

DALTON

1759 dec adm 7/90 thos "Hampshire" 60/5/2/- south - med

Dalton?

1780 mar st jns ang thos buried

dolton

1793 paign thos son digory/joan

DALTON

1798 apr newm Journ Wollcott bill to THOS 23/-/6 pd.

DALTON

1806 sep arnall#arnall and subscribed to gaz

Dalton

1807 apr st jns ang thos esq/mcht had son THOS- baptised dec 1815  
1809 sep had d sophia (his wife called sophia) baptised dec 15  
1813 mar had son WM baptised dec 15

DALTON

1808 12 dec sup ct writ thos sued simon solomon for 163/19/1 won

DALTON

1809 7 nov sup ct writ thos sued j/p o brien reardon for 129/3/9 won

DALTON

1809 rept Arnold/co 6/6/- to st jns poor socy

dalton

1810 nov duckwrth thos sued M power for 2/13/- in cb surr ct  
and sued jas dalton for 5/4/-

DALTON

1811 jan gaz Arnald/dalrton/arnald DISSOLVE. new firm geo/jn arnell.

DALTON

1811 31 aug col recs THOS employee of jas hy attwood. I took home to  
enquire gov duckwrothy order forbidding him to build and delivered  
it to him

DALTON

1811 sep sup ct thos sued by owners of ship FORTUNE for L40 won

DALTON

1812 CO I94/52 Thos grand jury town improvements

dalton

1812 oct col recs thos mchts/others anti rum duty

DALTON

1813 4 oct sup ct thos sued aspley for 10/17/- settled

D - 015

dalton

1813 5 nov col recs thos st jns inhabs want new paper

DALTON

1814 aug gaz thos has store in st jns

dalton

1814 8 aug sup ct thos sued thos atkins for 31/16/4 goods won

DALTON

1814 19 sep sup ct thos MCHT and jn ryan TAILOR charged with criminal libel - see  
ryan FOUND NOT GUILTY

DALTON

1816 13 feb hg surr ct and ryan sued rich knowles for 49/19/- a/c  
won

DALTON

1816 feb hg surr ct and ryan writ agst rich knowlen of carb 49/19/- settled

DALTON

1816 16 may st jns surr ct and ryan sued mary travers for 23/5/3 won

DALTON

1816 16 may st jns surr ct and ryan sued jas brophy for 13/12/3 won

DALTON

1816 24 jun st jns surr ct Mr creditor walsh/murphy insolvents

DALTON

1816 15 aug st jns surr ct and ryan sued thos martin for 7/9/- as endroser of bill won

DALTON

1816 23 sep st jns surr ct and ryan sued tim murphy/co for L99. 65/11/5 for hoods and blce due to estate of jas clift. won

DALTON

1816 23 sep st jns surr ct and ryan sued david foley for 18,11/- won

DALTON

1816 23 sep st jns surr ct ryan sued tim murphy/co for L99 (65/11/5 for goods sold blce as a debt due jas clift estate transferred to plaintiffs awarded 65/11/5

DALTON

1816 23 sep st jns surr ct ryan sued david foley for 18/11/- won

DALTON

1816 2 nov journ and ryan INSOLVENT. creditors to meet.

1816

DALTON

1816 13 nov journ Thos and JN ryan magotty cove DISSOLVE 31 dec.

DALTON

1816 26 nov st jns surr ct and Ryan st jns mchts insolvent

DALTON

1816 dec gaz And Ryan of st jns MCHTS INSOLVENTS.  
trustees tim ryan/haynes/mortimer/morris/meagher.

DALTON

1817 jan gaz Thos goes passenger to england.

DALTON

1817 4 jan journ and ryan 800 qtl of their fish sold by trustees

DALTON

1817 oct gaz and Ryan establishment sold. at magotty cove. stone house fish stores wharves and premises at RIVER HEAD house stores wharf and clothing/hardware stock in trade.

DALTON

1817 3 oct sup ct Trustees of and RYAN sued jos linning for 130/-/10 for goods sold and L30 for maintenance of linning/family whilst he lived with Dalton. goods delivered on usual credit-not to be paid for till the fall and defendent not liable for the L30

DALTON

1817 oct gaz Thos trustee dooling/kelly insolvents.

DALTON

1817 6 oct hg surr ct ryan and owed L300 for 1815 a/c by skein and o neil hr graces

DALTON

1817 14 oct sup ct ryan TRUSTEES sued jn elliot for 6/5/9 won

DALTON

1817 12 dec sup ct trustees and ryan sued atwood/haynes for 488/9/4 money recd by defendents since their above insolvncy. include L133 on a disputed a/c of THOS MARTIN estate and L453 for proceeds of ACTIVES cargo. fish sent to san sebastian

DALTON

1817 16 dec sup ct ryan trustees sued jas clift for L19 non suit

dalton

1817 19 dec ob writs thos sued jas johnston of hg for 10/4/-

DALTON

1818 22 jan hg surr ct Thos sued jas johnston for 10/4/0 won by default

dalton

1818 mar st jns ang thos/ann had son jn-baptised apr

DALTON

1818 29 apr hg surr ct thos sued jas johnston for 10/4/- for 4 bags bread bought last season by mary tobin of hg fm plaintiff jhanston denied any knowledge but mary tobin swore he would be responsible. won

DALTON

1818 9 nov hg surr ct thos writ agst pat strap of hr maine 19/6/-

Dalton

1819 bt 107/477 Thos "isle of skye" 62 ton own nuttall/mccawley HG

dalton

1819 stjns writs thos sued for L50 by jas/robt brine

DALTON

1819 14 oct hg surr ct and ryan ESTATE sued jn murray for blce due on note for 160/3/9. 101/0/2 had been paid. referred to supreme cout in st jns

DALTON

1819 30 nov hg surr ct writ agst thos of ~~thos~~ hg by wm mullownay 5/1/10

DALTON

1819 2 dec hg surr et thos sued for 5/1/- debt by wm mullowney lost by default

dalton

1820 4 dec cb writs thos/others sued nuttall/co for 139/13/10 wages

Dalton

1821 oct col recs Thos of HR grace had a crew in quiron (schr?) in oct 1820  
accused of breacking french property.

DALTON

1823 1 may hg surr et thos writ agst mich walsh of cupids L24

DALTON

1823 28 nov hg surr et thos writ agst jn owan of hg 4/18/-

DALTON

1824 may journ thos lower dist fire coy

dalton

1833 nov north writ thos sued for 8/11/6 by dan reed

DALTON

1883 21 aug gaz mr thos died 26th age 68 native of dungarvan

DALTON

1883 25 aug merc ry thos died age 68 native of dungarvan co wtfd lived  
monkstown rd

DALTON

1883 26 aug gaz MR T OS died age 68 native of dungarvon co wtfd

DALTON

1883 28 aug nfld times mr thos died 216th age 68 native of dungarvan co wtfd



MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

Department of History  
Maritime History Group

Telex: 016-4101  
Telephone: (709) 753-1200

Aug. 16, 1982

Mr. Ian R. Dalton,  
20 Wilgar Road,  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada, M8X 1J4

Dear Mr. Dalton,

Thank you for your very interesting letter of 14th May 1982 regarding Thomas Dalton.

You suggest that Mr. Dalton may have worked for, or been a partner of John Ryan, publisher of the Newfoundland Advertiser. I think the confusion is with this title 'Advertiser.' John Ryan was King's Printer and publisher of a newspaper called "The Royal Gazette and General Advertiser." This paper was often referred to at the time as 'the government paper.' It printed all proclamations, legal notices, additions and deletions to the civil list, some court proceedings, coroner's inquiries, grand jury findings, notices of insulvenices, and so on. There was a strong link between this paper, the governor, and the home government (Colonial Office), as to stress on accuracy of information. The public press, on the other hand, had much more freedom of expression.

While there were many John Ryans in St. John's (just as there were many Thomas Daltons), this particular John Ryan was born in New York: he had learned the print trade from his father, and subsequently left home at an early age when his mother remarried after the death of his father. He worked his way through New England, into New Brunswick, and later settled in St. John's.

Whether your Thomas Dalton ever worked for him or had some interest in the business is simply not known at this time. If he (Dalton) set up a newspaper in Kingston, U.C., in 1829, it would seem logical that he had acquired some previous newspaper experience. This is merely conjecture on my part, however, we do not have any information linking him with a local paper. We have little knowledge of early 19th century printers and compositors—a very important group. If he wrote articles, it is not likely they appeared in Ryan's paper. The paper's policy was extremely cautious with regard to printing anything that might be considered partisan. The paper's name was later changed to the "Newfoundland Gazette."

Page 2....  
Aug. 16, 1982

Perhaps Miss. Filshie of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography might make it more clear to you as to the basis of her opinion that Dalton was a partner of John Ryan. We would be interested in knowing, I am sorry, we cannot help here.

I am enclosing an invoice for \$15.00 to cover the time involved in researching this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us again in the future if we can be of service to you.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Matthews,  
Chairman,  
MARITIME HISTORY

Hw/

20 Wilgar Rd.,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
M8X 1J4,  
Jan. 22, 1977.

COPY

Prof. Keith Mathews,  
Dept. of History,  
Memorial University,  
St. John's, Nfld.

Dear Prof. Mathews,

Mr. Gordon Dodds of the Ontario Archives and Prof. Spiegelman of the University of Toronto Dept. of History have suggested that your group might be able to help me. I am searching for all available information on my great-great-grandfather Thomas Dalton, who lived in St. John's from about 1805 to about 1817. Perhaps you have already come across him. He is best known as the rather outspoken editor and proprietor of the staunchly Tory newspaper The Patriot and Farmer's Monitor at Kingston and York. If yours is not the right group of which to ask such questions, perhaps you would be good enough to pass my enquiry on to a more suitable one. I have already asked Mr. Davis at the Newfoundland Archives and he came up with birth dates for the three children born in St. John's but he couldn't do a lot more, of course.

I understand that Thomas Dalton was born in Birmingham in 1782, that he received a good education, was married there and had one son, Henry, born there about 1803, at which point his first wife died. He then came to St. John's, either with his brothers or to look for them there. Either just before he left or just after he got there he married a Sophia Simms (b. 1787) of Warwickshire, who appears to me to have been a sister of the famous James, George and Charles Simms. (There is a "Charles Sims of St. John's, Newfoundland" who died in Toronto in 1865 at age 64, buried in the family plot in St. James Cemetery here.)

Three children were born in St. John's; Thomas (1807), Sophia (1809) and Wm. Henry (1813) my ancestor, according to Anglican Church records. In the Royal Gazette of May 10, 1810 I see a reference to "the late firm of Arnall, Dalton and Arnall." I don't know that this is him, but by 1815 he was definitely associated with one of the Ryans (see e.g. R.G. Aug. 24, Dec. 7, 1815). They went under officially on Nov. 26, 1816 and "Thomas Dalton's Household Furniture" was sold at auction "on the premises of Dalton and Ryan, Magotty Cove" on June 20, 1817. At this point he seems to have gone to Kingston, U.C. where he appears in 1818 as a brewer. Another notice, in the Gazette of Jan. 27, 1817, shows that a William Dalton, Publican, was declared insolvent. From the names of Thomas's sons I would conclude that his father's name might have been Henry and that his brothers' might have been Henry, William or Robert.

I understand that there was a census taken in 1807 and another in 1815. These would probably be informative but I don't have access to them here. Would it be possible to check them?

So, I should like to know exactly when Dalton arrived in St. John's, who Sophia Simms was, where and when they married, what relatives they had there, what his commercial activities were and who his associates were, what he may have contributed to the life of the settlement and perhaps what trouble he may have got into. You see, I should like, if possible, to discover his personality at that stage to help understand his later



development. As you may know, he left a very clear trail after he got to Kingston, as brewer, stockholder and later director of the ill-fated Pretended Bank of Upper Canada, M.P. for Frontenac, writer to the papers and proprietor of his own, and throughout the whole period was frequently in hot water over something or other. He died in 1840.

It was my original intention to expand our family history records but I have been encouraged by Prof. Wise at Carleton and one or two others here to write a biography in a form that would be useful to more than just us, his descendants. Any help that you could give me, to clarify the points indicated, would be greatly appreciated. I shall look forward to hearing from you or one of your associates.

Yours sincerely,

  
Ian R. Dalton

(E.E. Dept., Univ. of Toronto)

20 Wilgar Rd.,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
M8X 1J4,  
Jan. 22, 1977.

COPY

DALTON  
WANK  
15111

Prof. Keith Mathews,  
Dept. of History,  
Memorial University,  
St. John's, Nfld.

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Yours sincerely,

*Ian Dalton*  
Ian R. Dalton

(E.E. Dept., Univ. of Toronto)

20 Wilgar Rd.,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
Canada M8X 1J4,  
Feb. 12, 1977.

DALTON  
NANN  
KILN

Prof. Keith Matthews,  
Dept. of History,  
Memorial University,  
St. John's, Nfld.

Dear Prof. Matthews,

You may not be overjoyed to get another letter from me so soon, but this one's different; I have some information for you this time. The very day that I posted the last one, I received a long-awaited letter from the Public Library in Birmingham with the following facts:

- (1) Thomas Dalton was baptised on June 28, 1782, at St. Philip's Anglican Church in Birmingham. This supports our assumptions of April 29, 1782, as his birth date, and Anglican as his religion.
- (2) Thomas Dalton's parents were Rebecca and William Dalton, identified as 'Senior'. He was a factor and merchant of Birmingham. She died on July 7, 1805, while he was "unjustly detained in France." He appears to have died in late 1823 at Kingston, U.C., of all places.
- (3) Thomas' first wife was Sarah Pratt whose father lived at Saredon Mill, Staffordshire. She died on April 5, 1804. Both women were buried at St. Philip's.

According to (2), there must have been a William, Jr., brother to Thomas, as I have long suspected. No more information on brothers, on Thomas' education, or on his second marriage has yet come to light in Birmingham records.

William's being a commission agent and merchant would seem to explain Thomas' choice of occupation. In fact, I suppose it possible that he came to St. John's originally as his father's representative, or at least representing some one in Birmingham or known to his father. The Daltons lived in Exeter Row on the outskirts of town.

Could this perhaps be the Exeter of John and George Arnall?

So, many of the original questions are now answered. I still hope that you or your assistants may find time to answer some of the others, particularly those about the Simms family, which would help me to trace further back. In the meantime, thank you for your interest and patience.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ian R. Dalton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Ian R. Dalton.

THOMAS DALTON

I was interested to hear of this man's birth place since the name as far as Newfoundland is concerned was almost always connected with various parts of Southern Ireland. As with the Ryan name, many Daltons were involved in the Newfoundland trade especially from about 1780 onwards and became resident in several different communities.

~~Early~~the early history of Thomas Dalton of St Johns is obscure and he is first mentioned as you know in 1806. However he must have been fairly well educated and heeled because he went into trade right away. It is interesting to note in connection with the birth of his children that although they were born in 1807/1809 and 1813, they were all baptised together in December 1815. This would normally indicate either that the family was living in an area with no clergyman (which could not have been the case with Thomas Dalton, OR that they were CONVERTS to Anglicanism either dissenters or Roman Catholic.

Between 1808 and 1811 he was a partner (apparently the Newfoundland resident - the Arnells probably stayed in England most of the time) in the firm of Arnell, Dalton and Arnel, who in view of the fact that they owned neither shipping, nor much in the way of property were probably commission merchants, bringing in goods from England and/or Ireland on consignment for other men, and exporting (perhaps) codfish and oil on the same terms. In the legal records of the period the firm sued men for debts only in the name of Thomas Dalton (the Arnell's are not mentioned.) IN December of 1808 he took out a writ against Simon Solomon, a St Johns watchmaker and the postmaster for L163/19/1 whilst in November of 1809 he sued the shopkeeper firm of J and P O'Brien Reardon for L129/3/9.

When the firm dissolved in January of 1811, Dalton seems to have obtained a position as the Newfoundland Agent to one James Henry Attwood a London merchant with a substantial trade in St Johns. He seems to have visited England in the winter-spring of 1810-11, returning to Newfoundland by August. However he soon established his own business for in 1812 he sued a man in his own name again. He also served on the St Johns Grand Jury which would make him a fairly prominent member of the Elite. In 1814 he owned a store in St Johns, and was still apparently trading on his own since there is no mention of the Ryan's.

He probably went into Partnership with Ryan in 1815. At this time prosperity had been feverish ever since around 1811, but the end of the American and French wars brought about a collapse in the Newfoundland trade which ruined many merchants and smaller traders - amongst the latter were obviously Dalton and Ryan. Between May and September <sup>1816</sup> the firm was suing its own debtors in all directions but, unable to receive their own debts they could not pay their creditors and were declared insolvent on the 2nd November. The firm was formally dissolved on the 31 December. By this time they described themselves as "Merchants" but in view of the lack of involvement in ship owning could hardly have been of any substantial size.

What sort of business did they have? The sale of their property in Magotty Cove in October 1817 mentioned fish stores, wharf, clothing and hardware stock in trade and, they also sued the firm of Attwood and Haynes to recover L453 for the net sales of fish they had exported on the latter's vessel Active, to San Sebastian in 1816. This would seem to indicate that they were ~~small~~ traders of the Middle Rank, Possessing their own fish store and wharf and selling their own hardware and clothing but they had not managed to become one of the elite fish exporting firms. Commencing as commission merchants they had managed to make the first transition into buying and selling on their own account, but were unable to make the final jump because bankruptcy overtook them. The connection with Attwood and Haynes in 1817, makes me wonder whether Dalton's early connection with Attwood in 1811 had not continued in some way. Perhaps Attwood provided credit and a semi banking facility to the firm of Dalton and Ryan. This was quite a common occurrence; a system whereby small merchants obtained credit and services from larger ones, and in return dealt mainly with their patron. I do not know the extent of the firm's indebtedness at the time of insolvency, but their trustees afterward took out writs against other men for a total of about L1000. This would indicate that their total debts probably did not exceed L3-4000 and thus their assets were correspondingly moderate.

I was interested to see that Thomas Dalton is supposed to have turned up in Upper Canada, for in January 1817 he left Newfoundland, not for the Mainland, but for England. There was a Thomas Ryan trading in St Johns during the 1820's but I suppose he was a different man.

#### JOHN RYAN

The Ryans were all Irish and normally Catholic. A very numerous clan, in Ireland, large numbers of Ryans came to Newfoundland between 1770 and 1830 and thus it is often difficult to distinguish between them. However the Ryan in "Dalton and Ryan" was as follows (as far as I can make it out).

Several Ryans came to Newfoundland and had children here between 1770 and 1780. Included were two Johns, whilst another two Johns came in 1786 one was a farmer who had a son and a daughter under age in 1794, and the other was a "SHOREMAN" who in 1794-5 was single.

It is possible that ~~John the Farmer~~ "our John" of Dalton and Ryan was the son of John the Farmer who lived in Quidi Vidi. However another John was born in 1764 the son of Edmund and Alice Ryan and thus he could be the partner who was with Thomas Dalton.

Now one John Ryan was in 1802 a partner in the fishing trade with Kennedy and Hanlon in St Johns. he died in that year and the partnership was liquidated. His connection with our John cannot be exactly stated at this time. I suspect he was the John "shoreman" who would have died without children.

Our John first appears in 1805 when he took out writs for debt against four separate merchants and fishermen for a total of £109. In 1806 there were two John Ryans in St Johns for both joined the Benevolent Irish Society at its formation in that year. One (probably the one who later went into partnership with Dalton) was reported as being the Agent for an English merchant George Augustus Elliot.

~~By~~ By 1809w he was in trade on his own account as JOHN RYAN AND SONS and in 1812 he described himself as a trader - this being the description for a man who owned a store and perhaps a small trading vessel but was not directly engaged in the import-export trade of the island, by means of his own vessels,.

As you know the firm of Dalton and Ryan was dissolved on 31 December 1816 after their insolvency. In January 1817 one John Ryan was said to have gone to England, whilst in April of that year "John Ryan merchant" went to Portugal. However John Ryan returned to Newfoundland and re-entered trade, His son continued as a merchant after his death and they were still in business in the 1840's.

#### ARNALL (ARNELL)

Little is known of this firm. The partners were John and George Arnell, and Thomas Dalton. The family probably came from the Exeter area of Devonshire but had no connection with Newfoundland until just before 1806 when they are listed as merchants in St Johns. If they were merchants they must have been in an extremely small line of trade for they owned no vessels, and never appear in any legal cases for debt, mortgage, contract etc. In January 1811 Thos Dalton left the partnership and an announcement stated that the firm would continue under the name of John and George Arnell. However George Arnell returned immediately to England and the firm is never heard of again.

17  
London 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1794  
Dear Mr King  
I have been thinking much lately  
of the papers which were sent you for the  
purpose of being printed in the  
London edition of the American Review  
and other periodicals he  
was desirous of the Editors examining  
them in the most judicious manner  
and if they were found to be of any  
service to the public they should be  
printed in the Review. I have been  
thinking of this subject very much  
and I have been thinking of the  
papers which were sent you for the  
purpose of being printed in the  
London edition of the American Review  
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of the Editors examining them in the  
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the Review  
of the  
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and other  
periodicals  
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of the  
Editors  
examining  
them in  
the most  
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manner  
and if  
they were  
found to  
be of any  
service  
to the  
public  
they  
should  
be  
printed  
in the  
Review.







20 Wilgar Rd.,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
M8X 1J4,  
Feb. 5, 1977.

copy  
L

Prof. Keith Matthews,  
Dept. of History,  
Memorial University,  
St. John's, Nfld.

Dear Prof. Matthews,

Thankyou very much indeed for all the information about Thomas Dalton in your letter of Jan. 31, 1977. I am really amazed that you had this much on him, his businesses and his associates.

I should apologize for mis-spelling your name. I did ask about how many t's and was told "one".

Now, a few explanations and some questions on some of the points. Thomas Dalton claimed to have been from Birmingham, but I don't have any actual proof of birthplace. His birth date appears to be April 29, 1782 but I am trying to get that confirmed. I know nothing about his early life and education, so far. The name of his first wife is not known to me, but Sophia Simms was definitely not the mother of his first son, Henry, born in England in about 1803. Henry, incidentally, was always listed as Anglican in the Upper Canada Census.

Thomas's writings are full of French and Latin bits and references to classical mythology and other tales, so I assume that he was well educated, but I can't tell where. You suggest that he might have been Roman Catholic, or a Dissenter. His writings somehow don't suggest (to me) an education in a Catholic church school or college. On the other hand, family tradition maintains that he was of the same family as John Dalton, the famous physicist, who was a Quaker. Some of Thomas's expressions might support this idea, but I am dubious. It's an interesting question.

You say that Arnall, D. & A. dissolved in January 1811. I understood from the Gazette of May 10, 1810, that they had given up already early in 1810, as had the firm of George Arnall & Co.

Thomas certainly seems to have got into lots of litigation. There exists a very interesting poem "An Address to the Leige Men of Every British Colony etc." published in 1822 and thought by some to have been Thomas's work, which shows evidence of great familiarity with the British judicial system. These activities would go some way toward explaining that familiarity. He was not averse to using verse as a form of communication; his paper, and even his brewery advertisements, had a lot of poems of his. Some of the poems in the Poetry Corner of the Gazette could have been his, too, I think.

Later writings also show a good understanding of the principles of international and domestic trade. I can see now where that came from.

You say that Dalton and Ryan had no ships. Would that sloop Sally, sold at auction at their wharf on Oct. 15, 1816, have been their own? What would that sort of craft have been used for? Coastal commerce?

The Royal Gazette of Dec. 3, 1816, says that they were declared insolvent on Nov. 26, 1816, not on the 2nd. What's true (not that it

really matters much)? I have now seen the Oct. 14, 1817, advertisement of the sale of goods. I had stopped looking about June on my first try.

I didn't mean to suggest in my first letter that Dalton seemed to have come to Upper Canada, but rather that 1817 seemed to be the time, judging from the dates of the insolvency proceedings and the sale of his furniture. Some later writings of his indicate that he got to Kingston not too late in 1817, but I didn't really think that he would have gone to an unfamiliar, inland town like Kingston in the middle of the winter. Your information that he went from St. John's to England covers the gap nicely; he probably came in the summer. Certainly by December 1818 Thomas Dalton & Co. had a new brewery going and beer to sell.

He bought considerable stock in the new Bank of Upper Canada, started in Kingston in 1818, and was later elected a Director (actually without his knowledge). When the Bank failed in 1822, creating a rather unpleasant odour in commercial and political circles in Kingston and York, Dalton was badly hurt financially and then badly treated by the Commissioners to "unsettle the affairs of the Bank" and more particularly by Christopher Hagerman (q.v.).

In 1824, Dalton ran (stood?) for the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada in two ridings, withdrawing in Kingston so as not to split the vote against Hagerman who was defeated, and failing to get one of the two seats open in Frontenac. At this stage he was a Reformer, a friend of Gourlay and MacKenzie, and came into opposition to such well-known Tory stalwarts as John Strachan, John Macaulay and John Beverley Robinson. In this period he published a pair of argumentative pamphlets, one pointing out the necessity for free trade for the Canadas and some weaknesses in the plan for a Canada Land Co., the other on the Bank and on the apparent duplicity of Hagerman.

Also in 1824 he enquired about buying the Kingston Chronicle press from John Macaulay, presumably to air his opinions on these matters, but he apparently didn't go through with it. In 1829 he started the Patriot and Farmer's Monitor. Around 1830 a newspaper called The Catholic was also published from his Patriot press, which does make me wonder about your suggestion of his having been one himself. In fact, some years later another editor once accused him of having himself written some letters that appeared in the Patriot signed merely "A Catholic", so perhaps that's right after all. There's no family tradition about it, however, and he and his wife are buried in Anglican Burial grounds here.

In 1832 he moved his presses and family to York. The first commercial directories for York (1833) and Toronto (1834) were published in the Patriot office. By this stage, he was a staunch Tory himself and he hammered the Reformers such as Mackenzie and the American Methodists and their apologists such as Egerton Ryerson "with a convert's zeal."

In 1840, embroiled in a number of controversies, Thomas Dalton had two strokes, the first in March that left him nearly paralyzed, and the second that killed him on October 26.

Well, as usual, the answers to my questions have brought up more questions than I started with. Who were some of the other Daltons in Newfoundland? Are any of them likely to have been Thomas's brothers? Perhaps a William or a Henry? Is the Thomas in your information really all the same man? Certainly the Thomas that was the father of Thomas, Sophia and William was my man. How come in all that material there's no mention of where he came from? He was an officer in the militia in Kingston. Would there be militia records in St. John's? In your last

paragraph on Dalton you say that there was a Thomas Ryan trading in the 1320's, but the context suggests that you might have intended to say "Thomas Dalton" instead. Could there really have been two of that name? Thomas Jr. seems to have run away from Kingston in 1827 but I don't know where. Perhaps back to his birthplace. He would have been twenty years old.

And what about the Simms? Did James, George and Charles (and Joseph) have a sister Sophia? And who would Charlotte have been? Charles' wife? And where did your Simms Family come from?

I realize that there are far more questions than you would have time to answer. In fact, reading this meandering letter may already have taken up all the time that you can spare for one customer. I hope that you will excuse the inclusion of Dalton history; your letter suggests that you did not know of his later and considerably more interesting life in Upper Canada. You will find him referred to in many books dealing with this period, one of the most interesting being the PhD. thesis (1969) of Prof. G.H. Patterson at Toronto, "Studies in Elections and Public Opinion in Upper Canada." As for the questions, I have listed them <sup>as</sup> ones to which I need answers, and the Dictionary of Canadian Biography may want some of them too, one of these days, because they are about to start on this period. So any answers that I can get would be of help. It appears that you probably have everything in your own archives or library, and if I could get into them I could do most of it myself without bothering anybody very much. I do hope to get to St. John's sometime, to see the place, and see you people, and to do some digging on my own, but I just don't see how to arrange it. Perhaps you could suggest a way to carry on the search from here, through a graduate student or perhaps a paid researcher.

In looking back over what I have written I see that I may have given the impression that the information that you have sent me is not satisfactory, but that is certainly not true. It will be very helpful. It's just that it has suggested the possibility of finding out so much more than I had originally hoped for that I'm restless to get on with it. I want to thank you again for what you have done already and for your interest in my project. But I do hope to hear from you again when you can find a few minutes.

Yours sincerely,



Ian R. Dalton.





1844  
 in His Majesty's Court  
 was brought, the first  
 before the Court & for some  
 time a retaining account  
 of twenty nine pounds & ten  
 shillings  
 on the part of Capt. Allen  
 he justly owes to the Plaintiff  
 several hundred pounds of money  
 which he has not  
 but he has not  
 given up the said debt  
 to which Mr. Jas. Simons  
 objected, alleging that Capt.  
 or transfer, did not come  
 Kruppy or Insolvency - and  
 judgment  
 by the Court that the  
 said the Defendant the  
 fifteen shillings & four pence  
 that Executions may be  
 of Capt. Allen's Credit  
 of the Court spent  
 at on Wednesday next

14  
 Court of the Admiralty 1844  
 Ben. Lawrence Lord the Vice  
 Admirant  
 John Lygon & Thomas Jackson  
 In this case Thomas Cook Esq. as Agent for some  
 Lord the Vice Admiral in reference against the above  
 named Defendant, for writing & publishing a Libel on  
 Administration of Justice in the Supreme Court of this  
 Kingdom in a certain Memorial from John Thomas Esq. to  
 His Excellency Sir Richard Gordon Keble Governor  
 of this Island. The following Jury were sworn to by the Vice  
 Admirant  
 1 William Withycombe, Foreman      7 Andrew Howson  
 2 Thomas Mather                              8 George Dick Robertson  
 3 Nicholas Midge                              9 Peter Le Myssier  
 4 Neil Shannon                                10 Nicholas Lill  
 5 Airt Crawford                                11 James Goff  
 6 John Dodson                                 12 David Satter  
 The Information being read, Mr. Cook admitted he had  
 at considerable length, when the following subject was  
 First Witness, Philip Bartlett Esq. Capt. Esq. Secretary to His  
 Excellency the Governor <sup>sworn that he</sup> saw the paper was  
 produced (in Memorial) received of from Mr. Lygon for the  
 purpose of presenting it to the Governor, and he afterwards recd.  
 a letter from Lygon asking to be informed whether an answer  
 to the Memorial might be expected. The paper was never  
 however, sent, and was signed by Bartlett in the name  
 of presenting it to the Governor.  
 Second Witness John Thomas Esq. High Sheriff, sworn, saw  
 the paper now produced. It was given to him



1845  
Dear Mr. King  
I have signed the same in Dallas

with the same contents as the former if it be the  
second writing of Howard Dallas. The other document he  
sent to me is the Dallas evidence. I believe in its genuineness  
in view of the circumstances, to be the second writing of John  
Dallas, which is an evidence in its nature  
since he could recover it. I believe both of them have been  
written in Dallas. A copy of the Dallas evidence was  
sent to me from the Dallas office for the purpose of the paper  
on the Dallas matter. It is a judgment. The Dallas office had that Mr  
Haynes had such a paper but does not recover it is the best  
of my recollection. He went to Mr. Haynes in Court  
building - witness says that perhaps he went to Mr. Haynes  
on Sunday & may have had it in his mind to ask for the  
paper. When he went in he saw the paper on the table  
Mr. Haynes took it in his hand & said that witness would have  
it if he liked. Witness admits that he may perhaps  
have had it in his mind to ask for the paper. The  
paper was given to witness by Mr. Haynes, but such as he  
never asked to have it returned. From the particular  
assumptions on the back of the paper witness was induced  
to purchase it at all. Mr. Haynes never asked witness to  
return the paper. Mr. Haynes added that it was of no use to  
him as he was not a lawyer. When witness first saw the paper  
and saw how soon the circumstances of the Dallas office in the  
fact that it was not used at all Mr. Haynes, he thought of  
the Court House & then said it, witness gave it to the Court  
and then, to read - witness considered it improper to return  
witness considering that the book containing evidence with  
me and I am sure that it would be improper to return it  
witness had seen that a manuscript had been put into

the Dallas  
evidence  
I believe in its genuineness  
in view of the circumstances  
to be the second writing of John  
Dallas, which is an evidence  
in its nature  
since he could recover it  
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paper and saw how soon the  
circumstances of the Dallas  
office in the fact that it was  
not used at all Mr. Haynes,  
he thought of the Court House  
& then said it  
witness gave it to the Court  
and then, to read  
witness considered it improper  
to return witness considering  
that the book containing  
evidence with me and I am  
sure that it would be  
improper to return it  
witness had seen that a  
manuscript had been put into











