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landed at a place in the wilderness which he called, as a pious memento of the goodness of God toward him and his fellow exiles, *Providence*, affirming in the fulness of his heart, " I desired it might be for shelter for persons distressed in conscience." This happened in June, 1636, and was the beginning of the colony of Rhode Island. As it was a love of religious free-dom which led to the settlement of the colony, so it has ever continued to be distinguished by this excel-lent trait of the Christian character.

From the colony of Massachusetts, Connecticut received its first emigrants ; and, in 1661, under the government of the estimable Winthrop, the new settle-ments of Hartford and New-Haven, hitherto indepen-dent of each other, became united under one charter —a charter which guarantied to them the rights of conscience and the blessings of civil liberty. As the settlers of this part of the country were the like hardy sons of the puritans with those who built up the co-lonies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, so they es-tablished for themselves similar regulations in respect to religion and morals, distinguished by a rigid ad-herence to the Scriptures, as interpreted and applied by the Congregationalists. Though less severe to-ward other sectarists than their elder brethren, yet they were exclusive in their views of church order and discipline, and so remained even after the tree of liberty had succeeded the pillar of royalty.

As early as 1615, six years after Hudson entered the noble river which bears his name, a settlement was begun by the Dutch on Manhattan Island, (now New-York,) and probably in the same year at Albany. The political and religious disputes with which the

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