

*To the Free-holders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston, in Annual Town Meeting assembled, March 14th, 1768:*

The Memorial of Samuel Adams sheweth:

That your Memorialist was chosen by said Town in the year 1764, a Collector of Taxes,—in which capacity he had before served the Town for nine years successively—and being duly sworn, had the Province, Town and County taxes, assessed the same year, accordingly committed to him to collect; at the same time he became bound to the Town Treasurer, with suretys, in the penal sums of Five thousand Pounds for the payment of the same into the respective Treasurys.

That with all possible diligence, and with his best discretion, he attended his duty; but was greatly retarded by means of the small pox, which then prevailed in the Town, and other obstructions: So that he was unable to make any great Progress, till a new year came on, when a new Tax was levied, on the same Persons who remained indebted to him as aforesaid, which Tax was committed to another person to collect. That the Town cannot be unmindful of the difficulties which the next year ensued, by Reason of the Stamp Act, and the Confusion consequent thereupon; which in a great Measure interrupted the course of Business of every kind. By all which there became a Burden of three years' taxes upon those Persons, many of them at least, who had not paid your Memorialist for the said year 1764.

That the Town, the last year, saw fit to direct their Treasurer to put the Bond afore'd in suit; which he accordingly did, and obtained a Judgment thereon; and altho' your Mem'st has since been able to lessen the sum by Payments into the Treasury, yet there still remains a large balance due, which your Treasurer, if called on, can ascertain.

Now your Memorialist prays the Town to take the matter, with all its circumstances, into candid consideration, and grant him a further Time to collect his out-standing Debts, that he may be enabled thereby to compleat the Obligation of his Bonds: Or otherwise, that the Town will do that which to them shall seem good.

With all due respects to the Town,

SAMUEL ADAMS.

6. JOHN ADAMS, A. L. S., November 7, 1789, two pages, in good condition.

7. ROBERT TREAT PAINE A. L. S., February 11, 1792, two pages, in good condition.

8. ELBRIDGE GERRY, A. L. S., April 27, 1814, one page, in good condition.