**The Charter of 1732**

On June 7, 1732, King George II granted a **charter** to Oglethorpe’s group as trustees for establishing the colony of Georgia and for managing it for twenty-one years. A **charter** is a legal document that grants special rights and privileges. **Trustees** are people who hold responsibility on behalf of others. The Georgia charter granted an area of “all those lands, Countries, and Territories” between the Savannah and Altamaha rivers extending westward “to the South Seas” (the Pacific Ocean).

In the charter, the king stated that the trustees could not own land, hold political office, or be given money or their work. “Papists” (Catholics), blacks, liquor dealers, and lawyers could not become colonists. Catholics were excluded because of a longstanding division between the Catholic Church and the Church of England. Blacks were not permitted so as to not introduce slavery into the colony. The trustees feared settlers would not work if liquor was permitted. They wanted colonists to settle their differences out of court and did not think lawyers would allow them to do this.

The colony belonged to the Crown (the king of England), so the trustees were to get instructions from King George II. They could pass no laws unless the king agreed. The trustees worked around some of the rules by not having a governor and by using regulations, or government orders, instead of laws.

**Reasons for Settlement**

A search began to find settlers for the newest colony. Newspapers told of a land with mild temperatures and rich soil and the promise of a new start in life. Sir Robert Montgomery’s description of it as the “most delightful Country of the Universe” was widely accepted as fact. Clergymen preached sermons, wrote religious books, and raised a great deal of money by talking about the goodness of the proposed colony.

The trustees talked with applicants and planned the voyage and settlement. Unfortunately, debtors and former prisoners did not get to go. This meant the humanitarian reasons for the colony were all but forgotten. The applicants chosen were promised fifty acres of land, tools, and enough food for one year. Potential colonists who could pay their own way received five hundred acres of land and permission to take ten indentured servants.

In exchange, colonists had to agree to the following: (1) Each man was to defend the new colony against all enemies. (2) Land given to colonists could not be sold, and no money could be borrowed on it. It could, however, be passed on to a male heir. (3) Each colonist was to receive seeds and agricultural tools and was to use them in cultivating the lands of the new settlement. (4) Colonists were to use a portion of their land to grow mulberry trees so that silkworms would eat the leaves and make cocoons for the production of silk. (5) Each colonist was to obey all regulations established by the trustees.

When the chosen settlers gathered on the London docks, they were both excited and a little afraid of the adventure ahead. Historians do not agree on the exact number of men, women, and children who traveled from Gravesend, England, to Georgia. But between 114 and 125 people left London on November 17, 1732. Their voyage to the New World took 88 days.

Besides its passengers and crew, the Ann carried sheep, hogs, ducks, geese, and several dogs. There is no record of the ship being uncomfortable, but it was probably crowded with all the people and their belongings. Only two deaths were reported among the colonists on the trip, both of them infants. Finally, land was sighted, and the Ann docked at Charleston, South Carolina. The ship stayed in Charleston one day, then put in at Port Royal (Beaufort), South Carolina on January 14, 1733.

**Tomochichi and Mary Musgrove**

Before the Ann could set anchor, Oglethorpe had to make friends with the Yamacraw Indians through their chief, Tomochichi. Oglethorpe went to the trading post in the Yamacraw village to find an interpreter. The trading post was operated by John Musgrove and his wife Mary, who was part Native American and part British. John agreed to act as interpreter, but Mary soon took over for him. With Mary’s help, Oglethorpe and Chief Tomochichi established close friendship that lasted until the chief’s death in 1739.

The passengers waited on board while Oglethorpe and his staff searched for a permanent settlement site. The place decided on was about eighteen miles from the0 mouth of the Savannah River.

On February 12, 1733, Chief Tomochichi allowed the Ann’s passengers to land on sandy Yamacraw Bluff overlooking the Savannah River. The settlement they established was the thirteenth British colony in the New World. Georgia’s citizens were added to over 650,000 other colonists spread from Massachusetts through the Carolinas.

1. **Georgia’s Charter of 1732 did NOT include a provision that…?**
2. Guaranteed every settler his day in court to settle differences.
3. Gave the king of England control of the colony.
4. Prohibited Catholics from becoming colonists.
5. Banned liquor in the colony.
6. **When did King George II grand Oglethorpe and his group a charter for the colony of Georgia?**
   1. 1492
   2. 1607
   3. 1732
   4. 1776
7. **According to the charter, what religious group was not allowed to settle in Georgia?**
   1. Baptist
   2. Catholic
   3. Jewish
   4. Methodist
8. **According to Georgia’s Charter of 1732, which group of people was forbidden to enter Georgia?**
   1. Preachers
   2. Blacks
   3. Soldiers
   4. Women
9. **What policy did the king make to ensure that the trustees did not take personal advantage of their positions?**
   1. The trustees could not hold office
   2. The trustees could not serve more than one year
   3. The trustees had to break off all ties with Great Britain
10. **What ship brought Oglethorpe and the first colonists to Charleston, then Savannah during the winter of 1733?**
    1. Ann
    2. Godspeed
    3. Mayflower
    4. Santa Maria
11. **Those who were selected to settle the colony of Georgia were required to…?**
    1. Have served time in a debtor’s prison
    2. Bring their own farm tools with them
    3. Only sell their land to another Englishman
    4. Use a portion of their land to grow mulberry trees
12. **Trustees gave the first settlers in Georgia the right to…?**
    1. Vote
    2. Own land
    3. Collect taxes
    4. Hold elections
13. **What Indians were led by Tomochichi?**
    1. Cherokee
    2. Creek
    3. Oconee
    4. Yamacraw
14. **Who served as the translator for Oglethopr in his discussions with Tomochichi?**
    1. Will Bull
    2. Robert Montgomery
    3. Mary Musgrove
    4. Toonahowi

* 1. The trustees had to donate their own money to

provide food for the colonists.