

<b>Title:</b>	Letters to Secretary General Drummond from Thomas Scott regarding traitors and treason, July 1814 [photocopy]		
<b>Creator:</b>	Thomas Scott		
<b>Dates of Material:</b>	July 1814	<b>Record Group Number:</b>	RG 414
<b>Summary of Contents:</b>	<p>Consists of 4 photocopied letters from Thomas Scott, Chief Justice of Upper Canada, to Secretary General Drummond, concerning traitors and treason during the War of 1812. The letters are dated July 5, 1814, July 8, 1814 (2), and July 14, 1814. The July 5<sup>th</sup> letter is titled “copy of a dispatch from ...Bathurst...of insufficiency of evidence to convict traitors” and “Relative to the Traitors who were condemned at Ancaster”. The July 14<sup>th</sup> letter is titled “The Instruments of Reference not made out in due form”.</p>		
<b>Physical Description / Condition:</b>	Photocopies of originals (16 pages)		
<b>Other Notes:</b>	<p>Thomas Scott (1746-1824) was a politician and judge originally from Scotland. He came to Canada in 1800 after accepting the appointment of Attorney General of Upper Canada, and in 1806 was promoted to Chief Justice of Upper Canada. The declaration of war in 1812 brought into question the loyalty of the colony’s population, who were largely born in America. As concerns over allegiance intensified, the government sought out traitors in an attempt to make an example of them and deter others. The subsequent trials of citizens accused of treason resulted in 15 convictions, including Jacob Overholser. These trials were intended to assert the authority of the state, but also to demonstrate clemency. Only 8 of the convicts were executed, with the rest being banished from the colony. Scott supported these measures, although they were largely initiated by Attorney General John Beverly Robinson. Thomas Scott retired in 1816 and died in 1824.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Source: Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online  <a href="http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&amp;id_nbr=3123">http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&amp;id_nbr=3123</a>  retrieved 2012/05/07</p>		
<b>Location:</b>	Brock University Archives		

<b>Source Information:</b>	<p>The original letters are part of an archive at Library and Archives Canada:</p> <p>RG 5, A 1, Upper Canada Sundries: Correspondence of the Civil and Provincial Secretaries, 1766-1841, vol. 16, pages 6931-6946, microfilm reel C-4508.</p>		
<b>Described by:</b>	Chantal Cameron	<b>Date:</b>	May 2012