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CRUIKSHANK, Ernest Alexander

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Revised by Michel Gauvin of the Public Affairs Archives in 1979.
Revised again in 1987.

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Révisé encore en 1987.

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ERNEST ALEXANDER CRUIKSHANK (1853-1939)
Military Officer, Historian

Originals, 1895-1940, 3.3 m. Finding Aid No. 33

The noted Canadian soldier and military historian, Ernest Alexander Cruikshank (1853-1939), was born in Bertie Township, Welland County in 1853. He attended St. Thomas Grammar School and Upper Canada College, from which he graduated with honours. For some years he devoted himself to newspaper and magazine work in the United States. He then returned to his birthplace and before long entered municipal affairs. Among the various offices that he held in Bertie Township and Fort Erie village were that of reeve of Fort Erie village and warden of Welland county. Subsequent appointive offices included that of police magistrate of Niagara Falls and surrounding district, which position he held from 1903-1908.

In 1877 Ernest Cruikshank became an ensign in the 44th "Welland" battalion of volunteer infantry. He became lieutenant colonel of that regiment in 1899. In 1908 Cruikshank was appointed keeper of the military documents in the Public Archives of Canada, but he resigned that position in 1911 to become a colonel on the permanent staff of the active militia. In 1915 he was promoted Brigadier General and in 1917 assigned to the Canadian front in France. After his return to Ottawa at the conclusion of hostilities he was appointed Director of the Historical section of the General Staff, which position he held until he retired in 1921.

General Cruikshank was one of the first appointees of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and was elected chairman at its first meeting. He continued during the remainder of his life to direct the activities of the Board.

Although extremely active in journalistic, municipal and military work from early manhood, General Cruikshank still found time to write many articles and to compile numerous histories. Among his more notable publications are: The Life of Sir Henry Morgan; A Memoir of Colonel The Honourable James Kerby: His Life in Letters; The Political Adventures of John Henry: The Record of an International Imbroglio; The Settlement of the United Empire Loyalists on the Upper St. Lawrence and Bay of Quinte in 1784, A Documentary Record; and The Story of Butler's Rangers and the Settlement of Niagara.

Presented in 1949 by Mrs. E.A. Cruickshank of Ottawa, Ont. Honours Material (1906) transferred from the Picture Division in 1970.

The finding aid is a file list.

Correspondence, 1895-1939. 10 cm (Volume 1).
Letters received and copies of letters sent, arranged by subject, chief among which are Cruikshank's publications, information on family genealogies, and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board.

Transcripts and Manuscripts. 2.7 m (Volumes 2-27).
Notes and typewritten copies of documents intended for use in articles, books and reports are arranged in various subject files dealing with: the early military history of Canada, the War of 1812, Lieutenant Governor Peter Hunter, Colonel Alexander McKee, Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, the Butler's Rangers, United Empire Loyalists, Sir Henry Morgan, the Fraser Family, Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe, Lake Erie, the Myers Family, and the Crooks Family.

Military Papers, 1905-1920. 40 cm (Volumes 28-31).
Subject files containing lectures, memoranda, reports, statistical returns and clippings on topics relating to Cruikshank's military careet.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, 1839. 2.5 cm (Volume 31).
Minutes, agenda, reports and a few original letters.

Personal Material, 1903-1940. 10 cm (Volume 32, Vertical Filing Cabinet).
Clippings, royalty statements, printed material, and receipts refer to his career and publications.

Honours Material, 1906. 3 pages (Vertical Filing Cabinet).
A commission, diploma and tribute honouring his career.

Ernest Alexander Cruikshank Papers

CORRESPONDENCE

Vol.	File	Description	Dates
1	a	The Political Adventures of John Henry	1935-1936
	b	The Life of Sir Henry Morgan	1935, 1938
	c	The Frasers of Edwardsburg	1936-1937
	d	The Meyers Family	1934
	e	The Crooks Family	1931
	f	Military Correspondence	1910
	g	Miscellaneous historical correspondence	1909-1912, 1921, 1926, 1935-1939
	h	Correspondence regarding recruitment of Japanese Canadians	1916
	i	Correspondence to James Coyne of St. Thomas, Ont.	1895-1903

TRANSCRIPTS AND MANUSCRIPTS

2	1	Draft Narrative, Quebec and Lower Canada, 1784-1812	n.d.
	2	Draft Narrative, Lower Canada, 1802-1812	n.d.
	3	Draft Narrative, Lower Canada, 1812	n.d.
	4	Upper Canada, 1792-1812	n.d.
	5	Nova Scotia, 1703-1814	n.d.
	6	Cape Breton, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, 1785-1815	n.d.
3	7-8	Transcripts, Canada, 1775-1807	n.d.
	9	Transcripts, Quebec, 1784-1791	n.d.
	10	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1791-1800	n.d.
4	11	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1801-1807	n.d.
	12	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1807-1812	n.d.
5	13	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1812-1813	n.d.
	14	Transcripts, Lower Canada, June-December, 1813	n.d.
	15	Transcripts, Lower Canada 1814-1815	n.d.

Vol.	File	Description	Dates
6	16	Transcripts, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, P.E. Island, 1784-1815	n.d.
7	17	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1815-1836	n.d.
	18	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1837	n.d.
	19	Transcripts, Lower Canada, 1838-1839	n.d.
8	20A	Transcripts, Upper Canada, 1791-1812	n.d.
	20	Transcripts, Upper Canada, 1815-1835	n.d.
	21	Transcripts, Upper Canada, 1836-1837	n.d.
9	22	Transcripts, Upper Canada, January and February, 1838	n.d.
	23.	Transcripts, Upper Canada, March-May, 1838	n.d.
	24	Transcripts, Upper Canada, June and July 1838	n.d.
10	25	Transcripts, Upper Canada, August- December 1838	n.d.
	26	Transcripts, Upper Canada, January, 1839	n.d.
	27	Transcripts, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, 1816-1839	n.d.
	28	Transcripts, Canada, 1842-1870	n.d.
War of 1812			
11	29	Transcripts, War of 1812 - Militia	n.d.
	30	Transcripts, War of 1812 - 1813-1815	n.d.
	31	Notes War of 1812	n.d.
12-1	32	Transcripts, War on the Niagara, 1814	n.d.
	33	Transcripts, Naval Hostilities, 1813-1814	n.d.
12-2	34	Transcripts, Niagara Frontier, Lake Ontario & St. Lawrence River, March 1811 - 3 October 1813. June 14 - October 30, 1814	n.d.

Vol.	File	Description	Dates
13	35	Transcripts, Operations on the Niagara, Lakes Erie and Huron and the Western Country, January 1, 1813 - Sept. 26, 1814	n.d.
	36	Assorted Transcripts	n.d.
14	37	Transcripts, Lower Canada, October 1813 - September 1814	n.d.
	38	Transcripts, Military Operations in Upper Canada, June 1813 - December 1813	n.d.
15	39	Transcripts, War of 1812	n.d.
	40	Transcripts, October 1813 - June 1814	n.d.
16	41	Assorted Transcripts, War of 1812	n.d.
	42	Mss. The War of 1812-1814 and the negotiation of the agreement for the Limitation of Armaments on the Great Lakes.	n.d.
	43	Ms. The Campaigns on the Niagara, 1812-1814	n.d.
Lieut. Governor Peter Hunter			
17	44	Transcripts, Correspondence and allied documents relating to his administration of the government of Upper Canada, 1799-1801	n.d.
	45	Transcripts, Correspondence and allied documents relating to his administration of the government of Upper Canada, 1802-1803	n.d.
18	46	Transcripts, Correspondence and allied documents relating to his administration of government of Upper Canada, 1803-1804	n.d.
	47	Transcripts, Correspondence and allied documents relating to his administration of the government of Upper Canada, 1804-1805	n.d.
Colonel Alexander McKee			
19	48	Ms. Early Life and Military Service	n.d.
	49	Transcripts, Correspondence, Documents	n.d.
	50	Transcripts, Correspondence, Documents	n.d.

Vol.	File	Description	Dates
Major General J.E.B. Stuart			
20	51	Ms. The Life of Major General J.E.B. Stuart	n.d.
	52	Ms. The Life of Major General J.E.B. Stuart, carbon copy	n.d.
21	53	Draft chapters	n.d.
	54	Draft chapters	n.d.
Butler's Rangers			
22	55	Transcripts, Correspondence and Documents	n.d.
	56	Transcripts, Correspondence and Documents	n.d.
	57	Transcripts, Correspondence and Documents	n.d.
	58	Transcripts, Correspondence and Documents	n.d.
	59	Transcripts, Correspondence and Documents	n.d.
United Empire Loyalists			
23	60	Transcripts, Documents and Correspondence.	n.d.
	61	Transcripts, Documents and Correspondence.	n.d.
Sir Henry Morgan			
24	62	Ms. The Life of Sir Henry Morgan	n.d.
	63	Transcripts of Documents	n.d.
	64	Photostats, Photographs	n.d.
The Frasers of Edwardsburg			
25	65	Ms. The Frasers of Edwardsburg. An Essay in Minor Biography and Local History	n.d.
	66	Transcripts and Correspondence	n.d.

Vol.	File	Description	Dates
Lieut. Colonel J.G. Simcoe			
25	67	Transcripts of Documents and Corresponcence	n.d.
	68	Photostats	n.d.
Memorials of Fort Erie			
26	69	Ms. and Notes re Memorials of Fort Erie and Early Navigation on Lake Erie	n.d.
The Meyers Family			
26	70	Ms. The Meyers Family	n.d.
The Crooks Family			
26	71	Chapters on Family	n.d.
	72	Notes and Transcripts	n.d.
	73	Photographs	n.d.
Miscellaneous Manuscripts			
27	74	Mss. and Addresses Mallorytown Landing and Lundy's Lane	n.d.
	75	History of William Claus by William Claus	n.d.
	76	Miscellaneous Manuscripts	n.d.
	77	Miscellaneous Manuscripts	n.d.
		MILITARY PAPERS	
28	78	Papers relating to army manoeuvres in the United States	1912
	79	Papers relating to army manoeuvres in the United States	1912
29	80	Scrap-book relating to camps at Niagara, 1905-1908, and Calgary, 1909-1912.	1905-1908, 1909-1912

Vol.	Vol.	File	Description	Dates
	29	81	Papers relating to army manoeuvres in Europe and advent of the Great War	1913-1914
	30	82	Military Lectures	1911-1916
		83A	Statistics etc. relating to the Great War	1914-1918
		83B	Maps	n.d.
	31	84	Papers relating to Canadian operations	1918
		85	Papers relating to Canadian operations	1918
		85A	Miscellaneous Correspondence and memoranda on the Somme and in general on Canadian Corps	1916-1918
		85B	Miscellaneous Correspondence and memoranda on the Somme and in general on Canadian Corps	1916-1918
			HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS BOARD OF CANADA	
		86	Minutes, Agendas, Reports	1939
			PERSONAL MATERIAL	
	32	86A	Daily journal	1918
		87	Press clippings re. The Life of Sir Henry Morgan	1935-1938
		88	Press clippings re. The Political Adventures of John Henry	1936-1937
		89	Press clippings dealing with Ontario and the War	1914-1922
		89A	Newspaper clippings re. Life and Interests of Brigadier General Cruikshank	1910, 1916, 1939
		90	Lists, Printed Matter	1913, 1938
		91	Working Plans to accompany Major J.H. Bowhill's Theory and Practice of Military Topography	1898
		92	Bills, receipts, royalty statements	1935-1936