

principles on which the church had been established, they found themselves involved in difficulties which every day became more embarrassing. The trial of the bishops was the crisis of their loyalty. It was justly regarded as a kind of declaration of war by the monarch against the national establishment and all the friends of that establishment felt themselves coerced to take measures for its defence and protection."

As a well-known consequence of King James's efforts to promote the interests of the Roman Catholics and blight those of the Protestants, a revolution was inaugurated in England for his overthrow. An urgent petition of the churchmen and tories was addressed and carried to William, Prince of Orange, the stadtholder of the United Netherlands, to come to England and assist them in maintaining the Protestant religion. Although the distinguished Hollander was the husband of Mary, King James's eldest daughter, he was held in high esteem by the English Protestants for vigorously upholding the religious liberty of the Continental Protestants, while strenuously opposing the sinister designs of Louis XIV. of France, who was seeking to disunite the Netherland provinces and bring them under his power.

The landing of the Holland stadtholder, at Torbay, in Devonshire, on November 5, 1688, while assuring the English Protestants of his willingness to aid them in protecting themselves in the enjoyment of their religious privileges, did not obtain at first the joyful and general recognition that it was expected to receive. So small was the number of those who came there to welcome him and place themselves at his command that he began to entertain thoughts of returning immediately to Holland. The period of his despondency, however, was short and he was surprised to find his following soon augmented by large accessions of men of rank and martial distinction. On learning the formidableness of the army marshalled under the prince's banners and seeing the daily diminution of his own forces, King James abandoned his throne and fled in December to France.

The intelligence that William, Prince of Orange, had landed in England and that King James had taken refuge in France forthwith stimulated the Protestant citizens of Boston to release themselves from the authority and power of Sir Edmund Andros, then governor of New England by commission of King James. On April 18, 1689, a delegation of resolute men was sent to Governor Andros to demand his relinquishment of the official power exercised by him. His contemptuous declination to accede to the dictation of the committee greatly exasperated the excited people, who thereupon debarred him of his liberty to act as governor by putting him in prison.

The summary manner in which the Protestants of Boston released themselves from the burden of their apprehensions of Governor Andros's ability to