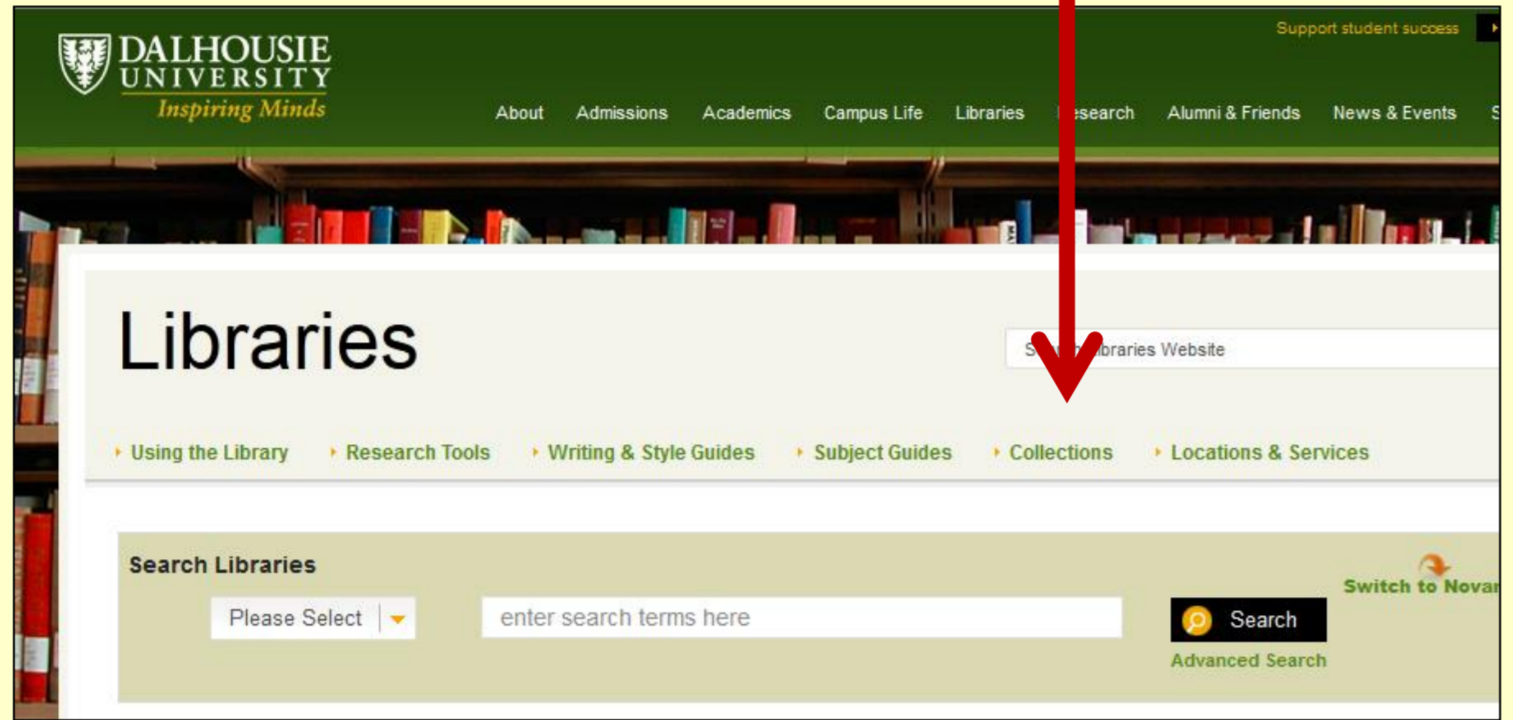

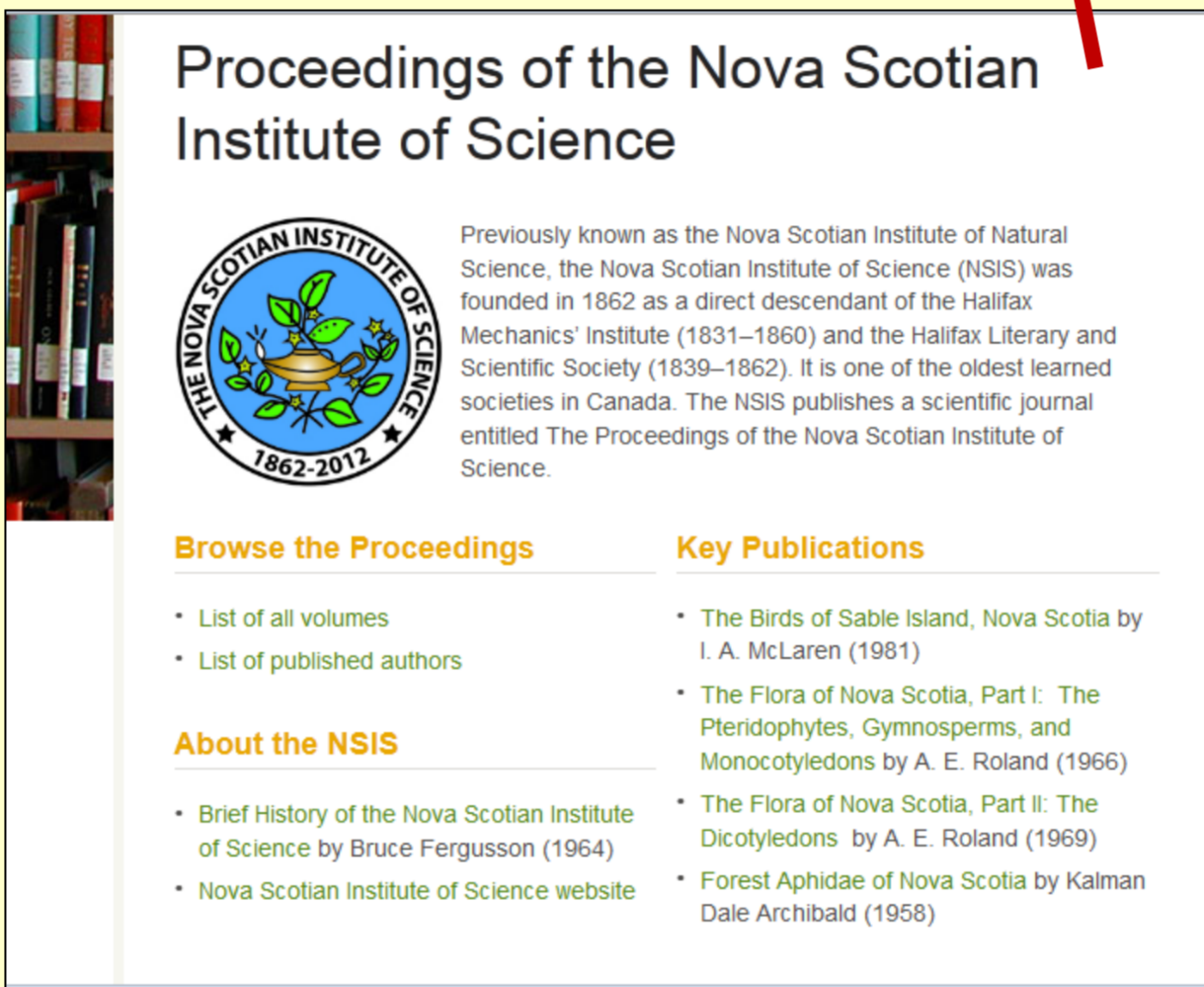
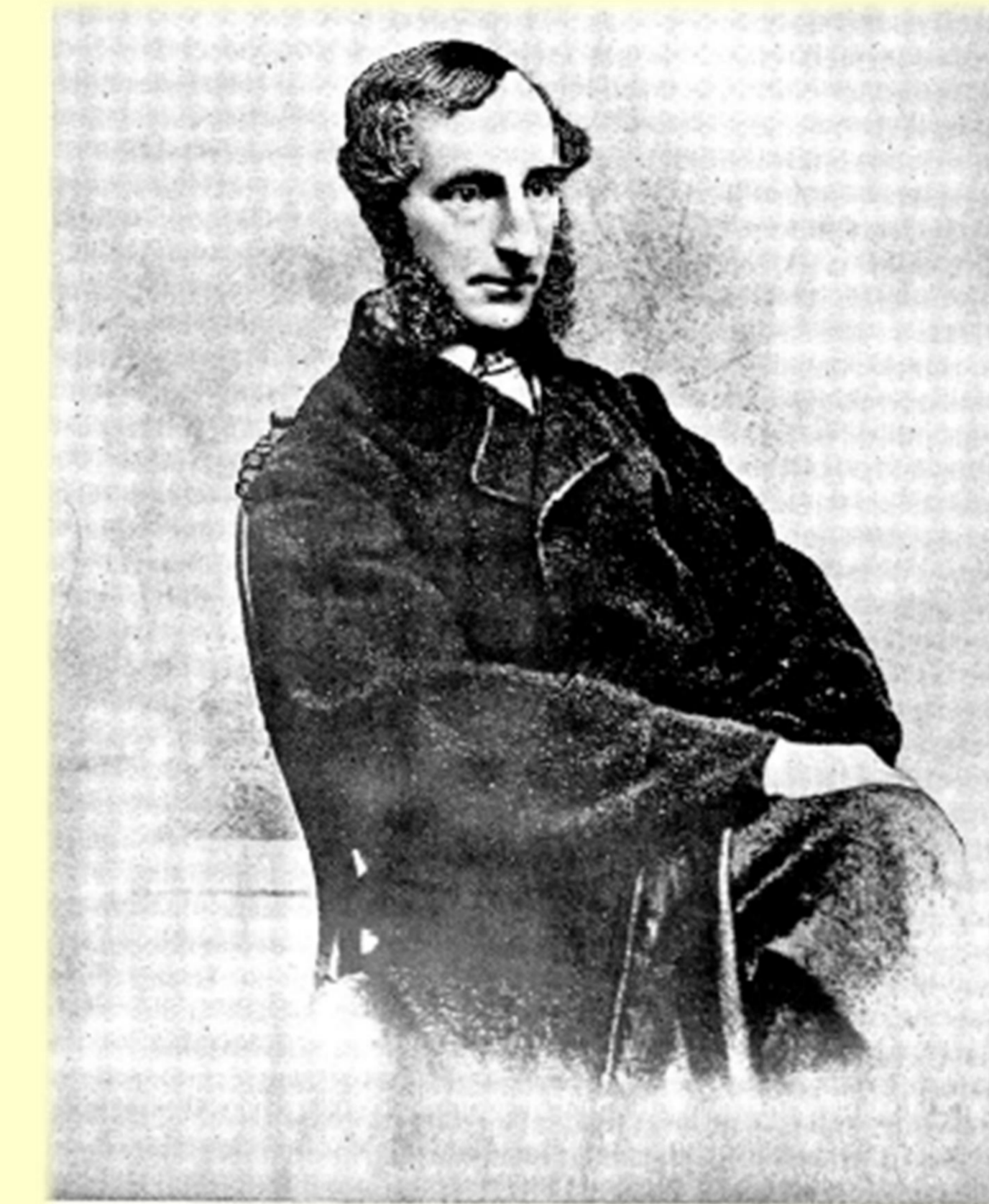


OUR SCIENCE, OUR HISTORY: HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE NOVA SCOTIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Michelle Paon, Dalhousie University Libraries, Halifax, N.S.

Did you know that Nova Scotia mackerel were once described as “pouty and greedy”? Or that certain boulders in Nova Scotia survived a storm-tossed history? In January 2012, the Dalhousie Libraries officially launched the **online Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science**, one of the country’s oldest scientific journals. The project makes available free of charge on the internet, the first 120 years of the publication. During that period, from 1863 to 1894, some 900 articles were published in the journal, representing the work of over 400 authors. The online Proceedings capture the excitement and dedication of natural historians and provide insights into biological and geological discoveries of early scientists in Nova Scotia. The articles can provide primary source material for students and researchers and will appeal to those who enjoy Nova Scotia history.

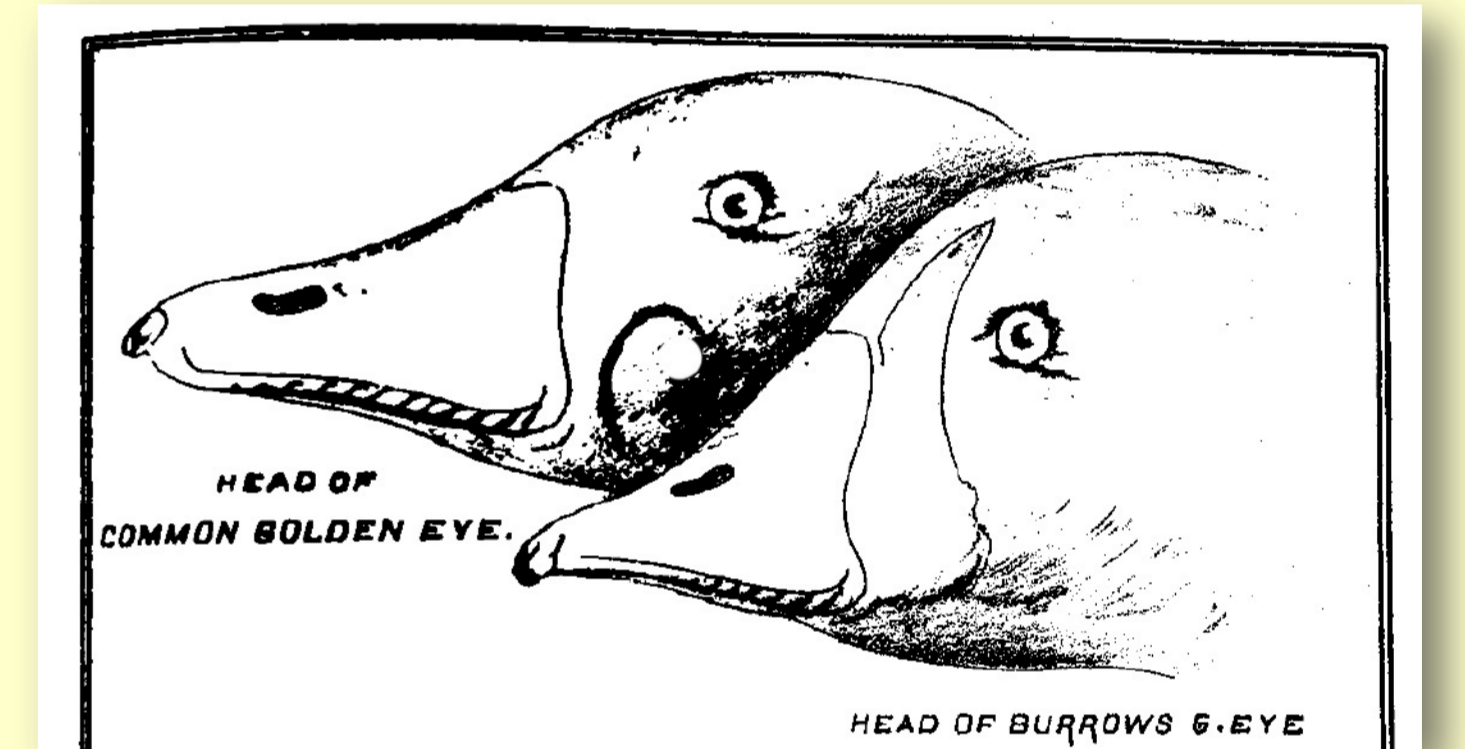
“Collections”

**J. Bernard Gilpin
1810 - 1892**

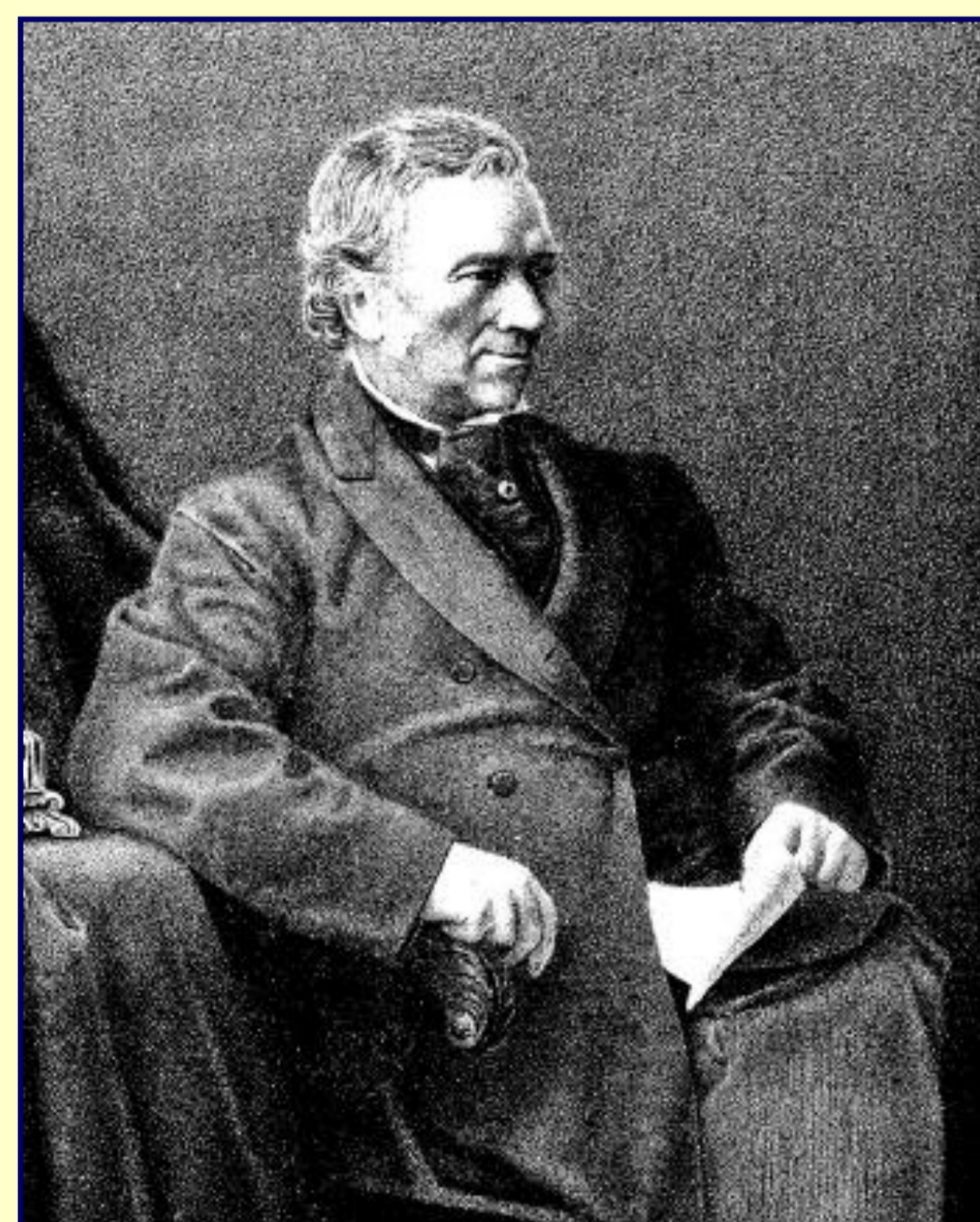
Zoology

“We are not disappointed then if we find our fish low in the order of intelligence, if we find in his pouty and greedy mouth a certain resemblance to the batrachians or frogs.”
– On the food fishes of Nova Scotia: The mackerel, 1865



Rev. David Honeyman 1817-1889

Geology



“On the road to Lochaber I found what appears to be a continuation of the same limestone, containing a deposit of beautiful brown ochre...”
- Geology of Antigonish County, 1867



Meteorology

**General Meteorological Register
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.**
Latitude 44° 39' 20" North. Longitude 63° 36' 40" West. Height
OBSERVED BY F. ALLISON.

	1874.	Jan'y.	Feb'y.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Mean Temperature	27.15	19.85	20.78	28.39	49.19	53.65	62.45	61.1	61.1
Difference from Normal (twelve years)	+3.82	-3.24	+2.10	-4.31	+1.50	+5.14	-.91	-1.1	-1.1
Maximum Temperature	31.0	45.2	55.7	63.8	81.6	79.2	86.0	85	85
Minimum Temperature	-15.8	-11.5	-9.9	7.2	39.0	50.5	43.8	43	43
Monthly and Annual Ranges	66.8	57.5	62.7	46.6	51.9	42.7	42.7	42	42
Mean Maximum Temperature	36.48	29.76	41.16	42.50	62.11	64.26	75.56	78.1	78.1
Mean Minimum Temperature	18.58	9.62	22.27	25.58	38.69	45.57	58.61	62.1	62.1
Highest Daily Mean Temperature	45.80	40.95	43.97	41.11	61.54	63.88	69.25	67.	67.
Lowest Daily Mean Temperature	-7.30	-4.70	14.01	19.55	44.44	45.79	49.91	54.	54.
Mean Daily Range of Temperature	17.55	20.21	18.88	19.97	23.38	18.69	22.05	21.	21.
Greatest Daily Range of Temperature	49.7	40.0	38.9	27.8	38.1	34.9	33.8	30	30

Closing the year with the record of occasional and miscellaneous phenomena, I noted in 1874—

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 28 Auroras, | 8 Lightnings, |
| 18 Gales, | 1 Hail, |
| 48 Fogs, | 3 Rainbows, |
| 47 Dews, | 8 Lunar Halos, |
| 63 Hoar Frosts, | 11 Lunar Coronæ, |
| 7 Thunders, | 8 Solar Halos. |
- On 64 days we had fair sleighing.

- Frederick Allison, Chief Meteorological Agent

On what day were mayflowers first seen in NS in 1912?

Phenology

THE PHENOLOGY OF NOVA SCOTIA, 1912.
(Compiled from over 200 local observation schedules)

OBSERVATION REGIONS.		YEAR 1912.	
WHEN FIRST SEEN.		Day of the year corresponding to the last day of each month.	
		Jan. 31	July 212
		Feb. 59	Aug. 243
		March 90	Sept. 273
		April 120	Oct. 304
		May 151	Nov. 334
		June 181	Dec. 365
		For leap year add one to each except January.	
Average Dates.		Average Dates.	
1. Yarmouth and Digby	106	104	107
2. Shelburne, Queens and Lunenburg	125	111	120
3. Annapolis and Kings	126	110	120
4. Hants and South	127	111	121
5. Halifax and Colchester	128	112	122
6. S. C. Chebuctoide and Glace Bay	129	113	123
7. N. C. Chebuctoide and Antigonish	130	114	124
8. Miramichi and Cape Breton	131	115	125
9. St. John's, St. John's Bay and Miramichi	132	116	126
10. Inverness, St. John's and Miramichi	133	117	127
Average Dates	134	118	128
1. Alnus incana, Wild.	116.4		
2. Populus tremuloides	128.2		
3. Epigaea repens, L.	118		
4. Equisetum arvense	134.1		
5. Sanguinaria Canad.	134.1		
6. Viola palmata, cus.	134.1		
7. Viola palmata, cus.	134.1		
8. Hepatica trilob.	134.1		
9. Acer rubrum, ...	134.1		
10. Fragaria Virginiana	134.1		
11. " " " "	134.1		
12. Taraxacum officina	134.1		
13. Erythronium Amer.	134.1		
14. Cypripedium	134.1		
15. Claytonia Carolin.	134.1		
16. Nepeta Glehoma.	134.1		
17. Amelanchier Cana.	134.1		



Photo: Thousand Eyes Project (in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Museum); Fieldguide: Mayflower
Accessed 19 May 2012 from: http://www.thousandeyes.ca/english_en/fieldguide.php?itemid=23