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SETTLEMENTS IN AMERICA. 13

the general name of Virginia, the one was called the South Virginia, and the other the North Virginia Company.

The first zeal soon abated, and there appeared to be more jealousy than emulation between the two companies. Though they had been favoured with the first lottery that ever was drawn in England, their progress was so slow, that in 1614 there were not above four hundred persons in both settlements. That sort of competency which was sufficient for the simplicity of the manners of the times, was then so general in England, that no one was tempted to go abroad by the prospect of a fortune. It is a sense of misfortune, still more than the thirst of riches, that gives men a dislike to their native country. Nothing less than an extraordinary ferment could then have peopled even an excellent country. This was at length brought about by superstition, and excited by the collision of religious opinions.

2. *The continent of America is peopled by the religious wars that disturb England.*

THE first priests of the Britons were the Druids, so famous in the annals of Gaul. To throw a mysterious veil upon the ceremonies of a savage worship, their rites were never performed but in dark recesses, and ge-