

George DeBlois – Petition for losses Attachment

455. Evidence on the Claim of GEORGE DEBLOIS, the Elder, late of Salem, now of Halifax, Mercht. 1784. 3rd December.

Claimant Geo. Deblois being sworn says that he is a native of England, came to America in 1761 & settled at Salem as a mercht., continued there till Apl., 1775, always sided with Government of Great Britain on Commencement of troubles. Took a part in the Disturbance on Stamp Act, made himself obnoxious by signing an address to Govr. Hutcheson on his going home to Engd. in 1774. Also signed an address with ye Loyalists to Genl. Gage in Sumr. 1774, on his first coming to Salem. By these Acts had become so

N.B.—Memorial delivered informally not brought out but duplicate now delivered

obnoxious that he was obliged to fly from Salem, meant to go to

Boston but found it impossible, obliged to embark himself & family for Halifax, April 1775.

Made no submission at any time prior to this to the Rebels Was called upon to take arms at the affair of Lexington with the Americans but refused. Ever since has remd. under Protection of Brit. Govment.

Property.

Real Property Claims 1 Acre & 1-2 but withdraws.

States Loss of Merchandise left at Salem when he fled to amount £438.11.5 Massts. Lawful Money. Produces extracts from his Books to prove Merchandise left behind at Salem, which extract is in mann̄r following:

Amount left at Salem	£299. 0. 6½
	£438.11. 5½
	<hr/>
	£438.11.5½

(6).

By advance Claimt. explains Freight, Insur., Commission. Cannot state what part has been seized by the Committee of Sequestr. thereof. Cannot say how much of this has been lost, some part has been sold by my Agent.

States Value of furniture left at Salem of which he admits he has recvd. a great Deal.

Value 170. 5. 9. Masst. C.
Recvd. 103.19.6.

66.16. 3.

Has no Acct. of the manner in which the rest of the furniture was lost. Has no account of China broke to pieces, £60.

George DeBlois – Petition for losses Attachment

Ship Martha. The Co-partnership of Gilbt. Lewis, Stephen, George, Sr., & George, Jr., Deblois, Merchts. at N. York Shipt on Board the Martha from London in Feby. 27, '78, a cargo of English goods to the value of £6,731.12.10 Sterling, which ship & Cargo was taken by the Shannon Sc., Geo. Collin, & carried into Halifax & there condemned under ye Prohibitory Act. Cargo was insured in London. Insurers returned prem. to the amount of £1,300 Str., which he bels. is the whole yet recovered. A Claim for the whole has been lodged in England by one of the Partners—Gilbert.

(6). Debts.—States amnt. of Book Debts & notes still due from persons in the United States, £1,138.9.10½ Mss'ts. M. This Acct. contains some Debts due before the Co-partnership.

Sloop Hawke, having a cargo on board belonging to the afsd. Partners was cast away on Point Charles on Delaware & plundered by Americans. Estimates his share at £260 Str.

Witness, PETER FRY, Esq., formerly of Salem :

Knew Claimt. Lived 3 or 4 doors from me. Always appeared by acns. & words a good subject. Knew of his signing ad-

dress to Govr. Hutchinson & Gen. Gage. Knew that he had made himself obnoxious from his attachmt. to Brit. Govnt. Was driven from Salem by the Difficulties of the times to avoid insults & being obliged to serve in American Army. Never re-

collects any Instance of his submission to Americans.

Thinks Claimt. left his Stores in the care of Mr. Pinchers at Salem. Mr. Pinchers showed me a cask of hard ware of Claimt.'s & sd. the Rebel Comt. had taken part of Claimt.'s furniture left behind, but knows not but that it was saved to him.

Claimt. kept a large Store at Salem, had large Dealings, probably large Debts due to him.

Claimt. was a man of an excptl. character, being a Church of Eng. man, more expected to be a Tory.

DR. JOHN PRINCE, formerly of Salem :

Knew Claimt. His conduct that of a subject attached to G. Britain. On Gen. Gage's arrival signed the address with the Loyalists. He had become obnoxious to the other party. Left Salem on acct. of his Principles. Brought away great part of his property, but left store & goods in charge of a friend, Mr. Pinchers. Left great part of his furniture behind. Claimt. of a fine Char. in every respect.

(7).