

Robert Levers arrived in Philadelphia from Manchester, England in 1748. Having clerical skills he became a clerk in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in the city. He moved up to work in the office of Richard Peters in charge of the Land Office. Robert learned the business of real estate there and he purchased thousands of acres of land in the then frontier regions of eastern Pennsylvania, much of it he lost due to Native American attacks and other venture failures. He met and married Mary Church, the ceremony taking place in Christ Church on N. 2nd St. He and Mary settled in Northampton County (Easton) where he became very involved in community affairs. He was hired to provide provisions for the County Militia in 1763. Three years later he became Justice of the Peace for the County. As the spirit of discontent with British rule grew in the 1770's, Robert became very involved in the patriot cause being appointed to or joining many groups.

1775 - The Committee for Public Safety
The Committee of Correspondence

June 1776 - The Committee at the Phila. Convention to determine Pennsylvania's new form of Provincial Government after separation from Britain.

July 1776 - Given a copy of the just adopted Declaration of Independence which he took back to Easton and read aloud to the assembled militia and citizens at the court house.

November 1776 - Made paymaster for the 12th Regiment of the Continental Line appointed Agent for forfeited Tory property in Northampton County (dire consequences)

1777 - When the new US government was forced to flee Philadelphia, many important papers and records, and military supplies were sent to Robert Levers for safe keeping.

1781 - Appointed civil government Lieutenant of Northampton County, (equivalent to rank of Colonel in the military) to raise troops, pay them, transport them, and protect the ferry across the Delaware River there.

As there was never much money coming from Philadelphia, he exhausted his personal fortune to keep the troops in service.

Responsible for any prisoners of war held in Easton, PA and many other duties that angered the Tories.

1785 — His home was attacked by Tory sympathizers and he was injured from which he never fully recovered.

May 20, 1785 - Robert Levers died, broken physically and financially ruined.