

The Ancestor



Vol 41, 2

2025



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- Mrs. Eliza's Shop
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The Family History Society of Newfoundland & Labrador, Inc.

The Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, Inc.

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 8008
St. John's, NL, Canada
A1B 3M7

Telephone: 709-754-9525
FHSNL e-mail address: fhs@fhsnl.ca
Our Website: www.fhsnl.ca
Ancestor e-mail: ancestor@fhsnl.ca

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Vice President: Paul Dunne
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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 2, 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, Paul Dunne**
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 are copyright and may NOT be reproduced without the consent of the respective authors and the Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc.

We acknowledge that the lands on which we are situated are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province.

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EDITORS: Frederick R. Smith and Paul Dunne
Volume 41 Issue 2

SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription to *The Ancestor* is available to individuals or institutions for \$45 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 2. From Pippy Place turn into the parking lot in front of the building and enter Unit two.

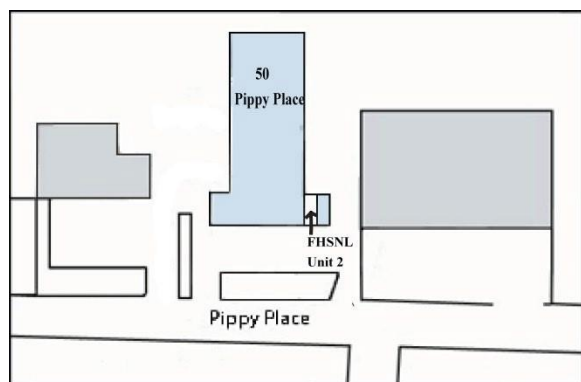


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Cover Picture: Labrador family, The Rooms; A 58-28

EDITOR'S NOTE

We receive submissions to The Ancestor from across North America and western Europe, sometimes from as far away as Thailand. It is so good to receive such a large variety of submissions and they are always interesting. Please keep sending your submissions. If you have old family pictures and cannot identify some of the people in the picture, we can publish it and ask a wider audience. If you have old Bibles or diaries which contain information about your family, please photograph or scan them and send them to us. Our researchers will appreciate reading your material. Big thanks to people who provide us with material on a regular basis.

Things are going well in the Society. We recently had our Annual General Meeting and we were happy to see new board members elected. In June the board will elect its executive and we will report the results in the next Ancestor.

The Society is financially sound we are happy to say. But money doesn't buy as much as it used to and the costs of paper and printing are increasing. Even though half of our members subscribe to the digital issue posted on our website, we would like to see more people subscribe to the digital form. However, if you don't feel comfortable with digital publications, please stay with the paper copy. We have to continue with printing paper copies of The Ancestor because that is what libraries and archives need.

Thank you for your support over the years.

The Editors,
Fred Smith
Paul Dunne

Errata: In our last issue we wrongly attributed the author of "Garland Benjamin Butler of Griquet". The correct author is Peter Rowe.

CONFERENCE 2025

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding a Newfoundland & Labrador Genealogy Conference next summer! [Rockbound Roots Genealogy Conference 2025 - St. John's, NL](#) will be held in St. John's, Newfoundland at The Rooms (www.therooms.ca) over the weekend of July 25 to 27, 2025. There will be two days of presentations covering a range of topics of interest to the family historian whose research has led them here, to our historic province. Should you have any enquiries, please contact us at conference@fhsnl.ca

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 (Until August 28, 2025)

Monday: 10:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-12:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am-12:00pm

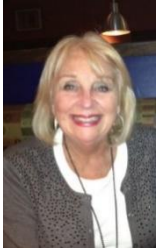
NOTE: The office will be closed on statutory holidays, and when weather is sufficiently inclement that the city's schools are closed.

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 Ancestor, please let us know and we will attempt to find the information for you. Topic suggestions are always welcome.

ACQUISITIONS - *Compiled by Rosalind Babb Stokes*



The Following Books were donated by Donald Spurrell

TITLE	AUTHOR/DONOR
Bottoms Up - History of Alcohol in NL. And Labrador	Sheilah Roberts Lukins
We all expected to die 1918-1919 Spanish Influenza	Anne Budgell
JOEY	Harold Horwood
Joseph Roberts SMALLWOOD	Melvin Baker/Peter Neary
BONAVISTA	Bruce Whiffen
The Caribou Disaster	Cassie Brown
The Titanic	Ray Johnson
The IRISH in Newfoundland 1623-1800	Michael McCarthy
Inside the Atlantic Triangle	David MacKenzie
The Beothuk	Ingeborg Marshall
A Day at the Races (Regatta)	Jack FitzGerald
A Long Journey	Andrea Procter
No Place for a Woman	Anthony Berger
Black Harbour	Campbell and Barrett
The Invisibles	James E. Candow
The Grit and the Courage	Steve Bartlett
Allan Square	Shirley Murphy

MORE JOISEY BIRDS – NOEL, LE MESSERVY, PERCHARD

By Pete Noel

Part 17

A caution on the trees presented in this article. They have not stood the test of time and should be subject to further scrutiny. Most of the references are coming from The Samedi Court records of Jersey, the Mathews name files and Jerripedia

1. I'l n' y a pas de cousins à Terre-Neuve.

I thought this was a rough jewel from Guernsey I found recently:

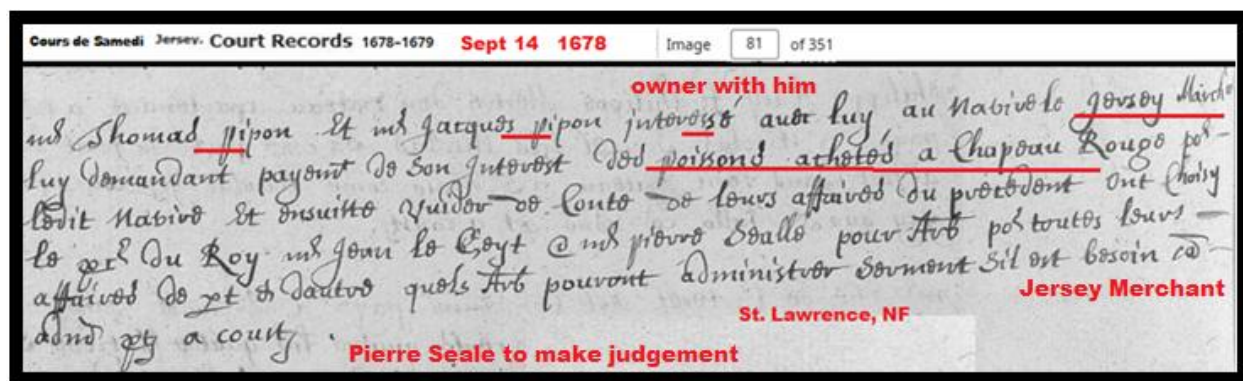
-There are no cousins at Newfoundland- This somewhat selfish proverb, indicating that where one's own interest is at stake the ties of consanguinity go for little, although occasionally heard in Guernsey, originated most probably either in Jersey or St. Malo, both which ports were largely engaged in the cod fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland.

2. The Jersey Maritime Trade ca 1680

The Jersey fleet was still wintering in St Malo due to the lack of port facilities. I did find a record that St Aubin had a small quay. Apparently the construction of a quay had been ordered in 1648. In 1677, though, the quay was privately owned by Pierre Seale. He was in court for judgement against people who had been mooring on his property and piling equipment on the quay. The court ruled that the quay was essential to trade and that Seale must designate a portion of the property for public use. I found a record that Edouarde Le Montais had been contracted to remove rocks from around the area of the quay in 1675. In the same year Raulin Robin was collecting tax for further construction on the quay. Historically ships had been unloaded on the beach at low tide.

I was surprised at the difference in the records in this period versus the records about 50 years later. The importance of trade with a variety of smaller French ports was evident. These could be serviced by the smaller of the Jersey ships. I imagine hostilities between England and France eventually re-orientated Jersey traders to focus on the Mediterranean in larger vessels. The small ships were probably suited for the regular trade with Southampton. Larger ships were probably used for the trade with Ireland, Wales, Bristol, Devon, Virginia and New England (Salem). I also noted voyages to Africa, Jamaica, Norway, Hamburg and St Domingo.

A venture to Acadia in 1681 surprised me. This may be an indication that part of the Jersey fleet was participating in French areas of the fishery while another part was branching off into English areas. In 1678 Thomas and Jacques Pison were dissolving their partnership in the ship *Jersey Merchant*. They were in a dispute over fish purchased at Chapeau Rouge, St Lawrence, NF. The Chapeau Rouge, was a French (or Jersey?) settlement where small family-based fishing plantations were established and grew from the mid-seventeenth century until their forced abandonment in the early eighteenth century.



I thought the tax imposed by the French (in response to Kirke's fishing tax ca 1650) would derail the Jersey cod trade with France but I find at least one case where fish was brought to the French markets. In 1676 the wife of Philippe le Brocq is trying to collect from Jacques Janvrin for green cod, cod tongues and fish oil sold in Camaret-sur-mer in Brittany near Brest. Jersey did not produce many trade items. The Le Brocqs were active in Trinity Bay since at least 1649 when their ship Gift Of God was taken by a parliamentary privateer.

Cider and knit shirts and socks seemed to be the bulk of the tradeable goods. If it was economic to trade fish to the French then this would have been a valuable outlet and might explain the traffic to smaller ports. Perhaps they were able to avoid the surcharge in some ports. Goods like iron and coal from England may have been marketed in French ports as well. Wales comes up regularly as a trading destination as the coal trade from the 1500's had continued. In 1673 eighty per cent of Jersey's coal came from Swansea and twenty per cent from Newcastle. Two thirds of Wales exports in 1660 was wool. The export of English wool was illegal but there were smuggling cases in the courts.

Frederick J. Thorpe had an interesting note in the Northern Mariner. He said that in 1690 an English ship the *Francis* was registered in France as the *Pelican*. It was thus able to enter French ports and trade in French goods. I wonder if this option might have been open to Jersey ships whose owners would have been well aware of any loop holes for trade.

With regard to St Malo, a variety of court cases come to light: Jersey merchants transacting with each other there and St Malo merchants and St Malo merchants partnering in and financing expeditions to many destinations. The Jersey fishing fleet would have made good use of the efficient St Malo outfitters. Some cases tried in the St Malo court are followed up in Jersey when bills remained unpaid. Smaller shuttle craft seemed to ferry across men, equipment and supplies in advance of the departure of the fishing fleet. Some merchants, like Nicolas Bailhache, who was involved in the fishery in 1677, would be imprisoned in St Malo until their bills were paid.

Noel of Le Huquet, of Rozel Mill, and the vicinity of Rozel Harbour

jerripegia.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Thomas_Noel

- 1 Thomas Noel (1480-) (St Mt) jerripegia.org/index.php/Descendants_of_Edemons_Noel
- 2 Edmond Noel (1530-) [82] (St Mt) m Unknown
- 3 Collas Noel (1555-) [83] m Susanne Unknown (-12/1615)
- 4 Jacques Noel, "fils Collas" (1580-1629) [84] m 1 Elizabeth Unknown (-1608); 2 (1609) Renee Hubert
- 5 Edmond Noel (1605-1656) [85] m Jeanne Richardson daughter of Thomas
- 6 Jacques Noel (1631-1695) m Marie Picot, daughter of Richard
- 7 Clement Noel (1684-) m (1713, St Mt) Elizabeth Messervy
- 8 Clement Noel, 16 Apr 1715, St Martin **Freshwater, NF**
- 8 Marie Noel (1719-)
- 8 Jean Noel (1722-) m (1743, Jeanne Noel (1718-)
- 8 George Noel (1725-)
- 8 Jeanne Noel (1729-)
- 8 Sara Noel (1729-)
- 6 Nicolas Noel (1634-1682) [87] m (1661, St S) Anne Le Riche
- 7 Anne Noel (1665-) (St Mt)
- 7 Jacques Noel (1673-)
- 6 Edouard Noel, "fils Edmond" (1637-)
- 6 Jeanne Noel (1640-1640)
- 6 Thomas Noel (1641-1641)
- 6 Marie Noel (1643-)



Rue des Huriaux

Edmonde Noel's property here was split between his sons Jacques & Nicolas (Generation 6)



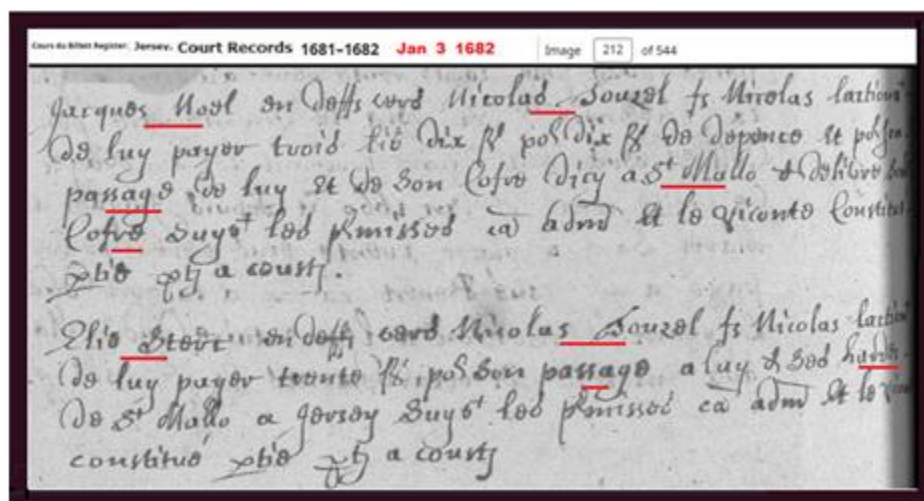
3. The Early Noels in St Martin Parish

The analysts at Jerripegia seem to have done some fine work on the Noel trees since I last looked. The Jersey BMD records in the 1600's seemed plentiful but are clearly incomplete when compared with the surviving property records. The property records remain a tough task though with script that is very difficult and few supporting documents to fill in gaps or confirm information. They show some corrections to various Jacques Noels I had pencilled in. Unfortunately, the validity of Clement Noel on this tree being in Freshwater remains in murky waters.

1. The First Noel in the Fishery?

Although Edmond Noel operated a cannon in the local militia, an Edmond Noel was an early shipowner as well. He owned a small boat with Francois Le Maistre in 1648.

Was Jacques Noel the first of the Noels to participate in the fishery though? Jacques Noel is called to the Cours de Billet for payment of a bill from Nicollas Touzel Jr. The bill is for passage from Jersey to St Malo for Jacques and his trunk. It indicates his trunk was also delivered (to another vessel?). Later in court Jacques is represented by Philippe Richardson (possibly a relative of his mother?). Nicollas Touzel has another case with Elie Starq for payment of his passage from St Malo to Jersey for Starq and his equipment/supplies (for the fishery?).



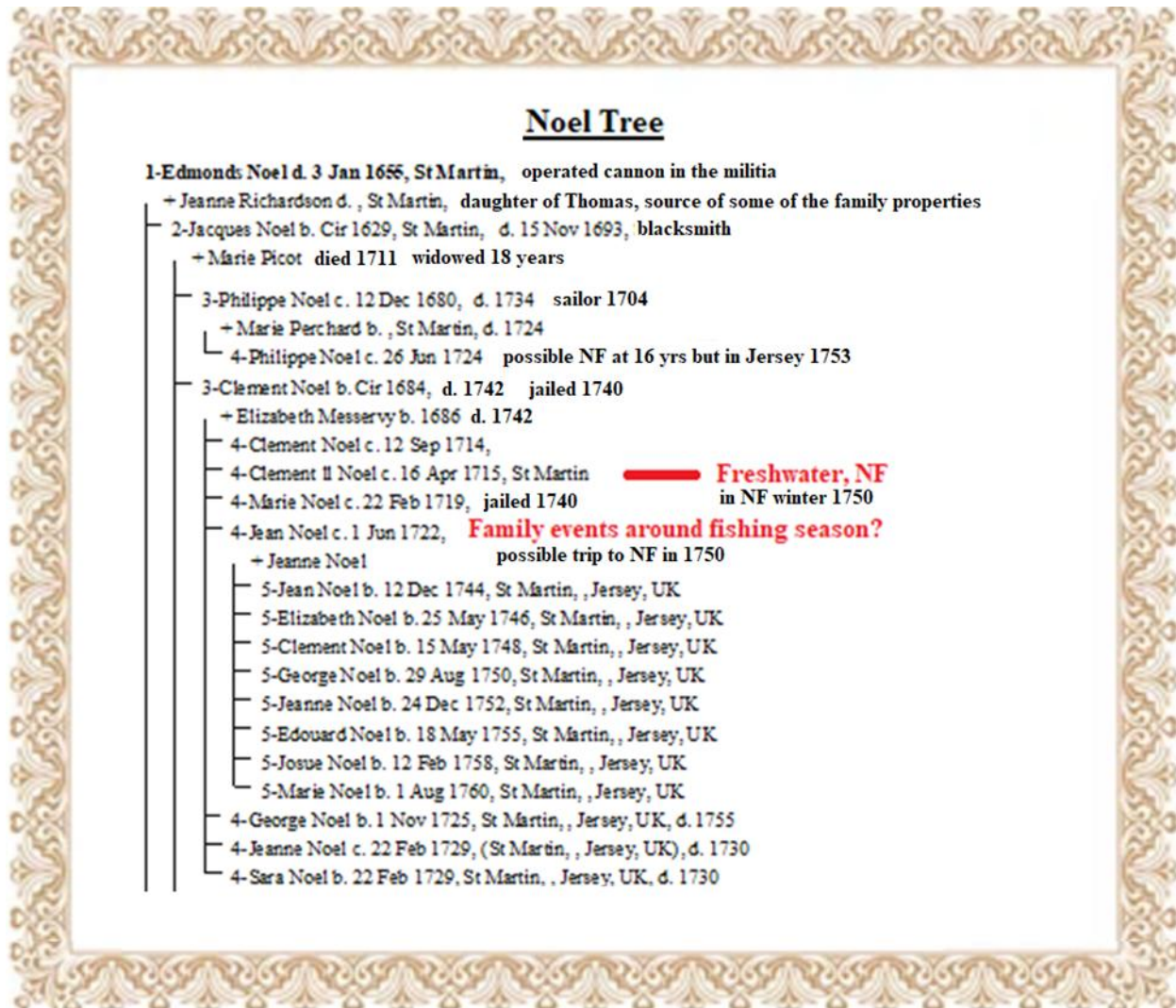
This may be the same Captain Jacques Noel who was taken to court in 1681 by Amice de Quetteville, the ship owner. He had not taken the ship to Chausey (the French Channel Islands between Jersey and St Malo) as directed. These islands were known as a fine source of vraie (seaweed) and also were used as a meeting place by smugglers. Seaweed was the important fertilizer used in Jersey and a saleable commodity. The de Quettevilles were a trading family but based on the court records seem to have been minor players at this time. They did not participate in privateering which fueled the growth of many of the merchants after 1700.

Although not likely, I think there is a chance that this is Jacques the grandfather of Clement Noel of Newfoundland (although there are at least 3 Jacques Noels in the same period). The timing of this case lines up with what I would expect from cases involving fishermen. The peak court case period was December to April. This aligned with departure from Newfoundland by September, a month to sell the fish in the Mediterranean, and allows for a month to try and collect outside the courts. A number of later cases involved fishermen or their families trying to get their trunks back after a death or dispute.

Another early but more tangible reference seems to be unrelated to the main Newfoundland line of study: In 1716 a Clement Noel, wintering in Newfoundland, sent home a package of cod to his brother Nicolas in Jersey. This Clement was probably the 15 year-old son of Jean Noel and Marthe Nicolle. The identification of Clement Noel previously studied was done by a Jersey researcher for Selby Noel in 1991. She based her research on candidates with a birth record in Jersey and suitable age for fathering a child about 1758. This new record opens the door for the possibility that Clement of Freshwater and other early Noels were second generation. It seems possible that the Newells of Bareneed were a different line.

The main drivers I see for cross-channel traffic at that time were trade in merchandise and participation in the fishery. From what I can see in the early records of the Noels, they were not involved in trade. They were involved in small boat ownership, local fishing and the mandatory vraie (seaweed) collection. If Jacques was a seaman, then the larger ships were berthed at St Malo over the winter.

I think Nicollas Touzel was shuttling fisherman and their equipment to the St Malo fleet which would have included Jersey vessels. Jacques may have left for the fishery that spring. Nicollas Touzel also shipped for Jacques Valpy dit Janvrin, transporting his son, servant and equipment. Janvrin was active in the fishery. He shipped merchandise, coal and equipment as well from St Aubin to St Malo.



4. The Noel Blacksmith Shop

It surprised me that the Noels were metal workers in Jersey. This definitely seems to be the line of Noels of study with regard to Newfoundland. I found three references to their operation. The first was in 1714. Clement Sr son of Jacques is called to court for the rental for a week of a cart and its use to haul 3 loads of coal for a forge as well as for carrying seaweed to the fields. That same year Philippe son of Jacques is in court to answer Jean Bisson demanding his wages for work at the forge. In 1716 Clement Sr has his forge and associated equipment seized for the rent owed on his house.

This seizure of equipment occurs soon after peace came between France and England. During the period from 1697 and 1713 ships were arming and there was huge demand for blacksmiths in the harbours. This probably left a steady demand in the villages for those local blacksmiths that had remained. A recovering fishery may have drawn manpower overseas and further reduced peace time demand for the local activities of a forge.

I am wondering if the Noels remained active in this endeavour though. In 1739, to cover his debts, a Clement has a cow seized and is ordered to repair a cart and sell it. It seems like the type of project that would suit someone who had a background as a blacksmith.

There seems to be a trend of financial difficulty in the family. It appears to me that the family had been selling off property rights in the 1600's.

5. Parish Taxes & The Noel Domicile in the early 1700's

The parish taxes were due every year. If being called to court to pay taxes and rent was an indicator of financial difficulty, then Marie Picot widow of Jacques (died 1695) seemed to be experiencing some stress. She was the daughter of Richard Picot and Marie Nicolle of Trinity Parish. She was called to court by Thomas de Quetteville collecting for funds owed to the treasurer of St Martin parish in 1700 and 1702. She was called for rent due in 1706. At the time she still had a number of children who were minors.

In 1704 Marie was called to court concerning the service of her 24 year-old son Philippe on the ship of Josue Le Brocq. He, amongst others, had a one month advance on his salary and failed to board the ship. He was ordered to do one month's service to cover the advance. The ship was probably **Runner Galley** and there was a war with France at the time. Philippe son of Jacques was in court concerning his parish taxes in 1703, 1704, 1711, and 1719. Marie Picot died in 1711. In 1725 Philippe son of Jacques was in court for rent overdue. He died in 1734. He left a son Philippe Jr. Possibly this was the P Noel in John Davis' account books in 1740. He would have been 16 years old. In 1753, however, there is a note in the courts that Philippe son of Phillippe son of Jacques (29 years old?) has paid his parish taxes.

In 1716 Clement son of Jacques is in court for parish taxes overdue. There are 2 Clement son of Jacques though.

In 1736 a Clement Noel owned a boat **Dauphin** used for lobster fishing in the Bay de Rozel. He was in court concerning his lobster holding basin which had been damaged by a boat collision.

Clement Sr seemed to have other problems catching up with him as well. The parish collected regular taxes from their parishoners. Often taxes were farmed out (sold) to merchants to do the actual collecting and keep the revenues to pay off their investment. In St Martin the taxes had been farmed out to Thomas De Quetteville. He filed a complaint against Clement Sr son of Jacques in 1736. Also in 1736 Clement Sr son of Jacques had his barley sized for payment of merchandise. In the same year Clement Noel Sr of Jacques is in court for parish taxes for his role as guardian of his brother Philippe's child. Philippe Sr had died in 1734. Further in 1736, a Clement son of Jacques and maybe his son Clement Jr owe for the dixieme tax on their apples.

The land tenure system seems primarily to operate as perpetual property leases that are handed down through generations. This means that if you are tracking your family tree across generations you have a parallel landlord family line to confirm your work and sometimes fill in gaps. In the case of the Noels, one of the families that is useful is an Anquetil line.

I first came upon George Messervy being owed his rent with Clement Noel (Sr?) who seemed to be regularly late with payment. George Messervy did not inherit the rights to receive payment from his family though. These rights were actually passed down from his father-in-law to his wife. The property may have been occupied by the Noels via the Anquetils from the generation of Edmond Noel. Although Clement was called to court in 1736, it appears that he was at first granted dilation which forgave the payment but allowed the debt to grow. There seems to have been a tight relationship between the landlord and his tenant. Clement Sr made George Messervy and his wife Marie Anquetil the godparents of his son George who was probably named after George Messervy in 1725. George Messervy died before 1736. His widow Marie lived until 1763. It looks like George Messervy's hereditary assets were insolvent and in 1737 his receivables now needed to be collected to pay creditors. Clement Sr's back rent for 5 years was now due.

Thomas De Quetteville, the merchant who had bought the rights to the parish taxes, had married Marguerite Noel. Marguerite made a visit with her servant to Clement Noel Sr with papers ready for signing and expecting to make a collection. A dispute ensued and Clement's daughter Marie attacked Marguerite. A sack of barley was removed from Marguerite's horse. The result was that both Clement Sr and Marie ended up in prison in 1740.

In 1742 Jean son of Clement owes bills for the coffins and shrine for his mother and father. His parents possessions are displayed publicly at their last residence presumably for the benefit of creditors. In 1742 Jean son of Clement revokes his guardianship. He is an adult at 20 under the customary law of Jersey. In 1742 John son of Clement (Clement Jr's brother) seems to have taken over the George Messervy property. In 1743 he has bill to pay for the food that his father and sister consumed while in prison for 13 weeks in 1740.

Surprisingly this Jean of Clement of Jacques is the only one with a birth record that fits. It looks like Clement Jr (if alive) has given up his hereditary rights although the family's entire financial state seems to be in crisis. A Jean of Clement is also taken to court for the taxes due on a property occupied by Jean Philippe who is currently insolvent. Jean is trying to get an accounting of his own care under the guardianship of Philippe Messervy Jr. In 1763 Jean is again called to court as a tenant of the George Messervy property. It seems he managed to survive the financial turmoil after the death of his parents.

Assuming Clement Jr had survived, what did all this family turmoil mean for him? Clement had reached the age of majority by the time the troubles peaked. The family actually seems to have had multi-generational difficulties though. In Jersey at the time it would not be surprising for boys from the age of 15 to be contracted out as indentured labour. The fishery was booming from the Jersey perspective. If this is the Clement of Freshwater, I expect he might have started at a young age. Deals with creditors could be made for Clement to shoulder some of the family's burden. It is disappointing that there are no records of his activity in Jersey but there seems to be no death record either.

A Clement Noel Jr owed the dixieme of labour to the parish for the years 1735, 1737 and 1738 (there are possibly 3 Clement Jr's). I wonder if Clement has already left for the fishery. The missed labour obligations for 3 years might be a result. In 1744 there was a Clement Noel on the corsair *Industry*.

Jumping to Newfoundland, in January 1751 Clement was in a transaction with Simon Le Gros. It looks like Clement started having children about 1756. Simon Le Gros was known to have been in Broad Cove in Conception Bay. Clement's oldest daughter married John Hudson and settled in nearby Adam's Cove. That might indicate family ties (wife Martha) to that area. John Hudson's father was probably working for John Davis out of Mosquito though. Looking at what his brother Jean Noel dealt with from a young age with the rest of his siblings, it would not be surprising if Clement named his second son Jean.

It is possible his brother Jean was also involved in the fishery. He has a large family but the baptisms seem to occur around the seasonal fishing excursion. In 1750 a Jean Noel returned from Newfoundland on the *Good Intent*. This ship was captained by Helier Messervy who seems to have owned a property in Harbour Grace. The passengers of the ship were in court protesting their passage with inadequate food.

6. The Newell YDNA Breakthrough

A Newell researcher from the Port De Grave area requested a YDNA test on the Noels of Jersey (hat tip to KD). A helpful researcher from there agreed to participate. The result was a match at the 37 marker level. We already knew that the Noels and Newells of PDG were matching but this ties both to Jersey. I doubt all the Newells from Newfoundland go back to Jersey but this is a good demonstration on how to lift the fog of oral history. As it is not clear how the early Newells of PDG would tie into Clement's line, we may be looking at multiple lines of Noels.

1. Castaway in La Poile

In 1788 Philippe Messervy was captain of the ship *Friendship* on a fishing voyage from Jersey to Port aux Basques, NF. The Mathews files show he was captain of this ship off and on as early as 1778 and up to the year 1794. The ship was a 78 ton brig owned by J & C Hemery and Co in 1790. There seems to have been a much smaller brig *Friendship* of 41 tons owned by Jean Le Feuvre. This was also in the fishery but at Cape Breton.



The contre-maitre of Messervy's ship was George Scott. The contre-maitre or boatswain was the officer of a ship who has the charge of the colours, boats, sails, rigging, cables, anchors, etc. Scott was sent from the fishing camp in a small chaloupe to organize cargo on the *Friendship*. He was accompanied by James Guillet. During the operation a sudden storm struck and carried Scott away in the chaloupe. When Scott failed to return to the mother ship the captain and crew presumed he was lost. In fact, he had been blown ashore and wrecked on a small island near La (Grande) Poile. He was taken in by a local inhabitant whose wife treated his frostbite and other injuries. He tried to send word before his captain's departure from the area. When he failed to make contact he was left to winter on the island with no provisions. He had to scavenge for whatever he could find to eat and was reliant on the compassion of the local inhabitants. In January 1790 Captain Messervy was ordered to pay £1045 in compensation for salary from the departure to September the following year.

This may have been levied on the partnership not just the captain. The partners of the ship *Friendship* advertised that they were offering a fishing camp at Cape Ray for sale in the Jersey Gazette of February 6, 1790. It would be made available at the house of Philippe Lys in St Helier. Included were houses, boats, equipment etc.

Witnesses in the court case were James Guillet (who presumably was removed from the *Friendship* after the storm), Jean Quesnel, Jean Whitley, Pierre Vaucourt, Charles Bisson and Philippe Perchard. Their testimony was taken prior to their departure from Jersey for another fishing season.

There may have been an earlier Scott-Messervy connection. In 1775 Thomas Scott was a partner with Nicolas Fiott and others in the ship *Betsey*. Philippe Messervy was one of the sailors. The ship was captained by Jean Tocque and was in the Newfoundland trade (probably in Conception Bay). A Philippe Messervy also signed on as a sailor with Jean Tocque in 1780 when he was captain of the privateer *Mars*.

This seems to indicate multiple Philippe Messervys in the Newfoundland trade. In a 1784 court case Philippe Messervy was a passenger returning from Newfoundland on the ship *Brothers*. Since Augustin Le Rossignol was the defendant it was probably from Conception Bay.

1) Philippe Messervy at Sandy Point

Philippe Messervy Jr (b. 1769 in St. Saviour, Jersey, Channel Islands) is acknowledged as the first permanent resident of Sandy Point, Newfoundland. He married Susanne Dennis of Codroy. Different estimates place his arrival at between 1784 and 1800. This Messervy line as documented came from St Martin Parish.

This Philippe Messervy does not seem to have been the first Newfoundland resident in his line, however. In 1778 Rachel Bertram is in court seeking protection for herself and her four children. Her husband Phillipe Messervy Sr had left for Newfoundland in 1776. She has sold the rights to a house and properties in the parish of St Martin to maintain her family. She has been left with his debts and would like a legal separation from that responsibility.



This was during the American War of Independence (1776–1783). France was also drawn into this conflict from 1778. Communications between Newfoundland and Jersey were probably less than ideal. It seems the Captain Messervy discussed above could not be the ancestor of the Sandy Point line. He would have been regularly returning to Jersey and probably would have been summoned to court. The other Philippe Messervy who seemed to be working in Conception Bay in the 1780's could be either Philippe Sr or Jr in the tree above.

2) More Discussion on the Sale of the Fishing Camp

The fishing camp at Cape Ray for sale in the Jersey Gazette featured houses, boats, equipment etc. The presence of the houses surprised me but no doubt makes sense. We know the Jersey merchants were hiring fishermen in line with French system. Their contracts included two summers and a winter. What is interesting is that this camp is established and operating in 1788. The Newfoundland Encyclopedia indicates that settlement did not take place until the mid-1800's - 60 years later. It makes me wonder if the Jersey fishing camps were considered plantations and settlement. It is possible that the area was abandoned after this known camp ceased to exist. I think that is probably unlikely though based on increasing population.

Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador, volume 1

CAPE RAY (pop. 1976, 412). A community located at the southwest tip of Newfoundland, just northwest of Port aux Basques, Cape Ray has been settled since the mid-Nineteenth Century. By 1901 the population was 195 and there were two schools and one Roman Catholic Church in the community.

The implications of this for Trinity, Conception Bay and other parts of the South Coast are significant.

The Blackhead area of Conception Bay surprised me by the relative number of Jersey Court records related to it. It seems to have been an early cluster point for Jersey fishermen with Mulley's Cove named after Michel Mollet. Mollet had a child born in Newfoundland in 1715. The earliest we have Mollet recorded in Blackhead is 1738. Possibly the Mollets moved down from Trinity. Michel Mollet was married to Sara Gisfard and we know the Giffards had been resident in the Trinity area. A researcher told me that she could find no evidence of early plantation ownership in the Newfoundland records of Blackhead. She thought there may have been seasonal camps in the area earlier. However, if the Jersey camps were not considered permanent, there could well be numerous sites where semi-permanent fishing camps had developed prior to recorded settlement.

This may explain something that has puzzled me greatly in the Harbour Grace history. The absence of Jersey men in the early Newfoundland records is perplexing. Historians and oral history seem to consistently place families like the Browns, Martins (Guernsey) and Paynes there very early. Yet I see no evidence in the early censuses. Similarly there is a lack of early records of Harbour Grace in the Jersey court records.

My assumption has been that possibly the organization of the Bristol merchants in Harbour Grace left them outside enumeration. We know that up to 1636 the land of Harbour Grace was owned as a single large tract by an investment group. There was no evidence in the trace records up to 1650 that this had changed. I assumed the the Bristol merchants had set up a local dispute resolution system that avoided the necessity of the Jersey courts as well.

With the case of Cape Ray now evident, though, I am wondering if Jersey merchants set up camps on the periphery of the Bristol boundaries. They might have had a presence without being enumerated in surveys. This might also be true in the Trinity, Port de Grave and Freshwater areas amongst others. Their “houses” may not have been substantial enough to be picked up by the radar of the census takers. They may have been adequate to be picked up by Father Beaudoin in 1700, however, when the French overran Conception Bay.



Sod houses were some of the earliest dwellings, similar to this family's home along the coast in Labrador. They were easy to construct and took little wood to heat, however, they were exposed to Atlantic gales, so during winter months on the barren shores, many families took shelter at inland cabins known as "tilts," where wood was in greater supply. (Parsons collection)

PETITE FORTE HISTORY: MRS. ELIZA'S SHOP

By Edmund Hayden

Before my time, Doug Walsh from Marystown came to Petite Forte to run a shop for J.W. Wiscombe, general merchant and fish producer. In 1948, in addition to its headquarters at Marystown, the firm had eight branch shops: Little St. Lawrence, Burin Bay, Burin Bay Arm, Garnish, Marystown, Rock Harbour, Flat Islands and Petite Forte. Wiscombe's owned four schooners, the largest of which was the Gladys Wiscombe, of 68 tons. Pad Mulrooney and Annie (Cheeseman) Flynn of Petite Forte wrote a song about the boys from Petite Forte, including these lines:

Their winter months they spent at home, a wondering what to do, so they joined the Gladys Wiscombe and the rest of the jolly crew.

Wiscombe's shop in Petite Forte was upstairs in a two-story building on the beach near Chapel Hill. With its yellow ochre clapboard and red ochre trim, the shop was like other stages and stores around the harbour. A large window on either side of the entrance at road level provided good lighting to both the grocery side and dry goods side of the shop. In the stage below were barrels of salt beef and pork, a puncheon with spigot to draw off molasses into customers' earthenware jars, and cases of goods newly arrived before being carted upstairs to display on shelves in the shop. Customers' punts, dories and trap skiffs crowded the wharf.

A wooden plank without rails lay across a six-foot gap between the shop wharf and Mick Walsh's wharf. Brave older boys, like my brother Dave and his best friend Austin Pearson, took pride in jumping across the six-foot gap from one wharf to the other. Timid boys like me felt sheepish walking the plank.

Doug Walsh, Wiscombe's man, boarded with Paddy and Maggie Flynn in a house on Flynn's Hill with a splendid view of the harbour, later owned by Jack and Florence (Jones) Barry, who raised thirteen youngsters there. It continues to be a stunning property maintained beautifully by their daughter Theresa (Barry) French.

Maggie was an Edwards from Lawn who came to Petite Forte teaching school. She married Paddy Flynn, son of Old Pad Flynn, as he was called. Old Pad and Maggie didn't get along. He called her the Grand Advisor. She was also known as Mag the Brag.

One day a stranger with a suitcase got off a steamer in Petite Forte and asked a fellow on the government wharf where he could get a boarding house. The fellow from Petite Forte replied, 'Where do you want to go, Mag the Brag's or Sarah Bob's?'

Sarah Bob was my grandmother Hayden's sister, Sarah Farrell from Bar Haven, married to Bill Flynn. This Bill Flynn was known as Billy Bob because he was the son of Robert Flynn. Thus, Aunt Sarah came to be known as Sarah Bob, perhaps behind her back. Billy Bob's nickname distinguished him from another Bill Flynn in Petite Forte, Lighthouse Bill, the light keeper on Long Island who built a house of considerable size in what is now known as Ryan's Cove. My father Osborne Hayden told the boarding-house story at our kitchen table with great humour.

Billy Bob and Aunt Sarah lived in the home later occupied by Jimmy and Nellie (Hann) Flynn, who also had a shop in Petite Forte at that time. Their home was bought and renovated beautifully

by Johnnie and Sheila (Pearson) Barry, another shopkeeper with a stunning view of the harbour and across the arm.

Doug Walsh didn't last long in Wiscombe's shop. He let it be known that his boarding mistress Maggie Flynn treated him so badly that he couldn't stay under her roof another night. Doug and my mother Melinda (Cheeseman) Hayden were cousins, so he came over to board at our house. He stayed just a couple weeks before returning to Marystown. Shortly afterwards, Paddy and Maggie Flynn bought Wiscombe's shop.

Elizabeth Northover (pronounced Nort o' Ver, with the emphasis on Nort, not North Over, as relayed to me by her son-in-law John Ryan) came to Petite Forte from New Perlican as an itinerant, adult education night-school teacher. She was employed in a program set up by the Newfoundland Commission of Government, a body of officials appointed by Britain to govern Newfoundland from 1934 to 1949 following the collapse of the Newfoundland economy during the Great Depression.

Mrs. Eliza traveled to various harbours, spending several months teaching literacy and numeracy in each, including Oderin and Petite Forte. My father and Pad Hayes were two of her students. Mrs. Eliza was well known for her concerts. She, too, boarded at Maggie Flynn's. She married



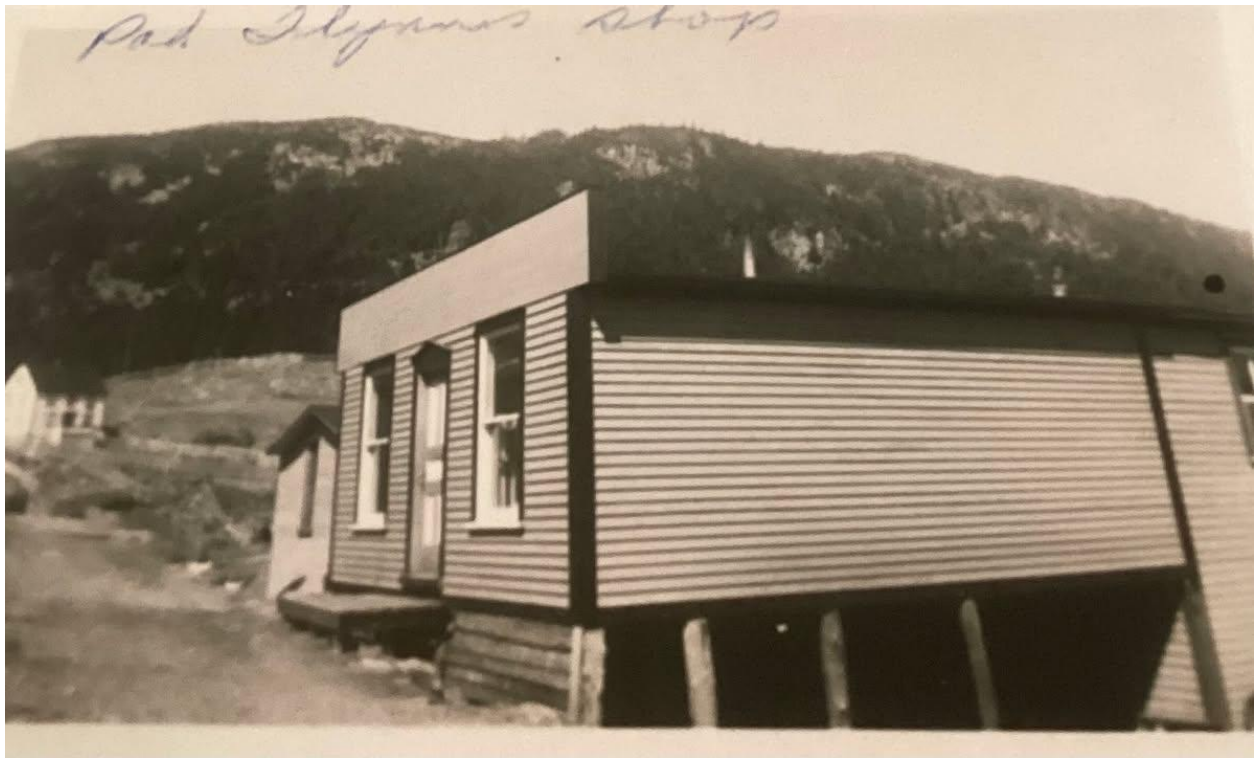
Thomas and Eliza (Northover) Hayden and two of their children Leslie and Pat.
Photo courtesy of Lena (Flynn) Lemieux Collection

my father's first cousin Tommy Hayden, a master carpenter who built a grand home on Haydens Point next to his parents' two-story, peaky-roofed house. They had three children: Leslie, Pat and Lily.

Mrs. Eliza bought Wiscombe's shop from Maggie and Paddy Flynn and ran a thriving business there. She was friendly and pleasant with everyone, regardless of age or status.

I loved the pleasant tinkle of the little brass bell over the shop door when it opened, alerting Mrs. Eliza to come out from her back kitchen to tend to customers. A great assortment of candy was strategically placed on a low shelf inside the counter, with jellybeans at three for a cent. Loose tea, white beans and whole and split peas were stored in tea chests under the counter for scooping into brown paper bags and weighing on a balance-beam scale. All goods were on shelves inside the counter, to be retrieved by the shopkeeper, wrapped in brown paper from a large roll and tied neatly with white twine hanging from the ceiling. In a corner outside the counter, a small, pot-bellied Dixie stove, half the size of Dixies in our school, gave off a good heat, sometimes turning red with a coal fire in winter. The back kitchen had its own stove for cooking and baking.

Mrs. Eliza's Shop (previously run by Paddy Flynn). *Photo courtesy of Lena (Flynn) Lemieux Collection*



I went to Mrs. Eliza's to buy Brylcreem, a hair gel used by teenage boys and young men to create a sleek hairstyle that was the fashion at the time. She walked around the counter to where the Brylcreem was kept with widely used patent medicines and potions, including Brick's Tasteless (a cod liver oil nourishment), Beef Iron Wine (a pick-me-up tonic to increase appetite and for its bit of alcohol after a bender), Dodd's Kidney Pills for kidney and back pain, Dr. Chase's Nerve Food Pills for depression, anxiety and 'bad nerves', Dr. Chase's Ointment, Minard's Liniment, Sunlight

soap and Prom. With just the two of us in the shop, she strolled back, Brylcreem in hand, smiling and serenading me with a lively rendition of the popular radio commercial:

Brylcreem, a little dab'll do ya; Brylcreem, you look so debonair; Brylcreem, the girls will all pursue ya; Simply rub a little in your hair.

Mrs. Eliza was appointed as invigilator, supervising the annual provincial public exams, then known as CHE (Council of Higher Education) exams in Petite Forte, including in 1966 when I wrote my Grade 9 exams in the upstairs hall of the school, along with Rosita Pearson, Mabel Hickey, Iris Leonard, Theresa Hann and Pat Power.

In 1957-58, Mrs. Eliza's daughter Lily and my sister Barbara were the only students in grade nine in the multi-grade school in Petite Forte, so Mrs. Eliza set up a learning space in the back of her shop and home-schooled them. Public exams for communities in our part of Placentia Bay that year were held in St. Joseph's, previously called Gallows Harbour. Mr. Tommy brought them up in his skiff, where they boarded for exam week with the Harrises.

Jim Harris had been skipper of my grandfather Joe Hayden's three-dory schooner, the M and J Hayden, for eight years and fished off Cape St. Mary's. His son Leslie attended the one-room, all-grade school in St. Joseph's and wrote his grade eight CHE exams in Petite Forte, where they were held that year. He stayed at my grandfather's for exam week. In due course, Leslie Harris earned a doctorate degree at the University of London, England, authored the grade five history textbook for Newfoundland and Labrador schools and became president of Memorial University.

For the next two years, Leslie Hayden, Mrs. Eliza's son, taught high school in the two-room school in Petite Forte, where Barbara and Lily finished grades ten and eleven. Her daughter Pat, artistic and full of life, taught us young ones in the low school and started a church choir. Upon finishing grade eleven in Petite Forte, Lily and Barbara attended Holy Heart of Mary High School in St. John's and boarded at McAuley Hall, a residence for Catholic girls run by the Sisters of Mercy. Lily went to nursing school at the General Hospital in St. John's, then to Scotland to become a midwife and to McGill University, Montreal, for a degree in nursing. Barbara attended Memorial University for a degree in Education.

On December 14, 1963, Mrs. Eliza and Tommy were devastated upon receiving news of the tragic death of their son Leslie by drowning at the age of twenty-four. He was a passenger in a car that went over the government wharf in Grand Bank. It was a sorrowful day in Petite Forte when the steamer landed the casket on the government wharf. Kevin Hefferan carried the cross from the wharf up around the harbour towards Chapel Hill, past houses with blinds drawn, as mourners walked solemnly behind and the church bell tolled.

Though competitors by day, as they both had shops in our small community, my mother managed to escape briefly from us youngsters every night to enjoy tea and a bun at Mrs. Eliza's home. She told me that Mrs. Eliza never recovered from her shock and grief. Not long afterwards, Mrs. Eliza and Tommy sold the shop and moved to Torbay to be near their daughter Pat (Hayden) Ryan.



Clem Leonard and Pat Hayden enjoying a snack in front of the dry goods section of Mrs. Eliza's Shop. Photo courtesy of Lena (Flynn) Lemieux Collection.

Gerald and Marguerite (Brennan) Hann bought Mrs. Eliza's shop and carried on the business. Every night, Mick Pearson, Joe Leonard and his brother Clem and other men gathered there in the lamplight. Gerald's chair was in a corner behind the stove, and the men sat on a bench, rolling tobacco and having a yarn. Younger people came for ready-made cigarettes, Coke and slices of baloney.

Some years later, my niece Paula (Hayden) Leonard took over the business. Now it is Frank Leonard's fishing stage and loft, but we always remember it fondly as Mrs. Eliza's shop.

A 1673 DISCOVERY: EDWARDS AND BUTLER OF CONCEPTION BAY AND BRISTOL

Submitted by Susan Snelgrove, FHSNL member, genijunkie@gmail.com

While lazily circling the internet one day, I stumbled across an exciting early Newfoundland reference in an English court publication. Great discoveries are often made by pure dumb luck!

“7 February 1673, Whitehall

*Vpon reading the Petition of **Peter Edwards and Thomas Butler Planters and Inhabitants in Newfoundland** Setting forth that they sailed from Newfoundland to Bristoll in a Ship of **their owne** called the **Little John** burthen One hundred Tunns, where they arrived about Michaelmas last, that having laden a good part of the said Ship with Provisions for the **supply of their family and Servants** there, and being ready to returne home, the said Shipp was stayed by order of the mayor of Bristoll in obedience to his Royall Highnes Comands, And humbly praying to be permitted to proceede on their voyage, [It is ordered that the Lord High Admirall do license and permit the necessary number of mariners to sail the ship to Newfoundland] [p 167. Para 5]”¹ I have added the bolding for emphasis.*

As a genealogist whose interests lie in Conception Bay, I instantly recognized Thomas Butler as an early settler of Port de Grave. Years ago I had discovered the will of James Hill, “Inhabitant of Cupits Cove” written on 4 March 1674, making Thomas Butler “now of Porta Grave” his executor.² Because of the old style of dating, James’ will was actually written on 4 March 1675. It was proved at the Prerogative Court in London by Thomas Butler on 4 November 1675. In the PCC Wills Index for November 1675 Jacobus (James) Hill is recorded as being from Somerset. Other entries record persons from “Bristol”, suggesting James was actually from another town.

An embargo to trade with foreign locations was instituted the very day Butler and Edwards had wanted to leave port. So they had to make a petition for an exception to leave. Given the date of Michaelmas, the *Little John* arrived in Bristol around 29 September 1672. They could not return home until sometime after 7 February 1673, if and when the court lifted the embargo.

Following this discovery I focused my research on Thomas Butler, and I have some ideas now on his identity. For this article, however, I would like to feature Peter Edwards, since what I found will shed light on some residents on the 1675-1677 censuses in Conception Bay.

So, who was the planter Peter Edwards arriving in 1672 in Bristol with Thomas Butler on the *Little John*? While the record does not specifically say where in Newfoundland they came from, it is no coincidence that their surnames appear on the 1675 Berry census³. While it is unclear exactly what date the census was taken, on 5 May 1675 King Charles II had ordered the eviction of the planters in Newfoundland. Sir John Berry had been asked to do so, but he sent back a report dated 25 July 1675 refusing his orders, saying the situation was much different than

¹ *Acts of the Privy Council England*, Colonial Series, Volume 1, 1613-1680 edited by W.L. Grant, University of Oxford and James Munro, University of Edinburgh, 1908, printed by Anthony Brothers, Limited, Hereford, p. 598

² *The National Archives*, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, PROB 11/394/87, www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk

³ *Latter Day Saints*, www.familysearch.org, Film #008123995, Image 85 of 454

originally thought. He sent another report dated 12 September 1675.⁴ It is unclear exactly when the Conception Bay part of the census was conducted, but it may have been as early as July.

<i>Cupids Cove</i>	Steph Atkins Keep ^r of Mr. Butlers castle ⁵
<i>Port Grave</i>	Tho. Butler & Wife, 3 boys, 20 men, 5 boats, 2 stages and 50 head
<i>Carbonear</i>	Jno Edwards, wife, 1 boy, 8 men, 2 boats, 1 stage Wm. Bradley, wife, 3 boys, 1 girl, 5 men, 2 boats, 1 stage

I am including the entry for William Bradley for reasons that will soon become apparent. While Peter Edwards does not appear on the census, he could be one of the 20 men working for Thomas Butler. Or, he could be in John Edwards' household. But as I shall explain later, I believe Peter is missing because he was likely dead when the census was taken. Since the two planters *came* to the port of Bristol, it suggests they may have been *from* Bristol. So, I dove headfirst into the Bristol records! As an aside, if your ancestor came from Bristol, I highly recommend purchasing the on-line publications by the Bristol & Avon Family History Society (BAFHS) covering Bristol Apprenticeships and Burgess records. They are a goldmine!

In the Bristol Burgess books, Peter Edwards, locksmith, was made Burgess on 14 November 1649 arising from his marriage to **Sarah Bradlye**, the daughter of Thomas Bradlye.⁶ There is no record of Peter Edwards being apprenticed in Bristol. In searching for their marriage, I found them in the Bristol Temple records, which are in abysmal condition. While the full date and first name of the groom is illegible, in 1646 a man named ".....r" Edwards married Sarah Bradley.⁷ I found no evidence of children in the Bristol parish records for Peter and Sarah Edwards.

Given the year of their marriage, I estimate that Peter and Sarah were born about 1620 to 1625. While Thomas Bradley's occupation is not given in Peter's burgess record, from the apprenticeship books I found a master tailor whose wife was named Elizabeth. I could find no baptism records for children of Thomas and Elizabeth Bradley. There is a Thomas Bradley, son of Thomas the tailor in the apprenticeship books who is likely Sarah's brother.⁸ She may have had more siblings. I draw your attention now to the 1675 census above noting William **Bradley** of Carbonear. While it proves nothing, that surname is an interesting coincidence!

Peter and his wife Sarah Edwards appear many times in the apprenticeship books. The first is on 15 March 1655 – Thomas Palmer, son of Thomas, cloth worker of **Farrington Gurney**, Somerset as a locksmith.⁹ This place name will be seen again later. It is useful to understand the nature of the apprenticeship contract. It was typically for a term of 7 years with both the master and his

⁴ *Weighing the Evidence: Restoration Policymaking and the 1675 Order to Evict Newfoundland's English Residents*, Joshua Tavenor, Wilfred Laurier University, <https://journals.lib.unb.ca/index.php/acadiensis/article/view/27240/1882518953>

⁵ While this has been transcribed at genealogy sites as "castle", on the image it looks like the "s" may have been typed over. I believe the word is actually "cattle"; see that Butler has 50 head of **cattle**

⁶ *Bristol & Avon Family History Society (BAFHS)*, Burgess Books, 2/ 379/ 2

⁷ *Ancestry.com*, Bristol BMD 1538-1812, Bristol > Temple > 1631-1652, Film 8 of 88

⁸ *BAFHS*, Apprenticeship Books, 1F/406/6

⁹ *Ibid*, 1G/338/7

wife, who often had a role in the business. It is not unusual to see instances where the master had died, yet the widow continued the business, even taking on new apprentices herself.

There is a gap of 14 years in the records, and then on 2 March 1669 Peter and Sarah took as a mariner apprentice **John Edwards**, son of **John, mariner of Wraxall**, Somerset.¹⁰ While sometimes it is just coincidence, more often than not there is a family connection when one sees an apprentice with the same surname. The change in Peter Edwards' profession from locksmith to mariner is interesting. The large gap in time suggests he might be a different Peter Edwards, or perhaps Peter has been away from Bristol or otherwise occupied. Peter Edwards does not appear in the 1662 or 1668 Bristol Hearth Tax records, but he does appear in St. Michael's ward having 4 hearths in the 1670 Michaelmas register.¹¹ The fact that Peter's wife was recorded throughout as "Sarah" does suggest he was the same man. Finally, other than their marriage in 1646, there are zero references to a man named Peter Edwards in the Bristol parish records until the 1700's. So, there are no other Bristol candidates.

It was exciting to see the apprentice named John Edwards! I feel he is likely the man of the same name who appears on the 1675 census for Carbonear with a wife and son. Since Peter Edwards was a "Planter" when he arrived back in Bristol in 1672, it would make sense that his 1669 apprentice John Edwards was living in Newfoundland with him. If John was the typical apprentice age of 12-14 in 1669, we can estimate he was born about 1655-1657. That would make him about 18-20 years old in the 1675 census. He could easily be a husband and father by then, particularly if he was older than usual when apprenticed. Sadly, the Wraxall, Somerset records do not exist for the approximate year of John's birth in order to check.

Peter and Sarah Edwards were busy from January 1670 to February 1671, taking on 4 more apprentices as either "mariners" or "sailors". Then there followed a 2 year silence, which nicely coincides with Peter being absent in Newfoundland. On 29 April 1673, the couple then took John Jones as an apprentice mariner.¹² The *Little John* had arrived in September 1672, but Edwards and Butler had to petition the Privy Council in early February 1673 due to the embargo. It is interesting that the record notes an Order to license and permit the necessary number of mariners to sail the ship to Newfoundland. Can we surmise that they were at least one sailor short? Is this why Edwards apprenticed Jones on 29 April? In any event, since a master had to be present in order to contract with his apprentice, it does place Peter Edwards in Bristol at the same time as the *Little John*. If my theory is correct, the apprenticeship demonstrates that the *Little John* did not return to Newfoundland until May 1673 at the earliest.

The final record we have of Peter Edwards in Bristol is almost 2 years later on 4 March 1675, when he took Roger Bowen as a merchant apprentice.¹³ This suggests a step up in Edwards' previous status as a "mariner", perhaps traveling now to Bristol for commercial reasons.

Returning our attention to Newfoundland, on the census for 1677 in Carbonear we again see John Edwards and his wife, but now with a son and daughter, 4 boats, 17 servants, 7 cows and 3 hogs. And now appears a **Widow Sarah Edwards**, who is doing quite well!¹⁴ She is recorded as having

¹⁰ *Ibid*, 1J/284/4

¹¹ *Bristol Records Society*, Volume 70, The Bristol Hearth Tax 1662-1673, Editors Roger Leech, Jonathan Barry, Alison Brown and Elizabeth Parkinson, 2018, p. 102

¹² *Ibid*, 1K/77/13

¹³ *Bristol Apprenticeship Books*, 1K/122/2

¹⁴ *Latter Day Saints*, www.familysearch.org, Film #008123995, Image 95 of 454

3 boats, 13 servants, 13 cows and 4 hogs. And William Bradley is still there, with a wife and 5 children, 9 men and now some livestock. Since William has gained a child since the last census, we get a clue that he is likely not that old, since his wife is of child bearing age.

Could Peter's wife be the widow Sarah Edwards on the 1677 census? Indeed, yes! I found an index reference dated 3 September 1675 for the administration by "Sara E., rel." of the estate of **Peter Edwards of Bristol who "died overseas"** without a will.¹⁵ And with the help of a fellow researcher, David Anstey, he found the actual Prerogative Court record for me:

"September, 1675. On the third day, Admon of all and singular, the Goods, Chattels, and Credits, of Peter Edwards, late of the City of Bristol, but who died in overseas territories, was granted to Sara Edwards, the relict, of the said deceased. She having been first sworn by Commission, duly to Administer".

While it does not specifically say that Edwards died in Newfoundland, the mountain of evidence is convincing. Peter and Sarah were in Bristol on 4 March 1675 when they apprenticed Roger Bowen. It seems likely that master and servant returned to the Carbonear plantation in the following months, where Peter Edwards "died overseas", perhaps even on the voyage home. Indeed, Roger Bowen never appears again in any Bristol records. The 1675 census was taken some time around July when Sir John Berry arrived in Newfoundland. This would explain why Peter Edwards was not counted. He was already dead!

We know that by **3 September 1675** Sarah Edwards had been granted administration of her husband's estate by the Court. Recall that Thomas Butler of Port de Grave, who was Peter Edward's co-owner of the *Little John*, had to travel from Newfoundland to England around this time in order to administer the estate of James Hill of Cupid's. Hill wrote his will on 4 March 1675, and he died before the end of July, since he too was not on the census. We can place executor Thomas Butler in London on **4 November 1675** where he swore his oath at the Prerogative Court. Perhaps the similar timing is no coincidence! I can imagine a scenario where Butler delivered the news of his partner Peter Edwards' death to Sarah in Bristol when he journeyed to England to fulfill his executorship duties for Hill. As Peter's sole survivor, Sarah would now be the co-owner of the *Little John*, requiring Butler to settle financial affairs for both Hill and Edwards. It is conceivable that after he spent some time traveling back and forth to London, he resupplied in Bristol. He may have returned to Newfoundland later that year or in early 1676, perhaps bringing his new partner Sarah Edwards with him.

Whether she hitched a ride with Butler or not, widow Sarah Edwards had returned to Carbonear in time to be counted on the 1677 census. Around March 1676 her apprentice John Edwards had been "freed" of his 7-year indenture. So, Widow Sarah Edwards was settled into her own house, with what appears to be a substantial plantation inherited from Peter. She had no family members recorded, which also aligns with the fact the couple had no known children. I will point out that two out of the four of Peter & Sarah's apprentices from 1670 and 1671 did appear back in Bristol, as they were freed as mariners in 1678 (John Owen) and in 1684 (Daniel Dale).¹⁶ It is likely they

¹⁵ FindMyPast.com, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Administrations 1660-1700, PROB 6/50 f.104

¹⁶ BAFHS, Burgess Books, 3B/269/5 and 3B/425/3 respectively

are included in Sarah's contingent of 13 servants in 1675. Dale had returned by 31 August 1682 when he married Elizabeth Bennett in Bristol.¹⁷

David Anstey then pointed me to a Bristol apprenticeship record dated 23 May 1699 for a John Edwards Junior, son of **John Edwards, planter of Carbonear**, Newfoundland who was apprenticed to Edward Skreen, brush maker, and his wife Elizabeth.¹⁸ With that golden nugget, I was off to the races! John Edwards Junior, the brush maker, was made burgess on 11 September 1705 due to his marriage to Katherine the daughter of Robert Curtis, linen draper.¹⁹ John and Katherine had married on 28 August 1705.²⁰ Given this marriage date, one can estimate that John Junior was born about 1680. This supports that his father John Edwards (Senior) was the man on the 1675-1677 censuses. I determined that John the brush maker did not return to Newfoundland, since he and Katherine appeared on Bristol apprenticeship records until 1727.

In order to weave all the threads together, we shall now look to another Edwards of Bristol, Thomas Edwards, wheelwright. He was the son of John Edwards, blacksmith of **Farrington Gurney**, Somerset and was apprenticed on 17 Som [sic] 1642 to Reynold & Mary Lovegrove, wheelwright.²¹ Recall the name Farrington Gurney from earlier? That is the town where Peter Edwards' first apprentice came from! David then found in the bishop's transcripts for Farrington Gurney the baptism for Thomas Edwards, son of John dated 20 March 1623.²² And then he found the holy grail... **Peter Edwards, son of John** baptized 26 December 1621. Eureka!

Recall that earlier I had estimated Peter's birth year to be 1620-1625, based on his marriage to Sarah Bradley in 1646. Good guess! The fact that Peter was born in Farrington Gurney also explains why his very first apprentice came from the same village. It may also explain how he came to first be a locksmith...his father John was a blacksmith, working with metal.

So, Peter Edwards, Carbonear planter and Thomas Edwards, wheelwright of Bristol were brothers! Thomas had a son John Edwards, also a wheelwright, making him Peter's nephew. Son John died in 1707 leaving a will.²³ He made a bequest of £20 to John Edwards, the brush maker, who he called his "cousin". Recall that John the brush maker was the son of John Edwards, planter of Carbonear, Peter Edwards' apprentice. We have come full circle!

¹⁷ *Ancestry*, Bristol BMD, St. Augustine the Less > 1653-1684, Image 77 of 89

¹⁸ *BAFHS*, Apprenticeship Books, 1L/300/9

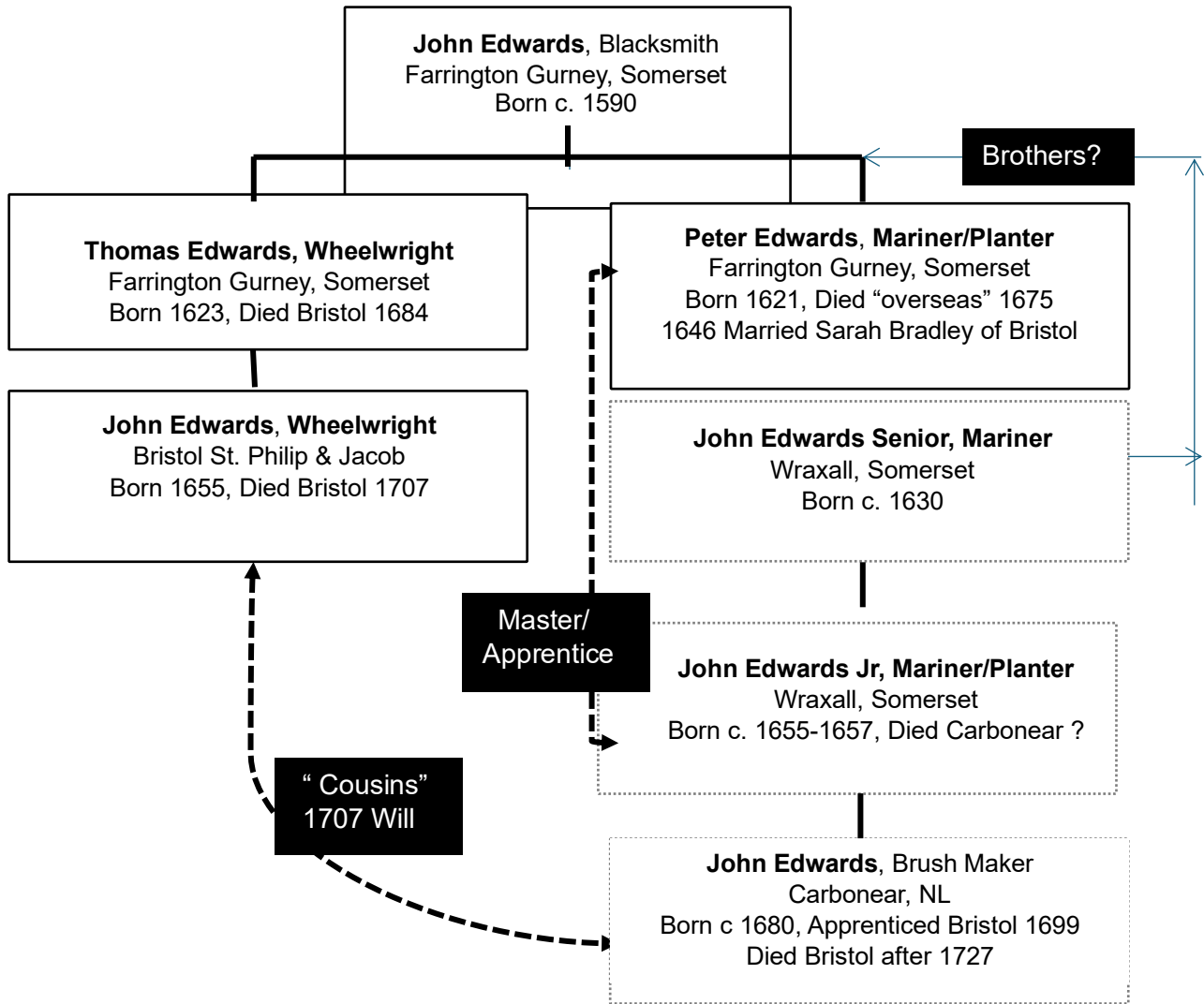
¹⁹ *BAFHS*, Burgess Books, 4/350/4

²⁰ *Ancestry*, Bristol BMD, Redcliffe, St. Mary > 1694-1720, Film 99 of 113

²¹ *BAFHS*, Apprenticeship Books, 1G/52/7

²² *LDS*, BT 1599-1836, Film #007566572

²³ *The National Archives*, PCC Wills, PROB 11/497/314



I have not yet concluded exactly how John and John were related. “Cousin” suggests their fathers were siblings, but back then the term was loosely used to include more distant or even stepfamily members. Brothers Peter and Thomas Edwards were born in Farrington Gurney. Peter Edwards’ apprentice John Edwards was the son of John Edwards, mariner of Wraxall, Somerset. Wraxall is just 16 miles from Farrington Gurney. It seems likely to me that John Edwards, mariner is also the brother of Peter and Thomas Edwards of Farrington Gurney, and somehow he relocated to Wraxall, where his son John the future Carbonear planter was born.

Here is a chronological summary of both the facts and my theories about Peter Edwards:

1621	Peter Edwards (mariner/planter), son of John born Farrington Gurney
1623	Thomas Edwards (wheelwright), son of John born Farrington Gurney
1646	Peter Edwards married Sarah Bradley in Bristol
14 November 1649	Peter Edwards made Burgess of Bristol

15 March 1655	Apprenticed Thomas Palmer of Farrington Gurney as a locksmith
2 March 1669	Apprenticed John Edwards, son of John of Wraxall as a mariner
29 Sept 1670	Peter Edwards on Hearth Tax for St. Michael's ward
Jan 1670 - Feb 1671	4 more apprentices for Peter & Sarah Edwards
Mid 1671 - Mid 1672	Plantation established in Carbonear, Newfoundland
About 29 Sept 1672	<i>Little John</i> arrives in Bristol with planters/partners Edwards & Butler
7 February 1673	Edwards & Butler petition Privy Council to leave Bristol
29 April 1673	Edwards takes John Jones as a mariner apprentice in Bristol
Mid 1673	<i>Little John</i> returns to Newfoundland with supplies
1674	Peter Edwards & apprentices/servants engaged in Carbonear plantation
Early 1675	Peter Edwards returns to Bristol; on the <i>Little John</i> ?
4 March 1675	James Hill writes his will in Cupids Cove; executor Thomas Butler
4 March 1675	Edwards takes Roger Bowen merchant apprentice in Bristol
March – April 1675	Edwards & Bowen depart for Carbonear with supplies
Mid 1675	Peter Edwards of Bristol “dies overseas”
Mid 1675	James Hill dies in Cupids
About July 1675	John Edwards appears on Carbonear census
About August 1675	Thomas Butler returns to Bristol; on the <i>Little John</i> ?
3 September 1675	Administration of Peter's estate granted to relict Sarah Edwards
4 November 1675	Thomas Butler takes oath and proves James Hill's will in London
Early 1676	Butler and widow Sarah Edwards return to Newfoundland
1677	John Edwards <u>and</u> Widow Sarah Edwards on Carbonear census
About 1680	John Jr., son of planter John Edwards born in Carbonear
24 January 1681	Thomas Edwards' son John, wheelwright, Burgess in Bristol
23 May 1699	John Jr., son of planter John Edwards apprenticed as a brush maker
11 September 1705	John Edwards, brush maker, Burgess in Bristol
1 December 1707	John Edwards, brush maker, cousin, will of John Edwards, wheelwright

And so friends, that is the story of Peter Edwards of the *Little John* of Bristol. Of course some new fact might come to light later that will totally blow all my theories out of the water! But for now, I think the analysis is quite solid. My sincere thanks to David Anstey whose help was instrumental in helping me piece this puzzle together. Through collaboration comes success!

Susan Snelgrove

April 28, 2025

WILLIAM JOHN PENNY EATON

1893 - 1949

In the fall of 1916, a postcard mailed from behind the trenches arrived for Mae Penny. The card showed a picture of Walter Thistle, William Eaton and Jim Stacey, all 'runners' with the Newfoundland Regiment. Its back, dated August 31, 1916 read:

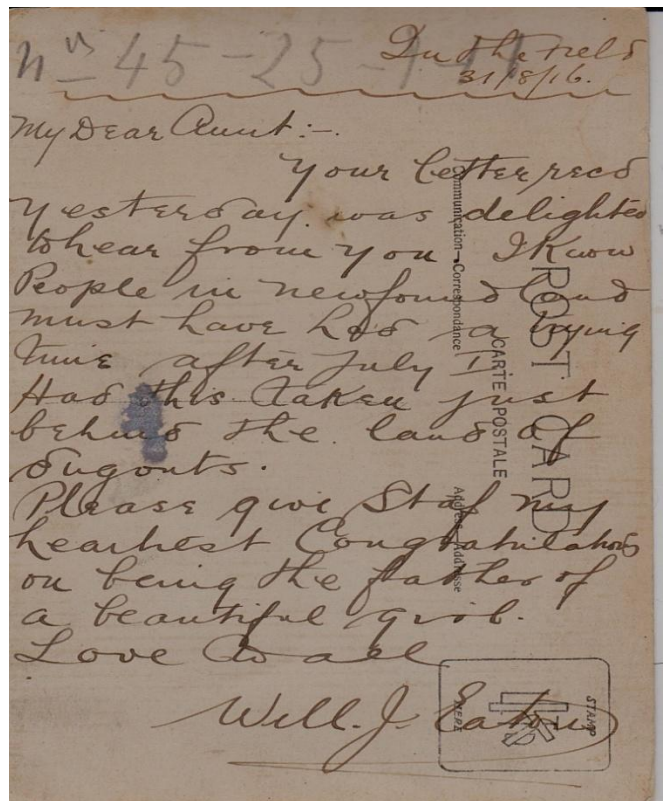
My Dear Aunt,

Your letter recd yesterday. Was delighted to hear from you. I know people in Newfoundland must have had a trying time after July 1. Had this taken just behind the land of the dugouts.

Please give Staf my heartfelt congratulations on being the father of a beautiful girl.

Love to all

Will. J Eaton



William was referring to the Battle of Beaumont Hamel, July 1, 1916. Walter, William and Jim were among the 68 to report for roll call the July 2. Eight hundred members of their Regiment had gone into battle the day before. Walter, Will and Jim went on to survive the War and return to their Newfoundland home upon its end. Indeed, in 1919 Walter Thistle became the best man for William in his marriage to Daisy (Janet) Bell.

William's father, William John Eaton Senior, had emigrated to Newfoundland in 1868 at the age of 20. He became a general merchant for William Waterman and Company, was based in Nippers

Harbour, and made frequent trips along the coast between Nippers Harbour and St. John's.

William Sr. met Amelia Naomi Penny some 16 years after arriving in Newfoundland. They married on June 22, 1884; William was 36; Amelia was 20.

On October 8, 1890, Amelia gave birth to their first child, Charlotte Florence Mabel Eaton. Baby Charlotte was baptised on November 16 and passed away in December of that year. She was only two months old.

By mid 1892 William and Amelia were expecting their second child. At the end of July of that year, William embarked on another of his Nippers Harbour -St. John's business excursions. However, on August 5th he suffered a heart attack and died while the ship, the S.S. Virginia Lake, was en route to Twillingate. William was but 44 years old. The expected baby would never know his father.

That baby, William John Penny Eaton, was born in Nippers Harbour on January 14, 1893. The infant was baptized in Heart's Content on February 2nd of that year.

Amelia married James Gardener Hodder when William was 8 years old, and the boy continued living with his family until Amelia passed away on December 2, 1913. Will was just 20 years old.

Shortly after his mother's death, William moved to St. John's. There he stayed with Amelia's brother Jethro Penny (Uncle Jet) and his wife, Mae (nee Maria Mae Butt, Port aux Basques). It is Aunt Mae Penny to whom the postcard, above, is addressed.

William's stay with the Pennys was not a long one. World War 1 began July 28, 1914, and William enlisted in the newly formed Newfoundland Regiment exactly one year and two days after his mother's death. He thus became one of the First Five Hundred, a member of the Blue Puttees. He was off to fight.

During his time with the Regiment William served as both a 'runner' and a Company Clerk. Runners were responsible for delivering critical messages between units. While this meant that William was not one of those to go 'over the top' in the Battle of Beaumont Hamel, he still faced one of the most dangerous battlefield jobs. Runners had to leave the relative safety of their trenches to carry messages to other locations, often under heavy enemy fire.

William's position as company clerk presented its own challenges. Whenever a member of his unit was killed in action it was one of William's responsibilities to gather the deceased's effects to be returned to his family. This weighed heavily on him.

There was one incident, however, where William's knowledge as Company Clerk worked very much to the happy advantage of his comrades. It seems that at Christmas one year the officers were to be treated to a full turkey dinner, while the enlisted men were to receive a meal of bully beef. Somehow, thanks to the masterful work of Company Clerk Eaton, the tables were turned, and the enlisted men were served a full turkey Christmas dinner. There is no word on the fate of the officers' meal.

While on leave in Scotland William made the acquaintance of Daisy Janet Bell, a 16-year-old munitions factory worker; by the end of the War they were engaged. At War's end William had to return to Newfoundland with his Regiment, leaving Daisy to follow. She sailed to the Island from Liverpool on the S.S. Digby, arriving in St. John's on June 14, 1919. Her trunk had been broken into and all her wedding gifts stolen during the journey. And there was a mixup in arrival times ... there was no one at the pier to greet her. Not a happy start.

Nevertheless, William and Daisy were married on June 25, 1919, in the home of Jet and Mae Penny, 52 Long's Hill. Aunt Mae made the wedding cake, and the young couple were presented with a silver tea service by the demobilization staff of the Newfoundland Regiment.

At Uncle Jet's urging, William claimed his inheritance from his father's estate and built the Eaton family home on 42 Cookstown Road. The family occupied that home right through World War II, and the couple's seven children were born there: Campbell (1920), Bill (1921), Helen (1923), Doug (1925), Alistair (1928), Daisy (1930), and David (1936).

William worked for the Newfoundland government first as an accountant, then as a clerk and procurement officer. His son Cam once recounted that his father was doing well in government service and was rising steadily through the ranks. That is until February of 1934, when British Commission of Government came into effect and all opportunities to advance were lost. The frustration of this situation was very hard on Will.

During World War II William once again served with the Newfoundland Regiment, this time as a Quartermaster at the rank of Captain. With the start of yet another War, William and Daisy had to watch as their two eldest sons, Cam and Bill, enlisted. Younger siblings Alistair and Helen have both spoken of how they observed their parents hiding from their children in the bathroom of their small house, arms around each other, weeping. Their parents knew all too well the horrors their sons were about to face. They could not know then that the entire Eaton family would survive the War. Indeed, all of Will and Daisy's children went on to lead long, productive lives.

During his career with the government and, later, as a Captain in the Newfoundland Regiment, William's position meant that he was often gifted (unsolicited) turkeys, hams and other foods. He ensured that much of this bounty was distributed to people he knew were in need. Indeed, his son Alistair recalls delivering some items one Christmas and being told by the family, many years later, that without his father's thoughtfulness they would have had nothing to eat on that day.

Outside of his work hours, Will spent a great deal of time engaged in bettering the conditions of those who served in both Wars, as well as their wives/widows and children. He was recognized and honoured for his lifelong service in January of 1949.

William J. Eaton passed away in his sleep in the early hours of January 16th, 1949. Daisy reported how on the 15th he had talked about how much he had enjoyed his birthday the day before and how well he felt after having been ill for some time. Those words were a great comfort to her going forward.

Newspaper reports of William's funeral describe 'one of the longest funeral corteges this city has ever seen' led by his flagged-draped coffin, starting in Churchill square and ending at the General

Protestant Cemetery. As the coffin was lowered into the earth William's surviving comrades-in-arms dropped poppy after poppy upon it in tribute. A fitting salute to a kind and gentle man who had led a life of service and honour.

TWO SMALL NOTES:

William's grandchildren were very surprised to learn that his wife and daughters were not permitted to join the cortege to the cemetery. It was not the custom of the time to allow women to attend.

William and Daisy's son Alistair, who at the time of this writing is 97-year-old, has lived within the reigns of five monarchs: George V, Edward VIII, George VI, Elizabeth II and Charles III. Their other children lived within the reigns of only four monarchs, having predeceased Elizabeth II

Thanks to Alistair Eaton, Debbie Eaton Trickett, Elizabeth Eaton Wilson and Peter Wilson for information contributing to this article.

Janet Smith

Granddaughter of William and Daisy Eaton



A Father Frozen to Death

Bill Whelan

A Father Frozen to Death -A Son Nearly the Same--Rescuing Men Render Assistance --Details of the Tragedy--An Afflicted Family --A Clergyman's Appeal (information from Rev R Montague Bickle, resident Methodist minister at Spoon Cove, Burin). On Tuesday (10th) a man named Harding and his eldest son, about 14, were compelled through poverty to go into the woods and cut timber in order to pay for a barrel of flour he had previously received. They cut timber and went to check some rabbit snares but were overtaken by a snowstorm. They separated. A party of men found the boy, frostbitten and too weak to speak. When the boy was taken home, it became evident that the father too was missing. He was found, frozen to death. Harding was about 40 years of age. He leaves widow and 8 children. Evening Telegram 24 Dec1895

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. Thank you to The Ontario Genealogical Society for this definition of a Stray.

I do take most of our strays from The Telegram <https://www.saltwire.com> & The Chronicle Herald, Halifax, NS. For more detailed information, please research the newspaper for the dates listed. Strays from Bell Island appear on the Historic Wabana Nfld 2.0 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. Thank you to Gail Hussey-Weir. This private group page has over 500 members.

Note: Now that we no longer have a daily newspaper in St. John's, more and more of the strays will be taken from the funeral homes' website. I ask our readers to submit strays from their own local areas.

Bennett, Patricia Anne (nee Whiffen) Oct. 7, 1945 – Sept. 27, 2024 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Former student of St. Patrick's Convent School, on Patrick Street, St. John's. From the St. Patrick's Convent School, St. John's Facebook page.

Browne, Barbara, formerly of St. John's, residing in Ottawa, ON since 1964. March 28, 1938 – Aug. 25, 2024. Predeceased by her parents Joseph & Mary (nee Gushue) Browne. Sister of Dolores Pearce & David Browne. Obit & photo The Telegram Sept. 13, 2024

Buckingham, Kathleen Marie "Kaye" (nee Bulger) in Fredericton, NB on June 18, 2023. Born in St. John's on June 26, 1944, daughter of Jack & Mae (Nugent) Bulger. Predeceased by her parents & her brother Johnny. Wife of 43 years of Philip Buckingham. Mother of Jodi O'Neil, John, Ron & Lori Monteith (Donnie). Sister of Mary Corcoran (Joseph) & Sheila Power. Obit & photo York Funeral Home, Fredericton, NB.

Dunn, Brenda Marilyn (nee Chafe) Sept. 16, 1950 – Aug. 25, 2024 in Calgary, AB. Former resident of Mount Pearl. Predeceased by her parents, Leslie & Gertrude Chafe & her brothers, Bob & Rick. Wife of 54 years of Randy. They moved to Calgary in 2017. Mother of Trevor, Adam & Corey. Sister of Linda Crowther (Kelvin), Carol Day (Bob), Barbara Hart (Russ), Cathy O'Brien (Phil), Ron, Harvey & Ken. Obit & photo Barrett's Funeral Homes, St. John's & Mount Pearl.

Fizzard, Elva Edna (nee Blake) Feb. 6, 1933 – March 15, 2025 in Victoria, BC. Born on Barr'd Islands, Fogo Island, youngest child of Flora & Levi Blake. Predeceased by her parents, her husband of 42 years, Dr. Garfield Fizzard of Grand Bank (Nov. 5, 1933 – Jan. 17, 2019), her sisters, Sarah & Molly & her brother John. She taught school at Seldom, Fogo Island, Kettle Cove, St. Anthony, Bishop's Falls & Holloway School in St. John's. She also worked at the Queen Elizabeth II Library at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She & Garfield purchased & renovated The

Thordyke, a historic residence in Grand Bank. Mother of Anne, Blake & Allison. Obit & photo Carnell's Funeral Home, St. John's.

French, Guy of Norwood, Ontario, on Sept. 1, 2024 in Kingston, ON. Born in Bay Roberts, son of Abram & Melanor (nee Dibbon). Predeceased by his parents & his brother David & sister, Margaret Rose & his wife Debbie (nee Land) Father of Shawn & Michelle. Obit & photo The Shoreline News, Sept. 16, 2024.

Genge, Sadie Clarke (nee Barrett) June 13, 1946 – March 5, 2025. Born in Bishop's Cove, daughter of Israel & Mary Barrett. She spent the last 25 years in Strathmore, Alberta. Predeceased by her parents, her husband of 42 years, Porter Genge (July 18, 2009, aged 62) & her brother Ray Barrett. Mother of Paul & Sheri. Sister of Alice, Joan Harnett (Brian), Florence Lynch (Phil), Bert, Kevin & Clyde. Obit The Telegram, March 21, 2025 & The Strathmore Times, Strathmore, AB.

Greene, Sheila Mary (nee Houlahan) Jan. 9, 1945 - Oct. 1, 2024 in Ottawa, ON. Predeceased by her parents William T. & Rita Houlahan, & her brother Father William J. Houlahan. Wife of John. Sister of John, Happy Valley - Goose Bay, Betty Osmond (Bob), Sylvan Lake, AB & Patricia Edwards (Glen), Grand Falls - Windsor. Retired teacher. Obit & photo The Telegram Oct. 18, 2024 and Cole Funeral Services www.colefuneralservices.com

Harding, Ralph Sidney July 25, 1928 – April 3, 2025. In Nova Scotia. Born in Harbour Breton, son of Frank & Effie. Predeceased by his parents & his wife of 70 years, Jessie (nee Martin). Father of David

& Ronald. Obit & photo The Chronicle Herald, Halifax NS April 9, 2025.

Hickey, Stephen Michael, of Riverview, NB March 15, 1977 – Jan. 13, 2025 in Moncton, NB. Born in Corner Brook, son of Leo & Geraldine (Dalton) Hickey. Brother of Craig. He moved to Riverview at aged nine. Obit & photo Dunphy's Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Holyrood.

Kavanaugh, Martha Mary Patricia (nee Whalen), aged 76, on March 28, 2025 in Canso, NS. Born on Aug. 14, 1948 on Bell Island, Predeceased by her parents, Margaret (O'Brien) & Henry Whalen, her sister, Marg Dunne (Kevin, deceased) & her brother Val Whalen. Wife of Sandy. Mother of Tom, John, Patrick & Robert. Sister of George, Elizabeth, William, Andrew, David, Agnes, Stephen & Susan. Obit & photo, Dennis Haverstock Funeral Homes Ltd. Canso, NS & Historic Wabana Nfld 2.0 Facebook page.

Kennedy, Nicholas James "Nick" In Alberta, on Aug. 8, 2023, aged 83. Born on Bell Island on Jan. 30, 1940. Predeceased by his parents Rudolph & Rita, his stepmother, Genevieve, his first wife, Marguerite, his brothers, Bill, Eugene & Rudy & his sister Betty Lou. Husband of Norma. Father of Kathy, Nick Jr. Blair, Paul, Randy & Rick, his step-children, Lori, Tammy & Landon. Brother of Sidney, Helen, Alice & Leonie. Obit & photo Parkland Funeral Home, Red Deer, AB & The Red Deer Advocate.

LaFosse, Mary Gwendolyn "Gwen" (nee Morris) Aug. 28, 1934 – April 15, 2024, of Dartmouth, NS aged 89, in Cape Breton. Born in Port-aux-Basques, daughter of Thomas & Madora (Burridge) Morris. Predeceased by her parents. Obit & photo The Chronicle Herald, April 19, 2024.

McCurdy, Bruce Jefferson, Oct. 13, 1955 – April 1, 2025, of St. Albert, AB. Born in St. John's, son of Sherburne & Elizabeth (Betty). Predeceased by his father, Nov. 4, 2007 & his mother, & his brother David, 1975. Husband of 45 years of Anna (Bellamy). Father of Kevin. Brother of Earle, Margaret Mackey (Terry) & Jim. He first moved to Alberta in 1962. Resident of Edmonton for a number of years. He moved to St. Albert in 2016. He worked in the banking industry for twenty years. Long-time member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. Obit & photo from a Facebook post.

Miller, Michael Francis, formerly of St. John's, South Side Road, in Ontario, on Nov. 19, 2024, aged 88. Born in St. John's on June 14, 1936. Predeceased by his parents, William & Catherine (nee Williams) & his brothers, David & William. Husband of Una (nee Belbin). Father of Terry, Karen, Brenda & Sean. Brother of Margaret, Jean & Judy, Robert, Paul & Brian. He was a member of the St. John Vianney Knights of Columbus & the Windsor Flying Club. Obit & photo Windsor Chapel Funeral Home, Windsor, ON. See also the Southside Road Community Facebook page.

Poole, Edward Pierce, in Delta, BC on March 3, 2025, aged 89. Born on Pilley's Island, son of Dorman & Blanche (Watkins) Poole. Predeceased by his parents, his sisters, Dorothy & Joyce & his brothers, Cyril, Winston & Mervyn & his half – brother, Roy & his half – sister Una. Husband of 59 years of Marlene (Penner). Father of Andrew & Jeremy. He graduated from Dalhousie University Law School in Halifax, NS & practiced in Corner Brook

from 1966 to 2000. Obit & photo The Telegram March 14, 2025.

Power, Gary Brendan May 16, 1956 – Aug. 21, 2024 in Oshawa, ON. Predeceased by his parents Harold & Lorraine (Kennedy) Power. Brother of Sister Lorraine Power, Religious Sisters of Mercy, (RSM), Harold, Allison McDonald (Percy, deceased) Marilyn White (Noel), Randal, Craig & Elaine Randell (Jim). Funeral Mass held at The Basilica of St. John the Baptist, St. John's. Obit, & photo Caul's Funeral Home, St. John's.

Randell, Freeman John, aged 70, in Halifax, NS on Sept. 11, 2024. Born in Englee, son of Samuel & Emily. Predeceased by his parents & his brothers, Pleman & Thomas. Husband of 45 years of Dale (Crowell). Father of Amanda. Brother of Norman, George, Charles, Maxwell, Joseph, Kenneth, Brian, Shirley, Mary Wicks & Stella Compton (Francis). Obit & photo The Chronicle Herald, Halifax, NS. Sept 14, 2024.

Regan, Jean (nee Anderson), of Windsor, NS, aged 93, on Nov. 15, 2024. Born in Corner Brook in 1931. Predeceased by her parents, Harry V. & Alison (Dean) Anderson & her husband, Parker Regan, 2009, her brother Gordon, 2018 & her sisters, Cecil Mary, 2009, in Corner Brook, Margaret Alison, 2017 & her step-son, Bill Regan, 2008. Stepmother of Bruce Regan & Barbara Regan. She graduated from the Victoria General Hospital School of Nursing in 1953. Obit The Chronicle Herald, Halifax, NS. Nov. 23, 2024.

Robinson, Josephine "Jessie" (nee Currie) in Amherst, N S, on April 23, 2024, aged 87. Born in Rose Blanche, daughter of William & Charlotte (MacDonald). She moved to

Cape Breton, NS at aged 18. Predeceased by her parents, her husband Vinal, Dec. 16, 2002, her sisters, Katie & Gladys & her brothers, Matthew, Wallace & James. Mother of Debbie Lee (Bruce) & Sharon. Obit & photo The Chronicle Herald April 27, 2024.

Winsor, Jeannette, April 13, 1940 – March 31, 2025. In Ottawa, Ontario. Born in St. John's, daughter of Francis & Violette Winsor. Predeceased by her parents & her

sister Madeleine Donahou (Joseph, deceased). Sister of Lillian Mulrooney (Patrick, deceased), Marystown, Violette F. Vance Fred), Beverlodge, AB & Leslie A. (Sandra, deceased), Mount Pearl. A graduate of Curtis Academy, St. John's & Memorial University of Newfoundland. She had a long career in the fashion industry. A private burial will be held at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, St. John's. Obit & photo, Barrett's Funeral Home, St. John's.



BEMISTER

Rosalind Stokes

The FHSNL recently received a very large collection from the estate of M. Elizabeth (Hopkins) Squires. Elizabeth's interest in her ancestors began in the 1950's when, as a little girl, she accompanied her father, Lloyd Hopkins, in visiting some quite elderly relatives in Carbonear and Freshwater and some even older relatives at their final resting places. Her research has taken her to Carbonear, Freshwater and Harbour Grace, down the North Shore, Trinity Bay and Henley Harbour, Labrador. The Bemisters were linked by marriage to many of the families in the area. Many became merchants or planters, others were sea captains or sealing masters, still others were shipwrights or homemakers. Some, like the Honourable John G. Bemister, entered politics, while others served the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Whichever profession or occupation they followed, they all left their indelible mark upon Newfoundland, Canada and the United States.

Elizabeth's research forms the basis of her book *They Lived by the Sea*, which chronicles the lives of literally dozens of men and women who lived in the above areas in the last century. The family project got a real boost when two other family genealogists, Lorne Innes and Joyce Dobbie, began sharing information. For thirty years or more, they combined archival information and family stories.

This Bemister family begins in Wimbourne, where John and Jane (Barber) Bemister were married October 2, 1740. John, their son, (1747-1832) married Mary (Willis) Joy and they made their home in Corfe Mullen, Dorsetshire. John and Mary had three sons - eldest son, John Rideout, born June 6, 1786, was buried November 29, 1818, in Corfe Mullen. However, William Willis Bemister (1789-1863) and Capt. Edward Smith Bemister (1796-1859) journeyed to Newfoundland. William Willis arrived in Carbonear from Corfe Mullen Parish, Dorset in 1803. In 1810 he married Ann Howell in Carbonear. He was joined by his brother Edward Smith in 1812. Edward married Susannah Grant in 1822 in Harbour Grace. This research shows a continuous record beginning with the marriage of John and Jane (Barbour) Bemister and their descendants.

The following are some of the names in this collection:

Adams, Angel, Arklie, Ash, Ayre, Badcock, Barnes, Barrett, Barter, Bartlett, Bemister, Birkett, Blaikie, Boone, Bowring, Boyle, Brown, Bryce, Burden, Bullock, Burton, Butt, Cameron, Cannon, Cape, Chancey, Chauvel, Christian, Clarke, Cleeve, Colford, Cole, Collins, Cooper, Cozens, Crawford, Crowdy, Crummey, Cunningham, Currie, Daniels, Davis, Diamond, Dibbs, Dobbie, Drover, Duff, Duley, Dunfield, Dwyer, Earle, Eaton, Evans, Farra, Foote, Forward, Fraser, Freeman, Gaden, Garland, Garrett, Gear, Giles, Gillard, Goodfellow, Goodison, Gordon, Gould, Gushue, Guscott, Grant, Guy, Gye, Harvey, Hawker, Herder, Hickman, Hilliard, Hogan, Hopkins, Howell, Hue, Jackson, Jeffers, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Joyce, Keith, Ladner, Lake,

Laugharne, LeMessurier, Lilly, Lindsay, Locke, Louis, Lund, Maddock, March, Marshall, Matthews, Mews, McCarthy, McKay, McKie, McMullan, McNeil, McNeilly, McPhillips, Mills, Mitchell, Mollard, Monroe, Moore, Moores, Morris, Munn, Murphy, Murray, Nichols, Noonan, Norman, Oates, O'Farrell, Osmond, Ozzard, Pack, Paine, Parker, Parsons, Peach, Pearson, Peddle, Penney, Peters, Pike, Pittman, Pollard, Powell, Pritchard, Quandt, Rabbitts, Randell, Ritchie, Robertson, Robin, Robinson, Rogerson, Rorke, Roscoe, Rotton, Rowe, Rumson, Rutherford, Russell, Saint, Samways, Schlater, Shano, Sheppard, Sigston, Smith, Snow, Soper, Southcott, Sparkes, Spracklin, Steele, Stenaford, Stirling, Stone, Stowe, Stretton, Sutcliffe, Swain, Sweetland, Tarvett, Taylor, Tessier, Thistle, Thomas, Thompson, Tibbo, Tocque, Tucker, Udell, Vardy, Vatcher, Warren, White, Wilkinson, Willis, Winsor, Wood, and Wright.

This collection contains biographies of over 200 families and more than 100 ships, many owned and captained by family along with pictures, their stories of heroism and tragedy, success and failure, faith and despair. Along with the 21 binders of names, we have 22 boxes of Elizabeth's daily notes. There is a collection of historical newspaper articles and a plantation map of Carbonear 1805, this map lists the early planters and shows the size and location of their plantations.

If you have an interest in the above family names it is well worth a visit to The Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador. I don't think you will be disappointed.



William Bemister(1823-1902)
Son of William Willis Bemister



Dorcas Charlotte (Bartlett) Bemister (1826-1876)
Wife of William Bemister

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