

Sudbury July 15th 1776

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Said Town Qualified to vote in Town affairs as the Law directs. Do Enter our Decent against the Town vote for Granting Money in Said Town in Addition to the Bounty Granted by the General Court as an Encouragement for Raising Men in the present Expedition against Canada: As we apprehend the vote of the Town for Granting Money for Raising Men to go to Canada is Altogether Illegal

Thomas Puffer
Aaron Johnson
Jason Bent
John Frazier
Joseph Sherman
Elijah Bent
James Haynes
Isaac Puffer

John Maynard
Asker Cutler
Parson Belcher
Benjⁿ Estabrook
Uriah Wheeler
David How
Rowand Boyle
Ebenezer Wood

In Congress July 4 1776

A Declaration by the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress assembled.

When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness:— That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive to these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter, or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light & transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shown, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses & Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Objects, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security.