

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

135

SALVAGE BY GEORGE BOYLE

George Boyle of Gaspé Bay, with his Schooner "MARY BOYLE", salvages the wreck of the Brig "JANE" on the Island of Anticosti.

KEN ANNETT

SALVAGE BY GEORGE BOYLE

FOREWORD

The historical articles published by SPEC or submitted for future publication have a number of interesting references to the BOYLE family of Gaspé Bay. These include:

- * GASPE LAND CLAIMS (SPEC-01-05-80) recording claims of John, George, James, Eliza, Annabella and Mary Boyle for lands before the Gaspé Land Claims Commission.
- * SPRING GROVE (SPEC-06-07-82) with its reference to members of the family of James and Charlotte McKinnon Boyle.
- * MY DEAR SARAH (SPEC-10-08-82) in which the authors, Doris and David McDougall referred to early members of the Boyle family of Gaspé.
- * THE SCHOONER HARMONY OF GASPE (Publication pending) in which "George Boyle of the place called Gaspé, in the District of Gaspé, Trader", was a party to a Deed of Assignment relative to the Schooner HARMONY.

To the above the following Deed of Discharge of George Boyle in Favour of Messrs Jones, White and Melvin of Québec will add information of particular interest. In the early years of the 19th century, the era of the sailing ship, wrecks were all too common on the shores of the St.Lawrence estuary. The mariners of Gaspé Bay were in a position to salvage such wrecks and dispose of such goods that could be saved. This Deed provides a window on one such salvage operation by the Gaspé mariner and trader, George Boyle, whose sister, Mary Boyle, the first wife of Richard Annett of Gaspé, was honoured by the naming of the schooner, MARY BOYLE.

DISCHARGE OF GEORGE BOYLE IN FAVOR OF JONES, WHITE AND MELVIN

On the twentieth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, Before Us the Undersigned Notaries Public duly admitted and sworn for the Province of Lower Canada, dwelling in the City of Quebec in the said Province, Personally came and appeared Mr. George Boyle of Gaspe Bay, Ship Commander, who acknowledged to have received of and from Messieurs Jones, White and Melvin, of this City, Auctioneers and Brokers, acting as Agents for Thomas Finley, late Master and Commander of the Brig, JANE, wrecked on the Island of Anticosti, present and accepting hereof by Joseph Jones, one of the said Firm,

That is to say the sum of Three Hundred and thirty nine Pounds, Six Shillings, Current money of the said Province of Lower Canada, being due him for having proceeded with and on board of the Schooner MARY BOYLE to the Island of Anticosti for the purpose of saving from and out of the Brig JANE, wrecked and abandoned at that place, of which Thomas Finley was Commander, and there experiencing the greatest labor and exposing himself and his vessel to the greatest danger in saving such articles as he possibly could out of said Brig and putting them on board of his Schooner and then proceeding therewith to this Port of Quebec, pursuant to the Agreement entered into between him and the said Thomas Finley, the late Commander of the said Vessel,

Who at the same time ordered that such goods, articles and things as he could save should be put into the possession of the said Jones, White and Melvin to be by them sold in the usual manner for the Good of the Underwriters and others concerned, they the said Jones, White and Melvin paying the said George Boyle Forty Pounds present on the next proceeds of Sale, that is all charges whatsoever being first paid.

In Consideration of which the said sum of Three Hundred and thirty nine Pounds, six shillings currency by the said Jones, White and Melvin well and truly paid to the said George Boyle, did and doth hereby acquit, discharge and forever exonerate the said Jones, White and Melvin, acting as aforesaid, their Executors, Administrators and Assigns, of all demands whatsoever which be had for Salvage by an amount of the aforementioned Agreement between him and the said Thomas Finley as before mentioned and set forth or in any wise relating to the said Premises "dont quittance generale".

Thus done and passed in the City of Quebec aforesaid in the Office of Archibald Campbell, one of the said Notaries on the Day, Month and Year first above written.

In Witness whereof the said Joseph Jones and the said George Boyle have to this set and subscribed their names in the presence of us, the said Notaries, who have also to the same set and subscribed our names, in faith and testimony, these presents being first duly read to the said Parties in their hearing, according to the requirements of the Law.

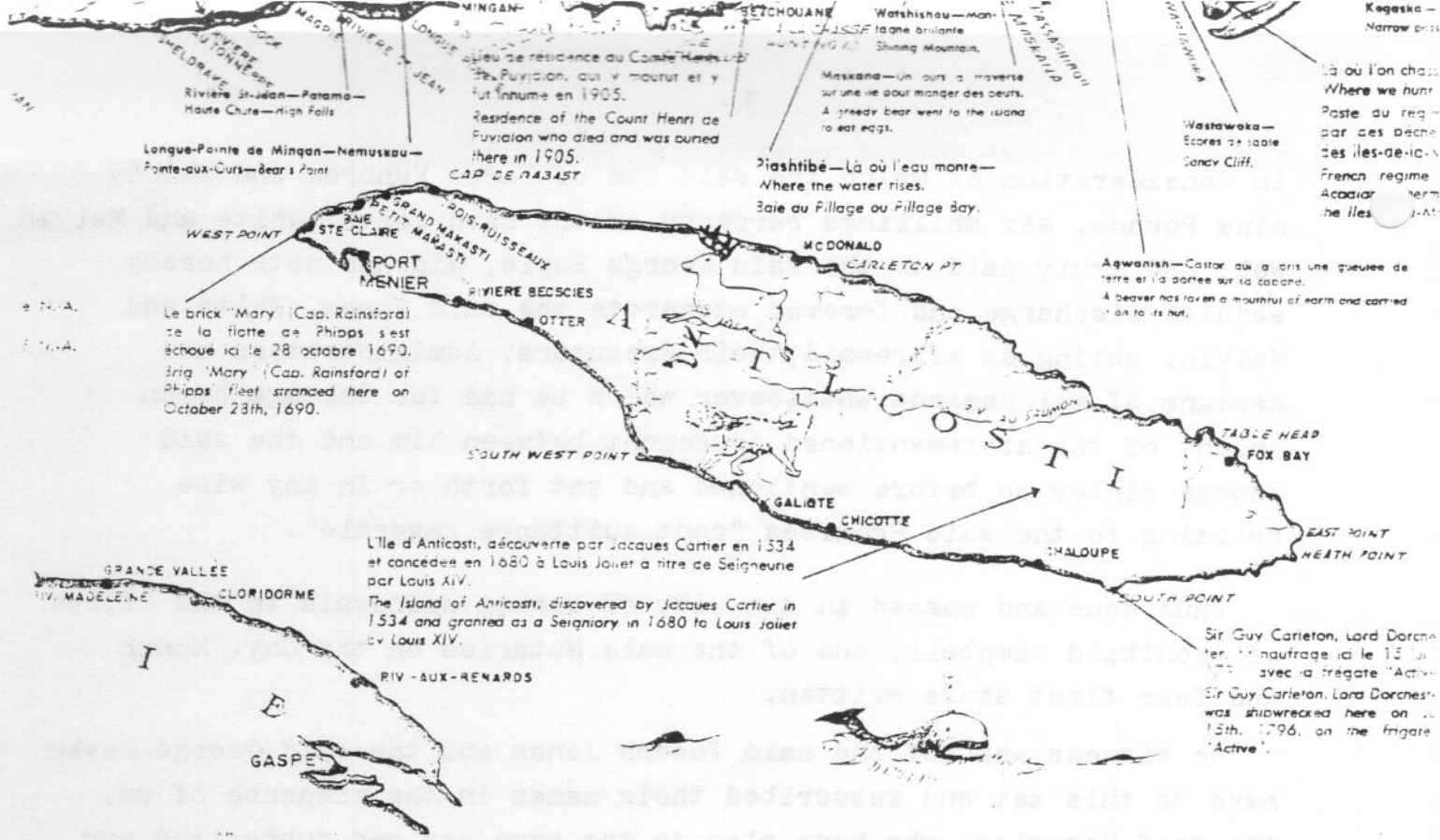
(Signatures)

George Boyle

Jos. Jones.

Arch. Campbell, N.P.

B. Faribault, N.P.



THE ISLAND OF ANTICOSTI, BY VIRTUE OF ITS LOCATION ASTRIDE THE ENTRANCE TO THE SEAWAY OF THE ST. LAWRENCE, WAS THE SITE OF COUNTLESS SHIP-WRECKS - PARTICULARLY IN THE DAYS OF SAIL.

IT WAS HERE THAT GEORGE BOYLE TOOK HIS GASPE SCHOONER, "MARY BOYLE" TO SALVAGE THE WRECK OF THE BRIG "JANE" IN 1814.

by Joseph Jones one of the crew
of the said ship that is to say the sum
of Three hundred & thirty nine

Pounds Six Shillings Lawful
Money of the said Province of
Lower Canada being ~~due~~ due
him for having provided with an
on Board of the Schooner Mary Bo
to the Island of Anticosti ~~and~~
for the purpose of saving from
out of this Prizy Jane ~~Thomas~~
~~Smith~~ ~~late~~ ~~son~~ wrecked and
abandoned at that place of which
Thomas Smith was Commander
and then being experiencing the
greatest labor and ~~peril~~ and
exposing himself and his
Vessel to the greatest danger

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That the said James White &
Melvin having the said George
Boyle of forty Pounds interest
on the new bonds of Sale
that is all charges whatsoever but
first paid. In consideration
whereof of what is
said sum of thirty pounds
and thirty nine Pounds six
shillings (owing by the said J^s
White & Melvin well and truly
paid to the said George Boyle & his
heirs by a just discharge
when & for ever exonerate the
said James White & Melvin acting
as aforesaid their Executors Adminis-
trators and Assigns of all demands
whatsoever ~~for Sale~~ ~~by way of~~

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DU QUÉBEC

Said (Notaries who have also
to the same set and subscribe
our Names in faith and
testimony of the premises
then presents being first
subscribed to the said Parties
in their hearing according

to the requirements of the
Law / —

George Boyle

J. J. L. L.

D. R. C. A. P.

Notary