



Special Collections Department

Andrew Clow & Co. Papers

1783 - 1814

Manuscript Collection Number: 242

Accessioned: Gift of the Moyerman Family, 1972.

Extent: .9 linear ft. (1523 items).

Content: Correspondence, checks, and receipts.

Access: The collection is open for research.

Processed: 1991 by Lori Bridgers.

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Biographical Note

Andrew Clow and David Cay were the principal partners of Andrew Clow & Co., an importing/exporting firm based in Philadelphia. The firm owned several ships which traded goods in England, France, Spain, the Bahamas, and ports in the Eastern United States. While the main business of the firm was in trading textile goods, it also shipped other goods, including sugar and grain. The firm did business with many merchants at different ports, including Joseph Hadfield (London), Thomas Hadfield (Baltimore), Rathbone & Benson (Liverpool, England), Tunisey, Power & Co. (Cadiz, Spain), and Douat, Labate & Plante (Bilboa).

In 1793 both partners of Andrew Clow & Co. died, leaving William Cramond, Hugh Holmes, and John Leamy as executors of the personal and business estates of Andrew Clow and David Cay. Many suits were brought up against the estate. The two primary suits brought by Muilman & Co. (London) and Joseph Hadfield (London) were in court for many years. Jasper Moylan, attorney, was hired by the executors to defend the estate of Andrew Clow & Co.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains business correspondence of Andrew Clow & Co., concerning orders and shipments of goods to various ports, payment for goods, and financial agreements between the firm and other merchants. Many of these letters concern business transactions between the firm and Joseph Hadfield, the main agent in London. Other correspondents include Peter Clement (London); Thomas Hadfield; Rathbone & Benson; Tunisey, Power & Co.; DeMierre & Christin (London); and Douat, Labate & Plante. The collection also includes checks and receipts of the firm, mostly regarding payment for goods or loans.

Correspondence after September 1793 (the time of both partners' deaths) concerns matters of the estate. Correspondents include Arthur Jones, attorney? (USA); Crowder & Lavie, attorneys (London); Jasper Moylan, attorney (USA); and William Cramond, Hugh Holmes, and John Leamy, executors.

Arrangement Note

The collection is arranged in two series, Correspondence and Bank Drafts, and both are in chronological order. The Correspondence series is further divided into two sub-series, General Correspondence, and Correspondence of Jasper Moylan, with the contents of each sub-series in chronological order.

Series List

- I. Correspondence, 1783-1814
 - I.1 General, 1784-1811, [n.d.] (bulk dates 1790-1793)
 - I.2 Jasper Moylan, 1783-1814. [n.d.] (bulk dates 1794-1799)

 - II. Bank Drafts, 1785-1802, [n.d.] (bulk dates 1790-1793)
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Contents List

Box -- Folder -- Contents

Series I. Correspondence, 1783-1814.
 Series I.1. General Correspondence. 1784 - 1811, [n.d.]. Bulked dates 1790 - 1793.
 404 items.
 Contains business correspondence of Andrew Clow & Co. with merchants in trading ports. Includes carbon copies of letters written by David Cay and Joseph Hadfield, and hand-copies of letters by others. Also includes some bills and receipts, and two letters with fabric samples attached (8/23/1785 and [n.d.]).

1

F1 1784-1785
 F2 1786-1788
 F3 1789: Jan - May
 F4 Aug - Nov
 F5 Dec
 F6 1790: Jan
 F7 Feb
 F8 Mar
 F9 Apr
 F10 May
 F11 Jun 2 - 5
 F12 Jun 7
 F13 Jun 11 - 29
 F14 Jul 1 - 10
 F15 Jul 12 - 30
 F16 Aug
 F17 Sep
 F18 Oct
 F19 Nov - Dec

2

F20 1791: Jan - Apr
 F21 May - Jun
 F22 Jul
 F23 Aug - Dec
 F24 1792: Jan - Feb
 F25 Mar - May
 F26 Jun - Jul
 F27 Aug - Sep
 F28 Oct - Nov
 F29 Dec
 F30 1793: Jan
 F31 Feb 1 - 9
 F32 Feb 15 - 27
 F33 Mar
 F34 Apr
 F35 May
 F36 Jun
 F37 Jul
 F38 1793: Aug
 F39 Sep
 F40 Oct - Dec

3

F41 1794: Feb - Apr
 F42 May - Dec
 F43 1795: Mar 10
 F44 Mar - Apr
 F45 Jul - Dec
 F46 1796
 F47 1797 - 1800
 F48 1801 - 1802
 F49 1808 - 1811
 F50 [n.d.]
 F51 [n.d.]
 F52 [n.d.] [post 1793]
 F53 [n.d.] [post 1793]

Series 1.2 Jasper Moylan, 1783-1814, [n.d.]. Bulked dates 1794-1799.
 38 items
 Contains correspondence of Jasper Moylan, attorney for the estate of Andrew Clow & Co. Includes notes for the court cases and correspondence with Arthur Jones, an attorney(?) who worked on settling outstanding debts owed to the estate.

F54 1783 - 1795
F55 1796 - 1799
F56 1800 - 1803
F57 1806 - 1814
F58 [n.d.]

Series II. Bank Drafts, 1785 - 1802, [n.d.]. Bulked dates 1790 -1793.
1,081 items.

Bank drafts written by and to Andrew Clow & Co. Amounts
specified in both pounds and dollars.

4

F59 1785 - 1787
F60 1788
F61 1789: Jan - May
F62 Jun - Dec
F63 1790: Jan - Mar
F64 Apr - Jun
F65 Jul - Sep
F66 Oct - Dec
F67 1791: Jan - Mar
F68 Apr - Jun
F69 Jul - Sep
F70 Oct - Dec

5

F71 1792: Jan - Mar
F72 Apr - May
F73 Jun - Aug
F74 Sep - Nov
F75 Dec
F76 1793: Jan - Feb
F77 Mar - Apr
F78 May - Jun
F79 Jul - Dec
F80 1794, 1802, [n.d.]