

all kind of evils, both corporal and civil. It is not worth the while either to write or read what it was, all of it depending on the uncertain reports of some occasional spectators; but nothing unclean or filthy, like the heathen's feasts of Bacchus and Venus, was ever heard of amongst any of them. Their low and mean diet and fare, (being always accustomed to drink water,) not disposing them to any inordinacy in that kind, as used to be said of old, "Sine Baccho et Cerere friget Venus;"¹ i. e. ebriety and gluttony produces venery.^a

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CHAP. VIII.

Of the first planting of New-England, or any part thereof, by the English.

AFTER the expense of much treasure, time, and pains in the discovery of that part of America called Virginia, that lieth to the north of Florida, some eminent and worthy persons, (moved more by a religious zeal to propagate the gospel, and promote the glory of the English nation, than any emulation of their catholic neighbors of Spain,) entertained serious thoughts of planting colonies of their countrymen in that part of the new world. That vast country being found upon experience and trial too large to be moulded into one entire government, (the whole extending from 34 to 48 degrees of north latitude,) it was thought meet should be divided into a first and second colony, to which end patents were granted to sundry honorable persons of the famous cities of London, Bristol, [and] Exeter, and town of Plymouth, about the year 1606, soon after which time the name of New England began to be appropriated to the north colony by the renowned Prince of Wales, after captain Smith discovered the bounds thereof, as some say, about the year 1614; the other still retaining the first name, Virginia. This latter, by the fertility of the soil and commodiousness of the havens and rivers, giving greatest hopes of prosperity and success, was undertaken by those of London, whose adventures, difficulties,

¹ Terence, Eunuch. Act. IV. Sc. v. ver. 6.—H.

and present estate, those that desire may receive *present* satisfaction of, by the information of those who have for a long time been conversant in the country; the other by those of the west of England, whose endeavors were influenced chiefly by the interest and authority of the honorable patron of justice and virtue, Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice of England, who found both men and means to possess it, about the year 1606, and 1607, when a small colony was by him sent out for that end, for beside the first ship sent in 1606, two more were sent after them in the year 1607, and sometime after a third,* as saith Captain Smith, pag. 203. And then finding the situation of the place most commodious for fishing, (as having in sundry voyages made trial thereof,) intended to begin their first plantation about Monhiggin, an island not far distant from the mouth of a spacious river called Kenebecke, a place somewhere about the mouth whereof was then, and is still called Sacadehocke, and there was the first company that intended to begin a new colony in the north of America landed, about a hundred in all, Anno 1606 or 1607. The gentlemen that undertook the business had shaped in their minds the idea of a large and flourishing commonwealth, sending persons of quality to reside there as Commanders in Chief, as Capt. George Popham for President, Capt. Rawley Gilbert for Admiral, Capt. Edward Harlow for Master of the Ordnance, Capt. Robert Davis for Sergeant Major, and for Marshal, Capt. Ellis Best, and for Secretary, Mr. Seaman. Capt. James Davis was to be commander over the fort when it was built, Mr. Gome Carew was to be Searcher. All the forementioned gentlemen were to be of the Council, who with a hundred more as planters of the colony, were to stay in the country. By their endeavors was a foundation laid of a greater building than the adventurers ever found means to erect, the master builders too much imitating those, that laid out so much cost upon the gates, that they had not enough left to build a city proportionable thereunto. Experiences of this nature abundantly declare, that it is one thing, in an idea, to model the great affair of a commonwealth

and country, and another to bring materials and frame them together into a flourishing state; for the hopes of this new colony, that blossomed so early were soon nipped in the bud by the sharpness of a cold winter following, wherein they lost the President, an ominous accident, which, with other solemn occurrences, blasted all that which, with so great shew of prosperity was there newly planted, especially being attended with the unwelcome news of the removal by death of the main pillar of the fabric, Sir John Popham,^a happening together with the loss of Sir Johu Gilbert, whose brother, Capt. Rawley Gilbert, designed Admiral of this puny plantation, upon the first bruit thereof, hasted over to enjoy the inheritance of his deceased brother. And indeed the seasoning of a hard winter in that barren, rocky, and mountainous desert, so discouraged all the rest, that they took the first advantage of shipping that next came to return home for England the following year, viz. Anno 1608. All the fruit of this their expedition, during the long winter and the after time of their abode there, was building a bark, which afforded them some advantage in their return. Yet did Sir Francis Popham, son and heir of that noble patriot, his father, the chief author of the undertaking, not wholly give over the design, but did divers times afterwards send to the same coast for trade and fishing, to which purpose he had great opportunity, by the ships and provision of the company, that remained in his hands; as likewise did the Earl of South-hampton, and others of more public spirits, that employed Mr. Edward Harlow soon after,¹ to make further discovery of the southern parts of Cape Cod, where they resolved themselves that the said cape was no island, as was deemed before, but a part of the continent. In this enterprise they seized three of the savages, which, probably, were the three an old woman complained of afterwards to our neighbors of Plymouth, soon after the first planting of Patuxit, viz. in the year 1620;^b but one of them escaping, he enticed some of his consorts to take revenge of that unkindness, who cut away the boat from the stern of the ship, which they so guarded with their

¹ In 1611, says Prince, p. 126.—H.

bows and arrows, that the sailors were not able to get it again. At another place, they with two or three more, so filled their fellow Indians with a spirit of revenge, that they welcomed the English into the next harbor they entered with such a shower of arrows, that they were glad to betake themselves to their artillery, to keep off the savages. At one of the islands at Cape Cod, (by Capt. Smith called || Nohono ||) they took in that voyage an Indian called Sakaweston, who, after he had lived divers years in England, went a soldier into the wars of Bohemia, as saith Capt. Smith. Thus the said Harlow returned for England with five of the savages, some of which they detained so long in England that they began to learn our language, and were able to inform our merchants sundry things concerning their country, which inspired them with a fresh resolution to attempt another plantation in the place formerly deserted, but with not much better success; for Capt. Smith having endeavored to settle a plantation upon James River in Virginia, was not unwilling to set the design afloat for New England a second time. For such an end he was sent with two ships to take a farther view of the country, Anno 1614^a, at the charge of Capt. Marmaduke Royden, and the others, viz. Mr. Langham, ||^bBuley, Skelton,|| and others, to make some further experiment of the commodities of the country, both by sea and land, in the waters of one to kill whales, in the bowels of the other to search for mines; but their best refuge was their common fishing and ordinary furs, those places use most to abound withal. Captain Smith returned the same year for England, well laden with furs, train oil, and core fish, and his mind as full fraught with hopes of great advantage the next return; but, as the wise man saith, "riches are not always to men of understanding, nor favor or prosperity to men of skill, for time and chance happeneth to them all."¹ When the said Smith returned for England,² he left one Thomas Hunt master of the bigger vessel, with order to sail directly, with the fish he made upon the coast, for Malaga, but he, like a wicked varlet, having gotten twenty-four of

| Nohone |

|^b Buley Skelton |¹ Ecclesiastes ix. 11.—R.² July 18th.—R

the natives aboard his ship, from Patuxit, (who, in confidence of his honesty, had thus innocently put themselves into his hands,) clapped them under hatches, with intent to sell them for slaves amongst the Spaniards; but they not permitting him to make sale of the poor wretches in any of their ports,¹ some of them found means to escape back to their own country: but in the year following, some that had conceived better hopes of good that might ensue by prosecuting the former honorable and pious work, having dispatched Capt. Hobson from the Isle of Wight, with some others, to make a farther attempt for planting the country, they carried with them two of the aforesaid natives to facilitate the work. These, contrary to expectation, find their design as good as overthrown, before it was well begun, by that treacherous practice of Hunt: for, the two natives coming ashore, and understanding what had befallen their countrymen in their absence, contracted such a hatred against the whole nation, that they studied nothing but how to be revenged of them; contriving secretly with their friends how to bring it to pass, which no doubt they might easily have done, had not one of them, Manowet by name, been taken away by death soon after the ship's arrival there: but the other, called Epenow, observing the good order and strong guard the people kept, studied only for the present how to free himself from the Englishmen's hands; and laid his plot so cunningly that he effected his purpose; although with so great hazard to himself and those his friends, who labored his rescue, that the Captain and his company imagined he had been slain. Their design, not being well compassed, wrought the slaughter of some of their own people, as well as the hurt of some of the English, as appeared afterwards. ||The|| company, together with Capt. Hobson, looking upon the end of their attempt as wholly frustrate by ||^athis|| cross accident, resolved, without more ado, to return home, carrying back nothing with them but the news of their bad success. And a war now began between the inhabitants of these parts and the English. Thus was this little spark of their hopes, raked up in the embers of those long and

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¹ First written, *parts*.—H.

tedious delays, by this misfortune almost quite extinguished. But this is not all, for another occurrent fell in here, which was as disastrous in a manner as the former. The company of New England had, in the return of the year 1615, found means likewise to set out Capt. Smith, with Mr. Darmer, Rocraft and others, with a ship from Plymouth; either to lay the foundation of a new plantation, or strengthen and second that of Capt. Hobson; but they being scarce free of the English coast, were suddenly attacked by a violent storm, shaking his mast overboard, which forced him back into the harbor, where the undertakers furnishing them with another ship, they put to sea a second time; but after they got to the height of the Western Islands, they were chased by a French^t pirate, who took them prisoners, and detained them so long that their voyage was wholly overthrown; nor do we find that ever Capt. Smith had an opportunity in his own person afterwards to visit these coasts of New England, though his inclination and purpose ran strongly that way. However, Capt. Darmer, meeting with some one or more of those natives transported by Hunt, and encouraged by Capt. Mason, at that time Governor of Newfoundland, carried them to Plymouth, from whence he was sent again to New England, where, about the year 1619, by his prudence and great diligence, he procured a peace between our men and the savages of the place, that had been so much exasperated against them by the wrongs formerly received. This industrious and prudent gentleman, having spent almost two years in searching the coast between New England and Virginia, the fruit of whose labors and hazards many others have since reaped, was at the last, in his return to Virginia, set upon by some malicious savages in some parts beyond Cape Cod, from whom he receiving fourteen or fifteen wounds, upon which occasion, retiring to Virginia, he there ended his days, about the year 1621. What expeditions were made by the English, or attempts to plant any part of the country between the year 1614 and 1620, may be seen more at large in Purchas, fol. 1778, and in Capt. Smith's General History of New England,

lib. 6, pag. 228 & 229 ; as likewise in a Script, published [in] 1622, in the name of the Governor and Company of New England. But they being, at the best, matters very inconsiderable and of small consequence, relating to the plantations that followed after that time, it is judged not worth the while to transcribe out of those imperfect relations any other particulars about those transactions, which may well be looked upon rather as dead and superfluous branches of the body of the following history, than any thing likely to confer much delight to the reader, or benefit to the compiler thereof.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Plantation at Patuxit, or New Plymouth, in the year 1620, with the occasions that led thereunto.

THE fore mentioned discoveries of the north parts of Virginia, being bruited abroad amongst the western country of Europe, no doubt filled the minds of many with expectations of famous plantations likely ere long to be erected in those parts of the new world: "Est enim natura hominum novitatis avida:" or, whether some divine virtue had inspired them with a desire of being instruments to promote some higher ends than ever as yet had been brought to light—all former attempts for planting those parts being vanished away, or like to come to little, about this time a strange impression was left upon the minds of some religious and well affected persons of the English nation, sojourning in a foreign country, that some place in that remote region might be found out far more convenient for their purpose, that seemed studious for reformation, than hitherto they elsewhere either had, or were like to attain unto, under the wings of a foreign state. Which consideration, for as much as it gave the first rise to the flourishing plantations of New England, since erected, we shall, in the first place, take a little notice of the occasion that led thereunto.

Notwithstanding the bright and clear rays of the Gospel light, that began to dawn and diffuse themselves