Excerpt from the Sugar Act:

Whereas it is expedient that new provisions and regulations should be established for improving the revenue of this kingdom, and for extending and securing the navigation and commerce between Great Britain and your Majesty’s dominions in America, which, by the peace, have been so happily enlarged: and whereas it is just and necessary, that a revenue be raised, in your Majesty’s said dominions in America, for defraying the expences of defending, protecting, and securing the same; we, your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the commons of Great Britain, in parliament assembled, being desirous to make some provision, in this present session of parliament, towards raising the said revenue in America, have resolved to give and grant unto your Majesty the several rates and duties herein after-mentioned; and do most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King’s most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the twenty ninth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and sixty four, there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid, unto his Majesty, his heirs and successors, for and upon all white or clayed sugars of the produce or manufacture of any colony or plantation in America, not under the dominion of his Majesty, his heirs and successors; for and upon indigo, and coffee of foreign produce or manufacture; for and upon wines (except French wine;) for and upon all wrought silks, bengals, and stuffs, mixed with silk or herbs of the manufacture of Persia, China, or East India, and all callico painted, dyed, printed, or stained there; and for and upon all foreign linen cloth called Cambrick and French Lawns, which shall be imported or brought into any colony or plantation in America, which now is, or hereafter may be, under the dominion of his Majesty, his heirs and successors, the several rates and duties following; that is to say,

For every hundred weight avoirdupois of such foreign white or clayed sugars, one pound two shillings, over and above all other duties imposed by any former act of parliament.

Questions
1. What is the purpose of the Sugar Act?
2. What items are being taxed?
Excerpt from the Stamp Act

WHEREAS by an act made in the last session of parliament, several duties were granted, continued, and appropriated, towards defraying the expences of defending, protecting, and securing, the British colonies and plantations in America: and whereas it is just and necessary, that provision be made for raising a further revenue within your Majesty’s dominions in America, towards defraying the said expences: we, your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the commons of Great Britain in parliament assembled, have therefore resolved to give and grant unto your Majesty the several rates and duties herein after mentioned; and do most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King’s most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the first day of November, one thousand seven hundred and sixty five, there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid unto his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, throughout the colonies and plantations in America which now are, or hereafter may be, under the dominion of his Majesty, his heirs and successors,

For every skin or piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, on which shall be ingrossed, written or printed, any declaration, plea, replication, rejoinder, demurrer, or other pleading, or any copy thereof, in any court of law within the British colonies and plantations in America, a stamp duty of three pence.

Questions:

1. What is the reason for the Stamp Act?
2. When was it enacted?
3. Who is in control of the colonies and plantations in America?
4. What is to be taxed?
Anonymous Account of the Boston Massacre


THE HORRID MASSACRE IN BOSTON, PERPETRATED IN THE EVENING OF THE FIFTH DAY OF MARCH, 1770, BY SOLDIERS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT WHICH WITH THE FOURTEENTH REGIMENT WERE THEN QUARTERED THERE; WITH SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE STATE OF THINGS PRIOR TO THAT CATASTROPHE

It may be a proper introduction to this narrative, briefly to represent the state of things for some time previous to the said Massacre; and this seems necessary in order to the forming a just idea of the causes of it.

At the end of the late [French and Indian] war, in which this province bore so distinguished a part, a happy union subsisted between Great Britain and the colonies. This was unfortunately interrupted by the Stamp Act, but it was in some measure restored by the repeal of it. It was again interrupted by other acts of parliament for taxing America; and by the appointment of a Board of Commissioners, in pursuance of an act, which by the face of it was made for the relief and encouragement of commerce, but which in its operation, it was apprehended, would have, and it has in fact had, a contrary effect. By the said act the said Commissioners were "to be resident in some convenient part of his Majesty's dominions in America." This must be understood to be in some part convenient for the whole. But it does not appear that, in fixing the place of their residence, the convenience of the whole was at all consulted, for Boston, being very far from the centre of the colonies, could not be the place most convenient for the whole. Judging by the act, it may seem this town was intended to be favored, by the Commissioners being appointed to reside here; and that the consequence of that residence would be the relief and encouragement of commerce; but the reverse has been the constant and uniform effect of it; so that the commerce of the town, from the embarrassments in which it has been lately involved, is greatly reduced.

It was not expected, however, that such an outrage and massacre, as happened here on the evening of the fifth instant, would have been perpetrated. There were then killed and wounded, by a discharge of musketry, eleven of his Majesty's subjects, viz.:

- Mr. Samuel Gray, killed on the spot by a ball entering his head.
- Crispus Attucks, a mulatto, killed on the spot, two balls entering his breast.
- Mr. James Caldwell, killed on the spot, by two balls entering his back.
- Mr. Samuel Maverick, a youth of seventeen years of age, mortally wounded; he died the next morning.
- Mr. Patrick Carr mortally wounded; he died the 14th instant.
- Christopher Monk and John Clark, youths about seventeen years of age, dangerously wounded. It is apprehended they will die.
Mr. Edward Payne, merchant, standing at his door; wounded.

Messrs. John Green, Robert Patterson, and David Parker; all dangerously wounded.

The actors in this dreadful tragedy were a party of soldiers commanded by Captain Preston of the 29th regiment. This party, including the Captain, consisted of eight, who are all committed to jail.

There are depositions in this affair which mention, that several guns were fired at the same time from the Custom-house; before which this shocking scene was exhibited. Into this matter inquisition is now making.

Vocabulary

1. anonymous-having an unknown name
2. apprehended-understood
3. commerce-the buying and selling of goods
4. contrary-opposite
5. perpetrated-committed
6. province-a territory governed by a country
7. pursuance-putting into effect
8. repeal-to revoke or take away
9. subsisted-existed

Questions

1. In the beginning of this article, in boldfaced print, what are some of the vivid words that the author uses? Why?
2. What are some complaints the author lists against Great Britain?
3. What was the purpose of the Board of Commissioners?
4. Why do you think they reside (live) in Boston?
5. Tell me about one of the men who were killed.
6. How many soldiers were in the regiment that was involved in the Boston Massacre?
Captain Preston’s Account of the Boston Massacre

It is [a] matter of too great notoriety to need any proofs that the arrival of his Majesty's troops in Boston was extremely obnoxious to its inhabitants. They have ever used all means in their power to weaken the regiments, and to bring them into contempt by promoting and aiding desertions, and with impunity, even where there has been the clearest evidence of the fact, and by grossly and falsely propagating untruths concerning them. On the arrival of the 64th and 65th their ardour seemingly began to abate; it being too expensive to buy off so many, and attempts of that kind rendered too dangerous from the numbers

And has ever since their departure been breaking out with greater violence after their embarkation. One of their justices, most thoroughly acquainted with the people and their intentions, on the trial of a man of the 14th Regiment, openly and publicly in the hearing of great numbers of people and from the seat of justice, declared "that the soldiers must now take care of themselves, nor trust too much to their arms, for they were but a handful; that the inhabitants carried weapons concealed under their clothes, and would destroy them in a moment, if they pleased”. This, considering the malicious temper of the people, was an alarming circumstance to the soldiery. Since which several disputes have happened between the townspeople and the soldiers of both regiments, the former being encouraged thereto by the countenance of even some of the magistrates, and by the protection of all the party against government. In general such disputes have been kept too secret from the officers. On the 2d instant two of the 29th going through one Gray's ropewalk, the rope-makers insultingly asked them if they would empty a vault. This unfortunately had the desired effect by provoking the soldiers, and from words they went to blows. Both parties suffered in this affray, and finally the soldiers retired to their quarters. The officers, on the first knowledge of this transaction, took every precaution in their power to prevent any ill consequence. Notwithstanding which, single quarrels could not be prevented, the inhabitants constantly provoking and abusing the soldiery. The insolence as well as utter hatred of the inhabitants to the troops increased daily, insomuch that Monday and Tuesday, the 5th and 6th instant, were privately agreed on for a general engagement, in consequence of which several of the militia came from the country armed to join their friends, menacing to destroy any who should oppose them. This plan has since been discovered.

On Monday night about 8 o'clock two soldiers were attacked and beat. But the party of the townspeople in order to carry matters to the utmost length, broke into two meeting houses and rang the alarm bells, which I supposed was for fire as usual, but was soon undeceived. About 9 some of the guard came to and informed me the town inhabitants were assembling to attack the troops, and that the bells were ringing as the signal for that purpose and not for fire, and the beacon intended to be fired to bring in the distant people of the country. This, as I was captain of the day, occasioned my repairing immediately to the main guard. In my way there I saw the people in great commotion, and heard them use the most cruel and horrid threats against the troops. In a few minutes after I reached the guard, about 100 people passed it and went towards the custom house where the king's money is lodged. They immediately surrounded the sentry posted there, and with clubs and other weapons threatened to execute their vengeance on him. I was soon
informed by a townsman their intention was to carry off the soldier from his post and probably murder him. On which I desired him to return for further intelligence, and he soon came back and assured me he heard the mob declare they would murder him. This I feared might be a prelude to their plundering the king's chest. I immediately sent a non-commissioned officer and 12 men to protect both the sentry and the king's money, and very soon followed myself to prevent, if possible, all disorder, fearing lest the officer and soldiers, by the insults and provocations of the rioters, should be thrown off their guard and commit some rash act. They soon rushed through the people, and by charging their bayonets in half-circles, kept them at a little distance. Nay, so far was I from intending the death of any person that I suffered the troops to go to the spot where the unhappy affair took place without any loading in their pieces; nor did I ever give orders for loading them. This remiss conduct in me perhaps merits censure; yet it is evidence, resulting from the nature of things, which is the best and surest that can be offered, that my intention was not to act offensively, but the contrary part, and that not without compulsion. The mob still increased and were more outrageous, striking their clubs or bludgeons one against another, and calling out, come on you rascals, you bloody backs, you lobster scoundrels, fire if you dare, God damn you, fire and be damned, we know you dare not, and much more such language was used. At this time I was between the soldiers and the mob, parleying with, and endeavouring all in my power to persuade them to retire peaceably, but to no purpose. They advanced to the points of the bayonets, struck some of them and even the muzzles of the pieces, and seemed to be endeavouring to close with the soldiers. On which some well behaved persons asked me if the guns were charged. I replied yes. They then asked me if I intended to order the men to fire. I answered no, by no means, observing to them that I was advanced before the muzzles of the men's pieces, and must fall a sacrifice if they fired; that the soldiers were upon the half cock and charged bayonets, and my giving the word fire under those circumstances would prove me to be no officer. While I was thus speaking, one of the soldiers having received a severe blow with a stick, stepped a little on one side and instantly fired, on which turning to and asking him why he fired without orders, I was struck with a club on my arm, which for some time deprived me of the use of it, which blow had it been placed on my head, most probably would have destroyed me.

On this a general attack was made on the men by a great number of heavy clubs and snowballs being thrown at them, by which all our lives were in imminent danger, some persons at the same time from behind calling out, damn your bloods-why don't you fire. Instantly three or four of the soldiers fired, one after another, and directly after three more in the same confusion and hurry. The mob then ran away, except three unhappy men who instantly expired, in which number was Mr. Gray at whose rope-walk the prior quarrels took place; one more is since dead, three others are dangerously, and four slightly wounded. The whole of this melancholy affair was transacted in almost 20 minutes. On my asking the soldiers why they fired without orders, they said they heard the word fire and supposed it came from me. This might be the case as many of the mob called out fire, fire, but I assured the men that I gave no such order; that my words were, don't fire, stop your firing. In short, it was scarcely possible for the soldiers to know who said fire, or don't fire, or stop your firing. On the people's assembling again to take away the dead bodies, the soldiers supposing them coming to attack them, were making ready to fire again, which I prevented by striking up their firelocks with my hand. Immediately after a
townsman came and told me that 4 or 5000 people were assembled in the next street, and
had sworn to take my life with every man's with me. On which I judged it unsafe to
remain there any longer, and therefore sent the party and sentry to the main guard, where
the street is narrow and short, there telling them off into street firings, divided and
planted them at each end of the street to secure their rear, momentarily expecting an attack,
as there was a constant cry of the inhabitants to arms, to arms, turn out with your guns;
and the town drums beating to arms, I ordered my drums to beat to arms, and being soon
after joined by the different companies of the 29th regiment, I formed them as the guard
into street firings. The 14th regiment also got under arms but remained at their barracks. I
immediately sent a sergeant with a party to Colonel Dalrymple, the commanding officer,
to acquaint him with every particular. Several officers going to join their regiment were
knocked down by the mob, one very much wounded and his sword taken from him. The
lieutenant-governor and Colonel Carr soon after met at the head of the 29th regiment and
agreed that the regiment should retire to their barracks, and the people to their houses, but
I kept the picket to strengthen the guard. It was with great difficulty that the lieutenant-
governor prevailed on the people to be quiet and retire. At last they all went off,
excepting about a hundred.

Vocabulary

1. abate-lessen
2. ardour-intensity
3. concealed-hidden
4. contempt-dishonor
5. impunity-without punishment
6. insolence-disrespectful in manner and speech
7. notoriety-widely known
8. prelude-an event coming before a more important one
9. propagating-publicizing
10. remiss-careless
11. vault-an outhouse or outdoor toilet

Questions

1. Put the first sentence in your own words.
2. What complaints does Capt. Preston have against the colonists?
3. What does one of the colonial justices say? Is that fair?
4. How would you feel if you were a British soldier?
5. Why did the soldiers and the colonial rope-maker get into a fight?
6. After hearing about this fight, what do the colonists do?
7. Describe the mob assembled around the troops. (Include language, demeanor of the group, and weapons)
8. Why did the soldiers fire?
9. Would you have fired if you were a British soldier? Why or why not?
10. Tell me about Mr. Gray.
11. How are the two accounts different?
The Timeline-Events and Year

1. The Sugar Act-1764-a tax placed on molasses and sugar

2. The Stamp Act-1765-colonists were required to pay for a stamp or seal to be placed on all paper goods they bought. These goods included legal documents, licenses, newspapers, pamphlets and playing cards.

3. The Boston Massacre-1770-an angry mob of colonists taunt British soldiers. Someone fires and then five colonists are shot and killed by British soldiers.

4. The Tea Act-1773-allowed the East India Company to sell tea at a cheaper price directly to the colonists

5. The Boston Tea Party-November, 1773-Sons of Liberty, dressed as Native Americans, dumped the contents of 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor

6. The Intolerable Acts (The Boston Port Act)-1774-England’s punishment of the colony of Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party. One of the punishments was to close the Boston Harbor.

7. The Battle of Lexington and Concord-1775-the first shots of the American Revolutionary War were fired in this battle

Questions on the Timeline

1. Why did Parliament pass the Stamp Act?

2. What outrages the colonists about the taxes?

3. List 3 reactions by the colonists.

4. By the day the Stamp Act was supposed to go into effect, what had happened? Why?

5. What happened in 1766? Name 2 events.

6. When did the Boston Tea Party occur?

7. Name 2 important events that occurred in April, 1775.
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<th>Good</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Inadequate</th>
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<td>Use of primary Sources (3 photos)</td>
<td>3 relevant Photos are used</td>
<td>2 relevant Photos are used</td>
<td>1 relevant photo is used</td>
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<tr>
<td>Editorials convey the patriot’s and the loyalist’s position and include events to prove his/her viewpoint</td>
<td>Clearly and thoroughly conveys how a loyalist and a patriot felt and includes evidence from 4 events</td>
<td>For the most part, conveys what the patriot and loyalist felt and includes evidence from 3 events</td>
<td>Uses evidence from 2 events and somewhat conveys what the patriot and loyalist felt</td>
<td>Uses evidence from one or no event and shows no understanding of the meaning of loyalist or patriot</td>
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<td>Credible title for the newspaper</td>
<td>An intriguing title that includes the name of a colony or some aspect of colonial life</td>
<td>A somewhat interesting title that includes some aspect of colonial life</td>
<td>A not so interesting title that includes some aspect of colonial life</td>
<td>A boring title that includes nothing about colonial life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Well organized. Attractive newspaper</td>
<td>Each article has a headline and the articles and pictures are spaced neatly on the page</td>
<td>5 of the articles have a headline and there is some effort in spacing the articles and pictures neatly</td>
<td>4 of the articles have a headline and there is less effort in displaying the articles and pictures</td>
<td>3 or less articles have headlines and there is no effort shown in placing the pictures and photos appropriately</td>
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