

anything regarding impressing seamen in Provincial ports, as I have been told that this was done at one period of our early Provincial history, but I have always doubted that such could have occurred here. Yours, etc., M. D,

Our correspondent can no longer remain in doubt, as we are able to supply him with an authentic account of at least one case in which seamen were impressed in this Province and there may have been other cases.

In July, 1807, the good ship *Hope*, of Bristol, Captain John Ford, was chartered by Andrew Macdonald and Sons, of Three Rivers (now named Georgetown), to bring out a cargo of merchandise. and there load a cargo of pine timber for Britain.

While preparing to load, the sloop-of-war *Halifax* arrived at Three Rivers, and one morning the captain of the *Hope* was surprised by a visit from an officer and boat's crew, from the *Halifax*, boarding his vessel; and impressing, against their will and his own protest, the most able seamen he had, and taking them off on board the *Halifax*.

The *Hope* was delayed for a long time to the serious loss of all concerned. The master and the charterers sent a petition to Lieutenant Governour DesBarres, setting forth the serious injury this practice would cause to the export trade of the Province, and praying His Excellency to use his influence to have the men returned to them, if possible; and to put a stop to impressing seamen here; for if it was allowed to continue it would be impossible to charter vessels to ports in this Province, where other men, equally qualified, could not be procured to navigate the vessels.

It does not appear whether Captain Ford got his men back, nor do we know what the Governour may have done to stop this practice in Provincial ports, but we have met with no other record of later cases. The men in Her Majesty's navy now receive fair wages, good food and just treatment (which was not always the case at that time), and they are now quite willing to serve in the Navy without being impressed.

The First Steamer in Charlottetown Harbour.

SIR; Can you let us know in what year any vessel propelled by steam was first seen in Charlottetown harbour; as some of your