

Colonial Slavery

DAILY ACTIVITY

Chapter 2, Section 2

Directions: Use your textbook and the information below to answer the questions about colonial slavery.

Although slavery existed in all of the English colonies in North America, most slaves lived in the South. The original black people brought to America were probably indentured servants. As such, they worked side by side with white servants in the fields, paying off their passage money. Eventually they could become free, buy land, vote, and testify in court. However, the economies of the South and the West Indies came to rely on single staple crops, such as tobacco, rice, and sugar cane. Such crops required a vast, cheap labor force. Gradually but steadily, servitude for some became slavery.

Most slaves did field work. Some slaves, however, became artisans in trades such as blacksmithing, barrel-making, and carpentry. Others were house slaves, performing various domestic tasks.

Mastering Facts

1. What were four major differences between indentured servants and slaves?

2. What were the advantages to slaveholders in having black slaves rather than Indian slaves or indentured servants?

3. How did hostilities between African tribal units benefit European slave buyers?

Comparing and Contrasting

4. Describe what might have been the life of a typical black slave. How was it different from that of an indentured servant?

5. Compare artisan slaves with field slaves.

6. What advantages did house slaves have? What were some of the disadvantages?

7. Why were there usually fewer artisan slaves in the rice country?

Forming Generalizations

8. How might absolute power have affected a slaveholder's judgment about determining a fair amount of work for a slave?

9. Which groups of slaves do you think had the most independence? Explain your answer.

Developing a Hypothesis

10. If there had been no slavery in colonial America, would race relations have remained the same or different? Explain your opinion.

Life in the Northern Colonies

DAILY ACTIVITY

Chapter 2, Section 3

Directions: Complete the last sentence in each paragraph so that it summarizes the main idea of the paragraph. Use the heading of each paragraph as a clue.

Summarizing Main Ideas

1. Relationship Between the West Indies and New England. People in the West Indies imported food from New England, such as salted meat, corn, fish, and butter. They also bought lumber taken from the forests of New England and purchased barrels, candles, and horses from New Englanders. In short, the West Indies

2. Boats in New England Life. Merchants relied on boats for carrying on their trade. Boats were needed for fishing. Farmers needed the guns and tools that came from England on boats. Homemakers needed the kitchen utensils and glass bottles that arrived on ships from England. Everyone enjoyed the sweet molasses that came on boats from the West Indies. Workers got jobs building ships. For New England, then, boats and ships

3. A Woman's Work on a Farm. For a woman on a typical farm in colonial New England, daily chores began early. The woman was usually in charge of food preparation, including baking bread, preserving meat, and cooking all meals. She also made the clothes, which often involved spinning the thread and weaving the cloth as well as sewing. Washing clothes, making candles and soap, and caring for the bedding were other standard chores. All in all, a farm woman

4. A Man's Work on a Farm. In the spring, a man on a New England farm planted. In the summer he cleared new fields for the following year's crops. In the fall he harvested. In the winter he trapped animals, repaired tools, and fixed harnesses. For a man operating a New England farm, then,

5. Benefits of New England Life. A farm family had very little paperwork. They had few bills to pay because people exchanged goods and services rather than paid in

cash. Because they voted for their representation, they controlled how their local tax dollars were being spent. Land seemed plentiful, so they had more hope of obtaining it than did farmers in Europe. Despite problems,

6. Knight's Opinions of New England. According to Sarah Kemble Knight, who wrote about her five-month trip from Boston to New York, one innkeeper was rude to her. Knight implied that her room was small, and she complained that her bed was wretched. She suggested that she was almost unable to eat the food served her because it was so bad. She was upset because men chewed tobacco, spat a lot, and had little to say. Sarah Kemble Knight, it seems,

7. Varied Economy of New England. Most people in colonial New England were farmers. However, many were involved in the shipping industry. Some built ships. Others traveled to Europe, Africa, and the West Indies to trade. Still others fished for a living. The New England economy, then,

8. Influences on New England's Culture. The Indians were the first to shape New England's culture. The next major influence came from European immigrants, most of whom came from England. Others who influenced New England's culture included traders who transported slaves from Africa to the West Indies and molasses and sugar to New England. Several geographic

9. Outdoor Life in Colonial New England. Most families lived on farms, and much of the farm and household work was outdoors. Fishing, lumbering, hunting, and shipping also were outdoor jobs. Factories did not exist. Compared to people today,

Newcomers Settle Our Cities

DAILY ACTIVITY

Chapter 2, Section 4

Directions: Read the information, study the chart showing population growth for four major cities, and then answer the following questions.

The English colonies in North America began to grow quickly after 1700. German immigrants began arriving in the early 1680's, seeking religious freedom and free land as promised in the advertisements of William Penn. In the early 1700's, an economic depression hit northern Ireland, causing many Irish to seek the greater prosperity of North America. These newcomers entered the Atlantic seaport cities. From there, some moved to small towns or farms, but a great number remained in coastal towns.

Rapid city growth caused many problems. Wood houses built close together made entire sections of towns easy prey to fires. Sanitation systems became necessary. By 1700 supplies of firewood had been exhausted. City problems multiplied as immigrants continued to arrive by the thousands.

Population of Colonial Cities

| | Boston | New York | Philadelphia | Charles Town |
|------|--------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1690 | 7,000 | 3,900 | 4,000 | 1,100 |
| 1710 | 9,000 | 5,700 | 6,500 | 3,000 |
| 1730 | 13,000 | 8,600 | 11,500 | 4,500 |
| 1760 | 15,600 | 18,000 | 23,750 | 8,000 |
| 1775 | 16,000 | 25,000 | 40,000 | 12,000 |

Interpreting Information

1. Which was the largest colonial city in 1690? the smallest?

2. How many people lived in Philadelphia in 1730?

3. What made fires a particular menace to cities?

4. By 1775, which city had the most people?

5. Why did many German and Irish immigrants come to America?

6. What were three problems of these rapidly expanding urban areas?

Comparing and Contrasting

7. Compare the 1690 data for each city with the corresponding 1775 data. During the eighty-five year period, which city had the largest population gain in actual numbers?

8. Which city remained the smallest of the four throughout the era?

Developing a Hypothesis

9. What might account for Boston's low population growth compared to the growth of New York and Philadelphia between 1730 and 1760?

10. Why did the population of Charles Town—a Southern city—remain significantly lower than that of the Northern cities?

Bacon's Rebellion

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY

Chapter 2, Section 1

Directions: Read the information below carefully. Then refer to it and to the information in your textbook to answer the questions that follow.

A prime example of political and economic developments in the American colonies is the rebellion in Virginia in 1676 led by Nathaniel Bacon. Tidewater planters had emerged as the economic, social, and political leaders of the colony by virtue of their larger landholdings and successful cash crops. New Virginians, poorer people, and ex-servants moved onto the Piedmont plateau, the western frontier of the colony. The Tidewater planters made laws favoring themselves at the expense of the poorer Piedmont farmers. In addition, Governor William Berkeley failed to support the frontier farmers, who provoked Indian uprisings by fighting for more land. When young Nathaniel Bacon requested the right to lead an attack against the Indians, Governor Berkeley refused to grant him permission. Bacon led some frontier farmers in an attack anyway. He denounced the governor in this "Declaration":

For having . . . raised great unjust taxes. . . for the advancement of private favorites . . . for having abused . . . the magistrates of justice, by advancing to [courts], scandalous and ignorant favorites . . . by assuming monopoly of the beaver trade . . . for having [sent back the] army of English [when they were] just upon the track of those Indians who now in all places burn, spoil, murder and when we might have with ease destroyed them. . .

Of these aforesaid articles we accuse Sir William Berkeley as guilty of each and every one of the same, and as one who hath traitorously attempted, violated and injured his Majesty's interest here by a loss of a great part of this his colony and many of his faithful, loyal subjects, by him betrayed and in a barbarous and shameful fashion exposed to the incursions and murder of the heathen.

Governor William Berkeley responded to Bacon's "Declaration" in this way:

[In]the year 1660 . . . not only the assembly but the unanimous votes of all the country, concurred to make me governor. . . Since that time . . . I do not know of anything relative to this country wherein I have acted unjustly, corruptly or negligently in distributing equal justice to all men and taking all possible care to preserve their proprieties and defend them from their barbarous enemies. Yet, further, it is declared by this Parliament that the taking up arms for the King and Parliament is treason, for the event showed that whatever the pretence was to seduce ignorant and well affected people, yet the end was

ruinous both to King and people, as this will be if not prevented. I do, therefore, again declare that Bacon, proceeding against all laws of all nations modern and ancient, is rebel to his sacred Majesty and this country.

Mastering Facts

1. What five grievances did Bacon list in his "Declaration"?

2. What response did Governor Berkeley make to Bacon's grievances?

Forming Generalizations

3. What opinion did Bacon appear to have of Indians? Explain.

4. What was the significance of Bacon's Rebellion?

Evaluating Ideas

5. The ideas of Nathaniel Bacon and of Governor Berkeley differ sharply. Tell what is good and what is bad about each man's way of thinking.
