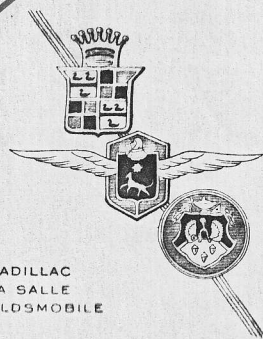


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Vol. 380

SERVICE
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October 27th, 1937

Mr Reginald Harris
Court House, Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mr. Harris:

I was very glad to receive your letter of October 21st and to learn that the note-book had not been forwarded as yet. As it had not appeared I had begun to be a bit worried lest it had gone astray. I am very glad to have you make as complete a copy of it as you want and I am in no particular hurry to use it here.

I think it will be a splendid idea for you to visit Amherst and get all of the useful information from Blair's files though I am inclined to think that it will take quite some time to sift out what you may want to use. I would pay particular attention to the early reports of the 1897 att empt and to the letters written by Fraser. It might be well to collect enough data too to include a chapter on the curious information and letters recived from cranks. If you get the copy of the twenty-five year old pamphlet I should like very much to see it or to have a report on its contents though I imagine it will be much the same as those we already have.

I cannot recall hearing of W.A.Munn before but I can see no harm in your getting in contact with him and obtaining any information you can. I would suggest that if you find it necessary to concentrate on Kidd and his connection with Nova Scotia, that you disclose our suspicion but keep most of the details to yourself.

I interviewed Driscoll with the thought of getting him to collaborate on some magazine articles but found him very unreceptive to any suggestions and very suspicious of the idea that we had found anything that he did not already know. I told him nothing of the story and recived only his advice that I write it myself and to be careful of the publisher. The present law in the United States is that any published or related facts are public property. Copyrites pertaining to fiction or theory only. As far as I can find out, we are at liberty to use or quote anything so far written on the story and the only thing we will have to get permission to use is the picture of Kidd's map. I would suggest that you get up your outline of the proposed book, giving chapter headings and general contents and have it ready to proceed with the final writing as soon as I can give you the word that the maps are genuine. I should like to publish the book with you and myself as collaborating authors and I am inclined to think that Liveright might be quite interested though just how much we could make from it is a bit doubtful. I have two objectives in mind. One to publish as accurate and as up-to-date a record as possible for future use and the other to get for you and myself any financial return that might result.

I recently located an ancient and authentic map of the North American continent, drawn in the year 1670 by De Wit. It is in a splendid state of preservation and adds several interesting points of evidence. On this map the body of water now known as the Atlantic Ocean is called "Mar Del Nort"

and the Atlantica Oceanus is shown to the South and well over toward the European continent. On the other side of the American continent the ocean is called Mar Del Sur and the Pacificum is well down toward South America. An interesting fact is disclosed that I never knew before in that the degrees or meridians of Longitude are measured from an island called Ferro near the Canary Islands. I had always supposed that Longitude was figured East and West of Greenwich but I find now that it was figured from various places in different years and also by different map makers. I even found one map of the English colonies, made about 1780, where it was figured East and West of Washington. While I can make no definite conclusion until I see the Kidd maps, I feel very strongly that it may provide some solution of the claim by Wilkins that the island is over near India. With this map ~~at~~ alone, the longitude of Nova Scotia or Acadie, as it was then called, is about 48 instead of 68 as shown today. As a matter of fact it lies between 318 and 328 for the longitude was figured on 360 degrees instead of 180 East and 180 West. I believe it to be a very important discovery. I have found no clue to the words Lat ~~Om~~,d as yet but I have asked a map expert to try and interpret them and will let you know if he finds any answer.

In connection with the Avon Enterprises Inc. I received a letter from them just before I left stating that their machine as constructed could not be used to determine the exact site because the mass of metal deposited was so enormous that it threw the machine out of adjustment. They claim that their machine is only made to attract to a mass of about 300 pounds and that they estimated there might be as much as five tons present. I am having several photographs prepared, using both paper money and gold as the hidden object and will submit them for a test. The method used is to photograph a book-case with at least 400 books showing. In or behind one of them will be concealed 200 dollars in bills and a gold bracelet of at least three ounces. The locations will be changed several times and will be identified by the time showing on a clock in the picture. I cannot credit the statement that they can locate such objects from a picture but I am interested enough to submit a test under the conditions suggested.

I had a long letter from Nolan suggesting an agreement with his group and also suggesting the marketing of his machine in the States. I replied that I would be far more interested if they could produce positive results on the island in Shad Bay where he is working, and I think it will be some time before we hear from him again.

I am having slides prepared from some of the photographs and charts to illustrate a lecture which I shall give before the Lodge on Nov 5th. If they turn out at all well and fit in to a lecture I can arrange to have copies made for you.

I now have my passport, correctly visa-ed and my passage on the Aquitania for Nov 11th. I have not heard from Wilkins as yet but it is a bit too early as I only wrote him on Oct 11th. but I imagine I shall get some sort of reply before I sail. Even if I get none, I think I shall go anyway and take a chance as I do not want to delay too long. This thing is really getting into my blood now and I cannot help but feel that we are on the verge of a really important discovery. If you have any suggestions as to my procedure in England Please let me know. Best regards to Mrs Harris and the family.

Sincerely

Gilbert D. Hedden

Gilbert D. Hedden

501 MG-1
Vol 380

P.S. The other night I discovered another interesting fact in connection with the directions, the triangle and the drilled stones. Going on the assumption that, if anything had been moved it would have to be one or both of the drilled stones, I rechecked the directions using the center or pointer line of the triangle. It is obvious that if the triangle was ever disturbed, it would cease to exist whereas the stones could easily have been moved for several reasons. If you will look at your copy of the survey you will note that the pointer line of the triangle does not coincide

ch the North & South line as projected, a point we had always wondered about. The line of the pointer is nearly true in the survey though it is very difficult to get its exact direction. The exact direction or bearing would have to be obtained with instruments on the site and even then there would be a large latitude. The interesting point though is that, if the South-West line is shifted to use the center point in the base line as its Southerly point, bringing the North line directly over the pointer line, then the point of beginning of the South West line or the point Seven in from the shore end of the East and West line FALLS DIRECTLY IN THE CENTER OF THE SINK*HOLE, bringing the Sink Hole again into the picture. That sounds reasonable for we know, or think we do, that the Sink Hole is a part of the original workings, and I had always wondered why that point was not closer to it. Having done that, another point of interest comes into the evidence. The North line as then shifted, changes about two degrees and very nearly coincides with the date ~~XXXX~~ 1669. All of this requires more exacting work at the site and may be helped with data on the original maps but it would seem at first glance to provide the possibility of Kidd being the originator. Incidentally on this 1670 map I now possess, La Have is shown clearly though it is spelled Le Heve. Nova Scotia is fairly accurately shown up to that point and Newfoundland is shown as Terra Nova about where Cape Breton would be. I will forward you further data or theory as I arrive at it.

GDH

MG1 Vol 380

502



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