

The Pierce Butler Papers

- GLC00819 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Various: Constitution and Constitutional Convention archive [decimalized] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1787. 26 items
This collection of Pierce Butler's papers from the Constitutional Convention of 1787 provides unique views of the various conflicts that permeated the Constitutional Convention, while bringing to life the process of creating the United States Constitution.
The text of all Constitutional Convention manuscripts in the Pierce Butler papers is printed in James Hutson's article, "Pierce Butler's Records of the Federal Constitutional Convention," in *Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress*, 37:1 (Winter 1980): 64-73.
- GLC00819.01 Document signed: Constitution [printing of first draft] [Committee of Detail] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 6 August 1787. 7 leaves ; 39.5 x 25.2 cm.
Report of the Committee of Detail, the first draft of the Constitution, signed by Pierce Butler with his annotations. The leaves are printed recto only. Uncut and unbound, sealed in Plexiglas string mat. "We the People of the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island...." Some words written in another hand. Dated at top "May [th] 30th 1787"
- GLC00819.02 Document: Constitution [First printing of second draft] [Committee of Style] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 12 September 1787. 4 leaves ; 38.6 x 10 cm.
Second draft of the Constitution, by the Committee of Style, printed on recto of each leaf and tied (leaves 1-2 only) with a ribbon, uncut and unbound. With the notes of Pierce Butler. Housed in Plexiglas package and string-matted.
- GLC00819.03 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph note: Convention papers [title page for archive] [s.l.] [May 1787]. 1 p.+blank 31 x 21 cm
Butler's wrapper and titlepage for these papers.
- GLC00819.04 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: [Pierce Butler: Notebook from the Constitutional Convention] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 30 May 1787 - 16 July 1787. 2, 2, [10 blank], 1 ; 16 x 10 cm.
Four pages of text with 12 blank pages and extensive doodles and calculations on the last page of the conjugate sheet. The notebook contains resolutions of May 30, and comments of Gerry, Wilson and Madison from June 6 to June 16. Continued by 819.09. The text (as well as the rest of the collection) is printed in James Hutson's article, "Pierce Butler's Records of the Federal Constitutional Convention," in *Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress*, 37:1 (Winter 1980): 64-73.
- GLC00819.05 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Quota of tax and delegates by States Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 09 June 1787. 1 p. ; 19 x 12 cm.
Written on recto of first leaf only, a list beginning "Virginia," that indicates its population and ratio of delegates (for representation in Congress).
- GLC00819.06 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Manuscript document: [State of the resolutions submitted by... Mr. Randolph...] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 13 June 1787. 4 p. ; 33 x 21 cm.
Changes to the Virginia Plan as agreed to by "a committee of the Whole House." In Secretary to the Convention William Jackson's hand per CH. Date from Hutson.
- GLC00819.07 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Manuscript document: [New Jersey plan]: Resolved that the Articles of Confederation... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 15 June 1787. 8 p. ; 38 x 23 cm.
"Jersey" -docket on p.8. Full transcript of the New Jersey Plan in hand of Robert Lansing, Jr.. Charles Hamilton thought this document might be written in the hand of Spaight, but SK identified later as John Lansing, Jr.
- GLC00819.08 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Manuscript document: [New Jersey plan]: Resolved that the Articles of Confederation... [partial] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 15 June 1787. 4 p. ; 33 x 20 cm.
In Butler's hand. A partial transcription of the New Jersey plan.
- GLC00819.09 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Notebook: Comments of the Delegates Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 16 June - 05 July 1787. 4 p. : 2 items ; 33 x 12 cm.
A long, narrow notebook, once probably a single folded sheet of paper, now two separate items. The notebook records comments by Lancey [Lansing], Patterson, Randolph, Hamilton, Wilson, Madison, Williams, Sherman and Ellsworth. The first item consists of a long narrow sheet containing two pages of writing. The second item is a sheet folded three times with debate notes on the first page, a number of blanks, and stray notes on the last page concerning Butler's personal business on the Walnut Street Wharf. Page 1 begins "Mr. Lancey [i.e., Lansing]," while the verso continues the text. Page 3 (second item) begins "States respecting finance...."

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- GLC00819.10 Lansing, John (1754-1829) Manuscript document: The Supreme Legislative power of the United States of America... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 18 June 1787. 6 p. ; 20 x 16 cm.
Hamilton's constitutional plan for two legislative bodies, as Assembly and Senate, and a permanently elected executive. In the hand of John Lansing, Jr.
- GLC00819.11 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Proposition... from Mr. Franklin [and] Proposition from Mr. Rutledge Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 30 June - 10 July 1787. 3 p. : docket ; 33 x 20 cm.
Franklin/Rutledge proposals with population figures. Docketed: "Proposition from Doctor Franklin June 30, 87- with sundry reports & Calculations from two Committees." Franklin proposed an equal number of delegates for the second branch of government and fixing their salary (p. 1), while Rutledge proposed basing the number of "suffrages" upon each state's revenues (p. 2). Page 3 consists of calculation of representation for the states
- GLC00819.12 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript signed: And to make all Laws, not repugnant to this Constitution.... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 20 August 1787. 1 p.
Half sheet of paper signed "P. Butler." A brief fragment concerning Congress' power to legislate. Date from Hutson.
- GLC00819.13 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: All demands... against the United States Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 21 August 1787. 1 p. ; 9 x 19 cm.
Quarter sheet of paper. Confirming the validity of debts incurred by the previous Congress which will devolve upon the new legislature. With addition in a different hand "The Legislature shall fulfill the Engagements and discharge the Debts of the United States."
- GLC00819.14 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: The Legislature shall fulfill the foreign engagements... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 21 August 1787. 1 p. ; 9 x 20 cm.
Quarter sheet, docketed on verso: "The Creditors." The word "foreign" inserted above in pencil. Date from Hutson.
- GLC00819.15 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: The regulation of Commerce or Revenue... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 25 August 1787. 1 p. ; 15 x 20 cm.
Half sheet regarding the federal government's regulation of ports. Blank on verso. Date from Hutson.
- GLC00819.16 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: But no regulation of Commerce or Revenue... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 25 August 1787. 1 p. ; 10 x 14 cm.
Quarter sheet related to #819.15. Denies the federal government the right to give favor to the ports of one state over another. Note that this contradicts #819.15. Date from Hutson.
- GLC00819.17 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph document: [Wheresoever any person bound to service...] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 28 August 1787. 1 p. ; 8 x 21 cm.
Draft. States that "the legislatures of the several states shall make provision for the recovering of such persons." No mention is made by name of slaves, apprentices or servants. Pencil note on back concerning a meeting at "Clifton at the Blue Bell Wharf." Date from Hutson. Not in Butler's hand.
- GLC00819.18 Randolph, Edmund (1753-1813) Manuscript: Objections to the Constitution as far as it has advanced... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 30 August 1787. 1 p. : docket ; 33 x 21 cm.
Lists eleven objections to the Constitution (the 12th has been struck). Docket reads "Objections to the Constitution / by Mr. Randal."
- GLC00819.19 Mason, George (1725-1792) Manuscript document: [Various proposals:] The Council of State... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 31 August 1787. 1 p. ; 38 x 23 cm.
Large folio sheet. Unidentified handwriting. Also re: import duties, revenues, limiting terms and appointments of elected officials including the President, limits on the executive pardon authority and a rejected clause concerning revenues.
- GLC00819.20 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: The Members of the Legislature shall be ineligible to any Office... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 30 August 1787. 1 p. ; 7 x 16 cm.
Quarter sheet concerning eligibility for offices. Date from Hutson
- GLC00819.21 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Money Bills [and] Trade [with Pinckney anecdote] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 31 August - 04 September 1787. 2 p. ; 33 x 21 cm.
Mentions the rejection of a clause rejecting the origination of money bills; also, additions concerning debts for the common defense, rejecting taxes of limited duration, trade, age and birth requirements for President. With a Charles Pinckney story on the verso of second leaf, entitled "to be acquainted with the Talents of the person Elected."

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- GLC00819.22 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Free persons, those bound to servitude for a term of years... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 14 - 15 September 1787. 2 p. ; 8 x 20 cm.
Two fragments written on front and back of a quarter sheet of paper. The front has part of the 3/5's clause. On verso begins "Prov'd that no Monopoly be granted"
- GLC00819.23 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: Resolved... Territory of the States is too extensive to Consist of one Republic Philadelphia, Pennsylvania August 1787. 1 p. ; 20 x 16 cm.
Recommends dividing the states into three allied republics.
- GLC00819.24 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: [Notes on debate]: Whether the States Vote Equally or not... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania August 1787. 1 p. ; 14 x 20 cm.
Half sheet of paper. Not dated in Hutson. Debate concerning the equality of votes of the states and the danger to small states posed by large ones.
- GLC00819.25 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Autograph manuscript: In all Cases of Capture from an Enemy... Philadelphia, Pennsylvania August 1787. 1 p. ; 32 x 20 cm.
Folded small folio. Fragments concerning trade and limitations on the judiciary's office, with an unfinished resolve. (J. Whatman countermark in paper)
- GLC00819.26 Butler, Pierce (1744-1822) Manuscript document: Committee report on trade and manufacture Philadelphia, Pennsylvania [September 1787 after?]. 3 p. ; 33 x 21 cm.
Probably unrelated to the Convention and accidentally inserted by Butler into these papers. Consists of a report requested by Jefferson as U.S. Minister to France, while in Paris, and prepared for the Charleston Chamber of Commerce. The report apologizes for its figures, "all the Books of the Custom House being carried away by the British" when they captured Charleston in 1780.

Total records: 27