

Colonial/Revolutionary America

Early Colonization Period

The age of discovery = greatest human catastrophe ever

- 90% of Native Americans killed by 1600
- Slavery of 10's of millions of Africans

Spain – Christianize and control Indians

France – Trade (fur) w/ Indians – Jesuits convert them

English – Move or annihilate Indians

Native Americans

- came across Bering Straight and moved south
- Incas in Peru, Aztecs in Mexico, Mayans in Yucatan
 - o – dev. Agricultural techniques (corn)
 - o – dev in isolation
- semi-sedentary North American Indians
 - o Pueblos (Rio Grande)-corn, irrigation, multi-storied buildings
 - o Mound Builders (Mississippi to valleys)-largest city north of Mexico

Atlantic seaboard

- Creeks-democratic
- Iroquois-New York State
 - o Strong military confederacy
 - Consisted of Five Nations

European migration

- nation-states sought power to compete w/ rivals

Economics

- new markets in East (Spices)
- mercantilism (sources of metal)

Religious Competition – Catholics vs. Protestants

New technology

- mapped winds
- used compass and astrology (?)
- improved ships—carvel

Renaissance

- atmosphere of rebirth, optimism, exploration

The British (late starters)

Eventual peace w/ Spain (destroyed Armada-1588)

- less overseas harassment

Population growth – workers/colonists

Economic opportunity-high unemployment, lack of land, adventures, markets-freedom (religious & political), social change

Joint stock companies-financial means for investors

- more resources

England – gave us traditions of government, language

France – language, culture, religion in Canada, LA& Indians

Spain – schools, hospitals, printing press; teaching of Christianity

Native Americans – Columbian Exchange-crops (potatoes, corn); stimulants

English Immigrants

- Jamestown- came for profits
 - - long time to succeed
- Separatists (living in Holland)
 - - given charter by Virginia Company
 - called themselves Pilgrims on Mayflower
 - landed in the wrong place
 - wrote Mayflower Compact to legitimize their colony
- MA Bay Co – founded by non-separatists Puritans
 - Covenant theology
 - Prosperous – fishing, fur and ship building
 - Only males belonging to church could vote
 - Those not in the church = problems

Early Problems

- Quakers-Believed in inner light, not theology (no church needed)
- Anne Hutchinson – Discussed sermons w/ other women
 - Tried for heresy and banished in 1638

Roque's }
Island

- Roger Williams – challenged legality of colony (belong to Indians)
 - o Banished
- Salem Witch Trials – young women accused prosperous people of witchcraft

War in Colonies

Pequot War (1636 – 1637)

- Puritans use Bible to justify extermination
- New England Confederation founded (1643) defense against enemies

King Phillips War (1657)

- 52 of 90 settlements attacked
- Indians used techniques learned from previous wars

Dominion of New England

- tighter hold on colonies made by monarchy

North Gave Us

Democracy (town meetings)

Foundation for future reform movements

Protestant work ethic

Harvard College

MA School Law-required elementary education

- N.E. most literate section

Middle Colonies

Dutch-Anglo Wars – (1664) New York to Eng. (Duke of York)

Pennsylvania (1681)

- Grant from King
- Haven for Quakers
- Experiment w/ liberal ideas – diversity

Southern Colonies

Plantations & slavery

Sparcly populated

Limited urban culture

Church of England prominent

Expansion b/c degradation of soil by tobacco and cotton

Problems:

- Fear of slave rebellion
- Few cities
- Large land-less white population
- More male population
- Aristocratic government