

same year, he is called George Kirk, without the final letter. Both warrants were issued under the Privy Seal.

The truth seems to be, that Champlain mistook the signature of David *Quirc* for *Quer*, and so continued to write it. That a French ambassador should spell an English name in a peculiar manner is not wonderful. The name of Cornwallis is not easily distinguishable under the guise of *Cornowls*, as given in a French official document, yet this would scarcely be relied on as authority for the spelling of his lordship's name. The same remark applies to the old Scotch Council, in whose records the spellings of proper names are most confusing.

Charlevoix gives the name as Kerkt, and the "sheepy people," as the poet Chaucer styles them, have followed, and will, no doubt, continue to follow his lead.

I may, in conclusion, refer to a letter addressed by Charles I. to Sir Isaac Wake, his ambassador in France, dated the 12th of June, 1631. It was published for the first time in the Report on Canadian Archives for 1884, in which the full text may be found. The letter is signed by the King's own hand. At page lxii. of the report are found these words: "particularly the three brothers, the *Kirks*."

Like all other "vulgar errors," the mistake in spelling the name will die hard, as will the attributed nationality. Jarvis, Jervas, or Gervaise Kirke, for his Christian name is given in different forms, was not a native of France, nor were his sons refugee Frenchmen, as the name of Kertk, Querch, or any of its varieties, sufficiently proves.

The theory that David Kirke changed his name from Querch on being made a Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1627, is a weak foundation on which to build an argument. It is simply an attempt to set up a reason, with not the slightest shadow of proof, and therefore needs no answer beyond this, that in the roll of the baronets of Nova Scotia, giving each name and the date, day, month and year of creation, from 1625 to 1637, the name of Kirke does not appear, nor does