

The one who fills the largest space in this memorial, is Major Samuel Appleton, who emigrated with his father in 1635. His letters from Hadley, whilst holding the chief command of the troops on Connecticut river, show him to have been a man of good education and of decided character; whilst the perseverance with which he held out under the persecution of Sir Edmund Andros is a circumstance to which his descendants may refer with some degree of pride. The opposition made by the town of Ipswich to the arbitrary act of Sir Edmund Andros and his council in levying a tax without an assembly, or in other words, to the principle of taxation without representation, has hardly received the notice in history to which it seems to be entitled. It was in fact the premonitory symptom, the shadowing forth of that greater struggle for the same principle, which resulted in the independence of the country. In this opposition of the town of Ipswich, three of the Appletons appear to have been parties. Capt. John, at whose house the meeting was held the evening previous to the town meeting; his son, Lieut. John, who was town clerk and selectman; and Major Samuel, who had been Assistant previous to the arrival of Sir Edmund Andros.

It is true that the arbitrary power of Sir Edmund