Dalhousie University Archives

Finding Aid - Charles Macdonald fonds (MS-2-42)

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Language of description: English Rules for Archival Description

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Charles Macdonald fonds

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Summary information

Repository: Dalhousie University Archives

Title: Charles Macdonald fonds

ID: MS-2-42

Physical description: 18 cm of textual records

Language: English

Dates of creation, January 2012

revision and deletion:

Note

[sourcesDescription]: This fonds description comes from the [Dalhousie University

Archives Catalog](http://findingaids.library.dal.ca/). The complete,

original description is available there.

Note [generalNote]: Preferred citation: [Identification of item], Charles Macdonald

fonds, MS-2-42, Box [box number], Folder [folder number], Dalhousie University Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Charles Macdonald held the first Chair of Mathematics at Dalhousie College in 1862. Born in Aberdeen in 1828 to Elizabeth and John Macdonald, a builder, he graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 1850, where he distinguished himself by winning the Hutton Prize for the arts curriculum. After receiving his MA he studied divinity and became a licentiate in the Church of Scotland, but turned his energies to teaching. A beloved teacher as well as popular public speaker, Macdonald was known for his whimsical lectures and his addresses on evolution and education. In 1882 he married Susan Morrow, who died in childbirth one year later. Macdonald died in 1901 at the age of seventy-two after contracting pneumonia. He bequeathed \$2000 to Dalhousie for library books, which prompted the alumni to raise funds to build a proper library in his honour. The Macdonald Library was built in 1914 and served as the university library until the 1970s.

Custodial history

The materials were accessioned by Dalhousie University Archives in 1970. Custodial history is unknown.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of handwritten and printed sermons and lectures and an open letter to the Chancellor of the University of Halifax (1877). It also includes a convocation address (1870) and the order of service for Macdonald's funeral (1901).

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no access restrictions on these materials. All materials are open for research.

Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Related material

See MS-1-Ref Box 72, Folders 31-32 for related material.

Accruals

Further accruals are not expected.

Other notes

• **Publication status**: Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Correspondence (documentary form)
- Church (subject)
- Clergy (subject)
- Dalhousie University--Lectures and Addresses (subject)
- Lectures and lecturing (subject)
- Nova Scotia--History--19th century (subject)
- Sermons (subject)

- Speeches, addresses, etc. (subject)
- Theology (subject)
- Universities and colleges--Faculty (subject)
- Aberdeen (Scotland) (place)
- Edinburgh (Scotland) (place)
- Halifax (N.S.) (place)