

Series II, Documents (1824-1836) contains just a few financial papers from his work and home lives, among which are an invoice for the education of his daughter Susanna, receipts for newspaper subscriptions including the *National Gazette* and the *Catholic Herald*, receipts for his licenses to retail foreign merchandise including alcoholic beverages, and an invoice from the Irish-American artist John Neagle (1796-1865) for a painted portrait [unlocated] with a request to Whelan for an invoice for groceries.

Series III, Association of the Friends of Ireland (1829) holds material related to the Philadelphia chapter of an organization that had more than twenty branches around the United States. The group provided moral and financial support for Catholic Emancipation, the passage of a law that allowed Catholics to hold seats in the British Parliament, and for home rule in Ireland. The Philadelphia chapter celebrated the Catholic Emancipation, by organizing a large "Emancipation Festival" dinner at Independence Hall on July 14, 1829. The association's treasurer, Whelan kept the minutes of the festival's arrangements committee and records of ticket sales for the event. The files hold just a few invoices for the dinner, such as a payment to C. W. Myers for music, and another to the keeper of Independence Hall for "his attention and services." A final folder in the series holds treasurer's records signed by two other officers of the association, Joseph M. Doran (1800-59) and Daniel J. Desmond (d. 1849).

Series IV, St. John's Orphan Asylum (1835-1840) holds papers related to Whelan's service as a member of the board of managers of the orphanage which was founded by Father John Joseph Hughes (1797-1864), the pastor of St. John's Church, in 1829. The papers, all of which are docketed and/or annotated by Whelan, are arranged in two subseries: Administrative Material; and Applications. The administrative section contains four documents: the resignation letter given to the orphanage board by Father Hughes when he left Philadelphia in 1837 to become the bishop, and later the first archbishop, of New York; a proposal submitted by Rev. Francis Guth of the city's Holy Trinity Church for merging the St. John's and St. Joseph's orphanages, both in Philadelphia; a letter from Rev. John McElroy of Frederick, MD, regarding a proposed merger and estate settlement; and an agreement to exchange female and male orphans between the two orphanages signed by Dr. Joseph Nancrede. The remainder of the papers is applications from parents and sponsors, largely Irish, on behalf of the children they wished to be placed at the orphanage; most are also endorsed by character witnesses, and some are addressed directly to Whelan at his store.