
Ann Head Warder (1758-1829)

Papers, 1782-1828 (bulk 1786-1795)

3 boxes, 15 vols., 1.25 lin. feet

Collection 2175

Abstract

Ann Head, the daughter of John Head and Ann Wheeler, was born in Ipswich, England, in 1758. In 1779 she married John Warder, a wealthy Philadelphia-born merchant who moved to London in 1776 to secure his family's business during the American Revolution. After nearly a decade of marriage in England, where four of their children were born, the Warders made Philadelphia their permanent home in 1788. They had a total of ten children, seven of whom lived until adulthood. Ann Head Warder never returned to England after the family's move; she died in Philadelphia in 1829.

Ann Head Warder's papers include lively and opinionated journals and letters in which she described domestic life, social events, travel, culture, and religious activities. Journals, 1786-1789, chronicle a visit to Philadelphia, as well as the family's 1788 move to that city. Letters to her husband, written during separations in 1787-1788 and 1794-1795, describe Ann's activities while in England with her family and her life in Philadelphia, respectively. Also included are letters, 1782 to 1828, to and from Ann's family in England.

Background note

Ann Head, born in 1758, was the eldest child of John Head and his wife Ann Wheeler. The Heads, a Quaker family, lived in Ipswich, Suffolk County, England, where John was a grocer. They had six children, five of whom lived to adulthood. Ann had three younger brothers, but was particularly close to her sister Elizabeth, the youngest sibling.

In 1778 Ann Head met John Warder, a Quaker merchant from Philadelphia. He had arrived in England in 1776 to safeguard the family business during the American Revolution. John may have been a Loyalist and his political alignment could have provided additional motivation for his move. Ann and John married in 1779, and their first child, Jeremiah, was born in 1780. Nine more children followed, and seven of the Warders' children reached adulthood. The Warders lived in London after their marriage, and John intended to make England his permanent home.

John Warder's father, wealthy Philadelphia merchant Jeremiah Warder, died in 1783. The disposition of his estate caused a disagreement among his heirs that took several

years to settle. John's siblings felt that he had been given a disproportionately large portion of the estate. As a result of this feud, John and Ann, with young Jeremiah in tow, traveled to Philadelphia in 1786 for what was expected to be a brief visit. The Warders' younger children, Mary and John, remained in England. However, after finding that John could not detach himself from business and family concerns in Philadelphia, Ann and Jeremiah returned to England in 1787; John intended to join them there eventually. But his drawn-out family dispute, as well as his close American connections, caused him to choose to remain in Philadelphia, where he re-established his business. In August of 1788, Ann left England for her new home in Philadelphia, where she lived until her death in 1829. Her sister Elizabeth, her lifetime correspondent and confidante, probably never visited Ann's Philadelphia home. Their connection was reinforced, however, when John and Ann's daughter Caroline, the youngest of their children, married her first cousin Joel Cadbury, the son of Elizabeth and her husband Richard. Another of Elizabeth and Richard's children, John Cadbury, opened a small store in Birmingham in 1824, where he sold a variety of sundry goods. Seven years later John purchased an old malthouse in Birmingham, and he soon became known for the fine quality of cocoa and chocolate he produced.

Although Ann Warder never returned to England, her husband John traveled there on business at least once after the family's relocation. He was in England for several months in 1794-1795, while his wife and children remained in Philadelphia. Two of his sons, Jeremiah and John, eventually joined his business, which became John Warder & Sons. Jeremiah and his family moved to Ohio shortly after his father's death in 1828. He settled on a large tract of land that his father had purchased in the 1810s. The Warders' connection to the Philadelphia mercantile trade ended with the younger John's death in 1843.

Overview of arrangement

Journals	Apr. 1786 – Sept. 1787	11 vols.
Letters	Sept. 1787 – Aug. 1788	32 folders
Journals	Aug. 1788 – Mar. 1789	3 vols.
Letters	1794-1795	33 folders
Letters	1800-1828	3 folders
Incoming correspondence	1782-1828	1 folder

Scope & content

Written for the benefit of her sister Elizabeth, from whom she was often separated, Ann Warder's fourteen journals chronicle much of her life from 1786 to 1789 (with a gap from September 1787 to August 1788) and describe her time as a foreigner visiting America, visits with friends and family at her home in England, and her eventual move to Philadelphia, which became her permanent home in 1788. Ann's letters to her husband bridge the gap in her journals and relate the details of her time in England from 1787 to 1788. These letters describe Ann's daily activities and time spent visiting friends and family. Both her journals and her letters contain remarkably frank observations and

lively remarks about her friends, neighbors, and surroundings, including statements about mundane subjects like weather, as well as comments on political and economic developments, and observations on culture, customs, manners, and behavior. Not only did she remark upon her daily activities, including chores, special outings, and visits, she also never failed to supply an opinion; it seems that Ann was always willing to apply a good deal of scrutiny to every situation, which she often coupled with a healthy dose of her acerbic wit. Her journals in particular contain anecdotes that were undoubtedly customized for her sister's enjoyment.

Ann's later letters describe her life in Philadelphia in 1794 and 1795, while John was visiting England on business. These letters also contain considerable detail about her daily activities and acquaintances. Letters written to her family between 1800 and 1828 are sporadic, yet still provide glimpses of her life in Philadelphia. While these letters follow typical letter format, Ann's earlier letters to her husband, of which there are more than sixty, were written on oversized sheets of paper and usually spanned a period of several weeks. Ann's incoming correspondence consists of a few letters received from her family between 1782 and 1828.

Journals, 1786-1787

Ann Head Warder's journals were written "for the perusal of [her] dear sister Eliza Head," who was ten years Ann's junior. Entries begin on April 21, 1786, as Ann departed England for Philadelphia with her husband John and eldest son Jeremiah. The Warders made the overseas voyage to resolve a financial dispute among John and his siblings. Ann wrote faithfully in her journal and recorded detailed descriptions of her fellow passengers, the captain and crew, the weather, and the daily activities on the ship. Weather, whale sightings, and the prevalence of seasickness were all dutifully recorded in her journal. Among the more colorful incidents on board was a series of blunders committed by Benny Chew, who "put the water he washed his hands with into a pitcher they nightly use for punch, also appropriating the hand bason which is kept for general use to a durtier purpose."

After the ship arrived in New York, the Warders made their way to Philadelphia, where they lived at the Third Street home of John's mother, Mary (née Head). Ann commented on the warmth with which she was received by John's family and friends, and observed that they were constantly receiving visitors. Ann spent her first few weeks in Philadelphia marveling at her new surroundings and cultural differences. She noted American customs that appeared strange to her, many of them concerning dress, and expressed shock at "such a general use of fans" by the female visitors. She also remarked that the American children's clothes were "inferior" to those of English children. In one of Ann's more critical notes she described the appearance of her "beloved friend" Nancy Emlen: "She wore today a dark snuff colored Tabereen, but looked old and so awkward made that if her person was not so agreeable it would be disgusting – I mean the dress." A few days later she described Ann Vaux as "destitute of beauty but an agreeable woman."

The Warders' acquaintances included many of Philadelphia's most prominent Quakers. In addition to the Vauxes and Emlens, with whom they spent much time, they also

socialized with the Fishers, Rawles, Walns, Cliffords, Mendenhalls, Lightfoots, and Parkers. Not only did Ann's daily entries describe outings with such friends as they drove along the Schuylkill and dined at each others' homes, she freely divulged her opinions of nearly everyone she met, whether she thought them "genteel," "lively," or "wonderfully affected." Most of her entries depict her evident enthusiasm at making so many new acquaintances, as well as the novelty of American culture, including food. Upon tasting watermelon for the first time, she declared it to be "like sweetened snow." Much of the rest of the American diet did not suit her palate: "They eat too many high seasoned and rich things."

Ann visited a number of popular destinations when in Philadelphia, including the Library Company of Philadelphia, whose collection of curiosities she found to be a poor imitation of the British Museum. She also provided brief descriptions of the workhouse and Pennsylvania Hospital, which at that time was devoted exclusively to the care of the mentally ill. Ann also mentioned the convicts who cleaned the streets of Philadelphia wearing iron collars and balls and chains.

After a stay of about one year, Ann returned to England in August of 1787. Jeremiah accompanied her and John was to follow as soon as he could. She arrived in England in September and described her reunion with her family, including her two young children, Mary and John, who had very little memory of her after the year-long separation. Interestingly, Ann's separation from her husband seems to have been more painful to her than her separation from her children. Her journal ends on September 25, 1787, not long after she arrived in England. Her next journal begins in August 1788, when she embarked for Philadelphia again.

Letters, 1787-1788

Ann's life in England is well documented by her letters to her husband, which she began in August 1787, while onboard a ship bound for England. During their year-long separation, Ann wrote to John very often. Her letters usually contain a brief introduction, followed by a transcription of her journal entries for the preceding days or weeks. Ann indicated that this was done per her husband's "particular request to give extracts from my daily Journal." Although Ann's journals for much of this period are not a part of this collection, there is a month-long period of overlap for which there are both journals and letters. Each letter was numbered so that John would be sure not to miss one. Only one letter (number 2) is missing from this correspondence. Although these letters were meant for John, Ann boldly declared, "Was all the World to know what my general correspondence contain'd, I should not care a straw."

Ann's first letter includes many details about her passage. She freely commented on the character of the captain, seamen, and her fellow passengers, as well as descriptions of the weather, food, and her own seasickness. She also noted religious services and the death of the cook, who was buried at sea near the end of the six-week voyage.

Once in England, Ann was surrounded by friends and family and does not seem to have passed one day alone. Most of her time was spent in her native Ipswich, although she did spend much of the summer of 1788 in London. She received a number of callers and

made frequent outings, joining friends for dinner, tea, or small parties. Frequent companions were Jacky Dearman, Susan Dillwyn, and various members of the Capper family, with whom Ann was particularly close. When at home, much of her time was occupied with sewing, laundry, and other household chores.

Ann's mind was often preoccupied with worries about her financial situation. In addition to comments indicating that a number of people owed her husband money, she also remarked upon the financial circumstances of a number of acquaintances. After visiting a friend in May of 1788, she noted the inappropriate attire of the hostess's sister: "She looked more fitly dressed to visit a Bride than her Sister. To be sure she has a stock of good cloathes & that warrants wearing them, but I would sooner lay them by than make an appearance so Inconsistent with my Husband's situation. How 500 a year can support so much stile, many are at a loss to suppose." Indeed, Ann seems to have been surrounded by people she felt were living above their means; not only did she frequently express her exasperation with such ostentation, she philosophized on the best way to avoid such an outcome. In April 1788, after reflecting a bit on the financial misfortunes of others, many of them caused by fluctuations in market conditions, she wrote, "I see it sometimes in such a light that obscurity with thee is all I want. If these perplexities are constantly thus the attendant of Trade, let us repair to the solitary Cot & in future remain strangers to Fortune's bait." Ann's financial woes were compounded by feeling that she was helpless to control or influence financial decisions. Although often tempted to voice her opinions on such matters, she found that she was "discouraged from a knowledge how generally they disapprove of women knowing & interfering in these things."

A very pious Quaker, Ann attended meeting frequently. Her letters contain numerous mentions of meetings in different towns, as well as her opinion of the "animal magnetism" fad that was becoming popular among a number of Quakers living in London. Magnetism, which typically employed hypnotism to bring subjects to a heightened state of awareness, was a practice of which Ann was wary. She spent time at Mildred Court in London, where she sometimes visited Nathan Robinson, Molly Knowles, and the Fry family, all of whom were involved in magnetism. Ann was somewhat fearful that she would become a convert, or a "proselyte," as she termed it, if she spent too much time in their company. Apparently her husband had similar fears. In February she wrote that he should not worry; she was too strong to be overwhelmed by the "Mildred Court Infatuation." Ann was also fearful of "electrification," an activity that members of the same group were inclined to experience. Electrification was thought to cure a number of disorders, and on a November morning, Ann "took a walk soon after Breakfast to St. Paul's church yard with A. Cappers, to see her electrified, which was the cause of so much pain to her that it made me feel quite uncomfortable." Ann also did not waste opportunities to comment on the relationship between Robinson and Knowles, whose reputation Ann feared would be ruined if the pair continued to live together unmarried.

Ann was so confident that she could resist the powers of magnetism that she continued to visit her Mildred Court acquaintances, even though she felt rather uncomfortable there. On a June 1788 visit, Ann was one among many visitors who doubted the powers

that Robinson and Knowles claimed to have, declaring, "I never thought so little of their Power & confirmed in my own Mind they couldn't affect me readily, gave them leave to try, Which after a time they seemed willing to do." Ann, however, soon found herself overcome: "The ridiculousness of the thing in its appearance, to me, at the moment, made me laugh much, till Hysterics followed, when they was succeeded by so violent an oppression in my Stomach & an irresistable propensity to close my eyes, that I now no longer doubted their ability to affect me. During this state, which is past description, I was desired to treat the Part disordered myself by rubbing my hand to & fro." She was considerably shaken by this experience.

In addition to her outings to Mildred Court and visits made to friends, Ann took advantage of her stay in London and visited a number of art galleries, including Benjamin West's. She found the artist was there during one visit, and enjoyed a pleasant conversation with him regarding some of their mutual acquaintances in Philadelphia.

Although Ann's letters include details about a number of truly memorable episodes, even the small events in her life were written of in such a way as to render them unforgettable. Not long after she arrived in Ipswich, Ann's brother was involved in a terrible carriage accident, although no one was seriously hurt. The carriage fell in such a way that her brother was unable to climb out of the door, and he apparently had some trouble escaping the wreck due to his very ample size, which "made it difficult to push him through the window – where he stuck fast some time." In addition to anecdotes involving her family, Ann also wrote of other local gossip and news. In March of 1788 she noted rumors of Benjamin Franklin's death: "We have also been told by way of France, accounts have come of old Franklin's death. A release to the World. Some say a good one." Ann never mentioned discovering that the rumor was false.

Ann never hesitated to provide her husband with frank observations about her neighbors, her surroundings, and events. Not even discussions of costume trends could escape her pen. During the Ipswich Quarterly Meeting in March "a considerable deal was said on dress, particularly the round Hats which appeared a Bait of uncommon captivation. More so than any contrivance of late years, because their simplicity made them worn by both plain & gay people of all professions, that those under our name who were disposed to appear different according to their Company had a fine opportunity [for] such evil inclinations." She found conversation at this Meeting to be "trifling in comparison with London or Philadelphia." Also not entirely to her taste was the crowd that attended a June wedding: "The house was very full, but a great many of the lower class, of which this end of Town abound."

Though pleased to be back in England among her friends and family, Ann found it very difficult to be separated from her husband. Lamentations concerning their separation can be found throughout her letters, most of which are addressed to "my ever dearest husband," or "my best beloved." Other affectionate notes are peppered throughout her letters. By the summer of 1788, it was clear that John would not be able to return to England in the near future, and on June 27 Ann painfully admitted, "The idea of again leaving my most desired favoured Land seemed hard to bear & yet, alas, much harder to remain without thee in it." By July 2 she was reconciled to returning to Philadelphia with

her children and was preparing to make the voyage. She was rather wary of ocean travel and cautioned John: "Don't Build Castles in the Air about our passage. Remember I never was fortunate but in having thee." Ann's last letter written in England ends on August 12, 1788, as she was about to set sail for Philadelphia.

Journals, 1788-1789

Ann had mixed feelings about settling in Philadelphia. Although she was reluctant to leave her family and friends in England, she was anxious to see her husband after a separation of more than a year. Her journals, which she still maintained for her sister's benefit, document her voyage to Philadelphia and the first few months of her life there, during which she was busy visiting old acquaintances and making new ones. Ann continued the practice she began in her earlier journals and commented freely on the idiosyncrasies of American culture, noting in many places what was "American" and what was not. This scrutiny was applied to dress as well as behavior; during a rainstorm Ann noted, "With Pattens [overshoes]& Umbrella did better than any American could without the former which I admire they dont endeavor to wear."

She often mentioned her husband, and many of her entries indicate the distinction between male and female activities. Although Ann and John spent a good deal of time together at home, when they visited friends or family, men and women had a tendency to form separate groups. It seems that the men often went off by themselves to smoke. On November 7, 1788, Ann and John spent a night with friends. After a great deal of time talking, Ann looked at her watch and found that it was nearly midnight. She and the other women "scamperd to our Quarters & there found the men had retired two hours first sending to request our Company which we heard nothing about. I quietly crept into Bed expecting a trimming but happily escaped it." A "trimming" from her husband may have been somewhat commonplace, given Ann's nonchalant manner of mentioning it.

Ann and John paid frequent visits to family, as well as friends. On November 21 Ann wrote of a visit to an elderly relative: "Aunt Bryon who's situation is a truly pittiable one deprived of reason she has all the troubles of an Infant without the pleasures that health and spirits at times afford them." Ann visited Aunt Bryon a number of times and never found her improved. Considerably more troubling to Ann was the death of a young friend in January 1789. Several pages in her journal discuss her shock at her friend's passing, attendance at prayer services, and sitting with the corpse. Ann's writings mention numerous funerals, but she seemed especially upset by this death. After the funeral she lamented, "I felt gloomy from a remembrance of the pleasure I had anticipated in the Friendship of this sweet Woman which was now forever removed."

When they were not busy visiting friends and family, Ann and John passed most evenings together at home, talking or reading. When John was not at home, Ann usually spent evenings sewing or reading alone or with female friends. One evening she and a friend read aloud from Johann Goethe's *Sorrows of Young Werther*, a popular book that was banned throughout much of Europe. Ann and her guest were profoundly touched by the tragedy: "Never found my feelings so agitated with any Narrative & we both cry'd violently then laughd at our weakness."

Although she took pleasure in many aspects of her life, Ann's first few months as a Philadelphian involved quite a bit of acclimation. Part of adjusting to her new home meant setting up a properly staffed household. Ann expressed frustration with the servants who were already in place; Becky was an "intolerable oddity" and "James I have no doubt was a good servant for Johny's purpose when alone but is so far inferior in the house to any thing we ever had before that I cannot esteem him worth his victuals indeed he vex me more then any thing I meet with." In this case, as in others, Ann's dissatisfaction seems to stem not only from the novelty of her American life, but also from her desire to return to the familiarity of her life in England, which she continued to view as a superior lifestyle.

Even though she achieved a lukewarm satisfaction with her life in Philadelphia, Ann still entertained hopes of returning to England. John's drawn-out financial affairs prevented her from being terribly optimistic about the prospect. Despite her wish to return to her family, Ann admitted that Philadelphia did have a few advantages; she confessed that "we might live here considerably better at half the expence – yet don't be alarmed my dear sister Johny is not oeconomist [sic] enough for this to be an inducement." Ann never did return to England, and her last journal ends abruptly on March 10, 1789.

Letters, 1794-1795

In 1794 John Warder returned to England for business. Ann's letters to John during this period describe her life in Philadelphia. In Ann's earlier writings she seldom mentioned her children, but in these letters she frequently wrote about them, particularly her three oldest: Jeremiah ("Jerry"), Mary, and John. It seems that her younger children were most often in the care of a nurse, and that Ann did not spend much time with them. Several different nurses were employed during the course of her letters, and she wrote of her frustration in finding one that suited her and the children. Her eldest son, Jeremiah, was often in school, but she happily noted that he did not spend much time with other children. In general, Ann found that American child-rearing practices fell far short of English standards. In June 1794 she wrote, "Children are so prone here to be mischievous & troublesome & how little benefit can arise from attending a place of worship with a mission that resemble school keeping."

Ann's twelve-year-old daughter Mary was a near constant companion, whether doing needlework at home or making trips to the market. Ann doted on her daughter and admitted that Mary "often feels like everything to me now." Mary experienced several illnesses in 1794, which alarmed Ann greatly. During these occasions, and in other instances, Ann wrote of common medical treatments, including blistering, bleeding, poultices, and occasional applications of laudanum and anodine. Ann blamed the Philadelphia climate, which she felt was quite poor, for a number of her children's ailments. Her son John's illness in September could be attributed to other causes: "understood he had been smoking which made me very angry so that I could by no means pity him often expressing the distress it occation seeing little children so common with segars in their mouth and how he came to do it I know not."

Ann's regular activities included outings to the market and visits to friends, including the Drinkers, Parkers, Coateses, Morrisises, Pembertons, Walns, and Wisters. Thomas

Stewardson and Ann (Nancy) Vaux were frequent companions. Other news in her letters include mentions of the 1794 embargo on French and West Indian goods. Not one to miss an opportunity to tell a good story, Ann wrote to her husband of a captain taken prisoner by a privateer, who proceeded to rob him of all his clothes, "But thou wilt not doubt cloathing was soon procured though not at first to fit him, this being no easy task."

Among the more exciting stories related by Ann was the April 1794 visit of the Spanish Ambassador and his new wife. "She is about fifteen & its said has an utter aversion to her husband, but compelled to marry him by an uncle. Oh! What a prostitution. He at present, evidently tries to allure her affections by Glittering Toys of this World." Apparently one of the toys was a hot air balloon: "Blanchard is engaged to divert her with his Baloon rising just before their door soon." The hot air balloon had made its North American debut in 1793 when Frenchman Jean-Pierre Blanchard piloted one from Philadelphia to New Jersey.

Interestingly, Ann's letters contain numerous references to Dolley Madison, then Dolley Todd, for whom Ann harbored a particularly strong resentment. In June 1794, she related some local gossip to John: "Dolly Todd it's said is absolutely Married in Virginia to a Member of Congress. Her conduct has certainly been very indecent. If she had no sincere regard for her husband [the late John Todd], the attachment he ever demonstrated for her, demanded at least the shew of more respect to his memory." She later remarked that there was "no contradiction to the report of D. Todd's having connected herself with Madison, though surprising that so sensible a Man should think of such a weak woman. Money & beauty are powerful attractions."

In October 1794 Ann gave birth to Benjamin, her brother's namesake. In her letter to her husband (letter 21), she described her new "babe" and added that although she'd intended to call him Edward, she'd since decided that Benjamin was preferable. Ann also wrote that if her brother Benjamin and his wife never had a son, it might be a suitable arrangement for them to raise baby Benjamin. A few subsequent letters refer to young Benjamin and Ann's activities during her confinement.

Not all of Ann's news was so joyful. In her July 3, 1794, letter Ann provided a lengthy description of the events leading to the suicide of Harry Capper, a longtime friend and companion, who "horridly tore his head to pieces with a Pistol" as a result of considerable financial difficulties. "How unmanly not to be able to bear a misfortune, which thousands through similar imprudences have involved themselves into, but through a simple kind of cowardice, instead of relying upon the Almighty for support, have wantonly sought his own everlasting distruction, to the Misery & Disgrace of his Connections." She then elaborated on her belief that suicide was immoral.

Other local news included a report on the September death of George Emlen, which physicians attributed to yellow fever. Two of Ann's children were quite ill at the time, and a small panic ensued during which a number of people admitted that they were too afraid to go near Ann at the market. Ann's children recovered and there was no outbreak of yellow fever, but ironically, Ann mentioned that "the muscitoes are so thick

and impudent that I am much disturbed yet look not like Mary and William who resemble the smallpox in appearance on their face and arms.” It was not proven that mosquitoes carried yellow fever until 1900.

Ann usually combined observations on news and local affairs with her own plucky opinions. In reference to the Whiskey Rebellion, of which there was much discussion in late summer 1794, she described the “talk of an expedition against Insurgents which had risen to oppose Government and its laws, to suppress which an Army must be raised in a very short time,” and then finished her observation by stating that such talk had “created a kind of Frenzy in many from whom I expected better things.”

Letters, 1800-1828

This section of Ann’s correspondence includes sixteen letters written between 1800 and 1828, many of them to her sister, Elizabeth Head Cadbury. Ann wrote most of these letters from her home in Philadelphia. A few letters include brief notes from Ann’s husband John to Elizabeth’s husband Richard, followed by Ann’s letter to Elizabeth. John’s short notes mostly concern business and current events. In one instance he requested that Richard send him some “hair socks” and some “skin socks.”

Ann’s letter written on April 27, 1800, describes the recent tragedy befalling a neighbor, “one of the weak indulgent mothers of which there are far too many in this Land.” This neighbor usually sent her children to bed with candles, and instead of blowing out the candles, allowed them to burn next to the bed. The woman’s five-year-old son was burned severely when his garments caught fire. Ann was quick to observe the lesson: “With these little active Mortals we cannot be too cautious of Fire.” Ann also wrote of the minor misfortunes that befell her own children. While visiting the countryside in June 1802, her young son Benjamin became quite ill. Ann was preparing to return to Philadelphia and was considering leaving Benjamin in the country to recuperate. She decided against it, since “he is such a Mammy Boy that fretting after me would injure him more than all the benefit he would receive.”

In a May [1807?] letter, Ann described the pleasure she took in giving to the poor. At meeting they would take a collection that was split among needy Quaker families. Other sects, Ann felt, were not as lucky, due not only to a poor means of distributing aid, but also to the greater demand for it. Ann felt that this was largely the result of the “distressing cheapness of spirits. Drunkenness is a Crime that Crys aloud in this City poor industrious Women & Children suffer much through it.” In 1810 Ann described a lawsuit involving assault and battery and included a description of the subsequent trial. At least one of the participants in this dispute was read out of meeting as a result.

In addition to her letters to Elizabeth, there are also two letters from Ann to her children, two to her brother John, and one to her mother. In a letter written to her children on June 4, 1810, Ann indicated that she was never able to completely renounce her English roots, citing that date as “my King’s birthday.” In this letter, written from New York, she described hearing Elias Hicks speak.

Ann's last letter, dated November 1828, was written in the shaky hand of a seventy-year-old woman. This letter, to her sister Elizabeth, discusses her failing health and other family and local news. Ann died just a few months later.

Incoming correspondence

Ann's incoming correspondence consists of just four letters. Her father, John Head, wrote to her in 1782, mostly concerning his rapidly declining health. He died one month later. A letter from Ann's brother, Benjamin, dated November 1788, notes the porphyria from which King George III began to suffer during the summer of that year: "The King has been much indisposed lately, and have shewn considerable traits of insanity which he now labours under." Benjamin also mentioned Ann's son Jeremiah, who was still in England with family.

An 1806 letter from Ann's mother mostly concerns health and her aversion to writing in her old age. Finally, there is one letter from Ann's sister Elizabeth, dated December 1828, in which Ann's most recent letter to Elizabeth was acknowledged. This may have been the last communication between the sisters before Ann's death in January 1829.

Separation report

None.

Related materials

At the Historical Society of Pennsylvania:
John Warder Papers, Collection 693.
Warder and Related Families Papers, Collection 694.

At other institutions:
Jones-Cadbury Family Papers (Warder Family Section), Haverford College, Haverford, Pa.

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Subjects

Animal Magnetism – 18th century
Clothing and dress – 18th century
Communication in marriage – 18th century
Death – 18th century
Education – 18th century
England – Description and travel – 18th century
England – Social life and customs – 18th century
Fashion – 18th century
Female friendship – 18th century
Gossip – 18th century
Hot air balloons – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia -- 18th century
Housekeeping – 18th century
Husband and wife – 18th century
Love-letters – 18th century
Manners and customs – England – 18th century
Manners and customs – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia – 18th century
Marriage – 18th century
Married women – 18th century
Motherhood – 18th century
Mothers – 18th century
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Description and travel – 18th century
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Moral conditions
Philadelphia (Pa.) – Social life and customs – 18th century

Quakers – England – 18th century
Quakers – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia – 18th century
Quakers – Social life and customs – 18th century
Sisters – 18th century
Society of Friends – England – 18th century
Suicide – 18th century
Traditional medicine – 18th century
Transatlantic voyages – 18th century
Voyages and travels – 18th century
Wives – 18th century
Women – Social conditions – England – 18th century
Women – Social conditions – Pennsylvania – Philadelphia – 18th century
Women – Social life and customs – 18th century

Bacon, Mary Ann Warder, 1782-1863
Cadbury, Elizabeth Head, 1768-1851
Cadbury, Richard Tapper, 1768-1860
Capper, Harry
Capper, John
Capper, Jenny
Capper Family
Emlen, Ann
Emlen Family
Fry Family
Head Family
Madison, Dolley, 1768-1849 – Friends and associates
Parker, Lydia Warder
Savery, William, 1750-1804
Stewardson, Thomas, 1762-1841
Vaux, Ann Roberts, 1753-1814
Warder, Ann Head, 1758-1829
Warder, Jeremiah, 1780-1849
Warder, John, 1751-1828
Warder, John H., 1784-1843
Warder Family

Administrative Information

Restrictions

None.

Acquisition information

Journals, gift of the estate of Elizabeth, Sarah, and Emma Cadbury, 1923.

Letters, gift of Elizabeth Cadbury, 1991.

Accession 91:47.

Alternative format

Extracts from Ann Head Warder's journals were published in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, vol. 17, 444-461 and vol. 18, 51-63.

All journals have been microfilmed (XR 768).

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Ann Head Warder Papers (Collection 2175), 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.

Journals formerly known as Collection 692 and call number Am .178.

Box and folder listing

Journals, 1786 - 1787

Folder/volume title	Date	Box/Vol.	Folder
Journal	Apr. 21, 1786 – May 31, 1786	vol. 1	
Journal	May 31, 1786 – July 1, 1786	vol. 2	
Journal	July 1, 1786 – Aug. 1, 1786	vol. 3	
Journal	August 1, 1786 – Sept. 18, 1786	vol. 4	
Journal	Sept. 20, 1786 – Oct. 28, 1786	vol. 5	
Journal	Oct. 29, 1786 – Dec. 10, 1786	vol. 6	
Journal	Dec. 11, 1786 – Feb. 17, 1787	vol. 7	
Journal	Feb. 18, 1787 – Apr. 18, 1787	vol. 8	
Journal	Apr. 20, 1787 – June 8, 1787	vol. 9	
Journal	June 9, 1787 – July 26, 1787	vol. 10	
Journal	July 26, 1787 – Sept. 25, 1787	vol. 11	

Letters, 1787 - 1795

Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Letter no. 1	Aug. 20, 1787 (Aug. 3 – Sept. 16, 1787)	1	1
Letter no. 3	Sept. 27, 1787 (Sept. 22 – Sept. 27, 1787)	1	2
Letter no. 4	Oct. 1, 1787 (Sept. 27 – Oct. 1, 1787)	1	3
Letter no. 5	Oct. 8, 1787 (Oct. 1 – Oct. 8, 1787)	1	4
Letter no. 6	Oct. 12, 1787 (Oct. 8 – Oct. 12, 1787)	1	5
Letter no. 7	Oct. 16, 1787 (Oct. 12 – Oct. 16, 1787)	1	6
Letter no. 8	Oct. 17, 1787 (Oct. 17 – Oct. 22, 1787)	1	7
Letter no. 9	Nov. 5, 1787 (Nov. 1 – Nov. 13, 1787)	1	8
Letter no. 10	Nov. 18, 1787 (Nov. 13 – Nov. 21, 1787)	1	9
Letter no. 10 cont'd	Nov. 21, 1787 (Nov. 21 – Dec. 5, 1787)	1	10
Letter no. 11	Dec. 5, 1787 (Dec. 5 – Dec. 20, 1787)	1	11
Letter no. 11 cont'd	Dec. 20, 1787 (Dec. 20, 1787 – Jan. 2, 1788)	1	11
Letter 11	Jan. 7, 1788	1	11
Letter no. 13	Jan. 12, 1788 (Jan. 12 - 21, 1788)	1	12
Letter no. 14	Jan. 14, 1788 (Jan. 14- Feb. 5, 1788)	3	1
Letter no. 16	Feb. 6, 1788 (Jan. 24 - Feb. 6, 1788)	1	13
Letter no. 17	Feb. 6, 1788 (Feb. 6 -7, 1788)	1	14
Letter no. 18	Feb. 12, 1788 (Feb. 12 - 13, 1788)	1	15
Letter no. 19	Mar. 2, 1788 (Feb. 14 - Mar. 2, 1788)	1	16

Letter no. 20	Mar. 3, 1788 (Feb. 19 - Mar. 4, 1788)	3	2
Letter no. 20 cont'd	Mar. 5, 1788 (Feb. 25 - Mar. 5, 1788)	3	2
Letter no. 21	Mar. 4, 1788	1	17
Letter no. 22	Mar. 8, 1788	1	18
Letter no. 23	Mar. 16, 1788 (Mar. 16 - 29, 1788)	1	19
Letter no. 24	Apr. 1, 1788 (Apr. 1 - 2, 1788)	3	3
Letter no. 25	Apr. 27, 1788 (Apr. 26 - 27, 1788)	1	20
Letter no. 26	May 7, 1788 (May 2 - 7, 1788)	1	21
[Letter no. 26 continued]	[May] 14 - 29, [1788]	1	21
Letter no. 27	June 1, 1788 (May 7 - June 4, 1788)	3	4
Letter no. 28	June 12, 1788 (June 4 - 18, 1788)	3	5
Letter no. 29	June 22, 1788 (June 20 - 24, 1788)	1	22
Letter no. 30	July 2, 1788 (June 25 - July 2, 1788)	1	23
Letter no. 31	July 9, 1788 (July 3 - 14, 1788)	1	24
Letter no. 32	July 17, 1788 (July 13 - 17, 1788)	1	25
Letter	July 19, 1788	1	25
Letter no. 33	Aug. 2, 1788 (July 17 - Aug. 2, 1788)	1	26
Letter no. 34	Aug. 12, 1788	1	27

Journals, 1788 - 1789

Folder/volume title	Date	Box/Vol.	Folder
Journal	Aug. 13, 1788 – Oct. 4, 1788	vol. 12	
Journal	Oct. 5, 1788 – Dec. 11, 1788	vol. 13	
Journal	Dec. 12, 1788 – Mar. 10, 1789	vol. 14	

Letters, 1794 - 1795

Folder/volume title	Date	Box/Vol.	Folder
Letter no. 1	Mar. 21, 1794 (Mar. 21 - 22, 1794)	2	1
Letter no. 2	Apr. 2, 1794 (Mar. 22, 1794 – Apr. 17, 1794)	3	6
Letter no. 3	Apr. 11 – May 8, 1794	2	2
Letter no. 4	May 10, 1794 (May 6 - 11, 1794)	2	3
Letter no. 5	May 1794 (May 11 - 25, 1794)	2	4
Letter no. 6	May 18, 1794 (May 18-31, 1794)	2	5
Letter no. 7	May 31 - June 8, 1794	2	6
Letter no. 8	June 8 - 9, 1794	2	7
Letter no. 9	June 15, 1794 (June 10 - June 18, 1794)	2	8
Letter no. 11	June 20, 1794	2	9

Letter no. 12	June 24, 1794 (June 21 - 28, 1794)	2	10
Letter no. 13	July 3, 1794	2	11
Letter no. 14	July 1, 1794 (June 28 - July 10, 1794)	2	12
Letter no. 15	July 17, 1794 (July 10 - Aug. 9, 1794)	2	13
Letter no. 16	Aug. 27, 1794 (Aug. 9 - Sept. 17, 1794)	2	14
Letter no. 17	Sept. 20, 1794 (Aug. 29 - Sept. 20, 1794)	2	15
Letter no. 18	Oct. 18, 1794 (Sept. 21 - Oct. 20, 1794)	2	16
Letter no. 19	Oct. 19, 1794 (Oct. 13 - Oct. 22, 1794)	2	17
Letter no. 21	Oct. 29, 1794 (Oct. 29 - Nov. 13, 1794)	2	18
Letter no. 22	Nov. 25, 1794 (Nov. 25 - Dec. 1, 1794)	2	19
Letter no. 23	Nov. 28, 1794 (Nov. 25 - Dec. 1, 1794)	2	20
Letter no. 24	Dec. 16, 1794 (Dec. 2 - 16, 1794)	2	21
Letter no. 24	Dec. 16, 1794 [part 2]	2	21
Letter no. 25	Dec. 17, 1794 (Dec. 15-17, 1794)	2	22
Letter no. 26	Dec. 19, 1794 (Dec. 19-27, 1794)	2	23
Letter no. 27	Dec. 31, 1794 (Dec. 31 - Jan. 1, 1795)	2	24
Letter no. 29	Jan. 5 - Feb. 2, 1795	2	25
Letter no. 30	Jan. 26 - Feb. 11, 1795	2	26
Letter no. 31	Feb. 18, 1795 (Feb. 3 - Feb. 22, 1795)	2	27
Letter no. 32	Feb. 22, 1795 (Feb. 19 - 28, 1795)	2	28
Letter no. 33	Mar. 7, 1795 (Mar. 1 - 7, 1795)	2	29
Letter no. 34	Mar. 13, 1795 (Mar. 8 - 13, 1795)	2	30
Letter no. 35	Mar. 20, 1795 (Mar. 15 - 20, 1795)	2	31
Letter no. 36	Mar. 21, 1795 (Mar. 20 - Apr. 1, 1795)	2	32

Letters, 1800 - 1828

Folder/volume title	Date	Box/Vol.	Folder
Letters	1800-[1807]	2	33
Letters	1810	2	34
Letters	[1811] - 1828	2	35

Incoming letters, 1782 - 1828

Folder/volume title	Date	Box/Vol.	Folder
Incoming letters	1782 - 1828	2	36