

SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN OUR REGION

ADDRESS TO THE DAR IN BRISTOL 8-28-18

Lawrence J. Fleenor, Jr.

1 – **THE SPANISH** - 1539 de Soto; 1566 Santa Elena @ Parris Island and string of forts to Chota; 1570 Spanish founded a colony on the York River which was later wiped out by Indians: 1587 partial Spanish evacuation of N. C. forts east of Morganton. The Chesapeake Bay was a hideout for Portuguese, French Huguenot, and German Palatine pirates against the Spanish treasure galleons – they were called the Picaroons by the Spanish, and centered on Tangier Island.

2 – **THE GERMANS** – in the 50 years before the Revolution 30,000 Germans came in through Philadelphia – around 1730 the Mennonites and Brethren had bought Rockingham Co. (Harrisonburg) - ~1745 the Dunkards at Dunkard's Bottom @ Claytor Lake

3 – **THE SCOTS-IRISH** – 1730 James Patton began to import SI into the Shenandoah via Rob's Hole (Tappahannock) – 1732 William Beverly bought Augusta Co. (Staunton) and called it Beverly's Manor, better known as the 'Irish Tract'

4 – King George II and the great land companies – settlement of "dissenters" or "heretics" – 1743 Wood's River Land Co., then Patton's Land Co. in 1745, and the Loyal Co.

5 – 1731 smallpox wiped out the Catawbas; 1734 it killed half the Cherokee

6 – French and Indian War 1754-1763 – 3 Kerr's Creek Massacres drove many SI & Germans out of the Valley of Virginia and into the Yadkin Valley of NC

7 – Regulator Revolt and exodus 1771

8 – 1775-1776 German indentures from Penn. and Md. settled the North Fork of the Holston

9 – **SUMMARY** – many Germans and SI came straight down the Great Valley of Virginia – SI settled the main Holston Valley and the Germans settled the North Fork of the Holston – the Spanish, Germans, and SI moved into the Yadkin and intermarried with each other and the Cherokee, and as 'Regulators' reentered Va. via Mouth-of-Wilson and other passes and settled in the mountains on either side of the Great Valley of Virginia