MR. & MRS. P. J. FEDERICO COLLECTION, 1789-1841
(.15 cubic feet; 1 (.5) DB)

History

P. J. Federico who worked at the Patent Office for many years was also its unofficial historian. He was in addition editor of the Journal of the Patent Office Society. B. M. Federico is his wife. The papers in the two notebooks relate to the early history of the Patent Office and charges of misfinance against superintendents of that office by William Elliot and William Parker Elliot, his son. William Elliot, disappointed because he was not appointed Superintendent of the Patent Office, preferred formal charges of misconduct in office against Dr. Thomas P. Jones who received the appointment. William Parker Elliot later preferred charges of incompetence and unfitness for office against Dr. John D. Craig. The papers were gathered for possible use in writing a book and as support for articles appearing in the Journal.

Scope and Content

The material has been left in the two notebooks in which it was received and in its original categories. The notebook marked Patent Office contains material relating to the early years of the Patent Office and copies of official reports to the Congress. The notebook marked Elliot relates primarily to William Elliot and his son, William Parker Elliot. It also contains information on Dr. William Thornton, Superintendent of the Patent Office for 26 years, 1802-1828, and material on the Elliot controversies, i.e. charges against several superintendents of the Patent Office by William Elliot and by William Parker Elliot. Notes from the microfilm of a lost letter book (letters between the Department of State and the Patent Office) comprise one section of this notebook. This reel of microfilm is in the NMAH Library (mfm1133N).

Provenance

Donated to Douglas Evelyn, Deputy Director, NMAH, by Mr. and Mrs. Federico. Transferred to Archives Center by Rhoda Ratner, Library Research Services Division, March 17, 1988.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
Grace M. Angle, April, 1988

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
Container List

MR. & MRS. P.J. FEDERICO COLLECTION, 1789-1841
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Series 1: Patent Office

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Conduct of the Superintendent of the Patent Office, Report of the Secretary of State, May 26, 1834. 23rd Congress 1st Session, Senate Documents Volume 5, Number 398


Report of John D. Craig, Superintendent of the Patent Office to Edward Livingston, Secretary of State, December 1, 1831.

Amounts paid for salaries and contingencies of the Patent Office, 1803-1828

Salary Legislation, Department of State 1789-1841

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Secretaries of State, 1789-1841

Personnel of Patent Office, 1793-1839

Documents on Construction of Patent Office Building.

Series 2: Elliots

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Biographical information on William Elliot, Dr. William Thornton, and William Parker Elliot.

Some Patents issued December 1890-April 1835.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
1 2 List of Washington Directories, 1822, 1827-30, 1834, 1843.

Excerpts from Contemporary Publications by or about the Elliots.


Notes from W.P. Elliot's Diary March 1, 1836-July 21, 1836.

Obituaries

Quotations from Bryan, Welhelmous B. History of the National Capital from Its Foundation Through the Period of the Adoption of the Organic Act on William Elliot and William Parker Elliot.

Elliot Controversies


Other