

and proceedings of that Government in the Secretary's office in Massachusetts; but it is said that there were more of them in New-York. In the year 1671, The Government of Massachusetts attempted to determine their east boundary; and considering their patent to extend three miles north of every and any part of the river Merrimack, and to be bounded on an east and west line from thence extended to the Atlantic, on the one part, and the South Sea, on the other, stretched a line by astronomical observations from three miles north of where the river issues out of the Lake Winnepesaukee, and come to the eastward of Pemaquid on the sea-shore. This was a strong assault on the Duke's Government; but the Indian war put an end to the civil controversy before the parties became warmly engaged in it.

Massachusetts
attempt to settle
their
Eastern-Line

§. 70. There was never any kind of regular government on the east of Kennebeck, excepting that under the Duke of York until the charter of William and Mary to Massachusetts was extended over it. The country being thus without a government, and liable to the French claims incessantly urged against the English, and the plan of one general Government, so long attempted, being entirely defeated; it was thought best to place the four northern New-England provinces, viz Plymouth, Massachusetts, the province of Maine, and the province which had been under the Duke of York, under one colonial Government, to which it was prudent to add the whole of the country on the continent stretching northward, then under the British claim. When the country was again by the treaty of Utrecht, within the dominions of the English King

Government
there.