Collection Summary

Title: Roger Sherman Papers

Span Dates: 1746-1827

ID No.: MSS37792

Creator: Sherman, Roger, 1721-1793

Extent: 125 items ; 3 containers ; .9 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Delegate to the Continental Congress, U.S. senator and representative, and jurist from Connecticut. Financial material, legal documents and agreements, correspondence, notebooks, and other items, including while Sherman was a member of the Continental Congress and a U.S. senator and representative.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Adams, John, 1735-1826--Correspondence.
Bache, Theophylact, 1735-1807--Correspondence.
Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806.
Mitchell, Justus, 1754-1806--Correspondence.
Rousseau, Jean-Jacques, 1712-1778.
Sherman family--Correspondence.
Sherman, Roger, 1721-1793.
Williams, William, 1731-1811--Correspondence.

Organizations
United States. Congress.
United States. Constitution.
United States. Continental Congress.

Subjects
Debts, Public--Great Britain.

Places
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Finance.
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.
United States--Politics and government--18th century.

Occupations
Jurists.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Connecticut.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Roger Sherman, delegate to the Continental Congress, U.S. senator and representative, and jurist from Connecticut, were obtained by gift of John Franklin Jameson, 1915, and purchases between 1908-1945.
Processing History

The first volume of the Sherman Papers was bound by the Library of Congress in 1943. A second volume was bound in 1961, and additional loose material was processed subsequently. The finding aid was created in 2016.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Roger Sherman is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Roger Sherman are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Roger Sherman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1745</td>
<td>Surveyor, New Haven County, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1754</td>
<td>Admitted to the bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1755-1761</td>
<td>Justice of the peace, Litchfield County, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1774-1781</td>
<td>Elected to Connecticut assembly; served again from 1758 to 1761 and 1764 to 1766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1783-1784</td>
<td>Member, Continental Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1784-1793</td>
<td>Major, New Haven, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1789-1790</td>
<td>Member, U.S. House of Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1791-1793</td>
<td>Member, U.S. Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1793, July 23</td>
<td>Died, New Haven, Conn.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Roger Sherman (1721-1793) span the years 1746-1827 and consist mainly of bound financial material, legal documents and agreements, notebooks, and some correspondence. Two notebooks contain accounts of monies loaned the United States between September 1777 and August 1780, Sherman's expenses while attending the Continental Congress, June 7-Oct. 2 1777, the British national debt, 1740-1775, and extracts from the writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Included is a notebook of a handwritten confession of faith and a 1776 almanac signed by Sherman containing personal accounts, 1775-1776. Also in the collection are a letter to William Williams, August 1777, regarding the appointment of General Horatio Gates to the Northern Department of the Continental Army, and photocopies of five letters between
Sherman and John Adams concerning the ratification of the Constitution, July 1789. Other correspondents include Justus Mitchell, Theophylact Bache, and Sherman family members.

**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged chronologically in two bound volumes of mostly financial and legal documents, with some correspondence, and a container of notebooks and other unbound material arranged by type.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Bound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Vol. 1, 1746-1827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Vol. 2, 1746-1810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Unbound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Letter to William Williams, regarding appointment of General Horatio Gates to the Northern Department, 1777, Aug.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Notebooks and almanacs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Pay statement, 1787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Photocopies of letters between Sherman and John Adams, 1789, July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>