

## **CHAPTER TWO: MODELS OF SETTLEMENT: ENGLISH COLONIAL SOCIETIES, 1590–1710**

### **READING AND STUDY GUIDE**

- I. The Chesapeake Colonies
  - A. The Founding of Jamestown
  - B. Tobacco Agriculture and Political Reorganization
  - C. Lord Baltimore's Refuge: Maryland
  - D. Life in the Chesapeake: Tobacco and Society
  
- II. New England
  - A. Plymouth Plantation
  - B. A Godly Commonwealth
  - C. Challenges to Puritan Orthodoxy
  - D. Expansion and Conflict
  
- III. The Caribbean Colonies
  - A. Power Is Sweet
  - B. Barbados: The Emergence of a Slave Society
  
- IV. The Restoration Era and the Proprietary Colonies
  - A. The English Conquest of the Dutch Colony of New Netherland
  - B. A Peaceable Kingdom: Quakers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania
  - C. The Carolinas
  
- V. The Crises of the Late Seventeenth Century
  - A. War and Rebellion
  - B. The Dominion of New England and the Glorious Revolution
  - C. The Salem Witchcraft Hysteria
  
- VI. The Whig Ideal and the Emergence of Political Stability
  - A. The Whig Vision of Politics
  - B. Mercantilism, Federalism, and the Structure of Empire

At the dawn of the 1600s, England trailed far behind Spain and France in the race to exploit the wealth of the Americas. By the end of the century, however, England had become a formidable colonial power in both North America and the Caribbean. In contrast to Spain and France, whose colonization efforts relied on active support from the monarchy and church, England's first efforts to colonize America relied on joint stock companies, which were privately financed commercial ventures. The two great early English experiments in colonization, in Virginia and New England, faced many challenges in their early years, including how to deal with local Indian populations. The solution for the English was not simply rendering the Indians

politically subservient to the king but also segregating themselves from the Indians whenever possible.

Relations between settlers and Indians complicated colonial politics for most of the seventeenth century. Bacon's Rebellion (1676), a popular uprising in Virginia triggered by colonists' conflict over Indian policy, shook the foundations of the colony. In New England, persistent conflict between Indians and settlers exacerbated existing social and economic tensions, leading to the worst outbreak of witchcraft accusations in colonial America, the Salem witchcraft hysteria (1692). The reassertion of political control by England, whose Glorious Revolution (1688) contributed to the emergence of a new, more stable colonial world, helped facilitate the resolution of the witchcraft crisis. On many occasions in the years to come, colonists would invoke the political and constitutional ideas of the Glorious Revolution to defend their liberties.

### **Learning Objectives**

After a careful examination of Chapter 2, students should be able to do the following:

1. Explain the importance of the fur trade to the economic development of French holdings in the New World.
2. Point out the factors that accounted for the French reluctance to immigrate to the New World.
3. Identify the Dutch East India Company and the West India Company and explain their activities in the New World.
4. Define the term *joint-stock companies* and identify the major ones involved in establishing the original British colonies in America.
5. Define the term *headright system* and explain how this policy promoted British migration to the New World.
6. Describe the importance of the tobacco economy to the development of the Chesapeake area.
7. Describe the characteristics of the Chesapeake plantation society. Define the term *indentured servant* and explain the role of this labor force in the plantation society.
8. Compare and contrast the demographic characteristics of the Chesapeake and New England colonies.
9. Define the term *separatist* and explain how these individuals affected British immigration.
10. Understand the basic principles of the *covenant theology*, and understand the importance of religion as the cornerstone of Puritan culture and society.

11. Describe the Massachusetts General Court and compare its structure and function to the Virginia House of Burgesses.
12. Discuss the issue of dissent in Puritan society. Identify two people who dissented against the Puritan church, and describe what happened to them.
13. Explain the emergence in the British Caribbean of one of the first biracial societies in the New World. Understand the nature of the Caribbean system of slavery as well as the extent to which slaves were able to preserve elements of their African culture within the system of slavery.
14. Place the establishment of the Restoration colonies within the social and cultural context created by the Chesapeake and New England colonies. Explain how these colonies reflected and often blended and extended the British colonial cultures already in place by the mid-seventeenth century.
15. Explain why the English kidnapped Pocahontas.

### **Key Terms & Definitions:**

**Headright** An incentive system to encourage additional immigrants by giving 50 acres to any man who would pay their own fare to Virginia and 50 additional acres for each person brought with him. (39)

**Proprietor** This English legal title carried with it enormous political power, giving its possessor almost king-like authority over his domains. Colonial proprietors carried similar powers. (40)

**Separatism** This strain of English Protestantism argued for a total separation from the established Church of England. (42)

**Quakers** The Society of Friends, who believed each individual possessed a divine spark of grace, an inner light that could lead them to salvation. (47)

**Restoration** In 1660 Charles II became king of England, restoring the monarchy to power after the Civil War and Cromwellian rule. (50)

**Bacon's Rebellion** A popular uprising in Virginia in 1676 named after its leader, Nathaniel Bacon. (54)

**Glorious Revolution** The relatively bloodless revolution that led to the ascension of William and Mary, which was widely seen as a vindication for English liberty. (56)

**Whigs (English, 17th Century)** The group that supported parliamentary power after the Glorious Revolution. (59)

**Mercantilism** Theory of empire that advocated strict regulation of trade between colonies and the mother country to benefit the latter. (60)

**Study Questions:**

What was the English attitude toward Indians? (34)

Why did Jamestown turn out to be such a poor choice for a permanent settlement? (36)

What was the “starving time”? (37)

What role did women play in Indian diplomacy? (38)

What were some of the most important reforms implemented in 1618 by Edwin Sandys? (39)

What was a proprietor? (40)

How did the unbalanced sex ratio of the Chesapeake impact gender roles in this colonial region? (41)

Why were English reformers called Puritans? (42)

What does Jan Steen’s painting tell us about the world English Separatists encountered in Holland? (43)

Why did John Winthrop describe New England as “a city upon a hill”? (44)

How did settlement patterns in New England compare with the Chesapeake? (45)

What do New England’s laws reveal about its culture? (46)

Why was Ann Hutchinson such a threat to the Puritan elite? (47)

What was the main source of wealth in the Caribbean islands? (48)

Why did Barbados turn to slavery as its primary source of labor? (49)

What was the Restoration? (50)

How did Pennsylvania embody Quaker ideals? (51)

What were the most important differences between Maryland’s and Pennsylvania’s policy of toleration? (52)

In what ways was Carolina a colony of a colony? (53)

What were the main causes of Bacon's Rebellion? (54)

What economic and demographic forces contributed to the emergence of slavery in the Chesapeake region? (55)

What was the Glorious Revolution? (56)

Why did New Englanders believe that the Devil made his minions sign a book or contract? (57)

What does the map of the Salem witchcraft accusations tell us about this event? (58)

What were the most important features of the Whig ideal? (59)

What was the theory of mercantilism? (60)