

desire of grasping at more than we can enjoy is a common failing of our natures, and equally the foible of the prince and the people."

The result of this diversity of opinion, relative to the union of the colonies was that when they were obliged to fight against the French in the well known campaign of 1755-6 some colonies contributed money, some men, some nothing and great confusion thus ensued. (24) In 1757, while a military council was attempting to settle the proportion of the respective colonies (25) Spencer Phipps, commander-in-chief of Massachusetts, died, and his place was taken by one who is closely connected for some time with the welfare of these northern colonies. The former private secretary to the Governor of New York, and later Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey, Thomas Pownall was well acquainted with the conditions of the colonial situation. (26) His brother John was at this time one of the secretaries of the Board of Trade, and a man of great influence. (27) Thomas Pownall promptly "entered into the cause with spirit" (28) and in the next year went over to England to solicit reinforcements for the troops, and, in short, adopted the cause of the colonies for his own. On his return to America, he began collecting the material for his well known book, "The Administration of the Colonies" of which only an outline need be given. To quote his own words he wrote this book to "determine how far the American colonies are to be governed by the vigour of external principles, by the supreme superintending power of the mother country, and how far by the vigour of the internal principles of their own peculiar body politic; and what ought to be the mode of administration by which they are to be governed in their legislative executive, judicial and commercial departments." His situation, when he wrote this book was that of one "unconnected with the politics of the ministry or of the colonies." (29) thereby he gave an impartial uninfluenced opinion. Nature had confined the produce of the colonies to "certain supplies, but their wants extended beyond what they could produce at home, hence the necessity for interchange of produce." This he refers to as the one general composite interest. The political state, on the other hand, where

(24) Minot Vol. I, 235 et seq.

(25) Holmes, American Annals II, (Cambridge, 1808).

(26) Minot Vol. II.

(27) N. Y. Col. Docs. and Gentleman's Magazine 1745.

(28) Minot Vol. II.

(29) All the quotations here given are from Pownall, Administration of the Colonies, Fourth Edition, London, 1773.