

Rolling Toward Revolution.... January 1773



In London:

- ◆ *The East India Tea Company was looking at a sagging bottom line. The Colonists' use of smuggled tea was cutting into their profits, plus they had a backlog to ship.*
- ◆ *Benjamin Franklin decided to send his copies of Governor Hutchinson's inflammatory and prejudicial letters to the Prime Minister back to the Colonies. They proved that the Massachusetts's governor had encouraged punitive measures against Boston, unwelcome confirmation to New Englanders and fodder for the Sons of Liberty in Boston...*

In Boston:

- ◆ *John Adams and his family would spend Christmas in their new home on Queens Street, Abigail and the children having moved back from the Braintree farm in the fall. He would see them regularly now, although he often worked in his office from daybreak until late night. -- His practice had grown so busy and politics remained tense.*

In the Raritan Valley:

- ◆ *The new year saw no remarkable event. Abraham Bertron set up tavern-keeping in Branchburg. Dr. Cornelius Van Doren continued one of the county's first and few medical practices at Millstone, the county seat, begun some twenty years earlier. John Dumont began his four-year term as "Freeholder", meaning that he owned his property outright and therefore, had a vote and could serve as an elected county official. Twelfth Night saw more than a few weddings. Babies were born. The dead were buried in family plots or in the graveyard of the Reformed Church near Van Veghten's Bridge over the Raritan in Bridgewater.*

Sources:

John Adams. Accessed online Dec. 2022: <https://www.biography.com/us-president/john-adams>

Benjamin Franklin: A Quick Biography. Accessed online Dec. 2022. <https://www.ushistory.org/franklin/info/index.htm>

Snell, J. P. (1881) History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties. Philadelphia: Lippincott.