

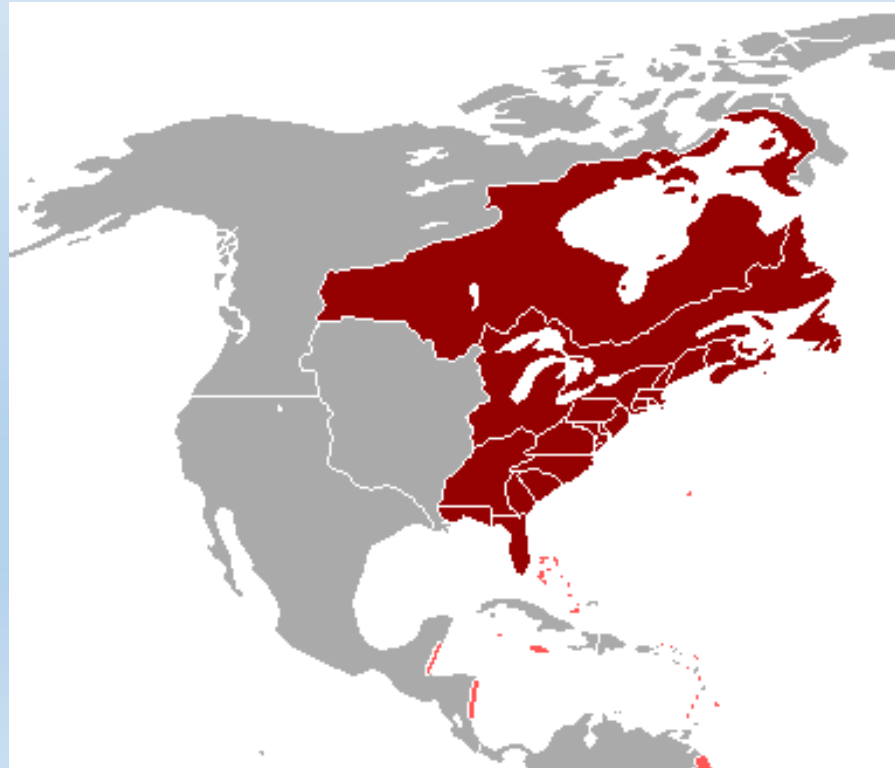
APUSH

Chapter 5: Colonial Society on the Eve of Revolution



Background Information

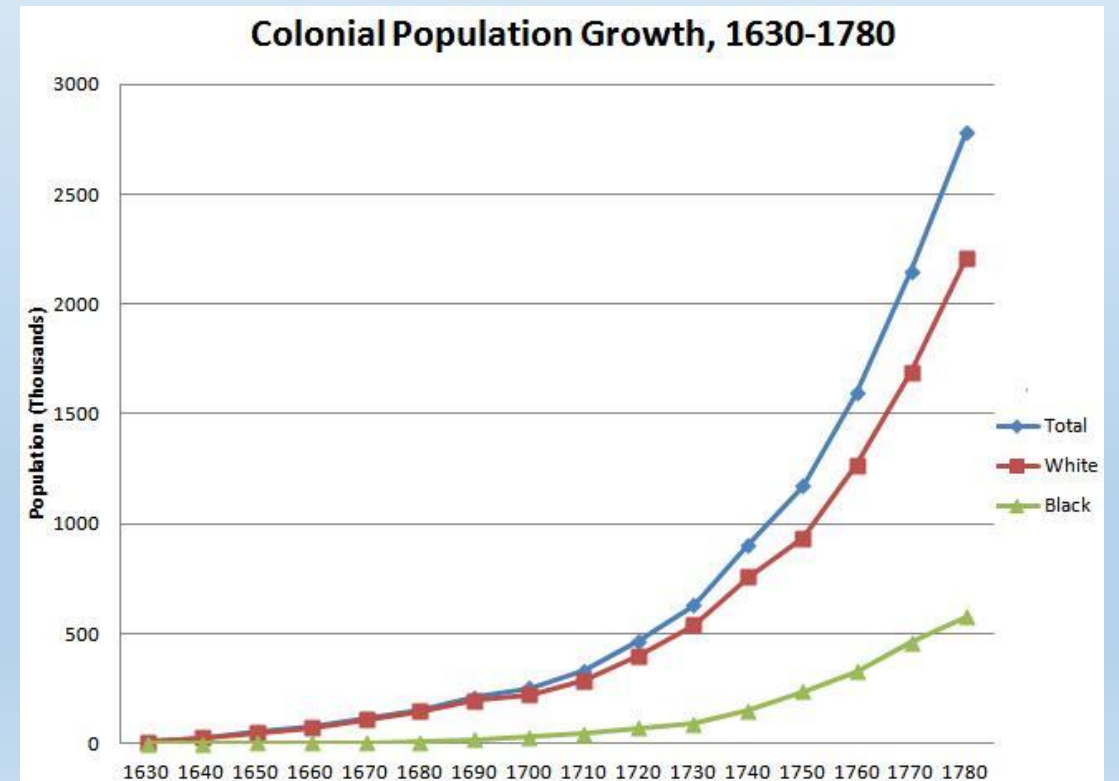
- Britain governed most of North America by 1775 (32 colonies) - only 13 colonies had rebelled by that time.
 - Canada, Jamaica, and others did not rebel.



Conquest by the Cradle



- 1700s - the population in the North American colonies exploded.
 - America outnumbered Britain
- About 90% lived in rural areas.



Mingling of the Races

- 1775 Colonial America was a melting pot.



- **Germans were 6%** population. Fleeing religious persecution, economic oppression, and the ravages of war.
- **Scots-Irish were 7%** population. Lawless individuals.
 - Along the Great Wagon Road (Appalachian Valley)
- **About 5%** population consisted of other European groups
 - French Huguenots, Welsh, Dutch, Swedes, Jews, Irish, Swiss, and Scots Highlanders.

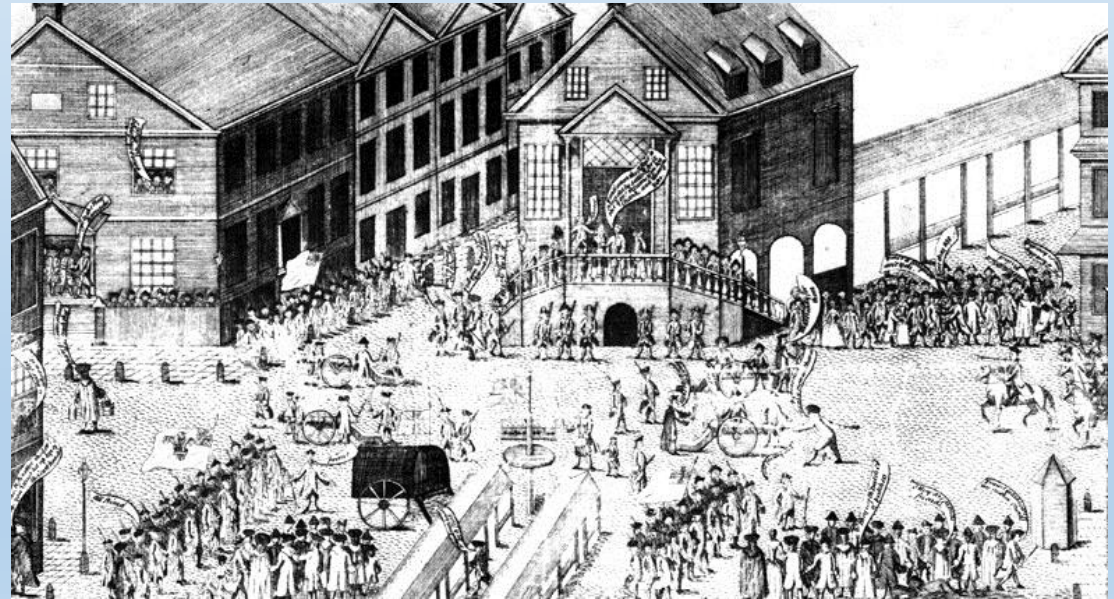
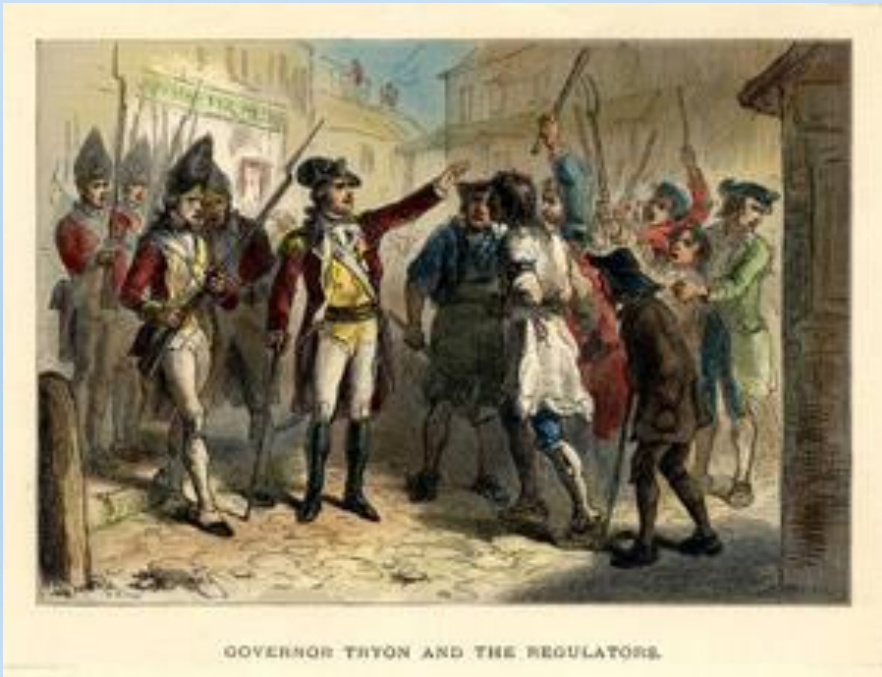
Ethnic Makeup of Colonies

- C
- A
- P
- P



Mingling of the Races (Scots-Irish)

- **Paxton Boys in Philadelphia in 1764**, protesting lenient policy towards Indians
- **Regulator movement** in North Carolina - against eastern domination of the colony.
 - Similar to Bacon's Rebellion in VA



Paxton Boys march on Philadelphia

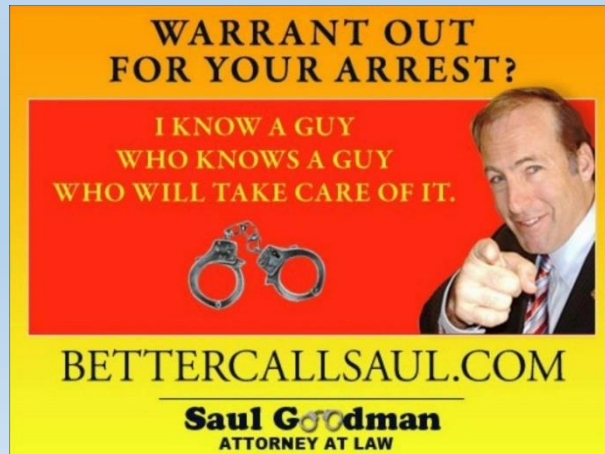
The Structure of Colonial Society

- **Richest 10% of Bostonians and Philadelphians owned 2/3 of the taxable wealth** in their cities.
- Homeless poor in Boston forced to wear “P”
- Influx of indentured servants added to the lower classes.
- The black slaves - lowest class in society.



Clerics, Physicians, and Jurists

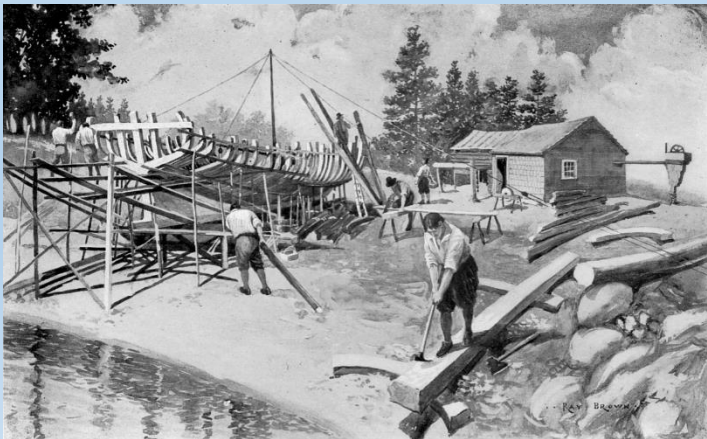
- Christian ministry held highest prestige.
- Most physicians were poorly trained and not highly esteemed.
- Diseases caused problems
 - A crude inoculation introduced in 1721.
- Lawyers not held in high regard



Workday America



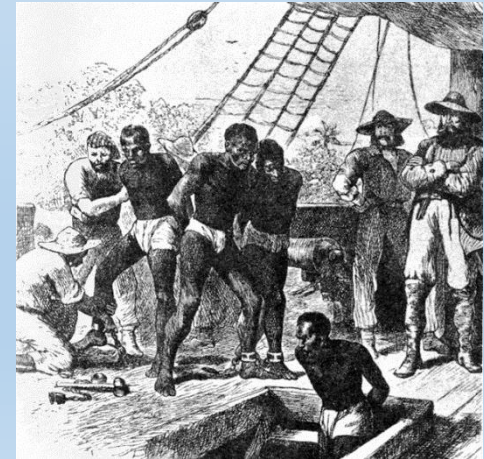
- **Agriculture was the leading industry**, involving about 90% of the people.
- Fishing – financially rewarding, not as popular as agriculture.
- Trade was popular Middle and North
- Manufacturing - secondary importance.
 - Lumbering important for shipbuilding



Giant Redwoods (CA)

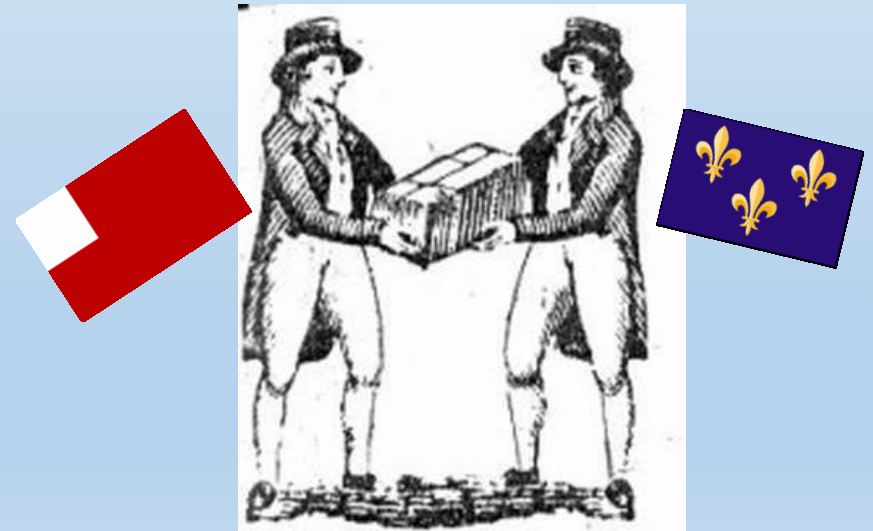
Triangular Trade

- **Triangular Trade:**
 - Rum to Africa
 - Slaves to West Indies
 - Molasses to New England



Trade in Americas

- Foreign markets for manufactured goods
- **Molasses Act (1733)**, aimed at North American trade with the French. Led to smuggling.



“Bladen [Col. Main Bladen who was a longtime member of the British Board of Trade] had conceived of the strategy of inflicting a prohibitive duty on imports from the French West Indies instead of simply disallowing them. When he was confronted with the argument that the proposed bill would result in the ruin of the North American colonies, he replied, “that the duties proposed would not prove an absolute prohibition, but he owned that he meant them as something that should come very near it, for in the way the northern colonies are, they raise the French Islands at the expense of ours, and raise themselves also [to]o high, even to an independency.”

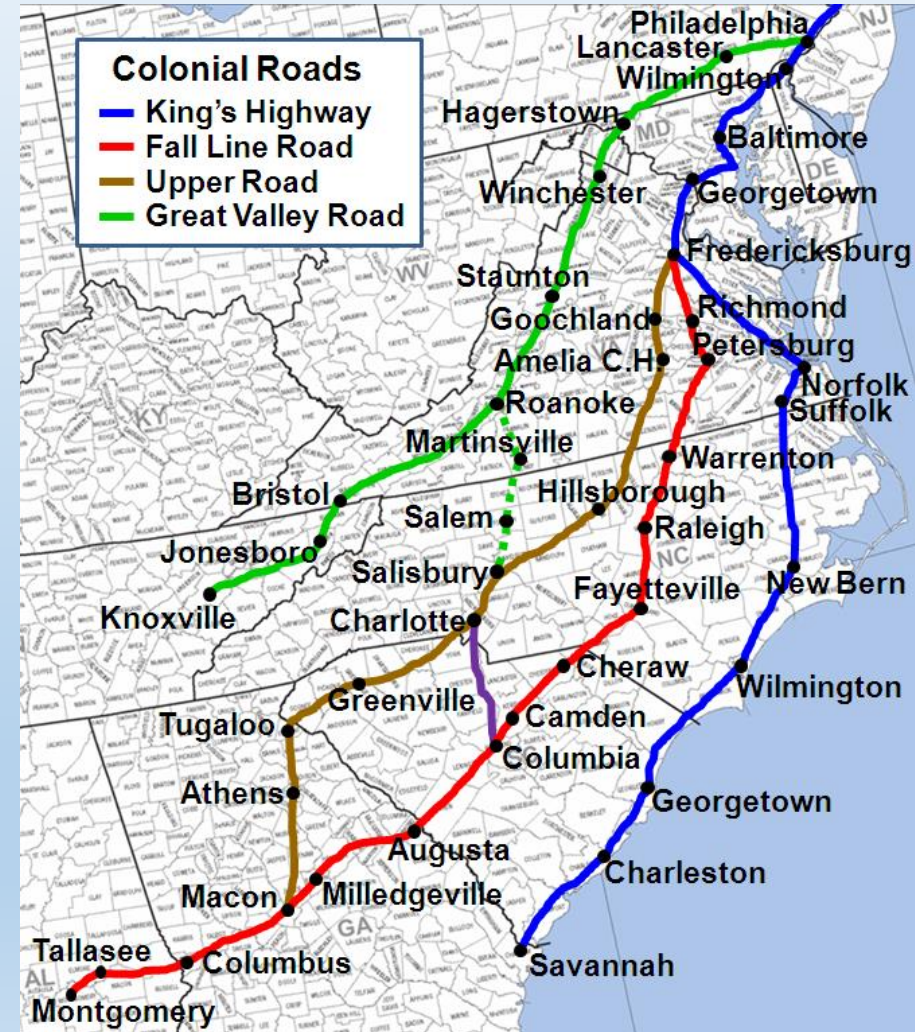
~ Theodore Draper (1937) on the Molasses Act.

Why did Bladen tax imports rather than ban them?

Horsepower and Sailpower



- Terrible roads in colonies
- An inter-colonial postal system (mid-1700s)

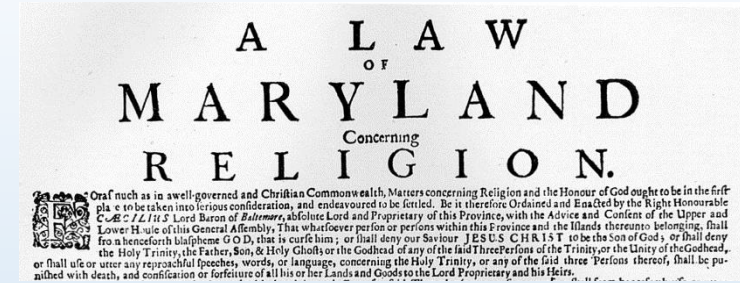


Dominant Denominations

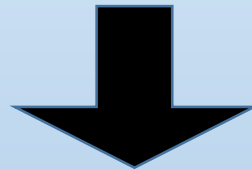
- Two established churches prominent: the **Anglican (Church of England)** and the **Congregational**.
- **Religious toleration**



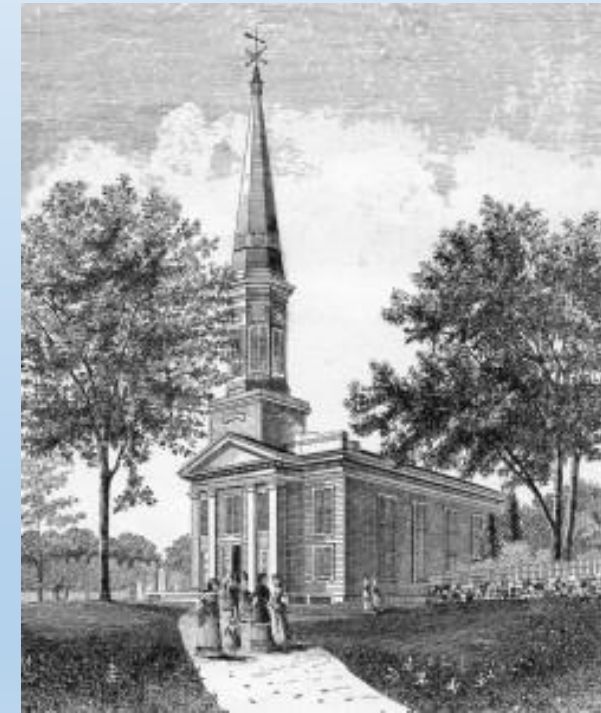
Smithfield, VA



Puritans



Congregational



New Canaan, CT

Religion in the Colonies

- Notice who is where compared to when the colonies were founded...

