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Halifax  
N. S.

Oct 11 1922

**PIONEERS OF MEDICINE  
IN NOVA SCOTIA**



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Halifax, N. S.**

*Reprinted from*  
**MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS**  
Halifax, N. S.  
1905.

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# Pioneers of Medicine in Nova Scotia.

By D. A. CAMPBELL, M. D., Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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*(Reprinted from the Maritime Medical News, 1904.)*

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MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN.—I must, at the outset, apologize for presenting a paper on a subject which is not in accordance with the purposes of this Society. We meet to acquire fresh knowledge, something to help us in our daily work, and I am fully conscious of the fact that matters of antiquarian interest must seem stale and unprofitable.

It was my original intention to prepare a paper, giving some account of the Medical Society of Halifax, the first organization of its kind in the province of Nova Scotia, including brief biographies of prominent members, and a short sketch of society in Halifax, sixty years ago.

The chief reason which induced me to select the subject of this evening's paper was the information that the Medical Society of Nova Scotia intend to offer a prize for the best essay on "The Profession in Nova Scotia, prior to the organization of the Society in 1854."

I am informed that they were encouraged to take this step by a donation from Dr. Henry O. Marcy, of Boston, who was present at the last Annual Meeting of the Society at Antigonish, and who, I believe suggested the subject.

In view of these circumstances, I have thought it well to make available to intending competitors some of the material which I have

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\*Read before Nova Scotia Branch British Medical Association, April 13th, 1904.

collected, concerning the population in Nova Scotia, from the time of first settlement down to about the year 1800, or perhaps somewhat later. In doing so I will limit my undertaking to the peninsula of Nova Scotia, leaving Cape Breton, once a separate province, to others.

Professor Allison remarks:—"The present population of Nova Scotia is not the development of a single primitive nucleus or germ, neither has it resulted from a gradual and almost imperceptible sifting of promiscuous elements. It is mainly the product of certain well-defined immigrations of considerable size, capable of being more easily traced, because as a rule, they have occurred consecutively rather than simultaneously. National or racial distinctions are still plainly perceptible, and a long period must yet elapse before the process of blending is completed."

The successive waves of immigration to Nova Scotia may be arranged as follows.

1. Acadian French, dating back to 1604, or more strictly speaking, to 1632.
2. English, when Halifax was settled in 1749.
3. German and French Protestant, 1751-53.
4. New England Puritan, 1759-61. (Pre-Loyalist.)
5. North of Ireland settlers, who came in considerable force 1761-63.
6. Yorkshire people, 1772-75.
7. The Loyalists, 1782-84.
8. Scottish Highlanders, 1773-1820.
9. Irish from south and west of Ireland, 1825-50.

The distribution and development of these race-stocks, as well as the sources of medical supply, will be briefly referred to, as we proceed

For convenience as well as for other considerations, I will arrange the material which I wish to present, covering the period from 1604 to 1800, into three parts.

#### Part I. The period of French occupation.

The coast of Nova Scotia was long known to fishermen and traders before any attempt was made to establish an agricultural settlement. The advantage of a permanent self-sustaining colony for prosecuting trade, occurred to a Huguenot gentleman, Pierre du Guast, Sieur de

Monts, a favorite of King Henry IV, of France. He had visited Canada and was intimate with many persons who were interested in the fur trade.

De Monts, in 1603, obtained from the king a patent constituting him Lieutenant-General of the territory of Acadia, "to do generally whatsoever may make for the conquest, peopling, inhabiting, and preservation of the said land of Acadia." He also secured the exclusive right to trade with the savages in furs and other articles, for a period of ten years.

About the middle of June, 1604, De Monts, with his associates, under the leadership of Samuel Champlain, sailed into Annapolis Basin. Delighted, as it is but natural to suppose, with this charming sheet of water and its picturesque surroundings, Champlain named the place Port Royal.

One of the party in particular, a gentleman of Picardie, named Jean de Biencourt, Sieur de Poutrincourt, was so pleased with the many attractions of the place, as to desire to make it a permanent home for himself and family. He therefore requested of De Monts, and upon certain conditions received in 1607, a grant of the place, which was confirmed by the King of France.

Further exploration by the party was deemed necessary before settlement. After coasting the shores of the Bay of Fundy they wintered at St. Croix, an island in Passamaquoddy Bay, where they were decimated by scurvy. Next spring, after receiving an accession of men and fresh supplies from France, they determined to settle at Port Royal. This settlement of Port Royal, thus commenced in the spring of 1605, seems to have never been afterwards entirely abandoned, which fact makes it the oldest continuous European settlement in North America, north of Florida.

The efforts of colonization, although conducted on a small scale, was pursued with vigor, this being due mainly to the bold enterprise and perseverance of Poutrincourt and his gallant son, young Biencourt. Many misfortunes overtook the colonists, and the settlement was finally broken up by an English expedition from Virginia under Argall in 1613.

The names of two medical men are associated with the Port Royal

colony—Daniel Hay, who is described as “Surgeon-Apothecary,” and Louis Hébert “the Apothecary,” who was noted for his devotion to agriculture.

Dr. Daniel Hay enjoys the unique distinction of being the first medical man that practised in Canada. He came out with De Monts, accompanied him on several expeditions, remained for a time at Port Royal, was with the party during the third winter, and was a member of Champlains “Ordre de Bon Temps.” He evidently soon afterwards returned to France, as no mention is made of him in the early “Jesuit Relations.”

Here, I may observe that Champlains “Ordre de Bon Temps” was established not solely for revelry, but was designed to prevent the ravages of scurvy.

During the first winter at St. Croix, 35 of the party of 75 died of scurvy, and half of the remainder were seriously ill. In the second winter, 12 out of a party of 45 succumbed to the disease. On both occasions it was observed that those who escaped the disease lived a greater part of the time in the open air, engaged in the pleasures of the chase.

“Of all Sieur de Monts people who wintered first at St. Croix only eleven remained well. These were a jolly company of hunters who preferred rabbit hunting to the air of the fireside; skating on the ponds to turning over lazily in bed; making snowballs to bring down the game, to talking about Paris and its good cooks.”—“Jesuit Relations.”

Champlain’s narrative says—“We spent the winter very pleasantly and fared generously by means of the “Ordre de Bon Temps,” which I introduced. This all found useful for their health, and more advantageous than all the medicines that could have been used.

By the rules of the order a chain was put, with some little ceremonies, on the neck of one of our company, commissioning him for the day to go hunting. The next day it was conferred upon another, and thus in succession. All exerted themselves to the utmost, to see who would do the best and bring home the finest game. We found this a very good arrangement, as did also the savages who were with us.”

Louis Hébert, born at Paris, an apothecary, was also one of Poutrincourt’s colony at Port Royal. He not only practised his profession

among the colonists and Indians, but gave up much of his time to experiment in agriculture. In the absence of the Governor he usually acted as his deputy. He remained at Port Royal until the settlement was finally broken up by Argall in 1613, when he went back to France. In 1617 he returned to Canada with his family, and at Champlain's request settled at Quebec.

He was the first settler with a family, and the first to cultivate the soil as a means of livelihood. On this account he has sometimes been called "The father of Canada."

He was in many ways prominent in the early history of Quebec. In 1621 he bore the title of Royal Procurator. In 1626 the fief of St. Joseph on the River St. Charles was granted to Hébert under the title of "Sieur d'Espinau."

In January 1627, a fall caused Hébert's death. He was buried in the cemetery of the Recollets, by whom, as well as by Champlain, he seems to have been greatly esteemed. When in 1629, Quebec was taken by the English, Louis Kirk, at Champlain's solicitation sent a guard of soldiers to protect the widow Hébert's house, as well as the mission chapels.

Many distinguished Canadian families trace their descent from Hébert. Bear River is believed by some authorities to have been named in honour of Louis Hébert.

After the disaster of 1613 there does not appear to have been any further attempt by the French to establish a settlement at Port Royal for about twenty years. In the meantime Sir William Alexander had obtained from James I of England a grant of the country and had established a colony of Scotch at Port Royal. This colony was, in its turn, broken up when Acadia was restored to France in 1632, by treaty. Some of the Scottish settlers, however, remained in Acadia, and subsequently mingled with the French. An evidence of this is found in the name Melanson, which is a corruption of Matheson. Between 1632 and 1638, Isaac de Razilly brought out some sixty families of colonists from France, namely farmers and fishermen, with a sprinkling of artisans. At first these located at LaHave, but soon afterwards removed to Port Royal.

These colonists came from Rochelle, Saintonge, and Poitou, on the west coast of France, a tract of country which has some features in

common with Nova Scotia. It was a country of marshes from which the sea was kept out by artificial dykes. This fact had a considerable influence on the settlement of Acadia, for the French dealt with the Acadian marsh lands as they had treated similar marshes in France. Upon the dyked marshes of Acadia they depended almost entirely for their support. These indeed were so extensive that for over a century they proved much more than sufficient to maintain the population. This explains why the Acadians cleared such a very limited area of forest land during their long occupation of the country.

The sixty families of French who came out under de Razilly were the true founders of the Acadian people. Other persons came to the little colony from time to time, but there was no immigration of whole families. These individual additions to the population consisted for the most part of discharged soldiers, and transient working men, who had concluded to settle in the country, and whose wives belonged to the original Acadian stock.

The progress of the colony was retarded by dissensions among the leaders, and by frequent wars between France and England.

In 1713, Nova Scotia was finally and forever ceded to England. The Acadians were not seriously affected by this change of masters. They rapidly increased in numbers, formed new settlements, and prospered. The number of Acadians in the peninsula of Nova Scotia in 1755, the date of their expulsion, it is estimated by good authorities to have been about 5000. The process of expulsion was so thoroughly carried out, that practically the whole population was removed from their settlements, and for many years they were treated as public enemies. Repatriation commenced at about 1767, and the present settlements of the Acadians date from that period.

The Acadians were an honest, sober, and virtuous people, the men and women working hard, but leading nevertheless a joyous life. They were a very healthy people, able to endure great fatigue, and they generally lived to a very advanced age.

There is sufficient evidence to show that at no period of their settlement were they wholly destitute of medical aid. The garrison usually had one or two surgeons.

In 1731 Saint Cenne was physician at Annapolis. Bugeaud and

Mouton at Mines. The small settlement at Cobequid, near Truro, had a medical man.

Only one of the men of this period requires some notice, Jacques Bourgeois, the founder of the flourishing settlement at Chignecto, called Beaubassin by the French.

Jacques Bourgeois, the leader of the immigrants from Port Royal to Chignecto, was in his way a notable man. He was a surgeon by profession. His name appears in the capitulation of 1654, as brother-in-law and lieutenant of Doucet de la Verdure, and commandant at Port Royal; and he was one of the hostages delivered to the English. His settlement at Chignecto was made between 1671 and 1675.

From the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, when Acadia was ceded to to the Crown of Great Britain, to 1749, no progress had been made by the British in colonizing the county. The inhabitants consisted of the Acadian peasants scattered around the shores of the Basin of Minas, Cobequid Bay, Chignecto, and the valley of Annapolis. The Governor resided at Annapolis Royal, a small fortified port with a garrison of two or three hundred regular troops. He was in a great measure dependent on New England for his necessary supplies. Annapolis Royal was the only British port within the province, with the exception of Canso, where during the fishing season, a number of French and a few Indians assembled, and where a captain's guard was usually stationed to preserve order and protect the rights of property.

At Annapolis Royal the nucleus of a permanent settlement was formed. It consisted, in the first place, of those who had come there to trade with the French and Indians, and to carry on the retail traffic to which the presence of a garrison, however small, gives place. To these were doubtless added from time to time some of those who had served in the garrison.

Sir William Fenwick Williams and Sir William Robert Wolseley Winnett, who obtained high distinction in the service of Great Britain, are descendants of such settlers at Annapolis Royal during this period. Dr. William Skene, the garrison surgeon, seems to have been a useful citizen as well as a capable physician. He certainly resided at Annapolis from 1713 to 1749, when we lose trace of him. His name is suggestive of Scottish parentage. He probably came



with Nicholson's forces in 1710, and after the capture of Port Royal, secured the position of Garrison Surgeon. Governor Caulfield speaks very favorably of him and recommends an increase of his pay.

In 1720, when His Majesty's Council was first organized, he was selected as a member and continued to act in that capacity until 1749. He does not seem to be one of those selected to meet Cornwallis at Halifax, this probably by reason of his age. In 1827 the first Commission of the Peace was formed in Nova Scotia, and he was appointed a Justice of the Peace. In 1737 he was chosen as one of the Commissioners to settle the boundary disputes between Massachusetts and New Hampshire. In 1742 he was similarly selected to settle boundary disputes between Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In 1749 he appears as claimant for compensation of losses sustained during the siege in 1745, his buildings been torn down to ensure the safety of the fort.

## PART II.—BRITISH SETTLEMENT.

The chief events affecting the population between 1749 and 1775 : were the beginning of English colonization at Halifax ; the arrival of the Germans ; the deportation of the Acadians ; an extensive settlement of New Englanders ; the influx of Ulster people ; the repatriation of the Acadians ; the Yorkshire immigration ; and the arrival of the first batch of Scottish Highlanders in 1773.

These various race stocks settled in different parts of the province, and they did not mix to any great extent.

**THE TOWN OF HALIFAX.**—Halifax was founded in the year 1749, at the expense of the British Government, and under the direction of the "Lords of Trade and Plantations," and was named in compliment to George Montague, Earl of Halifax, then at the head of the Board.

The inducements offered to settlers were—grants of land ; free transport ; maintenance at the public expense for one year ; arms and ammunition for defense ; and implements for clearing the land, erecting dwellings, and prosecuting the fisheries. These offers proved attractive, and soon afterward a fleet of transports under the command of the Hon. Edward Cornwallis, sailed for Chebucto Bay.

The total number of immigrants was 2,576, and of this number 1,546 were adult males. But one death occurred during the voyage.

This small death rate was attributed to the care of the Board of Trade and Plantations in providing ventilators and air pipes for the transports, a new invention then lately introduced.

In the same year, 1749, in consequence of the evacuation of Louisburg, several New England families who had settled there during the English occupation, accompanied the troops to Halifax. Other settlers came directly from New England, and this movement continued for two or three years.

The New England people soon formed the basis of the resident population and are the ancestors of many of the present inhabitants. They were better settlers than those who came with Cornwallis and they soon secured the business of the place, and filled many of the most important positions in the Colony.

The list of the settlers who came out with Governor Cornwallis contains a surprisingly large number of medical men, out of all proportion to the number of immigrants. I have picked out the following names from the list, 28 in all :—

Alexander Hay, wife and two children, surgeon's mate ; Georgius Phillipus Bruscowitz and wife, surgeon ; M. Rush, doctor and surgeon ; Robert Grant, surgeon's mate ; Henry Menton and wife, surgeon's mate ; John Willis, wife and one child, chymist and surgeon ; Fenton Griffith and wife, surgeon's mate ; Thomas Wilson, surgeon ; Thomas Lonthion, surgeon's mate ; Charles Paine, surgeon ; William Lascelles, surgeon's mate ; William Grant, surgeon ; Robert White, surgeon ; Matthew Jones, wife and one child, surgeon ; John Steele, lieutenant and surgeon ; Patrick Hay, surgeon ; Augustus Cæsar Harbin, assistant surgeon ; John Wildman and wife, surgeon ; John Inman, surgeon ; John Wallace and wife, surgeon's mate ; Daniel Brown, surgeon's mate ; John Grant, surgeon's mate ; Cochrane Dickson and wife, surgeon ; James Handeside, surgeon ; Harry Pitt and two children ; surgeon ; Joshua Sacheverell, surgeon ; Archibald Campbell, surgeon's mate ; David Carnegie, surgeon. To this list may be added—Robert Throckmorton, surgeon, pupil at St. George's Hospital, and one, Alexander Abercrombie, who is described as an apothecary's mate.

It is probable that many of the above list were engaged to accom-

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

Granville Streets. He was "a leading man in Mather's Church." In 1756 he was appointed a member of His Majesty's Council. In 1756 his seat was declared vacant by absence. This he evidently resented, as in the following year, he sent to the Lords of Trade a protest, complaining of his removal from the Council on the ground of absence. The correspondence shows that he was on bad terms with Governor Lawrence. The cause of his quarrel with the Governor was probably the active part which he had taken in the agitation for a Representative Assembly. Nothing is known of Dr. Grant's subsequent career.

### **John Steele.**

Came to Halifax with Cornwallis as a passenger on the ship "Beaufort." Surgeon by profession, he was also a lieutenant in Shirley's Regiment. In 1752 he was living in the south suburbs of Halifax, his family then consisting of four male members over sixteen years of age, and three females also over sixteen. This seems to indicate that he was then well advanced in years.

He probably removed to Annapolis at about 1759 to practice his profession there. His name, as Dr. John Steele, appears on the plan of the township of Annapolis as the proprietor of lot No. 53.

From 1761 to 1762 he represented Annapolis in the House of Assembly. He seems to have taken an active part in the proceedings of the legislature, especially in the steps taken to establish the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. He died in 1764 while still a member of the Assembly, his family probably returning to Halifax.

### **Alexander Abercrombie.**

The following notice of Alexander Abercrombie in Latin appeared in the Nova Scotia Gazette of October 3rd, 1775. It was written by Jonathan Belcher, Chief Justice of Nova Scotia and President of Council:

"The epitaph of the most eminent Alexander Abercrombie, who departed this life 31st March, 1775, in the 48th year of his age.

Anxious wayfarer! What are you looking for among the tombs? Is it an example of life from engraven tombstones?

Stand here. Nowhere could you find any more worthy example; for under this sacred mound lies buried the most skilful Alexander Abercrombie, M. D., universally lamented, a man whom one could more easily admire than praise, a man distinguished for the character

and lot of his life, his glowing love for country, and his benevolence ; sacred in friendship and inferior to no one in prudence and courtesy ; in the art of medicine skilled as a second Galen ; practised his profession with care, and in the issue, under God, with success. The cottages of the sick poor he visited of his own accord. He treated the sick conscientiously by his remedies.

If a conscientious, learned, trustworthy, benevolent friend should be lamented, pass on wayfarer ! May you be like him in the work of your life ! You will be equally happy in death, equally dear to and lamented by all. Oh, Grief ! Remains of a worth scarce ever to be properly valued, may you rest peacefully in holy repose up to the moment of resurrection and morning of the recompense for the blessed.

The president of the council of Nova Scotia, by Royal Appointment, and lately holding the position of Governor, thus grieving, devotes himself to the memory of a friend always loved by him, with a threefold and fourfold affection."

Alexander Abercrombie came out with Cornwallis, and was employed by the Government as apothecary. In course of time, and perhaps, by necessity, he became a practitioner of medicine, and was, no doubt, fortunate in securing the good-will and friendship of Jonathan Belcher. He obtained a large grant of land in the township of Windsor.

Here, I may observe, that very few of those who came to practice medicine in Nova Scotia during the 18th century, possessed a diploma, or what would now be deemed a legal qualification to practice. In Great Britain to some extent, and very largely in the older colonies of America, those who wished to become physicians or surgeons, obtained the requisite knowledge by being apprenticed for a term of years to prominent medical men. In, however, perhaps not a few instances, men deeming themselves to be endowed with natural gifts to practice the art of medicine, proceeded forthwith, without let or hindrance, to do so.

Very few medical degrees were conferred in America prior to 1800, those who possessed them, in most instances going abroad for the purpose.

**Dr. Jonathan Prescott.**

Dr. Prescott's memory is perpetuated by his descendants, as well

as by his ability and business enterprise. He was born at Concord, Massachusetts. He studied the profession of medicine, and at the siege of Louisburg in 1745, was not only surgeon but also a captain of engineers. After the evacuation of Louisburg he probably came to Halifax and retired from the army. In 1752 he was living in the south suburbs of the town, his household numbering thirteen persons. He engaged in business in Halifax, and took a prominent part in the settlement of Chester, where he secured large tracts of land and built mills. He accumulated considerable wealth, but suffered much loss from the depredations of the Indians, who, on two occasions, burned his house and mills. He lived during the latter part of his life at Chester. In 1806 he died and was buried there.

Dr. Prescott was energetic and enterprising, kind and benevolent, and took great pains to help and relieve the poor soldiers who had served with and under him at the siege and occupation of Louisburg. He was Justice of the Peace and Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of Lunenburg, and he took an active part in the organization of the militia.

The practice of medicine was, no doubt, a secondary consideration with Dr. Prescott, but the necessities of the people, particularly in Chester, where there was no medical supply, would call for his intervention.

### Joseph Prescott.

One of the sons of Dr. Jonathan Prescott, engaged in the practice of medicine. Mrs. William Lawson, in her History of Dartmouth, says that he was "Doctor in the United States Army," and afterwards a physician in Halifax. From information gleaned from other sources, I am led to infer that he practised about Windsor between 1790 and 1800, and that later he lived many years in Cornwallis, finally coming to Halifax.

Another son the Honourable Charles R. Prescott, was a merchant of Halifax. He amassed considerable wealth, and at about 1812 he removed to Cornwallis, where he devoted his wealth, energy and common sense to the development of pomological fruits.

He introduced the Golden Pippin, the Ribston Pippin, and the Blenheim, and had in his orchard over one hundred varieties of apples and fifty varieties of pears.

John Prescott, a third son, purchased and lived at Maroon Hall, Dartmouth, for many years.

Among the earlier settlers of Halifax were two gentlemen who at one time practiced medicine and for that reason deserve a passing notice.

### **Leonard Lockman.**

Was a German. In early life he practised medicine. He afterwards received and held the rank of major in the army in return for services rendered the British Government. He came out with the settlers in 1749, and eventually settled in the north suburbs.

He died at Halifax, in the 73rd year of his age, after a lingering illness. He was interred under the old German church in Brunswick street. The monument to his memory, with coat of arms, is yet to be seen in that church. Lockman street was named after him.

### **Rev. Thomas Wood.**

Was Surgeon to Shirley's Regiment during the siege and occupation of Louisburg. He retired from the army and qualified for the ministry. He came to Halifax in 1752, and was appointed a missionary. In 1758 he was appointed Curate of St. Paul's. In 1763 he removed to Annapolis to take charge of the church at that place. He died in 1778. He had an excellent knowledge of the French and Mic-Mac languages, which rendered his services at times very useful to the Government. He was not unmindful of the wants of the sick in the poor and thinly populated districts which he visited.

**THE GERMAN AND FRENCH PROTESTANTS.**—In order to secure an additional number of immigrants, the Lords of Trade and Plantations caused a proclamation to be distributed in certain sections of Germany inviting settlers to Nova Scotia, and offering generous terms. A large number applied and secured passages for themselves and their families. They came in detachments during the years 1750-52 and were first domiciled at Halifax. Among them came about 453 French-speaking Protestants from Alsace. In 1753 the great body of these immigrants were removed from Halifax, and founded the settlement of Lunenburg. I can find the name of only one medical man in connection with the settlement.

### **John Burger Erad.**

DesBrisay, in his brief notice of Leonard Christopher Rudolph,

says that in the year 1751, he was "persuaded by his friend Dr. Erad to settle in Nova Scotia." He states in his journal that he was appointed overseer, and his friend medical adviser, to the company.

In the list of Halifax families for 1752, there is mentioned as living in the north suburbs, John Burger Erad, household seven in number, and the name of Rudolph precedes Erads in the list. He probably removed to Lunenburg, but nothing is known about his subsequent history.

**THE NEW ENGLAND IMMIGRATION.**—At about 1759 a movement of population from the New England colonies to Nova Scotia began, and continued for several years. This immigration has been quite generally confounded with the Loyalist migration to the provinces. These settlers are now often called the Pre-Loyalists. They settled almost entirely the townships of Annapolis, Granville, Yarmouth, Barrington, Liverpool, Chester, Cornwallis, Earton, Falmouth and Newport. A number of them came also to New Dublin, Truro, Onslow, Windsor, Amherst and Cumberland. Pictou was settled in 1767 by a small band of settlers from the borders of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

**THE ULSTER IMMIGRATION.**—Immigration from the north of Ireland began in 1761, and continued for several years, being supplemented by the descendants of Irish families from the older colonies, more especially Londonderry, New Hampshire.

These immigrants settled chiefly in Londonderry, Onslow, Truro, Amherst, Cumberland, New Dublin and Wilmot.

**THE YORKSHIRE IMMIGRATION.**—During the period from 1771 to 1775 a large number of families from Yorkshire, England, settled in the present counties of Cumberland, N. S., and Westmoreland, N. B. Among these settlers, of various nationalities, were the following medical men. The list is, no doubt, incomplete.

### **Dr. Jonathan Woodbury.**

Came out with the first settlers to Yarmouth in the year 1760. He was descended from John Woodbury, one of the oldest Puritan settlers of New England. He was born in 1737. In 1763 his household is returned as consisting of five members, living on a one acre lot on Cape Forchu River.

At about the year 1770, he removed to Granville, where he had



secured grants of land. In 1790, he removed to Wilmot, where he died in 1830, at the age of 93.

Then follows a extract from a letter received from Mrs. George Bell, a descendant—"The old Doctor's practice extended from Middleton, where he lived, to Liverpool, the road being only a bridle path through the forest. He rode on horseback and carried saddlebags, but being very active in mind and body, and a teetotaller, he did a great amount of work. There was an epidemic of smallpox in Liverpool. The old man rode in a calico over-dress, like a dressing gown, and as he rode rapidly, his appearance was, to say the least, startling. He was very successful and very skilful.

"His son, Jonathan, was a good, steady, quiet man, much beloved and very gentle in the sick room. The old Doctor had two grandsons. Dr. Jonathan Woodbury Thorne, who practised in Liverpool, and Dr. Woodbury Thorne, of Middleton, who was like his grandfather, very clever and very active. I have heard of his being to visit a very serious case, running the horse at full speed and not dismounting until the horse had carried him right into the house."

His son, Jonathan, practised for many years in Wilmot. He was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He died between 1880 and 1890.

Doctors Frank and Hibbert Woodbury, prominent members of the dental profession in Halifax, and Dr. Frank V. Woodbury, of Newfoundland, are descendants of Jonathan Woodbury.

#### **Dr. Samuel Willoughby.**

Was one of the first settlers of Cornwallis. He was elected to represent the township in the House of Assembly in 1761. In the following year his seat was declared vacant on account of non-attendance. In 1770 he was again returned as representative for Cornwallis. In 1776 his seat was again declared vacant for the same reason as before. The local records indicate that he was a Justice of the Peace, and that he took a prominent part in promoting the best interests of the community.

#### **Dr. Edward Ellis.**

Was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1762. In the following year an Indian was assaulted and seriously beaten by one of the inhabitants. The attitude of the Indians became so hostile that a special commission was sent from Halifax to investigate the affair.

Ample provision was made for the wants of the Indian, and Dr. Ellis was appointed to give him the necessary medical attendance until he should recover.

### Dr. Micheal Head.

In St. Paul's cemetery, in this city, there is a tombstone with the following inscription:—

“ To the memory of  
MICHAEL HEAD, ESQ.,  
who died June 18th, 1805, aged 66 years.  
For upwards of 40 years in this province.”

Michael Head appears to have first settled near Fort Cumberland, where a British garrison was maintained. In 1759 this garrison consisted of Irish volunteers, many of whom afterwards took up their permanent abode in that vicinity. Later, many of the Irish immigrants who were brought out by Alexander McNutt, settled at Fort Cumberland and in the contiguous townships of Amherst and Sackville.

In the year 1765, Michael Head applied for and was granted 1,000 acres of land at Amherst. At about the same time he was appointed a Justice of the Peace. The following is related on the authority of the late P. S. Hamilton, who wrote an excellent history of the County of Cumberland:—

“ An Irishman would scarcely take it as a compliment to be declared wanting in the usually attributed national belligerence. During the early days of Cumberland and Amherst, as in other places where the Irish element largely prevailed in the population, Truro, for instance, there used, on occasion of public gatherings, to be frequent riots between the Irish and those who were not Irish. These were regular faction “shindies” in the traditional Donnybrook style, and they prevailed down to a time long subsequent to the American Revolutionary War, when there might have been attributed to them something of a political character.”

"The Michael Head named in the text was made a Justice of the Peace, yet he, no doubt, loved a fight for its own sake. If not much belied, he used to ride boldly into the riots and in a stentorian voice command "the peace in the King's name;" and then in lower but equally emphatic tones he would say in Irish. 'Give it to them, the Sassenach devils, give it to them.' Whoever went to jail, the Irish usually had the best of the fight."

I have not been able to ascertain when Dr. Head left Amherst. In 1776 he was at Windsor. In a diary kept by George Deschamps, in an interleaved almanack there is an account of the illness and death of one of his children, evidently from meningitis, and Dr. Head is mentioned as the attending physician.

Many entries in this diary show that the Doctor was a social favorite and that he was on terms of the closest intimacy with the prominent men who lived in Windsor at this period. A number of these gentlemen either had formerly lived in Cumberland, or owned large tracts of land there. This circumstance probably explains the Doctor's removal to Windsor.

In 1781, Hants county was formed, and Doctor Head was appointed a Justice of the Peace, and a Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. At about 1792, he removed to Halifax, where he engaged in general practice, and still continued to act in a judicial capacity. For many years he was Surgeon to the First Battalion of Halifax Militia. He resided in Halifax, on Barrington Street, opposite St. Paul's Church. He died in 1805.

One of his daughters married the Rev. Archibald Gray, D. D., of St. Matthew's Church. One of his sons was a Captain in H. M. Navy.

### **Samuel Head.**

Was a son of Michael Head, and one of the most prominent physicians of Halifax in the early decades of the 19th century. He was probably the first native born physician in Nova Scotia. The following is taken from his tombstone in St. Paul's cemetery:—

" Sacred to the memory of  
 SAMUEL HEAD, M. D.,  
 who died November, 1833,  
 aged 64 years.

For nearly 35 years he successfully practised as a physician, and faithfully executed his duties as a magistrate. His benevolent kindness in his various duties will be long and faithfully remembered by his family, his numerous patients, friends, and also by the poor of Halifax, to whom he was a most bountiful benefactor and humane physician."

### **Charles Head.**

Was a son of Samuel Head, M. D. He came to Truro about 1825, married the widow of John Archibald, son of S. G. W. Archibald, late Master of the Rolls. His three children were born in Truro, a son and two daughters. He moved to Halifax about 1835, and when he died, soon after, his widow married Snow P. Freeman, of Liverpool, who sat in the House of Assembly for several years. She died in Halifax about a year ago. She was a Miss Mitchell, a sister of the late George P. Mitchell. One daughter, the sole representative of the Head family, is still living in Halifax.

### **Dr. John Harris.**

Came to Pictou in 1767 with a small band of settlers in the Brig "Hope," from the borders of Pennsylvania and Maryland. He came chiefly as agent for the Philadelphia company, to dispose of lands which had been granted in the present counties of Pictou and Colchester. He brought with him his wife, and their first child was born the day before they sailed into Pictou harbor. He was accompanied also by his brother Matthew.

Doctor Harris was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was born in 1739 in Baltimore county, Maryland. In the Philadelphia grant he is described as "Doctor of Medicine, Philadelphia." Although often solicited to return to Maryland, he invariably refused. His party, although small in numbers, was well equipped, and familiar with the difficulties to be overcome in making a settlement in the unbroken forest. They laid the foundation of the present town of Pictou and named it "Donegal."

In 1773, the ship Hector arrived with 40 families from the Highlands of Scotland.

Dr. Harris was the first magistrate in Pictou, and he held other public positions. He resided in Pictou until 1778, when he removed to Truro. It is said that his removal was due to his strong sympathies with the rebels in the Revolutionary War.

The outbreak of the American War led to bad feeling between the Scottish and American settlers. The Scots were loyal, while most of those who had come from Philadelphia, as well as most of the inhabitants of Truro and the adjacent settlements, had a very warm sympathy with the rebels. A number of the Pictou people, joined by reinforcements from Truro, seized a valuable vessel then loading in Pictou harbor, belonging to Captain Lowden, and started off to join the Americans, who then had possession of the country about Baie Verte. The vessel was quickly recaptured, and soon afterward, most of the Philadelphia settlers left Pictou.

After coming to Truro, Dr. Harris devoted more attention to the practice of medicine. He represented Truro in the House of Assembly, from 1779 to 1785, and was Clerk of the Peace for some years. He was also a Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. As a magistrate, he celebrated marriages.

His death took place on April 9th, 1802. It was due, Dr. Patterson says, to a fall from his horse. On the other hand, Dr. Page was informed by Miss Soley, of Truro, that the real cause of death was apoplexy, which caused him to fall while his horse was either standing still or walking slowly. He had inoculated Mrs. Soley with smallpox a short time before, and her arm had not healed at the time of his death.

It is of interest to note that Dr. Harris usually kept one or two negro slaves. He seems to have been an active, public-spirited man, and a good physician. Descendants of himself and his brother Matthew are numerous.

### **Dr. Parker Clarke.**

Is known to us only by certain proceedings in the Courts of Law, at Cumberland and Halifax. The township of Cumberland was first settled by New Englanders and immigrants from the North of Ireland. During the Revolutionary War most of these settlers warmly sympathized with the revolted colonies. In November, 1776, at the instance of parties from Machias, Maine, many of these settlers led by Jonathan Eddy, attempted the capture of Fort Cumberland. They had gone so far as to invest the fort when the timely arrival of forces from Windsor and Halifax put an end to their plans and dispersed them. Several arrests were made. Among them was Doctor Clarke, who was taken to Halifax, tried for high treason and found guilty. He pleaded the King's pardon before sentence was passed, and was respited.

Before this arrest he had been accused of extorting money from Thomas Robinson, of Amherst. The circumstances were these:—

Robinson owed Dr. Clarke for professional services, the sum of £1.15.0, an account of long standing. Taking advantage of the disorder which prevailed, Dr. Clarke, with another party, armed to the teeth, threatened to make Robinson a prisoner. Rather than be imprisoned, Robinson borrowed the money and paid Clarke.

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### PART III.

The period from 1775 to 1800 is rendered notable by the arrival of the Loyalists, and the increased immigration of Scottish Highlanders. Soon after the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, refugees from the older colonies came to Nova Scotia. About two thousand people came to Halifax after the evacuation of Boston. Some of these settled, the majority went to England and the West Indies, and many returned to their former home.

The Province, on the whole, retrograded during the war, most of the settlements being unprotected and exposed to attacks by privateers. When peace was announced, a large accession to the population occurred, principally in the years 1783 and 1784, consisting of loyalists and disbanded soldiers. It is estimated that, by this movement, about 30,000 people were added to the population.

These settlers not only diffused themselves quite generally among the older colonists, but also laid the foundation of new townships in widely scattered parts of the province, as at Shelburne, Digby, Clements, Wilmot, Aylesford, Rawdon, Douglas, Parrsboro, Wallace, Antigonish, Guysboro, and other places.

Shortly after this important influx of settlers had taken place, there began to flow to our shores that great stream of Scottish immigration, predominantly, but by no means exclusively Celtic, which has rendered the eastern half of this Province a veritable New Scotland.

Irish immigration, at this period, was not felt beyond the confines of the town of Halifax.

With the Loyalists came a large number of medical men, most of whom had been attached to the British or Colonial forces. Many of these men were highly qualified, and their influence in improving the standard of the medical profession in Nova Scotia has never ceased to be felt.

In respect to the effect of the Revolutionary War on the fortunes of physicians and surgeons, Sabine says, "The physicians who adhered to the Crown were numerous, and the proportion of Whigs in the profession of medicine was probably less than in either that of law or theology. But, unlike persons of the latter callings, most of the physicians remained in the country and quietly pursued their business. There seems to have been an understanding that though pulpits should be closed, and litigation be suspended, the sick should not be

deprived of their regular and freely chosen attendants. I have been surprised to find, from verbal communications and from various other sources, that while the "Tory Doctors" were as zealous and as fearless in the expression of their sentiments as 'Tory ministers' and "Tory barristers," their persons and their property were generally respected in the towns and villages, where little or no regard was paid to the bodies and estates of gentlemen of the robe and surplice. Some, however, were less fortunate, and the dealings of the "Sons of Liberty" were occasionally harsh and exceedingly vexatious. A few of the Loyalist physicians were banished; others, and those chiefly who became surgeons to the army or provincial corps, settled in New Brunswick or Nova Scotia when they resumed practice."

Sabine, in a note, adds, "Since writing the above passage I have met more than once the suggestion that the physicians owed their safety to the exigencies of the ladies."

The medical men who came with the Loyalists to Nova Scotia, and many of those connected with disbanded regiments, settled in different parts of the province.

For convenience of reference, I propose to take the various counties, as at present constituted, and under these headings arrange the scanty knowledge in my possession, respecting the medical men who came to Nova Scotia.

#### HALIFAX.

After the evacuation of Boston in 1776, a number of prominent medical men came to Halifax, and remained for a short time. One or two died shortly afterwards, and the majority either went to England, or returned so the seat of war.

#### John Jeffries, (Sabine,)

Of Boston, came to Halifax in 1776. He was appointed Chief of the Surgical Staff of Nova Scotia. In 1770 he went to England, and returning to America shortly afterward, held a high position in the British forces at Charleston and New York. He practised in London for many years. In 1735 he crossed the English Channel in a balloon. He died at Boston in 1819, aged seventy-five. He was eminent as a surgeon, midwife, and physician.

#### Sylvester Gardiner,

Dr. Gardiner came to Halifax in 1776. He afterwards went to England. He was a very able man and very wealthy. In 1785 he returned to Boston and made claim for his property without success.

#### John Prince,

Of Salem, Massachusetts, went to Halifax, where in 1779 he had acquired a competency as a merchant. He returned to the United States.

### **William LePerkins,**

Of Boston, physician, went to Halifax with his family in 1776. Washington, on taking possession of Boston, ordered his stock of medicines to be taken for the use of the Continental army. In 1778 he was proscribed and banished. He died at Hampton Court, England in 1787. He was the author of several medical publications of much merit.

### **Nathaniel Perkins,**

Of Boston, physician, graduated at Harvard University, in 1734. When, in 1764 hospitals were established in Boston for the treatment of small-pox by inoculation, he was one of the attending physicians. Dr. Perkins went to Halifax in 1775. In 1778 he was proscribed and banished. He died in 1799, the place of his death not being recorded.

### **Peter Oliver and Brinley Sylvester Oliver**

Were probably in Halifax in 1776. They became surgeons in the British Service. They died in England. A brother became prominent in public life in New Brunswick.

### **William Brattle,**

Of Massachusetts. A man of more eminent talents and of greater eccentricities never lived. He graduated at Harvard in 1722, and subsequently was representative from Cambridge, and a member for many years of the Council. He seems to have been of every profession and to have been eminent in all. As a clergyman, his preaching was acceptable; as a physician, he was celebrated; and he had an extensive practice as a lawyer. His military aptitude secured for him the rank of Major General of Militia, an office, in his time, of very considerable importance, and of high honour. He loved good living, and possessed the happy faculty of pleasing both the government and the people. A pronounced Loyalist, he was proscribed and banished. In 1776 he came to Halifax, where he died a few months afterwards.

### **William James Almon,**

Was born in the year 1754. In 1771 he was apprenticed to Andrew Anderson, Physician and Surgeon, of New York. In 1779, he received from Lord Townshend a commission as Surgeon's Mate to the 4th Battalion of Royal Artillery. On the evacuation of Boston in 1776, he came to Halifax with Lord Howe's forces, but remained only a short time, as he accompanied the troops to New York and was in active service for several years. Before the close of the Revolutionary War he returned to Halifax and received the appointment of Surgeon of Artillery and Ordnance, a position which he held for many years. In 1785, he was appointed surgeon of the Halifax Alm's House, a position which was subsequently held by his son, grandson, and great-grandson. In the same year he was married to Rebecca



Boyles, a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Mather Boyles. He was a Justice of the Peace for Halifax, and Surgeon General of the militia. He acquired an extensive practice and enjoyed, to the fullest extent, the confidence of the community. In 1793 he addressed a letter to the Duke of Richmond pointing out the advantage of Halifax as depot for troops, and dwelling especially upon the healthy and invigorating characters of the climate.

Several years ago I had an opportunity of looking over some of his case-books. Some of the cases are admirably reported. He cultivated the habit of carefully recording everything which impressed him in daily practice and in reading. I should judge that he was gifted with good natural abilities, which were strengthened by culture, and that in his practice he was largely guided by the dictates of common sense. The following is extracted from one of his case books :

“It is very seldom that diseases are found pure and unmixed, as described by authors, and there is almost an endless variety of constitutions. The treatment must be adapted to this mixture and variety in order to be as successful as circumstances will permit, and this allows of a very wide field for the exercise of good common sense on the part of the physician.”

He was very absent-minded, a characteristic that gave rise to many amusing anecdotes.

Readers of Marryat's "Newton Foster" will readily recall the awkward predicament in which the hero's uncle was placed when he discovered himself unexpectedly in a bedroom with a woman not his wife. The incident is based on a misadventure of Dr. Almon's, and was related to Marryat by the family when he was on this station. On another occasion, when paying a professional call on the Hon. Richard Bulkeley, he inadvertently slipped a gold watch and chain, which was lying near, into his pocket, where it was found that evening by his wife, but not before its loss was being proclaimed by the town crier.

Doctor Almon died at Bath, England, in 1817, being found dead in his bed. A diary, kept during his last illness, is very interesting. A report of the autopsy is given.

Notice of his well-known descendants does not come within the scope of this paper.

### Hon. John Halliburton.

In the year 1750, the town of Newport, Rhode Island, was visited by a frigate, commanded by Lord Colville. On board, acting as surgeon of the ship, was Doctor John Halliburton. He was the son of a Presbyterian clergyman, of Haddington, Scotland. Whilst the ship rode at anchor in the harbor of Newport, Dr. Halliburton became acquainted with the family of the Hon. Jahleel Brenton, whose son was so well-known in the Navy as Admiral Sir J. Brenton, and to one of whose daughters he became attached. After complete

ing his stipulated term of service as naval surgeon, he returned to Rhode Island and was married to Susannah Brenton in the year 1767. This alliance caused him to adopt the Colony of Rhode Island as his home, and to follow his profession among his newly found friends and acquaintances. He quickly acquired a large and lucrative practice.

In the disputes which arose between the Parent Kingdom and the colonies he expoused and warmly supported the Royalist party. Shortly after the outbreak of hostilities he was banished for refusing to subscribe to the test ordered by an Act of the Revolutionary Assembly. Later he was granted leave to return, not on account of himself, but because as a physician his services were much needed by the inhabitants. This privilege, however, did not last long, and he was finally compelled to sacrifice all the property which ability and application, had enabled him to accumulate, and to escape from the town. Nor was it by any means a trifling surrender which he was forced to make. The abandonment of property, the resignation of a lucrative practice and the dismemberment of social ties and domestic arrangements, formed in this combination a very serious sacrifice. On the pretext of visiting patients on the mainland Doctor Halliburton secretly left Newport in a barge and landed safely at Long Island, where the British Army was stationed. On his arrival at headquarters he presented himself to Sir Henry Clinton who, (as some recognition of his services,) offered him the headship of the Naval Medical Department at Halifax. Having accepted the appointment, he soon afterwards sailed from New York and reached Halifax in 1782, his wife and family coming a year later. In addition to his official duties, Dr. Halliburton entered into general practice, and became, as at his former residence, a leader in his profession and an influential member of the community. In 1787 he was appointed a member of His Majesty's Council. He died in the year 1808, aged 68. Sir Brenton Halliburton for a long time Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, was his son. The inscription on his tombstone in St. Poul's cemetery happily summarizes his characteristics.

"If unshaken loyalty to his king, steady attachment to his friends, active benevolence to the destitute, and humble confidence in God, can perpetuate his memory, he will not be forgotten."

### **Dr. Duncan Clark,**

I am indebted to James S. McDonald, author of the "Annals of the North British Society," for a sketch of Dr. Duncan Clark, as well as for the photo copy of a portrait taken from an oil painting by Feild.

Dr. Duncan Clark was born in Inverness, and was educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen. When 29 years of age he left Scotland, and by the advice of friends in New York went there in 1772. He practised in New York until 1776, and being an ardent Loyalist and outspoken in his opinion, he removed, by advice, to Norfolk, Virginia,

where he practised his profession until 1780. He then returned to New York, where he remained until the evacuation of the city by the British in 1782, he then with many other Loyalists accompanied the troops to Halifax.

Doctor John Halliburton, who was a great friend of Clark's gave him a helping hand, and secured his appointment as Surgeon to the Naval Yard. For several years both Halliburton and Clark were the leading professional men of the time in this community, and had, in addition to their government work, a large medical practice. Socially, Clark was a great favorite, with fine presence and a dignified bearing, He took a leading place with the Scottish community, being twice elected President of the North British Society between the years 1789 and 1798. He was elected Grand Master of Freemasons in succession to Hon. Richard Bulkeley in 1800. He was a leading member of St. Matthew's Church, and was popular with all classes.

He amassed considerable wealth. It was a time when great fortunes were made by many of the leading merchants of the community. The sale of prizes captured by the fleet and sold in Admiralty Court here often produced splendid returns. Dr. Clark invested in several ventures with the Scottish merchants in Halifax, and on one purchase alone he is said to have made £15,000 stg.

Dr. Clark, with John Bremner, Alexander Brymer, William Forsyth, Dr. John Halliburton, Dr. W. J. Almon and the Geddis were the leaders of a literary coterie which met regularly each month at the Pontac Hotel, to discuss social and scientific subjects. They were often joined by any distinguished stranger who might be passing through Halifax at the time. The papers and discussion occupied an hour, the remainder of the evening being devoted to wit, song and toasting, prolonged at times to the "sma hours." The Duke of Kent often joined them. Drs. Clark, Halliburton and Almon were Physician in Ordinary to the Prince and his Household, and were often entertained at his residence.

Dr. Clark took a prominent part in advocating measures designed to improve the condition of Halifax, and being an eloquent speaker, often took part in the public meetings which, at that period, were frequently held.

His career was not eventful, but it was useful to his fellowmen, and he deserves remembrance.

He had one great disappointment. He was on the list of possible members of His Majesty's Council. It was believed that he was certain to get a seat, but, in 1805 when a vacancy occurred. Governor Wentworth appointed John Butler to the position.

Dr. Clark retired from the Naval Yard in 1809. Nothing is known of him after this date. Some think that he died in Halifax; others believe that he left the country.

### Dr. James Boggs, (Sabine,)

Of Pennsylvania, entered the service of the Crown and was attached to the Medical Staff of the of the Royal Army. In 1787 he came to Nova Scotia, and was appointed one of the surgeons to the Garrison, a position which he held until about 1810. He died at Halifax in 1831, aged ninety-one. His daughter Elizabeth, widow of Colonel John Stuart, died at Halifax in 1852 in the 85th year. Thomas Boggs who was a merchant at Halifax, was his son.

### Dr. John F. G. Gschwind,

Was a man of some prominence among the Halifax settlers of German origin. He was probably connected with some German auxiliaries disbanded in Nova Scotia, and he probably settled in Halifax at the close of the war. In 1789 his name is mentioned as Vice-President of the High German Society. In 1749 he was surgeon to the 2nd Battalion of Halifax Militia. He was Health Officer for Halifax in 1800. At or about 1801 he was appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Garrison, a position which he held for over twenty years. He died in 1827 and was buried in St. Paul's cemetery. He lived in a house which stood on the north east corner of Duke and Grafton Streets.

### Dr. John Phillips.

Among the early magistrates of Halifax was John Phillips, M. D. He carried on the business of a chemist and druggist—between 1780 and 1800—in the vicinity of the Dockyard—Phillip's hill—now Gerrish street, a locality which was familiarly known as such to the generation, that is now passing off the stage, was named after him. Accumulating a competency he returned to his native land—England—at the close of the eighteenth century.—“*Acadian Recorder*.”

His portrait was secured many years ago by the late Dr. R. S. Black, and was presented by him to the Halifax Medical College.

The following medical men came to Halifax about 1784, with volunteer regiments, which were soon after disbanded: Walter Cullen, Ambrose Sherman, John Fraser, Lewis Davis, Jonathan W. Clark, John Nicolai and ——— Helmrich. Most of them remained in the province.

John Nicolai was appointed physician to the Halifax Alms House, and was surgeon of the Nova Scotia Volunteers.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century, Robert Hume, a naval surgeon, settled in Halifax, and about the same time a Dr. Hogan and a Dr. Sullivan were in active practice.

## LUNENBURG.

**John Burger Erad.**

It has been already noted that he probably went to Lunenburg and Dr. Jonathan Prescott lived for many years at Chester.

**Dr. John Bolman,**

Cochrane, in his history of Lunenburg, says: "The first medical man in the county of any note, was a Dr. John Bolman, who came from Germany early in the American Revolutionary War with the Hessian Contingent, (troops which had been hired by the British Government.) He was attached as a surgeon to the Army of General Burgoyne, which surrendered to the Americans. The Hessians, at the close of the war, were disbanded in Halifax, and Dr. Bolman subsequently settled in Lunenburg, attracted, no doubt, by the fact that there his native language was spoken by so many of the inhabitants. He practiced his profession in Lunenburg; and having the field almost to himself, he soon amassed considerable property, and became one of the leading men of the community, as appeared from his being chosen to represent the County in the House of Assembly. He died at about 1826, having practiced for over forty years in Lunenburg. He encountered great fatigue, hardship and danger from the almost entire lack of roads, the necessity of boating, the crossing of ice, the poor accommodation in country houses, and from many other inconveniences unknown to the dozen of practitioners, now occupying what was then his sole dominion: One of his sons was killed in Spain during the Peninsular War.

Dr. Edward Boleman, another son, also practiced for many years in Lunenburg. He had two sons, one of whom was a lawyer and one an officer in the Royal Navy. One of his daughters married Lieut. Aitken, R. N., and their son, C. Cheyne Aitken, studied medicine, practiced for a short time in Pictou and then settled in Lunenburg.

## QUEENS.

**James Dick, M. D.**

There is no record of a medical man residing in Queens County until some time after the arrival of the Loyalists. This is rather surprising when we consider that Liverpool was one of the most prosperous of the early settlements made in Nova Scotia by the New Englanders.

Dr. James Dick appears to have been the first medical man who

settled in Queens County. He came to Shelburne with the Loyalists in 1784. He was previously engaged with the British Army during the Revolutionary War, and was actively engaged in that conflict. In the engagement that took place at Little York, between the British and American forces, all the officers above him in the regiment were killed, and the command devolved upon himself.

Soon after the decline of Shelburne, he came to Liverpool, and began to practice there. He married Rebecca Tulluck, of Shelburne. In 1815 he was surgeon on the privateer schooner "Shannon," Capt. Benjamin Ellerwood, cruising on the American coast. He died at Black Point, but the date of his death I have been unable to ascertain.

### Dr. Andrew Webster.

Dr. Andrew Webster came to Liverpool from Orono, Maine. In 1811 he married Ann, daughter of John Barss, of Liverpool. One of his daughters married John Carten. Descendants are in Liverpool. Dr. Webster practiced at Liverpool for many years, and must have been a general favorite, if one may judge by the number of babies who were named after him. His epitaph inscribed at the Old Congregational Burying Ground, Queens County, states that he died on August 10th, 1855, aged 77 years. He was not related to the Kentville or Yarmouth Websters.

#### SHELBURNE.

The rapid rise and sudden decline of Shelburne, or Port Roseway, as it was formerly called, is an interesting episode in the history of Nova Scotia. The Loyalists flocked to Shelburne in great numbers, and at one time the population was estimated to be 14,000—more than double that of Halifax—at the same period. A number of medical men came with the immigrants and shared their fate. Prosperity was short-lived and in a few years the population rapidly dwindled away."

### "Dr. Benjamin Loring,

Of Boston, Surgeon. At the peace, accompanied by his family of five persons, and one servant, he went from New York to Shelburne. His losses, in consequence of his loyalty were estimated at £3,000. He returned to the United States and died at Boston, in 1789, aged 65."—(Sabin.)

### **“ William Stafford,**

Surgeon of the Maryland Loyalists Volunteers. He embarked for Nova Scotia in the transport ship *Martha*, which was wrecked near Tusket Shoals. Many perished, but the Dr. was among those who escaped. Of the 174 persons on board only 65 were saved. Lieut. Henley, Lieut. Stirling and Dr. Stafford got upon a piece of the wreck and floated at sea for two days and two nights nearly to the waist in water. During this time Lieut. Stirling perished. On the third day the two survivors drifted to an island, where they remained for several days in a weak condition, and without fire or food. Dr. Stafford settled at Shelburne.”—(Sabine.)

### **John Boyd,**

Of Philadelphia, Surgeon. At the peace, accompanied by his wife and family and two servants, he went from New York to Shelburne, where the Crown granted him one town lot and one water lot. His losses in consequence of his loyalty were estimated at £400. (Sabine.)

He was appointed Surgeon to the Garrison at Shelburne. He afterwards filled a similar position at Halifax and finally at Windsor, where he remained for many years.

A son of John Boyd adopted his father's profession. The only thing that I have been able to ascertain about him is the circumstance that he practiced in Hants County for a short time and that he was a surgeon in the militia.

### **John or Peter Huggeford.**

At the peace he went from New York to Shelburne, where the town granted him one town lot. He was twenty-four years of age and unmarried. His losses in consequence of his loyalty were estimated at £1,000. He afterwards removed to Digby, and later to New Brunswick.—(Sabin.)

### **Daniel Kendrick,**

Of New York, Physician. At the peace he went from New York to Shelburne. He was forty-nine years of age and unmarried. His losses were estimated at £300. In 1800 he was surgeon to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

### **Fleming Pinkstone,**

Physician. In 1782 came to Shelburne, afterwards removed to Digby.

### **Joseph Norman Bond.**

Dr. J. N. Bond was a native of Neston, Cheshire, England, and was educated for the medical profession at London. While the War of Independence was in progress he came to New York in a privateer. He at once volunteered to serve in the army and was made an assistant surgeon. For some time he had charge of the prisoners captured by Burgoyne and Cornwallis. He was present at Yorktown when Cornwallis surrendered to Washington. At the close of the war he settled at Shelburne, and received many public appointments. At about 1790 he moved to Yarmouth, where he died in 1830. At Yarmouth he held many public offices, besides discharging his professional duties. He was a Justice of the Peace, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Colonel of Militia, Collector of Customs and Sheriff. He is said to have been a man of strong character, with great firmness and determination. His sons, Drs. Joseph B. and James Bond, also practiced at Yarmouth. Dr. J. N. Bond was probably the first medical man who performed vaccination in Nova Scotia. Early in the spring of 1802, Mr. Norman Bond, a lawyer living in Bath, England, and an intimate friend of Dr. Jenner, sent out in a letter a small packet of vaccine lymph to his brother, Dr. Bond. He tried it on an infant a few weeks old, It succeeded, and to further test its efficiency, he inoculated the child with small-pox, which, of course, proved powerless. The child grew to manhood and reached old age, and though frequently exposed to infection, never contracted the disease. (The first child to be inoculated with small-pox, in Nova Scotia, was Frank Bulkeley Gould De la Roche, son of Rev. Peter De la Roche. The inoculation was performed on May 27th, 1773, and the fact is noted in the Baptismal Register, at the Episcopal Church, in Lunenburg.)

### **Dr. Richard Fletcher,**

Was the third son of Dr. George Fletcher, of Queens County, Ireland. In 1776 he was appointed Surgeon to the 6th Regiment of Foot, which was shortly afterwards ordered to the North American Station.



In 1791 he married Mary, the fourth daughter of Colonel Ronald McKinnon, of Argyle, Yarmouth County.

In 1796 he retired from the service, and settled at Shelburne, where he resided until 1809, when he removed to Yarmouth. He died in 1818. His two sons joined the Royal Navy. His wife survived him for many years.

Dr. Fletcher discovered the supposed Runic inscription at Yarmouth, which excited some attention among antiquarians. He was a Magistrate and Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas.

Mrs. Fletcher possessed considerable literary ability, and if I mistake not, a collection of her writings has been published.

Dr. Fletcher did not practice in Yarmouth, but devoted his leisure to farming. He resided at the "Old Homestead," which held a very commanding and pretentious position across Yarmouth Harbor. His wife occupied it until 1840, when, by her death, it passed into the possession of her son, George, who went to Australia, and died at Melbourne, in 1854.

### John Hoose.

At about 1784, John Hoose, one of the surgeons of the disbanded Hessian Regiments, settled in Shelburne. The only note we have of him is that he gave land for a Methodist cemetery, where his dust now rests beside that of his wife.

#### YARMOUTH.

We have already seen that Dr. Jonathan Woodbury came to Yarmouth with the first settlers in 1760, and that he did not remain here long. Many years elapsed before Yarmouth had another physician.

### Jesse Rice.

Was born in 1751. He graduated at Harvard University in 1772. In 1778 he was proscribed and banished. He settled in Yarmouth probably about 1770. In an application for a grant of land he is described as single, a refugee, and a physician. Campbell, in his history of Yarmouth, says:—"Mr. Rice was the first physician in the country of whom we have any record." As such, he was evidently regarded as a desirable settler. Nothing is known about his subsequent career. (Sabine.)

Drs. J. N. Bond and Richard Fletcher were the next physicians to settle in Yarmouth. Both came from Shelburne and have been noticed.

## Henry Greggs Farish

was born at Brooklyn, New York, where his father was a Commissary in the British Army. After the peace his parents, with their family, removed to Shelburne and afterwards to Norfolk, Virginia. He entered the navy as assistant surgeon on board the "Asia," and was soon afterwards promoted as surgeon on board H. M. S. Cleopatra. At the peace the ship was paid off, and, after having practiced for some little time in England, he returned to Nova Scotia, and settled in Yarmouth in 1803. Here he remained until his death in 1856. In addition to his duties as a medical practitioner, in which capacity he was very highly esteemed, he filled for many years, with singular ability, and integrity, many important public offices. He was naval officer, collector of excise, registrar of deeds, and an able magistrate. He was also land commissioner, judge of the court of common pleas, for twenty years custod of the county, and postmaster for fifty years.

He never ceased to take a deep interest in whatever concerned the history, progress and welfare of his adopted home. He was evidently a most discreet man, of few words but of careful and constant action. He seldom spoke in public, but no public work was uninfluenced by him. He was, in well worn phrase, "a gentleman and a scholar," and, however widely his opinions differed from the majority of those among whom he lived, he commanded the respect of all.

The ruling principle of his life seems to have been a strong sense of duty from which he would not swerve, however painful the consequences might be to himself. Nor can I leave this portrait without giving it the epigrammatic touch of an old inhabitant who knew him long and well, and who told me that the only faults that many found in him were that he was "a conservative in politics and a churchman in religion."—(Campbell.)

Three of his sons adopted medicine as a profession. Greggs Joseph and James C. settled in Yarmouth and are dead. Henry G. settled in Liverpool where he is still actively engaged in practice,

although advanced in years. His sons, Dr. George Farish of Yarmouth and Dr. J. C. Farish of Vancouver, B. C., are in active practice, the latter being a specialist.

Dr. Farish must have been extremely methodical in all his ways, otherwise he could not have successfully carried on a large practice in conjunction with his many public duties. As a proof of the careful and conscientious manner in which he cared for his patients, there is no better evidence than the record of 2,148 cases of labour attended by him.

The Farish obstetric record was published in vol. 4, page 177 of the MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS, and is a very interesting document. It includes over 10,000 cases of confinement attended by the father and his three sons.

#### DIGBY.

Digby was settled by Loyalists and disbanded troops. Wilson says that the premier physicians were Dr. Christian Tobias, Peter Huggeford, John Skinner, Fleming Pinckston, and Joseph Marvin, and Abraham Florentine, at Clements. William Young and William Schirman were at Digby in 1789 and Azor Betts probably came at a later date from Shelburne.

#### Azor Betts,

Of New York, Physician. In January, 1776, Dr. Betts was arraigned before the Committee of Safety, for denouncing Congress and Committees, both Continental and Provincial, and for uttering that they were "a damned set of rascals, and acted only to feather their own nests, and not to serve their country, etc." He was condemned to close confinement in the Ulster County Jail. In April, the Committee of Safety voted his discharge on condition of his acknowledging penitence, paying expenses of confinement, and taking an oath to be of good behaviour; or, dispensing with the oath, of his executing a bond with sureties in £200. He settled in Nova Scotia and died at Digby in 1809. He may have been in Shelburne at first. (Sabine.)

## Dr. Christian Tobias.

Dr. Tobias was a German, and served as surgeon to one of the German Regiments. He settled at Digby in 1784, and died there in 1800. He seems to have been an influential member of the community, and to have been highly respected as a medical man.

## Dr. Joseph Marvin

Came to Digby with the Loyalists. Nothing further is known of his career.

### ANNAPOLIS.

A garrison was maintained at Annapolis from its occupation down to 1854. The surgeon supplied the medical requirements of the district. Dr. Jonathan Woodbury practiced first at Granville and subsequently at Wilmot, as has been already noted.

## Josiah Jones,

Physician, of Weston, Massachusetts. He was a son of Colonel Elisia Jones. He joined the British army at Boston soon after the battle of Lexington, in 1775, and was sent by General Gage in the sloop "Polly" to Nova Scotia, to procure hay and other provisions for the troops. On the passage he was made prisoner and sent by the committee of Arundel, Maine, to the Provincial Congress, and after due investigation of his case by a committee of that body, he was committed to jail at Concord. Obtaining release after some months' imprisonment, he again joined the royal forces, receiving an appointment in the commissary department.

In 1782 he went to Annapolis where he settled. A short time after that he went to England for the purpose of obtaining half-pay, and in this he was successful. He was a justice of the peace and judge of the inferior court of common pleas for the county of Annapolis for many years. He died at Annapolis in 1825, aged eighty.

One of his daughters married Dr. Thomas White of Westport. His property in Massachusetts was confiscated. Dr. Jones was a man of good powers and a cultivated mind. His family retains the impression that he was educated at Harvard University, but his name does not appear on the catalogue of graduates. His father had 14 sons and one daughter.—(Sabine.)

**Dr. Robert Tucker.**

was appointed sheriff of Annapolis county in 1784, and he held this position until his death in 1790. There is record of R. Tucker, a physician of Wilmington, North Carolina, having his properties confiscated in 1779, and in 1781 the name of R. Tucker appears as surgeon of the King's American Regiment.

**George Hinkle, M. D.,**

came to Halifax at about 1793, with the 7th Regiment of Foot. A year or two later he was appointed Surgeon to the garrison of Annapolis. He remained at Annapolis for many years, and was engaged in general practice.

**KING'S.**

King's county has produced more medical men and has sent more doctors to Parliament, than any other county in Nova Scotia. The first practitioners in this part of the province have been already mentioned, viz., Drs. Samuel Willoughby and Edward Ellis.

**Dr. Gurden Dennison,**

probably a native of the Province. was elected to represent Horton in the House of Assembly in 1785 and again in 1791. I do not feel sure that he was a medical man, my only authority being Hamiltons "History of King's County."

**William Baxter.**

Roscoe, in his "History of King's County," says that Dr. William Baxter was born in 1753. He joined the British army in 1776 and came to Cornwallis at the close of the war. where he settled and engaged in practice. He had a diploma from a Medical College, and soon acquired the reputation of being a skillful practitioner.

He was noted for his wit and for his many eccentricities. Roscoe relates that a man named Jackson, an English settler, who had suffered from some of the Doctor's biting remarks, sought revenge in this way. One dark night he sent for Baxter in a great hurry. The roads were very bad, but the Doctor came. He was ushered into the

supposed sick room, where lo! a goose lay panting with her leg broken. The Doctor attended to the broken leg, and left the goose comfortable. When the cure was completed, a bill for eight dollars was sent to Jackson, and he could not evade payment.

To get square with Baxter, Jackson composed some verses hitting off many of the Doctor's peculiarities, and especially his fondness for the bottle. The first two verses ran as follows:

“The Doctor is a tanner by trade,  
I believe his name is Baxter,  
He prescribes both physic and pills,  
And makes them of men's bones and wax, sir.

He heals all their putrified sores,  
And cures all their drunken consumptives.  
At length he makes out a long bill  
And takes for it a cartload of pumpkins.”

These verses were widely circulated and, it is said, greatly injured and annoyed the doctor.

Somewhat later a Doctor Walton settled in the same district. He was a young man and did not have a diploma or license of any kind, a circumstance not pleasing to Baxter. A neighbor asked Baxter if Walton was a good doctor. The reply was—“He may be. A pig may whistle, but his mouth is not well formed for it.”

Dr. Baxter represented Cornwallis in the House of Assembly for some years. Roscoe says,—“Dr. Baxter will be long remembered in Kings county. He was kind in the extreme, never denying anyone, poor or rich the relief which his skill could afford.”

### **Dr. R. Walton**

commenced practice in Cornwallis about 1795. He acquired a good practice, was highly respected, and reached an advanced age.

### **Dr. Isaac Webster**

was a lineal descendant, in the fifth generation, of Governor John Webster, the fifth governor of Connecticut. He was the son of Moses Webster, of Mansfield, Windham Co., Connecticut. He came to Nova Scotia in 1791 and settled at Kentville. He married Prudence

Bentley of Cornwallis in 1794. He died in 1851, at the age of 85. Roscoe says,—“He was a stern man and a skilful doctor.” Two of his sons studied medicine. Another became a lawyer.

### **W. B. Webster**

Was born January 18th, 1798. He died April 4th, 1861. He practiced at Kentville, and was regarded to be one of the best surgeons in Nova Scotia at the time. He was also well versed in geology. For many years he was a member of the House of Assembly, and took a prominent part in promoting measures designed to advance the interests of the profession.

### **F. A. Webster**

Was born in 1807. He died at Yarmouth, in 1879. He graduated at Edinburgh and Glasgow. He settled at Yarmouth in 1834.

### **John L. R. Webster,**

Son of F. A. Webster,—1835-1885—practiced at Yarmouth. Charles A. Webster, son of John Webster, born 1864; practices at Yarmouth. Henry B. Webster, M. D., of Kentville, is a grandson of Isaac Webster. His father was a lawyer at Kentville. Dr. Arthur Webster, now practicing in the vicinity of Edinburgh, G. B., is a descendant of Isaac Webster.

#### HANTS.

I can find no record of any medical man in Hants County prior to the advent of the Loyalists, except Micheal Head, who practiced for about twenty years, or possibly longer, at Windsor, between 1776 and 1796. Dr. Joseph Prescott was at Windsor between 1791 and 1800. The constant presence of a Garrison surgeon at Windsor probably explains the scarcity of physicians in that town and in the adjoining districts of Newport and Falmouth.

### **John Boyd,**

A Loyalist, who first came to Shelburne, was Garrison surgeon at Windsor from 1792 until 1817. His duties would be light, and he would have plenty of time to attend to the wants of the sick in and about Windsor. His son appears to have practiced in Windsor for a short time.

## 5. Samuel Dennison,

of a retired Naval Surgeon, settled at Newport at about the beginning of the nineteenth century. He had an extensive practice, and was highly esteemed for his many excellent qualities. He seems to have been a very good surgeon. He read a paper on "Placenta Praevia" at the first meeting of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. This is the first record we have of a paper on a strictly professional subject being presented at an assembly of medical men in Nova Scotia. Dr. Dennison died at about 1856.

Two of his sons became physicians, and also practised at Newport. They were Drs. William Dennison and James Dennison.

The district of East Hants was settled by Loyalists and disbanded soldiers, and there is no account of any medical men in this district before 1800.

### CUMBERLAND.

Prior to 1784, settlement in this county was confined to the fertile territory about the isthmus of Chignecio. Here we found that Michael Head began his professional career in Nova Scotia, and that his successor was Dr. Parker Clark, whose memory is preserved in the "Courts of Justice."

The Loyalists settled in great numbers in different sections of the county.

## Dr. Rufus Smith

came with the Loyalists in 1784, and deserves notice by reason of his connection with a prominent Halifax family. A native of New York, he settled as a physician in Westmoreland, and was several times elected a member of the New Brunswick House of Assembly. His daughter, Fannie, married Martin Gay Black (eldest son of Rev. William Black), and the father of Dr. Rufus Smith Black, so well-known in Halifax during the latter half of the 19th century.

Dr. Rufus Smith died in 1844.

## Dr. Elijah Purdy

was the eldest son of Colonel Henry Purdy, a staunch Loyalist who came with his family to Cumberland and settled at Fort Lawrence.



Dr. Purdy settled in Amherst and was for many years the only physician in that locality. He died at about 1852.

COLCHESTER.

**Dr. John Harris**

Came to Truro in 1778, and died there in 1802. He has been referred to elsewhere.

**Dr. Eaton**

Came from New England to Onslow at about 1789, and practiced medicine for some years. He was skillful as a physician, and was noted for his gentlemanly bearing. He went to Boston either on business or for his health, and there he died. His widow died at the advanced age of 105.

**Joseph Murray Upham,**

Was a son of Judge Upham, a distinguished New Brunswick Loyalist. He came to Colchester at about the time that Dr. Eaton left. The date of his death is unknown. His descendants still live in Colchester.

**David B. Lynds**

Was born in Colchester in 1781. He studied medicine with Dr. Head, of Halifax. He spent a year, or perhaps a longer time, in Philadelphia, attending the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Page says: "Dr. Lynds was celebrated as an accoucher, and in that branch was called "very lucky. He made no pretensions to skill as a surgeon, and indeed the results of his attempts at bone-setting would not indicate that he was at all brilliant in that department. He was a most expert phlebotomist. He was most persevering in his efforts to rid his patients of their "pesky fangs," though not always "lucky" enough to get the right tooth. Chloroform and ether were altogether unknown to him. He died on June 9th, 1871, in his ninetieth year, and probably did as little harm during his long life and practice as any physician who ever lived, and that is high praise. His only daughter was the first wife of Dr. Waddel, of Truro.

He amassed considerable wealth. His notes of lectures at the University of Pennsylvania were very carefully written, and were preserved in bound volumes. When his effects were sold, these notebooks were secured by the late Dr. D. H. Muir. It was said that in cases of fever, he rarely entered the sick room, and generally carried on the consultation through the most accessible window. For many years he was the only Baptist in Truro, and suffered, in consequence, petty persecutions from his Presbyterian neighbors.

#### PICOU.

##### **Dr. John Harris**

was one of the first settlers of Pictou, and he remained there until 1778 when he removed to Truro. His practice must have been very limited. There is no record of any medical man settling in Pictou prior to 1800, except Dr. Harris

Drs. John Burton and James Skinner came to Pictou early in the last century.

##### **Dr. John Burton**

No information is extant beyond that he was a magistrate and a Militia Surgeon.

##### **Dr. James Skinner**

was a native of Scotland, a son of the Rev. Donald Skinner of Ardnurchan. He came to Pictou probably soon after the year 1800. He was for many years active, not only as a physician, but in the public business of the county, being Clerk of the Peace, and Prothonotary. He died in 1836.

#### ANTIGONISH.

The County of Antigonish was settled mainly by disbanded soldiers and Scottish Highlanders, the latter predominating. There is no record of any medical man living among these settlers prior to 1800. At about 1804 a small group of settlers from New Hampshire came to Antigonish, at the instance of Jonathan Blanchard, of Truro, who

was, to some extent, entrusted with the disposal of Crown Lands. These settlers all had means. One of them, Benjamin Stearns, built the first frame house in the county. Another, Thomas Symonds engaged in business.

### **Benjamin Stearns.**

Possessed considerable medical knowledge, and, during the six years which he spent in Antigonish his services were eagerly sought for by the settlers. Dr. Page says that he came to Truro at about 1810, and that he practised medicine in Colchester while able to do so. He died at the residence of his son, Henry, in Pictou. He lived, while in Truro, on Biblehill, and there raised a family of nine children. Many of his descendants live in Nova Scotia.

### **Alexander Macdonald, M. D.**

Dr. Alexander Macdonald was the most notable of the pioneers of medicine in eastern Nova Scoti. He was born in 1784 on the Isle of Skye, and graduated at the University of Edinburgh in 1805. Prior to studying medicine he was an officer of the 42nd Highlanders (Black Watch). His brother was a captain in the same regiment, and was with Sir John Moore in his famous Spanish campaign. He was later engaged at Quatrebas, where only Captain John Campbell was unwounded.

Dr. Macdonald was never in actual service, for after joining the regiment as ensign in Edinburgh he broke his leg on parade, and the surgeon attending him said he never would be able to march, so he resigned and took up medicine with the intention of joining the service as a surgeon. Soon after graduation, through the influence of the Macdonald of Armadale, he was appointed surgeon aboard a ship coming to Charlottetown, P. E. I., with emigrants. Doctor Macdonald and a Colonel Rankin were the only cabin passengers. The master of the ship was an awfully brutal man, and he misused the highland emigrants in every way, and there was a perpetual row on between him and Dr. Macdonald in which Colonel Rankin took the part of the Highlanders and the Doctor. The captain again and again threatened the Doctor, saying, "Wait my young cock, you will not have your d--d Highlanders and Colonel Rankin with you going

back home," as the Dr. had no intention of staying in America. Dr. Macdonald had a bill of exchange when he landed of £150 and the conditions of the country were such that he could not actually cash it. At last a man named Bannerman, a fellow countryman, told the Doctor he could fix it all right for him, and it was handed over, and that was the last he ever saw of Bannerman or his money. He was afraid to return with the captain and was consequently at the end of his tether when he heard of the Rev. Alexander Macdonald, P. P., of Arisaig, N. S., whom he knew in Skye. He went to him, was treated as a brother, and remained in Antigonish for some time. He went to Jamaica and remained there three years. While in Jamaica he had a severe attack of fever, in the delirium of which he tore up his diploma. He returned to Antigonish with the intention of going to Scotland, but fell in love and married Charlotte, the eldest daughter of Daniel Harrington, and never returned to his native land. In the early part of his practice he had many hardships to endure. It often happened that the roads, which were only bridle paths through the forest, were in winter so blocked up that he had to travel to distant parts of the country on snowshoes. Often too, he ran into great dangers, and he had many narrow escapes. One stormy night in winter he set out on horse-back to visit a patient at Cape George. Between the north and south lakes at Morrystown the road, at that time, wound along the top of a cliff overhanging the sea, and, as the snow had been drifting, the road was so narrow that his path lay along the very brink of the precipice. Missing the track at this point, he and his horse were precipitated over the cliff, and fell a distance of sixty feet. The horse was killed, but the Doctor was only slightly hurt. The cliff over which he had fallen was a perpendicular wall, and, as the sea washed up to the foot of it, escape from the place seemed impossible. He walked along the shore until he found a place up which he was able to climb, and after wandering all night through the snow, arrived at a house at about daybreak.

When he came to the county there were scarcely more than a half dozen primitive bridges, and the danger in crossing streams was sometimes very great. On one occasion, going to Bayfield on the ice, he had a very narrow escape. The harbour ice was strong enough, but when he reached the bay ice a strong wind had sprung up from the westward, and it was beginning to move out to sea. By the

time that he was nearing the shore, the ice had fairly separated from the land, and it was by only a hair's breadth that he escaped being carried out into the bay.

His hardships were, perhaps, increased by his absentmindedness and his consequent neglect of comforts in travelling. Coming home from the Gulf Shore one cold winter's day he remarked to his wife on entering the house that one of his feet was quite warm, while the other was almost frozen. On pulling off his boots it was found that he had put both stockings on one foot, and left the other bare. This peculiarity of absentmindedness led to much practical joking at his expense. On one occasion, his friends, finding his horse ready saddled at his office door reversed the saddle and awaited results. Out came the Doctor, and without noticing what had been done, he mounted and rode away.

On another occasion, when he was leading his horse up the street, three friends thought it a good opportunity for a practical joke. Two of them walked beside him engaging him in conversation, while the third, slipping the bridle from the horse's head, led the animal into a yard. The doctor all unconscious, walked on until he reached his patient's house, which he entered after tying the bridle reins to a gate-post. On coming out he was surprised to find that his horse had slipped the bridle and gone off.

The Rev. Mr. Trotter, the Presbyterian minister, and a very clever man, often assisted the doctor. He had studied medicine at Edinburgh, before taking up theology. Dr. Macdonald died at about 1859. He was a man of high professional attainments and sterling character. His memory will long live in the county of Antigonish. The well known W. H. Macdonald, commonly known as Doctor "Bill," is a son, and Doctor W. Huntley Macdonald, the secretary of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, a grandson of Alexander Macdonald.

Dr. Alexander Macdonald, in addition to his large practice, filled public positions. He was Justice of the Peace, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Prothonotary, Surgeon to the Militia, etc., etc.

#### GUYSBOROUGH.

Settlements in Guysborough were made by Loyalists and disbanded soldiers, and among them were at least two medical men.

### Dr. Ludovic Joppe.

Dr. Joppe came to Guysborough in 1784 and received a grant of 250 acres of land on the shore of Chedabucto Bay. Mrs. Hart, in her history of Guysborough, when relating some incidents about the cemetery at Manchester, says: "Here also at a later date was laid to rest, the little old German, Dr. Ludovic Joppe. He was surgeon to the 60th regiment. Wonderful accounts of his skill in the healing art are yet told of him and of his pony "Lively" that so often carried him over the rough wood paths on his successful missions, by the older people. He lived at Clam Harbor and died at Thorn Hill. He probably practiced nearly forty years in the county.

### Dr. J. F. Stickells,

Or Steichels, came to Guysborough with the first settlers. He built the old McColl house on the property now owned and occupied by W. H. Cunningham. It was he who had the picture of Rob. Roy McGregor painted on the wall of one of the rooms. His family were said to be notoriously extravagant, an incident having been cited where one of them wanting a duster used an expensive silk handkerchief for the purpose.

### Dr. Inch

Followed Doctor Stickell's and married his daughter. When returning from the house of a friend late in the evening he was murdered. He practiced in Guysborough about twenty-five years.

### Dr. Cassimire Meyer

Of Pownalborough, Maine, cannot be assigned to any county. Halifax may claim him, but a reference to the "Banks of the Sydney" would indicate that he may have lived somewhere in Guysborough or Antigonish counties. Sabine relates that he was at Halifax in 1779, and that while there he was accused of concealing deserters from the ships of war and that he was acquitted.

In 1781 he was at the British post at Penobscot. In 1789 he was again in Nova Scotia, where he had "built him a hut on the banks of the Sydney" and lived quite in the hermits style. It is said that he was the queerest of mortals. When he landed at Halifax in 1777, he marched along in all the pride of poverty and majesty of rags and patches which exhibited the various hues of the rainbow, while his broad, Dutch face, opened at the mouth from ear to ear. Over all, he wore a thread-bare scarlet cloak which had been brought from Germany nearly thirty years before.

In concluding this paper which embodies all the information I could glean respecting the pioneers of medicine in Nova Scotia, I must express my feeling of indebtedness for assistance to J. J. Stewart, Esq., President Forrest, Prof. Walter Murray, the late Senator Almon, J. S. Macdonald, Esq., Dr. Hibbert Woodbury, Rev. Dr. Willets, and Dr. Geo. E. Buckley of Guysborough.