

# the Story of the World

HISTORY FOR THE CLASSICAL CHILD



## Volume 3: Early Modern Times

From Elizabeth the First to the Forty-Niners

Susan Wise Bauer

The **Story** of the **World**  
History for the Classical Child

Volume 3: Early Modern Times  
From Elizabeth the First to the Forty-Niners

**Susan Wise Bauer**

illustrations by Sarah Park



CHARLES CITY, VIRGINIA

Copyright © 2004 by Susan Wise Bauer

All rights reserved

Printed in the United States of America by BookMasters, Inc.  
30 Amberwood Parkway, Ashland, OH 44805 2/2019 50035748

Manufacturing by BookMasters, Inc.  
Cover design by Andrew J. Buffington  
Cover painting by James L. Wise, Jr.

### **Publisher's Cataloging-in-Publication**

Bauer, S. Wise.

The story of the world : history for the classical  
child. Volume 3, Early modern times / by Susan Wise  
Bauer ; [illustrations by Sarah Park and J. Wise].

p. cm.

Includes index.

SUMMARY: History of the world from 1600 to 1850.

Audience: Ages 5-11.

LCCN 2003106804

**ISBN 0-9714129-9-5** (paper)

**ISBN 0-9728603-0-4** (hardback)

1. History, Modern. I. Park, Sarah. II. Wise, J.  
(James L.) III. Title.

D209.B27 2003

909.08

QBI03-200435

Well-Trained Mind Press, 18021 The Glebe Lane, Charles City, VA 23030

[www.welltrainedmind.com](http://www.welltrainedmind.com)

[info@welltrainedmind.com](mailto:info@welltrainedmind.com)

# Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	11
<b>Chapter 1</b>	
A World of Empires .....	15
The Holy Roman Empire	
The Riches of Spain	
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
Protestant Rebellions .....	25
The Dutch Revolt	
The Queen Without a Country	
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
James, King of Two Countries.....	35
James and His Enemies	
King James's Town	
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
Searching for the Northwest Passage.....	43
The French in the New World	
Henry Hudson's Quest	
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
Warlords of Japan.....	53
Hideyoshi, Japan's Great Leader	
The First Tokugawa Ruler	
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
New Colonies in the New World .....	61
Strangers and Saints in Plymouth	
The Dutch in the New World	

## **Chapter 7**

The Spread of Slavery.....	71
Tobacco—and Unwilling Colonists	
Queen Nzinga of Angola	

## **Chapter 8**

The Middle of the East.....	81
The Persian Puzzle	
The Ottoman Turks	

## **Chapter 9**

The Western War.....	91
The Thirty Years' War, 1618–1648	

## **Chapter 10**

Far East of Europe .....	99
Japan's Isolation: Closed Doors in the East	
The “Foreign Conquest” of China: The Rise of the Manchu	

## **Chapter 11**

The Moghul Emperors of India.....	107
World Seizer, King of the World, and Conqueror of the World	
Aurangzeb's Three Decisions	

## **Chapter 12**

Battle, Fire, and Plague in England .....	115
Charles Loses His Head	
Cromwell's Protectorate	
Plague and Fire	

### **Chapter 13**

The Sun King .....	129
The Sun King of France	

### **Chapter 14**

The Rise of Prussia .....	135
Frederick, the First Prussian King	

### **Chapter 15**

A New World in Conflict .....	141
War Against the Colonies: King Philip's War	
War Against the Colonies: Louis XIV Saves France	
William Penn's Holy Experiment	

### **Chapter 16**

The West .....	155
The Universal Laws of Newton and Locke	
Scientific Farming	

### **Chapter 17**

Russia Looks West .....	165
Peter the Great	
Peter's Port to the West	

### **Chapter 18**

East and West Collide .....	175
The Ottomans Look West—Twice	

### **Chapter 19**

The English in India .....	181
The Indian Empire Falls Apart	
The Shopkeepers' Invasion	

## **Chapter 20**

The Imperial East.....	191
Emperor Chi'en-lung's Library	
The Land of the Dragon	

## **Chapter 21**

Fighting Over North America.....	199
Three Pointless Wars	
The Seven-Year War	

## **Chapter 22**

Revolution!.....	209
Discontent in the British Colonies	
The American Revolution	

## **Chapter 23**

The New Country.....	219
The American Constitution	
The First American President (1789–1797)	

## **Chapter 24**

Sailing South.....	229
Captain Cook Reaches Botany Bay	
The Convict Settlement	

## **Chapter 25**

Revolution Gone Sour.....	239
The Storming of the Bastille	
The Reign of Terror	

## **Chapter 26**

Catherine the Great.....	249
Princess Catherine Comes to Russia	
Catherine the Great	

## **Chapter 27**

A Changing World .....	259
Steam and Coal in Britain	
Cotton and Guns in America	

## **Chapter 28**

China and the Rest of the World .....	267
The Kingdom at the Center of the World	
The Rise of the Opium Trade	

## **Chapter 29**

The Rise of Bonaparte .....	275
Napoleon Comes to Power	
The Emperor Napoleon	

## **Chapter 30**

Freedom in the Caribbean.....	283
The Haitian Revolt	

## **Chapter 31**

A Different Kind of Rebellion .....	289
The World of the Factories	
The Luddites	

## **Chapter 32**

The Opened West .....	297
Lewis and Clark Map the West	
Tecumseh's Resistance	

## **Chapter 33**

The End of Napoleon.....	309
Napoleon's Wars (And 1812, Too)	
Waterloo!	



**Chapter 34**

Freedom for South America.....319  
    Simon Bolivar: The Liberator  
    Freedom, But Not Unity

**Chapter 35**

Mexican Independence .....329  
    The Cry of Dolores  
    The Republic of Mexico

**Chapter 36**

The Slave Trade Ends .....337  
    The Work of the Abolitionists

**Chapter 37**

Troubled Africa .....343  
    The Zulu Kingdom  
    The Boers and the British

**Chapter 38**

American Tragedies .....351  
    The Trail of Tears  
    Nat Turner's Revolt

**Chapter 39**

China Adrift .....361  
    The First Opium War

**Chapter 40**

Mexico and Her Neighbor .....367  
    Remember the Alamo  
    The Mexican-American War

**Chapter 41**

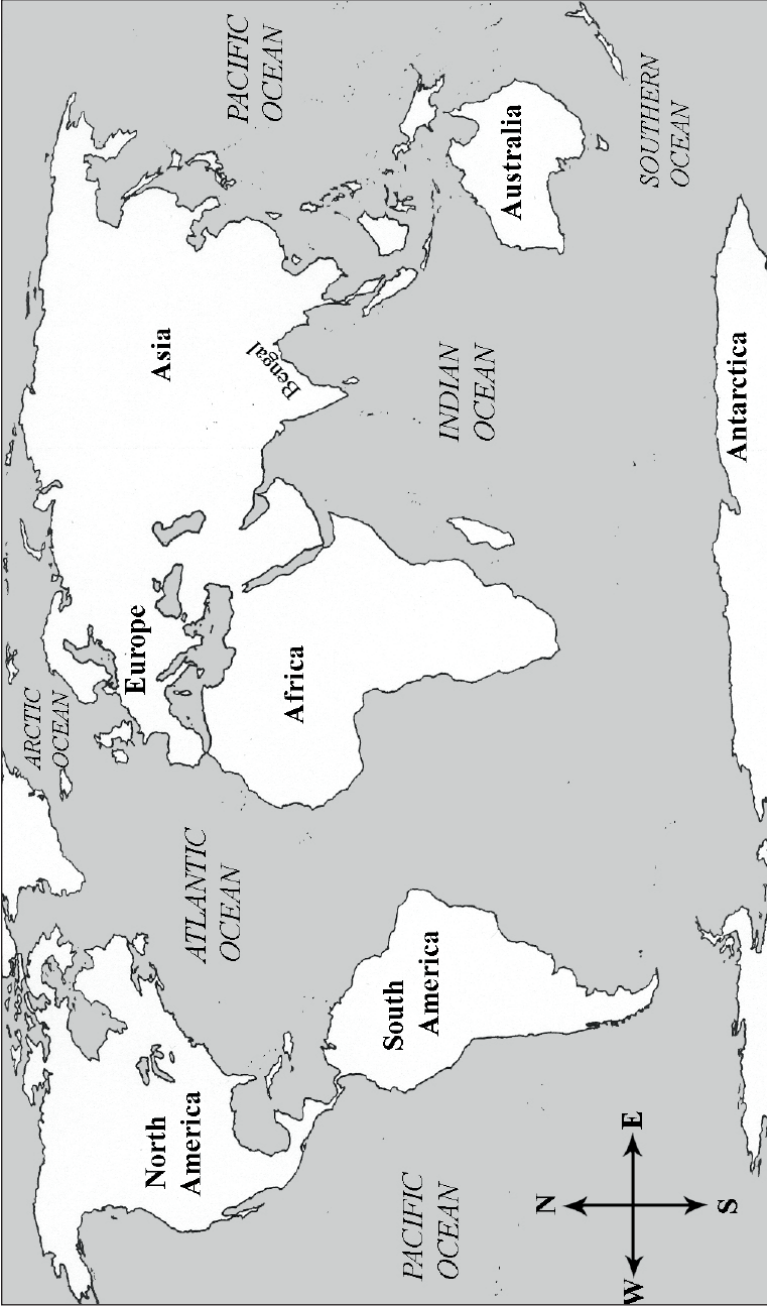
New Zealand and Her Rulers.....375  
    The Treaty of Waitangi  
    The New Zealand Wars

**Chapter 42**

The World of Forty-Nine .....381  
    The Gold Rush  
    A World of Unrest

**Dates**.....387

**Index**.....393



ARCTIC OCEAN

North America

Europe

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Africa

Asia

Bengal

INDIAN OCEAN

PACIFIC OCEAN

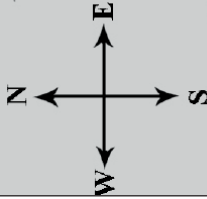
South America

PACIFIC OCEAN

Australia

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Antarctica



## Introduction

Explorers discover treasure beneath mountain rocks. Pirates roam the seas. Kings huddle on their thrones, hoping that they will keep their crowns—and their heads. And adventurers sail around the world on tiny wooden ships, risking starvation and treacherous seas to find strange new lands.

Before you read these stories, you need to know a little bit about the world where they happened. The adventurers who sailed the sea in the year 1600 knew that huge oceans divided countries from each other—but they didn't know just how huge those oceans were. Today, we know that water covers almost three-quarters of the earth's surface. Geographers divide all this water into five oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and Arctic. Here's a limerick to help you remember them:

The Pacific is largest of all,  
The Indian starts at Bengal,  
The Atlantic Ocean  
Is always in motion,  
The Arctic and Southern are small.

Between and around these oceans lie large *continents*, or masses of land. We divide the earth's dry land into seven continents: North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica. You can remember them by memorizing this poem! Look at a globe while you read the poem, and move your finger along the path that the poem describes.

Start at Antarctica, way down south, a cold and icy spot,  
Head north into Australia, where the sun shines bright  
and hot.  
Keep going north, across the ocean, til you reach the  
land:  
Now you're in Asia, where you'll find both ice and  
desert sand.  
Turn west, and Europe's mountains soon will loom up  
into view,

In Europe you'll find Greeks and Germans, French and Spanish too!

Go south from Europe, and you'll soon reach jungles and wide plains:

Zebras graze in Africa, and lions shake their manes.

Now follow the equator west, to South American shores,

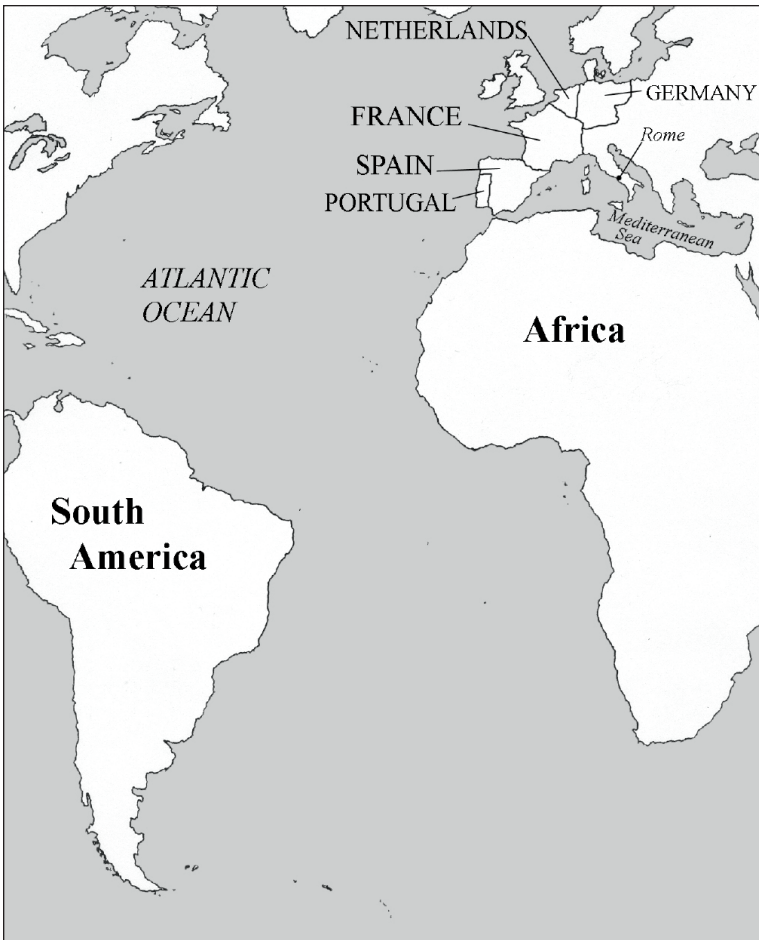
You might see llamas here, along with jaguars and condors.

Go north across the central bridge of land beneath the sun,

You'll be in North America. Your continent trip is done!



## The Empires of Ferdinand and Philip



# Chapter One

## A World of Empires



### The Holy Roman Empire

Imagine that you're a world traveler in the year 1600. You've spent the last twenty years journeying around the world. You've slept in Arabian tents, European palaces, and Native American longhouses. You've eaten fermented fish sauce in Rome, calf's-intestine pudding in England, sugar-coated beets in Wittenberg, and gilded boar's head in France. You only have two teeth left (the rest fell out because of scurvy and the sugared beets), and on your last journey to Iceland, you lost three toes to frostbite. You've been bitten by a camel in Asia, a cobra in India, and a water moccasin in North America.

In your travels around the world, you've seen two flags—one with a red cross on a white background, and the other bearing a two-headed eagle—all over the world. You've seen the red cross and the two-headed eagle in Spain and Portugal and all over Europe, from the Alps up to the soggy coast of the Netherlands. You've seen these flags flying over settlements in North America, South America, and even in the Philippines. No matter where you go, the red cross and the two-headed eagle are there!

The two kings who fly these flags, Philip II of Spain and Ferdinand I of the Holy Roman Empire, are nephew and uncle. And they rule over an enormous part of the world because of one very fortunate little boy.

A hundred years before our story begins, in the year 1500, this fortunate baby was born in a cold stone palace in northern Europe. His father was the king of the Netherlands. His grandfather ruled over lands in Germany. And his other grandfather was the king of Spain. This baby, who was named Charles, had three kings in his family!



When Charles was only six, his father died and Charles became king of the Netherlands. When he was sixteen, his Spanish grandfather died and left him the throne of Spain. When he was nineteen, his German grandfather died and he became king over the German lands. Charles was still a teenager—but he was a teenager with three thrones.

But Charles wanted even more. He wanted the title “Holy Roman Emperor.”

Fifteen hundred years before Charles was born, the Roman Empire spread across Europe and down into Africa. Everyone who lived inside the empire’s borders was expected to follow Rome’s laws and to live in peace. This “Roman peace” lasted until barbarians invaded. Then the Roman empire collapsed.

For the next five hundred years, warring peoples fought with each other all over Europe—until a great king named Charlemagne came to the throne of France. Charlemagne conquered the nearby German lands and added them to his own territory. He passed laws to keep his kingdom peaceful. His empire became so large that the pope—the leader of the Christian church in the West, called the Catholic Church—held a special church service and proclaimed Charlemagne to be the Roman Emperor.

But the Roman empire had been destroyed centuries ago. So what did this mean?

It meant that Charlemagne’s new empire would keep the peace over a large part of Europe, just as the Roman empire had done in ancient times. And since Charlemagne was a Christian, his new “Roman empire” could also spread Christianity through the world. That’s why Charlemagne eventually became known as the *Holy* Roman Emperor.

Charles wanted to be known as the Holy Roman Emperor too. But first, he had to convince the pope to hold a special service proclaiming *him* Holy Roman Emperor! And the pope wasn’t sure he wanted to give Charles this title—and the power that went along with it. Charles already ruled most of Europe. If Charles became even stronger, what would happen to the power of the pope?

The pope wasn't alone in his worries. The king of France was afraid that Charles might invade France. And the princes who ruled over Italy were also anxious to keep their independence from Charles. So the king of France, the pope, and the Italian princes all joined together to fight against Charles and his armies.

Charles wasn't discouraged. If he couldn't convince the pope to crown him emperor willingly, he would resort to force.

His strategy was simple—and shocking. For years,



Charles V

Charles had oppressed the Protestant Christians who lived in his territories.

These Protestants believed that the Catholic church was corrupt and that the pope did not have the authority to tell all Christians how to worship and live. Charles had put Protestants in jail, taken away their land, and executed them. But Charles knew that these Protestants would be

willing to fight against the Pope. So he hired an army of German Protestants and sent them, along with his own soldiers, to attack Rome!

This angry army, called the “German Fury,” marched down to Rome and surrounded it. The pope’s soldiers were outnumbered. They fired a few shots from the walls with their old, battered cannons—but the invaders broke down the gates and streamed through the city. The pope and his soldiers retreated to a fortress inside the city and barred themselves in. For eight months, the pope remained a prisoner inside this fortress, while the German Fury stormed through Rome, burning, killing, and stealing treasure.

Meanwhile, Charles was still up in Spain, pretending that he knew nothing about the attack on Rome. He sent a

message to the pope, claiming that the German Fury had acted without his permission. “I’m outraged!” Charles exclaimed. “How could such a thing happen?”

Did the pope believe this message? We don’t know. But we do know that the pope agreed to hold the special service which would crown Charles “Holy Roman Emperor.” In return, Charles helped the pope to fend off the Fury.

Now Charles could describe himself as “King of the Romans; King of Spain, Sicily, Jerusalem, the Indies and the mainland on the far side of the Atlantic; Archduke of Austria; Duke of Burgundy and Athens; Count of Habsburg and Flanders; Lord of Asia and Africa.” But despite his fancy titles, Charles had plenty of problems. He had spent years and years of his reign fighting, and wars cost money. He was growing poorer and poorer. Within his own kingdoms, Catholics and Protestants were constantly battling with each other. And his Protestant subjects no longer wanted to obey Charles’s decrees.

Twenty-four years after the pope crowned him as emperor, Charles decided that he could no longer rule his empire. Dressed in black, leaning on the arm of one of his favorite noblemen, he rose from his throne and told his followers, “I have done my best to protect my country and my faith. But I am too weak and ill to continue the struggle. So I must resign my throne. I will give Spain, the Netherlands, and my Italian lands to my son, Philip.” All of Charles’s followers wept as the emperor sank back onto his throne.

One year later, Charles V gave the rest of his empire to his brother Ferdinand, who became the Holy Roman Emperor in his place. Charles went to live in a monastery, where he spent his days praying and reading. He died less than two years later.

The fortunate little boy had lost his kingdoms. But his brother, Ferdinand, and his son, Philip, now ruled over the richest kingdoms in the West. And their actions would change the world.



## The Riches of Spain

A young boy stands in a dark cave. A heavy sack leans against his bare legs. Beneath his feet, he feels damp, slick clay and rough ridges of stone. Sweat runs down his face. Ahead of him, dim torchlight flickers in the blackness. The hollow sound of metal picks, hacking away at mountain rock, rings through the dark.

He turns around and sees a tunnel, sloping sharply up toward a far-away gleam of daylight. He bends down to lift the sack; needle-edged pieces of stone jut through its rough sides and scrape against his arms and back. He starts to struggle up the tunnel, bent almost double by the weight and gasping for breath. But the air is so warm and foul that he can barely pull it into his lungs.

He isn't much older than you. And he works in a South American mine, collecting gold for Philip II, the king of Spain.

The Spanish came to South America the very first time by accident. For hundreds of years, traders from Spain and other European countries had traveled east (*right* on your map) to India, where they bought cloves, nutmeg, and pepper. But the long and difficult road to India lay through dry deserts and over steep mountain ridges. So an adventurer named Christopher Columbus set sail from Europe and went west (*left* on your map), hoping to go all the way around the world and reach India from the other side. When he caught sight of land, he was sure that he had reached the islands near India. He named the people who came out to meet him Indians. And he claimed the land for Spain, because the queen of Spain had given him money to buy his ships.

After Columbus returned home, other Spanish adventurers, called *conquistadores*, followed his sea route to "India." They realized that Columbus hadn't reached India at all. He had found an entirely new land! And this new land held

something more exciting than spices. The native people of South America wore gold jewelry. They offered the conquistadores gold and silver ornaments. And they told stories about a king called *El Dorado* (or, in English, the “Man of Gold”), who was so rich that he wallowed in gold dust every day.

When Philip II heard these stories, he decided that Spain needed this gold. So he granted Spanish conquistadores special contracts, called *encomiendas*. The *encomiendas* gave the conquistadores permission to sail to South America and take all its gold.

Of course, South America wasn't a big empty country filled with gold. Native South American tribes called Aztecs, Mayans, and Incas already lived there. But Philip II announced that Spain could claim South America because the tribes who lived there were not Christians. “God has given all of the world to the pope,” one royal decree explained, “and the pope has given these new lands to the King of Spain.”

Not everyone in Spain agreed that God wanted Spain to



A conquistador

have South America's gold. Many Christian priests preached sermons against Philip's *encomiendas*. But the conquistadores ignored these priests. At first, they took jewelry away from the native tribes. Then they learned that bits of gold were mixed into the sand of the cold mountain

streams. So they began to pan gold out of these streams. They crouched over the icy water with metal pans and dipped the pans

down into the sand beneath the stream's surface, filling them about half full. Then they held the pans in the current, letting water run over the sand while they shook the pans gently up and down. The rushing water washed the sand out, while the heavy gold sank to the bottom.

But panning for gold didn't make the conquistadores rich enough. So the Spanish began to dig mines into the ground, looking for a rock called *quartz* that often has little lines of gold running through it. Miners hacked quartz out of the mines with iron axes, carried the rocks up to the surface, crushed them into powder, and heated the powder over a fire. The gold melted and ran off into molds, where it hardened into coins or gold bars called *ingots*.

The mines started to pour out gold—and silver as well. In all, the Spanish took five hundred billion dollars' worth of gold and silver out of South America.

Think for a moment about the number five billion. If you could count day and night, it would take you a hundred and fifty years to count to five billion. And if you could lay five billion pennies side by side, you would have a line of pennies that wrapped all the way around the earth more than seven times! Now imagine a hundred times as many. It would take you fifteen thousand years to count to five hundred billion—counting day and night. And your line of five hundred billion pennies would wrap around the earth over seven hundred times. If you had five hundred billion dollars, you could buy a ten-speed bicycle for every single person in the world!

Spanish law declared that the king got a share of every load of gold brought from the New World. South American gold made Philip II the richest king in the world! And his people prospered too. Thousands and thousands of poor Spanish men and women traveled to South America and grew rich. "God has given me silver!" one Spanish settler wrote home from South America. "I am rich and honored here. Who would make me go back to Spain and live in poverty?" So many Spanish came to South America that parts of the continent became known as New Spain.

But while the Spanish prospered, the native South Americans suffered. The Spanish forced them to work long, miserable hours mining gold. Men spent months in the damp darkness of the mines. Women panned for gold and pounded quartz into powder. Even children spent their days gathering rocks and carrying them up to the surface of the mines. And the Spanish also brought slaves from Africa to work in the South American mines. Working hard, eating little, catching diseases from the conquistadores, thousands of Africans and native South Americans grew sick and died. “Dead slaves are buried every day in big piles,” one Spanish onlooker wrote home. South American gold brought riches and power to Spain and to Philip—but it brought misery to South America.





## Scotland and the Netherlands



## Chapter Two

# Protestant Rebellions



### The Dutch Revolt

If you were to go north along the coast of Spain and keep traveling north, along the coast of France, past the English Channel, you would come to a damp seaside country where the land slopes down to the ocean and water lies in pools all over the farmland. To the people who lived in the large cities of Spain and Italy, this country seemed to be in the far reaches or “nether parts” of Europe. So they called it the Netherlands, or “far-away lands.”

When the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V gave Spain and the Netherlands to his son Philip, Philip also inherited a problem: a rebellious nobleman named William the Silent.

William was born when Philip was six years old. The two little boys were raised very differently. Philip lived in a palace in Spain and was brought up to be a faithful Catholic; William grew up in Germany and was taught by his parents to be a good Protestant.

When William was eleven, one of his cousins died and left him two large *provinces*, or areas of land, in Charles’s empire: one in the south of France, and the other in the Netherlands. The emperor Charles realized that the eleven-year-old William would one day be a powerful nobleman. He didn’t want William to grow up hostile to the Roman Catholic faith—and to the Holy Roman Emperor. So he ordered the young boy taken away from his mother and father and brought to live at the royal court. Charles hired tutors to teach William princely skills: how to speak French, how to plan battles and run a country, and (most important of all) how to be a good Catholic. Soon, little William became the emperor’s favorite page. He grew into a strong, thoughtful young man, loyal to Charles and his family. And when Charles rose from his throne to tell his

followers that he had decided to give up the title of Holy Roman Emperor, he leaned on William's arm.

Philip then became king of the Netherlands—and he gave William the job of governing a large part of the country for him. As William ruled, he discovered that the people of the Netherlands spent most of their time fighting, not against other countries, but against the sea. The Netherlands were also known as the Low Countries because they were below the level of the ocean. Whenever the tide came in or a storm drove waves toward the land, water washed all over the Low Countries. But Low Country people were determined to drive back the sea. They pulled hundreds of bucketfuls of wet mud from the bottom of shallow lakes and swamps and piled this mud into huge earthen walls called *dikes*. These dikes kept the sea away from land. If you were in the Netherlands, you could stand next to a dike, look up—and see the ocean on the other side, higher than your head! If a dike broke, the sea would flood in and cover the land where houses, farms, and cities stood.

William was determined to make the Netherlands prosperous and peaceful. But as time went on, he became unhappy with Philip's rule. Philip passed laws for the Netherlands without asking any of the leaders whether the laws would be good for their people. Many of those laws kept Protestants from preaching and from practicing their faith. And William always remembered that he had been born a Protestant. Even though he had been taught Catholicism at Philip's court, William was sympathetic to Protestants who wanted to worship God in their own way.

William tried to remain loyal to Philip. But three years after Philip became king, William heard a horrifying secret. He was visiting the court of the French king—who, like Philip, was Catholic. The French king didn't know that William had been born a Protestant. He told William that Philip intended to destroy Protestantism in the Netherlands—and to massacre Protestants. But William didn't show his dismay. He didn't even answer back. He simply listened and nodded. Because he held his tongue, he later became known, as “William the Silent.”

When William returned to the Netherlands, he still seemed loyal to Philip. But he was already thinking about ways to protect his people from Philip's plans. When a group of his subjects banded together and declared that they would fight against Philip's authority, William agreed to meet with their leaders. He convinced them to send a petition to Philip's court, asking that the laws against Protestantism be lifted.

But when the petition arrived at the royal court, the noblemen standing around the throne laughed at the sight of it. "Why bother with such a rabble of beggars?" one of them sneered. Leaders of the rebellion took this title as a compliment.



William the Silent

They began to call themselves the Beggars—and to lead armed uprisings against Spanish rule. Mobs led by Beggars stormed through the countryside, burning Catholic churches and smashing statues of Catholic saints.

When Philip heard this news, he sent a Catholic soldier and nobleman, the Duke of Alba, to crush the revolt. The Duke of Alba invited William and two other leaders of the Netherlands to come and talk

with him about his plans to restore peace. The two friends went—but William, suddenly uneasy, decided to take a trip to his family lands in Germany instead. When the two leaders arrived, the Duke of Alba arrested them and had them beheaded! He ordered William's lands in the Netherlands confiscated. William was now an enemy of the crown.

For the next ten years, the people of the Netherlands fought against the Spanish soldiers occupying their country.

The Duke executed over a thousand people—some simply because they were Protestants. He gave his soldiers permission to burn towns and kill their inhabitants.

Over in Germany, William raised an army and tried to march back into his country. The war went on and on. Two of William's brothers were killed in the fighting! But William and the Beggars continued to fight. The Beggars broke dikes, flooded the countryside, and sailed into cities besieged by Spanish soldiers, turning land battles into sea battles. Finally, seven provinces in the north of the Netherlands announced their independence from Spain—and made William the Silent their new king.

Philip was furious! He offered a large sum of money to anyone who would assassinate his one-time friend. A young man named Balthazar Gerard volunteered to carry out this terrible task. He traveled to William's court, pretending to be a Protestant whose family had been executed in the war. William welcomed him and gave him some small tasks to do around the court.

One evening, Balthazar wrapped himself in a long dark cloak and hid just outside William's dining room. After William finished eating, he rose and strolled out of the room. Balthazar sprang from the shadows and fired his pistol. "O my God, have mercy on this poor people!" William exclaimed, and collapsed. The great champion of the Netherlands was dead just a few minutes later.

But his country remained independent. Today, we call this country Holland and the people who live there the Dutch. And Queen Beatrix, who rules Holland today, is William's great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-granddaughter.



## The Queen Without a Country

Holland wasn't the only country where Catholics and Protestants disagreed. Catholics and Protestants were fighting with each other all through Philip II's kingdom, all through the Holy Roman Empire—and even over in Scotland.

Today, England and Scotland are part of the same country, the United Kingdom (or Great Britain). But at the beginning of the seventeenth century, Scotland was an independent country with its own royal court, its own laws, and its own queen.

Mary, Queen of Scots, inherited the throne when she was only five days old! Because she was so young, her mother, Mary of Guise, became her *regent*: Mary of Guise would rule Scotland until her daughter was old enough to take the throne.

Mary of Guise was a good regent. But she was Catholic, and many of the powerful Scottish noblemen, called Lords, were Protestants who didn't want a Catholic ruler. So they formed themselves into a Protestant Council and gave *themselves* the responsibility of governing Scotland until little Mary came of age.

Mary of Guise was afraid that this Council would try to make the baby queen into a good Protestant. So when small Mary was five years old, her mother sent her to France, where she could be raised as a good Catholic among other Catholics. Mary of Guise remained in Scotland. She died a few years later—without ever seeing her daughter again.

Little Mary lived in France for the next thirteen years. Meanwhile, the Protestant Lords of Scotland grew more powerful. A Protestant preacher named John Knox traveled all through Scotland, preaching that no woman—especially a Catholic woman—should sit on the throne. “It is a thing repugnant to the order of nature that any woman be exalted to rule over men!” Knox declared.

But Mary didn't agree! When she was eighteen, she decided to return to Scotland and take back her throne.

Some of the Catholics who lived in Scotland hoped that Mary would march into Scotland with a French army and throw out all of the Protestants. But Mary announced that she didn't want to kill Protestants or Catholics simply because of their faith. She wanted to rule in Scotland as a good Catholic queen, but she intended to let her Protestant subjects worship in their own way.

One hot August day, Mary set sail from France in a royal ship, headed for Scotland. The Protestant Council of Lords met together at this alarming news. What would they do when the rightful Queen landed? If they tried to drive her away, the Catholics of Scotland might take up swords to defend Mary against the Protestant Lords. A civil war could begin!



Mary, Queen of Scots

So when Mary's ship landed in Scotland, the Lords went out to meet her and told her that she was welcome. John Knox refused to go with them. On the morning of her arrival, a thick, dim fog had descended on the Scottish coast; Mary, Knox snapped, was already bringing "sorrow, dolour, and darkness" with her. But when the Lords met Mary, they were charmed. She was beautiful, intelligent, and sympathetic. They believed her when she said that she would never persecute the Protestants of Scotland. Mary even married a Protestant

nobleman, Lord Darnley. For a little while, her reign went smoothly.

But then Lord Darnley decided that he wanted more power. He began to scheme with some of the Protestant Lords who still hated Mary's Catholicism. They planned to shut Mary up as a prisoner in her own house and put Lord Darnley on the throne, to rule in her place. Then Lord Darnley and the Protestant Lords would make Catholicism illegal!

When Mary found out about this plot, she crept out of the palace late at night through a tiny side door. She rode by horseback through the night to another castle, where soldiers loyal to her gathered into an army. When the Lords who were plotting against her found out about this army, they fled the country. And what about Lord Darnley? He decided to blame the whole scheme on the absent Lords.

When Elizabeth, queen of England, heard about Lord Darnley's treachery, she remarked, "Had I been Mary, I would have stabbed Darnley with his own dagger!" But Mary decided to pardon her husband. She was expecting a baby—and she wanted Lord Darnley by her side.

But she never truly forgave her husband.

One cold February night, after Mary's baby was born, Lord Darnley and his valet were staying in a small house in the Scottish city of Edinburgh. Mary, her new baby son, and the rest of the royal court were staying at a larger house in the same city. At two o'clock in the morning, Edinburgh was still and dark—until an enormous explosion shattered the quiet. Bits of stone and brick rained down on Edinburgh's streets. Lord Darnley's house had blown up! When Mary and her attendants rushed over to see what had happened, they found Lord Darnley's body in the garden. He had been strangled.

Who had arranged for Lord Darnley to die? No one knew. But plenty of people suggested that Mary herself had planned the murder.

Mary became less and less popular. And as she lost influence, the Protestant Lords tried again to take control of Scotland. They announced that her baby son, James, should become king of Scotland in Mary's place.



Mary tried to assemble another army to fight against the rebels. But when most of her soldiers deserted her, she had to walk out on foot and surrender to the Lords.

The Lords took Mary to a far-away castle in a wild and lonely spot. They visited her every day, telling her that she had to sign a paper that would make little James king in her place. Finally, with one of the Lords holding her arm to force her to write, Mary, Queen of Scots signed the papers. Her baby James was crowned King of Scotland—at thirteen months of age. John Knox preached at the ceremony!

Mary fled to England, hoping that her cousin, Queen Elizabeth, would help her. But Elizabeth, who had no children, knew that Mary was her closest relation—and the next heir to the English throne. She was afraid that Mary might arrange to have her assassinated and claim the crown of England.

So she sent a band of soldiers to meet Mary and had Mary taken to a comfortable house in the north of England. Mary remained a prisoner of the Queen of England for the next nineteen years.

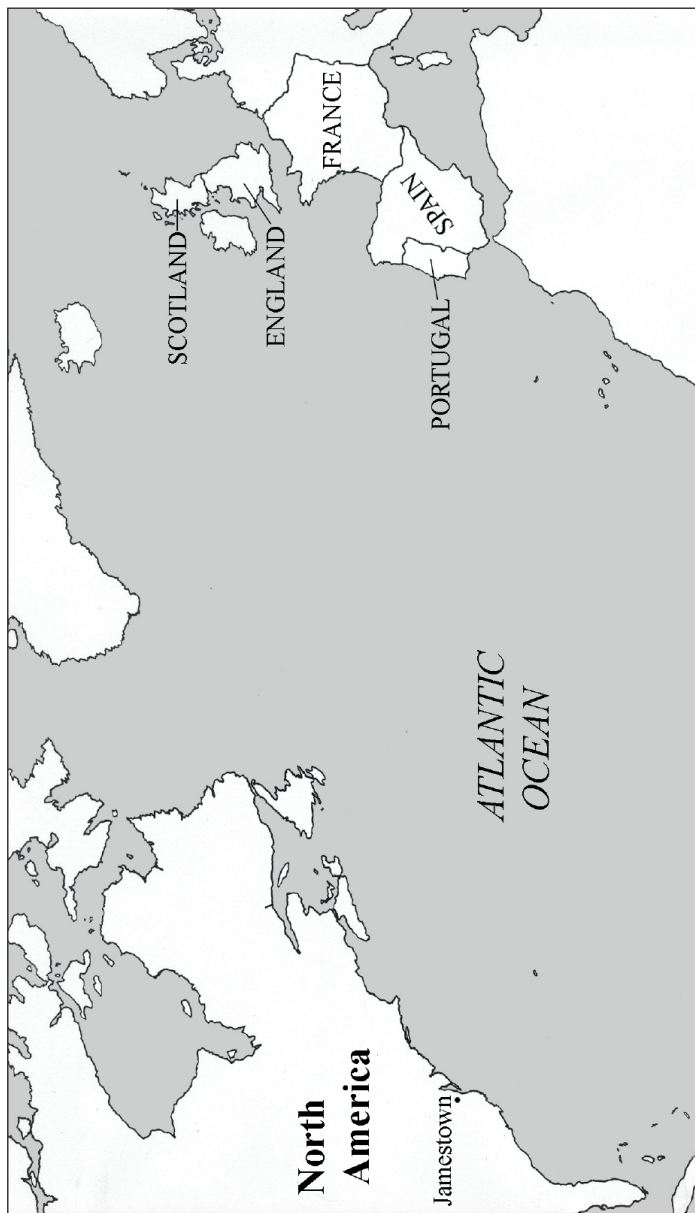
Poor Mary! She had very little to do. She kept dozens of little dogs and birds as pets. She did a lot of needlework and even sent some to Elizabeth as presents—along with indignant letters.

As time went on, she began to plot her escape. Elizabeth's spies kept track of every letter she wrote—and every message she sent. Finally, the spies brought Elizabeth letters that Mary had written to a group of English Catholics. In these letters, she spoke of becoming Queen of England if they could set her free. This could only mean that she was planning Elizabeth's death. Mary insisted that she would never harm Elizabeth. But Elizabeth, afraid for her life, signed Mary's death warrant for treason.

On a cold February morning, Mary walked to the scaffold. She knelt down at the execution block—and was beheaded. When the executioner held up her head, everyone could see that beneath her cap, her hair had turned pure white. Mary, Queen of Scots, was dead, and a Protestant king ruled in Scotland.



## England and Its First Colony



## Chapter Three

### James, King of Two Countries



#### James and His Enemies

Mary's son, James VI, didn't even remember his mother. As long as he could remember, he had lived in Scotland, looked after by his tutor. James's tutor, a stern Scottish schoolmaster named George Buchanan, taught James Greek, Latin, philosophy, and Protestant theology. He also taught the young king that a ruler's right to sit on a throne was given to him by his people—and that the king had a duty to listen to the opinions of his subjects.

But as soon as James grew old enough to rule by himself, he rejected Buchanan's ideas. A king, James insisted, rules by *divine right*: His power doesn't come from the people he rules. It comes directly from God, so the will of the king is the same thing as God's will! James wrote a little booklet, called *The True Law of Free Monarchies*, about his divine right to rule. In it he announced, "The King is overlord of the whole land...He [is] master over every person that inhabiteth the same, having power over the life and death of every one of them."

For twenty years, James exercised his "divine" power in Scotland. Meanwhile, down in England, Queen Elizabeth was growing older. She had no children of her own; her closest relative was James, because Mary, his mother, had been Elizabeth's cousin. So when Elizabeth died in 1603, James became King of England. He was given a new name: James I of England. Now he was the king of two different countries! From this time on, he was known as James VI of Scotland and James I of England.

James traveled south into England for his English coronation. He was welcomed to London by five hundred leading citizens, all wearing velvet and golden chains. A parade was planned in his honor—a parade that included the famous

playwright William Shakespeare! James was amazed by the wealth and luxury of this country to the south. In comparison, the Scottish court seemed poor and shabby.

But even while James was planning his spectacular coronation ceremony, a terrible sickness called the Black Death was spreading throughout the city. Over a thousand people were dying each week. Londoners were too terrified to gather into big crowds, where disease might spread even faster. So James had to cancel his coronation ceremony and his huge celebrations. Instead, he and his wife Anne walked quietly to Westminster Abbey and were crowned King and Queen of England.

The disappointing coronation was just a foretaste of troubles to come! During his reign, James would make enemies of Catholics, Protestants—and Parliament itself. (Parliament was the group of Englishmen who helped rule England.)

James's disagreements with Catholics and Protestants came first. When James was crowned king, there were three groups of Christians in England. Catholics hoped that James would give them special privileges, since his mother Mary had been Catholic. English Protestants, called Anglicans, hoped that James would stick to the Protestant beliefs he had learned in Scotland. And a third group of Protestant Christians hoped that James would make the Anglican church even *more* Protestant. They believed that the Anglicans had borrowed too many church traditions from Catholicism. These reformers were called Puritans, because they wanted to “purify” the Anglican church of all Catholic influences.

As soon as James arrived in England, the Puritans brought him a petition, signed by a thousand English Puritans, begging him to make the English church more Protestant. James agreed to meet with the Puritans to discuss their demands. But at this meeting, he rejected all of the Puritan ideas. When the Puritans continued to insist that God wanted James to change the English church, James grew furious. He told the Puritans that he would “harry them out of the Kingdom”—and he made Puritan worship services illegal.

Next, James made the English Catholics angry. Under James's laws, Catholics who refused to go to Anglican church services on Sundays had to pay a fine. And the year after his coronation, James ordered all Catholic priests to leave the country.

At this, two Catholics, Robert Catesby and Guy Fawkes, came up with a plan to get rid of James and the Protestant leaders of Parliament, all in one day. They bought a house next to the huge stone building where Parliament met. Along with eleven friends, they started to dig a tunnel from the basement of their house, through the nine-foot stone wall that surrounded the foundation of Parliament House. They planned to pack this tunnel full of gunpowder. As soon as James and the Parliamentary leaders were gathered together for the new session of Parliament, Catesby and his companions would blow the whole building up!

They dug for months—but as they got closer to Parliament House, the tunnel began to fill with water. So instead they smuggled barrels full of gunpowder into Parliament House itself. Soon, thirty-six barrels of gunpowder were hidden beneath firewood in the cellar. But just hours before the explosion was to take place, Guy Fawkes was discovered in the cellar, holding a match. He was arrested and tortured until he confessed—and was put to death. Today, English children still celebrate the day that Guy Fawkes was arrested by setting off fireworks.

After this Gunpowder Plot was discovered, James passed even more laws forbidding Catholic worship in England. Now Catholics and Puritans were both angry with James.

And soon Parliament was angry with James as well. James insisted that, because he ruled by the will of God, he could do exactly as he pleased. “The King is above the law,” he announced. When Parliament refused to do exactly what James ordered, James told them, “Monarchy is the greatest thing on earth. Kings are rightly called gods since just like God they have power of life and death over all their subjects in all things. They are accountable to God only... so it is a crime for anyone to argue about what a king can do.” And then James sent all of the

members of Parliament home—and ruled England without their help!

James had made Catholics, Puritans, and Parliament all angry. But today, he is most famous for something he did *right*. During his reign, James I agreed to make a brand new English translation of the Bible, so that everyone in his country—Catholic, Puritan, and Anglican—could use the same Bible. He appointed 54 scholars to make this new translation. It was finished in 1611, eight years after James became king. Today, this Bible, called the King James Version, is still used by many people around the world!

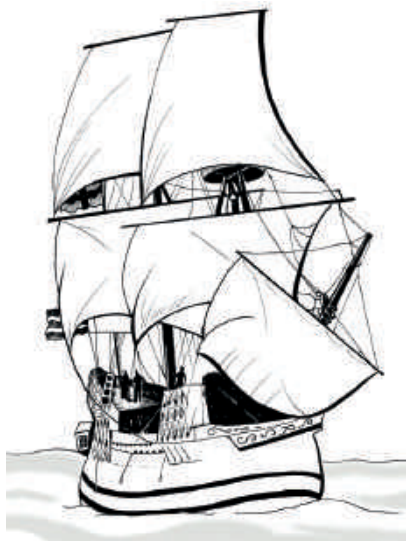


## King James's Town

While Spain hauled boatloads of gold out of South America and brought it to King Philip II, James looked on in envy. He wanted his share of the gold too!

So he gave a group of wealthy Englishmen royal permission to look for gold in *North America*. These wealthy men joined together to buy three ships: the *Susan Constant*, the *Godspeed*, and the *Discovery*. They filled the ships with food and tools and offered free land in the New World to men who would sail the ships to North America and search for gold. The new settlement, or *colony*, would belong to King James, and each wealthy man would get a share of the gold. “Instead of milk and honey,” one wrote to a friend, “we will find pearls and riches!”

The three ships set out from England one cold December day, filled with bricklayers, blacksmiths, sail makers—and goldsmiths. But as soon as the ships turned west, a strong wind blew them back. The ships struggled for six weeks against the wind before they got out of sight of shore! The hopeful colonists, crammed into tiny cabins beneath the decks, began to get seasick and argue with each other.



The *Susan Constant*

At last the wind changed, and the ships began the long journey across the ocean. For five miserable months, the colonists lived on biscuits baked as hard as iron and meat pickled in salt. Their fresh water, stored in barrels on board, was green with algae. They had barely enough to drink—and no one took a bath for the entire voyage!

Finally, the North American coast came into view. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1607,

the three ships landed. The colonists staggered to shore and found shady green woods, streams of water, and tall thick grass. The spring weather was warm and sunny. The forests were filled with wild geese, deer, and rabbits; the river nearby teemed with fish, crab, and oysters. The “Indians” (Native Americans) who lived nearby seemed friendly. The colonists, sure that they had found the perfect place for their new home, built a few huts and named their colony Jamestown, in honor of King James.

The settlers didn’t spend very much time building, though. They spent their days searching for gold! One of Jamestown’s leaders, John Smith, soon grew exasperated. “There is no talk, no hope, no work, but dig gold, wash gold, refine gold, load gold!” John Smith complained. He knew that the colony’s grain supplies, brought from England, would soon run out. He was afraid that the Indians might grow hostile. He wanted the colonists to grow their own crops and to build walls to protect themselves.

Meanwhile, the Indians near Jamestown were watching the English explore further and further into their country. They were worried! How much land did these newcomers want? One day, Indian warriors attacked a little group of colonists who



were out searching for gold. The colonists, frightened by the attack, finally listened to John Smith's advice. They built a fort with thick log walls to protect them. And they began to clear fields for crops.

But it was too late.

The English had arrived in Jamestown during a terrible drought. There was no rain. The fields were dry, and the crops didn't grow. Water grew scarce—and dirty. The grain from England was almost gone. The colonists began to grow ill from disease and starvation. One colonist, George Percy, wrote, "There were never Englishmen in such misery as we. Five men had to divide a small can of barley soaked in water. Our water was filled with slime and filth. Sometimes three or four men died in a single night!"

By fall, half the colonists were dead. And then winter came. The men who were still alive huddled in their icy wooden huts. Their feet froze; their joints were swollen from cold and hunger.

But John Smith was determined to make Jamestown a success. Just before Christmas, he rounded up a few healthy men to go looking for food—and perhaps for a better place to settle. Smith and his companions paddled their way slowly up the river that ran deep into the woods. The water grew shallower—and narrower. Overgrown banks rose up on either side. Briars reached down into the canoe. Finally, they came to a fallen tree, collapsed across the water, and could go no further.

John Smith pushed the canoe to shore and got out. "Go up on the bank and cook our food," he told his companions. "I'll see if I can figure out where we are."

He walked away along the muddy edge of the water. The river turned and twisted. Soon, he lost sight of his men. He paused, looking around. Suddenly he heard a faint rustle ahead of him. An arrow struck him in the thigh and bounced off his heavy leather breeches! John Smith drew his gun, shouting a warning. He could see two Indians, half hidden by the undergrowth, notching arrows to their strings. He backed away from them—and stumbled into the shallow river. More Indians appeared from the brush around him. Smith, floundering in the

river mud, shot all the bullets out of his gun. By the time he ran out of ammunition, he was stuck to his waist in muck.

Smith laid down his empty weapon and held up his hands in surrender. The Indians pulled him out of the mud and marched him through the thick woods. Finally, they arrived at the edge of a large clearing filled with Indian houses. Children played nearby; women were cooking and carrying water. A large hut stood at the village's center. It was the palace of Powhatan, the great Indian chief.

Inside, Powhatan was lying on thick mats, wearing strings of pearls and a rich garment of raccoon skins, surrounded by his chief warriors. He stared at the muddy, disheveled Englishman for a long time.

Of course, the two men did not speak the same language. But John Smith had learned a few words of the Indian language, and some of the Indians knew a little bit of English. With the help of these translators, Powhatan and John Smith managed to talk to each other. Put into English, their conversation might have sounded something like this:

“Why have your people come to our land?” Powhatan asked.

“We had a fight with the Spanish,” John Smith lied, “and they drove our ship onto your coast. Now the ship has sprung a leak. We have to stay here.”

“Why have you and your companions wandered so far into my territory?” Powhatan demanded.

John Smith had to think fast. “Great Chief,” he said, “we intended only to attack your enemies, who live up the river and who fight against you.”

“If that is true,” Powhatan said, “we can live in peace together.”

So John Smith promised that the colonists would not attack Powhatan's people—and Powhatan let him return to Jamestown unharmed. Eventually another Jamestown leader, John Rolfe, married Powhatan's daughter, Pocahontas. Now there was truly peace between Jamestown and Powhatan's tribe! The Jamestown colony grew stronger and stronger. The English were in North America to stay.

# French and English Settlements in the New World

