

The English Colonization of America



Overview



- Some European countries, including England, were in competition to increase their wealth and power by expanding their empires to America. (The New World)

Reasons for English Colonization in America



- England wanted to establish an American colony to increase its wealth and power.
- Colony – a group of people who settle in a distant territory but remain ruled by (subject to) their parent country.

Reasons for English Colonization in America

- England hoped to find silver and gold in America.
- An American settlement would furnish raw materials that could not be grown or obtained in England.
- The colony would also open new markets for England to trade with.



Economics



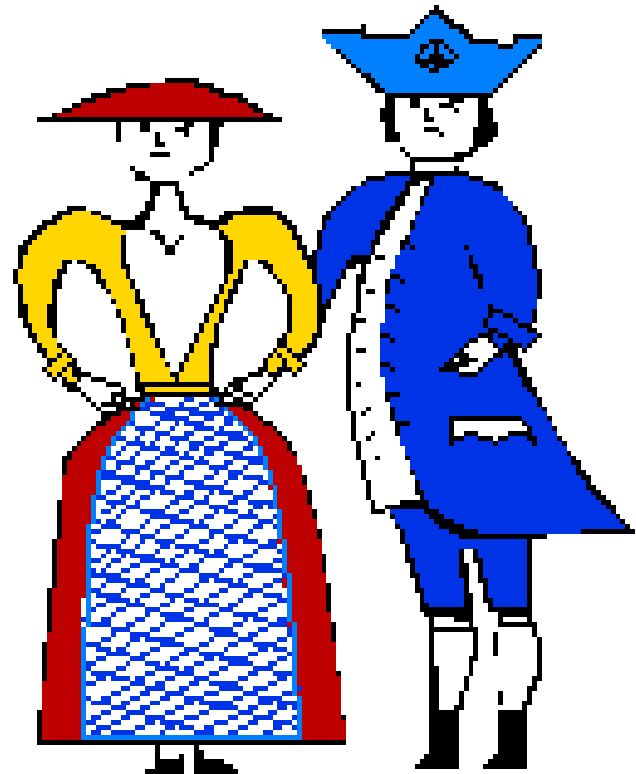
- Economics – the science that deals with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.
- Economics – the making, the shipping, and the use of products and services.

Economic Results of English Colonization in America

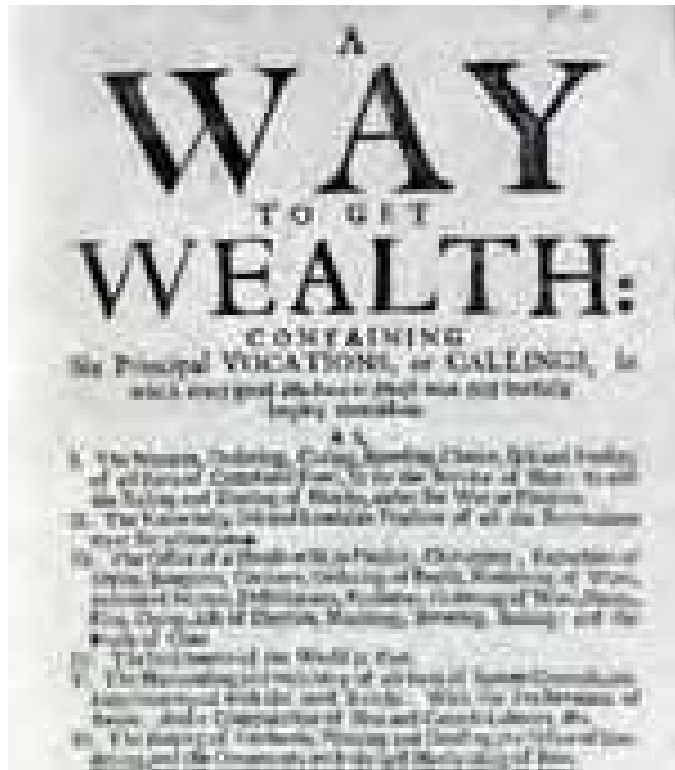
- The Virginia colony and England would become economically interdependent.
- England depended on raw materials exported (sent out) from the Virginia colony. Examples: wood used for shipbuilding.
- The Virginia colony depended on imported (brought in) manufactured goods from England. Examples: clothing, iron pots, and tools.

Stockholders

- A stockholder is someone who buys a portion of a company.
- The company uses the stockholder's money to try and make money.
- If the company is successful, the stockholder will make a profit on his/her investment. This means the person will make money!



The Virginia Company of London and the Jamestown Settlement



- The Virginia Company of London was a company in England that was looking for investors

(stockholders) to help pay the costs for a settlement in the New World at Jamestown.

The Virginia Company of London and the Jamestown Settlement

- The stockholders of the Virginia Company of London financed (paid for) the settlement of Jamestown.



The Virginia Company of London and the Jamestown Settlement

- Jamestown was primarily (mainly) an economic venture.
*This means that the stockholders wanted to make money!
- Jamestown became the first permanent English settlement in North America in the year 1607.



The Important Understanding about Jamestown



- Location and physical characteristics influenced the decision to settle at Jamestown.

How Geography Influenced the Decision to Settle at Jamestown

- When the settlers arrived in 1607, Jamestown was located on a narrow peninsula bordered on three sides by the James River.
- Today, Jamestown is located on an island in the James River.

Reasons for the Site Choice of the Jamestown Location



- There were three main reasons the settlers picked this area for the Jamestown settlement:
1. The location could be easily defended from attack by sea (Spanish).
 2. The water along the shore was deep enough for ships to dock – a good harbor!
 3. They **believed** they had a good supply of fresh water.

Jamestown

- Archaeologists have discovered the site of the original fort.
- The recovered artifacts give archaeologists clues about the interactions of English, African, and Indians in early Virginia.



