

## Political Women in the American Revolution

The Edenton Ladies' Patriotic Guild signed the following agreement on 25 October 1774. It was subsequently published in British newspapers:

The provincial deputies of North Carolina having resolved not to drink any more tea nor wear any more British cloth, etc., many ladies of this province have determined to give a memorable proof of their patriotism, and have accordingly entered into the following honorable and spirited association. I send it to you to show your fair countrywomen how zealously and faithfully American ladies follow the laudable example of their husbands, and what opposition your matchless ministers may expect to receive from a people, thus firmly united against them:

Edenton, North Carolina, October 25 (1774).

As we cannot be indifferent on any occasion that appears nearly to affect the peace and happiness of our country, and as it has been thought necessary, for the publick good, to enter into several particular resolves by a meeting of members deputed from the whole province, it is a duty which we owe, not only to our near and dear connections, who have concurred in them, but to ourselves, who are essentially interested in their welfare, to do everything, as far as lies in our power, to testify our sincere adherence to the same. . . .

-- Excerpt from "Edenton Ladies' Agreement," 27 October 1774, which appeared in the *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, 16 January 1775