Summary

Creator: Wilkinson, James, 1757-1825

Title: James Wilkinson letters and documents

Date: 1776-1823

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Donated by John Stewart Kennedy, 1896 as part of the Emmet Collection; by J. Pierpont Morgan, 1899, as part of the Ford Collection; and various purchases, 1940-1941

Abstract: James Wilkinson (1757-1825) of Maryland was a United States Army officer and first governor of the Louisiana Territory. Wilkinson was implicated in the Burr Conspiracy and resigned from the Army in 1815. He was later appointed U.S. envoy to Mexico and died there in 1825. Suspicions that he had long been an agent of the Spanish government were confirmed after his death. The collection consists chiefly of letters written by Wilkinson to military personnel and politicians, especially at Fort Washington during the Northwest Indian War and later 1790s. Recipients include John Armstrong, 1792; Bartholomew Shaumburg, 1796, David Holmes, 1812, and James Monroe, 1814. Wilkinson's letter of 1823 April 17, Mexico, to an unidentified correspondent (probably to Thomas Aspinwall, U.S. Consul in London), describes the election of Agustín de Iturbide as emperor of Mexico. Also included is Wilkinson's 1793 bill to the government for expenses of his servants, and an order of payment to James Wilkinson by Joseph Reed, 1781.

Alternative Form Available: Available on microfilm; New York Public Library; *ZL-455

Preferred citation: James Wilkinson letters and documents, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2017

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Financial records
Subjects
Indians of North America -- Wars -- 1790-1794

Geographic Names
Mexico -- History -- 1821-1861
United States -- History -- 1783-1815
United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783

Occupations
Politicians
Soldiers

Names
Armstrong, John, 1758-1843
Aspinwall, Thomas, 1786-1876
Holmes, David, 1770-1832
Iturbide, Agustín de, 1783-1824
Monroe, James, 1758-1831
Shaumburg, Bartholomew
Varick, Richard, 1753-1831
Wilkinson, James, 1757-1825 -- Correspondence