

MGI Vol. 381

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CADILLAC
LA SALLE
OLDSMOBILE

GILBERT D. HEDDEN

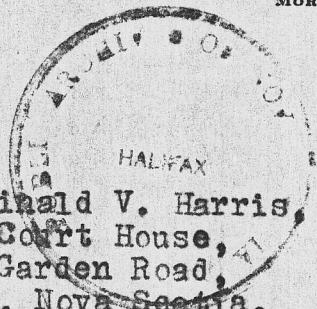
39-41 MARKET STREET
MORRISTOWN, N. J.

MORRISTOWN 4-1700

SERVICE
40 BANK STREET

*See to
be cleared*

April 8, 1936. MGI Vol. 381



Mr. Reginald V. Harris
County Court House,
Spring Garden Road,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Dear Sir:

Please accept my apologies for not having answered your letter before now, but I have been waiting for various matters in connection with the work to be settled to be able to give you a complete report.

Thank you very much for the information concerning Isaac Heddon. It was very interesting, but I have been unable to trace any connection with the family in the United States. I note that the name is spelled Heddon, rather than Hedden. There is a branch of the family in New England who use that spelling, and it may be that the connection is there.

In regard to Oak Island, I have now completed my agreement with the firm contracting to do the work, and we anticipate having men on the site by the first of May. Influenced by certain information which I received from Chappell, my plan of attack has been somewhat changed in that we are now planning to open and drain the Chappell shaft, reinforce it and use drills for exploring the ground adjacent to it at various depths. I have instructed the firm to have their men get in touch with you in regard to any local difficulties of a legal nature, such as trespassing, interference, etc. The firm is Sprague & Henwood of Scranton, Pa., and I will advise you of the name of the man in charge as soon as possible. I have instructed them to use their own judgment in regard to trespass and if they so desire to admit only Blair, Chappell and yourself to the site. We had evidence already that may possibly reflect local feeling.

I obtained from Chappell the information that his installation of power to the work cost him \$2600.00 with a later rebate for salvage of \$1000.00. We desired to use

*Disc. by
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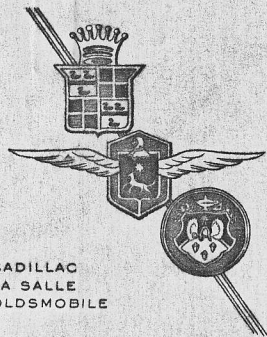
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- 2 -

Mr. Reginald V. Harris
Halifax

April 8, 1936.

Electric power for the convenience, and upon application to the same firm for the same installation we received from their office in Chester the rather astounding estimate of \$4500.00 and \$1500.00 salvage. We have wired them suggesting the idea that we should not be charged any more than Chappell and I am inclined to feel that local efforts to "get" us are at work. It is immaterial as far as we are concerned, as it is just as easy and efficient to use gasoline as power and are already planning to do so. I had hoped to give local concerns the benefit of the money, but it begins to appear that such a charitable move will be impossible.

Should you be able to do so without much inconvenience, an investigation for the reason behind this hold-up might be of interest. It was surely no question of credit, for the contracting firm have a Canadian office and anyway we are perfectly willing to put up any reasonable deposit.

I am planning to be on the site as soon as drilling operations are ready to commence and I shall certainly be there by the first of July anyway. I will not comment as yet on your outlined procedure in event of any discovery, but will do at an early date. Should you receive any data bearing on local conditions, I would appreciate your communicating it to me as soon as possible at this address.

By the way, did the newspaper hospital article ever break? I should be very interested in hearing of the final story in that connection. If you will give me the complete data I shall be glad to investigate its value down here.

Very truly yours,

Gilbert D. Hedden

GDH:CH