

EWART, JOHN S.

John S. Ewart, (1849-1933) was born in Toronto and educated at Upper Canada College. He established a successful law practice, first in Toronto, later in Winnipeg and finally in Ottawa, where he confined his practice to the Supreme Court and the Privy Council. He retired in 1914 and afterwards devoted his full time to writing and speaking. A logical, incisive writer, Ewart roused frequent controversy with his outspoken views. He advocated complete political independence for Canada, opposed Canada's participation in the Great War, and opposed imperialism in all forms. To popularize his belief, he published, at his own expense, a series of pamphlets, the Kingdom papers, 1912-1917 and the Independence papers, 1925-1932.

The papers comprise an incomplete draft of thirteen volumes of "The Political History of Canada". Ewart's purpose was to trace the evolution of popular government in Ontario and Quebec, from the capture of Quebec in 1759 to the winning of responsible government in 1849. There are two introductory chapters on the Thirteen Colonies. His work describes in great detail, the manner in which Canada was governed, under military rule, under the governors and lieutenant-governors, the local councils and assemblies, the period of the Union, and the attempts to achieve self government throughout the period.

The history is based almost entirely on contemporary documents with numerous quotations from them. The draft is divided into chapters, with chapter headings, in some cases there are tables of contents for individual chapters. A list of chapter headings has been compiled.

Acquired in 1929.

*Volume 14 was added in 1972*

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*Ewart, John S.  
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MSS by John S. Ewart  
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on  
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