

In the following pages I write a cursory account of the ways European settlement of the Americas does in fact constitute a marked "New World" for native inhabitants. I emphasize how initial decline of native populations put them in a more passive position for accepting and integrating w/ many Old World practices and values. The marked differences in worldview focused on ~~fixed~~ fixity rather than mobility, and technology adoption illustrate the interaction of Old and New Worlds.

- One of the most dramatic impacts of this 'New World' upon native inhabitants ~~was~~ was large-scale death through epidemic ~~of~~ virulent micro-organisms brought from Europe. Estimates of human population ~~loss~~ ^{decline} from disease are probably 1:10, having huge material, social, ~~and~~ psychological, and spiritual effects upon Native Americans. As entire families and villages died suddenly, traditional social hierarchies were upset leaving survivors without important supportive bonds and leadership. Material processes of hunting and farming were left incomplete, threatening starvation for those remaining. Traditional patterns of migration were too changed and practices of subsistence that previously followed seasonal cycles were abandoned for desperate access to food. After such disruption in native demographics

many of the changes to this 'New World'
~~was~~ took on particular flavor as discussed now.

Europeans came to colonize Americas and
with them they brought capitalist values
informed by liberal economic theory. These
values tended toward the commodification of
land, people, and objects and was expressed
through operations of the market. After native
population decline, their vulnerability may have
encouraged them to integrate more w/ European
markets. Utopium is illustrative of how
the entering of a merchant into native
trading changed their relationship w/ land,
animals, and each other. The disrupted
social values encouraged ~~the~~ the hunting and
trapping of animals on a scale not previously
seen. As mentioned above, surviving natives
desperate for survival turned to European

17th century
Colonis is
probably
cannot
be
labeled
"liberal"

- ✓ agricultural techniques and livestock, these too propagated by a market of resources and materials (initially from England but later developed extensively in New England).
- ✓ Crosby offers a useful notion of "neo-Europ" as a way to explain how colonists tended to reproduce the ecological environments they left behind, ~~in~~ ~~the~~ mapping their world view onto the new landscape. The fence itself comes to symbolize the instantiation of the farming and livestock raising an extension of Old World into New. This ecological segregation was a dramatic change in relations between humans and the land, and native inhabitants struggle to integrate such dramatic shifts in land tenure.

Another difference emulated into these neo-Europes was the building of permanent

- ✓ settlements, around which the cyclical processes of nature could revolve. This 'Old World' practice constituted an entirely
- ✓ new cosmological orientation compared w/ traditional practices of Indians who would change their location and living (and eating) habits throughout the year. These fixed settlements had material impacts as well, and colonists were encouraged to clear
- ✓ forests for both farming, ~~and~~ construction of wooden houses, and the burning of great amounts of firewood. Connecting to the point of markets made above, early settlement
- ✓ became complicit in large-scale deforestation
- ✓ for ship-building and timber sale as well, in some cases completely removing some
- ✓ forest species (e.g. white pine).

Native's experience of this 'new world'

- was also greatly affected by what we could call 'European' tools and technology. Important to note at the outset, however, is that these technologies ~~always~~ ^{never} directly determined changed behavior by natives. Rather, natives integrated these tools and artifacts into existing practices, for example use metal from pots and pans for jewelry. Perhaps most iconic of such adopted techniques is the horse, which was bred, trained, mastered, and traded by native Americans. Relations among Indians took on particular forms (such as Southern latitude Indians gaining more wealth and ability w/ horses), as did their relations w/ animals (now hunting Bison much more efficiently and sometimes abandoning agricultural practices). Despite the interpretive flexibility of 'Old World'

technologies, they dramatically influenced the occurrence of a new world.

Above I have offered only a brief sketch of how the extension of 'Old World' Europe was mapped onto the 'New World' of the Americas. Dramatic ~~the~~ decline of native populations was a point of departure for many of the changes that followed. Old World values and ideology were then made material both through the more stubborn implementation ~~of~~ by colonists and the integrative approach of native Americans. Tying the material, political-social, and spiritual changes together is the capitalist market imperative.

Thank

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