

plant'¹; but it was not the view taken by those in authority for more than two hundred years after he died, and, had it been taken, we ask ourselves whether Australia would have been secured for the Empire. In the letter 'schismatics' are added to 'outlaws or criminals' as 'not fit to lay the foundation of a new colony,' and in thus barring the entry of nonconformists as well as in the provision that the colonists should not only be governed according to the laws of the realm, whose subjects they must continue to be, but must also be under 'the same discipline for Church government,' he seems to have been modifying his liberal views to suit King James. On the other hand, provisions that planting religion should not be made a pretext for extirpating natives, and that merchants should not be allowed under colour of promoting trade with the plantation to 'work upon the planters' necessities,' bear witness to the writer's breadth of outlook.² Still stronger witness is contained in the following words from the essay: 'Let there be freedoms from custom till the plantation be of strength; and not only freedom from custom, but freedom to carry their commodities where they may make their best of them, except there be some special cause of caution.' Evidently he would not have approved of navigation acts in the case of infant colonies.

We have seen that, while little was done, though not a little was said, in the direction of converting the heathen by the English of the sixteenth century, on

¹ Essay, 'Of Plantations,' *ut sup.*

² *Letters and Life of Francis Bacon, ut sup.*, vol. vi, pp. 21-2, and pp. 49-52.