Chapter 10 The Road To Independence

uch changed in England and North America in the 150 years after English colonists first arrived in Jamestown in 1607. In the mid-1600s, England suffered a civil war that lasted nearly 20 years. During this time and in later years, its leaders, including its king, paid little attention to the colonies. In 1707, the kingdoms of England and Scotland were united under one Parliament. These united kingdoms became known as Great Britain, and their people came to be called British.

Across the Atlantic Ocean in North America, thirteen British colonies had firmly established themselves along the Atlantic coast from what is now Maine to Georgia. The colonists—who came from England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, Sweden, the German states, and Africa— overwhelmed the Native Americans who lived there. Forced from their land, some of the Indians who survived the illness and

destruction fled westward. Others tried to adapt and live among the colonists, adopting European customs and beliefs. Unfortunately, they were rarely accepted as equals by the colonists and were often mistreated because of their Indian heritage.

As the colonists expanded westward, they encountered new Indian nations that were determined to maintain their lands. When conflict erupted between France (who had established a colony in Canada) and Britain over control of the land west of the Appalachian Mountains, most of the Indians in the region sided with France. French colonists seemed more interested in trading for furs with the Indians than taking their land. There were also far fewer French settlers, so they appeared less of a threat to many Native Americans.

A conflict known as the French and Indian War (or Seven Years' War) was fought both in North America and in Europe. Great Britain and her American colonies (who fought alongside the mother country in the frontier and Canada) were victorious, and Canada came into Britain's possession.

CHAPTER PREVIEW

PEOPLE:

John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, George Washington, Edward Braddock, William Pitt, George III, Patrick Henry, James Otis, Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Dickinson, Crispus Attucks, John Adams, Thomas Gage

PLACES:

Appalachian Mountains; Ohio River; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Fort Duquesne (Fort Pitt); Fort Necessity

TERMS:

French and Indian War, Enlightenment, Great Awakening, Navigation Acts, smuggling, salutary neglect, Treaty of Paris of 1763, Treaty of Fontainebleau, Proclamation Line of 1763, Sugar Act, Stamp Act, "No Taxation without Representation," Sons of Liberty, boycott, Declaratory Act, Townshend Duties, Boston Massacre, Tea Act, Committees of Correspondence, Boston Tea Party, blockade, Coercive (Intolerable) Acts, First Continental Congress

The departure of France from Canada signaled a bright future for the American colonists. They were eager to settle the land west of the Appalachian Mountains. Britain's victory over France reinforced the belief of most American colonists that they were part of the strongest, most prosperous, and freest nation in the world. Pride at being British was almost universal in the American colonies.

Over the next decade, however, that pride faded and slowly disappeared. New policies directed towards the colonies shocked and angered many colonists and sparked a decade-long dispute between British and colonial leaders that ended in revolution.

"Being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions."

John Locke
 (1632-1704), English philosopher and physician

Background: After a three-month siege of Quebec City, British forces captured the city at the Plains of Abraham.

Signs of the Times

Art

The paintings by two American artists from this period are still displayed in museums today. John Singleton Copley of Boston painted his *Portrait of Paul Revere* in 1768. It shows the silversmith in shirtsleeves, with a teapot he has created in his hand. This image of a Boston craftsman at work was meant to express the growing national pride of the American colonists.

Benjamin West was born in Pennsylvania. As a child, he learned from Native Americans how to make paint by mixing clay with bear grease, and he taught himself to draw and paint. He later received formal training and specialized in painting scenes of history. In 1771, at the request of William Penn's son, he painted *Treaty of William Penn with the Indians*. Among the group of Quakers in the picture, West included likenesses of his own father and half-brother.

Music

One of the world's musical geniuses, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, was born in Salzburg (today's Austria) in 1756—during the time of our French and Indian War. He began composing music by age five and was performing before European royalty by age six.

Exploration

British Explorer Captain James Cook made the first of his three voyages of discovery from 1768 to 1771 aboard the *Endeavour*. On this voyage, he mapped the complete coastline of New Zealand and discovered the east coast of Australia. His ship is so famous that NASA named its final space shuttle the *Endeavour*.

On Cook's second voyage from 1771 to 1775 aboard the *Resolution*, he circumnavigated the globe far to the south and was the first European to cross the Antarctic Circle. He also successfully tested John Harrison's chronometers on this voyage.

Inventions

The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain in the mid-1700s with inventions that changed the textile (cloth-making) industry and improved transportation. James Hargreaves, a British carpenter and weaver, invented the spinning jenny in 1764. With the jenny, a worker could now handle 8 or more spools at once to produce yarn! Around the same time, British inventor James Watt was improving an earlier version of a steam engine. Watt's superior model provided the energy for many inventions in textiles and transportation that were to come. Your 60-watt lightbulb derives its name from James Watt.

Timeline 1750-1775 Background: The Copley Family by John Singleton Copley. Below, Top to **Bottom:** George III, Boston 1750 Massacre, Boston Tea Party 1753 George Washington sent to the Ohio River to meet the French 1754 French built Fort Duquesne; Washington built Fort Necessity Washington and the French declared a truce after fighting at Great Meadow 1755 British army was routed and General Braddock killed in expedition against Fort Duquesne 1758 British captured Fort Duquesne; renamed it Fort Pitt 1760 1760 George III crowned king of England 1761 John Harrison's H4 chronometer went on first ocean 1762 France transferred Louisiana to Spain in the secret Treaty of Jacques Rousseau wrote The Social Contract 1763 Treaty of Paris ended the French and Indian War **Proclamation of 1763** 1764 Sugar Act passed 1765 Stamp Act passed 1766 Stamp Act repealed; Declaratory Act passed 1767 **Townshend Duties passed** 1768 **British redcoats sent to Boston** 1770 **Boston Massacre** 1773 Tea Act passed; Boston Tea Party protestors dumped tea in Boston Harbor 1774 Coercive (Intolerable) Acts passed; British navy closed Boston's port First Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia Patrick Henry declared "Give me liberty or give me death!"





SECTION 1

British America in the 18th Century

○ As you read, look for...

- » the influence of the Enlightenment and Great Awakening on the American colonists;
- » the economic system that kept the colonists connected with Great Britain;
- » how Great Britain's salutary neglect increased the colonists' sense of freedom and self-rule;
- » terms: Enlightenment, Great Awakening, Navigation Acts, smuggling, salutary neglect.

If visitors to the thirteen British colonies in 1750 had been able to travel about, they would have been surprised by the diversity of people. Many different languages, cultures, and religious beliefs were present. Such diversity was rare in Europe where most countries were ruled by monarchs who insisted their people follow the same religion as their ruler. Most countries also were populated by people with a similar culture, language, and heritage.

Although some religious intolerance existed in Britain and her colonies as well, it was not to the degree of most European nations. Nor were the populations of those nations, including England, as diverse as the British colonies.



Left: The coat of arms for England. **Opposite Page:** Completed in 1720, Massachusetts Hall at Harvard College is an example of the early Georgian style of architecture. It is Harvard's oldest surviving building.

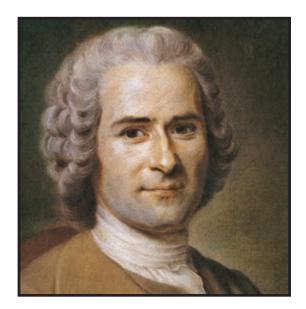
Proud to Be British

As they approached the 150th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown, Britain and her colonies were thriving economically and politically. Most colonists were proud to be part of the British Empire and boasted of being British. Colonists worked hard to maintain their British identity by copying the latest fashions and reading the latest news from London. Colonists who could afford it sent their sons to Britain to complete their education, and they copied the Georgian style of architecture that was popular in Britain. This popular style of building was usually made of brick or stone and was symmetrical (having two identical sides).

Did You Know?

The popular Georgian style of architecture is named for the four King Georges of Great Britain who reigned from 1714 to 1830.





The Enlightenment

In the centuries leading up to the colonial era, there were a number of beliefs about governing a country that were common in most European countries. First, there was a monarch. The monarch would almost always rule from the time he or she was crowned until death. After death, the monarch's son or daughter would usually be crowned as the new monarch. Sometimes it was a brother or sister, sometimes a distant cousin. Almost always, it was a blood relative. Monarchs in Europe had great power in their countries. Most were absolute rulers. England was unusual because there was a parliament that shared some governing power with the monarch. Finally, most people

accepted that the monarch's governing powers were a gift of God. The monarch—along with wealthy, aristocratic families and church leaders—controlled the country.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, an increasing number of people were educated. As a student, you are able to read this chapter because you have been educated. In fact, if you can read this paragraph, you probably have more schooling than most adults did during that time.

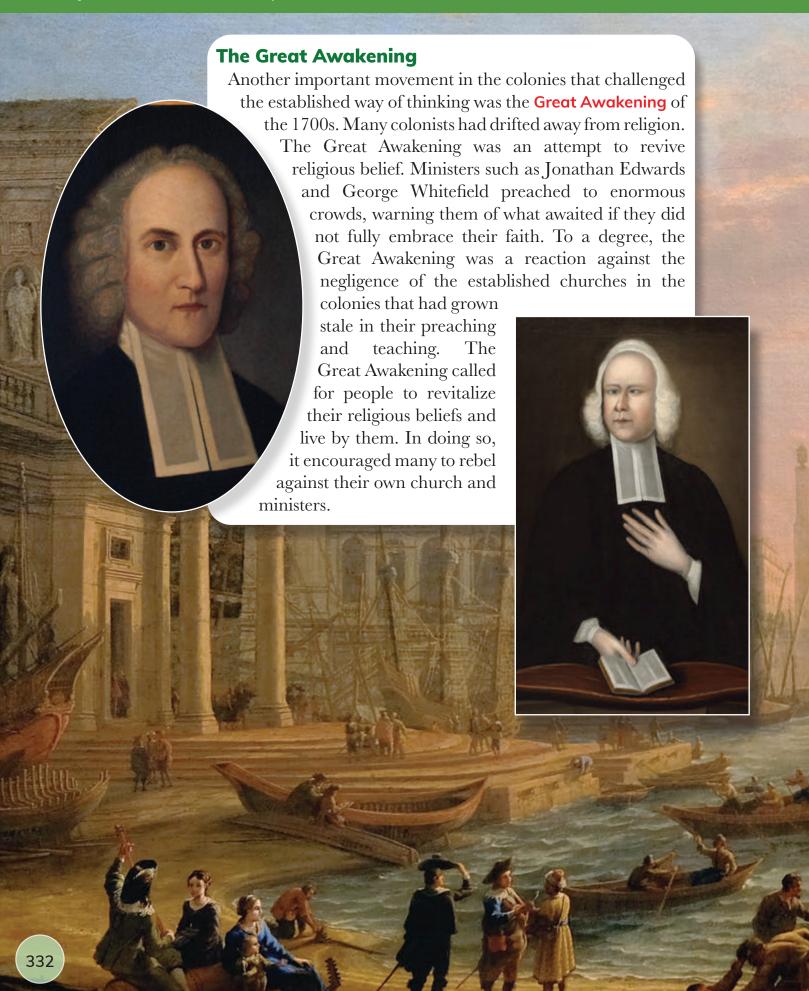


With education, European thinkers began to study science. They shared their new ideas with other educated people across the continent. For instance, the Italian astronomer Galileo proved among other things that Earth moved around the sun—not the other way around. Other ideas emerged about how people should be treated and about the ability of people to ask questions and answer them through logic and reasoning.

By the 1700s, these new ideas about science, government, and society were being shared in books and pamphlets and talked about across Europe and its colonies. This period is known as the **Enlightenment**, or Age of Reason. Some of these enlightened thinkers challenged long-held beliefs about how the natural world operated. Others challenged long-held political beliefs such as the divine (God-given) right of monarchs to rule. John Locke argued that the main purpose of government was to protect the natural rights of life, liberty, and property of the people. Jean-Jacques Rousseau wrote in his book *The Social Contract* that government obtained power through the consent of the governed (people). Such thinking would, in just a few years, lead to many changes in the world, including the formation of the United States.



Opposite Page, Top:
Jean-Jacques Rousseau.
Opposite Page,
Bottom: During the
Enlightenment, educated
Europeans gathered
in "salons," such as
this Salon of Madame
Geoffrin, to discuss art,
literature, and science.
Above: John Locke. Left:
Galileo shows the Doge
of Venice a telescope.



Mercantilism

Rebellion was not on the mind of many colonists in the 1750s. Protected by the powerful British navy and army, most of the roughly two million British colonists in America felt secure and fortunate to be part of a prosperous empire. Colonists played a vital role in the British Empire by supplying valuable raw materials. The population growth of the thirteen colonies in the 1700s also meant that the colonists were a very important market for British manufacturers, who turned much of the raw material they received from America into finished goods. The colonists in America craved British textiles (cloth) and clothing as well as British sugar, tea, and porcelain. They bought vast amounts of these items with the money they earned from the tobacco, rice, indigo, wheat, timber, fish, and furs that they shipped to England.

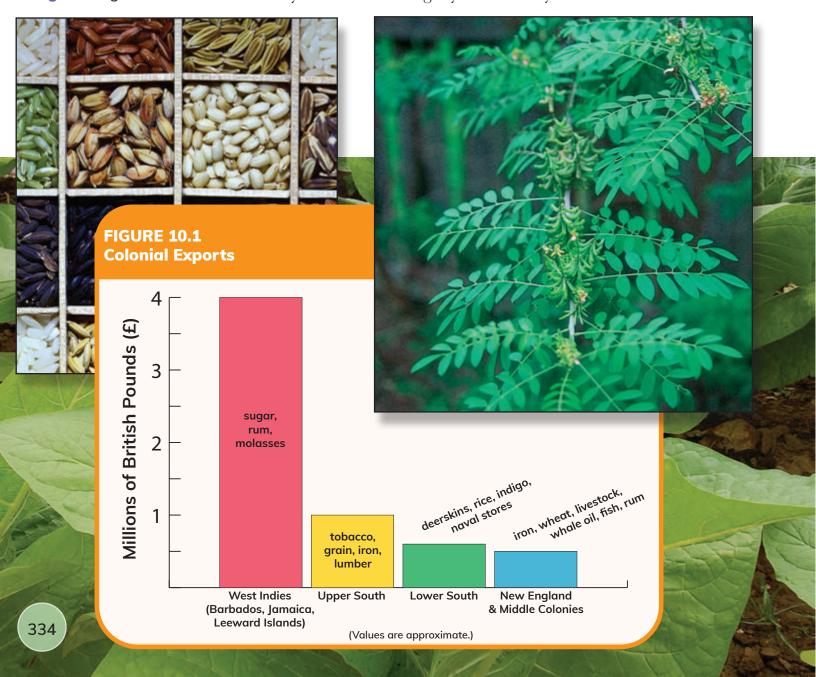
England, like most countries in Europe, operated under a practice called mercantilism. With this system, the colonies were to ship their goods to market in Britain and purchase, as much as possible, goods they needed from Britain. The laws in Britain and those made in the colonies kept the colonists from producing goods that were being manufactured in Britain and available from British merchants. Only a very limited amount of trade with other countries was allowed.

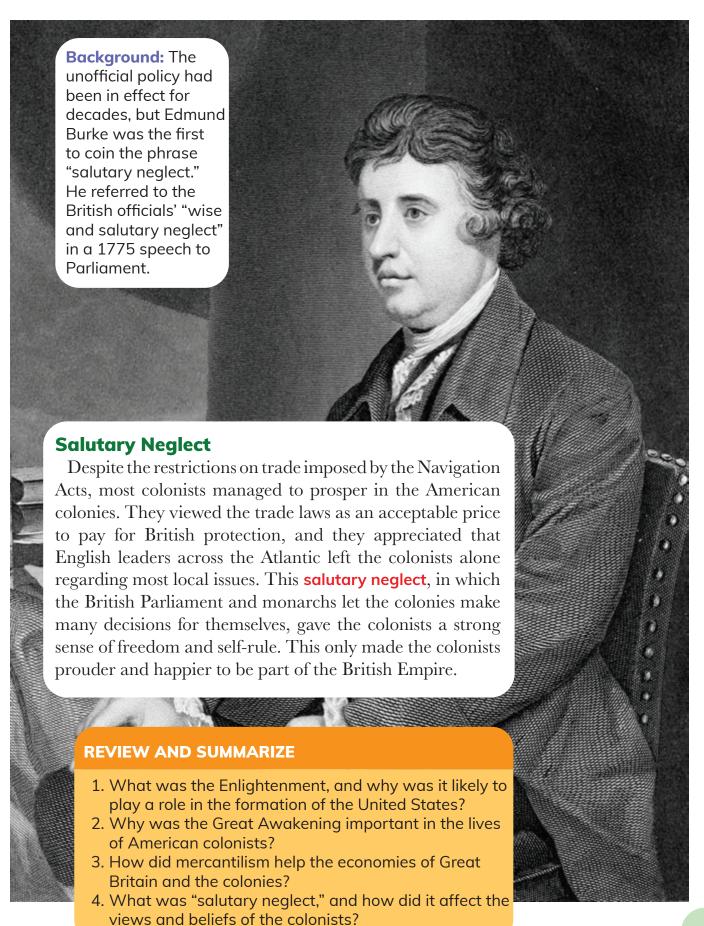


Background: French artist Claude Lorrain painted Seaport at Sunset in 1639 at the height of mercantilism. Opposite Page, Left: Jonathan Edwards. Opposite Page, Right: George Whitefield. Above Left to Bottom Right: Wheat, textiles, rice, and porcelain were major imports and exports in colonial America.

To discourage the colonists from buying more foreign-made goods than were sold to foreign countries, the British Parliament passed a series of strict trade laws in the 1660s called the Navigation Acts. They included laws that placed high tariffs (taxes on imports) upon foreign-made goods like tea, wine, and clothing. There were also laws that required all colonial exports from America (tobacco, rice, indigo) to be carried only on British ships. Those ships had to sail to England first, even if their final destination was somewhere else in Europe. Such measures allowed British authorities to better control colonial trade. They did not, however, prevent some colonists from smuggling goods in and out of the colonies. Smuggling is moving something from one country into another illegally and secretly.

Bottom: Tobacco leaves. **Below:** Rice. **Right:** Indigo.





Special Benjamin Franklin

enjamin Franklin is recognized as one of the founders of the United States, but he did not always see himself that way. The American colonists, like Franklin, considered themselves British citizens. Events of the mid-1700s changed Franklin from a loyal subject of the king to a patriotic citizen of an independent United States.

Franklin was born in 1706 in Boston, Massachusetts. His father was a tallow chandler (candle maker) with a large family. Ben was the fifteenth child of seventeen in his family. His father was able to pay for a few years of schooling. At age twelve, young Ben had to begin work as an apprentice chandler. It would have taken the next eight or nine years to become a master chandler. However, Ben did not enjoy working as a candle maker. At thirteen, he went to apprentice with his brother James. James Franklin was a printer and had recently returned from England with a new printing press. While Benjamin learned the trade, he educated himself. At fifteen, he began to write articles for his brother's newspaper. His letters were published anonymously, but they were praised for their observations about the colony. British officials did not appreciate critical writings, and James was eventually imprisoned for his younger brother's articles and forbidden to publish his paper. Benjamin continued to publish the paper while his brother was in prison.

In 1723, Benjamin left Boston for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he continued to print and make friends. He was encouraged by these friends to go to England to complete his training, which he did. He worked at two of the most famous printing houses in London and returned to Philadelphia in 1726.

Over the next ten years, he started a discussion group called Junto, which later became the American Philosophical Society. He purchased the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, got married, founded the Philadelphia Library, published *Poor Richard's Almanac*, and became a clerk of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. The following year he was appointed postmaster and organized the first fire company in the city. In 1744, he invented the Franklin stove, which used less fuel and heated spaces more efficiently. In 1747, he began electrical experiments that eventually gained worldwide respect from the scientific community.

He sold his printing business in 1748 and turned his attention to politics. He was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1750 and served for fourteen years. During this time, he also served as deputy postmaster general for the colonies.

Franklin was sent to England again in 1765 as the agent for Pennsylvania. The Stamp Act was passed into law that year, and Franklin—after initially supporting it—became a voice of opposition to the tax. His testimony before the House of Commons in 1766 was an important factor in the repeal of the act. When Parliament introduced new ways to tax the colonies, Franklin began to question his loyalties. He became frustrated that Parliament had no advisors from the colonies to speak on their behalf. In 1775, he accepted the fact that war between the colonies and Britain could not be avoided, and he returned to Philadelphia. When he arrived, he discovered that the Revolution had already begun with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

Franklin had chosen the side of the American colonies and wanted to seek aid for them elsewhere. He made a journey to France, where King Louis XVI promised economic assistance. The same year, he worked with Thomas Jefferson and a few others to write the Declaration of Independence. A few years later, he negotiated a treaty of trade with France that marked a turning point in the American Revolution. He became the first ambassador to France from the United States.

The Treaty of Paris of 1783 ended the American Revolution, and Franklin was there, helping to create the treaty. He continued to help develop and shape the United States even after the Revolution. He helped to write the United States Constitution, and as one of his last public acts, he petitioned Congress to abolish slavery as president of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society.

Franklin was a philosopher, printer, poet, diplomat, and scientist who was instrumental in developing what is now the United States. He used his wits and popularity to help the fledgling nation develop until his death in 1790 as one of the first truly "American" citizens.

Background: After helping draft the Treaty of Paris of 1783, Benjamin Franklin returned to Philadelphia in 1785. This Jean Leon Gerome Ferris painting shows him being greeted by cheering crowds.

SECTION 2

The French and Indian War

🔘 As you read, look for...

- » how life in the French colony of Canada differed from life in the thirteen British colonies;
- » the significance of the Ohio River to both the French and the British:
- » George Washington's successes and defeats in the French and Indian War;
- » consequences of the French and Indian War;
- » terms: Treaty of Paris of 1763, Treaty of Fontainebleau.

By the 1750s, over 2,000,000 (two million) colonists lived in Britain's thirteen American colonies. The number of French colonists to the north in Canada numbered just 60,000. Canada's cold climate discouraged growing cash crops. Even subsistence farming was difficult in such conditions. This likely limited the number of people who were willing to leave France and settle in Canada.

The valuable fur trade with Native Americans was the most profitable activity of the colonists in Canada. Beaver and deer pelts were highly prized in Europe to make clothing, and frequent conflict among Indian nations for greater control of the fur trade occurred throughout the 1600s.

Right: The fur trade with Native Americans was the Canadian colonists' most profitable economic activity.





Left: In 1690, Governor General Frontenac of New France led his Indian allies in a war dance, proclaiming that he would fight the enemy Iroquois until they begged for peace.

The Iroquois Wars, which began in 1640 and lasted into the next century, was one such conflict. The Iroquois Confederacy, made up of five separate Indian nations, sought new territory to obtain more furs to trade with the Dutch and British. This provoked conflict with their Native American neighbors, who turned to the French for assistance. Although the Iroquois did manage to expand their territory, France maintained friendly relations with a large number of Indian groups. This would prove important when conflict over land to the west of the Appalachian Mountains erupted in the 1750s.

The Appalachian Mountains, which stretch from present-day Maine down the east coast of the United States to Georgia, were a natural barrier thousands of feet high that prevented most British colonists from easily moving further west. Although few British colonists had actually seen the land west of the mountains, they were aware of its potential and were determined to claim it for themselves. The French had similar ideas.

Below: The Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers unite at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to form the Ohio River. which flows into the Mississippi River. **Opposite Page:** This portrait by Charles Willson Peale shows young George Washington as a colonel in the Virginia Regiment during the French and Indian War.

Control of the Ohio River

Because no roads existed in the frontier, land travel was difficult. Travelers had to rely on paths made by Indians and animals such as deer. Travel by canoe or raft on rivers was an easier way to transport people and supplies. It was also much faster. As a result, control of certain rivers, like the Ohio River, which flowed from Pennsylvania all the way to the Mississippi River and then into the Gulf of Mexico, was important.

This was what made the land where the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, now sits so important. Two rivers, the Allegheny and Monongahela, flowed out of the western side of the Appalachian Mountains and joined at Pittsburgh to form the Ohio River. A point of land formed by the convergence (joining) of the two rivers was an ideal location for a fort that could control the rivers and surrounding region. This spot became the flash point for war between Great Britain and France and their colonists and Indian allies in the 1750s.





Young George Washington, Diplomat

Alarmed by reports in 1753 that the French were building forts south of Lake Erie to secure the Ohio River, Virginia's royal governor, Robert Dinwiddie, sent 21-year-old George Washington, a major in the Virginia militia, northward into the wilderness to order the French to leave. A handful of men traveled with Major Washington. This was a perilous journey in which the young Virginian and future president nearly lost his life by falling into an icy river.

The French politely welcomed Washington and read Dinwiddie's demand for them to return to Canada. They then sent Washington back to Virginia with their refusal. Both sides raced to seize and secure the land at the Forks of the Ohio River.

The Battle of Fort Necessity

The next year, young Washington, promoted to colonel, led a force of Virginia troops westward to secure the site. Before he arrived, he learned that the French were already there, building their own fort, which they named Fort Duquesne. Washington encamped his troops in an open meadow 50 miles away and waited for reinforcements from Virginia and South Carolina. While they waited, Washington had his men build a small circular fort that he named Fort Necessity.

Colonel Washington soon learned from scouts that a party of French were encamped nearby. He believed they were spying on him. Washington led troops to their location in an effort to surprise and capture them. When the French discovered Washington's men, they grabbed their muskets, and gunfire erupted on both sides. Most of the French were killed or captured within minutes, and Washington had the satisfaction of his first military victory, despite the fact that war had not been declared between Great Britain and France.

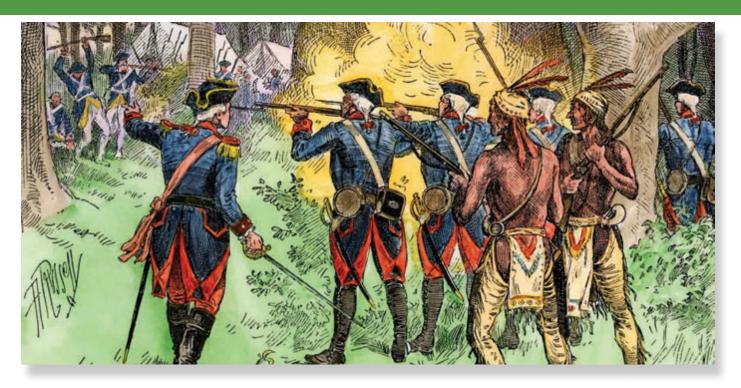
The French commander at Fort Duquesne was furious when he learned what happened from a survivor of the attack. He claimed that his troops had been sent on a diplomatic mission to deliver a message to Washington—namely, leave French territory. They had no intention of fighting.

Washington, who believed the French party had been sent to spy on him, braced for an attack. It came on July 3, 1754. Outnumbered two-to-one by the French and their Indian allies, Washington and his men found themselves in a desperate situation. Heavy rain made it difficult for Washington's men, who were posted in the Great Meadow behind earthen walls, to keep up their musket fire. Their muskets and gunpowder were too wet. The French and their Indian allies were mostly covered by the forest and kept up a steady rate of gunfire.

Background: At Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh, bricks mark the outline of Fort Duquesne.

Opposite Page, Top:

The Battle of Fort Necessity, also called the Battle of the Great Meadows, was one of the earliest skirmishes of the French and Indian War.



At nightfall, just as it appeared Washington's troops would be defeated, the French, who were low on ammunition and eager to return to their fort, asked for a truce. They allowed Washington and his men to march back to Virginia. All that they required was a pledge (promise) that neither he nor his troops would return to the region for at least a year.

Washington, whose education did not include knowledge of the French language, signed the surrender document, which was written in French. He was shocked to learn months later that the agreement stated that Washington had assassinated a French diplomat when he attacked the small French force weeks before the Battle of Fort Necessity. Such an action was grounds for war, and the French used Washington's "admission" to blame Britain for the conflict. In his defense, Washington argued that he was unaware that the document stated that he had assassinated a French diplomat. He said he would have never signed it had he understood what it said.

Although Washington's reputation was damaged by the events at Fort Necessity, most Virginians believed his explanation and supported him. The following year, Washington joined General Edward Braddock, who commanded over 1,000 British troops and nearly as many colonial troops, in an expedition against Fort Duquesne. While on the march through the rugged Pennsylvania forest, Braddock's army was ambushed and nearly wiped out by a much smaller force of Indians allied with the French. General Braddock was killed in the battle, and his battered survivors, including Washington, limped back to Virginia in disgrace.

Up to this point, the conflict between Britain and France had been confined to the woods of western America. In 1756, it exploded onto the world stage and expanded with fighting in Europe and much of the rest of the world.

The End of the War

William Pitt became the new prime minister of Great Britain. Through his leadership, the British were able to use their enormous population advantage in North America, as well as their powerful navy, to rally and turn the tide against France. Troops from Great Britain and the colonies kept the pressure on France and eventually captured Fort Duquesne in 1758 (renaming it Fort Pitt), Quebec in 1759, and Montreal in 1760. These French losses, along with the fear that Britain might capture their much more valuable sugar colonies in the Caribbean if the war continued, helped convince France to seek an end to the war. It ended with the signing of the **Treaty of Paris of 1763**.

One of the most significant parts of the treaty was the transfer of Canada to British rule. To prevent the British from gaining possession of French-held Louisiana, France secretly transferred Louisiana to Spain, who had joined the war on the side of France, through the **Treaty of Fontainebleau** in 1762. Although

Spain gained territory in this arrangement, it lost valuable colonies in Cuba and the Philippines to Britain. To gain these colonies back at the conclusion of the war, Spain surrendered Florida to the British.

War Debt Leads to New Colonial Policies

The end of the French and Indian War in 1763 should have meant happy days for Britain and her colonists in America. They won! The land Britain gained was enormous, and the removal of France from North America



reduced the threat of French or Indian attacks upon the colonists.

Despite Britain's success, one important consequence of the war hung over the country: debt. The war cost Britain an enormous amount of money—so much money that leaders had to borrow millions of English pounds. This left the government heavily in debt. British leaders felt that the inhabitants of Great Britain already paid enough in taxes, so they turned to the colonies as a way to cut costs and raise new revenue to relieve the debt.



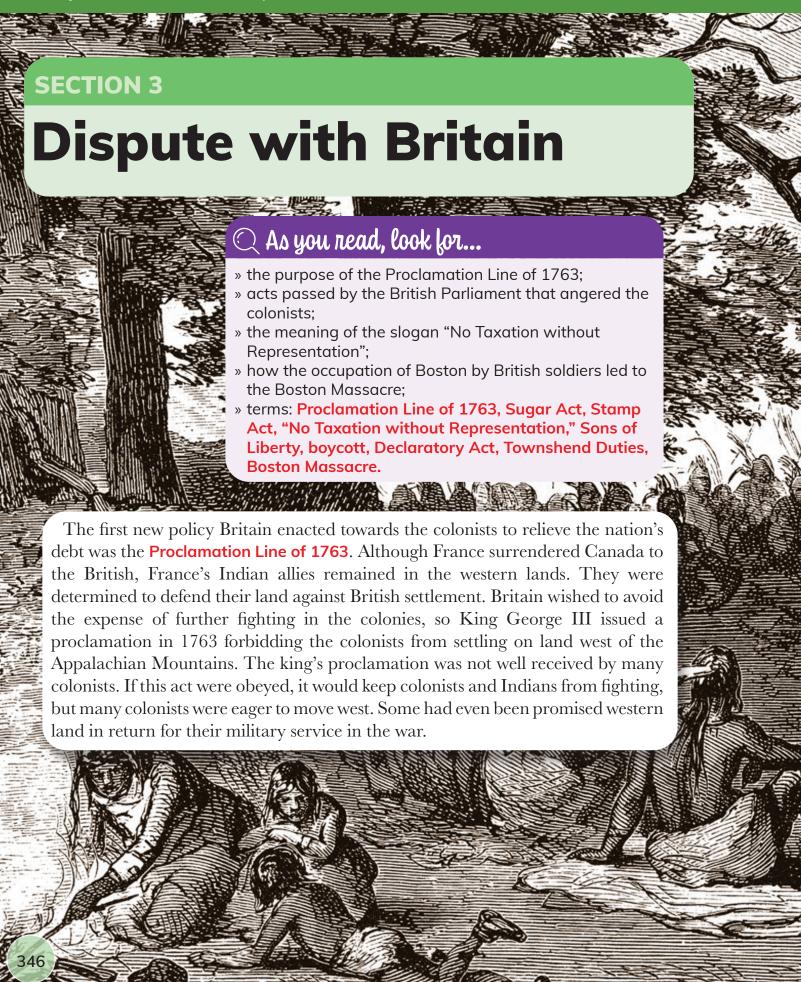
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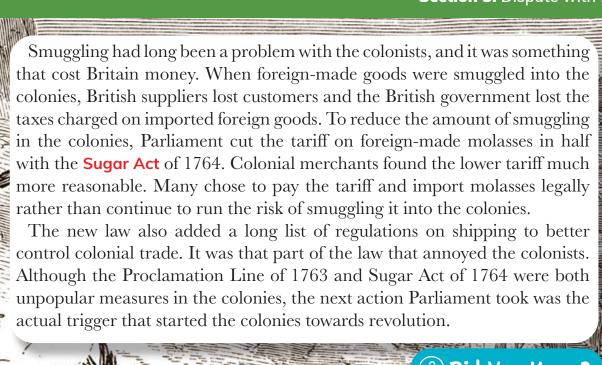
What European country had claims in what is today Alaska?

Opposite Page: This engraving shows George Washington saluting his troops as they raise the British flag at Fort Duquesne in 1758.

REVIEW AND SUMMARIZE

- 1. What was one major difference between life in French Canada and life in the thirteen British colonies?
- 2. Why was the Ohio River such an important means of transportation in North America?
- 3. What was Washington's lucky break after his troops' near loss at Fort Necessity? What mistake did he then make in signing the French surrender document?
- 4. What changes occurred in North America at the end of the French and Indian War?
- 5. What was the economic consequence for Great Britain of the French and Indian War?





🕜 Did You Know?

People in the 18th century drank a lot of alcohol in the form of small beer (weak beer), hard cider, and spirits (mostly rum). Molasses was used to make rum.

Background: In 1763, Ottawa Chief Pontiac led a rebellion of tribes opposed to further white settlement in their territory. The British responded with the Proclamation of 1763, banning settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains.

The Stamp Act

In 1765, Parliament passed into law the **Stamp Act**, which added taxes in the colonies upon paper, certain legal documents, and even playing cards. This act created an uproar of protest among the colonists. Opponents declared

that the British Parliament had no right or authority to impose such a direct tax upon the colonies to raise revenue (money) from them. The only taxes Parliament could levy on the colonists were tariffs to regulate and manage trade. Tariffs were not meant to raise money, they argued. Their purpose was to discourage colonists from buying foreign-made goods by raising their price above British-made goods.

NEERICA OUT OUT 189

The Stamp Act had nothing to do with regulating trade. It was a

direct tax upon the colonists that was meant solely to raise money from them. Many colonists argued that the law was unconstitutional (illegal). It violated a long-held British principle that taxes and laws could only be passed with the consent of the people, or through their elected representatives. If the colonists lived in England, their members of Parliament would have a say in the taxes. The colonists, even though they were British citizens, had no such representation.



Opposition to the Stamp Act swept through the colonies, led by forceful speakers such as Patrick Henry of Virginia and James Otis and Sam Adams of Massachusetts. Noting that the British Parliament was elected by the inhabitants of England and not the colonists, the opponents of the Stamp Act declared that Parliament had no right to pass such a law because Parliament did not represent the colonists. "No Taxation Without Representation" became their slogan.

Opponents of the Stamp Act argued that, if Parliament secured the right to tax and pass any law it wanted over the colonists, then the colonists would become nothing but slaves to them. The colonists, who were 3,000 miles away from England on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, could not vote in parliamentary elections and had no voice in Parliament. When the colonists had no say parliamentary elections, those who ran for Parliament had no reason to listen to their concerns. Instead, members of the British Parliament focused on pleasing the voters in England. No Parliament before the Stamp Act had ever tried to exert such power over the colonies, and many colonists were determined to stop them.

Opposite Page, Top: The first stamps. Opposite Page, Bottom: Boston citizens protested the Stamp Act by burning stamps. Above: John Singleton Copley painted this portrait of Samuel Adams. Below: News of the Stamp Act angered the colonists.



In Massachusetts, colonists proclaiming themselves **Sons of Liberty** harassed, threatened, and in some cases tarred and feathered British officials and the few colonists who supported the Stamp Act. To be tarred and feathered was both painful and humiliating. Victims of this practice were stripped of their clothes before an angry crowd. Hot tar (used to weatherproof rope for ships) was either poured or brushed on them. Then feathers were dumped over their head, which stuck to the tar. The poor victim was paraded about town in a wagon or on rails (long bars) and taunted by townsfolk. Few died from such treatment, but the experience was embarrassing and traumatic for the victim. It usually convinced the victim to stop doing whatever it was that upset the crowd.

Most colonial leaders did not support such tactics. They preferred more peaceful means of opposition. As a result, delegates from nine of the thirteen colonies met in New York in October 1765, less than a month before the Stamp Act took effect, to organize peaceful opposition to the law. One idea was a boycott of British goods. A **boycott** is refusing to trade with a country, person, or organization as a way of protesting or forcing changes.

Right: Protests against the Stamp Act took many forms, from tarring and feathering of officials to threats of boycotts.



Fortunately for the colonists, important members of the British Parliament also opposed the Stamp Act. They too considered the tax unconstitutional but had failed to prevent its passage in 1765.

Their continued opposition, combined with the unrest the Stamp Act caused in the colonies and the threat of a colonial boycott on British-made goods, caused Parliament to reconsider.

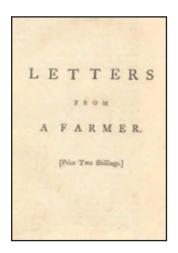
An important voice in opposition to the Stamp Act was American colonist Benjamin Franklin, who was sent to England in 1765 as the agent for Pennsylvania. He initially supported the act but reconsidered when he learned of the colonists' anger back home. In February 1766, Franklin testified against the tax before Parliament. He answered members' questions so

skillfully that the defects in the law became more obvious. Parliament repealed the tax a month later, due in part to Franklin's persuasive arguments.

Some in Parliament were concerned that they looked weak to the colonists for repealing the Stamp Act. Also, there was still the matter of the debt from the French and Indian War that had to be paid. Parliament passed a new resolution called the **Declaratory Act**. It was a declaration that Parliament had the power and authority to rule over the colonies "in all cases whatsoever." In other words, Parliament rejected the argument that its authority over the colonies was limited because the colonists could not vote for its members. Parliament declared instead that it could pass whatever laws it wanted. The British Parliament had never before made such a bold claim. Most colonists rejected the declaration as an attempt by Parliament to take away their traditional rights as Englishmen.



Above: Benjamin Franklin, who began working as a printer at age 13, went to England at age 59 as an agent for Pennsylvania. He played an important role in convincing Parliament to repeal the Stamp Act.



The Townshend Duties

A year later, Parliament tried again to raise money from the colonies by using another new plan. Because the colonists accepted that Parliament could regulate colonial trade, they had no right to oppose new trade laws or tariffs that Parliament might pass. As a result, the **Townshend Duties** (Tariffs) were passed in 1767. They placed tariffs on goods that were made in England and shipped to the colonies—namely, paper, paint, glass, lead, and tea.

Once again, the colonists rose up in opposition. They were influenced by the writings of John Dickinson of Pennsylvania, whose Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania were printed in newspapers throughout the colonies arguing against the Townshend Duties. It was true, they said, that Parliament could regulate colonial trade with foreign countries. It had done so for over a hundred years. The Townshend Duties, however, were tariffs on items produced in England. Because tariffs were designed to discourage people from buying foreign-made goods, it made no sense to place them on goods made in England—unless their true purpose was to raise revenue from buyers of the goods. In other words, the new tariffs were nothing but a sneaky way for Parliament to tax the colonists.

Colonial leaders called for a boycott of the taxed goods. If the colonists refused to buy the taxed items, the British government would lose tax revenue on the boycotted goods. In addition, the goods' producers would lose money, and they would pressure Parliament to repeal the duties.



Mindful of the violence that occurred during the Stamp Act protests, Parliament sent two regiments of British redcoats (soldiers) to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1768 to keep order. Boston's occupation by British troops was greeted with anger and resentment from most of the city's inhabitants. Tensions grew in 1769 with the continued occupation of the city by the king's troops. Despite the efforts of leaders from both sides, frequent fistfights between off-duty soldiers and city residents occurred. These clashes culminated with bloodshed in 1770 when British soldiers fired into a crowd of Bostonians.

The Boston Massacre

The British soldiers posted in Boston had grown accustomed to the taunts and sneers of the city's residents during their long occupation of the city. On the night of March 5, 1770, a crowd of about 50 Bostonians took the harassment a step further in an event that became known as the Boston Massacre. They gathered before a lone British sentry (guard) at his post to taunt and heckle him. A British officer led a small detachment of troops to assist the sentry. At the same time, the crowd taunting the solders grew into the hundreds. Some began to throw snowballs, ice, sticks, and other items at the soldiers.

Suddenly, a musket shot rang out, followed a second later by several more gunshots. The British soldiers had fired into the crowd. Three people, including a black sailor named Crispus Attucks, died at the scene. Two others died soon thereafter, and another six were wounded.

Did You Know?

Two soldiers in the Boston Massacre were convicted of manslaughter and branded on their thumbs with a letter M. If in the future they were convicted of a felony, they would get an automatic death sentence.

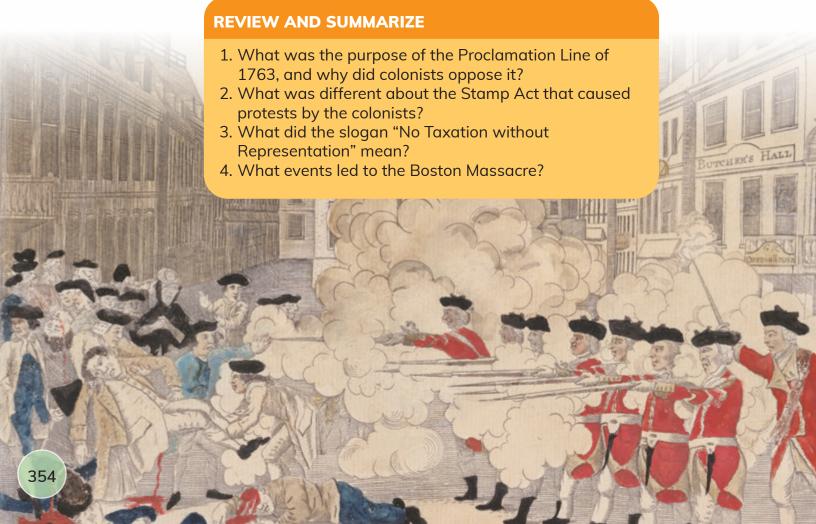
(On the Opposite Page) Top: John Dickinson's Letters from a Farmer were published in newspapers and in seven pamphlet editions. Bottom Left: As head of the king's Treasury, Charles Townshend proposed the Townshend Duties. **Bottom Right:** A tea plant. Below: This print of the Boston Massacre highlights the killing of Crispus Attucks.



Below: Silversmith and Patriot Paul Revere made this colored engraving of the Boston Massacre just weeks after it happened in 1770. His dramatic depiction of the tragic event stirred up anti-British sentiment throughout the colonies.

Colonial leaders called the incident a massacre and demanded that the soldiers be punished. The soldiers were charged with murder. John Adams, who would later become president of the United States, was the soldiers' attorney. Even though he was not a supporter of Parliament's actions and did not like the troops being in Boston, he also believed in the rule of law. Because the soldiers were under attack by the crowd, he argued, they had a right to defend themselves. Soldiers in service to the king might be forced to take a life, but that was not the same as murder. Adams won the case, and the soldiers were not convicted of murder.

Ironically, on the very day of the Boston Massacre, the British Parliament began debate on repealing the Townshend Duties. Of course, the colonists were 3,000 miles away and could not have known the debate was happening. The boycott of British goods had hurt many British merchants. They pressured Parliament to end the Townshend Duties so the colonists would end their boycott. Parliament reluctantly repealed most of the duties in April. Parliament insisted, however, that it had the right to tax the colonists. To make their point, Parliament kept a tax on one item: tea!



SECTION 4

Tensions Rise to a Breaking Point

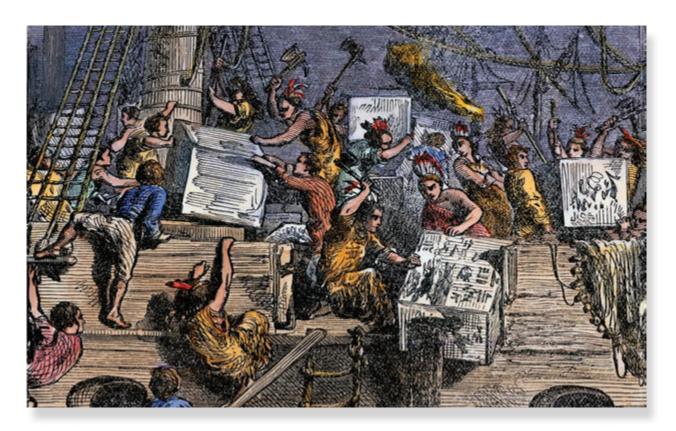
← As you read, look for...

- » why colonists opposed the Tea Act even though it might lower the price of tea;
- » how Great Britain punished Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party;
- » different reactions of colonists to the Intolerable Acts;
- » agreements and actions that came out of the First Continental Congress;
- » terms: Tea Act, Committees of Correspondence, Boston Tea Party, blockade, Coercive (Intolerable) Acts, First Continental Congress.

Parliament's decision to repeal the Townshend Duties, along with the removal of British troops from Boston, helped calm tensions between Britain and the American colonies. Although the tax on tea remained, most of the colonists who had supported the boycott (which was not every colonist) resumed their purchase of boycotted goods—all except for tea. Many colonists refused to buy British tea because of the tax. Some stopped drinking tea altogether. Others sought smuggled Dutch tea to drink. The British East India Company soon found itself with a large surplus of tea rotting in its warehouses. It turned to members of Parliament for help, and they obliged by passing a new law they hoped would convince the American colonists to return to drinking the East India Company's tea.

Background:

East India House was the London headquarters of the British East India Company.



The Tea Act of 1773

Unlike the earlier Stamp Act and Townshend Duties, the **Tea Act** was not designed to raise money from the colonies through taxes. It was instead meant to help the East India Company by granting the company a monopoly on the sale of tea to the American colonists. In other words, the East India Company would be the only legal supplier of tea to the colonies. The act also removed several trade regulations that had added to the price of the tea.

Parliament believed that the Tea Act would allow the East India Company to sell its tea to the colonists at a price even lower than the smuggled Dutch tea. The lower price might convince the colonists who were still boycotting tea to purchase it.

Many colonial leaders condemned the Tea Act. They noted that the tax on tea remained and that lowering the price was just a way for Parliament to trick the colonists into buying the taxed tea. If the colonists bought the taxed tea in higher amounts, they argued, it would undermine the argument against Parliament's right to tax them.

Committees of Correspondence formed in most of the colonies at this point. Their purpose was to share information between the colonies through frequent letters and allow the colonies to better coordinate their opposition to Parliament. The focus of these committees, as well as the colonists at large in 1773, was the danger presented by the Tea Act. When large tea shipments were sent to the colonies in the fall of 1773, protesters in several colonial cities refused to let the tea be unloaded. In Boston, they went a step further.

The Boston Tea Party

On December 16, 1773, a large crowd of Bostonians met at the Old South Meeting House to discuss what to do about three ships docked in Boston Harbor loaded with East India tea. They resolved to prevent the tea from being unloaded, sold, or consumed. Then they followed about 50 men, dressed as Indians to disguise their identity, down to the wharf to dump the tea in the harbor. Over 300 chests of tea, worth well over a million dollars today, were dumped overboard into the ocean.

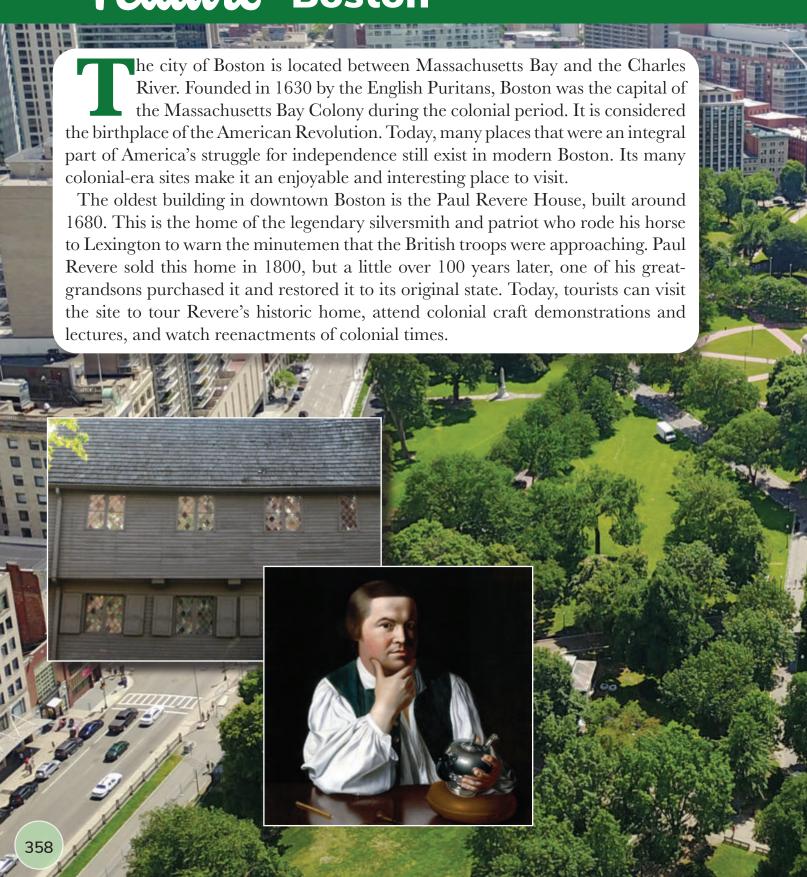
British officials were furious at what they considered a criminal act. They demanded that those involved be arrested and that the tea be paid for. Few in Boston cooperated, and only one person was unfortunate to be identified and arrested for his involvement in the event that has become known as the **Boston Tea Party**.

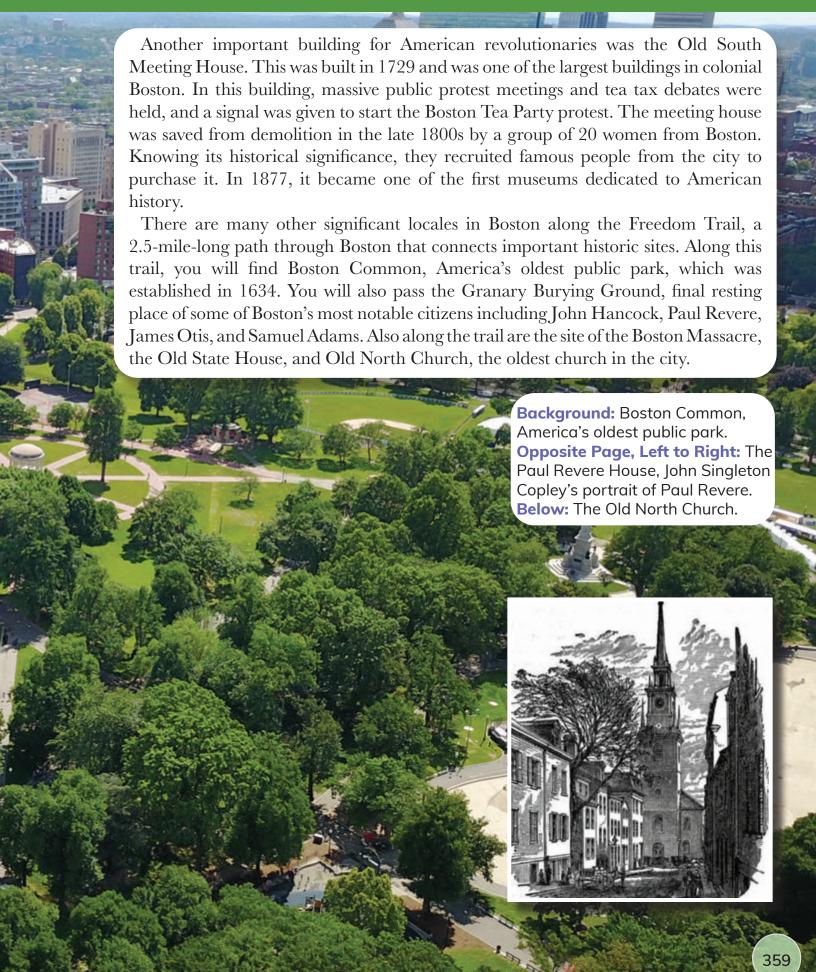
Opposite Page:

Angry citizens of Boston were determined to prevent the British tea from being unloaded, sold, and consumed. **Below:** In the event known as the Boston Tea Party, Bostonians disguised as Indians dumped over 300 chests of tea in the harbor.



Special A Visit to Colonial Feature Boston





The Coercive (Intolerable) Acts

Parliament struck back in the spring of 1774. It passed a number of laws that punished the entire colony of Massachusetts, and particularly Boston, for the destruction of the tea. The Boston Port Act ordered the British navy to close Boston's port with a **blockade** (the use of naval forces to stop shipping). British warships would stop all trade in and out of Boston harbor. Hundreds of people were thrown out of work as a result, and the entire city suffered from the interruption of trade. The Massachusetts Government Act suspended the elected, representative government of Massachusetts. The act replaced it with a military general, Thomas Gage, who was largely free to rule the colony as he pleased. Tired of Massachusetts juries letting rioters and troublemakers go free, the new military governor received authority to send accused criminals to England for trial instead of trying them in Boston. This was a violation of the long-held British principle of the right to be tried by a jury of one's peers (equals).



Thousands of British troops were sent to Boston in the summer of 1774 to enforce these new laws. The Quartering Act, which was the last of the new laws and the only one that applied to all of the colonies, required the colonists to provide and pay for adequate housing and food for British troops stationed in the colonies.

These laws were known as the **Coercive Acts** in England. In America, they were called the **Intolerable Acts**. (Another word for intolerable is "unbearable.") The colonists believed the acts were intolerable because they went too far and violated their constitutional rights. It is true that many colonists believed that what happened at the Tea Party was criminal. They believed the protesters' destruction of the tea, which was private property, went too far. But Parliament's overreaction was even worse and could not be ignored.

Opposite Page: This political cartoon, "The Repeal or the Funeral Procession of Miss Ame-Stamp," depicts a funeral procession in which members of Parliament are burying the Stamp Act after its "demise."

田人	FIGURE 10.2 Legislative Acts		
	Legislation	Date	What It Did
	Proclamation of 1763	1763	Set boundaries for western settlement
	Sugar Act	1764	Lowered tax on sugar, molasses, and other products, but tightened customs enforcement
	Stamp Act	1765	Taxed certain types of documents
Black from A	Declaratory Act	1766	Stated that Great Britain had the right to tax the colonies
	Townshend Acts	1767	Taxed glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea
51	Tea Act	1773	Gave East India Tea Company the sole control of tea trade
from 2	"Intolerable" Acts	1774	Closed port of Boston

Reaction to the Intolerable Acts

Throughout the thirteen colonies, colonists met to discuss how to respond to the Intolerable Acts. Should they try to help Massachusetts or stay out of the dispute?

Some colonists believed Parliament was right to punish all of Boston and Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party. They believed that the Massachusetts malcontents (troublemakers) got what they deserved. It was foolish and dangerous, they argued, to side with Massachusetts and much better to just stay out of the dispute.

Many other colonists viewed the situation differently. They argued that the Intolerable Acts were unconstitutional and had

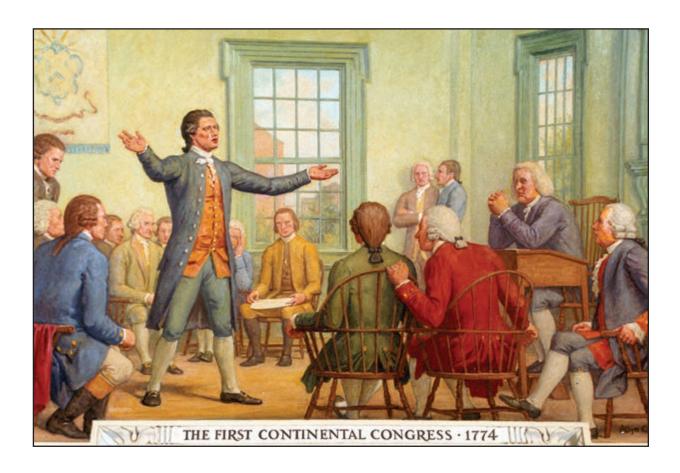
to be opposed. If not, Parliament would just keep passing unconstitutional laws on the colonies. Soon, every colony would find itself oppressed by the British Parliament.

The First Continental Congress

A call went out among colonial leaders for a meeting of delegates in Philadelphia to discuss the matter further. All of the colonies with the exception of Georgia sent representatives to this **First Continental Congress**.

The delegates who arrived in Philadelphia in September 1774 were some of the most important leaders in the colonies. Patrick Henry of Virginia, John Dickinson of Pennsylvania and Sam Adams of Massachusetts were all well known throughout the colonies for their strong opposition to Parliament. Other delegates like John Adams and George Washington would emerge as leaders in the near future.





There was agreement among the delegates that Parliament's actions against Massachusetts were unconstitutional and illegal. They disagreed, however, on what the colonies should do about it. Some of the delegates believed written petitions and appeals to Parliament and King George III would be the best approach to convince Parliament to repeal its actions. Others argued that the petitions they sent during earlier disputes over the Stamp Act and Townshend Duties had little effect. There was no reason to expect new petitions would work any better.

Most agreed it was time for the colonies to take more forceful actions. Some wanted all of the colonies to better prepare their militia (colonial soldiers) to fight, but most thought such a proposal went too far. The very idea of fighting against their own British countrymen was too much for many to consider in 1774.

A majority of the delegates, instead, favored economic measures to pressure Parliament. As a result, the First Continental Congress voted to boycott nearly all British goods for as long as the Intolerable Acts were in effect. If the acts were not repealed by September 1775, the colonies would go a step further and stop selling goods to Britain.

Opposite

Page: The First Continental Congress met at Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia.

Above:

Representatives from all colonies except Georgia met and debated at the First Continental Congress in 1774. These actions showed great colonial support for Massachusetts. This was the opposite of what Parliament expected. British leaders believed that their harsh measures against Massachusetts would intimidate the other colonies in America to behave better. Instead, the Intolerable Acts brought the colonies closer together. Many colonists saw Boston's problem as their own. They were willing to sacrifice their own comfort by boycotting British goods in order to help them.



Above: Smoke from gunpowder fills the air as a colonial reenactor fires his musket.

Opposite Page, Top:
Patrick Henry. Opposite Page, Bottom: In the spring of 1775, Virginian Patrick Henry declared, "Give me liberty or give me death!"

Gunpowder and Arms

Although colonial leaders hoped that a boycott of British goods would convince Parliament to repeal its actions, reports from England over the winter were alarming. More British troops were sailing for Boston to join the thousands who already occupied the city. Also, Parliament passed a ban on the shipment of gunpowder and arms (muskets) to the colonies.

This suggested to the colonists that Parliament sought to disarm them in order to subjugate (subdue) the colonies by force. Efforts to obtain both gunpowder and weapons, and to form and train militia to defend themselves against British troops, spread throughout the colonies.

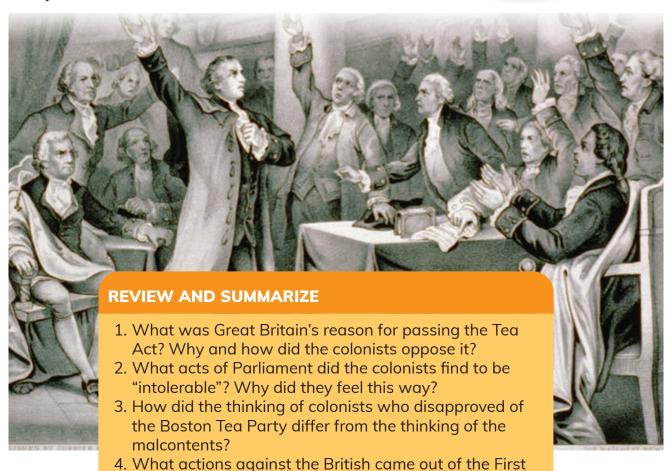
"GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH !"

"Liberty or Death"

In Virginia, the debate on whether the colony should better prepare the militia to fight led Patrick Henry to declare, "Give me liberty or give me death!" at a meeting of Virginia's leaders in the spring of 1775. He argued that there was no reason for Britain to send so many troops to Boston other than to subdue the colonists by force and that war with Great Britain could not be avoided. This reasoning convinced a slight majority at the meeting to strengthen Virginia's militia.

Twelve years of political disagreements between the British Parliament and the English colonies in America had now reached a breaking point. Events in Massachusetts just three weeks after Patrick Henry's speech would prove him to be correct.

Continental Congress?



Chapter Review

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Section 1:

British America in the 18th Century

- During the Enlightenment, people challenged the monarchy's power.
- Mercantilism limited what the colonists could produce. The Navigation Acts placed tariffs on tea, wine, and clothing. Any ship transporting goods to trade had to come to Britain first. Colonists resorted to smuggling.
- Colonists accepted the trade laws because they valued British protection and still saw themselves as British citizens.

Section 2: The French and Indian War

- The Iroquois War was fought over territory and furs. With help from the French, the Iroquois expanded their territory.
- At the Battle of Fort Necessity, the British were losing the attack, but the French called for a truce. Washington promised to leave the area for a year.
- The next year, Washington joined British troops to attack the French Fort Duquesne.
 British troops were ambushed, and many were killed. They had to retreat to Virginia.
- Between 1758 and 1760, the British captured Fort Duquesne, Quebec, and Montreal. The Treaty of Paris of 1763 ended the war. In 1762, France had secretly transferred Louisiana to Spain, but the British gained Canada.

Section 3: Dispute with Britain

- To be repaid for war debts, Parliament enacted laws to increase revenue from the colonies. The British enacted the Proclamation Line of 1763 to keep colonists from crossing the Appalachian Mountains.
- The Sugar Act of 1764 cut tariffs on molasses but added trade regulations.

- The Stamp Act of 1763 put taxes on paper goods. Colonists called for "No taxation without Representation." Delegates from nine colonies met to discuss a boycott of British goods.
- The Stamp Act was repealed because of the unrest it caused. Parliament then passed the Declaratory Act. It stated that Parliament had the power to rule the colonies in "all cases whatsoever."
- The Townshend Duties of 1767 placed tariffs on English-made goods. Colonists argued that tariffs could only be placed on foreign-made goods.
- Colonial leaders called for a boycott of British-made goods. Parliament sent British soldiers to Boston in 1768.
- On March 5, 1770, colonists threw things at British soldiers and the soldiers fired into the crowd, killing five and wounding six colonists in the "Boston Massacre."

Section 4:

Tensions Rise to a Breaking Point

- The Tea Act of 1773 kept the tariff on tea but lowered its price.
- On December 16, 1773, Bostonians dumped over 300 chests of tea into the ocean in the "Boston Tea Party."
- As punishment for destroying the tea, Parliament blockaded Boston's port and passed the Coercive (Intolerable) Acts. British troops were sent in 1774 to enforce these new laws.
- Colonists met in Philadelphia in September 1774 to respond to the Intolerable Acts.
- This First Continental Congress agreed to boycott nearly all British goods and to stop selling goods to Britain if the Acts weren't repealed by September 1775.
- Britain sent more troops and forbade the shipment of arms to the colonies. Colonists trained their militia and tried to acquire gunpowder and arms.

ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING

Vocabulary

On sticky notes or index cards, create a word map for six of the terms listed below:

blockade revenue

boycott salutary neglect

convergence sentry intolerable smuggling militia textiles

For each term, your word map will include these:

A. The vocabulary word/term

B. The term's definition

C. A synonym

D. A sentence from the text using that word

Understanding the Facts

- 1. Which two kingdoms were united to form Great Britain in 1707?
- 2. How was governing power shared in England?
- 3. According to John Locke, what are the three natural rights?
- 4. In the 1750s, what was the colonial population of the thirteen American colonies? The French colony in Canada?
- 5. Which two rivers converge to form the Ohio River?
- 6. Where did the French and Indian War begin?
- 7. What territory did Great Britain gain through the Treaty of Paris (1763)?
- 8. What did the Proclamation of 1763 forbid?
- 9. What long-held British principle did the Stamp Act (1765) violate?
- 10. Who persuaded Parliament to repeal the Stamp Act?
- 11. Who successfully defended the British soldiers involved in the Boston Massacre?
- 12. Which British company was the Tea Act of 1773 intended to help?
- 13. Which law punished Boston for the destruction of tea?
- 14. Where was the First Continental Congress held? Which colonies attended the Congress?

Developing Critical Thinking

If you were John Adams defending the British soldiers involved in the Boston Massacre, what evidence would you share in hopes of persuading the jury to find the defendants not guilty?

Writing across the Curriculum

In opposition to the Stamp Act of 1765, colonists used the slogan, "No taxation without representation." Review these other British laws:

The Townshend Duties

The Tea Act of 1773

The Coercive Acts

The Quartering Act

Then, create two colonial slogans, of four to eight words each, that oppose two of these laws.

Applying Your Skills

The connection between what happens and what makes it happen is known as the cause-effect relationship. A "cause" is a sufficient action for an event to occur. An "effect" is the result of this action. Not all cause-effect relationships are clear. Sometimes an event has more than one cause, or an action more than one effect. Look for words indicating a cause-effect relationship such as because, consequently, as a result, therefore or so.

Study this example from the chapter: "Because [emphasis added] no roads existed in the frontier, land travel was difficult ... Travel by canoe or raft on rivers was easier."

Cause: There were no roads in the frontier.

Effect: Travel was difficult.

Effect: Travel on rivers made it easier.

Now, find another cause-and-effect passage in this chapter. Write the full sentence that has the cause-effect relationship. Underline the word or phrase that indicates this relationship. Following the example above, write the "Cause" in your own words along with the "Effect."

Exploring Technology

tragic incident.

Explore this excellent website on the Boston Massacre as found at http://www.

bostonmassacre.net/facts-and-numbers. htm. Note six things you learned about this

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