Summary

Creator: Pickering, Timothy, 1745-1829

Title: Timothy Pickering papers

Date: 1780-1825

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)


Abstract: Timothy Pickering (1745-1829) was a Massachusetts statesman who served variously as colonel in the Continental Army, United States Secretary of War, and United States Secretary of State. The Timothy Pickering papers consist mainly of letters written by Pickering in the 1780s and 1790s in a professional capacity, with Samuel Hodgdon and Jedidiah Huntington being his most frequent correspondents. Earlier papers document the conditions and movements of the Army, 1780-1781, and include bills for services and supplies signed by Pickering as Quartermaster General. Letters relative to his duties as Secretary of War discuss the acquisition of provisions and munitions. Letters and documents created during his tenure as Secretary of State include "an estimate of the expence of negotiating a treaty with the French Republic," 1799, and "Principles which should govern in choosing a president of the United States." Later material relates to personal and family matters, including an 1827 letter to Virgil Maxcy asking for advice in the growing of hops. Also present are autographs, seals, and receipts.


Preferred citation: Timothy Pickering papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by Kit Messick, 2013

Custodial History

Some material was originally received as part of the George Bancroft, Thomas Addis Emmet, and Ford collections.
Scope and Content Note

Timothy Pickering (1745-1829) was a Massachusetts statesman who served variously as colonel in the Continental Army, United States Secretary of War, and United States Secretary of State. The Timothy Pickering papers consist mainly of letters written by Pickering in the 1780s and 1790s in a professional capacity, with Samuel Hodgdon and Jedidiah Huntington being his most frequent correspondents. Earlier papers document the conditions and movements of the Army, 1780-1781, and include bills for services and supplies signed by Pickering as Quartermaster General. Letters relative to his duties as Secretary of War discuss the acquisition of provisions and munitions. Letters and documents created during his tenure as Secretary of State include “an estimate of the expence of negociating a treaty with the French Republic,” 1799, and “Principles which should govern in choosing a president of the United States.” Later material relates to personal and family matters, including an 1827 letter to Virgil Maxcy asking for advice in the growing of hops. Also present are autographs, seals, and receipts.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Bills of sale
Receipts (financial records)

Occupations
Statesmen -- Massachusetts -- 18th century

Geographic Names
United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783
United States -- Politics and government -- 1783-1809

Names
Hodgdon, Samuel, 1745-1824 -- recipient
Huntington, Jedediah, 1743-1818 -- recipient
Pickering, Timothy, 1745-1829 -- Correspondence
United States. Continental Army