

THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

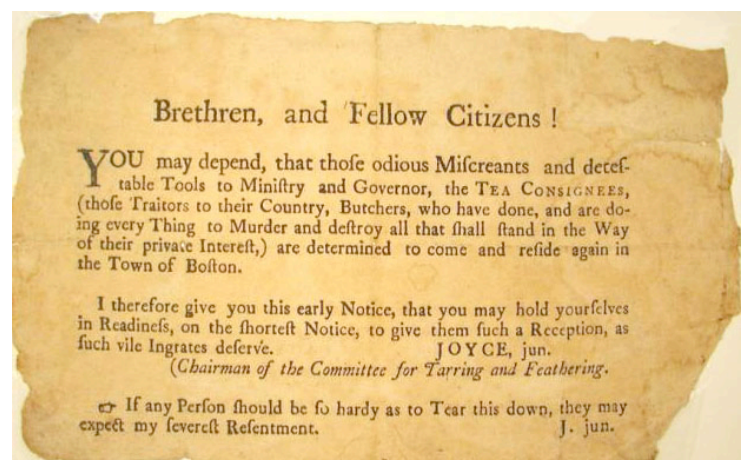
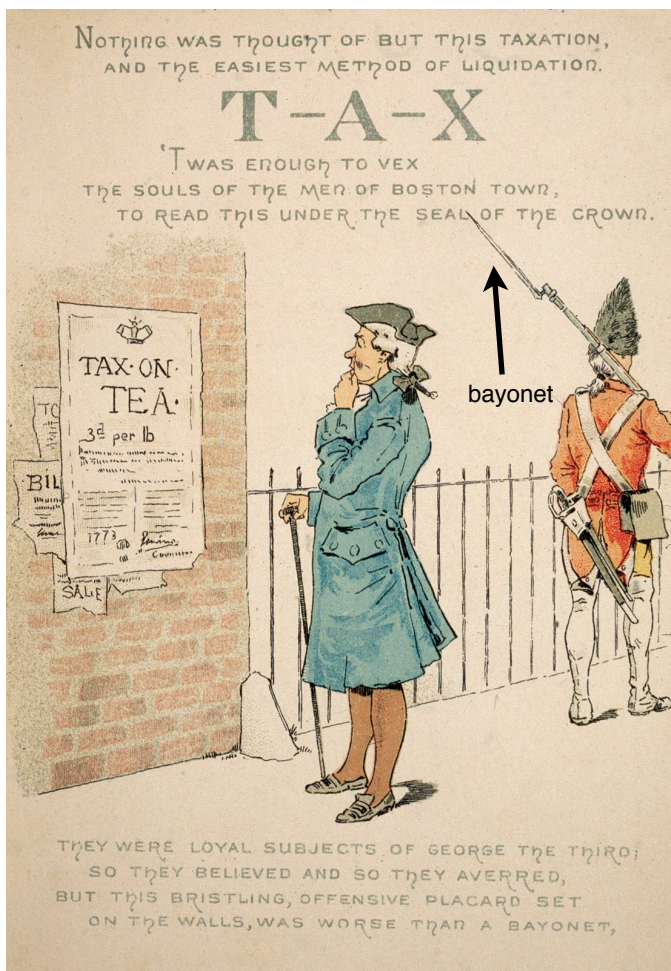
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In 1773 the British told the British East India Company it could send tea to America without paying the taxes. All other tea traders still had to pay a tax. The Americans refused to buy any tea and refused to unload the tea from the British ships in the American ports.

About 50 men from the American revolutionaries dressed as Mohawk Indians. They boarded a tea ship in the Boston Harbor. These men then threw 342 chests tea valued at \$75,000 into the water. One of these men was Paul Revere. This event became known as the Boston Tea Party. Many people say this was the most important event that led to the start of the war between the colonies and the British.

The Americans viewed the Boston Tea Party as a victory for liberty, and a symbolic demonstration against British oppression.

The British viewed the colonists who participated in the Tea Party as petty criminals, who should be punished according to the law.



This notice from the "Chairman of the Committee for [Tarring and Feathering](#) (pouring hot tar over someone and then covering them in feathers)" in Boston calls all those who participated in the Boston Tea Party "traitors to their country".



T-A-X
'Twas enough to vex
The souls of the men of Boston town,
To read this under the seal of the crown.
They were loyal subjects of George the Third
So they believed and so they averred
But this bristling defensive placard set
On the walls, was worse than a bayonet. (sword
attached to the end of a gun)