

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

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LIVERPOOL SALT FOR GASPESIAN TIMBER

Azariah Pritchard of Bay Chaleur and
Joshua Oldfield of Yorkshire, England,
trade to their mutual benefit.

KEN ANNETT

LIVERPOOL SALT FOR GASPESIAN TIMBER

PREFACE

From the earliest times of the fishery in Gaspesia a supply of salt was essential. The story of the sources of supply of salt in Europe and the Caribbean, of its transport to Gaspesia and of its distribution to the various fishing stations is worthy of a serious study by a Gaspesian student majoring in history.

The following account, LIVERPOOL SALT FOR GASPESIAN TIMBER, not only recalls that notable Loyalist, Captain Azariah Pritchard, Sr., but provides some insight into trade in the Gaspesia of the early 19 Century. An early table of the principal imports into the District of Gaspé reveals that in terms of volume that of salt led the list.

PROVINCE OF LOWER CANADA AND DISTRICT OF QUEBEC

TO WIT

Before the undersigned Public Notaries for the City of Quebec and Province of Lower Canada by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, residing in the City of Quebec in the said Province, personally came, appeared and were present Joshua Oldfield Esquire of Leeds in the County of York-shire in that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called England, on the one part, and Azariah Pritchard Esquire of Richmond, Bay of Chaleur in the Province of Lower Canada on the other part, both at present in the City of Quebec-

Which said Parties did and hereby do severally and respectively Covenant, promise and agree, to and with each other, in manner and form following, that is to say he, the said Joshua Oldfield, did and doth stipulate and agree to and with the said Azariah Pritchard that he shall and will furnish and provide him, the said Azariah Pritchard, with three hundred tons of salt - two hundred tons to be coarse Liverpool salt and the other hundred ton to be fine Liverpool salt - at and after the rate of three pounds British Sterling per ton-

To be delivered at the aforesaid Bay of Chaleur into some Craft or Vessel which the said Azariah Pritchard may appoint to take it in, free of all freight and expense save and except what duty may be payable

at the King's Custom Houses.

And for and in Consideration thereof and towards payment of the said three hundred tons of salt so as aforesaid to be delivered to the said Azariah Pritchard, He, the said Azariah Pritchard, did and hereby doth Covenant, promise and agree to furnish and provide the said Joshua Oldfield with two cargoes of timber at such rates and of such quality as shall be hereafter mentioned and appraised and whatsoever ballance may arise between such cargo of salt and cargoes of timber the said Azariah Pritchard promises and engages to pay to the said Joshua Oldfield by good and approved Bills of Exchange on London, not exceeding sixty days date.

And in the presence of us, the said Notaries, it was and hereby is further stipulated, covenanted and agreed upon, by and between the said Parties to these presents, that the said timber, three fourths of each cargo to be merchantable timber, good red and white pine, and to be paid for at and after the rate of five pence per square foot, the remaining part of each cargo to be planks three inches thick at two pence, half penny per foot . Handspikes not less than five feet and a half in length, not under four and a half inches square, at five shillings per dozed. Lathwood at twenty five shillings per cord. Spars, Black spruce, not under eight inches square, at five pence per square foot. It is hereby expressly meant and understood that the said timber is to be delivered at Hamilton and New Richmond in the inferior district of Gaspé.

And in the presence of us, the said Notaries, it was and hereby is further stipulated and agreed between the said parties to these presents that the said Joshua Oldfield shall and will have one vessel sent from Liverpool with the said salt as soon as he can get her procured for the Season and that she shall sail from Liverpool, wind and weather permitting, on or before the tenth day of March next.

Which said vessels the said Azariah Pritchard shall load with all possible dispatch, not exceeding thirty days for each vessel, if it is possible that each vessel can take in her cargo in the space of thirty days.

3.

And in the presence of us, the said Notaries, it was and hereby is further covenanted and agreed upon and by and between the said Parties to these presents that if the said cargoes of timber are not ready on the arrival of the said vessels at the Bay of Chaleur the said Azariah Fritchard will pay to each vessel demurrage according to their respective Charters 'till such cargoes are ready and will also advance what Cash and Provisions may be necessary for the disbursements of each vessel at the said Bay of Chaleur.

Which said promises, covenants and agreements the said Parties, in the presence of us, the said Notaries, Did and hereby Do accept and are therewith satisfied and content.

And for the true and faithful performance of this Agreement the said Parties Bind themselves, each unto the other, in the penal sum of Five Hundred Pounds Sterling.

Witness Whereof the said Parties have hereunto set their hands and signatures before us the said Notaries, who have hereunto also subscribed our names at Quebec this twenty-fourth day of October in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, this Minute having been read and approved.

(signed) Azariah Pritchard
Joshua Oldfield
John Jones, N.P.
Chas. Lagorce, N.P.

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Province of Lower Canada
and
District of Quebec -

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to wit,

Before the undersigned
Public Notaries for the City of Quebec and
Province of Lower Canada by lawful author-
-ity duly admitted and sworn residing in the
City of Quebec in the said Province person-
-ally came appeared and were present Joshua
Oldfield Esquire of Leeds in the County of
York-shire in that part of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Ireland called England
of the one part and Azariah Pritchard
Esquire of Richmond Bay of Chaleur in
the Province of Lower Canada of the other
part both at present in the City of Quebec
Which said Parties did and hereby do severally
and respectively covenant promise and agree to and
with each other in manner and form following
that is to say he the said Joshua Oldfield
did and hereby doth stipulate and agree to and with
the said Azariah Pritchard that he shall and
will furnish and provide him the said Azariah
Pritchard with three Hundred tons of salt
the said three Hundred tons to be coarse Liverpool salt
and the other hundred tons to be fine Liverpool

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salt at and after the rate of one hundred
British Sterling per ton to be delivered at the
aforesaid Bay of Shalour into some Craft or
Vessel which the said Azariah Pritchard
may appoint to take it in free of all freight
and expence save and except what duty may be
payable at the Kings Custom Houses. And
for and in Consideration thereof and towards
payment of the said Three Hundred tons of
salt so as aforesaid to be delivered to the said
Azariah Pritchard. He the said Azariah
Pritchard did and hereby doth Covenant-
promise and agree to furnish and provide
the said Joshua Oldfield with two Cargoes
of timber at such rates and of such Quality
as shall be hereafter mentioned and expressed
and whatever ballance may arise between
such Cargo of salt and Cargoes of timber
the said Azariah Pritchard promises and
engages to pay to the said Joshua Oldfield
by good and approved Bills of Exchange
on London not exceeding sixty days date.

And in the presence of us the
said Notaries it was and hereby is further
stipulated Covenanted and agreed upon by and
between the said Parties to these presents that
the said timber three fourths of each Cargo
to be Merchantable timber good red and
White pine and to be paid for at and after
the rate of five pence per square foot, the

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remaining part of each Cargo to be placed
three Inches thick at two pence half penny
per foot. Lathwood [#] not less than five feet
and a half in length not under four and a
half inches square at five shillings per dozen
Lathwood at twenty five shillings per Cord.
Spars Black spruce not under eight inches
square at five pence per Square foot. It is
hereby expressly meant and understood that
the said timber is to be delivered at Hamilton
and New Richmond in the inferior dis-
trict of Gaspé.

And in the presence of the
the said Notaries it was and hereby is
further stipulated and agreed by and between
the said parties to these presents that the said
Joshua Oldfield shall and will have one
vessel sent from Liverpool with the said
salt as soon as he can get her procured for
the Season and a second vessel likewise
Load with salt as soon as may be con-
venient so that both vessels may arrive
in the said inferior District of Gaspé on
the tenth day of or before the day of

and that she
shall sail from
Liverpool wind
& weather permit-
ting on or before
the tenth day of
March next.

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next. Which said vessels the said Azaricks
Pritchard shall Load with all possible di-
-patch not exceeding thirty days for each
vessel if it is possible that each vessel
can take in her Cargo in the space of

That in the presence of
 the said Notaries it was and hereby is
 =the= Covenanted and Agreed upon by and
 between the said Parties to these presents
 that if the said Cargoes of Timber are not
 ready on the arrival of the said Vessels at
 the Bay of Chaleur the said Azariah
 Patchard will pay to each Vessel demer-
 =age= according to their respective Sit-
 till such Cargoes are ready and will also
 advance what Cash and Provisions may
 be necessary for the Disbursements of each
 Vessel at the said Bay of Chaleur.

Which said promises Covenants and
 Agreements the said Parties in the presence
 of us the said Notaries Did and hereby Do
 accept and are therewith satisfied and content.
 And for the true and faithful performance
 of this Agreement the said Parties Bind them-
 =selves= each unto the other in the penal-
 sum of five hundred pounds Sterling for
 Witness Whereof the said Parties have hereunto
 set their hands and signatures before us the said
 Notaries who being therein to also subscribed
 our names at Quebec this twenty fourth day
 of October in the year of our Lord one thousand
 eight hundred and eight this Minute having been
 read and approved.

Azariah Patchard
 Joshua C. [unclear]

Notary Public
 Chas. Lagore

1808