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Historical and Genealogical Record of the First Settlers of Colchester County, N.S. - 1873

CA0322



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About this CD.

Historical and Genealogical Record of the First Settlers of Colchester County, N.S. - 1873 The full title continues, "... down to the present time, compiled from the most authentic sources by Thomas Miller."

Thomas was born in 1803, and lived his life in and around Truro, probably the largest town of the county. Thus, he was well placed both geographically and temporally to make this record of many of the original families inhabiting this part of Nova Scotia. In his own words:

"The author of the following work being now about three score and ten years old, and nearly done with the affairs of this world, having some knowledge of the first settlement of Colchester, the names of the first settlers and their descendants, especially of the Townships of Truro and Onslow, as well as with many circumstances connected with the early settlement of the County, obtained by tradition and otherwise, was induced to note down, from time to time, some of them, in order that his children, and others who may come after, might know something about their forefathers, and the hardships they underwent in settling a new country.

It was his intention at first to write only about his own kindred; but, having begun, he was led on to mention nearly all the Grantees of the Townships of Truro, and some of Onslow and Londonderry, with their descendants, as far as he could gather information..."

This book then is a powerhouse of genealogical information for this important access corridor to Nova Scotia, with perhaps as much as 90% of the book's text being dedicated to describing the many family trees while only the first couple and the last chapters are more specifically dedicated to a exploration of the area's history without relating it to particular families or individuals.

The author finishes his book with a four page index providing, mostly, a means to access individual family names. Having now the benefit of computer search-ability in this digital reproduction, we can definitely say that this was very much a partial index and that owning this digital version will provide a significant improvement in the readers ability to extract the "gold" from this "mine."

We have noticed a few peculiarities in the wording of this book which should be borne in mind - particularly when formulating search terms. When describing the successive generations of a family the author frequently - possible always - refers to individuals by their first two Given names only and one needs to peruse the adjacent text closely to confirm the Family name. It has been our experience that this can be somewhat confusing and we strongly recommend sketching out the family tree being described to fully understand the information being provided. Some of the spelling of names, etc., is somewhat vague and may even change within a few lines. Be sure to make allowances for these peculiarities to obtain the best from the book.

HISTORICAL

AND

GENEALOGICAL RECORD

OF THE

FIRST SETTLERS OF COLCHESTER COUNTY.

DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME,

COMPILED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

EY

THOMAS MILLER.

HALIFAX, N. S: A. & W. MACKINLAY, 1873.

PREFACE.

THE Author of the following work being now about three score and ten years old, and nearly done with the affairs of this world, having some knowledge of the first settlement of Colchester, the names of the first settlers and their descendants, especially of the Townships of Truro and Onslow, as well as with many circumstances connected with the early settlement of the County, obtained by tradition and otherwise, was induced to note down, from time to time, some of them, in order that his children, and others who may come after, might know something about their forefathers, and the hardships they underwent in settling a new country.

It was his intention at first to write only about his own kindred; but, having begun, he was led on to mention nearly all the Grantees of the Townships of Truro, and some of Onslow and Londonderry, with their descendants, as far as he could gather information. By the persuasion of a number of his friends, he has been induced to place it before the public. In doing so, it is with a great amount of diffidence, knowing his want of fitness for the work—being illiterate and ill-qualified for the task.

If the dates in this work are not correct, the author here claims the forbearance of those interested, as he has expended a large amount of time and labour to get them as nearly correct as possible.

To all those who have given me information by letter or otherwise, I hereby tender my warm and hearty thanks for these favours.

THOMAS MILLAR.

TRURO, APRIL, 1873.

Matthew Taylor Archibald, the second son of Matthew and Janet, was born in Truro, November 17th, 1774. He was married to Jane Guild, of Musquodoboit, September 15th, 1801. Janet, their eldest daughter, was born May 21st, 1803. She was married to Alexander McCurdy in the year 1819, and had six sons and three daughters. William Guild Archibald, the eldest son of Matthew T. and Jane Archibald, was born in Musquodoboit, May 21st, 1805. married to Nancy, daughter of Ebenezer Archibald and Rebecca Christie, March 17th, 1830. Mary Ann, the eldest daughter of William G. and Nancy Archibald, was born in Musquodoboit October, 1836. She was married to Robert Read, October, 1856. They have three sons and two daughters. Ellen Jane, the second daughter of William G. and Nancy Archibald, was born January 1838. She was married to William H. Cumminger in the year 1857. Edward, the eldest son of William G. and Nancy Archibald, was born October, 1840. He was licensed to preach the Gospel, but is now teaching in Canada. John, their second son, was born September 15th, 1843. He is now a barrister in Montreal. Isaac, their youngest son, was born June 8th, 1846. He was married to Mary, only daughter of John McCurdy and Mary A. Tupper, Oct. 12th, 1871. Matthew T. Archibald's wife, Jane, died November 5th, 1808, and he was married again to Margaret Braydon July 5th, 1810. Their daughter, Jane Guild was born June 5th. 1811. She was married to William Guild, and had five sons and five daughters. Matthew T. Archibald's second wife, died in the year 1815. He was married again to Mary Lord, July 29th, 1816. Matthew James, their eldest son, was born January 21st, 1819. He was married to Elizabeth Jane Braydon, December 6th, 1842. Matthew Taylor, the eldest son of Matthew James and Elizabeth Jane Archibald, was born in Musquodoboit October 13th, 1843. Emma Jane, their eldest daughter was born July 4th, 1845. She was married to Samuel Irvin, December 10th, 1868. Mary Lord, the second daughter of Matthew James and Elizabeth Jane Archibald, was born October 8th, 1847. William H., their second son, was born July 6th, 1850. Elizabeth Jane, their third daughter, was born May 29th, 1852. Hannah P., their fourth daughter, was born October 12th, 1854. Isaac Adams, the third son of Matthew James and Elizabeth Jane Archibald, was born July 6th, Sarah M., the youngest daughter of Matthew T. and Mary Archibald, was born January 24th, 1821. She was married to William Scott Hutchison, in November 1841. They had three sons and John, the third son of John and Jane Smith, was born May 17th, 1808. He was married to Mercy P., eldest daughter of Charles Tucker, Esq., and Mercy Parker Polley, December 13th, 1831.

Rebecca Hughes, the only daughter of John and Mercy P. Smith, was born January 14th, 1833. She was married to William Smith, the third son of David H. Crow and Mary Smith, of Onslow, January, 1856. They had four daughters. Charles Tucker, the eldest son of John and Mercy P. Smith, was born August 19th, John William, their second son, was born December 25th, He was married to Sarah Smith, of Cape Breton, February Melville, their third son, 26th, 1868. They have two daughters. was born May 9th, 1842. He removed to the United States. George, their fourth son, was born January 16th, 1845. He was married to Margaret Mary, daughter of the Rev. William Summerville and Sarah Dickey, December 8th, 1868. They have one daughter. He died November 24th, 1872. Henry, their fifth son, was born November 3rd, 1849. He removed to the United States, where he is carrying on the harness making business. Eldridge, their sixth son, was born October 3rd, 1854. Mrs. Smith died October 23rd, 1868, aged 54. He was married again to Margaret Mary, the youngest daughter of William Archibald and Susan Putnam, widow of the late Colin McLennon, of Pictou, August 11th, 1870.

William, the fourth son of John and Jane Smith, was born April 3rd, 1810. He was married to Louisa, daughter of John Higgins and Hannah Stevens, of Onslow, July 17th, 1835. Mary Jane, their eldest daughter, was born September 19th, 1843. She was married to George Embree, of Amherst, February 17th, 1862. They have two sons and three daughters. Amos Burton, the only son of Wm. and Louisa Smith, was born August 9th, 1846. On Dec. 10th, 1862, he was engaged with his gun in his father's house at Wallace River. In setting the gun down on the floor carelessly, it went off and the contents lodged in his brain, causing instant death. Lavinia, their second and youngest daughter, was born January 6th, 1850. She was married to Roderick McLain, of Pictou, February 23rd, 1871. They have one son.

Alison Jamison, the third daughter of John and Jane Smith, was born March 4th, 1813. She was married to James Whidden, the youngest son of John Corbett and Mary Flemming, April 3rd, 1833. They removed to Pictou, near New Glasgow, where she died February 24th, 1834, aged 21 years. Her body was brought to Truro and

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