

Chapter 4

The Empire in Transition

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Key Concepts

What are this chapter's key concepts?

- British government increasingly attempted to incorporate North American colonies into coherent, imperial structure with mercantilist aims; failed due to conflict w/ colonists and natives
- Colonists drew on local self-government to resist imperial control: liberty began to grow as a major concept
- Colonial rivalry between Britain and France intensified, threatening French-native trade networks and native autonomy
- Britain defeated the French, expanding territorial holdings
- Imperial officials attempted to prevent westward expansion - natives hoped to continue trading with Europeans while resisting colonial expansion
- Colonial leaders based calls for resistance on arguments about rights of British subjects
- American independence effort pushed by powerful leaders like Franklin