

to individual applicants, a list of many of whom will be found among the papers relating to Nova Scotia, under the date of 23rd May, 1767. Other documents relating to the same subject will be found in the same series of papers in June, July and August, 1767. It being on the solicitation of these proprietors that the separate government was formed, they came under the obligation to bear the expenses, so that no cost should be thrown on the public exchequer. Francklin, who administered the government of Nova Scotia during the absence of Lord William Campbell, entered into the plan with what was considered more zeal than prudence, and the steps he took were disapproved of, the Secretary of State writing to Lord William Campbell that Francklin was only authorized to report what establishment might be necessary, but to do nothing more than make temporary arrangements, so that it was feared the expenses incurred would fall on Francklin himself. The arrangements appear to have been badly executed or perhaps ill-conceived, as the officials sent to carry on the new government were obliged to return to Halifax, there being no provision made for their support. Patterson, who was appointed governor in July, 1769, arrived on the island on the 30th August of that year and was sworn in on the 19th September when he appointed an Executive Council. His report of the natural condition of the island was favourable, but there were neither houses nor provisions to shelter or feed expected arrivals; not even a barn appears to have been built, as stated by Patterson in the letter in which he reported the want of a church, court-house and gaol, nor were there any roads. In 1768, a plan on which Charlottetown was to be built was prepared by Morris, surveyor general of Nova Scotia, but that was modified by Patterson after his arrival. Both plans have been ordered to be copied.

The proprietors who had been so anxious for a separate government were not prompt in payment of their quit-rents from which the expenses were to be paid, so that the officials received no salaries and the funds for building roads were contributed by voluntary subscription. Ordinances were passed by the Executive Council for the collection of quit-rents and for other purposes, but these were regarded by the Secretary of State as of no further validity than such as would arise from the consent of the inhabitants; in the meantime the officials suffered from the non-payment of their salaries, being only relieved by unauthorized advances made by Governor Patterson.

In February, 1773, it was resolved to call a House of Assembly, which was done, but the first did not exist long, the Executive Council on the 14th of July of the same year having determined to dissolve it; the Assembly was accordingly adjourned to the 1st of next April, when it was to be dissolved. Information may be gathered from the calendar regarding the attempts by Lieut.-Governor Desbrisay and others to settle the island, but these appear to have been objectionable to the imperial authorities represented by the Secretaries of State.

In 1775, on the outbreak of hostilities in the colonies, predatory excursions were made by the New Englanders against the island, in one of which they plundered the house of Governor Patterson, seized Callbeck, the administrator and Wright the surveyor, then captured a vessel from London, on board of which were Messrs. Spence and Higgins, whom they robbed of all their effects, and then released them, with Spence's wife and servants and Mr. Desbrisay, the chaplain. Wright states that the privateers were acting under orders from General Washington and that the attack on Charlottetown was out of revenge for recruits being raised on the island for Quebec. The events