A STUDY OF

BRION ISLAND
MAGDALEN ISLANDS, QUEBEC

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compiled by
THE "INFORMATION TO MAGDALEN ISLAND ANGLOPHONES" PROJECT

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WE WISH TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS ASSISTED

US IN COMPILING THIS STUDY. SPECIAL THANKS

IS EXTENDED TO CHESTER TURNBULL FOR HIS

PICTURES OF THE DINGWELL FAMILY, AND TO

LEONARD CLARK FOR HIS WORTHY CONTRIBUTIONS.

We feel that we have only just started to discover Brion Island and its people. We have left many mysteries, and maybe it is just as well.

We have talked mainly with the people of the Municipality of Grosse Isle, and there is unanimous agreement amongst them that Brion Island should be preserved. We also found that they are in almost complete agreement with the study done by the Brion Island Access and Protection Committee.

We did not approach the geological, ecological, or scientific aspect, as we are not competent to do so.

Approximately 50 persons were approached directly, and 250 homes were reached through the local newsletter The first Informer, and we feel that this is sufficient for basing our reccomendations.

We would like to acknowledge the very special participation of Leonard Clarke in the historical research, and for the text on the McCallum family found in this report.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BRION ISLAND

THE PEOPLE OF BRION ISLAND
AND THE SHIPWRECKS, BY LEONARD CLARK

THE McCALLUM LINE, BY ERNEST McCALLUM
(an excerpt from "It Only Concerns Us ", contributed by Leonard Clark: )

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## A BRIEF HISTORY OF BRION ISLAND

Jacques Cartier discovered Brion Island in 1534 on his first voyage up the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It received the name "Brion Island" in honour of Jacques Chabot, Lord Brion, Admiral of France, who had this position during Cartier's first Canadian expedition.

In 1663 the Company of New France commissioned Frances Doublet pf Honfleurs to establish a colony on the Island of Brion. This attempt failed totally. In 1720 the Magdalen Islands, with Saint Jean (P.E.I.) and Miscou were cited by Letters Patent to the Count of St. Pierre equerry to the Duchess of Orleans. He was commissioned to carry on the fisheries, cultivate the soil, and cut the timber. Again failure.

In 1765 a Lieutenant Haldiman mentioned the hunting of walruses (sea cows) by Americans on Brion Island, who shot them with rifles from on board their ships. He claims that because of their American hunting methods the walruses were driven permanently from Brion Island.

It isn't until 1854 that the church records of Grosse Isle show proof of permanent residence on Brion Island. William and Townsend Dingwell were baptised that year. A Mr. Muncy is mentioned as cultivating oats, barley, and other frains on the island's north coast in 1851. James White, born in Scotland in 1800, died on Brion Island at the age of 70 . These are the first island settlers mentioned.

In 1878, Faucher of St. Marice tells us: "According to our notes and information we have gathered on Brion Island, the estimated population of Brion Island is 50 persons, living in 5 houses found on the island. They are of scotch origin with the exception of one French family which lives at the western extremity of Brion."

On April 24, 1798, Sir Isaac Coffin made a request to King George 111 of England for several islands situated in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, known as Entry Island, Deadman's Island, Shag Island, Brion Island(Cup Island), Bird Island, and the eastern extremity of the islands for the protestant clergy of lower Canada.

Webster Collection: Letters Patent for the Magdalen Islands granted to Isaac Coffin in 1798. Received from D.C. Webster on Sept. 12,1945 the sum of 15 pounds sterling for the document of Letter Patent of George 111 giving part of the Magdalen Islands to Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin. He received the land on April 24, 1798.

The 1890 survey and registration of Brion Island includes it as part of the Municipality of House Harbour with the following names listed as residents: Townsend Dingwell, William Dingwell, Singleton McCallum, George Rice, Paul Chenell, Joseph Boucher, Thomas Chenell, Alexandre Poirier, and Thomas Chenell. In the Anglican Church Records of Birth, Deaths, and Marriages we find the following people residing on Brion Island: Hector Deagle, John Harris, James White, the Dingwell family, Joseph Boucher(Bushie), George Rice(or Rix), Singleton McCallum, Paul Chenell, Alexandre Poirier and Thomas Chenell.

1 I

and the shiphrecks
-BY-

LEONARD CLARK!

Mr. Patton, who went to live with William Dingwell in the $1890^{\prime}$ s told me that at that time, there were 14 families living on the Island the year around. There were also many more peoplle during the fishing season. These were men engaged in fishing and women working in the lobster packing factory owned by William Dingwell.Mr. Dingwell also owned a store. The Dingwell boys did some fishing, but they were also good farmers. They raised several head of cattle, sheep and pigs as well as wheat. oats and barley along with several varieties of vegetables. These people sold butter, milk and other farm produce to the American fishing fleet who were generally in the Brion Island area during the summer months engaged in fishing. The Dingwells exported to main islands as well as to the main land.

The Dingwells came to Brion Island from the Bay Fortune area of Prince Edward Island. The exact date is unknown to me, but it seems likely that it would be about 1850 , because two children were baptised on Brion in 1854. These two children were William and Townsend.

In the report to the special committee on the Magdalen Islands held in 1852 and 1853 , Jos. Bouchette tells us that on the north side of the Island lies the clearing of Mr. Munsy who had a large tract of land under cultivation, from which he produced an abundance of oats, wheat, and other grains as well as other vegetables. The meadows enabled him to raise numerous live stock. Another report said that Munsy had over 160 head of animals on Brion Island in 1847.

Another early settler on Brion Island was Mr. White from Scotland who settled on or near the west end of the Island.

The Chenells were also on Brion Island before moving to Entry Island. The Chenell family grew up on Brion Island and often walked across the ice floes to Grosse Isle to attend church during the winter months. My mother often told me about seeing these young Chenell boys leave the church by moon light nights and cross back to Brion Island. Mr. Chenell, whose name was Paul, came to Brion from either St. Lo, France, or the Channel Islands. He was shipwrecked on Brion, and he married a Harris girl from Brion. The Harris family had been on Brion for some time at that period. The sites of the Chenell and Harris family is unknown to me. Mr. Chenell was killed on Bird Rock during the accident with the signal cannon.

McCallum was another family which lived on Brion Island in the last half in the 19 th century. They lived there in 1857.

There was a family by the name of Rix which had ten children. They came to Brion form Prince Edward Island. After several years on Brion, they returned to P.E.I.

I have been told that a family by the name of Haynes which lived on the Magdalen Islands in the last century also lived on Brion.

Jaques Cartier, when describing the Bird Rocks, said " About five leagues from the said Islands, on the west, there is another island that is about two leagues in length and so much in breadth: there did we stay all night to take in water and wood. We named it Brions Island."

Those islands said Cartier, have the best soil that he had ever seen. According to Cartier, one of their fields is more worthy than all of the new land. He found it full of goodly trees, meadows full of wild peas blooming as thick as ranke, and as fair an any in Britany. They seemed to him to have been planted and sowed. There was also a great store of gooseberries, strawberries, damask roses, parsley, with other very sweet and pleasant herbs.

Cartier also said, "About the said island, (there) are very great beasts, as great as oxen, which have two great teeth into their mouths like unto the elephant, and live also into the sea. We also saw bears and wolves on Brions Island." Cartier left Brion Island on June 27 th., 1534.

We do not know what happened to the bears and the wolves that Cartier saw there, but we do know what happened to the walrus.

Peter Fredrick Haldiman recounts in his report on the Magdalen Islands of 1765 , the killing of the walrus. He said that some time previous to 1765 a large New England sloop fitted out for walrus hunting, came to Brion Island where large numbers of these creatures were on shore. The place was well stocked with them Haldiman said. However, these Americans were not familar with the methods used by the French for taking walrus. After tryin $g$ everything they could think of, they finally decided to fire on them from the beaches. They killed enough walrus to make about 20 barrels of oil. The walrus left Brion Island never to return again, although they did come to the other islands for several years after that. It would seem that this happened during the time the Islands were controlled by France.

Cartier stopped again at Brion Island on his way back to France on his second voyage, after wintering in Quebec. He was in this area for several days after arriving at Brion Island on May 16 th., 1536.

Captain Charles Leigh of London, England, who came to the Islands in 1597 with the intention of colonizing the Islands as well as taking over the valuable walrus and seal fisheries from the Bask and the French, arrived at Brion Island on the 16 th of June 1597, and remained there until the 18 th because of bad weather. Leigh said, " In this island we found exceeding good ground for corn and meadows and a great store of wood of small growth. Springs of fresh water, we found none in all the island. But, we found some standing pools of rain water. Here, we were on land once, and we went from one side of the island to the other."
. Between 1948 and 1952 the Saddle Cove was not used. After 1952 fishermen from Gros Cap came to fish for mackerel and cod after lobster fishing, up until 1962.

In 1954 the Escouade Cooperative of Fatima bought lots $12-15$ from the Delaney brothers and constructed fishing facilities at the western end of Brion- a wharf, slip , outbuildings for salting fish, and cabins. The remains of these facilities are still there today.

Since 1972 Grosse Isle fishermen fish the waters surrounding Brion Island, returning to Grosse Isle almost every evening. With the advent of larger ( $40-45 \mathrm{ft}$. ) fishing boats, fishing from Brion Island became unsuitable as there isn't sufficient shelter around Brion, and the boats are too heavy to haul up in inclement weather with the present facilities.

William Dingwell bought almost all of James White's land claims in 1895. Mr. Dingwell owned a general store, a lobster packing factory, and rented out his land. There were 12 families living on Bryon Island at this time. Mr. Dingwell died in 1907, and soon after, most of the other families moved to the other islands.

In 1902, Mr. P.P. Delaney, member of Parliament for the Magdalen Islands, made a request to the Minister of Marine Fisheries for the erection of a lighthouse. A lighthouse was built in 1904 on the west end of the island.

At the beginning of the century (1900) Townsend Dingwell, his wife Jane (McCallum) and their 4 children lived alone on Bryon Island with the exception of the lighthouse keepers and their families.

After the construction of the lighthouse in 1904, fishermen came to fish lobster, mackerel, cod, halibut, and there was a lobster packing factory. Almost every year hunters came for the seal hunt. The Dingwell family sold meat, vegetables, eggs and butter to visitors and also through Amherst, Magdalen Islands.

In the fall, after the lobster season, fishermen from Grosse Isle, East Cape, Old Harry, House Harbour, Gros Cap, and Point-aux-loups came to fish around Bryon Island. The House Harbour fishermen fished off the west coast and lived in cabins, fishermen from Gros Cap and Fatima stayed at the saddle because of the two coves (north and south) which were separated by a narrow strip of land. They could use either cove, depending on the wind direction.

The fishermen had to haul their boats each evening and launch them again in the morning as there were no wharves. Cod was salted, dried or canned, and lobster was canned. The Dingwells sold such goods as salt meat, butter, potatoes, turnips, eggs etc. at their general store for the fishermen's consumption.

In the spring Islanders would leave Grosse Isle to go to Bryon Island, on foot across the ice, for the seal hunt.

After William Dingwell died, his wife (Peggy) Margaret J.Aitkins, and brother Townsend took over the property etc. from 1908 to 1929, when Frank Leslie bought some of the land holdings which he lost the following year to relix Bouffard and James Dingwell, Townsend's son. Some sources say that Frank Leslie bought the factory in 1907 and operated it for many years before rebuilding it at the Saddle in 1928. In 1930 Frank Leslie's company went bankrupt.

The depression took its toll on the fishing industry, and by the time the war began, almost all fishing operations had ceased. In 1932 Felix Bouffard and James vingwell bought lots 1-6 from the bankruptcy of Frank Leslie. Until 1948 there were lobster fishermen staying on Bryon Island during the lobster fishing season.

The lobster was shipped elsewhere in the Magdalen Islands, after the $\because$ lobster factories on Brion. Island had ceased operation.

Lloyds List states that the John \& Charlotte, Master Sims from Portsmouth, England to the Miramichi struck an icefield near the Magdalen Islands on April 30th 1822. She sank near Brion Islands. The crew was saved. John \& Charlotte was one of 336 registered tons, snow rigged, built in Newcastle in 1764 and owned by Plummer \& Co.

MARGARET ANN Lloyds List Liverpool, England states on December 25 th 1823 that the Margaret Ann arrived from Miramichi on the 27 th of November, 1823. She had on board Master Sinclair and three men taken from the wreck of the Trent which was wtecked on Brion Island in the Gulf of St. Laurence. The Trent was from London, England.

St-laurence
Master Chiverfells. On May 31st, 1828, Lloyds List of Halifax N.S. states that the St-Laurence of and from Quebec to Denerary was wrecked on the Magdalen Islands October 10th 1827. This ship struck Brion Island. The crew and passengers were forced to winter on the Magdalen Islands.

Master Auld. On July 11th, 1831, Lloyd List of Quebec states that the Caledonia out bound from the Bay of Chaleur was on shore on the Magdalen Islands on June 17th 1831. She was not expected to get off. The Caledonia was wrecked on the northwest bar of Brion Island.

Master M. Cartney. On December 25th, 1833, Lloyds List of New York states that the Nancy from Restigouche to Marysport was lost on the Magdalen Islands. The Nancy struck Brion Island in November of 1833 and became a total loss.

GILBERT HENDERSON
Master Pithey. On August 9th, 1833, Lloyds List of Arichat, Cape Breton states that the Gilbert Henderson from Quebec to Europe was totally lost on the Magdalen Islands on July 25 th, 1833. The crew was saved. The Gilbert Henderson struck west point of Brion Island. She was a bark of 328 tons, built in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1815. She was owned by Actel.

AURORA
On August 4 th, 1835, Lloyds List of Quebec states that the Aurora from Bathurst to Abbey Smith was lost on Brion Island. Seven of her crew arrived at Grosse Isle. There was no further mention of any other crew members.

Master W. Wood. Lloyds List states that the Seraph from Richibucto was totally wrecked on Brion Island on the 29 th of November 1837. The crew and materials were saved. This vessel was one of 271 registered tons, built in Sunderland in 1836. She was owned by J. Miller of Newcastle, England.

Master Garbult. On November 14 th, 1837, Lloyds List of Halifax, N.S. states the Canton from Gaspe to Great Britain struck on the north west reef of Brion Island. The Master, his wife, and child left the wreck in the captain's gig with four other seamen. They were never heard from after. The Mate and five other members of the crew reached Grosse Isle in the jolly boat. The Canton was a brig of 273 registered tons built in Whitby in 1829 and she was owned by lawson \& Co. of Whitby.

Master McMirchy. Lloyds List states that the Madawaska a brig of 272 registered tons from Bathurst in ballast was wrecked on Brion Island, Magdalen Islands on July 29 th, 1838 . The crew and materials were saved.

Master Evans. On December 23, 1840, Lloyds List of New York states that the Larch from Miramichi to to Europe was totally wrecked on the Magdalen Islands on December 2, 1840. The crew all landed safely on shore, but in the end all but three froze to death. The Larch was said to have been wrecked on Brion.

Master Irwing. On August 23rd. 1845, Lloyds List of MIramichi states that the Tarbolten from Liverpool to Dalhousie was totally wrecked on the island of Brion in the Gulf of ST. Laurence on July 24 th, 1845. The crew and part of the materials were saved.

Master Adams. On February2nd., 1846, Lloyds List of Halifax, N.S. states that the Steadfast of Pool from Quebec to Bristol with timber was wrecked on Brion Island on the 8 th of December 1845. The crew was saved. THe Steadfast was a bark of 454 registered tons, built in Bristol, England in 1807. She was owned by L. Wallock of Pool.

Master Spencer. On May 25 th, 1848, Lloyds List states that the bark Lady Seaton from Quebec to England struck on Brion Island at about the end of November 1847. The Master and Mate were drowned. The remainder of the crew was saved. The wreck subsequently came off and drifted to sea. The crew of this vessel wintered on the Magdalen Islands.


DEFENDER

LADY BIRD

GURLI

On November 11 th, 1871 , Lloyds List of Gaspe states that a report from the Magdalen Islands claimed that the hull and cargo of the Erato from Jersey wrecked on Brion was sold by the master for $\$ 124.00$. The Erato struck Brion Island on October 12 th, 1871.

Lloyds List reports that the bark Olsen from Buctouch to Liverpool was lost on Brion Island on the 23rd of December, 1872. The crew arrived at St. John New Brunswick on January 9 th, 1873.

The Defender, a brigantine, from South Shields, England to St. John, New Brunswick was wrecked on Brion Island on August 31st., 1872. The cause of the wreck was bad weather. The Defender was 336 registered tons.

The Lady Bird of Quebec from Quebec to Newfoundland was wrecked on Brion Island on June 11th, 1872. The cause of the wreck was an error in judgement. The Lady Bird was a brigantine of 150 registered tons.

A report of October 6 th, 1874 , states that the Swedish bark Gurli, one of 686 registered tons was wrecked on the Magdalen Islands on October 14 th., 1874, in a heavy gale. This ship was said to be wrecked on the east side of the Saddle Cove on Brion Island.

Master B.K. Anderson: The Grecian, one of 140 tons, from Quebec to Burin with a load of flour was reported wrecked on Brion Island on September 22nd,1875. She was abandoned by the crew, but during the night, she beat over the reef and disappeared. No portion of the ship or her cargo were ever seen again. The Grecian struck the west reef of Brion. The crew arrived in Liverpool onboard the Caspian. The Grecian was a brig built in Jersey in 1851, and was owned by J.G. Falls of Jersey.

The Sessional Papers of June 21 st, 1877 reports the wreck of the Russian Bark Maria on Brion Island in a voyage from Dalhousie, N.B. to London, England. This ship was one of 334 registered tons, built in 1861. Her home country was Russia.

THETIS
The wreck of the brig Thetis of Darmen, Norway on a voyage from London, England to Quebec was reported on March 31 st., 1884. She was one of 558 registered tons. This vessel struck Brion Island and becane a total wreck.

The Festina Lente was one of 81 registered tons. She struck Brion Island from Shelbourne, N.S. on August 6 th, 1889, and became a total wreck.

On October 20th, 1884, the Herbe, a vessel of 236 registered tons.struck Brion Island. The crew landed all sick with small pox. One member of the crew was already dead with the disease when she struck. Some of the settlers also contacted this sickness. The Herbe was on a voyage from the River Plate to Gaspe. She became a total loss. This vessel was owned by Joshua Alexander of Hi Street, St. Aubins, Jersey.

BORGHILD

This was a Norwegian Bark. She was one of 590 registered tons. During her voyage from Miramichi to Whitehaven she struck Brion Island on June 24,1889 during a thick fog and became a wreck.

Master J.H. Wrught. On October 5th, 1891, Lloyds List states that the British bark Carmiola from Belfast to the Miramichi struck Brion Island and became a total wreck on the night of September 30 th, 1891. She filled with water and went to pieces. According to the crew list of this vessel, she stopped at Sydney, N.S. before going on to Miramichi. The Carmiola was a wooden bark, one of 746 registered tons. She was built in Bear River, N.S. by Rice Clark, and she was owned by W.M. Thompson \& Co. of Digby.

## STAADSRAAD LANGE

Master Clementsen. On June 29th, 1891, Lloyds List reports that the Norwegian bark Staadsraad Lange from Saguenay for Melbourne was ashore on Brion Island with seven feet of water in her hold. Further reports stated that she had become a total wreck. The materials were sold for $\$ 2,500$.

Master Realfsen. The Congo, a wooden bark of Norwegian registry, struck Brion Island in December of 1915. This was one of 459 registered tons, built in Grimstad, Norway in 1886 by Acties Congo. This ship was loaded with lumber for the U.K., much of which was salvaged after the ship broke up. According to what I have noted from my mother, much of this lumber was used in the building of homes and barns. Also, my mother told me many times that the church of St. Peters by the Sea at Old Harry was framed and boarded in with this lumber. The Rev. Arthur Reeves, Priest in Charge
of the parish at the time, asked everyone who salvaged any of this lumber to donate some for the church at Old Harry. Also, the parsonage at Grosse Isle and or the barn were built from the Congo lumber. Being lumber for export, it was all \# 1 material.

KEWANGO
This was a Norwegian steamer that struck Brion Island on the night of December 12 th, 1915. This vessel was reported to have become a total loss.
S. S. VIENNA The S.S. Vienna, one of 2,653 registered tons was stranded on Brion Island on June 15 th, 1915. However, she was refloated after sustaining some damage.
S.S. CHELATROS The S.S. Chelatros was a Greek freighter which was stranded on Brion Island on October 10th, 1941. This ship became a total wreck. She was outbound with a general cargo. Some of the material was later salvaged by divers.

I WONDER WHY This boat was a small fishing vessel owned by Albert Cyr, a Madilinot. It was one of about 30 tons. This little schooner was anchored in the lea of Brion Island trying to ride out what the older people call the August gale. It was believed that his anchor cable parted, and that the ship was blown out to sea. The only alternative then, was around East Point and the harbour at Grand Entry. But, this was not to be. It was said at the time that his progress was followed from the big hill of Brion and from Grosse Isle or East Cape with telescopes. He was almost over to East Point when he suddenly vanished without a trace. Mr. Cyr, his two sons and Mr. Richard were all lost. This was August 1930.

Lloyds List 23rd of October, 1854 , states that the Farrago Master Le Dain from Perce to Naples was stranded on Brion Island September the 7 th, 1854 and abandoned. She subsequently floated off, came on shore on the main island and became a total wreck. The greater part of her materials were saved.

On the Daniel Paquet map of wrecks from 1831 to 1883 , the following vessels were reported lost on Brion Island. However, I was unable to get any information on them.

## QUEBEC

FOX
The dates of the wrecks are unknown.
SURF
GOWAND
Mr. Paquet probably remembered the wrecks, or he knew somebody who did remember them.

THE McCALLUM LINE
by Ernest McCallum,
contributed by Leonard Clark.
an excerpt from It Only Concerns Us

In 1958, while in Vancouver on a business trip, I looked up Miss Eva McCallum, a first cousin of our father, Charles Anderson McCallum. Her father was named James McCallum. Eva's sister, Flo, (her married name escapes me) had a daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Simpson, then living in Vancouver.

In becoming acquainted with these two 2 nd. cousins they recounted a bit of family history which both claimed had been researched by a cousin (name unknown to me) in New York city. It was intended by Eva \& Flo to communicate with this cousin and get the story in some written form, but as all good intentions usually go, so went this one. Ill health intervened and in a short while both Eva and Flo had joined their ancestors in that part of Heaven reserved for Highlanders.

The tale, as told to me, goes like this: A number of Scottish people having become unhappy with their lot in Scotland, in the Ayeshire area and northward toward Colgin and Oban, organized a shipload of people and their possessions and set sail for the New World, namely the American colonies, with Boston as their intended destination. Arriving at this placethey were dismayed to find a battle raging with everyone shooting at everyone else. This must have been the start of the War for Independance. Let us place the date as 1776 , give or take a year.

Not knowing what was going on due to the slow pace of news and communications in those days, and not wishing to become involved, these travellers put to sea and sailed northwards to an alternate destination, namely Isle St. Jean, later to be narned by its English captors as prince Edward Island, Canada.

At that date in history, some 17 years after the Conquest of Canada by England against France, practically no one lived on Isle St. Jean. The early Erench settlers, the Acadians, had been expelled by the English and Colonial forces, and before that these Acadians had killed off the Indian or native population. Therefore, our shipload of travellers were landing on uninhabited land, in fact. they were perhaps the first English and or Gaelic speaking people to occupy this island.


Our father, Charles, always said that his ancestors landed at Fortune Bay, but Dad's cousin, Finlay McCallum (Eva's Brother) told me the landing was at Rollo Bay. It is of no consequence as the two places are quite close to each other and not far from Souris, P.E.I.

The first name of the first McCallum to arrive, as described, is not known to me although "Murdock" has been suggested but from his cargo I've always thought of him as Noah. You see he and his fellow travellers came to stay and brought male and female of Horse, Cow, Pig, Sheep, Chicken, Dog, Cat, and so on, as well as such farming tools as they possessed, also, carpentry, blacksmithing, and masonry tools.

It is here that an interesting facet of our Great, Great, Grand Sire's personality comes to light. As did all his fellow travellers, he brought his wife and children, but our worthy sire also brought along a second female in the person of a serving maid which proved to be extremely farsighted, for, sad to relate, his wife succumbed to the rigors of the long voyage, died and was buried at sea. In due course our hero married the maid, and proceeded to procreate and help populate Prince Edward Island.

One of his sons, Muir McCallum-probabaly- settled in or near to present day $S t$. Peters P.E.I. and it is his line that this tale pursues. Another son, name unknown, removed to the newly formed country, United States of America and reputedly, at one time in his ife, owned a farm on Manhattan Island at the site upon which New York City Hall was eventually built. (It is obvious, that if this is true, that he should not have sold his farm.)

From Muir McCallum came our Grandfather Daniel Singleton McCallum, and he married twice. His first wife's name was Harris and I know little about this marriage except that there were two sons and a daughter, named Edward(Ned), John, and Elizabeth(Dad's half-bothers and half-sister). Ned had lived in Verdun, P.Q. His wife, Aunt Addie, visited us on the farm at Parker Hill (near

Randboro, P.Q.) probably around 1922, but travel was very limited in those days, and money with which to travel was even more limited, so this connection became lost.Elizabeth was married to Sam McCormick of Grindstone, Magdalen Islands and in due course moved to and lived in Scotstown, P.Q.

Now to return to Daniel Singleton McCallum, who was known in life as Singleton, or "Sing" McCallum. Following the death of his first wife he re-married to Margaret Dingwell, our grandmother. I have (large) enlargements of their photos which Dad had made from ancient tin-types and I can remember with what pride he framed and hung them in the house at Randboro. They were about all he had to hang onto for parents, as he and his brother William and sisters Sadie and Bertha were orphaned at an early age.

Daniel Singleton McCallum's marriage to Margaret Dingwell took place at Grosse Isle (Magdalen Islands) on August 26th. 1874. The ceremony was under the charge of Mr. R.C. Tombs. missionary, who later became Rev. R.C. Tombs. While the point is not really important, it is equally probable that Mr. Tombs married them on Bryon laland and then entered the fact in the Anglican Record Book at Grosse Isle.

To fully appreciate this matter a knowledge of the geography of the magdalen Islands is necessary. Biyon lsland is a small island laying about 12 miles northwards from Grosse Isle. No church, school, municipal office, or other facility ever existed on $\mathrm{Br} f \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{n}}$ Island. It is about $1 \frac{1}{2}$ miles $x 3$ miles in size. It carried a lighthouse, now fully automated. In the times of our forefathers it was an outstanding lobster fishing station.

Grandmother Margaret Dingwell was born in Prince Edward Island, and since a small village, Dingwell's Mills is located near St. Peter's, P.E.I., chere is reason to believe she came from there and was takén to Bryon Island by her father William Dingwell (my Greatgrandfather).

Our father (Charles) always referred to William Dingwell as 0ld King Dingwell and..it was a long while before it became clear to me that he was referring to his maternal grandfather. Dingwell was an entrpeneur, to say the least. He apparently had leased, or otherwise obtained possession of Bryon Island for the purpose of Lobster and Cod
fishing, seal hunting and farming. He also operated the lighthouse throughout the navigation season. He operated a lobster canning factory and had need for skilled workmen which led to the recruitment in P.E.I. of Daniel Singleton McCallum and three of Grandfather's brothers, namely John, James, and George McCallum. These came with their wives and children to Bryon Island from St. Peter's, P.E.I.. A glance at a map of the Gulf of St. Lawrence will show that it is all clear sailing between these two points, and they sure as hell were all good sailors having been practically born in a dory.

They all lived for many years on Bryon Island and bore many children there, all that is except George whom Dad always called "Uncle Geordie", and who remained a bachelor.

Grandfather "Sing" amd Grandmother Margaret bore four children on Brýon Island in the following order: Sarah (Aunt Sadie), William (Uncle Bill, of glass nailing fame), Charles (Dad) \& Aunt Bertha. As mentioned earlier, Grandmother died on Bryon Island when the children were very young. Eva McCallum, in Vancouver, told me she had a childhood recollection that her Aunt Margaret had died in childbirth, as she remembered seeing a baby in the coffin with her. (Remember the isolation these souls endured at that time and place, Brýon Island in the early 1880's)

Grandfather "Sing" died a few years later leaving his four children orphaned at very young ages. They were taken in hand by an uncle, Townsend Dingwell, their mother's brother, and his wife Jane. This couple had been attracted to Bryon Island and also worked for "King" Dingwell. It is of interest to note that they in turn had four children namely, Richard (Dick), Todd, Florence and Carolyn. These are out Dad's first cousins and they were practically raised as brothers and sisters. None of these four Dingwell children ever married and as of this date (Feb., 1984) only Carolyn survives at age 96 (she is now in Hospital at Grindstone, Magdalen Islands).

Now to return to Grandfather Singleton's brothers, where we left them on Bryon Island raising children of whom some are: James McCallum who married Eva Baker in Lennoxville, Quebec, Their daughter Doris resulted from this marriage; Phil McCallum who remained a bachelor, Finlay McCallum, his brother Johnny McCallumkilled at Vimy Ridge, , and another Johnny McCallum (brother of

Phil(, Eva McCallum (daughter of James); also her sister Florence and no doubt others of whom I've not heard. All of these McCallum's named in this paragraph are Dad's (Charles) first cousins.

Grandfather's brother George moved to Grindstone in the Magdalen Islands and set up as a blacksmith and "forged" out his lifetime there in that capacity, dieing at a great old age. He was known there as "Geordie" McCallum.

Grandfather's other brothers James and John left Bryon Island before his death and moved to Scotstown P.Q. for a few years. James moved on, first to Winnepeg, Manitoba, then to Vancouver, B.C., where he died at age 93 according to his daughters Eva \& Flo and son Finlay. Leaving Scotstown in due course, John was reported to have moved to either Montreal or Verdun, Quebec and there are a great many McCallums there.

Our father's (Charles Anderson McCallum) dates are: Born on May 1, 1877, Died-March 17, 1960.

Of Grandfather's children, Sadie married a cousin by name of McCallum and settled on Entry Island of the Magdalens. They had two children, George McCallum and one other son who died in his youth. (George McCallum married Luvia Leggett and died in 1940) (They had no children). But more about Sadie whose first husband had died not long after their two sons had been born. She remarried a man by name of Patton and had a couple or more children, one of whom was named Percy, and a daughter Matilda(Tilly); then this husband Patton, also died. Aunt SAdie married again, a man named Collins, and had a good many more children- maybe as many as nine. She died at a good old age on Entry Island in the Magdalens.

William McCallum (Uncle Bill of glass nailing fame) was a seriously crippled man from a childhood accident and resulting lack of, complete abuence of, medical can sui profinieni as a cabinet maker. He never married. He came to our home on Parker Hill in 1922, and lived with us for some 4 years, finally locating in Sawyerville, Quebec, where he made his living as a cabinet maker., dieing in 1947 at our present home in Randboro, P.Q. A specimen of his curious ability to drive nails through glass may be seen along with some notes on his life in the Compton County Museum at Eaton Corner, P.Q.

Aunt Bertha married David Dickson (or Dixon) and settled on Entry Island where they both enjoyed long and happy lives, albeit childless, except for a boy, Clarence, whom they adopted.

It can be seen at a glance that the progency of "Sing" and Margaret McCallum were not very successful in perpetuating the family name. None of the foregoing left a trace,.......................

- end of excerpt.


# , $=$ <br> ТНРННННННННज!!eg 

I was two years old when my Dad took the position as lighthouse keeper on Bryon Island. I don't remember the events that took place then, but I heard my Mum and Dad discuss them many times. It was on the 1st. of December, 1927 we boarded the Canadian Icebreaker Ironmare at Grosse Isle. However, before we were able to get to Bryon Island the wind struck Northeast with a severe snowstorm, during which time the Ironmare took shelter in Pleasant Bay. On the morning of the 5 th. the wind calmed and the storm stopped, so we lifted anchor and headed for Brion Island, landing there in the late afternoon. My Mum and Dad, along with Foster Clark from Old Harry, carried my two brothers and I through waist deep snow from the shore to the house. It was Dad's first time on the island. The previous lighthouse keeper showed him how to light the light and put it out, and then left, and it was left to him to find out how everything worked which took many long hours. However, the end of December soon came, at which time the light was shut down for the winter, commencing again the first of April. For Mum it was getting adjusted to a new home on a lonely island with one other family five miles away.

My first recollection was when $I$ was four years old, when there was a trip to the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow for a tonsil operation. The main source of transportation to and from the mainland then was by the Mail Carrier Mr. Tom Turnbull. At that time there was a Post Office on Bryon Island. We had Mail Service once a week from April to November. The part we enjoyed the most was Mr. Turnbull used to bring the boys Robert and Spencer with him. With no other boys around we sure welcomed them. However this was shortlived, it was only a few years then the post office was closed. They didn't sell enough stamps to keep the post office running. So after that we just got mail occasionally when someone came for a visit with the exception of June and July when the boats were there fishing.

The long winter months were the worst, and how long they seemed to be from Nov. till April. How glad we were to see the ice go and the fishing boats come. At that time there were 10 to 12 boats from Grindstone and House Harbour, fishing at the Eastpoint of Bryon. Fishermen like Dulare Bernard, Peter Massey, Fred Massey, John Massey and Jake Burke.

These men came to Bryon to fish for quite a number of years; some years to take home a good catch of lobsters and other years to strike a heavy storm at the first of the season and sometimes lose nearly all their gear.

During our first years on Bryon our communication was limited after the boats left in September. In the spring of 1935 there was a radio phone installed there. This was to be our greatest blessing because the following winter it saved my Dad's life. We had a lot of problems with it however, and a lot of the time it wasn't working, but we were very fortunate that first year. The installation was done by Mr. Edwards with Forbe Buck, and Pete Clark, who spent a week with us.

Another visitor we used to love to come was Clarence Clark, then the Fishery Officer who used to make Several visits down during the summer, and how excited we would get when we saw the big boat coming in Westpoint Cove. Dad used to get a lobster license from him, and we would put out a few traps and catch enough lobsters for our own use. Lobster licenses were then 254 . I remember Dad telling him on one occasion that if he struck a storm and lost his traps he wanted his $25 \notin$ back.

I would like to mention a few of the men that really helped us, bringing our mail and other things we needed- Glenson Craig, Earl Craig, Bill Burke, Jerry Burke, Tad Dickson, and Percy Rankin.

The most unforgettable event that took place was the winter of 1936 when my Dad took seriously ill. About three years prior to this he developed stomach ulcers and as time went on they continued to get worse. He spent August and September of 1934 in the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow. The doctors treated him, but failed to diagnose the seriousness of his case. Finally, in January 1936, he took seriously ill. It was sometime during the night of the 14 th. He woke up very faint. He felt that if he got the cold wind blowing in his face he would feel better, so he got out of bed and went to the door. As he opened the porch door, he fainted and fell head long out the door, down four steps and onto the frozen gravel. How long he stayed there no one knows. Mom knew nothing about it till he came back in and fell across Mom's bed. It was three o'clock in the morning, and he was in bad shape. His face was badly cut and bruised, and there were two puddles of blood on the snow outside the door, that ran from his face while he lay there that night. I shall never forget the scene as I looked at Dad lying in bed the next morning. I was only ten years old, but as $I$ write these lines now, 49 years later, these scenes are fresh in my memory.

As I already said, the spring of 1935, the government installed a Radiophone on Bryon Island and Crosse Isle, giving us communication. The calling times were $8-11$ am., 3-7 pm. At 8 am. Mom sent her first message $\tau u$ Charlottetown, P.E.I. for help because Mom knew if she didn't get help, and get it soon, Dad wouldn't live through another night. At that time he was haemorrhaging bad inside.

At one o'clock Mom still hadn't got an answer to her first message, so she sent the second one, and it was an urgent one. At two o'clock she got an answer, and after some communication the rescue mission was about to begin. This daring attempt was to be made by Pilot Walter Fowler, and the landing place was Dandy Head, five full miles away. Now at this time Dad wasn't able to sit up so there had to be some sort of an ambulance to get Dad to where the plane was to land. This was done by Alex Benard with his horse and sleigh, with a box built on his sleigh, and a mattress and some blankets. Dad was made quite comfortable for the journey along the north side of Bryon. Island.

I want to commend Alex Benard. Alex is from Point-aux-Loups and he moved his family to Bryon Island that fall, for the winter, and I say that God brought him there because he knew that we would need help, and Alex so graciously filled the need. Besides getting Dad to the plane he made regular trips two and three times a week to cut wood and help in whatever way he could.

Dad was admitted to the P.E.I. Hospital around 5 o'clock that evening, and upon examination the doctor told him that he had 5 or 6 more hours to live. However, he underwent a very serious operation, recovered quickly, and returned to Bryon Island by plane on February 25. Were we glad to have him back, because when he left we weren't sure if we would see him alive again.

As we grew older we became more involved in the operation and maintenance of the light. There was cutting of wood and the tending the cattle and sheep to do. We mainly had two or three cows, a calf, horse, and ten to twelve sheep. When I say "we", I am speaking of my brother Bentley, $1 \frac{1}{2}$ years older than $I$, and Fred $1 \frac{1}{2}$ years younger. When there was anything to do, there was usually a lengthy discussion as to who was going to do what.

One of the biggest jobs was getting water. In the dry part of the summer and in the winter, we had to haul water from a spring two miles away. In summer we hauled it on the horse and dump cart and in winter our Newfoundland $\operatorname{dog}$ Bingo was hitched to the hand sleigh. We used to haul it by the barrel but we didn't always reach home with a full barrel. On one occassion Fred and I were hauling on the horse and we had two barrels and we were both on the sleigh as well. The horse stumbled and then the shafts broke. Needless to say there was some water flying.

Life on Bryon was lonely and boring at times, but there were times of excitement. To be a lighthouse keeper is exciting and rewarding. It also carries a lot of responsibility, knowing there are ships depending on that light for navigation. The years before and during the war there were a lot of shipping up and down the Gulf. However during our 16 years on Bryon Island there was only one shipwreck. It happened in the fall of 1941.

A ship left Montreal for Sydney to join a convoy for overseas, and struck a reef on the north side of Bryon, which damaged her bottom quite badly, Tugs came, and for six days worked on repairing her bottom. There was fine weather, light south and southwest winds, and at the end of the sixth day she was all ready for the tugs to hook on and pull her off, but it was getring late in the evening so they decided to wait till morning. That night the wind struck northwest. The tug had to leave and take shelter on the south side of the island. By daybreak there was quite a sea pounding around herAt 12 o'clock she broke in two. We could see the water coming through her from the land. At two o'clock the crew lowered two life boats over and left her. They landed in a little cove. We helped them up the cliffs with ropes.

Two days later the bow section broke up, then a week later the stern section went down, littering the north side of Bryon Island with a five million dollar cargo.

In the spring of 1943 Dad decided to retire from the lighthouse so in September we moved away, just three months short of sixteen years after moving to Bryon Island.

## A Testimony from Rhoda Davis

Rhoda Davis went to Brion Island in the early 1960's as cook for a young peoples' camp. She stayed in the old Dingwell's house for over a month.

Rhoda enjoyed her stay on Brion Island and would like to live there. She feels that it is a great pity that the old homestead of the Dingwell's has been destroyed, and would like to see it restored, and a caretaker living on Brion Island to take care of it.

Caroline Dingwell lived with Rhoda for several weeks, and told her a great deal about her life on Brion Island. According to Caroline, life was very hard and lonely. They grew potatoes, turnips, other vegetables, and grain. They also raised and cared for numerous livestock. She told how her brother Dick made new grave markers to replace ones which had rotted away. These markers, which marked the graves of the Master and Mate of the "Lady Seaton" who drowned off the shores of Brion Island in 1847, and were buried on the western side of the Saddle Cove.

Caroline also told Rhoda kow her sister Florence, a registered nurse, came back to Brion Island after nursing in the United States for several years, and that Florence graduated in Boston. Florence died in Grindstone, Magdalen Islands, in 1950, and Caroline's two brothers are also buried in the Anglican Cemetery in Grindstone. Jack died in 1975, and William in 1940. Caroline passed away in Grindstone in 1984, at the age of 92 years. This marked the end of the Br ion Island Dingwells.

## Clarence Clark Reminisces

Clarence Clark remembers his mother, Violet Richards, speaking of her years on $B r i o n$ Island as a telegraph operator. Violet was sixteen years old when she first went to Brion Island in 1902. She lived there with her Aunt Peggy (Margaret Aitkins) for 5 years.

After her mariage, Viole vfen received winter supplies sul? as earthern crocks of butter, salt beef and pork, vegetables, and berries from her Aunt Peggy.

Clarence would very much like to see Brion Island's buildings restored and its history and heritage preserved.
(Violet Richards, 1886-1956, was the telegraph operator on Bran Island from 1902-1907. Her mother, Annie Aitkins, was a sister to Margaret, wife of Bill Dingwell. Violet's sister Daisy often visited Brion Island many times, but did not stay there.)

CHILD'HOOD MEMORIES OF BRYON ISLAND by Lois (Keating) McLean
I was born at Grosse Isle on August 19, 1933, and was taken to Bryon Island late in September of that year: My father was lighthouse keeper on Bryon Island at the time, and we stayed there the year round. The light was going from April to late November. If one of us needed medical attention during the winter he would light it and when they saw it at Grosse Isle they would call Charlottetown to send a plane on, such as the time in midwinter that Dad took sick with bleeding ulcers. Felix Richards started the light and the next day a plane came on and took him to Charlottetown.

The house we lived in was in fair condition. It had three bedrooms upstairs, and four rooms downstairs, one of which wasn't sealed. There were all soft wood floors with no carpets or floor coverings on them. My mother used to scrub the floors every week on her knees.

We raised all our own animals, grew all our own vegetables and every fall Dad would butcher a beef, pig, and sometimes one or two lambs, as we always had from twelve to fifteen sheep. In the spring Mum used to shear the sheep and what a job ! Wash the wool, pick it, ( which was a job for all us kids) and send it to Condon's for yarn and blankets. She knitted all of our socks and mitts. She also made butter in the sumner. She used to supply the fishermen who used to come over from House Harbour and Etang-du-Nord to fish lobsters. Dad made the hay with a horse and mowing machine. Our horses's name was Dean and what a horse he was! A big strawberry roan with a white star on his forehead. The only fuel we had was wood. Dad would go into the woods in late September or early October and cut it until the snow came.

Dad did a lot of fishing for our own use. He wasn't allowed to sell any fish on account of having the light. In the gunning season he shot a lot of ducks, and in the spring he would go sealing with Dick and Jack Dingwell. After my brothers got big enough he took them on the ice. We also raised our own chickens and had all of our own eggs. One year my mother and I were over to Entry Island to see my grandmother, and she got 6 Plymouth Rock hens. We took thern back to Grosse Isle. The day we left to go back to Bryon Island it was blowing kind of hard. Carl Craig and Percy Rankin took us over.About half way across a sea struck the boat and the box we had the hens in went from one side of the boat to the other and the cover fell off. Two of the hens junped onto the side of the boat and into the water. Percy reached over and grabbed one by the head and the other by the tail, put them in the box, put the cover on and sat on it for the rest of the way.

The only means of communication we had with Grosse Isle was a Marconi set (which us kids used to call the talking machine). Dad used to talk to Jim Quinn at 11 an. and 7 pm . When it broke down Joe LaBorder would come over from Srnsse Isle to fix it. Forbes Buck would cone over to fjx it too. We had a battery radio which was great in the winter. We had an aerial from the light to the house and we could get stations from the states. We used to listen to the Lone Ranger, John and JUdy, The Shadow, Gabriel Heater; Dad would never miss the Jack Benny Show. Church Service from Charlottetown was on every Sunday morning.

After World War 11 started they had a coded message- A for apple, B for butter, etc. It would come over the radio to the tune of Roll out the Barrel. The reason for this was in case there was an enemy subrarine in the vicinity. When $A$ was coded there was no danger. They had C which meant there were subs around. They would give the $\mathrm{L} \& \mathrm{~L}$ and Dad would always have to keep a record of it and send it to the Department of Transport.

On December 5th., 1927 my father Edward F. Keating took my mother, brothers and myself on Brion Island to relieve Edmond Richard as lighthouse keeper. We had no firewood in the house: With all our furniture on the beach. My Dad had to go and cut fine wood for the house. He had to carry our bedding $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile on his back for us kids to sleep that night. On the following morning our nearest neighbour John Dingwell came to help us with two horses. Mr. Dingwell left one with my Dad for hauling firewood and such.

My father kept that light from 1927 to 1943. During these 16 years we were friends and neighbours of the Dingwells at all times.

## THE DINGWELL HOME ON BRION ISLAND

They had a full basement with a water cistern to catch rain water for home use. They also had what I call a farmer's kitchen which contained a cream seperator, a big butter churn, also scales for weighing butter. Inside there was a regular kitchen, diningroom, bedroom, and livingroom on the main floor. Upatairs I can't say as I was not there.

## NOW FOR THE HISTORY OF BRION ISLAND AS I KNOW IT

The first settler on Brion Island was a Mr. White who hailed from Scotland. After he made his claim on the land he hired a housekeeper from P.E.I., who had two sons William and Townsend. William married a lady named Peggy Aitkins who as far as $I$ know hailed from Grand Entry. Townsend married a lady who was born on Brion Island. Her maiden name was Jane McCallum. Check the cemetery on Brion Island for proof. And something else- Brion Island from years back was settled by English people clear of two French squatters Hector Deagle and Joseph Bushie who sold their land to Delaney people from House Harbour.

Mildred Clarke of Old Harry remembers visiting her cousin Edward Keating and his wife on Brion Island about fifty years ago. He was the lighthouse keeper at the time.. (from 1927-1943)

While on Brion Island, Mildred was invited to the Dingwell's for supper, along with her aunt, Mr. Keating's mother. Although she can not recall what was served for supper, except for the delicious strawberries and cream, she well remembers that the Dingwells were very congenial hosts.

At the end of their visit, Ed Keating came for them with a horse and cart.

Mildred would like to see Brion Island's homesteads restored and the beauty of Brion Island preserved.

At the hone of Beverly Rankin is a powder horn used to carry powder for muzzle loading guns. Edwin Chenell gave the powder horn to Beverly Rankin's father, Ezra Rankin, about 80 to 85 years ago. The horn came from Br ion Island.

On this powder horn is a design of a square rigger ship, a horse standing on a chest with the following inscription on the chest: GVLIELMXIS.

Mr. Rankin also has in his possession a spy-glass used by Ezra Rankin (Grosse Isle) which was used to spy for seal from Grosse Isle North Mountain to Brion Island. The spy-glass belonged to the Leslie Company, and was left at the home of Ezra Rankin.


POWDER HORN


SPYGLASS

## PETER B. CLARKE

"I was not born on Brion Island; if I was called after Brion Island, I don't know. I don't remember my mother or father telling me anything about Brion Island except that they spent one winter on there and the Dingwells were very friendly.

At the time my pakents stayed on there Ned Richards was the lighthouse keeper. My father stayed there to prepare for fishing in the Spring.

Florence Dingwell was a very good friend of my mother's. When I was born she gave me a plate and cup as a baby gift. I broke the plate when I was young, and I still have the cup. I was told that this cup was my good luck cup. Since I became an adult I have only been back to Brion Island twice.


THE CUP IS AN ORANGE/PINK COLOUR, WITH BABY STORKS AROUND IT. IT IS ABOUT 5 INCHES TALL, WITH A HANDLE ON IT, AND IS MADE OF GLASS.

GRAVE MARKER OF SARAH (HARRIS) CHENELL

THE MOTHER OF EDWIN, WIFE OF PAUL
BORN 1833 - DIED 1906


EDWIN CHENELL WAS THE ORIGINAL OWNER OF THE POWDER HORN, SHOWN ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE, WHICH HE GAVE TO EZRA RANKIN. EDWIN CHENELL AND HIS FAMILY LIVED ON BRION ISLAND. HIS FATHER, PAUL WAS BORN IN FRANCE, AND HIS MOTHER WAS BORN IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.







Lighthouse and Residence of Lighthousekeeper,
.Brion Island, circa- 1945
1930-34?
ne: Ross Keating





The $\mathscr{P}_{\text {Pastan }}$ Giliy MCospitat.
Doaton, Septämben! 190才

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Mass, Tlonence Dingurall
has served as
Actimy Aasistandi Manser
The Woston Cily MCospitat
for the period of three monthis,
ending Seiptember 11908


Gravestone on
Brion Island, M.J.
 right, with members of family.

Flora Dingwell
Formerly of P.E.I.

$$
1813-1891
$$

First Dingwell on Brion Island


Townsend Dingwell's family home, 1943


Caroline and John Dingwell, 1969


Caroline Dingwell (Toosie) sitting on the left on bench



2721 20, MrPro


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Dear Altice:

 you are very trelcome, wish J conde do muc for an dont ohn all


 She don't own a binns here now, mior don't sibe sing it here home at frimdetone?
Aug. Eth.
I an not gettinf this wribien vary fart, wo wabler is lovely and arm but wimly. It wos been a verg thosmerous ons wibi fish, whe best for ears
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 the news, write soom

Conrio.

 Ircivince, sle wote furom orobec cilur







Certificate of Baptism.
Dingwell) William Townsend son of Townsend Dingwell farmer of Bryon Baptised) Island and of his wife Jane (her maiden name McCallum) was born on the twenty-eighth day of August one thousand eight hundred and seventy seven and was baptised on the sixteenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight
by me
James Chambers (Missionary)
William Dingwell -
Townshend Dingwell.
I certify and attest unto all whom it may concern that what is above written is a true and faithful copy of an original entry in the Register Book of Baptisms Marriages and Funerals of and for St. Luke's Church Grindstone The Magdalen Islands Province of Quebec Canada by me dx xx diligently compared and collated with the said original $k$ entry in the said Register Book deposited on record in the said church.

Given under my hand and seal at Grindstone this eighteenth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-nine

(Priest)
in charge of The Anglican Mission to The Magdalen Islands).



## 

Caroline NlexandranDaughter of Townsend Coffin Dingwell, of Bryon Island, Magdalen Islands, Province of Quebec, Canada, farmer and fisherman, and of Jane Adelaide(by her maiden name McCallum, was born on the eighth day of August, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety two, and baptized on the tenth day of the same month,

> By me,

Josiah Ball
Missionary

## Parents:

Towshena Dinge 11
Jane A.Dingwell

## Sponsors:

William Dingwell $7711-$
Melinda Goodwin
 corn, That what is above written is a TRUE AND FAITHFUL COPY of an original entry in the Register Book of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials of and for .......The Magdalen Islandg.....nnglican Mission
Province of Quebec, by me diligently compared and collated with the said -original entry in the said Register, deposited on Record in line said Church.

Given mir my hand and seal, at $\qquad$ Grindstone P. Q., this eighth day of October $\qquad$ in the year of Our Lord, one thousand $\qquad$ hundred $\qquad$ $\cdot{ }^{\circ}$


Incumbent
Magdalen Islands Anelicaniissio
than of acknowledgement of receipt of this letter, no answer has been
received.

 oration of the Brion Island Access wimmittee. This committee was
approached on April 30 , 1985 by letter but
















Brion Island has kept its secrets despite the love for it by the
people who lived there.
 -purisi uo
 Magdalen Islands, most significantly in Grosse Isle over the years. truthfully say that Brion Island played an important role in the
on the executive committee should be from Grosse isle.
bo
in

The following is a summary of the principal remarks and comments made by the people we have contacted:

1. First and foremost the wharf and slip must be repaired, so that they can be used by the fishermen in case of a storm.
2. Grosse Isle Municipal Corporation should have jojut management of Brion Island with the Ministry of Enviromment. 3. The Dingwell and Chenell homes should be restored, and the lighthouse and its residence as well.
3. The cemetery should be restored, grave markers put in place, and the grave markers of the two officers of the. Lady Seaton should be replaced.
4. Clean up the whole island.
5. Erect a monument for all those who have lost their lives on Brion 1 sland and in surrounding waters. (shipwrecks)
6. Public toilets and a water pump should be installed.
7. Restrict all motorized vehicles.
8. Free access.
9. There should be an island caretaker. ( 1 t is pointless to restore the buildings without one.)
10. Strict fire and camping regulations should be imposed, and garbage should be disposed of.
11. Restriction of firearms.
12. No hunting.
13. Protect the environment.
14. Should a committee be formed to manage Brion Island, it should be made up of Madelinots, two-thirds of which are from the Municipality of Grosse Isle.


On the eighth day of March, 1984, (under registration nos.2404124042) the Quebec Minister of Environment delivered expropriation notices to two property owners of Brion Island, United Fishermen of Quebec, and the Acadian Society of Petroleum Research Ltd., for reason of public use, more precisely to designate the entire territory of Brion Island as an ecological reserve. Before the above mentioned date a committee known as The Brion Island Protection and Access Committee was formed to make sure that the Madilinots had some say in the Government's plans for Brion Island.

The members of this committee are: Ruth Clark, Robina Goodwin, Leonard Clark, Jeannot Gagnon, Raymond Gauthier, Anne Gauthier, Louise Langford, Arthur Miousse and Francois Turbide.

The Brion Island Protection and Access Committee have carried out a certain amount of research on the life and past ownership of Brion Island and will make recommendations to the Government as to how they would like Brion Island to be managed, and to insure the rights of the Madilinots.

This committee has made contact with people who have lived on Brion Island, mostly French, but questionnaires have gone out to a few people on Grosse Isle and their answers were compiled.

The Brion Island Protection and Access Committee have produced the following draft for discussion. Should you agree or disagree with this draft, please take time now to let us know by writing on the reserve side.

There is a copy of the survey at the office of The First Informer which you may feel free to come in and read at anytime during working hours.

The First Informer would like to point out that NOW is the time
to make your feelings known, not after all the plans have been finalized.

The Brion Island Protection and Access Committee invites any Madilinots that are interested in Brion Island to sit on their committee.

If you have any pictures, stories passed down by word of mouth, and/or other items of interest, we would like to have them in order that we may do a complete study and present it to the Brion Island Committee to give the anglophone Madilinot point of veiw. It is part of the project which started The First Informer to work with the Brion Island Protection and Access Committee and we would appreciate your participation.

Your comments, information or documents etc. may be taken to The First Informer office at the Municipal Building, or you can call us at 985-2100 to have them picked up, or mail them to Box 148 , Leslie P.O., Magdalen Islands.
( Note: This special bulletin was published in the local newsletter The First Informer on May 17, 1985.)

PRION ISLAND
DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

ELEMENTS OF OUR CLAIM

I- Recognition of the rights of the first. occupants
II- Measures to conciliate the objectives of protection and accessibility

1- RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE FIRST OCCUPANTS
A) ACCESS TO THE TERRITORY

1- Free access to. some sectors of particular Interest as:"
-AROUND THE. WHARF AND FISHERIES BUILDING
-LIGHTHOUSE area
-BEACH, SAND BAR

- Dingwell's house area
-SADDLE AREA.
-others
2- RIGHT OF CIRCULATING (HIKES BETWEEN THESE SECTORS)
-ON SOME OF THE EXISTING PATHS
-path Leading to the lighthouse
-path Leading north (Rad Chennel)
-on a strip along the cliffs between cape clair and the main cove -ON THE AvOWS OF THE DINGWELL
-on a strip along the cliffs up to the north cove (saddle)
3- Moderate access (interpretation-observation)
- the stunted forest of the west sector
-the sector of the ponds on the sand bar
-THE SECTOR OF SEAL ROCK
(B) UTILIZATION OF THE TERRITORY

I- THE PRACTICE OF COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES
-RUSTIC CAMPING IN delimited area
-Interpretation activities -fauna
-flora

-     - Human history
- Discovery activities -hiking, observation, etc...
-Traditional "harvest". (activities)
-bERRIES
-BEnCH WOOD
-sEAL HUNTING
-Exploitation of introduced faunic resources
-TRAPPING OF RABBITS
- OTHERS

2. PRUHIMIIION OF INCOMPATIBLE ACIVIIIES

- Acces mnd circulation of motorized. veilicles
-EXPIOIIIATION OF NATURAL FAUNIC RESOURCES
- Introductioon of new species subject to the mprroval. of both parties
i) INIEGRATION OF THE PATRIMONY ELEMENTS TO THE NATURAL ENYIRONMENT

1- Preservation of some vestiges of the human occupation
-DINGWELL'S house

- Family cemetery
- Burial places of the shiphrecked people
-Fisheries buildings of the west end
-Wharf and stip
-Others


## 2- IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORICAL SITES

-Localization of the ruins of the habitations
-Localization of the ruins of the factories
Localization of the ruins of the fishing settlements
-Localization of the burial places of the shiphrecked people

- ocalization of the sites of the shipwrecks
-Localization of other particular attractions

HEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR to CONCILIATE BOTH OBJECTIVES OF PROIECTION AND ACCESSIBILITY

APPROPRIATE ZONING
1- DELIMITATION OF INTEGRAL PRESERVATION ZONES (NO ACCESS EXCEPT FOR EDUCATIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES)
2-DELIMIJATION OF PRESERVATION ZONES
(OBSERVATION PATHS OR PATHS LINKING THE ZONES)
3-DELIMITATION OF ACTIVITY ZONES

4-DELIMITATION OF ONE BASIC SERVICES ZONE $\qquad$
(reception, interpretation centre, community building for hel-
PING OUT, WELL(S) FOR SOFT WATER, PRIVIES)
) A TREATY BETWEEN TWO PARTIES
(1- JOIUT MANAGEMENT
-minisiry of tnvironment

- Representatives of the Mapeleinots?

2- AGREEMENT (A FIFTY FIFTY DEAL)
-garantees about the accessibility in exchange for a protection ASSURED BY THE.USERS
3-RUIES OF CONDUCT CONYEENED BETWEN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT and the representatives of the users (Madelinots)
-Prollibition of certain practices

- Restriction of certain ushges
- Obligation to certain actions

Raymond Gautier
President, Brio Island Committee
Millerand, Magdalen Islands, P.Q.
Dear|Sir:
We are presently working on a Canada works project, luformeilium for Magdalen Island Anglophones.

One of the activities of this project i: to set up communications and Work closely with the Brion Island Committee.

Please arrange a meeting between the Brio Island Committee and ourselves as soon as possible. You may contact us at 985-2100.

Hoping for your cooperation,
Yours sincerely,
M度的 Clack
Elizabeth treating
bonnie bocthorcults

Nina Clarke
Elizabeth Keating
Connie Boudreault
M. Adrien Oulette

Ministere de L'Enviromnement
3900, rue Marly
6e etage
Sainte-Foy, Que.
G1X4E4

## Dear Sir:

We are presently doing a research on Brion lsland, Magdalen Islands, Quebec, and we would like the following information from your department if possible:
(a) Who made the request that Brion Lsland become an Ecological Reserve?
(b) Will the whole of the island become a reserve or only a part?
(c) If it is not all a reserve, will it be a fourist Center?
(d) If it is a reserve, who will manage it?

We would appreciate any information you could send us about this matter.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Yours sincerely, } \\
& \text { Ef-g aboth d'eatrag }
\end{aligned}
$$

Information to Magdalen
Island Anglophones
P.O. BOX 148, GROSSE ILE, MAGDALEN ISLANDS, QUEBEC GUB 1 MU





Whater
tuow $3=1$ Province d a 2 hec
District No. If a fromitic: Gffind Sous-District








Cemendmex Amentinal
How manu sovceigno will weigh one aunce aroirdufibis if 1564 ín 110 lb Trocy?
Solution: 1-ella Fir

(1) og Tra
(6) $2000<$ és.
(6) 7000 (43)


$$
\frac{4372 \times 1869}{2304 \times 00^{1}}=
$$




Flats.- d, b, g (get), j (jest) tht (then), $\mathrm{f}, \mathrm{z}, \mathrm{zh}$
The unpaired consonants are $-\mathrm{n}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{w}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{l}$, ng, b.
The consonants $w$ anil $y$ (pronounced wé and y.ê) are ound only at the beginning of words and syllables. The consonant. or rather aspirate $l$ (pronounced hec), is silent, except at the berinniag of wortis and syllables. The consonant $n g$ (pronounced eng) is found ouly at the euds of words and syllables and is very differeat from the two sounds of $n$ and $g$. It is often represented on $n$, before $k$ and $g$; as, sink $=$ sinct $:$ liñ $^{\prime}$ ger $=$ hugg ${ }^{\prime}$ ger
This division of the soinnus of the English Language inco twentr-four consouants and sixteen vowels - forty in all- is based on Pitman's Phonography.
hat $\mathrm{i}=\mathrm{ai} \mathrm{i} ; \overline{\mathrm{a}}=\mathrm{yu}$;
; ch $=\mathrm{ty} ; \mathrm{j}=\mathrm{dy}$.
Occasional sounds. $-\bar{u}=$ yŭ; $\bar{i}=$ the consonant $y ;$ $a=\check{a}$ prolonged inta aid

LESSON V
PHONOTYPY OF THE CONSONANTS

| $\begin{gathered} \text { conso } \\ \text { YASTT. } \end{gathered}$ | Phowotrpe. | Example. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| k | k, c (before a oulr t) |  |
| ${ }_{\text {sh }}$ |  | seil, cell, falcaude, cioder. |
| ch | ch ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Stame, chaise, maçhine, sure. |
| ${ }_{\text {j }}$ |  | jeer, yen, sin, yaol. |
| $\stackrel{\mathrm{g}}{2}$ |  | zold gave, sive. |
| th | th | thin, three. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| ${ }_{\text {n }}^{\text {n }}$ | ${ }_{\text {it }}^{\text {ng }}$ | Ltis, them. |
| ${ }^{\text {ks }}$ | T | fos =foks. |
| $\stackrel{\text { gr }}{\text { zi }}$ | $\stackrel{\text { i }}{\substack{\text {, }}}$ | exact =egzact. |
| grzh | $\stackrel{y}{3}$ | atirer |
| $\frac{4{ }_{\text {a }}}{\text { hw }}$ | $\underset{\text { wh }}{\text { w }}$ | quit $=\mathrm{kwit}$. |
| $f$ | f. ph | foe, pionotype. |

The other consonants are unmarked. The phonotrpe $x$, is generally equivalent to the two sharps, ks; but when it comes before an accented syllable beginning with a responding flats, sz. esponding flats, $g z$.
A flat and a sharp cannot be sounded together ; abt law of modintiation, and one of the mest Herein is a natural attempt to pronounce a flat and a most important. If you same syllable, one will either become silent or be changed in sound to its mate. In debt the $b$ and $t$ are of differeut classes (a flat and a sharp) and $b$ is silent. In doys the harp, $s$, is changed in sound to its mate, the flat, $z$. In narkied the $k$ and $a$ are of different classes (a sharp and a fat) and the flat, $d$, is changed in sound to its mate,
public school areller and word-book.
There are sistecn rowel sounds in the English Language as heard in the following KEY: Call now boy I am not far. May men owe us? Wee boots fit your foot. There are. unfortunatev, represent them in about twentr-five ways.
Let the following be read and re-read by the pupils until the method of marking is thoroughly learned, and the vowel sounds can be accurately named without the aid of the Fey:

| ker. | soc: Ds . | examples. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Call | i 0 | fall, stiw, nür, fought, câught, corrd. |
| now | ow out | out, owl. cow, sound. (This sound is unmarke |
| boy | O¢ ${ }^{0}$ | joy, oil, toil. coy. (This sound is unmarked.) |
| am | [ie | fuit, whêre, *puire, iskk, there, ràm. |
| not | $\mathrm{c}_{\text {i }}$ | òn. dög. cöst. Godi. whit, win, Ottawa. |
| ${ }^{\text {far }}$ | A | cirr father, cillm, stir. uunt, uunt. |
| may |  | füte, äid, vêin. thêy, breäk, wây, weigh. |
| men | ${ }_{0}^{2}$ |  |
| us | úere | sûn, sir, herr, myyrrl, sümmer, spn. |
| wee | Et 1 | mête. mėan, ravine. miên. machine, plque. |
| boots | oun | rǜnl. rüle, môve. pôô, trae, dre |
| $\mathrm{fit}^{\text {fit }}$ |  | pin, inis, hrm; hŷmm, drm, busg, pretty. |
| your |  | mate. ufs. |
| foot | y ó | büòk, pusisi. pull, wôlf, wóman. rioik. |

*See dext lesson respecting the modifying power of $r$. As long is never found after $r$ in the sume sylliable, so long $\bar{a}$ is rarely found before $r$ in the same syllable. It is nearly impossible to speak the word, päre, with the sound of a long, without mnking it "long a syllables - pir er. The peculiar souud. sometimes called
before $r$," is in pare. air, tear, etc., is precisely that of $\mathfrak{i}$ in pxu, prolonged to twice its length. If you spealk the following words in pairs the distinction will become plain : itt, iir ; pann, păre; calt, cirre.
The $\tau$ compels the vocal organs to muke this prclongation. In this The $r$ compels the vocal orgins to muke this prclongation. In this
book the quality, not the quuntity, of a sound is marked. Marising book the quality, not the quantity, of a sound is marked. Worth the quuntity and the quelity of " long a before $r$ " may be indicatel;
ais, purce, beatr, fifir $=$ püure, beeuir, fixiir.
poblic bchool speller and word-book.

LESSON IV
modifiers of sound.
The letter $r$ bas a peculiar power over all the vowels Though the sound of a in am is the same in quality as in pare and $e$ in there, it is not quite the same in quantity, owing to the modifying power of $r$. The organs of speech in sounding $a$ before $r, n s, s t, s k, t h$, and $f$ unconscionsly prolong the sound of $\check{a}$, precisely as in pronouncing püt - päăt; that is, speaking the sound $\check{a}$ but drawing it out. A similar lengthening happens to $\check{o}$ in gone and before st
 as, hêr.(Muar), sir (suur), hirl (haurl). Some orthoepists cess. This sometimes leads pupils to puppose the prosounds are of different quality, instead of being the same quality but of different duration. Bear in mind that it is the quality of a sound that is marked, not its quantity. Many of the consonants modify the quantity of the vowels, without chauging their quality. While, therefore, you should take care ( (ăarr, i.e., kar, not kúer) to give the vowels their full time, in such words as pŭre, ăsk, gŏne, cŏst, hër , verge, do not go to the other extreme and pronounce them päre, ঠ̀sk, gìwn, cäwst, hĕr, vërge. It is almost impossible to pronounce the vowel u̇ (equal to yū) after $r$. Hence, it never follows $r$ in the same syllabie. It is not easily pooken after $l, l, n$, and $d$, but blue is blū, not blôo, the beitity that is in luration yor chüne. and dūty a perfect ryme to be, not tơon, dî̀ty nor jüty. In many words, ,bscure as to render it impossinle to detect the letter in the sound; as, li-ar, bri-er, ru-in, ac-tor, sul-phur,
A. farm is let for $£ 96$ and the value of a certain number of quarters of wheat, When wheat is g ss a quarter, the whole rent is 15 per cent lower then when it is 56 s . a quarter. Find the number of quarters of wheat which are paid as part of the rent.

Worked by A. Mbackinnom, anat. N..bychick Lingwille Feb- 16 th $1900-$
$\leq f$




the sharp, $t=$ markt. On the ocher hand two sharps or two flits are easily spoken together; as, cost, hept, rob'd, adze.

## LESSON VI.

sYLLABICATION AND ACCENTUATION
A syllable is an articulate sound made by one effort of the voice, as farm, farm-er.
A word of one syilable is called a Monosyllable ; of two, a Dissyllable; of three, a Trisyllable; of tour or more, a Polysyllable, as form, form-er, form-er-ly, for'mi-dia-ble.
Syllabication is the division of words into syllables.
Accent is a special stress on one or more syllables of a word.
A silent letter is one not sounded. It is generally A silent letter is one not sounded. It is generally
shown by princing it in italics or underiining it in writing.
A consonant cannot form a syllable by itself, but each of the vowels, exsent w, may do so. Syllables are numbered from the lieginning of the word, as, first, second, thi en. antepenuit ; pre-inncepenult. us ach in ar
group, it will be seen that the sound of the word, as a whole, will depend greatly upen the grouping of its elements. Hence, the proper syllabication of many words is ittended with some hifficulty and not a little difference of opiniou. The method followed in this book is to group into
syllables the letters sounded together. No general rule Every word of more ear must be the chief guide. sometimes more than one. Should a has an accentaccents, one of them will be superior to word have two superior accent, called primary is the only other. This this work. The other accent, called secondary or rhyth mical, is the cause of much careless pronunciation. The word solitary, for instance, has the primary accent on sol and a fainter (the riythmical) accent on ta. Pupils requently give these two accents equal stress: as, söl or the ther; somet accent for the other; as sól' i $t \bar{a}{ }^{\prime}$ ry

## LESSON VII.

Vocal gymyastics.
The objects to be gained by a study of Vocal Gymnastics are: Skiful management of the breath; flexibility aice: ful, mellow tone; easy, distinct articulation. wonderful difter minutes will, in a short time, make evibility, for pupil of all grades:
Pupis of all grades:
Preliminary exercise-Any courenient phrsical action Hat tends to quicken the circulation of the blond.
Position.- Body erect, shoulders thrown back, arms Duri I Drich I.-Chse the ips. Slowty imbiale a very full init-two breiths per minute - Che lungs. Exireme



Cabinet du ministre de l'Environnement
nuebec, June 10, 1985

Mrs. Elizabeth Keating
P.O. Box 148

Grosse Ile
Magdalen Islands
(nuebec)
GOB 1 MO

Dear Mrs. Keating,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 27, 1985 addressed to the Minister of the Environment, Mr. Adrien Ouellette, regarding Brion Island.

Your letter has been referred to Mr. Ouellette and will be answered as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

L'agent de liaison,

LOUIS BERNIER




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 1ook $A$. $\square$



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 Geo: Pownall sairp powinco, within the Hownith


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6 PLblic school, speller and word-book.
Let the following sentences of similar sounds be read many times, and each word be given its own sound. A distinct articulation is greatly promoted by protracting all rovel sounds that win and a destroy Indistinct articulation will tre the sense.
Slie bas lost ber enr-ring. Jemes has two small erys He lives in a nice honse. $A$ crow is a arge. buw. He saw two beygyars ste. I eaw a horse ty turough the win dow. This band is clean. He bas an aim more loit The bea is in her acst. His cry moved us. That lasts till vight.

She has lost her bearing James bas too snuall leg. He lives in a ice inouse. $A$ crow is a iarge bluck-bird. Lect tall men bend low. He sought to beg ar steal. I saw a loorse ty turougi the win.  He would paia anbody. He luis a name monere lotty. The hen is in earnest. His crime moved us. His crime moved us. Thac last still night. It was a little laughter

poblic scmonl speller and word-boof.
Vocal pronunciation includes articulation and accent.
Spelling the pronunciation is using other lecters than those of 2 word to indicate its pronunciation; as phlox (floks). It should be sparingly used, as the promunciation as of the word itself.

Pho-nott'-y-py is the use of narked letters to indicate Phe pronunciation of words.

Di-a-crit'-ic-al marks are the marks used in pho notypy, as in Lessons III. anti T., Part I.
The vowels are i, e. i, o, $u$, fand w and $y$, except at heriuning of worts or syil:uhles); the other letters of the ouphiabet are cossoxists.
A dip' h -thong is the union of two yowels in the same sylable; as cow, boy
A dī' graph is two lecters, vowels or consonints, rep resencing is single sound: as heat. phtos
A trí grăph is three leters representing a single ound ; as beau, awe.
$\qquad$
LESSON III phonotypy of the vowels
There are forcy distinct sounils in the English Lunfuige. Hence, it will be seen chat the English alphabet is deforitive in having only twenty-six lecters for forty sounds. It is aiso redundant, for there are diferent letters having the same sound ; as, $c=s, c=k, q^{n}=k w, ~ s=z$, etc.

Or-thŏg'-ra-phy treats of words as they are correctly spelled and adrresses itself to the eye.
Ör'-thō-e-py [also Or tho' e py] treats of words as號 ear.

Written pronunciation includes syllabication. pho notypy, and accent.

