

free institutions, the recognition of civil and religious liberty, the beginning of our representative government, the introduction of the English Church and Christianity, the settlement of the underlying principles on which the appeal to arms of our fathers was made at the revolution, the introduction of the common law, the recognition of personal liberty protected by law, the immunitiy of the government to the governed, the provision for popular education, — all these institutional ideas, all these fundamental principles of our government, were made part and parcel of our colonial, our American life — in fact, all these principles were determined, established, set forth in the charters, in the assemblies, and in the practice of Virginia's experience, long before the landing of the Pilgrim fathers at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Consequently in studying the Genesis of our country, our liberty, civil and religious, our constitution, our personal rights, and chartered privileges, we must turn to the story of the early Virginia settlements and find there the source and spring of our being. The point I have made in this address — our low connection with Virginia during the very decade of 1606-1616, of our nation-making, though overlooked before, is a matter for state pride. Our genesis is that of the first discovery of the continent — of the first explorations, of the first colonization, of the first eventful attempts at nation-making. Since this decade of formid and successful founding there may have been many a contribution from many peoples, and from many lands, but here was the starting point of our present greatness, and that starting point, as well as years of subsequent care and helpful training, we owe to the mother land. Blood is thicker than water. The race peculiarities and affinities "will not out," and in the time to come the race of which we are worthy representatives shall rule the world: — America, the Western hemisphere, England, with America, the Eastern hemisphere. If this is unpatriotic it is historic truth, and it is the patriotism of our fathers, who, for more than three centuries maintained, at the cost of blood and treasure, the rights of the English speaking race to the mainland of the northern continent, to the territory now possessed and occupied by the United States, against the claims of the Latin peoples, French, and Spanish, and the faith of the Church of Rome, which