

## V FROM RESISTANCE TO REBELLION

2. In November 1775 the Pennsylvania assembly instructed its congressional delegation to work toward reconciliation with Great Britain and oppose secession from the empire.

3. The only Briton holding appointive office in New Jersey was Chief Justice Frederick Smyth.

4. Identity of author unknown. The original Lycurgus founded the Spartan constitution and social and military systems; hence he was the man responsible for the "good order" which they created.

### 16 Thomas Randolph Tarred and Feathered

[*New-York Journal; or, General Advertiser*, December 28, 1775.]

Acts of physical violence were rare in New Jersey, thanks to the moderation of popular leaders and the wide support given to the resistance movement. The fate of Thomas Randolph described below is the only known account of tarring and feathering in the province during the prerevolutionary decade. Normally the prospect or threat of violence was sufficient to cool the ardor of those who openly opposed the congresses and committees.

The 6th Dec. at Quibble Town,<sup>1</sup> Middlesex County, Piscataqua<sup>2</sup> Township, N. Jersey, Thomas Randolph, Cooper, Who had publicly proved himself an enemy to his country, by reviling and using his utmost endeavours to oppose the proceedings of the Continental and Provincial Conventions and Committees, in defence of their rights and liberties; and he being judged a person of not consequence enough for a severer punishment, was ordered to be stripped naked, well coated with tar and feathers and carried in a waggon publicly round the town— which punishment was accordingly inflicted; and as he soon became duly sensible of his offence, for which he earnestly begged pardon, and promised to atone as far as he was able, by a contrary behaviour for the future, he was released and suffered to return to his house, in less than half an hour. The whole was conducted with that regularity and decorum, that ought to be observed in all public punishments.

1. Now New Market.

2. Piscataway.