

Severing the Ties of Empire

1759 the French and Indian War, the last war in the Great War for Empire, England staged a 2 prong attack on Quebec. British took New France, Canada. And George Washington, after a series of embarrassing military defeats, captured Fort Duquesne (map). They renamed it Fort Pitt and Pittsburg, after William Pitt. , Earl of Chatham; he led England during the French and Indian War.

1758-59, one British Victory after another. Crown Point, Lake Champlain. In July of 1759 Montreal.

By 1760 all of French America is in the hands of the British. The French frontier is ended.

George the 3rd, the first British born, English speaking King in 3 generations of Hanoverian rule. In England. Because he ascended to the throne at the time of victory he was enormously popular. Britons celebrated him from London to Charleston.

He took the throne as the most popular monarch since William the 3rd.

He was most popular in America. He epitomized a new age of victory and freedom.

Britain was also victorious around the world.

1761 the last French outpost in India fell

1763 bankrupt France sued for peace.

This completed the victory for Great Britain.

Britain got everything and gave back nothing (new type of war. First time in 100s of years complete victory)

Because William Pitt waged a new kind of war where the victor leaves the enemy unable to threaten you again.

Treaty of Paris in 1763. France gave Britain all of what it had been New France, west Florida, islands in the West Indies, the North American coasts, Gibraltar, parts of India.

I want to **revisit Mercantilism; it is vital to understanding the cause of the Revolution.** Adam Smith addressed this economic system in 1776 in his Wealth of Nations, claiming mercantilism led to economic poverty.

Adam Smith advocated supply and demand without government interference, known as free trade. (which is the core of capitalism). He argued free trade should rely on comparative advantage in the world and unequal distribution of resources talent, opportunity. Certain countries and areas should produce what they do best in surplus and trade for what they needed instead of producing everything

they needed. Argued this benefited both sides. It equaled the greatest good for the greatest #. He wanted no restriction on trade, claiming this created wealth. For example, if American cannot make efficient autos let the Japanese.

Mercantilism aims to freeze out everyone but one's own people, creating national monopolies. France and England both had national monopolies within the empire. Colbert the French Minister credited with created mercantilism. But the English perfected mercantilism. Mercantilism says can't add to wealth of the world, there is only a certain amount to divide, fixed pie theory, there is a finite wealth. Adam Smith say free trade creates an infinite wealth. Key to the wealth of national markets is to keep opponents out so merchants have no competition. We discussed this type of trade in reference to the Navigation and Staple acts last week.

Mercantilism encompassed three major goals:

1. To accumulate precious metals, bullionism
2. Protect home merchants against foreign competition
3. Make it possible for merchants to compete in foreign markets by ensuring raw materials from colonies.

Mercantilism leads to the Great War for Empire because trying to get as much land and markets as possible. Victory in the Great War leads to the end of mercantilism

After the British victory, their empire doubled. This posed a burden, rather than a blessing.

British Americans associated victory with the ascension of George 3rd to the throne. By 18th century Great Britain had a new dynasty from Hanover. They were German Kings. George I spoke no English. George 2 spoke English with an accent. George III unlike his father and grandfather; he really wanted to rule whereas George 1 and 2 let Sir Robert Walpole, England's defacto Prime Minister, and others rule.

George 3 was a handsome king. He went to work every day, even involved himself in the small military details. He inherited a rivalry with France in the middle of the Great War for Empire. His policies and his stubborn inability to admit he was wrong led to the American Revolution. American Revolution was not just a product of British blunders. America evolved into a different society.

As I said, America associated victory with the ascent of George the 3rd.

For the King's birthday in 1762 the people of Boston taxed themselves to erect a bronze statue of George 3 on a horse in Boston square. By 1774 they melt it down to make bullets?

What happened between American and George the 3rd?

**** NO ONE EXPECTED REBELLION/REVOLUTION*****

This was an unexampled victory for England because wars in the 18th century were not fought for unconditional surrender. This caused problems in the treaty.

1. World war, Europe, north Africa, India, Caribbean
2. War engulfed most of Europe, France, Spain, Prussian states, England, German states, Italian states
3. Unbelievable power victor of one over another
4. Involves large # of people especially, in North America, involved people who were not combatants; the victims exceed professional soldiers. Both sides committed war crimes.

Treaty of Paris 1763

Ended War

Set state for the American Revolution, it lit the long fuse.

Provisions would carry right through tot the 20th century for borders etc in North America

French ceded all of New France to England

All of interior of New France, all of the French stay. Lawrence valley, great lakes and tributaries (map)
Nova Scotia Arcadia

16000 French citizens living in Cape Breton Island and all islands in St. Lawrence

All of the territory east of Mississippi is now British, all eastern banks to eastern side of Appalachian all British.

Part of mobile Alabama now British

French do keep New Orleans.

Great Britain returned to France Martinique, West Indies and Guadalupe she had taken during the war very valuable because of sugar

French to Great Britain.

St. Vincent, Dominica, Tobago

Unresolved in Europe.

French had occupied during the war Hanoverian state. Could move anywhere on continent because of their army

France and Britain had colonies in India. Britain had taken Pondicherry, but Britain agreed to *status quo ante bellum*, everything back to way it was in India before the war.

During the war Spain came in on the side of France because united through marriage. British navy began to attack Spain everywhere, Philippines to Cuba.

Havana and Philippines fell to Britain. Britain gave Cuba back because too much work to keep them subdued.

7. Britain agrees to demolish fortification along Honduran coast but kept rights to the forest (mahogany, etc)

8. Louisiana Territory, all land east bank of Mississippi to rocky mountains claimed by France as right of first discovery named after King Louis but to get Spain into war the French made secret treaty, Treaty of Fontainebleau, gave Louisiana to Spanish to get Spain to agree to peace. Britain ok's Spanish possession of Louisiana because Britain almost bankrupt.

Later secret treaty of Napoleonic wars when Spain gave Louisiana back to the French. Napoleon had a fantasy of making Louisiana a great empire, but when Napoleon invaded Russia he spent too much \$ so sold it to America for \$. No one asked the Indians.

With end of war in 1763 the traditional enemies of Britain, the French are gone,

Land to the west is open to American settlers.

Governors had already started selling land that they didn't win.

Already large # of settlers to the west as a result-

Lots of Native Americans live there, so lots of problems.

This is a headache to Great Britain, during the Great War For Empire (GWFE), Britain made lots of promises to Indians in order to get their help during the war.

To whom will Britain keep their promises?

And on top of all this there is the **new king, George III.**

Lord Butte reared George. George wants to rule; he denies the council and clings to Butte, personal crisis of leadership. Prime Minister Pitt voted out in 63. Butte became prime minister and made changes that light long fuse, all in the midst of fiscal crisis.

1758 Pitt ran out of money.

Pitt invented a new way of financing government, national deficit spending. He issues government bonds, IOUs.

First bond due in 6 months, so issue new one-year bonds to pay old ones. So price of interest rates increase. Gives new bonds in exchange for old, 1 year term. He did this each time. Each time the rate increase. When it was over the domestic debt was 170 million silver lbs that was 2 1/2 times bigger than annual GNP (Gross National Product).

40 million lbs of foreign debt, Amsterdam, etc.

Hugely in debt with a huge empire to occupy, administer and protect. For example French inhabitant don't want to be English citizens, constant sense of aggravation, so have to keep a minimum of 10000 regular British troops, plus 10000 to keep Americans from pouring over the ride. There is no \$ to pay the troops, so had to borrow money from the Dutch to bring troops home from America.

Between Pitt leaving prime minister Position and coming of Lord Greenville decides to pay for troops for first year by treasury after that Americans must pays.

LIGHTS LONG FUSE

DEBT: requires England to rethink old system under mercantilism that created no profit, just systems of trade). No trade with foreigners, Navigation Acts get silver and gold into mother country. It wasn't intended to create revenue, the point was to freeze out foreigners and create wealth 4 merchants not government coffers, only produces channels of trade.

The debt from the French and Indian and the Great War for Empire is the beginning of the end for mercantilism and in its place a different relationship between colonies and mother country because tax system that created revenue for mother, trade, ships, etc.

NEW Colonial system, would replace old with a series of laws beginning in 1764 and come quickly.

Benjamin Franklin tried to tell Britain they were making a mistake. These new taxes had never been collected before in America. It had never been about money, it was about who was making the tax rule, because the highest taxes, the Townsend Acts, when only taxed 2%, who was right to levy taxes.

American Revolution disputes over the British constitution. Ben Franklin says let us tax ourselves.

Butte leaves prime minister after 1 year and become personal advisor to George III; there will be 5 prime minister who do Gill and Butte's business. Greenville has to find a way to pay for Butte's plan.

How could have Britain paid?

1. Same one they'd been using for 165 years, places levees on individual colonies and let each state assembly figure out how they are going to get land? To Britain.
2. Preserved idea only one's representative could levy taxes (old as idea of magna carta 1215) colonies tax self to build sculpture of new king in Boston, George 1 and George 2 let parliament rule via salutary neglect, George 3 wanted to rule convinced no time to wait for colonies to tax themselves.
3. Increase tax on colonial goods as they arrived in England, cause the cost to increase for British merchants and consumers, didn't work because merchants had a lot of power in House of Commons and argued against this as excessive taxation.
4. ***So Britain government tried something new, DIRECT TAXATION

America 1763 Franklin is a major player in trying to explain America to England to convince parliament that Americans are not wayward children to be bowled over by Royal decree.

Philadelphia 2nd largest city in the world to London, well established political and social establishments.

George III, Butte, and Tory leaders didn't understand this. Pitt knew, but no one listened to him or Franklin, 1763 Revolutionary America still loyal to England, Revolution not expected

So what was America?

1. Despite being a collection of different cultures, which we already discussed, they also knew English law and their rights. May have different culture, religion and linguistics, but all believed in same rights.

After the war Britain faced a more advanced political culture than they anticipated, but they worried about New France, esp.

Light the FUSE

Proclamation of 1763

- Issued by British Parliament.
- Completely unexpected by America
- Effort of the British government to keep promises made with Indians during the Great War for Empire
- Why would Britain worry about keeping their promises now, it never bothered them before. The promise was not to let eastern settlers to come across the Appalachian and take Ohio and Missouri Valleys
- Why try to keep? Most historians believe because of Pontiac's rebellion (Treaty of Easton 1758) that made promise after fall of French, made possible by Indian allies to British. Indians demanded ammunition and trade goods. Conference held in 1761 said no we won't keep. about time Delaware Indians property

Prior to 1763 Americans evaded customs and duties on imports by smuggling.

Revenue Act of 1762:

So England issuing writs of Assistance, which are like search warrants. Prior to writs, customs officials are easily bribed and were filled by deputies who took job for those appointed but stayed in England, now those appointed had to come to America to fill office.

By 1765 with Writs of assistance 730,000 lbs of duties a year being collected in America compared to 2000 a year before.

Tried by jury in Nova Scotia, instead of by peers

Sugar Act 1764:

- didn't initially sound bad b/c cut duty from 6 pence per gallon to 3
- But detriment to colonies because undercut smugglers because just as cheap to buy on the market.
- In order to enforce the jurisdiction of vice admiralty courts, expanded military over civil courts
- No longer trial by jury but by a British judge in Nova Scotia, prevents locals from finding smugglers not guilty
- Accused had to pay expense of court whether or not guilty
- Changed way colonial judges operated. Life time commission appointed and could only serve with permission of crown.
- If the British government was dissatisfied they dismissed colonial judges.

Stamp Act 1765

- Required colonists to buy a stamp from royal tax collectors and fix it on all legal documents and had to purchase with specie (hard money), birth wedding, sale, education, liquor license diploma, cards, dies) lawyers, sailors, brewers, merchants, etc.
- Enforced by courts of vice admiralty
- Primarily means to create revenue for debt from French and Indian war

All of these acts signified change in policy. England supreme power and would exert its power. Americans don't think you are so independent.

No longer mercantilists.

Keep colonists in line and keep English elite in charge.

Restrict those going to school by waging high fee for stamp (2 lb stamp for diploma, much higher than the cost in England, which only cost 2 shillings, wanted to increase chances lawyers, etc. come from England. In America 10 lb fee for lawyers bar fee.

Prior duties part of mercantilism, could avoid them buy not buying, mainly levied to organize and regulate trade new ones to create revenue.

Colonies see new acts as an assault on liberty because taking property especially because to generate revenue for mother country and colonies had no representation in Parliament and therefore tax unjust no taxation without representation.

England argued different idea of representation. Not directly represented but we are both English and our needs/interests are the same as yours, “virtual representation” and beside some people in England don’t even vote.

Colonists didn’t go for virtual representation.

RESISTANCE

- **Sons of liberty**: Formed in order to resist the Stamp Act
- Generally urban and lower and mid class, craftsman, journey men, clerks, etc.
- Winter 65-66 began to organize meetings throughout colonies where people could have complaints forum, sign petitions
- England not responding.
- colonial anger