



# THE EARLY ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

# THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS

- ❖ The ability to grow tobacco crops allows the establishment of Virginia as an economic base.
- ❖ Initially many, including King James I of England, do not think much of growing tobacco...
- ❖ By 1617 first tobacco shipments are sent to England..

# THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS

- ❖ Struggle with diseases...
- ❖ Worsening relations with Native Americans...
- ❖ Expanding the Charter...
- ❖ Sir Thomas Smythe
- ❖ The Rise of Indentured Servitude...
- ❖ Develops from contractual farm service in England during Stuart times...
- ❖ Lack of prospects in England contrasts with possibilities in the New World..

# THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS

- ❖ Bonded contracts - "indentures"
- ❖ 7 years of service to be followed by freedom and land grants...
- ❖ Despite promises, reputation of higher death rates in Virginia ensures very few accept offer...
- ❖ Brutal regime exists to ensure compliance with colony laws...

# THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS

- ❖ THE GREAT CHARTER OF 1618
- ❖ Sir Edward Sandys
- ❖ Military rule to be reversed, allow settlers to live under 'King's Law' as exists in Stuart England..
- ❖ A local assembly also guaranteed in the form of the House of Burgesses
- ❖ "Headrights"

# THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS

- ❖ These reforms open up prospects for middle-class families from England but  $\frac{3}{4}$  of laborers are still from the serving or laboring classes in England...
- ❖ No family life or structure

# THE ROYAL COLONIES

- ❖ Impact of Native American assault & failure to ensure a proper contract leads to revocation of the Company's rights.
- ❖ Virginia becomes a Royal Colony.
- ❖ Royal Governor - direct rule
- ❖ Local Assemblies - 'Conventions' to deal with local issues...
- ❖ Tensions between locals and Royal Governors...
- ❖ Charles I finally relents in 1639 to allow a representative assembly.

# The 'Divine' Right of Kings...

- ❖ Great Chain of Being Theory
- ❖ The Prince is the Direct Representative of God on Earth
- ❖ 'Divinely' sanctioned rule
- ❖ Kings & Princes above any other law
- ❖ James VI & Charles I of England are strong advocates of this position
- ❖ Concerned with enhancing & protecting power of the Crown...



# THE OTHER ROYAL COLONIES

- ❖ Additional Crown colonies will bring in more money & prestige amongst European powers
- ❖ Granting representation will lead to more people leaving England
- ❖ Land grants to Court loyalists
- ❖ 'Proprietary' Land Grants
- ❖ Sir George Calvert granted lands in what becomes "Maryland" named after Henrietta Maria, Queen Consort of England.

# THE OTHER ROYAL COLONIES

- ❖ Calvert had converted to Roman Catholicism
- ❖ Maryland expected to function as haven for Roman Catholics from England..
- ❖ Tobacco becomes chief export
- ❖ Cecilius Calvert establishes assembly in 1635
- ❖ Act of Religious Toleration (1649)
- ❖ Does not grant full toleration but sets the stage for freedom of conscience..

# THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

- ❖ Differences between King & Parliament leads to English Civil War, 1640-1649
- ❖ Initially successful, Royalist forces are eventually forced onto the defensive
- ❖ Naseby/Marston Moor (1644/1645)
- ❖ Charles I captured, tried & executed in 1649
- ❖ Problem of administration remains...
- ❖ Interregnum
- ❖ The Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell...

# THE RESTORATION

- ❖ Richard Cromwell 'succeeds' Oliver but does not have support of the Army...
- ❖ General George Monck plays critical role in restoring Charles II to the throne...
- ❖ Charles II is short of money, therefore pays off allies by giving them land grants in English - controlled North America, south of English Virginia & north of Spanish Florida...
- ❖ Carolus...

# THE CAROLINAS

- ❖ Very difficult to settle for the proprietors
- ❖ Incentives include "absolute power" over slaves...
- ❖ Slavery is established from the start...
- ❖ English farmers encouraged to resettle from the island of Barbados - attractive because of frequent uprisings by enslaved population
- ❖ Charleston created in 1670
- ❖ Rice is the cash crop of the Carolinas

# RELIGIOUS DISSENTERS

- ❖ Separatists & Non-Separatists
- ❖ 1620 The Mayflower & the Mayflower Compact
- ❖ The Plymouth Colony
- ❖ The Puritan Dissenters
- ❖ Beyond the stereotype of Puritans
- ❖ Did not believe the Protestant Revolution during the rule of Henry Tudor had gone far enough...

# THE PURITANS

- ❖ Tensions with Royal Government at home leads to decision to settle in 'New England'.
- ❖ Nevertheless, they are not intimidated by persecution...
- ❖ In 1640s they would spearhead the Civil War opposition but in 1620s they were in no position to do so...
- ❖ John Winthrop
- ❖ 1642: Over 20,000 Puritans have set sail for Massachusetts Bay

# THE PURITANS

- ❖ "Great Migration"
- ❖ Whole families of Protestants leave worsening conditions of English Civil War...
- ❖ "City Upon A Hill"
- ❖ The idea is to create an "ideal" society that expresses the complete Protestant Revolution...