

handwriting in existence. It is a good, plain hand. It can speak well for itself, so I will say no more, but give a correct copy of it.

#### WILL OF GOV. THOMAS DUDLEY.

This is the last will and testament of me, Thomas Dudley, of Roxbury in New England, made in my perfect health the six and

We find no mention of any portraits or other pictures in Gov. Thomas Dudley's will or inventory. Is it possible that he never had any? I am inclined to think he had given his daughter Anne some, which were burned with her house at Andover. She says in her writings, that all such things were thus destroyed there.

There are portraits of most of the Governors and noted men of his time but none of him, his wives or any of his children by the first wife. Probably no portrait painter came to New England till after his day. But some portraits were brought over with the pilgrims when they came in the *Arbella* fleet.

No likeness of Gov. Dudley is mentioned in any of his children's wills. If he left no likeness of himself, and no account of his father or mother, it was just for Mr. James Savage to say of him, "there was a rigidity in his private life," although no other historian has said so. He perhaps obeyed too literally the injunction about forsaking father and mother to follow Christ.

In 1642, when Gov. Dudley was alive, his daughter, in his elegy on Sir Philip Sidney, declares that she has the self-same blood in her veins as Sidney had. How did she get that idea? Of course from her father. Her husband, too, might have told her so, for he had been almost brought up by Dudley, having lived with him in his youth when both resided with the Earl of Lincoln. She does not say she is descended from Sidney's grandfather Dudley, but from some of his ancestors. That is the meaning of her words I cannot doubt. And the seal on her father's will, with a crescent shows that he belonged to the second house, or branch of the original family by the name, which had a right to bear the arms without any sign of difference.

This was a legal right in England, and of much value, so that an honest and intelligent man would not err in it, and steal another's insignia to deceive people. Is it to be supposed that Gov. Dudley would not know his rights, when estates and fortunes were dependent upon such evidence?

In 1852, when Thomas Gill Esq., was Register of Probate for Suffolk County, Mass., I got him to certify to the Seal on Gov. Thomas Dudley's Will. This is the form of his certificate:

#### "THOMAS DUDLEY'S SEAL.

A lion rampant, with a crescent for difference. The original Will, in Suffolk Probate Office, bears date Apr. 26, 1652.



THOMAS GILL, Reg."

The seal was also tricked with pen and ink on the above certificate as here shown by the engraving. This original certificate I have preserved. D. D.