

England and the colonies. Penn founded Pennsylvania to provide a place where Quakers could practice their beliefs, free of persecution. It was also meant to be a colony where the world could see Quaker ideals at work. Penn declared that Pennsylvania would be a “holy experiment” in Quaker religious tolerance and an “example to the Nations.” But unlike the Puritan colonies in New England, Pennsylvania would have no tax-supported church.

The Quakers welcomed those of different religions and ethnic groups. This Quaker ideal of tolerance was written into the Frame of Government of Pennsylvania, which declared

## American Colonies 1740



### Connect Geography History

- 1. Place** What geographical feature acted as a barrier to settlers traveling west?
- 2. Make Generalizations** Which settlements were in more frequent contact with the outside world?

### PRIMARY SOURCE

“[All persons] shall, in no ways, be molested or prejudiced for their religious persuasion, or practice, in matters of faith and worship, nor shall they be compelled at any time, to frequent or maintain any religious worship.”

—from *The Frame of the Government of Pennsylvania, 1682*

In Pennsylvania, Penn extended religious freedom and equality to all. Because of this, settlers from many European countries came to Pennsylvania seeking religious freedom and a better life. Penn himself designed the colony’s capital. It was named Philadelphia, meaning “city of brotherly love.”

Like the Puritans of New England, the Quakers valued hard work and thrift, or the careful management of money. These Quaker values, combined with Penn’s policies, helped poor immigrants become rich. With its long growing season and fertile soil, Pennsylvania became one of the wealthiest American colonies.

**Thirteen Colonies** By the 1730s, 13 English colonies were thriving along the eastern seaboard of North America. The colonial economies were growing and the population was increasing dramatically. In fact, the American population was doubling every twenty-five years.

In many ways, the earliest English colonies in Virginia and Massachusetts set the pattern of development for the later Northern and Southern Colonies. Virginia, in the South, saw the development of a plantation economy. Massachusetts, in the North, created towns that relied on shipping to produce wealth.