

Document A: B.W.'s Public Letter (Modified)

This public letter appeared on the front page of The Boston-Gazette and Country Journal, a colonial newspaper, on October 7, 1765. The author's name was printed as "B.W."

To the Inhabitants of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay

My Dear Countrymen,

It is a standing **maxim** of English Liberty "That no man shall be taxed but with his own consent," and you very well know we were not, in any **sober** sense, represented in parliament, when this tax was imposed.

AWAKE! Awake, my Countrymen and defeat those who want to enslave us. Do not be cowards. You were born in Britain, the Land of Light, and you were raised in America, the Land of Liberty. It is your duty to fight this tax. Future generations will bless your efforts and honor the memory of the saviors of their country.

I urge you to tell your representatives that you do not support this terrible and burdensome law. Let them know what you think. They should act as guardians of the liberty of their country.

I look forward to congratulating you on delivering us from the enemies of truth and liberty.

Source: B.W. "To the Inhabitants of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay," The Boston-Gazette and Country Journal, October 7, 1765.

Vocabulary

maxim: a statement expressing a general truth

sober: serious