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Smellie, William Papers

Gift of George and Michelle Walker, 2022

Presented to the University of Toronto Libraries by George Walker and Michelle Hogan-Walker, from the collection of Joan Flowers-Hogan.

Dates: 1879-1916

Extent: 1 flat box containing 15 folders.

Scope and Content:

One-line-a-day farm diaries kept by William Smellie (1836-1919) of Glenelg Township, Ontario. Smellie's handwritten diaries date from 1883 to 1916, with his earlier diaries dating from 1879-1882, here reproduced in photocopy. Through his daily entries, Smellie offers a glimpse into farm life in Ontario at the turn of the century. He not only documents livestock, crops, and weather on the farm, but also records important events in his family and community. The diaries also include numerous newspaper clippings and loose notes kept by Smellie.

Biographical note and custodial history:

William Smellie (1836-1919) was in fact William Smellie II—he immigrated to Canada from Scotland with his father, William Smellie.

The diaries of William Smellie (1836-1919) were passed down through the Smellie and later Flowers and Hogan families and donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library by George Walker and Michelle Hogan-Walker in 2022. Michelle inherited the diaries from her mother, Joan Hogan-Flowers. The Hogans are direct descendants of William Smellie (1836-1919)—his daughter Maggie married Albert Flowers, and Michelle's grandfather, E. E. Flowers, was their youngest son.

Notes:

Arrangement: Chronological.

Conservation: Most of the notebooks are extremely embrittled and fragile, some with loose bindings. This box and the folders within are to be stored flat.

Languages: English.

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

FOLDER	CONTENTS	DATE(S)
1	Photocopy of 1879 diary, with daily entries.	1879
2	Photocopy of 1880 diary, with daily entries.	1880
3	Photocopy of 1881 diary, with daily entries.	1881
4	Photocopy of 1882 diary, with daily entries.	1882
5	Unbound manuscript sheets, with daily entries for January-August 1883.	1883
6	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1885-1888
7	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1889-1890
8	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1891-1895
9	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1896-1899
10	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1900-1903
11	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries.	1904-1907
12	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries. Includes numerous newspaper clippings tipped-in.	1908-1910
13	Bound manuscript notebook, with daily entries. Includes newspaper clippings tipped-in.	1911-1914
14	Unbound manuscript sheets, with daily entries for 1915, and January-approximately October 23, 1916.	1915-1916
15	Loose manuscript notes.	c. 1894-1909
16	Loose Canadian newspaper clippings.	c. 1879-1914