

of the charter colonies, however, like Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts were not actually required by the terms of their charters to send over their laws for approval, though this was sometimes done as a matter of course.

In 1684 Massachusetts lost her charter as the result of a long series of acts by which she had virtually assumed the powers and status of an independent commonwealth. In 1661 Massachusetts issued its famous Declaration of Rights by which she asserted her right to govern herself under her charter and protested against the restrictions of the navigation acts. Massachusetts had also excluded the Book of Common Prayer, restricted the franchise, laid the death penalty on religious opinions, coined money with her own seal and caused laws and writs to be drawn up in her own name. These are only a few of Massachusetts' many violations of the Royal Prerogative. Bearing these facts in mind the Andros régime, as far as Massachusetts was concerned, cannot be entirely blamed on 'Stuart Tyranny.'

By the settlement after the 'Glorious Revolution of 1688', Connecticut and Rhode Island were restored to the full enjoyment of their charter privileges. But owing to the past record of Massachusetts and to the fact that her charter had been annulled in 1684, it was obvious that she could not expect to enjoy her former liberties. A new charter was therefore given to Massachusetts in 1691² establishing her as a semi-royal province with a form of government midway between that of

Professor Charles M. Andrews of Yale University. It was at Professor Andrews' suggestion that this short study of the Royal Disallowance in Massachusetts was first begun. A longer and more detailed study covering all the American Colonies is 'The Review of American Colonial Legislation by the King-in-Council,' by E. B. Russell, Ph.D. Columbia University Studies; vol. XLIV, No. 2, 1915.

²It is interesting to note that the old colony of Plymouth, founded by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620 (or ten years before the great Puritan emigration to Massachusetts Bay), was formally annexed to Massachusetts in 1691. Plymouth never obtained a Royal charter of incorporation and hence her fate. Maine was also annexed to Massachusetts at this time and did not become a separate state till under the Union in 1820 as a part of the famous 'Missouri Compromise.' Massachusetts, Plymouth and Maine were therefore all under one government in 1691.