

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA  
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES DU CANADA  
DIVISION DES MANUSCRITS

NEWMAN, HUNT, & COMPANY

MG 23 M 3

Finding Aid 263 / Instrument de recherche 263

Prepared for the  
Pre-Confederation Section  
at the time of microfilming.  
Revised in 1977 by  
Patricia Kennedy.

Préparé pour la Section des  
archives antérieures à la  
confédération lors du microfilmage.  
Révisé en 1977 par  
Patricia Kennedy.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Introduction

History of the Companies.....	iii-iv
Notes on the filming of the Records.....	iv

Description of the Records, which are arranged  
in series by Company

I Long List.....	p. 1
II Robert Newman & Co., Dartmouth.....	p. 1-3
III Hunt, Roope & Co., Oporto.....	p. 3
IV Hunt, Roope, Teage & Co., London.....	p. 3-4
V Newman, Hunt & Co., London.....	p. 4-8
VI Miscellaneous records.....	p. 8-9

Retakes on Reels A-73 - A-74.....	10
-----------------------------------	----

## INTRODUCTION

### History of the Companies

The firms of Newman, Hunt & Company, London; Hunt, Roope & Company, London and Oporto; and Newman & Company, Newfoundland are the present members of a network of companies that have been engaged in the port wine and cod-fish trade since the end of the sixteenth century. These firms were originally started by the Dartmouth families of Newman, Mudd, Roope, Holdsworth and Hunt, whose associations with the Newfoundland fisheries date back to 1589. In that year John Newman was importing fish and cod oil from Newfoundland. In 1601 Richard Newman was granted fishing rights on Newman's Rock, Newfoundland. By 1666 Thomas Newman, Ambrose Mudd and William Roope were all actively engaged in the port wine and cod-fish trade, between Newfoundland, Dartmouth and Portugal, either as individuals or in partnership with one another or with members of their families. Their connection with Newfoundland was firmly established in 1672 when Richard Newman established a seasonal trading post on Pushthrough Island. By 1679, in violation of the laws prohibiting settlement, this post had become a permanent establishment. At home, in the same year, the families of Newman and Roope formed a long-term partnership as Newman and Roope of Dartmouth, which became Robert Newman & Company in 1700.

In the last quarter of the seventeenth century the Newmans discovered through barter trade that port wine taken back to Newfoundland in exchange for the cod-fish imported into Portugal, and stored in Newfoundland, had greatly improved in the process. As a result, the maturation of port in Newfoundland became a regular practice. The Newmans established coastal trading plantations at Harbour Breton, Gaultois, St. Lawrence, Hermitage Cove, Trinity Bay, Conception Bay, Magety Cove, etc., and in 1700 they combined as Newman & Company, Harbour Breton, Newfoundland. One member of the Newman family and a Roope relation continued as Newman & Roope, Newfoundland; but they were later absorbed by Newman & Company.

The Holdsworths, Olives and Newmans of Dartmouth combined their port wine interests and Newfoundland cod-fish business in Portugal into one firm in 1735. Known then as Holdsworth, Olive & Newman, with fish lodges and counting house in Oporto and with wine lodges in Vila Nova de Gaia, this firm underwent many changes of name and is now known as Hunt, Roope & Company, Vila Nova de Gaia. In 1809 they began the making of wine at Eira Velha in the Alto Douro, and in 1841 Cabel Roope opened the London office which was concerned solely with the sale of their port wine in England.

A partner of Robert Newman & Company, Dartmouth, opened a London office, called Newman & Land, in 1782. This firm later became Newman, Hunt & Company, London. In 1815 the Dartmouth office was closed and the business was transferred to London. The firms gave up the Newfoundland cod-fish business in 1907 because they believed that it was declining, and in 1911 they disposed of their merchant fleet.

#### Filming of the Records

In 1954 Sir Ralph Newman granted permission to the Dominion Archivist to examine, select and microfilm the material relating to Canada in the "Library of Business Books" preserved in the offices of Hunt, Roope & Company at 11 Eastcheap, London. In all, 29,090 pages consisting of the Catalogue or Long List, seventy-three numbered volumes and some miscellaneous papers were microfilmed.

In a few cases there is some discrepancy between the catalogue listings and the volume markings, and the books are sometimes described as those of a firm existing to-day, which at that time was known by another name. Volume 41 is catalogued as Volume 46, Volume 46 as 46A and Volume 65A is not listed in the catalogue. The volumes were assigned another set of consecutive numbers as they were filmed. The numbers assigned for the filming appear first, followed by the catalogue numbers (eg. 50/73). The volumes are listed here, with two exceptions, in the order in which they were filmed. Volume 28/41 appears as a separate item on Reel A-47, and Volume 18/32 appears with the retakes on Reel A-73. Volume 28/41 is listed in the inventory following Volume 48/65A. After the microfilming was completed the original numbering of the Ledger, 1780-1796, was changed from 4 to 10A. This Ledger now appears as Volume 8/10A.

I. Long List, File 1B, Catalogue of Reference Books in the  
Library of Business Books, Hunt, Roope & Company, 11 Eastcheap,  
London.

	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
Books 40-101, 1776-1946.	15 pages.	A-35

II. Robert Newman & Company, Dartmouth, 1700-1815.

Forty-one books were found in Manhead House, near Exeter, by Robert Newman in 1948. Twenty-two of these were microfilmed. These books are not covered in the Long List.

1. Cash Books.

1/2	1775-1795 Most of the entries relate to the years 1786-1795; earlier material occupies only a few pages.	272 pages.	A-35
2/3	March 1780-January 1789	464 pages.	A-35
3/6	February 1789-June 1795	475 pages.	A-35
4/7	December 1795-September 1798		A-35
	September 1798-December 1802		A-36
	retakes of	1-118	A-73
5/8	January 1803-February 1810	370 pages.	A-36

2. Ledgers.

6/9	1774-1781 [folios 4 & 5 missing in the original]	120 pages	A-36 retaken on A-74
7/10	1776-1781	1-53	A-36
		54-301	A-37
8/10A	(formerly 8/4) 1780-1796	1-319	A-37
		320-571	A-38
9/11	1796-1806	1-410	A-38
10/12	1806-1814	411-524	A-39
		312 pages	A-39

2. cont'd		<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
3.	<u>Journals, Daily Account Books.</u>		
	11/13 1786-1791	1-253	A-39
		254-453	A-40
	12/14 1791-1796	468 pages	A-40
	13/15 1797-1802	1-107	A-40
		108-558	A-41
	14/16 1802-1806	1-302	A-41
		303-355	A-42
	15/17 1806-1811	350 pages	A-42
4.	<u>Waste Book.</u>		
	16/21 January 1811-December 1813 Only pages 315 to 408 were microfilmed	93 pages	A-42
5.	<u>Clothing Books, Records of Clothing Sales in Dartmouth.</u>		
	17/31 1783-1787	169 pages	A-42
	18/32 1792-1795	152 pages	A-73
6.	<u>Ledger, Little Bay, Newfoundland.</u>		
	19/33 1790-1791 With an alphabetical list of names.	144 pages	A-42
7.	<u>Accounts Current and Invoice Book.</u>		
	20/34 1798-1809	275 pages	A-43
8.	<u>Servants' Ledger.</u>		
	21/34A 1806-1811 Accounts with seamen employed on company vessels, with an alphabetical list of names. [pages 25 & 26 missing in the original]	216 pages	A-43
9.	<u>Letter Books</u>		
	Letters sent, with an alphabetical list of names.		
	22/38 1794-1799 [pages 295, 726 & 727 missing in original]	1-479 480-916	A-43 A-44

		<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
9. cont'd			
	23/39	1804-1810	
		1-323	A-44
		324-1036	A-45

10. Journal, Clothing Sales Book, St. Lawrence, Newfoundland.

24/57A	a) Goods Supplied, 1788-1789	269 pages	A-45
	b) Cash Book, 1800-1801	1-72	A-45
		73-186	A-46

III. Hunt, Roope & Company, Oporto.

This firm was started in 1735 as Holdsworth, Olive & Newman, and operated under that name until 1779. It was then successively known as Newman, Land & Company (1779-1790), Newman, Land & Hunt (1790-1801), Newman, Land, Hunt & Company (1801-1805), Hunt & Newman (1805-1814), Hunt, Newman & Roope (1814-1821), Hunt, Newman, Roope & Company (c1821-c1835) and Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company until 1907 when it became known as Hunt, Roope & Company.

1. Journal.

25/40	1776-1788 Private Account Book kept by Thomas Newman while residing in Oporto.	81 pages	A-46
-------	---	----------	------

2. Letter Books.

26/45	1793-1794 Letters sent, with an alphabetical list of names.	1-293	A-46
		294-706	A-47
27/46	1808-1809 Letters from Robert Newman & Company, Dartmouth, and Newman, Hunt & Lyon, London, to Hunt & Newman, Oporto, and Thomas Newman.	68 pages	A-47 retaken on A-74

IV Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company, London.

This firm became the London office of Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company, Oporto, in 1841. Known as Cabel Roope, Oporto Merchants, from 1842 to 1849, the firm was located at 31 New Broad Street in 1841 and then moved to 12 New Broad Street. From 1850 to 1895 it was known as Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company, and was located at 3 Brabant Court, Philpot Lane. It is now known as Hunt, Roope & Company, and is located at 11 Eastcheap.

## IV cont'd

1.	<u>Letter Books.</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
	Letters sent to the firm in Oporto known as Hunt, Newman & Roope (1814-1821), Hunt, Newman, Roope & Company (c1821-c1835) and Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company until 1907 when it became known as Hunt, Roope & Company. There is some discrepancy between the book labels and the letter headings.		
29/47	1820-1832 Letters to Hunt, Newman & Roope to 20 July, 1820, then to Hunt, Newman, Roope & Company.	1-143 144-372	A-47 A-48
30/48	1835-1839 Letters to Hunt, Roope, Teage & Company, from 13 October, 1835.	362 pages	A-48
31/49	1839-1844	1-324 325-358	A-48 A-49
32/50	1844-1853	363 pages	A-49
33/51	1853-1875	354 pages	A-49
34/52	1881-1895 Page 293 contains a list of firms to whom price lists had been sent.	1-12 13-293	A-49 A-50

V Newman, Hunt & Company, London.

This firm was first established as the London office of Robert Newman & Company, Dartmouth, in 1782. It was then called Newman & Land (1782-1784), and was then successively known as Newman & Roope (1784-1803), Newman, Hunt & Company (1803-1805), Newman, Hunt & Lyon (1805-1819), and Newman, Hunt & Christophers & Company (1820-1839), until 1840 when it became known as Newman, Hunt & Company.

1. Newfoundland Letter Books.

Letters sent to Newman and Company, Harbour Breton, Newfoundland, and to others in Newfoundland. Each volume is preceded by an alphabetical list of names.

35/58	1812-1817	333 pages	A-50
-------	-----------	-----------	------



V cont'd

		<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
36/59	1824-1827	1-193 194-325	A-50 A-51
37/60	1833-1840	382 pages	A-51
38/61	1839-1844	1-242 243-384	A-51 A-52
39/62	1844-1850 [With notes at the end of the volume.]	382 pages	A-52
40/63	1850-1858	1-226 227-381	A-52 A-53
41/64	1858-1865	398 pages	A-53
42/65	1866-1872 [Badly damaged and partly illegible.]	1-194 195-382	A-53 A-54
43/66	1872-1878	384 pages	A-54
44/67	1878-1884 [With notes at the end of the volume.]	1-184 185-392	A-54 A-55
		initial pages missed, retaken on	A-74
45/68	1884-1889 Includes letters to J. & W. Stewart, Newman & Company Agents, St. John's. J. & W. Stewart acted as agents until 1890. Baine Johnston & Company now represent Newman & Company, Hunt, Roope & Company, and Newman, Hunt & Company in St. John's.	392 pages	A-55
46/69	1889-1894	1-150 151-388	A-55 A-56
47/70	1894-1899	392 pages	A-56
2.	<u>Observations on Newfoundland Wants.</u>		
48/65A	1876 Survey of goods at Harbour Breton and Gaultois.	22 pages	A-56
3.	<u>Port Wine Order Book.</u>		
28/41	1794-1799 This is probably the Order Book of Newman & Roope, London, dealing with Hunt, Roope & Company, Oporto. But it may be the Order Book of Hunt, Roope & Company, Oporto, brought over to England during the Peninsular War.		A-47

V cont'd

4.	<u>General Letter Books.</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
Unless otherwise noted, these letters were sent to firms and agents in England, Europe and America. Each volume is preceded by an alphabetical list of names.			
49/72	1794-1796	1-90 91-710	A-56 A-57
50/73	1796-1800  pages 762-764 missed, retaken on	1-134 135-897	A-57 A-58 A-74
51/74	1799-1807  [p. 244 missing in the original]	1-Index Index, A-Z	A-58 A-59
52/75	1800-1803 Letters sent by Newman, Land, Hunt & Company, Oporto, to firms in England, Europe and America. Many of the letters are to Robert Newman and Compnay, Dartmouth. [pages 793 missing in the original]	1-335 336-895	A-59 A-60
53/76	1803-1805 Many letters to firms in England. Includes notes and papers at the end relating to the export trade, convoys and licences. [error in numbering, p. 144 follws 133]	1-210 211-283	A-60 A-61
54/77	1810-1812 [error in numbering, p 444 follows 433]	640 pages	A-61
55/78	1812-1820 [This volume does not contain an alphabetical list of names.]	1-45 46-390	A-61 A-62
56/79	1813-1815  [errors in numbering: p. 55 is really 54; p. 444 follows p. 433]	1-478 479-631	A-62 A-63
57/80	1820-1822	614 pages	A-63
58/81	1822-1824	615 pages	A-64
59/82	1824-1826	1-126 126-622	A-64 A-65

V cont'd		<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
60/83	1826-1829	1-266 267-621	A-65 A-66
61/84	1829-1832	1-409 410-463	A-66 A-67
	[pages 189-190 and 199-200 missing in the original]		
62/85	1884-1888 Letters sent to firms and agents in the British Isles. A few letters to Europe and America.	410 pages	A-67
63/86	1888-1892 Letters sent to firms and agents in the British Isles.	1-254 255-408	A-67 A-68
5.	<u>Foreign Letter Books.</u>		
	Letter to agents and correspondents throughout the world. Each volume is preceded by an alphabetical list of names.		
64/95	1812-1828 Many letters to Oporto and Viana, Portugal.	345 pages	A-68
65/96	1833-1838	1-243 244-387	A-68 A-69
66/97	1846-1850	270 pages	A-69
67/98	1881-1885 Includes the alphabetical word list codes used by Newman, Hunt & Company for telegraphic messages to and replies from Bahia, Brazil, and four account sheets for the year 1898.	1-326 327-378	A-69 A-70
68/99	1882-1894 Includes the alphabetical word list code used for telegraphic messages from Port Elizabeth, South Africa.	410 pages	A-70
69/100	1886-1890	1-273 274-376	A-70 A-71
70/101	1890-1896	280 pages	A-71

V cont'd

		<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
6.	<u>Particulars of Voyages, Ships' Registers and Ships' Crews.</u>		
71/92	1839-1896 An alphabetical list of the names of ships, listing the dates of sailing from and arrivals in Newfoundland, the West Indies, South America and Portugal.	192 pages	A-71
72/93	Ships' Registers, 1840-1870 In addition to the registers there is a list of the vessels belonging to Newman, Hunt & Company, 1840-1870, with page references to the ships' registers; declarations of ownership; a declaration on the death of Thomas Newman, 1891, as authority for striking his name from the registry of vessels; bills of sale for Newman, Hunt & Company vessels; and a copy of regulations in the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, regarding tonnage registry and crew quarters.	152 pages	A-71
73/94	Ships' Crews, 1864-1896 Includes Monthly Pay lists for 1864-1865, 1867-1868, 1870 and 1873, and particulars of voyages made by various vessels, 1864-1899.	308 pages	A-72
VI	<u>Miscellaneous.</u>		
a)	One issue of the <u>Public Ledger and Newfoundland General Advertiser</u> , 2 January, 1838.	4 pages	A-72
b)	Proclamation, September, 1832, authorising Sir Thomas John Cochrane, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Newfoundland, to call a General Assembly, and outlining the method of electing the members of that assembly. Printed.	2 pages	A-72
c)	List of the members of the House of Assembly, Newfoundland.	2 pages	A-72
d)	Anonymous letter which lists and estimates the principles and character of the members of the House of Assembly, Newfoundland.	3 pages	A-72
e)	Petition to the House of Lords protesting the agreement with the French, known as the <u>modus vivendi</u> , 1890, for the extension of treaty fishing rights. Printed.	1 page	A-72

VI. cont.'d	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Reel</u>
f) Letters to Thomas H. Newman asking him to support the Petition, 1890.	7 pages	A-72
g) Newfoundland diaries of Thomas H. Newman, Newman & Company, Harbour Breton, Newfoundland. Personal diaries describing his daily activity.		A-72
1. 1848	109 pages	A-72
2. 1849	28 pages	A-72
h) List and description of the books kept in the office of Newman & Company, Newfoundland, n.d.	27 pages	A-72
i) Business and social diary, Newman & Company, Harbour Breton, Newfoundland, 1847	49 pages	A-72
j) Valuation of Newman & Company premises, 1885.	1 page	A-72
k) Correspondence of Thomas Newman and William Newman concerning the Newmans' property at Magety Cove, Newfoundland, 1850.	14 pages	A-72
l) Bill of sale for boats and premises at River Head, Little Bay in Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, by Thomas Parsons to Holdsworth Newman, 11 September, 1790.	3 pages	A-72
m) Agreement between Thomas Sams and Newman & Company regarding the purchase of Fishing Room at Pushthrough Island, Newfoundland, 1814.	2 pages	A-72
n) Miscellaneous business correspondence of Newman & Company, Newfoundland.	31 pages	A-72

Newman, Hunt and Company, London.  
 Hunt, Roope and Company, London and Oporto.  
 Newman and Company, Newfoundland.

---

RETAKES ON REELS A-73 and A-74

		<u>Reel</u>
3/6	Cash Book. Completely retaken on Reel A-73.	A-35
4/7	Cash Book. Completely retaken on Reels A-73 and A-74.	A-36
6/9	Ledger. Folios 4&5 are missing in the original.	
21/34A	Servants Ledger. Pages 25 & 26 are missing in the original.	A-43
22/38	Letter Book. Page 295 is missing in the original.	
22/38	Letter Book. Pages 726 & 727 are missing in the original.	A-44
27/46	Letter Book. Completely retaken on Reel A-74.	A-47
28/41	Order Book. Completely retaken on Reel A-74	
44/67	Nfld. Letter Book. First few frames retaken on Reel A-74. Letter omitted originally.	A-54
50/73	General Letter Book. Loose pages 762-764 are missing. Retaken on Reel A-74.	A-58
51/74	General Letter Book. Page 244 missing in the original.	A-59
52/75	General Letter Book. Page 793 missing in the original.	A-60
53/76	General Letter Book. Incorrect numbering. Page 144 follows page 133.	
54/77	General Letter Book. Incorrect numbering. Page 444 follows page 433.	A-61
56/79	General Letter Book. Incorrect numbering. Page 55 is numbered 54. Page 444 follows page 433.	A-62
57/80	General Letter Book. Pages 503 & 504 are missing in the original.	A-63
61/84	General Letter Book. Pages 189-190 and 199-200 are missing in the original.	A-66
3/6	Cash Book. Page 160 missing. Retaken on Reel A-74.	A-73