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Guide to the Sir William Beauchamp-Proctor Papers

OSB MSS 65



by Beinecke Staff

June 1996

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: OSB MSS 65

CREATOR: Beauchamp-Proctor, William, Sir, 1722?-1773

TITLE: Sir William Beauchamp-Proctor papers

DATES: 1760-1771

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.55 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection contains letters, addresses, bill and receipts, printed material, and depositions relating to the 1768 Parliamentary elections in Middlesex and the mob violence at Brentford. The letters include routine patronage correspondence as well as items more specifically concerned with the Middlesex election riots, including descriptions of the hiring of gangs by both sides; informants' reports on "Wilkite" plots; and a proposal by Beauchamp-Proctor to John Glynn that they issue a joint declaration against mob violence. Other documents include depositions concerning the riots; copies of addresses to the electors; detailed bills from Beauchamp-Proctor's agents for entertainments in taverns and inns, ribbons and favors, and transportation expenses; and two printed broadsides for Proctor's side.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.proctor>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.proctor>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased on the James Marshall Osborn Fund, 1979.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Sir William Beauchamp-Proctor Papers are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Sir William Beauchamp-Proctor Papers. James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing card set in the Manuscripts Catalog, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. If the collection also contains unlisted or unsorted material, this has been noted in the box-and-folder list.

SIR WILLIAM BEAUCHAMP-PROCTOR, 1722?-1773

William Beauchamp received an M.A. from Oxford. In 1745 he assumed the surname and arms of Proctor in compliance with the will of his maternal uncle, George Proctor of Langley Park, and was created baronet. He served as M.P. for Middlesex from 1747 to 1768, and last stood for Parliament during the disputed "Wilkite" election of 1768. He died at Langley Park in 1773.

Scope and Contents

The Sir William Beauchamp-Proctor Papers contain letters, addresses, bills and receipts, and other material relating to the disputed 1768 Parliamentary elections in Middlesex and the mob violence that occurred during electioneering at Brentford. The papers include reports on "Wilkite" plots; depositions concerning the riots; bills for expenses by Proctor's agents for entertainment of voters at taverns, ribbons and favors, and transportation to the polls; and a proposal by Beauchamp-Proctor to John Glynn for a joint declaration against mob violence. The papers span the dates 1760-1771, are arranged alphabetically by type of material, and are housed in two boxes. Box 2 contains Oversize material.

Collection Contents
Letters, 1769 Jun 23

b. 1, f. 1	Box, George. ALS to Robert Palmer, Westminster Re the bill for his services to Proctor during the election and after. Box was hired to defend a supporter of Proctor charged with the murder of a young Wilkite lawyer.	1769 Jun 23
b. 1, f. 2	Godham, Thomas. ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, Old Street Requesting Proctor's advice on how to secure the Duke of Manchester's patronage for the place of "Watch Maker to her Majesty."	1761 Nov 17
b. 1, f. 3	Heaton, Joseph. ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, [n.p.] Requesting Proctor's patronage for a friend seeking a minor place at the Custom House.	1760 Jul 19
b. 1, f. 4	Heighway, Richard. ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, [n.p.] Re intimidation of voters at the polls by Glynn's supporters.	1768 Dec 10
b. 1, f. 5	Macquillin, Richard. 2 ALS to Thomas Stone, Southwark His investigation of the gangs at Brentford.	1769 Jan 10, 16
b. 1, f. 6	Plunkett, Philip. ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, London Requesting Proctor's patronage because "I Voted for You at Brentford without either Fee or Reward." Draft of Proctor's reply on inside pages.	1771 Feb 28
Beauchamp Proctor, William		
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to an unidentified recipient, Bruton Street Slight discussion of politics.	1768 Mar 10
b. 1, f. 8	AL in 3d person to John Glynn, Bruton Street Proposing a joint declaration against mob violence. Accompanied by 1) text of proposed declaration and 2) AL in 3d person from Glynn, 1768 Dec 3, declining the proposal.	1768 Dec 3
Spiller, John		
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, Spitalfields From an informant, concerning Wilkite plans against Proctor.	1769 May 20
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to W. Tatam, London Accompanying a final payment to the Proctor agent considered most responsible for the violence at Brentford. Spiller warns him against returning to London.	1769 Aug 29
b. 1, f. 11	Wythes, Thomas. ALS to William Beauchamp Proctor, Lincoln's Inn Fields Requesting Proctor's assistance in obtaining the place of Surveyor of the Window Lights in Middlesex.	1762 May 3

Addresses, 1768 Nov 24

b. 1, f. 12	To the Gentlemen, Clergy, & Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, by William Beauchamp Proctor	1768 Nov 24
b. 1, f. 13	To the Gentlemen, Clergy, and Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, by An Honest Freeholder	n.d.
	To the Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, by A Freeholder of the County of Middlesex Stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 28	n.d.
b. 1, f. 14	To the Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, by John C. Nokes	1768 Nov 26
	To the Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, by A Freeholder in Wapping Stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 29	n.d.

Depositions on Brentford Riots, 1768 Dec 10

b. 1, f. 15	John Kendall, Snr. and John Kendall, Jr.	1768 Dec 10
b. 1, f. 16	Richard McCollister and Francis Riley	1768 Dec 10
b. 1, f. 17	John Willson	1768 Dec 10

Printed Items, 1768 Dec 10

b. 1, f. 18	"To the Gentlemen, and Freeholders of the County of Middlesex," by William Beauchamp Proctor Broadside.	1768 Dec 10
b. 1, f. 19	"Answer to Mr. Serjent Glynn," by "A Plain Independent Freeholder" Broadside, 2 pp.	n.d.

House Bills, 1768-69

b. 1, f. 20-23 Bills to William Beauchamp Proctor or his agents from seventeen inns and taverns 1768-69
Arranged alphabetically. Accompanied by one bill for blue ribbons.

Agent's Bills, 1768-70

b. 1, f. 24-26 Bills and statements of account submitted by 8 agents for Proctor 1768-70
Agent's bills include legal fees, house bills, transportation expenses, ribbons.

[See also: Oversize, Box 2, folders 30-31](#)

Transcriptions, n.d.

b. 1, f. 27

Modern transcriptions of several of the previous items

n.d.

Oversize, n.d.

b. 2, f. 28	To the Freeholders of the County of Middlesex	n.d.
b. 2, f. 29	To the Freeholders of the Country of Middlesex	n.d.
b. 2, f. 30-31	Agent's bills and statements	1768

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Preferred Titles

*Answer. To Mr. Serjeant Glynn, Letter I
To the gentlemen, and freeholders of the county
of Middlesex*

Subjects

Patronage, Political
Riots -- Great Britain

Geographic Names

Great Britain -- Politics and government --
1760-1789
Middlesex (England)

Genres / Formats

Broadsides (notices)

Names

Beauchamp-Proctor, William, Sir, 1722?-1773
Glynn, John, 1722-1779

Corporate Body

Great Britain. Parliament (Elections)