INDEX TO THE

John Tyler

Papers
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Papers
Preface

THIS INDEX to the John Tyler Papers is a direct result of the wish of the Congress and the President, as expressed by Public Law 85-147 of August 16, 1957, to arrange, microfilm, and index the papers of the Presidents in the Library of Congress in order “to preserve their contents against destruction by war or other calamity,” to make the Tyler and other Presidential Papers more “readily available for study and research,” and to inspire informed patriotism. An appropriation to carry out the provisions of the law was approved on July 31, 1958, and actual operations began on August 25.

The microfilm of the Tyler Papers became available in 1960. Positive copies of the film may be purchased from the Chief, Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C. A positive print is available for interlibrary loan through the Chief, Loan Division, Library of Congress.

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Introduction

Provenance

John Tyler valued highly the papers he accumulated in the course of his long career.* In his will, drawn on October 10, 1859, he appointed his sons, Robert, John, Tazewell, and David, and his sons-in-law, James Semple and William Waller, to be his literary executors, “bequeathing to them for revision and publication if they shall think proper all such of my papers as relate to my own times and relate either to my own Biography or to public affairs.” He went on to direct that “my collection of Autographs and all my private papers not relating to public affairs I give to my wife.” 1 At the time he directed this disposal of his papers, he could not foresee the calamities that were to befall them, shortly after his death, when the Civil War came to his home.

When the will was drawn, most of his papers were at “Sherwood Forest,” a large plantation in Charles City County, Va., where he lived from the time he left the White House in March 1845 until his death on January 18, 1862. Shortly thereafter, the first of what were to be many Union contingents traversed the region. A number of these callers made their visits a matter of record. On June 13, 1864, Col. Mason W. Tyler wrote: 2 “two or three of our staff mounted horses and went in search of the distinguished Virginian’s home. The house was in charge of negro servants, who tried faithfully to keep watch and ward, but the soldiers soon invaded the premises, and upon being admitted into the rear, forced their way into the front of the house. It was a plain, comfortable habitation, on a slightly elevated plateau, surrounded by stately trees, with bookshelves and many books, and indications of literary work by its recent occupants. Some books were carried off by the soldiers, and not a few letters from prominent leaders in the Confederacy to the ex-President were discovered and appropriated. Aside from this I do not think much harm was done. The next day the place was protected by a guard.”

On the following day, June 14, 1864, Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside’s Ninth Army Corps was on route from Cold Harbor to the James River. In the corps was hospital steward Stephen Farnum Peckham of the 7th Regiment, Rhode Island Volunteers, who later reported: 3 “passed along a road that led by the rear of the residence of ex-President John Tyler at ‘Sherwood Forest,’ Charles City County, Virginia. The beautiful location of the house on rising ground with an immense garden stretching down to the road, filled with roses and honeysuckle, led the writer and a friend to struggle from the command and visit the house. It was found to be deserted ....

“The house consisted of a central portion of two stories each of four large rooms separated by halls, in the form of a Greek cross. On either side of this central portion were wings of one story, consisting of a succession of rooms, each reached by passing through the other. .... Those on the right were the library and private rooms of the master of the house. In the middle of the largest of these rooms was a cart-load, more or less, of papers that had apparently been emptied from drawers as rubbish. This pile attracted my attention, and I was very soon absorbed in selecting letters and papers from historic personages.

“Among other things, my eye fell on a package of yellow manifold paper that appeared to have been pressed hard together from having been carried in a pocket. It had a band of white paper pinned around it, on which was written, in the handwriting of President Tyler: ‘Peace Convention.’ We opened and examined the pieces of yellow paper, and found that they were copies of telegrams that had been sent President Tyler from all over the South, while he was the presiding officer of the ‘Peace Convention,’ giving him all sorts of information concerning the preparations that were being made to put the South in a condition to fight. A fort was being built in one place, guns were mounted in another, a company was being enlisted here, and a regiment there. The value

*Grateful acknowledgment is made to Oliver P. Chitwood for reading and commenting on a draft of this essay.

1 Photostat in John B. Murphy Collection of Presidential Wills, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

2 Recollections of the Civil War, with Many Original Diary Entries and Letters Written from the Seat of War, and with Annotated References (New York, 1912), 217.

of these telegrams, as compared with autograph letters with which we filled our pockets, did not occur to me until I had gone too far from the house to return with safety.

"On getting into camp at the Ninth Corps Headquarters, where I was on duty, I immediately sought Colonel [Lewis] Richmond, General Burnside's Adjutant-General, and told him that the papers were in the house. He asked permission of the General to send me back with an escort to get them. General Burnside replied that he was extremely sorry that I had left them, but he would not authorize disobedience of his own orders. The examination of the 'Peace Convention' telegrams established beyond any possibility of doubt the fact that John Tyler, a man who had filled the exalted position of President of the United States, had run the 'Peace Convention' simply to kill time, while the South got ready to fight.

"The papers that I did bring away were hastily looked over, tied in a bundle, and only lately carefully examined."

In the afternoon of the same day General Burnside and his staff stopped at Judge William H. Clotpton's neighboring plantation. The General's private secretary, Capt. Daniel R. Larned, wrote to his sister:4 "With her [Mrs. Clotpton] was a Miss Tyler, niece of Ex President Tyler whose place (Sherwood) was just opposite . . . . Miss Tyler was obliged to leave her house & seek shelter with Mrs C—because the negro troops under Genl Wild had Sacked the Mansion of 'Sherwood'—She begged that the General would make it his Head Qrs while he was in the vicinity—He promised to do so—but orders compelled us to move nearer the river—Some of us rode over to the place. . . . such a scene as the inside presented I never saw—The furniture, upholstery, china, mirrors, carpets, & everything indicated in its selection both wealth & good taste—but it was, [sic] broken up smashed into fragments & left in the house—bureaus turned up side down & broken—beds ripped open—Library turned up side down, books & papers torn & mutilated—simply for mischief—I gathered up the private letters & placed them in a box—placed a guard & left—"

The evidence reported by Captain Larned and a letter of Brig. Gen. Edward A. Wild confirm Miss Tyler's complaint about the sacking of Sherwood Forest in May 1864 by General Wild's troops.5 Colonel Tyler's record, Captain Larned's letter, and Mr. Peckham's account all confirm that in the following month there were still Tyler manuscripts in the house. Nothing else has been discovered about the "private letters" which Larned "gathered up" and "placed . . . in a box." It may be that they remained there until Mrs. Tyler returned to Sherwood Forest a year later.

A small part of Tyler's papers must have been at "Villa Margaret," a summer house near Hampton, Va. George Templeton Strong described a visit there in his diary on June 4, 1861: 6 "called at ex-President Tyler's country house and entered it through a cellar window. He was out. He and all his family fled with precipitation some ten days ago. Signs of hasty, terrified flight abounded in the house; bureau drawers pulled out and left on the floor, unimportant papers scattered over the floor. I secured two or three scraps of the Tylerian correspondence . . . ."

Julia Gardiner Tyler, the President's widow, was a New Yorker by birth but a Southerner by conviction. She and her children were able to spend most of the war years with her mother on Staten Island, N.Y. Since she had highly placed friends on both sides of the conflict, she managed to keep in touch with events at her home and even to make a trip by sea late in 1862 and in 1863 to Sherwood Forest and back to Staten Island.7 Whether or not Mrs. Tyler took any manuscripts to or from Sherwood Forest must be left to conjecture. There is no evidence to suggest that she did; in fact, the circumstances of her trip through the lines make this seem an unlikely possibility. She was certainly aware of the depredations at Sherwood Forest in 1864; she wrote two letters to Abraham Lincoln and other letters to Gen. Benjamin F. Butler pleading for the protection of her kin and her proper-

4 Edward A. Wild to Benjamin F. Butler, May 13, 1864, Private and Official Correspondence of General Benjamin F. Butler, IV (Norwood, Mass., 1917), 203. See also letters exchanged by General and Mrs. Butler dated May 19, 21, 22, 23, and 24, ibid., 235, 244-45, 249, 256-57, 262.
ty. Of other arrangements to protect or to remove her possessions, we know that she stated in a letter of November 7, 1864, to Butler: "Little thinking that my house would be so torn to pieces by a passing army, any more than in the past, I made no further disposition of its contents on leaving to make my home here [Staten Island] than I would have done in peaceful times."

How is such evidence to be reconciled with the accounts given in subsequent years by the President's widow and their son, Lyon G. Tyler? In the late 1860's Julia Tyler wrote to George Ticknor Curtis about Secretary of State Daniel Webster's notes to President Tyler relating to the Webster-Ashburton Treaty: "Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be able to enclose you the notes referred to, but all the papers of my Husband, public and private, left to my care at his death, were destroyed in the burning of Rich'd, where I had stored them for safe keeping on leaving Virginia in a perilous manner during the War."

Many years later, in 1910, Dr. Tyler, in reply to an inquiry made by Gaillard Hunt, then Chief of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, wrote: "As you are probably aware, all of President Tyler's correspondence together with an account of his Bank vetoes and notes in extenso were destroyed in the Richmond fire of 1865."

Lyon G. Tyler was only 11 years of age when the Richmond fire occurred, and it is not reasonable to expect him to have any exact recollection or even knowledge of events of that time and earlier. The words of at least one contemporary confirm that Julia Tyler did place some papers in the Farmers Bank for safekeeping. These were destroyed during the fire of April 2-3, 1865. This loss was reported to Mrs. Tyler in a letter dated July 3 from William H. MacFarland. What conclusions are possible? It is clear that some Tyler papers were placed in the Farmers Bank and later destroyed there; it is equally clear that some were left at Sherwood Forest, and it is possible that some which survive today were among those left in his home. A few were at Villa Margaret, but the record does not reveal their fate. It is not clear how many or what proportion of the papers were in any of these places.

The Tyler Papers now in the Library of Congress and indexed in this publication were collected by Lyon G. Tyler, who became in fact the President's literary executor. He began with a few surviving documents, including possibly a part of the autograph collection mentioned in his father's will. From friends and contemporaries of his father he solicited letters that had been written to them. The original documents he was able to obtain in this way remained in his possession for many years and formed the basis for his three-volume study, _Letters and Times of the Tylers_ (1884-96), which was for decades the standard account of the family and is still a useful work. He sold the papers to the Library of Congress in 1919. A few Tyler manuscripts and photocopies have been acquired by the Library since 1919 and have been incorporated in the first series. The number of documents in the Tyler Papers now in the Library of Congress is 1,410.

The Library evacuated its unique and particularly prized materials during World War II. The Tyler Papers, with other manuscripts, were removed on December 29, 1941, to the Alderman Library of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville. They were returned on August 14, 1944. Since 1944 the Tyler Papers have remained in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, where they may be consulted subject to the usual conditions. Original Tyler materials or copies of them continue to come to the Manuscript Division. Those which are received without restriction may eventually be microfilmed and indexed as a supplement to the entire microfilm reproduction of the Library's Presidential collections. Inasmuch as the bulk of President Tyler's papers is lost, searchers may wish to examine the personal papers of his contemporaries in the Library of Congress.

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8 Her letters to President Lincoln are dated May 21 and August 15, 1864; to General Butler, June 2, July 24, August 15, and November 7; see also John G. Nicolay to Mrs. Tyler, August 17, and General Butler's reply to her August 19. The originals are in the Butler Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress; part of them are printed in _Private and Official Correspondence_ . . . IV, 244, 301-2; V, 15, 53, 81-83, 329.
9 Benjamin F. Butler Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.
10 _Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine_, III (April 1922), 235-56.
11 December 3, 1910; Manuscript Division files.
13 A Bible reported to have been taken from President Tyler's house near Hampton was returned to the Tyler family; _Tyler's Quarterly_ . . . II (1920-21), 358-59. A search of the records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, National Archives, in the summer of 1960 revealed no reference to any Tyler manuscripts at Villa Margaret. The property was returned to Mrs. Tyler in 1867.
gress for information about him and his times. The personal papers, sets of records, or autograph collections which follow contain letters written by President Tyler, retained copies of letters written to him, or letters or other documents referring to him:

- American Colonization Society Records
- Biddle, Nicholas
- Blair Family Papers
- Butler, Benjamin F.
- Clay, Henry
- Corcoran, W. W.
- Crittenden, John J.
- Cushing, Caleb
- Ewing, Thomas
- Fish, Hamilton
- Floyd, John
- Force, Peter
- Galloway-Maxcy-Markoe
- Garrett Family Papers
- Granger, Gideon and Francis
- Green, Duff
- Hammond, James H.
- Hart, C. C. Autograph Collection
- Holmes, George F.
- Johnson, Andrew
- Kennedy, John P.
- Lawson, Thomas
- Long, Breckinridge
- Mangum, Willie P.
- Marcy, William L.
- Murphy, John B., Collection of Presidential Wills
- Presidential Manuscripts
  — General
  — Rives, W. C.
- Simmons, James F.
- Smith, J. Henley
- Stephens, Alexander H.
- Stevenson, Andrew
- Tappan, Lewis
- Thompson, Waddy
- Webster, Daniel
- Woodbury, Levi

Many other libraries and many autograph collectors possess one or more Tyler documents. No attempt to list comprehensively the libraries or collectors or the documents they own can be undertaken here. One large group is the Gardiner Family Papers in the Yale University Library. These contain some 5,000 personal and business papers and include letters from President Tyler and the second Mrs. Tyler. An attractive description of the Gardiner Family Papers by Howard Gotlieb and Gail Grimes is in print. The College of William and Mary Library possesses more than 100 letters written by Tyler to Alexander and David Gardiner, his brothers-in-law, and others, as well as the papers of Lyon G. Tyler. John Tyler manuscripts are also in the William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; the Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn, N.Y.; the New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, N.J.; the New York Historical Society, New York, N.Y.; the New York Public Library, New York, N.Y.; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.; the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N.Y.; and the Southern Historical Collection of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.; and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections now being assembled at the Library of Congress may in due course reveal the whereabouts of other Tyler manuscripts.

**Selected Bibliography**


**How to Use This Index**

This index to the John Tyler Papers is designed primarily as a means of ascertaining what documents exist in this collection and where they may be found on the microfilm reproduction. It is essentially a name index listing names of writers and recipients of letters, alphabetically first and then chronologically when the same name appears more than once. It is not a subject index, but materials such as the autobiography and speeches of John Tyler found in this collection are cross-indexed under these subject headings as well as under the name of the writer. Some miscellaneous items, for which no name appears, are listed under a subject title.

To find a document or furnish a reference, note first the series number. If in series 1 or 3, the items will be found in chronological order. If for any

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15 Cited in Selected Bibliography.
reason the normal chronological order does not apply, the date after which the item will be found appears in the addenda column. Items in Series 2 are arranged in alphabetical order by writer. Certain miscellaneous materials at the end of the series. The reel list appears on page 9.

This index was produced by the use of key-punched cards which sorted and printed mechanically. This technique permitted a number of economies but imposed a return a few limitations. Some of the paraphernalia normally found in indexes and calendars had to be abandoned. Many of the peculiarities of this index are illustrated in the sequence of mock entries which appears with this explanation.

The names of correspondents—that is, writers of letters to President Tyler or persons addressed by him, including organizations and governmental agencies—are arranged alphabetically. A letter not written by or to President Tyler is indexed both by writer and recipient as in the first and third entries. Any correspondence on behalf of an organization, public or private, is indexed under the name of the organization rather than the name of the writer, as in the twelfth entry; the Virginia Legislature is indexed rather than the name of the clerk who might have signed the document. Such corporate entries, if local in scope, are indexed under their geographical locations. Except for the largest cities, the name of the town or county is followed by the abbreviated State name. If the writer of an unsigned letter cannot be identified, the entry is indexed under the word UNKNOWN in its proper alphabetical position as in the example. President Tyler’s name is not listed in the index column except in cases where he is the author of a document such as his autobiography or a speech.

The names of other Presidents appear in full as in the second entry, unless otherwise noted at the bottom of the page. Since space is limited in the writer-recipient column, the second name appearing in this column, usually following “to” or “from,” is frequently given in a shortened or abbreviated form. In such cases the second name (except President Tyler’s name) is also entered fully in the normal alphabetical order. For example, in the tenth entry of the sample, the name given as N B TUCKER appears in the next entry as TUCKER NATHANIEL B. When lack of space does not permit use of the full name, a short form must be used, as in sample entries five through eight, but the full name is given separately in a cross reference as in the ninth entry. All titles—civil, military, ecclesiastical, hereditary, honorary, and others—are omitted.

The date column calls for little comment beyond emphasizing what has already been mentioned, i.e., when there are two or more entries for a single name in this index, they are arranged chronologically regardless of the person addressed or the nature of the document. Abbreviations for the names of the months have been reduced to two letters.

The particular attention of the user is invited to the fact that the number of pages for an item includes every page which has any writing. A page by this definition includes envelopes or cover sheets, docket entries, endorsements of one or more words, file numbers, and similar writing. Only notations made by the Library of Congress are excluded from the page count.

The final or addenda column of the index has been used as a "catch-all" for data which cannot be fitted into the closely calculated spacing of the main entry

<table>
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<th>Writer or Recipient</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>S. P.</th>
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<tr>
<td>BANCROFT GEORGE TO JOHN DAVIS</td>
<td>1883 FE 14</td>
<td>2 2</td>
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<td>BUCHANAN JAMES TO THOMAS W GILMER</td>
<td>1843 OC 20</td>
<td>2 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>DAVIS JOHN FR*GEORGE BANCROFT</td>
<td>1883 FE 14</td>
<td>2 2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>GLOUCESTER CO VA ELECTORS FR J PAGE</td>
<td>1804 JE 1</td>
<td>2 1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>TAZEWELL LITTLETON W TO GILMER ET AL</td>
<td>1834 JE 15</td>
<td>2 4</td>
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<td>1841 OC 11</td>
<td>1 4</td>
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<td>TAZEWELL LITTLETON W FR J T</td>
<td>1841 NO 2</td>
<td>1 7</td>
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<td>TAZEWELL LITTLETON WALLER SEE</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUCKER HENRY ST GEORGE TO N B TUCKER</td>
<td>1833 JA 24</td>
<td>2 2</td>
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<td>1862 NO 26</td>
<td>3 4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WALKER ROBERT FR*ROBERT TYLER</td>
<td>1845 OC 17</td>
<td>4 TAIZEWELL 1841 OC 11</td>
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</table>
Documents other than letters are, in each instance, identified in this column, occasionally by content but more often by form. When a date or a name and date appear in the addenda column, as in the last entry, an item is for some reason not in its place in the normal chronological order, for instance an enclosure filed with its covering letter rather than under its own date.

For information concerning the series arrangement see the description which appears on page 9 and the reel list which follows the mock index entries.

**Reel List**

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<td>A–Z and miscellaneous</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1844–1918</td>
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**Abbreviations**

- **Biog:** Biographical
- **Cit:** Citizens
- **Coll:** College
- **Com:** Committee
- **Cong:** Congress/Congressional
- **Convtn:** Convention
- **Cvr:** Cover
- **Dist:** District
- **Dkt:** Docket
- **Eng:** English
- **Et al:** And others
- **Fr:** From
- **Frag:** Fragment
- **Jr:** Junior
- **JT:** John Tyler
- **Lit:** Literary
- **Memo:** Memorandum
- **Merch/s:** Merchant/s
- **No:** Number
- **North:** Northern
- **NP:** Not President
- **P:** Page
- **Ptd:** Printed
- **S:** Series
- **Soc:** Society
- **St:** Saint
- **Trans:** Transcript
- **Univ:** University
- **Vs:** Versus
- **W & M Coll:** William & Mary College

The asterisk (*) indicates information supplied, wholly or in part, or doubtful reading of name or date.
Appendices

For the convenience of users of this index, the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections card, the description of the Tyler Papers which appears with the microfilm copy, and a statement of the Librarian (which also appears on the microfilm) follow.

NATIONAL UNION CATALOG CARD

Papers, 1691–1918.
3 ft. (ca. 1410 items)

In Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

Correspondence and other papers, including correspondence of the President's widow, Julia Gardiner Tyler, an autograph collection assembled by their son, Lyon G. Tyler, and family papers, reflecting social life and customs in Virginia. Correspondents include George Bancroft, James Barbour, Margaret G. Beeckman, Richard T. Brown, James Buchanan, John S. Cunningham, Henry Curtis, John B. Floyd, Alexander Gardiner, Juliana Gardiner, Thomas W. Gilmer, James Monroe, John Page, Littleton W. Tazewell, St. George Tucker, and Henry A. Wise.

(Continued on next card)

MS 60–430

Papers, 1691–1918.
(Card 2)

Index by correspondents prepared for publication.

Many of the letters were published in The letters and times of the Tylers, by L. G. Tyler (1884–96).

The basic collection was purchased from Lyon G. Tyler, 1919; other items acquired by gift and purchase, 1909–58.

——— Microfilm copy (negative)

3 reels.
1. Tyler, Julia (Gardiner) 2. Tyler, Lyon Gardiner, 1853–1935. 3. Tyler family.

MS 60–430

Library of Congress

8
DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

The papers of John Tyler (1790–1862), Congressman, Governor of Virginia, United States Senator, Vice President and President of the United States, were destroyed in the Richmond fire of 1865. Dr. Lyon Gardiner Tyler, one of the President's sons and long the President of the College of William and Mary, assembled most of the materials which appear on this microfilm by writing to various correspondents of the President. Many of these letters were printed in the Letters and Times of the Tylers (Richmond, 1884–96). Dr. Tyler's collection, as well as an autograph collection which forms series 2 below, was acquired by the Library of Congress in 1919. To these materials other items have been added from time to time. A complete list of acquisitions since 1903 is appended to this statement.

The Tyler Papers are in three series:

**Series 1. General Correspondence. 1710–1861.**
Four volumes of letters and copies of letters to or from President Tyler and a few other documents. Arranged chronologically.

**Series 2. Autograph Collection. 1691–1916.**
Three volumes of letters and documents assembled by Lyon G. Tyler. Arranged alphabetically with a few oddments at the end.

**Series 3. Additional Correspondence. 1844–1918.**
Letters to or from Julia Gardiner Tyler (the second Mrs. Tyler) and other ladies of the Tyler family. Arranged chronologically.

The user is cautioned that the publication of the contents of this microfilm may be construed as constituting a violation of literary rights. These rights derive from the principle of common law that the writer of an unpublished letter or other manuscript has the sole right to publish the contents thereof, unless he affirmatively parts with the right; the right descends to his legal heirs regardless of the ownership of the physical manuscript itself. It is the responsibility of an author or his publisher to secure the permission of the owner of literary property rights in unpublished writings.

In the case of the John Tyler Papers, no dedication to the public of the literary property rights is known from President Tyler and a few other documents.

(23 January 1959) to have been made. Neither, so far as is known, has an owner of such rights in the writings of President Tyler made public a claim to them.

SOURCES OF ACQUISITION

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>2662</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>3999 Add. 6</td>
<td>Gift of Thomas Ewing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>4262</td>
<td>Gift of Lyon G. Tyler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>5526</td>
<td>Gift of Miss Helen Nicolay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>6089</td>
<td>Gift of William H. Vodrey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>6178</td>
<td>Gift of Mrs. Hunter Miller.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>6881</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>6922</td>
<td>Transferred.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>7168 pt. 10</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>7766</td>
<td>Gift of Henry H. Batchelder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>8695 pt. 6</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>9188</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>9352</td>
<td>Photostats of originals owned by Richard Helms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>9393</td>
<td>Gift of Raymond H. Corry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>11, 152</td>
<td>Gift of Thomas Groom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>11, 618 pt. 2</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>11, 724</td>
<td>Purchase.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The personal papers of 23 Presidents of the United States are in the Library of Congress. Under an Act of Congress (Public Law 85-147) approved August 16, 1957, the Librarian of Congress was directed to arrange, microfilm, and index these papers. The purpose of the legislation was to provide greater security through the wide distribution of copies of the microfilm and to facilitate the use of the papers by scholars and others. An appropriation for this work was made in August 1958, and the project was begun the same month. Presidents whose papers are in the Library are:

George Washington  James K. Polk  Chester A. Arthur  
Thomas Jefferson  Zachary Taylor  Grover Cleveland  
James Madison  Franklin Pierce  Benjamin Harrison  
James Monroe  Abraham Lincoln  William McKinley  
Andrew Jackson  Andrew Johnson  Theodore Roosevelt  
Martin Van Buren  Ulysses S. Grant  William H. Taft  
William H. Harrison  James A. Garfield  Woodrow Wilson  
John Tyler  

The size and complexity of the groups of Presidential papers vary greatly. One group of Presidential papers contains fewer than 1,000 documents and is arranged in a simple chronological order. Another contains about 500,000 documents and will require division into a number of series with different internal arrangements. A specific statement about each group of Presidential papers follows this general statement.

The user is advised that indexes (largely of correspondents in the papers) will be prepared and published in book form. Announcements concerning the availability of the indexes as well as of microfilms of other groups of Presidential papers will be made from time to time. Inquiry may be made of the Chief of the Manuscript Division concerning future publication plans.

L. Quincy Mumford,  
Librarian of Congress.

December 29, 1958