



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Liebmann collection of American historical documents relating to
spiritous liquors**

1665-1910 [bulk 1665-1865]

MssCol 1756

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Summary

Collector: Liebmann, Alfred J., 1885-1957

Title: Liebmann collection of American historical documents relating to spiritous liquors

Date: 1665-1910 [bulk 1665-1865]

Size: .68 linear feet (2 boxes, 1 volume, 1 oversized folder)

Source: Alfred J. Liebmann, 1953

Abstract: Alfred J. Liebmann (b. 1885) was a research chemist. Born in Switzerland, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1910 and became technical director of Schenley Industries and president of the Schenley Research Institute. His studies included the utilization of cereal crops and of distillery by-products. Collection consists of correspondence, broadsides, official forms, and other documents concerning the distribution and use of liquor in the U.S. Topics include trade in rum and molasses in colonial America, Whiskey Rebellion in 1794, military use of liquor, taverns, and importation and sale of liquor. Some of the items are signed by notable political and military figures.

Access: Advance notice required.

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Creator History

An Appreciation by Robert W. Hill, Keeper of Manuscripts, 1954

Most of us can recall instances during recent decades of pessimistic prophets insisting that our country had ceased to be a land of opportunity; another theme of theirs at times has been that the "melting pot" had failed to refine the raw immigrant into a staunch American, especially in this twentieth century. A recent gift of manuscript letters and documents presented to the Library offers a living refutation of such charges in the person of its donor, Alfred J. Liebmann, of New York City.

Dr. Liebmann, born in Switzerland, came to this country about 1910, as a recent university graduate carrying little in his luggage but his diplomas and an excess of hopefulness. His education had been acquired in his native city, Zurich, where the Polytechnic School awarded him its Chemical Engineer degree in 1907; the University conferred its Doctor of Philosophy in physical chemistry, when his dissertation, "Zur Kenntnis der Ober-flachenspannungen geschmolzener Metalle und Salze", was accepted in 1909. Within a year of his arrival here, Dr. Liebmann was at work as a research assistant in the laboratory of the: General Electric Company. In 1921 he was placed in charge of the Elkon Works of that company, producers of ductile tungsten, molybdenum and appliances made therefrom. The interval of a dozen years was filled with advancement in technical experience and in management responsibilities for Dr. Liebmann, his major scientific contributions being in the field of filaments, particularly with regard to improved use of tungsten. He was not a secluded researcher; his extra-laboratory environment was reacting upon him, too, so that he chose, before many years of residence here, to become a citizen and to pledge his allegiance to this country.

In 1933, Dr. Liebmann became associated with Schenley Industries, Inc. As their technical director, he has been president of the Schenley Research Institute, constantly seeking wider utilization of cereal crops and of distillery by-products, improved methods of making alcoholic beverages and ethyl alcohol, more efficient production of plastics and of butadiene from grain. During World War II he served on the penicillin advisory committee of the War Production Board.

His interest in the fascinating "anti-biotics" did not cease when the urgent wartime needs for them tapered off at the close of conflict. In 1947 he reported on investigations conducted by a research team in the Schenley laboratories studying certain molds which promise to yield a substance effective against viruses, thought by many medical men to be the basic factor in various types of influenza. These experiments were focused on a family of soil molds - the genera *Aspergillus* - also found growing in fruits and grains. Clearly a scientist conducting this kind of research must be in close understanding with the medical profession so dependent upon better pharmaceuticals for conquest or control of disease. This collaboration of industrial chemist and doctor was recognized by Dr. Liebmann's election to the board of trustees of Knickerbocker Hospital, a post which he held few over twenty-five years.

The chemist uses distillation as a process for extracting the essence, or "spirit", of any matter; it is a method of ancient origin. Its history caught Dr. Liebmann's interest many years ago, and since then he has gathered a fine collection of early and rare printed works on the subject. He learned, too, as he read American history that distillation had been a significant factor in numerous situations or episodes in that record. Soon he found himself unable to resist collecting historic American documents relative to the production and use of whiskey, rum, and brandy, all these being spirituous liquors obtained by distillation. It is this group of manuscripts which comprises the new gift to the Library for its Manuscript Division, In the course of presentation to The New York Public Library Dr. and Mrs. Liebmann expressed a wish that the donation might be looked upon as a token of their appreciation for the opportunities which this country offers the immigrant citizen - freedoms such as the achievement of business success, participation in civic interests, and pursuit of happiness through hobbies and similar cultural activities.

Scope and Content Note

The Liebmann Collection of American Historical Documents contains approximately 226 manuscript items and a dozen printed pieces, principally broadsides proclaiming governmental regulations or official forms requiring insertion in handwriting of certain essential data. The period covered by these materials extends from 1665 to 1910. The earliest document is a bail-bond for two residents of

Massachusetts bound to appear at the county court at Charlestown to answer a charge of selling strong liquor to the Indians of Wamesett; the most recent piece is a letter by President William Howard Taft. The major number of items reflect events or episodes in our nation's history prior to 1865; an effort to categorize the collection as one for the "economic" or the "social" historian defies solution.

The importance of rum and molasses as staples in the colonial economy becomes apparent repeatedly in the history of our seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Most of us learned from our school or college textbooks about the triangular trade from our northern or New England ports to the slave coasts of Africa and thence to the sugar islands of the West Indies, whence rum, or molasses for distilling into rum, would be the cargo on the homeward leg of the voyage. There was also a considerable short-run trade involving exchange of the New England fisheries catches for the products of the islands: fish and lumber outbound, rum and molasses inbound. While we were British colonies, the Crown's interest in revenues from such trade, and the efforts to exercise close control of the molasses trade especially, led to friction and to occasional smuggling. Much insight into the importance of these staple commodities can be gained from numerous letters of merchants, ship captains and such folk which are represented in the Liebmann Collection. Although rum continued to be of importance in trade and diet during the decades after we declared our Independence of Britain, a more indigenous product gradually superseded it in primacy.

As the new nation pushed its settlements beyond the Appalachians local agriculture came to produce more grains. The predominantly temperate climate, and the geography of the land, much of it requiring the clearance of primeval forests, favored cereals and such fruits as apples and peaches; these are the essentials for making whiskey, brandy or the related cordials. Neither environment nor agricultural heritage directed our early frontiersman into raising sugar cane; to him, flour or whiskey were the best forms through which he might produce a marketable crop. Anything which prevented or retarded such conversion of crops into so much cash as he felt necessary was sure to meet his disfavor. This was the basic cause of the so called Whiskey Insurrection of 1791-1795 in western Pennsylvania.

The Insurrection, sometimes called the Whiskey "Rebellion", can be traced from its inception to its climax through manuscripts in the Liebmann Collection. Although the most scholarly, recent study of this chapter in our history reveals several contributory factors, social and political, which entered into the disturbances of 1794 in the four western counties of Pennsylvania close by the Ohio River, the central fact is that the excise law of 1791 was the recurrent irritant in the situation. The Collection includes some lengthy letters of merchants at the time of the adoption of the bill into law, showing the emergence of sectional differences over the issue of taxes. A manuscript draft of the instructions for making the law effective, bearing Hamilton's signature, is also present.

For the events in the "Rebellion", after the efforts at settlement by a board of Commissioners had come to naught, there are a number of revealing source documents. These fall into the closing months of 1794, when an expeditionary force of about 13,000 men, militia from the eastern sea board, marched into the area of disorder. The "right wing" set out from Carlisle and was comprised of Pennsylvania and Jersey men mainly; the "left wing" composed of Virginians and Marylanders went by way of Cumberland. The Liebmann Collection contains a series of letters of one of the Pennsylvanians recording the intimate picture of the march, with news of others who participated; these have heightened interest because they were addressed to one of the unsuccessful Commissioners. A more official account is given by the orderly book for the "left wing", which was kept by a member of the noted Virginia family, the Nelsons. By these two different types of records one sees the events of October to December, 1794, in a manner not supplied by the current reports in the eastern newspapers of the time. Washington's order authorizing the enrollment of additional troops, for a period of limited service in this emergency, is among the few broadsides accompanying the Collection; this action was made necessary because so much of the regular army was engaged on the Indian frontiers. Although

Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers, in August, 1794, had broken the power of the hostile Indians, the Old Northwest was not truly safe for settlers until the completion of the Treaty of Greenville, a year later.

It was during this period that the military use of spirits forecast the general change from the colonial preference for rum. The Liebmann Collection has numerous items illustrating this shift. Many requisitions directed to the commissary departments during the campaigns in the Northwest show strikingly that whiskey had displaced rum in both medicinal and dietary use by the troops; this appears to be true also of its role as a bonus or reward for special services or for marksmanship at target shooting. The items of this class in the Liebmann Collection carry signatures of men who became famous in our military annals: Anthony Wayne, Wm. Henry Harrison, and Zebulon Pike. The Indian campaigns of the 1790s were proving grounds for many young officers of distinction in later years.

Documents related to the supply problems of the War of 1812, especially several for the naval forces in the Chesapeake, under Commodore John Rodgers, at the time of the British attacks upon Washington and Baltimore; reflect a similar change in the naval ration. Another item in this Collection, a small broadside, shows how our occupation forces entering Mexico via Vera Cruz, in 1847, issued regulations for fondas and cafes, specifying the beverages which might be dispensed by each of them; this is an unusually rare imprint, as it was presumably printed upon a press carried with the invasion forces. The Confederate States of America, during the few years of existence of that government, likewise had to issue regulations upon distilling, and printed items showing the penalties for violators and the manner of disposing of confiscated stills also form part of this Collection.

As an element in the American scene, the village tavern has filled a role equally as prominent as the smithy of which Longfellow wrote. From colonial times onward it has been a social institution. There are most convincing arguments of the need for this public house in a manuscript petition of the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield, supposedly in New Jersey, in 1792. The residents state that a tavern is "necessary for the Accommodating Strangers Travelers and other Persons, for the Benefit of Men meeting together for the Dispatch of Business, and for the Entertaining and Refreshing Mankind in a reasonable Manner" The last kind of service is portrayed by another piece also in the Liebmann Collection; it is a bill rendered by a tavern keeper who served as caterer for an ordination service in his community.

Indeed, it was the communal regard of the tavern as a central meeting place which justified the system of control by licenses which evolved: it was essential to order and sobriety that the person keeping tavern be of good repute. A dozen or more examples of licenses, dating from early colonial times to 1870, and covering localities from Maine to Louisiana, reveal the qualities and conduct required of anyone who wished to keep a public house of this kind. The document dated in 1870 has a two-fold interest for collectors. It is not accurate to call the item a license; it is by reflection a statement of the kind of permit issued legally in Ohio. The document is really an indictment, resulting from a Grand Jury investigation. In the prescribed terminology it finds that the accused party has been unlawfully selling liquors "other than wines manufactured from the pure juice of the grape, cultivated in the State of Ohio, ale, beer or cider", in violation of the act of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio passed in 1854. The item's second point of collector appeal is that it was issued by William C. McKinley as the Prosecuting Attorney, and is signed by him; twenty-seven years later he took office as the Chief Magistrate of the land.

McKinley is not the only President whose name is signed to items in the Liebmann Collection; there are some seventeen pieces having Presidential association, representing ten different men. When one recalls the basic criteria for inclusion, this emphasizes the noteworthy character of this portion.

The form of these items varies from patents to pardons and numbers also some lengthy letters by

Washington, Jefferson, and Buchanan all in their autographs. There are numerous military requisitions by William Henry Harrison and by Jackson, before they switched careers of arms for statecraft. The document signed by President Grant has a high degree of "human interest"; it is a pardon for a Kentucky "moonshiner" because he was in abject poverty and had a wife and five children dependant upon him. Other Presidents represented by pieces are Madison, Johnson, and Taft. However, national history is not featured to the exclusion of purely local matters.

Many of the items bearing a New York heading have clear mercantile or shipping significance. The oldest piece of New York origin, dated in June, 1716, is the statement of complaint in a suit over nonpayment for a pipe of wine from Madeira. The second oldest is a deposition in the Mayor's Court in 1720; it relates to three mariners who were playing cards and drinking "flipp made from rum and beer", in the public house of Jacob Swan, in Maiden Lane. The tavern keeper allegedly did not receive full payment of the bill for the drinks. A dozen or so additional items, such as customs receipts and bills presented by mercantile firms, throw light on the importation and sale of spirits through this port city.

An indication of the European belief in this country as a land of opportunity is given by a letter from a British Admiral, addressed to Philip Hone, merchant and once Mayor of New York, introducing a young Briton, "brought up in the wine and spirit Trade", who came over thinking he could get on better in New York than in his native land. Another impressive document is a petition from the municipal gaoler asking that he be permitted to sell spirits to the inmates, because his pay was inadequate to support his family and his duties so confining that he could not take additional work elsewhere.

It is impossible to describe here in detail all the items in the Collection. Dr. Liebmann's own earlier description in the Autograph Collectors Journal, for April and Summer 1951, supplies additional detail. But beyond these two essays it is virtually unexploited material. Many of the manuscripts possess a double nature which should make them useful to either the economic or social historian. Therefore one can foresee their appeal to numerous students interested in a variety of aspects or in different periods of our nation's history.

ROBERT W. HILL, 1954 Keeper of Manuscripts

Key Terms

Subjects

Alcohol -- Law and legislation -- United States
Alcoholic beverages -- United States -- History
Distilling industries -- United States
Liquor industry -- United States
Liquor laws -- United States
Whiskey Rebellion, Pa., 1794

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Invoices
Licenses
Orderly books
Pardons
Petitions
Receipts (financial records)

Geographic Names

United States -- Armed Forces -- History -- 18th century

United States -- Commerce
United States -- Social life and customs

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Signed receipts for whiskey 1793-1795, undated
- b. 1 f. 2 Greenville, Ohio court martial 1795 November 26
- b. 1 f. 3 Order for whiskey for Anthony Wayne's troops 1794 January 24
- b. 1 f. 3 Order for provisions for a party of Shawnee Indians, at Greenville 1796 April 5
Signed by James Wilkinson (1757-1825)
- b. 1 f. 4 Four orders on the commissary at Greenville for whiskey, etc. for the
Shawnee and Miami Indians 1796 January-May
- b. 1 f. 5 Two orders for whiskey, etc. for the Eel River and Miami Indians 1794 June 1,
1795 August 10
Signed by Lieutenant William Clark and William Henry Harrison at Greenville
- b. 1 f. 5 Order for whiskey for J. Miles McCabe for having made the best shot at a
target 1794 May 26 (Signed at Greenville by Lieutenant William Clark)
- b. 1 f. 6 Order on the quarter-master for one gallon of bears oil 1799 August 8
Signed by Edward Whistler at Fort Wayne
- b. 1 f. 7 Two orders for whiskey 1794 March 6, May 22 1794
Signed by John Greiner, Thomas Hughes, Edward Miller, etc.
- b. 1 f. 8 Order for whiskey for Captain Van Rensselaer's Troop of Light Dragoons 1794
May 29
Signed by Captain Solomon Van Rensselaer
- b. 1 f. 9 Order for whiskey and signed by Zebulon Pike 1794 March 1
- b. 1 f. 9 Order for whiskey signed by Zebulon Pike as Captain of Commissary 1794
- b. 1 f. 10 Liquor license issued to William Knight at Portland, Maine by the selectmen,
John Noble, Peter Coue, and Nathaniel Folsom 1786 February
- b. 1 f. 11 Order for whiskey at Greenville signed by William Henry Harrison 1794
December 31
- b. 1 f. 12 Ensign John Wallington, at Fort Jefferson, to Major John Mills, at Greenville,
regarding application for tavern license 1795 September 14 (autograph letter signed 1
page)
- b. 1 f. 13 Official document containing lists of persons licensed as inn-holders and
retailers of liquor in the town of Newburyport, Mass. dated September 1,
1813 at Salem and October 2, 1813 at Newburyport 1813 (2 pages)
Signed by Ichabod Tucker, Ebenezer Moseley, George Jenkins, Joshua Greenleaf, and Edward
Rand
- b. 1 f. 14 Printed pledge card of the National Christian Temperance Union circa 1887
Signed by Francis Murphy and Amos D. Eddy
- b. 1 f. 15 Official certificate of the Supervisor of the Revenue for the district of
Pennsylvania undated
- b. 1 f. 16 Draft of order at Greenville regarding unlicensed trade with the Indians by
James Fisher 1796 March 18
- b. 1 f. 16 License granted to James Fisher to sell goods and liquor near Ft. St. Clair
1796 March 21
- b. 1 f. 17 Order to issue to the U. S. Laboratory ten gallons of whiskey to be distilled
into spirits of wine 1795 June 5
- b. 1 f. 18 Order to the quarter-master to issue whiskey 1795
Signed by William Henry Harrison
- b. 1 f. 19 Official receipt of the District of Maryland for duties on whiskey 1800 August 13

- b. 1 f. 20 Two orders at Greenville for whiskey, etc. for Indians 1796 April 5, April 7 1796
- b. 1 f. 21 [missing]
- b. 1 f. 22 Order for whiskey signed by William Henry Harrison 1794 January
- b. 1 f. 23 Letter from Henry Watterson at Louisville, regarding bootleg Kentucky whiskey [circa 1910] March 15 (2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 24 License to sell rum and other distilled spirits granted to Thomas Cutt of Biddelford in the County of York 1760 March 31
Signed by Andrew Bradstreet
- b. 1 f. 25 Anthony Wayne, at Greenville, ordering whiskey for the Hospital Department 1793 November 2 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 25 Anthony Wayne order for whiskey for the hospital 1795 September 16 (letter signed, 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 26 George Thatcher, at New York, to John Waite regarding the trade in rum and molasses then being considered by the Senate 1789 May 26 (2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 27 General order from the Executive Department, Milledgeville, Georgia to the Justices of the Inferior Court regarding distilled spirits issued by the Confederate State of Georgia 1864 January 12 (Printed)
- b. 1 f. 28 Broadside of the Third Congress of the U. S. granting the President power to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion 1794 November 29 (Printed)
- b. 1 f. 29 Tavern keeper's license issued by the Mayor's Office, New Orleans 1837 July 1
- b. 1 f. 30 Judgment and fine for illegally selling rum 1665 April 26
- b. 1 f. 31 State of South Carolina, Town of Cheraw license to operate a tavern 1825 April 1
- b. 1 f. 32 Certificate for importation of claret by the collector of customs at Boston 1807 July 31
- b. 1 f. 33 Broadside about making spirits with charcoal and recipes for making cordials. Printed item undated
- b. 1 f. 34 Tavern license issued by the Lt. Governor, William Denny of Pennsylvania, to John Gad of Philadelphia 1757 August 10
- b. 1 f. 35 Order for rum by Andrew Marshall (to Samuel Cutts) 1776 October 2
- b. 1 f. 35 Order for rum by Lieutenant William White at Fort Washington 1776 October 7
- b. 1 f. 36 Tavern license for retailing strong liquors in New York City 1790 March 10
Signed by Richard Varick, Mayor
- b. 1 f. 37 Document appointing John P. Jenkins Inspector of Distilled Spirits in Columbia County, New York 1818 June 23
Signed by Dewitt Clinton
- b. 1 f. 38 Letter from Voltaire at Les Delices to Ami Camp at Lyon 1760 February 27
Expresses thanks for the barrel of wine
- b. 1 f. 39 A leaf from the "Excise Book" of Robert Burns 1846 February 9 (Cut signature pasted on)
With letter of transmittal
- b. 1 f. 40 Tavern license issued to Edward Hannah 1790 March 9
Signed by Richard Varick, Mayor, New York City
- b. 1 f. 41 Letter from Andrew Carnegie to Mr. Phelps, about "Scotch" 1891 May (4 pages)
- b. 1 f. 42 State of Georgia general order concerning stills 1864 April 18
- b. 1 f. 43 Letter of Samuel Wainwright, at Ipswich, Massachusetts about the scarcity of rum 1721 June 20

- b. 1 f. 44 Letter from Peter R. Livingston to John Taylor, concerning Jamaican rum 1783
April 11 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 45 Letter of Thomas Penn, concerning the estate of his father, William Penn, and
mentioning disposal of rum 1756 March 26
- b. 1 f. 46 Tavern license to Margaret Garrebrance signed by James Duane, Mayor of
New York City 1709 April 9
- b. 1 f. 47 Letter of Edmond Kelly, at Montserrat, mentioning the scarcity of rum in the
West Indian Islands 1749 March 13 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 48 Petition against Jacob Swan and others for selling drink without a license and
keeping a disorderly house 1720 April 9 (3 pages)
Signed by J. V. Cortlandt, Mayor of New York City
- b. 1 f. 49 Letter from Meshech Weare at Hampton Falls, to Colonel Wentworth 1785
October 6 (1 page)
regarding payment for a barrel of rum
- b. 1 f. 50 Printed general order to Confederate Army about the distilling of liquor 1862
March 17
Signed by Governor and Commander-in-Chief, John Gill Shorter
- b. 1 f. 51 Petition to the Constable of Norwich, Connecticut 1749 September 11
requesting Urian Hosmore to refrain from selling strong drink without a license, and signed by
Isaac Huntington, Justice of Peace
- b. 1 f. 52-64 Not received with the original Collection
- b. 1 f. 65 Letter from George Watson to Colonel David Henley at Colonel Outlaw's 1798
November 20 (2 pages)
concerning spirits for medicinal purposes
- b. 1 f. 66 License granted to Michael Africa to keep a public house in the town and
county of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania 1807 January 23
Signed by Thomas McKean.
 - o. 1 Document pardoning Thomas Burley who was convicted of illicit distilling 1870
January 15
Signed by Ulysses S. Grant and Hamilton Fish
- b. 1 f. 68 Letter of Alexander Hamilton, at the Treasury Department, concerned with
determining the proof count as applied to the excise law 1790 December 28 (3
pages)
- b. 1 f. 69 Letter from George Washington, at Mount Vernon, to Colonel August
Washington 1799 October 7
- b. 1 f. 70 Letter from Thomas Jefferson, at Washington, to John Homes Freeman 1805
December 21 (2 pages)
concerning the giving of spirits to servants. With an initialed fragment, Th: J., [18]11, October 4
- b. 1 f. 71 Letter, James Buchanan, at Washington, to W. John Reynolds, concerning
the excise tax 1821 December 12 (2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 72 Letter, Elbridge Gerry, at Cambridge, to Samuel Hodgen 1794 August 27 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 73 Printed circular signed by Alexander Hamilton, concerning the duty on
distilled spirits 1792 August 27 (Document signed, 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 74 Letter from Robert Morris, at Philadelphia, to Messrs. Constable Rucker &
Co., at New York 1787 May 3 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 75 Note from William B. Astor, ordering a case of champagne 1848 April 25
- b. 1 f. 76 License to John Mollory of Boston, signed by John Hancock and others 1765
September 2 (2 pages)

- b. 1 f. 77 Note from Jonathan Meigs, ordering whisky 1795 July 21
- b. 1 f. 78 Order for medicine and hospital stores for Ft. Strother signed by Andrew Jackson 1814 May 24 (Document signed, 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 79 Receipt for rum, mentioning John Hancock 1772 October 13 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 80 [missing]
- b. 1 f. 81 Letter, A. W. Davy to Colonel William Augustine Washington 1794 August 20 (2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 82 Agreement between Capt. Nathaniel West and James Carey, at Baltimore, and Samuel Coates, at Philadelphia 1784 November (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 83 License for the Township of Fairfield, in Cumberland County 1792 November 1 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 84 William H. Taft, to Charles F. Chandler, at New York 1910 January 7 (typed letter signed 1 page)
 - o. 1 Document pardoning G. P. Ballard and G. W. Dant for selling spirits 1868 March 11
Signed by Andrew Johnson, President, and F. W. Seward
- b. 1 f. 86 A patent on distilling put forth by Samuel Oliver of Northampton, Pa 1841 August 4 (Document signed)
- b. 1 f. 87 Letter, Timothy Pickering, at War Office, to Joseph Howell, Accountant, War Office 1795 March 10 (1 page)
- b. 1 f. 88 Tobias Lear, at London, to James Greenleaf 1794 April 6 (autograph letter signed 3 pages)
- b. 1 f. 89 Document pardoning E. S. Read for illegal distilling 1873 March 5
Signed by Hamilton Fish and Ulysses S. Grant.
- b. 1 f. 90 Alexander Hamilton, at the Treasury Dept., to John Chester, at Hartford, Conn 1791 June 25 (Document signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 91 Patent issued to Israel Wood for "a new and useful improvement in setting stills and other large kettles." 1804 February 21 (Signed by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison)
Transferred to Thomas Jefferson Papers
- b. 1 f. 92 Edwin Stanton, at Washington City, to the Hon. Richard Wallach, concerning restrictions on the liquor traffic in Washington 1862 November 12 (document signed 2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 93 Thomas Pinckney, at Altamont near Pendleton, to Petit de Villers, at Savannah 1821 July 5 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 94 John Trumbull, at New London? to John Jeffers, at Hartford, Connecticut 1782 June 18 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 95 An indictment "For keeping rooms of public resort for the sale of intoxicating liquors" 1870 May 26 (Document signed)
William McKinley as Prosecuting Attorney, to Charles Essinger.
- b. 1 f. 96 Tench Coxe, at Treasury Dept., to Jedidiah Huntington 1794 June 18 (autograph letter signed 2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 97 License for Christopher Engle, at Philadelphia to keep a public house 1792 August 20
Signed by Gov. Thos. Mifflin
- b. 1 f. 98 Major-General Andrew Jackson undated (document signed 1 page)
Regarding liquor and rations for the Tennessee Volunteers
- b. 1 f. 99-106 Not with the original collection

- b. 1 f. 107 **John F. Hamtramck, at Fort Wayne 1795 October 30** (autograph letter signed 2 pages)
Invitation to come and partake of fish, game, claret, brandy, champagne, etc.
- b. 1 f. 108 **Bill for wine and spirits issued to the Congregational Society 1793 October 15-17**
(2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 109 **Hezekiah Coberth, at St. Leonards. Receipt of payment for whiskey issued to
troops by order of Col. Wadsworth 1814 June 25** (autograph document signed 2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 110 **Admiral Isaac Coffin (Royal Navy), at Bath, England to Philip Hone, at New
York 1836 October 20** (autograph letter signed 1 page)
Introducing a Mr. Cooper who has been brought up in the wine and spirit trade
- b. 1 f. 111 **William Redwood, at Antigua, to Josiah and Samuel Coates, at Philadelphia
1784 April 29** (autograph letter signed 3 pages)
- b. 1 f. 112 **Ephraim Bowen, at Providence, to Benjamin Bourn, at Philadelphia 1791
January 17**
- b. 1 f. 112 **Ephraim Bowen, at Providence, to Benjamin Bourn, at Philadelphia 1791
February 3**
- b. 1 f. 113 **License granted to Nathaniel Backus of Norwich, Connecticut 1759 January 24
(1 page)**
- b. 1 f. 114 **Complaint about the inconvenience of a distillery in Boston 1691 July 30
(autograph document signed 1 page)**
- b. 1 f. 115 **Mendum Janvrin at Fort Sullivan to Samuel Cutts. Order for rum for men on
fatigue 1776 October 25** (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 116 **W.H. Dill, at Dayton, to Allen Hamilton, at Fort Waive 1841 June 20** (autograph
letter signed 2 pages)
- b. 1 f. 117 **Stanley Griswold, Collector, at District of Detroit, shipping certificate 1807 May
20** (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 118 **Nathaniel Gorham, at Boston, to Samuel R. Gerry, at Marblehead. Revenue
report 1795 September 28** (Document signed 1 page)
- b. 1 f. 119 **Nathaniel Gorham, at Boston, to Samuel R. Gerry, at Marblehead 1792 June 11
(autograph letter signed 1 page)**
- b. 2 f. 120 **William Denny, Governor of Pennsylvania. Proclamation against selling
Whiskey to Indians 1757 July 2** (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 121 **Not with the original collection**
 - v. 1 **Manuscript Orderly Book 1794 (33 pages)**
Concerning the Whiskey Insurrection of 1794. General orders of General Henry Lee
Item #122
- b. 2 f. 123 ***Newspaper, General Advertiser, Philadelphia* 1794 August-September**
Published by Benjamin Franklin Bache. Containing articles on the Whiskey Rebellion, French
Revolution, etc. With other miscellaneous newspaper and clipping material
- b. 2 f. 124 **Report of the Commissioner appointed by the President of the United States
of America, to confer with the Insurgents in the Western Counties of
Pennsylvania 1794 (First edition)**
Pertaining to the Whiskey Rebellion
- b. 2 f. 125 **Five letters by Charles Smith to Jasper Yeates, Associate Justice of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania 1794 October-November**
Recounting his experiences as a member of the "right wing" of the forces sent to subdue the
whiskey "rebels"
- b. 2 f. 126 **"Journal of an Expedition Made in the Autumn of 1794" by Captain David
Ford 1794 (Printed in Albany)**
Concerning a detachment of New Jersey troops in western Pennsylvania
- b. 2 f. 127 **Whiskey label of the Great Western Distilling Co., Peoria, Illinois 1887 February
11**

- b. 2 f. 128 Invoice for Whiskey, beef, pork, etc., Baltimore, Maryland 1814 August 30 (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 129 Invoice to James Beatty, Navy agent 1814 September 16 (autograph document signed 1 page)
For 20 bbls. of whiskey, at Baltimore. Received by John Levering
- b. 2 f. 130 Invoice to James Beatty, Navy agent 1814 September 16 (autograph document signed)
For 4 bbls. of whiskey, at Baltimore. Received by John Levering
- b. 2 f. 131 Invoice to James Beatty, Navy agent 1814 September 18 (autograph document signed 1 page)
For 26 and 4 bbls. of whiskey, at Baltimore. Received by John Levering
- b. 2 f. 132 Receipt signature for "The Gamble" for whiskey 1814 September 6 (autograph document signed 2 pages)
Received from James Beatty, Navy Agent. Baltimore
- b. 2 f. 133 Record of conviction of Sampson Meyer for selling liquor to Indians without a license 1853 February 23 (Document signed by John D. Byrnn (?), Lewiston, New York)
- b. 2 f. 134 Printed document signed by Major-General Worth and W. W. Mackall 1847 April 1
Document relating to the occupation of Vera Cruz by the U.S., and the order authorization to sell liquor
- b. 2 f. 135 Shipping orders for the ship, "William of Beverly", at Massachusetts, for 64 punchoons of Brandy, etc 1805 March 8 (Signed by Timothy Standley 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 136 Document pertaining to the proof of rum 1793 May 17 (Signed by Nathaniel Fish, Supervisor of the Revenue of the District of New York 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 137 Certificate by H.B. Pace, Inspector, District of New York 1835 November 3 (1 page)
For Madeira wine
- b. 2 f. 138 Seven invoices for distilled spirits 1837-1864
- b. 2 f. 139 Alpheus Morse, at Eaton Madison, New York, to Amos Williams 1837 April 22 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
Request for information for a location to establish a distillery in the "Western Country"
- b. 2 f. 140 Daniel Lorsey, at Syracuse, to Mrs. W. Clemmer 1881 February 7 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
Concerns the condemning of wine and liquor at dinners at the White House and credits Mrs. Polk and Mrs. Hayes
- b. 2 f. 142 Bill for 800 bbls of whiskey 1864 September 14 (Document signed 1 page)
A. Wright and Co., at Cincinnati, to Messrs. E.A. Williams and Co., at Springfield
- b. 2 f. 143 Petition by "Goaler" Jonathan Pearser, of New York City To the legislature of the State of New York to sell liquor to prisoners 1792 January 16 (autograph document signed 2 pages)
- b. 2 f. 144 Laurence Washington, as foreman of jury convicting Elisabeth Weavers of bootlegging in Virginia 1800 August 3 (Document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 145 Fifteen miscellaneous items, many concerned with the making of distilled spirits undated
- b. 2 f. 146 License by the City of New Orleans for the sale of spirituous liquors 1818 (Signed by August Maccarty, Mayor. Printed in English and French 2 pages)
- b. 2 f. 147 Norman Morrison, at Hartford, to Captain Fisher 1743 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
Concerning the sale and shipment of a bbl. of rum
- b. 2 f. 148 John Colman, at Boston, to Thomas Amory 1716 August 28 (autograph letter signed 4 pages)
Concerning stills, brandy, staves for barrels, etc

- b. 2 f. 149 Edward Carrington, at Richmond, Supervisor's Office, to Edward Smith 1794
April 30 (autograph letter signed 3 pages)
Concerning seizures against whiskey
- b. 2 f. 150 Seven military invoices and orders for rum and whiskey 1784-1794
- b. 2 f. 151 William H. Harrison, at Head Quarters, to [Anthony Wayne], at [Greenville,
Ohio] 1794 March 1 (autograph document signed 1 page)
Order for the issuance of whiskey to the Music of the Legion
- b. 2 f. 151 William H. Harrison, at Cincinnati, to Colonel Thomas Buford, Purchasing
Comm. of the United States, at Kentucky 1812 August 30 (autograph document signed
1 page)
Authorization for money to be given to Major Thomas Bodley for the troops
- b. 2 f. 152 Document sent to the Commissary at Oswego, New York for rum 1735 May 2
(Signed by J.W. De Peyster at Albany 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 153 Order for whiskey for Indians and signed James Wilkinson, Brigadier General
1796 May 30 (1 page)
- b. 2 f. 153 Order receipt for clothing for Indians 1799 January 20-21 (Signed by James Wilkinson 1
page)
- b. 2 f. 154 Thomas Bodley, at Lexington, to Major John H. Piatt, at Washington City 1813
November 14 (autograph letter signed 2 pages)
Attached is an invoice (duplicate) dated May 1, 1813, for whiskey
- b. 2 f. 155 John Waterman, at Newbury, to Arthur Fenner, at Providence 1761 December 1
(autograph letter signed 1 page)
Concerning a business transaction with West Indian rum
- b. 2 f. 156 Bill for spirits and supplies Darius Sessions to Arthur Ferrer 1756 June 12
(autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 157 Printed bill for the "Encouraging the Consumption of Malted Corn and for the
better Preventing the Running of French and foreign Brandies" [1702]
- b. 2 f. 158 Certificate for Geneva of the "first proof" 1793 March 13 (Signed by John Chester,
Supervisor of the Revenue for Connecticut)
- b. 2 f. 159 General James Henry, receipt for rum 1801, 1802 January 15 (autograph document
signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 160 Receipt for Bordeaux Brandy signed by Issac Coch, at New York 1800 October
30 (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 161 Not with collection
- b. 2 f. 162 Certificate of 1 Hhd. of rum 1795 October 24 (Signed by John Chester, Supervisor of the
Revenue for Connecticut)
- b. 2 f. 163 Receipt for India rum bought by Hugh O'Hara 1787 October 2 (autograph document
1 page)
- b. 2 f. 164 Receipt for whiskey to Lyman H. Cobb 1813 March 13 (autograph document 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 165 Receipt for whiskey to Thomas Hamer 1814 March 4 (autograph document signed 1
page)
- b. 2 f. 166 Certificate signed by J. W. De Peyster, at Fort Oswego 1738 April (autograph
document signed 1 page)
Concerning the entry of rum
- b. 2 f. 167 Suit in the Mayor's Court of the City of New York 1716 June 9 (autograph document
signed 1 page)
Over non-payment of a pipe of Madera wine for 24 pounds
- b. 2 f. 168 Receipt for rum, cattle, etc 1788 (autograph document signed 1 page)
Israel Reynolds, at Nottingham, Massachusetts, by Samuel Coats, at Philadelphia

- b. 2 f. 169 **Return for liquor for Major A. Huston's battalion of mounted volunteers** 1794
August 20 (autograph document signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 170-170a **Whiskey returns for personnel of sub-legion, and signed by Major John Mills,
General John Taylor, Major J. Haskell and others at Greenville, Ohio** 1794
November 16-18 (2 items)
- b. 2 f. 171 **Nathaniel Carter, at Newburyport, to Samuel White, at Marblehead** 1776 August
4 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
Concerning recovery of 2 casks pewter
- b. 2 f. 172 **Invoice for Madiera wine** 1795 July-1796 August 12 (1 page)
General Henry Knox, to Willings and Francis
- b. 2 f. 173 **Ten documents concerning whiskey and other rations** 1794-1795 (Signed by Major
John Mills, General. J. Burbach, A.M. Clary, Majors J. Haskell, John Taylor, William Peters,
William Winston and others, at Greeneville, Ohio)
- b. 2 f. 174 **Edward Hall, physician, giving direction for preparation of liquor as a
medicine** before 1800 (autograph document signed 3 pages)
- b. 2 f. 175 **Document, William Bowen to W.L. Allen** 1819 June 22 (autograph document signed 1
page)
Concerning a shipment of purified rum
- b. 2 f. 176-176a **Invoices for beer and ale** 1818 October 6-1822 January 9
To John P. Groshon and John Sowdon
- b. 2 f. 177 **Twenty-two invoices, receipts, and shipping documents for distilled spirits**
1783-1815
- b. 2 f. 178 **License to sell wines for Carey Huntington, of Norwich, Connecticut** 1798
September 30 (Signed by John Chester 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 179-180 **See folders 38 and 39**
- b. 2 f. 181 **Letter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton** 1825 April 28 (autograph letter signed 1 page)
- b. 2 f. 182 **Broadside** 1792 August (1 page)
An amendment to the first excise tax in the U.S., levied March, 1791
- b. 2 f. 183 **Bill for whiskey for Warner Washington** 1794 August 24-November 2 (Signed by
Francis Peyton 1 page)
Receipted by Warner Washington
- b. 2 f. 184 **Authorization for issue of whiskey as a premium in target practice** 1794 February
19 (Signed by Ensign Edmund H. Taylor and Mayor Thomas Hunt 1 page)
For Patrick Hughes, at [Greenville, Ohio]
- b. 2 f. 185 **S. Jones to James Erwin** 1759 (1 page)
Bill for peach brandy and instructions for obtaining attachment, bond and security needed to
remove spirits from "the Colony"
- b. 2 f. 186 **Justin Foote, at New York, to Ebenezer Foote** 1784 July 23 (autograph letter signed 2
pages)
Concerning the Saile and transportation of rum
- b. 2 f. 187 **William Findley, at Pittsburgh, to A.J. Dallas** 1794 August 23 (autograph letter signed
2 pages)
Concerning the Whiskey Rebellion, with comments on Washington's proclamation and order for
the armed forces, and about a meeting with Albert Gallatin
- b. 2 f. 188 **License to retail liquors to Joseph Alcock, at Portland, Massachusetts** 1786
April (1 page)
Signed by John Noble and Nathaniel Folsom