

NO FUN
ACTING
THE
HYPOCRITE



See Creswell's Journal p. 3

Autumn 1774
Newsline

- September 5-October 26, 1774
First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia
- October 1774
Liberty Pole erected in Williamsburg
- October 10, 1774
Fall session of General Court cancelled
- October 10, 1774
Augusta County's Col. Andrew Lewis serving under Lord Dunmore defeats Shawnee under Chief Cornstalk; wins Battle of Point Pleasant at mouth of the Great Kanawha
- October 19, 1774
Chief Cornstalk accedes to Treaty of Camp Charlotte, ending Dunmore's War. Terms negotiated by Lord Dunmore recognize Virginia's claims in the Upper Ohio River Valley
- November 1774
Burgesses arrive in Williamsburg but do not convene because of Dunmore's absence
- November 7, 1774
Irate Yorktown citizens celebrate with a "tea party." Two half-chests are thrown into the York River from deck of the *Virginia*. The tea, shipped by John Norton and Sons of London, was ordered by John Prentis in Williamsburg
- November 9, 1774
Nearly 500 merchants gathered in Williamsburg sign the Continental Association; present it to Peyton Randolph and other congressional delegates at the Capitol
- November 25, 1774
James City County voters elect Committee of Safety
- November 30, 1774
Williamsburg elects John Dixon mayor

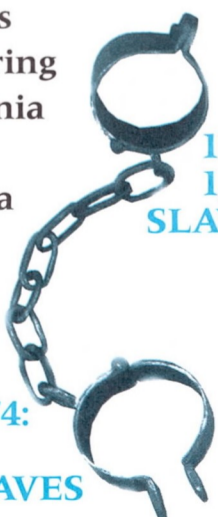
On April 1, 1772, the House of Burgesses resolved to present an address to King George III imploring him to allow representative assemblies in the colonies to restrict the importation of slaves from Africa if desired. The demand for slaves imported directly from Africa came to a standstill for Virginia in 1774. (The king later disallowed the bill.)

VIRGINIA TODAY
SNAPSHOT

Slaves
Entering
Virginia
from
Africa

1772:
1,560
SLAVES

1774:
0
SLAVES



AMERICANS
Becoming TODAY

NO. 1 IN COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

"In Congress, Nibbling and Quibbling as Usual"



Peyton Randolph

Dateline: Philadelphia, September and October, 1774

Traveling from Williamsburg in the colony of Virginia to this city of brotherly love, we narrators of the news happened upon a most distinguished delegate from that poor, beleaguered colony of Massachusetts Bay, Mr. John Adams. We took this opportunity to pose some queries to him concerning the happenings of the "Congress" now convened at Carpenters' Hall.



John Adams—Courtesy of Independence National Historic Park Library

Mr. Adams, has the Congress chosen a chairman?

Mr. Adams: "Mr. Thomas Lynch of South Carolina proposed that the Honorable Peyton Randolph, Esquire, should be appointed chairman, and he doubted not it would be unanimous."

Huzzah! Mr. Randolph is late the speaker of our House of Burgesses! Good news for our Virginia readers!

Well, Mr. Adams. What about Mr. Patrick Henry, another of our number? Has he spoken in your assembly? He forever has something to say in ours!

Mr. Adams: Mr. Henry spoke quite passionately that "government is dissolved. Fleets and armies and the present state of things show that government is dissolved. We are in a state of nature, sir. The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders, are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American."

Indeed, sir. Did anyone rebut Mr. Henry?

Mr. Adams: Most certainly. No sooner had Mr. Henry finished his oration than Mr. John Jay of New York countered by saying, "Could I suppose that we came to frame an American Constitution, instead of endeavoring to correct the faults in an old one—I can't yet think that all government is at an end. The measure of arbitrary power is not full, and I think it must run over, before we undertake to frame a new Constitution."

We are certain that all debates don't evoke such a warmth of passion. Can you cite for us a clear and present example of the occasional tedium of the Congress?

Mr. Adams: Most assuredly! I think back recently to a day "in Congress, nibbling and quibbling as usual. There is no greater mortification than to sit with half a dozen wits, deliberating upon a petition, address, or memorial. These great wits, these subtle critics, these wise statesmen, are so fond of showing their parts and powers, as to make their consultations very tedious."

It sounds as though it can also be rather rancorous at Carpenters' Hall.

Mr. Adams: Certainly you have the right of it. Saturday last, however, "was one of the happiest days of my life. In Congress we had generous, noble sentiments, and manly eloquence. This day convinced me that America *will* support Massachusetts or perish with her."

Good sir. What company have you kept in the city?

Mr. Adams: "I spent an evening at home, with Colonel Lee, Colonel Washington, and Dr. Shippen, who came in to consult with us. . . . I have dined with Mr. [John] Dickinson at his seat at Fair Hill. . . . Mr. Dickinson is a very modest man, and very ingenious as well as agreeable. He is full and clear for allowing to Parliament the regulation of trade, upon principles of necessity, and the mutual interest of both countries."

Mr. Adams! Are there none against Parliament regulating the colonial trade?

Mr. Adams: Mr. Christopher Gadsen of South Carolina "is violent against allowing to Parliament any power of regulating trade, or allowing that they have anything to do with us. 'Power of regulating trade,' he says, 'is power of ruining us; as bad as acknowledging them a supreme legislature in all cases whatsoever; a right of regulating trade is a right of legislation, and a right of legislation in one case is a right in all; this I deny.'"

Dear Readers: Control of trade between Great Britain and the colonies will, if this Congress has its way, be regulated by a strictly enforced continental association. However, given the avowed belief by Americans that "English goods are ever the best," the association might be a moot point!

We heard from a reliable source 'twas much debate, "particular" over the method of voting—whether it should be done by colonies with one vote each or whether the more populous of the colonies should have greater voting power.

Mr. Adams: Samuel Ward, governor of Rhode Island, observed that "there are a great number of counties, in Virginia, very unequal in point of wealth and numbers, yet each has a right to send two members [to the House of Burgesses]." Major John Sullivan of New Hampshire argued "that a little colony had its all at stake as well as a great one." Mr. Lynch

Cont. on page 2

TEA PARTY . . . REDUX
If it played in Boston

The Inhabitants of York after having been informed that the *Virginia*, commanded by Howard Esten, had on Board two Half Chests of Tea, shipped by John Norton, Esq; and Sons, Merchants in London, by Order of Mess[re]. Prentis and Company, Merchants in Williamsburg, assembled at 10 o'Clock this Morning, and went on Board the same Ship, where they waited some Time for the Determination of the Meeting of several Members of the House of Burgesses in Williamsburg, who had taken this Matter under Consideration. A Messenger was then sent on Shore to inquire for a Letter from the Meeting; but returning without one, they immediately hoisted the Tea out of the Hold and threw it into the River, and then returned to the Shore without doing Damage to the Ship or any other Part of her Cargo.

[Source: *Revolutionary Virginia: The Road to Independence*, vol. 2, *The Communities and the Second Convention, 1773-1775*. (Charlottesville, Va.: University Press of Virginia, 1975), 164.]



PALACE
POSTING

See Page 2.

SQUAWK BOX

Britain says . . .

Colonies and plantations in America have been, are, and of right ought to be subordinate unto, and dependent upon the imperial crown and Parliament of Great Britain.

(Declaratory Act, 1766)

The New England colonies are in a state of rebellion. Blows must decide whether they are subject to this country, or independent.

(King George III, 1774)

The colonies reply . . .

Every British subject born on the continent of America, or in any other of the British dominions, is by the law of God and nature, by the common law, and by the act of parliament . . . entitled to all the natural, essential, inherent, and inseparable rights of our fellow subjects in Great Britain.

(James Otis, *The rights of the British Colonies Asserted and Proved*, 1764)

Kings are the servants, not the proprietors of the people.

(Thomas Jefferson, *A Summary Review of the Rights of British America*, 1774)

OKAY, NO MORE
MISTER NICE GUY!

September 5-October 25, 1774

First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia

Virginia Delegation

Peyton Randolph (elected president), Richard Henry Lee, George Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison and Edmund Pendleton

Congress Adopts a Continental Association and Declares

- That from and after the 1st day of December next, we will not import in British America from Great Britain or Ireland any goods, wares, or merchandise whatsoever, or from any other place, any such goods, wares, or merchandise as shall have been exported from Great Britain or Ireland. Nor will we, after that day, import any east India tea from any part of the world.

- We will neither import nor purchase any slave imported after the 1st day of December next; after which time we will wholly discontinue the slave trade.

- We will, in our several stations, encourage frugality, economy, and industry, and promote agriculture, arts, and the manufactures of this country . . . and we will discountenance and discourage every species of extravagance and dissipation, especially like horse racing, all kinds of gaming, cockfighting, . . .

- That a committee be chosen in every county, city, and town by those who are qualified to vote for the representatives in the legislature, whose business it shall be to attentively observe the conduct of all persons touching the association.

NEWS

Quebec Act: Intolerable!

In an effort to govern the American West, Parliament passed the Quebec Act, which extended the borders of Quebec to the Ohio River, established a system of government for the area that included neither an elected legislature nor trial by jury, and permitted Roman Catholic clergy, who were under legal restrictions elsewhere in the empire, to serve the French Canadian population. Although the British government did not intend it as such, colonists regarded the statute as one of the "coercive" or "intolerable acts." The *Virginia Gazette* reported its passage on September 1 and criticized its religious provisions on several occasions over the next month, but there was surprisingly little comment in Virginia about the implications of the act for the colony's own claims on the West.

John E. Selby, *A Chronology of Virginia and the War of Independence, 1763-1783* (Charlottesville, Va.: University Press of Virginia, 1973), 14.



"In Congress, Nibbling and Quibbling as Usual"

Cont. from page 1

"thinks that it ought to be a compound of numbers and property that should determine the weight of the colonies."

Note, dear readers, that a compromise was reached that each colony would have one vote regardless of size or wealth.

How have you found your exercise with the knife and fork?

Mr. Adams: We New Englanders dined with Mr. Miers Fisher, a young Quaker lawyer. "This plain Friend, and his plain, tho' pretty wife with her Thee's and Thou's, provided us the most Costly Entertainment—Ducks, Hams, Chickens, Beef, Pigg, Tarts, creams, custards, Gellies, fools, Trifles, floating Islands [a custard with floating masses of whipped cream or white of eggs], Beer, Porter, Punch, wine." Even grander was our visit to the townhouse of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew. "About four o'clock we were called to dinner—Turtle and every other Thing—Flummery, Jellies, Sweetmeats of 20 sorts, Trifles, Whip'd Syllabubbs, floating Islands, fools [a dish composed of fruit stewed, crushed, and mixed with milk, cream, or custard], etc., and then a Desert of Fruits, Raisins, Almonds, Pears, Peaches—wines most excellent and admirable. I drank Madeira at a great Rate and found no inconvenience in it."

It's obvious that in this fair city, as in Virginia, good food, good wine and good conversation weave a subtle but powerful web among the affections, binding men into a unity of spirit and a bond of concord. Indeed, the chief success of this Congress, we venture to say, is the simple fact that it was able to convene at all!

Mr. Adams, of all the rhetoric and eloquence that found your ear, what might you share with us as this Congress winds down?

Mr. Adams: When the "whole Congress dined together, at city tavern, at the invitation of the House of Representatives of the province of Pennsylvania . . . making near 100 guests in the whole; a most elegant entertainment. A sentiment was given: 'May the sword of the parent never be stained with the blood of her children.' Two or three broad-brims [Quakers] were at table; one of them said 'this is not a toast, but a prayer. Come let us join in it.'"

Sir, as you take your leave of this city, we understand you have found much conviviality and pleasant entertainment here.

Mr. Adams: Good sirs, 'tis true, but "Philadelphia with all its trade and wealth and regularity . . . is not Boston."

[Submitted by your traveling correspondents, Nancy Milton and Phil Shultz]



View of Philadelphia from the Fields

HOW YA GONNA KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM, AFTER THEY'VE SEEN PHIL . . . LY?

If delegates to the Congress became bored with their sessions, there was always a seemingly endless variety of goods and services to be had as well as public buildings and churches to visit. In this provincial capital of almost 30,000 souls, there were the following:

- Twenty-three printing establishments
- By 1776 seven newspapers (more even than in London)
- Thirty bookshops
- Sixty taverns and coffeehouses with names like Blue Anchor, Bunch of Grapes, Conestoga Wagon, Rising Sun, Half Moon, London Coffee House, Indian King, and the new larger City Tavern (a great gathering place for members of Congress)
- Distilleries and breweries
- The Grand Market on Market Street

- Churches (the "noble Christ Church") and meeting houses of many denominations such as Anglican, Methodist, Baptist, Quaker, German Moravian, Catholic
 - The new hospital with its "cells of lunatics"
 - College of Philadelphia
 - America's busiest port
 - The State House
 - The new poor house
 - America's first fire company
 - The first medical school
 - A library
 - The first botanical garden in America, created by John Bartram, west of town on the banks of the Schuylkill River
- [Source: David McCullough, *John Adams* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001).

**TIME TO PACK IT IN!
Lord Dunmore's War**

Close of the Campaign

My Dear Sir [Col. William Preston.]—About 7 Oclock this morning Cap' Floyd & myself got there [here] on our return from the Indian Country.

This day 3 weeks ago [Oct. 18] our Army about 1150 in number marched from the Ohio, and on the Monday evening following we encamped within about 3 miles from a Shawnese Town where their greatest force were Assembled. His Lordships Camp was then about 7 miles from us & about 6 miles from the Town. We intended for his Camp but passed the path that took off to our right hand expecting he had encamped nearer the Towns. That day we were met by several expresses from his Lordship, the last one informing us that he had concluded a peace. As we went on further than was expected The Indians who watched every motion of our army, informed the Gov' that we had not stopt but were pushing strait for their Towns & would be in that day which we could have done). His lordship with the Interpreter M' Gibson & an Indian Chief & 50 men came to our Camp at Dusk. The next day he called the Captains together, told what he had [done] & desired us to return home. We began our March that day, all but about 50 Fincastle men who went to the other Camp. . . .

The Mingo refused to comply with the terms of the Treaty, when his Lordship was at our Camp he had about 8 of their men under confinement. Tuesday night

after he returned to his own Camp he detached 250 men who reached a Mingo Town the following night, killed 5 & took 14 prisoners chiefly Women & Children the rest escaping under Cover of the Night. . . .

The Shawnese proposed laying themselves at the Gov mercy & told him to make the Terms & they should be compiled with. He proposed their delivering up all the Prisoners & paying for what Stores &c they had taken since last war. And never more to make war or disturb us. For the Two first he takes two of their Chiefs with him to Wm-burg & for the last four Chiefs or the Sons of such. I don't know ab' the other articles but Knox & howe tells me that there is something about their never coming over to our settlements but to Trade. . . .

I am Sir as usual Yours Ever Wm Christain

[Source: Reuben Gold Thwaites and Louise Phelps Kellogg, eds., *Documentary History of Dunmore's War, 1774* (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society, 1905).



SACRED AND SECULAR CALENDAR

September 29, 1774/Thurs.

St. Michael and All Angels (Michaelmas). The Sunday closest to Michelmas (October 2 in 1774) was one of four times communion was celebrated at Bruton Parish Church during the year.

October 18, 1774/Tues.

St. Luke, physician, missionary, author of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. Philosophy and divinity students return to the College of William and Mary after vacation.

October 25, 1774/Tues.

Accession of George III to the English throne. After 1766, this anniversary was celebrated instead of the king's birthday (June 4), because it coincided with both the regular fall meeting of the courts and cooler weather. The *Virginia Gazette* noted balls at the Palace but

made no mention of any public celebration including the general populace.

November 5, 1774/Sat.

Guy Fawkes Day. Commemoration of the failure in 1605 of the Catholic "Gunpowder Plot" against Parliament and James I. *Virginia Almanacks* noted, "Powder Plot" on this day. Although evidence for observance of this day in Virginia is scant, in 1770, Margaret Parker wrote to her husband from Norfolk, "this is the 5th of November and [our son] has been employed all day making bonfires."

November 30, 1774/Wed.

St. Andrew, patron saint of Scotland. Williamsburg's charter designated this day for municipal elections. Sometimes the newly elected mayor provided festivities and entertainment for the alderman and common councilmen.

MONEY



SHIPPING

The majority of items exported are tobacco, grains (corn and wheat) and lumber (staves and shingles) in the colonial coastal trade and Virginia's transatlantic, Caribbean, Mediterranean and Wine Islands trade. Transatlantic carriers are generally ships and brigs that carry more than 150 tons. Schooners, usually carrying less than 100 tons, ply the coastal and Caribbean waters.

VIRGINIA'S TRADE CALENDAR

September–October: Convoy of imported goods arrives in Virginia from Britain; makes return trip with Virginia tobacco

October: Wheat from Virginia is exported to the West Indies

October–June: Prime period for grain cargoes exported to southern Europe

Number of ships entering the Lower Chesapeake: September, 20; October, 30; November, 40

Number of ships cleared: September, 20; October, 40; November, 28

**END THE SLAVE TRADE!
The Association of 1774**

The leaders of the Virginia resistance were particularly prominent in pushing the end to the slave trade, resolving in August of 1774 that, "We will neither ourselves import, nor purchase any slave or slaves imported by any other person, after the first day of November next, either from Africa, the West Indies, or any other place." It was the Virginians as well who were the instigators and leaders within the Continental Congress of that body's measures against the slave trade. In September of 1774, Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee proposed a resolution in favor of nonimportation, and the Continental Congress responded with a declaration on October 12 which included this provision: "We will neither import, nor purchase any Slave imported after the First Day of December next; after which Time, we will wholly discontinue the Slave Trade, and will neither be concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our Vessels, nor sell our Commodities or Manufactures to those who are concerned in it." This clause, along with the rest of the nonimportation agreement, appears to have been upheld by the citizens of the new nation, at least in the beginning. In Norfolk, for example, the vigilance committee publicly censured a merchant named John Brown who had imported slaves from Jamaica on several occasions.

Enslaving Virginia Resource Book

AUTUMN FARMING

Tobacco: Worm, sucker, top, cut and hang, strike and strip at night, tie in hand at night, pack and prize, hoe hills for next year and sow seed

Corn: Gather tops and blades for fodder, cart to town, gather and husk corn, clear new fields, plow fields for next year
Wheat: Tread, thresh and clean wheat, sow and harrow in winter wheat, cart wheat and straw to town, plow and sow other grains

Vegetables: Gather peas and beans, dig potatoes, carrots and turnips, pull pumpkins
Orchard: Make cider and peach brandy, cart cider and brandy to town, gather apples and grapes, plant grapes and sow apple seed

Livestock: Fatten hogs and beeves, build shelter for cattle, sell mutton, hogs and steers, butcher hogs (December)

Other: Overseers hired for next year (September), cut firewood and cart to town, ditch fields, grub and fence

FORUM



Letter from . . .

Margot Créviaux-Gevertz

The summer of 1774 sizzled with anger as news of Parliament's "intolerable acts" swept the colonies, fanning heated debate and gestures of protest. By the fall, the colonists were determined to regulate various aspects of their lives through the establishment of local associations. "Royal governors stood by in helpless amazement" at the changes taking place around them. On September 5, the First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, leading to the Association that virtually cut off trade with Britain.

This edition of *Becoming Americans Today* takes a look at that Congress and at some of the conflicting views of the times. For example, how different the perspectives of Nicholas Creswell, visitor from England in search of business opportunities, and Christopher Gadsen of South Carolina who is dead set against Parliament regulating colonial trade (see articles). Did Creswell have more to gain under the status quo or would he, too, have benefited ultimately from the changes sought by the colonists? And what of the differences of opinion among the colonists themselves? These are highlighted in our "interview" with John Adams who gives us a glimpse into the debates and other goings-on during the Continental Congress.

As for Lord Dunmore, he returns from war with the Indians to find that Williamsburg has become a hotbed of unrest. The wild West may soon seem tame compared to the challenges he will face in the months ahead!



A JUMBLE OF PEOPLES Diversity in the Colonies

An unprecedented jumble of peoples typified the colonies from New York to Georgia in 1760. Most colonies from New York south could form a cultural majority only by grouping together all white settlers, and then sometimes only barely. In the "middle" colonies of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, English settlers constituted only 30 to 45 percent of all residents (45 percent in New York, 40 percent in New Jersey, and about 30 percent in Pennsylvania). New York's 1760 population clustered into four principal groups: English (about 52,000), Germans and Dutch (22,000), Africans (16,000), and Scots, Scots-Irish, and Irish accounted for about 42,000 residents; Africans numbered about 4,500 persons.

The southern colonies proved equally heterogeneous, but in different ways. In 1760 Africans constituted the region's most numerous people, slightly outnumbering the English; Scots, Scots-Irish, and Irish made up another 15 percent of the population. Even in Maryland and North Carolina, the least diverse southern colonies, English settlers comprised only about 45 percent of the population, while in Virginia they comprised about 35 percent of the population. Africans outnumbered the English in South Carolina by a ratio of 2-1 in 1760, and this ratio climbed to 10-1 in South Carolina's rural counties. Africans then dramatically outnumbered overseers and neighboring yeoman farmers—a configuration unparalleled in any other mainland colony.

Jon Butler, *Becoming America: The Revolution before 1776* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2000), 10-11.



The able Doctor, or America Swallowing the Bitter Draught, *Maker unknown, black and white engraving, England, 1774*. This print appeared soon after the Boston Tea Party. It shows Lord North, the British prime minister, forcing tea down the throat of America.

THE APPROACH TO INDEPENDENCE

The Coercive Acts of 1774 provoked open rebellion in America. Not only had the abuses of the English government aroused the Americans' principles, but repeated expressions of English arrogance had finally worn out their tempers. Whatever royal authority was left in the colonies now dissolved. Many local communities, with a freedom they had not had since the seventeenth century, attempted to put together new popular governments from the bottom up. Mass meetings that sometimes attracted thousands of aroused colonists endorsed resolutions and called for new political organizations. Committees of different sizes and names—committees of safety, of inspection, of merchants, of mechanics—competed with one another for political control. In the various colonies royal government was displayed in a variety of ways, depending on how extensive and personal previous royal authority had been. In Massachusetts, where the crown's authority had reached into the villages and towns through the royally appointed justices of the peace, the displacement was greater than in Vir-

ginia, where royal influence had scarcely touched the control of the counties by the powerful landowners. But everywhere there was a fundamental transfer of authority that opened new opportunities for new men to assert themselves.

By the end of 1774, in many of the colonies local associations were controlling and regulating various aspects of American life. Committees manipulated voters, directed appointments, organized the militia, managed trade, intervened between creditors and debtors, levied taxes, issued licenses, and supervised or closed the courts. Royal governors stood by in helpless amazement as new informal governments gradually grew up around them. These new governments ranged from town and county committees and the newly created provincial congresses to a general congress of the colonies—the first Continental Congress, which convened in Philadelphia in September 1774.

Gordon S. Wood, *The American Revolution: A History* (New York: Modern Library, 2002), 47-48.

JOURNAL OF NICHOLAS CRESWELL

Nicholas Creswell was an Englishman who came to America hoping to acquire land and settle in the colonies. His journal recorded his experiences and observations as he traveled in Barbados, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and New York before he returned home.

Alexandria, Va Tuesday, November 1st, 1774

This evening went to the Tavern to hear the resolves of the Continental Congress Read a Petition to the Throne and an address to the people of Great Britain Both of them full of duplicity and false representation. I look upon them as insults to the understanding and dignity of the British Sovereign and people. Am in hopes their petitions will never be granted I am sorry to see them so well received by the people and the sentiments so universally adopted. It is plain proof that the seeds of rebellion are already sown and have taken very deep root, but am in hopes they will be eradicated next summer I am obliged to act the hypocrite and extol these proceedings as the wisest productions of any assembly on Earth, but in my heart I despise them and look upon them with contempt.

Alexandria, Va Thursday, November 3rd, 1774

Saw the Independent Company exercise. The Effigy of Lord North was shot at, then carried in great parade into the town and burnt.

Leesburg, Loudoun County, Virginia—Sunday, November 27th, 1774

Got to Leesburg, 40 miles from Alexandria. The Land begins to grow better. A Gravelly soil and Produces good Wheat but the roads are very bad, Cut to pieces with the Waggon, number of them we have met to day. Their method of mending the roads is with poles about 10 Foot long layd across the road close together they stick fast in the mud and make an excellent Causeway. Very thinly peopled along the road almost all

Woods. Only one Publick house between this place and Alexandria.

Monday, December 5th, 1774

Set out in co[mpany] with Captn. Buddecomb and Mr. Moffit. Crossed the Blue Ridge. This is a High Barren Mountain, producing nothing but Pines. It runs North and South through Virginia and Maryland, Carolina's and Pennsylvania. Crossed the Shanandoe River on the West Side of the Mountain. Here is some of the Finest Land I have ever seen. This is calld Keys Ferry. Got to Whitheringtons Mill. Lodged at a Poor house. The land is exceedingly fine From the Shan do River to this place—80 miles from Alexandria.

Frederick County, Virginia—Tuesday, December 6th, 1774

Went from the Mill to a place called Hopewell, a fine Plantation belonging to Mr. Jacob Hite. Here is some of the Finest Land I ever saw either for the plow or pasture. Got to Mr. Wm. Gibbs, an acquaintance of Mr. Kirks. We have traveled over some as fine land to day for about 25 Miles as I would wish to see. Limestone in general. Abounds with Shumack, Walnut, and Locust trees which are certain indications that the Lands are rich, pretty level, it is Rocky in some places, but affords excellent pasturage and well watered. Produces good Wheat and Barley. The people appears to be more industerous in this part of the Country than they are on the other side of the Blueridge.

The Journal of Nicholas Cresswell, 1774-1777 (New York, 1924 repr. 1968).



CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

JOHN RANDOLPH, Esqr's SLAVE TO BE HANGED

"Ned, the Negro Man Slave belonging to John Randolph, Esqr," was tried for "Felony and Burglary" at the Court House in Yorktown on November 15, 1774.

Five gentlemen justices of York County were empowered to try Ned in a court of oyer and terminer designed to try accused slave felons without the benefit of a jury such as all free accused felons were guaranteed.

Ned was led to the bar by the sheriff and accused of breaking into "with force and arms the dwelling house [and tavern] of Christiana Campbell widow situate . . . in the county of York between the Hours of nine and twelve in the Night" of October 30, 1774. The indictment stated that he "did take Steal and Carry away . . . 2 trunks valued at 20s, 9 shirts valued at £6, 6 pair of stockings valued at £6, 6 handkerchiefs valued at 20s, and pieces of cut silver valued at £12.10s of the Goods and Chattels of Simon Fraiser, Merchant and 9 shirts valued at £9, 6 pairs of stockings valued at £3 and 6 handkerchiefs valued at 20s of Bennett Brown, Merchant."

Thus charged, Ned "Pleaded not Guilty and for Trial put himself upon the Judgment of the Court." The gentlemen justices then proceeded to examine the witnesses, determine guilt and pass sentence. The justices determined that Ned was guilty of the felony and burglary and "demanded of the said Ned if he had anything to say why the court should not pronounce the Sentence of Death against him. . . . [H]e [Ned] said he had nothing beside what he had said Whereupon It is considered by the Court that he be hanged by the Neck until he be dead." The sheriff was ordered to carry out the execution on "Tuesday the twenty-ninth day of this Instant November." The court set the value of Ned at "Eighty Pounds curt Money" that John Randolph, Esqr., would collect from the General Assembly.

York County Court Order Book, 1774-1778, 4: 60-61.

September 29, 1774

COMMITTED to the Publick Jail, on the 3d Instant, a Negro Man named CHARLES, who told me he belonged to the Doctor Corbin Griffin, of York, which I have repeatedly notified to the Doctor; but no application having been made from him for the said fellow, it is probable he has told me a Falsity. From his own Story, he was lately the Property of Mr. James Pride, from whom Doctor Griffin received him last February, and kept him in Possession till the July following, at which Time he eloped. He is about 25 years old, five Feet nine inches high, slim made, well dressed, and fit to act in the Capacity of a Waiting Man. His owner is desired to take him away, and pay charges.

PETER PELHAM.

June 25, 1774

I fear my very old Slave and fellow creature Jack Lubbar is now going to Pay the debt of nature. About a fortnight ago as he has during his extreme age been subject to tender and indeed sore shins, by his going to fish along the creek side, as he ever has done ever since I suffered him to follow his own will now near 9 or 10 years, he somehow hurt his leg. This brought on a fever; but being of a natural strong constitution with very little medical care his fevers were removed and his leg restored sound, and to Perfect the cure I have him gentle Apperients to take, this set him about lively and even to walk upright again; and then he made traps to catch a Mink that destroyed my fowls, and in doing this of his own head I fear he got wet and caught cold by going into the swamp. . . . I believe the old man is going. Farewell to as honest a human creature as could live; Who to his last proved a faithful and a Profitable servant to his Master as every remembered Conduct must testify.

Poor Jack is cold in his extremities. Farewell, I may say, thou good and faithful Servant to me.

[Source: Jack P. Greene, ed., *Diary of Colonel Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1752-1778* (Richmond: Virginia Historical Society, 1987), 1: 574-575.

WEATHER

Devastating Drought

September 1774

19th The morning fine, cool, & produces in our school at last our first fine fire! Evening after school with Mrs. Carter, & the girls I took a walk thro the pumpkin & potato vines. The air is clear, cold & healthful. We drank our coffee at the great house very sociably, round a fine fire, the house and air feels like winter again. (Philip Fithian)

October 1774

9th Foggy and yet dry. I saw so much in my yesterday ride out that without rain soon a great deal of wheat sown will be destroyed even that which is come up, more then of what is not come up. (Landon Carter)

11th Neither dew, nor rain; the very grass plats seems quite burnt up. . . . Rode out this day. It is inconceivable how detrimental the dry weather has been to almost everything. (Carter)

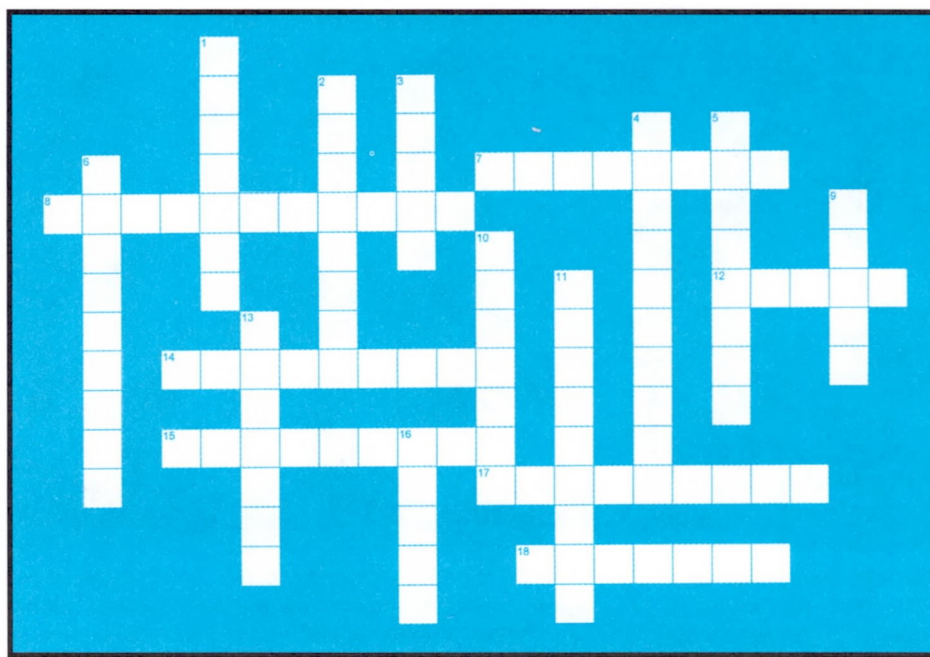
20th Quite dry as usual but no frost as there was the 18 and 19, which as yet have hurt nothing. . . . As to rain, it is agreed on all hands there never was a drier time, even the mills hardly go round but a very few hours in any day. (Carter)

November 1774

18th Hard wind all day from the northwest and very cold. Weather clear. (George Washington)

21st Snowing and raining all day and the greatest part of the night. Wind at No. Et. & fresh. (Washington)

30th It continued raining on & off till noon then a close & wet snow till night. (Washington)



ACROSS

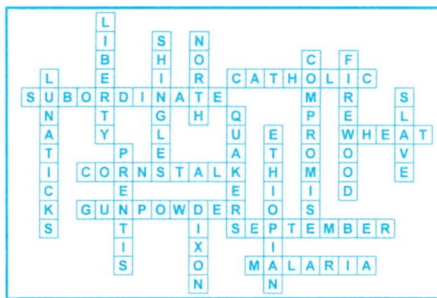
- 7 Provisions of Quebec Act permit practice of this religion
8 Status of colonies according to Declaratory Act
12 Exported to West Indies
14 Defeated by Andrew Lewis
15 Guy Fawkes Day memorializes this foiled plot
17 First Congress convened in this month
18 Type of remittent fever

DOWN

- 1 This pole erected in Williamsburg in October
2 Wood product exported from Virginia
3 His effigy burned in Alexandria
4 This settled the question of number of votes in Congress
5 Lots gets carted to town
6 Williamsburg and Philadelphia had new hospitals for these (period spelling!)

- 9 The First Continental Congress resolved to end this pernicious trade
10 These believers prominent in Pennsylvania
11 Some 800 slaves joined this regiment
13 Didn't receive his Yorktown shipment
16 New mayor this fall

Answers to the last puzzle



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GETTING READY FOR FALL!

Housekeeping/Gardening/
Food Preservation

Mosquito netting and gauze covers from the summer removed. Chimney boards removed, making fireplaces active for wood or coal burning. Carpets and window curtains reinstalled for more warmth. Additional blankets and bed rugs added to bed coverings.

Second sowing of such cool-weather crops as greens and peas. Apples gathered and stored in cellars, sliced and dried or made into cider or jelly.

Depending on the humidity, beans and other foods might be air-dried into the fall. Some years, gardens continue producing food for the table well into December. Firewood supplies brought to town and stacked for winter use.

LIFE

AUTUMN RECEIPTS

Charlotte

Stew any kind of fruit, and season it in any way you like best; soak some slices of bread in butter; put them in while hot, in the bottom and round the sides of a dish, which has been rubbed with butter—put in your fruit, and lay slices of bread prepared in the same manner on the top; bake it in a few minutes, turn it carefully into another dish, sprinkle with some powdered sugar, and glaze it with a salamander.

To Pot Beef

Take six pounds of the buttock of beef, cut it in pieces as big as your fist, season it with large spoonful of mace, a spoonful of pepper, with 25 or 30 cloves, and a good race of ginger; beat them all very fine, mix them with salt, and put them to the beef, lay it in a pot, and upon it two pounds of butter; bake it three or four hours, well cover'd up with paste; before it is cold take out the beef, beat it fine, putting in the warm butter as you do it, and put it down close in pots, if you keep it long, keep back the gravy, and if it wants seasoning, add some to the beating; pour on clarified butter.

Mary Randolph, *The Compleat Housewife* (1742).

HEALTH

Dr. Sequeyra's *Account* notes, "in the Fall some remitting and intermittent Fevers." [OED definition of *remitting fevers*: "a type of fever, the symptoms of which undergo at intervals a marked abatement or diminution (without disappearing entirely as in the *intermittent* type)."] Malaria would have produced a remittent fever.

BUILDING TRADES

Making and burning bricks: through November. Sometimes in rural areas, bricks burned after crops brought in.

Building: good working months through October.

BROTHERS-IN-ARMS WEEKEND
October 11 and 12, 2003

The 2003 Brothers-in-Arms program will highlight African Americans' contributions during the era of the American Revolution. The Rhode Island Regiment of the American Continental Army and Dunmore's Royal Ethiopian Regiment of the British Army are the featured regiments. The new location for the Brothers-in-Arms military encampment is the Bassett Hall grounds. The program is partly funded by a grant from the Norfolk Southern Corporation.

The program will feature:

- Military encampment
- Female camp followers and cooking demonstrations
- Military drills and marches
- First-person presentations by soldiers, officers and camp followers
- Interactive vignettes that will engage guests in discussions about the experiences and decisions free and enslaved peoples faced

As guests travel through the military encampment, they will touch, feel and learn about the history of African Americans in the American Revolution and hear accounts of personal stories, battles and daily camp life. Guests will explore the diverse and complex choices and decisions free and enslaved peoples made.

(Submitted by Harvey Bakari)

1775 to 1776—The Experiences of "Lord Dunmore's Ethiopian Regiment"

While some slaves were suspicious of Dunmore because of his limited offer of emancipation and his unwillingness to free his own slaves, an estimated 800 or more slaves decided to join him. Male slaves who escaped in response to Dunmore's Proclamation contributed to the British war effort in Virginia for about eight months. To try to minimize the number of slaves who might make themselves available to Dunmore, Virginia authorities collected and guarded potential escape vessels and required owners in some Tidewater counties to remove their slaves to the interior. Officials also tried to discourage slaves from joining Dunmore by selling those who were captured to the West Indies or purchasing them and putting them to work in the lead mines. Other runaways ended up in the public gaol in Williamsburg, where several

died awaiting trial in 1776, leading the Virginia convention to order that sanitary measures be improved at the gaol.

When the fighting returned to Virginia between 1779 and 1781, slaves bolted to the British in even greater numbers than they had earlier in the war. British raids along the James and Potomac Rivers in 1781 caused widespread desertion of slaves from the plantations. Numerous slaves also joined General Cornwallis as he made his way from North Carolina to Yorktown. In all, thousands are estimated to have taken a chance on gaining their freedom. While some of the men among the runaways had the opportunity to fight, especially at sea, most served as military laborers or as body servants. Like many of Dunmore's troops, large numbers of the new recruits suffered horribly from disease and famine.

In the following selection from his classic work, *The Negro During the American Revolution*, Benjamin Quarles describes some of the military experiences of black men who joined Dunmore as soldiers, pilots, and foragers. He also notes the terrible toll that disease took on the troops.

The Negroes who reached the British were generally able-bodied men who could be put to many uses. It was as soldiers, however, that Dunmore envisioned them, and from the beginning he enlisted them in his military forces. By early December [1775] he was arming them "as fast as they came in." Negro privates took part in a skirmish at Kemp's Landing in which the colonials were routed; indeed, slaves captured one of the two commanding colonels. In the encounters preceding the action at Great Bridge, two runaways who were taken prisoner testified that the garrison was manned by thirty whites and ninety Negroes, and that "all the blacks who are sent to the fort at the great Bridge, are supplied with muskets, Cartridges &c strictly ordered to use them defensively & offensively." By the first of December the British had nearly three hundred slaves outfitted in military garb, with the inscription, "Liberty to Slaves," emblazoned across the breast of each. The Governor officially designated them "Lord Dunmore's Ethiopian Regiment."

The first and only major military action in which Dunmore's forces engaged was the battle of Great



Bridge. Of the Governor's troops of some six hundred men, nearly half were Negroes. Of the eighteen wounded prisoners taken by the Virginians in this rout, two were former slaves. One of them, James Anderson, was wounded "in the Forearm—Bones shattered and flesh much torn." The other one, Cesar, was hit "in the Thigh, by a Ball, and 5 shot—one lodged." After the fiasco at Great Bridge, the Governor was forced to operate from his ships. Taking aboard the hardiest of his Negro followers and placing them under officers who exercised them at small arms, he sanguinely awaited recruits.

Enslaving Virginia Resource Book