

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



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2014**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82042432>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014079>

Prepared by Kimberly Owens

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2014

## Collection Summary

**Title:** William Taylor Papers

**Span Dates:** 1775-1859

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1775-1822)

**ID No.:** MSS42432

**Creator:** Taylor, William

**Extent:** 40,000 items

**Extent:** 83 containers

**Extent:** 20 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82042432>

**Summary:** Merchant. Correspondence and business and legal records of Taylor, a merchant of Baltimore, Maryland, who carried on a business trade through Sylvanus Bourne & Co. of Amsterdam, Netherlands.

## 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

Bourne, Sylvanus, 1761-1817. Sylvanus Bourne papers.

Bricker, J. H.--Correspondence.

Bullitt, T. I.--Correspondence.

Harris, David--Correspondence.

Lee, W.--Correspondence.

Mackey, J.--Correspondence.

Meredith, Jonathan D., 1783-1872--Correspondence.

Norris, R.--Correspondence.

Payne, W. O.--Correspondence.

Taylor, William (Merchant of Baltimore, Md.)

### Organizations

Sylvanus Bourne & Co.

### Subjects

Merchants--Maryland--Baltimore.

### Places

Amsterdam (Netherlands)--Commerce.

Amsterdam (Netherlands)--Newspapers.

Baltimore (Md.)--Commerce.

### Titles

*Koophandel en zeevaart tydingen.*

### Occupations

Merchants.

Shipowners.

## Provenance

The papers of William Taylor, merchant, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1903.

## Processing History

The collection was processed before 1950 and partially reprocessed circa 1980. The finding aid was created in 2009 and revised in 2014.

## Additional Guides

Handbook of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1918): 404-405

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Taylor is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

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

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Taylor span the years 1775-1859, with the bulk concentrated in the period 1775-1822. The collection consists of the correspondence and legal and financial records of William Taylor, a Baltimore merchant who was engaged in extensive foreign and domestic commercial enterprises in the late eighteenth century and early part of the nineteenth century. William Taylor carried on a large business through Sylvanus Bourne & Co., of Amsterdam, and the accounts of that firm make up the major portion of the collection. A number of the papers of Sylvanus Bourne are also included.

The largest series in the collection, [General Correspondence, 1775-1858](#), contains letters sent and received with attached and related legal and financial documents. A series of [Financial Records, 1779-1859](#) consists of accounts, statements, bills, receipts, invoices, wills, contracts, and business and financial miscellany. There are maritime items in the form of sailing lists, marine registers, port charges, and the like, including Prices Current from Baltimore, Maryland; Hamburg, Germany; Havana, Cuba; Leghorn, Italy; Liverpool, England; and Rotterdam, Netherlands. A series of [Printed Matter, 1805-1807](#), consists entirely of Koophandel en Zeevaart Tydingen, a publication printed in Amsterdam that gives the rates of exchange and prices current at various European ports, a list of the ships lying in lading, ship tidings, and notes on the wind and tides.

Correspondents include Sylvanus Bourne, J. H. Bricker, T. I. Bullitt, David Harris, W. Lee, J. Mackey, Jonathan D. Meredith, R. Norris, and W. O. Payne.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- [General Correspondence, 1775-1858](#)
- [Financial Records, 1779-1859](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1805-1807](#)

## Description of Series

| Container | Series                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOX 1-67  | <p><b><u>General Correspondence, 1775-1858</u></b></p> <p>Bound volumes of letters sent and received with attached and related Prices Current, sailing lists, various legal documents, and miscellaneous items.</p> <p>Organized chronologically.</p> |
| BOX 68-81 | <p><b><u>Financial Records, 1779-1859</u></b></p> <p>Receipts, bills, accounts, statements, purchase orders, contracts, and miscellaneous legal and financial material.</p> <p>Organized chronologically.</p>                                         |
| BOX 82-83 | <p><b><u>Printed Matter, 1805-1807</u></b></p> <p>Copies of Koophandel en Zeevaart Tydingen, printed in Amsterdam.</p> <p>Organized chronologically.</p>                                                                                              |

# Container List

| <b>Container</b> | <b>Contents</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BOX 1-67</b>  | <b>General Correspondence, 1775-1858</b><br>Bound volumes of letters sent and received with attached and related Prices Current, sailing lists, various legal documents, and miscellaneous items.<br>Organized chronologically. |
| <b>BOX 1</b>     | 1775, May 13-1793, Oct. 16                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 2</b>     | 1793, Nov. 8-1794, Sept. 2                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 3</b>     | 1794, Sept. 4-1795, Apr. 14                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>BOX 4</b>     | 1795, Apr. 15-Oct. 17                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>BOX 5</b>     | 1795, Oct. 18-1796, May 6                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>BOX 6</b>     | 1796, May 7-Sept. 14                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 7</b>     | 1796, Sept. 15-1797, Feb. 23                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>BOX 8</b>     | 1797, Mar. 2-Aug. 19                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 9</b>     | 1797, Aug. 20-1798, Mar. 8                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | 1798                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | Mar. 10-June 30                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>BOX 11</b>    | July 1-Dec. 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 12</b>    | 1798, Dec. 26-1799, June 20                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>BOX 13</b>    | 1799, June 22-Nov. 27                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>BOX 14</b>    | 1799, Dec. 1-1800, Apr. 8                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>BOX 15</b>    | 1800                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 15</b>    | Apr. 13-July 14                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>BOX 16</b>    | July 15-Nov. 15                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>BOX 17</b>    | 1800, Nov. 17-1801, Mar. 3                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 18</b>    | 1801, Mar. 4-July 8                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>BOX 19</b>    | 1801, July 11-1802, Jan. 16                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>BOX 20</b>    | 1802                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 20</b>    | Jan. 19-June 18                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>BOX 21</b>    | June 19-Oct. 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 22</b>    | 1802, Oct. 5-1803, May 7                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>BOX 23</b>    | 1803, May 12-Oct. 7                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>BOX 24</b>    | 1803, Oct. 8-1804, Mar. 7                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>BOX 25</b>    | 1804                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 25</b>    | Mar. 12-July 9                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 26</b>    | July 11-Nov. 23                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>BOX 27</b>    | 1804, Nov. 24-1805, May 10                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>BOX 28</b>    | 1805                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 28</b>    | May 11-Aug. 29                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 29</b>    | Aug. 31-Dec. 9                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOX 30</b>    | 1805, Dec. 10-1806, Feb. 28                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>BOX 31</b>    | 1806                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>BOX 31</b>    | Mar. 2-Apr. 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## General Correspondence, 1775-1858

| Container | Contents                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOX 32    | Apr. 26-June 12                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 33    | June 13-July 18                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 34    | July 19-Aug. 22                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 35    | Aug. 23-Oct. 7                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 36    | Oct. 8-Nov. 12                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 37    | Nov. 13-Dec. 24                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 38    | 1806, Dec. 29-1807, Mar. 2                                                                                                                                                              |
| BOX 39    | 1807                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 39    | Mar. 4-Apr. 29                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 40    | May 1-June 27                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BOX 41    | June 30-Aug. 18                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 42    | Aug. 19-Oct. 20                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 43    | 1807, Oct. 21-1808, Jan. 9                                                                                                                                                              |
| BOX 44    | 1808                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 44    | Jan. 13- May 2                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 45    | May 3-Oct. 9                                                                                                                                                                            |
| BOX 46    | 1808, Oct. 11-1809, Mar. 31                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 47    | 1809, Apr. 2-Sept. 24                                                                                                                                                                   |
| BOX 48    | 1809, Sept. 25-1810, Feb. 6                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 49    | 1810                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 49    | Feb. 7-May 11                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BOX 50    | May 12-July 20                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 51    | July 21-Oct. 29                                                                                                                                                                         |
| BOX 52    | 1810, Oct. 30-1811, Mar. 2                                                                                                                                                              |
| BOX 53    | 1811                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 53    | Mar. 6-May 22                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BOX 54    | Mar. 24-Aug. 3                                                                                                                                                                          |
| BOX 55    | Aug. 7-Nov. 9                                                                                                                                                                           |
| BOX 56    | 1811, Nov. 12-1812, Mar. 28                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 57    | 1812, Mar. 29-Sept. 28                                                                                                                                                                  |
| BOX 58    | 1812, Sept. 29-1813, Mar. 30                                                                                                                                                            |
| BOX 59    | 1813, Apr. 1-Dec. 20                                                                                                                                                                    |
| BOX 60    | 1813, Dec. 25-1815, Jan. 19                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 61    | 1815, Jan. 31-1816, July 30                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 62    | 1816, Aug. 2-1820, Mar. 6                                                                                                                                                               |
| BOX 63    | 1820, Mar. 10-1822, Oct. 10                                                                                                                                                             |
| BOX 64    | 1822, Oct. 12-1832, Sept. 21                                                                                                                                                            |
| BOX 65    | 1832, Oct. 4-1835, June 4                                                                                                                                                               |
| BOX 66    | 1835, June 10-1840, Feb. 1                                                                                                                                                              |
| BOX 67    | 1840, Mar. 6-1858, Nov. 22                                                                                                                                                              |
| BOX 68-81 | <b>Financial Records, 1779-1859</b><br>Receipts, bills, accounts, statements, purchase orders, contracts, and miscellaneous legal and financial material.<br>Organized chronologically. |

## Financial Records, 1779-1859

| Container | Contents                                                                                                                           |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOX 68    | 1779-1796<br>(8 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 69    | 1797-1799<br>(6 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 70    | 1799-1802<br>(6 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 71    | 1802-1806<br>(7 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 72    | 1806<br>(5 folders)                                                                                                                |
| BOX 73    | 1807-1808<br>(5 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 74    | 1809-1810<br>(4 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 75    | 1810-1811<br>(4 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 76    | 1812-1813<br>(5 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 77    | 1814-1816<br>(5 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 78    | 1817-1821<br>(5 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 79    | 1822-1842<br>(8 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 80    | 1851-1859<br>(4 folders)                                                                                                           |
| BOX 80    | Undated<br>(2 folders)                                                                                                             |
| BOX 81    | Undated<br>(7 folders)                                                                                                             |
| BOX 82-83 | <b>Printed Matter, 1805-1807</b><br>Copies of Koophandel en Zeevaart Tydingen, printed in Amsterdam.<br>Organized chronologically. |
| BOX 82    | 1805-Jan.-July 1806<br>(3 folders)                                                                                                 |
| BOX 83    | 1806, Aug.-Dec.-1807<br>(4 folders)                                                                                                |