

MS.
COLL.
248

MILLS FAMILY PAPERS

Correspondence and papers of the Reverend William Mills (d. 1848), an Anglican clergyman in Ireland, and the notebooks and other papers of his son, Samuel Dillon Mills (1842-1927), who emigrated to Ontario in 1864. Inclusive dates: 1826-1920.

Extent: 5 boxes. 53 cm.

Accession numbers: 87.027, 88.001.

Given to the Library by Professor Alastair Walker, a descendant of the Mills family.

K. Martyn
May 1988

MS.
COLL.
248

MILLS FAMILY PAPERS

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

William Mills graduated with a B.A. degree from Trinity College, Dublin, in 1833. In August 1835 he was ordained in the Anglican Church as a Deacon; in Oct. 1836 as a priest. In 1837 he was appointed Assistant Curate to the Rev. John R. Tarleton, Rector of the Parish of Tyholland in the Diocese of Clogher. In 1841 he left Tyholland to become Assistant Chaplin of Trinity Church in Dublin. The grateful parishioners of Tyholland presented him with an address of appreciation and a silver salver as a token of esteem. At some point during his curacy at Tyholland, he married Jane Elizabeth Dillon, of Gort. In 1842 their only child, Samuel Dillon, was born. William Mills served as Assistant Chaplin at Trinity Church until 1846 when he was appointed curate at Kells. In March of 1848 he died at Kells.

Samuel Dillon Mills, son of William Mills and Jane Elizabeth Dillon, was born in Dublin in 1842. He attended the Royal School of Science in Dublin from 1860 to 1864. In 1864 he emigrated from Dublin to Toronto. He acquired property near Niagara and by 1866 had begun farming. In 1873 he returned to Ireland and England for a visit. In the same year he married Mary Morson, of Hamilton, with whom he was to have five children. By 1877 he was living in Hamilton, working as a mining geologist and surveyor. He investigated several properties in Ontario and Nova Scotia and the family lived for a while near Windsor in Nova Scotia. Later, Dillon-Mills, as he preferred to be named, became superintendent and manager of various blast furnaces and foundries in the United States. In 1885 his wife died. By 1889 he was running the Vulcan Furnace Company's foundry in Michigan. In the 1890's he was in Toronto, running the Junction Foundry Company until its financial failure in 1898. Throughout his life Dillon-Mills retained a keen scientific interest, as his notebooks indicate, and he was an active member of the Royal Canadian Institute and the Toronto Natural History Society. In addition he served as Secretary of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Mining Institute. He was also Chairman of the Location Committee of the Toronto Playgrounds Association in 1909 and continued to be involved with this Association in 1916. He spent his declining years in Toronto, at the home of his daughter, Grace Walker, and died in 1927.

MS.
COLL.
248

MILLS FAMILY PAPERS

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Samuel Dillon-Mills received an entry in Morgan's Canadian Men and Women of the Time (1912).

Professor Alastair Walker, the donor of these papers, is a great grandson of William Mills and a grandson of Samuel Dillon-Mills. Dillon-Mills' daughter, Grace Edith Dillon Mills, married Ewart Buchan Walker, Alastair Walker was their oldest son.

Ms. MILLS FAMILY PAPERS
 Coll. CONTAINER LIST
 248

WILLIAM MILLS

BOX 1 A. CORRESPONDENCE AND BIOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTS. 1826-1857.

Much of the correspondence relates to Mills' work as a curate and discusses various curacies which may become available for him. Frequent correspondents include: John Rotheram Tarleton, Rector of Tyholland, where Mills was curate from 1837 to 1841; John Gregg, Rector of Trinity Church, Dublin, where Mills was curate from 1841 to 1845; and Edward A. Stopford, Archdeacon of Kells, where Mills served as curate from 1846 until his death in 1848.

Documents include letters of ordination, appointments to curacies, addresses of appreciation given to Mills at his departure from the parish of Tyholland and from Trinity Church, Dublin, and other biographical material.

Items are arranged in chronological order. More significant items are listed below.

- Folder 1 1826, Dec. 16. D. Coady to Henry Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. 2 p. Re property at Bennett's Bridge, Co. Kildare.
- Folder 2 1833, Ap. 13. Trinity College, Dublin. B.A. diploma issued to William Mills. D.S. 1 leaf.
- Folder 3 1835, Ap. 2. County of Kildare. Certificate of Rent-charger, Freeholder, or Leaseholder. Issued to William Mills ... in right of a freehold ... situate at Bennett's Bridge. Printed form filled in by hand. 1 leaf.
- Folder 4 1835, Aug. 26. Christopher, Bp. of Killaloe and Clonfert, to Charles, Bp. of Kildare. L.S. 1 leaf. Requests that the Bishop of Kildare ordain William Mills. With seal.
- Folder 5 1835, Oct. 4. Charles, Bp. of Kildare. Letter recording ordination of William Mills as Deacon. L.S. 1 leaf. With seal.

Ms. MILLS FAMILY PAPERS
 Coll. CONTAINER LIST
 248

WILLIAM MILLS

BOX 1 A. CORRESPONDENCE AND BIOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTS

- Folder 6 1836, Oct. 24. Charles, Bp. of Kildare. Letter recording ordination of William Mills as priest. L.S. 1 leaf. With seal.
- Folder 7 1837, Mar 1. Robert, Bp. of Clogher. Letter licensing William Mills as curate in the Parish of Tehallen [sic] L.S. 1 leaf. With seal.
- Folder 8 1837, Mar. 1. Geo. Denyes, Ardrahan, to William Mills, Tyholland Glebe. A.L.S. Folder 3 p. Gives detail re curacy at Gort.
- Folder 9 1841, June 9. T.C. Tarleton, Tyholland, to William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 3 p. Re Mills' departure from Tyholland Parish.
- Folder 10 1841, June 14. John R. Tarleton, Monaghan, to William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. 1 leaf. Re inscription on silver salver being presented to Mills by his Tyholland parishioners on his departure for Dublin.
- Folder 11 1841, June 22. John R. Tarleton, Tyholland, to William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 3 p. Re silver salver. With envelope.
- Folder 12 1841, July 17. J.R. Young, Ty [?] Glebe, to William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. Offer of a curacy in County of Monaghan, giving details of living and residence. (Place name illegible.)
- Folder 13 1841, July 30. John R. Tarleton, Tyholland, to William Mills. A.L.S. 2 p. Encloses manuscript copy of the "Address to William Mills from his late parishioners", dated May 17, 1841.
- Folder 14 1841, Aug. 16. Dublin Evening Mail. On front page is printed a copy of the "Address presented to William Mills from his later parishioners of Tyholland", together with William Mills' "Reply".

Ms. MILLS FAMILY PAPERS
 Coll. CONTAINER LIST
 248

WILLIAM MILLS

BOX 1 A. CORRESPONDENCE AND BIOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTS

- Folder 15 1841, Aug. 30. The Tourists Envelope, no. 4.
 Published by R.W. Hume, Leith. View of Roslin
 Chapel on front, Edinburgh on back. Map of vicinity
 of Edinburgh inside envelope. Addressed to Wm.
 Mills, Dublin. Postmarked Aug. 30, 1841. Lacks
 letter.
- Folder 16 1841, Sept. 18. [Postmark date]. Address to the
 Rev. William Mills, 17th May, 1841. Printed copy.
 Folder 1 leaf. Includes the address made by William
 Mills in reply.
- Folder 19 1842, Mar. 30. George H. Reade, Glynch Lodge,
 Newbliss, to Henry [sic] Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. 1
 leaf. Offer of a curacy.
- Folder 20 1843, June 21. County of Kildare. Certificate of
 Rent-charger, Free holder or Leaseholder. Issued to
 William Mills ... in right of a Freehold ... situate
 at Bennett's Bridge. Printed form filled in by
 hand. 1 leaf.
- Folder 21 1844, Feb. 8. John R. Tarleton, Tyholland, to
 William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. News of
 a possible curacy.
- Folder 23 1844, Ap. 13. Robert Noble, Vicarage, Athboy, to
 William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. Offer
 of a curacy.
- Folder 25 1845, Sept. 9 [? illegible] Blackburn, Clongill, to
 William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 4 p. Advises
 him the curacy of Kells will become available soon.
- Folder 26 1846, Jan. 7. Edw. A. Stopford, Archdeaconry,
 Kells, to Rev. Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder
 3 p. Re curacy of Kells.
- Folder 30 1846, Mar. 5. [Address to the Rev. William Mills
 from his congregation at Trinity Church, Dublin]
 D.S. 1 leaf.

Ms. MILLS FAMILY PAPERS
 Coll. CONTAINER LIST
 248

WILLIAM MILLS

BOX 1 A. CORRESPONDENCE AND BIOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTS

Folder 34 1846, Sept. 3. Edward, Bp. of Meath. License of the Revd. William Mills to the assistant curacy of ... Kells. D.S. 1 leaf. With seal.

Folder 41 1857, Mar. 10. Pt. P. Dillon, G. Coy HM 81 Regt., Meean Meer, Bengal, to Mrs. A.E. Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 2 p. Asks for home news; mentions cholera outbreak. With envelope, authorized for franking April 20, mailed April 21, and stamped 'Too Late.'

B. BUSINESS PAPERS. 1835-1848

Folders 42-50 Includes receipts, accounts, two account and documents pertaining to the settlement of William Mills' estate.

BOX 2 C. WRITINGS, NOTEBOOKS, MISCELLANEOUS. 1842-1846.

Folders 1-8 Includes two drafts of speeches by Mills, notes on devotional topics and on scriptures, attendance register for a young men's class (undated), and a list of names arranged by streets, dated 1842-43 (possibly Mills' Dublin parishioners).

SAMUEL DILLON MILLS

BOX 3 D. CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER PAPERS. 1877-1889.

Folder 1 1877, Dec. 27. Mary Morson Mills, Hamilton, to Mrs. William Mills, Dublin. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.

Folder 2 1884, Feb. 11. Davenport, Fairbairn 7 Co., Erie, Pa., to Samuel D. Mills, Kingston. A.L.S. Folder 4 p.

Folder 3 1889, Dec. 19. Vulcan Furnace Co., Detroit, to S.D. Mills. A.L.S. 1 leaf.

Folder 4 Bookplate of S.D. Mills.

Folder 5 Alastair Walker. Notes on the Mills family papers. [ca. 1986-1987]

Ms. MILLS FAMILY PAPERS
 Coll. CONTAINER LIST
 248

SAMUEL DILLON MILLS

BOX 4 E. DIARIES. 1863-1920.

- Folder 1 Diary. 1863-1867.
 Covers S.D. Mills' arrival in Toronto from Dublin, June 1864. Notes places visited, including Niagara Falls, people seen (he appears to have stayed with Henry Cawthra at least part of the time), and social engagements. By 1866 he is settled on a farm in the Niagara region and the diary consists of notes on the running of the farm.
- Folder 2 Diary. 1868-1873.
 Diary covers trip to Britain and Ireland, Jan.-March, 1873. (brief entries)
 Notebook entries include notes on garden, 1868-1870.
 Also includes geological field notes on area near Calumet. Undated.
- Folder 3 Diary. 1893.
 Covers trip to Ireland and Britain.
 Diaries. 1894. 2 vols.
 Covers travels abroad.
- Folder 4 Diary. 1898.
- Folder 5 Diary. 1901.
- Folder 6 Diary. 1907.
- Folder 7 Diary. 1913.
- Folder 8 Diary. 1918.
- Folder 9 Diary. 1919.
- Folder 10 Diary. 1920.

BOX 5 F. BUSINESS RECORD BOOKS. 1893-1919.

- Folder 1 Investment Book. 1893-1918.
- Folder 2 Notebook on Mining Stocks. 1906-1907.

Ms.
Coll.
248

MILLS FAMILY PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

SAMUEL DILLON MILLS

- BOX 5 F. BUSINESS RECORD BOOKS. 1893-1919.
- Folder 3 Account Book. 1916-1919.
- Folder 4 Account Book. Undated. (chiefly blank)
- G. NOTEBOOKS. 1877-1917.
- Folder 5 Notebook. 1877.
"Works I have read".
- Folder 6 Notebook. 1878.
Notes on scientific and philosophical topics.
- Folder 7 Field Notes. 1880.
Geological and surveying notes on various
properties and mines.
- Folder 8 Notebook. 1904-1905.
"Blowpipe & chemical notes".
- Folder 9 Botanical Field Notes. 1909-1910.
Detailed notes on flora found at Grenadier
Pond in High Park and elsewhere in Toronto.
- Folder 10 Medical Notes. 1917.
Also includes undated botanical notes and
drawings.
- Folder 11 Notebook on Toronto Playgrounds. 1908-1909.
- Folder 12 Notebook on Toronto Playgrounds. 1914-1916.

S.D. Mills was a member of the Toronto
Playgrounds Association. These notebooks
contain his observations on suitable
locations for playgrounds in Toronto.