

Mercantilism

1607-1763



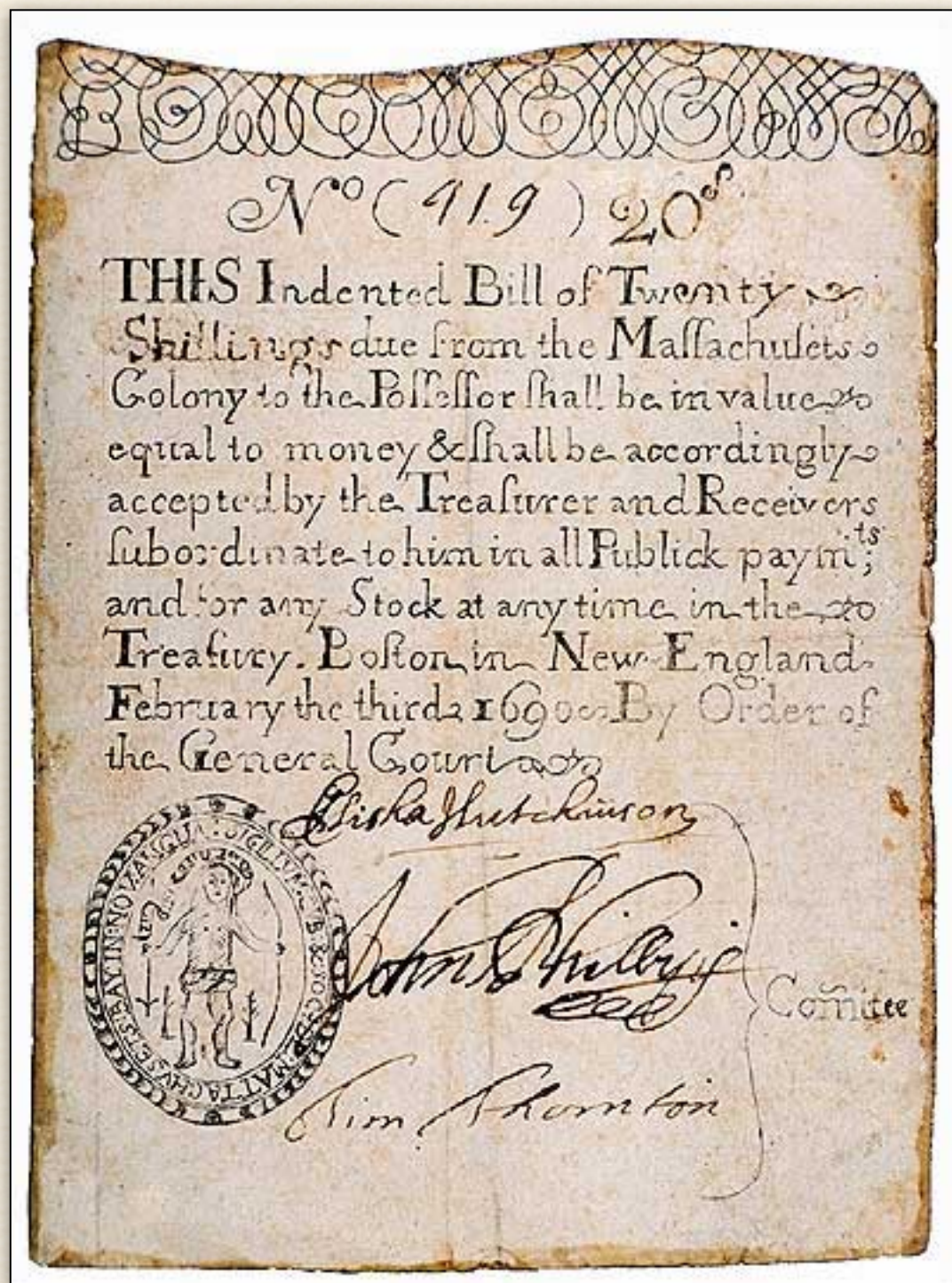
by Joe Burton

Mercantilism and The Crown of England

By the early 1600s, European rulers had realized that they could increase their nations's wealth, power, and status by establishing colonies. Each colony provided valuable raw materials, such as cotton and timber, to the mother country; in turn, the colonists bought the mother country's manufactured goods.

Colonies could also take some of the mother country's poor - and its criminals. The idea that having colonies makes good business sense is known as mercantilism.

In 1660s, King Charles II wants to expand England's empire. He creates colonies by giving land to one or more proprietors, who could then lease or sell the land to colonists. The king shared power with representatives elected by male property owners in the colony.



Paper Money like this five-schilling note was issued partly because silver and gold for coins were scarce.

Colonies for King's Friends

- ❖ In 1664...
- ❖ ...King Charles II granted a large area of colonial land to his brother James...
- ❖ ...Duke of York.
- ❖ It did not matter to the king or duke that the area included New Netherland...
- ❖ ...which had been colonized by the Dutch in the early 1600s...
- ❖ ...they were both eager to get rid of the Dutch.

Colonies for King's Friends

- ❖ They wanted to secure English dominance of the New World once and for all.
- ❖ James...
- ❖ ...an admiral of the English fleet...
- ❖ ...sent three warships into New Amsterdam harbor and ordered the city to surrender.
- ❖ The Dutch administrator Peter Stuyvesant was furious
- ❖ ...but the Dutch people...

Colonies for King's Friends

- ❖ ...who were unhappy with the lack of opportunities under Stuyvesant's rule welcomed the change.
- ❖ New Netherland became New York.
- ❖ To make his colony easier to govern...
- ❖ ...James gave the area now know as New Jersey to tow of his friends...
- ❖ ...establishing yet another propriety colony.

Peter Stuyvesant, the peg-legged ruler of New Netherland, surrendered the Dutch Colony to the *Duke of York* in 1664, and an era of English rule began.



Virginia Indian Wars



In 1622, the Powhatan Indians, led by Chief Powhatan (left), disturbed by the increasing takeover of their lands in the colony of Virginia, turned to warfare, killing more than 300 settlers near Jamestown...

...about one-third of the entire colony. An uneasy peace was established, but in 1624, *King James I* decided the best way to avoid further conflict was to make Virginia a royal colony, and appoint its governor himself.

William Penns Holy Experiment

- ❖ To pay off a debt...
- ❖ ...Charles II presented a propriety colony to William Penn...
- ❖ ...who named it Pennsylvania.
- ❖ The Duke of York...
- ❖ ...who was also indebted to the Penn family...
- ❖ ...added “the lower counties,” ...
- ❖ ...which became the colony of Delaware.

William Penns Holy Experiment

- ❖ Penn was a member of a religious sect called the Society of Friends...
- ❖ ...or Quakers...
- ❖ ...which was formed in 1652.
- ❖ The Quakers were persecuted in England and often jailed for their beliefs...
- ❖ ...which conflicted with the teachings of the Church of England.

William Penns Holy Experiment

- ❖ In creating a charter...
- ❖ ...or a set of rules...
- ❖ ...for his colony...
- ❖ ...Penn granted freedom of religion to all.
- ❖ He also insisted on treaties of friendship with all Indian tribes...
- ❖ ...and unlike other colonial governors...

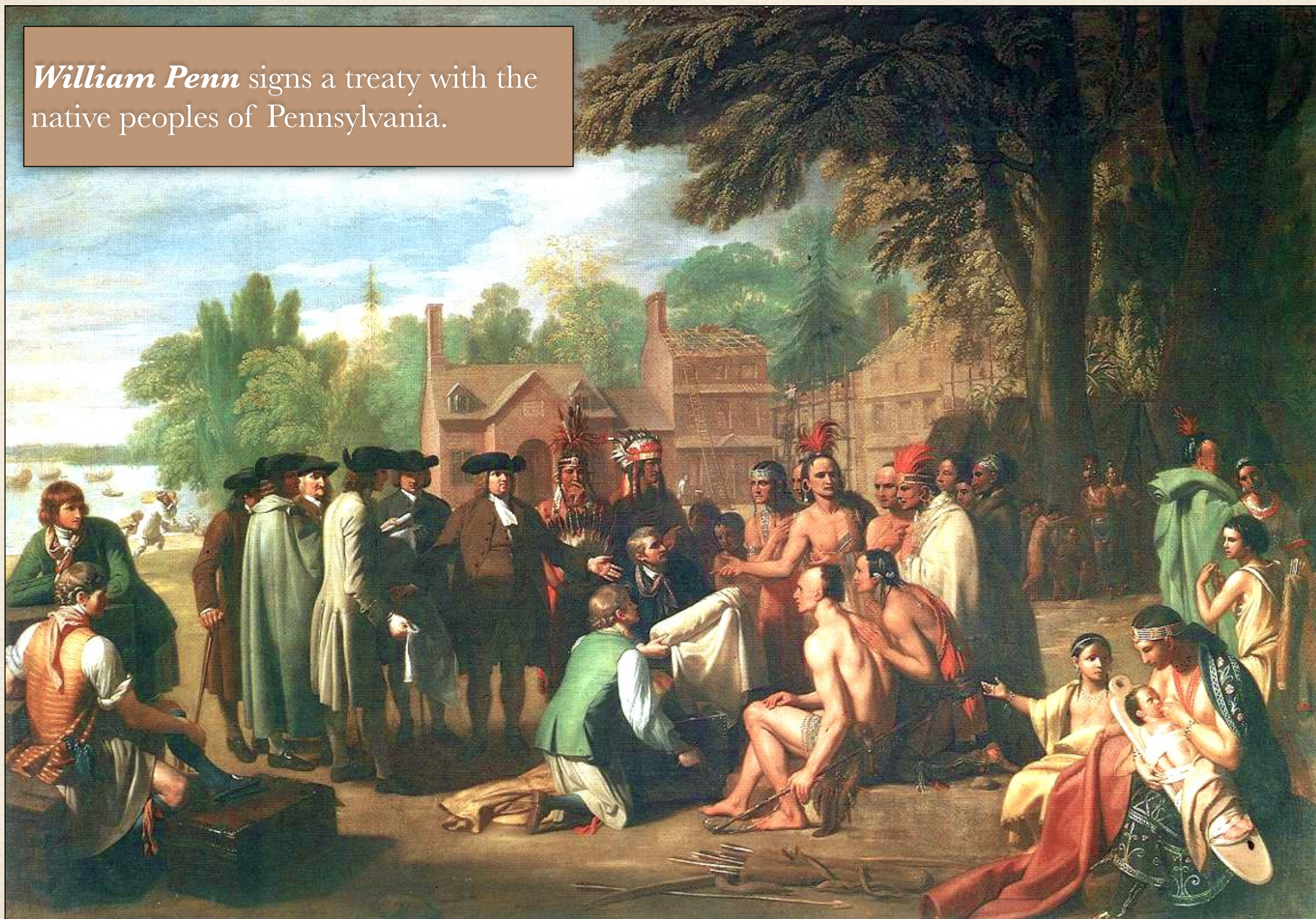
William Penn's Holy Experiment

- ❖ ...he paid them for the land.
- ❖ The colony prospered...
- ❖ ...and by 1750...
- ❖ ...the city Penn had planned...
- ❖ ...Philadelphia...
- ❖ ...became the largest...
- ❖ ...most modern city in the English colonies.

DEFINITION

A **Treaty** is an official agreement
between two or more sides
of a political issue.

William Penn signs a treaty with the native peoples of Pennsylvania.



Oglethorpe's Ideals

- ❖ In 1729...
- ❖ ...the colony of Carolina was divided into North and South...
- ❖ ...in 1732...
- ❖ ...England's 13th colony was established in neighboring Georgia
- ❖ King George II granted Georgia to English humanitarian James Oglethorpe.

Oglethorpe's Ideals

- ❖ Oglethorpe hoped to populate his colony with English debtors...
- ❖ ...who were kept in prison until someone paid off their loans.
- ❖ He set strict rules for Georgia's new settlers...
- ❖ ...every family had to have mulberry trees for silkworms...
- ❖ ...to establish a silk industry in America.

Olgethorpe's Ideals

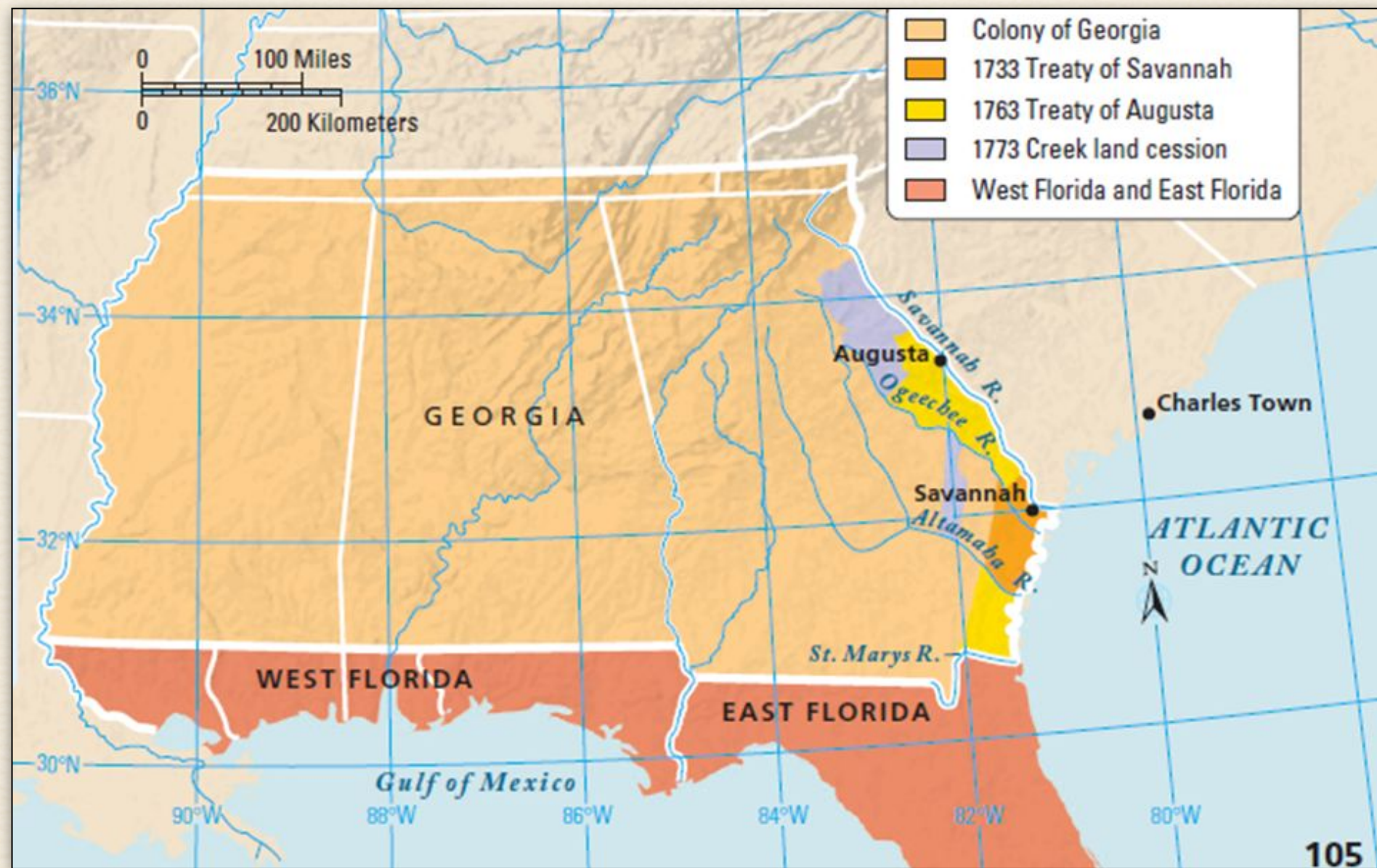
- ❖ There would be no slavery...
- ❖ ...no family could own more than 500 acres of land...
- ❖ ...and drinking rum was prohibited.
- ❖ The realities of life in the New World made enforcing these rules impossible.
- ❖ The climate was too hot for silkworms...
- ❖ ...so the trees were a useless expense.

Olgethorpe's Ideals

- ❖ Landowners...
- ❖ ...seeing the prosperity of plantations in other colonies...
- ❖ ...soon insisted on owning slaves and larger plots of land.
- ❖ By 1750...
- ❖ ...families could own slaves and hold up to 2,000 acres of land.

Olgethorpe's Ideals

- ❖ Two years later, Georgia became a Royal Colony.



Olgethorpe meeting with tribal leader
Tom Chici... working to establish friendly
relations with Georgia's Indian Tribes.



