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SOURCE EIGHT

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Extract from British laws called the Townshend Acts, passed in 1767
([House of Lords Record Office](#): HL/PO/PU/1/1766/7G3n172)

Whereas it is expedient that a revenue should be raised in your Majesty's Dominions in America for a making a more certain and adequate provision for defraying the charge of the administration of justice and the support of civil government in such provinces where it shall be found to be necessary and towards further defraying the expence of defending protecting and securing the said Dominion. We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled have therefore resolved to give and grant unto your Majesty the several rates and duties hereinafter mentioned

How to use this source

Study this source carefully. Different parts of the source will contain clues about why the British became empire builders in North America. As you study the source, ask yourself:

- What goods have duties placed on them?
- Which goods are coming to America and coming from America?
- What are the main aims of the British government in passing this act?
- Does this source provide any clues about the reasons why the British were in North America?

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