

2312 Wordsworth Rd.
Houston 25, Texas
November 29, 1961

Mr. W.R. Perkins
St. George Street
Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Perkins;

This is a letter of request to a Perkins from a Perkins. I owe your name and address to the widely read Nova Scotia author, Thomas Raddall, to whom I appealed some time ago to help me establish connections with a Nova Scotia Perkins whose ancestral progenitors are also those of my grandfather James Perkins. That he, born about 1830, came from Annapolis Royal or Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, is, as far as I know, authentic information which I secured from his wife, my grandmother, and from my aunt, Sarah Perkins, in Petrolia, Ontario, where both resided. From them I also learned that Nova Scotia relatives, on one occasion, visited them in Petrolia and secured for the Nova Scotia Perkins family records, the names of James Perkins' sons Cyrus, Jacob (my father) and Eli, and also the names of their children, among the latter my own - Cyrus Wilfred Perkins.

This seems to be authentic information but the rest of the information about the Perkins lineage is legendary, as told to me by my Aunt Sarah. She claimed that the original Perkins who settled in Nova Scotia arrived from the State of Virginia with his family before, during or after the Revolutionary War, bringing a child in arms with them, who, on growing to maturity, was James Perkins' grandfather. The legend has it that that original settler Perkins, presumably also yours, left his brother "Gentleman" John Perkins in the State of Virginia for Nova Scotia, both being sons of an Elijah Perkins. Last summer in North Carolina my wife and I became acquainted with the direct blood descendant of "Gentleman" John Perkins, the authentic possessor of the Perkins coat of arms which may be ^{yours and} mine, too. Should this be the case, I would be most grateful to you for a copy of same for myself, my son and grandson.

Of course, I realize James Perkins and his sons and grandsons may not belong to your line of Perkinses and in that case you may know the proper Perkins to whom to

refer this letter of inquiry. It may be, too, that our, your and my line of descent, may lead back to Simeon Perkins of Liverpool, Nova Scotia, who kept a diary for more than forty years. It is preserved there, I understand, and is consequently one of the most valuable records of Colonial Canada.

I am most eager and anxious to trace James Perkins' lineage to the original settler in Nova Scotia and, if possible, to the Virginia progenitors. Perhaps you are in a position to help me in my quest. And, on the other hand, you may be able to refer me to the proper Nova Scotia Provincial Agencies or church registrars who have the family records of births and deaths of James Perkins' father and his grandfather who presumably, as stated above, was the child brought in arms to Nova Scotia by the Perkins who chose to be faithful to the British Crown and emigrated to Colonial Nova Scotia. By coincidence or striking similarity of fate, "Gentleman" John Perkins in North Carolina was forced and coerced by American patriotic revolutionists to forswear his British allegiance and join up with the rebellious American cause of the day.

I figure my grandfather, James Perkins, by trade a cooper in the fishing industry in Nova Scotia, left either Yarmouth or Annapolis Royal (I am not sure which) in your Province in the early 1840s for Yarmouth, Ontario, to become a farmer near there. Later he moved with his wife and boys, my father Jacob Perkins among them, to Petrolia, Ontario, where he struck oil. All his sons went into the oil business and settled for this purpose in foreign countries. My father was a producer of oil in Poland where he died in 1917. I was brought up there and in Austria and Germany. Upon returning to Canada and graduating from McMaster University I became a college professor in the States and served as such for 44 years. Now, as an emeritus professor, I live with my wife in retirement in Houston, Texas, on pensions earned as a teacher.

I would be very pleased indeed to hear from you about the above matter and would be very glad to have you visit us here, if by chance you happen to be on a trip to our Texas Gulf Coast area or passing through here on your way to Old Mexico. We are definitely planning on making

NAME
NOM

PERKINS

a trip to your Province some time in the future.

With my warmest thanks in advance for any help you may be able to give me, I am,

Sincerely,

C. W. Perkins.

Cyrus Wilfred Perkins

P.S. Perhaps you may elect to refer this inquiry to the editors of your local newspaper who might be able to throw some light on the matter by making it a general news item to which one or more of the Perkins clan may furnish him with answers. Thanks.

CWP