



UNIT II

Forming and Governing a New Nation

CHAPTER 5

Colonial Resistance and Reaction

By the early 1700s, England had a worldwide colonial empire. Its power expanded at home too; in 1707, it united with Scotland to create *Great Britain*. Thereafter, the people were referred to as British.

Although Great Britain seemed to have full control over its North American colonies, colonists' resentment at their status grew and, in time, would lead to **revolution** (violence meant to bring about basic changes in government).

Until that happened, Britain ruled the colonies for its own benefit and ignored colonial interests. Thus, step by step, the two sides moved toward war.



BRITISH MERCANTILISM

In the mid-1600s, *Parliament* (the British lawmaking body) passed a series of laws based on mercantilism (see page 20).

Finished European goods sold at Mr. De Paiba's store in New York City and raw materials loaded on ships sailing to England were examples of mercantilism in 1760.

Advertisements.

Rowland De Paiba,

HAS just opened a Store of East-India and European Goods, at the Corner of Brewer's-street, next Door to that wherein the late Mr. Abraham Lansing lived, in Albany: He sells for Cash or short Credit, by Wholesale only.

T O B E S O L D,
By Jacobus Roosevelt, jun.

At the Corner of Peck's or Roosevelt's Slip, near the New Sugar House;

DDOUBLE, Middling, and Single Refined Loaf Sugar, Muscovado ditto. Also Choice English Tea, and Pepper by the Box, Bale, or smaller Quantity.

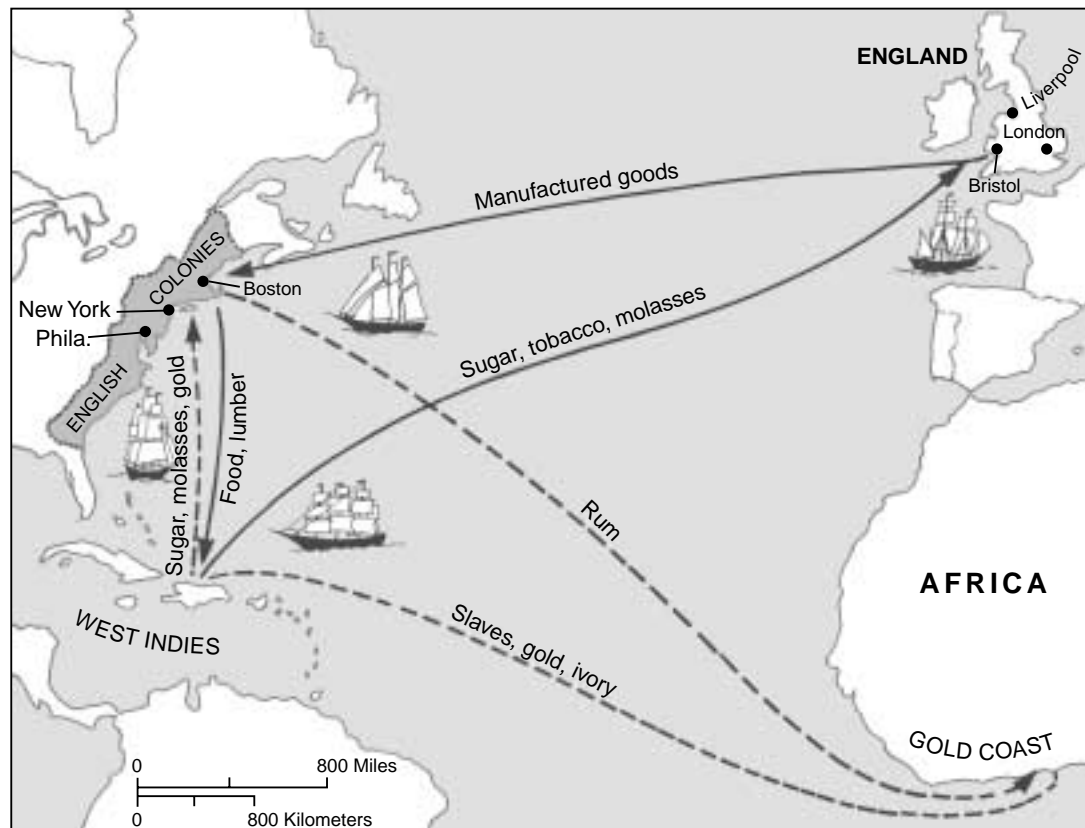
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TRADE AND NAVIGATION RESTRICTIONS (1650–1673)	
Restrictions	Results
Colonial furs, tobacco, sugar, cotton, indigo, wool, and iron sold only to England.	Provided guaranteed market for such products, not always at the best prices.
All trade to England and its colonies to be carried in English or colonial ships.	Fostered large shipbuilding industries in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. Colonial trade protected by English military might.
Colonists required to buy almost everything from England.	Colonial manufacturing discouraged to protect English manufacturers from competition. Colonists paid high prices for English goods.

Trade and Navigation Acts Parliament's *Trade and Navigation Acts* established British mercantilism. They described what the colonies could export and import and where the goods could be shipped.

Triangular Trade The pattern of colonial commerce was **triangular trade**. In one form, New York merchants exported food and wood products to the West

Triangular Trade



Indies. There they bought sugar, fruit, tobacco, and molasses, carried them to England, and brought back manufactured goods to sell in the colonies.

In another form, colonial ships took rum to Africa. There they picked up enslaved Africans, gold, and ivory. The Africans were taken to the West Indies and exchanged for sugar and molasses. Molasses shipped to New England and New York was distilled into rum and shipped to Africa. Gold, cash, and other products were used by colonists to buy imported English manufactures.

Effects British mercantilism worked well when not enforced strictly. This was the case from the mid-1600s to the mid-1700s, when the home country's policy was **salutary neglect**. The colonies were allowed to grow and prosper with little outside control. Even smuggling—widespread throughout the colonies—was generally ignored. English and colonial merchants prospered.

Then, a series of wars between Britain and France radically changed relations between Britain and its colonies.



INFO CHECK

1. How did the Trade and Navigation Acts regulate trade between Britain and its colonies?
2. Name two routes that a colonial trading ship might have taken. What products might this ship have carried?
3. Why did the restrictions placed on colonial trade by British mercantilism cause little trouble at first?



BRITISH-FRENCH RIVALRY

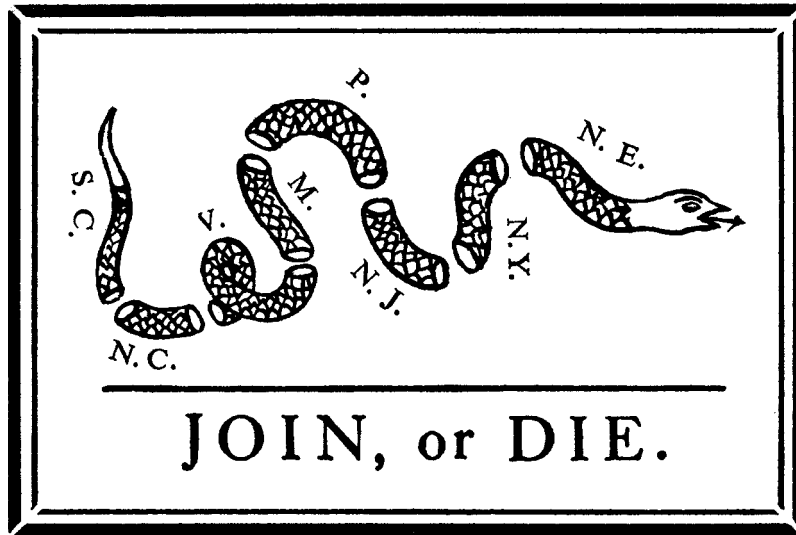
Between 1689 and 1763, Britain and France fought four wars over control of territory in North America. While the wars lasted, Britain's chief concern was fighting the French. Thus, colonists gained greater freedom in self-government and trade. After its victory, Britain tightened control. But times had changed, the colonists resisted, and revolution loomed.

Colonial Wars and a Plan of Union During the colonial wars, most of the fighting was between British and French armies. Colonial **militias** (civilian forces serving in emergencies) often assisted the British. French Canadians supported the French.

Native Americans also became involved. British allies included most of the Iroquois, especially Mohawks. Hurons and many Algonquians, longtime enemies of the Iroquois, fought for the French.

Albany Congress In 1754, The British called a conference at Albany to build up colonial defenses and improve relations with Native Americans. The colonists were to work with the Iroquois against the French and their Huron and Algonquian allies. Representatives to this *Albany Congress* came from six colonies, including New York, and the Iroquois League.

Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania proposed a central colonial government to share power with the colonies. His *Albany Plan of Union* called for a loose confed-



This cartoon appeared in Benjamin Franklin's newspaper, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, shortly before the Albany Congress convened in 1754.

eration like the Iroquois League. Representatives from each colony would make up a central council. It could raise an army, levy taxes, and control western settlement. A British president-general would have the power of **veto** (right to declare a proposal or law invalid).

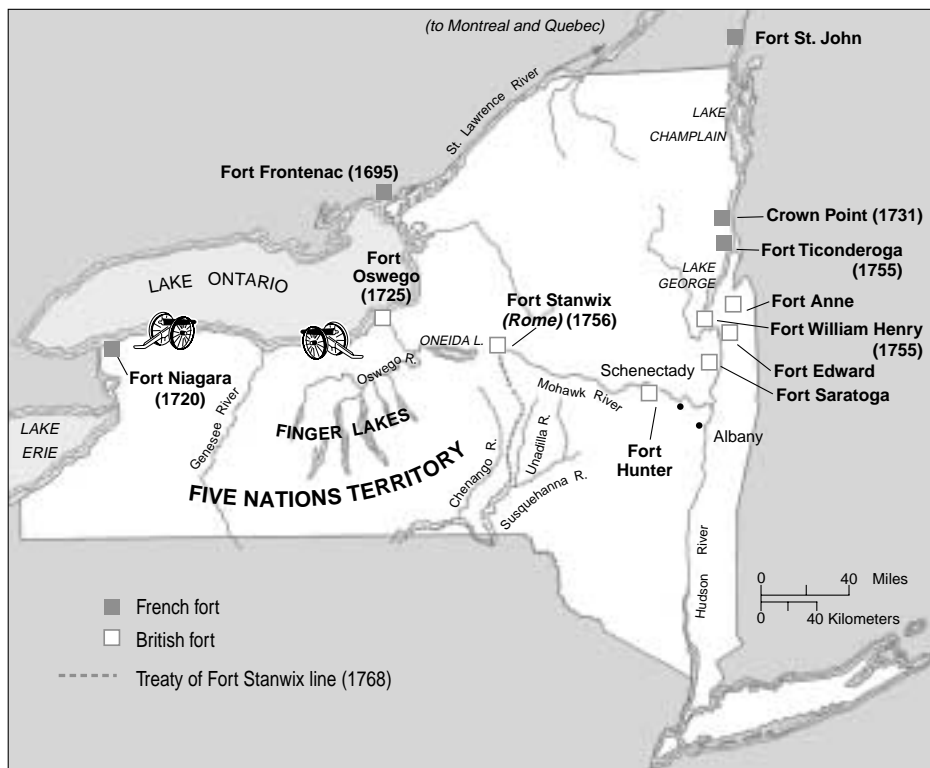
The delegates approved Franklin's plan, but neither Britain nor the separate colonies would accept it. It had become clear, however, that some colonists saw advantages in united colonial action.

French and Indian War The French and Indian War (1754–1763) was the decisive struggle for control in North America. It began in the Ohio Valley, on lands claimed by France and Britain. The French governor of Quebec sent engineers to build forts there. The British built forts too, one of which arose at the junction of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers (present-day Pittsburgh). The French routed the British, finished the fort, and named it Fort Duquesne.

George Washington of Virginia, a 22-year-old colonel, led a small militia to challenge the French but was defeated by a large force of French Canadians and Native Americans. This marked the start of the *French and Indian War*, which quickly spread to New York and Canada—and to Europe and Asia, where it was called the *Seven Years' War*.

The British goal in New York was to capture Fort Niagara, control Lake Champlain, and invade Canada. Helped by colonial troops and Iroquois, the British pushed north. In 1759, they captured Fort Niagara. The decisive campaign of 1759–1760 followed. General Wolfe led a British fleet up the St. Lawrence and captured Quebec. General Amherst defeated the French on Lake Champlain, continued into Canada, and took Montreal. After 74 years and four colonial wars, Britain had defeated France.

Results Under terms of the *Treaty of Paris*, 1763, France surrendered Canada to Britain, which also gained control of most of the area between its colonies and the Mississippi River. The defeat of the French and their Native American allies removed a major barrier to westward expansion.



Frontier Forts in New York

Other consequences would surface later. The wars had been expensive. Who would pay the bill? That question would drive a wedge between Britain and its colonies. Moreover, the wars had given colonists military experience, which they would put to use as relations with Britain deteriorated.

INFO CHECK

1. Why did Britain assemble the Albany Congress?
2. Identify the importance of the Albany Plan of Union.
3. What was the major cause of the French and Indian War?
4. Describe the results of the French and Indian War.

CONFLICT BETWEEN VICTORS

The colonists and the British viewed the future differently. Even before 1763, pioneers had crossed the Appalachian Mountains seeking new lands. The British government intended to control that region strictly.

Proclamation of 1763 New white settlers alarmed Native Americans in the Ohio Valley. Fearing loss of their hunting grounds, they united behind an Ottawa leader, Chief Pontiac. In 1763, he formed a confederacy, destroyed British forts, and attacked colonial settlements.

The British put down *Pontiac's Rebellion* quickly but saw that continued western settlements would touch off costly wars and endanger the profitable fur trade with Native Americans. Therefore, George III issued the *Proclamation of 1763*. It ordered settlers to give up claims in the Ohio Valley and return east. New settlements west of the Appalachians were banned.

New Yorkers, among others, hated the law. Fur traders could no longer expand trading networks. Veterans of colonial wars could no longer claim free western land. Great landowners and speculators saw hopes for added wealth evaporate. Many colonists continued to migrate west.

The *Treaty of Fort Stanwix* (1768) separated Iroquois and colonial lands along a line drawn south from Fort Stanwix (present-day Rome, New York). (See the map on page 63.) Thus, the area open to colonial settlement was slightly increased.

Making Colonies Pay for Protection Britain was now deeply in debt, and Parliament felt that Britons were already taxed too heavily. The colonies had not paid a fair share of costs for the French and Indian War. Now, they must help pay for troops to protect them.

Moreover, George III and his ministers agreed that colonists, as British subjects, must obey British laws. Salutary neglect had ended. The Trade and Navigation Acts would be fully enforced.



PARLIAMENT ACTS/COLONISTS REACT

Colonists were especially offended by new acts of Parliament passed between 1764 and 1775. Intended as money-raising measures, they soon became attempts to punish the colonists, who evaded and protested against each new law.




INFO CHECK

1. What justification did Britain have for imposing the Proclamation of 1763 on its colonies?
2. Why did the Trade and Navigation Acts take on new meaning for colonists after 1764?
3. Describe why the Coercive Acts (see table, page 65) can be seen as a response rather than a cause.

Fierce Opposition The Sugar Act prompted immediate protests that Parliament had no right to tax colonies. In addition, methods of enforcement (customs searches of ships and warehouses and the use of informers paid with confiscated goods) were offensive.

The Quartering Act of 1765 provoked extreme protests in New York City, headquarters of the British colonial army. In 1767, New Yorkers refused to obey the law, prompting the royal governor to reject all laws passed by the colonial assembly.

General reaction against the Stamp Act was “no taxation without representation.” Virginia’s assembly declared that only Virginia could tax Virginians.

 ACTS OF TAXATION AND CONTROL (1764–1774)		
Law/Date	Aim	Method
<i>Sugar Act</i> (1764)	To increase revenue for Britain. To end smuggling of molasses from French West Indies.	Raised duty on sugar and other items. Lowered duties on molasses.
<i>Quartering Act</i> (1765)	To maintain large standing army in North America.	Required colonists to pay for housing and feeding troops.
<i>Stamp Act</i> (1765)	To raise money.	Taxed newspapers, pamphlets, deeds, licenses, official documents, playing cards (articles had to carry tax stamp).
<i>Townshend Acts</i> (1767)	To pay salaries of royal officials and let them act independently of colonial assemblies. To search warehouses, ships, homes for anything illegal.	Placed new duties on paper, glass, lead, painting supplies, tea. Legalized writs of assistance (general search warrants).
<i>Tea Act</i> (1773)	To give financial aid to British East India Company (tea importer).	Allowed company to undersell colonial tea importers.
<i>Coercive Acts</i> (1774)	To compensate British East India Company for dumped tea. To take power from colonies.	Port of Boston closed to all trade. Government of Massachusetts suspended; all control given to royal governor; town meetings forbidden; royal governor to appoint officials to replace those elected by colonists. British officials accused of crimes while enforcing royal law to be tried in British, not colonial, courts. Stronger <i>Quartering Act</i> (seizure of private buildings in colony that failed to feed and house troops).

Patriots (colonists openly opposed to British rule) formed the *Sons of Liberty* and *Daughters of Liberty*, organizations that encouraged resistance. Colonists talked of **boycotts** of British goods (refusal to buy them). As a sign of defiance, people wore homespun linen clothes rather than imports from Britain. Angry mobs attacked tax collectors.

On the day when the Stamp Act became official, New York City shops closed, flags flew at half-mast, and church bells rang. Protesters burned the governor's carriage and burned him **in effigy** (strung up a stuffed figure of him).

Stamp Act Congress The same year, delegates from nine colonies met in New York City. This *Stamp Act Congress* asked Parliament for **repeal** (cancellation) of the act, for the following reasons:



Stamps attached by the British government to goods sold in the American colonies

- British colonists were entitled to “rights of Englishmen.”
- One such right was to be taxed by their elected representatives. Since they had no representative in Parliament, it had no authority to tax them.

Colonial merchants then agreed to boycott British goods. A *Committee of Correspondence* was set up to keep everyone informed of developments.

Parliament’s Response Colonial outrage took British lawmakers and the public by complete surprise. Merchants, hurt by the boycott, asked for repeal. Parliament then passed the *Declaratory Act* (1776); it repealed the Stamp Act but affirmed Parliament’s right to make colonists obey its laws.

Townshend Acts Parliament then passed the Townshend Acts (see the table on page 65) and suspended the New York assembly for refusing to help pay for resident British troops. If Parliament could suspend assemblies, what would become of representative government?

Reaction began in Boston, where Sam Adams, a leader of the Sons of Liberty, asked all colonies to resist. Again, widespread boycotts began to hurt British commerce, and Parliament chose to back down. It repealed the Townshend Acts except for a tax on tea, retained as a reminder of its supremacy.

Boston Massacre During the Townshend dispute, more British soldiers were sent to Boston. Once again, Adams and his Sons of Liberty aroused public outrage. On March 5, 1770, a crowd threw snowballs and ice at a soldier. More soon arrived, were threatened by the crowd, and opened fire. Five colonists were killed—among them an African American sailor named Crispus Attucks—and six wounded. This “Boston Massacre” was soon viewed as a moment of great sacrifice in the fight for liberty.

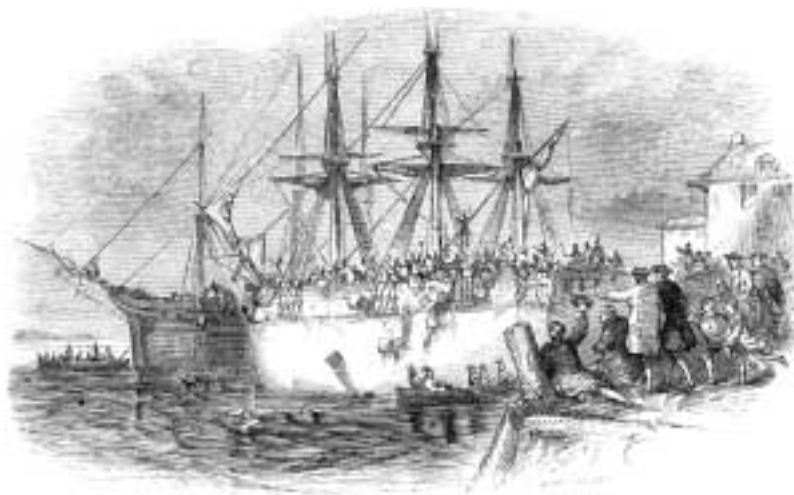
“Boston Tea Party” By 1772, Adams and his group had revived the Committee of Correspondence. By exchanging ideas and inciting anti-British resistance, it helped unite the colonies.

Thus, when the Tea Act (1773) was issued, colonists took direct action. In New York City and Philadelphia, they turned back tea shipments. In Charleston, they locked tea in warehouses. The Boston Sons of Liberty had a “tea party.” On

Paul Revere's engraving of the Boston Massacre



Protesting the Tea Act, Patriots threw tea overboard in Boston Harbor, 1773.



December 16, 1773, Patriots disguised as Mohawks boarded three British ships and dumped 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor.

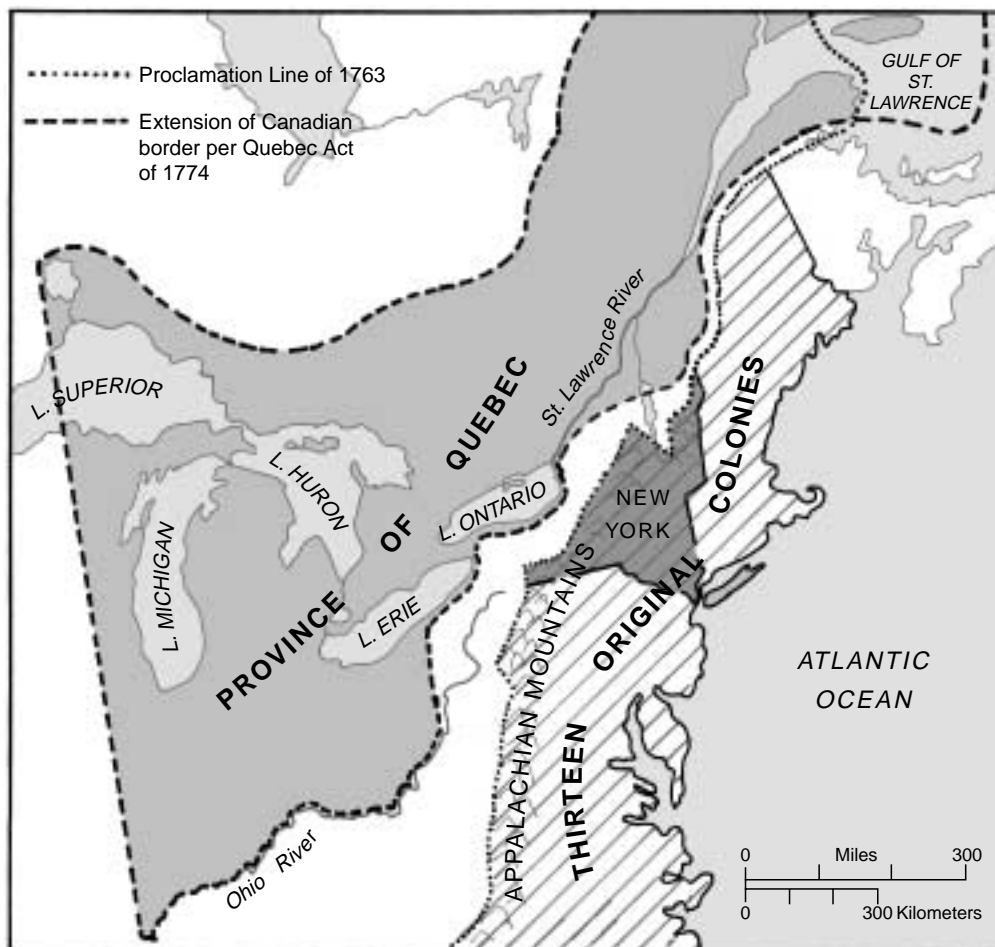
PUNISHMENT AND DEFIANCE

Coercive Acts In March 1774, Parliament closed the port of Boston to all trade until it paid for the dumped tea. This was the first of four Coercive Acts (see the table on page 65).

Colonial Defiance Colonists were particularly incensed by another 1774 law, the *Quebec Act*, which reset the southern border of British Canada at the Ohio River, where many of them claimed land. Menacingly, they called this and the Coercive Acts the “Intolerable Acts.”

Shock, fear, and confusion spread to all colonies, which sent financial aid and moral support to Boston. If Boston and Massachusetts could be so punished, was any colony safe? More people proclaimed themselves Patriots. On the day when Boston’s port was closed, a New York City crowd marched and burned effigies of the British prime minister and Massachusetts’s royal governor.

Great Britain Restricts the Colonies



**INFO CHECK**

1. List money-raising acts passed by Parliament from 1764 on.
2. List the colonists' measures to oppose the Stamp Act.
3. Why did the colonists feel justified in opposing British taxation?
4. Identify: Sons and Daughters of Liberty, boycott, effigy, Stamp Act Congress, Committee of Correspondence.
5. Why were the Townsend Acts unsuccessful?



FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

The *First Continental Congress* met in Philadelphia in September 1774 to air colonists' grievances and unite against Parliament's use of its power. The body summarized its position in a *Declaration of Rights*:

- Colonists were entitled to *all* "rights of Englishmen."
- Only elected colonial assemblies could tax colonists.
- The Coercive Acts were unlawful and must be repealed.

The delegates formed a *Continental Association* to boycott imports from Britain and its West Indies. Finally, they agreed to boycott colonial exports to Britain as well if the Coercive Acts were not repealed.

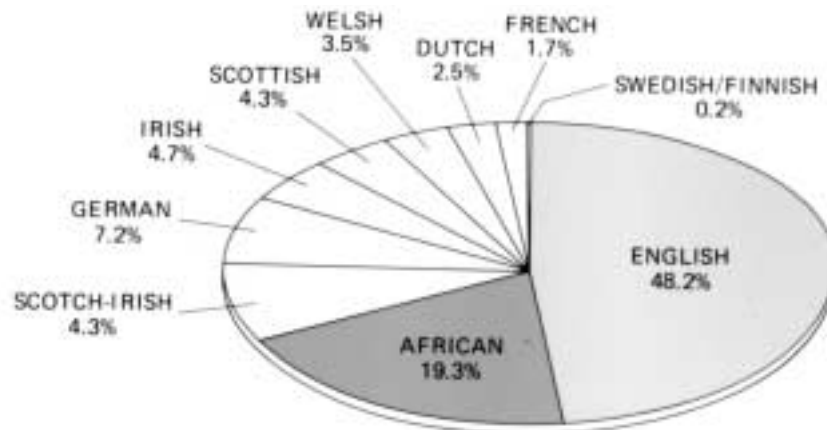
The delegates set another meeting for May 1775. If Parliament had not relented by then, they would consider stronger measures.



NEW YORK POLITICS

Although New York City was a center of British culture and New England farmers had settled eastern Long Island and Westchester, New York was more "American"

**Ethnic Groups
in the United
States, 1790**



than British. Many Dutch landowners lived on Long Island and along the Hudson Valley north to Albany. Scotch-Irish, Germans, Jews, French, Swedes, and Africans added to the mix.

With so many nationalities, economic backgrounds, and religions, New York was also politically divided. After the First Continental Congress, two **factions** (opposing political groups)—**Loyalists** (supporters of George III) and Patriots—faced off. A third group cautiously took no sides. The Dutch, for example, were mostly neutral.

Loyalists Loyalists made up almost one-third of the colonial population, and more of them lived in New York than anywhere else. They managed New York City's finance and commerce and belonged to the landowning aristocracy. As the majority faction in the New York Assembly, they made clear their unhappiness with the First Continental Congress, the Continental Association, and the proposed second meeting.

Patriots Many other New Yorkers openly distrusted the British government. These Patriots strongly favored independence. They drew their support from the middle and lower classes—shopkeepers, artisans, farmers, fishers, and servants.



NEW YORK, MASSACHUSETTS, AND THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

The First Continental Congress had urged all towns, cities, and counties to enforce the Continental Association's boycott on the local level and punish offenders. The Loyalist-controlled New York Assembly refused. Therefore, the Sons of Liberty set up a committee to do so. When the Assembly also refused to name delegates to the *Second Continental Congress*, the Patriot's committee asked counties and towns of New York to send representatives to a *Provincial Congress*. It met in New York City in April 1775 and chose congressional delegates.

The Second Continental Congress was to meet at Philadelphia in May 1775. On April 19, one month before, British troops marched out of Boston to seize military supplies stored by colonial militia units in nearby Concord. Warned by William Dawes and Paul Revere, the militiamen confronted the soldiers in armed clashes at Lexington and Concord.

Word of the fighting spread quickly. Throughout the colonies, Patriots formed militia units and drilled for battle. The War for Independence had begun.



INFO CHECK

1. List three goals and two actions of the First Continental Congress.
2. Describe the three political factions that divided New York Colony.
3. Describe the events preceding New York's decision to send delegates to the Second Continental Congress.



CHAPTER REVIEW

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. In order to increase imports into British ports, colonial shipbuilding was
 1. taxed
 2. encouraged by Britain
 3. prohibited by Britain
 4. a New York City monopoly.
2. The Albany Plan of Union called for
 1. a loose confederation somewhat like the Iroquois League
 2. a powerful central government
 3. the colonies to become part of Britain
 4. the colonies to form an alliance with France.
3. The French and Indian War ended after
 1. the French built forts in the Ohio Valley
 2. the British captured Fort Niagara
 3. General Wolfe captured Quebec
 4. The Treaty of Paris.
4. As a result of the French and Indian War, the western boundary of British territory in North America was fixed at
 1. the Appalachian Mountains
 2. the Mississippi River
 3. the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers
 4. Lake Erie.
5. The Proclamation of 1763 was Britain's attempt to
 1. prevent colonial governments from collecting taxes
 2. prevent fighting between Native Americans and British colonists
 3. stop the triangular slave trade
4. force British colonists to settle in the Ohio Valley.
6. After the French and Indian War, Britain
 1. became a second-rate power in Europe
 2. began a policy of salutary neglect
 3. granted its American colonies self-government
 4. tried to strictly enforce its trade laws.
7. The idea of “no taxation without representation” was the colonial response to the
 1. Quarantine Act
 2. Navigation Act
 3. Boston Tea Party
 4. Stamp Act.
8. The Sons and Daughters of Liberty were formed to
 1. encourage understanding between the British and the colonists
 2. encourage colonial resistance against the British
 3. unite Canada with the thirteen colonies to the south
 4. end slavery in the colonies.
9. Pre-Revolutionary New York is best described as
 1. eager for revolution
 2. diverse in culture, religion, and politics
 3. classless
 4. opposed to firearms.
10. Patriots and Loyalists were alike in
 1. opposing British control
 2. being members solely of the upper class
 3. being colonial Americans
 4. being predominantly Dutch.

Constructed-Response Questions

Base your answers to question 1 and 2 on the advertisement on page 59.

1. Describe the main idea in the ad, and explain how it illustrates mercantilism.

Base your answers to questions 2–4 on the graph on page 69.

2. Which group of people made up the largest percentage of the colonial population? the smallest?
3. Which group was the next largest?
4. What generalization can you make based on this graph?

Document-Based Question

Part A: Short Answer

*Study each document and answer the question that follows it. Then read the **Task** and write your essay. It should include references to most of the documents, along with additional information based on your knowledge of social studies.*

HISTORICAL CONTEXT: Even before the Revolutionary War, colonists had begun the struggle to gain economic and political rights and freedoms. This struggle had a significant impact on the formation of the United States of America as a free and independent nation.

DOCUMENT 1. Refer to the map on page 60.

1. Describe the relationship between England and its colonies shown on the map.

DOCUMENT 2. Refer to the table on page 60.

2. Describe three actions taken by England that angered the colonists.

DOCUMENT 3. Refer to the cartoon on page 62.

3. What is the message of this cartoon?

DOCUMENT 4. Refer to the table on page 56.

4. Give three examples that illustrate democratic principles established by colonial governments.

DOCUMENT 5. Refer to the quotation from the Declaration of Independence on page 76.

5. Describe how the ideas expressed in the quote differ from the principles of English colonial rule.

Part B: Essay

TASK

- Discuss *two* specific reasons why the colonists turned against England in the late 1700s.
- Describe *two* ways in which the colonists protested against England.
- Explain how the principles of government established by the United States of America differed from those of colonial government.