

whose conduct is approved by the people of the Massachusetts Bay, must be distinguished both for his abilities and his virtue. They are too numerous and wise to be deceived, too free and independent to be driven. An undue influence can never be obtained by the governor of a colony, who has neither power nor places to bestow. --- Their assemblies are annual --- the members elected by ballot, in number near 200. --- The council, or middle estate, chosen yearly by the assembly : --- and as all the offices are elective, not a man in the province is dependent on the smiles or the frowns of the King's representative : --- and yet so wise, free, and loyal a people have approved his judgment ; confided in his integrity ; testified in his favour ; and publickly lamented his departure from the continent. I would by no means, my Lord, be understood, by these favourable sentiments of Shirley, to disparage his noble Successor in the command. He yet has not, at least he deserves not to have, a single enemy amongst us : and I hope it will serve the purposes of no man to be his enemy. I could only have wished, that at this critical juncture, a gentleman so thoroughly versed in American affairs, had been continued in America for his Lordship's assistance. We have to contend with a subtle enterprising foe --- a foe, rapacious, martial, and bloody, committing murders, rather than waging war. Tho' the French colony contains perhaps not 30,000 men capable to bear arms ; yet these are all under the despotic command and sole direction of their governor-general ;