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## CONTENTS.

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EDITORIAL NOTE . . . . .	PAGE vii
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### TRUMBULL PAPERS.

Early Miscellaneous Papers . . . . .	1-209
Letters of Dr. William Samuel Johnson . . . . .	211-490
Letters of Colonel Jedediah Huntington . . . . .	491-518

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INDEX . . . . .	519-546
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PROPRIETORS ADMITTED OF NARRAGANSETT LANDS, BY  
HUMPHREY ATHERTON OR HIS ASSIGNS.

*The Names of the Chief Proprietors of the Lands of the Narragansett, Niantick, and Cowesett Countries, chosen and admitted by Major Humphry Atherton, deceased, or his assigns, viz.:*—

JN <sup>o</sup> WINTHROP,	} Esqs.	INCREASE ATHERTON.
SIMON BRADSTREET,		MAJOR WINTHROP.
DAN <sup>l</sup> DENISON,		WAITE WINTHROP.
JOSIAH WINSLOW,		THOMAS DEAN.
THOMAS WILLETT,		ELISHA HUTCHINSON.
JN <sup>o</sup> BROWN,		W <sup>m</sup> TAILER.
THOMAS CHIFFINCH.		RIC <sup>p</sup> WHARTON.
RIC <sup>p</sup> SMITH, Sen <sup>r</sup> .		JN <sup>o</sup> SAFFIN.
RIC <sup>p</sup> SMITH, Jun <sup>r</sup> .		JAMES SMITH.
EDW: HUTCHINSON.		FRANCIS BRENLEY.
W <sup>m</sup> HUDSON.	THO: STANTON, Sen <sup>r</sup> .	
AMOS RICHARDSON.	THO: STANTON, Jun <sup>r</sup> .	
SIMON LYNDE.	JN <sup>o</sup> SCOTT.	
RIC <sup>p</sup> LORD.		

Twenty-seven in all.

This a true copy of the names of the proprietors given to my Lord Culpeper, when here in N. E.<sup>1</sup>

Indorsed, "Copia of the names of the proprietors given my Lord Culpeper, Ano. 1681."

<sup>1</sup> Lord Culpepper, Governor of Virginia, came over to that Colony in April, 1680, but returned to England the same year by the way of Boston. The proprietors of the Narragansett Company had this year petitioned the King, setting forth their grievances against Rhode Island, and praying to be set off from that government or to be made a separate government of themselves; and through John Saffin, a member of the Company, the interest of Lord Culpepper was gained in their favor. The number of proprietors was now increased; and Lord Culpepper, who soon afterward returned to Virginia, had acquired one sixteenth interest in all the lands of the Company, and he petitioned the Crown in their behalf. In 1683 a commission was issued to Edward Cranfield, Governor of New Hampshire, and eight others, to examine and report on the King's Province. Their decision, both as to soil and jurisdiction, was adverse to Rhode Island. But Rhode Island would not yield. Soon afterward the government of this Colony fell, and Andros

## RICHARD WHARTON TO WAITE WINTHROP.

*These to Capt. Waite Winthrop, or in his absence for Major John Winthrop, at New London. — To be left with Mr. Smith, who is desired carefully and speedily to convey it.*

BOSTON, July 16, 1683.

DEAR BROTHER WINTHROP, — At Piscataway the Narraganset Commission came to my hands,<sup>1</sup> and was presented to Governor Cranfield, who intends to-morrow to be here, and on Wednesday to consult the other Commissioners, and to appoint time and place of session, and to send forth significations to the Colonies and persons concerned, and to consider upon methods for the Court's proceedings. The Major's presence is (by all here that are concerned in that affair) thought absolutely needful to fix and prepare some fickle spirits, who otherwise, it's feared, may be influenced to our prejudice. There will, it's probable, be some motions to Roud Island, which can be of no good effect; but the Major's company may prevent, therefore if possible bring him with you.

All yours and mine, blessed be God, are in good health. Brother C.<sup>2</sup> still languishes: things there in the same posture as you left them. The swordman is now at Salem upon his last errand, resolving now either to effect his business or bid a perpetual adieu.

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was installed as Governor of New England. He was appealed to, to lend a hand in settlement of this prolonged controversy, and in the year 1687 an agreement was effected. But questions of jurisdiction continued occasionally to arise between Connecticut and Rhode Island, in which the territory of the Atherton or Narragansett Company formed the subject, and it is difficult to say when peace was really established. See Arnold's History of Rhode Island, I. 464, 466, 469, 474, 479, 507, 530, 534. — Eds.

<sup>1</sup> See this paper, dated April 17, 1683, and the Commissioners' Report, in 1 Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll., I. 232-244. — Eds.

<sup>2</sup> "Brother C." is probably John Curwen of Salem, who had married Margaret Winthrop, the sister of Richard Wharton's wife, and who had really died four days before the date of this letter. — Eds.