

Chapter 5 Terms

The French and Indian War:

The French and Indian War, also known in Europe as the Seven Years' War, took place in the mid-1700s. The war was mainly fought (in the colonies) between the American colonists, French-Canadian colonists, and their native allies (Britain and France fought each other in Europe). The French, hoping to gain more land and more opportunity, attempted to take control of the Ohio Valley and Western Pennsylvania. They wanted this land because they believed it to be theirs in the first place (both France and England claimed the land belonged to them). The French started building forts, prompting the colonists to send George Washington to talk to the French and natives. This confrontation went badly and started the French and Indian War. General Braddock was sent to the French fort of Fort Duquense, but they were ambushed and many were killed. William Pitt got more Americans involved by promising to pay for the war. Under the leadership of James Wolfe, Montreal and Quebec were taken by the British. The war ended with the Treaty of Paris, with the British and Spanish gaining parts of France's North American claims. The war was important because the English and Americans had a new series of patriotism and felt connected. Despite these new feelings of loyalty, the English imposed taxes on the colonies, marking the end of salutary neglect and leading to conflicts.

The Stamp Act Congress:

The Stamp Act Congress met in New York in the mid-1700s after the Stamp Act was imposed. Representatives came to New York from nine colonies. The Stamp Act Congress met because they wanted to discuss the Stamp Act, which had outraged many colonists. The Stamp Act was an internal tax that was placed on all paper products by the prime minister, George Grenville. The members of the Stamp Act Congress agreed that external taxes that did not directly affect colonists could be imposed by Parliament, but internal taxes such as the Stamp Act could not be passed by Parliament. They determined that local officials should be in charge of directly taxing the colonists. William Pitt, a member of Parliament, agreed with the colonies and objected to the tax as well. The Stamp Act Congress is important because it was the first Congress that brought members from multiple colonies together to discuss problems. It signified an attempt by the colonies to unite, and it was the first successful cooperation. It also led to the first boycotts.

Virtual Representation:

In the mid-1700s, after the Stamp Act was imposed, representatives came to New York from nine colonies to discuss the new tax. Overall, the colonists thought Parliament couldn't impose the Stamp Act because they weren't represented in Parliament. George Grenville defended the act by claiming that Parliament represented everyone from the entire British Empire. This "virtual representation" was one of the major complaints of the colonies. Virtual representation is important because it showed the British attitude towards the colonists and made the colonists feel as though they were second-class citizens.

Committees of Correspondence:

Committees of Correspondence were formed all around the American colonies by colonial legislatures. Originally forming in Boston in the mid-1700s, these committees formed so that important legislatures and individuals could communicate throughout the colonies. Providing education and communication to the Patriots, some being notable Sons of Liberty members, meant that a pro-Patriot and anti-Regular message was spread. Because of this, the issue of British injustices in the colonies did not fade and propaganda circulated through the colonies. The committees were important because they united the colonies, provided a means for communication and education, and spread a pro-Patriot message.

Intolerable Acts:

The Intolerable Acts consisted of the Coercive Acts and the Quebec Act. These acts were passed by Parliament in the mid-late 1700s. The Coercive Acts affected all of the colonies, but mainly Massachusetts due to the colony's rebellious nature. Essentially, Massachusetts was being punished for the Boston Tea Party. The Coercive Acts closed Boston Harbor, revoked the Massachusetts charter, and expanded on the Quartering Act. The new Quartering Act allowed soldiers to be housed in empty private buildings. The Quebec Act gave land that Americans hoped to inhabit to Quebec. Furthermore, the official religion of Quebec became Catholicism and let some small debates be decided by French-style courts. This made colonists feel threatened. These acts are important because the colonies became unified and this led to the First Continental Congress.

Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*:

Common Sense was written in the late 1700s by Thomas Paine. It challenged the authority of British rule, stating that America didn't need the help of Britain economically. *Common Sense* became popular among colonists all over America. The publication made many people realize that the king himself was to blame for the taxes, not just corrupt politicians. Paine's *Common Sense* is important because it led to a feeling that the king was not needed and also led to the creation of the Declaration of Independence.