

be signified to the several members of His Majesty's Council, and entered on the Council books as a standing rule.

7th. And that His Majesty may be always informed of the names and characters of persons fit to supply the vacancies which shall happen in the said Council, you are to transmit unto His Majesty, by one of His principal Secretaries of State, and to His Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, with all convenient speed, the names and characters of twelve persons, inhabitants of the said Province, whom you shall esteem the best qualified for that trust: and so, from time to time, when any of them shall die, depart out of the said Province, or become otherways unfit, you are to nominate so many other persons to His Majesty in their stead, that the list of twelve persons fit to supply vacancies in His Majesty's said Council may be always complete.

8th. But you shall not take upon you to fill up any vacancies that may happen in the said Council, after the same shall be constituted as aforesaid, without His Majesty's leave first obtained, unless the number of Councillors remaining in your Government be under seven, and in that case you are only to complete them to the number of seven and no more.

9th. And the better to enable His Majesty to complete what may be further wanting towards the establishing a Civil Government in the said Province, you are to give unto His Majesty, by one of His principal Secretaries of State, and to His Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, by the first opportunity after your arrival there, a true state of the said Province, particularly with respect to the number and qualifications of the people, that either are there or hereafter shall resort thither, of what number it may be proper to constitute an Assembly, what persons are proper and fit to be Judges, Justices, or Sheriffs; and any other matter or thing, that may be of use to His Majesty in the establishing a Civil Government, as aforesaid.

10th. In the meantime, till such a Government shall have been established, you will receive herewith a copy of the instructions given by His Majesty to His Governor of Virginia, by which you will conduct yourself till His further pleasure shall be known, as near as the circumstances of the place will admit, in such things as they can be applicable to, and where you are not otherwise directed by these instructions; but you are not to take upon you to enact any laws till His Majesty shall have appointed an Assembly, and given you directions for your proceedings therein.

11th. Whereas His Majesty is informed that the inhabitants of Nova Scotia (except those of the garrison of Annapolis Royal) are most, if not all of them French, who never took the oaths of fidelity and allegiance to His Majesty, to His late Royal Father, or to the late Queen; notwithstanding such, their undutiful behavior, you are immediately upon your arrival there, to invite them in the most friendly manner by proclamation, and otherways, as you shall think fit, to submit to your Government and swear allegiance to His Majesty within the space of four months from the date of such, your proclamation, upon which condition they shall enjoy the free exercise of their religion, and be protected in all their civil and religious rights and liberties so long as they shall behave themselves as becomes good subjects.

12th. You shall take care to give notice to His Majesty, by one of His principal Secretaries of State, and to his Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, of the effects of this Proclamation, and expect His Majesty's further orders thereupon for your conduct towards such of the said French inhabitants as shall not have complied therewith by the time therein prefixed. But, in the meanwhile, you are to observe that the said French inhabitants of Nova Scotia have long since lapsed the time granted them by the Treaty of Utrecht for removing their effects from thence to any part of the French dominions in America; and, therefore, if any of the said French inhabitants should, notwithstanding the encouragement given them to become good subjects to His Majesty, resolve to remove out of your Government, you are to take particular care, as far as in you lies, that they do no damage before such their removal to their respective houses and plantations, and that they be not permitted to carry off their effects with them.