

Chapter 4

Colonial Growth and the Road to Revolution



Colonies

Reasons for Colonial Growth

1700-1775

1 Immigration

– 1 million between 1607 and 1775

2 Reproduction

- people had large families (even slaves)

3 Health

– turns out North America was a very healthy place to live – good climate, healthy food, and far less populous than Europe



New England Colonies

- **Subsistence Farming** (getting' by)
- Poor and rocky soil
- Farmers grew enough to support families
- New England - **Not** an agrarian economy (agriculture based)



Claude Moore Colonial Farm

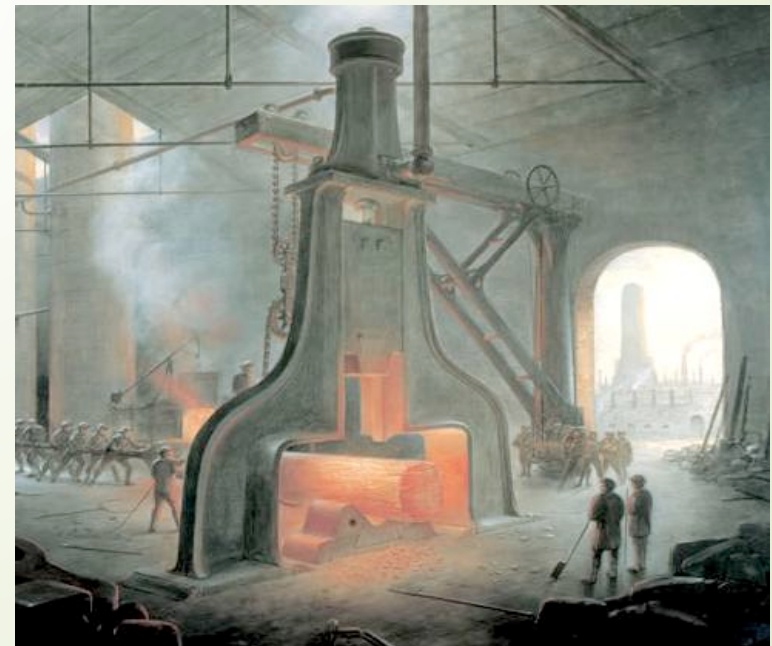
Economy of New England

- New England possessed many skilled **craftsmen** - made furniture and other trade goods
- **Shipping, Shipbuilding** and **Fishing/Whaling**
- Eventually textile industry



Middle Colonies

- More **fertile soil** (less rocky)
- Could grow cash crops: **wheat** and other **grains**, also livestock
- Growth of **shipping ports** like NYC and Philadelphia
- Growing Industries: **lumber and iron mining**



Diversity in the Middle Colonies



- Middle colonies **tolerant of other religions**, unlike most of New England and some of the South
- **Diversity**: Variety of cultural and religious groups settled there due to generous land grants intended to **attract settlers from all over Europe**

Southern Colonies

- Super **rich soil** and **warm climate**
- Large farms (Plantations) on coast come to dominate politically (gettin' rich)
- **Cash crops:** tobacco, rice, indigo, sugar
 - all very labor intensive
 - result was total dependence on **slave labor**
 - Many more small **backcountry farms** (getting' by) that couldn't afford slave labor



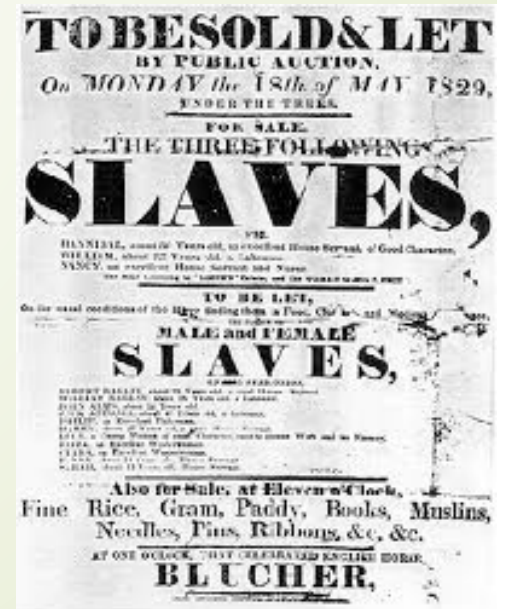
Slavery

- **Overseers** hired by plantation owners
- watched over slaves and their work
- enforced the **slave codes** which rigidly controlled behaviors for slaves and free citizens

EX: slaves can't be taught to read or write, slaves can't travel without a pass, all citizens required to report runaways, all colonies required to return escaped slaves – even the colonies without slavery.

Most southern farmers did not own slaves, but large plantations owned **hundreds...** “

“Over 80 percent of the free adult males in the South did not own slaves. Only 0.11 percent owned more than 100”
- <https://www.measuringworth.com/slavery.php>

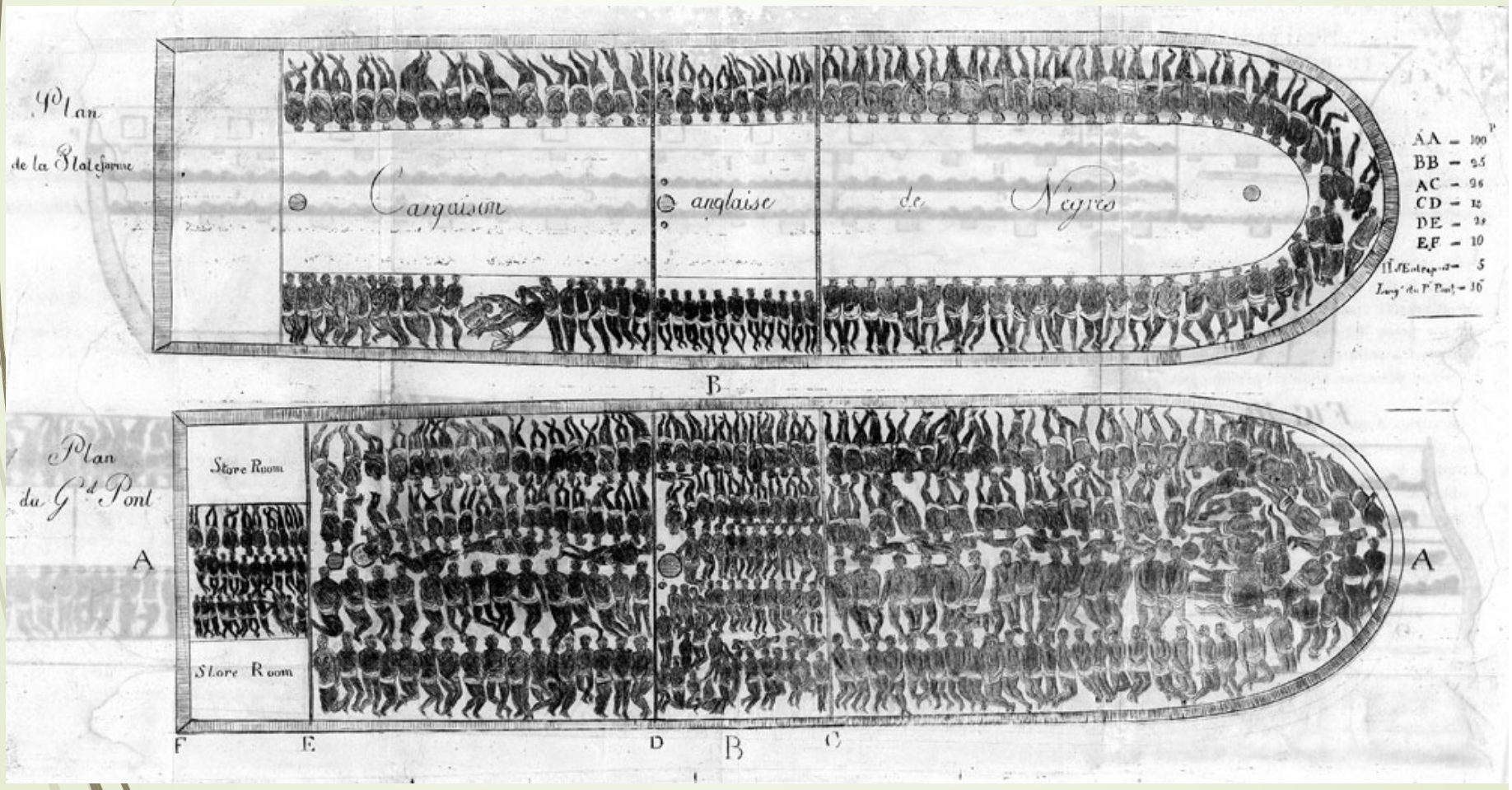


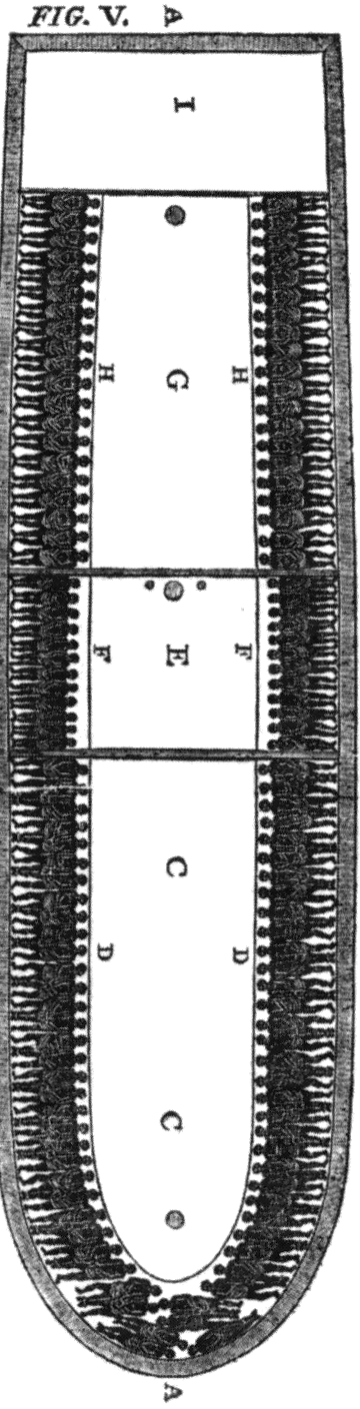
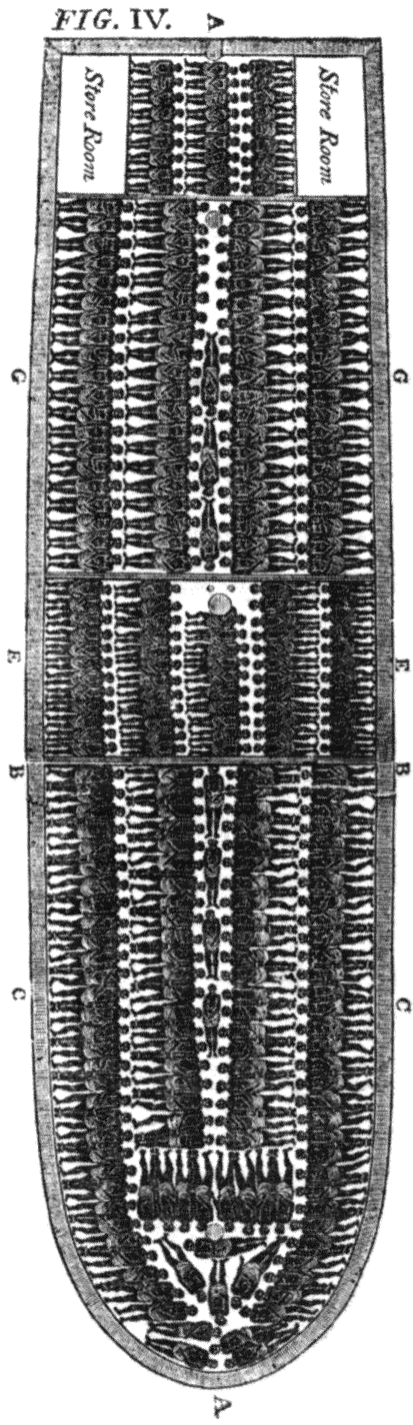
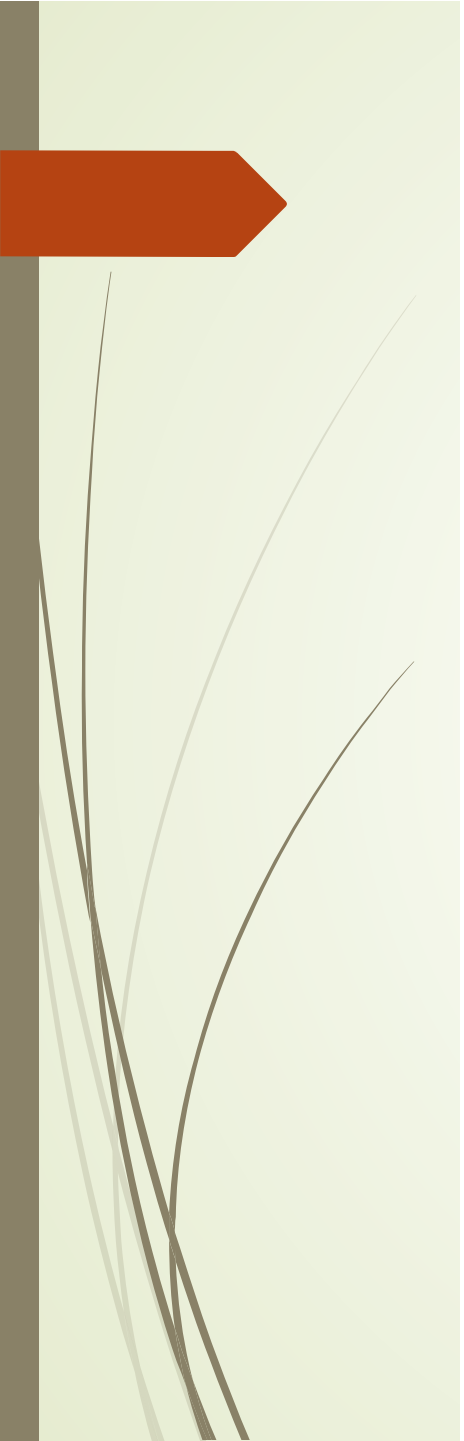
The Slave Trade

Note the long “Middle Passage”



Slaves purchased or stolen from Africa would be packed tightly for the dreaded **month-long journey** called the **Middle Passage**





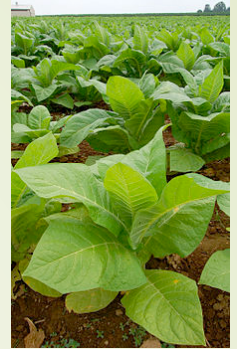
Slave importation data



Government, Religion and Culture in the British Colonies



Colonial Economy



- Each colony produced/contained resources
- England wanted to make sure that only she benefitted from the **resources** in the colonies
- Colonies viewed as a source of **cheap raw materials**
- **Finished goods** from England then sold to the colonies and elsewhere
- **Mercantilism**: Belief that wealth equals power – keep a **positive balance of trade** (export more goods than you import)



Navigation Acts



- Forced colonists to ship their goods **ONLY on British ships**
- Prevented colonists from sending certain products, such as sugar or tobacco, outside England's empire
- Increased **smuggling** by colonists eager to increase profits and because they resented British control

Navigation Acts (1660's)



furniture

tools

textiles



I'm bloody filthy rich!



- 1) Most products could be sold only to England.
Ex.) sugar, tobacco, indigo

Colonial Government

- British colonists brought with them ideas about government that had been developing in England for centuries
- **Magna Carta** (1215 – Document)
 - First established the principle of **limited government**
 - Provided for protection against loss of life, liberty, and property





The Glorious Revolution



- The restored British Monarchy under Charles II and James II (Duke of York – remember him) tried to take back powers from Parliament
- Parliament then removed King James II and installed his daughter, Mary
- **Big idea:** Power of Parliament now exceeded that of the Monarchy (the **Glorious Revolution**)
- **1689 English Bill of Rights (document)** guaranteed basic rights to all citizens (including **colonists**). It also said that British citizens could not be **taxed** unless they were **represented** in Parliament
- **TABLE TALK:** Why was the English Bill of Rights important to the colonists in America?



GOVERNMENT in the 13 Colonies



Self Rule Rules!

- **Charter Colonies** (CT, RI): elected both governors and legislature
- **Proprietary Colonies** (DE, MD, PA): Proprietor appointed governor and upper house - colonists elected lower house
- **Royal Colonies** (MA, NH, NJ, NY, NC, SC, VA, GA): King appointed governor and upper house. Colonists elected assembly, or lower house
- **Big Idea:** By 1760 **EVERY** British colony had some form of **self-rule** (representative government)

Voting Rights



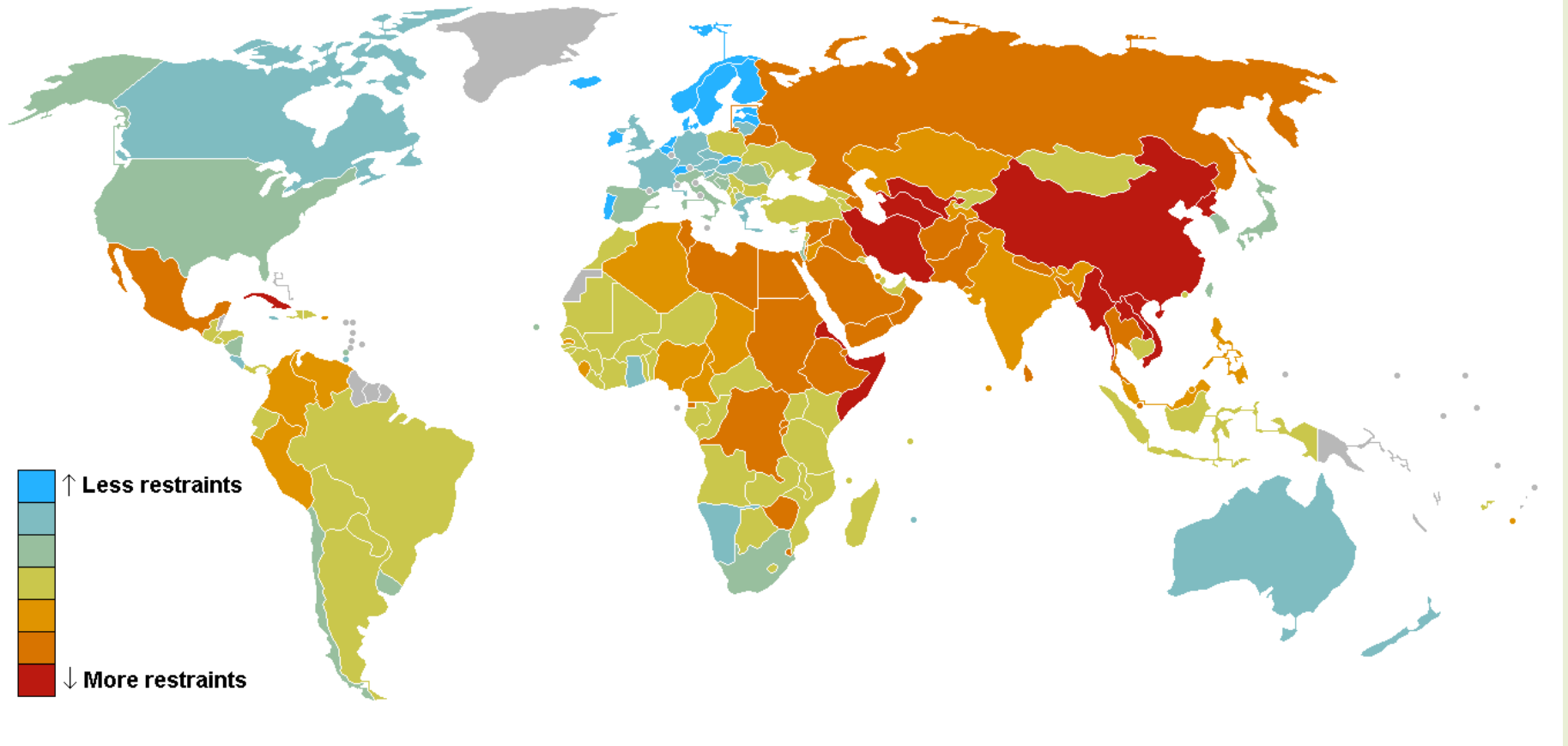
- Who could participate in elections and Govt?
- Generally, only **adult white men who owned property** voted or held office. (Women, indentured servants, landless poor, and African Americans could not vote or hold office)
- However, since **more people owned land** in the colonies, a higher proportion of people was involved in government in the colonies than **anywhere** in the European world

The Colonial Press



- Can the **press** (newspapers etc) criticize the **government**?
- They can if the criticisms can be proven true
- **Zenger** case
- Would become one of our most important freedoms
- A **free** press is crucial to a free **society**!

Which country do you believe has the most freedom of the press? Why do you believe this?



1. Having looked at the map, which group of countries actually does have the freest press?

2. Which countries have the least amount of press freedom and why?

Free Press Globally Today



Two Major Movements in Colonial Life

► The Enlightenment



- The Great Awakening

Great Awakening

- Mid 1700s **religious** revival movement
- The answers lie in **faith**
- Emphasis of **family** (men in charge)
- In New England and middle colonies led to rise of public education, literacy rates, colleges



Minister
Jonathan
Edwards

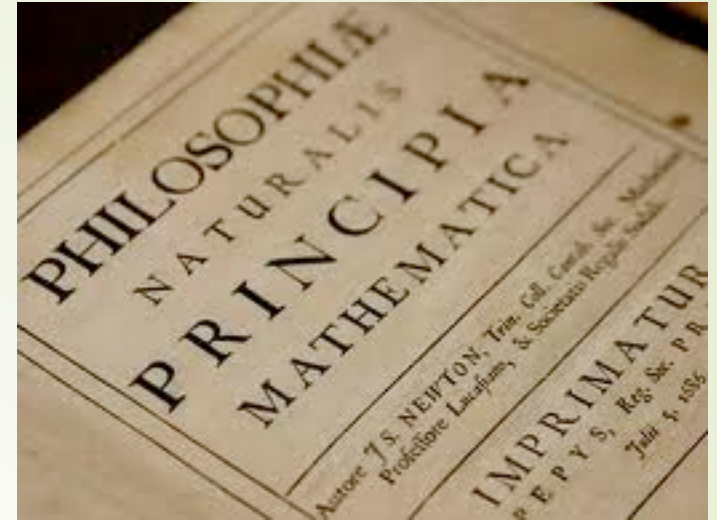
The Black Regiment

- ▶ Fiery Protestant preachers (named for the black robes they generally wore) ... preached revolution. Many fought themselves in the Revolutionary War.



Presbyterian Minister James Caldwell. He and his wife were both shot by British soldiers who also burned his church

The Enlightenment



- Movement began in Europe
- Focused on **reason** rather than **religion** – you can discover answers with **science**
- Locke, Rousseau, Hobbes, Montesquieu, et al believed that knowledge, reason, and **science could improve society.**
- **Influenced** people like Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison

Seeds of Revolution

- Interestingly BOTH the **Enlightenment** and the **Great Awakening** encouraged **independence** – these ideas would lead these 13 colonies to declaring independence from England.
- **Town Meetings** began to evolve into organized governments increasingly interested in independence



North America in 1754



French and Indian War

- Between **Britain and France** (aka 7 Years War)
- Many **Native American** tribes aided France – the Iroquois Confederacy allied with Britain
- **Colonists** supported **Britain** and **fought** against French and Indians
- Appearance of **George Washington** as military hero

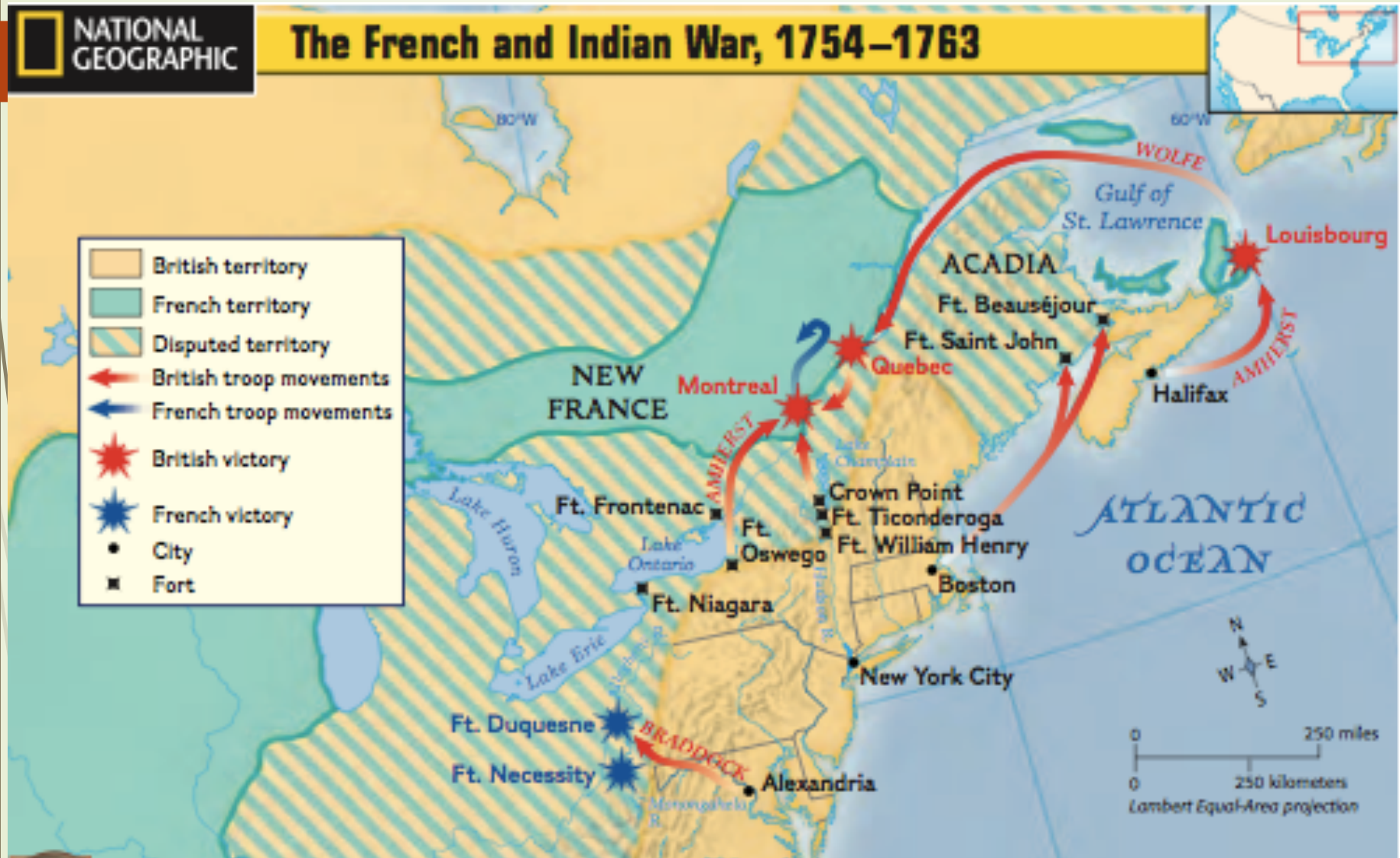


Albany Plan of Union



- Albany Congress - Meeting of colonial leaders in Albany, NY
- 1754 - Ben Franklin's proposal
- **First attempt of colonies to form union** (though only to fight France - aiding Britain – not to rebel, yet)
- ... would have the power to collect taxes, raise troops, and regulate trade
- Not a single colonial assembly approved the plan – preferring to control their own taxes and militias
- But **showed colonists thinking about joining together** for common defense

The French and Indian War, 1754–1763



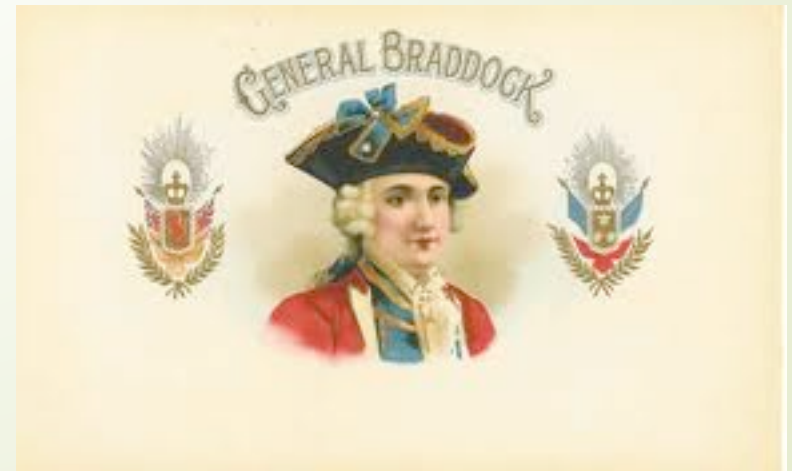
A war over **disputed territories** west of the Appalachians

War in North America

- Difficult terrain : mountains, trees, rivers
- Style of Fighting: British Generals schooled in traditional warfare – unprepared for the more guerilla tactics (reappears in the revolutionary war)

Eventually Britain prevails

- Stronger British Navy
- Captured the cities of Quebec and Montreal



George Washington

- Built **Ft. Necessity** in Ohio territory right near the French Ft. Dusquesne
- **Lost** those early battles since British General Braddock refused to let his men from Virginia fight native style
- Built reputation – many thought the battle would have been won under Washington instead of Braddock
- Would later capitalize on this reputation to lead the Revolutionary Army



The Treaty of Paris - 1763



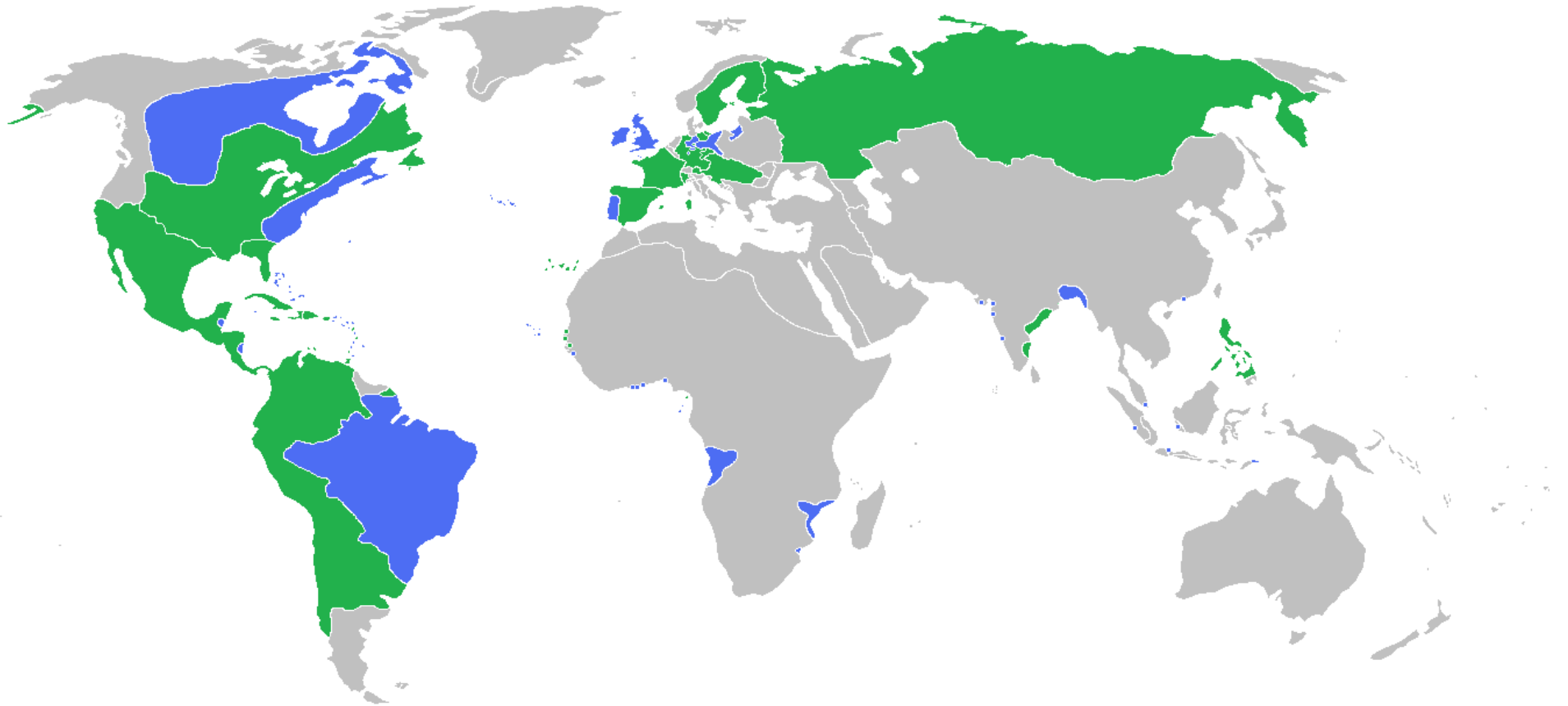
- The **end** of **France** as a power in North America.
- **France** allowed to keep some sugar-producing islands but forced to give Canada and most of its **land** east of the Mississippi River to Britain.
- **Spain**, France's ally, gave **Florida** to Great Britain
- In return, Spain received—the giant *Louisiana Territory*—including the port of **New Orleans**.
- Continent now divided between Britain and Spain by the Mississippi River
- Many Native Americans still lived on the lands covered by the European agreement



North America in 1754



Seven Years War



Conflicts in the “West” and Chief Pontiac’s War



- Ottawa chief **Pontiac** urged making war on white man and returning to **traditional ways**.
- “Before they came on your lands did you not live by bow and arrow?”
- The Ottawa and 6 other Indian nations attacked, taking 11 of the 13 British forts west of the Appalachians
- Forts retaken by British by 1764, but **Pontiac’s War** showed these conflicts would continue

Americas circa 1763

Britain's - Proclamation of 1763 (law)

- No one allowed to move **west** of **Appalachian mountains**
- Intended to ease conflicts with natives
- Angered **colonists** who wanted better **farmland**



NORTH AMERICA AFTER 1763