Chapter 2: Transplantations and Borderlands


AP Themes in Chapter 2

1. Ideas, Beliefs Culture
   I. Major change in religions: Catholic vs Protestant vs Muslim vs. Animism
   II. This was as much political as it was Religious

2. Environment and Geography
   I. Why did people, mostly of English ancestry develop distinct colonial cultures
   II. How the geography of Europe led to exploration
AP Skills in Chapter 2

1. Continuity and Change Over Time
   I. How long and why did a distinctly different American culture arise
   II. But, they were still more English than anything else
   III. Africans were forced to change the most, but they did continue stories, songs, etc.

AP Skills in Chapter 2

1. Historical Argumentations
   I. There is an ongoing debate among historians as to WHEN did an American Identity arise
      (i) Ex: Some argue when they first Englishman stepped foot on American soil
      (ii) Ex: Others argue 1753 with the French and Indian War.
The Beginnings of Colonial America

- The 3 types of colonies created
  - Tribute: Meso-America and Andes
  - Plantation: Portuguese Brazil (SILVER), most Caribbean Islands, English Chesapeake/Southern (SUGAR)
  - Neo-European: English Northern and Middle colonies
    - Major problems faced in BOTH areas including Natives

- Timeframe: the 17th century (mostly)

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Europeans colonize North America

- In the 16th and 17th centuries, the main focus of European colonization was the Caribbean (West Indies), East Indies, South, and Central America.
- Spain conquered the largest American empire.
English Migration to North America

• In the long run, the English colonies proved more successful than others.
• The main reason for this was the great number of migrants that left England in the 17th and 18th centuries.

214,000

Demographic reasons:
– Population growth
– Internal migration to cities

Economic reasons:
– Decline in real wages
– Farm enclosures
– Mercantilism
– Joint stock companies

English power increase:
– Victory over the Spanish Armada, 1588

Religious unrest (Henry VIII, Bloody Mary, Eliz.I, Mary of Scotland)
The Chesapeake Colonies

• In 1606, King James I granted overlapping land grants in Virginia to two *joint-stock* companies, the Virginia company of London and the Virginia company of Plymouth.
• The Plymouth company’s attempt in modern-day Maine was a failure.
• In 1607, the **Virginia Company of London** sent 144 colonists to Virginia. Only 104 survived the journey.
• The survivors founded Jamestown, in modern-day Virginia in 1607

**Jamestown: “Starving Times”**

• The Jamestown colony had trouble with sustainability.
• Early colonists did not want to work in agriculture, hoping to find precious metals instead.
  • Vast majority of early colonists were ‘gentlemen’ and not used to self-reliance
• Many expected the local Indians to feed and serve them.
• Bad hygienic conditions, (swampy land) led to various illnesses.
The Pocahontas Myth

- Pocahontas was the daughter of Powhatan.
- She “saved” John Smith in a mock execution ritual.
- During the first Anglo-Powhatan war (1610-12), the settlers kidnapped her and held her captive for several years.

- During this time she agreed to marry John Rolfe, (not Smith) one of the leading settlers.

- So why is this important?
• Of the original 104 settlers, only 38 survived the first winter. John Smith, a soldier of fortune, took over the colony’s leadership in 1608, imposing military discipline and improving conditions. After he left the colony in 1609, discipline collapsed again.

• In the second “starving time,” of 1609, 400 of 500 died.

Virginia: Native American Relations

• The Jamestown colonists had landed in a Native American power struggle.
• Powhatan, the leader of a powerful confederacy, hoped to get the English on his side.
• The English could provide various militarily and economically useful goods.
Virginia: Economic Development

• Since Virginia was conceived as a mercantilist venture, it needed to make a profit.
• John Rolfe found a profitable staple crop: tobacco.
• Initially, tobacco was hugely successful. The crop shaped Virginia’s way of life.
• Tobacco was land and labor intensive. Dispersed plantations, not compact villages, and slavery was the resulted from its growth.

  1618 — Virginia produces 20,000 pounds of tobacco.
  1629 — Virginia produces 1,500,000 pounds of tobacco.

Virginia: Labor

• Tobacco cultivation was very labor intensive, but labor was in short supply. Planters therefore turned to indentured servants as a solution.
  - Indentured servants were single young men and women who came to America, especially Virginia, mainly in the 17th century.
• Instead of paying their passage, they agreed to work for a fixed term, usually seven years. Their contracts could be bought and sold.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.
• For every servant a planter brought to Virginia, he received extra land. This was called the "headright" system.
• However, hard work, harsh treatment, and disease resulted in a devastating mortality rate of more than 40% in the first year.
• So why after 1660, were indentured servants increasingly replaced by African slaves?
  • The tobacco boom did not last.
  • After 1660, only the so-called "First Families" did well.
  • Limited economic growth meant costs needed to be trimmed and cheaper labor sources were valued.

Maryland
• In 1634, Maryland was founded by Lord Baltimore (Cecil Calvert) after he was given charter by Charles I
• Intended as a haven for Catholics and Protestants urged to move there to increase population.
• Ironically, Protestants soon outnumbered Catholics and the 1649 Religious Toleration Act was passed to protect Catholics from growing Protestant influence.
Carolina

- Carolina was granted to a group of proprietors in 1663.
- Named after Charles II
- North Carolina was settled in a similar manner to Virginia (subsistence farming)
- South Carolina was settled in larger plantations by colonists from Barbados (high dependency on slave labor)
- The split into North and South was formalized in 1729.

Georgia

- Founded in 1732, Georgia was not a Restoration colony.
- Proprietor James Oglethorpe intended it to act as a debtor colony and military outpost against Spanish Florida.
- Savannah was designed with a military purpose in mind.
- Strict rules stifled economic development

a sketch of Savannah
Bacon’s Rebellion

- 1646 Governor Berkeley agreed to a border with Susquehanna Indian chiefs but was unable to enforce it.
- Illegal English squatters led to Indian complaints of encroachment on their land (*Consider the irony given current opinions regarding immigrants*).
- Because of how the Royal Governors were paid, Berkeley relied on his trade monopoly with the Indians for his wealth.
- Constant conflict between Natives and squatters (mostly former indentured servants) disrupted trade.
- Therefore, Berkeley always sided with the Indians.

Nathaniel Bacon and Bacon’s Rebellion

- Son of wealthy nobleman
- Given position by Berkeley
  - Treated like “new” rich
- Sided with Rebels when war broke out
  - Upset with the “old wealth” elites in the East
Bacon’s rebellion
  - causes
    - Backcountry settlement and Protection
    - Power of “eastern” elites and Taxation
  - significance
First large rebellion in colonies (political & social)
Social/political conflict:
  - “eastern” elites vs. backcountry
Catalyst in transition from indentured servitude to slavery
Aftermath

- English send troops to stop rebellion
- Berkeley is officially recalled (removed from office)
- For Indians the frontier was again pushed back (renegotiated)

Emergence of slavery

- In 1650 there were only 300 slaves in the Chesapeake
- Existing slave trade from Africa and their lifetime of servitude make them attractive
  - No need to give slaves land
  - 1672 African Royal Company broke monopoly on slave trade thus lowering prices
- Decrease in indentured servants as the English birthrate declined
- Fears of growing number of landless freemen
- By 1750 there were 150,000 slaves in the Chesapeake alone (575,000 total)
- 11 million slaves transported across Atlantic
• 1619 – First Africans arrive
  – Viewed as indentured servants
• 1660s- Slave Codes Emerge
• New Slavery:
  – Permanent
  – Inherited
  – Race-based (by mother’s race) Meaning children born to slave mothers (often due to instances of rape) were not given elevated status.
  – Harsh
• Slavery was too expensive for all but the wealthiest of settlers. It expanded the economic influence of the “old money” families in the South
  - Slavocracy
Puritans and the smaller Pilgrims came over for:

Matthew 5  **Build on the Rock**

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."
Puritanism: The English Reformation

- In the 16th century, Henry VIII had separated the Church of England from Rome.
- Elizabeth I consolidated the Church of England along moderate lines.
- Some members of the Church of England, the Puritans, demanded more radical Calvinist reforms.
- They opposed church government through bishops, and came into conflict with the absolutist ambitions of the Stuart kings in the 17th century.

Puritanism: Central Beliefs

- Puritans were inspired by the theology of John Calvin.
  - Predestination
  - They engaged in constant soul-searching and study of scripture.
  - Focus on more pure form of Christianity (removed from European corruption)
  - They opposed many church rituals, including Christmas.
- Puritans were often persecuted by the English state in the early 17th century because they were so difficult to get along with. (Bloody Mary had 250 burned)
Plymouth Plantation: The Pilgrims

- In 1620, a group of separatist Puritans ("Pilgrims") traveled to North America aboard the ship Mayflower.
- The Mayflower Compact established a "civil body politic" for themselves and their non-Pilgrim companions.
- The plan was to establish a spiritually pure colony in the New World, away from the corruption of England.
- On their second landing site, they established a settlement they called Plymouth after the hometown of some of the colonists.

Plymouth: Survival Problems

+ The Pilgrims had arrived as family groups, ready to farm.
+ The Native American population had been decimated by an epidemic introduced by European traders, so land was available.
- However, The Pilgrims arrived in December, giving them no time to farm, just to build some shelter.
- A starving time resulted.
+ Native's, (decimated by disease, and civil war), helped the Pilgrims survive in order to win over these strange "allies".
American Mythology: Thanksgiving

• The good cooperation between local Indians and the Pilgrims was short lived.

• The idea of a single Thanksgiving event is untrue and much of the food depicted in idealized imagery was not possible given the conditions.

• Pilgrims were absorbed by neighboring Puritan societies by 1690.

• However, Pilgrims are viewed as a founding people and the Mayflower Compact and ‘Thanksgiving’ are valued as examples of democracy and Christian values.

Massachusetts Bay Colony

• While Plymouth (Pilgrims) remained small, a second colony, Massachusetts Bay, (Puritan) prospered.

• Not quite a Theocracy but close.

• In the “Great English Migration” 1630-1642 over 20,000 came to New Eng.

• The colony was relatively well-prepared and profited from a large # of settlers.
“A City Upon A Hill“

• Massachusetts was founded as a Christian utopia, outlined by John Winthrop in his sermon “A Model of Christian Charity.”

• The colony was to be based on strict Puritan theology, as an example to the old world.

• The earliest example of “American Exceptionalism” or that America is inherently different from other countries.

For we must consider that we shall be a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword through the world.

(John Winthrop)
- It was supposed to be a model of brotherly love and economic cooperation.
- Emphasis on education (Harvard 1636)
- These ideals were reflected in the New England village settlement patterns.
- The focus on subsistence agriculture and family coherence led to a rapid increase in population.

- Ironically, while the Puritans came to the New World because they were not tolerated in England, their enforced laws were often intolerant of religious dissent.
- New colonies of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire were formed by Puritan dissenters kicked out of the Commonwealth.
Forms of punishment for sins under Puritan law.

Branded with an ‘F’ for fornicator
Religious Dissent and Secularization

• Three famous dissenters were exiled in the 1630s: Roger Williams, Anne Hutchinson and Mary Dyer.

• Anne Hutchinson was a midwife and an outspoken antinomian or someone who emphasized faith over doctrine.

• Anti = against Nomian = Law

• In 1637, Hutchinson, whom John Winthrop described as the "American Jezebel," was tried for teaching without authority. Hutchinson believed anyone could be an ‘elect’ and therefore teach. She was banished from Massachusetts Bay and in a separate trial, excommunicated from her church.

• Hutchinson is one of the earliest examples of feminism and the resistance it was met with.

• Mary Dyer came to New England in 1635 and quickly befriended Anne Hutchinson

• In 1637 Dyer gave birth to a stillborn child which was described as "monstrous" in a letter by William Bradford to John Winthrop.

• Hutchinson (who would later have her own stillborn birth) was Dyer’s midwife and helped to conceal the child's birth to protect her friend from accusations.
  • Finding out, Winthrop ordered the baby exhumed and available for public inspection which he described as: …the ears stood upon the shoulders and were like an ape’s; it had no forehead, but over the eyes four horns, hard and sharp; two of them were above one inch long, the other two shorter; the eyes standing out, and the mouth also; the nose hooked upward; all over the breast and back full of sharp pricks and scales, like a thornback… it had two mouths, and in each of them a piece of red flesh sticking out; it had arms and legs as other children; but, instead of toes, it had on each foot three claws, like a young fowl, with sharp talons.

• When Hutchinson was banished in 1638, Mary Dyer and her family joined Hutchinson in exile in Rhode Island.

• Dyer later returned to England and became a Quaker. She was jailed for refusing to conform to the established church when she returned to Boston in 1657, and executed when she returned to Boston yet again to bear witness against religious oppression in 1660.
King Philip’s War

- Indian – White relations at low ebb by 1670s.
- Treaties with Indians not kept; nefarious tactics to get land.
- Metacomet – named ‘King Philip’ by whites, chief of Wampanoags
  - Specific grievances over loss of tribal lands, effect of alcohol and guns on people, also Puritan treatment of ‘praying Indians’
- Wampanoags have early success which leads to other tribes joining in a general Indian war against the English settlers.
- But as the war drags into 1676, Indians were unable to continue a long war. The English re-group and counter-attack killing King Phillip.

Consequences of King Phillip’s War

- 3000 Indians killed (50% of pop), loss of tribal leaders, exile of many Indians to west, captives sold into slavery, remaining tribes confined to praying villages. End of threat in New England
- Came close to bankrupting many colonies.
- 2500 white settlers killed, (10% of white men of fighting age), damaged 52 of the 90 settlements in New England, totally destroying 12 of them.
- Psychological - the war was viewed as a warning from God for straying from the path.
  - Growth of religiousness that morphs into the First Great Awakening in the 1730s and 1740s
Religious Prevalence in Colonial America

- Most people did not consider themselves religious during the colonial period- only about 1/5
- Most colonists arrived for nonreligious reasons
- Church membership never surpassed 20% during the colonial period
- Approximately 80% of Americans, slaves excluded, were WASPS (White Anglo-Saxon Protestants)
- Other forms of Christianity were opposed by the Protestants

Concluding Thoughts

- Overall process of colonial maturity. In only 100 years from desperate settlers fighting for survival to full-blown complex societies, economically dynamic and with a tradition of considerable self-government.
- Despite many initial problems, the English colonies in the Chesapeake, New England, and Middle colonies endured and sometimes prospered.
- They were greatly aided by the large numbers of migrants from England in the early 17th century.
- All regions faced similar problems most notable was securing the frontier.
- At same time, a mother-child metaphor was widely used for colonial-imperial relationship. Trouble is built-in: what happens when the child grows up?