

BENTLEY, WILLIAM, PAPERS, 1666-1819

Contents List

Manuscript Boxes

Box 1: Correspondence, undated & 1783-1796

Box 2: Correspondence, 1797-1802

Box 3: Correspondence, 1803-1810

Box 4: Correspondence, 1811-1817

Box 5: Correspondence, 1818-1819  
Miscellaneous Records, 1666-1819

Folders 1-7 Correspondence, 1818-1819; includes a small group of correspondence from John Adams and Thomas Jefferson regarding the authenticity of the Mecklenburg County (N.C.) Declaration of Independence

8 Correspondence to William Bentley Fowle, 1813-1815; concerns books for the most part

9 Book and Curio Lists, 1802-1819; include lists of curios in Bentley's "Cabinet"

10 Financial Papers, 1783-1818; include receipts, bills, etc.

11 Salem, Mass., East Church Records, 1766-1817; include an agreement of the church singers, 1766; minutes of parish meetings concerned with calling Bentley, 1783; petitions to raise Bentley's salary, 1804 and 1817; undated notes on births, baptisms, deaths, and church history

12 Salem, Mass., Papers, 1666-c.1812; collected by Bentley, include land deeds, 1666-1704/05; list of grammar school students, 1730; roll of soldiers at Louisburg, 1745; correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson, 1753 and 1770; and records concerning the founding of the First Church of Salem in 1629

13 Ships and Shipping Papers, 1666-c.1812; largely from Salem, Mass., include ships' manifests, 1666, 1701-1703, 1717-1730, 1798; an account of shipping in Salem, 1768; an account of vessels from Salem and Beverly, Mass., 1790 and 1794; and an account of a sailor captured near Yemen, c.1812

Box 6: Miscellaneous Notes, undated & 1781-1816

Folder 1 Almanac, 1781; interfiled with accounts and a list of books

Box 6: (continued)

- Folder 2 Six Miscellaneous Notebooks, one on education, 1816; one undated notebook on Greek grammar; partial draft of "Description of Salem" published in Collections of the Mass. Historical Society, 1799. Vol. VI. First Series; pp. 212-288; three undated notebooks about Salem, Mass.
- 3 Three Miscellaneous Notebooks and Various Leaves, undated; three notebooks contain historical information; miscellaneous leaves, sewn loosely together, contain information on natural history, history, mortality for the Salem East Society for 1801, Hebrew and Greek translations, lists of philosophers and works on philosophy
- 4 Survey and measurement records of rainfall and distances in Salem, Mass., undated
- 5 Poetry, undated; copied from a variety of works
- 6 Notes re: Salem and New England history, undated
- 7 Notes re: philosophy, religion, linguistics, and natural history, undated

Octavo Volumes

- #1 Diary, April 4, 1785-December 1788 [Bentley's #10]  
363 pp., with index
- #2 Diary, December 4, 1788-December 22, 1790 [Bentley's #16]  
372 pp., with index
- #3 Diary, December 23, 1790-April 30, 1792 [Bentley's #19]  
380 pp., with index  
Includes census of members of Salem, Mass., East Meeting House [1785?]; a list of Salem residents, 1792; and miscellaneous notes in the back of the volume
- #4 Commonplace Book, Diary, Accounts [Bentley's #4]  
August 19-September 2, 1793, pp. 1-20, 21-40, 41-56 bound irregularly (Diary); 1782-August 24, 1784 (Accounts); 389 pp.  
Includes narrative of a journey to Connecticut River Valley
- #5 Almanac Diary, 1804  
Line-a-day entries, mostly about the weather;  
in Isaiah Thomas, Jr., Almanack...for...1804 (Worcester, Mass.)

Octavo Volumes (continued)

- #6 Diary, March 1, 1804-June 6, 1806 [Bentley's #38]  
448 pp., with index  
With miscellaneous notes in the back of the volume
- #7 Diary, June 1806-December 1808 [Bentley's #40]  
428 pp.
- #8 Diary, December 5, 1808-June 16, 1811 [Bentley's #43]  
377 pp.  
Includes summary of Mass. census returns for 1800 and 1810  
from Boston Chronicle with more detailed figures for Salem
- #9 Diary, October 9, 1815-March 15, 1818 [Bentley's #53]  
377 pp., with index  
Includes list of vessels in Port of Salem, 1816-1818
- #10 Diary, March 16, 1818-December 29, 1819 [Bentley's #56]  
315 pp. (many blank), with index  
Includes list of vessels in Port of Salem, 1818-1819
- #11 List of Titles of Books in Bentley's Library [Bentley's #11]  
269 pp., with index
- #12 Record of Disposition of Rev. Wm. Bentley's Library [Bentley's #20]  
56 pp.
- #13 Catalogue of Books being in that Part of the Library of the late  
Dr. Bentley not bequeathed to Literary Institutions, and  
consisting of 2000 volumes; 30 pp.
- #14 Book Accounts, February 20, 1818-December 24, 1819 [Bentley's #55]  
432 pp.  
With miscellaneous notes in the back of the volume
- #15 Commonplace Book [Bentley's #5]  
104 pp.  
Notes on reading
- #16 Commonplace Book, 1789 [Bentley's #6]  
375 pp., with index for volumes 1-7  
Mostly notes on reading
- #17 Commonplace Book  
243 pp., with index  
Record of events in the East Parish, Salem--Births, Deaths,  
Removals, etc., beginning 29 April 1784; includes events  
political, occasional, etc. [eg. school accounts and roster];  
entries for a singing school, treasurer's accounts, loose  
contributions, account of inhabitants of Salem, as reported to  
the assessors, 1785; list of books and pamphlets lent and borrowed

Octavo Volumes (continued)

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|-----|---|-----------------|
| #18 | Notes on Reading<br>472 pp., with index   | [Bentley's #15] |
| #19 | Notes on Reading, 1794<br>564 pp., with index   | [Bentley's #18] |
| #20 | Commonplace Book<br>396 pp., with index   | [Bentley's #26] |
| #21 | Commonplace Book<br>572 pp., with index<br>Notes on ornithology, natural history, geography, and religions  | [Bentley's #27] |
| #22 | Commonplace Book<br>400 pp., with index<br>Notes on reading, particularly history   | [Bentley's #32] |
| #23 | Commonplace Book<br>460 pp., with index<br>Notes on ornithology, natural history, geography, and religions  | [Bentley's #37] |
| #24 | Commonplace Book<br>251 pp. (many blank), with index<br>Notes on agriculture, commerce, fisheries, manufactures, etc.                                       | [Bentley's #52] |
| #25 | Bentley's Manuscript for Mathematics etc.<br>588 pp. (many blank), with index<br>Includes entries on perspective, architecture, and money                   | [Bentley's #24] |
| #26 | Notes on Natural History, 1800-1817<br>40 pp.<br>Drugs, remedies, prescriptions   | [Bentley's #14] |
| #27 | Notes on Plants and Animals<br>91 pp.   | [Bentley's #13] |
| #28 | Notes on Modern Languages of Europe<br>92 pp. (many blank)  | [Bentley's #12] |
| #29 | Notes on the French Language<br>78 pp.  | [Bentley's #28] |
| #30 | Notes on the German Lanugage<br>148 pp.   | [Bentley's #29] |
| #31 | Commonplace Book<br>446 pp., with index (pp. 58-59)<br>With meteorological observations at Salem, 1804-1808<br>and statistical notes on the U.S., 1806-1815 | [Bentley's #39] |

Octavo Volumes (continued)

- #32 Sermons, November 20, 1808-September 24, 1809 [Bentley's #25]  
98 pp. (no. 1311-1406)
- #33 Sermons, September 24, 1809-August 5, 1810 [Bentley's #26]  
96 pp. (no. 1407-1502)
- #34 Sermons, June 2, 1811-April 12, 1812 [Bentley's #28]  
100 pp. (no. 1599-1693)
- #35 Sermons, March 29, 1812-February 28, 1813 [Bentley's #29]  
96 pp. (no. 1694-3099)
- #36 Exercises for the Communion [Bentley's #2]  
36 pp.
- #37 Commentaries on the Scriptures, 1791 [Bentley's #21]  
284 pp., with index
- #38 Commentaries on the Scriptures, 1810 [Bentley's #49]  
272 pp., with index

Folio Volumes

- #1 Diary, May 14, 1792-May 1798 [Bentley's #23]  
756 pp., with index
- #2 Diary, May 1798-February 29, 1804 [Bentley's #33]  
758 pp.
- #3 Diary, June 1811-October 1815 [Bentley's #50]  
414 pp., with index  
With account book of George Corwin, Jr., 1684, Salem, Mass.,  
dealing in food and supplies, with seven loose documents,  
1670-1792; 76 pp.
- #4 Daybook, 1795-1808 [Bentley's #31]  
376 pp., with index  
Personal and church accounts, with separate entries for  
book accounts
- #5 Daybook, 1785-1819 [Bentley's #41]  
460 pp., with table of contents  
Personal, book, and church accounts

LIST OF WRITERS FOR THE REV. WILLIAM BENTLEY PAPERS

- Adams, Robert, v.4  
Agricultural Society, v.3  
Alden, Timothy, v.1&2; 2 documents  
Allen, Jeremiah, v.3  
Allen, Wilkes, v.2; 2 documents  
Allen, William, v.2; 2 documents  
Alline, William, v.3; 2 documents,  
    See St. John's Lodge  
Amherst, Jeffrey, Lord, v.1  
Anderson, Mary C., v.4; See Salem  
    Female Charitable Society, the  
    Directors & Managers of  
Appleton, J. Sparhawk, v.4  
Archer, J., Jr., v.3  
Atherstone, Joshua, v.3  
Atkins, Silas, v.4  
Averell, Azariah, v.4  
Badger, Benjamin, v.3; See, Masons,  
    Mount Moriah Lodge  
Bailey, John, v.4; See, Masons,  
    Philanthropic Lodge  
Bainbridge, William, v.4; 2 documents  
Baker, W. G., v.4; 2 documents  
Barker, Thomas, v.3  
Barnard, J., v.2; 3 documents  
Barnstable. Committee of the Church  
    & Society in the East Parish, v.4  
Barr, Robert, v.3  
Barrel, Joseph Jr., v.3  
Bartlett, Bailey, v.4  
Bartlett, Cornelius, v.3  
Bartlett, Josiah, v.4; See also, <sup>Masons.</sup>  
    Massachusetts Grand Lodge, v.3  
Bass, Edward, v.2; 2 documents  
Baumont, ?, v.3  
Bayo, Gordia & Co., v.4  
Belknap, Jeremy, v.2; 3 documents  
Bemis, Stephen, v.4  
Bentley, John, v.1; 5 documents  
Bentley, Joshua, v.1; 39 documents  
\* Bentley, William, v.1,3,4; 40 documents  
Berry, D., v.1  
Berry, S., v.1  
Black, William, v.3  
Blake, Edward, Jr., v.3  
Blunt, Edmund, v.3  
Blyth, S. Cleveland, v.3  
Bond, Amos, v.3; See, Masons,  
    Meridian Lodge  
Bormemaison, J., v.4  
Bowditch, Joseph, v.2&4; 3 documents  
Bowdoin, James, v.3  
Bowen, Ashley, v.2; 6 documents  
Bowers, James, v.4; 3 documents  
Boyd, John P., v.4  
Bradford, John, v.2; 2 documents  
Brent, Robert, v.4  
Briggs, Calvin, v.4  
Brown, Clark, v.3  
Brown, James, v.3  
Bryant, Reuben, v.3; See, Masons, Corinthian  
    Lodge  
Burnham, James, v.2; 2 documents  
Cape, Brian, v.3  
Carey, James, v.3  
Carlile, Thomas, v.4  
Carpenter, Benjamin, v.3; See, Marine & East  
    India Marine Societies  
Cary, Thomas, v.2; 3 documents  
Cheigh, Joseph A., v.4  
Chelsea, Church of Christ, v.3  
Cheverus, John, v.2; 3 documents  
Child, David, v.2; 5 documents  
Chiller?, T.?, v.4; 3 documents  
Clesworthy, Samuel Jr., v.3  
Codman, John, v.4  
Coggin, Jacob, v.4  
Colton, Elizabeth, v.3  
Cook, Richard, v.4  
Cooper, Samuel, v.3  
Cordis, Joseph, v.3  
Cotton, William Miles, v.3  
Cornelius, Elias, v.4  
Cox, Lemuel, v.3  
Cross, Stephen, v.4  
Crowminshield, Benjamin, v.2; See also, Salem,  
    Committee of arrangements, v.4  
Crowminshield, George, v.2; 2 documents  
Crowminshield, Jacob, v.2; 8 documents  
Crowminshield, John, v.2; 2 documents  
Crowminshield, Richard, v.2; 2 documents  
Crowminshield, Mrs. Richard, v.2  
Cummings, Henry, v.4  
Cushing, Isaac, v.3; See, Hingham, North Parish,  
    church of the  
Cushing, Thomas C., v.2; 7 documents  
Cutler, John, v.3  
Dabney, Elizabeth, v.4; See, Salem Female Charit-  
    able Society, the Directors & Managers of  
Dabney, John, v.2; 2 documents  
Dana, Samuel, v.2; 2 documents  
Davies, N., v.3  
Davis, Amasa, v.3  
Davis, John, v.3 & 4; See, Massachusetts Historical  
    Society; See also, Barnstable, Committee of the  
    Church & society in the East Parish.  
Dawes, Robert, v.4  
Dean, George, v.3; See, Masons, Essex Lodge

\* See Appendix, p.6.

- Dearborn, H.A., v.2; 8 documents  
 Derby, Elias H., v.2; 5 documents  
 Dexter, Aaron, v.3; See also, Massachusetts Grand Lodge, v.3  
 Dickinson, Pliny, v.2; 3 documents  
 Dillaway, Clarissa, v.3  
 Dix, Henry E., v.2; 4 documents  
 Dodge, Joshua, v.2; 5 documents  
 Don, Edward, v.1; 12 documents  
 Duane, William, v.4  
 Dunhaven, J.M., v.3; 2 documents  
 Dunlap, Sarah, v.3; See, Salem Female Charitable Society; See also, Salem Ladies of the East Parish  
 Dunn, Samuel, v.4; 2 documents  
 Ebeling, C.D., v.2 & 3; 4 documents  
 Eliot, Andrew, v.3  
 Eliot, John, v.1 & 3; 45 documents  
 Emerson, Jacob, v.3  
 \*Everett, Edward, v.4  
 Fairfield, William, v.4  
 Farmer, John, v.4  
 Farmer, Thomas, v.4  
 Fearing, Thomas, v.3; 2 documents; See, Hingham, North Parish, church of the  
 Felb, Joseph, v.4  
 Ferson, William, v.2; 2 documents  
 Forbes, Eli, v.2; 2 documents  
 Foster, Edmund, v.4  
 Fowle, Edmund, v.3; See, Masons, Meridan Lodge  
 Fowle, Henry, v.2; 5 documents  
 Fowle, William, v.2; 3 documents. See also, Wodley, Charles  
 Fraske ?, Thomas, v.4  
 Freeman, James, v.2; 31 documents  
 French, Ralph W., v.3; See also, Philanthropic Lodge, v.4  
 Frisbie, Levi, v.3  
 Gage, Jonathan, v.3; 2 documents  
 Gardner, Elizabeth, v.3; See, Salem Female Charitable Society  
 Gardner, James, v.3  
 Gerry, Elbridge, v.4  
 Gibant, John, v.3  
 Giles, Eben, v.3  
 Giles, John, v.2; 2 documents  
 Gleason, Benjamin, v.4  
 Goodhue, John, v.2; 4 documents  
 Goodrich, Mary, v.4  
 Gould, James, v.4  
 Governor, ?, v.3  
 Gray, Ellis, v.3  
 Gray, William, v.2; 3 documents  
 Greig, H., v.3  
 Guild, Benjamin, v.4; See, Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, Trustees of  
 Gunnison, John, v.3  
 Hale, John, v.3  
 Hall, Samuel, v.2; 5 documents  
 Harrangh, John, v.3  
 Harris, Samuel Jr., v.3 & 4; 2 documents  
 Harris, Thaddeus, M., v.2; 10 documents  
 Harvard College, v.3  
 Harvey, Darius, v.3  
 Hays, M.M., v.3; See also, Massachusetts Grand Lodge, v.3  
 Hazlitt, William, v.3  
 Heard, Luke, v.3  
 Heath, S.W., v.4; See, Masons, Philanthropic Lodge  
 Henning, William W., v.4; 2 documents  
 Herrick, Jacob, v.2; 2 documents  
 Hill, William, v.2; 2 documents  
 Hilliard, Timothy, v.3  
 Hilliard, William, v.3  
 Hingham, North Parish, church of the, v.3; 2 documents  
 Homans, Benjamin, v.3 & 4; 8 documents  
 Hooper, Asa, v.4; See, Masons, Philanthropic Lodge  
 Hooper, Robert, v.3  
 Hooper, Rowet, v.4  
 Hovey, Amos, v.3  
 Huban, Henry, v.4; See, Salem, Orations by Handel Society  
 Hubbard, Sophia, v.2; 2 documents  
 Hunt, William, v.3; See, Masons, Meridian Lodge  
 Jackson's Books, v.4  
 Jackson, Daniel, v.3; See, Masons, Meridian Lodge  
 Jackson, J., v.2  
 Jefferson, Thomas, v.3  
 Jenks, William, v.2; 2 documents  
 Kellog, Elijah, v.4; 2 documents  
 Kennedy, John, v.3  
 Kenny, William, v.2; 3 documents  
 Kilham, Daniel, v.4  
 King, William, v.2; 3 documents  
 Kirkland, John T., v.4; 3 documents. See also, Massachusetts Historical Society, v.3  
 Kittredge, Thomas, v.4; 3 documents  
 Knox, H.J., v.2; 2 documents  
 Knox, L., v.2; 2 documents  
 Konkapot, John P., v.3  
 Lang, Edward, v.3  
 Lare, William C., v.3  
 Larned, Sylvester, v.4  
 Larrahue, C., v.4

\* See Appendix, p. 6.

- Lathrop, John, v. 1 & 4; 10 documents  
 Leavitt, Jacob, v.3; See Hingham,  
 North Parish, church of the  
 Lee, George G., v.3  
 Lee, John, v.2; 2 documents  
 Leigh, Joseph, v.3; 2 documents  
 Lepout, ? , v.4  
 Leprilete, Lewis, v.2; 3 documents  
 Lincoln, Levi, v.4  
 Lincoln, Seth, v.3; See Hingham,  
 North Parish, church of the  
 Logan, William, v.1; 13 documents  
 Lord, Nathaniel, v.4  
 Lowell, J., v.3; See Massachusetts  
 Society for Promoting Agriculture  
 Lucas, John, v.3  
 Luis, Gabriel, v.3  
 McKean, Joseph, v.3  
 M. ?, J. ?, v.4  
 Madison, James, v.4  
 Managers of the Residents of the  
 Ball, v.3  
 Mansfield, Isaac, v.2; 9 documents  
 Map ? Historical Society, v.3  
 Marston, William, v.2; 4 documents  
 Mason, William, v.1; 8 documents  
 Mason, William H., v.2; 22 documents  
 Marine and East India Marine Society, v.3  
 Masons. Corinthian Lodge, v.3  
 Masons. Essex Lodge, v.3 & 4; 4 documents  
 Masons. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,  
 v.4; 2 documents  
 Masons. Grand Lodge at Boston, v.3  
 Masons. Massachusetts Grand Lodge,  
 v.3; 3 documents  
 Masons. Meridian Lodge, v.3;  
 2 documents  
 Masons. Mount Moriah Lodge,  
 v.3; 2 documents  
 Masons. Philanthropic Lodge,  
 v.3 & 4; 4 documents  
 Masons. St. John's Lodge, v.3  
 Masons. Washington Lodge of Free and  
 Accepted Masons, v.3  
 Massachusetts Historical Society,  
 v.3 & 4; 4 documents  
 Massachusetts Society for Promoting  
 Agriculture, v.3  
 Massachusetts Society for Promoting  
 Agriculture, Trustees of, v.4  
 Meachum, John, v.3; See Masons,  
 Meridian Lodge, v.3  
 Maulintook, Samuel, v.3  
 Micklefield, William, v.4  
 Miller, Samuel, v.4; See New York, Historical  
 Society  
 Minot, George R., v.3; See Massachusetts  
 Historical Society, v.3  
 Minot, John, v.3  
 Mitchell, John, v.2; 2 documents  
 Mitchell, Samuel L., v.4  
 Moffy, E., v.3  
 Monville, Duval de, v.2; 8 documents  
 Moody, ?, v.3  
 Morgan, John R., v.3  
 Morgan, John K., v.2; 3 documents  
 Morisey, Peter, v.2; See Crowninshield, Mrs.  
 Richard  
 Morton, Perez, v.3; See Massachusetts Grand  
 Lodge  
 Morse, Jedidiah, v.3  
 Motley, J., v.2; 5 documents  
 Munroe & Francis; v.3  
 Murray, John, v.3  
 Mycall, John, v.4  
 New Hampshire, Executive Department, v.4  
 New Hampshire, State of, v.4  
 New York Historical Society, v.4  
 Nichols, F., v.1; 58 documents  
 Nixon, N., v.4  
 Norris, Edward, v.2; 3 documents  
 Noyes, Joseph, v.2; 4 documents  
 Oliver, Daniel, v.2; 5 documents  
 Osgood, J., v.3  
 Outem ?, Aten, v.3  
 Oxnard, Thomas, v.3  
 Page, John, v.3  
 Paine, Isabella, v.4  
 Pearson, Joseph, v.2; 2 documents  
 Pearce, David, v.4  
 Peck, W.D., v.4; 2 documents  
 Peirce, Jonathan, v.2; 2 documents  
 Peirce, L.R., v.4; See Salem Female Charitable  
 Society, the Directors and Managers of  
 Peirce, Nathan, v.2 & 4; 4 documents  
 Pearce, John, v.3  
 Philosophical Library Company, v.3  
 Pickman, Benjamin, v.3; See Marine & East  
 India Marine Societies  
 \*Pintard, John Marsden, v.4; See also, New York  
 Historical Society, v.4  
 Piper, John, v.3  
 Pitcairn, Joseph, v.2; 2 documents  
 Plumer, William, v.2; 3 documents. See also,  
 New Hampshire, Executive Department, v.4  
 and New Hampshire, State of, v.4  
 Porter, R., v.3  
 Prescott, S.J., v.3

\* See Appendix, p. 6.



- Prince, Henry, v.4; See, Salem.  
Committee of arrangements
- Prince, John, v.2; 6 documents
- Pristly, Joseph, v.3
- Punchard, John, v.4; See, Salem.  
Tabernacle Society, Committee  
of the
- Putnam, J., v.2; 2 documents
- Quincy, Josiah, v.2, 4 documents;  
See, Massachusetts Historical  
Society, v.3 & 4, 3 documents
- Ranney, Stephen, v.4
- Rantoul, Robert, v.1; 3 documents
- Read, Nathan, v.3
- Revere, Paul, v.3; See also, Masons.  
Massachusetts Grand Lodge, v.3
- Rice, John P., v.4
- Rich, Obediah, v.2; 4 documents
- Richards, George, v.2; 3 documents
- Richardson, Joseph, v.2; 12 documents
- Richardson, P., v.3; See, Masons.  
Essex Lodge
- Ripley, E.W., v.4
- Robinson, H., v.3; 2 documents
- Rodriguell, Philip, v.2; 2 documents
- Rofus, Joseph, v.4; See, Salem.  
Committee of arrangements
- Rogers, A., v.1; 30 documents
- Rogers, John G., v.2; 5 documents
- Rogers, William, v.3
- Ropes, George, v.4
- Russell, Benjamin, v.4
- Sage, Daniel, v.3
- Salem. Bible Society, v.4
- Salem. Committee of arrangements, v.4
- Salem East India Marine Society, v.4
- Salem Female Charitable Society,  
v.3; 3 documents
- Salem Female Charitable Society, the  
Directors and Managers of, v.3 & 4;  
4 documents
- Salem, Foreign Missionary Society of, v.4
- Salem. Ladies of the East Parish, v.3
- Salem. Orations by the Handel Society,  
v.4
- Salem. Tabernacle Society, Committee of  
the, v.4
- Saunders, Prince, v.4
- Savage, Ezekiel, v.3
- Savage, James, v.2; 5 documents
- \*Shirtliff, Roswell, v.3
- Sibley, ?, v.1
- Signonorney, D. ?, v.3
- \*Silsbee, William, v.3; 4 documents
- Silsby, Enoch, v.3
- Silsby, William, v.4
- Smith, Cluien ?, v.3; See, Massachusetts Society  
for Promoting Agriculture
- Smith, Elizabeth, v.4
- Smith, I.H., v.3
- Smith, Isaac, v.2; 5 documents
- Smith, Jesse Jr., v.4; See, Masons. Essex Lodge
- Smith, William P., v.2; 3 documents
- Soley, John, v.4, 2 documents; See, Masons.  
Grand Lodge of Massachusetts
- Somerly, John F., v.2; 2 documents
- \*Sougue, Marie, v.2; 4 documents
- Spafford, Horatio Gates, v.2; 2 documents
- Sparhawk, Samuel, v.4; See, New Hampshire,  
State of
- Sprague, Joseph George, v.4
- Sprague, Lawrence, v.4
- Stark, Caleb, v.4; 2 documents
- Stearns, Samuel, v.4
- Stellwagen, Daniel S., v.4; 2 documents
- Stickney, B.F., v.2; 5 documents
- Stone, E., v.3
- Stone, John, v.4; See, Salem. Bible Society
- Story, Joseph, v.3
- Stoughton, John, v.3
- Strong, Elisha, v.3
- Stuart, Moses, v.2; 5 documents
- Sullivan, James, v.3
- \*Susbielle, Melice, v.1; 7 documents
- Swain, Thomas, v.3; See, Masons. Mount Moriah  
Lodge
- Sweetser, Seth, v.3; 3 documents
- Swift, J.B., v.4
- Sylvester, Elisha, v.4
- Thacher, Thomas C., v.3; 5 documents
- Thatcher, George, v.3
- \*Thaxter, Robert, v.4; 2 documents
- Thayer, J., v.3
- Thomas, Benjamin, v.3; 6 documents
- Thomas, Isaiah, v.3; 7 documents
- Ticknor, George, v.4
- \*Treadwell, J.W., v.4; 2 documents
- Tucher, Barnard, v.3; 4 documents
- Tucher, St. George, v.4; 2 documents
- Tudor, William, v.3, 4 documents; See also,  
Massachusetts Historical Society, v.3
- Tufts, Turell, v.4
- Turel, S., v.3
- Tyng, Dudley A., v.3; 2 documents
- Ulmer, George, v.3
- Upton, Jeduthan ?, v.3
- Upton, Jeduthan Jr., v.3
- Valentin, Louis, v.3; 6 documents

\* See Appendix, p.6.

Varnum, J. B., v.4  
Wadsworth, B., v.3  
Waldo, Jonathan, v.4  
\*Wallcut, Thomas, v.1&3; 6 documents  
Walsh, Michael, v.1  
Ward, George A., v.4  
Ward, Richard, v.4  
Ward, William, v.3; See, Marine & East  
India Societies  
Warren, Henry, v.4  
Washington Feast Committee, v.3  
Waterhouse, Benjamin, v.1; 4 documents  
Waterman, Jotham, v.3; 10 documents  
Webb, Joseph, v.3; See, Masons. Essex  
Lodge  
Webber, Samuel, v.3  
Webster, Redford, v.4  
Weld, Nathaniel, v.3; See, Masons. Meridian  
Lodge  
Wells, William, v.4  
Whipple, Henry, v.4; See, Masons. Essex  
Lodge  
\*White, Stephen, v.4; See, Salem. Committee  
of arrangements  
Whitman, Kilborn, v.3; 4 documents  
Whitman, Zachariah G., v.4  
Willard, Joseph, v.3; See, Harvard  
College  
Williams, Henry, v.4; See also, Williams,  
Timothy, v.4  
Williams, Samuel, v.3  
Williams, Timothy, v.4  
Wilson, Joseph, v.4  
Winthrop, James, v.1; 48 documents  
Winthrop, John, v.4  
Winthrop, William, v.3; 3 documents  
Wodley, Charles, v.4  
Wooley, Charles, v.3

\* See Appendix, p.6.

APPENDIX

LIST OF WRITERS FOR THE REV. WILLIAM BENTLEY COLLECTION IN MISC. MANUSCRIPT BOXES "B"

Bentley, William, 4 documents  
 Esch, Henry  
 Pinnsle?, J., 2 documents  
 Shavenhagen?, D.  
 Silsbee, Nathaniel  
 Sougue, Marie  
 Susbielle, Melice, 2 documents  
 Thatcher, Rev. Thomas  
 Townsend, Moses and wife  
 Walentra, ?, 3 documents  
 White, Joseph