

QUAKER RELIEF FUNDS, 1788

The follow extract from *Quaker Relief Funds* by Kenneth L. Carroll was sent in Al & Mary Jane Williamson. This provides additional clues to the origins of the Loyalists in New Brunswick headed by Capt Thomas Whitelock.

“A letter from James Pemberton and others in Philadelphia brought further information about the state of the “Quaker Loyalists” who had settled in Nova Scotia as early as 1783. The report of two Friends (Joseph Moore and Abraham Gibbons) who had visited the Nova Scotia Quakers confirmed the “representation” that James Pemberton had already given London Friends. As a result of this intelligence, the new committee proposed that £500 be allowed for necessary supplies for the Nova Scotia needy. This grant was approved on February 22, 1788, and the money was entrusted to John Townsend and others who were to gather the cargo. Townsend and Wilson Birkbeck were instructed to draw up a “list of an assortment of things” to be sent. Such a list was approved by the Committee on February 29, and Birkbeck, Townsend and David Barclay were asked to procure those items “with all convenient Expedition on the lowest ready money price.”

By June 30, 1788, almost all the cargo for Nova Scotia Friends had been collected. These goods were insured and consigned to the care of Zephaniah Kingsley, Christopher Sowerby, Thomas Whitelock, William Whitelock, and Thomas Califf at St. Johns. A July 4, 1788 letter from the committee to these Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Quakers informed them that they were being sent “sundry articles of provision and clothing with some implements of husbandry and Dollars” for distribution among the needy.”

The Captain Thomas Whitelock and his son William mentioned in the above article were the subjects of the article *PHILADELPHIA TO NEW BRUNSWICK 1783* in the March 2001 issue of the Newsletter. At that time we had found no connection to the Quakers other than the fact that Thomas married Anne Taylor in Philadelphia in 1752 and there were Quakers in Philadelphia. The above article at least gives the first indication that there may have been a connection. For the time being I have added Thomas Whitelock's family to the end of the WHITLOCK57 chart as likely connected to the Quakers of Leeds and Philadelphia. See also *QUAKERS OF YORKSHIRE & PENNSYLVANIA* article in the June 2001 issue of the Newsletter. Mary Jane Williamson who sent in the above article shows on Main Line #351 in this issue. In St. John, New Brunswick there is a plaque in the Loyalist church commemorating Captain Thomas Whitelock. The house he brought with him from Philadelphia in 1783 still stands in St. John.

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