

Chapter 3 Outline - North America in the Atlantic World, 1650–1720

- I. Introduction

Between 1640 and 1720, the mainland colonies became increasingly involved in a network of trade and international contacts that led to territorial expansion and economic growth. The introduction of slavery, changing relations with England, and conflicts with their neighbors shaped this colonial development.

- II. The Growth of Anglo-American Settlements

- A. New York

Charles gave his younger brother, James, the duke of York, claim to the area the Dutch had previously settled as New Netherland. The Netherlands permanently ceded the colony to James in 1674.

The Duke's Laws, proclaimed by the duke of York in 1665, tolerated the maintenance of Dutch legal practices and allowed each town in New York to decide which church to support with its tax revenues. However, no provision was made for a representative assembly.

- B. New Jersey

The duke of York regranted much of his land to two friends, thereby limiting the geographical extent and economic growth of New York.

To attract settlers, the proprietors of the Jerseys offered generous land grants, limited freedom of religion, and a representative assembly.

- C. Pennsylvania

Charles II gave William Penn a grant in 1681 to repay a debt he owed Penn's father. A leading member of the Society of Friends, William Penn sought to establish a tolerant, humane, and dynamic colony.

Penn attempted to treat Indians fairly, which in turn attracted many Indian immigrants to his colony. These newcomers often clashed with Europeans also attracted by Penn's policies.

- D. Carolina

Charles II granted Carolina to a group of proprietors in 1663. The northern region remained linked to Virginia and developed differently than did the area around Charleston.

- E. Chesapeake

When immigration to the Chesapeake colonies resumed after the English Civil War, tobacco planters imported increasing numbers of English indentured servants and also began to acquire small numbers of slaves.

- F. New England

Natural increase was the major reason for the continued population growth of the Puritan colonies. The population increase in the New England area placed great pressure on available land.

Witchcraft accusations and trials increased in older New England communities after about 1650.

- G. Colonial Political Structures

Each of the colonies had a governor and some form of council that advised the governor. Each colony also had a judiciary, and local political institutions, such as town meetings or appointed magistrates, also emerged.

- III. A Decade of Imperial Crisis: The 1670s

- A. New France and the Iroquois

The French claimed the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Valley. This expansion brought France into conflict with the Iroquois Confederacy, which exerted great influence in what became the northeastern United States. Competition for European trade sparked a series of wars in the region that lasted until 1701.

- B. Pueblo Peoples and Spaniards

Resentment over Spanish treatment prompted a shaman named Popé to lead a revolt among the Pueblo peoples in 1680. This uprising was the most successful Indian resistance in North America.

By establishing forts and missions, Spain expanded its holdings to include California and Texas.

- C. King Philip's War

Concerned by the encroachment of English settlers, King Philip, chief of the Wampanoags, led a bloody war in New England in 1675–1676. The victory by New Englanders broke the power of the southern coastal tribes. Although the colonists were victorious, about one-tenth of the able-bodied white male population of New England was killed or wounded.

- D. Bacon's Rebellion

Conflict between English settlers and Indians in Virginia turned into a political struggle between dissatisfied colonists (led by Nathaniel Bacon) and Governor William Berkeley.

• IV. The Atlantic Trading System

○ A. Why African Slavery?

Slavery had been practiced in Europe (although not in England) for centuries. European Christians also believed that enslaving heathen peoples was justifiable.

○ B. Atlantic Slave Trade

The traffic in slaves became the linchpin of a complicated web of exchange that tied the peoples of the Atlantic world together.

Europeans benefited the most from the slave trade, and their economies shifted away from trade in Asia and the Mediterranean to the Atlantic trade. Furthermore, attempts to control the slave trade caused rivalries among European nations.

○ C. West Africa and the Slave Trade

West Africa experienced profound demographic changes because of the slave trade. Also, some African kings consolidated their political power as a result of the role they played in the commerce.

○ D. New England and the Caribbean

The sale of New England foodstuffs and wood products to Caribbean sugar planters provided New Englanders with a major source of income.

○ E. Slaving Voyages

The middle passage, the voyage that transported Africans to the Americas, proved particularly deadly, with high percentages of newly enslaved Africans and white sailors dying at sea.

- V. Slavery in North America and the Caribbean

- A. African Enslavement in the Chesapeake

Slaves lived in quarters on Chesapeake plantations and their lives were filled with toil and loneliness.

The transition from indentured to enslaved labor increased the distance between richer and poorer planters. Over time, Chesapeake society became more and more stratified.

By 1710, Africans made up twenty percent of the population in the Chesapeake.

- B. African Enslavement in South Carolina

Beginning in 1670, Africans were brought by their masters from Barbados to South Carolina. These slaves brought many skills with them that were useful in the South Carolina environment.

The large number of slaves in South Carolina, along with similarities in the climates of West Africa and the colony, helped ensure the survival of African culture.

- C. Rice and Indigo

South Carolina developed a rice economy based mostly on skills brought in by enslaved Africans. Indigo, too, flourished because of knowledge brought by slaves from the Caribbean.

- D. Indian Enslavement in North and South Carolina

Indians were among the many people held in slavery in both the Carolinas. Bitterness over the trade in Indian slaves caused the Tuscarora War.

The abuses associated with the trade in Indian slaves also led to the

Yamasee War in South Carolina.

- E. Enslavement in the North

Involvement of the northern colonies in the slave trade ensured that many people of African descent lived in that region.

- F. Slave Resistance

Slaves most commonly resisted their master by pretending to be ill or running away.

Occasionally slaves planned rebellions. There were seven major revolts in the English Caribbean before 1713. In 1712 New York was the site of the first slave revolt on the mainland.

- VI. Imperial Reorganization and the Witchcraft Crisis

- A. Colonial Autonomy Challenged

England used its colonies in an attempt to become self-sufficient while maintaining a favorable balance of trade with other countries – an economic theory known as mercantilism.

Parliament sought to advance its mercantilist policies through a series of trade laws passed between 1651 and 1673. These acts, which made England the center of all trade, met with resistance in North America.

- B. Mercantilism and the Navigation Acts

By the 1680s New England had become accustomed to a certain amount of autonomy. King James II and his successors attempted to tighten the reins of government and reduce any independent colonial political activity.

The monarchy attempted to strengthen royal control over all the colonies from New Jersey to Maine by creating the Dominion of New

England in 1686.

- C. Glorious Revolution in America

News of the Glorious Revolution encouraged New Englanders to overthrow Governor Edmund Andros. The government of Maryland was overthrown by the Maryland Protestant Association. In New York, Jacob Leisler gained control of the government.

William and Mary, like James II, believed England should have more royal control over its American colonies. Only in Maryland did the rebellion receive royal approval. Leisler was hanged for treason. Massachusetts became a royal colony.

- D. King William's War

A war with the French and their Algonquian allies added to New England's problems.

- E. The 1692 Witchcraft Crisis

A witch hunt broke out in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1692. The intense but short-lived incident reflected the social and political stresses of the day.

- F. New Imperial Measures

In 1696, Parliament hoped to improve its administration over the colonies when it established the Board of Trade and Plantations.

Although the colonists resented the new imperial order, they adjusted to its demands and restrictions.