

Richard Henry Lee Papers
1763-1823
Mss.B.L51

American Philosophical Society
2003
105 South Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA, 19106
215-440-3400
manuscripts@amphilsoc.org

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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794
Title	Richard Henry Lee Papers
Date [inclusive]	1763-1823
Call number	Mss.B.L51
Extent	0.5 Linear feet
Location	LH-MV-C-13; LH-SB-Black Case-28 (OS)
Language	English
Abstract	<p>A politician and arch revolutionary, Richard Henry Lee was an impassioned supporter of American independence from the mid-1760s. Born into one of the most prominent families in the colony on January 20, 1732, Lee was bred to a political life, serving in the Virginia House of Burgesses during the Stamp Act and Non-importation crises, helping convey his state into the revolutionary camp. As a delegate to the Continental Congress, Lee was the first to officially move that a declaration of independence be drafted, and he ended his public career as a principled opponent of ratification of the Constitution and as Virginia's first U.S. Senator. He died at home in Virginia in June 1794.</p> <p>A small, but highly valuable collection, the papers of Richard Henry Lee document the political life and activities of one of the most ardent revolutionaries in Virginia. The 0.5 linear feet of letters (193 items), most addressed to Lee, are an important resource for study of pre-Revolutionary political agitation in Virginia, the increasing connections forged between the colonies, and the political course of the war. To a lesser degree the</p>

collection documents Lee's late-life anti-federalism. Among the major correspondents are Lee's brothers Arthur and William, and such leaders in the revolutionary cause as George Washington, Samuel Adams, Charles Lee, John Adams, and Thomas Paine.

Preferred Citation

Cite as: Richard Henry Lee Papers, American Philosophical Society.

Background note

Tall and aristocratic in bearing, Richard Henry Lee was an impassioned supporter of American independence in Virginia and later a prominent antagonist of the federal constitution. Born into one of the most prominent families in the colony on January 20, 1732, Lee was bred to a political life. The son of Thomas Lee, one-time president of the governing Council of Virginia and a founder of the Ohio Company, and Hannah Ludwell of "Stratford Hall," Westmorland County, Lee benefited from a superior education, attending the Wakefield Academy in England for seven years before returning in 1751 to enter the family calling, public service. Four of his brothers were active in Revolutionary and post-revolutionary politics: Francis Lightfoot Lee joined Richard as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Ludwell Lee helped write Virginia's resolve for independence and was later chosen to the state supreme court, and Arthur and William Lee became noted diplomats.

Appointed justice of the peace for Westmoreland County in 1757, Lee was first elected to the House of Burgesses in the next year, aged 25. From the first, he pitted himself in the radical wing of Virginia politics. His first speech as a legislator was a proposal to ban the importation of slaves into Virginia, and he earned a reputation as a zealous -- occasionally overly zealous -- political combatant for the part he played in a dispute with the Speaker, John Robinson, over a rivalry between the Ohio Land Company and Robinson's Loyal Land Company. However it was only with the political disputes between the colonies and England after the end of the Seven Years War that Lee's characteristically incendiary style began to emerge.

Although Lee had initially applied to become a collector under the Stamp Act of 1765, he very soon turned to the opposition, becoming a leader of the most vocal and extreme wing. With his brothers Thomas and Francis Lightfoot, Lee gathered 115 signatures to the "Westmoreland Resolves," a petition that threatened "danger and disgrace" to anyone who paid the tax. An act of overt sedition, and one of the earliest to threaten physical violence, the Resolves were a key turning point in the pre-revolutionary struggle.

After recovering from a hunting accident that cost him several fingers on one hand in 1768, Lee returned to a position of prominence in the nascent independence movement, helping to galvanize support for the Non-importation agreements. From England, his brother Arthur kept him informed of English news and political gossip and of the shifting currents toward the colonial crisis. But the specifics of Lee's part in the resistance in Virginia were ultimately less important than his efforts to strengthen political unity between the colonies and to foster a systematic intercolonial exchange of information. In the process, he forged a close working relationship with the Massachusetts firebrand Samuel Adams, and the two remained close throughout the ensuing decades of political strife.

From his seat in the Continental Congress, Lee emerged as an orator of unusual skill and power, urging the colonies to stay the oppositional course and, in July 1775, becoming one of the first to recommend forming independent state governments. Perhaps his signal claim to public renown came on May 17, 1776, when he submitted a resolution to Congress stating that the colonies should declare "That these united Colonies are, and ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance from the British crown, and than all political connection between America and State of Great

Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." Before the debate over the declaration of independence took place, however, Lee had returned to Virginia to assist his home state establish its new government.

In later years, Lee supported the Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance, believing (as a child of the Ohio Company) that revenue from western lands would be beneficial to the new state, and he unsuccessfully submitted an amendment to allow federal support for religion. Increasingly poor health prevented him from taking up his position as delegate to either the federal constitutional convention of 1787 or the state ratification convention in 1788, however Lee contributed to the debate as author of the seminal Anti-federalist tract *Letters from the Federal Farmer to the Republican* (1787-1788). Supportive of much of the federal apparatus (centralization of foreign affairs, commerce, money, and post), he nevertheless rejected the constitution for what he saw as anti-democratic tendencies in a powerful executive, the lack of a bill of rights, and the too limited number of seats in the House of Representatives.

Following the ratification, however, Lee grudgingly came around to support the federal government and was appointed as one of the state's first two Senators in 1789, both Anti-federalists. Once again he took up the cause of an amendment to allow public support for religion, but his term in office was interrupted repeatedly by ill health and by the effects of a carriage accident. Finally, half way through his term on October 8, 1792, he was forced to resign and retire from public life.

Lee was twice married, first to Anne Aylett in 1757, with whom he had four children, and second, in 1768, to Anne Gaskins Pinckard, with whom he had five children. After leaving the Senate, Lee returned to his estate, "Chantilly," where he died on June 19, 1794.

Scope & content

A small, but highly valuable collection, the papers of Richard Henry Lee document the political life and activities of one of the most ardent revolutionaries in Virginia. The 0.5 linear feet of letters (193 items), most addressed to Lee, are an important resource for study of pre-Revolutionary political agitation in Virginia, the increasing connections forged between the colonies, and the political course of the war. To a lesser degree the collection documents Lee's late-life anti-federalism. Among the major correspondents are Lee's brothers Arthur and William, and such leaders in the revolutionary cause as George Washington, Samuel Adams, Charles Lee, John Adams, and Thomas Paine.

After Lexington and Concord, the letters from Charles Lee sometimes seem overwrought with emotion and excitement, as when he wrote: by the eternal God if you do not declare immediately for positive independence We are all ruin'd -- there is a poorness of spirit and languor in the late proceedings of the Congress that I confess frightens me so much, that at times I regret having embark'd my all, my fortune, life and reputation..." (May 10, 1776).

Several of the 25 letters written by George Washington provide exceptionally important information on the prosecution of the war, the testy relationship between Washington and a demanding Congress, and other topics. In a letter written July 10, 1775, Washington provides his assessment of the siege of Boston; his letter of Dec. 26, 1775, discusses Lord Dunmore's "diabolical" proclamation to arm slaves; the letter of June 12, 1784, requests quiet assistance for the impoverished Thomas Paine.

Lee's other major correspondents include the Boston radical Samuel Adams (15 letters), Charles Lee (6 letters), and Gen. Adam Stephen (5 letters), but the selection includes important letters from a number of eminent men associated with the revolutionary struggle, including John Adams, Baron de Kalb, Horatio Gates, Conte de Grasse, Patrick Henry, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, the Marquis de Lafayette, Henry Laurens, Thomas Paine, Kasimerz Pulaski, Benjamin Rush, George Weedon, and George Wythe.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society 2003

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Gift of Richard Henry Lee, Jr., June 12, 1825.

Processing Information

Recatalogued by rsc, 2003.

Related Materials

Related Material

The Lee Papers are one of several important collections at the APS for documenting the American Revolution, including the papers of [Benjamin Franklin](#), (B F85), [Nathanael Greene](#), (B G83), and [George Weedon](#), (B W41). The Library also has eight reels of microfilm of the [Lee Family Papers at the University of Virginia](#) (Film 1240).

The correspondence of Richard Henry Lee and his family is widely scattered, with individual letters and small groups located at a large number of repositories. The major collections are:

- Richard Henry Lee Papers, 1742-1795. Alderman Library, University of Virginia (8 microfilm reels).
- Lee Family Papers, 1722-1892. Huntington Library (100 items)
- Richard Henry Lee Papers, 1785-1796. Alderman Library, University of Virginia (50 items). Chiefly concerning the settlement of Lee's estate.
- Richard Henry Lee Papers and Lee Family Papers. Virginia Historical Society.
- Richard Henry Lee Papers and Lee Family Papers. Library of Congress.

Separated Material

The Lee Papers originally included a manuscript penultimate draft of Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence written on about July 1, 1776. The draft is housed separately.

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Political Correspondence

Geographic Name(s)

- Great Britain--Politics and government--18th century
- United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783
- United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Causes
- United States--Politics and government--1783-1789
- United States--Politics and government--To 1775
- Virginia--Politics and government--Revolution, 1775-1783

Personal Name(s)

- Adams, John, 1735-1826
- Adams, Samuel, 1722-1803
- Barré, Isaac, 1726-1802
- Carmichael, William, d. 1795
- Chase, Samuel, 1741-1811
- Conway, Thomas, 1733-ca.1800
- De Kalb, Johann, 1721-1780
- Dickinson, John, 1732-1808
- Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806
- Grasse, Francois Joseph Paul de Grasse, comte de, 1722-1788
- Henry, Patrick, 1726-1799
- Holker, John, 1719-1786
- Jay, John, 1745- 1829
- Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826
- Jennings, Edmund
- Johnson, Thomas, 1732-1819
- Jones, William
- Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834
- Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792
- Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792
- Lee, John
- Lee, William, 1739-1795

- Lovell, James, 1737-1814
- Martin, John
- McKean, Thomas, 1734-1817
- Mifflin, Thomas, 1744-1800
- Monroe, James, 1758-1831
- Morris, Gouverneur, 1752-1816
- Page, John, 1744-1808
- Page, Mann
- Paine, Thomas, 1737-1809
- Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803
- Pulaski, Kazimierz, 1747-1779
- Reed, Joseph, 1741-1785
- Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813
- Schuyler, Philip John, 1733-1804
- Shippen, William, 1736?-1808
- Stephen, Adam
- Sullivan, James, 1744-1808
- Washington, George, 1732-1799
- Weedon, George, 1734-1793.
- Whipple, William, 1730-1785
- Wythe, George, 1726-1806

Subject(s)

- American Revolution
- Early National Politics
- Military History
- Non-importation agreements, 1768-1769
- Stamp Act, 1765

Other Finding Aids

Calendar of the Correspondence Relating to the American Revolution of Brigadier-General George Weedon, Hon. Richard Henry Lee, Hon. Arthur Lee, and Major-General Nathanael Greene, in the Library of the American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1900)
Call no.: 973.3 Am4.

Other Descriptive Information

This collection of Richard Henry Lee correspondence is most notable for its rich content relating to the movement for Independence, military matters during the war, and the politics of ratification and the early

republic. Because much of the correspondence is incoming, the letters offer insight into a wide range of other topics – and snapshots of events happening in areas beyond Lee’s home state of Virginia. Frequent correspondents during the revolutionary era include John Dickinson, Samuel Adams, Benjamin Rush, and George Washington, among others. Almost all of these letters contain discussions of politics that offer significant insight into the letter writer’s political thought and rich details on events happening throughout British America. Among Rush’s correspondence is a series of letters written following the Battle of Princeton that relate the treatment Rush administered to a Hugh Mercer, who later died of his wounds.

Bibliography

Hays, Isaac Minis, "A Note on the History of the Jefferson Manuscript Draught of the Declaration of Independence in the Library of the American Philosophical Society," *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society* 37 (1898): 88-107.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Collection Inventory

Richard Henry Lee Papers	1763-1823	0.5 lin. feet	Box 1
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS Cy to John Dickinson	1763 April 4	2p.	
Adanson, Dr. ALS to Arthur Lee In Latin	1766 February 22	1p.	
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS to [George Wythe] Vindication against being friendly to the Stamp Act	1766 July 25	3p.	
Cardross, Lord ALS to Arthur Lee	1767 October 31	2p.	
Adams, Samuel ALS to D. DeBirdt Massachusetts politics; Stamp Act; Non-Importation agreement	1768 May 14	4p.	
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1768 December 27	4p.	
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS Cy to John Dickinson Includes copies of Lee to Dickinson, 1768 Nov. 26, and Dickinson to Lee, 1768 August 10, 1769 January 16, and 1773 May 30	1768 August 10	6p.	
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1768 December 27	4p.	

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Melancholy state of politics in England. Shelburne is sound, but not likely to lead. Farmer's letters widely read, but to little purpose.

Dickinson, John ALS Cy to Richard Henry Lee	1769 June 22	2p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee Complex state of British politics.	1769 August 15	6p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1769 September 18	2p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1769 September or October	3p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1769 November 15	4p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1769 November 19	2p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1769 December 3	3p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1770 May 20	2p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1770 October 20	2p.
Barré, Isaac, 1726-1802 ALS to Arthur Lee "I see you lament, with all the feelings of true Patriotism, that the Firmness of America has at last given way to thte combined arts of ministerial and mercantile wickedness..."	1771 January 31	2p.
Jennings, Edmund	1771 August 17	3p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Jennings, Edmund	1771 December 29	2p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Plus 2p. inclosure

Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792	1772 Aug. 17	3p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Adams, Samuel	1773 April 10	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792	1774 March 18	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Urges unity in opposition to British attempts to split Massachusetts from the other colonies.

"Several Natives of America"	1774 March 26	3p.
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Petition to Great Britain. Parliament

Remonstrance against financial reprisals taken against Boston tea party.

Adams, Samuel	1774 July 15	3p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Bostonians repond to the Port Bill by resolving to withstand the hardships.

Washington, George	1774 August 9	1p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Stephen, Adam	1774 Aug. 27	3p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

"The Fate of America depends upon your Meeting and the Eyes of the European World hang upon you waiting the Event." Need for arms in Virginia: "At the Congress this ought to be privately taken into consideration -- A plan laid for encouraging Numbers of Gun lock smiths to come in -- A number of Locks to be imported with Caution -- to prevent suspicion and as many arms as could be

Richard Henry Lee Papers

got -- I imagine that we want 100,000 stand of Arms. We have great difficulty in fitting out the few men we want on this occasion."

Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1774 Dec. 22	3p.
Stephen, Adam ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Feb. 1	4p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADS Opinion re: Committee of King George's County, Va.	ca.1775 Feb. 2	3p.
Stephen, Adam ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Feb. 17	2p.
Adams, Samuel ALS to Richard Henry Lee Gage and British troops more insolent than ever. Oration to commemorate the Boston Massacre.	1775 March 21	4p.
United States. Continental Congress. Petition (ADf fragment) to George III	1775 April 5	1p.
United States. Continental Congress. ADf to London (England). Lord Mayor	1775 May	1p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADfS to Gouverneur Morris	1775 May 28	4p.
Philopatria ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 June 1	3p.
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 July 10	4p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Situation of the army besieging Boston: "between you and me I think we are in an exceeding dangerous situation, as our numbers are not much larger than we suppose, from the best accts. we are able to get, those of the Enemy to be."

Lee, Charles ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Sept. 2	2p.
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Stephen, Adam ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Sept. 23	2p.
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Wiandots and other Indians between Detroit and Niagara are "greatly divided."

Schuyler, Philip John, 1733-1804 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Oct. 19	1p.
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Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Oct. 29	2p.
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Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Nov. 27	4p.
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State of the army and ships available. "For Godsake hurry the signers of money that our want may be supplied."

Lee, Charles ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Dec. 12	4p.
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Proposes seizing the estates of all opponents of liberty and banishing them to internal exile; fortify and garrison New York or destroy it.

Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1775 Dec. 26	4p.
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Response to Dunmore's "diabolical" proclamation to arm slaves.

Lee, Charles ALS Cy to Lord Piercy	1775	2p.
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London (England). Lord Mayor and Common Council.	1775	2p.
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Richard Henry Lee Papers

Petition Cy to George III

Morris, Gouverneur, 1752-1816	1775	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Page, John, 1744-1808	1776 Feb. 20	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794	1776 Feb.	1p.
ALS to Charles Lee		

Washington, George	1776 Apr. 4	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Lakes are impassable and troops cannot be spared. Flight of British from Boston. Need a hospital badly for the troops.

Lee, Charles	1776 Apr. 5	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Complaints of timidity of political leadership. Bland says the author of Common Sense is a blockhead.

Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803	1776 Apr. 8	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Lee, Charles	1776 Apr. 12	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Lee, Charles	1776 May 10	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

"by the eternal God if you do not declare immediately for positive independence We are all ruin'd -- there is a poorness of spirit and languor in the late proceedings of the Congress that I confess frightens me so much, that at times I regret having embark'd my all, my fortune, life and reputation..."

Washington, George	1776 May 18	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Adams, Samuel	1776 July 15	3p.
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Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Howe in New York. "Our Declaration of Independency has given Vigor to the Spirits of the People. Had this decisive measure been taken Nine Months ago, it is my opinion that Canada would at this time have been in our hands..."

Chase, Samuel, 1741-1811	1776 July 30	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

United States. Continental Congress.	1776 Oct.	2p.
ADf Proposed additions to the instructions given to the Commissioners going to France		

Authorization to seek arms and troops from France and Spain.

Shippen, William, 1736?-1808	1776 Dec. 17	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1776 Dec. 20	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

"We are much blamed by the Whigs and ridiculed by the Tories for leaving Philada. so suddenly."

Shippen, William, 1736?-1808	1776 Dec. 20	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Recommendations to Congress on the needs of military hospitals.

Shippen, William, 1736?-1808	1776 Dec. 20	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

United States. Continental Congress.	1776 Dec. 21	2p.
ALS to Commissioners to France		

News of progress of war.

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1776 Dec. 21	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

United States. Continental Congress.	1776 Dec. 29	1p.
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Richard Henry Lee Papers

Cy to the States

Appointing Lee, Adams, and Wilson as a committee to draft a letter explaining why Congress has expanded the powers given to Washington

United States. Continental Congress.	1776 Dec. 30	4p.
ALS to Commissioners to France		

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1776 Dec. 30	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

"There is no soil so dear to a soldier as that which is marked with the footsteps of a flying enemy."

Davenport, James	1776	1p.
Subscription in support of John Sears		

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1776 [i.e. 1777] Jan. 6	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

News of Battle of Princeton.

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1777 Jan. 7	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Mercer is improving after wounding at Princeton. More news of Princeton.

Washington, George	1777 Jan. 10	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1777 Jan. 14	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Suggests commissary send supplies to American POWs. Rumors that the British have raised large numbers of Russians and Germans to serve in America; news of Battle of Trenton reaches New York.

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813	1777 Jan. 14	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Shippen, William, 1736?-1808	1777 Jan. 17	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Richard Henry Lee Papers

United States. Continental Congress. ALS to Commissioners to France	1777 Feb. 19	2p.
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Mar. 6	2p.
Carmichael, William, d. 1795 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Mar. 17	1p.
Arthur Lee is in Spain. Introducing the Marquis de Lafayette and Baron deKalb.		
United States. Congress ALS Cy to George Washington	1777 Apr. 10	1p.
Stephen, Adam ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Apr. 22	2p.
Jerseymen and Virginians will bear the burden of fighting while "The Myriads of the North -- the Great Women... seem Cloy'd of fighting and are wonderfully backward in turning out."		
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Apr. 22	4p.
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 May 10	1p.
Introducing the Chevalier d'Annemours.		
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 May 17	4p.
Requests instructions for what to do with so many foreigners appointed by Congress to field officer over native born Americans.		
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS to George Washington	1777 May 22	2p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADfS to Patrick Henry	1777 May	4p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 June 1	3p.
Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792 ALS Cy to Richard Henry Lee	1777 June 15	4p.
Adams, Samuel ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 June 26	2p.
Chase, Samuel, 1741-1811 ALS Cy to Unidentified recipient	1777 July 1	2p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS to Thomas Paine	1777 July 13	2p.
Paine, Thomas, 1737-1809 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 July 1	2p.
Wythe, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Aug. 24	2p.
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Sept. 13	1p.
DeKalb, Johann ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Sept. 16	1p.
Page, Mann ALS to Richard Henry Lee News of defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga.	1777 Sept. 23	2p.
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Oct. 11	1p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS Cy to George Pynchon and John Bradford	1777 Oct. 14	1p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Wythe, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Oct. 18	1p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADfS to George Wythe	1777 Oct. 19	3p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADfS to United States. Congress	1777 Oct. 24	1p.
Page, Mann ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Oct. 27	2p.
Mifflin, Thomas ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Nov. 5	3p.
Wythe, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Nov. 6	2p.
Wilkes, John ALS to Arthur Lee	1777 Nov. 9	3p.
<p>"This poor country is fallen into a fatal lethargy, from which all efforts to rouse her seem ineffectual. The single loss of Minorca drove the people of England almost to madness, now thirteen provinces dismembered from the British empire scarcely excite a murmur, except among a very few, who dare to love their country even at this disagreeable period."</p>		
Mifflin, Thomas ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Nov. 12	3p.
Chase, Samuel, 1741-1811 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Nov. 28	2p.
Lee, William ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1777 Dec. 3	2p.
<p>Urges enlisting British and German deserters to encourage such behavior.</p>		
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ADfS to Thomas Johnson	1777 Dec. 13	2p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Complaint about Marylanders trading with British warships.

Lovell, James, 1737-1814 ALS Cy to Thomas Johnson	1777 Dec. 28	4p.
Lee, Charles ALS to Richard Henry Lee	ca.1777	2p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS Cy to George Washington	1778 Jan. 2	2p.
Re: British tricks and forgery of "Letters from Washington."		
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 Feb. 15	2p.
"The enemy are governed by no principles that ought to actuate honest men..."		
Windham, W. ALS to Arthur Lee	1778 March 12	1p.
Adams, Samuel ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 Apr. 20	3p.
Conway, Thomas, 1733-ca.1800 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 May 23	3p.
Blames a cabal against him for leaving his commission.		
Henry, Patrick ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 June 18	2p.
Page, Mann ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 June 23	1p.
Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794 ALS Cy to George Washington	1778 June 24	1p.
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834	1778 July 2	2p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Page, John, 1744-1808	1778 July 10	2p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Congratulations on departure of British from Philadelphia.

Wythe, George	1778 Aug. 1	1p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Washington, George	1778 Aug. 10	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Re: Col. Spotswood.

Pulaski, Kazimierz, 1747-1779	1778 Aug. 13	1p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Seeking Lee's support against false accusations made against Pulaski.

DeKalb, Johann	1778 Aug. 17	2p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Lee, William	1778 Sept. 21	2p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806	1778 Sept. 23	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Washington, George	1778 Sept. 23	2p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Paper money. "The designs of the Enemy, to me, are mysterious -- indeed totally incomprehensible..."

Page, John, 1744-1808	1778 Oct. 15	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Lee, William	1778 Oct. 17	4p.
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ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Diplomatic efforts in Germany.

Whipple, William ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 Nov. 8	2p.
Lovell, James, 1737-1814 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 Dec. 10	2p.
Lovell, James, 1737-1814 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1778 Dec. 18	4p.
[United States. Congress] Cy to Great Britain. Commissioners	ca.1778	1p.
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Jan. 7	2p.
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Oct. 7	3p.
McKean, Thomas, 1734-1817 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 March 25	4p.
Political machinations in Congress since Lee's departure and Franklin's against Arthur Lee.		
Reed, Joseph, 1741-1785 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 April 15	4p.
Holker, John ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 April 22	1p.
Holker, John ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 April 5	2p.
Washington, George LS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 May 5	1p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 June 13	3p.
Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 June 22	2p.
Jefferson, Thomas. ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 June 17	2p.
Bibliography Printed: Boyd, v.2, 298-299. Other Descriptive Information Film 199 Frame 68		
Lee, William ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1780 Aug. 15	2p.
Lovell, James, 1737-1814 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Aug. 17	4p.
Whipple, William ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Aug. 23	2p.
Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Aug. 31	4p.
Whipple, William ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Sept. 18	2p.
Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Sept. 28	2p.
Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1779 Oct. 12	2p.
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834	1779 Dec. 13	1p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
Lovell, James, 1737-1814	1780 Aug. 31	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
Adams, Samuel	1781 Jan. 15	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
DeGrasse, Conte de	1781 Feb. 8	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
Jefferson, Thomas.	1781 March 10	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
Re: Steuben and militia.		
Bibliography		
Printed: Boyd, v.5, 114-115.		
Other Descriptive Information		
Film 199 Frame 69		
Weedon, George	1781 June 15	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
Defences in Virginia.		
Weedon, George	1781 Aug. 12	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
McKean, Thomas, 1734-1817	1781 Sept. 4	2p.
ALS to Arthur Lee		
Weedon, George	1781 Sept. 20	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
DeGrasse, Conte de	1781 Oct. 29	1p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		
In French.		
Whipple, William	1783 Sept. 15	2p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Monroe, James, 1758-1831

1783 April 4

3p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Whipple, William

1783 April 17

2p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Washington, George

1784 June 12

2p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

"Unsolicited by, and unknown to Mr. Paine, I take the liberty of hinting the services, and distressed (for so I think it may be called) situation of that Gentleman."

Florida-Blanca, Conte de

1784 Oct. 8

2p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

On verso Richard Henry Lee ALS Cy to Florida Blance, 1785 Oct. 6. Regarding future of Spanish-American relations.

Adams, Samuel

1784 Dec. 9

1p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Adams, Samuel

1784 Dec. 23

4p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

"By God's Blessing on the Councils and the Arms of our Country, we are now ran'k with Nations. May they keep us from exulting beyond Measure! Great Pains are tyet to be taken and much Wisdom is requisite that we may stand as a Nation in a respectable Character. Better it would have been for us to have fallen in our highly famed Struggle for our Rights, or even to have remain'd in our ignoble State of Bondage hoping for better Times, than now to become a contemptible Nation."

Washington, George

1784 Dec. 14

4p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee

Re: Treaty of Fort Stanwix. "These people [the Iroquois] have given I think all that the United States could reasonably have asked of them -- more perhaps than the state of New York conceive ought to have been required from them, by any other than their own Legislature."

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 Feb. 8	8p.
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 Feb. 28	1p.
Regarding an act to incorporate the Episcopal Church, separation of church and state.		
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 March 7	1p.
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 March 15	3p.
Ohio lands; Shawnees.		
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves, marquis de, 1757-1834 ALS to Richard Henry Lee(?)	1785 March 16	2p.
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803 ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 April 18	2p.
Adams, John ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 April 29	3p.
Washington, George ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 June 22	3p.
Adams, John ALS to Richard Henry Lee	1785 July 15	4p.
Critique of American policy toward Britain.		
Washington, George To "A Gentleman of Virginia"	1785 July 19	3p.
Regarding rights of navigation of the Mississippi River.		
Washington, George	1785 Aug. 22	3p.

Richard Henry Lee Papers

ALS to unidentified recipient

Adams, John	1785 Sept. 6	4p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Monroe, James, 1758-1831	1786 May 24	3p.
ALS to unidentified recipient		

Adams, Samuel	1787 Dec. 3	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

ALS to Richard Henry Lee, 1787 Dec. 3

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/text:2603\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/text:2603)

Chase, Samuel, 1741-1811	1789 July 2	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Gerry, Elbridge	1789 Feb. 9	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Sullivan, James	1789 April 11	3p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Adams, Samuel	1789 April 22	2p.
LS to Richard Henry Lee		

Adams, Samuel	1789 July 14	2p.
LS to Richard Henry Lee		

Re: federal versus state balance.

Washington, George	1789 Aug. 2	2p.
ALS to Richard Henry Lee		

Adams, Samuel	1789 Aug. 24	3p.
LS to Richard Henry Lee		

Adams, Samuel	1789 Aug. 24	3p.
LS to Richard Henry Lee		

Richard Henry Lee Papers

Jones, William

1790 Oct. 14

1p.

ALS to Arthur Lee

Jones, William

1790 Nov. 7

1p.

ALS to Arthur Lee

Jay, John

1823 Feb. 12

3p.

ALS to Richard Henry Lee, Jr.

Memories of events of 1774.

Unidentified

ca.1775

1 map, 39.5 x

Fortifications of Boston Neck by the British

32.1 cm

The cartographer is thought to be John Trumball.

Physical & technical details

Oversized.

Other Finding AidsRealms of Gold, 25 (1).
