

although there was a grant of the soil, yet that grant could not be taken advantage of, without the consent of the Crown.

And yet, that it was necessary to extend some kind of jurisdiction over it in order to defend the claim to it against the incroachments of other nations.

There were no people there but the French, and Savages devoted to that nation. It could not be readily peopled by English families, and therefore a grant to Massachusetts was the only proper expedient to support the English claim, and to save the expence of a Government where there were no subjects to pay it.

Views & Interests
of
Massachusetts

§. 39. The Massachusetts, on the other hand, considered the grant as vesting a property in it, as a Corporation; that the defence of the territory was by the Charter devolved on them, and were really at great expence for its defence and support.

§. 40.

§. 40. The Agent for His Majesty can by no means contend, that a recollection of the grant to Sir William Alexander or the ideas of the boundary of Nova Scotia would raise an opinion that the Charter of the province of Massachusetts after the year 1691. did not extend east of the province of Maine, or of Sagadahock River, or that any part of it was void on account of a supposed interference with a former Charter.

§. 41. That an idea prevailed in the Court of London, at a very early day, of restricting the Charter, will appear from a variety of circumstances, which will serve to shew that there was a want of consistency, or, at least, a want of information in the Board of Trade and Plantations, at, and soon after the date of the Charter of William and Mary.

§. 42.

That the Patent of Sir W^m Alexander did not suggest the boundary

A want of consistency in the British Government.