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American Historical Financial Documents Collection

GEN MSS 1081



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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1081

TITLE: American Historical Financial Documents Collection

DATES: 1734-1874

BULK DATES: 1777-1790

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4.76 linear feet (6 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, accounts, receipts, checks, printed currency, circular letters, printed forms filled out in manuscript, and other printed material related to American finance, currency and lotteries during and after the Revolutionary War. Series I, Currency and Public Debt Documents, includes letters by Jacques-Pierre Brissot de Warville; Albert Gallatin; John Gibson; Alexander Hamilton; Gouverneur Morris; Robert Morris, and Thomas Willing. There is a small group of letters between Gouverneur Morris and the London bankers Sir Francis Baring, Edmund Boehm, and Thomas Henchman concerning their possible investment in the "new American funds" in 1790 and 1791. Printed material includes Thomas Paine's *Decline and Fall of the English System of Finance* (Philadelphia, 1796) as well as circular letters and debt payment tables. Other contents include reports on Revolutionary War loans and other contemporary financial matters; receipts issued by several states, particularly Connecticut and Massachusetts, between 1780 and 1789; and samples of state and Continental Congress paper money. Series II, United States Lottery Documents, contains letters by state agents for the Continental Lottery; accounts and account logs for the lottery; memoranda; and a printed lottery ticket from 1779.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from William Reese Co. on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund and the Library Associates Fund, 2003.

Custodial History

This collection was formed by the firm Donaldson, Lufkin, & Jenrette [DLJ]. and was known in the research community for a long period of time as the DLJ Collection.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

American Historical Financial Documents Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This collection consists of materials formerly classed as Uncat MSS 474 and Uncat MSS 516. In 2014, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including rehousing. The existing arrangement of material in each accession was retained. Folder titles were based on information provided by the bookdealer. Some names were updated to conform to Library of Congress name authorities.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, accounts, receipts, checks, printed currency, circular letters, printed forms filled out in manuscript, and other printed material related to American finance, currency and lotteries during and after the Revolutionary War. Series I, Currency and Public Debt Documents, includes letters by Jacques-Pierre Brissot de Warville; Albert Gallatin; John Gibson; Alexander Hamilton; Gouverneur Morris; Robert Morris, and Thomas Willing. There is a small group of letters between Gouverneur Morris and the London bankers Sir Francis Baring, Edmund Boehm, and Thomas Henchman concerning their possible investment in the "new American funds" in 1790 and 1791. Printed material includes Thomas Paine's *Decline and Fall of the English System of Finance* (Philadelphia, 1796) as well as circular letters and debt payment tables. Other contents include reports on Revolutionary War loans and other contemporary financial matters; receipts issued by several states, particularly Connecticut and Massachusetts, between 1780 and 1789; and samples of state and Continental Congress paper money. Series II, United States Lottery Documents, contains letters by state agents for the Continental Lottery; accounts and account logs for the lottery; memoranda; and a printed lottery ticket from 1779.

Arrangement

Organized into two series, both arranged in the order in which the material was received. Series I., Currency and Public Debt Documents, contains examples of currency and printed forms issued by various states

and the Continental Congress, followed by alphabetically arranged correspondence, circular letters, official documents and printed ephemera. Series II, United States Lottery Documents, contains roughly chronologically arranged correspondence and other papers.

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Series I: Currency and Public Debt Documents, 1774–1874

b. 1, f. 1	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. Hartford, Connecticut	1780
b. 1, f. 2	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. [Hartford, Connecticut]	1781 February 1
b. 1, f. 3	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. [Hartford, Connecticut]	1782 June 1
b. 1, f. 4	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. [Hartford, Connecticut]	1782 June 1
b. 1, f. 5	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. [Hartford, Connecticut]	1782 June 1
b. 1, f. 6	State of Connecticut: Treasury certificate. [Hartford, Connecticut]	1789 February 1
b. 1, f. 7	Continental and state currency: 15 samples of Continental Congress currency and state emissions. Various places, including Philadelphia, New London, Newcastle, Annapolis, etc.	circa 1774-1780
b. 1, f. 8	State of Massachusetts Bay: Committee of War certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1777 March 21
b. 1, f. 9	State of Massachusetts Bay: Committee of War certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1778 July 29
b. 1, f. 10	State of Massachusetts Bay: Treasury certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1778 February 28
b. 1, f. 11	State of Massachusetts Bay: Treasury certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1779
b. 1, f. 12	State of Massachusetts Bay: Treasury certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1780 January 1
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 111	Commonwealth of Massachusetts: To the Honorable Henry Gardner, Esq., Treasurer and Receiver-General of the said Commonwealth. Boston, Massachusetts	1780 November 25
b. 1, f. 13	Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Treasury certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1782 January 1
b. 1, f. 14	Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Treasury certificate. [Boston, Massachusetts]	1783 January 1
b. 1, f. 15	Commonwealth of Massachusetts: partially printed form, completed in manuscript, acknowledging receipt of interest on a loan to the Massachusetts Treasury by Nathaniel Appleton	1789 January 9
b. 1, f. 16	State of Pennsylvania (Morris, Robert): three blank checks. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	circa 1780
b. 1, f. 17	State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations: printed loan receipt, completed in manuscript, for the interest payment received on a loan to the state of Rhode Island by Joseph Clarke. Newport, Rhode Island	1785 November 26
b. 1, f. 18	State of South Carolina: printed form, completed in manuscript, crediting the tax account of the estate of James Lingard [Charleston, South Carolina]	1774 March 24
b. 1, f. 19	Beckley, John: manuscript copy of an extract from the journals of Congress regarding the public creditors of Pennsylvania	1789 September 28
b. 1, f. 20	Beckley, John: manuscript notice regarding the public debts of the states and outstanding loan certificates	1789 September 21

b. 1, f. 21	Blaine, Ephraim: manuscript circular letter, signed, requesting the total sum owed to merchant John Ladd Howell by the Commissary General's Office. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1782 November 25
b. 1, f. 22	Brissot de Warville, Jaques Pierre: three manuscript documents concerning Brissot de Warville's activities in America on behalf of a French mutual fund and tontine. Paris, France	1788
b. 1, f. 23	Carey, H. C.: Currency Inflation: How it has Been Produced, and How it May Profitably Be Reduced: Letters to the Honorable B. H. Bristow, Secretary of the Treasury. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1874
b. 1, f. 24	Continental Congress: Resolution authorizing commissioners to endorse Massachusetts state currency	1780 June 29
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 112	Continental Congress: Resolutions recommended to states for the restoration of public credit	1783 March 18
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 108	Continental Currency: manuscript summary of a legal case regarding a failure to pay a debt drawn in continental currency	1778
b. 1, f. 25	Continental Currency: manuscript notes settling an order for Continental money taken in 1778. Preston Connecticut	1785 November 19
b. 1, f. 26	Continental Currency: scale of depreciation. Haverhill, Pennsylvania	1799 September 12
b. 1, f. 27	Dallas, Alexander J.: manuscript notice concerning acceptable forms of currency	1815 August 15
b. 1, f. 28	De Berdt, Dearman, and Co.: An Account of the Nature and Prices of American Stocks. London, England	circa 1790
b. 1, f. 29	Gallatin, Albert: letter from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting a statement of claims. Washington, D. C.	circa 1810
b. 1, f. 30	Gibson, John: autograph letter, signed, from John Gibson, Auditor General, to Nathaniel Appleton. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1777 June 23
b. 1, f. 31	Gibson, John: autograph letter, signed, from John Gibson, Auditor General, to Nathaniel Appleton. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1778 August 21
b. 1, f. 32	Gibson, John: autograph letter, signed, from John Gibson, Auditor General, to Nathaniel Appleton. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1779 March 3
b. 1, f. 33	Goodhue, Benjamin: autograph letter, signed, from Benjamin Goodhue, Congressman from Massachusetts, to John Templeton, regarding additional federal assumption of state debts. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1792 November 15
b. 1, f. 34	Hamilton, Alexander; Huntington, Samuel: two letters concerning data collection for Alexander Hamilton's report on public credit	1789 September 26 and November 9
b. 1, f. 35	Hamilton, Alexander: autograph letter, signed, from Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, to an unidentified recipient	1790 October 13
b. 1, f. 36	Hamilton, Alexander: autograph letter, signed, from Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, to an unidentified recipient	1791 January 14

b. 1, f. 37	Hamilton, Alexander: The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, (Alexander Hamilton), on the Subject of a National Bank, Read in the House of Representatives, 1790 December 13. New York, New York	1811
b. 1, f. 38	Hamilton, James: autograph letter, signed, from James Hamilton, Financier of Texas, to Leslie Combs, Presidents of the Lexington Danville Railroad, regarding the public debt of Texas. Washington, D. C.	1854 July 11
b. 1, f. 39	Hancock, John: manuscript copy of an unsigned letter to an unidentified recipient, regarding the deplorable financial condition of the United States. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1780 March 7
b. 1, f. 40	Hickcox, John H.: A History of the Bills of Credit or Paper Money Issued by New York, from 1709 to 1789. Albany, New York	1866
b. 1, f. 41	Hopkinson, Francis: list of currency bills being issued	1778-1782
b. 1, f. 42	Huntington, Samuel: circular letter, signed, from Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, to the several states. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1780 March 20
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 109	Huntington, Samuel: letter, signed, from Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, to Joseph Reed. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1780 June 29
b. 1, f. 43	Irvine, William: autograph letter, signed, to John Nicholson. New York, New York	1790 February 4
b. 1, f. 44	Jenifer, Daniel, of St. Thomas: autograph letter, signed, to the treasurer of the western shore, on the subject of Continental money. [Annapolis, Maryland]	1785 July 11
b. 1, f. 45	Lee, Arthur; Osgood, Samuel; Livingston, Walter: autograph letter, signed, to William Ellery, regarding receipt of loan interest and the consequences of paper money	1786 August 8
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b. 1, f. 51	Morris, Robert: manuscript account book of Robert Morris, personally managed by Thomas Willing, first President of the Bank of North America.	1782-1786
b. 1, f. 52	Morris, Robert: manuscript copy of a letter to Elias Boudinot, President of the Continental Congress, on the need to suppress Congressional expenditures. [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania]	1783 July 28

b. 4 (Oversize), f. 114	Morris, Robert: engraved stock certificate for three shares of the North American Land Company, signed by Robert Morris. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1795 March 16
b. 1, f. 53	Osgood, Samuel; Livingston, Walter: autograph letter, signed, to Nathaniel Gilman, Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office for New Hampshire.	1788 November 11
b. 2, f. 54	Paine, Thomas: The Decline and Fall of the English System of Finance. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1796
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 110	State of Pennsylvania: To the Citizens of Pennsylvania.	1779
b. 2, f. 55	State of Pennsylvania: The Philadelphia Price Current.	1784 November 29
b. 2, f. 56	Reed, Joseph: autograph letter, signed, from Joseph Reed, former President of the Supreme Executive Council, to William Bell, Philadelphia merchant, regarding American finances. London, England	1784 March 11
b. 2, f. 57	Revolutionary War Debt: Table for the Payment of Principal and Interest of Loans, Agreeable to the Resolutions of Congress of the Twenty-Eighth Day of June, 1780. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1783
b. 2, f. 58	Revolutionary War Debt: A Plan of a Tontine to Consist of 1000 Shares of 100 [pounds] Each, to Be Divided into Seven Classes...	circa 1789
b. 2, f. 59	Revolutionary War Debt: circular letter addressed by the Secretary of the Treasury to the American stockholders residing in Great Britain and Ireland. London, England	1807 August 24
b. 2, f. 60	Revolutionary War Finance: four letters between Michael Hillegas, first Treasurer of the United States, and Nathaniel Appleton, Continental Loan Officer for Massachusetts. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Boston, Massachusetts.	1780
b. 2, f. 61	Revolutionary War Finance: Table for the Payment of the Second Year's Interest Due on All Sums Loaned to the United States between 1778 February 28 and 1780 February 28. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1780
b. 2, f. 62	Revolutionary War Finance: signed letter from Arthur Lee, Samuel Osgood, and Walter Livingston, to Thomas Smith, regarding counterfeit certificates.	1787 February 12
b. 2, f. 63	Revolutionary War Finance: The Registered Debt of the United States	circa 1790
b. 2, f. 64	Revolutionary War Finance: An Act, Supplementary to the Act Intituled "An Act Making Provision for the Redemption of the Whole of the Public Debt of the United States."	1807
b. 2, f. 65	Smith, William: Price current for Hydestown, New York.	1785 July 16
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 113	Treasury Department: Report of the Committee, Appointed...to Examine the Accounts of the United States, Relating to the Public Debt.	1800 May 8
b. 2, f. 66	Trumbull, John: partially printed loan certificate, completed in manuscript, regarding interest on a loan. Connecticut	1782 August 9
b. 2, f. 67	Webster, Pelatiah: To the Stock Holders of the Bank of North America, on the Subject of New and Old Banks. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1791 May 28

b. 2, f. 68	Willing, Thomas: autograph letter, signed, from Thomas Willing, President of the Bank of North America, to Thomas Mifflin, Governor of Pennsylvania.	1791 March 12
b. 2, f. 69	Manuscript invoice of goods account of Robert Livingston	1734-1735
b. 5 (Oversize), f. 115	American Revolution: To the Inhabitants of the United States of America... Letter from John Jay, President of the Continental Congress. Hartford, Connecticut	1779 May 26

Series II: United States Lottery Documents, 1777–1781

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b. 3, f. 75	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Jacob Broom, later signer of the U.S. Constitution, to the managers of the United States Lottery Office. Wilmington, Delaware.	1778 December 27
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b. 3, f. 83	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, by Titus Hosmer to the managers of the Continental Lottery. [Middletown, Connecticut]	1779 October 11

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b. 3, f. 86	Continental Lottery: Manuscript account log of the Continental Lottery recording reimbursement amounts for several Continental Lottery agents. [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania?]	circa 1779
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b. 3, f. 94	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Wensley Hobby, Continental Lottery winner, to the commissioners, seeking his prize. Middletown, Connecticut.	1780 November 20
b. 3, f. 95	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Wensley Hobby, executor of the estate of a Connecticut lottery agent, to the managers of the Continental Lottery. Middletown, Connecticut.	1780 September 25
b. 3, f. 96	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Wensley Hobby, executor of the estate of a Connecticut lottery agent, to the managers of the Continental Lottery in Philadelphia. Middletown, Connecticut.	1780 August 14
b. 3, f. 97	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from William Houston, delegate to the Continental Congress from New Jersey, to the managers of the Continental Lottery.	1780 March 16
b. 3, f. 98	Continental Lottery: List of Continental Lottery agents to whom no credit was given via the sale of third class lottery tickets. [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania?]	circa 1780
b. 3, f. 99	Continental Lottery: Manuscript computations regarding the Continental Lottery.	circa 1780 July
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b. 6 (Oversize), f. 118	Continental Lottery: Table of lottery tickets sold, recorded by Thomas Jett, agent of the lottery in Virginia.	1780 July 15
b. 3, f. 102	Continental Lottery: Harwood, Thomas. Account for money received from lottery agents.	circa 1780
b. 3, f. 103	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Roderic Lawrence, agent of the Continental Lottery in Connecticut, to the managers of the lottery in Philadelphia. Hartford, Connecticut.	1781 August 20
b. 3, f. 104	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Samuel Purviance, lottery agent for Maryland, to Sharpe Delany, manager of the Continental Lottery. Baltimore, Maryland.	1781 February 25
b. 3, f. 105	Continental Lottery: Autograph letter, signed, from Samuel Purviance, lottery agent for Maryland, to Sharpe Delany, manager of the Continental Lottery. Baltimore, Maryland.	1781 January 3
b. 3, f. 106	Continental Lottery: Morris, Robert. Manuscript note regarding Robert Morris and the managers of the Continental Lottery. [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania?]	1781 December 12
b. 3, f. 107	Continental Lottery: Manuscript warrant, signed by Oliver Ellsworth as member of the Connecticut Governor's Council, commanding Hezekiah and Joshua Welles to appear before the county court of Hartford regarding a fraudulent lottery. Hartford, Connecticut.	1781 March 24

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Debts, Public -- Law and legislation -- United States
Debts, Public -- United States
Debts, Public -- United States -- States
Finance, Public -- United States
Finance, Public -- United States -- States
Lotteries -- United States
Paper money -- United States

Corporate Bodies

United States. Board of Treasury
United States. Congress
United States. Continental Congress
United States. Department of the Treasury

Geographic Names

United States -- Politics and government -- 1783-1789
United States -- Politics and government -- 1789-1797
United States -- Politics and government -- 1797-1801
United States -- Politics and government -- 1801-1815

Genres / Formats

Accounts -- United States -- 18th century
Checks (bank checks) -- United States -- 18th century
Continental currency -- United States -- 18th century
Paper money -- United States -- 18th century

Names

Baring, Francis, Sir, 1740-1810
Boehm, Edmund
Brissot de Warville, J.-P. (Jacques-Pierre), 1754-1793
Gallatin, Albert, 1761-1849
Gibson, John, 1729-1782
Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804
Henchman, Thomas
Morris, Gouverneur, 1752-1816
Morris, Robert, 1734-1806
Reed, Joseph, 1741-1785
Willing, Thomas, 1731-1821