
2

The Planting of English America, 1500–1733

Part I: Reviewing the Chapter

A. Checklist of Learning Objectives

After mastering this chapter, you should be able to

1. state the factors that caused the English to start late on colonization.
2. describe the development of the Jamestown colony from its disastrous beginnings to its later prosperity.
3. describe the roles of Indians and African slaves in the early history of England's southern colonies.
4. describe changes in the economy and labor system in Virginia and the other southern colonies.
5. indicate the similarities and differences among the southern colonies of Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

B. Glossary

To build your social science vocabulary, familiarize yourself with the following terms.

1. **nationalism** Fervent belief and loyalty given to the political unit of the nation-state. "Indeed England now had . . . a vibrant sense of nationalism. . . ."
2. **primogeniture** The legal principle that the oldest son inherits all family property or land. ". . . laws of primogeniture decreed that only eldest sons were eligible to inherit landed estates."
3. **joint-stock companies** An economic arrangement by which a number of investors pool their capital for investment. "Joint-stock companies provided the financial means."
4. **charter** A legal document granted by a government to some group or agency to implement a stated purpose, and spelling out the attending rights and obligations. ". . . the Virginia Company of London received a charter from King James I of England. . . ."
5. **census** An official count of population, often also describing other information about the population. ". . . an official census revealed that only about two thousand Indians remained in Virginia. . . ."
6. **feudal** Concerning the decentralized medieval social system of personal obligations between rulers and ruled. "Absentee proprietor Lord Baltimore hoped that . . . Maryland . . . would be the vanguard of a vast feudal domain."
7. **indentured servant** A poor person obligated to a fixed term of labor. ". . . it depended for labor in its early years mainly on white indentured servants. . . ."
8. **toleration** Originally, religious freedom granted by an established church to a religious minority. "Maryland's new religious statute guaranteed toleration to all Christians."
9. **squatter** A frontier farmer who illegally occupied land owned by others or not yet officially opened for settlement. "The newcomers, who frequently were 'squatters' without legal right to the soil . . ."

10. **matriarch** A respected, usually elderly, female head of a household or extended clan. "A single long-house might shelter a woman's family . . . with the oldest woman being the honored matriarch."
11. **melting pot** Popular term for an ethnically diverse population that is presumed to be "melting" toward some eventual commonality. "The hamlet of Savannah, like Charleston, was a melting-pot community."

PART II: Checking Your Progress

A. True-False

Where the statement is true, mark T. Where it is false, mark F, and correct it in the space immediately below.

- ___ 1. Protestant England's early colonial ambitions were fueled by its religious rivalry with Catholic Spain.
- ___ 2. The earliest English colonization efforts experienced surprising success.
- ___ 3. The defeat of the Spanish Armada was important to North American colonization because it enabled England to conquer Spain's New World empire.
- ___ 4. Among the English citizens most interested in colonization were unemployed yeomen and the younger sons of the gentry.
- ___ 5. Originally, the primary purpose of the joint-stock Virginia Company was to provide for the well-being of the freeborn English settlers in the colony.
- ___ 6. The defeat of Powhatan's Indian forces in Virginia was achieved partly by Lord De La Warr's use of brutal "Irish tactics."
- ___ 7. John Rolfe enabled the Virginia colony to survive by introducing African slave labor in 1619.
- ___ 8. The Maryland colony was founded to establish a religious refuge for persecuted English Quakers.
- ___ 9. From the time of its founding, South Carolina had close economic ties with the British West Indies.
- ___ 10. The principal export crop of the Carolinas in the early 1700s was wheat.
- ___ 11. South Carolina prospered partly by selling African slaves in the West Indies.
- ___ 12. In their early years, North Carolina and Georgia avoided reliance on slavery.
- ___ 13. Compared with its neighbors Virginia and South Carolina, North Carolina was more democratic and individualistic in social outlook.
- ___ 14. Britain valued the Georgia colony primarily as a rich source of gold and timber.
- ___ 15. All the southern colonies eventually came to rely on staple-crop plantation agriculture for their economic prosperity.

B. Multiple Choice

Select the best answer and write the proper letter in the space provided.

- ___ 1. After decades of religious turmoil, Protestantism finally gained permanent dominance in England after the succession to the throne of
 - a. King Edward VI.
 - b. Queen Mary I.
 - c. Queen Elizabeth I.
 - d. King James I.

- ___ 2. Imperial England and English soldiers developed a contemptuous attitude toward “natives” partly through their colonizing experiences in
 - a. Canada.
 - b. Spain.
 - c. India.
 - d. Ireland.

- ___ 3. England’s victory over the Spanish Armada gave it
 - a. control of the Spanish colonies in the New World.
 - b. dominance of the Atlantic Ocean and a vibrant sense of nationalism.
 - c. a stable social order and economy.
 - d. effective control of the African slave trade.

- ___ 4. At the time of the first colonization efforts, England
 - a. was struggling under the political domination of Spain.
 - b. was enjoying a period of social and economic stability.
 - c. was undergoing rapid economic and social transformations.
 - d. was undergoing sharp political conflicts between advocates of republicanism and the monarchy of Elizabeth I.

- ___ 5. Many of the early Puritan settlers of America were
 - a. displaced sailors from Liverpool and Bath.
 - b. merchants and shopkeepers from the Midlands.
 - c. urban laborers from Glasgow and Edinburgh.
 - d. uprooted sheep farmers from eastern and western England.

- ___ 6. England’s first colony at Jamestown
 - a. was an immediate economic success.
 - b. was saved from failure by the leadership of John Smith and by John Rolfe’s introduction of tobacco.
 - c. enjoyed the strong and continual support of King James I.
 - d. depended on the introduction of African slave labor for its survival.

- ___ 7. Representative government was first introduced to America in the colony of
 - a. Virginia.
 - b. Maryland.
 - c. North Carolina.
 - d. Georgia.

- 8. One important difference between the founding of the Virginia and Maryland colonies was that
 - a. Virginia colonists were willing to come only if they could acquire their own land, while Maryland colonists labored for their landlords.
 - b. Virginia depended primarily on its tobacco economy, while Maryland turned to rice cultivation.
 - c. Virginia depended on African slave labor, while Maryland relied mainly on white indentured servitude.
 - d. Virginia was founded mainly as an economic venture, while Maryland was intended partly to secure religious freedom for persecuted Roman Catholics.
- 9. After the Act of Toleration in 1649, Maryland provided religious freedom for
 - a. Jews.
 - b. atheists.
 - c. Protestants and Catholics.
 - d. those who denied the divinity of Jesus.
- 10. The primary reason that no new colonies were founded between 1634 and 1670 was
 - a. the severe economic conditions in Virginia and Maryland.
 - b. the civil war in England.
 - c. the continuous naval conflicts between Spain and England that disrupted sea-lanes.
 - d. the English kings' increasing hostility to colonial ventures.
- 11. The early conflicts between English settlers and the Indians near Jamestown laid the basis for
 - a. the intermarriage of white settlers and Indians.
 - b. the incorporation of Indians into the "melting-pot" of American culture.
 - c. the forced separation of the Indians into the separate territories of the "reservation system."
 - d. the use of Indians as a slave-labor force on white plantations.
- 12. The labor system of the British West Indies sugar plantations relied almost entirely on
 - a. the importation of African slaves.
 - b. indentured white servants.
 - c. the *encomienda* system.
 - d. temporary hired labor from the mainland colonies.
- 13. After the defeat of the coastal Tuscarora and Yamasee Indians by North Carolinians in 1711–1715,
 - a. there were almost no Indians left east of the Mississippi River.
 - b. the remaining southeastern Indian tribes formed an alliance to wage warfare against the whites.
 - c. the powerful Creeks, Cherokees, and Iroquois remained in the Appalachian Mountains as a barrier against white settlement.
 - d. the remaining coastal Indians migrated to the West Indies.

- ____ 14. Most of the early white settlers in North Carolina were
- religious dissenters and poor whites fleeing aristocratic Virginia.
 - wealthy planters from the West Indies.
 - the younger, ambitious sons of English gentry.
 - ex-convicts and debtors released from English prisons.
- ____ 15. The high-minded philanthropists who founded the Georgia colony were especially interested in the cause of
- women's rights and labor reform.
 - temperance and opposition to war.
 - prison reform and avoiding slavery.
 - religious and political freedom.

C. Identification

Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.

- _____ 1. Nation where English Protestant rulers employed brutal tactics against the local Catholic population
- _____ 2. Island colony founded by Sir Walter Raleigh that mysteriously disappeared in the 1580s
- _____ 3. Naval invaders defeated by English "sea dogs" in 1588
- _____ 4. Forerunner of the modern corporation that enabled investors to pool financial capital for colonial ventures
- _____ 5. Name of two wars, fought in 1614 and 1644, between the English in Jamestown and the nearby Indian leader
- _____ 6. The harsh system of Barbados laws governing African labor officially adopted by South Carolina in 1696
- _____ 7. Royal document granting a specified group the right to form a colony and guaranteeing settlers their rights as English citizens.
- _____ 8. Penniless people obligated to forced labor for a fixed number of years, often in exchange for passage to the New World
- _____ 9. Maryland statute of 1649 that granted religious freedom to all Christians, but not to Jews and atheists
- _____ 10. Poor farmers in North Carolina and elsewhere who occupied land and raised crops without gaining legal title to the soil
- _____ 11. Term for a colony under direct control of the English crown
- _____ 12. The primary staple crop of early Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina
- _____ 13. The only southern colony with a slave majority
- _____ 14. The primary plantation crop of South Carolina
- _____ 15. A melting-pot town in early colonial Georgia

D. Matching People, Places, and Events

Match the person, place, or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Powhatan | A. Founded as a haven for Roman Catholics |
| ___ 2. Raleigh and Gilbert | B. Indian leader who ruled tribes in the James River area of Virginia |
| ___ 3. Roanoke | C. Harsh military governor of Virginia who employed "Irish tactics" against the Indians |
| ___ 4. Smith and Rolfe | D. British West Indian sugar colonies where large-scale plantations and slavery took root |
| ___ 5. Virginia | E. Founded as a refuge for debtors by philanthropists |
| ___ 6. Maryland | F. Colony that was called "a vale of humility between two mountains of conceit" |
| ___ 7. Lord De La Warr | G. The unmarried ruler who led England to national glory |
| ___ 8. Jamaica and Barbados | H. The Catholic aristocrat who sought to build a sanctuary for his fellow believers |
| ___ 9. Lord Baltimore | I. The failed "lost colony" founded by Sir Walter Raleigh |
| ___ 10. South Carolina | J. Riverbank site where Virginia Company settlers planted the first permanent English colony |
| ___ 11. North Carolina | K. Colony that established a House of Burgesses in 1619 |
| ___ 12. Georgia | L. Leaders who rescued Jamestown colonists from the "starving time" |
| ___ 13. James Oglethorpe | M. Elizabethan courtiers who failed in their attempts to found New World colonies |
| ___ 14. Elizabeth I | N. Philanthropic soldier-statesman who founded the Georgia colony |
| ___ 15. Jamestown | O. Colony that turned to disease-resistant African slaves for labor in its extensive rice plantations |

E. Putting Things in Order

Put the following events in correct order by numbering them from 1 to 5.

- ___ A surprising naval victory by the English inspires a burst of national pride and paves the way for colonization.
- ___ A Catholic aristocrat founds a colony as a haven for his fellow believers.
- ___ Settlers from the West Indies found a colony on the North American mainland.
- ___ An English colony is founded by philanthropists as a haven for imprisoned debtors.
- ___ A company of investors launches a disaster-stricken but permanent English colony along a mosquito-infested river.

F. Matching Cause and Effect

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

Cause	Effect
___ 1. The English victory over the Spanish Armada	A. Led to the two Anglo-Powhatan wars that virtually exterminated Virginia's Indian population
___ 2. The English law of primogeniture	B. Enabled England to gain control of the North Atlantic sea-lanes
___ 3. The enclosing of English pastures and cropland	C. Whipped gold-hungry, nonworking colonists into line
___ 4. Lord De La Warr's use of brutal "Irish tactics" in Virginia	D. Led Lord Baltimore to establish the Maryland colony
___ 5. The English government's persecution of Roman Catholics	E. Led to the founding of the independent-minded North Carolina colony
___ 6. The slave codes of England's Barbados colony	F. Led many younger sons of the gentry to seek their fortunes in exploration and colonization
___ 7. John Smith's stern leadership in Virginia	G. Created the economic foundation for most of England's southern colonies
___ 8. The introduction of tobacco cultivation	H. Kept the buffer colony poor and largely unpopulated for a long time
___ 9. The flight of poor farmers and religious dissenters from planter-run Virginia	I. Became the legal basis for slavery in North America
___ 10. Georgia's unhealthy climate, restrictions on slavery, and vulnerability to Spanish attacks	J. Forced numerous laborers off the land and sent them looking for opportunities elsewhere

G. Developing Historical Skills**Understanding Historical Comparisons**

To understand historical events, historians frequently compare one set of conditions with another so as to illuminate both similarities and differences. In this chapter, there are comparisons of English colonization in North America with (a) England's imperial activity in Ireland (pp. 25–26), (b) Spanish colonization (p. 26), and (c) England's colonies in the West Indies (pp. 33–34). Examine these three comparisons, and then answer the following questions.

1. What similarity developed between the English attitude toward the Irish and the English attitude toward Native Americans?