

“A Society of Patriotic Ladies”

Published in a London newspaper on March 25, 1775, this political cartoon satirizes the fifty-one women in Edenton, North Carolina in their efforts to endorse the Colonies’ nonimportation association resolves of 1774. The Edenton Tea Party was one of the earliest organized women’s political actions in U.S. History. On October 25, 1774, meeting at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth King, Mrs. Penelope Baker organized an alliance of women that supported the American cause against “taxation without representation.” The fifty – one women signed an agreement to boycott tea because they believed it was their duty as members of society.



<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-revolution/4305>

The Edenton "Tea Party"

(<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-revolution/4234>)

Letter of unknown author printed in the Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser, January 31, 1775. Reprinted by the Edenton Woman's Club in Historic Edenton and Countryside (The Chowan Herald, 1959), pp. 3–4.

Extract of a letter from North Carolina, Oct. 27.

The Provincial Deputies of North Carolina having resolved not to drink any more tea, nor wear any more British cloth, &c. many ladies of this Province have determined to give a memorable proof of their patriotism, and have accordingly entered into the following honourable and spirited association. I send it to you, to shew your fair countrywomen, how zealously and faithfully American ladies follow the laudable example of their husbands, and what opposition your Ministers may expect to receive from a people thus firmly united against them:

Edenton, North Carolina, Oct. 25, 1774.

As we cannot be indifferent on any occasion that appears nearly to affect the peace and happiness of our country, and as it has been thought necessary, for the public good, to enter into several particular resolves by a meeting of Members deputed from the whole Province, it is a duty which we owe, not only to our near and dear connections who have concurred in them, but to ourselves who are essentially interested in their welfare, to do every thing as far as lies in our power to testify our sincere adherence to the same; and we do therefore accordingly subscribe this paper, as a witness of our fixed intention and solemn determination to do so.

Abigail Charlton
Mary Blount
F. Johnstone
Elizabeth Creacy
Margaret Cathcart
Elizabeth Patterson
Anne Johnstone
Jane Wellwood
Margaret Pearson
Mary Woolard
Penelope Dawson
Sarah Beasley
Jean Blair
Susannah Vail
Grace Clayton
Elizabeth Vail
Frances Hall
Elizabeth Vail
Mary Jones

Mary Creacy
Anne Hall
Mary Creacy
Rebecca Bondfield
Ruth Benbury
Sarah Littlejohn
Sarah Howcott
Penelope Barker
Sarah Hoskins
Elizabeth P. Ormond
Mary Littlele
M. Payne
Sarah Valentine
Elizabeth Johnston
Elizabeth Cricket
Mary Bonner
Elizabeth Green
Lydia Bonner
Mary Ramsay
Sarah Howe
Anne Horniblow
Lydia Bennet
Mary Hunter
Marion Wells
Tresia Cunningham
Anne Anderson
Elizabeth Roberts
Sarah Mathews
Elizabeth Roberts
Anne Haughton
Elizabeth Roberts
Elizabeth Beasly