

pany the expedition as surgeons or physicians, but the majority, no doubt, came with the intention of settling in America.

In 1752, three years after the settlement of Halifax, a list of the families who had settled in the city since the year 1749 was prepared, and the document is extant. It contains only three of the names of the medical men who came in 1749, viz: Dr. Robert Grant, Dr. John Steele, and Alexander Abercrombie. In addition, there is the name of Dr Jonathan Prescott, who came with the New Englanders from Louisburg.

There may have been others, connected with the hospital, but no names are given in connection with the institution. There must have been a great deal of sickness. Akins, in his History of Halifax, says: "About this time (1749) a destructive epidemic made its appearance in the town, and, it is said, nearly one thousand persons fell victims during the autumn and the following winter."

On October 14th, the government found it necessary to publish an ordinance commanding all Justices of the peace, upon the death of a settler, to name so many persons, of the neighborhood or quarter to which the deceased belonged, to attend at the burial and carry the corpse to the grave. Anyone who refused to attend, without sufficient reason, was to have his name struck off the Mess Book and Register of Settlers, as unworthy of His Majesty's bounty.

Again in December an order was made commanding all householders to report their dead to the clergyman within twenty-four hours.

In 1750, a public hospital was erected, and was maintained by the government for several years. At about 1766, by request of the Magistrates, this hospital was granted for an alms house. The building stood at the northern part of the land now occupied by the Government House.

The first medical men who settled in Halifax were:

### **Robert Grant.**

Came out with Cornwallis in the "Charlton," frigate, and is described as a surgeon's mate, no mention being made of his having a family. In the list of settlers compiled in 1752, he is mentioned as living within the town, and as having a household of six members. His lot was at the south-east corner of Prince and