The Colonial Economy: Built on Slavery

Virginia Colony

Virginia's Reason for survival:

- Reforms Necessary
  - General Assembly of Virginia
  - 1629: 90 women to be sold as wives, 80 Africans to be sold as slaves

Colonial Govt. & Economy

- Favorable balance of trade = exports, imports
- Less reliance on other countries = more $ (self-sufficiency)
- Seeds of Self-Govt.
- English Govt. relaxed enforcement of most regulations in return for economic loyalty
**Land and Crops**

- Southern Climate Advantage — Exotic
- South produces
  - landowning aristocracy
  - Riverfront estates = direct access

**Land Owners and Labor**

For freight or passage apply to Scots and Swedes, merchants in Glasgow, or Captain William N’Cann, in Grenock.

**WANTED,**

To go to Virginia, under indentures for a few years.
A Young Man, who understands LATIN GREEK, and MATHEMATICS, to serve as a Tutor in a gentleman’s family.
A lad who has served an apprenticeship as a foreman, to live with one of his own professions.
Two Gardeners, who understands their business well, particularly the work in a garden.

The’s properly recommendable enclosures, on good land and timber, merchants in Glasgow.

That the FORAGE brings, consisting of forage.
Is to be for all December next, and extended.

**Slavery in the South**

- Jamestown (1619)
- First Africans were indentured servants (could earn freedom)
- Rationalizations
- Supply & demand
- “[It] is the weakness of Negroes proceeds from a natural infection.”
- “Slave Society”
- “[I] consider a woman who brings a child every two years as more profitable than the best man of the farm.”
- 4-6 week trip, brutal conditions
You are a member of Parliament, and you have heard testimony about slave ship conditions, and you have carefully considered the pro-slavery and anti-slavery (abolitionist) arguments. Thinking as a person of that time period, would you want to abolish slavery and the slave trade? Why or why not? Write a paragraph long speech that describes in detail how you feel about the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, its impact upon the people involved, and the impact upon Great Britain and its Colonies.
Slavery in the South

Virginia Legislature (1667):
- "the conferring of baptism does not alter the condition of the person to his bondage or freedom."

Did a deep-rooted color prejudice lead to slavery, or did the existence of slavery produce the prejudice?