

and so prevent the obtaining more of it. And it was imagined that showing the originals to so many as were named, and to a few such others as they might think fit, would be sufficient to establish their authenticity and to spread through the Province so just an estimation of the writers as to strip them of all their deluded friends, and demolish effectually their interests and influence. The letters might be shown even to some of the Governor's and Lieutenant-Governor's partisans, and spoken of to everybody; for there was no restraint proposed to talking of them, but only to copying. However the terms given with them could only be those with which they were received."

In accordance with the crafty suggestion of Franklin, it was buzzed about for some three or four months that something which would amaze everybody would soon be made public.

In due time Samuel Adams moved in the Provincial House that the galleries be cleared in order that he might bring before the Legislature certain documents of the utmost importance to the Commonwealth. The upshot of the stratagem was, that the letters were commented on in such manner as to arouse deep suspicion of the people towards Hutchinson. This accomplished, the House resolved to address the King to remove Hutchinson because of his unpopularity. Great excitement prevailed, and though the letters were mild, and as judicious as the most judicious could have wished, yet, through the previous preparation of the public mind, they were regarded as containing proofs of a conspiracy against the country, in which Hutchinson was prime mover.

The conspiracy against Hutchinson was a grand success. His name was execrated. The great bulwark against schism was swept away in the rush of popular feeling. The one man the revolutionists feared was engulfed in seething waters.

Soon after followed the "Boston Tea Party," and after a stormy session of the Legislature, Hutchinson announced that he had obtained leave from the King to go to England. He was well received by the King, and was on intimate terms with people of note during the years of his exile, dying in London in 1780, six years after he left Boston, having the year before heard of the confiscation of his Boston and Milton property under an Act of 1779, "to confiscate the estate of certain notorious conspirators against the Government and liberties of the late Province."

What he abandoned for his principles is seen in the fact that his confiscated properties were sold for £98,120. To express their hatred of him the Boston authorities changed the name Hutchinson Street to Pearl Street. The town "Hutchinson" cast off its title as that "of one who had acted the part of a traitor and parricide," substituting for it that of Barré, the Eng-