

AMERICAN ARCHIVES:

Fourth Series.

CONTAINING

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE ENGLISH COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA,

FROM

THE KING'S MESSAGE TO PARLIAMENT, OF MARCH 7, 1774,

TO

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

BY

THE UNITED STATES.

VOLUME I.

PUBLISHED BY M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE AND PETER FORCE.

UNDER AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, PASSED ON THE SECOND OF MARCH, 1833.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER, 1837.

Maryland State Archives, *Documents for the Classroom*

MSA SC 2221-2-14-1

Baltimore, November 28, 1774.

The Committee for the upper part of *Frederick County, Maryland*, having met at *Elizabethtown*, on *Saturday*, the 26th of *November*, which was the day appointed for the delivery of *John Parks's* chest of *Tea*, in consequence of his agreement published in the *Maryland Journal*, of the 16th ultimo :

After a demand was made of the same, *Mr. Parks* offered a chest of *Tea*, found on a certain *Andrew Gibson's* plantation, *Cumberland County, Pennsylvania*, by the Committee for that place, which *Tea* he declared was the same he promised to deliver.

The Committee are sorry to say that they have great reason to believe, and indeed with almost a certainty, that the said chest of *Tea* was in *Cumberland County* at the time *Parks* said upon oath it was at *Christian Bridge*.

After mature deliberation, the Committee were of opinion that *John Parks* should go with his hat off, and lighted torches in his hands, and set fire to the *Tea*: which he accordingly did, and the same was consumed to ashes, amidst the acclamations of a numerous body of people. The Committee were also of opinion, that no further intercourse should be had with the said *Parks*. Every friend to liberty is requested to pay due attention to the same.

Voted, The Thanks of this Committee to that of *Cumberland County*, for their prudent and spirited behaviour upon the occasion. Signed by order of the Committee,

JOHN STULL, *President*.

To the Freeholders of the County of Essex, in the Province of New-Jersey, qualified to vote for Representatives in the Legislature :

GENTLEMEN: The zeal you have hitherto manifested in support of the constitutional liberties of your country will unquestionably prompt you to carry into execution, with firmness and unanimity, the wise and prudent Resolutions lately entered into by the Delegates of this Continent, in General Congress. In the eleventh Article of the Association, formed in behalf of themselves and their constituents, it was agreed "That a Committee be appointed in every County, City, and Town, by those who are qualified to vote for Representatives in the Legislature, whose business it shall be to observe the conduct of all persons touching the said Association." We, your Committee of Correspondence, cannot in the least doubt your ready and immediate compliance with the Article; for, as the salutary effects to arise from this Association, must, under God, depend upon the fidelity of individuals in carrying it precisely into execution; so, should any inhabitant of this Colony be found so lost to a sense of publick virtue, as to violate the same in any instance, such person, pursuant to the said Article, may, by your Committees, be held up to publick notice, as unfriendly to the liberties of his country, and all dealings with him or her be thenceforward broken off." We have therefore thought fit to recommend to you, that for the more extensive observation of the conduct of individuals, Committees be chosen for each of the three Precincts into which the County is divided, viz: *Elizabethtown, Newark, and Achquakanung*; and we do hereby give notice to and request the Freeholders of the respective Precincts, to convene for that purpose, as follows: for the Borough of *Elizabeth*, at the Court House, in *Elizabethtown*, on *Tuesday*, the sixth day of *December* next, at two o'clock, P. M.; for *Newark*, at the Court House, in *Newark*, on *Wednesday*, the seventh day of *December*; and for *Achquakanung*, on *Monday*, the twelfth day of *December*, at the Bridge, opposit the house of *Timothy Day*. And we do also recommend to you, that ten at least of the most reputable inhabitants for *Achquakanung*, fifteen for *Newark*, and twenty for *Elizabethtown*, be elected for the above purpose.

As Delegates for the several Colonies are again to be appointed, to meet at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, it will be farther expedient that the inhabitants make choice of a new Committee of Correspondence, with power to instruct the Representatives for this County, when convened in General Assembly, to join in the appointment of Delegates for the Colony to meet in the said Congress. But if the said General Assembly shall not appoint Delegates for that purpose, by the first day of *April* next, then

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the said Committee of Correspondence do meet with the several County Committees of this Colony, and appoint the said Delegates at such time and place as shall be agreed upon by the said Committees.

STEPHEN CRANE,
JOHN DE HART,
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON,
ISAAC OGDEN,
W. P. SMITH,

ELIAS BOUNDINOT,
JO. RIGGS, Jun.,
JOHN CHETWOOD,
HENRY GERRITS.

County of Essex, November 28, 1774.

Committee Chamber, Philadelphia, November 30, 1774.

TO THE PUBLICK.

Whereas the Congress, among other Resolves for the preservation of *American Liberty*, did, on behalf of themselves and the inhabitants of the several Colonies they represented, firmly agree and associate to "use their utmost endeavours to improve the breed of *Sheep*, and increase their number to the greatest extent, and to that end to kill them as sparingly as may be, especially those of the most profitable kind;" the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* having taken into consideration the said Resolve, do most earnestly recommend to the inhabitants, as the best method of carrying the same into execution, neither to purchase for themselves or others, nor to use in their families or elsewhere, any *Ewe Mutton*, or *Lamb*, from and after the first day of *January* next, until the first day of *May* following; and from and after the said first day of *May*, not to purchase or use any *Ewe Lamb* until the first day of *October* following; and to discourage from henceforth the killing and sale of *Ewe Mutton* and *Lamb*, as far as they possibly can.

They do likewise most earnestly recommend to all Butchers, and others concerned in bringing *Meat* to the Markets in this City and Suburbs, not to kill any *Ewe Mutton* or *Lamb*, on any pretence whatsoever, from the said first day of *January* until the first day of *May* following; nor any *Ewe Lamb* whatever, from the said first day of *May* until the first day of *October* following. And in order the more effectually to discourage the destruction of *Sheep*, the respective County Committees are hereby particularly requested henceforth to use their utmost influence with the Farmers and others through the country to prevent the sale of any *Ewe Mutton* or *Lamb* to the Butchers, as well as their bringing any to Market themselves, from this day until the said first day of *May*.

Several of the City Butchers having at this time a stock of *Sheep* on hand, induces the Committee to fix upon the first day of *January*, that in the mean time they may dispose of them; but as to the country Butchers and Farmers it is expected they will neither kill or sell any *Ewe Mutton* or *Lamb*, or bring any to Market from this day until the said first day of *May*; or kill or sell any *Ewe Lamb* after the first day of *May* until the first day of *October* following.

The Committee having been informed that a few persons have unguardedly raised the prices of sundry articles of trade, think it highly necessary to recommend to the publick a due observation of the ninth Article of the Association of the Congress, viz: "That such as are venders of Goods or Merchandise will not take advantage of the 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 for twelve months last past. And if any vender of Goods or Merchandise shall sell any such Goods on higher terms, or shall in any manner or by any device whatsoever, violate or depart from this Agreement, no person ought, nor will any of us deal with any such person, or his or her factor or agent, at any time thereafter, for any commodity whatever."

By order of the Committee,

JOHN BENELET, *Assistant Secretary*.

At a Meeting of the Committees of the several Townships in the County of *Philadelphia*, agreeable to advertisement, it was

Resolved, That the Committees for each Township be continued, to act as a Township Committee.