

A KING WAS BUNCOED.

CAPT. JOHN SCOTT AND HIS CLAIM TO ALL LONG ISLAND.

Charles II. believed to have given him a deed, though it has been denied. The King Deceived by a Book, now in the British Museum.

The first of the confidence operators of New York played his game 250 years ago. He deserves to rank with the best of his successors, for he flew high. He even worked the King of England of his period, took him in and did him up for the sole right and title to Long Island, and worked it out with a bogus book of devotions for the Indians and other Indian tribes between Brooklyn and Montauk. When Charles the 11 came back to the throne after the Restoration with the recollection of his father's fate ever present in his mind he found it prudent to assume an interest in matters of devotion which he was far from feeling personally, and that may account for the ease with which the bogus device took him in.

There exist but two copies of the work in question, and the title page in one is not the title page in the other. That in itself is enough to stimulate curiosity when it happens to any rare book, and particularly when it is one of the early American books. In 1658 the Rev. Abraham Pierson, who had been the minister at Southampton in Long Island and after was stationed at Branford, Conn., published a book through the press of the United Colonies at Cambridge which bore the title 'Some Helps for the Indians.' It was in the language spoken by the Indians on both sides of Long Island Sound and had an interlinear English text. The title in the Indian was 'Poshe Arienamawetowungash wutche Eansketambawg,' but that is really a matter of little concern, for there has not been a person who could understand that language these hundred years. The Rev. Mr. Pierson wrote a few more books in this outlandish and happily forgotten tongue. He became the father of Rector Abrahamus Pierson, who was the first Yale President, as is attested by a little bronze statue on the campus.

There is a copy in the Lenox Library which is highly treasured for its rarity. On the title page of the Lenox copy appears the printed indorsement: 'Examined and approved by Thomas Stanton, Interpreter-General to the United Colonies for the Indian language, and by some others of the most able interpreters amongst us. Cambridge, printed by Samuel Green, 1658.' For a long time that copy was believed to be unique. There were later editions, but New York was considered to be in possession of the only surviving copy of the first edition. The date was the same as in the Lenox copy, the volume was the same in every particular save one, and that was on the title page itself. Where the Lenox copy gave the approval of the translation to Thomas Stanton and others the British Museum discovery read as follows: 'Examined and approved by that experienced gentleman (in the Indian language) Captain John Scott.' It was clear that one title was falsified and an investigation was started to find out the meaning of this singular case, an offence which is probably unique in literary history.

The first examination showed that the Lenox copy is the genuine first edition and the British Museum holds the spurious title on a genuine print. This was set beyond doubt by finding that, while the Lenox title is printed on the first signature of the book, the British Museum title has been separately printed and deftly inserted in place of the one which gave the credit to Stanton. Further examination of contemporary documents and records discovered the original appointment of Stanton to pass on the translation.

Other records make it quite clear that Capt. John Scott really did bunco Charles II. and that he did it with this very copy of the Indian book preserved in the British Museum.

John Scott recorded of himself that, as a boy, he delighted in elating the saddle girths of Cromwell's cavalry and watching the soldiers come to grief. He played this trick once too often, however, and was kidnapped, 'trephined' they called it in those days. By such means he was brought to America and sold as a redemptioner for his passage money and set to work tending cows in Salem. When he had served out his time he seemed to have little liking for his fellow citizens, for he is next heard of as living with the Indians on Long Island, trading a little, meddling some, probably a squaw man, but making the record which every white man similarly situated always makes if he can get the savage to sell him land. At a later period John Scott claimed an Indian title to the whole of Long Island, and this is when he got it. In 1654 the Dutch rounded him up as a suspicious character and gave him an examination at New Amsterdam. He seems to have had little difficulty in clearing

himself, for it is only a month later that he is arranged before the New Haven Yankees for defamation. That would be a much more serious affair, but it was settled privately and the details have been lost.

For the next few years he made his establishment at Southampton, L. I., and became a freeman of that town and a property holder. One who knew him well has left a description of him as he was at this period: 'Having a good memory and greater confidence, he became somewhat above the common people.' It is singular that, although the modern signification of confidence as it is used in the 'confidence game' was then unknown, the word should have been chosen to characterize Scott.

Then the King came home to his own again and the restoration meant many things to many men. To John Scott at Southampton it was a chance at life on a bigger scale than was afforded by the American colonies, and particularly at his own little neck of woods out at the far end of Long Island. At any rate, he is known to have sailed for London in the ship Eyckenboom from New Amsterdam in 1660. On the voyage he became a Captain, but of what service was by no means particularly clear. In his baggage was a copy of Minister Pierson's 'Some Helps,' a queer incumbrance for such a man, yet it was to be put to service and then was to be preserved for centuries in order to direct people to look up his history. It was at this period that the boy who had been kidnapped over seas under the Commonwealth because he dismounted Oliver's horsemen was new to enter on his reward from the house of Stuart. This book of piety for the aborigines was a part of the play, but just how much of a part none now can determine. Still it must have been important in these days of licensed printers or Capt. John Scott would never have run the risk of hunting out a contraband printer in Aislaia and of falsifying the title. However it may have been used, the spurious 'Some Helps' accomplished for Capt. Scott what he was working the King to get, namely, a colorable title to Long Island.

In the centuries which have gone by John Scott has not had a single defender; the King has had a succession of judges whose interest and whose policy lay in proving the King right and the Scott wrong. Yet, despite all this array, there is every reason to feel convinced that Scott really did bunco the King for all Long Island, and that the bogus book of Indian devotions had something to do with it. Scott had lived with the Indians and claimed to have bought Long Island from them. He would find an advantage in having some voucher before the King that he was a safe person with the savages and that there was antecedent probability that his story of having purchased the island was true. In the absence of reputable personal witnesses to character, whom the King would see it was impossible to get except by sending over sea for them, and whom Scott knew in his own heart he could not get at all, he had a little devotional work on the title page of which it chanced that he was commended. There could be no better sort of recommendation; a man even now could cut quite a path if only he could rick in a similar manner to the title page of a hymn-book for an entirely unsolicited testimonial. In some such way it was done, the King kept the falsified book to bring the Indians to Christianity and eventually it was found among the unclassified rubbish in the British Museum. All the authorities say that the King was not buncoed. Then why is it that there are in existence hundreds of deeds to lands in Suffolk county in which the Scott title is expressly incorporated or else the search discloses the clearance of the Scott cloud on the title?

Scott sailed for London in 1660, probably in October. Not later than May of the following year it was reported in America that the King had patented Long Island to Scott. That brought John Winthrop over to court to protest to the King, and in 1662 the patent was said to be finally denied. The next year Capt. Scott is again after the King for Long Island. He pleads his father's service to the King's father, how he spent £14,300 for the Merry Monarch and laid down his life; how he, the son, had been banished to New England for a malignant royalist; how that he had purchased from the Indians 'near one-third part' of Long Island and now petitioned the king to make him Governor of Long Island. Then he carried out a successful attack on Brooklyn and took it from the Dutch, and on the occasion of this surrender presented a writing wherein his Majesty of England granted him the whole of Long Island. To be sure, the contemporary accounts state that the writing lacked signature, but even at that early date Brooklyn had its enemies who would not hesitate to hint that an unexecuted document was good enough for the people of the Heights and the Hill and the Park Slope and the Bedford section.

Not long after the sack of Brooklyn the paper is found really to have the outward show of regularity. Early in 1665 the general meeting at Hempstead called on Capt. Scott to bring in at the next General Court of Assize 'a certain deed or writing called by the said Capt. Scott a perpetuity with the King's picture on it, and a great

yellow wax seal affixed to it, which he very frequently showed to divers persons and deceived many therewith.' In a letter to the home authorities the civil administration of New York refers to this document in the following statement made by Col. Nicolls in 1668: 'This same Scott by a pretended seal affixed to a writing in which was the King's picture drawn with a pen or black lead, with his Majesties hand Charles R. and subsigned Henry Banpet, hath horribly abused His Majesties honor in these parts, and fled out of the country to Barbadoes.'

But before following Capt. Scott to Barbadoes and elsewhere it is only fair to give a glance at his military operations in the capture of Brooklyn. When the King made up his mind to give the Dutch settlements to his brother, the Duke of York, Scott was in London negotiating his title to Long Island. With a fine appreciation of the possibilities, he took ship for America, and on the voyage he seems to have promoted himself to be Col. Scott. The Connecticut authorities appointed him one of the fully empowered commission to settle their differences with the Dutch. Within a month or so—that is, in January, 1664—he succeeded in becoming President of all the English towns on the island. He lost no time in collecting a little army of 150 horse, foot and dragoon. An account expressly refers to the march of this valiant army, 'with sounding trumpet, beaten drum, flying colors, great noise and uproar.' Small wonder Brooklyn fell before the unwonted and hateful noise. On Jan. 14, 1664 Brooklyn fell before this doughty invader and received terms. Capt. Scott loudly threatened that he would run his sword the Director-General, who was none other than hard-headed Peter Stuyvesant.

From this point onward the history of Scott diverges from New York. He fled to Barbadoes and fought the Dutch in Tobago. Returning to London, he was made geographer to the King, until he was found out as the worker of confidence games. He is next found with a Colonel's commission in the Dutch Army, then suspected of being a spy in England, a plotter and a brawler. The last note that history makes of him is in 1696. He does not seem to have returned to America.

The garments of salvation are not cut in the world's tailor shop.

BORN.

Gay's River, to the wife of Bert Cook, a son.
Truro, July 12, to the wife of L. S. Sarritt, a son.
St. John, July 6, to the wife of Gilbert Wall, a son.
Shuler, July 9, to the wife of Edson Wall, a son.
Shuler, July 9, to the wife of J. A. McCarthy, a son.
Truro, July 8, to the wife of William Taylor, a son.
Chatham, July 9, to the wife of H. M. Eddy, a son.
Paradise, July 8, to the wife of H. A. Longly, a son.
Amherst, July 9, to the wife of C. O. Davison, a son.
Rawden, July 1, to the wife of John Withrow, a son.
Tatamascouche, July 11, to the wife of G. B. Clarke, a son.
Liscomb, July 8, to the wife of Rev. P. R. Soanes, a son.
River Hebert, July 9, to the wife of Hibbert Wood, a son.
Fenwick, July 5, to the wife of J. H. McLaren, a daughter.
Amherst, July 4, to the wife of Amos Babineau, a daughter.
Halifax, July 3, to the wife of Leo E. H. Koch, a daughter.
Buffalo, N. Y., to the wife of W. B. Dawson, a daughter.
Halifax, July 13, to the wife of James Harris, a daughter.
Hillien, July 12, to the wife of James Bruce, a daughter.
Milton, July 8, to the wife of Malcolm Harlow, a daughter.
St. Stephen, July 5, to the wife of Edward Fry, a daughter.
St. Nicholas River, July 7, to the wife of Wm. Tibbits, a daughter.
St. Stephen, July 15, to the wife of Emerson Hanson, a son and daughter.

MARRIED.

Colchester, July 6, by Rev. J. Williams, Howard Olevy to Mary Black.
Lunenburg, July 3, by Rev. D. A. Crandall, Henry Tufts to Matilda Hurlie.
H.ifax, June 10, by Rev. Z. L. Fish, Richard C. Hunt, to Fanny Barker.
Chipman, July 12, by Rev. D. D. Clarke, Prof. C. Chipman to Margaret Baird.
Billtown, July 1, by Rev. M. P. Freeman, John H. Weston to Anne Cotter.
Quebec, July 7, by Rev. Dean Wilkins, F. C. J. Swanson to Ethel Gowen.
Quebec, July 8, by Rev. C. Duff, Mr. Daniel Duxbury to Miss E. A. Macdonald.
Wicklow, July 13, by Rev. David Long, James Emmerson to Cassie Ellison.
Maitland, July 12, by Rev. S. J. McArthur, F. F. Simpson to Mary A. Putnam.
Pictou, July 6, by Rev. T. Cunningham, John W. McKenzie to Carrie S. Berry.
St. Marys, July 10, by Rev. W. D. Manzer, Ratt'e McKeown to Miss Knicker.
Halifax, June 10, by Rev. N. LeMoine, Samuel Langille to Jennet Jolimore.
Lunenburg, July 3, by Rev. J. H. Stewart, Amos C. Langille to Genevieve L. Cook.
Halifax, July 12, by Rev. Dr. McMillan, Rev. J. MacIntosh to Grace Thompson.
Guysboro, June 24, by Rev. W. I. Croft, Wm David Atkins to Annie S. Macdonald.
Medford, June 6, by Rev. Mr. Barstow, George B. Boutwell to Clara J. Corbett.
St. Stephen, by Rev. Geo. M. Campbell, Dr. S. Bonnell to Maude E. McKeown.
Halifax, June 11, by Rev. E. P. Crawford, John Percell to Mary A. Henderson.
Guysboro, June 24, by Rev. W. I. Croft, John V. Williams to Miss Blanche Jamieson.
Bear River, June 23, by Rev. G. F. Johnson, Frank M. Dargie to Minnie G. Maxwell.
Florenceville, July 12, by Rev. A. H. Hayward, Russell L. Boyer to Mary L. Geo.
Rawdon, June 11, by Rev. H. S. Croft, P. Parry, A. McNeill to Miss E. A. Ward.
Yarmouth, July 14, by Rev. Mr. Toole, Mr. Edward Yoke to Miss Annie Shand.
Springfield, July 11, by Rev. D. Camp, Charles E. Fairweather to Miss E. J. W. Beas.
Queens Co., July 12, by Rev. F. H. W. Pickles, James T. Howe to Mary E. A. Ward.
Millsville, June 21, by Rev. W. N. Nightingale, Zachary Stonehouse to Hattie Lindsay.
LeHave Branch July 2, by Rev. L. M. McCreey, Nehemiah Meisner to Flora Wentzel.
Great Village, July 11, by Rev. James McLean, L. Allison Dewolt to Lizzie M. Davidson.
Morston, July 12, by Rev. H. S. Croft, Mr. Earnest H. Mitchell to Miss E. A. Ward.
Three Fathom Harbor, July 12, by Rev. Z. L. Fane, William M. Graham to Jane H. Graham.

Upper Musquodibet, July 11, by Rev. F. W. Thompson, Fred A. Swanto to Mary L. Lemont.

DIED.

Truro, July 9, Sarah Crowe.
St. John, July 12, Andrew Phillips.
Bridgewater, June 16, Elijah P. Dion.
Brighton, July 9, David Easbourn.
Stanley, July 9, Solomon Mill's, 74.
DePect, July 8, Robt. F. Crowe.
Boston, July 13, Charles H. Horne, 15.
Shelburne, July 10, Richard Roxby, 84.
East Amherst, June 23, Wm. Travis, 68.
Lakville, July 5, Wm. Edward Kelly, 45.
Richibucto, July 11, Robert Graham, 100.
Shelburne, July 2, Mary Isabel Laver, 19.
Brookside, July 7, Richard Blackmore, 82.
Parrsboro, July 6, Frederick Newcomb, 82.
Halifax, July 11, Mrs. J. D. Mackenzie, 83.
South Easton, July 7, Daniel R. Baillie, 13.
Central Onslow, July 12, Charles McNutt, 78.
Bridgewater, July 9, Wm. Stanley Topper, 41.
Yarmouth, July 9, Mrs. James McLaughlin, 59.
Lawrencetown, July 10, Andrew Robinson, 82.
Boston, July 13, Gracie, wife of Fred A. Luggin.
Kyota, Minnesota, June 22, Elizabeth Styles, 68.
Clark's Harbor, July 9, Mr. Jacob Nickerson, 60.
Greenwich, Kings Co., July 12, James Kimball, 70.
Merlestown, June 28, James David Copland, 71.
Sydney Forks, July 2, the wife of James Stephens.
Carleton's Corner June 28, Hobart B. Luskman, 21.
McKeesport, Pa., June 30, Susan H., wife of Henry E. Boyd.
Brockton, Mass., July 1, Elith M., wife of Adoram Smith, 35.
Berwick, Mass., June 28, Louise Catherine, widow of Elias Oxner, 56.
Brighton, Mass., June 28, Margaret, wife of Albert Beggs, 26.
Lunenburg, July 9, Mary, beloved wife of Alfred Foster, 46.
St. John, July 10, Florence May, daughter of M. Harney, 20.
River John, June 14, Ada Johnson, wife of D. Laugille, 16.
Liverpool, July 6, Isabelle M., wife of Daniel Winters, 61.
Bridgewater, June 29, infant son of John G. and Tena Fraser.
Southbridge, Mass., July 8, Alice G., wife of Peter P. Clarke, 51.
Rawdon, May 16, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. DeWolfe.
Parrsboro, June 17, Baby M., daughter of Mrs. Bessie York, 6.
Moncton, July 2, Muriel Margaret Addy, daughter of John Addy, 15.
Granville, July 5, Millie Anne, widow of the late Henry Magee, 85.
Yarmouth, July 9, Mrs. Edwina Wile wife of Mr. Spurgeon Wile, 21.
Lindsey, July 3, Alice W., infant daughter of Thos. and Minnie Moore.
St. John's N.B., July 6, Mary, daughter of Mr. Justice Morrison, 16.
Colchester, July 8, Mary Ellen, child of Nathaniel Weatherbe, 2 months.
Clark's Harbor, July 4, Gerona M., infant child of Eliezer G. Wells, 1 year.
Four Mile Brook, July 1, Margaret, widow of the late John F. McKerzie, 86.
Moncton, July 9, Mary May, daughter of Cesime and Tilda Levere, 5 months.

RAILROADS.

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British Columbia etc

Second class return tickets will be on sale, June 8th and 20th, July 4th and 16th, at the following rates, viz:

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ST. JOHN N. B. TO
Vancouver, Victoria, New West, Minister, Seattle Tacoma and Portland, Ore. \$103.05

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For particulars on application to Ticket Agents, C. P. R., or to
A. H. NOTMAN,
Asst. Genl. Pass. Agent,
St. John, N. B.

Dominion Atlantic R'y.

On and after Monday, July 3rd, 1899, the Steamship and Train service of this railway will be as follows:

Royal Mail S. S. Prince Rupert.

ST. JOHN AND DIGBY DAILY SERVICE (Sunday excepted.)

Lve. St. John at 7.00 a.m., ar. Digby 9.30 a.m.
Lve. Digby at 2.00 p.m., ar. St. John, 4.30 p.m.

Steamship "Prince Edward."

St. John and Boston Direct Service.
Lve. Mon. 5.30 p.m. | Lve. Sat. 4 p.m.
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EXPRESS TRAINS

Daily (Sunday excepted).
Lve. Halifax 6.30 a.m., ar. in Digby 12.36 p.m.
Lve. Digby 12.50 p.m., ar. Yarmouth 3.25 p.m.
Lve. Yarmouth 3.45 a.m., ar. Digby 11.23 a.m.
Lve. Digby 11.45 a.m., ar. Halifax 5.30 p.m.
Lve. Annapolis 7.15 a.m., ar. Digby 8.30 a.m.
Lve. Digby 3.30 p.m., ar. Annapolis 4.00 p.m.

FLYING BLUE NOSE

Lve. Halifax 9.00 a.m., ar. at Yarmouth 4.00 p.m.
Lve. Yarmouth 8.00 a.m., ar. at Halifax 3.00 p.m.

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S. S. Prince Arthur.

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On and after Monday, the 19th, June 1899 trains will run daily, (Sunday excepted,) as follows

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN

Suburban Express for Hampton.....5.30
Express for Campbellton, Pictou, and Halifax.....7.25
Express for Halifax, New Glasgow and Pictou.....11.50
Express for Moncton.....16.10
Suburban Express for Hampton.....17.40
Express for Quebec, Montreal.....18.10
Accommodation for Moncton, Truro, Halifax, and Sydney.....22.30

A sleeping car will be attached to the train leaving St. John at 10.10 o'clock for Quebec and Montreal.

A sleeping car will be attached to the train leaving St. John at 22.30 o'clock for Truro, Pictou, Dining and Sleeping cars on the Quebec and Montreal express.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN

Suburban Express from Hampton.....7.15
Express from Moncton.....1.35
Accommodation from Moncton.....13.45
Express from Halifax.....17.40
Express from Halifax, Quebec and Montreal.....19.10
Suburban Express from Hampton.....21.50
Accommodation from Ft. du Chene and Moncton.....22.30

All trains are run by Eastern Standard time. Twenty-four hours notation.

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City Ticket Office, 7 King Street, St. John, N. B.

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1899 1899.

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For tickets, staterooms and other information apply to Dominion Atlantic Railway, 126 Hollis Street; North Street depot, Halifax, N. S., or to any agent on the Dominion Atlantic, Intercolonial, Central and Coast railways.

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Yarmouth N. S., July 6th, 1899.

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On and after Saturday 29th inst., and until further notice, the Steamer Clifton will leave her wharf at Hampton Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 5.30 (local). Returning will leave Indian town same days at 4 p.m. local.

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Steamers Victoria and David Weston will leave St. John every day at 8 o'clock standard, for Fredericton and intermediate stops. Returning will leave Fredericton at 7.30 a.m. standard.

On and after June 24th, the Steamer Aberdeen will leave St. John, every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. for Wickham and intermediate points. Returning will leave Wickham Monday a.m. due at St. John at 8 o'clock a.m.

Tickets good to return by Steamer David Weston, due at St. John at 1.30 p.m.

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