

#607 Salem Rebellion, Salem Witchcraft – The Boston-Salem *Rebellion* of the Mathers in conjunction with the 1688 Glorious Revolution, part 3, The Dominion of New England, 1686-1689

The Dominion of New England, 1686-1689. In 1686, King James II joined all of New England in an administrative merger. It was called the Dominion of New England, into which Massachusetts (including Maine), Plymouth Colony, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire were consolidated. Boston served as its capital. In 1688, New York and the Jerseys were added. The primary reason for this move by King James II was because of the continued military threat posed by the French and their Indian allies in North America. England wanted to tighten control to protect its colonies, and from England’s viewpoint, the colonies were already increasingly interdependent. Colonial charters, such as those of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, were withdrawn.



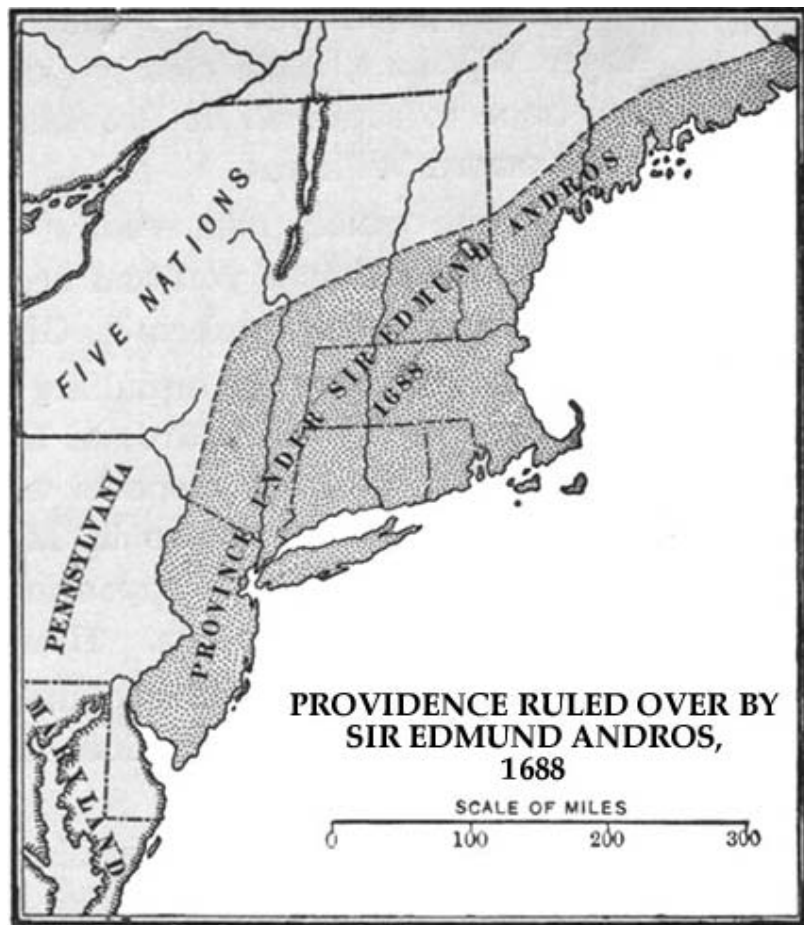
Sir Edmund Andros

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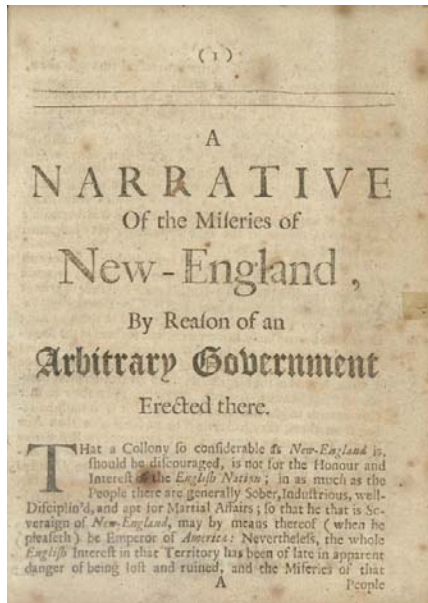
Joseph Dudley served briefly as the first governor of the Dominion, but was replaced by Sir Edmund Andros.

Andros angered the colonists by limiting towns to a single annual meeting, by limiting the legislatures, and, to the chagrin of New England merchants, by attempting to end smuggling through strict enforcement of the

Navigation Acts. He attempted to unify colonial military responses, which was one of the chief objectives of the Dominion of New England, but with virtually no result. Also disliked by the Puritans was the 1687 Declaration of Indulgence, which prohibited discrimination against Catholics. Andros further infuriated the Puritan colonists of Boston by openly affiliating with the Church of England.



Increase Mather and Cotton Mather vs. Sir Edmund Andros and the Dominion of New England. Because of the withdrawal of the Massachusetts Bay Colony charter, **Increase Mather was a particularly bitter opponent of Edmund Andros and the Dominion of New England.**



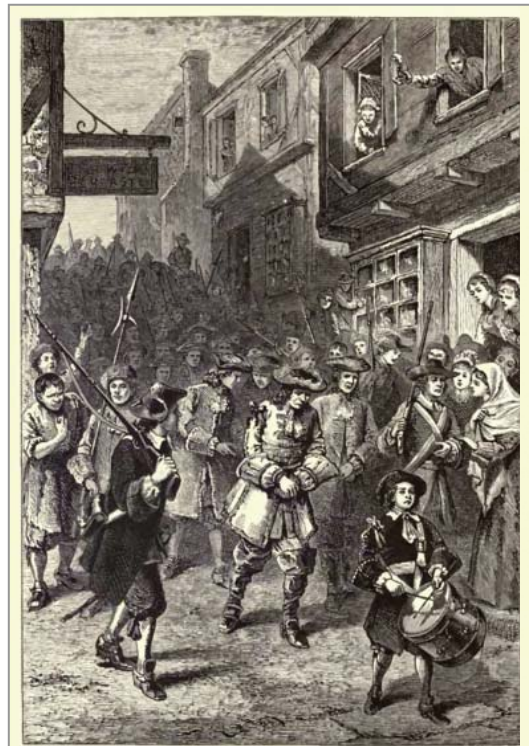
In 1688, eluding spies out to catch him, he departed for London to present the grievances of Massachusetts to King James II. While there he published pieces to build popular support for his petition, such as *A Narrative of the Miseries of New-England, By Reason of an Arbitrary Government Erected there Under Sir Edmund Andros* (1688).

In the meantime, the Glorious Revolution of 1688 unfolded, deposing King James II from the throne. The Dominion of New England came to an abrupt halt in April 1689 when word arrived in the colonies about the arrival in England of William III.

Key Understanding: *The Glorious Revolution ends the Dominion of New England.* Thus, the Glorious Revolution is why the Dominion of New England had the short lifespan in the colonies of the time period of 1686-1689.

In Massachusetts, with his father in England, Cotton Mather was among the leaders of a successful revolt against Sir Edmund Andros. In April 1689, Andros was deposed, arrested, and imprisoned. He had attempted to flee from Boston dressed in women's clothing, but boots showing beneath his dress led to his discovery. In New York, Andros's deputy, Francis Nicholson, was deposed soon afterward and the inter-colonial union of the Dominion of New England was dissolved. Andros was sent to England for trial in 1690, but was immediately released without being tried.

1 Samuel 15:23 (KJV) FOR [1688-1692 Mather] REBELLION [in conjunction with the Glorious Revolution/English Bill of Rights of 1688-1689] IS AS THE SIN OF WITCHCRAFT, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.



“Andros a Prisoner in Boston” as depicted in “Pioneers in the Settlement of America” Vol. 1, by William A. Crafts (1876)

<< [Previous](#)

[Main Page and List of Unsealing Summaries](#)

[Next](#) >>