

Daniel Todd Patterson Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm70052902>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008115>

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Revised by Joseph K. Brooks

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Collection Summary

Title: Daniel Todd Patterson Papers

Span Dates: 1772-1927

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1825-1835)

ID No.: MSS52902

Creator: Patterson, Daniel Todd, 1786-1839

Extent: 1,830 items

Extent: 5 containers

Extent: 2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm70052902>

Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, journals, ship records, subject files, printed matter, and miscellaneous material relating to Patterson's naval career.

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, 1735-1826.

Bleecker, William W.--Correspondence.

Carter, Landon N., -1847--Correspondence.

Crane, William Montgomery, 1784-1846--Correspondence.

Griffin, Robert E., active 1802--Correspondence.

Jackson, Charles H., -1878--Correspondence.

Jarvis, John H.--Correspondence.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826.

Livingston, Edward, 1764-1836--Correspondence.

Minor, George--Correspondence.

Morris, Charles, 1784-1856--Correspondence.

Nicholson, Joseph J., -1838--Correspondence.

Nicolson, John B., 1783-1846--Correspondence.

Offley, David, -1838--Correspondence.

Patterson, Daniel Todd, 1786-1839.

Paulding, Hiram, 1797-1878--Correspondence.

Perry, Matthew Calbraith, 1794-1858--Correspondence.

Pinckney, Richard S., -1854--Correspondence.

Porter, David, 1780-1843--Correspondence.

Pulis, Joseph--Correspondence.

Read, George C. (George Campbell), 1787-1862--Correspondence.

Rodgers, John, 1773-1838--Correspondence.

Southard, Samuel L. (Samuel Lewis), 1787-1842--Correspondence.

Thomas, Richard, 1779-1858--Correspondence.

Organizations

Constitution (Frigate)

United States Navy--History.

United States. Navy. Mediterranean Squadron.

Subjects

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Mediterranean region.

Naval ceremonies, honors, and salutes--United States.

Pirates--Mediterranean region.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Provenance

The papers of Daniel Todd Patterson, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress in 1951 by the Naval Historical Foundation and converted to a gift in 1998. Additional deposits received between 1952 and 1989 were also converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of Daniel Todd Patterson were arranged and described in 1970. The collection was expanded and revised in 1997, and the finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Daniel Todd Patterson 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, Daniel Todd Patterson Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1786, Mar. 6	Born, Long Island, N. Y.
1800	Appointed midshipman Duty on board <i>Delaware</i> (ship), West India Squadron
1803	Duty on board <i>Constellation</i> (frigate)
1806	Duty at New Orleans, La., Naval Station
1807	Married George-Ann Pollock
1813	Commanded New Orleans, La., Naval Station
1814	Defeated Jean Laffite and Gulf Buccaneers at Baratavia Bay, La., and engaged British barges at Lake Borgne, La.
1815	Promoted to captain
1824	Appointed fleet captain and commander of <i>Constitution</i> (frigate), Mediterranean Squadron
1828	Appointed navy commissioner
1832-1836	Commanded Mediterranean Squadron
1836-1839	Commandant, Washington, D. C., Navy Yard

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Daniel Todd Patterson (1786-1839) span the years 1772-1927, with the bulk of the material dated between 1825 and 1835. The collection consists of correspondence, journals, a letterbook, notebooks, reports, photographs, and printed matter. An addition to the papers in 1995 includes correspondence, a list of officers, photographs and a portrait drawing, and wills. The collection primarily concerns Patterson's duties in the Mediterranean Squadron, as fleet captain and commander of the *Constitution* (frigate), 1824-1828, and as commander of the squadron, 1832-1836.

[The letterbook and journals](#) document various aspects of Patterson's squadron's strategic and diplomatic mission in the Mediterranean. The letterbook contains copies of letters concerning piracy from Joseph Pulis, American consul in Malta, and David Offley, United States consul in Smyrna, Turkey. While commander of the squadron from 1832 to 1836, Patterson received letters from David Porter, United States chargé d'affaires in Turkey, and from Edward Livingston, United States minister to France. Livingston's letters document his negotiation with the French Chamber of Deputies for the payment of claims by American citizens for losses during the Napoleonic wars.

The letterbook, journals, and [correspondence](#) reveal much about the routines and daily problems of squadron command. Included among the correspondence are orders dated 13 October 1826 prescribing the observance of funeral honors for Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Two volumes listing offenses and punishments on board the *Constitution* and a significant portion of the correspondence in the [Addition](#) pertain to disciplinary problems and provide glimpses into the experience of ordinary seamen in naval service during this period.

Material predating Patterson's Mediterranean service includes three letters from Patterson to his brother-in-law, Robert E. Griffin, two written while Patterson was serving on the *Constellation* (frigate) in 1802 and in 1803 and the third while Patterson was a prisoner in Tripoli during the Tripolitan War in 1803.

Prominent among Patterson's correspondents are William W. Bleecker, Landon N. Carter, William M. Crane, Charles H. Jackson, John H. Jarvis, George Minor, Charles Morris, Joseph J. Nicholson, John B. Nicolson, Hiram Paulding, Matthew C. Perry, Richard S. Pinckney, George C. Read, John Rodgers, Samuel L. Southard, and Richard Thomas.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Letterbooks and Journals, 1825-1828](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1802-1904](#)
- [Miscellany, 1817-1835](#)
- [Addition, 1772-1927](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<u>Letterbook and Journals, 1825-1828</u> Letterbook and journals relating to duty aboard ships. Arranged alphabetically.
BOX 2-3	<u>General Correspondence, 1802-1904</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 4-5	<u>Miscellany, 1817-1835</u> Ship records, reports, notebooks, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically.
BOX 5	<u>Addition, 1772-1927</u> Correspondence, list of officers, photographs, drawings, and wills. Arranged alphabetically.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Letterbook and Journals, 1825-1828 Letterbook and journals relating to duty aboard ships. Arranged alphabetically.
BOX 1	Journals
BOX 1	<i>Constitution</i> (frigate), 1826-1828
BOX 1	<i>North Carolina</i> (ship), 1825-1826 (2 vols.)
BOX 1	Letterbook, <i>Brandywine</i> (frigate) and <i>Constitution</i> (frigate), 1825-1828
BOX 2-3	General Correspondence, 1802-1904 Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 2	1802-1833 (17 folders)
BOX 3	1834-1835, 1904 (13 folders)
BOX 4-5	Miscellany, 1817-1835 Ship records, reports, notebooks, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically.
BOX 4	Bills and receipts, 1829-1835, undated (3 folders)
BOX 4	<i>Constitution</i> (frigate)
BOX 4	Carpenter's report, 1828
BOX 4	Bound volumes
BOX 4	Offenses and punishments, 1827-1828 (2 vols.)
BOX 4	Quarter watch and station bill, 1828
BOX 4	Regulations and general standing orders, undated
BOX 4	Result of quarters, 1826-1827
BOX 5	Printed matter
BOX 5	Navy uniform regulations, 1830
BOX 5	<i>Notes on Hieroglyphics</i> , undated
BOX 5	Statistical table on the United States, 1833
BOX 5	Reports on ship's draft, 1835
BOX 5	Rigging notebook, with references to specific ships, 1817, undated
BOX 5	Addition, 1772-1927 Correspondence, list of officers, photographs, drawings, and wills. Arranged alphabetically.

Addition, 1772-1927

Container	Contents
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BOX 5	Correspondence, 1772, 1813-1839, 1855-1927 (6 folders)
BOX 5	<i>Delaware</i> (ship), list of officers, 1834
BOX 5	Photographs and portrait drawing, 1802, undated
BOX 5	Wills, 1819-1826