

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)

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The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Taylor is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).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><u>General Correspondence, 1775-1858</u></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><u>Financial Records, 1779-1859</u></p> <p>Receipts, bills, accounts, statements, purchase orders, contracts, and miscellaneous legal and financial material.</p> <p>Organized chronologically.</p>
BOX 82-83	<p><u>Printed Matter, 1805-1807</u></p> <p>Copies of Koophandel en Zeevaart Tydingen, printed in Amsterdam.</p> <p>Organized chronologically.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-67	General Correspondence, 1775-1858 Bound volumes of letters sent and received with attached and related Prices Current, sailing lists, various legal documents, and miscellaneous items. Organized chronologically.
BOX 1	1775, May 13-1793, Oct. 16
BOX 2	1793, Nov. 8-1794, Sept. 2
BOX 3	1794, Sept. 4-1795, Apr. 14
BOX 4	1795, Apr. 15-Oct. 17
BOX 5	1795, Oct. 18-1796, May 6
BOX 6	1796, May 7-Sept. 14
BOX 7	1796, Sept. 15-1797, Feb. 23
BOX 8	1797, Mar. 2-Aug. 19
BOX 9	1797, Aug. 20-1798, Mar. 8
BOX 10	1798
BOX 10	Mar. 10-June 30
BOX 11	July 1-Dec. 19
BOX 12	1798, Dec. 26-1799, June 20
BOX 13	1799, June 22-Nov. 27
BOX 14	1799, Dec. 1-1800, Apr. 8
BOX 15	1800
BOX 15	Apr. 13-July 14
BOX 16	July 15-Nov. 15
BOX 17	1800, Nov. 17-1801, Mar. 3
BOX 18	1801, Mar. 4-July 8
BOX 19	1801, July 11-1802, Jan. 16
BOX 20	1802
BOX 20	Jan. 19-June 18
BOX 21	June 19-Oct. 4
BOX 22	1802, Oct. 5-1803, May 7
BOX 23	1803, May 12-Oct. 7
BOX 24	1803, Oct. 8-1804, Mar. 7
BOX 25	1804
BOX 25	Mar. 12-July 9
BOX 26	July 11-Nov. 23
BOX 27	1804, Nov. 24-1805, May 10
BOX 28	1805
BOX 28	May 11-Aug. 29
BOX 29	Aug. 31-Dec. 9
BOX 30	1805, Dec. 10-1806, Feb. 28
BOX 31	1806
BOX 31	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	Financial Records, 1779-1859 Receipts, bills, accounts, statements, purchase orders, contracts, and miscellaneous legal and financial material. Organized chronologically.

Financial Records, 1779-1859

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