

MS  
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00137B

Irvine and Bell family Papers

Irvine and Bell Family Papers

**Dates:** 1777-1998

**Extent:** 3 Boxes (.5 meters)

**Biographical Note:**

Mathew Bell (29 June 1769 – 24 June 1849) was a politician, businessman, soldier, politician, and seigneur. Born in Berwick-Upon-Tweed he immigrated to Quebec when he was 15. He cofounded Monro and Bell, a successful import-export business, which also ran the Saint-Maurice Ironworks from 1800-1845. His daughter Anne married John George Irvine.

John George Irvine (1802-1871) was a Lieutenant Colonel as well as being Aid du Camp to the Governor General of Canada.

George Irvine (16 Nov. 1826 – 24 Feb. 1897) was the son of John George Irvine and was a lawyer, judge, professor, and politician. He represented Mégantic in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec from 1867-1876 and as a Member of Parliament from 1867-1872. He married Annie Routh LeMesurier, daughter of Henry LeMesurier.

Mathew Bell Irvine (1832-1899) was the son of John George Irvine and served as Commissary General of the British Army.

Acheson Irvine (7 Dec. 1837 – 8 Jan. 1916) was the son of John George Irvine who served as Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police from 1 Nov. 1880 – 31 Mar. 1886 and was involved in the events of the North-West Rebellion (or North-West -Resistance).

Henry LeMesurier (17 Nov. 1791 – 25 May 1861) was a soldier and businessman born on the island of Guernsey. He came to Canada during the War of 1812 and after the war became an important businessman in Quebec and was involved in the founding several resource and transit related firms. He was also Deputy Master of Trinity House, and Master from 1846-1861, working with the movement of ships along the St. Lawrence and with upkeep of lighthouses.

**Scope and Content:** Contains material relating to the Irvine and Bell families including: correspondence, deeds, receipts, letter books, a scrapbook, and published books.

**Arrangement:**

*Contains series:*

*Series 1:* Correspondence and documents

*Series 2:* Bound manuscripts

*Series 3:* Books

**Custodial History:**

This collection was donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library by Jane Atkins in 2012.

**Restrictions on Access:**

No restrictions on access.

<b>BOX: FOLDER</b>	<b>CONTENT(S)</b>	<b>DATE(S)</b>
<b>Series 1: Correspondence and Documents</b>		
Box 1: 1	"Rules of Life", 3 leaves in ms. written by John Irvine, with ms. note re: death of John Irvine at 12 years old	5 Apr. 1777 – [1779]
1:2	Letter addressed to George Ramsay, 9 <sup>th</sup> Earl of Dalhousie from Mathew Bell re: lease of house, cottage, and farm, and other buildings of Wolfesfield, Quebec	12 Feb. [1821]
1:3	Letter addressed to Mathew Bell from George Ramsay, 9 <sup>th</sup> Earl of Dalhousie re: lease of cottage and ground of Wolfesfield, Quebec	15 Feb. 1821
1:4	Receipt for purchase of grave plot by James Irvine in the Protestant Burial Ground, St. Johns Suburbs, Quebec	Nov. 1823
1:5	Henry LeMesurier – Commission for Master of the Trinity House, Quebec	1 Oct. 1846
1:6	Photocopies of letters by and about Col. I. G. Irvine	14 Jan. 1856 – 11 Sept. 1883
1:7	Lt. Col. John George Irvine – Invitation to Lt. Col. John George Irving to Active Volunteer Militia Ball at Russell's Concert Hall, Quebec	11 Feb. 1861
1:8	Letter from Kate Irvine addressed to Mr. [Gronic?] re: endorsement	14 June 1866
1:9	Deed of sale, on vellum, for grave plot purchase by George Irvine in Mount Vernon Cemetery	10 June 1873
1:10	Letter from Acheson Irvine re: Colonel James Mcleod (1836-1894) and wife Mary Isabella Mcleod (1852-1933)	[1876]
1:11	Ms. copy of extract of letter written by Uncle Alty (Acheson Irvine) to Aunt Bell re: visit to Sitting Bull's camp, including description of horses and supplies taken from George A. Custer's troops at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, dated 18 June 1877, 21 pages	N.D.
1:12	Newspaper clipping re: James Irvine (1766 – 27 Sept. 1829) and John George Irvine (1802-1871)	26 Aug. 1998
1:13	Ms. note from George Irvine addressed to Mr. Dunscomb	N.D.
1:14	Embroidered keepsake with words "Ever true"	N.D.
1:15	Hand-painted Christmas Greeting Card	N.D.
<b>Series 2: Bound manuscripts</b>		
Box 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrapbook of the Irvine Family containing newspaper clippings re: death of Lt.-Col. John George Irvine, Hon. George Irvine, and Commissary General Mathew Bell Irvine, as well appointment of Hon. George Irvine as a judge. Also includes ms. transcriptions of letters and resolutions.</li> <li>2-3. Two letter books of Mathew Bell Irvine</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1871-1950</li> <li>20 Mar. 1852 – 17 July 1856</li> </ol>
<b>Series 3: Books</b>		
Box 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The History of Berwick Upon Tweed... by John Fuller. Edinburgh: Printed for Bell &amp; Bradfure..., 1799. With the autograph of J. Bell, pages 192 on wanting.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1799</li> <li>1832</li> <li>[186-?]</li> </ol>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="418 247 1203 344">2. Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, Vol. III, Part I., July, 1832. Quebec: Published by the Literary &amp; Historical Society, 1832.</li><li data-bbox="418 352 1203 489">3. Flowers from Many Lands: A Christian Companion for Hours of Recreation. London: The Religious Tract Society, [187-?]. Prize book awarded to Kate Irvine for Extra French, Midsommer 1862, with the autograph of Amelia Poetter.</li></ol>	
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