

**Acc.13107**  
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## **Inventory**

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**John and Margaret Anderson, emigrants to Ontario, Canada**

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Correspondence, 1857-1867, of John and Margaret Anderson, Scottish emigrants in Hamilton and Stratford, Ontario, Canada, to Jean Lindsay at Coupsteps, Powmill, largely concerning their life in Canada. The collection also includes transcriptions of the letters, family history notes, a letter written by a young emigrant Scot, 1881, and miscellaneous papers relating to the Lindsay and Cameron families.

John and Margaret Anderson emigrated to Ontario, Canada, around 1856. John was employed by the Great Western Railway, Freight Department, in Hamilton, and from the content of some letters he appears to have been engaged in farming activities. The correspondence describes their work and life in Hamilton and Stratford, Ontario, weather conditions, price of goods and agricultural produce, transport infrastructure, living conditions, news from other emigrant Scots who lived nearby. Some letters describe John and Margaret's disappointment at not receiving any condolences from family and friends following the death of their young daughter Margaret in February 1858. Their description of Niagara Falls and other travel experiences in Canada and the USA are equally interesting.

\* Copies of items 13 and 14 can be supplied for a non-commercial purpose or private study. Please contact Manuscripts if you require to use copies in a commercial publication.

*Presented 2009*

1. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 16 March 1857, addressed to their niece (Jean Lindsay) giving news of Christmas celebrations in Canada, meeting other Scottish family members and friends living now in Canada, farming activities, John's work in the freight train business, his visit to Niagara Falls and other places in Canada and the USA, their satisfaction with their new life, plans to travel across Canada and the USA with his family and the prices of food and alcohol.
2. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 7 June 1858, addressed to their friends giving news about the cold Winter, other emigrant Scots, John's lack of pay as a result of economic difficulties in Canada, their disappointment at not receiving a reply to their letter communicating the death of their daughter Margaret, prices of foodstuffs and provisions, their eagerness to receive news from family and friends in Scotland.
3. Letter of Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 7 June 1858, addressed to her friends and relatives in Scotland and expressing her disappointment at not receiving a reply from any of her family and friends following the death of her daughter Margaret in February 1858.

4. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 1 September 1858, addressed to their niece (Jean Lindsay) acknowledging receipt of her letter, informing them that they are sending their 'likeness' via a Mr Leggit bound for Glasgow, asking them to send their own 'likeness' via Mr Leggit when he returns to Hamilton in three months, describing their intention to erect a gravestone with an inscription in memory of their deceased daughter, giving news about prices of goods and asking for news from family and friends in Scotland.
5. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 17 January 1859, expressing their sadness at the death of Margaret's mother.
6. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton, 3 April 1859, expressing their sadness at the death of another relative.
7. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Hamilton 5 September 1859, to a relative in Scotland. John describes farming activities and their journey to Howick and Guelph, firstly by train and then by wagon. He also requests that various garments, including baby clothing and a highland dress are sent to Canada via an emigrant Scot visiting his family in Kinross.
8. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Great Western Railway, Freight Department, 31 October 1859, to Jane Lindsay Cameron, concerning the purchase and dispatch of clothing and other articles they had requested.
9. Letter of John and Margaret Anderson, Stratford, 27 March 1867, to Donald Cameron at Dalkeith Farm, giving news about other emigrant Scots in the area, their move to Stratford, inadequate transport infrastructure in the area, their intention to visit Scotland in Spring, price of agricultural produce, weather conditions, their happiness at receiving newspapers from Scotland and the good abilities of the local Minister.
10. Fragments of letters, c. 1850s-1860s.
11. Letter of William B. Ramsay, Deer Part, Toronto, 21 September 1881, to William Lindsay Cameron. William Ramsay and William Lindsay Cameron were probably 12 years old when this letter was written. Ramsay had just returned to Canada after visiting family and friends in Scotland. He describes a burial in the Ocean during the journey, reports on the sudden death of James A. Garfield, president of the United States of America, and expresses his desire to return to Scotland and enjoy popular games and pastimes with his friend.
12. 'A review of an anonymous poem on the translation of the Revd. Andrew Noble written from memory', Lambhill, 18 October 1847.

- 13.** Family history notes and transcriptions of John and Margaret Anderson's letters to their family and friends in Scotland, 2009.
- 14.** Family history notes relating to the Cameron family's links with Canada with transcriptions of some letters (1903-1910), March 2009.