Collection Summary
Title: James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard Papers
Span Dates: 1797-1885
ID No.: MSS12070
Creator: Bayard, James A. (James Asheton), 1767-1815
Creator: Bayard, Richard Henry, 1796-1868
Extent: 1,000 items
Extent: 4 containers
Extent: 1.6 linear feet
Extent: 4 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in English, French, German, and Russian
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm73012070
Summary: Lawyers, senators, and diplomats, of the Bayard (Baird) family of Delaware. Correspondence, diaries, financial and legal papers, printed matter and miscellaneous material relating to the careers of James A. Bayard and his son Richard H. Bayard.

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.
Baird family.
Bassett, Richard, 1745-1815--Correspondence.
Bayard, Andrew, 1762-1833--Correspondence.
Beasley, Reuben Gaunt--Correspondence.
Bollmann, Erick, 1769-1821--Correspondence.
Clay, Henry, 1777-1852--Correspondence.
Clayton, John M. (John Middleton), 1796-1856--Correspondence.
Gallatin, Albert, 1761-1849--Correspondence.
Madison, James, 1751-1836--Correspondence.
Marcy, William L. (William Learned), 1786-1857--Correspondence.
Monroe, James, 1758-1831--Correspondence.
Montgomery, John Philips--Correspondence.
Rumiʻaʻn tʻsʻev, Nikolai Petrovich, graf, 1754-1826--Correspondence.
Spearman, Simon--Correspondence.
Temple, William, 1814-1863--Correspondence.
Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852--Correspondence.

Organizations
Bank of the United States (1791-1811)
Federal Party (U.S.)
Great Britain. Treaties, etc. United States, 1814 December 24.

Places
Belgium--Foreign relations--United States.
Delaware--Militia.
Delaware--Politics and government.
United States--Foreign relations--Belgium.
United States--History--War of 1812.

**Titles**

*James A. Bayard papers*

*Richard H. Bayard papers*

**Occupations**

Diplomats.

Lawyers.

Senators, U.S. Congress--Delaware.

**Provenance**

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard, father and son lawyers, senators, and diplomats, were given to the Library of Congress in 1930 by Ellen Howard Bayard, great-granddaughter of James A. Bayard.

**Processing History**

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard were arranged and described in 1973. The collection was revised in 2003.

**Additional Guides**

An index of correspondents is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

**Copyright Status**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

**Access and Restrictions**

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard 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.

**Microfilm**

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on four reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, James A.Bayard and Richard H. Bayard Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Biographical Note

James A. Bayard

Date
1767, July 28
1784
1788
1795
1797-1803
1805-1813
1813-1814
1815, Aug. 6

Event
Graduated, Princeton College, Princeton, N.J.
Admitted to the bar at New Castle, Del., and Philadelphia, Pa.
Married Ann Bassett
Member from Delaware, United States House of Representatives
United States Senator from Delaware
Member, United States Commission to negotiate the treaty of Ghent
Died, Wilmington, Del.

Richard H. Bayard

Date
1796, Sept. 23
1805-1810
1814
1815
1818
1818-1832
1832-1835
1836-1839
1839-1841
1840-1845
1850-1853
1868, Mar. 4

Event
Born, Wilmington, Del.
Attended College of St. Mary, Baltimore, Md.
Graduated, Princeton College, Princeton, N.J.
Married Mary Sophia Carroll
Admitted to the bar at New Castle, Del.
Private law practice
Mayor, Wilmington, Del.
United States Senator from Delaware
Chief justice of Delaware
Member from Delaware, United States Senate
Appointed brigadier general, Delaware state militia
United States chargé d'affaires, Brussels, Belgium
Died, Philadelphia, Pa

Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Asheton Bayard (1767-1815) and his son, Richard Henry Bayard (1796-1868), senators, lawyers, and diplomats, span the years 1797-1885 and consist of diaries, correspondence, diplomatic documents, congressional material, legal and financial records, printed matter, newspapers, and newspaper clippings. The collection is arranged in Diaries, Correspondence, Legal and Financial Records, Miscellany, and Printed Matter series.

A major portion of the collection is comprised of the Correspondence series organized in two distinct groups. Set I covering the period 1797-1817 relates mainly to James A. Bayard, and concerns Federalist politics, repeal of the Judiciary Act of 1800, rechartering the first Bank of the United States, the War of 1812, and foreign affairs. James Asheton's correspondence for 1813-1815 concerns the peace negotiations that culminated in the Treaty of Ghent in 1814. Many of Bayard's letters were written to his cousin, Andrew Bayard (1762-1833), a merchant in Philadelphia, and to his wife's father, Richard Bassett (1745-1815), a "midnight judge" appointee of President John Adams. Other prominent correspondents include John Quincy Adams, R. G. Beasley, Erick Bollmann, Henry Clay, Albert Gallatin, James Madison, James Monroe, Nikolaï Petrovich, graf Rumiântšev.

Set II of the Correspondence series covers the period 1834-1868 and consists chiefly of letters to and from Richard H. Bayard relating to Delaware politics, administration of the assets of the Bank of the United States, 1841-1845, the Delaware state militia, and diplomatic relations with Belgium. Correspondents include Henry Clay, John M. Clayton, William L. Marcy, John P. Montgomery, Simon Spearman, William Temple, and Daniel Webster.
Among the items in the Miscellany series are diplomatic documents, a key to the cipher used in some of the letters, and reports and other papers concerning the United States Navy, British Royal Navy, and the Delaware State Militia. The Printed Matter series includes the proceedings of the impeachment of William Blount, 1797; speeches delivered in the United States House of Representatives and Senate by James A. Bayard, 1802-1812, and in the Senate by Richard H. Bayard, 1837-1841; documents concerning the presidential election in 1800; reports of the Committee on Naval Affairs of the United States Senate, 1842-1844; state and federal documents; presidential messages to Congress; Belgian documents; State Department circulars; directories of the 27th and 28th congresses; newspapers and newspaper clippings; genealogical material concerning the Bayard family; and other material.

Some of the correspondence and diplomatic documents are in French, German, and Russian. Whenever dual dating appeared, the material was arranged according to the Gregorian calendar rather than the Julian calendar which is later by twelve days.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- Diaries, 1811-1814
- Correspondence, 1797-1868
- Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868
- Miscellany, 1813-1857
- Printed Matter, 1797-1885
## Description of Series

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<td>BOX 1 REEL 1</td>
<td><strong>Diaries, 1811-1814</strong></td>
<td>Diaries of James A. Bayard. Arranged chronologically.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1-2 REEL 1-2</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, 1797-1868</strong></td>
<td>Letters sent and received. Organized into Set I, dated 1797-1817, chiefly concerning James A. Bayard, and Set II, 1834-1868, chiefly regarding Richard H. Bayard. Arranged chronologically within each set.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 3 REEL 3</td>
<td><strong>Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868</strong></td>
<td>Accounts, legal papers, receipts and bills, and related material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.</td>
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<td><strong>Miscellany, 1813-1857</strong></td>
<td>Diplomatic documents, drawings, invitations, notes and writings, key to cipher, papers relating to the American and British navies, and miscellaneous material. Arranged alphabetically by topic.</td>
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<td>BOX 4 REEL 4</td>
<td><strong>Printed Matter, 1797-1885</strong></td>
<td>Impeachment proceedings of William Blount, speeches, documents concerning the presidential election of 1800, magazines, state and federal documents, Belgian government documents, State Department circulars, directories of the 27th and 28th Congresses, newspapers and newspaper clippings, genealogical items, and other material. Divided into miscellany, newspapers, and newspaper clippings sections and arranged chronologically therein.</td>
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## Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 15,915

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<td>Arranged chronologically.</td>
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<td>BOX 1 REEL 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1 REEL 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1 REEL 1</td>
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<td>BOX 3 REEL 3</td>
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<td>BOX 3 REEL 3</td>
<td>Drafts of writings, undated</td>
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| BOX 3 REEL 3 | Fragments and unidentified material, 1814, 1853-1857, undated                                                                          |
| BOX 4 REEL 4 | **Printed Matter, 1797-1885**  
Impeachment proceedings of William Blount, speeches, documents concerning the presidential election of 1800, magazines, state and federal documents, Belgian government documents, State Department circulars, directories of the 27th and 28th Congresses, newspapers and newspaper clippings, genealogical items, and other material.  
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