

Representative Government The colony's government and its very existence were threatened by a Native American uprising in 1622. The local Native American tribe, the Powhatan, were alarmed by the expanding tobacco plantations and the growing English population. On March 22, the Powhatan launched an attack on settlements all along the James River. A quarter of the English population was killed.



A member of the Powhatan watches an English ship; from the film *The New World*.

Jamestown survived, but the Virginia Company did not. After the uprising, King James I took back the company's charter and turned Virginia into a **royal colony**. A royal colony is ruled by the king's appointed officials.

James I, who opposed the idea of elected governments, also got rid of the assembly. This act outraged the colonists. They protested fiercely, sending requests and petitions for the assembly to be restored. After King James's death, his son, Charles I granted the colonists' wishes, and by 1629 the House of Burgesses was meeting once again. In 1639, the King commanded that the governor call an assembly every year.

Thus, the Virginia colonists won for themselves the right to participate in government. As more English colonies were planted on America's eastern seaboard, the political traditions of liberty and representative government took root in America's fertile ground.

SUMMARIZE Identify the democratic tradition planted at Jamestown.

Connect to the World

Representative Government

In the colonies of other European nations, elected assemblies were not allowed.

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Section Assessment



ONLINE QUIZ

For test practice, go to Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of
 - Sir Walter Raleigh
 - John Smith
 - mercantilism
 - House of Burgesses
 - Jamestown

USING YOUR READING NOTES

2. **Compare and Contrast** Complete the diagram that you started at the beginning of this section.

COLONIZATION

Benefits	Risks
<i>wealth created for mother country</i>	

KEY IDEAS

3. Why did the English want to colonize America?
4. What events saved Jamestown from destruction?
5. What powers belonged to the House of Burgesses?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Connect Economics & History** How did the success of tobacco growing change Virginia?
7. **Problems and Solutions** Why were the settlers unprepared for colonizing Virginia?
8. **Connect to Today** What modern democratic traditions can be traced back to the Jamestown colony?
9. **Art** You want indentured servants to work on your plantation. Design an advertisement that will attract people to the colony of Virginia.