

# Thomas H. Hubbard Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the  
Library of Congress

Prepared by Margaret McAleer



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

Finding aid encoded by Library of  
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Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms009294>

## Collection Summary

Title: Thomas H. Hubbard Papers

Span Dates: 1817-1823

ID No.: MSS83059

Creator: Hubbard, Thomas H. (Thomas Hill), 1781-1857

Extent: 146 items; 1 container ; 0.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: United States representative and lawyer from New York. Letters written by Hubbard to his wife containing descriptions of his journeys to Washington, D.C., the physical layout and social life of the capital, and his impressions of national political figures.

## 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.

Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850.

Clay, Henry, 1777-1852.

Hubbard, Phebe.

Hubbard, Robert J. Lecture.

Hubbard, Thomas H. (Thomas Hill), 1781-1857.

Monroe, James, 1758-1831.

### Subjects

Boardinghouses--Washington (D.C.)

Church buildings--Washington (D.C.)

Statesmen.

### Places

Washington (D.C.)--Description and travel.

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

### Occupations

Jurists.

Lawyers.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--New York (State)

## Administrative Information

### Provenance:

The papers of Thomas H. Hubbard, United States representative and lawyer from New York, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1994.

### Processing History:

The papers of Thomas H. Hubbard were arranged and described in 1997. The collection was revised in 2009.

#### Additional Guides:

The Hubbard Papers are described in *Library of Congress Acquisitions: Manuscript Division, 1994-1995*, pp. 14-17.

#### Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Thomas H. Hubbard is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

#### Access and Restrictions:

The papers of Thomas H. Hubbard 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.

#### Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Thomas H. Hubbard Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Thomas Hill Hubbard (1781-1823) span the years 1817 to 1823 and consist of letters written by him to his wife, Phebe, during his two nonconsecutive terms in the United States House of Representatives as a congressman from New York. The letters are arranged chronologically. The collection also includes a published lecture delivered by Robert J. Hubbard concerning the depiction of political and social life in Washington, D.C., in the letters.

Writing weekly and sometimes more often, Hubbard presented a detailed picture of his life in Washington to his wife who remained in Hamilton, New York, during his first term and with family in Middletown, Connecticut, during his second. The letters, often three to four pages in length, describe his journeys to Washington, the physical layout of the city, its social life, churches, and entertainments, and the sense of fellowship that emanated from its boardinghouses. With considerable ability to convey details, Hubbard recalled the furnishings of his various lodgings, of the White House, and of homes where he was entertained. He commented frequently on fashions, food, table decorations, and servants in describing social events. He also recorded his impressions of national political figures, including John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, and James Monroe. In a letter dated January 3, 1818, he recounted the first presidential levee since the destruction of the White House by the British in 1814. While his letters provide a vivid sense of the daily routines of a congressman, they are generally devoid of political commentary.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Letters to Phebe Hubbard (wife), 1817-1823 (6 folders)
BOX 1	Published lecture by Robert J. Hubbard, undated