

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # *89M16

Location 3-j-1

Title Childs, Perry G. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1811-1834; (1819-1822, bulk).

Date of receipt 1915

Received from Charles S. Fairchild, Gift.

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 2 boxes. .6 linear ft. (298 items).

Condition Good. Some items have tears causing some loss of information.

Restrictions

Description

Perry G. Childs was a New York State senator and a member of the Council of Appointment of the State of New York representing the Western District. Evidence in the collection suggests that he held these positions during 1819-1822. Prior to this period Childs was an attorney in Cazenovia, New York.

The Council of Appointment consisted of the Governor, and four senators each representing one of the four districts of New York. The Council was established by the 1777 state constitution as a mechanism by which the Governor's power of appointment could be shared. By 1821 the Council had control of nearly 15,000 civil and military offices. It was abolished by New York's second constitution, and went out of existence on December 31, 1822.

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries
Legislators-New York (N.Y.)
New York-Politics and government-to 1898
New York (State)-Officials and employees
Republican Party (N.Y.)
New York. Council of Appointment
Justices of the peace-New York (N.Y.)
Erie Canal (N.Y.)
Commissioners of deeds (N.Y.)

Accessioned by Julie Miller

Date February 1, 1989

DESCRIPTION

Included are letters and petitions received by Childs as a state senator and member of the Council of Appointment, 1819-1822. The bulk is from 1822, and there are single letters from 1811, 1817, and 1834. Papers chiefly concern appointments to local offices in Western New York. Some New York City appointments are also discussed. State and local political and legislative matters are the second major topic.

The petitions, which often take the form of reports from town or party (mainly Republican) meetings, are addressed to the Council and contain recommendations of candidates to fill local offices. They also contain recommendations that office holders be removed (sometimes accompanied by descriptions of the relevant local political situations), notices of resignations, and requests or complaints concerning the kinds of officials and their numbers and locations in specific towns and counties. There are two copies of a printed notice, dated January 22, 1822, inviting citizens of Palmyra, New York to a meeting where candidates for town magistrates would be selected.

The offices under consideration include: justices of the peace; commissioners of deeds, health, turnpikes, and other areas of responsibility, and including canal commissioners whose concern was the soon to be completed (1825) Erie Canal; inspectors of beef and pork, leather, salt, and other goods; auctioneers; coroners; a division inspector of the infantry; magistrates; sheriffs; and others.

Lists of appointees and nominees, 1821, 1822, and undated, and a notebook titled "Western District Appts 1822" are also included.

Perry G. Childs

Correspondence and petitions in the Childs Papers concerns appointments to offices in the following western New York counties:

Allegheny
Broome
Cattaraugus
Cayuga
Chautauqua
Cortland
Erie
Genesee
Livingston
Madison
Monroe
Onandaga
Oneida
Ontario
Oswego
Steuben
Tioga

Also, New York County.

