



magistracy = office of the local government official

gaol = jail

comptroller = public official who manages government finances

900l. sterling = £900, or about \$162,000 (based on how much things used to cost)

repugnant = repulsive

obliged = forced

countenance = face

man of war = British naval ship

populace = people

countermand = send back

vend = sell

coach = carriage

effigy = a doll made to look like someone

abettor = supporter or helper

his excellency = the governor

The LONDON MAGAZINE: Or, GENTLEMAN's Monthly Intelligencer.

For OCTOBER, 1765.

By letters received from Boston in New-England, there is an account of a dangerous mob, which arose in the middle of August, on account of the stamp duty, and did considerable mischief; but on the 16th of August they were more violent than before, which continued till Sunday the 1st of September, by which time the magistracy had raised and armed five-hundred men, and had committed several of the rioters to gaol,--but not till they had destroyed all the goods and papers of the comptroller, judge of the admiralty, distributor of the stamps, as well as every individual article in the house of the lieutenant governor ... even to the uncovering his house, burning all his books and papers, carrying off even his clothes, as well as those of his sister and daughter, putting them on by way of masquerade, [taking] 900l. sterling in cash, scarce leaving him any more than the shirt he had on.

For NOVEMBER, 1765.

The stamp-duty is so repugnant to the ideas of the people of America, that in most of the northern colonies they have obliged the stamp-officers to resign their places. . . . When the stamped papers arrived at Philadelphia, the vessels in the harbour hoisted their colours half mast high, the bells rung, being muffled, and every countenance betrayed dejection. Finally, they obliged the stamp distributor to promise not to exercise his office, and the stamped papers were obliged to be taken on board a man of war, to secure them from the rage of the populace. The lawyers in New Jersey, &c. have resolved not to use the stamped papers.

For DECEMBER, 1765.

Upon the arrival of the stamps at New-York, every sign of mourning appeared. The merchants soon after met and resolved to have no more goods shipped from Great Britain unless the stamp act be repealed; to countermand all orders already sent, and not to vend any goods sent from Great Britain after Jan. 1 next. The governor having secured the stamp paper in Fort George, a great assembly of persons, preceded by lights, went to the fort, took from the stables the governor's coach, which with his effigy they burnt, with every mark of contempt and exasperation, under the guns of the fort. After this they went to the house of major James (a supposed abettor of the stamp act) whose goods they likewise seized and consumed. The next day they forced from his excellency a declaration, that he would have nothing to do with the stamps.