



MG 466 – Griffin-Greenland Collection

Dates: 1884-1980

Extent: .25 m of textual material

Custodial note: Dr. J.D. Griffin, formerly General Director, Canadian Mental Health Association, and Professor Cyril Greenland, formerly School of Social Work, McMaster University, and then the Canadian Mental Health Association, have collected substantial research files on William Henry Jackson, the former secretary to Louis Riel. Some of the Jackson material was originally collected by the late Mr. Louis Blake Duff. Mrs. Blake Duff later turned it over to Professor Greenland. They had collected the material in order to make a presentation on Jackson for the Canadian Psychiatric Association meeting in Saskatoon, September 28-30, 1977. Upon completion of this project, they donated their material to fill out the Jackson collection in the Morton Manuscripts, which are housed in Special Collections, University of Saskatchewan Library.

Professor Greenland has offered the material under two conditions:

- “1. It should be appropriately recorded as a gift from the Griffin - Greenland collection on the history of Canadian psychiatry.
2. Subject to the usual library rules, the Jackson files should be freely available to all bona fide scholars and especially to students of Canadian history.”

The material is organized and recorded according to the structure that Griffin and Greenland have devised.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions. In some cases, copyright restrictions apply.

Original finding aid prepared by Glen Makahonuk, edited for RAD formatting by Amy Putnam, July 2017.

Box 1

1. The Canadian Who's Who, 1973 - 75. p. 358
re: Fremont, Donatien. Biographical note.
2. Paper – “William Henry Jackson; Riel's Disciple" by Donald B. Smith. pp 47 - 81. A photocopy of a paper published in A.S. Lussier (ed). Pelletier - Lathlin Memorial Lecture Series. Brandon University, 1979 - 1980. Brandon: Department of Native Studies, 1980.
“William Henry Jackson; Riel’s English Disciple” by Donald B. Smith. A typescript copy of the same paper.
3. Paper – “William Henry Jackson (1861-1952), Riel’s Secretary. Another Case of Involuntary Commitment?” by Cyril Greenland and John D. Griffin. A photocopy of a paper presented to the Canadian Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, Saskatoon, September 28-30, 1977.
4. Paper – “William Henry Jackson: Untiring Defender of Human Rights” by Carl de Lottinville. pp 1-33. April 1973. A photocopy of a paper for History 3 x 6.
5. Letters re Jackson's sanity. Regina, 1885.
 - i. Dr. Jukes to Superintendent Deanne NWMP. July 20, 1885. re suggested questions for determining Jackson’s sanity.
 - ii. R. Burton Deanne to Deputy Minister of Justice, Regina. 19 July 1885 re submission of reports from Dr. Jukes, Senior Medical Officer of the NWMP.
 - iii. Medical Report on William Jackson. (sd) Robt. B. Cotton, M.D., Regina, 19 July 1885.
 - iv. S. [?] to Sir John A. MacDonald re Jackson's insanity. June 27, 1885.
 - v. Dr. Jukes to the Officer commanding at Regina, July 17, 1885. re Jukes's opinion of Jackson being of unsound mind.
6. Photo - Albert K. Owen
A Photocopy of Albert Owen from Integral Cooperation. Philadelphia Porcupine Press, 1975.
Reprint of New York. Lovell, 1885 ed.
7. Data on carved bust of Riel.
Excerpt from Dr. David Young's Daily Journal - 1885, re William Henry Jackson and the carved bust.
8. Letter - Jackson to Hon. E. Dewdney. No date.
Re: Jackson's concern about the execution or imprisonment of the Rebellion leaders, and his request for separate compartments and writing material.
A photocopy from the Public Archives of Canada. MacDonald Papers.
MG 26. A. Volume 107. Reel C. 1524.
9. Letter and telegram - R.M. Bucke to G.W. Burbidge. 24 July, 1885.
Re: The question of insanity coming up after the trial.
10. Bedside card - Jaxon Honare Joseph.
Lists the reasons for his death. Died at 7:35 A.M. Jan. 10, 1952.

11. Part of transcript of trial.
A typed photocopy of the proceedings of the Trial of William Henry Jackson. 24 July, 1885.
Regina. Pages 8-17.
12. The trials of the "White Rebel's". 1885.
A photocopy of Sandra Estlin Bingaman. "The Trials of the 'White Rebel's', 1885",
Saskatchewan Hi story. Volume 25, No. 2, 1972, pp. 41-54.
13. Correspondence re Jackson (from C. Greenland), 1954-1978.
Correspondence pertaining to Griffin's study of William Henry Jackson, a discussion about the historical novels of R.F. Delderfield, explanation of Jaxon's bedside card, information about Professor Stalwick's paper of psychiatric treatment in Canada, information about Jaxon's hunger strike, a discussion about the treatment of the insane in Manitoba, a photograph of Louis Napoleon Blache, puzzlement about the motives of the witnesses at Jaxon's trial, Peel 's account of the Library's handling of Miss Plaxon's documents, Greenland's acquirements of Buck's material, confirmation of W.H. Jackson's wedding picture, information pertaining to the Riel bust, a symposium on W .H. Jackson at the annual meeting in Saskatoon, identification of the Witnesses in the Riel trial, an abstract of Griffin-Greenland's paper "W.H . Jackson (1861-1952) Riel's Secretary".
Identification of Riel's prisoners, a copy of one of Jaxon's poems, reports from Manitoba mental hospital's from 1885, information about the diary of Dr. David Young, and requests for pictures of Jaxon.
14. Group photos
 - i. Peter Tomkins, farm instructor, Poundmaker's reserve, Sask., 1886.
Imprisoned by Riel at Batoche, March-May, 1885.
 - ii. Unidentified photocopy of a photo of a group of men, which state "Entered according to Act of Parliament of Canada, in the year 1885" by Prof. Buell in the office of the Minister of Agriculture.
 - iii. Metis leaders awaiting trial at Regina. As members of Riel's council, most were sent to prison for a year. The only two white prisoners were discharged.
Two reprints, one negative.
 - iv. Joseph Jaxon, 91. Building Superintendent evicted. Clipping. Dec. 15, 1951.
15. Sessional Papers, Government Debates.
 - i. W.H. Jackson petition to Department of the Secretary of State. That a Measure be introduced in the Federal Parliament providing for the complete reorganization of the District of Saskatchewan. 1884.
 - ii. Privy Council to Department of the Interior 1885.
re: Jackson's petition for the reorganization of the District of Saskatchewan as a Province with a Bill of Rights.
 - iii. Manitoba. Department of Attorney-General. Annual Report, 1885.
Sessional Papers (No .2) 1885; Re: insinuations made by the press regarding the treatment of the insane patient W. H. Jackson.
 - iv. Canada. House of Commons Debates March 16, 1886.
Re: Laurier speaking about the insanity of William Joseph Jackson and also being an advisor to Riel.
 - v. F. Hayter (Registrar, University of Toronto) to W .H. Jackson. Re: his standing in second

year Classics, Mathematics, Logic, Chemistry.

- vi. Edgar Dewdney (Lieutenant Governor of the North West Territories) to Peace Officers and the Superintendent of the Selkirk Lunatic Asylum in the province of Manitoba. 8 Aug. 1885. Re: orders to have William Henry Jackson taken from the N.W.M.P. Guard House to the Selkirk Lunatic Asylum. 2 copies.
- vii. W .H. Jackson to Edgar Dewdney N .O.
Re: his concern about the execution or imprisonment of the Rebellion leader, and his request for separate apartments, writing materials and food. E. Dewdney to Sir John A. Macdonald. 27 June 1885. Re: Dewdney's evaluation of Jackson as being crazy.
- viii. W. M. Pearce Memorandum. Department of the Interior. 27 June 1885.
Re: his comments on Jackson's petition.

16. Family Letters from Jackson.

- i. W. Jackson to his mother, nd. Jackson's comments on the Sermon on the Mount and Christian conduct taught by Christ.
- ii. W .H. Jackson to his family, 19 Sept. 1885.
Re: Jackson's explanation of his insanity, his beliefs upon religious subjects of the Indian problem. 2 copies.
- iii. W.H. Jackson to his sister Cecile, Nov. 16, 1885.
Re: Jackson's escape from the Selkirk Asylum, and his instructions to Cecile to send a telegram to Sir John A. MacDonald to release Riel.
- iv. Honore Jaxon to Mary Grant. Feb .25, 1931.
Re: Jaxon's views on his sister's marriage.
- v. Honore Jaxon to Mary Grant. Jan. 21, 1949.
Re: Jaxon's receipt of a Christmas present, his views on the superiority of the Scottish people, his desire to promote the success of his friends and relations, his views on education, an account of his work schedule, an explanation of the real cause of the class struggle.
- vi. Honore Jaxon to Cicily Plaxton and Mary Grant. Feb. 22, 1951.
Re: his attempts to promote the happiness and peace of mind of the French-Indian people, to solve the difficulties and hardships of the American workers, to submit to the will of God, and to promote the comfort and happiness of Cicily's descendants. Jaxon's explanation for collecting an interesting and useful library.
- vii. Honore Jaxon to Mary Grant. Aug. 27, 1951.
Re: Jaxon's attempts to arrange for the transportation of his library to Mary's farm for safekeeping.
- viii. Honore Jaxon to John Grant. Oct. 25, 1951.
Re: Jaxon's concern about the depositing of his library.
- ix. Photocopy of the original letter transcribed as item 16. ii.

17. Family letters to and Re Jackson.

- i. Cicily Jackson to Dr. Young. Nov. 4, 1885.
Re: Cicily's thoughts on her brother's disappearance and his plan to join up with Dumont in the States.
- ii. Mrs.? Jackson to Dr. Young. Aug. 5, 1885.
Re: her son (W.H. Jackson) being sent to the Selkirk Asylum, and request to be informed about William H. Jackson's mental progress.
- iii. Elizabeth Jackson to Dr. Young. Sept. 16. 1885.

Re: a request to provide more care and attention for William H. Jackson and to provide a progress report on him.

- iv. C. Jackson to Dr. Young. Nov. 9, 1885.
- v. Cicely Jackson to W. H. Jackson Nov. 1, 1885.
Re: Cicely's wish to visit her brother, her promise to bring writing materials, questions about his guitar playing and his walking.
- vi. Cicely Jackson to Dr. Young. Nov. 2, 1885.
Re: a letter for William H. Jackson.
- vii. Cicely Jackson to Dr. Young. Nov. 3, 1885
Re: she has not seen or heard of William H. Jackson.
- viii. Cicely Jackson to Dr. Young. Nov. 4, 1885.
- ix. Aurrie L. Morrison to Dr. Young. Nov. 7, 1885.
Re: explanation of the fact that Mrs. C. Jackson has not communicated with her brother since his escape, explanation of William H. Jackson's concern to escape in order to help Riel. Her concern to have her brother returned to the Asylum.
- x. A.L. Morrison to Dr. Young. Nov. 8, 1885.
Re: rumour that Father Andre would help Riel escape from the Regina jail.
- xi. Cicely Jackson to Dr. Young. Dec. 17, 1885.
Re: request for the return of Jackson's guitar.
- xii. Doris Decorate to ?
Re: copy of Salvation Army letter concerning the funeral of Honore Jaxon, which was held on Jan. 14, 1952.
- xiii. Kurt Mertia to Miss Cicely Plaxton. Jan. 16, 1952.
Re: Her claiming to be Jaxon's closest friend, an account of Jaxon's health in the last few months before his death and the manner in which he was evicted from his apartment, concern about the whereabouts of Jaxon's will and what to do with his book collection.
- xiv. Kurt Mertia to Miss Cicely Plaxton. Jan. 31, 1952.
Re: Ideas about the disposal of the late Major Jaxon's books. Jaxon's claim that he was robbed by hobos before his removal to hospital, request for Jaxon's will, problems associated with administration of Jaxon's estate.
- xv. Aunt Mrs. W. Barber- C.J. Plaxton. n.d.
Re: Claim that the family is free from any mental disorder.

18. Press Clippings Re Jackson

- i. Cleveland Plain Dealer, Dec. 14, 1951.
"Honore Jaxon, 91, Friend of Indians" New York Daily News. Jan. 12, 1952. "Honore Joseph Jaxon, 90 Dies; Long a Fighter for Indian Rights."
- ii. New York Journal – American Jan. 19, 1952.
"Champion of Redskins May Have Died Rich" "H.J. Jaxon Dies; Defender of Lost Causes."
- iii. New York Journal –American Dec. 13, 1951.
"Evicted at 91 ; Aided by Hobos." "Newspaper Aids Evicted 'Major'"
- iv. New York Herald-Tribune Dec. 13, 1951.
"Fought All His Life for Others, 91, He's Evicted from Cellar." "Evicted Oldster Counts on God"
New York Times Dec. 14, 1951. "Champion of Indians Disposed Here."
Pittsburgh Press. Dec. 13, 1951. "91 Year Old Man Evicted; Finds Home with Hobos."
- v. "Simple Rites Mark Service for Pioneer."
"P.A. Pioneer Teacher Dies at Age of 86."

- "Thomas Eastwood Jackson, This City's First Druggist, Passas."
- vi. "Colleston Pioneers Mark Anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plaxton."
- vii. La Presse. Montreal 3 Aout., 1885. "Condemnation de Riel."
- viii. La Presse. Montreal 1 Aout, 1885.
"Le Proces de Riel."
- ix. Prince Albert Times. May 30, 1884.
- x. La Minerve. Jan. 23, 1886.
- xi. "Le Cas de Jackson." La Minerve 9 Dec. 1886.
- xii. "La Grace de Riel." L'Electeur Quebec 7 Aout, 1885.
- xiii. "Jackson's Escape." Ottawa Free Press Nov. 24, 1885.
- xiv. "Evicted Indian Fighter Rescued by Indian", New York World- Telegram and Sun Dec. 13, 1951.
"Major Jaxon, Who's Used to It by Now, Finds Himself, at 90, Thrown Out Again," New York Times Dec. 13, 1951.
"Old Indian Fighter, 91, Put Out Into Street" Jamaica Long Island Press. Dec. 13, 1951.
"Building Superintendent, 91, Evicted" Savannah Press. Dec. 14, 1951.

19. The Trial and Official Reports on Jackson

- i. Testimony of Jackson's Brother. pp 76-85.
The Queen vs. Louis Riel. Ottawa, 1886.
- ii. The Queen vs William Henry Jackson. Tried at Regina July the 24th, 1885 before their Honors Justices Richardson and Le Jeune. Osler Q.C. and Burbidge Q.C. for the Crown. McArthur Q.C. for the prisoner 3303-3308
P.A .C. Department of Justice, Louis Riel File (RG 13,82, Vol 17)
- iii. The Queen vs William Henry Jackson Regina, 24 July, 1885. Sessional papers (No . 52) Canadian Senate Papers. 886. Vol. 13 No. 52. pp 340-344.
- iv. Report re Agitation from Jackson to Riel, Prince Albert, 23 July 1884. Sessional Papers (No .43) 1886.

20. Publications re Jackson

- i. C. Greenland, "William Henry Jackson," Canadian Notes and Queries" Montreal, Dec. 1970.
- ii. W.J.C. Cherwinski, "Honore Joseph Jaxon, Agitator, Disturber, producer of plans to make men think and Chronic Objector" Canadian Historical Review Vol. XLVI, No. June, 1965, pp 122-133.
- iii. George F. Stanley, The Birth of Western Canada (Toronto, 1936), pp 260-261, 298-303, 306-307, 316-317, 322-325 and 378-379 and Bibliographical Notes.
- iv. W. Cude, "With Unavailing Pain, I Regret: A Study of the Jukes Testimony in the 1885 Rebellion Trials." 31, Aug. 1976.
- v. E.J. Chambers, The North West Mounted Police (Ottawa, 1907), page 83.
- vi. E. McKay, "The Stone Fort."
- vii. Louis Blake Duff, "Amazing Story of the Winghamite Secretary of Louis Riel," Western Ontario History Nuggets. No. 22. London University of Western Ontario, 1955.
- viii. Lewis H. Thomas, "Louis Riel's Petition of Rights, 1884." Saskatchewan History Vol. 23 No.1 Winter, 1970 pp. 1-26.
- ix. Sandra Estlin Bingaman, "The Trial s of the 'White Rebels', 1885" Saskatchewan History Vol. XXV, No. 2 Spring 1972, pp 41 -54.

- x. Donatien Fremont, "Henry Jackson et L'Insurrection du Nord-Ouest," Memoires de la Societe Royale du Canada Vol. XLVI. Troisième Serie. Juin 1952, pp 19-48. 2c.
- xi. E.B .Osler. The Man who had to hang Louis Riel. Toronto; Longmans Green and Co. n.d., pp 260-263.
- xii. J.K. Howard, Strange Empire: A Narrative of the Northwest New York, William Morrow and Co., 1952, pp 472, 546.
- xiii. Review of G.F.G. Stanley, Louis Riel. Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1963.
- xiv. C. Greenland, "William Henry Jackson," Canadian Notes and Queries. No. 4. Montreal, Feb., 1970.

Box 2

21. Political Letters to and from Jackson

Correspondence pertaining to Jackson's petition to the Federal Government, a measure for the complete organization of the District of Saskatchewan as a Province, Jackson's concern about the petition being directed to the Privy Council of England and to the general public instead of federal authorities, Riel's position on the petition, a copy of the petition for the representation of the North West in the Dominion Parliament, Riel's concern about the public good of Prince Albert, Riel's concern that the RNWMP are preparing to arrest him and Jackson, Riel's wish for the English and French halfbreeds to unite on common interests, a copy of Jackson's speech to the public of Prince Albert, a paper on "The Enemies Tactics", a list of settlers in the PA district, a copy of John C. Slater's declaration re William Henry Jackson, the people's confidence in Riel, a copy of the resolutions of Riel's Council, platform of the Merchants Committee, resolutions of the Anti-Corruptionist Party of North Western America, a copy of Honore Jaxon Documents involving resolutions submitted to the Government, articles of agreement between the members of a Cooperative Lumbering Association in connection with the Credit Sources Colony of Sinoloa, Mexico, and Jaxon's attempts to have some of his Metis compatriots settled in Mexico.

22. Letter to Sir John A. Macdonald

William H. Jackson to Sir John A. Macdonald. Nov. 18, 1885.

re: a request for Macdonald to pardon Riel and the Metis and Indian leaders who are condemned to be executed.

23. Excerpts from Jaxon and the Law.

Photocopies from the New York Times Feb, 1942.

"Hut Dweller Clashes with Law. Soldier of Fortune Regards His Abode as a 'Palace though it Lacks Floor'", New York Times- Feb. 20, 1942. - articles pertaining to Jaxon's living conditions in New York.

24. The Home News.

A photocopy of the Home News Bronx and Manhattan. Feb. 20, 1942 showing a picture of Jaxon's house. 2 copies.

25. Misc. Jackson family obits, census data.

Photocopies of information pertaining to the Jackson's family obituaries and census data.

Thomas Eastwood Jackson

T.G. Jackson

Elizabeth Jackson Mrs. Amos J. Plaxton

Cicely Jackson Plaxton

26. Obituary of Honore Jaxon
"A Scholarly Hobo," The Caravan, April, 1952 - a photocopy of Jaxon's Obituary.
27. Louis Blake Duff. Story of Riel's one time secretary.
Manuscript copy of "Last Stand of a Champion of Human Rights" by N.A. Benson. July 14, 1954.
The Bowery News. The Voice of Society's Basement. No. 50, No. 51. n.d. Manuscript copy of N.A .
Benson, "Memories of Dr. Louis Blake Duff." N .A. Benson, "Tireless Defender of the Underdog."
Manuscript.
28. Jackson Slides.
A list of slides pertaining to Jackson, Riel and the Rebellion.
29. David Young, M.D.
A biographic note on David Young, M.D., who was the medical superintendent of the asylum for
the insane of the province of Manitoba. 2 photocopies.
30. Research Material collected by Greenland.
This file contains a miscellaneous collection of items pertaining to Honore Jaxon and Louis Riel.
Some examples can be given to indicate the type of material in the file. Jackson's condemnation
of the treatment of the Metis prisoners, Jackson's escape from the Selkirk asylum, an account of
Jackson's trial, a copy of Louis Blake Duff, "Amazing Story of the Winghamite Secretary of Louis
Riel", a copy of the "Life and Death of Louis Riel " reprinted in Canada from Canadian Psychiatric
Association Journal. Vol. 10. no. 4, July- Aug., 1965 , a copy of T. Flanagan, "The Riel 'Lunacy
Commission' The Report of Dr. Valade", Revue de L'Universite d'Ottawa, 46 (Jan. - March, 1976) a
copy of L. Benderowage's paper on William Henry Jackson, a copy of the working paper on the
Trial of Louis Riel for the C.B.C. T.V. script, and notes on Fremont 's article on Jackson.
31. Various telegrams.
 - i. J.B. McArthur to Dr. Young, Nov. 10, 1885.
Re: instructing Young to take immediate steps towards the recovery of Jackson.
 - ii. Jackson to Sir John A. Macdonald. Nov. 14, 1884.
Re: Riel's plans to fight for the Metis rights.
 - iii. J. Macleod to G.W. Burbridge. July 24, 1885.
Re: Arrival in Regina.
 - iv. M. Cameron to G.W. Burbridge. July 24, 1885.
Re: Notification of the arrival of Cameron in Montreal.
32. Page of letter from Jackson to his mother giving dimensions for knitting leggings for him.
Final page of letter 16.ix.