

Title:	Manuscript of James Cummings, August 28, 1860.		
Creator:	James Cummings		
Dates of Material:	August 28, 1860	Record Group Number:	RG 401
Summary of Contents:	A letter written by James Cummings, a Captain in the War of 1812. The letter discusses his military career during the War of 1812. He makes reference to several battles he participated in, including Stony Creek, Beaver Dams, Black Rock, Chippawa, Cooks Mills and Lundy's Lane.		
Physical Description / Condition:	30.5 x 20 cm.		
Other Notes:	<p>Full transcript of item available through "View item" link in catalogue record.</p> <p>James Cummings (1789-1875) was the son of Thomas Cummings, a United Empire Loyalist who was the first white settler in Chippawa. Both Thomas and James were important figures in the settlement and development of Chippawa. During the War of 1812, James served with the 3rd Regiment of the Lincoln Militia. In 1813 he was promoted to Captain and served as a Staff Officer. He participated in the battles at Stony Creek, Chippawa, and Lundy's Lane.</p> <p>James was an active member of his community and served in several political offices. He became the first Reeve of the Village of Chippawa when it was incorporated in 1850, and served in that position for twelve years. He was also a Justice of the Peace, a member of the Legislative Assembly and served as Warden of Welland County. Around 1830, James built a family residence on the parcel of land at the mouth of the Chippawa River that had been granted to his father. This residence, then known as Willoughby Hall and now known as Willoughby Manor, is still standing and is currently a retirement residence.</p>		

Location:	Brock University Archives		
Source Information:	Acquired from Thomas Cullen, Rockland Bookman, Cattaraugus, New York.		
Described by:	Chantal Cameron	Date:	March 2012