19th-Century Maritime Collection, 1781-1928: Finding Aid

**Summary Information**

- **Call number:** C0501
- **Repository:**
  Princeton University Library. Special Collections.
  Manuscripts Division
  One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544
  USA
- **Size:**
  0.4 linear feet
  1 archival box
- **Language(s) of Material:** English
- **Abstract:**
  Consists of correspondence, documents, financial
  material, and printed matter of Caleb Bates, captain of
  the Juno of Boston, John B. Church, marine insurance
  underwriter, and others involved in predominantly
  nineteenth-century American maritime trade.
- **Location:**
  This collection is stored offsite at the ReCAP facility.
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Biography/History

Caleb Bates was the captain of the Juno of Boston. John B. Church was a marine insurance underwriter.

Description

The collection consists of correspondence, documents, financial material, and printed matter of Caleb Bates, captain of the Juno of Boston, John B. Church, marine insurance underwriter, and others involved in predominantly 19th-century American maritime trade. The collection contains correspondence and receipts of Bates during the time (1807-1814) he spent in St. Petersburg, Russia, which refer to his buying and shipping Russian goods during the period of the War of 1812 and Napoleon's campaign. There are also documents, correspondence, and printed matter of John B. Church concerning the French Spoliation Claims of insurance underwriters and their heirs against the United States government dating from the post-Revolutionary War period. Also included are 19th-century account books and miscellaneous accounts for the ships Renown, Superior, Harriot, and William and passes for the Daniel Webster and Charleston Packet signed by Andrew Jackson and the Maria signed by Thomas Jefferson.

Access and Use

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. No further photoduplication of copies of material in the collection can be made when Princeton University Library does not own the original. Inquiries regarding publishing material from the collection should be directed to RBSC Public Services staff through the Ask Us! form. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition

Papers relating to the John B. Church French Spoliation Claim are gift of the estate of John B. Church, gathered by Walter S. Church.

Appraisal

No appraisal information is available.

Processing and Other Information
Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); 19th-Century Maritime Collection, Box and Folder Number; Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Encoding

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2013-05-29T11:15-0400

Descriptive Rules Used

Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Subject Headings

- Bates, Caleb.
- Church, John B.
- Argonaut (Ship)
- Charleston Packet (Ship)
- Daniel Webster (Ship)
- Harriot (Ship)
- Juno of Boston (Ship)
- Maria (Ship)
- Renown (Ship)
- Superior (Ship)
- William (Ship)
- French spoliation claims.
- Insurance companies, American.
- Marine insurance -- United States.
- Maritime law -- France -- 18th century.
- Maritime law -- United States -- 18th century.
- Napoleonic Wars, 1800-1815 -- Campaigns -- Russia.
- United States -- Commerce -- France -- 18th century.
- United States -- Commerce -- Soviet Union -- 19th century.
- United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783 -- French participation.
- United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783 -- Sources.
- United States -- History -- War of 1812 -- Sources.
- Account books -- United States.
- Correspondence.
- Ship's papers -- United States.
- American history
- American history
· American history/Early national
· American history/Revolution
Contents List

Bates Maritime Papers, 1807-1818

Letters from Capt. Caleb Bates, 1811-1815  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12204  
Box: 1 Folder: 1

Receipts made out to Capt. Caleb Bates, 1807-1818  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12204  
Box: 1 Folder: 2

Letters to Capt. Caleb Bates, 1809-1814  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12204  
Box: 1 Folder: 3

Church Maritime Papers, 1781-1928

Early Letters pertaining to the French Spoliation Claims, 1824-1858  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 4

Description: M.C. Paterson to Philip Church Apr. 23 1824, Jan. 1835 Extracts of letters of Richard Church, 1832 Draft of Letter from Philip Church to Richard Church Nov. 27, 1833 Copy of Letter from Philip Church to Richard Church Apr. 2, 1852 Theo. O Fowler to Philip Church Dec. 28, 1858 David Ogden to Philip Church Dec. 28, 1858

Correspondence of Richard S. Church of Middlesex, England on the Spoliation Claims, 1885-1888  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 5

Description: 8 letters, originals and typewritten copies.

Letters of John B. Church to Mrs. Sidney Morse and Mary T. Morse, 1904-1909  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 6

Description: 19 Letters.

Letters to Miss Mary T. Moore, 1905-1928  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 7

Description: 26 Letters.

Notes made by Walter S. Church Jr. as Administrator in the claim case., 1888-1913  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 8

Correspondence of Walter S. Church Jr., Administrator of Estate of John B. Church, 1882-1904  
Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974  
Box: 1 Folder: 9
Description: 60 Letters (some copies).

Legal papers, Lists of ships on which Church claims were based, Agreements with attorneys, Misc. documents, 1815-1905

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974

Printed Records of Documents of the Church Claims, including Congressional Record, 1847-1924

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974

Clippings, 1851-1925

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12974

Letters relating to Shipping Business of Alex Nesbitt + Co., 1781-1783

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12972

Description: Five letters. Alex Nesbitt to Walter Stewart Sept. 11, 1781
James Seagrove to Alex Nesbitt + Co. Dec. 18, 1781 and Mar. 5, 1783 Capt.
James Hunn to Alex Nesbitt + Co. Nov. 11, 1782 and Nov. 22, 1782

Maritime Papers-West Indies Trade, 1799-1867

Commonplace Book of Information about exports of India kept by an American shipping concern, 1832-1844

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM13480

Description: 90 p. 32 cm. Contains tables of "List of Articles exported from Calcutta to the U.S.", 1827-1844, which include names of vessels, dates of voyages and amounts of merchandise transported.

Ship Superior, 1816-1819

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12655

Description: 2 MSS about voyage to West Indies.

Renown, 1822-1823

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12655

Description: 5 MSS pertaining to sale, voyage, and destruction of Renown in 1822.

Harriot (Brigantine), 1799

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM13599

Description: Seamen's Articles, signe by crew. Norwich, Conn. to Demerara. 2 p. 40 x 30 cm. Master - Francis Smith,

William (Brigantine), 1820-1829

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12655
Description: 16 MSS. General accounts, sales of cargoes, ship’s supplies, expenditures, etc. on 10 voyages to West Indies.

Miscellaneous Maritime Papers, 1848-1867

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM12744

Description: Miscellaneous shipping, orders, receipts, etc. from Liverpool, New Orleans, Boston, and other places. 23 papers, many with stamps.

Charleston Packet (Brigantine), 1837 May 6

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM13778


Daniel Webster (Barque), 1837 January 7

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM13777

Description: D.S. Ship’s Pass (signed by Andrew Jackson). 1 p. vellum (top notched). Countersigned in Charleston, South Carolina.

Maria (Ship), 1804 February 2

Acquisition and Appraisal: AM13779