



Dalhousie University Archives

Finding Aid - Manuscript of "Hid Treasure, or The Labours of a Deacon, and Other Poems," by Charles Fenerty (MS-2-158, SF Box 19, Folder 7)

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Manuscript of "Hid Treasure, or The Labours of a Deacon, and Other Poems," by Charles Fenerty

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Summary information

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| Repository: | Dalhousie University Archives |
| Title: | Manuscript of "Hid Treasure, or The Labours of a Deacon, and Other Poems," by Charles Fenerty |
| Reference code: | MS-2-158, SF Box 19, Folder 7 |
| Date: | [18--], 1919 (date of creation) |
| Language: | English |
| Physical description: | 81 pages (1 folder) |
| Note [generalNote]: | Preferred citation: Manuscript of "Hid Treasure, or The Labours of a Deacon, and Other Poems," by Charles Fenerty, MS-2-158, SF Box 19, Folder 7, Dalhousie University Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. |

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Charles Fenerty was born in 1821 in Springfield Lake, Nova Scotia, the second son of James Fenerty and Elizabeth Lawson, farmers and sawyers. He is most well known as the first inventor of wood pulp paper, although no commercial success came out of his own discoveries. He subsequently turned to writing verse and took first prize at the Nova Scotia industrial exhibition in 1854 for "Betula Nigra," a poem celebrating a giant black birch on the family farm.

Fenerty moved to Australia in the late 1850s, where he may have worked in the goldmining industry. After his return to Nova Scotia he married Ann Maria Hamilton in 1868 and farmed in the Sackville area. At various times he served as health warden for his district, measurer of wood, overseer of the poor, and county tax collector. He was also active in the Anglican Church as a lay reader. He was a staunch Conservative, supported the temperance cause, and opposed tobacco smoking. He died in 1892 in Sackville, Nova Scotia.

Custodial history

The item was accessioned by Dalhousie University Archives in 1972. Prior to that, the item was in the J.J. Stewart collection, which was donated to the Dalhousie University Library after the death of John James Stewart (1844-1907).

Scope and content

Item is a manuscript of "Hid Treasure, or The Labours of a Deacon and Other Poems" dated April 29, 1919, which is possibly when the pages were taped into the bound scrapbook with the title embossed on the spine. A contents page lists both published and unpublished poems, including "Betula Nigra," "The Prince's Lodge," and the title poem, "Hid Treasure." The manuscript date is unknown, but the poems themselves range in date from ca.1839-1886. Robert R.J. Emmerson's name appears as co-author on the title page, but it has been scratched out along with the second of two epigraphs.

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. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Accruals

Further accruals are not expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Farmers (subject)
- Inventors--Canada (subject)
- Manuscripts (subject)
- Nova Scotia--History--19th century (subject)
- Nova Scotia--History--20th century (subject)
- Nova Scotia--Poetry (subject)
- Personal archives (subject)
- Poetry (subject)

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- Poets, Canadian (subject)
- Sackville (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings
