

The Road to Revolution

part 2



Sons of Liberty

secret groups in each of the colonies
formed to protest the British
often used violence



Committees of Correspondence

letter-writing groups in each of the colonies
letters told other colonies what the British
were doing in their colony

Boston Tea Party

December 16, 1773

the British government gave the East India Company a **monopoly** on all tea sold to the colonies

(they were the only ones who sold them tea - no competition!)



price increase + tax (Townsend Acts) = angry colonists



Samuel Adams and other Sons of Liberty
dressed up like Indians
boarded British ships in Boston Harbor
dumped all the tea into the water

Boston Tea Party

Coercive / Intolerable Acts

1774

coerce:
try to get someone to do something



intolerable:
something is so bad you can't stand (tolerate) it

to punish the colonists for the Boston Tea Party,
Parliament (the British government) did the following:

closed the port of Boston until the tea was paid for

banned most town meetings

required Bostonians to continue to
quarter British troops in their private homes

First Continental Congress

September of 1774



55 delegates met in Philadelphia

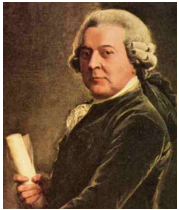
wrote the **Declaration and Resolves**

listed why the colonies were mad

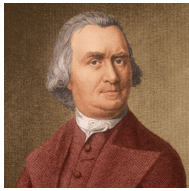
created the **The Association**

a group that organized

boycotts
of British goods



John Adams



Samuel Adams



George Washington



Carpenter's Hall,
Philadelphia

Quebec Act

1774

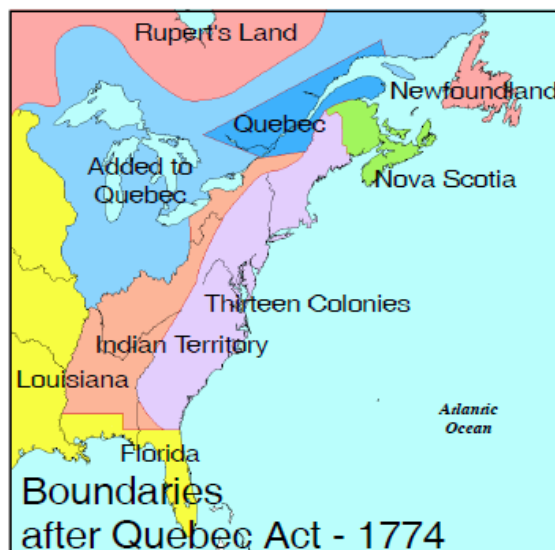
British Act that did the following:

extended the border of Quebec south to the Ohio River

allowed French Canadians to use the legal system they were used to (didn't make them change to the British system)

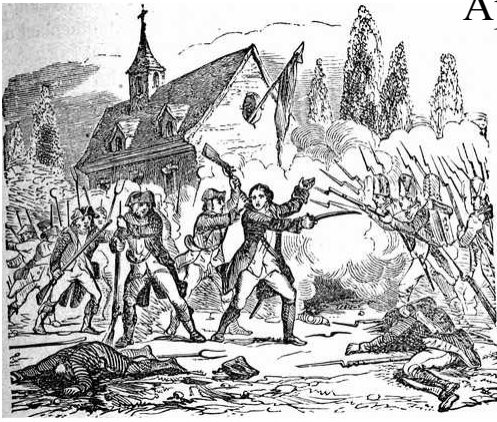
allowed them freedom of religion (they were Catholic)

colonists feared (wrongly) that they would be made to use the same law and religion as in Quebec



Lexington and Concord

April 19, 1775



Massachusetts colonists were collecting weapons in Concord

British General Thomas Gage sent Redcoats to take the weapons away from the colonists

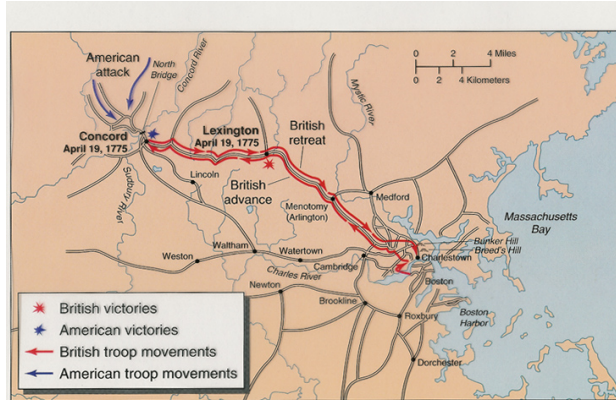
Redcoats met Minutemen in Lexington

a Minuteman (mistakenly) fired a shot

British troops returned fire

British killed eight and 10 wounded

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote that it was "the shot heard 'round the world"



Lexington and Concord

Battle of Bunker / "Breed's" Hill

June, 1775

Bunker and Breed's Hills are both just outside Boston



colonial troops marched up Breed's Hill
were surrounded by British
held their ground until they ran out of ammunition
lost the hill but killed many British soldiers



Colonists
(Minutemen)
115 killed
305 wounded
30 captured
Total: 450

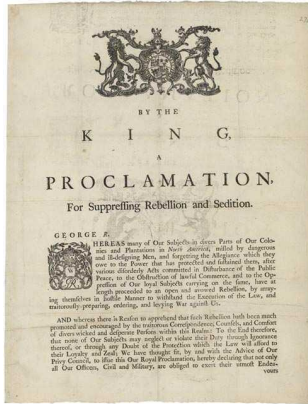
British
(Redcoats)
226 killed
828 wounded
0 captured
Total: 1,054



Second Continental Congress

May of 1775 – July 1781

created:



Olive Branch Petition

July, 1775

asked King George III

to stop the fighting

until an agreement could be worked out
the king ignored it

The Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms

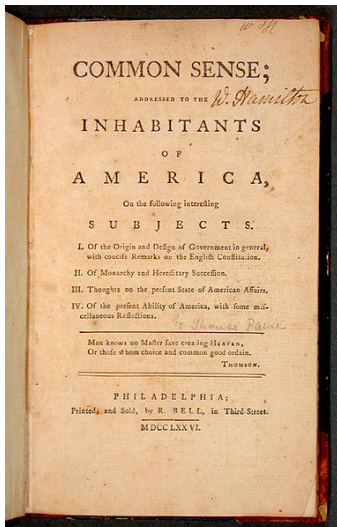
also July, 1775

explained why the colonies
had started fighting
while insisting that
they did not want independence



Common Sense

by Thomas Paine



Thomas Paine statue in his home town
of Thetford, Norfolk (England)

pamphlet written in January, 1776

listed reasons to separate from Britain
written with wording that everyone could understand

had the largest sale and circulation of any book published in American history at that point