

# Guide to the Cadell & Davies Records

GEN MSS 510



by Beinecke Staff

July 1996

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 510

**CREATOR:** Cadell & Davies

**TITLE:** Cadell & Davies records

**DATES:** 1767-1831

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, promissory notes, receipts, and statements of account documenting the publishing and bookselling business of Cadell & Davies. The records include letters from contemporary authors and printers, as well as substantial correspondence with the poet and novelist Charlotte Turner Smith. Other correspondents include Edward Daniel Clarke, George Huntingford, William Magee, Edward Maltby, Isaac Milner, Charles Simeon, and Nathaniel Wraxall.

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

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## 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.cadell>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Library Associates (purchased from Stonehill), 1939.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Cadell & Davies Records 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Cadell & Davies Records. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## 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.

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## CADELL & DAVIES

The British publishing and bookselling firm of Cadell & Davies was established in 1793 when Thomas Cadell the elder (1742-1802) retired from the publishing world, bequeathing his business to his apprentice, William Davies (d. 1820), and his son, Thomas Cadell (1773-1836). The new partners located their firm on the Strand in London, with Davies managing most of the partnership's affairs until he became ill in 1813. Cadell consequently became more involved with the firm's business, establishing himself and the publishing house as major players in the London book trade. After Davies's death in 1820, Cadell began publishing under his own name.

The firm was dissolved in 1836 when Thomas Cadell died, although several years passed before the Cadell imprint disappeared. Remaining stocks and copyrights were sold in 1840.

For additional information, see *The Publishing Firm of Cadell & Davies: Select Correspondence and Accounts, 1793-1836*, edited with an introduction and notes by Theodore Besterman (London: Oxford Univ. Press, 1938).

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## Scope and Contents

The Cadell & Davies Records consist primarily of correspondence, receipts, bank notes and legal agreements relating to the publishing and bookselling business of Cadell & Davies. The records are organized into one series, [Series I. Business Files](#), and are alphabetically arranged by correspondent. The papers span the dates 1767 to 1831 though the bulk of the material falls in the period 1790 to 1820.

Incoming correspondence from authors and prospective book purchasers, some annotated by the publishers, is interfiled with copies of replies written by Thomas Cadell and William Davies. The records also include a few letters addressed to the elder Thomas Cadell, as well as notes from printers such as Richard Watts and Luke Hansard. These letters have been interfiled chronologically within the correspondence files.

The correspondence typically concerns negotiations between the author and Cadell & Davies. The letters offer insight into the complex network of relations among printer, engraver, publisher, and author; the roles that subscribers and patrons played in supporting the printing of specific works; the impact that advertising and literary reviews were believed to have on sales; and the difficulties of contemporary transport. The records also detail financial transactions, printing expenses, and the firm's contractual arrangements with authors and other booksellers.

The largest single correspondence is that between Charlotte Turner Smith and Cadell & Davies, which numbers over 130 letters, and provides an ongoing account of the circumstances prompting her literary career. In a letter dated October 20, 1797, she wrote that she was "too acutely sensible of the misery, the humiliation of being compelled, with so handsome a fortune of my own, and such claims on behalf of my children to be dependent on my writing... doomed from year to year to invent fable for the public & to take as a favor any price offered." The correspondence also includes Charlotte Smith's opinions of her worth as a writer, details about her family life and writing process, and information about the publication of *Elegiac Sonnets* (1789-1800), *Rural Walks* (1795), and *Rambles Farther* (1800).

The records also contain a significant amount of correspondence between Cadell & Davies and the travel writer Edward Daniel Clarke, primarily regarding the publication of his *Travels* (1810-1824) and ongoing contractual disputes. The historian Nathaniel Wraxhall's letters offer heated commentary on the Napoleonic Wars (1800-1815). Other correspondents with substantial material include George Huntingford, William Magee, Edward Maltby, Isaac Milner, and Charles Simeon.

Wrappers that previously enclosed the records have been placed at the end of the series in two folders. These wrappers include earlier cataloging information and occasionally provide biographical notes about correspondents.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Business Files, 1767-1831

1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

Series I, *Business Files*, is arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

ADOLPHUS, JOHN, 1768-1845		
b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence Contains 3 ALS to Cadell and Davies and copies of 2 ALS to John Adolphus.	1797-1812
b. 1, f. 2	Receipts and notes 23 receipts, notes, etc. drawn between John Adolphus and Cadell and Davies.	1797-1806
b. 1, f. 3	Autograph note concerning publication of the works of John Adolphus	n.d.
AIKEN, JOHN, 1747-1822		
b. 1, f. 4	Autograph receipt, signed, issued to Cadell and Davies, London, April 20, 1801, and two promissory notes payable to him, with his endorsement	1801, n.d.
BARRETT, JOHN, 1753-1821		
b. 1, f. 5	ALS to Cadell and Davies, [Dublin]	1805 Mar 9
BARROW, JOHN, SIR, 1764-1848		
b. 1, f. 6	12 ALS to Cadell and Davies, London	1803-06
b. 1, f. 7	Autograph copy, signed, of the title page of <i>Travels in China</i> , with chapter headings	n.d.
b. 1, f. 8	Financial accounts of <i>Africa</i> and <i>China</i>	n.d.
BOWDLER, H. M. (HENRIETTA MARIA), 1754-1830		
b. 1, f. 9	<a href="#">Correspondence</a> Contains 9 ALS to Cadell and Davies, Bath; ALS from Stuart Cheyne to Cadell and Davies regarding publication of Bowdler's <i>Sermons</i> , dated 1803 Apr 19; ALS from [J?] Smith to Cadell and Davies, dated 1807 Nov 27.	1801-10
CLARKE, EDWARD DANIEL, 1769-1822		
b. 1, f. 10	Correspondence	1805-07
b. 1, f. 11	Correspondence Includes ALS from J. Clarke to Mr. Davies, Petworth, dated Sep 5 and ALS from R. Watts, printer, to Cadell and Davies, Cambridge, dated Aug 10.	1808
b. 1, f. 12	Correspondence	1809
b. 1, f. 13	Correspondence	1810
b. 1, f. 14	Correspondence	1811
b. 1, f. 15	Correspondence	1812-13

## CLARKE, EDWARD DANIEL, 1769-1822 (continued)

b. 1, f. 16	Correspondence	1814
b. 1, f. 17	Correspondence	1816
b. 1, f. 18	Correspondence	1817
b. 1, f. 19	Correspondence	1818
b. 1, f. 20	Correspondence	1819-21, n.d.
b. 1, f. 21	6 statements of accounts, promissory notes, receipts, etc.	1805-12

## COXE, WILLIAM, 1747-1828

b. 1, f. 22	Correspondence	1804-11
b. 1, f. 23	15 promissory notes and receipts drawn between William Coxe and Cadell and Davies	1796-1811

## DALLAS, ROBERT CHARLES, 1754-1824

b. 1, f. 24	ALS to Cadell and Davies, [London]	1801 Feb 17
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## DRAKE, NATHAN, 1766-1836

b. 1, f. 25	Correspondence Includes 3 ALS from J. Burkitt to Cadell and Davies regarding the printing of Nathan Drake's works, Suffolk.	1800-09
b. 1, f. 26	4 promissory notes drawn between Nathan Drake and Cadell and Davies	1804 Jan 1
b. 1, f. 27	Statement of account between Nathan Drake and Cadell and Davies	n.d.

## GIFFORD, JOHN, 1758-1818

b. 1, f. 28	Memorandum of an agreement drawn between John Gifford and Henry Redhead York on the one part and the Messrs. Thomas Cadell and William Davies on the other part, London  Regarding the publication of <i>Life of William Pitt</i> .	n.d.  n.d.
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## GILPIN, WILLIAM, 1724-1804

b. 1, f. 29	7 promissory notes and drafts drawn between William Gilpin and Cadell and Davies, London	1796-1801
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## GISBORNE, THOMAS, 1758-1846

b. 2, f. 30-31	Correspondence Includes anonymous AL to Thomas Gisborne, Birmingham, dated 1797 Dec 18.	1796-1823
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## HARRIS, JAMES, 1709-1780

b. 2, f. 32	ALS to an unidentified correspondent, "Sarum 15 1767"	[1767]
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## HUNTINGFORD, GEORGE ISAAC, 1748-1832



## HUNTINGFORD, GEORGE ISAAC, 1748-1832 (continued)

b. 2, f. 33-36	Correspondence Includes: ALS to Cadell and Davies from Henry Huntingford regarding publication of works by his uncle, George Huntingford, Winchester, dated 1806 Feb 18; 2 ALS regarding proof sheets of Bishop Huntingford's work. One is signed "Saml. Collingwood" and the other "L[uke] H[ansard]"; ALS from J. Burdon to Cadell and Davies regarding the printing of George Huntingford's works, Winchester, dated 1800 Jan 22.	1796-1811
b. 2, f. 37	Autograph list of works of George Huntingford published by Cadell and Davies	n.d.
MACLAINE, ARCHIBALD, 1722-1804		
b. 2, f. 38	2 ALS to Cadell and Davies, Bath First letter cut in two, part missing.	1798, 1800
MAGEE, WILLIAM, 1766-1831		
b. 2, f. 39-40	Correspondence	1804-06
b. 2, f. 41	Correspondence	1810
b. 2, f. 42	Correspondence	1811-14
b. 2, f. 43	Correspondence	1815-19
b. 2, f. 44	Correspondence	1822
b. 2, f. 45	Printing proof sheets	n.d.
MALTBY, EDWARD, 1770-1859		
b. 2, f. 46	Correspondence	1804
b. 2, f. 47-48	Correspondence	1806
b. 2, f. 49	Correspondence	1809-11
b. 2, f. 50	Correspondence	1815-20
b. 2, f. 51	Correspondence	1821
b. 2, f. 52	Correspondence	1824-25
b. 2, f. 53	Correspondence Includes ALS to R. Watts from Cadell and Davies, dated 1829 Feb 23.  3 ALS from R. Watts, printer, enclosed with letter from Cadell and Davies, dated 1829 Apr 2.	1828-29
b. 2, f. 54	List of correspondence	1824 Aug
MILNER, ISAAC, 1750-1820		
b. 2, f. 55	Correspondence	1804-09
b. 2, f. 56	Correspondence	1810
b. 2, f. 57	Correspondence	1813, n.d.

## MILNER, ISAAC, 1750-1820 (continued)

b. 2, f. 58	Memorandum for an agreement between Dean Milner and Cadell and Davies, London	1808 Jun 8
MITFORD, WILLIAM, 1744-1827		
b. 2, f. 59	Correspondence	1803-08
b. 2, f. 60	Correspondence	1809-26
b. 2, f. 61	Notes on writings	n.d.
ORME, ROBERT, 1728-1801		
b. 3, f. 62	Correspondence	1782-94
OUSELEY, WILLIAM, SIR, 1767-1842		
b. 3, f. 63	<a href="#">2 ALS to Cadell and Davies, London</a> Includes newspaper clipping advertising one of his works.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 64	<a href="#">4 receipts to Cadell and Davies, London</a>	1799-1800
OWEN, JOHN, 1766-1822		
b. 3, f. 65	Promissory note to Mrs. Mary Wilson, Fulham	1796 Jul 11
PINKERTON, JOHN, 1758-1826		
b. 3, f. 66	Correspondence Includes ALS from John Pinkerton to John Spottiswoode, Paris, dated 1805 Jan.	1804-06
b. 3, f. 67	Correspondence	1808-10, n.d.
b. 3, f. 68	Arbitration bond between Pinkerton and Cadell and Davies, London	1804 Mar 17
b. 3, f. 69	Promissory note, payable to John Pinkerton, signed by Cadell and Davies	1802 May 1
b. 3, f. 70	Printing proof sheets	n.d.
PRETYMAN, GEORGE, 1750-1827		
b. 3, f. 71-72	Correspondence	1799-1821
b. 3, f. 73	Statements for cost of printing	1803, 1809, n.d.
PROUT, SAMUEL, 1783-1852		
b. 3, f. 74	ALS to Arthur Glennie, Brixton Regarding Glennie's education.	[1828 May]
RAFFLES, THOMAS, 1788-1863		
b. 3, f. 75	ALS to James Moyes, Liverpool Regarding Raffles's collection of autographs.	1834 Jan 20
RAPHOE, W. [?]		

## RAPHOE, W. [?] (continued)

b. 3, f. 76	ALS apparently to Cadell and Davies	1821 Dec 26
REDESDALE, JOHN MITFORD, BARON, 1748-1830		
b. 3, f. 77-79	Correspondence	1817-28
RUSSELL, WILLIAM, 1741-1793		
b. 3, f. 80-81	6 ALS to George Robinson, Knottyholm	1788-93
b. 3, f. 82	Printing proof sheets	n.d.
SIMEON, CHARLES, 1759-1836		
b. 3, f. 83	Correspondence	1805-06
b. 3, f. 84	Correspondence Includes 2 ALS from L[uke] H[ansard] to W. Davies, dated 1808 Jan 26 and 1808 Feb 7.	1808-09
b. 3, f. 85	Correspondence	1815
b. 3, f. 86	Correspondence Includes ALS written for Mrs. Brown, printer, to Cadell and Davies.	1816-18 Mar
b. 3, f. 87	Correspondence Includes ALS from Luke Hansard to W. Davies, dated 1818 Dec 20.	1818 Apr-Dec
b. 3, f. 88	Correspondence	1819
b. 3, f. 89	Correspondence	1820-21
b. 3, f. 90	Correspondence	1823
b. 3, f. 91	Correspondence	1824-26
b. 3, f. 92	Correspondence	1827-28
b. 3, f. 93	Correspondence	1831
b. 3, f. 94	Correspondence Includes ALS from Luke Hansard to Cadell and Davies; ALS from Charles Rivington regarding Simeon's work.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 95	Two statements of account between Charles Simeon and Cadell and Davies	1809 Jan 18, n.d.
SINCLAIR, JOHN, SIR, 1754-1835		
b. 3, f. 96	4 ALS to Cadell and Davies, Edinburgh	1800-02
b. 3, f. 97	Two statements of account between Sir John Sinclair and Cadell and Davies	1803
SMITH, C. M.		
b. 3, f. 98	2 ALS to Cadell and Davies, Heddington Together with a note written in the third person to Cadell & Davies, Tilford, 1805 Aug 17, probably in the handwriting of C. M. Smith.	[1797] Aug 23, n.d.

## SMITH, CHARLOTTE TURNER, 1749-1806

b. 3, f. 99-101	Correspondence	1791-94
b. 3, f. 102-103	Correspondence	1795
b. 4, f. 104-105	Correspondence	1796
b. 4, f. 106-108	Correspondence	1797
b. 4, f. 109	Correspondence	1799
b. 4, f. 110	Correspondence	1800-06
b. 4, f. 111-113	Correspondence Includes 2 notes written in the the third person, one possibly by Mr. Parkyn; ALS from Sir Lionel Smith, son of CS; and ALS from Lucy Smith, daughter of CS.	n.d.
b. 4, f. 114	Receipts and statements of account	n.d.
b. 4, f. 115	Recipient lists for presentation copies	1794, n.d.
b. 4, f. 116	27 promissory notes drawn between Charlotte Smith and Cadell and Davies	1794-98
SOTHEBY, WILLIAM, 1757-1833		
b. 4, f. 117	ALS to Cadell and Davies Together with a copy of AL from Cadell and Davies to William Sotheby, dated 1802 Jul 19.	n.d.
TOMLINE, GEORGE PRETYMAN, SIR, 1750-1827 <a href="#">See: George Pretyman, box 3, folders 71-73</a>		
VINCENT, WILLIAM, 1739-1815		
b. 4, f. 118	Correspondence	
WOODHOUSELEE, ALEXANDER FRASER TYTLER, LORD		
b. 4, f. 119	Correspondence Enclosed are 4 ALS from William Fraser Tytler and William Creech, pertaining to the works of Lord Woodhouselee.	1811-13
WRAXALL, NATHANIEL WILLIAM, SIR, 1751-1831		
b. 4, f. 120	Correspondence	1799-1800
b. 4, f. 121	Correspondence	1801-06
b. 4, f. 122-124	Correspondence	1807-15
b. 4, f. 125	Correspondence	1816-17
b. 4, f. 126	Correspondence	1818-21, n.d.

## RELATED MATERIAL

RELATED MATERIAL (continued)

b. 4, f. 127-128	Wrappers with cataloging information	n.d.
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## 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.

### Subjects

Authors, English -- 19th century  
Authors and publishers -- England -- London  
Booksellers and bookselling -- England -- London  
Publishers and publishing -- England -- London

### Genres / Formats

Promissory notes  
Receipts (financial records)

### Names

Adolphus, John, 1768-1845  
Barrow, John, Sir, 1764-1848  
Bowdler, H. M. (Henrietta Maria), 1750-1830  
Cadell, T. (Thomas), 1742-1802  
Cadell, Thomas, 1773-1836  
Clarke, Edward Daniel, 1769-1822  
Coxe, William, 1747-1828  
Davies, William, -1820  
Gisborne, Thomas, 1758-1846  
Huntingford, George Isaac, 1748-1832  
Magee, William, 1766-1831  
Maltby, Edward, 1770-1859  
Milner, Isaac, 1750-1820  
Mitford, William, 1744-1827  
Pinkerton, John, 1758-1826  
Pretzman, George, 1750-1827  
Redesdale, John Mitford, Baron, 1748-1830  
Simeon, Charles, 1759-1836  
Smith, Charlotte, 1749-1806  
Wraxall, Nathaniel William, Sir, 1751-1831

### Corporate Body

Cadell & Davies