

Guide to the Towner Family Papers

MS 500



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 500

CREATOR: Towner family

TITLE: Towner family papers

DATES: 1743-1865

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 linear foot

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Diary, account book, financial and legal papers, and photocopies of material relating to the Towner and Tyler families of Branford, Connecticut. Solomon and Isaac Tyler's shipping interests and John Edwin Towner's Civil War diary are significant materials in the collection.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0500>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0500>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Deposited by L. Eugene Towner, 1960. Final gift by Lester N. Towner, 1966.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Towner Family Papers (MS 500). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

For a chart outlining the genealogical relations of the Tyler and Towner families, please consult the [Genealogical Chart](#).

Scope and Contents

These papers comprise materials belonging to the Tyler and Towner families. The majority are papers of Solomon Tyler relating to the sloop *Lyon* (or *Lion*) of Branford, Connecticut, and other vessels in which he had a share. In addition to the *Lyon*, other ships mentioned in the collection are the sloops *Polly*, *Annay*, *Success*, *Prosperity*, *Speedwell*, *Hopewell*, *Dolphin*, and the schooners *Unity*, *Success*, *Phenix*, and *Dolphin*. Among the Tyler family materials are early items from the Isaac Tyler family and legal and financial documents relating to ships. Solomon Tyler recorded his general business accounts (1789-1819) in the front of his account book, and those relating to the *Lyon* (1789-1800) in the back.

Also in the papers is a fragment of the Civil War diary, in the form of a typed carbon, of John Edwin Towner, a descendant of Solomon Tyler.

A complete photostatic copy of the papers, including the account book, has been added to the collection.

Collection Contents

b. 1	Account book	1789-1819
b. 2, f. 1 - 6	Legal and financial papers	1743-1807, undated
b. 2, f. 7	Civil War diary of John E. Towner	1864 July 12-1865 April 4
b. 2, f. 8 - 15	Photocopies	

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

Business
Education
Families
Shipping

Geographic Names

Branford (Conn.)
Connecticut
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
-- Personal narratives
United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca.
1600-1775

Genres / Formats

Ships' papers

Names

Towner, John Edwin, 1840-
Tyler, Isaac, 1708-1772
Tyler, Solomon, 1745-1819

Families

Townes family
Tyler family