

Handwritten name: *John G. ...*

Souris, P.E.I.

DEC 22 1905

RECEIVED.

112/8

To the Department of the Interior
Office of Geographer
Ottawa

Sir in answer to yours of the 29th of August last. re place names of this village I beg to say that my father was one of the first Settlers in this village and I will give you the information as I got it from him. Some fifty years ago some time between the 1820 and 1825. This village was infested by mice which came to the village seemingly all at once about the 15th of July. coming out of his house early in the morning he observed a field of wheat that was all cut down it being about five inches long the evening before. And walking to wards it he found himself surrounded by hoards of mice which explained the destruction of the wheat field. on going further ~~farther~~ he found that the Potatoe tops, grass and every thing green had been destroyed. The whole village

Kings Co.

Suffered the same fate,
but the adjacent villages
Roll Bay and Little Harbour
which lay about two miles
distant West and East were
not injured. The mice remained
in the village until the following
Spring destroying everything in
their way. About the first of May
Rev. Father Beaubien ^{from Quebec} came to the
The village. Immediately the villagers
assembled to greet him and insisted
that he should banish the scourge
from the place, which he did on the
following day, a procession was
formed at the west end of the village
praying while walking towards
the east end of the village and
on the following morning the
mice had all disappeared from
the fields and on going to the
Shore the dead mice appeared
as a windrow in the landward
as if driven from sea during
the night, they were not the
field mice nor yet the house
mice, but something between

The village which up to that
time had been called Grand
Horn or big Harbor. was ever
since called Souris which is
the french for mouse

I may say that this is no
fable but the naked truth,
there are several person living
here now that will substantiate
this statement

Marshal Paquet
Postmaster

Souris P. E. Island
Sept-14th 1905

Dec 18th 1905

P.S. My delay in forwarding
this information was to ascertain
for sure if I was right in
naming father Daubein as
the priest that banished the
vice from Souris as I had
partly forgotten his name
Your obt serv

Paquet