Am .0683

Sarah Cresson transcriptions of James Parker
letters and documents

circa 1916
1 box, 2 volumes, 0.4 linear feet

Contact: The Historical Society of Pennsylvania
1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: (215) 732-6200  FAX: (215) 732-2680
http://www.hsp.org

Processed by: Cary Majewicz
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Sarah Cresson transcriptions of James Parker letters and documents
Creator: Cresson, Sarah

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Abstract
This collection consists of two volumes of letter press copies of transcriptions of selected records between or pertaining to James Parker and Benjamin Franklin that date from about 1739 to 1775. The transcriptions were done around 1916 by Sarah Cresson from the Franklin letter books in the possession of the American Philosophical Society.

James Parker (1714-1770), born in Woodbridge, New Jersey, became one of the nation’s most well-known printers. During the 1730s, he was employed by Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia. By 1742, however, he had moved to New York and, with Franklin’s assistance, created his first newspaper, the New York Gazette Revived in the Weekly Post Boy. He also established himself as the public printer for the province of New York in 1743. He opened New Jersey’s first printing house in 1751 in his native Woodbridge. Parker was appointed controller and secretary of the General Post Office of the British Colonies in 1756. Two years later, he was named the government printer of New Jersey. In addition to newspapers, Parker published novels, almanacs, magazines, and papers. He and Franklin remained in contact until his death in 1770.¹

The first volume contains correspondence from James Parker and others to Benjamin Franklin; the letters date primarily from the 1760s to the early 1770s with less items dating from the 1730s, 1740s, and 1750s. Among the records transcribed in the second volume are agreements, bonds, bills, receipts, memoranda, and other legal and financial papers. Each volume is indexed.

Because the letterpress pages are fragile and some of the copy is fading or flaking, photocopies of the letters have been made. Researchers are asked to use them before using the original volumes.

Subject headings
Franklin, Benjamin, 1706-1790
Parker, James, 1714-1770

Bibliography
[call #UNJ F 131 .N58]

Restrictions
The collection is open for research.

Acquisition information
Gift of Sarah Cresson, 1916.

Preferred citation
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Processing note
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This collection was formerly known as Collection 467.