

The Makers of Rebellion

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are hot, indiscreet men and they are under the influence of others as hot, rash and unjudicious as themselves, very often." (Shades of Spiro!)

But before independence was gained, prudish John could be found among those gracing the Gazette office. Both Adamses, Otis, and others were quite familiar with the pen, type-stick, and composing stone. Each Saturday night, the Adamses and Otis would journey to the Queen Street print shop and help Edes and Gill hand-set type.

It was the Gazette which published the Virginia Resolves, an argument written by Patrick Henry that Virginia had the right of self-government and self-taxation.

Paul Revere did a number of engravings for Edes and Gill, including a highly inaccurate, propaganda engraving of the "Boston Massacre." Revere was much more accurate, later, when preparing an engraving to be used as court evidence in the trial of British soldiers.

REVERE is best known for making his famous ride carrying the warning "The Redcoats are Coming!", immortalized by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

But Revere was only one of

the night-riders carrying that warning. Others were William Dawes, Ebenezer Dorr, Joseph Hall, and Solomon Brown.

Revere made many other rides for the Sons of Liberty just as dangerous and strenuous as the famous ride on April 18, 1775 from Boston to Lexington carrying word of the advance of British troops to Sam Adams and John Hancock.

Hancock and Adams had fled Boston because General Gage had a warrant for the arrest of both. Besides attempting to arrest Adams and Hancock, the British troops also intended to confiscate arms collected by the colonists.

Revere also was official courier for the Massachusetts Provincial Assembly in 1774 and, in May of that year, rode from Boston to Philadelphia on horseback to announce passage of the Intolerable Acts.

He participated in the French and Indian War as a younger man and took part in the capture of Crown Point in 1756. Some historians, however, have characterized Revere as an undisciplined soldier and report he once faced a military court-martial for military insubordination.

He was a silversmith and engraver by trade and quite good. Many of his silver, engraved punch bowls are displayed in art museums in the East, and his silver pieces compare favorably with works of other famous artists.

Before the Revolution, however, Revere devoted much of his time in radical activities for the Sons of Liberty. He helped lay the plans, with Sam Adams, for the Boston Tea Party, and may have been one of the "Indians" in attendance.

Revere designed and printed the first issue of Continental money, designed and engraved the first official insignia for the Continental Congress, and the state seal for Massachusetts.

During the war, Revere opened a gun powder mill in Canton which blew up. Next, he opened a copper mill and invented the process for rolling sheet copper.

After the war, Revere opened a factory in Canton to roll sheet copper and brass castings. In 1795, he assisted Gov. Sam Adams in laying the corner stone for the new Massachusetts State House.

Revere's father's name was Appollos which has led the punsters to quip that Appollos planteth but Paul watereth.

SAM ADAMS, above all others, however, was the molder of dissent during the eight years preceding the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Sam not only had the British Lion by the tail but the 13 colonies on a leash. He trained his brood of mild pups to first become

keen watchdogs and then raving, snarling curs.

He used the Committee of Correspondence as his leashes to keep his hounds at bay until the right time, and then kept them fed with the "Boston Massacre," Malcolm riots, Tea Party, and the "shot heard around the world."

Winston Churchill was writing of Sam Adams when he declared that the Stamp Act of 1765 "exposed and fortified the more violent elements in America and gave them a chance to experiment in organized resistance."

"The revolutionary leaders appeared from obscurity -- Patrick Henry in Virginia, Sam Adams in Massachusetts, and Christopher Gadsden in South Carolina ..."

Attacks on homes of stamp distributors, Churchill wrote, "was the work of a few merchants and young lawyers who were trying their hands at rousing the unenfranchised mobs."

Adams' opposition to the Sugar Act of 1764 was basically limited to newspaper articles and a few speeches. During this assault, Adams expressed his battle strategy: "Put your adversary in the wrong and keep him there" and "Take a stand at the start!"

OPPOSITION to the Stamp Act saw a shift in strategy from verbal assaults to physical violence with the unleashing of street gangs already primed by the traditional "Pope's Day" frolics involving anti-Catholic sentiment expressed in annual parades.

Use of mobs was a conscious conclusion reached by Sam Adams that words alone would not suffice to keep hold of the Lion's tail. By 1767, Adams became convinced revolution was inevitable and five years later the doctrine of separatism was appearing openly in the Boston Gazette columns.

Adams sought to gain repeal of the Stamp Act by employing the Boston street mobs to endanger the life and property of those officials administering and enforcing the tax.

The North and South street gangs were shaped by Adams into a deadly political instrument which, under his leadership, began to demonstrate alarming military discipline.

Success of mob violence in forcing repeal of the Stamp Act made Sam willing to summon up violence at any time in the future. It was he who decided when the gangs would strike, whom would be the victims, and how much damage would be inflicted.

Historian Samuel Elliot Morison declares: "Adams alone of the forerunners of American independence was a typical revolutionary who, except for his Christian piety, reminds one of the Communist agitators of our era."

"He was certainly the west-

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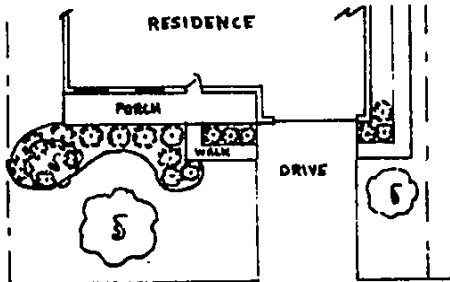
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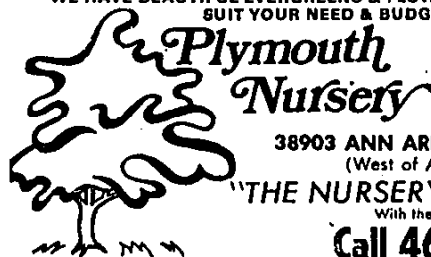
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