

GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY

BISHOP STEWART VISITS GASPÉ

The Right Reverend, The Honourable
Charles James Stewart, D.D. Oxon.,
Second Anglican Bishop Of Quebec,
visits Gaspé in 1829.

KEN ANNETT

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FOREWORD

"GASPE OF YESTERDAY", Volume 1, published in 1981, included the reports of Archdeacon George Jeho. Mountain on his visits to Gaspé in 1824 and 1826. In the interval between these two visits to Gaspesia the first Anglican Bishop of Quebec, the Right Reverend Jacob Mountain, father of the Archdeacon above, had died on June 25th., 1825. He was succeeded as second Lord Bishop of Quebec by the Right Reverend, the Honourable Charles James Stewart, D.D., Oxon., who was appointed in November, 1825 and consecrated in Lambeth Chapel, London on January 1st., 1826. It is in order to recall briefly the background of this new Bishop of Quebec who visited Gaspé in 1829.

Charles James Stewart, the third son of the seventh Earl of Galloway, was born in London in April 1775. He grew up on his father's Scottish estate, Galloway, near the village of Garlieston on Wigtown Bay. He attended Oxford University, graduating with a B.A. in 1795 and an M.A. in 1799. Having chosen Holy Orders as his career, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1799 and had as his first parish Orton Longueville, near Peterborough. During his service in that parish he travelled extensively in the Mediterranean lands with his sister, Georgiana, who sought relief from ill health and was, for some months Chaplain on H.M.S. BELLEROPHEN, The Royal Navy ship that conveyed Napoleon to exile in St. Helena several years later.

In 1806, having decided to offer himself as a missionary overseas he was recommended to the Lord Bishop of Quebec by the Bishop of Lincoln and accepted as a missionary priest of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to serve the St. Armand Seigniory in Quebec.

The Seigniory of St. Armand, then in the possession of

the Hon. Thomas Dunn of Quebec comprised some seventy-five square miles in South-West Quebec, bounded on the North by the Township of Stanbridge and the Township of Dunham, on the East by the Township of Sutton, on the South by the State of Vermont and to the West by Missisquoi Bay. Settlement by Loyalists, mainly of Dutch origin, had begun in 1784 but growth had been slow and the area was still sparsely settled in 1800. Prior to the appointment of the Rev. Charles Stewart the settlers of the St. Armand Seigniory had been served by the Rev. John Doty, the Rev. R. Q. Short, the Rev. James Turnstall and the Rev. Charles Cotton.

Rev. Stewart sailed from Plymouth on August 7th and after a voyage of 50 days reached Quebec on September 26th. There he visited the new Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and met a number of Quebec people including members of the families of Mountain, Hale, Shaw, Smith, Dunn, Sinclair, Ryland and Jackson. Among officers of the British garrison he met Colonels Sheaffe and Brock who would later win a place in Canadian history for their part in the War of 1812-14. From Quebec he travelled to Montreal and thence to his new parish of St. Armand via Chambly, St. Johns and Missisquoi. He reached his destination on October 21st., 1807.

REPORT BY BISHOP STEWART TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE
PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

QUEBEC, APRIL 28, 1830

AT THE CLOSE OF MY LETTER TO YOU OF THE 3rd OF LAST JULY, I MENTIONED THAT I WAS ON THE EVE OF EMBARKATION FOR THE DISTRICT OF GASPÉ; HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JAMES KEMPT HAVING KINDLY PLACED THE GOVERNMENT VESSEL AT MY DISPOSAL. THIS DISTRICT IS THE MOST EASTERN PART OF MY DIOCESE, SITUATED IN THE GULPH OF ST. LAWRENCE, AND WIDELY SEPARATED FROM ANY

OTHER PROTESTANT ESTABLISHMENT, THERE BEING NO PROTESTANT MINISTER OR PLACE OF WORSHIP IN ALL THE INTERMEDIATE COUNTRY, FROM QUEBEC DOWNWARDS. I EMBARKED IN THE BRIG "KINGFISHER" IN THE EVENING OF THE 4th OF JULY, ACCOMPANIED BY THE REV. E. PARKIN, AND THE REV. J. DEACON, A SEA VOYAGE HAVING BEEN RECOMMENDED TO THEM ON ACCOUNT OF THE INFIRM STATE OF THEIR HEALTH. AFTER A PLEASANT VOYAGE WE ARRIVED AT THE BAY OF GASPÉ IN THE EVENING OF THE 8th. NEXT DAY, DIVINE SERVICE WAS PERFORMED IN THE CHURCH AT GASPÉ BASIN, AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, AFTER I HAD DELIVERED A DISCOURSE ON CONFIRMATION, SIXTY-SIX PERSONS WERE ADMITTED TO THAT HOLY RITE. ON THE 11th, TWENTY-ONE PERSONS WERE CONFIRMED IN THE NEW CHURCH AT MAL BAY, AND ON SUNDAY THE 12th, FIFTY-FOUR IN THE CHURCH AT PERCÉ. AGAIN, IN THE EVENING, I PREACHED AT L'ANSE À BEAUFILS, AND CONFIRMED THIRTY-NINE PERSONS; ALL THESE PLACES ARE IN THE MISSION OF THE BAY OF GASPÉ, THE FIRST AND LAST-MENTIONED ARE ABOUT FORTY MILES APART; THE THREE CHURCHES ARE NOT IN A FINISHED STATE, BUT THERE IS A GOOD PROSPECT OF THEIR BEING SOON COMPLETED. THERE ARE TWO OTHER STATIONS IN THE BAY, DOUGLAS TOWN AND GRANDE GRÈVE, WHICH ARE VISITED BY OUR MISSIONARY, THE REV. WILLIAM ARNOLD. HE RESIDES AT GASPÉ BASIN, AND GOES TO THE OTHER PLACES, IN SUCCESSION, TWO OR THREE TIMES A YEAR. HIS MISSION IS A VERY ARDUOUS AND EXTENSIVE ONE; THE INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE PRINCIPAL PLACES BEING KEPT UP BY WATER COMMUNICATION, EXCEPT DURING A SHORT PERIOD IN THE WINTER, WHEN THE WATER NEAR THE SHORES OF BAY IS FROZEN AND ADMITS OF TRAVELLING IN CARRIAGES ON THE ICE. THE PROTESTANT POPULATION AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 700 SOULS; SOME OF THE PEOPLE ARE NATIVES OF GUERNSEY AND JERSEY, AND PART OF THESE RESIDE IN GASPÉ DURING THE SUMMER ONLY, AT WHICH SEASON THEY ARE EMPLOYED IN THE FISHERIES, WHICH ARE CARRIED ON HERE UPON A VERY EXTENSIVE SCALW. ONE ADVANTAGE BELONGING TO THIS MISSION IS, THAT THE PROTESTANTS ARE NOT DIVIDED INTO SECTS; AND I AM HAPPY TO ADD THAT THE REV. WILLIAM ARNOLD IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE, AND ATTENTIVE TO THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES.

ON THE 13th OF JULY I RE-EMBARKED IN THE GOVERNMENT BRIG, AND ARRIVED THE FOLLOWING EVENING AT PASPEBIAC, IN THE BAY OF CHALEURS, WHICH PLACE IS ABOUT FIFTY MILES, BY SEA, FROM PERCE. ON THE 16th I PREACHED IN THE MORNING AT PASPEBIAC, AND CONFIRMED FIFTY PERSONS. IN THE AFTERNOON I PROCEEDED ALONG A GOOD ROAD, NEAR THE COAST, THROUGH A WELL-IMPROVED COUNTRY TO NEW CARLISLE, THREE MILES DISTANT FROM PASPEBIAC. THE REV. J. DEACON PREACHED A SERMON UPON CONFIRMATION AND THE ORDINANCE WAS ADMINISTERED TO FIFTY PERSONS. THE CHURCHES AT THESE TWO PLACES, WHEN THEY ARE COMPLETED, WILL BE GOOD EDUFICES. NEXT DAY AT FOUR A.M. WE WEIGHED AND SAILED FOR RICHMOND, ABOUT THIRTY-THREE MILES FROM PASPEBIAC, BUT IN CONSEQUENCE OF ADVERSE WINDS, WE DID NOT ARRIVE THERE TILL NIGHT. WE LANDED THE FOLLOWING DAY, BUT THE CONGREGATION WHICH HAD ASSEMBLED THE DAY BEFORE, WERE, FOR THE MOST PART, ENGAGED, BY A PARTICULAR APPOINTMENT, IN MENDING, OR RATHER IN MAKING A ROAD, WHICH WILL BE OF NO SMALL BENEFIT AND IMPORTANCE IN THIS NEW COUNTRY: HOWEVER WE GATHERED A FEW PEOPLE TOGETHER AT MR. CRAWFORD'S AND HAD DIVINE SERVICE. BESIDES THE THREE PLACES MENTIONED ABOVE, THERE ARE FOUR OTHER PREACHING STATIONS, SITUATED UPON THE CANADA SIDE OF THE BAY OF CHALEURS, AND THE WHOLE LINE OF COAST OF WHICH REV. L. DOOLITTLE HAS THE SPIRITUAL CHARGE, IS NOT LESS THAN 100 MILES IN LENGTH. THE PRESBYTERIANS ARE NUMEROUS IN HIS MISSION, BUT HIS JUDGMENT, DILIGENCE AND ZEAL, IN DISCHARGING THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE, RECOMMEND HIM TO ALL DENOMINATIONS.

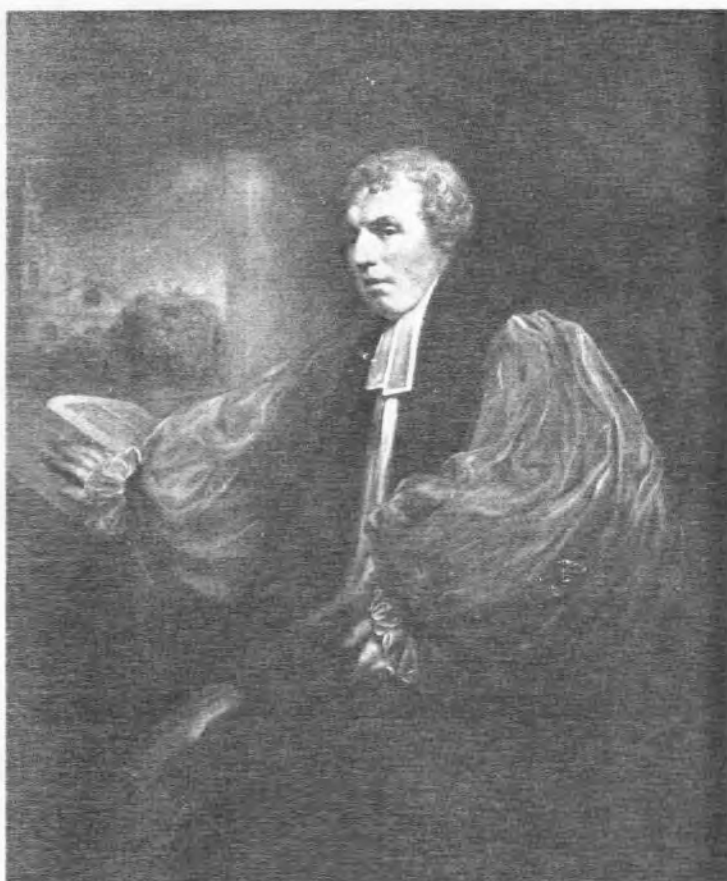
HAVING PROMISED THE BISHOP OF NOVA SCOTIA TO VISIT BATHURST IN NEW BRUNSWICK, ABOUT FORTY MILES FROM RICHMOND, ON THE OPPOSITE COAST OF THE BAY OF CHALEURS, WE CAME TO ANCHOR IN NIPISIGHAT BAY, AT FIVE A.M. ON SUNDAY THE 19th OF JULY. WE ROWED UP THE BAY AND RIVER SEVEN MILES, AND LANDED AFTER MID-DAY. WE FOUND A CONGREGATION COLLECTED, AND DIVINE SERVICE WAS PERFORMED IN THE COUNTY COURT-HOUSE, THE CHURCH NOT BEING COMPLETED. AFTER DELIVERING A SERMON, I CONFIRMED NINE PERSONS:

A GREATER NUMBER OF CANDIDATES FOR THE HOLY ORDINANCE, AND MANY PERSONS WHO WISHED TO ATTEND DIVINE SERVICE ON THIS OCCASION PARTICULARLY, WERE ABSENT, IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE MESSENGER I HAD DESPATCHED FROM PASPEBIAC, TO GIVE NOTICE OF MY BEING IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, NOT HAVING DULY EXECUTED HIS ERRAND; AND, IN ADDITION TO THIS DISAPPOINTMENT, THE MISSIONARY OF THE PLACE, THE REV. A. SOMERVILLE, WAS SICK, AND CONFINED TO HIS HOUSE, A CIRCUMSTANCE WHICH I SINCERELY REGRETTED. AFTER HAVING BEEN VERY HOSPITABLY ENTERTAINED BY MR. DE BLOIS AND MRS. PAKARD, WE RE-EMBARKED THE SAME EVENING.

THE DISTANCE OF THE BAY OF CHALEURS BEING MORE THAN ONE HALF OF THE VOYAGE FROM QUEBEC TO HALIFAX, (THE WHOLE DISTANCE IS ABOUT 750 MILES) AND THE GOVERNMENT BRIG BEING AT MY DISPOSAL, I RESOLVED TO PROCEED TO HALIFAX, TO PAY A SHORT VISIT TO MY FRIENDS, HIS EXCELLENCY SIR PEREGRINE MAITLAND, AND THE BISHOP OF NOVA SCOTIA. THE WINDS DURING THE GREATEST PART OF THE VOYAGE NOT BEING FAVOURABLE, I DID NOT ARRIVE THERE TILL MONDAY, JULY THE 27th. ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY I PREACHED THE ANNUAL SERMON IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE DIOCESAN COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, AND ON THE 6th OF AUGUST I HAD THE GRATIFICATION OF ATTENDING THE VISITATION OF THE BISHOP, OF HEARING A VERY GOOD SERMON PREACHED BY THE REV. DR. PORTER, AND AN EXCELLENT CHARGE DELIVERED BY HIS LORDSHIP. (SIR PEREGRINE MAITLAND WAS THE GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA, 1828-1834). WHILE I WAS AT HALIFAX I HAD THE PLEASURE OF SEEING THE CHILDREN IN THE NEIGHBOURING SCHOOLS ASSEMBLED IN AN OPEN PLACE IN THE NEIGHBOURING FOREST, WHERE THEY WERE TREATED WITH A VERY GOOD DINNER BY THEIR FRIEND AND SPECIAL BENEFACTOR ON THIS OCCASION, THE REV. J. UNIACKE, OF ST. GEORGE'S PARISH. HE GAVE THEM A SHORT EXHORTATION AND THEY SANG A HYMN; THERE WERE ABOUT 240 CHILDREN. THE PICTURESQUE BEAUTY OF THE SURROUNDING SCENERY, THE FINENESS OF THE DAY, THE LIVELINESS OF THE OBJECTS PRESENTED, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE CHILDREN, COMBINED TO MAKE IT A DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT TO A

LARGE CONCOURSE OF PERSONS. ON THE 7th AUGUST I TRAVELLED AS FAR AS TRUR , WHERE I JOINED HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR PEREGRINE AND LADY SARAH MAITLAND. NEXT DAY WE PROCEEDED TO PICTOU, WHICH PLACE IS ABOUT 100 MILES FROM HALIFAX. THE 9th OF AUGUST BEING SUNDAY, WE ALL WENT TO CHURCH. THE BUILDING IS A NEAT AND GOOD EDIFICE, AND IT WAS CONSECRATED BY THE BISHOP OF NOVA SCOTIA ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY. UPON THIS OCCASION I PREACHED IN THE MORNING AND AFTERNOON; AND AT SEVEN p.m.

I RE-EMBARKED IN THE "KINGFISHER", WELL PLEASED WITH MY VISIT. THE DISTANCE BY SEA FROM QUEBEC TO PICTOU IS ABOUT 250 MILES LESS THAN TO HALIFAX; THE VOYAGE HOWEVER OCCUPIED TEN DAYS.



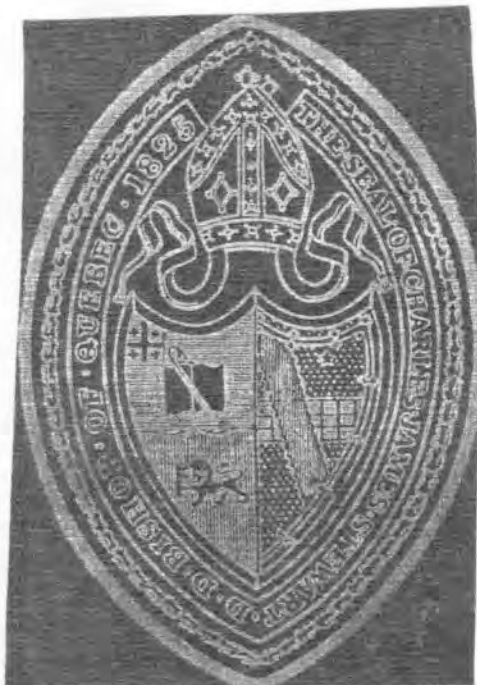
By permission of the Warden and Fellows of All Souls.

Yours very sincerely
C. J. Lubbock

THE COAT-OF-ARMS OF THE HONOURABLE AND RIGHT REVEREND
CHARLES JAMES STEWART, SECOND LORD BISHOP OF QUEBEC,

AND

THE MEMORIAL TO BISHOP STEWART LOCATED IN THE CHANCEL
OF THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY, QUEBEC CITY.



In memory of the
Honorable and Right Revd. Charles James Stewart, D.D.,
Bishop of Quebec.

Third son of John, seventh Earl of Galloway,
Sometime fellow of all Soul's College, Oxford,
And Rector of Overton Longville, Huntingdonshire, England.

In the year MDCCCVII, he devoted himself
To the office of a Missionary in Canada,
Which he filled in succession at Philipsburg,
Frelighsburg and Charleston
In the Eastern Townships.

In MDCCCXIX, he was appointed,
Visiting Missionary of the Diocese of Quebec,
And on the vacancy of that See,

Was consecrated thereto, at Lambeth Chapel, January 1st, MDCCCXXVI.

Animated as he was by a fervent and unabated zeal,
In the discharge of the duties of his high and holy calling,
His ministrations of the Blessed Gospel was distinguished,
By humility of mind, by universal charity.

And by an unreserved dedication of all his powers,
In reliance for sufficiency upon the Divine Grace,
To the Glory of God, and the best interest of man.

In the faith and hope of them that die in the Lord
He departed this life, July XIIIth, MDCCCXXXVII.

In the LXIIIrd-year of his age,
And is buried in the family vault of the Earl of Galloway,
In the cemetery, Harrow Road, near London.

In testimony of affectionate veneration for his many virtues
And in gratitude to God,

For the benefits thereby conferred upon this Diocese,
This tablet was erected by public subscription, MDCCCXLI.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON FOUR ANGLICAN PRIESTS INVOLVED IN THE
1829 VISIT OF BISHOP STEWART TO GASPEZIA.

DEACON, JOB
(1794-1850)

JOB DEACON, a cousin of Benjamin Cronyn, was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1794. He arrived at Cornwall about 1819 and engaged in teaching. Through the interest of the rector, the Reverend S. J. Mountain, he was recommended to the S.P.G. and placed on their list of students. John Wilson of Kingston was his tutor in theology. Bishop Jacob Mountain recommended him to the Earl of Dalhousie as tutor for the latter's son, Lord Ramsay, who later became Governor-General of India. He was ordained deacon in 1822 and licensed to Adolphustown, where the whole of his ministry was spent. He was raised to the priesthood in 1824. He accompanied Bishop Stewart to Halifax in 1828, and he also went to Saratoga Springs for his health. Many family calamities fell to his lot, and he died May 22, 1850, predeceased by his wife and children. His second wife, Priscilla Swainston, was an elder sister of Mrs. Thomas Campbell.

ARNOLD, WILLIAM
(1804-1857)

WILLIAM ARNOLD was born at Black Rock, near Dublin, Ireland, December 25, 1804. With his family he emigrated to Canada, where one of his brothers became an officer of the commissariat. He read theology under the direction of Robert Blakey of Prescott and John Wilson of Kingston. He received an S.P.G. scholarship in 1825, and was ordained deacon late in 1826. He went to Gaspé in 1827, returned in the autumn for ordination to the priesthood, and went back to his mission at Chaleur Bay in 1828. He married there and remained until 1837 when he was removed to St. Johns and Laprairie. He assisted the rector of St. Johns, and opened a small chapel at L'Acadie. In the winter of 1838-39 he was at Bury. His wife, Maria Charlotte O'Hara, died at St. Johns, March 4, 1840. He returned to Gaspé Bay Mission, about 1841, and died there, June 9, 1857.

PARKIN, EDWARD
(1791-1837)

EDWARD PARKIN was born in Yorkshire in 1791. He was ordained to the diaconate and priesthood by the Archbishop of York, taught school in England, and came to Canada as an S.P.G. missionary in 1819. He was licensed to Chambly and superintended the building of the present church. He was acting chaplain to the garrison, school teacher and tutor of theological students, as well as missionary. In 1828 he was stationed at St. Catharines, U.C., but he remained there only a year. The Bishop then placed him at Sherbrooke, L.C. Here he stayed until 1832, but his mind becoming affected he moved to Vermont and then went back to England. He was committed to Radcliffe Asylum and died there not long after 1836. By his wife, Sarah Cullen, he had several children.

One son, John Buckworth Parkin, was a brilliant member of the Quebec Bar. Another son, E. C. Parkin, served as a priest in the diocese of Quebec. Before coming to Canada Parkin published a small book of sermons, and he published another sermon on leaving Sherbrooke. On April 8, 1830, he advertised two volumes of his writings in the *Montreal Gazette*, and in 1836 he produced a printed prospectus of the following works:—Autoschediasmata (an autobiographical sketch); Mnemoneumata Americana (reminiscences); Conciones Canadenses (sermons). As far as is known these books were never printed.

DOOLITTLE, LUCIUS
(1800-1862)

LUCIUS DOOLITTLE was born in Lyndon, Vermont, May 23, 1800. He lived in Hatley when Dr. Stewart ministered at that place and was encouraged both by Stewart and by Bishop Mountain to prepare himself for the ministry of the church. He was a member of the class of 1823 in the University of Vermont, and was made an honorary graduate in 1833. After studying under Thomas Johnson of Hatley he was made a deacon in 1828 and was licensed to Chaleur Bay. He returned to Quebec the next year to be priested and was married at the same time. In October, 1833, he removed from Paspebiac because of ill health and was appointed to Sherbrooke and Lennoxville. Until 1847 he served both congregations, and from 1847 to 1862, Lennoxville alone. He was a founder of Bishop's College School, and a benefactor of Bishop's College itself, giving both land and money to the infant institution. He was a personal friend and correspondent of Bishop Stewart, who left him a small legacy. He died, May 22, 1862, leaving no descendants.