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A Ferryland Merchant – Magistrate

The Journal and Cases of Robert Carter, Esq., J. P. (1832 – 1840)

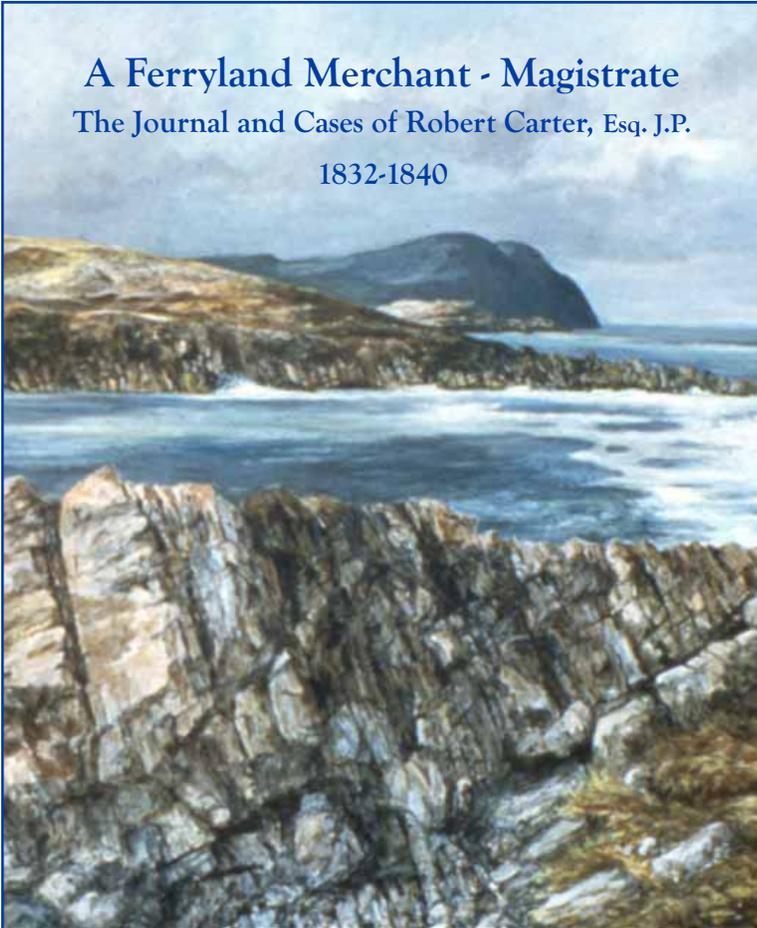
(514 pages including images from *Gerry Squires Ferryland Downs Series*)

\$28.25 HST included

A Ferryland Merchant - Magistrate

The Journal and Cases of Robert Carter, Esq. J.P.

1832-1840



Robert Carter served as Magistrate in Ferryland at a pivotal point in Newfoundland's history: the tumultuous period from the grant of representative government in 1832 to the emergence of responsible government in 1855. His Journal offers an unrivalled picture, over a sustained period of 21 years, of life in this important Newfoundland outpost community throughout almost the entirety of this formative period. When combined with his cases in Ferryland's Court of General and Quarter Sessions during this time, what emerges is an incomparably rich picture of a vibrant 19th century Newfoundland community.

Copies are available for purchase at
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Professor Jerry Bannister, Dalhousie University, writes in his Foreword to this book:

"By editing and publishing the Journal of Robert Carter, the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador is providing a window through which we can explore a world both foreign and familiar... It illustrates the multiple roles and responsibilities of a rural magistrate – from judge, to coroner, to surveyor, to arbitrator, and most everything in between—as communities such as Ferryland tried to provide essential services on a tight colonial budget. What makes Carter's Journal so important for Newfoundland history is that it has much more to tell us than legal minutiae. It shows how the spectre of infectious disease could bring tragedy...It recounts episodes of not only vindictiveness and violence but also of conscientiousness and civility. Running through all the social and legal relationships detailed in the Journal—the harmonious, the broken, the mended and the irreparable – was the cod fishery, which was never far from Carter's mind."