CHAPTER 3

Settling the Northern Colonies, 1619–1700

PART I: REVIEWING THE CHAPTER

A. Checklist of Learning Objectives

After mastering this chapter, you should be able to:

1. Describe the Puritans and their beliefs, and explain why they left England for the New World.
2. Explain how the Puritans’ theology shaped the government and society of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
3. Explain how Massachusetts Bay’s conflict with religious dissenters, as well as new economic opportunities, led to the expansion of New England into Rhode Island, Connecticut, and elsewhere.
4. Describe the conflict between colonists and Indians in New England and the effects of King Philip’s War.
6. Describe the founding of New York and Pennsylvania, and explain why these two settlements as well as the other middle colonies became so ethnically, religiously, and politically diverse.
7. Describe the central features of the middle colonies, and explain how they differed from New England and the southern colonies.

B. Glossary

To build your social science vocabulary, familiarize yourself with the following terms.

1. predestination The Calvinist doctrine that God has foreordained some people to be saved and some to be damned. “Good works could not save those whom ‘predestination’ had marked for the infernal fires.”
2. elect In Calvinist doctrine, those who have been chosen by God for salvation. “But neither could the elect count on their predetermined salvation. . . .”
3. conversion A religious turn to God, thought by Calvinists to involve an intense, identifiable personal experience of grace. “They constantly sought, in themselves and others, signs of ‘conversion.’ . . .”
4. visible saints In Calvinism, those who publicly proclaimed their experience of conversion and were expected to lead godly lives. “The most devout Puritans . . . believed that only ‘visible saints’ . . . should be admitted to church membership.”
5. calling In Protestantism, the belief that saved individuals have a religious obligation to engage in worldly work. “Like John Winthrop, [the Puritans] believed in the doctrine of a ‘calling’ to do God’s work on this earth.”
6. heresy Departure from correct or officially defined belief. “. . . she eventually boasted that she had come by her beliefs through a direct revelation from God. This was even higher heresy.”
7. seditious Concerning resistance to or rebellion against the government. “[His was] a seditious blow at the Puritan idea of government’s very purpose.”
8. commonwealth An organized civil government or social order united for a shared purpose. “They were allowed, in effect, to become semiautonomous commonwealths.”
9. **autocratic** Absolute or dictatorial rule. “An autocratic spirit survived, and the aristocratic element gained strength. . .”

10. **passive resistance** Nonviolent action or opposition to authority, often in accord with religious or moral beliefs. “As advocates of passive resistance, [the Quakers] would turn the other cheek and rebuild their meetinghouse on the site where their enemies had torn it down.”

11. **asylum** A place of refuge and security, especially for the persecuted or unfortunate. “Eager to establish an asylum for his people. . .”

12. **proprietary** Concerning exclusive legal ownership, as of colonies granted to individuals by the monarch. “Penn’s new proprietary regime was unusually liberal. . .”

13. **naturalization** The granting of citizenship to foreigners or immigrants. “No restrictions were placed on immigration, and naturalization was made easy.”


15. **ethnic** Concerning diverse peoples or cultures, specifically those of non-Anglo-Saxon background. “. . . Pennsylvania attracted a rich mix of ethnic groups.”

**PART II: CHECKING YOUR PROGRESS**

**A. True-False**

Where the statement is true, circle T; where it is false, circle F.

1. **T** F **The dominant form of the Protestant faith among New England’s early colonists was Calvinism, as developed by the Geneva reformer John Calvin.**

2. **T** F **The most fervent Puritans believed that the Church of England was corrupt because it did not restrict its membership to “visible saints” who had experienced conversion.**

3. **T** F **The large, separatist Plymouth Colony of Pilgrims strongly influenced smaller Puritan Massachusetts Bay.**

4. **T** F **Massachusetts Bay restricted the vote for elections to the General Court to adult male members of the Congregational Church.**

5. **T** F **Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson were both banished for organizing political rebellions against the Massachusetts Bay authorities.**

6. **T** F **Rhode Island was the most religiously and politically tolerant of the New England colonies.**

7. **T** F **The Wampanoag Indians of New England initially befriended the English colonists.**

8. **T** F **After King Charles II was restored to the throne of England, the crown attempted to gain tighter control over its colonies, especially defiant Massachusetts.**

9. **T** F **King Philip’s War enabled New England’s Indians to recover their numbers and morale.**

10. **T** F **New York became the most democratic and economically equal of the middle colonies.**

11. **T** F **Dutch New Netherland was conquered in 1664 by military expedition from the colony of New Sweden in Delaware.**

12. **T** F **William Penn originally wanted his Pennsylvania colony to be settled exclusively by his fellow English Quakers.**

13. **T** F **Later non-Quaker immigrants to Pennsylvania like the Scots-Irish welcomed the peaceful relations with the Indians established by William Penn’s policies.**

14. **T** F **The middle colonies’ broad, fertile river valleys enabled them to develop a richer and more successful agricultural economy than that of New England.**
The middle colonies were characterized by tightly knit, ethically homogeneous communities that shared a common sense of religious purpose.

B. Multiple Choice

Select the best answer and circle the corresponding letter.

1. The principal motivation shaping the earliest settlements in New England was
   a. the desire for political freedom.
   b. religious commitment and devotion.
   c. economic opportunity and the chance for a better life.
   d. a spirit of adventure and interest in exploring the New World.
   e. a missionary zeal to convert the Indians to Calvinism.

2. Compared with the Plymouth Colony, the Massachusetts Bay Colony was
   a. dedicated to complete separation from the Church of England.
   b. afflicted with corrupt and incompetent leaders.
   c. more focused on religious rather than political liberty.
   d. larger and more prosperous economically.
   e. afflicted with incompetent leadership.

3. One reason that the Massachusetts Bay Colony was not a true democracy is that
   a. only church members could vote for the governor and the General Court.
   b. political offices were dominated by the clergy.
   c. people were not permitted to discuss issues freely in their own towns.
   d. the governor and his assistants were appointed rather than elected.
   e. the colony was ultimately under control of the English kings.

4. The essential heresy that caused Anne Hutchinson to be convicted and banished from Massachusetts Bay was her declared belief that
   a. the government of John Winthrop was corrupt and tyrannical.
   b. the Puritan elect were just as sinful and those who had been "predestined" to damnation.
   c. she had received a direct revelation from God that the saved did not need to obey either human or divine law.
   d. the Bible did not teach that a personal conversion experience was necessary for salvation.
   e. Calvin's doctrine that people were predestined to either heaven or hell violated fundamental human freedom.

5. Roger Williams based the religious freedom of his colony of Rhode Island on his belief that
   a. it really did not matter what religious beliefs people held, because all were more or less equal.
   b. the corrupt Massachusetts Bay Colony had proved that religious uniformity did not work.
   c. political democracy inevitably required freedom of speech and religion.
   d. God had created human beings fundamentally good and able to choose the right.
   e. civil government had no right to regulate religious behavior or individual conscience.

6. Which of the following New England settlements did not become a separate colony, but remained under the direct control of Massachusetts?
   a. Connecticut
   b. New Hampshire
   c. New Haven
   d. Maine
   e. Rhode Island

7. The Indian tribe that the Pilgrim colonists in New England first encountered were the
   a. Iroquois.
   b. Wampanoags.
   c. Narragansetts.
   d. Hurons.
   e. Powhatans.
8. King Philip’s War represented
a. the first serious military conflict between New England colonists and the English King.
b. an example of the disastrous divisions among the Wampanoags, Pequots, and Narragansetts.
c. the last major Indian effort to halt New Englanders’ encroachment on their lands.
d. a relatively minor conflict in terms of actual fighting and casualties.
e. proof that the Puritans’ missionary efforts among the Indians had been successful.

9. The primary value of the New England Confederation lay in
a. restoring harmony between Rhode Island and the other New England colonies.
b. promoting better relations between New England colonists and their Indian neighbors.
c. enabling the smaller New England colonies to obtain equality with Massachusetts.
d. providing the first small step on the road to intercolonial cooperation.
e. defending colonial rights against increasing pressure from the English monarchy.

10. The event that sparked the collapse of the Dominion of New England was
a. King Philip’s War.
b. the revocation of the Massachusetts Bay Colony’s charter.
c. Governor Andros’s harsh attacks on colonial liberties.
d. the Glorious Revolution in England.
e. the Salem witch trials.

11. The Dutch Colony of New Netherland
a. was harshly and undemocratically governed.
b. contained little ethnic diversity.
c. was developed as a haven for persecuted Dutch Calvinists.
d. enjoyed prosperity and peace under the policies of the Dutch West India Company.
e. represented the most ambitious colonial enterprise of the Dutch government.

12. The short-lived colony conquered by Dutch New Netherland in 1655 was
a. New Jersey.
b. New France.
d. Newfoundland.
e. New Sweden.

13. William Penn’s colony of Pennsylvania
a. sought settlers primarily from England and Scotland.
b. experienced continuing warfare with neighboring Indian tribes.
c. actively sought settlers from Germany and other non-British countries.
d. set up the Quaker religion as its tax-supported established church.
e. made Penn himself a wealthy and powerful figure in the English government.

14. Besides Pennsylvania, Quakers were also heavily involved in the early settlement of both
b. New Jersey and Delaware.
c. New Netherland and New York.
d. Maryland and Delaware.
e. Delaware and Rhode Island.

15. The middle colonies of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware
a. depended almost entirely on industry rather than agriculture for their prosperity.
b. had powerful established churches that suppressed religious dissenters.
c. relied heavily on slave labor for their agriculture.
d. fought frequent and bitter wars with the Indian tribes of the region.
e. had more ethnic diversity than either New England or the southern colonies.

C. Identification
Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.
1. ___________ Sixteenth-century religious reform movement begun by Martin Luther
English Calvinists who sought a thorough cleansing of the Church of England while remaining officially within that church

Radical Calvinists who considered the Church of England so corrupt that they broke with it and formed their own independent churches

The shipboard agreement by the Pilgrim Fathers to establish a body politic and submit to majority rule

The name eventually applied to the Puritans’ established church in Massachusetts and several other New England colonies

The elite English university where John Cotton and many other Puritan leaders of New England had been educated

The two major nonfarming industries of Massachusetts Bay

Anne Hutchinson’s heretical belief that the truly saved need not obey human or divine law

Common fate of Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson after they were convicted of heresy in Massachusetts Bay

Vicious war waged by English settlers and their Narragansett Indian allies that virtually annihilated a major Indian tribe in Connecticut

A major pan-Indian uprising of 1675–1676 that destroyed many Puritan towns but ultimately represented a major defeat for New England’s Indians

English revolt of 1688–1689 that overthrew the Catholic King James II and also led to the overthrow of the Dominion of New England in America

Vast feudal estates in the rich Hudson River valley that created an aristocratic elite in the New Netherland and later New York colony

Collective term for the Pennsylvania statutes that prohibited the theater, cards, dice, and other activities and games deemed immoral.

William Penn’s “city of brotherly love” that became the most prosperous and tolerant urban center in England’s North American colonies

**D. Matching People, Places, and Events**

Match the person, place or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

1. __ Martin Luther  
2. __ John Calvin  
3. __ Massasoit  
4. __ Plymouth  
5. __ Massachusetts Bay Colony  
6. __ John Winthrop  
7. __ Baptists  
8. __ General Court  
9. __ Puritans  
10. __ Quakers  
11. __ Anne Hutchinson  

a. Dominant religious group in Massachusetts Bay  

b. Founder of the most tolerant and democratic of the middle colonies  
c. Dissenting religious group first founded in Rhode Island by Roger Williams  
d. Small colony that eventually merged into Massachusetts Bay  
e. Religious dissenter convicted of the heresy of antinomianism  
f. Indian leader who waged an unsuccessful war against New England’s white colonists  
g. German monk who began Protestant Reformation
12. Roger Williams
13. King Philip
14. Peter Stuyvesant
15. William Penn

h. Religious group persecuted in Massachusetts and New York but not in Pennsylvania
i. Representative assembly of Massachusetts Bay
j. Promoter of Massachusetts Bay as a holy “city upon a hill”
k. Conqueror of New Sweden who later lost New Netherland to the English
l. Reformer whose religious ideas inspired English Puritans, Scotch Presbyterians, French Huguenots, and Dutch Reformed
m. Wampanoag chieftain who befriended English colonists
n. Colony whose government sought to enforce God’s law on believers and unbelievers alike
o. Radical founder of the most tolerant New England colony