

## Senior Division, Non-Fiction

Joan Sullivan, St John's

Looking for your crowd (an excerpt):

inscriptions from Naples, Italy, to Lower Island Cove, NL

Composed verbatim of interviews conducted/notes taken in NL and Italy,

June – September 2012 with:

**Phil Lewis** (uncle)

**David Sullivan** (brother)

**Billy Sullivan** (brother)

**John Lewis** (uncle)

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**Captain John Lewis** (June 14, 1867 – January 21, 1922) was a Newfoundland fisherman, mariner, and politician. He was born in Holyrood, the son of Philip Lewis and Mary O'Keefe, and was educated there. Lewis married Elizabeth Veitch. He represented Harbour Main from 1904 to 1908, was defeated when he ran for re-election in 1908, 1909, and 1913, and from 1921 (elected in a by-election) to 1922 served in the Newfoundland House of Assembly as a Liberal. He died of typhoid fever in Naples in 1922 while travelling as a representative of A.E. Hickman & Co.

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**Billy.** I liked everything about going to Naples.

**David.** We got the express train<sup>1</sup> through Rome and down to Naples. When we got to Naples' Garibaldi Station it was chaotic, but it was supposed to be. Uncle Phil said it would be crazy.<sup>2</sup>

**Billy.** I certainly remember hailing a cab outside the train station.

**David.** And we got up there pretty quick, and you could see Mount Vesuvius on the other side of the harbour, and there was this wrought iron gate, and it looked very much like the one I had seen [online]. The cab driver got out and talked to the guy at the gate, but they talked for a while and it was obvious we had come to the wrong place, something was wrong.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.italiarail.com/pages/routes/florence-to-naples>

<sup>2</sup> "Now, in Italy, when you're driving, particularly in Naples, there's only one rule of the road that you have to worry about. You are responsible for the car on your right. To Hell with the car on your left, he's responsible for you. So they have three directions in Italian: a *destra*, which is to the right; a *sinistra*, which it to the left; and *dritto*, which is straight ahead."