

limited that its further reduction would be viewed, by those who feel an interest in the support of established governments, with greater alarm than its extension, has, in this point, never been contested, and is founded upon, as well as sanctioned by the law and practice of nations. Under this branch of the prerogative, more has been done towards extending British institutions, laws, and language, than conquests could have effected; boundless forests have been transformed into cultivated countries; solitary wastes have been filled with population; and the settled and social habits of civilized life have been substituted for the wild and wandering condition of the savage.

In 1670, the King of Great Britain by Grant or Charter, established a new colony or plantation as had frequently been done by his predecessors in the case of several of the colonies, now part of the United States of America. This Grant was made in favour of Prince Rupert, the Duke of Albemarle, the Earl of Craven, the Lords Arlington, Ashley, and many others, who with their successors, were, by the Charter, constituted a Company, by the name of the "*Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay.*" The Territory comprehended in this grant to the company, and their successors, was, by the Charter, declared to be one of his Majesty's Colonies or Plantations in America, to be called "Rupert's Land." This Charter is drawn with greater care and accuracy than those by which many of the other colonies in America were established; probably from the high interest felt in the exalted characters in whose favour it was obtained. By this grant, which establishes a separate government, all the inferior regalities and