

US History

Lecture 5

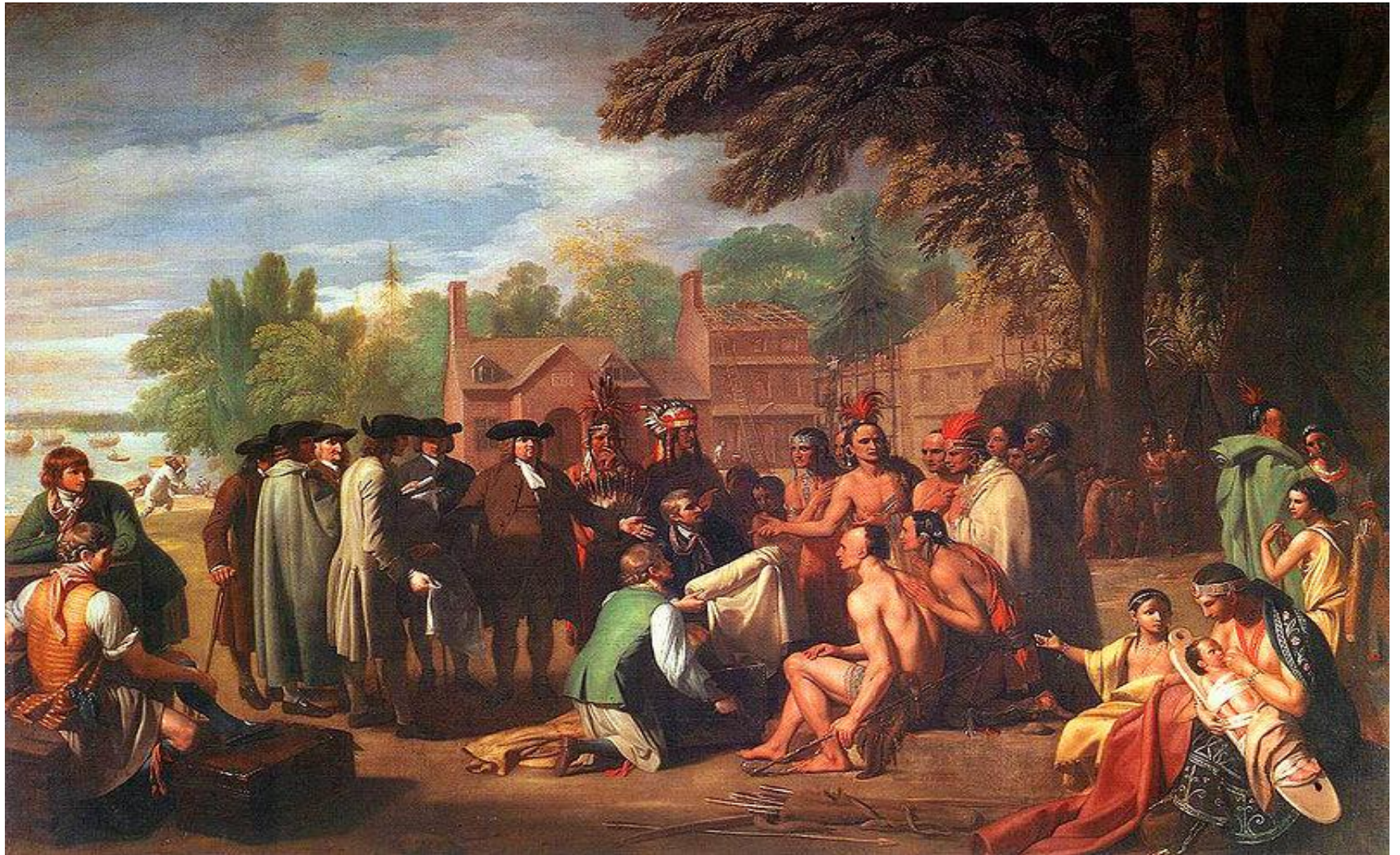
Creating a New Republic. The
American Revolution

Pennsylvania: a new English colony on east coast



- Founded by William Penn, a Quaker in 1682
- Quakers left England in search of religious freedom and a just society
- The colony attracted people of different faiths and cultures, though by 1775 a third of the population was German

The Treaty of [Penn](#) with the Indians by B. West (1771-1772)



Carolina: a new English colony



- The first settlers arrived in Charles Town in 1670
- The colony had its Constitutions written by A.Cooper and his secretary J.Locke
- Indian slave trade was common

New Amsterdam became New York



- The English fought and won three wars with the Dutch (1652-1672)
- Charles II granted the territory btw the Connecticut and the Delaware rivers to his brother James, Duke of York
- As the area was occupied by the Dutch, in 1664 James conquered the colony of New Amsterdam easily
- The colony became part English and part Dutch

18th century immigration

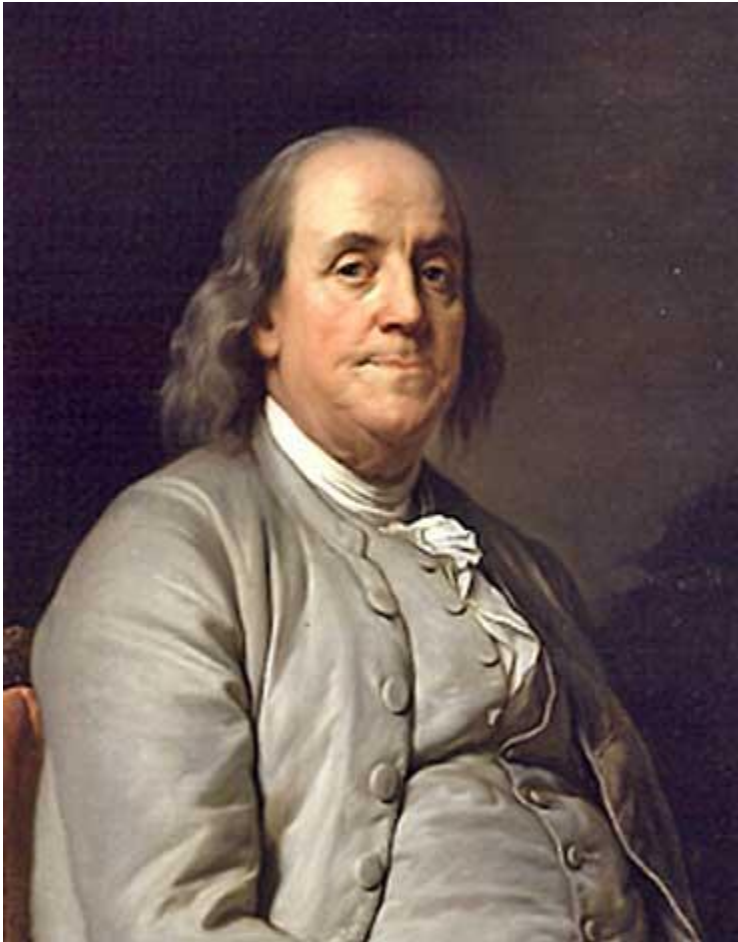
- The population in the colonies grew: in 1700 – 250 000 people, by 1750 – more than a million
- Primarily English but also people of German, Swiss, Swedish, Finnish, Scotch-Irish, Welsh heritage
- African population increase was even more dramatic: by mid 18th century – 300 000. Especially in southern colonies (South Carolina) due to slave traffic from Senegambia, Gold Coast, West Central Africa

Picture Slave Traffic from the book

18th century: growth and prosperity in the colonies (translated into **consumerism**)

- Picture from the book

Intellectual life: the Enlightenment



- A transatlantic movement applying scientific reasoning to universe
- **Benjamin Franklin** is known as the inventor of the lightning rod, bifocals, etc; as a political writer (“The Pennsylvania Gazette”); a diplomat (American-French relations); in 1731 took an active part in establishing the Library Company in Philadelphia (the first lending library in America)

The Great Awakening



- A religious transatlantic movement
- According to it, all people were equal in the eyes of God as born sinners, which couldn't be helped by ministers
- Advocated by a popular preacher George Whitefield whose sermons gathered crowds

The French and Indian War (Seven Years' War)



- Was led by the opposing forces of the British and the French with their Indian allies
- During the war, the British evicted 10 000 Acadians (French residents of Nova Scotia), some of them settled in Louisiana and came to be named “Cajuns”
- The Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763. Britain gained Canada. France gave New Orleans to Spain as compensation for losing Florida which the British claimed

Pre-Revolutionary Events:

- **The Currency Act** (1764) by British government forbade issuing of any colonial currency
- **The Sugar Act** (1764) dropped the duty but established elaborate procedures to collect it
- **The Stamp Act** (1765) was the first direct tax on Americans. It placed tax on documents, newspapers and ads in them.
- **The Quartering Act** (1765) required colonies to provide housing for British troops.

The colonists objected to all, but the Stamp Act aroused most violent protests (esp. in Boston where the opposition “The Sons of Liberty” was created). Due to protests the Stamp Act was never enforced.

The Repeal of the Stamp Act

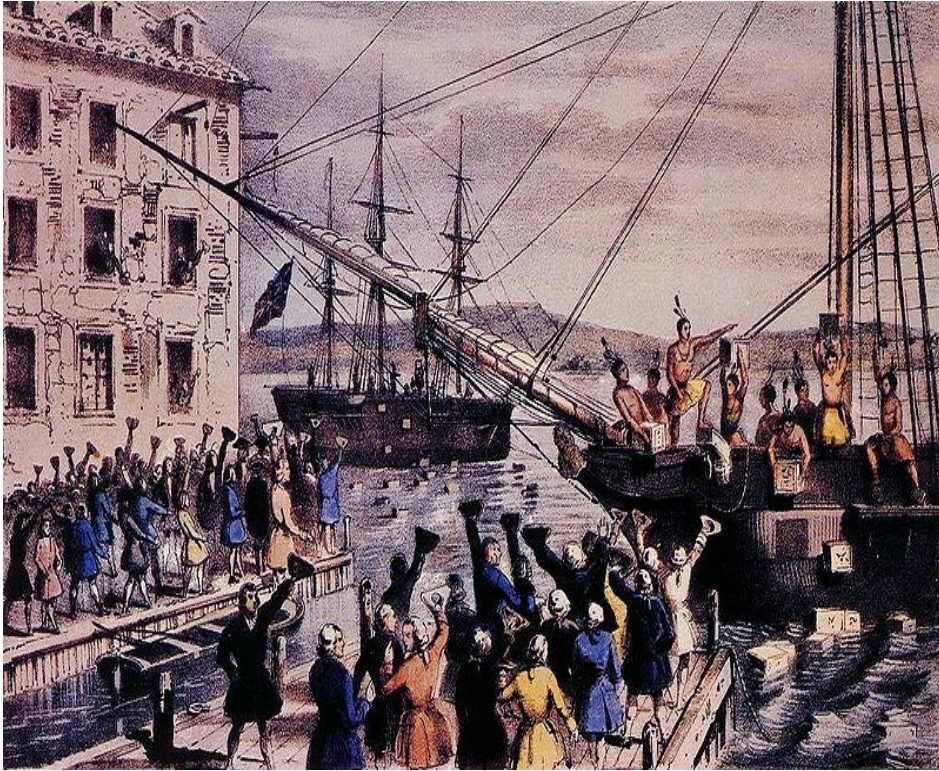


The Boston Massacre (1770)



- Picture: engraving by Paul Revere
- The new Townshend Revenue Acts were passed in 1767 (on lead, paint, paper, glass and tea)
- The “Sons of Liberty” organized a non-importation movement
- The British seized a ship “Liberty” and sent troops to maintain order.
- The tensions grew into the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770

Boston Tea Party (1773)



- Picture: the lithograph "The Destruction of Tea at Boston Harbor" by Nathaniel Currier, 1846
- After the Boston Massacre, the Townshend duties were repealed except the one for tea
- Governor Hutchinson decided that it would be in Boston where the tea would be sold and the duty collected
- on December 16, 1773 50 colonists disguised as Indians boarded the tea-ships and threw the tea into Boston Harbor (90 000 pounds)

The Revolutionary War begins

- To punish Massachusetts, Britain passed a series of Intolerable Acts in 1774. Port of Boston was closed. The King was to appoint Massachusetts officials.
- The colonies sent their delegates to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia in September, 1774.
- The new Massachusetts governor Gage was ready to take decisive actions against colonists: take their military supplies in Concord.
- On the night of April 18, the silversmith Paul Revere and the tanner William Dawes carried the message that the British were on the move. The Minute Men began to gather.

The Revolutionary War (1775-1783)



- The hostilities began at Lexington in 1775.
- The Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia in May, 1775. It voted to create an army. It came under command of George Washington (picture – Valley Forge).
- One of major battles and American victories was in June 1775 at Bunker Hill.

Thomas Paine



- American society was stirred by ideas of independence. Thomas Paine's pamphlet "**Common Sense**" sold 75 000 copies.
- It advocated a government separate from Britain.

The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776 in Philadelphia

picture by J.Trumbull "Declaration of Independence", 1819



End of War



- 1777: American victory at Saratoga
- Support of the French
- 1781: the final victory at Yorktown led to British surrender
- 1783: the Treaty of Paris. Britain recognized American independence. The painting depicts the British Major General Charles Cornwallis, surrendering to French and American forces after the Siege of Yorktown (September 28 – October 19, 1781). This oil painting on canvas was commissioned by American artist John Trumbull in 1817. It is now located in the United States Capitol rotunda in Washington D.C.

After the War

- Lack of economic stability, national debt, speculation in land and property
- In 1787, 55 representatives from the states met in Philadelphia to work out the Constitution.
- the most important role was played by James Madison, political thinker and liberty advocate.
- The Constitution came into effect in 1788 when ratified by nine states. The first ten amendments are known as the Bill of Rights.

The First Government

- George Washington's first presidential term began on March 4, 1789. Thomas Jefferson became the Secretary of State, Alexander Hamilton – the secretary of treasury. John Adams became Vice President.



The two political parties were formed in the late 1700s:

Republicans (Federalists):

George Washington,
Alexander Hamilton –
were committed to the
union and the new
government

Anti-Republicans or

Democratic Republicans:

Thomas Jefferson and
James Madison –
opposed a strong
central government

John Adams



- In 1796 the nation had its first contested election
- The Federalist Adams became president, the Democratic Republican Jefferson became vice president.
- During his presidency, he had to deal with American-French relations (XYZ Affair made Federalists very popular).