

REPORT ON MUDGE (NICHOLAS) of Cockinton (later Torquay), Devonshire.

1. The first Nicholas to appear in our records was a Yeoman of Cockinton who leased (for South Devonshire) a reasonably sized farm from the local Squire, Mallocke.
2. He died in 1741 and his son ? John took over the lease.

NICHOLAS (11) GRANDFATHER OF YOUR NICHOLAS.

Probably son of the above. Entered the Newfoundland trade probably during the 1750's.

3. 1760 Commander of the BENJAMIN of Teignmouth. A Banking vessel (brig) of 40 tons and 5 men . Owned by William Keen of Teignmouth.
4. 1760 November. At St.John's,Nfld. took 655 quintals of fish to Viana in Portugal.
5. 1761 February. News that on a voyage from Viana to Teignmouth had been captured by a Privateer from St. Malo.
6. He was released by his captor and returned to Teignmouth where he was given a new vessel, the LITTLE ROBIN of 30 tons and 6 men again owned by William Keen.
7. Made a voyage to St. John's and from there took fish to Spain.
8. 1762 Apr. News that on her arrival at Corunna, she was embargoed by the Spanish (outbreak of war looming).
9. But she must have been released or ransomed, for on the 21st May, 1762 the LITTLE ROBIN arrived home at Teignmouth from Corunna.
10. 1764, September at St.John's. Took cargo of fish to Portugal.
11. 1765 February. Appointed to a new vessel - still owned by Keen, the SEA-NYMPH. Tonnage various given as 60 or 120 and a crew of 12 men.
12. February voyage from Teignmouth - Newfoundland.
13. May. Arrived at Newfoundland from Teignmouth.
14. 1766 January arrived at Oporto from Newfoundland.
15. 4 Feb. arrived at Torbay from Oporto.
16. March - sailed from Teignmouth - Newfoundland.
17. July. News of arrival at Newfoundland.
18. November. News of arrival at Leghorn (Italy) from Newfoundland. Arrived on the 2nd) with 1905 quintals of cod fish.
19. 1767. 14 February. Arrived at Torbay from Cagliari.
20. March. Sailed for Newfoundland and the Mediterranean.
21. August. News of arrival at St. John's.
22. 10th November. Arrived at Waterford (Ireland) from Newfoundland .

23. 5th December. Arrived Bristol from Waterford.
24. 1768. February. sailed from Teignmouth to Newfoundland.
25. August. News of arrival at Newfoundland.
26. 1769. 1st February (had gone from Newfoundland to London).
Now going from London down to Teignmouth.
27. IN 1770 MUDGE LEFT THE EMPLOY of Keen and went into the fishery on his own account. He owned and commanded the PEGGY of 45 tons and 8 or 9 men registered at Dartmouth.
28. March. Voyage from Dartmouth-Newfoundland.
29. May. Arrived at St. John's from Dartmouth.
30. November arrived at Dartmouth from Newfoundland on the 20th.
31. 1771. March. Voyage from Dartmouth - Newfoundland.
32. June. News of arrival at Newfoundland.
33. Nov. Arrived home in Torbay from Newfoundland on the 20th.
34. 1772. Went again to Newfoundland where apparently he fished at PETTY HARBOUR. He was Vice Admiral in that harbour during 1772.
35. 1773. Again sailed from Dartmouth-Newfoundland.
36. He then ceased commanding the vessel and placed her in other hands.
37. 1775. The Commander said to be Captain John Crews. The vessel was not a new one - she was a brig built in Newbury (Mass.) in 1764.
38. 1776. By now he had entered the SHORE fishery in St. John's and referred to himself as "trader and boat keeper".
39. His "PEGGY" was at St. John's that summer and took 90 passengers home to Dartmouth in November.
40. He resided in St. John's that summer and served on the Petty Jury.
41. 1777. Nicholas again went out to Newfoundland for the fishing season. Describing himself as a merchant he signed a petition concerning improvements in the defence of the Island from possible American attack.
42. Served as a member of Newfoundland's Grand Jury.
43. 1778. He bought another vessel to add to his PEGGY, this was the CATHERINE, a schooner of 60 tons and 10 men built in New England (probably now a prize). In 1765 her first commander was Henry Harker of Bristol.

44. 1777. He again visited Newfoundland and signed a petition to Lord George Germaine complaining about the effects of recent legislation on the fishery.
45. His "CATHERINE" made a voyage from Bristol-Newfoundland .
46. His "PEGGY" went to Newfoundland and then returned home with 70 passengers In October.
47. 1779. Again went to Newfoundland where he signed a petition to the House of Commons, again on the subject of legislation.