

FILED UNDER PIPON

General notes on the Pipon family. 1730-1810.

THOMAS of Jersey living in Dartmouth

- 1718 had a son Thomas baptised in Dartmouth.¹
- 1720. another son Joseph Baptised at Dartmouth.²
- Acted as agent for John Lecouteur of Jersey importing Goods into Dartmouth Maryland.³ This appears to have been his main function.
- 1731. Imported the following commodities
 - (a) Worsted hose from Jersey for Nicholas Patriarch⁴
 - (b) Rice from South Carolina for a London Merchant.⁵
 - (c) Staves from Maryland for George Lefevre of Jersey.⁶
 - (d) Tobacco from Maryland on a Jersey ship for himself.⁷
 - (e) exported Carolina rice to Rotterdam.⁸

Commentary. During the period 1700-1750 many Channel Island merchants established agents in the port of Dartmouth. The reason lay in the provisions of the Navigation Acts which laid down that all ships clearing for the Colonies had to clear from English ports, and that vessels coming to Europe from the colonies with enumerated commodities must enter at an English port. The Channel Island, until the 1760s were not regarded as "English ports" within the meaning of the Acts and hence their vessels had to touch at an English port on their colonial voyages. Dartmouth was one of the most important of these. As you will see below, the Robin family also had one of its number residing in Dartmouth during this era.

at the end

Footnotes

- 1. Dartmouth, St Saviours Parish Register 1718.
- 2. Ibid 1720.
- 3. Ex 12 P.R.O. E 190. mar 21, Dartmouth 1719-1720.
- 4. P.R.O. E 190. jan 1731 Dartmouth 1730-1731.
- 5. ibi jan 1731
- 6. ibid jun 1731
- 7. ibid Aug 1731
- 8. ibid Aug 1731.

THOMAS (two)

- 1730. Commander of the Thomas of Jersey 40 tons and 6 men. a "sack" or cargo vessel in the Newfoundland trade.
 - Nov. Jersey to Newfoundland and the Mediterranean.¹
- 1731 Oct news Leghorn from Newfoundland.²
- 1732 Feb Jersey to Newfoundland and Spain.³

Commentary.

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one). A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. The name of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his

father or Grandfather had commanded a fishing ship the Philip in a voyage at Trinity, ~~B~~ Trinity Bay Newfoundland in 1700. ¹³ They disappear from Newfoundland records until the 1770s but may well have maintained a slight connection perhaps as junior partners with some other Jersey concern.

Footnotes

9. 1. adm 7/78. Nov 1730.
 10. 2. Weekly Register. October 1731.
 11. 3. adm 7/78 Feb 1732.
 12. 4. See K Matthews "The West of England-Newfoundland fishery" (D.Phil thesis) Oxford University, 1968) pp.
 13. 5. C.O. 194/2 Census of Newfoundland 1700.

THOMAS(three) 1770s-1883.

see discussion under JAMES(below).

JOSEPH

- 1741 Jan commander of the "London 180 tons 32 men 14 guns of London. Portsmouth to Gibraltar. ^{(4) 14}
 1733 25 Feb Cork to Gibraltar. ^{2/5}
 1742 Sep. London to ~~Rhax~~ Barbados. Captain described as "of jersey". ^{8/16}

Commentary

Although this vessel was of London, she was probably owned by Jersey men for just as Dartmouth was used to overcome the problems of the Navigation Acts, many Guernsey and Jersey merchants were either moving to, or maintaining agents in, London where proximity to the various government and commercial bodies was of extreme value in overseas trade. This man was quite possibly the son of Thomas(one) above. The size of her crew and armament suggests she was registered as a Letter of Marque for the war against Spain.

Footnotes

14. 1. Lloyds List 7 Jan 1741.
 15. 2. Lloyds List Mar 1741
 16. 3. adm 7/80 Sep 1742.

JEAN PIPON(one)

1734. commander of the Jersey 80 tons 8 men. & sack ship in the Newfoundland trade. voyage from Jersey to Newfoundland and Spain. ^{1/7}

Footnotes

17. 1. Adm 7/80 Oct 1734.

JEAN PIPON(two)

- 1789 commander "St Aubin" of Jersey. Loaded with Fish and Oil at Shippegan, Chaleur Bay 2 Oct 1788. on the night of the 4/5 October

JEAN PIPON(two) or Philip¹⁸

1788 Oct 2. Sailed from Shippegan(chaleur) for market as commander of the "St Aubin". on the night of the 4th was washed overboard with the mate and 2 others in a bad storm. The vessel was then wrecked near Cape Anguille. two men managed to get ashore and were saved. ²¹⁹

Footnotes

1. ¹⁸ One of the great problems of using the records as they pertain to Channel Island vessels and men, is that the (english) recorders were often confused by the French Speaking channel Islanders. This example is but one of dozens.
2. ¹⁹ Gazette d'ile de Jersey Jan 1789.

JAMES PIPON

- 1731 commander of the Seaflower 100 tons 10 men. Voyage from Dartmouth to Madeira. ²⁰
- 1733 Oct commander of the Pearl of Jersey 80 tons 8 men. At London voyage to Newfoundland and the Mediterranean. ²¹
- 1738 Commander of the Expedition 100 tons 10 men. voyage from Dartmouth to Newfoundland. ²²
- 1739 Jul. "Expedition Dartmouth from Cadiz with fruit for Catherine Holman. ²³
- 1742 Jun Expedition 100 tons 12 men and 6 guns. Registered At Dartmouth. Voyage from London to Newfoundland. ²⁴
- Oct 100 tons 12 men. At St Johns, Newfoundland. took 1750 quintals of fish to Oporto. ²⁵
1743. may Expedition voyage to Newfoundland. ²⁶
- 1744 15 jan Expedition gravesend from Oporto. ²⁷
- commander of the TYGRESS Privateer of jersey. took the Vestal 30 tons 10 men to Dartmouth(August) laden with sugar and indigo. ²⁸
- also took a French vessel going from San domingo to Rochelle ²⁹, and captured a French-Newfoundland "Banker" which she ransomed for L350.00d ³⁰
- the Tygress this vessel was registered as being of 300 tons 200 men and carrying 20 guns. ³¹
- 1747 James of LONDON was the main owner of the "Matthew" Captain George Legros. ³² and he was constantly engaged in shipowing-usually in the South Carolina trade during the 1750s.(see details of shippwning below.)
- 1848 mar commander of the Rowland 8 men voyage to Newfoundland. ³³
- 1750xx1750xjan
- 1749 27 Dec. commander of the Pascal news Lisbon from Newfoundland. ³⁴
- 1750 Jun news Pascal Newfoundland from Jersey. ³⁵

Commentary.

It is possible that we are dealing with two James' here. One who commanded the "Expedition" and another who commanded the

Tygher.

Expedition. That is certainly my impression. They may well have been father and son, or again cousins. Note the continuing connection between Jersey and Dartmouth even to the extent of registering and opperating Channel Island ships out of the latter port. I suspect that James Pipon owned the Expedition himself given the pattern of his voyages and the fact that the port books do not show him carrying goods for any of the Dartmouth shipowners. The trade carried on by James Pipon(of London) during the late 1740s and 1750s was typical of the channel island during this era. The Lisbon, Meditterreanean, West Indian and Carolina trades were as important(if not more so) ~~than their~~ trade to Newfoundland.

Footnotes

1. Adm 7/82.
2. PRO E 190.
3. Adm 5/84. Jun 1742
4. CO 194/24. List of vessels at St Johns Newfoundland 1742.
5. adm 7/366 "register of Protections". May 1743
6. Lloyds List Jan 1744.
7. *approximately certainly by 1770 they were in St John's*

July 1739.

Knolls

201. Weekly Register, Nov 1731.
212. Adm 7/78. Oct 1733
223. Adm 7/82 1738.
234. PRO E 190. July 1739.
245. adm 7/84. Jun 1742
256. CO 194/24. List of vessels at St Johns, Newfoundland 1742.
267. Adm 7/366 "Register of Protections" 1643.
278. Lloyds List Jan 1744.
280. H.C.A. 30/775.
2910. Lloyds List Aug 1744
- 30.11 Lloyds List Aug 1744.
- 31.12. Adm 7/367 1744 april.
- 32.13. adm 7/84 Jun 1747.
- 33.14. Adm 7/371. Mar 1748.
345. Lloyds List Jan 1750
3516. Lloyds List Jun 1750.

THE FIRM OF PIPON AND CO1770s onwards.

This firm comprised two men Thomas and James who were either brothers or Father and son. It is these men whom Saunders probably wrote of when he talked of the firm of "Robin, Pipon and Co". 236

Commentary.

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one). A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. The name of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his

We have seen that James Pipon during the 1750s was a shipowner trading to almost everywhere in the North Atlantic except Newfoundland. ³⁷

However in 1767 according to Saunders the firm of "Robin and Pipon" opened ~~xxxx~~ up the fishery at Gaspe. ³⁸ He records that in 1768

two of their vessel were seized at Chaleur for breaches of the Navigations Acts. ³⁹ However I am unsure of this for I can find

no independent corroboration in any original documents. Indeed I

am not even sure that the company (as such) of Robin and co was

~~xxxx~~ trading to Canada at this date. ⁴⁰ What is certain is

that by 1770 the firm of "Pipon and Company", which as far as

I can see had no connection with that of "Robin and Co" was

carrying on a fishery at Port de Grace, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

where they had an agent Jean Hamon. ⁴¹ They owned 3 or 4 vessels

which traded to Newfoundland rather than Canada, but around this

time, ~~xxxx~~ certainly by 1778 they were in at least a

ship-owning partnership with ~~xxxx~~ three members of the Robin

Family, and Messrs Philip Degruchy and John Fiott, jersey men

now domiciled in London. ⁴² This "society" traded very extensively

to Cape Breton and Chaleur Bay, but the senior partners were

probably Fiott and Degruchy, who had much greater mercantile

trade than either the Pipon or the Robin Families. Indeed

I imagine that it was the firm of Fiott and Co (fiott and Degruchy)

who actually commanded the channel islands fishery at Gaspe and

Chaleur. ~~xxxx~~ the first Robin's went to Gaspe on behalf of

Fiott. ⁴³ To make matters even more confusing, ~~xxxx~~ ^{by} 1778 although

Fiott and Degruchy were in partnership with Robin and Pipon, they

were also large and independent fishing merchants on their own

account and they traded to the same regions of the St Lawrence gulf.

Commentary

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one). A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. ⁴⁴ The name of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his

Thus the ~~partners~~ ^{partners} of "Robin, Pipon and Company" traded together on that account, but separately and at times one supposes, competitively on others. This is confusing, and without the existence of up till now unknown private business papers it is impossible to clear up successfully. We do know however that the Jersey merchants were very prone to organising their fishery by means of "societies" with multiple and cross-fertilised partnerships.

Vessels owned

By Messrs PIPON AND CO (Thomas and James Pipon).

1. George Brig. 110 tons 11 men. Built Philadelphia 1759. In the Newfoundland trade. ~~11~~ 9 44
2. Mary Brig. 70 tons 9 men. Built America 1763. in the Newfoundland trade. ~~2~~ 10 45
3. "Bennett" Letter of Marque 80 tons 30 men 4 guns. ~~3~~ 11 46
4. Dolphin Letter of Marque 70 tons 40 men 6-3 pdr cannon. ~~4~~ 12 47
5. Retaliation ship 160 tons 12 men (1784). ~~5~~ 13 48

THOMAS PIPON

WITH the Pipon Family, Philip Degruchy and John Fiot.

1. Bee 200 tons 30 men. Letter of Marque in the Canadian fishery. ~~1~~ 14 49

WITH James Amice Lempriere and Philip Robin.

1. Mars 170 tons 60 men 12-4 pdr cannon. letter of Marque. ~~2~~ 15

WITH the Robin Family.

1. Sprightly 70 tons 70 men 8-3 pdr. letter of Marque. ~~16~~ 51

After 1784 information on Thomas Robin, and the firm of "Pipon and Company" ceases. Probably Thomas Robin died and James went into partnership with someone else, or retired. In 1804 a Thomas Pipon (quite possibly some of the above) was captain of the warship HMS KITE. During the American Revolutionary war James while remaining in partnership with Thomas and the other merchants also engaged in separate privateering accounts of his own. the details are as follows.

partly dependent upon the firm of Fiot and Degruchy.

Commentary.

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one). A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. The name of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his

- 1778-1782. with Francis Janvrin of Jersey.
1. Owned Aeolus 160 tons 60 men 12-4 pdr Letter of Marque.
 2. Eagle 30 tons 24 men 2-2 pdr cannon.

After the American war details of James Pipon become obscure although he obviously continued as a figure of some social standing in Jersey. In 1787 James (referred to as JACQUES) was a member of the Jersey Chamber of Trade. But he then disappears from the records. However in the late 1790s he or more probably a son James was in partnership with John Fiott and Company who traded to Gaspe, Chaleur and Cape Breton, but that firm became insolvent in 1797.

However in 1798 upon the outbreak of war with Holland James Pipon went into partnership with James Remon, a jerseyman living at Falmouth in Cornwall and they registered the following vessel.

Mossuis of Townsend 71 tons 40 men 8-4 pdr cannon. She was in existence until 1805.

Soon after that date James Pipon must have retired or died, or become insolvent, or moved out of shipping for he never appears again amongst the Channel Islands merchants, although one Charles Pipon commanded a packet ship in 1815.

Commentary

It can be readily seen that the affairs of Pipon and Company are confusing, especially in their relationship with other Jersey merchants of the era. Their existence of a separate firm was during the early 1770s and then they traded not to Canada but to Conception Bay Newfoundland. Their Canadian connection seems to have been as junior partners to the Robin family who in turn at that time may have been partly dependent upon the firm of Fiott and Degruchy.

Commentary

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one). A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. The name of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his

Footnotes

- 36 1. Jersey in the
A.C. Saunders: The Channel Islands during the Eighteenth
and Nineteenth Centuries (Jersey 1930).
- 37 2. ~~This~~ See above page 4 and below in the details of shipping
owned by James Pipon during the 1750s.
Saunders op cit.
- 38 3. ibid.
- 39 4. See my report on the Robin family.
- 40 5. Account book of William Tucker of Port de Grace 1775. Transcript
in the possession of Dr K Matthews Memorial University.
- 41 6. Adm 7/317. "Bee" Jan 1778 and Adm 7/317 "Mars" aug 1778.
- 42 7. See my report on the Robin family.
- 43 8. Lloyds Register 1778. (Messrs thomas and James)
- 44 9. Ibid.
- 45 10. HCA 26/72 apr 1778.
- 46 11. adm 7/317 aug 1778.
- 47 12. Lloyds Register 1784.
- 48 13. HCA 26/62 Feb 1778.
- 49 14. Adm 7/317 Sep 1778.
- 50 15. ADM 1/471. List of the homebound convoy from St Johns
Newfoundland Nov 1778. and HCA 26/36 feb 1778.
- 51 16. HCA 30/77 12 Jul 1803.
- 52 17. ADM 7/318 1779. H CA 26/62 apr 1778.
- 53 18. Adm 7/318 Mar 1782.
- 54 19. Gazette D'Ille de Jersey Mar 1787.
- 55 20. Letter Book of Newman, Hunt and co mar 1797. Letter book of
Robert Newman and Co Jun 1797.
- 56 21. HCA 26/74 apr 1798.
- 57 22. See details of her in attached shipping lists.
- 58 23. BT 162/4. 1815.
- 59 24.

colonial voyages. particularly was one of the local exports of the
 you will see below, the main family also had the
 regularly to Newfoundland during the 1770s.

- 1. ...
- 2. ...
- 3. ...
- 4. ...
- 5. ...
- 6. ...
- 7. ...
- 8. ...

1730. ...
 1731. ...
 1732. Feb ...

Commentary.

This man was probably a cousin or Nephew of Thomas (one).
 A "sack" vessel was defined as one which traded to Newfoundland but
 was not directly involved in the fishery. Instead it concentrated
 on taking out supplies and carrying the fish to market. The name
 of the vessel suggests that she was owned by him. The Pipon family
 already had a long involvement in the Newfoundland fishery, since his