

peremptorily refused, writing to Governor Lawrence :—" As we are all well aware that the King our master loves and protects only constant, faithful, and free subjects, and as it is only by virtue of his kindness, and of the fidelity which we have always preserved towards his Majesty, that he has granted to us, and still continues to grant to us, the entire possession of our property, and the free and public exercise of the Roman Catholic religion, we desire to continue, to the utmost of our power, to be faithful and dutiful in the same manner that we were allowed to be by his Excellency Mr. Richard Philipp."

On the receipt of this answer, and the deputies having peremptorily declined to take the oath, Gov. Lawrence, on the 31st July, wrote to Col. Monckton :—" The deputies of the French inhabitants of the districts of Annapolis, Minas and Pisiquid, having been called before this Council, have refused to take the oath of allegiance to his Majesty, and have also declared this to be the sentiments of the whole people; whereupon the Council advised, and it is accordingly determined, that they shall be removed out of the country as soon as possible; and as to those about the isthmus who were in arms, and therefore entitled to no favor from the Government, it is determined to begin with them first; and for this purpose, orders are given for a sufficient number of transports to be sent up the bay with all possible despatch for taking them on board, by whom you will receive particular instructions as to the manner of their being disposed of, the places of their destination, and every other thing necessary for that purpose.

" In the meantime, it will be necessary to keep this measure as secret as possible, as well to prevent their attempting to escape as to carry off their cattle, &c.; and the better to effect this, you will endeavor to fall on some stratagem to get the men, both young and old (especially the heads of families), into your power, and detain them till the transports shall arrive, so as they may be ready to be shipped off; for when