

Notes from:

"Folklore of Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia."

by - Dr. Helen Creighton

Published by - National Museum of Canada; Bulletin 117;

Anthropological Series No. 29.

Printed 1950 by the King's Printer

The finding of treasure in Nova Scotia, though there have been many instances of it, is not as simple as it sounds,, for there is much supernatural belief behind it. In fact, it is often difficult to get local men to work on excavations because they have heard such awesome stories all their lives. A few of the braver souls have scorned fear when treasure appeared and have lived in comparative comfort ever since.

People who secure money from such unexpected sources never talk about it, although their neighbors always know they have it. In sparsely settled districts it is not easy to keep secrets.

The following story was told to creighton by a person from Bluerocks: "A man was going out for treasure but in order to get it he had to sing the hymn Doxology, Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, and praise God from whom all blessings flow. Uncle Josh forgot it and couldn't sing it. Before he got to the place where the treasure was he saw a dog ~~beside the place~~ inside the place with eyes as big as a kettle. On the top of the place where the treasure was there was a box and on top of the box there was a couple of spanish ~~knives~~ knives. The dog walked after the man till they got to the box and then vanished. He got frightened then and left the place. A dream had told him where to go for the treasure."

This ~~xxx~~ story was told to creighton by someone in Lunenburg: "There was an old man named Mason who told me that his grandfather had told him about being in the West Indies on a Lunenburg schooner when he was a young man. They had gone down with a cargo of fish. One night they were ashore and

drinking when one of the crew said, ' I'll be glad to see Cape La have again.' There was an old blind nigger in the corner and he hobbled over and said, 'did I hear somebody wanting Cape La Have?' Yes, what do you know about la have?' The nigger said that as a youngster he had been a cabin boy on a pirate ship that operated from there and that had often been refitted from La Have before starting off on another search. He said that one time they had sailed northerly along a coast and entered a ~~bay~~ bay and from the deck they saw a hill with a lake in front. (Most beaches have the sea on one side and a brackish lake on the other.?) They anchored and put a boat over and several weighty chests were brought up and put in the boat. Then they rowed to a sand bar between the salt water and the pond and unloaded the chests on the beach. Then they ~~hauled~~ hauled the boat up over the beach and launched it in the pond. They ~~unloaded~~ unloaded the chests, rowed across the pond to ~~the~~ the hill at the farther end, unloaded the chests again and buried them. He told them the compass bearing from this point and when the men worked it out they concluded that ~~the~~ the treasure must lie at the back of the pond ~~and~~ as you enter Blue Rocks. It is probably there to this day." (check similarity with the swamp on oak island and the hill where the money pit is located)/.

(Creighton gives an account from two sources of the gold coins that were supposedly found by William Moser, or variously spelled "Mosher" in 1879. The two accounts closely coincide ~~with~~ in factual detail with the account given by DesBrissay.)

This next story was told to creighton by someone in Lunenburg: "There was an old man named Mason who told me that his grandfather had told him about being in the West Indies on a Lunenburg schooner when he was a young man. They had gone down with a cargo of fish. One night they were ashore and