

Subseries II: Susquehanna Purchase, 1772-1804

Subseries II: Susquehanna Purchase, 1772-1804, is arranged chronologically and contains various letters, notices, meeting minutes, title certificates, testimony, and booklets by various historical figures who made significant contributions to the establishment of, not only the Wyoming Valley, during their lives, but Luzerne County, Pennsylvania as a whole.

These documents are created by various commissioners or people of rank from the Susquehanna Land Company. The [Susquehanna Company](#) was a group of Connecticut settlers and land speculators, organized in the mid-18th century, after receiving a [royal charter to the lands in 1662](#). They sought to claim and settle the lands in what is now [northeastern Pennsylvania](#) for future expansion of Connecticut. The company purchased land from the Iroquois, though the legitimacy of this transaction was later contested during the Decree of Trenton, and began sending settlers to establish communities in the Wyoming Valley. This effort sparked a series of violent conflicts with Pennsylvania settlers, known as the [Yankee Pennamite Wars, 1769–1784](#). These items include the early building up of the Wyoming Valley with help from figures such as Zebulon Butler, Obadiah Gore and Nathan Dennison.

The committees at the time also took responsibility in building homes for people who were moving from Connecticut to the Wyoming Valley, managed the settlements along the Susquehanna River, and for a long time decided many legal affairs before a court was formally established. It is important to note that there is a significant amount of notices and letters written by Zebulon Butler included in this subseries, which were deliberately included due to the nature of these letters and notices highlighting his affairs in the Wyoming Valley as both a colonel and member of various civil offices. While these items are located physically within the General subseries from the Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley, Luzerne County series, there are many other manuscripts written by Zebulon Butler and the company in series such as:

- **Series IX: Map and Land Deeds, 1737-1966**, 15.94 Item 39: Town charter for Berlin Township, 1773 November 19 (Removed to Legal Box #2)
- **Subseries III: Butler Correspondence, 1770-1820**, which contains correspondence from a pivotal military figure, Colonel Zebulon Butler.
- **Subseries I: Presidents of the United States, 1777-1959** has two letters, **9.1**, Item 1: Letter from George Washington to Zebulon Butler, 1777 June 12. (**removed to Legal Box #1**), and **9.2**, Item 2: Letter from George Washington to Zebulon Butler, 1780 December 29. (**removed to Legal Box #1**).

Of the famed military figures referenced in this series, two prominent merchant and political names are Matthias Hollenback and Timothy Pickering. Most notably a letter from Matthias Hollenback to Timothy Pickering including a detailed story of Hollenback's capturing of John Hyde, who had previously broken into Pickering home and captured him during the [Yankee-Pennamite Wars](#). Various other letters and notes written by Matthias Hollenback and received by him, highlights his significance to the history of Luzerne County. From being one of the successful business men of his time, owning several stores along the

Susquehanna River while also being a soldier fighting at the Battle of Wyoming, to his involvement in the [French Asylum](#), and ending with his honorable career as a judge this series encompasses it all.

12.63 Item 23: Notice by Ezekiel Pierce and Nathan Dennison, 1772 September 7.

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This notice, created by Ezekiel Pierce and Nathan Denison, is about a former upcoming community meeting in Kingston (PA) on September 7, 1772. It mentions when and where the meeting will take place and what will be discussed. [Nathan Denison](#) was one of the first forty shareholders in the Susquehanna Company to settle five new towns in the Wyoming Valley in February 1769. [Maj. Ezekiel Pierce](#), was former town clerk of Plainfield, Connecticut (1749-1754), but then appointed town clerk for Westmoreland county once moving to Wyoming in 1771. He, was the ready writer of early days and for a succession of years clerk of the town, the records being in his handwriting.

*The figure of Captain Butler has been inferred as Zebulon Butler according to the period of the manuscript. Zebulon Butler was a prominent figure of the Yankee Pennamite Wars, ranging from 1769-1784, and became a lieutenant colonel in the American Revolutionary War. Butler was also a representative of the Susquehanna Company's land interests in the earlier years of the conflict and later became a director of the company.

Dates: 7 September 1772

Creator: [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#) and [Denison, Nathan 1741-1809](#)

Subjects: Local notice; Meeting

Locations: [Kingston \(PA\)](#)

People: [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [Denison, Nathan 1741-1809](#); Harris, Peter, -1789; Bennet, Thomas [Unknown B-D]; [Jenkins, John](#), 1751-1827; [Gore, Obadiah](#), 1744-1821; Captain Butler, [Pos. [Butler, Zebulon](#), 1731-1795]; Swift [Unknown B-D];

General Condition: Fair, some discoloration, tearing and staining. However, the ink is fresh and still legible.

Measurements: 7 ¾ in. x 7 ¾ in.

Transcript Attempt:

These are to Warn all the Propriators Belonging to the town of Kingstown [sic] to meet at the House of Thomas Bennets Where ye old Fort once stood on Saturday the 12th Day of this Instant September at one of ye Clock in ye afternoon.

1st to Chuse a Com^{tee} [sic] [committee] to transact town affairs & c:

2^{ly} to se if ye town will make any alteration in any of ye Roads in sd [sic] [said] town and Lay out a New Road or Roads.

3ly to se if ye town will give a piece of Common Land to Peter Harris joyning [sic] to his Land for ye strip of Land that was taken of from sd [sic] [said] Harris & meadow Lott in order to Commode ye town Lotts or settle with sd [sic] [said] Harris some other way &:

4ly to se what ye town will do in Building a fortification & to act upon any other Business that shall be thought proper

Kingstown September
the 7th 1772.

Ezekiel Pierce Clerk-
Nathan Dennison

{back}

A warning for meeting in Kings town [sic]

John Jenkins //////////9
Capt Butler //////////8
Swift //////////7
Ob Gore Jr-//////////13

Gore Jr ///////////////////
Jenkins ///////////////////
Swift //////////

Obediah Gore Jr ////////////////////22
John Jenkins //////////////////14
Mr. Swift //////////8

-----END-----

12.64a Item 24a: Notice by Zebulon Butler et al., 1772 September 29.

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is a notice written by Zebulon Butler for a community meeting in Wilkes-Barre on September 29, 1772 seemingly to petition for community interests. Zebulon Butler had a major role in the development of Wyoming valley. Being the holder of several civil offices throughout his life, Butler's name is seen in almost every letter of Wyoming's annuals in the mid to late 1700s. When the Susquehanna Company, organized in Connecticut, sent its body of settlers to take possession of the lands it had purchased on the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, Pennsylvania, Zebulon Butler went with these settlers and located in Wilkes-Barre, and a short time thereafter became prominent in the affairs of the Wyoming settlement. From the years 1771 to 1774 Butler was commissioned various times to organize the "Town of Westmoreland", thus being a part of various records such as this one. While this item is located physically within the General subseries from the Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley, Luzerne County series, there are many other manuscripts written by Zebulon Butler found in the Butler Correspondence subseries within the American Figures series. That collection with digitized items can be found [here](#).

Dates: 29 September 1772

Creator: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#); [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821](#);

Subjects: Meeting notice: Susquehanna (Pa.);

Locations: [Wilkes-Barre](#); [Wyoming](#); [Plymouth](#); [Kingstown](#); [Pittstown](#)

People: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#); [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821](#)

General Condition: Fair. A few small tears and folds in the corners.

Measurements: 7 ½ in. x 6 ½ in.

Transcript Attempt:

This is to Warn all the Proprietors and Settlers [sic] at and Near Wyoming on Susquehannah to meet at the Fort in Wilkesbarre on FryDay [sic] the Second Day of October next at two of the clock in the afternoon on s.d [sic] [said] Day.

- 1.st to se what they will Do about Makeing [sic] a Road to Dilvair [sic] [deliver]
- 2.^{dly} to se what they will Do about Makeing [sic] some preparation for A Minister
- 3.^{dly} to come into some better way of scouting and guarding
- 4.^{thly} to se what they will do about Vewing [sic] Arms
- 5.^{thly} and to Do any other Business that shall be thought Proper at s.d [sic] [said] Meeting.

	Zebulon Butler	}
Wilkes Barre 29 Sept 1772	Ezekiel Pearce	} Com ^{tee}
	Obadiah Gore Jr	}

{back}

Plymouth-	64 days work & 7 Bushels of Corn and Nine shillings money
Kingstown	46 Days work Nine Dollar & Two Dollars more
Wilkesbarre	3 Dollars 45 Days work
Pittstown	11 Dollars 38 Days works

	64
	46
	45
	<u>38</u>
Dollars 26 ½ 32 ½	193
17 Bushels of Corn	

old warning for meetings
Recorded votes

-----END-----

12.64b Item 24b: Notice by [Zebulon Butler], [1772 December 11]

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is an invitation written by Zebulon Butler on December 11, 1772 to a meeting at Elisha Swift's house in Kingstown. 7b is associated with 7a because it was created by Zebulon Butler a little

while after the first notice for a separate township meeting. Zebulon Butler had a major role in the development of Wyoming valley. Being the holder of several civil offices throughout his life, Butler's name is seen in almost every letter of Wyoming's annuals in the mid to late 1700s. When the Susquehanna Company, organized in Connecticut, sent its body of settlers to take possession of the lands it had purchased on the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, Pennsylvania, Zebulon Butler went with these settlers and located in Wilkes-Barre, and a short time thereafter became prominent in the affairs of the Wyoming settlement. From the years 1771 to 1774 Butler was commissioned various times to organize the "Town of Westmoreland", thus being a part of various records such as this one. Other manuscripts written by Zebulon Butler can be found in the Butler Correspondence subseries within the American Figures series. That collection with digitized items can be found [here](#).

Dates: 11 December 1772

Creator: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#)

Subjects: Meeting notice

Locations: [Kingston \(PA\)](#)

People: [Swift, Elisha 1731-1777](#); [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#)

General Condition: Good. Ink is legible.

Measurements: 7 1/8 in. x 5 1/4 in.

Transcript Attempt:

The Proprietors and Settlers Belongs to Kingstown are Hereby warned to meet at ye House of Mrs. Elisha Swifts are Kingstown on Fryday [sic] ye 11th Day of December Instant at one of ye Clock in the afternoon

1st to se what the town will Do in Building a House In order to gaurd in this winter

2^{lv} to act upon any other Business that shall be thought Proper to be Done at s^d [sic] [said] meeting Relating to s^d town affairs &c

{back}

old Warning for townmeeting

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12.65 Item 25: Minutes by Unknown, 1772 October 2.

Type of Material: Minutes

Title: N/A

Description: This is the minutes that tells of the motions voted on during a meeting held in Wilkes-Barre on October 2nd 1772. This specific meeting discusses who will be collecting money for the building of a road to Dellawar. Major Ezekiel Pierce and Zebulon Butler were also appointed on a committee to provide a habitation for Rev. Jacob Johnson for the winter. For more context, in the year 1772 proprietors were establishing a local government. Town meetings were called and legislation was enacted. Many of the people discussed in the document were later appointed directors of the town they resided in.

Wilkes-barre--Maj. John Durkee, Capt. Zebulon Butler and Obadiah Gore, Jr. Plymouth-- Phineas Noah, Capt. David Marvin and J. Gaylord. New Providence--Isaac Tripp, Timothy Keys and Gideon Baldwin.

Kingston--Capt. Obadiah Gore, Nathan Denison and Parshall Terry. Pittston--Caleb Bates, James Brown and Lemuel Harding. Hanover--Capt. Lazarus Stewart, William Stewart and John Franklin.

Dates: 2 October 1772

Creator: N/A

Subjects: Meeting minutes;

Locations: [Wilkes-Barre](#)

People: [Perkins, John, d. 1778](#); [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821](#); [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [Gore, Daniel](#); Stewart, William [Unknown B-D]; [Goss, Philip](#), 1746-1833;

General Condition: Poor. Staining and wearing from folds. Bottom of page illegible due to folding and paper wearing down.

Measurements: 8 ¼ in. x 7 ⅞ in.

Transcript Attempt:

Att a meeting of ye Propriators & Settlers Legally warned and Hold in wilkesbarre October 2nd 1772
Capt Butler was Chosen moderator for ye work of ye day

voted- that Capt Gore Capt Butler Ezekiel Pierce be and are hereby appointed a Com^{tee} [sic] [committee] to provide a place^{or house} for ye here Mr. Jacob Johnson to Live in this winter &c:

voted- to continue ye muster once a fortnite [sic] for Kingstown

voted- that Mr- Perkins Mr-Cary [?] for Lockawonna [sic] Mr-Goss for Plymouth Mr-William Stewart for Hanover Mr. Daniel Gore for Wilksbarre to drew salutations and so what they can git signed by ye adjourned meeting for to make a rode to Dellawar [sic]

voted- this meeting is adjourned untill mounday [sic] Next at one of ye Clock in ye afternoon at this place.

this meeting is opened & Held by one adornment october 5th 1772

voted- that Esqr Tryp. (?) Mr. John Jenkins Mr. Gooss Mr. Purkins Mr. Bates Mr. Daniel Gore Mr. William Stewart are appointed Com^{tee} [sic] men to work out ye Road from Kingstown fort to Dillaware [sic] River to Pittstown.

voted- that Capt Butler is appointed to Reserve in ye money & Grain that Each mon [sic] has signed to make ye Rode from Dillaware River to Pittstown and pay out ye some by order from ye(?) Com^{tee} appointed to — s^d [sic] [said] work Done

Back

voted -that the Com^{tee} appointed to mark out ye Rode from Dillaware [sic] River to Pittstown are appointed as a Com^{tee} to se s^d [sic] [said] Rode made and Compleated [sic] &c:

voted- That if any Proprietor or Settler Now on s^d [sic] [said] Land or shall be Received in as a Settler that shall Refuse or Neglect to Do his Duty in guarding and scouting when warnd [sic] shall be Punished according to ye Laws of ye Colloney [sic] of Connecticut

voted- that Mr. Jobez(?) Sills is appointed to be sealor [sic] of weights and measure for ye time Being

voted- that this meeting is Dissolved

Recorded &c:

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12.66 Item 26: Notice by Ezekiel Pierce, 1772 October 5.

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is a notice written by Ezekiel Pierce warning of a meeting in Kingston that was taking place at Lieut. Asahel Buck's house. [Maj. Ezekiel Pierce](#) was former town clerk of Plainfield, Connecticut (1749-1754), but then appointed town clerk for Westmoreland county once moving to Wyoming in 1771. He, was the ready writer of early days and for a succession of years clerk of the town, the records being in his handwriting [Lieut. Asahel Buck](#) was 2nd Lieutenant of Durkee's Wyoming Valley Independent Pennsylvania Company and one of the first settlers of Kingston township.

Dates: 5 October 1772

Creator: [Pierce, Ezekiel, 1712-1773](#)

Subjects: Meeting notice

Locations: [Kingstown](#)

People: [Pierce, Ezekiel, 1712-1773](#) ; [Buck, Asahel](#), 1745-1779

General Condition: Poor. Many tears on the left side of the paper when looking at the front. Starting to tear down the middle and some discoloration. Ink is still legible.

Measurements: 7 ½ in. x 5 in.

Transcript Attempt:

Front

The Proprietors and Settlers of the town of Kingstown are Hereby warned to meet at ye House of Lieut-Bucks on Satterday [sic] ye tenth Day of this Instant October at three of the clock in ye afternoon First to choose overseers for making ye Rods to Dillowore [sic] River.
2^{lv} to Do any other Business that shall be thought proper to be Done at s^d [sic] [said] meeting

Kingstown October
5th 1772.

Txt [?] Ezekiel Peirce Proprietors Clerk

Back

Ezekiel Peirce —

to Half a point Rum- 0 - 0 - 10

to Half point Rum - 0 - 0 - 10

to Point of Rum - 0 - 1 - 3

6-4
4-0
1-331

11-7
2-4

13-11
4-6
4-0

1-2-5

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12.67a Item 27a: Notice from Ezekiel Pierce, for [Zebulon Butler], 1772 November 30.

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is a notice written by Major Ezekiel Pierce for a meeting at the fort in Wilkes Barre on the 7th of December in 1772. The meeting was set up to discuss the Susquehanna purchase, issues pertaining to taxes and at what age a person would be allowed to hold a settling right.

Major Ezekiel Pierce was former town clerk of Plainfield, Connecticut (1749-1754), but then appointed town clerk for Westmoreland county once moving to Wyoming in 1771. He was the ready writer of early days and for a succession of years clerk of the town, the records being in his handwriting.

The recipient as Zebulon Butler is ascertained by comparison with a duplicate in the collection, item 12.86b, which indicates Captain Butler as the recipient.

Dates: November 30, 1772

Creator: [Pierce, Ezekiel, 1712-1773](#)

Subjects: Memorandum; Minutes; Meeting

Locations: Wilkes-Barre

People: [Pierce, Ezekiel, 1712-1773](#); [[Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#)]

General Condition: Poor. There is water damage, distorting the ink and the page suffers from some discoloration and tearing.

Measurements: 7 ¼ in. x 5 ⅝ in.

Transcript Attempt:

These are to Warn all of Proprietors & settlers Belonging
to ye Susquehannah [sic] Purchase to meet at ye fort In
Wilkesbarre on monday ye 7th Day of December Next
at ten of ye Clock in ye forenoon [sic]

1st To see if this Company [sic] will Raise a tax on Each
of ye Settling (sic) [Settling] Rights In order (sic) [order] to Finish ye Rode (sic) [Road] from
Dellaware [sic] [Delaware] River to this place.

2nd to se(e) and know what age a Person shall Be: to Hold a settling
Right &c: [etcetera]

3rd to act upon any other Business that shall be
thought Proper Relative to ye settling s[ai]^d Lands &c [etcetera]
Wilkesbarre Nov^{br} [November] Test Ezekiel Pierce Clerk
30th 1772

{back}

Warning for meeting &c: [etcetera]

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12.67b Item 27b: Notice from Ezekiel Pierce, for [Zebulon Butler], 1772 November 30.

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is a notice written by Major Ezekiel Pierce about a meeting for the settlers of the
Susquehanna Purchase. The meeting's business is for the construction of a road to the Delaware River,
age for settling eligibility, and other business. They also discussed at what age a person can hold settling
rights.

[Major Ezekiel Pierce](#) was former town clerk of Plainfield, Connecticut (1749-1754), but then appointed
town clerk for Westmoreland county once moving to Wyoming in 1771. He was the ready writer of early
days and for a succession of years clerk of the town, the records being in his handwriting.

Dates: November 30 1772

Creator: [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#)

Subjects: Memorandum; Minutes; Meeting

Locations: Wilkes-Barre

People: [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [[Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#)]

General Condition: Poor.

Measurements: 7 1/8 in. x 6 1/8 in.

Transcript Attempt:

These are to Warn all ye Proprietors & Settlers
Belonging to ye Susquehanna Purchase to meet
at ye fort In Wilksbarre (sic) [Wilkes Barre] on mounday ye 7th
Day of December Next at ten of ye Clock in
the forenoon. — — — — —

1st To see if this Company (sic) [Company] will Raise a Tax on
Each of y^e Setling (sic) [Settling] Rights In order to Finish s^{[ai]d}
Rode (sic) [Road] from Dillaware (sic) [Delaware] River to this place —

2nd [Secondly] to Se(e) and Know what age a Person shall be
to Hold a Setling (sic) [Settling] Right &c: [etcetera]

3rd [Thirdly] To act upon any other Business that shall
be thought Proper Relative to y^e settling s^{[ai]d} Lands &c [etcetera]
Wilksbarre Nov^{br} [November] Test[ify] Ezekiel Pierce Clerk —
30th 1772— — —

{back}

Capt[ain] Butler

Wyoming for
meeting &c [etcetera]

40

35

50

50

40

215

-----END-----

12.68 Item 28: Booklet titled “The Right of the Governor and Company,” printed by Eben Watson, 1773.

Type of Material: Booklet

Title: The Right of the Governor and Company of the Colony of Connecticut to Claim and Hold the
Lands Within the Limits of Their Charter

Description: The following item depicts a booklet titled, [*The Right of the Governor and Company*](#),
printed by Eben Wastson in 1773. The pamphlet presents a Connecticut positive perspective, arguing
that the Connecticut holds legal rights over jurisdiction in the Wyoming Valley region of Pennsylvania.
The arguments and letters compiled within the booklet contain detailed accounts of the history unfolding,
arguing that they create a historical basis for Connecticut’s original claim under the 1662 charter from
King Charles II, as well as the accounts of their sales with the neighboring indigenous tribes in the region
at the time of the charter. Eben describes these arguments as he sees them occurring during the time of
the Susquehanna Claim’s ownership. The item goes over the history of the land in relation to ownership,
as well as some other areas which the author states should serve as precedent for how the area should be

handled. The author seems to be an individual who sides with Connecticut, possibly lending to a biased perspective.

The [Yankee Pennamite Wars](#) were a three part war between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, as they attempted to resolve a dispute over the land in the upper regions of what is now Pennsylvania. King Charles II granted the land twice, once to Connecticut in 1662, and again to William Penn as he founded Pennsylvania in 1681. This pamphlet aligns between the first and second Yankee Pennamite Wars, being published during the earlier stages of the conflict. There is some evidence that the biased perspective plausibly provided by the Connecticut figure further deepened the tensions unfolding in the valley.

An accompanying archivist note states:

“An ACCOUNT of the Purchase from the Indians, of Part of those Lands, by the Susquehannah and Delaware Companies, and their Proceedings thereon.” A clipping from a catalog about the book.

Dates: 1773

Creator: [Watson, Eben, 1744-1777](#) (Printer), [\[Mather, Moses, 1719-1744\]](#) (Pos. creator)

Subjects: Historical booklet

Locations: Hartford, Connecticut

People: [Watson, Eben, 1744-1777](#); [\[Mather, Moses, 1719-1744\]](#); J. H.

General Condition: Poor. Vinegar smell. The booklet shows signs of extreme age, ink fading, stains, page browning, etc. The booklet has separated into three pieces, with the majority of it being contained in the first section.

Measurements: 7 ½ in. x 4 ⅞ in. (closed); 9 ¾ in. x 7 ½ in. (open) (book); 5 ½ in. x 1 ⅞ in. (clipping)

Transcript Attempt: In Pencil

pay x

75—

ca88

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12.69 Item 29: Notice by Butler, Pierce, Fuller, and Gore, 1773 March 15

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: This is a notice written by Zebulon Butler for a community meeting heard by himself, Obadiah Gore, Ezekiel Pierce, and Stephen Fuller, in Wilkes-Barre on March 15, 1773. The hearing was for inhabitants of the towns in Susquehanna to hear the report of the committee and act on any other business deemed important. The business within the address concerned a plan to establish an act against Vice and Immorality in the county. On the reverse of the notice is a recognition and re-establishment of a previously negated right to Enoch Judd, signed by the same with accompanying men.

[Zebulon Butler](#) had a major role in the development of the Wyoming valley. Being the holder of several civil offices throughout his life, Butler's name is seen in almost every letter of Wyoming's annuals in the mid to late 1700s. When the Susquehanna Company, organized in Connecticut, sent its body of settlers to take possession of the lands it had purchased on the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, Pennsylvania,

Zebulon Butler went with these settlers and located in Wilkes-Barre, and a short time thereafter became prominent in the affairs of the Wyoming settlement.

[Ezekiel Pierce](#) was a former town clerk, the ready writer of early days, and for a succession of years clerk of the town.

[Obadiah Gore](#) was a prominent member of the military and meetings often took place at his residence. Gore was also appointed a director for representing Kingstown, Kingston of the time.

[Stephen Fuller](#), who had removed from Connecticut to Wyoming, took part in many of the affairs in establishing the town and later fighting in [The Battle of Wyoming](#) under the title of Captain in the military.

The name of [Captain Marvin](#) has been ascertained from another item, item 49, which lists a similar notice with like parties where Marvin's full name appears Seth Marvin

Dates: 15 March 1773

Creator: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#);

Subjects: Minutes; Vote; Record; Titles, Land

Locations: [Wilkes-Barre](#)

People: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#); [Pierce, Ezekiel 1712-1773](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1714-1779](#); [Fuller, Stephen 1730-1813](#); [\[Marvin, Seth, 1745-1815\]](#); Swift, [Pos. [Swift, John, 1761-1814](#)]; Stevens; [Judd, Enoch, 1745-1818](#)

General Condition: Poor. Paper is severely torn and ink is faded making some words illegible.

Measurements: 7 ½ in. x 7 ⅛ in.

Transcript Attempt:

[Th]is is to Warn all the Inhabitants of
Towns in the Susquehannah [sic] Purchase to [illegible]
the Fort in Wilkes Barre on Monday the 2[illegible]
of Instant March at Eleven O'clock in the afternoon.

1st to hear the Report of the Committ[ee] appointed
to Lay A Plan for Suppressing Vice and immorality
and to Act on S[ai]d Report.

2nd to Act on any other Business that Shall fairly
offer at s[ai]d. Meeting and shall be thought for the good of [our] settlement

Wilkes Barre 15}	Zebulon Butler }	
March 1773 }	Ezekiel Pierce }	
	Stephen Fuller }	Com[mittee]
	Obadiah Gore }	

{back}

Cap^{t[ain]} marvin ||

M^r Swift |||

Cap^t Butler |
Cap^t Fuller
Obadiah Gore Geⁿ |
M^r Stevens |

Kingston

Voted that tis the opinion of this company
that M^r Enoch Judd Rite [sic] [right] is not forfeited [sic][forfeited] but is
a proper Letter on s[ai]d rite [sic][right].
y^e above voted & provided &c[etcetera]

Voted that this Company and of Opinion that
~~Mr. Judd~~ the Com^{tee} [committee] of settlers (sic) [settlers] ought ~~the~~ to Reconsider
their Determination that Mr. Judds (sic) [Judd] Right was forfeit [forfeit]
and ~~that~~ Restor him to his Right Again.

-----END-----

12.70 Item 30: Notice from Butler, Fuller, Gore, and Marvin, 1773 July 2

Type of Material: Notice

Title: N/A

Description: The following item depicts a notice written by Zebulon Butler for a community meeting heard by himself, Obadiah Gore, Seth Marvin, and Stephen Fuller in Wilkes-Barre on July 2, 1773. The hearing was for inhabitants of the Susquehanna Purchase to review rules and regulations in order for better ordering and governing of said inhabitants. They also mention a desire to establish restrictions on rum sales to neighboring indigenous tribes.

[Zebulon Butler](#) had a major role in the development of the Wyoming valley. Being the holder of several civil offices throughout his life, Butler's name is seen in almost every letter of Wyoming's annuals in the mid to late 1700s. When the Susquehanna Company, organized in Connecticut, sent its body of settlers to take possession of the lands it had purchased on the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, Pennsylvania, Zebulon Butler went with these settlers and located in Wilkes-Barre, and a short time thereafter became prominent in the affairs of the Wyoming settlement.

[Obadiah Gore](#) was a prominent member of the military and meetings often took place at his residence. Gore was also appointed a director for representing Kingstown, Kingston of the time.

[Stephen Fuller](#), who had removed from Connecticut to Wyoming, took part in many of the affairs in establishing the town and later fighting in [The Battle of Wyoming](#) under the title of Captain in the military.

[Seth Marvin](#) was a General of the Connecticut militia during the eighteenth century. He fought in the American Revolutionary war and was elevated to Brigadier General in 1806. It appears within the manuscript that Marvin was also elected to hold certain positions within the Susquehanna Company, as he appears as a sitting commissioner during the meeting.

The names for Swift and Landon, as well as the possible name misspellings for Slocum and Rudolph, have been estimated from a comparison with prominent figures appearing in the Lackawanna Historical

Society's collection, The John Jenkins Papers, which is currently being processed with Wilkes University archives students. The collection is currently being processed and will be digitized within their institution when completed. This collection contains many of the military and political figures who settled the Wyoming Valley region prior to, during, and following the American Revolution.

Dates: 2 July 1773

Creator: [Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795](#);

Subjects: Minutes; Vote; Record; Business

Locations: Wilkes Barre

People: [Fuller, Stephen 1730-1813](#); [Marvin, Seth, 1745-1815](#); Sloman, [Pos. Slocum]; [Swift, \[Pos. Swift, John, 1761-1814\]](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821](#); [Gore, Obadiah, 1714-1779](#); [Jenkins, John, 1751-1827](#); [Terry, Parshall, \[Pos. Terry, Parshall Sr., 1734-1811\]](#); [Avery, Christopher, 1739-1778](#); [Landon, \[Pos. Landon, Nathaniel, 1752-1833\]](#); [Gore, Daniel, 1746-1809](#); Ruldon[Pos. Rudolph]; [Smith, Tuno \[Pos. Smith, Tunis, 1728-1805\]](#)

General Condition: Fair.

Measurements: 8 in. x 5 ¼ in.

Transcript Attempt:

This is to give Notice to all the Inhabitants of the Susquehannah Purchase, to meet at Wilkes Barre Fort on Thursday the 8th Instant at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, to hear the Report of the Committee Chosen to make some Regulations and Rules for the better Ordering and governing the Inhabitants of said purchase, securing their property and Redressing their Grievances & Complaints also to come into some Regulations for the more Effectual preventing the selling of Rum to the Indians & any other Business proper to be done on s^[ai]d Day.

Dated at Wilkes Barre

2nd July 1773

Zebulon Butler	} Committee
Stephen Fuller	} of
Obadiah Gore	} Settlers
Seth Marvin	}

{back}

Mr. Sloman ### / 9

Mr. Swift ##### 17 / ##### 17

Cap^{t[ain]} Butler ##### 11 / ##### 20

Cap^t Gore + //

Gore J^r # /

Cap^t Fuller # /

Obadiah Gore } Town

July 24th 1773

Parshal Terry

}

Comtee

Nathan Deneson

}

-----END-----

12.72 Item 32: “A List of the numbers of the lots of Land at Wyoming & names of the Purchasers with the Quantities of acres and rates of Purchase,” by unknown, [1771-1773]. (Removed to Legal Box #1)

Type of Material: List

Title: A List of the numbers of the lots of Land at Wyoming & names of the Purchasers with the Quantities of acres and rates of Purchase

Description: The following item depicts a list of numbered lots in Wyoming. The list compiled names the holder of the title, the quantity of acres the lot contains, with an additional allowance necessary for the roads within, and the rate of the lot by the hundredth acre. The document contains 31 names with the respective numbered lot mentioned on the left hand side of the document. The track rates range from 20 to 50 pounds, with the greatest acreage being 206 acres.

The date for the item has been estimated by a comparison with the Ogden brothers life dates, as two prominent figures of the valley who died between 1771-1773. [Nathan died in 1771](#) and [Amos in 1773](#).

Dates: [1771-1773]

Creator: N/A

Subjects: List; Correspondence; Titles, Land; Finances; Business

Locations: Easton

People: Stuart, Charles; Johnson, Philip; [Lawson, James, \[Pos. Lawson, James, 1758-1852\]](#); Kroitz, Bernard; Martin, Robert; [Patterson, Alexander, 1743-1822](#); Ledlie, Andrew; [Ryerson, George Luke, 1742-1842](#); [Ryerson, Martin J., 1751-1839](#); [Clark, Jesse, \[Pos. Clark, Jesse, 1739-1815\]](#); [Roup, Michael, 1736-1812](#); Ramee, Lawrence; Johnson, Samuel; Johnson, David; Johnson, Samuel; Johnson, James; Dick, John; Jennins, Isaiah; [Ogden, Amos, 1731-1774](#); [Nathan, \[Pos. Ogden, Nathan, 1737-1771\]](#); [Ogden, Gilbert, \[Pos. Ogden, Gilbard, 1742-ca. 1771\]](#); [VanHorne, Thomas, 1722- ca.1800](#); Ogden, David; [VanHorne, Cornelius, 1750-1847](#); Rogers, Samuel; Connor, Samuel; Hacklin, Peter; [Ledlie, William, 1746-1835](#); [Van campen, John, 1726-1805](#); [Arrison, John, 1767-1828](#); [Depue, Aaron, \[Pos. Depuy, Aaron, 1715-1773\]](#); [Boadhead, Garrett, 1733-1804](#)

General Condition: Poor. Ink is slightly fading and the page suffers many tears.

Measurements: 12 ¾ in. x 8 in.

Transcript Attempt:

A List of the numbers of the lots of Land at Wyoming & names of the Purchasers with the Quantities of acres and rates of Purchase

Numbers of the Lots	Names of the Purchasers	Quantity of acres with allowances of Qr. for roads	Rates fr. Hundred Acres
No. 17	Charles Stuart	165. 90	£ 45.

18	Philip Johnson	160. 60	40.0.0
22	James Lawson	162. 40	35.
25	Bernard Kroitz	141. 80	20
29	Rob ^{ler} ^t Martin	81	30
52	Ditto [same as above]		
30	Alex ^{ande} ^r Patterson	94. 54	35
31	Andrew Ledlie	121. 100	40
34	George Ryerson	126. 80	45
35	Martin Ryerson	122. 150	45
46	Jesse Clarke	111.	30
49	Michael Roup	135. 135	20
50	Lawrence Ramee	120.	20
	Samuel Johnson for his 3 sons Viz		
36	David Johnson	120.	35
37	Samuel Johnson Jun ^{io} ^r .	115. 70	35
38	James Johnson	112. 136	35
33	John Dick Asinee [Assignee] of Isaiah Jennins	134.	45
15	Amos Ogden adm ^{inistrato} ^r . Of Nathan	158. 135	50

20	Thomas Vanhorn	190. 90	40
16	Amos Ogden for David Ogden	165. 90	50
21	Cornelius Vanhorn	177. 132	40
39	Amos Ogden for Gilbert Ogden	111.	35

19	Samuel Rogers	150. 140	40
14	Amos Ogden for Sam ^[ue] l. Connor	147. 20	50
53	Petter Hacklin	150.	
2	W ^{[illia]m} Leadlie	150.	50
7	John Van campen	150	50
8	John Arrison	150.	50
13 & 48	Aron Depue	206	50
3	Garret Boadhead	150	50
A Coppy			

-----END-----

12.73 Item 33: A Gubernatorial Decree by [Jonathan Trumbull](#), establishing a Corporation for the County of Westmoreland, 1778 June 1 (Removed to Black Box #1)

Type of Material: Decree

Title: N/A

Description: The manuscript dated June 1, 1778, depicts the Governor of Connecticut, Jonathan Trumbull, establishing a corporation to assign and maintain rules of peace according to those of the government. The corporation is comprised of fourteen names, including Nathan Denison, Christopher Avery, Obadiah Gore, Zerah Beach, Zebulon Butler, William McKamecan, Asaph Whittlesey, Uriah Chapman, Anderson Dana Ebenezar, Marcey Stephen Harding, John Franklin, Joseph Harding, and William Judd. These men are charged with maintaining the rule of law by threat of seizure, as Trumbull writes that the person and estate are held together in sureties to the county, with the possibility of said property being withheld until the goal of the county is reasserted. Trumbull further appoints three individuals of the fourteen, Nathan Denisson, Christopher Avery, Obadiah Gore, and Zara Beach, to assist the judge. The reverse of the manuscript depicts a handwritten note of another, unknown author, which explains that this is an original manuscript of a document mentioned in the History of Wyoming by Paine. The manuscript mentions the duty of maintaining the Goal of the county. This was a position assigned to a number of men in the late eighteenth into the early nineteenth century, titled a Goaler, which was tied with the settling of a township or county most often.

[The Goaler](#) was a position that worked under the sheriff, ensuring arrests, preventing escapes, and taking out writs of execution to repossess homes, land, or other goods when necessary or directed by the sheriff. The word was an early interaction of the term jailer, with roots dating back to the middle ages.

Dates: 1 June 1778

Creator: Trumbull, Jonathan, 1710-1785, George Wylls (Secretary)

Subjects: Governor's Decree

Locations: Hartford, Connecticut

People: Denison, Nathan, 1740-1809; Avery, Christopher, 1739-1778; Gore, Obadiah, 1744-1821; Beach, Zerah, 1746-1836; Butler, Zebulon, 1731-1795; McKamecan(?), William [Unknown B-D]; Whittlesey, Asaph, 1753-1778; Chapman, Uriah, 1733-1816; Dana, Anderson [Unknown B-D]; Marcy, Ebenezer, 1741-1790; Harding, Stephen, 1749-1816; Franklin, John, 1749-1831; Hambleton, Joseph, [Pos. Related to Hambleton, Joseph, 1754-1833]; Judd, William [Unknown B-D]

General Condition: Poor. Paper has extreme staining and in some places the print has been rubbed off completely.

Measurements: 16 in. x 13 in.

Transcript Attempt:

First page:

[The page is comprised of both printed and annotated text. The bolded text represents the parts of the manuscript which are printed versus the unbolded, underlined text which notes annotated sections.]

The Governor and Company of the State of *Connecticut*, in *New England*, in *America*;

To: Nathan Denison Christopher Avery Obadiah Gore Zera (sic) Beach Zebulon Butler

William McKamecan(?) Asaph Whittlesey Uriah Chapman Anderson Dana Ebenezer
Marcey Stephen Harding John Franklin Joseph Harding William Judd ~~~

Esq's [Esquires], GREETING.

Know YE, that We have Assigned you, and every of you, jointly and severally, to keep the peace of the county of Westmoreland within the State aforesaid; and to K[illegible] cause to be kept, all the Laws and Ordinances that are or shall be made for the good [of] the Peace, and Conservation of [the] same, and for the quiet Rule and Government of [the] People within the County aforesaid: And to chastise and punish all Persons offending [illegible] the County aforesaid, against the said Laws or Ordinances, or any of them, as accord[ing] to those Laws and Ordinances shall be fit to be done : one his Person or Estate to[gether] sufficient Sureties for the Peace and good Behavior or in dsfult of their finding S[urei]ties, to commit them to Goal, or safe custody until they shall do so.

And We have assigned you [the?] said Nathan D[enison] Christopher Avery Obadiah Gore & Zera (sic) Beach Esq[uir]es

to assist the Judge of the Cou[nty] [illegible] [illegible] or the Coun[ty?] [illegible][illegible] [Inq]uire of, [illegible]ar and [illegible] by a Jury or [illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible] civil and criminal, cognizable [illegible] and Court.

And we do also assign you the said Nathan Denison C[hristopher] Avery Obadiah Gore Zera (sic) Beach Zebulon Butler William McKamecan(?) Asaph Whittlesey Uriah Chapman Anderson Dana Ebenezer Marcey Stephen Harding John Franklin Joseph Harding William Judd ~~~

and each and every of you, to hear and determine all Causes, Matters, and Things, civil and criminal, which any One Assistant in this Corporation, now hath, and hereafter shall have Power by Law to hear and [d]etermine And I command you, and every of you, that you diligently intend the keepin[g] of the Peace, Laws, and Ordinances, and all and singular other the Premises, and perform and fulfil (sic) the same, doing therein what yo Justice appertains, according to the Laws of our said State to be hereunto affixed. *Witness, Jonathan Trumbull, Esq[ui]re; Governor of our said State of Connecticut, and with the Consent of the General Assembly of the same, in Hartford this first Day of June Anno Domini, 1775 ~*

John Franklin

By his Excellency's Command,
George Wyllys Secr'y [Secretary]

Back:

See Durkee(?)
History of Wyoming
Page 210 & 211
very [un]documented
GmClintock (sic)

This is the original document referred to in Paines(?) History of Wyoming
beginning page 21 Found in
papers of El DANA

-----END-----

12.74 Item 34: A Copy by Putnam Catlin, [no date], of the Minutes of a Susquehanna Company Meeting, led by Lord Butler et. al, 1793 March 4. (Removed to Legal Box #1)

Type of Material: Meeting minutes

Title: N/A

Description: The following item depicts a copy by Putnam Catlin, clerk, for the Susquehanna Company meeting, led by Lord Butler and company. The date of the original meeting is March 4, 1793. The minutes contain a resolution to grant more money to the Connecticut claimants of several townships in Luzerne County. The sum approved is for \$630.00 to be distributed to townships including Wilkes Barre, Kingston, Plymouth, Hanover, Tioga, Pittston, Wyalusing, Tunkhannock, Newport, Exeter, Salem, and Huntington. The sum distributed for each range from 90 dollars to 16 dollars, with a majority of the townships receiving 60 dollars.

Dates: 4 March 1793 (original); N/A (Copy)

Creator: Catlin, Putnam, 1764-1842

Subjects: Minutes; Meeting; Yankee Pennamite Wars, 1769-1807

Locations: Luzerne County (Original)

People: [Butler, Lord, 1761-1824](#); [Fell, Jesse, 1751-1830](#); Carpenter, Benjamin; [Denison, Nathan, 1740-1809](#); [Franklin, John, 1749-1831](#); [Bingham, Chester, 1748-1823](#); [Alden, Mason Fitch, 1750-1812](#); [Jackson, William, 1759-1828](#); [Finn, James, 1746-1797](#); [Harris, Peter, 1741-1819](#); [Hurlburt, Christopher, 1757-1831](#); [Osterhout, Gideon, 1730-1813](#); [Rogers, Jonah, 1743-1799](#); [Van Lone, Matthias, \[Pos. Van Loon II, Matthias Clausen, 1778-1860\]](#); [Catlin, Putnam, 1764-1842](#)

General Condition: Poor. The page is torn into two halves, the paper shows general age, and the ink is fading.

Measurements: 13 in. x 8 ⅞ in.

Transcript Attempt:

At a Meeting of the Representatives of the Connecticut claimants from the Several Townships in the County of Luzerne conven^{[e]d} at the Court house in Wilkesbarre (sic) March 4th 1793. present Lord Butler, Jesse Fell, Benj. Carpenter, Nathan Dennison, John Franklin, Chester Bingham, Mason F Alden, William Jackson, James Finn, Peter Harris, Chris^{to[pher]} Hurlbut, Gideon Osterhout, Jonah Rogers & Matthias van Lone.

Lord Butler chairman

Resolved by this meeting

- 1st That an additional sum of Six hundred & thirty dollars be immediately levied on the Connecticut claimants in this County, as a fund for defraying the expense in defending the suits brought by the Pennsylvania claimants against the Connecticut claimants; which sum shall be apportioned on the several Townships as follows (viz) Wilkesbarre (sic) shall pay 90 dollars, Kingston, 80^{do} [same as before] Plymouth 70^{do} Hanover 70^{do} Tioga 70^{do} Pittston 60^{do} Wyalusing 60, Tunkhannock 50^{do} Newport 24^{do} Exeter 20^{do} Salem 16^{do} & Huntington 20^{do}
- 2^d That that the representatives of the Several Townships, take suitable measure for apportioning & Collecting the sum quotad (sic) [quoted] on their respective Townships, & that they pay over the Same to the Treasurer of the Connecticut claimants; by the first day of April next.
- 3^d That Timothy Pickering, Jn^o [John] Franklin & Putnam Catlin be appointed Agents for the Connecticut claimants To represent to the Counsel [Council] employed in favour of those claimants, the facts relative to their ~~cause~~ claim; & to collect Evedence (sic) [Evidence] necessary to be improved at their trial in the circuit

Back:

circuit court at Philadelphia in april next.
4th That the Representatives of the Several Townships in this county, cause true Returns of the number of Families & number of Souls in their respective Townships, to be made to one of the agents aforesaid, by the first day of April next.

A true copy

Putnam Catlin Clerk
to the Connecticut claimants

-----END-----

12.75 Item 35: A Letter by Charles C. Gaylord to [Lord Butler](#), 1797 March 27

Type of Material: Letter/Correspondence

Title: Assortment of Letters

Description: The following item depicts a memo and letter written by Charles Gaylord to Lord Butler. In the letter, Gaylord writes that at an annual meeting for the town that took place on March 17, 1797, Enos Seward and Stephen Harrison were named persons on a committee for particular county business. It does not state what that business is specifically, but there is an additional note by the author that this notice should not have been made return on until another meeting of General return was to be heard in the following month.

This item was originally curated with Series II: the McClintock Family Series, as part of a binder, original number 1.6 Binder: Andrew McClintock Correspondence and Biographical Materials and Photo, 1831-1881. The binder was dissolved in processing the collection and items pertaining to the Susquehanna Claim and General Wyoming Valley Collection moved to corresponding collections.

Dates: 1797 March 27

Creator: [Gaylord, Charles C. \[Pos. Gaylord, Charles Eleazer, 1770-1839\]](#)

Subjects: Letters; Correspondence;

Locations: Wilkes-Barre

People: [Gaylord, Charles C. \[Pos. Gaylord, Charles Eleazer, 1770-1839\]](#); [Seward, Enos, 1735-1820](#); [Harrison, Stephen, 1752-1834](#); [Butler, Lord, 1761-1824](#)

General Condition: Fair. The page has discoloration and the ink is smudged in the middle of the page.

Measurements: 4 ¾ in. x 6 7/16 in.

Transcription Attempt:

Front:

Sir

I inform that at the annual
Town-Meeting the ~~illegible~~ 17 March 1797
The inhabitants of Huntington made choice
of Mr Enos Seward Sen^{ior} & Mr Stephen Harrison

Agents for Committee to meet the Counties (sic) Committee
on any occasion Required certified by me
Huntington March 27 AD 1797

Charles C. Gaylord Clerk

NB [nota bene] I should not have made Return of these
till I make a General Return in April Court week
but in agening(?) Some exigency might Require
their attendance prior to Court &c [etcetera]

Back:

Lord Butler Es[uire] [Cuts off]
Wilk[es Barre] [Cuts off]

-----END-----

12.76. Item 36: Meeting minutes by Jesse Fell, 1804 March 19.

Type of Material: Meeting Minutes

Title: N/A

Description: This document was written by Jessie Fell, the Wilkes-Barre town clerk of the time, and is an account of the voting and approving of Matthias Hollenback building a store house on the river bank. It has been discovered in later years that this house was built before the first Market Street bridge and overlooked both the susquehanna river and a 100-acre farm, which is today's [Kirby Park](#). The committee overseeing this project consisted of Ebenezer Bowman, Nathan Waller, and Cornelius Courtright. These three individuals were well-known during this time period and contributed to the development of Luzerne County. There is a lot known about Matthias Hollenback, for the context of this specific document, along with being a judge for Luzerne county and successful merchant, Hollenback also was a farmer who raised crops on the 100-acre farm discussed above. Hence, why Hollenback requested the farmhouse being built along the river and close to his farm, it is believed it was used by one of his farmer's tenants. For the time period, the house was built extraordinarily well, it survived great ice flows and floods, which was later admired by Wilkes-Barre citizens, before being torn down in the early 1900's.

Dates: 17 March 1804

Creator: [Fell, Jesse 1750-1830](#)

Subjects: Minutes and proceedings; Wilkes-Barre (Pa.)

Locations: [Wilkes-Barre, Pa](#)

People: [Hollenback, Matthias 1752-1829](#); [Bowman, Ebenezer 1757-1829](#), [Waller, Nathan 1753-1831](#), [Courtright, Cornelius 1764-1848](#)

General Condition: Fair. Some staining and ink fading. However, it is still legible.

Measurements: 7 ¾ in. x 6 ½ in. (half); 13 in. x 7 ¾ in. (full)

Transcript Attempt:

At a Town meeting held at the Court House in Wilkesbarre 17 March 1804.

“On the application of Matthias Hollenback Esquire to build a Store House on the River Bank on the Public Commons it was motioned and seconded & Voted that Colo. Matthias Hollenback have liberty to build a Store House on the River Bank on the Public Commons at such a place, and on such Conditions

and under such regulations as a Committee to be appointed by this meeting and the said Hollenback shall agree upon”

“Voted, That Ebenezer Bowman, Nathan Waller, Cornelius Courtright be a Committee for the purpose last above mentioned.”

A true extract from the minutes on Town Book of Wilkes barre

Jesse Fell Town Clk

Wilkesbarre 19 March 1804

-----END-----