

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



THE THEOBALD BUTLER BARRETT FONDS

AFC 59

Inventory prepared by Alison Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfillment of archives course requirements - September 2009

**WESTERN ARCHIVES
AFC 59
THEOBALD BUTLER BARRETT FONDS**

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THEOBALD BUTLER BARRETT FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Dates

1854 – 1891, added material 1933 and 1966

Extent

24.2 cm of textual records

Biographical Sketch

Theobald Butler Barrett was born in Banagher, Queen's County, Ireland on November 17, 1817, the 4th of 16 children of Hugh Massey Barrett and Caroline Barrett (nee Butler). The Barretts immigrated to Canada in May of 1830 aboard the ship "Bolivar," settling in Sorel, a community located 90 kilometres north-east of Montreal along the south bank of the St. Lawrence River.

In 1837, Theobald and his older brother William joined the militia; early in his career, Theobald served with a mounted regiment billeted in Kingston, Ontario. Twenty years later, on September 24, 1857, Barrett was appointed an Ensign in the First Battalion Norfolk Militia. On August 26, 1858, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant; by March of 1869, he had advanced to the rank of captain (with seniority) and was given command of the Seventh Company Division.

In the early 1840's, Barrett served as a constable of Rural Police where he was, for 10 months, in charge of the local police station. He was promoted to chief constable of the Berthier Section of the Rural Police on November 1, 1841 and he remained in this position for over a year. Later in his life, Barrett also served as the assistant sheriff in the town of Simcoe, Norfolk County, Ontario.

Theobald Butler Barrett married Emily Langs on March 12, 1850; they settled on Bridge Street in Port Dover, Ontario. Theobald and Emily raised seven children:

- Phoebe Caroline (b. 1851)
- Hugh Jacob Francis (b. 1854)
- Emily Louisa (b. 1857)
- Clara Georgina (b. 1859)
- Alice Butler (b. 1861)
- William Henry (b. 1864)
- Hubert Baldwin (b. 1867)

On July 7, 1853, the governor general, James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, appointed Barrett as landing waiter and clerk in the Customs Service at Port Dover - a position he would hold for 15 years. On February 9, 1869 he was appointed to the position of collector in Her Majesty's Customs for the town of Port Dover. Upon his January, 1892 retirement, at the age of 75, Barrett had dedicated almost 40 of his life in service to the Crown.

Known by his children and grandchildren as "Fa", Theobald Butler Barrett died on December 10, 1910, at the age of 93.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of materials related to Theobald Butler Barrett's professional activities as landing waiter and clerk, and as customs collector for the town of Port of Dover. Included are legal documents, financial records, correspondence, and miscellaneous documents.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

Series 1	Shipping records
Series 2	Correspondence and biographical information
Series 3	Financial documents

Finding Aids

File lists available.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Correspondence included with the fonds indicates that they were donated, in 1933, to the University of Western Ontario by Mr. W. A. Gordon of Port Dover who discovered them while clearing out an old store cellar.

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

Associated Material

Further information about the family history of Theobald Butler Barrett may be found in the Harry Barrett fonds, housed in the Greater Vernon (B.C.) Museum and Archives.

**THEOBALD BUTLER BARRETT FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 1 Shipping records

Dates 1851-1891

Extent 23.8 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

Files consist of materials related to position of landing waiter and clerk, and collector for the Port of Dover from 1851-1891. Included are legal documents, correspondence, and miscellaneous documents.

Note Titles supplied based on content of the files.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-001-1
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-001-2
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-001-3
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-001-4
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-001-5
North Star 1854-56	1854-1856	B5571-001-1
Fame 1854-1857	1854-1857	B5571-001-2
Mayflower 1851	1851	B5571-001-3
I.C. Wheeler 1854-62	1854-1862	B5571-001-4
Bay Queen 1857-64	1857-1864	B5571-001-5
Abram Leask 1859-61	1859-1861	B5571-001-6
Misc. Vessels 1860-65	1860-1865	B5571-001-7
P.C. Young 1864-71	1864-1871	B5571-001-8
Saucy Jack 1864-1869	1864-1869	B5571-001-9
Jessie 1886-89	1886-1889	B5571-001-10
Misc. Vessels 1856	1856	B5571-001-11
Misc. Vessels 1874-79	1874-1879	B5571-001-12
Statement of value of imports and exports of Port Dover and Ryerse for 1869	1869	B5571-001-13
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-002-1
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-002-2
Legal documents – Miscellaneous vessels	1854-1891	B4071-002-3

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 2 Correspondence and Biographical Information

Dates 1933, 1966

Extent 0.2 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

Files consist of materials related to the accession of the fonds and biographical information regarding Theobald Butler Barrett.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Accession Correspondence	1933	B4071-001-6
VF 425 Barrett, Theobald Butler “Notes on Theobald Butler Barrett, 1817-1910” Written by Mr. Henry B. Barrett, Port Dover Re: His Great-Grandfather	1966	B4071-001-7

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Series 3 **Financial documents**

Dates 1867-1874

Extent 0.2 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

Files consist of receipts for tug boat services and cancelled cheques relating to Theobald Butler Barrett's business activities at Port Dover, as well as several notes addressed to a Hugh Johnson, Esq.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Financial records and correspondence Tug boat receipts, cancelled cheques	1867-1874	B4071-001-8