

Sarah Stone Autograph Collection

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Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Collection Summary

Title: Sarah Stone Autograph Collection

Span Dates: 1720-1962

ID No.: MSS41590

Collector: Stone, Sarah, fl. 1840

Extent: 200 items ; 1 container ; .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Summary: Resident of Salem, Massachusetts. Letters, clipped signatures, and other autograph items of prominent American and a few British figures, chiefly of the nineteenth century.

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.

Adams, John, 1735-1826.

Buchanan, James, 1791-1868.

Butler, Benjamin F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1795-1858.

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

Clay, Henry, 1777-1852.

Colman, Henry, 1785-1849.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955.

Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 1803-1882.

Everett, Edward, 1794-1865.

Grimké, Angelina Emily, 1805-1879.

Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804.

Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894.

Irving, Washington, 1783-1859.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826.

Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891.

Madison, James, 1751-1836.

Norton, Charles Eliot, 1827-1908.

Prévost, Augustine, approximately 1725-1786.

Silliman, Benjamin, 1779-1864.

Stone family--Correspondence.

Stone family.

Stone, Sarah, active 1840.

Van Buren, Martin, 1782-1862.

Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915.

Washington, George, 1732-1799.

Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852.

Subjects

Autographs--Collections.

Places

Salem (Mass.)--History.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The autograph collection of Sarah Stone of Salem, Mass., was given to the Library of Congress by Mrs. Ray Morris in 1962

Processing History

An index to the collection was prepared circa 1965. The index was revised as part of a new finding aid in 2011.

Transfers

A map of the Peninsula between the York and James Rivers, Virginia, circa 1861-1865 have been transferred to the Library's Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of the Sarah Stone Autograph Collection.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings in the Autograph Collection of Sarah Stone is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Sarah Stone Autograph Collection is 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, Sarah Stone Autograph Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The autograph collection of Sarah Stone (fl. 1840) spans the years 1720-1962, with the latest autographed item dating from 1947. The collection contains letters, clipped signatures, and other signed items of prominent American and a few British figures, chiefly of the nineteenth century.

The collection originated with Henry Colman (1785-1849), a Unitarian clergyman and friend of the Stone family, who initiated it with the gift of nineteen items to Sarah Stone in the early 1840s. Colman had received the items mainly in the course of studying agricultural methods in this country and in Europe, including signed letters by George Washington and British General Augustine Prevost during the Revolutionary War. Colman's correspondents include John Adams, Henry Clay, Edward Everett (who in 1837 appointed him commissioner to make an agricultural survey of Massachusetts) Angelina Emily Grimké, Benjamin Silliman, James Madison, Daniel Webster, and Martin Van Buren.

Other persons represented include John Quincy Adams, James Buchanan, Benjamin F. Butler, John C. Calhoun, Albert Einstein, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Alexander Hamilton, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Thomas Jefferson, James Russell Lowell, Charles Eliot Norton, and Booker T. Washington. Some letters were received by Sarah Stone herself or by members of her family, who were sailors and ship owners of Salem, Massachusetts, during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, active in trade with China, Sumatra, and the West Indies. Some were friends of the family of Washington Irving. There are references to Irving in their correspondence as well as one of the author's letters and a page of a manuscript in his hand.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized chronologically and indexed alphabetically by writer according to a check list of cards received from the donor. Clipped signatures and autographs that are undated or lack the year of creation are grouped together alphabetically in an undated file at the end of the collection.

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