

Library Company of Philadelphia

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.

Box Folder

SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE

1820-1846

Arranged alphabetically.

1	1	A & J Dennistoun & Co., New Orleans	1844
	2	Alexander Gordon & Co., Liverpool	1831 Jul 1
	3	Bailey & Hartwell, Cincinnati	1844 Aug 27
	4	Bayard & Hunter, Savannah	1832
	5	Brown, John C., Boston	1821 Feb 27
	6	Budd family [mother and sister Susan], Cincinnati	1831 Jun 24
	7	Budd, George K., St. Louis	1824-1844
	8	C. & J. Gibbs, Charleston	1831-1832
	9	Charles Humphrey & Co., Philadelphia	1831 Aug 29
	10	Chauncey, Charles, Philadelphia	1830-1831
	11	Coxe, Francis S., Buenos Aires & Montevideo	1824
		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

Box Folder

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

Box Folder

SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	40	McCawley, William, New Orleans	1821 Mar 3
	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

Box Folder

SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	59	Streshly, Robert & D. M., Hendersonville, KY	1831
	60	Thomas Toby & Brothers, New Orleans See also: Fuller & Thomas See also: George Green & Son	1837 Mar 1
	61	Toby, Thomas, New Orleans Tomkins, John See: Israel & George Sheldon Thomson, M.M. See: A & J Dennistoun & Co.	1821-1825
	62	Vincent, Benjamin, Mobile	1831
	63	W. & E. Snowden, Bordentown, NJ	1821-1822
	64	Whitaker & Sampson, Mobile	1844
	65	White, William, Philadelphia Wilbor & Hazard See: George Wilbor	1822
	66	Wilbor, George, New Orleans	1832
	67	Williams, Rogers & Robert, New York Wiyett, Benjamin See: Israel & George Sheldon	1832 Dec 11
	68	Unidentified correspondent, Memphis	1844 Jun 3

Box Folder

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