

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

112

THE ARMSTRONG ASSIGNMENT

Gaspésians whose names appeared on the books of the bankrupt trading firm of Armstrong and Huntoon of Restigouche, District of Gaspé, for the year 1818.

KEN ANNETT

THE ARMSTRONG ASSIGNMENT

FOREWORD

In September, 1821, Edward Armstrong of the Parish of Berthier in the District of Montreal, partner with Charles Huntoon in the firm of ARMSTRONG AND HUNTOON, Traders, came before Edward Glackemeyer, Notary Public of the City of Québec to make Assignment of his bankrupt business. The result was a Deed of Assignment of some eighteen legal-sized pages by which the goods of the store at Restigouche in the District of Gaspé and the outstanding accounts of Gaspeians were transferred to Laughlan Thomas MacPherson, N.P., for settlement, collection and satisfaction of the creditors of the firm. As noted in previous articles of this series, MacPherson was a son of Daniel MacPherson, successful competitor of Charles Robin in the Gaspé Fishery and later the Seigneur of Crane Island.

This wordy Deed of Assignment is of particular interest for the lists it includes of Gaspeians whose names appeared on the books of ARMSTRONG AND HUNTOON in 1818.

23rd December 18.

(Sundries 1818)

To Ed. Armstrong

<i>At New Bristol</i>						
<i>Daniel Hall</i>	<i>a Note</i>	<i>13d</i>		<i>12</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Robert Smollet</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>1/2</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Andrew Schisholm</i>	<i>Account</i>	<i>10</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>10/</i>
<i>William Garrett</i>	<i>Delto</i>	<i>13</i>		<i>5</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>Philip Main</i>	<i>a Note</i>	<i>19</i>		<i>14</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>3</i>

NEW CARLISLE (CTD)

A. C. Bebee	Account	19.			10.	
Wm McAdams	19.	13.			4.	0 1/2
Josh Garrett	19.	13.			2.	
Lat Forsyth	Note	19.			3.	14 0 1/2
Wm O'Sullivan	19.	19.			3.	3
Robt Powers	Account	19.			2.	5
Wm Wilson	19.	13.			1.	8.
Robt Powers	as Note	19.			12.	15. 7
Wm Garrett	Account	13.			6.	1. 2.
Wm Harrison	19.	19.				17. 5
Josh Kafter	as Note	13.			14.	1. 6. 4
A. C. Bebee	Account	19.			1.	1. 6
Wm McAdams	Note	13.			3.	16. 1
Ed. Powers	19.	19.			12.	19. 2
J. Cronier	Account	19.				4. 2 1/2
Nector Morrison	19.	19.			2.	" "
At. New Richmond					4.	12. 0
Gideon Ahier	Account	19.			235.	3 3
			Carried over			

NEW RICHMOND (CTD)

		Brought over		
Robt. Reid	. Notes	By	\$	50 . . .
Suther. McManis	190	By		. 15 . .
. Alex. Northey	190	By		6. 16 . .
Chas. Perreault	. Accounts	By		. 1. 6
. Alex. Weber	190	By		8. 10. 6
Picard. Marcie	a. Notes	By		3. 14 . .
Yvon. Hodudon	190	By		5. 15 . .
Victor LeBlanc	190	By		2. 0 . .
J. LeBelant	190	By		2. 7 . .
. N.B.I.	190	By		2. 14. 3
Wm. Carney	190	By		2. 8. 16
Augustus Aubrey	190	By		3. 9. 2
Louis Dugas	190	By		2. 4. 1
Pat. Proste	190	By		5. 11. 5
John Hickey	190	NB.		6 . . .
Do Do	190	NB.		54. 8. 9
Do Do	190	NB.		245. 7. 2
Do Do	190	NB.		85. 17. 7
Do Do	190	NB.		168. 1. 6
Hubert	Accounts	By		1. 1. 3

4.

Mr Barber	Notes	19.		18
Ant. Durand	Do	13.		2
Henry (Brown)	Accounts	13		3. 12.
John Woodman	afc	9		6. 0.
Maxime Dugas	afc	18.		5
Mathew Stewart	afc	9		16.
<u>113 16</u>				
Oli Levesque	afc	9	5	4. 12.
James Foster	Notes	19.		4. 16.
<u>HOPETOWN</u>				
Hector Ross	Notes	9		7. 4.
Do Do	Notes	9		18. 19.
Michel Bouture	afc	19.		6. 1.
Pierre Picard	afc.	19		16. 9
John LeBlanc	Notes	15.		3. 12.
<u>EEL RIVER & RISTIGOUCHE</u>				
Edw. Harcourt	Notes	19.		37. 9. 8
Edw. Do	afc	19		6. 1. 6
Edw. Man	Notes	19.		18. 4. 8
John Thomson	Do	9		21. 16
Do Do	afc	9		1. 2. 6

EEL RIVER AND RESTIGOUCHE (CTD)

Andrew Thomson	Note	19.	10.	12.	3
Peter Thomson	19.	(13)	5.	5	..
Peter Thomson	19.	13.	30.	11.	9
Joseph LaViolette	apc.	G.	1.	11.	6
Philip Thomson	apc.	19.	..	17.	6
Wm Thomson	apc.	19.	8.	18.	9
Wm Carney	19.	G.	11.	14.	9
Baptiste Savoie	Note	G.	1.	11.	3
John Thomson	19.	G.	34.	0.	11
James Dyer	Account	G.	3.	8	..
John Shary	Note	19.	15
Jas Christopher	Note	G.	19.	11.	1
Alex. Boland	Note	19.	5.	2.	0
Samuel Clarke	Account	B.	8
W. Conicker	apc	G.	9
Wm Pratt	apc	G.	..	15	..
Samuel Christopher	apc	B.	6.	6.	3
Peter Adams	apc	G.	2.	9	..
Alexander Malcolm	apc	19.	11.	14.	10
George Grant	apc	G.	1.	1.	..
Pete Sims	apc	19.	2.	8.	6
Alex Boland	apc	19.	..	9	..

EEL RIVER AND RESTIGOUCHE (CTD)

Pascal Ouellet	Notes	N.B.	12.	10.	11
Wm Rice for sundry Accounts put into his hands for collection	Receipts	D.	64.	8.	3
John Diamond	Notes	D.	2.	14.	2
Samuel Christopher	a/c	B.	6.	3.	9
Goods in store at first cost at Restigouche		G	155.	4.	6
Wm Rice for my share of the trade and profits arising from the Restigouche business as concluded by him is about					
PASPEBIAC					
Jr. Bernard Castillon	Account	G	2.	19.	5
Philip Sangleheart	a/c	G	2.	17.	6
Bapt. Sangleheart	a/c	G	2.	17.	6
Joseph Dugas	a/c	G	2.	4.	2 1/2
Edw. Dugas	a/c	G	1.	16.	11
Sangleheart Senior	a/c	D	..	15.	..
Peter Dugas	a/c	G	1.	7.	3
Jr. Castillon	a/c	G	3.	17.	9
Hubert Castillon	a/c	G	..	14.	6
Benj. Castillon	a/c	G	2.
			D	2376	13 3

900.00

7.

PASPEBIAC (CTD)

			23 rd	24 th	25 th
Berj ^m Castillon	Accounts	ly	1.	2.	8
Charlemagne Dugas	apc	ly	...	13.	10
Peter Wezler	apc	ly	"	16.	5
Pabien Dugas	apc	ly	1.	17.	2 1/2
Jacques Dugas	apc	ly	"	17.	6
Pat. Romain	apc	ly	2.	7.	"
Derish Rocks	apc	N.B.	3.	7.	9
Amt. Ferrand	apc	N.B.	9.	10.	9
W ^m Sangleheart	apc	ly	"	10	"
GRAND RIVER					
Belony Baudin	Notes	ly	13.	16.	8 1/2
Jos ^h Baudin	Notes	ly	5.	4.	4 1/2
Fran ^t Lafontaine	Notes	ly	2.	16.	6
Peter Loberge	apc	ly	1.	2.	6
Abraham Baudin	Notes	N.B.	12.	9.	1
Jacques Baudry	apc	ly	3.	18.	6
Peter Baudin	apc	N.B.	11.	18.	17 1/2
Fran ^t Lafontaine	apc	ly	"	10.	"
J ^o Nichols	apc	ly	1.	7.	7
W ^m Bertrand	apc	ly	1.	12.	6

GRAND RIVER (CTD)

N ^o Dupuis	apc	20	2.	4.	..
Isaac Baudry	apc	20	1.	1.	11
D ^o D ^o	apc	20	..	9.	4
Andrew Steves	apc	9	..	8.	1
Charles Panzer	Notes	13.	2	16.	9
Edw. Blanc	apc	20	..	11	..
Peter Bolan	Notes	13	9.	13.	3
D ^o D ^o	apc	13	3.	8.	11
Andrew Ploward	Account	B	5	..	7.
Peter Bolleive Linn	apc	9	..	2.	6
Edward Garrett	Notes	13.	1.	17.	6
L'ANCE BOUEIE					
Anna Ferguson	Notes	20.	78.	9.	3
Pifi Collin	apc	13	43.	5.	5j
Bapt. Page Linn	Notes	13	5.	15.	11,
Peter Dupuy	apc	13	3.	16.	9
Ant. Chealle	Notes	9	16.	11.	4
Jean Paquet	Notes	9	29.	9.	6
Aug ^o Marcio	apc	13	10.	15.	..
Ant. Blanchets	apc	13	14.	7.	7
Simon Moreau	apc	13	15.	2.	..
Jean Baptiste Page Linn	apc	13	120.	4.	10

9.

"L'ANCE BOUFIE" (CTD)

Sylvestre Holtin	afc	13.	3.	15.	2j
Baptiste Page Junr	afc	13	9.	9.	10
<hr/> MALBAIE. <hr/>					
Wm. Elements	afc	19	2.	17.	7
Jas. Durand	note	19	7.	2.	..
Wm. Malouy	afc	19	2.	12.	6
Peter Girard	afc	19	1.	1.	9
190 190	afc	19.	5.	8.	6
Bapt. Page	afc.	13.	7.	19.	..
Peter LeMoque	afc	19.	..	16.	6
Andrew Smith	afc	19	..	9.	5j
John Durand	afc	13.	4.	8.	5
			Σ 2856 115		

S 256 14 5

CASPE

Patrick Chesser	apc	B.	2	—	—
Robert Ashe	apc	G	—	9	—
Richard Millar	apc	G	—	8	11
John Tapp	apc	G	1	8	9
George Burnett	apc	G	1	12	6
Robert Simpson	apc	G	1	13	1
Christianna Pennell	apc	G	—	8	8
George Boyles	apc	G	—	2	—
James Smith	apc	D	—	17	6
Jos. Delagau	apc	NB	—	14	—
John Macrae	apc	NB	3	0	6
Pharson Moreau	apc	NB	5	13	—
Peter Sagle	Notes	NB	14	12	9
James Herby	Notes	D	9	2	8
Edward Garrett	Notes	NB	1	17	6
Peter Sagle	Notes	NB	14	12	—
Peter Lind	apc	NB	5	—	—
Germaine Blais	apc	NB	11	10	—
Joseph Blais	apc	NB	—	7	6

GASPE (CTD)

Alex. Blais	ap	13	1.	15.	3
John Handberg	ap	19	3.	10.	u
Amount of (Perce's Acct about all)		198 1/2	275	u	u
			<hr/>		
			320	5	10

Recapitulation

Notes
 (from Rice's receipt) \$ 1338. 6. 1/2

but forward \$	1338.	6.	1/2
for my share in the Kistigouche business	900.	0.	0
Goods in Store at Kistigouche	155.	4.	6
Accounts	1071.	0.	5 1/2
			<hr/>
	\$	3464.	11. 1

Signed by the said Edward Armstrong and Laughlan Thomas Macpherson and at their request by us the said Notaries, this 29th day of September 1821.

[Large handwritten signature]

[Signature]
 Edw. Armstrong
 Edw. Macpherson
 Not. P.
 CH?

VISTA

The foregoing listing of Gaspesian names from the books of the bankrupt trading company of ARMSTRONG AND HUNTOON of Restigouche should be considered in the perspective of the time. In 1818 the long and bitter struggle between Britain and Napoleonic France was finally at an end, as was the War of 1812-1814 between Britain and the United States of America. For Gaspesians, so dependent on sea-borne shipping and trade, peace was a great boon.

In Gaspesia, the descendants of the United Empire Loyalists who had settled in communities from Restigouche to Gaspé Bay had integrated into the social and business life of the District of Gaspé. Though many of the pioneer Loyalists, such as Col. Isaac Man of Restigouche had passed away, the new generation had produced a race of enterprising shipbuilders, mariners and traders. Charles Robin, founder of the great fishing firm that bore his name, was still alive and living in his native Jersey in 1818, though the active management of his business had fallen to his nephews. Robin's worthy competitor in the Gaspesian fishery, Daniel MacPherson, had also retired from the Coast to become the Seigneur of Crane Island (Ile aux Grues) Gaspesia had its own "bona fide" Seigneur in Matthew Stewart of the extensive Shoolbred Seigniorly whose business interests, in association with his brothers, extended from the Restigouche to Gaspé Bay.

In 1818 the career of the Hon. Judge William Crawford in the District of Gaspé was coming to an end. The Gaspé Land Claims Commission was about to hold its important hearings along the Coast and Gaspesia, which had been without a resident Protestant minister since 1760 was about to welcome the Rev. John Suddard.

To this perspective, subjective as it is, THE ARMSTRONG ASSIGNMENT will add, it is hoped, yet another fragment of information on our heritage.