

credentials and sought new ones with the Anglican Church. While this did not promote a big swing towards Anglicanism it did promote a number of other transfers and gave Anglicanism a better growth potential than it had known. By the time of the Revolution there were 40 parishes in New England.

(4) Otherwise Anglicanism was spread through the south and had some following in the middle states. It was established in Georgia and the Carolinas..in the latter with the help of John Locke's Fundamental Constitutions of 1669. For complex reasons it did not prove popular in these territories and while it had the privilege maintained it with difficulty. Trinity church in New York, the first Anglican parish, was founded in 1697 just after the similar work in Philadelphia in Christ Church in 1695. In neither colony did the Church of England become very powerful although missionaries from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel worked in both.

(5) What really hurt Anglicanism, in the colonies, I think, was the lack of a colonial episcopate so that the colonial setting remained an extended mission field without indigenous stature. This was unsettling and made development difficult. As the colonial empire grew and the alienation with England became more apparent, this dependence on the Church of England further weakened Anglicanism in the sight of the common public. When the revolution came no other church was so hampered by it or suffered as much loss. It would need to survive in a new form, the one that we have known since as the Episcopal Church.

c. Presbyterian Foundations

In a practical way, the presbyterian churches were born of the teaching of Calvin and consolidated under the work of Knox. As far as history is concerned the decisive moments doctrinally came with the Westminster assembly in England from 1643 to 1648. During these years the formative doctrinal statements of the majority of these bodies were developed and they include the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechism, as well as the directories of worship and other ecclesiastical polity pronouncements. Presbyterianism in its very name suggests the eldership structure in which the parity of the body is established in the eldership. The church government is one of elders and they are fraternally related to all elders in other churches as serving brothers. Presbyterianism grew most strong in Scotland and northern Ireland (Scottish immigrants were something of a key to this). There were some congregations in England where they tended to look more like congregational churches. The body was actually established in Scotland but its very nature made schism easy and more presbyterian bodies developed than you will believe...unless you read the same books I read.