



# Haverford Township Historical Society



## CHARLES HUMPHREY (1714-1786)

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

*[The following is excerpted from History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania by George Smith M.D., published by Henry B. Ashmead in Philadelphia in 1862.]*

**CHARLES HUMPHREY**, the son of Daniel and Hannah Humphrey, was born in Haverford about the year 1712 [actually 1714], and died [unmarried] in 1786. He was brought up to the milling business, and being a joint owner with his brother, Joshua Humphrey, of the Haverford mill, he carried on that business extensively for many years. He was a man of fine talents, and at one time was very influential in the county. In 1764 he was elected to the Provincial Assembly, and was re-elected to that office, annually, till 1775, when he was chosen a member of {Continental} Congress. In that body, though he had contended, with all his energies, against the oppressive measures of Great Britain, he thought the time had not come to sever our connection with the mother country, and voted against the Declaration of Independence. He has been censured for this vote, but in giving it, he represented the views of a large majority of his constituents at the time it was given. He retired to private life, and though he took no part in the great struggle for liberty, his sympathies were on the side of his country. He was a kind neighbor and was serviceable in settling disputes in his neighborhood. No one ever questioned his integrity either in public or private life.

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