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When Newfoundland Helped to Save Canada

By DR. ROBERT SAUNDERS, J. D. (Doctor Juris) Ph.D.

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(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

ENCOURAGED by the very favourable reception given my more recent articles and especially the last one: **"When Newfoundland Helped to Save Canada,"** I shall now endeavour to again throw more light on, our so far, untold Newfoundland History.

Any facts stated will generally be substantiated by the official documents written on the scene at the time. I am concerned only with data based on historical facts.

Let us now retrace our steps back from the conflict at the Falls of the Miami to a slightly lesser one at Ogdensburg.

On February 6th, 1813, the enemy crossed the St. Lawrence on the ice, attacked Elizabethtown and carried off stores and some of the inhabitants. The Canadians in retaliation attacked Ogdensburg on February 22nd by crossing the river on the ice with a body of troops consisting of the 8th Regiment of foot, the Glengarries and Newfoundlanders.

This town across the river had long been a real thorn in the British side along the upper St. Lawrence, and Governor Prevost had given Colonel MacDonell leave to attack this point at his pleasure.

However, the Colonel's force was limited, and he was required to make the best use of the material at hand. Therefore, the officers from the regiments who had been tried and not found wanting were attached to the less experienced forces. A Captain from the Newfoundlanders was given the general superintendence of the Canadian Militia. Others were required for service at the artillery. The Newfoundlanders were left with no officers; but every private here, was, to paraphrase Bonaparte, "Carrying an officer's baton in his knapsack."

The assembled force moved across the ice with the Newfoundlanders leading the advance guard. It was the depth of winter and snow drifts were piled high along the banks and on all sides.

The enemy was in full possession of Ogdensburg and its fort. A spirited attack drove him from his sheltered town and pushed him more into the open. As they had to work through a heavy snowfall and the drifts the colonel then left his men to breathe a moment on the high ground.

They called on the fort to surrender. No answer being given, they silenced the enemy's battery fire and after forming storming parties they carried the fort in one terrific onslaught.

The majority in the fort escaped some miles into the woods and seven miles behind Ogdensburg itself. The Colonel's forces burned the barracks, two armed schooners, gunboats and other shipping then frozen in the ice. They carried off 70 prisoners, eleven guns, several hundred stand of arms, and military stores, then returned to their base at Prescott.

There are several official dispatches covering this action. But part of the one from Lieut.-Col. MacDonell at Prescott to Deputy Adjutant General Harvey dated February 25th is sufficient to cover the outstanding points. Thus the commanding officer says:

"Sir:

"In my hasty dispatch of the 22nd I was unable to detail the operations of that day . . .

"My principal column on the left consisted of about 120 of the King's Regiment and 30 of the Newfoundland . . . .

"As I advanced, my advance guard consisting of the company of the Newfoundland and Volunteer light company of the Militia,

" moved quickly on and was followed by de-
" tachments of the militia under Col. Fraser
" and Capt. LeLievre of the Newfoundland
" Regiments . . . .

" The enemy's advance battery opened on
" the flank of this column . . . ,

" Being determined to carry everything with
" the bayonet I pushed on my advance . . . .

" I am much indebted to Captain LeLievre
" for his active superintendence of the Militia
" to which I had attached him . . . .

" I must not forget to mention the brave con-
" duct of the Newfoundland Company who had
" no officer of the regiment with them and led
" the advance guard.

" As the action took place in open day and
" that the men had to charge through deep
" snow . . , I trust His Excellency will not
" think the capture too dearly purchased by
" the loss we have sustained."

The following is an extract of a letter from Colonel Macomb of the U. S. forces nearby to U. S. General Dearborn:

"I have this morning received an express in-
" forming me of the enemy's driving him out of
" Ogdensburg.

" The Captain retreated with all his force to Black Lake, about 9 miles this side of Ogdensburg."

(Of course, the Captain did not get back with all his force).

It is the engagement of Stoney Creek in the early morning of June 6th, 1813, that is considered by authorities as the turning point in the war. Here it was that Colonel John Harvey, who afterwards became Governor of Newfoundland, made such a name for himself that he became known as "the hero of Stoney Creek." This Stoney Creek was an indentation along Lake Ontario and close by where now stands the city of Hamilton. The American General Dearborn was following up General Vincent and Colonel Harvey of the Canadian forces, who, in a few days, had retreated with their forces to the creek and its surrounding farms and woods on the banks of Lake Ontario.

Dearborn had also sent his Generals Chandler and Winder to join in the pursuit and the Canadians were also harrased by numerous small gunboats raking them with fire as they hurried on.

Where General Vincent stood at Bay on June 5th was certain elevated ground around the creek and about six miles from Hamilton. The enemy had halted his men for the night near enough to Vincent's army to make an early attack and destroy the Canadians.

We need to know certain other facts in order to understand the outcome of this action—facts relating to the military capacity of the opposing leaders. The enemy's brigadier, General Chandler, had been in his local militia in New Hampshire, but his main concern was making money as a wealthy blacksmith and sitting in his local legislature. Brigadier-General W. H. Winder had also been in his local militia in Maryland, but his main concern was a civilian profession in Baltimore.

These men did not possess the military instincts of Colonel Harvey, who had been an ensign at 17 made the profession of arms his life study, and served in the army all over the world. He stands out to-day as a brilliant soldier, and a book written for a Historical Society in New York State as late as 1927 says "a most able young soldier with military talents of a high order," and Sir Charles Lucas writing in England years ago says "one whose name stands high in the annals of this war."

General Vincent and Colonel Harvey decided to make a stand and give battle where they then stood. The Glengarries and Newfoundlanders were sent out to explore the enemy's position. Harvey also sent spies among the enemy's camp in the dead of night. They all came back to report that: "the enemy is strewn about the creek in a careless fashion and his pickets and guards are not on the alert." One would think that he might have been more awake; for the Newfoundlanders, and others, had at least on one occasion—May 28th—struck back at him in order to hold off a too hasty retreat.

Now Colonel Harvey at once—on June 5th—proposed to Vincent that he be allowed to make a surprise night attack. The General left the leading to the Colonel. From midnight until about 2 a. m. of the 6th, Harvey was engaged in conducting his columns to their positions while the enemy slept on his arms.

The British force struck the enemy long before daylight on what was said to be a very dark night for June. No alarm was given until the men were within 200 or 300 yards of the enemy camp. Then there was an immediate rush for the guns, which were captured and turned on him in a terrific struggle in the dark.

General Vincent got completely lost in the melee. He was thrown from his horse and after wandering in the woods for hours, got back to his command when the sun was well up.

As daylight broke the British had captured both General Chandler and Winder, and about 100 others of all ranks, including even their Duputy Quartermaster, General Vandeventer.

Not knowing what reinforcements might be coming, Colonel Harvey and his men lugged their booty off to a fortified camp at Burlington Heights. But the enemy retreated several miles back to Forty Mile Creek (now the town of Grimsby) to nurse his wounds.

General Vincent's men moved into the deserted over-night camp and took possession of all stores and ammunition left behind; of course the enemy had burned much of his supplies before he retreated. General Vincent's headquarters issued the following dispatch on June 7th:

"To Lieut.-Colonel Harvey who planned "the enterprise and conducted the columns to "the attack every degree of praise is due, and "his distinguished services are duly appreci-"ated"

"To the 41st regiment and detachments of the Glengarry and Newfouandland under Lieut. Col. Bishop, was confided the important trust of the defence of this extensive position, menaced on the right by the enemy's riflemen and on the left by a numerous brigade of boats filled with troops."

Military historians generally agree that it was this action in the dead of night at Stoney Creek that checked the enemy and saved Canada at a critical time.

And General Vincent later wrote the Canadian Governor Prevost:

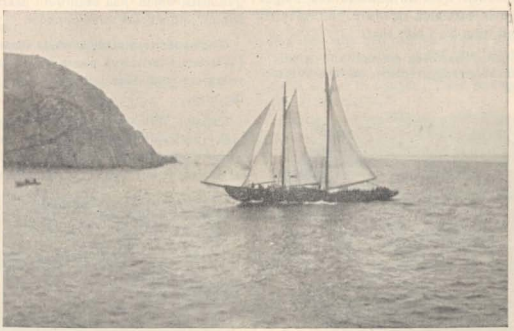
"The enemy was completely surprised and "driven from his camp after being so often "charged by our brave troops whose conduct "throughout this brilliant enterprise was above "all praise."

However, historical events are often not seen at their true value at the time, and it was more than 75 years afterwards that a monument was erected at Stoney Creek to commemorate the great relief given to Canada by this sudden turn of events on June 6th, 1813.

One of the best Canadian historians, H. B. Biggar, says:

"It was not till the year 1889 that an at-"tempt was made to consecrate this spot to the "memory of our country, and there was a "suitable monument put up to the heroes of "Stoney Creek."

I wrote to Ontario to learn more about the Stoney Creek action, and a prominent newspaper in Hamilton wrote me enclosing a photograph of the monument —an impressive structure. The letter states in part:



FISHING SCHOONER ENTERING ST. JOHN'S HARBOUR.

"The monument stands upon an approximate twenty acre historical site reserved from the original battlefield. The cornerstone was laid by Sir John D. P. French. It was unveiled by electricity, June 5th, 1913, by Her Majesty Queen Mary. The monument, built of stone, stands 100 feet high."

"Nor is this all. Close by is a dignified bronze tablet containing among other words this: "To the glory of God and immortal memory of the unknown American soldiers who fell, and sleep, on this battlefield," etc.

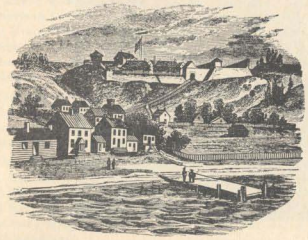
Let us now go back to Fort Mackinaw and its neighbouring territory. Moving up that father of waters, the Mississippi, yet over 500 miles from Fort Mackinaw, the forces of the New Republic had taken a great trading centre, known as Prairie du Chien.

This was a busy commercial post. The large fur-trading firm of Bryant Morrison did an extensive business there; of their boats it was said; "they were the largest and best that up to that time had ever stemmed the waters of the Mississippi."

There were also other large traders in that territory, and traffic from it extended as far as Pittsburg, New Orleans and the Rocky Mountains. 6000 Indian traders visited the place. Even flour and corn were manufactured here.

Knowing the value of that strategic point, the enemy sent 200 men from St. Louis in five barges to build a regular fort, and on July 2nd, 1813, it was announced from St. Louis that:

"Fort Shelley has been erected and is perhaps one of the strongest places on the Western Waters."



FORT MACKINAW.

Colonel Robert McDouall (despite careful proofreading the name was slightly mis-spelled in our first article) on Mackinaw decided to make an effort to check the enemy at once,

However, a depot had to be at first established in Georgian Bay, and about 100 soldiers, mainly Newfoundlanders, were sent in the early spring to navigate through the ice on Lake Huron and then build and organize a depot there as a sort of halfway stop to Prairie du Chien and its new fort.

The Commander at Mackinaw also set out in April with 90 men, mostly of the Newfoundland Regiment, to reinforce Mackinaw. So storm-tossed was this little expedition that it took them from early April to May 18th to get through the floating ice on the large inland lake.

It was then decided to enroll Volunteers for a 500 mile trip from Mackinaw to Prairie du Chien.

Captain Thomas G. Anderson, who was prominent in organizing this expeditionary force, says:

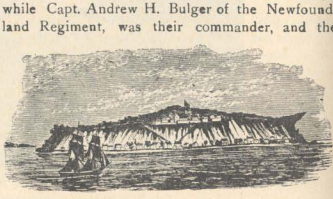
"I called for Volunteers for what was considered an unwise enterprise to Prairie du Chien. By sundown we had nearly 100, over half of them Newfoundlanders."

This number was augmented until the expedition started from Fort Mackinaw on June 28th, 1814 under a salute from the garrison.

Colonel McDouall gave the expedition three small gunboats, which had been built nearby during the winter, and a brass three pounder.

The expedition made a short stop at Green Bay (Wisconsin territory) where it was joined by other volunteers and some Indians and guides and fighting men.

Captain William McKay (receiving a temporary rank of Lieut.-Colonel) was in general charge, while Capt. Andrew H. Bulger of the Newfoundland Regiment, was their commander, and the



MACKINAW FROM ROUND ISLAND

artillery was in charge of Lieut. James of the Newfoundland Regiment.

The expedition followed the route of the Winconsin river—the same route taken by the earlier discoverers. The record states that they carried sea biscuit—meaning hard tack—and salt pork as their staple diet.

What history there is recorded agrees that it was a rough, perilous journey in the gun boats and canoes, shooting the rapids and dodging rocks in midstream; then sleeping at night on the banks of a river after posting guard.

At noon Sunday July 17th—in just 19 days—the Newfoundlanders, known now in Canadian military records as "The Mississippi Volunteers," appeared before their objective, Prairie du Chien and its Fort Shelby—just about 500 miles from Mackinaw.

They had then penetrated into the heart of the enemy's territory; for Prairie du Chien was then and is now, at a point where Wisconsin touches Iowa at its south-west point and quite near the upper borders of Illinois. In fact, in those days, it was attached to Illinois territory.

The enemy, the record states, was completely taken by surprise to think that these gunboats and canoes could have been rowed, sailed and navigated so far so quickly.

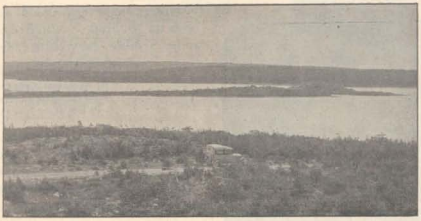
It took both the British and the Americans nearly 100 years later to appreciate the true value of a Newfoundlander as a skilled oarman and a navigator often more by instinct perhaps than by the true theory of navigation.

Thus Commissioner Steele of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, who had been sent in the 1890's to carry law and order to the Yukon, in his book **"Forty Years in Canada,"** says, concerning his 1,100 mile trip from British Columbia to the Yukon :

> "I followed Supt. Perry on 6th February (1898) on board the Thistle, a small but well-commanded . . . craft. The master of the vessel and his pilot were natives of Newfoundland, skilled in navigating the icy seas . . . and no better sailors than they are can be found."

Further, an American revisiting St. John's in 1904, writes back to the New York magazine "Nation" issue of August 14th, 1904, that:—

> "A training ship for the Royal Navy is anchored in St. John's harbour and last winter some men who had received their preliminary training on the ship, joined the fleet on its southern cruise. Not a man on the fleet could handle an oar like them. They won every race without exception."



WINDSOR LAKE, WHERE ST. JOHN'S GETS ITS WATER SUPPLY. ABOUT FOUR MILES FROM ST. JOHN'S.

I merely mention these two illustrations in passing.

Now their enemy at Prairie du Chien did have time to fence up the town with oak pickets and build block houses. He also had two gunboats at anchor.

On the first day of contest for this valuable territory a lucky shot from the Indians cut down the defenders' flag. The second day of the siege one of the gun boats was put out of action and beached. The third day spelled the doom of the defenders.

A flag of truce was sent in demanding surrender. Seeing that he was going to be burnt out, Captain

Joseph Perkins of the defenders turned over the whole territory with guns, ammunition, pork, flour and the garrison itself, to the new invaders, spear-headed by the Newfoundlanders. They at once changed its name to "Fort McKay" in honour of their commander.

But they admitted aftewards that it was a most desperate venture; for when the fort surrendered they had only six rounds of shot left and had used up all the cannon balls brought with them.

However, the Indians were sent around on horse-back to gather up all stray shot. This they made into three pound balls for their cannon, and more lucky still, the Indians, being friendly with the British, brought in lead from the mines they were working there in a primitive fashion. This lead was made into fire balls which were thrown into the fort to speed up a surrender.

ROCK FORMATION, DILDO.

In view of the fact that the Indians were turbulent, Lieut.-Col. McKay had this in his surrender terms:—

"March out with the honours of War, parade before the fort, deliver up your arms and put yourself under the protection of the troops under my command."

From his headquarters: **"Camp before Fort Erie,"** August 31st, 1814, Lieut.-General Gordon Drummond wrote to Governor Prevost that:

"The conduct of Lieut.-Col. McKay and the troops accompanying him, appear to be most highly deserving of commendation."

Captain Thomas G. Anderson had been left in charge at Prairie du Chien. However the times called for a stern military man in command an Colonel McDouall sent a dispatch from Fort Mack inaw to Captain Anderson (who was primarily civilian trader) on October 28th that:

"Captain Bulger of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment being appointed by me to command at Fort McKay and on the Mississippi, etc."

A writer of the times, to a weekly newspape under date August 6th, 1814, says:

"The Mississippi territory is a very extensive country, well watered by many noble streams. Cotton is a great staple here. The whole 88,000 square miles taken together is supposed to be the richest body of land that is known. Natchez is the chief town, though Washington is the seat of Government."

The Adjutant of Fort McKay was Lieut. Jame Keating of the Newfoundland Regiment. Withou boasting at all, they could easily repeat Cowper' lines on "Solitude," supposed to be written by Alex ander Selkirk (the mariner) that:

"I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute;
From the centre all round to the sea,
I am lord of the fowl and the brute."

And they were lords of a vast territory! But they held the fort and territory until long after peace was declared, and evacuated it only when peace terms called for the establishent of the "status quo" as before the war started.

There there ware between 500 and 600 miles from their base of operations, and in the centre, too, o a hostile territory. It was an uneasy vigil and well may they have longed to see their island for tand ex-claim with a great poet when it first appeared to him on the horizon, that:

"On Huron's wave there stands an isle,
Which lifts on high its tower-like pile,
Guarding the strait, whose promont sides,
Press into union various tides."

(To be Continued.)

Enigma

The sun caught the dew
Kissing the rose.
The dew disappeared.
Where? No one knows.

The Promise

Some day when you in eagerness come seeking
You may think me gone
But look among the buttercups, Beloved
Find me in the yellowest yellow gown.
And when you walk beside a singing stream
Fail not to speak. Just breathe my name.
I could be napping on a water lily
And might not answer. But call me just the same.
Each year as spring comes racing down the valley
With her soft rains to make this old world glow
I shall be near enough, my darling,
To lullaby my love on your window.
Remember me when leaves are gently falling
For without the slightest move or sound
I might playfully perch upon your shoulder
Just to prove my gypsy spirit loiters round!

—*VIOLA GARDNER.*

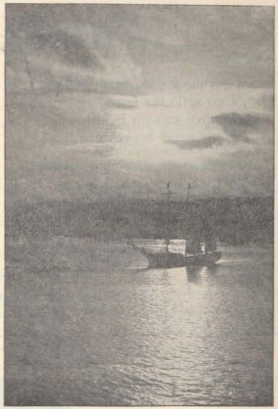
Unmatched

My lover was a mockingbird that sang to me
Above my cloistered bower.
And there were times he mimicked Gabriel's
minstreley
Lest it should miss one liquid lilting note
Of his magnetic power.
All through one sweet magnolia-scented spring
My raptured spirit listened to him sing
In zealous quest to match his caroling
With music never loosened from my throat.

When autumn came I found my lover gone,
But oh, his merry music lingers on!

—*VIOLA CARDNER.*

MURPHY,S FALLS, SALMONIER RIVER.



DAWN—"THE NARROWS."

Spring Came

By ALBERT. S. REAKES

I saw the winter sulk away
In sullen clouds across the bay;
With fury spent
To seaward went:
Upon a blustering March day.

I saw a torrent 'neath the hill
Where icicles were hanging still,
As frost and snow
Refused to go,
Or hurried be, against their will.

I saw the tips of tender green,
Where orchards sombre brown had been,
And primrose pale,
To light the vale,
With violets to cheer the scene.

I saw a golden sun appear
Above the blue horizon clear;
A changing view
Each morning new
In the glad springtime of the year.

"I AM THE RESURRECTION"

By H. R. PENNEY, 174 TOPSAIL ROAD

I am the Resurrection and the Life,
Thus saith the Lord,
Comfort ye with the assurance
Of my never broken word.

Standing silent, head uncovered,
By the graveside of a friend
There's a feeling deep within me
That this tomb is not the end.

It is only the beginning
For the one just newly dead,
He has but gone into tomorrow
By the path I too must tread.

As the kindly earth enfolds him,
And I slowly turn away
Leaving him to wait in silence.
For the promised Easter Day.

Death for him, holds now, no terror,
And the world no tears nor strife,
Though he be dead, yet still he liveth,
Through Resurrection and the Life.

The Sportsman's Paradise

Hunted in Newfoundland Fifty-Nine Years Ago. **By J. A. Barrett.**

Republished from Summer Number, 1913.

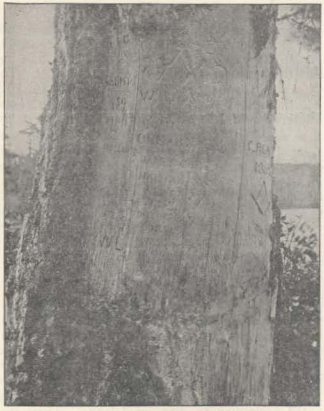
THE tenth island — Newfoundland — is situated so that the Atlantic Ocean washes its eastern and southern coasts and the Gulf of St. Lawrence keeps up a continued ablution on the western shore. By many people its geographical position has never been clearly understood, and they have always associated it with fog, fish and ice, a country uninhabited save by Indians and Eskimos. To all such who may desire to have this delusion dispelled, we would earnestly and strongly recommend a visit to Newfoundland.

The health-seekers, tourists, anglers, and hunters of America are beginning to get acquainted with this country, which has been truly designated the "Sportsman's Paradise," and the Norway of America. Drop into Sandy Lake region for a few days and go after salmon or trout, you will get them there aplenty—big fellows, full of fight, and you will, at the same time, find unsurpassed camping spots where the view is grandly virgin aud where there is nothing but the wild things of this vast wilderness to be seen. We have gone there several times, and found some of the best fishing, some of the smoothest, most appealing trips, looking at it from the canoeist's view-point, and presenting to mortal man some of the most picturesque scenery. Add to this the primitive wild, where the face of man will not intrude to take your thoughts back to the humdrum mart, and you have the key to the situation.

As we dipped paddles into the waters of the Sandy River, the eager craft slipped noiselessly along and we were glad to feel the motion of a canoe once more. The rapture of it all cast a spell over us; the enchantment grew, and filled our hearts to overflowing. Canoeing loses its charm unless the field of pleasure be in a country where everything is fresh and new, and where the soul may broaden by the application of the senses to the sweetly intrinsic as is possible in a wild country far from the busy haunt of man. Each lake you enter possesses a charm all its own, each has its individual shores and attractions—each time you will exclaim in admiration and never will the days seem long or the trip grow uninteresting. Here is a big wilderness fit for any man who asks for the absolutely primitive. If any finer stretch of canoeing or fishing waters can be found in Newfoundland we would like to be informed of it.

It was while on one of our visits in the interior of Newfoundland we came across substantial evidences that as long ago as fifty-nine years sportsmen visited the region surrounding Mount Seemore, just beyond Sandy Lake. At a place called Masonic Point we discov-ered the following carved very beautifully on a gigantic pine tree :—

WILLIAM AND JOHN CHEARNLEY, JAMES COPE- HALIFAX, N S. SEPTR. 17, 1853—OCTOBER 7, 1854—1855—1856—1859



THE ENGRAVED TREE AT MASONIC POINT, NEAR SANDY LAKE.

Above all this were carved various emblems or symbols of the Masonic fraternity, and the skill displayed was of no mean order, as the lettering, etc., were very neatly and artistically cut. Upon returning to Bay of Islands, about sixty-five miles from Mount Seemore, we made enquiries from old residents and guides respecting the persons whose names are given above. Failing to get any information, we then communicated with the *Herald* newspaper of Halifax, Nova Scotia. This had the desired effect, and from several Haligonians we gathered some interesting particulars respecting the Chearnley's.

William and John Chearnley, brothers, were born at "Salterbridge," Co. Waterford, Ireland, where they owned considerable property, from which they annually derived a large income. Although being high strung men of the old school, and having considerable wealth, they preferred residing in Canada, and made Halifax their home town about 1840. William was a Captain in the 8th (the King's) Regiment, stationed at Halifax. He was later promoted to the rank of Colonel, and commanded the 63rd Rifles, a volunteer regiment locally known as "Chebucto Greys." W. J. Angwin, residing at Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, served under him in the volunteer regiment, and attended his funeral in 1873.

John Chearnley never married. William was well along in years before he joined the benedicts. His widow and daughter reside in Italy, and are said to be frequent visitors at the Quirinal. The Chearnley's were member's of St. John's A. F. & A. M. Lodge, Halifax. They were both great hunters and sportsmen, and in the early fifties exploited the wilds of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In the Roman Catholic cemetery of the little town of Chester, Lunenburg Co., N. S., you may read the following inscription on a stone erected by William Chearnley as a mark of esteem to one of his Indian guides—Joseph Pennall—who now sleeps his last sleep beneath the stone:—

"In memory of Joseph Pennall, Indian,
By Wm. Chearnley, A. D. 1859.
Gone to death's call is Indian Joe,
Moose, deer rejoice, here buried rests your deadliest foe."

Upon the dates given above, the Chearnley's visited Newfoundland for the purpose of hunting big game. At that time there were no railways on the Island and no coastal steam service on the West Coast. On one occasion the late Capt. Wm. Messervey, who was freighting in a small vessel between Halifax and Newfoundland, conveyed these noted sportsmen to Bay of Islands. There they loaded on board the canoes their camping outfit, and by the aid of the Mic-Mac Indian—James Cope—they paddled their way through the lower Humber River, Deer Lake, Upper Humber River, Junction Brook, across Grand Lake into Sandy River, thence across Sandy Lake and through a chain of smaller lakes to the Birchy's where thousands of the lordly caribou roam at will over the barrens, and where the fox and black bear are seldom molested.

In all probability the Chearnley's were the first sportsmen to visit that section of Newfoundland, and in that virgin territory they surely had all the sport they desired. The tree upon which their names are carved is still in a good state of preservation, and a photograph of it on the inscription side gives one a fair idea of the size of the stick, the bark being fully six inches in thickness. A splendid salmon pool is close by, where many a fish has put up a stiff fight and given the angler all he could do to land the lusty fellow.

One of the great beauties of this summerland is that the fair sex can safely be taken along. More and more the sportsmen and tourists are taking their wives along with them, and personally I know of no better health and pleasure-giving vacation for the mesdames than a few weeks in the heart of this great territory. Nowhere on the Island do I know of a playground offering attractions in their purely natural state, with ease of access virgin fishing and all the other genuine inducements surpassing this grand territory locally known as the "Sandy Pond region."

HUMBER RIVER.

GILBERT'S VOYAGE

By L. E. F. ENGLISH, M. B. E.

ON what was formerly the King's Beach by the side of St. John's harbour stands the Newfoundland War Memorial, and on a frontal wall is a bronze plate which tells that near this spot in the year 1583 Sir Humphrey Gilbert took formal possession of the Island in the name of her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth. This site is one of the most hallowed shrines of the British Commonwealth of Nations, for here was laid the cornerstone of Empire Overseas. Here were promulgated the first laws of Britain's far flung Dominions, for that memorable fifth of August marked the first setting up of Colonial Government.

It is fitting that in a magazine which has faithfully recorded so many of Newfoundland's most cherished traditions, that we recount the glamorous story. "The spacious times of Queen Elizabeth," so sang the poet in words now set as proverbial. It was a golden era when England established maritime supremacy, when her incomparable seamen carried her flag proudly and well across the Seven Seas. The names of Drake, Frobisher, Grenville, Davis and others still inspire British sailors to deeds of daring. We who live in different days are prone to judge harshly the freebooting spirit of that far age when might was right and religious tolerance a thing unborn. This was the atmosphere in which Gilbert grew.

The date of his birth is given as 1539. He studied at Eton and Oxford and became an accomplished scholar. As a young man he was an attache at the court of Queen Elizabeth. Later he joined the army and served in campaigns in France and Ireland. In the latter country his name and that of his half brother Raleigh were unfortunately connected with cruelties similar to those attributed to Oliver Cromwell in the succeeding century. Returning to England, he took up the study of navigation and of geographical discovery and wrote a book on the possibility of a northwest passage to the far East. Though some of his deductions were faulty, his work helped Martin Frobisher who made extensive exploration in the Arctic regions of North America.

Gilbert formed a high opinion of the value of the Newfoundland fisheries, both from the standpoint of employment as well as a training ground for English seamen. With Raleigh he formed a plan of colonization, and together they laid the matter before Queen Elizabeth. She gave Sir Humphrey Gilbert letters patent in 1578. It was a momentous document and became the model for all subsequent grants for similar purposes. Indeed it can be justly styled the Magna Carta of all British colonies overseas, and to Gilbert must be given credit for its original concept and final preparation. By it he and his heirs forever were granted permission to seek out any heathen and barbarous lands not occupied by a Christian king, to inhabit

NEWFOUNDLAND WAR MEMORIAL, KING'S BEACH.

and remain there, and to bring thither as many of the Queen's subjects as might accompany him. The lands so occupied were to be owned in fee simple in payment to the Crown of one fifth part of whatever gold and silver might be found. Power was granted to Sir Humphrey and to his heirs to govern, to punish and to pardon, and to make laws provided that such were not contrary to English statute.

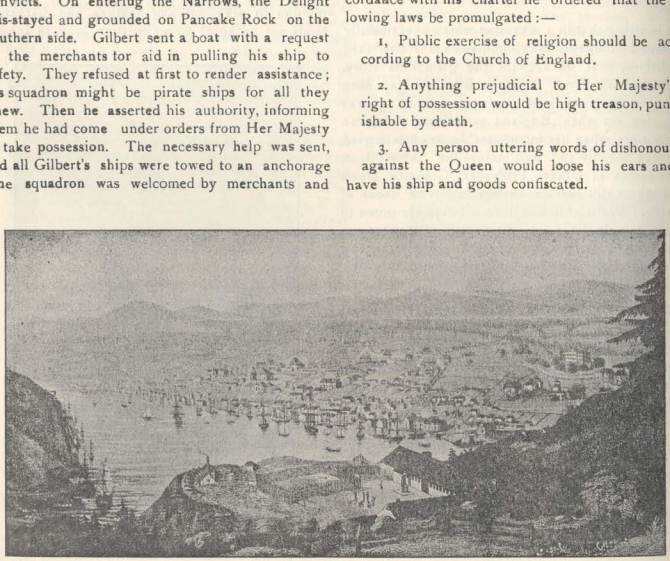
The expedition of 1583 consisted of five ships. Disease broke out aboard the Raleigh, and she was compelled to abandon the voyage. The other vessels met at the mouth of Conception Bay and proceeded together to St. John's. They were the Delight of one hundred and twenty tons, the Golden Hind of fifty tons, the Swallow of fifty tons and the Squirrel of ten tons. Aboard these were two hundred and fifty men, an odd mixture of sailors, stone masons, blacksmiths, carpenters and ex-convicts. On entering the Narrows, the Delight mis-stayed and grounded on Pancake Rock on the southern side. Gilbert sent a boat with a request to the merchants for aid in pulling his ship to safety. They refused at first to render assistance; his squadron might be pirate ships for all they knew. Then he asserted his authority, informing them he had come under orders from Her Majesty to take possession. The necessary help was sent, and all Gilbert's ships were towed to an anchorage The squadron was welcomed by merchants and masters of fishing vessels; of the latter there were thirty-six, mostly English, but included were some French, Spanish and Portuguese. Generous supplies of food and wines were donated to replenish the depleted stocks of Gilbert's ships. It was a custom in those days to have a new Admiral for the harbor each week, and this was an occasion for feasting and revelry. Gilbert remained in St. John's until the end of August, and he and his men were accorded the best the port could provide. Sir Humphrey spent much of his time on shore, a guest of the merchants who even at that early period had many substantial residences.

On the fifth of August, two days after his arrival, Gilbert summoned all persons present in St. John's to attend the formal ceremony. In front of a tent erected for the occasion, he addressed the assembly and read his commission. A turf and twig were presented to him as tokens of ownership. In accordance with his charter he ordered that the following laws be promulgated:—

1. Public exercise of religion should be according to the Church of England.

2. Anything prejudicial to Her Majesty's right of possession would be high treason, punishable by death.

3. Any person uttering words of dishonour against the Queen would loose his ears and have his ship and goods confiscated.



OLD ST. JOHN'S

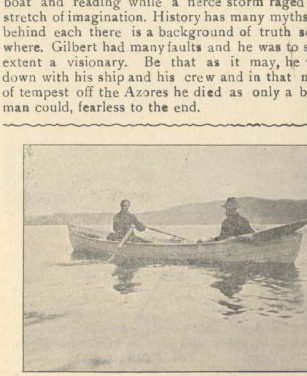
Obedience to these laws was promised by the assembly, and all joined in prayer for the continance of this possession. A wooden pillar was erected on the spot, with the arms of England engraved in lead and affixed thereto. Thus was instituded the first Colonial Government of Britain.

To Captain Hayes who commanded the Golden Hind we are mainly indebted for a description of this ill-fated expedition. He wrote an interesting account of the stay in St. John's, picturing the feasts, the sunny days of summer, and the walks along a path leading to a spot called the Garden where there was an abundance of wild roses, strawberries, and raspberries. Today the path trod by Gilbert and his officers is the well known Water St. the oldest publicthoroughfare in all North America. The Garden was situated on the north bank of the stream which enters the harbour at Riverhead. Hayes told how fishing crews cured their catch, using platforms or flakes to spread the salted product and covering the fish with boughs to prevent it being sunburnt.

Gilbert's grant included not only Newfoundland but also covered part of Labrador and Nova Scotia. He made no attempt to set up a permanent colony at St. John's, and his intention seems to have been to establish a settlement further south. His stay in Newfoundland was prolonged in order to obtain mineral samples, and for this purpose he despatched two ships to visit bays both north and south and bring back specimens of rocks likely to contain gold and silver. One ship went to Catalina where fishermen had reported much yellow mineral. The latter is now known as iron pyrites, commonly called "fools gold." Several boxes of samples were brought back and placed on board the Delight; these were to be submitted for analysis by goldsmiths in London. Hayes relates that the valuable boxes were left on the vessel when Gilbert changed his quarters to the smaller ship Squirrel. Sir Humphrey blamed his cabin boy for this negligence, and discovered the fact when it was too late as the Delight had sailed for Sable Island. He flew into a towering rage and administered a severe chastisement with his own hands.

From Portuguese sailors in St. John's harbour it was learned that on Sable Island there were herds of cattle and swine which had been brought there from Portugal some years previously. Gilbert conceived the idea of obtaining a free supply of meat for his ships and for his intended colony Accordingly he sailed from St. John's with Sable Island as his destination. It was at this juncture that his troubles really began. Part of the company had fallen sick, and these were put on board the Swallow and sent back to England. The other vessels reached Sable Island, but the largest of the squadron was lost on the treacherous shoals when the Delight in charge of Captain Morris Brown attempted a landing. Only half a dozen men made their escape in a boat; the brave captain refused to leave his ship. The Golden Hind and the Squirrel continued to the Nova Scotian coast, but by this time Sir Humphrey had become disheartened at the prospect of successfully establishing a colony. The season was growing late, the autumn storms had begun, and it was considered sheer folly to risk a severe winter without sufficient stocks of food. Reluctantly it was decided to abandon the project of settlement, and a sad and disappointed Gilbert gave orders to sail for England.

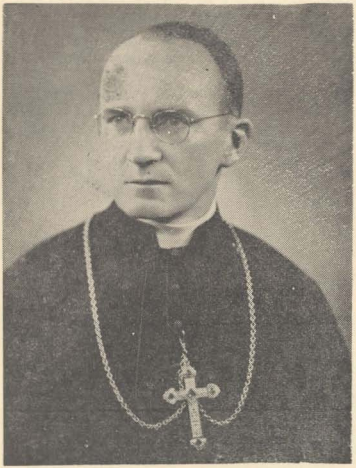
Those who have read Kingsley's "Westward Ho" have been thrilled at a vidid portrayal of the manner in which Sir Humphrey met death. He had steadfastly refused to go on the larger ship, although his men had entreated him not to risk his life on a perilous Atlantic through autumn gales. He vowed he would not desert his comrades at the last, and we feel that then he voiced his famous saying "We are as near Heaven by sea as by land." To picture him sitting calmly on the deck of a ten ton boat and reading while a fierce storm raged is a stretch of imagination. History has many myths, but behind each there is a background of truth somewhere. Gilbert had many faults and he was to some extent a visionary. Be that as it may, he went down with his ship and his crew and in that night of tempest off the Azores he died as only a brave man could, fearless to the end.



GOING UP GRAND LAKE.

New Archbishop of St. John's.

ON January 21st, 1951, the important announcement was made from Ottawa by His Excellency Most Rev. Ildebrando Antoniutti, Apostolic Delegate, that the Most Rev. Patrick James Skinner, C. J. M., D. D., Titular Bishop of Zenobia and Vicar-Capitular of St. John's, had been appointed by the Supreme Pontiff, His Holiness Pope Pius XII, Archbishop of St. John's and Metropolitan of the ecclesiastical



HIS GRACE MOST REV. P. J. SKINNER, D. D.

Province of Newfoundland, as successor to His Grace Most Rev. Edward Patrick Roche, D.D., who after the lengthy episcopate of thirty-five years passed to his eternal reward on Sept. 23rd, 1950.

The new Archbishop of St. John's is a native of St. John's. He was born here on March 9th, 1904, son of the late Thomas B. and Julia (Lamb) Skinner. Of his immediate family three members survive, Joseph in Canada, William, former St. John's lawyer, now residing in New York, and Miss Mary Skinner, occupying an important position in the commercial life of St. John's. The early education of the Archbishop-elect was received in local schools of St. John's and at St. Bonaventure's College. His studies for the priesthood began at Holy Heart Seminary, Halifax, in 1922, and two years later he entered the Eudist Order. After his theological studies at the Eudist Seminary, Charlesbourg, Que., he was ordained to the priesthood on May 30th, 1929 by His Eminence Cardinal Roleau, O. P., Archbishop of Quebec. In 1930 he was appointed to the staff of Holy Heart Seminary and later took post-graduate studies at Laval University, Quebec, where he received his Licentiate in Philosophy. Returning to the Seminary he taught philosophy and moral Theology. On August 24, 1946, he was named Superior of the Seminary and subsequent to the early demise of the late Most Rev. Thomas Joseph Flynn, Co-adjutor Archbishop of St. John's, (Sept. 1, 1949) the Superior of Holy Heart Seminary was on Jan. 22, 1950, appointed by the Holy See as Titular Bishop of Zenobia and Auxiliary to Archbishop Roche of St. John's His episcopal consecration took place in the Oratory of Holy Heart Seminary, Halifax, on March 17, 1950, the consecrating Prelate being the Apostolic Delegate and the co-consecrators Bishop Bray, C. J. M., of St John, N. B., and Bishop O'Neill of Harbour Grace. The sermon was delivered by Most Rev. J. T. McNally, D.D., Archbishop of Halifax. The ceremony was attended by 14 members of the Canadian Hierarchy and by a large number of priests. The Archbishop of St. John's was represented by his Vicar-general, Right Rev. J. J. Rawlins, P. P. Monsignori Murphy, OMara, Bartlett and Maher of the Archdiocese of St. John's also journeyed to Halifax for the occasion. The newly consecrated Bishop arrived in St. John's March 27th, 1950, and his first public Pontifical function in the Archdiocese was the Solemn Blessing of the Palms in the Cathedral on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, 1950. During the last illness of His Grace Archbishop Roche, the Auxiliary Bishop attended to the visitation of the Archdiocese and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation in many distant parishes. Bishop Skinner's outstanding record in the fields of scholarship and administration as well as his personal traits of character fit him in eminent manner for the new and responsible office which he undertakes and the NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY joins with the whole Catholic community and many friends of the new Archbishop of St. John's in wishing him many years of fruitful labour and achievement in promoting the best interests of the Church.

The Call of the Loon.

NATURE seems to have created the loon to make the wild places wilder. The long-drawn call at night, the broken laughter on the wing, you will never forget. Loons and grebes are the most aquatic of all our birds. I fancy both would have lost their legs if they did not need them for smimming. As far as I know, the loon goes on land only for the purpose of nesting. Its real element is the water. Here it dives and swims in a way to baffle all enemies.

Loons live on small fish, for which they dive to very considerable depths. I have a photograph of a loon, that became entangled in a fishermen's net at a depth of sixty feet. When you camp and travel in the Northwoods, do not shoot at the loons with

THE LOON.
Photo from National Audubon Society.

firearms. It will require more skilful hunting to take home with you good photographs of the great diver, its nest or its young.

The call of the loon is one of the wildest sounds in nature. After the silence of the night has fallen over lakes and forest, you may hear it like a long-drawn-out wail or cry, having an almost human tone. Perhaps it comes from a lake a mile away, perhaps it is uttered as the bird wings its way over the tree-tops. But do not be disturbed by its weirdness, the bird is only uttering its long-distance note to its mate or friends; it is not a call of danger or illomen.

Song for Spring

The thoughts of lovely things to come—
Forget-me-nots and daffodils,
With cheery blossoms peeping through
Thick, fragrant alders on the hills.

To bear their message of good cheer,
The dandelions of early spring
Foretell the haste of summer's feet
To summon all to rise and sing.

The brooks now croon their cheerful songs
Around the clock, as day by day
They greet the dawn and still the night
With stirring nature's roundelay.

The long, warm days of vibrant hours,
Carressed by dawns of early gold,
Will crimson evening's flowing robes
To weave rich dreams when days grow cold.

—M. J. CONNOLLY

SHEEP

The sheep are quietly standing in the snow—
If only their importance they could know—
How but for them, and other sheep there'd be
For all mankind a grim necessity,
For nothing in the world can substitute
The qualities sheep fleeces contribute,
Whether it be to clothe babe's tender skin
Or furnish suit to wrap the soldier in
Who must fight where sub-zero atrophies
The limbs not sheltered in the warmest guise.
Thus wool so useful in all times of peace
Is truly in war time the "Golden Fleece;"
But all unconscious of the wealth they wear
The sheep that started this still chew and stare!

—BERTILLE TOBIN.

Golden Jubilee 1901 — 1951

WITH this issue the NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY completes fifty years of journalism. It was established in June, 1901, when its first edition was welcomed by the reading public. Its founder, the late John J. Evans, conceived the idea of a magazine dedicated to Newfoundland, its history and traditions, its people, its scenic attractions, its industries and its possibilities. The task of organization and financing of such a periodical was no sinecure in those distant days. It required courage and vision to carry on through varied vicissitudes of depression and years of economic stress. But with the cooperation of a small but very faithful advertising patronage, the QUARTERLY did not miss a single issue in fifty years of endeavour.

THE LATE JOHN J. EVANS

In all that time the magazine has kept its tryst and its faith with Newfoundland and with her best traditions. It has pursued the ideals of its founder with dignity and erudition. Its pages have been graced with the most distinguished writers in our island during the past half century. Of these it is necessary only to name a few, such as the late Archbishop Howley, Canon Smith, Rev. C. Lench, J. P. Howley, H. W. LeMessurier, H. F. Shortis, J. O. Fraser, Dr. M. J. Ryan, Dr. J. O'Reilly, Rev. Dr. Levi Curtis, R. G. MacDonald, Judge Prowse, A. J. W. McNeilly, D. Carroll, Mrs. Rogerson, Miss E. Carberry, Archbishop Flynn, Dr. Arthur Selwyn Brown, and W. A. Munn.

When advancing years began to take their toll John J. Evans finally relinquished the post of editor and manager in 1940. His passing some four years later was deeply regretted by a host of friends who admired his monumental work in the institution of this magazine which has so long held a high and honoured place among our local periodicals. For the past ten years the work of carrying on the publication has devolved on his son, J. J. Evans, who has followed in his father's profession with marked acomplishment.

We wish every success to the NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY through many future years. May its pages still continue to do credit to our province, and may it ever hold that excellent quality that it has maintained unsullied throughout a glorious past. May it keep faith with its founder and his purpose and vision. *Ad Multos Annos.*

—COM.

The Late Archbishop Howley's "Newfoundland Name Lore"

Republished from "The Newfoundland Quarterly," Commencing October, 1901.

Bay Roberts.

BAY ROBERTS is no doubt called from a family of that name. It is an old English family name (though Lord Roberts is of Irish origin). The name still survives in Newfoundland under the corrupt or modernized form of "Rabbits." The name of Bay Roberts is found on very early maps. The earliest mention I find of it is on Thornton's map, dated 1689. On T. Cour Lotter's map, 1720, it is given as R. Roberts, the name being transferred to the River. On the Royal French map, 1780, it appears as B. Robert, and the French map, 1792, has Baye de Robert. Thus we see the name boasts of a considerable antiquity. Bay Roberts is divided into two harbours by a peninsula called

Coley's Point.

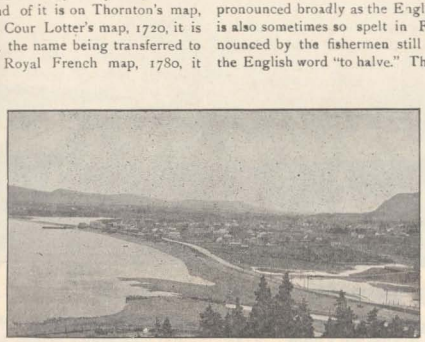
Mr. Shortis of the G.P.O, to whom I am indebted for a great deal of information concerning these localities, informs me that this point was originally called "Coldest Point." That the first settlers were Daveys and Snows! (a very appropriate place for these latter). In the "Sailing Directions" it is called Cold East Point. There is still a place there called

Davey's Head.

The present member of the Assembly for Burin is a descendant of this family. The next large arm of the sea to the south of Bay Roberts is named

Port-de-Grave,

that is to say the Port or Harbour of the Beach. The ordinary French word for the beach is greve pronounced broadly as the English word grave. It is also sometimes so spelt in French, and is pronounced by the fishermen still broarder as "a" in the English word "to halve." The name is, of course



CLARKE'S BEACH, CONCEPTION BAY.

given on account of the splendid beach which spreads across the bottom of the harbour, into which flow two beautiful streams konwn respectively as the North and South Rivers. The modern English name of

Clarke's Beach

is no doubt derived from the name of one of the early settlers most probably a relative of (if not the same person) Adam Clerke or Clarke mentioned in last article (XVIII.) as the pioneer of Adam's Cove.

When going to Harbour Grace by train, a few years ago, I noticed a remarkable looking bald round

head rising from the point of land which forms the northern side of Port-de-Grave Bay. Monsignor Walsh, who was on the train, informed me it was

Bareneed.

I was struck with the peculiar way in which he pronounced it, viz.: Baren-ead, making three syllables of it, and so it is pronounced by all the people of the place. This pronunciation, together with the remarkable formation of the knoll or tolt, caused me to seize upon the idea that the name was a corruption or rather a Devonshire pronunciation of "Barren Head" which would be a most appropriate name. Sometime afterwards I received a letter from Mr. W. J. Carroll, of the Registrar's Office, in which he informed me that Mr. Adams, Dep. Registrar, had come across a deed referring to "Barneed," in which the name is given as "Bearing Head." Mr. Adams kindly sent me an extract of the Deed, which is worth reproducing here. It is as follows:—

"John Snow to Hunter & Co.:

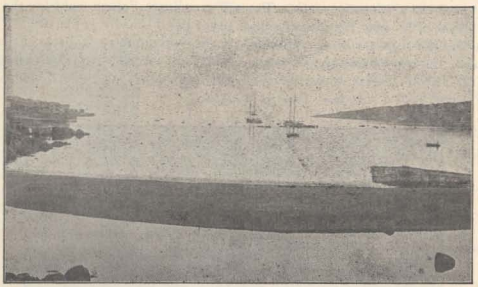
A Deed of Mortgage registered in 1807, referring to property situate in what is now known as Bareneed, Port-de-Grave, Conception Bay. This property was bequeathed to the mortgageor in 1787 by his father Jacob Snow and the place is referred to and called "Bearing Head" ... The particulars may be found in Vol. 4 of the Miscellaneous Registry, pp. 48 & 49."

(Sgd). GEO. J. ADAMS,
D. Reg. Sup. Court.

I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Adams for the interesting information. I think it bears out my conjecture. There would be no meaning in the word "Bearing Head." But barren is quite intelligible, and the short "a" in such words as barren is very often lengthened by West-Countrymen's dialect. I have often heard the word "have" pronounced as "a" in shave. I may here mention that there is a hill between Renewse and Fermeuse named Bald Head. At the south-west corner of Clarke's Beach the

South River

flows in. At the mouth of the river was situated the colony of John Guy, or rather the farm belonging to that colony. This farm or settlement was called



BANKERS GETTING SQUID AT HARBOUR MAIN, CONCEPTION BAY.

Sea Forest.

as we learn from the patent giving the Boundaries of Lord Baltimore's Colony of Avalon. Prowse says in his History (p. 98) that early in this (XIX) Century the remains of Guy's buildings, mills, &c., were found, together with milestones, coins, &c., The principle centre however, of Guy's Colony was the snug little harbour now known as

Cupids.

This place was well chosen as offering excellent harbourage. It is thus described in the British Pilot, 1755, "Cupid's Cove is a good place for a ship or two to ride in; 4, 5, or 6 fathoms, and are not above a pint open.

It is now certain that Cupids was the principal place of John Guy's settlement, though as remarked in No. XVIII, he may have had a branch settlement at Mosquito. Prowse says (p. 98) "at Cupids Guy built three houses besides his wharves, stores, and fishing establishment. It was not, however, at first known by the name of Cupids, which is only a modern Variant. It was originally called

Cooper's Cove.

probably after the name of the first agent, manager or Governor of the Colony. Like many other names we find a great variety of spellings. Thus we have Cupert's Cove. On Dudley's map, 1647, Cuetes, which must be a mistake of the chartographers. On Seller's map, 1671, "Coper's Cove"; while John Slaney, in his letters to his Chief, spells it Cuper's Cove.

The name had been corrupted, or rather in this case improved into Cupids, as early as 1630, for so it is called by Sir William Alexander, the founder of Nova Scotia, at that early date.

The next settlement south from Cupids is

Brigus.

This name has given rise to a great deal of controversy. It may be here stated that there is another small harbour near Cape Broyle which bears the same name, and for distinction's sake it is called Brigus South or Brigus by South, while the one under consideration is called Brigus by North.

Mr. Shortis maintains that the name is a corruption of Bridge House or Brig House, from a small village near Huddersfield in the West Riding of Yorkshire, whence the first settlers of Brigus came. He has on ancient hymn book bearing in gilt letters on the cover the name of "Brighouse." This book formerly belonged to one of the old families of Brigus. There is also an old Bible bearing the same name on its covers. It was originally the property of Rev. Mr. Piercey, the first Methodist Minister who was a native of the country; the date of the book is 1787. This book Mr. S. informs me is still in the possession of Mr. W. A. Munn, whose family was related to the Pierceys. The Lancashire and Yorkshire people, like the Scotch, pronounced Bridge as Brig—the Brighouse would certainly be

pronounced "Brigus." Nevertheless, I am still of opinion that it is derived from Brig, a ship, and means

Brig Harbour.

This place is called by Abbe Beaudouin Army Chaplain to D'Ibberville in 1697.—Brigue. There is a harbour on the N. W. Coast near Flower's Cove, Straits of Belle Isle, called Brigue Bay and the French call it Brigue precisely as they call this harbour of Brigus. The British Pilot of 1755, an entirely English Book, spells it Brigues.

There is in Brigus Bay or Harbour a cove called

Gallows Cove.

Mr. Shortis derives it from the word Gallowses the name by which the fishermen generally designate a pair of men's braces or suspenders, the arms of the cove being shaped like a fork and bearing some resemblance to the form of these braces when crossed over the back. But considering that there is scarcely a harbour or settlement in the Island, including St. John's itself, which does not rejoice in the grewsome adjunct of a gallows cove or gibbet hill, &c., I think we are justified in believing that the name represents the place where capital punishment used to be inflicted, and is a painful reminder of the days of stern naval and military rule. The days of the Surrogates and Fishing Admirals. Coming southwards from Brigus we meet with

Turk's Gut.

It has already been mentioned (Art. V. III)that the coast of Newfoundland was infested with pirates. Some of these came from Barbary, and were called generally by our fishermen "Turks." Hence the name of this and other such harbours around our coast. (See Prowse p. 146, and articles VIII. and XVII. of this series). Next we come to

Colliers.

This place is probably called from a family name. The name is still of frequent occurence among our people. A French map (Bellin, 1744) gives the name as Bay du Charbonniere, i.e. Bay of the Charcoal Burner, but I think there is no ground for the name, and that this is just a translation of the English Colliers. I have heard that indications of coal have been found in the place, but this, I think is geolcgically impossible.

Next we come to

Salmon Cove,

a name of such frequent occurrence that it has been found necessary to change it in many places. The present one has been recently named

Avondale.

One of the harbours in this bay was formerly named Cat's Cove, which name has recently been changed to Conception, both these names have already been fully discussed (Art. XVI–XVII).

The settlement on the coast of the peninsula, which forms the northern side of this harbour, is called

Catchuses,

or Kitchuses, a name the origin of which is unknown. It has been suggested that it is a corruption of Kit Hughe's, for Christopher Hughe's, but this seems far-fetched, and I am not aware that any person of such name ever lived there. The next harbour is

Harbour Main.

The meaning of this name has been explained in Art. VI. It is called from St. Men.

Between Harbour Main and Holy Rood there is a small cove called Chapel Cove, the origin of the name has been referred to in Art. XVI.

On the point or peninsula between Salmon Cove and Harbour Main is the settlement of Gastries the origin of which name is also alluded to in No. XVII.

October, 1907. † M. F. H.

ARTICLE XX.

I AM glad to see that these articles on our Newfoundland Nomenclature are exciting considerable attention. Many persons belonging to our literary circles have personally informed me that they have read them with great interest. I have also had letters from various parts of the Island, showing a widespread appreciation of them, but not only from our own country, but from places far distant outside our own shores. Thus the following is an extract from a letter received by me some time ago from Professor Ganong, of Northampton, Mass.

"I have been greatly interested in your article on Nomenclature. But do not trouble to send me any future numbers, for I shall subscribe instanter to THE NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY—wish I had done so years ago."

Since the appearance of the last number; I have had a letter from V. Rev. W. Canon Smith, in which he calls in question the derivation given by me, as well as that suggested by Mr. Shortis, for the name

Gallows Cove.

The Canon thinks the name is derived from a sort of erection which was, until recent years) to be seen in many settlements, and which was known as a

"Seine Gallows."

It was a sort of "horse" or trestle made of rough rails or starigans and was used for drying nets on. I have seen those erections myself, bnt never heard the name gallows applied to them; neither did Mr. Shortis. Canon Smith doubts if there be any authentic record of "hanging" by the Surrogate

Magistrates or "Fishing Admirals," That they whipped and placed men in the stocks is certain. Hence in many harbours, stocks and whipping posts were erected, but we have no record of gallowses except "Gibbet Hill" in St. John's.

Against Canon Smith's suggestion of seine gallowses is the fact, as Mr. Shortis tells me, that the Gallows Cove of Brigus is, and always have been, uninhabited, and from my own knowledge I can say the same of the Gallows Cove in Torbay, hence it would not be a place for drying nets. And again, as these "seine gallowses" were erected in almost every harbour, there would be no reason why the name should be applied to a few particular places. All settlements might as justly be called "Gallows Cove," &c.

Dr. Jones writes me from Avondale concerning the name of Kitchuses. I suggested, though with doubt, that it might be derived from the family name of Hughes. He says no family of that name ever lived there. "In olden times, however, he says, "there was a favourite meeting place at the house of one Gushue, whose wife's name was Kate. Here yonng people used to gather of a Sunday evening for gossip, a dance, or perhaps "a drop!" Hence the name Kit Gushue's, which might very naturally in the course of time become changed to Kitchuses." This explanation seems very plausible and I willingly accept it. The name Gushue is quite common along that shore.

As to Colliers, Dr. Jones tells me that about two-thirds of the inhabitants of that settlement are Coles! Possibly the name of Colliers may have been applied to them by way of a joke or a pun. "The head of this Bay," the Doctor continues, "has many coves, heads, points, ponds, etc, bearing names that have entirely died out, or are forgotten by the present generation, such as Pike's Cove, Mugford's Harbour, etc. He suggests that people from out the Bay may have come down and settled in those coves for the winter—cuttiag wood, building boats, &c.

Proceeding now on our course, we come to

Holy Rood.

This is a very interesting name, and the origin of it has been a subject of controversy; that is to say the question as to how, when, and why the name was given. The meaning of the name is of course well known; it is the old English name for "Holy Cross," from the ancient Anglo-Saxon word Rod a staff or cross. That this is the true meaning in the present case is clear from the French maps which gives the name (as far back as as 1784 on the Royal map) as

Ste. Croix.

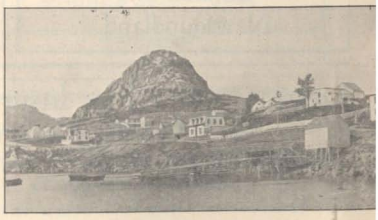
The earliest mention I find of the name is on Fitzhugh's map, 1693, where it is given as Holly Rode. But I have no doubt that it is one of the oldest names upon our charts. The name was a very popular one with the early navigators. We have already remarked that these hardy old pioneers were filled with a chivalrous enthusiasm. Hence all their place names breathe a high sense of religious fervour and faith. We know that Columbus gave the name to one of the Islands discovered by him—Santa Cruz (Holy Cross).

On one of the very earliest maps of the Western or New World, that of Majollo, 1527, we find the name twice repeated on that part of the map which represents Newfoundland. First in thevicinity of Cape Race as P. de Cruz, i.e. punto de Cruz, point or Head of the Cross; and again, A Baia de Cruz,

"The Bay of the Cross." After Columbus had discovered the Island which he called Santa Cruz, he came to an immense group of islands which he called St. Ursula and her Eleven Thousand Virgins. Now it is remarkable that on Majollo's map, quite near the Point de Cruz, in the neighbourhood of Cape Race, which he gives as Kasso, we find an archipelago and the name Vese* mil-Virgines. But if we study the earliest maps of the Newfoundland Coast in juxtaposition with those of the West Indies, we will find nearly all of Columbus's names repeated, and in the same order as described by Columbus. This shows that these early Cartographers, confounded the discoveries of the Cabots with those of Columbus. The French Navigators were equally partial to the name of Holy Cross, and so we find the river St. John (N.B.) called Da Riviere Ste. Croix, by Verazzano. Professr Ganong (formerly of Harvard University, now of Northampton College, Mass.) in his "Cartography of New Brunswick," reproduces the earliest map of the French Missionary, Pere Jumeau. It shows several Crosses in the neighbourhood of the Miramichi River. He calls the country the "Nation de la Croix, and the River La Reivier de Ste. Croix."

(To be Continued.)

*A mistake of the copyist for Vinte.



HOLYROOD, CONCEPTION BAY

A BALLAD A DOUBLE REFRAIN.

By NELLIE AMOS.

I search myself in wonderment and fling
  A promise conscience-ward, and turn again
To find a theme upon a bluebird's wing
  To make a ballad . . . double of refrain.
  While, ever new, still old, true loves remain ;
A boy adores at ardors shrine—the whirl
  Of passion leaps like lightning through the rain . . .
To trace the simple theme of boy and girl.

Inevitable that lines in rhyme shall ring
  (Inharmony a poet must disdain)
With six A's, fourteen B's and four C's to sing
  And make a ballad . . . double of refrain.
  This masterpiece incites an artist's brain
To tint and make forgetmenots uncurl
  Along the secret honeymoon's high lane,
To trace the simple theme of boy and girl.

A pattern shall to patterned meter cling,
  A perfect verse each stanza must entrain
And measure of each foot by galloping —
  To make a ballad . . . double of refrain.
  For youth expects romance in its domain
And laughs at age as iris buds unfurl
  Beside the lover's bliss-bound marriage plane —
To trace the simple theme of boy and girl.

Alas a poet's conscience to maintain
  It makes a ballad . . . double of refrain—
    Inspiring love, each word a virgin pearl—
      To trace the simple theme of boy and girl

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