

had a commission as Major. In 1710 he was chosen Colonel of the First Suffolk County Regiment, which office he held till his death. At nineteen years of age he was sent in 1705, with Capt. Vetch, as commissioners, to Canada to negotiate an exchange of prisoners. Among those he brought home was the venerable Rev. John Williams of Deerfield, who had been captured with his family, some of whom never returned. He managed the business with great success and ability, and, by his negotiation, kept the frontiers from future pillage. It was probably the policy of his father, but he took much credit for its execution.

Charlevoix, the historian, calls the whole negotiation a shrewd piece of political intrigue. He thinks the Massachusetts government did not intend to come up to a faithful treaty. In the Expedition against Port-Royal (Annapolis), A.D. 1710, he gained a deserved reputation. Col. William Dudley was soon after appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was often a Representative from Roxbury to the General Court, and in 1724 Speaker of the House, being several times afterwards re-elected to that office. In 1729, he was chosen one of his Majesty George II.'s Council of this Province, and was very serviceable to the community. He was Collector of Excise Taxes in 1732.

In his father's life-time this son William was a great support to his administration. He had always much influence in public assemblies, being an admirable speaker, brilliant, eloquent, and possessing extensive knowledge and strong intellectual powers. Dr. Douglas, the historian of that time, remarks that Col. William Dudley was more acquainted with provincial affairs than any other man.

At the commencement of Harvard College, July 2, 1707, William Dudley and his class should have taken their Masters' Degree; but Sewall says, in his Diary, that only two of the class were present, viz. Russell and Mighill. Dudley was on board the fleet bound for Port Royal, Nova Scotia. He does not tell where Ebenezer White was. Mr. White was a member of that class and became a minister. So Joseph Sewall pronounced William Dudley's Thesis.

Aug. 12. 1713, Col. William is appointed a Justice at Roxbury.

In Feb. 1714-15, he was appointed Sheriff of Suffolk County, by the Governor and Council.

Feb. 1, Friday, 1716-17, Gov. Shute dines with Col. Wm. Dudley.