

Date printed:

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775

**Charles Montgomery Tate fonds.**

1874-1880, Photocopied [197?].

6 cm of textual records.

**Administrative/Biographical History**

Reverend Charles Montgomery Tate was born in England in 1852 and came to North America when he was 18, sailing first to New York, travelling west to San Francisco, and eventually north to Nanaimo. He became a lay missionary in 1870 and was transferred to Chilliwack in 1874 where he stayed until 1880. He was then sent to Nanaimo, but was transferred back to Chilliwack in 1884 and eventually opened a school, Coqualeetza Home, in 1888. He died in 1933.

**Scope and Content**

The fonds consists of memoirs and diaries.

**Notes**

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

**Finding Aid**

Inventory available.

**Location**

C 2 2

**Subject(s)**

Tate, Charles Montgomery, 1852-1933  
Coqualeetza Residential School  
Coqualeetza Fellowship  
Schools - Chilliwack

REVEREND CHARLES MONTGOMERY TATE

(1852-1933)

AN INVENTORY OF HIS MEMOIRS AND DIARIES

HELD BY THE

CHILLIWACK ARCHIVES

INVENTORY BY

PAT KOTY

NOVEMBER 1992

Charles Montgomery Tate fonds [1874-1929]  
Photocopied [197?]  
6 cm

### History Note

Rev. C.M. Tate was born in Northumberland, England, on November 5, 1852, and received his early education in the United Presbyterian Church.

He came to Canada when he was 18 years old, sailing from Liverpool to New York. He then travelled west to San Francisco and north to Nanaimo. His first job in Nanaimo was working for a mining company. In 1870, he became a lay missionary and arrived in Chilliwack in September of 1874. It was here where he made friends with many of the pioneers and Native people of the area. He left Chilliwack in 1880 after being transferred by the church to Bella Bella but was transferred back in 1884.

With a grant from the Women's Missionary Society, he and his wife opened a school in their home. It was such a success that they received another grant and built a school. The Coqualeetza Home opened in 1888 but was unfortunately destroyed by fire in 1891. It was then rebuilt, only this time it was much larger.

In 1894, Rev. Tate was transferred to Victoria where he worked on the East Coast of Vancouver Island. He died in 1933.

The diary kept by Rev. Tate gives a wonderful look into his life work and of life in the Fraser Valley in the late 1800s.

### Custodial History

C.M. Tate's diaries and memoirs were acquired by the Provincial Archives of British Columbia. Copies of portions pertaining to Chilliwack were made for the Chilliwack Valley Historical Society in the 1970s and a transcript of the diaries was prepared by the Society.

### Scope and Content

Tate's memoirs and diaries provide insights into the lives of pioneers of Chilliwack during the period 1874-1880. His perspective as the community's religious leader makes these papers all the more significant.

Data Storage

Word Perfect 5.1 for Windows, filed as  
D:\archives\inventory\tate.doc, and on backup disks at the  
Chilliwack Archives and the Chilliwack Museum.