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18th and 19th century artisans*

Joseph Callender, Boston Tea Store

Born in 1763, Joseph Callender, Jr., took advantage of the Bankrupt Act (possibly the Massachusetts legislature which enacted temporary bankruptcy laws to provide relief to debtors in the late 1750s) to become a shopkeeper and grocer in Boston. His place of business was on the south side of the market, and he resided on Prince Street.

Joseph Callender, his father, was a grocer in Boston, on Washington St., East side, a little above the Old South, and died in the possession of a handsome property. He and his wife Mary were the parents of eighteen children, of whom fourteen came to maturity.

It's not clear whether the broadside from which this sign idea was developed represents Callender Senior, or Jr. One thing is clear, Mr. Callender boasted of his "keeping constantly the best teas and the best double and single refined Loaf, Lump and Powdered Sugars". He also sold "West-India Coffee, Turkey Figs, Box and Cask Raisins, Clean Currants, Mace, Nutmegs, Cloves, Cinnamon, Pepper & Rice. And, "First Rate Spanish Cigars, in whole, half, quarter and eighth boxes". In his wine cellar, he carried "the best old pure wines, Cognac, Brandy, Old Jamaica Spirits, and Real Holland Gin". Since his store was a "Cash Store, the prices are moderate".

It seems there was a Joseph Callender (also spelled Callendar) who lived in Boston, but he apprenticed as a silversmith under Paul Revere.

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