

and banishment of women, etc. Even Charles II., the "meanest, falsest, merriest of Kings," had been obliged to stop the persecutions under that beloved charter. I doubt not they all wanted freedom.

Before they left this country on their mission, F. A. Randolph wrote to Mr. Dudley, from Whitehall, London, March 15, 1683, addressing him as "Maj. Dudley at Roxbury." He says he could not get much information from Mr. Humphreys concerning Maj. Dudley's affairs, but he would try to hasten matters.

"The N. E. Deputies were causing him to stay in England longer than he expected or hoped. Mr. D.'s worthy colleague, Capt., now Maj. Richard's friends, if he had any in England at least his acquaintances say he did not deceive them, for they knew him a poor, sneaking fellow."

"Mr. Hutchinson sends his respects."

"Your friend Dr. Cox is soon to meet us at Mr. Hutchinson's. I mean to promote you according to your merit, which hath made a great impression upon the great moving men at court."

"Sir, I often remember how you promised to meet me at my friend, Madam Tailor's, and as often disappointed me. You will oblige me in my absence to give her my humble service. The ship is not yet come from Plymouth so I cannot make your present to my Lord of London, but my telling him of your verbal order to deliver it, gave him great satisfaction."

While in England Wm. Stoughton wrote him in Aug., 1683, at his lodgings in St. Paul's Church Yard, London :

For the Worshipful Joseph Dudley, Esq. :—I have been sick with fever and ague and despaired of sending anything by Clarke. I am hurried to set out for the Narragansett country. In extreme haste I salute you. I will send your letter and Capt. Richards' letters to the Governor, as I have no opportunity to go over myself. Great revolutions, I see, are hastening everywhere ; and since our poor Corporation is like to outlive the charter of so famous a city as London, we must compose ourselves with the less regret to expect and entertain our own dissolution. I am always as urgent as I can be to get supplies returned to you, and hope you will not be straightened, for, if what the Treasurer sends (which is with some difficulty), falls short at present, yet on your own credits you may take up for your personal expenses, and assure yourselves that you shall not be left in the lurch, and as for other expenses, pray ever remember what I have said in former letters. Mr. Braden wants to sell his island. He will write you about it. He wants you to give Maj. Thompson an account