McA MSS 015 8

The Documents subseries holds a variety of papers relating to financial and transactional issues. There is a single bill of lading for bales, boxes and bags of merchandise carried on a ship from Calcutta bound for Madras and Philadelphia in 1821; the Phoenix Insurance Company was covering the insurance for the shipment. Invoices contains evidence of purchases of services and goods by the company. Within that section, the Purchases and Services folder holds documents recording yards of raven's duck (sailcloth), and quantities of brandy, quills, paper, vellum, soapstone, and wood, as well as for building repairs, work on a ship while it was stuck in ice, and for washing ten-dozen towels for use in the office. Surveying and Reporting holds five invoices from Phineas Eldredge for his salary for "surveying and reporting vessels" in sixmonth increments. There are more than forty bills documenting Phoenix's subscriptions to, and their advertising in, periodicals between 1805 and 1816. Both expenses are often on the same invoice/receipt; the billing papers are: Aurora, Boston Commercial Gazette, Federal Republican, Freeman's Journal, Philadelphia Gazette, Grotjan's Philadelphia Public-Sale Report, Ming's New-York Price-Current, National Intelligencer, New York Gazette, Philadelphia Price-Current, The Register, The Shipping List, True American, and United States' Gazette. Miscellaneous Financial Papers holds just five documents: an 1807 protest notification; an 1815 check for interest and an 1816 list of accounts with William J. Bell; an undated tally sheet of finances related to real estate; and an 1837 bank check signed by David Lewis.

Policy Requests were made for insurance coverage for ships, cargo, houses, and stores, as well as specific things such as Paul Beck Jr.'s lead shot tower, finishing shop, smelting house, and counting house; for 620 chests of tea that Elisha Kane had stored with the Willings & Francis firm; and for the 80 pipes of gin that John Ecky put in John Hollingsworth's cellar. One of the two policy requests from John Welsh has, as extra documentation, a copy of a letter from merchant Oliver Hicks in New York.

<u>Series III, Miscellaneous Papers (1804-1828)</u> contains David Lewis material that does not appear to be related to either the Wharton & Lewis partnership or the Phoenix Insurance Company. It is arranged in two subseries: Correspondence, and Documents.

Correspondence holds letters from six men to Lewis on a variety of topics including purchasing stock in the Lancaster Susquehanna Turnpike (Reigart), collecting rent on properties (King), and buying rafts of logs (Pusey). There are seven letters to Lewis from William Hale (1765-1848), a three-term congressman from New Hampshire, regarding "Mr. Calhoun's bill," banks, tariffs, domestic and imported iron, and the bank.

The Documents subseries holds items that relate to David Lewis's personal and professional lives. From the former, there is an undated receipt from Gray & Wylie for the education of Lewis's sons Thomas and David. There is a rental agreement with Dr. J. Robinson for a house Lewis owned on Front Street. Another personal document is an agreement between Lewis and Richard Gibbs, described as a "Free Blackman," wherein Gibbs binds himself as a servant and