

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

For the Year 1957



QUEEN'S PRINTER
HALIFAX, N. S.
1958

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

For the Year 1958

To His Honour

The Honourable Maj.-Gen. E. C. Plow, C.B.E., D.S.O.,

Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

May it please Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit the report of the Provincial Archivist to the Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia for the year 1957, together with a statement of receipts and disbursements for the period April 1st, 1957, to March 31st, 1958.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. STANFIELD,

Premier.

Board of Trustees

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA

His Honour, The Honourable Maj.-Gen. E. C. Plow, C.B.E., D.S.O.,
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

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

The Honourable Robert L. Stanfield, Q.C., B.A., LL.B.,
Premier of Nova Scotia.

Henry D. Hicks, Q.C., B.C.L., D.Ed., D.C.L.,
Leader of the Opposition in the House of Assembly.

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

C. Bruce Fergusson, B.A., M.A., D. Phil.,
President, Nova Scotia Historical Society.

Dr. C. Bruce Fergusson,
Provincial Archivist.

Miss Winifred McFatridge,
Secretary.

Report of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

For the Year 1957

Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia

Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present the annual report of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia for the year 1957.

The year 1957 has been noteworthy for several reasons. The number of visitors exceeded that of the previous year, and that increase was reflected in the use of the historical materials in this institution. Certain significant accessions have been made to the various collections, and considerable work has been done not only in assimilating recent acquisitions, but also in sorting, classifying and indexing manuscript documents and other materials. A noticeable expansion has been shown in both our reference service and our correspondence, and more conducted tours of the building have been provided for groups and individuals.

Visitors came from near and far. There were some from every county in this Province, some from every Province in Canada, others from about a score of the States in the Union to the south, and others from England, Scotland, Bermuda, Jamaica, Guatemala, Norway, Spain, Cyprus, Sierra Leone and Korea. Teachers attending the Nova Scotia Summer School were among those doing research. Guided tours of the institution were given to groups of school children from Halifax, Big Tancook, Cole Harbour, Economy, Elmsdale, Nine Mile River and Upper Onslow, students of Dalhousie University, the University of King's College and the Halifax Ladies' College, several young people's societies, the Halifax Business and Professional Women, a Callow Coach party and the Naval Research Establishment personnel and their wives.

During the year research was carried on by a substantial number of persons, with 2,517 being guided and aided in the use of 4,369 books, 2,709 manuscripts, 2,775 newspapers, 587 microfilms, 364 maps and 460 photographs.

For the convenience of the public, the Archives building has been open not only during the regular day-time hours, but also on Wednesday evenings from January to May and from October to December, inclusive, as well as occasionally on other evenings for special groups.

Notable additions were made to our manuscript records. One of the most valuable acquisitions is the collection of Almon papers, part of which was presented to Premier Robert L. Stanfield on December 3, 1957, for the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, by Mr. C. S. Frost, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and the remainder of which was sent directly to me. This collection belonged to the Hon. Mather Byles Almon (1796-1871), a prominent Halifax merchant, member of the Executive Council of Nova Scotia, 1844-48, and member of the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia, 1844-71, who as the second President of the Bank of Nova Scotia held that office from 1837 to 1870. It contains not banking documents but rather business correspondence and records between 1827 and the 1860's. Another important accession to our manuscript division is the Chesley Papers, which were presented by Miss Lucy Chesley, of Upper Granville, Annapolis County, containing miscellaneous letters, deeds, commissions and accounts which belonged to Samuel Chesley, of New Hampshire, (who helped to lay out the Township of Granville in 1759 for New England immigrants), and his descendants.

Other interesting materials received during the year include a volume of papers of the Ordnance Board at Halifax for 1784-85, which was purchased in England; microfilms of records of the Halifax Dockyard for 1783 to 1848; a typewritten compilation of the inscriptions on tombstones in the cemeteries of Pictou County, which was presented by Mr. Henry C. Ritchie, a former Pictonian, of Scotia, New York; the records of the Board of School Commissioners for the District of Guysborough for the years 1864-1923 and 1930-1943; a volume of the records of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas of Queens County for the years 1792 to 1836; and a patent of Charles I, bearing the date of 1626, granting Nova Scotia to Sir William Alexander. This Latin

parchment, which is now the oldest original document in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, is a renewal of the original charter of 1621 to Sir William. It was presented through His Honour Lieutenant-Governor Fraser by Mr. George Hayward, of Norwich, England.

In the course of the year 418 books and 1236 pamphlets have been added to the library. 816 of the pamphlets, belonging to the Nova Scotia Historical Society, were transferred from the Legislative Library. Among the books purchased during the year was James A. Williamson's *The Voyages of the Cabots and the English Discovery of North America under Henry VII and Henry VIII*, (London, 1929).

During the year our newspaper collection has continued to grow. Complimentary copies of the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald* and *Mail-Star*, the *Cape Breton Post*, the *Antigonish Casket* and the *Hants Journal* are now being received. In addition, Mr. David Allbon, Managing Editor of the *Hants Journal*, permitted me to extract from his files certain copies of this newspaper for the years 1946 to 1956, so that some of the gaps in our series might be filled.

Our microfilm collection also expanded in 1957. 152 reels, approximately 15,200 feet of films, both negative and positive, have been acquired. These are mainly of newspapers, some of which were photographed here and others of which are positive films, presented by the Halifax Herald, Limited, of current issues of both the *Chronicle-Herald* and the *Mail-Star*. But they also contain such other materials as the diaries of Rev. George Gilmore and Rev. Dr. James McGregor; the records of St. John's Church, Horton, 1823-77; St. James' Church, Kentville, 1855-88; and St. Peter's Church, Sheet Harbour, 1857-80; the Benson genealogy; the logs of Capt. John Harris in the privateer *Dart*, 1813, and in the schooner *Mary*, 1818, and of John Herring, mate, in the *Grand Turk*, 1854. Through the kindness of Mr. Edgar B. McKay, of Orono, Maine, I was also able to borrow and microfilm the *Bear River Telephone* for 1897 to 1907 and the *Digby Courier* for 1912-1914 and 1917.

One of the highlights of the year occurred on May 22, when the Public Archives of Nova Scotia received from Imperial Oil Limited the original series of sketches prepared by C. W. Jefferys

as illustrations for Thomas Chandler Haliburton's Sam Slick series. On that occasion, Mr. Trevor Moore, Vice-President of Imperial Oil Limited, of Toronto, presented the 102 sketches, in the presence of a goodly company of interested people.

Other interesting additions were also made to our picture division. These include a large portrait of Samuel George William Archibald (1777-1846), who was Speaker of the House of Assembly, Master of the Rolls and Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty; two paintings by John O'Brien of Point Pleasant Park and the North West Arm, and one painting by Mrs. Florence Rogers entitled "The Open Bible"—all these being from the estate of the late Miss Jean Gass; six of Maria Morris's water-colour drawings of the wild flowers of Nova Scotia; and photographic reproductions of Capt. John Hamilton's "View of the Town and Fort of Annapolis Royal", "View of Fort Edward", and "View of Fort Cumberland"; J. H. Bastide's "A Prospect of Annapolis Royal in 1751"; Lieut. J. F. Bland's "Encampment of Artillery and 76th Regiment at Point Pleasant, North West Arm, Halifax, N. S., June 1855"; and F. St. Memin's "View of the Entry of the Harbour of Halifax in Nova Scotia with a part of the town taken from Dartmouth, 1793" and "View of the north part of the town of Halifax in Nova Scotia Including the Dock Yard, the Bason terminating the Harbour and the Town of Dartmouth, 1793."

Various other muniments worthy of remark were also received. A rectangular piece of glass—15"x 25"—said to be from Nelson's flagship *Victory*, was donated by Miss May Reside of Halifax. A copper mirror, which had been excavated from an ancient tomb of the Korean dynasty, was presented by Mr. Tai Young Huh. A handsome snuff-box, made of lizard-skin, inlaid with tortoise-shell and bound with gold, which is said to have belonged to Napoleon Bonaparte, was bequeathed by the late Miss Jean Gass. A silver coffee pot, which was owned by Detleff Christopher Jessen, one of the founders of Lunenburg, was placed on display here at the request of the late Mrs. Annie E. Rudolf. A booklet containing the record of experience of George J. Fluck of Bayern, for qualification as a journeyman barber, from the year 1848, was donated by Dr. W. L. Fluck. In addition, a sheet of one hundred 8½ cent Nova Scotia postage stamps of the year 1860 was purchased.

Two special events deserve mention. One was a meeting of the Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Art in the Archives Building on August 6. On that occasion Mr. Justice Ilsley, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, officiated as several paintings were added to this organization's collection here. The other was a "Museum Workshop" session on the evening of October 24, when Mr. John Bigelow gave a talk on "Our Historic Houses", Dr. Carl Guthe spoke on "Small Local Museums" and I gave an address on "The Public Archives of Nova Scotia and Other Archival Organizations in Canada."

The main exhibition room on the second floor of the building was cleaned and repainted during the summer. As a result the walls and ceiling are greatly improved, and the whole effect is much better.

At the Nova Scotia Summer School for Teachers I again gave lectures on the history of Canada and the history of Nova Scotia.

As Associate Professor of History, I am also again conducting a seminar for advanced students in Dalhousie University on historical research in the history of Canada, with special reference to Nova Scotia and specific use of materials in the Archives Building.

In order to make the institution more widely known, I have in the course of the year given several short radio addresses and one telecast. Certain radio commentators and television programmes have also given it considerable publicity. At the same time writers for press, radio and television have drawn on the resources of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia for a variety of purposes.

As the Nova Scotia representative on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, I visited the Grand Pré Memorial Park early in the year, inspected the Museum there and made recommendations on its reorganization. I also went to Victoria Beach to inspect the Pony Express memorial there and to report upon a new site for this marker, which had been removed when the highway was widened. In addition, I assisted in arranging for the Sir John William Dawson memorial at Pictou and for its unveiling and gave a brief address at the unveiling ceremony. Furthermore, in the furtherance of the work of this Board, I have carried on considerable correspondence.

Likewise, as a member of the Nova Scotia Historic Sites Advisory Council, I have attended meetings, carried on correspondence and assisted in other ways in the promotion of the work of that body. On September 8, I delivered an address at the unveiling of the memorial to Judge Alfred William Savary, at Plympton.

Other engagements included addresses at the opening of the Ross-Thomson House in Shelburne on July 28 and at a Community Fair at Port Morien on September 25.

On February 1st I read a paper before the Nova Scotia Historical Society on T. B. Akins, the first Provincial Archivist of Nova Scotia. It was published under the title of "T. B. Akins: A Centennial Commemoration" in volume 31 of the *Collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society*. Miss Blakeley wrote an article entitled "William Hall, Canada's First Naval V.C.", which was published in the *Dalhousie Review*.

Bulletin No. 12, "Glimpes of Nova Scotia, 1807-24", which I published in December, throws some light on the provincial scene in the early part of the nineteenth century.

As the first volume in a Nova Scotia Series, I prepared for publication *Uniacke's Sketches of Cape Breton and Other Papers Relating to Cape Breton Island*, which is now in the press.

My account of the early history of the Province, which is entitled "A Half-Century in Nova Scotia", has been completed and is now being considered for publication.

During the year I assisted in preparing, for publication by the Champlain Society, Volume II of the *Diary of Simeon Perkins*.

For the occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the first House of Assembly in Nova Scotia, which was the inauguration of representative government in Canada, several members of the staff and I have been and are still engaged in compiling a directory of members of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia, 1758-1958.

Appendix A is a list of donors for the year 1957.

Appendix B is Captain Matthew Floyer's report of a march along the Shubenacadie River to its mouth, in August 1754.

Appendix C is a very interesting series of Howe-Annand letters dealing with the Anti-Confederation League. These letters which were received from Mrs. F. W. Annand, of 451½ Quinpool Road, Halifax, in 1957, supplement those which Lawrence J. Burpee edited on the same subject for the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada* in 1917.

A statement of the receipts and disbursements for the financial year ending March 31st, 1958, will be found below.

Respectfully submitted,

C. BRUCE FERGUSON,
Provincial Archivist.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For the Year ended March 31, 1958

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, April 1, 1957.....	4,095.19
Government of Nova Scotia.....	35,000.00
Savings Bank interest.....	5.68
Sales of publications and miscellaneous items.....	155.68

DISBURSEMENTS

Maintenance and Expenses of Building..	1,788.40
Furnishings and Equipment.....	403.15
Salaries.....	27,201.56
Temporary Salaries.....	1,734.10
Office Supplies and Expenses.....	440.75
Transfer and Express.....	103.80
Library and Manuscript Room.....	476.08
Bindery Material.....	79.63
Purchases, Archival Material.....	480.07
Purchases—Nova Scotia Stamp Col- lection.....	350.00
Microfilm Expenses.....	239.46
Sundry Expenses.....	104.66
Printing Publications.....	2,065.13

\$35,466.79

Balance on hand, March 31, 1958.....	3,789.76
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\$39,256.55 \$39,256.55

For and on behalf of

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES
OF NOVA SCOTIA

C. BRUCE FERGUSON, Provincial Archivist
Winifred McFatridge, Secretary.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

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, 1958, 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.

HAZEN H. VENO, Chartered Accountant.

Halifax, N. S.
April 8, 1958

APPENDIX A

LIST OF DONORS

Alberta Historical Society, Edmonton, Alberta.
Allen, C. R. K., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.
Anderson, G. D., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Annand, Mrs. F. W., Halifax, N. S.
Babson Mrs. Gustavus, Jr., Batavia, Ill.
Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, Ont.
Barkhouse, Murray Esq., Chester, N. S.
Bird, Dr. Will R., Halifax, N. S.
Board of School Commissioners, Halifax, N. S.
Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa.
Boutilier, A. L., Esq., Brookfield, Colchester Co., N. S.
Brown, Miss Ethel M., Mason City, Iowa.
Brown, Mrs. W. N., Dartmouth, N. S.
Burchell, Hon. C. J., Q.C., Halifax, N. S.
Burchell, Miss H. Louise, Windsor, N. S.
Bureau of Statistics of Quebec, Quebec.
Burns, Herbert G., Esq., Kansas City, Mo.
Cameron, Miss Mary, Halifax, N. S.
Canadian Church Historical Society, Toronto, Ont.
Carey, Mrs. C. J., Halifax, N. S.
Chebucto Chapter, I. O. D. E., Halifax, N. S.
Chesley, Miss E. Lucy, Upper Granville, Annapolis Co., N. S.
Christie, A. G., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Coombs, Mrs. F. S., Dartmouth, N. S.
Crosby, George A., Esq., Clerk of the Municipality of Yarmouth,
Yarmouth, N. S.
Cushing, Miss Eileen, Saint John, N. B.
Day, C. Randolph, Esq., Liverpool, N. S.
Department of Education, Halifax, N. S.
Department of Labour, Ottawa, Ont.
Department of Municipal Affairs, Halifax, N. S.
DeWolfe, Prof. L. A., Truro, N. S.
Dowell, Robert A., Esq., Purcell's Cove Road, Halifax Co., N. S.
Dunbar, Col. J. B., Halifax, N. S.
Dutcher, Edward H., Esq., Syracuse, N. Y.
Dwyer, Capt. John P., Halifax, N. S.
Editor, Evening News, New Glasgow, N. S.
Fergusson, Dr. C. Bruce, Halifax, N. S.

- Flemming, Mrs. Pansy, Clerk of the Municipality of East Hants,
Shubenacadie, N. S.
- Fluck, Dr. W. L., Halifax, N. S.
- Ford Foundation, Dearborn, Michigan.
- Fraser, Lieutenant-Governor Alistair, Halifax, N. S.
- Gardner, Miss Marion, Guysborough, N. S.
- Gass, Estate of the late Miss Jean M., Halifax, N. S.
- Gibson, Mrs. Stewart L., Halifax, N. S.
- Government of Nova Scotia, Halifax, N. S.
- Greenough, A. H., Esq., Mount Denison, N. S.
- Haines, Walter D., Esq., Portland, Oregon.
- Halifax Herald Limited, Halifax, N. S.
- Halifax Visiting Dispensary, Halifax, N. S.
- Hancock, G. N., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
- Harris, Capt. Roland F., Indian Point, Lunenburg Co., N. S.
- Hart, W. S., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
- Harvey, Dr. D. C., Halifax, N. S.
- Harvey, Mrs. J. A., Port Williams, N. S.
- Hattie, Rudd, Esq., Clerk and Treasurer, Municipality of the
County of Halifax, Halifax, N. S.
- Hayward, George, Esq., Norwich, Norfolk, England.
- Henson, Guy, Esq., Halifax, N. S.
- Hilchey, Mrs. Florence M., Truro, N. S.
- Hull, Estate of the late Mrs. Edward, Halifax, N. S.
- Imperial Oil Limited, Halifax, N. S.
- Institute of Historical Research, London, England.
- Jensen, Mrs. Albertha, Edmonton, Alberta.
- John Carter Brown Library, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Johnson, Rev. C. H., Saint John, N. B.
- Jones, J. H. Mowbray, Esq., Liverpool, N. S.
- Jones, Mrs. L. D., Halifax, N. S.
- Kendall, John S., Esq., Curry's Corner, Hants Co., N. S.
- Kings Mountain National Military Park, Kings Mountain, N. C.
- Lederman, Prof. W. R., Halifax, N. S.
- Legislative Library, Fredericton, N. B.
- Legislative Library, Halifax, N. S.
- Letson, Miss E. M., Port Medway, Queens Co., N. S.
- Lloyd, Mrs. Cyrus D., Leavenworth, Kansas.
- Lodge, Thornton H., Esq., Hollywood, Calif.
- Lordly, D. R., Esq., Liverpool, N. S.
- MacBeath, Dr. George, Saint John, N. B.
- McCulloch, Mrs. Douglas H., Halifax, N. S.
- MacDonald, Mrs. E. J., Halifax, N. S.

MacFarlane, C. T., Esq., Moncton, N. B.
MacKenzie, Dr. Kenneth A., Halifax, N. S.
MacLeod, John W., Esq., New Glasgow, N. S.
MacLeod, Murdoch, Esq., Port Dufferin, N. S.
MacNeil, Mrs. William, Windsor Forks, Hants Co., N. S.
McNutt, Miss Edna, Halifax, N. S.
MacPhee, Harvey, Esq., Truro, N. S.
MacRitchie, Mrs J. J., Halifax, N. S.
McVittie, John I., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Machum, J. R., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Manuel, Rev. M. H., Woodstock, N. B.
Maritime Telegraph & Telephone Co., Ltd., Halifax, N. S.
Marshall, Miss Hattie, Halifax, N. S.
Medical Society of Nova Scotia, Halifax, N. S.
Meuse, Joseph R., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Mombourquette, R. J., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Municipal School Board of the District of Guysborough, Guys-
borough, N. S.
New Brunswick Museum, Saint John, N. B.
New York Historical Society, New York, N. Y.
New York State Library, Albany 1, N. Y.
Nickerson, E. R., Esq., Halifax, N. S.
Nova Scotia Centre of the Poetry Society, Halifax, N. S.
Nova Scotia Museum of Science, Halifax, N. S.
O'Loughlin, Miss Kathleen, St. Catharine's, Ont.
Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ont.
Rafuse, Mrs. E., Halifax, N. S.
Randall, S. A., Esq., Clerk of the Municipality of Lunenburg,
Lunenburg, N. S.
Reside, Miss May W., Halifax, N. S.
Ritchie, Henry C., Esq., Scotia, N. Y.
Robertson, Col. J. G., Churchville, R.R. No. 2, New Glasgow, N. S.
Royal Bank of Canada, Montreal, P. Q.
Sanford, Miss Edna J., Halifax, N. S.
Saskatchewan Archives Board, Saskatoon, Sask.
Sinclair, Donald A., Esq., New Brunswick, New Jersey.
Smith, A. C., Esq., Clerk of the Municipality of Barrington,
Barrington, N. S.
Smithers, Miss C. F., Halifax, N. S.
State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
Stevens, Lt. Col. G. R., O. B. E., Montreal, P. Q.
Tai Young Huh, Halifax, N. S.
Tobin, Miss Marguerite, Halifax, N. S.

Tratt, Miss Gertrude Ella Naomi, Sackville, N. B.
 United Church of Canada, Toronto, Ont.
 Wainwright, Rev. Kennedy B., Stewiacke, N. S.
 Webb, Mrs. J. Harris, Westchester Station, Cumberland Co., N.S.
 Webster, Miss Mabelle, Truro, N. S.
 Whinyard, Miss Grace, Halifax, N. S.
 Williams, Mrs. Mary E., Vancouver, B. C.
 Woodbury, Mrs. J. F. L., Halifax, N. S.
 Young, Mrs. George H., Dartmouth, N. S.

APPENDIX B

CAPTAIN MATTHEW FLOYER'S REPORT

August 1754 }
Monday 5th }

Journal of the March by the
River Shebenaccadia

At seven O'Clock in the Morning We reached the Source of the River so called by Deschamp, being a Stream issuing from a Chain of Lakes and which he told Mr. Morris was the Source of Chibenaccadie. At nine we Forded a little River coming from the Westward. Chibenaccadie Expanding itself in this place into a Lake Six Mile long, from whence it issues, unintercepted by another Lake to its discharge, makes the first Stream not to be with propriety called the Source of the River. There is some good Land near the River flowing from the Westward, and an Appearance of some being cleared either by Fire or Cultivation on the opposite side of the Lake. A Good part of this Day, We marched over a Pleasant Beach, a Deep Cove running off from the Lake threw us much out of our Way; the Land round this Cove is Barren & Mountainous, and it was with no little Difficulty the party got round it, for the Water is close up to the Rocks & Pretty deep. That Night We encamped at the Bottom of the Cove, on a pleasant point of Flatt & fertile Soil, abounding with Oak and Ash.

Tuesday 6th We Marched quite round the Cove, and fell in with the River again about half after Eleven; this is properly the Source; the Stream is gentle & Shallow, little more than Knee Deep, the Water very clear and the Bottom a fine Reddish colour'd Sand. The Land on the Banks is flatt & Fertile, the Woods tall & open, and consists chiefly of Oak, Ash & Maple; as we Discovered by the Tracts the Moose are plenty, & many Wigwams on each side of the River shews it to be a Place of important resort. We encamped about five Miles down the River.

Wednesday 7th This day we marched thro' the greatest Luxuriance of March & pasture Ground I ever saw; the River now Grown something deeper after receiving several little streams, flows for this days March thro a Channell very like an Artificial Canal; the Gentlemen on Party likned it to the Severn and Cap-

tain Cobbs brother declared he knew no part of America to be compared with it except Connecticut River. We walked over rich Meadow on its Banks under the spreading Branches of very tall & Stately Elms. The Fishes are Prodigious at Certain Seasons; I observed heaps of Straw & such Rubbish as Torrents sweep away with them, in the Bows of the Elm's that Project from the upper Bank or Woodside over the second Bank or Meadow on which we walked, this Rubbish was in the Trees above our Heads, at that Time the Water was seven or eight Foot lower than the edge of the Meadow. These Inundations must be the Cause of so much Fertility, the Grass is Waist high in the Middle of the Woods. We encamped about Eleven Miles further down the River, on a flatt point of Rich Soil, which had been formerly Cultivated. A Little way above this place we first Observed the Tide to flow, where we lay (from the first return of the Stream to high Water) was an Hour exactly then it ebb'd again.

Thursday 8th About eight in the Morn, We came opposite to the Mouth of the Oustinoogan or Sheedewer River; the junction of this Stream with Chebenaccadie makes a sudden change both in breadth and depth. Half after Twelve we came to the Mass-house, which I think is the neatest in the Country, tis Adorned with a Fine lofty Steeple and a Weather Cock. The Parsonage House is the only Habitation here, the Land is good & seems to be more so on the opposite side. Half after Four in the Evening after marching over a great extent of Marsh We Forded the Shebenaccadie where the Steewiack or Torbay River falls into it, to a Village of three Houses called Pierre Hebere. This is a fine Settlement has a vast Quantity of the Best Marsh Land belonging to it. 'Tis situated on a Point at the Concourse of the two Rivers, and is the most convenient and advantagious spot for a Fort, the Land is clear a Gunshot from the Wood, is not commanded by any rising Ground, and has an absolute Command of the two Rivers. We came so suddenly upon the Inhabitants, that they had not Time to escape from us, tho they were wonderfully dismayed; We soon removed their Fears, we purchased some refreshment from them, which was a happy relief, as it was short Commons with most of us. We lay here; About Twelve Mile further down the River.

Friday 9th At day break we Repassed Chibunaccadie, marched about a Mile and an half over the flatts till we got at the other-side of the Pebague a River coming from the Westward. This

day we marched by the side of the River with Difficulty & Fatigue. The tide rises to a Prodigious height, which Occasions Steep & Muddy banks, the Land on each side is very high & Mountainous. The River very wide, perhaps it would not be a safe Navigation for Vessels that draw much Water as the River abounds with Flatts, on which, should a Vessel Strike as most of them are Quick sand; I am told she wou'd be soon overwhelm'd with sand thrown up against her, by Rapidity of the Current. Flatt bottomed Vessels might go up with Little Risk, for by Keeping the middle of the Stream the River is so Wide and the Mountains so high almost up to Hebere, the Enemy could not do certain execution. About Six this Evening, reached the Mouth of the River, Eighteen Mile.

Saturday 10 Marched along the Beach of Mines Bay as far as the Village Noel Twelve Mile, where the *Warren* took us on Board & brought us into Mines next Morning.

General

Remarks If a Fort should be erected at the Concourse of the Steewiack & Chebenaccadie it would effectually prevent their making use of the River either from Cobequid or Torbay. But as it is still open to them thro the Oushnoogan from Sheedewiack by which in spite of the Fort at Steewiack they could come in Canoes towards Halifax as formerly; a Blockhouse on the first Stream which Deschamps calls the Source of the River, and which might be relieved Monthly from Halifax, would defeat every purpose of that Kind. Captain Lewis is informed by Rene Le Blanc that Oushnoogan leads up to the River which runs out at Lawrence Town; if so a fort at the Steewiack alone will be sufficient to secure Halifax, Dartmouth and our Eastern Settlements. Whale Boats or small Boats of any kind may easily go from the mouth of Shebenaccadie about three Mile above Oushnoogan, further than that, in several places, there are old Trees fallen across the River, which would Stop them till cutt away. The Land from the Masshouse down the River, is not so good as from the Masshouse up the River.

If a party after coming to the first Stream instead of proceeding by the Western side of the Lake should cross the Stream (for it is fordable in the dry Season) and march on the Eastern side, twould cutt off at least Six Mile.

We observed Chebenaccadie was fordable in many places from its source to its junction with Oushnoogan. And after that when it comes to be dispersed 'tween wider banks, at low Water tis fordable in several places as we found it at Hebere.

From Hebere to the Embouchure the Rocks are mostly white marble.

APPENDIX C

HOWE-ANNAND CORRESPONDENCE

Halifax Nova Scotia

July 19th 1866

Sir

At a meeting of a Committee of Gentlemen appointed to superintend the preparation [of] a Petition to the House of Commons urging

That no Union of the Provinces may be Consumated [Consummated] until such time as the question has received the Sanction of the People at the Polls – It was unanimously Resolved – That the “Hon. Mather B. Almon be requested to join the Hon. Joseph Howe as a delegate to represent the Petitioners to the House of Commons – in opposition to Confederation of the Provinces without an appeal to the people.”

We have therefore on their behalf to request you place yourself in communication with Her Majesty’s Ministers (and jointly with Mr Howe and Mr William Annand – who proceeds to England on the same errand) urge the cause you will find expressed in the Petitions named – as well as in a letter addressed the Hon. Joseph Howe dated July 5th (A copy of which we beg leave to annex)

Your well known views on the subject of Confederation prompts us to avail ourselves of the benefits of your assistance in London

We have the Honor to be

Sir Your Obedt. Servants

On behalf of the Council of the League
of the Maritime Provinces –

Wm J Stairs – Vice President

P Power Vice President

Jeremiah Northup Chairman
of the Council

William Garvie

Secretary

Rob. L. Weatherbe

Secy.

To The

Honble Mather B. Almon

Halifax Nova Scotia
July 19th 1866

Sir

Annexed you will please receive a copy of a letter addressed by us to The Hon. Joseph Howe – which letter fully explains itself.

We have now to request you will proceed to London – place yourself in communication with Her Majesty's Ministers and jointly with Mr Howe urge the cause set forth in the Petitions addressed to the House of Commons – asking that no Confederation of the Provinces of British North America be consummated [consummated] without the question being first referred [referred] to the People at the Polls.

We have the Honor to be Sir

Your Obedient Servants

on behalf of the Council of the
League of the Maritime Provinces }

Wm J Stairs Vice President

P. Power Vice President

Jeremiah Northup Chairman
of the Council

William Garvie

Secretary

Rob. L. Weatherbe

Asst Secretary

To

William Annand Esqr

"Copy"

Halifax Nova Scotia
July 5th 1866

Sir

You are aware that at the last General Election in Nova Scotia the subject of a Union of the Provinces was never discussed either in the Newspapers or at the Hustings, and that the opinions of the people in any legal form were not collected either upon the abstract question or upon any form of Union.

You are aware that it has been announced in the organs of the Provincial Government that delegates are to be sent to England in the Steamer of the 19th July with power to arrange in conjunction with Delegates from some of the other Colonies a new scheme of Government for British America, which it is designed to embody in an act of the Imperial Parliament, to be passed if those Delegates can induce Her Majesty's Government to assume the responsibility of such a measure.

The people of Nova Scotia are naturally very anxious to know whether her Majesty's Government will seriously entertain this proposition, and if so what time will be allowed after the measure is prepared and printed, for them to review, and should it appear objectionable, petition against it. We have therefore to request that you will at once proceed to England and put yourself in Communication with Her Majesty's Government in order to ascertain these facts that necessary steps may be taken without delay to prevent the two Houses of Parliament being misled.

The scheme of Government arranged at Quebec in 1864, you are aware was distasteful to all the Maritime Provinces and could not be presented and carried in any one the four Legislatures then existing. Though Elections have since been held in New Brunswick and Newfoundland, the undersigned believe that that scheme could not in either of those Provinces be carried now, and yet they remember with grave apprehensions for the future, that if they had had the power that most unjust and injurious measure would have been forced upon all the Provinces by its framers. A new one is promised now, and it may be better than the last.

but whatever it is the undersigned believe that it should be most carefully matured and only presented to the Imperial Parliament after the most full and ample discussion in all the Provinces whose Institutions it is proposed to revolutionize and whose revenues are to be swept away

Two years ago the public mind was tranquil and our people mutually respecting and prepared to help each other, contrasted the blessings they enjoyed with the disturbed state of things across the frontier, and were content.

All this is changed and the undersigned venture to assert that there has been more distrust, animosity and bitter feelings generated of this Quebec Conference and pervading all the Provinces, than has disturbed Society since their first foundation.

The undersigned have seen at a moment when the Provinces were threatened with invasion, the public mind disturbed by rash attempts at innovation, and they see now propositions seriously made by prominent legislators in the Congress of the United States who are publicly entering the field in competition with Canada, for the possession of the Provinces and for a formal transfer of the allegiance of British Subjects.

All this is strange in British America and the people of Nova Scotia sincerely believe that if any attempt is made in the interests of Canada for her territorial aggrandizements or to relieve her from political perplexities; to break down without the consent of their inhabitants, the system under which all the Provinces have prospered in peace and loyalty, the bitter feuds which now disturb society may Culminate in changes which none of us desire to contemplate and all of us will deplore. In view of a future so full of peril the people of Nova Scotia desire to discharge their duty to their Sovereign, to Her Majesty's Ministers and to the two Houses of Parliament, and before they are committed to changes which they foresee will be disastrous, claim at least the opportunity to review the contemplated measure and to put their opinions upon record.

The undersigned cannot believe that Statesmen whose lives are guarantees for the liberality of their sentiments and who rightly appreciate the keen sense of justice which distinguishes the great nation over whose Counsels they preside will ever countenance the policy proposed.

If the elected Aldermen of any English City were in violation of their trust to attempt to transfer the control of its Government and of its Revenues to any other Corporation without the consent of their constituents they would have to look elsewhere than to Ministers of the Crown and to Members of the British Parliament for aid to consummate such a bargain, and the undersigned do not believe that the act will be regarded as less reprehensible [reprehensible] when the Government of a Noble Province, inhabited by a spirited and loyal people who have committed no fault, is attempted to be transferred to a distant authority by those who were mere tenants for a limited term and had no right to alienate the trusts committed to their care.

You will endeavour to make Her Majesty's Government sensible that the people of this Province are contented and happy as they are, but that if Changes for which they see no necessity are to be discussed, then those changes should be matured with great deliberation, propounded in clear and explicit terms, and that before any measure is submitted to the Imperial Parliament it ought [ought] to be accepted by the people whose future it is to affect. Should Her Majesty's Government, as we cannot doubt they will, acquiesce in the reasonableness of this policy you will inform us at your earliest convenience.

Should we be disappointed you will then take whatever steps you may consider prudent and legitimate to have the true interests of our Country understood by the people and Parliament at home.

Should it appear desirable other gentlemen will be sent home to assist you and petitions to the House of Commons, now being extensively signed will be forwarded by the next and subsequent mails

We have the honor to be

Sir

Yours Truly

on behalf of the Council of the
League of the Maritime Provinces

Wm J Stairs
P. Power
Jeremiah Northup

Vice President
Vice President
Chairman
of the Council

William Garvie
Secretary
Rob L. Weatherbe
Secretary

The Honble
Joseph Howe

London

25 Saville Row

March 2, 1867.

My dear Stairs

McDonald goes out by this Boat and will give you all the News. I wish it was more cheering.

From the moment that the Cabinet determined to adopt the Delegates Bill I felt that our difficulties would be greatly increased if they did not become unsurmountable. As the paragraph in the Queen's Speech threw upon its framers the entire responsibility of the measure there was still some ground for hope that, though compelled to accept the policy of their predecessors they might not be very hearty in the cause. If so, their followers might be left on the loose, and there was still a chance to play the game of obstruction. From the moment, however, that the intention of the Cabinet was declared Carnarvon's movements were rapid. Within ten days after the introduction of the Bill into the Lords it has been rushed through all its stages with unusual if not indecent haste. Carnarvon took the ground taken before the Canadian Parliament that it was a Treaty between the Colonies that could not be changed or amended. As he sent us an invitation to see the Show McDonald and I attended at the three readings. The reports will give you an idea of what was said and McDonald will convey to you the spirit of the scene. Nothing could be more depressing than the utter indifference displayed to the wishes, the interests or the future fortunes of North America. On the first night, out of Compliment to Carnarvon about 50 Peers out of 450, including three Bishops out of 28, were in their places. When he concluded half of them went away. Lord Normanby, whose old Dispatches were not produced, recanted his opinions, and thinking only of the Petitions that Tupper got up against him, expressed the opinion that ours should not be regarded. Monk quoted Pitt's opinion out of one of Tupper's letters and talked nonsense with some fluency. Russell quoted some old opinion of Sir James Kempts, which amounted to this that a Union of the Provinces could not be thought of till there was a road between them. Lord Lyveden expressed regret that Nova Scotia had not been allowed to have an election, and there the farce ended and the question on the reading of the Bill was taken with twenty Peers only in their seats. When Normanby

told us that we might set up for ourselves or annex ourselves to the United States there was not a dissenting voice or any protest against the doctrine.

On the evening appointed for the second reading there was a question about the Irish tenures, which of course interested those Peers who had Irish Estates. There was a fair attendance, and as long as that subject was debated they remained and talked and listened eagerly—When it was over more than half of them left the House and our Bill was pushed through with the most sublime indifference.

On the third reading Lord Campbell and Stratheaden, a son of the late Lord Campbell who wrote the lives of the Chancellors made a vain attempt to provoke debate. There was a thin attendance which grew less by degrees till the Bill passed finally with ten noble Lords on the Benches.

The same game of rapid manipulation was tried in the Commons, but elicited a manly protest from Mr. Hadfield. The Bill, when brought down from the Lords is read a first time as a matter of Courtesy and of Course. With most unusual haste Adderly fixed the second reading for the next day before the Measure had been printed and put into the hands of the Members. Fortunately I had seen and posted Mr Bright, who like a manly fellow as he is, gave us his support. You will see the Debate in the Papers. The chief speakers were Adderley who made a poor fist of it and Cardwell who spoke well. I came in for high Compliments here as in the Lords, with some misrepresentation, which I shall set right in a letter to Sir John Parkington. Of course Mr Watkins language, and Lord Normanby's (coming from men to whom on this measure I stand opposed) and pronounced before the two Houses of Parliament and in presence of all the Delegates, who have been maligning me for a year, would have been of some value, could I have thought much of my own personal interests and honor when my country was being sacrificed.

The motion to go into Committee on the Bill stands for Monday, but Adderly admits it cannot be taken up on that day, but a day for doing so will then be named. Indeed it is not improbable that it may be staved off till the great battle on the franchise takes place. At present the Ministry appears very shaky, and I should not be surprised if they were out within the next ten

days. A dissolution may come but is unlikely as both parties are naturally anxious if they can to avoid the bother and expense of an Election.

As there was no chance of defeating the Bill on the second reading I thought it was better to put the Petitions in just before the Bill is taken up in Committee and make our strong point the plea of delay. This will be done. Lowe has promised me to speak upon the Bill and I hope there will be others to give us a lift. If they will let me go to the Bar I will but am yet doubtful whether the privilege will be accorded. I wish I had better news for you. All the Delegates but Henry & Tilly go home by this Boat -

McDonald has been very useful and his Society very pleasant. He silenced Henry & Tupper in the Newspaper Controversy they provoked very effectually.

Garvie will give me his assistance now till all is over. With Kind regards to all friends

Believe me

Sincerely Yours

Joseph Howe

Wm. J. Stairs Esq

London

25 Saville Row

April 13, 1867.

My dear Stairs,

In my first Pamphlet and again in Annands we took the ground that to attempt to build up a New Nation beside the United States would be regarded as a menace, and lead to retaliatory measures and policy which the Confederacy would be in no condition to resist.

This opinion was scoffed at by the Delegates and put aside as hardly requiring discussion but a good many people were compelled to think of it more seriously when the News flashed across the wires that Russian America had been sold to the United and that the British Legation at Washington was much exercised about the matter. The fact is that nobody there, or here, had the slightest hint or suspicion that any such thing was going on. The surprize was perfect, and everybody felt that England, to say nothing of the magnitude of the territory transferred, had received, in the very manner of it, a diplomatic slap in the face. The papers have been much exercised, and although they try to comfort themselves with the idea that the Country is all ice and snow and of no value, there is a wide spread and uneasy feeling that the cession indicates a firm alliance between two great Powers, and that Russia has secured the aid of the United States whenever she is ready to strike a blow in the East, and that Russia can be relied on to sympathize whenever Jonathan is ready to absorb the "new dominion."

I had, at first, a great mind to republish our prophecies and to their early fulfillment but, on reflection, decided that it would be a waste of time.

This territory, which was of no great value to the Russians who did not know what to do with it, will soon be turned to account by our active minded neighbors. Besides the huge block of mountainous and frozen Country, as large as Canada, in which nobody yet knows what minerals, furs and Swiss Valleys may yet be found there, they have now acquired 1500 miles of additional Coast line on the Pacific studded with Islands, with any quantity

of fish and fine timber. About half of this coast line shuts in our territory. By this Session, British Columbia, which has just joined the Confederacy is completely sandwiched, and about 1000 miles of land frontier is thrown open. The Yankees command both sides of her, and can squeeze and press her by intrusions and vexed questions every day of the year. Active young fellows from the Eastern States will go out and enliven all the seacoast with their industry, and the growing and prosperous populations on both sides of our Province will soon be compelled to throw down the barriers.

There are symptoms here of squabbling about where the Intercolonial is to go, and who are to make it. The English Combination which was aided in getting the money is watched by Canadians Clustering here who have interests of their own and are determined to go snacks I should not be much surprised if there was a very pretty quarrel as time wears on.

There is to be a Boat Race on the Thames tomorrow between the young fellows of Cambridge and Oxford. It creates more excitement than would be occasioned if British America were sunk in the sea.

Believe me

Truly Yours,

Joseph Howe

Wm J. Stairs Esq

I send Sheets of the Journals that you may have the Official Record of the presentation of the Petition.

Note to

C. B.

Adderley

& reply.

London

14 Hanover St.,

March 28, 1868.

Sir

We are having here an illustration of the reverse of the old saying that "the longest way round is the shortest way home" It certainly is not in the case of Addresses to the Crown, as you will see by copies of two letters which we have the honor to enclose

The delay, however, is rather fortunate than otherwise as it gives us time to have our case thoroughly aired in the Press before it comes before Parliament or the Colonial Office in any formal shape. Time is also afforded for personal intercourse and negotiation with leading Members of Parliament which day by day we endeavour to improve

We have forwarded to the Halifax and other Papers Copies of the Articles, which, so far as we have observed, our grievances have elicited from leading organs of public opinion in this Country. You will be gratified to perceive that all of these are favorable and decided. There are some Scotch and Lancashire Papers that have also spoken out, but the articles have not come to hand. So far no unfavorable editorial Notice has appeared.

General Doyle reached London on Thursday night and is quite well.

The Irish Church question will occupy all the next week. Then will come the Easter recess of ten days. We shall make the most of this interval and be ready, should the Colonial Secretary give us no redress, to bring our case before Parliament when it re-assembles.

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your very Obedient Servants

Joseph Howe
William Annand
Henry W. Smith
J. C. Troop

The Hon
William B. Vail

London

14 Hanover Street

May 22d 1868

Dear Sir

As the petition signed by Members of both Houses was framed before any Delegation was appointed and contained no prayer to be heard by Counsel at the Bar we thought it advisable that it should be accompanied by another claiming that privilege – A copy of this document is enclosed

Both petitions were presented by Mr. Bright on the Sixteenth instant, who on a subsequent night moved to have them printed. We were in hopes that an early day would have been named for the discussion of them but as the pressure of public business was great and the Whitsuntide Holidays intervening we found it impossible to obtain an earlier day than the 16th of June on which day we trust the subject will be taken up and finally disposed of.

We regret this delay very much on our own account but much more because of the suspense and anxiety it must occasion at home.

The Colonial Secretary has not yet communicated the decision of the Government but we assume that it will be unfavourable, and if so it does not appear probable, in the present state of parties, with the utter indifference displayed on all questions except that all engrossing one upon which the fate of the Ministry depends that the decision, whatever it may be will be reversed by Parliament. A repeal of the Act pure and simple, without enquiry or investigation, Mr. Bright tells us it is vain to hope for, but he thinks that a motion for independent enquiry into the whole subject by a Royal Commission may be favorably entertained.

You will perceive, however that the prayer of both petitions is in conformity with the general wish of our people and with our instructions

Yours truly

Joseph Howe
W. Annand
J. C. Troop
H. W. Smith

Hon Provincial
Secretary

Provincial Secretary's Office

Halifax, N. S. 27th Octr - 1868

Gentlemen

I have the honor by command to forward to you the following copy of a Minute of Council passed and confirmed on the 26th inst.

"His Honor by the advice of the Council was pleased to appoint the Honbles William Annand and R. A. McHeffey as Delegates to proceed to Prince Edward's Island to confer with the Government there on the subject of closer Political and Trade relations"

I have the honor to be

Gentlemen

Your obdt. Servt.

W. B. Vail

Pro Sec

To

Hon. Wm Annand & }

Hon. R. A. McHeffey }