



MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

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Ms. Joyce Hounsell,
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CL59

Dear Ms. Hounsell,

Thank you for your interesting and informative response to our report and the valuable historical material included. It is greatly appreciated here.

In answer to your questions, I will take them in order.

1) On what basis did I conclude Jane Blackmore and Eleanor Blackmore were sisters? On reviewing my notes I find that our records have them 'paired.' They were both baptised on the same day (June 9, 1830) and listed as; Jane Blackmore, 3 yrs.; Eleanor Blackmore, 4 yrs. No parents' names were listed and no other Blackmores were baptised that day on Pinchard's Is. I assumed they were sisters. Since Thomas Parsons had married Eleanor Blackmore, and John Blackmore had married Mary Parsons on the same date (Oct. 27, 1817) at Greenspond, there was a strong probability these couples were cross-related, that there were at least two Eleanors, two Janes (based on other marriage records) and possibly more. Eleanor Blackmore married Levi Norris (Oct. 24, 1845) and Jane Blackmore married Thomas Gill (Oct. 23, 1847). I take it that they were the same Eleanor and Jane Blackmore mentioned in the June 9, 1830 baptismal records. In both cases friends rather than family members witnessed their respective weddings, so from our perspective here, we still had no indication as to who their parents were. You are quite right, however, in suggesting Eleanor could not have been the daughter of Philip and Ruth (Norris) Blackmore. I probably meant Patrick Blackmore and Elizabeth (Gill), married 1822, and assumed the two girls (Eleanor and Jane), baptised 1830, were sisters. The subsequent information which you forwarded suggests they may not have been.

2) Aubrey George Spencer was Bishop of Newfoundland and Bermuda, 1839-44. He was a relative of the Earl of Spencer and ultimately, related to the Duke of Marlborough. Princess Diana is linked to this family; Spencer and John Churchill (1st Duke), 1650-1722. Why your grandmother's brother, b. Feb. 1894, was named Aubrey Spencer Green rests on several levels of possibilities. Firstly, there were Newfoundland Spencer and Churchill families in the trade. They were much like the families you have already researched. The Spencers came from Poole, Dorchester, Sturminster, West Parley in

Dorset; Dawlish, Bideford, Kenton, Dartmouth, Devon; and some Anglo-Irish, Co. KilKenny, Ire. They tended to settle in Conception Bay, Bonavista Bay, Trinity, and some settled in Placentia through Slade connections in the North. The Newfoundland Churchills, interestingly came almost exclusively from Devon as did the 1st Duke of Marlborough, John Churchill, 1650-1722. Winston Churchill was a descendant. There are those here who claim - probably since World War 11 - that Churchill had Newfoundland relatives. This may or may not be the case, it is one of those things that will never be hotly disputed. One of your Green relatives may have married a Newfoundland Spencer or Churchill. If this is the case, there might be an actual connection, though I would not have the slightest idea by which tortuous route one might set out to track down such a link. It would be like trying to climb Mt. Everest without Serpahs. It is much more likely a coming together various images and impressions Newfoundland was becoming quite conscious of its past. The historical society had been formed in 1885. The Newfoundland quarterly would be published in a few years (1900). D.W. Prowse was working on his history. Newfoundland's Diamond Jubilee Stamps were devoted almost entirely to portraits of its historical figures rather than the exotic animals and steel railway trestles of other colonies. His parents probably named him after the first Anglican bishop of Newfoundland, a simple response to the times.

We found another Hounsell marriage: James M'Bride, of the firm M'Bride, Kerr and Co., of St. John's and Greenock, married Ann Hounsell, 3rd daughter of Thomas Collins Hounsell, (April 3) at Wykes Court, Bridport. (Nfld Times, May 9, 1838). She subsequently came to St. John's.

The Newfoundland Coffins came from some of the familiar towns in Devon: Dawlish, Coffinswell, Marychurch, Bishopsteign, Topsham; also Stourton Caundle and Poole, Dorset; and Guildford, Surrey. Some, like Richard and Edmund were Exeter shippers (Devon cloth) in the 1760's - 1780's. During the 1780's-1830's Coffins carried on a steady trade locally between St. John's and P.E.I. dealing in provisions; sheep. potatoes, for Nfld timber. From the 1730's - 1780's there were John, Thomas, Joshua, and Jeremiah Coffin, all captains operating out of South Carolina, Boston, Belfast and Europe in the Newfoundland trade.

I have enclosed an invoice paid for \$24.25, to cover the following charges:

Payment received	=	\$75.00 (American) - \$91.25 (Can)
Balance owing on last invoice	=	71.00 (Canadian)
Balance	=	24.25
Amount owing on this invoice	=	24.25
Balance	=	00.00

I wish to thank you again for the research you have included. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us again.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Matthews,
Chairman,
MARITIME HISTORY