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COLONIAL GROWTH BETWEEN 1700 AND 1740

There was hardly one of the thirteen colonies upon which these Scotch-Irish did not leave their mark.—John Fiske.

67. Immigration: Germans; Scotch-Irish.—Before 1700 white men who came to the colonies were in nearly all cases Englishmen. About 1700, however, streams of immigrants who were not Englishmen began to pour into America. These new-comers came from almost every country of Europe, but by far the greatest number came from Germany and Ireland. Most of the Germans came from the Rhine country, which was a beautiful region indeed, but which in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was rendered unsafe for life and property because it was so often overrun by soldiers and devastated by war. A few of the German immigrants went up into New York and settled in the Mohawk valley. The greater part of them, however, settled in Pennsylvania and became known as Pennsylvania Dutch, although they were not Dutch at all. The Germans from the Rhine country began to arrive in Pennsylvania soon after the founding of the colony, and by 1727 they were coming over in large numbers. In one year (1749) more than 7000 arrived, and it is estimated that by 1776 over 100,000 Germans and Swiss had settled in Pennsylvania alone, to say nothing of those who had settled in other colonies.

The Germans were attracted to Pennsylvania because the colony permitted them to become citizens on easy terms and because it offered them cheap lands. They were worthy of their citizenship, for they were self-respecting, intelligent, and industrious. They were also worthy of their lands, for they proved to be excellent farmers and the best of pioneers. They attacked the great forests of Pennsylvania in earnest. The Englishman at