

Old Historical Records Of Harbour Grace

HR. GRACE — Since there is much interest being shown in the recently written articles of Harbour Grace history, it may be worth while to continue these even though occasionally there is doubt expressed on the authenticity of some records given. Answering those critics, it is fair to say that my notes are taken exactly as written by one whose writings were gathered from a wide knowledge and interest in the history of the town of which he was a native son.

The earliest notes we have dated back to is 1806 and it is written that on October 1st, 1806, Surrogate Court was held at Harbour Grace and between one Carroll and Nicholas Juer was tried before Mr. Holden who visited here at the request of the Surrogate.

The Court in session before Lieut. McKillop, Chas Garland Esq., Wm. Lilly and L.A. Anspach, case of Edward Todd vs. Capt. Hammond of the Brig. "Country Lass" re a voyage to New Brunswick; also a case of

Flynn vs. Cotter and Walsh re place called the Dock at Bay De Verle formerly used by Mr. White and that it be left open to the public and no building to be erected, also ground in possession of Flynn to be open and free; and that Flynn's stage be removed to permit Cotton to bring his boat to his stage.

In September, 1805, 42 boats and skiffs had been lost at Bay De Verde.

To give an idea of some of the names of residents at Harbour Grace in 1806 we find that a Grand Jury consisted of Thos. Danson, Alex Campbell, Jas Prendegast, Richard Taylor, John Buckingham, Wm. Taylor, John Parsons, Hector Henderson, Oliver St. John, Thos. Foley, John Gosse, Stephen Bennett, Richard Cornish, Chas. Garland Jr., Darby Hartery, Debit McGrath, Wm. Lampen, Thos. Thistle.

At this time Robert Lahey applied for license to sell liquor. Court did not consent, being in vicinity of Church just in front.

Jan 15, 1962

The Garland Family

HARBOUR GRACE—The following articles are taken from historical notes of the Garland family in Newfoundland and given to the Daily News by one who felt that they might be of interest to some of our readers.

William Charles St. John who was the editor of the Harbour Grace Weekly Herald, was held as an authority on Newfoundland history.

He was the grandson of old Magistrate Charles Garland, who at his own expense defended Carbonear Island against the French in 1762, and received the thanks of the British Government for the same. Oliver St. John, from Tipperary, who could trace his descent from Oliver Cromwell had married the oldest daughter of Charles Garland, the chief magistrate.

The Garland family took a leading part in the early history of Newfoundland and can be traced back as far as Whitbourne's book of 1671 Surrogate Charles Garland purchased his Harbour Grace property, 150 yards from the sea front on which he had four houses, three gardens and one meadow from Nicholas Flott, a merchant of Jersey for Fifty Pounds in 1771.

The Garland family has long been Residents of Harbour Grace and are mentioned in the census of 1875, taken by Admiral Sir John Berry. This census is noteworthy because the names of all people were listed and not merely enumerated.

John Earle, who so gallantly defended Little Bell Island was

John Earle, who so gallantly defended Little Bell Island was married to a sister of Magistrate George Garland. The Garlands were relatives of the firms in Trinity and Poole carrying on one of the largest businesses in Newfoundland. Charles Davis Garland who succeeded his father as Magistrate of Conception Bay became more famous as the defender of Carbonear Island in 1762 as already stated.

In 1899, when Sir Henry Blake was Governor of Newfoundland, Lady Blake got in touch with the Garland family at Harbour Grace saying that she was a relative and knew their connections from family traditions in Devonshire.

Rev. Laurence Coughlan in 1765 took charge of the first church in Conception Bay, St. Paul's Church of England, just erected.

Charles Garland, the magistrate, presented the land on which the church was built as a free gift. It was a corner taken from the Garland property which bounded the church property on the north east and south and the building faced what was known in 1800 as the Church Path. The magistrate gave this land for the religious welfare of the people and established harbour landmarks for the welfare of the sailors.

Henry Garland, deputy sheriff of Newfoundland for several years died at Harbour Grace on June 3rd, 1845, at the age of 73 years. Gaden C. Garland, for twenty years sheriff of the Northern District of Newfoundland died at Harbour Grace on April 3rd, 1868, at the age of 61 years. Another Garland carried on an extensive business at Triton, and when representative government was granted to Newfoundland, he was elected as first member for Trinity District and became first speaker of the first Legislature. Before the completion of the session, he left for England and died at Stove Park, Wisborne, on June 12th, 1873, at the age of 85 years.

April 18, 1960

History Shipping And Exports

1785
HARBOUR GRACE—Total of 57 vessels, 103,000 qtls, 1456 seal skins. Seals: Danson 300, Jas Crawley, 200; Clements, 600; John Read, 248; Henry Witherham, 104. Nearly all sent to Bristol.

Ships: Danson 2, Greene 7, Keefe 5, Clements 2.
New Names: Michael Brown, Row. Troye, N. Ewbank, John Thompson, Con Smith, Jas Lockier, Howman and Toope, Rawlings, J. Hawkins, De Quilleville, T. Ely, Benj. Ruby, Rowcliffe, John Green and Co., W. Harrison, Callahan, Peter Young and Co., Jas Curtice and Co., P. Hellihear, Chas. Murphy, Wm. Newman and Co.

1786
Total: 71 vessels. 118,400 qtls, 3044 seals.

Seals shipped by Mr. Shea 660 R. Trydall, 750. Danson 350, John Thomey, 650. Clements, 370 Jas. Mulowney, 170. Seals all went to Bristol.

New Names: J. Kimber, C. Haightington, Peter Wade, J. Bailey, Herford, Robt. Gire, T. Keefe and Sons, Hy. Sheppard, T. Marshall, Thos. Turney, H. Liver and Co., Peter Haigney, Hy Batten, J. Hemy, Jos Baster, Thos. Maxwell, W. Spirier and Co.

Jan 19, 1962

More Historic Notes Of The Garland Family Of Nfld.

HR. GRACE—The prominent family of Davis of Carbonear had obviously intermarried with the Garland family of Harbour Grace about 1750.

It seems probable the Davis stock found since 1800 at Freshwater and long before that at Mosquito (Bristol's Hope). Hr. Grace and Carbonear are from the original ancestor in Nfld. either at Mosquito or Carbonear. The prominent 18th century figure in Harbour Grace of Charles Davis Garland—respected name at Harbour Grace since then. In Harbour Grace today there is Charles Davis Garland (Irving Oil Co.), a grandson of one Charles Davis Garland who died at Hr. Grace in 1844.

In both Carbonear tradition of the Davis family and written in one of the standard history books the Davis of that day is associated with the Garland of the Seven Years War period in defence of Carbonear and Harbour Grace from the French.

In the possession of this writer is a photograph of a dwelling house far out in Bear's Cove in which Sheriff Garland

and probably his ancestors lived. This house was later owned and lived in by a family of O'Keefe's (this was situated near what is known in Hr. Grace as O'Keefe's Grove). It has since been removed.

An original picture of Surrogate Garland is in the possession of Miss Rita Lee of this town who claims to be a descendant of his.

A manuscript by the late H. F. Shortis to be found in the Gosling Memorial Library states the following: Of the Garland family Emeline Garland and one child in Hr. Grace, John Garland, wife and 4 children in Bristol's Hope.

This also mentions "A document, now posted in an old family Bible in the Garland family possession from the British Government thanking Charles Garland for his defence service against the French."

Some mention of the Garland family may be found in the following: The Garland family church registers at Trinity and Hr. Grace the Slade letter books and two occurrence books (Bonavista).

1788
Total—64 ships, 118,350 qtls, 1887 seals.

New Names—Jos. Green, Hy. Cook, Kimber, Fisher, Geo. Kemp, Crow and Budden, Jas. Green, Mark Gregory, John Pinson, Thos. Benson, Joan Trapnell, Geo Kemp and Hy Valentine, Darby Hartery, F. Phillips. This is Geo Kemp's first appearance. Danson, 6 ships, Clements 5, Mulowney 1, Keefe 1, Jas. Greene 4.

1789
Total—76 vessels, 142,696 qtls, 46 seal skins.

1790
Total—72 vessels, 125,615 qtls, 3620 seal by Mulowney, Thomey and Danson.

Peter Mullett comes back after an absence, Richard Legard, Hy G. Landers, H. Le Gras, Wm. Jas. Fowler, Peter LeBrown, are new names. Wm. Henderson and John Cave.

1791

1st. Quarter—Nil.
2nd. Quarter — 2 vessels, 3000 qtls, 1700 seals (7 of these 9 clear for American ports in ballast).
3rd. Quarter— 10 vessels, 1645 qtls, 0 seals.
4th. Quarter—35 vessels 50, 775 qtls, 169 seals.

This seems to have been a very poor year. Geo. and Jas. Kemp now registered formerly Geo. Kemp or Geo Kemp and Richard Valentine.

Quite a lot of Jersey names this year—Hy Cook has 5 ships, T and W. Danson 1, G. and J. Kemp and Co. 3, John Bloomfield and Co, Geo. J. Johnston

Several vessels clear for Quebec and New York in ballast for lumber and provisions.

Jan 25, 1962

SOME OF THE OLD FAMILIES

HR. GRACE.—The Frenches are a very old family of Harbour Grace. One of their ancestors was taken prisoner by a French privateer in the 17th Century and was taken to France and was returned to Newfoundland after peace had been proclaimed. He carried on the fishery early in the 1700's.

Another merchant of Harbour Grace was one John Smith. He had a vessel named Shawn Gow, commanded by Tommy Dwire and engaged in the seal-fishery. Dwire came from Belle Isle Beach. His brother, Capt. Neddy Dwire, sailed out of Carbonear. He had charge of the Sir Edward Douglas, belonging to Elson's. The McCarthy family is related to the Dwires.

Another old name in Harbour Grace is that of Snow. They also carried on the seal-fishery. Andrews is one of the oldest names. They had their fishing rooms on land sold by Mr. St. John. This appears to be where the Butts and Pumphreys later lived.

The Paynes—one of the old Jersey families — had their rooms east of Andrews and were at Harbour Grace in the late 1600's or early 1710's.

The next "stages" were owned by the Martins, and next below was that of Jacob Martin where the old "slip" once stood. They were carrying of the fishery very early and a note adds "These Martins and Paynes were the first inhabitants." It is said that the first Payne had a "till" built just up from the Point of Beach from where he used to shoot birds for food and bait. Their great grandchildren are said to have been buried in the Church of England Cemetery at St. John's sometime in the 1900's at the age of 82 years.

I have been asked about the Sheppard family and have found the following:— An old man named Sheppard was a very old inhabitant back in the 1900's. He settled at Bear's Cove and had stages right down the mouth of the harbour. Their land was sold to the Parsons of Bear's Cove—one of them having married one of Sheppard's daughters.

Feb 14, 1962

HR. GRACE—In 1806, again a case of Bailey vs. Amy Thistle is brought before court.

The name of Amy Thistle appears often in records. This case was a claim for property and Isaac Bradbury swore that the place claimed by Bailey

was open before and after Hr. Grace was burned by the French. John Davis Garland said he recollected where the house had stood and had been open sixty-years before and was certain Juer's flake was on the same ground. He did not recollect Capt. Payne carrying on business there or on any part of the premises. Knight swore that he witnessed the lease being signed by Richard Brett and that the land belonged to Amy Thistle.

1807
Supreme Court before Charles Garland, Esq Gosse & Chaney vs. Jas Kennedy. Barth Cobban vs John Snow. Arbitrators Geo. Smith and Dr. Shee. George J. Kemp vs. Richard Penney, Kemp vs. Fryer for 2000; delivered 1760 to 1797; Philip Toque vs. Chas Pynn, John Richard vs. Thos. Lyons, Thos. Danson vs. John Warford, Goods removed from room at French Shore.

1810
Rev. L. A Anspach has been appointed a Surrogate and Mr. Palmer to be a Justice of the Peace.

Charles Garland, deceased, Jas. Crawley and Oliver St. John administrators insolvent at Hr. Grace.

Rabbits planted on Little Bell Island.

Butlers living at Bell Island. George Davis and Mr. Buckingham forming Mutual Insurance Club. H. C. Watts for Conception Bay Mutual Insurance

Club maintained for years past with premiums at 0 to 7½% in worst year March 15 th to Nov. 15th with 50 vessels.

Wm. Pirth, merchant at Hr. Grace insolvent.

Notice re smallpox in Hr. Grace.

Devil's Cove to be renamed Job's Cove 18 rooms. Names English, Johnson, etc.

Darby Ready at Hr. Grace, deceased.

1813
During past week of May 27th upwards of 100 vessels have arrived at St. John's from Europe.

Rev. Frederick Hamilton proposes to take into his home six young gentlemen to be instructed in Latin, English, etc. His house pleasantly situated near the church. Entrance fee ten Guineas.

At Carbonear, Benjamin Lintorne and John Ware declared insolvent and Robert Paek dissolves partnership with George Blackler. Paek forms partnership with George Blackler and Wm. Fryer to be known as Paek, Fryer of Carbonear and Fryer & Paek of Poole, England.

John Tanner is a planter and fisherman at Carbonear with premises at Camp Island, Labrador, and he retires to England.

In August 1814, mention is made of Johnston Burrows of Adam's Cove, a physician formerly of Sligo, Ireland.

In March, William Innott informs the public that he has fitted up a house lately occupied by Darby Hartery, deceased for the accommodation of guests.

On June 3rd, 1813, H.M.S. Bellerephon left Torbay, England, with 65 sail of vessels for Newfoundland.