

CHAPTER I.

Forbears.

JAMES Carmichael, the grandfather of James William Carmichael was a native of Aberlour, Banfshire, Scotland. He emigrated to America in 1778. He first settled in Pictou. In 1783 he obtained a grant of land and settled on the southern side of the Harbour. He died March 16th, 1836. The quaint old record in the family Bible informs us that Ann, his spouse, died September 30th, 1830, aged 82 years. She was a native of Morayshire, Scotland.

In those early days a town was laid off at Fisher's Grant called "Walmsley", but it was only a town on paper and even the name has been forgotten. The whole East River valley at that date was a forest, from Pictou Harbour to Sunny Brae and beyond. The Indians claimed certain rights to the land. The white settlers were anxious to conciliate them. Mr. Carmichael recognized the Indian's title and submitted to the formality of securing a transfer of a small lot claimed by them, forming part of his homestead. One of the relics of those early days still in the possession of the family is an old deed which reads as follows: "We, Major Paul and Sapier, the two Indian Chieftains of the Pictou tribe, for ourselves and in the name of the other Pictou Indians, for a certain sum of money now paid to us by Mr. James Carmichael make over to him and his heirs, one acre of cleared land, less or more, joining the Indian Cross, reserving the burying ground to ourselves. Given under our hand at Walmsley the 26th day of August 1784."

Present

John Fraser

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Sapier

Major Paul.