

knowledge of the mother country; and all being offsets from Massachusetts whose form of government they adopted as a model.

Although the American colonists were at all times proud of their origin, and cherished an affectionate remembrance for the mother country, still it could not but be expected that an interest and feeling far different from those of mere Englishmen would arise in this their new home. Their remains of friends and relatives were soon to render the soil of New England sacred in the eyes of the settlers; and by the succeeding generations it was revered as the land of their nativity. "As a son leaving the house of his father for his own, finds by the order of nature, and the very law of his being, nearer and dearer objects around which his affections circle, while his attachment to the parental roof becomes moderated, by degrees, to a composed regard, and affectionate remembrance; so these people leaving their native land, not without some violence to the feelings of nature and affection, yet, in time, found in their new homes a new circle of engagements, interests and affections, a feeling which more and more encroached upon the old, till an undivided sentiment that *this was their country* occupied the heart; and patriotism, shutting out from its embraces the parent realm, became local to America."

We have seen that by the end of the first century New England had laid, deep and strong, the foundations of her society; and her public Schools and Colleges were diffusing widely the elements of knowledge. An author who wrote near the close of this century, says, "New England is almost deserving that noble name, so mightily hath it increased, and from a small settlement at first, is now become a very populous and flourishing government." With the exception of Georgia and Florida, the continental colonies were now firmly established, consisting of Massachusetts, (including Plymouth and Maine,) Rhode Island, (embracing Providence,) Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and the two Carolinas, and contained about 250,000 inhabitants.

In 1692 Sir William Phipps arrived with a new charter to