

4-7 ★ NEW ENGLAND: MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY, 1630

Within a decade of founding Plymouth, the English Pilgrims, or Separatists, had new neighbors: English Puritans who settled Massachusetts Bay Colony and established the second representative assembly in British America.

1492 1630 What brought them over? Present

KING CHARLES I disliked English Puritans because they insisted on purifying the Anglican church (unlike the Separatists who cut all ties). When he ruled without Parliament (1629-1640), he harassed these dissenters, or nonconformists, aiming to "harrie them out of the land."

ARCHBISHOP LAUD, LET'S MAKE THOSE PURITANS CONFORM TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

LEAVE IT TO ME, SIRE.

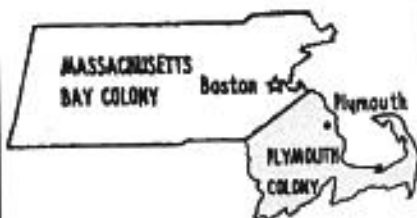


The result: a Great Migration of more than 20,000 English Puritans to New England between 1629 and 1640.



Among the first to migrate were Puritans who in 1629 formed the Massachusetts Bay Company, a trading company.

In 1630 the Massachusetts Bay Company Puritans sailed 1,000 strong on 17 ships into Boston Harbor to found the Massachusetts Bay Colony. With Boston a hub, they spread to several small communities.



Led by John Winthrop, an English lawyer, they brought their Company charter with them and transformed the Company into a self-governing commonwealth, based on Puritan religious ideas. Winthrop served as governor for 12 years.

WE'LL BUILD A "CITY ON A HILL" - A MODEL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR ALL ANGLICANS TO COPY.

HEAR, HEAR!
YEA!
RIGHT ON!



ONLY THE MEN ABLE TO INTERPRET GOD'S WILL SHOULD BE IN CHARGE.

AND THAT MEANS ALL OF US, GOVERNOR!



Governor Winthrop distrusted democracy. He thought God's will—not the people's—should determine laws. So he misrepresented the charter to the colonists, saying only he and 18 assistants could make laws and govern.

But in 1634 Puritans from Watertown—protesting taxation without representation—asked to read the charter for themselves. They made quite a discovery.

HEY! IT SAYS HERE THAT AS FREEMEN WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE LAWS FOR THE COLONY!



Winthrop reluctantly agreed to a representative assembly, the second in British America. Each town would elect two deputies to meet as a legislative body with the governor and assistants in the General Court.

Vote FOR ME!



FREEMEN—ALL ADULT MALES, EXCEPT INDENTURED SERVANTS—WHO TOOK A LOYALTY OATH TO THE COLONY COULD VOTE ON DEPUTIES AND LOCAL ISSUES IN TOWN MEETINGS.

BUT ONLY FREEMEN WHO WERE CHURCH MEMBERS COULD ALSO VOTE FOR THE GOVERNOR AND ASSISTANTS. (AT FIRST MOST COLONISTS WERE CHURCH MEMBERS)



The Puritans' church, based on the protestant doctrine, "priesthood of the believer," also had self-government. The name of the church, Congregational, reflects this democratic approach.

WE PURITANS ARE ACCUSTOMED TO SELF-GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OUR CHURCHES ARE DEMOCRATIC. MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION ELECT THEIR OWN MINISTERS AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

GREAT! CAN WE VOTE ON HOW LONG THE MINISTERS PREACH?



Church and state were closely entwined in Puritan Massachusetts.



The state's purpose, according to the Puritans, was to encourage a godly community by supporting the church.

The state government supported the church by:

1. requiring every person to attend church, whether a member or not
2. requiring every town to support its church minister through taxes
3. enforcing moral codes, as well as "blue laws" that prohibited frivolity on Sunday (dancing, drinking, card-playing)



However, church and state were separate in these ways:

1. Ministers could not hold public office.
2. Public officials could not hold church offices.



The Puritans made the Congregational church the established (official) church of the colony. They persecuted other sects.



By 1684 Massachusetts operated as an almost independent republic, ignoring even England's trade laws; so King James II revoked its charter and made it a royal colony.

In 1686 England sought greater control by creating the Dominion of New England (including colonies from Maine to Delaware), governed by Sir Edmund Andros. The autocratic governor dismissed Massachusetts' assembly, restricted town meetings, and introduced Anglican worship.



In 1688-89 England's Glorious Revolution dethroned despotic King James II, and the Dominion of New England collapsed. Angry Puritans turned on Andros, who fled—disguised as a woman. Betrayed by his boots, he was captured and imprisoned.



In 1691 Massachusetts received a new royal charter, ending Puritan rule with:

1. a royally appointed rather than an elected governor
2. voting rights based on property rather than religion
3. incorporation of Plymouth Colony
4. freedom of worship for all Protestants. (However, the Congregational church remained the established church until 1820.)

1692—Belief in witches, a common European superstition for centuries, also infected the colonies. Massachusetts' unsettling times helped spawn mass hysteria in Salem, where 19 women and one man accused as witches were executed. When Governor Phipps' wife and other prominent people were accused, the Salem witch hunt stopped.



And now, on to other New England colonies.

HERE IS A PARADOX: THE PURITANS CAME TO AMERICA FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY; BUT THEY DID NOT EXTEND THIS LIBERTY TO OTHERS, WHOSE BELIEFS DIFFERED FROM THEIR OWN.



4-8 ★ NEW ENGLAND:
RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, AND NEW HAMPSHIRE

1492

1623

1679

Present

1636—RHODE ISLAND

Roger Williams, a Separatist minister, was banished from Massachusetts in 1636 for his belief in separation of church and state and for saying that the colonists should have paid the Indians for their land.



After wintering with the Narragansett Indians, he bought land from them and settled Providence. Later he founded the colony of Rhode Island, creating a democratic government with religious freedom and separation of church and state.



State religions have prevailed throughout history. Roger Williams challenged America to an adventure in freedom few in the world have dared: the freedom of religious belief.

ALL RELIGIONS, BE THEY TURKISH, JEWISH, PAGANIST OR ANTICHRISTIAN, MUST BE TOLERATED. NO PERSON IN THIS COLONY SHALL BE ADJUSTED OR QUESTIONED FOR THE MATTER OF HIS CONSCIENCE TO GOD. WE MUST PART WITH LAND AND LIVES BEFORE WE PART WITH SUCH A JEWEL.



Roger Williams set the precedent for freedom of religion and separation of church and state, later supported by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison and guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.



The AMERICAN HALL OF FAME honors him for this unique contribution to human freedom—your freedom to think and believe as you choose.

In 1638 Anne Hutchinson joined Williams in Rhode Island and founded Portsmouth. Banished from Massachusetts for teaching that God spoke to people directly, not just through the Bible, she also had violated a belief about woman's role.



1636—CONNECTICUT

In 1636 **Thomas Hooker**—and other Puritans who disagreed with Massachusetts' requirement of church membership for voting—settled the fertile Connecticut River valley.

BUT HOW WILL WE EVER TEACH THE CHILDREN TO SPELL CONNECTICUT?



In 1639 the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, written by Connecticut Puritans, became America's first written constitution. It created a democratic government, with voting rights based on property ownership rather than religious beliefs.

YOU'RE GOING TO VOTE FOR GOVERNOR? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO CHURCH IN WEEKS!

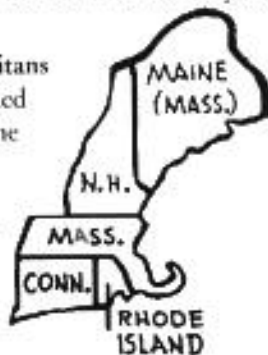
SO WHAT? I OWN A FARM AND SOME LIVESTOCK!



1623—NEW HAMPSHIRE

In 1623 **Fernando Gorges** and **John Mason** received from the Council of New England a land grant between the Kennebec and Merrimac Rivers. Mason took the western half and named it **New Hampshire**; Gorges named his eastern half **Maine**. Neither man was very successful in establishing settlements.

During the 1630s Puritans from Massachusetts settled in both areas, and by the 1650s Massachusetts claimed the regions by right of settlement.



In 1679 **NEW HAMPSHIRE** became a colony.

In 1820 **MAINE**, never a separate colony, became a state.