Robert Mackenzie Johnston (1845 – 1918), Government Statistician, arrived in Tasmania in 1870 and took a job in the accounts branch of the Launceston and Western Railway until he entered Government service in 1872. In 1882 he was appointed Government Statistician and Registrar General. In that year he was also appointed one of the commissioners to report on fisheries in Tasmania. In 188 the Government published his paper ‘A systematic account of the geology of Tasmania’. He was a prominent member of the Royal Society of Tasmania and contributed many papers to its Papers & Proceedings (see the list in Pap. & Proc. 1918 pp 136-144). He was a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, The Royal geographical Society of Australia and the Linnean Society.

J3/1 Memoranda relating to the fishes if Tasmania examined by R M Johnston, nd.
Rough notes and sketches ms., newspaper cuttings (quarto vol)

2 Notes and sketches of Tasmanian fish, mainly salmon, nd. (octavo notebook)

3 Sketchbook of sea shells.

4 Sketches and notes, nd.
Sketches of Lakes Crescent, Sorell and Ann and miscellaneous notes on fish.
(pocket sketch book, leather bound)

5 Press cuttings
Press cuttings collected by R M Johnston, including some of his correspondence to the press. (quarto vol.)


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