

## **George Taylor.** (1829-1919)

George Taylor was a member of the Palliser Expedition. The Palliser Expedition, (1857-60), was initiated by John Palliser, who submitted to the Royal Geographical Society a plan to travel from the Red River Colony to and through the Rocky Mountains along the unsurveyed American boundary. The society expanded the project into a scientific expedition and applied for a grant of £5000 from the imperial government, which was then facing the problem of the future of the Hudson's Bay Company territories.

Palliser arranged to employ a number of Metis (12) and other Red River men to assist his scientific party. They were to explore the old North West Company canoe route west from Lake Superior, the plains south of the North Saskatchewan River and the southern passes through the Rockies and find badly needed information about them. Dr James Hector was appointed geologist and naturalist, Eugene Bourgear botanical collector and John W. Sullivan secretary and astronomical observer. Magnetical observer Lt. Thomas W. Blakiston brought his delicate instruments by way of the Hudson Bay to join them on the prairies.

George Taylor was born on October 1, 1829 at York Factory, the son of George Taylor II and Jane Bruce or Prince. George married Isabella Cooper, the daughter of Charles Cooper and Catherine Thomas in 1850 at St. Andrews. George was a sailor for the Hudson's Bay Company before accompanying the Palliser Expedition across the West in 1857. He later settled near Lower Fort Garry and in 1879 moved west to Prince Albert to homestead. He died in Edgerton, Alberta.

In 1827 the HBC sent his father George Taylor II on a journey to ascertain the American Boundary Line and in his journal of 1827-28 (Hudson's Bay Archives B.235/a/9) Taylor records arriving at the site of Old Brandon House on 3rd November, 1827, where he met Cuthbert Grant's people.

His brothers, Robert Taylor (b. 1836) and Edward Taylor (b. 1841) were both members of the 49<sup>th</sup> Rangers, the Metis Scouts of the 1873-74 Boundary Commission. In 1872, the formal survey of the border between Canada and the United States began. The Commission surveyed from the Northwest Angle of the Lake of the Woods to the Red River over the winter of 1872-73. They used Metis guides and Chippewa men to assist them with this task. The British Commission employed William Hallett and 30 armed Metis guides and scouts.

**Robert Taylor,** (1836-1919): Robert Alexander Taylor was born in 1836 at Fort of the Rockies and baptized at St. John's on March 9, 1836, the son of George Taylor II and Jane Bruce or Prince. Robert married Eliza Voller the daughter of James Voller and Nancy Birston. He died March 26, 1919. He is the brother-in-law of Edward McKay another member of the 49<sup>th</sup> Rangers.

**Edward Taylor,** (b. 1841): Edward Prince Taylor was baptized on Feb. 1, 1841 at St. John's, the son of George Taylor II and Jane Bruce or Prince and younger brother to

Robert Taylor. He married Mary Sabiston on June 23, 1862 at St. Andrew's and later married Sarah Stevens on June 15, 1871 at St. Andrew's. He had three children with Mary and 11 with Sarah.

George Taylor (1798-1844), father of George Jr., Robert and Edward Taylor, was a sloop master and surveyor for the Hudson's Bay Co.; his service record is shown below.

NAME: TAYLOR, George Jr.      PARISH: Native of Hudson Bay      ENTERED SERVICE: 1819      DATES: b. ca. 1798; d. 15 Nov. 1844;  
(Surveyor)      (A.16/48, fo. 142)

Appointments & Service				
Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
1819-1820	Clerk	York Factory		A.16/39, p. 456
1820-1821	Clerk	Churchill		A.16/39, p. 456
1821-1823	Sloop master	Severn		A.34/1, p. 48; A.16/41, p. 465
1823-1824	Clerk, sloop master		York Factory	B.239/k/1, p. 58; A.34/1, p. 48
1824-1826	Clerk		York Factory	B.239/k/1, p. 92; A.34/1, p. 48
1826-1827	Clerk & sloop master	York Factory	York Factory & Churchill	B.239/k/1, p. 176; A.34/2, fo. 49d
1827-1828	Sloop master	Fort Garry	Red River	B.239/k/1, p. 210; B.235/a/10-11
1828-1829	Clerk [appointed but did not reach there]		Columbia	B.239/k/1, p. 250
1829-1830	Clerk	Oxford House	Island Lake	B.239/k/1, p. 268
1830-1832	Clerk	York Factory	York Factory	B.239/k/1, p. 291, 315
1832-1834	Master	Lake Winnipeg Vessels		B.239/g/12-13
1834-1835	Clerk	disposable	Red River	B.239/g/14
1835-1836	Clerk	disposable		B.239/g/15
1836-1837	Surveyor	Fort Garry	Red River	B.239/k/2, p. 133
1837-1838	Clerk		Red River	B.239/g/17; D.4/23, fo. 162-162d
1838-1844	Surveyor		Red River	D.4/23, fo. 162-162d
1844, 15 Nov.	died			A.16/48, fo. 142; B.239/k/2, p. 180, 201, 223, 253, 275, 325

Maps: "Sketch of the Route Between York Factory and Red River Settlement...Fall 1827" B.235/a/10  
 "Plan of Red River Colony...1836, 7 & 8" E.6/14; G.1/59  
 "Winter Road from Foxes River to Oxford Ho. 1833" G.1/61

Wife: Jane Prince, a native of Albany, m. 11 January 1828 E.4/1, fo. 222  
 Children: Mary, b. 12 Oct. 1828 (B.235/a/11, fo. 64); Jane, George, bapt. 2 Aug. 1833; Victoria, bapt. 11 Dec. 1834;  
 Robert Alexander, bapt. 9 Mar. 1836; Sarah, bapt. 8 July 1838; Edward b. ca. 1840

Search file: "TAYLOR GEORGE"



Taylor, George Jr. (1798-1844) (fl.1819-1844) JHB/ek April 1988 reformatted 11/99 CAW



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