

Library Company of Philadelphia

**McA MSS 001**

**JOHN A. MCALLISTER PAPERS**

1820-1885  
(bulk 1860-1866)

1.46 linear feet, 4 boxes

- Series I. John A. McAllister Correspondence (1841-1885, bulk 1860-1866)
- Series II. John A. McAllister Writings (1840-1875)
- Series III. McAllister Family Papers (1820-1867)

May 2007

**Descriptive Summary****Repository**

Library Company of Philadelphia  
1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5698

**Call Number**

McA MSS 001

**Creator**

McAllister, John A. (John Allister), 1822-1896.

**Title**

John A. McAllister Papers

**Inclusive Dates**

1820-1885 (bulk 1860-1866)

**Quantity**

1.46 linear feet (4 boxes)

**Language of Materials**

Materials are in English.

**Abstract**

The collection holds correspondence and documents which are primarily the papers of the Philadelphia antiquarian collector John A. McAllister, but it includes some additional material relating to his family and their optical business. As McAllister was an active collector of autograph letters, there are items from many of the important names in nineteenth-century politics, culture, religion, and the military, including members of the Peale family and other Philadelphians. A large component of the collection relates to McAllister's acquisition methods, so there are letters from private and institutional collectors of Americana in other parts of the country as well as with working historians such as Benson J. Lossing. Much of the collection focuses on the American Civil War (1861-1865); the single literary item is a manuscript by Edgar Allan Poe.

**Administrative Information****Restrictions to Access**

The collection is open to researchers. It is on deposit at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and should be accessed through the Society's reading room at 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA. Visit their website, <http://www.hsp.org/>, for reading room hours.

**Acquisition Information**

Gift of John A. McAllister; forms part of the McAllister Collection.

**Processing Information**

The John A. McAllister Papers were formerly interfiled within the large and chronologically-arranged McAllister Manuscript Collection. The papers were reunited, arranged, and described as a single collection in 2006, under grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the William Penn Foundation. The

collection was processed by Sandra Markham. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this finding aid do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### **Preferred Citation**

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### **Online Catalog Headings**

#### **Subject Names**

Allibone, S. Austin (Samuel Austin), 1816-1889  
 Anderson, Robert, 1805-1871  
 Bartlett, John Russell, 1805-1886  
 Davis, W. W. H. (William Watts Hart), 1820-1910  
 Douglass, Frederick, 1818-1895  
 Hoffman, Francis Suydam, 1828-1886  
 Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894  
 Lossing, Benson John, 1813-1891  
 Mayer, Brantz, 1809-1879  
 M'Cullough, Samuel D., 1803-1873  
 Newsam, Albert, 1809-1864  
 Peale, Rembrandt, 1778-1860  
 Peale, Titian Ramsay, 1799-1885  
 Perry, William Stevens, 1832-1898  
 Poe, Edgar Allan, 1809-1849  
 Phillips, Naphtali, 1773-1870  
 Preble, George Henry, 1816-1885  
 Sprague, William Buell, 1795-1876  
 Stevens, William Bacon, 1815-1887  
 Stiles, Henry Reed, 1832-1909  
 Thorburn, Grant, 1773-1863  
 Walter, Thomas Ustick, 1804-1887  
 Watson, John F. (John Fanning), 1779-1860  
 Westcott, Thompson

#### **Subject Topics**

Collectors and collecting  
 Great Central Fair for the U.S. Sanitary Commission--(1864: Philadelphia, Pa.)  
 United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Correspondence

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Correspondence  
**Document Types**  
Letters

**Related Collections**

Genealogical data about the McAllister family can be found in a McAllister and Young family genealogy album created by William Y. McAllister in 1894 and now held by the Library Company's Print Department; the library also owns a McAllister family bible containing genealogical inscriptions. There are additional McAllister Family Papers (Coll. 2139) at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and in the Marian S. Carson Collection in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has many McAllister family letters, as well as letters to family member including many written to John A. McAllister, in other collections such the Ferdinand J. Dreer Collection (Coll. 175) and the Benson J. Lossing Papers (Coll. 1807).

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

The McAllister family was important in Philadelphia for over a century as businessmen, manufacturers, and collectors. There were three generations of distinctly different men named John McAllister, all with antiquarian interests, which has been cause for confusion in the past. The first, John McAllister Sr. (1753-1830), emigrated from Scotland in 1775 and became a successful whip and cane manufacturer in the city. In 1796 he bought a stock of spectacles; from that point, what had been an unusual sideline became the McAllister family's future as manufacturers and proprietors of optical equipment which, by 1830, had totally eclipsed their earlier specialty. In 1807 his son John McAllister Jr., a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, joined the business, and became a named partner in 1811. The McAllister company remained prominent on Chestnut Street for decades after as it expanded to become nationally known manufacturers and retailers of optical equipment, mathematical instruments, and commercial photographs.

John McAllister Jr. (1786-1877) and his wife Eliza Young (1790-1853), the daughter of the noted Philadelphia printer and bookseller William Young (1755-1829), had ten children, seven of whom lived to adulthood. The eldest, William Y. (1812-1896), worked as a partner with his father from 1830, and took over the McAllister firm upon his retirement in 1835. Of the three daughters—Frances W. (1815-1892), Agnes Y. (1817-1879), and Sarah A. (1819-1870)—two married and Agnes kept house for her father. Thomas H. (1824-1898) became a partner with William as McAllister & Brother from 1853 through 1865 when he moved to New York and established his own optical shop, first at 627 Broadway and then at 49 Nassau Street. The youngest sibling, Wardale G. (1829-1874), had a law career in Philadelphia.

Their middle child was John Allister McAllister, born on September 30, 1822. He attended the Edgehill School for Boys, founded in Princeton, New Jersey, by the noted classics professor Robert B. Patton (1794-1839). The remainder of his resume is known from a brief essay written by his brother William in a family genealogical scrapbook he created in the early 1890s (now in the Print Department of the Library Company, but not part of the McAllister Collection):

[John] was brought up to the hardware trade with Earp McMain Haven & West but never followed it. Was with Charles Belin and a Mr. Adams in the Butter & Cheese business but was not successful. He was for a time with the Crane Iron Co and with energy might have been President. In 1848 he went with his Brother Thomas to Louisville Ky and was in some small business but unsuccessful. In 1853 I offered him and Thomas an interest in my business and we were partners til 1865.

Though William McAllister described a partnership with both his brothers, a formal business agreement in the Marian S. Carson Collection at the Library of Congress features only two principals, William and Thomas. As well, Philadelphia city directory entries for the firm of McAllister & Brother [always singular] during those dozen years have expanded listings of product specialties, and name Thomas and William as proprietors. John A. McAllister was listed in the city directories as an "optician" at the Chestnut Street store address for many years and was, at minimum, involved with the commercial photographs marketed there, but it is likely that his role in the shop was more that of a clerk. Several acknowledgement letters saved in his personal papers reveal that McAllister mailed photographs of churches and portraits of prominent religious figures to noted clergymen in the 1850s and early 1860s, but the lack of request letters in the files suggests that those gifts were perhaps unsolicited, and may well have been his way of acquiring autographs for his collection. A few similar letters exist for the eyewear and portraits of prominent military figures he sent to servicemen during the Civil War, though in many cases those mailings were in response to their orders, which he also kept for his personal files.

While John A. McAllister's role in the family business remains unclear, his role in the family is more evident. Evidence supporting a fraternal rift first appears in 1875, the last time an occupation and the firm's address are part of his entry in the city directories. A second suggestion can be found in the will that John McAllister Jr. prepared in March 1876, wherein he assigned bequests of both Philadelphia real estate, cash and securities to William, Agnes, and Frances, but only cash and securities to John and Thomas (who remained in New York through his death in 1898). When John McAllister Jr. died on December 17, 1877, Agnes inherited the family mansion on Merrick Street (now the west side of Penn Square at Market Street), and upon her death in 1879, she bequeathed the property to Elizette and Jessie Grant, the daughters of her Sarah who had died a decade earlier; the Grant family had lived in the house for more than twenty years having moved there after Sarah was widowed in 1852. The following year, the sisters sold the house to the Pennsylvania Railroad for \$25,000 (approximately \$500,000

today). It was immediately demolished to make way for the new Broad Street Station building, and within two years of the sale, both of the Grant women had also passed away.

The family's fracture with John came soon after. Continuing William's narrative,

He had a comfortable estate from his Father but let it slip away.

At the time of Elizette's death [April 1882] he gave much trouble about her will – published articles in the paper about it. We have not been on speaking terms for years. He has broken up the family union and done no good to himself.

By 1883, John A. McAllister moved away from central Philadelphia, where had been born and lived for sixty years. He settled first in Germantown, nearly ten miles to the north. On January 7, 1884, in another act of alienation, he resigned from the Council of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The institution's minutes reflected that "...except for 1 gentleman he was the only survivor of the council of 1860, but that of late his time and thoughts had been occupied with other matters than those of the Society." After six years in Germantown, McAllister relocated to West Philadelphia and lived there until his death from nephritis at age 75. He died at his home, 4406 Sansom Street, on October 22, 1896.

John A. McAllister had married Annette Steinbrenner (1832-1926) in 1861. Ten years his junior, she was born in New York to Frederick W. and Annette Steinbrenner, and had been living in Philadelphia with her grandparents Godfrey and Christianna Weber, her widowed mother, and five sisters. Weber (d. 1862) was a silk merchant and importer (a small group of his papers are part of the McAllister Collection, McA MSS 028). McAllister formed a closer relationship with the Steinbrenner and Weber families than with his own; his will specifically stated that he was to be interred "where my wife's parents are buried" in the Weber and Steinbrenner family lot in Philadelphia's Woodlands Cemetery rather than with his grandparents, parents, and siblings in the large McAllister ancestral lot within the same West Philadelphia burial ground. John A. and Annette McAllister had no children. The McAllisters were practicing Episcopalians, having left the church of their heritage, the Associate Presbyterian Church, in 1832 to worship with the Rev. Stephen H. Tyng (1800-1885), first at St. Paul's Church and later at the Church of the Epiphany. When Rev. Tyng transferred to a New York parish, his son Rev. Dudley A. Tyng (1825-1858) became their pastor. The family's religious migration was discussed by John A. McAllister in an 1855 letter to Benson Lossing (Lossing Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania).

While his day job and much of his life remains a mystery, it is clear that a large part of John A. McAllister's time and thoughts were occupied with accumulating the wide-ranging collection of manuscripts, ephemera, prints, broadsides, maps, photographs, books, newspapers, and pamphlets that he gave to the Library Company during the 1880s. The collecting impulse, if not some of the material itself, was inherited. When John McAllister Jr. retired from the optical shop in 1835, he began to assemble in earnest an antiquarian library described in Watson's *Annals*

(1905 edition) as “rich in works of all kinds.” Twenty-five years later, and nearing the end of his life, John McAllister Jr. created a detailed eighty-six-page manuscript catalogue of his holdings inscribed “Memorandum for my children,” a book, in his words, “suggesting a mode of Division for my personal effects” (the volume is in the Library Company’s collection, though not part of the McAllister Collection). With twenty-one separate classifications, there are sections including: “Books; Bibles; New Testaments; Coins and Medals; Family Portraits; Prints Paintings &c in Frames; Furniture and Plate; Prints, Photographs &c not Framed; Copperplates; Autographs in Books; Autographs – loose; etc.,” with a special category for the ancestral “Books which had belonged to J. Mc Senior.” He assigned each item in the catalog to one of his children or grandchildren.

A memorial published at John McAllister Jr.’s death described his “collection of ancient pamphlets, newspapers, maps, and manuscripts being large and well-arranged” and his methodical inventory, begun in 1860 and updated through 1867, would seem to support that view. While the “Memorandum” specified the many items meant for John A. McAllister, it is unclear whether and when he was given anything prior to his father’s 1876 will, which specified that his collection was to be divided equally among his five living children, as directed by his executors William and Agnes. The actual disposition of the material is unrecorded but for one document written in John A. McAllister’s hand, and now in the McAllister Family Papers (Coll. 2139) at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Dated January 10, 1880, it is a receipt in which he acknowledged that his brother William had paid him “Two Thousand Dollars for my interest in the Books, papers, medals & coins & curiosities of the Estate of my Father J. McAllister jr.” Five years later, in a letter to the librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia who was seeking some pamphlets once own by John McAllister Jr., John A. McAllister suggests that he ask William for them, then added “don’t mention my name however—” (Smith Family Papers, Library Company).

The John A. McAllister Collection held by the Library Company has many thousands of items encompassing some of the same classifications as his father’s collection, but few with a provenance to connect them to John McAllister Jr. and his famous library. Part of John A. McAllister’s acquisition efforts is documented in his papers, particularly in Series I, but it is primarily that of his Civil War-related material. His pencil annotations (generally name recognition notes) are on many of the pieces in the McAllister Collection, principally the manuscript letters. Without autobiographical writings—or even contemporary biographical memorials such as those earned by his father—it is not possible to know what drove McAllister to acquire, and to keep, what he did. It is not hard to imagine, though, that he would have aspired to be included among the great antiquarian collectors in Philadelphia during his time, joining men such as Ferdinand Dreer (1812-1902), Frank M. Etting (1833-1890), Simon Gratz (1840-1925), and Charles A. Poulson (1789-1866). His extant papers prove that he was in touch with important collectors on the national level such as Lyman Copeland Draper (1815-1891), Thomas Addis Emmet (1828-1919), John S.H. Fogg (1826-1892), Brantz Mayer (1809-1879),

Benjamin P. Poore (1820-1887), and William Buell Sprague (1795-1876), and specifically for Civil War material, Benson J. Lossing (1813-1891) and John Russell Bartlett (1805-1886).

Why John A. McAllister chose the Library Company as a final repository for his collection is also unknown as, unlike his two grandfathers, father, and two brothers, he was not a LCP shareholder, and had had for more than thirty years a close relationship with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, making donations of collection material there through the early 1880s and steering other donors their way (see, for instance, the letter from J. Elizabeth Jones in Series I). The minutes of the Library Company directors shed little light on the matter aside from a mention on April 4, 1886, that

A communication was received from Mr. John A. McAllister offering to give the company a collection of illustrations and printed matter relating to the civil war, which he said had cost him the labor of twenty years and more than a thousand dollars of money.

Ten years later, and a few months after his death, the minutes mentioned that “There are 43 boxes of McAllister accumulations” but no specifics about which parts of his collections they were. The Library Company paid John A. McAllister what is perhaps the antiquarian’s ultimate compliment—and one justly earned—by stating in the 1886 *Annual Report* its gratitude to him for the gift of his “valuable collection . . . which cannot fail to be of interest to the student of this period of the history of our country.”

For additional information about McAllister, his Civil War material, and his circle of colleagues, see “John A. McAllister Collects the Civil War,” in *The Magazine Antiques* 170, no. 2 (August 2006), p. 102-107.

### Collection Overview

The John A. McAllister Papers contain letters written to McAllister during his lifetime and career as a collector of manuscript materials, prints, photographs, and ephemera. It also holds letters and notes written by McAllister, and a few letters written to his father and siblings, as well as to the optical firm. The collection is arranged in three series: Series I. John A. McAllister Correspondence; Series II, John A. McAllister Writings; Series III, McAllister Family Papers.

Because both John McAllisters, the father and the son, had antiquarian interests, it is sometimes not clear to whom letters were addressed; in addition, there are almost no mailing envelopes in the files. Some distinctions can be made through content, date, or commentary—for instance, many of the writers ask “Mr. McAllister” to extend greetings to his “honored father”—otherwise, any generic time-appropriate letters remain filed in Series I, while those obviously intended for John McAllister Jr. have been placed in Series III. Correspondence that was first



sent to the McAllister firm but continued by John A. McAllister was also left in Series I, as were acknowledgement letters. Letters initiating business without follow-up were put in Series III.

Series I. John A. McAllister Correspondence (1841-1885, bulk 1860-1866) comprises most of the collection. In their content, nearly all the letters expose, directly or indirectly, some aspect of John A. McAllister's collecting methodology and the people who aided him in acquiring much of what now makes up the Library Company of Philadelphia's McAllister Collection. Operating within a network composed principally of collectors and cohorts rather than dealers, he avidly sought documents for himself but also ordered extras to exchange with his colleagues: in their circle, collections were currency. At the same time, many of his colleagues were busy creating extra-illustrated volumes, such as the set that his friend George Henry Preble (1816-1885) in Boston was building based on Francis S. Drake's *Dictionary of American Biography* (Boston, 1872), or like Benson J. Lossing, writing illustrated histories. John A. McAllister, holding the keys to an endlessly stocked photograph collection, was ready and happy to assist in finding images for their projects.

More than half of the folders in the series hold just one communication, and it usually carries gratitude for a gift received or a favor done. The notes themselves would then have a second life when they became specimens in McAllister's collection. One example is three single letters that McAllister received in 1864 after he had mailed out pairs of sermons by the controversial Philadelphia abolitionist Rev. Dudley Atkins Tyng (1825-1858) that had just been reissued. From his home in Rochester, NY, the author and orator Frederick Douglass (1818-1895) apologized for his belated acknowledgement of the pamphlets, admitting that in the winter and spring his "life is mainly spent upon the platform and upon Rail-Roads," so he reserves the summer for reading literature put aside during his travels. In closing, he complimented "the lamented Mr. Tyng," noting that "I have read with profit other sermons preached by the same good man." McAllister also sent the sermons to the noted Episcopalian Rev. Clement Moore Butler (1818-1894), and to Cambridge physician Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894), and retained both of their thank-you notes. In his letter, Dr. Holmes identifies Rev. Tyng's works as *Our Country's Troubles: a sermon preached in the Church of the Epiphany, Philadelphia, June 29, 1856*, and *Our Country's Troubles, no. II, or, National Sins and National Retribution: a sermon preached in the Church of the Covenant, Philadelphia, July 5, 1857*. After expressing his admiration for the author, he wrote that "Events, of which the Kansas crime and the Sumner outrage were the first, have convinced me that Slavery is the enemy of the human race and as such to be rooted out with fire and sword," and ended his letter with a clinical diagnosis: "The South is strong in the delirium of her fever,—but as the *vomito negro* has already attacked her, we may set her down as in the last stage of her fatal malady." The Library Company owns both of the sermons by Rev. Tyng, whose early and tragic death inspired the well-known hymn "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." The library's copy of the first pamphlet was inscribed by John A. McAllister: "The first antislavery sermon from an Episcopal pulpit in the United States—Mr. Tyng was soon after expelled from the Church of the Epiphany by a pro-slavery congregation."

The series holds several letters from other clergymen or divines, as they were called at the time, which is indicative of their celebrity stature in nineteenth-century America. Like other collectors, McAllister sought out their autographs, and they wrote to him, prompted by his gifts of church photographs manufactured by the McAllister firm, or photographic portraits of bishops and other figures. Some of the letters and sermons he acquired are now in the Episcopal Clergy Manuscripts Collection (McA MSS 029).

There are also, however, some folders with multiple letters from men with whom McAllister shared deeper interests. Though most of the topics covered relate to collecting and collections, the letters reveal that John A. McAllister seems to have formed a few complex relationships through the mail. For instance, there are four letters by the Boston physician John S.H. Fogg (1826-1892), in which Fogg describes parts of his collection, offers broadside ballads (which he had stopped collecting) and duplicate envelopes (of which he owned 3700) for trade, and asks McAllister to gather sermons for him. There are forty-nine letters from Baltimore collector Brantz Mayer (dating from 1857 to 1876) which stay quite focused on collection matters, from wants to acquisitions to deaccessions. The seven letters from Henry Reed Stiles (1832-1909) discuss trading issues. Stiles served as the librarian for the Long Island Historical Society in Brooklyn, and exchanged duplicate "Rebellioniana" from that institution's collection with McAllister. He also went around Brooklyn and found other locally printed material to send along. Stiles' letters describe his multifaceted and exhausting responsibilities at the society, some of which lead to his resignation in the spring of 1865.

The largest group of letters, though, is from Benson J. Lossing (1813-1891), the Poughkeepsie, NY, historian and author of a number of illustrated studies of American wars, presidents, and heroes, among other subjects. McAllister saved more than 180 of Lossing's letters, and Lossing's papers at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania hold eighty-six letters from McAllister. The three-decade span of their correspondence demonstrates their relationship's evolution from a formal greeting of "Dear Sir" to "My dear McAllister" and "My excellent friend." Lossing's topics are generally about history and research as he was nearly always working on a project. McAllister's replies show him finding requested information and illustrations, but also posing his own history questions to Lossing. The scope of their letters, however, regularly widened out to encompass regional and family news such as weddings, births, illnesses, and travels, as well as observations on a variety of issues and people. The letters have an important added dimension: they provide some of the only non-family insight available on the personal lives of John and Annette McAllister. The families hosted each other at their respective homes and at vacation spots at the New Jersey shore, the wives became friends, and the two men had so many mutual interests that their circles of colleagues quite naturally overlapped.

One of the more interesting comments in Lossing's letters is his suggestion that McAllister mimic in Philadelphia his ground-breaking fundraising success: the history room at the Dutchess County & Poughkeepsie Sanitary Fair, an event mounted by local citizens to raise money for the United States Sanitary Commission. In his letter of March 17, 1864, Lossing

described how he was “requested by the Ladies [organizing the fair] about a ten days ago to ‘get up’ a Dutchess County Room a hundred years ago.” Lossing then described the installation, which was outfitted with spinning wheels, seventeenth- and eighteenth-century furniture and paintings, pewter plates, “ancient china,” and a Miss Livingston wearing the “rich silk wedding dress of her great grandmother, Mrs. Schuyler” (though the printed handbill he enclosed with Lossing’s letter described the room as “Completely furnished as in that olden time, and the House-keeping carried on by Ladies in Costume, such as our great-grandmothers wore”). The exhibit netted more than \$200 in admission fees in its first day, and Lossing was so keen to convince McAllister of his tip’s value that he attached a separate note to the top of his letter; on a small square of paper he added: “If you wish a successful feature in your Philadelphia Fair, get up a Pennsylvania Room a 100 years ago.” McAllister responded to Lossing two days later, “Much obliged for the suggestion about the ‘Old Penna Room’ – I have seen the Committee about the matter & will write you what they say” (Lossing Papers (Coll. 1807), HSP). Three months later, Philadelphia’s Great Central Fair featured its highly popular “William Penn Parlor.” The parlor has been cited as the original inspiration for the installation of period rooms in American museums; its own inspiration can now be traced back to Lossing and McAllister.

Some of the folders hold evidence of John A. McAllister’s involvement in local activities during the Civil War. While not serving in the military himself (he was nearly forty when the war began), he was a member of the Supervisory Committee for Recruiting Colored Regiments, which is represented by a small group of letters and meeting notices in the files (other material can be found in the Civil War Miscellanies Ephemera Collection, McA 5786.F). A folder for the Great Central Fair has letters and certificates acknowledging his donations of goods to be sold at the event, including autographs, caricatures, and photographs. Series II holds a copy of McAllister’s letter to Isabella James, chair of the Relics, Curiosities, and Autographs committee, which accompanied his loan (for exhibition) of the signal books used by Commodore Joshua Barney (1759-1818) during the War of 1812. McAllister had acquired a group of Barney’s papers (see McAllister Small Manuscript Collections (McA MSS 002) for some of these items). Most of McAllister’s Barney material, including the signal books, is now at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

As Sanitary Fairs were held in many cities in the North, there was a regular exchange of fair ephemera among collectors during the war. McAllister’s accumulation is now in the Sanitary Fairs Collection (McA 5781.F), but one collecting methodology is nicely demonstrated in a letter from Claudius B. Nichols (1823-1893), a Brooklyn banker, who asked McAllister to send him the final financial figures—both gross and net—on the Philadelphia fair so he could write them in under the admission tickets he saved in his collection’s scrapbook.

The exchange of money, however, is rarely mentioned in McAllister’s correspondence, but the few letters that do describe financial transactions illustrate the contemporary value of some of the ephemera on the market. An example is a letter from George Hardwick, a Washington, DC, publisher—and composer—of broadside ballads. McAllister ordered from him six copies each

of five different titles in July 1865, enclosed \$1.20, and added "Please send me a list of all your ballads, lithographs, envelopes & other publications about the war." Hardwick's reply, scribbled on the verso of McAllister's letter, said that he was changing his business and would sell him 1000 assorted songs for \$15 (nearly \$200 in today's currency).

Among the correspondents that John A. McAllister handled on behalf of the McAllister optical shop was Samuel M'Cullough (1803-1873), a school teacher acquaintance from his years in Kentucky and who, like McAllister, had been involved in the manufacture of mustard there. M'Cullough wrote on behalf of William H. Miller, crippled slave who had been left behind when his master moved to New Orleans. M'Cullough described Miller as a 23-year-old three-foot-tall autodidact, adding that, "His head is deformed with its magnificent intellectual developments of the inner brain; and I may say with truth, that he is a miracle of intelligence & intellect." After running through Miller's resume, M'Cullough asked if it would be possible that "some of your intelligent & wealthy men send him out a telescope" or at least a set of lenses so that Miller could build his own. M'Cullough wrote his letter on the second page of Miller's letter to him, in which Miller mentions that he has read the 10th edition of McAllister & Brother's catalog, and specifies which lenses would be of use to him so that he might be able to study the objects treated in astronomical works. M'Cullough also sent up a letter from A.S. Griggs, who requested through him an optical order from the McAllisters.

Occasionally, a correspondent would enclose a collection item which has remained with its cover letter. One example is an 1856 note from Edward Everett (1794-1865) to an unknown recipient, which was given to McAllister by lawyer John William Wallace (1815-1884), a Philadelphian then working in the Supreme Court at Washington. Also in Wallace's file is a copy of a letter that Everett wrote to the Massachusetts anti-slavery senator Charles Sumner (1811-1874) in June 1856, a few weeks after Sumner was caned in the Senate chamber by South Carolina representative Preston Brooks. Benson Lossing gave a letter written to him by Union General Lew Wallace (1827-1905), as requested of him by McAllister in a July 17, 1864, letter to Lossing (Lossing Papers (Coll. 1807), Historical Society of Pennsylvania). The most unusual example, because its literary leaning makes it an anomaly in this collection, is a manuscript by Edgar Allan Poe, sent to McAllister by "T.F.S." in 1858. Written from New York on June 18, 1844, and addressed to the publishers Bowen & Gossler at their paper, *The Columbia Spy*, in Columbia PA, Poe's three-page essay begins with his thoughts on the landscape of the city and then in succession, his thoughts on Broadway, the Mary Rogers murder, Nathaniel Willis, and the forthcoming season of gift books. The donor "T.F.S." is otherwise unidentified, but clues in his cover letter (written from a mining town near Phoenixville, in Chester County, PA, by someone who is clearly a close friend) suggests that he is Thomas Fassitt Shewell (1810-after 1891), a the son of Philadelphia merchant Thomas Shewell (1774-1848), and brother-in-law of Daniel Keim (1806-1868), who had interests in local mines. "T.F.S." had acquired the manuscript from Dr. Samuel A. Whittaker, a wealthy resident of Phoenixville who also owned Poe's manuscript of "The Raven." Another somewhat literary item in the series is part of a letter from Thomas L. Wayne, who sent McAllister what he called "an exact copy of the ballad of St Mary's

Church” entitled “Battle of Fourth and Fifth Streets, or defence of St. Mary’s Church.” The struggle described in the poem occurred in the spring of 1822, when some of the parishioners of Philadelphia’s historic Catholic Church attempted to retain their ex-communicated priest Rev. William Hogan.

In addition to collecting antiquarian items, McAllister also collected antiquarian memories. One example is a letter from the 95-year-old former newspaper publisher Naphtali Phillips (1773-1870), written out for him by his grandson, which gives his first-person account of the Grand Federal Procession of 1787. McAllister saved six letters from Scottish-born author Grant Thorburn (1773-1863) then living in New Haven, CT. One carries a précis of his life story, and another enclosed his seven-page biographical sketch of Thomas Paine. And from 86-year-old Philadelphia printer Robert Carr (1778-1866) there are three letters, one in which he refutes the legend that he was an apprentice to Benjamin Franklin, though he was to Franklin’s grandson B.F. Bache, and tells of seeing George and Martha Washington regularly as he lived in their neighborhood. Robert Wickliffe (1775-1859), in Lexington, KY, wrote McAllister a reminiscence of steamboat inventor John Fitch (1743-1798), which was printed by Thompson Westcott in his 1857 book on Fitch. Seeking contemporary information on contemporary times, McAllister asked for and received from architect Thomas U. Walter (1804-1887) a list of fifty public buildings that he had designed in the United States through November 1860.

The folder for the artist Rembrandt Peale (1778-1860) holds evidence that McAllister (or possibly his father) attempted to obtain from him an autograph of his father Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827) in 1851. After apologizing for having mislaid the request, Peale responded, “I have had so many applications for my Father’s autograph, that I doubt if I could find one.” A later letter discusses a frame that Peale had chosen for John McAllister Jr., most likely for the portrait of George Washington that he had commissioned in 1859. Peale’s receipt for the portrait itself is in Series II with John McAllister Jr.’s correspondence. Peale’s folder also has a transcription of a W.C. Bryant poem “The Skies” written in Peale’s hand. Additional Peale family material can be found in the folder for Titian Peale (1799-1885), which has ten letters from him discussing his father and his work, and mentioning that his wife is arranging the family papers. In one letter, Peale states quotes from C.W. Peale’s letters regarding his earliest production of mezzotints.

Some of the most poignant material in the series is in the folder for Albert Newsam (1809-1864), a deaf artist that McAllister was instrumental in supporting after he became unable to work as a result of a stroke. McAllister helped to find him an assisted living situation, provided him with magnifying glasses, photographs to copy, and other supplies. When Newsam was near death, McAllister arranged to have him baptized by the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet (1822-1902). At McAllister’s request, Gallaudet wrote out the remarks he made at the artist’s funeral; that letter is in Gallaudet’s folder. McAllister ended up with some of Newsam’s papers (now in collection McA MSS 003), as well as a portfolio containing Newsam’s copies of his own prints, which he gave to McAllister before he died. Those 162 lithographs, nearly all portraits, are now in the

Historical Society of Pennsylvania (collection V-100) where McAllister placed them in April 1881.

Family letters include five written by Frederick and Godfrey W. Steinbrenner, the brothers of McAllister's wife Annette. Both men were living in New York and neither was drafted, but like everyone else they were touched by the wartime frenzy going on in the city in 1861. With thousands of soldiers from New York State and New England arriving in the city on their way to Philadelphia, the parks were turned into campgrounds, and barracks rose in Castle Garden. Another sort of excitement was told in a letter of April 18, 1861: "Last night a crowd broke in to the Herald office & took away their type—they found two editions of the paper, one for the North and one for the South." Because soldiers were passing through in both directions, the brothers wrote news they had heard from men returning from duty in the Confederate states. A second folder under the Steinbrenner name holds letters from non-family members looking for other Steinbrenners. The letters from wealthy New York cigar importer Gustavus W. Faber (1823-1895) show him to be related to Annette McAllister through his aunt, her grandmother Christianna Weber (d. 1867).

William Y. McAllister wrote in a family genealogy about John A. McAllister: "In 1848 he went with his Brother Thomas to Louisville Ky and was in some small business but unsuccessful." Letters that reference McAllister's venture, the Louisville Mustard Manufactory, can be found in folders for Edward Riddle, Charles Stansbury, and for his father John McAllister Jr., who wrote to him in Louisville. Other evidence of the business exists in the Marian S. Carson Collection at the Library of Congress, which has a selection of package labels for flour of mustard, pepper, table salt, and ground rice prepared by the company.

A folder of unidentified correspondents holds several letters whose signatures can not be deciphered. Among them is a letter to Annette McAllister thanking her for pickles she had sent to the army hospital on Filbert Street at Christmas in 1864. Also in the file is an 1869 printed letter from a group of prominent New Yorkers, including Peter Cooper, Hamilton Fish, and Marshall O. Roberts, asking for subscriptions to underwrite a painting of Admiral Farragut by William Page that would be given to the Emperor of Russia; the signatures are printed as well.

Whatever their original reason for writing to John A. McAllister, most of the correspondents in Series I eventually turned their thoughts to the subject of the Civil War. Rev. George Duffield Jr. (1818-1888) wrote from his home near Detroit in 1862 to somewhat cheerfully request that a dozen copies of his portrait photograph be sent to his wife, but he closed his letter on a sobering note, making reference to one of the McAllister firm's other great specialties:

If you have any telescopes that can see the end of the war—or the final effect of the Proclamation—I should like to get a peep thru that into futurity. Just now your humble servant is in the deepest kind of a fog—and whether it is any clearer at Phila or Washington he is much inclined to dubitate.

Series II, John A. McAllister Writings (1840-1875) holds a miscellany of letters, essays, and transcriptions. It is arranged in two series: Letters, and Documents.

The first subseries has just a few letters sent by McAllister. Some are simply notes, while others were clearly kept as archival file copies. The most intensive example of the latter is his letter to Bishop Henry U. Onderdonk (1789-1858) written in 1841. McAllister had attended a talk on Psalm 49 that the bishop presented at Christ Church. Four days later, he wrote that he had consulted a half-dozen Bibles (dating from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century) and found variations on the psalm's text, which he transcribed for the Bishop's use. Signing his letter with the initials "B.F.F." he requested that the bishop reply through *The Banner of the Cross*, an Episcopalian paper published in Philadelphia. After his letter appeared in print, followed by Rev. Onderdonk's own investigative results, McAllister clipped the columns and glued them on his letter, which he annotated "Written by Jno A. McAllister." A similar piece is in the second subseries: it is an editorial that McAllister wrote to the *Public Ledger* in 1840 about the proposed monument to George Washington that was being planned. McAllister suggested that the state legislature should be petitioned to grant a lottery for the monument, and expressed his opinion that the planned site in Washington Square is "exceeding injudicious." He thought that a better site would be the intersection of Broad and Market streets, a more central location, with the added advantage of having higher elevation so the monument could be seen from a greater distance. He annotated the paper to say he had dropped the original in the *Ledger's* box on August 31, 1840.

The remainder is a mix of odd documents, including two genealogical documents, a short abstract of family finances, and a resolution made by the Junior Missionary Society of Philadelphia where McAllister was among the signers.

Series III, McAllister Family Papers (1820-1867) has just a few letters and documents written to or by John A. McAllister's father and brothers. Random in date and content, they are arranged in two subseries: Personal Letters and Documents; and Business Letters.

Among the letters to John McAllister Jr. are two from Robert Bridges Patton (1794-1839), the noted professor of Greek and Latin at Princeton University, who founded the Edgehill Seminary, an academy for boys in Princeton, NJ, which give the terms of providing schooling for John A. McAllister. In one of his two letters from New Orleans, where he was attempting to collect on a debt owed McAllister by Pierre Romain, W.M. Stewart mentioned that he was sorry to "learn by your letter of the death of your little boy," referring to McAllister's son Julius Wallace (1832-1834). There is also a letter to Stewart from McAllister in that folder. Other documents include McAllister's short memoir on Stephen Moylan, a former commission of loans in Philadelphia.

The single item for William McAllister is an empty envelope from Samuel Breck that had once held a Robert Morris autograph. For Thomas McAllister, there is one letter from Frances Bruce

(1815-1892), the second-oldest of the McAllister children, writing from her home in Pittsburgh. The small group of letters to Wardale McAllister all concern legal issues.

The material in the second section, McAllister and Brother, does not represent the only McAllister firm-related correspondence in the collection, as letters sent directly to John A. McAllister are filed in Series I.

The first folder holds an agreement signed by shopkeepers on the 600-800 blocks of Chestnut Street, stating that they will close at 4:00 pm in order to have the owners and employees attend military exercises. The document was signed by twenty-four firms including J.E. Caldwell & Co., and the publishers Lee & Walker, William & Alfred Martien, and George W. Childs.

The letters in Series III were addressed to the firm and carry no indication if John A. McAllister was involved in the business transacted. The earliest letter is from Robert Allen (1778-1844), a congressman from Tennessee, who wrote about a financial issue, as did Leslie Combs in Lexington, KY. The remainder of the letters concern optical orders, with the bulk coming in during the Civil War from soldiers. There is also a printed appeal from the Special Committee of Druggists, for the Iowa Central Sanitary Fair in Muscatine, Iowa, asking for donations from the firm. Evidence of John A. McAllister's handling some of these items can be seen on the Allen letter (his signature, franking on the envelope portion, has been clipped off) and he inscribed on the verso of an order for glasses from R.T. Conrad: "Autograph/Judge Conrad."



Box    Folder

## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE

1841-1885

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

1	1	Allibone, Samuel Austin, Philadelphia	1860-1866
	2	American Antiquarian Society, Worcester	1865 Jan 10
	3	Anderson, Robert, and Elizabeth Bayard, New York	1862-1863
	4	Atterbury, Eveline, Springfield, IL	1865 Jun 21
	5	Auchincloss, Robert, New York	1861 Sep 2
	6	Baker, Isaac Newton, Philadelphia	1865 Jun 2
	7	Balch, Thomas, Paris	1868 Nov 4
	8	Bancroft, George, New York	1866, undated
	9	Barber, John Warner, New Haven	1865
	10	Bartlett, John Russell, Providence	1864-1871
		Bates, Samuel P. See: Pennsylvania. Dept. of Military History	
	11	Baughner, Leigh Richmond, Gettysburg	1865 Aug 15
	12	Behn, Henry, Wilmington	1865 Apr 27
	13	Bellows, Henry W., New York	1862, 1864
	14	Bingham, Henry Harrison	1869 Feb 16
	15	Birckhead, P. H., Toledo	1861, 1862
		Boker, George H. See: Union League, Philadelphia	
	16	Bonnar, James, Ashtabula, OH	1865 Mar 13
		Bourne, William Oland, New York See: <i>Soldier's Friend</i>	

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	17	Boyd, Andrew, Albany, NY	1868-1869
	18	Brevoort, James Carson, Brooklyn	1862 Dec 2
	19	Brewer, Darius Richmond, Yonkers, NY	undated
	20	Brockett, Linus Pierpont, Brooklyn	1863 Sep 15
	21	Brown, David Paul [Philadelphia]	undated
	22	Brown, Joseph H., US Army	1860-1861
	23	Brownlow, William Gannaway, Nashville	1862 Dec 27
	24	Buck, William J., Willow Grove, PA	1856-1866
	25	Buckley, Edward M., US Army	1863
	26	Burns, Charles De Forest, New York	1865
	27	Butler, Clement Moore, Philadelphia	1865 May 8
	28	Canby, William J., Philadelphia	1870-1873
	29	Carnahan, David Todd, Gettysburg, PA	1865 Jul 31
	30	Carr, Robert, Philadelphia	1863
	31	Cass, Lewis, Detroit	1857 Jun 13
	32	Chase, Philander, Robin's Nest, IL	1849 Nov 6
	33	Childs, George W., Philadelphia	1865 Jan 8
	34	Christy, Edwin P., New York	1856 Jan 9
		Claggett, Thomas John See: Perry, William Stevens	
	35	Clapp, Theodore, Louisville	1862 Nov 21
	36	Clark, Samuel A., Elizabeth, NJ	1862 Apr 12
	37	Clark, Thomas M., Providence, RI	1864 Sep 22

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	38	Clasback, George, New York	1864-1865
	39	Claxton, Robert Bethel, Rochester, NY	1863 Sep 15
	40	Clay, Jacob, US Army	1864 Jan 5
	41	Clay, Jehu Curtis, Philadelphia	1861 May 2
	42	Collins, J. M. [Philadelphia?]	undated
	43	Collis, Charles H. T.	1863 Nov 10
	44	Congdon, Charles, New York	1864-1865
	45	Constitutional Emancipation League, Philadelphia	1862 Jul 21
	46	Coombs, Frederick, New York	1867, 1870
	47	Coryell, Lewis S., New Hope, PA	1864 Mar 26
	48	Costerison, C., Liberty, PA	1865 Jun 1
	49	Cracraft, John Wesley, Gambier OH & Galesburg, IL	1864-1865
	50	Craig, Robert A., Brady, PA	1861-1862
	51	Curtin, Andrew Gregg, Harrisburg	1863 Mar 3
	52	Davis, Sheldon, Pleasant Valley, NY	1862 May 5
	53	Davis, William Watts Hart, US Army	1862-1865
	54	Dawson, Henry Barton, New York	1869-1875, undated
	55	De Lancey, William Heathcote, Geneva, NY	1860 Dec 26
	56	Dean, John Ward, Boston	1869-1870
	57	Delaplaine, George P., Madison, WI	1874 Mar 2
	58	Des Forges, John P., Baltimore	1864-1865, undated
	59	Devens, Richard M., Pocasset, MA	1867 Feb 1

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	60	De Voe, Thomas F., New York	1863-1869
		Dickerson, M. See: United States. Navy.	
	61	Dix, Dorothea Lynde, Washington,	1865 Jul 4
	62	Doane, George Washington	1857, undated
	63	Doane, William Crosswell, Burlington, NJ	1860-1863
		Doty, L. L. See: New York State. Bureau of Military Statistics	
	64	Douglass, Frederick, Rochester	1864 Jun 21
	65	Douglass, Malcolm, Windsor, VT	1865 Apr 6
		Draper, Lyman C. See: State Historical Society of Wisconsin	
	66	Dreer, Ferdinand J., Philadelphia	1863 Feb 4
	67	Drisler, Henry, New York	undated
	68	Duane, William	1864, undated
	69	Ducachet, Henry William	1848 Jan 13
	70	Duffield, George, Jr., Adrian, MI	1862 Oct 24
	71	Dunglison, Robley, Philadelphia	1863 Dec 17
	72	Dunning, Halsey, Baltimore	1865 Jun 6
	73	Durang, Mary, Philadelphia	1870 Sep 22
	74	Durborow, George A., Philadelphia	1845 Jun
	75	Earp, Edwin, US Army	1864-1865
		Ellis, Samuel B. See: William John Potts	1839 Feb 1

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[1]	76	Emmet, Thomas Addis, New York	1865 May 22
	77	Etting, Mary, Philadelphia	1862 May 1
		Everett, Edward	1856
		See: John William Wallace	
	78	Faber, Gustavus William, New York	1864-1865
	79	Fairchild, Thomas B., Hudson, OH	1862, 1865
	80	Fales, Samuel Bradford, Philadelphia	1866, 1867
	81	Faxon, William, US Navy	1864-1865
	82	Fogg, John Samuel Hill, Boston	1865
		Forney, John W.	
		See: William Rudolph Smith	
	83	Fox, Daniel M., Philadelphia	1869 Aug 13
	84	Fry, Cary Harrison, Washington	1863 Jan 12
	85	Furness, William Henry, Philadelphia	1864 Oct 3
	86	Gallaudet, Edward Miner, Washington	1866 May 26
	87	Gallaudet, Thomas, New York	1864 Dec 6
	88	Gallup, Charles K., Troy, NY	1864 Apr 12
	89	Geyer, Henry Francis, Mechanicsburg, PA	1865 Aug 29
	90	Glen, Samuel R., Boston	1858-1859
	91	Great Central Fair for the U.S. Sanitary Commission	1864-1865
	92	Green, William Mercer, Richmond	1859 Oct 15
	93	Gridley, William Seward, Jackson, MI	1876 Mar 2
	94	Gries, William R., U.S. Army	1863-1864

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

		Griggs, A. S. See: Samuel D. M'Cullough	
[1]	95	Hagemann, V., Savannah, Mobile, San Francisco	1866, 1868
		Hamburg, Philip See: Leeser, Isaac	
	96	Hardwick, George P., Washington	1865
		Haven, S. F. See: American Antiquarian Society	
	97	Hazard, Samuel, Brighton, England & Germantown	1847, 1866
	98	Heywood, John H., Louisville, KY	1864 Dec 2
	99	Historical Society of Pennsylvania	1864-1865
	100	Hoffer, J. R., Mount Joy, PA	1862 Aug 12
2	101	Hoffman, Francis Suydam, New York	1864-1866
	102	Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Boston	1864 Mar 8
	103	Holton, David-Parsons, New York	1874 Oct 12
	104	Hopkins, John Henry, Burlington, NJ	1860 Oct 25
		Howe, Frank E. See: Edwin Earp	
	105	Howe, Samuel Storrs, Iowa City	1864-1865
	106	Ives, Levi Silliman, New York	1861 Jun 8
		John Remington & Sons See John S.H. Fogg	
	107	Jones, Horatio Gates, Philadelphia	1861 Jun 4
	108	Jones, J. Elisabeth, Kennett Square, PA	1864 Oct 18
	109	Keim, Henry M., Reading, PA	1873 Aug 8

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[2]	110	Kelley, Benjamin Franklin, US Army	1862
	111	Kemper, Jackson, Delafield, WI	1861 Jan 4
	112	Kennedy, David J., Philadelphia	1872 May 15
	113	Kimmel & Forster, New York	1865 Jun 2
	114	King, Richard, Baltimore	1864 Jan 5
	115	Kip, William Ingraham, San Francisco	1876 Feb 4
	116	Lapsley, John, New York	1863-1865
	117	Leeser, Isaac, [Beth-El-Emeth], Philadelphia	undated
	118	Leland, Charles Godfrey, Philadelphia	1867, undated
	119	Lesley, J. Peter	1874 Mar 7
	120	Leslie, Frank, New York	1865 Oct 12
	121	Lieber, Francis, New York & Washington	1865-1868
	122-136	Lossing, Benson John, Poughkeepsie, NY	1851-1879, undated
	137	Lossing, Helen S., Poughkeepsie, NY	1857 Jan 22
		Lufts, Gardiner See: Edwin Earp	
	138	Loyal Publication Society of New York	1863-1865
	139	McAllister, Agnes Y.	undated
	140	McAllister, John Jr.	{1852}
	141	McCall, C. A., Philadelphia	1871 Dec 23
	142	McCall, George A., Belair	1865 Apr 19
		McClellan, George Brinton See: Cary Harrison Fry	

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[2]	143	M'Conaughy, David, Gettysburg	1863
	144	M'Cullough, Samuel D., Lexington, KY	1862-1863
	145	McIlvaine, Charles Pettit, Cincinnati	1864 Feb 16
	146	Mackenzie, Robert Shelton, Philadelphia	1862, undated
	147	McNeal, John	1864 Nov 14
	148	McPherson, E., Gettysburg, PA	1865 Aug 7
	149	Maxwell, J. Gordon, Philadelphia	1862 Sep 20
	150-151	Mayer, Brantz, Baltimore	1857-1876, undated
	152	Meriam, Ebenezer, Brooklyn	1856 Jul 9
	153	Merrick, John M., Walpole, MA	1865 Feb 24
	154	Metcalf, Richard, Meadville, PA	1864 Dec 31
	155	Mifflin, Elizabeth, Philadelphia	undated
	156	Miller, Thomas J., New York	1865 Jun 6
		Miller, William H. See: Samuel D. M'Cullough	
	157	Mississippi Valley Sanitary Fair, St. Louis	1864 Apr 25
	158	Montgomery, William Reading, Alexandria, VA	1862
	159	Moreau, John Bostwick, New York	1861, 1865
	160	Morris, Mr.	undated
	161	Morss, James, New York	1863 Sep 21
	162	Murray, Samuel A., Jr., US Army	1861 Dec 30
	163	New-York Historical Society, New York	1864 Jun 6
	164	New York State, Bureau of Military Statistics, Albany	1864-1865



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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[2]	165	Newsam, Albert, Wilmington, DE	1862-1864, undated
	166	Nichols, Claudius Beraud, Brooklyn	1861-1868
	167	Nones, H. B., Philadelphia	1861 Oct 18
	168	Numismatic Society of Philadelphia	1865 Jan 4
3	169	Odenheimer, William Henry, Burlington, NJ	1860-1862
	170	Onderdonk, Benjamin Tredwell, New York	1857, 1860
	171	Patterson, D. Williams, Winsted, CT & Newark Valley, NY	1865, 1869
	172	Peale, Franklin, Philadelphia	1864 Mar 22
	173	Peale, Harriet Cany	1869 Jan 5
	174	Peale, Rembrandt, Philadelphia	1851-1859
	175	Peale, Titian Ramsay, Washington & Philadelphia	1871-1875
	176	Pennsylvania. Dept. of Military History, Harrisburg	1867 Mar 27
	177	Perry, William Stevens, New England	1858-1872
	178	Phillips, Naphtali, New York	1868 Oct 24
		Poe, Edgar Allan See: Thomas F. Shewell	
	179	Poalk, Edward, Philadelphia	undated
	180	Poore, Benjamin P., Philadelphia	1863 Nov 15
	181	Potts, William John, Camden, NJ	1885 Feb 24
	182	Poulson, Charles A. , Philadelphia	1860, 1863
	183-185	Preble, George Henry, Boston	1870-1881
	186	Pryor, Gilbert, Chicago	1865 Mar 9
	187	Randall, Samuel Jackson, Washington	1864-1870

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

	Read, John Meredith See: Thompson Westcott	
188	Read, John Meredith, Jr., Albany, NY	1864-1865
189	Reed, Henry, [Philadelphia]	undated
190	Riddle, Edward, Boston	1852
191	Roberts, S.W., Philadelphia	1864 Dec 6
192	Robinson, Charles, US Army	1864 Apr 9
193	Rodenbough, Theophilus F., New York	1877 Apr 10
	Rogers, Edward L. See W.W.H. Davis	
194	Rossiter, Thomas Pritchard, Cold Spring, NY	1867 Nov 4
195	Sabin, Joseph, New York	1864 May 28
196	Sabine, Lorenzo, Boston	1874 Jun 20
	Sartain, John See: Washington Monument Committee	
197	Saulsbury, Gove, Dover, DE	1868 Mar 31
198	Sawyer, Henry Washington, US Army	1864-1865
	Saxon, L. Willard See: William R. Gries	
199	Schultze, John S., US Army	1863 Nov 27
200	Sedgwick, Charles Frederick, Sharon, CT	1859 Jul 12
201	Shea, John G., New York	1864-1875
202	Shewell, Thomas Fassitt, Phoenixville, PA	1844, 1858
203	Silver, William, Jr., Wilmington, DE	1866 May 14

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[3]	204	Simms, William Gilmore, Charleston	1866 Feb 19
	205	Smith, William Rudolph, Mineral Point, WI	1858-1867
	206	<i>The Soldier's Friend</i>	1868
	207	Soldiers' Reading Room, and Soldier's Home, Philadelphia	1864
	208	Southgate, Horatio, New York	1860, 1861
	209	Sprague, William Buell, Albany	1863-1864
	210	Stansbury, Charles F., Washington	1852 Mar 22
	211	State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison	1869 Feb 16
	212	Steinbrenner, George F. and George, New York, US Army	1865
	213	Steinbrenner, Godfrey W. and Frederick, New York	1861-1863
	214	Stevens, William Bacon, Philadelphia	1858-1873
	215	Stevenson, John M., Coila, NY Includes printed obituaries for family members	1864, undated
	216	Stiles, Henry Reed, Brooklyn	1864-1866
	217	Stillé, Charles J. , Philadelphia	1864
	218	Stone, Edwin Martin, Providence	1864 Oct 12
	219	Supervisory Committee for Recruiting Colored Regiments	1863-1864
	220	Talbot, Joseph C., Nebraska City	1861 Mar 7
		Taylor, A. B. See: Numismatic Society of Philadelphia	
		Taylor, Samuel L. See: Historical Society of Pennsylvania	
	221	Ten Broeck, Anthony, Pittsburgh	1864 Dec 8
	222	Thomas, Abel C., and Maria, Hightstown, NJ	1864-1865

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[3]	223	Thomson, C. W., York, PA	1863 Jul 18
	224	Thorburn, Grant, New Haven	1855-1861
	225	Trautwine, John C., Philadelphia	1865 Feb 13
	226	Tyng, Stephen H., Philadelphia and New York	1841, 1860
	227	Union League, Philadelphia	1868 Sep 9
		United States. Army	
	228	Filbert Street Hospital, Philadelphia	1863 Dec 4
	229	Satterlee Hospital, Philadelphia	1863-1864
	230	Wood Street Hospital, Philadelphia	1862 Jul 9
	231	United States Christian Commission	1864 Oct 24
	232	United States. Navy	1838 Jan 3
	233	United States Sanitary Commission See also: Great Central Fair for the U.S. Sanitary Commission	1865 Jan 5
	234	Wallace, John William, Washington	1864-1871
		Wallace, Lewis See: Benson J. Lossing (1864)	
	235	Waln, Nicholas K., Pittsburgh	1865 Feb 17
	236	Walter, Thomas Ustick, Philadelphia	1860 Nov 26
	237	Washburn, Edward Abiel, New York	1865 Apr 6
	238	Washington Monument Committee, Philadelphia	1858 Nov 13
	239	Watson, John Fanning, Philadelphia	1855-1859, undated
	240	Wayne, Thomas L., Philadelphia	1868 Nov 30
	241	Webber, Frederick, US Army	1863-1864

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## SERIES I. JOHN A. MCALLISTER CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

[3]	242	Westcott, Thompson, Philadelphia	1855-1874, undated
	243	Whipple, Henry Benjamin, Minnesota & Philadelphia	1865
	244	Whittingham, William Rollinson, Baltimore	1861 May 21
	245	Wickliffe, Robert, Lexington, KY	1855 Nov 12
	246	Wiggin, J. K., Boston	1865 May 3
	247	Wood, James F., Philadelphia	1869 Apr 17
		Woods, Jonathan See: United States Sanitary Commission	
	248	Wrigley, Benjamin, Philadelphia	1863-1866
	249	Wrigley, James, New York	1861 Jun 24
	250	Young, John Russell, Philadelphia	undated
	251	Unidentified	1859-1869, undated

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## SERIES II. JOHN A. MCALLISTER WRITINGS AND DOCUMENTS    1840-1875

Arranged in two subseries: Letters, and Documents.

## Letters by McAllister

4	252	To Dreer, Frederick	1863 Sep 30
		To Hardwick George; See: Series I	
	253	To James, Isabella (Great Central Fair committee)	1864 May 23
	254	To Jayne, William	1865 Jun 18
	255	To Onderdonk, Henry U.	1841 Apr 24
	256	To the <i>Public Ledger</i> re: Washington Monument	1840 Aug 31
	257	To Reed, William B.	1867 Oct 15
	258	To Riddle, Edward; See Series I	
	258	To unknown recipient, re: <i>Journal</i>	1861 Aug 11
	259	Sample letters of introduction	1856

## Documents

	260	McAllister financial statement, Aug. 4, 1865, and Feb 1, 1866	1866
	261	Allen & Co., receipt for "American Soldier" issues	1863 Jul 18
	262	Notes on the life of John McAllister Jr.	undated
	263	Poem: valentine to Mrs. Physick	1862 Feb 14
	264	Poem: tribute to Clement Barclay	undated
	265	Junior Missionary Society of Philadelphia: resolution	1841 Mar 5
	266	Cemetery gravestone transcriptions	1868, undated
	267	Notes on the life of Mary Hagner	undated
	268	Obituary for Mary Elizabeth Ridgeley by Rev. John Coleman	undated

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SERIES II. JOHN A. MCALLISTER WRITINGS AND DOCUMENTS, cont.

Documents, cont.

[4]	269	Shewell family genealogy, copied from family Bible	1875
	270	Record of the White Family	undated
	271	Notes on a portrait of Washington by Sharpless	undated
	272	Note re: Historical Society of Pennsylvania	undated

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## SERIES III. MCALLISTER FAMILY PAPERS

1820-1867

Arranged in two subseries: Personal Letters and Documents, and Business Letters.  
Material in the first subseries is filed alphabetically by name.

## Personal Letters and Documents

## John McAllister Jr.

[4]	273	Historical Society of Pennsylvania	1828 Apr 17
	274	Kennedy, David J.	1872 May 15
	275	Murdoch, William	1865 May 4
	276	Patton, Robert B.	1832-1833
	277	Stewart, W.M.	1834
	278	Watson, John Fanning	1842 Aug 12
	279	Invoice from John Binns, Democratic Press Office	1824 Mar 20
	280	Receipt from Rembrandt Peale	1859 May 25
	281	Reminiscence of Stephen Moylan	undated

## Thomas McAllister

	282	Belin, C.A.	1860 May 10
	283	Bruce, Frances McAllister	1841 Mar 20

## Wardale G. McAllister

	284	Letters from John C. Bullitt, Thomas E. Cochran, E. T. McDermott, Charles M. Morris, C. L. Pancoast, and Thompson Westcott	1851-1863, undated
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## William Y. McAllister

	285	Breck, Samuel	1860 Aug 17
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## SERIES III. MCALLISTER FAMILY PAPERS, cont.

## McAllister and Brother

[4]	286	Agreement to close shops early for military training	1862 Sep 10
	287	Business letters and orders sent the optical firm from Robert Allen, William Allen, Blanchard and Lea, H.A. Boardman, S. Bowman, James D. Brown, Leslie Combs, R.T. Conrad, William P. Foulke, E.B. Kelley, Francis B. Jones, C.D. Lewis, F. McCurdy, S. McIlvaine, J.T. Shannon, Samuel Smith, John Wagner, Max Woodhull, F. M. Worden, and the Iowa Central Sanitary Fair	1820-1867