

water, and laboured zealously to vindicate that authority as a principle, while limiting its action to large and special occasions.

In a word, he was one of the first, if not the very first, to set clearly before him as the end and aim of true Imperial politics, the relation which now exists between the Motherland and her Colonies.

Mr. Hutchinson proposed (1754) that there should be three Provinces—

- 1st. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.
- 2nd. New York and Virginia.
- 3rd. The Southern Colonies.

With such a division he thought a scheme for broader unions feasible, possible, desirous. On February 18th, 1770, he wrote: "In settling the several parts of the plan, occasion may be taken to reform the constitution of the several Governments of which the general Government shall consist and to ascertain the general authority of Parliament over the whole. In his scheme each Colonial member within its own limits administers itself quite unvexed by interference from the Motherland; none the less, each Colonial member concedes to the power at home a precedence, indeed, a supremacy. In all ordinary times and affairs the Parliament, so far as the Colonies are concerned, is silent and unfelt."

This is all presented clearly in the following letter:—

"I differ in my principles from the present leaders of the people. . . . I think that by the constitution of the Colonies the Parliament has a supreme authority over them. I have, nevertheless, always been an advocate for as large a power of legislation within each Colony as can consist with a supreme control. I have declared against a forcible opposition to the execution of Acts of Parliament which have laid taxes on the people of America; I have notwithstanding ever wished that such Acts might not be made as the Stamp Act in particular. I have done everything in my power that they might be repealed. I do not see how the people in the Colonies can enjoy every liberty which the people in England enjoy, because in England every man may be represented in Parliament, the supreme authority over the whole; but in the Colonies, the people, I conceive, cannot have representatives in Parliament to any advantage. It gives me pain when I think it must be so. I wish also that we may enjoy every privilege of an Englishman which our remote situation will admit of. These are sentiments which I have without reserve declared among my private friends, in my speeches, in my messages to the General Court, in my correspondence with the Minister of State, and I have published them to the world in my history."

This is the high claim of Hutchinson—that he clearly saw that