

**John Pershouse correspondence  
and papers, 1749-1899**

**1749-1899**

**Mss.B.P43**

American Philosophical Society  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	American Philosophical Society
<b>Title</b>	John Pershouse correspondence and papers, 1749-1899
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1749-1899
<b>Call number</b>	Mss.B.P43
<b>Extent</b>	5.0 volumes; 62 items.
<b>Extent</b>	5 volumes; 62 items.
<b>Location</b>	LH-MV-C-16; LH-MV-E-5 (Bound volumes); LH-SB-Black Case-29 (OS)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Container</b>	1
<b>Container</b>	5
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>This correspondence is principally concerned with business between Pershouse and his brother James in England, with comments on conditions and events in the United States, including anti-British feeling, Thomas Paine's return to America, Jefferson's administration, and immigration. The papers include Pershouse's journal (1800-1838), which includes accounts of travels in England, France, and the United States, letterbooks (1836-1862) of Henry Pershouse, nephew of John, chiefly on business matters, and two volumes of Pershouse genealogical data, compiled by B.M. Pershouse Bayley (1899).</p>

## Background note

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John Pershouse was a Philadelphia merchant.

## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

## Provenance

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### Acquisition Information

Purchased and accessioned, 1958 (1958 1433ms).

### Alternative Form Available

This material is also available on microfilm (Film 1370).

## Indexing Terms

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### Family Name(s)

- Pershouse, James.

### Genre(s)

- Business Records and Accounts
- Family Correspondence
- Genealogies.
- General Correspondence
- Journals (notebooks).
- Letterbooks.
- Political Correspondence
- Travel Narratives and Journals

### Geographic Name(s)

- England -- Description and travel.
- United States -- Description and travel.
- United States -- Politics and government -- 1783-1809.

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Bayley, B. M. Pershouse
- Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826
- Paine, Thomas, 1737-1809
- Pershouse, Henry

### **Subject(s)**

- Diplomatic History
- Early National Politics
- International Travel
- Philadelphia History
- Social Life and Custom
- Travel

## **Other Descriptive Information**

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This collection contains five volumes of data relating to John Pershouse and his family. The collection contains two volumes of genealogical data from the later eighteenth century; the remaining three volumes all date to the early republic and consist of a travel journal and two letter books thought to belong to his nephew Henry. Of particular interest are the letters from Pershouse in Philadelphia to his brother in England. His letters often discuss many of the major political and social events happening in the early republic. He discusses immigration, Jefferson's administration, and the culture of Philadelphia during this period.

## Papers

## Collection Inventory

## Papers

1794-1899

D. 62 letters and documents and 5 ms. vols. Various sizes. Letters and documents are individually catalogued; 1794-1841. Vols. are: (John Pershouse. Journal; Feb. 1800-1838: B.M.P. Bayley. Genealogical data of the Pershouse family; 1899 and H. Pershouse. Letterbooks; 1836-1862.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

March 6, 1794

9-3/4x7-1/2

Letter to James Pershouse;

Manchester, A.L.S. 1p. and add., end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the possible sale of land.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

April 16, 1798

8x7-1/2

Letter to James Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Nuremberg, A.L. 3p. and add., end. Mutilated. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning his travels in Europe.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

May 5, 1801

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p. and add., end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Ships flour. Concerning the price of provisions in England. Concerning Jefferson as president. Concerning political news in England. Concerning Pitt.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

June 30, 1801

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p., add., end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the price of food in England and the need for care of land. Concerning his travels in the U.S.

## Papers

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Nov. 20, 1801

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning internal affairs in the U.S. Concerning English foreign affairs. Concerning vaccination in the U.S. Immigration to the U.S.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 2, 1801

9-3/4x7-3/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Internal affairs and prosperity of the U.S. Value of land in England. Current events. Refers to Porcupine, Franklin and Paine. Business in the U.S.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Feb. 26, 1802

10-1/2x8-1/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S.with initials. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Will stay longer in the U.S. Friendly advice on going into trade. Concerning congress and Jefferson. Refers to the Indians. Growth of cotton in the U.S.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

June 14, 1802

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning some immigrants who return to England. State of commerce in the U.S. Hatred between North and South and fear that France, in Louisiana, will take the West, forecasts dissolution of the U.S.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Sept. 20, 1802

13x7-1/2

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
England;

New York, A.L. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning his travels through New York state. Concerning T. Paine.



## Papers

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 28, 1802

9-3/4x7-3/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning the French in Louisiana and Jefferson. Refers to Paine.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 28, 1802

9-3/4x8

Letter to James Pershouse;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 1p. Copy. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. On same sheet as letter from John Pershouse to James Pershouse; Jan. 1, 1803.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

[1802]

10-1/2x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
England;

A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters. . .) Concerning Paine and his coming to the U.S. Refers to Whitefield and Priestley. Business.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Jan. 1, 1803

9-3/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

Philadelphia, A.L.S.with initials. 3p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters.) Business. On same sheet is letter from John Pershouse to James Pershouse; Dec. 28, 1802.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

April 8, 1803

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,and.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning Louisiana and the West. Refers to Paine and Jefferson. Priestley given dinner by the APS.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

July 23, 1803

13x7-3/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley,  
Lancashire;

## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Swiss immigration to the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Sept. 23, 1803	9-3/4x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge, England;

Germantown, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Yellow fever in Philadelphia. Business. Recommends he immigrate to the U.S. Concerning Jerome Bonaparte and T. Paine.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Dec. 15, 1803	9x7-1/2
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Results of the yellow fever epidemic. Slaves in the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	[1803]	10x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Chorley;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning internal improvements (roads and canals) of the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Jan. 20, 1804	9-1/2x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge, England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S.with initials. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Revival of slave trade in the U.S. Current events. Refers to T. Jefferson. Jerome Bonaparte's marriage.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	May 4, 1804	10x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Praises the U.S. and urges him to immigrate. Refers to Jerome Bonaparte. Refers to Jefferson and Paine.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Sept. 10, 1804	9-1/2x7-3/4
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge, England;

## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Friendly letter. Concerning Jerome Bonaparte. Influx of immigrants. Will become a citizen. Refers to Priestley.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Sept. 24, 1804

9-1/2x7-1/2

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

March 10, 1805

10-1/4x8

Letter to Ja[me]s Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning a trip in Pennsylvania. Refers to Priestley.

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**Pershouse, John, 1760-1841**

May 25, 1805

10-1/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Will stay in America. Concerning Paine.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Oct. 26, 1805

10-1/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning T. Paine. Business. Concerning yellow fever. Current events.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 10, 1805

10-1/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Jefferson's speech to congress. Refers to T. Paine.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 15, 1805

10-1/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Rising feeling against impressment in the U.S.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Feb. 23, 1806

10-1/4x8-1/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. Contains pencilled note in German on add. sheet. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Sends gift of flour. Concerning T. Paine. Business. Growth of population in the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	April 4, 1806	10-1/2x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	June 18, 1806	10-1/2x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning immigration to the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Oct. 24, Oct. 30, 1806	9-1/2x7-1/2
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Dec. 5, 1806	13x8
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p.add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Refers to Jefferson. Concerning business in the U.S.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	April 1, 1807	10x7-3/4
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Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Friendly letter. Refers to an article in the Port Folio.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	May 10, 1807	10x8
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Letter to [James Pershouse];

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Friendly letter. Concerning Thomas Paine.

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<b>Pershouse, John, 1769-1841</b>	Oct. 8, 1807	10x8
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## Papers

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add., end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning the Chesapeake and the Leopard affair. Refers to Jefferson. Concerning a comet.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Feb. 5, 1808

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Kingswinford;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning Anglo-American relations.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

April 26, 1808

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning the Embargo.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Oct. 31, 1808

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning Anglo-American relations.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 3, 1808

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Stourbridge;

Philadelphia, A.L.S.with initials. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Concerning the Embargo.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Nov. 11, 1809

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth, England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

June 10, 1810

9-3/4x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth, England;

## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Current events. Describes expanding economy of the U.S. Death of Paine. Business.

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**Pershhouse, John, 1769-1841**

Nov. 27, 1810

9-3/4x7-3/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Describes trip through Albany to Canada.

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**Pershhouse, John, 1769-1841**

Jan. 26, 1811

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and. add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Describes how a poor man may prosper in the U.S. Business. Concerning Dunkers. Concerning Indians of Canada.

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**Pershhouse, John, 1769-1841**

July 5, 1811

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning immigration to the U.S. Business. Describes a visit to Maryland. Current events.

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**Pershhouse, John, 1769-1841**

Dec. 12, 1811

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Development of manufactures in the U.S.

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**How and Marsham, Stock-Brokers**

March 17, 1812

9x7-1/2

Letter to James Pershouse, Bridgenorth;

London, Printed D.filled in in ms.and L. 2p. and add.,end. (See John Pershouse. Letters...) Business.

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**Pershhouse, John, 1769-1841**

June 2, 1812

10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth,  
England;

## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p.and add. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Possibility of war with Great Britain.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841** Aug. 10, 1812 10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth,  
England;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the war. Possible rise of manufactures in the U.S.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841** Dec. 20, 1813 10x8-1/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the war. Concerning internal affairs of the U.S.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841** June 17, 1815 9-1/2x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 3p.and add. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the peace and the development of the U.S. His plans to return to England.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841** Aug. 14, 1815 10x8

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

Philadelphia, A.L.S.with initials. 4p.,add. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Business. Returns soon to England. Growth of the U.S. Return of Bonaparte.

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**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841** Dec. 30, 1815 9x7-1/4

Letter to [James] Pershouse, Bridgnorth;

London, A.L.S. 1p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Is in England and will visit him.

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**Pershouse, Elizabeth Pilling** Nov. 2, 1817 9-1/2x7-1/2

Letter to H[enry] Pershouse, Manchester;

A.L.S. 3p. and add.with P.S. by J[ames] Pershouse. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Friendly letter.

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**Barlow, Elizabeth** Aug. 24, 1825 9-1/4x7-1/2

Letter to Mrs. H. Pershouse, Manchester;

## Papers

A.L.S. 3p. and add. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Friendly letter.

**Protection Insurance Company**

May 20, 1826

20-1/2x16-1/2OS

Policy issued to John Pershouse;

Hartsford, Printed D.filled in in ms.S.: T.C.Perkins, secy., Wm.W.Ellsworth, pres. and John Boardman, agent. 1p. (see John Pershouse. Letters...)

**Netherlands**

Sept. 8, 1828

16x12-3/4 OS

Passport issued to John Pershouse;

London, Printed D.filled in in ms.S.: J.W.May. and John Pershouse. 1p.and end. In French. (see John Pershouse. Letters...)

**France**

Aug. 28, 1829

17x10-1/2 OS

Passport issued to John Pershouse;

London, Printed D.filled in in ms.S.: John Pershouse. A. Billing,sec. 1p.and end. In French. (see John Pershouse. Letters. . .)

Ticket to Paris

July 20, 1830

1 item, printed with Mss filled in. Ticket to Paris, issued by English and Foreign Coach Office.

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

March 1, 1833

10x8

Statement of property;

A.D. 4p. (see John Pershouse. Letters...)

**Bayard, James**

June 4, 1841

10x8

Letter to R[obert] Ewing;

Philadelphia, L. 1p. Copy. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Advises mode of settling John Pershouse's estate. On same sheet as letter from R.Ewing to H.Pershouse; June 11, 1841.

**Ewing, Robert**

June 11, 1841

10x8

Letter to Henry Pershouse, Manchester;



## Papers

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 2p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters. . .) Death of John Pershouse. Statement of John Pershouse's estate. Enclose copy of letter advising mode of settling the estate. On same sheet is copy of letter from J. Bayard to R. Ewing; June 4, 1841.

**Ewing, Robert**

June 28, 1841

9-3/4x7-3/4

Letter to Henry Pershouse, Manchester;

Philadelphia, A.L.S. 1p.and add.,end. (see John Pershouse. Letters...) Concerning the settlement of John Pershouse's estate.

Analysis of the will of the late Henry Pershouse.

[1862]

A.D. 4p.

**Catholic Church. Archdiocese of Canterbury (England)**

Undated

17x18

OS

Decision concerning the will of James Taylor.

D.S.: Geo[rge] Gosling, Nath[anie]l Gosling and R.C.Cresswell, Deputy Registers. 1p. Stamped. Parchment. (see John Pershouse. Letter...)

**Pershouse, John, 1769-1841**

Feb. 1800-1838

7-1/4x4-1/2

B P43.1 Journal

A.D.S. 128p. of which 70 contain writing. End.: Henry Pershouse and G.H. Bradney Pershouse. Contains entries of his travels in the U.S.

**Bayley, Benjamin M. Pershouse, 1864-**

1899

7x4-1/2 and

B P43.2 Genealogical data of the Pershouse family

8-3/4x7-1/4

A.D.S. 2 vols. Contains references to John and James Pershouse.

**Pershouse, Henry, 1799-1862**

1834-1837

11x9,

B P43.3 Letterbooks

12-3/4x8

## Papers

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A.L.S. 2 volumes. Vol. 1 contains comments on books which he read, dated: 1834-1837. Vol. 2 contains entry on death of John Pershouse. Letters are mostly business letters.

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