

known as the Back Bay. No one of the younger generation ever associates this term with a body of water, any more than we of the older generation think of the three hills of Boston when we use the word Tremont, so frequently heard in our daily conversation.

I have been thus explicit and particular in describing the Mill Dam and Parker Street, as they were formerly such prominent features on the face of the landscape. There is no one here to-day who remembers the laying out of either of these thoroughfares, and soon there will be no one at our meetings who can remember the changes now described.

It was unanimously

Voted, That the thanks of the Society are hereby tendered to the Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, for their courtesy in allowing the use of their hall for the meetings of this Society for the last two years, while the present building was in process of construction.

Voted, That the Corresponding Secretary forward a copy of this vote to the American Academy.

Mr. JOHN T. HASSAM then communicated by title, with a few explanatory remarks, the following paper:—

The Bahama Islands: Notes on an Early Attempt at Colonization.

An original letter of attorney from John Bolles to Joseph Bolles, dated August 15, 1654, is in the possession of William N. Manning, of Rockport, Massachusetts, a descendant of Joseph Bolles.

It is on parchment, and is still in a good state of preservation, although the seal which was once appendant has been lost, and the names of two of the witnesses have become so much worn and faded as to be not easily decipherable.

This instrument, now for the first time printed, is as follows:—

To all Christian people to whom these p'sents shall come I John Bolles Esq^r: Clerke of the Commonwealth of England in the High Court of Chancerie send Greetinge in our Lord God Everlasting. Whereas by a late Act of Parliam^t made at Westm^r: in the yeare of our Lord God One thousand six hundred and fiftie intituled An Act for in-

couragement of Adventurers to some newly discovered Islands giuinge the Persons herein named Propertie therein ; It was enacted by the said Parliam^t and Authoritie of the same That William Saile, Cornelius Holland John Hutchinson George Hutchinson, Gregory Clement, Nathaniell Rich, Thomas Westrowe Thomas Jopson John Bolles John Humphry Nicholas Bond, Peeter Chamberlaine, Owen Rowe, John Rushworth, Robert Houghton John Sparrowe, Gualter Frost, Nicholas West, Thomas Smith Robert Norwood, William Rowe, John Blackwell junior, Arthur Squib, Samuel Spurstow, John Elliston, Azariah Husbands theire Heires Successo^{rs} and Assignes should be from thenceforth deemed and adjudged the true and lawfull Proprietors of all those Islands lying betwene the degrees of twenty fower and twentie nyne Northlatitude from the Equinoctiall and in longitude from Florida to the Summer Islands whereof discovery hath bin made at the Charge of the aforesaid Persons And that the said Persons theire Heires and Assignes should haue hold possesse and enjoye the said Islands forever as in and by the said Act more fully and at large it doth and may appeare Now knowe yee That I the said John Bolles for and in consideration of the naturall loue & affection which I doe beare unto my wellbeloued Bro^r: Joseph Bolles Gent: and for & in regard of the speciall trust and confidence which I haue and doe in him repose And for diuers other good causes and considerations me hereunto espetially moving, haue made ordeined constituted & in my place & stead putt and authorized, and by these p'sents doe make ordaine constitute and in my place & stead put & authorize my said Brother Joseph Bolles my true sufficient & lawfull deputie and Attorney in my absence for me and in my Name and to the use of me the said John Bolles my Heires and Assignes to enter into hold occupie possesse and enjoye All that part and portion of Land Soyle ground plantation & plantations in all & every y^e said Islands w^{ch} to me the said John Bolles belongeth by vertue and force of the said Act of Parliam^t allotted or to be allotted to me my Heirs Successo^{rs} and Assignes And also all the estate Right Tytle priuiledges, liberties properties interests jurisdictions Powers and Authorities therby to me granted Or in me the said John Bolles my Heires and Assignes Vested granted or settled by the said Act or any Orders Articles or agreements touching the p'misses or any part or parcell thereof. And the said lands soyle ground plantation & plantations for me and on my behalfe to Viewe survey apportion bargain lett, sell, lease or grant to such pson & psons & for such estate or terme of yeares or life or liues & for such Summe or summs of money weares, goods or merchandize therupon growing or therefore accruing as to my said Attorney Joseph Bolles shall be thought meet and requisite to the uttermost & best comodity & proffitt of mee the said John

Bolles And the deed and deeds of such said Grant or Grants and estates soe to be made for me and in my Name, in my absence to seale & as my deed or deeds to deliver unto the parties to whom the same shall be soe made Or to any other to their use & uses And the Countertpts of the same for me and in my name to accept & receiue And also all such Fines Rents or other Summe or summs of many Commodities goods merchandize & profitts w^hsoever as shall growe due for the same for me & in my name & to my use and benefit to collect gather receiue and take. And all such Rents & profitts or arrearages of Rents & profitts which are already or hereafter shall be due or payable for, out of, or concerning the p^rmises or any of them to receiue, And upon the Receipt of all every or any such Summe or summs of many Rents yssues profitts commodities & merchandize for me & in my Name & absence to make & giue acquittances or other sufficient discharges to any Lessee Tenant or ffarmer of any part of the p^rmisses Merchant or ffacto^r requi[ring] the same. And of the said Summe & summs of many yssues benefitts profitts commodities & merchandize soe made had & accrued to pay and bee acco[un]table unto me the said John Bolles the Moyetie yearly and from yeare to yeare during the naturall life of me the said John Bolles, the proper and reasonable charges & expences in the p^rmises of him the said Joseph Bolles being first deducted and allowed: And further I the said John Bolles doe by these p^rsents giue full Power & Authority to my said Attorney Joseph Bolles at any tyme hereafter to elect and appoint any necessary Steward Bayliffe or other Servants from tyme to tyme and also in my absence to displace att his the said Joseph Bolles discretion any such Steward Bayliffe Officer or servant vpon any my said plantation or plantations And further to doe or cause or procure to bee donne in and about the p^rmisses all and whatsoever to the said Joseph Bolles shall seeme requisite and needfull to bee donne as effectualle as if I the said John Bolles were then and there personally present.

In witnesse whereof I the said John Bolles haue hereunto putt my hand and Seale this fifteenth day of August in the yeare of our Lord One thousand six hundred fiftie and fower.

JOHN BOLLES.

Signed Sealed and Delivered by the w^hinnamed
John Bolles to the use of the w^hinnamed Joseph
Bolles in the p^rsence of us

W^M. FALDO

M. H. WRIGHTTELL ¹

THO. LAMPRIE

WILLAM [] ¹

¹ There is great uncertainty as to the names of these two witnesses. They are almost illegible.

The Bahama Islands, or Lucayos, lying between $21^{\circ} 42'$ and $27^{\circ} 34'$ N. lat., $72^{\circ} 40'$ and $79^{\circ} 5'$ W. long., are twenty-nine in number, with many Cays and Rocks. The principal islands are New Providence (on which Nassau, the capital, is situated), Abaco, Harbor Island, Eleuthera, Imagua, Mayaguana, St. Salvador, Andros Island, Great Bahama, Ragged Island, Rum Cay, Exuma, Long Island, Crooked Island, Acklin Island, Long Cay, Watling Island, the Berry Islands and the Biminis. Turks Island and the Caicos belong geographically, but not politically, to this group.

Although the first land discovered by Columbus¹ in 1492 was one of the Bahamas, these islands are still spoken of, in the Act of Parliament of 1650, as "newly discovered." For the Spaniards had made no settlements in the Bahamas. They visited them, carried off the natives to work in the mines of Hispaniola, despoiled the land and left it desolate. The depopulated islands were now ready for those who chose to occupy them.

In most accounts of the Bahamas it is stated that the English first settled New Providence in 1629 and held it until 1641, when they were driven off by the Spaniards. Nearly every historical writer who has anything to say on this subject has repeated this statement, thus confounding New Providence in the Bahamas with Old Providence,² which is in the Spanish Main, not far from Cape Gracias á Dios.

This error was discovered by General Lefroy in preparing his "Memorials of the Bermudas," and at his request Mr. Sainsbury, the editor of the Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, investigated the matter. The result of his researches is published in the "Athenæum" for May 27, 1876. As

¹ Probably Watling Island. See "Some Recent Discoveries concerning Columbus" in the Report of the American Historical Association for 1891, pp. 89-99.

² Oliver Cromwell (Carlyle's Letters and Speeches of Oliver Cromwell, III. 331), in a letter dated "Whitehall, November 1655," to Major-General Fortescue at Jamaica, says: "We think, and it is much designed amongst us, to strive with the Spaniard for the mastery of all those seas: and therefore we could heartily wish that the Island of Providence were in our hands again; believing that it lies so advantageously in reference to the Main, and especially for the hindrance of the Peru trade and Carthagena."

With the completion of the interoceanic canal, which even the master mind of Cromwell could hardly have foreseen, it is possible that the forgotten island of Providence may yet be destined, in the event of war, to play an important part in the world's history.

this article has not attracted the attention it deserves, and as the error it seeks to correct is still repeated in the accounts of later date, it has been thought best to reprint it here in full. Its importance certainly warrants such republication.

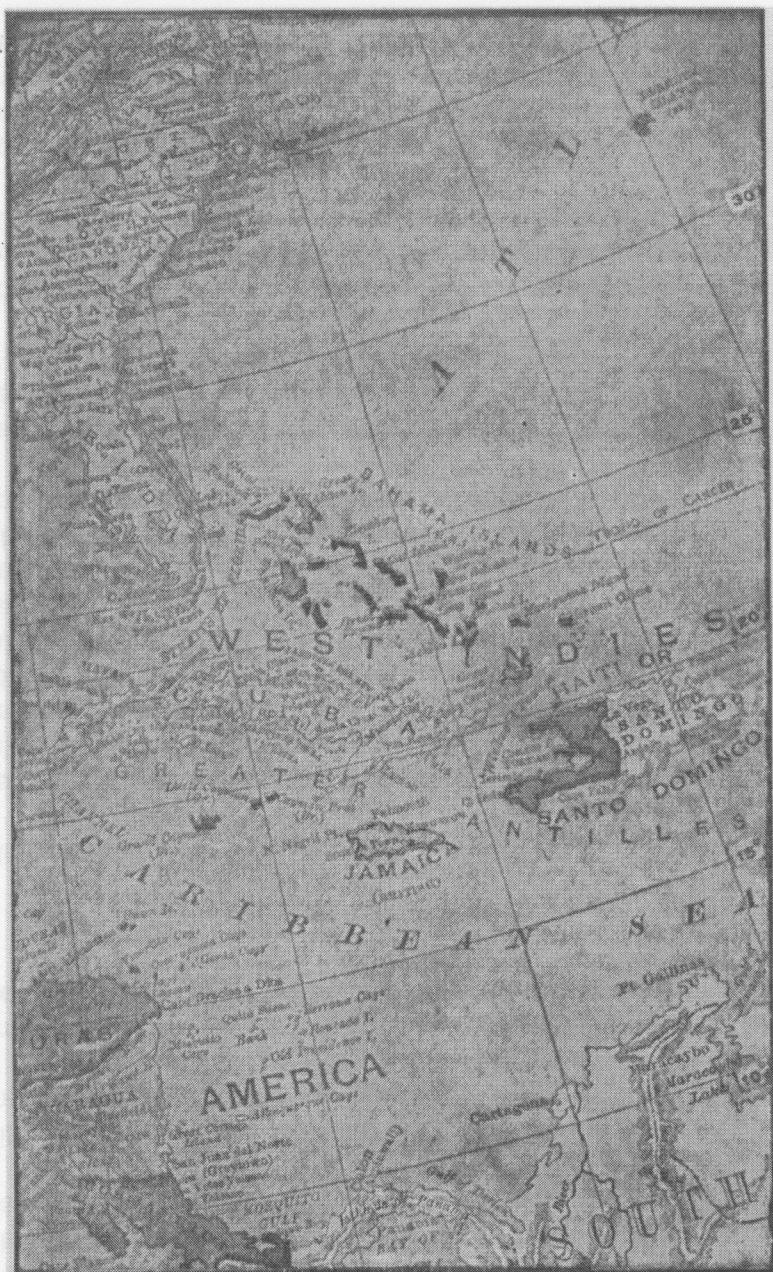
The accompanying map will show the position of these islands.

THE TWO PROVIDENCE ISLANDS.

At the request of Major-General Lefroy, Governor of the Bermudas, who had considerable doubts about the history of the Island of Providence, east of the Mosquito Coast, Mr. W. Noel Sainsbury, Editor of the 'Colonial Calendar of State Papers,' has been at some pains to elucidate the subject, which proves to be as important as it is interesting, and clearly shows that General Lefroy had good reasons for his doubts, for it is now certain that both the early history and the geography of that Island have hitherto been much confused, and indeed mixed up with those of an island of the same name, viz., Providence, one of the principal islands of the Bahamas.

On the 4th of December, 1630, King Charles the First granted to the Earl of Warwick and others two islands. These islands are described in the Patent as Providence, "heretofore called by the name of Catalina," and Henrietta, "heretofore commonly known by the name of Andrea," and as lying between 10° and 20° N. lat., and 290° and 310° long., and will be found in the map between 12° and 14° N. lat.

Now there are preserved in the Public Record Office two contemporary manuscript volumes of the proceedings of the "Company of Providence Island," one volume being their Journal, the other containing a copy of their Patent, also Commissions, Instructions, and Letters to their Governors and other Officers in the said islands, from 1630 to 1641. In the year 1641, Providence Island was taken by the Spaniards, and the English were expelled, and this will account for the record of the English Company's proceedings abruptly terminating in that year. The Spaniards "carefully garrisoned" the island, and seem to have kept possession of it until 1666, when Captain Mansfield surprised and retook Providence Island for the King of England. The Governor of Jamaica then sent Major Samuel Smith, with a small supply of men, to govern Providence Island for His Majesty, who, in November, 1666, appointed Sir James Modyford, brother of the Governor of Jamaica, by letters patent, Governor of the Island of Providence, or St. Catherina. But, before sailing from Portsmouth, Sir James Modyford memorialized the English Government for arms and ammunition, with which he said Providence Island "must be furnished, or on occasion it may be lost else for want thereof, as it was in Anno 1641." When, however, he arrived at Jamaica, Providence had been retaken by the Spaniards, and



OLD AND NEW PROVIDENCE, THE BAHAMA AND BERMUDA ISLANDS.

it was not until April, 1671, that the island was "again possessed by the English privateers on their way to Panama," and that Sir James Modyford "then thought himself bound in honour to go and take possession for His Majesty."

Let us now inquire into the early history of Providence, one of the principal islands of the Bahamas. There is no record of a grant or settlement of this island before 1670. On the 1st of November in that year, King Charles the Second granted to the Duke of Albemarle, Lord Ashley, and others, "all those islands called Bahama, Eleuthera, Providence," &c., which are described in the Patent as between 22° and 27° N. lat., "commonly known by the name of the Bahama Islands, or the Islands of the Lucayos." It appears, then, that there were two separate and distinct grants of two islands of the same name, one dated the 4th of December, 1630, the other the 1st of November, 1670. The limits of each grant are, however, as we have seen, clearly defined; the Providence Island, granted to the Earl of Warwick in 1630, lying between 10° and 20° N. lat., while the Providence Island granted to the Duke of Albemarle in 1670 is between 22° and 27° N. lat. It is curious that there should also be included in both these grants another island of the same name, viz, Andrea, or Andros.

There were no records in the Public Record Office relating to any of the Bahama Islands before a colony was regularly established there, in 1717, until the present Earl of Shaftesbury generously presented his valuable collection of papers to this Office. In this collection, however, are some papers about the first settlement of Providence Island, written between 1671 and 1675, and among them letters from Lord Ashley (the first Earl of Shaftesbury) to Captain John Wentworth, who was appointed by the patentees Governor of Providence Island early in 1671.

How the early history of these two Providence Islands became so confused is not easy to be explained. In the year 1842, a large collection of the Board of Trade papers was transferred, by order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the State Paper Office, and in a Catalogue of this collection the two MS. books of entries aforesaid (1630-1641) of the proceedings of the Company of Providence Island were placed with the Entry Books of the Bahama Islands, and have been so indexed in the volume of the Colonial Calendar of State Papers, printed in 1860. This, however, is now discovered to be a mistake, for neither of these volumes has anything to do with the history of any of the Bahama Islands, but they clearly relate to distinct and separate islands lying east of the Mosquito Coast, and which, as we have seen, were sometimes in the possession of the English and sometimes occupied by the Spaniards, but which now belong to New Granada. Printed books, gazetteers, as well as histories, have been consulted as

to this strange medley, and the mistake frequently occurs, viz., that Providence in the Bahamas was settled from 1629 to 1641 by the English, when the Spaniards expelled them. The 'Colonial Office List' for 1876 prints the same account.

It is curious that Johnston's Gazetteer, a recognized authority at the Foreign Office, has two conflicting accounts of this adventurous island. Thus "Providence" is described as in the Caribbean Sea, 100 m. E. Mosquito Coast, lat. 13° 21' N., long. 81° 22' W., length 10 m., breadth 4 m. *It is fertile but uninhabited*, while "Old Providence" is described as "an island of the Caribbean Sea belonging to New Granada, 100 m. E. Mosquito Coast, lat. 13° 21' N., long. 81° 22' W., breadth 2½ m., length 4½ m. Population (1845) 342, who speak mostly English."

Previous to the passage of the Act of 1650, Captain William Sayle, who is the first patentee named in that Act, had made a settlement on the Island of Eleuthera. This was probably in the year 1647. No complete history of this, the earliest settlement of the Bahamas attempted by Englishmen, has ever been written. Perhaps the materials for it do not exist. Inquiries made by me at the Public Record Office in London in relation to the Act of 1650 have elicited no information. No writer seems to have known of it. The grant of 1670 makes no allusion to this former grant.¹ And yet the recital in the Bolles letter of attorney, drawn as it was by the Clerk of the High Court of Chancery, quoting as it does the title of the Act and giving in full the names of all the Proprietors mentioned therein, is so explicit that there can be no doubt that there was such an Act.² After the restoration, indeed, the existence of a Commission under the Great Seal to Sayle was denied.³

¹ C. P. Lucas of the Colonial Office (Historical Geography of the British Colonies, II. 15, 16, and Note) says that in 1646 Captain William Sayle "obtained or professed to have obtained from the English Parliament a grant of one of the islands in the Bahamas group; and there, with the help of friends in England, he established a colony consisting mainly of Bermudian settlers," but that "no record of the grant has been found, and the son of Captain Sayle apparently failed to establish his proprietary rights."

² Sayle himself, Sept. 9, 1670, when he was Governor of Carolina, in a letter, signed by himself and the Council, to Lord Ashley and the rest of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, says: "The Bahama Islands being lately settled and as yet no patent, may be worth their Lordships' notice." (Cal. State Papers, Col. Series, VII. 86.)

³ About 1665 a controversy arose as to the proprietary rights over the Island of Eleuthera executed by Capt. William Sayle and his son and representative

Referring to the Journal of the House of Commons, we find that, July 25, 1649, "An Act for Encouragement of the Adventurers, who have discovered certain Islands, lying between the Degrees of Twenty-three and an Half and Thirty, North Latitude, from the Equinoctial: and; in Longitude, from *Florida* to the *Summer Islands*" was referred to a Committee of the House of Commons, and after certain amendments had been reported to this Act, which was styled "An Act for the Adventurers for the *Elutherian Islands*," it was finally, Aug. 31, 1649, passed and ordered to be printed and published, its title being "An Act for settling the Islands in the *West Indies*, betwixt the Degrees of Twenty-four and Twenty-nine North Latitude."¹

March 7, 1650-1, The humble Petition of the last Adventurers of the Elutherian Company was read and referred to the Committee of the Navy.²

But although this is so meagre and unsatisfactory, we fortunately have contemporary authority of the greatest weight, for Governor Winthrop, under date of (8) 1648, noting the arrival in Boston from Virginia of "one Mr. Haryson, pastor of the church of Nanseman there," who came to take the advice of the magistrates and elders here whether he and his congregation, on account of the persecutions to which they had been subjected in Virginia, should remove to some other place, adds:—

Nathaniel Sayle, and an investigation was held before the Governor and Council of Bermuda. The appointment in 1661 of certain Deputy Governors of Eleuthera by Nathaniel Sayle "By vertue of a Comission granted unto Capt William Sayle, and divers others, by the Kinge and Parliament of England, to enjoy the Bohamo Islands, and from him to mee," was put in evidence in the case, and a number of persons were examined as to their knowledge of the existence of a Commission under the Great Seal.

"William Barnet sworne, saith, that when hee and Mr Natha: Sayle were together at Elutheria, the said Mr Sayle did read a Comission there in the cave concerning the Governing of the people, the which had a brave seale unto it, but whither it came from his Maiestie, or the State, he knoweth not."

"Peter Sands sworne, saith that hee and Mr Nathaniell Sayle were at Elutheria together. And there was a paper that hade a Seale at it, the which was published in the Cave, but what was the contents of it he knoweth not." (Lefroy's Mem. of the Bermudas, II. 235, 236.) This was the "Cave where they did formerly goe to Service." (*Ibid.*, II. 112.)

No distinct decision of the controversy is found.

¹ Journal of the House of Commons, VI. 270, 283, 284, 288.

² *Ibid.*, VI. 547.

“For the place they should remove to, if necessitated, Mr. Haryson acquainted us with a place allowed and propounded to them, and the occasion of it, which was thus: Captain Wm. Sayle of Summers Islands, having been lately in England, had procured an ordinance of parliament for planting the Bahamas Islands (now called Eleutheria) in the mouth of the gulf of Florida, and wanting means to carry it on, had obtained of divers parliament men and others in London to undertake the work, which they did, and drew up a covenant and articles for all to enter into, who would come into the business. The first article was for liberty of conscience, [1] wherein they provided, that the civil magistrate should not have cognisance of any matter which concerned religion, but every man might enjoy his own opinion or religion, without controul or question, (nor was there any word of maintaining or professing any religion or worship of God at all;) and the commission (by authority of the ordinance of parliament) to captain Sayle to be governor three years was with limitation, that they should be subject to such orders and directions as from time to time they should receive from the company in England &c. Upon these terms they furnished him with a ship and all provisions and necessaries for the design, and some few persons embarked with him, and sailed to the Summers Islands, where they took in Mr. Patrick Copeland, elder of that church, a godly man of near eighty years of age, and so many other of the church there, as they were in the ship in all seventy persons. But in the way to Eleutheria, one captain Butler, a young man who came in the ship from England, made use of his liberty to disturb all the company. He could not endure any ordinances or worship &c. and when they arrived at one of the Eleutheria Islands, and were intended there to settle, he made such a faction, as enforced captain Sayle to remove to another island, and being near the harbour, the ship struck and was cast away. The persons were all saved, save one, but all their provisions and goods were lost, so as they were forced (for divers months) to lie in the open air, and to feed upon such fruits and wild creatures as the island afforded. But finding their strength to decay, and no hope of any relief, captain Sayle took a shallop and eight men, and with such provisions as they could get, and set sail, hoping to attain either the Summers Islands, or Virginia, or New England; and so it pleased the Lord to favour them, that in nine days they arrived in Virginia, their provisions all spent &c. Those of the church relieved them, and furnished them with a bark and provisions to return to relieve their company left in Eleutheria. Captain Sayle, finding the church in this

[1] Eleuthera and Eleutheria, the Greek *Ἐλευθερα* (free) and *Ἐλευθερία* (freedom). The early name of Eleuthera was Cigatoo or Sigatoo. It is found under various other forms of spelling. New Providence was at one time called Sayle's Island.

state, persuaded them to remove to Eleutheria, which they began to listen unto, but after they had seen a copy of his commission and articles &c. (though he undertook to them, that the company in England would alter any thing they should desire, yet) they paused upon it (for the church were very orthodox and zealous for the truth) and would not resolve before they had received advice from us. Whereupon letters were returned to them, dissuading them from joining with that people under those terms.”¹

In “The general description of America, or the New World,”² which bears no date, the writer, whose name is not given, says:—

“‘since I petitioned for these islands, which was six years ago, and my abilities hindered my prosecution, Capt. Sayle and others obtained a patent,’ went to an island he called Illethuria, where his ship was wrecked, but the people saved. ‘I saw him after his escape in a small boat of three tons, recovering Virginia, where he procured a pinnace of near 25 tons, with which he carried relief to those he left on the islands;’ but understood afterwards from said Sayle that none of them knew the place or were ever there before.”

In 1649 there was an uprising of the Royalist party in Bermuda and many of the Independents, enemies to “the Kinge company & countrey,” were banished to Eleuthera,³ where their sufferings “stirred up the hearts of their Christian friends in *New England*, to manifest their exceeding Bounty towards them, by a charitable Contribution of at least six or seven hundred Pounds sterling” as stated by “Mr. *Philip Chadock*, who sayled by our Island in *June* last, in a Vessel laden with all maner of Provisions and other Necessaries for them, in case they are in want.”⁴

The Council of State, Whitehall, under date of December 23, 1656, informed the Commander-in-Chief of the English naval forces in Jamaica, Admiral Goodson,

“that about sixty Protestant English having been driven from their residence in the Somer Islands through the violent persecution of some

¹ Winthrop's Journal, II. 334-336.

² Cal. State Papers, Col. Series, V. 350.

³ Lefroy's Mem. of the Bermudas, I. 654.

⁴ Letter of Capt. Josias Fforster from Bermuda to the Honorable Company of Adventurers for the Sommer Islands, London, dated Sept. 7, 1650. Lefroy's Mem. of the Bermudas, II. 9. See also Wonder Working Providence of Sion's Saviour in New England, p. 231.

ill-affected persons there, have gone to Eleuthera, where they have suffered much hardship; he is requested to send a vessel thither to invite them to Jamaica.”¹

But they had already left Eleuthera and returned to Bermuda, “all those sentences of former Banishment” having been declared “to be vnjust *voyd* and null.”²

The Bermuda shipping-list³ for this and the following years show many arrivals and departures of vessels from and to Eleuthera carrying both goods and passengers. Under date of June 4, 1663,

“a small vessell . . . to Elutheria with necessarie goods sent to Elutheria for the reliefe of the inhabitants in their great distresse by their friends in these Islands.”

On the first of November, 1670, King Charles the Second granted to Christopher, Duke of Albemarle, William, Earl of Craven, John, Lord Berkeley, Anthony, Lord Ashley, Sir George Carteret, and Sir Peter Colleton, their heirs and assigns, “all those islands called Bahama, Eleutheria, Ucanis (?), Providence, Inagua, and all other those islands lying in the degrees of 22 to 27 north lat., commonly known by the name of the Bahama Islands, or the Islands of the Lucayos.”⁴

About the year 1666 colonists from the Bermudas went to New Providence and began a settlement there. In 1682 it was attacked and laid waste by the Spaniards,⁵ and in 1703

¹ Cal. State Papers, Col. Series, I. 453; Lefroy's Mem. of the Bermudas, II. 98.

² Lefroy's Mem. of the Bermudas, II. 4, 20, 84, 86.

³ *Ibid.*, I. 716, 726-734.

⁴ Cal. State Papers, Col. Series, VII. 122.

⁵ In the Massachusetts Archives (Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 83, 200) there are two petitions of Jeremiah Dummer and others, one to the President and Council filed Sept. 15, 1686, and one to Sir Edmund Andros, Governor, filed Jan. 6, 1686, reciting that the petitioners are the owners of a tract of land, a township in Casco Bay, which was somewhat begun and “Called North Yarmouth,” that “in July Last past Arriued at this town of Boston from Illutherea one of the Bahama Islands many famyls haueing ben spoiled by the Spaniards of all they possessed & Driuen off Naked & destitute,” that most of the “Distressed people” are willing to settle in Casco Bay, and they pray that some of the “wast & Interjacent” lands and islands at the head of the Bay may be added to the township, the petitioners agreeing, if this is done, to “aduance mony for their Support & Supply & Settlement on s^d Land.”

This petition was granted, and about nine families were removed to Casco Bay at the charge of the petitioners. The new settlers, however, in a petition to Sir

the English inhabitants were driven out by the French and Spaniards combined. After remaining for some years a rendezvous for pirates, Captain Woodes Rogers was at length sent to put down piracy and establish a regular government, and the Bahamas became a British dependency.

During the American Revolution, New Providence was taken and plundered by an American squadron under the command of Commodore Hopkins, but no attempt was made to retain possession of the island. In 1781 it was captured by the Spaniards, but was retaken in 1783 by some American Loyalists under Colonel Deveaux,¹ and by the treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was finally restored to Great Britain.

THE PATENTEES.

Of the twenty-six proprietors named in the Act of 1650, recited in the letter of attorney of John Bolles, some came to New England, while many of the others, although they did not leave the land of their birth, were yet closely connected, by various ties, with New England and New England people. It would exceed the limits prescribed for this paper to go much into detail respecting them, but the following extracts from my notes, although in some cases fragmentary and needing further elaboration, will yet serve as clues to enable some future investigator to continue these researches.

JOHN BOLLES.

John Bolles,² son of Thomas Bolles of Osberton, Co. Nottingham, was baptized in Worksop, Co. Nottingham, July 3, 1603.

Edmund Andros, Governor, filed July 12, 1687, by "Nicolas Davis, Nath. Sanders John Albery & Daniell Sanders in y^e behalfe of selues, families & y^e rest of o^r Company y^t was on y^e same accompt with vs" recite that "we were forced to desert y^e plantation because wee had not food to subsist there to o^r great damage & vndoing, for now wee are in a farr worse condition yⁿ we were before we went thither, not knowing w^t course to take to subsist hauing worne out o^r cloths & wasted y^t little we had," and they pray for relief. (Mass. Archives, CXXVI. 387.)

¹ Lieut.-Col. Andrew Deveaux, Jr., of South Carolina, Lieut.-Col. in the Loyal Militia. See Sabine's *Loyalists of the American Revolution*, I. 377, II. 506.

² In the *Harleian Society's Publications* (IV. 94, 95), Visitation of the County of Nottingham, is the following pedigree of Bolles:—