

# Trent Valley Archives, 567 Carnegie Avenue, Peterborough ON K9L 1N1

Fonds Number 137

Title: Dobbin Index: Historical Index of the Town and City of Peterborough 1914

Creator: Francis Hincks Dobbin (1850-1932) journalist and historian

Dates of Material: 1914.

Physical Description: Xerox, typescript, 10 cm

## Scope and Contents:

This is the most complete set of the *Historical Index*, and complements other historical holdings of the Trent Valley Archives. The Historical Index divides into three parts: historical, chronological and biographical. The Historical section has been classed as part I and has subdivisions on the Robinson Immigration, Municipal Government, and the Trent Valley Canal. In some sections there are historical sections preceding the chronologies. The biographical index and the guide to Institutions and Societies have been placed as sections XII and VIII respectively. The remaining sections are essentially chronologies, usually indexed, that sometimes preceded by topical historical sections. These sections, II to XI (except for VIII) are: Churches; Events; Municipal; Educational; Fires; Industrial; Military; Political and Railway. As much as possible we have tried to retain the order that Dobbin intended.

## Access Conditions:

Open to researchers.

## Finding Aids:

Available on site.

## Accruals:

None expected.

## Custodial History:

Xeroxed from the files at the Peterborough Public Library, September 2005.

Parts of the *Historical Index* are also available at the Trent University Archives, and the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives; the latter has the drafts of many of the articles in their F. H. Dobbin papers. Dobbin's 1922 history of the Peterborough Medical Association is the Dr John Martyn fonds, Trent Valley Archives, Fonds 110.

## Biographical Sketch/ Administrative History

Francis H. Dobbin was Peterborough's premier historian of his generation. After an active career in journalism, mostly with the *Peterborough Review*, of which he was sometime owner, and with the *Peterborough Examiner* after 1920. He compiled the *Historical Index of the Town and City of Peterborough 1914* with a view to publication. However, the volumes never appeared as he planned, possibly because of World War I, and because the project was unusually large for a local market. Some of the articles appeared in historical columns in the local papers, and some of those were published posthumously in F. H. Dobbin, *Our Old Home Town* (Toronto, Dent, 1943). The Historical Index was his master work and in the 1920s he used it as he wrote significant histories of the Militia, of the Medical Profession, of the Peterborough Fire Brigade, and of Little Lake Cemetery. He wrote major articles in national magazines, as well.

Dobbin was born in Watertown, New York, 24 February 1850 and with his family moved to Peterborough three years later. He began his apprenticeship as a journalist in December 1864 with the *Peterborough Review*, and inadvertently became a Conservative. Except for a stint as Manager of the *Lindsay Post*, 1881-1887, Dobbin remained with the *Peterborough Review* until 1914, when he retired. However, in retirement he became even more active. He was a member of the Peterborough City Council, 1914-18; secretary of the Citizens' Patriotic Fund, 1914-19; and in the early 1920s was in charge of soldier resettlement in Peterborough and on the local Mothers' Allowance Board. He was president of the

Canadian Press Association, dailies section; president of the Peterborough Industrial Exhibition; president of the Peterborough Board of Trade; president of the Peterborough Historical Society; secretary of a local Masonic lodge. He was also a member of the Children's Aid Society, the Rotary Club, the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment and George Street Methodist Church, where he served as librarian and choir member.

Access Points:

Dobbin, Francis Hincks  
 Peterborough History  
 Education  
 Municipal politics  
 Churches  
 Educational  
 Industrial  
 Railways  
 Military  
 Biographical  
 Institutions and Societies  
 Fires  
 Peter Robinson Settlers  
 Trent Valley Canal

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 Trainings and Elections  
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 First Building Fund of St John's Church  
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DeLaval Dairy Supply co  
Peter Hamilton Co Ltd  
J. J. Turner & Sons  
Peterborough Canoe Co Ltd  
Peterborough Lock Co  
Canadian Canoe Co  
Henry Hope & Sons  
Vermont Marble Co  
G. Walter Green Co Ltd  
English Canoe Co  
William Hamilton Manufacturing Co Ltd  
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Isolation Hospital  
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- XI      Railway  
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- XII     Biographical  
        Arnett, William  
        Armstrong, S. R.  
        Allen, S. F.  
        Armour, John D. Judge  
        Allen, Alexander  
        Armitage, Rev W. L.  
        Ackerman, B. F.  
        Anderson, J. C.

Beck, Rev J. W. R.  
Butcher, Rev W. J.  
Brown, Capt Edward  
Bradburn, T. Evans  
Braden, John  
Bradburn, William H.  
Burnham, Dr George Sr  
Boucher, Robert M. Judge  
Bradfield, Charles  
Burnham, Elias  
Brown, Templeton  
Burnham, Dr George  
Barlee, George  
Bell, Dr William  
Boswell, Walter W  
Bradburn, Thomas  
Beavis, Thomas  
Burnham, Rev Mark  
Benson, Thomas  
Bertram, John  
Benson, John R.  
Bell, Frank  
Buller, Joseph  
Brownlee, George  
Brennan, Dr F. H.  
Burnham, John  
Bell, Lt Col Dr R. W.  
Best, Henry  
Boucher, Dr Robert  
Burnham, John Hampden  
Buller, William  
Crawford, Isabel V  
Connin, Dr John  
Clementi, Rev Vincent  
Crawford, Col  
Cummings, William  
Cox, George A.  
Calcutt, Henry  
Chamberlin, Edmund  
Campbell, James  
Cobb, John R.  
Carver, Samuel J.  
Cluxton, William  
Clarke, Dr John  
Carnegie, John  
Cahill, Thomas  
Chambers, Thomas  
Campbell, A. H.  
Cooper, W. H.  
Conger, Wilson Seymour  
Crane, John  
Carlisle, David  
Crawford, George

Croft, William  
Curtis, Samuel  
Charles, D. Hughes  
Clegg, Lt Col E. B.  
Dixon, James B  
Dunlop, Andrew C.  
Dennistoun, Robert Judge  
Dixon, John  
Dennistoun, James F.  
Dickson, Samuel  
Denne, Henry  
Dumble, David W.  
Davidson, Rev J. C.  
Doherty, John  
Dolan, Thomas  
Dunsford, Rev James H.  
Davidson, Robert S.  
Dunsford, Hartley  
Dennistoun, R. Max  
Dunsford, George  
Davis, Alfred L.  
Dunsford, Martin  
Dawson, Adam  
Duffus, Joseph  
Denne, T. H. G.  
Duncan, George  
Denham, W. H.  
Eastland, William  
English, William  
Edmison, John  
Eastwood, Vincent  
Errett, Richard W.  
Edwards, E. Burritt  
English, John  
Edwards, Frederick  
English, James  
Edwards, James  
Fraser, Capt Andrew S.  
Ferguson, Frederick  
Flint, Hon Billa  
Fortye, Thomas  
Fairweather, William  
Fairbairn, Thomas H.  
Fitzgerald, Tobias  
Fitzgerald, J. W.  
Fife, Dr J. A.  
Fitzgerald, George W.  
Fleming, Sir Sandford  
Fair, Robert  
Forbes, Capt R. N.  
Flavelle, Joseph W.  
Fessenden, Cortez  
Ferguson, William G.

Gilchrist, Dr John  
Grover, P. M.  
Graham, Joseph  
Greer, Dr T. Newton  
Garvin, J. W.  
Gillespie, George  
Glover, Lewis  
Gallon, James  
Gray, Dr  
Green, G. Walter  
Henthorn, James T  
Hall, William  
Hopkins, Daniel  
Hutchison, Dr John  
Hall, George B Judge  
Hatton, David G.  
Hartley, John A.  
Hall, James Sheriff  
Haultain, Lt Col F. W.  
Hilliard, George  
Hill, Edmund C.  
Harper, Robert  
Hall, E. H. D.  
Hazlitt, Thomas George  
Hayes, Louis M.  
Hall, John J.  
Haultain, Major Gen F. M.  
Helm, William  
Hill, W. H.  
Hutchinson, Thomas  
Huycke, Edward C. S.  
Harvey, James  
Hamilton, William  
Harper, Thomas  
Hartley, John J.  
Henderson, William  
Hay, Dr Thomas  
Hamilton, Peter  
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Hudson, Charles  
Hall, Robert R.  
Hicks, Robert  
Hay, Thomas A.  
Hall, Adam  
Hall, Richard  
Johnston, George  
Johnston, William  
Johnston, William J.  
Kenner, H. R. H.  
Kempt, A. W.  
King, John  
Kennedy, Lt Col W. N.  
Kincaid, Dr Robert

Kingan, Robert  
Kerr, F. D.  
Kendry, James  
Kennedy, Capt Joseph  
Kelly, Thomas  
Kennedy, Capt James C.  
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Kennedy, Capt John  
Leonard, Thomas  
Ludgate, John  
Lundy, William  
Lundy, John J.  
Langton, John  
Lech, William  
Logan, William  
LeBrun, Harry  
Langford, William  
Leary, Robert H.  
Langford, William Jr  
Menzies, Thomas  
Macdonald, Charles D.  
Mason, W. J.  
Mills, William  
Morrow, W. G.  
Mowry, Mercello  
Morrison, M. A.  
Matthews, T. P.  
Moloney, John  
Moore, William H.  
Mason, E. F.  
Macdonald, Daniel  
Miller, Lt Col J. W.  
Morrow, Oughtry  
Morgan, Henry W.  
McWilliams, James  
McCarroll, James  
McNeil, Alex  
McWilliams, J. B.  
McDonald, Duncan  
McKee, Robert  
McDonnell, Col Alex  
McNabb, Dr  
McPherson, Dr A. W.  
McHarry, R. C.  
McWilliams, Roland E.  
McDonald, Alfred  
McClellan, J. Harris  
McIntyre, Malcolm  
Nicholls, Robert  
Nicholls, W. C.  
Nicholls, Mrs Charlotte  
Neill, Robert  
O'Sullivan, Dr John

O'Donnell, John  
O'Bierne, Ivan  
Ormand, Dr Charles  
O'Brien, DD., Bishop M. J.  
O'Connell, Daniel P.J.  
Peck, Edward A.  
Patterson, Walter Sr  
Pope, Robert  
Pousseette, A. P.  
Patterson, Walter Jr  
Perry, Charles  
Pearse, Edgcumbe  
Poole, Lt. Col Edwin  
Pringle, William  
Poole, Thomas W.  
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Peck, Arthur H.  
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Rubidge, Capt Charles  
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Roger, Rev J. H.  
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Rogers, Richard B.  
Rutherford, Arthur  
Reid, James  
Rogers, Lt Col H. C.  
Ryan, Patrick  
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Roper, J. H.  
Rowe, Robert  
Rogers, Lt Col J. Z.  
Rountree, Thomas  
Roger, George M.  
Roszel, George I.  
Rush, Henry  
Roy, R. M.  
Roche, John Commander  
Scott, Adam  
Sawers, Augustus  
Stevenson, James  
Shaw, Nathaniel  
Smith, Alexander  
Swayne, Robert  
Scott, William H.  
Smith, Sidney Hon  
Stephenson, John  
Shaw, George E.  
Stenson, James  
Sperry, Anson  
Snyder, William  
Stratton, William A.

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Stratton, James  
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Stratton, James R. Hon  
Sheridan, Walter  
Saunders, Joseph  
Taylor, Robert J. C. Rev  
Telford, Thomas  
Tassie, Dr  
Turner, J. J. Sr  
Traill, Catharine Parr  
Turner, John J. Jr  
Toole, William  
Toker, Edward John  
Vizard, W. H. J.  
White, Thomas, Sr  
White, Thomas Hon Jr  
Walton, John  
White, Samuel  
Wallis, James  
Walsh, William  
Walker, Duncan  
Wrighton, W. H. Jr  
Weller, Charles A. Judge  
Webber, Giles  
Wrighton, W. H. Sr  
Waddell, Hugh  
Winch, Richard J.  
Winch, Henry C.  
Yelland, A. E. Dr  
Yelland, William

F. H. Dobbin, *Our Old Home Town* (Toronto, Dent, 1943)

For easy reference, we list the subjects treated in chapters of this book.

- 1 How easy it is to change from a Grit to a Tory
- 2 Peterborough: One Hundred Years Ago
- 3 Robinson Immigration of 1825
- 4 An Ancient Adventure in Municipal Housekeeping
- 5 Early Elections
- 6 Sturdy Irish Pioneers Brave the Mighty Deep
- 7 When the one time Sheriff of Peterborough County covered the platform with carpet
- 8 Crossing the Otonabee River
- 9 How land was acquired at \$4.50 an acre
- 10 Whiskey at a shilling a gallon and guaranteed free from headache
- 11 A first circus day
- 12 How the early citizens found means of meeting public wants
- 13 Peterborough's venture in oil
- 14 Some Old Home Town characters
- 15 The light of other days
- 16 A purely pioneer function
- 17 Concerning a matter of uncommon honesty\
- 18 The worst snow storm of our history
- 19 Looking over an old newspaper
- 20 The Weavers' Settlement
- 21 When credit was given for a full year
- 22 Indians and their feasts
- 23 The passing of the old Dickson mill
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- 25 How early settlers managed the water levels
- 26 Experiences of an early pioneer [Mrs Jane King]
- 27 Free fights at public events
- 28 A gas meter, economy and a church training

Francis Hincks Dobbin

Historical Index  
of the Town and City of Peterborough

Peterborough 1914

