

Finding Aid 558

Belcher Papers

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BELCHER (COL. A.E.) LETTERS

Presented to the Archives by a friend
of Col. Belcher in 1943 and 1947.

- 1867 Letter, Lt. Col. J. Aug(ustus) Barrette, London, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton,
re his application to attend the Military School of Instruction. December
18, 1867.
- 1868 Letter from the head of the Toronto Military School notifying A.E. Belcher to
report. February 2, 1868.
Recommendation as to the character of Alex'r Belcher, from John Eastwood,
Village Clerk, Southampton. May 21, 1868.
Recommendation as to the character of A.E. Belcher, from the Rev. William
Cross, Wesleyan Minister, Sauguen. May 28, 1868.
- 1883 Letter, Charles Clarke, Elora, to A.E. Belcher, London, sending 75¢ for his
booklet. January 24, 1883.
Letter, Mark H. Irish, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, sending a cheque for \$20.00.
Speaks highly of A.E.B.'s book. April 23, 1883.
- 1885 Letter, Col. A. Sproat, Garrison Prince Albert, to A.E. Belcher, re the North
West Rebellion, mentioning the capture of Riel, the great anxiety during
the campaign, praises Irvine but has no use for Dewdney. May 18, 1885.
Private.
- 1887 Letter, John A. Macdonald, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Toronto. ----- "As you
say, the N.P. was a large factor in contributing to our success. The
people did not believe in Blake being at once a Protectionist and a Free
Trader - they preferred to trust to the men who had originated and devel-
oped this Policy rather than to those whose chief aim has been to destroy
it." February 25, 1887.
- 1890 Letter, Alex. McNeil, Warton, to A.E. Belcher. ----- "I have always
thought that a line of Rly. from Southampton to Tara would be of benefit
to the Riding," but thinks Government help "a doubtful matter." January
5, 1890.
Letter, John A. Macdonald, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Toronto. Comments on
"Brock" as a possible senator. Hopes for "news of Montague's success."
February 20, 1890.

- 1891 Letter, Fred. White, Privy Council Office, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, acknowledging, on behalf of Sir John Macdonald, his congratulations on the success of the campaign. Reports Sir John is "completely prostrated" and has been advised to take complete rest. "He is immensely pleased with the general result which will enable him to meet Parliament with a much larger majority than he had during the first Session after the previous Parliament. Sir John fully appreciates the importance of Young Men's Conservative Associations, as suggested by you and is convinced that had the party generally been in that state of readiness which should always be maintained the majority would have been still larger, particularly in Ontario." March 11, 1891.
- Letter, Arthur S. Hardy, Department of Crown Lands, Toronto, to F. (A.E.) Belcher, Southampton, re an appointment for A.E.B. as magistrate or notary public. June 2, 1891.
- 1892 Letter, W.W. Campbell, Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, re an account he has with Mr. Graham of Southampton for the printing of a manuscript for which Mr. Graham is suing him. July 27, 1892.
- 1893 Letter, Alex. McNeill, Warton, to A.E. Belcher, notifying him that the Premier, Dr. Montague and some other members will be at a meeting at Tara and will drive to Southampton for a banquet. September 3, 1893.
- Letter, Hon. J.C. Patterson, Minister of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, assuring him that a grant to the roads in the Indian Peninsula of Bruce has been made. October 31, 1893. Private.
- 1894 Letter, Aubrey White, Ass't Com'r, Crown Lands, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, re grant of the Court House Square in Southampton. May 11, 1894.
- Letter, N. Clarke Wallace, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Pres., Lib.-Cons., Ass. of North Bruce, Southampton, re revision of Dominion Voters' lists. August 30, 1894.
- Letter, John S.D. Thompson, Minister of Justice, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, re leadership of the Opposition in the Ontario House. "I think our friends in the local House will have to make the selection for themselves. They would, no doubt, resent any interference by the Dominion authorities." October 10, 1894.
- Letter, J.C. Patterson, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re revision of the Voters' lists and the Revision Courts. November 30, 1894. Private.

1895 Letter, N. Clark Wallace, Controller of Customs, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Pres., North Bruce Con. Ass'n, Southampton, re political situation there. January 9, 1895. Private.

Letter, Mackenzie Bowell, Privy Council Office, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re Mr. McNeil. "I regret very much to learn that he has but feeble chances of carrying the constituency; for he has made a very creditable representative. However, I doubt not that you are quite correct in saying that his manners do not take with the people generally. Why not let the matter of his candidature be decided by a fairly elected Convention? It seems to me that would be the best way of meeting the difficulty. Mr. MacNeil would make a very acceptable Senator but unfortunately there are no vacancies at the present time to which he could be appointed." February 16, 1895.

Letter, N. Clark Wallace, Controller of Customs, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the political situation in his riding. "Your nominee has written me very insulting letters and I shall take the first occasion when I meet him to kick his back-side as a partial solace to my wounded feelings." February 19, 1895. Confidential.

Letter, Alex. McNeill to A.E. Belcher, Pres., Lib. Cons. Ass'n, North Bruce, re the suggestion that he go into the Senate. States his position in the matter. February 27, 1895.

Letter, N. Clarke Wallace, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Pres., North Bruce Lib. Cons. Ass'n, Southampton. ----- "You may rest assured I shall take no ill-considered step or one that will not commend me to my constituents and friends." March 29, 1895.

Letter, R. Truax, M.P., Legislature of Ontario, to A. Belcher. Promises to do all he can to secure harbour improvements for Southampton. April 9, 1895.

Letter, D. McNaughton, Legislature of Ontario, to A.E. Belcher. Regrets to see that there are no appropriations in the estimates for the dock at Southampton. Has seen the Attorney General about an appointment for A.E.B. April 11, 1895.

Letter, Wm. Harty, Com'r, Department of Public Works, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher. Promises Mr. McCallum will be up shortly to inspect the harbour at Southampton. July 8, 1895.

Letter, Hon. W.H. Montague, Secretary of State, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, promising attention to "the matter about which you write" December 4, 1895.

Letter, N. Clark Wallace, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re "Greenway's Position and the interest you are taking in the Orange Association work." December 12, 1895.

1896 Letter, Charles Tupper, Secretary of State, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re A.E.B.'s application for position of Returning Officer for North Bruce. ----- "You are not more grieved at the course which Mr. McNeill has seen fit to pursue than I am. I can only trust that the Conservatives of North Bruce will stand fast by the Conservative Party in their efforts to uphold the constitution by doing justice to all classes of the community." April 13, 1896.

Letter, John Haggart, Minister of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re his application for the position of Returning Officer. Will refer the matter to Dr. Montague. April 14, 1896.

Letter, N. Clark Wallace, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. -----
"We had a desperate fight for ten days working day and night. You will see now that we attended the funeral obsequies of the Remedial Bill at 2.30 Thursday morning. ----- I hope that the general elections will find men whose views are yours and mine at the top in this fight and then we shall be able to assist our friends." April 18, 1896.

Letter, Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Finance, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the political situation in North Bruce. "We are all sorry for the course Mr. McNeill felt it his duty to take but hope all will turn out best for the party." April 21, 1896.

Letter, Dr. W.H. Montague, Minister of Agriculture, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Has recommended his appointment as Returning Officer for North Bruce. April 22, 1896.

Letter, N.C. Wallace, Woodbridge, to A.E. Belcher. "Mr. McNeill has now taken such a decided and courageous stand that I think it would be the duty of all to strengthen his hands. We are going to have a desperate fight but the Coercionists will be defeated." April 28, 1896.

Letter, H. Gargill, Gargill, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, Acknowledges his congratulations. "I notice McNeill had a close call and may yet be counted out. I regret exceedingly that the Good Old Conservative Party has fallen but we have to accept the inevitable and make the best of it. It will be new to me to occupy a seat on the opposition benches but will, like Paddy in the hanging, get used to it. I am sorry for our good friend Birmingham, as I believe he will feel it worse than Tupper and some other members of the Gov't I had to work and fight here night and day but victory crowned my efforts. I am just recovering from my hard labour." June 29, 1896.

Letter, Hon. W.H. Montague, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the political situation in North Bruce. "The misfortune which has befallen us is to be regretted but the Party is by no means dead and will soon re-assert itself." June 29, 1896. Private.

1896 - continued

Telegram, Charles Tupper, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher. "Glad to learn that Mr. McNeill has been returned." June 30, 1896.

Letter, Charles Tupper, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, to patronage in North Bruce, now that the late Government is out of power. July 8, 1896.

Letter, Hon. A.S. Hardy, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re A.E.B.'s appointment as a magistrate to which there have been some objections. July 23, 1896.

Letter, Wilfrid Laurier, Privy Council Office, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. "If, as you intend, you call upon the Government in your official capacity or in any other capacity, it will be our duty and pleasure to hear your demand and a greater pleasure yet if we find it consistent with our public duty to grant it to you." September 9, 1896.

Letter, Hon. George A. Kirkpatrick, Government House, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, Reeve, Southampton, re a visit to his village. Is to open the new Dental College building October 1st. September 22, 1896.

Same to same, re same. September 24, 1896.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Morrisburgh, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. -----

"I note and appreciate all your suggestions and will always be glad and in fact expect to hear from our friends with advise and suggestions. I am sure the feeling of the majority of the people is unfavorable to the new Counties Council law." October 14, 1896.

Letter, N. Clarke Wallace, Woodbridge, to A.E. Belcher. ----- "It is true that the Conservative party appeared to be of different opinions but it was not really so. The whole party in my opinion were opposed to Remedial Legislation and the coercion of Manitoba but one section of the party for the sake of harmony and unity and not at all because they believed in it, followed their leaders. The other section of the Conservative party refused to do so. It was simply a case of refusal to follow the party leaders when they had gone very far wrong. It was all the result of bad leadership - that old and fatal desire to toady to the R. C. Church and get their votes. The programme was a failure. Now what is to be done for the future? 1st, To retrace our steps wherever we have gone wrong and get on the right track, and (2) we must have what you say, 'clean, sterling men and a new organization from stem to stern'. It is very true what you say that there is a great membership of the Conservative party and it is true too that the Grits have not got into power thro' approval of their policy for the Country never has given their approval to them. It was simply an expression by the people of Canada of their disapproval of the course taken by the Conservative Party and of those who were controlling its destinies." October 20, 1896.

1897 Letter, J.P. Whitney, Morrisburgh, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, "Surely the District organizations are looking after the matter you refer to? I quite appreciate your interest in these matters and have every hope that our people will not get careless and neglectful." February 5, 1897.

Circular letter from Robert J. Fleming, Mayor of Toronto, re a meeting to be held in the Pavilion, Horticultural Gardens, to discuss the formation of the Victorian Order of Nurses. Lord and Lady Aberdeen are expected to attend. March 29, 1897.

Letter, George A. Kirkpatrick, Government House, Toronto, Refers to his "many weary weeks on a sick bed in London." Regrets he is not able to visit Southampton. May 28, 1897.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Morrisburgh, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. -----
"I appreciate your suggestions and think my course will be on the right lines. Wait and see. ----- I expect to hold 7 or 8 meetings in June - perhaps 10. Later on in the season I will hold others & hope to see you then if the arrangements made for me will allow." May 31, 1897.
Private.

Letter, Hon. E.J. Davis, Provincial Secretary, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re petition from the Council and people of Southampton, praying for A.E.B.'s appointment as a J.P. October 20, 1897.
Personal.

Letter, Geo. F. Warter, Leg. Ass., Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, re some political matters. December 15, 1897.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Leg. Ass., Toronto, re "the unfairness of the action of the Government in objecting to the appointment of yourself as a magistrate." December 8, 1897.

1898 Letter, N. Clarke Wallace, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Hopes to get to North Bruce before long. "Now when Parliament is met, as you will see, my difficulties are increased because important business with reference to this new Yukon Railway scheme will be on deck." February 4, 1898.

Same to same, giving a list of his political meetings in the immediate future. February 16, 1898.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Legislature of Ontario, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "We have reason to believe we will gain largely in the bye-elections." March 5, 1898.

1898 - continued

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Legislature of Ontario, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. ----- "I think the final defeat of the Government is only a matter of a short time." March 10, 1898.

Letter, N. Clarke Wallace, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, re re-organization of the Conservative Party in Ontario. June 11, 1898.

Letter, the Hon. F.W. Borden, Minister of Militia, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Will look into the matter of securing some old guns for the park at Southampton. October 1, 1898.

1900 Letter, the Hon. J.R. Stratton, Provincial Secretary, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, General Inspector, Woodstock, re the Superintendency of the People's Life Insurance Company. February 13, 1900.

1901 Letter, George E. Foster, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I have no intention of running for North Bruce. I see that Mr. McNeil has declared his intention of not again being a candidate. I am very sorry that his services will be lost for the time being to Parliament but I know he will not regret any of his intelligent interest in public affairs. ----- The thing for you all to do is to very carefully look over the situation when you come together, select the very strongest available man, a full liberal-conservative, and then fall in behind him & elect him." ----- "I trust our friends will not give way to the delusion that because the Lib. Gov't is in power that therefore it is useless to contest the seat." January 23, 1901.

Letter, the Hon. E.J. Davis, Department of Crown Lands, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re lands for South African Volunteers and Veterans of 1866. April 29, 1901.

1902

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Legislative Assembly, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Promises to have some of "our members keep an eye" on the Huron, Bruce and Middlesex Railway. February 28, 1902.

Letter, I.B. Lucas, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I see your promoting friends around the Bldgs. to-day. Will take a look in at the Committee & do what I can in the direction indicated by you. It certainly is a blanket application." March 4, 1902.

Letter, G.M. Boyd, Legislature of Ontario, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, "the proposed road". ----- "I think Whitney struck the nail on the head when he made that great speech on Prohibition. We have the Ross Government licked out of their Boots. If all put up a good fight in the coming election." March 11, 1902.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, House of Commons, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher. -----
"From appearances it will be principally a Grit Picnic Party of fellows who prefer feasting to fighting. I think it will disgust a number of people not giving the fighters the first call and will not be forgotten in the coming local fight. Hoping ----- that North Bruce will go solid for Whitney." April 16, 1902.

Letter, Hugh Clark, M.P., Kincardine, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. -----
"I pulled through all right but by the skin of my teeth. I feel sorry for North Bruce but Bowman is a machine man, pure and simple. A prominent Grit in Bruce Twp. says a lot of bad votes were run in for him there. Jermy'n's organization was crippled and ineffective in Bruce Twp. They did not get his vote out and did not stop bad votes going in for Bowman. I lost a lot of votes, too, of men who thought I would be beaten by 200 or 300." June 10, 1902.

Letter, Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton.
"I am in receipt of yours congratulating me upon my nomination in North Toronto. Elections came on so suddenly and with the great amount of extra work in the Province, ----- I thought you would not mind the delay when you saw the result of the elections that Mr. Marter had been relegated to private life." June 20, 1902.

Same to same. "You see that the bye-elections are on. We want your assistance in North Grey and want it badly. Write in at once letting me know just what time you can give us in the riding, in fact, anything you can do. The position stands, Ross, 48, Whitney, 46, seats open 3. If we win the three they are beaten on first division. If we win two they are out of court. We had all three honestly in the general elections. Write by return, now is our time." December 20, 1902.
Private and confidential.

1902 - continued

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Committee on Organization, Ont. Lib. Con. Ass'n, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher, Southampton. "As you are aware, the bye-elections have been brought on. The Government feels its danger and has allowed as little time as possible. We want your help in the above riding (North Grey) Please write to Messrs. Wright and Leavitt at the above address at once, saying what time you can give us in the riding. The position now is, Government, 28, Opposition, 46, and four seats open. One of these, North Renfrew, remains open for the present, while the other three, North Grey, North Perth and North Norfolk, will be decided on January 7th. If we win two of these the Government cannot go on, if we win them all the Government must collapse at once." December 22, 1902.

Same to same. ----- "Our prospects are excellent. Of course, however, the 'machine' is not dead." December 29, 1902.

1903 Letter, R.L. Borden, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. "Your letter respecting a division of Bruce for electoral purposes is at hand. Please accept my thanks for the information which you have given. It will be of great use when we come to consider the division for electoral purposes. The Prime Minister has announced, as you are aware, that the redistribution bill will be based so far as possible upon equality of population and adherence to county or municipal boundaries. At present we have no idea what will be suggested after the bill has been referred to a committee of seven as announced by the Prime Minister; but we feel convinced that the schedules from the Government standpoint have already been prepared and that they will bring into the Committee a proposal upon which they have been working for months past. It is needless to say that we shall do what we can to obtain a fair division of the counties." April 7, 1903. Private.

Letter, Henry Gargill, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. ----- "There is not yet any official announcement as to the redistribution of Bruce further than that it is decided to give two members in place of three. I cannot give you any further details as to the proposed division lines between North and South Bruce. June 29, 1903.

1903 - continued

Letter, R.L. Borden, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. "I ----- note your suggestions with regard to the County of Bruce. I shall be glad to make use of your suggestions to the best possible advantage but the attitude of the Liberal members of the Committee on Redistribution is such that I am afraid we cannot expect much from that quarter. We shall, however, do the very best we can." July 17, 1903.

Letter, F.W. Borden, Minister of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, regretting his inability to unveil a monument at Port Elgin, "as Parliament is now in the midst of the railway legislation it is quite impossible for me to leave Ottawa." August 26, 1903.

1904
Letter, R.L. Borden, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, explaining that his parliamentary duties prevent him accepting A.E. B's invitation to attend a political picnic in North Bruce. April 2, 1904.

Letter, T.S. Sproule, House of Commons, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher. -----
"All we can do here is to discuss the measure and endeavor to place before the electorate the unfavorable features of this contract. The more it is discussed the worse it looks. I am rather inclined to the opinion from present indications, that we are not likely to have an election until after another session but they may change their minds before the session is over." April 12, 1904.

Letter, R.L. Borden, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. ----- "It is most encouraging to know that our pronouncement upon the railway question has met with popular approval." June 24, 1904.

Letter, R.R. Gamey, M.P.P., Gore Bay, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton, Will try and give some time in North Grey for a few meetings. July 9, 1904.

Letter, R.L. Borden, Quebec, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, -----
"I appreciate your action in giving way to Mr. Bland and in supporting him so strongly as you are doing. Let us hope that the result will be favourable and that North Bruce will once more send a supporter of the Conservative Party." October 17, 1904.

Same to same. ----- "I have received many letters and telegrams from my friends throughout the Dominion expressing their sympathy in the defeat we have sustained. We put up a good fight and I feel that the time will yet come when the electorate will regret the vote on the 3rd inst. However, I feel I have done my duty and that I may now be permitted to devote some attention to my own affairs too long neglected." November 19, 1904. Private.

1905 Letter, Hugh Clark, Kincardine, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, congratulating him on being the first Mayor of the town of Southampton. Mentions changes in the magistracy. February 5, 1905.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Premier, to Lt. Col. Belcher, Southampton, re some appointment. "No appointment will be made without the recommendation of the Member for the County or the Conservative candidate as the case may be." February 28, 1905. Personal.

Same to same, re same. "Of course, there are very, very few vacancies and the applications of good men and true are very great in number." October 9, 1906. Personal.

Same to same, sending his sympathy on a sudden bereavement to A.E. Belcher. October 21, 1905. Personal.

Same to same. ----- "I have thought it best to continue Mr. McNabb in the Commission of the Peace. I cannot explain in a letter the reasons for this action. Of course, there should be good reasons for not retaining a man under such circumstances. Surely it is not a matter of enough consequence to cause any worry or dissatisfaction. I am glad that the appointments of justices of the Peace in your locality have given satisfaction." December 21, 1905. Personal.

1906 Letter, J.P. Whitney, Premier, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher, re an appointment in the Government. January 16, 1906.

Letter, J.O. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Promises that aid for the harbor at Southampton will be considered when the appropriations are made. February 14, 1906.

Letter, the Hon. F. Cochrane, Minister of Lands and Mines, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, re some public land on the lake which the town of Southampton wishes to acquire. February 16, 1906.

Letter, the Hon. N. Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re the County Councils Bill. April 3, 1906.

Letter J.P. Whitney to Belcher - April 3, 1906.

Letter, the Hon. A. Beck, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. "I am very pleased, indeed, to see that the citizens of your town are so keenly interested in the Power Question and am sure that you will succeed in convincing them that it is one of the most important matters before the people of the Province at the present time." April 18, 1906.

1906 - continued

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Premier, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. "I have your letter of the 8th inst., enclosing letter of commendation from the Liberal Conservative Ass'n of Southampton. The Power Commission has been constituted, comprising two Cabinet Ministers and Mr. Cecil B. Smith. It is absolutely essential to the working of this Commission that the one member of it, outside of the Cabinet Ministers, should be an expert and accordingly Mr. Smith has been appointed. I appreciate both your capacity and your claims and hope that your patience, like that of hundreds of others with similar claims, will be rewarded in the end." June 11, 1906. Private.

Letter, R.R. Gamey, Gore Bay, to Col. Belcher, promising to help out on a programme. August 4, 1906.

Letter, Hon. F. Cochrane, Department of Lands and Forests, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re some land on the lake front which the town is acquiring. October 23, 1906.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the difficulties of paying political debts. December 26, 1906. Private.

1907 Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher. -----
"I regret that it was impossible to carry out your wishes with reference to the Assistant Clerkship of the House. We could not well avoid the promotion of a gentleman who had been many years in the Service here in a more or less subordinate position and who deserved well of us." January 4, 1907.

Letter, the Hon. Thos. Crawford, Speaker, Leg. Ass., Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Thanks him for his good wishes on his promotion to the position of Speaker of the Legislature. Promises his support of A.E.B.'s application re Inspectorship of Fish and Game. April 11, 1907.

Letter, A.B. Aylesworth, Acting Minister of Public Works, Ottawa, to John Tolmie, M.P., Kincardine, re improvements at the mouth of the Sauguen River and also tenders for Southampton dock. May 17, 1907.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, promising to meet a deputation as requested. August 23, 1907.

1908 Letter, W.H. Bennett, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher. "We are after the dredging crowd, Bowmans & Co., & McKay of Owen Sound & will move soon for a special Committee to take up all the cases. ----- I think we are getting pretty well on their trail." February 1, 1908.

Letter, R.E. Moore, Lion's Head, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the political situation in N. Bruce. Feb'y 11, 1908.

Letter, T.J. Bridge, Lion's Head, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the political situation in N. Bruce & asks A.E.B. if he would consider being a candidate. February 19, 1908.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Att'y-Gen'l, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher, asking his views on the appointment of a second Coroner at Southampton, April 28, 1908.

Letter, John Tolmie, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. Belcher. ----- "I did not do so much for you as I would like to have done. Now, Colonel, honestly now, I do not like yours and McNeill's way of coming out, let the office seek the man and not the man the office. C.W. Bowman was not up North. I have it on good authority - he was in Toronto and Montreal." April 29, 1908.

Letter, R.L. Borden, H. of Commons, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re the wisdom of supporting McNeill as a candidate. "McNeill is under the impression that there would be a much greater chance to carry the riding if he should stand as an independent without receiving any party nomination. His Conservative principles are well known & while he has ideas of his own respecting certain questions of an Imperial character, I have no doubt that he would give a loyal support to the party if elected. It seems probable that the votes of independent and disgusted Liberals would more likely be attracted to him under the conditions which he proposes than otherwise. I trust that the Convention will be harmonious & that the action of the party in any event will be united. I have no desire whatever to impose my own views upon our friends in North Bruce as they know the local situation better than I possibly can; but the main object must always be kept in view, namely, the redemption of the County. Splendid news comes to us from all parts of the country & I have no doubt that the Conservative party if united & determined can win the next Federal elections." July 28, 1908. Confidential.

Letter, Jas. S. Duff, Cookstown, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re the political situation in N. Bruce & urges unity in the coming Convention, even if it means personal sacrifice, August 5, 1908. Private.

Letter, Chas. M. Hays, G.T.R. System, Montreal, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re lease of some land in Southampton owned by the railway, to the town. August 13, 1908.

Letter, R.S. Logan, G.T.R. System, Montreal, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re same. September 19, 1908.

Same to same, re same. September 28, 1908.

Letter, Jas. S. Duff, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his congratulations on his appointment as Minister of Agriculture for Ontario. October 13, 1908.

1909 Letter, Alex. McNeill to Col. Belcher. Has heard from Sir James Whitney that he and his colleagues hope to find "some occupation congenial to" A.E.B.'s tastes. Mentions that Mr. McGregor has been elected mayor of Southampton, Defeating A.E.B. "I presume the Grits were determined to have revenge and combined their forces against you." January 6, 1909.

Letter, Wellington Boulter, Demorestville, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re his former interests in the Orange Lodge and his personal affairs. March 29, 1909.

Letter, I.B. Lucas, Warham, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, thanking him for his note of congratulation. June 14, 1909.

Letter, the Hon. J.O. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re a flying of the flag incident. December 21, 1909.

1910 Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Alex^r McNeill, Warton, re a position for Col. Belcher. February 2, 1910.

Letter, Dr. John D. Wilson, London, to Col. Belcher, inviting him to join a group from the western counties who are to meet the Government to urge a grant to the Western University. February 5, 1910.

Same to same, re same. Gives further details of plans for the meeting with the Government. February 10, 1910.

Letter, R.L. Borden, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Is pleased that his speech upon the Navy Question accords with his views. Gives information as to appointment of delegates to the coming Convention at Ottawa. February 10, 1910.

Letter, Dr. John D. Wilson, London, to Col. Belcher, Southampton. Thanks him for going to Toronto. "You certainly did yeoman work. ----- We certainly did not get justice, and I am afraid Mr. Whitney will suffer from it yet." February 17, 1910.

Same to same. Thanks him for his interest in the University movement. "We are all of one opinion here that we were badly used, but feel that since we have right on our side that it is only a question of time until we get Government aid." February 22, 1910.

1910 - continued

Letter, Frank Pedley, Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher, Southampton. Does not approve of using band funds to purchase musical instruments for the Indians. April 7, 1910.

Letter, H.B. Morphy, Listowel, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re fraternal duties, H.B.M.'s political future, Orange Lodge activity, etc. August 5, 1910.

Letter, I.B. Lucas, Markdale, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re an appointment for A.E.B. with the Government. October 6, 1910.

Letter, W. Currey, Private Secretary, Department of the Attorney General, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, acknowledging his letter applying for the position of Sheriff of Bruce County. October 17, 1910.

Letter, the Hon. James S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re the appointment of a Sheriff for Bruce County. October 19, 1910. Personal.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re an appointment for A.E.B. October 24, 1910.

Letter, C.A. Magrath, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, sending him a copy of his book, "Canada and Some Problems affecting it," in which he deals among other things with citizenship and naturalization. "I do not know if we are justified in going as far as insisting on an education test. Of course, this is the most important question we have to deal with. ----- I was not aware the Government contemplated any move in the matter. What I would like to see, is the appointment of a good Commission to look closely into the whole question of Immigration and Naturalization." November 22, 1910.

Letter, the Hon. J.O. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Southampton, re the appointment of a fishery overseer at Horse Island. December 15, 1910.

1911
Letter, H.B. Morphy, Listowel, to Col. Belcher. ----- "Our Listowel fellows feel that we fought a good fight and though beaten are not dishonoured. We are still alive and in the ring ready to do battle another year." March 17, 1911. Incomplete.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re an appointment for A.E.B. in the Government. March 21, 1911.

1911 - continued

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney-General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, Southampton, re A.E.B.'s commission as a Notary. April 7, 1911.

Letter, C.C. James, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher, Parl. Bldgs., Thanks him for his congratulations. "Coming as it does from a new member of the Service, I assure you that I much appreciate it. Apart from the personal element in this honour, I am pleased to see that a Provincial Civil Servant can now be considered. Hitherto such recognition has not come our way. Perhaps this betokens a new view point - if so, the whole service may be congratulated. In any case, I am grateful to find my friends so kind in their congratulations." June 26, 1911.

Letter, T.S. Sproule, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Registrar General, Toronto. ----- "Yes, the battle goes on as usual. We put the Government on record again, as opposed to any further recognition of the veterans of the Fenian Raid fiasco. They dare not do anything as the Catholic influence in their party is too great to allow it. We had the satisfaction of seeing one of their followers make an ass of himself and of forcing the Gov't majority down to 15. They are crumbling to pieces. We are compassing their destruction." July 20, 1911.

Letter, H.B. Morphy, Listowel, to Lt. Col. Belcher, Registrar-Gen'l's Dep't, Toronto, thanking him for his letter of congratulations. States his majority is 497. September 23, 1911.

Letter, T.S. Sproule, Markdale, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, thanking him for his congratulations on "my victory at the elections and also the victory of our party all along the line." Thinks there should be some representative of the Orange Lodge in the Cabinet, "who could not only voice their sentiment there but also when necessary offer resistance to the encroachments of Rome." Asks him to consult various Orangemen in Toronto on this point. October 3, 1911.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, Midland, to Col. Belcher, ----- "We did do it to them, sure thing." October 6, 1911.

Letter, George E. Foster, House of Commons, Ottawa, to A.E. Belcher. Thanks him for his letter of congratulation, "on my recent victory and on the general success of the Conservative Party. It certainly was a very decided verdict and put the whole party in a position of great strength and advantage and also of great responsibility. I hope we may be able to prove ourselves equal to the Country's hopes and to give good government to Canada." October 7, 1911.

Letter, Hugh Clark, M.P., Kincardine, to Col. Belcher, Toronto. Thanks him for his letter of congratulation "as well as for your prayers and sympathy in the struggle. It was a great fight and a great victory." October 12, 1911.

1911 - continued

Letter, T.S. Sproule, Speaker's Chambers, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto. Thanks him for his congratulations on T.S.S.'s appointment to the office of Speaker which "gives so much pleasure to many of my old Orange brethren." November 6, 1911.

Same to same, sending good wishes on A.E.B.'s marriage. November 20, 1911.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Montreal, thanking him for his congratulations on his recent success in the provincial election. "It was a great victory all around. There is very general regret amongst our friends at the result in East Kent." December 14, 1911.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, thanking him for his congratulations on J.J.F.'s success in the recent provincial elections and sending good wishes to A.E.B. on his recent marriage. December 14, 1911.

1912 Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Lt. Col. Belcher, sending friendly greetings. January 6, 1912. Private.

Letter, H.B. Morphy, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, congratulating A.E.B. on his recent marriage. Promises to consult various members "and see if anything is looming on the horizon which may enure to your benefit." January 29, 1912.

Letter, the Hon. Jas. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re the protest of a note involving Mr. Carstairs. Will try and help clear the matter up. February 2, 1912. Personal.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, to Col. A.E. Belcher, granting him leave to attend a meeting of the Orange in London. February 20, 1912.

Letter, Hugh Clark, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, has recommended Wm. Wilson to be caretaker at the Fish Hatchery. Comments on the vote on the Lancaster Bill. February 26, 1912. Private.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney General, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re the appointment of Registrar for North Bruce. March 7, 1912.

1912 - continued

Letter, Alex. McNeill, Warton, to Lt. Col. Belcher, congratulating A.E.B. on his recent marriage. Comments on the possibility of him being offered a seat in The Senate. July 21, 1912.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, to A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his sympathy on the death of W.H.H.'s mother. October 25, 1912.

Letter, the Hon. A. Beck, Chairman, Hydro-Electric Power Commission, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re a search light on Brock's Monument. November 15, 1912.

Letter, Charles Tupper, Vancouver, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, ----- "It is a great comfort to know that my exertions to promote the progress and prosperity of Canada have been so warmly appreciated by so many of my fellow countrymen, and I feel deeply grateful to those who like yourself sustained me in my efforts. I am very thankful that I have been spared to witness the great position that my beloved country has attained and to feel assured that, as yet, she is only on the threshold of her future greatness." December 6, 1912.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Gody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Lt. Col. Belcher, thanking him for his greetings and kind words. "Very often one never knows whether he has helped anyone by a word spoken; it is therefore a great gratification and stimulus to know what you have so thoughtfully told me. You are a 'good listener' and good listeners make better preachers." December 23, 1912.

1913

Letter, Wm. David McPherson, M.P., Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s application for position as successor to Commissioner Starr. January 2, 1913.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. Belcher. ----- "We will stay with them and there will be no election. I think Scott's chances are good but not certain. Parkhill is getting better alright." February 8, 1913.

Letter, Lt. Col. Charles F. Winter, Military Secretary, Department of Militia and Defence, covering duplicate commission in the Reserve Militia, issued to A.E.B. in 1896. February 25, 1913.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher. -----

I quite agree with you with reference to the situation in Toronto University but you are not quite accurate when you speak of the attitude of the Universities in the Old Country. At Oxford & Cambridge the Undergraduates discuss political matters freely in their debating societies & vote upon them in the same way but ----- the movement here is altogether different from there." February 25, 1913.

1913 - continued

Letter, Hugh Clark, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I do not think there is any chance of the Government having to go to the country on the Navy Bill. ----- I wrote to Dr. Reaume urging him to give a very substantial grant for the road between Lion's Head and Tobermory." March 3, 1913.

Letter, H.B. Morphy, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, c/o Prov'l Board of Health, Toronto. "----- and beg to assure you that our Party is absolutely united and we have stuck to the same policy which shows no sign of loosening and we will put the matter thro' if it takes until Christmas to do it." March 10, 1913.

Letter, R.L. Borden, Prime Minister, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto. "I have your letter with respect to the Obstruction at Ottawa. It is the intention of the Government to press forward the Naval Bill to a successful conclusion. During the past eight days the Liberal Party have continually obstructed the passage of one of the clauses in that Bill for which they voted during the second reading. However, we hope that better progress will be made in the near future." March 11, 1913. Private.

Letter, Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to Col. A. Belcher. "I am in receipt of your letter of recent date. I am glad you recognize it is not necessary to write to me. It sort of grates on a man who has served his country faithfully on every occasion to sacrifice everything he had, repeatedly, to keep the old flag flying, to receive such letters as yours. If I had ever wavered in questions such as this from the path of principle, duty and law, your appeal for me to stand true would be in place. If you do not mind my telling you, I think you should take the other line, and acknowledge that it is the line I am pursuing that puts a little backbone into a fellow like you. However, I accept your letter in the spirit that it is well meant." March 11, 1913.

Letter, T.S. Sproule, Speaker, House of Commons, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, re carrying out his duties of Speaker, no matter how unpleasant or difficult. April 1, 1913.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. Belcher. "Yes, too bad about our old friend, Parkhill. He was a man every inch of him. Note what you say as to Senators. Well, others will have to bide their time. Well, the Senate put the navy out of business last night. Too bad. Effect in Britain will be serious." May 30, 1913.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re the appointment of another magistrate in Toronto, for which he sees no need. June 19, 1913. Private and confidential.

1913 - continued

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Incas, Provincial Treasurer, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re some better position in the Government service for Col. B. "Men acting in public life often, very often, are so tied up by the exigencies of politics that they cannot do what they would like to do. Notwithstanding the charge sometimes made that politics is a profession where gratitude has no place, I refuse to accept that view and still believe that many of the friendships of politics are real, lasting and worth while." June 21, 1913. Personal.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Thanks him for his friendly letter. "It was indeed a famous victory." July 16, 1913.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of congratulation re the result in Norty Grey. July 17, 1913.

Letter, Charles Tupper, The Mount, Berkeley Heath, to Lt. Col. Belcher. Thanks him for congratulations sent on his 92nd birthday. "It is a great source of pleasure that I have been permitted to live to see Canada attain the position it now occupies. It has a great future in store." July 26, 1913.

Letter, Lt. Col. Charles F. Winter, Military Secretary, Dept. of Militia and Defence, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, re his wish to obtain the Long Service Medal and Officers' Decoration. Points out it is not proper for both to be worn at the same time. August 21, 1913.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Gody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, thanking him for passing on Hon. Adam Brown's kindly reference. Welcomes him as a communitant at St. Paul's. September 4, 1913.

Letter, S.F. Glass, London, to Lt. Col. Belcher, re the political situation in East Middlesex. September 19, 1913.

Letter, J.P. Whitney, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Regrets he cannot be present at the service of tribute to the Veterans of 1866 who fell at Lime Ridge. September 26, 1913.

Letter, the Hon. Richard McBride, Prime Minister, British Columbia, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re R. McB.'s address to the Canadian Club in Ottawa. "My object in speaking was entirely apart from politics as I look on the question of Naval Defence as of vast national importance and consider that Canada should not delay in assuming the responsibilities which belong to her as a part of the Empire." October 29, 1913.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Gody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for the story of two students and their experience in giving. October 31, 1913.

1913 - continued

Letter, S. Frank Glass, London, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto, thanking him for his congratulations. "The fight was rather a strenuous one and at times some of our friends felt discouraged, so many prejudices crept in, the demand for a farmer candidate, the continuation school fight in Missouri, these and other matters kept the situation strained throughout. If, however, our Liberal friends can find any consolation in the result, we do not begrudge it to them. We are well satisfied with the Victory." November 8, 1913.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his good wishes on the opening of the new church. December 4, 1913.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re the proposed Superannuation Bill for the Ontario Civil Service, the Junior Civil Servants, the question of salaries, etc. December 10, 1913. Private and confidential. December 10, 1913.

Letter, Hugh J. Macdonald, Winnipeg, to Col. A.E. Belcher, sending personal greetings. December 26, 1913.

1914
Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s application as Commissioner of the Juvenile Court. January 6, 1914.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re Bishop Williams. January 20, 1914.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, promising support in securing an appointment for A.E.B. January 21, 1914. Private.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney-General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re his application for a post in the Juvenile Court. January 22, 1914.

Letter, Lt. Col. Chas. F. Winter, Military Secretary, Department of Militia and Defence, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re the Canadian Defence League, about which the Minister wishes more information. "Sometime ago the Minister conceived a bad impression of this organization from his lack of confidence in the gentleman at the head of it; and, before associating himself with it in the manner you request, he is desirous of having full particulars about the League." January 27, 1914.

1914 - continued

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s application for Commissionship of the Juvenile Court. February 3, 1914.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re the responsibility and opportunities of laymen. "The greater part they directly take in church work, the better will it be for the general progress of the Church." February 9, 1914.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, asking his help in finding a post for his (Judge Klein's) niece. February 21, 1914.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his words on the Union of Protestants. "They are most forceful and appropriate and will, I am sure, exercise great influence on the Grand Lodge." March 3, 1914.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, re his niece's position in Toronto and her future prospects. March 5, 1914. Personal.

Same to same, re same. Comments on the appointment of James Henderson Scott to the Bench. March 13, 1914.

Letter, the Hon. J.J. Foy, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re appointment of a Commissioner of the Juvenile Court, and objecting to remarks made in the Toronto World on the subject. March 24, 1914.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Provincial Treasurer, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, returning a memorandum on University matters, pointing out how that institution has been under the direct control of the Liberal Party for 30 years, the influence of Blake and Moss, Prof. Wrong's appointment, the attitude of various professors, the position of President Falconer, the pro-American, anti-British attitude of the university, etc. April 6, 1914. Private.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re Redistribution in Bruce County. April 15, 1914.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his photograph and commenting on it. June 12, 1914. Personal.

1914 - continued

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Thanks him for a poem, "which certainly is a splendid contribution to our campaign literature. It is too bad that we lost North Bruce. It certainly should have been won and it is difficult to understand why we fell the few votes behind that we did. However, as you say, the one township accounted for far more than sufficient to cause defeat." July 6, 1914.

Letter, the Hon. R.P. Roblin, Premier, Winnipeg, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. "I trust your prophecy will be fulfilled. There was no justification for my Orange friends withdrawing their support. Time will prove the correctness of that statement and I believe they will regret it eventually as much as I do now." July 17, 1914.

Letter, Charles Tupper, The Mount, Bexley Heath, England, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for greetings as he approached his 94th year. July 18, 1914.

Letter, Lt. Col. Charles F. Winter, Military Secretary, Dept. of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, acknowledging his offer for service "in the present emergency." August 4, 1914.

Same to same, re recruiting of the Chippawa Band of Saugeen Indians in the "emergency". August 8, 1914.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Prime Minister, Ontario, to Col. Belcher, to whom he refers as "an old Bruce political warrior." October 3, 1914.

Same to same, re a celebration as a tribute to him on his appointment as Premier of Ontario. October 19, 1914. Private and confidential.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher. "Your predictions certainly have come true. Between here and Midway, Farmers have telephones and electric lights in their homes and by rural mail get their daily papers by 11 a.m. every legal day." Refers to the early activities of the war. November 8, 1914.

Letter, Lt. Col. Chas. F. Winter, Military Secretary, Dept. of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. Belcher, re the training of Home Guards and points out the shortage of equipment all of which must be used for the Active Units. November 13, 1914.

1915 Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher.

Reports that the appeal for the Belgians has been magnificent and it is expected that more than 1000 bbls. of flour will be sent to them.
January 5, 1915.

Letter, the Hon. D. Jamieson, Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Ontario, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re appointment of Mr. Fitt on the sessional staff.
Comments on some of the difficulties in placing applicants. January 18, 1915.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher. Asks his advice and help in support of his application as successor to Judge William Berrett who has just died. January 29, 1915. Private.

Letter, the Hon. G.H. Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Toronto, promising to try and place A.E.B.'s son as a fire-ranger for the season.
February 4, 1915. Personal.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. Belcher, re the appointment of a county judge for Bruce. February 18, 1915.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his actions on his behalf. Comments on Col. Belcher's appeal to the people of Bruce. "It is too bad that we have not many lofty-minded men in this county now. Who have we to take a stand and lead the minds of our people to a loftier and more loyal plane? Our public men as a rule are of the Township Council politician stamp, spineless, spiritless and chuck full of selfishness." February 18, 1915.

Same to same, telling of the help given him by C.S. Cameron, M.P., North Grey. February 23, 1915.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher. -----

"I believe it is about a dead lock at Ottawa as far as my appointment is concerned. Senator Donnelly is the cause of it all." March 18, 1915.
Confidential.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, -----
"I am afraid our good friend Potts might have to revise his first impressions if he knew me longer. I heard him speak at Tara and thought he was a very clever talker. I should think he would be rather dangerous on the stump if he were against you." April 12, 1915. Private.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for a copy of a Resolution recently passed by the Imperial Order of Orangemen, as well as A.E.B.'s recruiting hymn. August 18, 1915.

Letter, Helen Merrill, Parliament Buildings, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re publishing his views on universal military training, to follow Col. Merritt's ideas which have been presented in the daily papers. August 26, 1915.

1915 - continued

Letter, Canon H.P. Plumptre, St. James' Cathedral, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Gives his ideas on compulsory military training. September 6, 1915. Confidential.

Letter, Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Defence, Ottawa, to Col. Alex. Belcher, re his (Sir Sam's) knighthood. September 24, 1915.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Gody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, commenting on Col. B.'s pamphlet on military training for boys. November 15, 1915.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Regrets he is unable to attend a meeting of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society. November 15, 1915.

1916 Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, sending friendly greetings and gives some family news. January 16, 1916.

Same to same. Tells of plans for a recruiting campaign in that district. February 20, 1916.

Copy of letter from A.E. Belcher, Toronto, to the Premier of Ontario, suggesting "that it would be wise on the part of Government to take upon themselves (without a referendum) the responsibility of enacting that the bars be closed until after the War, giving those interested a few months' time to prepare for this condition and then in a year or so, after the War, to give the electors as a whole the opportunity of voting (when the soldiers who are away will have a chance to vote) whether they wanted this condition to continue or be changed. All would be more satisfied and would under the extraordinary circumstances seem to be British fair play." March 10, 1916.

Letter, the Hon. W.J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his opinion on temperance legislation. March 13, 1916.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re his views on temperance legislation. ----- "Personally I think there are very substantial reasons for the line of action you suggest." March 13, 1916. Private.

Letter, M.W. Rowell, Leader of the Opposition, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher.

----- "I think I wrote you some time ago that I did not feel free to join your organization for compulsory military training." March 21, 1916.

1916 - continued

Letter, R.S. Hudson, Canada Permanent Mortgage Corp'n, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re the Canadian Defence League and the difficulties with Col. Merritt and suggests that the directors send in their resignations. April 13, 1916.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col Belcher, asking his help in publishing items in connection with a coming celebration in the County of Bruce. April 30, 1916.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for an Easter booklet and for a book of his poems. May 1, 1916.

Letter, R.S. Hudson, Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re application for a grant for Fenian Raid Service.

----- "After you left yesterday, I had a good deal to say to Col. Merritt - that he was not at all fair to you, and his statements about the Field were not reasonable or fair." May 4, 1916.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Regrets he cannot be with Col. B. for a meeting but he has to be in Pittsburgh to address the British born residents of that city on the evening of Empire Day. May 17, 1916.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, to Col. Belcher, on personal matters. May 26, 1916.

Letter, R.R. Gamney, Hotel Cecil, London, England, to Col. Belcher. Cannot be with them on the 12th. Tells of some of his experiences in England in war time. June 24, 1916.

Letter, P.W. Ellis, Toronto Hydro Electric Commission, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, on the progress of the Hydro. June 26, 1916.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, on personal matters. August 9, 1916.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re requirements and procedure to become a layreader. August 11, 1916.

Same to same, re same. September 29, 1916.

Letter, Wellington Boulter, Picton, to Col. Belcher, on personal matters in a reminiscent mood. September 28, 1916.

Letter, Wm. Briggs, Methodist Book and Publishing House, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for some of his poetry. ----- "and the great thing nowadays is to be in the majority, politically and poetically and commercially and honorably." October 17, 1916.

1916 - continued

Letter, Garrie H. Macgillivray, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re meeting to consider the idea of a Silver Cross to be presented to each mother who lost a son in the late war. October 25, 1916.

Letter, Verna Sheard, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his book of verse. October 28, 1916.

Letter, Wm. Briggs, Methodist Book and Publishing House, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for and commenting on his book of verse. October 31, 1916.

Letter, Jas. H. Coyne, St. Thomas, to Col. Belcher. Reports he is recovering from a recent accident. Thanks him for his verses. December 1, 1916.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re salaries in the Civil Service. December 12, 1916. Personal and confidential.

Letter, Wm. David McPherson, Provincial Secretary, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his congratulations. December 21, 1916.

1917

Letter, C.W. Rowley, Winnipeg, to Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his congratulations, comments on A.E.B.'s verses; states his own readiness to serve the Empire, etc. January 12, 1917. Personal.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, congratulating Col. B. on his election to the presidency of the United Empire Loyalists Ass'n. January 24, 1917.

Letter, Geo. Lynch Staunton, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of congratulation on his (G.L.S.'s) being summoned to The Senate. January 27, 1917.

Letter, the Hon. W.H. Hearst, Prime Minister, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. States that a Municipal Branch of the Government is being contemplated and he will keep A.E.B. in mind as to any possible appointment there. February 6, 1917.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, promising to speak at the Inaugural Meeting of the United Empire Loyalists Ass'n on "Wherein lies the Unity of the Empire?" February 15, 1917.

1917 - continued

Letter, W.H. Hearst, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of congratulation on W.H.H. receiving his Knighthood. February 20, 1917.

Letter, W.H. Hearst, Prime Minister, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Regrets that the pressure of increased work will not permit him to address the U.E.L. Ass'n. March 19, 1917. Personal.

Letter, Peter McArthur, Appin, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Explains his delay in answering A.E.B.'s letter is that he has "been so busy fighting for action in the matter of Greater Production that I was compelled to neglect all personal matters. Thanks him for his verses. Sends a sketch of himself "which may prove enlightening. Fifteen years in New York & London, Eng. account for the 'business man' air and twenty-eight years on this farm account for the knowledge of farming. Add to these years the years spent in school and college and I am accounted for." Is willing to address A.E.B.'s Ass'n (U.E.L.) but prefers doing so "later in the season when this Production campaign is over. It is taking all my energy now." April 25, 1917.

Letter, Walter R. Nursey, Ontario Industrial Farm, Burwash, to Col. Belcher. Approves of A.E.B.'s pamphlet on Universal Military Training. May 1, 1917.

Letter, Col. J. Mason, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Regrets that the great press of many duties will not permit him to address the U.E.L. Ass'n on his recent trip to England and the Continent. May 9, 1917.

Letter, Wm. David McPherson, Provincial Secretary, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Finds it impossible to address the U.E.L. Ass'n but will present the flags to the War Veterans on Empire Day. May 16, 1917. Private and confidential.

Letter, W.J. Hanna, Food Controller, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher. Will keep him in mind if his services can be used. "In the meantime, I may say that so many have volunteered their services and would bring to the organization such wide experience as well, that it may be we can complete our staff from that class. June 27, 1917.

Letter, Nina Moore Jamieson, R.R. 1, Millgrove, to Col. Belcher. Speaks of some of the difficulties of writing, as she does all her own house work, has three children, etc. August 3, 1917.

Letter, Onondeyon, Mohawk Chief, to Col. Belcher, telling of his trip to England with his band of warriors, and some of his first experiences there. August 3, 1917.

Letter, John G. Kent, Acting Manager, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re the review of War Veterans by the Governor General. August 15, 1917.

1917 - continued

Letter, George Fowler, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of congratulations on his appointment to the Senate. September 13, 1917.

Letter, Wm. Houston, Globe Office, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Is willing to give a talk on What the Politically Civilized World Owes to the Insularity of Great Britain." September 21, 1917.

Letter, Alderman R.H. Graham, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. States his grandfather was a resident contractor of New York City for some years. About 1810, when an Act of the U.S. Gov't demanded all British subjects to take the Oath of Allegiance to the U.S. Gov't., his grandfather abandoned his American home and interests and moved to Canada where he founded the village of Grahamsville in Peel County and secured patents for his lands. Thinks he himself is eligible for the U.E.L. Ass'n. October 12, 1917.

Invitation from the Burns Literary Society of Toronto to an Address by Lt. Gen. Sir Sam Hughes on Robert Burns. James L. Hughes, President. October 18, 1917.

Letter, N.W. Rowell, Privy Council, Ottawa, to Col. Belcher. Thanks him for his letter of congratulations. "I trust my course as a member of the Government may justify your confidence and support." October 19, 1917.

Letter, J. Mason, Headquarters Chief Organizer, Reserve Militia of Canada, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Regrets that heavy responsibilities and duties will not permit him to address the U.E.L. Ass'n. October 20, 1917.

Letter, Sir William Hearst, Prime Minister, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, regretting he cannot attend the meeting of the U.E.L. Ass'n. October 29, 1917.

Letter, Frederick T. Grafton, Barrie, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Is the author of "Pioneer Life in Peel". Tells something of his family history. November 17, 1917.

Letter, H.B. Morphy, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I am having a very hard fight in this County where there are 9,000 Germans who the Liberals say are against me but I will fight it out on British lines to a finish." November 22, 1917.

Letter, W.H. Bennett, Ottawa, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his congratulations on his appointment to The Senate. "I think the reward to myself was helped along by the fact that her father had been a prince for the party." November 11, 1917.

1917 - continued

Letter, Lieut. F.O. Loft, France, to Col. Belcher, telling of some of his experiences while in the Army in Europe. December 6, 1917.

Letter, R.L. Borden, Prime Minister, Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, -----
"The result of the election was most notable. The people of Canada realized the country's need and nobly discharged their duty. With so firm a mandate the Union Government can give, and I am confident will give, fine service to our country." December 21, 1917.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher. Fears he may have to resign on account of health. December 27, 1917.

Letter, the Hon. Wm. David McPherson, Provincial Secretary, to Col. Belcher, granting him leave-of-absence, on account of ill-health. December 31, 1917. Private and confidential.

1918
Letter, M.A. Sproule (Mrs. T.S. Sproule), Markdale, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of sympathy on the death of her husband. January 6, 1918.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for the letter of congratulation on his appointment to the Board of Governors of the University of Toronto, January 29, 1918.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, to Col. Belcher, re presentation of medals to veterans. February 5, 1918.

Letter, Nina Moore Jamieson, (Mrs. Norman Jamieson), R.R. #1, Willgrove, to Lt. Col. Belcher. Thanks him for a volume of poems. Tells of her difficulty in getting publication, on a paid basis, for her poems. February 11, 1918.

Letter, John Macartney, Sec'y, Tobermory F.A., Tobermory, to Col. Belcher, re grievance of the local fisherman on the proposed cut in the price of fish by the provincial Government. February 11, 1918.

Letter, J.J.D. Banting, The Maples, Cookstown, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re an appointment by the Government, altho' he has not heard anything definite yet. Feels the Conservative Party owes him some recognition. February 12, 1918.

Letter, Peter McArthur, Appin, to Col. Belcher. Thanks him for some poetry. "It may be of interest to you to know that we are living in the log house built by my father. It is unusually large for a log house and when I jacked it up and put a cement foundation under it I fixed the warmest farmhouse in the district. As the fifth generation is now on this farm, we feel that we have struck root in the soil. As you know, everything dealing with the pioneers is of interest to me." Sends him some of his own poetry. February 12, 1918.

1918 - continued

Letter, W. Proudfoot, Leader of the Opposition, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I trust that my leadership will be such as to later on meet with your approval. It means, of course, a good deal of extra work, but you know as well as I do that nothing is ever accomplished in this world without a great deal of effort." February 20, 1918.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Thanks him for Mr. McArthur's "very striking poem." Comments on possible victory. February 27, 1918.

Letter, Walter R. Nursey, Burwash, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Hopes his friend, Sir James Lougheed, will be able to help him find "a long-promised position." March 5, 1918.

Same to same. Is greatly disappointed that Sir James Lougheed has not placed him in a Government position, taking refuge behind the newly appointed Civil Service Commission. March 22, 1918.

Letter, R.S. Hudson, Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Must give up his work on the Social Service Commission. "My impression is that our old associate, Col. W.H.M., is about at the end of his tether. He has succeeded in killing the Defence League, there is no doubt about that. I am sorry we did not receive a better impression of him. He will never change." April 2, 1918.

Letter, Wm. Briggs, Methodist Book and Publishing House, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s poems and the publishing of them. April 3, 1918.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, re tickets for the Archbishop of York's meeting. April 4, 1918.

Letter, H.M. Mowat, M.P., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, Toronto. ---
--- "The Motion for universal service instead of the present Militia methods will receive great support in the House of Commons. I am afraid the Members from Quebec will oppose it in order to keep in conformity with the supposed feeling of that Province at the present time. While the Motion is not far down on the Order paper, there is a possibility, on account of the shortness of the Session, that it will not be reached." April 17, 1918.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, reporting on his rather precarious health. May 12, 1918.

Circular Letter from the York Pioneer & Historical Society, James I. Hughes, President. August 21, 1918.

1918 - continued

Letter, James L. Hughes, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Tells of the purchase of the Temple of the Children of Peace at Sharon near Newmarket by the York Pioneers. Gives an account of the various items of expense in this connection and asks for a contribution to meet the full obligations. August 22, 1918.

Letter, the Hon. H.J. Cody, Minister of Education, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his support in the recent election. August 23, 1918.

Letter, J.B. Watson, Treas., York Pioneer & Historical Society, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re his fees. October 2, 1918.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. "I am glad and thankful to be home again, after a very wonderful opportunity and experience Overseas. I hope, that I may be the better fitted, by what I have seen and heard, to render more useful service in the future." November 8, 1918.

Letter, Hugh Clark, Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment Dept., Ottawa, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, commenting on his new work there. Does not hold out any hope for a position for A.E.B. in the Ottawa Government Service. Advises him to stay where he is. November 20, 1918.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re an appointment as Police Magistrate for part of Bruce. Points out there is no salary attached to this post. Suggests he approach his own Minister to "get around the difficulty and to make things more pleasant for you." December 5, 1918.

Letter, Fred R. Parnell, St. Catharines, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. -----
"Well, Colonel, I am into politics - that is nothing new for me but I am in farther now than ever before. The Reformers are not opposing me, in fact they think there should be no election and are therefore supporting me all over the Riding. I have a practically solid Tory backing and the Orangemen are behind me to a man. I came out solid against Bilingual Schools until I thought the Delegates would raise the roof. I was confined to my bed all last week while my opponent was very busy. After his defeat he moved my nomination be made unanimous and promised me his support. Yesterday was the official nomination and my opponent now is a returned soldier (got as far as England and only I am told) an Englishman, he is backed by a small following of the Labor party and some Socialists. It looks at this writing like an easy win but one never knows. A personal friend of mine and an Ex-Warden of the County told me yesterday and I think it splendid advice, "Fred, never underestimate an opponent." I will keep that motto ever before me and fight to the finish. ----- Am sorry my opponent is a Soldier for they have my respect. ----- I am afraid, Mr. Longdon, my opponent, has been ill advised to contest this Riding." December 21, 1918.

1918 - continued

Letter, J.H. Cook, Lion's Head, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Is disgusted at the way the war has been handled. Speaks strongly against the aliens in Canada and the profiteers, etc. Supported the Union Government. December 23, 1918.

Letter, Major A. McLean Moffatt, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re plans for the re-habilitation and re-establishment of the returned men who enlisted from Bruce County. December 31, 1918.

1919 Letter, Sir Hugh J. Macdonald, Winnipeg, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, sending acknowledgment of good wishes, etc. January 5, 1919.

Letter, Nina Moore Jamieson (Mrs. Norman Jamieson), R.R. #1, Willgrove, to Col. Belcher. Has been very ill with "the Pertussis". Rarely gets to Toronto, as there are "the cows, and the children and the everlasting housework." January 7, 1919.

Letter, Sir William Hearst, Prime Minister, reminding him that great care should be taken in letters written on official paper. "I am sure you do not want to create trouble for the Government." January 23, 1919. Private.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Gody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, sending congratulations to Col. B. on his 75th birthday. "I am feeling in the best of health and I shall endeavour not to over work. However, there is so much to do that it is difficult to refrain from doing a bit of it." January 29, 1919.

Letter, Wm. Briggs, Methodist Book and Publishing House, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, re offprints of his paper from the Ontario Historical Society. Is very busy with work for the Government, Bills, Public Accounts, etc. February 5, 1919.

Several letters from James L. Hughes, most of them undated but apparently in 1919, dealing with many subjects.

Letter, Dr. Rowland B. Orr, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. -----
"I might say to you that so far I have studiously avoided becoming a war chief or any other chief of the modern Indian. My great respect is for the Indian of four hundred years ago and not for the habitue of the present time." May 6, 1919.

Letter, Fred R. Parnell, St. Catharines, to Col. Belcher, re poetry and the Ontario Historical Society. May 13, 1919.

1919 - continued

Letter, Wm. David McPherson, Provincial Secretary, to Col. A.E. Belcher, re salaries in the Civil Service. Encloses copy of a letter from Sir William Hearst on the subject. June 10, 1919.

Letter, the Hon. H.J. Cody, Minister of Education, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I counted it a great privilege to have a share in the unveiling ceremony for Lieut. Norworthy. Comments on the Ontario Historical Society. June 24, 1919.

Letter, J.S. Garstairs, Dept. of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, to Col. Belcher, re the Ontario Historical Society. ----- "You are on the Council and you and Orr must protect Hunter. Unfortunately the newspaper accounts, so far as I have seen, did not suggest even the reason why I opposed the election of Locke. Now if they make the slightest movement to disturb Hunter, we shall carry the discussion into the Toronto newspapers; it would be a second outrage. First, it was outrageous to pitchfork the Toronto Librarian into Membership one day, the Vice presidency the next day and the next year into the Presidency; secondly, it would be a greater outrage to remove the Secretary merely because he is non persona grata to the President selected (not elected) under such conditions." June 25, 1919.

Letter, the Hon. I.B. Lucas, Attorney General, Toronto, to Col. A.E. Belcher. ----- "I think we have crossed the Rubicon and cut the bridges behind. While there are disturbing conditions and much unrest for which, of course, this Government is not responsible but which nevertheless can be used against the Government, still in the face of all these difficulties, I feel as confident as anyone can upon an election that the Hearst Government will be returned with a substantial majority." September 22, 1919. Personal and confidential.

Letter, the Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his letter of sympathy. September 23, 1919.

Letter, Mrs. Mary Almas, Southampton, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Has returned to live in Southampton and tells of the progress of that community. October 20, 1919.

Letter, J.J. Hunter, Proprietor, The Kincardine Reporter, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Points out that no criticism was meant when he spoke of Col. Belcher's "peculiar" dress. October 25, 1919.

Letter, the Hon. H.J. Cody, Minister of Education, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. ----- "Things certainly seem to be somewhat involved. I am looking forward myself with the greatest delight to resuming in fullest measure my work at St. Paul's." October 28, 1919.

1919 - continued

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Lt. Col. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s poetry. November 15, 1919.

Letter, His Honour, L.H. Clarke, Government House, Toronto, to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher. Thanks him for his letter of congratulation on L.C. becoming Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. ----- "It is pleasant, indeed, to go back in recollection to the 'other days' you so reminiscently speak of, and to recall the efforts put forth in what was still then the North for the betterment of the country."
December 17, 1919.

1920 Letter, Janet Carnochan, Niagara, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his picture. Mentions their united stand in the Ontario Historical Society. August 22, 192-.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, sending good wishes to him on his 76th birthday. January 30, 1920.

Letter, the Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, to Col. A.E. Belcher, sending good wishes on his 76th birthday. Mentions that "some valuable papers" were destroyed by fire some years ago. March 2, 1920.

Letter, W.L. Mackenzie King, M.P., Ottawa, to Col. Belcher. Mentions the death of both his mother and his father. March 13, 1920.

Letter, R.E. Kingsford, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. ----- "Like yourself, I have been greatly worried by the course of events here. There is steadily growing a strong anti-Imperialist, Nationalist sentiment, encouraged by the whole set of Independence Annexationist Republican Socialistic cranks - probably secretly backed by U.S. influence moved by the Fenian and pro-German elements in the States. There is no organized opposition or counter education kept up. The present Ontario Local Government headed by a Reciprocity advocate wedded to Free Trade is a thorn in the flesh. The Conservatives have thrown away their power. At Ottawa, they are no better. The idea of Canada being handed over to King as Premier is detestable and yet in the absence of organization it is quite possible that it may come about. In my job as Police Magistrate I am not supposed to meddle in such questions and to do anything else is only to touch the fringe of the matter. Then again the University of Toronto has been turned into a half Yankee propagandist concern. It should be handled without gloves. The present head should be dismissed and half the staff. We will have the rising generation of students taught completely on wrong lines. How could I undertake a crusade holding this job?"

1920 - continued

Letter, R.E. Kingsford, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, continued

I am disclosing to you my opinions and showing how impossible it is for me to express them in public holding the position I do. I fear you must look elsewhere. I am worried and anxious beyond words at the way things are going. How can I undertake to try to remedy them. All the names you mention, good men as they are, would not have much weight. I write with great distress because I can not see my way to chuck up my position and enter politics for that is what it comes to." March 16, 1920.

Letter, Nina M. Jamieson, Mrs. Norman Jamieson, R.R. #1, Millgrove, to Col. Belcher. Tells of her family life, mentions that she was born in Belfast, Ireland, and gives the prices of eggs and butter. March 2, 1920.

Circular letter, signed by W.J. Dunlop, announcing the advent of The Canadian Historical Review. April, 1920.

Letter, Capt. J.S. Garstairs, Dept. of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, on the affairs of the Ontario Historical Society. June 25, 1920.

Same to same, from Halifax, re the election going on there. July 13, 1920.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, on personal matters. August 31, 1920.

Letter, the Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, thanking him for his congratulations on his 73rd birthday. September 22, 1920.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, re A.E.B.'s situation. September 26, 1920.

Letter, Nina M. Jamieson, (Mrs. Norman Jamieson), R.R. #1, Millgrove, to Col. Belcher, giving some advice for his poetry but admits she has written none for two years. November 2, 1920.

Letter, the Rev. H.J. Cody, St. Paul's Church, Toronto, to Col. Belcher, thanking him for his letter. "A word of brotherly cheer is a great help, in a world where discouragements and perplexities constantly confront us." November 23, 1920.

Letter, Judge A.H. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, asking him to compose some verses re the Walkerton Old Boys & Girls' Re-Union, to be held July, 1921. December 8, 1920.

Letter, Adam Brown, Hamilton, to Col. Belcher, re his retirement as Postmaster of Hamilton. Mentions their work together on the Wellington, Gray & Bruce Railway. December 15, 1920.

1921

Letter, Fred R. Parnell, M.P.P., St. Catharines, to Col. Belcher.

----- "Was over at the gathering of the "Glans" in December. Anyone who was at that meeting would never have to ask the question, "Will the good old Tory Party come back?" Any party built on the foundation stone of British tradition, Imperial Unity and devotion to the Land of the Maple Leaf can never permanently pass away. It may be storm-tossed, driven on the rocks as it were for the time being but it is sure to weather the storm. God forbid that this dear Canada of ours will ever be permanently controlled by Class Legislation. It may be for a short time but the foundation is wrong and will not stand." ----- Refers to his old mother whose family took part in all the early battles of Upper Canada. January 23, 1921.

Letter, Thos. A. Edison, Orange, N.J., to Lt. Col. A.E. Belcher, thanking him for his birthday wishes. Refers to the days "many years ago when I spent a short period of my telegraphic career as an Operator on the Grand Trunk Railway. I remember that I retired very suddenly from the Company and did not waste time to tender a resignation." February 26, 1921. Attached is a sketch of Edison by Col. Belcher.

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, on personal matters and plans for the Walkerton Re-union. June 14, 1921.

Letter, George Buskard, Private Secretary to the Hon. Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister. ----- "Mr. Meighen desires me to say that he is grateful for your suggestion. He has been giving his most careful thought to the matter referred to since his return from the old Country some three weeks ago and will make a most important pronouncement at London to-morrow night. Right or wrong, he is convinced that his conclusion is not only the best in the interests of the party but in the interests of the country at large." August 31, 1921.

Letter, the Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, to Col. Belcher. Wishes Col. Belcher well on his retirement to Southampton. Will recommend him as Returning Officer when the appointments are made. Comments on the coming election. "You and I have seen many election contests in the Dominion and I have been directly interested in these since 1882. Naturally for me the recurrence of this period does not appeal as in my younger days. I have no doubt, however, that we shall put on a very efficient and vigorous campaign with the hope that the country will respond on this, as on so many previous occasions and give its verdict on the right side." September 9, 1921.

Letter, E.C. Drury, Prime Minister, to Col. Belcher. Thinks he (A.E.B.) has been dealt with very generously by the Superannuation Board. September 10, 1921.

Letter, the Hon. Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister, Ottawa, to Col. Belcher, Toronto, promising consideration to A.E.B.'s application to be appointed a Returning Officer in the coming election. September 15, 1921.

1921 - continued

Letter, Judge A.B. Klein, Walkerton, to Col. Belcher, re appointment of Col. B. as Returning Officer in the coming election, September 15, 1921.

Letter, Alex. McNeill to Col. Belcher, re possibility of Col. B. being appointed Returning Officer in the coming election. Wishes him a happy retirement in Southampton. September 17, 1921.

Letter, Nina M. Jamieson, R.R. #1, Willgrove, to Col. Belcher. Mentions her book, also that she is "still a good step away from forty", having been married at twenty-two. December 10, 1921.

1922

Letter, Alexander F. Campbell, Calgary, to Col. Belcher. Wishes him a happy retirement in Southampton. Comments on the recent Federal election. "Well, the much exciting elections are past and a 'new king rules in Egypt that knows not Joseph', Who would have thought that old Ontario could so far have been allured away from its old traditions and the glorious old N.P. Surely these are days of change, indeed. I did not look for much different in the West but I did hope that the East would do better. However, though all is lost but honour, we will look forward to brighter days and the return of the grand old Conservative party with Meighen at its head. Remember the triumphs and inglorious defeats of grand old Sir John. Within my vivid recollections of political life and election contests there have been THIRTEEN (13) elections in Canada and of this number the Conservative party won SEVEN (7) and the Liberals SIX (6) including this last one. So you see we have had the better end of the game and we will win again when the people return to their normal sense and Canada has had a surfeit of class and group and racial rule." Tells of his work in the West as Agricultural Inspector. Likes Calgary. "The farmers of Alberta are almost to a man led by Wood, an American from Missouri, a Republican, who was never heard to speak a word in favour of the monarchical form of government nor give an expression of loyalty to our KING nor to extol British institutions. There are so many Americans in this west that he has chloroformed the whole of the foreign population as well as his American nomad followers - but only for a time. They'll wake up after a while and throw off the poison and stupor that now blinds them. Greenfield, the Premier of Alberta, is an Englishman and will not be controlled or directed by Wood though he has used the Farmers' organization to place him in the position of honour. The other members of the cabinet are loyal Britons, I feel very sure also, though it was the American and the foreign vote that won the day for them." January 17, 1922.

Letter, Wm. Dineen, Toronto, to Col. Belcher. Is sorry he cannot take a mortgage on Col. B's property in Southampton. Reports the real estate market in Toronto bad. February 22, 1922.

n.d.

Mina Moore Jamieson (Mrs. Norman Jamieson), R.R. #1, Millgrove, to Col. Belcher. ----- "I read the copy of 'Defence' very carefully and find the arguments for military training for boys quite convincing, although I have no doubt there are arguments on the other side of the question, quite as irrefutable. Why, for instance, should we bend our energies towards preparing for a state of war which we might better study to prevent? I believe in teaching boys the use of their fists but I have no love for firearms, although my father (W.F. Moore of Dundas, Principal of Public Schools, and prominent rifle-shot) had always a small armory in the house. But one cannot pick up the papers without reading of accidental shootings and think of the appalling heart break this caused! When we have uprooted the German cancer, I think surely the world will have had enough war, as it has had enough slavery and alcoholism. I would favor the destruction of every fire arm and implement of war: train boys and girls, too, in the use and perfection of the human body. If they want to fight let them go to it with their bare hands and they won't fight much! Of course, I understand the value of military drill - but the value is in the drill - not the military aspect. Moreover, I am a woman - I have babies about me - war is horrible to me, except in defence of principle or to repel invasion. I feel that this war demanded our participation. If my boy were old enough, to go, I would wish him to go, at whatever cost. But this war must be the last else it is no more than a farce."

2 pictures of Col. A.E. Belcher, with a short sketch.