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Finding Aid - Letters from R. D. George and Joseph Howe to Andrew Madden (MS-13-75, SF Box 81, Folder 2)

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Dalhousie University Archives
6225 University Avenue, 5th Floor, Killam Memorial Library
Halifax
Nova Scotia
Canada
B3H 4R2
Telephone: 902-494-3615
[Email: archives@dal.ca](mailto:archives@dal.ca)
<http://dal.ca/archives>
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Letters from R. D. George and Joseph Howe to Andrew Madden

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Summary information

Repository:	Dalhousie University Archives
Title:	Letters from R. D. George and Joseph Howe to Andrew Madden
Reference code:	MS-13-75, SF Box 81, Folder 2
Date:	1847-1849 (date of creation)
Date:	1847-1849 (date of creation)
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Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Joseph Howe was a distinguished Nova Scotia politician, civil servant, and journalist. Born 13 December 1804 in Halifax to John and Mary Howe, he was an avid reader who was primarily self-educated. In 1828 he married Catherine McNab with whom he had ten children.

Before entering politics, Howe was a well-known Nova Scotia journalist whose career began in 1827 when he purchased the Weekly Chronicle with a partner and renamed it the Acadian. Shortly thereafter he bought the Novascotian and began writing columns and articles about Nova Scotia, often dedicated to local political happenings. In 1835 Howe was charged with libel for printing a letter harshly criticizing the government but was acquitted when he successfully defended the freedom of the press. Although he sold the Novascotian in 1841 to concentrate on a full-time political career he later returned to journalism for a time in the mid-1940s.

By 1836 Howe had decided to enter the political arena and ran for Halifax in the General Election of that year. His win marked the beginning of a long career as a politician and civil servant which would last almost consecutively until his death in Halifax on 1 June 1873. Howe maintained a dedication to Nova Scotia government reform throughout his career and is remembered for his eloquence and persuasiveness, his objections to confederation, and his attempts to develop a railway system within the region. Between 1836 and 1863 he represented Halifax, Cumberland, Windsor, and then Hants provincially. He also served as Speaker of the House of Assembly; part of the Executive Council in a coalition government; Provincial Secretary and Clerk of Council; Chairman of the Railway Commission; Provincial Secretary; and Premier. He then served as Imperial Fisheries Commissioner before representing Hants as a Member of Parliament from 1867 until he resigned in 1873. In Ottawa he served as President of the Privy Council and Secretary

of State for the Provinces before returning to Nova Scotia where he served as Lieutenant Governor until his death.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Andrew Madden, M.D., was born in Dromore, County Down, Ireland, on 2 February 1782, the son of Edward Madden and Rose Brannigan. He came late to medicine, graduating at the age of thirty-five with his diploma as "Surgeon and Physician" at Glasgow University in 1817. Later that year, he sailed from Glasgow for Quebec, serving as the ship's surgeon and responsible for some 300 passengers. While passing through the Gut of Canso, a misfortune befell the ship, which then put into Pictou where the immigrants were put ashore.

According to tradition, Madden was so taken with the Strait or Gut of Canso that he never took up his land grant in Quebec, but returned and settled at Arichat where he practiced his profession for forty years. He served as the province's health officer during these years. He died 30 January 1858 and was buried on his 76th birthday. His wife was Ann Jackman, born in Halifax in July 1798/99, died in Arichat, Nova Scotia on March 23, 1868.

Custodial history

Records were donated by Mr. J.H.M. Young in 1959.

Scope and content

File consists of letters sent from R. D. George and Joseph Howe to Andrew Madden.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no access restrictions on these materials. All materials are open for research.

Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Accruals

Further accruals are possible, but not expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Correspondence (subject)
- Medical archives (subject)
- Medicine--Nova Scotia--History--19th century (subject)
- Physicians (subject)
- Physicians--Canada (subject)
- Physicians--Canada--Correspondence (subject)
- Arichat (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings
