

Social, Religious & Political disturbances in English North America, 1640 – 1676



- ✓ **THE AGE OF MERCANTILISM**
- ✓ **ESTABLISHING THE MIDDLE COLONIES**
- ✓ **THE IMPACT OF CHARLES II & JAMES II ON ENGLISH
NORTH AMERICA**
- ✓ **BACON'S REBELLION: POPULIST UPRISING OR
REACTIONARY SUBJECT?**

Reasserting control over English North America



- ❖ DURING THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR (1640 – 1649) THE WARRING SIDES HAD PAID VERY LITTLE ATTENTION TO THE SETTLER COLONIES
- ❖ 1649 – 1660: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REPUBLIC SEES THE REASSERTION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONTROL
- ❖ MERCANTILIST THINKING DOMINATES THE NEW POLICIES SET IN LONDON FOR NORTH AMERICA

Reasserting control over English North America



- ❖ WHAT IS THE THEORY OF MERCANTILISM?
- ❖ A SET OF ECONOMIC THEORIES TO BE REALIZED BY
POLITICAL CONTROL
 - ❖ WEALTH IS *FINITE*
- ❖ ACQUISITION OF WEALTH BY A NATION IS
ESSENTIAL FOR ECONOMIC/POLITICAL SURVIVAL
- ❖ HEAVILY REGULATED TRADE TO BENEFIT NATION
 - ❖ 'CLOSED' ECONOMIC SPHERES
- ❖ HOW CAN SETTLER COLONIES OF EUROPEAN POWERS
CONTRIBUTE TO THE 'MOTHER COUNTRY'?

The theory of Mercantilism



- ❖ SETTLER COLONIES EXIST TO BENEFIT THE MOTHER
– COUNTRY
- ❖ THEY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A *FAVORABLE* BALANCE
OF TRADE FOR ENGLAND
 - ❖ TO REALIZE THIS OBJECTIVE:
 - ❖ THE INTERREGNUM PARLIAMENT PASSES THE
NAVIGATION ACTS (1651 & 1660)

The Navigation Acts (1651 & 1660)



- FOREIGN NATIONS & FOREIGN VESSELS CAN NO LONGER TRADE WITH THE ENGLISH SETTLER COLONIES
- *ENUMERATED* GOODS CAN NOW *ONLY* BE SENT TO ENGLAND OR OTHER ENGLISH SETTLER COLONIES
 - OTHER ITEMS BEING *SENT TO* OR *SENT FROM* ENGLISH NORTH AMERICA *MUST* BE ASSESSED AT AN ENGLISH PORT
- ONLY ENGLISH SHIPS & ENGLISH SAILORS ALLOWED TO MAN THE SHIPS

The Navigation Acts (1651 & 1660)



➤ THIS CLOSELY REGULATED RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN ENGLAND AND HER SETTLER COLONIES
WILL BE A *SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP*

➤ WHAT IS *SYMBIOSIS*?

A mutually beneficial relationship



- **MERCANTILISM IN ACTION**
- **ENGLAND REQUIRES AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF
TIMBER FOR NAVAL & MERCHANT SHIPS**
- **NEW ENGLAND SETTLER COLONIES BENEFIT FROM
THIS DIRECTIVE BY PRODUCING SHIPS FOR ENGLAND**
- **1700: ONE – FOURTH OF ALL ENGLISH SHIPS ARE
MADE BY SETTLERS IN NEW ENGLAND**

A mutually beneficial relationship



- **MERCANTILISM HAS MIXED RESULTS IN SOME CASES**
- **TOBACCO PRODUCING SETTLER COLONIES ARE HAMPERED BY CROWN RESTRICTIONS ON TOBACCO**
 - **GLUT IN EUROPEAN TOBACCO MARKETS**
- **TOBACCO SENT TO EUROPE TO BE SOLD CANNOT COMPETE WITH LOWER - PRICED COMPETITORS**

- **ECONOMIC CRISIS & TENSIONS WITH ROYAL GOVERNOR RISE THROUGH 1660S**

The Stuart Restoration



- 1660: CHARLES II RETURNS TO THE ENGLISH THRONE
- CHARLES II IS EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH PARLIAMENT & PROTESTANT ENGLISH ELITES
- HOWEVER, CHARLES & PARLIAMENT ARE OF ONE ACCORD ON CONTINUATION OF REPUBLICAN ENGLAND'S MERCANTILIST POLICIES
- LOGIC OF MERCANTILIST THINKING DICTATES THE ACQUISITION OF 'NEW NETHERLANDS' - WHICH PREVENTS A LINK-UP OF NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ENGLISH SETTLER COLONIES

The fall of 'New Netherlands'



- DUTCH SEA – CAPTAINS TRADE IN SECRET WITH ENGLISH SETTLERS
- FORMED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE DUTCH WEST INDIES COMPANY
 - SMALL NUMBERS OF DUTCH SETTLERS
 - WEAK SERIES OF GOVERNORS
- ENGLISH SETTLERS; INCLUDING PURITANS ARE DENIED ANY PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE
- 1660: 8000 INHABITANTS IN NEW NETHERLANDS

The fall of 'New Netherlands'



- **AUGUST 1664: BRITISH COLONEL RICHARD NICOLLS ARRIVES OFF NEW AMSTERDAM WITH A BRITISH INVASION FLEET**
- **CHARLES II TURNS OVER THE TERRITORY TO HIS YOUNGER BROTHER**
- **NICOLLS, A FAVORITE OF JAMES, DUKE OF YORK, RENAMES SETTLEMENT IN HONOR OF HIS PATRON**
 - **JAMES INSTRUCTS NICOLLS TO MAKE NO CONCESSIONS TO PURITAN OR DUTCH SETTLERS**
 - **GRANTS PROPRIETARY RIGHTS TO HIS OTHER FAVORITES; LORD BERKELEY & SIR GEORGE CARTERET**

The fall of 'New Netherlands'



- NICOLLS IS AN ASTUTE GOVERNOR
- ALLOWS ALL EUROPEAN SETTLERS TO RETAIN THEIR LANDS
 - CERTAIN RIGHTS; TRIAL BY JURY, RELIGIOUS TOLERATION FOR ANY BRANCH OF CHRISTIANITY
 - HOWEVER, NO LOCAL ASSEMBLY IS ALLOWED BY JAMES
- NEW JERSEY IS ESTABLISHED AS A ROYAL COLONY IN 1702

The establishment of the settler colony of Pennsylvania



- **GEORGE FOX & THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**
 - **QUAKERS**
- **ONE OF NUMEROUS RADICAL SECTS THAT EMERGE DURING ENGLISH CIVIL WAR**
 - **WILLIAM PENN**
 - **ROYAL HOUSE OF STUART OWES DEBT TO PENN FAMILY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DURING RESTORATION**
- **PENN REQUESTS A ROYAL GRANT TO SETTLE HIS RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY**

The establishment of the settler colony of Pennsylvania



- PENN HAS A RADICAL VISION FOR AN EQUAL SOCIETY
- IN HIS PERSONAL DEALINGS PENN WAS SINCERE HOWEVER HIS OFFICIALS AND OTHER RELIGIOUS SETTLERS WERE NOT
- ESTABLISHMENT OF PHILADELPHIA – CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE
 - 1701: CHARTER OF LIBERTIES
 - UNICAMERAL GOVERNMENT
- PENN BELIEVES HIS EXPERIMENT IN TRYING TO CREATE A JUST SOCIETY HAS FAILED

The road to Bacon's rebellion



- DUTCH CONTINUE TO TRY AND RECAPTURE NEW NETHERLANDS ; CRITICAL TO DUTCH EMPIRE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE
- 1667: DUTCH WARSHIPS CAPTURE AN ENTIRE YEAR'S WORTH OF TOBACCO IN CHESAPEAKE BAY
- 1674: DUTCH RECAPTURE NEW AMSTERDAM ONLY TO RETURN IT IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS
 - DUTCH RETAIN ISLANDS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE BUT HAVE BEEN OUSTED FROM NORTH AMERICA

The road to Bacon's rebellion



- THE SETTLER ECONOMY IN THE CROWN COLONY OF VIRGINIA IS COLLAPSING
- SETTLERS ARE ANGRY WITH CROWN GOVERNOR SIR WILLIAM BERKELEY
 - A FIFTY - ACRE LAND HOLDING IS REQUIRED TO VOTE IN THE LOCAL ASSEMBLY
- CONTINUED SPORADIC WARFARE WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
 - THE ARRIVAL OF NATHANIEL BACON

The road to Bacon's rebellion



- FROM AN EXTREMELY WEALTHY FAMILY IN ENGLAND
- INITIALLY WARMLY RECEIVED BY BERKELEY
 - IS A COUSIN OF BERKELEY'S WIFE
- APPOINTED TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE BY THE GOVERNOR
- 1675: ENGLISH SETTLERS ATTACK SUSQUEHANNOCK NATION AND FACE COUNTER – ATTACKS
- BACON BECOMES HEAD OF THE PRO – WAR FACTION AND DEMANDS ACTION AGAINST THE SUSQUEHANNOCK AND CONTROL OF THE FUR TRADE

The road to Bacon's rebellion



- BERKELEY REFUSES ON BOTH ISSUES
- MAY 1676: BACON RAISES HIS OWN FORCE AGAINST THE GOVERNOR'S ORDERS AND ATTACKS THE SUSQUEHANNOCK & OCCANEECHE PEOPLES
 - TWO OBJECTIVES
- SEIZE INDIGENOUS LANDS AND GOODS AND FORCE BERKELEY TO COME TO TERMS
- JUNE – SEPTEMBER 1676 : THERE ARE A SERIES OF MOVES AND COUNTER – MOVES THAT ULTIMATELY RESULTS IN THE BURNING OF JAMESTOWN BY BACON'S FORCES

The road to Bacon's rebellion



- **SEPTEMBER 1676: BACON DIES UNEXPECTEDLY FROM DYSENTERY AND REBELLION COLLAPSES**
- **BACON'S REBELLION IN CONTEXT**
- **NOT AS 'REVOLUTIONARY' AS PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT**
- **DECLARATIONS BY BACON'S ASSEMBLY (JUNE 1676) CALLED FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF ALL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN INCLUDING THOSE AT PEACE WITH THE CROWN**

Consequences of the rebellion



- BACON'S ANGER AGAINST BERKELEY WAS BASED ON THE GOVERNOR'S RESTRICTION ON FURTHER ACQUISITION OF INDIGENOUS LANDS
- REBELLION LEADS TO THE ERASURE OF CLASS DIVISIONS BETWEEN UPPER - CLASS SETTLERS, INDENTURED SERVANTS AND LOWER - CLASS SETTLERS
- THE CROWN'S USE OF ARMED AFRICANS IN CONFLICT IS ALSO A SOURCE OF ANGER AMONGST THE ENGLISH SETTLERS