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STANIER FAMILY PAPERS

MG 29, C 78

Finding Aid 747/ Instrument de recherche 747

Prepared by staff of the Socio-
Economic Section.

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MG 29
C 78

STANIER FAMILY

Originals, 1885-1953. 5 cm. Finding Aid No. 747.

The Stanier family emigrated from England to Cannington Manor, Northwest Territories.

Presented in 1971 by S. Edward P. Stanier of Leeds, England.

Correspondence concerning the emigration of the Stanier family and their subsequent life in Canada.

June 1982
J. Kidd

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Social/Cultural

STANIER PAPERS - MG 29, C 78

Finding Aid 747

Presented by Mr. S. Edward P. Stanier of Carn Brea, 74 Morris Lane, Leeds 5, England and forwarded to us by our London Office, 27 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A, INF, England, in 1971.

These papers consist of the correspondence between various members of the Stanier Family concerning their emigration from England to Cannington Manor, N.W.T. and subsequent life in Canada, 1885-1953.

Letters:

1. Jack Stanier to Mrs. Foard, Flo, etc. 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stratherne, 28 June [1885?].
Describes his various experiences as a prairie farm labourer, and gives his estimation of the North West.
2. Jack Stanier to "Papa". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stratherne, 2 August [1885?].
Anecdotes about prairie farmers and the wages they pay. Describes thrashing and harvesting operations. Tells of low wheat prices.
3. Jack Stanier to "Papa". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba 8 November 1885.
Describes his activities as farm labourer in Manitoba.
4. Jack Stanier to "Mother". 7 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba 20 December 1885.
Describes his activities as farm labourer and outlines hopes to buy his own homestead.
5. Jack Stanier to "Father". 6 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba. 3 April 1886.
Outlines his activities, financial state and ideas on getting a homestead.
6. Jack Stanier to "Father". 10 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba. 15 August [1886?].
Describes crop conditions and the availability of good farm land,
7. Jack Stanier to "Father". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba. 10 October [1886?]
Compares farming in Ontario to prairie farming, gives advice concerning starting a homestead in Manitoba. Mentions "Hudsons Bay Route contracts".
8. Jack Stanier to "Tom". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba. 12 December [1886?]
Describes farming conditions around Plum Creek, Manitoba, and Stockton Manitoba. Mentions grain and livestock prices and possible effects of Hudson's Bay road; coal deposits in Manitoba, and cutting wood in the bush.

9. Jack Stanier to "Father". 7 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stockton, Manitoba, 23 January 1887.
Inquiries about father's emigration plans, mentions wheat prices, comments on discouraging reports of the prairies reaching England, tells of land sales.
10. Jack Stanier to "Father". 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at "Dakota, U.S.A." 1 May 1887.
Describes his trekking down to get a job on St. Paul and Minneapolis Rwy. Comments on half-breeds he met. Describes life and wages on a railway construction gang.
11. Jack Stanier to "Father". 6 pages. A.L.S. dated at Camp 4, Minot, Dakota, n.d. [1887?]
Describes life and wages on construction as railway is built into Montana along banks of Missouri River.
12. Jack Stanier to "Father". 6 pages. A.L.S. dated at Camp 4, Minot, Dakota. nd. [1887?]
Relates what he knows of Cannington Manor and Moose Mountain Area. Mentions Captain Pierce. Continues to describe his life in railway construction camp in Montana and mentions strikes due to lack of food.
13. Jack Stanier to "Father". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Camp 4, Minot, Dakota. 28 July [1887?]
Describes how difficult it would be for him to reach Moose Mountain at this time. Outlines wage situation and his work on the railway construction outfit in Montana. Offers advice on taking up a homestead.
Mentions difference between Canadians and the English.
14. Jack Stanier to "Father". 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Camp 4 Minto [Dakota]. 5-7 August [1887?]
Decides to go up to Moose Mountain and scout out the place for his father.
15. Jack Stanier to "Father". 5 pages. A.L.S. dated at Montana. 12 August [1887?]
Describes country he has to pass through to reach Moose Mountain. Relates what he has heard of Cannington Manor.
16. Jack Stanier to "Father". 8 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, 5 September 1887.
Describes Cannington settlement, land conditions, prices and Captain Pierce. Outlines two possible homesteads for his father to purchase and equipment needed.
17. Jack Stanier to "Father".
File copy of letter No. 16.
18. Jack Stanier to "Father". 16 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain. 14 November [1887?]
Describes Captain Pierce and his family and the Captain's relations with Canadian government. Outlines grain, livestock and farm implement prices. Describes type of house that can be erected, and describes the homestead site.

19. Jack Stanier to "Father". 14 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, 12 December 1887.
Outlines cost of construction of house and purchase of implements. Describes his cutting and hauling logs for the house. Mentions the names of a few recent immigrants to Cannington.
20. Jack Stanier to "Father". 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain. 30 December 1887.
Relates he has purchased a few implements, mentions names of couple of prospective emigrants and tells of the first fatality in Cannington.
21. Jack Stanier to "Father". 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain. 18 January 1888.
Describes house to be built and mentions cost. Encloses plan of house. Gives advice on buying livestock in Ontario.
22. Jack Stanier to "Father". 10 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington. 9 February 1888.
Describes the homestead acreage and Canadian land regulations. Discusses house construction and furnishings and various savings that can be made.
23. Jack Stanier to "Father". 12 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain. 25 February 1888.
Discusses house construction, comments on a letter in the Chronicle that denigrates the North West. Outlines some personal goods to bring from England and building materials and equipment that should be purchased in Ontario to save expense. Advises father to purchase only Massey Co. equipment. Gives a hint on packing of goods.
24. Jack Stanier to "Father". 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Assiniboia. 20 March [1888?].
Gives advice on ship accommodation and train routes. Describes construction of house and mentions the cost of some other houses in Cannington including Captain Pierce's. Tells of Pierce's first winter in North West.
25. Captain Pierce to John Stanier, 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, Assiniboia. 21 June 1887.
Pierce outlines the type and price of homesteads available at Cannington and the great benefits awaiting the emigrant who settles there.
26. Captain Pierce to John Stanier. 6 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, N.W.T. 9 August 1887.
Pierce outlines the great benefits of settling at Cannington and his hope for the future. He states the terms available for a homestead. He mentions the hopes placed on the Hudson's Bay Railway and urges Stanier to see Alexander Begg, C.P.R. agent in London and arrange transport soon.

27. Captain Pierce to John Stanier, 3 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, Assiniboia, 21 September 1887.
Pierce informs Stanier that his son Jack has arrived and is impressed with the settlement. He outlines the terms for a homestead and urges Stanier to bring other families with him.
28. Captain Pierce to John Stanier. 3 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, Assiniboia. 29 October 1887.
Pieree describes the land he has reserved for Stanier and urges them to settle nowhere else.
29. Copy of above.
30. Captain Pierce to John Stanier. 3 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Moose Mountain, 29 November 1887.
Pierce specifies the sections of land that Stanier's son has filed for him and congratulates him.
31. Captain Pierce to John Stanier. 3 pages. A.L.S. dated at Cannington, Manor, Assiniboia, N.W.T. 24 January 1888.
Pierce informs Stanier that he is yet unable to find a billet for Stanier's two sons but urges that they come out anyway. He urges not to bring their own piano out and suggest they purchase a certain stronger type which he specifies. He advises them of ways of bringing in their baggage duty free and tells them of the jobs which his two sons possess.
32. George Heynes to John Stanier. 3 pages. A.L.S. dated at Ragdon Church, Stretton Salop. 6 January 1886.
Heynes outlines possibilities for settlement in state of Kansas, he names an English gentleman who owns land there and gives Stanier his (Heynes) own address in Kansas.
33. T. F. B. Evans to John Stanier, 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at London, England. 20 October 1887.
Evans (the C.P.R. agent in London) replies to a previous letter of Stanier, outlining passenger and freight rates between England and Moosomin, N.W.T.
34. Two pages of the Nor'-West Farmer and Manitoba Miller for August 1886.
Two pages of letters to the editor re. immigration to the North West.
35. Letter from the Dominion Lands Commission to Captain Pierce. 2 pages.
Dated at Winnipeg 21 November 1887.
The Lands Commission informs Pierce of the necessity for a few adjustments in the lands reserved for Stanier due to his later arrival in Canada.
36. F. S. Thompson (Agent of the Allan Line) to J. Stanier. 1 page.
A.L.S. dated at Liverpool. 3 February 1888.
Thompson encloses lists and particulars re Atlantic sailings. [lists not with this material]

37. F. S. Thompson to J. Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Liverpool. 8 February 1888.
Information re rates for the sailing of the CIRCASSIAN.
38. F. S. Thompson to J. Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Liverpool. 10 February 1888.
More information re sailing and accommodation on CIRCASSIAN.
39. Agent of Allan Line to J. Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Liverpool. 28 March 1888.
The list of the various members of the Stanier party and the cabins they will occupy on the CIRCASSIAN.
40. Archer Baker (European Traffic Agent of the C.P.R.) to J. Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Liverpool. 29 March 1888.
Baker gives advice on meals plans on C.P.R. in Canada.
41. News clipping of a letter to the editor of the Liverpool Courier by Captain Michell Pierce concerning his settlement of Cannington. ca. May 1887.

Pieces of a torn cheque for £5 dated 16 December 1944 and endorsed by A. W. Sibley.
A scrap of paper outlining in figures the amount of cash needed for transportation to Canada.
42. Two copies of account of the Auctioneers April 1888. 2 pages.
One itemized account of the sale of all household effects at Uppington 10-11 April 1888. 5 pages.
List of the expenditures on permanent improvements at Uppington 1864-88. 4 pages.
One itemized account of sale of all farm implements and livestock at Uppington 8-9 March 1888.
43. Codicil to will of John Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Moosomin 30 September 1893.
44. Jack [Stanier?] to Percy Stanier. 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Prince Rupert, B.C. 8 November 1919.
Jack tells of the decline in shipyard industry at Vancouver due to end of war and outlines his plans to open up a store in Stewart because of news of the new ore strike there. He asks Percy, who is in England, to see if some money can be borrowed on the English estate to finance his proposed venture.
45. Royal North-West Mounted Police Report by Corporal D. Churchill. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at "G" Division, Edmonton. 1 April 1920.
Corp. Churchill tells of the various prospecting parties that went up the South Nahanni between 1913 and 1916 and of the fate that befell them.

46. G. Jennings to John P. Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Edmonton, Alberta. 9 April 1920.
Covering letter to above report listed as item 45.
47. Corporal D. Churchill to John P. Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Grouard, Alberta [ca.1920].
Churchill answers Staniers questions regarding gold and Indians up the Nahanni River.
48. [John P.?] Stanier to [Percy?] Stanier. 5 pages Cablegram dated at Stewart, B.C. 16 June 1920.
First 4 pages are Commercial Cable Co. cover sheets. Stanier asks his brother to cable £200 soon as possible.
49. Jack (John P.) Stanier to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Stewart, B.C. 26 July 1920.
Jack inquires concerning sale of English estate. Says he is working in a mine near Stewart but intends to go up the Nahanni soon as he gets the cash.
50. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stewart, B.C. 30 August 1920.
Thanks his brother for money and tells him of past year's experiences in Stewart. Again outlines his plans to go up the Nahanni for gold next year. Mentions he was up in Klondyke in '98.
51. Percy Stanier to Jack Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated 25 November 1920.
Percy outlines the financial problems besetting the estate but assures Jack his money is safe.
52. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Stewart, B.C. 10 December 1920.
Jack tells of impending oil rush to Fort Norman and his plans to stake an oil claim on his way up the Nahanni. He urges Percy to hurry the finalization of the estate sale as he is leaving on 24 January.
53. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Stewart, B.C. 26 December 1920.
Jack asks again about the estate money and informs Percy of a few family matters.
54. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Vancouver, 15 January 1921.
Jack outlines his plans for going into the Nahanni region and gives his opinion of other family members.
55. Percy Stanier to Jack Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated 24 January 1921.
Percy outlines the difficulties in liquidating the estate and assures Jack of eventual payment of his money.

56. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Vancouver.
3 February 1921.
Jack urges Percy to send balance of money by beginning of March.
57. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Vancouver,
B.C. 10 February 1921.
Jack outlines his latest plans, recalls his hardship on trial of '98
and urges Percy to forward the money.
58. Percy Stanier to Jack Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated 22 February 1921.
Percy promises to send as much money as possible.
59. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Vancouver,
B.C. 6 March 1921.
Jack acknowledges receipt of part of the money he expected, claims
it throws his original plans out of order but he is determined to
leave for the north anyways.
60. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Fort Simpson,
Mackenzie River, N.W.T. 24 June 1921.
Jack describes his trip to Fort Simpson and outlines his plans for
the Nahanni Region.
61. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Fort Simpson,
Mackenzie River, N.W.T. 13 February 1928.
Jack describes his seven years trapping and prospecting for the
"elusive yellow stuff". Excellent description of his trips up the
S. Nahanni.
62. Edith ? to Percy Stanier. 4 pages. A.L.S. dated at R.R. No. 1,
Manor, Saskatchewan. 5 December 1938.
Edith tells of the weather and crops in their area and relates the
deaths and whereabouts of a number of old Canningtonians including
Jack Stanier.
63. Charlie ? to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Victoria, B.C.
26 August 1940.
Charlie tells of death of Edith and asks for a birth certificate from
England for his brother George for Pension purposes.
64. H. S. Beckton to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Victoria,
B.C. 28 August 1951.
Beckton in reply to Percy's ad in the Victoria Daily Times gives
information on old members of Stanier Family including Jack.
65. Tom Stanier to Percy Stanier. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Cobble Hill,
B.C. 29 August 1951.
Tom gives Percy information on various living and dead members of the
family.
66. Jack Stanier to Percy Stanier. 2 pages. A.L.S. dated at Vancouver,
B.C. 5 November 1951.
Jack gives Percy information on various members of the family and
mentions his own situation.

67. Marjorie Pitts to Cousin Phillip. 1 page. A.L.S. dated at Beckenham, Kent. 2 January 1953.
A letter of thanks for New Years greetings.

Photos and lithographs transferred to Picture Division, January 1972.

one photo of Cannington Manor, N.W.T., n.d.

one photo of the Stanier Family Home - Uppington Wellington, Salop, n.d.

a lithograph, n.d. entitled "The Choor Mountains".

a lithograph, n.d. (partly damaged) entitled "Long Sault Rapids".