

Collection #  
SC 3412

**JOHN PARKER BOYD  
LETTER, 31 JULY 1829**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 letter

COLLECTION  
DATES: 31 July 1829

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NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

**John Parker Boyd** (1764-1830) was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts. He enlisted in the army in 1786 and was sent to India to raise troops in a type of guerilla operation. Boyd was highly esteemed by the leader Nizan Ali Kahn, who placed him in command of the city of Madras. In 1808 he returned to America and became a colonel in the Fourth Infantry Regiment of the regular army. Boyd's regiment was sent to the western frontier and joined forces with William Henry Harrison's volunteers at Vincennes. In September, 1811, Harrison promoted Boyd to acting brigadier general, naming him second in command and putting him in charge of the militia and the regulars on the march that ultimately resulted in the Battle of Tippecanoe in November of that year. Boyd and his regulars received official recognition from the Indiana Territory Legislature for their actions at Prophetstown.

Boyd and his regiment later went on to serve with distinction at the Battle of Chrysler's Farm near Williamsburg, Ontario. In the battle Boyd lost nearly one fifth of his command, but ensured the American advance towards Montreal.

In 1815 Boyd resigned from the army and was later sent by Andrew Jackson to procure payment for saltpeter taken from an American ship by the British. In 1830 Boyd returned to the United States, where he was named U.S. Naval Officer at the Port of Boston.

**Thomas Aspinwall** (1786-1876) was an officer in the Ninth Regiment of the regular army during the War of 1812. Aspinwall lost an arm in 1814 while fighting the British. James Madison named him the American consul in London. Aspinwall held that position until relieved by Franklin Pierce in 1853.

### Sources:

The War of 1812 [www.mywarof1812.com/leaders/boyd-john-p.html](http://www.mywarof1812.com/leaders/boyd-john-p.html). Accessed 17 April 2018

Social Networks and Archival Context (snac) <http://snaccooperative.org>. Accessed 17 April 2018

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

ALS Boston, 31 July 1829, to Col. Thomas Aspinwall, American Consul, London concerning his service as mercenary under the Nizam and gift from East India Company.

## **CONTENTS**

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Boyd to Aspinwall letter, 31 July 1829

CONTAINER

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