Josiah Batchelder Papers, 1769-1811

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Abstract:

Papers of Josiah Batchelder, justice of the peace, member of provincial congress, surveyor and inspector for Beverly and Salem, and business man; includes bills and receipts, including those paid by his son Caleb Batchelder; paper work from his time as a Justice of the Peace, as well as his estate documents and correspondence concerning his business interests.

Provenance:

The collection of correspondence and the ledgers were purchased by the Beverly Historical Society on April 14, 1909 from the Misses Tracy, descendants of Josiah Batchelder.

Conservation:

Material removed from bound volumes and put into acid free folders, as well as encapsulation of some damaged items.

Copyright:

Requests for permission to publish material from the collection must be submitted in writing to the Curator of Collections in the Cabot House of the Beverly Historical Society & Museum

Biographical Sketch

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Josiah Batchelder was born in on October 2, 1737 in Beverly Massachusetts. He worked on ships from a young age and went on to command vessels. He was elected 6 times to the general court as a representative of Beverly; he was also elected to the provincial congress in 1775 until 1779 except for 1778. He was on the committee of correspondence and safety in Beverly from 1773 till the end of the Revolutionary war. He was also a Justice of the Peace for Beverly and when Beverly and Salem became one district he was elected the surveyor and inspector. He was also a business man and owned several privateers. He married his wife Hannah Dodge in 1760 and they had four children Caleb Dodge, Josiah, Joanna (Prince), and Hannah (Lovett). His son Caleb was active in his father’s business ventures until his death in 1800. Josiah died December 10th, 1809 at the age of 73.

Scope and Content Note

The Josiah Batchelder papers consist of bills and recites paid by and to Josiah Batchelder including bills paid by his son Caleb Batchelder on behalf of his father. There are also a number of bills just concerning Caleb these are all contained in series 1. Series 2 contains a collection of paper concerning Josiah’s time as a justice of the peace, including writs for arrest and his judgments. This collection contains the last will and testament of Josiah Batchelder as well as papers concerning the division of his estate after his death. Series 3 is a collection of correspondence concerning Josiah’s business interests. Some of the letters mention the ships and Captains working for Josiah and the prizes they captured. These letters include accounts of the sales of the goods that are captured. This series also contains a number of letters and bills written in French which could not be translated at this point. There was one letter that was accompanied by an English translation and was filed with the English letters. Series 4 consists of a ledger book concerning Josiah’s business interests from 1787-1790.

Series List

Series I: Bills

A.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1773-1874

B.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1785 March-June
C.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1785 July-December
D.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1786 January-May
E.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1786 July-December
F.) Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1787-1807
G.) Bills paid to Josiah Batchelder, 1783-1793
H.) Bills paid by Caleb Batchelder, 1785-1796
I.) Bills not directly related to Josiah Batchelder, 1785, 1794?
J.) Memos of sundries bought at Boston, 1785-1786

Series II: Legal Documents

A.) Wills, writs, accounts, executions, rent, estate documents, 1784-1811

Series III: Correspondence, 1769-1792

A.) Correspondence, 1769-1782
B.) Correspondence and bills in French, 1769-1776
C.) Correspondence and bills in French, 1777-1792

Series IV: Ledger

Content List

Bills 1773-1807

About 129 items

24 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1873-1874 – 6 items
25 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1785 March-June – 13 items
26 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1785 July-December – 12 items
27 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1786 January-May – 23 items
28 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1786 July-December – 13 items
29 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder 1787-1807 – 13 items
30 Bills paid to Josiah Batchelder 1783-1793 – 18 items
31 Bills paid by Caleb Batchelder 1785-1796 – 14 items
32 Bills not directly related to Josiah Batchelder 1785, 1784? – 4 items
33 Memos of sundries bought at Boston 1785-1786 – 13 items

Wills, writs, accounts, executions, rent, estate documents 1784-1811
About 10 items

34 Wills, writs, accounts, executions, rent, estate documents 1784-1811, Unknown – 10 items

Correspondence 1769-1792
About 40 items

35 Correspondence in English 1769-1782 – 10 items (originally in Batchelder letters 1769-1792 book 42, 21)
36 Correspondence and bills in French 1769-1776 – 17 items (originally in Batchelder letters 1769-1792 book 42, 21)
37 Correspondence and bills in French 1777-1792, unknown – 13 items (originally in Batchelder letters 1769-1792 book 42, 21)
38 Ledger 1787-1790
Bound volume- Ledger 1787-1790 Batchelder Papers Book 45, 19

Series I: Bills, 1773-1807
About 129 items
Arranged by bills paid by and bills paid to, chronologically

24 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1773-1874 – 6 items
Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder to John Greenleaf for iron work
Benjamin Webb for rum and other
Israel Eaton for large skillet, pots and other
Nathanial Leech for chocolate, cod fish and sundries
Recite for exchange of goods for Capt Bragdon, and one which is illegible.

25 **Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1785 March-June – 13 items**

Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder to Retire Trask For cord wood, wood to cap, and other
Vans and sons for playing cards, mustard, writing paper, and other; Benjamin Gorham for cool line? and other
Mr. Becker for cod lines
Theophilus Hull For four gallon caggs, pals, and other
Francis Grey for kettles, pots, cart boxes, and other
Benjamin Hammatt for redwood
Mary Rand (for deceased husband Barth Rand) for gall rum
Josiah Eliot for knives, and forks
Amara Davis For cask of nails
Leo Jarvis for groa hook? And other
Joseph Lee for weeks dockage brigg and salts, and other
Enoch Brown for hemp hose and other.

26 **Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1785 July-December – 12 items**

Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder to Gideon Foster
Vans and sons
Richard Manines
Josiah Eliot for sewing twine, mix pins, power flasks, and others
Salsbury for cask of nails, paper, and other
William Frost for large boys shoes, men’s shoes, women’s shoes, and other
William Burke for green tea to sell
Joseph Prince for bonds sale
Samuel Endicott for sugar
Isaac White.

27  Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1786 January-May – 23 items

Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder to Elisha Ballard
Nathan Leech for 1/8 percent and the cargo of the brig
Mary Batemen for a barrel of sugar
Bazin and Loignan
Isaac Whitejim for cand box, and others
Samuel Grey for flower, and other
Israel Dodge for rum
Francis Cabot junior for ravens duck, red colcher barie, green drap, penknives, razors, and other
Ellis Mansfield for bread and other
Waffe Rand for hard bread
Captain David Britton
Benjamin Gray for run
Captain Samuel Ingersoll for rum
Francis Cabot for ravens duck, razors and other
Peal for cask of gun powder
Mr. Wild
Hugh Hill for cod fish, sugar, jama fish and other
Nathan Leech for sugar and other
Waffe Rand
Robert Haskell for clean boards and other
Waffe Rand Bread and other
Abigail Brown for cask of nails, sewing twine, and other
William Vans for nails.

28 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1786 July-December – 13 items
Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder to Benjamin Ives for rum and cotton Salsbury
Isaac Whitejim for soap and other
Geo Deblois for cod lines and other
George Williams for a cask of brimstone
Williams for cod lines, shoes and other
Nathaniel Gilbert for buckets, nest boxes, and other
Joshua Pierce for foot boat
William Wyatt
John Hawks for flour
John Hawks
John Appleton for scarlet bape Cover lid
Adams co.

29 Bills paid by Josiah Batchelder, 1787-1807 – 13 items
Amos Windship
John Burke for soap, sugar, and flour
James Tisdale
Francis Lamson
Isaac Chapman for mending
Brown and Thorndike for nails
Caleb Batchelder
Josiah Batchelder Senior
Caleb Batchelder
Andrew Elloit for his father
Richard Manning
Moses Adams
Anthony Luque for molasses, soap, rum and other
John B Prince.

30 Bills paid to Josiah Batchelder, 1783-1793 – 18 items

Bills paid to Josiah from Ralph Cross For cash advance, buy boards, coffee and other
Daniel Adams for advanced wages
Captian Leech for 1/16th part of the brig Hephzibah
Captain John Hamilton for one half of the brig Hephzibah
Henny Coggins for cod lines, nails, coffee and other
James Ober for salt and other
Captain James Ober for sugar, tea, nails, and other
Benjamin Summer for bohea tea, rum, coffee, and other
Thomas Cole for nails, bohea tea, tobacco and other
Captain Eleazer Giles For gall rum, candles, neat leather shoes, and other
Thomas Cole for molasses, gall NE rum, and other
Swan 2 days passage
Retire Trask for gall cagg
Tenor Whitting for taxes
Josiah Adams for flannel, buttons, thread, handkerchief, and other
Thorndike for bricks, cleaning out sloop and other
Thomas Bridges For cleaning sloop, and other

31  Bills paid by Caleb Batchelder, 1785-1796 – 14 items

Bills paid by Caleb to John Joys for peppermint and other
Isaac Whitejim for soap
Clifford Byrns
Joseph Baker for butter
John Saunders for thread cod lines
William Frost for men’s neat leather shoes, tea, and other
Benjamin Hill
Able Lawrence for gall rum
William Clark Junior for peppermint and other
John Balch for men’s N. leather shoes, tobacco, and other
William Marston for nails, seader, bucket, cork springs
Gideon Foster
Cleveland Saunders for coffee.

32  Bills not directly related to Josiah Batchelder, 1785, 1794? – 4 items

William Plinbly, Thomas Bennet, Petter Bennet
Memo boards received of Smith, Hillman, and Avery sold
Nathaniel Batchelder bought of Richard manning
Captian Whittridge to deliver goods for Berry Hall

33  Memos of sundries bought at Boston, 1785-1786 – 13 items

Iron work bot of Francis Grey
Enoch Browns
Martin Brickers
Doctor Joy
Jarvis
Davis
Tourands
Garnes
Joseph May
Benjamin Gray
Josiah Elliot
David West
And Others

Series II: Wills, writs, accounts, executions, rent, estate documents, 1784-1811, unknown

Arranged chronologically

34 Wills, writs, accounts, executions, rent, estate documents, 1784-1811, unknown – 10 items

Bill of faith in the action Patch versus Hiller
Sarah Bragg against Martin Doile
Thomas versus Janah, Burke against Nathan Dial
William Holt to answer to Caleb Abbot for debts
James Richardson to answer to Jonathan Smith
Rent note for Willian Sears
Last will and testament of Josiah Batchelder
Copy of the last will and testament of Josiah Batchelder
Division of the estate of Josiah Batchelder signed Josiah Batchelder, Joanna Prince, Rob Rantoul, Hannah Lovett

Outline of the division of the estate signed Prince and J Batchelder

Isaac Mead to answer to Charles Hall

Series III: Correspondence, 1769-1792

Arranged by language and chronologically

35 Correspondence, 1769-1782 – 10 items

To Josiah Batchelder from J. Parsons
To James Batchelder from Allard Belin at the request of John Harrangh
To Josiah Batchelder from Lausersey
To Josiah Batchelder from Mouneneau in French
Translation of letter from Mounebeau
To Josiah Batchelder from Elias Smith
To Josiah Batchelder and William Barttel from Silas Brenton
To Josiah Batchelder and William Barttel duplicate of March 3\textsuperscript{rd}
To Josiah Batchelder and William Barttel from Silas Brenton

36 Correspondence and bills in French, 1769-1776 – 17 items

To Josiah Batchelder from Duruq de Bellefond
Illegible
Dubuq be Bellfond
Illegible
Harrangh
Harrangh
Daneslsin
Toinsu
Lamoisanjin
Daneslsin
Illegible
Harran gh

37  Correspondence and bills in French, 1777-1792, Unknown – 13 items
To Josiah Batchelder from Harran gh
Mare
Illegible
Harran gh
Lamidargeus
Nillounereau
Mounenaeu
Illegible
Lagrace

Series IV: Ledger, 1787-1790
Bound volume
Ledger, 1787-1790 – Batchelder Papers Books 45, 19
Imposts, Excise, Carraiges, Deliveries on writs, Conlingencies, Cash, Commonwealth, Harris Richard, Common to C Batchelder