A HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF YARMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA

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A History of the County of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia by Rev. J. R. Campbell

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REV. J. R. CAMPBELL

A HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF YARMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA



A MANUSCRIPT HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF YARMOUTH

Having been submitted to us by the author, the Rev. J. R. Campelle, for our critical examination as to matters of fact, and general accuracy, we, whose names are hereunto signed, have great pleasure in stating that we have thoroughly examined the work, in the composition of which, the author must have most carefully and industriously exhausted all sources of information. The arrangement into several distinct, and yet, well connected sections, greatly increases its value as a book of reference, and remiers the whole narrative clear and unconfused. All statements of fact have been carefully verified, and we believe the whole to be an accurate and impartial History of this County.

J. B. Bond, W. H. Moody, G. J. Farish, L. E. Baker,

J. B. Kinney, T. M. Lewis,

FREEMAN DENNIS.

Yarmouth, October 7th, 1875.

A HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF YARMOUTH,

NOVA SCOTIA.



REV. J. R. CAMPBELL.



PUBLISHED BY J. & A. MCMILLAN, SAINT JOHN, N B. 1876. To the

People

of the

County of Parmouth,

this Work

is respectfully dedicated

by

the Anthor.

YARMOUTH HISTORY.

The Public who have copies of this work in their pessession are respectfully requested by the Author to make the following corrections. Some are errors of the press; the remainder represent the whole of the proced results of criticism up till the present date:—

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date:—

Page xvi, line 13, for "3," read "Title page."

5, "28, "a [8]0," "4[30,"

17, "7, "fauthoritities," read "authorities," 12, "10, "serried," "anserried."

17, "23, "grin," "e" grin,"

49, "4, "him," "Him," "Him,"

58, "3, "eighty-six," read "akty-eight"

83, "28, "1575" read "1768," "176,"

112, "8, "1782," "1771,"

112, "9, "41782," "1771,"

113, "21, "1782," "1771,"

113, "21, "8, Ellenwood's tan-yard," read "W. Lewis 'Bomestead,"

114, "10, "1783," read "1773,"

114, "21, "1785," "173," "173,"

200, "15, "has," "hare."
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INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

LTHOUGH not as deeply interested, or as directly concerned in all the details of the County of Yarmouth, as if he had been born in this County, and had listened from childhood to the story of its settlement and subsequent progress; the Author has always considered it a duty as well as a pleasure, to gather up particulars illustrative of the Character and Institutions of the people amongst whom his lot, for some years, has been cast.

This more systematic effort to preserve the floating traditions and to collect the scattered records of the past, by which, when connected with our present condition, the progress which has been made, may be appreciated, was the result of an invitation issued by the Governors of Kings College, Windsor, for Essays on County Histories, under the thoughtful and liberal intelligence of the Akins Foundation. I sent them an Essay on the history of this County in 1872; and, from the expressions of satisfaction with which they were pleased to accompany the reception of my paper,—together with the then general interest in the

undertaking, and the subsequent continued solicitations of those whose opinions I respect, I have thought it my duty to publish the work.

The volume from the nature of the case cannot be expected to be very interesting to many persons unconnected with the County. Compared with the important transactions of great countries, the contents must, to unconcerned readers, appear trivial. There is here no account of great men, or great measures; but simply the common-place records of a young, but growing community, in which there is necessarily much of personal detail, and even that confined to a few whose ability to be publicly useful in one thing usually identified them with many, and to whom, therefore, by consequence, frequent reference had to be made. But I venture to think that, as all things are great or small only by comparison, the details of the affairs of this County however insignificant in themselves, are more interesting and more important to its people than are the details of any other limited part of the world. And as every intelligent people loves to know something of its past history, I shall have been amply repaid to think that some things have been herein preserved, which were fast floating away.

As much accuracy in statement, and moderation in style, is required in such a work, as in a greater. In order to attain these desirable objects, the manuscript was voluntarily submitted to a number of well informed, independent-minded citizens, representing wide Political and Religious divergences of opinion; and their criticism freely invited. They were pleased to testify to the general accuracy and

impartiality of the whole; but I wish it to be understood that I alone, am responsible for details.

The Author has endeavoured to verify all his statements, by reference to such authorities and sources of information, both written and oral, as were available. Council Books, Proceedings of Assembly, Township Proprietors' Book, Sessions Books, Record Books, Journals, Settlers Ledgers, and the local Press, have been made to yield up the little or much they contained. There have been several Histories of Nova Scotia published, which might very reasonably have been supposed to have been servicable. But when I say that the very latest work on the subject, Mr. Duncan Campbell's History of Nova Scotia, contains only a few trivial allusions to this County, all of which do not occupy half a dozen lines, it will be seen at once how limited is the assistance that is to be obtained from such sources. Throughout the three volumes of Mr. Murdoch's valuable repository of facts for some future historian of Nova Scotia, lie scattered references to this County. In Haliburton's work, published in 1829, there is a well written notice of Yarmouth and Argyle, from the pen of the late Dr. H. G. Farish. That gentleman was asked by Mr., afterwards Judge Haliburton, to give him the needed reference to those places; and the answer sent was inserted without alteration, as I found on examining the papers in possession of several members of his family, and which have been kindly lent to to me for this work. I have obtained valuable assistance from the papers above referred to, and from one or two papers in the possession of other private citizens; although the assistance from this source, notwithstanding a long