

Among the neighbors of Mr. Dudley, who refused to contribute to the loan, were the following: nearly all of whom came over soon after to Massachusetts Bay:

Wm. Anderson, Esq., Mayor of Boston, Atherton Hough, Edmond Jackson, Thomas Leverett, Wm. Coddington, Richard Knightly—the last of whom was imprisoned. John Cotton, Richard Bellingham and Wm. Coddington were fined for non-conformity.

Gov. Dudley describes how he first conceived the idea of removing to America, in his famous Letter to the Countess of Lincoln, written from Boston in New England, March 12th to 28th, 1631. The style of this letter is very perspicuous and concise, but a little antiquated for modern readers. He says about the year 1627, some friends of his being in his company, the subject of consideration happened to be the planting of the gospel in New England; and, after some deliberation, we sent letters to some friends in London and the West of England, that is, from our Boston home, and those friends considered, and discussed the proposition of emigrating to the new world and establishing themselves and their religion there. "At length with frequent negotiation and correspondence, the project so ripened, that in 1628, we procured a patent from the King for a plantation of our own, bounded on one side by Massachusetts Bay, and Charles river on the south and Merrimac river on the north, and to include a strip of land three miles wide upon the shore of the Bay and each shore of the two Rivers, also for government of all who should come within that section of country included within the said boundaries. The same year we sent Mr. John Endicott and some persons with him to begin the plantation and to strengthen those he should find already there, whom we had sent thither from Dorchester, Eng., and some adjoining places.

From them the same year we had received hopeful news. The next year, that is, 1629, we sent several ships over with about 300 people, some cows, goats, horses, &c., many of which safely arrived here.

These people, by their too high commendation of the new country and its commodities, so strongly inclined us to go over at once, that Mr. Winthrop of Suffolk, Eng., who was well known in his county

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affairs, for he was heir to a great estate and one of the richest of all the wealthy pilgrims; and his wife was sister to Earl Theophilus, as before stated. I went to Clipsham in 1850 to see the old parish Registers, but the Rector of the parish, a Mr. West, said they had all been lost down to 1730, and the Clipsham Church contains no monuments of Johnson or Dudley.