

council, thinking themselves above their superior officers. The first appearance of this was, when Mr. Armstrong, then Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, came, in the absence of Governor Philips, to be under the command of Mr. Doucett, a Captain in the same regiment, who was Lieutenant-Governor of the garrison, and as the first named in the list of counsellors, commanded in chief over the Province. Colonel Armstrong going home, obtained the commission of Lieut. Governor over the Province; but on his taking upon him, at his arrival here, the detail of the garrison, new disputes arose with the Lieut. Governor of the fort; in which, as the officers sided some one way and some another, proved of very ill consequence to the peace and good order of the place. At the decease of Colonel Armstrong, I found myself the next in the list of counsellors.

At Colonel Cosby's decease, and in the absence of Governor Philips, the whole authority and power, both civil and military, became vested in me, and was further corroborated when his Majesty was graciously pleased to appoint me Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, and Lieut. Governor of the garrison. The most of the Officers are of opinion that, as in the civil government, they reckon me only as *primus inter pares*, I can do nothing out of this fort without their participation and consent, not so much as to send a party out. Your Excellency knows too well the circumstances of the place as to think me in the wrong, if I have not conformed myself to this notion, or to several others of the like nature. I have, however, kept up the form of government as I found it, having conformed to the resolutions taken in council, in what did not depend on secrecy or military operations; and, in this last, I generally consulted the Captains of men of war, when any were here, and the captains of the troops under my command.

Governor Philips having formed the council as before mentioned, issued out a proclamation, summoning the French inhabitants to take the oaths of allegiance on the same terms offered to them as before, though the time prescribed had so long ago been elapsed. But these inhabitants in general still refused it, alledging, that they had been detained contrary to their desire, which indeed was partly true, as General Nicholson had declared they should not depart in vessels being built on English ground, or English bottoms, and that it be-