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Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

George Chalmers collection

1606-1817

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Summary

Creator: Chalmers, George, 1742-1825

Title: George Chalmers collection

Date: 1606-1817

Size: 4.08 linear feet (2 boxes, 27 volumes, 2 oversized folders)

Source: Various purchases, 1890 and 1893

Abstract: George Chalmers (1742-1825) was a British historian, civil servant, and author. Born in Scotland, he emigrated to Maryland in 1763. He was a lawyer in Baltimore until the American Revolutionary War broke out, when he left for England. Chalmers held the positions of chief clerk for the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations, and colonial agent for the Bahamas. He wrote on historical, political and economic topics, many concerning the American colonies, and collected a large library of books and manuscripts. The George Chalmers collection, dated 1606-1817, consists of materials relating to the North American British colonies of Canada, the Carolinas, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Florida, including letters, documents and maps. Also present are papers relating to the Indians in North America, and two variant manuscripts of Chalmers' history of the revolt of the American colonies.

Access: Advance notice required.

Alternative Form Available: Materials for Connecticut, Georgia, Indians, Nova Scotia, Carolina, and Virginia volume 1 are available on microfilm.

Preferred citation: George Chalmers collection, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

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Custodial History

This collection was originally part of the library of George Chalmers. When Chalmers died in 1825, the library was inherited by his nephew, James Chalmers, and kept intact until his death in 1841. James

Chalmers' sister then sold the original Chalmers library to Messrs. Evans, dealers in London. A large portion was purchased by London bookseller Thomas Thorpe, and Colonel Thomas Aspinwall purchased a number of volumes pertaining to the American colonies from him in 1843. Samuel L. M. Barlow later purchased the Aspinwall volumes, which were purchased by the Lenox Library in 1890 after Barlow's death. The remainder of the volumes were purchased from the estate of George Bancroft in 1893.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Canada -- History -- 1763-1867
Canada -- History -- To 1763 (New France)
Connecticut -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Florida -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Georgia -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Great Britain -- Colonies -- America
Maryland -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
New York (State) -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
North Carolina -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Nova Scotia -- History -- 1763-1867
Nova Scotia -- History -- To 1763
Pennsylvania -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Rhode Island -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
South Carolina -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Virginia -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775

Subjects

Colonies -- America
Indians of North America -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775

Occupations

Historians

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Maps (documents)

Names

Chalmers, George, 1742-1825

Container List

- v. 1 Papers relating to Canada 1692-1792
Papers relating to Connecticut
- v. 2 Connecticut 1 1639-1737
- v. 3 Connecticut 2 1738-1744
- v. 4 Connecticut 3 1746-1757
- v. 5 Papers relating to Georgia 1730-1798
Papers relating to Indians 1757-1764, 1772-1775
- v. 6 French intrigues subsequent to the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle after 1754
1-3
Notes on events 1748-1754
- v. 6 George Croghan to Sir William Johnson 1757
4-5
Extracts of the treaty held at Easton, July 1757. Quaker policy as to the Indians
- v. 6 Extract of a letter from Mr. Hugh Crawford at the Great Plains on Scioto 1760
June 20
6
- v. 6 Copy of intelligence brought by the Beaver / King of the Delawares to
Pittsburgh 1760 July 9
6
- v. 6 Unidentified correspondent to Major [Horatio] Gates 1760 July 15
7
- v. 6 Intelligence brought by a Delaware Indian, who lives amongst the
Wayondotts 1760 July 15
8
- v. 6 Intelligency brought by Indians 1760 July 16-17
9
- v. 6 Intelligence received 22 June 1760 from the Twightwee Country by two
Indians 1760 July 26
10
- v. 6 Indian intelligence 1760 July 30
11
- v. 6 Report on the fall conference with Indians of all Nations 1760 August 7
12
- v. 6 Return of the Indians of the Different Nations at Fort Pitt 1760 August 16
13
- v. 6 Tribes of Indians that received the presents 1760 August 17
14
- v. 6 Indian intelligence 1760 August 26
15
- v. 6 Thomas Hutchins to unidentified recipient 1760 October 12
16
- v. 6 Copy of a letter from Colonel Bouquet to Captain Cochran (enclosure) 1760
November 28
17
enclosure to a letter from Bouquet to Major Stewart
- v. 6 Henry Bouquet to Major Stewart 1760 November 28
18

Papers relating to Indians (cont.)

- v. 6 Number of fighting men belonging to the Indian Nations living west of the Ohio, known to the English, as computed by themselves 1760
19
- v. 6 Complaint to Robert Monckton 1762 July 14
20 (signed by Quansqueekheck and Josiah Mhuttauweh)
Regarding illegal seizure of Indian lands
- v. 6 Complaint of the Mukheekaunuck Tribe to the Governor of the Province of New York 1762 July 17
21
- v. 6 William Johnson to Major General Monckton 1762 August 1
22
- v. 6 William Johnson to Governor Monckton 1762 August 18
23
- v. 6 William Johnson to Governor Monckton 1762 November 12
24
- v. 6 William Johnson to John Watts 1762 November 18
25
- v. 6 William Johnson to Governor Monckton 1762 November 26
26
- v. 6 William Johnson to Governor Monckton 1762 December 13
27
- v. 6 William Johnson to John T. Kempe 1762 December 18
28
- v. 6 William Johnson to Governor Monckton 1763 January 20
29
- v. 6 William Johnson to Lieutenant Governor Colden 1764 March 2
30 (copy)
With postscripts dated March 5th and March 11th
- v. 6 Talk with Indians 1772 April 26
31 (signed Oconostota; postscript signed Tassil)
- v. 6 Speeches of the six Shawanese to Alexander McKee 1773 June 28
32
- v. 6 Extract from a journal of Indian transactions 1774 February 27-April 25
33
- v. 6 Journal of Captain John Connolly 1774 April 14-May 27
34-39
Commencing from the late disturbances with Cherokees upon the Ohio
- v. 6 Extract from Captain John Connolly's journal containing Indian transactions 1774 May 1-August 30
40-56
contains copies of documents pertaining to George Croghan, Lord Dunmore, and the Six Nations
- v. 6 Extract taken from a journal of Indian transactions 1774 May
57- 60
- v. 6 Lord Dunmore's answer to the Delaware and Six Nation Chiefs at Fort Dunmore undated
61
- v. 6 At a Conference held with several of the Delaware and Mohawk Chiefs at Fort Dunmore undated
62

Papers relating to Indians (cont.)

- v. 6 Reply of the Mohawks and Delaware Chiefs to Lord Dunmore's answer
undated
63
- v. 6 Lord Dunmore's answer to the Mohawks and Delaware Chiefs' reply undated
64
- v. 6 The Delawares' reply to Lord Dunmore undated
65
- v. 6 Responses of the Huron Indians upon learning of the death of William
Johnson 1774 September 7
66
- v. 6 Talk from the Little Carpenter undated
67
- v. 6 The Chicksaw Mankillis Talk and Attakullakulla's The little Carpenter's Talk
to Colonel Donelson undated
68
- v. 6 Report on meeting with Indians 1774 October 10
69-73
- v. 6 Report of a battle with the Indians 1774 October
74
- v. 6 Lord Dunmore's talk to the Indians at the Camp Charlotte within five miles of
the Shawanese towns undated
75
- v. 6 Lord Dunmore's messages to the Indians
76
- v. 6 Draft of remarks to the Indians
77
- v. 6 Draft of letter
78
- v. 6 The Mingo speech delivered by Corn Stalk to the Big Knife undated
79
- v. 6 The Shawanese speech delivered by Corn Stalk to the Big Knife, or Lord
Dunmore, at Camp Charlotte undated
80
- v. 6 Speech by Captain Russell to the Shawanese at Fort Blair undated
81
- v. 6 Speech by Captain Russell to the Mingo at Fort Blair undated
82
- v. 6 Thomas Cresap to [Lord Dunmore] undated
83
- v. 6 Invoice of sundry Indians' goods, sent by order of General Monckton undated
84
- v. 6 Cotaba King to Lord Dunmore 1775 April 12
85

Papers relating to Maryland

- v. 7 Maryland 1
- v. 8 Maryland 2 1777-1812

Papers relating to New York

- v. 9 New York 1 1608-1759
- v. 10 New York 2 1759-1765
- v. 11 New York 3 1759-1765
- v. 12 New York 4 1759-1792

Papers relating to New York (cont.)

- o. 1 Maps of Albany
from New York, Volume 2, pp. 48-49
- v. 13 Papers relating to Nova Scotia 1745-1817
- Papers relating to Pennsylvania
- v. 14 Pennsylvania 1 1620-1752
- v. 15 Pennsylvania 2

Papers relating to Philadelphia

Letters to General Robert Monckton and his major of brigade, Horatio Gates, 1760-1761, from Henry Bouquet, George Croghan, and Hugh Mercer, written for the most part at Fort Pitt and Presqu' Isle, on the affairs of those posts, the defense of the frontier, communications, etc.; letters from Richard Peters, James Hamilton, and others, on the same subjects; report by Maj. Robert Rogers of his expedition; Philadelphia, including William Sheppard's account of a riot, April 1, 1769, and some mercantile documents; a few letters to Benjamin Franklin, 1775. About 120 items, the greater part letters from Bouquet.

Both volumes are lettered "Papers relating to Philadelphia." The papers actually relating to Philadelphia are in the latter part of volume 2.

Philadelphia 1 1760

- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to Major General Stanwix 1760 April 26
1,2
contains distances between spots along a road from Lancaster to Pittsburgh
- v. 16 Map of the road to Presqu'Isle undated
3
- v. 16 George Croghan to unidentified recipient 1760 May [5]
4
- v. 16 George Croghan to Horatio Gates 1760 May 20
5
- v. 16 George Croghan to [Horatio Gates] 1760 May 22
6
- v. 16 George Croghan to Horatio Gates 1760 May 23
7
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 June 3
8
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 June 7
9
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 June 10
10
- v. 16 Richard Peters to General Monckton 1760 June [16]
11
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton [1760] June 11
12
- v. 16 George Croghan to Horatio Gates 1760 June 17
13
- v. 16 Indians intelligence from Captain Croghan 1760 June 17
14
enclosure to a letter from Croghan to Gates dated 1760 June 17
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 June 20
15
- v. 16 Richard Peters to unidentified recipient 1762 June 20
16

Papers relating to Philadelphia (cont.)

Philadelphia 1 (cont.)

- v. 16 Adam Hoops to Colonel Bouquet 1760 July 9
17
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 July 9
18
- v. 16 George Croghan to [Horatio Gates] 1760 July 10
19
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 July 13
20
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 July 17
21
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 July 18
22
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 July 19
23
- v. 16 Hugh Mercer to General Monckton 1760 July 19
24
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 July 24
25
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 July 29
26
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 August 6
28
- v. 16 Hugh Mercer to General Monckton 1760 August 11
29
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 August 11
30
- v. 16 Richard Peters to unidentified recipient 1760 August 14
31
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1761 August 15
32
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 August 15
33
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 August 21
34
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 August 29
35 (signature cut out)
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to Major Gates 1760 September 2
36
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 September 3
37
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 September 4
38
- v. 16 Message from Governor James Hamilton to the Assembly 1760 September 9
39 (a true copy by Richard Peters)
- v. 16 Richard Peters to unidentified recipient 1760 September 11
40
- v. 16 Message from the Assembly to Governor James Hamilton 1760 September 12
41 (signed on behalf of Speaker Isaac Morris)
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 September 15
42
- v. 16 Hugh Mercer to General Monckton 1760 September 15
43

Papers relating to Philadelphia (cont.)
Philadelphia 1 (cont.)

- v. 16 Richard Peters to unidentified recipient 1760 September 18
44
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to Major Gates 1760 September 22
45
- v. 16 Richard Peters to General Monckton 1760 September 24
46
- v. 16 Message from Governor James Hamilton to the Assembly 1760 October 15
47 (a true copy by Richard Peters)
- v. 16 Message from the Assembly to Governor James Hamilton 1760 October 17
48 (Attested a true copy by Richard Peters.)
- v. 16 [Richard Peters] to [General Monckton] 1760 October 1
49 (incomplete)
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 October 1
50
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 October 8
51
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 October 9
52
enclosed is "Return of Provisions in Store at Presqu'Isle," endorsed by Edw. Smyth
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 October 9
53
- v. 16 Richard Peters to [General Monckton] 1760 October 19
54
- v. 16 Journal of the March performed by Major Robert Rogers of the Rangers in
pursuance to the Orders of the Honorable. Brigadier General Monckton
1760 October-1761 February
55-61
- o. 2 A Journal Commenced at Fort Pitt 1760 July-August
Captain George Croghan's journal to Presque'Isle - and intelligence received lately
- v. 16 George Croghan's journal 1760 October-1761 February
62-65
- v. 16 Hugh Mercer to General Monckton 1760 November 2
66
- v. 16 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 November 4
67-68

Philadelphia 2

- v. 7 James Hamilton to General Monckton 1760 October 18
1
- v. 17 James Hamilton to General Monckton 1760 September 18
2
- v. 17 James Hamilton to General Monckton 1760 September 4
3
- v. 17 Return of provisions issued and sent forward Presqu'Isle 1760 November 4
4
- v. 17 Return of ammunition and tools in the store at Presqu'Isle 1760 November 4
5
Return of ammunition sent forward with Major Rogers' Rangers, November 3, 1760
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 November 26
6

Papers relating to Philadelphia (cont.)
Philadelphia 2 (cont.)

- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 November 29
7
- v. 17 Donald Campbell to Henry Bouquet 1760 November 2
8
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 December 2
9
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 December 4
10
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 December 20
11,12
- v. 17 Copy of Captain Campbell's letter to Colonel Bouquet, received the 24th of
December 1760 1760 December 25
13
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet cover enclosing copy of Captain Campbell's letter 1760
December 25
14
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 December 25
15
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1760 December 29
16
- v. 17 Copy of letter from Captain Campbell to Colonel Bouquet 1761 March 10
17
- v. 17 Richard Peters to General Monckton 1761 April 27
18
- v. 17 Richard Peters to General Monckton 1761 April 27
18
- v. 17 Signature W. S. Peters 1761 September 31
20
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 January 14
21
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 January 25
22
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 January 26
23
- v. 17 Petition from Monsieur Baby circa 1760
24
enclosure to letter of 1761 February 24 from Bouquet
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 February 24
25
- v. 17 Speeches of the Shawanese 1761 March 1, 3
26 (signed George Croghan, Indian Agent)
- v. 17 Speech of the Six Nations 1761 March 14
27
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 March 18
28
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 March 20
29-30
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet affidavit 1760 June 20
31
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 March 23
32
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 March 28
33

Papers relating to Philadelphia (cont.)
Philadelphia 2 (cont.)

- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 April 18
34
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 April 22
35-36
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 April 25
37
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 May 4
38
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 May 15
39
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 June 12
40
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 June 12
41-42
- v. 17 Copy of an Indian Council 1761 June 18
43
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 June 30
44
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 July 10
45
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 July 24
46
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 July 27
47
- v. 17 Henry Bouquet to General Monckton 1761 August 12
48
- v. 17 Extract of a letter from Captain Campbell, Detroit 1761 June 1
49
- v. 17 Donald Campbell to Henry Bouquet 1761 June 16
50
- v. 17 Donald Campbell to Captain Cochrane 1761 June 17
51
- v. 17 Donald Campbell to Henry Bouquet 1761 May 22
52
- v. 17 Donald Campbell to Henry Bouquet 1761 June 21
53
- v. 17 Letter from Philadelphia 1764 January 19
54
- v. 17 William Allen to General Monckton 1764 September 26
55
- v. 17 Signed statement of Jane Sinclair and account of losses sustained 1769
February 21
56 (signed and notarized by James Biddle)
- v. 17 Proposal to General Monckton from Adam Hoops and William Buchanan
1769 February 22
57
- v. 17 Adam Hoops to General Monckton 1769 February 22
58
- v. 17 Copy of a representation of the behavior of the mob at Philadelphia, April
1, 1769, to the Honorable Board of Commissioners, by William Sheppard
1769 April
59-61

Papers relating to Philadelphia (cont.)
Philadelphia 2 (cont.)

- v. 17 Thomas Robinson to Robert Alexander 1780 May 11
62
The yearly exports of the produce from the several inlets on the western shore of Delaware to Philadelphia and New York from 1770 to 1774
- v. 17 Exports from Philadelphia to Great Britain 1773
63
- v. 17 Extract of a letter from one of the Galloway Delegates for the Congress at Philadelphia dated Sunday, September 3, 1774 1774 September 4-5
64, 65
- v. 17 [Robert Crafton] to Benjamin Franklin 1775 November 14
66-68
- v. 17 Robert Crafton to James Searle 1775 November 20
69-70 (contains post script dated November 22)
- v. 17 Robert Crafton to Benjamin Franklin 1775 November 15
71
- v. 17 Robert Crafton to Benjamin Franklin 1775 November 22
71-72
- v. 17 [David Hartley] to Benjamin Franklin 1775 November 14
72-73 (signed G B)
- v. 17 [Robert Crafton?] to Dr. William Shippen, Jr 1775 November 23
73
- v. 17 Harper, Dirk, and Milligan, Kingston, Jamaica account 1776 March 1
74
for sale of sundry merchandise imported to the Brig Jamaica Packet Richard Stansbury, Master from Philadelphia on account of Mssrs. Thomas Harper and Joseph Whitall, merchants there, August, 1775-February 1776
- v. 17 Harper, Dirk, and Milligan, Kingston, Jamaica account 1776 January 23
75
for sale of sundry merchandise imported to the Sloop Betsey, Thomas Pitt, Master from Philadelphia on account of Mssrs. Whitall, Vaux, and Co., merchants there, October 1775-January 1776
- v. 17 William Campbell to unidentified 1781 August 12
76
- v. 17 *The Philadelphia Price Current* 1784 June 28
77 (Newspaper)
- v. 17 Dr. Andrew Ross to William Petrie 1788 December 17
78
- v. 17 George Chalmers to Charles Monro 1789 March 22
79-80
- v. 17 Plan of a proposed Union of the Several Colonies undated
81
Plan of a proposed Union of the Several Colonies of Massacheuttes Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina for mutual defence and security and for extending the British Settlement in North America
- v. 18 Papers relating to Rhode Island
Papers relating to Carolina
 - b. 1 Carolina 1
formerly Bancroft 164

Papers relating to Carolina (cont.)

- b. 2 Carolina 2
formerly Bancroft 165

Papers relating to Virginia

- v. 19 Virginia 1 1606-1683
- v. 20 Virginia 2 1689-1770
- v. 21 Virginia 3 1771-1773
- v. 22 Virginia 4 1773-1775
- v. 23 Papers relating to West Florida 1763-1782
- v. 24 History of the Revolt of the British Colonies [...] America
- v. 25 Introduction to the history of the revolt of the American colonies