

JBC
Papers of John Bright Clark
1826-1934, 1970s

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

John Bright Clark (1867-1933), shoe manufacturer, was born in Street, eldest son of William Stephens Clark (1839-1925) and Helen Priestman Bright Clark (1840-1927). He was educated at Bootham School, York, and then entered the family business, working initially with his uncle Francis Joseph Clark (1853-1938).

In 1904 he married Caroline Susan Pease (1866-1908), daughter of Thomas Pease (1816-1884) and his third wife Susanna Ann Pease (nee Fry, 1829-1917). Cara died shortly after the birth of their only child, John Anthony Clark (1908-1985) who later became a key family member of C & J Clark as one of the high profile family directors. John Bright Clark married Evelyn Valentin Pechey (1886-1970) in 1923 with no issue.

JBC became a managing director of C & J Clark Ltd in 1903 and was President of the Shoe Manufacturers Association from 1939 to 1931. He was a governor of Leighton Park School and a member of the Sidcot School Committee, as well as being a JP and member of Street Urban District Council and Somerset County Council. He died suddenly of a heart attack whilst at work in Street.

EXTENT

10 boxes

ARCHIVAL HISTORY

This collection is held on loan from the heirs of John Anthony Clark, although the date of deposit is unknown.

DESCRIPTION

Family letters

Letters to JBC, 1872-1923, including to JBC whilst in: Bootham School, 1875-1889; Switzerland, Madeira and Germany, 1880-1895; South Africa, Switzerland and Austria, 1885-1908; Ireland, 1889-1890; Millfield, Buttermere and Crieff, 1891-1892; Street, Germany, Australia, New Zealand and Italy, 1893-1905; Italy, Austria, Australia, New Zealand etc, 1896-1904; Canada, USA, Italy, Ireland etc, 1896-1904; Austria, Switzerland, France, 1897-1908; Austria, 1904; France, 1905-1907; India, Holland, France, 1908-1911; Germany and Norway, 1909-1917; Overleigh House, 1923-1939

Letters to JBC mainly from MCG, 1890-1908; JBC from Roger Clark, 1884-1895; JBC from his parents, 1893-1895; letters from JAC to JBC, 1915; letters from J C Smuts to JBC, undated; letters to John Bright, 1851-1866; letters to Mrs S Bright, 1867-1873; letters from JBC and CPC to WSC and HPBC, 1904-1908; letters mainly to WSC from JBC, 1874-1893; Letters to WSC and HPBC, 1880-1882; Letters to Alice Clark, 1882-1912

Letters from Cara S Pease to her husband JBC, 1903-1908; and vice versa, JBC to CSP, 1904-1908; letters from S A Pease to JBC and CSC, 1904-1906; Cara Pease

Clark to Mrs Margaret Hogg, 1894-1906; Cara Pease Clark to Mabel Wait, 1884-1892; Cara Pease to Esther Clothier, 1900-1904; Margaret Clark to Cara Pease, 1904; Pease family to CSC, 1904-1908; WSC and HPBC to CSC, 1904-1908; letters to Mrs Pease, 1899-1912; letters to Nancy Pease, Canada, undated; letters regarding the death of Cara Pease Clark, 1908

Other papers

Photograph albums, mainly of scenery taken during travels in Europe, South Africa, West Country, York and Scotland, 1880s-1890s; loose photographs including of C & J Clark Ltd directors on the firm's 150th birthday, 1975; photograph album given to JBC from his parents, 1882; JBC diaries and notebooks, 1880-1933; JBC cashbook, 1879-1884; JBC 'health book', 1912-1926; papers relating to the history of the Pease family of Leeds and Cote Bank, Bristol, 20th century; memorial booklets, JBC, c 1933; papers relating to Street Child Study Circle, 1916-1919; papers regarding the deaths of WSC and JBC, undated; copy diary of Isaac Gregory, Constable of the Hundred of Frome, 1817-1818; trust deeds and settlements regarding the children of JAC and the demise of JBC, undated; accounts regarding trousseau of Cara S Pease, 1904; diaries of Cara S Clark and Cara Pease Clark, 1889-1907 (1905 not extant)

Photographs

Family photograph albums (Clarks, McLarens, Tanners, Clothiers, Rowntrees, Woods, Brights), late 19th-early 20th c; CJC Travellers' Conference, 1927; CJC Board, 1970s

ACCESS CONDITIONS

Access to the collection is by advance appointment. Access to some collections may be restricted due to Data Protection or other restrictions. Check with the Archivist.

REPRODUCTION CONDITIONS

Usual Alfred Gillett Trust regulations apply. Permission from the Trust and/or owner of a collection is usually required before publication. Copying of some items may be possible on a case by case basis – please check with the Archivist.

LANGUAGE

English

FINDING AIDS

A list is available on the Access database, prepared by Derek Patch in 1999.

RELATED UNITS OF DESCRIPTION

Papers of Mrs John Bright Clark's family are held by the Trust (Pease). A small costume collection was deposited at the Trust in 2014.

PUBLICATION NOTE

It is not known to what extent this collection has been used in published research.

NOTE

Biographical information has been taken mainly from Edward H Milligan. 2007. *Biographical dictionary of British Quakers in commerce and industry 1775-1920*. York: Sessions of York