

Archbishop Laud to read the same in time of public worship, with all his other innovations; and doubtless, would, had they remained, have been excluded from their livings.

On May 28th 1629, the Company at London write to Gov. Endicott at Naumkeag, at much length and detail, making request for the Rev. Mr. White "that attention may be shown to a number of *passengers in the Lyons Whelpe, from the Counties of Dorset and Somerset; that WILLIAM DODGE, a skilful husbandman may have ye charge of ye teame of horses: that Hugh Tillie and William Edes may serve Sir. Richard Saltonstall: that Francis Webb may have encouragement in setting up a Mill: and that all persons sent over by the same clergyman may be in the employment of the Company.*"

The earnest men who made this primitive record, however careful in all other respects, left out the birth-place or last English home of each colonist. This fact was important then, for they were mostly men of property and social position, while some were Barons. The population of England, then, was small: estimated from Taxes (for no legal Census had ever been taken) at about Three Million souls. A Register of each Colonist, and his place of birth or last home in England, would have been so easy, that its neglect is noteworthy; while the minutest detail of their outfit is carefully put on record: and, specially, inasmuch, as the Home Company as well as the colonists themselves, acted throughout in the apparent conviction that the Planters, sailing by this Fleet, embarked for life—to found an enduring Colony in remote America—never to return, and only to correspond by occasional ship; and these Colonists were, in their eyes, the Elect of all England.

Not only would such Register have furnished their Posterity with the missing links to their ancestral home and pedigree, saving much labor and misty tradition; but it would have completed a substantial report of the labor and efficient service of the officers, with the strength and influence of the Company in all the Kingdom, to their "Freemen of General Court": or as we should now call them, the general body of Stockholders, their only constituents, to whom they were by charter obliged to report: while there is no evidence of any need or intent to hide the complete list of names and origin of the Colonists from pursuit of Star Chamber or other Court, such as checked (with so little wisdom) the intended flight, in their youth, of Hampden and Cromwell in later years; and, besides, among these Colonists were some of the Patentees.