

Richard Rush

A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Nan Thompson Ernst



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2000

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress
Manuscript Division, 2006**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms006051>

Collection Summary

Title: Papers of Richard Rush

Span Dates: 1805-1852

ID No.: MSS38554

Creator: Rush, Richard, 1780-1859

Extent: 60 items; 1 containers plus 1 oversize; .2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Lawyer and statesman. Correspondence, diary, notes, writings, and engraved portraits relating primarily to Rush's duties as attorney general, secretary of state, minister to Great Britain, and secretary of the treasury, and legal documents concerning a loan from the Netherlands he arranged to finance the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Company in and near the District of Columbia.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:

Rush, Richard, 1780-1859

Binns, John, 1772-1860--Correspondence

Coxe, Richard S. (Richard Smith), 1792-1865--Correspondence

Gallatin, Albert, 1761-1849--Correspondence

Hallett, Benjamin Franklin, 1797-1862--Correspondence

Hiester, Joseph, 1752-1832--Correspondence

Mercer, Charles Fenton, 1778-1858--Correspondence

Miranda, Francisco de, 1750-1816

Russell, Jonathan, 1771-1832--Correspondence

Walker, Robert J. (Robert John), 1801-1869--Correspondence

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company

United States. Dept. of Justice

United States. Dept. of State

United States. Dept. of Treasury

Subjects:

Canals--Washington (D.C.)

Diplomatic and consular service, American

Loans, Foreign

Cuba--History--1810-1898

Great Britain--Foreign relations--Cuba

Great Britain--Foreign relations--United States

Netherlands--Foreign relations--United States

United States--Foreign relations--Great Britain.

United States--Foreign relations--Netherlands

United States--Politics and government--1817-1825

Occupations:

Diplomats

Lawyers

Statesmen

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Richard Rush, lawyer, statesman, and diplomat, were primarily purchased by the Library of Congress, 1906-1997. Copies of Rush's letters were given to the Library by Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss in 1954 and Stuart A. Goldman in 1988.

Processing History:

The papers of Richard Rush were arranged in 1972. Additional material was added to the collection in 1977, 1983, and 2000 when a finding aid was created.

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Richard Rush is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Richard Rush Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1780, Aug. 29	Born, Philadelphia, Pa.
1797	Graduated, College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), Princeton, N.J.
1800	Admitted to the Philadelphia, Pa., bar
1809	Married Catherine Eliza Murray
1811	Comptroller, United States Treasury
1814-1817	U.S. attorney general
1817	U.S. secretary of state
1817-1825	U.S. minister to Great Britain
1825-1828	U.S. secretary of the treasury
1836-1838	U.S. agent in Great Britain to secure Smithson bequest which established the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.
1847-1849	U.S. minister to France
1859, July 30	Died, Philadelphia, Pa.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Richard Rush (1780-1859) span the years 1805-1852. Correspondence comprising the bulk of the collection dates from 1809 to 1852. It primarily concerns Rush's duties as United States attorney general, secretary of state, minister to Great Britain, secretary of the treasury, and as an agent negotiating loans from the Netherlands to finance the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Company in and near the District of Columbia. A letter dated 1816 from Rush to his mother, Julia Rush, concerning his father, Benjamin Rush is the only family item in the collection. Correspondents include John Binns, Richard S. Coxe, Albert Gallatin, Benjamin Franklin Hallett, Joseph Hiester, Charles Fenton Mercer, Jonathan Russell, and Robert J. Walker.

Also included in the collection is a diary, 1829, concerning Rush's trip to England and the Netherlands. Diary notes include his record of a conversation in 1805 with the Venezuelan general Francisco de Miranda during a visit to Philadelphia, and notes from 1821 concern Rush's experiences as United States minister to Great Britain. An essay in draft form entitled "Cuba," 1823, concerns Rush's opposition to the possible transfer of Cuba to Great Britain. Notes on the Bible complete his writings.

A comprehensive edition of Rush's papers in numerous repositories is available on twenty-six reels of microfilm prepared by Scholarly Resources.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1809-1852 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Diary, "England and Holland," 1829
BOX 1	Diary notes
BOX 1	1805, "General Miranda"
BOX 1	1821, miscellaneous
BOX 1	Financial and legal documents, loan from the Netherlands to finance the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Co., 1828-1829 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 1	Portraits, engraved, n.d.
BOX 1	Writings
BOX 1	"Cuba," 1823
BOX 1	Notes on the Bible, n.d.
BOX OV 1	Financial and legal documents, list of funded debt certificates, Daniel Crommelin & Sons, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1829