

# Trent University Archives

## Finding Aid - Hugh Atwood collection of Catharine Parr Trail notes (97-1022)

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# Hugh Atwood collection of Catharine Parr Traill notes

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## Table of contents

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Summary information .....	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch .....	3
Scope and content .....	3
Notes .....	4
Access points .....	4

## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Trent University Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Hugh Atwood collection of Catharine Parr Traill notes
<b>Reference code:</b>	97-1022
<b>Date:</b>	1897-1899 (creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	3 items

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Catharine Parr Traill was born in Rotherhithe near London, England 9 January 1802 as Catharine Parr Strickland. She was the fifth child of Thomas and Elizabeth Strickland. She was sister to Eliza, Jane Margaret, Susanna (later Susanna Moodie), Samuel and Agnes. In 1832 she married Lt. Thomas Traill. She emigrated with her husband to Upper Canada when the opportunity provided itself and they settled near the Otonabee River near Peterborough, Upper Canada. Together they had nine children. Catharine wrote a number of works on pioneer life in Upper Canada such as *The Backwoods of Canada* (1834), *Canadian Crusoes* (1853), *The Female Emigrants Guide* (1854), *Canadian Wild Flowers* (1868) and *Studies of Plant Life in Canada* (1885). She also kept a journal and in it she wrote down ideas and sketches for future writings. *The Old Doctor* (1985) was probably written between 1835 and 1840 when John Hutchinson, a native of Kirkcaldy, Scotland, was practising medicine in Peterborough, Upper Canada. Before emigrating Catharine had published a number of children's books and stories in England. Catharine Parr Traill died 29 August 1899. (Taken from: *Forest and Other Gleanings*. Ottawa, University of Ottawa Press, 1994.)

### Custodial history

This collection was in the custody of Hugh Atwood before it was donated to Trent University Archives through the Friends of the Bata Library.

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## Scope and content

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Collection consists of three personal notes written by Catharine Parr Traill to her grand-niece, Agnes Le Fenore. One is a two part card with the cover illustrated with cutout images of a dog and a butterfly along with a wisp of moss glued to the surface. The second part of the card is a warm salutation to Agnes and her family. The date is 24 December 1897. The second item, dated 12 May, is a note of thanks to Agnes for obtaining a cape [and cap?] for her, and also refers to fatigue and the problem of swelling feet. The third item is a letter written 1 April 1899 to "G Niece A F" [Agnes] sending belated sympathy for two in hospital and describing in some detail Traill's own plight, and the care offered by Kate and Katie.

## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the donor of the collection.

### Immediate source of acquisition

This collection was donated by Hugh Atwood.

### Restrictions on access

None

### Related material

For related records see: 69-001, 69-1001, 74-003, 77-010, 82-022, 83-1003, 83-1021, 86-011, 86-1000, 89-1062, 93-1004, 93-1013, 94-001, 94-007, 95-004, and 96-1012.

### Note [General]

These notes were found loosely inserted in a signed copy of *Pearls and Pebbles* by Catharine Parr Traill, which was donated to Trent University by Hugh Atwood through the Friends of the Bata Library in 1995. The book was dedicated to Agnes Le Fenore and her husband. (In the accessioned notes of 97-1022, Agnes is addressed as a grand-niece of Traill).

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

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## Access points

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- Atwood, Hugh
- Traill, Catharine Parr (subject)
- Isolated manuscripts (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Arts (subject)
- Literature and Publishing (subject)
- Popular Culture (subject)
- Women's Studies (subject)