

Rolling Toward Revolution... November 2024



British Royal Coat of Arms 1771

In London: In a letter dated November 18th, King George III wrote to his friend and head of Parliament, Lord North, regarding the political situation in the colonies, “Blows must decide”. The October petition from the Continental Congress had not yet arrived in Britain, but HRH’s mind was made up.

In Philadelphia: As the delegates traveled home from the first Continental Congress and the colonies awaited an official response to their petition, plans were laid by those who thought reconciliation unlikely. Militias began to be organized across New England and in Virginia. On the 17th, a group of professional men, shipowners, and importers/traders met in Carpenter Hall to organize The Light Horse City Cavalry Troop. They agreed to equip and train at their own expense and to offer to serve the Continental Congress. They continue today as the First Troop City Cavalry of Philadelphia <https://firsttroop.com/>. John Wallace, who did not join this group, was an older textile merchant of Philadelphia and long-serving member of the City Council. He saw only uncertainty ahead. His oldest son, Joshua, was prospering in Burlington. Perhaps he would look to New Jersey should the situation in Philadelphia become untenable...

In Somerset and Hunterdon Counties, New Jersey: Militias began to organize in locally and plans were for organized Committees of Safety and Inspection to enforce the proposed boycott of British goods should it need to go into effect in December.

In the Raritan Valley: Peter Dumont was just finishing his first year as Sheriff and Jacobus Ten Eyck was completing his stint as county tax collector. County funds were paid out for rebuilding a bridge at Burnt Mills in Lamington and the Van Veghten bridge was refurbished with new stone peers and timbers. Abraham Van Neste also received funds for planks laid across his bridge along the main highway.

Source

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Gerlach, L. R. (1976). *Prologue to Independence.* New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Today in American History --On this day <https://www.onthisday.com/today/american-history.php>

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