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Chapter 1 : Sen. James Murray Mason, Black Labor, and the Aftermath of the Civil War | William G. Thomas

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After the fall of Quebec, he became its first English military governor and then its first civil governor. James Murray was born on Jan. He was the fifth son of Alexander, the 4th Lord Elibank. He took part in the Rochfort expedition of and commanded a brigade during the successful siege of Louisbourg, Cape Breton, in . At the decisive battle of the Plains of Abraham near old Quebec on Sept. After the death of James Wolfe and the French surrender of the garrison, he was put in charge with 4, troops under his command. After a winter filled with hardships both for the British forces and for the French inhabitants of Quebec, Murray was faced in the spring of with a French force greatly superior in numbers. On April 28, , he met the French at Saint-Foy but was forced to retreat to the citadel. The French forces, led by Levis, laid siege to Quebec but were forced to retire when, on May 15, a British naval squadron arrived. Murray then reorganized his forces and proceeded to Montreal. In October Murray was appointed military governor, and, after the signing of peace between England and France in , he became the first civil governor of Quebec. In Murray was appointed governor of Minorca off Spain. Murray held out for some months but finally was forced to surrender on Feb. He was subsequently tried by a general court-martial, but he was acquitted early in of all charges except two minor ones. He was made a full general in February and subsequently served for a time as governor of Hull in Yorkshire. Further Reading There is no recent biography of Murray. An early study is R. Mahon, *Life of General the Hon. James Murray, a Builder of Canada The Revolutionary Age*, , offers a fresh view of Murray and places his career within the context of the period.

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Chapter 2 : Virginia Mason (Author of Shakespeare's Caliban)

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Lindsay traveled widely in the U. Indeed, he was in America during the Presidential election and as a leading British businessman and representative he met many U. Lindsay corresponded with numerous Americans during the secession crisis. Taking Lincoln at his word, Lindsay thought slavery would not be touched in the states in which it existed. As for the future promise of America, it lay in the west. This was a land of huge potential, he told his British listeners, and separation without war was preferable to a tragic national bloodbath. His capture aboard the R. Trent prompted an international storm over the U. I knew that Mason once owned Clarens. In fact, the legend of the place was that Mason never sat on the north-facing front porch because it looked out over the Potomac at Washington, D. But Mason, like Jubal Early and the other former Confederate leaders and officials waiting in Canada, waited because they were officially not extended amnesty until July. Deciding in to return to Virginia, Mason bought Clarens. The property adjoined that of his friend, the former Confederate General Samuel Cooper and was near the Episcopal Seminary, where other friends resided. Mason described Clarens in this way: The side on the first high lands receding from the Potomac River distant two miles and of which on its summits commands a view of many miles. Our nearest town is Alexandria, one of the oldest towns on the Potomac, where there is good society and at the distance given above. Whether he rocked on the front porch or not, he likely did not employ any freedmen. The war itself had been fought over the control of black labor—in the form of slavery. The post war South too would fight over the control of black labor. Newspapers were filled in the years after the war with urgent pleadings from the white South that it must have black labor or its entire economy would not move. It may not have occurred to James M. About William Thomas William G. He teaches digital humanities and digital history, 19th century U.

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