

COL. ANDREW BURR. [53]

HE was a son of John, and grandson of Major John Burr of Fairfield. His father died when he was quite young, and he having no brothers, his father's portion of the Major's estate descended by entail to him.

He was a lawyer by profession, an Assistant and Magistrate of the Colony, several times Speaker of the House, and wielded large influence in the councils of the Colony; yet his chief claims to distinction rest undoubtedly on his military services, which were many and varied.

Passing first to the consideration of his military career, we find him, in 1731, Lieutenant of the second company or trainband of Fairfield. Two years later, he was promoted to be Captain of the same company. In 1739, he was appointed Major of the Fourth Regiment, of which the Fairfield Company formed a part; the next year he was made Commissary, to provide supplies for the troops ordered to be raised for an intended expedition against the French power in the West Indies.\*

In 1745, occurred the famous Cape Breton Expedition, which as being intimately connected with the family history, should be noticed in detail; it was in fact the most brilliant passage in the long series of Colonial wars, and worthier of more attention than it has received from historians.

The fortress of Louisburg was built on a precipitous rock, at the head of Chateaurouge Bay—an arm of the Atlantic,—about midway of the eastern coast of the island of Cape Breton.

By the treaty of 1715, the French had relinquished Nova Scotia and Newfoundland to England, and soon feeling the need of a fortress in that region, seized upon this rock, and in the course of twenty-five years' persistent labor, had succeeded in converting it—with its natural escarpments of rock, strengthened by every device known to the science of war—into the most formidable fortress of the New World. About the time of its completion, in 1744,

---

\* He received for this service £46 5s. 4d.