

## [Stamp Act's Repeal Reaches Charles Town!]

CHARLES TOWN, JUNE 9, 1766.

WEDNESDAY last being the birth day of our most gracious and good Sovereign, King GEORGE III now in the 29<sup>th</sup> year of his age, the same was observed here with all possible demonstrations of affection, loyalty and joy, to the last of which the remarkable incident of the repeal of the stamp-act arriving that very day, added not a little. The morning was **ushered** in with ringing of bells, and general display of colours on all the **bastions** and vessels. The Charles Town regiment of militia, commanded by the hon. Col. Othniel Beale, the artillery company commanded by Capt. Christopher Gadsden, and a new company, of light infantry, commanded by Capt. Thomas Savage, were all afterwards drawn up in Broad Street, and **reviewed** by his honour the lieutenant governor, attended by his council, the members of assembly and public officers, who was pleased to express great satisfaction with the appearance and behaviour of the whole; and it must be particularly observed, to the honour of Capt. Savage's company, that they exceeded all expectation from the short time they had been formed. At noon royal salutes were fired from the forts, & c. And his honour gave a very elegant entertainment to the council, assembly, and public officers, at Mr. Dillon's, where many loyal and constitutional toasts were drank, amongst which the best friends to Britain and America were not omitted. --- The artillery and light infantry companies like-wise had an entertainment in honour of the day at Mr. Dillon's. -- At night the illuminations were grand and general, but the weather proving bad, many curious exhibitions were prevented.

The hon. the Commons House of Assembly of this province, have requested of Thomas *Lynch*, *Christopher Gadsden*, and *John Rutledge*, **Esqrs.** that they will sit for their pictures; which are to be drawn at full length, and preserved in the assembly room, as a testimony of public regard for those gentlemen, and that the remembrance of the signal services they have done their country, as a committee from this province at the congress held at *New York* in October last, may be transmitted to and remembered by posterity; the expence whereof is to be **defrayed** by the province.

They have likewise voted to make **provision** for **procuring** a STATUE of the right hon. WILLIAM PITT, Esq., from *England*, to be erected in the State House, as a memorial of their respect for him, for his upright and [word uncertain] conduct upon all occasions, and particularly his assistance in procuring a repeal of the STAMP-ACT, equally beneficial to *Great Britain* and her colonies.

The like compliment, we are informed, will be paid to his great Patriot throughout the *American* colonies.

A letter from *Charles Garth*, Esq., Agent for this province in *Great-Britain*, to the Committee of Correspondence, received last Wednesday, being laid before the Hon. the Commons House of Assembly on Thursday; that house, on Friday *unanimously* resolved, upon a motion, that a dutiful and loyal ADDRESS be prepared, to be presented to our most gracious **Sovereign**, upon the repeal of the Stamp Act; and accordingly appointed a committee for that purpose. . . .

The principal inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, upon their day thankful rejoicing for the repeal of the Stamp Act (*May 19<sup>th</sup>*) came unanimously to a resolution, to demonstrate their affection and gratitude, by dressing themselves on the 4<sup>th</sup> of *June*, in a new suit of the manufactures of *England*, and giving what **homespun** they had to the poor.

From the *South Carolina Gazette*,  
June 2-9, 1766. Available at the South Carolina  
Library

**Glossary** (in order of appearance)

**ushered** - escorted in or inaugurated

**bastions** - the projecting part of a fortification

**reviewed** - to formally inspect a military group

**Esqrs.** - Esquires - a title of honor for attorneys and politicians

**defrayed** - paid for

**provision** - money

**procuring** - obtaining

**Sovereign** - king

**homespun** - homemade clothing that was worn as opposed to manufactured British clothing that the colonists had been wearing to protest British actions.

Definitions quoted or based on *The American Heritage Dictionary*. Third College Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.