

Netherlands adjoining Holland,¹ portions of Italy, and immense provinces in both North and South America, including the West Indies. Such an empire, if it came under the control of Louis, would make him irresistible on the continent of Europe, and the little, free Protestant states of Holland could not hope to stand before him. William endeavored to prevent Louis from carrying out his designs respecting Spain, by two secret treaties, and also by an alliance formed between Germany, Holland, and England, all of whom were threatened by the prospective preponderating power of France. Louis had signed these treaties, but had no intention of abiding by them. When, not long after, the king of Spain died and left the crown to Philip of Anjou, the French sovereign openly declared his intention of placing him on the Spanish throne, saying significantly as his grandson left Paris for Madrid, "The Pyrenees no longer exist."² Furthermore, Louis now put French garrisons in the border towns of the Spanish Netherlands, showing that he regarded them as practically his own, and he thus had a force ready at any moment to march across the frontier into Holland. Finally, on the death of James II., which occurred shortly before William's, Louis publicly acknowledged the exiled monarch's son, James Edward, the "Old Pretender,"³ as rightful sovereign of England, Scotland, and Ireland. This, and this only, effectually roused the English people; they were preparing for hostilities when William's sudden death occurred. Immediately after Anne's succession, war was declared, which, since it had grown out of Louis's designs on the crown of Spain, was called the War of the Spanish Succession.

But although the contest was undertaken by England mainly

¹ The whole of the Netherlands at one time belonged to Spain, but the northern part, or Holland, had succeeded in establishing its independence, and was protected on the southern frontier by a line of fortified towns.

² When Philip went to Spain, Louis XIV., by letters patent, reserved the succession to the Spanish throne to France, thus virtually uniting the two countries, so that the Pyrenees Mountains would no longer have any political meaning as a boundary.

³ See Paragraphs Nos. 542 and 543.

to prevent the French king from carrying out his threat of placing the "Pretender" on the English throne,—thus restoring the country to the Roman Catholic Stuarts,—yet as it went on it came to have two other important objects. The first of these was the defence of Holland, now a most valuable ally; the second was the protection of the Virginia and New England colonies against the power of France, which threatened through its own American colonies, and through the extensive Spanish possessions it expected to acquire, to get control of the whole of the New World.¹ Thus England had three objects at stake: 1. The maintenance of Protestant government at home; 2. The maintenance of the Protestant power of Holland; 3. The possession of the American continent. For this reason the War of the Spanish Succession may in one sense be regarded as the beginning of a second Hundred Years' War between England and France,² destined to decide which was to build up the great empire of the future in the Western Hemisphere.³

558. Marlborough; Blenheim and Other Victories.—John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, commanded the English and Dutch forces, and had for his ally Prince Eugene of Savoy, who led the German armies. The duke, who was known in the enemy's camps by the flattering name of "the handsome Englishman," had risen from obscurity. He owed the beginning of his success to his good looks and a court intrigue. In politics he sympathized chiefly with the Tories, but his interests in the war led him to support the Whigs. He was avaricious, unscrupulous, perfidious. James II. trusted him, and he deceived him and went over to William; William trusted him, and he deceived him and opened a treasonable correspondence with the dethroned

¹ At this time England had only the colonies of Virginia and New England, with part of Newfoundland. France and Spain claimed nearly all the rest.

² During the next eighty years fighting was going on between England and France, directly or indirectly, for a great part of the time.

³ See Seeley's Expansion of England.

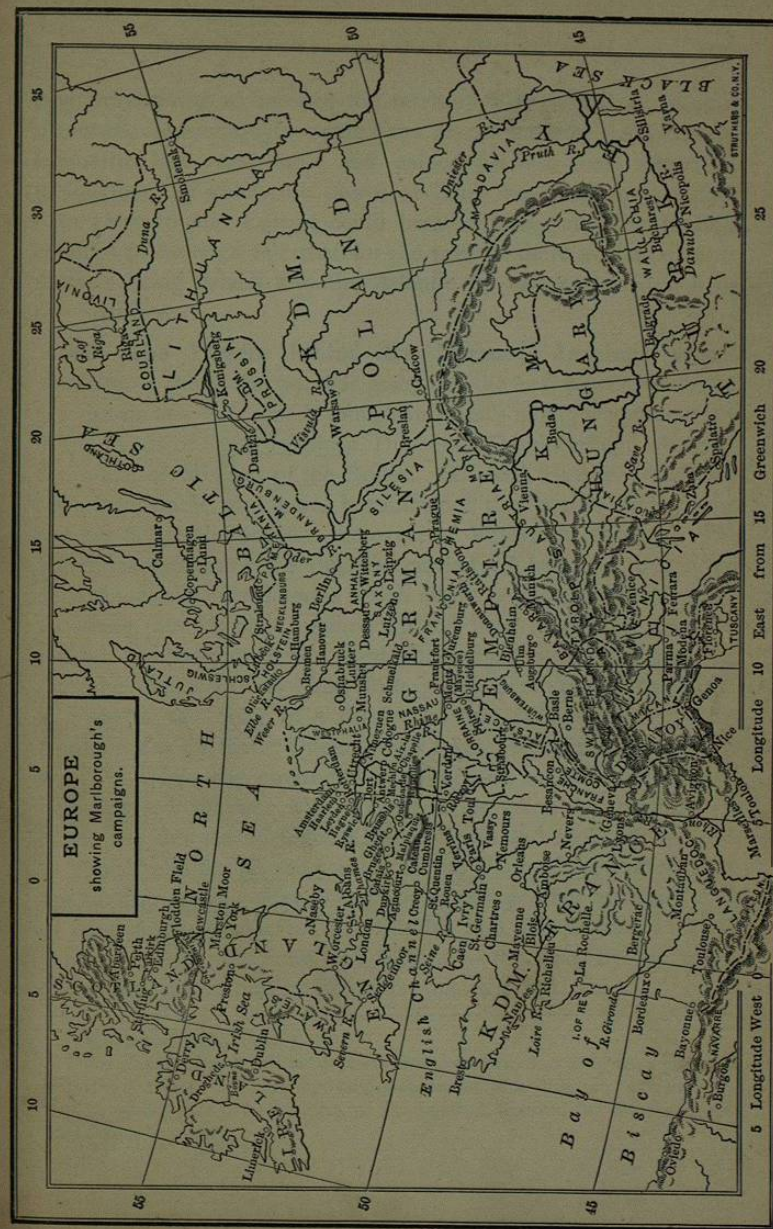
James; Anne trusted him, and he would undoubtedly have betrayed her if the "Pretender" had only possessed means to bid high enough, or in any way show that his cause was likely to be successful. In his greed for money he hesitated at nothing; he took bribes from army contractors, and robbed his soldiers of their pay; though in this he was perhaps no worse than many other generals of his, and even of later times.¹ As a soldier, Marlborough had no equal. Voltaire says of him with truth that "he never besieged a fortress which he did not take, nor fought a battle which he did not win." This man at once so able and so false, to whom war was a private speculation rather than a contest for right or principle, now opened the campaign by capturing those fortresses in the Spanish Netherlands, which Louis XIV. had garrisoned with French troops to menace Holland; but he could not induce the enemy to risk a battle in the open field. At length, in the summer of 1704, Marlborough, by a brilliant movement, changed the scene of the war from the Netherlands to Bavaria. There, at the little village of Blenheim, he, with Prince Eugene, gained a victory over the French which saved Germany from the power of Louis XIV., and England, out of gratitude for the humiliation of her powerful enemy, presented the duke with the ancient royal Park of Woodstock, and built for him, at the nation's cost, that Palace of Blenheim still occupied by descendants of the duke's family.² Gibraltar had been taken a few days before Blenheim by an attack by sea, so that England now had, as she continues still to have, the command of the great inland sea of the Mediterranean.

In the Netherlands, two years later, Marlborough won the battle of Ramillies,³ by which the whole of that country was recovered from the French. Two years from that time Louis's forces marched back into the Netherlands, and were beaten at Oudenarde, where

¹ See Thackeray's *Henry Esmond*.

² Blenheim: a short distance from Oxford. The palace grounds are about twelve miles in circumference.

³ Ramillies (*Ram'e-lèz*).



they were trying to recover the territory they had lost. A year afterward, Marlborough carried the war into Northern France, fought his last great fight, and gained his last great victory at Malplaquet,¹ by which the power of Louis was so far broken that both England and Europe could breathe freely, and the English colonies in America felt that for the present there was no danger of their being driven into the Atlantic by either the French or the Spaniards.

559. The Powers behind the Throne; Jennings versus Masham. — While the war was going on, the real power, so far as the crown was concerned, though in Anne's name, was practically in the hands of Sarah Jennings, Duchess of Marlborough, who held the office of Mistress of the Robes. She and the queen had long been inseparable, and it was her influence that caused Anne to desert her father and espouse the cause of William of Orange. The imperious temper of the duchess carried all before it, and in her department she won victories which might be compared with those the duke, her husband, gained on the field of battle. In time, indeed, her sway over her royal companion became so absolute that she decided everything, from questions of state to the cut of a gown or the color of a ribbon, so that it finally grew to be a common saying that "Queen Anne reigns, but Queen Sarah governs."² While she continued in power, she used her influence to urge forward the war with France undertaken by England to check the designs of Louis XIV. on Spain and Holland, and also to punish him for his recognition of the claim of the Pretender to the English crown. Her object was to advance her husband, who, as commander-in-chief of the English and Dutch forces on the continent, had won fame and fortune — the first by his splendid ability, the second by his unscrupulous greed.

¹ Malplaquet (Mäl'plä'kă').

² For years the queen and the duchess carried on an almost daily correspondence under the names of "Mrs. Morley" (the queen) and "Mrs. Freeman" (the duchess), the latter taking that name because, as she boasted, it suited the frank and bold character of her letters.

After a number of years, the queen and the duchess quarrelled, and the latter was superseded by a Mrs. Masham, who soon got as complete control of Anne as the former favorite had possessed. Mrs. Masham was as sly and supple as the duchess had been dictatorial and violent. She was cousin to Robert Harley, a prominent Tory politician. Through her influence Harley now became prime minister in everything but name. The Whig war policy was abandoned, negotiations for peace were secretly opened, and Marlborough was ordered home in disgrace on a charge of having robbed the government. Mr. Masham, much to his wife's satisfaction, was created a peer of the realm, and finally a treaty was drafted for an inglorious peace. Thus it was, as Hallam remarks, that "the fortunes of Europe were changed by the insolence of one waiting-woman and the cunning of another."¹

560. Dr. Sacheverell.—An incident occurred at this time which greatly helped the Tories in their schemes. Now that the danger was over, England was growing weary of the continuance of a war which involved a constant drain of both men and money. Dr. Sacheverell, a violent Tory and High Churchman, began preaching a series of sermons in London condemning the war, and the Whigs who were carrying it on. He also endeavored to revive the exploded theory of the Divine Right of kings, and declared that no tyranny on the part of a sovereign could by any possibility justify a subject in resisting the royal will, with much more foolish talk of the same kind, all of which he published. The Whig leaders unwisely brought the preacher to trial for alleged treasonable utterances. He was suspended from his office for three years, and his book of sermons was publicly burned by the common hangman.

This created intense popular excitement; Sacheverell was regarded as a political martyr by all who wished the war ended. A reaction against the government set in; the Whigs were driven from power, the Duchess of Marlborough had to leave her apart-

¹ Hallam's Constitutional History of England,

ments in the palace of St. James, and in her spite broke down marble mantels and tore off the locks from doors; Mrs. Masham's friends, the Tories, or peace party, now triumphed, and prepared to put an end to the fighting.

561. The Peace of Utrecht.¹—Not long after this change a messenger was privately despatched to Louis XIV. to ask if he wished for peace. "It was," says the French minister, "like asking a dying man whether he would wish to be cured."² Later, terms were agreed upon between the Tories and the French, though without the knowledge of the English people or their allies; but finally, in 1713, in the quaint Dutch city of Utrecht, the allies, together with France and Spain, signed the treaty bearing that name. By it Louis XIV. bound himself: 1. To acknowledge the Protestant succession in England; 2. To compel the Pretender to quit France; 3. To renounce the union of the crowns of France and Spain;³ 4. To cede to England all claims to Newfoundland, Acadia, or Nova Scotia, and that vast region known as the Hudson Bay Company's Possessions. Next, Spain was to give up: 1. The Spanish Netherlands to Austria, an ally of Holland, and grant to the Dutch a line of forts to defend their frontier against France; 2. England was to have the exclusive right for thirty-three years of supplying the Spanish-American colonists with negro slaves.⁴ This trade had long been coveted by the English, and had been carried on to some extent by them ever since Sir John Hawkins grew so rich through it in Queen Elizabeth's time, that he set up a coat of arms emblazoned with a slave in fetters, that all might see how he had won wealth and distinction.

¹ Utrecht (U'trëkt).

² Morris, The Age of Anne.

³ But Philip was to retain the throne of Spain.

⁴ This right had formerly belonged to France. By its transfer England got the privilege of furnishing 4800 "sound, merchantable negroes" annually; "two-thirds to be males" between ten and forty years of age.

562. Union of England and Scotland.—Since the accession of James I., England and Scotland had been ruled by one sovereign, but each country retained its own Parliament and its own forms of worship. In 1707 the two countries were united under the name of Great Britain. The independent Parliament of Scotland was given up, and the Scotch were henceforth represented in the English Parliament by sixteen peers chosen by members of the Scottish peerage at the summoning of every Parliament; and by forty-five (now sixty) members returned by Scotland to the House of Commons.

With the consummation of the union Great Britain adopted a new flag, the Union Jack, which was formed by the junction of the red cross of St. George and the white cross of St. Andrew.¹

563. Literature of the Period; the First Daily Paper.—The reign of Anne has been characterized as one of corruption in high places and of brutality in low, but in literature it takes rank next to that of Elizabeth. There was indeed no great central luminary like Shakespeare, but a constellation of lesser ones—such as Addison, De Foe, and Pope—that shone with a mild splendor peculiarly their own: the lurid brilliancy of the half-mad satirist Dean Swift, who moved in an orbit apart, was also beginning to command attention; while the calm, clear light of John Locke was near its setting. Aside from these great names in letters, it was an age generally of contented dulness, well represented in the good-natured mediocrity of Queen Anne herself. During her reign the first daily newspaper appeared in England—the *Daily Courant*; it was a dingy, badly printed little sheet not much bigger than a man's hand. The publisher said he made it so small "to save the Publick at least one-half the Impertinences of Ordinary News-Papers."

¹ St. George: the patron saint of England; St. Andrew: the patron saint of Scotland. In 1801, when Ireland was united to Great Britain, the red cross of St. Patrick was added to the flag. Jack: from *Jacques* (French for James), James I.'s usual signature. The first union flag was his work.

Perhaps it was well this journal made no greater pretensions; for, since it had to compete with swarms of abusive political pamphlets, such as Swift wrote for the Tories and De Foe for the Whigs; since it had also to compete with the gossip and scandal of the coffee-houses and the clubs, the proprietor found it no easy matter to either fill or sell it.

A few years later a new journal appeared of a very different kind, called the *Spectator*, which Addison, its chief contributor, soon made famous. Each number consisted of an essay hitting off the follies and foibles of the age, and was regularly served at the breakfast-tables of people of fashion along with their tea and toast. One of its greatest merits was its happy way of showing that wit and virtue are after all better friends than wit and vice. These two dissimilar sheets, neither of which dared to publish a single line of Parliamentary debate, mark the humble beginning of that vast organized power, represented by the daily press of London, which discusses everything of note or interest throughout the world.

564. Death of the Queen.—With Anne's death in 1714 the Stuart power came to an end. All of her children had died in infancy, except one unfortunate sickly son who lived just long enough to awaken hopes which were buried with him. According to the terms of the Act of Settlement¹ the crown now passed to George, Elector of Hanover, a Protestant descendant of James I. of England; though James Edward, son of James II., believed to the last that his half-sister, the queen, would name him her successor;² instead of that it was she who first dubbed him the "Pretender."

565. Summary.—The whole reign of Anne was taken up with the strife of political parties at home, and the War of the Succession abroad. The Whigs were always intriguing through the Duchess of Marlborough and other leaders to keep up the war and to keep out the "Pretender"; the Tories, on the other hand,

¹ See Paragraph No. 549.

² Anne and the "Pretender" were children of James II. by different mothers.

were just as busy through Mrs. Masham and her coadjutors in endeavoring to establish peace, and with it the Divine Right of Kings, while the extremists among them hoped for the restoration of the Roman Catholic Stuarts in the person of James Edward. The result of the War of the Succession was the defeat of Louis XIV. and the confirmation of that Act of Settlement which secured the English crown to a Protestant prince.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE STUART PERIOD.

1603-1649 (Commonwealth, 1649-1660); 1660-1714.

I. GOVERNMENT. — II. RELIGION. — III. MILITARY AFFAIRS. — IV. LITERATURE, LEARNING, AND ART. — V. GENERAL INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE. — VI. MODE OF LIFE, MANNERS, AND CUSTOMS.

GOVERNMENT.

566. Divine Right of Kings; the Civil War; the Revolution of 1688. — The period began with the attempt of James I. to carry out his theory that the king derives his right to rule directly from God, and in no wise from the people. Charles I. adopted this disastrous theory, and was supported in it by Mainwaring and other clergymen, who declared that the king represents God on earth, and that the subject who resists his will, or refuses a tax or loan to him, does so at the everlasting peril of his soul. Charles's arbitrary methods of government, and levies of illegal taxes, with the imprisonment of those who refused to pay them, led to the meeting of the Long Parliament and the enactment of the statute of the Petition of Right, or second great charter of English liberties.

The same Parliament abolished the despotic court of Star-Chamber and High Commission, which had been used by Strafford and Laud to carry out their tyrannical scheme called "Thorough."

Charles's renewed acts of oppression and open violation of the laws, with his levies of Ship-money, led to the Grand Remonstrance, an appeal to the nation to support Parliament in its struggle with the king. The attempt of the king to arrest five members who had taken a prominent part in drawing up the Remonstrance, brought on the Civil War.

and the establishment of a republic which declared, in opposition to the doctrine of the Divine Right of Kings, that "the people are, under God, the origin of all just power." Eventually, Cromwell became Protector of the nation, and ruled by means of a strong military power.

On the restoration of the Stuarts, Charles II. endeavored to rule without Parliament by selling his influence to Louis XIV., by the secret treaty of Dover. During his reign, the Habeas Corpus Act was passed, and feudalism practically abolished.

James II. endeavored to restore the Roman Catholic religion. His treatment of the University of Oxford, and imprisonment of the Seven Bishops, with the birth of a son who would be educated as a Roman Catholic, caused the Revolution of 1688, and placed William and Mary on the throne.

Parliament now passed the Bill of Rights, the third great charter for the protection of the English people, and later confirmed it by the Act of Settlement, which secured the crown to a line of Protestant sovereigns. The Mutiny Bill, passed at the beginning of William III.'s reign, made the army dependent on Parliament. These measures practically put the government in the hands of the House of Commons, where it has ever since remained. William's war caused the beginning of the national debt and the establishment of the Bank of England.

In the reign of Anne, 1707, Scotland and England were united under the name of Great Britain. During her sovereignty the Whig and Tory parties, which came into existence in the time of Charles II., became especially prominent, and they have since (though lately under the name of Liberals and Conservatives) continued to divide the Parliamentary government between them, — the Whigs seeking to extend the power of the people; the Tories, that of the crown and the church.

RELIGION.

567. Religious Parties and Religious Legislation. — At the beginning of this period we find four religious parties in England: 1. The Roman Catholics; 2. The Episcopalians, or supporters of the National Church of England; 3. The Puritans, who were seeking to "purify" the church from certain Roman Catholic customs and modes of worship; 4. The Independents, who were endeavoring to establish independent congregational societies. In Scotland the Puritans established their religion in a church governed by elders, or presbyters, instead of bishops, and on that account got the name of Presbyterians.

James I. persecuted all who dissented from the Church of England; and after the Gunpowder Plot the Roman Catholics were practically deprived of the protection of the law, and subject to terrible oppression. In the same reign two Unitarians were burned at Smithfield for denying the doctrine of the Trinity.

During the period of the Civil War and the Commonwealth, Presbyterianism was established as the national worship of England and Scotland by the Solemn League and Covenant. At the Restoration severe laws against the Scotch Covenanters and other dissenters were enforced, and two thousand clergymen were driven from their parishes to starve; on the other hand, the pretended Popish Plot caused the exclusion of Roman Catholics from both Houses of Parliament, and all persons holding office were obliged to partake of the sacrament according to the Church of England. James II.'s futile attempt to restore Catholicism ended in the Revolution and the passage of the Toleration Act, granting liberty of worship to all Protestant Trinitarians.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

✓ 568. **Armor and Arms.**—Armor still continued to be worn in some degree during this period, but it consisted chiefly of the helmet with breast and back-plates. Firearms of various kinds were in general use; also hand-grenades, or small bombs, and the bayonet. The chief wars of the period were the Civil War, the wars with the Dutch, William's war with France, and that of the Spanish Succession.

✓ LEARNING, LITERATURE, AND ART.

✓ 569. **Great Writers.**—The most eminent prose writers of this period were Sir Walter Raleigh, Lord Bacon, Sir Isaac Newton, John Bunyan, Jeremy Taylor, John Locke, Dean Swift, De Foe, and Addison; the chief poets, Shakespeare and Jonson (already mentioned under the preceding period), Milton, Dryden, Pope, Butler, and Beaumont and Fletcher, with a class of writers known as the "Comic Dramatists of the Restoration," whose works, though not lacking in genius, exhibit many of the worst features of the licentious age in which they were produced. Three other great writers were born in the latter part of this period, — Fielding, the novelist, Hume, the historian, and Butler,¹ the

¹ Bishop Butler, author of *The Analogy of Religion* (1736), a work which gained for him the title of "the Bacon of Theology."

ablest thinker of his time in the English Church, — but their productions belong to the time of the Georges.

✓ 570. **Progress in Science and Invention.** — Sir Isaac Newton revolutionized natural philosophy by his discovery and demonstration of the law of gravitation, and Dr. William Harvey accomplished as great a change in physiological science by his discovery of the circulation of the blood. The most remarkable invention of the age was a rude steam engine, patented in 1698 by Captain Savery, and so far improved by Thomas Newcomen in 1712 that it was used for pumping water in coal mines for many years. Both were destined to be superseded by James Watt's engine, which belongs to a later period (1765).

✓ 571. **Architecture.** — The Gothic style of the preceding periods was followed by the Italian, or classical, represented in the works of Inigo Jones and Sir Christopher Wren. It was a revival, in modified form, of the ancient Greek and Roman architecture. St. Paul's Cathedral, the grandest church ever built in England for Protestant worship, is the best example of this style. Many beautiful manor-houses were built in the early part of this period, which, like the churches of the time, are often ornamented with the exquisite wood-carving of Grinling Gibbons. There were no great artists in England in this age, though Charles I. employed Rubens and other foreign painters to decorate the palace of Whitehall and Windsor Castle.

✓ 572. **Education.** — The higher education of the period was confined almost wholly to the study of Latin and Greek. The discipline of all schools was extremely harsh. Nearly every lesson was emphasized by a liberal application of the rod, and the highest recommendation a teacher could have was that he was known as "a learned and lashing master."

✓ GENERAL INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

✓ 573. **Manufactures.** — Woollen goods continued to be a chief article of manufacture. Silks were also produced by thousands of Huguenot weavers, who fled from France to escape the persecutions of Louis XIV. Coal was now extensively mined, and iron and pottery works were giving industrial importance to Birmingham and other growing towns in the midlands.

✓ 574. **Commerce.** — During a great part of this period intense commercial rivalry existed between England and Holland, each of which

was anxious to get the monopoly of the colonial import and export trade. Parliament passed stringent navigation laws, under Cromwell and later, to prevent the Dutch from competing with English merchants and shippers. The East India and South Sea companies were means of greatly extending English commercial enterprise, as was also the tobacco culture of Virginia.

575. Roads and Travel.—Good roads were still unknown in England. Stage coaches carried a few passengers at exorbitant rates, requiring an entire day to go a distance which an express train now travels in less than an hour. Goods were carried on pack-horses or in cumbersome wagons, and so great was the expense of transportation that farmers often let their produce rot on the ground rather than attempt to get it to the nearest market town.

In London a few coaches were in use, but covered chairs, carried on poles by two men and called "sedan chairs," were the favorite vehicles. Although London had been in great part rebuilt since the fire of 1666, the streets were still very narrow, without sidewalks, heaped with filth, and miserably lighted.

576. Agriculture; Pauperism.—Agriculture generally made no marked improvement, but gardening did, and many vegetables and fruits were introduced which had not before been cultivated.

Pauperism remained a problem which the government had not yet found a practical method of dealing with. There was little freedom of movement; the poor man's parish was virtually his prison, and if he left it to seek work elsewhere, and required help on the way, he was certain to be sent back to the place where he was legally settled.

MODES OF LIFE, MANNERS, AND CUSTOMS.

577. Dress.—In the time of Charles II. and his successors the dress of the wealthy and fashionable classes was most elaborate and costly. Gentlemen wore their hair long, in ringlets, with an abundance of gold lace and ruffles, and carried long, slender swords, known as rapiers. Later, wigs came into use, and no man of any social standing thought of appearing without one.

In Queen Anne's reign ladies painted their faces and ornamented them with minute black patches, which served not only for "beauty spots," but also showed, by their arrangement, with which political party they sympathized.

578. Coffee-Houses.—Up to the middle of the seventeenth century ale and beer were the common drink of all classes; but about that time coffee was introduced, and coffee-houses became a fashionable resort for gentlemen and for all who wished to learn the news of the day. Tea had not yet come into use; but, in 1660, Pepys says in his diary: "Sept. 25. I did send for a cup of tee (a China drink) of which I never had drank before."

579. The Streets of London.—No efficient police existed in London, and at night the streets were infested with brutal ruffians; and as late as Queen Anne's time, by bands of "fine gentlemen" not less brutal, who amused themselves by overturning sedan chairs, rolling women down hill in barrels, and compelling men to dance jigs, under the stimulus of repeated pricks from a circle of sword points, until they fell fainting from exhaustion. Duels were frequent, on the slightest provocation. Highwaymen abounded both in the city and without, and it was dangerous to travel any distance, even by day, without an armed guard.

580. Brutal Laws.—Hanging was the common punishment for theft and many other crimes. The public whipping of both men and women through the streets was frequent. Debtors were shut up in prison, and left to beg from the passers-by or starve; and ordinary offenders were fastened in a wooden frame called the "pillory" and exposed on a stage where they were pelted by the mob, and their bones not infrequently broken with clubs and brickbats. The pillory continued in use until the accession of Victoria in 1837.