

# Guide to the John Taylor Correspondence

OSB MSS 42



by Beinecke Staff

June 1996

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** OSB MSS 42

**CREATOR:** Taylor, John, 1781-1864

**TITLE:** John Taylor correspondence

**DATES:** 1803-1861

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of letters addressed to Taylor by various correspondents, including Richard Ayton, Octavius Gilchrist, Alexander Haden and Harvey Marriott. Most concern publishing business or personal news; several discuss currency policy, an issue of great interest to Taylor.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.taylorj>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.taylorj>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Bequest of James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The John Taylor Correspondence is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

John Taylor Correspondence. James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## JOHN TAYLOR, 1781-1864

John Taylor was born in Nottinghamshire in 1781. Taylor moved to London about 1806, becoming a partner in the publishing firm Taylor & Hussey (later Taylor & Walton). Taylor published several works attributing the letters of "Junius" to Sir Philip Francis, an identification still widely accepted today, and served as editor of the *London Magazine* in 1821-24. Taylor's literary friends included Charles Lamb, Thomas Hood, and Samuel Coleridge.

Taylor, perhaps influenced by his brother, the banker James Taylor (1788-1863), was opposed to the currency policies of Sir Thomas Peel, and authored several books and pamphlets on the subject of currency reform, including "Currency Fallacies Refuted and Paper Money Vindicated" (London, 1833) and "The Monetary Policy of England and America" (London, 1843). His other works include "The Great Pyramid: Why Was It Built?" (London, 1859), and articles on antiquarian subjects for *Macmillan's* and the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

John Taylor did not marry. He died in Kensington on July 5, 1864.

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## Scope and Contents

[The John Taylor Correspondence](#) consists of letters sent to John Taylor, publisher. The collection spans the dates 1803-1861.

The majority of the letters concern publication business, particularly requests for payments and advances, and some contain personal news as well. Correspondents include the Revs. Basil and Harvey Marriott; Alexander Bunn Haden; Charles Caleb Colton; and the topographical writer Richard Ayton, whose letters date from the last year of his life and cover literary and political opinions as well as the gradual decline of his health. The letters of Octavius Gilchrist discuss progress on his edition of the poetry of Richard Corbet, as well as other literary projects.

Other correspondents, including John Knott and John and Philip Twells, share Taylor's interest in currency reform and offer news of the Currency Society.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1803-1861

0.42' (1 box)

Correspondence is alphabetically arranged by name of correspondent.

	ALLISON, WILLIAM	
b. 1, f. 1	4 ALS to John Taylor; East Retford Accompanied by a letter to Miss White.	1843-59
	AYTON, RICHARD, 1786-1823	
b. 1, f. 2	17 ALS to Taylor and Hessey; Seaford and London	1822-23
	COLTON, CHARLES CALEB, 1780-1832	
b. 1, f. 3	5 ALS to Taylor and Hessey; Tiverton On the publication of his writings. Accompanied by a copy of a letter from Taylor and Hessey to Colton, 1813 Dec 12.	1815-16
	DARLING, S.	
b. 1, f. 4	2 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.]	1861, n.d.
	FALKNER, F.	
b. 1, f. 5	8 ALS to John Taylor; Camden Town and So. Carlton	1841-49
	FALKNER, JOHN S.	
b. 1, f. 6	3 ALS to John Taylor; South Carlton	1848 Apr, Aug
	FALKNER, M. B.	
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to John Taylor; South Carlton	[n.y.] Nov 13
	FALKNER, ROBERT	
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to John Taylor; Bath	1828 Jul 8
	GILCHRIST, OCTAVIUS GRAHAM, 1779-1823	
b. 1, f. 9	6 ALS to John Taylor; Stamford On Gilchrist's edition of Richard Corbet's poetry and other literary enterprises.	1803-07
	HADEN, ALEXANDER BUNN, 1752-1829	
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to John Taylor; Wolverhampton	1810 Mar 10
	HADEN, ALEXANDER BUNN, 1783-1863	
b. 1, f. 11	10 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.]	1806-60
	HADEN, FRANK W.	

## HADEN, FRANK W. (continued)

b. 1, f. 12	ALS to John Taylor; Chapel Ash	1808 Apr 14
	HADEN, S.	
b. 1, f. 13	2 ALS to John Taylor; Balham and Horsham	n.d.
	KING, THOMAS	
b. 1, f. 14	6 ALS to John Taylor; London	1841-49
	KNOTT, JOHN M.	
b. 1, f. 15	10 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.] Concerning the currency question.	1847-55
	MARRIOTT, BASIL	
b. 1, f. 16	7 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.]	1812
	MARRIOTT, HARVEY, 1782-1865	
b. 1, f. 17	14 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.]	1811-61
	MEE, J.	
b. 1, f. 18	9 ALS to John Taylor; East Retford	1814-48
	MEE, WILLIAM	
b. 1, f. 19	ALS to John Taylor; [Retford]	n.d.
b. 1, f. 20	ALS to an unnamed recipient, Retford	[1841 or later]
	MOWER, ARTHUR	
b. 1, f. 21	4 ALS to John Taylor; 1 Park St., Edinburgh With a fragment by George Mower on the finding of a giant skeleton.	1816
	SAMPSON, THEOPHILUS	
b. 1, f. 22	ALS to John Taylor; Edwinstowe	1820 Dec 10
	STOAT, CHARLES	
b. 1, f. 23	ALS to John Taylor; Retford	1849 Jan 31
	TALLANT, F.	
b. 1, f. 24	2 ALS to John Taylor; York St. and Worcester Personal and family news.	1842, 1843
	TALLANT, MARY	
b. 1, f. 25	ALS to John Taylor; Liverpool	1818 Sep 19
	TAYLOR, JOHN, 1781-1854	
b. 1, f. 26	ALS (copy) to Philip Twells; Leonard Place	1859 Apr 26

TWELLS, JOHN		
b. 1, f. 27	9 ALS to John Taylor; [v.p.] Concerning the Currency Society, death of Lord George Bentinck, etc.	n.d.
TWELLS, PHILIP, 1809-1880		
b. 1, f. 28	3 ALS to John Taylor; Lincolns Inn Social and business notes. On p. 4 of one letter, some apparently unrelated genealogical notes in another hand.	1848-59
WHITE, FREDERICK		
b. 1, f. 29	4 ALS to John Taylor; Retford One letter written on p. 4 of a letter written by his son, F. White, Jr.	1842-53
WHITE, JOHN		
b. 1, f. 30	2 ALS to John Taylor; Portsmouth and Cawsand	1807, 1808
WHITE, MARY		
b. 1, f. 31	3 ALS to John Taylor; East Retford	1860, n.d.

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Currency question -- Great Britain  
Publishers and publishing -- Great Britain

### **Occupations**

Publishers

### **Names**

Ayton, Richard, 1786-1823  
Colton, C. C. (Charles Caleb), 1780?-1832  
Gilchrist, Octavius, 1779-1823  
Marriott, Harvey, 1782-1865  
Taylor, John, 1781-1864