

TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES, FONDS NUMBER 172

JOHNSTON FAMILY FONDS

Creator: A. J. Johnston

Dates of Material: 1873 to 1886 principally.

Physical Description:

Papers, 1860-1887, 45 files, 10 cm

Scope and Contents:

The heart of the collection is in the letters, 1875-1876, written by William Johnston to his son who was pursuing a career as a pharmacist. The papers have been supplemented with strong family and genealogical research and contain documents related to Alfred J. Johnston. Most of the original letters have been xeroxed for research purposes, and the letters are also available digitally.

Access Conditions:

Open to researchers.

Finding Aids:

Available on site.

Accruals:

None expected.

Custodial History:

The Johnston family papers were donated to the Trent Valley Archives by Carol Koeslag, Peterborough ON, 2007

Biographical Sketch/ Administrative History

William Johnston (1819-1876) was a Peterborough tailor who lived from 1846 until his death on Water Street near Hunter. He was very active in the community and served with the Conservative party, with the 57th Regiments, the Mechanics Institute, St Andrew's Church, the Loyal Orange Lodge. A very capable writer, Johnston served in many capacities, often secretarial, in these organizations. He was, for example, secretary to the Peterborough Central Fair and the Peterborough School Board. His brother, George Johnston (1822-1885) was also a tailor, serving in later years as the Chief of Police. His son, A. J. Johnston (1851-1931), who shared many of his father's interests, was in Manitoba from 1875 to 1885. When he returned to Peterborough he was the druggist at the Nugent Drug Company on George Street.

Three letters from this collection were published in the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*, vol 12, no 2 (August 2007) 18-20. The Trent Valley Archives would like to see the letters published and are now designing a project tentatively called "Peterborough in the 1870s." The letters would be annotated and the book would have a introduction on Peterborough in the 1870s. The book would be illustrated and supported by excerpts from the newspapers in these years.

Access Points:

Peterborough Mechanics Institute
James and Jane Mitchell
Samuel J. Jackson
Stonewall, Manitoba

File listing:

1	Johnston family		
2	Flemings Philadelphia		
3	Johnston family genealogical notes		
4	Johnston family in town activities		
5	Peterborough Review 7 February 1873	1873	
6	Peterborough 24 July 1875	1875	
7	Peterborough 25 September 1875	1875	
8	11 October 1875	2875	
9	22 October 1875	1875	
10	8 November 1875	1875	
11	undated fragment		
12	16 March 1876	1876	
13	20 March 1876	1876	
14	30 March 1876	1876	
15	14 April 1876 Good Friday	1876	
16	21 June 1876	1876	
17	7 July 1876	1876	
18	24 July 1876	1876	
19	9 August 1876	1876	
20	21 August 1876	1876	
21	28 August 1876	1876	
22	19 September 1876	1876	
23	9 December 1876	1876	
24	Mrs Ann Evans	1860	
25	Jane Mitchell	1894	includes cdv
26	James Mitchell	1864	holograph will
27	William Johnston obituary	1876	newspaper clipping, 2 letters, funeral announcement, funeral envelope; photo of gravesite
28	Mechanics Institute resolution	1877	
29	Louisa Johnston	nd	includes cdv
30	James Johnston	1891	news clipping
31	George Johnston	1885	xerox; Mulvany sketch
32	George Henry Johnston	1911	2 studio photos; news clipping, 1911
33	Alfred J. Johnston	1927	3 cdvs, news clipping 1927
34	Harry Theobald on history of pharmacy	1954	news clipping
35	Peterborough		photos include Johnston house 1860; Union School 1870
36	Alfred J. Johnston and family		includes 6 cabinet; 5 cdvs; 1 tintype; photos include Sproule, and James Little
37	Samuel J. Jackson and Alfred J. Johnston	1880	Articles of agreement for pharmacy business
38	Sons of Temperance	1885	Certificate of recommendation
39	R. J. Forde letter of reference	1885	Stonewall, Manitoba
40	Walter Pulford's toast to the ladies	1885	Stonewall, Manitoba oyster supper
41	Marriage William Francis Green	1887	A. J. Johnston and Grace Stephens; file includes cdv of William F Green, attendant, and photo of his parents
42	Presbyterian Church of Canada		Guest, General Assembly
43	Johnston family album		12 cdvs; 1 cabinet; 1 tintype
44	William Wallace to A. J. Johnston	1887	San Diego letter writer
45	Louisa and William Wallace		2 cabinet photos