

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

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SALE
OF
SCHOONER "CALDWELL"

James and Andrew Caldwell, sons of Loyalist Robert and Sarah Todd Caldwell of New Carlisle sell one of the many fine schooners built and sailed by the Caldwell family.

KEN ANNETT

SALE OF THE SCHOONER "CALDWELL"

FOREWORD

In one of the very first articles of the GASPE OF YESTERDAY series published by SPEC, an account of a visit to CALDWELL MANOR by James McPherson Lemoine (SPEC-03-10-77), there was reference to the Loyalist Caldwell family of New Carlisle. A subsequent article of the series, CLAIMS OF THE LOYALISTS OF BAY CHALEUR- PART I.(SPEC-27-01-82), published the claim made by Robert Caldwell, "late of White Creek, New York Province" before the Board of Loyalist Commissioners for the substantial losses he and his family had suffered as a result of the American Revolution. As this article concerns the sons of Robert and Sarah Todd Caldwell the following note on Caldwell family background, from a 1908 letter of A.B.Caldwell, is of interest.

CALDWELL FAMILY

According to tradition the Caldwell Family originally came from France and dates back to the reign of King Clovis in the third century, when, after a hard-fought battle when one of them had acquitted himself bravely in behalf of the King, the King had the head of a roebuck carved upon his shield in recognition of his service and some branches of the family still have the head of the roebuck on their coat-of-arms. The family consisting of three brothers and their families, being Huguenots, were driven from France and went to Scotland where they settled at Solway Firth and were given a grant of land by the King with the understanding that they would produce a certain number of sons to defend the Crown. Located on this land was a very cold well from whence the name was derived. The original Scotch spelling was CAULDWELL but in time the "U" was dropped. The family grew and multiplied, part of them moving to Nottinghamshire, England. In the Anglican Church in Nottingham is a marble statue of Lord Caldwell of Caldwell Hall, who left a legacy to the Church of the price of a cow to be paid yearly to the Church, which is still kept up to the present time. A part of the family remained in Scotland and another part went to North Ireland with Oliver Cromwell, a relative of theirs (his mother being Ann Caldwell). One of the Caldwells was knighted in Ireland (Sir William Caldwell) and built Caldwell Castle in Antrim County, the ruins of which are still in existence. It was members of the Caldwell family who instigated the manufacture of the Irish Beleck China. The family gained prominence

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under the rule of Queen Elizabeth and served in her Court. Some of the members of the family still possess heirlooms given them by Queen Elizabeth. The family motto of the Scotch Clan was "DARE TO BE WISE". The Scotch Coat-of-Arms was three wells and a raised hand. The Crest was a ducal hand holding a cross thrust through a crown. The American branch of the family settled in Massachussetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, being three brothers from the family of Sir William Caldwell. The family is now settled in many parts of the United States and Canada. (From the Papers of the late Miss F. Cooke)

Robert Caldwell and his wife, Sarah Todd, married in Northern Ireland and emigrated to the Colony of New York Province c.1761 settling at WHITE CREEK (NEW PERTH). As Loyalists they lost all their property and possessions during the American Revolution. Robert and his sons joined the British Forces of General Burgoyne. Robert was captured and imprisoned. His son, John, escaped to join Major Jessop's Corps in Canada. By 1783 the Caldwells were at St. Johns, Québec and came to New Carlisle, Bay Chaleur in 1785. Of the four sons and one daughter of Robert and Sarah Todd Caldwell Robert Jr. married Agnes Chisholm (1798) daughter of John and Christianna Ferguson Chisholm; Andrew Todd married Sarah Beebe, (1816) daughter of Joshua and Mary Secord Beebe; James married Jane Chisholm (1794); John married Mary Lane (1788) daughter of John Lane and Elizabeth became the wife of Secord Beebe (1787) son of Joshua and Mary Secord Beebe.

25 OCTOBER, 1797 SALE - JAMES AND ANDREW CALDWELL FAVOR J-B MORENCY.

Before the Notaries Public Subscribing, personally came and appeared James Caldwell and Andrew Caldwell of the District of Gaspee in the Province of Lower Canada, Mariners, at present in the City of Quebec, as well for themselves and in their own name as in the name and on the behalf of John and Robert Caldwell, their absent Brothers, of the one part and Jean Baptiste Morency of the City of Quebec, Mariner, of the other part -

Which said James and Andrew Caldwell did and do hereby declare that

for and in Consideration of the sum of One Hundred and twenty five pounds Current money of the Province of Lower Canada to them, or one of them, well and truly paid by the said Jean Baptiste Morency, the receipt whereof they did and do hereby acknowledge, and, of and from the same and every part thereof did and hereby do, acquit and discharge the said Jean Baptiste Morency, his Heirs and Assigns forever, They the said James and Andrew Caldwell Have Granted Bargained, Sold, Assigned and Set Over and by these presents do Grant, Bargain, sell assign and set over, with Guarantee from all debts and demands, Hypothecations, Evictions and Generally from all Incumbrances whatsoever a certain Schooner called THE CALDWELL of New Carlisle as she at present lies in this port of Quebec, together with her Hull, Masts, Sails, Yards, Anchors, Cables, Ropes, Tackle, Apparel and furniture whatsoever to the said Schooner appertaining or belonging, by whatever name or names the same is or are called or known or of whatever kind or quality the same may be and Consist of.

To Have and to hold the said Schooner with her Hull, Masts, Sails, Yards, Anchors, Ropes and all and singular her appurtenances whatsoever hereby Bargained, Sold and Conveyed, or intended so to be, unto the said Jean Baptiste Morency, his Heirs and Assigns, to the only proper use and behalf of the said Jean Baptiste Morency, His Heirs and Assigns for ever and to which He and they are hereby meant to have a Legal right and property.

Which said Schooner obtained a Register in the Port of New Carlisle in the District of Gaspee the twenty fifth day of July one thousand seven hundred and ninety one and which is here inserted according to Act of Parliament.

No. 45.

In pursuance of an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled An Act for the further increase and encouragement of Shipping and Navigation, John Caldwell, James Caldwell, Robert and Andrew Caldwell residing at New Carlisle in the District of Gaspee and Province of Quebec, Mariners, having taken and subscribed the Oath required by this Act and having sworn that they are sole Owners of the Ship or Vessel called the CALDWELL of New Carlisle, whereof John Caldwell is at present, Master

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and that the said Ship or Vessel was built at New Carlisle this present year, one thousand seven hundred and ninety one and Felix O'Hara, Prev't Officer having Certified to us that the said Ship or Vessel is British Plantation built, has one Deck and two Masts, that her length from the fore part of the main stem to the after part of the stern post aloft is forty eight feet six inches, her breadth at the broadest part, whether above or below the main wales, thirteen feet, her height between Decks - and admeasures thirty four and six tenth Tons, that she is a square sterned Schooner, has no Gallery and no head - and the Subscribing Owners having consented and agreed to the above description and admeasurement and having caused sufficient security to be Given as is required by the said Act, the Schooner CALDWELL has been duly registered at the Port of New Carlisle in the District of Gaspee and Province of Quebec aforesaid.-

Given under our hands and seals of office at the Custom House in the said Port of New Carlisle this twenty fifth day of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

Recorded at the Custom House of New Carlisle the twenty fifth day of July, 1791 (Signed) Oliver O'Hara
Certificate of British Plantation Registry.

Indorsed - Port of Chaleur Bay.

These are to Certify all whom it may concern that James Caldwell is now become Master of the within named Vessel, the CALDWELL, in the room of John Caldwell, late Master. Endorsed at the Custom House in the Port of Carleton the 13th day of May. 1791 (Signed) Oliver O'Hara, Deputy Collector.

Port of Carleton, Chaleur Bay. These are to Certify all whom it may concern that Andrew Caldwell is become Master of the Schooner CALDWELL in the room of James Caldwell, late Master. Entered at the Custom House at Carleton this 9th day of August 1797.
(Signed) Ronald McDonald, Acting for Oliver O'Hara, Deputy Collector.

Which said Sale, Grant, Bargain and Conveyance He, the said Jean Baptiste Morency, in the presence of us, the said Notaries. did and doth hereby accept and is therewith satisfied and content.

5.

Thus done and passed at Quebec in the Office of Charles Stewart, one of the subscribing Notaries, this twenty fifth day of October One thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, this Minute being first read in hearing of the parties and deposited in the Office of the said Charles Stewart there to remain of record.

(Signatures)

James Caldwell
Andrew Caldwell
J.Bte. Morency
Chas. Stewart, N.P.
R. Russel
Jos. Mignerou

Received Quebec 25 October, 1797 from M. Jean Baptiste Morency of Quebec, Mariner, the sum of One hundred and twenty five pounds Current money of the Province of Lower Canada being the Consideration maney mentioned to be paid by him to us for the within Bargained Schooner CALDWELL.

(Signatures)

James Caldwell
Andrew Caldwell
Chas. Stewart, N.P.
R, Russel
Jos. Mignerou

It is refreshing to recall in these times of unemployment, social welfare and make-work projects of government that Robert Caldwell and his sons, dispossessed and exiled by Revolution, displayed such courage, initiative and creative work in their new Gaspesian homeland. For the Caldwells built a dozen or more schooners on the New Carlisle shore - vessels that bore such names as CALDWELL; HOPE; SPARTAN; MARTHA; EFFORT; FAME; MINERVA; HIBERNIA; BELINDA; ENDEAVOUR; ALBION; and BACHELOR. In an era before the advent of power tools and powered transport, the sheer work involved in the building of a vessel was formidable. The selection of trees to be cut, the cutting and transport of logs to the shipyard, the hewing of timber and the hand-sawing of planking, the ship-building proper and the rigging of the schooner was a challenging task. Nor did the efforts of the Caldwell brothers cease with the launching of their vessels for, as this Deed shows, they were Mariners who were Masters of the schooners they built .

In their day and generation the Caldwell brothers may have thought that their efforts were no more than the norm, as along the Bay Chaleur and on the shores of Gaspé Bay other pioneer shipbuilders were similiarly engaged. Such men would have been amazed to hear of unemployment or to think that a time would come when their descendants would have to leave the lovely District of Gaspé to seek work.

25 Oct. 1797. Sale of some of Andrew Caldwell's lands to the Morning -

Before the Notaries Public Subscribing -
personally came and appeared James Caldwell
and Andrew Caldwell in the District of Gaspe
in the Province of Lower Canada Mariner
at present in the City of Quebec, as well for
themselves and in their own ^{name} as in the name and
on the behalf of John and Robert Caldwell
their eldest Brothers of the one part and
Jean Baptiste Morisy of the City of Quebec
Mariner of the other part - Which
said James and Andrew Caldwell did and
do hereby declare that for and in Consideration
of the sum of one Hundred and twenty
five pounds Current money of the Province
of Lower Canada to them or one of them in
hand well and truly paid by the said Jean
Baptiste Morisy the receipt whereof they
did and do hereby acknowledge and do
from the same and every part thereof did
hereby acquit and discharge the said Jean
Baptiste Morisy his Heirs and Assigns for ever
That the said James and Andrew Caldwell
Have Granted Bargained sold assigned &

set over and by these presents 554
Bargain sell assign and set over with
Guarantee of all debts demands Hyphen
- certain Decisions and Council of Council
In witness whereof I certain John

calls the Caldwell of New Carlisle as she at
present lies in this port of Quebec together
with her Hull Masts Sails Yards
anchors Cables Ropes Tackle Apparel &
furniture whatsoever to the said Schooner
appertaining or belonging by whatever name
or names the same is or are called or known
or of whatever kind or quality the same may be
and consist of. To Have & to hold
the said Schooner with her Hull masts
sails yards anchors Rops and all and
singular her appertinances whatsoever hereby
Bargained Sold & Conveyed or intended
do to be unto the said Jean Baptiste Morney
his Heirs and assigns to the only proper
use & behoof of the said Jean Baptiste Morney
His Heirs and assigns for ever and
to which He and they are hereby meant to

have a legal right and
said Schooner obtain a Register in the Port
of New Carlisle in the District of Gaspe
the twenty fifth day of July one thousand
seven hundred & ninety one and which
is now inserted according to act of Parliament.

no 45.

In pursuance of an Act passed in the
seventh year of the reign of King

(L.L.)

George the Third intituled An Act for the further
Increase and encouragement of Shipping and
Navigation John Caldwell James Caldwell
Robert and Andrew Caldwell residing at New

Worcester

Carlisle in the District of Gaspe & Province
of Quebec Mariners having taken and sub-

Wm O'Hara
Callor
L.L.

scribed the Oath required by this Act and
having sworn that they are sole Owners of the
Ship or Vessel called the Caldwell of New

Carlisle whereof John Caldwell is at present
Master and that the said Ship or Vessel
was built at New Carlisle this present year

one thousand seven hundred & ninety one and
that the said Ship or Vessel is British
as that the said Ship or Vessel is British

Plantation built has one Deck and two
Masts that her length from the fore part of
the Main stem to the after part of the Stern
Post is forty eight feet six inches less

855
 late Master Antonio at the Custom House at
 Burlington this 2nd day of Aug^r. 1797. signed
 Ronald Mc Donnell Acting for River St. Peter's
 D. Coill. — Which said said Grant bargain
 and conveyance He the said Jean Baptiste —
 Morony in the presence of us the said Notaries du
 dit both being accept, and is therewith satisfied
 & content. This done & passed at Quebec in
 the office of Charles Stewart one of the subscribing
 Notaries the twenty fifth day of October one thousand
 seven hundred and ninety seven this Minute being
 first read in hearing of the parties and deposited
 in the office of the said Charles Stewart there to
 remain of record. —

James Caldwell

James Caldwell

J. B. Morony

Cha Stewart

Not. Pub

Witnesses
 R. Rufel
 For Migneron

Received Dubuc 25th October 1797 from M.
 Jean Baptiste Morney of Dubuc Mariner the
 sum of One hundred and twenty five pounds
 Current money of the Province of Lower Canada
 being the Consideration money mentioned to be
 paid by him to us for the vessel Bargainie
 Schooner Caldwell.

James Caldwell

Etienne Caldwell

Cha Stewart

Not Pub

noted

R. Russell

La Signerou

[Signature]