

Print Shop

Halifax was home to several printers throughout its history. One early printer was Abraham Hodge. Not only was he the official state printer of North Carolina in the late eighteenth century, he also started a newspaper in Halifax called the *North Carolina Journal*. Today, we get our news in many ways. Write a response describing the differences between how we get our news today compared to the late 1700s and early 1800s. What are some differences/similarities?

Merchants in Halifax

Many merchants set up shop in Halifax. Pretend you are the son or daughter of a prosperous merchant in Halifax on the eve of the American Revolution. In the space below, list North Carolina's imports and exports before and during the American Revolution.

IMPORTS	EXPORTS

In the space provided below answer the following question: How might the war have an impact on your father's business?

Halifax Resolves document-base question activity

The document below is called the *Halifax Resolves*. This document is very important to North Carolina history. It was adopted on April 12, 1776, during the Fourth Provincial Congress which was held in Halifax, North Carolina. The delegates at this Provincial Congress decided, or resolved, that the delegates representing North Carolina at the Continental Congress should be allowed to agree “with the delegates of the other colonies in declaring Independency.” This action led to the Declaration of Independence, adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and first read in North Carolina in Halifax on August 2, 1776. The Halifax Resolves is important in that it was the first official action taken by an entire colony recommending independence from England.

“The Select Committee taking into Consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of Britain against America, and the further Measures to be taken for frustrating the same, and for the better defence of this province reported as follows, to wit,

It appears to your Committee that pursuant to the Plan concerted by the British Ministry for subjugating America, the King and Parliament of Great Britain have usurped a Power over the Persons and Properties of the People unlimited and uncontroled and disregarding their humble Petitions for Peace, Liberty and safety, have made divers Legislative Acts, denouncing War Famine and every Species of Calamity daily employed in destroying the People and committing the most horrid devastations on the Country. That Governors in different Colonies have declared Protection to Slaves who should imbrue their Hands in the Blood of their Masters. That the Ships belonging to America are declared prizes of War and many of them have been violently seized and confiscated in consequence of which multitudes of the people have been destroyed or from easy Circumstances reduced to the most Lamentable distress.

And whereas the moderation hitherto manifested by the United Colonies and their sincere desire to be reconciled to the mother Country on Constitutional Principles, have procured no mitigation of the aforesaid Wrongs and usurpations and no hopes remain of obtaining redress by those Means alone which have been hitherto tried, Your Committee are of Opinion that the house should enter into the following Resolve, to wit

Resolved that the delegates for this Colony in the Continental Congress be empowered to concur with the other delegates of the other Colonies in declaring Independency, and forming foreign Alliances, resolving to this Colony the Sole, and Exclusive right of forming a Constitution and Laws for this Colony, and of appointing delegates from time to time (under the direction of a general Representation thereof) to meet the delegates of the other Colonies for such purposes as shall be hereafter pointed out.”

Questions

1. Who do the delegates blame for not paying attention to “*their humble Petitions for Peace, Liberty and safety...*”?
2. What does the document say in regards to enslaved people, and why would the delegates be upset by this?
3. What other problems/issues do the delegates list in their document?
4. In addition to giving power to North Carolina’s delegates to agree with the vote for independence, what else does this document suggest should be done?

Underground Railroad Activity

Enslaved individuals took a great risk in an attempt to escape to freedom. Much of what we know today about specific individuals who took this risk comes from period newspaper advertisements called "Runaway Ads." These advertisements were often placed in local newspapers by the owner of the enslaved individual. Below are two advertisements. Read over them carefully, and answer the questions that follow.

\$100 REWARD.



RANAWAY from the subscriber a year past, negro man

HARRY

He is a bright black; about five feet 16 inches high, thirty years old; wears whiskers; has and impediment in his speech, and a down look when spoken to. He is by profession a fiddler, a ditcher and sawyer. I purchased him in Halifax, at sheriff's sale, several years past, sold as the property of Wilson Carter. He has lately been seen in Bertie county, employed both as a ditcher and sawyer. He there passed as a free man. I will give the above reward of one hundred dollars, to any person who will deliver him to the jailor in Halifax, by the 15th October, or fifty dollars, if delivered to him any time thereafter.

B. C. EATON.

Sept. 1, 1829. 30—3w

\$10 REWARD.



RANAWAY from
the subscriber about
the 16th July last, a
negro woman named

CRELCY.

She is between 25
and 27 years of age,
tolerably black, about 5 feet high,
has a down look, a weak voice,
and is round shouldered. She is
in a bad state of health, being ei-
ther pregnant or otherwise swel-
led. She was barefooted and had
on white cotton clothes. As she
has connexions between Halifax
and Petersburg, she may have
gone in that direction; but it is
more probable that she is lurking
in the neighborhood of Mr. James
Faucett. I will pay the above
reward and all reasonable expen-
ses to any person who will deliver
said negro to me, 9 miles south
of Halifax, or \$10 to have her se-
cured in any jail so that I get her.

W.M. B. MOORE.

Aug 24, 1829.

29—tf

Questions

1. Both advertisements describe physical features/manners of Harry and Creecy. Why do you think this was mentioned in the ad?
2. The reward for Harry is \$100, while only \$10 for Creecy. Why do you think there is such a difference?
3. Why do the owners think Harry and Creecy are in or around the Town of Halifax?