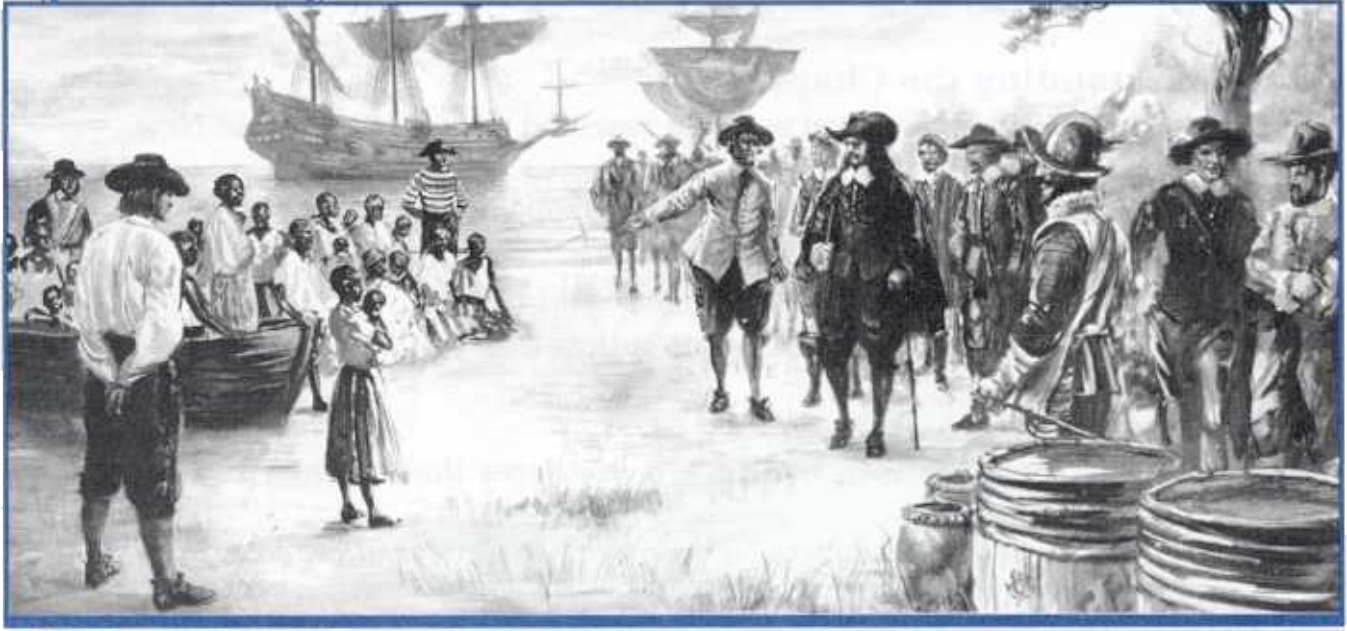


THE ENGLISH LAUNCH COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA. (1497-1733)

*Why did settlers from England
first come to North America?*



The first Africans were brought to the Virginia colony by a Dutch ship in 1619. The Africans amazed the English with their farming abilities.

STUDY

Use memory aids to remember important facts in a chapter. These may include rhymes, abbreviations, and other things that you can invent to help you remember.

HINT

Looking at Key Terms

- Virginia House of Burgesses • Mayflower Compact
- Massachusetts Bay Colony

Looking at Key Words

- **indentured servant:** a person who agreed to work for a set time without pay in exchange for transportation to a new land
- **self-government:** the power to rule oneself
- **compact:** an agreement

Just five years after Columbus's first voyage, an English ship led by John Cabot reached North America. However, it would be another hundred years before the English began to settle in the Americas. What took so long?

England at the time was not as rich or powerful a country as Spain. However, in 1588, the English navy smashed a much larger Spanish fleet in a battle fought just off the coast of England. This battle ended Spain's control of the North Atlantic Ocean. It allowed England to begin planting colonies in North America.

1 The English Settle in Virginia.

Why was there a great conflict between democracy and slavery in the Southern colonies?

John White stood on the deck of his ship staring into the night. "Hello," he shouted toward shore. There was no answer. He shouted again into the night, but again there was no answer.

White was worried. Three years before, in 1587, he had founded a tiny settlement here at Roanoke (ROH-uh-nohk), an island just off the coast of present-day North Carolina. Soon, the settlement ran low on food. White was forced to sail back to England to get more food. Then England went to war, and he was not able to return. Now he had come back, but there was no one to greet him.

Vanished without a trace White tried not to show his concern. The next morning, he and his men rowed to shore. Something was clearly wrong. The settlement was abandoned. Houses were empty. What had happened? The only clues were carvings on two trees—"CRO" on one tree and "CROATOAN" on the other. Croatoan was the name of an island to the south.

White wanted to find the island right away, but a storm blew up. One ship was leaking badly, and the crew refused to sail. White took the other ship, but they could not find Croatoan island. They were forced to return to England. No other sign of the colony was ever found.

To this day, no one knows what became of the "lost colony" of Roanoke. Were the settlers killed? Did they starve to death? Their fate is still a mystery. It was an unlucky start for the English in North America.

Jamestown In 1606, a group of English merchants received permission from King James I to set up a colony in North America. These merchants hoped to find riches to rival the Aztec empire in Mexico.

In December 1606, three ships carrying about 100 men and boys sailed for a part of North America they called Virginia. The settlers arrived at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay in April 1607. They traveled 60 miles (96 kilometers) upstream and began to build a village. They named it Jamestown in honor of King James I.

The settlers of Jamestown faced hard times. The village was built on swampy land that spread disease. Half the settlers were nobles who were not interested in planting crops. They only wanted to search for gold. They found no gold, and soon all their supplies were gone. Many of them died from starvation or sickness. By spring, one half of the settlers were dead.

Then Captain John Smith took over as leader. Smith was tough. He told the settlers they would have to work or go hungry. Things improved briefly. But then Smith hurt his leg badly and had to return to England.

With Smith gone, things again began to fall apart. The winter of 1609-1610 was so terrible that the settlers called it

“the starving time.” Before the starving time, there were 500 people in Jamestown. When it ended, only 60 settlers were alive.

Raising tobacco Conditions improved when a strict new governor took over. Soon, new settlers and supplies arrived from England. Then the big breakthrough came. John Rolfe discovered that tobacco could grow well in the Virginia soil. Tobacco had long been grown by Native Americans. After the Spanish conquest, it was introduced to Europe. Tobacco shipped to England made money for the settlers. Soon tobacco was Jamestown’s main crop.

The beginning of slavery As Jamestown grew, farmers needed more workers to grow tobacco. At first, these workers were **indentured servants**. Indentured servants were men and women who agreed to work for free for a

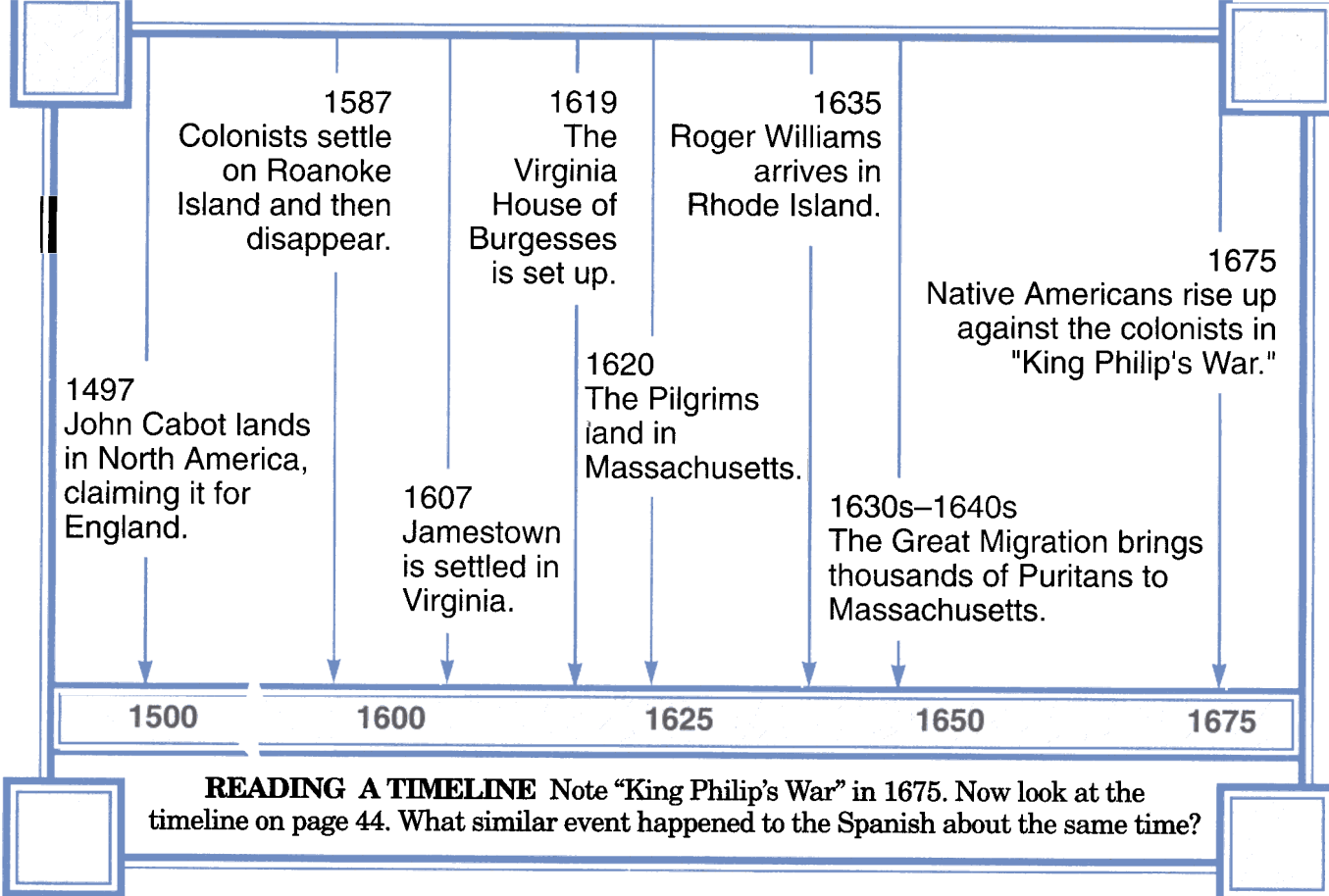
set number of years. In return, they received a free trip to the colonies.

There weren’t enough indentured servants to do all the work. The Native Americans refused to work for the settlers. In 1619, a Dutch ship brought 20 Africans to Virginia. These first Africans in the English colonies were indentured servants. Africans who came after them, however, were brought as slaves. Slavery would become an important part of life in the Southern colonies in the years ahead.

Self-government Settlers held slaves, but they wanted more freedom for themselves. In 1619, the new governor of Virginia allowed the settlers to have some **self-government**. Self government is the power to rule oneself. The governor formed the **Virginia House of Burgesses**. This group was made up of English settlers elected by free white

John Smith, at the center of this picture, had a big problem. He was the leader of Jamestown. Yet many people in his colony would rather hunt for gold than make permanent houses or plant crops. How did Smith handle this problem?





males in each town. This was an important first step toward self-government.

This first step toward self-government and the introduction of slavery happened in the same year, 1619. Freedom and slavery were two ideas that could not exist together. For the next 250 years, Americans would try to deal with the conflict between freedom and slavery.

1. What crop made Jamestown a success?
2. Why was slavery introduced to Virginia?

2 English Settlers Come to New England.

Why did the Pilgrims and the Puritans come to live in New England?

Other English settlers were not like the settlers of Jamestown. The Pilgrims came

to America for religious freedom. They were simple, religious people who were used to hard work. In the 1600s, England did not have religious freedom. The Pilgrims were forced to leave England because they refused to follow the Church of England. In 1620, the Pilgrims were given permission to settle in Virginia.

They sailed on a tiny ship, the *Mayflower*, on September 16, 1620. A storm blew the *Mayflower* north. Instead of landing in Virginia, they landed off the coast of present-day Massachusetts.

The Mayflower Compact Before leaving their ship, Pilgrim men signed an agreement to obey whatever laws their officers made. In the **Mayflower Compact**, Pilgrim men agreed to elect leaders and obey the laws that the leaders made. A **compact** is an agreement. Like the Virginia House of Burgesses, this compact was an important step toward democracy.



This famous painting shows Puritans going to church on a snowy Sunday morning. The Puritans had a very strong faith in “pure” religion. This got them into trouble with the king of England. It led them to come to North America.

Help from Squanto The Pilgrims built a sturdy settlement on a spot they called Plymouth (PLIHM-uhth). Still, they faced many problems. The winter was cold, and they had little food. Almost half of the people who had made the trip on the *Mayflower* died before spring. Others were too sick to do any work.

Then one March morning a tall Native American walked into the village. His name was Samoset. He surprised the colonists by speaking to them in English. He said he wanted to help the Pilgrims. A few days later, he returned with a Native American named Squanto (SKWAHN-toh). Squanto told the Pilgrims he had learned English when he was kidnapped by an English sea captain. Squanto shared his food with the starving Pilgrims. He also taught them Native American ways of growing corn, hunting for animals, and fishing.

With the help of Squanto and other Native Americans, the Pilgrims began to thrive. In the fall, they asked Squanto and about 90 other Native Americans to a feast. That first “Thanksgiving” was

the start of the holiday that is held every year at the end of November.

Massachusetts Bay Meanwhile, a second English settlement was being built near Plymouth. It was called the **Massachusetts Bay Colony**. This colony was founded by people who called themselves “Puritans.” They took this name because they wanted to “purify” the Church of England. When the king punished them for criticizing the church, the Puritans decided to go to North America. There they set up a religious colony based on their beliefs. Salem, the Puritan’s first town, was founded in 1628. Boston was begun in 1630. Many Puritans came to Massachusetts during the 1630s and 1640s. By 1643, there were 16,000 people living in the colony.

The Puritans believed strongly in education. In 1647, the Puritans passed one of the most important laws in American history. Towns with more than 50 families had to set up a school that was paid for by taxes. This was the beginning of the public school system in the United States.

The Puritans also believed strongly in democracy. In a democracy, people are free to govern themselves. However, the Puritans did not believe in religious freedom. All people who lived in their settlements had to follow Puritan rules. People who did not follow the rules were punished or driven out of the colony.

The founding of Rhode Island
One young minister who disagreed with the Puritans was Roger Williams. Williams felt that all people should be able to worship in their own way. He also disagreed with the Puritans' harsh treatment of Native Americans. When Williams spoke out against Puritan leaders, they drove him out of the colony.

Williams fled south with his followers in 1635. He made friends with the local Native Americans and decided to start a settlement. He called the settlement Providence. Providence was the first American town to guarantee religious freedom to all its people.

A few years later, Williams was joined by Anne Hutchinson. She had also been driven out of Massachusetts for her religious beliefs. Hutchinson and Williams founded a new colony called Rhode Island. Rhode Island welcomed colonists of every religion.

1. How did Squanto and Samoset help the Pilgrims in Plymouth?
2. Where was the Puritans' first town founded?

3 The New England Colonies Take Shape.

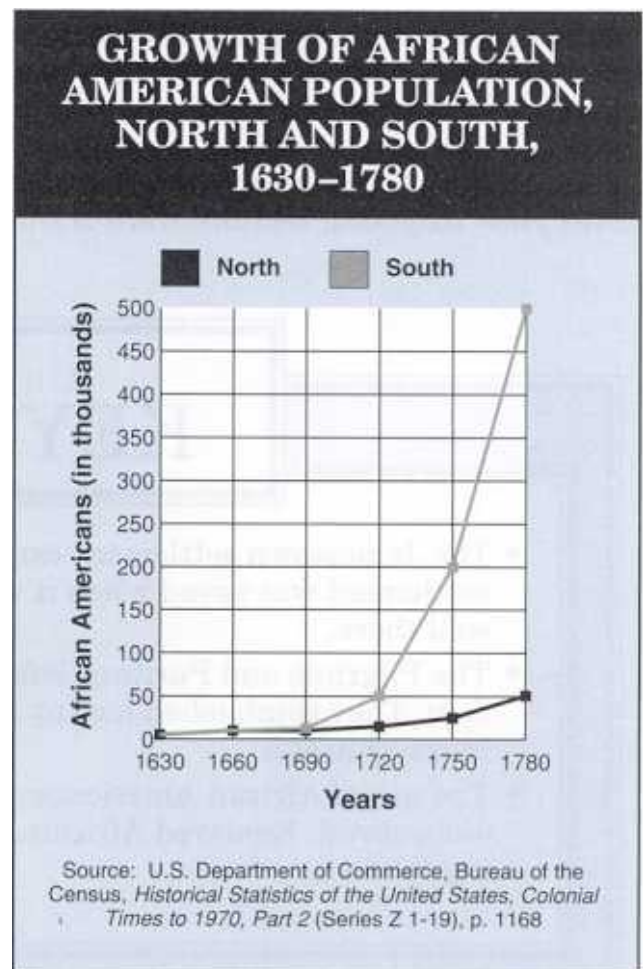
How did the New England colonies grow from roots in Massachusetts?

Other groups of colonists left Massachusetts to found new colonies.

Some left to find religious freedom. Others left to find more or better land. A group followed Thomas Hooker south into the valley of the Connecticut River. Settlers later joined together to form the Connecticut colony. Another group headed north and settled New Hampshire. Others pushed into present-day Maine where they fished and carried on a busy trade. By 1650, settlers were pushing out all over the region they called "New England."

Wars with Native Americans
Wherever the colonists went, they found Native Americans already living there. A few of these Native Americans

Reading a Chart. When did the great growth of the African American population in the South first begin? Why did growth fall behind in the North?



became Christians. However, most did not want to convert. They found themselves being pushed off their land. As New England grew, so did tensions.

In 1675, the Native American leader Metacom (MEH-tuh-kahm) launched a war to regain lost lands. Metacom, called King Philip by the settlers, united many Native American groups to fight against the settlers. The war, which they called King Philip's War, lasted three years. Both sides slaughtered their enemies. In the end, Metacom was defeated and killed. Thousands of other Native Americans were also killed. Many who survived were pushed west or north into Canada. Native Americans would no longer block the growth of the New England colonies.

By 1700, there were four British colonies in New England. They were Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. Maine was part of Massachusetts. Vermont was part of New York.

The growth of democracy All over New England, settlers were trying

to tame their environment. They set up towns, built churches, and opened shops. They grew crops in the rocky soil. By the early 1700s, New England was the center of shipbuilding and trade in the British colonies. New England boats reached ports all over the world. Foreign goods were unloaded on docks in Boston, Providence, and other towns.

Democracy took root in the New England colonies. Each New England town held regular meetings. Adult white men who held property in the towns were allowed to vote on town issues. These town meetings are still held in some New England towns today. When the time came for independence for the colonies, New England would be ready.

1. Who founded Rhode Island?
2. What caused King Philip's War?

CHAPTER 6 KEY IDEAS

- The Jamestown settlement came close to dying several times. The settlement was saved when it was discovered that tobacco grew well there.
- The Pilgrims and Puritans left England to practice religious freedom. They established lasting settlements in what is today Massachusetts.
- The use of African Americans as slaves in English colonies began in Jamestown. Enslaved African Americans were made to work growing tobacco.

CHAPTER
7

PEOPLE FROM MANY LANDS SETTLE IN THE ENGLISH COLONIES. (1623-1752)

How were the Middle and Southern colonies different from the New England Colonies?



An old engraving shows the first women settlers landing in Jamestown. For women from London's slums, life on the American frontier was a test of courage.

STUDY

Make a chart with two columns. In one column, write five statements that describe the Middle Colonies. In the other, write five statements that describe the Southern Colonies.

HINT

Looking at Key Terms

- Middle Colonies • Southern Colonies • Quakers
- Act of Toleration

Looking at Key Words

- **synagogues:** Jewish places of worship
- **toleration:** allowing other people to practice their own beliefs and customs
- **debt:** money that people owe.
- **debtors:** people who cannot pay their bills.
- **cash crops:** crops raised for sale rather than for a farmer's personal use
- **indigo:** a plant that can be made into a blue dye
- **spirituals:** religious songs developed by enslaved African Americans

When a colonist from Maryland visited the colony of New York in 1744, he was surprised at how few people could speak English. “I heard nothing but Dutch spoken all the way,” he complained. A few years later, Benjamin Franklin wrote how English-speaking and German-speaking colonists in Pennsylvania did not communicate well: “Few of the English settlers understand the German language. The two groups do not talk to each other.”

The people who lived in the British colonies south of New England were very diverse. Their diversity affected the way they lived. Sometimes, it caused problems.

1 People Come to the Middle Colonies from All Over Europe.

Why did people from different countries in Europe come to the English colonies?

By 1733, there were 13 English colonies in North America. Only four of them were in New England. The rest were located south of New England in two regions, the **Middle Colonies** and the **Southern Colonies**.

The Middle Colonies were New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey. The Middle Colonies had a milder climate than the New England Colonies. The soil was also more fertile.

The Dutch in New Netherlands
In 1623, three years after the Pilgrims arrived, Dutch traders built a fort along the Hudson River. They called it Fort Orange. The next year, the Dutch settled New Amsterdam at the southern tip of Manhattan Island. The Dutch bought the island from the local Native Americans for a few dollars in trinkets.

The Dutch called their colony New Netherlands after their homeland.

Other people were welcome to settle in New Netherlands. In 1654, 23 Dutch Jews came to live in New Amsterdam. They were the first Jewish people to settle in North America. Other Jews would come to Rhode Island and other colonies and build places of worship called **synagogues**.

Settlers from Sweden In 1638, a small group of colonists from Sweden settled in present-day Delaware and southern New Jersey. They called their colony New Sweden. The Swedes built the first log cabins in North America. Many settlers who came after them copied these homes. The Swedes were few in number, and their colony was soon taken over by the Dutch.

The Dutch, however, would not stay in power much longer. In 1664, English warships easily seized New Amsterdam. The invasion was led by the Duke of York. After his victory, the duke renamed the colony New York. Fort Orange became Albany. Many Dutch people stayed on in New York, despite the new rulers.

The Duke of York then gave part of the land to two nobles who were his friends. The land was a reward for their loyalty and support. This land became today’s state of New Jersey.

William Penn In 1681 and 1682, William Penn received grants of land from the English king. These lands now make up the states of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Penn came from a wealthy family. As a young man, he joined a religious group in England called the **Quakers** (KWAYK-uhrz). The Quakers believed in living simply and at peace with all peoples.

Penn set up the colony of Pennsylvania in 1681. Pennsylvania means “Penn’s Woods” in Latin. He paid the Delaware, a Native American nation, for their land

and treated them fairly. Penn made a peace treaty with the Delaware that he kept for his lifetime. He enjoyed visiting them and joined in their sports. They said that Penn ran and jumped like a warrior.

Penn believed in **toleration** (tahl-uh-ray-shuhn). He allowed people to practice different religions in Pennsylvania. Many new settlers came to Pennsylvania from Germany and Switzerland. They became successful farmers and built their own thriving villages.

In 1688, a German Quaker group issued the first protest against slavery in North America: “Negroes are brought here against their will. Don’t these poor people have as much right to fight for their freedom as you have to keep them as slaves?”

The protest did no good. Still, Africans in Pennsylvania managed gradually to win more rights than Africans in other colonies. By the middle of the 1700s, Pennsylvania had more free Africans

than any other colony. These people and their descendants would lead the movement against slavery in the 1800s.

1. Where did the Dutch settle in North America?
2. Who was William Penn?

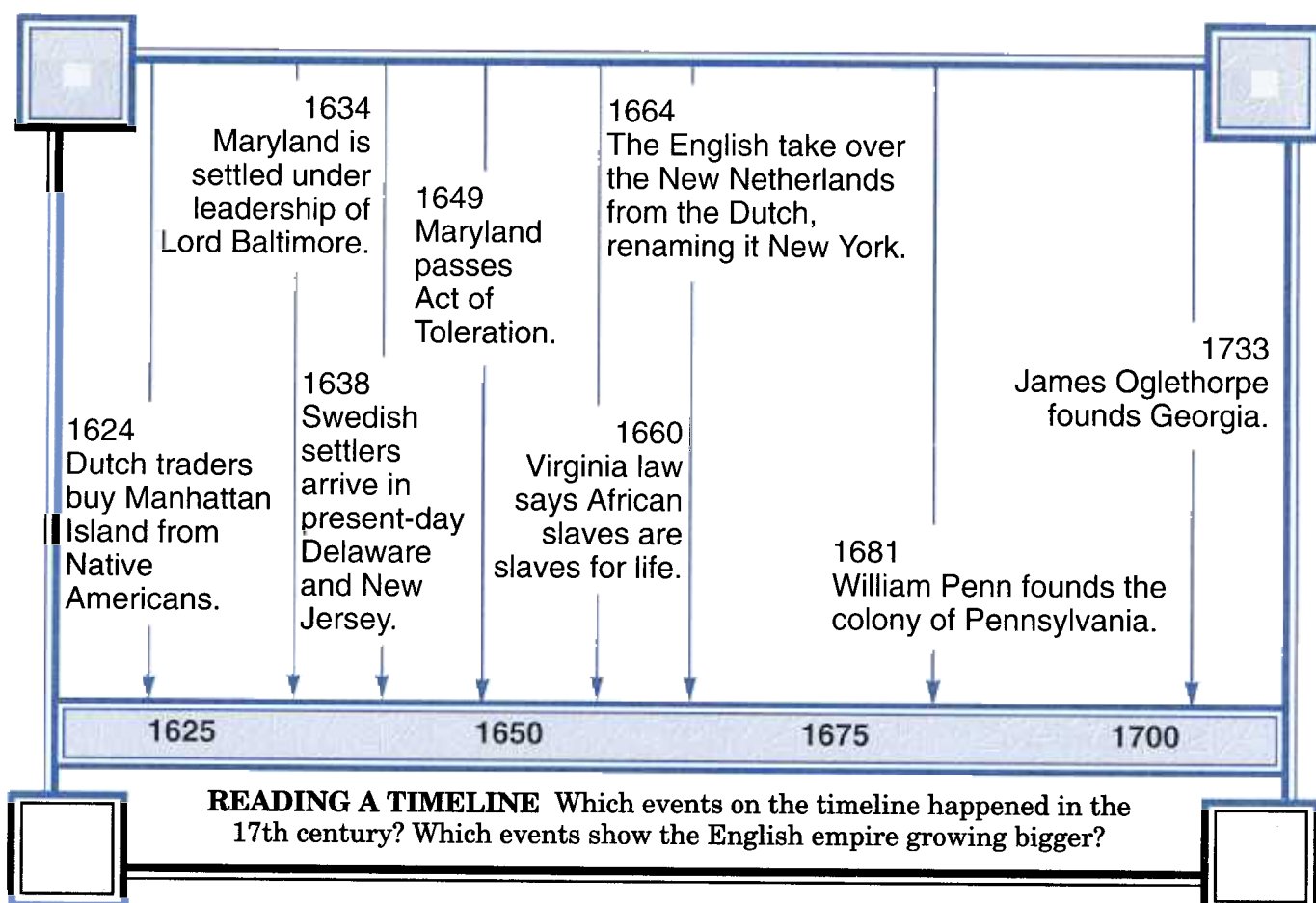
2 Other Settlers Come to the Southern Colonies.

What colonies developed in the South?

The four Southern Colonies were Maryland, Virginia, Carolina, and Georgia. They were settled mostly by people from England. You read about the founding of Virginia in Chapter 6.

William Penn signs a treaty with the Delaware in 1681. Penn paid for the land he used to start the colony of Pennsylvania. Throughout his life, he treated Native Americans fairly. After his death, things changed.





Maryland was founded by Lord Baltimore, a friend of the English king. Lord Baltimore was Catholic in a country that persecuted many Catholics. He wanted to set up a colony where Catholics could practice their religion freely. In 1649, Maryland passed an **Act of Toleration**. It provided religious freedom for all Christians.

Carolina and Georgia Eight rich friends of King Charles II founded the colony of Carolina in 1663. The land was good for growing tobacco, rice, and cotton. The settlers built large plantations.

In 1712, Carolina split into two new colonies, North and South Carolina. North Carolina had a more varied economy. It also had a larger number of small farms. South Carolina had mainly large tobacco plantations. There, slavery and huge rice farms became a way of life.

Georgia, the last of the 13 colonies, was founded in 1733. Its founder was James Oglethorpe, a respected soldier. Oglethorpe wanted to help people in England who had been jailed for **debt** (DEHT). Debt is money that people owe. England had many **debtors** (DEHT-uhz). Debtors are people who cannot pay their bills. In those days, debtors were thrown in jail until their families paid the debts.

Oglethorpe opened his colony of Georgia to debtors and other poor people in England. He wanted to make Georgia a colony where everyone was equal. He did not allow slavery in Georgia. He also did not allow the sale of rum.

Some of the white settlers didn't like Oglethorpe's rules. They wanted to have slavery and big farms. In 1752, Oglethorpe turned the colony over to the king. Later, slavery and large farms were allowed in Georgia.

THE THIRTEEN ENGLISH COLONIES

Colony	Date of English Settlement	Type of Colony
New England Colonies		
New Hampshire	1623	Royal
Massachusetts	1629	Royal
Rhode Island	1636	Self-governing charter
Connecticut	1636	Self-governing charter
Middle Colonies		
New York	1664	Royal
New Jersey	1664	Royal
Delaware	1664	Proprietary
Pennsylvania	1682	Proprietary
Southern Colonies		
Virginia	1607	Royal
Maryland	1634	Proprietary
North Carolina	1653	Royal
South Carolina	1670	Royal
Georgia	1733	Royal

Reading a Chart. Royal colonies were ruled directly by a king's officer. In a proprietary colony, the king gave land to a wealthy person, who paid the king and ran the colonies. Were the three earliest colonies royal or proprietary?

Growing slavery By the middle of the 1600s, there were many large plantations in the Southern Colonies. The planters more and more turned to Africans to meet their needs for labor. These Africans were not free workers but enslaved people. Less than a century after the first Africans came as free people to Virginia, most African people had lost their rights. By the 1700s, most Africans in the Southern Colonies lived according to the whip of white owners.

3 The Three Regions Are Different.

How were the sections of English colonies different from one another?

Over the years, the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies developed in different ways. The differences were mainly caused by geography.

Farming and business Farming in the New England Colonies was not easy. Winters were long and the growing season was short. The rocky soil was not good for farming. Most farmers could only grow enough to feed their families.

Because few people could make a living from farming in New England, many turned to other jobs. Shipbuilding became an important business. Some New Englanders became fishers and

1. Why did slavery grow strong in the Southern Colonies?
2. What kind of people first settled in Georgia?

sailors. The fish that they caught could be dried and sold to other colonies and to England. New Englanders searched the seas for a valuable catch—whales. Whale blubber, or fat, became oil for lamps. Whalebone was made into buttons and other products. Whalebone stays helped undergarments to hold their shape.

In the Middle Colonies, the soil was more fertile, and the growing season was longer. Most farms were larger than those in New England. Some farms were large enough to hire farm laborers. The largest farms were worked by enslaved Africans. Most farms, however, were too small to use enslaved Africans.

In the Middle Colonies, farmers grew large crops of wheat, corn, and rye. Farms produced extra food, or **cash crops**, that could be sold to other colonies. Trade was also important in the Middle Colonies. Over time, manufacturing also became important.

The largest farms were in the Southern Colonies. Tobacco, rice, and **indigo** (IHN-dih-goh) were the main crops. Indigo is a plant that can be made into a blue dye. Slavery became very important to farming in the South.

Religion and education The Puritans in New England had strict religious practices. As New England developed, religion continued to be very important.

The Puritans believed strongly in education. They created North America's first public schools. They also founded Harvard College in 1636 as a school for ministers. It was the first college in the British colonies.

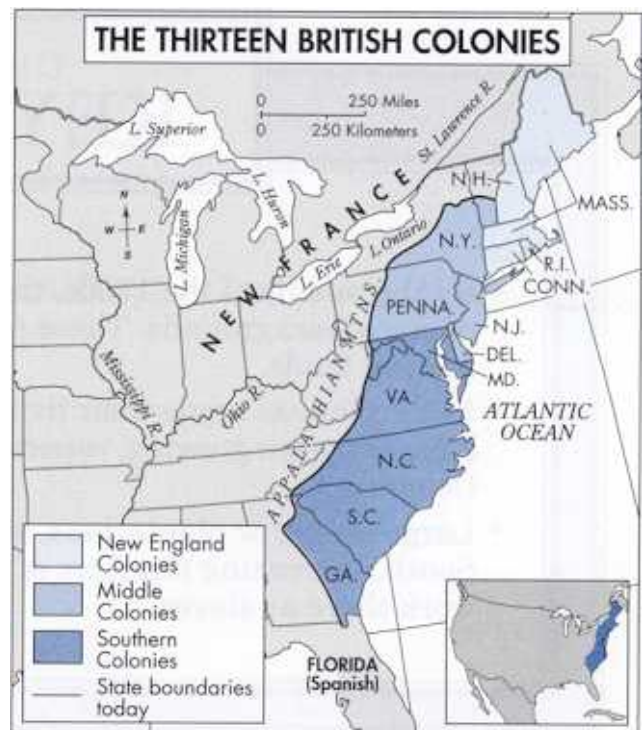
Unlike New England, the Middle Colonies were home to people of many faiths and beliefs. People in the Middle Colonies were much more tolerant of different religions than people in New England were. In the Middle Colonies,

there were many more Catholics and small communities of Jews. Most schools in the Middle Colonies were run by churches. The Quakers believed strongly in education. As a result, their schools were very good. So were schools run by other religious groups.

The official church of the Southern Colonies was the Church of England. Enslaved African Americans were expected to attend the same church as the slave holders. The African slaves sat in the back and listened as white ministers defended slavery. Later, African Americans had their own ministers and started their own churches. They developed their own religious songs, called **spirituals**. Spirituals told about their love of God and their hopes for freedom.

Education developed slowly in the South. Even the children of plantation owners often did not go to school. Plantation children had tutors or were

Reading a Map. Name the 13 British colonies. What land form was the border on the west? Why did it keep the colonies from growing larger?



sent to Europe for school. Enslaved African Americans were not allowed to read or write. However, some learned anyway.

Cities In the 1700s, nine out of ten English colonists lived on farms. However, towns were growing. People in the towns worked at making goods and products needed by the colonists. Other people sold these goods or shipped them to England for sale.

Out of this trade, some towns grew into large cities. The most important cities were Boston, in Massachusetts, and Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania. Next were New York City and Charleston in South Carolina.

Growing Democracy Whites in the British colonies had more freedom than people in most European nations. In the colonies, a person from a poor white family could hope to rise to the middle class. Colonists also had

political freedom. They brought to North America a tradition of governing themselves. White males who owned land could vote for members of government.

For many years, the British Parliament left the colonies largely free to govern themselves. The colonists came to think of themselves as free from British control. However, in the middle of the 1700s, Britain decided to take tighter control of its American colonies. This convinced many of the colonists that it was time to drive the British out of North America.

1. Why was farming difficult in New England?
2. Which section of the colonies had a strong tradition of education?

CHAPTER 7 KEY IDEAS

- By the middle of the 1700s, the British colonies were home to people of many backgrounds. These people came from many European and African lands.
- Most colonists made their living by farming. However, trade and business were growing, especially in New England and the Middle Colonies.
- Large farms, or plantations, were growing in size and number in the South. Increasing numbers of African Americans were forced to work there as slaves.