

**Appendix A: Calendar of the John Fitch Papers
by John D. Haskell, Jr.**

The Papers of Peter Force

Series 8D

A Calendar of Papers of John Fitch
in the Library of Congress
by
John D. Haskell, Jr.

REPRODUCED FROM THE

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

PREFACE

This calendar is based on the manuscripts in the seven folio volumes known as the John Fitch Papers which are housed in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress.

The Anglo-American Cataloging Rules and Bibliographical Procedure and Style; A Manual for Bibliographers in the Library of Congress were used as guides for the forms of entry..

The section presented here covers the period February, 1784 to April, 1788. The compiler will complete the remainder by September, 1970.

REPRODUCED FROM

VOLUMES OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

- 1784 Feb. 23 Fitch, John. Will. 2, p. on 1l.
 Ms. signed.
 Incomplete, lower half of leaf missing.
 One seal.
 Drafted in Warminister Township, Pa.
 Executors: Edward Cook, Rev. William Vanhorn
 and Jonathan Longstreth. Property given to
 children or Thomas Burnham and George King.
 Witnessed by Daniel Longstreth and Charles
 West, Jr.
2. 1784 Aug. 30 Somers, James. Letter, Eggharbour [N. J.]
 to Colborn Barrel. 1 p..
 Holograph signed.
 Discussion undertaken with [Zephaniah,
 Steelman which may interest Barrel.
3. 1784 Sept. 6 Phillips, John. Invoice, Burlington. [N. J.]
 to Joseph Bloomfield. 1 p.
 Holograph signed.
 For traveling expenses.
4. 1784 Sept. 7 Washington, George. Statement, Bath, Va. 1 p.
 Ms.
 This item on same page as next entry.
 Has seen [James, Rumsey's boats; believes
 he has discovered the "art of working boats
 by mechanism"; usefulness of land navigation.
- 1784 Sept. 29 Extract, place unknown. 1 p.
 Ms.
 Washington's statement of Sept. 7
 taken from the Pennsylvania Gazette, Phila-
 delphia, of Sept. 29.
6. [1784 Sept.] [Rumsey, James, Contract, place unknown,
 delivered to Edward Penington. 2, p. on
 1l.
 Ms.
 Subsequently certified as true by Pen-
 ington. Holograph signed, Sept. 25, 1787.
7. [1784 Oct.] Virginia. Laws, statutes, etc. Law [Richmond
 2, p. on 1l.
 Ms.
 Gives James Rumsey exclusive right to
 construct and navigate his boats in Virginia.
8. 1784 [Nov. 20] Maryland. Laws, statutes, etc. Law [Annapolis,
 2, p. on 1l.
 Ms.
 Gives James Rumsey exclusive right to
 construct and sell his boat in Maryland.

1784 Nov. 26 Rumsey, James. Letter, place unknown, to the Pennsylvania General Assembly [Philadelphia; 2] p. on 1l.

Ms.

Proposes building a mechanically powered boat; petitions for exclusive right to construction and navigation on Commonwealth waters.

10. 1784 Dec. 29 Ewing, John, and others. Statement, Philadelphia. 1 p.

Ms. signed.

This copy followed by another in Fitch's hand.

Thomas Hutchins, Cadwallader, Morris, Jonathan Dickinson, Sergeant and John Ewing attest to Fitch's character; recommend his surveying ability to Congress.

11. 1785 Mar. 1 Goalins, John. Receipt, Bristol [Pa.] to John Fitch. 1 p.

Holograph signed.

For money.

12. 1785 July 20 Schweffel, Jacob. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.

Holograph signed.

This copy followed by photostatic copy of same.

For bar iron for steam engine.

13. 1785 Aug. 1 Fitch, John. Letter, Bucks County [Pa.] to the [American] Philosophical Society [Philadelphia; 3] p. on 2l.

Holograph signed.

Mechanical details of proposed steamboat; requests comments.

14. 1785 Aug. 20 Ewing, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to William Churchill, Houston. [2] p. on 1l.

Ms. signed.

This item on same page as next entry.

Recommends Fitch's scheme for steamboat.

15. 1785 Aug. 25 Houston, William Churchill. Letter, Trenton, to Lambert, Cadwalader. 1 p.

Ms.

Recommends Fitch's scheme for steamboat.

16. 1785 Aug. 27 Smith, Samuel. Letter, Princeton [N. J.] to [Jacob] Read. [2] p.

Ms.

Recommends Fitch's scheme for steamboat.

- 1785 Aug. 29 Fitch, John. Letter, place unknown, to [Richard Henry Lee], the President of Congress. 1 p. Ms.
Request to present steamboat model to Congress for examination. Referred on Aug. 30 to [Rufus], King, [Jacob], Read and [James], McHenry.
18. 1785 Aug. 30 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to the Committee of Congress [New York], [3], p. on 2l.
Holograph signed.
Requests encouragement for sale of his maps; details of steamboat construction.
19. 1785 Sept. 2 Fitch, John. Letter, Bucks County, Pa., to [Diego de Cardoqui], the Minister of Spain, New York. [2], p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
Places himself at the service of the King of Spain. [Charles III]
20. 1785 Sept. 27 Magaw, Samuel. Extract, Philadelphia. 1 p. Holograph signed.
Extract from the minutes of the American Philosophical Society. Fitch presents his model.
21. 1785 Nov. 16 Henry, Patrick, Certificate [Richmond?], 1 p. Holograph signed.
Electrostatic copy.
Bond posted by Fitch.
22. 1785 Nov. 16 [Fitch, John], Financial accounts [Philadelphia?], [2], p. on 1l. Holograph.
23. 1785 Nov. 16 Form, Richmond, 1785. Broadside. Printed form, completed in handwriting. Note in Fitch's hand on verso. For subscription to Fitch's map with Patrick, Henry's certification.
24. 1785 Nov. 25 Johnson, Thomas. Letter, Frederick [Md.], to [William], Smallwood. 1 p. Holograph signed.
Address on verso of a blank second leaf. Followed by two other copies, each in a different hand.
Requests that Smallwood meet with Fitch.

- 7-
25. 1785 Dec. 2 Magaw, Samuel. Extract, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Electrostatic copy.
Extracts from the American Philosophical Society minutes; Fitch's drawing and description presented to the Society.
26. 1785 Dec. 2 Patterson, Robert. Extract Philadelphia? 1 p.
Holograph signed.
From the minutes of the American Philosophical Society.
27. [1785 Dec. 8?] [Fitch, John] Statement, place unknown. 4 p. on 2l.
Holograph.
Concerning Rumsey's experiments with boats.
28. 1785 Dec. 20 Notice of Fitch's maps for sale, Philadelphia, Dunlap and Claypoole, 1785. Broadside.
Printed with spelling corrected by hand.
29. [1785?] Ewing, John, and others. Statement [Philadelphia?] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Last paragraph of above broadside. Signed by Andrew Ellicott, Robert Patterson, Francis Hopkinson, John Nancarrow, Richard Wells, William Livingston, Edward Duffield and Ewing.
30. 1786 Jan. 5 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to the Maryland General Assembly. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests funds to send to Europe for a steam engine.
31. 1786 Jan. Pinkney, William. Report [Annapolis?] to the [Maryland Assembly, Annapolis] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Committee report; unable to support Fitch's request for funds.
32. 1786 Mar. 10 Fitch, John. Letter, place unknown, to Pennsylvania Assembly [Philadelphia] 2 p. on 1l.
Ms.
Followed by second copy in Fitch's hand dated Mar. 11.
Requests exclusive right of steamboat construction in Pennsylvania.
33. 1786 Mar. 11 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to the Pennsylvania Assembly [Philadelphia] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests exclusive right to construct steamboat in the state.

- 3-
34. 1786 Mar..13 Donaldson, Arthur, Letter, Philadelphia, to the Pennsylvania General Assembly [Philadelphia. 2, p. on 1l.
Ms.
Request for encouragement and support.
35. 1786 Mar. 15 Fitch, John. Letter, Trenton, to U. S. Congress [New York. 2, p.
Holograph signed.
Requests exclusive right to construct steamboat on all U. S. waters. Co-signed on Mar. 18 by twenty-eight supporters.
36. 1786 Mar. 18 New Jersey. Laws, statutes, etc. Law [Trenton; 3, p. on 2l.
Ms.
Fitch given exclusive right to steamboat in New Jersey waters.
37. 1786 Mar. 23 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to the Pennsylvania Assembly [Philadelphia; 2, p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
This item followed by a manuscript copy of same.
Fitch's exclusive right in other states; petition by Arthur Donaldson.
38. 1786 Apr. 19 Indenture [Philadelphia?; 2, p. on 1l.
Ms.
Fitch and subscribers agree to establish a holding company.
39. 1786 Apr. 20 Fitch, John. Letter, Bucks County [Pa.] to [Jonathan, Longstreth. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests general information on inland territories, i.e. rivers, towns, schools, mineral deposits, etc.
40. 1786 Apr. 26 Stockton, Richard, and others. Statement, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Electrostatic copy.
Appointment of James Wilson, Richard Wells and Benjamin Wistar, Morris as officers of steamboat company; signed by Stockton and eight others.
41. 1786 May 2 Wilson, James. Letter, Philadelphia, to [members of steamboat company] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Request for payment of subscription; signed also by Richard Wells.

- 1786 May 12 Scott, Robert. Statement, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Authorizes Fitch to dispose of his steam-
boat company share.
43. 1786 May 17 Fitch, John.; Letter, Philadelphia, to [Josiah,
Hornblower and [Christopher, Colles, New York.
[2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
Description of steam engine; desires
opinion.
44. 1786 May 23 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to
Richard Wells.. [2] p. on 1l. .
Holograph signed.
States money due to [Richard, Skellorn by
steamboat company.
45. 1786 May 24 Hornblower, Jos[iah, Letter, New York, to
John Fitch, Philadelphia. 1 p. With address
on verso of a blank second leaf.
Holograph signed.
Suggests modifications in steam engine
cylinder; wishes Fitch success.
46. 1786 June 7 Mendenhall, Adam. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For two files.
47. 1786 June 8 Wells, William Hill. Receipt, Philadelphia,
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For payment for brass cocks.
48. 1786 June 15 Skellorn, Rich[ard, Invoice, Philadelphia,
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For brass.
49. 1786 June 16 Wetherill, Samuel. Invoice, Philadelphia,
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For file.
50. 1786 [June 22]. Skellorn, Richard. Invoice [Philadelphia?]
to John Fitch. [2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
For brass.
51. 1786 [June 23] [Fitch, John, Financial accounts [Philadelphia?]
[2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
For steamboat company, May 22 through June 23.

52. 1786 June 23 Wells, Richard, and others. Statement, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Electrostatic copy.
Benjamin Say to replace Wells on steamboat company committee; signed by Wells and nine others.
53. 1786 June 24 Schweffel, Jacob. Invoice, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms. signed.
Receipted bill for sheet iron.
54. 1786 [June?] [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia; 2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
For steamboat company. :
55. 1786 July 3 Briggs, Samuel. Receipt. [Philadelphia?] to William Summerton. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For brass cylinder.
56. [1786 July 3] [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia; 4] p. on 2l.
Ms.
- 1786 July 3 Someton, William. Receipt, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For money.
58. 1786 [July 8] [Fitch, John] Financial account [Philadelphia?; 1] p.
Ms.
Covers period of June 23 through July 8 for steamboat company.
59. 1786 July 20 Wail, Jonathan? Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For lumber.
60. 1786 July 21 [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia?; 1] p.
Ms.
Covers period of July 8 through July 21 for steamboat company.
61. 1786 July 21 [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia?; 1] p.
Ms.
For period of July 21 through July 28 for steamboat company.

62. 1786 July 27 Weill, Peter. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For goods and services.
63. 1786 July 28 [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia] 8 p. on 4 l.
Ms.
Personal transactions.
64. 1786 Aug. 3 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia] to John Cox. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Company plans to raise price of subscription; wants information passed on to Stacy Potts.
65. [1786] Aug. 8 Harvey, Sampson. Receipt, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of cordage.
66. 1786 Aug. 19 Brooke and Wilson (Firm?) Receipt [Philadelphia?] to John Henderson. 1 p.
Ms. signed.
For nails.
67. 1786 Sept. 1 Parker, Samuel. Receipt [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For payment for brass tubes.
68. 1786 [Sept. 1] Simmons and Robeson (Firm?) Receipt [Philadelphia?] to Peter Weill. 1 p.
Ms. signed.
For payment of goods.
69. 1786 Sept. 12 Douglass and Morgan (Firm?) Invoice, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For bar iron.
70. 1786 Sept. 21 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to [Thomas] Mifflin. [3] p. of 2 l.
Holograph signed.
Admits ignorance of existence of steam engine as of April 1785: laments neglect by Congress; several subscribers delinquent in payments; request for loan turned down by the Pennsylvania Assembly; requests Mifflin to solicit subscriptions.

- 1786 Sept. 26 Longstreth, Jonathan. Letter, Mercer County
[Ky.] to John Fitch, Bucks County, Pa.
[3] p. on 2l.
Holograph signed.
Examines Fitch's property; account of
local election to decide on separating
from Virginia; militia marches against
Wabash Indians under General George Rogers
Clark, General James Wilkinson and Colonel
[John] Edwards; anxious to hear about steam-
boat; William McMahan desires assistance.
72. [1786 Sept.] [Fitch, John] Letter [Bucks County, Pa.]
to the Committee of the Pennsylvania Assembly
[Philadelphia. 3] p. on 2l.
Request for loan of \$150 for use by
steamboat company; certain of steamboat's
value to America; feels honor of state is
at stake; not to be outdone by New Jersey.
73. 1786 [Oct. 11] Fox, M. Invoice, from M. Fox and George
Fox [Philadelphia?] to [Henry] Voight
and [John] Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For hardware.
- 1786 Nov. 1 Douglass and Morgan (Firm?) Invoice, Phila-
delphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For bar iron.
75. [1786 Nov. 2] [Fitch, John] Letter [Bucks County, Pa.]
to the Pennsylvania Assembly. 1 p.
Ms.
Exclusive rights in New Jersey; requests
same for Pennsylvania.
76. 1786 [Nov. 16] Henderson, John. Invoice [Philadelphia?]
to John Fitch. [2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
For nails.
77. 1786 Nov. 18 Prahl, Lewis. Invoice [Philadelphia] to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For hardware.
78. 1768 Nov. 25 Melcher, Adam. Receipt, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of bar iron.

79. 1786 Nov. 27 Melcher, Adam. Receipt, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of bar iron.
80. 1786 Nov. 27 Melcher, Adam. Receipt, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of bar iron.
81. 1786 [Nov. 29] Douglass and Morgan(Firm?) Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For bar iron.
82. 1786 Dec. 1 Melcher, Adam. Receipt, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
83. 1786 [Dec. 4] Melcher, Adam. Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
84. 1786 [Dec. 4?] Invoice, place unknown. [2] p. on 1 l.
Ms.
Text unreadable.
85. 1786 Dec. 4 Melcher, Adam. Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
86. 1786 Dec. 4 Melcher, Adam. Receipt, Philadelphia, to [John] Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of bar iron.
87. 1786 Dec. 6 [Morris, Benjamin Wistar] Invoice, Philadelphia, to the members of the steamboat company. [2] p. on 1 l.
Ms.
From treasurer of the company.
88. [1786] Dec. 8 Fitch, John. Letter [Bucks County, Pa.?] to Messrs. [Mathew] Carey and Company [Philadelphia, [2] p. on 1 l.
Holograph signed.
Followed by a second manuscript copy written by Fitch.
Describes mechanical construction of steamboat.

89. [1786 Dec. 8] [Fitch, John] Letter [Bucks County, Pa.] to the [editors of the Columbian Magazine, Philadelphia] 1 p.
Ms.
Acknowledges receipt of a boiler for steam engine via [Benjamin] Say.
90. 1786 [Dec. 14] Johnson, William. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For goods and services.
91. 1786 Dec. 27 Donaldson, A[rthur] Letter, Philadelphia, to the Pennsylvania Assembly [Philadelphia. 2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
Protests passage of law favoring Fitch.
92. [1786?] Notice [Philadelphia] 1 p.
Ms.
Three tracts of land for sale in Nelson County, Ky.; Inquiries to Israel Israel and Joseph Budd.
93. [1786] [Morris, Benjamin Wistar] Financial accounts [Philadelphia? 2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
For steamboat company.
94. [1786] [Morris, Benjamin Wistar] Invoice [Philadelphia?] to the [members of the steamboat company. 2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
95. [1786] [Morris, Benjamin Wistar] Invoice [Philadelphia] to the [members of the steamboat company] 1 p.
Ms.
96. [1786?] Prael, Lewis. Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
For goods and services.
97. [1786?] Bartram, Benjamin] Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For borax.
98. [1786?] Messrs. Stockton, Thornton, Palmer and Trist(Firm?) Invoice [Philadelphia?] to [John Fitch] 1 p.
Ms.
For food and hardware.

99. [1786?] List, place unknown. 1 p.
Ms.
Names of some of the members of the Kentucky Convention indicating counties which they represent.
100. [1786] Fitch, John. Letter [Bucks County, Pa.] to the Speaker of the House of the Pennsylvania Assembly. [3] p. on 24.
Holograph signed.
Answers objections to law raised by others; this copy was sent to General [Thomas] Mifflin.
101. 1787 Jan. 3 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to the [editor of the Columbian Magazine, Philadelphia] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Feels steamboat has been erroneously presented.
102. 1787 Jan. 6 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to William Henry, Lancaster [Pa. 2] p. on 14.
Holograph signed.
Requests permission to use his name in remarks to the Pennsylvania Assembly.
103. 1787 Jan. 22 Fitch, John. Letter, Dover [Del.] to Henry Voight [Philadelphia] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Includes small sketch.
Raises question regarding steamboat cylinder.
104. 1787 Feb. 1 Booth [James] Receipt, Dover [Del.] to John Fitch 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Payment for engrossing a law.
105. 1787 Feb. 9 Article of incorporation [Philadelphia?] Ms.
Ninth article of steamboat company stating benefits derived by members.
106. [1787] Feb. 24] [Fitch, John] Letter, Bucks County Pa. to the legislature of the state of New York. 2 p. on 1.
Ms.
Requests legislature's encouragement.

107. [1787?] Mar. 5 Moore, James. Certificate, Philadelphia.
1 p.
Ms.
Regarding dispute with [Arthur] Donaldson
in Pennsylvania.
108. [1787 Mar. 10] Financial accounts [Philadelphia. 4] p.
on 2l.
Ms.
For steamboat company; covers period
July 23, 1786-March 10, 1787.
109. 1787 Mar. 15 Riggs, Caleb S. Letter, New York, to John
Fitch, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Informs Fitch that he had been given
exclusive rights by New York legislature.
110. 1787 Mar. 18 [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Phila-
delphia?] 1 p.
Ms.
111. 1787 Mar. 20 Melcher, Adam. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
112. 1787 Mar. 24 Melcher, Adam. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For sheet iron.
113. 1787 Apr. 2 Melcher, Adam. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
114. 1787 Apr. 3 Prahl, Lewis. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For hardware.
115. 1787 Apr. 17 Douglass, Andrew. Invoice, Philadelphia,
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
116. 1787 Apr. 18 Ludlam, George. Invoice, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For goods and services.

117. 1787 Apr. 18 Turner, G., and others. Statement, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Experiments made with steam gun by Richard Wells, Richard Stockton and Turner. Accompanied by sketch of steam cannon.
118. [1787 Apr. 27] Thatcher, Joseph. Invoice, Philadelphia, to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For lumber.
119. 1787 May 3 King, Daniel, Jr. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For brass cocks.
120. 1787 May 10 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to Joshua Anderson. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Questions propriety of a suit; anxious to settle disagreement.
121. [1787] May 12 Buckley, Daniel. Certificate [Philadelphia?] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Refers to paragraph copied by Rumsey from Buckley's letter in order to injure Fitch.
122. 1787 June 15 Fitch, John. Financial accounts, Philadelphia. [4] p. on 2l.
Ms.
Covers period of March 12-June 13, 1787; certified correct by Richard Wells, Richard Stockton and Benjamin Say.
123. 1787 June 15 Hutchins, Thomas. Letter, New York, to John Fitch, Philadelphia. 1 p. Address on verso of a blank second leaf.
Holograph signed.
Unable to pay bill for subscription to the steamboat company.
124. 1787 June 18 Rohr, John. Receipt [Philadelphia?] to [John] Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of coal.
125. 1787 June 19 Rohr, John. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For files.

126. 1787 June 25 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to the Virginia delegates in convention [Philadelphia. 3] p. on 21.
Holograph signed.
Why steamboat should be supported by public bodies; value for inland navigation.
127. 1787 June 30 Fox, George. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
128. 1787 July 15 Branham, Eben. Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For three months rent of a shop.
129. 1787 July 25 Schneider, Casper. Invoice [Philaselpia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For lime.
130. 1787 July 28 Parker, Samuel. Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For brass chambers.
131. 1787 Aug. 8 Pettit, Charles. Letter, Philadelphia, to [John] Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Declines offer to join steamboat company; had declined earlier due to risk.
132. 1787 Aug. 11 Douglass [Andrew] Receipt [Philadelphia] to [John] Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of bar iron.
133. 1787 Aug. 14 Wood, Thomas. Receipt. [Philadelphia?] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of lumber.
134. 1787 Aug. 20 Douglass [Andrew] Invoice [Philadelphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
135. 1787 Aug. 21 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to [William Samuel] Johnson [Philadelphia] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Gratitude for viewing his efforts.

136. [1787] Aug. 23 Johnson, [William Samuel] Letter [Phila-
delphia] to John Fitch. 1 p.
Ms.
Enjoyment of exhibition of previous day.
137. 1787 Aug. 24 [Fitch, John] Letter, Philadelphia, to
Robert Morris. 1 p.
Ms.
Acknowledges gift of share in steamboat
company.
138. 1787 Aug. 28 Craft, Jacob. Invoice [Philadelphia]
1 p.
Holograph signed.
For files.
139. 1787 Aug. 31 Douglass, George. Invoice, Philadelphia,
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For bar iron.
140. 1787 Sept. 5 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia] to
[Edmund] Randolph [Philadelphia] 2 p.
Holograph signed.
Plans to petition Virginia for exclusive
rights; invitation to make voyage while in
Philadelphia at the Constitutional Con-
vention.
141. 1787 Sept. 7 Bartram, Moses. Receipt [Philadelphia?]
to John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of lead.
142. 1787 Sept. 10 Ludlam, G[eorge] Receipt, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For pipe.
143. 1787 Sept. 12 Towns, Thomas. Receipt [Philadelphia?]
to Philp Knal. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For purchase of lumber.
144. 1787 Sept. 14 F[itch], J[ohn] Letter, Philadelphia, to
[William Samuel] Johnson. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Congressional committee report on
[James] Rumsey's petition; requests John-
son's patronage for his own claim.
145. [1787] Sept. 30 [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Phila-
delphia? 3] p. on 2l.
Ms.
For period June 15-September 30 for
steamboat company.

146. 1787 Oct. 1 Longstreth, Daniel, and others. Certificate, Warminster Township [Pa.] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Fitch's trip to Kentucky about two years before; expected encouragement from Virginia; signed by Longstreth and thirteen others.
147. 1787 Oct. 4 Penington, Edward. Certificate [Philadelphia] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Saw Rumsey's boat in September of 1784 and it was not run by steam.
148. [1787 Oct. 31] [Fitch, John] Letter [Philadelphia?] to the Committee [of the Virginia Assembly. 2] p. on 11.
Ms.
Requests exclusive rights.
149. 1787 Oct. 31 Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to Patrick, Henry. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
This item on same page as next entry.
Requests amendment of bill extending rights from fourteen to twenty-one years.
150. [1787 Oct. 31] Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to John Beckley. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Expresses gratitude.
151. 1787 Nov. 7 Virginia. Laws statutes, etc. Law, Richmond. 2 p.
Ms.
Gives Fitch exclusive rights in Virginia; Certified as true copy by John Beckley and James Taylor.
152. 1787 Nov. 9 Clapham, Josiah, and others. Certificate, Richmond. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Certifies that several generals declared that Rumsey's boat was not propelled by steam.
153. 1787 Nov. 21 Fitch, John. Letter, Annapolis, to Thomas Johnson. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Denies accusation of attempting to circumvent Rumsey; awaits his letter.

154. 1787 Nov. 24 Fitch, John. Letter, Annapolis, to the
[Maryland] House of Delegates [Annapolis]
1 p.
Holograph signed.
This item on same page as next entry.
Views as to content of letter which
[George] Washington will submit to the
Committee regarding Rumsey.
155. 1787 Nov. 24 Fitch, John. Letter, Annapolis, to Cornelius
Mills [Annapolis?] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests committee report and law when
passed to be sent to Richard Wills in
Philadelphia
156. 1787 Nov. 24 Fitch, John. Letter, Annapolis, to Thomas
Johnson [Annapolis?] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Enclosure absent.
Hopes Maryland law will exclude foreigners
and persons outside the state; enclosing
copy of Virginia law.
157. 1787 Dec. 12 Rittenhouse, David. Certificate, Philadel-
phia. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Certifies that he has been on board
Fitch's steamboat when in motion; co-
signed by John Ewing.
158. 1787 Dec. 13 Ellicott, Andrew. Statement, Philadelphia.
1 p.
Holograph signed.
First to encourage Fitch; value of
steamboat for internal navigation.
159. 1787 Dec. 19 Hall, John. Letter, Trenton, to John Fitch,
Philadelphia. 1 p.
Willing to come to Philadelphia if
steamboat company feels it is still
necessary.
160. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Financial account [Phila-
delphia?] 1 p.
Holograph.
Expenditures for food.
161. [1787?] Brooke, James. Statement. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Mr. Pleseants exhibited a model of
Barker's mill based on principles of
Rumsey's mill sometime in 1787.

162. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Phila-
delphia?] 1 p.
Holograph.
For food.
163. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Statement [Philadelphia?
2] p. on 17.
Holograph.
Remarks on estimated speed of his first
steamboat.
164. [1787] Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to the
Committee of the United States Congress.
[4] p. on 26.
Holograph signed.
Reasons Rumsey can lay no claim; would
sooner be guilty of suicide than undertake
a project which would result in his becoming
a dependent wretch.
165. [1787] Fitch, John. Letter [Philadelphia?] to
[Nathaniel] Mitchell and [James] White
[New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests reasons against Rumsey be read
in Congress.
166. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Financial accounts [Philadelphia]
1 p.
Holograph.
For food.
167. [1787?] Fox, George. Invoice [Philadelphia?] to
John Fitch and [Henry] Voight. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
For hardware.
168. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Extract [Philadelphia?
4] p. on 26.
Holograph.
From minutes of Pennsylvania Assembly
December 14, 1785-March 28, 1787 regarding
his petition.
169. [1787?] [Fitch, John] Letter [Philadelphia?] to
[Edmund Randolph] the Governor of Virginia..
1 p.
Holograph signed.
Trip to Ohio country; relationship with
Indians.

170. [1787] Fitch, John; Statement [Philadelphia?]
3 p. on 2l.
Holograph.
This copy followed by another copy of
same.
Reasons why James Rumsey cannot lay
lay claim to steamboat.
171. [1787] Fitch, John; Statement [Philadelphia?]
4 p. on 2l.
Holograph signed.
Advantages of steamboat; farewell to
Pennsylvania.
172. [1787] Fitch, John; Statement, place unknown.
2 p. on 1l.
Holograph.
Itemized list of fifty comments in four
numbered columns regarding Rumsey controversy.
173. [1787] Fitch, John; Statement, place unknown.
8 p. on 4l.
Holograph signed.
Remarks on James Rumsey's claim; back-
ground of his own claims; dispute with
Arthur Donaldson; European methods of
recording inventions; his pipe boiler.
request for loan turned down by Pennsylvania.
174. [1787?] Fitch, John. Letter [Bucks County, Pa.?
to the Pennsylvania Assembly [Philadelphia,
16 p. on 8l.
Ms. signed.
Remarks on [Arthur, Donaldson's claim.
175. 1788 Jan. 8 Say, Benjamin. Letter, Philadelphia, to
John Fitch, New York. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Rumsey's influence in Virginia; rumored
to be coming to Philadelphia; will write
to acquaintances in Richmond.
176. [1788 Jan. 24] Fitch, John. Letter [New York, to the
United States Congress New York. [2] p.
on 1l.
Holograph.
Requests financial support.
177. 1788 Jan. 24 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to [Cyrus
Griffin, the President of Congress [New York,
1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests his support.

178. 1788 Jan. 27 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to [Thomas] Hutchins. [2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
French Consul will talk to members of Congress regarding his request; asks Hutchins to do likewise.
179. 1788 Jan. 29 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to Alexander Hamilton [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests his patronage.
180. [1788] Feb. 10] Fitch, John. Letter [New York?] to [James] Madison. [2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
His difficulties; requests Madison's support.
181. 1788 Feb. 18 [Fitch, John] Extract, Philadelphia. 1 p.
Holograph.
From New York Journal, and Daily Register.
Comments on Rumsey's boat.
182. 1788 Feb. 18 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to the Committee of Congress [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests 30,000 acres in area of the Miami and Ohio Rivers if he can prove that he has propelled a boat by steam only for a distance to be specified.
183. 1788 Feb. 22 Woods, John. Statement, New York. 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Cost of navigating the Mississippi River from New Orleans to the Illinois [River]
184. 1788 Feb. 25 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to the Committee of Congress [New York. 2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
Proposes to navigate a boat from New Orleans to the Illinois [River]; will be lighter than present boats.
185. 1788 Mar. 4 Clarke [Abraham] and others. Report, New York. [2] p. on 1l.
Ms.
From committee considering request for land; recommends approval and sets forth a resolution.

186. 1788 Mar. 6 [Fitch, John] Letter, New York, to [Thomas Tudor, Tucker [New York] 1 p.
Holograph.
Concerned with Tucker's view of report of committee.
187. 1788 Mar. 6 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to Abraham Clarke [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Thanks him for his efforts on his behalf.
188. 1788 Mar. 7 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to [Nathan] Dane [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests support of his request before Congress.
189. 1788 Mar. 12 Fitch, John. Letter [New York] to [Dyre, Kearney, [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests Kearney to take responsibility for his petition before Congress due to [James, Madison's absence.
190. 1788 Mar..17 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to Jeremiah Wadsworth [New York. 2] p. on 1^l.
Holograph signed.
Requests his patronage in Congress.
191. 1788 Mar. 18 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to [Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur, New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Addressed to "St. John."
Will name a town at the mouth of the Miami [River] after him if Congress approves his request for land.
192. 1788 Mar. 19 [Crèvecoeur, Michel-Guillaume Jean de] Letter, New York, to John Fitch [New York] [2] p. on 1^l.
Ms. signed.
Signature is "St. John."
Flattered with the idea of having a town named after him; hopes that [Louis XVI] King [of France] will encourage and support Fitch.
193. 1788 Mar. 21 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to Abraham Clarke [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
This item on same page as next two entries.
Requests that he be allowed to choose land at mouth of the Miami [River]

- 194. 1788 Mar. 21] Fitch, John. Letter [New York] to [Jeremiah] Wadsworth New York 1 p.
Holograph signed.
About to return to Philadelphia; requests petition be brought before Congress before Wadsworth leaves office.
- 195. 1788 Mar. 22 Fitch, John. Letter, New York, to [Nathan] Dane [New York] 1 p.
Holograph signed.
Requests that he be allowed to choose location of land.
- 196. 1788 Mar. 27 King, Roswell. Letter, Charleston [S. C.] to John Fitch, Philadelphia. [3] p. on 2l.
Holograph signed.
Fitch's nephew has presented petitions to Assemblies of North Carolina and South Carolina; both desire sworn statements and further perfection.
- 197. 1788 Mar. 30 [Fitch, John] Letter, Philadelphia, to [Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur,] New York. 2] p. on 1l.
Holograph signed.
Followed by another unsigned copy..
Addressed to "St. John."
Has sent him copies of his map; southern part reliable; problems with cylinder; hopes for Congressional approval.
- 198. 1788 Apr. 10 [Crèvecoeur, Michel-Guillaume Jean de] Letter, New York, to John Fitch, Philadelphia. [2] p. on 1l. Address on verso of a blank second leaf.
Ms. signed.
Signature is "St. John."
Sympathizes with his difficulties; hopes for news from Paris soon.
- 199. 1788 Apr. 13 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to [Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur, New York] 1 p. St.
Holograph signed.
Addressed to "St. John."
Rumsey has published a pamphlet against him in Philadelphia; requests he withhold his opinion until Fitch's reply appears.
- 200. 1788 Apr. 14 Fitch, John. Letter, Philadelphia, to Thomas Jefferson [Paris] 2] p. on 1l. Address on verso of a blank second leaf.
Holograph signed.
His exclusive rights in Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York;

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200. 1788 Apr. 14

Crèvecoeur, has sent account of steam-
boat to the Prime Minister of France;
requests Jefferson place application in
his name for exclusive rights in France;
work begun on improved boiler.

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