

REPORT
of the
**Board of Trustees of the Public
Archives of Nova Scotia**

For the Year 1951



HALIFAX, N. S.
QUEEN'S PRINTER
1952

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

For the Year 1951

To His Honour

The Honourable J. A. D. McCurdy, M. B. E.,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia

May it please Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Provincial Archivist to the Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia for the year 1951, together with a statement of receipts and disbursements for the period April 1st, 1951, to March 31st, 1952.

Respectfully submitted,

ANGUS L. MACDONALD,
Premier.

Board of Trustees

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA

His Honour, The Honourable J. A. D. McCurdy, M. B. E.,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

Rt. Hon. J. L. Ilsley, P.C., K.C.,
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia.

The Honourable Angus L. Macdonald, P.C., K.C., S.J.D., LL.D.
Premier of Nova Scotia.

Robert L. Stanfield, B.A., LL.B.,
Leader of the Opposition in the House of Assembly.

Alexander E. Kerr, B.A., B.D., D.D., LL.D.,
President of Dalhousie University.

Winthrop Bell, Ph.D.,
President of the Nova Scotia Historical Society

Professor D. C. Harvey, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.C.,
Archivist

Miss Winifred McFatridge,
Secretary.

Report of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

FOR THE YEAR 1951

Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present my twenty-first report as Archivist of Nova Scotia.

Throughout the year 1951 the Archives has been open to the public from 9 a.m., to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m., to 1 p.m., on Saturday, and, with the exception of the summer months, from 7:30 to 10 o'clock on Wednesday evenings. Occasionally, too, it has been opened on other evenings for special groups who could not arrange their visits for Wednesday evening.

During the year, 1963 people carried on some research in the library and manuscript room, on a variety of subjects, of whom 233 did so on Wednesday evenings. These consulted a total of 8598 books and manuscripts. In the same period 348 consulted the map and photograph collections. Apart from these over 700 paid casual visits to the Archives. Though the number of visitors on Wednesday evenings was not large, several of them came regularly and thus were able to carry on research that they would have been prevented from doing by their daily occupations.

Generally speaking, both the number of casual visitors and the number of those doing research have exceeded last year or any previous year. One of the factors accounting for an increase in the number of casual visitors is the growing tendency of teachers, who have taken a course of history in the Summer School of the Department of Education and seen the Archives, to bring their pupils to see it for themselves. This year, in addition to those from schools in

Halifax, Dartmouth, Fairview and Seabright, we have had visits from Trenton High School, Musquodoboit Rural High, Pictou Academy and the Normal School at Truro. We have had visits also from Young People's Clubs of Churches and the Y.M.C.A.

As for research, in addition to those who have come from other universities to use our source material for an M.A. or Ph.D. thesis, or from Halifax and elsewhere to do genealogical work, a considerable number have come to the Archives to consult newspapers, census returns, or family Bibles for a birth notice in order to qualify for the old-age pension. These visits, or enquiries by mail or telephone, have been heavy during the last half of the year.

Though all these activities have kept our small staff fully occupied, considerable progress has been made in cataloguing books and pamphlets and re-arranging and cataloguing old manuscripts. 416 books and 216 pamphlets have been accessioned this year; and a start has been made in re-arranging the research library, which task had been delayed, pending the arrival of the steel library stacks which had been on order since April 20, 1950, but did not arrive until the third week of last December.

Mr. Fergusson has conducted the usual courses in the Summer School of the Department of Education and served on the Historic Sites Advisory Council of Nova Scotia.

I have given the usual seminar on historical methods, assisted students from other universities doing research here, served on the Historic Sites Advisory Council of Nova Scotia, the Historic Sites Committee of Halifax, and represented Nova Scotia on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, which this year has commemorated seven Nova Scotian personages or events and made a good beginning on the restoration of the Halifax Citadel.

Two tablets were placed on the Memorial Hall in Windsor, marking the birthplace of Robert Christie and Lord Haliburton, one on the Simeon Perkins house in Liverpool, and another on the Martello Tower in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax. Cut-stone monuments, bearing standard tablets, were erected at Table Head, commemorating the establishment of trans-atlantic wireless communication; on the

Academy grounds in Guysborough, in honour of the late Dr. H. M. Tory; and at 158 Dutch Village Road, Halifax County, marking the site of Andrew Downs's Zoological Gardens. The last three tablets were unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on August 3rd, September 7th and October 13th respectively. Arrangements have been made for the erection of a dozen other monuments in the next two years.

Appendix A contains an alphabetical list of those who made gifts to the Archives during the past year. Special mention should be made of the following:—C. H. Black of Charlottetown: an engraving of Halifax from the Eastern Passage, by William Eagar; J. B. Ferguson of Pictou: 20 Political cartoons by A. G. Racey of the Montreal Standard; Mrs. Lionel Forsyth, Windsor: framed painting of the ship "Cordelia" built by Shubael Dimock; Mrs. W. H. Hattie of Dartmouth: an elaborate drawing set, which was presented by George III to the Earl of Bute and arrived in Pictou, via Calcutta, where it was purchased by the late Dr. W. H. Hattie; Rev. C. H. Johnson of Spryfield: index to the files of The Presbyterian Witness and other papers in Pine Hill Divinity Hall; Col. A. N. Jones of Halifax: oil painting by Frances Bannerman, daughter of Hon. A. G. Jones, and large framed photographs of Hon. A. G. Jones and Guy Carleton Jones; Mrs. C. B. Lowe of Halifax: manuscript volume containing lists of prizes brought into Halifax from May 1793 to May 1810 and from July 1814 to September 1815, also list of seizures by the Collector of Customs from November 1815 to June 1818; Mrs. Carl Medinus of Chicago: several illustrated volumes on painting and other fine arts—The Art of Silhouette, Elizabethan Miniatures, a Treasury of Old Silver, The Bayeux Tapestry, The Hand of the Potter, The Vienna Art Treasures, etc.; Miss Janet Mullins of Liverpool: a bound volume containing twelve lithographs of the Wild Flowers of Nova Scotia, from the original water colours of Maria Morris; Dr. H. L. Stewart: a complete set of his radio addresses from 1931 to 1950—twenty-eight volumes of addresses over C.H.N.S., 1931-50, and eight volumes of those delivered over C.B.C., 1933-47; Henry C. Ritchie of Scotia, New York: a list of 8000 names and some vital statistics of people buried in Pictou County compiled from the various cemeteries in that county; Col. D. L. Calkin, C. O. 5 Fd. Engr. Regt., R. C. E.; a photostatic copy of the Royal Canadian Engineers' Book of Remembrance, World War II, 1939-45; R. J. Rankin :29 photographs of the recent visit of Their Royal Highnesses, Princess

Elizabeth, and the Duke of Edinburgh, selected from those published in the Halifax Chronicle-Herald and Mail-Star; and T. J. Courtney: a selection of photographs taken by the Department of Information. Both these collections have been mounted in an album for convenient display and preservation, and are being filed with the miscellaneous records that we have of previous visits of members of the Royal Family, between 1786 and 1939; Frederick William Wallace, Ste. Anne de Bellevue: original block model of the ship "Glooscap". framed photograph of the "Glooscap" on the stocks at Spencer's Island, and early editions of "Nature and Human Nature" and "The Attache"; and John B. Young: oil portrait of John Young, "Agricola".

Appendix B contains a number of documents illustrating the beginning and end of a movement on the part of the Assembly of Nova Scotia, between 1809 and 1828, to supplement their conventional addresses of appreciation to lieutenant-governors by a grant for the purchase of plate or other tangible testimonial. This movement was checked by Lord Dalhousie and terminated by Sir James Kempt, as tending to undermine the royal prerogative.

A statement of the receipts and disbursements for the financial year ending March 31st, 1952, will be found below.

Respectfully submitted,

D. C. HARVEY,

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures

For the Year ended March 31 1952,

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand April 1, 1951	932.52
Government of Nova Scotia	27,000.00
City of Halifax	500.00
Interest Savings Bank	2.03
Sales of publications and miscellaneous items	93.97

DISBURSEMENTS

Maintenance and Expenses of Building	1,360.02	
Furnishings and Equipment	1,491.78	
Salaries	21,001.65	
Temporary Salaries	1,026.00	
Office Sundries	346.15	
Transfer and Express	18.24	
Library and Manuscript Room	341.18	
Bindery Materials	96.32	
Purchases, Archival Material	72.22	
Printing Publications		
Sundry Expenses	58.55	
	<hr/>	
	25,812.11	
Balance on hand March 31, 1952	2,716.41	
	<hr/>	
	\$28,528.52	\$28,528.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>

For and on behalf of

Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

D. C. HARVEY, Archivist

WINIFRED McFATRIDGE, Secretary

I have audited the records of receipts and disbursements of the Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia for the year ended March 31, 1952, and certify that the within statement is true and correct, and that the balance shown as on hand and in the bank has been verified.

G. WALLACE DICKSON,

Halifax, N. S., April 5, 1952.

Chartered Accountant.

APPENDIX A

Gifts of Books, Pamphlets, Periodicals or Pictures were received from the following individuals and public bodies:

- American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.
- Archives of the Province of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask.
- Archives of the Province of Quebec, Quebec.
- Barbour G. E., Company, Ltd., Saint John, N. B.
- Bennett, Miss Sue, Halifax.
- Berringer, Mrs. O. B., Halifax.
- Black, C. H., Esq., Charlottetown, P.E.I.
- Board of Old Ladies' Home, Halifax.
- Board of School Commssiioners, Halifax.
- Board of Trustees, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa.
- Borden, Lady, Canning, N. S.
- Bridgewater Historical Society, Bridgewater, N. S.
- British Columbia Historical Association, Victoria, B. C.
- Bureau of Statistics of Quebec, Quebec.
- Chesley, Mrs. W. A., Bridgetown, N. S.
- City of Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester, England.
- Courtney, T. J., Esq., (Department of Information) Halifax.
- Creighton, Mrs. Graham, Halifax.
- Creighton, Mrs. Ralph V. (for Mrs. M. G. Burris) Dartmouth, N. S.
- Dawson, Mrs. K. L., Halifax.
- Dean, Harry, Esq., Halifax.
- Department of Child Welfare, Halifax.
- Department of Education, Halifax.
- Dimock, F. R., Esq., Windsor, N. S.
- Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.
- Dwyer, Capt. J. P., Halifax.
- Farquhar, J. G., Esq., Halifax.
- Farquhar, Miss Margaret, Westville, N. S.
- Ferguson, J. B., Esq., Pictou, N. S.
- Fergusson, C. Bruce, Esq., Halifax.
- Forsyth, Mrs. Lionel, Windsor, N. S.
- Gaetz, Rev. W. F., Wolfville, N. S.
- Gardner, Miss Marion, Halifax.
- Gosse, Dr. Norman, Halifax.
- Government of France, per M. Robert Picard, Halifax.
- Government of Nova Scotia, Halifax.

- Halifax Library Association, Halifax.
Halifax Y.M.C.A., per J.M.C. Duckworth, Esq., Halifax.
Harris, Rev. C. R., Parrsboro, N. S.
Harvey, Prof. D. C., Halifax.
Hattie, R. M., Esq., Halifax.
Hattie, Mrs. W. H., Dartmouth, N. S.
Hetherington, J. L., Esq., Halifax.
Hollingham, E. G., Esq., Halifax.
Hornstein, R. A., Esq., Halifax.
Hubley, Miss L. M., Halifax.
Hutton, R. R., Esq., Halifax.
Institute of Historical Research, London, England.
John Carter Brown Library, Providence, R. I.
Johnson, Rev. C. H., Spryfield, N. S.
Jones, Col. A. N., Halifax.
Kingdon, F. C., Esq., Wolfville, N. S.
Lavers, Charles William, Esq., Halifax.
Letson, Miss E. M., Halifax.
Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.
Littler, Miss Gladys, Halifax.
Longley, Richmond W., Esq., Toronto.
Library of the Ontario Archives, Toronto.
Lowe, Mrs. C. B., Halifax.
McCurdy, Lt. Gov. J. A. D., Halifax.
Macdonald, Hon. Angus L., Halifax.
MacDonald, Rev. P. M., Toronto.
MacKenzie, J. F. F., Esq., Amherst, N. S.
MacKenzie, Dr. K. A., Halifax.
MacLeod, Charles, Esq., Glace Bay, N. S.
MacMaster, Mrs. Lloyd, Boyston, N. S.
MacNeil, Mrs. Robert, Halifax.
Malcolm, Norman, Esq., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Marchant, Miss Laura, Kentville, N. S.
Maritime Telegraph & Telephone Co., Ltd., Halifax.
Medical Society of Nova Scotia, Halifax.
Medinus, Mrs. Carl, Chicago, Ill.
Morris, Miss Miriam, Halifax.
Mullins, Miss Janet E., Liverpool, N. S.
Murray, Estate of the late Mrs. E. M., Halifax.

New Brunswick Museum, Saint John, N. B.
New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.
Nicholson, Rev. J. W. A., Halifax.
Nickerson, E. R., Esq., Halifax.
Nova Scotia Institute of Science, Halifax.
Nova Scotia School Book Bureau, Halifax.
Ontario Historical Society, Toronto.
Peppard, James, Esq., Great Village, N. S.
D. G. Peters, Esq., Halifax.
Peters, Mrs. Mary Downs, Halifax.
Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa.
Purdy, B. S., Esq., Saint John, N. B.
Rankin, R. J., Esq., Halifax Chronicle-Herald, Halifax.
Rhind, Miss Harriet C., Halifax.
Risser, Estate of the late J. J., Lunenburg, N. S.
Ritchie, Henry C., Esq., Scotia, N. Y.
Ritchie, Mrs. J. Norman, Amherst, N. S.
Shaw, Pierson, Esq., Falmouth, N. S.
Sheraton, Mrs. Noel F., Halifax.
Smith, W. G., Esq., Halifax.
State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
Stewart, Dr. H. L., Halifax.
Taylor, Rear Admiral C. R. H., Chester, N. S.
Thompson, E. A., Esq., Halifax.
University of Kings College, Halifax.
University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.
University of Western Ontario, London, Ont.
Victorian Order of Nurses, Halifax.
Wallace, Frederick William, Esq., Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.
Ware, Wm., Esq., Halifax.
Webster, Mrs. K. G. T., Milton, Mass.
Willis, Col. R. B., Halifax.
Woodbury, Mrs. Karl, Halifax.
Woodworth, Mrs. Carrie, Berwick, N. S.
Young, John B., Esq., Kentville, N. S.

APPENDIX B

The following documents illustrate the rise and fall of a movement on the part of the Assembly of Nova Scotia to express their appreciation of the Lieutenant Governors, by appropriating a sum of money for the purchase of a sword, or service of plate, or other testimonial. The movement began and ran its course at a time when the salary of the Lieutenant Governor was still paid in full by the Imperial government, and he was expected to guard Imperial interests and to be immune against local influence in the many questions, social, political, religious and economic, that were being actively debated by the Assembly. The movement, therefore, soon came to be regarded with suspicion by the Colonial Office, as calculated to influence the Lieutenant Governors in favor of local legislation, which might be adverse to Imperial interests, since withholding such a gift from any Lieutenant Governor might be interpreted as an indirect vote of censure. For that reason the Lieutenant Governor was expected to obtain Royal approval before accepting any gift.

The movement began in 1809 with the appropriation of 200 guineas to purchase a sword for Sir George Prevost. Though the Assembly made this appropriation in the first session after their controversy with Sir Alexander Croke, who had administered the government in the absence of Prevost and vetoed their appropriation act, the implications of this gesture were not perceived, as the accompanying address to the Lieutenant Governor referred entirely to their joy in the success of his expedition to Martinique and their pleasure at his safe return. Consequently, Sir George accepted the gift without awaiting Royal approval; and left to Sir John Sherbrooke and his successors the problem of dealing with what might have become a dangerous practice.

On March 31, 1815, the Assembly of Nova Scotia resolved that the sum of one thousand pounds should be granted for the purchase of a Service of Plate, or any other testimonial, to be presented to His Excellency Sir John C. Sherbrooke, as a token of the grateful approbation entertained by the inhabitants of this Province, of the great care and economy of His Excellency in administering the government of the Country, during the late war with the United States of America.

On the same day this resolution was agreed to by the Council and a committee was appointed to prepare an address to His Excellency on the subject.

On April 3, 1815, the Committee reported the following address which was approved and ordered to be presented to His Excellency by the whole House:—

May it please Your Excellency,

The Representatives of his Majesty's dutiful and loyal People of Nova-Scotia, feel it incumbent upon them, at the close of the present Session of the General Assembly, to congratulate your Excellency upon the return of a General Peace; which, through the blessing of Divine Providence, is at length restored to his Majesty's Dominions.

We are happy in this Province, to have escaped, inviolate, from wars that ravaged many, and threatened all countries; and at the close of hostilities, to find ourselves secure and prosperous, in the protection of the Parent State, and advanced in population and strength.

During the whole of the late war with America, we have felt a security and confidence, arising from the evident propriety and efficacy of your Excellency's measures; and we have had the satisfaction to find those measures carried into effect, with the smallest possible inconvenience to the Militia, and a trifling expenditure of the public money.

That such benefits may not pass without some Memorial of our estimation of them, we have voted ONE THOUSAND POUNDS, to be expended in the purchase of PLATE; which we beg your Excellency to accept, as a lasting proof of the grateful sense this Province entertains of the wisdom of those measures, by which Your Excellency at the same time provided for the security of the Country, and consulted the ease of its inhabitants.

This address was presented at the closing of the Legislature on the same afternoon; and was replied to as follows:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It is very gratifying to my feelings, to learn that the Sums which were from time to time placed at my disposal by the Provincial Legislature, during the late war with the United States of America, have in your opinion been managed by me with care and economy.

From you, Gentlemen, who have had an opportunity of obtaining the most correct information upon this subject, such an honourable testimony in itself would have been an ample recompence for any pains I may have taken in the execution of this part of my duty. But to these expressions of approbation you have most liberally added such a proof of your good opinion, as claims my sincere and most grateful acknowledgements. Previous, however, to my acceptance of your valuable present, I conceive it will be my duty to submit your offered kindness to the PRINCE REGENT: and, should His Royal Highness not object to my receiving it, I shall with pride and pleasure accept this distinguished mark of your esteem.

At the next session of the Legislature, which opened on February 3, 1816, the Speaker presented the following letters in which His Excellency, having received the approval of the Prince Regent, signified his pleasure in accepting the gift:—

Government-House, 16th June, 1815.

Sir,

Herewith I transmit the copy of a letter I have received from Earl Bathurst, by which you will perceive, that the Prince REGENT has been pleased to approve of my receiving the present of Plate, voted me by the House of Assembly at the close of the last Session: and I have the honor to signify to you, that I shall, in consequence, now accept, with great pleasure, the very handsome testimony offered by the Legislature, of the favorable opinion they were pleased to entertain of my conduct since I have had the honor of administering the Government of this Province. This token, of the sentiments of the House towards me,

I shall appreciate the more highly from the conviction, that it would not have been presented if that Respectable Body had not thought my services deserving of this flattering acknowledgment.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. C. SHERBROOKE.

Downing-Street, 10th May, 1815.

Sir,

I have submitted to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the Address of the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, of the 3d ult. in which they request your acceptance of a sum voted for the purchase of Plate, and I am commanded to assure you, that his Royal Highness has much satisfaction in sanctioning your acceptance of this tribute of respect and approbation which he cannot but consider to be most justly due to the unremitted attention which you have uniformly paid to the interest and security of the Province under your Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

BATHURST.

In the meantime, as the following documents illustrate, steps had been taken to obtain the service of plate through Andrew Belcher, son of the first Chief Justice, who was in London at the time. It was shipped in the following March, and reached the Lieutenant Governor before he left for Quebec, but not until after the Legislature had been prorogued. Hence the bill was not presented to the House until its next session, on February 20, 1817.

London 4: August, 1815.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 27: June came to hand two days ago & packet inclosing a bill on the Treasury for £972 19 5 and a memorandum of Plate to be purchased for His Excellency Sir John Sherbrooke in conformity to a vote of the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia—I have lost no time in giving the necessary orders for carrying your Desires into execution with the least Delay and have placed it in the hands of Green, Ward & Green, of Ludgate hill, who I believe are well known to Sir John, but the advanced Season of the Year I fear will prevent the possibility of getting it completed in time to go out in a Merchant Vessel before the Spring. It is not promised to me before the first of October and I do not wish to hurry the making lest it should not be finished in that Style which I very well know it would be Your Wish as well as the House of Assembly that it should. I shall strictly attend to your Orders, and I hope the Work when it reaches Halifax will do honour to the Donors and be worthy his Excellency's Acceptance:—The Money I think will exceed the list you have given me & I have an intention of adding a set of plated rich Dish Covers.—I feel particularly flattered by your addressing yourself to me on this Occasion and I trust your expectations will not be disappointed, happy as I shall be on any future Occasion to evince to you and the other Members of your Legislative body how deeply I feel interested in every thing which contributes to the honor and prosperity of my Native Country, whose Welfare I shall ever be ambitious to promote by any means in my power in this Country.

I am with great regard,

Dear Sir

Your faithful and obedient humble Servant,

ANDREW BELCHER.

Mr. Smith is not yet arrived in Town.

Lewis Wilkins, Esq.

Letter from Andrew Belcher Esq., to L. M. Wilkins dated London 4th August 1816 on subject of Service of Plate for J. C. Sherbrooke.

Andrew Belcher, Esq.

London 26 October 1815

Green, Ward & Green
Goldsmiths & Jewellers

1 Ludgate Street

2 very highly ornamented & very richly chased silver)			
soup tureens & covers with chased handles & leaves on)			
solid silver stands compleat, with chased leaves &)			
beads, the whole of the finest workmanship	)	367	8	
	)	512	13	
6 do chased silver sauce tureens and covers exactly to)			
suit	)	154	7	114 9 7
6 Kings pattern silver sauce ladles		17	5	11 2 6
2 do do fish knives		13	11	8 4 5
4 antique shaped silver vases & covers for sugar &)			
cream with chased leaves & flutes to suit the other)			
plate & gilt inside	)	69	3	78 1 1
4 Kings pattern silver ladles for the vases with gilt				
bowls		9	4	7 5 6
An oval 20 inch silver table dish with very richly chased				
new pattern silver shell, fruit and flower border				
		104	7	61 14 10
2 do 19 inch do		201	16	119 8
4 do 16½ inch do		262		155 4
A very large best plated cover for the 20 inch dish with)			
chased leaves & beads silver shields & chased silver				
handle at top	)			23
2 do do for the 19 inch silver dishes				42
4 do do for the 16½ silver dishes				67 4
Engraving on the 2 soup tureens covers and stands, 4				
coats of arms, garters, badges and supporters, 4				
double crests, garters and laurels & 2 long inscriptions				
on the covers for Sir J. C. Sherbrooke K.G.C.B.				10 12
do on the 6 sauce tureens & 4 sugar vases 20 coats of				
arms and supporters and on the cover of each article				
double crest and laurel and an inscription				15 18
Engraving on the 7 silver dishes and 7 plated covers				

14 coats of arms and supporters and 14 inscriptions	10	18
do on the ladles and fish knives 12 crests mottos		
& badges	1	
A large strong iron bound wainscot plate chest lined		
with green baize and partitioned for all the Plate		
with locks &c., brass plate and name engraved	13	15
Paid for 23 green baize bags for the dishes and tureens	3	12
	<hr/>	
	£ 1110	13 3

Green Ward and Greens Bill for Service of Plate for His Excellency
Sir J. Coap Sherbrooke.

£ 1110: 13 3 Stg.

London 26 October, 1815.

Invoice of one case containing plate shipped by Andrew Belcher on the Queen Elizabeth Simon Amm Master for Halifax Nova Scotia by order of Lewis M. Wilkins Esq., and to him consigned

addressed His Excellency Sir John Coape Sherbrooke K C B	1 Case as P Bill of) Parcels from Green) Ward & Green)	1110	13	3			
	discount &c	152	7	5	958	5	10
Charges							
	Custom house charges	4	9				
	Export duty	11	6				
	Freight & Bill of Lading		7	6			
	Prem of Insurance on) £1000 at 40/Pct)	20					
	Policy duty	2	10		38	12	6
					£ 996	18	4

London 11th: March 1816

Errors Excepted

Andrew Belcher

Invoice of Plate purchased by Andrew Belcher Esq., for his Excellency Sir J. C. Sherbrooke on Account of the Province

£ 996 18 4

London 11 March, 1816.

As Sir John had left for Quebec in the Summer of 1816, the Assembly did not have an opportunity to give him a farewell address; but this was done in the warmest terms on April 2, 1817; and with his reply, which was presented to the House when it re-assembled in February, 1818, the Sherbrooke incident may be regarded as happily terminated.

While these mutual felicitations were being exchanged Lieutenant Governor Dalhousie had been in office for almost two years, and little more than two years were to elapse before the Assembly felt called upon to express their sentiments on his administration. In this instance the issue was not so happy for either the Assembly or Lord Dalhousie, although the College which the latter had founded was to benefit to the extent of £1000, which it might not have received otherwise.

In his speech at the opening of the Legislature, on February 20, 1820, Lord Dalhousie had announced his appointment as Governor General of the British North American Provinces; and towards the end of the session the Assembly appropriated £1000 for the purchase of a Star and Sword to be presented to him, together with a complimentary address of farewell. As the three documents following show, Dalhousie at first accepted the gift, subject to Royal approval, but finally declined to do so, before asking such approval, on the ground that the Assembly had disregarded his prerogative rights by not implementing certain measures which he had recommended. The fourth document shows how the Assembly, in response to Sir James Kempt's request for aid to Dalhousie College, was able to save face by re-appropriating the same amount to that purpose.

I

May it please your Excellency

The House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia at the Close of the last Session which is to be honored by the presence of Your Lordship as the immediate Head of the Legislature cannot refrain from expressing the high sense they entertain of the wisdom propriety and efficiency of Your Excellency's measures during the peaceful and happy period you have presided over us.

We assure Your Excellency that, although you are soon to be separated from us, the interest you have uniformly and successfully taken to promote the prosperity of the Province and the happiness of its Inhabitants will long be had in their remembrance; and we most respectfully request as a testimonial of our affection and gratitude that Your Excellency would be pleased to accept a Star and a Sword suited to the distinguished Military Honours conferred by our most gracious Sovereign upon Your Lordship; for the purchase of which the House of Assembly have unanimously Voted the sum of One thousand pounds.

The period of Your Excellency's departure is fast approaching and the House of Assembly in this their last Act of Legislative Duty beg leave to wish Your Lordship farewell and to assure Your Excellency that you will carry with You the most affectionate Esteem of the House of Assembly and the People of Nova Scotia whom they represent.

House of Assembly

1 April 1820.

II

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

You cannot doubt of the sentiments with which I receive this Address, still I must assure you that, as presented to me by the Representatives of the People of Nova Scotia, in their Legislative capacity, I receive it as one of the Highest honors that can be conferred.

I have endeavoured, to the utmost of my abilities, to fulfil the Royal Instructions, and the gracious intentions of His Majesty respecting this Province; and this public declaration, of the satisfaction of the Country, will ever be to me a most gratifying record of my service here.

The magnificent Testimonial of your regard, which you propose for my acceptance, is infinitely enhanced in value as being presented in a form that attaches it to those honours which have been

conferred by my Royal Master; to these it shall stand in my esteem nearest, and in a manner associated, but it is my first duty to obtain His Majesty's permission to accept of it. Should His Majesty be most graciously pleased to grant my request, I shall inform you of it, meanwhile I beg you will accept from me a return of those expressions of farewell which close this Address, and of the kindness of which I am deeply sensible.

DALHOUSIE.

III

Government House

13th April, 1820

To S. B. Robie Esq.,

Speaker of the House of Assembly

Sir,

I exceedingly regret the unusual hurry from unexpected Circumstances, which led to the sudden prorogation of the Assembly, and to the Communication I have now to make to You, in consequence of the proceedings of the last Session.

My attention since I prorogued the Assembly, has been directed to the more deliberate consideration of the progress and result of those proceedings. Having rested confident of the same support, which till now, I had received, it was with great surprize and mortification I observed, in the first place, that one part of the leading measures which I submitted to the House, has been altogether passed over, I mean the Survey of the Province; in the next place, that the allowance granted last Year for the inspection of the Militia, (this Year included as part of the Civil List public Expense) had been entirely omitted; and in the third place, that the House casting aside all the long established forms of returning answer to the special Messages of the Executive government, had shewn a disposition to disregard the Prerogative rights, and the respect due, to that First Branch, of the Constitutional Legislature.

Without going into any enquiry, and without any delay of time, I feel it my Duty to express through You, to this House, while it yet exists, that such Conduct cannot rest unnoticed, although it may be guarded against in future, but the chief motive which now presses me to address this letter to You, before the dissolution of this General Assembly, arises out of the Address of the House, which was presented to me by the Speaker, and the Members in a Body. That Address, conveyed to me a most gratifying expression of approbation of my Conduct, and a request of my acceptance, of a magnificent testimonial of regard. I could have no hesitation in thanking the House of Assembly for that honour, and promised to solicit the gracious permission of my Sovereign, to receive the testimonial therein described; but, when I find the leading measures of my administration rejected and suppressed, in a Manner disrespectful to the High Station in which I am placed, at the very moment too, when those gifts of approbation are tendered to me; my Duty to my King, my Duty to this Province, and above all the sacred regard I have for my own personal honour, equally forbid the acceptance of the Sum voted; and therefore, retracting the Answer which I gave without suspicion that such Circumstances could possibly exist, I now hereby, with all due respect, desire to decline the Offer, and consider it of non Effect whatever. •

I have to request that this letter may be Communicated to the Members of Assembly, in the form most suitable to its established rules, and to that respect, which I have always felt and expressed towards them.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant,

(Signed) Dalhousie

Document IV

In the House of Assembly 23rd February, 1821.

Resolved that the Sum of One thousand pounds, heretofore granted to his Excellency the Governor in Chief, for the purpose of

procuring a Sword and Star, and which sum his Lordship has declined accepting, be applied and appropriated for the purposes recommended in the Message of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor relative to the Dalhousie College.

Ordered to be sent to the Council for Concurrence.

JAMES B. FRANCKLIN

Clerk

In Council February 24—1821

Agreed to

By order

Rupert D. George

Sir James Kempt was sworn into office as Lieutenant Governor on June 1st, 1820, four days before Dalhousie departed for Quebec. On learning that he planned to visit England in the Spring of 1824, the Assembly, notwithstanding the reproof they had suffered at the hands of Dalhousie, prepared an appreciative address and proposed to present him with 500 guineas for the purchase of a sword or piece of plate; but as the documents which follow show Sir James accepted the address but declined the gift.

Halifax, 28th February, 1824.

Sir,

We are desired by His Majesty's Council and the House of Assembly, to communicate to your Excellency their wish to present an Address to you, expressive of the respect they entertain for your Excellency, and their regret at your approaching departure for Great Britain; and also the wish of the House of Assembly, in which His Majesty's Council are most happy to concur, to accompany this Address with the sum of Five Hundred Guineas, to be expended in the purchase of a Sword, or a Piece of Plate, or in any other manner

your Excellency may prefer. Your Excellency will oblige us by expressing your sentiments as to the wishes of His Majesty's Council and the House of Assembly.

We have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient Humble Servants,

S. S. BLOWERS, President of H. M. Council

S. B. ROBIE, Speaker of the Assembly.

To His Excellency Lieutenant-General

SIR JAMES KEMPT, K. C. B., &c. &c. &c.

Government House, 1st March, 1824.

Gentlemen,

I have this moment received your letter, communicating to me the wish of His Majesty's Council and the House of Assembly, to present an Address to me, on the occasion of my approaching departure for Great-Britain, accompanying the same with the sum of Five Hundred Guineas, to be expended in the purchase of a Sword or Piece of Plate; and, while I hasten to assure you that I shall receive the Address with peculiar pleasure, setting, as I do, the highest value on the approbation and good opinion of His Majesty's Council and the Representatives of the People of Nova Scotia, yet I trust I may be permitted, without offence, respectfully to decline accepting of the valuable Present with which it was designed to accompany it.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient Humble Servant

JAMES KEMPT.

To the Honorable

The President of His Majesty's
Council, and the Speaker of the
House of Assembly.

As far as I can discover this exchange of letters put an end to the practice. Certainly, when Sir James himself departed for Quebec four years later to assume the office of Governor General, though the Assembly presented him with a farewell address couched in the warmest terms, there was no thought of accompanying the address with a gift. The handsome candelabra, which now reposes in the Archives, having been returned to Nova Scotia recently by his heirs, was presented to him by the citizens of Halifax, as the following editorial in the *Novascotian* shows. Incidentally, this editorial also shows that henceforth the conduct of Lieutenant Governors will not escape critical appreciation in the public press, however indiscriminating the conventional addresses on his departure may be.

SIR JAMES KEMPT—On Saturday last, His Excellency, after formally resigning the Government of the Province into the hands of the Hon. M. Wallace, was attended to the wharf in the usual manner, by the Public Officers and a number of the respectable Inhabitants of the Town; and after taking an affectionate leave, embarked on board the Challenger, and in the course of the afternoon left the Harbor, with a light but pleasant breeze. The day previous to his departure, a deputation from the Inhabitants waited upon His Excellency and presented him with an Address, very numerously signed, expressive of the high sense entertained of his past services, and of the tranquility and happiness, which all classes of the people had enjoyed under his administration. A similar Address from the Chamber of Commerce, was presented on the same day; to both of which his Excellency returned suitable answers. An intimation was also made, of the desire entertained by the Inhabitants, to present his Excellency with a small token of their good wishes, for which a subscription is now filling up. We pass over these things lightly, because they are matters of light import—an Address will always be forthcoming, even to a bad ruler; and a crowd of attendants will flock round a Pier, let who will take their departure. But we cannot

withhold our cordial concurrence in the general sentiment of regret on this occasion; we are never fond of fulsome laud, when the object of it is on the spot; but Sir James has now left us, perhaps forever; his place will soon be filled, and another will form the centre of attraction to those who instinctively gather round the temporary

holder of Royal Authority—we may therefore be excused a few reflections on his departure; and we again repeat, that we sincerely regret the circumstance which calls them forth.

We know not whether the good disposition of the People of Nova Scotia, makes their Rulers good, or whether the Rulers themselves have had a favorable influence on the character of the People; some have asserted, that any Governor, however bad, would be favorably received in this Province, but this we can never admit; and are persuaded, if the experiment is tried on our forbearance, the result will remove the slander. With every disposition to perform the relative duties of the people to the Government, while it is what the Constitution intended it should be, and the wants and interests of the Province require; we know that to any undue exercise of power, any mischievous abuse of the vested authority, and wanton disregard of their rights or feelings—the People of Nova Scotia would present a temperate, but firm and effectual resistance. They never have, and we hope never will, set a few isolated acts, from what cause soever proceeding, in opposition to the general scope and bearing of a Governor's conduct; if they see much to approve they are willing to excuse something; if they are convinced a man means right, they will not distort a few errors in judgment into grievous and direful offences. Acting on this principle, they have hitherto enjoyed much comfort in the administration of their public affairs, and it is one of such practical utility, that we should be sorry to see it abandoned.

For eight years Sir James Kempt has held the reins of Government; and the tranquility, and steady advancement of the Province during that period, form the best commentary that can be made on the character of his administration. It has often been lamented by the Biographers of literary men, that their lives were too usefully employed, to furnish much striking or original incident; in glancing at the operations of our Provincial Government, the same reflection occurs to the mind; there is no field for splendid service, for startling and impressive undertakings, for vast conceptions or achievements; if the machine of Government rolls on well, it rolls on quietly. And in referring to the state of things during the last eight years, we cannot point out any individual act of Sir James Kempt's

which won for him general regard; the Road Service, which has ever been an object of his peculiar care, he has very materially improved; and the alterations which have been effected on our great lines of communication, are evidences of his zeal for the public service. But there were other features of his Government which we liked full as well: he linked himself with no party, stood aloof from the clashings of the other Branches of the Legislature, and never went running after popularity to public meetings and dinners, to have his health drank and his praise sounded as a matter of course. As a Batchelor he might perhaps have claimed indulgence for a few frailities, but his intercourse with society here has been marked by a respectful and delicate propriety. Into the Public Offices, from the highest to the lowest, he infused a degree of regularity and dispatch, without which business must ever suffer; and if some things have escaped his notice, many abuses have been corrected or removed. These are the grounds on which we regret his departure; and we wish him more happiness, than we think the Government of Canada is likely to afford.

The Novascotian, August 26, 1828.