

SEQUESTERED JOHN MITCHELL PAPERS

Series Title Inventory

- A. John Mitchell Papers, 1762-81 1 vol. and 99 folders Box 1
- Deputy Quarter Master General Letter Book, May 31, 1780-Mar. 22, 1781.
 (Pub. PA 6, XIV, 207-254) 1 vol.
- General Correspondence, 1762-77 (Incl: Randall Mitchell General
 Correspondence, 1772-74) 1 folder
- 1762 - Dec. 1766 ✓ 27 folders
- 1770 - Dec. 1773 ✓ 27 folders Box 2
- Jan. 1774 - Mar. 11-31, 1775 18 folders Box 3
- Apr. 1-10, 1775 - Dec. 1777 - ~~n.d.~~ ¹⁷⁷⁸ n.d. 28 folders Box 4
- B. Accounts, 1758-1778 4 vols. and 33 folders Box 5
- Cash Book, May 7, 1770-Oct. 10, 1771 1 vol.
- Journal, July 1, 1772-Oct. 16, 1773 1 vol.
- Ledger, Nov. 15, 1770-May 7, 1772 1 vol.
- Receipt Book, Apr. 23, 1772-Nov. 6, 1773 1 vol.
- Receipts and Vouchers, 1758-59 1763-1772 10 folders
- Receipts & Vouchers, 1773-74 13 folders Box 6
- Receipts and Vouchers, 1775-1778, n.d. 10 folders end

MG 92

JOHN MITCHELL CORRESPONDENCE

JOHN MITCHELL CORRESPONDENCE, 1773-1776 1 box (174 items)

Business letters received by a merchant of Front Street, Philadelphia. 128 items are from Charles Hamilton of Lancaster (103 signed letters, 1 signed copy, 1 letter by James Forbes, 16 memoranda of goods ordered, 7 statements of iron shipped from Salford Forge by Robert and William Coleman). 40 items are from George Irvin of York (39 signed letters, 1 letter by William Richardson). The remaining 6 items include one each from Penelope Haley, Inept (?) Carr, Jno Murray of Trappe, Andrew Robinson of York, Robert Coupar, and Arthur Greer of York.

(Most of these papers are in good to fair condition. A few have been damaged, apparently by the same bungler who "repaired" manuscripts in some of our other collections.)

WAH 12/19/50

1773 Dec. 15(3)	Front St. Phila.	from	George Irvin, Yorktown
	16		"
1774 Jan. 2			Charles Hamilton, Lancaster
	22		George Irvin
	29		Charles Hamilton
Feb. 1			George Irvin
	9(2)		"
	11		Charles Hamilton
	22		"
	25		"
Mar. 5			George Irvin
	24(2)		"
	25		"
	26		"
Apr. 4			Charles Hamilton
	5(2)		George Irvin
	9(?)		Charles Hamilton
	15		"
	22		Penelope Haley (request for acct.
	26		Inept(?) Carr (receipt)

May 2	Jno Murray, Trapp
2	George Irvin
3	"
6	Charles Hamilton
8(2)	"
9	"
10	John Wright, Southampton
13	Charles Hamilton
18	"
19	"
21	George Irvin, Phila.
23	" , Yorktown
27	Charles Hamilton
29	"
31	"
31	George Irvin
June 1	Charles Hamilton
5	"
1774 June 9	Charles Hamilton
13	George Irvin
18	Charles Hamilton
20	"
27	George Irvin
July 6	"
11	Wm Richardson, Yorktown
21	Charles Hamilton [for Irvin]
23	George Irvin
28	Charles Hamilton
Aug. 1	"
2	George Irvin
4(2)	Charles Hamilton
6	"
9	"
10	George Irvin
15	Charles Hamilton
20	"
24(2)	George Irvin
25	Charles Hamilton
26	"
27	George Irvin
28	Charles Hamilton

Sept. 6	George Irvin
6	Charles Hamilton
14	"
17(2)	"
22	"
23	"
29	George Irvin
Oct. 5	"
7	"
10(?)	Charles Hamilton
19	George Irvin
20	Charles Hamilton
25(2)	"
26	"
1774 Nov. 2	George Irvin
3	Charles Hamilton
6	"
10	"
11	George Irvin
12	Charles Hamilton
15	George Irvin
20	Charles Hamilton
22	"
26	George Irvin
29	Charles Hamilton
Dec. 9	"
21	"
21	Andrew Robinson, Yorktown
n.d. 8 memoranda of orders	[Charles Hamilton]
1775 Jan. 4	Charles Hamilton
8	"
10	"
20(2)	"
27	"
28	"
Feb. 8	"
9	"
15	"
21	"
Mar. 2	"
6 (backed with clipped paper from letter add. to Mitchell)	Robert Coupar
6	Arthur Greer, Yorktown
26	Charles Hamilton
29	"

1775 Apr.	2	Charles Hamilton
	3	George Irvin
	7	Charles Hamilton
	9	George Irvin
	17	Charles Hamilton
	17	Charles Hamilton
	19	"
	24 (3)	"
	27	"
	29	"
May	6-29:	7 statements of iron shipped from Salford Forge by Robert and William Coleman, on Hamilton's acct.
	8	James Forbes, Lanc. (for Hamilton)
	20	Charles Hamilton
	27 (2)	"
June	2	"
July	4	"
	5	"
	13	<u>to John Williams</u> (copy) (acompanies following)
	16	"
	17	"
	21	"
Aug.	9	<u>to Blair McClenaughon</u>
	14	"
	17	"
	18	"
	28	"
	30	"
Sept.	1	"
	21	"
Oct.	17	"
	24	"
	29	"
Nov.	4	"
	13	"
	14	"
	22	"
	29	"
n.d.	8	memoranda of goods ["]

1776 Jan.	9	Charles Hamilton
	11	"
	16	"
	17	"
	24	"
	25	"
Feb.	8	"
	9	to <u>Capt. James Moore</u> (enclosed with above)
Mar.	5	Charles Hamilton
	18	"
	23	"
	30	"
Apr.	1	"
June	12	George Irvin
		[torn in two pieces]
Oct.	4	Gentlemen

JOHN MITCHELL - NOTES

J. M., Deputy QM General, was a merchant, had been bankrupt at divers times, and for having taken a false oath, had been committed to the Common Jail.

Pa. Mag. VI, 126 "Notes & Queries," American Generals and Staff officers.

"Sold my sorrel mare to Mr. M. D.Q. M.G. for \$300, for which "I received his certificate."

Diary of Hon. Wm. Ellery, 1779-1780. Pa. Mag, XIII, 252

Col. J. M. in May 18, 1779

"Examined papers of John Mitchell Acts of Goods Shipped from England of no use D.F."

(Letter, Feb. 10, 1773, Emanuel Elam to J.M.)

"Examined papers of John Mitchell and others not connected with John Nicholsons business D.F."

(Letter: Sept. 20, 1764, John Knight to Mr. Michael)

"Examined papers of John Mitchell & others of no use D.F."

(Account, Sales goods Aud. R & J.M., 1776, June 10)

Apr. 11, 1825

John Mitchell, Centre Co. Nathaniel B. Eldred, Milford, Pike Co., John Davis, Pittsburgh, Wm. Power, Perry Co., appointed agents to execute the Act of Apr. 11, 1825 by making due enquiry and discovering any lands or other property within this Commwth which the late John Nicholson and Peter Baynton had an interest in or claiming title to... on which the Commwth had a lien... make full discoveries to Secry of Commwth who shall cause their returns to be laid before Board of Property...

PA VIII, 6272 May 16, 1825

JOHN MITCHELL PAPERS

On Nov. 3, 1958, Boxes 15 & 16 of Land Records, Dept. of Internal Affairs, were removed from Room 220 and brought to my desk for search. In Mr. Hunter's Inventory of Land Records Stored in Capitol Room 645, Cartons II, C., he lists "John Mitchell Papers (2 cartons). Business papers of a Philadelphia merchant of Revolutionary date; of some historical value only. (Note: Part of these papers, too, are in Commission custody.)"

During the day, Box 15 was examined and, there were letters and accounts of John Mitchell, 1764-1776. These fill nearly one-half of a file drawer. They are dirty, brittle and torn. Most of these items have been rolled instead of the usual flat or 3 fold condition.

On Nov. 5, Box 16 was examined, and, there were letters and accounts, 1764-1776. The two (2) boxes fill one file drawer. These papers were dirty, rolled, and mouse chewed. Never before have I opened a group of papers that were chewed as much as these are. They are brittle too. Among these papers are B-W-M items and a few John Nicholson papers.

Nov. 6, three (3) small black boxes labeled "Mitchell Collection" (Entry 125, Room 221, F.C.19, MSS. Coll.) were removed and brought to my desk for further search. One box states that the contents was removed from Provincial Papers, Correspondence, 1764-1774. These shall retain their original citation as far as possible. Another box labeled "John Mitchell Correspondence," 1773-1776 (Historical Collections), was returned from Philadelphia, and carefully listed by Mr. Wm. Hunter, Dec. 14, 1950. His list will be found with these papers. These papers will be incorporated with the final arrangement without benefit of citation.

On Jan. 2, 1959, the sorting and arranging of these papers was finished. Left over, are two (2) folders of "Misc. Items not Identified," and, a hard-board cover, printed, "for Robt. Sayer near Serjeants Inn Fleet Street," with hand-lettered "Letters & Orders from the Country." These are the letters and accounts of John Mitchell with a few addressed to Randall Mitchell, his brother. As of this date, very little information re the Mitchell brothers and their activities as Philadelphia merchants, individually, or as a team, has been brought to light. In Pa.Mag. VI, 126 "Notes and Queries," American Generals and Staff Officers reads:

John Mitchell, QM General, was a merchant, had been bankrupt at divers times, and for having taken a false oath, had been committed to the Common Jail.

On page 252 of the Pa.Mag. Vol. XIII, there is a note:

Sold my sorrel mare to Mr. M.^D Q, M.G. for \$300, for which I received his certificate.

There is precious little else found out about him.

How these papers came to the State has not been ascertained. D. Fullerton who examined all the State sequestered papers of John Nicholson and Baynton - Wharton - Morgan, sometime in the early 1830's, noted on several items: "Examined papers of John Mitchell and others not connected with John Nicholson's business - of no use, D.F."

There are letters and accounts of a Philadelphia merchant, pertaining to merchandising, prices and commodities such as chocolate, feathers, rum, coffee, tea, molasses and paper. John Mitchell supplied some of the companies stationed in and about Philadelphia during the early part of the Revolution.