

Same time Requires us to assemble in military array by force of arms to Repell all invaders. Martial law is published throughout the province and civil authority made Subordinate. Exorbitant taxes are Required of us to Support the conscription. Under these circumstances we find it is impracticable for us to continue as Neutrals, and to Subsist without Commerce.

[Explanation of why they consider the actions of Great Britain to be tyrannical is identical with that in the Minutes. See top of p 5.]

The Inhabitants of this place after mature consideration have thought first to Submit themselves to your government and Desire your protection, and that you would esteem the River St. Johns as a part of your province which would add thereto a valuable extent of territory though at present with few Inhabitants; and we promise in behalf of the Inhabitants to adopt such measures as you Shall advise for our future conduct, and we are Ready with our lives and fortunes to share with you the Event of the present Struggles for Liberty, however God in his Providence may order it ---

We therefore, Humbly ask your Protection for us and for our People and that you would grant us Such Relief and assistance as you in your wisdom Shall think proper

The petition was accepted by the Massachusetts House of Representatives on June 20 and its Council concurred two days later.

On June 26th both Massachusetts Houses resolved: ⁸

That the Commisary General be and hereby is directed to deliver one Barrell of Gun Powder, Three hundred and fifty Flints and Two hundred and fifty Weight of Lead from the Colony Stores to Asa Pearly and Asa Kimball, or their order, agents of the Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of the County of Sunbury, for the use of their Constituents, and that they, the said Pearly and Kimball be accountable to this County for the same and that the said agents have liberty to purchase from each of the Inhabitants of this Colony as shall be Willing to part with the same Forty Standard smali arms for the use of the Constituents, and that the Committee of Correspondence in any of the Sea Ports within this Colony, are directed to grant permits to the said agents to Transport the same or any other Goods or merchandise that may legally be Transported from Port to Port within this Colony.

At that time people in that part of Nova Scotia also requested military help from General Washington and from the Continental Congress but the Americans were unable to stage an invasion of the province. Surprisingly, the government of Nova Scotia very adroitly backed down, suspending the troublesome acts and dissolving the assembly that passed them! The agitation was dying down. Boston was silent about the offer of union from the Committee of Sunbury County, and in September the Sunbury Committee sent Francis Shaw to Massachusetts for more action but without result.

John Allen and Johathan Eddy were encouraged by the action in Sunbury and raised a small army in northern Maine. They marched on Ft. Beausejour where they were joined by about 300 other settlers from western Nova Scotia including the signers of the Maugerville resolutions, also some natives, and all laid siege to the fort. During the night, however, reinforcements for the garrison arrived and overwhelmed the settlers, who took to the woods or were captured. The government of Nova Scotia was generous in its pardons, and the war effort played out. Only three men of Maugerville chose exile rather taking the oath of allegiance. ⁹

⁸ *Massachusetts Archives*, Vol. 144, 158-159

⁹ Kerr, *op cit* and Tim Frick, *op cit*, p 54