

THE EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE

AND

ST. JOHN'S FIRST CLUB.

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The first social Club in St. John, of which any record has been preserved, was established in 1803, just twenty years after the landing of the Loyalists, in a building on the lot where now stands the splendid edifice occupied by the Bank of Montreal.

This lot, number 402, fronting fifty feet on the east side of Prince William Street, and eighty on the south side of King Street, was drawn in 1783 by Charles McPherson, a Loyalist, who held a commission in General Oliver deLancy's Brigade during the American Revolution. It is said that McPherson shortly after drawing the lot offered it for sale at £15, but the price was thought so unreasonable that a purchaser could not be found.

The Exchange Coffee House, an illustration of which appears with this article, was a low two story building and basement with shingle roof. It was probably one of the first considerable structures erected in Parr Town, and was completed within fifteen months after the landing of the Loyalists. It was designed and built for a place of refreshment, for the "Coffee House" is mentioned in a newspaper as early as August 5th, 1784, Charles McPherson being the proprietor and owner. The drawing, of which the illustration is a copy, was made in 1840 by Mr. George N. Smith, a local artist, and is said by those who recollect the building to be a faithful representation of the Coffee House. One of its rooms was known as the Assembly Room; it was 50x25 feet and was on the second floor. One of the first entertainments on an elaborate scale given in this room is thus described by Benjamin Marston in his diary, under date Tuesday, 18th January, 1785:—"Queen's birthnight, Governor Carleton gave a ball and supper at the Assembly Room. Between 30 and 40 ladies were present, and near 100 gentlemen. The ladies were of the

best families only, but the gentlemen were of all sorts. The business was as well conducted as such an entertainment could be where so large a company were to be entertained in so small a room." Later, in the election for that year, the poll was held for the first two days at "McPherson's Coffee House." That the property was then considered of considerable value is shown by the fact that in the next year, 1786, McPherson gave a mortgage of the Coffee House to William Thomson and Alexander Reid for £1,200. In 1789 the following appeared in the St. John Gazette and Weekly Advertiser:

"SALE OF THE EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE.

"Fronting the Publick Market-Place 50 feet on Prince William Street, 80 feet on King Street. On the First Floor is one room, 25 feet square, compleatly fitted up for a Coffee-room; one parlour, 24 x 15 feet, to which joins a compleat bar-room; one ditto 26 by 15 feet, which has been ever since the settlement of the City employed as a store, and is allowed to be equal to the best stand in the Province. On the Second Floor is an elegant Assembly Room, 50 by 25 feet, one large parlour, and a Bedroom. On the Third Floor is eight well finished Bedrooms. Under the First Floor is a well frequented Store, fronting the street, at the back of which is a large convenient Kitchen; also a very fine cellar, 36 by 24 feet, built with stone. For further particulars apply to the proprietor,

CHAS. MCPHERSON."

St. John, May 1, 1789."

The above gives us an idea of the internal arrangement of the house. It is possible that the eight well finished bedrooms on the third floor were in the adjoining building. Mr. McPherson apparently did not succeed in finding a purchaser for his property, for in the meantime he leased it to one William Rogers, and again advertised the property for sale, as we find in the following advertisement, which gives the exterior dimensions of the building:

"EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE

FOR SALE.

"That large and commodious House, and eligible stand for business, situate at the corner of King and Prince William Streets, now in the occupation of Mr. Wm. Rogers.

"The house is two and half stories high, in good repair, and replete with accommodations and conveniences for business as well as

for family purposes. It fronts on Market Square 50 feet, and on King Street 30 feet, exclusive of additional rooms annexed to it on the same street, and a complete Cellar under the whole house. It has rented for the last 7 years at £100 per annum, and the proprietor is offered £150 for the ensuing year. The situation of the premises and the advantages attached to it are so well known as to render any encomiums or further description unnecessary. The lot is 50 by 80 feet, and having the benefit of both fronts makes it an object to those inclined to purchase. For further particulars apply to the proprietor,

CHAS. MCPHERSON."

"St. John, 5th January, 1798."

Mr. Rogers, desiring to sub-let a portion of the premises, inserted the following advertisement in the "Gazette" in the same year. Even at this early period in the history of the City yearly tenancies began from the first day of May:

"TO BE LET.

"For One Year from the first day of May next, the corner Store of the Exchange Coffee House, now occupied by the subscriber; as also the Store underneath the said House, at present in the tenure of Alderman Reid. These two stores may, with great propriety, be called the First stands for business in this City. For terms enquire of

WILLIAM ROGERS."

"St. John, February 2, 1798."

Two years later the occupant of the Coffee House was White Raymond, of whom we have a record as early as 1784. In that year, on the 17th of June, at the Sessions of the Peace for the old County of Sunbury, in the Province of Nova Scotia, held at Mauderville, in what is now New Brunswick, White Raymond (formerly of Darien, Connecticut), of the Township of Parr, petitioned for leave to keep a house of Public Entertainment in Parr Town, and for a license to retail spirituous liquors, by the small measure. His application was endorsed as follows by the Secretary of the Board of Directors for the laying out and settlement of Parr Town:

"This may certify that the within mentioned White Raymond is an honest, good man, and is in a situation to accommodate the Public.

(Signed) OLIVER ARNOLD."

White Raymond was a brother of Sient Raymond, the ancestor of Wm. E. Raymond of the Royal Hotel. His lot near the corner of Sydney and Brittain Streets was a very central one for the "Lower Cove" district, where the disbanded soldiers of the Loyalist regiments were principally settled. This district at that time was a strong rival of the "Upper Cove." However, White Raymond decided after awhile to try his fortunes at the Upper Cove, as we learn from the following advertisement in the columns of "The Royal Gazette and New Brunswick Advertiser," of the 3rd of June, 1800:

"EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE.

"The Subscriber will open the Coffee-Room in the Exchange Coffee House for the reception of the Gentlemen Merchants and others, and will engage to furnish, by every Packet, the London Newspapers, as also the New York and Boston Papers by every opportunity, for their perusal, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers shall appear to defray the expense of the room, fire, and candle-light, &c.

WHITE RAYMOND."

"June 3rd, 1800."

Mr. Raymond remained the tenant until the property passed into Mr. Cody's hands, and there can be little doubt that it was he who, some nine months later, inserted in the columns of the same paper the following admonition:

"A HINT.

"The Occupier of the Exchange Coffee House is under the disagreeable necessity of reminding those Gentlemen who are in the habit of taking away News-Papers belonging to the Subscription Room, that they must desist from the like practices in future, as they are intended for the benefit of all the Gentlemen Subscribers, and such intrusions will not be allowed."

"St. John, March 17th, 1801."

In 1803 William George Cody—originally spelled "Cowdy"—leased the Coffee House. He was born in 1771 at St George's, Grenada, W. I., a son of Oliver Cody, born at Drumanore, County Down, Ireland, in 1744. He married in 1798 at Halifax, N. S., Susannah, born 1779 in London, England, daughter of Osmond Button of Devonshire. After a year's residence in Halifax, where their eldest child, Susannah Jane, was born, the married couple moved to Annapolis Royal, where their first

son, William Oliver, was born in 1800, and a second son, James Osmond, in January, 1803. Shortly afterwards they moved to St. John, where eight more were added to their children. Jane, a sister of William George Cody, not a daughter, as stated in Lawrence's usually accurate "Foot Prints," born in London, 1779, married 21st October, 1803, Richard Whiteside, and a second sister married Michael Fennigar, names well known in this city.

Under date May 11th, 1803, William George Cody advertises that having taken the Exchange Coffee House he is prepared to furnish entertainment, liquors, good board and good stabling for horses.

Soon after opening his place of entertainment, Mr. Cody laid his plans to add to the already well merited popularity of the Coffee House by establishing a Club, which he designated "Subscription Room." The original Subscription List is in the possession of the writer. Accompanying this sketch is a reduced facsimile, with the signatures, and appended is a brief description of each of the subscribers, of whom there were forty-four, mostly Loyalists, and comprising many of the leading citizens of the time. This paper, which may be designated the Constitution and By-Laws, sets forth the terms and conditions of membership in brief form. None but subscribers, with their non-resident friends, were to be admitted. The subscription was twenty shillings a year, and for this fee the room was to be furnished with Lloyds's List, a tri-weekly London paper, a New York daily and Boston daily, and a Halifax weekly and St. John weekly paper. The proprietor was to provide fewill (sic), candle light, a blank book for insertion of news, and pen, ink and paper. No fateful ballot was employed to keep out the undesirable applicant for admission, at least there seems to have been no provision for such, and Mr. Cody probably remained the sole arbiter of the fitness of the candidate.

The prestige given to the Coffee House by the influential membership of the Subscription Room added greatly to its popularity. Here the leading professional and business men of the place held not only their informal but their pre-arranged meetings and here they met to initiate and complete transactions of greater or less importance. It was a rendezvous for seekers after entertainment, primarily of a material and secondarily, of an intellectual nature. Its liquid refreshments, judging by its name, were not confined to the Jamaica Rum then so freely used.

A direct trade, large for this port at that time, was carried on with the West Indies. The duty on this spirit was six pence per gallon, while the cost to the consumer, two and six pence per gallon, brought the favourite beverage within the reach of all desiring this class of stimulant. Here subscription papers, petitions and other documents to which signatures were desired were usually left. It was a little "hub of creation." The Court House, City Hall and Market were close at hand on the Market Square, and for some years the Post Office was only a little further south on Prince William Street, while a printing office (Henry Chubb's) was just alongside. It was the meeting place of the citizens for a great variety of purposes, social, political and otherwise. Here were held many of the annual anniversaries of the national societies of Saint George and Saint Andrew. Civic, political and military dinners were given under its roof. Even balls were held at Cody's, notably that in honour of Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. This was the regular meeting place of St. John's Masonic Lodge from May, 1803, to March, 1813. It was in the Old Coffee House, on the 20th of May, 1819, that the St. John Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society was founded, and many other gatherings for the promotion of the moral well-being of the community were held. Here on 12th June, 1820 was held the first meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of New Brunswick, at which Directors were elected and subsequently its officers appointed. Here in 1822 they considered the practicability of building a canal from the head of the Bay of Fundy to Bay Verte, which proposal was a live topic for half a century and more. At this meeting Ward Chipman, Sr., Judge of the Supreme Court, afterwards Chief Justice, was in the chair, and such well known citizens as Hugh Johnston, Thomas Millidge, Charles Simonds and Lauchlan Donaldson were appointed a Committee to raise the sum of £250 for the purpose of having a survey made. Surely it may well be said that the Coffee House was as useful as well as popular institution of its times.

In October, 1817, Mr. Cody purchased the property from Mr. McPherson for the sum of £1,500, it being described in the deed as "the premises being generally known and distinguished by the appellation of the Coffee House." In 1824, Mr. Cody moved to Loch Lomond, where he established the "Ben Lomond House." In August, 1836, he advertised his old premises for sale, as follows:

"EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE FOR SALE."

"That very valuable freehold property known by the name of the Exchange Coffee House, owned by the subscriber, in the Market Square of this city, being 50 feet on said square, and extending upwards of 80 feet on King Street, together with the buildings thereon. The whole is offered for the sum of £7,000 currency of which £3,000 is required to be paid when a sufficient deed is furnished, and possession given, the remaining £4,000 may continue unpaid for seven years, provided the interest at six per cent. is duly settled up once every year. The property now rents for upwards of £400 per annum, and properly improved may be made to yield upwards of £1,000. If not sold prior to Monday, 31st October, ensuing the same will be put up at auction on that day.

WILLIAM G. CODY.

Aug. 13, 1836"

But apparently he found no purchaser. On 25th August, 1840, Mr. Cody died at his home at Loch Lomond, aged seventy years. On 1st August, 1850, the Coffee House was sold at auction in the office of the Master of Chancery under an order for sale in that Court, and was bought by the late Mr. John Gillis for the large sum of £5,650. In the deed it is described as being "heretofore occupied by William George Cody, and known and distinguished by the name of the Exchange Coffee House."

Some extracts relating to the Coffee House from writers of local history may be quoted—

Sabine in his "Loyalists of the American Revolution," 2nd Vol. p. 76, refers to Cody as "the Prince of caterers and the most obliging of landlords," and adds, "the Coffee House was a famous place of meeting for a long time. Within it the Loyalists gathered year after year to discuss their affairs both public and private, to tell of their losses, sufferings and expulsion from their native land, to hold high revelry, to read the news, to transact business, and to devise means to develop the resources of the Colony."

Stewart in "The Story of the Great Fire in St. John, N. B." thus refers to the Coffee House. "Here of an evening for years and years, the old men of the place used to sit and gossip and smoke, and sip their toddy; here in 1815 they met to learn the news of the war between France and England, and read the story of Waterloo four or five months after it was fought and won. In this sort of Shakspeare tavern, the

leading merchants of the day met and chatted over large sales, and compared notes. Here, a verbal commercial agency was established, and here delightful old gossips met and told each other all about everybody else's affairs. There were Ben Jonsons in those days who wrote dramatic pieces and showed them to their friends over a cup of hot spiced rum. Poets, too, full of the tender passion, sighed out hexameters of love in that old Coffee House."

Bunting, in his "Freemasonry in New Brunswick," page 395, writes: "It was a noted place of resort to the early citizens of St. John, and was better known to them than any other place in the city under its several designations of MacPherson's Coffee House, Cody's Coffee House, Exchange Coffee House, and above all as "The Coffee House." The public room in the upper story, the scene of the many gay and festive gatherings, often resounded with the light-hearted laugh, the mirthful joke, the pleasant song, interspersed with toasts and sentiments. Wit, wisdom, gaiety and humour were there. The health of the king, attachment to the throne of Great Britain, and devotion to the fair sisterhood found hearty and outspoken expression around its festive board. The merchant, the lawyer, the politician, the scholar—all classes and professions—mingled here and talked of merchandise, briefs, public matters, Shakspeare, and the latest news from Europe."

The Coffee House building had several narrow escapes from destruction by fire, which swept Prince William Street and Market Square, but it remained in continuous use until shortly after its purchase in 1850, when it was torn down to make room for the "Imperial Building" erected by Mr. Gillis, which was considered a wonderful advance in the style of business buildings hitherto erected in St. John. The "Imperial Building" was consumed in the great fire in 1877, after which the present handsome structure now owned by the Bank of Montreal was erected.

We have no record of the period during which the Subscription Room Club remained in existence. How different are the times now in everything relating to social and club life. The candle lit Subscription Room has given way to the brilliantly electric lighted modern Club building furnished with five St. John dailies in place of a single weekly paper, beautifully illustrated London papers instead of the small tri-weekly journal which was then issued, while huge New York and Boston papers have supplanted the single sheets of those days. Telegraphy has been perfected and telephones have come into common use. Modern hot water heating has taken the place of the old-fashioned wood burning open fire

place, and instead of a single subscription club room, there are now in St. John the Union Club, with its membership of some three hundred, the Royal Kennebecasis Yacht Club, with its more than four hundred members, the Natural History Society, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Neptune Rowing Club, the Free Public Library, the Masonic and similar societies, and many other clubs and organizations, religious, intellectual and social, each with their separate rooms, some with their own well appointed buildings and all in a prosperous and growing condition.

SIGNATURES TO SUBSCRIPTION ROOM.

CODY'S COFFEE HOUSE, 1803-4.

WM. CAMPBELL, the first signer, a Loyalist, was at this period and for more than 20 years, Mayor and for some time Postmaster of St. John. He was originally from Argyleshire. He came to America in the prime of life and settled in a mercantile capacity at Worcester, Mass. At the evacuation of Boston he went to New York and at the close of the war came, with other Loyalists, to Halifax, afterwards, in 1786, removing to St. John. He was an estimable and energetic citizen. Sabine, in his "Loyalists of the American Revolution," makes note of him. He died at St. John, 10th February, 1823, in his eighty-second year.

WM. PAGAN was a New York merchant at the time of the Revolution. He was a native of Glasgow. He sided with the Crown and was a zealous Loyalist. He was elected a member for St. John County at the first election for the House of Assembly in 1785 and afterwards was a member of the Executive Council. He was the first President of St. Andrew's Society and his biography will be found in the lately published history of that Society. It was after him that Pagan Place in this City was named. He died at Fredericton during a session of the Legislature on 12th March, 1819, and was given a public funeral. His remains were interred at Fredericton. William, Thomas, Robert and George Pagan were brothers and were all prominent in Provincial affairs.

ARTHUR DINGWALL, a native of Scotland; a Loyalist; grantee of Partrtown. In 1785 was a member of the Loyal Artillery Company of

St. John. His house was on Prince Wm. St. Dingwall's Wharf is frequently mentioned in old advertisements. In 1801 he advertised he was about to leave St. John. He was drowned at sea in the wreck of the Brig "Star," Captain Disbrow, while on a voyage to England, 21st December, 1814.

MUNSON JARVIS, born at Norwalk, Conn., in 1742. He and his father were ardent Loyalists. In 1776 Munson Jarvis was tried by a Revolutionary Committee and compelled to remove to New York. He held a commission in one of the Loyalist corps, and when the struggle ended came to Parrtown and was a grantee. Here he established a hardware business, which he carried on successfully for more than forty years. He was one of the first Vestrymen of Trinity Church and soon afterwards and for many years, Church Warden. At the organization of the City of St. John a member of the Common Council and from 1803-1810 represented the City and County in the House of Assembly. Ralph M. and William, his sons, were associated in business with him on the South Market Wharf under the firm name of Munson Jarvis & Co. Another son, Edward James Jarvis, was afterwards Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island. He died at St. John in 1825, at the age of 83 years.

JNO. L. VEXNER, an Englishman; merchant in St. John for many years. His store was on Market Wharf. He used to visit England and personally select his goods, of which he kept a large variety. He was a man of property. He died in London, G. B., 20th July, 1825, aged 64 years.

JAMES CODNER, was an ensign in 1782 in the Volunteers of Ireland, sometimes known as the Second American Regiment; a Loyalist; grantee of Parrtown; Chamberlain of the City from 1793-1801. He lived in a stone house facing the Market Square. Was for some time partner of the well-known firm of McCall & Codner on King Street; afterwards kept store on his own account in the basement of City Hall on the Market Square. Was one of St. John's early Magistrates. His wife was a daughter of Hon. George Leonard. He died April 24th 1821, aged 67 years.

NEHEMIAH MERRITT, son of Thos. Merritt, a Loyalist. He kept a store on the north side of Market Square on the site of the building

long occupied by Daniel & Boyd and known as the "London House." Mr. Merritt was also agent for a number of vessels and was interested in shipping. He was one of the first Directors of the Bank of New Brunswick. Died 1842, aged 72 years.

JOHN RYAN, a Loyalist; born in Rhode Island, 1761; a printer; came from New York in November, 1783, leaving his press and types behind him. He, in partnership with one Lewis, probably Wm. Lewis, a Loyalist, published in St. John in December, 1783, the first issue of the "Royal Gazette and Nova Scotia Intelligencer." This was the first newspaper published in what is now New Brunswick, the present Province of New Brunswick being until 1785 a portion of the Province of Nova Scotia—hence the name of the paper. Ryan was made King's Printer in 1799. He afterwards removed to St. John's, Newfoundland, where he printed the "Royal Gazette" of that colony. While living in St. John, in 1805, John Ryan owned a new store and dwelling on the south side of the public landing (Market Slip), three stories in height, 30x50 feet. It was here that he printed the "Royal Gazette" on paper 9x16 inches in size and of a quality no better than modern wrapping paper. He died in 1847, aged 86 years.

THOS. MILLIDGE, JR., son of Thos. Millidge, Major of the First Batt. New Jersey Volunteers. Sabine describes him as an eminent merchant, a magistrate and a member of the House of Assembly. He was one of the first Directors of the Bank of New Brunswick. His wife, Sarah, was a daughter of James Simonds, pre-Loyalist grantee of a large tract of land north of the old City of St. John. He died at the age of 62 years, in 1838.

HON. JOHN ROBINSON, son of Colonel Beverley Robinson of New York and grandson of the Hon. John Robinson, President of the Province of Virginia, served as an officer in the Loyal American Regiment raised by his father. Soon after Mr. Robinson's arrival in New Brunswick, he was appointed first Sheriff of Queens County; removed shortly afterwards to St. John and engaged in mercantile affairs. In 1809 was chosen a representative in the House of Assembly for the City of Saint John; in 1812 was elected Speaker of the House; in 1816 elevated to a seat in His Majesty's Council; he was Deputy Pay Master General of His Majesty's forces and in 1816 Provincial Treas-

urer and, in the same year, Mayor of St. John, both of which latter offices he held during the remainder of his life, being the first Mayor of that City who died in office. He was also the first President of the Bank of New Brunswick. His residence was on Prince William Street. He married Elizabeth, daughter of the Hon. Chief Justice Ludlow, and died October 8th, 1828, aged 66 years. Extended references to the Robinson family can be found in Sabine's Loyalists.

JOHN BLACK, native of Scotland. The firm of which he was a member had branches at Halifax, Greenock and London. At St. John the firm shipped masts for the Royal Navy. For many years the mast ships made spring and fall voyages. The vessels were built of unusual length for their tonnage. The firm imported large quantities of English goods. Their counting house for many years was on Dock Street, on the third lot from North Wharf. In 1793 he was elected member of the House of Assembly for the County of Northumberland. He married in 1797 the widow of John McGeorge, a member for St. John in the first House of Assembly. On 23rd November, 1798, the news reached St. John of Nelson's glorious victory at the Battle of the Nile, fought on August 1st. Spontaneous demonstrations took place, and the houses of John Black and many others "flamed away from top to bottom." The night was a very memorable one in the early days of St. John. In 1802 he was a Justice of the Peace. Was an active member of Trinity Church and gave £450 sterling towards the organ. Wm. Pagan had the instrument brought out in one of his vessels, and he remitted the freight charges. John Black removed to Halifax in 1806, leaving the St. John business to his brother William. In 1813 he was made a member of the Nova Scotia Legislative Council. He died in Scotland, September 4th, 1823, at the age of 59 years.

JOHN MCLEOD, Loyalist; took out his Freedom 1790; a shipping agent and grocer on South Market Wharf, then called Long Wharf; was a brother-in-law of Charles McPherson. Died in 1805, aged 45 years.

THOS. WETMORE was born at Rye, New York, September 20, 1767, a son of Timothy Wetmore. His father and grandfather were zealous Loyalists. He studied law in the office of the elder Ward Chipman and was admitted attorney in 1788. Was a leading Barrister, Master in Chancery, and a member of the Executive Council of New Brunswick.

On the 2nd April, 1799, he wrote rather an odd letter to the Mayor of St. John:

“SIR:—I am sorry to find that I have been elected a member of the Common Council of the City of Saint John. As it is an office given to me contrary to my wishes and express desire, I have to request you will inform the Council that I will esteem it a favor in them to excuse me from the service without a fine, or with a small one. I beg to know the terms upon which I may be relieved, and am, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

THOS. WETMORE.”

From 1809 until his death in 1828 was Attorney General of the Province. He married Sarah, daughter of Judge James Peters of Queens County, by whom he had thirteen children. The late Hon. A. Rainsford Wetmore, Judge of the Supreme Court, was a grandson of Attorney General Wetmore.

COLIN CAMPBELL, first Clerk of the Crown in New Brunswick and Registrar of the Court of Vice Admiralty.

HUGH JOHNSTON was born 4th January, 1756, in Murrayshire, North Britain. He came to St. John in 1785, from Scotland, in a vessel owned by himself, he being also the owner of the cargo which she carried. With the merchandise then brought over he went into business, employing his vessel in trading out of the port of St. John. His place of business was on the west side of Prince William St. Johnston's Wharf and the Slip adjoining were named after him. He was twice married, having fourteen children in all, of whom one became the Hon. Hugh Johnston. He died 29th November, 1829, aged 74. By Bunting's Freemasonry in New Brunswick, we are informed that he “Represented the City and County of Saint John in the Provincial Legislature for the long term of seventeen years; one of the founders of St. Andrew's Church, and one of the first elders thereof; an incorporator and one of the first Directors of the Bank of New Brunswick; a member of the old Friendly Fire Club; a port warden of the City from 1816 to 1829; an alderman of the City for 1808 and many succeeding years; a joint owner of the Steamer ‘General Smyth’—the first to ply on the River St. John. He carried on a large importing and mercantile business, in which he was very successful; always sustaining a high character for integrity and correct business habits. It was said of him that he was a faithful friend and an enterprising and useful member of the community.”

JAS. GRIGOR, native of Scotland—St. John merchant. He was senior partner of the firm of Grigor and Donald. In 1802 was a member of the Common Council. In 1814 James Grigor, on behalf of the Presbyterians of St. John, purchased of John Laudner Venner the lot on which St. Andrew's Church now stands for £250. This money was granted to the church by the Legislature. A church was at once erected and was opened the same year, Rev. Dr. Waddell preaching the first sermon. Died at Hampton, K. C., 31st July, 1823, aged 71 years.

ANDREW CROOKSHANK, a Loyalist and successful merchant, who resided on Chipman's Hill in one of the first framed dwelling houses erected in St. John, the frame having been brought from New York. Mr. Crookshank was well known for years as St. John's leading auctioneer. He was a prominent citizen in a variety of ways, and succeeded his step-father, John Colvill, in the Captaincy of the Loyal Company of Artillery of St. John. He was senior partner of the firm of Crookshank & Johnston. He died in 1815, in his forty-ninth year.

JAMES HENDRICKS, hardware merchant; kept a store many years corner of King and Cross Streets; son of Loyalist Conrad Hendricks. He was one of the largest direct importers from England of English and Scottish goods. Thomas McAvity entered his employ in 1824 and remained with the firm till 1836. Mr. Hendricks was President of the St. George's Society 1829 to 1831.

DAVID MERRITT, Loyalist; many years a respectable merchant; died 16th June, 1828, aged 64. His wife was a daughter of William H. Smith, Surgeon. His store was at this time on the north side of Market Square, three stories and an attic.

GEORGE MCCALL, a Loyalist—a native of Dumfries, Scotland. He drew the lot on which the City Hall now stands. He was in business with James Codner, and in the Royal St. John's Gazette and Nova Scotia Intelligencer of 29th January, 1784, their advertisement locates the firm "in King Street, a little above the landing place in the Upper Cove." He died 30th March, 1812, in his seventy-eighth year.

JOHN SANGSTER, no record found of him, except that he took out his Freedom in 1804.

WM. DONALDSON, a Virginia Loyalist, came with Loyalists to Shelburne, N. S., then to St. John; many years a merchant; his losses, in

consequence of his loyalty to British Crown, were estimated at £3,000. Wrote much in favour of New Brunswick as a place of settlement. Was engaged in business at St. John, and with William Garden as a partner at Fredericton. Was unfortunate, and obliged to leave the Province because of business failures. He is frequently mentioned in the Winslow Papers. Died at the Island of Jamaica 18th December, 1819.

EZL. BARLOW.—He became the purchaser of the lot on the corner of King Street and Market Square, now occupied by the Western Union, from which the locality got its name, "Barlow's Corner." The price was £2,000 in Mexican dollars, the purchaser wheeling the money in two loads to the lawyer's office. He was a grocer and tea merchant. One of the first Directors of the Bank of New Brunswick.

HON. WILLIAM BLACK, brother of John Black mentioned above. He came to St. John in 1798 to visit his brother and to recruit his health. Was a graduate of Aberdeen University and had intended taking Holy Orders. He finally went into his brother's counting house. When John Black went to Halifax he left the St. John business in charge of his brother William, with Lauchlan Donaldson, Lewis Bliss, Alexander Wedderburn and George Matthews as clerks. Wm. Black was appointed to a seat in the Executive Council in 1818, and became President of the Council and Administrator of the Government in 1829. He died at Fredericton in 1866 at the age of 96 years.

EBN. B. GUNTER, merchant in St. John—took out his Freedom 1806.

WILLIAM DONALDSON, JR., a son of William Donaldson mentioned above. He, with Arthur Dinewall and Hugh Johnston, were afterwards William Donaldson's Executors.

JOHN DEAN, a merchant in St. John. In 1802 he was a member of the Common Council. Died 21st July, 1835.

ALEX. UMPHREY took out his Freedom 1795. A merchant of the firm of Umphrey & Berton, north side of the Market Square.

CALEB MERRITT, a New York Loyalist. Settled at first in Carleton, afterwards lived on King Street between Cross and Prince Wm. Streets. Stepfather of Moses H. Perley. Died 5th August, 1821, aged 58.

PETER BLAIR was a member of the Common Council in 1801 and evidently quite a leading citizen as his name occurs in various capacities in the newspapers of the day.

ALEX REID, a Loyalist. A candidate for election to the House of Assembly at the first general election. Was a well-known merchant; his store near the foot of King Street, south side. Died November 11th 1811, aged 58.

GEO. LEONARD, JR., an Attorney-at-Law in St. John. A son of the Hon. George Leonard of Sussex, N. B. He at one time represented Kings County in the House of Assembly. He was drowned in the Creek at Sussex, October 14th, 1818.

JOHN CHALONER, Registrar of Wills and Deeds, St. John, son of Walter Chaloner, Loyalist, formerly High Sheriff of Newport, Rhode Island. Mr. Chaloner was one of St. John's first auctioneers. He advertised to be sold at the house of General Benedict Arnold, King St., on the 22nd September, 1791, such a collection of furnishings as would have drawn together at the present day bidders from all parts of the world. See "Judges of New Brunswick and their Times," p. 69. He died 11th April, 1827.

JOHN COLVILL had a wharf and stores on St. John Street (Water St.). Was employed under Government in forwarding the Loyalists up the River St. John in small craft. He was the first Captain of the first Company of Volunteer Artillery established in St. John and Alderman for Kings Ward; founder of commercial firm of Crookshank & Johnston. Lived in the Crookshank house, erected in 1784, the material of which was brought to this City by packet. Mr. Colvill's wife was a daughter of Captain Geo. Crookshank, father of Andrew Crookshank of the firm just mentioned. Died 1808, in his seventieth year.

T. GILBERT, probably Thomas H. Gilbert. He and his brother Henry were sons of Bradford Gilbert, a Loyalist; he, the son of Colonel Thomas Gilbert who fought in the Revolutionary War. Thomas H. died young, unmarried.

JOHN WOODWARD, a son of Isaac Woodward, Sr., a merchant. John Woodward's son was afterwards Mayor of St. John.

FRANCIS WATSON took out his Freedom 1785, as a Carpenter, a Loyalist.

SAML. WIGGINS, son of John Wiggins, a Loyalist, brother of Stephen Wiggins. A merchant who imported his goods from England and adver-

tised them in the old newspapers. His daughter married John M. Wilmot, Mayor of St. John in 1833; her son, Hon. R. D. Wilmot, was Lieut. Governor of the Province.

EDWARD SANDS, a Loyalist. Merchant in St. John. Was at one time a member of the House of Assembly. He died in 1805.

ABEL HARDENBROOK, a Loyalist. Was a member of the first Fire Company formed at St. John. Served on Grand Juries, and was a very useful citizen. Died 29th January, 1814, aged 58 years.

MICHAEL RYAN, a Printer. Born in Parrrtown in 1784, son of John Ryan. Published the New Brunswick Chronicle in 1804. In 1806, the Fredericton Telegraph. This being at a period before the discovery of electric telegraphy, the most rapid means of communication then known was through a system of signalling from hill top to hill top, and this was designated the telegraph. The Fredericton Telegraph was a three column paper, size of page, 10 by 13 inches. It did not prove a success and was early abandoned. In 1809 Michael Ryan went to Barbadoes and established the Barbadoes Globe. Was lost at sea in 1829, while returning from a visit to his parents. His widow continued editress of the Globe.