

OATH OF LOYALTY TO NEW HAMPSHIRE



What is this document?

This document is an oath of loyalty, and every man who was 21 years or older in New Hampshire was asked to sign it in the spring of 1776. Anyone who refused to sign this oath was believed to be a loyalist.

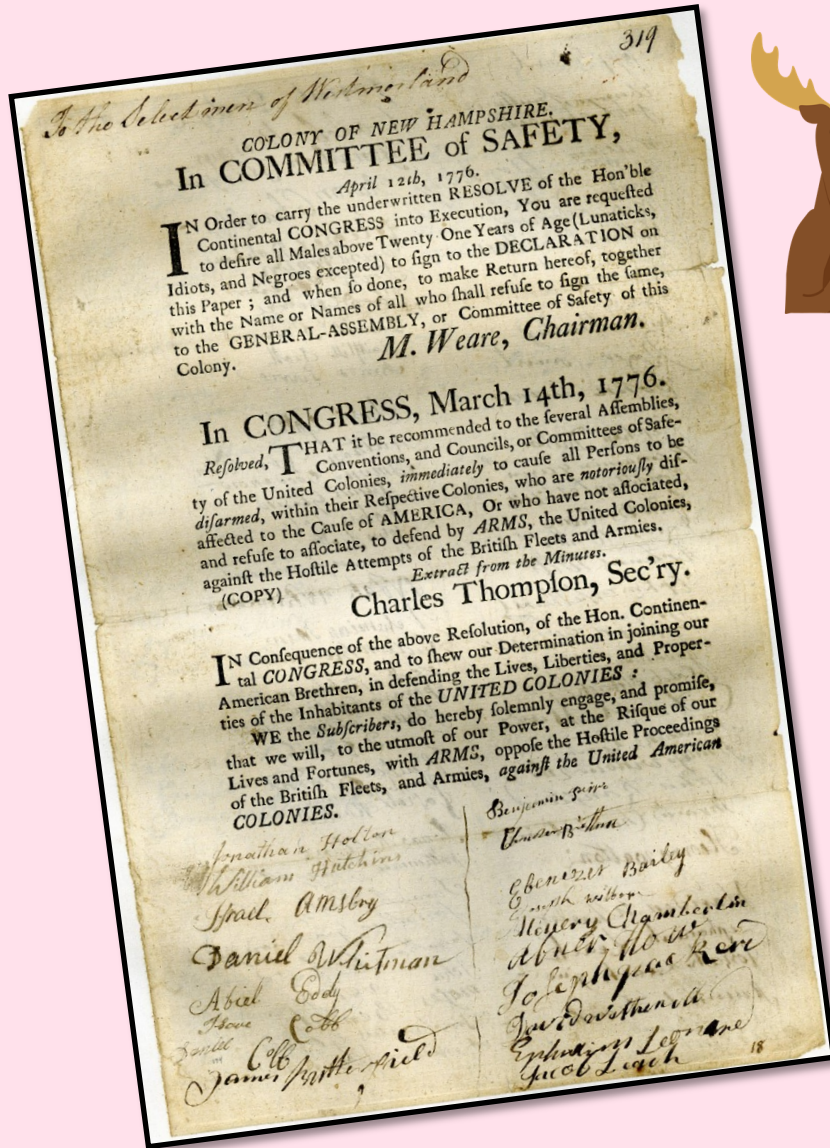
In New Hampshire, loyalists were not allowed to publicly support the British. Any loyalist who did had to flee to Canada or Britain. But loyalists who speak out for the British or try to provide any help to the British cause were usually allowed to remain in New Hampshire.

The oath is the last paragraph of this document. It reads:

WE the *Subscribers*, do hereby solemnly engage, and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with *ARMS*, oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets, and Armies, *against the United American COLONIES*.

Notice & Wonder

- What is the oath asking people to promise?
- Who are the "Subscribers"?
- Is there another name for the "United American Colonies"?
- Why do you think some of the words are written in all capi-



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