

Why did people want to leave England and settle in America?



The Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther challenged the Roman Catholic Church

Said (among other things) that the Bible was the source of God's word (not the church or pope)



The British Reformation

When British King Henry VIII couldn't get a divorce, he created his own Protestant church, and called it The Church of England

Who were the Puritans?



- British who wanted to purify [take out] all traces of Roman Catholicism from the Church of England
- wanted to leave England because Church of England was not reforming itself (known as "Separatists")
- the ones that left England and came to America were called "Pilgrims"
- their religion was Calvinism - they believed in:
 - Predestination - whether or not someone was going to heaven was determined before they were born
 - Being a good person could not save those going to hell; no one knew if they were saved or not
 - "Visible Saints" - people who said they'd had a "conversion experience" which made them part of the "elect"

The Mayflower



👤 was the name of the Pilgrims' ship

👤 1620 → 102 people leave for America

- half were "saints" or Puritans
- half were "sinners" or non-Puritans

👤 They landed at Plymouth Bay - which was NOT where they were supposed to go (Virginia).

- Became "squatters" - no legal right to land.



The Mayflower Compact

November 11, 1620



In the name of God Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord King James by the grace of God, of Great Brittain, France, & Ireland King, defender of the faith, &c.
Having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honour of our King & Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts of Virginia: Do by these presents solemnly & mutually in the presence of God, and one of another, Covenant, & combine our selves together into a civil body politick; for the better ordering, & preservation & furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just & equal laws, ordinances, Acts, constitutions, & offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete & convenient for the generall good of the Colonie: unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Codd the 11. of November in the year of the raigne of our sovereign Lord King James of England, France, & Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fiftie fourth. An: Dom. 1620.

- 👤 Written and signed before the Pilgrims disembarked from the ship.
- 👤 Was an agreement to form a basic government in which adult male settlers would make laws in town meetings.

The First Year in Plymouth...

👤 Winter of 1620-1621

- Only 44 out of the original 102 survived.

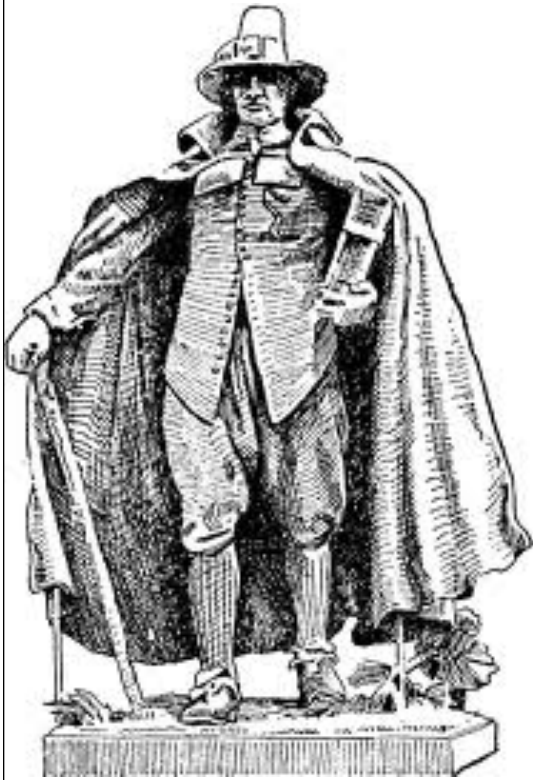
👤 No one left in 1621 when the Mayflower sailed back.

👤 Fall of 1621 First "Thanksgiving."

- Colony survived with fur [especially beaver], fish, and lumber.

👤 Plymouth stayed small.

- 1691 - only 7,000 people
- Eventually became part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.



Plymouth Plantation



The First Thanksgiving (?)



In 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving an official US holiday.

The Massachusetts Bay Colony



👤 1629 → Non-Separatist Puritans got a royal charter to form the MA Bay Co.

- Unlike the Pilgrims who settled in Plymouth, they didn't want to stop being part of the Church of England, they just wanted to leave its Catholic "impurities" behind

👤 1630 → 1,000 people set off in 11 ships

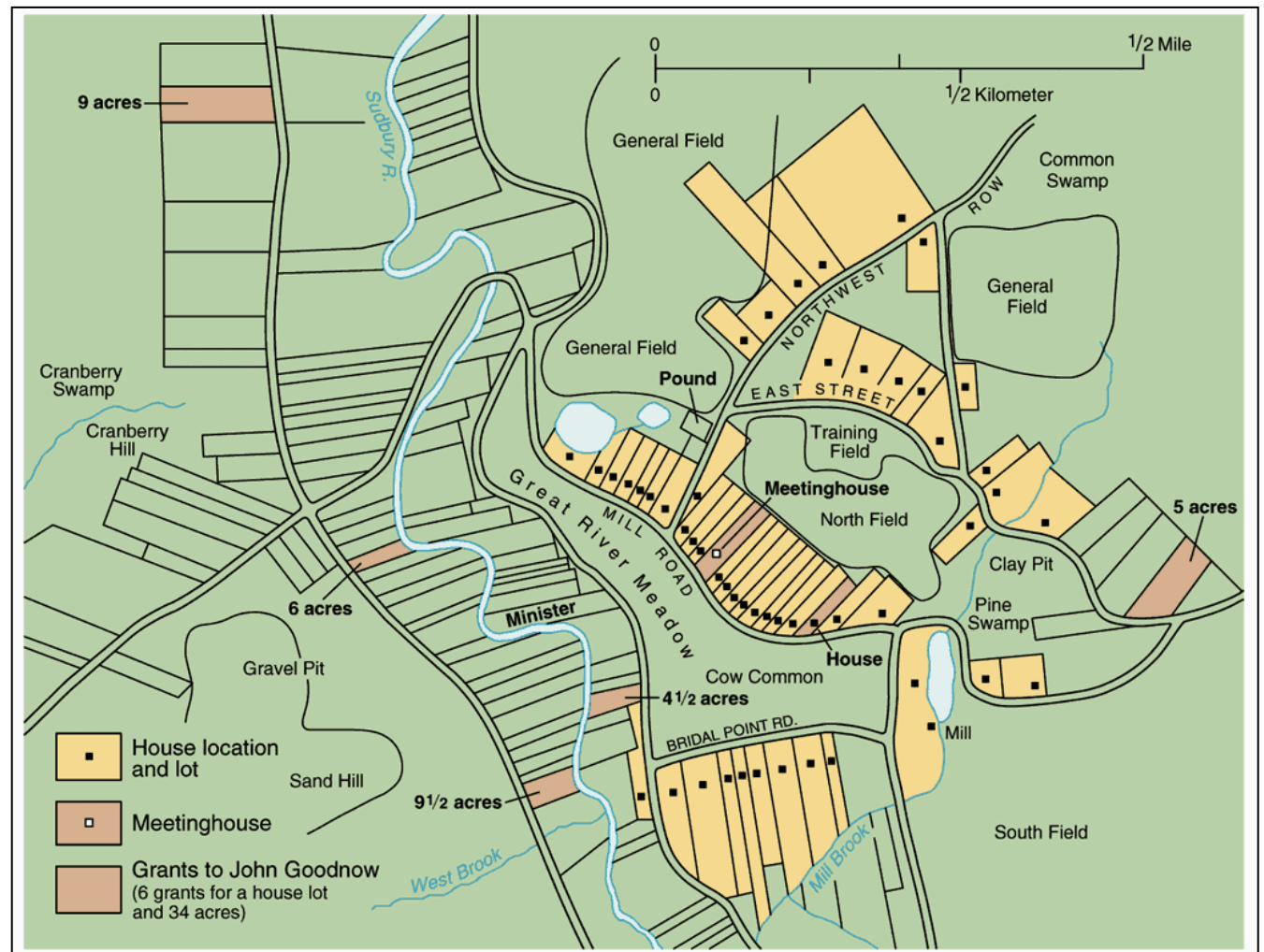
- Established a "Bible Commonwealth" near Boston, or a democracy run on the ideas of the Bible
- this period of settlement in the 1630s was called the "Great Migration" because 20,000 Puritans came to MA

👤 franchise

- also known as the right to vote - it was only given to "freemen," or adult men who were members of the Church

Typical New England Town Layout

Land Division in Sudbury, MA: 1639-1656



Characteristics of New England Settlements



👢 Low mortality → average life expectancy was 70 years of age

👢 Many extended families.

👢 Average 6 children per family.

👢 Average age at marriage:

- Women - 22 years old
- Men - 27 years old.

Roger Williams



👤 Young, popular minister in Salem, MA

👤 Did not believe the MA Bay government treated Native Americans fairly.

👤 Did not think the government should regulate religious behavior.

👤 1635 → found guilty of preaching "newe & dangerous opinions" and was exiled.

👤 founded the colony of Rhode Island.

Anne Hutchinson



👤 Intelligent, strong-willed, well-spoken woman who challenged the authority of the men in charge of the MA Bay Colony.

👤 She was charged with Antinomianism

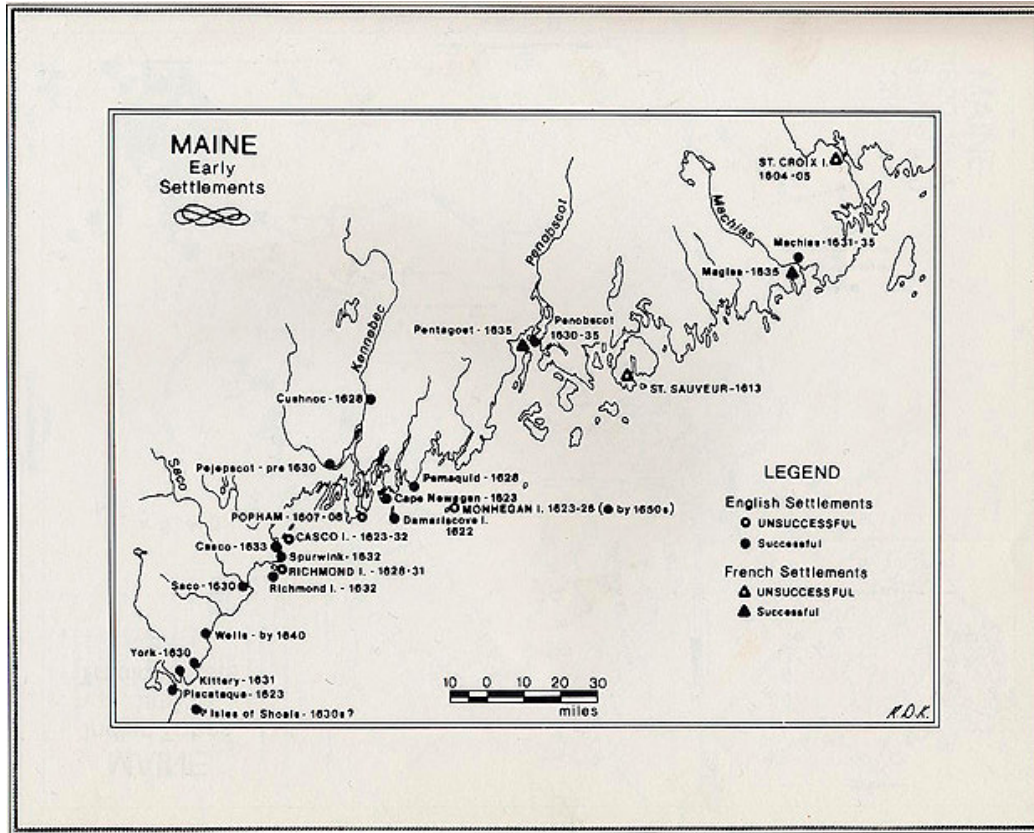
- Means "against the law."
- she said if living a holy life was no sign of salvation, then the saved didn't need to obey God or man's laws (!).

👤 Puritan leaders banished her → she & her family traveled to RI and later to NY.

- She and all but one member of her family were killed in an Indian attack in Westchester County.



Maine and New Hampshire



In 1623, Maine was annexed by Massachusetts.

Maine remained part of Massachusetts for nearly 150 years (until 1820).



In 1641, New Hampshire was annexed by Massachusetts.

New Hampshire remained part of Massachusetts until 1679.

New England Colonies, 1650



Connecticut Colony

Thomas Hooker was a Puritan minister and member of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He believed that the laws of the colony should be based on what the people wanted – not the leaders. Puritan leaders forced him to leave the colony so he moved to land along the Connecticut River.



In 1636, the settlers who lived along the Connecticut River joined together to form the Connecticut Colony.

