

4. REPORT OF THE STOUGHTON MEETING

Signed by Nathaniel Patten of Roxbury, "A prominent citizen of the day", ~~was~~ dated two days after the Stoughton meeting held at Colonel Doty's Tavern on August 16, 1774, a report of the proceedings was made and a call to the second meeting at the tavern of Richard Woodward in Dedham on September 6 issued. Mr. Patten, as a member of the Roxbury Committee of Correspondence, was an active supporter of Samuel Adams from an early day. Two hundred years have passed and the quality of the paper, possibly made in Milton, and the quality of the ink preserves for us Mr. Patten's account of the Stoughton meeting, "A True Coppy, By Order of the Committee."

Roxbury August 18: 1774

Gent,

A Meeting of Gentlemen from Every Town & District in the County of Suffolk, Except Weymouth, Cohasset, Needham & Chelsea was held at Col. Tolys in Soughton on Tuesday 16. Current to Consult what Measures were Proper to be taken by the People of the County at this Most Important & alarming Crisis of our Publick Affairs But as Several Towns Had not Appointed Delegates for the special Purposes of a County Meeting, they did not Judge Proper to Proceed to Compleat the Business Designed, at that Time, but that the Proceedings of such a Convention might be more authentic and Valid, they Entered into the following Resolve, and Appointed a Committee to Transmitt the Same to the Several Towns & Districts within this County. viz.

„Whereas it Appears to us that the Parliament of Great Britain
„to the Dishonor of the King, in Violation of the faith of the Nation
„Have in Direct Infraction of the Charter of this Province Contrary
„to Magna Charta the Bill of Rights, the Natural & Constitutional
„Claims of British Subjects by an act Called the Boston Port Bill,
„a Bill for Amending the Charter of this Province, and another Bill
„for the Impartial Administration of Justice with all the Parade and
„ostentation of Law & Justice Attempted to Reduce this Colony to an
„unparalleled State of Slavery, and Whereas the Several Colonies Being
„Justly and Properly Alarmed with this Lawless & Tyrannical Exertion
„of Power. Has Entered into Combination for our Relief, and have
„Published Sundry Resolutions which they are Determined to abide
„by in Support of Common Interest we Earnestly Recommend to our
„Brethren of the Several Towns & Districts in this County, to appoint
„Members for to Attend a County Convention for Suffolk at the House
„of Mr Woodwards Inholder in Dedham on Tuesday the Sixth day
„of September Next at Ten o' Clock Before Noon, to Deliberate &
„Determine upon all such Matters as the Distressed Circumstances
„of this Province May Require. We therefore Transmitt the Same to
„you to be Laid Before your Town to Act thereon as they may think
„Expedient. and we beg Leave to add our Request that the Gentle
„men who may be Chosen by your Town would be very Punctual to
„the Hour Proposed for the Convention, as it is Probable the Business
„will take up the Remainder of that day

a True Copy

We are your Most Obedient Humble Servts

By Order of the Committee N. Patten

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By Order of the Committee N. Patten

Meeting at Doty Tavern, Stoughton

August 16, 1774

Presented to Milton Historical Society by Eva Vose Huntoon 1953.