

classical as well as theological education. These facts would not have been mentioned with such minuteness were it not that they offered him the means of being useful at a future crisis, when all the energy of the human mind is required to sustain us in the most arduous and fearful contest that any nation ever had to struggle with, to break the fetters of despotism.

"On his return from London he was chosen by the vestry rector of a parish church in his native county of Gloucester, where he regularly officiated until the year 1769, when he removed to the county of Frederick, in Virginia, among a people at that time rude and unpolished.

"Here he continued his pastoral functions, preaching in such places as could be procured, there being few or no churches then erected on this comparatively new and thinly settled country.

"Shortly after his removal to Frederick he was followed by other wealthy families from Gloucester, and others of the lower counties of Virginia, who by their superior education and refinement contributed to soften and polish the rough manners that characterized those people before their introduction among them. The writer well remembers hearing Parson Thruston speak of a few great landed proprietors who lorded it over the people when he first moved to Frederick, with a most arbitrary sway, until they found a check in the more educated emigrants of the lower counties, whose wealth and influence furnished a counter poise to the power of these petty tyrants.

"Parson Thruston continued in the practice of his profession until the period of the commencement of hostilities, when, animated by the liveliest zeal, he gave himself up chiefly to public concerns. He had been among the most prominent in repelling the