

Thereafter he returned to Lexington Virginia where he died unmarried in 1811.

Another very significant Scots Irish settler who came to Nova Scotia shortly after McNutt was James 'Judge' Fulton. He was born in Belfast in 1739 and emigrated to New England around 1760. He worked there as a surveyor. He arrived in Nova Scotia in 1765 and two years later was living in the Londonderry township. Shortly afterwards he was appointed as a J.P. for the area and thus started a professional career that would culminate in his appointment as a judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for Colchester. In 1793 he was commissioned as a Captain of the local Militia. By now Fulton's public persona was such that he was elected to the House of Assembly in 1799. In the period leading up to his election Fulton had been very involved in the formation of the 'Country Party'. This political grouping was formed as an alliance against the powerful Halifax Merchants. These individuals had built up their position and were perceived as being 'in cahoots' with the Privy Council and the Lieutenant Governor Sir John Wentworth. Fulton was amongst those who believed that their plan was to develop Halifax as a city at the expense of the surrounding countryside. Once elected Fulton maintained an independent streak and sometimes voted with the opposition rather than his own party. He spent his latter days in the Bass River area where he died in 1826. He had seven sons and eight daughters and in 1875 his great grandson George Fulton founded the Dominion Chair Company.

No account of Ulster Scots families in Nova Scotia would be complete without consideration of the Archibald family. Matthew Archibald was born in Londonderry in 1745 and settled in Truro Nova Scotia in 1762, being amongst those Ulster Scots who travelled up from their 'interim' stop in Londonderry New Hampshire. A bill of sale for 29th July 1779 which was registered in the Colchester County register of deeds shows him working as a tanner in Truro and purchasing for £50 from Mathew Harris of Pictou a slave boy of about 12 years old called 'Abram'. Abram was the son of Harris' slave in his former home in Maryland.

Ownership of black slaves is not often a consideration whenever settlement in 18th century Nova Scotia is considered. Matthew Archibald was a member of the Assembly for Truro Township from 1785 until 1799. The later generation of the Archibald family who were born in Nova Scotia included Samuel George Archibald who became Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island and Sir Adams George Archibald who was born near Truro in 1814. He was elected as one of the delegates to the conferences in Quebec, Charlottetown and London which created the Confederation of Canada. On 1st July 1865 he became Secretary of State for Canada. Amongst many other high public offices he was later to become Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. He died in Truro on 14th December 1892.

Other significant Ulster Scots families who settled in Nova Scotia include the McLellan family, the Vance family and the Rath family who lived at Hilden in the Province.

One indication of the strength of Ulster Scots settlement in Nova Scotia is evidenced in the growth of the Orange Order in the Province. The Order was particularly strong around the town of Westville. By the 1890's Orangemen were so active in this area that they were able to publish their own weekly newspaper. The longest serving Grand Master was William Caldwell who held the position from 1859 until 1872. In 1914 there were 127 lodges throughout Nova Scotia – from Glace Bay on Cape Breton island to Yarmouth at the southern tip.

In more recent times Nova Scotians of Ulster Scots origin have included Robert L. Stanfield who was Premier of the Province from 1956 until 1967 and who challenged Pierre Trudeau for the Canadian Premiership in 1974 remaining Leader of the Opposition until 1976. Although Conservative in his political ideology he was a strong supporter of a bilingual Canada. He died on December 16th 2003 and is commemorated in the Halifax - Robert L Stanfield Airport which was so named in his honour in February of this current year. At the ceremony the current Prime Minister of the Province Stephen Harper described him as, "the best Prime Minister Canada never had".

Alister J McReynolds