

from the ordinary (cruet stands and watch keys) to luxury goods such as tortoise shell and ivory combs and the “Best Gold Border Tea Trays with Landscape Centers.” The invoices are nearly all handwritten; one of the exceptions is that of Kendall & Son’s perfume laboratory in Birmingham, England, whose billhead features an engraving of their shop interior.

Legal Fees is one folder holding records of service provided by Thomas Witherspoon, clerk of the District Court of Delaware, in 1817 regarding a court case, and an invoice from T. Mitchell & Son for drawing up a deed. The Notes subseries has bank and promissory notes arranged by date; they document simple financial transactions, and are primarily from Philadelphia merchants.

Personal Expenses include bills not related to Bird’s business interests, and are separated into Clothing and Shoes; Education; Food; Furniture (which has invoices from the Pennsylvania Society of Journeymen Cabinet Makers and Michel Bouvier (1792-1874); Services; Subscriptions and Literature; Miscellaneous; John Bird; and Henry Bird. The Education folder contains information relating to the schooling of Bird’s children, primarily his two youngest daughters; invoices show that the girls were instructed in French, arithmetic, geography, embroidery, drawing, and piano. Bird’s older children were students at the boarding school of Quaker scholar John Gummere (1784-1845) in Burlington, NJ, as well as at William Brownlee’s academy (see his letters in Series I). The Services folder contains bills for household work, garden care, and other small jobs, and the subseries ends with documents addressed to Bird’s sons John and Henry. For John Bird, there are invoices for clothing, for a portrait from painter Edmund Brewster (active 1818-1839), for medical services from Dr. J.K. Mitchell, and a bill from the Washington Library for borrowing books. Bird’s library reading list included *Don Sebastian*, the *Castle of Santa Fe*, *The Benevolent Jew*, and *St. Margaret’s Cave*. For Henry Bird there is one receipt for personal clothing.

Shipping Records holds bills of lading and receipts for merchandise shipped. The bills are arranged chronologically and contain information regarding shipments made to Bird, such as the carrying company, name of the vessel, amount of and type merchandise (including, in 1812, a shipment of “14 elephant teeth”), and the ports of entrance and exit. Goods shipped to Bird arrived from cities across the U.S. and Britain; goods that Bird shipped were sent to locations including Georgetown, Boston, New York, New Orleans, Norfolk, and Baltimore. Several of the bills relate to correspondence found in Series I, including letters from the Rathbones, Irving & Smith, and Anson Phelps. Receipts for merchandise appear from Expedition Line, Samuel Lyons, John Marshall, Samuel Godfrey, Ezra Hand, and the Smith & Nevins Mercantile Line; two receipts from Charles Moore and Jeremiah Anderson give a list of jewelry shipped by Bird on consignment to the two men. In the years 1818 and 1822, Bird frequently sent merchandise to Bird, Nightingale & Neff in Baltimore, suggesting that Charles Bird and his son Henry had a close business relationship. From Philadelphia and Baltimore city directories, it is known that Henry Bird was in a partnership with Peter Neff until 1833 when he moved to Philadelphia and