



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Dutilh & Wachsmuth letters and accounts

1783-1806

MssCol 24494

Processed by Susan P. Waide in 2018.

Summary

Creator: Dutilh & Wachsmuth (Philadelphia, Pa.)

Title: Dutilh & Wachsmuth letters and accounts

Date: 1783-1806

Size: .01 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Four items relating to shipment for U.S. government and Baltimore account book purchased from Unger, 1924.

Abstract: Dutilh & Wachsmuth, a mercantile firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was established by Etienne (Stephen) Dutilh (1751-1810) under the name of E. Dutilh & Co., doing business shortly after his arrival in Philadelphia in 1783. The collection of Dutilh & Wachsmuth letters and accounts, 1783-1806, consists of letters and loose accounts received from European merchants, and an account book of an unidentified Baltimore shipping merchant handling consignments from Haiti for Dutilh & Wachsmuth. Items, in French, English and Dutch, document the firm's trade in cloth, lace, coffee, sugar and other commodities.

Preferred citation: Dutilh & Wachsmuth letters and accounts, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English In French, English and Dutch.

Processing note: Processed by Susan P. Waide in 2018.

Creator History

Dutilh & Wachsmuth, a mercantile firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was established by Etienne (Stephen) Dutilh (1751-1810) under the name of E. Dutilh & Co., doing business shortly after his arrival in Philadelphia in 1783. Dutilh was born in France and his family had mercantile interests in The Netherlands and elsewhere. With the admission to partnership of John Godfried Wachsmuth (1748-1828) in 1790, the firm was known Dutilh & Wachsmuth. A notice of dissolution of the firm E. Dutilh & Wachsmuth appeared in Philadelphia papers in mid-1797. Stephen Dutilh and John G. Wachsmuth each continued as merchants in Philadelphia.

Scope and Content Note

The collection of Dutilh & Wachsmuth letters and accounts, 1783-1806, consists of letters and loose accounts received from European merchants, and an account book of an unidentified Baltimore shipping merchant handling consignments from Haiti for Dutilh & Wachsmuth. Items, in French, English and Dutch, document the firm's trade in cloth, lace, coffee, sugar and other commodities.

Letters to John Godf. Wachsmuth and a receipt to E. Dutilh & Wachsmuth from Wilhem & Jan Willink and N. & J. Van Staphorst & Hubbard at Amsterdam, 1797, concern the insurance and shipment of cargo, its sale value to be credited to United States government funds in The Netherlands. Letters are in English and comprise two originals and a duplicate. Loose accounts, 1783-1806, consist of invoices, statements, and bills of lading from shipping merchants in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and Hamburg, among them Jean François & Jacob Dutilh in Amsterdam. These are for shipments consigned to E. Dutilh & Co., Etienne or Stephen Dutilh, E. Dutilh & Wachsmuth at Philadelphia, and a few others.

An unidentified shipping merchant's account book in French, Baltimore, 1794, documents charges on consignments of sugar, cotton, coffee and other items from Cap Français in Haiti, dealing with Dutilh & Wachsmuth of Philadelphia and the firm of Stanislas Foäche, P. Morange & Hardivillier.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Account books
Accounts
Receipts (financial records)
Shipping records

Geographic Names

Cap-Français (Haiti) -- Commerce
Europe -- Commerce -- United States
Philadelphia (Pa.) -- Commerce
United States -- Commerce -- Europe
United States -- Commerce -- West Indies
United States -- History -- 1783-1815
West Indies -- Commerce -- United States

Subjects

Merchants -- Maryland -- Baltimore
Merchants -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia

Occupations

Merchants.

Names

Dutilh, Etienne, 1751-1810
Wachsmuth, John Godfried, 1748-1828
Dutilh & Wachsmuth (Philadelphia, Pa.)