



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr**

1903-1932

MssCol 23291

Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2017

## Summary

**Creator:** Wetmore, George Peabody, 1846-1921

**Title:** George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr

**Date:** 1903-1932

**Size:** .21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Donated by Frank Veeder, 1969

**Abstract:** George Peabody Wetmore was the 37th governor of Rhode Island and later a U.S. senator from the State. The George Peabody Wetmore papers consist chiefly of his correspondence with dealers, librarians, and others regarding the location or purchase of books, papers, and portraits associated with American loyalist William Smith Jr. and his family, and the acquisition of Smith's papers by The New York Public Library. Also present is his daughter Maude A.K. Wetmore's correspondence regarding John Wollaston's portrait of William Smith Jr., acquired by her father; the original label for the portrait; photographs of the portrait; Smith family bookplates; and some printed matter concerning Smith. The collection was originally described as a scrapbook; materials are not bound together. Original letters and documents pertaining to William Smith Jr., his father William Smith (1697-1769), and his brother Joshua Hett Smith have been transferred to the Division's Miscellaneous Personal Name Files collection; photocopies are retained in this collection.

**Preferred citation:** George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr., Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

**Processing note:** Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2017

## Creator History

George Peabody Wetmore was the 37th governor of Rhode Island and later a U.S. senator from the State. He married Edith Malvina Keteltas, a descendant of William Smith Jr.'s sister, Sarah Smith Keteltas. Wetmore was instrumental in the acquisition of the William Smith Jr. Papers by The New York Public Library.

## Scope and Content Note

The George Peabody Wetmore papers consist chiefly of his correspondence with dealers, librarians, and others regarding the location or purchase of books, papers, and portraits associated with American loyalist William Smith Jr. and his family, and the acquisition of Smith's papers by The New York Public Library. Also present is his daughter Maude A.K. Wetmore's correspondence regarding John Wollaston's portrait of William Smith Jr., acquired by her father; the original label for the portrait; photographs of the portrait; Smith family bookplates; and some printed matter concerning Smith.

## Key Terms

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Armorial bookplates

Photographs

### Occupations

Art dealers

Booksellers

Librarians

Politicians

### Names

Anderson, Edwin Hatfield, 1861-1947

Smith, William, 1728-1793

Wetmore, Maude A. K. (Maude Alice Keteltas), 1873-1951

Wollaston, John, 1710-1775?

Smith family

New York Public Library. Central Administration. Director's Office