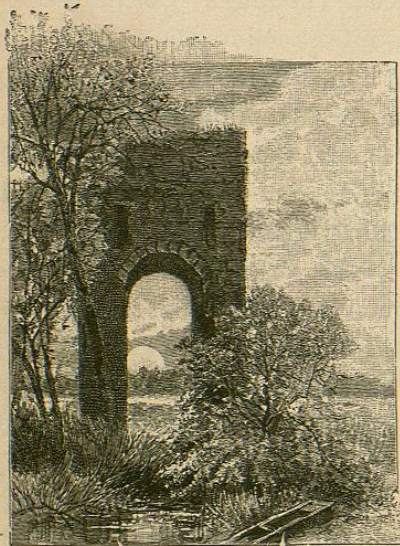


gradually sprung up in their midst: one, the aristocratic party, was composed of the rich planters and the office-holders; the other comprised the liberty-loving portion of the people, who felt themselves deprived of their rights.*

Bacon's Rebellion.—These difficulties came to a crisis in 1676—a century before Independence Day—when Governor Berkeley failed to provide for the defense of the settlements against the Indians. At this juncture, Nathaniel Bacon, a patriotic young lawyer, rallied a company, defeated the Indians, and then turned to meet the governor, who had denounced him as a traitor. During the contest which followed, Berkeley was driven out of Jamestown and the village itself burned.† In the midst of this success, Bacon died. No leader could be found worthy to take his place, and the people

* It is a curious fact that the royalists who fled from England in Cromwell's time took refuge in Virginia, and were hospitably entertained, while the "regicides" (the judges who condemned Charles I.) fled to Massachusetts and were concealed from their pursuers.



THE RUINS AT JAMESTOWN.

† Going up the James River, just before reaching City Point, one sees on the right-hand bank the ruins of an old church. The crumbling tower, with its arched doorways, is almost hidden by the profusion of shrubbery which surrounds it. Its moss-covered walls, entwined with ivy planted by loving hands which have since crumbled into dust, look desolately out upon the old church-yard at its back. Here, pushing aside the rank vines and tangled bushes which conceal them, one finds a few weather-beaten tombstones. A huge button-wood-tree, taking root below, has burst apart one of these old slabs, and now, with its many fellows, spreads its lofty branches high over the solitary dead. And this is all that remains of that Jamestown whose struggles we have here recorded.

dispersed. Berkeley revenged himself with terrible severity. On hearing of the facts, Charles II. impatiently declared, "He has taken more lives in that naked country than I did for the murder of my father."

II.—MASSACHUSETTS.

The Plymouth Company made several attempts to explore North Virginia. Captain John Smith, already so famous in South Virginia, examined the coast from Penobscot to Cape Cod, drew a map of it, and called the country NEW ENGLAND. The company, stirred to action by his glowing accounts, obtained a new patent (1620) under the name of the Council for New England. This authorized them to make settlements and laws, and to carry on trade through a region reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and comprising over a million square miles. New England, however, was settled with no consent of king or council.

1. PLYMOUTH COLONY.

Settlement.—*Landing of the Pilgrims.**—One stormy day in the autumn of 1620, the Mayflower, with a band of

* They were called *Pilgrims* because of their wanderings. About seventy years before this time the state religion of England had been changed from Catholic to Protestant; but a large number of the clergy and people were dissatisfied with what they thought to be a half-way policy on the part of the new church, and called for a more complete purification from old observances and doctrines. For this, they were called Puritans. They still believed in a state church, *i. e.*, that the *nation* of England was the *church* of England; and that the queen, as the head of both, could appoint church officers and prescribe the form of religious worship. They, however, wanted a change, and desired the government to make it to suit them. The government not only refused, but punished the Puritan clergy for not using the prescribed form of worship. This led some of them to question the authority of the government in religious matters. They came to believe that any body of Christians might declare itself a church, choose its own officers, and be independent of all external authority. When they began to form these local churches, they separated themselves from the Church of England, and for this reason are called *Separatists* and *Independents*. One of these churches of SEPARATISTS was at Scrooby, in the east of England. Not being allowed to worship in peace, they fled to Holland (1608), where they lived twelve

a hundred pilgrims, came to anchor in Cape Cod harbor. The little company,* gathering in the cabin, drew up a compact, in which they agreed to enact just and equal laws, which all should obey. One of their exploring parties landed at Plymouth,† as it was called on Smith's chart, December 21.‡ Finding the location suitable for a settlement, they all came ashore and, amid a storm of snow and sleet, commenced building their rude huts.

The Character of the Pilgrim settlers was well suited to the rugged, stormy land which they sought to subdue. They had come into the wilderness with their families in search of a home where they could educate their children and worship God as they pleased. They were earnest, sober-minded men, actuated in all things by deep religious principle, and never disloyal to their convictions of duty.

Their Sufferings during the winter were severe. At one time, there were only seven well persons to take care of the sick. Half of the little band died. Yet when spring came, not one of the company thought of returning to England.

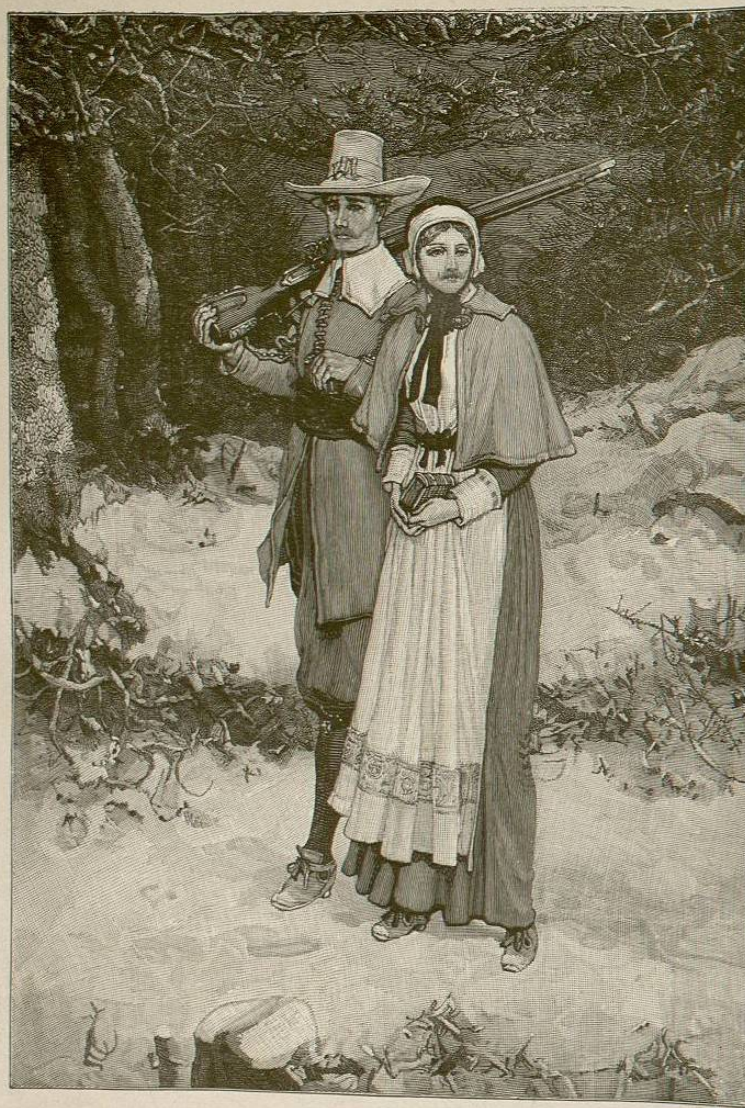
The Indians, fortunately, did not disturb them. A pestilence had destroyed the tribe inhabiting the place where they landed. They were startled, however, one day in early spring

years. But evil influences surrounded their children, and they longed for a land where they might worship God in their own way, and save their families from worldly follies. America offered such a home. They came, resolved to brave every danger, trusting to God to shape their destinies.

* The exact number of the pilgrims was 102.

† The little shallop sent out to reconnoiter before landing, lost, in a furious storm, its rudder, mast, and sail. Late at night, the party sought shelter under the lee of a small island. They spent the next day in cleaning their rusty weapons and drying their wet garments. Every hour was precious, as the season was late and their companions in the Mayflower were waiting their return; but "being y^e last day of y^e week, they prepared there to keepe y^e Sabbath". No wonder that the influence of such a people has been felt throughout the country, and that "Forefathers' Rock", on which they first stepped, is yet held in grateful remembrance.

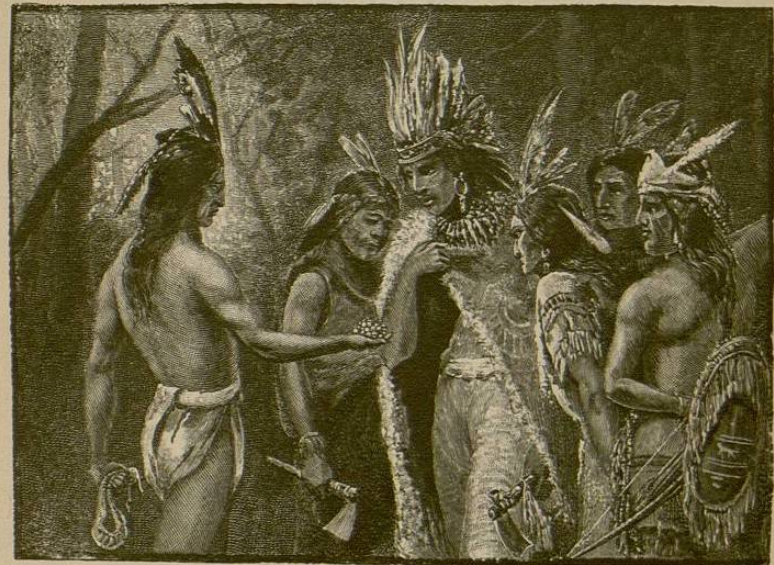
‡ This was Dec. 11, Old Style. In 1752, eleven days were added to correct an error in the calendar, thus making this date the 22d. Only 10 days should be allowed for 1620, and the correct date is the 21st, New Style. (Steele's New Astronomy, p. 269.)



Puritans Going to Church.

"Thanks be to God for winter time! That bore the Mayflower up,
To pour amid New England snows the treasures of its cup,
To fold them in its icy arms, those sturdy Pilgrim sires,
And weld an iron brotherhood around their Christmas fires."—B. F. TAYLOR.

by a voice in their village crying in broken English, "Welcome!" It was the salutation of Sam'o set, an Indian, whose chief, Mas'sa soit, soon after visited them. The treaty then made lasted for fifty years. Ca non'i cus, a Narragansett chief, once sent a bundle of arrows, wrapped in a rattlesnake skin, as a token of defiance. Governor Brad-



CANONCUS RECEIVING THE POWDER AND SHOT SENT BY GOVERNOR BRADFORD.

ford returned the skin filled with powder and shot. This significant hint was effectual.

The Progress of the Colony was slow. Their harvests were insufficient to feed themselves and the new-comers. During the "famine of 1623," the best dish they could set before their friends was a bit of fish and a cup of water.* After four years they numbered only 184. The plan of working in common having failed here as at Jamestown,

* As an illustration of their pious content, it is said that Elder Brewster was wont, over a meal consisting only of clams, to return thanks to God, who "had given them to suck the abundance of the seas, and of the treasures hid in the sands."

land was assigned to each settler. Abundance ensued. The colony was never organized by royal charter; therefore they elected their own governor and made their own laws. In 1692, Plymouth was united with Massachusetts Bay Colony, under the name of Massachusetts.

2. MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY.

Settlement.—John Endicott and five associates obtained a grant of land about Massachusetts Bay (1628). Having secured from King Charles I. a charter giving authority to make laws and govern the territory, the company afterward transferred all its rights to the colony. This was a popular measure, and many prominent Puritan families flocked to the land of liberty. Some gathered around Governor Endicott, who had already started Salem and Charlestown, some established colonies at Dorchester and Watertown, and some, under the new governor, Winthrop, founded Boston (1630).

Religious Disturbances.—The people of Massachusetts Bay, while in England, were Puritans, but not Separatists. Having come to America to establish a Puritan Church, they were unwilling to receive persons holding opinions differing from their own, lest their purpose should be defeated. They accordingly sent back to England those who persisted in using the forms of the Established Church, and allowed only members of their own church to vote in civil affairs.

Roger Williams, an eloquent and pious young minister, taught that each person should think for himself in all religious matters, and be responsible to his own conscience alone. He declared that the magistrates had, therefore, no right to punish blasphemy, perjury, or Sabbath-breaking. The clergy and magistrates were alarmed at what they considered a doctrine dangerous to the peace of the colony, and he was ordered (1636) to be sent to England. It was in the

depth of winter, yet he fled to the forest where he found refuge among the Indians. Canonicus, the Narragansett sachem, gave him land to found a settlement, which he gratefully named PROVIDENCE.

Mrs. Anne Hutchinson, during the same year, aroused a violent and bitter controversy. She claimed to be favored with special revelations of God's will. These she expounded to crowded congregations of women, greatly to the scandal of the clergy and people. Finally she, also, was banished.

The Quakers, about twenty years after these summary measures, created fresh trouble by their peculiar views. They were fined, whipped, imprisoned, and sent out of the colony; yet they as constantly returned, glorying in their sufferings. At last, four were executed. The people beginning to consider them as martyrs, the persecution gradually relaxed.

A Union of the Colonies of Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, New Haven, and Connecticut, was formed (1643) under the title of THE UNITED COLONIES OF NEW ENGLAND. This was a famous league in colonial times. The object was a common protection against the Indians, and the encroachments of the Dutch and French settlers.

King Philip's War.—During the life of Massasoit, Plymouth enjoyed peace with the Indians, as did Jamestown during that of Powhatan. After Massasoit's death, his son, Philip, brooded with a jealous eye over the encroachments of the whites. With profound sagacity, he planned a confederation of the Indian tribes against the intruders. The first blow fell on the people of Swansea, as they were quietly going home from church on Sunday (July 4, 1675). The settlers flew to arms, but Philip escaped, and soon excited the savages to fall upon the settlements high up the Connecticut valley.*

* At Hadley, the Indians surprised the people during a religious service. Seizing their muskets at the sound of the savage war-whoop, the men rushed out of the

The colonists fortified their houses with palisades, carried their arms with them into the fields when at work, and



EARLY MORNING ATTACK BY INDIANS.

stacked them at the door when at church. The Narragansett Indians favored Philip, and seemed on the point of joining

meeting-house to fall into line. But the foe was on every side. Confused and bewildered, the settlers seemed about to give way, when suddenly a strange old man with long white beard and ancient garb appeared among them. Ringing out a quick, sharp word of command, he recalled them to their senses. Following their mysterious leader, they drove the enemy headlong before them. The danger passed, they looked around for their deliverer. But he had disappeared as mysteriously as he had come. The good people believed that God had sent an angel to their rescue. But history reveals the secret. It was the regicide, Colonel Goffe. Fleeing from the vengeance of Charles II., with a price set upon his head, he had for years wandered about, living in mills, clefts of rocks, and forest caves. At last, he had found an asylum with the Hadley minister. From his window he had seen the stealthy Indians coming down the hill. Fired with desire to do one more good deed for God's people, he rushed from his hiding-place, led them on to victory, and then returned to his retreat, never more to reappear.—One learns with regret that recent research throws doubt over the truth of this thrilling story. It is curious to notice, also, that there is no proof that Philip possessed any eloquence or was even present in any fight, though all these statements have hitherto been made by reliable historians.

his alliance. They had gathered their winter's provisions, and fortified themselves in the midst of an almost inaccessible swamp. Fifteen hundred of the colonists accordingly attacked them in this stronghold. The Indian wigwams and supplies were burned, and one thousand warriors perished. In the spring, the war broke out anew along a frontier of three hundred miles, and to within twenty miles of Boston. Nowhere fighting in the open field, but by ambuscade and skulking, the Indians kept the whole country in terror. Driven to desperation by their atrocities, the settlers hunted down the savages like wild beasts. Philip was chased from one hiding-place to another. His family being captured at last, he fled, broken-hearted, to his old home on Mt. Hope, near Bristol, R. I., where he was shot by a faithless Indian.

★ **New England a Royal Province.**—The Navigation Act (p. 51), which we have seen so unpopular in Virginia, was exceedingly oppressive in Massachusetts, which possessed a thriving commerce. In spite of the decree, the colony opened a trade with the West Indies. The royalists in England determined that this bold republican spirit should be quelled. The colony, stoutly insisting upon its rights under the charter, resisted the officer sent over to enforce the Navigation Act and the authority of the king; whereupon, the charter was annulled, and Massachusetts made a ROYAL PROVINCE (1684). Charles II. died before his plan was completed, but James II. sent over Sir Edmund Andros, as first royal governor of New England (1686). He carried things with a high hand. The colonies endured his oppression for three years, when, learning that his royal master was de-throned,* they rose against their petty tyrant and put him in jail. With true Puritan sobriety, they then quietly resumed their old form of government. This, also, lasted for

* The "English Revolution of 1688." (See Barnes' General History, p. 510.)

three years, when Sir William Phipps came as royal governor over a province embracing Massachusetts, Maine, and Nova Scotia. From this time till the Revolution, Massachusetts remained a royal province.

Salem Witchcraft (1692).—A strange delusion known as the Salem witchcraft,* produced an intense excitement. The children of Mr. Parris, a minister near Salem, performed pranks which could be explained only by supposing that they were under Satanic influence. Every effort was made to discover who had bewitched them. An Indian servant was flogged until she admitted herself to be guilty. Soon, others were affected, and the terrible mania spread rapidly. Committees of examination were appointed and courts of trial convened. The most improbable stories were credited. To express a doubt of witchcraft, was to indicate one's own alliance with the evil spirit. Persons of the highest respectability, clergymen, magistrates, and even the governor's wife, were implicated. At last, after fifty-five persons had been tortured and twenty hanged, the people awoke to their folly.

III.—MAINE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE.

These Colonies were so intimately associated with Massachusetts that they have almost a common history. Gorges (gôr' jěz) and Mason, about two years after the landing of the

* A belief in witchcraft was at that time universal. Sir Matthew Hale, one of the most enlightened judges of England, repeatedly tried and condemned persons accused of witchcraft. Blackstone himself, at a later day, declared that to deny witchcraft was to deny Revelation. Cotton Mather, the most prominent minister of the colony, was active in the rooting out of this supposed crime. He published a book full of the most ridiculous witch stories. One judge, who engaged in this persecution, was afterward so deeply penitent that he observed a day of fasting in each year, and on the day of general fast rose in his place in the Old South Church at Boston, and in the presence of the congregation handed to the pulpit a written confession acknowledging his error and praying for forgiveness.

Pilgrims, obtained from the Council for New England the grant of a large tract of land which lay between the Merrimac and Kennebec rivers. They established some small fishing stations near Portsmouth and at Dover. This patent being afterward dissolved, Mason took the country lying west of the Piscataqua, and named it New Hampshire; Gorges took that lying east, and called it the province of Maine.* Massachusetts, however, claimed this territory, and, to secure it, paid about six thousand dollars to the heirs of Gorges. Maine was not separated from Massachusetts till 1820. The feeble settlements of New Hampshire also placed themselves under the protection of Massachusetts. "Three times, either by their own consent or by royal authority, they were joined in one colony and as often separated," until 1741, when New Hampshire finally became a distinct royal province and so remained until the Revolution.

IV.—CONNECTICUT.

Settlement.—About eleven years after the Pilgrims landed, Lord Say-and-Seal, Lord Brooke, and others, obtained from the Earl of Warwick a transfer of the grant of the Connecticut † valley, which he had secured from the Council for New England. The Dutch claimed the territory, and, before the English could take possession, built a fort at Hartford, and commenced traffic with the Indians. Some traders from Plymouth sailing up the river were stopped by the Dutch, who threatened to fire upon them. But they kept on and

* To distinguish it from the islands along the coast, this country had been called the Mayne (main) land, which perhaps gave rise to its present name. New Hampshire was so called from Hampshire in England, Mason's home. The settlers of New Hampshire were long vexed with suits brought by the men into whose hands Mason's grant had fallen.

† This State is named from its principal river—Connecticut being the Indian word for *Long River*.