

James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

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Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard Papers

Span Dates: 1797-1885

ID No.: MSS12070

Creator: Bayard, James A. (James Asheton), 1767-1815

Creator: Bayard, Richard Henry, 1796-1868

Extent: 1,000 items; 4 containers; 1.6 linear feet; 4 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English, French, German, and Russian

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: :Lawyers, senators, and diplomats, of the Bayard (Baird) family of Delaware.

Correspondence, diaries, financial and legal papers, printed matter and miscellaneous material relating to the careers of James A. Bayard and his son Richard H. Bayard.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848--Correspondence.

Baird family.

Bassett, Richard, 1745-1815--Correspondence.

Bayard, Andrew, 1762-1833--Correspondence.

Bayard, James A. (James Asheton), 1767-1815. James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard papers. 1797-1885.

Bayard, Richard H. (Richard Henry), 1796-1868. James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard papers. 1797-1885.

Beasley, Reuben Gaunt--Correspondence.

Bollmann, Erick, 1769-1821--Correspondence.

Clay, Henry, 1777-1852--Correspondence.

Clayton, John M. (John Middleton), 1796-1856--Correspondence.

Gallatin, Albert, 1761-1849--Correspondence.

Madison, James, 1751-1836--Correspondence.

Marcy, William L. (William Learned), 1786-1857--Correspondence.

Monroe, James, 1758-1831--Correspondence.

Montgomery, John Philips--Correspondence.

Romanzoff, Nikolai, Count, 1734-1826--Correspondence.

Spearman, Simon--Correspondence.

Temple, William, 1814-1863--Correspondence.

Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852--Correspondence.

Organizations

Bank of the United States (1791-1811)

Federal Party (U.S.)

Great Britain. Treaties, etc. United States, 1814 Dec. 24

United States. Judiciary Act of 1800.

Places

Belgium--Foreign relations--United States.

Delaware--Militia.

Delaware--Politics and government.

United States--Foreign relations--Belgium.

United States--History--War of 1812.

Occupations
Diplomats.
Lawyers.
Senators, U.S. Congress--Delaware.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard, father and son lawyers, senators, and diplomats, were given to the Library of Congress in 1930 by Ellen Howard Bayard, great-granddaughter of James A. Bayard.

Processing History

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard were arranged and described in 1973. The collection was revised in 2003.

Additional Guides

An index of correspondents is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on four reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, James A. Bayard and Richard H. Bayard Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

James A. Bayard

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1767, July 28	Born, Philadelphia, Pa.
1784	Graduated, Princeton College, Princeton, N.J.
1788	Admitted to the bar at New Castle, Del., and Philadelphia, Pa.
1795	Married Ann Bassett

1797-1803	Member from Delaware, United States House of Representatives
1805-1813	United States Senator from Delaware
1813-1814	Member, United States Commission to negotiate the treaty of Ghent Member, United States Commission to negotiate a treaty of commerce with Great Britain
1815, Aug. 6	Died, Wilmington, Del.

Richard H. Bayard

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1796, Sept. 23	Born, Wilmington, Del.
1805-1810	Attended College of St. Mary, Baltimore, Md.
1814	Graduated, Princeton College, Princeton, N.J.
1815	Married Mary Sophia Carroll
1818	Admitted to the bar at New Castle, Del.
1818-1832	Private law practice
1832-1835	Mayor, Wilmington, Del.
1836-1839	United States Senator from Delaware
1839-1841	Chief justice of Delaware
1840-1845	Member from Delaware, United States Senate Appointed brigadier general, Delaware state militia
1850-1853	United States chargé d'affaires, Brussels, Belgium
1868, Mar. 4 .	Died, Philadelphia, Pa

Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Asheton Bayard (1767-1815) and his son, Richard Henry Bayard (1796-1868), senators, lawyers, and diplomats, span the years 1797-1885 and consist of diaries, correspondence, diplomatic documents, congressional material, legal and financial records, printed matter, newspapers, and newspaper clippings. The collection is arranged in [Diaries](#), [Correspondence](#), [Legal and Financial Records](#), [Miscellany](#), and [Printed Matter](#) series.

A major portion of the collection is comprised of the [Correspondence](#) series organized in two distinct groups. Set I covering the period 1797-1817 relates mainly to James A. Bayard, and concerns Federalist politics, repeal of the Judiciary Act of 1800, rechartering the first Bank of the United States, the War of 1812, and foreign affairs. James Asheton's correspondence for 1813-1815 concerns the peace negotiations that culminated in the Treaty of Ghent in 1814. Many of Bayard's letters were written to his cousin, Andrew Bayard (1762-1833), a merchant in Philadelphia, and to

his wife's father, Richard Bassett (1745-1815), a "midnight judge" appointee of President John Adams. Other prominent correspondents include John Quincy Adams, R. G. Beasley, Erick Bollmann, Henry Clay, Albert Gallatin, James Madison, James Monroe, and Count Nikolai Romanzoff.

Set II of the Correspondence series covers the period 1834-1868 and consists chiefly of letters to and from Richard H. Bayard relating to Delaware politics, administration of the assets of the Bank of the United States, 1841-1845, the Delaware state militia, and diplomatic relations with Belgium. Correspondents include Henry Clay, John M. Clayton, William L. Marcy, John P. Montgomery, Simon Spearman, William Temple, and Daniel Webster.

Among the items in the Miscellany series are diplomatic documents, a key to the cipher used in some of the letters, and reports and other papers concerning the United States Navy, British Royal Navy, and the Delaware State Militia. The Printed Matter series includes the proceedings of the impeachment of William Blount, 1797; speeches delivered in the United States House of Representatives and Senate by James A. Bayard, 1802-1812, and in the Senate by Richard H. Bayard, 1837-1841; documents concerning the presidential election in 1800; reports of the Committee on Naval Affairs of the United States Senate, 1842-1844; state and federal documents; presidential messages to Congress; Belgian documents; State Department circulars; directories of the 27th and 28th congresses; newspapers and newspaper clippings; genealogical material concerning the Bayard family; and other material.

Some of the correspondence and diplomatic documents are in French, German, and Russian. Whenever dual dating appeared, the material was arranged according to the Gregorian calendar rather than the Julian calendar which is later by twelve days.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- Diaries, 1811-1814
- Correspondence, 1797-1868
- Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868
- Miscellany, 1813-1857
- Printed Matter, 1797-1885

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	<u>Diaries, 1811-1814</u> Diaries of James A. Bayard. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1-2 REEL 1-2	<u>Correspondence, 1797-1868</u> Letters sent and received. Organized into Set I, dated 1797-1817, chiefly concerning James A. Bayard, and Set II, 1834-1868, chiefly regarding Richard H. Bayard. Arranged chronologically within each set.
BOX 3 REEL 3	<u>Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868</u> Accounts, legal papers, receipts and bills, and related material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 3 REEL 3	<u>Miscellany, 1813-1857</u> Diplomatic documents, drawings, invitations, notes and writings, key to cipher, papers relating to the American and British navies, and miscellaneous material. Arranged alphabetically by topic.
BOX 4 REEL 4	<u>Printed Matter, 1797-1885</u> Impeachment proceedings of William Blount, speeches, documents concerning the presidential election of 1800, magazines, state and federal documents, Belgian government documents, State Department circulars, directories of the 27th and 28th Congresses, newspapers and newspaper clippings, genealogical items, and other material. Divided into miscellany, newspapers, and newspaper clippings sections and arranged chronologically therein.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 15,915

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diaries, 1811-1814 Diaries of James A. Bayard. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diaries, 1811-1814 (3 vols.)
BOX 1-2 REEL 1-2	Correspondence, 1797-1868 Letters sent and received. Organized into Set I, dated 1797-1817, chiefly concerning James A. Bayard, and Set II, 1834-1868, chiefly regarding Richard H. Bayard. Arranged chronologically within each set.
BOX 1 REEL 1	Set I (chiefly James A. Bayard)
BOX 1 REEL 1	1797-1813 (9 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	1814 Jan.-Aug.
BOX 2 REEL 2	Sept.-Dec. 1814
BOX 2 REEL 2	1815-1817, undated
BOX 2 REEL 2	Set II (chiefly Richard H. Bayard) 1834-1868 (9 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868 Accounts, legal papers, receipts and bills, and related material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 3 REEL 3	Account book, 1813-1815
BOX 3 REEL 3	Accounts, 1813-1853, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Legal papers, 1838-1855

Legal and Financial Records, 1813-1868

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 3 REEL 3	Receipts and bills, 1839-1868, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Miscellany, 1813-1857 Diplomatic documents, drawings, invitations, notes and writings, key to cipher, papers relating to the American and British navies, and miscellaneous material. Arranged alphabetically by topic.
BOX 3 REEL 3	Diplomatic documents
BOX 3 REEL 3	Bayard, James A., 1813-1815
BOX 3 REEL 3	Bayard, Richard H., 1850-1853
BOX 3 REEL 3	Drawings, invitations, and menu, 1814-1817, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Key to cipher, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Drafts of writings, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Notes, 1815-1841, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Papers relating to the United States Navy, British Royal Navy, and the Delaware state militia, 1838-1847, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	Fragments and unidentified material, 1814, 1853-1857, undated
BOX 4 REEL 4	Printed Matter, 1797-1885 Impeachment proceedings of William Blount, speeches, documents concerning the presidential election of 1800, magazines, state and federal documents, Belgian government documents, State Department circulars, directories of the 27th and 28th Congresses, newspapers and newspaper clippings, genealogical items, and other material. Divided into miscellany, newspapers, and newspaper clippings sections and arranged chronologically therein.
BOX 4 REEL 4	Miscellany, 1798-1822, 1831-1885, undated (5 folders)
BOX 4 REEL 4	Newspapers, 1822-1844 (2 folders)
BOX 4 REEL 4	Newspaper clippings, 1813-1846, undated (2 folders)