

A 89

### Charles A. Wass Fonds

Original, 1 file, 1917-1919

#### Scope and Content:

The Charles A. Wass Fonds is composed of two series. First is his personal correspondence written in both England and France during the First World War, between 1917 and 1918. Also contains papers relating to the settlement of his estate in 1919 following his death, including a copy of his will.

**Series A 89/1:** Correspondence, 1 file, c. 1917-1918 (original)

Seven handwritten letters written by Charles Wass to Mr. Norman E. Cloes of St. Thomas, ON. Most letters include at least a partial date, and all were written in either 1917 or 1918. The content of the letters is varied, though Wass does write about meeting his extended family, and again while recovering from a wound in hospital in England. Other letters originate from the front lines in France.

**Series A 89/2:** Estate papers, 1 file, c. 1919 (original)

Form of Will and seven letters (typed) sent by the Department of Militia and Defence to Mr. Norman E. Cloes, beneficiary of Charles Wass. All pertain to the settlement of the late Charles Wass' estate and inquiries by Mr. Cloes as to the manner of death and place of burial.

#### Biographical Sketch:

Private Charles A. Wass (identification # 865750) was born in England on August 21, 1888. An orphan, he emigrated to Canada in 1905. There is no information about Wass until he was hired by Mr. Norman E. Cloes as a labourer on the Cloes' farm in 1913. Wass enlisted as a Private in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and was a member of the 52nd Battalion, Manitoba Regiment. On November 13th, 1917, he was wounded at Passchendaele and was sent to a hospital in Hastings, England to recover. He was killed in action on the 1st of October, 1918, at the Battle of Cambrai, and was buried nearby in Canada Cemetery Tilloy Les Cambrai, Nord, France. He earned both a British Service Medal and a British Victory Medal for his service in the First World War.

#### Additional Information:

Custodial History: Originally in the possession of Mr. Norman E. Cloes, Private Wass' beneficiary. Donated to TBMHS by his grand daughter, Norma Gelinas.

Related Material: See the Lake Superior Regiment Records Series L 2/2/14 and L 2/4/5 in archives.

Associated Material: See 2004.46.1 (Private Wass' British Victory Medal), and 2004.46.2 (a photograph of seven members of the 198th Battalion).

