

EARLY
RECORDERS AND REGISTERS OF DEEDS
FOR THE
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK,
MASSACHUSETTS.

1639-1735.

BY
JOHN T. HASSAM, A.M.

CAMBRIDGE:
JOHN WILSON AND SON.

University Press.

1898.

EARLY SUFFOLK RECORDERS.

REPRINTED FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR MAY, 1898.

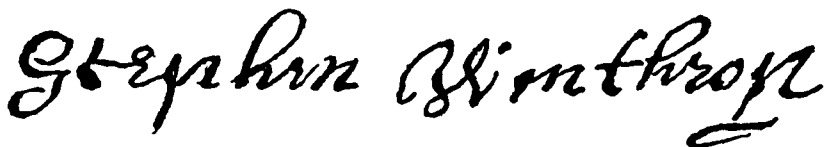
EARLY SUFFOLK RECORDERS.

IN the introduction to the first volume of Suffolk Deeds, which was printed in 1880 by order of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Boston, acting as County Commissioners for the County of Suffolk, I gave certain extracts from the Colony Records showing the gradual development of our present system of recording conveyances of land. I purpose now to present the result of some researches in regard to those who in an official capacity, either as Recorders, Clerks, or Registers of Deeds, administered this system in the County of Suffolk during the first century of our history, or rather from 1639, when the office of Recorder was first created, down to the year 1735, beginning with Stephen Winthrop, the first Recorder, and ending with John Ballantine, who died in the latter year, while holding the office of Register of Deeds for the County.

STEPHEN WINTHROP.

1639-1644.

Stephen Winthrop, the fourth son of Governor John Winthrop and the first by his third wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir John Tyndal, was born in Groton, Co. Suffolk, England, March 24, 1618.



“The Ladye Anne Tyndal was his godmother and M^r Steven Eger-ton, her brother, & M^r Deane Tindal, her son, were his godfathers.”¹

In a little volume in the handwriting of Governor Winthrop is the following entry:—

¹ Muskett's Suffolk Manorial Families, I. Pt. I. 8.

“On Wensdaye the 24th of Marche 1618, Marg^t my wife was delivered of a sonne, whereof I desire to leave this testimonye of my thankfullnesse unto God, that she beeing above 40 houres in sore travayle, so it beganne to be doubted of hir life, yet the Lord sent hir a safe deliverance.”¹

He came with his father in 1630 in the “Arbella” to New England, being then twelve years of age.² He was made a member of the First Church in Boston, 16 : 1 : 1634,³ and was admitted freeman December 7, 1636.⁴

His brother, John Winthrop, Jr., had made in 1635, for Lord Say and Seal and his associates, a new plantation at the mouth of the Connecticut River; and Stephen shortly after joined him, for Governor Winthrop, in a letter to John Winthrop, Jr., under date of 26th 2^{mo} 1636, says:—

“Your brother Stephen was desirous to come to you. If you have any employment for him, you may keep him, otherwise you may return him back.”⁵

And again, under date of 23 4^{mo} 1636, —

“I must end, with remembrance of mine own and your mother’s love & blessing to you & to Stephen.”⁶

Lieutenant Lion Gardener, who was sent over in November, 1635, by Lord Say and Seal and Lord Brook to construct a fort at the mouth of the Connecticut River, in his “Relation of the Pequot Warres,”⁷ says:—

“In the year 1635, I, Lion Gardener, Engineer and Master of works of Fortification in the legers of the Prince of Orange, in the Low Countries, through the persuaasion of Mr. John Davenport, Mr. Hugh Peters with some other well-affected Englishmen of Rotterdam, I made an agreement with the forenamed Mr. Peters for £100 per annum, for four years, to serve the company of patentees, namely, the Lord Say, the Lord Brooks [Brook], Sir Arthur Hazilrig, Sir Mathew Bonnington [Bonighton?], Sir Richard Saltingstone [Saltonstall], Esquire Fenwick, and the rest of their company, [I say] I was to serve them only in the drawing, ordering and making of a city, towns or forts of defence. And so I came from Holland to London, and from thence to New England, where I was appointed

¹ Life and Letters of John Winthrop, I. 145.

² *Ibid.*, II. 6.

³ Gov. John Winthrop’s Journal, I. 126; Memorial History of Boston, I. 568.

⁴ Mass. Col. Records, I. 372.

⁵ Gov. John Winthrop’s Journal, I. 389.

⁶ *Ibid.*, I. 392.

⁷ Gardener’s Pequot Warres; 3 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., III. 131–160.

to attend such orders as Mr. John Winthrop, Esquire, the present Governor of Conectecott, was to appoint, whether at Pequit [Pequot] river, or Conectecott, and that we should choose a place both for the convenience of a good harbour, and also for capableness and fitness for fortification. . . . Mr. Winthrop, Mr. Fenwick, and Mr. Peters promised me that they would do their utmost endeavour to persuade the Bay-men to desist from war a year or two, till we could be better provided for it; and then the Pequit Sachem was sent for, and the present returned, but full sore against my will. So they three returned to Boston, and two or three days after came an Indian from Pequit, whose name was Cocommithus, who had lived at Plimoth, and could speak good English; he desired that Mr. Steven [Stephen] Winthrop would go to Pequit with an £100 worth of trucking cloth and all other trading ware for they knew that we had a great cargo of goods of Mr. Pincheon's, and Mr. Steven Winthrop had the disposing of it. And he said that if he would come he might put off all his goods, and the Pequit Sachem would give him two horses that had been there a great while. So I sent the Shallop, with Mr. Steven Winthrop, Sergeant Tille [Tilly], (whom we called afterward Sergeant Kettle, because he put the kettle on his head,) and Thomas Hurlbut and three men more, charging them that they should ride in the middle of the river, and not go ashore until they had done all their trade, and that Mr. Steven Winthrop should stand in the hold of the boat, having their guns by them, and swords by their sides, the other four to be, two in the fore cuddie, and two in aft, being armed in like manner, that so they out of the loop-holes might clear the boat, if they were by the Pequits assaulted; and that they should let but one canoe come aboard at once, with no more but four Indians in her, and when she had traded then another, and that they should lie no longer there than one day, and at night to go out of the river; and if they brought the two horses, to take them in at a clear piece of land at the mouth of the River, two of them go ashore to help the horses in, and the rest stand ready with their guns in their hands, if need were, to defend them from the Pequits, for I durst not trust them. So they went and found but little trade, and they having forgotten what I charged them, Thomas Hurlbut and one more went ashore to boil the kettle, and Thomas Hurlbut stepping into the Sachem's wigwam, not far from the shore, enquiring for the horses, the Indians went out of the wigwam, and Wincumbone, his mother's sister, was then the great Pequit Sachem's wife, who made signs to him that he should be gone, for they would cut off his head; which, when he perceived, he drew his sword and ran to the others, and got aboard, and immediately came abundance of Indians to the waterside and called them to come ashore, but they immediately set sail and came home, and this caused me to keep watch and ward,

for I saw they plotted our destruction. And suddenly after came Capt. Endecott, Capt. Turner, and Capt. Undrill [Underhill], with a company of soldiers, well fitted, to Seabrook, and made that place their rendezvous or seat of war, and that to my great grief, for, said I, you come hither to raise these wasps about my ears, and then you will take wing and flee away; but when I had seen their commission I wondered, and made many allegations against the manner of it, but go they did to Pequit, and as they came without acquainting any of us in the River with it, so they went against our will; for I knew that I should lose our cornfield."

Stephen Winthrop was in England in 1638, as is shown by a letter from him to his mother¹ dated March 20, 1637-[8]; but his absence could not have been of long duration, and he again returned to Boston, for John Winthrop, Jr., in a letter² written from "Riall Side," then part of Salem, now of Beverly, probably in May, 1639, and addressed "to my dear Wife Mrs. Elizabeth Winthrop, at Boston," says:—

"When my brother Stephen went hence I was not up; nor well, so that I could not write to thee. . . . Put my brother Stephen in mind to send me my carbine, as he promised me. . . . My brother Stephen hath promised to bring thee home when thou comest."

By order of the General Court held in Boston, September 9, 1639,³

"Mr. Steven Winthrop was chosen to record things."

Lechford, in his "Plain Dealing," London, 1642, says:—

"Master *Stephen Winthrop* is Recorder, whose office is to record all Judgments, Mariages, Births, Deaths, Wills and Testaments, Bargaines and Sales, Gifts, Grants, and Mortgages."⁴

The General Court, October 7, 1640, provided for the keeping of records at Ipswich and Salem, "all the rest to bee entered by M^r Stephen Winthrope, the recorder at Boston."⁵

He joined the Artillery Company in 1641.⁶

September 27, 1642, the General Court ordered that "M^r Stephen Winthrop hath liberty to go for England."⁷ He did

¹ 5 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., VIII. 199.

² Gov. John Winthrop's Journal, I. 394.

³ Mass. Col. Records, I. 276.

⁴ Lechford's Plain Dealing or Newes from New England, p. 38.

⁵ Mass. Col. Records, I. 306, 307.

⁶ Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, pp. 112, 118.

⁷ Mass. Col. Records, II. 28.

not go immediately, however, as he still continued to act as Recorder in 1643 and 1644. In the latter year he was deputy from Strawberry Bank to the General Court.¹ The next year he sailed for England, then in the midst of the Civil War. He was Captain of a troop of horse, then Major and afterwards Colonel in Cromwell's Army, and it was at one time thought that he was to succeed Major-General Harrison.² He sat in Parliament in 1656 as member for Banff and Aberdeen, Scotland.³ The few letters⁴ which he wrote from England during this part of his life are of much interest, but only brief extracts can be printed here.

In a letter to his brother, John Winthrop, Jr., dated London, March 27, 1646, he writes:—

“God hath been pleased to give me a safe arrivall to London, were we find all o^r freinds in health & y^e kingdome eased of many of their feares in respect of y^e Kings p^tie.”

In another, dated Worcester, August 23, 1646, he says:—

“This kingdome is yet much vnsetled, although heere be noe enmy appearinge, y^e king will not signe y^e p^ositions nor yeild to y^e Parla^t, w^{ch} causes many jelousies.”

¹ Mass. Col. Records, III. 2.

² “Youre brother Stephen succedes Major Gen^l Harrison.” Letter from Roger Williams to John Winthrop, Jr., dated Providence 21 : 12, 1655-6 (3 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., X. 18; Publications of the Narragansett Club, VI. 297).

³ In Thurloe's State Papers (V. 366) is the following letter from General Monck to Secretary Thurloe:—

“HONOURED SIR, — This inclosed letter coming to my hands, I thought fit to send it to you, and I shall write to the governor of Orkney, to take the informations upon oath, concerning this busines, which when it comes from thence, I shall send to you. All our parliament men are chosen here, but you will know few of them but such as are English. The Englishmen that are chosen are, the lord Broghill, sir Edward Rhodes, Mr. Disborow, col. Whetham, judge Swinton, col. Winthrop, col. Fitch, judge Smyth, col. Salmon, Dr. Clarges, Mr. Godfrey Rhodes, Mr. Thomas Stuart, col. Henry Markhom, judge advocate Whally and scout master general Downing; and the rest are honest and peaceable Scotchmen, and I believe will be all right for my lord protector, which I thought fit to nominate, because they are not known to you. I remain

Your very loving friend and humble servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

DALKEITH 30 August, 1656.”

In the Diary of Thomas Burton (IV. 499) Colonel Winthrop is on the list of speakers in Parliament in 1656.

He served on the Committee of Privileges, Committee for the Affairs of Scotland and other Committees. (Journal of the House of Commons, VII. pp. 424, 428, 433, 457.)

⁴ Winthrop Papers, 5 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., VIII. 199-218.

In a letter to John Winthrop, Jr., dated 26: 8: 1646, Governor Winthrop writes of him: —

“Your brother hath again sent for his wife, and it seems means to stay in England with his brother Rainsborow, who is governour of Worcester, and he is captain of a troop of horse.”¹

And again, under date of 14 (3) 1647: —

“I hear that Col. Rainsborow is gone for Ireland, and, I fear, your brother Stephen is then gone with him.”²

In a letter³ to his father dated London, July 29, 1647, he describes his reasons for not returning to New England, and adds: —

“Things standing thus & Providence opening a way of employ^{mt} in y^e Army, I have accepted of it seeing noe dore open to me anywhere else of being serviceable in my generation or of gaining better subsistence to those God hath committed to my care, & hope I shall not be lesse inabled to be a comfort or helpe to yo^rselfe, my mother & brethren.”

In a letter to his father dated Reigate, England, March 2, 1647–8, he says: —

“I received you^{rs} by my wif, who (through God his goodnes) is safely arrived heere wth her litle ones, for all w^{ch} mercy I desire I may be fownd answerably thankfull.”

In a letter to his brother, John Winthrop, Jr., dated July 14, 1650, he writes: —

“The newes heere you will haue more new then I cann tell you, for I am in Wales, & am left wth some horrsse to keepe quiett these partts. My Lord Cromwell is made Lord Gen^{ll} of all the forces (my Lord Fairfax laying downe his commision) & is marching into Scotland wth all speed, if not there by this time. . . . I pray advise my brother Adam what to doe wth my farme & iland & howse, y^t it may be repayed & yield me something to live on hereafter: for I expect not to setle in England, but to returne amongst you when I may not be burdensome, but rather helpful. My wife is well, salutes you all very kindly & loves New England well.”

In a letter to John Winthrop, Jr., dated 7 (9) 1648, Governor Winthrop says: —

“I received also a letter from your brother Stephen, who was in all those northern wars against the Scots, and (I perceive) did good ser-

¹ Gov. John Winthrop's Journal, II. 351.

² *Ibid.*, II. 354.

³ 2 Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc., XI. 6.

vice; and the Lord was graciously pleased to preserve him, that he was come safe to London 7 (7) and I hope his heart is with the Lord, for he writes christianly: and he and his wife sit down meekly under the Lord's correction in taking away their two children by the small pox at London, after they had been driven from Deal to Harwich and so to Ipswich and then to London for fear of Goring's army." ¹

His brother Adam Winthrop writes to John Winthrop, Jr., under date of August 2, 1652: —

"You have heer enclosed a letter from my brother Stephen. I soposs he informes you of his abode at Maribone Parke. He has purchased a house and parte of the parke." ²

Roger Williams, writing from Sir Henry Vane's at Whitehall, 20: 2: 1652, to John Winthrop, Jr., says: —

"Your bro. Stephen is a great man for soule libertie"; ³

and again from Providence, after his return to Rhode Island, under date of July 12, 1654: —

"I was at the lodgings of Major Winthrop. . . . Youre brother flourisheth in good esteeme, and is eminent for maintaining the Freedome of the Conscience as to matters of Beliefe, Religion and Worship." ⁴

In a letter to his brother, John Winthrop, Jr., dated Kensington, August 2, 1653, Stephen Winthrop says: —

"Could I be assured of my health, I thinck I should come away imeadiatly, for I have noe health heare & I have beene this two years extreamly troubled wth the *zeatica* & am just now goeing to the Bath to see if y^t may remedy it. My much lying in y^e wet feilds vppon the grownd hath brought it vppon me, as it hath vppon many others. It makes my life very vncomfortable. . . . At present the warres betweene the Dutch & we contynue, though we have twice this somere beaten theire maine fleet, consisting off 120 of theire best men of warre: and at last blocked them vpp in theire harbors for severall weeks, though we heare by reports they are gott out againe & we expect a new engagement."

In a letter to his brother, John Winthrop, Jr., dated Westminster, March 11, 1654 [5], he writes: —

¹ Gov. John Winthrop's Journal, II. 357.

² 5 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., VIII. 229.

³ 4 *Ibid.*, VI. 286; Publications of the Narragansett Club, VI. 234.

⁴ 3 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., X. 1; Publications of the Narragansett Club, VI. 258.

“I doe not give over thoughts of N. E. ; yet the cold weather is my greatest discourag^{mt}, & while I am heere I am troubled wth Journyes into Scotland, w^{ch} is as badd almost. I think I shall goe againe about a month hence, but then I hope to take my farewell of itt.”

In a letter to his brother, John Winthrop, Jr., dated April 14, 1657, he writes : —

“HONORED BROTHER, — I received one from you by the last shipp as I supose ; but it was very long before it came to my hands. They came in a time when I was very sick, being forced to keepe my chamber & howse most partt of this winter ; w^{ch} hindered me from attending to y^t buisnes you writt about, of repaire of yo^r losses by y^e men of warre. . . . Sir, I thancke you very kindly for yo^r care & inspection into my pore litle buisnes in N. E. & hope I shall still bee behouldinge to you for your advice ; for indeed I valew those things more, it may be, then some doe, & thinke N. E. may have its times to florish againe, espetiall if they could gitt vpp some good manufactures. I hope the worst is past wth them, & y^t subsistance wilbe easier gained heerafter. Indeed I had need hope well of it ; for it is the best portion I am able or like to give my sonne, who is yet but a litle one, not above two monthes old. I thanck God my wife & all of vs are indifferent well at this time, though I have not my health longe together heer. [The] eyre is two moist for me & breeds rumes & coughes.”

He did not live to return to New England, but died in London in 1658, and, by his own desire, was buried in Groton with his ancestors.

His will, dated May 3, 1658, probated in London August 19, 1658, in which he styles himself of James Street, Westminster, Esq., contains this provision : —

“To the Poore of Boston in New England one hundred pounds of lawful money of England vpon condition that the Inhabitants of Boston aforesaid doe build and erect a Tomb or Monument, Tombes or Monuments, for my deceased father and Mother vpon their Grave or Graves of fiftie pounds value att the least, whoe now lyeth buried att Boston aforesaid, according to the love and honour they bore to him and her in their lifetime.”¹

¹ Muskett's Suffolk Manorial Families, I. Pt. I. 20, 21.

This is said to be the earliest provision for the poor in Boston, of the character of contribution, of which there is any authentic record. (Memorial History of Boston, IV. 656.)

An abstract of this will was published in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for April, 1886 (XL. 161, 162) (Waters' Genealogical Glean-

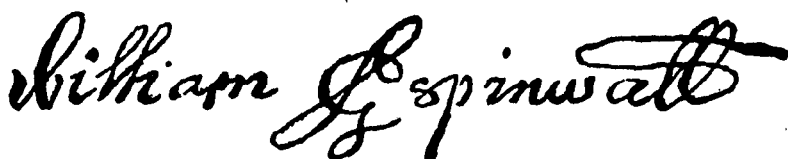
He married early, probably in Boston, Judith, sister of Colonel William Rainsborough.¹ Of his children, some born in Boston, others in England, only two daughters were living at the time of his death. His widow survived him.

WILLIAM ASPINWALL.

1644–1651.

William Aspinwall probably came in the fleet with Governor Winthrop. He was of Charlestown in 1630,² and of Boston after 1633.

His name is the tenth in the list of original members of



the First Church in Boston,³ the covenant being dated Charlestown, August 27, 1630. His wife Elizabeth was the sixteenth in that list. He was the second in the list of thirteen who remained inhabitants in Charlestown in 1630. September 28, 1630, he was one of the jury impanelled to inquire concerning the death at "Mr Cradocks plantaçon" of Austin Bratcher.⁴ He took the oath of freeman April 3, 1632.⁵

He was one of the Selectmen of Boston in 1636 and 1637,⁶ and was chosen deputy to the General Court in 1637⁷ in place of Sir Henry Vane; but as he was a supporter of Wheelwright in the "Antinomian Controversy"⁸ and had signed a remonstrance in his favor, the Court deposed him from membership by the following order,⁹ passed November 2, 1637: —

ings in England, I. 162), with a short summary of the life of the testator, by Robert C. Winthrop, Jr., Esq., of Boston. He adds: "My kinsman Robert Winthrop of New York, has a portrait (of which I have a copy) of a young officer of the Stuart period, which has been in our family for generations, and is called 'Colonel Stephen Winthrop, M. P.' If authentic, it must have either been sent by him as a present to his father before his death, or subsequently procured by his brother John or his nephew Fitz-John, during their residence in England."

¹ N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XL. 168. See also Muskett's Suffolk Manorial Families, I. Pt. IV. 159, for the Rainsborough pedigree.

² Wyman's Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown, I. 25.

³ Memorial History of Boston, I. 566.

⁴ Mass. Col. Records, I. 77.

⁵ *Ibid.*, I. 367.

⁶ Boston Town Records, I. 6, 15.

⁷ Mass. Col. Records, I. 200; Boston Town Records, I. 15.

⁸ Memorial History of Boston, I. 173–176; Drake's History of Boston, 218–230.

⁹ Mass. Col. Records, I. 205.

“Mr William Aspinwall being questioned in regard his hand was to a petition or remonstrance, & he iustified the same, maintaining it to bee lawfull; the Court did discharge him from being a member thereof.”

By the following order¹ of the same date he was disfranchised and banished:—

“Mr Willi: Aspinwall being convented for haveing his hand to a petition or remonstrance, being a seditious libell, & iustifying the same, for w^{ch}, & for his insolent & turbulent carriage, hee is disfranchized & banished, puting in sureties for his departure before the end of the first month next ensuing.

“Mr John Glover & Mr Aspinwall are each of them bound in a 100^t a peece for Mr Aspinwals deptime by the time limited.”

With others, “seduced & led into dangerous errors” by the “opinions & revelations of Mr Wheelewright & M^{rs} Hutchinson,” he was disarmed by an order of the General Court of November 20, 1637.²

With others of “y^e opinionists,” thus disarmed, disfranchised, and banished, he joined in the movement to found a new colony in Rhode Island, and he was one of those who, on the 7th day of the 1st month, 1638, “solemnly in the presence of Jehovah,” incorporated themselves “into a Bodie Politick”³ signing the compact at Portsmouth, Rhode Island. He was the first Secretary of the infant Colony.

But his life in Rhode Island was not destined to be a peaceful one, as the following order,⁴ passed 7th 12^{mo} 1638-9, shows:—

“Mr. Aspinwall being a suspected person for sedition against the State, it was thought meet that a stay of the building of his Bote should be made; whereupon y^e workman was forbidden to proceed any further.”

And on the 28th 2^{mo} 1639,⁵ his shallop was attached for debt.

He was in Connecticut in 1642, and was a witness in the case of George Spencer⁶ at a General Court held at New Haven, March 2, 1641-2.

At a General Court held at Boston, October 7, 1641, the following order⁷ was passed:—

¹ Mass. Col. Records, I. 207.

² *Ibid.*, I. 211.

³ R. I. Col. Records, I. 52, 53.

⁴ *Ibid.*, I. 66.

⁵ *Ibid.*, I. 69.

⁶ New Haven Col. Records, I. 67.

⁷ Mass. Col. Records, I. 338.

“Willi: Aspinwall hath a safe conduct granted him to come & satisfy the counsell, &, if they thinke meete, to stay till the Generall Court; if not, hee is to depart till the Generall Court, & then hee hath liberty to come to the Gen^rall Court.”

At a General Court held at Boston May 20, 1642, the following order¹ was passed:—

“William Aspinwall, upon his petition & cirtifficat of his good carriage, is restored againe to his former liberty & freedome.”

Governor Winthrop, under date of March 27, 1642,² gives this account of it:—

“Mr. William Aspenwall who had been banished as is before declared, for joining with Mr. Wheelwright, being licensed by the general court to come and tender his submission &c was this day reconciled to the church of Boston. He made a very free and full acknowledgment of his errour and seducement and that with much detestation of his sin. The like he did after, before the magistrates, who were appointed by the court to take his submission, and upon their certificate thereof at the next general court his sentence of banishment was released.”

Having made his peace with the Massachusetts authorities, his advancement was rapid. At a General Court of Election held in Boston, September 7, 1643,—

“M^r Willi Aspinwall is appointed clarke of the writts for Boston.”³

At a General Court of Election held in Boston, November 13, 1644,—

“Mr. Aspinwall is chosen Recorder till y^e next Co^rt of Election”;⁴ and on the same day—

“It is ordered, y^t M^r Willi: Aspinwall shalbe a publike notary for this iurisdiction.”⁵

He joined the Artillery Company in 1643.⁶

The merchants of Boston, attempting to secure a monopoly of the Indian trade, procured a charter from the General Court.⁷

¹ Mass. Col. Records, II. 3 (2d ed.); Whitmore's Colonial Laws, Boston, 1889, Preface, xvi.

² Gov. John Winthrop's Journal, II. 62.

³ Mass. Col. Records, II. 45.

⁴ *Ibid.*, II. 84.

⁵ *Ibid.* II. 86.

⁶ Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, p. 125.

⁷ Mass. Col. Records, II. 60.

This was granted March 7, 1643-4, in answer to the petition of William Aspinwall and six others. Governor Winthrop's account is as follows :—

“Divers of the merchants of Boston being desirous to discover the great lake, supposing it to lie in the northwest part of our patent, and finding that the great trade of beaver which came to all the eastern and southern parts, came from thence, petitioned the court to be a company for that design, and to have the trade which they should discover, to themselves for twenty-one years. The court was very unwilling to grant any monopoly, but perceiving that without it they would not proceed, granted their desire; whereupon, having also commission granted them under the public seal, and letters from the governour to the Dutch and Sweedish governours, they sent out a pinnace, well manned and furnished with provisions and trading stuff, which was to sail up the Delaware river so high as they could go, and then some of the company, under the conduct of Mr. William Aspenwall, a good artist, and one who had been in those parts, to pass by small skiffs, or canoes up the river so far as they could.”¹

But Aspinwall and his party were not allowed to penetrate to the beaver country, the Swedes firing upon them and the Dutch higher up the river refusing to allow them to pass.²

But more troubles were in store for him, for at the second session of the General Court held at Boston October 14, 1651, the following order³ was passed :—

“In answer to the petiçon of John Butten, Benj^t Ward, Thomas Matson, Willjam Ludkin, and others of a jury appointed to serve in the last County Court held at Boston, in an acõn betweene M^r W^m Aspinwall and John Witherden, the Courte doth order that M^r Aspinwall be convented before the whole Courte on the morrow, being 23 8^{mo} 1651, to give answer to such things as are chardged vpon him in this and Witherdens petiçon. The partjes appeared at the time appointed, and after the Court had fully heard the cawse, and what both partjes could say, the Court proceeded to judgm^{nt}. Itt is ordered, that henceforth M^r W^m Aspinwall shall be suspended from excercising the office of recorder or clarke in any County Courte, for chardging the Courte and jury to goe against lawe and conscience, making the landlord to pay rent to the tennant, and shall pay the soñe of thirty shillings for the jurjes attendance and entring the petiçon, wth fower shillings for two wittnesses attendance.

¹ Gov. John Winthrop's Journal, II. 160.

² *Ibid.*, II. 178, 179, 187; N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXVIII. 42-50.

³ Mass. Col. Records, IV. Part I. 68. Cf. *Ibid.*, III. 257.

“ Itt is ordered, that M^r Edward Rawson, present secretary to the Generall Courte, shall henceforth be recorder for the county of Suffolke, and that M^r Aspinwall deliuer him all the records belonging to the sajd county.

“ Itt is ordered, that Jonathan Negus, at the request of the toune of Boston, shall henceforth be clarke of the writts for the toune of Boston, in M^r Aspinwalls roome, who is to give him the records of deaths, births, and marrjages, in his hands, y^t belongs to that office.”

At the second session of the General Court held at Boston October 26, 1652,¹

“ M^r Nathaniell Souther is appointed publicke notary for this jurisdiction, in the roome of M^r W^m Aspinwall, and tooke the oath suiteable to the place in open Courte.”

He addressed the following letter, dated 24 : 5^{mo} 1652, to the General Court : ² —

“ May it please yo^w to consider, that manifould haue beene the afflictions I haue suffered since I came into this Country, and it adds vnto them the late order you made that I should deliver vp my bookes vnto the secretary, but most of all afflictive is, that my late troubles haue sprung from brethren. As for others they doe but their kind. I justify not my selfe but condemne my folly. Yo^w know it that, *Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit.*^[3] And though it be my portion to suffer the more, for that I haue beene yo^r officer (most vnworthy I confesse) yet if ever occasion should be: be pleased to be tender of yo^r officers especially of their names & credit & suffer them not to be objects of publick scorne & reproach. If they be godly or ingenuous an admonition or checke may suffice to redresse any thing weakly & foolishly done, but if they grow corrupt through bribes or otherwise vnfaithfull to their trust, justice will require it to make them exemplary. ffor my selfe I haue little to say (being conscious of many weake & feeble passages) only this, I haue desired to be faithfull, & my aime hath beene the Hono^r of God & his vice-gerents, the publick good of the Country, & private of particular psons. In reference to yo^r late order giue me leave I beseech yo^w wthout offence to giue yo^w an Account why I haue not delivered the bookes vnto the Secretary, but rather voluntarily chosen to leave them wth M^r Cotton.

¹ Mass. Col. Records, IV. Part I. 118.

² Mass. Archives, LXXXVIII. 384, 385. The Notarial Record kept by William Aspinwall from Dec. 20, 1644, to July 4, 1651, has recently been discovered (2 Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc., XI. 184). It will shortly be published by the Record Commissioners.

³ “Quid quod nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit?” Plinius major, Nat. Hist., VII. 41. 2.

1. They are no publick Records, as I take it, nor can be ; but privat Records of my owne Acts, of w^{ch} I could not otherwise be able at any time to giue Account, nor be able to discern any corruption or adulteration that possibly might be foisted in after the writeings passe my hand, f[or] w^{ch} ends I thought it necessary to keepe such a Register. And I wanted not the advice of him herein, whom yo^w all will owne as a Nursing father to this Colonie whilst he lived.

2^{dly} Vnles it were the practise of other Nations so to doe, w^{ch} I believe it is not, according to that intelligence I haue had, it will reflect some imputation or suspition of vnfaithfulnes vppon me to take them away by an order ; & that will weaken the Credit of the bookes themselves or any thing to be out of them. ffor such as is the Credit of the pson, such wilbe the credit of his acts & bookes, & that is the Reason why the State & Goverment doe putt credit vppon the pson, by designeing him to such a Coñon service, & therefore as they are carefull to choose such psons for that purpose as are qualified, & have variety of tongues (at least the Latin tongue) so specially they doe take care (or should) that they be faithfull, in whose truth men may confide.

3^{ly}. It would be prejudiciall both to my selfe, & all therein concerned to take them away. ffor no man can safely & effectually attest any thing out of my privat writeings but my selfe, nor shall I be able to attest any thing when my bookes are taken away.

4^{ly}. Very many things therein, for brevity sake, are registred in such a method, w^{ch} none but my selfe or by instructions from me can make vse of ; they being intended for my privat vse, & my owne voluntary act w^hout instructions or injunctions from the Generall Court.

5^{ly}. The most of the things therein contened relate to England whither I am going, & hope may be of more use there, both to the Country & any p^ticular therein concerned ; intending the Lord p^mitting to make my residence in or about London, where any may haue easie Recourse for my attest.

6^{ly}. The bookes are mine owne, bought at my owne chardge, & the Register therein my owne voluntary & handy worke, and as proply mine as any thing I possesse is mine. These things considered I did resolve (before yo^r order) & not wthout advice of some that knew the practise & custome of other places to take my bookes wth mee, concluding this wth my selfe, that as I haue beene & am, so through the help of Christ I shall remaine cordially affected & tenderly carefull of the good & welfare of his Israel as any opportunity of Providence shall present. But lest I should be grievous or offensiue to yo^w whom I loue and honour, I haue determined to leave them in the hands of M^r Cotton, vppon promise of the Speciall Court, & confidence of yo^r approbation, that there they shall remaine vntill yo^w may vnderstand from M^r Winslow what is vsuall to be done in such cases of death or removal

of Notary into another Country. By this Accomodation yo^r ends are attained, that any who haue occasion may haue copies of any writeing by M^r Rawson, if he please hither to reparaire, or if yo^w judge it vseful and necessary, yo^w may appoint them to be transcribed & returne me mine if advise so guide.

Let yo^r gent[le]nes excuse these vnpolished lines & vouchsafe I pray yo^w to gratify my desire, & I shal remaine doubly engadged & devoted to yo^r service in the other England as wel as this, & Account it to be mine honour to be

Yo^r humble faithful servant

WILLIAM ASPINWALL.

postsc. However I concluded at the last Speciall Court, as aboue, wth promise to deliver them as is s^d Yet the Magistrates being mett at the Lecture, & M^r Hibbins moveing me to condescend to deliver them to him who said he would intrust them wth M^r Rawson, as of him selfe; & fearing lest some others who wish not well to the Court or Country might make ill vse of my Act, to a farre worse end; I could not neglect his motion, much lesse could I haue had the hart to deny yo^rselves, had yo^w but in the least intimated yo^r will or pleasure in such a matter (when I was wth yo^w) wthout any order or injunction at all; Pray yo^w let not my compliance to yo^r minds, prejudice me in a due consideration of what might be meete to doe in or about them; neither impute it to the Stifnes of my Will (as some are too apt to doe) that I haue demurred herevpon. Yo^w will find it necessary to deale tenderly wth yo^r Officers & not admitt of any discouragment or disparagments vnneccessarily. As for my selfe I confesse my owne weaknes & vnworthines to be improved by yo^w. Yo^w haue store of others much more apt & fitt, & many more may yo^w haue. Only be pleased to accept of what poore service God hath helped me to doe, covering my weaknessess, & if God giue strength & opportunity I shall rejoyce to be serviceable to yo^w whilst life lasts, & as in duty I am bound; pray for yo^r peace & prosperity, still subscribing myselfe

Yo^r Servant to his power

WILLIAM ASPINWALL.

BOSTON 24th of the 5th mo. 1652.

To the Honoured Generall Court these present."

He was living in England as late as 1662, as appears by a letter from him dated Chester 13th (2^o), 1662, in the Massachusetts Archives:¹—

"RIGHT WOR^{LL}, — May it please yo^w to looke on me as a friend, & one of yo^w, though farre Remote, not Willingly but of necessity, & mediat for me to the Gen^l Court, that that smale parcel of land in Boston

¹ Mass. Archives, B. XV. 163.

whereon the Mill stood w^{ch} was mine owne purchase (& never aliened as I suppose the Court Records will evince, wh^{ch} land I gaue to my Son) may not be aliened by an Act of the Court from the true Owner hereof & his Sonne who is a Native & ffreeborne subject vnto yo^r Government. In so doing yo^w shall oblige me to acknowledge both yo^r Justice & favor. Sr: I may not inlarge to speak how affaires goe wth vs, yo^w heare it from better hands. I can only assure yo^w that Capt Breedon & M^r Maverick are yo^r back friends, & wanted not to doe yo^w all the disservice they could, as a pson of quality informed me, who once & againe laid a stopper vpon their proceedings. I doubt not, but yo^w heare as much & a great deale more then I can informe yo^w But whilst yo^w make Christ yo^r friend yo^w need not much to care who are yo^r foes; he both can & will protect his owne plantation, w^{ch} is the prayer of

Yo^r humble servant

WILLIAM ASPINWALL.

CHESTER 13th (2^o) 1662.”

By his wife Elizabeth he had six children born in Boston, as appears by the Boston Records.

He was the author of the following works: —

A Brief Description of the Fifth Monarchy, or Kingdome that shortly is to come into the World the Monarch, Subjects, Officers and Lawes thereof. By W. Aspinwall. London, Printed by M. Simmons for Livewell Chapman, 1653.

An Explication and Application of the seventh chapter of Daniel; with a correction of the translation. Wherein is briefly shewed the state and downfall of the Four Monarchies . . . and the ten horns or kingdomes; and in particular, the beheading of Charles Stuart, who is proved to be the little horn, *etc.* London, 1653.

The Work of the Age; or the sealed prophecies of Daniel opened and applied . . . Amending sundry places in our common translation, *etc.* London, 1655.

An Abstract of Laws and Government, Wherein as in a Mirrour may be seen the Wisdome & perfection of the Government of Christ's Kingdome. Accommodable to any state or form of Government in the World, that is not Antichristian or Tyrannicall. Collected and digested into the ensuing Method, by that Godly, Grave and Judicious Divine, Mr. John Cotton, of Boston in New England, in his Lifetime, and presented to the Generall Court of the Massachusetts. And now published after his death by William Aspinwall. London. Printed by M. S. for Livewel Chapman, and are to be sold at the Crown in Popes-head Alley. 1655.¹

¹ See Whitmore's Colonial Laws, 1660-1672. Boston, 1889. Introd. pp. 1-14.

A Premonition of sundry Sad Calamities yet to Come; grounded upon an Explication of the 24th Chapter of Isaiah. London, 1655.

The Legislative Power is Christ's peculiar prerogative. Proved from the 9th of Isaiah vers. 6, 7. By W. A. London. Livewell Chapman. 1656.

Abrogation of the Christian Sabbath. By William Aspinwall. London. 1657.

An Abstract or [*sic*] the Lawes of New-England, as they are now established. London. Printed for F. Coules and W. Ley at Paules Chain, 1641.

EDWARD RAWSON.

1651-1670.

Edward Rawson, son of David Rawson, citizen and merchant tailor of London, was born in England, April 15, 1615.¹

He married, in England, Rachel Perne, daughter of Richard and Rachel Perne, of Gillingham, Co. Dorset, came to New England in 1636 or 1637,



and settled in Newbury, Massachusetts. He took the oath of freeman, March, 1637-8.² July 6, 1638, he was chosen one of the Selectmen of Newbury, and, November 19 in the same year, "the publick notary and Register for the towne of Newbury," being allowed "five pounds per annum for his paynes."³ He was one of the three chosen, September 6, 1638, and again May 6, 1646, to hear and determine small causes in Newbury,⁴ and, November 4 of the latter year, was appointed a Commissioner "to see people ioyne in marriage in Newbury."⁵ He

¹ The Rawson Family, by Sullivan S. Rawson, Boston, 1849; The Rawson Family, by E. B. Crane, 1875; Ancestry of Edward Rawson, by E. B. Crane, 1887; N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, III. 201, 297, 405; XXIII. 22; XXX. 262; XXXI. 324; XXXVIII. 309-312; XXXIX. 52-61, 85, 290; XL. 49; XLII. 175, 178, 179; XLIV. 132; XLVII. 192.

Judge Sewall during his sojourn in England in 1688 and 1689 visited Gillingham (Sewall's Diary, I. 296, 297); and in an interleaved almanac made the following entry, March 1, 1688-9: "To Gillingham a convenient place. Lay at the Red Lion. Deliver'd my Letters to m^r. Richard and Jn^o Pern." "Gillingham March 2^d 1688/9, Recd. of Mr. John Pern One Guiney to give to Mr. Edward Rawson with a Letter."

² Mass. Col. Records, I. 374.

³ Coffin's History of Newbury, 27, 28.

⁴ Mass. Col. Records, I. 239; II. 148; III. 64.

⁵ *Ibid.*, II. 166; III. 83.

was Deputy from Newbury to the General Court in 1638, 1639, 1642, 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647, 1648, and 1649,¹ and was chosen June 18, 1645, and May 2, 1649, Clerk of the House of Deputies.²

In 1650 he removed to Boston. May 22d of that year he was chosen Secretary of the Colony,³ an office which he held until 1686, being annually chosen thereto by the General Court.⁴ Edward Johnson, in his "Wonder Working Providence of Sion's Saviour in New England," published in London in 1654,⁵ says of him: —

"Mr. *Edward Rawson* a young man, yet imployed in Commonwealth affaires a long time, being well beloved of the inhabitants of *Newbery*, having had a large hand in her Foundation; but of late he being of a ripe capacity, a good yeoman and eloquent inditer, hath beene chosen Secretary for the Country."

On the removal of Aspinwall from the office of Recorder October 14 or 23, 1651, the General Court ordered⁶ that: —

"M^r Edward Rawson, present secretary to the Generall Courte, shall henceforth be the recorder for the county of Suffolke, and that M^r Aspinwall deliuer him all the records belonging to the said County."

He held the office of Recorder until October, 1670, when the General Court at its second session, held in Boston, October 12, 1670, passed the following "Order requiring y^e secret. to deliũ county records to clarke of y^e County Court":⁷ —

"The County Court of Suffolke, for reasons best knoune to themselves, saw good to improove M^r Free Grace Bendall as clarke of the said Court, in stead of M^r Rawson, ordering the said M^r Rawson to deliuer unto him all those things w^{ch} did concerne him in that place. The Court being informed that there are yet still in his hands seuerall reccords that concerne the county, it is ordered, that the said M^r Rawson deliuer the same to the clarke of the County Court."

He was one of the founders of the Third or Old South Church in Boston, and his name appears in the list of —

¹ Mass. Col. Records, I. 227, 250; II. 22, 66, 96, 146, 186, 238, 265; III. 1, 10, 62, 105, 121, 147.

² *Ibid.*, III. 28, 147.

³ *Ibid.*, III. 182; IV. (Pt 1) 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*, III., IV., and V.

⁵ Johnson's Wonder Working Providence, p. 109.

⁶ Mass. Col. Records, III. 257; IV. (Pt. 1) 68.

⁷ *Ibid.*, IV. (Part 2) 464.

“The Brethren which came off frō y^e First Church in Boston NE & laid y^e Foundation of y^e 3^d Church ptly on May 12, 1669, partly on May 16, 1669.”¹

While a Deputy from Newbury he had engaged in the manufacture of gunpowder, and he received a grant of five hundred acres of land from the General Court, June 6, 1639,² “so as hee go on wth the business of powder, if the salt peter come.” But the undertaking was not successful.³

In September, 1651,⁴ he was chosen steward or agent for receiving the goods sent by the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians in New England.

October 15, 1679, the General Court granted him the sum of fifty pounds in answer to the following petition :⁵ —

To the Honno^{rble} Symon Bradstreet Esq^r Gou^r Tho. Danforth Esq^r Dep^t Gou^r wth the Honno^{rble} Assistants & Deputjes Assembled in Gennerall Court.

The humble Remonstrance, Declaration & peticon of Edward Rawson, Secre^t.

Humbly Sheweth y^t since may 1650 God hath enabled him to vnde^rgoe & in some weake measure to serve God & his people in this Colony, & though the Sallery to his place was but low & meane at the first, not aboue forty pounds p Anm yet such was the sence of Authority as for the Augmentation ordered y^t all the lawes of publick Concern^{mt} should be transcribed to y^e seūrall Towne each session & be allowed twelve penc the first & 8^d p page afterw^res out of y^e Tresury wch oft Came to twenty pounds seldom lesse then 15^{li} p Anm. had y^e publick Notarys place & Record^r for y^e County of Suffolk, & also Agent for the Colonjes wch yeilded him a 60^{li} p Anm. wch made him thō his family was large to Rest sattisfied & to keepe a clarke at his oune charge for y^e 1st 5 yeares when It pleased God to take to himself the Honord Good m^r Nowell who held y^e Clarkship to the County Court of Suffolke till y^e time when that place was also Conferd on him wh^{ch} he kept till the yeare sixtje & then the Court was pleased to expresse their senc of his labors & Augmented his Annuall sallery to 60^{li} p Anm besides allowing him his bill for public writings out of Court wch Came to 8^{li} 10^{li} 12 : & 16^{li} p Anm as in all the Tresurers Accounts may be

¹ Historical Catalogue of the Old South Church, Boston. Boston, 1883, p. 5.

² Mass. Col. Records, I. 263.

³ *Ibid.*, II. 261, 270, 283; III. 142; 1 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., XIV. 248, 249.

⁴ Acts of the Commissioners of the United Colonies. Plymouth Colony Records, IX. 195, 198, 205, 206.

⁵ Mass. Archives, XLVIII. 155; Mass. Col. Records, V. 252.

seene found & Allowed him by y^e Court all wch very hardly brought the yeare about, hauing not lesse then ten in his family. but in the vnhappy yeare 1669 It pleased the then magis^{ts} of y^e County of Suffolk to dischargd him of the Clarkship place to y^t County as also of y^e Recorders place at wch time I may speake it truly I had not 5^s in hand to help myself but God was pleased to order it y^t being so enforct, sold a Considerable tract of my land wth my house & somewhiles after y^e Rest y^t yealded me an 1800^{li}: knowing the Ill Resentment I had from some in place was Content to spend vpon my oune Estate my Sallery of 60^{li} p Anm nothing neere Answering my families necessary [ex]pence. So that in a 5 yeares I was sensible of my great losse & wound hoping for a time of Releife but God saw it Good to let-loose the Cruel natives vpon vs & such were y^e Complaints of all the burden night & day for the two first yeares of y^e warr 75, 76: and mostly also in 77 & 7[8] that I was forced to forbear & goe on & vnder that vexatious time spending 100^{li} p Anm still out of my oune purse & Estate besides my Sallery of 60^{li} p Anm for my necessary expenc of my family in y^e yeares 75: 76 from 6 in y^e morning to 9 often 10 & eleven at night forct to write out 20 Reames of paper wch I bought signing night & day all warrants to all Tounes officers of foot & horse posts Comissary Chirurgeons Comissions for all sorts of Major Capt. Lefts & Sarjants abroad not lesse then sixe or 8 thousand & signing all debenters for all souldiers wayting on y^e Counsell diē p diē the law Allow^s eũy clarke 6^{li} for y^e least Copie Some letters Comissions Instructions &c very large I haue also pd for writting out seũll writtings to send wth our Agents &c to a good value not less then 15^{li} besides pajd out of my salery about 20^{li} for my diet; haue had but 8^{li} Allowed me for those two yeares: haue had a 16^{li} cutt of from me for y^e yeare 74 Given in to y^e late honord Tresur^r Russell for publick writings for y^t yeare & for this last two yeares nothing allowed me were it not but y^t I so sorely feele y^e pinch of spending my oune Estate for so many yeares & vndergoing such hard labor for these 4 last yeares that haue brought me more then vpon my knees & Infirmities of Age Increasing on me that I Judge should be too much wanting to my poore family; if I did not spread my Case before this Court hoping for some Considerable releife (many hundreds expended and for many hundreds should be loath to vndergoe y^e like Leauē my Complaints & Condition wth yo^r honors to make such reparation as in yo^r wisdomē y^w shall Judge necessary in mony & lands to make it vp: shall be at rest hauing not many dayes to liue:

Leauē myself wth God & yo^rselues & am

Yo^r Anntient Servant,

EDW RAWSON.

Judge Sewall in his Diary, under date of Monday, April 20, 1685, thus describes the Proclamation of James the Second as King of England :¹ —

“The King is Proclaimed: 8 Companies, the Troop, and several Gentlemen on horseback assisting; three Volleys and then Canon fired.”

The Colony Records state that the Governor and Council ordered His Majesty to be proclaimed with all due solemnity in the High Street in Boston,² —

“w^{ch} was donn on 20th of Aprill last, the hono^rble Goũno^r, Dep^t Goũno^r, & Assistants, on horsback, wth thousands of people, a troope of horse, eight foote companys, drums beating, trumpets sounding, his maj^{ty} was proclaymed by Edward Rawson, secre^t, on horsback, & Jn^o Greene, marshall gene^{ll}, taking it from him, to the great joy & loud aclamations of the people, and a seuenty peec of ordinanc next after the volleys of horse & foote . . . God saue the King &c.”

But this joy was not of long duration. On the arrival of Randolph in the “Rose” frigate, May 15, 1686, bearing the King’s Commission for Joseph Dudley as President of New England until a Governor in Chief should be appointed by the King, the General Court decided upon an answer, drawn up and signed by Rawson. This is said to have been probably his last official act.

After the establishment of the provisional government, at a meeting of the Council, December 8, 1686,³ a Committee was appointed : —

“to receive & sort and form the Records of the Country (now in the hands of M^r Edward Rawson, late Sec^{ry}) . . . and 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.”

At a meeting of the Council Feb. 4, 1686–7,⁴ it was ordered : —

“That the s^d Com^{tee} do forthwith enter upon the effectual execution thereof bringing them to y^e Office provided for them & Mr Rawson late Sec^{ry} to be assisting in sorting & disposing them accordingly.”

¹ Sewall’s Diary, I. 70.

² Mass. Col. Records, V. 474.

³ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 157.

⁴ *Ibid.*, CXXVI. 225.

At a meeting of the Council, March 6, 1687,¹ it was ordered that the Records of the late Massachusetts Colony

“be forthwith taken into y^e Custody & Charge of y^e Sec^{ry} [Edward Randolph] & Kept with y^e other Records of this Dominion in the Sec^{ry}'s office where all persons may haue recourse to them as occasion & that y^e Key heitherto Kept by M^r Rawson of y^e place where y^e s^d Records are, be forthwith deliuered to y^e sd Sec^{ry}.”

The following petition to Sir Edmund Andros² is of interest: —

“To his Excellency S^r Edmund Andros Kn^t Captⁿ Geⁿerall & Gou^rno^r-in-Chiefe of New England in America

The humble motion by way of Peti^çon of Edward Rawson. Sheweth, —

That your Peti^çoner for aboute thirty six yeares past hath Constantly Serued his Maj^{ties} late Gou^rnment in the office of Secretary & keeper of bookes & Records of the Generall Court of his Maj^{ties} late Colony of the Massachusets wherein, besides the requisite diligence & faithfullnes he in the discharge of that trust, as euey day required, He exercised himselfe & Imployed & payd others, by way of assistancs, in methodizing the proceedings for posterrity, as he hoped the papers, bookes & Records in his Custody, by giving out transcripts & Coppies thereof, as there should be occasion might haue recompenced his sajd voluntary & free pajnes and Costs therein: by affording him a Competent maintenance in his now decljning yeares (being very neere 73) which was his great encouragement for to spend his dayes so to publicke advantage, now redounding to his Maj^{ties} service. But that benefit & hope being by your Excellency^s & Council's order cutt off: by divoluing vpon M^r Edward Randolph (his Maj^{ties} principall Secretary) the sajd trust & papers to the encreasing of his profit & Incomes, (the Justice whereof your Petitione^r doeth not repine at)

And forasmuch as besides the arrears due to your Petitione^r for his care & Custody thereof, to the tyme of his discharge, at the penurious rate of his forme^r yearely allowance is not only withheld, but vnless by you^r Excellency's Goodnes (otherwise prouided for) his hopes of Subsistance for the future, dispajred, to his great discouragement, and of all othe^rs who shall haue the like trust in his Maj^{ties} service, so to discharge themselues as you^r Petitioner hath done; — And yo^r Excellency hauing beene greatly pleased, not only to require his service & Assistance in the late Custody & Reemethodizing of the sajd books, Records & papers for future vse, & deliuering them ouer to M^r Ran-

¹ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 238.

² *Ibid.*, CXXVIII. 73.

dolph, But also to give yo^r petiticoner you^r Gracious promise of Considering for the same, required his proposal for his Sattesfaction,

Your Peti^r therefore hopes & humbly prayes you^r Excellency by the advice & Consent of his Maj^{ties} Councill, will please to order a sattisfaction to be made vnto him not only for y^e last yeares wherein he hath actually served his Maj^{ty} as aforesajd according to his former sallery of sixty pounds p^r Añum, but also some future yearly annuity, or pension out of his Maj^{ties} revenew heere for his sustenance, such as yo^r Excellency shall Judge suitable to the quality of the trust he hath so discharged, & for & during his naturall life

And he shall euer pray &c”

By his wife Rachel, who pre-deceased him, he had children, among whom were the Rev. Edward Rawson (Harv. Coll. 1653) and the Rev. Grindall Rawson (Harv. Coll. 1678).

He died intestate August 27, 1693, and administration on his estate was granted, January 4, 1693-4, to his son William Rawson, of Dorchester, yeoman.

Cotton Mather, in his “Johannes in Eremo” published in 1695, relating the refusal of the Rev. John Wilson to have his portrait painted, says:—

“But from the like *Humility* it was, That a Good kinsman,¹ of his, who deserves to Live in the same *Story*, as he now Lives in the same *Heaven* with him, namely Mr. *Edward Rawson*, the Honoured Secretary of the *Massachuset-Colony*, could not by all his Intreaties perswade him, to let his *Picture* be drawn. . . . And when that Gentleman introduced the Limner, with all things ready, Vehemently importuning him to gratify so far the Desires of his Friends, as to sit awhile, for the taking of his *Effigies*, no Importunity could ever obtain it from him.”²

But Rawson himself did not decline to sit to the “limner,” and his portrait inscribed “Natis [*sic*] 15th April 1615 — Ætatis suae 55, 1670,” is in the library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. This and a portrait of his daughter, Rebecca Rawson, with the Rawson family Bible, were presented to the Society May 7, 1884, by Reuben Rawson Dodge,³ a descendant of the Secretary.

¹ Edward Rawson was a nephew of the Rev. John Wilson. N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXXI. 324.

² Johannes in Eremo, p. 41.

³ N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXXIX. 52-61, 85.

FREEGRACE BENDALL.

1670-1672, 1673-1676.

Freegrace Bendall, the son of Edward Bendall, a prominent merchant of Boston, was born in Boston 30 7^{mo} 1636. His brothers and sister bore the names of Reform, Hopefor, Moremercy, Ephraim, and Restore.

He took the oath of freeman, May 24, 1667,¹ and was chosen constable at a town meeting held March 15, 1668-9.²

He joined the Artillery Company in 1667; was clerk of the Company from 1669-1672 inclusive, and ensign in 1676.³

He was appointed Clerk of the County Court for the County of Suffolk, and the County Records were ordered to be delivered to him, October 12, 1670.⁴

At a "County Court held at Boston y^e 14th 4^{mo} 1672,"

"Vpon the humble Peticō of ffree Grace Bendall the Court was pleased to condescend to his going this Voyage to Madera & accept of m^r. Isaac Addingtō to offitiate in his place till his Return of which all persons concerned may take notice."⁵

At a "County Court held at Boston July 29, 1673,"

"The Court Orders & appoints that free Grace Bendall bee henceforth Recorder of this County of Suffolke,"⁶

and that Isaac Addington be the Clerk of the County Court.

The Rev. John Eliot, in the Records of the First Church of Roxbury,⁷ makes this entry of the death of Bendall:—

¹ Mass. Archives, CVI. 489.

² Boston Town Records, II. 42.

³ Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, I. 209, 212, 214, 217, 220, 240.

"Monday, June 5 [1676]. Mr. Hutchison chosen Capt., Mr. Turin, Lieut., Mr. Bendal, Ensign of the Artillery." (Sewall's Diary, I. 13.)

⁴ Mass. Col. Records, IV. (part 2) 464.

⁵ Records of the Suffolk County Court, October 31, 1671-April, 1680, p. 55.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 153.

⁷ N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXXIII. 298; Report of Boston Record Commissioners, VI. 193.

“month 4^t day 6. [1676] a sudden gust toward night, w^{ch} overset a boat coming frō Noddls Iland, w^r were drowned m^r Bendal. & his wife, & a quaker maide, and a young man a factor.”

Judge Sewall¹ thus describes his death: —

“Tuesd. 6, [June 6, 1676] late in the Afternoon, a violent wind, and thunder shower arose. Mr. Bendal, Mrs. Bendal, Mr. James Edmunds, and a Quaker female were drowned; their Boat (in which coming from Nodde's Iland) being overset, and sinking by reason of ballast. Mr. Charles Lidget hardly escaped by the help of an oar.

“Wednesday, June 7., 5 Afternoon Mr. Bendal, Mrs, carried one after another, and laid by one another in the same grave. Eight young children.”

Administration on his estate which was appraised at £531 : 7 : 9 was granted, June 8, 1676, to Mr. John Scarlett, Mr. William Taylor, and Captain Elisha Hutchinson. One of his daughters, Mariana, became the wife of Dr. Daniel Allin (Harv. Coll. 1675), who was appointed one of the Clerks for Suffolk, June 2, 1686. Administration de bonis non on the estate of her father “Freegrace Bendall merchant deceased” was granted to her March 19, 1700-1.

JOHN DAVENPORT.

--1676.

John Davenport, son of the Rev. John Davenport, vicar of St. Stephen's in Coleman Street, London, who with Governor Eaton arrived in

Boston June 26, 1637, and the next year settled New Haven,



Connecticut, was born in England or perhaps Holland.

He did not come with his father to Boston, in 1637, but was brought in 1639, to New Haven in “y^e first ship that ever cast anchor in this place.”²

He took the oath of fidelity 7 : 2^{mo} 1657.³

¹ Sewall's Diary, I. 13.

² Letter of the Rev. John Davenport to Lady Mary Vere dated “Quinnepiack” [New Haven] 28th 7^{mo} 1639, N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, IX. 149, 150; Davenport Genealogy, 1876, p. 184.

³ New Haven Col. Records, I. 140.

The Rev. John Davenport, the father, removed to Boston and was installed Pastor of the First Church in Boston. John Davenport, the son, also came with him to Boston. John Hull, in his Diary,¹ thus notes their arrival:—

“2d, 3 d. [1668] At three or four in the afternoon, came Mr. John Davinport to town, with his wife, son, and son’s family, and was met by many of the town. A great shower of extraordinary drops of rain fell as they entered the town; but Mr. Davinport and his wife were sheltered in a coach of Mr. Searl’s who went to meet them.”

The father and son both took the oath of freeman May 19, 1669.²

After the death of his father, he addressed the following petition³ to the General Court:—

“To the Hon^{ble} Govern^r, Deput: Govern^r, Assistants, wth the Hon^d Deputies in Gen^l Court assembled the i st of June 1671.

The humble Petition of John Davenporte
Humbly sheweth —

That whereas your Petioners Reverend Father, in the very Infancy of this Govern^t, was one of the Adventerors in promoving this Plantation, and not a little Instrumentall (wth Others) in the charge of obteyning his Ma^{ties} Royall Charters the foundation thereof, and (as himselfe often affirmed) put into the coñon stock at least fiftie pounds, for w^{ch} (as yet) he never had any Compensation your Petitioner (the onely son of his deceased Father) humbly desires the wonted fav^r of the Hon^{ble} Court, in a meet consideration of y^e premises by bestowing a portion of Land as in your wisdome you shall thinck fit, and your Petitioner shall pray &c.”

The Committee to which this petition was referred reported in favor of a grant of five hundred acres of land to the petitioner.

After the death of Recorder Bendall, the County Court held at Boston, July 25, 1676, made the following order:

“m^r John Davenport is authorized & impoured to bee Record^r for the County of Suffolke; and the Records are to bee delivered up unto him.”⁴

¹ *Archæologia Americana*, III. 226.

² *Mass. Col. Records*, IV. (part 2) 583.

³ *Mass. Archives*, XLV. 163, 164.

⁴ *Records of the Suffolk County Court*, October 31, 1671–April, 1680, p. 394.

He entered and recorded in Lib. IX. of Suffolk Deeds the deeds left for record from August 8 until August 22, 1676, attesting the record as "John Davenport Recorder." But Isaac Addington then got possession of the book. Davenport then turned to Lib. IV. and on one of its fly leaves made this entry, —

"The proper Booke of Deeds in which the following Instruments should haue been Recorded being taken and withheld from me; 22 day of August. I am faine to enter them in this Booke."

He continued to enter deeds on the fly leaves of Lib. IV. as late at least as October 11, 1676, when he gave up the contest. He died shortly after. His will, dated October 31, 1676, was filed in the Probate Office, November 13, 1676, and administration on his estate which was appraised at £836 : 12 : 6 was granted to his widow, Abigail Davenport.

In his will he expressed a wish

"y^t my Sonn John¹ may bee a Schollar if the Estate will beare it. . . . And what Silver plate there is in y^e howse, I leaue my wife two thirds of it for her onely proper vse, & as for my bookes in my Study I give vnto my Son Latine Greek & Hebrew & y^e manuscript w^{ch} was his Grandfathers & Some English bookes w^{ch} is necessary, & y^e remainder of the bookes I give vnto my wife & Children."

His inventory contains among other items the following: —

"The Negro Woman £18 : 00 : 00."

"The bookes Vallewed by m^r Ja: Allen, & m^r Sam^l: Willard Vnder there hands £90 : 00 : 00."

"The house & Ground £400 : 00 : 00."

ISAAC ADDINGTON.

1672, 1673, 1676–1686, 1689, 1690.

Isaac Addington, son of Isaac Addington, was born in Boston, January 22, 1644–5.

His name appears in the Steward's Book of Harvard Col-

lege² in 1658 and 1659, but he did not graduate. He was

¹ John Davenport, the son of the testator, was graduated at Harvard College in the Class of 1687. Sibley's Harvard Graduates, III. 369.

² Sibley's Harvard Graduates, I. 581.

bred for a surgeon,¹ and as late as 1687 he still styled himself "chirurgeon" in deeds and other legal instruments.²

He took the oath of freeman, May 7, 1673.³

The "County Court held at Boston y^e 14th 4^{mo} 1672," granted the petition of Freegrace Bendall, the Recorder, to go on a voyage to Madeira " & accept of M^r Isaac Addingtō to offitiate in his place till his Return." ⁴

At a "County Court held at Boston July 29, 1673,"

"The Court Orders & appoints Isaac Addington to bee henceforth Clarke of the County Court of Suffolke." ⁵

In the contest which followed the death of Recorder Bendall, Addington finally prevailed and, being left in full possession of the Records, continued to attest the records in the Registry of Deeds until 1686, when the provisional government was established. He also attested certain of the records in 1689 and 1690 after the overthrow of Andros.

At a town meeting held in Boston, March 10, 1684-5, he was chosen one of the Deputies to the General Court.⁶ He was also chosen Deputy, March 9, 1685-6, and, May 12, 1686, one of the Assistants.⁷ At a town meeting, May 14, 1686, Captain Penn Townsend was chosen Deputy "in y^e place of M^r Isack Addington beinge chosen a Magestrate." ⁸ In 1688 he was one of the Selectmen.⁹

He was one of the Committee appointed at a meeting of the Council, December 8, 1686,¹⁰ to receive from Edward Rawson, the late Secretary, the Records of the Massachusetts Colony.

¹ Among the "bills of charges to chirurgeons, docto^{rs} & diet" mentioned in the petition of Ruth Upham, widow of Lieutenant Phineas Upham who was mortally wounded in King Philip's war and who died in Boston, October, 1676, and which the General Court ordered the Treasurer of the Colony to pay, was one of £1 3s. 5d. to "Mr Addington." Mass. Col. Rec., V. 122; Bodge's Soldiers in King Philip's War; N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XLIII. 352.

² Suffolk Deeds, VI. 122; VII. 37; XII. 159; XIII. 152; LIX. 175.

³ Mass. Col. Records, IV. (Part 2) 586.

⁴ Records of the Suffolk County Court, October 31, 1671-April, 1680, p. 55.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 153.

⁶ Boston Town Records, II. 164, 174.

⁷ Mass. Col. Records, V. 513. He was chosen, May 27, 1685, Speaker of the House of Deputies. (*Ibid.*, p. 476.)

⁸ Boston Town Records, II. 175.

⁹ *Ibid.*, II. 185.

¹⁰ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 157.

On the overthrow of the government of Sir Edmund Andros he was chosen, April 20, 1689,¹ Clerk of the "Council for the Safety of the People and Conservation of the Peace," and under the new charter took the oath of office, May 16, 1692,² as Secretary of the Province, an office which he held until his death.

He was appointed, June 18, 1692,³ Register of Probate for Suffolk County; April 12, 1693,⁴ Register of the High Court of Chancery of the Province; November 19, 1702,⁵ Judge of the Suffolk Probate Court, and in 1692, 1696, 1697, 1698, and 1699 he was one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas.⁶ He was a Justice of the Peace, was one of the Commissioners for the trial of Pirates,⁷ and, June 30, 1702, was appointed Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature.⁸

His Excellency the Governor acquainted the Council,⁹ June 5, 1703, —

"that Isaac Addington Esq^r Chief Justice of the Superiour Court, had addressed him several times, with great earnestness to be dismist from that Office, being much impaired in health; and having lost his Assistant in his Office of Secretary, the buisness wherof was pressing upon him."

He tendered his resignation at a Council Meeting held on the 15th¹⁰ of the following month, and on the 23rd¹¹ the Governor declared that no further service was expected from him as Chief Justice.

At a town meeting held December 27, 1708, it was voted that —

"a Committee be chosen to draw up a Scheme or draught of a Charter of Incorporation (or any other projection) for the Incouragement and better Governm^t of this Town,"¹²

and Addington was the third in the list of thirty-one freeholders and inhabitants who constituted that Committee.

¹ Mass. Col. Records, VI. 3.

² Council Records, II. 168.

³ *Ibid.*, II. 180.

⁴ *Ibid.*, II. 235.

⁵ *Ibid.*, III. 388.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, III. 457; Sewall's Diary, II. 82, 83. No successor, however, was appointed until February 20, 1707-8, when Wait Winthrop was made Chief Justice. (Council Records, IV. 546, 553.)

¹² Boston Town Records, II. 299.

⁶ *Ibid.*, II. 206, 422, 477, 577; III. 42.

⁷ *Ibid.*, III. 257.

⁸ *Ibid.*, III. 341.

⁹ *Ibid.*, III. 448.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, III. 454.

He was one of the seven chosen at a town meeting held December 19, 1709,

“to consider of the affaires relateing to the Graẽmer Free School of this Town.”¹

This Committee reported at a town meeting held March 13, 1709–10, certain recommendations: —

“We further propose and recommend, as of Great Service and Advantage for the promoting of Diligence and good Literature, That the Town Agreeably to the Usage in England, and (as we understand) in Some time past practiced here, Do Nominate and Appoint a Certain Number of Gentlemen, of Liberal Education, Together with Some of y^e Rev^d Ministers of the Town, to be Inspectors of the S^d Schoole under That name Title, or denomination, To Visit y^e School from time to time, when and as Oft as they shall thinck fit, to Enform themselves of the methodes used in Teaching of y^e Schollars and to Inquire of their Proficiency, and be present at the performance of Some of their Exercises, the Master being before Notified of their Comeing, And with him to Consult and Advise of further Methods for y^e Advancement of Learning and the good Government of the Schoole.”²

This report was accepted, and Addington was one of the five inspectors chosen. He was again chosen in 1711 and 1713.³

Judge Sewall gives us the following particulars of his last days: ⁴—

“Midweek, March 2 [1714–5] Mr. Secretary offers a Draught for a Fast. The President persuaded him to strike out words about *Establishment of the Government*. Mr. Tailer procured to have the *Prince* particularly mention’d. I prevail’d to have *Rain* Specially inserted, and gave the Words, which I prepar’d at Noon: carried it to the Press.”

“Midweek, March, 9. Mr. Secretary is in Council; Forenoon and Afternoon. I remember, I ask’d leave of him to go to the Barbers, assuring him I would return presently.”

“Fifth–day, March, 10th Mr. Secretary is taken with fainting as he rose out of his Bed in the Morning: sunk down. Taken agen at Noon.

¹ Boston Town Records, II. 305.

² *Ibid.*, II. 308.

This was the origin of the Boston School Committee. The Free School or Free Grammar School here means the Boston Latin School. “Grammar School” in our early records is used, as in England, to denote a school where Latin and Greek are taught, and not in the sense in which it has been employed in later times in America.

³ Boston Town Records, II. 318, 342.

⁴ Sewall’s Diary, III. 41.

As went out of the Council in the Morning, M^r Davenport desired me to acquaint Mr. Sewall who preach'd; but he was got into pulpit before I reach'd the Meetinghouse, so no publick Prayers."

"March, 13. Mr. Secretary Pray'd for publickly."

"Satterday, March, 19. Mr. Secretary Addington dyes between 11. and 12. before Noon. Gov^r Dudley came to visit him; but he was dead $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour before."

The Rev. William Cooper says: ¹ —

"Mar 19 [1714-15] Dyed y^e truly Hon^{ble} Isaac Addington, Esq.
Aetat. suae 71.

"Mar 23 I attended M^r Addingtons funerall."

Judge Sewall ² gives this account of the funeral: —

"Midweek, March, 23. Mr. Addington buried from the Council-Chamber; twas a sad Spectacle; Bearers, L^t Gov^r, Mr. Winthrop; Elisha Hutchinson, Sewall; Eliakim Hutchinson, Belchar. 20 of the Council were assisting, it being the day for a^pointing Officers. All had Scarvs. Bearers Scarvs, Rings, Escutcheons. Was laid in Gov^r Leverett's Tomb."

¹ Memoranda from the Rev. William Cooper's Interleaved Almanac; N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXX. 435.

² Sewall's Diary, III. 43. Samuel Sewall, Jr., makes the following entry in Sewall's Letter Book (II. 299): "March 19th, 1714-15. Dyed The Worthy Secretary Isaac Addington Esq^r, about Noon. Having Several fainting Fitts. Buried in Gov^r Leveretts Tomb, the 27th Instant, there being a considerable attendance. 20 Counsellors. Being much Lamented."

The Boston News-Letter for March 21, 1714-15, contains the following obituary notice: —

"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, 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."

Judge Sewall in his Diary (III. 67), in making note of a visit made by him November 21, 1715, to Governor Saltonstall, says: "He was not at home; I left for him Co^mmemorations, with Sermons on Mr. Addington, and Mr. Earl bound up together."

The Funeral Sermon on the "Death of the Honourable and truly Vertuous Isaac Addington Esq^r," referred to by Judge Sewall, was preached by the Rev. Benjamin Colman and was published in Boston, 1715.

At a meeting of the Selectmen May 16, 1715 (Selectmen's Rec., II. 175), "Liberty is granted to Major Thomas Fitch to make a Toomb for his family, in the Old burying place on y^e Easterly Side Next to Doct^r Cooks Land, & next adjoining to y^e Toomb of Isaack Addington Esq^r. Deceased."

Isaac Addington was twice married. His only child, a daughter by his first wife, probably died young. His second wife survived him.

His will, dated January 1, 1713-14, was probated May 13, 1715. He made his nephew Addington Davenport his residuary legatee and devisee, and constituted him the sole executor.

A portrait of Secretary Addington is in the library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. It is thought to be one of the two portraits mentioned in the will of Elizabeth Davenport, widow of the Honorable Addington Davenport, which was dated September 18, 1756, and probated October 29, 1756. It was formerly in the possession of the late Richards Child, of Boston, and was given to the Society January 7, 1880,¹ by the late Dudley Richards Child.

EDWARD RANDOLPH.

1686.

Edward Randolph, who has been called "the evil genius of New England," but whose courage, zeal, and ability have at last received tardy recognition at the hands of later New England



historical writers, played so important a part in our colonial history that only a brief summary of his life need be attempted here.

He was the fourth son of Edmund Randolph, M.D., of Canterbury, England, of Oxford and Padua (Italy), and was baptized at St. Margaret's, Canterbury, July 9, 1632.²

He arrived in Boston with the King's letter June 10, 1676, and sailed from Boston July 30, 1676, for England. He was appointed Collector, Surveyor, and Searcher for all the Colonies of New England, and again appeared in Boston, January

¹ Proceedings N. E. Hist. Gen. Soc., 1880, p. 39.

² N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XXXVII. 155; 1 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., XIII. 240-242; Historical Papers by Charles Wesley Tuttle, edited by Col. Albert H. Hoyt, 1889, pp. 277-326.

28, 1679–80.¹ The opposition with which he was met and his personal grievances stimulated him to address a memorial to the King, urging proceedings against the Charter by a writ of *quo warranto*. He sailed again from Boston, March 15, 1681. In his ceaseless activity against the Colony he made eight voyages to New England in nine years, “always returning home with fresh complaints, thereby arming himself with new orders and powers.”

He arrived again in Boston December 17, 1681, with a commission as Deputy Collector for all the Colonies of New England except New Hampshire, bringing at the same time a letter from the King. In compliance with orders received from England to return and prosecute a *quo warranto*, he sailed again for England, arriving May 28, 1683. He arrived again in Boston on the 26th of October of that year with the *quo warranto* against the Charter and Government of Massachusetts, and, December 14th following, again embarked for England, presenting to the Privy Council his “Narrative of the Delivery of his Majesty’s Writ of *quo warranto*.” On the 23d of October, 1684, the Court of Chancery made a final decree vacating the Charter, and the ancient government of the Colony came to an end.

Randolph arrived again in Boston in the “Rose” frigate, May 14, 1686, with commissions for the officers of a new government. The General Court, which was then in session, was adjourned to the second Wednesday in October, 1686; but it never met.

The provisional government thus established over Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and the King’s Province under the presidency of Joseph Dudley lasted from May 25 to December 20, 1686, when Sir Edmund Andros superseded Dudley, and became the first Royal Governor of the Province.

Randolph had brought with him a Commission from King James the Second “Given at our Court att Windsor y^e 21 day of September 1685 in the first year of our Reigne,”² reciting that —

“Whereas we have thought fitt to appoint a President & Councill Vntill we Shall send over A Governor in Chiefe to take Care of all our

¹ Memorial History of Boston, I. 364–382; 1 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., XVIII 258, 259.

² Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 95.

Territory & Dominion in New England . . . reposing Especiall trust & Confidence in the Loyalty & Abilities of our trusty & well beloved Edward Randolph Esq^r have given & Granted and by these presents do give and grant onto him the Said Edward Randolph the Severall and respective places & offices of Secretary and Sole Register of our Gouvernor & Councill and of our Government there for the time being and in our Territoryes and Dominion aforesaid . . . together with all fees Rights Privilidges Proffitts, Perquisits and advantages to the said Places & Offices or either of them belonging or in any wise appertaining or which shall belong or in any wise appertaine in as full and ample manner to all Intents and Purposes as the Secretary and Register of our Island of Jamaica or of any other our Plantations in America have had or do now receave and Enjoy.”

At a meeting of the Council March 6, 1687,¹ the Records of the late Massachusetts Colony were ordered to be taken into his custody and charge, and kept with the other Records of the Dominion in the Secretary's office.

In a letter² to the Lord Treasurer, dated August 23, 1686, shortly before the arrival of Sir Edmund Andros, he says that he has —

“brought this people to a neerer dependance upon y^e Crown . . . But unless his Maj^{tie} please in a very short time to send us over a Gener^{ll} Gover^r from Engl^d all y^t is already done will be of little advantage to his Maj^{ties} Interest: . . . His Majestie hath been graciously pleased to make me Secretary of his Councill here but y^e accounts of y^e late Treasurers & w^tever else relates to y^e discovery of his Maj^{ties} Revenne 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. . . . It was by your Lordships favour y^t his Maj^{tie} in consideration of my past services was pleased to grant me y^e office of Register & Secretary of this Gover^{nt}, a place in his Majesties other plantations of considerable advantage but they have taken so g^{rt} a prejudice against me; y^t they have disposed of y^e p^qquisites of y^t office to p^{so}ns of y^t own stamp so y^t for all my trouble & attending y^e Councill here, I am not like to make 20th a year. My earnest expectation of a Gen^{ll} Gov^r supports me under all these difficulties & disappointm^{ts} and tho' they treat me so rudely, yet I shall continue to assert his Majesties interest in y^e station I am fixed in.”

¹ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 238.

² *Ibid.*, CXXVI. 66.

After the establishment of the new government he addressed a protest or petition¹ "To His Excellency S^r Edmond Andros, K^{nt}. Cap^t. Generall and Govern^r-in-Chiefe of this his Maj^{ty}s Territory and Dominion of New England," reciting his Commission from the King and adding.—

"And whereas by an Act made in the Island of Jamaica it is ordained by the Governor Councill & Assembly that the Secretaries Fees of that Island should be:—

(1th) For a Permit for every Vessell that departs that Island one shilling.

(2) For every bond entred into by an English man not to carry anyone of that Island Without the Governors Ticket five shillings.

(3) For every Bond as above said for an Alien's ship ten shillings.

(4) For entring a Caveat setting up a name Vnderwrighting any person in the office six Pence:

(5) For a Ticket to depart that Island two shillings and six pence.

(6) For Taking a bond obligatory one shilling and thre pence.

(7) For A Lisense ffor Marridge sixteen shillings & six pence

8 For Letters of Administration, Warrant of Appraisement Bond and filing the Inventory fourteen shillings.

9 For Recording a will of one sheet two shillings and six pence.

10 For Every sheet moore then one Eight pence.

(11) For Every order of the Governour & Councill or Copie thereof one shilling and thre pence.

(12) For a Lisense to draw drinke sixteen shift & sixpence

(13) For a Lett pas for a ship to depart five shillings.

(14) For Every Protest onder hand and seale sixe shillings.

(15) For a Citation two shillings and six pence.

(16) ffor A Dedimus ten shillings:

As in and by the said Act it may and doth moore fully Appear and whereas there is one other Act made by the Governor Councill, and Assembly in the Island of Jamaica aforesaid for Registring of deeds and Pattents it is Enacted that the Clark of the enrollment shall and may take and receive for Enrolling and Copping an ordinary Deed, Grant or Pattent for one or moore parsell of Land or any Deed or Conveyance not Exceeding the lenght of Such Pattent five Shillings. For Every Deed exceeding the lenght Aforesaid Eight pence pr sheet accounting twenty leaves to a shiet & eight words to a line.

For every short wrighting not exceeding the lengh aforesaid twelve pence

For Recording every Plott one shilling and thre pence.

For Searching the Reccord twelve pence and For acknowledging Sat-

¹ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 178.

isfaction in the margine of A morgage Reccorded one shilling and thre pence — as in and by the said last recited Act it may and doth moore fully Appeare

Now may it please your Excellency, Joseph Dudley Esq^r not being Ignorant of that his Maj^{tye} had Granted onto your Orator The above said Offices or Places, Your Orator having Produced and showed onto him his Warrant for the said Places or offices Contriving and designing to call into question his Maj^{tyes} Grant to your Orator and to Frustrate his Maj^{tyes} Gracious Intentions of favor to him did Refuse, obstruct and denie to permit and Suffer your Orator to Exercise and Enjoye his Said Places or Offices of Secretary & Register and to receive perceive and Enjoye all and Singuler the Respective Fees, Perquisits Rights and Profits which did Justly belong and were due onto your Orator according as Secretary and Register of his Maj^{tyes} Island of Jamaica have had or then did receive and Enjoye and mooreover the Said Joseph Dudley did Introduce, nominate make and ordaine Doct^r Daniell Allen, Thomas Dudley and other Persons to Execute and Exercise the Parts or Part of the Offices or Places of Secretary and Register and did give onto them soe deputed by him the said Joseph Dudley power and Authority to pceive, receive and Enjoye Seaverall Fee and fees for the execution thereof whereby he the said Joseph Dudley Combining and Agreeing with the said Persons did raise and Procure onto himselfe severall great and larg some and somes of money and to the great loss and Damage of your Orator and Contrary to all Right and Equity and good Consience: may it therefore please y^r Excellency

(The Premises considered:) to Grant onto your said Orator his Maj^{tyes} most Gracious Writt of Subpena to be directed onto the said Joseph Dudley Commanding him thereby at a Certaine day and under a Certaine paune therein to be Limited personally to be and appear in his Maj^{tyes} High Court of Chancery then and there Vpon his Corporall Oath to shewe onto your Excellency by Virtue of what Power or Authority he the said Joseph Dudley did refuse and denye to permit and Suffer your Orator wholly and Intirely to Execute Exercise and Enjoye his above Granted Places and Offices of Secretary and Register and did nominate and introduce

to Execute or officiate in part or in whole the above mentioned offices and Places of Secretary and Register and because your Orator is wholly Ignorant what Some or somes of money were Justly due onto y^r Orator in Relation to his said Places and Offices from any person or Persons whose business did Justly fall Vnder the Cognizance and management of your Orator by Virtue of his said Places: — may it please your Excellency to Enjoyne the above said Joseph Dudly Vpon his Corporall Oath to shewe and declare how many Act and

Acts, thing and things were by himselfe and by all and every Person or Persons soe deputed or Introduced by him as above don and performed which of Right did belong and pertaine onto your orator's offices and Places of Secretary and Register as also what and how many some and somes of money were Justly due onto y^r Orator for and in Respect of his above said Offices and Places and further to stand onto and abide such order Direction and award Concerning the Premises as onto your Excellency shall seem meet and your Orator shall dayly pray for the long Continuance of y^r Excellence Prosperous Estate."

Randolph appears to have begun a new series of County Records.¹ But these records, in the troublous times that followed, seem to have been lost, and though diligent search has been made for them, they have thus far remained undiscovered.

On the 18th of April, 1689, the uprising of the people against Andros took place, and Randolph and many others of his supporters were captured and imprisoned, and the government of Andros was overthrown.

After the accession of William and Mary to the throne an order² was received, dated July 30, 1689, requiring that —

“Sir Edmund Andross, Edward Randolph and others, that have been Seized by the people of Boston, and shall be at the Receipt of

¹ By deed dated Dec. 7, 1686, Robert Sanderson, goldsmith, and Henry Alline, housewright, deacons of the First Church in Boston, “Legatarys and Administ^{rs} of the estate of Miles Redding, sometime of Boston deced,” in consideration of £100, conveyed to Richard Wharton of said Boston, Esq., about half an acre of land situated on Fort Hill in said Boston, devised by said Redding to said deacons for the use of the poor of said Church. This deed was acknowledged, Dec. 9, 1686, by the grantors before Jonathan Tyng “of his Majesty’s Council in his Territory of New England,” livery of seizin was made on the same day, and it was “Entered in the first book of Records for the County of Suffolk, New England, and in 22d, 23d & 24th pages thereof, Edw. Randolph Regist^r.”

This “first book” is not the first book of records of Suffolk Deeds known as “Suffolk Deeds Lib. I.,” for that ends in 1654, when Edward Rawson was Recorder, and no such deed is, of course, to be found in it. (See Query as to Missing Records published in the “Boston Evening Transcript” for Nov. 5, 1881, and reprinted in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for July, 1887, XLI. 313.)

A copy of another of these deeds, one from Benjamin Chamberlain to Thomas Collier, Jr., both of Hull, conveying land in Hull, may be found in Suffolk Court Files, XXVI. 105. It is in some portions nearly illegible, but it seems to have been recorded, Dec. 13, 1686, in the “First Book of the records of the County of Suffolk pages 29 & 30 Edward Randolph Register.”

² Mass. Archives, XXXV. 83.

these Commands, Detained there, under Confinement, be sent on Board the first Ship bound to England, to answer what may be objected against them."

Lawrence Hammond in his Diary¹ says : —

"February 10 [1689-90] This day sailed from Boston bound for London, M^r. Bant & in him S^r E^dm^d Andross, late Gov^r of Newengland, M^r. Jos. Dudley, M^r. Palmer, M^r. Randolph M^r. West, M^r. Graham & others, who are sent home to y^e King, as by his Letter arrived here in November last.

"Likewise M^r. Rich^d Martin sailed y^e same day, & in him D^r Elisha Cook D^r. Thomas Oakes & M^r. Ichhabod Wiswall, who are sent by y^e Convention to Implead y^e afores^d Gentlemen. They Anchored at Nantasket, y^e wind coming Southerly. Mr. Martin Anchored not, but saild direct away."

"February 15 Cap^t. Bant, wth S^r Edmund &c is said to Sail from Nantasket for London."

His will,² in which he styles himself "Edward Randolph, Esq^r Surveyour-Gen^l of Her Ma^{ties} Customes in all her Plantations and Colonies in America," "being about to make my seaventeenth sea voyage to America," is dated June 15, 1702, and was proved in London December 7, 1703, commission issuing to Sarah, wife of John Howard, lawfully appointed guardian of Sara Randolph, minor daughter of and executrix named in the will of Edward Randolph, lately of Acquamac in Virginia, deceased. He must have died in Virginia shortly after his arrival from England.

Cotton Mather, with inherited animosity, says : —

"Anon he Died in *Virginia*, and in such Miserable Circumstances, that (as it is said) he had only Two or Three *Negro's* to carry him unto his Grave."³

Randolph was married three times, and had several daughters, but apparently no son by either of his wives.

¹ 2 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., VII. 151, 152.

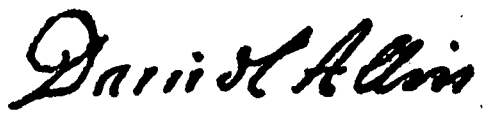
² N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XLVIII. 487 ; Tuttle's Historical Papers, p. 280.

³ Parentator. Memoirs of Remarkables in the Life and the Death of the Ever-Memorable Dr. *Increase Mather*. Boston, 1724, p. 107.

DANIEL ALLIN.

1686, 1687. ⁸

Daniel Allin, the son of the Rev. John Allin of Dedham, Massachusetts, and Catharine, his wife, was born there, 31st 5^{mo} 1656, and was there baptized 3^d 6^{mo} 1656.¹ His mother, before her marriage to the Rev. John Allin, was the widow of Governor Thomas Dudley.



February 12, 1671–2, the Corporation of Harvard College appointed Daniel Allin scholar of the house, and again, June 1, 1675, for the year ensuing, and it was ordered that he should “receeve five pounds due of y^e scholarships.” He was graduated in 1675, and was chosen Library-keeper 11. 2. 1676. On taking his second degree at Commencement in 1678, he maintained the negative of the question “*An hepar sanguificet.*”²

Winthrop, in his interleaved Triennial Catalogue, says he was “Physician in Boston.”³

In a mortgage⁴ of certain land in Dedham, formerly belonging to his father, dated November 29, 1677, he describes himself as of Charlestown. But he did not long remain there. In other conveyances⁵ he is said to be of Boston, and in them he is styled “Chyrurgion,” “Doctor in Physick,” and “Merchant.”

In addition to the practice of his profession he carried on the business of a merchant, and he was engaged in the importation of goods from England up to the day of his death.

Thomas Deane, who had been a merchant in Boston but who had returned to England, in a letter⁶ to Joseph Dudley, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts, dated London 4th March 1683–4, says:—

“S^r I can now say I have a freind of you instead of the late worthy Maj: Denison & which way to retaliat Ime a stranger, but by my vtmost endeauours to searue yo^r Brother Mr. Dan: Allin whose Interest

¹ Dedham Town Records, 6; Dedham Church Records, 34.

² Sibley's Harvard Graduates, II. 470.

³ 1 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., VIII. 46.

⁴ Suffolk Deeds, X. 224.

⁵ *Ibid.*, XII. 116; XV. 56; XXX. 168.

⁶ N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, XIII. 237.

I promis you to espous as for my Brother, in order whereto I haue a promise from my Coz: Duke to increase his adventure to him & verily believe if the trade prove any thing incouraging he wilbe a great imployer of him & something considerable my Brother Browne shall doe, from one or both whome seperatly by this ship he will receiue consignment^{ts} & the course yo^r Brother takes to aduance out of his owne estate to accomodate his principalls will be such an incouragment as filled my hands with businesse when I was at New Eng^d the like noe man euer did but Mr. Lidgit & we could not loose anything by it keeping our selfe within a very considerable bounds of security by our principalls goods & debts; I could now haue recommended him seuerall small consigm^{ts} but a number of such little things I found more troublesome than proffitable a few good imployers is more easy & reputable to y^e Factor."

After the establishment of the provisional government, at a meeting of the Council, June 2, 1686,¹ Daniel Allin and Thomas Dudley were appointed Clerks for Suffolk. He attested the records in the Registry of Deeds, sometimes as Recorder and sometimes as Clerk, as late at least as 1687.

At a meeting of the Council December 8, 1686,² "Wait Winthrop Esq^r Simon Lynd Esq^r. Benj^a. Bullivant, M^r Isaack Addington and M^r Daniel Allin" were appointed a Committee, with the Secretary Edward Randolph, to receive from Edward Rawson, the late Secretary, the "Records of the Country," and at a meeting held February 4, 1686-7, the Committee were ordered to "forthwith enter upon the effectual execution therof."

In his petition to Sir Edmund Andros,³ Edward Randolph complains that —

"the Said Joseph Dudley did Introduce, nominate make and ordaine Doct^r. Daniell Allen, Thomas Dudley and other Persons to Execute and Exercise the Parts or Part of the Offices or Places of Secretary and Register."

At a town meeting September 11, 1693,⁴ "Doctor Daniell Allen" was chosen one of the "Representatives for the Generall Assembly to be held on the twenty sixth of Sept. 1693."

¹ Council Records, II. 28.

² Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 157, *ante*, p. 25. See also Council Records, II. 94.

³ *Ibid.*, CXXVI. 178; *ante*, pp. 39, 40.

⁴ Boston Town Records, II. 207.

In his Diary,¹ under date of November 25, 1693, Judge Sewall records: —

“Representatives vote that none be chosen Representatives but persons resident in the Towns for which they are chosen.”

It is satisfactory to note that Daniel Allin was one of the twenty-one representatives who opposed this bill —

“alleging the vote was contrary to Charter, Custom of England, of the Province, hindred men of the fairest estates from Representing a Town where their Estates lay, except also resident; might prove destructive to the Province.”

Lawrence Hammond in his Diary² says: —

“May 7 [1694] D^r Daniel Allen, a true Lover of his Country & most Loyal to the Crown of England, Learned, Wise, Humble pious, most true to his friend, the approved, able and beloved physician &c. Sickened Saturday the 28th day of April in y^e night, and dyed this day being Munday, to the universall grieffe of all good men who were acquainted with his worth.”

“[May] 9 [1694] D^r Allen buried.”

His will, in which he is styled “Physitian,” dated November 17, 1692, was probated June 6, 1694. In the inventory of his estate, which was appraised at £2811: 12: 4, are, among other items, the following: —

“A library of Books	£ 5 : 0 : 0 :”
“Negro Woman	26 : 0 : 0 :”

The inventory also gives the cost of certain goods received in different ships from England, and the prices for which they

¹ Sewall's Diary, I. 386. The Editors of Sewall's Diary, quoting Hutchinson (Hist. II. 79), who says, “This provision is generally looked upon as a privilege, and a point gained by the people; but it certainly was occasioned by what is commonly called the prerogative party in government, and, however salutary, was designed as an abridgment of liberty,” add the following: “It is interesting to note that this popular error is of so ancient a date. Perhaps no other detail in our form of government has had so extensive and so pernicious an influence as this restriction of offices to persons inhabiting the districts to be represented. And as it is also a restriction upon the powers of the electors, as contracting the limits within which they can choose their public servants, it is strange that the great mass of electors are so persistently cajoled by the few local aspirants for office. We observe that Sewall voted for the proposed bill, although he had been a representative himself for a town in which he was not a resident; viz., for Westfield in 1683.”

² 2 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proc., VII. 166.

were sold here, showing the profits of the various transactions. It also appears from it that he still owned "Lands at Deadam" and was part owner of the brigantine "Hannah & Mary."

By his wife Mariana, a daughter of Freegrace Bendall, he had several children, whose births are recorded in the Boston records.

THOMAS DUDLEY.

1686-1689.

Thomas Dudley, eldest son of Governor Joseph Dudley and Rebecca his wife, and grandson of Governor Thomas Dudley, was born in Roxbury, February 26, 1669-70,¹ and was there baptized 27 1st mo. 1670.²



November 1, 1681, and again December 5, 1683, he was chosen "a scholar of the house" at Harvard College, and he was graduated there in 1685.

After the establishment of the provisional government, at a meeting of the Council June 2, 1686, Daniel Allin and Thomas Dudley were appointed Clerks for Suffolk, and against this appointment Randolph remonstrated in his petition³ to Sir Edmund Andros. Dudley continued, however, in this office, as late at least as 1689, the deeds left for record being attested by him sometimes as Recorder and sometimes as Clerk.

Judge Sewall in his Diary makes the following mention of him: —

"Monday before [October 24, 1687] Capt. Tho. Dudley comes with his Company to digg";⁴

and again, under date of November 26, 1687,⁵ —

"This last week the Companies of Boston work again to finish the Fort. Friday Nov. 25. Capt Dudley brings his Company."

"March 15. [1688]. Capt. Tho. Dudley is thrown by a Horse, on oxen, and is much endangered."⁶

¹ Sibley's Harvard Graduates, III. 318.

² Roxbury Church Records in Report of the Boston Record Commissioners, VI. p. 129.

³ Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 178, ante, pp. 39, 40.

⁴ Sewall's Diary, I. 194.

⁵ *Ibid.*, I. 196.

⁶ *Ibid.*, I. 206.

“Sabbath, March 12. [1692-3]. Bant arrives in the America 9. weeks from the Isle of Wight; Capt. Thomas Dudley comes in him, first I heard or saw of him was at Meeting in the Afternoon, sat in his Uncle Allen's Pue.”¹

“March 17. [1692-3]. This Even Mr. Dudley and his Son, Capt. Tho. Dudley, visit me.”²

In a funeral sermon³ on the death of his father, Governor Joseph Dudley, the Rev. Benjamin Colman says: —

“We all know his tender affections to his Children, yet his Calm was so great in the loss of two fine Sons at once, and the *First born* a Son every way worthy of such a Father, that I have heard one that lov'd him not charge him with *Stoicism*.”

Judge Sewall in his Diary,⁴ under date of June 28, 1697, says: —

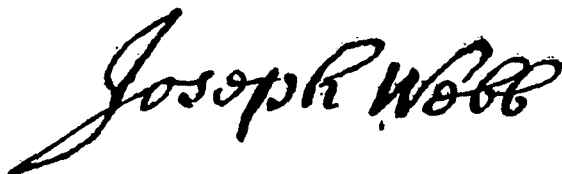
“Visited Madam Dudley in coming home, and condol'd her loss of her Sons.”

This will enable us to determine approximately the date of the death of Thomas Dudley. He was starred in Mather's *Magnalia*,⁵ and according to Gilman's interleaved Triennial he was “Drownd at Sea.”

JOSEPH WEBB.

1690-1698.

Joseph Webb, son of Richard Webb, of Weymouth, was born there August 19, 1640. His father removed to Boston about 1644, and Joseph was baptized at the First Church, Boston, 11^{mo} 12, 1644, he being then four years of age. He took the freeman's oath, May 12, 1675.⁶



¹ Sewall's Diary, I. 374.

² *Ibid.*, I. 375.

³ Funeral Sermon Occasioned by the Death of the Honourable Joseph Dudley, Esq., Boston, 1720, p. 36.

⁴ Sewall's Diary, I. 455. There was another Capt. Thomas Dudley, a son of Paul Dudley, who is frequently mentioned in Sewall's Diary, and who must not be confounded with Thomas Dudley, son of Governor Joseph Dudley.

⁵ IV. 136. Catalogus, eorum qui in Collegio Harvardino, quod est Cantabrigiæ Nov-Anglorum, ab anno 1642, ad annum 1698, alicujus gradus laurea donati sunt.

⁶ Mass. Col. Records, V. 536.

At a town meeting in Boston, March 12, 1676-7, he was chosen one of the sealers of leather.¹ And again, under date of July 29, 1689,—

“At a publique Meetinge of the Inhabitants of this Towne vpon lawfull warninge for choyce of a Clerke of the writts was nominated to be presented to y^e Countie Court & allowed by them for y^t Office, Mr. Joseph Webb.”²

He was Clerk of the County Court from 1689 to 1692, and Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas from 1692 to 1698. The deeds left for record in the Suffolk Registry of Deeds, from 1690 to 1698, were attested by him, either as Clerk or as Register.

He died in Boston, October 9, 1698.

Judge Sewall in his Diary³ makes the following entry:—

“Octob^r 11. 1698. Mr. Joseph Webb buried. Bearers. Cook, Elisha Hutchinson, Sewall, Addington, Eliakim Hutchinson, Duñer. Mr. Allin and Wadsworth there. I saw no other Ministers.”

By wife Grace he had children, one of whom, his eldest son, the Rev. Joseph Webb, of Fairfield, Connecticut (Harv. Coll. 1684), was appointed, February 2, 1698-9, administrator of his estate, which was appraised at £819: 5: 0. His land with the house thereon near the head of the Town dock, Boston, appraised at £300, was settled upon the eldest son.

¹ Boston Town Records, II. 103.

² *Ibid.*, II. 187. At a meeting of the Selectmen of Boston, September 26, 1709 (Selectmen's Records, I. 198), the following order was passed:—

“Whereas the Records of Births, deaths and Marriages dureing the time in w^{ch} Mr Joseph Webb deceaced was Clerk of y^e writts, have been Since his death heitherto missing and not come to light, untill now Lately Several wast bookes thereof are found lieing on file with the Records of the County of Suffolke, they being not yet digested into Alphabeticall order So as to be of use.

“Ordered that the present Town Clerk do procure the Same to be So digested and Carefully transcribed So as to become usefull.”

³ Sewall's Diary, I. 485.

ADDINGTON DAVENPORT.

1698-1714.

Addington Davenport, the son of Eleazer Davenport, mariner, and his wife, Rebecca, daughter of Isaac Addington, Sen^r, and sister of the Hon. Isaac Addington, was born in Boston August 3, 1670.

He was graduated at Harvard College in 1689.¹

He became a member of the Artillery Company in 1692,² was Clerk of the Superior Court of Judicature from 1695 to 1698, Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas from 1698 to 1714, and Clerk of the House of Representatives in 1697 and 1698, under the new Charter:

The deeds left for record in the Suffolk Registry of Deeds, from 1698 to 1714, were attested by him as Register.

At a town meeting held in Boston December 27, 1708, he was one of the Committee chosen to draw up a Charter of Incorporation.³ He was a Justice of the Peace, an Inspector of the Grammar Schools, and held various offices in the gift of the town. He was one of the Selectmen in 1711, Representative in 1711, 1712, and 1713, and was chosen member of the Council in 1714, in which body he served seventeen years in all.

On the death of Isaac Addington, Secretary of the Province, the Governor appointed, March 26, 1715,⁴ Addington Davenport and Paul Dudley to take care of the seals and the office until the appointment of the new secretary.

He was appointed, September 16, 1715, a Special Justice, and, December 9, 1715, December 12, 1728, and June 21, 1733, Judge of the Superior Court of Judicature.⁵

Judge Sewall in his Diary⁶ makes this entry:—

¹ Sibley's Harvard Graduates, III. 412.

² Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, I. 291, 293.

³ Boston Town Records, II. 299.

⁴ Council Records, VI. 335.

⁵ *Ibid.*, VI. 376, 395; IX. 103, 414.

⁶ Sewall's Diary, III. 70.

“Jan^y 6. [1715–6]. L^t Governour delivers the Chief Justice, M^r Davenport and me our Commissions as Judges of the Superiour Court: Gave the Oaths: The Lord help us, me especially, to keep them better than ever.”

By his wife Elizabeth he had eight children, whose births are recorded in the Boston Records; but as in his will, which was dated March 1, 1735, and probated April 15, 1736, he mentions only his wife Elizabeth, his son Addington (Hav. Coll. 1719), and his daughters Elizabeth, wife of William Dudley, and Lucy, wife of the Rev. Ebenezer Turell, it is probable that his other children died before him.

The “Boston Evening Post” for April 5 and 19, 1736, contained obituary notices, from which the following extracts are made: —

“He was a Person well born, by the Father: He descended from the worthy Captain *Davenport*, who died in the Command of the Castle below the Town. His Mother was the Sister of Mr. Secretary *Addington*, whose Name will be had in Remembrance so long as the Records of this Province endure. . . . In the Year 1695, he was made Clerk to the Superiour Court, but quitted it in the Year 1698, when he was appointed Clerk to the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas, and Register of Deeds for the County of *Suffolk*; which Offices he sustained till the Year 1714. So that Clerkship was his Employ for more than Twenty Years, and by his constant Diligence, Prudence, Skill and Faithfulness, he discharged every Part of it, to great Acceptance.

“In the Year 1714. he was chose into the Council, and sat there Seventeen Years in the whole, and was truly an Honour to that Board, from first to last, hardly any Business of Consequence brought upon the Carpet, but what he was employed in, and very often Chairman of the Committees of both Houses of the General Court, and was always observed to take great care of the Honour of the Government, and yet at the same Time, to secure the just Liberties of his Country, and never among them that are given to Change.

“He was no forward Speaker, but did not spare when there was Occasion; and as his Words were waited for, so his Judgment was much hearkened to, and relied upon; and the Stability of those Times were much owing to his Wisdom and steady Council.

“In the Year 1715. he was appointed One of the Justices of the Superiour Court and continued so to his Death, saving that for the last Year and an half, he was very much taken off from the Service of the Bench, by a Series of Fits and Languishing, which at length brought him to the Grave, *viz.* the second of *April Current.*”

JOHN BALLANTINE.

1714-1735.

John Ballantine, son of Captain John Ballantine, merchant, was born in Boston, March 15, 1674, and was graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1694.

He joined the Artillery Company in

1694, was second sergeant of the company in 1700, ensign in 1706, lieutenant in 1708.¹ He was Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment in 1709, and Colonel in 1712.

At a town meeting held in Boston December 27, 1708,² he was one of the Committee chosen to draw up a Charter of Incorporation. At a town meeting held March 15, 1708-9,³ he was chosen one of the overseers of the poor, but declined to serve. At town meetings held March 12, 1710-11, March 10, 1711-12, March 10, 1712-13, August 18, 1713, and March 16, 1713-14, he was chosen one of the "scavengers."⁴ He served also on various committees of the town, and at a town meeting held May 3, 1726,⁵ was chosen one of the Representatives.

¹ Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, I. 302, 303, 323, 363. Judge Sewall in his Diary (II. 235) says: "7: 6 [1708] I Train under Capt Fitch . . . As were Shooting at the Mark, the Rain oblig'd us to put on our Cloaks. Went to Capt. Lieut. Ballentine's; made an excellent Volley at Lodging the Colours, Mad^a Ballentine rec'd them in at window."

² Boston Town Records, II. 299.

³ *Ibid.*, II. 304.

⁴ *Ibid.*, II. 319, 334, 342, 346; Boston Selectmen's Records, II. 108.

At a town meeting, March 10, 1712-13 (Town Records, II. 342)' it was voted "That the Selectmen be desired to draw up what they shall think proper to be voted ab^t the Office & power of Scavengers and to make report therof at y^e next Town meeting."

The Selectmen, April 14, 1713 (Selectmen's Records, II. 89), agreed upon a report which was presented and acted upon at a town meeting May 13, 1713. (Town Records, II. 344.) Further action was had at other meetings. (*Ibid.*, II. 250, 344, 352, 387, 446, etc.) The town was divided into eight districts, each under the charge of a "Scavenger," who was empowered to hire or impress horses, carts, and carters to carry away the dirt in the streets, and to prosecute persons for breach of town orders or by-laws in relation to streets.

⁵ Boston Town Records, II. 454. Judge Sewall in his Letter Book (II. 224) gives a list of the "Boston Representatives chosen second day May 8, 1727," and adds, "Col John Ballantine was a Representative last year."

He was a Justice of the Peace, and, from 1714 to 1734 inclusive, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas.¹ He was one of the Prince subscribers.²

At a town meeting held March 13, 1715-16,³ he was chosen County Register, an office which he held until his death.

He died January 2, 1734-5. His will, dated January 2, 1734, probated January 27, 1734, makes provision for his wife and children. His wife Mary and her brother, the Hon. Adam Winthrop, were appointed executors. His estate was appraised at £2071: 13: 6.

The "New England Weekly Journal" for January 6, 1734-5, published the following obituary notice: —

"Thursday, Jan. 2d 1735, died here, [Boston] John Ballantine Esq. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk; all which posts he discharged with great prudence and fidelity, and was a gentleman beloved and esteemed among us."

¹ The Act of 1697 (Province Laws, I. 298) provided that the Clerks of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in each County should also be the Register of deeds. By the Acts of 1715 and 1720 (Province Laws, II. 8, 187) the Register of deeds was to be chosen at the March town meeting, and should continue in office for five years.

² N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register, VI. 371; Memorial History of Boston, II. 561.

³ Boston Town Records, II. 364.