

GLOSSARY

as of 3/1/16

BARBADOS or MUSCOVADO SUGAR: A British specialty brown sugar, is very dark brown and has a particularly strong molasses flavor. The crystals are slightly coarser and stickier in texture than "regular" brown sugar.
(<http://www.sugar.org/sugar-basics/types-of-sugar.html>)

BOHEA TEA: A kind of oolong, or in 18th & early 19th centuries, black tea generally. The word is derived from the Wuyi Mountains in northern Fujian, China.
(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bohea>).

BOUNTY: Cash bonuses paid to entice enlistees into the army. Bounty jumping - the practice of enlisting, collecting the bonus, deserting, reenlisting, and collecting another bonus was an inherent defect in the system.
(<http://www.britannica.com>)

CHICKEN LINEN: Feed sack fabric.
(<http://www.rickrack.com/rickrackrag/?p=88>)

COMMISSARY (of Issues): For purposes of this glossary it is the organized method or manner by which food, equipment, transport, etc., is delivered to armies.

CREDIT (Per Contra Credit): For purposes of this glossary it is the payment, in cash or by items/services for items initially obtained by credit. It is usually, although not always, on the right page of the Roseboom books.

DEBTOR: For purposes of this glossary it is an entry for an individual who has obtained something on credit and at some time needs to pay for whatever was obtained. It is usually, although not always, on the left page of the Roseboom books.

D^r: = D^r = Debtor or possibly debit (18th Century Handwriting Contractions).
(<http://www.opcdorset.org/Miscellaneous/Miscellaneous-Contractions.htm>)

D^o or d^o: = Ditto

DUFFEL: A course, thick, woolen material. Also a coat made out of said material.
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duffle_coat)

ELL: A unit of measure (several national forms existed). In England the ell was usually 45 inches or a yard and a quarter. It was mainly used in the tailoring business but is now obsolete.
(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ell>)

FARTHING: (*f*): One-quarter of a pence.

FISHER: A small carnivorous mammal native to North America (a member of the weasel family).
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fisher_\(animal\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fisher_(animal))

GIMBLET: A special bit for a brace used to make holes for screws. Prior to 1846 screws were blunt.
(<http://www.fullchisle.com/blog/?p=107>)

GUINEA: 21 Shillings = 1 Guinea.

GUNNA: A gown (gunna is from medieval Latin), usually a loose outer garment from knee to full length, worn by men and women in Europe from the early Middle Ages to the seventeenth century.

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gown>)

HOGSHEAD: (Abbr. - hhd). Any of various units of volume or capacity ranging from 63 to 140 gallons.

(<http://www.answers.com/topic/hogshead>)

~~(lb)~~ See Pound (Weight).

MESSINA: A North Eastern province of Sicily known for wine making (www.wine-pages.com/organise/sicily-messina-wines.htm).

MUSCOVADO or BARBADOS SUGAR: A British specialty brown sugar, is very dark brown and has a particularly strong molasses flavor. The crystals are slightly coarser and stickier in texture than "regular" brown sugar.

(<http://www.sugar.org/sugar-basics/types-of-sugar.html>)

MUSKRAT: Beaver-like aquatic rodent of North America with dark brown glossy fur. Also see Musquash.

(<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/musquash>)

MUSQUASH: Another name for muskrat, especially the fur.

(<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/musquash>)

PENCE (d): 12 Pence = 1 Shilling.

Per: 

POUND - Financial - (£): Consists of 20 Shillings or 240 Pence or 940 Farthings.

POUND - Weight - (lb): Note - The writing of the pound abbreviation may also look like "ll". The actual "cross line" appears higher on the abbreviation, much like the crossing of a double "t". This 18th century rendition of the pound sign was somewhat of a puzzle until I ran across the following explanation:

lb, or libra pondo literally [means] "pound by weight" in Latin. When writing lb, it was not uncommon for scribes to cross the letters across the top with a line across the top like a "t".

(<http://hotword.dictionnaire.com/octothorpe/>)

READ LEADEN: [?RED LEAD?]: 18th Century make-up, used in conjunction with white lead. This was the cause of a high incidence of lead poisoning in the 18th Century.

(<http://www.objectretrieval.com/node/111>)

S or ſ: Sometimes written as what appears to be an "f." This is known as a "long s" or a medial "s." Throughout its history, the long "s" has always looked a lot like the lowercase "f". As one might deduce from the nomenclature, the long/medial "s" was supposed to be used in the middle of a word, while the terminal "s" was used to finish one off (in practice this rule was somewhat haphazardly adhered to).

(<http://www.straightdope.com/columns/read/101/why-did-18th-century-writers-use-f...>)

SADDLE OF VENISON: A prime cut of meat (loin). It is sometimes referred to as the backstrap. The saddle runs along the spine, from the shoulder blades to the haunch joints.

SCHPEL or SCHEFFEL: Traditional units of dry volume. The German scheffel and Dutch schepel have both been redefined within the metric system, but in very different ways: the scheffel equals 50 liters (1.4189 U.S. bushels) and the schepel 10 liters (0.2838

U.S. bushels). Both words are usually translated "bushel" in English, and both units were originally closer to the English bushel; the schepel was roughly 0.75 bushel or about 26 liters.

SCYTHE or SYTHE or SITHE: An instrument for mowing grass, grain, or the like, by hand, composed of a long, curving blade, with a sharp edge, made fast to a long handle, called a snath, which is bent into a form convenient for use.
(<http://dictionary.die.net/sythe>).

SHILLING: (**S**): 20 Shillings = 1 Pound.

SHINGLE: A thin piece of wood, slate, metal, asbestos, or the like, usually oblong, laid in overlapping rows to cover the roofs and walls of buildings. Also a synonym for stave.
(Webster's unabridged dictionary, 2nd edition and
<http://thesaurus.babylon.com/shingle>)

SKEENSBOROUGH (1764_D_9)[?Skenesborough?]: The village was founded in 1759 by Major Philip Skene (which is now the modern village of Whitehall, located five miles (8km) west of the Vermont border at the south end of Lake Champlain and lies between Champlain and Lake George). Skene, who built the barracks at Crown Point under Gen. Jeffrey Amherst, sold out his commission in the British army to establish the community and the many associated enterprises he planned and later carried out. It was the first settlement at Lake Champlain and became an important trade center. It was on one of two routes between English and French colonies.

On May 9, 1775 Lieutenant Samuel Herrick, acting as an advance party for Ethan Allen's attack on Fort Ticonderoga surprised Major Skene and his small garrison. While he intended to use Skene's boats to ferry men across the lake, his party didn't arrive in time. Skene's schooner was used later to capture St. Johns.

In 1776, General Philip Schuyler built a small fleet of ships here. They were used by Benedict Arnold in the Battle of Valcour Island in October. The event led to Whitehall's modern-day claim to be the birthplace of the United States Navy. The surviving vessels returned to be destroyed to prevent their capture. General John Burgoyne led his forces southward through this area during the Saratoga Campaign.

During the War of 1812 the village was a ship building community supplying vessels for naval battles on Lake Champlain.
([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitehall_\(village\),_New_York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitehall_(village),_New_York))

STAVE: One of the thin, narrow, shaped pieces of wood that form the sides of a cask, tub, or similar vessel. Also a synonym for shingle.
(<http://thesaurus.babylon.com/shingle>)

STILYARD: (1) A simple balance for weighing foodstuffs etc; the thing to be weighed hangs from the short side of a beam; the long side has graduated notches for a standard weight. (2) A strong frame - to set something upon
(<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com>). **NOTE: In searching for the definition of Stilyard virtually all the references were to some sort of scale.**
(<http://en.wiktionary.org>)

STOPPAGE: Commonly applied in the Army to all kinds of debts against a soldier which are liable to reduce below the Army rate of pay of his rank the amount of cash he can draw at the pay table.
(<http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/commons/1937/apr/21/pay-stoppages-concessions>)

STROUD: A course woolen cloth, blanket, or garment formerly used by the British in bartering with the North American Indians.
(<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/stroud>)

SUNDRIES: Things or items especially small miscellaneous items of little value
(Webster's unabridged dictionary - 2nd edition).

SWEDISH IRON: Wrought iron of high purity made in Sweden.
(http://www.lexic.us/definition-of/Swedish_iron)

VEDONIA WINE: A spurious Madeira (Wine) is sometimes made from Canary wine called Vedonia, which somewhat resembles Madeira, and like it, is improved by heat and agitation. This is mixed with small quantities of Mountain Port and Cape, sweetened with sugar candy, flavored with bitter almonds and then subjected to a hot-water process to give it mellowness and age.
(Food: its adulterations and methods for their detection - Arthur Hill Hassall - Pg. 775 - <http://books.google.com/books?id=Rkc3AAAAMAAJ>)

Viz. or Viz^t: Abbreviation of "videlicet": that is to say; namely (used especially to introduce examples, details, etc.). (Webster's unabridged dictionary - 2nd edition).

WASTE BOOK: One of the books traditionally used in bookkeeping. It comprised a daily diary of all transactions in chronological order. It differs from a daybook in that only a single waste book is kept, rather than a separate daybook for each of several categories. The waste book was intended for temporary use only; the information needed to be transcribed into a journal in order to begin to balance one's accounts. The name of the book derives from the fact that, once its information was transferred to the journal, the waste book was unneeded.
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waste_book)