

**Peyton Randolph Elected President. No Surprise!**



# AMERICANS *Becoming* TODAY

NO. 1 IN COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG



**Lady D, Awaiting Arrival of Ninth Child, Wonders Where the Father Is**

*(Palace Postings, p. 4)*

**Autumn 2002**

Newsline

October 1774  
Liberty Pole erected in Williamsburg

October 10, 1774  
General Court cancelled for Fall

October 10, 1774  
Col. Andrew Lewis of Augusta County defeats the Shawnee Indians under Chief Cornstalk in the Battle of Point Pleasant at the 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. Do not convene because of Dunmore's absence

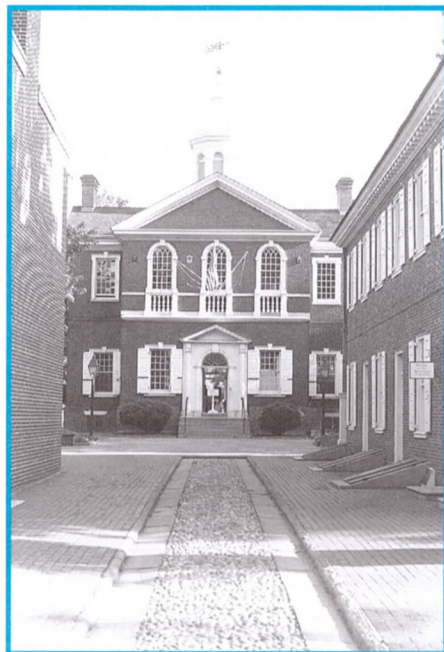
November 7, 1774  
Irate Yorktown citizens celebrate with "tea party." Two half chests thrown into York River from deck of *Virginia*. The tea, shipped by John Norton and Sons of London, headed to John Prentis in Williamsburg

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 elects their Committee of Safety

November 30, 1774  
Williamsburg elects John Dixon mayor.

## IS REVOLUTION INEVITABLE? Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia



Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, setting for First Congress.

"These Are the Times That Try Men's Souls"

Thomas Paine

**1774**

**2002**

**International Affairs**

- Crisis with Great Britain
- Uncertain Alliances with Europe
- Warfare with Native Americans

- Crisis with Iraq
- Uncertain Alliances with Europe
- Warfare in Afghanistan, Africa, and Middle East

**Economy**

- Threatened Refusal to Purchase British Goods
- Threatened Cutoff of Exports to Britain
- Growing Debt

- International Economic Downturn
- Falling Stock Market/Loss of Jobs
- Growing Debt

**Weather**

- Severe Drought
- Late Frost in May
- Poor Harvests

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### CONGRESS TAKES ACTION Continental Association, Suffolk Resolves, Declaration of Rights

**September 5 to October 26, 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**

Based on Virginia's Plan prohibiting importation of British goods after December 1, 1774, and exportation of commodities to Great Britain after September 10, 1775. The Association establishes a system of committees to look for and publicize non-compliance.

**Approves the Suffolk Resolves**

The Resolves declare Parliament's Coercive Acts to be illegal and urge the people of Massachusetts to refuse to pay taxes and otherwise ignore royal officials' orders. This action clearly defies Parliament.

**Congress Adopts a Declaration of Rights**

The declaration states that colonial rights are founded on the law of nature, the Constitution and the colonial charters and asserts that the colonies, therefore, will not give up their right to legislate and tax for themselves (with the exception of external commerce). Clearly, the colonies will not accept "Acts of Parliament" that violate their rights.

### The Association of the Continental Congress

Most members of the First Continental Congress hope that a commercial embargo will induce the British Government to accede to their demands. On October 20, 1774, the Congress voted for nonimportation, nonconsumption and nonexportation, virtually cutting off trade with Britain. It is hoped that this economic maneuver will bring about repeal of the Intolerable Acts. The nonintercourse agreement differs from previous colonial embargoes inasmuch as it derives from the people, working through committees, rather than from the merchants. This Continental Association may prove more successful politically than economically, by helping to weld the colonies together in an American union.

Highlights of the Association are provided below.

We, His Majesty's most loyal subjects, the delegates of several colonies ..., deputed to represent them in a Continental Congress, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the 5th day of September, 1774, avowing our allegiance to His Majesty, our affections and regards for our fellow subjects in Great Britain and elsewhere, affected with the deepest anxiety and most alarming apprehensions at those grievances and distresses, with which His Majesty's American subjects are oppressed; and having taken under our most serious deliberation the state of the whole continent, find that the present unhappy situation of our affairs is occasioned by ruinous system of colony administrations, adopted by the British Ministry about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving these colonies and with them, the British Empire.

1. That from and after the 1st day of December next, we will not import into 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
2. 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
3. We will not purchase or use any East India tea whatever;
4. The earnest desire we have not to injure our fellow subjects in Great Britain, Ireland, or the West Indies induces us to suspend a nonexportation [agreement] until the 10th day of September, 1775; at which time, if the

- said acts and parts of acts of the British Parliament hereinafter mentioned are not repealed, we will not directly export any merchandise or commodity whatsoever to Great Britain, Ireland, or the West Indies, except rice to Europe.
8. 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 all horse racing, and all kinds of gaming, cockfighting, exhibitions of shows, plays, and other expensive diversions and entertainments. And on the death of any relation or friend, none of us, or any of our families, will go into any further mourning dress than a black crape or ribbon on the arm or hat for gentlemen, and a black ribbon and necklace for the ladies, and we will discountenance the giving of gloves and scarves at funerals.
  9. Such are the vendors of goods or merchandise will not take advantage of scarcity of goods that may be occasioned by this association, but will sell the same at the rates we have been respectively accustomed to do
  11. That a committee be chosen in every county, city, and town by those who are qualified to vote for representatives in the legislature, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this association. And when it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of a majority of any such committee, that any person within the limits of their appointment has violated this association, that such the majority do forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published in the gazette; ... until the four acts, passed the last session of Parliament, ... are repealed. And we recommend it to the provincial conventions, and to the committees in the respective colonies, to establish such further regulations as they may think proper, for carrying into execution this association.

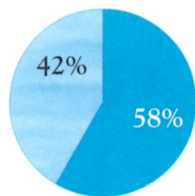
The foregoing association being determined upon by the Congress, was ordered to be subscribed by the several members thereof; and thereupon, we have hereunto set our respective names accordingly.

Source: *Journals*, I

**VIRGINIA TODAY SNAPSHOT**

**Virginia's Population**

Total population of Virginia 1770  
**450,608 Persons**

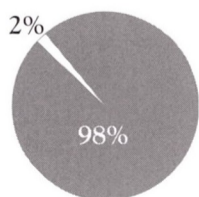


White Population: 263,903 [58%]

Black Population: 187,605 [42%]

Rural Population: 441,596 [98%]

Urban Population: 9,012 [2%]



Between 1750 and 1770 Virginia's population more than doubled, with both black and white populations growing by natural increase. In addition, immigrants continued to come to the colony especially Germans and Scots Irish. Africans were also brought into Virginia during this period.

# NEWS

## The Quebec Act, 1774

### An Act for making more effectual Provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America.

WHEREAS his Majesty, by his Royal Proclamation bearing Date the seventh Day of October, in the third Year of his Reign, thought fit to declare the Provisions which had been made in respect to certain Countries, Territories, and Islands in America, ceded to his Majesty by the definitive Treaty of Peace, concluded at Paris on the tenth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-three: And whereas, by the Arrangements made by the said Royal Proclamation a very large Extent of Country, within which there were several Colonies and Settlements of the Subjects of France, who claimed to remain therein under the Faith of the said Treaty, was left, without any Provision being made for the Administration of Civil Government therein; and certain Parts of the Territory of Canada, where sedentary

## IS WESTERN EXPANSION DEAD?

### Parliament Passes the Quebec Act Catholicism in British America?

Fisheries had been established and carried on by the Subjects of France, Inhabitants of the said Province of Canada under Grants and Concessions from the Government thereof, were annexed to the Government of Newfoundland, and thereby subjected to Regulations inconsistent with the Nature of such Fisheries:

V. And, for the more perfect Security and Ease of the Minds of the Inhabitants of the said Province, it is hereby declared, That his Majesty's Subjects, professing the Religion of the Church of Rome of and in the said Province of Quebec, may have, hold, and enjoy, the free Exercise of the Religion of the Church of Rome, subject to the King's Supremacy, declared and established by an Act, made in the first Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, over all the Dominions and Countries which then did, or thereafter should belong, to the Imperial Crown of this Realm; and that the Clergy of the said Church may hold, receive, and enjoy, their accustomed Dues and Rights, with respect to such Persons only as shall profess the said Religion.

## Meanwhile Back at the Camp . . .

### Update from Point Pleasant at the mouth of the Great Kanawha

October 17, 1774.

For the satisfaction of the public, in this letter they have a true slate of the battle fought at this place on the tenth instant: On Monday morning, about half an hour before sunrise, two of captain Russell's company discovered a large party of Indians about a mile from camp, one of which men was shot down by the Indians, the other made his escape, and brought in the intelligence; in two or three minutes after, two of Captain Shelvey's came in, and confirmed the count. Colonel Andrew Lewis being informed thereof, immediately ordered out colonel Charles Lewis to take the command of 150 of the Augusta troops, and with him went captain Dickinson, captain Harrison, captain Willson, Captain John Lewis, of Augusta, and captain Lockridge, which made the first division; colonel Fleming was also ordered to take the command of 150 more of the Botetourt, Bedford, and Fincastle troops, viz. captain Thomas Buford from Bedford, captain Love of Botetourt, captain Shelvey, and captain Russell, of Fincastle, which made the second division. Colonel Charles Lewis's division marched to the right, some distance from the Ohio, and colonel Fleming, with his division, on the bank of the Ohio, to the left. Colonel Charles Lewis's division had not marched quite half a mile from camp, when, about sunrise, an attack was made on the front of his division, in a most vigorous manner, by the united tribes of Indians, Shawanese, Delawares, Mingoes, Tawas, and of several other nations, in number not less than 800, and by many thought to be 1000. In this heavy attack colonel Charles Lewis received a wound, which in a few hours caused his death, and several of his men fell on the spot; in fact, the Augusta division was forced to give way to the heavy fire of the enemy. In about a second of a minute after the attack on Colonel Lewis's division the enemy engaged the front of colonel Fleming's division on the Ohio, and in a short time the colonel received two balls through his left arm, and one through his breast; and after animating the officers and soldiers in a most calm manner to the pursuit of victory, retired to the camp. The loss from the field was sensibly felt by the others in particular; but the Augusta troops being shortly reinforced from the camp by colonel Field, with his company, together with captain M'Dowell, captain Matthews, and captain Stewart, from Augusta, captain John Lewis, captain Paulin, captain Arbuckle, and captain M'Clenachan, from Botetourt, the enemy,

no longer able to maintain their ground, was forced to give way till they were in a line with the troops; colonel Fleming being lost in action on the bank of the Ohio. In this precipitate retreat colonel Field was killed. During this time, which was till after 12 o'clock, the action continued extremely hot. The close underwood, many steep banks, and logs, greatly favoured their retreat, and the bravest of their men made the best use of them, whilst others were throwing their dead into the Ohio, and carrying off their wounded. After 12, the action in small degree abated; but continued, except at short intervals, sharp enough till after one o'clock. Their long retreat gave them a most advantageous spot of ground; from whence it appeared to the officers so difficult to dislodge them, that it was thought most advisable to stand, as the line was then formed, which was about a mile and a quarter in length, and had sustained till then a constant and equal weight of the action, from wing to wing. It was till about half and hour of sun-set they continued firing on us, scattering shots, which we returned to their disadvantage. At length, night coming on, they found a safe retreat. They had not the satisfaction of carrying off any of our mens scalps, save one or two stragglers, whom they killed before the engagement. Many of their dead they scalped, rather than we should have them; but our troops scalped upwards of twenty of their men, that were first killed. It is beyond doubt their loss in number far exceeds ours, which is considerable.

Reprinted from *The Virginia Gazette* (Thursday, November 10, 1774), printed by John Pinkney.

## Fall Calendar 1774

September 29, 1774: Michaelmas  
October 18, 1774: Students return to the College  
October 25, 1774: St. Crispin's Day  
October 25, 1774: Accession Day of King George to the throne (October 25, 1760). It is unknown if this traditional celebration was held in 1774.  
November 1, 1774: All Saints Day  
November 5, 1774: Guy Fawkes Day  
November 30, 1774: St. Andrew's Day Election Day for the Mayor of Williamsburg

## Business Opportunities

To be SOLD to the highest Bidder, at Belvoir, on Potowmack River, the late Seat of the Honourable George William Fairfax, Es; on Monday the 5th of December next,

All the GENTEEL FURNITURE of two Rooms, KITCHEN FURNITURE, eight or ten HORSES, all his Stock of HOGS, Part of his CATTLE and SHEEP, together with the PLANTATION UTENSILS, three WAGGONS, and fifty Barrels of FISH. Purchasers of more than 5 l. will have Credit till the 15th of August next, on giving Bond with approved Security, paying Interest from the Date, if the Principal should not be discharged within forty Days after it becomes due.—At the same Time and Place will be rented, to the highest Bidder, a small Plantation for one Year, and two very fine Fisheries for a Term of Years. The Mansion-House, Outhouse, Garden, Orchards, and Plantation, with a sufficient quantity of Land to suit the Tenant, will also be let for a Term of Years. Any Person inclineable may rent the Dwelling-House before the Day of Sale, and know the Terms by applying to

FRANCIS WILLIS, Junior.

### For SALE

That valuable and well situated Lot in Williamsburg where the Coffeehouse is now kept, which may be entered upon the 1st of April next.—also a Tract of Land in *Nansemond* County, within three Miles of *Suffolk*, upon which is a good Stream for a Mill. It is well timbered with Oak and Pine, contains some very good Meadow Ground, produces good Corn and Wheat, and is capable of great Improvement; there is a very good Dwelling-House, and all necessary Houses for Cropping, with a fine young Orchard of Apple and Peach Trees. It likewise may be entered upon the 1st of April next.—For Terms apply to *David Meade*, Esq; at *Maycox*; Mr. *Joseph Prentice*, Attorney, in *Williamsburg*, Mr. *Wills Cowper*, Merchant, in *Suffolk*; or to the Subscriber, in *Halifax Town*, *North Carolina*.

JOHN WEBB.

### For CHARTER

The Ship *Beisey*, *James Dysart* Master, Burthen about 400 Hogheads, or 10,000 Bushels. For terms apply to JOHN LAWRENCE, & Co.

NORFOLK, October 18, 1774.



What's the News of the Day,  
Good Neighbour I pray.

## Merchandise

### For SALE

An exceeding likely and capable young NEGRO FELLOW who understands House Work, waiting on a Gentleman, taking Care of Horses, and is a tolerable good Cook. Any Person in Want of such a servant may know the Terms of the Subscriber, and if he does not fully answer the Character given of him, he may be returned, in Health within a Month. If he is not sold before the meeting of the Merchants in October, I shall carry him to *Williamsburg* with me, where he may be seen by any Person inclineable to purchase.

ARCHIBALD M'CALL.

TAPPAHANNOCK, Sept. 26, 1774.

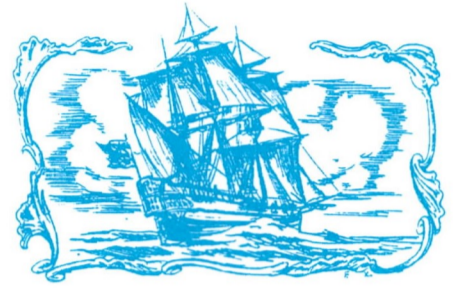
\*\*\*The Houses and Lots, and a considerable Part of my Furniture is still unsold. Any Persons inclineable to purchase may have them on reasonable Terms, at private Sale.

To be SOLD, on Thursday the 10th of November, at the Rocky Ridge, ONE HUNDRED and FIFTY choice SLAVES, late the Property of John Wayles, Esq; deceased, Twelve Month Credit will be allowed, the Purchasers giving Bond, with approved Security, to

FRANCIS EPPES.  
HENRY SKIPWITH.

Five per Cent. Discount for ready Money.

# 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. The carriers for the transatlantic trade are generally ships and brigs that carry more than 150 tons, while carriers for the coastal and Caribbean trade are schooners usually carry less than 100 tons.

September to October—Convoy of imported goods arrives from Britain and returns to Britain with tobacco

October—Wheat exported to the West Indies

October to June—Prime market for cargo exported to Southern Europe

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

Number of ships cleared from the Lower Chesapeake—September, 20; October, 40; November, 28

### Devastating Drought Hurricane Season

NW winds make entering Chesapeake Bay difficult

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 of 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. . . . It is inconceivable how detrimental the dry weather has been to almost everything. (Landon Carter)

20th Quite dry as usual but no frost. . . . 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. (Landon Carter)

November 1774

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

### 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 and cart to town

Gather and husk corn  
Clear new fields and 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 grams

Vegetables: Gather peas and beans  
Dig potatoes, carrots and turnips  
Pull pumpkins

Orchard: Make cider and peach brandy and cart 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

## Letters From . . .

**Margot Créviaux-Gevertz**  
*Director of Training*

**Becoming AMERICANS TODAY brings you the headlines that had people talking in 1774!**

Because there was so much going on in 1774, we want to make it easy for you to get to the meat of the stories so you can use them in your interpretations right away. Headlines can provide a great hook to connect with our visitors.

So how can you get the most use out of the headlines you see here?

Read 'em. React to 'em.  
Share 'em!

Sharing the events and climate of the times will help visitors understand the mindset of this community during the autumn of 1774.

And, speaking of mindset . . .

This newspaper is meant as an addition to our other training materials, providing one more approach to vary the ways we put the "living" into our living museum. We want your feedback, your ideas and your participation to make this quarterly newspaper informative, stimulating and fun.

Need less information? Tell us.

Need more information? We can sure fix that.

What would you like to see printed here? Let us know.

Got something to contribute—a thought, poem, or short article? Send it.

Can you draw? How about coming up with your own period-inspired cartoon?

Please send your comments to Judy Garman at [jgarman@cwf.org](mailto:jgarman@cwf.org) in Interpretive Training. Or come visit us at the William Finnie House on Francis Street.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Mark Howell**

*Director of Program Planning*

No matter the century, news and information have always provoked a wide range of reaction: from inspiration to anxiety, from elation to anger. A defining element of this new American society we interpret was increased access to information. Persons who had never taken much interest in the written word were exposed to it as never before. Between 1763 and 1775, the number of publishing concerns in North America increased from 21 to 42. Williamsburg saw its printing industry grow from 1 printer to 3 during that time.

The news that was being read (and talked about, lest we forget the continuing power of oral communication) in the fall of 1774 was both uplifting and ominous. Residents of Williamsburg were seeing their world change. Some of the change was for the better. Some portended impending disaster. But then, it depends on one's point of view, doesn't it? This is what makes history so complex . . . and compelling.

We have a unique opportunity to inform the present about how the past dealt with change (and the anxiety that always attends it). Americans in the latter parts of the 18th and 20th centuries saw many changes, but it would be a mistake to attempt to force simplistic parallels on the periods to account for unsettledness. Still our guests will understand the present better if they have a true appreciation of the past and the hurdles that we have overcome to get here. The pursuit, acquisition and maintenance of liberty and happiness are ongoing processes, and we have an important role in preparing our guests for the responsibility involved.

The events of the fall of 1774 are an important part of this story. Use them as you see fit. Who knows what you will provoke in our guests: Inspiration? Awe? Reflection? You will be carrying on the tradition of the colonial printers: providing knowledge for people to act on.

Gordon S. Wood

## The American Revolution

A History

A Modern Library Chronicles Book  
The Modern Library  
New York  
III

### REVOLUTION

By 1774, within the short span of a decade following the introduction of the imperial reforms, Americans who had celebrated George III's coronation were in virtual rebellion against Great Britain. During the two years after the Coercive Acts of 1774, events moved rapidly, and reconciliation between Britain and its colonies became increasingly unlikely. By this time the crisis had become more than a simple breakdown in the imperial relationship. The colonists' extraordinary efforts to understand what was happening transformed their resistance and ultimately their rebellion into a world-historical revolution. The Americans' Declaration of Independence in 1776 turned their separation from Britain into an event that many Americans and some Europeans believed was unprecedented in human history. Americans saw themselves striving not only to make themselves free, but also to bring freedom to the whole world.

### 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, or merchants, of mechanics—competed with one another for political control.



*Town and Country Magazine*, December 1774

An old woman is engulfed by flames as her foes add more fuel to the fire. Bute, in highland dress, pumps bellows labeled "Quebec Bill" representing the act that had given some northern colonial territory to French Canada. Mansfield, abetted by the Devil, fans the flame of "Massachusetts Bay," a reference to the many troubles now harassing that colony. Standing beside America, North holds the Boston Port Bill that had just closed the harbor. A teapot, from which liquid is spilling, rolls down the steps in front of America to symbolize the Boston Tea Party. Beside and in front of America, her friends attempt to extinguish the flames, but to little avail.



At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held at the Courthouse in the Town of York in the County of York on Tuesday the fifteenth day of November 1774 and in the fifteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the third for the Trial of Ned a Negro Man Slave belonging to John Randolph Esqr for Felony and Burglary.

*Present*

Dudley Digges Jaquelin Ambler Hug[h] Nelson John Dixon and Joseph Hornsby Gent Justices.

The said Ned was set to the Bar by the Sheriff and Benjamin Waller Esqr attorney for our Lord the King in the said County of York comes into Court before the Justices of our said Lord the King and Gives the said Justices to understand and be informed that the said Ned a Negro Male Slave belonging to John Randolph of the city of Williamsburgh Esqr the thirtieth day of October in the fifteenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third now King of Great Britain &c with force and arms the dwelling House of Christiana Campbell widow situate and being in the Parish of Bruton in the County of York aforesaid between the Hours of nine and twelve in the Night of the same day feloniously and burglariously did break and enter and two Trunks of the Value of twenty shillings nine shirts of the value of Nine Pounds six pair of Stockings of the value of three Pounds six handkerchiefs of the Value of twenty shillings and sundry Pieces of cut Silver of the Value of twelve pounds ten shillings of the Goods and Chattels of Simon Fraiser merchant nine shirts of the Value of Nine pounds six pair of stockings of the Value of three Pounds and six handkerchiefs of the value of twenty shillings Current Money of the Goods and Chattels of Bennet Brown Merchant in the same dwelling House found then and there feloniously and burglariously did take Steal and Carry away against the Peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity. And the said Ned being thereof arraigned he Pleaded Not Guilty and for Trial put himself upon the Judgment of the Court and thereupon sundry witnesses were Sworn and Examined and the said Ned was heard in his defence On Consideration whereof It is the Opinion of the whole Court that he is Guilty of the felony and burglary aforesaid in manner and form as above against him is alledged And It being demanded of the said Ned if he had anything to say why the Court should not proceed to pronounce the Sentence of Death against him upon the

WILLIAMSBURG, October, 1774

FOR the Information of all whom it may concern, I give this public Notice that *James M'Donald* (or *M'Daniel*) Labourer, *Edward Sweney*, Butcher, *Edward Lupton* Shoemaker, and *Patrick Ryan*, were, on the 17th Day of this present Month, brought to the Bar of the General Court, then sitting, to take their Trials, for a supposed Murder by them committed in *Pittsylvania* County, where they were apprehended. Ryan was sworn as a Witness; and the other three, being convicted of Manslaughter, were burnt in the Hand.—It appearing to the Court that they were accused of a Certain Felony in the Province of *North Carolina*, they were remanded to Jail. They were transported to his Country as Convicts, and have been in the Possession of Mr. *John Hook*, Merchant in *Bedford*, who fold or consigned them to Mess. *Chambers* and *Montgomery*, Merchants in *Salisbury, North Carolina* whence they fled from Justice.—*M'DONALD* (OR *M'Daniel*) is 20 Years old, has short brown curled Hair, thin Visage, blue Eyes, of a slender Make, and about 5 Feet 5 Inches high.—*SWENEY* is of *M'Donald's* Height, 32 Years old, has short dark Hair, blue Eyes, a downcast Look, and is well made.—*LUPTON* is 25 Years old, has dark short Hair, blue Eyes, thin Visage, of a slender Make, 5 Feet 10 Inches high, and is a very saucy impertinent Fellow.—*RYAN* is 25 Years old, has dark short Hair, Hazle Eyes, long Visage, a full Beard, and is 5 Feet 4 Inches high. They are all *Irishmen*.—I shall be ready to deliver them to any Person, or Persons, who may make a proper Application.

PETER PELHAM, Jailor.

# CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Conviction aforesaid he said he had nothing beside what he had before said Whereupon It is Considered by the Court that he be hanged by the Neck until he be dead and he is remanded to Gaol, And It is Commanded the Sheriff that he cause Execution of this Judgment to be done on Tuesday the twenty ninth day of this Instant November.

The said Ned was by the Court Valued at Eighty Pounds currt Money

The minutes of these Proceedings were signed Dudley Digges

Source: York County Order Book 4 (1774-84), 60-61.

At a Court held of Oyer and Terminer held at the Courthouse in the Town of York on Monday the 21st day of November 1774 and in the fifteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the third.

*Present*

Dudley Digges Thomas Nelson Junr Hugh Nelson and William Reynold Gent Justices

Ben a negro man Slave belonging to John Toomer committed to the Gaol of this County on suspicion of Felony was led to the Bar and Benjamin Waller attorney for our Lord the King in this County comes into Court before the Justices aforesaid and Gives the said justices to Understand and be Informed that Ben a Negro man Slave belonging to John Toomer of the said County the seventh day of October last past with Force and Arms Six Sides and two Skins of Leather out of the Tan Vat of Thomas Pescod of the County aforesaid of the Value of fifty shilling the Property of the said Thomas Pescod in the Parish of Yorkhampton in the County aforesaid then and there being feloniously did steal take and carry away against the Peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity And the said Ben being thereof arraigned Pleaded not Guilty and for his Trial put himself upon the Judgment of the Court Whereupon diverse witnesses were sworn and Examined and the said Ben was heard in his defence On Consideration whereof It is the Opinion of the Court that the said Ben is not Guilty of the felony aforesaid as in pleading he hath alledged and nothing further appearing or being alledged against him Therefore It is Considered by the Court that he be acquitted of the felony aforesaid and discharged out of Custody.

The minutes of these Proceedings were signed Dudley Digges

Source: York County Order Book 4 (1774-84), 62.

### Becoming AMERICANS TODAY

The information in this issue of *Becoming AMERICANS TODAY* informs us of the dynamic interactions of *Becoming Americans* story lines that shaped the events of the autumn of 1774.

- Taking Possession
  - The Quebec Act
  - Battle at Point Pleasant
  - Notices of Land Sales
- Enslaving Virginia
  - The Association
  - Runaway Advertisements
  - Notices of Slave Sales
- Redefining Families
  - Autumn Preparations and Health
  - Notices of Land and Slave Sales
  - The Association
- Freeing Religion
  - The Quebec Act
- Buying Respectability
  - The Association
  - Shipping and Commerce
  - Notices of Land and Slave Sales
- Choosing Revolution
  - The Continental Congress
  - The Association
  - The Suffolk Resolves
  - Declaration of Rights
  - America in Flames
  - The Quebec Act

## LIFE

## Health

Dr. Sequeryra's Account notes that "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.

## Get Ready for Fall!

## Housekeeping/Gardening/Food Preservation

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

Second sowing of cool-weather crops like greens and peas. Apples gathered and stored in cellars or can be sliced and dried or made into cider or jelly.

Depending on the humidity of the particular year, air-drying of beans, etc., may go on into the fall. Some years the garden will continue producing food for the table well into December. Supply of firewood brought to town and stacked for use in the winter.

## Building Trades

Making and burning of bricks through November. Sometimes in rural areas, bricks are burned after crops are in. Good working months through October for building.

## Autumn Receipts

Hannah Glasse

*The Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy*, 7th Edition (London, 1760)

## Red Cabbage

Dressed after the Dutch Way

Take the cabbage, cut it small and boil it soft, then drain it, and put it in a stew-pan with sufficient quantity of oil and butter, a little water and vinegar, and an onion cut small, season it with pepper and salt, and let it simmer on a slow fire till all the liquor is wasted.

## To Stew Beef-Gobbets

Get any Piece of beef except the leg, cut it in pieces about the bigness of a pullet's egg, put them in a stew-pan, cover them with water, let them stew, skim them clean, and when they have stewed an hour, take mace, cloves, and whole pepper tied in a muslin rag loose, some celery cut small, put them into the pan with some salt, turnips and carrots pared and cut in slices, a little parsley, a bundle of sweet herbs, and a large crust of bread. You may put in an ounce of barley or rice, if you like it. Cover it close, and let it stew till it is tender; take out the herbs, spices, and bread, and have ready fried a French roll cut in four. Dish up all together and send it to table.

STOLEN from the Subscriber, at Smithfield, Isle of Wight County, on the 11th of October, a LIGHT GRAY HORSE with a Buckskin seated Saddle, the Foretree of which is bright and a Half Check Bridle. The horse is about four Feet seven or eight Inches high, and branded on the near Buttock HH in a Piece. He was taken by a vagrant Fellow passing through the Town, a low well set Person, very young to Appearance, and looks as if he was never shaved; had on a Coat trimmed with black Snall about the Collar and Button Holes. Whoever apprehends the said Thief and horse, so that I get them again, shall have 4 l. Reward, and if the horse only 50 s.

BARTHOLOMEW LIGHTFOOT.

## The Philadelphia Story



Philadelphia, 1774

Though more than a hundred miles from the open sea, it was America's busiest port, with wharves stretching nearly two miles along the river. The top-gallants of huge merchantmen loomed over busy Water Street and Front Street. Cutters, shad boats, and two-masted shallops tied up, moved in and out, in company with the great, flat-bottomed Durham boats built to carry pig iron from the Durham Works upstream. Shipbuilding was a thriving industry; seagoing trade, the city's lifeblood. Ships outbound carried lumber and wheat, Pennsylvania's chief exports. Inbound ships brought European trade goods and from the West Indies, sugar, molasses, spices, and, increasingly now, European armaments and supplies for war. With no means for producing arms or gunpowder, the colonies were dependent on clandestine shipments from Europe by way of the Caribbean, and particularly the tiny Dutch Island of St. Eustatius. One vessel reportedly docked at Philadelphia with 49,000 pounds of gunpowder. . . .

The main thoroughfare was High Street, commonly called Market Street, as it was the location of the immense public market. Most streets near the waterfront had brick footwalks and gutters and were lit at night by whale oil lamps, except when the moon was full. Many of the principal streets were lined with trees. "This is the most regular, neat, and convenient city I ever was in and has made the most rapid progress to its present greatness," declared an English visitor. But it was the public buildings and churches that made the greatest impression. The State House, where Congress met; and nearby Carpenters' Hall, which had been the setting for the First Congress; "noble" Christ Church, as Adams called it, with its magnificent Palladian window and landmark spire; the new hospital; the new poorhouse; the new Walnut Street Prison, were all unusually handsome and substantial.

David McCullough, *John Adams* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001), 78-80.

## The Alternative of Williams-Burg



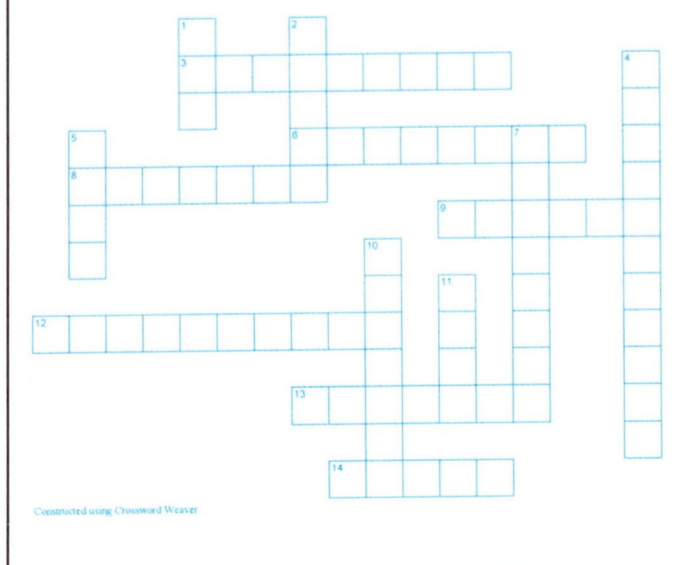
These mezzotint satires depicting colonial protests against the Intolerable Acts closely followed the events as they happened. (The name Intolerable Acts was given to the series of bills passed by Parliament to punish the colonies following the Boston Tea Party.) In August 1774, the Williamsburg Resolutions were passed, and by February 1775, Sayer and Bennett

had published this commentary on the citizens' reactions. Virginians were urged to sign a pledge of loyalty to the resolves of the Continental Congress and to withhold the export of tobacco, the colonies' major and most profitable crop, until all taxes on imported goods were repealed.

In the Capitol courtyard at Williamsburg liberty fighters have suspended a plank across two tobacco barrels to serve as a table upon which the pledge had been placed for signing. One of the barrels is labeled tobacco, a gift intended for John Wilkes, lord mayor of London, in appreciation for his support of colonial causes. Some of the colonists appear reluctant to sign the pledge, because curtailing the export of tobacco would cause great financial loss. The alternative is obvious: behind the table suspended from a gallows, are barrels of tar and feathers.

In the left background is a statue honoring Lord Botetourt, the highly respected royal governor of Virginia from 1768 until 1770, which was erected in 1774 as a symbol for what was then British-American unity. This is the earliest known depiction of the monument, which now stands in the gallery of the Earl Gregg Swem Library at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.

## Test Your Knowledge of Autumn 1774



## Across

- 3 Countess's condition  
6 President of Congress  
8 Advertisement  
9 Act angered Americans  
12 Coming soon  
13 Stunts crops  
14 Opponent of Cornstalk

## Down

- 1 Member of Virginia delegation  
2 Member of Virginia delegation  
4 Non-importation  
5 School closing  
7 This "point" not so for Indians  
10 Absent when Burgesses arrive  
11 Not a schooner

## SPORTS

DUMFRIES, October 10, 1774.

THE JOCKEY CLUB PURSE of 100 GUINEAS will be run for on *Tuesday* the 29th of *November* next, which is now fixed for the first Day of the *Dumfries* Races, the Time formerly appointed being the Day of the *Annapolis* Races. No Person will be allowed to start a Horse, Mare, or Gelding, for this Purse, but an actual Member of the Club. To carry Weight for Age, viz. three Year Olds to carry six Stone ten Pounds, four Year Olds seven Stone ten Pounds, five Year Olds eight Stone ten Pounds, six Year Olds nine Stone six Pounds, and seven Year Olds ten Stone.— On *Wednesday* the 30th of *November* will be run for the Town Subscription Purse of 50 l. free for any Horse, Mare, or Gelding, on paying the entrance Money, viz. a Member of the Jockey Club, or a Subscriber to this Purse, forty Shillings, a Non-Subscriber five Pounds. Give and take agreeable to the Rules on Racing.—The Horses, &c. that start for either of these Purses, must be entered with the Subscriber, on or before *Saturday* the 26th of *November*, when a Certificate of the Age, under the Hand of the Breeder, or his Executors, or Administrators, will be required.—The Premiums, agreeable to my former Advertisement, will be allowed for Beef, Mutton, and Veal.

RICHARD GRAHAM, Secretary.

\*\*\* The Members of the Club are desired to meet on *Tuesday* the 8th of *November*.

Palace Posting  
First Child To Be Born in  
the Governor's House

The latest news from the Governor's Palace is that the Countess, Lady Dunmore will be delivered of her ninth child sometime in early December. Preparations for the new arrival have already begun. Lord Dunmore is currently with his troops fighting the Indians on the western frontier. It is hoped that the father-to-be will be back in Williamsburg in time for the birth. Lord and Lady Dunmore have been blessed with seven children living, six of whom arrived with her ladyship in February of this year. The youngest, Leveson Granville Keith, age 3, remains in London in the care of his aunt, Lady Gower.

The town has delighted in the presence of her ladyship and her children—Lady Catherine, Lady Augusta, George, Lord Fincastle, Alexander, John, and Lady Susan.

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