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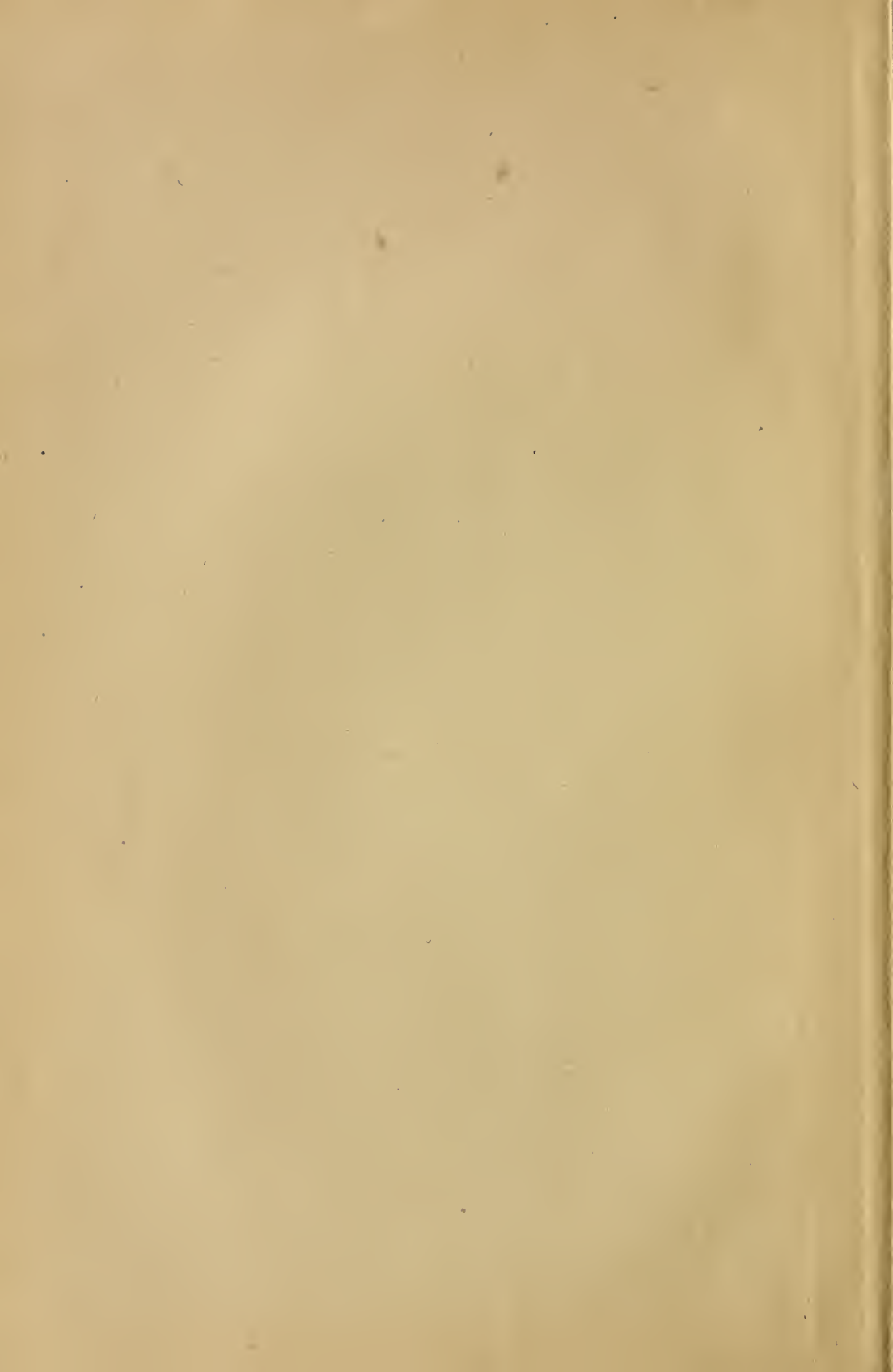
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NOTES
ON THE
MASSACHUSETTS ROYAL COMMISSIONS
1681-1775

BY
ALBERT MATTHEWS



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MASSACHUSETTS ROYAL COMMISSIONS
1681-1775

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BY
ALBERT MATTHEWS

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Mr. ALBERT MATTHEWS made the following communication:

NOTES ON THE
MASSACHUSETTS ROYAL COMMISSIONS
1681-1775 ¹

Volume II of the Society's Publications, soon to be issued, contains, besides the Province Charter (1691) and the Explanatory Charter (1725), the extant Commissions of the President of the Council for New England (1685); of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Secretary of the Territory and Dominion of New England (1686-1688); of the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and Secretaries of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay (1691-1774); and of the Collector, Surveyor, and Searcher of Customs in the Colonies of New England (1681). It also contains three Commissions not alluded to in these Notes — namely, Lord Willoughby's Commission (1667) as Vice-Admiral of Barbados, etc., and two Commissions (1727-1728) issued to Edmund Gibson, Bishop of London. The following six Commissions, mentioned in these Notes, are not printed in Volume II because no copies are known to be in existence:

1678	July ²	Edward Randolph	Collector, etc.
1691	Dec. ³	William Stoughton	Lieutenant-Governor
1691	Dec. ⁴	Isaac Addington	Secretary
1711	⁵	William Tailer	Lieutenant-Governor
1715	April 28 ⁶	William Tailer	Lieutenant-Governor
1716	⁷	William Dummer	Lieutenant-Governor

In preparing Volume II for the press, it seemed desirable, indeed necessary, to compile a List of Officials, 1685-1775, giving the date of each Commission, the date of taking office, and the date of leaving

¹ All dates in these Notes, except in some of the quoted passages, are New Style.

² This date is approximate: see p. 10 note 6, below.

³ This date is approximate: see p. 88, below.

⁴ This date is approximate: see p. 97, below.

⁵ This Commission of Tailer was presumably issued in the summer of 1711, as he was sworn on October 4: see p. 90, below.

⁶ The exact date of this Commission has been recovered: see p. 91, below.

⁷ Dummer's Commission was presumably issued in the summer of 1716, as he was sworn on October 5: see pp. 65, 92, below.

office. In the course of compiling the List,¹ a mass of data was collected that seemed of sufficient value — since it was largely obtained from manuscript sources, or from printed sources not easily accessible — to be put into convenient shape for consultation and reference. Hence these Notes. They are divided into the following six sections:

- I Council for New England, 1685–1686
- II Territory and Dominion of New England, 1686–1689
- III Period from April 18, 1689, to May 16, 1692
- IV Members of the Council, 1685–1691
- V Province of the Massachusetts Bay, 1691–1775
- VI Lists

It will be remembered that on June 27, 1683, a *quo warranto*² was issued against the Massachusetts Colony Charter which had been granted by Charles I on March 4, 1629. Edward Randolph reached Boston on October 26, 1683,³ and on November 7 —

At the opening of this Court the Governor⁴ acquainted the Court, that since the last sitting of this Court Edward Randolph Esq, arrived, & had presented him wth his maj[']jes councils act, & his maj[']jes declaration & proclamation, wth the *quo warranto* issued out ag^t the Goũno^r & Company, &c⁵

The Colony Charter was vacated by a decree in the Court of Chancery and judgment entered against it in October, 1684.⁶ At a General Court held on January 28, 1685, —

¹ The reason for undertaking these Notes was the fact that previous lists (such as those in Palfrey's History of New England, in Whitmore's Massachusetts Civil List, and in the Massachusetts Court Manual) were found to be both incomplete and inaccurate. Innumerable discrepancies occur between these Notes and previous lists, but, except occasionally, it has not been thought worth while to point out the differences.

² It is printed in Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 421–422.

³ On February 14, 1684, Randolph wrote to Sir Lionel Jenkins: "I arriued in Boston vpon y^e 26 of Oct^ber late at night and found their Gen^l Court that afternoon broake vp" (Toppan's Randolph, iii. 272). For the sake of convenience, the seven volumes of "Edward Randolph" published by the Prince Society are referred to in these Notes as "Toppan's Randolph," though the last two volumes were edited by the Rev. A. T. S. Goodrick.

⁴ Simon Bradstreet.

⁵ Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 421.

⁶ See Toppan's Randolph, i. 242 note 425, iv. 189.

AT the opening of this Court the Gouverno^r¹ declar'd it, y^t on the certeine or generall rumo^rs in M^r Jenner, lately arrived, y^t o^r charter was condemn'd, & judgment entred vp, &c, they lookt at it as an incumbent duty to acquaint the Court wth it, & leaue the consideration of what was or might be necessary to them, &c.²

On May 12, 1686, "At a Generall Court for Elections," —

SYMON BRADSTREET, Esq̄, was chosen Goūno^r for y^e yeare ensuing, & tooke his oath y^e same day.

Thomas Danforth, Esq̄, was also chosen Dep^t Goū, & tooke his oath at y^e Goūno^r's house y^e same day. . . .

Edward Rawson was chosen Secrēt, & tooke his oath 13 May.³

On May 14 Randolph reached Boston,⁴ bringing with him an Exemplification of the Judgment against the Charter⁵ and Dudley's Commission (dated October 8, 1685)⁶ as President of the Council for New England. On May 17 Dudley made a speech⁷ to the Court

¹ Simon Bradstreet. James II was proclaimed in Boston on April 20, 1685 (Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 473-474), and in Plymouth on April 24 (Plymouth Colony Records, vi. 160).

² Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 465. A copy of the judgment reached Boston July 1, 1685 (Sewall's Diary, i. 85), and was placed in Secretary Rawson's hands on July 2 (Toppan's Randolph, i. 243 note 428, 256; 4 Massachusetts Historical Collections, v. 142).

³ Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 513.

⁴ See p. 11 note 3, below.

⁵ This Exemplification is printed in 4 Massachusetts Historical Collections, ii. 246-278.

⁶ A copy of Dudley's Commission had reached Boston more than two months before Randolph's arrival. On March 3, 1686, Sewall wrote: "Mr. Stoughton calls at night and shews me the Names of the Persons in the Commission, telling me that a Copy of the Commission is come to Town. Comes by Eldridge, who bore away to Montserrat" (Diary, i. 123-124). On March 8 Wait Winthrop wrote to Fitz John Winthrop: "Here is little new since my last to you, only Jo. Eldrige, who came out in company with Geñer from England and was blowne off to the Leward Islands, is arived. By him came a cōpye of the cōmissiō for the Government of this Collony, the Prouince of Maine, New Hampsheir, and Kings Prouince or Narrogansett country, which was taken out of the Chancery and sent to M^r Dudley by a freind. The originall was on bord the Rose frigatt with M^r Randolph, and not yet ariued, but expected every day. The cōmission is to M^r Dudley, as President till the cheife Govern^r come over, and to the rest named as of Counsell, whereof you are one" (5 Massachusetts Historical Collections, viii. 459-460).

⁷ Dudley also made a speech when the Council met on May 25. His two speeches were printed in a broadside and were reprinted in 1 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, vii. 487-489, 489-490. The speech of May 25 is in the Council Records (ii. 2-4) and is printed in the Dudley Records, pp. 226-227.

and left with it "a true copy of his maj^{ties} commission,"¹ and on May 20 the Court sent its reply to "Joseph Dudley, Esq. & the rest of the gent^{en} named in his maj^{ties} comission."² On May 21 the Court met for the last time, the final entry in the record being, "This day the whole Court mett at the Goño's house, & there the Court was adjourned to the second Wednesday in October next, at eight of the clocke in y^e morning."³

I

COUNCIL FOR NEW ENGLAND, 1685-1686

PRESIDENT

JOSEPH DUDLEY was commissioned President by James II on October 8, 1685. The government created by this Commission included the Massachusetts Bay, Maine, New Hampshire, and the Narragansett Country or King's Province. On May 25, 1686:

The President and Councill being assembled, the Exemplification of the Judgment against the Charter of the late Governour and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England publicly (in open Court where were present divers of the eminent Ministers, Gentlemen, and Inhabitants of the Town and Country) was Read, with an audible voice.

Then His Majesties Commission of Government directed to the President and Councill was likewise read in open Court.

The President then proceeded and took the Oath of Allegiance and also the Oath contained in that Commission, which were administered to all the Members of the Councill then present.⁴

¹ Massachusetts Colony Records, v. 515.

² v. 516.

³ v. 517. The date there given for the final meeting is May 20, but our late associate Mr. Toppan pointed out that the true date was May 21 (Publications of this Society, vi. 81-82).

⁴ Council Records, ii. 1. (In these Notes the marginal entries found in the Council Records, Court Records, House Journals, etc., are sometimes omitted.) Cf. Dudley Records, p. 226. The records here cited as "Dudley Records" are those printed in November, 1899, by Robert N. Toppan in 2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xiii. 226-286. They were copied by Mr. Toppan from the Council Records and from the Massachusetts Archives at the State House, Boston.

The following notice appeared in the London Gazette of July 29, 1686:

Whitchall, July 25. The Letters from *New-England* give an Account, That on the 14th of the last Month [an error for May] arrived at *Boston* Mr. *Randolph*, Secretary of that Colony, in His Majesties Frigate *The Rose*, with an Exemplification of the Judgment given upon a *Scire Facias* in the High Court of Chancery

On June 11:

Then the President took the following Oath in Council to observe the Acts of Trade & Navigation:

You shall swear that you will to the best of your skill and power so long as you shall continue in the Government or Command of this territory & Plantation well and truly execute and perform, and cause to be executed and performed all matters and things which by the Statute made in the twelvth year of his late Maj^{ty}s Reigne intituled an Act for the encourageing and increasing of shipping and Navigation, & by the other Statute made in the fifteenth year of his s^d Ma^{ty}s reigne, Intituled: an Act for the encouragem^t of Trade; you are required as President or Commander of this Territory and Dominion to be sworn to the performance of. So help you God.¹

Dudley was President from May 25 to December 20, 1686.

DEPUTY-PRESIDENT

WILLIAM STOUGHTON was appointed Deputy-President by President Dudley on May 26, 1686:

The President in full Council declared William Stoughton Esq^r to be Deputy President, which he accordingly accepted, to the great satisfaction of the whole Council.²

here against their Charter, and with His Majesties Commission to *Joseph Dudley* Esq; as President, and divers other Gentlemen of those Parts to be of His Majesties Council for the Government of that Territory, until the Arrival of Sir Edmund Andross Governor in chief of *New-England*. Whereupon His Majesties Commission had been published by Proclamation with great Solemnity and Demonstrations of Joy, and the President and Council had already appointed Justices of the Peace and other Officers throughout the Government, and settled the Militia in His Majesties Name, all things being performed according to His Majesties Directions. There has also been presented to His Majesty by the hands of *Robert Mason* Esq; One of His Majesties Council there, a very Loyal Address from *New-England*, expressing their due Sense and Acknowledgments of His Majesties Grace and Favour in receiving them under His immediate Protection and Government (p. 2/2).

¹ Council Records, ii. 36. Cf. Dudley Records, pp. 247-248.

² Council Records, ii. 9. Cf. Dudley Records, p. 231. Writing in 1765 *Hutchinson* said:

Mr. Dudley's commission made him president of the council for Massachusetts Bay, New-Hampshire and Main, and the Naraganset country, or King's province, Stoughton was named deputy president, Simon Bradstreet, . . . and Edward Tyng were named of the council, not by separate warrants, or by mandamus, but all in one commission (*History of Massachusetts*, London, 1765, i. 351 note).

And Palfrey, writing in 1864, said that "Dudley was appointed President, and Stoughton Deputy-President;" though he added in a footnote, "I have not been

Stoughton was Deputy-President from May 26 to December 20, 1686.

II

TERRITORY AND DOMINION OF NEW ENGLAND, 1686-1689

GOVERNOR

SIR EDMUND ANDROS was commissioned Governor by James II on June 3, 1686. The government created by this Commission included the Massachusetts Bay, Maine, New Plymouth, New Hampshire, and the Narragansett Country or King's Province. Reaching Nantasket December 19, 1686,¹ Andros came to Boston December 20 and was sworn that day:

His Ex^{ce} ² S^r Edmond Andros Kn^t Governour being landed, repaired forthwith to the Towne house attended hither by a great number of Merchants and others with all the Militia and Foot.

able to find the commission," except in part (History of New England, iii. 485 and note). As a matter of fact, however, no Deputy-President was named in Dudley's Commission, which provided "that the said Joseph Dudley and every succeeding President of the said Councell shall & may nominate & appoint any one of the members of the said Councell for the time being to be his Deputy and to preside in his absence" (Publications of this Society, ii. 38).

¹ Sewall wrote on December 19 that "Tho. Baker told me Sir Edmund was below;" and on December 20: "Governour Andros came up in the Piñace, touches at the Castle, Lands at Gov^r Leveret's wharf about 2 P. M. where the President, &c. meet him and so march up through the Guards of the 8 Companyes to the Town House, where part of the Comission read" (Diary, i. 159-161). On December 20 Wait Winthrop wrote: "Yesterday morning, being Sabbath-day, S^r Edmond Andros arived at Nantasket. We ware some of us downe in the afternoone to know his comands, and are preparing to receive his Excellency in as sutable mañer as may be. . . . He intends to be here about noone this day" (5 Massachusetts Historical Collections, viii. 471).

The following notices appeared in the London Gazette of October 25, 1686, and February 14, 1687:

Deale, Octob. 20. Yesterday sailed out of the *Downes* the *Kings-Fisher*, having on Board Sir *Edmund Andros* His Majesties Governor of *New-England* (October 25, 1686, p. 2).

Boston in New-England, Decemb. 27. The 20th Instant arrived here Sir *Edmund Andros* His Majesties Governor in chief of *New-England*, having been received with all Expressions of Joy and Respect. The Governor, and the Members of the Council being sworn, an Order was published to continue all Officers Civil and Military; And a general Council is appointed to be held here the 30th of this Month, of which Notice has been given to the Neighbouring Colonies (p. 2/1).

² It is perhaps worth noting that this is apparently the first appearance in Massachusetts of the time-honored title "His Excellence"—or, as the form soon became, "His Excellency."

His Ex^{co} in a short Speech acquainted the Councill that his Maj^{ty}ie by his Letters Patents dated the third day of June in the second year of his Maj^{ty}s Reigne, appointed him to be Capitaine Generall, Governour in Chief &c of New England which were then published in a full assembly.

The Members of the Councill then present administred to his Ex^{co} the oath of Allegience with the oath enjoyned to be taken, by his Maj^{ty}s said Commission.¹

On December 30, 1686, "His Ex^{co} took the oath for the observing the Acts of Trade and Navigation."² On February 4, 1687, —

His Ex^{co} then took the Oath for executing and performing all matters and things w^{ch} by the Statute made in the 12th year of his Late Ma^{ty}s Reigne Intituled an Act for the Encourageing and Increaseinge of Shipping and Naviga^on and also by the Act made in the 15th year of his Said Ma^{ty}s reigne Intituled an Act for the Encouragem^t of trade required to be taken by all Governors and Co^mmanders in Chief of his Ma^{ty}s florenign Plantacons.³

Andros was again commissioned Governor by James II on April 7, 1688. In this Commission the government included the Massachusetts Bay, Maine, New Plymouth, New Hampshire, the Narragansett Country or King's Province, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and East and West Jersey. As already stated,⁴ no regular

¹ Council Records, ii. 105. The Andros Records read:

His Ma^{ty}s Commission for Government directed to his Excell: S^r Edmond Andros Knight was published and the Oath of Allegiance was administered to his Ex^{co} by Joseph Dudley and the members then present together with the Oath *for the due execution of Justice by his Ma^{ty}s said Commission enjoyned to be taken* (p. 240).

The records here cited as "Andros Records" are those printed in October, 1899, by Robert N. Toppan in Proceedings American Antiquarian Society, New Series, xiii. 239-268. They were copied by Mr. Toppan from the original minutes in the possession of the American Antiquarian Society. The Andros Records extend from December 20, 1686, to April 25, 1687, both included. The records under Andros's government at the State House (Council Records, ii. 105-161) extend from December 20, 1686, to December 29, 1687, both included; but several meetings recorded in the Andros Records are not in the Council Records; and the records of a few meetings — both before April 25, 1687, and after December 29, 1687 — are found only in the Massachusetts Archives.

² Council Records, ii. 107. Cf. Andros Records, p. 242.

³ Andros Records, p. 249. There is no record of this meeting in the Council Records.

⁴ See note 1, above.

records of Council meetings after December 29, 1687, were kept, or at least are not known to be extant. But that Andros's second Commission was published on July 19, 1688, is made certain by what Sewall wrote on that day and on July 24:

Eight Companies in Arms, and Sir Edmund's Commission is published, extending his Authority from the remotest eastern parts so as to take in East and West Jersey.¹

There was a Gallery erected last Thorsday, at the east end of the Town House, from whence His Excellency's new Commission was published, 8 Companys being in Arms.²

Andros was Governor from December 20, 1686, to his overthrow on April 18, 1689.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

FRANCIS NICHOLSON was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by James II on April 20, 1688. No record of his taking office is extant, but presumably he was sworn on the day when Andros's second Commission was published — namely, July 19, 1688.³

When Andros left Boston for New York late in July, 1688, Nicholson accompanied him as far as New London, when he was sent back to Boston by Andros.⁴ Later in the year Nicholson went to New York,⁵ where he was when the overthrow of Andros occurred in

¹ July 19, 1688 (Diary, i. 220). Andros's proclamation to continue civil and military officers, dated July 19, 1688, is in Massachusetts Archives, cxix. 72.

² July 24, 1688 (4 Massachusetts Historical Collections, viii. 518).

³ See note 1, above. Though not named a Councillor in the Instructions issued to Andros on September 12, 1686, yet Nicholson was appointed to the Council on April 25, 1687, and he had sat in the Council since August 24, 1687: see p. 33, below. On July 5, 1688, Sewall wrote: "This day Foy arrives, brings a Commission for Capt. Nicholson to be Lieut. Governour: New-York to be annexed to this Government. Mr. Randolph, a new Commission to be Secretary of the whole Dominion" (Diary i. 219).

⁴ On July 28, 1688, Randolph said that "I am now going to N:York where Cap^t Nicholson also goes and is to Continue vpon the place" (Toppan's Randolph, vi. 257). But in a letter dated "Boston August the 31st 1688," Nicholson wrote: "His Ex^{cy} began his journey from [error for "to"] New Yorke on the last of July and I went wth him to New-London (about one hundred and twenty miles from hence) butt . . . From New London his Ex^{cy} sent me backe" (New York Colonial Documents, iii. 550). On July 30, 1688, Sewall wrote: "With many others I went to Dedham to accompany his Excellency in his way to New-York and Jersey" (Diary, i. 221).

⁵ Nicholson was apparently still in Boston on August 27 (Toppan's Randolph,

Boston on April 18, 1689. Nicholson left New York June 11 and sailed on June 24, 1689.¹

SECRETARY

EDWARD RANDOLPH was recommended, on May 16, 1678, "to bee imployed as Collector of His Ma^{ties} Customes in New-England."² On May 31 the Lord High Treasurer³ urged the appointment, Charles II gave his approbation, and a Commission was directed "to bee issued forth vnto him [Randolph] accordingly."⁴ Randolph was appointed June 12,⁵ and was commissioned on or before July 9.⁶ No copy of this Commission is extant.

vi. 263), but was in New York by October 7 (vi. 270), from which place he wrote letters on October 21, November 15, and December 3, 1688 (iv. 246, 252, 255).

¹ On June 10, 1689, the Council of New York declared that "We have therefore thought it adviseable that the Lieut^t Governor Cap^t Francis Nicholson doe depart by the first ship for England to render an account of the present deplorable state of affairs here" (New York Colonial Documents, iii. 585). On June 11 Nicholas Bayard said that "This Day the L^t Govern^r departed from this City in order for his transportation for England" (iii. 599). On July 9 Stephen van Cortlandt wrote: "Cap^t Nicholson . . . departed very privately to the Netherlands thinking to go for England in the Brigantine with Coll Dongan who was gone to sea, but being hard weather and Coll. Dongan sea sick Resolved to saile back againe chusing rather to dy on shoare then at sea, and came in again just at the time Cap^t. Nicholson arrived at Cap^t Browne's, and neither John Selike, M^r Wadland, nor Heathcott being willing to carry Cap^t Nicholson for England He Resolved to buy $\frac{1}{2}$ part of said Brigantine which he unloaden and did send for 25 tunns of Log wood which he took on board and so sailed out the 24th day of June" (iii. 595).

² Toppan's Randolph, iii. 4.

³ Sir Thomas Osborne, first Earl of Danby.

⁴ Toppan's Randolph, iii. 4. The direction in regard to the issuing of a Commission occurs as a "Mem^{dum}" to the main paper printed by Toppan. From a passage in Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, i. 782, it appears that the King's approbation and direction were given May 31.

⁵ On June 20, 1679, the Privy Council approved a report of the Committee in which it was said of Randolph that "from the time of his Arrivall out of New England which was on the 10th of September 1676, untill the 12th of June 1678, when he was appointed Collector of your Majestie's Customes in those parts he has remained altogether unrewarded by your Majestie for his great paines and attendance" (Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, i. 844).

⁶ That the Commission must have been issued on or before July 9, 1678, is proved by the "Instructions . . . to Edward Randolph Esq^r Collector Surveyor and Searcher of his Ma^{ties} Customs in New England." These, dated July 9, 1678, begin: "Whereas in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made in the 25 Year of his Ma^{ties} Reign . . . We haue Deputed you to be Collecto^r Survey^r and Searcher of all the Rates Duties and Imposicons." These Instructions are in the Massachusetts Archives, lxi. 168-177, and also xx. 2-11; and are printed in Toppan's Ran-

Randolph was commissioned Collector, Surveyor, and Searcher of Customs in New England by Charles II on October 15, 1681.¹

Randolph was commissioned Secretary and Register of the Territory and Dominion of New England by James II on September 21, 1685.² He was also named as a Councillor in Dudley's Commission as President, dated October 8, 1685. Randolph reached Boston May 14, 1686,³ and, when the Council met on May 25, immediately took his seat as a Councillor. But it was not until July 1 that he was sworn:

The Secretary Sworn and tooke the Oath following:

Whereas you are by his Maj^{ty}s Commission appointed Secretary and Register of this his Maj^{ty}s Territory and Dominion of New England, you shall swear that you will faithfully and Lawfully manage and perform the same service as Secretary and Register, keeping true Records of all things proper for your Office, & fairly writing and filing all such copies and papers as are committed to you, and you are to demean your selfe according to the charge and duty of your place, to the best of your skill and knowledge.⁴

On March 5, 1687, —

dolph, iii. 19-30. Palfrey says: "Randolph's instructions, as Collector, from the Commissioners of the Customs (George Downing and two others), dated July 9, 1678, are in Mass. Arch., LXI. 168-177. His commission, of the same date, is printed in Mass. Hist. Colls., XXVII. 129" (History of New England, iii. 318 note). Palfrey was in error as to the Commission, since what is printed in 3 Massachusetts Historical Collections, vii. 129-138, is not the Commission but the Instructions of July 9, 1678.

¹ This Commission is printed in Publications of this Society, ii. 333-337. Attention may be called to a slight error in Toppan's Randolph, where a draft in Randolph's handwriting is made to read: "Whereas his Maj^{ty} by his Lett^{rs} Patents under y^e Great Seale of England bearing date at Westminster the 14 day of October in the 33 yeare of his Raigne hath erected an office of Collector Surveyor & Searcher of his Maj^{ties} Customes" (iii. 120). In the draft itself, copied by Toppan from the Massachusetts Archives (lxi. 249), the date clearly reads "the 15th day of October in ye 33 yeare of his Raigne," though "15" might easily be mistaken for "14."

² This Commission (which is printed in Publications of this Society, ii. 311-312) might have been considered in section I, but that Commission did not, as did Dudley's, terminate with the arrival of Andros on December 20, 1686; and it seemed best to bring together in section II all the data relating to Randolph.

³ On May 14 Sewall wrote: "The Rose-Frigot arrives at Nantasket, Mr. Randolph up at Town about 8 *mane*" (Diary, i. 137).

⁴ Council Records, ii. 45. Cf. Dudley Records, pp. 252-253.

The Se^cry p^rsented a bill to be passed for a Gen^l Registry as in Jamaica and read his Maj^ties Commission appointing him Se^cry and Sole Reg^r of this his Maj^ties Territory and Dom. etc.

It was p^rposed that the Clerks of the Severall County Courts should Register all Deeds Mortgages etc. and be accountable to the Se^cry but his Ex^{co} say'd that was making the Se^cry and Reg^r an inferior officer to y^e Clerks of a County Courts and was besides the end of his Maj^ties Grant to the Se^cry.

It was Ordered and Assented to That the Se^cry is the Register of the Government, and do appoint his Depu^ties and to have fees according to his Commission.¹

On May 3, 1687, Randolph leased his office to John West.² On May 4 —

Mr Randolph Sec^r: acquainted the Councill, that hee had deputed John West in his Offices of Secretary & Register, which was approved & allowed of; and the oath of allegiance and that for the faithful Discharge of said offices was administred, to the said John West accordingly.³

On August 9, 1687, Randolph petitioned James II "to Grant him a Commission to bee Secretary and Sole Register of y^r Ma^ties Territory & Dominion of New England as now vnited and Settled."⁴ The desired Commission was granted April 25, 1688.⁵ It has just been shown that Randolph made John West Deputy-Secretary on May 3 and that West took his oath on May 4, 1687. At Randolph's request, West was again sworn on July 20, 1688:

Whereas yo^u are by an Indenture made by Edward Randolph Esq^{re} his Ma^ties Sec^ry & Sole Register of his territory & Dominion of New England beareing date y^e 3rd day of May 1687 Authorized & Appointed to

¹ Andros Records, p. 260. There is no record of this meeting in the Council Records.

² The lease is printed in Toppan's Randolph, iv. 155-158.

³ Council Records, ii. 117.

⁴ Toppan's Randolph, iv. 165-167.

⁵ The Commission is printed in Publications of this Society, ii. 313-314. On April 25, 1688, John Povey wrote to Randolph:

This accompanies Yo^r Patent for y^e Sec^{rs} office of of New England which bearing date after the annexing New York & the Jerseys with the other Colonies of New England Makes You Sec^{ry} of the whole Governm^t of New England in its p^rsent Extent But Mr Spragg will have an Order for You to make him a Deputation of so much as he held before (Massachusetts Archives, cxxviii. 186; printed in Toppan's Randolph, iv. 221, where "Spragg" and "Deputation" are wrongly printed "Spraug" and "dignitatem." Cf. Toppan's Randolph, iv. 217, vi. 269, 270.).

be Deputy Se^cry & Register Yo^u doe Sweare that yo^u will faithfully & Carefully manage & p^rforme y^e s^d office as Deputy Se^cry & Register Keepeing the Records of all things proper to y^e s^d office & fairly fileing & Copying all such Records and papers as are Committed to yo^u & in all things to demcane yo^r selfe according to y^e Charge & Duty of yo^r place after yo^r best skill & Knowledge & pursuant to y^e s^d Indenture & deputa^con giuen yo^u.

John West tooke y^e aboue Oath in Councill y^e 20th July 1688 upon y^e Desire of y^e sd Ed. Randolph.

ED. RANDOLPH Se^cry.¹

Randolph was Secretary from July 1, 1686, to the overthrow of Andros's government on April 18, 1689.²

¹ Massachusetts Archives, cxxix. 90; printed in Toppan's Randolph, iv. 231.

² Randolph had great difficulty in obtaining possession of the records pertaining to his office. In a letter to the Committee dated August 23, 1686, he said:

His Ma^{tie} hauing been Graciously pleased to grant me the Office of Secretary & Register of this Gom^t I demanded the Records of the Generall Court & other Bookes of publick Concern, which ought to be lodged in my Office; and had an Order to that purpose; but some of y^e Council^l & others looking vpon me as y^e Onely enemy of their Country haue encouraged the former Se^cry to keepe them in his Custody (Toppan's Randolph, iv. 116).

In a letter to the Lord Treasurerr (the Earl of Rochester) of the same date (August 23, 1686), Randolph said:

His Majestie hath been graciously pleased to make me Secretary of his Councill here, but y^e accounts of y^e Late Treasurers & w^hever else relates to y^e discovery of his Maj^{ties} Revennue is kept from my knowledge: The publick Records & all y^e Grants & Settlement of Lands in this Country ought to be lodged in my office are otherwise disposed of, not being willing to entrust them with me, who have been, & (as they say) am still y^e Grand enemy of their Countrey (Massachusetts Archives, cxxvi. 66-67. Cf. Toppan's Randolph, iv. 121, 123-124).

The order referred to in the first of these letters was given June 13, 1686. The record of the Council meeting held that day states that Joseph Dudley, William Stoughton, Edward Randolph, and John Usher were the only members present; and then continues (Council Records, ii. 39-40; cf. Dudley Records, p. 250):

Who not making a full Councill (no business was done that day) only a letter writt by the Presid^t to Edward Rawson Esq^{re} late Secr: of the Massachusetts Colony and accordingly sent (a Copie whereof follows)

Whereas it hath pleased his Maj^{ty} in the settlem^t of the Government of this His Maj^{ty}s Territory & Dominion to appoint and Commissionate Edward Randolph Esq^{re} to be the Secretary and Register of this his Maj^{ty}s said Governm^t and Dominion.

These are therefore in his Maj^{ty}s name to order & require you to deliver into the said M^r Randolphs hands, the Books, Records, Files and other utensells belonging to the said Office of Secretary late exercised by yourselfe, that they may be

III

PERIOD FROM APRIL 18, 1689, TO MAY 16, 1692

Andros's government was overthrown April 18, 1689, on which day the following "Letter to Gov^r Andros requesting his surrendering the government and Fortifications" was sent :

safely disposed and managed for his Maj^{ty}'s service according to the directions that are or may be given unto the said Edw: Randolph, and hereof you may fail not.

J. DUDLEY P.

On September 24 it was "Ordered. That M^r Rawson deliver up the Keys of the Records to M^r Addington and M^r Benjⁿ Bullivant" (Council Records, ii. 77; cf. Dudley Records, p. 271). On October 21 it was "Ordered: That M^r Addington & M^r Bullivant attended M^r Rawson on Saturday next, to assort, take an account and receive the Records of the late Govern^t and deliver them to the Secretary" (Council Records, ii. 80; cf. Dudley Records, p. 273). On December 8 it was —

Ordered: That Wait Winthrop Esq^{re} Symon Lynd Esq^{re} Benjamin Bullivant, M^r Isaac Addington & M^r Daniell Allen, be a Committee with the Secretary, to receive and sort and form the Records of the Country, (now in the hands of M^r Edward Rawson late Secretary) that so they may be apt and ready for service, and that the persons above named be all sworn to the faithfull discharge of their trust in this matter, and to the end it may be forthwith proceeded in, M^r Lynd and M^r Bullivant are empowred and hereby ordered to take the same from M^r Rawson to morrow and to remove them in the posture they are now in, into the Library Chamber, and that there go forth a strict Warrant to M^r Rawson to deliver them accordingly; and it is further Ordered; that two locks be put upon the Office where such papers shall be lodged, and that M^r Bullivant, or such other person as M^r Randolph shall depute to that service, shall keep the key of one of the Locks, and Capⁿ Winthrop M^r Lynd or M^r Addington the other (Council Records, ii. 94-95; cf. Dudley Records, p. 281).

On February 4, 1687, —

His Ex^{ce} Seeing the great necessities of haveing the Records of the Country removed from the dwelling house of M^r Rawson late Sc^{ry}

It was Ordered that the persons Impowred by an order of the late President and Councill of the 8th of December last doe effectually persue the same and that the Office in the Court House in Boston be forthwith enlarged and prepared to receive them accordingly (Andros Records, pp. 249-250. Cf. Toppan's Randolph, vi. 181, 210).

In a draft in the Massachusetts Archives this reads:

Whereas by an Order of the late President & Councill dated the 8th day of December last It was ordered That Wait Winthrop, Simon Lynds Esq^{rs} Benjamin Bulliuent, m^r Isaac Addington, & m^r Daniel Allin be a Com^{tee} with the Secretary to receiue sort and form the Records of the Country (now in the hands of m^r Rawson late Secretary,) that they may be ready for Service, Enjoyning the s^d Com^{tee} to be Sworn for the faithfull discharge of their trust impowering, & ordering, m^r Lynd & m^r Bulliuent to take the same from m^r Rawson the next day following, &

S^RAt the Town House Boston 18th April 1689

Our Selves as well as many others the Inhabitants of this Town and Places adjacent being Surprised with the Peoples Sudden taking to

to remove the same, (in the posture they find them) into the Librery Chamber. In pursuance whereof it is hereby Ordered That the s^d Com^{tee} do forthwith enter upon the effectual excusion thereof, bringing them to ye Office provided for them & M^r Rawson late Se^cry to be assisting in sorting & disposing them accordingly (ccxvi. 225).

A year went by when, on February 3, 1688, another order was issued (Massachusetts Archives, ccxviii. 36):

Att a Councill held at the Councill Chamber in Boston
y^e 3^d day of february 1687.

Present

His Ex^eye S^r Edmund Andros Kn^t &c:

Joseph Dudley	} Esqrs	John Hincks	} Esqrs
W ^m Stoughton		Nath: Clarke	
Rob ^t Mason		Edw ^d Randolph	
Tho: Hinekey		franc: Nicholson	
John Usher		Sam ^l Shrimpton	
Barth: Gidney		W ^m Browne	

Forasmuch as the severall Orders formerly made for taking an account of the publiq Records of the late Massachusetts Collony have not been attended that the same might be putt into the Sec^ryes Custody and all persons have recourse to them as Occasion Ordered that M^r Isaac Addington and M^r John Herbert Coward be and are hereby desired and authorized in the presence of M^r Edward Randolph Sec^ry and M^r Edward Rawson the late Sec^ry or some one on [altered from "in," or "in" altered from "on"] his behalfe to take an account in writeing of all the said Records and that they beginn the same on Tuesday next and continue day by day about the same till complicated and that then the said Records be delivered into the hands of the said Sec^ry and the account thereof by them taken forthwith returned to this board under their hands

By Order in Councill &c

JOHN WEST D Sec^ry

What is perhaps the final allusion to this matter occurs in the following document (Massachusetts Archives, ccxvi. 238) under date of March 6, 1688:

Att a Councill held att y^e Councill Chamber in Boston
on Tuesday ye 6th day of March 1687

p^rsent

His Excell^y S^r Edm^d Andros Kn^t &c

Joseph Dudley	} Esq ^{rs}	Jn ^o Lathrop	} Esq ^{rs}
W ^m Stoughton		Nath ^l Clarke	
Jn ^o Winthrop		Rich ^d Arnold	
Waite Winthrop		Edw ^d Randolph	
Jn ^o Usher		franc Nicholson	

Upon Reading this day in Councill ye Report made by Edw^d Randolph Sec^ry Edw^d Rawson Isaack Addington & Jn^o Herbert Coward together with ye account

Arms; In the first motion whereof we were wholly Ignorant; are driven by the present Exigence and necessity to Acquaint your Excellency, That for the quieting, and Security of the People inhabiting this Countrey from the imminent dangers they many ways lye open and exposed unto; And for your own Safety, We judge it necessary, That you forthwith Surrender, and deliver up the Government, and Fortifications to be preserved to be disposed according to Order and direction from the Crown of England; which is Suddenly expected may arrive; promising all Security from Violence to your self; Or any other of your Gentlemen and Souldiers in person or Estate. Or else we are assured they will endeavour the taking of the Fortifications by Storm, if any Opposition be made

To S^r Edmund Andros Knt^t:

WILLIAM STOUGHTON
THO^s DANFORTH

S: BRADSTREET
JOHN RICHARDS
ELISHA COOK
IS^A ADDINGTON
JOHN FOSTER
PETER SERGENT
DAVID WATERHOUSE
ADAM WINTHROP
JN^O NELSON

WAIT WINTHROP
SAM^L SHRIMPTON
W^M BROWNE
BARTH^A GEDNEY

Thursday April 18th 1689
Sent by M^r Nath^l Oliver
and M^r John Eyre ¹

On April 19 a "Letter to Ensign John Pipon to give up the Castle, now under his command," was sent.² On April 20 a "Council for

by them taken of ye publike Records of ye late Massachusetts Collony — pursuant to an Ord^r of this Board beareing Date ye 3^d of february past Ordered that ye s^d Records be forthwith taken into ye Custody & Charge of ye Se^ry & Kept with ye other Records of this Dominion in the Se^rys office where all psons may haue recourse to them as occasion & that ye Key heitherto Kept by m^r Rawson of ye place where ye s^d Records are be forthwith delivered to ye s^d Se^ry

¹ Court Records, vi. 1.

By Ord^r in Councill

² vi. 1-2. By error this letter is dated "19th April 1690." The letter to Andros of April 18 was signed by fifteen persons, of whom three — William Browne, Bartholomew Gedney, and John Nelson — did not sign the letter of April 19 to Pipon. The letter to Pipon of April 19 was signed by fourteen persons, of whom two — William Johnson and James Russell — did not sign the letter to Andros of April 18.

Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace" was appointed, as follows:

April 20th 1689

A Council for Safety of the People and Conservation of Peace

Council of Safety
appointed

Pursuant to the Advice given unto S^r Edmund Andros Whereupon the Fortifications and Government were Surrendred, And also being constreined by the Military Forces now in Arms

It is Agreed that the Gentlemen that are present and Subscribed that Advice together with such other of the old Magistrates Or such other Gentlemen as they shall Judge meet to Associate to them, are entrusted with the Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace untill there be a farther and more Orderly Settlement. And Simon Bradstreet Esq; is Chosen to Preside

SIMON BRADSTREET
WILLIAM STOUGHTON
JOHN RICHARDS
JOHN FOSTER
PETER SERGEANT
DAVID WATERHOUSE
ISA: ADDINGTON
ADAM WINTHROP
J NELSON ¹

THO^s DANFORTH
ELISHA COOKE
as declared

WAIT WINTHROP
SAM SHRIMPTON
W^m BROWNE
BARTH^o GEDNEY

On the same day (April 20) "M^r Isaac Addington is nominated and appointed Clerk of the Council, and to officiate as such." ²

On May 1 the doings of the Council for Safety on April 20 were approved:

Ja Russell & o^rs
approving the do-
ings of the Council
of Safety

We whose Names are underwritten being invited by the Gentlemen above named to be added unto them of the Council Do consent to and approve of, what was done by the Said Gentlemen in their Advice given

¹ Court Records, vi. 2.

² vi. 3.

unto S^r Edmund Andros, And do Accept of the Said Invitation and will give our Assistance therein

JA RUSSELL	JOHN JOYLIFFE	RICH ^d SPRAGUE
JOHN PHILLIPS	ED ^m HUTCHINSON	JER DUMMER
PENN TOWNSEND	NATH OLIVER	W ^m JOHNSON
JOSEPH LYNDE	JOHN EYRE	JOHN HATHORNE
JAMES PARKER Sen ^r	DUDLEY BRADSTREET	ANDREW BELCHER
NATH SALTONSTALL		JOHN SMITH
RICH ^d DUMMER		EDMUND QUINCEY
ROB ^t PIKE		WILL ^m BOND ¹
DANIEL PEIRCE		

May 1st

On the same day (May 1) —

Council invited to
attend on public
business

There being some agitation in Council of the Necessity of Settling some forms of Government, and Several Gentlemen appearing, out of the Countrey moving the Same thing, the farther debate there abouts is deferred until the Morrow; and Signification was dispatched to some other Gentlemen of the Council at Salem &c: to desire their Company²

On May 2, "At the Council for Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace:"

Inhabitants of the
several towns di-
rected to send
Deputies to advise
on the present occa-
sion.

Agreed unto a paper representing the necessity of a farther consultation and Advice of the People for the directing to the exercise of that Power and Authority which is necessary in the present exigence. Signifying the expedience of the Several Towns of this Colony respectively to meet, and Choose one or more able, discreet persons (not exceeding two for one town) to convene at Boston upon Thursday the Ninth instant at two a Clock afternoon, (such as then can reach it, the other Towns as soon as they can) fully impow'ed then and there to consult, advise, Join and give their Assistance with the Council now Sitting

Ordered to be directed to the Captain and Select Men of the Several Towns, printed and dispersed

Boston to send four³

¹ Court Records, vi. 2-3.

² vi. 11.

³ vi. 12.

At the same time a fast was appointed for May 7. But on May 3,—

At the Council for Safety of the People and Conservation of
the Peace . . .

Upon farther Consideration, Ordered, that the Signification agreed upon Yesterday, to be sent out to the Several Towns for sending down their Representatives, Also the Recommendation referring to a Fast, be Stopt from any more of them going out

Afterwards the Sending out of the Signification of Representatives was Reinforced, & Ordered, that they should go out ¹

On May 8 "The President and Council met at the Council Chamber, where were present most of those who met Yesterday, and divers Others, waiting if any Thing might be presented by the people." ² On May 9 "Representatives appeared from the Severall Towns and Villages hereafter Named." ³ On May 10 the Representatives drew up a declaration to the effect that the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Assistants chosen in May, 1686, were to constitute the government. To this the Council replied that the returns from the towns and villages had been inadequate, and that it was necessary for the people to signify their minds more fully and expressly. Whereupon May 22 was appointed the day for the meeting of the Representatives, and the Representatives declared that the present Council was continued until that date. The proceedings on May 10 were as follows:

Boston May 10th 1689

At the Council for Safety of the People, and Conservation of the Peace

Sixty Six persons as Representatives of Forty four Towns and Villages in the Massachusetts Colony before Named were also present, and presented the following petition

Boston May 10th 1689

The Declaration
of the Represent-
atives that the Gov^r Dep^t
Gov^r, and Assist-
ants chosen in May
1686 be the Gov-
ernment

Declaration of the
House of Represent-
atives

We the Representatives of the Severall Towns of
the Massachusetts Colony in New England

Do hereby declare in behalf of our Selves, and the
Several Towns, which we appear for, Viz^t That for the
ensuing part of this Year, The Governour deputy Gov-
ernour and Assistants chosen and Sworn in May one

¹ Court Records, vi. 12.

² vi. 15.

³ vi. 15.

Thousand Six hundred Eighty Six according to our Charter Rights, And the deputies then sent by the Freemen of the Several Town's to be the Government now Settled in our abovesaid Colony. And that Major Wait Winthrop is Major General of our Forces in New England until the Freemen renew their Choice And that if the present Government do desire more Assistants; having enlarged the Freemen, there shall be a Supply immediately made according to Charter for the Remaining part of the Year, upon the Day that the General Court shall appoint; Hoping that all people will rest Satisfied till we have Confirmation from the Crown of England which we daily hope for

Voted at the Chamber of the Countrey Representatives, as attest, Clerk of s^d Company
EBENEZER PROUT

The Representatives applying themselves particularly to the President, and the former Magistrates; After a Considerable Debate they Returned them an Answer in Writing as followth Viz^t

Boston May 10th 1689

Answer to the above
declaration by the
members present

In Answer to a déclaration drawn up and Signed by Ebenezer Prout as Clerk to the Company of Representatives of the Several Towns of the Massachusetts Colony dated at Boston the day, and Year abovenamed, Declaring that the Governour, Deputy Governour, and Assistants chosen and Sworn in May One thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six according to Charter Rights and the deputies then sent by the Freemen of the Several Town, to be the Government now Settled in the Abovesaid Colony

There Appearing onely Sixty Six persons, as the Representatives of Forty four Towns and Villages within the said Colony, And the Returns of some of the Said Towns and places being defective, and incertain in a full Representation of the Mind of the People thereabouts We think it Necessary that the People of the Said Several Towns, and Villages do more fully and expressly Signify their Minds in that Matter, And that the

Other Towns, and Places, within the Said Colony (having no knowledge of the Said Declaration), be Notified to Convene their Respective Inhabitants to manifest their minds relating to the Same; And three of the Late Assistants resident in the Colony, being absent, that there be Oppertunity to Consult them; And the whole Number (if together) being but Thirteen, That the People by themselves or Ripresentatives, chuse such and so many as they shall think Convenient to Join, with them for the Common Safety and Conservation of the Peace, And the Exercise of Such farther Acts of Authority as shall be Necessary according to any Emergency until there can be a more Orderly Settlement of Government

Signed

JOHN RICHARDS

ELISHA COOKE

IS^A ADDINGTON

SAM^L APPLETON

W^M JOHNSON

JOHN SMITH

SIM: BRADSTREET

THO^S DANFORTH

JOHN HATHORNE

Major Pyke was present at the agreeing of this Answer, but gone Home before Signing

Day of Humilia-
tion and prayer
16th May

Agreed that Thursday next the Sixteenth of May Instant be Set apart for a Day of Fasting and Prayer throughout this whole Colony

And Wednesday the twenty Second of May Instant to be the Day for the Meeting of the Representatives of the Several Towns and Villages of the Colony, at Boston at two a Clock

Rulers to be contin-
ued for the present

The Representatives declared they Continued the present Council for Safety of the People, and Conservation of the Peace in the same Station until Wednesday the Twenty Second of May Instant At which time they Have Agreed to Convene at Boston ¹

On May 20 "The Humble Address of the President and Council for Safety of the People, and Conservation of the Peace" to the King and Queen was drawn up, "read and unanimously agreed to." ² On May 22 "The Representatives of the Several Town's and Villages to the Number of fifty four Places, appeared with the Returns from

¹ Court Records, vi. 16-18.

² vi. 22-24.

their Several Towns and Villages.”¹ On May 23 and 24 the following proceedings took place:

23^d May

Upon perusal of the Returns from the Several Towns and Villages and Divers debates, and Conferences between the President, and Council, and the Representatives of the Tenth of May Instant, for the Settlement of Civil Government, as well this Day as the Day foregoing Viz^t the 22^d Instant and Several Proposals offered to them

Upon the 24th of the Same May 1689. The following paper was presented unto them Viz^t

Boston May 24th 1689

Proceedings of the
present Rulers ap-
proved of

Upon the Occasion of the Revolution of the Late Government under S^r Edmund Andros; And at the Instance and Repeated desires or Demand of most of the Towns, and Villages, within the Massachusetts Colony, manifested in their Respective Places, and Sent to us by their Representatives. We who are of the Persons chosen Sworn Governour, Deputy Governour, and Assistants (according to Charter) in the Year One thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six. From the present Necessity, and for Satisfaction of the people do Consent and Accept the Care and Government of the People of this Colony, according to the Rules of the Charter; For the Conservation of the Peace and Safety of the People, and putting forth such farther Acts of Authority Civil, and Military as shall be necessary according to any Emergency until by Direction from England there be an Orderly Settlement of Government.

Provided such Addition be made of Fit Persons to Assist us as hath been desired; And farther consent that the Respective Town's and their Representatives for our Assistance so farr as they may be Concerned therein; and as need shall require Expecting that all Encouragement be given by the due and Ready Obedience of the People, And that what hath been Acted by the Council for the Safety of the People, and Conservation of the Peace respecting the Management of the

¹ Court Records, vi. 25.

Publick Affairs be allowed, and the Present Stewards
be Reimbursed in Convenient Time.

Signed 24th Abovesaid

JOHN RICHARDS	SIM: BRADSTREET
ELISHA COOKE	THO DANFORTH
W ^m JOHNSON	NA: SALTONSTALL
JOHN HATHORNE	JA ^s RUSSELL
IS ^a ADDINGTON	PE: TILTON
JN ^o SMITH	SAM APPLETON

Voted: This was accepted cheerfully by the Repre-
sentatives as an Answer for Settling Civil Govern^t with
the Massachusetts Colony in New England as attest

EBEN^r PROUT

Clerk to the Representatives

Written on the other Side

Upon the Publication here of it was declared by the
Gentlemen Subscribing that they do not intend an As-
sumption of Charter Government; nor Would be so
Understood. Being Ordered to Read the Within written
Declaration; was also Ordered to publish what is Above
written, Which I accordingly did at the Same time 24th
May 1689

JOSEPH WEBB ¹

On May 25 "Simon Bradstreet Esq³ is desired, and Appointed to
be President of this Council," and "Mr Isaac Addington is Nom-
inated, and appointed Clerk of the Council, and is Ordered to Offici-
ate as such." ² On the same day the following paper was presented:

Boston the 25th May 1689

GENTLEMEN

Directed to the
Council for Safety
of the People &
Conservation of the
Peace

We being greatly Sensible of the Necessity of Joyn-
ing every Good Mans Assistance to Your Present, and
future Endeavours for the preservation of the peace, of
this place, in this dangerous Conjuncture; And Relying
on the Integrity of Your Verbal, and printed promises
by Inviolably preserving this people, and place in Obe-
dience, unto the direction we expect from the Crown
of England; And good Treatment to the persons of all,
and Severally the Gentlemen, as was by us Signified

¹ Court Records, vi. 26-27.

² vi. 28.

in Our Advice to S^r Edmund Andros, upon the delivery of the Fort. And to take off all Disatisfactions that may have Risen from any Disputes, or Arguments, We shall Endeavour to pacify the Disatisfied in our Regards, and promote the Publick Tranquility, as far as in us Lyes

AND ^R BELCHER	DAV WATERHOUSE	PET ^R SERGEANT
JER DU ^R ER	RICH ^D SPRAGUE	WAIT WINTHROP
PENN TOWNSEND	JOHN FOSTER	SAM SHRIMPTON
NATH OLIVER	AD ^N WINTHROP	
JOHN EYRE	JN ^O NELSON ¹	

On May 29 William and Mary were proclaimed in Boston.²

On June 5, "At the Council for Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace," "The Representatives also from the Several Towns, according to the Signification Sent. Met,"³ and "Mr Thomas Oakes, was Chosen Speaker."⁴ On June 6, "At the Council, and Convention of the Representatives," "The Humble Address, and Petition of the Governour, and Council, and Convention of Representatives of the People of Your Majesties Colony of the Massachusetts in New England" was "drawn up Read and agreed to be Sent" to the King and Queen.⁵

On June 7 the following proceedings occurred:

To the Honourable Simon Bradstreet Governour, Tho^s Danforth Deputy Govern^r, and Assistants now Sitting

The Declaration of the Representatives of the Several Towns in the Massachusetts Colony
Humbly Sheweth.

That Whereas your Honours in the Answer to the Declaration given in, to You by the Representatives of

¹ Court Records, vi. 28.

² In an address to William and Mary dated May 20, signed by "Simon Bradstreet in the Name and behalf of the Council," it was declared that "We heartily congratulate Your Maj^{ties} happy accession to the Crown" (vi. 24); and in another address drawn up June 6, signed by "Simon Bradstreet in the Name, and behalf of the Council and Convention," it was stated: "Your Majesties happy Accession to the Royall Throne was most Joyfully Congratulated by Your Subjects in this Colony, and the proclamation there of here performed upon the Nine, and Twenty'th Day of May last past, with all the Decency, and Solemnity, the Place is Capable of Affording, and all Imaginable expressions of Joy" (vi. 32-33).

³ vi. 30.

⁴ vi. 31.

⁵ vi. 32-34.

Declaration of the
Representatives
from the several
towns.

the Several Towns, the 24th May 1689 did Consent to Accept the Care, and Government of the People of this Colony, according to the Rules of this Charter, and putting forth such farther Acts of Authority Civil, and Military, as were Necessary Untill by Direction from England there be an Orderly Settlement of Government, And upon publication there of, were pleased to Declare you did not, intend Assumption of Charter Government; We do now humbly pray Considering the present Circumstances of this Colony you would be pleased by Vertue of the Authority devolved on You, by us the Representatives of the Several Towns in this Colony to Accept Government according to our Charter Rules by the Names of Govern^r and Council for the Massachusetts Colony, And exercise such Authority in the Said Colony, as was formally Used by the Laws made by our Charter Government (excepting such as may be Judged repugnant to the Laws of England) until farther Orders from England; And that the Major General, and five Assistants lately Chosen take their Respective Oaths, And pray there may be no Delay in this Matter We cannot proceed in any thing until this foundation be Settled.

7 June 1689 Voted in the Affirmative

attest EB: PROUT CL

Accepted by the Govern^r & Council

¶ Order THOMAS DANFORTH

The following Oath was Adminstred unto the Govern^r by Tho^s Danforth Esq^s Deputy Govern^r before the whole Assembly

form of the oath
taken by the Gov^r
& Lieut Gov^r

Whereas you S. B. are chosen to the Place of Governour over this Jurisdiction of the Massachusetts for the Remaining Part of this Year, and till a New be Chosen, and sworn Or until there be a Settlement of Government here from the Crown of England, do Swear Accordingly by the Great and Dreadful Name of the Ever living God that you will be faithful, and bear true Alegiance to their Majesty's King William and Queen Mary, and that You will in all Things Concerning Your Place, according to Your best Power & Skill Carry, & Demean Yourself for

the Said Time of Your Government, according to the Laws of God, and the Advancement of His Gospell, the Laws of this Land, and the Good of the People of this Juresdiction, You shall do Justice, to all Men without Partiality, as much as in You Lyeth, You shall not exceed the Limitations of a Governour in your Place, So help you God

The Like Oath Mutatis Mutandis by Simon Bradstreet Esq; Govern^r unto Tho^s Danforth Esq; Deputy Govern^r '

On June 11 "M^r Isaac Addington is Chosen Secretary;" ² and on June 13 —

M^r Isaac Addington took his Oath, as Secretary as followth Viz^t

Whereas You I: A: are Chosen Secretary for the Remaining part of this Year, Or Until there be a Setlement of Government here by Direction from the Crown of England. You do Swear by the Ever living God; That You will in all Things faithfully Demean Yourself in the Said Office That You will truely, and faithfully According to Your Best Skill and Wisdom frame, all Acts, and Instruments of Public Concernment referring to Your Office, duely Observing such Directions, as Shall from Time, to time be given Unto You by the Government; here; and fairly Record, and Safely Keep the Same. That you will not disclose their Consultations, where you shall have express Charge of Secrecy, That You will Without Delay, Impart to the Governour or Council, Whatever, Letter, or Information shall Come to Your Hands referring to Your Office and of Publick Concernment; That You will not Wittingly or Willingly exceed the Limits of Your Place. — So help You God in Our Lord Jesus Christ ³

On June 22, "At the Convention of the Govern^r and Council and Representatives," —

Declaration to enforce y^e Laws

It is Declared that all the Law's made by the Governour and Company of Said Colony that were in force on the Twelfth Day of May One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six (Except any that are Repugnant to the Law's of England) are the Law's of this Colony, and Continue in force until farther Setlement; To which all Inhabit^{ts} and Residents here are to Give due Obedience ⁴

¹ Court Records, vi. 34-35.

² vi. 37.

³ vi. 38-39.

⁴ vi. 47.

On November 9 the Convention "Adjourned to the Second Wednesday of Dec^r next at two a Clock afternoon;"¹ but a letter from King William dated August 12 was read "At the Convention of the Govern^r and Council, and Representatives of the Massachusetts Colony, in Boston, Tuesday the third of December 1689 convened by Order of the Govern^r and Council upon the Arrival of a Ship from London."² The letter is in part as follows:

And Whereas You give us to Understand, that you have taken upon You the Present Care of the Government until you should receive Our Orders therein; We do hereby Authorise and Impower you to Continue in our Name your Care in the Administration thereof, and Preservation of the Peace, Until We shall have taken such Resolutions, and given such Direction, for the more Orderly Settle^{mt} of the Said Govern^{mt} as shall most conduce to Our Service, and the Security and Satisfaction of our Subjects within that Our Colony, . . . the 12th day of August 1689 . . .

By His Majesties Command

Superscribed

SHREWSBURY

To such as for the time being
take Care of Preserving the Peace
and Administring the Laws in
Our Colony of the Massa-
chusetts Bay in New England³

On December 16 it was declared, in reference to the King's letter of August 12, that "All their Maj^{ties} Subjects as well Officers Civil, and Military; & all Inhabitants and Strangers residing within this Colony are therefore hereby required to take notice there of, and to Yeild Obedience unto the Said Govern^{mt} accordingly as they will Answer the Contrary."⁴

On January 24, 1690, it is "Agreed that this Convention be Henceforth termed a General Court, and be Accounted such in all Respects."⁵

On May 28, 1690, —

Election was made of Governour, Deputy Gov^r Assistants, and other Publick Officers, as follow Viz^t

Simon Bradstreet Esq^r Govern^r — and Sworn.

Thomas Danforth Esq^r Deputy Gover^r and Sworn. . . .

Isaac Adington Secretary Sworn.⁶

¹ vi. 88.

² vi. 88.

³ vi. 90.

⁴ vi. 97.

⁵ vi. 105.

⁶ vi. 133.

On May 20, 1691, —

Simon Bradstreet Esq^r was Chosen Gov^r & Sworn

Tho^s Danforth Esq^r was Chosen dep^y Gov^r & Sworn . . .

Isaac Addington was chosen Secretary Jur^t ¹

On May 4, 1692, —

Simon Bradstreet Esq^r was chosen Govern^r, and tooke the Oath of Allegiance, and the Oath of His Place, or Office, for this Year, Or until there be a Settlement of Government from the Crown of England.

Thomas Danforth Esq^r was chosen Dep^{ty} Gov^r . . .

Isaac Addington Esq^r was chosen Secretary Jur^t: ²

The Court met for the last time on May 6, 1692, when it "Adjourn'd unto Tuesday the 24th of May Curr^t at one a Clock Afternoon;" ³ but before that day came, Sir William Phips had arrived with the Province Charter.

The events from April 18, 1689, to May 6, 1692, are given in the following —

SUMMARY

1689	April 18	Andros's government overthrown
	April 20	Council for Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace appointed, with Simon Bradstreet as President and Isaac Addington as Clerk
	May 1	Doings of the Council for Safety on April 20 approved
	May 9	Representatives meet
	May 10	A fuller representation declared necessary
	May 22	Representatives meet
	May 24	Government settled as of May, 1686, but no assumption of Charter government is intended
	May 25	Bradstreet appointed President and Addington Clerk
	June 5	Representatives meet
	June 7	Charter government assumed, Bradstreet and Danforth being sworn as Governor and Deputy-Governor
	June 11	Addington chosen Secretary
	June 13	Addington sworn as Secretary
1689	Aug. 12	The government approved by William III
1690	Jan. 24	The Convention declared a General Court
	May 28	Bradstreet, Danforth, and Addington reëlected
1691	May 20	Bradstreet, Danforth, and Addington reëlected
1692	May 4	Bradstreet, Danforth, and Addington reëlected
	May 6	Last meeting of the Court ⁴

¹ Court Records, vi. 183.

² vi. 214.

³ vi. 217.

⁴ As already stated (p. 7, above) the New Plymouth Colony was included in the Territory and Dominion of New England created by Andros's Commission of

IV

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, 1685-1691

A

DUDLEY'S COUNCIL, 1685-1686

In Dudley's Commission (October 8, 1685) as President of the Council for New England, Dudley himself was nominated and ap-

June 3, 1686. A General Court was held at Plymouth in June, 1686, and Courts of Assistants were held in June, July, and October, 1686 (Plymouth Colony Records, vi. 184-204, vii. 299-304). At the General Court held in June, 1686, Thomas Hinckley, William Bradford, and Samuel Sprague were chosen respectively Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Secretary (vi. 185). No Court was held between October 5, 1686, and June, 1689, when Thomas Hinckley, William Bradford, and Samuel Sprague were chosen respectively Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Secretary (vi. 205); and the following proceedings took place:

At their Ma^{ties} Generall Court of Election held at Plimouth, for the Colony of New Plimouth, on the first Tuesday in June, 1689.

WHEREAS, through the great changes divine Providence hath ordered out, both in England and in this countrey, we, the loyall subjects of the crown of England, are left in an unsetled estate, destitute of government, and exposed to the ill consequents thereof; and having heretofore enjoyed a quiet settlement of government in this their ma^{ties} colony of New Plimouth for more than threescore and six years without any interruption; having also been by the late Kings of England from time to time, by their royall letters, graciously owned and acknowledged therein, whereby notwithstanding our late unjust interruption and suspension therefrom by the illegall arbitrary power of S^r Edmond Andros, now ceased, the Generall Court held here in the name of their present ma^{ties}, William and Mary, King and Queen of England, &c., together with the encouragement given by their said ma^{ties} gracious declarations, and in humble confidence of their s^d ma^{ties} good liking, doe, therefore, hereby resume and declare their reassuming of their said former way of government, according to such wholesome constitutions, rules, and orders as were here in force in June, 1686, our title therto being warranted by prescription and otherwise as aforesaid, and expect a reddey submission thereunto by all their ma^{ties} good subjects of this colony, untill their ma^{ties} or this Court shall otherwise order.

And that all our Courts be hereafter held, and all warrants directed, and officers sworn, in the name of their ma^{ties}, William and Mary, King and Queen of England, &c. (vi. 208-209).

The last General Court appears to have been held on July 7, 1691 (vi. 268-269), though a Court of Assistants was held on April 5, 1692, the final record being:

The Court . . . adjourn to Thursday y^e 9th day of June next, and all procees and bonds continued to s^d adjournm^t, & parties ordered to attend the same (vii. 312).

pointed "to be the first President of the said Councill and to continue in the said Office vntill we our Heires or Successors shall otherwise direct;" while the following seventeen persons were nominated and appointed "to be of our Councill:"¹

Bradstreet, Dudley	Mason, Robert	Tyng, Jonathan
Bradstreet, Simon	Pynchon, John	Usher, John
Bulkley, Peter	Randolph, Edward	Wharton, Richard
Champernoon, Francis	Saltonstall, Nathaniel	Winthrop, Fitz John
Gedney, Bartholomew	Stoughton, William	Winthrop, Wait
Hinckes, John	Tyng, Edward	

The only provision in Dudley's Commission for the replacing of a Councillor was in case of death, as follows:

And if any of the members of the said Councill shall happen to dy Our Will & pleasure is and Wee do hereby direct & appoint the President of our Councill for the time being to elect some other person to be a member of the said Councill for that time, and to send over the name of such person soe chosen, and the names of two more Whom our said President shall judge fittly qualified for the said trust that We our heires & successors may nominate & appoint which of the three shall be the member in the place of the member so dying²

This provision proved unsatisfactory, since at the very beginning a difficulty arose because three members declined to serve, while a fourth member was incapacitated from serving. In a letter to Blathwayt dated May 29, Randolph said:

This acquaints you that the 25 following the pres^{dt} and 14³ of the Councill mett at Boston and taking the oathes were entred vpon the

¹ Publications of this Society, ii. 38. A list, sent by Randolph to the Committee on September 2, 1685, of "The Names of Persons well disposed & humbly offred to be of his Mat^{ties} Councill in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay & the Provinces in New Eng^d to consist of One President one Deputy-President & 18 to be of y^e Councill," will be found in Toppan's Randolph, iv. 43-47.

² Publications of this Society, ii. 43.

³ According to the Council Records (ii. 1; cf. Dudley Records, p. 226), only the President and eleven members of the Council were present on May 25; yet in their letter to the Committee of June 1 the President and Council stated that "Joseph Dudley Esq^{re} President haveing first taken the Oathes in his Maj^{ty}s Commission required, did administer the same Oathes unto fourteen of the Members of his Maj^{ty}s Councill then present and entred upon the exercise of the Government" (Council Records, ii. 23; cf. Dudley Records, pp. 239-240). The two members of the Council not recorded in the Council Records (ii. 1) as present on May 25 were

Gom^t M^r Champernoon: was so much indisposed that twas not possible for him to come to Boston: Butt old M^r Bradstreet and his son wholly refused to accept the Commission as a thing contriued to abridge them of their libertye and indeed against Magna Charta: and Mr Saltenstall also diserted vs: in whose places are very proper to bee inserted: Richard Smith of Narragansett: M^r William Brown Junior: the third I leaue to M^r Masons nomination who is coming ouer vpon the next ship which will in a short tyme sayle from hence.¹

On June 1 the President and Council drew up a letter to the Committee which contained the following paragraph:

Wee may not omitt humbly to represent to your Lordships, that there being no direction for a supply of Members into his Maj^{ty}s Councill except only in the case of death, whereas by the removall, constant sickness, or other avoidance of any of the Members, His Majestyes Councill may sometimes faile of a Quorum or more full appearance, needfull for his Maj^{ty}s service; it is therefore humbly offered, that in such cases wherein there appeares an impossibilitie or refusall of service, His Maj^{ty} would graciously grant that a supply of Members may be appointed as in case of Death.²

On June 19 the President and Council wrote to the Committee as follows:

Wee cannot avoid to lay before your Lords^{ps} the inconvenience hapning by y^e indispositions & refusall of Severall persons nominated in his Ma^{ties} most Gracious Commission: & the great distance of others from his Ma^{ties} town of Boston the vsuall place of meeting.

ffor avoiding therefore any obstruction in prosecuting his Ma^{ties} seuerall commands in that Commission to us directed

Its humbly proposed as very necessary for his Ma^{ties} Service, and wee do accordingly nominate eight persons, whose names are herevnto annexed to Supply those vacaneyes, Submitting in all duty & obedience their choice & appointment to his Ma^{tie}, and waite his Ma^{ties} gracious

Jonathan Tyng and John Usher. There are curious discrepancies in the records. Thus twelve persons are recorded as present in Council on June 1 (Council Records, ii. 19; Dudley Records, p. 237), yet the letter to the Committee drawn up that day was signed by eleven members (Toppan's Randolph, iv. 82), while the address to the King also drawn up June 1 was signed by fourteen members (iv. 85).

¹ Toppan's Randolph, vi. 171-172.

² Council Records, ii. 23-24. Cf. Dudley Records, p. 240.

answere So Soon as it Shall please your Lords^{ps} to report the Same vnto
his Ma^{tie}

They then said that "M^r Bradstreet Major Saltenstall Dudley
Bradstreet do not accept y^e Commission;" that "M^r Champernoon
weak & vnable to act in that Commission;" and gave these —

Names of persons to Supply their vacancyes

Samuell Shrimpton:	Will ^t Brown ju.
James Russell	Sam. Sewall
Symon Linds	tho: Graues
Nicholas paige	Ric ^d Smith ¹

As a matter of fact, no new members were added to Dudley's
Council.²

B

ANDROS'S COUNCIL, 1686-1688

In Andros's first Commission (June 3, 1686) as Governor of the
Territory and Dominion of New England, no persons were named
for the Council; but in the Instructions issued to him on September
12, 1686, he was directed upon his arrival in Boston "forthwith to
call together the members of Our Councill for that Our Territory and
Dominion," and the following twenty-seven persons were named:³

Albro, John	Greene, John	Smith, Daniel
Arnold, Richard	Hinckes, John	Stoughton, William
Bradford, William	Hinekley, Thomas	Tyng, Edward
Bulkley, Peter	Lothrop, Barnabas	Tyng, Jonathan
Clarke, Nathaniel	Mason, Robert	Usher, John
Clarke, Walter	Newbury, Walter	Walley, John
Coggeshall, John	Pynchon, John	Wharton, Richard
Dudley, Joseph	Randolph, Edward	Winthrop, Fitz John
Gedney, Bartholomew	Sanford, John	Winthrop, Wait

Article 6 of the same Instructions reads as follows:

And that Wee may alwayes be informed of the names of persons fit
to supply the Vacancies of Our Councill you are to transmit unto Us by

¹ Toppan's Randolph, iv. 85-86.

² Randolph is at times strangely confused as to the Council. Thus in a letter
to Archbishop Sancroft dated July 7, 1686, he said: "Of a president and eighteen
members of the councill, there is onely myselfe, since Mr. Mason's departure for
England, that is of the church of England" (Toppan's Randolph, iv. 89). Dudley's
government consisted of a President and seventeen members of the Council.

³ From a transcript (Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Vol. 904,
pp. 283-296) in the possession of the Editor.

One of Our principal Secretaries of State, and to the Lords of Our Privy Councill appointed a Committee for Trade and Forreign Plantations, with all convenient speed the names and characters of twelve persons Inhabitants of Our said Territory, whom you shall esteem the best qualified for that Trust and so from time to time when any of them shall dye, depart out of Our said Territory or become otherwise unfit, you are to supply the first number of twelve Persons by nominating others to Us in their stead.¹

Accordingly, on March 25, 1687, the following "Names of persons best qualified to fill vacancies in Council" were transmitted:²

Brinley, Francis ³	Lidgett, Charles	Sanford, Peleg ⁶
Browne, William, Jr.	Luscombe, Humphrey ⁵	Sheafe, Sampson
Curwin, Jonathan	Lynde, Simon	Shrimpton, Samuel
Hutchinson, Eliakim ⁴	Russell, James	Smith, Richard

Before the date of Andros's second Commission (April 7, 1688), at least seven persons had been nominated to the Council of whom four were among the twelve recommended above. On April 25, 1687, Andros was directed "forthwith upon receipt hereof" to cause "Captain Francis Nicholson to be sworne of Our Councill of that Our Colony of New England."⁷ On August 24 following, —

Pursuant to his Majestyes Command Captaine Francis Nicholson was this day sworne of his Majestyes Councill in this his Territory and Dominion of New England and tooke his place accordingly.⁸

¹ Ibid.

² Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1685-1688, No. 1197 1, p. 351.

³ Printed "Francis Brenley" in the Calendar.

⁴ Printed "Eliakim Hutchison" in the Calendar.

⁵ Printed "Humphrey Lusamb" in the Calendar.

⁶ Printed "Peter(?) Sandforth" in the Calendar. Miss Lucy Drucker of London, who has examined the original at my request, informs me that the name is clearly "Peleg Sandforth," or Peleg Sanford, sometime Governor of Rhode Island. It is stated in the Rhode Island Historical Magazine that on "March 25, 1687, he was appointed one of Andros Council, but would not serve" (vii. 296-297). This is a mistake, the passage in the text showing that Peleg Sanford's name was merely transmitted as one of the persons "best qualified to fill vacancies in Council." Peleg Sanford was a brother of John Sanford, a member of Andros's Council in 1688: See p. 41 note 11, below.

⁷ From a transcript (Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 389, Vol. 9, p. 434) in the possession of the Editor.

⁸ Council Records, ii. 134. Sewall writes: "Tuesday, Augt. 23. Balston arrives

On June 18, 1687, Robert Treat and John Allyn were nominated to the Council;¹ and on June 27 Andros was directed to "Cause Our Trusty and welbeloved Robert Treat Esq^{re} the present Governor, and John Allen Esq^{re} the present Secretary of Conecticut^t to be Sworn of Our Councill in New England."² On November 1 following the Council met at Hartford, when, after Connecticut had been "annexed to the Dominion of New England," —

Pursuant to his Majestyes Commands Rob^t Treat Esq^r late Gov^r of Connetticott and John Allen Esq^r the late Secr^{ty} were sworne of his Maj^{ties} Councill.³

On November 4, 1687, Samuel Shrimpton, William Browne, Jr., Simon Lynde, and Richard Smith were nominated to the Council;⁴ and on November 10 Andros was directed to cause those four persons "to be sworn of Our Councill of that Our Colony of New England."⁵ Lynde did not serve, as he died November 22.⁶ It is not known exactly when Browne, Shrimpton, and Smith were sworn, since, as already stated,⁷ no regular Council records after December 29, 1687, are extant; but it must have been at least as early as February 3, 1688, for on that day Browne and Shrimpton were present at a Council meeting.⁸

C

ANDROS'S COUNCIL, 1688-1689

In Andros's second Commission (April 7, 1688) as Governor of the Territory and Dominion of New England, no persons were named for the Council; but in the Instructions issued to him on April 16, 1688,

and brings Gazetts to June 13, and a Privy Seal whereby Capt. Nicholson is added to the Council, being sworn" (Diary, i. 186).

¹ Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, ii. 811.

² From a transcript (Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Vol. 904, pp. 353-354) in the possession of the Editor.

³ Council Records, ii. 150.

⁴ Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, ii. 817.

⁵ From a transcript (Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Vol. 904, p. 365) in the possession of the Editor.

⁶ See p. 40, below.

⁷ See p. 8 note 1, above.

⁸ See p. 15 note, above.

he was directed "with all convenient speed" to "call together" the following forty-two "Members of the Council:"¹

Albro, John	Gedney, Bartholomew	Shrimpton, Samuel
Allyn, John	Greene, John	Smith, Daniel
Arnold, Richard	Hinckes, John	Smith, Richard
Baxter, Jarvis	Hinekley, Thomas	Spragg, John
Bayard, Nicholas	Lothrop, Barnabas	Stoughton, William
Bradford, William	Lynde, Simon	Treat, Robert
Brockholes, Anthony	Mason, Robert	Tyng, Edward
Browne, William, Jr.	Newbury, Walter	Tyng, Jonathan
Bulkley, Peter	Nicholson, Francis	Usher, John
Clarke, Nathaniel	Palmer, John	Walley, John
Clarke, Walter	Philipse, Frederick	Wharton, Richard
Coggeshall, John	Pynehon, John	Winthrop, Fitz John
Cortlandt, Stephen van	Randolph, Edward	Winthrop, Wait
Dudley, Joseph	Sanford, John	Youngs, John

D

FIRST COUNCIL UNDER THE PROVINCE CHARTER, 1691

In the Province Charter (October 7, 1691) the following twenty-eight persons were named for the Council:²

Aleock, Job	Hawthorn, John	Pike, Robert
Appleton, Samuel	Hayman, Samuel	Richards, John
Bradford, William	Hinckley, Thomas	Russell, James
Bradstreet, Simon	Hutchinson, Elisha ³	Saltonstall, Nathaniel
Curwin, Jonathan	Joyliffe, John	Sergeant, Peter
Davis, Silvanus	Lothrop, Barnabas	Sewall, Samuel
Donnell, Samuel	Lynde, Joseph	Walley, John
Foster, John	Mason, Stephen	Winthrop, Adam
Gedney, Bartholomew	Middlecott, Richard	Winthrop, Wait
	Phillips, John	

¹ From a transcript (Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Vol. 855, No. 95) in the possession of the Editor.

² Publications of this Society, ii. 18.

³ On September 18, 1691, Sir Henry Ashurst and Increase Mather submitted "names of persons . . . as Governor, Deputy-Governor and Assistants for Massachusetts. Governor, Sir William Phips. Deputy-Governor, William Stoughton. Assistants," then follow the names of twenty-seven persons only, that of Elisha Hutchinson not being included (Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1689-1692, No. 1, 772, p. 545). In the same work appears, under date of October 7, 1691: "Charter of Massachusetts. Herein the Council or Assistants are named as in No. 1,772, and Isaac Addington is named Secretary" (No. 1,806, p. 550). Hutchinson's name was inadvertently omitted in the printed Calendar, Miss Drucker informing me that it occurs in the original of No. 1,772.

In the following list these names are brought together under a single alphabet, thus making it possible to tell at a glance to which Council each belonged. Variations in the spelling of names, where important, are noted in footnotes;¹ and to the name of each person is added the colony to which he belonged. The abbreviations here used are obvious, with the possible exception of the letters "N. C." and "N. P.," which indicate respectively the Narragansett Country and the New Plymouth Colony.

LIST OF COUNCILLORS, 1685-1691

	A = Named in Commission to Dudley, Oct. 8, 1685 ²
	B = Named in Instructions to Andros, Sept. 12, 1686 ³
	C = Named in Instructions to Andros, April 16, 1688 ⁴
	D = Named in Province Charter, Oct. 7, 1691 ⁵
B C	ALBRO, ⁶ JOHN. R. I. Died 1712. ⁷
D	ALCOCK, ⁸ JOB. Me. Died about 1716. ⁹
C	ALLYN, JOHN. Ct. Died 1696. ¹⁰
D	APPLETON, SAMUEL. Mass. Died May 15, 1696. ¹¹
B C	ARNOLD, RICHARD. R. I. Died April 22, 1710. ¹²
C	BAXTER, JARVIS. N. Y.
C	BAYARD, NICHOLAS. ¹³ N. Y.
B C D	BRADFORD, WILLIAM. N. P. Died Feb. 20, 1704. ¹⁴

¹ The form given in the text is more or less arbitrary. Trifling differences — like "Brown" or "Browne," "Clark" or "Clarke" or "Clerk," "Gedney" or "Gidney," "Winthrop" or "Winthorp" — are not noted.

² See p. 30 note 1, above.

³ See p. 32 note 3, above.

⁴ See p. 35 note 1, above.

⁵ See p. 35 note 2, above.

⁶ "Alborough" (B, C).

⁷ The date is variously given as November 1 (J. N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island*, Newport, iv. 49), November 14 (Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary*, i. 20), and December 14 (J. O. Austin, *One Hundred and Sixty Allied Families*, p. 1).

⁸ "Alcott" (D).

⁹ His will, dated December 2, 1712, was proved in 1716 (*New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, xxxvi. 401-402).

¹⁰ Savage says he died November 6, 1696 (*Genealogical Dictionary*, i. 43). On February 24, 1697, Wait Winthrop wrote: "I forgot in the other letter to tell you that Coll. Allyn is dead this winter at Hartford" (5 *Massachusetts Historical Collections*, viii. 525).

¹¹ Ipswich *Vital Records*, ii. 483.

¹² Savage, i. 66.

¹³ His will, dated May 9, 1707, was proved April 19, 1711 (*Collections New York Historical Society for 1893*, pp. 68-69).

¹⁴ "Febr. 20 [1704]. Major William Bradford dies in the 80th of his Age: He was a Right New-England Christian" (Sewall, *Diary*, ii. 95).

A		BRADSTREET, DUDLEY. Mass. Did not accept. Died Nov. 13, 1702. ¹
A	D	BRADSTREET, SIMON. Mass. Did not accept. Died March 27, 1697. ²
	C	BROCKHOLES, ANTHONY. ³ N. Y.
	C	BROWNE, WILLIAM, Jr. Mass. Died Feb. 23, 1716. ⁴
A	B C	BULKLEY, ⁵ PETER. Mass. H. C. 1660; died May 25, 1688. ⁶
A		CHAMPERNOON, FRANCIS. Me. Did not serve. Died before May 21, 1687. ⁷
	B C	CLARKE, Nathaniel. N. P. Died Jan. 31, 1717. ⁸
	B C	CLARKE, WALTER. R. I. Died May 23, 1714. ⁹

¹ Andover Vital Records, ii. 397. He was a son of Gov. Simon Bradstreet.

² "About 10. at night Gov^r Bradstreet dyes; which we are told of March, 29th at Cambridge" (Sewall, March 27, 1697, Diary, i. 450-451).

In saying that "The list of councillors [under Andros] in Palfrey's New England, ed. of 1890, vol. 3, p. 604, includes Simon Bradstreet, Dudley Bradstreet, Nathaniel Saltonstall and Francis Champernowne" (Laws of New Hampshire, 1904, i. 144 note), Mr. A. S. Batchellor is in error. Palfrey gives a list of the Councillors under Dudley, and then says: "In Andros's first Commission all the above-named Counsellors were included, except the two Bradstreets, Saltonstall, and Champernoon, who had not accepted the trust; and the following were added." This statement is correct, except that the members of Andros's first Council were named not in his Commission but in his Instructions.

³ An extract from a letter written by Randolph on May 21, 1687, reads: "His Excell, has to do with a perverse people. Here is none of the council at hand, Except Mr Mason, & myself, & M^r B.[rockholt] & M^r Usher, who appear lively for his Majesty's Interest" (4 Massachusetts Historical Collections, viii. 531). Brockholes was not a member of the Council at that time, hence a mistake was made in expanding "B." into "B.[rockholt]." Randolph's letter is printed in full in Toppan's Randolph, where we read: "his Excellence has to do with a perverse people here is none of the Council at hand except M^r Mason and my selfe who and M^r Bulkley and M^r Vsher appeare lively for his Ma^{ties} interest: Maj Bulkley and M^r Hinks are remote and come seldome" (vi. 221).

⁴ "Febr. 23, 171⁵. The hon^{ble} William Brown esqr. died in his house at Salem" (Sewall, Diary, iii. 74).

⁵ "Bulkley" (A), "Buckly" (B), "Buckley" (C).

⁶ "May 25th 1688. Col. Peter Bulkley of Concord dies, having languished for a long time. Died this Friday about eleven a'clock" (Sewall, Diary, i. 215).

⁷ On May 21, 1687, Randolph wrote: "Twill be for his Majestyes service to putt Mr. Shrimpton in the place of Capt. Champernoon and Mr. Luscombe in the place of Mr. Jo. Sandford of Rhoad Island, both dead" (Toppan's Randolph, iv. 163). Owing to indisposition, Champernoon did not serve in Dudley's Council (see p. 31, above), and was not a member of Andros's first Council; hence C. W. Tuttle was mistaken in saying that Champernoon "was continued in this office under Sir Edmund Andros, the successor of Dudley, and held it until his death in 1687" (Historical Papers, p. 120).

⁸ Savage, i. 399.

⁹ "Rhode-Island, May 28. Last Lord's Day Dyed here Walter Clarke Esq;

- B C COGGESHALL,¹ JOHN. R. I. Died Oct. 1, 1708.²
 C CORTLANDT, STEPHEN VAN.³ N. Y. Died Nov. 25, 1700.⁴
 D CURWIN, JONATHAN. Mass. Died June 9, 1718.⁵
 D DAVIS, SILVANUS. Me. Died in 1703.⁶
 D DONNELL,⁷ SAMUEL. Me. Died March 9, 1718.⁸
 A B C DUDLEY, JOSEPH. Mass. H. C. 1665; died April 2, 1720.⁹
 D FOSTER, JOHN. Mass. Died in February, 1711.¹⁰
 A B C D GEDNEY, BARTHOLOMEW. Me. Died March 1, 1698.¹¹
 B C GREENE, JOHN. R. I. Died Nov. 27, 1708.¹²

Deputy Governour of Rhode-Island, and Providence Plantations, in the Seventy Seventh Year of his Age" (Boston News Letter, May 31, 1714, p. 2/2). A document dated June 7, 1714, says that "it hath pleased God, after a long and tedious sickness to take our hon'd father, Walter Clarke out of this world by that fatal messenger, death, on ye 23d day of May, 1714" (Newport Historical Magazine, iii. 140).

¹ "Coxshell" (B), "Coxhill" (C).

² Newport Historical Magazine, iii. 186. He was the son of John Coggeshall, first President of Rhode Island, who died November 27, 1647 (*ibid.*).

³ "Stephen Courtland" (C).

⁴ Bellomont wrote: "P. S. 26th Nov. 1700. I intended you Collonel Courtland's Quarterly Book of Entries and Clearings of ships which he was providing, but he fell sick about 8 days since and dyed yesterday" (New York Colonial Documents, iv. 779).

⁵ "June, 9 [1718]. Mr. Corwin dies about 9. m." (Sewall, Diary, iii. 186).

⁶ Collections Maine Historical Society, i. 309; Suffolk Probate Files, No. 2806.

⁷ "Daniell" (D).

⁸ Savage, ii. 59; Collections Maine Historical Society, i. 310; Maine Wills, pp. 199-200.

⁹ "Boston, On Saturday the 2d Currant Dyed the very Honourable JOSEPH DUDLEY, Esq; at his Seat in Roxbury, in the 73d Year of his Age, being born September 23d 1647" (Boston News Letter, April 11, 1720, p. 2/1). The letter "A" is placed against Dudley's name for convenience, though it is perhaps a question whether, strictly speaking, he was or was not a member of that Council.

¹⁰ "Febr. 9 [1711]. Seventh-day, between 11 and 12 m. Col. John Foster expires. His place at the Council Board and Court will hardly be filled up. I have lost a good Left-hand man. The Lrd save New-England! Now just half the Counsellours mention'd in the Charter, are dead; The Lord prepare the rest, and me especially to follow after" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 300). Sewall has made a mistake either in the day of the month or in the day of week, since February 9 was Friday, not Saturday.

¹¹ "March, 1 [1698]. Col. Barthol. Gedney dies" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 8*).

¹² O. P. Fuller, History of Warwick (1875), pp. 30-31, 69; H. E. Turner, Greenses of Warwick in Colonial History (1877), p. 44; The Greene Family in England and America with Pedigrees (1901), pp. 43-44. "During the administration of Sir Edmond Andros," writes H. E. Turner, "the name of John Greene does not appear on the record. He appears as one of those named of the council, but he, probably, never took the engagement, and as the Narragansett petitioners say, sometime in 1686 he was about going to England, probably he was absent a part of that time"

			D	HAWTHORN, JOHN.	Mass.	Died in May, 1717. ¹
			D	HAYMAN, SAMUEL.	Mass. ²	Died Dec. 14, 1712. ³
A	B	C		HINCKES, JOHN. ⁴	N. H.	
	B	C	D	HINCKLEY, THOMAS.		Did not serve in D. Died April 16, 1705. ⁵
			D	HUTCHINSON, ELISHA.	Mass.	Died Dec. 10, 1717. ⁶

(Greene of Warwick in Colonial History, p. 44). On July 3, 1686, an address from Rhode Island to James II was drawn up (Rhode Island Colonial Records, iii. 193-194); in two documents without precise date it is stated that Greene "is gone to attend your Majesty" (iv. 208, 209); and Greene was certainly in England in January, 1687 (iv. 221-222). Hence it is probable that he carried the address to England. The following extract is taken from the London Gazette of September 16, 1686:

Windsor, Sept. 13. His Majesty has Graciously received the Address of the Colony of *Rhode Island*, and *Providence Plantation in New England*, Humbly Representing, that upon the Signification of a Writ of *Quo Warranto* against their Charter, They had resolved, in general Assembly, not to stand Suit with His Majesty, but wholly to submit to His Royal Pleasure themselves and their Charter; whereof His Majesty has thought fit to accept the Surrender (p. 2/2).

Greene and Mason were back in Boston by May 21, 1687, on which day "Robert Mason and John Greene Esq^{rs} tooke the Oathes of Allegiance, and that for performing the duty of Councillors, being both lately arrived from England" (Council Records, ii. 120).

¹ "May, 13.2 [1717]. Set out for Salem . . . Went to the Funeral of Col. Hathorne" (Sewall, Diary, iii. 130).

² In the Massachusetts Province Laws, Hayman, Alcock, and Donnell are assigned to the Province of Maine, while Davis is assigned as "*Of the inhabitants of, or proprietors of, land within the territory lying between the river of the Sagadahoc and Nova Scotia*" (vii. 6). But in the list of Councillors furnished by Mather and Ashurst on September 18, 1691 (see p. 35 note 3, above), Hayman is assigned to Massachusetts, and Alcock, Davis, and Donnell to Maine.

³ "Dec^r 18 [1712]. After Lecture, and Diñer I go to the Funeral of Capt. Sam^l Hayman, aged 70. years. . . . He was at Boston Lecture this day Señight, and died on the Lords-day night. He was a Lover of New-England" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 369).

⁴ For a sketch of Hinckes, see Collections New Hampshire Historical Society, viii. 360-364.

⁵ "Barnstable, April 25. On Monday the 16th Currant, Dyed suddenly here, Thomas Hinkley, Esqr. formerly Governour of Plimouth-Colony: Aged about 86 Years" (Boston News Letter, April 30, 1705, p. 2/2).

⁶ "Boston, On Tuesday last the tenth Currant Died here the Honourable Col. Elisha Hutchinson, Esq; aged Seventy six Years, a true lover of his Country, of an Exemplary conversation, a true friend to pure Religion, a Gentleman whose deserts raised [him] to some of the highest Posts in the Government for many Years, he was Colonel of the Regiment, Chief Judge of the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas, and one of His Majesty's Council for this Province" (Boston News Letter, December 16, 1717).

		D	JOYLIFFE, ¹ JOHN. Mass. Died Nov. 23, 1701. ²
B	C	D	LOTHROP, BARNABAS. ³ N. P. Died in 1715. ⁴
		D	LYNDE, JOSEPH. Mass. Died Jan. 29, 1727. ⁵
		C	LYNDE, SIMON. Mass. Did not serve. Died Nov. 22, 1687. ⁶
A	B	C	MASON, ROBERT. N. H. Died Sept. 6, 1688. ⁷
		D	MASON, STEPHEN. Mass. Did not serve. ⁸
		D	MIDDLECOTT, RICHARD. Mass. Died June 13, 1704. ⁹
B	C		NEWBURY, WALTER. R. I. Died Aug. 6, 1697. ¹⁰
		C	NICHOLSON, FRANCIS. ¹¹ Mass. Died March 5, 1728.

¹ "Jolliffe" (D).

² "Nov^r 23. 1701. John Joyliffe Esqr. dies. He had been blind, and laboured under many Infirmities for a long time" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 48).

³ "Barnaby Lathrop" (B, C), "Barnabas Lothrop" (D).

⁴ Savage, iii. 119.

⁵ "On the last Lord's Day the 29th of January past, Dyed at *Charlestown* the Honourable *Joseph Lynde*, Esq; Aged 90 Years, born in that place, formerly one of His Majesty's Council of this Province" (Boston News Letter, February 2, 1727, p. 2/2).

⁶ "Tuesday, Nov. 22 [1687]. I goe to Hog-Island . . . on Wednesday came home and hear of Justice Lynde's death yesterday about noon" (Sewall, Diary, i. 195). See p. 34, above.

⁷ "I . . . send this . . . which serves onely to acquaint you of ye Death of my Cousin Mason. who dyed the 6 instant was buried at Kingstone vpon this riuer" (Randolph to Blathwayt, September 12, 1688, Massachusetts Archives, cxxix. 181; cf. Toppan's Randolph, iv. 235).

⁸ "Mason was a merchant in London, a zealous man in the cause of New England, and I suppose his name was inserted in the charter from mere respect and gratitude, for he never came over to New England" (Hutchinson, History of Massachusetts, Boston, 1767, ii. 15 note). On this Savage comments as follows: "At the first elect. [in 1693] our people were not prevented by respect or gratitude from leav. him out, as they did sev. others of the creatures of Mather" (Genealogical Dictionary, iii. 170). The fact that Mason was not resident in Massachusetts in 1693 is sufficient to account for his being left out that year. Allusions to him will be found in Sewall's Diary and Letter-Book. It has been asserted, but perhaps on inadequate evidence, that he was in Massachusetts in 1686: see Massachusetts Province Laws, vii. 5 note; Z. G. Whitman, History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company (1842), p. 220; O. A. Roberts, History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company (1895), i. 276, 277, 286; C. Robbins, History of the Second Church (1852), p. 263.

⁹ W. H. Whitmore, Genealogy of the Payne and Gore Families (Prince Society) p. 12; Suffolk Probate Files, No. 2883.

¹⁰ J. O. Austin, Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, p. 137.

¹¹ "John Nicholson" (C). Born November 12, 1655, Francis Nicholson was commissioned an Ensign on January 16, 1678, and on July 30, 1686, Captain of a Company of Foot for the Colony of New England. He came over in December, 1686, the first allusion to him here by name apparently being an entry in Sewall's Diary for May 17, 1687 (i. 177). He was never knighted. See C. Dalton, English Army Lists and Commission Registers, 1661-1714, i. 221, 269, 323, ii. 27, 83, vi. 20, 184, 191, 287, 399-400; Dalton, George the First's Army, 1714-1727, ii. 55-

	C	PALMER, JOHN. N. Y.	
	C	PHILIPSE, ¹ FREDERICK. N. Y.	Died Nov. 6, 1702. ²
	D	PHILLIPS, JOHN. Mass.	Died March 21, 1725. ³
	D	PIKE, ROBERT. Mass.	Died Dec., 1706. ⁴
A B C		PYNCHON, JOHN. Mass.	Died Jan. 17, 1703. ⁵
A B C		RANDOLPH, EDWARD. Mass.	Died in April, 1703. ⁶
	D	RICHARDS, JOHN. Mass.	Died April 2, 1694. ⁷
	D	RUSSELL, JAMES. Mass.	Died April 28, 1709. ⁸
A	D	SALTONSTALL, NATHANIEL. Mass.	Did not accept A. H. C. 1659; died May 21, 1707. ⁹
B C		SANFORD, JOHN. R. I.	Did not serve. ¹⁰ Died before May 21, 1687. ¹¹
	D	SERGEANT, PETER. Mass.	Died Feb. 8, 1714. ¹²

62; Notes and Queries, September 12, 1903, Ninth Series, xii. 201-202; Nation, xcvi. 32. He is sometimes assigned to New York, but he did not go to New York until long after his arrival at Boston. His death was noted in the New England Weekly Journal of April 29, 1728, p. 2/2.

¹ "Phillips" (C). The name is found in over a dozen different forms.

² E. H. Hall, Philipse Manor at Yonkers (1912), pp. 38-39; Collections New York Historical Society for 1892, pp. 369-374.

³ "On the last Lord's Day died at Charlestown the Honourable *John Phillips*, Esq; formerly of His Majesty's Council in this Province, Aged 90 odd Years" (Boston News Letter, March 25, 1725, p. 2/2).

⁴ "*Salisbury*; Major *Robert Pike* Esq. was Interr'd here on *Thursday* the 19th. of *December* last; the Foot Company of the Town, and the Troop, being in Arms. He died in the 92 year of his Age" (Boston News Letter, January 6, 1707, p. 4/2).

⁵ "Col. John Pynchon died Jan^y 17. 170 $\frac{3}{4}$, about Sun-Rise, as Mr. Holyoke tells me Sabbath-Day" (Sewall, Diary, February 6, ii. 73).

⁶ Toppan's Randolph, ii. 182.

⁷ "April 2, 1694. Monday. . . . In the Afternoon, all the Town is filled with the discourse of Major Richards's Death, which was extraordinarily suddain; was abroad on the Sabbath, din'd very well on Monday, and after falling into an angry passion with his Servant Richard Frame, presently after, fell probably into a Fit of Apoplexy, and died" (Sewall, Diary, i. 389-390).

⁸ "Thursday, April, 28 [1709]. Mr. Russell dies about 11. a.m. He was a good Christian, and right New-England Man; is I think the last of them chosen in the year 1680: about 68. years old" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 253).

⁹ "May, 22 [1707]. Thursday, . . . Bro^r Tapin tells me of the death of Col. Saltonstall on Wednesday after Lecture" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 187). Cf. Haverhill Vital Records, ii. 466.

¹⁰ At least, he is not recorded as present at any meeting of the Council.

¹¹ Rhode Island Historical Magazine, vii. 294-295. In a letter dated May 21, 1687, Randolph said that Sanford was dead (see p. 37 note 7, above). He is sometimes confused with his father, also John Sanford, who was President of Rhode Island in 1653 and died between June 22 and November 16 of that year (Rhode Island Historical Magazine, vii. 293-294).

¹² "*Boston*, On Monday last dyed here the Honourable *Peter Sargent* Esqr. of Her Majesty's Councill for this Province" (Boston News Letter, February 15, 1714, p. 2/2).

- D SEWALL, SAMUEL. Mass. H. C. 1671; died Jan. 1, 1730.¹
 C SHRIMPTON, SAMUEL. Mass. Died Feb. 8, 1698.²
 B C SMITH, DANIEL. N. P. Died April 28, 1692.³
 C SMITH, RICHARD. N. C. Died about 1692.⁴
 C SPRAGG, JOHN. N. Y. Did not serve.⁵

¹ "This Morning about half an hour after Five Died here the very Honourable SAMUEL SEWALL, Esq; in the 78th Year of his Age" (Boston News Letter, January 1, 1730, p. 2/2).

² "Febr. 9 [1698]. Col. S. Shrimpton dies of an Apoplexy" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 8*). This entry is apparently wrong, as Sewall elsewhere writes: "Fourth-day, Febr. 9. Last night, about nine of the clock, Col. Shrimpton dyes of an Apoplexy" (Diary, i. 470). And on February 9 Wait Winthrop wrote: "I fear the post will be gon, so must end by giueing you the bad news that Coll. Shrimpton dyed about nine of the clock the last night, haueing not bin sick aboue two or three days, tho something indisposed as he use to be longer" (5 Massachusetts Historical Collections viii. 528).

³ J. N. Arnold, *Vital Records of Rehoboth*, p. 876.

⁴ His will, dated March 16, 1691, was proved July 12, 1692 (Savage, iv. 131; Suffolk Probate Files, No. 1970).

⁵ Though in the Instructions to Andros the name clearly reads "John Spragg," it has hitherto been assumed that "Spragg" was a variant of "Sprague," and John Sprague has been assigned sometimes to Rhode Island (A. S. Batchellor, *Laws of New Hampshire*, 1904, i. 144), and sometimes — on the authority of an old list printed by Hutchinson — to Plymouth Colony (Hutchinson, *History of Massachusetts*, London, 1765, i. 354; Baylies, *Historical Memoir of New Plymouth*, vol. ii. pt. iv. p. 43; Batchellor, *Laws of New Hampshire*, i. 830 and note 1. Cf. Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary*, iv. 153–154, who challenged this identification). The person was unquestionably John Spragg (Sprag, Spragge), who lived in New York from 1683 to 1687. On January 27, 1683, Spragg was commissioned by the Duke of York Secretary of New York and reached there the following summer or autumn (Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1681–1685, Nos. 919, 1415, pp. 378, 555). On August 11, 1685, Governor Dongan wrote Blathwayt that "Mr Sprag the Secretary of this place will goe for England this winter and carry the Laws" (New York Colonial Documents, iii. 364). The Instructions to Dongan issued May 29, 1686, contained this clause: "Whereupon you are forthwith to call together the members of our Council for that our Province, by name Anthony Brockholes, Frederick Philips, Stephanus van Courtland, Lucas Santen, John Spragg, Jervas Baxter, and John Young Esquires" (ibid. iii. 369). On September 13, 1686, Spragg wrote Blathwayt, "I hope to be myself the bearer of the quarterly returns required by the Lords of Trade and Plantations" (Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1685–1688, No. 861, p. 242). On September 14 "Governor Dongan took the oaths on receiving his new Commission and Instructions. Anthony Brockholes, Frederick Flipson, Stephanus van Cortlandt, John Spragge, and Gervis Baxter were sworn of the Council. Agreed that Mr. Santen be not sworn yet" (ibid. No. 862, p. 242). On February 22, 1687, Dongan wrote that "The Council thought fit not to give M^r Santen his Oath, as appears by the Minutes of Council. John Young had his oath given him, but hee lives 150 miles from this, and has noe estate of his own and very old, that it is a thing impossible

A	B	C	STOUGHTON, WILLIAM. Mass. H. C. 1650; died July 7, 1701. ¹
		C	TREAT, ROBERT. Ct. Died July 12, 1710. ²
A	B	C	TYNG, EDWARD. Me. Died about 1701. ³
A	B	C	TYNG, JONATHAN. Mass. Died Jan. 19, 1724. ⁴
A	B	C	USHER, JOHN. Mass. Died Sept. 1, 1726. ⁵
	B	C D	WALLEY, JOHN. N. P. Died Jan. 11, 1714. ⁶

for him to serve" (New York Colonial Documents, iii. 416). (Notwithstanding this statement, John Youngs did serve and was present at several Council meetings.) On the same day (February 22, 1687), "Names of the new Councillors recommended by Governor Dongan in the letter; with an intimation that he has already appointed Judge Palmer and Nicholas Bayard to the Council" (Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1685-1688, No. 1140r, p. 322). On March 2, 1687, Dongan wrote to the King, "I send Captⁿ Baxter and M^r Spragg and humbly beg your Mat^y will discourse them" (New York Colonial Documents, iii. 423). Spragg must have sailed about that time, since various documents were endorsed as "Reed. 9 May 1687, per Mr. J. Spragge" (Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1685-1688, pp. 322, 335). As stated in the text, Spragg was named a Councillor in the Instructions to Andros of April 16, 1688. In a document dated December, 1689, we read: "List of the Council of New York, with comments against the names. Anthony Brockholes (papist); Frederick Flypse; Gervais Baxter (a papist); Stephan van Cortlandt; John Sprag (in England); Nicholas Bayard; John Palmer (in custody at Boston)" (ibid. 1689-1692, No. 667, p. 197). This is the last allusion I find to Spragg, and as his name is not included as a Councillor in the Instructions to Governor Sloughter issued January 31, 1690 (ibid. No. 750, p. 215), it may be assumed that he died in London late in 1689. (Many other references to Spragg are in the Calendars of State Papers, America and West Indies; New York Colonial Documents; Calendar of Historical Manuscripts, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, 1866, pt. ii. pp. 104, 106, 112, 114, 132, 133, 144, 146, 154, 155, 162; and Journal of the Legislative Council of the Colony of New York, 1861, vol. i. pp. xii, xiv, xv, xvii).

¹ See p. 50, below.

² H. R. Stiles, History of Ancient Wethersfield (1904), ii. 713.

³ Savage, iv. 357; Suffolk Probate Files, No. 2653.

⁴ "Wooburn; Lord's Day, January 19th. We were here entertain'd with a very loud *Memento Mori*: The Honourable Col. *Jonathan Tyng* Esq; walking to the place of Publick Worship in the Afternoon, expired as soon as he got into his seat, during the time of the first Prayer, and was carried out dead, *Ætatis* 81. His Faith and Holiness were so apparent that we are perswaded he was convey'd to the Assembly of the First-born in Heaven, to bear a part with them in glorifying their Creator and Redeemer" (Boston News Letter, January 23, 1724, p. 2/2). In the New England Courant of January 27, 1724, the date by an obvious misprint is given as "Sunday the 29th Instant" (p. 2/2).

⁵ "And on the 1st Instant, died at his Seat near Medford, the Honourable *John Usher* Esq; sometime since Lieut. Governour of the Province of New-Hampshire, in the 79 Year of his Age, & was Honourably Interr'd here on Monday last" (Boston News Letter, September 8, 1726, p. 2/2).

⁶ "Boston. On Friday the Eleventh Currant, Dyed here the Honourable *John Walley* Esq; of Her Majesty's Council, and one of the Judges of the Superiour

- A B C WHARTON, RICHARD. Mass. Died May 14, 1689.¹
 D WINTHROP, ADAM. Mass. Died Aug. 3, 1700.²
 A B C WINTHROP, FITZ JOHN. Ct. Died Nov. 27, 1707.³
 A B C . D WINTHROP, WAIT. Mass. Died Nov. 7, 1717.⁴
 C YOUNGS,⁵ JOHN. N. Y. Died about 1698.⁶

V

PROVINCE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY, 1691-1775

GOVERNORS

Sir WILLIAM PHIPS was commissioned Governor by William and Mary on December 12, 1691. Arriving in Boston on May 14, 1692, he was sworn on May 16. Sewall writes:

May 14th 1692. Sir William arrives in the Nonsuch Frigate: Candles are lighted before He gets into Town-house. Eight Companies wait on Him to his house, and then on Mr. [Increase] Mather to his. Made no volleys because 'twas Satterday night. . . .

Monday, May 16. Eight Companies and two from Charlestown guard Sir William and his Councillors to the Townhouse, where the Commissions were read out and Oaths taken.⁷

Court of this Province, in the Sixty Ninth Year of his Age" (Boston News Letter, January 14, 1712, p. 2/2).

¹ "Tuesday, May 14th [1689], Mr. Richard Wharton dyes about 10 *post merid*" (Sewall's Diary, i. 255).

² "Aug^t 3 [1700]. . . . About 2 *post merid*, Mr. Adam Winthrop dies" (Sewall, Diary, ii. 21).

³ "Boston, Nov. 27. About four a Clock this morning the Honourable John Winthrop Esqr. Governour of Her Majesties Colony of Connecticut, Departed this Life in the Sixty Ninth Year of his Age; being Born at Ipswich in New England the 14th day of March, Anno 1638" (Boston News Letter, December 1, 1707, p. 2/1). He was the son of Gov. John Winthrop, Jr., of Connecticut.

⁴ "Boston, On Thursday the 7th Currant died here the Honourable Major General WAIT WINTHROP Esq; Aged 76 Years, Justly Dear to his Country for his Honourable Descent . . . but dearer yet for his personal Character and Vertues" (Boston News Letter, November 18, 1717). He was the son of Gov. John Winthrop, Jr., of Connecticut

⁵ "Young" (C).

⁶ His will, dated February 20, 1697, was proved May 28, 1698 (Collections New York Historical Society for 1892, pp. 292-293). On October 17, 1700, Bellomont wrote: "To instance, in some of those false articles, I am accus'd of having remov'd Coll. Young with others from the Council, and Coll: Young was dead two years before my coming into this country" (New York Colonial Documents, iv. 726). Bellomont reached New York April 2, 1698 (see p. 49 note 2, below).

⁷ Diary, i. 360.

The following extracts are from the Council Records of May 16th:

Their Majesties Royal Charter for the Erecting Uniting and Incorporating of their Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New-England, and for settling of Government within the said Province, under the great seal of England, was read and published.

Their Majesties Letters Pattents under the great seal of England, for constituting and appointing S^r William Phips kn^t to be Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over their Maj^{ties} Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England; as also for the Constituting and appointing of the said S^r William Phips to be their Maj^{ties} Lieutenant and Commander in Chief of the Militia Forces, Forts and places of strength within their Maj^{ties} several Colonies of Connecticut, Rhode Island & Providence Planta^{con} the Narragansett Country or Kings Province, & the Province of New Hampshire, was read and published.

Their Majesties Letters Patents under the great seal of the Supreme Court of Admiralty of England granting unto S^r William Phips kn^t the Office of Vice Admiral within the Province and Territory of the Massachusetts Bay, and the sea parts belonging and adjoining thereto whatsoever, was also shewn forth and published. . . .

His Excellency the Gov^r tooke his oath for the due & faithful performance of his Office or place of Governour; as also the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament made in the first year of their present Maj^{ties} Reign, Entituled an Act for the abrogating of all the Oaths of Supremacy & Allegiance, and appointing other Oaths, being administred unto him, by William Stoughton Esq^{re} L^t Governour. . . .

The Members of the Council then present: viz^t John Richards Wait Winthrop, John Phillips, James Russell, John Joyliffe, Adam Winthrop, Rich^d Middlecutt, John Foster, Peter Sergeant, Joseph Lynde, Samuel Hayman, & Silvanus Davis Esq^{rs} each one severally for himselfe tooke his Oath for the due and faithful performance of his Office or place of a Councillor or Assistant, and the Oaths appointed to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy. Before the Governour & L^t Governour.¹

The oath taken by the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary, and Councillors is as follows:

We S^r William Phips K^{nt} Governo^r &c^a of their Maj^{ties} Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England William Stoughton Esq^r Lieutenant Governour And the Councillors or Assistants of their Ma^{ties}

¹ Council Records, ii. 166-168.

said Province, and Secretary, Each one particularly and severally for Our Selves, Do make, repeat and subscribe the following Declaration in the words thereof, — *Mutatis Nominibus Viz*¹

I, William Phips, do solemnly and sincerely in the presence of God, profess, Testify and declare. That I do believe, That in the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, there is not any Transubstantiation of the Elements of Bread and Wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, at or after the Consecration thereof by any person whatsoever, and that the Invocation or Adoration of the Virgin Mary, or any other Saint, and the Sacrifice of the Mass as they are now used in the Church of Rome are Superstitious and Idolatrous. And I do solemnly in the presence of God profess, testify and declare, That I do make this Declaration and every part thereof in the plain and Ordinary Sense of the words read unto me, as they are commonly understood by English Protestants, without any Evasion, Equivocation or Mental Reservation whatsoever, And without any dispensation already granted me for this purpose by the Pope, or any Authority, or Person whatsoever, Or without any hope of any such dispensation from any Person, or Authority whatsoever, Or without thinking that I am or can be Acquitted before God or man, Or absolved of this Declaration, Or any part thereof, Although the Pope, or any other person or persons whatsoever should dispense with, or annul the same, Or declare that it was Null and void from the beginning.

ISAAC ADDINGTON ¹	JOHN HATHORNE	JOHN RICHARDS
JOB ALCOCK	SAMUEL HAYMAN	JAMES RUSSELL
SAM ^{LL} APPLETON	ELISHA HUTCHINSON	NATH: SALTONSTALL
WILLIAM BRADFORD	JOHN JOYLIFFE	PETER SERGEANT
JONATHAN CORWIN	BARNABAS LATHROP	SAMUEL SEWALL
SILVANUS ^o DAVIS	JOSEPH LYNDE	WILLIAM STOUGHTON
SAMUEL DONNELL	RICHARD MIDDLECUTT	JOHN WALLEY
JOHN FOSTER	JOHN PHILLIPS	ADAM WINTHROP
BARTH ^o GEDNEY	WILLIAM PHIPS	WAIT WINTHROP ²
	ROB ^T PIKE	

¹ For convenience these names are arranged alphabetically.

² Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Vol. 785, p. 172. (A copy is in Council Records, ii. 165-166.) The signatures to this document are not autographs, as I am informed by Miss Lucy Drucker, who also says that "the original ought to be among the Oath Rolls (Chancery Petty Bag), of which however very few have been preserved, and I have found none of the various colonies among them." Nor is the original at the Boston State House. Phips's Commission was approved December 3, and he himself took the oaths in London on December 31, 1691 (Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, ii. 799). Many oaths, however, have been preserved at the State House. The oath taken by the Representatives on

On November 15, 1694, —

Upon the motion of his Excell^{cy} the Governour that he had some things material to offer, relating to the complaints exhibited against him by

June 8, 1692 (Massachusetts Archives, xlvi. 188), is written and is like the oath printed in the text. The oaths taken by the Councillors in May, 1693, are printed on a broadside to which the signatures are attached, and read as follows (Massachusetts Archives, xlvi. 212):

A TRUE COPY OF THE OATHS

That are appointed by Act of Parliament, made in the First Year of Their present Majesties Reign; to be Taken instead of the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, and the Declaration appointed to be made, Repeated and Subscribed

I A. B. do sincerely Promise and Swear, That I will be Faithful, and bear true Allegiance to Their Majesties, King *WILLIAM* and Queen *MARY*.
So help me God, &c.

I A. B. do Swear, That I do from my Heart Abhor, Detest, and Abjure, as Impious and Heretical, that Damnable Doctrine and Position, *That Princes Excommunicated or Deprived by the Pope, or any Authority of the See of Rome, may be Deposed or Murdered by their Subjects, or any other whatsoever.*

And I do Declare, That no Foreign Prince, Person, Prelate, State, or Potentate, hath, or ought to have any Jurisdiction, Power, Superiority, Preeminence, or Authority Ecclesiastical or Spiritual within this Realm.

So help me God, &c.

Then follows the Declaration — “I A. B. *do solemnly and sincerely . . . null and void from the beginning*” — as printed in the text.

To these oaths were added in May, 1699, what was called the Association, which in that year was written (Massachusetts Archives, cvi. 450). This, taken from a printed broadside, signed in 1700, reads as follows (Massachusetts Archives, xlvi. 317):

Association.

WHEREAS there has been a horrid and detestable Conspiracy formed and carried on by Papists and other wicked and traitorous persons for Assassinating His Majesties Royal Person, in order to encourage an Invasion from *France*, to subvert our Religion, Laws and Liberty. We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, Do heartily, sincerely and solemnly profess, testify and declare, That His present Majesty KING *WILLIAM* is rightful and lawful KING of the Realms of *England, Scotland* and *Ireland*: And we do mutually promise and engage to stand by and assist each other to the utmost of our power, in the support and defence of His Majesties most Sacred Person and Government, against the

Mr Brenton & Capt. Short, whereof he was not before advised, several papers and affidavits were presented by Mr Benjamin Jackson on that occasion, and sworn unto by him.¹

On November 17th, —

The Lieut^t Gov^r and the members of the Council then in Town waited upon his Ex^{cy} at his house & accompanied him to the Waterside, who embarked, and that evening set saile onwards of his Voyage to England.²

Thus Phips's term of office lasted only two and a half years—from May 16, 1692, to November 17, 1694, as he did not return to Boston and died suddenly in London on February 18, 1695.³

Upon the departure of Phips, Lieutenant-Governor *William Stoughton*⁴ became Acting Governor on December 4, 1694, on which day the following proceedings took place in Council:

This being the first sitting of the Council since the Gov^r's departure, the Lieut^t Gov^r proposed to have the opinion of the Council, whether it be necessary, that he be sworne to see to the observance of the Acts of Trade relating to the Plantations as the Act of the 12th of King Charles the Second directs that all Governours of the Plantations be.

The Council Advised it as necessary, whereupon the L^t Gov^r was sworn to do his utmost to see to the observance thereof.⁵

late King *James* and all his Adherents. And in case His Majesty come to any violent or untimely Death (which GOD forbid) We do hereby further freely and unanimously oblige our selves, to unite associate and stand by each other in revenging the same upon His Enemies and their Adherents, and in supporting and defending the Succession of the Crown, according to an Act made in the first year of the Reign of King *WILLIAM* and Queen *MARY*, Intituled, *An Act Declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and settling the Succession of the Crown*. (Cf. Publications of this Society, x. 384-386, xiii. 119-126.)

It will be observed that the oath in the text has twenty-eight signatures attached — those of the three Crown officials and of twenty-five Councillors. There were, however, twenty-eight Councillors named in the Province Charter (p. 35, above). Simon Bradstreet, Thomas Hinckley, and Stephen Mason, the remaining three Councillors, do not appear to have qualified.

¹ Council Records, ii. 293.

² ii. 293.

³ On May 5, 1695, Sewall wrote: "About 3 hours News comes to Town of the death of Sir William Phips, Feb. 18th at which people are generally sad" (Diary, i. 404).

⁴ The names of Acting Governors are printed in italics.

⁵ Council Records, ii. 294.

On October 20, 1698, —

His Maj^{ty}'s Commission under the Great Seal of England appointing of sundry Gent: therein named, to administer unto the Governour or Commander in Chief of the Province of the Massachusetts, the Oath appointed by an Act of Parliament made in the seventh and eighth year of his present Maj^{ty}'s Reign, Entituled an Act for preventing Frauds and Regulating abuses in the Plantation Trade, to be taken by all Governours or Commanders in Chief of any English Colonies or Plantations, and the forme of the oath in s^d Commission contained were read, and the said oath accordingly administred unto the Hon^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^{re} Lieut^t Gov^r, and the present Commander in Chief of the said Province of the Massachusetts Bay, at the Council Board, before Peter Sergeant, Elisha Hutchinson, John Phillips, Nathaniel Byfield, Benjamin Bullivant and Lawrence Hammond Esq^{rs} six of the Commissioners therein named.¹

Stoughton was Acting Governor from December 4, 1694, to May 26, 1699.

The EARL OF BELLOMONT was commissioned Governor by William III on June 18, 1697; but did not take office until May 26, 1699,² on which day —

His Excellency the Earle of Bellomont arriving this day at Boston, his Majesty's Royal Commission, constituting and appointing him Captain General and Governour in Chief of this his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay, was read and published.

And his Excellency tooke the Oaths appointed, by Act of Parliament made in the first yeare of the reign of his M^{ty} and the late Queen Mary, to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and made, repeated and subscribed the Declaration in said Act mentioned, and also tooke an Oath for the due and faithfull performance of his duty in the

¹ Council Records, ii. 561.

² Bellomont arrived in New York on April 2, 1698. In a letter dated August 8 he said: "In my letter of the eighth of January last I gave your Lordships an account of my arrival at Barbadoes. On the ninth of March I left that Island, and on the second of April I landed at the City of New York, and entered on the Govern^t" (New York Colonial Documents, iv. 306). In a letter dated "New-Yorke the 4th of Aprill 1698," Benjamin Jackson wrote: "His Excellency the Earle of Bellamont, being arrived from Barbadoes, came on shoar at this place, and was Sworne on Saturday Last" (Massachusetts Archives, cvi. 421). Cf. Sewall, Diary, i. 476.

Office and place of Governour of the s^d Province; before the Hon^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^r L^t Gov^r.

And then tooke the oath appointed by an Act of Parliament made in in the seventh and eighth year of his present Maj^{ty}'s reign entituled: An Act for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in the Plantation Trade, to be taken by all Governours or Commanders in Chief of any English Colonies or Plantations, Before Tho^s Danforth, James Russell, Elisha Cooke, Jonathan Corwin, Peter Sergeant and Lawrence Hammond Esq^{rs} six of the Commissioners appointed to administer the same by his Maj^{ty}'s Commission under the Great Seal of England.

His Excellency also subscribed the Association lately Established by Act of Parliament.¹

On July 16, 1700, "His Excellency acquainted the Council of his purpose to embarque to morrow for his Government of the Prov^{ce} of New York;" and on July 17th, "His Excellency embarked upon his Maj^{ty}'s Ship the Arundel and set saile therein towards his Government of the Province of New York."²

Upon the departure of Bellomont, who never returned and died suddenly in New York on March 5, 1701,³ the government again devolved upon Lieutenant-Governor *Stoughton*,⁴ who remained Acting Governor until his death on July 7, 1701.⁵

By the death of Stoughton, the government devolved, for the first time, upon the *Council*. The following proceedings took place in Council on July 10, 1701:

The Hon^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^{re} his Maj^{ty}'s Lieut^t Governour & Commander in Chief of this Province being lately deceased, and there being no person within this Province Commissionated by his Maj^{ty} to be Governour within the same.

Resolved and Ordered. That a Proclamation be forthwith emitted

¹ Council Records, iii. 20-21.

² iii. 137.

³ On March 15, 1701, Sewall wrote: "The Town is fill'd with the News of my Ld Bellomont's death, last Wednesday was señight" (Diary, ii. 33).

⁴ There was no meeting of the Council between July 17 and July 22, 1700, and on neither day did Stoughton take any new oaths — no doubt for the reason that, as he had received no new Commission, those which he had previously taken were regarded as sufficient.

⁵ On July 7, 1701, Sewall wrote: "About the time got thither the L^t Gov^r died" (Diary, ii. 38).

for the continuance of all Military Commission Officers until further Order.

And a Proclamation being accordingly drawn up was signed by the Members present at the Board and published.¹

A Letter to the Right Hon^{ble} M^r Secretary Vernon to give notice of the death of the Hon^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^{re} his Maj^{ty's} Lieut^t Gov^r of this Province; and another letter of like import to the Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Commiss^{rs} of the Council for Trade and Plantations; being drawn up, were agreed to, and signed by all the members of the Council present at the Board.²

And on July 11th, —

For the more easy and ready dispatch of the affairs of the Government.

Resolved. That there be a Council held at the Council Chamber in Boston upon every Wednesday in each week weekly, to meet at ten a clock in the morning, and that all the members of the Council now absent be notified of the said stated time for the Councils sitting, that so they may afford their presence there for his Maj^{ty's} service accordingly without expecting further notice.³

That the Council felt uneasy in its assumption of power is sufficiently shown by a letter it wrote to Secretary Vernon on July 10th, and by an address sent to King William by the Council and House on August 7th. The letter is in part as follows:

R^t HON^{BLE}

We lay hold of this first Conveyance to transmit to your Honour the sorrowful tidings of the death of the Hono^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^r his Ma^{ties} L^t Governo^r and Commander in Chief of this Province, who departed this Life on the Seventh instant in the Evening. . . . whereby the Affaires thereof [i. e. of the government] are embarrassed and cannot be managed without greater difficulty. . . . And in the meanwhile we shall Endeavour to observe his Ma^{ties} Commands and Directions in his Royal Charter for Administring of the Government.⁴

The address of August 7th, in which some of the language employed in the letter of July 10th is practically repeated, is in part as follows:

¹ The proclamation was not entered in the Council Records or in the Court Records, and, if printed, apparently no copy has survived.

² Council Records, iii. 216-217.

³ iii. 217-218.

⁴ Massachusetts Archives, li. 132.

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Council and Representatives
of your Maj^{ties} Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New-
England in General Court assembled.

MOST GRACIOUS & DREAD SOVERAIGN.

We crave leave in all humility to express the deep sorrow wherewith we are very sensibly affected under the awful dispensation of Divine Sovereignty towards us. First in the death of the truly Noble Earl of Bellomont your Ma^{ties} late Captain General and Governour in Chief of this yo^r Province and soon after in the death of the Hon^{ble} William Stoughton Esq^r your Maj^{ties} late L^t Governour and Commander in Chief of the same: Deploring our great unhappiness in being deprived of the conduct of two such Worthy persons — more especially at a time when the present conjuncture makes us stand in the greatest need of all that wisdom skill and prudence for directing the Affairs of the Government which we had large experience of in them.

Our Trust under God is nextly on your Ma^{ty's} Grace towards us! Hoping That the same Royal Goodness which inclined yo^r sacred Majesty to be favourable to your good subjects here in the appointing of persons so worthy and desirable to the chief places of Government over us will still dispose your Majesty to have the like Princely care of and Regard to us.¹

The government was administered by the *Council* from July 10, 1701, until the arrival of Governor Dudley on June 11, 1702.²

¹ Massachusetts Archives, xx. 59.

² William III died March 8, 1702. On May 28 "the London Gazette and several other Prints, Papers and letters," brought by Capt. Thomas Burrington, reached Boston confirming "the sorrowful and awful tidings . . . which had been more uncertainly reported several days since from divers parts beyond sea," and it was "Ordered therefore. That the several persons newly chosen Councillors or Assistants for this Province do take the oath of Allegiance to her Said Maj^{ty} Queen Anne" and that Anne be proclaimed on the following day (Council Records, iii. 311, 313, 315). This extract is from the London Gazette of July 23:

Boston in New-England, June 8.

ON the 28th of *May* last we received Advice of the Death of His late Majesty, and of Her present Majesty's happy Succession to the Throne: The Council and the General Assembly were then sitting, and the Members of the Council immediately took the Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty. The next day the Council, attended by the Representatives in the General Assembly, the Ministers, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen, Merchants, and other Inhabitants, Proclaimed Her

JOSEPH DUDLEY was commissioned Governor by William III on February 13, 1702;¹ but this Commission becoming void on the death of the King on March 8th following, he was again commissioned by Anne on April 1, 1702. He reached Boston June 11th, on which day the following proceedings took place in Council:

Majesty, the Troop of Guards and the Militia being in Arms, who, when the Proclamation was ended, fired three Volleys, which were followed with Huzza's, and loud Acclamations of *God save Queen Anne*, and the Cannon of the Castle and Forts, and of Her Majesty's Ship the *Gosport*, and the Merchants Ships then in our Port, was discharged. In the evening the Company was entertained at the Town-House, and other Places, and all other Demonstrations of Joy were given suitable to the Occasion. The 31st, the Representatives took the Oath of Allegiance. The 4th Instant, the Members of the Council and other Gentlemen of the Town went into Mourning for the Death of His late Majesty. The Bells were tolled from 8 till 10 in the morning, and from 2 till 4 in the afternoon; Funeral Sermons were preached in all the Churches, and the Guns of the Castle and Forts, and of the Ships in our Port, were all discharged (p. 1/1).

The above passages prove that certain news of the death of William reached Boston May 28, and that Anne was proclaimed on May 29. In Sewall's Diary, under date of May 28, is a long entry which reads in part as follows: "Burrington from New-found-Land brings Prints of the King's death March, 8. at 8 m. . . . Then we resolv'd to proclaim her Majesty here: Which was done accordingly below the Town-house. . . . Proclamation was made between 3 and 4. At 5 p.m. Madam Bellingham dies" (ii. 56-57). Most of this entry must have been written on May 29; and an examination of the original Diary shows that in the margin, opposite the words "At 5 p.m.," Sewall wrote "May 29," which date is omitted in the printed Diary. Cf. p. 63 note 2, below.

¹ Dudley's Commission had been approved as early as June 28, 1701 (Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial, ii. 799); and on December 11, 1701, Constantine Phipps wrote to the Massachusetts Council and Assembly that "pursuant to yo^r direc^{ns} I was to wait on Co^l Dudley who hath his Ma^{ties} warrant to be y^r Governor" (Massachusetts Archives, li. 137).

An Exemplification of Burges's Commission of March 17, 1715, is in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society; and in Vol. ii of this Society's Publications it is stated that this Exemplification "is the only document of the sort (among the Commissions printed in this volume) that is now known to be extant" (p. 100 note 1). Since writing that note, I have ascertained that the originals of two other Commissions are in the Harvard College Library, both of which eluded my previous search because neither is entered in the card catalogue under "Manuscripts in this Library." One is Dudley's Commission as Vice-Admiral of February 26, 1701, which is written on a single piece of parchment and signed "Orlando Gee Reg^{us}." The seal which formerly appended is now missing. It was given to the College Library in 1854 by William Johnston, who graduated in that year. The other is Shute's Commission as Governor of June 15, 1716: see p. 63 note 1, below.

The Gentlemen of the Council receiving Intelligence this morning by an Express from Marblehead of his Excell^{cies} arrival there yester evening in his Maj^{ty's} Ship the Centurion. And the said Ship being now in sight in her way from thence towards this place; Samuel Sewall, El^m Hutchinson & Nath^l Byfield Esq^{rs} with the Secretary were desired and directed forthwith to repair on board her, In the name of the Council to congratulate his Excell^{cy's} happy arrival, & to wait upon him to Town — And the said Gentlemen accordingly attended that service.

The said Ship anchoring about noon in Nantasket Road, his Excell^{cy} and the Hon^{ble} the Lieut^t Gov^r soon after left her, being saluted at their coming off with the discharge of several Canon on board said Ship, and in their passage up to Town by her Maj^{ty's} Castle, were again saluted from thence by the discharge of the Canon there, as also by her Maj^{ty's} Ship and Merchant Ships in the Port as they passed by them, and by the Forts in the Town.

Upon the landing of his Excellency & the Lieut^t Gov^r they were received and attended by her Maj^{ty's} Council, the Representatives, Ministers, Justices and other Gentlemen, with the Troop of Guards and Regiment of Militia in Armes, from the water side to the Council Chamber; from whence his Excellency, the Council and Representatives removed into the Court Chamber, and being there seated in their places the doors set open and the Gentⁿ and other the Company admitted in. Proclamation was made to command silence, and her Maj^{ty's} Royal Commission or Letters Patent, Dated at Westminster the first day of April, in the first year of her Maj^{ty's} reign, constituting his Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^{re} to be her Majesty's Captⁿ General and Governour in Chief in and over her Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, as also Captain General and Commander in Chief of the Militia & of all the Forces by Sea and Land within the Colonys of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation and the Narraganset Countrey or Kings Province and of all Forts and places of strength within the same, was read and published.

Then his Excell^{cy} tooke the oaths appointed by Act of Parliament passed in the first year of the Reign of King William and Queen Mary to be taken instead of the oaths of allegiance & Supremacy, unto her present Maj^{ty} Queen Anne, and repeated & subscribed the Declaration appointed by the same Act. Also tooke an oath for the due & faithful performance of his duty in the Office and place of Gov^r of the s^d Province, and the oath by an Act of Parliament made in the seventh and eighth year of the Reign of King William the Third Intituled An act for preventing Frauds and regulating abuses in the Plantation Trade, appointed to be taken

by all Governours or Commanders in Chief of any English Colony or Plantations.

His Excell^{cy}'s Commission¹ of Vice Admiral, granted by the Right Hon^{ble} Thomas Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord high Admiral of England and Ireland, under the great Seal of the Hight Court of Admiralty of England bearing date the twenty sixth day of February 1701. was also shewn forth and published. . . .

His Excellency further proposed, that her Majesty's Letters Patent to himselfe as Governour, and his Commissⁿ for vice Admiral and the Hon^{ble} the Lieut^t Gov^{rs} Commission might be made of Record.

Which the Council advised accordingly.²

Early in 1715 a controversy took place between Governor Dudley and the Council as to who should administer the government.³ When Anne ascended the throne in 1702, a commission became void upon the demise of the Crown. In 1705 the British Parliament passed "An Act for the better Security of her Majesty's Person and Government, and of the Succession to the Crown of *England* in the Protestant Line" (4 Anne, Chapter VIII). This provided —

VIII. . . . nor shall any Office, Place or Imployment, civil or military, within the Kingdoms of England or Ireland, Dominion of Wales, Town of Berwick upon Tweed, Isles of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, or any of her Majesty's Plantations, become void, by Reason of the Demise or Death of her present Majesty, her Heirs or Successors, Queens or Kings of this Realm; but . . . every other Person and Persons in any of the Offices, Places and Employments aforesaid, shall continue in their respective Offices, Places and Employments, for the Space of six Months next after such Death or Demise, unless sooner removed and discharged by the next in Succession, as aforesaid.⁴

In 1707 another Act (6 Anne, Chapter VII) of a like tenor was passed.⁵ Anne died August 1, 1714; the news of her death reached

¹ See p. 53 note 1, above.

² Council Records, iii. 322-324, 325.

³ For an exhaustive treatment of this controversy, see our associate Mr. Worthington C. Ford's "The Governor and Council of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, August, 1714 — March, 1715" (2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xv. 327-362). See also Mr. Ford's Preface to his reprint (1902) of the Journals of the House of Representatives, 1715.

⁴ Statutes at Large (1735), iv. 11-12.

⁵ Statutes at Large, iv. 110. In some editions of the Statutes, this Act is 6 Anne, Chapter XLI.

Boston September 15;¹ and George I was proclaimed in Boston September 22.² On November 22 George I issued "A Proclamation Declaring His Majesties Pleasure for Continuing the Officers in His Majesties Plantations, till his Majesties Pleasure shall be further Declared;"³ but this proclamation did not reach Boston until March 19, 1715.⁴ Meanwhile, however, the six months specified in the Act

¹ Boston News Letter, September 20, p. 2/2. The London Gazette of August 3, which contained an account of the death of Anne, reached Boston September 17, and was communicated to the Council by Dudley the same day (Council Records, vi. 251). (A copy of that issue is in a file of the Boston News Letter owned by the Boston Athenaeum, between the issues of September 20 and 27.)

² Boston News Letter, September 27, p. 2/2; printed by Mr. Ford in 2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xv. 330-332). The following account is taken from the Council Records:

According to the Appointment made upon Friday last the 17. Currant The High & Mighty Prince George Elector of Brunswick Lunenburgh was solemnly proclaimed King of Great Britain France & Ireland Defender of the Faith &^{ca} with loud acclamations & the utmost demonstrations of Joy His Excellency the Governour the Lieut^t Gov^r and Council being in the Balcony of the Council Chamber which was hung with Scarlet Cloath The Regiment of the Town & another Regiment of Foot being drawn up under armes on the Parade before the Town House with the Troop of Guards and another Troop of Horse many of the Representatives of the General Assembly, Justices of the Peace, Ministers Gentlemen & Merchants (besides a very great concourse of People) in token of their Joyfull Subjection & Allegiance to His Majesty Immediately after ending the Proclamation the two troops & the regiments of Foot discharged three volleys and on a signal given the Cannon at His Matys Castle William at the Town Batteries & on board the ships & vessels in the Harbour were also discharged, & after a Public Dinner the Governour & Council with a number of Gentlemen & Officers returned in the evening to the Council Chamber & drank a health to His Majestys the Prince all the Royal Family & the Regency &^{ca} The Town House & particular Houses in several principal streets being finely illuminated.

His Excellency took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament, to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Declaration & took the Oath of Abjuration being administred by the Hon^{ble} Wait Winthrop in presence of the Lieut^t Governour after which His Excellency administred the same oaths Declaration & Abjuration to his Honour the Lieut^t Governour & the other Twenty Councillours present at the Board (vi. 256-257).

³ Printed in British Royal Proclamations relating to America, 1603-1783 (Transactions and Collections of the American Antiquarian Society, 1911, xii. 174-175), and in the Boston News Letter of March 28, 1715, p. 1/1.

⁴ "On the 19th Currant by the Post from New York His Excellency the Governour receiv'd His Majesty's Proclamation for the Continuation of Officers &c. in the Plantations" (Boston News Letter, March 28, 1715, p. 2/2).

of 6 Anne Chapter VII had expired on February 1, 1715. The following proceedings took place in Council on February 3:

Whereas upon the first of this instant, the following message was sent to His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r by Samuel Sewall Joseph Lynde Addington Davenport & Thomas Hutchinson Esq^{rs} of His Majestys Council, from the Members of the Council then present: which were twelve in number being so many as could be at that time assembled the s^d message being in these words. That is to say.

May it please your Excell^{cy}

Whereas the six months given by the Parliament of Great Britain for continu^g persons in their civil & military offices do expire this day; these are humbly to inquire whither your Excell^{cy} has received orders from our Sovereign Lord King George enabling you to sustain the place of Govern^r of this Province longer

To which his Excellency was pleased to answer, I have received no orders

Which Message with the answer being now communicated to the Council, & debated & consider^d the Question was then put, Whither the Government be devolved on His Majestys Council, according to the Powers granted in the Charter

Which was voted in the affirmative

Whereupon Elisha Hutchinson E^m Hutchinson Penn Townsend & Isaac Winslow Esq^{rs} were immediately sent to wait upon His Excellency & acquaint him therewth

The Council adjourned unto tomorrow at nine in the morning.¹

On February 4 —

Pursuant to a Vote pass'd yesterday That the Governm^t is devolved on His Majestys Council according to the powers granted by the Charter

A Proclamation was drawn up in the following words, That is to say.

By the Honourable the Council of His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England

A Proclamation

Whereas in the Royall Charter granted by King William & Queen Mary for incorporating their subjects of the Colonies enumerated in the s^d Charter into one real Province of the name of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, provision is made for the devolution of the Governm^t upon the Council in these words, That is to say. And we do by these

¹ Council Records, vi. 308-309.

presents for us our heirs & successors constitute and ordain that when & as often as the Gov^r and Lieut^t or Deputy Governour of our s^d Province or Territory, for the time being shall happen to dye or be displaced by us, our heirs or successors or be absent from our s^d Province & that there shall be no person within the s^d Province commissioned by us our heirs or successors to be Governour within the same, Then & in every of the s^d cases, the Council or Assistants of our s^d Province shall have full Power and Authority; & we do hereby give & grant unto the said Council or Assistants of our s^d Province for the time being or the major part of them, full power and authority to do & execute all and every such Acts Matters & things which the s^d governour or Lieutenant or Deputy Governour of our s^d Province or Territory for the time being might or could lawfully do or exercise if they or either of them were personally present until the return of the Governour or Lieut^t or Deputy Governour so absent, or arrival or constitution of such other Governour or lieut^t or deputy Governour as shall & may be appointed by us our heirs & successors from time to time.

And Whereas the six months from the demise of Her late Majesty Queen Anne limited by the Parliament of Great Britain, for continuing civil & military officers in their respective offices places & employments, expired the first day of this instant February. And Whereas by reason that there is no person within the s^d Province commissioned^d by our Sovereign Lord King George, to be Governor within the same; the Government is now devolved upon the Council, & they are obliged to undertake the administration thereof in obedience to the constitution of the s^d Charter, & for the welfare & safety of His Majestys subjects within this Province until His Majestys further pleasure be known.

Pursuant therefore unto the power & authority to us granted as aforesaid We have thought fit & necessary to issue & publish this Proclamation & We do in His Majestys name require all officers civil & military within this Province, that have qualified themselves by taking the Oaths appointed in & by the aforesaid Act of Parliament, to attend the duty, & use & exercise the powers & authorities to their respective offices places & employments belonging

Until further order, And all His Majestys loving subjects are required in His Matys behalfe to be aiding helping & assisting at the commandment of the s^d officers in the discharge of the duty of their respective places & employments, as they & every of them tender His Majestys^s displeasure and will answer their neglect at their peril

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston the fourth day of February in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord

George, by the grace of God of Great Britain France and
Ireland King defender of the faith &^{ea} annoque Domini
1714

W ^m Tailer	} Esq ^{rs}	Elisha Hutchinson	} Esq ^{rs}
Edward Bromfield		Samll Sewa th	
Sam th Appleton		Joseph Lynde	
Benj ^a Lynde		E ^m Hutchinson	
John Clarke		Penn Townsend	
A Davenport		John Appleton	
Isaac Winslow		John Higginson	
Tho ^s Hutchinson		Andrew Belcher	
Wait Winthrop			

By order of the Council

Isaac Addington Sec^{ry}

God save the King¹

Wait Winthrop Esq^r took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Declaration, & took the oath of Abjuration & then administered the same to the rest of the Councillours present at the Board

After which at the motion of the Secretary upon the question put, The Council declared their opinion that the Secretarys Commission remained in force, having been so accepted during all the last reign & ordered him to countersign the Proclamatⁿ and the s^d Proclamation was then published by beat of Drum sent to the Press & ordered to be dispersed into the several parts

An Oath being digested of the Tenour following was taken by all the Members present this day at the Board absent then only Andrew Belcher Esq^r That is to say.

Whereas for the present untill His Majestys pleasure be further known by the devolution of the Government according to the Royall Charter, full power & authority is granted to the Council of this His Majestys Province to do & execute all & every such Acts Matters & things which the Governour of this Province for the time being might or could lawfully do or execute, if he were personally present

You swear that you will well and truly discharge that trust accordingly, to the utmost of your power

So help you God²

¹ This proclamation was issued as a printed broadside and was reproduced in facsimile by Mr. Ford (2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xv. 326-327).

² Council Records, vi. 309-313.

The King's proclamation of November 22, 1714, having, as already stated,¹ reached Boston on March 19, 1715, on March 21—

His Excellency communicated to the Council a Proclamation by the King for continuing of all officers Civil & Military in being at the time of the demise of the late Queen, in their respective offices places & imployments till further order which was first read in the Council Chamber a great number of the principal Gentlemen of the Country being present and then His Excellency the Governour, the Lieutenant Governour & Council removing into the Balcony of the Council Chamber the same was again read there the Governours Guard & three other Troops of Horse of Suffolk & Middlesex & a great concourse of people attending immediately after ending the Proclamation the People gave three Huzzas, the Troops discharged three volleys & the Cannon at His Majesty's Castle William, at the Town Batterie & on board His Matys Ships Phcenix were also discharged²

The government, thus reassumed by Dudley, was retained by him until November 9, 1715, though not without a challenge from Lieutenant-Governor Tailer, as will presently be seen.

ELIZEUS BURGES was commissioned Governor by George I on March 17, 1715.³ The news of his appointment reached Boston

¹ See p. 56, above.

² Council Records, vi. 334.

³ For a sketch of Burges, about whom little is known, see Publications of this Society, xiv. 360-372, 389 note 1. For the following information, received too late for insertion at the above reference, I am indebted to Mr. Horatio F. Brown of Venice. The dates of Burges's services as "Secretary Resident" are: First, date of credentials, May 8-9, 1719; arrival in Venice, October, 1719; letter of recall, October 31, 1721; departure from Venice, March, 1722. Second, date of credentials, October 25, 1727; arrival in Venice, December 18, 1728. Among the "Inscriptions to English Families in the Old Protestant Cemetery near San Niccolo del Lido, Venice," is the following (Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, Second Series, 1885, i. 347):

ELIZAEVS BVRGES
A GEORGIO PRIMO ET SECUNDO
BRITANNIÆ REGIBVS
APVD VENETOS
OBIT XVIII KAL. DECEMBRIS
MDCCXXXVI
VIXIT ANNOS LXIX.

Arms: A chevron between three crescents.

April 21.¹ On April 28 a new Commission was issued to Tailer as Lieutenant-Governor. On June 29 Burges wrote to the Council a letter in which he said:

The K. has done me the Honor to make me his Governour of the Provinces of the Massachusets Bay, and N-Hampshire in N. England, and I think I cañot find a fitter opportunity than this to acquaint you with His Maj's Goodness to me. . . . I propose to leave this place the latter end of the next Moneth, and hope to be with you before the end of September. While I continue here, I will do all I can for your Service; and when I have the Honor to see you at Boston, I will give you all the Assurances you your selves can desire, that I have nothing so much at heart, as the Good of the people, and the Glory of GOD.²

On September 6 Burges wrote a second letter, saying:

I had the Honor to write to you by Mr. Secretary Woodward, and told you then that I had hopes of seeing you at Boston before the end of this Moneth; but since my Affairs in this Country are like to keep me here most part of the Winter, and I am not to be so happy so soon as I expected, It is fit I should let you know it; and beg you will send me your Commands, that I may not be altogether useless to you, though I'm from you; but may do you all the Service I can here, as an Earnest of what I intend when I have the honor to be among you. I have sent you over an Exemplification of my Commission, by which you will see that Col. Dudley's Commission is vacated, and that the Government does necessarily devolve upon Colonel Tailer during my absence. Thus I understand it; but leave it to your greater Wisdom to determin that matter, as you shall see fitting, and think most for His Majesties Honor, and the Interest of your Country.³

On September 22 Samuel Woodward, the new Secretary, reached Boston,⁴ bringing with him Burges's letter of June 29, his own Commission as Secretary, and the Commission of Tailer as Lieutenant-Governor. On September 24 —

Upon reading His Majestys Comission to Lieut^t Governour Tailer dated the 28th day of April 1715 put to the Question, Whither the Coun-

¹ Sewall's Diary, iii. 46.

² Sewall's Letter-Book, ii. 48-49. Cf. the next note.

³ Sewall's Letter-Book, ii. 49-50. The originals of these two letters have not been preserved, but Sewall copied them on November 25, 1715.

⁴ See p. 100, below.

cil are of opinion that the Governm^t of this Province be thereby devolved upon him, the Commission and Instructions given by His Majesty to His Excellency Col^o Burges being not here nor any copy thereof yet arrived in this Province by which the Government is to be administered Pass'd in the Negative unanimously.¹

On November 9 Nathaniel Byfield, who had been in England, reached Boston,² bringing with him the Exemplification of Burges's Commission which Burges, in his letter of September 6, said had been sent. Thereupon, the same day, —

An Exemplification³ of His Majestys most gracious Letters Patents constituting & appointing Elizeus Burges Esq^r Captⁿ General & Governour in chief in & over His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England being presented was ordered to be forthwith read & published which was done accordingly

And the Hon^{ble} William Tailer Esq^r his Commission as Lieut^t Gov^r was again read & publish'd and he took the oath referring to the Colonies and Plantations as directed by Act of Parliament he having taken all the other oaths at the former publication of his Commission & the Councillors present were all duly sworn &

Advised & consented That a Proclamatⁿ for continuing all officers civil & military in their respective offices till further order should be forthwth printed & published which was signed in Council accordingly.⁴

Thus the purpose of sending over the Exemplification of Burges's Commission was accomplished, and Dudley's long term of office came to an end.

Lieutenant-Governor *Tailer* was acting Governor from November 9, 1715, to October 5, 1716.

In spite of repeated rumors⁵ of his being about to sail, Colonel Burges resigned his Commission and never came to this country.

¹ Council Records, vi. 379-380.

² Sewall's Diary, iii. 65; Boston News Letter, November 14, p. 2/2.

³ This Exemplification is in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society: see Publications of this Society, ii. 100 note 1. Cf. p. 53 note 1, above.

⁴ Council Records, vi. 389-390.

⁵ As late as May 31, 1716, in a speech to the House, Lieutenant-Governor Tailer said he believed that Burges "would before this Time have happily Arrived among us, and I am well assured he may be daily expected" (House Journal, p. 3). The news of Shute's appointment, which was made in April, reached Boston June 5

SAMUEL SHUTE was commissioned Governor by George I on June 15, 1716.¹ He reached Boston Harbor October 4,² and was sworn

(Sewall's Diary, iii. 85). The following notice appeared in the Boston News Letter of June 11:

By Letters from London of April 12th we are informed that His Excellency Col. *Elizeus Burges* Esq; Governour of this Province had resign'd his Office.

And by Letters and Prints we are also inform'd that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint His Excellency Col. *Samuel Shute*, Esq; a very worthy Gentleman, and Brother to Mr. *Barrington Shute* Esq; Member of Parliament for Berwick, to be Governour of New-England (p. 2/1).

The following letter written by J. Dummer to J. White, but signed by Dummer and Belcher, is copied from the original in the Massachusetts Historical Society (161.J.16):

DEAR S^r

I am now Sitting on one Side of his Excell^{cy} Col^o Shute, & M^r Belcher on the Other side with all the Principal Merch^{ts} & Traders to New England at the Table. We have din'd, & are now drinking a Sober glass to the Prosperity of New England, & the Worthy Gentlemen there, & you may be Sure you can't be forgot among them, especially when M^r Belcher & I are present. Every Merchant is pleas'd with your New Governour, & you'l certainly be the happiest people in the World under his Easy Administration I cant enlarge for the reason above. I am Y^r Very humble scr^t

JER DUMMER

JON^A BELCHER

London

30th Apr: 1716

¹ The original of Shute's Commission of June 15, 1716, is in the Harvard College Library (Cab.E.Dr.1). It is written on two sheets of parchment and has the seal appended, though this is now broken and a part missing, and is enclosed in a wooden box covered with stamped leather. It came to the College Library in 1862 as a bequest from Gen. William H. Sumner of the Class of 1799. A portion is reproduced in facsimile in the Memorial History of Boston, ii. 50. Cf. p. 53 note 1, above.

On the back of the Commission is the following entry:

Province of the	} Entred in the Secretary's
Massachusetts Bay	
in New England	
	Office in Boston October
	the 5 th 1716.
	¶ Jos: Marion Dep ^{ty} Sec ^{ry}

This entry confirms a statement made by the present writer that there was formerly a volume of Crown Commissions which was burned in 1747 (Publications of this Society, vol. ii. p. xviii and note 4; xiv. 397-398 note 1). See also p. 55, above, and pp. 70, 81 note 1, 101, below.

² Under date of "Octob^r 3," 1716, Sewall wrote: ". . . while they were here, just about Sunset, we hear a Gun which proves a Signal of the Governour's being come" (Diary, iii. 105). A careful examination of the entry under this date shows that it must have been written on "lecture-day" — that is, on Thursday, October 4. As Sewall is so often relied on for exact dates,

October 5. As the Council Records from September 11, 1716, to September 5, 1717, both included, are not extant,¹ the following account of the proceedings is taken from the Boston News Letter of October 8, 1716:

Boston, **O**N Thursday last in the Evening (to the very great Joy and Satisfaction of all His Majesty's Good Subjects here) Arrived His Excellency SAMUEL SHUTE Esq; Captain

I have in several cases pointed out errors, some due (as in this case) to his own carelessness, some due to the fact that entries were actually written later than the dates assigned, and some due (as on p. 53 note, above) to the carelessness of his editors. See Publications of this Society, xiv. 361 note 2, for an instance where Sewall wrote "Feb. 13," 1716, when he meant to write "April 13."

¹ The original Council Records from 1692 to 1747 were practically all destroyed in the fire which devastated the Boston Town House on December 9, 1747 (see Publications of this Society, vol. ii. p. xix note 1), and the Records for those years now at the State House are copies obtained from London. But even in London there are no copies of the Records for the period specified in the text — September 11, 1716, to September 5, 1717; Miss Drucker informing me that "32 pages are missing in the volume which should contain them at that date." A copy of the following letter is in the Council Records (xi. 765-766):

SIR

BOSTON November 1. 1748.

By William Shirley Jun^r Esquire, who embarks for Great Britain on board one of the Mast ships now bound home, I send you Copies of the Proceedings of the General Court, from the beginning of March 1746, to the end of the Session begun and held May 25. 1748; with the Acts pass'd in those Sessions, certified under the Seal of the Province; as also Copies of the Minutes of Council from December 1747 to the end of August 1748. The Minutes of the Assembly, and the Laws, are a continuation of what were sent you home by his Maj^{ty}'s Ship the Mermaid in the Summer 1747, without any interruption, the General Court Book for that time being accidentally saved out of the Fire when the Court House was burnt; but the Council Book being then destroyed, the Minutes of Council, now sent you, begin after the time of that fire. You will please to lay these Papers before the Lords Commissioners as usual. I shall acknowledge it as a great favour if you will please to send me one line to let me know of your receiving these Papers when they come to your hands.

I am, with due respect

Sir

Your very humble Servant

(Superscribed)

(signed) JOSIAH WILLARD.

On His Majestys Service.

To Thomas Hill Esq^r

Secretary to the Right Hon^{ble}

The Lords Commissioners for Trade
and Plantations.

Whitehall.

General and Governour in Chief, in and over His Majesties Provinces of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire* in *New-England*, &c. on Board the *Lusitania*, and was first met and welcomed by the Honourable *William Dummer*, Esq; with other Gentlemen in Company, and quickly afterwards waited on by the Representatives of the Town of *Boston*, and several other Gentlemen: but it being late at Night, and the Ship at some distance from the Town, His Excellency was pleas'd to defer his Landing till the next Morning; proving a pleasant fair Day, when His Excellency was early attended by a Committee of the General Assembly, consisting of several Members of His Majesties Council, and the House of Representatives, with several other Gentlemen & Officers. About Nine a Clock His Excellency in coming up to Town was first Saluted by His Majesties Castle William, and afterwards by His Majesty's Ship of War the *Rose*, the Batteries of the Town, the Ships and Vessels in the Harbour, by the Discharge of a great Number of Guns, and their Enseigns displayed. About Ten of the Clock His Excellency Landed at the End of the Pier or Wharff at King-Street, where the Hon. Col. *William Tailer*, Esq; the late Lieutenant Governour, &c. with a Number of His Majesty's Council, Justices of the Peace, and other Gentlemen and Merchants, received His Excellency, and attended him thro' a great Concourse of People, up to the End of King-Street, where His Excellency was received and Saluted by his own Troop of Guards, and after that by the Regiment of the Town, under their Arms, and at the Town-House Stairs the Honourable the late Governour *Dudley*, being attended by the President¹ of *Harrard-Colledge* in *Cambridge*, with the Ministers of the Town of *Boston*, and the Neighbouring Towns, Congratulated His Excellency's safe Arrival, and accompanied him up to the Council-Chamber, where His Majesty's Royal Commission to His Excellency for the Government of this Province, (As also a Commission to the Honourable *William Dummer* Esq; for Lieut. Governour) was Published and Solemnized with great Acclamations of Joy, and the Regiments Discharge of Three Volleys. Upon this happy Occasion, there came in also a Troop of Horse, and Five Companies of Foot, belonging to the South Regiment of *Suffolk*, and a greater Number had attended, but that His Excellency was pleased to signify his Pleasure against it. Between One and Two a Clock His Excellency was Publickly Entertained at Dinner, in Company with His Majesty's Council, with the Speaker² and many of the House of Representatives, and a great Number of other Gentlemen, Officers, &c. The Joy and Satisfaction of His Majesty's good People of this Country was so much the greater upon this Occasion, because of some Fears we had

¹ John Leverett.² John Burrill.

been under; a Ship being Arrived Ten Days ago from London, that came out Sixteen Days after His Excellency: Besides some Advice from the Eastward of Wrecks upon the Coast. Soon after the Publishing His Excellency's Commission, a Proclamation as usual, was Issued for the Continuation of all Officers both Civil and Military, till further Order. His Excellency was pleased to take his Lodgings at Mr. *Dudley's* till the Province House could be fitted for his Reception, which will be in a few Days (p. 2/1).

Late in 1722 Shute determined to go to England. The following proceedings took place in the House on December 28:

A Message by *Samuel Sewall*, *Penn Townsend*, and *Addington Davenport* Esqrs; viz. His Honour the Lieut. Governour having by his Excellency's direction acquainted the Board, That His Excellency the Governour is Embarked on board His Majesty's Ship *Sea-Horse* Capt. *Durell* Commander at *Nantasket*, and designs to return early in the Fall. And the Board thinking it a Matter of Importance, have sent to inform the Honourable House thereof.¹

Post Meridien.

Ordered, That Mr. *Remington*, Mr. *Fullam*, and Mr. *Dudley* go up to the Board, and Desire of His Honour the Lieut Governour, that if he has any Advice from His Excellency, of his intended Voyage, he would be pleased to communicate it to the House.

A Message by Mr. Secretary, His Honour the Lieut. Governour has ordered me to acquaint this Honourable House, That he has no farther Advice of His Excellency's intended Voyage, than that he is embarked on Board His Majesty's Ship *Sea-Horse*, and that he designs, if G O D please, to return early in the Fall.²

The House being Informed this Morning in a Message by *Samuel Sewall*, *Penn Townsend* and *Addington Davenport*, Esqrs; That His Honour the Lieut. Governour having by His Excellency's Direction acquainted the Board, that His Excellency the Governour is embarked on Board His Majesty's Ship *Sea-Horse*, Capt. *Durell* Commander at *Nantasket*, and designs to return early in the Fall. And the Board thinking it a matter of Importance, sent to inform the Honourable House thereof. Which is a very great surprize, and gives this House just ground to suppose, That upon His Excellency's Arrival at the Court of *Great-Britain*, (if bound there) he may endeavour to Charge this House in

¹ House Journal, p. 54.

² P. 55.

attempting to encroach upon the Royal Prerogative, or coming into some things they had not a Right to, by their present happy Constitution.

Therefore,

Resolved, That Mr. *Cooke*, Mr. *Dudley*, Mr. *Chandler*, Mr. *Clarke*, and Mr. *Wainwright*, be a Committee forthwith to prepare and lay before this House, what they think proper in this critical Juncture for the House to do, in their Just and necessary Vindication at the Court at Home.¹

The following notice appeared in the Boston Gazette of December 31:

His Excellency our Governour having been pleased to Communicate to the Honourable Lieutenant Governour, His Majesty's Leave of Absence, and delivered over to him all His Majesty's Royal Instructions for the management of the Government agreeable to the Royal Charter, and wrote the Lieutenant Governour a Letter to be Communicated to His Majesty's Council; His Excellency imbarc'd On Thursday last on board His Majesty's Ship Sea-horse at Nantascot in order to pass by way of the West Indies to Great Britain, but the Weather not inviting to Sail, the Owners of the Ship Ann, Capt. Finch Master (bound for Great Britain) got the said Ship ready with all possible dispatch, and ordering her yesterday from this Harbour to Nantascot, waited on His Excellency and prayed Him to take his passage on board her, which His Excellency kindly accepted, and Sails the first Wind, designing (by GOD's permission) to return to Us Early the next Fall (p. 2/2).²

¹ House Journal, p. 55.

² The following letter was printed in the New England Courant of January 14, 1723 (p. 2):

Praestat esse Prometheus quam Epimetheus.
To the Author of the New-England Courant.

S I R,

THE unprecedented and extraordinary Manner of Governour *Shute's* absenting himself from this Government, and embarking for England, has occasion'd much Discourse and various Sentiments, which we shall not now go about to recapitulate, but shall only mention what we conceive must be naturally concluded, viz. *That any Governour departing from a Government with so much Privacy and Displeasure, can't reasonably be supposed to promote the Interest of that Government, when he arrives at the British Court:* And therefore we may venture to say, that in general it is the opinion of the *Freeholders*, &c. of this Province, That it is essentially necessary for the Good and Welfare of the *People* here, at this critical Juncture, that two Gentlemen at least, Persons born among us, of known Abilities and Address, be, as soon as possible, sent to the Court of *Great Britain*, altho' this Province should be at the Charge of hiring a small Vessel on purpose, (seeing Delays are dangerous,) there to vindicate the Proceedings of the *Honourable House of Representatives* from

On the Departure of Governor Shute on January 1, 1723,¹ the government devolved upon Lieutenant-Governor *Dummer*; and on January 2 —

His Honour William Dummer Esq^r L^t Gov^r having the Government devolved upon him by the Absence of His Excellency Samuel Shute

time to time, since the Misunderstandings that have arisen betwixt that Honourable House and Governour *Shute*: Which being done we hope it can't but be thought very expedient for one of those two Gentlemen to reside at the *British Court*, there to give their Attendance, in soliciting and negotiating the Affairs of this Province: For sure it is, that no Man of Knowledge and Experience can believe, that an Agent appointed, who is a Resident in England, and was never in this Country, can be a suitable Person to appear at Court for it, since he must be ignorant of the Springs and Motives upon which the original Misunderstandings were grounded, as well as of the Laws, Customs, Trade, and Temper of the People, &c. Besides, who can imagine, that an *utter Stranger*, and a Person that has no Interest here, will so heartily lay forth himself to serve this Country, as one that is born here, and that has an Interest among us. There is some here that have seen (when in *England*) great Damage accrue to some Plantations, for want of their *Agents* knowing the true Interest of the Places they appeared for. We shall conclude this Letter with a Passage out of a learned Author, who has sometime since wrote concerning the Affairs of Barbadoes. Says he, *No prudent Man can think, that a Gentleman, who is not bred up in the Business, and has no Interest in the Island, can be fit to make an Agent, nor even a Merchant, who has many Commissions; for there is no kind of Affairs that makes a Man so busie, and keeps him in such a continual Hurry as Factorage. 'Tis without doubt proper, the Agent should fully understand the true Interest of Barbadoes; that he should have full Leisure to carry on his Agency, be a Man of Sense and Honour, and one that needs not make use of a borrowed Pen, to set forth its Grievances, and petition for Redress.*

We are, Yours, &c.

Quære, Whether (pursuant to the Charter) the Ministers of this Province, ought now to pray for *Samuel Shute* Esq; as our immediate Governour, and at the same time pray for the Lieut. Governour as Commander in Chief? Or, Whether their praying for his *Success* in his Voyage, if he designs to hurt the Province (as some suppose) be not in Effect to pray for our Destruction?

Monday. Jan. 7, 1723.

¹ "On Tuesday Morning last the first Instant, His Excellency *SAMUEL SHUTE*, Esq; Our Governour, set sail in the Ship *Ann*, Capt. Finch Commander from Nantasket for Great Britain; as then also did His Majesty's Ship Sea-Horse Capt. Durrel Commander, for Barbadoes" (Boston News Letter, January 7, 1723, p. 2/1).

The following notice had appeared in the Boston Gazette of October 15, 1722:

MR. John Boydel *Secretary to His Excellency the Governour designing for London by Capt. Lethred, Desires that if any Persons have any Demand on him (or His Excellency) they would forthwith call at his Office in His Excellency's House in order to be paid* (p. 4/2).

Esq^r Was Sworn to a faithfull discharge of his office of Lieu^t Gov^r & Command^r in Cheif of this his Majesties Province, and likewise took an Oath, that he would do the Utmost in his Power, That all & every the Clauses Matters & things, Contained, in an Act pass'd the Twelfth Year of King Charles the Second Entituled an Act, for the Encouraging & Increasing Shipping and Navigation, & in all other Acts since made & now in force, Relating to this Colony or Plantation, & more particularly in an Act made & pass'd in the Seventh & Eighth Year of King William the third, Entituled An Act for preventing Frauds and Regulating Abuses in the Plantation trade be punctually & Bona fide Observed according to the true Intent & Meaning thereof.¹

Lieutenant-Governor *Dummer* was Acting Governor from January 2, 1723, to July 19, 1728;² for, in spite of frequent rumors³ of his intended return, Shute never came back.

¹ Court Records, xi. 467.

² During Dummer's term of office as Acting Governor, the Explanatory Charter of 1725 was accepted: see Publications of this Society, xiv. 389-400.

In 1727 the accession of George I was celebrated in Boston on August 1 (New England Weekly Journal, August 7, p. 2/1). The news of his death, which occurred June 11, reached Boston August 14 (Council Records, viii. 579), and the Council ordered George II to be proclaimed August 16th. At ten o'clock on the morning of the 16th Lieutenant-Governor Dummer, being "confined to his House by a sickness," sent a draft of a proclamation to the Council, which approved it; it was then sent to Dummer, who signed it and returned it to the Council; and at 1 o'clock George II was proclaimed from the Town House. The Council Records then proceed to say:

After the Proclamation was ended & the loud & joyful acclamations that succeeded it, The Regiments & Troops fired three Volleys, and (upon a signal given) the Cannon at His Majesty's Castle W^m at the Town Battery & on Board the Ships & Vessels in the Harbour were discharged, and the Council Ministers, Representatives & other Gentlemen were entertained with a Public Dinner provided this Occasion.

After Dinner the Members of His Maty's Council being returned to the Council Chamber, W^m Tailer, Nath^l Byfield & Addington Davenport Esq^{rs} (Members of y^e Council) waited on His Honour the Lieu^t Governour at his house to administer to him the oaths of fidelity to His present Majesty King George the second.

And in the presence of the s^d Gentlemen His Honour the Lieu^t Governour took the Oath appoint^d by Act of Parliam^t to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremaey, & repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act with the Oath of Abjuration (xviii. 582).

³ "On Monday last the 23d. arrived here Capt. John Ruggles from London, by whom we have Advice that His Excellency SAMUEL SHUTE Esq; Governour of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, &c. intends for his Government

WILLIAM BURNET was commissioned Governor by George II on March 7, 1728. He reached Boston July 19 and was sworn the same day:

This Day his Excellency William Burnet Esq^r arrived at Boston, . . . And His Excellency being come to the council Chamber the Doors were set open And Proclamation was made that all Persons keep silence whilst His Majesty's Commission is in reading. And then the Attorney General with an audible voice and ¹ His Majestys Commission or Letters Patent, bearing date at Westminster the seventh day of March in the first year of His Majestys Reign constituting & appointing His Exc^y William Burnet Esq^r Captⁿ Gen^l & Governour in Cheif in and over His Majestys Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay, after which the Secretary in y^e presence of y^e Lieut. Governour administered to His Excell^{ty} the Oaths appointed to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy & he repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration contained in the said Act, together with y^e Oath of Abjuration as also an oath for the true and faithful discharge of his s^d Office of Captain General &c.²

On August 12, 1728, —

This Day His Majestys Commission bearing date the 14th day of March in the first year of His Majestys Reign, appointing His Excellency W^m Burnet Esq^r Vice Admiral of y^e Provinces of the Massachusetts Bay & New Hampshire & y^e Colony of Rhode Island was published in Council the Doors being opened.

And the Secretary directed to record it.³

early in the Spring. In whom came the Reverend Dr. Timothy Cutler and the Reverend Mr. Johnson, as also John Boydell Esq; with his Family, Gillam Phillips Esq; and Mr. John Checkley" (Boston Gazette, September 20, 1723, p. 4/1).

"London, Nov. 25. *Samuel Shute* Esq; Governour of New England & New-Hampshire in America, is preparing to set out for that Government" (Boston News Letter, February 3, 1726, p. 2/2).

In a letter to E. Quincy dated May 25, 1727, Jeremiah Dummer said:

Col^o Shute is expecting a Man of War to transport him to his Government, which [he] may probably now obtain, there being Pacification made between the Powers of Europe which will bring home our Fleets. It looks to me as if Our Assembly would hardly come into his demands, but whatever turn that takes, I depend upon your wisdom & moderation, & the influence You have in both Houses to keep things from coming to an extremity (Massachusetts Historical Society, 81. 1. 28).

¹ Error for "read."

² Council Records, ix. 79-80.

³ ix. 83.

Burnet was Governor from July 19, 1728, to his death on September 7, 1729,¹ when the government again devolved upon Lieutenant-Governor *Dummer*. On September 10 the following proceedings took place in Council:

The Government of this Province being by the death of His Excellency William Burnet Esq^r late Governour deceas^d devolved upon the Hon^{ble} William Dummer Esq^r Lieut^t Governour, as Commander in Chief, His Honor did this day before His Majestys Council, take the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy repeated and subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act contained together with the Oath of Abjuration & took an Oath for the faithful discharge of his office of Lieut^t Governor & Commander in Chief of this Province — His Honour likewise took an Oath that he would do the utmost in his power, that all and every the clauses matters & things contain^d in an Act of Parliamt^t passed in the twelfth year of the Reign of King Charles the second, entituled, "An Act for the encouraging & encreasing of Shipping & Navigation & in all other Acts since made & now in force relating to this Colony or Plantation more particularly in an act made & passed in y^e seventh and eighth years of the Reign of King William the third Entituled an Act for preventing of Frauds and regulating abuses in the Plantation Trade, be punctuall^y² & Bona Fide observed according to the true intent & meaning thereof.³

Dummer remained Acting Governor from September 10, 1729, to June 11, 1730, when he was superseded by Lieutenant-Governor *Tailer*, who was sworn June 11, 1730:

The Hon^{ble} W^m Tailer Esq^r having received His Majestys Commission bearing date at St. James's the fifteenth day of April 1730, appointing him

¹ The New England Weekly Journal of September 15 said:

This Town was exceedingly surpriz'd on Monday last with the sad News of the Death of His Excellency our Governour WILLIAM BURNET Esq;

He had been very ill all the Week before, but on Fryday the symptoms grew threatning; after which he very little recover'd any Use of his Understanding.

He expir'd about Eleven of the Clock the Lords-day Night; a teaching and monitory Instance to us of the Vanity of Humane Life and Greatness (p. 4/1).

² Error for "punctually."

³ Council Records, ix. 165-166.

Lieut^t Governor of this His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay in the room of the Hon^{ble} W^m Dummer Esq^r Which being laid before the Members of His Majestys Council, they together with y^e Gentlemen that had been of the Council, His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, the officers of y^e Militia & other Officers & Gentlemen attended His Honour from the House of Col^o Nathan^l Byfield to the Council Chamber, And the door being set open and Proclamation made that all Persons keep silence, His Majestys s^d Co^mmissⁿ was publicly read; And the s^d Will^m Tailer Esq^r in the presence of His Majestys Council took y^e oaths appointed by act of Parliam^t to be taken instead of the oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, Repeated & Subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act, together with the Oath of Abjuration and took an Oath for the faithful discharge of the said Office of Lieutenant Governour.

His Honour likewise took an oath that he would do the utmost in his power, that all and every the clauses matters & things contained in an Act of Parliam^t pass^d in the twelfth year of the reign of King Charles the second, entituled An Act for encouraging & increasing shipping & navigation & in all Acts since made & now in force relating to this Colony or Plantation, more particularly in an Act made and pass'd in the seventh & eighth years of King William the third entituled, An Act for preventing of Frauds & regulating of Abuses in y^e Plantation Trade be punctually and bone fide observed according to the true intent and mean^g thereof.¹

Tailer was Acting Governor from June 11 to August 10, 1730.

JONATHAN BELCHER was commissioned Governor by George II on January 28, 1730. He reached Boston Harbor August 8,² and on August 10 the following proceedings took place in Council:

¹ Council Records, ix. 215-216.

² ix. 227-228. The following notice appeared in the New England Weekly Journal of February 9, 1730:

By a Letter from a Gentleman in *London*, Dated *London*, November 28th 1729. we have the following Advice.

THIS is just to tell you, That Yesterday His Majesty in Council appointed Mr. Belcher Governour of New-England, and to Morrow he is to kiss the KING's Hand on that Occasion, attended with several of us. I reckon it will be Matter of great Surprise, and hope and believe will be very happy for New-England (p. 2/1).

The same paper of April 14, 1730 contained this rumor:

By Capt. *Homans* from *London*, we are informed that His Majesty has been pleased to confer the Honour of Knighthood on His Excellency JONATHAN

The Signal being given at the Castle on Saturday Evening last that His Excellency Jon^a Belcher Esq^r was arrived at the entrance of Boston Harbour, divers Gentlemen . . . waited on him on Board . . . the Blanford, and this morning . . . attended His Excellency on board . . . said ship . . .

His Excellency with the other Gentlemen being entered the Council Chamber & the Doors set open, Proclamation was made that all Persons keep silence while His Majestys Commissions are in reading.

And then the Secretary with an audible voice read His Majestys Commission or Letters Patents bearing date at Westminster the

1730 appointing His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Captain Gen^l & Gov^r in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay, as also His Majestys Commission dated in London the

1730, appointing His said Excellency Vice Admiral of the s^d Province of the Massachusetts Bay & New Hampshire.

His Excellency thereupon took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act together with the Oath of Abjuration, & took an Oath for the true and faithfull discharge of his said Office of Capt^a General and Gov^r in Chief of the s^d Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

His Excellency likewise took an oath that he would do the utmost in his power that all & every the clauses matters & things contained in an Act of Parliam^t pass'd in the twelfth year of King Charles the second, entituled an Act for encouraging and increasing shipping & navigation & in all other Acts since made and now in force relating to this Colony or Plantation, more particularly in an act made and passed in the seventh

BELCHER Esq; who is appointed Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Provinces of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, in *New-England*; and that His Excellency intended speedily to proceed for his Government in one of His Majesty's Ships of War (p. 2/2).

The same paper of August 11 said:

On Saturday last, about the middle of the Afternoon, we were notified by a Signal from Castle *William*, of the near Approach of His Excellency Governour B E L C H E R, in His Majesties Ship of War, appointed for his Transportation; which could reach no further that Night, than the Mouth or Entrance of the *Narrows*. . . . The usual Services of the Sabbath were attended by his Excellency at the Castle, . . . At the opening of the following Day, was the Town of Boston in a voluntary Alarm, . . . (p. 1/1).

& eighth years of the reign of King William the third entitled An Act for prevent^g of frauds & regulating of abuses in the Plantation Trade be punctually & Bonâ Fide observed accordg. to the true intent & meaning thereof. which Oaths were taken in the presence of y^e Hon^{ble} y^e Lieut^t Gov^r & Council.¹

Belcher was Governor from August 10, 1730, to August 14, 1741.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY was commissioned Governor by George II on May 25, 1741. The following extract is taken from the Boston News Letter of August 13:

This Morning Capt. *Tyng*, in our Province Snow, return'd hither from a Cruize; Yesterday Evening he came up with the Mast-Ship, Capt. Noble, off of Boon-Island, bound in to Piscataqua: The said Ship having on board His Majesty's Royal Commission constituting and appointing the Hon. WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esq; Captain General and Governour in and over this Province, the said Commission was put on board Capt. *Tyng*, by whom it was brought hither. And we hear it will be publickly open'd to-morrow, when the Militia of this Town are to be under Arms: And Preparations are making for celebrating the Day in a loyal manner, suitable to the high Occasion (p. 2/2).

On August 14 the following proceedings took place in Council:

Memorandum — Upon Thursday the thirteenth of August 1741, His Majestys Comission appointing William Shirley Esq^r Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay being arrived from Great Britain, And

Fryday the 14th of said month being appointed for the Publication thereof — About eleven aclock in the Fore Noon, he was attended at his own house in Boston by the Members of both Houses of Assembly, His Majestys Justices and a number of other Officers and gentlemen, and with them he went a foot towards the Court House, the Town Regiment of Militia and the Troop of Guards being drawn up between the Province House and the Court House, And as he passed by the Gate to the Province House, His Excell^{cy} Jon^a Belcher Esq^r & the Hon^{ble} Spencer Phips Esq^r the Lieut^t Governor joined him, and they walked together, attended by the Members of both Houses, Officers and Gentlemen, as above mentioned, to the Court House, the Regiment and Troop of Guards

¹ Council Records, ix. 227-228.

thereof; Which Oaths were taken in the Presence of the Hon^{ble} the Lieut^t Governor and Council.

And then His Excell^{cy} with the Advice of y^e Council issued a Proclamation for the continuance of all Officers Civil and Military in the exercise of their respective Offices until further Order.

Which Proclamation was published out of the Balcony of the Council Chamber, & was followed with the discharge of the Cannon at the Castles, Batteries and Ships, & Volleys from the Regiment & Troop of Guards under arms:

After which His Escell^{cy} dined in Publick wth the late Governor, Lieut^t Gov^r and Council, and the other Officers and Gentlemen, An Entertainm^t having been provided by order of the Governm^t¹

Upon the departure of Governor Shirley for England on September 11, 1749, the government devolved on Lieutenant-Governor *Spencer Phips*; and on September 15 —

His Excellency William Shirley Esq^r Captain General & Governour in Chief of his² Province, having on Monday last Embarked for Great Britain, & the Administration of the Government thereupon devolving upon the Hon^{ble} Spencer Phips Esq^r as Lieuten^t Governour & Commander in Chief in the Governour's Absence.

His Honour this Day in the presence of his Majesty's Council, took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliam^t to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act contain'd, together with the Oath of Abjuration, & took an Oath for the faithful Discharge of his Office of Lieuten^t Governour & Commander in Chief of this Province, And also took an Oath that he would do the utmost in his Power, that all & every the Clauses, Matters & Things contained in Act of Parliame^{nt} pass'd in the twelfth Year of the Reign of King Charles the second, entitled an Act for the encouraging & increasing Shipping & Navigation, & in all others Acts since made & now in Force relating to the Colony & Plantation, & more particularly, An Act pass'd in the seventh & eighth Year of the Reign of King William the Third, entitled an Act for preventing Frauds & regulating Abuses in the Plantations, be punctually & bonâ Fide observed, according to the true Intent & Meaning thereof.³

¹ Council Records, x. 533-536.

² Error for "this" or "his Majesty's."

³ Council Records, xii. 122.

Phips was Acting Governor from September 15, 1749, to August 7, 1753, when Governor Shirley returned.¹ Having been recalled to England, Shirley left Boston on September 25, 1756, and never came back as Governor. The following extract is taken from the Boston Gazette of September 27, 1756:

Last Saturday at 12 o'Clock, his Excellency William Shirley, Esq; went from the Council Chamber to the End of the Long Wharfe, where the Castle Barge was waiting to receive him — His Excellency preceeded by the Company of Cadets, and the Officers of the Militia, and followed by such of the Gentlemen of the Council and House as were then in Town, together with a Number of Gentlemen of Distinction — After receiving the Compliments of the Company, the Barge put off from the Wharfe, when He was saluted by a Discharge of the Guns of the several Batteries in this Town and Charlestown, and with the Castle Guns as he past by it; and in a short Time the Barge was along Side of the Mermaid Man of War, in which His Excellency embarks for England. A fair Wind offer'd for her Sailing Yesterday, but we cannot yet presume to determine when she will Sail, having been so often out in Times past on that Head (p. 2/1).²

¹ The following extracts are taken from the Boston Gazette of Tuesday, August 14 and September 11, 1753:

On Tuesday last, in the Afternoon, his Excellency our Governor arrived from England, in his Majesty's Ship Port-Mahon, under the Command of Capt. Montague, . . . About five o'Clock his Excellency went . . . to Castle William, . . . The Day following his Excellency remained at the Castle; and on Thursday he came up in the Castle Barge (August 14, p. 3/1).

On Saturday last His Excellency the Governour did the Proprietors of *Pullin-Point* the Honour of dining with them at the said Point, where a very elegant Entertainment was prepar'd for him; . . . The Proprietors, after taking Leave from His Excellency, gave it the Name of *Point-Shirley* (September 11, p. 3/2).

² "Thursday last arrived here from Halifax, his Majesty's Ship *Mermaid*, the Hon. WASHINGTON SHIRLEY Esq; Commander" (Boston News Letter, August 19, 1756, p. 4/1).

"His Majesty's Ship *Mermaid*, Captain *Washington Shirley*, still abides in our Harbour" (Boston Gazette, September 20, p. 2/1).

"On Saturday last His Excellency embarked on board His Majesty's Ship *Mermaid*, Washington Shirley, Esq; Commander. . . . And,

"About four o'Clock in the Afternoon on Monday last the *Mermaid* (as also the Schooner employed as a Tender) got under Sail, when she saluted Castle-William, which was returned by the Discharge of the Cannon there, and then proceeded on her Voyage with a fair Wind; which has continued ever since" (Boston News Letter, September 30, p. 1/2).

"Monday last, in the Afternoon, his Majesty's Ship *Mermaid* (on board of

Once more the government devolved on Lieutenant-Governor *Phips*, who remained Acting Governor from September 25, 1756, to his death on April 4, 1757.¹

By the death of *Phips* the government, for the third and last time in the history of the Province, devolved upon the *Council*. On April 5 the Council took the following action:

Whereas it hath pleased God in his holy Providence to remove the Honourable Spencer Phips Esq^r late Lieutenant Governour and Commander in chief of this Province, by Death, & thereupon the Administration of this Government is devolved on his Majesty's Council in virtue of the Royal Charter —

The Council issued a Proclamation for establishing all Military Officers in their posts until further Order.²

The proclamation thus issued was as follows, copied from the Boston Evening Post of April 11, 1757 (p. 1/2):

Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

By the HONOURABLE

His Majesty's Council for the Province aforesaid.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

*W*HEREAS it hath pleased GOD in his holy Providence to remove the Honourable SPENCER PHIPS, Esq; late Lieutenant Governour and Commander in Chief of said Province, by Death; and

which is his Excellency Governor Shirley) sail'd from this Port for *England*. As soon as she got under Sail, his Excellency was saluted with a Discharge of 15 Cannon at *Castle William*, which was answer'd by a like Number of the *Mermaid's* Guns" (Boston Evening Post, October 4, p. 1/2).

"Tuesday Morning last His Majesty's Ship *Mermaid* sail'd from hence for *England*" (Boston Gazette October 4, p. 2/1).

¹ "Last Monday Night died at his Seat in *Cambridge*, after a few days Illness, the Honourable SPENCER PHIPS, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief of this Province, in the 74th Year of his Age; and on Saturday his Corps was very honourably interred, . . ." (Boston Evening Post, April 11, 1757, p. 4/1).

² Council Records, xiii. 212.

thereupon the administration of this Government is devolved on His Majesty's Council in Virtue of the Royal Charter;

WE have therefore thought fit (in Council) to issue this Proclamation; hereby establishing all military Commissions heretofore issued by Lawful Authority, and which have at no Time since been revoked or superceded; and they are hereby established and confirmed to all Intents and Purposes, until further Order; and all Persons commissioned as aforesaid, and all others concern'd, are to govern themselves accordingly.

Given under our Hands at the Council-Chamber in BOSTON, the fifth Day of April 1757, in the Thirtieth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord G E O R G E the Second, by the Grace of GOD, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

By Order of the Council,

A. OLIVER, Secr.

Tho. Hutchinson
Stephen Sewall
Joseph Pynchon
Isaac Royall
Benja. Lincoln
John Erving
Rich. Cutt
Wm. Brattle.

Wm. Pepperrell

J. Osberne

Jacob Wendell

Benja. Lynde

S. Danforth

Sam. Watts

John Hill

J. Chandler

James Minot

John Otis

A. Oliver

G O D Save the K I N G.

On April 8 the Council wrote the following letter:

BOSTON 8th April 1757

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS

It is our duty to take the earliest opportunity to advise your Lordships of the Death of the Hon^{ble} Spencer Phips Esq^r Lieutenant Governor of the Province who died the 4 Instant

The Governour being at this time out of the Province, a greater share of the Government is now devolved on the Council. We are very sensible that his Majestys Service requires the utmost attention at this

important Juncture; and we shall apply ourselves to discharge the duties of your Trust with an answerable Zeal and Diligence

We have the Honour to be with very great Respect

Your Lordships

Most obedient and

most humble servants

JOHN CHANDLER	RICHARD CUTT
EZEKIEL CHEEVER	JOHN OSBORNE
ANDREW OLIVER	JACOB WENDELL
JOSEPH PYNCHON	BENJAMIN LYNDE
JOHN OTIS	JOHN CUSHING
THOMAS HUTCHINSON	DANIEL RUSSELL
STEPHEN SEWALL	SAMUEL WATTS
BENJAMIN LINCOLN	JOHN HILL
JOHN ERVING	

The Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations ¹

The *Council* administered the government from April 5 to August 3, 1757.

THOMAS POWNALL was commissioned Governor by George II on February 25, 1757. He reached Boston Harbor August 2,² and came to Boston and was sworn on August 3:

This Day his Excellency Thomas Pownall Esq^r Arrived in the province with his Majesty's Royal Commission appointing him Captain General and Governour in chief of the said Province; And another Commission appointing him Vice Admiral of the same, which were duly published in the Council Chamber; After which his Excellency took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act contained, together with the Oath of Abjuration,

¹ Massachusetts Archives, lvi. 50.

² "Tuesday last, in the Afternoon, arrived in Nantasket-Road, from Halifax, his Majesty's Ship Nightingale, Capt. Campbell; in which ship came his Excellency THOMAS POWNALL, Esq; with his Majesty's Royal Commission to be Captain-General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over this his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay; as also a Commission from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty, to be Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. His Excellency is also Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New-Jersey, and Agent for His Majesty's General Affair under the Command of Lord LOUDOUN. . . ." (Boston News Letter, August 4, 1757, p. 2/1).

An Oath to do his utmost to Observe and cause to be Observed the several Acts of Parliament now in Force for regulating Trade in the plantations, and an Oath for the due and faithful performance of his Offices.¹

Pownall was Governor from August 3, 1757, to June 3, 1760, on which day the following proceedings took place in the House:

Resolve relative to his Excellency's Departure, &c.

THE Committee appointed to prepare a Resolve respecting the attending his Excellency, upon his Departure, Reported.

Read and accepted, and the following Resolve passed, *viz.*

Whereas the two Houses are informed that his Excellency Governor POWNALL, designs this Day to embark for Great Britain:

Resolved, That as a Testimony of their Respect to his Excellency upon his Departure, they wait upon him from the Court-House to the End of the Long Wharffe, and take Leave of him there.

Resolved also, That the Gentlemen of both Houses wait upon his Honour the Lieutenant Governour, upon his Return to the Court House, in order to take the Chair of Government.

Sent up for Concurrence by Col. *Clap*, Col. *Williams*, Col. *Jones*, Mr. *Stone*, and Col. *Waldo*.² . . .

The House attend his Excellency Governor Pownall, &c.

Mr. Speaker³ and the House, agreeable to the Resolve of this Morning, waited upon his Excellency Governor POWNALL, to the End of the Long Wharffe and after Leave taken —

Mr. Speaker and the House attended his Honour the Lieut. Governour to the Chair.

Who was pleased to make a SPEECH to both Houses: of which Mr. Speaker obtain'd a Copy: And then with the House returned to their own Chamber.

His Honour's SPEECH to both Houses, is as follows, *viz.*

¹ Council Records, xiii. 283. Cf. Crown Commissions, 1628-1663, p. 155. For an account of the two volumes labelled "Crown Commissions, 1628-1663" and "Crown Commissions, 1677-1774," see Publications of this Society, vol. ii. p. xvii note 5, p. xviii note 4; and cf. xiv. 397 note.

² House Journal, p. 17.

³ James Otis.

Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Representatives,

“**H**IS Excellency Governor POWNALL, having embarked for *Great-Britain*, and the Administration being devolved upon me, by virtue of his Majesty’s Commission for Lieut. Governor, I shall endeavour to improve what Opportunity may be allowed me, in promoting his Majesty’s Service and the Interest of the Province: ¹ . . .

Lieutenant-Governor *Hutchinson* was Acting Governor from June 3 to August 2, 1760.

FRANCIS BERNARD was commissioned Governor by George II on January 14, 1760; and was again commissioned Governor by George III on April 4, 1761.² He reached Boston August 2, 1760, on which day he was sworn:

¹ House Journal, p. 20. Presumably Hutchinson, on becoming Acting Governor, took the oaths, but no mention of them is made in the Council Records, nor in the Court Records, nor in the Massachusetts Archives. The following extract is taken from the Boston Evening Post of June 9, 1760 (p. 3/1):

LAST Tuesday, about Noon, His Excellency Governor POWNALL, attended by His Honor the Lieut. Governor, the Honorable Gentlemen of His Majesty’s Council and House of Representatives, and a great Number of Civil and Military Officers, and other Gentlemen, set out from the Court-House in this Town, and being escorted by the Company of Cadets, under Arms, walk’d in Procession, thro’ King-Street, down the Long-Wharf, where the Castle-Barge lay ready for the Reception of His Excellency: And after receiving the most respectful Salutations, upon his Departure from us, His Excellency was received into the Barge; . . .

After His Excellency’s Departure, his Honor the Lieutenant Governor made the following Speech to both Houses, *viz.* . . .

² Rumors of the death of George II, which occurred October 25, 1760, reached Boston December 25 and were confirmed December 27. On the latter day Governor Bernard communicated the news to the Council, which “Advised that his Excellency cause his most sacred Majesty King George the Third to be proclaimed on Tuesday the 30th day of December Instant at 12 o’Clock at Noon” (Council Records, xiv. 298). On December 29 the House of Representatives was ordered to attend in the Council Chamber, Bernard made a speech, and the committee appointed “to consider what is proper to be done, on that Occasion” made the following report:

The Committee appointed on his Excellency’s Speech of this Afternoon, relative to the Accession of his majesty King George the Third, are of Opinion that his Honour the late Lieutenant Governor Dummer, all officers Civil and Military, who belong to the Town or may be in it; all the Gentlemen of the

Province of the Massachusetts Bay Aug^t 2. 1760

His Excell^y Francis Bernard Esq³ took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, repeated & Subscribed the Test or Declaration therein Contained together with the Oath of Abjuration, and an Oath for the due Observance of the several Laws and Statutes now in force for the regulating Trade & navigation in America, likewise the Oath for the due and faithful performance of his Duty in the respective offices to which he is appointed. Which Oaths were administred by the Lieu^t Gov^r Before his Majesty's Council and the House of Representatives

Attest A OLIVER Sec^y ¹

Clergy, and merchants as aforesaid; all the Kings Officers, and Officers of the Customs as aforesaid the Gentlemen of the Law, and other Gentlemen of Distinction be invited to be present, at the Proclaiming of his majesty to morrow. noon And that Provision be made for his Excellency the Governor, his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Gentlemen that are, or have been of his Majesty's Council, the members of the House of Representatives, and the Gentlemen before mentioned, to drink the Kings Health at Faneuil Hall, in the Evening. And that the Court House be illuminated on the Occasion (Court Records, xxiii. 505).

The following account appeared in the Boston News Letter of January 1, 1761:

B O S T O N, January 1. 1761.

LAST Thursday we had a Report from Europe of the Death of His Britannick Majesty King *GEORGE* the Second; which Report was confirmed on the Saturday following by the public Prints brought by the Race-Horse, Captain Samuel Partridge, who arrived here that Day from London, but in 40 Days from Portsmouth: — . . .

Tuesday in the Forenoon, His Honour the Lieut. Governor, the Honourable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives, and a Number of other Gentlemen, waited upon his Excellency the Governor at the Province House; from whence they walked in Procession to the Council-Chamber, being escorted by the Company of Cadets, commanded by Colonel Jarvis: The Regiment of Militia, commanded by Colonel Phillips, were mustered on the Ocasion, and appeared under Arms in King-Street. — About XII o'Clock the Proclamation (which follows in the next Column) was read, and repeated with a loud Voice from the Balcony of the Court-House; and on finishing with *GOD* save the KING, three Huzzas were given by a vast Concource of People of all Ranks, assembled on this Occasion; which was followed by three Vollics from the Regiment of Militia and Company of Cadets: And upon a Signal given, 63 Picces of Cannon were discharged at Castle William, and also a Round at each of the Batteries in this Town and at Charlestown. — In the Evening there were publick Illuminations, and a handsome Entertainment provided at Faneuil-Hall, where the Health of his Majesty King *GEORGE* the Third, the Royal Family, and many other loyal Healths were drank. — The whole Ceremony was carried on and concluded with great Decency and good Decorum (p. 1/1).

¹ Crown Commissions, 1628-1663, p. 184.

Bernard was Governor from August 2, 1760,¹ to August 1, 1769. The Boston Evening Post of August 7, 1769, said:

On Monday last His Excellency Governor BERNARD left his Seat at Roxbury and went to Castle William. The next Morning about Nine o'Clock he embarked on board His Majesty's Ship Rippon, then lying in King-Road. The Wind being fair the Ship came the² sail, but soon after the Wind shifting to the East, she anchored again a Mile or two below her former Moorings, where she lay till Friday Morning, when she came to sail again and went out with a fair Wind (p. 3/1).³

With the departure of Governor Bernard, the government again devolved upon Lieutenant-Governor *Hutchinson*; and on August 2 —

His Excellency Sir Francis Bernard Bar^t Governor of this Province having embarked for Great Britain, His Honor the Lieutenant Governor came into the Council Chamber, and in the presence of the Council took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy, repeated and subscribed the Test or Declaration therein contained, together with the Oath of Abjuration, as also an Oath that he would do his utmost that all clauses matters and things contained in the Acts of Parliament passed as well since as before the enacting of the Act of the 7th and 8th of William the Third and at this time in force, relating to the Colonies and Plantations, and that all and every the clauses contained in the said Act intituled "An Act for preventing Frauds and regulating Abuses in the Plantation Trade" be punctually and bona fide observed, according to the true intent and meaning thereof: And that he would faithfully perform the duties of his Office of Commander in chief of said Province, according to the best of his judgment and skill. After which His Honor took the chair.⁴

¹ The Boston Evening Post of August 4, 1760, said (p. 3/1):

Saturday last about one o'clock, came to Town by land from Providence, his Excellency FRANCIS BERNARD, Esq; with his Majesty's Royal Commission to be Captain-General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay; as also a Commission from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty, to be Vice-Admiral of the same, &c.

² Error for "to."

³ The same paper of August 7, 1769, said:

His Excellency upon his embarking, having delivered the Province Seal to the Lieutenant Governor, Wednesday last His Honor in Council took the Oaths appointed by Acts of Parliament in order to take upon him the Administration of the Province (p. 3/1).

⁴ Council Records, xvi. 431.

Hutchinson was Acting Governor from August 2, 1769, to March 14, 1771, when he became actual Governor.

THOMAS HUTCHINSON was commissioned Governor by George III on November 28, 1770. On March 11, 1771, —

The Lieutenant Governor acquainted the Board that he had received His Majesty's Commission, appointing him Captain General and Commander in Chief of the Province, and had received orders therewith to cause his Commission to be published in the usual form. That it had been usual on such occasions to have the Regiment of the Town of Boston in Arms, but that as the Streets are at this time full of Snow and water, he thinks it would be very inconvenient to assemble such a body of men, as their health must be much exposed by being so long on foot in the Streets at such a time. He therefore thought it would be sufficient to be attended only by the Troop of Guards and a Company made up of Non-Commissioned Officers of the Regiment, together with a Detachment of the Train of Artillery, which under the present circumstances, he apprehended might answer all the purposes of a Military appearance on this occasion: — Upon which the Board expressed their intire approbation of the proposal, and His Honor signified that he should give orders accordingly.

His Honor likewise proposed that instead of having a Publick Dinner on the day when the Commission should be opened, there should be the usual preparation made as when the King's health is drank, in the Council Chamber, for entertaining the Company that may be then present. To which His Majesty's Council did Advise and Consent. And further Advised, that Thursday next, be appointed for observing the Ceremony aforesaid.¹

Accordingly, on March 14 Hutchinson was sworn:

Province of the	} March 14. 1771.
Massachusetts Bay	

His Excellency Thomas Hutchinson Esq^r having published his Com^a from his present Majesty to be Captain General and Governor in Chief of his Province of Mass^a Bay, took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, repeated and subscribed the Test or declaration therein contained together with the Oath of Abjuration; and an Oath that he would do his utmost that all the Clauses, matters and things contained in the Acts of

¹ Council Records, xvi. 532-533.

Parliament passed as well since as before the enacting of the Act of the 7 and 8 of William the third and at this time in force relating to the Colonies & Plantations, and that all and every the Clauses contained in the said Act intituled "An Act for preventing frauds and regulating the abuses in the Plantation Trade" be punctually and bona fide observed according to the true intent and meaning thereof: and that he would faithfully perform the duties of the office of Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province aforesaid according to the best of his Judgment and skill;

Before us

S DANFORTH	} Members of his Majesty's Council ¹
JN ^o ERVING	
WILLIAM BRATTLE	

Hutchinson was Governor from March 14, 1771, to May 17, 1774.²

THOMAS GAGE was commissioned Governor by George III on April 7, 1774. He reached Boston May 13,³ and on May 14 —

His Excellency the Governor introduced the Council to General Gage, who arrived from England the preceding day, and acquainted them that His Majesty had been pleased to appoint him Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province, & that the General proposed to open his Commission as soon as might be. Whereupon they Advised that the Commission be published at the Council Chamber in Boston, on Tuesday the 17th Instant, and that His Excellency the Governor order the Regiment of the Militia of the Town, the Company of Cadets, and the Troop

¹ Crown Commissions, 1677-1774, p. 124.

² The following extract is from the Boston Evening Post of May 16, 1774:

W H I T E H A L L, April 2.

THOMAS HUTCHINSON, Esq; Governor of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in North-America, having humbly requested his Majesty's leave to come to England, the King has been graciously pleased to comply therewith, and to appoint THOMAS GAGE, Esq. Lieutenant-General of his Majesty's forces, to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the said Province, and Vice-Admiral of the same, during his Majesty's pleasure (p. 1/3).

Hutchinson himself left Boston June 1. The Boston Gazette of June 6 said: "Thomas Hutchinson, Esq; sailed Wednesday Morning with Capt. Callahan for London. *Jonah laid three days in the Whale's Belly, on his Passage to Nineveh, that great City*" (p. 1/1).

³ "Friday last arrived here his Majesty's Ship Lively, Capt. Bishop, in 26 Days from England, in whom came his Excellency General GAGE" (Boston Evening Post, May 16, p. 2/3).

of Horse Guards to appear in arms: — that a public dinner be provided and a list of the Company proposed to be invited to dine on this occasion, be prepared for his approbation: and the Councillors present were appointed a Committee to see that suitable provision be made accordingly.¹

Accordingly, Gage was sworn on May 17:

Province of
Massachusetts Bay } Boston May 17th 1774

His Excellency Thomas Gage Esq^r having published his Commission from his present Majesty, to be Captain General and Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid, took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and supremacy, repeated and subscribed the Test or declaration therein contained together with the Oath of Abjuration, and an Oath that he would do his utmost that all the clauses, matters and things contained in the Acts of Parliament passed as well since as before the enacting of the 7 & 8 of William the third and at this time in force relating to the Colonies and plantations, and that all and every the clauses contained in the said Act intitled "An Act for preventing frauds and regulating the abuses in the plantation Trade," be punctually and bona fide observed according to the true intent and meaning thereof. And that he would faithfully perform the duties of his office of Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province aforesaid according to the best of his Judgment and skill

Before us

SAMUEL DANFORTH }
JOHN ERVING } Members of his
JAMES BOWDOIN } Majesty's Council ²

General Gage, the last Royal Governor, left Boston on October 10, 1775.³

¹ Council Records, xvi. 794.

² Crown Commissions, 1677-1774, p. 143.

³ The following paragraph appeared in the Boston News Letter of Friday, October 13, 1775:

Last Tuesday, at 12 o'Clock, His Excellency General GAGE, accompanied by the principal Officers of the Army and Navy, and a large Number of the most respectable Inhabitants of this Town, proceeded to the Long-Wharf, where he embarked for England, having received his Majesty's Orders to repair thither to lay before his Majesty the State of Affairs in this Province. That kind and humane Disposition which his Excellency has discovered through the whole

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS

WILLIAM STOUGHTON was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by William and Mary, doubtless late in 1691, though the exact date is not known. On May 16, 1692, —

His Maj^{ties} Commission, Constituting & appointing William Stoughton Esq^r to be their Maj^{ties} Lieutenant Governour of the Massachusetts Bay, and their Deputy Lieutenant of the Militia within their whole Territory and Dominion of New England in America, was read and published. . . .

William Stoughton Esq^{re} Lieut Gov^r tooke his Oath for the due and faithfull performance of his Office or place of Lieutenant or Deputy Governour & the Oaths appointed by said Act of Parliament made in the first year of their present Maj^{ties} Reign, to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy — Before his Excellency the Governour.¹

Stoughton was Lieutenant-Governor from May 16, 1692, to his death on July 7, 1701.² He was Acting Governor from December 4, 1694, to May 26, 1699; and again from July 22, 1700, to July 7, 1701.³

of his Administration, has made his Departure universally regretted. — He is accompanied by the Hon. THOMAS FLUCKER, Esq; Secretary to the Province, STEPHEN KEMBLE, Esq; Secretary to his Excellency, and the Captains DONKIN and ROOKE, his Aid de Camps (p. 2/2).

Cf. p. 105 note 6, below.

¹ Council Records, ii. 167-168.

² See p. 50 note 5, above. An editorial note in the Massachusetts Province Laws, appended to a list of "Councillors or Assistants" for 1692-1693, says that "For this year the Lieutenant-Governor sat and acted with the Council as a member, *ex officio*: in subsequent years, he was regularly elected a councillor" (vii. 5 note). If by "Lieutenant-Governor" is meant Stoughton, the statement is correct, as he was elected each year from 1693 to 1701, both included. But if by "Lieutenant-Governor" is meant subsequent holders of that office, the statement is erroneous. Povey was never elected to the Council. Neither Spencer Phips nor Andrew Oliver was once elected to the Council during the years they were Lieutenant-Governors. Tailer, Dummer, and Hutchinson sometimes were, sometimes were not, elected to the Council during their terms of office as Lieutenant-Governor. See Whitmore's Massachusetts Civil List, pp. 46-63.

³ See pp. 48, 49, 50, above.

THOMAS POVEY¹ was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by Anne on April 11, 1702. He reached Boston June 11 and took office the same day:

Then Her Maj^{ty}'s Royal Commission of the eleventh of April past, constituting and appointing the Hon^{ble} Thomas Povey Esq^{re} Captⁿ in her Maj^{ty}'s own Regiment of Foot Guards to be Lieut^t Gov^r of the Province & Territoryes of the Massachusetts Bay was read, and published, and he tooke the Oaths afores^d appointed to be taken instead of the oaths of allegiance and Supremacy unto her present Maj^{ty} and repeated and subscribed the Declaratⁿ.²

¹ Little is known of Povey. On June 11, 1702, Sewall wrote: "I was startled at 2 or 3 things; viz. The Lt Governour a stranger, sent, whom we knew nor heard anything of before: When the Gov^r first mention'd it, I understood him of. Mr. Addington" (Diary, ii. 58). In a letter to Fitz John Winthrop dated Boston, June 21, 1702, the Rev. Timothy Woodbridge said: "Y^e Leit: Governer is one Capt Tho: Povey, cousin to one of that name knoune to your self; he is a souldier, was nine years in y^e army in Flanders" (6 Massachusetts Historical Collections, iii. 99). If by "one of that name" is meant a Thomas Povey, probably the reference is to Thomas Povey, F.R.S., the friend of Evelyn and Pepys. Or the reference may be to John Povey, Clerk of the Privy Council. In a notice of Thomas Povey, F.R.S., the writer says that "A half-brother John, who was clerk of the privy council, and commissioner for the sick and wounded under William III, died in June 1705" (Dictionary of National Biography, 1909, xvi. 236), and cites Luttrell as his authority. What Luttrell wrote, however, is as follows: "Captain Thomas Savoury is made treasurer to the commissioners for the sick and wounded, in the room of Mr. Povey, deceased" (Brief Relation, v. 564). Luttrell's "Mr. Povey" was not John Povey, but Richard Povey. A "Letter from the Com^{rs} for sick and wounded," dated June 5, 1704, mentions "Mr. Povey, their treasurer, being dead" (Calendar of Treasury Papers, 1702-1707, p. 351). John Povey did not die until 1715: "*John Povey* Esq; one of the Clerks of the Privy-Council, died Apr. 1715" (J. Le Neve, Monumenta Anglicana, 1717, v. 304). Under date of October 30, 1718, is a reference to a "petition of Thomas Povey, son of John Povey, Esq., late Clerk of the Privy Council" (Calendar of Treasury Papers, 1714-1719, p. 408). F. B. Relton thinks that John Povey was "probably" a half-brother of Thomas Povey, F.R.S. (Account of the Fire Insurance Companies, 1893, p. 452). The late Rev. A. T. S. Goodrick asserted, but without stating his authority, that John Povey was a son of William Povey (Toppan's Randolph, vi. 146 note 266). An editorial note in the Massachusetts Province Laws declares that Lt.-Gov. Povey was "a brother of John Povey, clerk of the Privy Council" (vii. 331 note). The genealogy of the Povey family is at present a hopeless tangle. For Povey's military career, see Dalton's English Army Lists and Commission Registers, 1661-1714, iii. 237, 238, 306, 307, v. 155, 159.

² Council Records, iii. 323.

His last appearance at the Council was on January 28, 1706, when —

His Ex^{cy} acquainting the Council, that his honour the L^t Gov^r had obtained leave to return into England. And that he designed to take passage by the way of Lisboa, upon a ship at Piscataqua, near ready to saile thither.

Advised and Consented. That a Warrant be made out to the Treasurer¹ to pay the sum of twenty five pounds to the s^d Thomas Povey Esq^{re} for three Months service as Commander of her Maj^{ty}'s Castle William, commencing from the Thirty first of October last past to which time the Muster Rolls of that Garrison were last made up and pass'd.²

The exact date of Povey's departure is not known, but it was doubtless within a few days after the announcement of his going away.³

WILLIAM TAILER⁴ was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by Anne in 1711, but the precise date is not known. He reached Boston October 3, and was sworn October 4th:

¹ Harrison Gray.

² Council Records, iv. 261-262.

³ The following extracts are from the Boston News Letter for 1706:

Boston, Coasters Cleared Outwards, Samuel Dutch in Sloop Nightingal, for Piscataqua (February 11, p. 2/2).

Piscataqua, Febr. 15. On Monday 11 Currant arrived here Samuel Dutch in a Sloop from Boston, having on Board the Hon. Col. Tho. Povey Esqr. Lieut. Gov. of Her Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, who intends on Thursday next to Imbark on Board Capt. Jarvenin for Lisbon, and so to England (February 18, p. 2/2).

Piscataqua, March 1. On Friday the 15th of *February* last, Capt. *Jarvenin* Sailed from hence to *Lisbon* (March 4, p. 4/2).

⁴ The following letter is in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society (C. 71. I. 67):

WHITEHALL May 22th 1711

S^R

The Queen having been pleased to constitute Colonell William Tailer Lieutenant Governor of the Province of the Massachuset's Bay in New England and the Territorys depending thereon, with all the Rights and Advantages thereunto belonging, I must recommend him to your Favour and Assistance, if there be occasion, that he may receive the benefit of Her Maj^{ty}'s Gracious Intention to him, in as full & ample manner as any of his predecessors have done. Though his personal Interest and Merit will be a sufficient Recommendation of him to you and to the Assembly there yet upon the Character I have received of the Services he has performed and of his Zeale and Loyalty in what may occurre

Her Majestys Commission constituting the Hon^{ble} William Tailer Esq^{re} Lieu^t Governor of this Province who arrived from Great Britain the last night was opened & read and his Honor took the Oath appointed by the Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy repeated and subscribed the Declaration.¹

Tailer was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George I on April 28, 1715, and took the oaths on September 24th:

A Commission to William Tailer Esq^r from His Majesty King George, dated the 28th of April for Lieut^t Gov^r & a Commission to Samuel Woodward Esq^r for Secretary of this Province were severally read at the Board.

The Hon^{ble} William Tailer Esq^r Lt. Gov^r and Samuel Woodward Esq^r Secretary severally took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy repeated

for the future, I can not but add mine; and take this Opportunity to acknowledge the Receipt of the Letter which I received from you by him. I am

Your most humble Servant

DARTMOUTHE

Colonell Dudley

On June 5, 1711, Jeremiah Dummer wrote to Governor Dudley as follows

This Pacquett goes by Coll^o Tayler who has the Queen's Commission for Lieutenn^t Governour of the Province. Coll^o Nicholson's recommendation of him to My Lord Dartmouth, & His own putting in a Memorial that He had rais'd a regiment at his own expence for Her Majestie's service at Port Royall, & had receiv'd no pay, was what procur'd him this honour. He never imparted his Design to me till it was almost done, & then I told him I could doe nothing in it, having no instructions about it (Massachusetts Historical Society, C. 71. I. 68).

Under the heading "Colonel Wm. Taylor's Regt. of Foot," C. Dalton states that a commission was issued April 1, 1710, to "Wm. Taylor to be Colonel of a Regt. of Foot to be forthwith raised for her Majesty's Service in the West Indies (*sic*)," and adds this note: "A Colonial. Was sent by Genl. Nicholson to summon the French Commander to surrender Port Royal to the British 1 Oct. 1710. Not noticed in Appleton's *American Biography*. Genl. Fras. Nicholson in his will dated 4 Mar. 1728 left Col. Wm. Taylor a mourning ring" (English Army Lists and Commission Registers, 1661-1714), vi. 285. Dalton has failed to identify "Wm. Taylor" as our Lieutenant-Governor Tailer.

¹ Council Records, v. 456.

"On Wednesday arrived here Her Majesty's Ship Norwich, Capt. *Study* Commander from Great Britain with the Mast Fleet, but last from Lisbon, in whom came the Honourable Col. *Tailer*, Lieut. Governout of this Province" (Boston News Letter, October 8, 1711, p. 2/2).

& subscribed the Test or Declaration, took the Oath of Abjuration & an oath for the faithfull discharge of their respective offices.¹

Upon reading this Commission, Tailer propounded to the Council whether it did not make him Acting Governor, but the Council unanimously decided in the negative.² When, however, an Exemption of Burges's Commission as Governor reached Boston on November 9, Tailer's Commission was again read in Council and he became Acting Governor.³

Tailer was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George II on April 15, 1730, and took the oaths June 11.⁴

Tailer was Lieutenant-Governor from October 4, 1711, to October 5, 1716; and from June 11, 1730, to his death on March 1, 1732.⁵ He was Acting Governor from November 9, 1715, to October 5, 1716; and again from June 11 to August 10, 1730.⁶

WILLIAM DUMMER was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George I in 1716, but the exact date is unknown.⁷ He was sworn October 5.⁸

¹ Council Records, vi. 379. The Boston News Letter of October 17 said:

Boston, His Majesty has been pleas'd to Commissionate the Honourable William Tailer Esq; Lieutenant Governour of this Province, under His Excellency Col. *Elizeus Burgess* Esq; whose Commission bears Date the 17th of *March* last, and the Lieutenant Governour's Commission being presented to His Excellency Col *Dudley* and the Council, was read at the Council Board the 24th of last Month, and he had the proper Oaths administred him, whereby he might be qualified to Act accordingly; which was omitted in our Publick News-Letter of the 26th of *September* past (p. 2/1).

² See pp. 61-62, above.

³ See p. 62, above.

⁴ See pp. 71-72, above.

⁵ "Yesterday in the Afternoon died at his Seat in Dorchester, the Honourable William Tailer, Esq; Lieut. Governour of this Province. Aged 55 Years, wanting 6 Days" (Boston News Letter, March 2, 1732, p. 2/2).

⁶ See pp. 62, 71, 72, above.

⁷ In the following announcements, the name of Jeremiah Dummer is of course an error for William Dummer:

August 5. About this Time *Jeremiah Dummer*, Esq; was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of *New-England* (Historical Register, 1716, i. 359).

Not many Days after [the beginning of August], his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, was pleased to appoint *Jeremiah Dummer* Esq; to be Lieutenant Governor of *New-England* (Political State of Great Britain, August, 1716, xii. 156).

⁸ See pp. 64-66, above.

Dummer was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George II on October 17, 1727, and was sworn on May 19, 1728:

The Hon^{ble} W^m Dummer Esq^r having rec^d His Majestys Commission, bearing date y^e 17th Oct^r 1727, continuing him Lieut^t Governour of this His Majestys Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay, y^e same was published at the Board, and then His Honour took the Oaths appointed by act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaratⁿ together with the Oath of Abjuration & took an oath for the true & faithfull discharge of his said Office, as also the usual oath to take due care that y^e sever^l Acts referring to Navigation be observed.¹

Dummer was Lieutenant-Governor from October 5, 1716, to June 11, 1730. He was Acting Governor from January 2, 1723, to July 19, 1728; and again from September 10, 1729, to June 11, 1730.²

SPENCER PHIPS³ was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George II on April 29, 1732, and was sworn August 8:

¹ Council Records, ix. 37-38.

² See pp. 68, 71, above. The following extracts are taken from the originals in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society:

I am of your mind that some Gentlemen who set up for the onely Patriots, are far from being so, & it is my firm beleif that in the present Situation of Our Affairs the Governour's friends are the true friends of the Countrey. You'l see by my Publick letter that I have not conceal'd these sentiments, notwithstanding I beleive that my free expressing them will procure my Quietus this next session; especially if I may beleive Col^o Tayler, that M^r Cook is the great Darling of his Countrey, & carries what points he pleases in the Assembly. . . . Col^o Tayler is putting in for my Brother's Commission, & by one method or another has rais'd a very considerable interest, yet I think I shall be able to defeat him. I can't think it proper that a man who does not so much as profess the least respect for our Excellent Governour, should be his Lieutenant (J. Dummer to E. Quincy, April 25, 1721, 91. M. 9).

I have by every Ship given you an account of the State of your affairs here, & M^r Belcher, who is just on the point of sailing, will write you from Boston how it now stands. . . .

As for M^r Belcher, I have not convers'd with him lately, because He Join'd with my Lord Cobham a Relation to Col^o Tayler in Boston, to get him into my Brother's place. I took no measures to oppose him, having my Brother's letter, wherein he Assur'd me He would not hold his Commission a minute after Belcher's arrival. And therefore I thought it improper to give my friends & my selfe trouble to no purpose. However I could not but resent the injury (J. Dummer to J. Talcott, May 19, 1730, 81. 1. 34).

³ On June 19, 1716, the House granted the petition of Spencer Bennet to

The Hon^{ble} Spencer Phipps Esq^r having received his Majesty's Commission bearing date at St James's the twenty ninth day of April 1732 appointing him Lieutenant Governour of this Province in the room of the late Hon^{ble} William Taylor Dec^d his Excellency ordered the same to be this day published in Council. Which was done in the manner following.

The Drums beat and the Trumpets sounded about the Court House, and the Doors of the Council Chamber being set open, the Justices and Military Officers and other Gentlemen attended and the Commission was publicly read at the Board; and then His Honour took the oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the oaths of allegiance and Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration and the Oath of abjuration, and took an oath for the faithfull discharge of his said Office of Lieut^t Governour.¹

Phips was Lieutenant-Governor from August 8, 1732, to his death on April 4, 1757.² He was Acting Governor from September 15, 1749, to August 7, 1753; and again from September 25, 1756, to April 4, 1757.³

THOMAS HUTCHINSON was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George II on February 10, 1758, and was sworn on June 1st.⁴ The following extract is from the Boston Gazette of June 5th:

Thursday last, a Commission appointing the Hon. *Thomas Hutchinson* Esq; Lieutenant-Governour of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, was publicly read at the Council-Chamber, before his Excellency the Governor, the Honourable his Majesty's Council, and the Honourable House of Representatives.

change his name to Spencer Phips, and a bill to that effect was passed June 23: see Massachusetts House Journals, June 19, 22, 23, pp. 19, 23, 24; Massachusetts Province Laws, ii. 66, ix. 476.

¹ Council Records, ix. 374. August 8, 1734, is also the date given in Crown Commissions, 1628-1663, p. 35: see Publications of this Society, ii. 300. On the other hand there is in the Massachusetts Archives, xlvi. 498-499, a printed form containing (on inside pages) the oaths, which bears the autograph signature of "Spen^r Phips" and the endorsement "Sworn the 11th Day of August 1732. Before me J Belcher," Belcher's signature being in autograph, while the other words are in the hand of Secretary Willard.

² See p. 78 note 1, above.

³ See pp. 76, 77, above.

⁴ See Publications of this Society, ii. 302. In the Council Records (xiii. 404) for June 1, 1758, nothing is said about the oaths taken by Hutchinson.

As was also, at the same Time and Place, a Commission appointing the Hon. *Andrew Oliver*, Esq; Secretary of said Province (p. 3/1).

Hutchinson was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George III on March 13, 1761, and was sworn November 26:

Prov: of Mass^a Bay }
Nov^r 26: 1761 }

Thomas Hutchinson Esq^r appointed by his Majesty to be Lieutenant Governor, and Andrew Oliver Esq^r appointed to be Secretary of the Province aforesaid severally took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy repeated and Subscribed the Test or declaration therein contained together with the Oath of Abjuration and an Oath that they would respectively faithfully perform the Duties of the respective offices to which they are appointed as aforesaid according to the best of their Skill and Judgment.

before me

FRA BERNARD ¹

Hutchinson was Lieutenant-Governor from June 1, 1758, to March 14, 1771. He was Acting Governor from June 3 to August 2, 1760; and again from August 2, 1769, to March 14, 1771.²

ANDREW OLIVER was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George III on October 19, 1770, and was sworn March 14, 1771:

Province of }
Mass^a Bay } March 14. 1771

Andrew Oliver Esq^r appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Province aforesaid, took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, repeated and subscribed the Test or declaration therein contained together with the Oath of Abjuration, and also an oath that he would faithfully perform the duties of the office aforesaid according to the best of his skill & Judgment

Before

T. HUTCHINSON ³

¹ Crown Commissions, 1628-1663, pp. 209-210.

² See pp. 81-82, 84-85, above.

³ Crown Commissions, 1677-1774, pp. 124-125.

Andrew Oliver was Lieutenant-Governor from March 14, 1771, to his death on March 3, 1774.¹

THOMAS OLIVER was commissioned Lieutenant-Governor by George III on May 28, 1774.² He was sworn August 8, as appears from the following extract taken from the Boston Evening Post of August 15 (p. 3/1):

Province of
Massachusetts-Bay, } *Salem, August 8, 1774.*

HIS Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Hon. THOMAS OLIVER, Esq; to be Lieutenant Governor of this Province; his Honor's Commission was accordingly this Day published in the Council Chamber, and the several Oaths administred to him, by his Excellency the Governor.³ After which the following Gentlemen took the Oaths necessary to qualify themselves for a Seat in the Council, being appointed by Mandamus from his Majesty.

Hon. Thomas Oliver, Esq; Lieut. Governor.

Thomas Flucker, Esq;	William Brown, Esq;
Foster Hutchinson, Esq;	James Boutineau, Esq;
Harrison Gray, Esq;	Joshua Loring, Esq;
Joseph Lee, Esq;	William Pepperrell, Esq;
Isaac Winslow, Esq;	John Erving, jun. Esq;

Thomas Oliver was the last Royal Lieutenant-Governor, and retired to Halifax when the British fleet left Boston in March, 1776.⁴

¹ "Last Thursday Morning died here the Honorable ANDREW OLIVER, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of this Province, in the 68th Year of his Age.—His Funeral is to be attended To-Morrow Afternoon, at Half past Three o'Clock, if the Weather permits" (Boston Evening Post, March 7, 1774, p. 3/1).

² The following extract is taken from the Essex Gazette of January 10, 1775:

L O N D O N, October 25.

MR. Thomas Oliver of Boston, was appointed Lieut. Governor of that Province in consequence of Richard Oliver giving the casting vote last year against Mr. Wilkes being Lord Mayor (p. 2/1).

³ Appended to Thomas Oliver's Commission as Lieutenant-Governor is the following (Crown Commissions 1677-1774, p. 156):

Province of Mass^a Bay

Sworn before me in Council this 8 day of August 1774

Tho^s GAGE Governor.

⁴ 1 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xviii. 266.

SECRETARIES

In the Province Charter it was provided that "there shall be one Governour One Leivten^t or Deputy Governour and One Secretary of Our said Province or Territory to be from time to time appointed and Commissionated by Vs Our Heires and Successors," and "Wee doe further by these presents Constitute and appoint Our Trusty and Welbeloved Isaac Addington Esquier to be Our first and present Secretary of Our said Province during Our Pleasure."¹ Of those three officials, ISAAC ADDINGTON was the only one to be mentioned by name in the Charter. The facts that he was so named, that no copy of his Commission is extant, and that his Commission was not read when the Province government was inaugurated on May 16, 1692, have apparently given rise to the notion that no Commission was issued to him. It is obvious, however, that Addington must have received a commission from William and Mary; and if proof of this statement were needed, it is furnished by the following Instructions issued to him on December 11, 1691:

To the Secretary of the Massachusetts Bay for Quarterly Accounts

After Our hearty Commendations His Majesty having been Graciously pleased, by his Letters Patents under the Great Seal of England, to Grant unto you the Office and Place of Secretary of their Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. These are in his Majesties name and by his Majesties Express Commands, to direct and require you and the Secretary of Their Majesties said Province for the time being, to send unto Us a particular Account of all things that shall pass or be Transacted within Your said Office of Secretary. And Coppies of all such Laws Acts of Governm^t and Publick Orders as shall be made from time to time, together with Copies of the Journals of y^e Councill and of all such papers as are or ought to be Entred and Register'd in your said Office, to the end We whom his Majesty hath appointed a Committee of his Privy Councill for Trade and Forreign Plantation, may be the better Enabled to perform the duty incumbent on Us, which Accounts and Copies are to be Transmitted by you unto Us Quarterly, or at such times in the Year as any Oppertunity shall Offer, as also Duplicates thereof, by the next succeeding Conveyance.

And that you and others whom it may Concern may at all times give

¹ See Publications of this Society, ii. 18.

due Obedience hereunto, you are to make an Entry of this Our Letter in the Books belonging to the said Office of Secretary. Whereof you are not to fail. And so We bid you farewell from the Councill Chamber at Whitehall this Eleventh day of December 1691.

Your loving Friends

CARMARTHEN Presid^t

JOHN LOWTHER

H: POWLE

H. GOODRICK

To Our Loving Friend

Isaac Addington Esq^r Secretary
of Their Maj^{ties} Province of
the Massachusetts Bay in
New England in America.¹

Hence Addington must have been commissioned on or before December 11, 1691. On May 16, 1692, —

Isaac Addington Secretary tooke his Oath for the due and faithful performance of his Office or place of Secretary, and the Oaths appointed to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy; before the Gov^r and L^t Governour.²

It is noteworthy that on the accession of Anne in 1702, no new Commission was issued to Addington; and perhaps this is explained by the fact that Addington was named in the Charter itself. In the controversy that took place early in 1715 as to who should administer the government,³ on a motion put by Addington himself on February 4th, "The Council declared their opinion that the Secretaries Commission remained in force, having been so accepted during all the last reign & ordered him to countersign the Proclamatⁿ and the said Proclamation was then published by beat of Drum sent to the Press & ordered to be dispersed into the several parts."⁴

Addington was Secretary from May 16, 1692, until his death on March 19, 1715.⁵

¹ Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5, Volume 906, p. 404.

² Council Records, ii. 168.

³ See pp. 55-60, above.

⁴ Council Records, vi. 312. Cf. p. 59, above.

⁵ "On Saturday last the 19th Currant, Died here about Eleven a Clock in the Forenoon, the truly Honourable and Very Worthy *Isaac Addington*, Esq; Secretary for His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New England,

Governor Dudley having reassumed the government on March 21, 1715, on March 26th —

The Governour acquainted the Council that he was purposed to give order to Addington Davenport & Paul Dudley Esq^{rs} to take care of the Seals and the office of the Secretary Isaac Addington Esq^r lately deceased until His Majestys pleasure be known therein.¹

The order appointing Addington Davenport and Paul Dudley, also dated March 26, 1715, is as follows:

Province of the
Massachusetts
Bay



By His Excellency Joseph Dudley
Esq^r Captain General and Governor
in Chief in and over His Majesty's
Province of the Massachusetts Bay in
New England

By Virtue of Her late Majesty's Commission for the Government of this Province, and the further Continuance thereof by His present Majesty's Most Gracious Proclamation to me Directed I do hereby appoint and Direct Addington Davenport Esq^r and Paul Dudley Esq^r Commissioners to keep His Majesty's Seal of this Province under two locks each of them a key, and to put the Seal to all such Instruments of Publick or other Concern by Warrant under my hand, and no other, upon any pretence whatsoever And they shall further forthwith by the Service and Assistance of Joseph Hiller sworn Clerk of the Council, make out and draw forth a particular Accompt of all Books of Record and minute Books files and Records Utensills and other things belonging & appertaining to His Majesty's Secretarys Office late in the hands and possession of the Honourable Isaac Addington Esq^r deceased, and shew the said Accompt to the Governour and Council as soon as may be And this Order to continue until His Majesty's Pleasure may arrive, or other Order taken therein

Given under my hand and Seal at Boston this Twenty
sixth day of March Anno Domini 1715 And in the first

who had with great Wisdom, Honour and Faithfulness served his Generation by the Will of GOD, in that Office for above Twenty years, being appointed thereto by the Late King William and Queen Mary of Glorious Memory, in their Royal Charter. He was born in New-England, and a great Honour to his Country; he Dyed in the Seventy-first Year of his Age" (Boston News Letter, March 21, 1715, p. 2/2).

¹ Council Records, vi. 335-336.

year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord King George
over Great Britain &c

J DUDLEY

Boston 29th of March 1715

The above named A: Davenport, P: Dudley Esq^{rs} and J Hiller Gent
were sworne to the faithfull Discharge of the Trust Committed to the
respectively in Pursuance of the Warrant above written

before me

J DUDLEY ¹

SAMUEL WOODWARD was commissioned Secretary by George I on
June 23, 1715. He reached Boston September 22,² and on Sep-
tember 23d —

A Letter ³ from His Excellency Col^o Burges (appointed Governour of
this Province) to the Honourable the President & Council of the Province
of the Massachusetts Bay brought by Sam^l Woodward Esq^r appointed
Secretary of this Province was read at the Board & M^r Secretary Wood-
ward producing his Commission under the Broad Seal for Secretary
of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay the Governour not being
present

Voted That Andrew Belcher & Addington Davenport Esq^{rs} be de-
sired to wait on His Excellency at Roxbury & desire His Excellencys
presence or directions on the affair in the afternoon.⁴

Woodward's commission was read in Council and he was sworn on
September 24, 1715.⁵ On October 3, —

¹ Massachusetts Archives, xlvi. 427. The appointment of Davenport and Dudley was noted in the Boston News Letter of April 18, 1715 (p. 2/2).

² The Boston News Letter of September 26th said:

Boston, On Thursday last . . . arrived in Capt. *Parnell* from London, *Samuel Woodward*, Esq; with a Commission from His Majesty, for the Secretary's Office of this Province of the Massachusetts-Bay; And on Saturday last, His Excellency the Governour came to Town, and in Council Administred the Oaths to him accordingly (p. 2/2).

³ In this letter (printed in Sewall's Letter-Book, ii. 48-49), dated June 29, 1715, Colonel Burges said:

Mr. Woodward, who gives you this; is appointed your Secretary: I take the Liberty to recommend him most earnestly to you, because I know he is a very honest Gentleman, and very capable of doing you Service; and will do all he can to deserve your Friendship, and have your Favour.

⁴ Council Records, vi. 378-379.

⁵ See p. 91, above.

An Inventory of all the Books Papers and Records Seals & Utensils belonging to the Secretary's Office made & taken by the Hon^{ble} Addington Davenport Paul Dudley & Samuel Woodward Esq^{rs} was read & signed by the s^d M^r Secretary Woodward & the keys of the s^d office with the aboves^d particulars were delivered by the Governour to the s^d M^r Secretary Woodward in Council Pursuant to His Majestys command in the Commission to him given under the Great Seal of Great Britain of Record in the s^d Office.

Andrew Belcher & Addington Davenport Esq^{rs} are appointed a Committee to give directions about a convenient place in one of the upper rooms in the Town House for the lodging of Files of Papers &^{ca} which incumber the Secretarys office.¹

On May 10, 1716, —

Samuel Woodward Esq^r Secretary of this Province humbly moved to the Hon^{ble} Lieut^t Gov^r and Council That the business of the office was so far behind hand & so much dayly encreasing that he could not even with his utmost application and endeavour bring up the same without further assistance, and that according to the powers grant^d in His Majestys Letters Patents to him for Secretary of this Province, he proposed to depute M^r Joseph Marion to be deputy Secretary of the said Province to which the Hon^{ble} Lieut^t Governour & Council unanimously agreed &

Ordered That the s^d Deputation should be read at the Board & put in the Secretarys office & s^d Joseph Marion took the oaths appointed by act of Parliam^t to be taken instead of the oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy repeated & subscribed the Declaration, took the oath of Abjuratⁿ and an oath for the true & faithfull discharge of his office as Deputy Secretary.²

On July 12, 1716, —

¹ Council Records, vi. 380.

² Council Records, vi. 448. The following extract is from the Boston News Letter of May 14, 1716:

Boston, On Thursday the 10th of May Currant, by & with the Approbation and Consent of the Hon. Lieut. Governour, and Council, and by Vertue of the Power and Authority Granted by His Majesty King GEORGE to Mr. Secretary Woodward. Mr. Joseph Marion was by him appointed Deputy Secretary of this Province; and his Deputation was read at the Council Board, and Ordered to be Recorded; and he then took the Oaths appointed by the Act of Parliament, as also an Oath for the true and faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office (p. 2/2). (The deputation is not extant.)

Samuel Woodward Esq^r Secretary of this His Majestys Province produced His Majestys Licence to absent himselfe from the s^d Province for & during the term of twelve months which was read at the Board. And the Secretary signified to the Hon^{ble} Lieutenant Governour & Council that he should very speedily leave the Province & that he was ready to receive their commands home.¹

Woodward was present at a Council meeting on August 3, 1716,² after which his name disappears, and no doubt he sailed for England on or immediately after that date.³

JOSIAH WILLARD was commissioned Secretary by George I on June 17, 1717. He reached Boston on the 2d or 3d of December, 1717,⁴ and took office on the 4th:

¹ Council Records, vi. 486-487. In a letter to J. White dated May 9, 1716, Jeremiah Dummer said: "If your Secretary comes over (to whom the King's leave is gone by the last ships) pray tell me who is the fittest man for the Post among you, seeing you are resolved not to accept it yourself" (2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, iv. 193).

² Council Records, vi. 494-495.

³ The exact date of his sailing is not recorded in Sewall's Diary or in the Boston News Letter. He took messages from the Lieutenant-Governor to the House, and appeared before the House, on August 3; but the announcement of the prorogation of the House on that day was made to the House by Marion (Massachusetts House Journals, August 3, pp. 31-32); a proclamation issued by Lieutenant-Governor Taler on August 3 was signed "*Joseph Marion, Dep. Secr.*" (Boston News Letter, August 13, p. 1/1); and a proclamation issued by Taler on September 5 was signed "*Jos^h Marion Dep Se^{cr}y*" (Court Records, x. 91). Many vessels sailed from Boston to London during August and September, but it seems not unlikely that Woodward went by the Dorothy:

"Cleared Outwards, . . . The Ship Dorothy, Capt. *Josiah Thwaites* Commander for London" (Boston News Letter, August 6, p. 2/2).

"*Marblehead, Aug. 18.* A Fishing Shallop is come in here who brought Letters from Capt. *Thwaites* bound from Boston to London: The Shallop met him 75 Leagues off" (Boston News Letter, August 20, p. 2/2).

⁴ The Boston News Letter of December 9, 1717, stated that "On Thursday last arrived here Capt. John Osborne in the Ship *Patience* and *Judeth* about Seven Weeks from London, in whom came *Josiah Willard* Esq; with a Commission from His Majesty for the Secretary's Office of this Province of the Massachusetts Bay: unto whom in Council before His Excellency the Governour, the Oaths for the said Post have accordingly been Administred" (p. 2/2). "Thursday last" was December 5th, and hence an error on the part of the news-writer for "Tuesday last," or possibly "Monday last." Under date of December 3d Sewall writes: "Visit Mr. Secretary Willard, who came to Town last night from Cape-Anne, where he arriv'd on the Lord's Day, 7. Weeks from the Downs" (Diary, ii. 151).

His Majestys Commission or Letters Pattents dated at Westminster the seventeenth day of June in the third year of His Majestys reign constituted Joseph¹ Willard Esq^r Secretary of this His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay was read & publish^d Then M^r Secretary took the oaths appointed by Act of Parliament passed in the first year of the reign of King William & Queen Mary to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy unto his present Majesty King George, & repeated & subscribed the Declaration by the same Act appointed, also took an oath for the due & faithfull performance of his duty in the office & place of Secretary of the s^d Province, And the Council advised to the making His Majestys s^d Letters Patent of publick record accordingly

Ordered That Joseph Marion Deputy Secretary to Sam^l Woodward Esq^r late Secretary of this Province, with all convenient speed make delivery of all publick records books & records of the Council & Assembly with the Seal of the Province, enrowlment of the Laws and Files of Papers & all utensils &^{ca} of & belonging to the s^d Secretarys Office

And that the s^d M^r Secretary Willard pass a receipt therefore in discharge to the s^d M^r Marion accordingly.²

Willard was commissioned Secretary by George II on March 28, 1728, and was sworn on June 18:

Josiah Willard Esq^r haveing His Majestys Letters Patents, under the Great Seal of G^t Britain bearing date at Westminster the twenty eighth of March 1728, constituting him Secretary to His Maty^s Province of the Massachusetts Bay, His Majesty's Commission was read at the Board. And then the s^d Josiah Willard took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration in y^e said Act, together with the Oath of abjuration and likewise took an oath for the true and faithful performance of his said office of Secretary of this Province.³

Willard was Secretary from December 4, 1717, until his death on December 7, 1756.⁴

¹ Error for "Josiah."

² Council Records, vi. 526-527.

³ ix. 58.

⁴ "Last Tuesday Morning died here to the great Loss of this Town and Province, in the 76th Year of his Age, that extraordinary, accomplished, pious and publick-spirited Gentleman, the Honourable JOSIAH WILLARD Esq; Secretary to this Province near 40 Years, and late Judge of Probate for the County of *Suffolk*, which, on account of his other growing, weighty and laborious Business, he earnestly resigned some Years since; as also his Place at the Council-

On December 7, 1756, the Council took the following action:

It having pleased Almighty God in his Holy Providence to remove the Hon^{ble} Josiah Willard Esq^r the late Worthy and Faithfull Secretary of this Province by Death, whereby that Office is become Vacant, and it being necessary that some meet Person be appointed to officiate as Clerk of the Council until his Majesty shall be pleased to appoint & Commissionate some person to the Office of Secretary agreeable to the Royal Charter Therefore

Ordered that M^r Thomas Clarke¹ be appointed Clerk of his Majestys Council until a Secretary be appointed as aforesaid or until the further order of this Board, and that he be Impowered & directed forthwith to take into his Custody & care as well the Publick Seal of the Province as the public Records & Papers, and to do & Transact the Business proper to such Office of Clerk of Council, & to be under the Obligation of an Oath for the faithfull Discharge of said Trust.

By Order of Council

FRANCIS FOXCROFT

Consented to

S PHIPS²

On December 13th Lieutenant-Governor Phips, then Acting Governor, appointed Andrew Oliver Secretary:

His Honour the Lieutenant Governour appointed the Hon^{ble} Andrew Oliver Esq^r to be Secretary of the Province in the Room of the late Hon^{ble} Josiah Willard Esq^r deced until his Majestys pleasure should be known.³

And on December 15 Andrew Oliver took the oaths of office:

The Hon^{ble} Andrew Oliver Esq^r Secretary of the Province took the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be Taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance & Supremacy Repeated and Subscribed the Test or Declaration in the said Act contained, together with the Oath of Abjuration,

Board the last Year, on account of his advanc'd Age, to the Reluctance of his Country: . . ." (Boston Gazette, December 13, 1756, p. 2/1).

¹ Thomas Clarke was Deputy-Secretary.

² Council Records, xiii. 143.

³ Council Records, xiii. 145. The following extract is from the Boston Evening Post of December 20, 1756:

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor hath, by virtue of his Majesty's Royal Commission, appointed and commissioned the Hon. ANDREW OLIVER, Esq; to be Secretary of this Province in the room and stead of the Hon. JOSIAH WILLARD, Esq.; decess'd, until his Majesty shall be pleased otherwise to order and appoint; or until the further Order of the Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being (p. 2/1).

and an Oath appointed by a Law of the Province respecting the Reciev-
ing & paying the Bills of Publick Credit of the neighbouring Govern-
ments within this Province¹ & entered into the Execution of his Office
after having taken an Oath for the faithfull Discharge of the same.²

ANDREW OLIVER was commissioned Secretary by George II on
March 2, 1758, and was sworn June 1st.³ He was commissioned
Secretary by George III on April 10, 1761, and was sworn November
26th.⁴ He retained the office of Secretary until March 11, 1771.

THOMAS FLUCKER was commissioned Secretary by George III on
November 12, 1770, and was sworn March 11, 1771:

Province of }
Massa^a Bay } Boston 11th March 1771

Thomas Flucker Esq^r within named took the Oaths appointed by
Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of alligiance &
supremacy, repeated & subscribed the Test or Declaration therein con-
tained, together with the Oath of Abjuration; and also an Oath, that he
would faithfully discharge the Duties of the Office of Secretary of the
said Province⁵

Flucker was the last Royal Secretary, and left Boston with General
Gage on October 10, 1775.⁶

¹ An Act for the effectual preventing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of
Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, within this Province, passed
December 27, 1753, published January 26, 1754 (Massachusetts Province Laws,
iii. 714-716).

² Council Records, xiii. 145-146.

³ In the Council Records (xiii. 404) for June 1, 1758, nothing is said about the
oaths taken by Oliver. Appended to Oliver's Commission as Secretary (Crown
Commissions, 1628-1663, p. 166) is the following:

Province of Mass^a Bay — June 1. 1758
Sworn in Council
Before T. POWNALL Gov^r

⁴ See p. 95, above. In the Council Records (xv. 66) for November 26, 1761,
nothing is said about the oaths taken by Oliver.

⁵ Crown Commissions, 1677-1774, p. 118. In the Council Records (xvi.
532-534) for March 11, 1771, nothing is said about the oaths taken by
Flucker.

⁶ Cf. p. 87 note 1, above. The following paragraph appeared in the Boston
Gazette of October 23, 1775:

THOM. GAGE, on the Third Instant (5 or 6 Days before his Departure for
England,) issued a Proclamation, offering a Reward of *TEN GUINEAS*, to

VI

LISTS

In this section the material is summarized in the following lists:

- A Chronological List of Commissions, 1681-1774
- B Alphabetical List of Commissions, 1681-1774
- C List of Officials, 1685-1775
- D Sovereigns of England, 1603-1776

A

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF COMMISSIONS

1681-1774

DATE	NAME	OFFICE
1681 Oct. 15	Edward Randolph	Collector, etc.
1685 Sept. 21	Edward Randolph	Secretary, etc.
1685 Oct. 8	Joseph Dudley	President
1685 Nov. 13	Joseph Dudley	Vice-Admiral
1686 June 3	Sir Edmund Andros	Governor
1686	Sir Edmund Andros	Vice-Admiral
1688 April 7	Sir Edmund Andros	Governor
1688 April 20	Francis Nicholson	Lieutenant-Governor
1688 April 25	Edward Randolph	Secretary, etc.
1688 April 30	Sir Edmund Andros	Vice-Admiral
1691 Dec. 12	Sir William Phips	Governor
1691 Dec. 29	Sir William Phips	Vice-Admiral
1691 Dec.	William Stoughton	Lieutenant-Governor
1691 Dec.	Isaac Addington	Secretary
1697 June 18	Earl of Bellomont	Governor
1698 Oct. 10	Earl of Bellomont	Vice-Admiral
1702 Feb. 13	Joseph Dudley	Governor
1702 Feb. 26	Joseph Dudley	Vice-Admiral
1702 April 1	Joseph Dudley	Governor
1702 April 11	Thomas Povey	Lieutenant-Governor
1711	William Tailer	Lieutenant-Governor
1715 March 17	Elizeus Burges	Governor
1715 March 22	Elizeus Burges	Vice-Admiral
1715 April 28	William Tailer	Lieutenant-Governor

any one who shall discover the Thief or Thieves, that some Time in the Month of September last stole from the Council Chamber in Boston, the Public SEAL, his *private* SEAL, and the SEAL of the Supreme Court of Probate of the Province. — *Quere*, Whether as he carried his Secretary, *T. Flucker*, with him, 'tis not as likely that he might have *carried them off*, as any one else? (p. 3/2).

DATE	NAME	OFFICE
1715 June 23	Samuel Woodward	Secretary
1716 June 13	Samuel Shute	Vice-Admiral
1716 June 15	Samuel Shute	Governor
1716	William Dummer	Lieutenant-Governor
1717 June 17	Josiah Willard	Secretary
1727 Oct. 17	William Dummer	Lieutenant-Governor
1728 March 7	William Burnet	Governor
1728 March 14	William Burnet	Vice-Admiral
1728 March 28	Josiah Willard	Secretary
1730 Jan. 28	Jonathan Belcher	Governor
1730 March 2	Jonathan Belcher	Vice-Admiral
1730 April 15	William Tailer	Lieutenant-Governor
1732 April 29	Spencer Phips	Lieutenant-Governor
1741 May 25	William Shirley	Governor
1741 Aug. 21	William Shirley	Vice-Admiral
1757 Feb. 25	Thomas Pownall	Governor
1757 Feb. 28	Thomas Pownall	Vice-Admiral
1758 Feb. 10	Thomas Hutchinson	Lieutenant-Governor
1758 March 2	Andrew Oliver	Secretary
1760 Jan. 14	Francis Bernard	Governor
1760 Feb. 12	Francis Bernard	Vice-Admiral
1761 March 13	Thomas Hutchinson	Lieutenant-Governor
1761 April 4	Francis Bernard	Governor
1761 April 10	Andrew Oliver	Secretary
1761 May 18	Francis Bernard	Vice-Admiral
1770 Oct. 19	Andrew Oliver	Lieutenant-Governor
1770 Nov. 12	Thomas Flucker	Secretary
1770 Nov. 28	Thomas Hutchinson	Governor
1771 Jan. 4	Thomas Hutchinson	Vice-Admiral
1774 April 5	Thomas Gage	Vice-Admiral
1774 April 7	Thomas Gage	Governor
1774 May 28	Thomas Oliver	Lieutenant-Governor

B

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF COMMISSIONS

1681-1774

NAME	OFFICE	DATE
Addington, Isaac	Secretary	1691 Dec.
Andros, Sir Edmund	Governor	1686 June 3
	Vice-Admiral	1686
	Governor	1688 April 7
	Vice-Admiral	1688 April 30
Belcher, Jonathan	Governor	1730 Jan. 28
	Vice-Admiral	1730 March 2
Bellomont, Earl of	Governor	1697 June 18
	Vice-Admiral	1698 Oct. 10

NAME	OFFICE	DATE
Bernard, Francis	Governor	1760 Jan. 14
	Vice-Admiral	1760 Feb. 12
	Governor	1761 April 4
	Vice-Admiral	1761 May 18
Borges, Elizeus	Governor	1715 March 17
	Vice Admiral	1715 March 22
Burnet, William	Governor	1728 March 7
	Vice-Admiral	1728 March 14
Dudley, Joseph	President	1685 Oct. 8
	Vice-Admiral	1685 Nov. 13
	Governor	1702 Feb. 13
	Vice-Admiral	1702 Feb. 26
	Governor	1702 April 1
Dummer, William	Lieutenant-Governor	1716
	Lieutenant-Governor	1727 Oct. 17
Flucker, Thomas	Secretary	1770 Nov. 12
Gage, Thomas	Vice-Admiral	1774 April 5
	Governor	1774 April 7
Hutchinson, Thomas	Lieutenant-Governor	1758 Feb. 10
	Lieutenant-Governor	1761 March 13
	Governor	1770 Nov. 28
	Vice-Admiral	1771 Jan. 4
Nicholson, Francis	Lieutenant-Governor	1688 April 20
Oliver, Andrew	Secretary	1758 March 2
	Secretary	1761 April 10
	Lieutenant-Governor	1770 Oct. 19
Oliver, Thomas	Lieutenant-Governor	1774 May 28
Phips, Spencer	Lieutenant-Governor	1732 April 29
Phips, Sir William	Governor	1691 Dec. 12
	Vice-Admiral	1691 Dec. 29
Povey, Thomas	Lieutenant-Governor	1702 April 11
Pownall, Thomas	Governor	1757 Feb. 25
	Vice-Admiral	1757 Feb. 28
Randolph, Edward	Collector, etc.	1681 Oct. 15
	Secretary, etc.	1685 Sept. 21
	Secretary, etc.	1688 April 25
Shirley, William	Governor	1741 May 25
	Vice-Admiral	1741 Aug. 21
Shute, Samuel	Vice-Admiral	1716 June 13
	Governor	1716 June 15
	Lieutenant-Governor	1691 Dec.
Stoughton, William	Lieutenant-Governor	1711
Tailor, William	Lieutenant-Governor	1715 April 28
	Lieutenant-Governor	1730 April 15
	Lieutenant-Governor	1717 June 17
Willard, Josiah	Secretary	1728 March 28
	Secretary	1715 June 23
Woodward, Samuel	Secretary	

C

LIST OF OFFICIALS

1685-1775

COUNCIL FOR NEW ENGLAND, 1685-1686

PRESIDENT

NAME	COMMISSIONED	TOOK OFFICE	LEFT OFFICE
Joseph Dudley	1685 Oct. 8	1686 May 25	1686 Dec. 20

DEPUTY-PRESIDENT

William Stoughton		1686 May 26	1686 Dec. 20
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TERRITORY AND DOMINION OF NEW ENGLAND, 1686-1689

GOVERNOR

Sir Edmund Andros	1686 June 3	1686 Dec. 20
	1688 April 7	

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Francis Nicholson	1688 April 20	1688 July 19
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SECRETARY

Edward Randolph	1685 Sept. 21	1686 July 1
	1688 April 25	

PROVINCE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY, 1691-1775

GOVERNORS

Sir William Phips	1691 Dec. 12	1692 May 16	1694 Nov. 17
<i>William Stoughton</i>		1694 Dec. 4	1699 May 26
Earl of Bellomont	1697 June 18	1699 May 26	1700 July 17
<i>William Stoughton</i>		1700 July 22	1701 July 7
<i>The Council</i>		1701 July 10	1702 June 11
Joseph Dudley	1702 April 1	1702 June 11	1715 Feb. 4
<i>The Council</i>		1715 Feb. 4	1715 March 21
Elizeus Burges	1715 March 17		
Joseph Dudley		1715 March 21	1715 Nov. 9
<i>William Tailer</i>		1715 Nov. 9	1716 Oct. 5
Samuel Shute	1716 June 15	1716 Oct. 5	1723 Jan. 1
<i>William Dummer</i>		1723 Jan. 2	1728 July 19
William Burnet	1728 March 7	1728 July 19	1729 Sept. 7

NAME	COMMISSIONED	TOOK OFFICE	LEFT OFFICE
<i>William Dummer</i>		1729 Sept. 10	1730 June 11
<i>William Tailer</i>		1730 June 11	1730 Aug. 10
Jonathan Belcher	1730 Jan. 28	1730 Aug. 10	1741 Aug. 14
William Shirley	1741 May 25	1741 Aug. 14	1749 Sept. 11
<i>Spencer Phips</i>		1749 Sept. 15	1753 Aug. 7
William Shirley		1753 Aug. 7	1756 Sept. 25
<i>Spencer Phips</i>		1756 Sept. 25	1757 April 4
<i>The Council</i>		1757 April 5	1757 Aug. 3
Thomas Pownall	1757 Feb. 25	1757 Aug. 3	1760 June 3
<i>Thomas Hutchinson</i>		1760 June 3	1760 Aug. 2
Francis Bernard	1760 Jan. 14	1760 Aug. 2	
	1761 April 4		1769 Aug. 1
<i>Thomas Hutchinson</i>		1769 Aug. 2	1771 March 14
Thomas Hutchinson	1770 Nov. 28	1771 March 14	1774 May 17
Thomas Gage	1774 April 7	1774 May 17	

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS

William Stoughton	1691 Dec.	1692 May 16	1701 July 7
Thomas Povey	1702 April 11	1702 June 11	1706 Jan. 28
William Tailer	1711	1711 Oct. 4	
	1715 April 28		1716 Oct. 5
William Dummer	1716	1716 Oct. 5	
	1727 Oct. 17		1730 June 11
William Tailer	1730 April 15	1730 June 11	1732 March 1
Spencer Phips	1732 April 29	1732 Aug. 8	1757 April 4
Thomas Hutchinson	1758 Feb. 10	1758 June 1	
	1761 March 13		1771 March 14
Andrew Oliver	1770 Oct. 19	1771 March 14	1774 March 3
Thomas Oliver	1774 May 28	1774 Aug. 8	

SECRETARIES

Isaac Addington	1691 Dec.	1692 May 16	1715 March 19
Samuel Woodward	1715 June 23	1715 Sept. 24	1716 Aug. 3
Josiah Willard	1717 June 17	1717 Dec. 4	
	1728 March 28		1756 Dec. 7
Andrew Oliver	1758 March 2	1756 Dec. 15	
	1761 April 10		1771 March 11
Thomas Flucker	1770 Nov. 12	1771 March 11	

D

SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND, 1603-1776

JAMES I	succeeded	1603 March 24
	died	1625 March 27
CHARLES I	succeeded	1625 March 27
	executed	1649 Jan. 30

CHARLES II	proclaimed in Edinburgh	1649	Feb. 5
	“ in Westminster Hall	1660	May 8
	“ in Plymouth	1661	June 5 ¹
	“ in Boston	1661	Aug. 8 ²
	died	1685	Feb. 6
JAMES II	succeeded	1685	Feb. 6
	proclaimed in Boston	1685	April 20 ³
	“ in Plymouth	1685	April 24 ⁴
	fled from Whitehall	1688	Dec. 11
	left England	1688	Dec. 23
	died	1701	Sept. 6
WILLIAM III and MARY II	accepted the crown	1689	Feb. 13
	proclaimed in Boston	1689	May 29 ⁵
	William landed in England	1688	Nov. 5
	Mary II died	1694	Dec. 28
	William III died	1702	March 8
ANNE	succeeded	1702	March 8
	proclaimed in Boston	1702	May 29 ⁶
	died	1714	Aug. 1
GEORGE I	succeeded	1714	Aug. 1
	proclaimed in Boston	1714	Sept. 22 ⁷
	died	1727	June 11
GEORGE II	succeeded	1727	June 11
	proclaimed in Boston	1727	Aug. 16 ⁸
	died	1760	Oct. 25
GEORGE III	succeeded	1760	Oct. 25
	proclaimed in Boston	1760	Dec. 30 ⁹
	died	1820	Jan. 29

¹ Plymouth Colony Records, xi. 129, 144.

² Massachusetts Colony Records, vol. iv. pt. ii. pp. 30-31; Diary of John Hull, Transactions and Collections American Antiquarian Society (1857), iii. 203-204; 3 Massachusetts Historical Collections, i. 52-53.

³ See p. 4 note 1, above.

⁴ See p. 4 note 1, above.

⁵ See p. 24 note 2, above.

⁶ See p. 52 note 2, above.

⁷ See p. 56 note 2, above.

⁸ See p. 69 note 2, above.

⁹ See p. 82 note 2, above.

INDEX

- ADDINGTON**, Sec. Isaac, 2, 14 *n*, 15 *n*, 16, 17, 21, 35 *n*, 46, 54, 59, 89 *n*, 99, 106, 107, 110; appointed clerk of Council, 1689, 17, 23; chosen and sworn Secretary, 1689, 26; 1690, 27; 1691-1692, 28; named Secretary in Province Charter, 97; instructions to, 1691, 97; sworn, 1692, 98; death, 98 *n*-99 *n*
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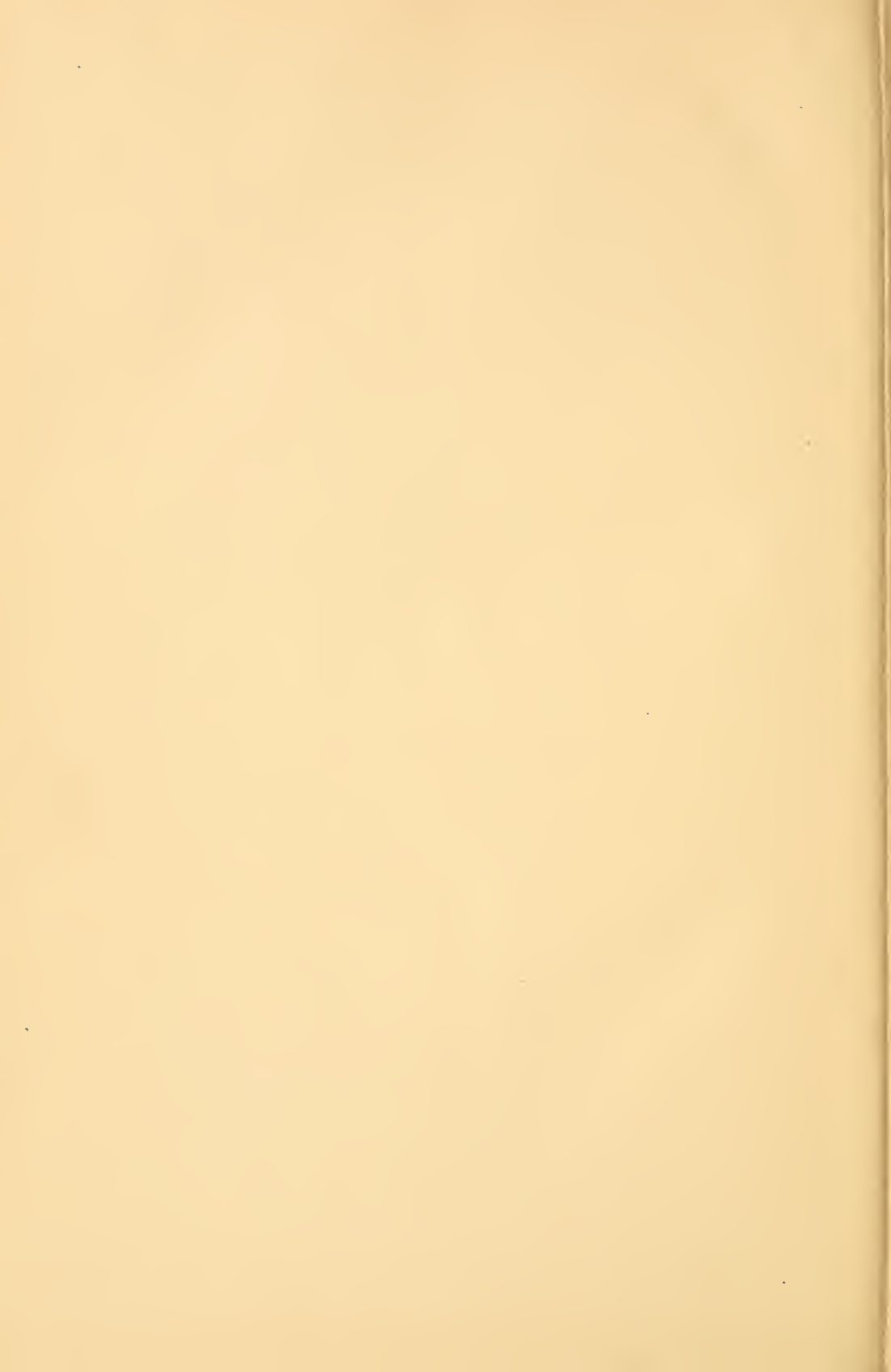
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