THE CARTWRIGHT FAMILY FONDS

Queen's University Archives

Kingston, Ontario

INTRODUCTION

The Cartwright Family Papers in Queen's University Archives consist of the personal, business and political papers of the Hon. Richard Cartwright. John Solomon Cartwright, and Sir Richard Cartwright. A few letters of Rev. Robert David Cartwright and Mrs. Harriet Cartwright are in the miscellaneous collection.

SERIES OUTLINE

1. Hon. Richard Cartwright [Boxes 1-8]

2. John Solomon Cartwright [Box 9-11]

3. Sir Richard Cartwright [Boxes 12-19]

HONOURABLE RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Hon. Richard Cartwright (1759-1815) was born at Albany, New York. His early years were spent in study, until the outbreak of the American Revolution. Cartwright had no doubt as to where his loyalties lay and he left the rebellious colonies for Canada in the fall of 1777. He was appointed secretary to Colonel Butler of the Queen's Rangers and served in that capacity for two years. In 1780 partnership with the Hon. Robert Hamilton. Cartwright and Hamilton became two of the foremost merchants of Upper Canada. The partnership was legally dissolved in 1784. Robert Hamilton stayed at Niagara and Richard Cartwright remained at Kingston. They continued to cooperate closely in business affairs and became firmly established in a wholesale mercantile and shipping trade. In 1788, Richard Cartwright was appointed judge of the court of Common Pleas for the district of Mecklenburgh; and in 1792 he became a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. During the War of 1812, he was commandant of the Midland District.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

The papers of the Hon. Richard Cartwright comprise 2 linear feet of miscellaneous documents, letterbooks, memoranda, day-books and select transcripts of letterbooks. The seven letterbooks cover the period from 1 December, 1785 to May, 1815. The original letterbook for the period of 1793-96 is in the Ontario Provincial Archives. A microfilm copy of that letterbook is available at Queen's Archives. The book of memoranda covers the period from April 1808 - June 1815. The day-books cover the period from March 1798 - August 1811.

HONOURABLE RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

Miscellaneous Documents

Box Folder Title

1 1 Correspondence

2 Commissions, marriage registers, etc.

3 Land grants

4 Posthumous papers 1819

5 Testimonial for J. Strachan, poems dedicated to Mrs. Cartwright

6 M.S. photocopy of "A Journey to Canada"

7 Map circa 1792

8 Will June 6, 1813 - Photocopy. Original in

Registry office, Kingston

Letterbooks

2 1 1 December, 1785 - 4 August, 1786

2 22 December, 1787 - 1 March 1809

3 3 May, 1797 - 2 March 1799

4 23 April, 1799 - 4 October, 1802

3 5 3 October, 1803 - 17 June, 1805

6 18 March, 1809 - 26 February, 1812

7 16 August, 1810 - May, 1815

Memoranda and Day-Books

4 8 Memoranda April, 1808 - June, 1815

9 State of Property and Business 1800-1843

10 Day-Book March, 1798 - July, 1803

Day-book

5 11 Day-Book November, 1809 - August, 1811

Honourable Richard Cartwright

Select Transcripts of Letterbooks

6 1 22 December, 1787 - 23 August 1799

2 10 August, 1798 - March, 1807

3 14 March, 1807 - 15 March, 1808

18 January, 1786 - 24 July, 1786

3 May, 1797 - 2 March, 1799

4 18 May, 1809 - 26 February, 1812

5 Business Correspondence, 1799 - 1802

6 Manuscript Copy of "A Journal of an Expedition

into the Indian Country, 1779'.

7 1 Ledger of Accounts 1791 - 1798 with area families,

including Rev. John Stuart, the Fairfields and others.[Moved to F3 D7]

8 2 "Packing Book 1810" Accounts of the sloop

"Elizabeth", 1807 - 1808, other accounts with

Mr. Richardson, Mr. Fairfield, and for the House

at the Mills, to 1812.

JOHN SOLOMON CARTWRIGHT

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Solomon Cartwright (1804-1845) was born in Kingston, Upper Canada. He was the son of the Hon. Richard Cartwright and the twin brother of Rev. Robert Cartwright. John Cartwright studied law in York (Toronto) and later at Lincoln's Inn, London. He became the president of the Commercial Bank of Kingston in 1831. In 1836 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada and in 1841 to the Legislative Assembly of United Canada for Lennox and Addington. He was opposed to the Union of 1840 and to responsible government. In 1842 he was offered the position of Solicitor General for Governor General Sir Charles Bagot. Cartwright declined the offer on the grounds that he refused to hold office subject to the verdict of a popular majority. He strongly believed that responsible government was inconsistent with Canada's status as a British colony.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

The papers of John Solomon Cartwright comprise 15 inches of correspondence, business papers, legal papers and posthumous

papers. The correspondence has been divided into two series. The public correspondence covers the period from c.1832-44 and the business correspondence covers the period from c.1822-44. The legal and posthumous papers each occupy one file.

JOHN SOLOMON CARTWRIGHT

Box Folder Title

9 1 Correspondence, Public n.d.

2 Correspondence, Public 1832-38

3 Correspondence, Public 1839-40

4 Correspondence, Public 1841-44

10 5 Correspondence, Business n.d.

6 Correspondence, Business 1822-31

7 Correspondence, Business 1832

8 Correspondence, Business 1833-34

9 Correspondence, Business 1835-36

10 Correspondence, Business 1837-38

11 Correspondence, Business 1839

12 Correspondence, Business 1840

11 13 Correspondence, Business Jan.-June 1841

Correspondence, Business July-Dec. 1841

Correspondence, Business 1842

Correspondence, Business 1843-44

Business Papers n.d.

Business Papers 1822-38

Business Papers 1839-45

Kingston Provident and Savings Bank

Legal Papers

Posthumous Papers 1846-64

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Sir Richard Cartwright (1835-1912) was born in Kingston, Upper Canada, the son of Rev. Robert David Cartwright and the grandson of the Hon. Richard Cartwright. He received his education at Trinity College, Dublin. Upon returning to Canada he became president of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District. In 1863 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly as a Conservative and in 1867 he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons. He "crossed the floor" to join the ranks of the Liberal Party. he was minister of finance in the Alexander Mackenzie administration from 1873 to 1878. In 1896 he became minister of trade and commerce in the Laurier administration. He was the chief spokesman for the Liberal party in regard to fiscal and trade matters. In 1904 he was appointed to the Senate and held that post until his death.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

The papers of Sir Richard Cartwright comprise 2 feet 6 inches of correspondence, business papers, speeches, scrapbooks and two manuscripts of his book Reminiscences. The correspondence has been divided into three series; business, political and family correspondence. The correspondence covers the period from 1852-73. A recent addition of copies of business correspondence from the Lennox and Addington Historical Society covers the period from 1893 to 1901. The business papers cover the period from 1856 to 1873. The remainder of the collection is composed of Cartwright's speeches, commissions, scrapbooks and two manuscripts of Reminiscences.

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

Box Folder Title

12 1 Correspondence, Business n.d.

2 Correspondence, Business 1856-60

3 Correspondence, Business 1861-63

4 Correspondence, Business 1864-66

5 Correspondence, Business 1867-69

6 Correspondence, Business Jan.-Aug. 1870

7 Correspondence, Business Sept.-Dec. 1870

8 Correspondence, Business Jan.-June 1871

9 Correspondence, Business July-Dec. 1871

13 10 Correspondence, Business 1872-73

11 Correspondence, Miscellaneous Business 1852-56

12 Correspondence, Political n.d.

13 Correspondence, Political 1860-65

14 Correspondence, Political 1866-67

15 Correspondence, Political 1868-70

16 Correspondence, Political 1871-1912

17 Correspondence, Family n.d.

18 Correspondence, Family 1857-70

19 Correspondence, Family 1871-73

14 20 Business Papers n.d.

21 Business Papers 1856-59

22 Business Papers 1860

23 Business Papers 1861

24 Business Papers 1862

25 Business Papers 1863-64

Sir Richard Cartwright

Box Folder Title

14 26 Business Papers 1865-69

27 Business Papers 1870

28 Business Papers 1871

29 Business Papers 1872-73

15 30 Speeches

31 Speeches

32 Speeches

33 Commission

34 Miscellaneous

16 35 Reminiscences

36 Reminiscences

37 Scrapbook

38 Scrapbook

17 39 Interviews relating to his work as Minister of

Trade and Commerce (including material)

40 Scrapbook relating to Canadians in the United

States, Dominion controverted elections act and

the Liberal Party

41 Scrapbook

42 Scrapbook

18 43 Business correspondence 1893-94

44 Business correspondence 1895-96

45 Business correspondence 1897-1901

46 Cartoon by Bengough 1888

19 Bound volume - Harriet Cartwright. Transcripts of her letters, 1832-1843, compiled by Mrs. Maria Dobbs.