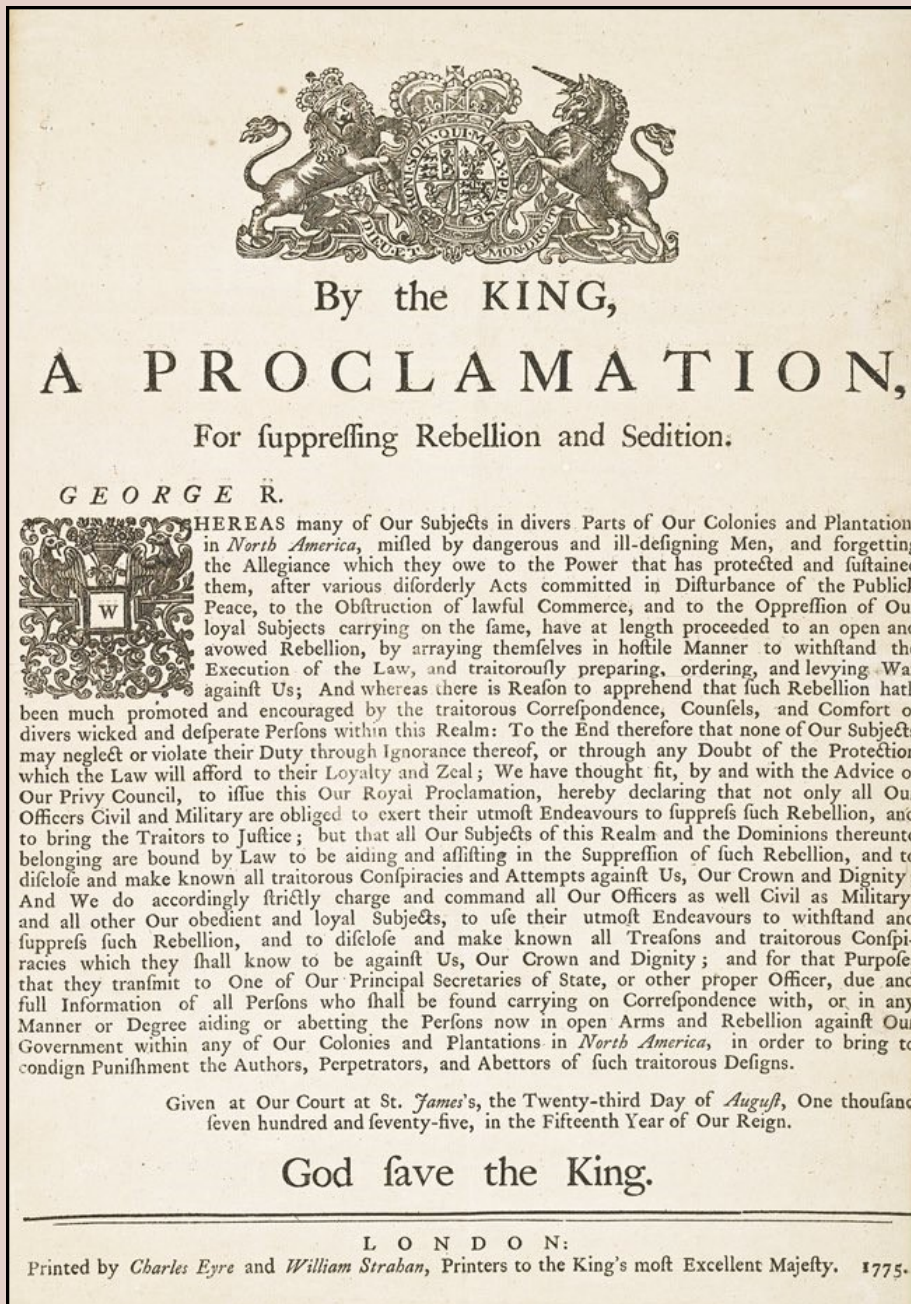


THE KING DECLARES AMERICA IN REBELLION

On August 23, 1775, King George III of Great Britain declared that the American colonies had rebelled against British rule. Fighting between American and British forces had been going on for months, but the Americans claimed they still wanted to work things out with their king. Ten months later, the Americans decided to declare their independence from Great Britain when they adopted the Declaration of Independence.



Go to the next page to read a transcription of the king's proclamation of rebellion.

THE KING DECLARES AMERICA IN REBELLION

A Proclamation by the King

Many people in the Colonies of North America listened to a bunch of men who were lying and made them forget that everyone should be loyal to the British Crown, which has protected them in the New World. These Americans have been causing trouble and organizing riots; they have been interfering with the laws of the land; they have been bothering people who have been trying to follow the laws. They are using violence to fight British soldiers. And all these troublemaking Americans are working together to coordinate their efforts. Everyone knows what's going on, but just to make sure we are all clear about this, I am saying outright that the Americans are in rebellion. The British government is going to do everything it can to stop this rebellion and restore law and order to the colonies. We are going to hunt down the people who organized this rebellion and make sure they stop. And anyone who helps these people will also be guilty of rebelling against the British government.

August 23, 1775 from the Court at St. James, where the king lives. He has been king for 15 years.

*This text has been edited to make it easier to read.

