

New British Measures & the Conservative Colonial Stance



Topics of Consideration, 1763-1774

- I. British North America in 1763
- II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-66
- III. Townshend Debate, 1767-70
- IV. Tea Act Debate, 1773-74
- V. The Escalation of Tension



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I. British North America in 1763

1763 French and Indian War ends:
Treaty of Paris

New Situation for British
New Situation for Colonials

1763 Pontiac's Rebellion

1763 Proclamation of 1763

1763 10,000 British troops left in colonies





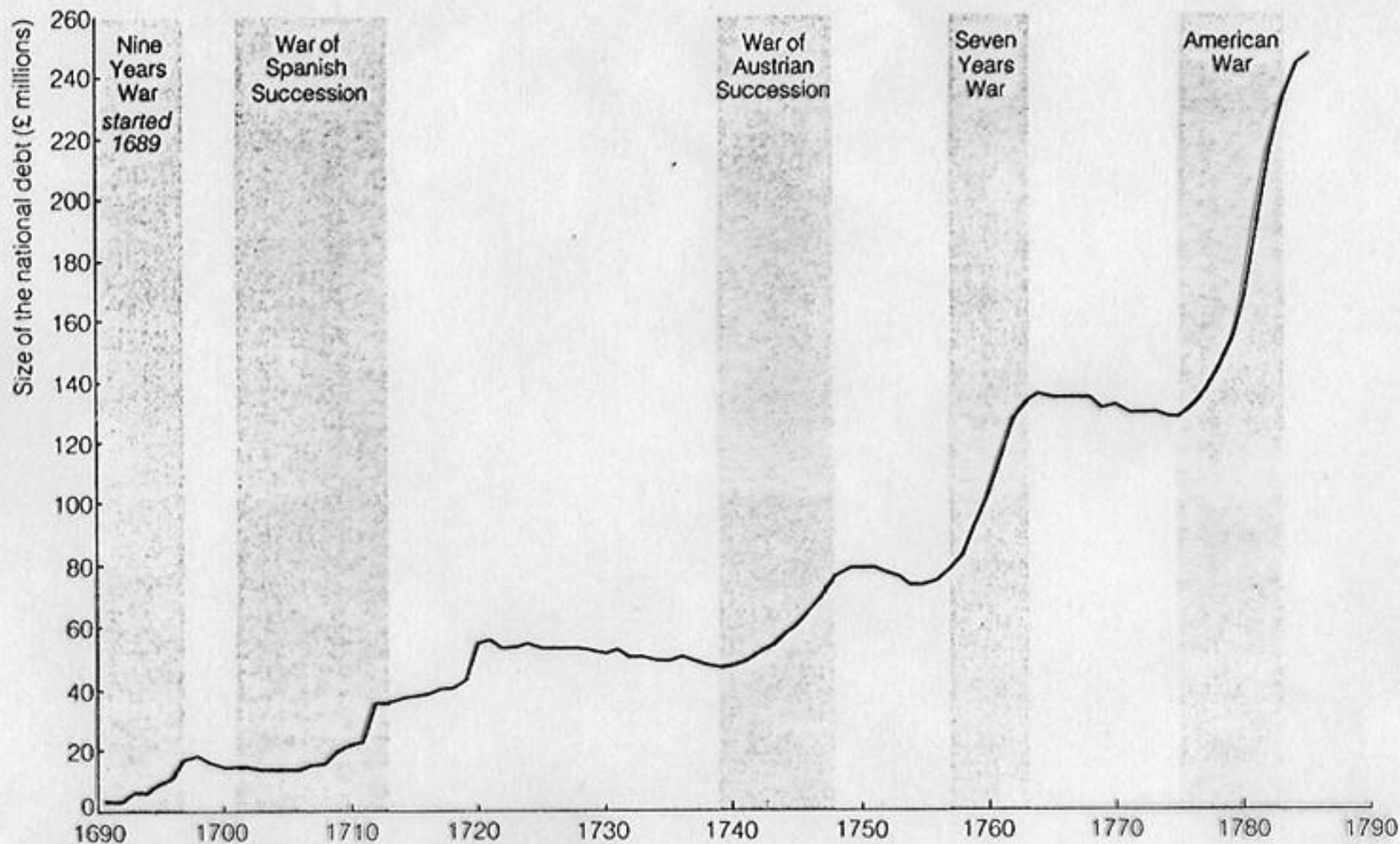


Figure 4.6 *Growth of the national debt, 1691–1785*

SOURCE: B. R. Mitchell and Phyllis Deane, *Abstract of British Historical Statistics* (Cambridge, 1962), pp. 401–2

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II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-1766

1765 Stamp Act Passed
Purpose?
Method of taxation?

1765 Conservative Colonial Response
Virginia Resolves
Stamp Act Congress, New York

1765 Virtual Representation Debate
Whatley: Virtual Representation
Dulany: Against Virtual Representation



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Thomas Whatley on Virtual Representation

The Inhabitants of the Colonies are represented in Parliament: they do not indeed chuse the Members of that Assembly; neither are Nine Tenths of the People of Britain Electors and yet are they not represented in Parliament? Is their vast Property subject to Taxes without their Consent? Are they all arbitrarily bound by Laws to which they have not agreed? The Colonies are in exactly the same Situation: All British Subjects are really in the same; none are actually, all are virtually represented in Parliament; for every Member of Parliament sits in the House, not as Representative of his own Constituents, but as one of that august Assembly by which all the Commons of Great Britain are represented.



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Daniel Dulany Opposes Virtual Representation

There is not that intimate and inseparable relation between the electors of Great-Britain, and the Inhabitants of the colonies, which must inevitably involve both in the same taxation; on the contrary, not a single actual elector in England, might be immediately affected by a taxation in America, imposed by a statute which would have a general operation and effect, upon the properties of the inhabitants of the colonies. The latter might be oppressed in a thousand shapes, without any Sympathy, or exciting any alarm in the former. Moreover, even acts, oppressive and injurious to the colonies in an extreme degree, might become popular in England, from the promise or expectation, that the very measures which depressed the colonies, would give ease to the Inhabitants of Great Britain.

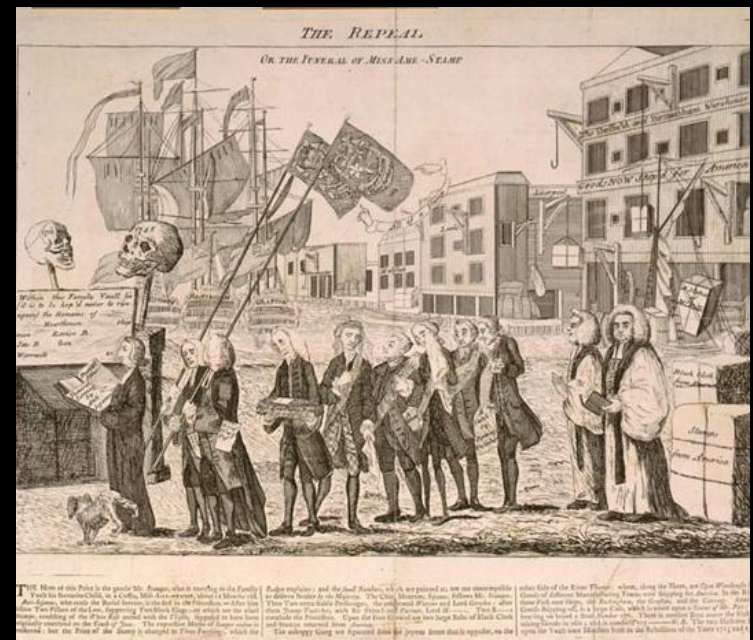


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II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-1766

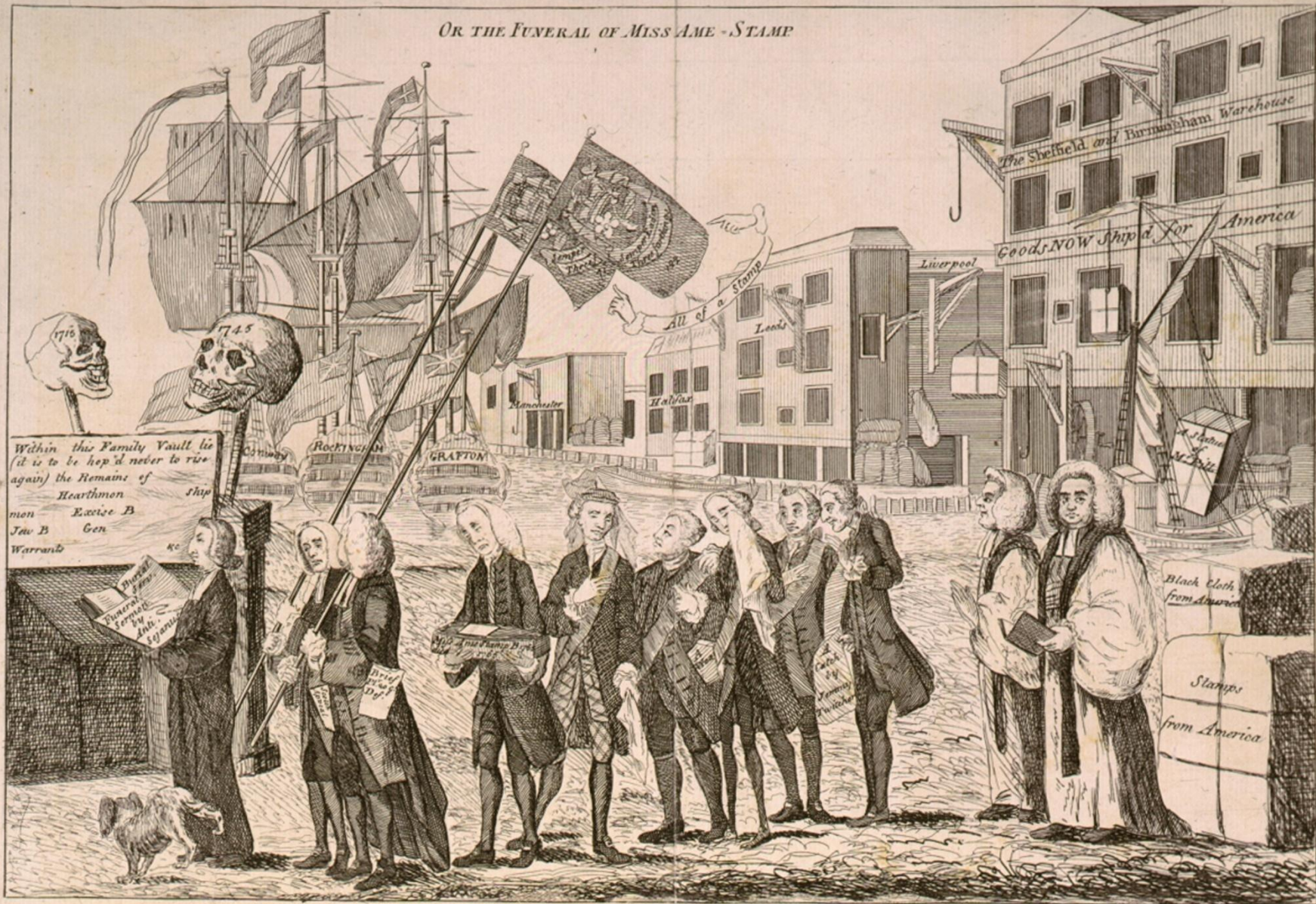
- 1766 Stamp Act Repealed
Explanations
- 1766 Declaratory Act Passed
- 1766 Constitutional Issues Unresolved



<http://annenbergcpb.org/biographyofamerica/prog04/feature/index.html>

THE REPEAL

OR THE FUNERAL OF MISS AME-STAMP



THE Hero of this Print is the gentle Mr. *Stamper*, who is carrying to the Family Vault his favourite Child, in a Coffin, *MISS AME-STAMP*, about 12 Months old. *Anti-Sejannus*, who reads the Burial Service, is the first in the Procession. — After him follow Two Pillars of the Law, supporting Two Black Flags: on which are the usual Stamps, consisting of the *White Rose* united with the *Triskele*, supposed to have been originally contrived on the *Fest of June*. The expressive Motto of *Semper cadem* is preserved: but the Price of the Stamp is changed to *Three Farthings*, which the

Budget explains: and the *small Numbers*, which are pointed at, are too contemptible to deserve Notice by the Majority. The Chief Mourner, *Sejannus*, follows Mr. *Stamper*. Then Two remarkable Personages, the celebrated *Weaver* and *Lord Gawokee*: after them *Jenny Twitchee*, with his Friend and Partner, *Lord H-----*. Two *B-----* conclude the Procession. Upon the Fore Ground are two large Bales of Black Cloth and Stamps returned from *America*. The unhappy Gang are separated from the joyous Scene that is opposite, on the

other Side of the River *Thames*: where, along the Shore, are *Open Warehouses* for the Goods of different Manufacturing Towns now shipping for *America*. In the River are three First-rate Ships, the *Rockingham*, the *Grafton*, and the *Cowsey*. Among the Goods shipping off, is a large *Cask*, which is wrote upon a *Statue of Mr. Pitt*: this is heaving on board a Boat Number 250. There is another Boat nearer the *Firth*-rates, taking Goods in allo; and is number'd 105. — N. B. The two Skeleton Heads, upon the Vault were Monsters born in the Rebellions of the Years 1715 and 1745.

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III. Townshend Debate, 1767-1770

1767 Townshend Duties Passed
Reasoning
Method of taxation

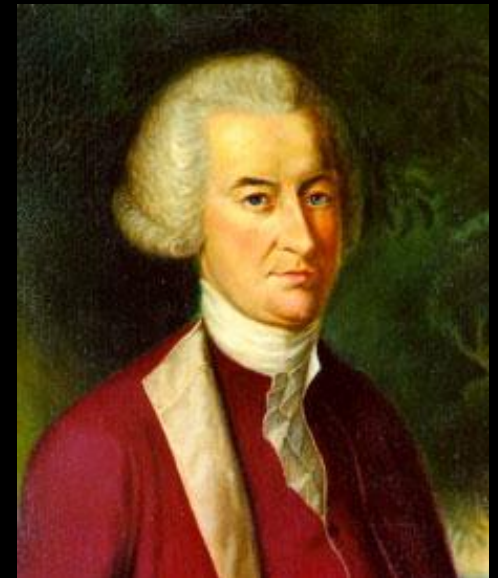
1767 Customs Commissioners arrive in Boston

1767 John Dickinson, *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania*.

1768 Massachusetts Circular Letter – Sam Adams

1768 Colonial Boycott of British goods

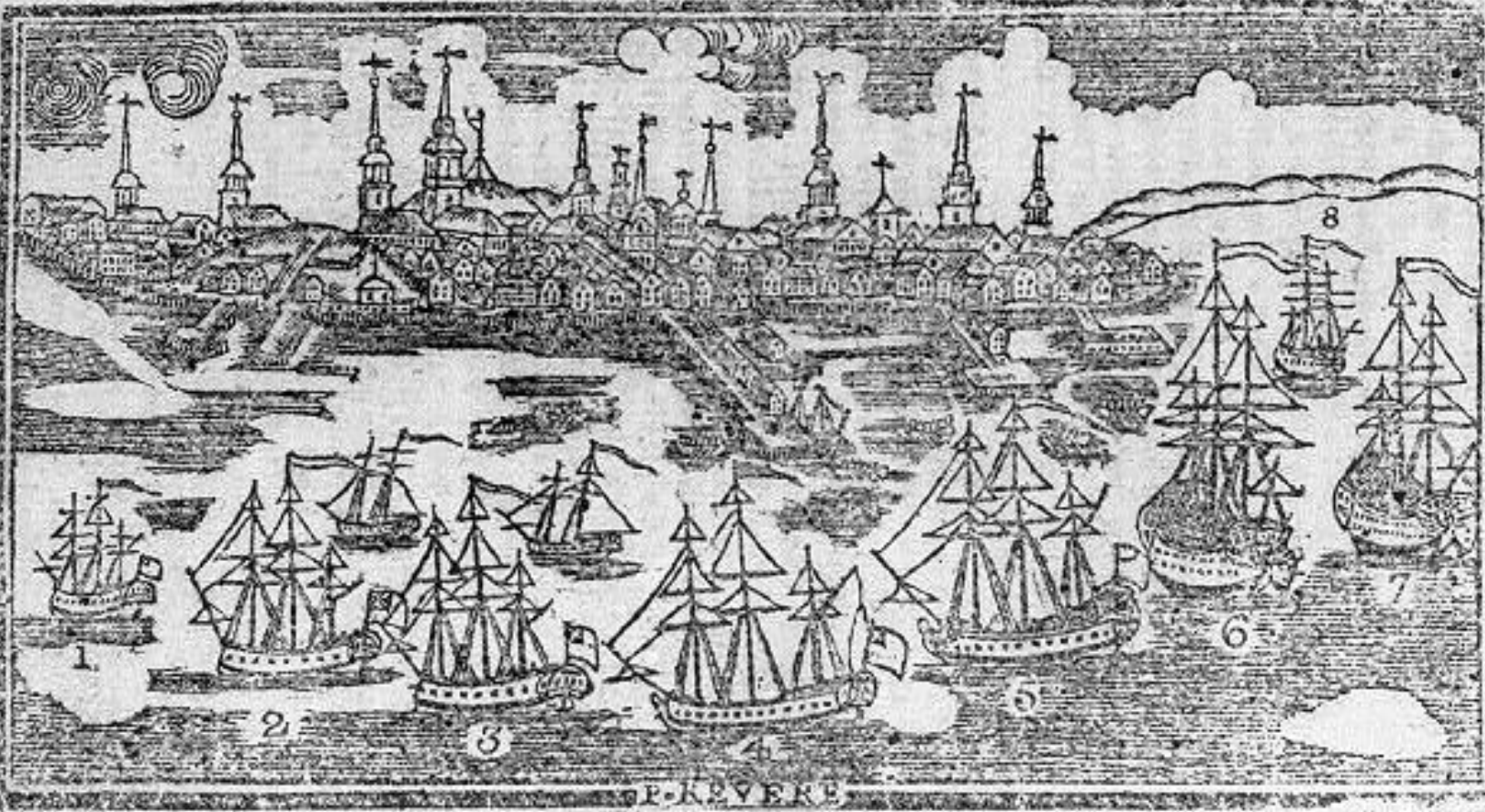
1768 British Troops Arrive in Boston



Capital of New-England; and of the Landing of — Troops in the Year 1768, in Consequence of Letters from

A Prospective View of the Town of Boston, the

Gov. Bernard, the Commissioners, &c. to the British Ministry.



1 Beaver. — 2 Senegal. — 3 Martin. — 4 Glasgow. — 5 Mermaid. — 6 Romney. — 7 Lancelton. — 8 Bonetta.

A prospective view of the town of Boston, the capital of New-England - and the landing of --- troops in the year 1768, in consequence of letters from Gov. Bernard, the commissioners, &c. to the British ministry / Paul Revere.

IMPORTS IN £000 STERLING FROM ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND TO THE AMERICAN COLONIES, 1766-1775

Colony	1766	1767	1768	1769	1770	1771	1772	1773	1774	1775
New England	419	416	431	224	417	1,436*	844	543	577	85.0
New York	333	424	491	76	480	655*	349	296	460	1.5
Pennsylvania	334	383	442	205	140	747*	526	436	646	1.4
Chesapeake†	520	653	670	715	997*	1,224*	1,016	589	690	1.9
Lower South‡	376	292	357	385*	228	515*	575*	448	471	130.5
Totals	1,982	2,168	2,391	1,605	2,262	4,577*	3,310	2,312	2,844	220.3

Average total imports, 1766-68 = £2,180

1769 = 73.6 percent of that average, or 67.1 percent of 1768 imports

1770 = 103.8 percent of that average, or 94.6 percent of 1768 imports

*These totals surpassed all previous highs

†Chesapeake = Maryland and Virginia

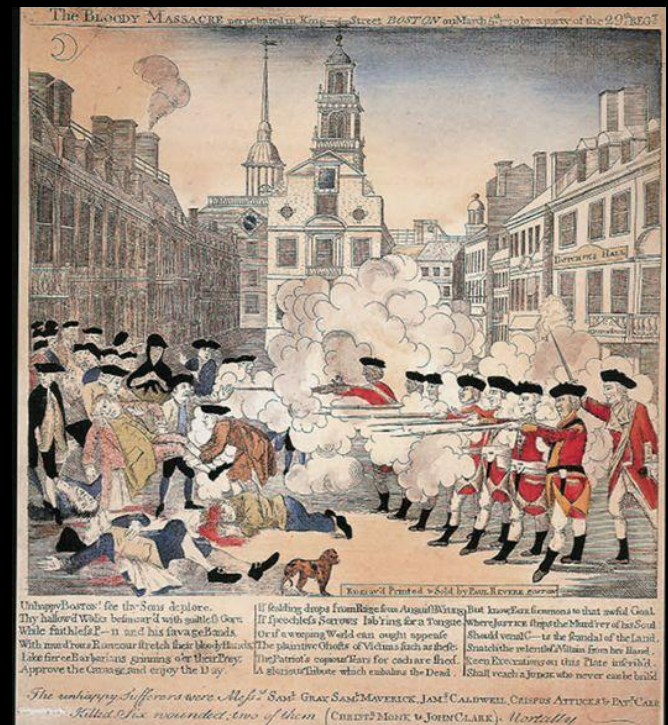
‡Lower South = Carolinas and Georgia

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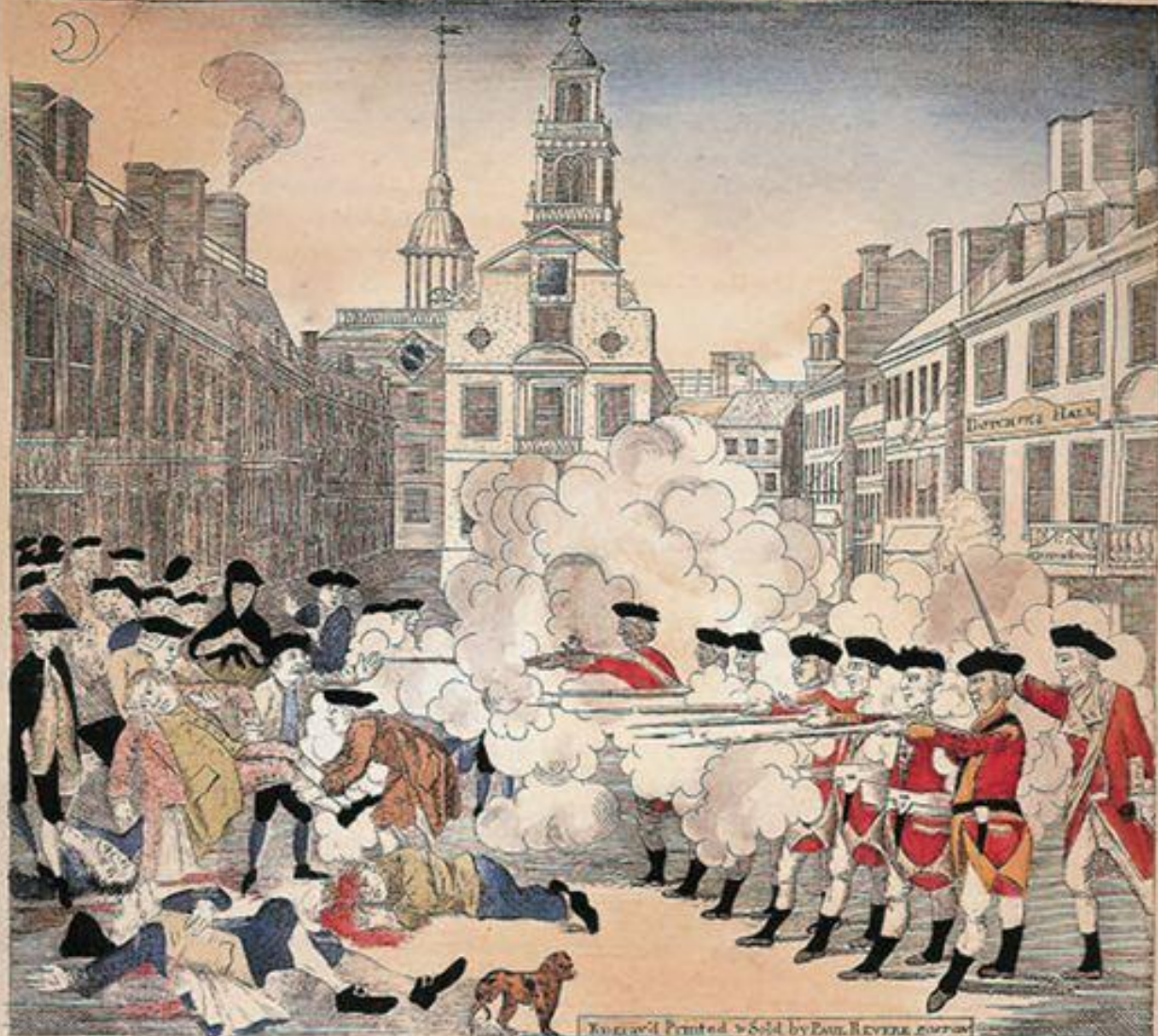


III. Townshend Debate, 1767-1770

- 1770 Boston "Massacre"
- 1770 Repeal of Townshend Duties (Except on Tea)
- 1770 Colonial Boycott collapses
- 1770 Resumption of good relations



The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated in King-Street BOSTON on March 5th 1770 by a party of the 29th REG^t



Engraved, Printed & Sold by PAUL REVERE 1840

Unhappy BOSTON! see thy Sons deplore,
 Thy hallow'd Walls bein' cur'd with gull'd Gov.
 While faithless P—n and his savage Bands,
 With murderous Rancour stretch their bloody Hands,
 Like fierce Barbarians ginning o'er their Prey,
 Approve the Cruage and enjoy the Day.

If falling drops from Rige from Anguish Weep;
 If speechless Sorrows lab'ring for a Tongue
 Or if a weeping World can ought appease
 The plaintive Ohasts of Victims such as these:
 The Patriot's copious Tears for each are shed,
 A glorious Tribute which embalms the Dead.

But know, Fair Citizens to that awful Goal,
 Where Justice steps the Murderer of his Soul,
 Should venal C—ts the scandal of the Land,
 Snatch the relent'g Victim from her hand,
 Keen Execution on this Plate infer'd,
 Shall reach a JUDG' who never can be blind.

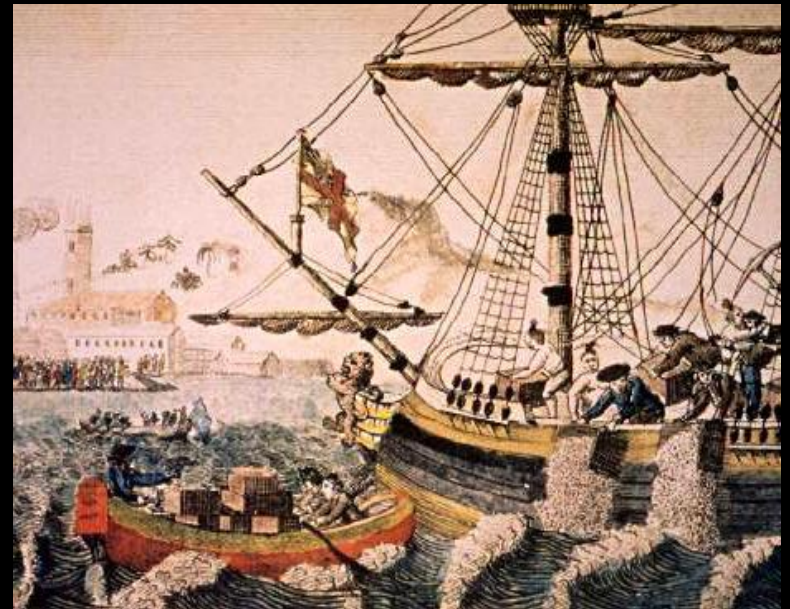
The unhappy Sufferers were Mess^{rs} SAM^l GRAY SAM^l MAVERICK, JAM^s CALDWELL, CRISPUS ATTILES & PAT^l CARR
 Killed Six wounded, two of them (CHRIST^l MONK & JOHN CLARK), Mortally

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IV. Tea Act Debate, 1773-1774

- 1770-73 Colonials pay tax on tea
- 1772 British Troops leave Boston
- 1773 Tea Act Passed
- 1773 Boston Tea Party
- 1774 Coercive Acts Passed





Prime Minister Lord North pours tea down the throat of a prostrate America, while Britannia weeps. On the left, a Frenchman and a Spaniard relish the rupture of the Empire.

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V. The Escalation of Tension, 1774

Concluding Remarks

Little room for negotiation left

Coercive Acts led to radicalization of the colonial position

Coercive Acts led to First Continental Congress, which we will discuss next

