



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Leonard de Neufville letters received

1786-1790

MssCol 24497

Processed by Susan P. Waide, 2018

Summary

Cre: Neufville, Leonard de

Title: Leonard de Neufville letters received

Date: 1786-1790

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Source of acquisition unknown.

Abstract: Leonard de Neufville was the son of merchant banker Jean (John) de Neufville, head of the firm of Jean de Neufville & Son in Amsterdam. The firm assisted the Continental Congress with financial transactions during the American Revolution. Leonard emigrated to the United States in 1783 and was later joined by his father, who attempted to obtain restitution for wartime losses. Leonard established glass works at Dovesburgh (Guilderland) near Albany, New York, in 1785. The collection consists of business letters to Leonard de Neufville at Albany, Philadelphia, and Charleston from New York merchant Robert Gilchrist and others, 1786-1789, and two receipts. Letters from Gilchrist to Leonard de Neufville concern de Neufville's financial difficulties, particularly with respect to the glass works at Albany. Receipts are for payment from Leonard de Neufville via Gilchrist signed by Isaac H. Levy, 1789; and for payment from John de Neufville, discharging debts of John de Neufville & Son, signed by Paschal N. Smith, 1790.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: Leonard de Neufville letters received, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Susan P. Waide, 2018

Creator History

Leonard de Neufville was the son of merchant banker Jean (John) de Neufville, head of the firm of Jean de Neufville & Son in Amsterdam. The firm assisted the Continental Congress with financial

transactions during the American Revolution. Leonard emigrated to the United States in 1783 and was later joined by his father, who attempted to obtain restitution for wartime losses. Leonard established glass works at Dovesburgh (Guilderland) near Albany, New York, in 1785. The venture was in distress by 1790, to be re-established by others as the Albany Glass-House in 1792. After John de Neufville's death in 1796, his destitute wife petitioned Congress for financial aid, Leonard being unable to support his family due to mental illness. He was committed to a Philadelphia asylum and died in 1812.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of business letters to Leonard de Neufville at Albany, Philadelphia, and Charleston from New York merchant Robert Gilchrist and others, 1786-1789, and two receipts. Letters from Gilchrist to Leonard de Neufville concern de Neufville's financial difficulties, particularly with respect to the glass works at Albany. Receipts are for payment from Leonard de Neufville via Gilchrist signed by Isaac H. Levy, 1789; and for payment from John de Neufville, discharging debts of John de Neufville & Son, signed by Paschal N. Smith, 1790.

Key Terms

Subjects

Glass manufacture -- New York (State) -- Albany
Merchants -- New York (State)

Occupations

Merchants.

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Receipts (financial records)

Names

Gilchrist, Robert, 1763-1817
Neufville, Leonard de
Neufville, Leonard de -- Correspondence
Albany Glass-House
John de Neufville & Son (Amsterdam, Netherlands)