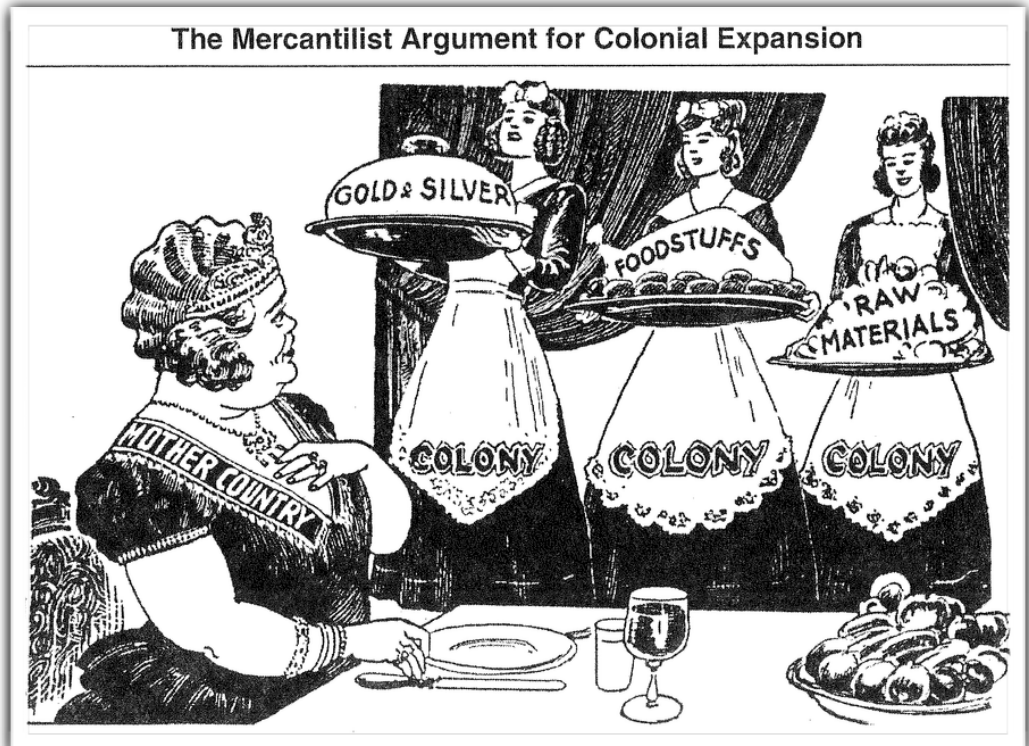


MERCANTILISM POLITICAL CARTOON ANALYSIS

Europe's American colonies existed mainly for the benefit of their home countries—Spain, Portugal, France and England. This idea was based on the theory of **mercantilism**. Under mercantilism, a nation could become rich and powerful in two ways: (1) by obtaining bullion - gold and silver, and (2) by establishing a favorable *balance of trade* in which it sold (export) more goods than it bought (imports).

In order to achieve a favorable balance of trade, nations established colonies. Colonies supplied *raw materials*, such as lumber, furs, cotton, grain, and tobacco to the home country. This way the home country did not have to purchase these goods from other nations. With the colonies, nations had a built-in market in which to sell the goods it produced.



Analyze the political cartoon and answer the following questions

1. Identify the cartoon title _____
2. Who does the figure on the left represent? _____
3. Who do the three figures in the middle represent? _____
 - a. What do they have in their hands? _____
 - b. Why did the illustrator draw them as they maids? _____
4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? _____
5. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. _____
6. What is the message of the cartoon? _____

Analyze the diagram and complete using the terms below.

Terms

- Mother Country
- Colony
- Raw Materials
- Manufactured Goods

