

**Article from the *Boston Gazette and Country Journal*:**

Providence, RI, March 4, 1775

On Thursday last, the 2nd instant, about twelve o'clock at noon, the Town Crier gave the following notice through the Town: "At five o'clock, this afternoon, a quantity of India Tea will be burnt in the market-place. All true friends of their country, lovers of Freedom, and haters of shackles and hand-cuffs, are hereby invited to testify their good disposition, by bringing in and casting into the fire, a needless herb, which for a long time has been detrimental to our liberty, interest, and health."

About five o'clock, in the afternoon, a great number of inhabitants assembled at the place, where there was brought in about three hundred pounds weight of Tea, by the firm contenders for the true interest of America. A large fire was kindled, and the Tea cast into it. A tar barrel, Lord North's speech, Rivington's and Mills's and Hicks's newspapers, and divers other ingredients, were also added. There appeared great cheerfulness in committing to destruction so pernicious an article; many worthy women, from a conviction of the evil tendency of continuing the habit of Tea drinking, made free-will offerings of their respective stocks of the hurtful trash. On this occasion the bells were tolled, but it is referred to the learned whether tolling or ringing would have been most proper. Whilst the Tea was burning, a spirited Son of Liberty went along the street with his brush and lampblack, and obliterated or unpainted the word TEA on the shop signs.

Source: <http://teachinghistory.org/best-practices/examples-of-historical-thinking/25207>