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## Inventory of the Jacob Barker Papers, 1813-1863

The Huntington Library

San Marino, California

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Jacob Barker Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1813-1863

**Creator:** Barker, Jacob, 1779-1871

**Extent:** 163 pieces

**Repository:** The Huntington Library

San Marino, California 91108

**Language:** English

### Provenance

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### Preferred Citation

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### Biography

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Jacob Barker (1779-1871), American Financier, was born in Maine of Quaker parentage. While he was still a youth, Barker embarked upon what was to be a tempestuous business career; his enterprises ran the gamut in shipping, oil, the press, banking, insurance, and the stock market. He was one of the founders of Tammany Hall, and a recognized political power in his party.

Probably Barker's chief claim to fame was the service he performed for the government in raising a war-loan of five million, in 1814. This was accomplished at the cost of his own bankruptcy, and he is often referred to as the Robert Morris of the War of 1812. Subsequent claims against the government, in an attempt to recover personal losses, extended over a period of forty years.

Having made and lost a series of fortunes, Jacob Barker died in Philadelphia, at the great age of ninety two years.

- A. Jacob Barker's share in relation to the War Loans of 1814.
- B. Barker's claim against the U. S. Government growing out of the same.
- Anderson, Joseph.... 3 pieces
- Barker, Jacob.... 36 pieces
- Campbell, George Washington. 18 pieces
- Hazard, Thomas R.... 3 pieces
- Homans, Benjamin 4 pieces
- McEwen, Hale, & Davidson 14 pieces
- Prime, Ward, & Sands 3 pieces
- Smith, R. D. 23 pieces

#### **Interesting or important items**

Jacob Barker to Joseph Anderson, Comptroller of the Treasury Department. New York, Dec. 15, 1815.

....I exhausted all my resources in furnishing funds to the government when it was in distress, so much so that I had not a single thousand dollars at command to support my family, and if I had possessed the Indies, the whole would have been devoted to the use of my Country...

Ward, Halleck, & Little, assignees of Jacob Barker. Petition to the U. S. Congress. Washington, July 4, 1861.

#### **Bibliographical note**

For the most part these papers are unpublished, but some have been printed in *American State Papers (Financial)* and in the *House of Representatives, Report C. C. no. 258*.