would like to see an article about a specific topic in the Newfoundland Ancestor, please let us know and we will attempt to find the information for you. Topic suggestions are always welcome.

SOUTH COAST INFORMATION

By Margaret Mullins

I wrote two books (in CD form) about early Fortune families and connections. Here is more information.

Burton

My great grandfather, Jonathan Burton, December 23, 1823-1905, came to Fortune from Taylor's Bay (Lamaline area), married Jane Bennett and named his first son James, which indicated that was his father's name. (James was not a Bennett name). His eldest daughter Ester (married John Pike from the Carbonear area to Fortune) said that Jonathan's father was going back to England to get a medal, and was drowned. Jonathan's mother was a Hillier, daughter of John Hillier and his first wife, a Bonnell. (My mother knew that her great-grandmother from Lamaline was a Hillier). James (and Jane?) Burton of Christchurch, Hampshire had James in 1792. James and Jane had Charles in 1794, to Fair Haven, NL, who died at Harbour Buffett at 95, listed from Christchurch. I feel sure that my James Burton of Lamaline and Charles Burton of Harbour Buffett were brothers. My DNA (FTDNA) shows that I am related to Burton descendants of Charles of Harbour Buffett. Jonathan Burton of Fortune had James and Charles. Charles of Harbour Buffett had a James. There is a long life (100 and 106) in the Burtons of Fortune. The first Charles of Harbour Buffett lived to be 95. Family search shows early Burtons of Christchurch. Richard and Elizabeth had James, baptized in 1740. There were several named John. John had John, 1693. John had John, 1761. John had John, circa 1772 (Hampshire). John had John Lucas, 1789.

Burfitt

John Burfitt died at Burin in 1851, aged 92. The late Frank Burfitt spent much time and money trying to trace his ancestors in England. Mere, Wiltshire seemed a likely place. Frank's English researcher found a John Burfitt born 1759 at Mere. Now there has been a breakthrough. Bob Sanders of Cardiff, Wales descends from Burfitt of Mere through his grandmother, Lily Burfitt. DNA testing shows Bob is related to two descendants of John Burfitt of Burin. He says that the area around Mere was the ancestral home of most Burfitt lines. Frank would have been so pleased!

Pike

John and Catherine of St. Lawrence. Who was Catherine? I believe she may have been a Beck. Thomas and Mary Beck had a daughter Deborah (married William Miles). Then Catherine Pike named a daughter Deborah (named after her sister?). Catherine also had a Thomas (named after her father?) and a William (named after her brother-in-law?). Jack Mullins, Brian Mullins and the late Violet (Pike) Fitzpatrick, all descend from John and Catherine Pike. Randall Pope, Marilyn (Brown) Butt and Margaret Hillier Mullins also show a relationship to John and Catherine Pike. The above six are all related to Ralph Beck of St. Lawrence and to Lemuel Mayo, whose mother was a Beck.

Hillier

Edward Hillier of West Knoyle, Wiltshire, married Bridget. They had John, 1725, Thomas, 1735, and Edward II, 1728-1782. Edward II married in January, 1755 Elizabeth Perham born 1731, of Thomas Perham and Mary Osborn (not Osborn) of East Knoyle, Wiltshire. Edward Hillier II and Elizabeth had Edward III November, 1755; Rachel, 1757; Ester, 1760; and Kezia, 1761-1783.

Edward Hillier III married April, 1781 Ann Taylor (of John Taylor and Mary Grey of Mere). They had James, baptized January 1782 at West Knoyle; Kezia baptized 1783 at Mere; John baptized 1785 at Motcombe (to Australia?); Edward baptized June 6, 1790 at Mere; and Charles, baptized June 19, 1796 at Mere. (West Knoyle, Mere and Motcombe are not very far apart). Edward went to Twillingate. John and Charles ended up in Lamaline. The Cape Freels Hilliers are related. It appears it was Edward's son who went to Cape Freels. Hillier from Lamaline (which one?) wanted to see his brother before he died. He went to Greenspond and from there sailed or walked to Cape Freels. From there he went to Twillingate to see his brother, but "he didn't come back the same way". (Information given to me by Cape Freels Hillier descendant). Mary Grey's parents almost certainly were James Grey and Ann Forward who were married in 1720 at Mere, Wiltshire. This probably explains why Ann (Taylor) Hillier's first child was named James. Mary (Oborn) Perham was baptized 1698 of Edward Osborne/Oborn. John Taylor (Ann's father) baptized 1725 at Mere, was son of Thomas Taylor of Mere, Wiltshire. A descendant of John Hillier of Lamaline matches (DNA) an 86-year-old Mr. Oborn of England. Also, I Margaret Mullins, nee Hillier, from both Charles and John, match an Oborn descendant. (However, in my case it is not quite clear that the match is from Oborn). I match all the Twillingate Hilliers who have had their DNA tested. A distinguishing feature in all our Hillier families is the deep cleft in the chin, showing up in every generation to the present day. The Campbellton Hilliers call it the Hillier "dimple". (Some Hilliers went from Twillingate to Campbellton because of the sawmill).

Cranton

The English surname Cranton was shortened in most cases in NL to Crant. The earliest Cranton recorded here was Thomas listed as a dealer with Newman's at Little Bay in 1791, so probably was born around 1750 or so. William and Sarah Cranton had Robert in NL in 1791, who died, widower, in Nova Scotia in October, 1872. Informant, Elizabeth, said he was born in NL. The connection with Thomas is unknown but it is possible that William was a son of Thomas. Robert Crant, September 18, 1773-January 14, 1853 married Elizabeth, 1785 – May 19, 1851 – daughter Dinah born 1855 married Sheppard. William and Hannah Cranton at Wreck Cove had Elizabeth in 1851. There was a Robert Crant there in 1851. There was a Mary Cranton at Gaultois, adult, in 1851. In 1866, George Kippen had recorded information on himself, his wife and children and his widowed mother Jane Crant, born October 7, 1792 at Bay De L'eau, who married a Kippen on October 9, 1809. Jane died April 18, 1875 at 83 (family records) at Rencontre East (not 1876 at 76 – wrong information). The Kippens had George, 1820, married Susanna May, born June 16, 1821 – October 10, 1889; William married Susanna Vallis in 1846, Eleanor? born 1825, of Ben and Jane (married Augustus Mullins); and ?John, born 1827 of Ben and Jane, both baptized by Archdeacon Wix in 1835 at Rencontre east. There were probably others descended from the Crantons. George Kippen, born Coombs Cove October 14, 1820, died at Rencontre East June 21, 1911 at 90.5 years. His children were Jane, James, Ben, Madeline Margaret, Mary Ann, George, William John and Sarah. Note: Family records (per Eliza Anderson of the Rencontre East Kippens) from a bible say Jane Kippen was born October 7 (wife of Ben) of Rencontre East. George Kippen, unfortunately, did not name his father, but he did say his mother was born October 7. So, it stands to reason that his father was Ben. So, the Kippens of Coomb's Cove and Rencontre East descend from Jane Crant.

Snook

Thomas Snook married Mary Cabbot at Okeford Fitzpaine, Sturminster Newton Dorset. Son Morgan was baptized February 23, 1634. The next Morgan, probably his son, married Mary Chamberlan in 1700 and went to St. Peter's (St. Pierre) as did his son Morgan. In 1763, after the seven years war, France was given St. Peter's (although England has won!) and all the English had to leave. Traders and property owners, including Morgan Snook, Sr. and Morgan Jr. signed a petition to the British government requesting compensation for their lost property. What happened to Morgan Sr. is unknown. But Morgan Jr. used to go back to Sturminster Newton in the fall. He married Ann Woolridge at Sturminster in 1756 and had children baptized there until 1767. It makes sense that he would not bring his family across the Atlantic during the war. Some time after 1767 he brought them to Fortune. They had Robert baptized Sept. 29, 1756; Ann baptized January 1, 1760; Eleanor baptized November 30, 1761; a daughter (name illegible) baptized November 5, 1765; and Susanna, baptized 1767. They also had a Morgan (born at Fortune?) who married Grace. He drowned with his two sons at Fortune in 1806. In 1776 daughter Ann married Jonathan Hickman of Grand Bank. His daughter Eleanor married John Hickman, perhaps around the same time. Morgan's will was made out in 1808 and probated in 1818. Morgan and Ann probably died before 1816 as their deaths were not recorded in Grand Bank-Fortune death records, which started in 1816. Note: Jonathan Hickman of Thomas and Frances (from Weymouth, Dorset) was baptized at St. Pauls' Anglican Church, Halifax on February 15, 1750. He died at Grand Bank in 1847.

Hickman

Thomas Hickman at Weymouth, Dorset and wife Sarah Wilson had Sarah, Thomas, Elizabeth, Martha and Wilson. Thomas and second wife Frances Corbine had John, born September 26, 1744 and baptized at Deptford in 1745 or 1746; Ann, baptized January 3, 1747 or 1748 at Deptford; Jonathan, baptized February 15, 1750 at St. Paul's Anglican church, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Thomas did not drown on the way over. In 1763 he was named in his mother's will in England (probated then). In his sister Betty's will in 1771 in England he was listed as deceased. The mystery is how these two Halifax boys ended up in Grand Bank. Floating around was a story (true or not) that the mother kept house for an English officer in St. Peter's (St. Pierre). So, there is a possibility they were among the English who all had to leave in 1763 when St. Peter's was ceded to France after the Seven Years War. Just a suggestion, of course! Jonathan married Ann Snook in 1776 and John married her sister Eleanor Snook. Jonathan's headstone lists him as 100 years and four days when he died in 1847, obviously an error by around a couple of years. It is understandable at his advanced age that he may not have been sure how old he was. He may not have had a formal education, it appears. By the way, Hickman's Harbour on Random Island, NL was originally Rickman Harbour, probably from the name Rick (Richard). It had nothing to do with Jonathan Hickman of Grand Bank.

Tibbo

(Thibeau/Thibideau). An early Tibbo lived at Grand Bank (perhaps born somewhere around 1748). I have now determined, by several means, that his wife was a Buffett. They had, living at Grand Bank, Jonathan, born 1770; Ann born 1778 and James. Ann married Charles Patten. It was generally accepted that his origin was in the Channel Islands. It is not known if he came directly from the Channel Islands or if he came to Grand Bank from St. Peter's (St. Pierre) in 1763. It appears certain that all the Tibbos of Grand Bank, Hare Harbour and Harbour Breton came from him and also that maternally they are all from Buffett.

Cossar

Lot Cossar, born January 14, 1815 at Hartmoor Fontnell, Dorset married Elizabeth Lawrence in 1846 at Red Island, Burgeo.

Childs

Solomon Childs from Melbury Osmond, Dorset had twelve or fourteen children – one to NL. (This information was given to me by Solomon's descendant). Descendants live at York Harbour. There was a later Child (David) from Yeovil, Somerset who was at Francois. His daughter Perthana married a Carter first and then Ezra Buffett of Fortune.

Lake

DNA has now established that all Lakes of Fortune are from the same family. George Lake of Bideford, Devon had John, October 26, 1650, who married Patience Wilmenton/Welmington, born April 4, 1650, on January 19, 1681. They had George Lake baptized July 27, 1684 who married Joanna and had John, 1710- 1712; George baptized April 5, 1713; William, 1715; John, 1718-1720; and Thomas 1722. George, born 1713, went to Placentia Bay and from Paradise Sound went to Fortune with wife Ann and sons George and John. This John (1752-1839) married Sarah (unknown), 1762-1833. Their children were Ann, born 1782, who married John Buffett of Fortune; John (died before 1839?); James, married Susanna (Gallop?); George, 1797, who married Ann Mauger first and then widow Martha (Hickman) Spencer of Grand Bank; Priscilla, married Charles Bennett and widower Benjamin Snook; Rachel married Thomas Kearley(to Garnish); Sarah, married Thomas Miller (to Brunette); Martha, born 1800, married Edward Bennett (to Essex County, Mass, USA); Elizabeth, married Morgan Snook in 1810 (to Sagona); and Jane, married Samuel Forsey of Grand Bank and Fortune. It is generally believed that Fortune's first settlers were the Lakes, but the late George Ewart Lake always heard it was the Snooks. The Lakes were at Fortune by 1780 (salvaged a French privateer at Yellow Gulches then). Was John, born 1752, old enough to bring a wife with him, or did he marry Sarah at Fortune? Nobody knows. The fact that Sarah gave her daughters the unusual names then, Martha, Priscilla and Rachel, indicates she may have come from Placentia Bay. Priscilla and Rachel were early names in the Dicks family of Placentia Bay. My mitochondrial DNA (handed down just from the maternal line) is shared by several with Dicks ancestry. So, it is just possible my ancestor Sarah Lake was a Dicks – a rather tenuous conclusion of course.

Dicks

Henry Dicks of Lamaline, born 1774, married Susanna Caines. Chris Dicks married Margaret Caines. Chris and Margaret had Chris and Henry. Henry had a Chris. The same names were in the Dicks families of Haystack/Flat Islands area), Placentia Bay. There was a Chris Dicks of Haystack in the minister's class in 1830. Rachel Dicks of Haystack, 1817-1893, married at Famish Gut in 1834, James Joyce from Houton, near Blandford, Dorset. Witness was Joseph Dicks, born 1810, probably her brother. There is no doubt the Dicks families of Lamaline and those of Haystack were related. There is no known connection with the Dicks family of Allen Square, St. John's. Robert Dicks (Dicks Bookstore) came from that family.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR STRAYS DEATHS AFAR

Compiled by Pat Walsh

What is a Stray? A Stray is defined as a person who is described in a record of an event as being from or connected with a place outside the area in which the event took place. For example, someone born in one place dies in another and the event is reported in a local newspaper. I do take most of our strays from *The Telegram*, as noted below. Thank you to The Ontario Genealogical Society for this definition of a Stray.

Strays from Bell Island appear on the Historic Wabana Nfld Facebook page. It is a website celebrating the history, culture & people of Bell Island, NL with particular emphasis on the Wabana iron–ore mining operation. Thanks to Gail Hussey–Weir, this public group page has over 3,000 members.

The obituary information which follows has been taken from past issues of *The Telegram*, a daily newspaper published in St John’s, NL unless another newspaper has been noted. For more detailed information, please research the newspaper for the dates shown.

Andrews, Eileen Patricia Marie Carmel (nee Murphy) Oct. 26, 1940 – May 7, 2022, in Moncton, NB. From St. John’s. Predeceased by her parents Allan & Carmel Murphy, her husband Don, 2005, her sister Janice Noseworthy & her brother Allan. She moved to Moncton in 1978. Mother of Patti Renton (Russell), Lori Trites (Craig), Mark & Neal. Sister of Bob, Edmonton, AB. Obit & photo May 12, 2022.

Anthony, Shirley H. (nee Morgan) Dec. 6, 1945 – May 4, 2022, in Halifax, NS, aged 78. Predeceased by her parents Herbert & Violet Morgan, her daughter Sandra Stone & her brothers Eldridge, Stan & Eric. Mother of Sharon, Beverley & Scott. Sister of Rita, Marion & Mary. Obit & photo May 7, 2022.

Byrne, Gerard `Gerry` Francis April 9, 1936 – June 24, 2022, of Edmonton, AB. Formerly of Corner Brook. Predeceased by his wife, Elva, Jan. 23, 2022 (aged 92) & sons Rick & Terry Cornish. Father of Steven & Bonnie Murphy. Brother of Richard & Kevin of Corner Brook. Obit & July 25, 2022.

Crann, Jason “Jay”, Gerald Nov. 16, 1977– June 23, 2022, of Sherwood Park, AB. Formerly from Mount Pearl. Son of Imelda Kennedy. Predeceased by his father Alfred

Crann & his step-father Peter Kennedy. Husband of 20 years of Nancy. Brother of Karen Snelgrove (Ron) & Gordon. Former member of the Canadian Armed Forces, 1st. Battalion, Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry. Obit & photo July 4, 2022.

Fahey, Curtis James, on May 1, 2022 in Acton, ON, aged 40. Employed as an auto & heavy equipment mechanic. Son of Anna Fahey & Captain Jim Fahey (Geri) . Father of Julia & Emily (their mother Crystal). Brother of Priscilla & Craig & Jim. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Topsail Road, Mount Pearl. Obit & photo May 10, 2022.

Follett, Harold Keith of Dartmouth, NS, formerly of Garlands Crossing, on June 17, 2022, aged 72. Born in Grand Bank on Oct. 9, 1949, son of Charles & Lillian (Patten) Follett. Predeceased by his parents. Obit & photo June 22, 2022.

Gillespie, Corine, on July 18, 2022. Born to Mona (English) of Branch, St. Mary’s Bay & Francis Gillespie of Claregalway, Ireland. She grew up in St. John’s. An active rower at the Royal St. John’s Regatta. Graduated from MUN, Naval Architecture. Predeceased by her father “Alfie”. Sister of Frank, Eileen, Sean, Brain & David. A Celebration

of Life was held on July 22, 2022 at the Armdale Yacht Club, Halifax, NS. Obit & photo July 21, 2022.

Gillies, George Edward “Ted”, in Sarasota, Florida, on May 28, 2022 in his 93rd year, Born in St. John’s. Well known St. Bonaventure’s College, St. John’s, athlete. Predeceased by his parents George & Mary, his brother Bill & his sisters Kathleen, Bernice, Alice, Helen, Mary Elizabeth, Mercedes, Mary & Ann. Husband of Rosemary (Casey). Father of Casey Reynolds (Remington) Mary Beth Hudson (Greg), Ted Jr. & Geoffrey. Brother of Bernice. Obit & photo June 4, 2022.

Glover, Matthew, on May 16, 2022. Born in 1971 & grew up in Placentia. Predeceased by his mother Patricia. Son of David, step – son of Michelle Glover. Brother of Daniel. Partner of Cindy Styles. He was travelling to Everest Base Camp in Nepal, when he succumbed to sudden altitude sickness. Obit & photo June 4, 2022.

Godfrey, Anne ‘Edna’ (nee Hurley) in Hampstead, NH on April 27, 2022 in her 75th year, formerly from Cupids. Predeceased by her parents, William & Emmie Hurley, her brother Michael & sisters, Marlene Berreau & Pauline Hurley. Wife of Parker. Mother of Dwayne, Dana, Denise & Danielle. Sister of Jerome & Daryl. Obit & photo May 7, 2022.

Guiney, Carl Frederick on May 11, 2022. Aged 59 in Ontario. Predeceased by his father Charlie. Son of Ethnea. Husband of 36 years of Janet (nee Meyer). He grew up in Labrador City. Father of Robyn. Brother of Charlene & Dale. Funeral arrangements at Families First, Amherstburg, ON (near Windsor, ON). Obit & photo May 14, 2022.

Hogan, Patricia Marie (nee Durdle) in Sooke, BC. July 5, 1952 – April 22, 2022. Predeceased by her parents Joseph Durdle, 2021 & Margaret Power, 1995. Born in St.

John’s. Wife of James. Married in 1983. Mother of Andrew & Patrick. Sister of Michael, Sally, Mary, Teresa & Anita. Obit & photo May 19, 2022.

Peckford, Morris Charley, aged 50, of Kingston, NS, on May 5, 2022 in the Dominican Republic. Born on April 1, 1972 in Gander, (hometown, Glenwood) Brother of Scott, Jerome, Gary, Gail & Sheri. Predeceased by his parents Francis & Joan (Short) & his sister Wavey. Obit & photo May 28, 2022.

Reitz, Ruby (nee Sainsbury) at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital, California on May 2, 2022, in her 84th year. Born in 1938. Predeceased by her parents, Graham Sainsbury & Effie Gillett, her step-father Captain William Gillett, her brother Claude, sisters Millicent Bradbury, June 27, 2007 (Ralph 2003) & Peg Sturge (Ray). Mother of Debbie Reitz & Ron Reitz. (Former husband, Darwin Reitz, Florida), Sister of Rhonda Peralez (Andy), Irvine, Eloise Sainsbury. Companion of Bob Rigby. Obit & photo June 4, 2022.

Richards, Gladys May, on July 20, 2022 in Toronto, ON. Aged 94. Predeceased by her parents, Ernest Vernon & Violet Blanche (nee Crocker) Richards. Born in St. John’s in 1927. She attended Bishop Spencer College & Memorial University. Also predeceased by her brother Vernon Noel Bruce Richards. She worked as an actress in film & radio. Obit July 25, 2022.

Robinson, Sylvia Doris (nee Hann) April 16, 1935 – Feb. 1, 2022, in Okotoks, AB. Born in Corner Brook, daughter of Elwood & Doris Hann, Predeceased by her father Elwood & mother Ida (Fifield) Hann & sister Rachael Abbott (Paul) & brother George Hann, & her husbands Dallas Rumbolt & Jack Robinson & her step-mother Janet Hann. Mother of Gary Rumbolt & Gerald Rumbolt & Brenda Lane (Gordon). Sister of Shirley Power (Patrick) & Bruce, Simon & Carol. Longtime instructor at the College of

the North Atlantic in Happy Valley- Goose Bay. Obit & photo submitted to *The Ancestor* by Gordon Lane.

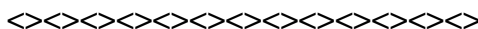
Tarrant, Patrick James on May 9, 2022, aged 89, in Ontario. Originally from St. Lawrence. Predeceased by his parents, Patrick J. & Clara A., his first wife Mary Doreen (Keane), his sisters Ella & Fluorina & his brothers Alexander & Cyril (aged 4). Husband of 35 years of Barbara (Smith). Brother of Carmel, Madeline, Margaret, Gus & Cyril. Father of Anna-Marie, Patrick, Dennis, John & Joanne. Step-father of Ryan Neal Shorten & Richard Jason Shorten. He worked for the iron Ore Company of Canada in Labrador, the insurance business & operated diverse businesses in Labrador City.

Patrick help to establish the first Mary Brown's Fried Chicken in 1969. Funeral services held in Mississauga, ON. Obit & photo May 12, 2022.

Williams, Bridget Mary (nee Walsh) in Cambridge ON. June 20, 1938-Feb. 9, 2022. Born in Shea Heights, St. John's. Predeceased by her parents Constable Harold & Kathleen Walsh (nee Hennessey) & her husband Cecil, May 2015, & her sisters Sarah Hollihan & Cathy Hutchings. Mother of Margaret Jordan (Tommy), Terry, Leona Craniford (Ian), Harold, Michael, & Regina Shea (Cory). Obit & photo July 23, 2022.

'It is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters in the end.

Ernest Hemingway



MAJOR DATABASE LAUNCH

Submitted by Fred Smith



On Friday 26 August 2022 the Mannion Collection was officially launched. The well-attended event was held in The Torbay History House and Museum, 2 Convent Lane, Torbay. The event was attended by people from all levels of government, education and the public, from both Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Republic of Ireland. A similar event was held in Cork, Ireland, on 6 September with the **Taoiseach in attendance. The Taoiseach noted that the revised Irish constitution states, based on the Good Friday Agreement, that the Republic of Ireland recognizes a special affinity "with people of Irish ancestry living abroad"**

Left to right, Mr. Wally Kirwan, Dr. John Mannion, Maura Mannion, Craig Scott (Mayor of Torbay). Historical note, Mr Kirwan played a major part in the Good Friday Agreement and also in Newfoundland-Ireland relations. He is a good friend of Dr. and MRS. Mannion.

The searchable database is freely accessible online at www.mannioncollection.ca and will be centred in the Torbay History House and Museum. The database was made possible through the cooperation of Memorial University, the Government of Ireland Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The collection holds extensive information on the largest single migration from a small confined geographical area – that of Southeast Ireland, to another small confined geographical area in Newfoundland. Almost 160,000 records of individuals and families who migrated from South-East Ireland and settled in Newfoundland, primarily in the years 1765 - 1835.

MY MYSTERY PHOTOGRAPH

by Lynn Fogwill

Some years ago I decided to remove a beautiful old photograph from its frame so that I could have it re-matted and re-framed. The studio photo was of my grandmother, Margaret Sorlie Irving, with her five sisters. I had inherited it following my father's death in 1980, hung it on a wall and there it remained for 25 years (See Cover of this issue).

A Big Surprise

What a surprise awaited me! Behind the photograph of the six Irving sisters, I discovered another studio photograph of nine men. The photograph was taken at the E.W. Lyon studio in St. John's. I called on my cousins to help figure out who the men in the photo were and they identified one of them. It was our great grandfather William Irving.

William is seated in the front row, second from the left and wearing what I used to call "carpet slippers"! William Irving was the father of the six Irving sisters, which explains the provenance of this photograph hidden behind one of his grown daughters. Scottish frugality perhaps played a role in my grandmother's decision to not buy a new frame!

I should say at the outset that my Irving family loved having their photographs taken, especially studio portraits. I am fortunate to have many of them, either originals or copies from my cousins.

William Irving and his family

Like so many FHSNL members, I have spent many hours researching my Irving family history in the Newfoundland Provincial Archives; first at the old "Colonial" building and later at the new "Rooms" building, trolling patiently through church registers and vital records. I also have used reliable online resources, including Ancestry, Find My Past, Scotland's People, Family Search, Library and Archives Canada, the National Archives of the UK, the Centre for Newfoundland Studies and the Digital Archives Initiative (DAI) of Memorial University.

Who was William Irving? He was born the 16th of January 1835 in the parish of Currie, Edinburgh, Scotland; the first child of Robert Irving and his wife Margaret Sorlie. His parents were both in service on the same estate when they married, and Robert remained in service as a coachman on a number of small Scottish estates during his lifetime. In addition to William, Robert and Margaret Irving had another son, David, and two daughters, Susan and Mary, all born in Edinburgh.

William came to St. John's in 1857 when he was twenty-two to take up employment as a clerk with a firm called Wilson & Co. I have not been able to find much information about this firm but William stayed with them for 2 years before accepting a position, in 1859, with the well-known Scottish firm of Baine, Johnston & Co., where he served for 35 years, first as a clerk and then as a buyer.

William's obituary in The Evening Telegram noted that following the Bank Crash, William joined the firm of Anderson's. The Bank Crash refers to the collapse of two of the three banks in Newfoundland. December 10, 1894 was known as "Black Monday" when two privately owned banks, the Union Bank, established in 1854, and the Commercial, established in 1857, closed, never to re-open. The Newfoundland Savings Bank, established in 1834, was owned and run by the government, and survived. Businesses collapsed, workers were suddenly unemployed, and families lost their savings. Although Baine, Johnston recovered from their insolvency within a few years, William had a family of eleven children and a much-loved wife to support, so no doubt this prompted his move to Anderson's.

He remained working there until about 3 weeks before his death on the 5th of December 1912. His obituary observed that "Mr. Irving was an upright, honest man of a kindly, genial disposition and will be mourned by a large circle of friends in St. John's."

The Scottish merchant community in St. John's was well-established by the mid to late 1830s, about 25 years before William arrived. His story is a common one in this community; resident Scottish merchants hired their clerks from the Scottish Lowlands, who, when they joined the business, also joined a social and economic community. The "immigrants" were primarily young, single men and they frequently married within the St. John's Scottish community, although some returned to Scotland to find a bride.

Not William Irving. He married a young Newfoundland woman of English heritage from Brigus. Maria Louisa Mills was the daughter of William S. Mills, who came as a teacher from Norfolk, England to Newfoundland, and his wife Grace Richards of Brigus. Maria Louisa, called "Granny Irving" by her grandchildren and great grandchildren, had come to St. John's to attend teacher training and there she met her Scottish suitor. They married in Brigus on the 15th of April 1868 when Louisa was 23 and William was 33. Over the next 17 years they had 11 children, 5 sons and 6 daughters.

William's two oldest daughters married English Newfoundlanders and thereafter, as family stories have it, he was determined to find Scottish husbands for the younger four! He regularly brought newly arrived, eligible Scotsmen home for Sunday dinner following the 11 a.m. service at "The Kirk" – formally known as St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He was successful in finding Scottish grooms for two of his daughters, although I've been told he was a little bit disappointed because the two men, John Brown and John Robertson, were from Glasgow not Edinburgh!

William Irving was an active member of the "The Kirk" congregation throughout his life and was the choir master for many years. In the St. Andrew's vestibule there is, in a glass display case, a tuning fork that William gave to the congregation. An index card beside the tuning fork says "Tuning fork belonging to William Irving, the last preceptor, before the organ was built in 1882". William would have used the tuning fork when leading the choir each Sunday. The organ in the current "Kirk" building is not the organ installed in 1882. The church, like so much of old St. John's, was destroyed in the great fire of 1892 and re-built afterward. A new organ was installed in 1896.

Between January 1869 and March 1886, Louisa Irving gave birth to her eleven children at the regular intervals so familiar to family historians. Her son William Mills Irving was born on the 19 January 1869, almost exactly nine months after Louisa and William married. My grandmother Margaret Sorlie Irving arrived 13 months later, on the 26 February 1870. Thereafter came Sarah (26 January 1872), Robert (16 December 1873), James Matthew (6 October 1876), Mary Louisa (28 March 1878), Emma (29 January 1880), Archibald McLeod (6 March 1881), Archibald McIntosh (30 January 1883), Lillian Grace (7 April 1884) and Susan McArthur (4 March 1886).

Two of William and Louisa's sons died in childhood; James died just before his sixth birthday on the 24th of September 1882 and his baby brother Archibald McLeod died a few months later on Christmas Eve 1882, not quite two years old.

Maria Louisa "Granny" Irving nee Mills outlived her husband by 18 years and died on the 16th of May 1930. Over the 18 years of her widowhood she lived for a time with each of her daughters. She is buried at the old General Protestant Cemetery with her husband William and the two sons, James and Archibald, who had died in childhood.

The only photographs I have of William and Louisa Irving are "snapshots" from a roll film camera, which came into common use at the turn of the 20th century. There may have been studio photographs but they have been scattered or lost over time. My favourite of "Granny" Irving was taken in the early 1900's when she would have been in her late 50s. The only photo I have of William, aside from the mystery

photograph, was taken at his place of work. In this instance I believe it was taken at Anderson's and because it is a "snapshot" I would date it around 1900 to 1905.



Two of William and Louisa's five sons died at sea. Archibald (generally called Arch) McIntosh Irving fell from the mast of the "Addie and Beatrice", a three masted schooner, on the 18th of May 1908. His death was reported to the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen under the Merchant Shipping Act 1894, so I was able to get a copy of the death registration from the General Register Office of the UK. The place of his death was recorded as "Lat. 6.54 N. Long. 49.50 W.", which is located just off the coast of present-day French Guiana.

Arch's death was reported in The Evening Telegram on Tuesday May 12, 1908 on page 5. The article read in part; "Mr. Irving of Hon. John Anderson's employ, received a letter from Barbados in yesterday's mail, telling him of the death of his son Archibald. He was mate with Capt. Godfrey on the ship Annie (sic) and Beatrice ... on the voyage from Pernambuco. The ship was 600 miles from Barbados, so that the body was buried at sea. Mate Irving was only 23 (sic – he was actually 25) years of age and was a smart and capable seaman."

I have two studio photographs of Arch Irving; a Lyon and Vey studio photograph, which I would date to about 1900 when he was just 17 or 18 years old and another taken just a few years later. Perhaps they were taken as keepsakes for his mother before he went to sea.



Robert Irving, also a mariner, died by drowning on the 28th of June 1918, while serving as 2nd Mate on the “Chin Kiang” at Basra “Mesopotamia” - present day Iraq. Thanks to the Digital Archives Initiative (MUN), I have a newspaper report of his death. The piece appeared in the Evening Herald on Friday October 11, 1918. The article quoted in full the letter which his mother received from R.H. MacAlister, the Presbyterian Chaplain at the hospital in Basra. It was dated July 19th, 1918, and read “Dear Mrs. Irving - You will have heard the sad news of the death of your son Robert, by drowning at Basiah (sic), on 28th June, 1918. His funeral took place on 29th June 1918, from this hospital to Makima cemetery and I conducted the Presbyterian services at the grave. He was buried in Grave 2, Block 1, Line K with full military honors. I write to send you my sincere sympathy in your great sorrow.”

The Evening Herald article began by saying that this letter, which Louisa Irving had received the day before, was the first notice she had received of her son’s death! No doubt the postal service was disrupted in those final stages of the First World War and the letter did travel a very long distance, but how shocking for a mother to receive news of her son’s death 3 ½ months after it had occurred.

Robert’s residence at the time of his death was Bombay (Mumbai). I have his original First Mate’s certificate, which was awarded by the Governor at Bombay on the 30th of November 1904, fourteen years before his death. I treasure this piece of my Irving family history. Robert served for many years sailing on East Asian, South Asian and Middle Eastern routes.

I have two photographs of Robert. The first one, of Robert in formal evening dress, is a James Vey studio photograph. The second photograph I have of him was taken in the Pun Lun Photography Studio, 76 Queen’s Road, Hong Kong. It’s hard to date this photo because Robert is in uniform, but I would put his age as late thirties so about 1910. The Pun Lun Studio was in operation from the 1870s into the 1900s. Looking at this photograph I would think that many young men envied Robert’s luxuriant moustache!

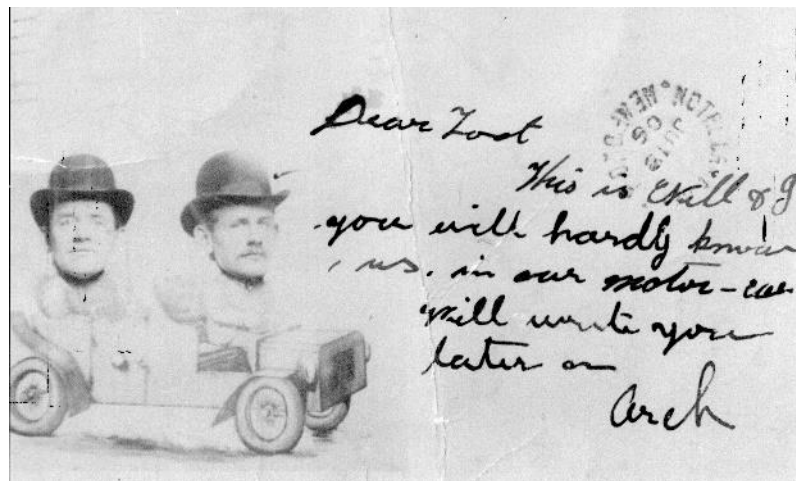


William and Louisa’s first-born son, William Mills Irving, was a bit of a “black sheep”. Using all the usual family history resources (census, ship’s passenger lists) I have been able to piece together much of Will Irving’s life. He moved around a lot, living for periods of time in Toronto, Montreal, Nelson, B.C. and eventually settling in Baltimore, Maryland. He married, was widowed, re-married and predeceased his second wife. He was, by all accounts, quite a gambler, lost a lot of money and didn’t hold on to a job for very long. He did not have children – at least not that I have discovered.

He returned to St. John's to visit family at least once and his sisters commemorated the occasion with a snapshot of the seven remaining Irving children! It is not a great quality photo but I am glad to have it.



I have a humorous photograph of Will Irving with his younger brother Arch. It is in the form of a picture postcard, very popular at the time. Arch mailed it from Montreal on June 11, 1906 to his sister Sarah. The postcard shows Will and Arch's heads, wearing bowler hats, superimposed upon the bodies of two men driving a motorcar. It is possible that in 1906 Arch was sailing out of Montreal or it may be that he was simply visiting his brother as well as his Uncle David. William Irving's brother David had trained as a draper, emigrated from Scotland to St. John's in the 1870s and subsequently relocated to Montreal in 1887 or 1888.



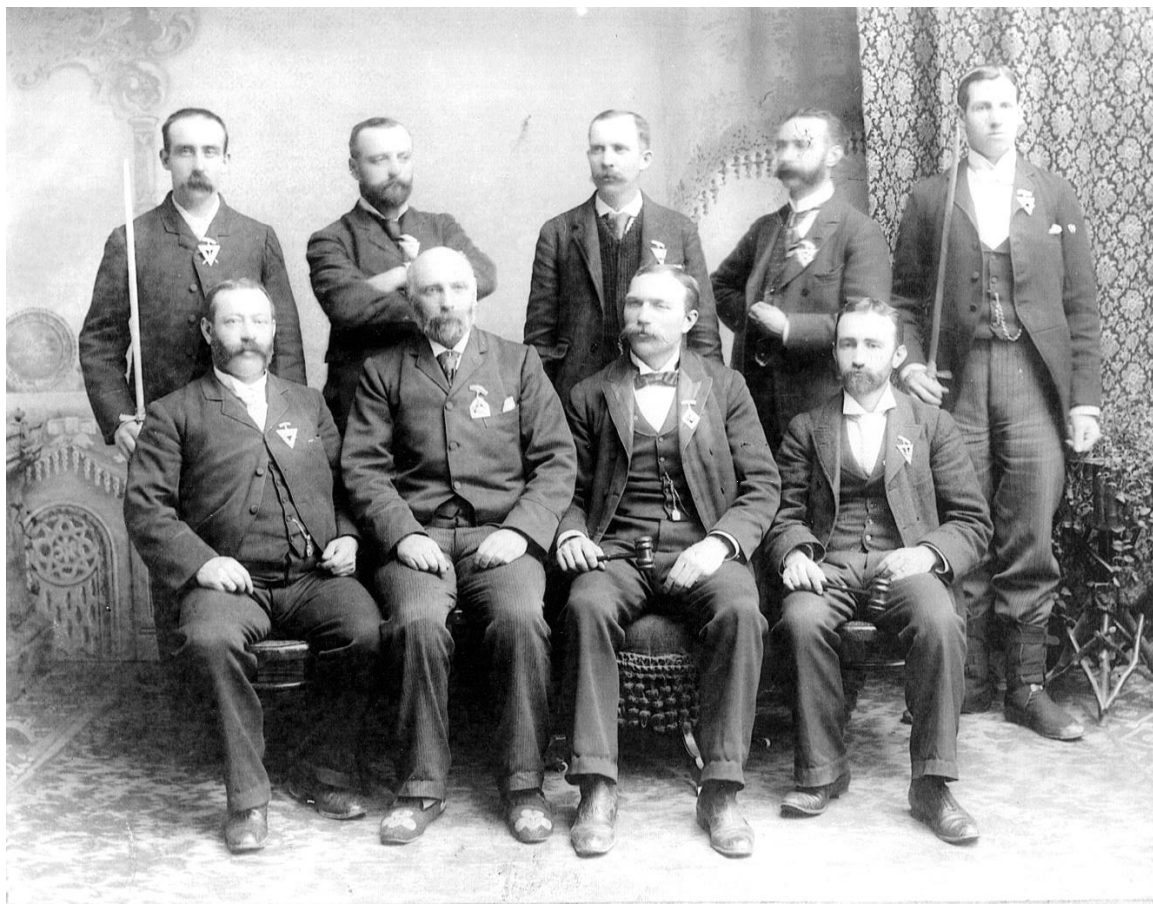
And then there were the "six Irving sisters"; as their grandchildren referred to them. (See picture on front cover) They were remarkably close to each other throughout their childhood and remained best friends throughout their long lives. They loved each other and adored each other's company. They lived near to each other for most of their lives and were regularly in and out of each other's lives, families and homes.

I have wonderful memories of Margaret, Sarah, Mary, Emma, Grace and Sue together, sitting with their cups of tea, talking, constantly interrupting each other and always laughing. Their capacity for talk was amazing. In our family it was often said that if you married an Irving woman, "I do" were the last words you would get into any conversation. They all married and all but one had children.

My grandmother, Margaret, married Will Fogwill and had 9 children; Sarah married Edwin Mews and had 5 children; Mary married George Field Cross and had 7 children, Emma married John Robertson and had 2 children; Grace married John Brown; and the youngest, Sue, married Si Angelo Skinner and had 2 children.

I have numerous photographs, some of them studio portraits, of the six Irving sisters, taken throughout their lives; a testament to their affection for each other and to their sense that they belonged together!

The Mystery Photograph



And now to my mystery photograph of the nine men. Does the photograph provide any clues that might help identify the occasion or the eight men with William Irving in the picture? First I researched the studio. I knew the photograph was taken by the E.W. Lyon Studio because the name is printed on the original matting. I did note that the backdrop and “props” were typical of a late Victorian or early Edwardian photography studio.

Edwin William Lyon (1846–1923) and James Vey (1852–1922) were employed for a number of years, as photographers, by S. H. Parsons and then went on to establish their own photography studio “Lyon and Vey” in 1886. They dissolved their partnership, by mutual consent, effective the 9th of July 1892 and a newspaper notice, on August 8, 1892, directed all debts owing to the late firm be paid to Lyon, a good indicator that Edwin Lyon bought out James Vey. Lyon carried on the business independently while James Vey opened his own studio on Water Street. It did occur to me that it was an extraordinary coincidence that the partnership ceased the day after the devastating fire of 1892!

I have wondered if Edwin Lyon and James Vey continued to occasionally produce studio portraits together. I have photos that are clearly marked as Lyon and Vey but which I would date to after their partnership was dissolved in 1892. Or perhaps Edwin Lyon was using up old matting card stock?

As I have said, my Irving family loved studio photographs and over the decades they patronized the original Lyon and Vey studio and subsequently each of the separate E.W. Lyon and James Vey studios. Of course, it has been a frustrating adventure trying to date the photos and identify the people in them.

The date of the dissolution of the Lyon and Vey partnership helps to narrow the timeframe of my mystery photograph to 20 years after July 1892 and before December 1912 when William Irving died.

I think the photograph was taken some time between 1900 and 1912. I have the photo of William, at work, at Andersons. It was late 1894 when William, at age 59, left Baine, Johnston's to go to work with Anderson's for the next 18 years. I think the photo "at work" was taken when William was in his early to mid-60s. In the "mystery photo" he is much balder, greyer and older looking, so I suspect he was in his 70s. He was 77 when he died in December 1912.

In looking at the nine gentlemen, the first thing I noticed was that they are all wearing "lounge" suits. These came into fashion in the mid-Victorian era and persisted for decades, becoming more and more popular in Edwardian times, particularly in England. These suits, with matching jackets and trousers, were made of heavy fabric even for indoor wear because homes, shops and business were still cold places, without central heating. Of course in trying to pinpoint their "fashion" in time, I have assumed these men were not wearing the latest fashion one would see in London, New York or Paris! No doubt, they are wearing their 1890s clothes well into the 1900s.

Lounge suits were always worn with a matching waistcoat and the men's waistcoats are typical of the late 19th century. The jackets have narrower lapels which would date the fashion from the 1890s onwards. On at least three of the men you can see watch fob chains. For the most part their shoes are somewhat pointed, common in the late 1890s. As an aside, I do wonder if the photograph was taken in winter since the gentleman standing in the rear on the far right of the group is wearing what appear to be winter boots?

Their collars are not as high as the slightly ludicrous look of the mid-1800s; they are either wing tip or turned down and the gentleman in the back row, second from the right is wearing a stand-up collar with a small front gap – all pointing to a late 1890s style. All but two of the men are wearing a "four in hand" long tie, which is tucked into their waistcoats, a style that first appeared in the late 1880s and remained popular for decades.

These clues tell me that these men, from a small, colonial capital of the British Empire and dressed in late Victorian or early Edwardian clothing, were photographed at the end of the 1890s or the beginning of the 1900s.

The photograph seems to be marking an occasion, but what was it? William Irving is clearly the oldest, by far, of the nine men. Was he the focus of the occasion? Was he retiring from serving in an organization? Does the photo simply mark an organizational change?

The two men seated on the right are each holding a gavel. Is that odd? Why two gavels?

Two men standing in the back row, one on the left and one on the right, are each holding what appears to be a sword! What do the swords symbolize and signify?

Each of the men is wearing, on or near the lapel of his jacket a medallion. Most of the medallions are a triangle with the point facing down. The medallion of the man holding a gavel, sitting immediately on William's left, is a diamond shape. William's medallion is the most different; it is a triangle on top but

ending in a trapezoid shape at the bottom?

They clearly belong to an organization. But what one?

I doubt this is a photograph of the staff at Anderson's? Why would they have swords and gavels?

William Irving was a Mason but the medallions are not the Masonic Square and Compass and no one is wearing a Masonic apron. Is it possible there is a "St. Andrew's Cross" within each of the triangles? Searching through MUN's Digital Archives Initiatives I discovered there was a St. Andrew's Society, which was formed in St. John's on February 25, 1837. Indeed, there is still a St. Andrew's Society in St. John's – they have a Facebook page! Was there a continuous history from 1837 onward? Does the photograph capture the directors of the St. Andrew's Society 1900 to 1910? A St. Andrew's Society connection would fit with what I know of William's Scottish attachment, but it is only speculation.

This is all I have come up with about my "mystery photograph". Now I am asking for help from my fellow members of the FHSNL.

My biggest question is - does anyone recognize any of the other eight men in the photograph? Can anyone make sense of the swords and the gavels? Does anyone recognize the medallions?

Over to you my family history colleagues! Can you help?

NOTES

All family history and genealogical information was researched and documented from family held documents and photographs, from in person visits to archives and libraries as well as from reliable online genealogical websites, including Ancestry, Find My Past, Scotland's People, Family Search, Library and Archives Canada, the National Archives of the UK, the Centre for Newfoundland Studies and the Digital Archives Initiative (DAI) of Memorial University. Sources are fully documented in my Legacy Family Tree database.

Information about the E.W. Lyon photography studio and the Lyon and Vey photography studios was compiled from an article "James Vey: Photographic Artist" by Suzanne Sexty in NQ (Newfoundland Quarterly), Volume 103, Number 4, Spring 2011, pp 38 – 41, from an obituary of Edwin Wilks Lyon (The Evening Telegram, Monday June 11, 1923, page 13 sourced via Digital Archives Initiative MUN) and from the notice of the dissolution of partnership in The Morning Despatch, Wednesday August 8, 1892 (sourced via Digitized Newspapers from The Centre for Newfoundland Studies (Digital Archives Initiative MUN)).

Information about dating old photographs is from "Dating Old Photographs", Second Edition. Robert Pols. Federation of Family History Societies, 1998. Also from "Photo Dating Men's Clothing by Decades 1840 to 1920" on <http://www.photosmadeperfect.com/index.html>

IN MEMORIAM Submitted by Pat Walsh

Note: In this and previous issues of *The Newfoundland Ancestor*, I have attempted to pay honour and respect to our veterans of World War II and the Korean War and members of our Armed Forces and also other citizens who have died aged 100 or older. There may be some individuals included who may have achieved some noted degree of accomplishment in their chosen profession. I have relied on the obituary notices in the local *Telegram*. I know there are many other veterans and other noted individuals who have passed away in other areas of our province. More information on these individuals may be found in *The Telegram* - www.the-telegram.com/. Lest We Forget.

Blackwood, David Lloyd, on July 2, 2022 in Port Hope, Ontario, aged 80. Well known NL visual artist, a master of intaglio printmaking. Born in Wesleyville, on Nov. 7, 1941. Husband of Anita. Brother of Edgar, Diane Blake & Anne Wakeley. Awarded the Order of Canada in 1993 & the Order of Ontario in 2003. He received Honorary Degrees from the University of Calgary & Memorial University of NL in 1992. His work has been exhibited nationally & internationally. Following his death announcement there were a number of articles in local newspapers and on radio and tv.

Anstey, Reg of Mount Pearl, on Aug. 7, 2022, aged 76. Long-time labour activist and advocate for the NL fishery. Predeceased by his daughter Michelle Norman (Michael), Nov. 5, 2015. Husband of 56 years of Elizabeth. Father of Vince & Keith. Brother of Barb Toms (Robert, deceased). Former President of the Federation of Labour & director of the Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board. Obit & Photo Barrett's Funeral Homes Ltd. St. John's.

Burke, Mary Lorraine (nee Murphy) of Long Harbour, Placentia Bay, in Placentia in her 104th year. Jan. 4, 1919- May 20, 2022. Predeceased by her parents James & Margaret Murphy & her husband Cyril, 1998, her sisters, Druscilla & Imelda & her brothers, Peter, William, Albert, Denis, Philip, Randolph, Leonard & Walter. Mother of Lyla Keating (Ray), Leah Burke-Norman, Ralph (deceased) & Peggy (deceased). Lyla & Ralph were children of Imelda. Leah &

Peggy were adopted. She & Cyril were married on Crawley's Island, Long Harbour, Placentia Bay in January 1945. She was the first Avon Lady in Long Harbour. Obit & photo May 24, 2022.

Downton, Ethel (nee Piercey) in St. John's, Sept. 15, 1909-Dec. 18, 2013, aged 104. Predeceased by her husband Herbert, her sons Graham, Clayton, Clarence & Howard. Mother of Shirley Brown (Wilfred), Myrtle Beach, SC, Ruth Corbett (Pat), St. John's & June Ouellette (Donald), Mount Pearl. Interment at the Anglican Cemetery, Kenmount Road, St. John's. Obit & photo Dec, 21, 2013.

Downton, Frederick Allister in St. John's, Aug. 30, 1924 – July 22, 2022 Veteran WWII, Merchant Navy. Predeceased by his wife Florence (Chaulk), 2012 & his brothers Arthur, Albert & Harrison & his sister Margaret. Father of Lynn, Chris, Ann, Ken, & John. Brother of June Titford. Former employee of the CN Railway & Dockyard. Member of the Royal Canadian Legion & the Benevolent Irish Society. Obit & photo July 25, 2022.

Hedderson, Thomas J. "Tom" on Aug. 8, 2022 in Georgetown, aged 68. Born in St. John's on May 7, 1954. Predeceased by his first wife Rosemary (Conway), May 7, 2019 & his parents Bernard & Josephine (nee Philpott) & his brothers & sisters, Thomas, Jim, Michael, Frank, Bill, Bernard, Anna, Nell, Bess, Peggy, Bernadette, Mary & Patricia. Husband of Carol. Father of

Christa Marie & Julia Anne. Brother of Mike, Ed, John, Joan & Cecilia. Former Member of the House of Assembly, Provincial Government of NL, Progressive Conservative, 1999-2015, District of Harbour Main-Whitbourne. He served as Cabinet Minister in a number of portfolios. Prior to politics, he was a teacher & Principal at Bishop O'Neill Collegiate, Brigus. Inurnment at the RC Cemetery, Brigus. Obit & photo Caul's Funeral Home, St. John's.

Lynch, Victoria `Queenie` May (nee Chafe) in St. John's on Oct. 31, 2012 in her 103rd. year. Predeceased by her husband Chesley, her parents Alfred & Charlotte Chafe & her sons Percy & Theodore. Mother of Wallace, Wilf, Reg, Lorraine Geiger (Ken), Nina Strickland (Fred), Rosalie Power, Doreen Skinner, & Colin. Interment in Holy Innocents Anglican Cemetery, Paradise. Undated obit in *The Telegram*.

Pratt, John Christopher Maxwell, painter & printmaker, on June 5, 2022 at home on the Salmonier River. Born in St. John's on December 9, 1935. Predeceased by infant son David (1975), father John Kerr Pratt (1980) and Emily Christina (Dawe) Pratt (2001), his wife Mary West Pratt (2018). Brother of Philip. Father of John, Anne, Barbara & Ned. He received the Order of Canada in 1983 & the Order of NL in 2018. Designer of the Newfoundland flag His work has been exhibited nationally & internationally. Obit & photo Carnell's Funeral Home, St. John's.

Steele, James Harris on June 29, 2022 in his 98th year. Veteran, WWII, 59th. Newfoundland Heavy Regiment, Royal Artillery. Born on Oct. 17, 1924, son of James R. & Amy (Stevenson) Steele of St. John's. Predeceased by his wife Frances, 2012, brother Owen & sister Isabelle. Father of Heather & David. Following WWII, he continued to work at the family business, S. O. Steele & retired on April 1, 1989. Active with the Presbyterian Church in St. John's. Obit & photo July 23, 2022.

Taylor, Whalen, Kathleen Myra (nee Ellsworth) in St. John's, on July 14, 2012, aged 88. Veteran, WWII. Predeceased by her parents Leonard & Sarah Ellsworth, her husbands Roy Whelan, 2006 & Robert Taylor, 1998, her son Bobby, 1946, her brothers Douglas & Wilson & sisters Susie, Julia, Mildred & Myrtle. Mother of Jerry Taylor, ON & John Taylor, NL & her daughters, Julie Taylor, ON & Brenda Felix, NL. Stepmother of Roy Whelan, NL, Anna Whelan, NL, Elizabeth Blythe, ON. Inurnment at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, St. John's. Undated obit in *The Telegram*.

Yick, James on July 11, 2012, aged 100. Predeceased by his wife, Jean, 1988. Father of Helen Loo, WaiSun Jim & Jim. He resided on Bell Island & operated a business there. Interment at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, St. John's. Undated obit in *The Telegram*.

“ I am bound to them, though I cannot look into their eyes or hear their voices. I honour their history. I cherish their lives. I will tell their story. I will remember them.”

Author unknown. From the Newfoundland & Labrador Genealogy Facebook page.

CHARBONNIERE & MORE JERSEYMEN (LADIES WELCOME?)

Part 12

By Pete Noel

A special note of thanks to the French Family: They found a picture of my grandfather's family which had been sent back from Montreal to his relatives in Newfoundland about 1904. It is the oldest picture of my grandfather by 10 years and has the only picture I have seen of his brother who died at an early age. In particular, thanks to DF who pieced together the confusing trail.

A caution on the trees presented in this article. They have not stood the test of time and should be subject to further scrutiny.

1. Back to School

Summer break is over and the kids are back in school. John Mahaut, a resident near Bear's Cove may have been a believer in education. In his Jersey will of 1762 he left 10 pounds to the Harbour Grace schoolmaster Joseph Amos. He left his plantations to his nephews Philippe and Pierre de St Croix (sons of his sister Phillipine). Possibly this information is relevant regarding the Peter Sacry found in Bryant's Cove in 1797.

2. Noe Women

Gordon Handcock, titled his fine work "So Longe as There Comes Noe Women" with the quote by Capt Wheeler. It referred to a basic constraint on the growth of permanent settlement. It occurs to me that the rule-bending culture of the Channel Islands likely had no such concerns. Probably family units would have decided on an individual basis whether women would be supporting their husbands and fathers in the fishery. This may have led to a slightly different plantation structure from those of English planters working entirely with hired servants. It may have also resulted in a significant number of inter-marriages between the Jersey families and English planters and servants.

Francis Shepherd, present in Carbonear in 1702, seems to have married (a 2nd wife???) Elizabeth Lefevre by 1712. Historian May Davis indicated that Fishing Admiral Joseph Parsons had daughters that married into the Thistle family and Magee families. I believe these were Touzel and possibly Mauger (silent "r" in French). The John Davis accounts place a Mauger couple established in Harbour Grace ca 1740.

3. The Year 1686

I chose to look at records from the year 1686 because this was after a peaceful period coinciding with a gap in the census records from Newfoundland. The Jersey historians indicate that after significant exodus of manpower in 1649 the Newfoundland trade had slowed to a trickle with only four vessels sailing in 1685. Saunders writes:

"Dumaresq however complains that the Jersey trade is going down and that only four vessels sailed from Jersey during 1685 whereas formerly there were twenty, and, that the Frenchmen could go there much cheaper for they lived harder and the French Government supported their fishermen by imposing a tax on all fish imported in British bottoms." (a consequence of the taxes Kirke imposed on the French)

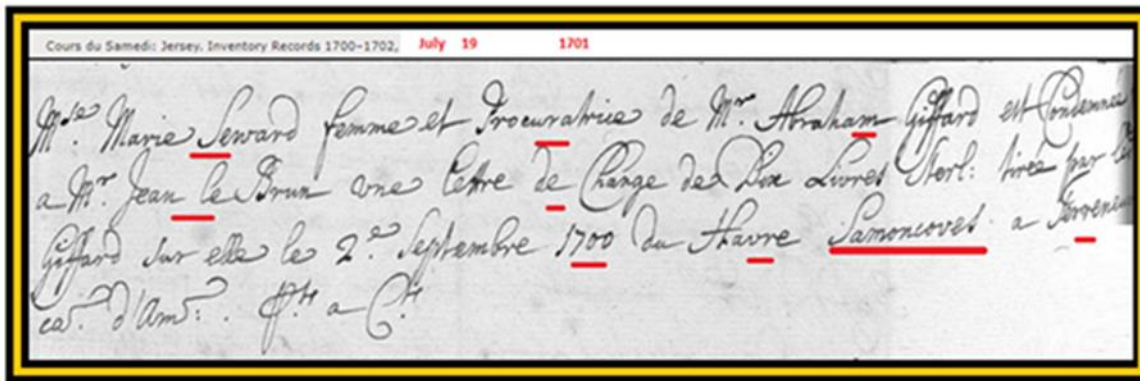
From the following table it seems there were 4 Newfoundlanders mentioned in the court system alone for the year. I would expect that the majority of ships avoided legal difficulties. Possibly there was more traffic from Jersey to Newfoundland than indicated by the historians. The Jersey ships were probably still wintering in St Malo after an extended period of peace. They would depart as part of the St Malo fleet. I wonder if the wily merchants chose French partners and deployed their vessels as “French bottoms” to circumvent the taxes in French ports. After centuries of trade and the English civil war, Jersey expats were established in St Malo. In 1696 merchants Edouard Patriarch and Jean Dumaresq were noted as having had a lengthy partnership with Olivier Chenu of St Malo. (see also Olaf Janzen’s article on later smuggling activity). Clement Chevalier Sr seemed to be involved as well with his ship *Le Clement*.

Edward Marrette was a partner in a ship The Batchelor with Thomas Pipon (Nov 2 1686). Henry Le Cras was probably another ship captain. A Captain Henry Le Cras was recorded in 1677 at English Harbour. John Le Cras was recorded as a planter at Champneys in the same period.

<u>Selected Samedi Court Entries for 1686/7</u>	
July 30, 1686	Clement Malet, partner in the ship named L'Esquit sues Vincent Le Riche for his losses caused by delays in equipping the ship for the fishery. Martin Le Masurier is suing Renaut Le Riche on the same day for similar losses and late voyage.
Oct 30, 1686	Sailor Michel Le Brun Jr. took Master Henry Le Roy of the ship La Reserve to court for his wages on a trip to Southampton and Newfoundland. Henry Le Roy had married a Marie Le Brocq of St Brelade in 1673. A Philippe Le Brocq was the godparent of their first child. There was a Philippe Le Brocq who was a wine merchant in St Brelade about this time. I came across the Le Roy name in connection with the Martin family of Trinity from Guernsey where the name seemed to occur as King as well.
Nov 2, 1686	Philippe De Haule (possible Howell?) a passenger on the same trip took Michel Le Brun to court claiming compensation for fish he provided to Michel Le Brun. Henry Le Roy and Thomas Baleine (Balen) were brought in (as witnesses?).
January 22, 1986/7	(recorded as 1986 but sequentially 1987), sailors take Master Pierre Mauger and Owner Elie Nicolle to court for a voyage to Newfoundland by the ship The Anne. There seems to be a difficulty reconciling revenues from the sales in Bilbao and money advanced to the sailors prior to the trip. The sailors include Abraham Giffard, Philippe Slow (Slou), Jean Giffard, Elie Blampied, Helier Briard, Elie Luce, Nicolas Hacoil, Jean Hacoil, Jean Vibert, Noe Vibert, Aaron Durel, Henry Picq (Pike), Piter James, Elie Le Gresley, Josue Le Motais (Montais) and Josue Galichan. Peter James had married Marie Benest in Jersey in 1684. Abraham and Jean Giffard were planters in Trinity Bay by 1700.
February 26, 1986/7	Captain Edouarde Murette of the ship The Philippe is taken to court for the injuries sustained by Edouarde Pipon Jr. (a minor) on a voyage to Newfoundland.
May 21, 1687	William Sautrart, surgeon, takes the guardian of Edouarde Pipon Jr above to court to recover the costs of his service and medicines provided according to an agreement made in Newfoundland (September 14th, 1686) in the presence of Henry Le Cras and Edouarde Murette. The bill includes further services in Spain and Jersey.

4. An Early record from Champneys? (probably not the Salmon Cove in Conception Bay)

The histories of the Carbonear area note that in 1680 both French and English maps identified Crique de Saumon in the area called Salmon Cove north of Carbonear. Champney’s in Trinity Bay was known as Salmon Cove as well. I find it amazing that a Jersey financial instrument shown below was prepared there in 1700 and uses the name as if it were a familiar location.



Abraham Giffard (married to Marie Seward) was a planter in Trinity Bay in 1702 and had been in the Newfoundland trade since at least 1686. Abraham Giffard and Marie Seward seemed to have owned a house in St Brelade at some point in their lives. The Sewards were Jersey merchants who had owned interests in ships to Newfoundland for 50 years. Phillippe Seward seems to have continued the family's participation in the fishery in the 1700's. He was godparent to a child born in Blackhead in 1727.

Jean Le Brun was active in the Newfoundland trade with an interest in at least 2 ships at this time. One court case in 1700 notes his demand for compensation when a barge of salt from the French coast is spoiled. Some ships took the route via the Azores and probably picked up salt there. He was Fishing Admiral in Trinity in 1681 with the ship Martin.

I have to wonder if Champney's had been settled continuously by Jerseymen from 1650 when the parliamentary privateer attacked the Jersey vessels in the area. The Le Cras family seemed well-established by 1675. The transaction indicates the Channel Islanders there in 1700. Possibly the earliest planter in Salmon Cove near Carbonear was Nicholas Journeaux and wife Diana Burt prior to 1746. (the new book *The Howells of Carbonear* by Donald E Howell).

With a broader view, I am wondering how extensive the penetration of this area by Channel islanders may have been. The French name for Salmon Cove was a surprise to me. Freshwater is about in the middle between Carbonear and Salmon Cove. Clement Noel bought his 2 properties from a Toque and a Le Sueur. There was an early Sweet in Freshwater who may be another Le Sueur. He sold a property with a Richard Dolby. A Richard Dolbel was a partner in the Jersey ship Diament at Newfoundland (June 22, 1703). The name Hammond is present and is likely of Jersey origin. Just past Salmon Cove is Perry's Cove named after "Jersey Nick" Perrer. Another name possibly of Jersey origin is Thomas Williams (Guillaume). There is a Jersey mariner of this name at this time. Edward? Gwilliam appears in the 1704 document supporting Moody. In 1802 a Thomas Grant purchased land from Richard Dolby in Freshwater. There was an early line of Jersey Grants in Jersey that were active in the fishery.

5. Some Early Vibert Notes

Cour de Samedi, Jersey			
	Season	Description of Cases (select years)	Court Date
WM	1650	Thirty-three-year-old William Vibert recorded as captain of the Esperanza in Trinity Bay in 1650 when the ship was attacked by parliamentarian privateers.	ADM Court
JAO	1690	Jacques Vibert on Ship l'Elie (capt Pierre Mauger) in salary dispute with Richard Dumaresq on voyage Newfoundland to Bilbao.	1693-12-09
	1698	William Seward is late in resolving the case of Captain Jacques Vibert master of Le Jean in court to recover funds that Jaques Lemperiere had advanced to the captain on July 17th, 1698 in Newfoundland.	1699-01-16
	1699	Captain Jacques Vibert of the Ship Le Jean was in a court case. Elie Dumaresq, representing the ship's partners, was responding to a suit by Philippe Esnouf. He had been prepaid for a fishing voyage to Newfoundland in May 1699. It seems he did not make the trip but the ship left with his chest and gear.	1699-12-16
	1699/1700	In November 1700 Elie Dumaresq, representing the ship's partners, requested the accounts for the Le Jean for the years 1699 and 1700 in Newfoundland. In the resultant court case in 1701 the partners are identified as Rachel Nicolle (1/16th?), Elie Dumaresq son of Philip (1/8th) and Philippe De la Perelle (1/8th). Marie Horman who is requesting payment may also be a partner. Philippe Pison (probably another partner) also sues Vibert for an excess withdrawal he made in Dartmouth in 1699 for the ship's account.	1701-08-30
	1700	Captain Jacques Vibert of Le Jean is sued By Philippe Le Vesconte and Francois Ricard for payment on the fish they sold him in Charbonniere.	1701-06-14
	1701	Marie Horman takes Captain Jacques Vibert to court for her partner's share for summer 1701.	1702-06-08
	1707	Jacques Vibert had changed ships and is now Master of the privateer Amazon.	
	1716	Jacques Vibert is called in to reconcile his accounting for fish in a dispute between Jean Pison and Jean Villeneuve.	1728-10-12
JN	1686	Jean Vibert and Noe Vibert were on the ship Ann which brought fish from Newfoundland to Bilbao.	1687-01-22
	1686	Jean Vibert son of Nicolas was taken to court by sailor Jean Le Gresley. They had been on a voyage to Spain from St Malo. Le Gresley's father and elder brother died and he had to break their arrangement to manage the family affairs back in Jersey. He is asking for compensation for the losses that resulted. At that time the Jersey ships were probably still wintering in St Malo. Philippe De la Perelle, Thomas Sprag, Jean Hacoil and Pierre Cabot are affected by the suit (partners?).	1686-12-18
	1700	Jean Jean sues Jean Vibert son of Nicolas. Vibert had gone to St Malo with a group of fishermen to join the fleet headed to the Petit Nord. When they were there the Sieur Mounier de Vaux seized his gear and sent him back to Jersey. Vibert claimed the fisherman was at fault. It seems like St Malo was still a launch point for the Jersey fishing fleet even between wars with the French.	1700-11-30
JUL	1703	Jean Vibert must make an oath and pay Pierre Le Feuvre the dixieme tax (1/10th) for fish caught the last three seasons based on his 1/15th share (in a ship?).	1703-10-30
	1699	Julian Vibert owes the Le Jean ships owners for passage to Newfoundland for his eldest son.	
	1707	Julian Vibert is suing Philippe Osborne for payment for a quintal of fish he provided in Newfoundland.	1707-06-09
Pre	1700	Pierre Vibert is in default to Jean Neel for equipment supplied in Newfoundland.	1700-03-08
IS	1729	Isaac Vibert owes William Snow (sometime captain of the Willing Mind) for freight and passage to Newfoundland.	1729-08-16

One branch of the Vibert family was using Webber as early as 1696 in Jersey (but does not seem relevant to the current discussion). The Jonathan Webber in Harbour Grace in 1708 traces back to New England. It is possible that this was Jersey branch though, as Jersey settlers were penetrating much of New England.

6. The De Caen Family

By Roland De Caen on Jerripedia:

There was a de Caen family living in St Ouen in the early 16th Century. In 1701 Symon de Caen led a revolt against the Seigneur in protest at work obligations which were imposed on the tenants. Edouarde (born 1740) the son of Symon de Caen and Rachel Neel is listed as Captain on ships owned by Nicholas Fiott, ranging from privateers to trading vessels in the cod fishery between Jersey, Newfoundland, the Gaspé and ports in the Caribbean, South America and Europe. Their son Jean died so it must have been a cousin who was also active with Fiott.

[/www.theislandwiki.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Richard_de_Caen_\(1575\)](http://www.theislandwiki.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Richard_de_Caen_(1575))

- 4 [Symon de Caen](#) (1648 - 1729) (St My) m (1672, St O) [Marie Le Maistre](#) (1647-1714) daughter of George
 - 5 [Marie de Caen](#) (1673-1710) (St O) m (1695, St O) [Gedeon Chevalier](#) (1670-1710)
 - 5 [Elizabeth de Caen](#) (1674 -1749) (St O) m [Philippe Jean](#) (1670-1749)
 - 5 [Anne de Caen](#) (1675-) (St O)
 - 5 [Thomasine de Caen](#) (1677-) (St O)
 - 5 [Esther de Caen](#) (1678- 1681) (St O) m (1709, St O) [Jean Le Ruez](#) ^[8]
 - 5 [Symon \[Simon\] de Caen](#) (1680-1756) (St O) m (1704, St O) [Francoise Jean](#) (1685-1720) daughter of [Edouard](#) ^[9]
 - 6 [Marie de Caen](#) (1705-1786) (St O) m (1722, St O) [Philippe Barbier](#) (1700 -) (St O)
 - 6 [Francoise de Caen](#) (1706-1776) (St O) m (1727, St H) [Jean Le Cornu](#) (1701-1776)
 - 6 [Anne de Caen](#) (1707- 1776) (St O) m (1736, St H) [Philippe Vibert](#) (1705 -1776)
 - 6 [Simon de Caen](#) (1711 -1779) (St P) m (1735, St P) [Rachel Neel](#) (1715 -) (St P)
 - 7 [Rachel de Caen](#) (1736- 1812) (St O) m [Jean Le Cornu](#) (1740-1812)
 - 7 [Jean de Caen](#) (1738-1739) (St O)
 - 7 [Edouard de Caen](#) (1740 -1806) (St O) m (1771, St O) [Elizabeth Le Montais](#) (1751 -1802) (St P) daughter of [Edouard](#)
 - 5 [Francois de Caen](#)(1681-) (St O)

What seems to have been missed is the earlier participation of De Caen family members in the Newfoundland trade. In 1702, Captain Francois de Caen, of the ship *L'Esperance (Hope)* made a voyage to Newfoundland. Symon de Caen was one of the owners.

De Caen had the following court cases:

Jean Ingouville, carpenter and Nicolas Bertaut (Burt?), sailor, must pay the freight for the extra fish they shipped from Newfoundland. The captain must also pay these sailors whose salaries he has been withholding. Similarly, Francois Le Gresley must pay the freight for his fish. The previous season Jean Giffard (planter with Abraham Giffard at Trinity?) had paid the wages of Nicolas Bertaut for Francois de Caen. Gedeon Chevalier (Francois's brother-in-law) and Philippe Le Cerf were trying to collect their sailor's wages as well. There was a war at this time and Francois' father Symon had to pay his fellow partner Daniel Valpy dit Janverin for the arming of the ship. Charles Poindestre, Richard Dumaresq, Gedeon Chevalier (SIL Symon), Edouard Jean (SIL Symon) and Philippe Jean (SIL Symon) son of Elie were also listed as partners in 1703.

In 1703 Francois de Caen finds himself in court again. Elie Neel had merchandise in Newfoundland from Pierre Mauger which was supposed to ship with Francois to Jean Mauger in Jersey. The court must sort it out. The Neels were a seafaring family who would intermarry with the De Caens.

Elie de Heaume is in default for his passage to Newfoundland with De Caen. He must pay Symon de Caen but he is released from service to Abraham Giffard in Trinity.

In 1704 the court case involves Francois de Caen rerouting from Newfoundland to include Cork, Ireland and Jamaica. Pierre Seale demanded compensation for breaking the charter agreement and not delivering his consignment to John Gifford in Newfoundland.

7. The Merkins/Le Marquands

The Jersey Court records have Andre Le Marquand son of Raulin owing payment to Elie Le Febure in Newfoundland in 1695. In 1696 Jean Le Brocq son of Jacques is ordered to fulfil his commitment for service to Andre in Newfoundland. It must be different Jean Le Brocq who was being held captive on the Barbary Coast. In 1696 his brother Philippe was trying to process the ransom payment.

The early English records indicate a Carbonear planter Anthony/Andrew Merkin from 1706-1708. In 1709 Peter Merkin was a lieutenant in the Carbonear militia. The will of Thomas Belbin from Carbonear Island in 1710 was witnessed by a Peter Merking. In 1706 the Colonial records show a Roland Markin was captured by the French and held in St John's. It looks like Andre Le Marquand did not leave male progeny in Newfoundland. In 1730 son-in-law Francois De Caen is still trying to collect on Samuel Hamon's Newfoundland bill from 1704 on behalf of his wife the sole inheritor. This seems to be a relevant family tree:

www.theislandwiki.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Raulin_Le_Marquand

- 1 Raulin Le Marquand (1610-1677) (St O) m Madeleine (1610-1688) ^[1]
- 2 Madeleine Le Marquand (1635-) (St O)
- 2 Sara Le Marquand (1637-1686) (St O)
- 2 Raulin Le Marquand (1641-) (St O) m (1666, St O) Jeanne Grante (1641-1718)
- 3 Rachel Le Marquand (1668-1715) (St O)
- 3 Andre Le Marquand (1669-1729) (St O) m (1698, St O) Jeanne Janvrin
- 4 Susanne Le Marquand (1699-1775) [godfather Pierre Le Brocq]
- 3 Pierre Le Marquand (1672-1739) (St O) m [1709] Jeanne d of Philippe Le Marquand of Hurel Du Trodez?
- 3 Elizabeth Le Marquand (1676-1737) (St O)
- 3 Jeanne Le Marquand (1678-1741) (St O) Possibly married Philippe Le Marquand Jr of Hurel de Trodez????
- 3 Raulin Le Marquand (1681-1733) (St O) m (1716, St O) Marie Le Maistre (1686-) daughter of George and Marie d'Auvergne

possible marriage of Susanne above:

26 NOV 1721	Francois	De Caen	Susanne	Le Marquand
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19 St Ouen


The Jersey court records provide further clarification:

<u>Cour de Samedi, Jersey</u>		
Season	Description of Case	Court Date
1695	Andre Le Marquand owes Elie Le Febure for equipment received in Newfoundland.	1696-11-14
1696	Philippe Le Marquand son of Gedeon has contracted John Hamon	1696-12-19
1697	Andre Le Marquand is represented in court to secure his property rights. Pierre Le Brocq has signed over hereditary land rights to cover the debts owed by himself and Jacques Le Brocq, and Philippe Syvret. Transaction was agreed in Newfoundland and London.	1697-02-08
1699	Richard de Carteret demands payment from Pierre Le Marquand for the maintenance and equipment? for his son Charles in Newfoundland.	1702-11-21
1699	Philippe Le Marquand sues Richard Le Manquais for not taking his fish from Newfoundland as promised. Jean Le Bas, Jean Le Couteur and Thomas Prialux called in as witnesses.	1700-01-19
1700	Pierre Le Marquand owes Jean Grante (BIL?) £13 wages and a barrel of oil for his salary at Newfoundland. Philippe Le Marquand had sent the wages to Pierre.	1700-10-26
1700	Andre and Pierre Le Marquand are sued by Philippe Hamon on behalf Samuel Hamon for £8. Money was supposed to be repaid in NF the following season.	1706-10-18
1701	Jean de Heaume demands payment of £2 for service in Newfoundland from Andre Le Marquand	1700-01-25
1702	Nicholas Le Marquand son of Philippe is owed £6 wages from Newfoundland by the heir of Estienne Le Montais.	1706-04-19
1705	Philippe Le Marquand, Phillippe Toque, Leonard Luce and Jean Denize are to be witnesses in the case of Abraham Giffard and Elie de Heaume against Simon de Caen for £7	1705-09-01
1708	Philippe Le Marquand son of Gideon needs to come to an agreement with Elie de Haume concerning a voyage they made together to Newfoundland (possibly shared plantation as well)	1708-09-25
1721	Philippe Le Marquand son of Gideon owes Jean Mauger master of the ship Le Jean, acting for the ship's partners, for a jar of wine paid in advance for a voyage to Newfoundland. He did not make the trip as outlined in the charter party agreement.	1722-12-08
1726	Abraham Le Marquand Jr must pay Nicholas Le Marquand for one quintal of cod which he handed over in Newfoundland.	1727-01-20
1726	Abraham Le Marquand Jr must pay Thomas Payne Jr for the cod which he received in Newfoundland from Jacques Fainton.	1727-01-20
1729	Abraham Le Marquand established Jean Le Ruez with his power of attorney in Gosport, Hampshire and Jersey.	1729-09-06
1729	Abraham Le Marquand Jr owed money by the ship's partners for oil he shipped with Master Thomas Gabourel (son of Jean) from Newfoundland on the ship Le Pierre .	1729-11-21

Roland Markin (Raulin Le Marquand) was possibly in Petty Harbour. His name high on the long list of captives might indicate he was more comfortable dealing with his French captors than the English captives. The name following his is Simon Faver. I think this is possibly le Feuvre/Le Febure. The Ruck accounts have a John Fabr in Petty Harbour in 1720.

Philippe Le Marquand of Hurel (Rd) in Trodez seem to have strong family ties to NF and Raulin Marquand

Date	Groom Given Name(s)	Family Name	Bride Given Name(s)	Family Name
20 NOV 1668	Philippe	Le Marquand	Marie	Le Brocq
4 St Ouen	most likely marriage			
11 JUN 1707	Nicolas (Son Of Philippe)(Hurel De Trodez)	Le Marquand	Rachel (Daughter Of Jean)(Trodez)	Le Boutillier
17 St Ouen				
16 Jan 1709	Pierre (Son of Raulin)	Le Marquand	Jeanne (Daughter of Philippe)(Hurel Du Trodez)	Le Marquand
18 St Ouen				
13 Nov 1714	Philippe (Son of Philippe)(Hurel Du Trodez)	Le Marquand	Jeanne (Daughter of Raulin)	Le Marquand
20 St Ouen				



Date	Child Name	Family Name	Relationship	Father	Mother	Maiden Name
Baptism 30 May 1708	Rachel	Le Marquand	Daughter	Nicolas	Rachel	Le Boutillier
1 St Ouen	Father : Son Of Philippe. Gp: Jean Le Boutillier son of Jean and Elizabeth his daughter					
Baptism 23 May 1712	Nicollas	Le Marquand	Son	Nicollas	Rachel	Le Boutillier
2 St Ouen	Father : Son Of Philippe. Gp: Nicollas son of Jean Jean (Corvais) and Marie daughter of Pre Tocque senr					
Jean Jean missed fishing fleet 1700???						
Baptism 07 Aug 1715	Philippe	Le Marquand	Son	Nicolas	Rachel	Le Boutillier
5 St Ouen	Father : Son Of Philippe. Gp: Philippe Le Boutillier (son of Jacques) and Esther Le Montais his daughter in law					

8. Lenicoat/ Le Vincent/ Le Vesconte?

Thomas Le Vesconte owed the dixieme tax on fish in St Pierre for the years 1695-98. In 1699 in the Jersey Cours Du Samedi, Thomas Le Vesconte owes Pierre Le Feuvre for his taxes (dixieme) in fish which his employer was supposed to have paid the previous year (probably for the Parish of St Pierre).

The transcriptions of this name in the Carbonear area are confusing. Peter Lenicoat appears in the 1704 document supporting Captain John Moody. The will of Thomas Belbin from Carbonear Island in 1710 was witnessed by a Peter Le Vincent. Vincent is a Jersey surname but Le Vincent is not.

Date	Groom Given Name	Family Name	Bride Given Name(s)	Family Name
15 DEC 1678	Thomas (St P)	Le Vesconte	Elizabeth (St O)	Le Feuvre
6 St Ouen				
12 NOV 1707	Thomas	Le Vesconte	Caterine	La Perrelle
7 St Peter				

St Peter

Le Vesconte

14 Mar 1696

Jedeon fils Tomas le Veconte godp. (Jedeon Chevalier et s.f.)

Gedeon Chevalier From St Owen and in De Caen family - known in NF 1701

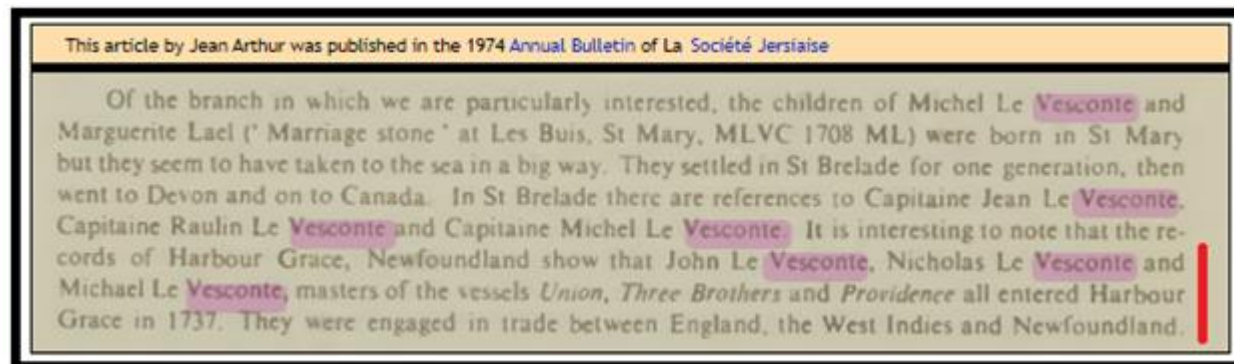
In 1701, in the Jersey Cours Du Samedi, Phillippe Le Vesconte and Francois Ricard are trying to secure payment for fish they sold to Captain Jacques Vibert of the ship *Le Jean* at Charbonniere in 1700. Possibly Philippe of St Owen is the father of Pierre or Pierre might have a brother Philippe as well.

In 1708 Michel Le Vesconte owes Hellier Briard and his ship's partners for leaving their ship while at the fishery. A Michel Le Vesconte of Thomas was baptised in 1689 in St Peter parish.

Date	Child Name	Family Name	Relationship	Father
Baptism 29 Jul 1682	Marie	Le Vesconte	Daughter	Philippe
1 St Ouen				
Baptism 10 Feb 1683	Pierre	Le Vesconte	Son	Philippe
2 St Ouen	NF?			
Baptism 16 Feb 1689	Philippe	Le Vesconte	Son	Philippe
3 St Ouen	NF?			
Baptism 19 May 1690	Magdelaine	Le Vesconte	Daughter	Philippe
4 St Ouen				

There is a will of Jean Le Vesconte, made in Guernsey, and dated 26 August 1747, it mentions his wife, children living at the time of his death, his brothers Raulin, Michel and Philippe and sister, Marguerite. His signature is elegant. Probate (Jersey) was in the name of "Captne. Jean Le Vesconte": D/Y/A/8/66, at the Jersey Archive.

The Le Vescontes are better known for their appearance in Harbour Grace in his generation:



9. The Le Brocqs

The Jersey court records show Pierre Le Brocq lost his Jersey property to Andre Le Marquand in 1696. The arrangement was made while the two were in Newfoundland and London. Jacques and Andre Le Brocq were mentioned as well.

Peter Brock was recorded in Carbonear in 1706 and 1708. He had a wife and 5 children. Phillip Brook was recorded beside the Butts probably around Crockers Cove in 1704. Edward Brook is recorded in Trinity Bay in 1704. Phillip Brock is in a statement signed by inhabitants of Trinity Bay, Aug. 12, 1729, expressing gratitude for lay ministry of John Moors. A Phillip Brock had wed Alice Moors, Jan 27, 1705, Christchurch, Hampshire.

In 1707 Madolin le Cerf and Pierre Le Brocq son of Thomas demand payment from Nicolas Haquoil for a delivery of fish they made. This Pierre Le Brocq is possibly baptised 1655. He seems to fit a marriage with Magdelein Hamon daughter of Francois in 1678.

Philippe le Brocq was in court for payment for his service in Newfoundland to Clement le Ruez. Etienne Le Montais and Philippe Le Montais (sons of George?) were also in the agreement of September 28th, 1702.

In Jersey the Le Brocqs seem to be married into many of the families under study. These families are largely from St Owen. There was also a Philippe le Brocq who was a wine merchant in St Brelade. His line intersects a lot of families trading with Newfoundland. The Le Brocqs of St Aubin were merchants and shipowners, known to be trading with Southampton from 1595.

The Le Brocq lineage remains clouded but there are some interesting records.

- Andre Le Marquand's daughter had a Pierre Le Brocq for a godfather in 1699. They may not have fallen out over the property being handed over.
- In 1695 a Philippe Le Brocq son of Thomas names his son Andre. The godparents are Andre Le Marquand and Jeanne Le Marquand daughter of Philippe deceased.
- A Magdelein Le Marquand daughter of Gedeon married a Philippe Le Brocq. Philippe Le Marquand son of Gedeon was in NF.
- Philippe Le Brocq (son of Phillippe son of Jean) and Jeanne Le Boutillier is baptized. One of the godparents is Rachel Le Boutillier wife of Nicolas Le Marquand who is in the fishery.

10. The Hamons

In 1695 Phillippe Hamon son of Jean owes the dixieme tax on fish in St Owen. He was master of the boat of Jean Briard. In 1696 Francois Hamon went to court against Philippe Le Marquand seeking clarity for the Newfoundland agreement of his brother Jean and whether he has 2 more years of service. Later the two early Hamons in Newfoundland were squabbling. Samuel son of Philippe and Jean (b 1644) son of Francois have a dispute over payment for equipment in 1700 as shown below:

<u>Cour de Samedi, Jersey</u>		
Season	Description of Cases (select years)	Court Date
1699	Francois Hamon son of Jean to account for money owed to Samuel Hamon son of Philippe. Sara Bichard and Sara Hamon are convened to discuss. Sara Bichard is probably the wife of Jean Hamon in Newfoundland. Sara Hamon could be his mother who was also a Bichard.	1699-06-23
1699	Francois Hamon, Sara Bichard and Sara Hamon are in default to Samuel Hamon son of Philippe. Jean Hamon in Newfoundland was supposed to repay funds lent to him by sending the money to to him or his wife Marie. Francois Hamon son of Jean must stand up for his promised funds?	1699-12-23
1699	Concerning the demand by Samuel Hamon for 37 pounds. He must be compensated for the equipment and chest he sent to Newfoundland. Payment can be in cod or oil.	1700-07-13
1700	Philippe Hamon to collect money for Samuel Hamon owed by Andre and Pierre Le Marquand from Aug 27th, 1700. Refused to pay in Newfoundland.	1704-10-28
1700	Samuel Hamon still owed money by Andre and Pierre Le Marquand from Aug 27th, 1700. Refused to pay in Newfoundland.	1706-10-18
1702	Nicolas Hotton Master of the boat (Bonne Adventure) belonging to Estienne Rondel was supposed to take Pierre Hamon Jr. to serve in the fishery per their agreement. Constable of St Jean to monitor the situation. Plans changed due to war. Proportional compensation instead.	1702-06-13



Samuel is not recorded as being in Newfoundland in 1700 but with 3 Newfoundland planters owing him money it seems likely he had some involvement. Samuel Hamon appears in a 1706 Belle Isle census. He also appears in the 1709 request for military support at Carbonear. John Hammond states in

the Newfoundland Ancestor (Vol 24 #2) that oral history describes the Hamons as Jerseymen. The court records in Jersey seem to confirm his assertion. Samuel has a large number of servants recorded in Belle Isle and this seems consistent with having mature children from a first marriage.

In 1693 daughter Francoise is baptised. The godparents are Jean Martel and his wife of St Brelade. The Martels were the merchant family of that port who eventually became involved in the marketing of brandy.

In 1722 a Samuel son of Samuel (of Trodez) marries Catherine Langlois (of St L), although they seem to have had a daughter in 1719. I wonder if they possibly had a small ceremony in the colony, and had a formal wedding, years later. Trodez is a main road in St Owen that leads from the church to a family estate of that name. This couple had seven children with only one daughter baptized in the summer (in 1727). Once again it does not seem possible to make a direct connection to later generations.

The researcher John Hammond, mentioned above, thought that John Hamon (1711-1800) resident of Portugal Cove for 60 years from 1740 might be the son of Samuel. It may be the case but it seems more likely he is related to Francois son of Jean. In 1712 a John Hamon signed a Newfoundland document related to peace. This may be unrelated to the Jersey Hamons as there was a William Hammond in St John's at this time as well.

Descendants of Samuel Hamon	
<p>1-Samuel Hamon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ 2-Philippe Hamon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ 3-Samuel Hamon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Marie Alexandre d. 7 Apr 1699 └ 4-Samuel Hamon c. 5 Sep 1680, d. 1709 ? └ 4-Elizabeth Hamon c. 29 Oct 1682 └ 4-Elie Hamon c. 15 May 1687 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Anne Hamon c. 17 May 1691, d. 9 Dec 1777 └ 5-Amice Hamon c. 8 Dec 1717 └ 5-Philippe Hamon c. 15 Jul 1729 └ 4-Sara Hamon c. 17 May 1691 └ 4-Francoise Hamon c. 15 Oct 1693 + Francoise Le Brocq c. 14 Nov 1675, d. 29 Jan 1709 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ 4-Samuel Hamon c. 10 May 1701, (Trodez????) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Catherine Langlois └ 4-Marguerite Hamon c. 17 May 1702 └ 4-Magdelein Hamon c. 10 Oct 1703 └ 4-Jean Hamon c. 19 Aug 1705, d. 1712 ? └ 4-Philippe Hamon b. 25 Dec 1708 + Susanne Vautier └ 4-Samuel Hamon c. 15 Jun 1717 	 <p>Piles of Vraic Drying by a Coastal Tower</p>  <p>La Ronce</p> <p>Route de Trodez, St Owen purchased by Andre Le Marquand 1624</p>

11. Will Pearrey

The Will Pearrey in the Belle Isle survey of 1706 is potentially from Jersey (assuming this is not a bad transcription of Piercey). There is a Guilles Perree son of Abraham baptized 1642. I cannot find any supporting evidence that this fellow from Jersey was a fisherman. Like the Hammon reference

though, this one seems to indicate a relatively large style of operation. There is a legal term in French at this time for shared property ownership. I have seen it used once with respect to Newfoundland. Perhaps these large plantations indicate shared ownership structures that do not align nicely with how the English preferred to record their plantations.

There is a reference to a Francois Perree son of Philippe in Newfoundland in a Samedi Court case of April 5, 1701. George Le Febure is acting as administrator and is called in to compensate Philippe de la Place who had advanced Francois 11 shillings in Newfoundland. The closest Francois seems to be on the family tree with Guilles Perree mentioned above. Francois' mother Catherine Le Febure seems to have a brother George. Philippe de la Place was a shopkeeper apparently who was later in court for strangling a customer.

On the same tree is Michel Perrier, In 1739 he owed Raulin Le Vesconte, commander of the ship *Le Prince de Gaul*, freight charges from Newfoundland to Jersey.

On Jerripedia Guilles (1642) is shown as uncle to their suggestion as the line relevant for Newfoundland. The trail of the Jersey Perrees solidifies with "Jersey Nick" Perry of Western Bay born ca 1725. He was being supplied by George Davis in 1766. I was sceptical about this connection on Belle Isle but there seems to be some convergence with this family line and Newfoundland. The Mathews files have John Perry in Paradise across from Belle Isle in 1730.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1 Jean Perree (1490-1557) m Jehanne (1500-) <li style="text-align: center;">↓ ■ 5 Abraham Perree (1606-1679) m Catherine Le Ruez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6 Nicollas Perree (1639-1693) m Collette Huelin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7 Jean Perree m Jeanne Vincent ■ 7 Michel Perree ■ 7 Josue Perree (1668-) ■ 7 Sara Perree ■ 7 Nicholas Perree (1672-) ■ 6 Guillaume Perree (1632-1709) m Catherine Le Cornu ■ 6 Abraham Perree (1635-) m 1. Marouarite Le Ruez (1678-1704) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7 Michel Perree m 1739 Marie Jean (-1747) NF? ■ 6 Philippe Perree (1636-1680) m Catherine Le Feuvre (1637-1704) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7 Francois Perree (1677-) NF? brother George Le Feuvre? ■ 7 Philippe Perree (1673-1759) m Marie Le Maistre (1681-1759) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8 Philippe Perree (1705-1759) m Magdelaine Le Vesconte Partner ship La Marie? NF ■ 6 Jeanne Perree (1640-) ■ 6 Guilles Perree (1642-) ■ 6 Catherine Perree (1644-) ■ 6 Helier Perree (1646-1712) m Suzanne Le Brocq <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7 Abraham Perree (1672-) m Elizabeth Payne 	<p>https://www.theislandwiki.org/index.php/</p> <p>Descendants_of_Jean_Perree_(1490)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>It is possible that descendants of this family (Nicholas Perry b 1674) may have emigrated to Newfoundland in the first half of the 18th century. A history of the first settlers of Western Bay, (North) records that "Jersey Nick" Perry was the founding settler of Western Bay, Newfoundland. Sons of Jersey Nick include William, Philip and John, which, with Nicholas, are all given names found in this tree</p> </div>
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12. Lost in History (hat tip to H W Le Messurier)

I think the Decks Awash (vol. 16, no. 02) article may be representative of the perception of the Jersey folk in the history of the Carbonear Area. A search of Jersey yields a single hit. Clement Noel arriving ca 1771. The article also mentions the Snows but not that they are from Jersey.

With John Snow and Andre Le Marquand being made officers in the militia in 1708, communication with Jersey volunteers was probably important for defense. If Jonathan Webber was from a Jersey line he may have performed that function in Harbour Grace.

The Jersey men seemed to proliferate on the North Shore of Conception Bay. They would have had a significant influence in Carbonear, though, when the planters clustered under threat by the French.

There are a few new bits on that family in the following chart.

jerripedia.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Abraham_Snow

- 2 William Snow (1639-) (England) m ^[2]Rachel Gibaut
- 3 Abraham Snow (1675-) (L) **Capt Rampant Lyon 1699**
- 3 Thomas Snow (1657-1750) (St L) m (1683, St L) Marie Messervy
Privateer Capt La Marie 1692-1696
- 3 William Snow (1663-) (L) ^[3]
Privateer Capt La Marie 1704
- 3 Edouard Snow (1660-) (L) **Master ship of Aaron de Veule 1693?**
- 3 Jean Snow ^[4] (1678-) m Jeanne (1695-) **"Port Grave" resident - Power of Attorney given to Thomas De Gruchy 1721**
 - 4 Abraham Snow (-1730)
 - 4 Elizabeth Snow (-1743)
 - 4 William Snow (-1730) **"native of Newfoundland"**
Capt/partner in ship Willing Mind to NF 1720's/T De Gruchy also partner?
 - 4 Sara Snow (1737-) (Newfoundland, bap Jersey)
 - 4 Jean Snow (Newfoundland) m 1 (1730) Elizabeth Enouf **inherits Willing Mind interest**
 - 5 John Snow (1730-) (Newfoundland)
 - 6 Blathwight Snow (1760-1835) (Newfoundland) m Ann (1762-1821)
 - 7 Edward Snow (-1849)
 - 7 John Snow (1793-1862)
 - 7 Thomas Snow (1808-1845)
 - 5 Susanne Snow (1739-)
 - 2 Robert Snow (England) (1644-1667)
 - 2 Philip Snow (England)
 - 2 Rachel Snow (-1668)

13. A Naval Skirmish in Carbonear Harbour

England's wars with the Dutch and French brought the conflicts to the shores of Newfoundland. Carbonear is recognized as the only settlement holding the French at bay in 1697. Later, an English vessel there was not so fortunate.

In 1710, *The Bochester*, Captain John Aldred, *Severn*, Captain Humphrey Pudner, *Portland*, Captain George Purvis, and *Valeur*, Captain John Hare, were exceedingly active on the coast of Newfoundland, destroying nearly all the French settlements there, and burning or taking numerous vessels.¹ The originally French ship, *Valeur*, had been bought by the Royal Navy in Plymouth in 1705 and had been operating in Newfoundland from 1708. In the course of its operations, *the Valeur* was surprised by a French party while lying at anchor. On September 6, 1710 it was taken in Carbonear Harbour by boats from the French corsair *La Surprise*.² Twenty-eight men were killed or wounded. The ship was retaken by *The Essex* six days later.

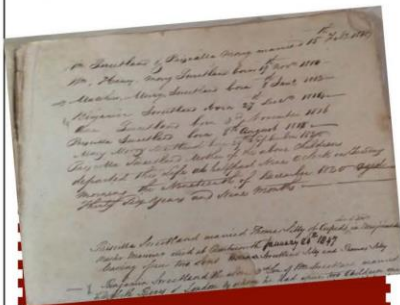
Footnotes:

1. W. Laird Clowes, *The Royal Navy, A History From the Earliest Times to Present* (Volume 2), Sampson, Low Marsdon (1898), page 527
2. Rif Winfield, *British Warships in the Age of Sail 1603 – 1714*, Seaforth Publishing (2009)

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NEWFOUNDLAND AND MY STORY OF ANCIENT MARINERS

THE STORY BEHIND THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD BIBLE IN THE CUPBOARD



* A New Horizon *

DARTMOUTH AND THE NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES PART TWO

*William Sweetland
Matthew Morry
Thomas Silly*

Three families and
their lives in
Dartmouth and the
villages and hamlets
beside the
River Dart

lelelele

I really believed that my story about the old family bible was complete. I had spent some considerable time researching and then writing about the families whose lives had been recorded within.

I had made visits to locations where they had lived , churches where they had worshiped, and then, being fairly satisfied that my story was complete, wrote the words...“The end” I should have known that it would never be the end, it was not for the first time that this story had given me cause to pick up my pen to add just a few more words.

This is the continuation of my story as it extends beyond the facts I have already recorded and becomes



“A New Horizon”

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History on the doorstep

In December 2016, I was in the waiting room at the surgery waiting for my name to be called, we would be going on holiday in the early part of 2017 and I was checking up on my jabs. Whilst flicking the pages of a local magazine an article caught my eye. "The Devon Newfoundland Story" my heart stood still, the Devon Association was promoting a County wide event to celebrate the historical and cultural connections between Newfoundland and Devon, with a reference to the Newfoundland fishery trade. There was a website and telephone numbers and I made a note of as much information as I could before my name was called. This was the very opportunity I had been waiting for, to try and find out some more information about the very subject I had spent so long researching and writing my own Newfoundland Story, it even had almost the same name, I just could not believe it.

On checking it out I discovered there would be an event at Dartmouth, visiting the museum, with a guided tour of the town and a two day symposium in Exeter. I immediately signed up for the Dartmouth tour and one day for the event in Exeter, after all I was not sure of what to expect.

I had researched the lives of three families mentioned in the old family Bible, which had belonged to William Sweetland, born in 1787 who had married Priscilla Morry, born in 1783, and their daughter also named Priscilla, born in 1818 who in turn married Thomas Silly, born in 1819. I had made the research over a number of years, beginning in 2006, with various gaps in time for various reasons.

I like to visit the places relevant to the story, including churches, burial sites and take photographs. I also create simple family trees to put the generations into context, almost as much a working document as anything else. This was not my family, I was just taken with the story unfolding and wanted to enjoy the experience as a hobby and personal challenge. There was no rush to complete it, the work was more or less finished, all it required was a bit of a tidy up and now I had a reason and a deadline to do that.

I asked my friend Ann if she may like to accompany me, she was already aware of the project and had often helped me to trace various members of the families which we referred to as the Ancient Mariners. Ann readily agreed to come, I sent for the tickets, it was only January, we had so long to wait. Again we visited Dartmouth, a bright but freezing day in February, we walked the streets where the Sweetland family had lived and visited Saint Saviour's Church. I had not been able to access the church on an earlier visit because of building work, but this time we had a good look around, the only disappointment being, we could find no gravestones relating to any of the trio of families, yet we knew from the records they had been buried there. A strong wind gusted, Ann and I were freezing it was sooooo.. cold! We had to give up and I took a general picture of the churchyard instead.

It was at this time that I went through my work and changed the spelling in every reference of the "Silly" family to "Silley" The spelling must be consistent throughout but I was not sure. My husband made the comment "but no one is going to see it, it is just a draft, and you can always change it in the future." Famous last words.

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Dartmouth

April 6th arrived, it was a beautiful day, Ann and I took the higher ferry to Dartmouth, as planned and parked the car, leaving ample time for lunch after the tour. The museum was the meeting place, the group had been confined to a maximum of forty. I had asked if there were likely to be any people

coming from Newfoundland when I had made my request for tickets, but they had been unable to tell me at that time. At the museum we were divided into two groups, one for those travelling independently and the other for those travelling from Exeter by coach. The Town Crier in full regalia escorted us around the town. We visited an area known as The Hardness, which in early times was a hamlet close to the shoreline of the river, now much extended by reclaimed land. A narrow lane led to Slippery Causeway, now known as Brown's Hill, with a flight of steps leading to Clarence Hill, and the hamlet of Clifton with wealthier residents. where one of



The building which had been a prison for unruly citizens.

the cottages had once been the home of Ann Sweetland. On to Silver Street, aptly named, with a reputation for prostitutes and pawnbroker shops. Apparently the sailors were paid in silver and this is where they spent it, hence the name. It was also where Thomas Silly, born in 1759, once lived with his first wife Ann Soper. I must admit that whilst our guide was giving his account, I had my own interpretation of each location influenced by my knowledge of the Ancient Mariners of my research.



The ancient Butterwalk and Mariner's House now home to the Dartmouth Museum



Dignitaries carry the sedan chair which would have been used by the Mayor in the time of Noah Clift, cousin to the Sweetland sisters refurbished in July 2017.

Saint Saviour's church and Bayard's Cove

Our tour continued through the narrow streets and landmarks as we made our way to Saint Saviour's church, on such a lovely day surely we would be able to find just one reference to our trio of families this time.....nothing! As the early blossom flowered against the background of the church, once more Ann and I had to move on, I did feel a little despondent because I knew they just had to be there. They were wealthy enough to have the most extravagant of headstones erected in their memory and reverent enough to wish to do so. Many of the Master Mariners had died at sea, but other members of the families must be there.

I was also a little curious about other people in our group, I had heard a Canadian accent as we made our tour. However this proved to be fruitless too, as the couple were more interested in the

association of Dartmouth with Sir Humphrey Gilbert and the early history of Newfoundland than fish!

Others in the group were interested in the architecture of the historic timber houses and some just on a day out.

Beautiful and interesting as the day was, for me it was unfulfilled, the fishing trade was covered in a very

general way but I had been hoping for just a little bit more.

The Customs House dating from the 1700s and once home to another branch of the "Silly" family looked resplendent in the spring sunshine. This branch of the family, although with the familiar names of Thomas, William and Mary Ann, came from Plymouth and their children's births were recorded in Saint Petros church records rather than Saint Saviour's or Saint Clement's. Thomas Silly held the position of Customs Officer.

From the cove we made our way back along the scenic quay to the town centre and on to the museum for the next part of our tour and an opportunity to view some exhibits relating to the history of the fishing trade. in Dartmouth.

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Saint Saviour's Church



The oldest inn from medieval times



A town centre building in the old



The Old Custom House in Bayards Cove

The Dartmouth museum



Room where the Mayor, Noah Clift would have dined

As we made our way around the various exhibits there were many relating to the fishing trade. Such an important part of Dartmouth's wealth in early times, the Merchant Ships were a vital contribution to the local economy and influenced the lives of the residents, many of them being the families of Mariners who spent much of their lives at sea, and sadly in many instances where the menfolk never returned, such was the peril of this dangerous occupation. Not a single mention of Sweetland, Morry or Silly but I became engrossed never the less. I was fascinated by The King's Room, the room we were in, as it was described as the room where the Mayor of the town would have dined. Noah Clift, himself a

Master Mariner, who had resided at the Ford situated to the side of Market Square, had at one time been Mayor of Dartmouth. He was a cousin to the Sweetland sisters, and when he was widowed, Ann Sweetland looked after him as his housekeeper, the year was 1851, he died in 1865. Various illustrations gave pictorial impressions of how the mouth of the river might have looked.

Illustrations of ships some of which were almost certainly built in one of the shipbuilding yards of the River Dart. These included the ship building yards at Galmpton, and Dartmouth.

Noah Clift, Thomas and John Silly held shares in such ships as Emma 90 a schooner built at Dartmouth in 1836. The title owned by John Silly, Richard Veale, Thomas Veale, Richard Goodyear, James Goodyear and Thomas Silly. was registered anew in 1850. Another sailing vessel, Somerset 27 a schooner built at Bristol in 1827, certificate cancelled and vessel registered anew in 1839. The title owned by Noah Clift, and Christopher Graham Clift. Calypso' 20, sailing vessel, square rigged, built at Bideford in 1828. Certificate cancelled and vessel registered anew in 1836. The title owned by Thomas Silly the younger, Henry Petherbridge, Noah Clift and Thomas Fogwell.



Mouth of the River Dart



Diagrams of sailing vessels

An unexpected encounter

At the museum it was obvious the morning tour was coming to an end. We mingled with people who had travelled to the venue by coach, there was to be a visit to Compton Castle, home of the Gilbert family in the afternoon with a talk. Ann and I being local had opted out of this part of the day and began to discuss our plans for lunch. The only consideration being that we still had thirty minutes on our car, not long enough for lunch but too early to buy another ticket. Ann made the suggestion, why not go back to the church for one last attempt at finding the graves, we might just be lucky. Good idea!!

We virtually stumbled into the small churchyard surrounding the church and began to search once more, there was just one other person looking at one of the headstones, he appeared to have found what he was looking for and we acknowledged one another. I asked him if there just happened to be a list of people and where their graves were situated and he said yes there was but that it was on line.

“Who exactly are you looking for?” A simple and relevant question under the circumstances but what happened next was more than amazing! My reply that I had been making some research into the families of William Sweetland, Matthew Morry and Thomas Silly triggered a most surprising moment for us all! The gentleman in front of us could not believe it and neither could we.... the heavens suddenly sprinkled us all with star dust as he said.....

“I am Christopher Morry” and he pointed to two headstones that had been in place for almost two hundred years. “This one is my four time Great Grandmother,” to which I replied with excitement it was hard to contain, “that must be Mary Graham...” he continued “and this one is.... Priscilla Sweetland,” ...my breathless reply, concluded “wife of William Sweetland”....

It took a moment to collect ourselves and eventually I explained about the old bible in my possession and the reason for my research revealing the poignant stories which had come about. I had also prepared rather simple family trees, that my husband had said that it was unlikely that anyone would see. We had little time to discuss it all in detail, because “Chris” my new friend, was on the tour and must be back on the bus to take him for the afternoon trip to Compton. Establishing that we would all be attending the symposium in Exeter in a couple of days time, we agreed that we would meet up again, this time with the bible for him to see. Actually, if I am honest I think he thought it would be a fake!! How could he... and it wasn't.

Chris took copies of my work to read in the evening and so closed a most exciting day.



Christopher Morry April 7th 2017 at Saint Saviour's Church

The Headstones

Matthew Morry 1 born in 1750 A major name in the Dartmouth-Newfoundland Shipowners, Mariners and Merchants, he married Mary Graham at St. Saviours Church in Dartmouth in 1773, they had eight children. They were the parents of Priscilla Ann Morry who married William Sweetland in 1810. Ultimately this was the marriage which brought the two families of Sweetland and Morry together. Priscilla died after the birth of their sixth child. William Sweetland returned to Newfoundland.

The gravestone is severely damaged, whether by time or accident is impossible to ascertain. Christopher Morry said it had been intact when a relative had located it some years previously. I believe he was quite distressed to see it in its present condition. Without his prior knowledge of its existence we would never have found it, the inscription is incomplete and impossible to decipher. I doubt that we would ever have found the vital clue in the place name "Ferryland" if Chris had not been there. It was engraved at the bottom of the stone below the level of the grass and could not be seen until we pulled it away.

The very lovely inscription below was kindly made available to me by Chris who already had the details copied from the earlier visit mentioned.

Inscription on the tombstone in Saint Saviour's Church Dartmouth

"Sacred to the memory of Mary Morry
the wife of Matthew Morry, Merchant of this town
who was the sincere Christian, the faithful wife, the
affectionate mother, and the true friend universally loved
and sincerely lamented,
who departed this life on

29 October 1796. Aged 46 Years.

Also sacred to the memory of Priscilla,
daughter of the above named Matthew and Mary Morry,
and wife of Wm. Sweetland of Ferryland
in the island of Newfoundland, now of Dartmouth,
Merchant, who no less virtuous and esteemed departed
this life on the 19 day of December 1820. Aged 37 years."

*Photograph taken 6th April 2017 by Christopher Morry
note: Mary Morry nee Mary Graham
Priscilla Sweetland nee Morry*

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*Members of the Graham family
related to Priscilla's mother*



*Priscilla Sweetland nee
Priscilla Morry*



The broken shard showing Ferryland

Saint Clement's Church

After the excitement of the morning Ann and I continued with our own plans for the afternoon. On previous visits to Dartmouth we had not visited Saint Clement's church, situated in Townstal the area above the town and looking down onto the River Dart. An imposing church with a very large churchyard surrounding it where beautiful mature trees shaded the tombs and graves beneath them.

This is where other members of the families of Master Mariners, mentioned in the old family bible had worshiped and where many of their life events had taken place. Thomas Silly, born in 1819 had married Priscilla Sweetland born in 1818. Although their marriage took place in Saint Saviour's Church, Saint Clement's featured in many records of the Silly family over the years. However yet again our visit was thwarted by a meeting taking place inside the church, and we were unable to find any headstones or graves relating to the family. It would have been an added



The Church of Saint Clements in Townstal



The conference in progress

bonus to our day and we must hold the promise of another more successful visit to Saint Clement's in the future.

With the symposium in Exeter to look forward to on Saturday, our spirits remained high.

The most interesting part of the day was certainly the many exhibits from many historical societies represented in the main hall. During the day we also attended each of the talks presented. The topics varied over the course of the day and the fishing trade in Dartmouth was covered.

However for me I still wanted to learn more of the specific families which had been at the core of my research.

I was very pleased to meet with Chris again, we shared the secrets of the bible and he was equally interested in the facts about the family of the Master Mariner Thomas

Silly because, as he explained, very little was known about this family and the information written by William Sweetland in the family bible was quite new to everyone. I would have liked a wider audience for the bible because I felt it was an important and genuine archive that was so relevant to the subject being covered, hence I did experience a slight frustration. I admit to lack a certain forthright confidence and feel, in hindsight, I should have forfeited some of the presentations for a more direct approach to people who were there on the day. I also wish I had invested in the second day.

What more could I have really asked than the personal presentation of the bible to Christopher Morry, who showed no hesitation in his own interest. I am sure we will keep in contact to exchange more information as we both gather additional information over time.

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Devonshire roots of the Sweetland family

An update on the Sweetland family. Following the excitement of the events in the Spring I have continued to gather any information I can and add even more to the subject, and in turn my own story. For a long time I had been trying to trace the early family of William Sweetland. I was aware that he had been born in Newfoundland in 1787, I also knew that his father was Henry Sweetland, but I could not ascertain his birth date or birthplace, although I was sure it would be England, and hoped it might be Devon. I had been checking leads in Chudleigh, but nothing definite. Well now I am thrilled to confirm that he was Henry Sweetland, born in Uffculme, Devon in 1734, he married Ann Carter in 1785 and died in Ferryland in 1791. What is more, I am also able to go back another three generations of the Sweetland family to Hugh Sweetland born in Uffculme in 1672, who in 1697 married Prudence Binford born in 1669 in Willand. Prudence died in 1732 and Hugh ten years later in 1742., he would have been aged seventy.

Hugh Sweetland	married 1697	Prudence Binford
Born 1672 Uffculme		Born 1669 Wiland
Died 1742		Died 1732
Hugh	William	Thomas
Born 1698 Uffculme	Born 1700 Uffculme	Born 1703 Uffculme
Died 1780	Died 1782	Died 1736
Hugh	married 1725	Margaret Hatswell
Born 1698 Uffculme		Born 1702 Tiverton
Died 1780		Died 1768
Hugh Sweetland	Margaret	Henry J
Born 1726 Uffculme	Born 1728	Born 1734 Uffculme
Died as infant		Died 1791 Ferryland
	Henry J Sweetland	married 1785 Ann Carter
		Born 1749 Ferryland
		Died 1837 Caplin Bay
William Sweetland	Henry Sweetland	Benamin Sweetland
Born 1787	Born 1787 Feryland	Born 1789
Died 1864 Ferryland	Died 1849 Topsham	Died 1884 New York
William Sweetland	married 1810 Dartmouth	Priscilla Ann Morry
Born 1787		Born 1783 Dartmouth
Died 1864 Ferryland		Died 1820 Dartmouth

This information has been taken from church records which in some cases are Baptism records and may differ slightly from the birth date.

The Silly family

When William Sweetland returned to Ferryland and remarried it was said that he had abandoned his family in Dartmouth, and that was the reason why none of his daughters had married.

However, Priscilla Sweetland, born 1818, fifth child of William Sweetland and his wife Priscilla, married Thomas Silly of Dartmouth. Until their marriage in 1844, Priscilla had lived with her sisters Ann and Mary Sweetland along with their niece Anne Maria, in Dartmouth. Sadly, in similar circumstances to her mother, she also died in childbirth, she was only twenty nine.

When researching the families in the old bible, I included the Silly family members mentioned and some of their descendants. Now, having completed that part of my story, I have returned to that particular family in my effort to trace their origin in Devon a little further.

Thomas Silly was a well known name, particularly associated with sea going voyages of Master Mariners. There was never just one "Thomas Silly" the name appears in every branch of the family that I have come across, and then repeated throughout each generation, it has been an ongoing challenge to place them exactly. I have persevered and hope my efforts are in order. All of the families mentioned in the bible were living in Dartmouth because that was where their livelihood was and where their wives and children made their homes, but there were as many families with the name "Silly" in the surrounding villages of Galmpton, Churston Ferrers, Stoke Gabriel and Dittisham, as in Dartmouth itself, and it is possible that they originated from those nearby villages.

The villages themselves, are situated very close together and the parishes united, Galmpton, for example is in the parish of Churston Ferrers, which in turn, is in the district of Brixham. Dittisham, although quite far on horseback, from Totnes or from Dartmouth, is only just across the river from Galmpton or Stoke Gabriel, these days it comes under Saint Saviour's in Dartmouth.

Totnes was the registration district for them all. After 1837, when registration came into being, all Births, Marriages and Deaths for Paignton, Brixham, Dartmouth and the smaller villages and hamlets, were kept there, hence a parish record may appear in the church register of Saint Saviour's Church in Dartmouth, but the official record of registration would be in Totnes.

I must also mention that the name "Silly" in itself has been a challenge. It lends itself perfectly to being mis-spelt. In many instances the residents of the villages were illiterate at that time, and the parish priest would interpret the spelling as he heard it. Looking through church records of the time I found that the vicar in Dittisham certainly had his own way of spelling many of the local names. Is "Ceely" a step too far, I ask myself? I have not completely ruled it out.

Birth or a Baptism? With a child born almost every year, in some cases more than one child in the family would be baptised at the same time, it can be misleading to find a record and realise the child had been born almost a year earlier.

Dates too, the church year begins in April therefore any child born from January to March may be included in the previous year. I found one instance where the vicar had run out of space on the page so just wrote over an earlier entry in the register, in other words he started the register all over again. Oh dear!

The Master Mariners of Dartmouth The Silly Family

Thomas Silly married 1784 Mary Maddick
Born 1759 Dartmouth Saint Clement's
Died 1845 reg Totnes

Thomas Silly William Maddick Silly
Born 1787 Born 1789
Died 1863
1st marriage
Ann Soper
Born 1791
2nd marriage
(widow and widower)
Mary Lidstone
Born 1846

William Maddick Silly married 1816 Mary Ann Loveys
Born 1789 St Clement's Born 1796
Died Died

Thomas Silly
Master Mariner of Cupid's married 1844 Priscilla Sweetland
Born 1819 St Saviour's Born 1818
Died 1869 Dartmouth Died 1847
Reg Totnes Reg. Totnes

Thomas Silly
Drowned at sea aged 49
Reg. 19 years Cod Fishing Foreign trade certificate 1850

Sweetland Silly Thomas Silly
Born 1845 Reg. Totnes Born 1847
Died 1869 Died 1847

Sweetland Silly
Merchant Service Certificate issued at Belfast 1867
Died 1869 drowned on the passage from Akyah in India to England aged 26



*Sweetland Silly Born 1845 Merchant Service
Certificate issued at Belfast 1867*



*Thomas Silly Born 1819
Cod Fishing Foreign trade certificate 1850*

Dittisham, Galmpton and Churston

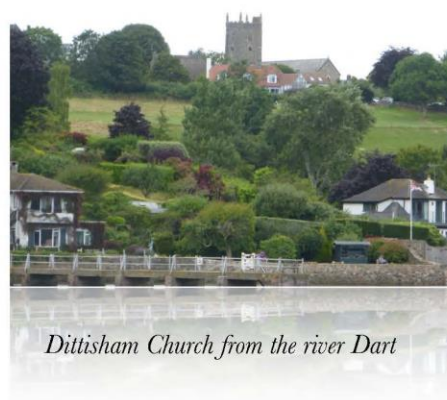
I believe the Silly family in Dartmouth were descendants of **John Silly, from Dittisham**, who married **Agnes Hardy in 1752**. Agnes's birth was recorded in the Churston Ferrers church register of 1728, she was five years younger than her husband John, who had been born in 1723. Together they had six surviving children, all baptised at Churston. John died in 1778 and Agnes in 1809, her burial took place at Churston Ferrers. but the record states she was from Galmpton, this makes me think that although her birth had been recorded in Churston, she may actually have been born in Galmpton which is in the parish of Churston. John may have been the elder of three brothers about which I will explain later.

One of the sons of John and Agnes was **Thomas Silly baptised in 1760** at Churston. Was he **Thomas Silly born 1759** who married **Mary Maddick**? Although most of the information about him has been taken from census records in Dartmouth, he was actually born in Stoke Gabriel. Stoke Gabriel, Galmpton and Churston are less than three miles apart.

Chris Morry from Newfoundland, whom I met in Dartmouth, obtained a copy of the the Will of **Thomas Silly born 1759** and kindly sent me a transcription of it, which has enabled me to add more members of the family to my earlier record and I have also done more research myself revealing even more members of the family, which is becoming quite a comprehensive study. I have added two additional children to the family of **Thomas Silly and Mary Maddick**. Born before their sons **Thomas born 1787** and **William Maddick Silly born 1789**, they were **Mary Silly born in 1784**, she married in Dartmouth, but was buried in Stoke Gabriel, which confirms my thoughts on the family connection with that village, and **John Silly**, for whom I have no birth date, but he died in 1841. his wife **Honor Frances** lived for another twenty years, and died in 1861. It was William Maddick Silly who carried the direct line of the family that I traced for the purpose of the bible. **Thomas born 1787**, his brother, had no children and married twice. His first marriage in 1808 was to **Ann Soper, born in 1791**, her family were a well known Dartmouth family of Master Mariners, His second marriage was to **Mary Lidstone Born 1801**. On the marriage record of Saint Petrox Church in Dartmouth in 1846 it actually states they were widow and widower, and so I am certain of my facts, the Lidstone family were also Ship Owners.



Cottage on the shoreline of Dittisham



Dittisham Church from the river Dart

In his Last Will and Testament Thomas Silly (1759) left most of his estate to his wife Mary, nee Maddick) but there were also various bequests, which give so much information, not just in terms of family members but also about the property he owned and the people he knew. The house in Ford was mentioned, he left it to his son Thomas (1787), his daughter and son in law, John Lamzed, were also left property situated in Ford.

The widow, Honor Frances, and children of his son John, who had already died by this time, was mentioned and we learned the name of his grand daughter, Elizabeth Thorning,, whom we knew nothing about before. I did some research on her and discovered that she had been married at the very young age of eighteen to Thomas Natharley Thorning,. They married in Liverpool in 1838, but sadly he died very soon afterwards, she had then married again two years later to Richard Lamble. Both young men had come from Dartmouth, I traced Thomas's mother and sister of the first marriage and also Richard Lamble's sister Sarah, from the second and they all lived in Dartmouth. Some of the property Thomas Silly owned was being lived in by tenants at the time and he made it clear what should happen in the circumstances of his death.

One of the bequests, to his granddaughter Mary Ann, was of particular interest to me because it referred to two fields, or pieces of land at 'Cleatlands.' This happens to be close to what was Cleatland Cross and also at one time Clayland Cross. Situated on what would have been the old turn pike road which ran from Torre in Torquay to Paignton via the Old Torquay Road, avoiding the swampy ground, which was then closer to the sea, towards Totnes to the cross roads at Tweenaway Cross before turning left towards Brixham. The road then continued, across the Common via Churston Ferrers. to Brixham, There were two toll houses on the road which was later known as The Old Brixham Road, one at Windy Corner, and the other on the entrance to New Road in Brixham. Long since out of use as toll houses they are still recognisable as such.

The roads now covered in tarmac and widened with the old Devon hedges removed the road bears little resemblance to the turn pike road of yesteryear. Even in my time I have witnessed alarming development in that area which was once abundant with cider orchards and fields, leading to...guess where....Stoke Gabriel and Galmpton of course! There was also a Smithy situated every few miles, indicated clearly on the ordnance survey map of 1863. Cottages of cob, making cider from their own orchards, this was the heart of a rural community.

A quarry and Lime Kilns were situated in Galmpton and of course the creek, known locally as the Kiln where there was easy access to the River Dart. Stoke Gabriel was a similar community with a larger village just a stones throw away.

Back to The Will, John Lamzed, married to Thomas's daughter Mary 1786, was mentioned with reference to the bakehouse in which they already lived, he was given the right to stay and continue his business for his lifetime. There were also bequests of sums of money to Richard Goodyear, a baker and Harry Rogers, a Merchant.

It is interesting that the names John Lamzed and Richard Goodyear were in later years, associated with Thomas's son Thomas Silly 1787 and joint ownership of Merchant Ships in Dartmouth.

I will mention that the John Lamzed I refer to is the husband of Thomas's daughter Mary, but his, granddaughter Mary Ann Silly, born 1818, daughter of his son William Maddick Silly, married her first cousin, named John Lamzed born 1817 who was the son of Mary and John Lamzed, the baker. Confusing, but true!

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The quay at Greenway Galmpton

During the period of my research, I have come across quite a number of people with the name Silly born earlier than those mentioned when researching members of the family for the bible. They all appear in the records of Churston Ferrers and Dittisham. Try as I might to connect them to one another I cannot be completely sure, but all the usual signs are there. The names follow the pattern of the families I have already identified, all are within the already familiar parishes and all are Mariners of varying degrees of seniority. What I am trying to say is that I believe John Silly, Robert, and Thomas were brothers and their families form an earlier generation of the Silly family in the area, I must leave the reader to decide whether this is so but I believe it is possible.

John Silly born 1723 came from Dittisham, Agnes had come from Churston, with a possible connection to Galmpton. Their six children were John born in 1753, Catherine born in 1755, James born in 1758, Thomas born in 1760, William born in 1762, Jane born in 1766, Robert born in 1768 and the youngest, Mary born in 1771.

My research shows that his eldest son, named John born in 1753 married Mary, I do not have her maiden name, but I have traced four children, their son, John Silly was born in Churston in 1786 but their other children, Mary born 1797, Louisa born 1799 and William born 1801 were born in Dittisham. William married Mary Ann Hutchings from Cornworthy, a tiny village close to Dittisham, they married in 1821. William and Mary Ann had a family of eight children born between 1822 and 1842.

Robert Silly married 1752 in Churston Ferrers to Dorothy Beavis of that parish, I have traced four children, Robert born 1752, Mary born 1754, Thomas born 1756 and John born 1759.

Thomas Silly born 1724, who married Margaret Luscombe in 1756 and their children, Edward born 1758, Jenny born 1760, Thomas born 1762, Richard born 1764 and Agnes born 1768. Thomas and Margaret came from Dittisham, their marriage is recorded in the parish church of St Clements in Dartmouth, but events after their marriage are shown as Churston or Brixham.

The baptism of Edward and his sister Jenny, were recorded in St Mary's church Brixham, Thomas, was born in Churston Richard and Agnes were probably also born in Churston but it should be mentioned that the parish records of many people living in Churston were held in the parish of St Mary's Brixham, This is particularly true of burial records because there was no burial ground in Churston, consequently all Churston residents were buried in the churchyard of St Mary's Brixham. Edward married Elizabeth, I only have her first name, and I have traced a daughter, Margaret Luscombe Silly born in 1804, I find it a touching sentiment that she should be so obviously named after her paternal grandmother.

Thomas married Rebecca Geach from Halberton in 1790, this marriage was recorded in

St Saviour's church in Dartmouth, they had one son, that I have traced, also named Thomas born in 1791, Thomas's burial was recorded in Brixham in 1847.

Are these the final pieces of our jigsaw of the Silly family tree?

Although the individual families of John, Robert and Thomas are easy to find there is no indication of who their parents may have been so that is the reason I am unable to confirm that they are actually brothers. What do you think?

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Saint George's Church Dittisham

Saint Georges Church is in a perfect location within the village of Dittisham with a view from the churchyard to the River Dart below. Home to many of the members of the Silly family in the eighteenth century..



The Royal Coat of Arms of Charles 11 hangs on the wall over the South door. These arms were granted at the time of the Restoration in gratitude to John Strode, Rector, and to the parishioners of Dittisham for their loyalty to the Royalist cause.



South porch with vaulted arches and statue of Saint George over the door by Harry Hems of Exeter being Dittisham's WW1 memorial dedicated in 1927

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Saint George's Church Dittisham



The beautiful carved stone wineglass pulpit dates from the 15th century



The Lych gate entrance to the church

Church of Saint Mary and Saint Gabriel in the village of Stoke Gabriel



Entrance to the church from Church Walk



Views of the River Dart



Inside the ancient church



Graves of the Silly family who lived in Galmpton lie beneath the huge Yew Tree numbered 994/995



The chancel with historic monuments

REORGANIZATION OF THE MAGISTRACY IN 1935

Melvin Baker

Introduction

In June 1935 the Commission of Government initiated a reform of the magistracy to make it a more effective administrative arm. This change was to make up for what Natural Resources Commissioner Sir John Hope Simpson perceived to be the absence of local government and leadership at the settlement level. With the suspension of elective responsible government in 1934 and government by a British-appointed Commission of Government instead, there were no more elected representatives to look after the welfare of residents and, except for St. John's, there was no system of local government outside the capital city. Under the new court system, Newfoundland was divided into seven administrative districts with each district placed under the control of a chief magistrate with some legal training. Each chief magistrate was aided by several assistant magistrates and represented all the Commission's departments in Government's interaction with the public at large.¹ On 2 July 1935 Commission for Justice William R. Howleyⁱⁱ issued instructions to all magistrates to investigate and report regularly on social and economic issues and public services in their areas of supervision. In short, the Commission required them not only to be "an eye and an ear," but be "an executive arm, by means of which it can carry out its policies for the development of the country and the advancement of the people."ⁱⁱⁱ

Document

Circular to Magistrates, No. 74 – Instructions to Magistrates under the New System

1. GENERAL

We have first to give you an idea of the general nature of your office and functions in the future. Under the old system of Government the District Member, who had travelled through his district and made himself acquainted with persons and things in it, and who was continually in correspondence with it, afforded a channel of communication between the Government and the people of the district; and in this way, irrespective of his own merits or defects, he performed a very useful function. This function it is now proposed you should perform, and it will be your first duty to make yourself so fully acquainted with persons and things in your district that any Department of the Government can turn to you at any moment for full information as to facts and conditions.

Then further the Government requires not only an eye and an ear, but an executive arm, by means of which it can carry out its policies for the development of the country and the advancement of the people. Take for agricultural development, the organization of agricultural societies, the building of boats and schooners, improvements of public works, the improvement of sanitary conditions and the distribution of relief. In all these matters you may be called upon to supervise the carrying out of any policy.

Thirdly, while broad policies may be evolved in St. John's for the improvement of the condition of the people, the initiation of local schemes for the improvement of particular settlements requires that some intelligent person study those settlements and make recommendations. You will, therefore, be called upon to make recommendations in relation to any matters in your district in respect of which you think improvement may be effected. Your recommendations will come under the eye of the proper authorities, will be compared with recommendations from your

colleagues in other parts of the country and may become the basis not only of local schemes of improvement, but even of general schemes.

In brief, you will be the Government's principal officer in your district, and the Government will look to you not only to carry out orders, but to think for yourself and to recommend and promote anything which may result in the improvement of the conditions of the people.

2. YOUR OFFICIAL POSITION

Your office is that of District Magistrate or Assistant Magistrate, and as such you will be controlled and paid by the Department of Justice, and will primarily consider yourself that Department's officer. All your reports will come into that Department and will be perused and transmitted to the departments to which they relate. Assistant Magistrates will send their reports to their Chief Magistrate, who will pass them on to the Department of Justice with such observations as he sees fit to make written thereon. To some extent you will receive direct orders and directions from some other departments. The exact working of the system cannot fully be foreseen, and will have to be arrived at from experience.

It will be made known to all officials in all departments of the Government that you are the senior officer in your district; and it is expected that, without interfering with anyone in the execution of his specific duties, you will feel that it is for you to bring to the attention of every department of the Government anything that you feel it ought to know. Your work will be judged by the thoroughness and soundness of your reports and by the progress of your district, in so far as the promotion of that progress is within your power.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

District Magistrates will be primarily responsible as indicated throughout their districts, and will be expected to supervise and control the work of their Assistant Magistrates, who will in turn be responsible to them. Thus, for example, it may be necessary for the District Magistrate, while he is making a tour through an outlying portion of his district, to transfer to the Assistant Magistrate from that outlying portion to the centre, to attend to his own work while he is absent. Each district will be divided into as many sections as there are Magistrates and Assistant Magistrates; but the Chief Magistrate, besides dealing in detail with his own section, will have to supervise the Assistants' sections.

4. RESIDENCE

You are advised that in future Magistrates will not remain for life in the place to which they are first appointed, as has usually been the case heretofore; but may be transferred from post to post as the exigencies of the service may require; though not, of course, unnecessarily, or too frequently. It is realized that this may in some places create a little difficulty in the matter of renting houses. On the other hand, a lease can probably be transferred to the Magistrate's successor in case of a move. It would be better that Magistrates should not buy houses; and that when renting they should be careful to stipulate for the right to assign the lease. We shall have to see by experience how these arrangements will work out.

5. TRANSFER

In case of transfer at the orders of this Department proper allowances will be made for the cost of moving.

6. OFFICE EQUIPMENT

You will be furnished with a portable typewriter of good quality, a filing cabinet and a few law books. Practitioners will, of course, have some books of their own as well. When you reach your station you may report what office furniture, books and equipment there are, and what else is essential. You should find there a complete set of Statutes, commencing with the Consolidated Statutes of 1916 and including all annual volumes since issued.

7. THE PRIMARY TASK

You will have to do a great deal of travelling, especially in the early years of your tenure of office, and your first task will be, in the case of a District Magistrate, to make yourself thoroughly familiar with every settlement in your district; and in the case of an Assistant Magistrate, to do the same in your sub-district. You will, therefore, have to make tours, and to study and so far as you can, remedy the conditions in the several settlements.

8. THE MANNER OF REPORTING

You will be furnished with a portable typewriter, which you will carry with you, a filing cabinet and some necessary office equipment and a few law books, to which we hope to add from time to time. You will also be furnished with report sheets in several different tints with printed headings for the Departments of:

- (1)
- (2) Justice.
- (3) Natural Resources.
- (4) Public Health and Welfare.
- (5) Public Works; and one headed
- (6) Miscellaneous.

You will also be furnished with carbon paper, so that whenever you make a report you can keep a copy on your own files. The typewriting paper and carbon you will carry with you on your tours and write up your report each day as circumstances may permit. Ordinarily, reports will be sent in monthly. In urgent matters, however, a special report sheet may be sent direct to the Department concerned, a carbon copy being sent simultaneously to the Justice Department.

9. REPORT TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

You are primarily an office of the Justice Department, and the report to the Justice Department, and the report to the Justice Department will be in effect a daily diary, on which you will make some entry every day to show where you are and what you are doing. Even if the day is spent at home – as at times will be the case, especially in winter – you will note the fact in a word or two. When you are on the move the daily note for the Justice Department will briefly state your movements, and it will also note the cases which you try in your capacity as Magistrate, though the full facts as to these will appear in your monthly calendar and will be entered in your Court books. You will also mention in this diary any point you have to raise in relation to court house, gaol, and

their care and equipment; though these are primarily matters for the Department of Public Works, they concern also the Justice Department, which will pass on any recommendation to the Department of Public Works. Comments on the Constabulary, or on the Ranger Force (from the police point of view) may also be inserted in this report.

The other reports will not necessarily contain a report for every day, but will contain an entry in relation to each place you visit or in relation to each matter which arises, viewed from the angle of the Department in question. Thus when you go on a tour and enter a given village, you will look at that village from the point of view of each Department concerned and report accordingly somewhat as follows:

10. REPORT TO NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

This Department is likely to give you a good deal of work. You will study the village from the economic angle, including possible agricultural developments, resources in the way of timber, including fuel supply, suitability as a fishing settlement, the manner in which the fishery is carried on, possible improvements therein, the possibility of development of other resources, such as mining, the utilization of peat for fuel, the presence and protection of game, etc, etc. You will probably be called upon in the future to carry out specific work for that Department in such connections as the stimulation of agricultural societies, the oversight of co-operative societies, the oversight of schemes for building schooners and boats, and many other things which may come up from time to time. On all these matters you will make your observations, and you will take such action as you may be requested and make such recommendations as occur to you.

11. REPORT TO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

You will now view the community from the point of view of public works, their condition, whether they are properly located, how best this can be done, etc, etc. In this connection roads, wharves, breakwaters, bridges and public buildings will have your particular attention and you will report facts with your recommendations and supervise any specific works which that Department may desire you to supervise.

12. REPORT TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

As assistant to this Department, you will review the situation as to population, the general state of health, medical and nursing services, the general state of sanitation and water supply, the distribution of public relief, and the possibility of supplementing dietary of the people where inadequacy of diet is a contributing cause of unsatisfactory health conditions. Information of this class is collected by means of the census every ten years or more, and by means of special enquiries from time to time, but it will be for you to keep that information up to date from month to month.

13. MISCELLANEOUS REPORT

The sheets provided for this may be used for purposes of references to (1) Customs; (2) Post Office; (3) Education; and (4) for general observations which you desire to make or general plans or schemes which you desire to put forward which do not strictly relate to any particular department but may interest the Government as a whole.

In relation to the Departments of Customs, Post and Telegraphs, and Education, you will remember that the officials of these Departments carry out closely defined duties under the instructions of their head offices, and that each Department is provided with an inspection scheme of its own. The nature of their work is such that you are not, nor is it necessary for you to be acquainted with the details, and the Departmental Inspector is better qualified than yourself to see that the detail work is carried out. Your function, therefore, in relation to these Departments will merely be to observe general conditions. For example, in relation to Post Office, you may observe that an office is unsuitably placed or ill-kept or that the service is unsatisfactory, or that some place needs and merits telegraph connection. In relation to

Customs, you may observe that offices are unsuitably placed or ill-kept; that an officer does not seem active in his duty or is suspected by the public of collusion with smugglers; that preventive work, as opposed to office work, is being neglected, etc, etc. As regards schools you will be simply a benevolent visitor, who will not interfere, but you may mention in your report anything which you observe not to be going well. Any matters of this kind dealt with in your miscellaneous report will be transmitted confidentially to the Secretary for the Department concerned.

14. SEPARATION OF SUBJECTS

The idea behind this system is that the Justice Department, after looking over your general report and checking your movements, will distribute the reports on the various tinted papers to the various departments concerned, who will read them and place them on file, and take such action on them as may be thought proper. The best way of filing these will be to keep a file in relation to each village or settlement or special subject. You will therefore please put the results of your study on any one settlement or your remarks on any one subject for any one department on one sheet or set of sheets and start a new sheet when you move to another settlement, or take up another subject, so that each Department may be able to collect a separate file of information on each settlement or subject.

15. SPECIMENS

We enclose a specimen set of imaginary reports to show you the general style in which the work should be done. It is not necessary to use extended or flowery language. On the hand do not make your report so brief that points may be missed. Make it, in other words, a business-like document.

16. LEGAL WORK

It is not necessary for us to give any directions in this connection to Magistrates who are legal practitioners. For those who are laymen we shall make such arrangements as are possible for a little preliminary instruction and we will explain to each individually the system of monthly report of the cases tried; the system of making returns of fines, etc.

17. RELATION WITH POLICE AND RANGER FORCE

You will of course understand that police and rangers are under the orders of their respective commanding officers, and not primarily under your orders. At the same time it will be an instruction to them to co-operate with your policy in every way, as they share with you the responsibility of maintaining law and order in the district.

18. ANNUAL CONVENTION

It is hoped if possible to have a meeting of Magistrates annually in St. John's, in order that they may refresh their knowledge, profit by comparing notes with each other, and confer with the heads of the various departments of the Government.

19. CIRCULARS

Numbered circulars (of which the present is No. 74) will be sent out by the Department of Justice from time to time for the guidance of Magistrates. Please keep these on a file on consecutive order.

20. GAZETTE

Keep on file your copies of the Newfoundland Gazette, marking with a coloured pencil all Rules and Regulations published therein. Better still, cut these out and paste them in a book, with their dates, for ready reference, and index them under suitable heads. It is hope, sooner or later, to issue revised collections of Statutory Rules and Regulations in pamphlet form.

21. OBSERVATION

There is no need to attempt to rush your work. It is recognized that it will take you at least one season, probably a couple of seasons, to make a complete study of your district. You will naturally let us have a full study of the Public Works at an early visit, since these require merely observation and record; a fairly full study from the Health and Welfare angle within a reasonable time; and preliminary observations only from the economic and Natural Resources angles. After that, the Public Works report will merely have to be kept up to date; the Health and Welfare report will be amplified a little from time to time; the Resources and Economic report however will require your most earnest attention and will probably become fuller as time goes on and as you increase your knowledge and develop, with assistance from St. John's, a policy for dealing with your problems.

22. STATUTES

It is necessary that you make yourself well acquainted with these. You should take the set which will be provided for you and read all the Acts, beginning with the latest and working backwards. Wherever any Act amends or repeals an earlier Act, turn up that earlier Act, and cross off the part repealed, noting in the margin a reference to the repealing Act, or in the case of an amendment, note in the margin a reference to the amending Act. Whenever you get new Acts sent you, note back any amendments in the same way. Thus when you have worked back to the Consolidated Statutes of 1916 (beyond which you need not go) you will be sure that wherever you turn up any Act, you will not be in danger of overlooking amendments, since the marginal notes will direct your attention to them.

23. SPECIAL JURISDICTION

It is in contemplation to give some of the Magistrates who are legal practitioners, and therefore competent to deal with technical points of law, a limited jurisdiction in land cases, and a jurisdiction to grant Letters of Probate or Administration in the cases of estates up to a moderate

figure. Magistrates having this special jurisdiction will at times be required to travel into the districts of lay Magistrates to deal with matters of the kind mentioned. They will also, in respect of this special jurisdiction, receive a small extra allowance.

23. FEES AND PERQUISITES

There will be no objection to Magistrates giving a certain amount of legal aid or advice to poor persons; indeed it is desirable that they should. We understand that the practice of many of the English Magistrates is to sit and give such advice in their Chambers for a certain time daily before going into Court. The Magistrates, however, will be careful:

- (a) Not to assume any responsibility for the advice given.
- (b) Not to advise persons of the class who can and should obtain legal advice in the regular way but only those who are concerned with small matters and too poor to pay for any advice.
- (c) Not to advise either party privately in any disputed matter which may come before them later in Court.
- (d) Not to take any fee or reward of any kind directly or indirectly.

The taking of any fee, reward or benefit from a member of the public, however small the same may be, will be a breach of duty calling for disciplinary action by this Department.

No perquisite of office from public funds, whether Governmental or Municipal, may be received without the specific permission of this Department.

25. SUMMARY

In brief you are now to be:

- (1) Judge of your district or sub-district.
- (2) The Government's general agent, manager and representative for your district (or, if you are an Assistant Magistrate, for your sub-district to your immediate Chief);

and in this latter capacity you will be looked to, not merely to carry out orders, but to become the leader and guide of your District, to contribute initiative and original thought, to make all its business your business, and to see its reform and development to prosperity as your principal aim.

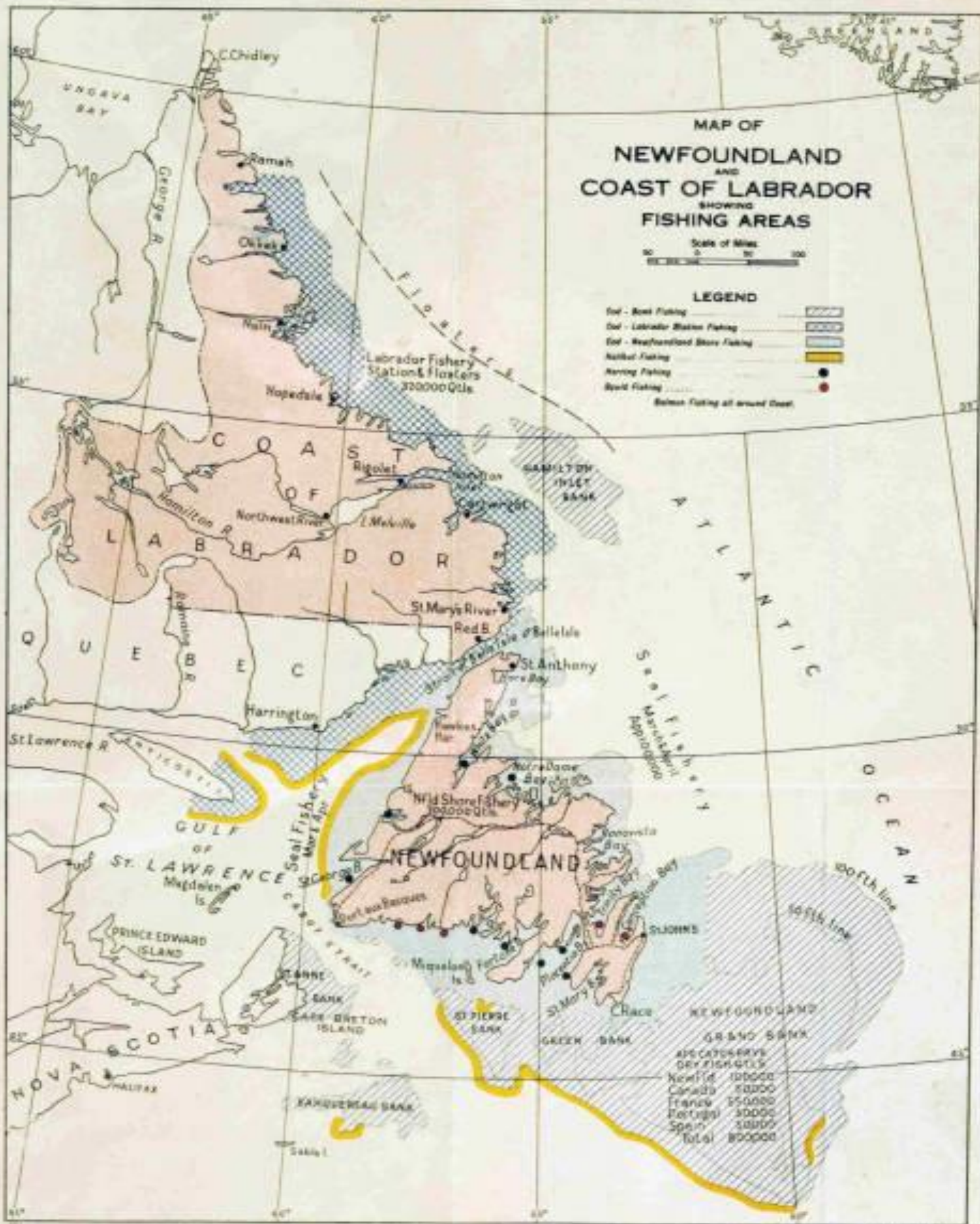
On behalf of Commission of Government,

W.R. HOWLEY,
Commissioner for Justice.
July 2nd, 1935.

ⁱ Susan McCorquodale, "Public Administration in Newfoundland during the period of the Commission of Government: a Question of Political Development," (PhD thesis, Queen's University, 1973), 319-29; and Marilyn Tuck, "The Newfoundland Ranger Force, 1935-1950" (MA thesis, Memorial University, 1983), 48-53.

ⁱⁱ William R. Howley (1875-1941), admitted to the Newfoundland bar in 1898, Commissioner for Justice and Attorney General 1934-38, and Registrar of the Supreme Court, 1938-41.

ⁱⁱⁱ Rooms Provincial Archives (RPA), GN2.5.648, for Circular to Magistrates, No. 74, dated 2 July 1935.



The Ancestor

Family History Society
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