

Francis Baylies Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm77012096>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010286>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Revised by Melinda K. Friend

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

Collection Summary

Title: Francis Baylies Papers

Span Dates: 1814-1843

ID No.: MSS12096

Creator: Baylies, Francis, 1783-1852

Extent: 150 items

Extent: 5 containers

Extent: 2.0 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm77012096>

Summary: Scholar, diplomat, politician, and historian. Primarily writings by Baylies relating to the American Revolution, the Confederation and the Constitution, Alexander Hamilton, and the administrations of George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson.

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.

Baylies, Francis, 1783-1852.

Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804--Correspondence.

Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826.

Washington, George, 1732-1799.

Organizations

Lexington (Sloop)

Massachusetts. General Court. House of Representatives.

United States. Constitution.

Subjects

Auroras.

Fisheries--Falkland Islands.

Places

Falkland Islands--History.

Massachusetts--History--New Plymouth, 1620-1691.

Massachusetts--Politics and government.

United States--History--Confederation, 1783-1789.

United States--History--Constitutional period, 1789-1809.

United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

United States--Politics and government--1775-1783.

United States--Politics and government--1783-1789.

United States--Politics and government--1789-1809.

Occupations

Diplomats.

Historians.

Politicians.

Scholars.

Provenance

The papers of Francis Baylies, scholar, diplomat, politician, and historian, were acquired by the Library of Congress in the nineteenth century. An additional item was given by David C. Mearns in 1961.

Processing History

The papers of Francis Baylies were processed prior to 1950. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Francis Baylies is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Francis Baylies 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, Francis Baylies Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1783, Oct. 16	Born, Taunton, Mass.
1810	Admitted to the bar and commenced law practice
1812-1820	Served as register of probate, Bristol County, Mass.
1821	Elected as Federalist, Seventeenth Congress
1822	Married Mrs. Elizabeth Moulton Deming (died 1868)
1823	Elected as Jackson Federalist, Eighteenth Congress
1825	Elected as a Jacksonian, Nineteenth Congress
1827-1832	Served as member of the Massachusetts house of representatives
1830	Published <i>An Historical Memoir of the Colony of New Plymouth</i> . . . Boston: Hilliard, Gray, Little, and Wilkins
1832	Served as U.S. Chargé d'Affaires to Argentina
1835	Elected to Massachusetts house of representatives
1852, Oct. 28	Died, Taunton, Mass.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Francis Baylies (1783-1852) span the years 1814-1843. The papers contain Baylies's writings relating to the American Revolution, the Confederation and Constitution, Alexander Hamilton, and the administrations of George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. Other documents include transcripts of Alexander Hamilton letters, drafts of letters by Baylies, copies of diplomatic and naval correspondence on the voyage of the *Lexington* (sloop) and the Falkland Islands fisheries dispute, quotations from Baylies's book on the New Plymouth Colony, manuscript copies of documents relating to the business of the Massachusetts house of representatives, and a speech on the aurora borealis.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Copies of correspondence between George W. Slacum and the secretary of state, 1831-1832
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1827-1831, 1840
BOX 1	Manuscript quotations from <i>An Historical Memoir of the Colony of New Plymouth. . .</i> , circa 1843
BOX 1	Writings
BOX 1	Unpublished manuscripts
BOX 1	"History of the American Revolution, 1775-1784"
BOX 1	1775-1777 (3 folders)
BOX 2	1777-1785 (5 folders)
BOX 3	On Confederation and Constitution, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	"History of the Administration of George Washington," undated
BOX 4	"The Civil, Military, Legislative, Diplomatic & Miscellaneous History of the Administration of Thomas Jefferson," undated
BOX 4	"The Civil, Military, Legislative, Diplomatic & Miscellaneous History of the Administration of John Adams," undated
BOX 4	On Alexander Hamilton, undated
BOX 5	Miscellaneous, circa 1814-circa 1831 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Essays, undated
BOX 5	Miscellaneous notes and notebooks, undated (2 folders)
BOX 5	Notes on
BOX 5	Adams, John, undated
BOX 5	Bristol Academy, Taunton, Mass., undated
BOX 5	Cobb, David, undated
BOX 5	Formation of the nations of Western Europe, undated
BOX 5	Hartford Convention of 1814-1815, undated
BOX 5	Northwest Territory, undated
BOX 5	Population, undated
BOX 5	Plays, undated (2 folders)
BOX 5	Speech by Baylies, "Some Remarks on the Phenomina of the Aurora Borealis," undated