

Title:	Janet Carnochan letter, 1914		
Creator:	Janet Carnochan		
Dates of Material:	1914	Reference Number:	RG 632
Scope and Content:	One 3 1/2 page handwritten letter to Canon Ker from Janet Carnochan.		
Summary of Contents:	<p>This letter was written to Canon Ker as a thank you letter for references to Janet Carnochan's book and to herself. She says that she has been trying to get to the origins of the story of Brock calling to see his sweetheart at Powell's.</p> <p>She thanks Ker for the extra copies and says that she is receiving many congratulating letters and cheques for the book. She is surprised that his history of the 19th Century is not finished. She says that his mother may be able to help with the sale of the book. She also mentions conflicting stories of Laura Secord. It is signed "Yours sincerely, Janet Carnochan".</p>		
Physical Description/Condition:	There is a strip of tape down the outer binding and the letter contains 3 separate stamp marks from the previous library. There is a slight stain at the top of the letter.		

Biographical / Administrative Notes:	<p>Janet Carnochan (1839-1926) was born in Stamford, Ontario. She attended the Toronto Normal School where she received a first-class provincial normal school certificate and went on to teach at Brantford Union School and then at Kingston's Wellington Street public school. She taught for a short time in Peterborough but accepted a principal's position at the Niagara Public School in 1872. Her years as a public school principal were not well documented, but tributes to her dedication to teaching were numerous. After a new high school building in Niagara was completed in 1876, Carnochan joined its staff, where she remained until her retirement in December 1900.</p> <p>Carnochan taught Sunday School and raised funds for St. Andrew's Church. She was the secretary of the Women's Missionary Society from 1887-1926 and she also served on the board of the Niagara Public Library as a secretary, treasurer and temporary librarian. She was chosen as one of 20 Canadian women to attend the World's Congress of Representative Women in Chicago in 1893.</p> <p>Janet made her name as an historian rather than as a teacher. She founded the Niagara Historical Society and was its first president from 1895-1925. She wrote and edited many historical works including: <i>The History of Niagara; Inscriptions and Graves in the Niagara Peninsula; Sir Isaac Brock, The Count de Puisaye; A Wife's Devotion: A Canadian Heroine of Nearly Eighty Years Ago; Niagara, One Hundred Years Ago and Shipwrecked on Sable Island</i> among others. She successfully campaigned for the construction of Memorial Hall, which was the first building erected for the purpose of being a museum in Ontario.</p> <p>[Canon Ker most likely refers to Reverend Robert Ker (1843-1917) of St. George's Anglican Church of St. Catharines.]</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		
Source Information:	Donated by the Welland Public Library, Nov. 20 2017		
Described by:	Anne Adams	Date:	Jan. 5, 2018