David Conner Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

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

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79016618

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016014

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016
Collection Summary

Title: David Conner Papers
Span Dates: 1817-1847
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1844-1847)
ID No.: MSS16618
Creator: Conner, David, 1792-1856
Extent: 400 items
Extent: 3 containers
Extent: .6 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79016618
Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, reports, invoices, ships returns, extracts from ships logs, and other official naval papers primarily pertaining to Conner's service as commander of U.S. naval forces in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico.

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
Aulick, John H., -1873--Correspondence.
Bancroft, George, 1800-1891--Correspondence.
Chase, Franklin, 1804-1890--Correspondence.
Chase, W. H. (William Henry), 1798-1870--Correspondence.
Chauncey, John S., -1871--Correspondence.
Conner, David, 1792-1856.
Gideon, Joseph--Correspondence.
Glass, James William, approximately 1825-1855--Correspondence.
Gwinn, John, 1791-1849--Correspondence.
Hunt, William E. (William Edgar)--Correspondence.
Latimer, William K., -1873--Correspondence.
Lavallette, E. A. F. (Elie Augustus F.), approximately 1790-1862--Correspondence.
Levi, Henri--Correspondence.
Mason, John Y. (John Young), 1799-1859--Correspondence.
Mattison, Joseph--Correspondence.
Saunders, John Loyall, -1860--Correspondence.
Scott, Winfield, 1786-1866--Correspondence.
Scott, Winfield, 1786-1866.

Organizations
Bainbridge (Brig)
Falmouth (Sloop of war)
Porpoise (Schooner)
Potomac (Frigate)
United States. Navy.
Vandalia (Sloop of war)

Subjects
Mexican War, 1846-1848--Naval operations, American.

Places
Caribbean Area--History, Naval--19th century.
Dominican Republic--History--1844-1930.
Gulf Coast (U.S.)--History, Naval--19th century.
Mexico, Gulf of--History, Naval--19th century.
Veracruz (Veracruz-Llave, Mexico)--History--Surrender, 1847.

**Occupations**
Naval officers.

**Provenance**
The papers of David Conner, naval officer, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1914.

**Processing History**
The David Conner Papers were processed and bound into three volumes in 1918.

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

**Access and Restrictions**
The papers of David Conner 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, David Conner Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Biographical Note**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1792</td>
<td>Born, Harrisburg, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1809</td>
<td>Joined U.S. Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1813-1815</td>
<td>Served in the War of 1812; wounded in action; promoted to lieutenant in 1813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1825</td>
<td>Attained rank of commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835</td>
<td>Promoted to captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841-1842</td>
<td>Navy commissioner; became first chief of Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846-1847</td>
<td>Commanded the Home Squadron during the Mexican War; led American assault against the city of Vera Cruz, Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1848-1856</td>
<td>Commanded Philadelphia Navy Yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856, Mar. 20</td>
<td>Died, Philadelphia, Pa.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Scope and Content Note**
The papers of David Conner (1792-1856) span the years 1817-1847, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1844-1847. The collection consists of correspondence, reports, invoices, ships returns, extracts from ships logs, and other
official naval papers primarily pertaining to Conner's service as commander of United States naval forces in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. Many of the letters are from commanders of vessels, such as the Bainbridge, Falmouth, Porpoise, Potomac, and Vandalia. Included is material relating to the 1844 revolution in the Dominican Republic, naval operations in the Mexican War, and preparations for the attack on Vera Cruz, Mexico, where Conner managed the landing of General Winfield Scott's army.


**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is organized chronologically in three bound volumes.
## Container List

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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Vol. 1, 1817, May 30-1845, Aug. 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Vol. 2, 1845, Aug. 20-1846, Jan. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Vol. 3, 1846, July 1-1847, May 1</td>
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