

Genealogy of the Gayton Family

whose ancestor settled at Argyle
Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia

THOMAS GAYTON, a native and resident of Tipperary, Ireland, was born about the year 1755 and lived, probably, until near the year 1830. He was twice married, children being born to both unions, constituting two families of half-blood relation. The first wife's name was Eleanor and of the first family, numbering eight, Thomas was the youngest. The eldest of the second family was John.

THOMAS GAYTON, son of Thomas and Eleanor, was born in Tipperary, Ireland, about the year 1791. He left his home at the early age of twelve or fourteen years, embarking at Waterford and came to Newfoundland, where he remained a year and a half. His stay in Newfoundland was at St. John's or Carbonear or probably some of the time at both these places. Thence he came to Argyle, Nova Scotia, in a vessel with Capt. David Spinney, then trading to ports in Newfoundland. After this he made Argyle his home, although he sailed from the port of Halifax for four years in the employ of Mr. Tobin. For a year and a half, during the war of 1812, he was in the Naval Dockyard service at Halifax and was one of boat's crew that boarded the warships Shannon and Chesapeake when they came into the harbor after the battle. In 1814 Thomas Gayton married, bought land at Argyle Sound, built a dwelling and there established his home, which became his domicile the remainder of his life. Beside giving some attention to the cultivation of the lands of his small homestead farm, Capt. Gayton, from time to time, owned parts of two or more vessels and continued a seafaring life, making regular yearly fishing voyages to the distant coast of Labrador, as well as otherways prosecuting coastal trade.