

Mr. Bradstreet, already one of the five assistants, was, Aug. 23d, at the first Court in Charlestown, elected Secretary of the Colony; in which office he continued until 1644. He became the seventh member of the first Congregational Church of Charlestown and Boston.

In the spring of 1631, he removed with his father-in-law (Dudley) and others, to Newtown (now Cambridge), and resided near the present locality of the colleges. Here the muse of poetry began to inspire her American votress, dwelling not by the streams of Helicon, but amid the savage wilds, which were, however, destined to become a favorite haunt of all the muses. For, what place should the gentle sisters be supposed to frequent, if not the vicinity of old Harvard?

Her first poem, bearing date, is a short piece on a fit of sickness, "Anno 1632, and of her age, 19." She afterwards resided at Ipswich, from 1635 to 1644, and then removed to Andover. It was while at the former place, that she wrote the satirical "Dialogue between Old England and New, concerning their present Troubles, Anno. 1642," in which the mother country is made to confess many unbecoming faults, and much cruelty towards her children. But, still New England has a word of sympathy for the unfortunate old dame:

" Dear mother, cease complaints and wipe thine eyes,  
Shake off thy dust, cheer up, and now arise;  
After dark Popery, the day did clear,  
But now the sun in brightness shall appear.  
Blest be the nobles of thy noble land,  
With ventured lives for truth's defence, that stand;  
Blest be thy Commons, who, for common good,  
And thy infringed laws, have boldly stood.  
Blest be thy preachers, who do cheer thee on—  
O, cry the sword of God and Gideon!"

The next date affixed to her poems is March 20th, 1642; at which time she inscribes the first volume to her honored father, Gov. Thomas Dudley. The book was not, however, published till 1650. Rev. John Woodbridge, who had married Mrs. Bradstreet's sister Mercy, and Rev. Nathaniel Ward, author of "The Simple Cobbler of Agawam," both admirers of her genius, then resided in England; and, doubtless, it was owing to their suggestions that the poems were printed.

A copy of this edition, preserved in the British Museum, was seen by the writer in 1850.

It is a small, elegant 16mo, of 207 pages, entitled "The Tenth