

The Sugar Act, 1764

WHEREAS it ... 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 ... 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 ... grant unto your Majesty the several rates and duties herein after-mentioned; and do most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted ... 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 ... for and upon indigo, and coffee of foreign produce or manufacture; for and upon wines (except French wine;) for and upon all wrought silks, and stuffs ... 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 ...

And, for the better preventing frauds in the importation of foreign sugars, rum and spirits, molasses and syrups, into any of his Majesty's dominions ... it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That ... every person or persons loading on board any ship or vessel, in any of the British colonies or plantations in America, any rum or spirits, sugars, molasses or syrups, as of the growth, product, or manufacture, of any British colony or plantation, shall, before the clearing out of the said ship or vessel, produce and deliver to the collector or other principal officer of the customs at the loading port, an affidavit signed and sworn to before some justice of the peace in the said British colonies or plantation ... expressing, in words at length and not in figure, the quality of the goods so shipped, with the number and denomination of the packages, and describing the name or names of the plantation or plantations, and the name of the colony where the same grew or were produced and manufactured ...

Adapted from ahp.gatech.edu/sugar_act_bp_1764.html



The Stamp Act, 1765



An act for granting and applying certain stamp duties, and other duties, in the British colonies and plantations in America, towards further defraying the expences of defending, protecting, and securing the same; and ... as direct the manner of determining and recovering the penalties and forfeitures therein mentioned.

WHEREAS by an act made in the last session of parliament, several duties were granted ... towards defraying the expences of defending, protecting, and securing, the British colonies and plantations in America ... 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 mentioned; and do most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's most excellent majesty ... 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 ... (anything!).
- And for and upon every pack of playing cards, and all dice, which shall be sold or used within the said colonies and plantations...
- And for and upon every paper, commonly called a pamphlet, and upon every news paper, containing publick news, intelligence, or occurrences, which shall be printed, dispersed, and made publick, within any of the said colonies and plantations, and for and upon such advertisements as are herein ...
- For every almanack or calendar ... which shall be written or printed on skin, or piece of paper parchment, or vellum, within the said colonies and plantations ...
- And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every deed, instrument, note, memorandum, letter, or other instrument or writing, for ... (any purpose!)

NOTE: This Act is very long, providing great detail about what items are to be taxed, how much tax (the cost of the stamp to be placed on the item) is to be charged, and the fines for failure to pay the tax or for counterfeiting the stamps.

Adapted from ahp.gatech.edu/stamp_act_bp_1765.html



The Townsend Act, 1767



WHEREAS it is that a revenue should be raised in your Majesty's dominions in America, for ... defraying the charge of the administration of justice, and the support of civil government, in such provinces ... 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, ... in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the twentieth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid, unto his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, for and upon the respective goods herein after mentioned, which shall be imported from Great Britain into any colony or plantation in America which now is, or hereafter may be, under the dominion of his Majesty, his heirs, or successors, the several rates and duties following;

- For every hundred weight of crown, plate, flint, and white glass ... green glass ... red lead ... white lead ... painters colors ...
- For every pound weight of tea ...
- For every ream of paper ... (of any kind)
- And for and upon all paper which shall be printed, painted, or stained, in Great Britain, to serve for hangings or other uses ...
- For and upon all silks so printed, stained, or painted, in Great Britain ...

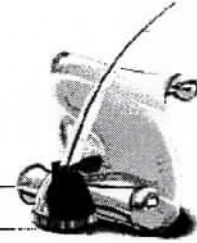
And it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the rates and duties, charged by this act upon goods imported into any British American colony or plantation, shall be deemed, and are hereby declared to be, sterling money of Great Britain; and shall be collected, recovered, and paid to the amount of the value ... in Great Britain; ...

...it is lawful for any officer of his Majesty's customs, authorized by writ of assistance under the seal of his majesty's court ... to enter and go into any house, shop, cellar, warehouse, or room or other place, and, in case of resistance, to break open doors, chests, trunks, and other package there, to seize, and from thence to bring, any kinds of goods or merchandize whatsoever prohibited or uncustomed, and to put and secure the same in his Majesty's store-house next to the place where such seizure shall be made ...

NOTE: *This Act is very long, providing great detail about what items are to be taxed, how much tax is to be charged, and how to be sure taxes ARE collected.*

Adapted from ahp.gatech.edu/townshend_act_1767.html

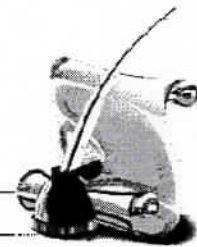
Intolerable Act



The Act / Year - _____
Summary of the Act: _____

Why might it have angered the colonists? _____

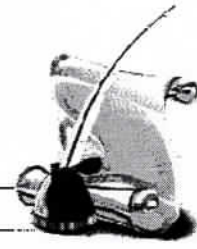
Intolerable Act



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