

Cromwell. His political career then was short-lived, as the king abruptly dissolved the parliament; and in the interval, during the twelve years that Charles governed without a parliament, we find him brooding over the wrongs of the nation; and at St. Ives, by his prayers and exhortations, sowing the seeds that ripens into that immortal phalanx of "Ironsides" which was never known to run before the foe, and was never beaten in battle.

Descended from the same Welsh stock as Cromwell, we have the family of Vane, of both Welsh and English origin, one of whom (Sir Harry Vane, the principal Secretary of State) had a son named after himself, Harry, known in history as Vane the Younger. Vane was a pious youth; but on his return from Geneva and Leyden, Clarendon says he refused to partake of the sacrament, for the reason that he would not receive it in a kneeling posture. His father procured him the honor of knighthood when he was not more than twenty years of age; but because of the tyranny of both church and state, he bade adieu to his native land and followed the Puritans to America. His first experience was not very pleasing. The cavaliers and church party of that day wore long hair streaming down over their shoulders; the Puritans wore their hair comparatively short, but not so short as it is worn at the present day. This accounts for that passage in "Paradise Lost," in which Milton represents Adam as coming forth perfect from the creative hand of his Maker, his hair unlike that of the Cavaliers—

"His fair large front and eye sublime declared
Absolute rule, and hyacinthine locks
Round from his parted forelock manly hung,
But not beneath his shoulders broad."

The Puritan exiles with whom Vane set sail gave him but little countenance on the way, because of his long hair. After his arrival at Boston, he became a member of the Congregational Church of which Mr. Cotton was pastor, and in 1636, notwithstanding his youth, was elected Governor of the Colony, but soon made himself unpopular. Some English captains complained that the king's colors were not displayed in Boston, and Vane referred the matter to the magistrates, a majority of whom would not consent that a flag "on which was the idolatrous Papal cross" should float over Puritan soil; upon which, by his authority as governor, he hoisted the flag upon the fort with his own hands. This led to the commencement of a hostility to Vane that culminated in the election of Winthrop as Governor. The Boston people then elected Vane to the "General Court," where he distinguished himself in advocating principles of religious toleration as far in advance as any thing that has ever been adopted by the English nation to the present time. Impatient of success, and not being able to persuade the legislators of Massachusetts to adopt his views in all their fulness, Vane settled up his affairs, made a present of his property to Mr. Cotton (to whom he was very much attached, and whose views of religious freedom were in accordance with his own), and set sail for old England. Vane always remained a firm friend of Massachusetts, and his name was long held in veneration by the people of Boston. Vane assisted Mr. Cotton to draw up "the Abstract of the Laws of New England," and, in the time of the Protectorate, which he endeavored to overthrow, he recommended a course for England similar to that adopted by the old Colonies more than a century later.

In the celebrated Long Parliament, which commenced its sittings in 1640, Vane early distinguished himself. It is recorded that he was **THE FIRST** to avow on the floors of the House of Commons the great principles of religious