

1688.

The inhabitants of several towns in the county of Essex, in Massachusetts, refused to lay the assessments, without which the taxes, imposed by the grand legislative council, under the administration of Andros, could not be collected. "The feeble but magnanimous efforts of expiring freedom" were considered as seditious; and punishments were inflicted, proportioned to the aggravations of the supposed crime. So great already were the oppressions of the colony, that some of the principal colonists sent the reverend Increase Mather to England, as an agent, to represent their grievances to the king.<sup>1</sup>

It being determined to superadd New York and the Jerseys to the jurisdiction of the four colonies of New England; a new commission was passed in March, appointing Andros captain general and vice admiral over the whole. Francis Nicholson was soon after named his lieutenant, with the accustomed authority. The constitution, established on this occasion, was a legislative and executive governor and council, who were appointed by the king, without the consent of the people.<sup>2</sup>

The eastern Indians having renewed hostilities<sup>3</sup>, Andros marched against them at the head of eight hundred men.  
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<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, i. 422. The select men of Ipswich voted, "That inasmuch as it is against the privilege of English subjects to have money raised, without their own consent in an assembly or parliament, therefore they will petition the king, for liberty of an assembly, before they make any rates." Sir Edmund caused them to be imprisoned and fined, some 20 £. some 30 £. and some 50 £. as the judges, by him instructed, should see fit to determine. Mr. Appleton, who had been an assistant, and Mr. Wise the minister of Ipswich, were imprisoned. Hutchinson, i. 365.

<sup>2</sup> Hutchinson, i. 366. Randolph, having failed in one action of defamation against Mr. Mather, was bringing forward a new action against him. To avoid the service of the writ, he kept concealed; and some of his church carried him aboard ship in the night, in disguise. lb.

<sup>3</sup> Chalmers, i. 425.

<sup>4</sup> The lands from Penobscot to Nova Scotia had been ceded to the French by the treaty of Breda. The baron de St. Castine had for many years resided on those lands, and carried on a large trade with the Indians, with whom he was intimately connected, having several of their women, beside a daughter of the sachem Madokawando, for his wives. In 1686, a ship, belonging to Pascataqua, landed some wines at Penobscot, supposing it to be within the French territory. The agents of the duke of York at Pemaquid went and seized the wines; but, by the influence of the French ambassador in England, an order was obtained for the restoration