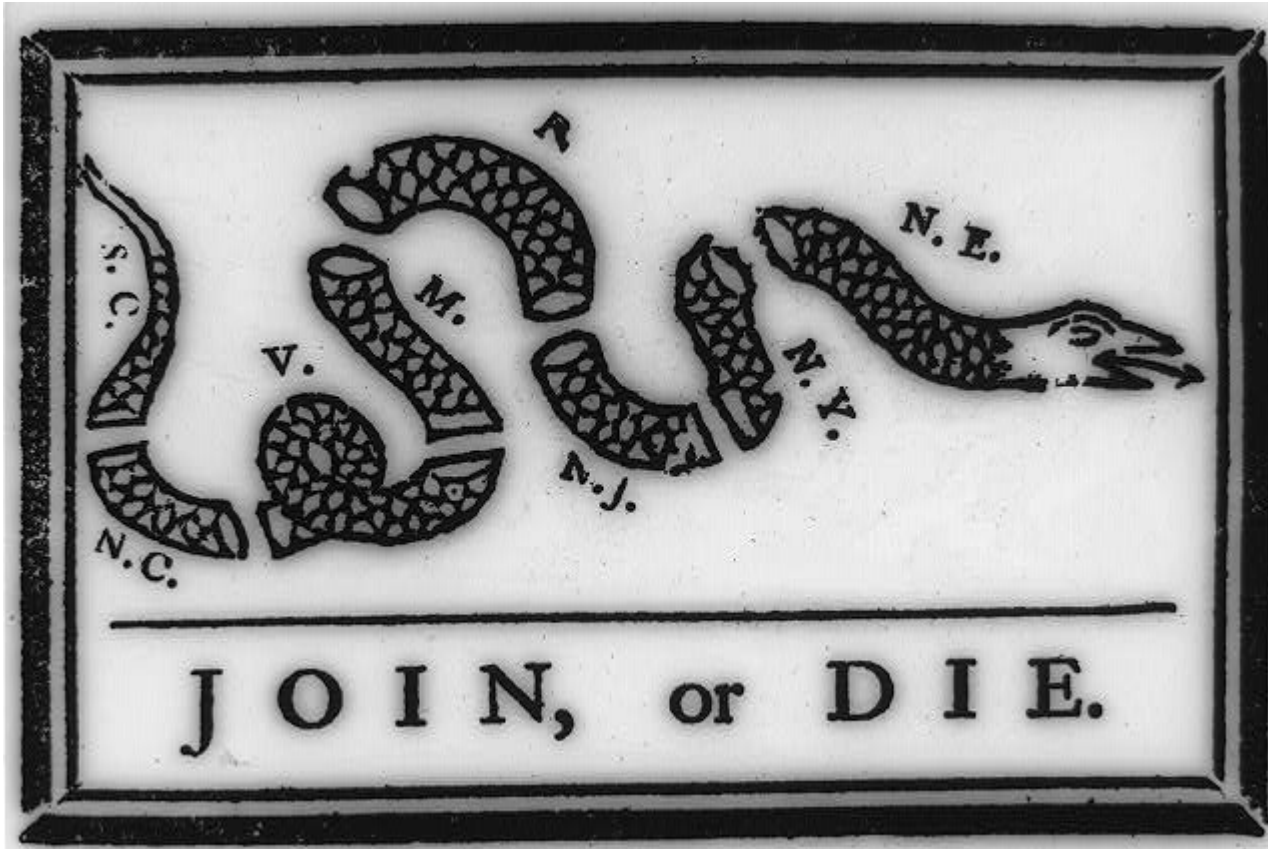


ARTIFACT 1

“Join or Die”

A woodcut by Benjamin Franklin

Published in *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, 1754 May 9



Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2002695523/>

ARTIFACT 2

The Sons of Liberty

The Sons of Liberty began in 1765 as a group of Boston shopkeeper and artisans who organized to protest the Stamp Act. Originally calling themselves The Loyal Nine, their ranks and support grew quickly to nearly two thousand as workers and tradesmen joined the cause. While leading men of Boston like Samuel and John Adams encouraged these colonists, they and other radical leaders distanced themselves from the unseemly agitation over a parliamentary act and the sometimes violent actions of the group.

The mobs that accompanied the acts of the Sons had an intimidating effect on the Justices and Sheriffs of Boston as well as the British Militia. For example, when the Sons hung an effigy of Andrew Oliver, who was a British official connected with the Stamp Act, a large crowd formed and sheriffs ordered to remove the effigy refused out of fear for their lives. By the evening's end, the mob burned Oliver's property, ransacked his home, and beheaded and burned the effigy. The violent force of the mob ensured no response.

Violence was not the only means through which the Sons worked; newsprint was their most effective means, as many members were printers and publishers. Since the Stamp Act meant duties on printed materials, other printers were quite sympathetic to the cause. Because of this, most colonial newspapers reported the dramatic escapades of the Sons. This propaganda emboldened colonists and colonial Legislatures and by the time the Stamp Act went into effect November 1, 1765, most of these papers continued publishing without paying the required duty.

By the end of 1765, chapters of the Sons of Liberty existed in every colony, directed secretly by leading men. By 1766, most royal governments in the colonies had been displaced by the Sons, and correspondence between these radical groups within the different colonies began. A larger organization then grew as colonists united to mutually support and defend the cause in anticipation of the inevitable reassertion of control by British troops.

Text adapted from "The Sons of Liberty"

<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/sons.htm>

ARTIFACT 3

In 1765 the British Parliament, in an attempt to increase revenue from the colonies to pay for troops and colonial administration, passed the Stamp Act. It required colonists to purchase stamps for many documents and printed items, such as land titles, contracts, playing cards, books, newspapers, and advertisements. Because it affected almost everyone, the act provoked widespread hostility. Newspapers were a common form of communication in this period, and even illiterate colonists might hear a newspaper read aloud in a tavern.

Pennsylvania Journal & Weekly Advertiser, 31 October 1765.

The TIMES are An Emblem of the Effects of the STAMP

Dreadful
Doleful
Dismal
Dolorous, and
DOLLAR-LESS

Numb 1195

The PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL; AND WEEKLY
EXPIRING: In Hopes of a Resurrection to LIFE again

I am sorry to be obliged to acquaint my readers that as the Stamp Act is feared to be obligatory upon us after the first of November ensuing (The Fatal To-morrow), The publisher of this paper, unable to bear the Burthen, has thought it expedient to stop awhile, in order to



Thursday, October 31, 1765
ADVERTISER

Stamp Act is feared to be obligatory
Morrow), The publisher of this paper,
deliberate, whether any methods can be found to elude the chains forged for us, and escape the insupportable slavery, which it is hoped, from the last representation now made against that act, may be effected. Mean while I must, earnestly Request every individual of my Subscribers, many of whom have been long behind Hand, that they would immediate discharge their respective Arrears, that I may be able, not only to support myself during the Interval, but be better prepared to proceed again with this Paper whenever an opening for that purpose appears, which I hope will be soon. WILLIAM BRADFORD

ARTIFACT 4

Political cartoon
"Magna Britannia: her Colonies REDUC'D"
Benjamin Franklin, 1766

Headnote: Designed by Franklin in 1766. Franklin printed the image on cards that he distributed to Parliament during the debate over the repeal of the Stamp Act.



"The Moral is, that the Colonies may be ruined, but that Britain would thereby be maimed."

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/franklin-cause.html>

ARTIFACT 5

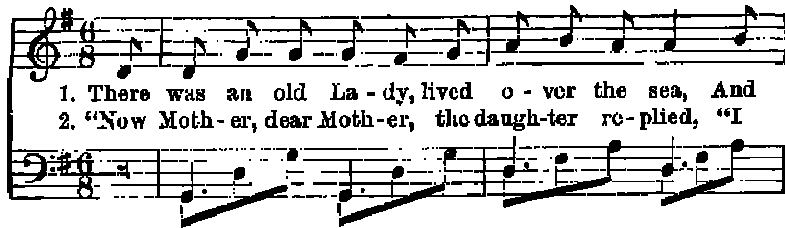
Revolutionary Tea

Song written in the 18th century, soon after the Boston Tea Party of 1773

<http://www.gatewaytotheclassics.com/display.php?author=pratt&book=ahs2&story=tea>

REVOLUTIONARY TEA.

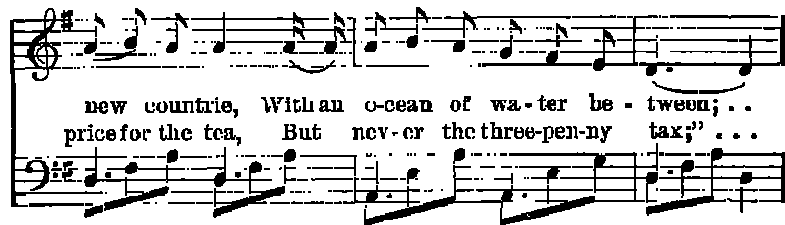
Words by BEBA SMITH.



1. There was an old La - dy, lived o - ver the sea, And
2. "Now Moth - er, dear Moth - er, the daugh - ter re - plied, "I



she was an Is - land Queen; . . Her daughter liv'd off in a
sha'n't do the thing you ask, . . . I'm willing to pay a fair



new countrie, With an o - cean of wa - ter be - tween; . .
price for the tea, But nev - er the three - pen - ny tax;" . . .



The old lady's pockots were full of gold, But nev - er content - ed was
"You shall," quoth the mother, and reddened with rage, For you're my own daugh - ter, you

There was a rich lady lived over the sea,
And she was an island queen.
Her daughter lived off in the new country,
With an ocean of water between (3)

The old lady's pockets were filled with gold,
Yet never contented was she
So she ordered her daughter to pay her a tax,
Of thru pence a pound on the tea. (3)

"Oh mother, dear mother," the daughter replied.
"I'll not do the thing that you ask.
"I'm willing to pay a fair price for the tea,
But never a thru penny tax, (3)

"You shall!" cried the mother, and reddened with rage.
"For you're my own daughter you see.
"And it's only proper that daughter should pay
Her mother a tax on the tea (3)

She ordered her servant to come up to her
And to wrap up a package of tea.
And eager for three pence a pound she put in enough for a large family,
Enough for a large family. (3)

The tea was conveyed to her daughter's own door,
All down by the Oceanside.
But the bouncing girl poured out every pound
On the dark and the boiling tide. (3).

And then she called out to the island queen
"Oh mother, dear mother," called she.
"Your tea you may have when 'tis steeped enough.
But NEVER a tax from me. (3)

ARTIFACT 6

Newspaper article

Thomas's Boston Journal

September 22, 1774

**Newspapers published colonists' responses to the Coercive Acts
(Britain's response to the Boston Tea Party)**

The Massachusetts Spy

Or, *Thomas's Boston Journal*,

22 September 1774.

FREDERICK COUNTY

(Virginia) July 23.

Yesterday being the day appointed by our sheriff for the election of burgesses [assemblymen], a great part of the county assembled at Winchester, among whom it was universally agreed to show their detestation to the presumption of the G——r [Governor] of Massachusetts Bay [Gen. Gage], that his effigy should be first hanged and then suffer the flames, accompanied by his darling proclamation. An image was fabricated truly like him, as he must appear to the mind's eye of every American, grim as Pluto and deformed as Vulcan. It was decorated with a soldier's coat, a grenadier's cap, and a wooden sword. Thus accoutred, with a rope round his neck, in the fatal cart, supported by an African, he was conducted through the town, attended by a rejoicing multitude, and then suspended on the highest gallows an American G——r was ever yet honored with. The proclamation was read by Mr. A. White, attorney at law, who made a very spirited and handsome speech to the people, exhorting them to be unanimous as the certain means to preserve their liberties. The torch was then applied and the flame, as if pleased to destroy the base destroyer of liberty, embraced him with uncommon ardor and devoured him in an instant.

ARTIFACT 7

Exchanges between Committees of Correspondence Reporting on battles of Lexington & Concord

Watertown, Wednesday near
10 o'clock, 19th April, 1775.

To all friends of American Liberty, be it known, that this morning, before break of day a brigade, consisting of about 1000 or 1200 men, landed at Phips's farm, at Cambridge, and marched to Lexington, where they found a company of our colony militia in arms, upon whom they fired without any provocation, killed 6 men, and wounded 4 others. --

By an express from Boston, we find another brigade are on their march from Boston, supposed to be about 1000. -- The bearer, Israel Bissel, is charged to alarm the country quite to Connecticut, and all persons are desired to furnish him with fresh horses, as they may be needed. -- I have spoke with several who have seen the dead and wounded; pray let the Delegates from this colony to Connecticut see this, they know Col. Foster of Brookfield one of the Delegates.

J. Palmer, one of the Committee of S.

A true copy taken from the original, per order of the committee of correspondence for Worcester, April 19th, 1775.

New-York, Sunday 23d April, 1775.

The following interesting Advices, were this Day received here, by two Vessels from Newport, and by an Express by Land.

Sir,

This evening intelligence hath been receiv'd, that about 1200 of the [regular troops](#), have proceeded from Boston toward Concord; and having fired on the [inhabitants](#), and killed a number of them, at Lexington, are now actually engaged in butchering and destroying our brethren in the most inhuman manner. The inhabitants opposed them with zeal and courage, and numbers have already fallen on both sides. Reinforcements were on their way, at 10 o'clock from Boston, and the provincials were alarmed, and mustering as fast as possible. It appears necessary therefore, that we immediately make some provision for their assistance, and his honour, the lieutenant governor, desires your immediate attendance, to advise and order in that behalf; he being very ill, occasions my writing in his behalf. We shall impatiently wait your arrival, as numbers are ready, and wait only for orders to proceed.

The country's friend and yours,
(signed) STEPHEN HOPKINS.

ARTIFACT 8

No Stamp Act teapot, about 1776-1770
British-made for colonial purchase
Celebrating the repeal of the Stamp Act



<http://americanhistory.si.edu/press/fact-sheets/artifact-walls-and-landmark-objects-part-two>

ARTIFACT 9

Excerpts from *Common Sense*

Pamphlet by Englishman Thomas Paine, released on January 10, 1776

First printing sold out within two weeks; over 150,000 copies sold in total

“It is foolish to be always running three or four thousand miles with a tale or petition. Waiting four or five months for an answer, which when obtained requires five or six more to explain it.”

“I have heard it asserted by some, that as America hath flourished under her former connection with Great Britain, that the same connection is necessary towards her future happiness, and will always have the same effect. Nothing can be more **fallacious** than this kind of argument. We may as well assert, that because a child has thrived upon milk, that it is never to have meat; or that the first twenty years of our lives is to become a precedent for the next twenty.”

“We have boasted the protection of Great Britain, without considering, that her motive was interest not attachment; that she did not protect us from our enemies on our account, but from her enemies on her own account, from those who had no quarrel with us on any other account . . .”

“But Britain is the parent country, say some. Then the more shame upon her conduct. Even brutes do not devour their young; nor savages make war upon their families . . .”

“I challenge the warmest advocate for reconciliation, to show, a single advantage that this continent can reap, by being connected with Great Britain. I repeat the challenge, not a single advantage is derived. Our corn will fetch its price in any market in Europe, and our imported goods must be paid for buy them where we will . . .”

“Small islands not capable of protecting themselves, are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care; but there is something very absurd, in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance hath nature made the satellite larger than its primary planet, and as England and America, with respect to each Other, reverses the common order of nature, it is evident they belong to different systems: England to Europe, America to itself.”

“But the most powerful of all arguments, is, that nothing but independence . . . can keep the peace of the continent . . .”

Vocabulary - *fallacious* (adj) based on a mistaken belief.

