

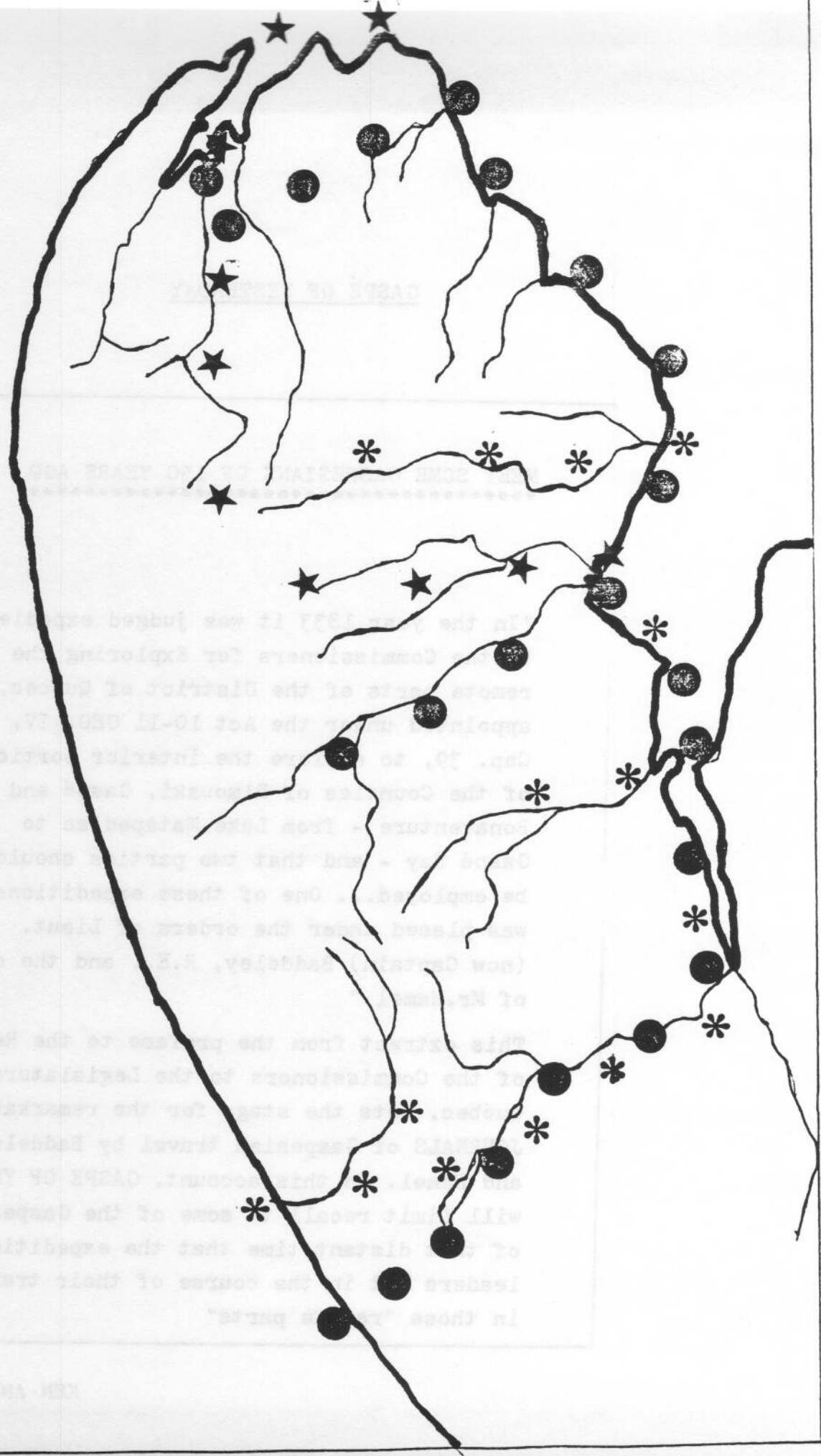
GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

MEET SOME GASPESIANS OF 150 YEARS AGO  
\*\*\*\*\*

"In the year 1833 it was judged expedient by the Commissioners for Exploring the remote parts of the District of Québec, appointed under the Act 10-11 GEO. IV, Cap. 39, to explore the interior portions of the Counties of Rimouski, Gaspé and Bonaventure - from Lake Matapédiac to Gaspé Bay - and that two parties should be employed... One of these expeditions was placed under the orders of Lieut. (now Captain) Baddeley, R.E., and the other of Mr.Hamel."

This extract from the preface to the Report of the Commissioners to the Legislature of Québec, sets the stage for the remarkable JOURNALS of Gaspesian travel by Baddeley and Hamel. In this account, GASPE OF YESTERDAY will limit recall to some of the Gaspesians of that distant time that the expedition leaders met in the course of their travels in those "remote parts"

ROUTES OF TRAVEL IN GASEPPIA - 1833



● LIEUT. BADDELEY, R.E.

★ MR. EVRINGTON

\* MR. HAMEL

## MEET SOME GASPESIANS OF 150 YEARS AGO

### THE COMMISSIONERS

Though legislation often appears to have a penchant for spawning new committees and commissions that are ephemeral and whose members soon fade from public memory, the Commission appointed to promote the exploration of the "remote parts" of the District of Quebec brought together three men of such stature and repute that it is eminently fitting to recall them.

DANIEL WILKIE, M.A., LL.D., a clergyman and educator of Scottish origin, was for many decades one of the best known and widely respected personalities of Québec. He was a Founder and the first Rector of the High School of Québec and a distinguished Editor of the newspaper, "STAR". His son, John Wilkie, as the Prothonotary of the District of Gaspé, resided at New Carlisle. Through his marriage with Martha Sophia, daughter of Oliver and Annabella Stewart O'Hara, John Wilkie was linked with the prominent Gaspeian families of O'Hara and Stewart.

WILLIAM HENDERSON, born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, came to Québec with his father, David, in 1820 at the age of ten years. He grew up in the city of Québec to enter the lumber business which was then a dominant factor in the economic life of Québec. By the 1830's, when he served as a Commissioner, he had risen to the important post of Superintendent of the influential lumber firm, Allan, Gilmour and Co. of Wolfe's Cove.

The family name of the third Commissioner, the Hon. WILLIAM SHEPPARD and the personal names of his children are recalled by street names in the modern City of Sillery. Prominent and influential in the lumber trade, ship-building and government, William Sheppard was but one of several Sheppard men of note. James Sheppard was for many years the Sheriff of Québec. Gaspeians will recall that Martin Sheppard, a son of William Sheppard of Guernsey, C.I. was likewise Sheriff of the District of Gaspé and widely known from Gaspé Bay to Restigouche in that capacity and as a Notary.



THE EXPEDITION LEADERS

As noted in the preface, the Commissioners delegated responsibility for the actual exploration of Gaspé to Mr. Hamel and Lieut. Baddeley.

JOSEPH HAMEL, a Provincial Surveyor, was a member of the old and distinguished Hamel family that counted many of its members prominent in the affairs of Church and State. Joseph Hamel was no stranger to the exploration of the Québec wilderness regions. He had participated previously in the expedition that had explored the Saguenay and Lake St. John region together with Andrew Stuart and Lieut. Baddeley. His JOURNAL provides evidence that he was both a skilled woodsman and keen observer. Evidently bilingual, if not trilingual by a certain mastery of the Indian language, he appears to have had fewer illusions about the abilities of his Indian helpers than Lieut. Baddeley and, consequently, fewer problems in making his way through the wilderness.

LIEUT. FREDERICK HENRY BADDELEY, R.E., born in London, England, had graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. He was on active service in Europe during the Napoleonic Wars and prior to his posting to Québec in 1821 had served in the West Indies. In Québec from 1821 to 1837 he married and had several of the children born to him and his wife, Susan Green Baddeley, baptised at Holy Trinity Cathedral. He was a charter member of the Literary and Historical Society of Québec. Prior to his travels in Gaspesia he had explored the Saguenay and the Magdalen Islands.

After leaving Québec, Baddeley served at Kingston and Toronto in Canada, and in Australia and New Zealand. He rose to the rank of Major-General in the British Army. In retirement he lived in Jersey, C.I. where he died in 1879.

Lieut. Baddeley's volunteer companion in the Gaspé expedition was MR. EVRINGTON. He had grown up in the coal mining district of England had worked at the mining of coal for some years prior to his coming to Canada. Therefore he had much practical experience of mining and a good general knowledge of geology that he could contribute to the Gaspé survey. His JOURNAL reveals that he was a man of great determination as evidenced by his ascent of the York River, traverse of the wilderness interior of Gaspesia to the upper course of the Little Cascapedia River and descent of that stream to Bay Chaleur.

ROUTES OF THE GASPESIAN EXPEDITIONS

On September 4, 1833 the Hamel and Baddeley parties embarked at Québec on the schooner "LAZY", Captain Nicholas Allard, outbound for the Lower St. Lawrence. At Grand Metis the party of Lieut. Baddeley and Mr. Evrington disembarked at the Seigniory of Métis and made camp near the store of the Seignior, John McNider, [ Ref.- GASPE OF YESTERDAY- THE SEIGNIORY OF METIS - SPEC- JULY 10,1980] preparatory to moving inland towards Lake Matapedia. Joseph Hamel, with his helper, Stanislas Vincent, continued on with the schooner "LAZY" to Matane where they went ashore at the Seigniory of Matane, then ruled by the Seignioress Widow Fraser, [ Ref.-GASPE OF YESTERDAY - THE SEIGNIORY OF MATANE - SPEC- MAY 27,1981 ]

The Baddeley-Evrington party, moving inland, reached Lake Matapedia and then followed the valleys of the rivers Matapedia and Restigouche to the Micmac Indian Mission of Cross Point. After a call at Dalhousie they were conveyed on the schooner of Robert Christie down the coast of Bay Chaleur to Grand River. From there Baddeley and some of his Indian helpers proposed to ascend the Grand River to its headwaters while Evrington continued by sea to Gaspé Basin with the view of ascending the York river and to meet with the Baddeley party deep in the interior for a joint traverse of the wilderness to the upper Cascapedia River. Baddeley's plan, however, went awry because of the difficulty of the terrain and the incompetence of his guides. Unable to continue the ascent of the Grand River, and after wandering in the forest primeval for some days, he found himself in the valley of the St. John River, whence he crossed to that of the York and reached civilization at Gaspé Basin. From there he dispatched an Indian messenger to find Evrington, up-river on the York, so as to advise him of his revised plans to procede via Bay Chaleur from Gaspé to Cascapedia where he would meet him at the Forks on that river.

Mr. Evrington, in what must stand as an epic of wilderness travel in Gaspesia, made his way from the headwaters of the York river westward through unknown and difficult terrain towards the sources of the Cascapedia. Faced with bad weather and a shortage of provisions he got as far as the upper reaches of the Little Cascapedia river which stream he descended, by raft, to Bay Chaleur. Baddeley, having waited in vain for Evrington at the Forks of the Grand Cascapedia, returned to Bay Chaleur where he was reunited with his companion. They regained

the schooner "LAZY", Captain Allard, for the return journey to Québec via Bonaventure Island, Cape Gaspé, Anticosti Island and the St. Lawrence.

Joseph Hamel, meanwhile, proceeded inland along the valley of the Matane River to Lake Awagantsits and, traversing the uncharted wilderness, found and followed a stream that brought his party to Lake Matapedia about half-way along the eastern side. Following the Matapedia River he reached the Restigouche Indian Mission. From Cross Point he proceeded, by canoe, to Dalhousie and from thence to Point "Megouacha" and along the coast of Bay Chaleur to the mouth of the River Bonaventure. After exploration of the Bonaventure and Nouvelle River valleys, Hamel was obliged by the lateness of the season to start on his return to Québec. Making his way by the overland route via Matapedia and Métis he embarked at Métis on the schooner, "BEAVER", Captain Fraser. He reached Québec in mid-November after nine weeks of Gaspesian travel by land and sea.

#### MEETING WITH GASPESIANS OF 1833

As three JOURNALS, those of Baddeley, Evrington and Hamel, were incorporated with the official REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS, and each reflected the experience of the author in following a particular route in Gaspesia, any plan of introducing the various Gaspesians that they met in their travels is necessarily subjective. For the purpose of this account the plan adopted begins with the landings of Baddeley and Hamel at Métis and Matane, respectively, and attempts to trace, as sequentially as possible, their meeting with Gaspesians from those communities on the St. Lawrence to Restigouche and thence along Bay Chaleur to Gaspé Basin.

#### . CAPTAIN BRANT

On landing from the schooner, "LAZY" at Métis, the Baddeley party made camp near the store of the Seignior of Métis, John McNider. There they met Captain Brant who told them that he had been living at Métis for the past thirteen years. From him they learned that the "road" inland to Lake Matapedia was not fit even for a cart. He helped them find and engage other Indian helpers to carry their equipment and supplies.



## . DANIEL MCKINNON

On landing at Matane, Joseph Hamel met Daniel McKinnon who made him welcome in his home while arrangements were made for his travel inland. The McKinnon household consisted of Daniel, his sister, and their aged parents. Mr. McKinnon, Senior, then 100 years of age, and his wife, 90 years, had come to Matane from Inverness, Scotland, in 1771, when Mr. McKinnon's brother, Lieut. Donald McKinnon had acquired the Seigniory of Matane from the heirs of the D'Amours family.

Hamel had nothing but praise for the hospitality and help of Daniel McKinnon, stating that without him he would have had great difficulty in procuring men for his expedition.

In an interesting, contemporary account of Matane, Hamel wrote of the Seignioress, the Widow Fraser, of the Roman Catholic Chapel, "lately built on land given by the Seignioress", of local Flour and Saw Mills and of " a superb limestone quarry".

. PIERRE CARTIER  
SIMON PIPE  
NICOLAS LAMARTE

Cartier and Lamarte were Micmac Indians and Simon Pipe a man of Indian and European parentage engaged by Hamel for his expedition.

Cartier absconded with money advanced to him but Pipe and Lamarte were faithful helpers.

. MAJOR F. FOURNIER  
MAJOR A.J.WOLFF  
LIEUT. E.FOURNIER

As the Baddeley party moved inland from Métis and reached the termination of the "road" at Lake Matapedia, they noted a marker bearing the following inscription:

"ROAD 25 MILES, 51 CHAINS, FROM HENCE TO POINT A SNELLES AT GRAND METIS. THIS ROAD WAS TRACED BY MAJOR F. FOURNIER AND SON, 1829, AND MADE BY MAJOR A.J.WOLFF IN 1830 - ERIC J.FOURNIER, ARPENTEUR."

[For an account of the KEMPT ROAD see GASPE OF YESTERDAY - SPEC - NOV.11, 1980]

With regard to the tragic end of Eric J. Fournier, Joseph Hamel found, and recorded in his JOURNAL, the following inscription on a flat rock near rapids in the Matapedia valley:

"ERIC FOURNIER, SURVEYOR AND LIEUTENANT OF MARINES,  
DROWNED ON 6th JUNE, 1831, AGED 22."

In the course of survey work, Eric Fournier had attempted to run the rapids on a raft which capsized in the turbulent waters.

[ Baddeley noted that an early survey of part of the route had been made by Mr. Hay at the time that he was in the employ of Mr. McNider of Métis.

Other reports on the Matapedia Valley route were made by Edward I. Mann and William Macdonald]

. PIERRE BROCHU The first settler on the Kempt Road route, Pierre Brochu, was custodian of the Government Post near the site of modern Sayabec. Both Baddeley and Hamel met him in the course of their travels. Hamel noted that the Post was situated upon a fine Point on the South East side of the lake near the river St. Malo, so called from Brochu having felled the first tree there on 15 November 1831, St. Malo's Day. The farm of Brochu, with 15 arpents of cultivated land in 1833, was distinct from the Post and reached by canoe. Baddeley's JOURNAL noted: "Brochu receives a small salary from the Provincial Government for the sacrifice he makes in the name of humanity. The object of locating Mr. Brochu in this sequestered spot is to afford the chance of relief to individuals travelling between the Bay of Chaleur and the St. Lawrence. We had proof the very day of our arrival - upon visiting Mr. Brochu we found a man seated at his board so weak and feeble from exhaustion and hunger that he could scarcely partake of the food set before him - it was supposed that he was some runaway from the Bay but he would not or could not afford us any information on that subject.....we crossed over in canoes to the residence of Mr. Brochu."



[ It is significant to note that neither Baddeley nor Hamel reported any other Post or settler in the Matapedia Valley from that of Pierre Brochu to the farm of George Dickson, some eight miles upstream from the Restigouche Mission. There was an Indian camp at Salmon Lake - a very primitive encampment visited by Archdeacon George J. Mountain in 1826.]

- . PATRICK DOYLE Joseph Hamel, in descending the Matapedia below Salmon Lake, came upon the lumber shanty of Patrick Doyle, who was engaged in the cutting of pine timber.
- . WILLIAM CHURCH At the junction of the Pesquiamin and Matapedia rivers William Church had a saw-mill.
- . GEORGE DICKSON Hamel visited the farm of George Dickson, located some eight miles from Restigouche. A native of Scotland, Dickson, his wife and three children had settled on the wilderness site, high on a mountain, and cut down the first tree in 1831. By 1833 they had cleared fields producing 60-70 barrels of potatoes, 30 barrels of turnips and a fine crop of oats and hay. Dickson told Hamel that he had no money when he settled but now felt secure.
- . JOHN ADAMS The farm of John Adams was some four miles down stream from that of George Dickson. The family of Adams was one of the first British settlers on the Restigouche - Robert Adams of Aberdeen, Scotland, having arrived there in 1773. Robert married Elizabeth Busted and it is reported that their daughter, Mary, was the first female child born of British parents on the Restigouche. The wife of John Adams was Mary Busted.
- . JOSEPH BERTE Hamel was twice a guest at the home of Joseph Berte ( written by Evrington as Bart) which he described as located on the Restigouche one half mile below the point where tide-water ends.
- . THOMAS BUSTEED Baddeley noted that the farm of Thomas Busted was

at Pointe à Bourdo (Bordeaux), three miles above the wrecks of the French supply ships sunk by the Royal Navy Squadron of Capt. Byron, R.N., in the summer of 1760.

In ploughing his fields, Mr. Busted had found many interesting and valuable relics of the French period. These included China Services, Silver, Implements, Cannon and Shells as old Fort Bordeaux had been located on his property. Thomas Busted had acquired the land from Henry Rimphoff in 1800.

The wife of Thomas Busted was a French lady whose maiden name was Anne Bonne. Her parents had both lost their lives in the French Revolution.

The four children of Thomas and Anne Busted grew up to marry with the offspring of other pioneer British families of the Restigouche.

. ROBERT FERGUSON

Robert Ferguson came to Restigouche with his brother, Alex, who was a partner with Samuel Lee in the rich salmon fishery and lumber resource of the river. On the death of his brother and Samuel Lee, Robert Ferguson acquired their holdings. A man of forceful and determined character he built up a large business in the fishery, trading, shipbuilding and lumbering. His wife was Mary Adams, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Busted Adams.

In discussing the Restigouche salmon fishery with Baddeley, Robert Ferguson told him that he had taken 1000 salmon in a single tide.

The Ferguson home was at Athol, N.B.

. GRAND CHIEF  
FRANCOIS CONDEAU  
ET AL OF THE  
RESTIGOUCHE  
INDIAN MISSION

On arrival at the Indian Mission, Baddeley was accommodated in the house reserved for the use of the Roman Catholic Priest, the Rev. Stanislas Malo of Carleton, who resided at the Mission for six weeks each Spring and a month each Fall. In the absence of Father Malo the Micmacs conducted Church Services themselves - the Sexton of their well-appointed Church being John Coplin .

Received by Grand Chief, Francois Condeau, Baddeley described him as a very respectable old man of 82 years of age. "I was invited to take my seat on his right hand and observed one of the most intelligent countenances and finest heads I ever beheld". The wife of the Grand Chief, their sons and daughters, together with their wives, husbands and progeny attended the reception.

Of the Mission population, in general, Baddeley wrote - "I was really struck by the handsome faces of some of them, both male and female, one of the latter particularly attracted our notice, and had she been dressed à la mode de Londres or Paris, she might have moved through any ball-room the handsomest brunette there..."

From the JOURNAL of Joseph Hamel there was reference to J. Francois Gagnon, acting for his father, the Chief of Warriors and to Joseph Marie Cobesk. At the request of the Micmac Council, Hamel surveyed their lands in October, 1833

Baddeley found that all disputes were referred first for settlement to the Chief, then, if necessary, to the Priest, and only if still unresolved, to the Court.

. ROBERT CHRISTIE Adjoining the two mile frontage of the Indian Mission to the East was the estate of Robert Christie, well-known throughout Gaspesia and Québec as lawyer, politician and historian. The property of "POINT PLEASANT" had first been settled by Colonel Edward Isaac Mann, United Empire Loyalist. Later it had been occupied by Colonel Crawford prior to its acquisition by Robert Christie. In 1833 there was dispute between the Micmac Band and Robert Christie over a part of the estate adjoining the Mission - both Baddeley and Hamel investigated it and tended to favour the Indian's claim. Christie offered the use of his schooner to Baddeley and his party for their trip down Bay Chaleur and accompanied them.



## . CAPT. JOHN HAMILTON

Having arranged with Robert Christie to have his schooner pick them up at Dalhousie, Baddeley and his party continued on from Cross Point by canoe past an Indian camp at Oak Point, Battery Point and Pointe à la Garde, where a French military station had been reduced by the naval forces of Capt. Byron on his way up-river to Restigouche in 1760. They then crossed the wide estuary to the harbour and townsite of Dalhousie, named after the late Governor, the Earl of Dalhousie, on the occasion of his visit there in 1826.

Baddeley noted in his JOURNAL: "The settlement of Dalhousie owes its origin to Captain Hamilton who, about eight years ago, erected the first building upon it. From this circumstance, joined to his respectability, he was justly entitled to have the place named after him, an honour however which he waived in favour of our late Governor, the Earl of Dalhousie"

[Captain John Hamilton was born in King's Cross, Arran, Scotland, in 1788. He may not have been the first to settle at Dalhousie - Mrs. Margaret MacWhirter in TREASURE TROVE IN GASPE gives that honour to Peter Harquail, Dan Roherty and Alex. Dean. However Captain Hamilton helped to make Dalhousie an important lumber and ship-building center and was the builder of the first church - St. John's Presbyterian. He died in his native Scotland in 1868 ]

## . MR. MONTGOMERY

Another prominent citizen of Dalhousie met by Baddeley was Mr. Montgomery, whom he noted - "divides with Capt. Hamilton the honour of having first settled at Dalhousie",

## . DUGAL STEWART

A member of the well-known Stewart family of the Shoolbred Seigniory, Dugal Stewart, was Postmaster of Dalhousie in 1833. He accompanied Baddeley on the schooner of Robert Christie for the sail across

to the Stewart Manor House at Nouvelle, where the party disembarked to enjoy the hospitality of the Stewart family.

. THE IRISH OF  
"MEGOUACHA"

Point Megouacha appears to have been of particular interest to Joseph Hamel. As to the origin of the name he noted in his JOURNAL that it came from two Micmac words - MIGOUEK = RED and SAWK = WALLS. In a further observation he wrote - "There are several Irishmen settled upon lands upon this Point who seem to be tolerably well off..."

. DR. LABILLOIS

The interest of Joseph Hamel in Point Megouacha may find explanation in the following extract from his JOURNAL ; "...I passed the night at Point Megouacha in the home of Dr.LaBillois, an old friend of mine, as well as his lady. I was received with the greatest civility. This gentleman owns here a land of six arpents by thirty-three and a third of which thirty arpents are in the finest state of cultivation. It was at my solicitation that, in 1823, he left a farm which he held on condition of paying a life rent in the Township of Carleton, near Mr.Landry's Grist Mill, and in the midst of society, to cut the first log in the Seigniory of Shoolbred, and he told me that he had never had reason to repent it, unless with respect to the wants of the means of elementary education, which he and his lady are obliged to supply. He has a good house and buildings...has one neighbour, who is a mariner, and consequently absent from home during half of the year..."

Writing in TREASURE TROVE IN GASPE of the LaBillois family, Mrs.Margaret MacWhirter, noted that Dr. LaBillois, of France originally, had served under the Emperor Napoleon, and gave interesting information on his son, Joseph H. LaBillois, and grandson, the Hon. Charles H.LaBillois.

. AUGUSTIN ALLARD  
ET AL OF CARLETON

At Carleton, Joseph Hamel lodged with Augustin Allard, and as he was delayed in that Acadian community by autumn storms, he visited about and recorded the early history of Carleton. He met the Widow Hypolite Landry, eighty years of age. Her father, Charles Dugas, was one of the pioneer settlers together with Benjamin Allain, and Joseph and Benjamin LeBlanc. The Widow Landry had come to Carleton as a child of six years and recalled that her parents had been in Halifax and at Bonaventure for five years before settling at Carleton. Her late husband, Hypolite Landry had built Carleton's Grist Mill, with two runs of stones, on the brook which ran down the West boundary of his land.

At Carleton, Hamel also visited Father Stanislas Malo.

His JOURNAL mentions the Public Schoolhouse of Carleton with its French Schoolmaster paid by the Provincial Government. The school appears to have been located at the base of the sandy Point of Carleton.

Some dozen schooners of 50 to 65 tons, of which the schooner, "LAZY" of Capt. Nicholas Allard was one, sailed from their home ports of Carleton and Maria to Québec, Halifax and the Gulf.

. J-B BERNARD

Hamel found a Micmac settlement of several families at the mouth of the Cascapedia River. He camped near the home of Jean-Baptiste Bernard and left a supply of provisions in his care prior to leaving for Bonaventure.

. AZARIAH PRITCHARD  
JUNIOR.

Though all three JOURNALS refer to the home of Captain Pritchard there is no evidence that Baddeley or Evrington or Hamel met him. The reference would be to the home of Azariah Pritchard, Junior, as his father, Azariah, Sr., had died in 1811.



## . WILLIAM CUTHBERT

The hospitality of William Cuthbert to travellers in Bay Chaleur appears legendary. Baddeley noted: "Arrived at New Richmond or Cascapedia and breakfasted with Mr. Cuthbert, one of the most respectable as well as affluent Merchants in the Bay. His principal occupations appear to be lumbering, building vessels, fishing and farming; upon our arrival he was erecting on his premises a splendid Saw Mill...There is a cod fishery here and a curing house..."

Later, on his return from Gaspé, Baddeley was an overnight guest of William and Christianna Montgomery Cuthbert and when Evrington reached Bay Chaleur after his exhausting descent of the Little Cascapedia river, it was at the Cuthbert home that he found welcome hospitality.

[ Ref. GASPE OF YESTERDAY - WILLIAM CUTHBERT-  
SPEC. MAY 31, 1979 ]

## . JOHN CRUGER

According to CASCAPEDIA BAY HERITAGE - A HISTORY OF NEW RICHMOND AND ENVIRONS, John Cruger, a Scot, settled at New Richmond in 1804. When Joseph Hamel met him in 1833, Cruger warned him of the danger in attempting to round Black Cape with heavily laden canoes. While Hamel's Indians made the attempt, John Cruger guided Hamel through the woods to Caplan River. To their great relief the canoes reached there safely after a perilous trip around Black Cape.

. CHARLES FOREST  
ET AL OF  
BONAVENTURE

Arriving by canoe at Bonaventure harbour, Joseph Hamel lodged with Charles Forest prior to his exploration of the Bonaventure River valley. He met with the Priest, Father Gosselin, and noted fine crops of wheat in the fields of Charles Poirier and Jean Arseneau. Ascending the river, he called at the lumber camp of Bonville and McNeil where he discussed with Mr. McNeil the lands on either side of the upper river. His JOURNAL

provides interesting insight on the settlement and early history of Bonaventure.

[ Ref. GASPE OF YESTERDAY - BONAVENTURE - SPEC. JAN. 20, 1982.]

. MR. HAY

At New Carlisle, Baddeley was a guest of Mr. Hay whom he had met at Dalhousie and who had sailed down Bay Chaleur with him on the schooner of Robert Christie. Before coming to Canada, Hay had been the Steward of an estate in Scotland; at Métis had the same employ at the McNider Seigniory. His home at New Carlisle was located opposite to the Court House and Gaol.

. DR. FELTON

The only medical practitioner of the time in Bay Chaleur, Dr. Felton resided at the home of Mr. Hay in New Carlisle. He had, according to Baddeley, all the politeness and sociability of a well-bred Irishman. Though Dr. Felton's medical duties were no sinecure, extending as they did over so long a line of coast and so scattered a population, he commented that he "found the Inhabitants of the Bay most provokingly healthy !"

. MR. MUNROE

Among the citizens of New Carlisle that Baddeley met at the home of Mr. Hay was Mr. Munroe whom he described as a "gentleman farmer". He described the use of the abundant fish, capelin, to fertilize his fields. This practice was also followed by James Stewart of Gaspé Basin.

. "THE PARK" OF  
HOUSE OF ROBIN

An interesting reminder of the long history and slow pace of change in Gaspesia occurs in Baddeley's reference to the winter residence, "THE PARK", of the House of Robin at Paspebiac, set in its grove of evergreen trees, overlooking Paspebiac Point. Later, at the time of leaving Gaspesia for his return to Québec, Baddeley learned that Mr. Baleine, whom he had met as Robin Agent at Grand River, had been promoted to the Post of Agent at Paspebiac.

. JUDGE JOHN GAWLER  
THOMPSON

The residence of the Hon. Judge John Gawler Thompson was noted as being located to the East of "THE PARK" of the House of Robin at Paspebiac.

[ Ref. GASPE OF YESTERDAY - EARLY JUDGES IN  
THE DISTRICT OF GASPE - SPEC. FEB.21,1980.

. MR.McNEIL

Baddeley visited the Surveyor, Mr.McNeil, at his home some five miles West of Port Daniel. Mr. McNeil kindly provided him with the use of a horse and cart.

. WILLIAM CARTER

Like William Cuthbert of New Richmond, William Carter of Port Daniel was ever ready to extend hospitality to the traveller along Bay Chaleur. He had settled at Port Daniel in 1824 when he purchased the unsettled tract of 550 acres of land from the family of Neil McKinnon, a Scot and old soldier. Carter was active as a farmer, merchant and lumber dealer. Baddeley noted that Carter obtained some 30 tons of wild hay each year from the marshes that were part of his property.

A Justice of the Peace and strong Churchman, Carter was widely known and respected. At the time of the tragic wreck of the "COLBORNE" in October, 1838, the bodies that were recovered were brought to Mr.Carter's Store in Port Daniel for inquest.

. MR.BALEINE

As Agent for the House of Robin at Grand River, Mr. Baleine extended hospitality to Baddeley and helped him prepare for his exploration of the Grand River valley.

On Baddeley's return from Gaspé, he found that Baleine was about to set out in a six-oar boat for Newport to look into the grounding of one of Robin's vessels there, and accepted passage with him. He noted that though Baleine was a young man, he was most civil, assiduous, and competent.



. LELIEVRE  
FAMILY

To the East of Grand River, the fishing station at Little River was the preserve of the Lelièvre family. One incident of his visit there provides one of the rare, lighter accounts of his JOURNAL, where he tells of being conducted over rickety scaffolding above stinking fish refuse by a little Lelièvre lad of ten years of age, who kept repeating - "N'avez pas peur, Monsieur : N'avez pas peur !"

. MR. TILLEY  
and  
MR. VIBERT  
CAPE COVE

At Cape Cove, Baddeley met Mr. Tilley, the local Schoolmaster, churchman, and Justice of the Peace. Tilley received £ 20 per annum as schoolmaster plus 2s 6p for each child. His school was a model of system and efficiency. Baddeley found only 15 pupils present - many being absent from fear of the bears which were numerous about the settlement then.

Mr. Tilley accompanied Baddeley on a visit to the fishing station of Mr. John Vibert, member of the well-known Vibert family of the Channel Islands who were active as mariners and the development of the fisheries of Bay Chaleur.

. JOSIAH CASS

At L'Anse a Beaufile, Baddeley lodged at the home of Josiah Cass.

Of a distinguished Loyalist family that had settled originally at New Carlisle, Josiah Cass had moved down Bay Chaleur to take up land at L'Anse a Beaufile. As a strong supporter of education, the church and the Law (as Justice of the Peace) Josiah Cass and his descendants were solid citizens of early Gaspé.

. MR. FAUVEL

Agent for the House of Robin at Percé, Mr. Fauvel was one of four such Agents in Bay Chaleur. Baddeley found him to be - " a gentleman in every sense of the word - both in appearance and conduct, and highly respected". With respect to the Percé Gaol, the JOURNAL noted - "it has the reputation of one of the pleasantest house of entertainment in the Bay.."

[Gaol Ref.- GASPE OF YESTERDAY - EXTRACT FROM JAMES  
McPHERSON LEMOINE - LEGENDS OF THE ST.  
LAWRENCE]

. MABE  
FAMILY

At Corner of the Beach, Philip Mabe offered the legendary hospitality of the Mabe family to Baddeley. Philip's father, Adjutant <sup>Pefer</sup> Mabe, soldier and Loyalist, had settled at Corner of the Beach in 1797 and was still hale and hearty in 1833. Originally of Rhode Island, he had fought under Howe and Clinton - his sword being a treasured heirloom. An elder son, Capt.

Dan Mabe, sailing as a trader to the Caribbean, had been captured by pirates and murdered.

Long established at Corner of the Beach and remarkably isolated, as there was no bridge over the Malbay River at Barachois or road over the mountains to Percé, the Mabe's were uniquely self-contained with their fine farm, grist mill, shipyard and fishing room.

Philip Mabe and his brother excelled as shipbuilders - without formal training they built vessels judged by experienced mariners to be without equal.

To reach Percé from Corner of the Beach it was necessary at that time to go by sea or to follow the beach below the towering cliffs of the Percé mountains.

. MR. AND MRS. HALL

At Malbay, Baddeley lodged at the house of the Agent of Janvrin and Company, noting that the Agent was absent at the Company Headquarters in Grand Grève. In company with the Rev. William Arnold, he visited Mr. and Mrs Hall. Mr. Hall served Malbay as a Catechist (for which he received £ 15 per annum) and had conducted a school with much success. Baddeley found them "a very respectable couple" and noted that their imminent departure from Malbay would be a loss to that community.

.HENRY B. JOHNSTON

At Point St. Peter, Baddeley was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnston at the Johnston fishing station then employing some 60 persons.

Colonel Henry Johnston, J.P., was one of the best known and widely respected men of Gaspesia. With homes at Douglstown and Point St. Peter, he carried on the fishery established by Daniel McPherson. A well-educated and articulate man, his letters and reports are a valuable source of information on early Gaspé.

. MR. McCONNELL

At Gaspé Basin, Baddeley was a guest at the "Fort Ramsay" home of the Collector of Customs, Mr. McConnell and his wife, Jane Baird O'Hara McConnell. The property of "Fort Ramsay", an unreserved grant to McConnell by Lord Dalhousie, had been the site of a French fort at the entrance to Gaspé Basin. It later was the home of the Hon. John Le Boutillier and then, in turn, the site of the Hotel Dieu Hospital before becoming the Shopping Center of today. McConnell was a gentleman farmer as well.

. JAMES STEWART

The fine farm and home of James Stewart adjoined the "Fort Ramsay" property of Mr. McConnell in Gaspé Harbour. Baddeley was much impressed by his fine fields and crops, noting that as a former mariner James Stewart was as effective in ploughing the land as he had once ploughed the ocean.

.REV. WILLIAM  
ARNOLD

Crossing the Basin from "Fort Ramsay", Baddeley spent a pleasant evening with the Rev. William Arnold and his wife, the former Maria Charlotte O'Hara. A native of Black Rock, near Dublin, Ireland, Arnold had emigrated to Canada, had read theology at Kingston and been ordained Priest in 1827. In 1833, at the time of Baddeley's visit, he was finishing his house of Gaspé stone - the first so built in Gaspé.

[ref. GASPE OF YESTERDAY - SPRING GROVE - SPEC -  
TO BE PUBLISHED.]



## . PHILIP BOYLE

Without the cooperation of the Gaspé merchant, Philip Boyle, Evrington might not have been able to mount his expedition up the York River and across country to the Little Cascapedia. It was only when Boyle agreed to honour chits issued by Evrington for payment of his Indian guides and helpers that he was able to engage the men required for his travels.

## . MR. GRANT

On crossing from the valley of the St. John River en route to Gaspé Basin, Baddeley struck the York River, "at the settlement of one, Grant, from whom we received the information that Mr. Evrington had passed up the river with two canoes on the Saturday previous"

[Some Gaspé reader of SPEC may be able to provide additional information on this Mr. Grant]

## . ANDRE ENAUD

From the farm of Mr. Grant on the York River, Baddeley was taken down to Gaspé Basin and the home of Mr. McConnell by André Enaud. The JOURNAL has a footnote to the effect that André Enaud was a descendant of Jean-Jacques Enaud, one of the earliest settlers in Gaspé and originally from France.

André Enaud, together with Gros Louis, Louis Jaunnot and Lawrence du Tour, made up the party of Evrington on his epic trip through the interior of Gaspesia.

IN CONCLUSION

While the above introductions to some Gaspésians of 1833 are limited and subjective, they may help to provide the reader with a glimpse of some of the personalities of the Coast those 150 years ago. They are representative of the population, in that Micmac Indians, Acadians, Loyalists, and those of British, French, Irish, background are included. The Gaspesian society may have been primitive by modern standards but through the JOURNALS of Baddeley, Evrington and Hamel

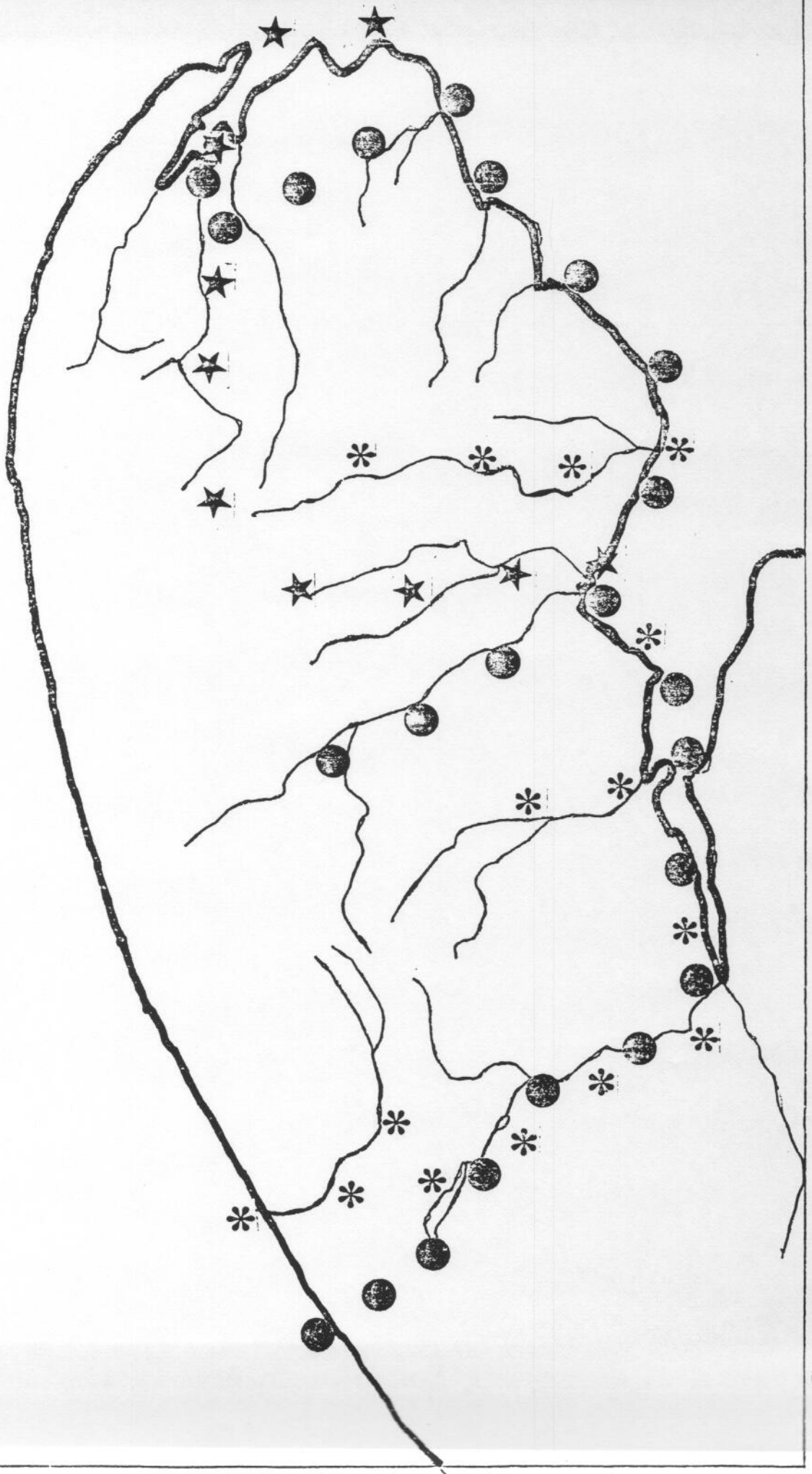
run common threads of the mutual respect, tolerance, hospitality, cooperation and resourcefulness that was then characteristic of Gaspesians and that remain such an important part of our heritage.

The JOURNALS reveal a picture of the District of Gaspé very different from that of today. Not only was the District isolated from the centers of population and government but within the Peninsula itself the various settlements were remarkable isolated by the lack of roads, bridges and the other means of communication that are taken for granted today. The necessity to travel by sea bred a race of competent shipbuilders and hardy mariners but each year took its toll of ships and the men that sailed them. Life in early Gaspé was not for the weak or faint-hearted. In their accounts of Gaspesian travel, the JOURNALS contribute to our understanding of that early life of Gaspesians that had far too few historians.

#### IN CONCLUSION

While the above introductions to some Gaspesians of 18th and 19th centuries are limited and subjective, they may help to provide the reader with a glimpse of some of the personalities of the Coast those 150 years ago. They are representative of the population in that those Indians, Academics, Loyalists, and those of British, French, Irish, and other backgrounds are included. The Gaspesian society may have been primitive by modern standards but through the JOURNALS of Bachelard, Livingston and Hamel

ROUTES OF TRAVEL IN GASPEZIA - 1833



LIEUT. BADDELEY, R.E.,

★ MR. EVRINGTON

✱

● MR. HAMEL



