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perhaps as the King of England ever granted to any subject.

Government was administered in this form until 1652. when the inhabitants submitted to the Massachusetts, who, by a new construction of their charter which was given to Roswell and others, in 1628, claimed the soil and jurisdiction of the Province of Main as far as the middle of Casco Bay. Main then first took the name of Yorkshire; and county courts were held in the manner they were in Massachusetts, and the towns had liberty to send their deputies to the general court at Boston.

This country, from its first settlement, has been greatly harassed by the Indians. In 1675, all the settlements were in a manner broken up and destroyed. From about 1692 until about 1702, was one continued scene of killing, burning and destroying. The inhabitants suffered much for several years preceding and following the year 1724. And so late as 1744 and 1748, persons were killed and captivated by the Indians in many of the towns next the sea. Since this period, the inhabitants have lived in peace.

RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

Length ^{miles.} 68 } between { 3° and 4° East Longitude.
Breadth 40 } { 41° and 42° North Latitude.

BOUNDED North and East, by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; South, by the Atlantick; West, by Connecticut.

Civil Divisions and Population.] This state is divided into five counties, which are subdivided into thirty townships, as follows :

Counties.	Townships.	No. of inhabit.	The diminution of inhabitants in the state in nine years, 1774. In Newport, 3679, almost half the whole number. Some towns have gained 389. The number of inhabitants in Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations was, in the year
Newport,	Newport,	6716	1774 { 54,435 Whites. 5,243 Blacks.
	Portsmouth,	1560	
	Jamestown,	507	
	Middletown,	840	
	Tiverton,	2453	
	Little Compton,	1542	
	New Shoreham,	682	
Washington,	Westerly,	2298	1790 { 67,877 Whites. 948 Slaves.
	North Kingston,	2907	
	South Kingston,	4131	
	Charlestown,	2022	
	Exeter,	2495	
	Richmond,	1760	
	Hopkinton,	2462	
Kent,	Warwick,	2493	1761 { 35,939 Whites. 4,697 Blacks.
	E. Greenwich,	1824	
	W. Greenwich,	2054	
	Coventry,	2477	
Providence,	Providence,	6380	1748 { 29,755 Whites. 4,373 Blacks.
	Smithfield,	3171	
	Scituate,	2315	
	Gloucester,	4025	
	Cumberland,	1964	
	Cranston,	1877	
	Johnston,	1320	
	N. Providence,	1071	
	Foster,	2268	
Bristol,	Bristol,	1406	1730 { 15,302 Whites. 2,633 Blacks.
	Warren,	1122	
	Barrington,	683	
Total, five.	Thirty.	68,825	

The inhabitants are chiefly of English extraction. The original settlers migrated from Massachusetts.

Bays and Islands.] Narraganset Bay makes up from south to north, between the main land on the east

east and west. It embosoms many fertile islands, the principal of which are Rhode-Island, Canonicut, Prudence, Patience, Hope, Dyer's and Hog islands.

Rhode-Island is thirteen miles long from north to south, and four miles wide, and is divided into three townships, Newport, Portsmouth, and Middletown. It is a noted resort for invalids from southern climates. The island is exceedingly pleasant and healthful ; and is celebrated for its fine women. Travellers, with propriety, call it the *Eden* of America. It suffered much by the late war. Some of its most ornamental country seats were destroyed, and their fine groves, orchards, and fruit trees wantonly cut down. The soil is of a superior quality.

Rivers.] Providence and Taunton rivers both fall into Narraganset Bay ; the former is navigable as far as Providence, thirty miles from the sea ; the latter is navigable for small vessels to Taunton.

Climate.] Rhode-Island is as healthful a country as any part of North-America. The winters, in the maritime parts of the state, are milder than in the inland country ; the air being softened by a sea vapour, which also enriches the soil. The summers are delightful, especially on Rhode-Island, where the extreme heats, which prevail in other parts of America, are allayed by cool and refreshing breezes from the sea.

Soil and Productions.] This state, generally speaking, is a country for pasture, and not for grain. It however produces corn, rye, barley, oats and flax, and culinary plants and roots in great variety and abundance. Its natural growth is the same as in the other New-England states. The western and north-western parts of the state are but thinly inhabited, and are more barren and rocky. In the Narraganset country the land is fine for grazing. The people are generally farmers, and raise great numbers of the finest and largest neat cattle in America ; some of them weighing from 16 to 1800 weight. They keep large dairies, and make butter and cheese of the best quality, and in large quantities for exportation. Narraganset is famed for

an excellent breed of pacing horses. They are strong, and remarkable for their speed, and for their excellency in enduring the fatigues of a long journey.

The present exports from the state, are flax-seed, butter, beef, pork, gin, cotton and linen goods, lumber, horses, cattle, fish, poultry, onions, cheese and barley. The imports, consisting of European and West-India goods, and logwood from the Bay of Honduras, exceed the exports. About 600 vessels enter and clear annually at the different ports in this state.

Chief Towns.] Newport and Providence are the two principal towns in the state. Newport lies in lat. $41^{\circ} 35'$. Its harbour, which is one of the finest in the world, spreads westward before the town. The entrance is easy and safe, and a large fleet may anchor in it, and ride in perfect security. The town lies north and south upon a gradual ascent as you proceed eastward from the water, and exhibits a beautiful view from the harbour, and from the neighbouring hills which lie westward upon the Main. Newport contains about 1000 houses, built chiefly of wood, and 6716 inhabitants. It has nine houses for publick worship: Three for the Baptists, two for Congregationalists, one for Episcopalians, one for Quakers, one for Moravians, and a synagogue for the Jews. The other publick buildings are, a state-house, and an edifice for the publick library. The situation, form and architecture of the state-house, give it the preference to most publick buildings in America. It stands sufficiently elevated, and a long wharf and paved parade lead up to it from the harbour.

Providence is situated on Providence river, about thirty miles northwest of Newport, in latitude $41^{\circ} 51'$ north. It is at present by far the most flourishing town in the state. It contains upwards of 700 houses, and 6380 inhabitants. Its publick buildings are, a college, an elegant church for Baptists, two for Congregationalists, besides others for other denominations. This town carries on a large foreign trade, and an extensive and gainful traffick with the surrounding coun-

try. The town is situated on both sides of the river, and is connected by a commodious bridge. There are, belonging to the port of this town, 129 sea vessels, containing 11,943 tons.

Fishes.] In the rivers and bays are plenty of fish, to the amount of more than seventy different kinds, so that in the seasons of fish, the markets are alive with them. Travellers are agreed that Newport furnishes the best fish market in the world.

Religion.] The constitution of the state admits of no religious establishments, any further than depends upon the voluntary choice of individuals. All men professing one Supreme Being, are equally protected by the laws, and no particular sect can claim pre-eminence. This unlimited liberty in religion, is one principal cause why there is such a variety of religious sects in Rhode-Island. The Baptists are the most numerous of any denomination in the state. They, as well as the other Baptists in New-England, are chiefly upon the Calvinistick plan as to doctrines, and independents in regard to church government. The Baptists in general refuse to communicate with other denominations; for they hold that immersion is necessary to baptism, and that baptism is necessary to communion. Therefore they suppose it inconsistent for them to admit unbaptised persons (as others are in their view) to join with them in this ordinance.

The other religious denominations in Rhode-Island are Congregationalists, Friends or Quakers, Episcopalians, Moravians, and Jews. Besides these, there is a considerable number of the people who can be reduced to no particular denomination.

Literature.] The literature of this state is confined principally to the towns of Newport and Providence. There are men of learning and abilities scattered through other towns, but they are rare. The bulk of the inhabitants in other parts of the state, are involved in greater ignorance perhaps than in most other parts of New-England. An impartial history of their transactions since the peace, would evince the truth of the above observations.

At

At Providence is Rhode-Island College. The Charter for founding this seminary of learning was granted by the General Assembly of the state in 1764.

This institution was first founded at Warren, in 1769. And in the year 1770, the college was removed to Providence, where a large, elegant building was erected for its accommodation, by the generous donations of individuals, mostly from the town of Providence. It is situated on a hill to the east of the town; and while its elevated situation renders it delightful, by commanding an extensive, variegated prospect, it furnishes it with a pure, salubrious air. The edifice is of brick, four stories high, 150 feet long, and 46 wide, with a projection of ten feet each side. It has an entry lengthwise with rooms on each side. There are forty-eight rooms for the accommodation of students, and eight larger ones for publick uses. The roof is covered with slate.

This institution is under the instruction of a President, a Professor of Natural and experimental Philosophy, a Professor of Mathematicks and Astronomy, a Professor of Natural History, and three Tutors. The several classes are instructed in the learned languages, and the various arts and sciences. The institution has a library of between two and three thousand volumes, containing a valuable collection of ancient and modern authors. Also a small, but valuable philosophical apparatus. Nearly all the funds of the college are at interest in the treasury of the state, and amount to almost two thousand pounds.

Curiosities.] In Pawtucket river, four miles from Providence, is a beautiful fall of water, directly over which a bridge has been built, which divides the commonwealth of Massachusetts from the state of Rhode-Island. The fall, in its whole length, is upwards of fifty feet. The water passes through several chasms in a rock which runs diametrically across the bed of the stream, and serves as a dam to the water. Several mills have been erected upon these falls; and the spouts and channels which have been constructed to conduct the

the streams to their respective wheels, and the bridge, have taken very much from the beauty and grandeur of the scene ; which would otherwise have been indescribably charming and romantick.

Constitution.] The constitution of this state is founded on the charter granted by Charles II. in the fifteenth year of his reign ; and the frame of government was not essentially altered by the revolution. The legislature of the state consists of two branches ; a Senate or Upper House, composed of the Governor and Deputy-Governor, and ten other members, called in the charter *Assistants* ; and a House of Representatives, composed of Deputies from the several towns. The members of the legislature are chosen twice a year ; and there are two sessions of this body annually, viz. on the first Wednesday of May, and the last Wednesday in October..

History.] This state was first settled from Massachusetts. Motives of the same kind with those which are well known to have occasioned the settlement of most of the other United States, gave birth to this. The emigrants from England who came to Massachusetts, though they did not perfectly agree in religious sentiments, had been tolerably united by their common zeal against the ceremonies of the church of England. But as soon as they were removed from ecclesiastical courts, and possessed of a patent allowing liberty of conscience, they fell into disputes and contentions among themselves. And notwithstanding all their sufferings and complaints in England, excited by the principle of uniformity (such is human nature) the majority here were as fond of this principle as those from whose persecution they had fled.

The true grounds of religious liberty were not embraced or understood at this time by any sect. While all disclaimed persecution for the sake of conscience, a regard for the publick peace, and for the preservation of the church of Christ from infection, together with the obstinacy of the hereticks, was urged in justification of that, which, stripped of all its disguises, the
light

light of nature and the laws of Christ, in the most solemn manner, condemn.

Mr. Roger Williams, a minister, who came over to Salem in 1631, was charged with holding a variety of errors, and was at length banished from the then colony of Massachusetts, and afterwards from Plymouth, *as a disturber of the peace of the Church and Commonwealth*; and, as he says, 'a bull of excommunication was sent after him.' He had several treaties with Myantonomo and Canonius, the Narraganset Sachems, in 1634 and 1635; who assured him he should not want for land. And in 1636, he and twenty others, his followers, who were voluntary exiles, came to a place called by the Indians Mooshausuck, and by him *Providence*. Here they settled, and though secured from the Indians by the terror of the English, they for a considerable time greatly suffered through fatigue and want.

As the original inhabitants of this state were persecuted, at least in their own opinion, for the sake of conscience, a most liberal and free toleration was established by them. So little has the civil authority to do with religion here, that no contract between a minister and a society (unless incorporated for that purpose) is of any force. It is probably for these reasons that so many different sects have ever been found here; and that the Sabbath and all religious institutions have been more neglected in this, than in any other of the New-England states. Mr. Williams is said to have become a Baptist in a few years after his settling at Providence, and to have formed a church of that persuasion.

Through the whole of the late unnatural war with Great-Britain, the inhabitants of this state have manifested a patriotick spirit; their troops have behaved gallantly, and they are honoured in having produced the second general in the field.*

CONNECTICUT.

* General Greene.