

A dark wood desk with a blue pen and a glass. The pen is blue with gold accents, lying diagonally in the bottom left. A glass is partially visible in the top right corner. The text is centered on the desk surface.

A Series of Unfortunate Events Part 2

1763 to 1775

The Grenville Commission

- Lord Grenville is in charge of Britain's treasury in 1763. He is looking for revenue (income-money) to put in the very *empty treasury* caused from the F&I War. He also needs \$ for the defense of the colonies.
- Grenville studies the taxes collected and *sees a problem*. It costs Britain 8£ for every 2£ collected from the colonies. That doesn't seem fair to him.
- British citizens paid very high taxes during the war and Grenville promised to lower them when it was over- he doesn't and they **ARE NOT HAPPY!**

Meanwhile in the Colonies...

- American merchants have EVADED British trade laws & tariffs (Navigation Acts of 1690) for the past 70 years while becoming a world trading partner.
- Colonists like John Hancock have made fortunes from smuggling and trading with other countries.
- Britain has been fighting wars with France and ignored the colonies. (maybe a bit too much?)
- **Salutary Neglect** - an unwritten policy that meant “leave the colonies alone” and don’t enforce the trade laws. This policy allowed the colonies to grow rich by trading with the world on their own.

Sugar Act Repealed-1765

- Parliament takes back the Sugar Act but sends a declaration to the colonies that says they have the right to impose other taxes in the future.



1765-Stamp Act

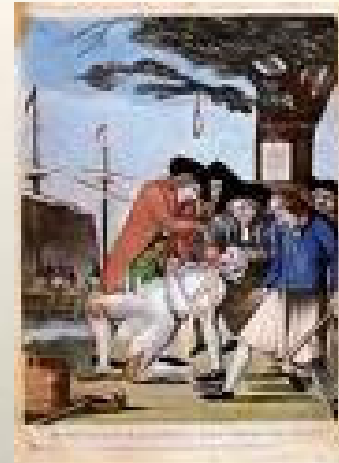
- Parliament taxes all newspapers, pamphlets, and legal documents
- Colonists explode in anger at being directly taxed. They form the Sons of Liberty to band together against TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION!
- Many tax collectors are tarred and feathered. Britain sends British officials to take over these jobs from the colonists.

1766-Stamp Act Repealed

- Parliament takes back the Stamp Act. After all the fuss of the colonists, Parliament and King George III decide that they will find another way to make the colonists behave.
- Committees of Safety and Committees of Correspondence are formed by colonists to share information between the colonies.

1767- The Townshend Acts

- Champagne Charlie Townshend, the new Prime Minister, puppet of King George passes the acts that tax tea, lead, glass, paint, and paper.





1767-1770 The Colonists' Response

- Enraged, the colonists **BOYCOTT** all English goods. Messages are sent through Post riders for the **Committees of Correspondence** to all colonies.
- The colonists are now torn between their loyalty to England and their individual rights.
- Those that stayed loyal to England were Loyalists, Tories or Englishmen.
- Those who wanted their individual rights and thought of themselves as Americans were called Rebels, Colonists, or Patriots. Some Tories called them traitors.

1770-Townshend Acts Repealed except for Tea Tax

- British merchants lost business from 1767 to 1770. They lobby Parliament to repeal this taxing as well.
- King George wants to punish the Americans like bad children for not behaving. He takes back all taxes EXCEPT TEA!
- He sends extra troops to Boston where most of the unrest is happening. King George believes that if he quiets Boston, the other colonies will learn.

1770- Colonists' Response

Boston Massacre

- Colonists still can't believe that the King and parliament do not want to listen to them so...
- Frustration and anger from colonists erupts into violence on March 5th on the streets of Boston in front of the Customs House.
- Five people are killed in the street after an altercation with British soldiers. (Crispus Attucks Framingham)
- Other colonies, especially Virginia start to worry that the same treatment from the King could happen to them



1770-1773 After the Boston Massacre Calming Period



- John Adams agrees to be the lawyer to defend Capt. Preston and the British soldiers.
- He does this to show the English that Americans are not uncivilized mobs, but sophisticated British citizens.
- He also wants to calm the masses of people so that the cause for freedom and liberty remain organized and foremost in the colonists' minds.

1773- Boston Tea Party

- Organized by the Sons of Liberty, 90,000 pounds of tea is dumped into Boston Harbor on the night of December 16th.
- Men and boys disguise themselves as Mohawk Indians to protect themselves from being arrested by the British.



1773-King George's Response

- King George is furious and determined to get the colonists to behave. He sends more troops to Boston and closes the port of Boston.



- No food or supplies were to come from England. The king meant to get the colonists to give in to the taxes.



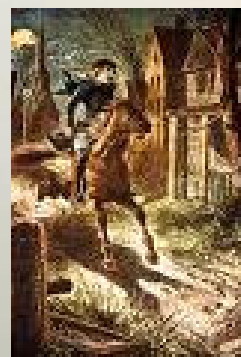
1774 – The Colonies Answer the King

- There are many “tea parties” in the rest of the colonies...Chester Town, MD, Edenton, NC, Charleston, SC.
- The other colonies send supplies to Boston because they are afraid that if the king can do this to them, each colony is in danger as well.
- More and more men join local militias and begin to train to defend themselves.
- The First Continental Congress is called in Philadelphia, PA. so that all the colonies can discuss what to do. John Hancock is its president.

1775- April 19, 1775

“The Shot Heard ‘round the World!”

- British soldiers hear that the Sons of Liberty have a store of ammunition in Concord (guns and gunpowder).
- Paul Revere leaves Boston to warn Hancock and Adams the Redcoats are coming for them, & the weapons.



War Begins!

- Stay tuned for more information...



Artistic etching by Amos Dolittle