

He was charged by the Mathers with speaking diminutively of his native country and its institutions, and praising aristocratic England. Probably he considered himself an Englishman by law and usage as well as by blood. He inscribed "Armiger" after the name of one of his sons, whose coffin was laid in the tomb of the family. He claimed the authors and heroes of England as his countrymen, and was one of the few Americans who ever were elected "Fellows of the Royal Society." However, at length, the provincials found that he was a true patriot, and faithful wherever they placed him. At the Council-board, in the legislative hall and on the bench, he sustained the civilization and honor of New England.

When Attorney General he had pursued and arrested pirates, some of whom were executed in Boston.* Even when he was in England he was considered there a great lover of his provincial country, and active in serving it.

The best historians say: He appeared superior in all situations; but on the bench he shone with great lustre. There he displayed his admirable talents, his quick apprehension, his uncommon strength of memory and extensive knowledge, and, at the same time, his own abhorrence of vice, together "with impartial justice, which neither favored the rich nor justified the poor" because of their condition. He was a thorough and accomplished lawyer, and many good laws and regulations respecting our courts were originated by him. In his manner, he has been likened to the English jurist, Mansfield.

He spoke with peculiar energy and a tone of authority, which could not fail to command attention and strongly impress all hearers. His successor was one of the Sewalls, noted for his gravity and good judgment; and he says of Paul Dudley, "While with pure hands and an upright heart, he administered justice in his circuit through the Province, he gained the general esteem and veneration of the people."

He seems, after one hundred and fifty years of progress, one of

* Sewall's Diary says:

"May 22, 1704, I went to Perkins's in Beverly, lodged there, because of the extreme heat. Refresh at Lewis's, where Mr. Paul Dudley is in eager pursuit of the Pirates.

"June 9, Mr. Dudley had sent to stay Ipswich Regiment.

"June 12, Joseph Gerrish comes to my bed-chamber at Cape Ann, and tells me of Brotner's good success." The pirates were taken June 10, at the Isles of Shoals. There were seven of them led by Capt. John Quelch, June 30th, all of whom were executed but one, who was reprieved by Gov. Dudley. The Gov. sent the news to England.