McA MSS 005

JOHN B. BUDD BUSINESS RECORDS

1820-1846

2.3 linear feet, 3 boxes

Series I. Correspondence (1820-1846)
Series II. Documents (1821-1846)

March 2005
Descriptive Summary

Repository
Library Company of Philadelphia
1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5698

Call Number
McA MSS 005

Creator
Budd, John B., d. 1868

Title
John B. Budd Business Records

Inclusive Dates
1820-1846

Quantity
2.3 linear feet (3 boxes)

Language of Materials
Materials are in English.

Abstract
The John B. Budd Business Records span the dates 1820 to 1846, and describe the workings of a Philadelphia commission merchant who was importing and exporting goods between Philadelphia and England, the southern states, and the Caribbean. Many of his contacts were merchants in New Orleans.

Administrative Information

Restrictions to Access
The collection is open to researchers. It is on deposit at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and should be accessed through the Society’s reading room at 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA. Visit their website, http://www.hsp.org/, for reading room hours.

Acquisition Information
Gift of John A. McAllister; forms part of the McAllister Collection.

Processing Information
The John B. Budd Business Records were formerly interfiled within the large and chronologically arranged McAllister Manuscript Collection. The papers were reunited, arranged, and described as a single collection in 2005, under grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the William Penn Foundation. The collection was processed by Sandra Markham. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this finding aid do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Preferred Citation
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**Online Catalog Headings**

**Subject Names**
- Denegre, James D.
- Jacobs, Charles A., merchant
- Spangenberg, L.
- Toby, Thomas
- Thomas Toby & Brothers (Firm)
- Krafft, John H.
- Morgan, Thomas A., merchant

**Subject Topics**
- Merchants--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia.
- Philadelphia (Pa.)--Commerce
- Merchants--Louisiana--New Orleans.

**Document Types**
- Bills of lading
- Bills of sale
- Invoices
- Insurance policies
- Receipts (financial records)
- Letters

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

John Britton Budd was born in Philadelphia around 1798, and operated as a merchant/grocer and a commission merchant in the city for more than forty years. Budd was listed in the 1820 federal census as a resident of the North Mulberry Ward of Philadelphia, and made his first appearance in the 1821 city directory as a merchant in partnership with Jacob R. Train. By the time of the 1860 census, he was reported as holding $20,000 in real estate with a $50,000 personal estate; at that point the Budd household numbered twelve, including his wife Anna, seven children and a domestic staff of three. According to the city’s “Death Records Register” (page 39), Budd died at his home on Spruce Street in early February 1868; his death was not reported in the local newspapers.
Below are selected entries from Philadelphia city directories:

1821 not listed in the main part of the directory, but appears in the supplement bound in front of The Philadelphia Directory and Register for 1821 (Philadelphia: M'Carty & Davis, 1821):
   Budd, John B. merchant 14 south Seventh
   Train & Budd merchants, 7 north Water [no separate listing for Train]
1822 same as 1821: both entries in supplement, but with Budd’s address as 158 Walnut
1823 entry appears in main texts from this year forward
   Budd, John B. merchant 7 north Water [no listing for Train & Budd;
   J. R. Train listed separately as merchant at 244 Mulberry]
1824 Budd, John B. merchant 7 north Water [no listing for Train & Budd;
   Train listed separately as merchant at 244 Mulberry]
1825 Budd, John B. merchant 7 N Water d h 301 Sassafras [Train no longer listed]
1830 Budd, J B  merchant 39 Dock d h 194 Mulberry
1835 Budd, J B  mer 39 Dock d h 194 Mulberry
1840 Budd, J B  com. mer. 39 Dock h 278 Walnut
1857 Budd, John B.  com. mer. 45 Walnut h 423 Spruce
1860 Budd, John B. com. mer. 129 Walnut h 1317 Spruce
1865 Budd, John B. merchant 142 S. Front h 1317 Spruce
1867 Budd, John B. commission merchant 1317 Spruce
1868 Budd, John B. h 1317 Spruce
1869 Budd, Anna C., widow John B. 1317 Spruce

Aside from these listings and the descriptive material found within the papers, one further bit of information can be gleaned from a policy Budd purchased in 1839 from the American Fire Insurance Company (in Box 2, folder 73) to cover: “Merchandize generally wholesale either my own or held by me in trust or on consignment in the Brick Store No 39 Dock Street with liberty of carrying on the business of painting and ornamenting chairs & bedsteads.”

Collection Overview

The John B. Budd Business Records spans the dates 1820 to 1846, and describes in detail the workings of a Philadelphia commission merchant who was importing goods including sugar, molasses, flaxseed, cotton, beeswax, lead, hemp, and tobacco to Philadelphia from the southern states and the Caribbean, and exporting ale, wagons, wheelbarrows, and flour, among other things, to the South. The papers are divided into two subseries: Correspondence; and Documents.

Series I, Correspondence (1820-1846) holds letters written by Budd’s suppliers in New Orleans, Mobile, etc., discussing the details of their business agreements and exchanges of merchandise, as well as letters of prices current and the state of inventory in foreign countries. Bills of lading are interfiled with the letters and provide documentation of the transit of goods between ports:
they show, for instance, that in 1824 Budd sent a shipment of Kentucky leaf tobacco to Francis Coxe in Buenos Aires, and received from him a shipment of 1,900 ox horns. Bills of lading with no affiliated correspondence are filed in Series II, Documents.

The folder list includes cities with which Budd was arranging trade shipments, and while most are in the United States, he was also actively trading with suppliers and merchants in London and Liverpool (cotton) and three islands in the Caribbean. Folders with material from Philadelphia correspondents generally reflect local incidents, ranging from a simple “please to let the bearer” receive groceries from Budd, to James Gowen’s plea for Budd’s assistance in obtaining a position with the Health Office. There are only a few letters from Budd family members, including one from John Budd’s mother and sister Susan writing together from Cincinnati, and correspondence from his brother George K. Budd, who was living and working in St. Louis.

Series II, Documents (1821-1846) holds a range of financial records such as promissory notes and miscellaneous business invoices for wharfage, merchandise inspection and freight charges, as well as for Budd’s newspaper advertisements. One folder contains invoices for Budd’s personal expenses, such as clothing purchases, shoe repairs, medical services, and water rent. There is one bound receipt book covering payments received by Budd between 1832 and 1840. Box three holds several years’ worth of insurance certificates issued by the Delaware Insurance Company of Philadelphia and the Phoenix Insurance Company of Philadelphia, among others, to cover goods being shipped between Philadelphia and a variety of ports.
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE

Arranged alphabetically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Name and Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>A &amp; J Dennistoun &amp; Co., New Orleans</td>
<td>1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alexander Gordon &amp; Co., Liverpool</td>
<td>1831 Jul 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bailey &amp; Hartwell, Cincinnati</td>
<td>1844 Aug 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bayard &amp; Hunter, Savannah</td>
<td>1832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brown, John C., Boston</td>
<td>1821 Feb 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Budd family [mother and sister Susan], Cincinnati</td>
<td>1831 Jun 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Budd, George K., St. Louis</td>
<td>1824-1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>C. &amp; J. Gibbs, Charleston</td>
<td>1831-1832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Humphrey &amp; Co., Philadelphia</td>
<td>1831 Aug 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chauncey, Charles, Philadelphia</td>
<td>1830-1831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coxe, Francis S., Buenos Aires &amp; Montevideo</td>
<td>1824</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|     |        | Crow, Maynard
See: George K. Budd |
| 12  |        | Curwen, J., Savannah | 1844 Mar 8 |
| 13  |        | D. Dickey & Co., Brandywine, PA | 1831 May 21 |
| 14  |        | Denegre, James D., New Orleans | 1837-1845 |
| 15  |        | Desaque, F., Philadelphia | 1832 Jan 27 |
| 16  |        | Dobson & Williams, Mobile | 1825-1831 |
| 17  |        | Ebenezer Stevens and Sons, New York | 1823 Mar 24 |
|     |        | Forde, John, and Forde, Standish
See: S. & J. B. Forde |
| 18  |        | Forsyth Doblen & Co., Wheeling | 1821 Jul 12 |
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

Fox, John
  See: John H. Krafft

[1]  19  Fuller & Thomas, New York  1832
  20  George Gibbon & Co., Charleston  1832 Mar 21
  21  George Green & Son, Liverpool  1831-1832
  22  George Wildes & Co., London  1831-1832
  23  Gilmer, Thomas A., Charlottesville  1837 Oct 23
  24  Gowen, James, Philadelphia  1832 Feb 15
  25  Green, Charles, New York  1831
  26  Israel, James H., Saint-Barthélemy  1820-1821
  27  J. A. & J. Morton, New York  1832
  28  J. M. Souffront, Son & Co., Saint Thomas  1832
  29  Jackson, Charles A., New York  1823, 1831
  30  Jacobs, Charles A., New Orleans  1831-1837
  31  Jevons & Sons, Liverpool  1831 Mar 8
  32  Jones, Samuel, Philadelphia  1825 Mar 7
  33  Krafft, E.D, Washington  1821, 1832
  34  Krafft, John H., New Orleans & Liverpool  1825-1832
  35  Krafft, Michael, Mobile  1831-1832
  36  Lafonte, Edward, New Orleans  1837 Mar 17
  37  Lallande, Joseph, New Orleans  1837
  38  Lemoine, John E., Petersburg  1832
  39  Lockett, H., New Orleans  1831 Oct 9
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

41 Mason, Charles, New Orleans 1844 Jun 19
42 Mellon, E., Philadelphia 1838 Jan 22
43 Miles, Jacob, Philadelphia 1822 Nov 15
44 Mitchell, J. D., Cincinnati 1836 Sep 24
45 Morgan, Dorsey & Co., New Orleans 1821 Apr 7
46 Morgan, Thomas A., New Orleans 1837-1846

Norcross, William
See: W. & E. Snowden

47 O’Connor, Edward, Mobile 1837-1838
48 Oldden, John, Philadelphia 1831 Jul 15
49 Parry & Crosbie, Liverpool 1831
50 Rawle, Samuel B., Gibraltar 1833 Mar 23
51 Reckless, J. W., New Egypt, NJ 1821
52 Rowland, Samuel, Philadelphia 1821 Apr 2
53 S. & J. B. Forde, New York & Louisville 1821-1832
54 Sharpe, Henry John, New York 1831 Feb 17
55 Sheldon, Israel & George, North Carolina & Virginia 1820-1837
56 Smith, Aaron, Philadelphia 1821 Jul 1

Smith, C. M.
See: Charles. A. Jackson

57 Spangenberg, L., New Orleans 1832-1844
58 Squire & Reynolds, Port-au-Prince, Haiti 1831
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, cont.


60  Thomas Toby & Brothers, New Orleans  1837 Mar 1
    See also: Fuller & Thomas
    See also: George Green & Son

61  Toby, Thomas, New Orleans  1821-1825

Tomkins, John
    See: Israel & George Sheldon

Thomson, M.M.

62  Vincent, Benjamin, Mobile  1831

63  W. & E. Snowden, Bordentown, NJ  1821-1822

64  Whitaker & Sampson, Mobile  1844

65  White, William, Philadelphia  1822

Wilbor & Hazard
    See: George Wilbor

66  Wilbor, George, New Orleans  1832

67  Williams, Rogers & Robert, New York  1832 Dec 11

Wiayett, Benjamin
    See: Israel & George Sheldon

68  Unidentified correspondent, Memphis  1844 Jun 3
SERIES II. DOCUMENTS 1821-1846

Arranged in two subseries: Financial Records; and Insurance Certificates.

Financial records

2 69  Miscellaneous bills of lading  1821-1838
70  Miscellaneous brokerage and freight invoices  1838-1845
71  Miscellaneous business invoices  1824-1843
72  Personal expenses  1834-1843
73  Promissory notes  1840-1846
74  Receipt book  1832-1840

Insurance certificates

3 75  Fire, building, and goods coverage  1839
76  Marine shipments  1822-1826
77  Marine shipments  1838-1839
78  Marine shipments  1840-1841
79  Marine shipments  1842-1843
80  Marine shipments  1844-1845