

enjoy; we rejoice in the fact that wherever the flag of Britain waves, there are freedom and free institutions; but it should be remembered what that liberty cost, and we should guard it well, that it may not be taken from us, as it was wrested from our forefathers.

"Wherever Britain's sons do roam,  
There's found a pledge of Freedom's home!"

But that freedom was not given willingly; and there are those in high places yet, who have no sympathy with the struggles for liberty that took place in the fatherland, and who would take away the privileges the people enjoy, if they only saw their way clear to do so.

King James was no lover of liberty. The Puritans of England, and those who had no desire to persecute them for their efforts to reform the Church, gave him a hearty welcome, as he came from his native land to ascend the throne of Elizabeth. They expected, and with good reason, that his Scottish education was a guarantee that he would not persecute in England those whose opinions were somewhat in accordance with the opinions maintained by his countrymen. The great body of Puritans still cling to the Establishment, hoping for reforms that could never come so long as there was a union of Church and State. And they go forth to meet their King, with the "millenary petition," or the petition of the thousand ministers, in which the King is informed that they (the ministers) "groan under the burden of human rites and ceremonies, and cast themselves at his Majesty's feet for relief. James gave them a friendly reception, and the celebrated Conference of Hampton Court followed their prayer, which Conference ended in the unfriendly declaration by the King, "I will *make* them conform, or I will harrie them out of the land, or else do worse." And the Millenarians went to their homes and their churches, "groaning under the burden;" and the greater part of them resolved to groan as they had done before, and conform as they were required. Their Puritanism was not of a cast strong enough to induce them to burst asunder the shackles that bound them to forms and ceremonies which they did not believe to be in accordance with the word of God.

King James has none of those qualities that gave a halo of glory to the reign of Elizabeth, in spite of her cruelties and imperfections. England sinks in the scale of greatness; and while De Monts is getting ready his expedition to found French settlements in the new world, James is occupying his time with the settlement of the wars in which England is engaged, and attempting to crush out that liberty of thought of which we boast so much at the present day. There is one redeeming feature in the reign of James I. that rescues his name from oblivion, and that one act will make his name live in coming ages, viz., the appointment of the commission by which the Bible was translated and given to us in the version we now have.

In matters ecclesiastical, King James was as good as his word, and entered heartily upon the work of "making" everybody conform to the Establishment, and he set about the work of "harrying out of the land" all who would not conform, and the cities of Europe became places of refuge for some of the best of England's sons and daughters. The little church at Gainsborough, gathered in the year before Elizabeth's death, was soon brought to a termination, and most of its members "harried out of the land," as he had said. And Independency appears to be banished from the mother country a second time.

We have already noticed the result of the Popham expedition to America, and the failure to plant upon our northern shores a penal settlement such as