

CHAPTER II

NEW SCOTLAND'S BEGINNINGS

It is a fact worth emphasis, but too little considered, that New Scotland sprang, as it were, direct from the loins of Old Scotland, and that both Old and New England looked on as non-agents passively.

To-day of the Provinces which make up the Dominion of Canada, New Scotland is the only one boasting a flag of its own, owing nothing in its composition to either the flag of England or that of France. Here one may see unfurled a white flag with a blue St. Andrew's Cross (saltier) dividing the "field" in four, while in the centre is the double-tressured lion of Scotland, the ruddy lion rampant in gold. This is the flag of New Scotland, and these were the arms of Sir William Alexander, to this day figuring in part of the arms of the Baronets of Nova Scotia, to which famed order Sir Arthur Wardour, one remembers, was proud to owe allegiance.

When to Sir William Alexander the grant was made by James VI. of Scotland of lands lying between New England and Newfoundland, "to be holden of us *from our Kingdom of Scotland as a part thereof*."¹ On the 29th September, 1621, the Charter passed under the Great Seal. Sir William Alexander was appointed hereditary

¹ *Sir William Alexander and the Scottish attempt to colonise Acadia*, by the Rev. George Patterson, D.D.