

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Wayne, Isaac (1772-1852)** **MC 2001.11**

Materials: Papers (1797-1841)

Volume: 0.25 linear feet (1 Document Box)

Donation: Gift of Boyd Lee Spahr, 1964

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Isaac Wayne was born in 1772, the youngest of two children and the only son of Anthony and Mary Penrose Wayne of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Anthony Wayne was a distinguished Revolutionary War general who had served with Washington at Valley Forge and had contributed to the American victory at the Battle of Monmouth. Young Isaac was educated at the local common schools, and may have also attended Princeton for a short time prior to entering Dickinson College. He graduated from Dickinson in 1792. After graduation, Wayne studied law and was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1795.

Though his father had served his country in the military, Isaac Wayne began his career of service as representative of the people. He was elected to the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives in 1799 and served a two-year term; he was again elected in 1806. Four years later, he was elected a state senator. At the outbreak of war in 1812, Wayne helped to raise a cavalry troop from Chester and surrounding counties, and became a colonel in the Second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. Following an unsuccessful run as the Federalist candidate for the Pennsylvania governorship in 1814, he returned to the family farm in Waynesborough in Easttown Township, Chester County to attend to his estate there.

His hiatus from public service lasted for nine years; in 1823 he was elected to serve a two-year term as a senator in the Eighteenth Congress. In March 1825, Wayne retired for good and remained a farmer the rest of his life. He died at the family farm at Waynesborough on October 25, 1852 at the age of eighty. He was buried at the St. David's Church cemetery in the family plot along with his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

On August 25, 1802, Wayne married Elizabeth Smith, and the couple had five children: Anthony, William, Richard, Sidney, and Mary. Elizabeth preceded her husband Isaac in death by only a few months, dying on April 17, 1852 at the age of seventy-four.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Isaac Wayne Papers are housed in one document box and have been organized into two series: Correspondence and Manuscripts. These papers were donated to the College in 1964 by Boyd Lee Spahr.

The Correspondence series is comprised of letters written to Isaac Wayne on various subjects ranging from biographical information on his father to Wayne's service in Congress. Also included are a few letters written by Wayne to others; of note are the letters of 1797 dealing with the settlement of his father's estate. The correspondence has been organized according to whether or not a letter was sent by Wayne or received by him; the letters are arranged chronologically within each of these sub-series. One letter from John Hall to Charles Miner regarding a possible biography of Anthony Wayne precedes the Isaac Wayne letters.

The Miscellaneous series contains five miscellaneous items pertaining to Isaac Wayne and his father, Anthony Wayne. These items, which include a map of the family farm, are arranged chronologically.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 – MC 2001.11

CORRESPONDENCE

Hall, John Elihu

Folder 01) Letter to Charles Miner – Aug. 13, 1825
(re: possible biography of Anthony Wayne)

Wayne, Isaac

Letters Sent

Folder 02) Letter to Col. Robinson – Jan. 20, 1797
Letter to unknown – Mar. 27, 1797
Letter to L. Smith – Mar. 12, 1828
Letter to Lewis Pearce – Apr. 1833
Letter to Gen. William Henry Harrison – Apr. 27, 1840

Letters Received

Folder 03) Letter from Sharp Delaney – Mar. 23, 1797
(with notarized copy by Clement Biddle)
Letter from the officers of the Chester County Volunteer Troop – Sept. 20, 1814
Letter from Joseph Delaplaine – Apr. 8, 1818
Letter from Charles Miner – Jan. 13, 1820
Letter from Charles Miner – Jan. 19, 1820

Folder 04) Letter from David Trimble – 1822
Letter from West Chester Literary Association – Feb. 1, 1823
Letter from Emmor Kimber – Dec. 4, 1823
Letter from Charles Miner – Jan. 8, 1824
Letter from John Johnston – Jan. 10, 1824
Letter from Callender Irvine – Jan. 10, 1825

BOX 1 – MC 2001.11 (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

- Folder 05) Letter from Eli Kirk Price – May 2, 1829
Letter from Eli Kirk Price – June 26, 1829
Letter from Samuel Breck – Feb. 6, 1833
Letter from William Darlington, et al. – Feb. 21, 1834
Letter from committee “opposed to the usurpations of
Andrew Jackson” – June 24, 1834
Letter from John Jones – Dec. 5, 1838
- Folder 06) Letter from Henry Evans – Apr. 21, 1840
Letter from the “committee of the friends of Harrison and
Tyler” – June 20, 1840
Letter from E. C. Reigart – Aug. 5, 1840
Letter from Horatio Worrall – Dec. 5, 1840
Letter from Abraham Perkins – Apr. 7, 1841
Letter from Samuel Lake – Sep. 1, 1851
(with letter from Lake to I. B. Wood – July 30, 1851)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 07) Survey map of “Wayne’s borough farm” in Easttown and Willistown
townships, Chester County – undated
Warrant for payment to Anthony Wayne, signed by John Dickinson –
May 10, 1784
“The Inscription of the Paoli monument for Isaac Wayne, Esq.” – 1817
Notification of Wayne’ election to Congress – Oct. 15, 1822
Draft of resolution in favor of William Henry Harrison and John Tyler
[in Isaac Wayne’s hand] – 1840

This collection register was prepared by Michele M. Tourney, February 2001.