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Colonial Culture and Religion

THE STUARTS IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA

I. James Stuart

- a. James was King of Scotland as James VI since his mother's abdication when he was 1 year old.
 - i. Elizabeth named James as her legitimate successor.
 - ii. James was the legitimate heir.

Maybe Elizabeth named him to make up for killing his mother.
- b. James was raised as a Presbyterian by Protestant Scottish nobles.
 - i. He would be acceptable to Protestant English nobles.
 - ii. Uniting the two thrones brought English prosperity to Scotland. James also brought security to England.

II. Under James, England started to settle in America.

- a. Walter Raleigh had established a colony in 1585.
 - i. He named the land, Virginia, after Elizabeth, the "Virgin Queen."
 - ii. The "lost" colony at Roanoke disappeared
Only the word CROATAN was found carved in a tree.
 - iii. In 1607, Englishmen form the joint stock company, Virginia Company.
 1. English law allowed the monarch to issue monopolies to these joint stock companies, e.g.:
 - a. Moscow Company
 - b. East India Company
 - c. Virginia Company
 - d. Massachusetts Bay Company
 - iv. Mercantilism was an economic system controlled by the national government.
 1. Its goal was to establish a favorable balance of trade.
 2. Companies were set up to increase the amount of gold in the English treasury.
 - v. Spanish conquistadors were sent to America to exploit the natives and take gold and silver back to Spain.
 - vi. English colonists, at first, looked for gold.

They found their riches in tobacco, sugar, and rice.

III. In England, the Puritans split into three divisions.

- a. Presbyterians were the most conservative.
 - i. Like Catholics and Anglicans, members were born into the Church.
 - ii. They did not want bishops appointed, nor bishops appointing local ministers.
 - iii. They wanted a Board of Presbyters to run the Church.

The Board would appoint local ministers.

- iv. Presbyterians decided to conform.
- b. Independents were more radical, regarding church government.
 - i. Members had to profess how they knew that they were among God's elect.
 - ii. Each congregation was independent.
 - iii. They wanted to appoint their own ministers at the local level.
 - iv. They had to make a choice to stay or leave.
- c. Separatists were the most radical.
 - i. They wanted out of the Church of England.
 - ii. Each congregation was independent from others and completely separate from the Church of England.

IV. In 1608, a group of Separatists left England for Leyden, Holland.

- a. They wished to worship free of the Church of England.
- b. There was no toleration of independent sects.
- c. After twelve years in Leyden, they noticed their children were becoming more Dutch than English.
- d. They petitioned James to set up a colony in Virginia.
- e. James issued them a Charter to settle in Virginia.

V. The Pilgrims sailed to America from Plymouth, England.

- a. In 1620, 120 people sailed to Virginia on the *Mayflower*.
 - i. Only one-third of the passengers are Saints (Separatists).
 - ii. Others two-thirds are called "strangers."
- b. The *Mayflower* blew off course (some say intentionally) and landed in Massachusetts.
 - i. Passengers wrote the *Mayflower Compact* to form a government.
 - ii. They had landed outside of the jurisdiction of the Virginia Company.
 - iii. The importance of this document is that it espoused the "Consent of the Governed" Seventy years before John Locke's *Second Treatise on Civil Government*.

VI. Many myths were formed around this voyage.

- a. In 1750, Plymouth Rock is named the place where the travelers first landed.
- b. In 1890, the travelers were called "Pilgrims."
 - i. The generic word pilgrim means *one who travels in foreign lands, especially on a religious journey*.
 - ii. They had called themselves "Christians" or "Saints."
- c. The story of the first Thanksgiving was invented.
 - i. The Pilgrims did have a harvest feast.
 - ii. They did have days of thanksgiving, but these entailed prayer, fasting, and humiliation.
- d. At the feast, the Pilgrims ate venison and cod.

- i. They ate some wild game fowl, but we don't know if it was turkey.
 - ii. They ate many shellfish.
 - iii. They did eat pumpkin, but not pumpkin pie.
- e. American presidents since Washington have called for days of thanksgiving to God.
- f. The current Thanksgiving holiday was declared by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, during the Civil War.
 - i. This was not a feast and celebration during the war.
 - ii. Colonies and earlier American presidents did declare days of thanksgiving, but not as a colony, state, or national holiday.
 - iii. In 1939, Franklin Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving from the last Thursday to the fourth Thursday of November.
 - This allowed for a longer Christmas shopping season.

VII. The real Pilgrims landed on Cape Cod and established Provincetown.

- a. They moved inland and found an abandoned Indian village.
- b. The Indians had been wiped out by a smallpox epidemic.
 - i. Smallpox had been introduced by Scottish and Irish fishermen who had fished off of Massachusetts in 1616 and 1617.
- c. The Pilgrims met an Indian, Squanto, who could speak English.
- d. Squanto had earlier been captured and brought to Spain and England.
- e. He introduced the English to many of the food staples found in America.

VIII. The Great Puritan Migration began in 1630.

- a. The Puritans received the Massachusetts Bay Company Charter from King Charles I.
 - The Puritans took the Charter with them, so they would not be controlled from London.
- b. More than 15,000 Puritans begin to pour into Massachusetts.
- c. Puritans named American places after places or people in England.
 - i. They named the river Charles after King Charles.
 - ii. They named their settlement Charlestown.
 - iii. They named Boston after Boston, England.
 - iv. They changed the name of Newtown to Cambridge, once they established Harvard College to train ministers.

IX. The Puritans set up the type of churches they wanted.

- a. They were pious and very serious about religion.
 - i. This is why they left England and settled in inhospitable (cold) Boston.
 - ii. They founded Harvard within six years at Newtown to train clergy.
- b. Puritans established congregations that would choose their own ministers.
- c. The congregation would decide who was a member.
- d. A person had to prove to the congregation that he or she was predestined for Heaven.
- e. Consent of the "elect" could be viewed as an earlier form of democracy.

- f. Colonial government was established by the male church members.
 - i. There were no property requirements.
 - 1. Only male church members could vote.
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- g. There was no room for others in Massachusetts.
 - i. Puritans believed that they had a monopoly on God's revealed truth.
 - 1. Other sects and denominations were either misguided,
 - 2. or in the worst case, as with Catholicism, deceived by Satan.
 - h. Many wealthy, educated Puritans came to Massachusetts.
 - i. John Winthrop was a very important man back in Lincolnshire.
 - i. Puritans were not "Puritanical."
 - i. Nathaniel Hawthorne started this myth.
 - 1. Hawthorne was from Salem and his ancestor was the judge at the Salem witch trials.
 - 2. He hated his ancestor and all things Puritan.
 - 3. Also, he was reacting to Victorian times.
 - j. The Puritans were intellectuals, especially in religion
 - i. All things in moderation.
 - 1. Biggest expenses for ordination parties were beer and wine.
 - a. Increase Mather: "Wine is from God, the Drunkard is from the Devil."
 - ii. They wore colorful costumes.
 - iii. Sex within marriage was good.
 - 1. Not just for procreation.
 - 2. Women could divorce men for not having sex.
 - k. Puritans were strict about the Sabbath.
 - i. Anti-Christmas
 - 1. It was the pagan holiday Saturnalia.
 - 2. They were anti-anniversary
 - l. Puritans thought the English would call them back to England.
 - i. Puritans believed that all of England would convert and become Puritan.
 - 1. In England, many did become Puritan.
 - ii. Karl Marx later said this took place because of economic reasons.
 - 1. Puritans were middle-class and promoted business.
 - m. John Winthrop wrote of the "Great Experiment" as a "Beacon on the Hill."
 - i. This is the beginning of American Exceptionalism.
- X. King Charles I stopped the Puritans from going to Massachusetts.
- a. Oliver Cromwell was scheduled to leave for Massachusetts.
 - b. He had to stay and remained in the Parliament.
 - c. In 1642, Parliament was increasingly Puritan.
 - d. Puritan vs. Royalists war begins.

- e. Cromwell adopts Nicolo Machiavelli's new style of war and defeats Charles I in 1648.
- f. 1642–1649 — Many Puritans did return to England.
 - i. Hugh Peter had been the pastor at Salem, Massachusetts.
 - 1. He returned to be Cromwell's personal pastor.

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- 2. He gave the sermon in Parliament to incite them to behead the King of England for treason.
 - 3. January 30, 1649, King Charles I was beheaded.
 - g. Puritans Rule England during the "Interregnum" 1649–1660.

XI. The English realized they needed a head of state.

- a. Charles I's son Charles is called home from France.
- b. He becomes King Charles II in the "Restoration."
- c. Now, Parliament had named the King.
 - i. Parliament has power to name the King.
- d. Charles had to pardon all of the Puritans.
 - i. He could execute a chosen handful, like Hugh Peter, as regicides.
- e. Once Charles II was restored, most Puritans wanted to stay in Massachusetts.

XII. Charles punished his enemies, but he also rewarded his friends.

- a. In 1663, Anthony Ashley Cooper (1st Earl of Shaftsbury) was given the colony of South Virginia.
- b. Later became Carolina.
- c. Carolina became a slave trading center, in Charleston, between the Ashley and Cooper rivers.

XIII. During the 1660s, England conquered New Netherlands from the Dutch.

- a. Charles gave it to his brother, James, the Duke of York.
 - i. James names the land New York.
 - ii. He gives lower New Netherlands to his friends:
 - 1. Sir George Carteret
 - 2. Lord Berkley
- b. They name the land Nova Caesarea, or New Jersey.
- c. In 1683, Charles allows William Penn to inherit the land he gave to Penn's father, Admiral William Penn.
 - i. Charles names the land Pennsylvania after William's father.
 - ii. Pennsylvania becomes a haven for Quakers.

XIV. 1685 Charles II dies.

- a. James, the Duke of York, becomes King James II.
- b. James has two daughters, Mary and Anne
- c. James had become a Roman Catholic.
- d. James remarries.
 - i. The new queen is a Catholic and has a son.

- e. The son is baptized Catholic
- f. Tories in Parliament contact Mary, who had married William the Prince of Orange in the Netherlands.
 - i. They ask William and Mary to return to England and jointly take the throne.
- g. September 1688 — William lands in England.
- h. December 1688 — James flees to France.
- i. January 1689 — William and Mary take the throne.

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- i. Parliament is much stronger now.
 - 1. They are King makers.
- j. John Locke publishes his 2nd Treatise to justify the Glorious Revolution.

XV. Later monarchs:

- a. 1714 Anne dies and her daughter Sophia dies — end of Stuarts.
- b. Parliament will not bring James II's son, the legal heir, to the throne because he is Catholic.
 - i. They find a Protestant German nephew in Hanover to take the throne — beginning of the Hanoverians.
 - 1. George I rules 1714–1727.
 - 2. He is not too bright and stays in Hanover.
- a. Parliament's power increases.
- ii. 1727–1760 George II rules
 - 1. He speaks no English.
 - 2. He brings the composer George Frederick Handel to England.
 - 3. 1760 — George's grandson George III becomes King.

THE AMERICAN COLONIES

- I. Roger Williams had served with Hugh Peter.
 - a. Williams thought that the Puritans were too close to the Anglicans.
 - i. He wanted to pay the Indians for land.
 - ii. He wanted the Church to be separate from government.
 - iii. He founded the Baptists.
 - iv. He was exiled and founded Providence, Rhode Island.
- II. Anne Hutchinson criticized John Wilson, the pastor, on his position on works. She practically called him a Catholic.
- III. Anne Hutchinson was not a feminist like modern feminist folklore has described her.
 - a. The issue was anti-intellectual.
 - b. Puritans were very intellectual, very academic.
 - i. They believed in reason through the Bible.
 - c. Puritans asked Hutchinson to prove her charges by using the Bible as evidence.
 - i. Hutchinson said she knows because the Holy Spirit told her.
 - ii. She had a revelation.

1. This blew their minds.
2. Antinomianism = Anti-Law overtures.

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3. The Bible was the legal authority.
- d. She was banished to Rhode Island.
- e. Some of her followers went North to New Hampshire.

IV. 1640 All Puritans were united in England — more tolerant of others.
a. New England Puritans were critical of England.

V. 1650 Mary Dyer — follower of Anne Hutchinson.
a. She became a Quaker and came back from England.
i. The Quakers were “in your face.”

VI. All of the various Christian sects believed they had the whole truth.

VII. The Puritans hanged a number of Quakers.
a. After many warnings
b. They had disrupted Puritan services by walking in naked.
c. They did not hang Dyer; they pardoned her.
i. Dyer came back again and was hanged.
ii. People felt bad and changed the law.

VIII. In Virginia — Bacon’s Rebellion.
a. Nathaniel Bacon was an indentured servant.
i. He was freed and had problems settling land in the west.
b. Freed indentures had many troubles with the Indians.
c. Bacon and the indentures rebel.
d. They burn Williamsburg.
e. This uprising leads to permanent Black slavery.

SLAVERY

I. Europeans initially looked to find gold in the new world.
a. Instead the gold they find is SUGAR.
b. Sugar cultivation required a cheap labor force.
c. Many Indians died in the fields.

II. 1519, DaCasas brought black slaves from Africa to Cuba.
a. Africans had European immunities; Indians didn’t.
b. Less susceptible to tropical diseases; white indentures weren’t.

III. Europeans established forts on the African posts.
a. African chiefs brought slaves to the forts for gold and for rifles.
b. Slaves were taken to Cuba.

IV. By 1700, England had control of the slave trade.

OTHER COLONIES

I. Pennsylvania became more ethnically and religiously diverse.

- a. Huguenots
- b. Ulster Irish Presbyterians— went to live beyond the Susquehanna River.
 - i. They were Indian fighters.

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- ii. They had moved to Ulster from the Scottish lowlanders 150 years earlier.
- c. Pennsylvania Dutch — German Amish and Mennonites from the German Rhineland.

II. New York — Dutch Reformed heritage. No real strong religious tradition,

- a. NYC was a center for trade.
- b. Always a somewhat tolerant city.
- c. Businessmen must be tolerant.

WITCHCRAFT

I. Witchcraft was a colonial Charter issue.

II. In 1685, James II had revoked the Massachusetts Charter.

- a. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Haven became the Dominion of New England.
- b. There were rebellions
- c. William and Mary reestablished the charters.

III. 1692 Puritans worried that the “Beacon” was being put out.

- a. Sense of Dislocation — the Holy Experiment is collapsing. God was punishing the Puritans for unfaithfulness.
- b. They were no longer “saved” children.
- c. There were more non-Puritans than Puritans left in New England.

IV. When a society feels threatened, it reacts.

- a. Arthur Miller’s *Crucible* is about McCarthyism set in Puritan times.
- b. Tituba the African slave taught Puritan girls about Voodoo.
 - i. The girls accuse others of witchcraft.
 - ii. Twenty were hanged.
 - iii. One man was pressed with weights.

V. They had relied on Spectral Evidence

- a. A bird/spirit sent the hex to the girls.
- b. This is the dividing line between the Age of Faith and the Age of Reason.

Natural Law Traditions

I. John Locke taught that man was born with a blank slate as a mind — *Tabula Rasa*.

- a. The mind contains what we put into it.

- b. The Human mind can understand all.
 - i. We can perfect all things.
 - 1. This contradicts Christian theology.
- c. The later Romantic reaction to John Locke and the Enlightenment — It's better to see and appreciate a flower or an animal than to dissect it and try to understand it.

II. From Natural Law, John Locke focused on Natural Rights.

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- a. He develops the social contract.
- b. Men are born into the State of Nature Free and Equal
 - i. With rights of Life, Liberty, and Property.

III. In 1650 John Owen wrote a book to attack Boston Puritan, John Cotton's *Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven*.

- a. Owen was a friend of Oliver Cromwell and converted to Congregationalism from Presbyterianism.
- b. He taught theology at Cambridge.
 - i. There, he taught John Locke
 - ii. Locke's Social Contract was a variation of Owen's Covenantal Theology.
 - 1. Life
 - 2. Liberty
 - 3. Property — That which you apply labor to.
 - iii. The reason for government is to protect property.
 - iv. Labor theory of value
 - 1. Value has more labor invested into
- c. The Government protects natural rights.
 - i. We have rights that we give up to the government.
 - ii. We give our natural rights up to the government.
 - iii. If the government abuses its position as guardian of our natural rights, the governed have the right to overthrow the government.