

and of lots eleven and thirteen, comprising meadow-land, he built a dwelling within the precincts of Hurley, in which he thereafter resided. On March 30, 1670, he transferred four acres of his *bouwerij*, near the village, to the people of Marbletown.¹

Charles II. of England having declared war, on March 17, 1672, against the United Netherlands, a Dutch fleet of twenty-three vessels unexpectedly entered the lower bay of New York, on July 29, 1673, and obtained the surrender of the province to which again was given the name of New Netherland. A change in the names of the most important places in it was consequently made, the city of New York being titled New Orange (*Nieuw Oranje*); Albany, *Willemstadt*; and Kingston, *Swanburgh*.

Two years later, the province again reverted to the British crown under the treaty of Westminster, signed on February 19, 1674, when all the "lands, islands, cities, havens, castles, and fortresses" taken by the United Netherlands from Great Britain during the late war were restored to that power. The Dutch names distinguishing the province and places in it were thereupon changed to those previously bestowed upon them by the English.

On the death of Charles II., on February 6, 1685, his brother, the Duke of York and Albany, succeeded to the crown of Great Britain under the title of James II. "This event," it is said, "was welcomed with premature exultation by his subjects in New York. They had long been soliciting a formal grant of the constitution which was now in force, and the duke had not only promised to gratify them, but had actually signed a patent in conformity with their wishes, which required only some trivial solemnity to render it complete and irrevocable.² But the king held himself absolved from the obligations of the duke; and the renewed solicitations of the incorporated bodies and the major part of the inhabitants of the province were unhesitatingly rejected. He not only refused to confer new privileges, but revoked such as he had already granted. In the second year of his reign he issued a new commission to [Governor Thomas] Dongan,³ empowering him, with the consent of his council, to enact laws and impose taxes; and specially commanded him to suffer no printing-press in his government."

¹ Documents relating to the colonial history of the state of New York, vol. xiii., pp. 444, 445.

² "The notable change in the form of the government of the province, whereby the voice of the freeholders was substituted for the will of the lord-proprietor, had its consummation on the seventeenth of October, 1683, when the first General Assembly of New York began its sessions in Fort James, in the city of New York. Eighteen representatives were elected as ordered by Governor Dongan on the thirteenth of September, each of the three ridings of Long Island selecting two, Staten Island one, Pamaquid one, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket one, New York and Haerlem four, Esopus two, Albany and Rensselaerswijck two, and Schenectady one." History of the city of Albany. By Arthur James Weise. 1884, p. 181.

³ Colonel Thomas Dongan was commissioned in September, 1682, governor of the province of New York and its dependencies, by James, the Duke of York and Albany. Governor Dongan arrived at New York on August 25, 1683.