

clear he had no sympathy with the mob action. In June 1775 Galloway wrote sceptically to his son-in-law^{Thomas Ringgold, Jr.} about Congress's preparations for war, and the next February Ringgold wrote hopefully that Congress would soon make a declaration against independence.

During the war there was evidently much tension between Galloway and his son Benjamin because of Benjamin's ready support of the new government. There are 2 letters (1778) about Benjamin's decision to leave his family and move to Hagerstown. Benjamin's earlier letters discuss his legal education in London (1773). In 1775 he was again in London commenting on the Boston blockade from that perspective.

Galloway's correspondents included: Anne [Chew] Galloway (1750-54), Benjamin Chew (1758, 1759), Joseph Galloway (1758), Thomas Ringgold, Jr. (1773-1775), Benjamin Galloway (1773-1778), John Galloway (1774), and Benjamin Stoddert (1783).

James Cheston Papers

James Cheston (1747-1798) was a merchant dealing in convict servants, tobacco, corn, and wheat. He began his career in 1768 in a partnership with Willian Stevenson, his step-brother. Stevenson remained in Bristol, England while Cheston handled the colonial details in Maryland. Cheston moved around but mainly operated in Chestertown. He settled in West River, home of his wife, during the war.

In Bristol Stevenson procured convict servants and goods to send to Cheston. Cheston in turn sold the servants and goods and loaded the ships with tobacco, wheat, and corn. Cheston was the younger of the two, and the correspondence between Stevenson and Cheston is quite detailed as Stevenson trained Cheston in the business. These letters (1767-1775) contain much information on the operation of colonial trade. Stevenson's letters detailed procurement of the convict servants and Cheston's letters (in his letterbooks) described the economic situation in Maryland.