

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

SALE OF WHITE PINE DEALS

Laughlan Thomas Patterson contracts
with William Price to supply a ship
load of White Pine deals.

KEN ANNETT

CONTRACT AND SALE OF WHITE PINE DEALS

FOREWORD

The CONTRACT AND SALE DEED for Gaspé white pine, which follows, may be more meaningful if prefaced by brief biographical notes on four of the individuals named therein :

LAUGHLAN THOMAS PATTERSON

The "ANCESTRAL RECORD" of the Patterson family of Gaspé, published in 1986 by Andrew B. Patterson provides background on Laughlan. Born at Gaspé Bay South (Wakeham) in 1804, Laughlan was the youngest son and child of John and Margaret McPherson Patterson. His paternal grandfather, Lieutenant John Patterson, a native of Scotland, was a British Army veteran who had fought at Louisbourg and Quebec with General James Wolfe and had settled on the York River in Gaspé Bay in the early 1760's. His son, John Jr. a Gaspé fisherman and farmer, married Margaret Ascah of the well-documented Peninsula family. They had two sons and two daughters prior to the death of Margaret in 1793. Subsequently, John Jr. remarried with Margaret McPherson. Of the three sons and two daughters of this second marriage, Laughlan was the youngest. He did not marry but by birth and through the marriage of his siblings, Laughlan was linked with the early Gaspé Bay families of Ascah, Coffin, Davis, McPherson, Mullin and Phillips.

DANIEL MCPHERSON

Daniel McPherson, like Lieut. John Patterson, was a native Scot- his birthplace being Fort William, Invernessshire. As a youth he came out to the American Colonies and at the outbreak of the American Revolution was a resident of Philadelphia. An ardent Loyalist, he came to Lower Canada and for a time lived at the Loyalist camp near present day Sorel. There he met and married Mary Kelly. Moving on to Gaspesia he established a very successful fishery at Point St. Peter as a contemporary and competitor of Charles Robin. Indeed Robin recorded that of all his competitors in the Gaspesian fishery only Daniel McPherson survived and prospered.

In 1802 Daniel McPherson acquired the Seigniory of Crane Island (Ile aux Grues) and was its Seigneur until 1830 when he handed it over to his son, John. The other McPherson children were:

DANIEL McPHERSON (ctd)

- . Charlotte - the wife of Col. Henry B. Johnston of Douglastown and Point St. Peter.
- . Julia - the wife of Benjamin Le Moine
- . Laughlan - Notary public of Québec City.
Prepared Deeds for many Gaspesians of his time.

LAUGHLAN THOMAS McPHERSON

As noted above Laughlan Thomas was a son of Daniel and Mary Kelly McPherson. Trained in Québec City as a Notary public his first records date from 1816 and extend over the following two decades. These records are a veritable "treasure-chest" of Gaspesian history for among the many Gaspé names to be found in them are those of Hall, Tuzo, Sheppard, Brehaut, Sherar, Stewart, Boyle, Murray, Miller, Dodridge, LeGresley, Baker, Sivret, O'Hara, Caldwell, Suddard, Savidon, Adams, Ferguson, Mann, Pritchard, Billingsley, Coffin and others . His Gaspesian background and wide acquaintance with his contemporaries in Gaspesia make his records particularly valuable.

WILLIAM PRICE

Another son of Scotland who was destined to engrave the family name of Price on the history of Québec, William Price chose the lumber trade as his field of activity. One of the early Price enterprises was the mill at Metis in Gaspesia which has been referred to previously by GASPE OF YESTERDAY (THE SEIGNIORY OF METIS. 1675-1854) From original interest in the long-lumber trade, as reflected in the following Deed, the descendants of William Price would establish the great pulp and paper industry that has carried the Price name to modern times.

CONTRACT AND SALE. 31st October 1829

L.T.Paterson
to
Wm Price

On the thirty first day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and twenty nine, Before us, the undersigned Notaries Public duly admitted and sworn for the Province of Lower Canada and residing in the City of Quebec in the said Province, personally came, appeared and was present Laughlan Thomas Paterson of Gaspé in the District of Gaspé and Province aforesaid, Trader, who in the presence of us the said Notaries did declare to have bargained and sold and by these presents doth bargain and sell unto William Price, Esquire, of the City of Québec, Merchant, hereunto also present and accepting hereof, that is to say Four Thousand five hundred in number, pieces, good, sound, merchantable, bright, White Pine deals of the following dimensions, viz. of twelve feet, fourteen feet and fifteen feet eleven inches long, eleven inches broad and three inches thick, but if necessary for the convenience of sawing some of the deals may be nine inches broad, two and a half inches thick and of the lengths aforesaid and as many of the said deals as possible shall be twelve feet long, eleven inches broad and three inches thick

And which the said Laughlan Thomas Paterson doth promise hereby and oblige himself and his heirs and assigns to deliver unto the said William Price or his order on the Westerly Point of the Basin of Gaspé at a convenient place for loading the same on ship board on or before the first day of June now next ensuing -

It is hereby agreed that the said deals shall be sawed out of good logs so as to have as few of second quality deals as possible; that the said

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deals shall have no stub shot ends but that the ends shall be well squared off, that the said deals shall be kept clean and that after being floated down the River shall be carefully piled on the edge of the said Point in a proper manner by the said contractor so that they may be shipped by the said William Price in a clean, dry and good state and that the said deals shall on the delivery thereof be culled and inspected according to Law, the said contractor undertaking that the said seals may be loaded on ship board with facility from the place aforesaid where he will pile them, the vessel laying in safety alongside the Bank and loading the deals from the shore by means of a gangway formed with spars.

The present Contract and Agreement is thus made and entered into for and in consideration of the rate or price of Seven Pounds Halifax Currency for each and every Quebec Standard hundred of the aforesaid deals of the first quality and for such of them as may be of the Second quality two thirds of the aforesaid rate or price. On account and in part payment whereof the said Laughlan Thomas Paterson doth hereby acknowledge and confess to have received from the said William Price to his entire satisfaction before the execution of these presents the sum of One Hundred and Forty Pounds said Currency in and by the Promissory Note of William Price at Ninety days date.

And as to the residue of the said consideration the same shall and will be payable forthwith on the right and true delivery of the said Four Thousand five hundred deals.

And for security of the repayment of the aforesaid advances or sum of One Hundred and forty Pounds, to these presents came and intervened and was also present Daniel McPherson, Esquire of St. Thomas in the District of Québec, represented hereto by Laughlan Thomas MacPherson of Québec, Notary Public, his agent and attorney, who, after having had and taken communication of these presents did voluntarily become the surety of the said Laughlan Thomas Paterson for the repayment of the aforesaid advance in case of default in the present contract as herein after mentioned, and he the said Daniel MacPherson by and through his agent and attorney did, as by

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these presents he doth, promise, bind and oblige himself and his heirs and assigns, jointly and severally solidairement with the said Laughlan Thomas Paterson under the several and different remunerations required by Law towards the said William Price for the repayment of the aforesaid advance or Sum of One Hundred and Forty Pounds in case of default on the present Contract by the said contractor and the non-delivery by him of a sufficient quantity of deals to cover the said advance - the said Daniel MacPherson thereof making his own proper affair as sole and principal obligé.

These presents to be duly executed and performed on pain of all costs and damages, losses and interests resulting from default herein. And for the execution of these presents the said parties have made election of domicile irrevocable as follows, that is to say, the said contractor at the Office of the said L.T.MacPherson and the said Daniel MacPherson at his residence at St.Thomas aforesaid and the said William Price at his Counting House in the said City of Québec.

THUS DONE AND PASSED in the said City of Québec at the Office of Errol B.Lindsay, one of the said Notaries, on the day and year first above written. IN FAITH AND TESTIMONY WHEREOF the said William Price, Laughlan Thomas Paterson and the said Laughlan Thomas MacPherson, for the said Daniel MacPherson, to these presents, first duly read, severally set and subscribed their respective names and signatures in the presence of us the said Notaries, also hereunto subscribing.

(SIGNATURES) L.T.Patterson
 William Price
 L.T.MacPherson
 E.B.Lindsay, N.P.
 C.M.De Foy, N.P.