

Mrs. Stewart and I join in kind regards to Mrs. Howe, and in sincerest wishes for your deliverance from the jobbing justices.

Yours truly,

(Sgd). A. STEWART.

There are but meagre details of his youth now to be gathered. He was born in Halifax on the 30th day of January 1794. His father was the Rev'd James Stewart, a Presbyterian Minister, who had recently come to the Province from Scotland. He was the eldest of three children. A brother James became an eminent barrister and was his partner, and a sister Elizabeth married Silas H. Morse of Amherst, and was the mother of Lady Tupper wife of Sir Charles Tupper. The family group was sadly broken very early in his young life by the death of his father leaving his widowed mother with three children in poor circumstances to struggle with the world.

In old St. Pauls' burying ground opposite Government House lie the remains of his father, marked by a well worn grave stone, and near to it the grave of one of his own children who died in infancy. Alexander received his education at the Halifax Grammar School, and if one may judge by the great command of language, the purity of diction, and ease of composition found in his writings, and speeches, the instruction must have been excellent, and the pupil apt and industrious. Not only was his English of the purest and best, but his knowledge of Latin and other branches of general education was remarkable considering the short period he was able to attend the school. As has been said the young family were left by the father's death in poor circumstances, and it was necessary that he, as the eldest, should put his shoulder to the wheel and assist to maintain them. He was first employed as a clerk in the Ordnance Department, a situation obtained for him through the influence of friends. He was then about sixteen years of age, and remained for some years in this office, how long is not exactly known. He succeeded in gaining the respect, and confidence of his superior