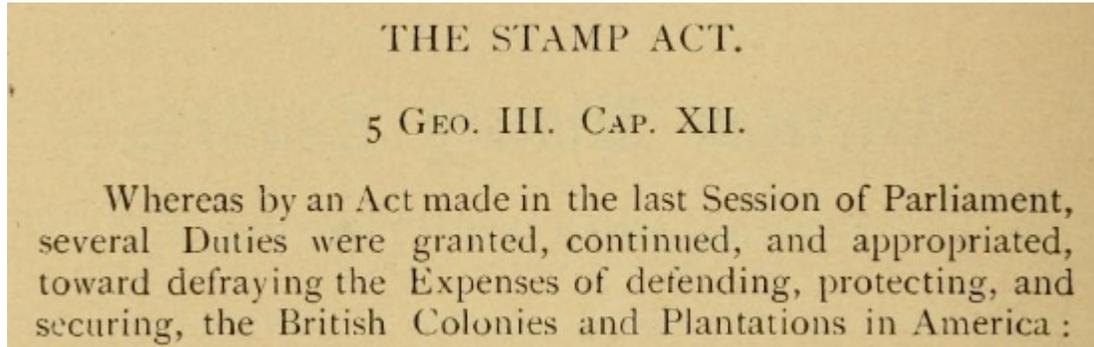


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Road to Revolution Cause #5 - The Tax Acts - Primary Sources - Excerpts from The Stamp Act and a Defense of Parliament taxing the Colonies - Complete

<https://dp.la/primary-source-sets/road-to-revolution-1763-1776/sources/6>

Excerpt from the Stamp Act - The Introduction



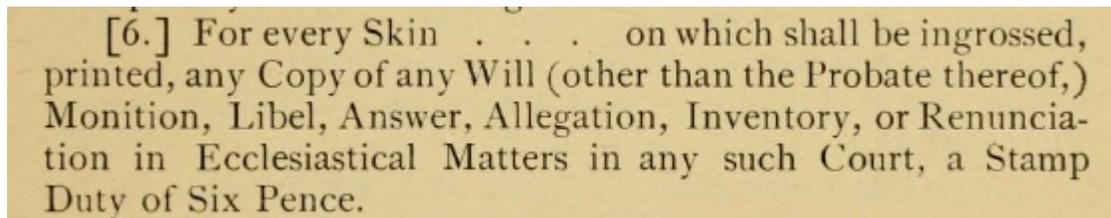
Who passed the Stamp Act?

- "Parliament"

What does the introduction from the Stamp Act say the money is for?

- "Defraying the expenses of defending, protecting, and securing the colonies"
 - paying for the defense of the colonies

Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clause 6



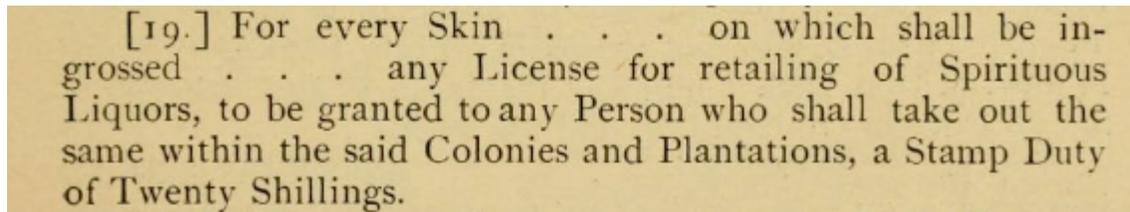
What type of document is being taxed?

- A will - the document a person makes to state how they want their money and goods distributed after their death

How much is the tax?

- 6 pence

Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clause 19



What type of document is being taxed?

- "License for retailing of Spirituous Liquors"
 - A license to sell alcohol

How much is the tax?

- 20 shillings

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Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clause 30

[30.] For every Skin on which shall be ingrossed any Original Grant, or any Deed, Mesne Conveyance, or other Instrument whatsoever, by which any Quantity of Land, not exceeding One hundred Acres, shall be granted, conveyed, or assigned, within the British Colonies and Plantations upon the Continent of America, the Islands belonging thereto, and the Bermuda and Bahama islands (except Leases for any Term not exceeding the Term of Twenty one Years) a Stamp Duty of One Shilling and Six Pence.

What type of document is being taxed?

- A deed for land under a hundred acres

How much is the tax?

- 1 shilling and 6 pence

Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clause 38

[38.] For every Skin . . . on which shall be ingrossed . . . any Indenture, Lease, Conveyance, Contract, Stipulation, Bill of Sale, Charter Party, Protest, Articles of Apprenticeship or Covenant (except for the Hire of Servants not Apprentices, and also except such other Matters as herein before charged), within the *British* Colonies and Plantations in *America*, a Stamp Duty of Two Shillings and Six Pence.

What type of document is being taxed?

- An Indenture
 - The contract between an indentured servant and his or her master

How much is the tax?

- 2 shillings and 6 pence

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Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clauses 43, 44, and 45

[43.] And for and upon every Pack of Playing Cards, and all Dice, which shall be sold or used within the said Colonies and Plantations, the several Stamp Duties following (that is to say:)

[44.] For every Pack of such Cards the sum of One Shilling.

[45.] And for every Pair of such Dice, the sum of Ten Shillings.

What type of documents are being taxed?

- Playing cards
- Dice

How much is the tax?

- Playing cards - 1 shilling
- Dice - 10 shillings

Excerpt from the Stamp Act - Clauses 46, 47, and 50

[46.] And for and upon every Paper called a *Pamphlet*, and upon every News Paper, containing public News, Intelligence, or Occurrences, which shall be printed, dispersed, and made public, within any of the said Colonies and Plantations, and for and upon such advertisements as are herein after mentioned, the respective Duties following (that is to say):

[47.] For every such Pamphlet and Paper contained in Half a Sheet, or any lesser Piece of Paper, which shall be so printed, a Stamp Duty of One Half-penny for every printed Copy thereof.

[50.] For every advertisement to be contained in any Gazette, News Paper, or other Paper, or any Pamphlet which shall be so printed, a Duty of Two Shillings.

What type of documents are being taxed?

- Newspapers
- Advertisements

How much is the tax?

- Newspapers - 1 half-penny
- Advertisements - 2 shillings

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**Excerpt from pages 6 and 7 of pamphlet entitled
“A Vindication of the Authority of Parliament”, London 1766**

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While the colonies were under any apprehensions from the encroachments of the French and Indians, they sub-

[7]

mitted to the British legislature without reluctance; because they were sensible of their inability to defend themselves, and of the necessity of taking shelter under the wings of their mother. But no sooner were the French kites and Indian vultures scared away, than they began to strut and to claim an independent property to the dunghil. Their fear and their natural affection forsook them at one and the same time. They now boast

that they owe their present happy state to no power on earth but themselves; that they worked out their own salvation by their own right arm: forgetting that, had we not conquered at Louisbourg, at Quebec, and many other places; had we not constantly protected and defended them, the French and Indians would have long ago reduced them to the situation of the ancient Britons, and we should ere

How does the author describe the colonists before the French and Indian War?

- Submitted to the British legislature without reluctance
- Sensible of their inability to defend themselves
- “took shelter under the wings of their mother”

How does the author describe the colonists after the French and Indian War?

- Began to strut
- Claim independent
- Fear and natural affection left at the same time
- Boast that they owe “their present happy state to to no power on earth but themselves”

Do you think this author Parliament has a right to tax the colonies to help pay for the costs of the war?

- Yes