

II. THE OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES

Connecticut was an offshoot from Massachusetts, and her institutions were like those of the parent colony, not so much by reason of imitation as by reason of the operation of similar causes.¹ The founders of Connecticut were men of the same kind as the founders of Massachusetts Bay. In respect to education, the daughter followed the mother, but not with equal steps. Schools were established both at Hartford and New Haven almost at the birth of the two colonies, and after the union, in 1662, there was a single school system. From this time there was a continuous educational development in the colony.

Connecticut was exceedingly prolific of school laws; important legislation was had in 1672, 1690, and 1750. By the time that the statutes of the Commonwealth were revised in 1750, the schools were tending slowly downward, owing to the operation of causes similar to those already met with in Massachusetts. Here we encounter again the tendency to disintegration, whereby schools were multiplied and weakened. In 1766 towns and societies were authorized to divide themselves into proper and necessary districts for keeping their schools, every one with its own share of the public money. "By the

¹ An elaborate History of Education in Connecticut from the earliest times to 1854 is found in Barnard, *The American Journal of Education*, Vol. IV., pp. 657-710; Vol. V., pp. 115-154; Vol. XIII., 725-736; Vol. XIV., pp. 244-275, 276-331. To these may be added the article on "Henry Barnard," Vol. I., pp. 659-738. For the History of the Connecticut Common School Fund, see Barnard, *The American Journal of Education*, Vol. VI., pp. 367-424.