

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Darwin-Burdon Sanderson letters (RBSC- ARC-1731)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.7.1 Printed: July 05, 2023

Language of description: English

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
1961 East Mall
Vancouver
British Columbia
V6T 1Z1
Telephone: 604-822-2521
Fax: 604-822-9587
[Email: rare.books@ubc.ca](mailto:rare.books@ubc.ca)
<http://rbsc.library.ubc.ca/>
<http://rbscarchives.library.ubc.ca/darwin-burdon-sanderson-letters-2>

Darwin-Burdon Sanderson letters

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	4
Arrangement	4
Notes	4
Access points	5
Series descriptions	5

Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Darwin-Burdon Sanderson letters
Reference code:	RBSC-ARC-1731
Date:	1873-1881 (date of creation)
Date:	1873-1881 (date of creation)
Physical description:	7 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	RAD compliant Finding Aid prepared by: Kristine Protacio, February 2015.
Note [generalNote]:	Digitized materials available here: http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/landingpage/collection/darwin

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Sir John Scott Burdon-Sanderson born on December 21, 1828. He received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh and at the University of Paris. He became a Medical Officer of Health for Paddington in 1856 and subsequently a physician to the Middlesex Hospital and the Brompton Consumption hospitals. Between 1858-1866, he investigated diphtheria, cattle plague and cholera when they appeared in England. He was one of the forerunners of penicillin, observing its ability to inhibit the growth of bacteria before Alexander Fleming.

He was the first person chosen to be the Waynflete Chair of Physiology in Oxford in 1882. It was at this time that he became the focus of the antivivisectionist movement, who opposed his stance on animal experimentation. In 1895, he became Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, a post he held until his resignation in 1904. In 1899, he became the first Baronet of Banbury Road in the Parish of Saint Giles in the City of Oxford. He died in Oxford on November 23rd, 1905.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Charles Robert Darwin was an English naturalist and geologist, best known for his book *On the Origin of the Species*. He is the father of evolutionary theory and natural selection.

Custodial history

Purchased from H.M. Sinclair as part of the Sinclair Collection in 1966 by the Woodward Library. Dr. Sinclair was a lecturer in physiology and biochemistry at Magdalen College in Oxford. The Woodward Library acquired the collection in 1966. During that time, these letters were separated from the Sinclair Collection and became a separate collection. The letters were transferred from Woodward Memorial Library to Rare Books and Special Collections in 2013.

Scope and content

This group of about 40 letters, a part of the Sinclair Collection, consists of correspondence between Charles Robert Darwin (1809-1882) and John Scott Burdon Sanderson (1828-1905) during the years from 1873-1881.

The letters deal with the research Darwin and Burdon Sanderson did on the digestive powers and leaf movements of insect-eating plants, notably *Drosera* and *Dionaea*. Darwin published the results of this research as part of his *Insectivorous Plants* (1875).

There is also correspondence about Burdon Sanderson's (and to a lesser extent, Darwin's) attempts to ensure that the antivivisectionists should not secure the passage of a bill through Parliament that should hinder scientific research. Sanderson's efforts influenced the events that led to the appointment of a Royal Commission in 1875 to study the use of animals in scientific research in Britain.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

Letters are not in original order. Files are labeled based on the location of where the letter was written. The first half of the letters are written by Darwin to Burdon-Sanderson. The second half of the collection are letters written by Burdon-Sanderson to Darwin. Each letter is separated into individual file, with the final file containing Burdon-Sanderson's recollections of a visit to Darwin.

Restrictions on access

Please note material in this collection will be provided one file at a time.

Related material

Related to the Sir John Burdon Sanderson Document Collection containing vivisection licenses and letters from his wife, Lady Gheta (Herschel) Burdon Sanderson.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Science and technology (subject)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-01	File - Charles Darwin, 6 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Sanderson.	April 30, [1876?]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-02	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	June 21, [1874]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-03	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	May 27, [1874]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-04	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	May 5, [1874]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-05	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	March 31, [1874]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-06	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Nov. 19, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-07	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Oct. 1, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-08	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down", To Dr. Sanderson.	June 26, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-09	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Sept. 14, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-10	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down", Beckenham, Kent. To Dr. Sanderson.	June 24, 1873		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-11	File - Charles Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson	July 25, 1873		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-12	File - Ch. Darwin, 2 Bryanston St., Portman Square, [London]. To Dr. Sanderson.	Nov. 15, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-13	File - Charles Darwin, "Basset", Southampton. To Dr. Sanderson.	August 15, 1873		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-14	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Sept. 9, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-15	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Sept. 13, [1873]		
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-16	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	March 21, 1874		

RBSC-ARC-1731-1-17	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	May 14, [1874]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-18	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	June 12, 1874
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-19	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Oct. 9, 1874
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-20	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Sanderson.	Oct. 13, 1874
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-21	File - Charles Darwin, "Down". Dr. Dr. Sanderson.	Feb. 10, 1875
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-22	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Mr. Sanderson.	July 16, 1875
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-23	File - Charles Darwin, "Bassett", Southampton. To Sanderson.	May 13, 1879
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-24	File - Ch. Darwin, "Down". To Dr. Burdon Sanderson.	Dec. 29, 1880
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-25	File - Ch. Darwin. [To Dr. Sanderson?]	[August 1874?]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-26	File - C. Darwin. [To Dr. Sanderson?]	Oct. 18, [1873]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-27	File - J.B. Sanderson. To Mr. Darwin.	[April 1875?]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-28	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street [London] To Mr. Darwin.	March 30, [1874]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-29	File - J. B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	April 12, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-30	File - J. Burdon Sanderson. To Mr. Darwin.	April 7, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-31	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	April 28, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-32	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	April 23, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-33	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	April 30, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-34	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	May 6, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-35	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Street. To Mr. Darwin.	May 23, [1875]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-36	File - J. B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street [London]. To Mr. Darwin.	March 23, [1874]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-37	File - J.B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	Saturday [May 8, 1875?]
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-38	File - J. B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street. To Mr. Darwin.	April 14, 1875
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-39	File - J. B. Sanderson, 49 Queen Anne Street To. Mr. Darwin.	Feb. 12, 1875
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-40	File - J.B. Sanderson. To Mr. Darwin.	April 10, 1875
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-41	File - J.B. Sanderson, 26 Gordon Square [London]. To Mr. Darwin.	May 14, 1879
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-42	File - J. Burdon Sanderson, 7 White Rock Place, Hastings. To Mr. Darwin.	Dec. 31, 1880
RBSC-ARC-1731-1-43	File - [Burdon Sanderson's recollections of a visit to Mr. Darwin.]	Dec. 19, [1881]