Chapter 2: The Thirteen Colonies and the British Empire, 1607-1750

1. Introduction
   1. 13 colonies formed, each with a document granting special privileges from the English monarch (**charter**)
      1. corporate colonies- Jamestown- operated by joint-stock companies
      2. royal colonies- Virginia after 1624- under direct authority and rule of king
      3. proprietary colonies- Maryland and Pennsylvania- under authority of individuals with royal charters
   2. Unlike French and Spanish, English colonists had tradition of independence and representative government
2. Chesapeake Colonies
   1. The Founding of **Jamestown**
      1. King James I grants charter to **London Company** in 1604
      2. Colonists land in Jamestown, Virginia in 1607
      3. economically motivated, not religiously motivated
      4. Early problems
         1. location- outbreaks of dysentery and malaria
         2. diet- physically even more susceptible to disease
         3. looked for nonexistent gold, wasted their resources
      5. **John Smith** imposed work and order on community
         1. also organized raids on Indians to steal food and kidnap natives
   2. Reorganization
      1. London Company became Virginia Company 1609, gained expanded charter, sold stock, wish to grew VA colony with land grants to planters
      2. ships with new colonists didn’t make it to Jamestown
      3. **Winter of 1609-1610= starving time**
         1. local Indians retaliated against Jamestown, killed livestock and barricaded them
      4. First governor **Lord De La Warr** arrived 1609, established harsh discipline w/ work gangs, communal
      5. Communal system didn’t work well, so private ownership and cultivation of land again
   3. Tobacco
      1. **John Rolfe** started to grow tobacco in Virginia, bringing financial prosperity to the colony
      2. initially, labor force was indentured servants, but expanded to blacks as well
      3. created need for territorial expansion, caused conflict with Natives
   4. Expansion
      1. Tobacco not enough to make profits, 1618 campaign to attract settlers
      2. **Headright** system- land grants to new settlers, encouraged family groups to migrate together, rewarded those who paid for passages of others
      3. Company brought women and skilled workers
      4. colonists had the full rights of Englishmen
      5. allowed for a share in self-govt (VA **House of Burgesses** met July 30, 1619)
      6. 1919 saw arrival of first Negro slaves on Dutch ship, but planters continued to favor indentured servants until at least 1670s b/c cheaper and more abundant
      7. Colony able to grow b/c Indians suppressed
      8. **Sir Thomas Dale** led assaults on the Indians
      9. huge uprising staged by Powhatans in 1622, very successful, but eventually put down in 1644
      10. 1624- because of debt, Virginia Company lost all funds and charter for the colony and became England’s first royal colony
   5. Virginia was split between Virginia and Maryland
   6. Maryland was given to **George Calvert** (Lord Baltimore)
   7. **Maryland**
      1. proprietorships were established instead of corporate charters so the king could have more control
      2. **Cecil Calvert** attempted to finish his father’s dream of both economic and religious prosperity for Catholics
      3. **Act of Toleration**- granted religious freedom to all Christians in Maryland, but ironically called for death of anyone who denied divinity of Jesus
         1. passed in order to encourage Protestant settlement because many settlers were necessary to turn a profit
         2. also passed to appease the Protestant majority
      4. **Protestant revolt**- Protestants rebelled against Catholic proprietor after the Glorious Revolution so the Act of Toleration was repealed and Catholics lost their right to vote
      5. frequent violence between Catholics and Protestants, which precipitated civil war in 1655
      6. like Virginia, Maryland adopted headright system and became center of tobacco cultivation
   8. **Virginia**
      1. Economic problems- when Virginia attempted to raise the low tobacco prices due to overproduction of tobacco, the merchants of London raised the prices of goods from Vienna
      2. **Bacon’s Rebellion**
         1. background
            1. **Sir William Berkeley** (governor) caused resentment among the backwoods farmers by failing to protect their settlements from Indian attacks when he agreed to respect a settlement line with the Indians
            2. only landowners had the right to vote and elections were rare, so recent settlers in “backcountry” were underrepresented
         2. motive:
            1. wanted harsher policies towards natives b/c backcountry folk were in constant danger from Indians b/c of their proximity to them
            2. also believed that the government (rich East Virginian whites) didn’t want to protect the backcountry folk b/c they wanted to maintain their dominance

probably true, but Berkeley also respected the Indians b/c he wanted to protect his lucrative fur trade

* + - 1. event
         1. led unauthorized raid against Indians which turned into a military challenge to the colonial government
         2. Bacon nearly took over the government, but died of dysentery
      2. Long term significance
         1. poor white, landless people were unstable
         2. colonial resistance to royal control
         3. settlers unwilling to abide by agreements with natives and natives unwilling to tolerate further encroachment upon their territory
         4. eastern and western aristocracy turned to black slaves for labor, rather than the poor people b/c they wanted to prevent social unrest
    1. Labor Shortages
       1. high death rate due to disease and Indian attacks
       2. imbalance between the number of men and women
       3. **indentured servants**- people agree to be slaves for a while, then are supposed to get freedom/money/land
          1. females could marry easily b/c of the gender imbalance
          2. some were involuntary convicts or victims of kidnapping
          3. very fluid people who moved whenever they saw opportunity-- source of social unrest
          4. 1670s/1700- became less popular b/c England became a better place to live
       4. **headright** system- offering land to people who paid their own passage or anyone who paid for someone else’s passage
       5. slavery- began in 1619, initially had the same status as white indentured servants, but in the 1660s, House of Burgesses started laws (slave codes) that discriminated between blacks and whites
          1. Africans and offspring are to be slaves forever #teer

1. Development of New England
   1. Puritan colonies were religiously, not economically motivated
   2. settled by Calvinists, believers in predestination
   3. became known as Puritans because they wanted to “purify” the Anglican church from Catholic influences
   4. **Plymouth**
      1. Separatists- group of Puritans who wanted to organize a separate church
      2. went to Holland, but economic hardships and cultural differences (too religiously tolerant) led Pilgrims to seek the new World
      3. Settled at Plymouth by accident
      4. After a first bad winter, they began to grow slowly under **Captain Miles Standish** and **Governor William Bradford**
      5. experiences with natives were cooperative, unlike further south
         1. natives had already been ravaged by European diseases, smallpox
         2. Found cleared land from Indians killed by disease
   5. M**assachusetts Bay Colony**
      1. persecution of Puritans increased under Charles I
      2. **John Winthrop** led the Boston settlement and the **Great Migration**
      3. not just economically motivated, but religious as well
      4. Puritans banished anyone who disagreed with them from the Massachusetts Bay colony
      5. No intention to break from Anglican church, but no attachment either-- “complete liberty to stand alone”
      6. was a theocracy
         1. Mass Puritans serious and pious ppl, led lives of thrift and hard work,
         2. “city upon a hill” (Winthrop). Clergy and govt worked close together
         3. taxes supported church
         4. dissidents little freedom
      7. Large number of families ensured feeling of commitment to community and sense of order, allowed pop to reproduce very quickly
   6. Rhode Island
      1. **Roger Williams**- called for complete separation of church and state to protect the church from the corruption of the secular world
         1. believed that individual conscience was beyond the control of any civil or church authority
         2. recognized rights of natives and paid them for use of their land
         3. complete religious toleration for Catholics, Quakers and Jews
      2. **Anne Hutchinson** believed in **antinomianism**- faith alone, not deeds, is necessary for salvation
         1. believed that Massachusetts clergy had no right to spiritual office
         2. challenged gender norms by developing a large following from women who wanted active role in religious affairs, and those opposed to oppressive colonial govt
         3. emigrated to New Hampshire and Maine, established in 1629
   7. Connecticut
      1. **Thomas Hooker** led group of Boston Puritans
      2. **The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut** established representative government consisting of legislature elected by popular vote and governor chosen by that legislature
   8. New Hampshire
      1. when King wanted a royal colony, he separated New Hampshire from Bay colony
   9. **Halfway Covenant**
      1. people could take part in church service and activities without making a formal declaration of their total belief in Christ
      2. reaction to the decreased religiosity of the new native-born generation, wanted to keep the Puritan church strong
   10. Relations with natives
       1. initially, good relations because natives were weak a good market for manufactured goods
       2. but land tensions increased, so peaceful relations did not last
       3. **The Pequot War**
          1. English, Mohegan + Narragansett vs. Pequots
       4. **New England Confederation**
          1. Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut and New Haven bound together to fight the natives, since England was preoccupied with its civil war
          2. established precedent for colonies taking unified independent action toward a common purpose
       5. **King Philip’s War**
          1. **King Philip** was a chief of the Wampanoags .\_.
          2. united many tribes in southern New England against the English settlers because they wanted their land back
          3. colonial forces smothered them....FOREVER
          4. lots of violence
       6. the lightweight **flintlock musket** increased casualties
2. Restoration Colonies
   1. colonies founded in the late 1600s (during the Restoration period in England)
   2. these colonies were established by governments as permanent settlements, not by companies interested in quick profits
   3. Carolinas
      1. land given to nobels for helping Charles II back onto the throne
      2. religiously tolerant and had a representative government in order to attract settlers
      3. South Carolina
         1. economy initially based on trading furs and providing food for West Indies (Barbados)
         2. good harbor at Charleston
         3. dependent on African labor for two reasons:
            1. economy based on rice plantation
            2. many people were from Barbados, where slavery was well established
      4. North Carolina
         1. smaller, more self-sufficient tobacco farms in comparison to South Carolina, so less reliance on slavery
         2. few good harbors and bad transportation
      5. much tension in the Carolinas between:
         1. northern subsistence farmers and the wealthy planters in the south
         2. rich Barbadians and small landowners around them
   4. New York
      1. motive: wanted to bridge New England and the Chesapeake colonies with New Amsterdam land
      2. **Duke of York** took New Amsterdam from **Peter Stuyvesant**
      3. religiously tolerant because of the extraordinary diversity
      4. allowed for local governments but no parliament
      5. ordered taxes, duties and rents without consent of assembly
      6. but they got mad, so a representative assembly was set up
      7. tensions because power was centralized in the hands of wealthy English landlords, Dutch landowners and fur traders
   5. New Jersey
      1. originally part of New York, but was given to **John Berkeley** and **Sir George Carteret**
      2. generous land offers, religious freedom and assembly
      3. did not develop class of large landowners or become economically powerful b/c no natural harbors like New York
   6. Pennsylvania and Delaware
      1. Quakers’ ideas about gender equality, nonviolence, resistance to military service, and religious authority within individual souls (**Inner Light**”) were radical challenges to established authority; no church government
      2. could not get their own royal charter b/c they were hated, so they turned to rich boy Penn
      3. **William Penn** wanted Pennsylvania to achieve three purposes: (The Holy Experiment)
         1. religious refuge for Quakers and other persecuted people
         2. enact liberal ideas in government
         3. generate income and profits for himself
      4. diverse population
      5. **Frame of Government** guaranteed a representative assembly elected by landowners
      6. **The Charter of Liberties** guaranteed freedom of worship for all and unrestricted immigration
      7. Philadelphia was a grid-planned city
      8. attempted to treat natives fairly and paid them fairly for their land (didn’t let them get drunk either!)
      9. Delaware created when Penn granted them their own assembly in the Charter of Liberties (they thought the government wasn’t responsive to their needs)
   7. Georgia
      1. reasons for beginning:
         1. defensive buffer between South Carolina and Spanish Florida (lots of European wars that were mirrored in the Americas, also Spanish led Indian and Creole attacks on the British)
         2. debtors from England were shipped over to “turn a new leaf”
      2. special regulations
         1. attained proprietary colony, **Governor Oglethorpe** banned drinking rum, prohibited slavery, and barred Catholic settlers for stability and power against the Spanish
         2. however, still did not prosper because slaves necessary as workforce
      3. Royal colony
         1. Georgia became royal colony
         2. restrictions on rum and slavery dropped because he grew weary of fighting back
3. Caribbean
   1. mostly settled by Spanish, but English settled the smaller islands
   2. constantly attacked by the other European colonial powers
   3. sugar became main crop because it was very profitable
   4. land cleared to grow sugar
   5. slavery quickly established
      1. 7 slave revolts caused white planters to restrict their labor forces harshly
      2. masters were able to do anything to their slaves-- even kill them
      3. no concern for slave welfare because it was cheaper to just buy new slaves
      4. would eventually provide more than half of the slaves in North America
   6. society unstable because the white settlers had no long-term interest in the islands, so no church, family and community to create stability
4. Early Political Institutions
   1. Majority Rule in Plymouth
      1. Pilgrims signed the **Mayflower Compact** that pledged them to make decisions by the will of the majority
      2. was an early form of colonial self-government and an early form of written constitution, establishing powers and duties of government
   2. Representative government at Jamestown
      1. Virginia Company encouraged settlement in Jamestown by giving colonists the same rights as Englishmen, like representation in legislation
      2. **The House of Burgesses** was the first representative assembly in America
   3. Representative government in Massachusetts Bay Colony
      1. All male members of the Puritan Churchhad the right to participate in yearly elections of colony’s governor, assistants and representative assembly
   4. Limited nature of colonial democracy
      1. only male property owners could vote for representatives
      2. female, landless, slaves and indentured servants had practically no rights at all
      3. governors ruled autocratically, answering only to king and those he depended on for financial support
5. Mercantilism and the Empire
   1. trade, colonies and accumulation of wealth is basis of country’s military and political strength
   2. become self-sufficient by using colonies to provide raw materials
   3. initially, not very strictly enforced b/c colonies were allowed to trade with other countries when it was more profitable but then...
   4. **Acts of Trade and Navigation**
      1. trade to and from colonies only on English/colonial-built ships
      2. all goods into colonies must be through ports in England so England can tax them
      3. most goods can *only* be exported to England, because world economy is a zero sum game
      4. taxes on coastal trade
      5. colonies can’t make anything GB makes
   5. Impact on the colonies
      1. Positive effects:
         1. New England shipbuilding prospered
         2. Chesapeake tobacco had a monopoly in England
         3. English military forces protected the colonies from potential attacks by the French and Spanish
      2. Negative effects:
         1. colonial manufacturing severely limited
         2. farmers received low prices for crops
         3. colonists had to pay high prices for manufactured goods from England
         4. mercantilist regulations were unnecessary since they would have been economic buddies anyways and they strained the political relationship too much
      3. Enforcement of the acts
         1. lax reinforcement, became known for corruption
         2. did crack down once on the Massachusetts Bay because they were the center of smuggling activity
      4. Brief experiment: **Dominion of New England**
         1. combined New England colonies, New York and New Jersey into the Dominion of New England because Massachusetts sometimes acted like an independent nation, defying the Navigation Acts
         2. Charles II levied taxes, limited town meetings and revoked land titles, causing resentment
         3. when Charles II was forced off the throne, so were the proprietors of the Dominion of New England
         4. new government combined Massachusetts with Plymouth
            1. replaced church membership with property ownership as the basis for voting and office holding
            2. religiously tolerant
   6. The Institution of Slavery
      1. Increased demand for slaves
         1. reduced migration- increased wages in England
         2. dependable work force- Bacon’s Rebellion displayed the volatility of politically oppressed small farmers and indentured servants
         3. cheap labor became necessary to grow rice and indigo, other cash crops
      2. slave laws
         1. laws developed to ensure that blacks and their children would be enslaved forever
         2. laws declared that baptism didn’t affect slave status
      3. triangular trade
         1. rum from New England to West Africa for slaves
         2. slaves from West Africa to West Indies on the Middle Passage for sugar
            1. captured by Native Africans, then stuffed on ships
            2. 1690s- slave trade flourished
            3. blacks began to outnumber Europeans and the natural population increased
         3. sugar from West Indies to New England for rum