

Galloway, which grant was confirmed by Royal charter on the 8th November, 1621. The following August, a small party of emigrants sailed for New Scotland, but was compelled, by stress of weather, to winter at St. Johns, Newfoundland. Nine months later, a second ship reached St. Johns with more emigrants and supplies, only to find the first ship's passengers discouraged and separated. A few of the newly arrived party sailed at the close of June to examine the coasts of New Scotland as far as Port Negro and to select their place of settlement. Returning to their fellow voyagers, after a short survey, they decided to embark for England.

The accounts which they gave to Sir William Alexander on their arrival seem to have inspired him to renewed efforts, though his two expeditions had involved him in a loss of six thousand pounds. Through his influence with King James, he procured a warrant upon the Scottish treasury for the re-imbusement of his loss, but from lack of resources, or other reasons, it was not responded to.

The next plan hit upon by Alexander to recoup himself for this loss, was to induce the King to create one hundred baronets, limited to sons of Scottish land-owners and younger sons of the nobility, who should purchase lands in the new colony. It was intended to divide each province of New Scotland into several dioceses, each diocese into three counties, each county into three baronies, and each barony into six parishes. The baronies were to reach three miles along the coast and ten miles inland, and the parish divisions were to contain six thousand acres each. On the 23rd of November, 1624, the Scottish Council adopted this plan, it being understood that each baronet was to be a baronet of some one or others of these baronies, and to have ten thousand acres of land besides the six thousand acres belonging to his barony. For all this had to be paid one thousand merkis Scottish money, and each baronet was to send out to the colony six men, armed, apparelled and provided for two years.