

duke, and they returned to England eager to declare war against Spain. Negotiations were then begun for a marriage with one of the French princesses whom Charles had met on his journey. The people were so pleased that the Spanish marriage had been broken off and so rejoiced at the prospect of a war with Spain that they were eager to assist in every way. In the midst of the preparations for war, however, the king died.



THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM

158. **Planting colonies.**—Up to this time the English had been a stay-at-home people. From now onwards they began to plant colonies and to make settlements in every quarter of the globe. During the reign of James I there were two classes of men who turned their eyes to the wonderful country across the Atlantic. The first was a company of merchants who remembered the stories that had been told about the vast quantities of gold and silver that lay hidden in the unexplored lands. In 1609 these men founded a colony at Jamestown, Virginia, lately discovered by Sir Walter Raleigh, and named by him in honour of the virgin queen. This was the first permanent English colony on the North American continent. The second class settled much farther to the north. They were a band of Puritans who, to obtain freedom to worship as they pleased, had left their homes in England and had emigrated to Holland. They were not contented in a foreign land, and, after a long delay, they secured permission to cross the ocean and to settle in America. In 1620 these "Pilgrim Fathers" landed at Plymouth, and laid the foundations of what is known as New England.

Before 1600 commerce with India was in the hands of the Turkey Company which carried goods overland from the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. The commerce with the East by sea was largely in the hands of the Dutch.