

**William Bebb Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2023**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm91080901>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007036>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2007  
Revised 2023 January

## Collection Summary

**Title:** William Bebb Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1705-1849

**Bulk Dates:** 1812-1849

**ID No.:** MSS80901

**Creator:** Bebb, William, 1802-1873

**Extent:** 140 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** .2 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm91080901>

**Summary:** Educator, lawyer, and governor of Ohio. Autograph letters and clipped signatures from an album started for Bebb by his father, Edward Bebb, and Samuel Roberts, Welsh political reformer and founder of a settlement in Tennessee. Includes autographs of British politicians, military leaders, authors, and missionaries. Letters collected by William Bebb himself include those from prominent Americans including John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, William Henry Harrison, and Thomas Jefferson. Bebb's own correspondence relates to Ohio and Whig politics.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848--Correspondence.

Bebb, Edward.

Bebb, William, 1802-1873.

Bright, John, 1811-1889--Correspondence.

Brough, John, 1811-1865--Correspondence.

Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850--Correspondence.

Corwin, Thomas, 1794-1865--Correspondence.

Dallas, Alexander James, 1759-1817--Correspondence.

Ewing, Thomas, 1789-1871--Correspondence.

Ford, Seabury, 1801-1855--Correspondence.

Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872--Correspondence.

Hammond, Charles, 1779-1840--Correspondence.

Harrison, William Henry, 1773-1841--Correspondence.

Hull, William, 1753-1825--Correspondence.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845--Correspondence.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826--Correspondence.

Macaulay, Thomas Babington Macaulay, Baron, 1800-1859--Correspondence.

McLean, John, 1785-1861--Correspondence.

Palgrave, Francis, Sir, 1788-1861--Correspondence.

Peel, Robert, 1788-1850--Correspondence.

Richard, Henry, 1812-1888--Correspondence.

Roberts, Samuel, 1800-1885.

Vinton, Samuel Finley, 1792-1862--Correspondence.

Whitcomb, James, 1795-1852--Correspondence.

Winchester, James, 1752-1826--Correspondence.

Worthington, Thomas, 1773-1827--Correspondence.

Wright, John C. (John Crafts), 1783-1861--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Whig Party (U.S.)

## Subjects

Authors, English--Autographs.  
Autographs.  
Missionaries--Great Britain--Autographs.  
Politicians--Great Britain--Autographs.  
Statesmen--United States--Autographs.

## Places

Great Britain--Armed Forces--Officers--Autographs.  
Ohio--Politics and government--19th century.

## Occupations

Educators.  
Governors--Ohio.  
Lawyers.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of William Bebb, educator, lawyer, and governor of Ohio, were given to the Library of Congress by Hellen Bebb in 1990.

## Processing History

The papers of William Bebb were arranged and described in 1997. The finding aid was revised by Margaret McAleer in 2007. A description of the William Bebb Papers appears in *Library of Congress Acquisitions: Manuscript Division, 1990*, pp. 7-9. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

## Copyright Status

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

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Bebb 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, William Bebb Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Bebb (1802-1873) span the years 1705-1849, with the bulk of the material dating from 1812 to 1849. The papers consist of pages from a dismantled autograph album containing approximately 140 letters and clipped signatures. Portions of an appraisal containing a partial description of the album is available in the Manuscript Reading Room. The album appears to have been started for Bebb by his father, Edward Bebb, and Samuel Roberts (1800-1885), Welsh political reformer and founder of a Welsh settlement in Tennessee. The first part of the collection contains letters and signatures of British politicians, military figures, authors, and missionaries in India, China, and Africa. Included are

letters from John Bright (1811-1889), Thomas Babington Macaulay, Francis Palgrave, Robert Peel (1788-1850), and Henry Richard (1812-1898).

The second part of the collection consists largely of letters from prominent Americans addressed to or collected by William Bebb. Included among the collected items is a letter from Thomas Jefferson in 1807 concerning the use of volunteer forces against Native American attacks west of the Mississippi, a letter from Andrew Jackson concerning a Creek uprising on the southern frontier in 1813, and a letter from William Henry Harrison regarding his victory against combined British and Native American forces on the banks of the Thames River in southeastern Ontario in 1813. Bebb also acquired letters written by John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, Alexander J. Dallas, Charles Hammond (1779-1840), William Hull (1753-1825), James Winchester (1752-1826), and Thomas Worthington (1773-1827), among others. Bebb's own correspondence includes letters from John Brough, Thomas Corwin, Thomas Ewing (1789-1871), Seabury Ford, Horace Greeley, John McLean, Samuel Finley Vinton, James Whitcomb, and John C. Wright (1783-1861). Whig and Ohio politics are discussed in many of these letters.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

The original order of the album's pagination has been maintained.

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Autograph album, 1705-1849, undated (3 folders)