

I have the original commissions appointing Winthrop Hilton, Captain, Lieut. Colonel and Commander of all the forces for the Eastern Expedition. First, that of Captain, is dated Oct. 7, 1703, 2nd year of Queen Anne. It was written by Chas. Story, Sec'y, and signed by Gov. J. Dudley, with his own hand, and sealed with his official seal. The paper is yellowish, coarse and very tender, breaking easily where the document has been folded; but no word is obliterated. It would not last three days in rough hands. I have studied such things much, both here and in England, and I can read every letter of it, seal and all. The seal is from a round die about two inches in diameter, impressed on a piece of the paper, laid over wax. The escutcheon in the middle of the seal is about three-quarters of an inch long and nearly square. It is divided into four quarters—in two of them 3 lions and 3 fleur de lis—in one of the other two quarters is a lion rampant and in the other a harp. Over the centre is a very small shield with a lion rampant on it. This is the British coat now, or nearly so. The supporters are a lion and a unicorn, and the crown of England for a crest. In a circle around the shield are the words "Honi Soit Qui Mal y Pense." Under it, "Dieu et mon droit." Around the whole, in Latin, "Seal of the Province of New Hampshire in North America." This seems to be all. I could describe this coat in more technical language, but people would not so well understand it.\*

The other commission is written by Isaac Addington, Sec'y. It is in due form, like the first, from "Joseph Dudley, Esq., Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over her Majesty's Provinces of the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire in New England, in

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Portsmouth, 6 May, 1705.

\*SIR:—I herewith send you a good soldier, the son of Capt. Tuttle, whom I desire you to put into your list and muster roll, and in a day or two send him to Dover to Capt. Tuttle to be serviceable there; and I will have him kept upon your list and the pay of the province for necessary service of the Government there.

I am Sir,

Your humble servant,

J. DUDLEY,

DEAR COUSIN:—I desire you to get as soon as you can to Casco Bay, and there rest you till a good season of frost will allow you to visit Norridgewalk, Amascontic and Rocomecoy or what Places honest Lt. Bean shall advise you. Be not in haste if the weather hinder, stay the longer. Somewhere in this march, we shall have yet a good time. I would not have you come in without a good march because we had none last year.

Your servant,

J. DUDLEY.

To Col. Hilton,

Commanding the forces Eastward.

J. Dudley,

To be forwarded by Mr. Secretary Story.

Note by D. Dudley: I have these original letters and most of them were never before published. Several more will appear in the sketch of Col. Hilton; also some letters of the Col.