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JOHNSON FAMILY

MG 19, F 2

Finding Aid No. 443 / Instrument de recherche no 443

Prepared in 1971 by Patricia
Kennedy of the Pre-Confederation
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Sir William Johnson (1715-1774) was Superintendent of Indian Affairs 1755-1764. He had emigrated from Ireland in 1738 and settled in the Mohawk valley of New York, where he became intimately associated with the Six Nations Indians. He was created a baronet in 1755.

Sir William Johnson's heir was his sole legitimate son, John. There were also two legitimate daughters, Anne and Mary. Anne married Daniel Claus, who held various positions in the Indian Department and was to some extent a rival of Sir John Johnson. The Claus family papers (MG 19, F 1; Finding aid No. 41) contain a very significant amount of material relating to the career, activities and lands of Sir John Johnson. Mary married her cousin Col. Guy Johnson (1740?-1788) who was a nephew of Sir William and succeeded him as Superintendent of the Indian Department in 1774. He was replaced in 1782 by his cousin Sir John, and died in obscurity.

Sir John Johnson (1742-1830) was born in the Mohawk valley and died at Mount Johnson, near Montreal. He was knighted in 1765 and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1774. At the outbreak of the American War of Independence he undertook the cause of loyalism, fleeing to Canada in 1776 and there organizing the King's Royal Regiment of New York, with which he engaged in border forays. In 1782 he was appointed Superintendent General and Inspector General of Indian Affairs, which position he held until his death. He was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Quebec in 1787 and of Lower Canada in 1796.

The papers preserved in MG 19, F 2 are but a small proportion of the holdings of the Public Archives of Canada which relate to the Johnson family. In addition to the Claus papers mentioned above, records are to be found in RG 10, the papers of the various government agencies which have had charge of Indian Affairs. The finding aids to this series are located in the Public Records Section of the Manuscript Division. RG 8, records of the British Military institution in Canada prior to 1870, include a series of letterbooks of the Governors' Military Secretaries, 1796-1830 (volumes C-1204 to C-1270), among which are letterbooks devoted to correspondence addressed to members of the Indian Department. A nominal index to this series is available in the Reference Room of the Manuscript Division. Material is also to be found in the papers of the Civil and Provincial Secretaries of Lower and Upper Canada (RGs 4 and 5 respectively), the Executive Council of the various provinces of Canada (RG 1) and the Governors General and Lieutenant Governors (RG 7), not to mention Colonial Office records (MG 11).

In MG 21, ADD MSS 29237 (on reel A-908) provides further records. A bibliography of sources was prepared in 1973 by Brian A. Deer under the title "The Papers of Sir John Johnson" (McGill University Archives)

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Descriptive List of the contents of MG 19, F 2

Volume 1: Sir William Johnson

Johnson Hall, 24 December 1763	Sir William Johnson	Proclamation, embodying the royal proclamation of 7 October 1763. (photocopy) 1 p.
18 July 1764	Sir William	Peace Treaty concluded with the Hurons of Detroit 4 pp.

Volume 2: Sir John Johnson

Dublin, Ireland 8 September 1770	James Boulton to Sir John	Deed of sale to Sir John, of the town and lands of Smithstowme, county Meath, Ireland.(certified copy) 2pp.
Quebec 12 January 1778	Guy Carleton to Sir John	appointing Sir John as superintendent of Loyalists for a further year 1 p.
Quebec, 26 June 1778	Guy Carleton to John Powell, Deputy Paymaster General	warrant for the payment by Sir John of the expenses for the relief of Loyalists of Burgoyne's army and other refugees. 1 p.
Headquarters, Quebec 24 May 1784	Gen. Frederick Haldimand to Sir John	concerning the settlement of Loyalists at Niagara and Gataraqui; land for Negro loyalists. 3 pp.
Dautray 13 June 1792	Lt. Gov. John Graves Simcoe to Sir John	concerning leave of absence 1 p.
Quebec, 8 July 1799	James Green to Sir John	Capt. McLean's behavior at Amherstburg; Indian Department pay; Pay and residence for interpreters; Accomodation for the departmental staff 4 pp.
Mount Johnson, 30 March 1822	Sir John Johnson to his son John	financial and business matters 4 pp.
Montreal 7 May 1827	Sir John Johnson to his son John	financial and family affairs 3 pp.
Mount Johnson, 16 July 1827	Hugh Hagan to Lt. Col. John Johnson	concerning militia lists and musters of the 5th battalion, Bedford County militia. 3 pp.
1937	George E. Eimson	List of letters written by Sir John Johnson, 1803- 1826, to be found in Indian Affairs records (RG 10)(typescript)

Volume 3: 'Haldimand Collection' of the Thomas Gilcrease Institute,
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Montreal 26 August [178.]	Col. Guy Johnson to Major Preston	feelings and behaviour of the Indians	1 p
Detroit, n.d. [178?]	Lt. Col. [A.] DePeyster to Macomb, Edgar & Macomb	accounts: Pay due officers of the Indian Department, May-August	1 p
West Florida, 24 October 1770	Gov. Peter Chester to Elias Durnford, Surveyor General	order for a survey on behalf of Edward Mease	2 pp
West Florida, 23 April 1771	same to same	same, with map	2 pp
West Florida, 23 April 1771	same to same	same	1 p
Montreal, 25 September 1776	Pierre Foretier & Jean Orillat to Gen. Guy Carleton	agreement to supply goods to the Indian Department (in French, with English translation); Signed G. Carleton 26 September 1776	2 pp
New York, 7 April 1777	Guy Johnson to Guy Carleton	messages sent to the Indians of the Grand River	1 p
Montreal, 9 October 1777	Daniel Claus to the Treasury	bill of exchange for £1500, for Indian Department expenses	2 pp
Montreal 9 October 1777	same to same	bill of exchange for £500, for Indian Department expenses	2 pp
Quebec 12 January 1778	Guy Carleton to Sir John Johnson	'secret' - conditions along the Hudson River	1 p
Montreal 11 May 1778	Sir John Johnson	Accounts of supplies furnished scouts on the frontiers, Feb.-April	1 p
Pensacola 1 April 1779	[Jno] Chester to the Treasury	appointment of Commissioners of Indian Affairs in West Florida	3 pp
New York, 9 April 1779, Asst. Q.M.G.	return of Indian presents received from on board the TORTOISE & the MARGERY	2 pp

Quebec, 7 August 1779	Gen. F. Haldimand to John Powel, Dep. Paymaster General	warrant to pay Lt. Col. Campbell, Supt. of Indian Affairs, £5000	1 p
Quebec 9 January 1780	Gen. F. Haldimand to Lt. Col. John Campbell	concerning Lt. Houghton Frere's elopement, payment for Indian cattle	3 pp
Quebec 18 May 1780	Gen. F. Haldimand to Charles Bembridge Depy. Paymaster General	warrant to pay Lt. Col. Campbell £3000 for Indian Department expenses	1 p
Quebec 18 February 1782	Gen. F. Haldimand to Col. Guy Johnson	payment of Indian Department accounts with Taylor & Forsyth; Payment of Staff; Movement of Indians	2 pp
Carleton Island 19 February 1782	William R. Crawford to [Col. Campbell]	scouts and interpreters; death of chief Hawksbill; loss of Major Ross' horse and saddle	2 pp
Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, 30 March 1782	John Robinson to Sir John Johnson	plans to reduce the expenses of Indian presents at Canadian outposts	1 p
Quebec, 25 October 1782 (duplicate)	Gen. F. Haldimand to Rt. Hon. Thomas Townshend	appointment of Sir John Johnson as Brig. Gen; reduction of Indian Dept. expenses; estimates and presents	2 pp
Headquarters, Quebec, 14 November 1782	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	enclosing a warrant for 6 months' pay to officers of the Indian Dept.	1 p
Quebec 14 November 1782	same to Col. Guy Johnson	has transmitted warrant for officers' pay to Sir John Johnson	1 p
H.Q. Quebec 25 November 1782	Gen. F. Haldimand to Sir John Johnson	runners, Six Nations' prisoners; Joseph Brant, James Stanley Goddard and stores; Lt. Col. Butler and Mr. Dace	4 pp
Quebec 10 June 1782	Gen. F. Haldimand to Lt. Col. John Campbell	order to pay £399 to Louis-Joseph Ainsse as per report of John Campbell, Daniel Claus and James Stanley Goddard, annexed to the said accounts	3 pp

H.Q. Quebec 29 May 1783	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	Johnson's trip to Niagara to calm Indian fears over peace terms; Lands on Lake Ontario for the Six Nations	4 pp
H.Q. Quebec 1 September 1783	Gen. F. Haldimand to Sir John Johnson	Indian goods Lt. Col. DePeyster obtained from Detroit; Survey of lands at Catarauqui for Loyalists; Mississagua tract for Mohawks; Capt. Twiss to examine Grand River lands; Ensign McKay desiring to go to Jamaica	4 pp
Niagara 2 October 1783	John Butler to Sir John Johnson	bill of exchange for £1719/4/4, pay for Indian Department officers	2 pp
H.Q. Quebec, 27 October, 1783	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	pay of Col. Guy Johnson; Hogs killed by Indians; Payment to Lt. Clement; Haldimand's letter to Lord North concerning Mr. Knox and Indian goods	3 pp
H.Q. Quebec 15 December 1783	Gen. F. Haldimand to Sir John Johnson	plans for reorganization of the Indian Department, Reduction of Staff; Major Scott to return to H.Q.	2 pp
Quebec 23 March 1784	same to same	Joseph Brant's requisitions and the Grand River settle- ment; Lt. Col. Butler to purchase the tract; Mohawks' losses claim and temporary grant of £1500; St. Regis losses claim	3 pp
St. Augustine, East Florida, 20 May 1784	Thomas Brown, Supt. of Indian Affairs, to Rt.Hon. Lord Sidney	feelings and situation of the Indians at the news of peace terms; provision of gifts and supplies	5 pp
H.Q. Quebec, 13 September 1784	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	expenses of Lt. Col. John Campbell at Montreal; sale of cattle by Campbell & Ferguson; Warrants for £3000 in pay	3 pp

H.Q. Quebec, 20 September 1784	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	expenses of the Dept. to be reduced; passage on the brig ELIZABETH and the SPEEDY packet	3 pp
Montreal 22 July 1784	Sir John Johnson to Richard Dobie	order to pay £2418/7/5½ to Ellice & Co. for Indian Dept. expenses at Detroit	2 pp
H.Q. Quebec 27 September 1784	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	provisions for the Upper Posts; supplies for Cataragui, Bay of Quinté and Oswegatchie: Arms, tools and clothing for Loyalists	4 pp
1784	Sir John Johnson	balance sheet of Indian Dept. disbursements, 25 August 1783-30 June 1784	1 p
1784	John Butler	accounts of pay, Niagara; Endorsed by Sir John Johnson	1 p
1784	Lt. Col. John Campbell	paylist of the Indian Dept., Quebec province	1 p
[1784]	Lt. Col. John Campbell	receipt for £416/16/6, pay for the Quebec staff of the Indian Department	1 p
[1785]	(draft, incomplete) goods for the Indian Department	1 p
Curzon Street, London 8 April 1785	Robert Mathews to Sir John Johnson	all Indian Department officers are to be in- cluded on returns, for half-pay purposes	2 pp
Detroit, 11 June 1785	John Hay to Lt. Gov. H. Hamilton	passes for Indians; Loyalist settlers; state of the frontiers	4 pp
Detroit 3 July 1785	same to same	Indian trade and suggested improvements in licensing; Distribution of troops at the Upper Posts; Loyalist arrivals	5 pp

Quebec 30 October 1785 (duplicate)	Brig. Gen. H. Hope to Sir John Johnson	Joseph Brant's intention to go to England and attempts to dissuade him	4 pp
Quebec 1 November 1785	Gov. Henry Hamilton to Henry Caldwell, Receiver General	warrant for payment of £150 to John Campbell of the Indian Dept.	1 p
Quebec 15 December 1785	Lt. Gov. Henry Hope to Sir John Johnson	payment of the 1783 Michilimackinac rum bill; Accounts and estimates; Purchase of DuCalvet and Dechambault houses for uses of the Department	3 pp
London 24 December 1785	Joseph Chew	receipt for £100 from Phyn Ellice & Co. on behalf of Sir John Johnson; endorsed William Claus	2 pp
London 14 August 1787	Gen. F. Haldimand	state of settlement of accounts with Sir William Johnson for disbursements 1773-74, North District, North America	1 p
Grand River, 23 August 1787	Kaghneghtagongh	receipt for £25/6/3 for losses claim, received from Sir John Johnson; Endorsed P. Langau and Joseph Brant	1 p
London 8 April 1788	Joseph Chew, before J. A. Eyre, Exchequer Court	declaration in the case of Sir John Johnson, heir and representative of Sir William Johnson	2 pp
Quebec 18 April 1788	Lord Dorchester to Thomas Boone, Deputy Paymaster General	warrant for payment of £9518/18/6 to Sir John Johnson for payments to the Six Nations, Delawares, etc.	1 p
Quebec 30 April 1788	Sir John Johnson to Lord Dorchester	petition for a warrant for £2000 to pay Indian Department expenses	1 p
Quebec 29 December 1794	Antoine Rinfret Bedard, Supt., Séminaire du Québec	receipt for £25, salary as missionary at Sault St. Louis	1 p
London 20 April 1807	D. Campbell	list of 4 letters taken from the letterbook of Brig. Gen. John Campbell	2 pp