In the meantime, it was decided that St. John's Island was to be reduced to a lieutenant-governorship and reannexed to the eastern part of Nova Scotia, but to enjoy its own constitution and retain its own jurisdiction (the dispatch signifying this is among the papers relating to Nova Scotia, dated 29th May, 1784). The new commission to Parr, Governor of Nova Scotia, appointed him to be Governor-in-chief of Nova Scotia, St. John's Island and Cape Breton, but the letter from the Secretary of State to Patterson of 27th September, 1784, giving this information, repeated that the legislature of St. John's Island was preserved entire, and that every act of government was to be executed by the lieutenant-governor, except when the governor-in-chief was actually present. Patterson accepted his reduction in rank without complaint, but represented that after the first difficulties attending the settlement had been overcome the annexation of the island to Nova Scotia had inflicted a greater blow on the settlement of the island than all other causes put together, Parr in his new capacity having threatened that no more provisions would be granted to those who went to settle there, but he justified that course by the statement that Parr regarded the island as unfit for settlement—an apology which does not accord with a previous part of the same letter, in which it is alleged that the enmity in Nova Scotia to the island arose from the fear that its natural advantages would deprive Nova Scotia of its population. How far this charge was well founded does not appear in the correspondence. It is not improbable that the quarrels between the Governor and the Legislature and the charges against each other by the Governor and the Chief Justice may have contributed, as much as anything else, to the slight growth of population, added to which was the lack of funds caused by the neglect of the proprietors to pay their quit-rents. The relations between the Governor and the Legislature were evidently not friendly. The Assembly having adjourned and not having met on the day fixed for re-assembling, owing, as the members alleged, to the hindrances caused by the bad weather, Patterson issued a proclamation, dated 13th April, that it was dissolved *ipso facto*. Against this the Assembly protested and appealed to the public, formulating charges against Patterson, a petition for whose removal was prepared for signature. The Council and Assembly apparently took opposite sides and Patterson's brother John defended him with great energy, but the complaints became so numerous that his recall was ordered, and Lieut.-Governor Fanning, then at Halifax, was sent to take his place. Patterson's fight to retain office forms an interesting episode in the history of the island, the reason given in his first letter to the Secretary of State after the arrival of Fanning being that if he went away it would be the ruin of his family, and he wrote to Fanning declining to give up his position—a step submitted to by Fanning to prevent disturbance until he should receive further orders, and he declined to receive an address from the inhabitants, in case it might have a prejudicial effect on the public feeling. Under this anomalous state of affairs great confusion arose, but on the 5th of April, 1787, a peremptory order was sent by the Secretary of State to Patterson to deliver to Fanning all the public documents and instructions in his possession, the King having no longer need of his services. On the same date Fanning was notified of the recall of Patterson, but previous to the arrival of these dispatches Fanning had received others by way of Halifax (probably from Dorchester, although no dispatches of this nature can be traced). In accordance with these, he had by proclamation, on the 10th of April, published his commission requiring His Majesty's subjects to govern themselves accordingly. In spite of this, Patterson clung to office and on the 5th of May prorogued the Assembly already dissolved by Fanning on the 3rd. The order of the 5th of April was, however, too clear to be disregarded, and