

Deposited by Miss C. Kingsmill 1964, 1978, except item 11 received from estate of E.W.Cruickshank, former University accountant.

Access: Open for consultation

H. C. KINGSMILL

Henry Charles Kingsmill (1843-1909) MA Cambridge was University lecturer in surveying and Government Meteorologist. He was born in Donegal, Ireland, the son of Rev. Henry Kingsmill of Trinity College Dublin. He graduated MA at Cambridge University and came to Australia for his health in 1873. He assisted with the N.S.W. Government land surveys on gold fields at Hill End Tambarooma, near Bathurst, and then taught in schools in Queensland. He came to Tasmania in 1882 to an appointment at Christ's College and later at the Hobart Technical School.

He was connected with the University from its foundation and gave advice on proposed courses in surveying and astronomy, acted as examiner and served on the University Council from 1893 (1893-5, 1901-1909). He was instructor in mathematics from 1896 and lecturer in surveying from 1904. In 1892 he took charge of the Government Observatory in Barrack Square where he was assisted by his sisters. He married Helen Mary Cruickshank, daughter of James Henry Robert Cruickshank (1841-1916) who was Acting Registrar of the University in 1892 and Registrar from 1894 until 1916.

H. C. KINGSMILL - PERSONAL

PERSONAL PAPERS

- UT511/1 Memoranda Book 1883-1884
 H.C. Kingsmill's notebook, including minutes of Gymnasium meetings of 4 and 11 August 1883 and notes of Tasmanian Scholarship examination 1884, entered in old diary.
 ("Letts Australasian rough diary 1877", octavo)
- 2 Extracts from letters 1873 - c 1874-5
 Extracts copied from letters from Kingsmill to his sister Carrie and brother Joseph, describing: the voyage out in 1873, surveying work for N.S.W. Government Land Surveys on gold fields at Hill End and Tambarooma, near Bathurst, with descriptions of mining and miners' houses of split logs with bark roofs, his journey from Sydney to Bathurst by railway through the Blue Mountains via Penrith and then on horseback 40 miles from Bathurst to Hill End, and also a journey from Sydney to Newcastle by steam ship and by train to Blandford.
 (xerox copies of extracts handwritten in 1950s or 60s)
- 3 Mrs Kingsmill's Diary 1889
 Diary of Helen Mary (Mrs H. C.) Kingsmill, noting household expenses, purchases, visits to friends etc.
 (Smith's printed diary, octavo)
- 4 Notes on Advanced Surveying c 1891-2
 (notebook)

- UT511/5 Technical School appointment 3 Feb. 1896
Letter asking if Kingsmill would take the mathematical class at the Technical School for 1896 at a salary of £42 for 42 weeks.
(1 paper)
- 6 Government Technical School, Launceston, 1899
Syllabus, including elementary physiography by H. C. Kingsmill.
(printed leaflet)

UNIVERSITY

FOUNDATION OF UNVERSITY

- 7 "Correspondence & Memoranda re Tasmanian University" May - Sept 1889
Printed copy of letters from Rev. J. Scott, George A. MacMillan, H.C.Kingsmill, Archdeacon Hales, James B. Walker with comments by the Director of Education, T. Stephens, Sir Lambert Dobson, Rev. George Clark and copy of the report of the committee appointed to draft a bill for the establishment of a university.
(printed pamphlet, folio)
- 8 "The proposed University of Tasmania" 1889 (Missing)
Leading articles reprinted from the *Tasmanian News* July - October 1889.
(printed pamphlet 20 pp)
- 9 "The example of the United States" ND [1891-93]
Land endowments for colleges in the United States of America, pamphlet endorsed: "With J.B. Walker's compliments".
(printed pamphlet, 6pp)
- 10 "Can we afford it?" ND [1891-93]

(printed pamplet 4 pp)
- 11 Letter Copy Book 18 Mar. 1909
Copy of letter from H.C. Kingsmill to Davidson concerning a pamphlet on the foundation of the University of Tasmania which the promoters of Queensland University might find interesting. Kingsmill explained that the Tasmania University Bill was introduced in 1889 by the then Minister of Education and carried in spite of opposition. There was also "a College for Teachers attached now to the University" and many of its students attended University classes. Kingsmill dictated the letter to his sister owing to a slight accident.
One letter only on pages 100-102, pages 1-99 torn out (see entries in index), pages 103-470 unused. Volume received from the estate of E.W. Cruickshank clerk and accountant 1921-45.
(press copy book, quarto, half bound calf)
- 12 School Examinations [1894]
Report of a committee on the proposed examination of secondary schools - the University should be prepared to undertake the annual examination of any school if requested by the Head.
(ts)

SURVEYING AND MINING COURSES

UT511/
13-20

Mining Science 1899, 1902-1903

Papers relating to the proposed mining science course, including: H.C. Kingsmill's scheme for a course in applied mechanics with co-operation with the Technical Schools at Hobart and Launceston (31 Jan. 1899); Prof. McAulay's memorandum on the possibility of taking over the Zeehan Mining School and moving part of the mining course there (2 Dec. 1902), counter proposals by Prof. Neil Smith (16 Feb. 1903) and appendix of extracts from report on mining education in Victoria; letter from A.D. Sligo Chairman of Zeehan School of Mining putting the case for Zeehan (8 May 1903 draft and printed copy addressed to the University Council); cuttings from *Mercury* of letter from R.C. Patterson on lack of funds for mining course and Prof. Neil Smith's resignation; Council Meeting minute: thanked Prof. Neil Smith for his offer to contribute £200 pa. for 2 years towards the salary of a lecturer in mining engineering but could not accept the offer.

(8 papers)

21-33

Lecturer in Surveying and Council membership 1904 - 1907

Extracts from University Council minutes on the Lectureship in surveying, including the resignation of Prof. Neil Smith from 15 April 1904, appointment of H.C. Kingsmill temporarily in 1904 and for years 1905, 1906, 1907 and queries raised on 21 March 1907 on members of teaching staff being members of Council; printed letter from H.C. Kingsmill objecting to resigning and pointing out regulations at Oxford and Melbourne Universities with rough notes of Oxford University statutes.

(3 papers)

LEAKE ASTRONOMY BEQUEST

24-29

Leake Bequest for Astronomy 1892 - 1894

Papers relating to the possibility of establishing an Observatory and School of Astronomy with £10,000 bequeathed by Arthur Leake of Ross to an Australian university for that purpose, including: paper by H.C. Russell CMG., FRS., Government Astronomer of N.S.W. "on the proposed Leake School of Practical Astronomy" read to the Royal Society of Tasmania on 8 August 1892 pointing out the advantages of Tasmania's clear atmosphere for astronomy; cutting from *Mercury* about the non appointment of a meteorological observer pending a decision (24 Aug. 1892); extracts from the will of Arthur Leake; copy of minutes of the Leake Bequest Committee including reports on finance (31 August 1893 - 12 Mar. 1894); copy of Committee's report that H.C. Russell's scheme was too ambitious for the available funds; also report on possible travelling scholarships with Leake's bequest for painting and sculpture; "A suggestion for an intercolonial arrangement with respect to the proposed Leake Observatory" that other states should contribute as the State annual grant to the University of Tasmania had been reduced and the University Council could not support the scheme (Sept. 1893).

(6 papers)

METEOROLOGY

30-34

Meteorology and the Observatory 1903 - 1909

Papers relating, including: copy of Premier's letter concerning a Government grant to the University if the University would undertake the work of the Government Meteorologist (1903); notes on the Meteorological Conference in Melbourne in May 1907 to discuss the proposed Commonwealth centralised meteorological service to supersede state services; file of letters relating to the

termination of H.C. Kingsmill's appointment at the Observatory and of his sisters assistance with the "time service" (Mar. 1909); letter from J.E. Ogden asking about the Commonwealth Government's intentions and whether there was sufficient reason to maintain the Observatory (18 May 1909); note that the Hobart Observatory and the meridian line of the transit instrument were important for surveys and should be kept in the hands of the State (ND); copy of letter refuting the statement that Western Australia got its time service from Victoria, unsigned but headed "Observatory Hobart" (21 May 1909).
(10 papers)