

## **Pre-Columbian North America**

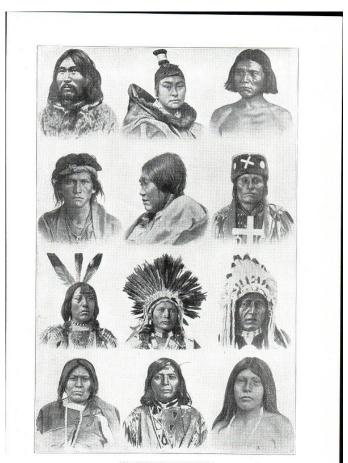
## A Land Inhabited...

Population estimate: **10 million** 

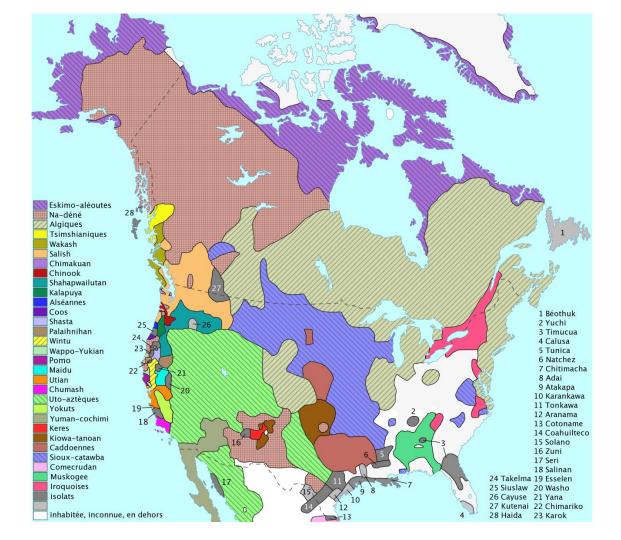
**400 nations** spread over the North American continent.

Some nations are (semi-) nomadic, others sedentary: hunting, fishing, agriculture, gathering.

Peoples and societies studied by **historians**, **ethnologists** and **archaeologists**.



1 Eskime of Labrador 2 Eskimo Woman of Greenhaud 3 Apache 4 Navaho 5 Koskimo Woman, Vancouver 6 Cheyenne 7 Mardan 8 Ure 9 Blackfoot 10 Woman Moki Chief 11 Nez Prefe 13 Wichiku Woman



#### **European settlement: early consequences**

Semi-friendly relations at first, growing animosity.

New reality: the establishment of **permanent European settlements**.

European trade upset Native American societies.

Devastating effect of new microbes of European origin on Native American societies.



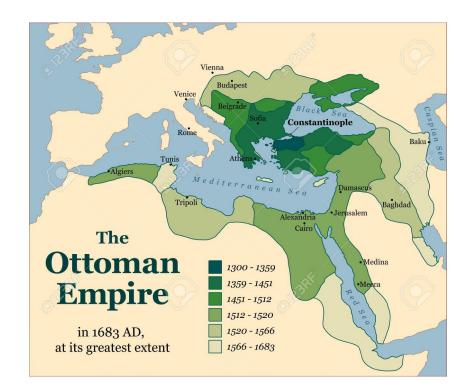


### Factors contributing to European colonization

Reform and religious wars.

Wealth is "blocked" on the continent by **feudal land monopoly** and occupation of exploitable territories.

Search for new **transcontinental trade** routes.



## **Colonization: Early Initiatives**

Interest in the New World stimulated by **Columbus's discoveries**.

The partition of the New World between Portugal and Spain: **the Treaty of Tordesilla** (1494).

Colonization began in full with **the discovery of precious metals** in the New World.

New World gold and silver flow back onto the old continent, transforming it irrevocably.



## **Spain's Great Rival: England**



The superpower of the 16th century: **the Spanish Empire**.

**"Bullionism"**: wealth by accumulation of precious metals. By trade, or looting.

**Elizabeth the 1st**: drain the wealth of the Spanish Empire at the source.

Spain's **"Invincible Armada"** fails to depose Queen Elizabeth. Rise of the British Navy.

#### **British Colonization: Early Attempts**



Sir Walter Raleigh (1554 – 1618)

1579: **Francis Drake** - Upper California and Oregon.

1583: Humphrey Gilbert -Newfoundland.

1585: Walter Raleigh - "The Lost Colony" of Roanoke, Virginia.

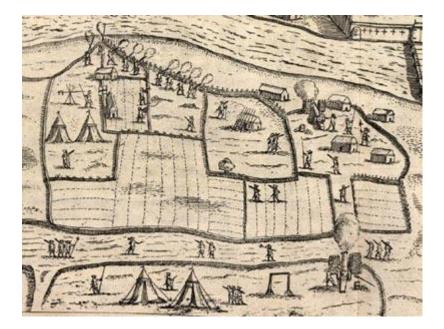
Raleigh discovers the *Chesapeake*, and names this territory "Virginia" in honor of the Virgin Queen.

#### **England: rise of the merchant class**

The **merchant class**: the rise of Parliament vis-à-vis the crown. Funds shipments.

1584: **Richard Hakluyt**, agent of the East India Company, published *Discourse Concerning the Western Planting*.

Praises the economic, social and political benefits of colonization.



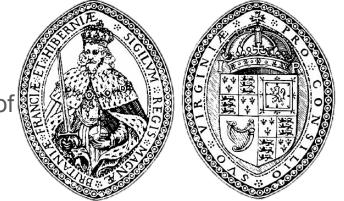
Munster Plantation, Ireland (1580)

## The Virginia Company (1607-1624)

In 1606, **James the Ist** granted a colonization charter to the *Virginia and Plymouth Company*, and the *Virginia Company of London*.

Company objectives:

- Converting the natives to Christianity.
- Founding an overseas settlement in the name of the King.
- Prospecting to discover gold, silver and copper mines.

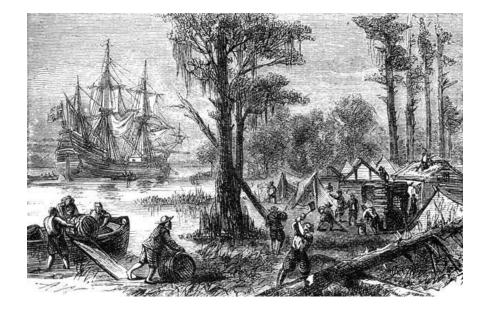


## Phase 1 (1607-1618): Survival and Adaptation

Gentry settlers and indentured servants: few survival skills.

Famine and malnutrition-related diseases. Malaria crisis.

The **Powhatans** provided assistance for the survival of the settlers of **Jamestown** and the surrounding area.



Maximum population: 350.

#### Phase 2 (1618-1624): Recovery and Development

Company of London accelerates its colonization programme:

- The **Headright System**: any settler who pays the cost of their trip receives a 50-acre parcel of land.
- If this cost is paid by an already-established settler, the new settler becomes his "contract worker," and the sponsor receives the 50 acres.

Origin of the social class of wealthy homeowners in the southern United States.

1619: "Marriage-age women" arrive in the colony, allowing the colony to establish permanent foundations.

#### **Tobacco cultivation**



Implementation of **tobacco cultivation** - end of mining exploration.

Development of the metropolitan market allows settlers to improve their standard of living.

Emergence of the **freeman** (indentured servant at the end of the contract) as a new social class.

Monopoly of land that can be cultivated by landowners: freemen who would become the first frontiersmen.

## House of Burgesses (1619)

First representative government: the *House of Burgesses*.

Delegates elected by qualified voters (landowners aged 21+ years).

The power to pass laws, in collaboration with the governor of the colony and his council, appointed by the London Company board.



## Virginia Company: Charter Withdrawal

**1622-1624**: turbulent period in Anglo-American relations, linked to the territorial overextension of the colony. Virginia is the object of relentless attacks, contributing to its fragility and precariousness.

Jacques the 1st withdraws his charter from the London Company. Virginia becomes a Royal Colony.



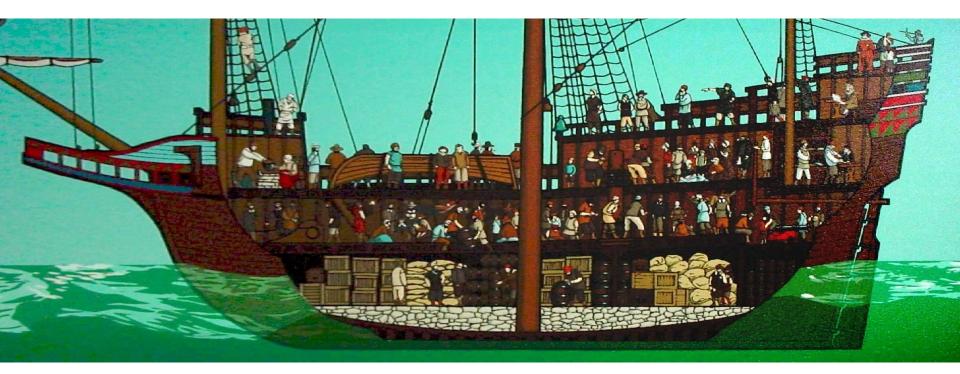
# The Colonization of New England

## **Arrival of the Pilgrims**

September 16, 1620: 131 puritans sail from Plymouth (England) to cross the Atlantic ocean in the **Mayflower**, to reach the "New Jerusalem" that awaits them overseas.

Virginia was their destination, but the Pilgrims reached land at **Cape Cod.** 





## **The Mayflower Compact**

The pilgrims do not have a colonization charter. They draft the *Mayflower Compact*, in which they set out their settlement rights and obligations.

Mayflower Compact establishes **the General Court**: annual meeting to elect governor, pass laws, raise taxes and institute courts. **A direct democracy of co-religionists**.



#### The Massachusetts Bay Company



As early as 1628, another group of puritans obtains a colonization charter to settle in the Bay of Massachusetts. In 1629, the **Massachusetts Bay Company** was formed, organizing its first expedition to **Salem**.

The village of **Boston** was founded in 1630. By 1640, the Massachusetts colony has a population of 9,000.

#### **Religious Intolerance & Colonization**

Escalation of religious intolerance in a very Puritan colonial Massachusetts. Result: the foundation of new religious communities, soon to be colonies.

Thomas Hooker (1635): Connecticut.

Roger Williams (1636): Rhode Island.

John Wheelright (1637): New Hampshire.



Roger Williams meets the Narragansetts

### **Private Colonies**

**Maryland** (1634): a Catholic colony, profitable thanks to tobacco cultivation.

**Caroline** (1663): in 1712, the owners split into two parts, North Carolina and South Carolina.

**Pennsylvania** (1681): a place of refuge for persecuted Quakers.

**Georgia** (1733): territory for expulsion of undesirables. Buffer zone to curb the expansion of Spaniards in Florida.

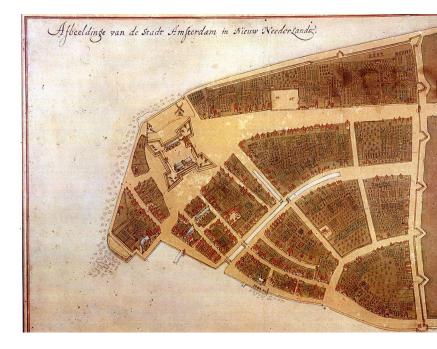


## **New Holland**

The Dutch founded *Nieuw Amsterdam* (New York City) and *Beverwyck* (Albany) at the turn of the 17th century as centres of commerce.

**Peter Stuyvesant** surrendered to the English in 1664, and ceded them the colony.

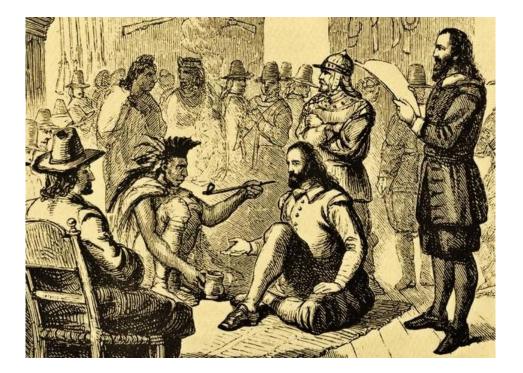
**New Jersey**, **Delaware**, and **New York**: created from the seizure of Dutch Atlantic seaboard settlements.



## **Colonial Society: Themes**

# Relationships between Native Americans and English settlers

#### **Off to a Good Start...**



Native American assistance to settlers in Virginia and Massachusetts.

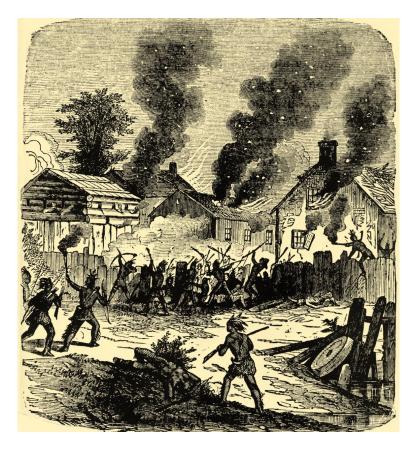
"Thanksgiving"

## **Deteriorating Relationships**

Jamestown Massacre (1622)

The War against the Pequots (1634-1638)

The War of "King Philip" (1675-1678)



August 2, 1675: Attack on Brookfield, Connecticut by Native Americans

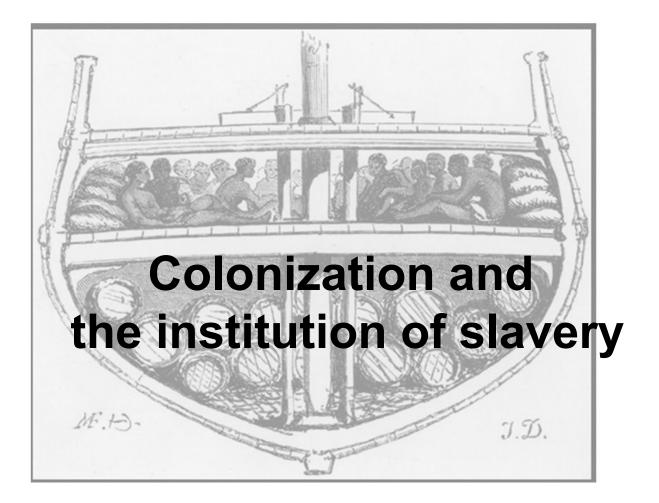
## **Conflicts and Marginalization**

Aside from their different settlement patterns, North and the South are both population-intensive colonies.

Key sources of Native-settler conflict:

- Religious ideology of the settlers.
- Settler land occupation policy vs. Native territorial claims.





## **Economy of the South: Beginnings**

Tobacco monoculture:

1617: Virginia produces 500,000 pounds of tobacco. End of the century: 30 mil. pounds of tobacco annually.

Subject to the vagaries of British demand.

A form of exploitation that consumes its workforce.



#### **Slaves or Servants?**

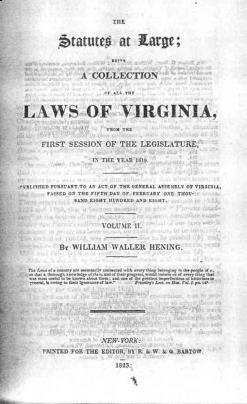
First Africans arrive at Jamestown in 1619, brought on a "Dutch" ship. Indentured servants from the Caribbean, released at the end of their contracts.

## The Peculiar Institution (K. Stamp)

**Virginia** (1660): The *Slave Codes* govern the relationship between masters and slaves, and the duties and obligations of each.

**Masters**: limit the movement of slaves, prohibit the carrying of weapons, decide the marriage of slaves.

**Slaves**: Forbidden to learn to read and write, possession of alcohol, or recourse to justice.



## **Economy of the South: Crisis and Turnaround**

Late 16th century: **crisis of overproduction**, the English market is saturated. Consequences in Virginia:

- The owners of the large plantations buy up land from freemen.
- Freemen forced to become wage laborers to survive.

Other types of **plantations** in the southern colonies: rice, cotton, indigo. Manufacturing for local needs only.

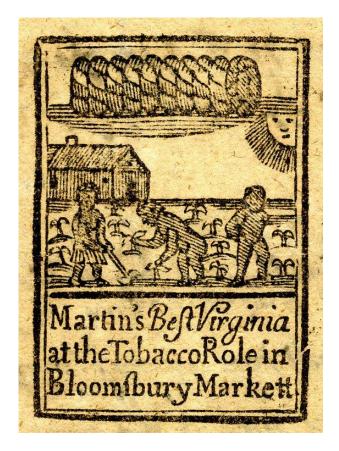
**Concentration of agricultural land ownership** + a **strong dependency on the metropolitan market**.

## 17th Century: Slavery at the Margins

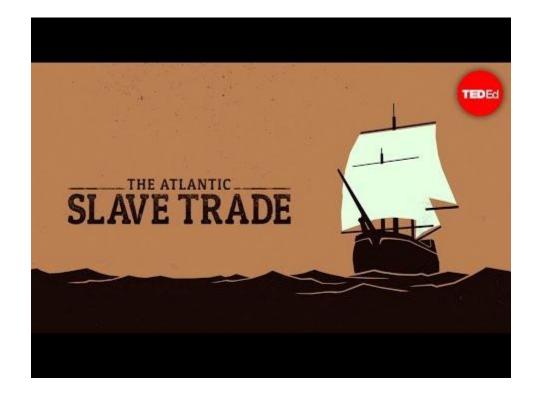
Indentured servants cheaper than slaves.

Factors in the development of slavery:

- Intensive monoculture of agricultural foodstuffs (sugar, tobacco) the economic situation, the decline in the rate of profit.
- The ideological justification for slavery biological racism in the latter half of 17th century.



#### **TED-Ed : The Atlantic Slave Trade**



#### **Indentured Servitude vs. Slavery**

**Bondage Status:** 

Temporary

Individual (alienable)

Contractual basisSlave OReligious justificationRacialisPoor whitesBlacks

Slave Status: Permanent

Hereditary (inalienable)

Slave Ownership Racialist justification Blacks

#### **Institution of Slavery: Key Characteristics**

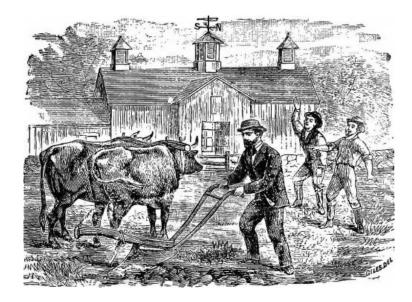
An economic system

A property regime

A political regime of repression

**Racialist justification** 

### **North: Economic Development**

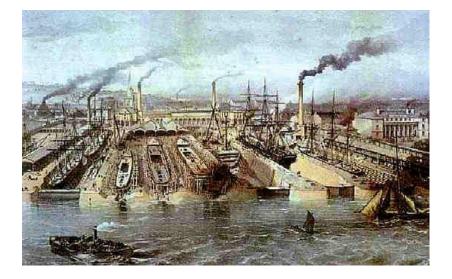


The proximity of occupied territories, variety of resources and rigours of the climate foster **greater social solidarity**.

17th century: the majority of settlers were **farmers**, **craftsmen**, or **merchants**.

**Agriculture**: cereal crops. Export of agricultural surplus to int'l markets.

# **A Colonial Merchant Navy**



Development of a **merchant navy** for export markets.

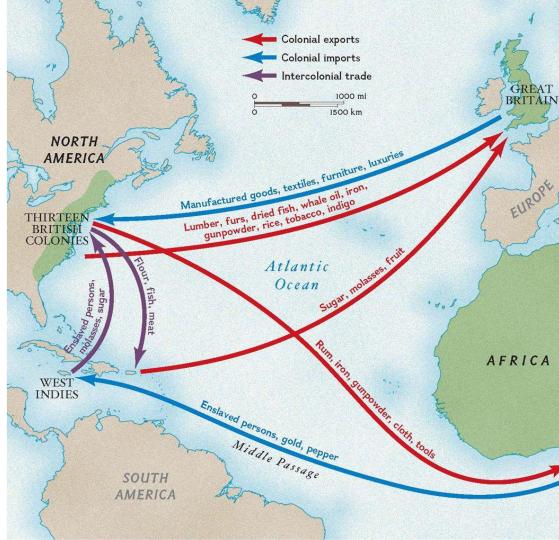
Shipyards: Boston, Massachusetts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Newport, Rhode Island. New class of salaried craftsmen attached to this local industry.

Opens the door to **multilateral trade** (legal and illegal): e.g. Caribbean, Portugal.

# **Triangular trade**

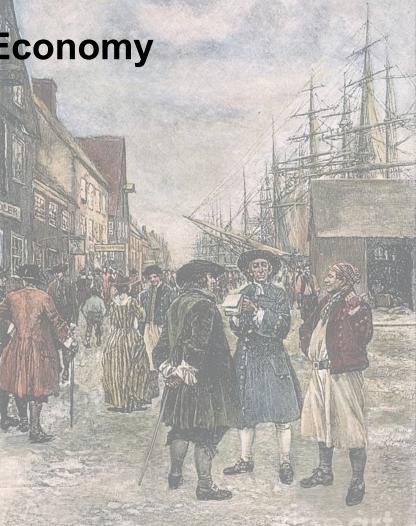
Transatlantic trade stimulated urbanization in northern colonies such as Boston, New York and Philadelphia. In the South, only Charleston shared similar characteristics.

Africa: slaves Carribean and American South: crop monoculture. American North: export trade.



### North: A Diversified Market Economy

The problem of the flow of agricultural surpluses and the development of a solvent export market leads to the development of a **native, independent trading class**, and stimulates the process of urbanization.



#### **Recap: parallel development**

**Northern Colonies** 

Harsh, or temperate climate

Agricultural and proto-industrial economy

**Urban development** 

**Relative independence** 

"Separatist" religious culture

Local labour

**Commercial capital** 

**Southern Colonies** 

Warm climate

Monoculture agricultural economy

**Rural development** 

**Dependence on the metropolis** 

Anglicanism

**Imported labour** 

Land capital

# **Religion in Colonial America**

#### The Impact of Puritanism on the Culture of the North

The Puritans want to remove themselves from old Europe and its corrupt religious mores.

Their goal: to create a new society in total harmony with their religious principles.



# What is Puritanism?



For the Puritan, Man is a sinner, and only the grace of God can save him. The Puritan must adopt **strict observance behavior** that will allow her/him to obtain divine grace, and become God's chosen one.

More than a religion, it is also a way of life, based on a rigorist interpretation of Christianity:

- Lead a tidy, pious life, without excess.
- Show a spirit of mutual aid.
- Maintain a constant and personal relationship with God.
- Manifest an insatiable desire to know God's thought, in order to better orient him/her-self in life.

### **Puritanism Structures Social life**

For the Puritan, the kin group is more important than the family, which is more important than the individual.

The organization of **counties** favours the identification of each settler in her/his commune. Social solidarity is at the heart of community life.

A closeness that helps problem-solving and crisis through **collective consultation**. Involves much behavior monitoring.

# **Puritanism and Political Culture**



Town Hall Meeting, West Hartford, Connecticut, 2009

**Townships** managed by a community-focused political structure.

Decisions made at Town Hall meetings (village meetings for men 21+ years). Political representatives are chosen at these meetings.

The idea of **limited government**: power shared between governor of the colony, councillors and delegates of the people.

# The Excesses of Puritanism

Exiles and banishments linked to the founding of the new Eastern Seaboard colonies.

A culture of inclusion and exclusion: the "Chosen" vs. the "Heathen"...

**Religious pluralism** imposed by the Crown during the unification of New England led to the tragic "Witches of Salem" episode.



### The Crucible (Arthur Miller)



# The Pennsylvania Quakers

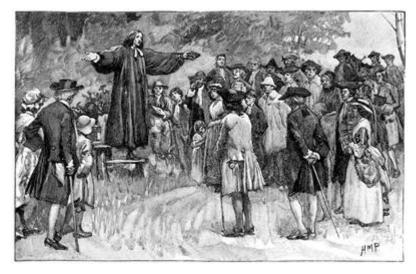
**Quakers**: Even more radical Puritan. Rituals of public trance.

**Pennsylvania**: a utopia of Quakers, an egalitarian society rid of all old-world corruption, in harmony with Native Americans.

**Convinced pacifists**. Famous for the episode of Governor James Logan.



# The "Great Awakening" (18th Century)



Circuit Rider George Whitefield (1714-1770)

Rise of the itinerant pastors, the **"circuit** riders".

Movements at the margins of the established religious canons of Anglicanism (South) and Puritanism (North).

Methodism, baptism, evangelism. Intercultural religious practice: English, Dutch, German settlers.

# **African-American religion**

**Syncretism** of Christian religion and African religious beliefs and practices.

Repressed with vigour in the South, hardly tolerated in the North. Right of assembly prohibited, or closely monitored.

Methodism, Baptism, Pentecostalism.

