

William Currie Dobie fonds

1889-1895

2 cm. of textual records

Biographical Sketch

W.C. Dobie (1839-1929) was federal fisheries inspector for Western Lake Superior region, police magistrate, and justice of the peace. He was born in Liverpool in 1839, came to York Township in Ontario in 1849 and grew up in Bruce Mines. In 1865 he married Sarah Dorothy Coatsworth of Missouri. She was daughter of J. Coatsworth, manager of the Montreal Mining and Lands Co. and postmaster at Bruce Mines, Ontario. Dobie came to Prince Arthur's Landing in 1872 to work as a bookkeeper for Thomas Marks and Co. and in 1884 formed a general store of his own in partnership with John Hasking. In 1887 he entered into partnership with George Marks and H.A. Wiley to form W.C. Dobie and Co. He then purchased the interests of his partners and, in 1894, disposed of his business to his son, J.C. Dobie, who amalgamated it with other businesses to form the Marks, Clavet and Dobie Co. William served on the Shuniah Council for five years before 1884 and was a member of the school board for 30 years. He was at one time Dominion Inspector of mines. He served as magistrate for 32 years from 1890 to 1922. His first wife died in 1879 and he remarried in 1887 or 1888 to Mary ? who left him shortly thereafter. Dobie died in 1929.

Scope and Content

Series A34/1/1 - Letterbook - 96p.

Letter press copy book of outgoing correspondence of W.C. Dobie. Most of the entries pertain to his activities as fishery overseer, but some are of a personal nature regarding politics and his attempts to get his estranged wife, Mary, to return to him.