

given some government assistance. How were the public and private aspects of the migration experience carried out?

Thirdly, I would like to know more about the social origins of the Planters. What kind of people were they? We have some ideas but I imagine we could find out a great deal more.

Fourthly, I would like to know the economic status of the Planters. Governor Lawrence wanted people not only with some knowledge of what they were doing but with some capital and resources. The Planters were not penniless immigrants. What did they bring with them?

Marie Elwood has touched and expounded on another interest of mine, the whole township and proprietorial system. The system as introduced in Nova Scotia by the Planters was not at that time unique. In fact, it was an old and well recognized means of planting colonies on both sides of the Atlantic. I would like to know more about its use and evolution up to the time that it gave way to land grants to individuals.

Moreover, I would like to know about trade with New England and the maintenance of family links. We know that ships went back and forth between New England and New Scotland but how long did people continue to think about families back in Connecticut as "family" and when did that link finally break so that they became strangers.

Further, I would like to know more about the evolution of Planter and Acadian relationships in the 1760s. We know that Acadians stared through gimlet eyes from the edge of the woods at these people invading their lands. Yet, by the end of the decade they seemed to be working side by side. How did these people view each other?

And finally, I would like to know about the religious beliefs of the Planters. Although many people at this conference talked about religion, there are more questions to be answered. How, for example, did the Planters pursue their religious impulses without any apparent clergy?

That is a list of eight projects and I should say that it does not look at the moment as if Parks is going to sponsor them. I am going to turn these eight projects over to you in the hope that you will find the answers for me.

Esther Clark Wright
Wolfville, Nova Scotia*

I wish to thank you very much for the privilege of being guest of honour at the banquet of the Planter Conference, and for the presentation of the certificate as Planter Scholar.

Many years ago, when I was a member of the Council of the Canadian Historical Association, Professor Creighton, *the* Professor Creighton who

* Banquet Address to the New England Planters in the Maritime Provinces of Canada Conference, 24 October 1987.

was the head of the Department of History at the University of Toronto, informed us that their summer seminar on Canadian History had received a grant that would enable them to carry on the Seminar away from the heat of Toronto. I suggested that it would then be possible to carry on the Seminar at centres in the West and in the Maritimes so that scholars could become acquainted with sources available in those regions. I was very quickly put in my place. It would not be necessary to go any further than Kingston where Queen's University had a very complete collection of Ontario newspapers.

So, Canadian history needed no other source than Ontario newspapers. I could discuss that proposition at length, but will content myself with one observation, that a recent book on the Loyalists shows the futility of relying on newspapers. The author draws his conclusions about the Loyalists from what the newspapers had to say about the three or four percent of the Loyalists whose names appeared in the newspapers, and completely ignores the 96 or 97 percent about whom the newspapers said nothing.

I would like to suggest to the Committee on the New England Planters that further Conferences might consider the contemporaries of the New England Planters, for instance, the German families in Lunenburg and on the Petitcodiac River (from whom Margaret Conrad and I are descended), and the English, Irish and Scottish groups of the period.

There is one warning I would like to pass on to all who study the Planters and other contemporary groups: hang on to your spelling.