

OLD DELIVER SALLY ACT

KING PHILIP'S WAR

PENNSYLVANIA FOUNDED

SALEM WITH TRIALS

GEORGIA FOUNDED

1647

1649

1675-6

1680

1681

1688

1692

1701

1733

1740-43

CHARLES I OF ENGLAND BEHEADED

FOUNDING OF CHARLES TOWN

GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

YALE COLLEGE FOUNDED

GREAT AWAKENING

CHAPTER

17

ENGLAND enters the RACE for AMERICA

England: Tangled up in Roses

For many years, England had eyed the New World with eager interest. In the fifteenth century, **King Henry VII** (1485–1509) of England learned of Columbus's plan to reach the East by sailing across the Atlantic Ocean when the explorer's brother, Bartholomew, appealed to Henry for money to make the voyage. At the time, the king had problems of his own.

For about thirty years, there had been a constant struggle between the House of Lancaster (whose emblem was a red rose) and the House of York (whose emblem was a white rose) in what was called the **War of the Roses**. Both of these royal families wanted to rule the country. The conflict finally ended in 1485 when Henry, who was from the House of Lancaster, defeated the forces of King Richard III of the House of York. As soon as Henry was crowned king in Westminster Abbey, he announced that he was starting a new royal line, the Tudors, which would unite the houses of Lancaster and York. From that moment on, Henry was dedicated to two goals: building up the royal treasury and making his throne secure for his successor.



Henry VII

ENGLAND ENTERS THE RACE FOR AMERICA

REIGN OF QUEEN ELIZABETH I BEGINS

SPANISH ARMADA DESTROYED

SIGNING OF MAYFLOWER COMPACT

MASSACHUSETTS BAY FOUNDED

RHODE ISLAND FOUNDED

1558

1585

1588

1607

1620

1624

1629

1634

1636

1643

FIRST ROMANIAN SETTLEMENT

JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA FOUNDED

DUTCH FOUND NEW NETHERLAND

MARYLAND FOUNDED

FIRST RULES OF HANOVER



Pushing off to the New World

Even though Henry VII had refused to support Christopher Columbus, he was interested in reports of the Admiral's voyages. When John Cabot (1450–1498), an Italian map-maker and navigator, told the king that he could find a passage around the New World to the Indies, Henry was intrigued. Faced with the lure of eastern wealth, Henry decided that sea exploration might be a wise investment.

When Cabot set sail on May 20, 1497, he left without any financial support from Henry. True, the king had agreed to sponsor the voyage, but funding it was a different matter. Cabot left the English shores aboard one tiny vessel with a crew of only eighteen men, including his three sons.



John Cabot in London

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

Old Deluder Satan Act

King Philip's War

Pennsylvania Founded

Salem Witch Trials

Georgia Founded

1647

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1675-6

1680

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1688

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Charles I of England Beheaded

Founding of Charles Town

Glorious Revolution

Yale College Founded

Great Awakening



The expedition was blessed with smooth sailing and reached the coast of North America on the morning of June 24, 1497.

Like Columbus, Cabot believed that he had sailed to the Indies. He named the place where he landed **Newfoundland** and claimed it for England. After briefly exploring its coast, he returned to England in record-breaking time for a small sailing ship—only fifteen days. The entire trip had taken only eleven weeks.

Henry VIII was pleased with the results of Cabot's expedition, but he paid him a mere £10 for his efforts and sent him packing on a second expedition in 1498. This time, Cabot set out with five ships loaded with goods and instructions to start a trading post in Japan. One ship returned. Neither Cabot nor the four remaining ships were ever seen again.

When Henry VII died in 1509, he was succeeded

Disappearing without a Trace... Almost

A few years after John Cabot disappeared into the unknown, another explorer made his way to the New World where he captured 57 Indians to take back to Europe. The captives had a couple of strange items in their possession: an Italian sword and a pair of earrings. It has been suggested that these items once belonged to Cabot. If so, the Genoese explorer probably experienced a nasty run-in with the natives.



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FIRST RULES OF HAWAII

A Spanish Claim on England

During the mid-1550s, Philip II was married to Queen Mary I of England, the daughter of King Henry VIII and his first wife Catherine of Aragon. On that basis, Philip believed that he was the rightful heir to the English throne when Mary died.

by his second son, Henry VIII. Henry's attention was so focused on his series of wives and producing a male heir that he gave little notice to overseas exploration. After the death of Henry, his daughter Mary took the throne. During her reign, she focused on bringing England back to the Roman Catholic Church.

She attempted to form an alliance with Catholic Spain by marrying Philip II (1556–1598),

son of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. With these concerns, and a war with France occupying her time, overseas expeditions were far from her mind.



Henry VIII



Philip II of Spain

Good Queen Bess

It was under Henry's other daughter, Elizabeth I, that England entered the race for a new world empire. When Mary died in 1558, Elizabeth became queen.

She was twenty-five years old. Elizabeth's reign was a long and prosperous one for England; it was a golden age for industry, art, literature, and exploration. Her nation, and in particular the members of her court, admired the strength of their shrewd female monarch, whom they called the *Virgin Queen* because she never married. She said of herself: "I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart ... of a king." The common people affectionately called her "Good Queen Bess."

Elizabeth's father and grandfather had left her a full treasury and a secure throne, and England was now strong enough to look beyond her shores. Under Elizabeth, England became the most powerful Protestant country in Europe.

OLD DELIVER SEVEN ACT

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SALAM WITCH TRIALS

CADACIA FOUNDED

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CHARLES I OF ENGLAND BEHEADED

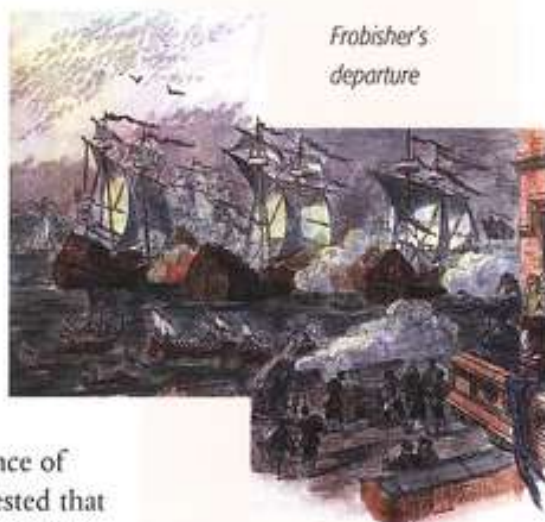
FOUNDING OF CHARLES TOWN

GEORGIA REVOLUTION

NEW COLONIA FOUNDED

GREAT AWAKENING

Daring and venturesome men such as Sir Francis Drake (c. 1542–1596), John Hawkins (1532–1595), and Martin Frobisher (1535–1595) became known as the Elizabethan Sea Dogs. These men owned private fleets and regularly looted Spanish ships laden with gold and silver, faithfully giving Elizabeth a portion of the plunder. Drake even raided Spanish colonies in America, a leading source of Spanish wealth. On one expedition in 1572, his plunder included thirty tons of silver seized from a Spanish mule train on the Isthmus of Panama. The queen encouraged Drake to disrupt Spanish dominance of the South American coast. The Spanish ambassador protested that it was wicked for the queen to participate in such theft. Elizabeth angrily denied that she was accountable for the actions of the Sea Dogs. After all, they were not English naval officers, but private citizens!



Frobisher's departure

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall

Queen Elizabeth surrounded herself with flattering courtiers, although she never married. She was an extremely vain woman, clothing herself in the most magnificent, extravagant garments. She dyed her hair red, plucked her eyebrows, and painted her face white. Despite all this pampering, she did not grow old gracefully. For one thing, her excessive indulgence in candies like comfits and marchpane eventually blackened her teeth. As she aged, she banned all mirrors from her court.



Don't Bank on It

English explorers were just as convinced as the Spanish and French that they could find a Northwest Passage through the New World to the Orient. Martin Frobisher, who served under Hawkins and Drake in several expeditions, was commissioned by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, an English soldier, navigator, and pioneer colonist in America, to explore the islands and mainland of North America in search of a route to China. After traveling through what later became known as Hudson Strait, Frobisher was certain that he had found his passage—and his fortune. He returned to England with two hundred tons of “gold ore” that turned out to be nothing more than worthless rock.