

While they were able to secure release from prison and then they went about it more quietly and managed to get a Dutch ship to stop in the night and they got onto it and went about in 1609. For the next eleven years there was quite a sizable congregation of ~~settlers~~ several hundred English refugees which had John Robinson as its preacher. I was much interested when I visited Leiden last summer to visit the place where these English pilgrims had lived for eleven years and many of them for a much longer time and to see the grave of John Robinson there. He died there in 1625. But during the next eleven years they found the situation not very satisfactory. For one thing economic conditions were such that in order to support themselves and their families they had to work fifteen or sixteen hours a day. It was extremely disagreeable and did not leave much time for anything except the work to keep them going. The other thing was that though there was a great deal of true liberty in Holland and a great deal of true Christianity, there was among the Dutch an attitude which the Pilgrims considered to be worldly practices that they didn't like. They found their children growing up in an atmosphere which was not conducive to that separation from those elements of worldly life which they considered to be contrary to the Scripture, and it was very, very difficult just with their home influence to keep these worldly practices from having a great influence upon their children. So they became more and more dissatisfied and finally in 1620 they secured permission to settle in the U.S. from the Virginia Co. The Va. Co. gave them the right to have some land in Virginia which at that time included a great part of the U.S. The Va. Co. was anxious to have people to settle in Va. It was very hard to get people to go so far from home and to settle over here, and so an arrangement was made where