

# Revolutionary Reparations

Mike Bertram

Between the 18th and 20th of September, 1777, the British army under General Howe encamped in Tredyffrin on its way to Philadelphia. The army looted a number of the farms in the area, taking food, clothing, medicine and many other household items. The soldiers also destroyed fences and buildings. In 1782, a list of local reparation claims was created, which provides the primary content of this article. Interestingly, a number of Quakers and Mennonites refused to make claims. The Chester County Archives has additional detail in “An Introduction to the Claims Records.”<sup>1</sup>

The values are quoted in Pennsylvania pounds, shillings, and pence. Colonial currency was severely depreciated by the end of the war, hence the apparently high valuations.

The reparation claims are signed by Captain Benjamin Bartholomew of East Whiteland, Justice of the Peace; Daniel & David Wilson, assessors. The original spelling of the reparation statements has been kept, but capitalization has been standardized in order to improve readability.

Claims were filed both by individuals and by organizations, and include family names that were to be prominent for decades to come: Davis, Currie, Havard, and Wilson, among others.

The location of the properties associated with reparation claims can be found online at [tehistory.org](http://tehistory.org). See the *18th Century Tredyffrin* page for the Interactive 1777 map. Items underlined in the claims lists have entries in the glossaries as further explanation.

## Baptist Meeting House

An account of a sacrilege committed in the Baptist Meetinghouse, Tredyffrin in the County of Chester in the State of Pennsylvania by some of the British army, under the command of Genl. Howe, in their march from the Head of the Elk to Philadelphia the 18th, 19th, or 20th days of Sep-

tember when sd. Meeting House was broke open & was stole from thence the SACRAMENTAL DISHES, Viz

	£.s.d
<b>2 pewter dishes</b>	0.15.0
<b>2 pewter pints</b>	0.8.0
<b>1 diaper table cloth</b>	0.12.0
<b>1 bible of the English language</b>	0.15.0
<b>A change of raiment for the administration of Baptism, viz</b>	
<b>2 linen shirts</b>	0.16.0
<b>2 pair of linen drawers</b>	0.10.0
<b>the lock of the chest the good were in</b>	0.5.0
<b>The Saxton's tools for burials,</b>	
<b>1 grubing hoe 8s, 1 spade 7s 6d</b>	0.15.6
<b>They destroyed and burnt on the Parsonage farm viz,</b>	
<b>195 pennell of fence equal to 810 rails at 4s / hundred</b>	1.12.4
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<b>Total</b>	6.8.10

Chester [County] to wit, the above damages sworn to before me by James Davis, elder of the Baptist Church. Given under my hand the 18th day of November 1782.  
Benjamin Bartholomew

The reason for the desecration of the church is probably that the British were looking for the Pastor, David Jones. In 1775, the Rev. David Jones, a native of New Castle County, Delaware, became pastor of the Baptist Church. He was a patriot, and militantly supported the popular cause. A year later he became an army chaplain under Generals Gates and St. Clair. He also participated in the Battles at Brandywine and Germantown. His pay was \$20 a month, until he was promoted to Captain and paid \$33.33 a month. He became Regimental Chaplain to Anthony Wayne at Valley Forge.

**Jacob Baugh**

Took from Jacob Baugh to the amount of £250.

I do hereby certify that the above is a just account from the best information I have received.  
David Wilson, assessor.

Jacob Baugh was the first member of the family to live in Tredyffrin, on a tract next to Bear Hill Road. He died in 1800.

**Devault Beaver**

An estimate of damages sustained by the British Generals & their adherents the many different articles to the amount of ... £125

Sustained by me Davailt Beaver  
Nov. ye 15th 1782

Devault Beaver is said to have shot an American soldier who was milking one of his cows. Devault's father, John Beaver, died of "camp fever" in 1777.

**John Brown**

An account of damages done by the British  
November 15th 1782 John Brown Tredyffrin

	£.s.d
<b>150 Bushels of Wheat</b>	56.5.0
<b>40 Bushels of Rye</b>	12.0.0
<b>100 Bushels of Oats</b>	18.15.0
<b>4 Tun of first crop hay</b>	20.0.0
<b>1 Suit of cloths &amp; <u>surtout</u> coat</b>	12.0.0
<b>3 pair of new shoes &amp; 2 pair stocking</b>	3.0.0
<b>35 Yards of shirting linen</b>	7.0.0
<b>4 New blankets, 2 coverlids &amp; cheets</b>	24.0.0
<b>6 Baggs 1 bolster 3 pillows</b>	6.0.0
<b>1 Pair of new buckskin breaches</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 <u>Tammy</u> Gown 2 check aprons</b>	5.0.0
<b>1 large iron pot &amp; warming pan</b>	5.0.0
<b>1 Acre of buckwheat</b>	1.10.0
<b>½ Acre of Potatoes</b>	10.0.0
<b>15 Sheep 1 large hog</b>	23.0.0
<b>30 Turkeys and fowls unknown</b>	15.0.0
<b>8 Hives of bees</b>	6.0.0
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<b>Total</b>	228.10.0

Chester [County] to wit the above acct. proven before me given under my hand the 16th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

John Brown lived in the house known as General Knox's Quarters. He did not purchase the property until 1783, but it is presumed he was living there in 1777.

**Rev. William Currie**

Novem.r 15th 1782 An acc.t of the Damages Sustained by the Subscriber from y.e British army.

Viz.  
On the 19th day of Sept.r 1777 a Company of Soldiers from the Camp Came to my House and Robbed me of all my Cabbage Baccon Chess & Butter.a Bushel of fine Salt, & all my fine Sheets Table Linen fine Shirts head Dresses, Stockings, & Table Silver Spoons, to the Value of ... £20.00.0

There is the Strongest Presumption - Likewise that at the Same time they robbed me of £ 200 Continental Money in Sheets the money 3 for 1 is ..£66.13.4

And the day Following a forriaging party took from me two Waggon Loads of Oats one d.o of Wheat, besides Several Horse Loads of Both. A Good Cart & Geers all my Waggon & Plow Geers, Collors & Blind halters & Ropes 2 Mens Saddles, half worn & 3 Bridle all which I Judge to be worth ..£20.00.0

The truth of all Which I will be Qualified to But as to the Continental Money though there is the Strongest presumption as they certainly Carried off a File of Newspapers, upon which the Sheets had be Strung Some Days before Yet as it is possible the Some body might have taken them of the File before that day I do not find freedon to Swere to it.

William Currie

The Rev. William Currie lived in the house known as General Stirling's Quarters.

### Benjamin Davis

	£ s. d.
1 Long plain	0.10.0
1 Fore plain	0.7.6
1 Jack plain	0.6.0
1 Smoothing plain	0.4.0
1 Bead & skew rabbit plain	0.7.6
1 Plow chain	0.10.0
1 Lathing hatchet	0.6.0
1 Handsaw	1.2.6
1 Pair of Saddlebags	0.7.6

Chester [County] to wit the above acct. proven before me given under my hand the 19th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Benjamin Davis purchased 135 acres of land from his father, Isaac Davis, in 1774. The property had a western boundary of Mill Lane and is now part of Ches-terbrook. Benjamin Davis died in November 1784.

### David Davis

An inventory of the goods and chattles of the subscriber which was plundred & forcibly taken from him by the British Troops under the command of Sir General William Howe K.B. on the 18th of September 1777.

	£. s. d.
1 Horse 10 years old	25.0.0
1 Horse 10 years old	25.0.0
1 Horse rising 4 years old	40.0.0
2 Mens saddles	8.0.0
2 Bridles blind hattors etc.	1.10.0
3½ dozen pewter spoons	1.7.6
1 Silk jacket	1.10.0
3 New shirts	2.0.0
1 Pair stockings	0.7.6
1 Pair new trousers	0.15.0
2 Horse whips	0.15.0

David Davis seems to be unrelated to other Davis/ David family members in Tredyffrin. He died in 1794.

### Isaac Davis

An estimate the property of Isaac Davis esqr. deceased.

	£. s. d.
1 Horse 5 years old	20.0.0
40 Dozen of wheat 25 bushels	7.10.0
1 Yearling colt	5.0.0

Isaac Davis died in 1778.

### Dr. John Davis

An list of property taken from John Davis by the British Army commanded by General Howe.

	£. s. d.
1 Horse	35.0.0
1 Hog	2.0.0
1 Tea kettle	2.0.0
3 Smoothing irons	0.10.0
2 New <u>ticking</u> baggs	0.15.0
100lb of wheat flour	1.0.0
5lb of sugar	0.5.0
3lb of coffee	0.3.0
1 side of soft leather, 1 side of upper, 1 calf skin	5.0.0
1 Brass candlestick	0.7.6
2 Iron candlesticks	0.7.6
2 checkt aprons	0.16.0
3½ Yards of linen	0.12.0
2½ Yards of flanen	0.12.0
2 Womens cloaks	6.0.0
1 Table cloth	0.15.0
1 <u>Ticking</u> Wallet	0.7.6
1 Great Coat	6.0.0

Continued on p. 104

## Glossary of 18th Century Terms

**Camblets (camlet)** of plain weave, woven in many widths, lengths, qualities, and in all colors. Some of goat's hair, some partly of silk, or linen, and some entirely of wool. Made for men's and women's clothing, bed hangings, furniture, and church hangings.

**Cambric** A fine white linen originally made in Cambray in Flanders; by the mid-eighteenth century it was being made in Ireland.

**Country Linen** Probably locally produced linen.

**Duroy** A fabric made of worsted (combed) wool that was lightweight and suitable for men's clothes. Depending on where it was woven, it could be plain weave, a solid color and glazed, or striped.

**Hundred** A measure of the density of fibers in a weave, the hundreds refers to the number of slots in the reed. 12 Hundred linen on a 45" reed is about 53 ends per inch.

**Hollon (Holland)** A fine quality linen cloth originally made in Holland and later elsewhere.

**Lawn** A delicate linen used for shirts, handkerchiefs, ruffles, and aprons.

**Nankeen** Originally from Nankin, in China, this plain-woven, cotton cloth was known for its yellow color, derived from cotton plants that produced yellow fiber. By the mid-eighteenth century, textile manufacturers in Manchester, England, produced a facsimile with the same name, but the color was obtained by dyeing white cotton.

**Neck Stock** A neck band tied at the back.

**Shoat** A young hog and especially one that has been weaned.

**Singletree or Wiffletree** The pivoted horizontal crossbar to which the harness traces of a draft animal are attached and which is in turn attached to a vehicle or an implement.

**Surtout** A surtout coat is a man's frock coat, of the kind worn by cavalry officers over their uniforms in the 18th and early 19th centuries. It was occasionally worn by British soldiers during the Revolutionary War.

**Tammy** A worsted cloth woven in an open-textured plain weave with a glazed finish. It was strong and light and came in a variety of colors. Quantities of tammies were imported into the North American colonies where they had many uses; for example, as linings for men's coats, petticoats and dresses for women, bed hangings and window coverings, and strainers and sieves.

**Tick or Ticking** Linen twill used for aprons, tents, and to enclose feathers in mattresses, bolsters, and pillows.

**Tow** Consists of the short fibers that remain after flax has been processed. When spun it produces a course linen yarn.

**Worsted** A term used to describe both a yarn and the cloth made from it. The yarn is made from long-staple wool that is combed to align the fibers parallel to each other. Worsted cloth is generally lightweight with a smooth finish.

### References

Adrienne Hood, "The Weaver's Craft: Cloth, Commerce, and Industry in Early Pennsylvania," University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003.

Florence Montgomery, "Textiles in America 1650 – 1870," Norton, 2007.  
[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)

**Acknowledgements:** Toni Ammons, Majie Thompson, and Kathy King helped in the creation of this glossary.

<b>3 Blankets</b>	5.5.0
<b>10lb Swingled flax</b>	0.10.0
<b>2 Handkerchiefs</b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Beaver Hatt</b>	1.10.0
<b>2 Pewter plates</b>	0.7.6
<b>1 Jappaned mug</b>	0.3.9
<b>1 Silver watch</b>	8.10.0
<b>1 Silver hilted small sword</b>	9.0.0
<b>3 Pint flint &amp; mapple bottles</b>	0.18.0
<b>3 Quart flint with mapple bottles</b>	0.18.0
<b>2 Half gallon bottles</b>	0.5.0
<b>3 Quail bottles</b>	0.4.6
<b>1 Dess? ointment pott</b>	0.7.6
<b>6 Spice vials</b>	1.16.0
<b>6oz. of <u>Caloment</u></b>	2.5.0
<b>3oz. <u>Spice</u></b>	1.2.6
<b>2oz. <u>Jallap</u></b>	0.7.6
<b>4oz. <u>Rhubarb</u></b>	0.5.0
<b>1lb <u>Nitre</u></b>	0.6.0
<b>1lb <u>Carolina pink root</u></b>	1.2.6
<b>1lb <u>Manna</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>½lb <u>Sena</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>½ pint Volatile spirits</b>	1.2.6
<b>4oz. <u>Volatile tincture</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>4oz. <u>Talid (Fetid) tincture</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>½ gallon of <u>Thalic (Thebaic) tincture</u>, jal- lap root ½lb</b>	0.15.0
<b>3 Dess? pill potts</b>	0.18.0
<b>½lb of <u>Peruvian bark</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>½lb <u>Salt of tarter</u></b>	0.5.0
<b>½ dozen of Knives &amp; Forks</b>	0.15.0
<b>Total</b>	113.8.6

Chester [County.] I do certify that Doctor John Davis of Tredyffrin was sworn to the above account as the law directs before me. Given under my hand. November 27th 1782 proven before me given under my hand the 18th day of Nov. 1782  
William Evans

Dr. John Davis (1744 - 1816) was the son of James and Mary Davis. Where he learned his medical skills is not known, but by the time of the Revolutionary War he served as surgeon of a Pennsylvania musketry battalion, was captured at the battle of Long Island, and was held for a time on the British prison ships at New York.

### Samuel Davis

Samuel Davis deceased lost in shop goods and destruction about his store to the amount of £600.

I do hereby certify that the above is a just account from the best information I have received.  
David Wilson, assessor.

Samuel Davis died in 1778. Franklin Burns in his "History of Berwyn and the Great Valley" says that the Samuel Davis store was probably in Paoli.

### William Dewees

William Dewees was the iron master and part owner of the Valley Creek forges at the time of the Revolution. He did not submit a reparation claim in 1782 but instead submitted a claim to Congress in 1791. The substance of the 1791 petition is as follows.

SCHEDULE of property, with its valuations, destroyed by a detachment of the British Army on the 17th and 18th September 1777, the property of the petitioner, to wit:

	£. s. d.
<b>One dwelling house, two stories high, and four rooms on a Floor, with kitchen, smoke house, stables etc.</b>	1900.0.0
<b>House £1500 Out houses £400</b>	
<b>One forge, with 4 fires, near the dwelling house</b>	300.0.0
<b>One coal house, near the lower forge, with 5000 bushels of coal</b>	375.5.4
<b>One saw mill</b>	300.0.0
<b>Houses for workmen, valued at</b>	200.0.0
<b>One coal house, upper forge, and 4000 bushels of coal</b>	329.0.0
<b>Total</b>	3404.5.4

## 18th Century Medicines

The reparations claim of Dr. John Davis lists a number of medicines taken by the British from his dispensary. The following dictionary has been compiled by Society member and contributor, Clarissa Dillon.

Unless otherwise noted, quotations are from *The New Dispensatory . . . : The whole interspersed with practical cautions and observations. Intended as a correction, and improvement of Quincy*; by John Quincy, John Platt, and David Cairmi. Printed for J. Nourse, 1753.

**Calomet** [probably calomel] a mercury compound; *"..Obstinate cutaneous and venereal distempers may be successfully cured,..."*, p.339.

**Spice** probably aromatics used to improve the flavor of various medicines and/or to warm the body - as in "Spiced Rhubarb" (see below).

**Jallap** *"..root of an American convolvulus ... proves an effectual, and in general a safe purgative, performing the office mildly..."*, pp. 140-141.

**Rhubarb** [root] *"..a mild cathartic, which operates without violence or irritation, celebrated as an astringent..."*, p. 190.

Often administered as "Spiced Rhubarb" as in *The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker, edited by Elaine Forman Crane, Boston: Northwestern University Press, 1991*.

**Nitre** Saltpeter; *...a medicine of celebrated use in many disorders..."*, pp. 166-167.

**Carolina Pink Root** vermifuge; not in *The New Dispensatory*, but used by Elizabeth Drinker to treat her granddaughter for worms.

**Manna** *...a mild, agreeable laxative, and may be given with safety to children and pregnant women..."*, p. 156.

**Sena** [leaves] *"..a very useful cathartic, operating mildly, and yet effectual..."*, p. 205.

**Volatile Tincture** unclear; several possibilities: Peruvian bark *"..so acrimonious that ... can contain only a very small quantity of the subject..."* sulphur *".. may be a powerful medicine, but it is certainly an unpleasant one."* valerian *"..considerably promotes the virtue of the valerian for nervous disorders."*, p. 415; p. 213; p. 426.

**Fetid Tincture** contained asafoetida in rectified spirits of wine; juice of root used in hysteric cases and flatulent colic. p. 87; p. 416.

**Volatile Tincture gr.s** Guaiacum resin exuded from trunk of tree growing in Spanish West India, dissolved in "volatile aromatic spirits" as "a warm, stimulating medicine..." , p. 185; p, 417.

**Thebaic Tincture** another name for liquid laudanum, a tincture of opium, widely used, pp. 409-410.

**Salt of Tartar** *"..most servicable in cold, phlegmatic habits and where acidities abound in the primae viae..."*, p. 279.

**Peruvian Bark** also called Jesuit's Bark, used to treat fevers and agues; known today as crude quinine, effective only in cases of malaria.

**Nicholas Finderbander**

Damages sustained by Nicholas Finderbander by the British Army commanded by General Howe in September 1777 Tredyffrin Township Chester County

<b>To 1 cow</b>	<b>£5</b>
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Chester [County] to wit the above acct. proven before me given under my hand the 19th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

It is not clear where Finderbander, also known as Tinderbender, lived, as he did not purchase land and does not appear in the tax returns.

**Jacob Frick**

An account of the damage done to Jacob Frick by the British army under the General Howe in their march through the Valley September 1777 about 25 bushels of wheat 40 bushels of potatoes 100 bushels of oats 6 acres of Indian corn 7 tuns of hay 16 sheep 6 hogs 2 spring calves 3000 rails the value of all not less than £120.

I do hereby certify the above account has been received from the owners.  
Daniel Willson assessor

Hessian Lt. General Knyphausen took Jacob Frick's house as his headquarters during the British Encampment.

**Isaac Griffith**

An account of the damages done by the British Troops under the command of General Howe in the year 1777 on their march from the head of the Elk to Philadelphia.

	£. s. d.
<b>1 Colt 2 years old £10 1 mans saddle</b>	11.10.0
<b>1 Pair of saddle baggs 7/6; 2 hogs 30/-</b>	1.17.6
<b>6 Sheep</b>	3.12.0
<b>1 Bed <u>tick tow</u> linen</b>	1.0.0
<b>1 Pair of boots</b>	0.15.0
<b>2 Double callico short gowns</b>	2.0.0
<b>1 Pair stays</b>	1.10.0
<b>1 Callico frock 12/- and one of wool 18/-</b>	1.10.0

<b>1 Pair flatt irons</b>	0.7.6
<b>1 Two gallon tea kettle</b>	2.10.0
<b>1 Two quart sauspans copper</b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Frying pann</b>	0.5.0
<b>1 Large pewter dish</b>	0.10.0
<b>1 Large black tin candle box full</b>	1.10.0
<b>½ Bushel of course salt</b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Mahogney tea board</b>	1.0.0
<b>1 Walnut leather bottom chair - burnt &amp; broke</b>	5.0.0
<b>1 Mahogney drawrs damaged; 1 drawer lost &amp; 1 broke</b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Two quart China bowl</b>	2.5.0
<b>1 Quart China bowl</b>	1.0.0
<b>Tea can &amp; potts, sugar bowl &amp; glass</b>	4.0.0
<b>Earthenware lost</b>	0.15.0
<b>Carpenters tools lost</b>	15.0.0
<b>Total</b>	60.2.0

Received no recompence for the above account.  
Tredyffrin Township Isaac Griffith

Chester County to wit the above sworn to the 18th day of Nov. 1782. Given under my hand.  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Isaac Griffith was landlord of Howell's Tavern in the 1780s. There are no deeds showing he owned land in Tredyffrin.

**Adam Gruber**

Adam Gruber's account of damages.

	£. s. d.
<b>30 Bushels of wheat</b>	11.5.0
<b>1500 Rails</b>	7.10.0
<b>60 Dozen of oats</b>	6.5.0
<b>2 Tun of hay</b>	6.0.0
<b>60 Bushels of potatoes</b>	7.0.0
<b>20 Bushels of Indian Corn</b>	4.0.0
<b>60 Bundles of flax</b>	5.0.0
<b>50 Bundles of hemp</b>	3.15.0
<b>1 Pair of Quilters(?)</b>	1.2.6
<b>3 Sheep</b>	2.5.0
<b>1 Mare, 1 horse</b>	50.0.0

<b>1 Pair of new fetters</b>	0.3.6
<b>Total</b>	104.6.0
<b>Credit by cash received</b>	22.10.0
<b>Net total</b>	81.16.0

The above is a true account of damages done by the British army commanded by General Howe September 1777

Chester [County] to wit the above proven before me given under my hand the 18th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Adam Guider or Gruber purchased land in the township in 1770. He died in 1788.

### David Havard

Articles taken from David Havard September 1777 by the British army commanded by General Howe & his adherents Tredyffrin Township Chester County

	<b>£.s.d</b>
<b>1 Horse &amp; waggon</b>	52.10.0
<b>17 Sheep 2 hogs &amp; sundry wearing apparel etc.</b>	39.0.0
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<b>Total</b>	91.10.0

I do hereby certify that the above is a just account from the best information I have received.  
David Wilson, assessor.

David Havard owned 300 acres in what is now Chesterbrook.

### John Havard, Junior

Inventory of the goods and other chattles taken from the subscriber in Tredyffrin Chester County Pennsylvania State by the Hessian & other of the British army during their encampment upon the 18th, 19th, & 20th days of September 1777 under the command of General Howe.  
John Havard

	<b>£.s.d</b>
<b>£700 Congress &amp; old paper assembly money</b>	233.6.8
<b>Silver money</b>	8.18.9
<b>1 Silver tablespoon 6 silver teaspoons</b>	2.2.6
<b>3 Pair of fine sheets</b>	6.6.0
<b>6 Pair <u>country linen</u></b>	9.12.0
<b>1 Pair of blankets</b>	2.0.0
<b>1 Counterpin</b>	1.2.6
<b>1 dozen pillow cases 3 tablecloths 6 towels</b>	5.0.0
<b>1 Tablecloth 6 towels flowered damask</b>	2.0.0
<b>7½ yards of good <u>country linen</u></b>	1.2.6
<b>15 Yards of flanen</b>	2.12.6
<b>4½ Yards of callico</b>	0.18.0
<b>4 Silk handkerchiefs</b>	1.10.0
<b>6 Fine shirts <u>country linen</u></b>	7.10.0
<b>6 Fine shirts <u>country linen</u></b>	7.10.0
<b>1 Neck cloth 4 <u>stocks</u></b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Silver clasp</b>	0.4.6
<b>1 Silk cape</b>	0.5.0
<b>1 Coat &amp; jacket good cloth leather breeches</b>	7.10.0
<b>15 Buckskins</b>	13.0.0
<b>1 Good beaver hat</b>	3.10.0
<b>1 Coal jacket &amp; breeches</b>	7.0.0
<b>1 <u>Camblets</u> jacket &amp; breeches</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 Cloth jacket the linen taken</b>	0.5.0
<b>1 Linen jacket &amp; breeches</b>	1.0.0
<b>1 Pair cotton trousers thread stocking</b>	1.15.0
<b>2 Half silk gowns</b>	4.15.0
<b>2 <u>worsted</u> gowns</b>	3.10.0
<b>2 Callico gowns</b>	2.5.0
<b>1 Striped linen gown</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 Silk hood</b>	0.10.0
<b>2 Good cloth cloaks</b>	2.0.0
<b>1 Safe guard</b>	0.15.0
<b>6 <u>lawn</u> &amp; fine linen aprons</b>	3.0.0
<b>3 Checked aprons</b>	0.15.0



12 <u>Lawn</u> & <u>cambrick</u> handkerchiefs	3.10.0
12 Capes <u>Lawn</u> & <u>cambrick</u>	2.0.0
1 Silk bonnet	0.18.0
2 Frocks 4 fine shirts	1.4.0
8 Capes & sundrys	0.12.0
1 Rug	0.6.0
Silver buckle & thimble	1.2.6
3 Pair locket buttons	0.7.6
1 Silk hoad	0.10.0
12 Strings of beads	0.2.0
4 Drinking glasses 2 tumblers	0.8.0
12 Delf plates 2 decanters	0.18.0
1 Case of vials	0.17.6
10 Knives & 9 forks	0.13.0
6 Pewter spoons	0.2.0
1 Brass kettle 1 frying pann	1.0.0
Upper & sole leather & 1 pair of shoes	5.15.0
1 Silver headed whip	1.0.0
1 Crock & 9lb of butter	4.15.0
6 lb of cheese	8.0.0
Flour of 11 bushels wheat & rye	4.2.6
400 dozen of sheaves of wheat	7.5.0
70 dozen of rye	8.0.0
80 dozen of oats	6.0.0
10 Tun of hay	25.0.0
150 Rye battons	2.10.6
1 Horse	20.0.0
1 Cow & bull	11.0.0
6 Sheep & 2 swine	7.10.0
1 Pitching ax	0.7.6
3 Bridles	1.2.6
2 Blind halters & plowlines	1.2.6
2 Pair rope traces reins & sundrey	0.15.0
500 Rails	2.0.0
4 Geese 1 turkey	1.2.6
100 Dunghill fowls	5.0.0
60 Heads of cabbage	1.0.0
4 Hives of bees with honey	2.12.0
½ Acre of pomkins & potatoes	25.0.0
Total	574.11.3

Chester County, the above affirmed before me given under my hand the 18th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

John Havard lived in Duportail's Quarters. He died in 1797.

### Samuel Havard

Inventory of the goods and other chattles the property of the subscriber Samuel Havard & his family which was forcibly taken from him on the 18th, 19th & 20th days of September 1777 by Sir William Howes army K.B. during his encampment Tredyffrin Township Chester County in the State of Pennsylvania.  
Samuel Havard

	£.s.d
? Continental dollars at 3 to 1 hard	59.12.6
1 Negro slave	100.0.0
1 Horse rising 5 years old	45.0.0
1 mare 12 years old	18.0.0
12lb of cheese	6.0.0
10lb of butter	5.5.0
10lb of bacon	5.0.0
9 yards of cloth	4.15.0
14½ yards of Irish <u>hollon</u>	3.12.6
9 Large sheep	13.10.0
1 Velvet jacket & breeches	5.0.0
4 other jackets and breeches	11.5.0
4 Pair of trawfers	1.15.0
7 Shirts gaelic hollon	20.10.0
6 shirts of nine <u>hundred</u> linen	6.12.0
10 Pairs of shoes	5.0.0
12 Pairs of Stockings	6.10.0
Part of 2 suits of bed curtains	3.0.0
Part of 2 window curtains	1.10.0
1 Pair of gloves	0.7.6
1 Silk cape	0.15.0
8 Fine sheets	20.0.0
11 Sheets of 9 & 10 <u>hundred</u> linen	15.0.0
1 Wallet	0.4.6

<b>3 Baggs</b>	2.5.0
<b>2 Tablecloths</b>	2.0.0
<b>10 Yards hemp linen</b>	2.10.0
<b>10 Yards of 12 <u>hundred</u> linen</b>	4.10.0
<b>5 Yards of <u>hollon</u></b>	3.10.0
<b>13 Shirts fine linen</b>	26.0.0
<b>2 Bolster cases</b>	1.10.0
<b>1 Pillow and 20 cases of fine linen</b>	20.15.0
<b>1 Diaper cloths bagg</b>	0.18.0
<b>2½ Yards of diaper</b>	1.0.0
<b>4 Hand towels &amp; 6 napkins</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 New stays</b>	5.0.0
<b>3 Bridles &amp; a part of the harness of a riding chair</b>	2.15.0
<b>3 Blind halters</b>	1.10.0
<b>¼ Acre of turnips</b>	7.10.0
<b>150 Head of cabbage</b>	7.10.0
<b>3 Bushels of potatoes</b>	0.12.0
<b>10 Bushells of Indian corn</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 Bushell of onions</b>	1.0.0
<b>20 Dozen of oats sheaves</b>	3.0.0
<b>Meal bread chandlers sope lard etc.</b>	12.0.0
<b>1 Tin cattle</b>	0.10.0
<b>3 Gallons rum</b>	1.2.6
<b>3 Ropes</b>	0.17.6
<b>6 Gallons of rum</b>	3.0.0
<b>3 Gallons on matheg alum</b>	0.15.0
<b>6lb of Sugar</b>	3.0.0
<b>6lb of Tea</b>	3.0.0
<b>3 Cannisters</b>	0.7.6
<b>4 Earthenware Potts &amp; earthenware jugs &amp; 17 glass bottles</b>	2.18.0
<b>Other crockeryware</b>	1.14.0
<b>1 Fine ivory comb &amp; 1 horn comb</b>	0.7.6
<b>1 Ax 1 hammer</b>	0.10.0
<b>2lb Coffee &amp; 2lb Chocolate(?)</b>	0.14.0
<b>1 Fine nedle book nedles &amp; thread &amp; silk</b>	1.15.0
<b>74 Dunghill fowls</b>	3.14.0

<b>6 Yards of <u>Duroy</u></b>	3.0.0
<b>4 Check aprons</b>	3.0.0
<b>16 Handkerchiefs</b>	6.0.0
<b>6 <u>cambric</u> &amp; 6 muslin neckcloths &amp; <u>stocks</u></b>	1.15.0
<b>70 Rails burnt or destroyed</b>	2.8.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	540.5.0

Chester County to wit. The above list of damages affirmed to before me given under my hand the 16th day of Nov. 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Samuel Havard lived with his unmarried sisters, Ann and Sarah, in Lafayette's Quarters.

### Mary Howel

	£ s. d.
<b>1 Hogshead of whisky</b>	24.15.0
<b>1 Hogshead of rum</b>	74.1.0
<b>20 Gallons of ginn</b>	10.0.0
<b>1 Bay mare</b>	40.0.0
<b>1 Gray horse</b>	30.0.0
<b>1 Black horse</b>	20.0.0
<b>16 Head horned cattle &amp; milch cows &amp; 7 young cattle</b>	84.0.0
<b>36 Sheep £27 14 swine £26</b>	53.0.0
<b>300 Bushels of wheat @ 7/6</b>	112.10.0
<b>60 Bushels of rye @ 6/-</b>	18.0.0
<b>60 Bushels of buckwheat @ 4/-</b>	12.0.0
<b>100 Bushels of Indian corn</b>	30.0.0
<b>100 Bushels of potatoes</b>	18.15.0
<b>10 Tun of hay</b>	50.0.0
<b>1 Waggon and gears</b>	40.0.0
<b>In cash taken</b>	14.0.0
<b>Butter cheese &amp; kitchen furniture</b>	15.0.0
<b>6000 Rails of fence</b>	50.0.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	696.1.0

November 16th 1782  
 Chester [County] to wit the above acct. sworn to  
 before me given under my hand the 18th day of  
 Nov. 1782  
 Benjamin Bartholomew

Mary Howel owned the Howellville Inn on the  
 Swedesford Road.

**Lydia Jones**

Lydia Jones lost by the Brittish army about 5000  
 rails £7.10.0.

I do hereby certify the above account has been  
 received from the owners.  
 Daniel Willson assessor

Lydia was the widow of John Jones who died in  
 1755.

**Samuel Jones**

An account of the loss that Samuel Jones of  
 Tredyffrin in the County of Chester & state of  
 Pennsylvania sustained by the Brittish and de-  
 stroyed by them when General Howe's Head-  
 quarters was at my house the 18th, 19th, and  
 20th days of September 1777 on their march  
 from the head of Elk to Philadelphia.

	£ s. d.
<b>100 Bushels of wheat @ 6/- each</b>	35.15.0
<b>30 Bushels of rye @ 4/6</b>	6.15.0
<b>100 Bushels of oats @ 2/6</b>	12.10.0
<b>4 Bushels of Indian corn @ 4/-</b>	8.0.0
<b>20 Bushels of buckwheat @ 2/6</b>	2.10.0
<b>30 Bushels of potatoes @ 2/6</b>	3.15.0
<b>A Quantity of flax destroyed by the army</b>	3.0.0
<b>10 Tuns of hay @ 70/-</b>	35.0.0
<b>1 Milch cow &amp; heiffer</b>	7.0.0
<b>17 Sheep @ 15/-</b>	12.15.0
<b>4 Large hogs @ 50/-</b>	10.0.0
<b>4 large shoats @ 20/-</b>	4.0.0
<b>1 New great coat</b>	2.5.0
<b>4 New baggs</b>	1.10.0
<b>1 Bolster of feathers</b>	1.0.0
<b>1 Broad ax &amp;: hand saw</b>	1.0.0

<b>1 Pitching ax</b>	0.7.6
<b>6000 Rails burnt &amp; destroyed by them @ 70/- per thousand</b>	21.0.0
<b>1 Iron kettle</b>	0.8.0
<b>2 Dung forks</b>	0.7.0
<b>1 Fine shirt 1 pair drawers</b>	1.5.0
<b>1 Horse &amp; 2 mares</b>	0.7.6
<b>1 Rugg</b>	1.15.0
<b>Poultry</b>	1.0.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	222.17.6
	-----
<b>Credit by cash received</b>	51.15.0
	-----
<b>Net Total</b>	171.2.6

November 16th 1782

Chester [County] to wit the above acct. sworn to  
 before me given under my hand the 18th day of  
 Nov. 1782  
 Benjamin Bartholomew

Samuel Jones' house was General Howe's headquar-  
 ters during the British encampment. The Jones Log  
 Barn, in the process of being restored by the  
 Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust, had not been  
 erected at the time of Howe's stay.

**Joseph Mitchell**

**Advertisement from the Pennsylvania Ga-  
 zette, August 25, 1778 and September 1, 1778.**

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD. WENT with  
 the British army, when they left the Valley in  
 September last, a Negro man named CATO. I  
 found him in the possession of Lieutenant Nesbit  
 of the 17th regiment, took him to Philadelphia,  
 where not being able to get a master, he ran away  
 in the evening and went to the British army  
 again; it is said he left Philadelphia before the  
 army did. He is about 23 years of age, was  
 bought of Mr. McCall about three months before,  
 is a handy fellow about a house, and a good wait-  
 er, but sometimes saucy, and is knock-kneed: he  
 can play on the violin and fife. Whoever takes up  
 and secures said Negro so that his master may  
 have him again, shall have Twenty Dollars, but if  
 brought to the Work house of Philadelphia, shall

have the above reward and all reasonable charges, paid by the subscriber, living in the Great Valley in Chester county, who has a Plantation and Ferry to let, whereon Henry Lott now lives, three miles above Coryell, to be entered on the fifth of April next. None need apply but such who are able and willing to keep a good house and take proper care of the whole. JOSEPH MITCHELL.

Joseph Mitchell was the first owner (and probably builder) of Chesterbrook Mill. His taxes were reduced in 1778 as he had been plundered by the British but no reparation claim exists. No slaves are listed in his tax returns. He is in the tax returns until 1789 when his property was sold by the sheriff.

### Thomas Pennington

Took from Thomas Pennington to the amount of £50.

I do hereby certify that the above is a just account from the best information I have received. David Wilson, assessor.

Thomas Pennington owned a tract in Paoli.

### Abel Rees

An account of property taken from Abel Rees @ Lord Cornwallis Quarters Tredyffrin Township Chester County on Thursday 18th of September 1777 for the use of his majestys troops.

	£ s. d.
<b>500 Dozen of wheat in the sheaf</b>	75.0.0
<b>15 Tun of hay £45 3500 rails £17.10/-</b>	62.10.0
<b>100 Bushels of oats @ 2/6</b>	12.10.0
<b>100 Dozen of rye £7 1 new waggon 4 pairs of gears £20</b>	27.0.0
<b>1 Horse 1 mare £25 3 cows £15</b>	40.0.0
<b>25 Sheep £18 15/- 8 large hogs £24</b>	42.15.0
<b>7 shoats</b>	5.5.0
<b>6 Acres of Indian corn</b>	14.8.0
<b>5 Acres of buckwheat</b>	8.15.0
<b>14 Acres of potatoes</b>	2.0.0
<b>100 Head of cabbage</b>	4.0.0
<b>22 Turkeys</b>	4.8.0
<b>50 Fowl</b>	2.0.0
<b>13 Bushels of barley</b>	2.12.0

<b>20 Dozen of oats</b>	2.10.0
<b>3 Baggs</b>	0.15.0
<b>1 Half barrel iron bound</b>	0.7.6
<b>To pulling down 2 ends of my barn</b>	1.0.0
<b>To cutting down 16 apple trees</b>	2.0.0
<b>To cutting a plough to pieces</b>	0.7.6
<b>1½ Acre of flax £3 4 acres of hemp 50/-</b>	5.10.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	303.3.0

Chester [County] to wit. The above sworn to before me given under my hand the 12th day of Nov. 1777  
Benjamin Bartholomew

The date of swearing must be a mistake. For information on Abel Rees and his house, Lord Cornwallis' Headquarters, see the *Quarterly* article entitled "Tory Hollow" by Conrad Wilson.<sup>2</sup>

### Samuel Richards

Damage done Samuel Richards deceased by the British army. 15 Bushels of wheat 5 dozen of oats 1 tun of hay 5000 rails £160.8.0.

I do hereby certify the above account has been received from the owners.  
Daniel Willson assessor

Samuel Richards owned a tract of land with a northern boundary of Swedesford Road and an eastern boundary of Valley Forge Road (aka Baptist Road).

### John Rowland

John Rowlands account of loss sustained by the British army under the command of General Howe.

	£ s. d.
<b>1 Mare £40 1 mare £25 1 mare £15</b>	80.0.0
<b>1 Saddle &amp; bridle</b>	2.0.0
<b>2 Yearling calves @ 30/-</b>	3.0.0
<b>2 Pair chains 2 collars</b>	1.10.0
<b>Nankeen jacket &amp; breeches</b>	1.10.0
<b>9 Pair trousers at 5/-</b>	2.5.0
<b>5 Shirts @ 7/6</b>	1.17.6

<b>1 Collar &amp; linen jacket</b>	0.15.0
<b>200lb Flour</b>	2.0.0
<b>1 Pair of shoes &amp; buckles</b>	1.0.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	95.17.6

This is a true account as near as I can recollect.  
John Rowland

I do hereby certify the above account has been received from the owners.  
Daniel Willson assessor

John Rowland was the owner of the Great Valley Mill.

### Valentine Showalter

Taken from Valentine Showalter to the amount of £250 in sundry articles.

I do hereby certify that the above is a just account from the best information I have received.  
David Wilson, assessor.

Valentine Showalter owned a property between Christian Workhiser and Abel Rees.

### Thomas Waters

An account of sundry articles taken and destroyed by the British army under the command of General Howe when their headquarters was at Samuel Jones about the 18th of September 1777.

	£ s. d.
<b>£55 in gold and silver</b>	55.0.0
<b>1 Silver watch &amp; chain</b>	12.0.0
<b>5 Silver tablespoons</b>	5.0.0
<b>1 Gold ring</b>	1.10.0
<b>£140 of paper money 3 to 1</b>	46.13.4
<b>Orphans money</b>	25.8.4
<b>2 Waggon load of oats in sheaf</b>	4.0.0
<b>1 new saddle</b>	3.0.0
<b>1 New pair of buckskin breeches 2 shirts</b>	2.10.0
<b>1 Servant 13 months to serve</b>	14.0.0
<b>2 Casks of super fine flour</b>	3.0.0
<b>2 Locks brooke</b>	0.7.0
<b>All the cabbage in my garden. Many fowls</b>	0.15.0

Chester [County] to wit. The above sworn to before me given under my hand the 18th November 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Thomas Waters owned a number of plantations in Tredyffrin and Upper Merion as can be seen from his 1794 will. Their size is unclear as two were inherited and he rented them out. Waters was the father-in-law of William Dewees.

### David Wilson

An estimate of damages done by the British army under the command of General Howe & his adherents on their march through the Great Valley Tredyffrin Township Chester County between the 17th & 20th of September 1777. David Willson

	£ s. d.
<b>2 Cattle</b>	7.10.0
<b>20lb Hemp</b>	7.10.0
<b>1 Great coat</b>	3.10.0
<b>2 set of gears &amp; <u>singletrees</u> as new</b>	1.13.9
<b>1 Mans saddle partly new</b>	3.10.0
<b>5 Sheep</b>	3.0.0
<b>10 Bushels of Indian corn</b>	2.0.0
<b>1 Cooper ax &amp; hand saw</b>	0.19.0
<b>10lb of flour</b>	0.17.0
<b>A quantity of beef &amp; bacon</b>	1.7.0
<b>1 Coverlid blanket &amp; sheet</b>	3.0.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	34.16.9

Chester [County] to wit. The above sworn before me given under my hand the 19th November 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Details of the Wilson property are given in the *Quarterly* article by Conrad Wilson.<sup>3</sup> David Wilson was one of the incorporators of the Great Valley Presbyterian Church in 1788.

### John Wilson

Articles taken from & damage done to John Willson done by the British army commanded by General Howe and their adherents between the 17th & 20th of September 1777.

	£ s. d.
<b>100 dozen of wheat in the sheaf</b>	18.0.0
<b>2 Tun of hay</b>	6.0.0
<b>50 Dozen of oats</b>	6.5.0
<b>3 Cattle</b>	15.0.0
<b>10 Sheep</b>	7.10.0
<b>25 Bushel of buckwheat</b>	3.2.6
<b>½ Acre of potatoes</b>	3.0.0
<b>Cart saddle collar &amp; reins</b>	2.5.0
<b>3 Pair of cart chains</b>	2.5.0
<b>1 Body coat</b>	3.0.0
<b>Indian corn destroyed by cattle</b>	2.0.0
<b>900 Rails in fence</b>	4.10.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	72.17.6

Chester [County] to wit. The above sworn to before me given under my hand the 19th November 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

John Wilson sold 112 acres of his tract to his son, David Wilson, in 1779, and the remainder to Frederick Hausman in 1785.

### Christian Workhiser

Christian Workhiser lost by the British.

	£ s. d.
<b>50 Bushels of rye</b>	10.0.0
<b>20 Bushels of buckwheat</b>	2.10.0
<b>8 Bushels of Indian corn</b>	16.0.0
<b>40 Bushels of potatoes</b>	6.0.0
<b>3 Tun of hay</b>	9.0.0
<b>30 Bushels of oats</b>	4.10.0
<b>80 Bushels of wheat</b>	24.0.0
<b>10 Sheep</b>	6.0.0

<b>6 Swine</b>	10.0.0
<b>50 Fowls</b>	2.0.0
<b>2500 Chestnut rails</b>	25.0.0
<b>Horse geers and Duch collar</b>	0.7.6
<b>1 Timber chain</b>	1.5.0
<b>1 Pair breast chains</b>	0.5.0
<b>1 Pair of plough treases &amp; back?</b>	0.12.0
<b>1 Dung fork</b>	0.3.0
<b>1 Tea kettle</b>	1.2.6
<b>1 Blind halter</b>	0.4.0
<b>30 Apple trees &amp; peach trees cut down</b>	7.10.0
	-----
<b>Total</b>	72.17.6

Chester [County] to wit. The above sworn to before me given under my hand the 18th November 1782  
Benjamin Bartholomew

Colonel Christian Workhiser had served in the British Army and repeatedly refused to turn out for the militia.<sup>4</sup> He owned tracts of land near Howellville and in Strafford. Presumably it was the Howellville tract that was plundered by the British Army.

### References & Notes

1. <http://dsf.chesco.org/archives/cwp/view.asp?a=3&Q=615877>
2. "Tory Hollow" by Conrad Wilson, *Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume 13, Number 3, April 1965, pp. 50-53.
3. "The 'Original' Wilson Home" by Conrad Wilson, *Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume 21, Number 4, October 1983, pp. 127-132.
4. "The Invasion of Tredyffrin" by Franklin Burns, *Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume 3, Number 2, April 1940, pp. 27-30.