



The Historical
Society of
Pennsylvania

Collection 466

**Daniel Parker
Papers**

ca. 1792-1848 (bulk 1802-1843)
26 boxes, 10.4 lin. feet

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Restrictions: None

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Abstract

Massachusetts-native Daniel Parker served as chief clerk of the United States War Department in the early 1800s. In 1814, the U.S. Senate nominated him and confirmed his appointment to the office of adjutant and inspector general for the War Department. Parker remained in this position until 1821 when he was appointed paymaster general of the army.

This collection contains chiefly correspondence of the War Department during the early to mid 1800s. The boxes labeled "Incoming Correspondence" contain letters of many notable military figures of the time who wrote to Parker, including Secretary of War William Eustis, Major General Henry Dearborn, Major General Andrew Jackson, General John Armstrong (later Secretary of War), Lieutenant Colonel William Duane, Colonel Henry Atkinson, Colonel Henry Leavenworth, and Major Sylvanus Thayer. Also included among the incoming correspondence are letters from Parker's brother, Leo M. Parker, most of which discuss family business and affairs.

The boxes labeled "3rd Person Correspondence" contain incoming and outgoing correspondence from several presidents: Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, and William Henry Harrison. Additional correspondents include other military figures such as General George Izard, General Winfield Scott, and General James Wilkinson. Many of Jefferson's letters include information on native Indian tribes and their movements and actions either for or against American soldiers and settlers. There are also several reports from Meriwether Lewis on his survey of the Louisiana and western territories. Other topics included in Jefferson's letters are war agitation, embargoes, and military preparedness against England; Aaron Burr as a conspirator and traitor; and raising the defenses of the port city of New Orleans.

These boxes also contain numerous letters on information battles, troop movements, military campaigns, and mobilization plans during the War of 1812. Additionally, researchers will find letters dealing with General William Hull's surrender at Detroit and his subsequent court martial.

The remaining material in this collection is comprised of an assortment of miscellaneous correspondence, petitions (some of various Indian tribes to Thomas Jefferson), military papers, bills, receipts, printed material, maps, and volumes and pamphlets. A list of the volumes and pamphlets is available on page 5.

Administrative Information

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Acquisition information

Gift of Miss Louisa Rawle, E.R. Willing, and E.P. Rawle, ca. 1935

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Daniel Parker papers (Collection 466), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Alternative format

Winfield Scott correspondence is available on microfilm, roll number XR 928.

Box and folder listing

*Names listed in the last column represent people whose letters frequently appear in a given box of correspondence.

Box title	Date	Box	Frequent correspondents*
Parker's notes, drafts, correspondence	ca. 1813-1845, n.d.	1	J. Armstrong S. Thayer
Incoming correspondence	1810-1812	2	J. Armstrong A. Binney H. Dearborn W. Duane W. Simmons
Incoming correspondence	1813-1814	3	J. Armstrong W. Duane
Incoming correspondence	1815-May 1816	4	J. Armstrong H. Atkinson W. Duane A. Jackson
Incoming correspondence	June-Dec. 1816	5	W. Duane A. Jackson H. Leavenworth
Incoming correspondence	1817-1818	6	J. Armstrong H. Atkinson W. Duane S. Thayer
Incoming correspondence	1819-1820	7	J. Armstrong J. R. Bell W. Duane H. Leavenworth S. Thayer
Incoming correspondence	1821-1822	8	H. Atkinson Col. Calhoun Col. Jessup H. Leavenworth S. Thayer
Incoming correspondence	1823-1824	9	J. Armstrong
Incoming correspondence	1825-1829	10	J. Armstrong
Sarah Ann Parker letters	1829-1831	10	
Incoming correspondence	1830-1839	11	J. Armstrong W. Duane
Incoming correspondence	1840-1846, n.d.	12	H. Dearborn W. Duane S. Thayer

3 rd person correspondence	1790s-1809	13	W. Cabell H. Dearborn J. Drayton W. H. Harrison T. Jefferson M. Lewis J. Wilkinson
3 rd person correspondence	1810-1813	14	J. Armstrong H. Atkinson T. Jefferson J. Madison T. Pinckney J. Wilkinson
3 rd person correspondence	1814-1840s, n.d.	15	J. Armstrong A. Jackson J. Madison J. Monroe T. Pinckney Col. Walbach
Letterpress correspondence: H. Dearborn	1804-1818	16	
Letterpress correspondence: W. Eustis	1809-May 1812	16	
Letterpress correspondence: W. Eustis	June-Sept. 1812	17	
Letterpress correspondence: W. Eustis	Oct.-Dec. 1812	18	
Letterpress correspondence: J. Armstrong	1813	19	
Letterpress correspondence: J. Armstrong	1814	20	
Petitions (to Jefferson), maps, Clippings, etc.	ca. 1802-ca. 1811	21	
Military papers, lists, etc.	ca. 1802-ca. 1821	22	
Military reports and returns	ca. 1812- 1818, n.d.	23	
Bills, receipts, miscellaneous	1810- ca. 1837	24	
Miscellaneous volumes (for complete list see page 5)	1814-1829, 1840-1848	25	
Official correspondence	1811-1818	26	

List of volumes in Box 25

Volume title	Date
<i>Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter from the Secretary of War, accompanied with sundry documents; in obedience to a resolution of the 31st of December last, requesting such information as may tend to explain the causes of the failure of the Army of the U. States on the Northern Frontier</i>	1814
<i>Army Register</i>	1815
<i>Memorial of Daniel Parker, Adjutant and Inspector General and attached report of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives of the United States</i>	1818
<i>Official Digest, of the general, division, and special orders, involving general military principles, which have been received at, or issued from, the Adjutant General's office, Northern Division, since the organization of the present peace establishment</i>	1818
<i>Instructions from the Paymaster General to the Regimental and Battalion Paymasters of the United States Army</i>	1820
<i>Official Army Register</i>	1821
<i>Official Army Register</i>	1826
<i>Army Register (badly damaged)</i>	1827
<i>Official Army Register</i>	1828
<i>Navy Register</i>	1829
<i>Official Army Register</i>	1840
<i>Congressional Directory, for the second session of the 27th Congress of the United States of America</i>	1841- 1842
<i>A Sketch of the Battle of Waterloo, to which are added official despatches[sic] of Field Marshal the Duke Wellington; Field Marshal Prince Blucher; and reflexions[sic] on the Battles of Ligny and Waterloo by General Muffling</i>	1842
<i>Catalogue of medical books sold by Samuel Highbly, medical publisher and bookseller, 32 Fleet Street, London</i>	1844
<i>Guide Général de L'Étudiant en Médecine</i>	1844
<i>Letter of Mr. Walker of Mississippi, relative of the reannexation of Texas; in reply to the call of the people of Carroll County, Kentucky, to communicate his views of that subject</i>	1844
<i>Lectures on Puerperal Fevers, by William Harris, M.D.</i>	1845
<i>Catalogue of the Eighteenth Exhibition of American Manufacturers, held in the city of Philadelphia, but the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania, for the Promotion of mechanic arts</i>	1848
<i>The British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review, No. 2</i>	April 1848