



The Historical
Society of
Pennsylvania

Collection 356

Henry Laurens (1724-1792)
Papers

1762-1780

3 boxes, 1 vol., 0.75 lin. feet

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Processed by: Leslie Hunt

Processing Completed: June 2005

Sponsor: Processing made possible by a grant from the
National Endowment for the Humanities

Restrictions: None.

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Abstract

Henry Laurens (1724-1792) was a South Carolina planter, merchant, and statesman. Among his numerous civic roles was that of president of the Continental Congress from 1778 to 1779.

The collection consists of a letterbook, 1762-1766, discussing commerce, slave trade, and South Carolina politics in detail. Two disbound volumes contain papers dating from 1774-1780 concerning the work of the Continental Congress and discussing the terms of the British surrender at Saratoga, the status of the government's finances, and relations with Native Americans.

Background note

Henry Laurens' grandparents came to America from France in the late 17th century. The Laurens family settled in New York. Henry's father, John Laurens (also known as Jean Samuel Laurens) married Esther Grasset in 1715 or 1716. At around that time the Laurens family moved from New York to Charleston, South Carolina, where Henry Laurens was born in 1724. As the third child and the eldest son, Henry had a place of distinction in his family and was made the executor of his father's estate upon his death in 1747.

After a brief stint in London to become acquainted with the business world, Laurens settled himself in South Carolina, where he grew his business empire and became a respected merchant, trading with England and the West Indies. He also ran a large plantation on the Cooper River and was the owner of 300 slaves, and he purchased slaves from Africa and traded them in the colonies. In the 1750s Laurens held a number of local offices, and then served in the House of Assembly for much of the 1760s. When his wife Eleanor (nee Ball), whom he had married in 1750, died in 1770, he stepped away from his business pursuits and concentrated on the education of his children¹. While in England arranging for their schooling, Laurens became active in attempting to address some of the colonies' grievances with England.

¹ The Laurenses had twelve or thirteen children, of whom only five lived beyond childhood.

In 1775 he was elected to the South Carolina Provincial Congress, and in 1777 he was elected to the Continental Congress, serving as its president from 1777 to 1778. Following his election to the post of Minister to Holland in 1779, Laurens sailed to Europe but was captured by the British and imprisoned in the Tower of London until the end of 1781. Following his release (in exchange for Lord Cornwallis), Laurens signed the preliminary version of the Treaty of Paris in 1782, and then returned home to South Carolina, where he had barely visited since 1777.

Although he was elected and/or appointed to various political offices, Laurens retired from public life in 1784 and lived on his plantation until his death in 1792.

Scope & content

Henry Laurens' manuscript letterbook (Aug. 30, 1762 – Sept. 10, 1766) contains 486 letters covering a wide variety of subjects from his distinguished career. They detail his purchase, sale, leasing and management of lands and plantations, and the importation and sale of goods from abroad and other colonial merchants. The correspondence is rich in details about Laurens's role as a slave owner, including information on his purchase, leasing, and sales of numerous African Americans as well as instructions to overseers and purchases of "Negro goods" for plantation use. As a representative on the South Carolina Provincial Commons, many of his letters were addressed to Governor Thomas Boone and contain a wealth of local inter-colonial and British political intelligence including details of political debates, of Cherokee relations, back country settlers, the Stamp Act, commerce, and the formation of pro-independence groups in the years leading up to the war. The volume contains a four-page index of 162 correspondents.

Two disbound volumes, 1774-1780, (still organized by volume and page number) pertain to the work of the Continental Congress, over which Laurens presided from 1777 to 1778. The documents and correspondence (many of which are congressional copies) include numerous papers concerning the terms of the Saratoga Convention, sorted out between Generals Heath and Burgoyne, as well as correspondence of Horatio Gates, Robert Pigot, George Washington, Jonathan Trumbull, Pierce Butler, and Hugh Dalrymple, among others. Copies of some of Laurens' outgoing letters are included as well, as are reports of the Committee of Safety.

In addition to documents concerning military affairs, there are numerous records and committee reports pertaining to finances and the treasury, including a list of salary and expenses incurred by John Adams while on government business in Boston and France. Other papers relate to the issue and depreciation of currency.

Lastly, there are numerous papers concerning colonists' relations with Native Americans, including accounts of violence on the western frontier and congressional issuances and speeches to the Native Americans.

Separation report

None.

Related materials

Henry Laurens Papers, South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston, S.C.
Henry Laurens Papers, Library of Congress Manuscript Division, Washington, D.C.
Henry Laurens Diary, New-York Historical Society, New York, N.Y.
Henry Laurens Public papers, McGregor Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
Henry Laurens Papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, New York Public Library, New York, N.Y.

Bibliography

"Laurens, Henry." Biographical Directory of the United States Congress.
<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=L000121> (accessed 25 August 2006)

Wallace, David Duncan. *The Life of Henry Laurens*. New York, London: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1915.

Subjects

Indians of North America – Wars.
Saratoga Campaign, N.Y., 1777.
Slave trade – South Carolina
South Carolina – Commerce – 18th century.
South Carolina – Politics and government – To 1775.
United States – Politics and government – 1775-1783.
United States – History – Revolution, 1775-1783 – Equipment and supplies.
United States— History— Revolution, 1775-1783— Committees of safety.
Whites—Relations with Indians.

Burgoyne, John, 1722-1792.
Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806.
Heath, William, 1737-1814.
Hillegas, Michael, 1729-1804.

United States. Continental Congress.
United States. Continental Loan Office.

Administrative Information

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Acquisition information

Provenance unknown.

Alternative format

Researchers are asked to use available photocopies of the letterbook.

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Henry Laurens Papers (Collection 356), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Processing note

Processing made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this finding aid do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Box and folder listing

Description	Vol.	Page
Letterbook, 1762-1766 [Researchers are first asked to use the photocopy available]		
Manuscript retained copy of an unsigned letter with text corrections by an unidentified Irish business immigrant. Philadelphia, December 1774. Addressed to Robert Jackson, Armagh, Ireland. Folio, 2 pages. Describes political and religious freedoms, the encroachments of British rule, American resistance, and his employment in America.	1	1
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter in the hand of Timothy Matlack. London. September 29, 1775. Quarto bifolium, two pages. Docketed on the verso in the hand of Henry Laurens Copy of Parson Wilkins Letter to G. Morris”	1	2
Manuscript secretarial copies of two letters in the hand of Timothy Matlack. Folio bifolium, two pages. A) Philadelphia, May 30, 1776. From the Committee of Safety to William Hodges. Describes the protection of American liberties, the contracting of needed war supplies and arms, the payment of such by cargoes of American produce and necessary transportation. B) Philadelphia, October 3, 1776. From the Committee of Safety to William Hodges. Describes the work of Silas Deane in Paris, the shipment of war supplies and the employment of Americans in such work. Docketed on the verso with three lines by Matlack and one word by Laurens.	1	3
Manuscript secretarial, unsigned copy of a letter to an unidentified correspondent. No place. June 30. 1776. Folio bifolium, 13 pages. Describes in detail Indian depredations on the frontier, war, murder, white captives, and white expeditions against them	1	4-5
Manuscript copy of a letter in the hand of Henry Laurens from General John Burgoyne to General William Heath, Cambridge. January 9, 1777. Folio, 1 page. Concerns the behavior of one Col. Healy, and disturbances at the barracks.	1	6
Autograph manuscript letter signed by John Lloyd to Henry Laurens, Nantes. February 11, 1777 and March 11, 1779. Quarto, 3 1/4 pages. Concerns his detention in Europe, his Carolina estates, the rice market and war. Together with a quarto 1/2 page New York “Declaration of the Quakers” June 16, 1777, in the hand of Henry Laurens.	1	7-8
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter. Lebanon, June 27, 1777. Attributed from Jonathan Trumbull to Henry Laurens. Quarto, 5 pages. Details the political and military struggles against Britain, battles of Lexington and Concord, the Boston Tea Party, etc.	1	9
Autograph letter signed John Wreath, Savannah, August 30, 1777. Addressed to Henry Laurens. Folio bifolium, 8 pages. Contains a wealth of war news, and details on Congress, Indian depredations, “the Gwinnett Affair,” politics, etc. Docketed on verso by Laurens.	1	10

Manuscript copy of a letter from Col. Gervais to John Rutledge. Yorktown (York, PA), October 16, 1777. Small quarto, 1 ½ pages. Describes a military attack by General Washington, Howe's occupation of Philadelphia, Congress, etc. Together with a 1 ½ page order of Congress relating to France.	1	11
Manuscript retained copy of a document in the hand of Henry Laurens. Article of Convention between General Burgoyne and Major General Gates" Camp at Saratoga, October 16, 1777. Folio, 2 pages. Outlines the military terms as agreed upon by the two parties.	1	12
Manuscript unsigned retained copies of letters in the hand of Henry Laurens. Camp at Saratoga, October 16, 1777 A) Addressed to John Hancock - B) Addressed to John Vaughn. Folio, 2 pages. Both related to the recent Convention of Saratoga.	1	12
Manuscript unsigned retained copy of a letter with extensive corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, Yorktown, PA October 24, 1777. Folio, one page. Addressed to Major Butler. Describes recent military events, General Gates and Congress.	1	13
Manuscript signed retained copy of a letter with extensive corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, Yorktown, PA. October 25, 1777. Folio, 2 ¼ pages. Addressed to General Howe. Describes recent military actions, Rev Duche, Washington, etc.	1	14
Manuscript signed retained copy of a letter with extensive corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, Yorktown, PA, October 26, 1777. Folio bifolium, 5 1/2 pages. Addressed to John Rutledge. Describes a variety of political, legal and military matters especially in the Colonies.	1	15
Manuscript secretarial copy of a resolution regarding the representation of states in Congress. No place, no date. Writer unknown. Oblong octavo.	1	16
Manuscript retained copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens. Yorktown, PA, October 30, 1777. Octavo, one page. Addressed to Arthur Middleton. A letter of introduction.	1	16
Manuscript secretarial letter signed by Henry Laurens, Yorktown, PA. November 1, 1777. Folio, one page. Addressed to Thomas Wharton. Concerns Congress passing a resolution of national thanksgiving due to recent military victories.	1	17
Autograph letter signed. Alexander Innes, New York, November 2, 1777. Octavo, one page. Describes a letter sent by General Gates to General Sir Henry Clinton.	1	18
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General John Burgoyne to General Heath in Cambridge. November 3, 1777. Folio, two pages. Relates to Burgoyne's recent military actions, the American Congress, and the Continental Army.	1	19
Retained unsigned manuscript copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, Yorktown, November 4, 1777. Quarto, one page. Addressed to the Committee of Carlisle. Requests that the local jail he prepared to receive prisoners.	1	20

Retained signed copy of a letter in the hand of Henry Laurens, Yorktown. November 5, 1777. Quarto, one page. Addressed to Commodore Hazelwood, Lt. Col. Smith and Col. Green. Laurens transmits Congressional minutes congratulating them in their bravery.	1	21
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Francis Hopkinson to Rev. Jacob Duche. Bordentown, November 14, 1777. Folio bifolium, 3 pages. Hopkinson reproached Duche for the traitorous letter he sent to Washington	1	22
Retained unsigned manuscript letter with extensive corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens. Yorktown, PA. November 15. 1777. Folio, 2 pages. Addressed to Major Isaac Huger. Describes the case of the schooner Rosanna, Burgoyne, the British troops and fleet” and General Washington	1	23
Retained secretarial copy of a document “Extract from General Order dated last quarter.” Boston. November 20, 1777.	1	24
Retained secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to General Heath. Cambridge, November 20. 1777. Small quarto, one page. Describes the Continental Congress and quartering of officers.	1	25
Retained secretarial copy of a letter from Samuel H. Parsons to Major General William Tryon. Maronek, November 21, 1777. Folio, one page. Describes the horrors of war, wanton destruction and cruelty of British troops.	1	26
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from William Heath to General John Burgoyne. Boston, November 21, 1777. Folio, 1 1/4 pages. Relates to the conventions of war, the Continental Congress, and American officers.	1	27
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Major General William Tryon to General Samuel Parsons. Kings Bridge Camp, November 23, 1777. Folio, one page. Tryon admonishes the Americans for their cruelty and offers ransom for war captives.	1	28
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Henry Laurens to Governor Patrick Henry of Virginia. Yorktown, November 24. 1 777. Quarto, one page. Relates to Indian depredations on the western frontier of Pennsylvania and Virginia, Congressional resolves, officials, and state legislatures.	1	29
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General John Burgoyne to Major General William Heath. Cambridge, November 24, 1777. Small folio, one page. Relates to the return of British troops to England, communication with General Washington, and possible meeting between Burgoyne and Heath.	1	30
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Thomas Jones. American Commissary of Goods to John Magee, Commissary in Lancaster Camp, November 25, 1 777. Folio, one page. Describes the deplorable lack of foodstuffs and supplies of the American troops..	1	31
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General John Burgoyne to General George Washington. Cambridge, November 25, 1777. Folio, 1 ½ pages. Describes the upcoming departure of British troops from Boston to Providence and thence to England, and his personal request for a passport.	1	32
Manuscript retained copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens. Addressed to Lt. Col. Fleury, Yorktown, November 26, 1777. Quarto, one page. Relates to Congress’ recent military promotion of Fleury.	1	33

Manuscript retained copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens. Addressed to Joseph Trumbull. Yorktown, PA, November 27, 1777. Oblong octavo, one page. Laurens notifies Trumbull of the latter's appointment to the new board of war.	1	33
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, November 27, 1777. Folio, 1 ½ pages. Describes in detail various problems with General Burgoyne's honoring Congressional resolves and plans for the removal of British troops.	1	34
Official secretarial copy of a letter in the hand of Timothy Matlack, from the Council of Safety sent to Henry Laurens. Lancaster, November 28, 1777. Folio, one page. Describes attempts to procure wagons and flour for the American troops.	1	35
Official secretarial copy of a letter in the hand of Timothy Matlack, from the Council of Safety sent to Henry Laurens. Lancaster, November 28, 1777. Folio, two pages, docketed on the verso by Laurens. Describes in detail the attempts and persons involved in obtaining supplies of food and clothing for Pennsylvania troops.	1	36
Retained unsigned manuscript copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens addressed to General Benedict Arnold. Yorktown, PA, November 29, 1777. Small quarto, one page. Laurens sends Arnold Congressional resolves reinstating him to his military rank.	1	37
Retained signed manuscript copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens addressed to Major Horatio Gates. Yorktown, November 29, 1777. Laurens thanks Gates for his recent dispatches and sends him a copy of the Articles of Confederation.	1	38
Manuscript list in a secretarial hand containing the names of military officers to be exchanged by General Burgoyne and General Gates at Albany. October 24, 1777. Folio, 2 pages.	1	39
Manuscript secretarial copy of official committee reports of the American Congress and letters and agreements between Generals Burgoyne and Gates. November 17, 1777. Folio bifolium, 6 ½ pages. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack.	1	40
Manuscript secretarial copy with corrections of a report describing the letters and agreements between Generals Burgoyne and Heath. No date. no place. Folio. 4 pages.	1	41
Manuscript list in a secretarial hand containing the names and ranks of British officers for whom passports are requested. No date, no place. Quarto, one page.	1	42
Manuscript retained signed copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, President of Congress. A) To the Speaker of the Massachusetts Assembly regarding the embarkation of surrendered British troops. Yorktown, PA, December 1, 1777. Quarto. 2/3 page. B) As previous, unsigned to Major General Heath on the same subject. Yorktown, PA December 1, 1777. Quarto, 1/3 page. C) As previous, unsigned to Charles Stewart on the same subject and the employment of coopers. Yorktown, PA, December 1, 1777. Quarto, 1/3 page.	1	43

Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Samuel Parsons to Henry Laurens. Maroneck, December 2, 1777. Folio, 2/3 page. Describes a brutal attack ordered by the British General Tryon upon unarmed Americans, the possibility of retaliation. and the responses of Congress.	1	44
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Horatio Gates to Henry Laurens. Albany, December 3, 1777. Folio. 2 pages. Describes the medicinal and military supplies left by British forces, Burgoyne's surrender, American troops and officers, and the desertion of German and English troops in Boston.	1	45
Incomplete manuscript letter from an unidentified American military officer to an unknown "Colonel." Maroneck, December 3, 1777. Octavo, 2 pages. Describes recent military actions, prisoners and desertions in the area.	1	46
Manuscript retained signed copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, as President of Congress to John Rutledge. Yorktown, PA December 3, 1777. Folio, 2 pages. Describes the inimical actions of many Americans in various states especially those in Philadelphia, the issuance of currency by Congress, and the enactment of laws to counter the enemy and disloyal citizens.	1	47
A) Manuscript retained signed copy of a letter with corrections in the hand of Henry Laurens, as President of Congress, to John Adams. Yorktown, PA, November 28, 1777. Folio, 2/3 page. Sends Adams a copy of Congress' resolutions appointing him a commissioner to the Court of France. B) Unsigned secretarial copy of a letter from Henry Laurens to John Adams, York, December 3, 1777. Folio, 1 page. Describes the pervious letter, an attack and defeat of British troops by General Lafayette, a Cornwallis defeat at Gloucester, and the billeting of British troops in Philadelphia.	1	48
Manuscript document in a secretarial hand. In Congress [December 2, 1777. Folio, one page. "Instructions to the Commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department" Describes instructions to be used with various named Indian tribes on the western frontier, and the transmittal of a speech from Congress to the tribes.	1	49
Manuscript document in a secretarial hand, docketed on the verso by Henry Laurens. December 3, 1777 (?)]An American Congressional speech addressed to various Indian tribes, "Brothers, Sachems, and Warriors" and refers to previous item. Folio, 11 pages plus blanks.	1	50-51
Manuscript copy of a letter, in the hand of Henry Laurens, from General Robert Pigot to General John Burgoyne. Newport, December 5, 1777. Folio, one page. Describes the transport and provisioning of departing British troops from Rhode Island.	1	52
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Horatio Gates to Henry Laurens. Albany, December 8, 1777. Folio, 2/3 page. Describes his loyalty to General Washington and defends his personal honor in the wake of a traitorous betrayal.	1	53
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from William Livingston to Henry Laurens. Princetown, December 10, 1777. Octavo, 1 page. Describes applications for letters of marque and the enlistment of deserters.	1	54

Manuscript secretarial copy of a document. In Congress December 17, 1777. Congress directs General Washington to inform General Burgoyne that it will not accept any changes to the terms of the Saratoga Convention.	1	55
Manuscript letter in a secretarial hand, signed by Robert Morris and addressed to Henry Laurens. Manheim December 26, 1777. Large folio bifolium, 10 pages. Describes the unprofessional and unpatriotic behavior of his brother, Thomas Morris in Nantes, with much mention of John Ross, Silas Deane, Benjamin Franklin, and American business interests.	1	56-58 (see OS box)
Manuscript secretarial copy of a Congressional report of the committee on the letters exchanged between Generals Heath and Burgoyne and Generals Burgoyne and Gates relating to the articles of the Convention. [December 26, 1777]. Folio bifolia, 8 pages.	1	59-60
A) Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to General William Heath. Cambridge, January 2, 1778. Folio, one page. Describes the acting British paymaster Mr. Geddes' travel to Rhode Island to obtain funds for troop payment. B) As previous, but from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters, Boston, January 3, 1778. Folio, 1/2 page. Heath issues Mr. Geddes a passport for Rhode Island and discusses Burgoyne's return to England by a regular transport.	1	61
A) Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters, Boston, January 3, 1778. Folio, one page. Advises Burgoyne to depart by regular transport rather than by frigate as so stipulated in the Saratoga Convention. B) As previous, from General Burgoyne to General Heath. Cambridge, January 4, 1778. Folio, one page. Burgoyne rebukes Heath for the suggestion of using a transport rather than a frigate for his personal use.	1	62
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters. Boston, January 3, 1778. Folio, one page. Details the provisioning for prisoners of war, payment for such goods and settlement for such before the departure of the British troops.	1	63
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to General Heath. Cambridge, January 7, 1778. Oblong octavo, one page. Burgoyne notifies Heath regarding his dispatches of officials to Generals Gates and Howe.	1	64
A) Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to General Heath. Cambridge, January 7, 1778. Folio bifolium. 2 pages. Describes various articles of the Convention of Saratoga and their implementation, Congress resolves, and the issuance of passports to British officials and their embarkation. B) As previous, from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters, Boston January 6, 1778. Folio bifolium, one page. Heath contends that the Saratoga Convention is not violated by the American Congress and demands proper settlement of accounts prior to any British embarkation.	1	65
Excerpt of a secretarial draft of the Saratoga Convention, January 7. 1 778. Quarto, 1/2 page.	1	66

Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters, Boston, January 8, 1778. Folio, one page. Heath offers to provide officers to accompany the British officials on their missions and insists on full settlement of all accounts before allowing a British embarkation.	1	67
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to Henry Laurens. Headquarters, Boston, January 8, 1778. Folio, one page. Heath explains his recent correspondence with General Burgoyne and solicits funds from Congress for the payment of troops.	1	68
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to General Burgoyne. Headquarters, Boston, January 11, 1778. Folio, two pages. Refers to provocations made by American and British soldiers, lack of military discipline, Heath's disciplinary actions and abuses made by British officers.	1	69
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to Henry Laurens. Cambridge, February 11, 1778. Folio bifolium, two pages. Burgoyne requests that the articles of the Saratoga Convention be implemented immediately by Congress in order that he return to England to defend his reputation and restore his health.	1	70
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to Henry Laurens. Cambridge, February 11, 1778. Folio bifolium, 6 1/2 pages. Burgoyne outlines various aspects of articles in the Saratoga Convention, delivery of British military stores, conversations with American military figures, and the restoration of mutual confidence of the contracting parties of the Convention.	1	71
Manuscript duplicate copy of a letter from John Lloyd to Henry Laurens. Nantes, February 28, 1778. Quarto bifolium, 3 v pages. Outlines a recent speech by Lord North in the House of Commons' urging reconciliation with the American colonies.	1	72
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Richard R. Wilford, aide-de-camp to Henry Laurens. Yorktown, February 28, 1778. Octavo, one page. Requests passports for British officers recently exchanged by General Gates at Albany.	1	73
Manuscript document in a secretarial hand. An extract from the minutes of Congress, March 3, 1778. Quarto, 1 1/2 pages. A resolution approving passports for General Burgoyne and others per the Saratoga Convention together with other related conditions and resolves.	1	74
Manuscript document in a secretarial hand. In Congress March 3, 1778. Folio, 1 1/2 pages. Outlines the issuance or non-issuance of passports to General Burgoyne and British officers and their subsequent embarkation. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack and Henry Laurens.	1	75

A) Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Horatio Gates to General Burgoyne. Yorktown, March 3, 1778. Folio bifolium. 1/2 page. Gates expresses his dismay at Burgoyne's refusal of his offer to a ship to return him to England. B) As previous, from General Gates to General Phillips. Yorktown, March 3, 1778. Folio, one page. Describes recent breaches of conduct by British troops both in America and under General Carleton in Canada. C) As previous, from General Gates to General Kingston. Yorktown. March 1778. Folio, one page. Gates chastises Kingston for the inhumane treatment of American prisoners by the British army and issues him a passport.	1	76
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Hugh Dalrymple to General Burgoyne. Cape Cod Harbor, March 4, 1778. Folio, one page. Dalrymple, captain of the Juno, notifies Burgoyne that he is to transport the latter to England.	1	77
Manuscript document in a secretarial hand. An extract from the minutes of the General Assembly of South Carolina. Charlestown, March 5, 1778. Octavo bifolium, 3 pages. Outlines the state's provisioning of Cherokee and Creek Indians, the appointment of 3 Commissioners to deal with Indians, and the maintenance of Tory slaves by the state.	1	78
Manuscript unsigned secretarial copy of a letter from Henry Laurens to General Burgoyne. Yorktown, March 6, 1778. Folio, one page. Laurens sent Burgoyne three acts of Congress relating to the suspensions of British troop embarkation, transmissions of papers to General Howe, and the issuance of passports for General Burgoyne.	1	79
As previous.	1	80
As previous.	1	81
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to General Burgoyne. Boston, March 8, 1778. Folio, page. Heath notifies Burgoyne of the arrival of transports at Cape Cod under Captain Dalrymple for the upcoming embarkation of British troops.	1	82
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to General Burgoyne. Boston, March 9, 1778. Folio, 1/2 page. Heath notifies Burgoyne that the transports at Cape Cod contain a large supply of flour and other provisions which may be used for the troops of the Convention.	2	1
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to Captain Dalrymple. Cambridge. March 9, 1778. Folio, 1¼ pages. Burgoyne notifies Dalrymple that Congress has suspended the planned embarkation, requests Dalrymple to wait until he receives an answer from Congress, and inquiries about the supply of provisions on board his ships and the delivery of personal and military mail.	2	2
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Burgoyne to General Heath. Cambridge, March 9, 1778. Folio, one page. Burgoyne reconfirms Heath's allowance permitting him to send resolutions of Congress to General Howe and requests the delivery of letters from Captain Dalrymple.	2	3

Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, March 10, 1778. Folio, 2 pages. Heath complains of the lack of needed supplies and money for his troops and requests immediate financial aid from Congress	2	4
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Captain White Eyes and John Killbucks to Colonel Morgan. Cucholkunk March 14, 1778. Folio bifolium, 3 1/4 pages. The correspondents notify Morgan of recent events between various Indian tribes on the western frontier, events in and around Detroit. dealings with British officials, and their continuous friendship with Morgan (addressed by his Indian name, Taiminend, American agent for Indian affairs.)	2	5
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston. March 21, 1778. Folio, 2 pages. Heath describes a recent meeting with General Burgoyne regarding his planned embarkation, and the settlement of monetary debt and provisions.	2	6
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, March 24, 1778. Folio, page. Heath notifies Laurens of the capture of several prize ships by Americans with much needed supplies and British newspaper reports of raising 30,000 troops for America	2	7
A) Manuscript letter signed Civis. Philadelphia, March 30. 1778. Quarto, bifolium, 2 pages. The author details the depreciation of Continental currency and its causes, and offers solutions to remedy the problem. B) Secretarial copy of a document signed by three Commissioners of the western department (including George Clymer) attesting to the patriotism of Col. George Morgan, Indian agent. Pittsburgh, March 27, 1778. Quarto, one page.	2	8
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from Col. George Morgan to Henry Laurens. Fort Pitt, March 31, 1778. Folio, 1 1/2 pages. Morgan mentions his recent meeting with the American Commissioners, the action of the local British agent and his colleagues, the murder of the two American soldiers by Indians and a massacre of Indians at Fort Randolph.	2	9
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, April 6, 1778. Folio, 1 1/2 pages. Heath notifies Laurens of General Burgoyne's departure for Rhode Island, the settlement of financial affairs between him and the British, and his payment and request for needed supplies.	2	10
Manuscript secretarial copy of an extract of a letter from General Heath to General Washington. Boston. April 13, 1778. Folio, two pages. Heath complains of the lack of supplies and monies and his inability to obtain more of either.	2	11
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document from Capt. James Mercer to Henry Laurens. Savannah, April 17, 1778. Small quarto, two pages. In this sworn deposition, Mercer describes in detail the prevailing military and political climate in Florida, and the population's sympathy for the American cause.	2	12
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from John Morrison to General Heath. Boston. April 22, 1778. Folio, 1 1/4 pages. The commissary agent requests that British ships and agents furnish supplies to General Burgoyne.	2	13

Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to General Pigot. Boston, April 24, 1778. Folio bifolium, 3 pages. Heath outlines the conditions for the methods and delivery of commissary goods to the British troops.	2	14
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from John Sullivan to Robert Pigot. Providence, April 27, 1778. Folio, two pages. Sullivan rebukes Pigot for his request to circulate copies of British parliament bills in Rhode Island meant to disunite Americans.	2	15
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Robert Pigot to General Sullivan. Newport, April 26, 1778. Oblong octavo. Pigot requests that General Sullivan distribute to Rhode Island citizens enclosed copies of parliament bills outlining Great Britain's dispositions towards the American colonies.	2	16
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, April 27, 1778. Folio bifolium, 2 ¼ pages. Heath describes the provisioning of British troops by their own commissaries, and its financial advantage to the Americans.	2	17
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Robert Pigot to General Sullivan. Newport, April 29, 1778. Folio, 2/3 page. Pigot hopes that Sullivan's rejection of the British parliament bills will be received in the other American colonies.	2	18
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Sullivan to Henry Laurens. Providence, May 3, 1778. Folio bifolium, 3 pages. Sullivan apprises Laurens and Congress of British military strength and fortifications in Rhode Island and requests that Congress increase American military and naval strength in the area.	2	19
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General Gates to Henry Laurens. Fishkill, May 27, 1778. Folio, two pages. Gates sends Laurens copies of letters between him and Washington at Valley Forge, as well as other named correspondents, especially General Conway, and assorted war intelligence.	2	20
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document/article entitled "A Talk From Chenesty the Warrior and beloved man of Cowwee. Delivered at Fort Rutledge, 10 June 1778 to Leroy Hammond." Folio bifolium, 2 ½ pages. A satirical allegory on the relationship of American Indians with the Americans and the British.	2	21
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document/article, docketed "Indian Talk, rec'd from Mr. Gervais, 19 August 1778." Folio bifolium, 4 V pages. Describes the unfriendly relationship between Indians and white settlers on the frontier. Contents dated June 19, 1778	2	22
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack, of a document signed by Ernst Frederick Segorn regarding the disposition of German military standards at the Battle of Saratoga and attested to by two other officers. No place. June 6. 1778. Quarto. one page.	2	23
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a letter from General Washington to Henry Laurens. No place, (but in New Jersey). June 20. 1778. Folio, 1 page. Washington apprises Laurens of his current military whereabouts and military actions. Docketed on the verso by Laurens.	2	24

Manuscript secretarial copy of a document/article docketed "Talk rec'd from Mr. Gervais, 19 August 1778." Folio bifolium, 7 ½ pages. Describes in detail a meeting held on June 24, 1778, between various Indian leaders describing their relationships with white settlers and military men. Docketed on the verso by Laurens.	2	25
Manuscript secretarial copy of an address by the British War Commissioners (Earl of Carlisle, Sir Henry Clinton, William Eden, George Johnstone) to Henry Laurens. New York, August 7, 1778. Folio bifolium, 3 pages. The Commissioners demand that the American Congress respect the Saratoga Convention and allow General Burgoyne to depart from Boston. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack.	2	26
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General William Heath to Henry Laurens. Boston, September 21, 1778. Folio bifolium, 2 ½ pages. Heath outlines various difficulties encountered with British officers, a naval encounter between the French and English fleets and France's declaration of war on England.	2	27
Manuscript secretarial copy of an "extract of a letter from Col. LeRoy Hammond." Snowhill, October 11, 1778. Folio bifolium, 3 ½ pages. Hammond relates recent incidents between fur trader Henry Crittendon and local Cherokees, and attacks by the Creeks. The second part describes a talk to John Lewis Gervais from The Little Carpenter delivered to Hammond at Fort Rutledge on September 27, 1778 requesting a saddle he sent him.	2	28
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of "A Talk from the Patuey Mico to George Galphin, Esq., Commissioner of Indian Affairs" No place, November 4, 1778 Folio. one page. Mico describes his relationships with other Indians and the whites in the South. Docketed on the verso by Matlack.	2	29
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a "A Talk from the Young Tallassee King ... with George Galphin, Continental Commissioner and LeRoy Hammond and Daniel McMurphy, Commissioners of Indian Affairs for the States of South Carolina and Georgia, at Ogechee. 15th December, 1778. Folio, one page. Describes talks and a declaration of peace made by the Talassee King and several southern Indian tribes to the Americans. Docketed on the verso by Matlack.	2	30
A) Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack, of "A Talk from George Galphin, Esq., Continental Commissioner and LeRoy Hammond and Daniel McMurphy, Esq., Commissioners of Indian Affairs for the State of South Carolina and Georgia. To the Head Men and Warriors of the Upper and Lower Creeks at Ogechee, 16th December 1778." Large folio, one page. Describes the relationships of the Indians with the Americans, British, French and Spanish, their trade with the latter two, and their request of protection from the Americans. Together with B) "A Talk sent down from the nation by the Tallassee King in answer to a talk sent up by George Galphin." Describes a petition made by several Indian chiefs demanding satisfaction for the several murders committed on the frontier. October 10, 1778." Folio, two pages. Docketed on the verso by Laurens.	2	31

Manuscript secretarial notes regarding American finances, trade, supplies and ministers in Europe, after February 10, 1778. Octavo bifolium, 2 ½ pages.	2	32
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document addressed to Brother Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations” by the American Congress, December 3, 1777. Two folio bifolia. 7 ¼ pages. Contains a detailed assessment of the state of affairs between Indian tribes and the American Congress and the British troops.	2	33
Manuscript secretarial notes describing an interview between an unidentified American and Indian somewhere on the western frontier. Two folio sheets, 3 pages with integral address leaf addressed to Henry Laurens and two quarto sheets, two pages, with integral address leaf to John Jay. All undated. Address leaves in the hand of Timothy Matlack.	2	34-35
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document signed Hugh Dalrymple, A List of Transports for Conveyance of the Troops under the Command of Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne to England.” Folio, one page. Contains the names of 25 ships together with their masters’ names and tonnage.	2	36
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter in the hand of Timothy Matlack entitled A liberal and just translation of the letters of R I Esq. to His Excellency H L ...“ Paris, mid 1778. Folio bifolium, 2 ¼ pages. Iazard, highly critical of both Franklin and Deane, describes his own political and diplomatic duties and actions on the continent.	2	37
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report entitled "Richard Henderson (one of the Indian Traders for the State of South Carolina) his journal from [when] he left Ogechee the first of July, 1778 till he arrived from the upper Creeks at Ogechee, the 13th September.” Folio bifolium, three pages. Describes Indian attacks and atrocities on Americans in Pensacola committed at the behest of the British. Docketed on the verso of Laurens.	2	38
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from General George Washington to General Charles Scott. Headquarters, Middle Brook, May 5, 1779. Folio, two pages. Washington commands Scott to collect troops levied for service on the southern frontier.	2	39
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document "Articles necessary to be sent forward in addition to the Common Articles of Provisions.” May 17, 1779. Folio, one page. Addressed by General Sullivan to Colonel Blair regarding foodstuffs to be sent to Wyoming.	2	40
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from president Joseph Reed addressed to Henry Laurens and the American Congress. June 14, 1779. Large folio bifolium, four pages. Reed offers a critical analysis of the current state of American finances, taxation, foreign loans, and the issuance of currency by Congress.	2	41
Manuscript secretarial copy of a document entitled "Talk from the fatt king of the Cussitas to George Galphin, Esq., Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 2 January, 1780.” Folio, two pages. Describes Indian atrocities against Americans in Georgia. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack.	2	42

Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of an incomplete letter written by an unknown correspondent to his father. On board the Continental ship of war <i>Queen of France</i> , Charlestown harbour, South Carolina, January 18, 1780. Quarto bifolium, four pages. The writer describes his travels and service in the Continental Navy during the last four years.	2	43
Manuscript secretarial copy of a letter from one "J.B." to Henry Laurens. Charlestown, January 22, 1780. Folio, one page. The writer, urged by Chevalier Durumain, requests the addressee to immediately embark on a waiting ship for Europe.	2	44
Autograph letter signed. John Loveday to Henry Laurens. [No place], February 24, 1780. Quarto, one page. Loveday requests Laurens for a settlement of accounts.	2	45
Secretarial copy of a letter from John Loveday to John Lewis Gervais. [No place], February 26, 1780. Octavo, 1 ¼ pages. Loveday describes his handling and shipping of a consignment of indigo for Mr. Laurens.	2	46
Retained copy of an unsigned letter in the hand of Timothy Matlack from Henry Laurens' "temporary" secretary to Congress [?] Charlestown, February, no date, 1780. Oblong octavo, one page. The writer requests that he be appointed secretary to Mr. Laurens who is sailing to Martinique.	2	46
Autograph letter signed. James Custer to Henry Laurens. Charlestown. March 1, 1780. Large quarto, 1 ¼ pages. Custer seeks payment from Laurens for monies due and wishes him a safe journey.	2	47
Autograph letter signed. James Custer to Henry Laurens. Charlestown, March 4, 1780. Folio, I V pages. Custer outlines his managerial tasks on behalf of Laurens including "... the release of your Negroes at public work."	2	48
Autograph bill of lading, signed, Gabriel Bryan, Captain of the Schooner <i>Peggy</i> . Charlestown, March 12, 1780. Oblong octavo, one page. A bill of lading for two casks and one keg of indigo to be delivered at Georgetown by order of Henry Laurens.	2	49
Unsigned manuscript letter from one Miss Brown to Henry Laurens. [no place], March 3, 1780. Octavo, one page. The writer sends Laurens a pair of gloves with his initials knitted and wishes him a safe journey and speedy return.	2	49
Autograph letter signed. Abraham Livingston to Henry Laurens. Charlestown, March 12, 1780. Quarto, one page. Livingston writes to Laurens about a future delivery of 29 barrels of rice.	2	50
Autograph letter signed. Robert Cochran to Henry Laurens. [no place], March 13, 1780. Small quarto, one page. Cochran requests that Laurens deposit the proceeds for a case of indigo into his son's account in France.	2	51
Autograph letter signed. John [last name illegible] to Henry Laurens. Peachtree on Santee, March 20, 1780. Quarto bifolium, four pages. Describes local and European business and military news. Badly stained.	2	52
Autograph letter signed. Henry Laurens to Major Moses Young. Georgetown, March 22, 1780. Quarto, one page. Laurens announces Captain Bryan's departure and requests Young to procure butter at Mr. Huggin's.	2	53

Autograph letter signed. Joseph Brown to Henry Laurens. Georgetown, April 11, 1780. Quarto, one page. Brown expresses his concern and sympathy toward Laurens unpleasant recent boat journey due to "the wickedness of the Negroes"	2	54
Autograph letter signed. James Neilson to Henry Laurens. Georgetown, April 12, 1780. Quarto, two pages. Neilson informs Laurens that he wrote the state governor to allow him to make purchases and that he has given Captain Bryan sailing orders.	2	55
Autograph letter signed. William Vereen to Henry Laurens. Long Bay, April 15, 1780. Quarto. 1 V2 pages. Vereen writes to Laurens about a recently deserted and re-captured negro servant.	2	56
Autograph letter signed. Ananias Cooper to Henry Laurent [place], May 16, 1780. Oblong octavo, one page. Cooper writes Laurens he awaits news and goods from him.	2	57
Autograph letter signed. Thomas Bee to Henry Laurent Philadelphia, June 6, 1780. Quarto, one page. Bee expresses to Laurens his concerns about the military situation in South Carolina, hoping for an intervention of the French fleet.	2	58
Autograph letter signed. Pierce Butler to Henry Laurens. Wilmington, June 9, 1780. Quarto, one page. Butler invites Laurens to visit him and offers him any needed assistance.	2	59
Autograph letter signed. John Donaldson to Henry Laurens. No place, August 4, 1780. Quarto, one page. Donaldson hopes that Laurens will be able to recover monies due him in France.	2	60
Manuscript secretarial copy of a Congressional document relating to a committee appointed to correspond with General Lincoln regarding the southern campaign and naval expeditions there. No place, [August?] 7, 1780. Folio, 1 ½ pages.	2	61
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack, of a Congressional document relating to financial resolutions including the emission of Continental currency. July 23, 1780. Large folio, one page.	2	62
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a Congressional bill relating to the regulation of U.S. finances and currency. [Philadelphia], no date, After January 1, 1780. Folio bifolium, 3 1/3 pages. Docketed on the verso by Matlack.	2	63
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a Congressional bill relating to the regulation of U.S. finances and currency. [Philadelphia], no date, After January 1, 1780. Folio bifolium, 3 pages. Docketed on the verso by Matlack.	2	64
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a Congressional bill relating to the regulation of U.S. finances and currency. [no place, no date. After January 1, 1780] Folio bifolium, 5 pages.	2	65
Manuscript secretarial copy of a Congressional Committee report relating to the regulation of U.S. finances and currency. [no date, Two folio bifolia, 7 pages. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack.	2	66-67
Printed committee report to whom was referred the report from the Treasury of the 15th of April last,.. [circa 1776-1779) Folio bifolium, two pages.	2	68

Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of critical notes relating to taxes and interest paid on Continental currency and loan certificates. [Philadelphia?], no date. Folio, 1 ¼ pages.	2	69
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a schedule of Loan Office Certificates payable to Henry Laurens between 1779 and 1783. [circa 1780 ?] Quarto, one page.	2	69
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a Loan Office report relating to the emission of currency. [circa 1780?] Quarto bifolium, 1 ½ pages.	2	70
Manuscript secretarial copy of committee reports relating to the Continental loan office, officers, and currency emissions. [no date (circa 1777 or after)]. Folio bifolium, 2 ¼ pages.	2	70
Two manuscript secretarial copies of reports relating to the depreciation of paper currency. (The first in the hand of Timothy Matlack). No place, no date — after June 1779. Folio, two pages and folio bifolium, 3 pages.	2	71
Two secretarial copies of notes on the emission of currency by individual states. No place, not date. Small quarto, one page and oblong octavo, on page.	2	72
Autograph letter signed. Henry Laurens to James Green. New Bern June 5, 1780. Laurens demands payment of interest on several loan office certificates. Quarto, 1/2 page. With a nine line affixed message (in the hand of Timothy Matlack) on the recto from Mr. Wilkinson to Laurens relating to the payment of interest on his certificates. Verso contains a half page letter. New Bern, June 5, 1780, from Green to Laurens refusing interest payment on the latter's certificates.	2	73
Unsigned manuscript notes in the hand of Henry Laurens relating to the issuance of paper currency and payment of interest. No place, not date [1780] Quarto, two pages.	2	74
Unsigned manuscript notes in the hand of Henry Laurens entitled "Notes for my Remarks in Congress." Laurens outlines his views in the financial responsibilities of both states and Congress. No place, no date. Quarto bifolium, two pages.	2	75
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report "An Account of the Monthly Issues of Monies from the Treasury of the United States ... from the 1 January. 1779 to the 31 August." [?], no date. Folio bifolium, one page. Together with a half page addendum on the second leaf in the hand of Henry Laurens relating to commodity prices and interest.	2	75
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report "List of the several Commissions of Bills of Credit ordered by Congress." [?], no date. Folio bifolium, 2 pages. Lists the dollar value of currency emissions between June 1775 and July 1779.	2	76
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report listing the salary and expenses of John Adams while on government business in Boston and in France. [no place, no date.] Folio bifolium, one page. Docketed on the verso by Laurens and containing a short ten line notation in the body of the document in the hand of Laurens.	2	76

Manuscript secretarial copy of a report “The proportion of each of the Following 12 states ...,“ listing the amounts of monies to be raised by each state “for carrying on the war.” No place, no date. Small quarto, one page.	2	77
Autograph manuscript document signed by Michael Hillegas. Money paid by Michael Hillegas in the month of Sept. 1 779.” Philadelphia, October 8, 1779. Folio bifolium, three pages. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack. Contains a detailed listing of the names of American officers and officials to whom specific amounts of monies were paid during September 1777.	2	78
Unsigned manuscript document in the hand of Henry Laurens, An account of draughts on the Treasury from the 1 March to 30 September 1779. No place. no date. Folio, one page. Docketed on the verso with extensive notes by Laurens.	2	79
A) Manuscript report in the hand of Michael Hillegas. Sums of money advanced to the different states between 1776 and 1778.” [no date. Quarto. one page. B) Another similar report ‘ of money received at the several loan offices with the United States between 1777 and 1779.” [no date. Quarto, one page. C) An inserted report in the hand of Timothy Matlack (and docketed by him), Report from Treasury [Treasury Office, 6th August, 1778.” Octavo, one page.	2	80
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report Plan of a loan.” [?] No date. Quarto bifolium, three pages. Contains numerous details outlining the terms and methods for the emission of bills of credit. Docketed on the verso by Timothy Matlack.	2	81
Manuscript secretarial copy of a report in the hand of Timothy Matlack A summary state of the several Loan Offices made out as accurate as the returns and papers in the Treasury Office will admit,’ [?]. no date -- after March 1778. Folio bifolium, one page. Docketed on the verso by Matlack.	2	82
Manuscript secretarial copy in the hand of Timothy Matlack of a report Traduction from the Dutch.” containing the outlines and details of a loan negotiation between South Carolina and Holland in 1780. [no date. Quarto, two pages. With an attached docketing slip in the hand of Matlack.	2	83