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Online Catalog Headings

Subject Names

Blénon, Peter Anthony, 1759-ca. 1836--Estate
Ingersoll, Joseph R. (Joseph Reed), 1786-1868
Preston Retreat

Subject Topics

Charities—Pennsylvania--Philadelphia

Document Types

Passports
Bonds (legal records)
Military records

Biographical/Historical Notes

Godfrey Weber (d. 1862) was a merchant in Philadelphia. Born Christian Godfrey Weber in Strasbourg, France, he first appeared in the Philadelphia directories in 1820 as Godfrey Weber, a merchant at 160½ South Second Street. In 1833 his description and location changed to an importer of French goods at 68 South Third Street. The compendium *Memoirs and Autobiography of some of the Wealthy Citizens of Philadelphia* (1846) describes Godfrey Weber & Co. as "Importers of French and other goods. Adopted citizens." with a net worth of \$50,000. At the end of his life, Weber was listed as a dry goods merchant and was living at 635 Pine Street.

The donor of the papers, John A. McAllister (1822-1896), was an antiquarian collector living in Philadelphia. Family history and census documents suggest that Weber was related to McAllister's wife Annette Steinbrenner (d. 1926); the McAllisters are buried with the Weber and Steinbrenner families in Woodlands Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Collection Overview

The Godfrey Weber Papers are arranged in two series: Correspondence, and Documents.

Series I, Correspondence (1842-1843) holds letters that relate to Weber's business interests. There are three letters from Pennsylvania representative Joseph Reed Ingersoll (1786-1868), one of which replied to Weber's letter regarding silk duties. One letter is unsigned and unattributed; written in December 1842, it is addressed to President John Tyler and recommends the appointment of Henry Mahler of New York to the position of United States Consul at Zurich. It is filed with the Weber material based on a letter from Ingersoll to Weber saying that he had