The old country people did not discard their customs totally as long as they lived. Curling or golf played upon the ice was a favorite game. Often the funeral cortege of a person born in the old land was headed by a piper playing Lochaber na Mair, and still a Highland bonnet might be seen occasionally. One can scarcely credit that cattle were safely brought from Scotland on the decks of small sailing vessels. And an excellent variety they were, known locally as the Cantyre breed, a small, hardy animal, invariably with blueish-black sides and a white stripe along the back—with the very useful quality of an even flow of milk winter and summer.

The early settlers had to take many risks to get their produce to a market. Boats, or half-decked, small sailingcraft often carried produce and a few live animals to the market of St. John's, Newfoundland, or Halifax. Another market of the time was Fox Island, near Arichat, a busy place then, as immense quantities of herring were taken there. Prices were good and mostly paid in Spanish dollars. One of the old families had kept a little sack of these (some twenty in number) "for luck" for perhaps sixty years. When put in circulation in 1883 the owner was surprised to find that by interest and deterioration of value they must have lost their value twice over while held up. These old dollars were roughly made, apparently stamped out of a sheet of rolled silver, and often the inscription set awry. The edges were not milled or finished. A practice prevailed in these times of punching a piece about the size of a quarter out of the middle of the silver dollar; this piece passed for half a crown, while the mutilated piece still passed for a dollar; this was the "holy dollar." Some were in circulation in 1830. An act to prohibit the clipping of coin was early put in force. The idea of this strange practice was to make money plentiful by keeping it on the Island.

A son of Crispin (not heeding the Latin proverb, "ne