

were not qualified by law to perform the marriage service, so in Mr. Palmer's case it was performed by Squire John Keillor, father of the late Thos. Keillor, Esq. after which an old time country frolic took place—the fiddler being the functionary next in requisition after the priest, and in accordance with old style ceremony, the contents of the old brown jug, guileless of either gauger or Scott act inspector, was sent around and around and "set 'em up."

No obstacle of work—no physical difficulty could daunt Mr. Palmer, he delighted in feats that other men would shrink from; and near the close of a most busy and useful life his energy and virility seemed an exhaustless as ever. Hired by a neighbor, Mr. Buck, to mow a piece of marsh in Sackville, he rode there in the morning, mowed two acres and returned at night. He had attained the age of ninety, when he drove his team in the woods cut a load of wood, loaded it, and took it to his door-yard unassisted.

Mr. Palmer busied himself in many employments. He cut down the trees, cleared the land, raised cattle and crops, built mills, logged, stream drove and lumbered, built at least one vessel, was farmer, lumberman, miller, fisherman, sailor, trader, shipmaster and soldier. When asked by the writer if there had been any employment usual to the country in which he had not been engaged, he replied in a tone of regret that there was one—he had never made grindstones. If the records are to be trusted, he did not come scathless through his work, he has "shook hands with a saw mill," his legs have both been broken; his arms broken and some of his ribs dislocated on different occasions.

Such men are rare; they are fit to be the pioneers of a country and the fathers of a race; their memory deserves to keep green; their deeds of self-reliance, of self-sacrifice and courage are worthy of commemoration, for they are eloquent of what is worthiest and best in a man.

DesBarres Grants and the French Settlers

John Peter Godey, John Budrot, Jos. Burgeway, J. B. Burgeway, Peter Billavoue, John Godey, Jr. state:

Are native Acadians residents on the west side of Memramcook River, and settled on lands originally granted to Col. Jos. Gorham, and sold by him to Major DesBarres whose agent put them on said lands. The rents are so great they cannot support their families and never having received land from the Govt., they ask for lands at Shediac near lands asked for by Jos. Boudrot, Elar Budrot and others or Cape Tormentine. They ask for a warrant of survey, at their own expense, of 200 acres each person.

January 23, 1797.

Francis Cormier, Agent.

September, 10th, 1795.

Petitions in the name of sundry inhabitants of River Memramcook and Petitcodiac. His Memorial shows that the petitioners have for 25 years settled in said part of N. B. on the title of Mr. Gorham who did not fulfil the conditions of his grant. Gov. DesBarres, they state, then persuaded them that he had purchased Mr. Gorham's title and made them submit to his terms. He made a sort of lease with them which he never fulfilled, they having to give him one-third of their produce. Then, not content with this, obliged them to pay a yearly rent, through his agent, Mrs. Cannon, under pain of ejection.

In 1804 David Melanson stated for himself and others they being inhabitants of Minudie in the County of Cumberland and Province of Nova Scotia wish to become settlers in the Province of New Brunswick. They never having any lands granted unto them, pray that your Honor in Council will be pleased to order them a grant of lands 400