

Danforth-Bush Family Collection
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2006085302>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012096>

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Revised and expanded by Melinda Friend and Bennett Heggstad
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Collection Summary

Title: Danforth-Bush Family Collection

Span Dates: 1721-2007

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1814-1850)

ID No.: MSS85302

Extent: 240 items

Extent: 3 containers plus 2 oversize

Extent: 1.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2006085302>

Summary: Correspondence, journal, essays, sermons, articles, autograph collection, photographs, and other papers of the Danforth and Bush families, chiefly of Joshua N. Danforth. A volume of autographs collected by J. Danforth Bush and other family members contains the signatures of members of the Thirty-third Congress (House and Senate) and U.S. governors, circa 1853-1854.

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.

Bush family.

Bush, J. Danforth (Joshua Danforth), 1868-1926, Danforth-Bush family collection. 1721-2007.

Condict, Lewis, 1773-1862--Correspondence.

Danforth family.

Danforth, Jane Janvier Whilldin, 1797-1870. Jane Janvier Whilldin Danforth papers.

Danforth, Joshua N. (Joshua Noble), 1798-1861. Joshua N. Danforth papers.

Doolittle, Annette Danforth Bush, -1824. Joshua N. Danforth biography. 2007.

Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874--Correspondence.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845--Correspondence.

Janvier family.

Lytton, Edward Bulwer Lytton, Baron, 1803-1873.

Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869--Correspondence.

Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915.

Whilldin family.

Whilldin, John Galloway, -1824--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Colonization Society.

Fourth Presbyterian Church (Bethesda, Md.)

United States. Congress (33rd : 1853-1855)--Autographs.

Subjects

Governors--United States--Autographs.

Napoleonic Wars, 1800-1815.

Presbyterian Church--Delaware.

Presbyterian Church--Massachusetts.

Presbyterian Church--Washington (D.C.)

Places

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

Titles

Provenance

The Danforth-Bush Family Collection was given to the Library of Congress by Annette Doolittle, 2006-2008.

Processing History

The Danforth-Bush Family Collection was processed in 2007. The collection was expanded and a finding aid was created in 2012.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Engravings have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division. A printed volume published in 1713 was transferred to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Danforth-Bush Family Collection.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Danforth-Bush family in the Danforth-Bush Family Collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Danforth-Bush Family Collection is 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, Danforth-Bush Family Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The Danforth-Bush Family Collection spans the years 1721-2007, with the bulk of the material dating from 1814 to 1850. The collection consists of correspondence, journal, essays, sermons, articles, autograph collection, photographs, and other papers of the Danforth and Bush families, chiefly of Joshua N. Danforth, a Presbyterian minister in the area of Washington, D.C., and an agent for the American Colonization Society. The collection is organized by type of material.

Subjects include the Presbyterian Church in Delaware, Massachusetts, and Washington, D.C.; the American Colonization Society; and the allied Danforth, Janvier, and Whilldin families. Included is a journal of the foundation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., later of Bethesda, Maryland. Also in the collection is a bound volume used by Jane Janvier Whilldin Danforth, Joshua N. Danforth's wife, and other members of the Janvier family as a ledger, scrapbook, and daybook. Among the printed items is a biography of Joshua N. Danforth published by Annette Danforth Bush Doolittle in 2007.

A volume of autographs collected by J. Danforth Bush and other family members contains the signatures of members of the Thirty-third Congress (House and Senate) and United States governors, circa 1853-1854. Also in the collection are other clipped signatures; notes and letters written by prominent individuals including Edward Bulwer-Lytton and Booker T. Washington; and a scrapbook of news clippings from various periodicals, circa 1797-1800, concerning political debates, John Adams's presidency, and the Napoleonic wars.

Family correspondents include Joshua N. Danforth; Jane Janvier Whilldin Danforth; John Galloway Whilldin, the first husband of Jane and a physician in Philadelphia who died in the West Indies; as well as other Danforth family members. Additional correspondents include Lewis Condict, Millard Fillmore, Andrew Jackson, and Franklin Pierce.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Autograph collection, 1721-1902, undated (3 folders)
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1813-1838 (4 folders)
BOX 2	1840-1865 <i>See also Oversize</i> (2 folders)
BOX 2	1881, undated
BOX 2	Miscellany
BOX 2	Danforth, Jane Janvier Whilldin, 1824-1870 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Danforth, Joshua Noble, 1814-1921 (4 folders)
BOX 3	(6 folders)
BOX 3	Janvier family, 1815
BOX 3	Printed matter, circa 1812-2007 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Scrapbook, circa 1797-1800 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Correspondence
BOX OV 1	1850-1865 (Container 2)
BOX OV 2	Scrapbook, circa 1797-1800 (Container 3)