This chapter describes two innovations: the town of Boston’s institution, on November 2, 1772, of a standing committee of correspondence and that committee’s development of a new genre of political communication, the popular declaration. The chapter considers the Boston declaration in several different ways: 1) as replacing the traditional petition to authority, which was addressed upward with humility to a person or institution of authority, with the public declaration, which was addressed outward to the towns of Massachusetts and “the world”; 2) as articulating a neo-Roman theory of liberty (Quentin Skinner); and finally, 3) as a text that serves as political pamphlet, as script for oral performance, and as a letter that invites the towns of Massachusetts into correspondence with the Boston committee. This chapter makes the case that the distinctive communication dynamic set going by the committee’s publication marks the beginning of the American Revolution.