



FROM THE GOVERNOR:-

This notice is to tell a little of our progress. Because of my inexperience there has been some delay in the processing of applications. However I think we are overcoming most of the difficulties and a goodly number of the applications are completed or in an advanced stage of being completed. Most of this is owing to the kindness and understanding of the new Historian General in Plymouth, Mr. Eugene Stratton. His patience can truly be said to be marvellous, especially when one realizes the tremendous task that is his of processing all the applications of Canada and the United States of America. I suspect that perhaps some thousand to two thousand such applications must go through his office in any given year.

The last Historian General, Miss Anne Borden Harding, according to various merited tributes to her work processed a tremendous number and the flow is continuing under Mr. Stratton. However I cannot overemphasize the generosity shown to our Canadian Society by The Historian General.

Completed and incomplete applications have more than doubled our numbers in our first year. With regard to the not yet completed applications I would like the applicants to write to me to tell me of any made and nothing done further by themselves or by me.

Speaking of our increasing membership it looks very much as if we should be able to start an Alberta-British Columbia Colony and Maritime Colony in the near future. This in itself shows that we are progressing.

Our next meeting - just a reminder from our last Newsletter, that Saturday, March 13. 1982 - we will have an afternoon-tea. Business meeting at Holy Name Parish Hall.

The Annual dues were mentioned in our last issue - with a reminder that now is the time for renewal. However some letters have reminded us that the amount of the Annual Fee was not mentioned. - it is \$15.00.

So far we have two meetings yearly - a Spring Meeting and a Fall Meeting. "More often" will have to be decided by a common desire.

J. S. Melivern

Mayflower Serial
NIL MAP.
M

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA BEFORE 1776

- Another View in retrospect

By: Harry Feltus-Pierce, MBE, FRSA

Deputy-Governor: -

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS.

Had it not been for the Stamp Act of 1765 there might not have been any revolution, 10 years later. Ergo, there would not have been any United Empire Loyalists, who are about to celebrate their Bicentennial in 1983.

The stamp Act and the reaction, the Boston Tea Party were two of several components that precipitated the revolution.

Why was the Stamp Act imposed? In brief, money was needed for the continued defence of British North America. Britain had expended enormous amounts of money in prosecuting offensive and defensive actions against the French and the Indians, in the many battles in North America prior to 1765, They could no longer sustain the burden without help from the colonies.

The military strategists were demanding funds for the defence against incursions, in particular from the western flank and a possible invasion from their southern borders along the coast.

An "Appreciation of the situation" is attempted herewith:

The military staff officers in London calculated that 10,000 trained troops were required on the western and southern flanks.

They believed that Spanish forces of unknown strength could be thrust eastward across the Great Mississippi River and the threat continued to exist that Indian raids in force might strike anytime, by day or night.

Your attention is now drawn to the map of 1754 Fig.1, by which you will note the extent of the Spanish claims to land. Now turn to the map of 1763 Fig.2. It is patently clear that the Spanish claims to Territories had extended northward and eastward to the Mississippi as well as Northward along the Pacific coast.

Now these territorial expansions in part were due to the forced withdrawal of the French forces by defeat and the situation being exploited by the Spanish in this local game of military chess.

Had you been in a position of responsibility in a military capacity, would you not have considered it a point of duty to worry about this Spanish threat?

Glancing into the past for a moment we should consider that Britain did her utmost to encourage the Colonial Leaders to man this western position themselves: but as is well known they refused absolutely to maintain the necessary force in the defensive role.

This being established positively, the Mother Country hired the hessian mercenaries to protect Britain's vested interests and the people of New England. It was necessary to hold the terrain that had been secured at such great cost in lives and specie. Moreover the new territories west of the Mississippi would be sorely needed for expansion when the fifth and sixth generations of New Englanders were ready to start. The Great Migrations.

The Stamp Tax was imposed to help defray the cost of paying and sustaining in the field, the hessian soldiers.

It seems indicated to review pertinent reasons for the French, holdings not being reflected on the map of 1763, Fig. 2.

As we know, the huge province of Louisiana, originally belonged to France. However, at the end of the seven years' war it passed to Spain. It was not mentioned by the topographer. Perhaps this is because the treaty was held in secrecy, so much intrigue seemed to be the rule in those days that it is likely, it must be noted here that decades later in 1800 by a secret treaty Louisiana was, ceded again to France. The understanding was clear that France was to hold the entire territory: however if France ever gave it up, title was to revert to Spain once more.

Three years later in 1803, the Louisiana purchase was completed. 885,000 square miles of former French/Spanish land became forever fully owned by the United States of America. The final cost was some four cents, an acre. These vast territories, as all Americans and most Canadians know, are occupied by the present States of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, west of the Mississippi, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, nearly all of Kansas, the portions of Montana, Wyoming and Colorado East of the Rocky Mountains and Louisiana west of the Mississippi, but including New Orleans.

In 1898 there was a final settlement with Spain. This resulted in increased American holdings in north America. The important acquisitions at this time were Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Guam. Cuba was freed from Spanish control and came under U.S. tutelage, the threat of 1763 no longer existed.

THE LIBRARY: -

By the time this Newsletter reaches its readers, our library, small though it is will be open to researchers in matters of Mayflower and other genealogical matters.

The Address is:-

162 Walmer Rd.,
Toronto, Ontario

Please contact either Colonel H.F. Pierce MBE, FRSA, at the above address or Father J.S. McGivern, S.J. A phone for contact, is (416) 922-9110. The library will be open Thursday evenings or by appointment.

We need many more books than we have although we have a set of the New England Genealogic and Historical Register (complete except for 2 numbers of 1863). We also have several (the majority) of County Histories of Nova Scotia - a few family histories (not nearly what we need) - Lists of books will be made regularly for our Newsletter.

OUR NEXT MEETING: - MARCH 13, 1982. - Holy Name Church Hall - Afternoon Tea served.

C O M E.

WILLIAM BREWSTER

will be published in 1982. This will be the first full-length biography of Elder Brewster in more than 100 years. It contains material not previously available.

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1. DOWN THE GREAT NORTH ROAD TO LONDON. Growing up in Scrooby Manor House.
2. CAMBRIDGE AND THE YOUNG RADICALS. Student days.
3. THE COURT OF THE GLORIOUS QUEEN. Brewster an employe of a diplomat, William Davison. With him in the Netherlands during the war with Spain, in England when Davison was an advisor to Queen Elizabeth. Davison's disgrace after the death of Mary Queen of Scots.
4. THE MAKING OF A REBEL. Brewster returns to Scrooby to become postmaster. Growing interest in clandestine religious activities. Escape to Holland.
5. REFUGE IN THE LOWLANDS. Brewster as printer of forbidden books. Growth of the church.
6. THE DREAM OF AMERICA. Plans for founding a colony.
7. THE GREATEST ADVENTURE BEGINS. The Mayflower. Exploring the new land.
8. LIFE IN THE FLOURISHING COLONY. Early and middle years.
9. THE FINAL YEARS. Old age among Brewster's friends and family. The end of the Pilgrim's journey.

The book's author is Mary B. Sherwood, a descendant of Elder Brewster and a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the District of Columbia. She is a former writer for the U.S. Information Agency. The biography is the result of several years of research.

If you would like to be notified when the book is available, you may fill in this coupon and return it to Mrs. Sherwood at the Congress or mail it to her at 7402 Lanham Road, Falls Church, Virginia, 22043:

Please send more information on the Brewster biography, when available, to:

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____