

nor, the House sent to him, asking that the debate about the election might be laid aside. The Governor assented and wished us well with our work, says Sewall, "and he addressed to us the following paper:" Gentlemen,—I am very well satisfied of Her Majesty's just right and prerogative, to allow or disallow the Speaker of the Assembly of this Province, as well as the Council; the members being all elected by the Assembly. Therefore I have proceeded as I have done, and as far as I can at present in that matter. But I have a just sense of the pressing affairs of the war, which demand a very sudden despatch of this session, and will not admit of long debate of anything. Therefore I shall not delay the proceedings necessary for the security of the Province, which I desire may be first attended to, saving to Her Most Sacred Majesty her just rights, as above-said at all times." This was communicated to the Council and Assembly May 31, 1705.

"Aug. 20, I went to Roxbury to wait on the Governor at his going away to Connecticut.

"Nov. 21, Capt. Vech and Mr. Wm. Dudley come to town from Canada. They were over five weeks on the road. The Governor would not let them come till the fleet sailed for France.

"Dec. 7, I went to Brookline. Saw the Governor standing by his fence with his son, Wm. \* \* \* After dinner I met the Governor upon the Plain, near Sol. Phips.' He told me of what had happened on the road, being in a great passion."

On this day, Dec. 7, occurred a notable incident which I will tell as briefly as possible. There is a long story about it in Sewall's Diary, not only what he said or wrote, but the affidavits of the parties on both sides. The Governor started with his servants, baggage and one of his sons to go with his chariot to New Hampshire, on his official tour, as he was Governor of that Province, and had much that called him often to Exeter, Dover, Portsmouth, etc. He says he had engaged some others, guards, etc., to meet him just beyond Boston. When he had proceeded about a mile, he met two carts loaded with wood in a drifted, difficult turn of the road. The Governor's horses were spirited roadsters, and he feared to turn out into the drifts with his slender chariot, loaded and encumbered as it was. He supposed that mere wood haulers would give way to their chief magistrate and run the risk of a little extra labor to please and accommodate such a person; but these carters refused to turn out, and defied him. He supposed they surely meant it as a personal insult.

He was enraged, that his important mission and business of State should be so obstructed by common laborers. His son, Col. Wm.