

Isle of Portland

Introducing the Isle of Portland

While this island is not totally new to our readership, having referenced this geographical location as the origins of the Lano Family, we now present to you an insight to this unique location and how it stands out in the history of the Lanos and several other families that married the siblings of our great grandmother Harriett C. Lano. [You might want to review our last issue [Volume VII, No. 2 dated December 31, 2003] where we featured the Lano Family. You will find referenced therein several of names of these spouses - Clifford, Gates, Hinde(s), Chadburn, and White.

This issue will report on the geography, geology of Portland. Additionally some of the prominent names of this locality. We will see that some of the family names of the spouses also existed in Portland. Their marriages all occurred in Canada, but we begin to wonder if the young men were previously known. How many others from Portland were part of the same party migrating to Canada?

Portland produces one of England's major building stones. It came to fame when Christopher Wren rebuilt churches in London, St. Paul's being the most well known. Reviewing the names common on Portland, it is said that initially people taking last names of Stone because they worked with stone. Pearce's on the other hand because their job was to "Pierce" the stone for quarrying. In our previous issue of The Four Drive we had a picture of Lano's Bridge. We now know the corner stone was laid in 1854 with name of J.C. Lano.

"Portland is a peninsula of only 4* mile length, off the south Dorset coast. It is almost cut off from the land, only being connected by the shingle bank known as Chesil Beach. The island is one mass of stone which is world renowned, the quarries have been in continuous use since the start of the 17thC and famous buildings such as St. Paul's Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament are built from Portland Stone. Portland Castle was erected in 1520. In 1847 a breakwater over two miles long was constructed to provide a very sheltered harbour

to the north of the isle."¹

"Until the middle of the 19th century, when the convict prison was erected, and the naval base established, that Portland, being an island, was a very closed community. One affect of its isolation was that the limited number of island families intermarried, their being only about 15 major families on the island. Some of the most common names were **Lano, Attwool, Comben, Flew, Flann, Pearce, Lowman, Stone, Way** and **White**, to mention the most numerous. Many of the inhabitants with these names were usually referred to by a 'nickname' as a means of differentiating people with the same name"²

Portland Surnames

A review of the index for 1851 census gives us this information. **Sansom** 75; **Stone** 346; **Pearce** 305; **Gibbs** 91; **Pitt** 17; **Lano** 56; **White** 273; **Schriven** 59; **Lowman** 32; **Comben** 233; **Hinde** 51;

Comben family were the first settlers, later came **Pearce** with **White** of Wakeham being the third family settling in Portland. **Lano**, originally deLanau, who were reputed to be Huguenot refugees and came to Isle of Portland circa 1740. were considered relatively new comers and really not Portlanders.³ Richard Lano married **Comben** in 26 December 1741 in Melcome Regis, Dorset County. They were the parents of Richard Lano Sr. Richard Lano Sr married Jane **Sansom** 20 October 1769 in Portland. So many of the old family names of Portland are entwined in our family tree.

Portland Occupations

Quarryman and related work in quarry. Prison Wardens(guards); Fisherman; Mariners; Usual crafts and trades - carpenter, bricklayer, cordwainer, dressmaker, milliner, blacksmith and other common services for the families of Portland.,

Our ancestral tree (of Richard Lano) includes surnames of **Comben, Snook**, and **Sansom**. Richard's first marriage before Martha Fudge was Jane White, there

¹ From www.dorset-opc.com/Portland.htm with thanks

² SDFHS- Marriage Index-Letter from Ken Andrews to Don Chinnery

³ Old Portland, edited by Jean M. Edwards from the memoirs of Elizabeth Pearce (later White) and Clara Jane White. Published 1983 by Jame M. Edwards. This same source supplied some of the background for material in this article.

were no surviving children. Two boys were known to have died as infants. Your editor surmises that Jane died of complications of child birth.

Richard and Martha (nee Fudge) Lano having 6 surviving daughters brings to fore six surnames linked to the Lano's by marriage.

- Emma Fudge Lano
William **Hinde** & Emma listed in Census for 1861 in Canada as Hynes. This listing immediately following the Lano family. They had one child in this census - Martha age 2. Martha was born in Canada West⁴. September 1858. Census had last name as Hynes.
- Martha Weston Lano
James **Clifford** & Martha married 30 October 1863 in Oxford Co., Canada.
- Elizabeth Snook Lano
Edward White and Elizabeth were married in Ontario, Canada.
- Agnes Naomi Lano
George **Gates** and Agnes Lano were married 8 Jan 1862 in Oxford County, Canada.
- Susanna Lano
Dennis **Chadbourn** and Susanna married 30 April 1868 in Kincardine, Ontario.
- Harriett Cecilia Lano
John Henry **Fitch** (born Ficht) and Harriett were married in 25 Jan 1868 in Bruce Co., Ontario. John came from Alsace Lorraine (BasRhin of France- previously Germany)

Using the 1851 Census as our guide we find William Butte **Hindes**, age 19 listed with family as quarryman. George **Gates**, age 23 Rail laborer with a 2 year old son age 2. The son was born in Portland, baptized 21 October 1849 in St. John's the Baptist Church.⁵ A Edward **White**, age 16, quarryman was listed in Portland in 1851 living with his parents at 18 Easton Street. We have not been able to find any **Chadbornes, Cliffords** living on Portland. We are quite sure that William Butte Hindes and George Gates were acquainted with the Lanos while living in Portland. And if the above reference is correct for Edward White then he too. George Gates quite possibly was employed by Richard Lano in maintaining the railway. Family information indicated he worked for the Lano's in Canada?

George Gates was listed in the 1851 Census along with his two year old son as living in Portland. He was 23 years old.

SURFING THE INTERNET

I have been spending considerable time experimenting with some of Earthlink's many features. As a result have been surfing many of the sites visited in the past. I am amazed the new material that is being added to availability on world wide web.

AS EXAMPLE

Portland 1851 Census

Birth Records Van Buren County Michigan

See following page for specific PORTLAND URL's

⁴ Canada West the name of the area that eventually became the province of Ontario.

⁵ Bishops Transcripts entry #490

Charles Wesley Fitch Journals Update-

Charles's Journal is now available for 1906. This year was transcribed from a volume containing 1904, 1905 in addition to 1906. All three are now available. Transcription of these journals has been slow. I am not all that fast with my typing. Using what I refer to as 4 1/2 fingers.

There are additional journals available for transcribing. Frankly, I have been very disappointed in past response from this newsletter's readership for copies of these journals. Unless I get some positive response, this will probably be my last transcribing project. In addition I have attempted to enlist others who are typists to assist in this project. That too has fallen by the wayside.

Did you ever stop to note that the three referenced above are now for an era 100 years ago. While many of the daily entries are quite brief and in many cases repetitive, but over all review gives us a good view into life of Charles. I also feel that they have helped me to better learn about my grandfather. His accomplishments, his religious faithfulness, hard work, his and that of farmers of that period.

Did you know that he built his own house while simultaneously taking care of the daily hard chores. Even in retirement he continued to be active, working at the Herrick basket factory summers, and spending his winters in Dunedin Florida where again he built another house.



433 Louden Avenue, Dunedin FL

Grace Johnson Fitch and Charles Wesley Fitch enjoying the weather in Dunedin Florida.

I recently, April 2005, had an opportunity to have lunch in Dunedin with cousin Marie Rumfola and husband Charlie. While there we took the time to visit 433 Louden Avenue, and we were please to find the house still standing, with a recent face lift (new vinyl siding). One significant change was the right hand door has been removed and covered over. We expect to have that picture available to include in our next issue of The Four Drive. The house now has a small porch with peaked roof over it. The right hand door as you are facing the has has been removed but the windows remain in their original location.

SURFING THE INTERNET, cont'd

The following URLs to surf the internet for Portland related information we suggest the following for starters.

The following three sites provide information to genealogical records of Dorset County.

www.dorset-opc.com

www.uk-genealogy.org.uk/genuki/DOR/

www.thedorsetpage.com

FreeBMD (Birth Marriages and Death) site is a joint project with Rootsweb that gives access to the Vital records of United Kingdom.

<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>

The information at the Family History Center of LDS in Utah is accessible through the family search site. Well worth the visit.

www.familysearch.org

Fletcher's web site is well worth visiting as it has some interesting pages as well as family information. Fletcher's grandmother was Nora Belle Fitch sister to Charles Wesley Fitch.

www.fletcherhayes.com/history/index.html

Geoff's website offers several links to information of Portland. The photography is excellent. The picture of Lan's Bridge shown in our last issue came from Geoff.

www.geoffkirby.co.uk/Portland/links

Portland Index map is an excellent map of Portland, and it has active links that you click for more information and pictures.

www.geoffkirby.co.uk/Portland/Indexmap/

Richard Hinde web pages with interesting information about his Hinde Ancestry. Emma Fudge Lano married William Butts Hinde.

www.cstone.net/~rwhinde/myworld.htm

The Hedley site offers you information for descendants of Susanna Lano

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hedley/>

[hedley's descended from Susanna Lano]

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hedley/Chadbourn/chadbourn.html>

Christopher Dixon's web site featuring his family history and research of the Fitch Four Drive Tractor.

www.fdtcompany.freewebsitehosting.com/FDTractorhome.html

Cyndi's list web site is the genealogist's boon. Offers worldwide links to loads of genealogical information worldwide.

www.cyndislist.com

Your editor's website offers a quick overview of various branches of my ancestry

www.chinnery.info

In Florida 2004 is known as the Year of Hurricanes - But to Four Drive Readers The Year 2004 is known as the lost issues of The Four Drive.

I can't blame the lack of publication of your newsletter on the hurricanes. I started an issue several times but just didn't have enough new material to fill up the needed pages. I hope this issue with information about the Isle of Portland and the Lano family is found to be of interest.

Please write to me of recent research activities and newly found information for your family tree.

VITAL RECORDS

DEATHS

Burchett, William Eric died May 17, 2004 in Indiana as result of aircraft accident. Internment was May 22, 2004 at Memphis Memory Gardens in Memphis TN. "Bill" was a Major in the Air Force and is survived by his parents Joyce and James Burchett.

Hiram Frank Herrick, son of Hiram and Gladys Herrick died July 2004 .Memorial service in Jackson MI , 14 August 2004 Survived by his wife Carol and children Randy, Steven and Anne Marie.

Cassan, Ethel Vivian (nee Fitch) did January 1, 2005 in Muskegon Michigan and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Ludington, MI on January 5th. She was preceded in death her husband James Cassan on January 31, 1995. She is survived by 3 daughters - Julie, Jane and Joanne and one son James. Numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The Penny Magazine

of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge

Published from 31 March 1832 to 27 December 1845

We have an excerpt from this magazine of 10 March 1838 on page 6 of this issue of The Four Drive. If you would like to read more of this magazine go to the following website.

<http://www.dorset-opc.com/Portland>

ROBERT LANO AND FAMILY JOURNAL⁶

A journal of Robert Lano and family from Portland to Quebec on board the Atlantic, Captain Barret. This is a copy of a letter, in the form of a diary on a trip from England to Quebec, in the year of 1857, from Monday, April 10 to June 2, Tuesday.

1857, April 20, Monday fine weather, 20 miles west of Siley, wind shifting about, all on deck to dinner, not very sick.

April 21, Tuesday very fine weather, almost a calm, had dinner on deck all well and able to eat, on deck most of day, went to supper with the captain and then went to bed. After that a cask of vinegar burst over our heads from the captain's cabin and come down on berths. We soon made alarm, you may be suppose, it would have been a job to been drowned in vinegar, but the capt. soon started the remainder another direction to a cask and only lost about a gallon.

April 22, Wednesday morning very strong wind, about west. Not so very sick but was obliged to stop below, most of day.

April 23, Thursday morning wind west by north, very strong. Mrs. Lano and Martha⁷ in bed all day, saw some porpoises, got the lance ready but caught none. Went to dinner with the capt., those that were able.

April 24, Friday morning very strong northwest wind. Steering all day west, half south. All on deck, well, except Mother which is very unwell. Very heavy sea, sailing now in the Atlantic Ocean, Latitude 12, west.

April 25, Saturday morning very strong wind double reef topsails. Mother bed all day, the others all sick at times except myself. I have not been sick yet and very good job, too. Continued blowing all night, wind about northwest, Latitude 45/16, Longitude 15/8.

April 26, Sun. morning blowing strong, steering west northwest. In the evening all the children went into the capt.'s cabin and read, sang and prayed. All well.

April 27, Mon. morning fresh wind, north. All well and on deck to breakfast, after 6 o'clock, now very fine, got our tea on deck. Ship going her course, no one sick or sorry. Lot 431, Long. 19/23.

April 28, Tues. morning little wind, very warm, all on deck, some reading, some doing needlework, all well, wind^f ~3. Sternsails set. Afternoon calm, all on deck, capt. Mother and all the children amusing themselves in spinning spin poney for nuts, *went to supper with the capt. Lot. 43 125, Long. 22 130.*

April 29, Wed. morning wind west. Fine weather. *Cooked two of our fowl, being the first kitted. All well, give the capt. one which made three killed. In the night, blowed a gale*

⁶ Robert Lano. traveled with William Butte Hindes & Family. Initial publication of this journal reported Robert Lano to be brother of Emma Hindes nee Lano as follows: [Note: This diary was written by Mrs. William Butte Hindes's brother] But this is not true as her brother Robert died as an infant. Editor Note: We suspect relationship to be a cousin as he always refers to Mrs Lano. See April 23 where he refers to Mrs Lano and Martha; April 24, 25 he refers to Mother. He closes the letter by referring to Mary.

⁷ Martha would probably be Martha Lano age about 17+

of wind, carried only double reef topsails and come to close reef until 3 o'clock in the morning when abated.

[EDITOR NOTE: FORMATTING CHANGE AS NOW IN PART II AS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED.]

Thurs. 30 morning fine weather, set more sail, ship going her course free, afternoon come on to blow again, shorten sail put her under reef sails, so all night, all well.

May 1, Friday morning blowing strong wind about N. set little more sail, shook one reef out the fore topsail. Mother, Emma⁸ and William all in bed, but not very sick. The sea so rough, could not stand, all the children on deck with a rope bound them to keep them from falling about and the capt. doing everything to please them and giving them pudding. I may say feeding them, as they could not handle themselves. Now 12 o'clock, Lot. 44/4, Long. 25/13. This almost halfway to Saint David. The children don't forget its Garling day at home and thinking about Betsy and Ellings Flowery Garling, when we are on the great seas tossing about, but how much they would like to be with them. Still blowing on into afternoon.

May 2, Sat. morning weather fine, little wind S.W., just lay our course. All on deck, well and hearty. I dined with the Capt., all the others had their dinner on deck. Afternoon come on to blow again. Flew into the north, put the vessel under close reef, sailed in the gale. One of the boys in reefing fell off the fore guard and got in the belly of the topsail, all thought he would have been lost but in a moment or so, he was seen on the guard below, saying "All bright in the night", laid the ship to sea like a liff.

May 3, Sun. morning wind W., blowing very heavy and rough sea going. Cooked no dinner in morning. I fell down in the cabin, when we stop and struck my back, was not able to come on deck, was obliged to go to bed. In the afternoon blew a hurricane, obliged to lay the ship to, under her fore topsail, closed reef, this is all the sails she can bear with the elm lashed. The capt. put our hatch on, so we were confined below. No sooner than this was done, the vessel shipped a sea and went over the capt's. cabin on deck and broke the barometer, hung up in the capt's cabin with the shock. Sea brining like mountains, this tells us what the Atlantic Ocean is. In the morning about 3 o'clock the capt. come to us to see how we got on and found us all, bright and you may think we were all awake but not so much frightened as you may expect, all well.

May 4, Mon. Morning -wind NE, strong with the sea brining, fair wind made sail about nine o'clock then past a large ship. She signalled us and we him, told him our name, we was in Lot. 4-3/14, Long. 31/54. She was America, bound home to England, showed him our name and where we were from, to be reported, when he arrived in England. After noon now, fine wind but a very rough sea still, but all well.

May 5, Tues. Fine morning, little breakfast, ship laying W. Mother and all the children on deck, to work at needlework. Afternoon wind, all of us went to tea with the capt. Had a beautiful fig cake. We find we can get as good things aboard ship, as we can ashore. When fine

⁸ Emma and William Hindes. Emma being Emma Fudge Lano now marrie2dw to William Butt Hindes. Emma would have been 19 years of age during this vorage. Emma and William were recently married 23 March 1857 prior to this voyage.

weather, we went on deck again, spoke to a barge (or bark) from Plymouth, bound to Quebec, had immigrants on board, went in captains cabin again about 8 o'clock and read, sung and prayed. This is done every night before going to bed in the cabin. After this went to supper, then left for our own department and went to bed about half past eleven o'clock. Lot. 42 155, Long. 33 126. We are now, more than halfway to Quebec.

May 6, Wed. Got up in the morning about 8 o'clock as usual, went to breakfast and then went up on deck to work again. Fine weather, all well, wind about W. Afternoon about 2 o'clock wind more fair about north, able to lay our course. Killed three more fowl, as our corn begin to get short. Lat. 42/39.

May 7, Thurs. Morning fine, fair wind, set our sternsails. All well, and very merry on deck. Lat." 42 127, Long. 36130. The Bark we spoke to, on the 5th, is still in sight but a long way astern.

May 8, Fri. fine weather, fair wind set our stern sails, about four o'clock, this morning, going 8 knotts through water, still see the Plymouth Bark in sight, not Lat. 43 17, Long. 38/18.

May 9, Sat. In the morning blowing very hard, sailing under double reef topsails. Wind NW. Afternoon put the ship under two close reef topsails and a reef mission. Lat. 43 159, Lat. 41/50.

May 10, Sun. Morning blowing very heavy, about NW. Sailing her under double reef. Topsails and, then close reef, and soon after weigh, or readied the ship. About 6 o'clock in the afternoon put her head to the NE until ten o'clock, at night, then was obliged to heave her too. So much sea. Could not sail her, sea brining mountains high, Lat. 43118, Long. 42 19. All well, not much afraid knowing we had a good ship and a first rate captain in every aspect on board.

May 11, Mon. About 10 o'clock in the morning, readied ship again and put her head to the SW. Still

[NOW PART III AS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED]

raging too, until one o'clock, then the wind, little left, and sea a little down, lost her topsails and trisails, sailed her, wind N. During the morning a little finer, set her square main sail, laying her course to the bank of Newfoundland. All well on board. Elizabeth's⁹ birthday. We had a cake and give the crew a bottle of brandy to drink to her health. About six o'clock the men all on deck, singing and dancing until 9 o'clock all well fair wind. Spent a merry evening, now you see what change there is from morning, to night on boardship. Elizabeth send her love to you all, remembering her birthday on the ocean. Lot. 43120, Long. 13 / 57.

May 12, Tues. In the morning, got up about nine o'clock all well, and fair wind, stern sails set going 8 knott, 12 o'clock going 10 knott. Lot. 42/11, Long. 43111.

May 13, Wed. Morning fine wind about N., just lay our course, first news was that one of our broilers had burst, not able to cook, but we turned to and got it repaired again in the afternon as well as we could and I think we made a good job of it but will tell you more to-morrow all well.

May 14, Thurs. Morning fine weather calm-ried our coppers that we mended yesterday it was the men's duff day and it cooked the duff very well and it will please all the men for we almost give up any more cooking in the copper again, which would have been a bad job. Those coppers was new and put in when at Weymouth. I done all I could with the Carpenter to get them repaired. The Captain happened to have some new sheet copper on board. I happened to have a stock and bit in so for a while this puzzled us, but I got one of the small teniant chissels one quarter inch and filed to the shape of a bit to bore iron. This we succeeded in and bored the hole through the boiler and got the sheet copper about 2³/₂ inches wide, put the same over the crackand with white lead fastened it down. Got it so secured that we were able as I stated before to use it. So you will see there is something to do for all trades on boardship all well good bye.

Friday, May 15 Morning fresh wind ship laying NW. Lot. 45116, Long. 43/4. Afternoon come in very breezy all well.

Saturday, May 16 Fine morning at well wind about N. begin to feel cold about 100 miles from the grand fishing Bank of Newfoundland. Afternoon about five o'clock a little snow and rain on deck. About an inch and freeze. Oblige to be below. Lot. 44 13, Long. 46143.

Sunday, May 17 morning very thick weather and rain, wind flying about, our people down below most of day. At five o'clock hoved the lead first time since we left England.

May 18, Mon. According to the Copt, reckoning, we should be on the banks of Newfoundland and the first Capt. found bottom just as the Capt expected, 26 fathoms, all well.

May 19, Tues. Morning all well, put fishing line overboard. One o'clock caught a codfish, cooked it for tea and went in cabin to tea. It was enough for all hands. This we enjoyed very much. All well.

May 20, Wed. Fine weather, fair wind, all well, very cold. In the evening a lot of porpoises under our bows. The Captain put the tarpoon in one of them but the monster went away with the tarpoon in it, so we lost her, but I expect she soon died. Long. 541 7, Lat. 44 145.

May 21, Thurs. fine weather, wind fair, we are now getting our gore up on the fore mast to get our anchors out, chains shackled on them. This tells us that we shall soon see land again, please God. The anchors and chains were put below, when we left Siley. All well. Long. 4513, Lat. 56146.

May 22. Fri. Morning all well, calm all night, afternoon little wind W. Sighted several vessels going the same way as us. Vessels getting closer together, as we are about entering St. Lawrence. Lat. 46/11, Long. 57140. At ten o'clock the Capt. down below, with us having a glass of grape, all at once a cry come up, Captain, something the matter, we all knew this was a large Bark, close to us, so we close that a two foot rule would have touched her. We was all on board, frightened, if she had touched us, not a doubt but both of us most have sunk, as we were going at the rate of 6 knotts, both of us, but thank God, we cleared each other. Their vessel was steered wrong, and went the wrong side. of us, according to the rules laid down. We both had lights under our bows. The next morning, we saw the Bark, to leeward of us. She was an Irishman. We made a great noise at the time but they never spoke a word. This was a near chance of being lost, when you would never

⁹ Being MAY 11, This would be Elizabeth Snook Lano born May 11, 1841 and this would be her 16th birthday.

heard of us no more, nor what became of us.

May 23, Sat. Morning all well, fair wind. Twelve o'clock we was 80 mile from Saint Pauls, according to the Capt's reckoning, but we have seen no land yet, since leaving. So are looking out to see who will see land first. This is six weeks to-day, when we left our home. Four o'clock, fine news, land ahead, all hands on deck, you may be suppose, in a moment. This was Cape North Island, within half an hour of the time when the Capt. told us, we should see land. Lat. 46123, Long. 58128.

May 24, Sun. Morning fine weather, 8 o'clock. Bird Island in sight. This island is covered with birds, it look like it was covered with snow. The island, I suppose was about a mile square, nothing but a mat of birds on it, all well. Lot. 48 15, Long. 60 150. Calm all day.

May 25, Mon. Morning fine, wind laying our course, going 8 knots toward America Land, hoping to soon see it. Seven o'clock just sighted Anti-Coster, all well. Lat. 48 136, Long. 62/14.

May 26, Tues. In the morning saw land of America called Gaspé Island, on one side and Anti-coster on the other. A very good land, reached in close to Anti-Coster lighthouse people. This Island is about 200 mile long, and full of trees. We was about a quarter of mile off, could see nothing but trees. Now Gaspé Island is inhabited by French people, full of beautiful trees, same as the other. We have this day given up taking the sun for Lat. and Long, work now by the chart only.

May 27, Wed. Fine morning, fair wind, running along by Gaspé Island, in company with a great many vessels, mostly barks and ships. We are on deck, well and happy afternoon.

May 28, Thurs. All well, a fleet of ships all around us, bound to the same place as us.

May 29, Fri. Morning all well, fair wind, past Point Demont light house about two o'clock this morning. Now seven o'clock just sighted the Island of Beck, very calm all night and very pleasant.

May 30, Sat. Morning fresh wind, about W. bright ahead, see light-house on Isle of Bick, still the windward of us, we are all well. Looking out for a pilot.

May 31, Sun. Morning bout 6 o'clock, Lovel the second mate, called us and told us there was a pilot coming toward us. We was soon on deck, pretty soon to see this new man, about half past six, he was on board. The wind now as ahead, all well.

June 1, Mon. Morning past the Green Light-house on the one side of us and a red one on the other, now we are bounded with porpoises. A very pretty sight and on the shore is one of the beautiful sights ever could be seen, land cultivated, houses looking so nice with all kind of trees and shrubs spreading all round them, it is delightful.

June 2, Tues. Morning-ship running along by the towns and villages, close in, everyday increases it's beauty. There is a church every six miles and such a church as I never saw in England. All have spiral on them and with a Priest House attached to it, as no gentleman's house can equal it. They are all Romans nearly. On this shore all the dwelling houses outside appear so nice and clean as a new pin. All surrounded with the most beautiful trees, of all kinds. It is impossible for any one to explain

to you the beautiful scenery that is to be seen here. While I am writing this now, one or the other is running to me to put something down, that is just come to sight, better still. But I tell them I must *leave off*. About 10 o'clock we seen a larger steamer ashore on a rock, close to the Light-house, called Pillar Light. She is one of the Packets that ran from England to Quebec, every fortnight. She past us last Sunday morning soon after we saw a bark sunk, only top sails out of water. She is lost of course, we don't know if the crew is saved or not. I expect they would be, as they are close to the shore and smooth water. We shall soon know as we are only 20 miles from Quebec.

We have been coming 550 miles, between two lands from one mile to half a mile wide, a pretty sight on both sides can be seen.

Now Mary you must excuse all imperfections, as this is on board-ship. I have sent this to you, I thought you would like to hear a little how we got on. Please give our kind Love to All.

Robert Lano.

EDITOR NOTES:

1. Richard Lano apparently was not on this ship, we conclude that Richard Lano journeyed to Canada prior to members of the family.
2. I have no information regarding this Robert Lano with possible wife or sibling named Mary (as referred in his closing)
3. No mention has been made regarding siblings Sussana and Agnes. Whether they traveled with the father or are included by general reference to "children" Agnes age 12 and Sussana age 10.
4. This article's preface provides important piece of information in that we now know name of the vessel, the captain and date of landing in Quebec.
5. Thanks to Richard Hinde for sending me this article. It took four parts to do it.

The Penny Magazine¹⁰

of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge

A week in the Isle of Portland in 1837

March 10, 1838

"The walk over the top of the island will introduce the visitor to five of seven villages... The houses of one of these townships vary from one to two hundred in number, and stand on each side of a wide grass grown road, full of ruts and covered with scattered stones. Not a tree or bush is to be seen; no heaps, and bare rocks. The houses are built to endure the local vicissitudes of the climate, and to meet the peculiar wants of the inhabitants, and are well contrived for those purposes. The walls are built of large blocks of rougher sorts of stone, the chimneys of brick, and the roofs of broad thin slabs of stone...Internatly the houses are divided into four rooms, lined through out with unpainted wood, and furnished with roomy cupboards, and are dry, warm and free from vermin.... (to be continued)

¹⁰ Excerpts to introduce this magazine. See the doreste-opc.com web site for several issues.

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The FOUR DRIVE, a genealogy newsletter is published on irregular schedule by DONALD CHINNERY. Please let your family members having an interest in genealogy/family history know of this newsletter.

Siblings & Other Information

Your editor accumulates as much information as he can concerning siblings. Family group sheets and other information in many cases is also available. Photocopying cost and postage appreciated.

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FIRST CLASS