

Joseph Lockhead for educating his children; from John C. and William Smith for chests of tea; and from Edmund Yard for collection of taxes. In addition, a number of receipts exist to document Sergeant's purchase of publications, including one each from Mathew Carey & Sons for *Common Law Reports* and from John S. Littell for *Law Library*, and twenty receipts from the *American Daily Advertiser*, *Aurora*, *Independent Democrat*, *Missionary Herald*, *Port Folio*, *National Banner*, *Presbyterian Magazine*, *Register*, and the *Philadelphia Gazette*, *National Gazette*, and *United States Gazette*.

PHILIP AND PETER WAGER were father and son, and both merchants in Philadelphia. Philip Wager (1748-1813) was for many years a wine and spirits importer and dealer to both wholesale and retail clients. He advertised his shop, located on North Second Street between Race and Vine, in Philadelphia papers as early as 1778. By 1783 he had taken George Habacker into a partnership which ended on April 1, 1792, after which time Wager continued in business alone. Also active in establishing a local German school, he was listed as a wine merchant in the city directories through the time of his death 1813. His obituary, published on May 14 in *Poulson's American Daily Advertiser*, described him as "Unaffected in his manners, liberal in his principles, and stern in his integrity, during a long life of public and private usefulness, he sustained that highest degree of humanity, an *honest man*." Wager's will, proved on May 19, 1813, left his property to his wife Hannah, their ten living children, and the six children of their deceased daughters Mary and Ann. The Wagers were members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Peter Wager (d. 1855) was one of Philip Wager's four sons. He advertised a variety of textiles imported from Calcutta for sale at the address of his father's wine shop in 1802. By 1810 he was listed in the city directories as a wine merchant at the shop address. Wager was a director of the Bank of the United States in the mid-1830s. Both Philip and Peter Wager were active in business with wine merchant Adam Reigart Jr. (1765-1844) in Lancaster, PA. Reigart was the husband of Philip Wager's daughter Mary (1772-1806) and the eldest son of Col. Adam Reigart, owner of the Grape Tavern in Lancaster. There are more than 150 letters and documents from the Wagers to Reigart in the Lancaster County Historical Society's Adam Reigart Jr., John S. Murphy Collection (MG-331); a précis for each item is available on the society's website.

The material for Philip and Peter Wager consists of a few letters and invoices, plus a file of documents pertaining to a lawsuit against an innkeeper. The correspondence mostly discusses routine financial matters. An exception is the letter from Ralph Smith Jr., a merchant in Baltimore; Smith dealt in cotton, among other things, and wrote to Peter Wager his speculations the state of the cotton market relative to the War of 1812. There are two short notes from General William MacPherson (1756-1813) ordering wines for his estate, Stouton, in Philadelphia, and one from Isaac Tucker, a tavern owner at Gray's Ferry. Also in Tucker's file are a legal letter and a deposition about Philip Wager's case against Tucker, who was in debt to Wager when he "absconded" from his tavern in 1806. Tucker, according to the letter, left a considerable amount of "common tavern furniture" which could be sold to the benefit of his creditors.