

The Journal of the Court of Assistants of the Company in London, at this time shows a very curious list of necessaries, and comforts, very amply provided for these colonists. Such as apparel for 100 men: being "200 sutes, dublett and hose of lether, lyned with "oiled skin lether, ye hose and dublett with hooks and eyes:" many other articles of dress alike now unused, but of similar endurance: as: "100 lether girdles: 100 black hatts, lyned in the browes with "lether; 100 pr. breeches of lether: lether drawers, to serve to "weare with boath the other sutes," which are alike detailed, with large stores of bedding, rugs, matting; Guns small and large, artillery, ammunition, cattle and provisions.

These were all specially made — and in that age of much greater cost — for these favored Colonists.

March 3d, 1629, this Journal reads:

"It was debated howe some good course might be settled for the division of the lands, and that all men intendinge to goe in person, "or to send over, might underwrite and seale some instrument to bee "made, whereby every man to be tyed to such orders, as shall bee "agreed upon here: and that a coppey of this agreement be sent "to Dorchester for all men to underwrite, and seale, that intend to "take passage in the Lyons Whelpe, or ells order to be taken that "the Shippe procede without them."

The Company's corporate seal — the Indian being of the design still used by the state of Massachusetts — was sent over to Gov. Endicott in 1629, after the Patent of Land had been confirmed, and a Charter granted by the Crown, (4 Car. 1.) creating the Company a body Corporate, by the title and style of "The Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay" with a Governor, Deputy, and Court of Eighteen Assistants, all freemen of the company; to be chosen yearly by the General Assembly, of all the members of the company, and with full authority to make all laws, consistent with those of the Realm, for the Colony, and admit members as free of the Company: essentially, a full grant of political and religious independence.

In April, 1629, Rev. Francis Higginson was employed and settled as Minister by a special contract, of liberal terms for outfit, voyage and maintenance. This may have somewhat biased his conclusions in the quaint document giving his reasons for encouraging the Colony.

He, with Samuel Skelton of Lincolnshire, and Francis Bright, were the first three ministers appointed for the Colony. They were all ordained in the Established Church, but calvinistic in their opinion; offended by the "Book of Sports," and by the order of