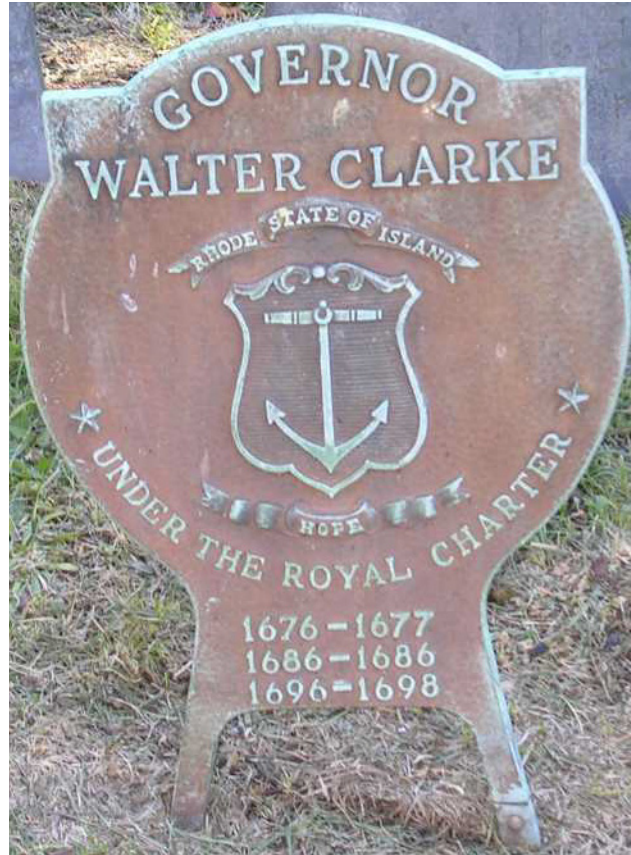


FRIEND WALTER CLARKE



1640

[Walter Clarke](#) was born in [Newport](#), son of [Friend](#) Jeremiah (Jeremy) Clarke and Friend Frances Latham Clarke.

After touring New England, including [Rhode Island](#), a Mr. Lechford reported for the benefit of the stay-at-home English that “at the island ... there is a church where one Master Clarke is pastor.” (He would add, while back in England revising his manuscript for the press, that he had since heard that this church was no more — there had arisen a controversy respecting BIBLE authority and the existence upon earth of a visible church,

BAPTISTS



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

which had caused some members of the congregation to become first Seekers and then [Quakers](#).)



AQUIDNECK ISLAND

JOHN CLARKE

At this point a group of Massachusetts dissenters, who eventually would become [Quakers](#), resettled themselves at Gravesend, Brooklyn, Paumanacke (Paumanok Long Island) in order to live under the protection of the Dutch government.

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE****FRIEND WALTER CLARKE****GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM**

David Pietersz De Vries leased out Staten Island for use as a pig farm because his plantation there had failed to attract settlers. When a few of the pigs were mysteriously unlocatable, Governor Willem Kieft sent 100 armed men to the island, who killed several Raritan tribespeople, including a sachem. In retaliation the Raritan burned a farm and killed four Dutch workmen. When a Dutch immigrant ship was wrecked on Sandy Hook, New Jersey, its crew and passengers managed to get ashore and set out for Manhattan Island. Penelope van Princis Kent (1622-1732) of Amsterdam, however, needed to remain behind with her seriously ill husband John Kent. A party of Raritan found them on the beach and killed the husband. They stripped and wounded Penelope and left her for dead. This would come to be known as the “Pig War.”

Penelope would be carried by Lenni Lenape natives to New Amsterdam, where she would remarry, with Richard Stout, return to New Jersey, bear ten children, and survive to the age of 110.



The story goes on to relate that all the shipwrecked people were safely landed from the stranded ship. But Penelope’s husband who had been sick for most of the voyage was taken so ill after getting on shore that he could not travel with the rest and for that reason could not march. The others were so afraid of the Indians that they would not remain until he recovered but hastened away to New Amsterdam promising to send relief as soon as they arrived. The wife alone remained behind with her



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husband. They were left on the beach and the others had not been long gone before a company of Indians coming down to the water side discovered them and hastening to the spot soon killed the man and cut and mangled the woman in such a manner that they left her for dead. They departed after having stripped them of all their clothing. The wife's skull was fractured and her left shoulder so hacked that she could never use that arm like the other she was also cut across the abdomen so that the bowels protruded these kept in with her hands. After the Indians were gone the wife revived and crawled to a hollow tree or log where she remained for shelter several days one account says seven subsisting on what she could find to eat. The Indians had left some fire on the beach and this she kept burning for warmth. At length two Indians an old man and a young one coming to the shore saw her. The Indians as she afterward learned disputed what should be done with her the elderly man was for keeping her alive while the younger was for killing her. The former had his way and taking her on his shoulders carried her to a place near where Middletown now stands and dressed her wounds and soon healed them. After this Benedict says he carried her to New Amsterdam and made a present of her to her countrymen.

1675

Friend Walter Clarke was appointed deputy governor of Rhode Island.



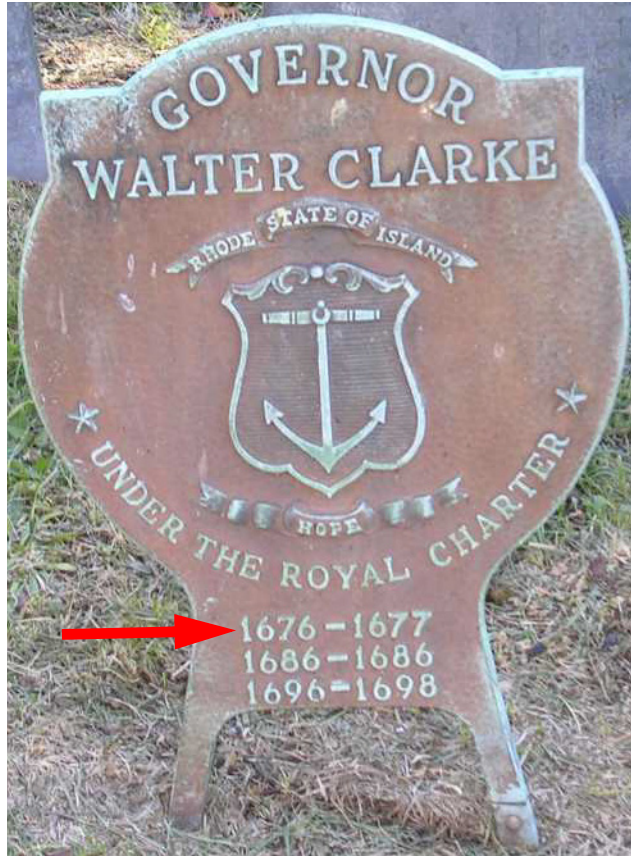
GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

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1676

May: The deputy governor, [Friend Walter Clarke](#), was elected governor of [Rhode Island](#).





FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

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1679

In [Rhode Island](#), deputy governor and attorney general John Cranston¹ became president, and would serve as such for the remainder of his life (he would die on March 12, 1680). After his term as governor, [Friend Walter Clarke](#) was again appointed deputy governor, and would serve in this post until re-elected as governor in 1686.

At about this point, in [Dartmouth](#), Eliashib Smith was born. (We know that [John Smith](#) had thirteen children and that the initial five, Hassadiah, John, Josiah, Eliazer, and Hezekiah, were born to his 1st wife, [Friend Deborah Howland Smith](#). The will makes it clear that Hannah, Sarah, and Deborah were born to the 2d wife, [Friend Ruhamah Kirby Smith](#). About Judah, Gershom, Deliverance, Mehitabel, and Eliashib we infer that they also were born to the 2d wife Ruhaman. As to how it was that so many children were being born to a 2d Quaker wife while the 1st Quaker wife was still alive, and as to the details of the movement of the Smith family from Plymouth to Dartmouth, the record is silent.)

1684

March 6, Thursday (1683, Old Style): In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), [Friend Walter Clarke](#) got married with the widowed [Friend Freeborn Hart Williams](#), age 47.

1. John Cranston had been born in 1625 in Scotland/England and had come to America in about 1637, “licensed to administer physic and practice chirurgery throughout the whole colony.” He had been attorney general of the colony since 1654 and deputy governor since 1672, and during King Phillip’s war had been the major general in command of all the colony’s militia. He was governor of the colony at his death on March 12, 1679/1680 in Newport. He is buried in Newport’s Common Burial Ground. John married Mary Clarke on June 3, 1658 in Newport. Mary Clarke had been born in 1641 in Newport. She would die, after a remarriage, on April 7, 1711 in Newport and be buried in Newport’s Common Burial Ground. They had the following children:

Samuel Cranston was born on August 16, 1659. He married Mary Hart during 1680 in Newport. Mary was born during 1663 in Newport. She died on September 17, 1710 in Newport and was buried in Newport’s Clifton Burial Ground. Samuel would become, in 1698, like his father a president of Rhode Island, and would be 30 times successively chosen, holding this office until his death on April 26, 1727 in Newport — probably longer than any other American politician ever required to seek annual re-election. The city of Cranston, Rhode Island would be named for Governor Samuel Cranston. (The Quaker meetinghouse that was new there in 1729, “new” to distinguish it at the time from their older meetinghouse, still stands.)

James Cranston was born 1661 in Newport. He died 16 September 1662 in Newport.

Caleb Cranston was born about 1662 and died before 1711.

Jeremiah Cranston was born about 1663 in Newport. He died about 1678 in Newport.

Mary Cranston was born 27 January 1665 in Newport. She died 24 Mar 1666 in Newport.

Benjamin Cranston was born about 1668.

William Cranston was born about 1670 in Newport.

Elizabeth Cranston was born about 1671 and died 3 June 1736.

John Cranston was born about 1675 in Newport.

Peleg Cranston was born 1677 in Newport.



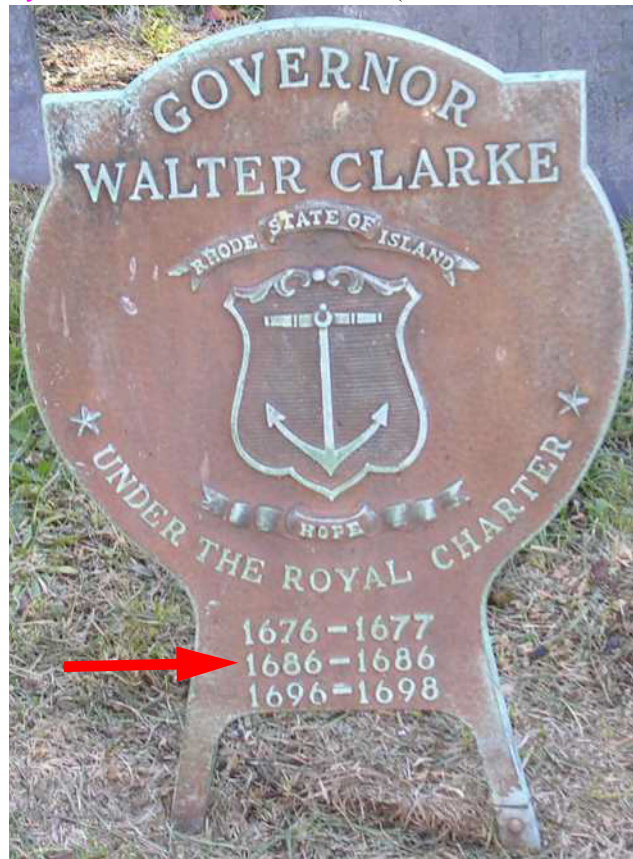
GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

1686

In [Rhode Island](#), the deputy governor, Friend [Walter Clarke](#), was again elected governor, until the Charter superseded him by [Royal Governor Sir Edmund Andros](#) (but he would be restored to office in 1689).



When Sir Edmund demanded the colony’s charter document, Governor Clarke asked for delay “until a fitter season.”

Sir Edmund Andros assumed authority over the Colony by appointment from Great Britain, and there were no sessions of the General Assembly, but affairs of State were conducted by officers of his selection till 1691, as herewith given:



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

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Rhode Island Members of Sir Edmund Andros' 1st Council,
held at Boston:

John Coggeshall,
Richard Arnold,
Walter Clarke,
Walter Newbury,
John Alborough.



READ EDWARD FIELD TEXT



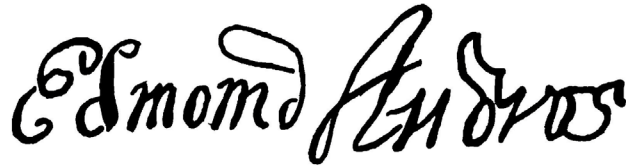
GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

1687

January: On the command of [Royal Governor Sir Edmund Andros](#), [Friend Walter Clarke](#) accepted a place in the general council for New England and allowed the government of [Rhode Island](#) to be dissolved. He would continue his functions under the royal commissioner.



November: When [Royal Governor Sir Edmund Andros](#) returned from Connecticut to [Rhode Island](#), [Friend Walter Clarke](#) received him with courtesy and turned the seal of the colony over to him to be destroyed — but he had sent the colony’s charter document to his brother asking that it be concealed in some place unknown to himself.

1688

April 7, Saturday (Old Style): The Massachusetts churches sent the Reverend Increase Mather to England to petition for the renewal of the Massachusetts charter.

[Royal Governor Sir Edmund Andros](#) was given a new commission by [King James II](#), making him governor of a “Dominion of New England” consisting of the “United Colonies” of New England, New York and New Jersey.

READ THE FULL TEXT

Under this new arrangement, [Friend Walter Clarke](#) was appointed to the governor’s council to represent [Rhode Island](#). When this Royal Governor would be overthrown, this colony would resume its separate charter government, but Friend Walter, carefully not being to blatant about resuming his former post, would for the first ten months allow the deputy governor to fill in for him.

1688. Constables: Sam’l Whipple, Gideon Crawford, Ephraim Pierce, Providence.
Nicholas Cotterill, Joseph Stanton, Haversham.
James Carder, John Rhodes, Warwick.
Jeremiah Smith, Thomas Durfee, John Keas, Portsmouth.
William Gardiner, Rochester.
George Cook, James Towne.
William Rathbone, New Shoreham.
Nathaniel Coddington, Shubael Painter, Benjamin Sherman, Newport.



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

It is better to have hired Men to till your Land. Negroes cost from twenty to forty Pistoles, according as they are skilful or robust; there is no Danger that they will leave you, nor hired Help likewise, for the Moment one is missing from the Town, you have only to notify the Savages, who, provided you promise them Something, and describe the Man to them, he is right soon found. But it happens rarely that they quit you, for they would know not where to go, there being few trodden roads, and those which are trodden lead to English Towns or Villages, which, on your writing, will immediately send back your Men. There are Ship-captains who might take them off; but that is open Larceny and would be rigorously punished. Houses of Brick and Frame can be built cheaply, as regards Materials, but the Labor of Workmen is very dear; a Man cannot be got to work for less than twenty-four Pence a Day and found.

... Pasturage abounds here. You can raise every Kind of Cattle, which thrive well. An Ox costs from twelve to fifteen Crowns; a Cow, eight to ten; Horses, from ten to fifty Crowns, and in Plenty. There are even wild ones in the Woods, which are yours, if you can catch them. Foals are sometimes caught. Beef costs two Pence the Pound; Mutton, two Pence; Pork from two to three Pence, according to the Season; Flour fourteen Shillings the one hundred and twelve Pound, all bolted; Fish is very cheap, and Vegetables also; Cabbage, Turnips, Onions and Carrots abound here. Moreover, there are Quantities of Nuts, Chestnuts and Hazelnuts wild. These Nuts are small, but of wonderful Flavor. I have been told that there are other Sorts which we shall see in the Season. I am assured that the Woods are full of Strawberries in their Season. I have seen Quantities of wild Grapevine, and eaten Grapes of very good Flavor, kept by one of my Friends. There is no Doubt that the Vine will do very well; there is some little planted in the Country, which has grown. There is Difficulty in getting the European Vine. If some little could be had, much more would be planted. Those who mean to come over thence, should strive to bring with them of the best.

... The Rivers are full of Fish, and we have so great a Quantity of Sea and River Fish that no Account is made of them. There are here Craftsmen of every Kind, and particularly Carpenters for the building of Ships. The Day after my Arrival, I saw them put into the Water one of three hundred Tons, and since, they have launched two others somewhat smaller.



GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

To come into this Country, you should embark at London, whence a Ship sails every alternate Month. The fittest Season to embark is the End of March; or, the End of August and Beginning of September are the true Seasons, more especially because it is neither too warm nor too cold, and you are then no longer in the Season of the Calms, which are frequent in Summer, and which cause Vessels to spend four Months passing thence. Beyond the Fact that the Heats often occasion Sickness on board, there are no Fatigues to undergo, when one has by him good Store of Refreshments and of all Kinds. It is well, too, to have a Surgeon on the Ship on which you take Passage, as we had on ours. In Regard to the Dangers, Care must be taken to embark on a good Vessel, equipped with an ample Crew and with Cannon, and well provided with Victual, above all, that Bread and Water are not lacking. As for the Route, I have said sufficient above; there is no Danger except in nearing the Land, and on the Banks of Sand found on the Way. We took Soundings in two Places off Cape Sable, which is near Port-Royal or Acadia, where we found ninety Fathoms. At that Time we were only twenty Leagues from Land; we stood off, and came upon St. George's Bank, which is eighty Leagues from Boston, and there found one hundred Fathoms. From that Point, we took no more Soundings, for three Days after we sighted Cape Coot, which is twenty Leagues from Boston towards the South, and on the Morrow we arrived at Boston, after having fallen in with a Number of very pretty Islands that lie in Front of Boston, most of them cultivated and inhabited by Peasants, which form a very fine View. Boston is situated at the Head of a Bay possibly three or four Leagues in Circumference, shut in by the Islands of which I have told you. Whatever may be the Weather, Vessels lie there in Safety. The Town is built on the Slope of a little Hill, and is as large as La Rochelle. The Town and the Land outside are not more than three Miles in Circuit, for it is almost an Island; it would only be necessary to cut through a Width of three hundred Paces, all Sand, which in less than twice twenty-four Hours would make Boston an Island washed on all Sides by the Sea. The Town is almost wholly built of wooden Houses; but since there have been some ravages by Fire, building of Wood is no longer allowed, so that at this present writing very handsome Houses of Brick are going up. I ought to have told you, at the Beginning of this Article, that you pay in London for Passage here twenty Crowns and twenty-four if you prefer to pay in Boston, so that it is better to pay here than in London; you have one Crown over, since one hundred Pounds at London, are equal to one hundred and twenty-five here, so that the twenty Crowns one must pay at London are twenty-five Crowns here, by reason of the twenty-five per cent., and twenty-four is all one has to pay here; this Increase in the Value of Money is a great Help to the poor Refugees, should they bring any....



ALERT



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

There is here no Religion other than the Presbyterian, the Anglican, Anabaptist, and our own. We have not any Papists, at least that are known to us....

In Regard to acquiring Land, that which is taken up in the Noraganzet Country costs twenty Pounds sterling per hundred Acres Cash down, and twenty-five on Time, for three Years; but Payment is not made because it is not known whether that Country will remain in the Hands of the Proprietors, wrongly thus called, or belong to the King. Until this Matter be decided, no Payment will be made; in all Cases one cannot be obliged to pay more than the Price above mentioned, and in accordance with the Terms of Contract approved before the Town-mayors. We are even assured that if the King holds the Land, the Price will be Nothing, or at least very little, the Crown contenting itself with a small seignorial reservation, so that one can sell and let, the Property being one's own. The Nicmock Country is the private Property of the President, and Land there costs Nothing. I do not yet know the Quantity they give to each Family; some Persons have told me, from fifty to one hundred [Acres], according to Families.... It rests with those who wish to take up Land to take it in one of the two Countries on the Seashore, or in the Interior. The Nicmock Country is in the Interior, and twenty Leagues from Boston, and an equal Distance from the Sea, so that, when they wish to send or receive Anything from Boston, it must be carted. There are little Rivers and Ponds around this Settlement, fruitful in Fish, and Woods full of Game. M. Bondet is their Minister. The Inhabitants are as yet only fifty-two Persons. The Noraganzet Country is four Miles from the Sea, and consequently it has more Commerce with the Sea Islands, as Boston [two words illegible], and the Island of Rodislan, which is only ten Miles away. This Island, they tell me, is well-settled, and with a great Trade, which I know of my own Knowledge. There are at Noraganzet about one hundred Persons; M. Carré is their Minister.

... You can bring with you hired Help in any Vocation whatever; there is an absolute Need of them to till the Land. You may also own Negroes and Negresses; there is not a House in Boston, however small may be its Means, that has not one or two. There are those that have five or six, and all make a good Living. You employ Savages to work your Fields, in Consideration of one Shilling and a half a Day and Board, which is eighteen Pence; it being always understood that you must provide them with Beasts or Utensils for Labor.



ALERT
ALERT
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ALERT



GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

This Town carries on a great Trade with the Islands of America and with Spain. They carry to the Islands Flour, Salt Beef, Salt Pork, Cod, Staves, Salt Salmon, Salt Mackerel, Onions, and Oysters salted in Barrels, great Quantities of which are taken here; and for their Return they bring Sugar, Cotton Wool, Molasses, Indigo, Sago and Pieces of [illegible]. In the trade with Spain, they carry only dried Fish, which is to be had here at eight to twelve Shillings the Quintal, according to Quality; the Return Cargo is in Oils, Wine and Brandy, and other Merchandise which comes by Way of London, for Nothing can be imported here, coming from a foreign Port, unless it has first been to London and paid the half Duty, after which it can be transported here, where for all Duty one-half per cent is paid for Importation, since Merchandise for Exportation pays Nothing at all.

... You must disabuse yourself of the Impression that Advantages are here offered to Refugees. It is true that in the Beginning some Subsistence was furnished them, but at Present there is a Need of some for those who shall bring Nothing. At Nicmock, as I have before said, Land is given for Nothing, and at Noraganzet it must be bought at twenty to twenty-five Pounds Sterling the Hundred Acres, so that whoever brings Nothing here, finds Nothing. It is very true that Living is exceedingly cheap, and that with a little one can make a good Settlement. A family of three or four Persons can make with fifty Pistoles a fine Settlement; but it needs not less than that. Those who bring much, do well in Proportion.

... One can come to this Country, and return the same as in Europe. There is the greatest Liberty, and you may live without any Constraint. Those who desire to come into this Country, should get themselves naturalized (*fridanniser*) in London in order to be free to carry on Business in any sort of Merchandise, and to trade with the English Islands, without which they cannot do so.

[Subsequent letter report:] ... I forgot to tell you that there is here [Noraganzet] a Temple of Anabaptists, for as to the other Sects of which I spoke in my Report concerning Noraganzet, it is only for that Country and not for Boston, for we have here no religions other than the Anglican, the Presbyterian, the Anabaptists and our own [Huguenot]. As for Papists, I have discovered since being here eight or ten, three of whom are French and come to our Church, and the others are Irish; with the Exception of the Surgeon who has a Family, the others are here only in Passage.



ALERT



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

Sealer at Portsmouth: Robert Lawton.

1690

When Henry Bull was elected again as governor of [Rhode Island](#), [Friend Walter Clarke](#) refused, for motives of politics, to deliver up the colonial charter and state records.





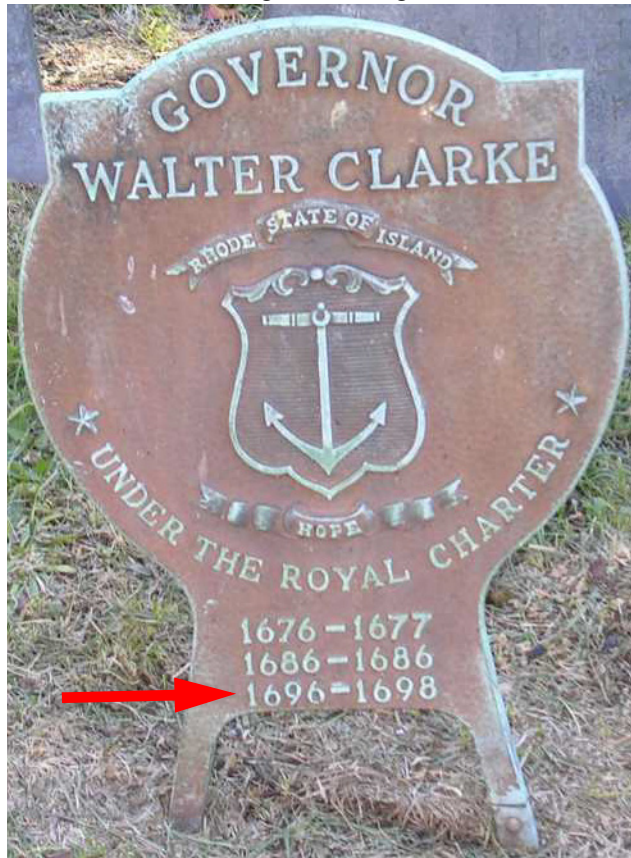
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FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

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1696

In [Rhode Island](#), [Friend Walter Clarke](#) was again elected governor.





FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

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1697

April: The Board of Trade considered a letter from Captain Benjamin Davis of [Boston](#) informing them of “such a bloody crew of privateers at [Rhode Island](#) that the Government cannot rule them, and the sober men are in fear of their lives.” The governor, [Friend Walter Clarke](#), made no response.

PIRATE

Another letter of complaint was therefore sent out, this one in regard to [Rhode Island](#)’s persistent neglect to prosecute those who were evading payment of duties and customs. Although the colony had enacted during July 1696 that no vessel owner could procure a commission unless he provided a bond of a thousand pounds that he would “not proceed upon any unlawful act,” the letter noted that for some reason this measure had been ineffectual. This letter went on, to warn the colony that it might well lose its charter unless it promptly cleaned up its act.

READ EDWARD FIELD TEXT

1698

A court of admiralty had been created in [Rhode Island](#), contrary to the wishes of [Friend Walter Clarke](#), and he withheld the commission of the judge and was threatened with impeachment.

Required to take an oath of allegiance to the King of England in order to continue as governor, which as a Quaker he was unable to do, [Friend Walter Clarke](#) resigned in favor of his nephew Samuel Cranston,² whose father John Cranston had once been governor, who became the new governor of [Rhode Island](#). His long administration, until 1727, would establish internal unity and bring the colony into a working relationship with the government in London.

READ EDWARD FIELD TEXT

2. Samuel Cranston had been born on August 16, 1659. He married Mary Hart during 1680 in [Newport](#). Mary was born during 1663 in Newport. She died on September 17, 1710 in Newport and was buried in Newport’s Clifton Burial Ground. Samuel would be 30 times successively chosen by the voters, holding this office until his death on April 26, 1727 in Newport — probably longer than any other American politician ever required to seek annual re-election. The town of [Cranston, Rhode Island](#) would be named for Governor Samuel Cranston. (The Quaker meetinghouse erected in 1729 there still stands.) (The blue flag of Cranston bears a shield is red with a white border, with on the shield a representation of three white cranes; under the shield there is a white ribbon with a red border, and the words DUM VIGILO CURO imposed in yellow and gold. This design was taken from the coat of arms of Governor Samuel Cranston. The motto is said to render into English as “While I watch, I care.”)



GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

1714

May: [Walter Clarke](#) died. He would be buried in [Newport, Rhode Island](#). Since no gravestone remains, but merely a memorial plaque placed later, I am left with no way to decide among the various claims that he died on the

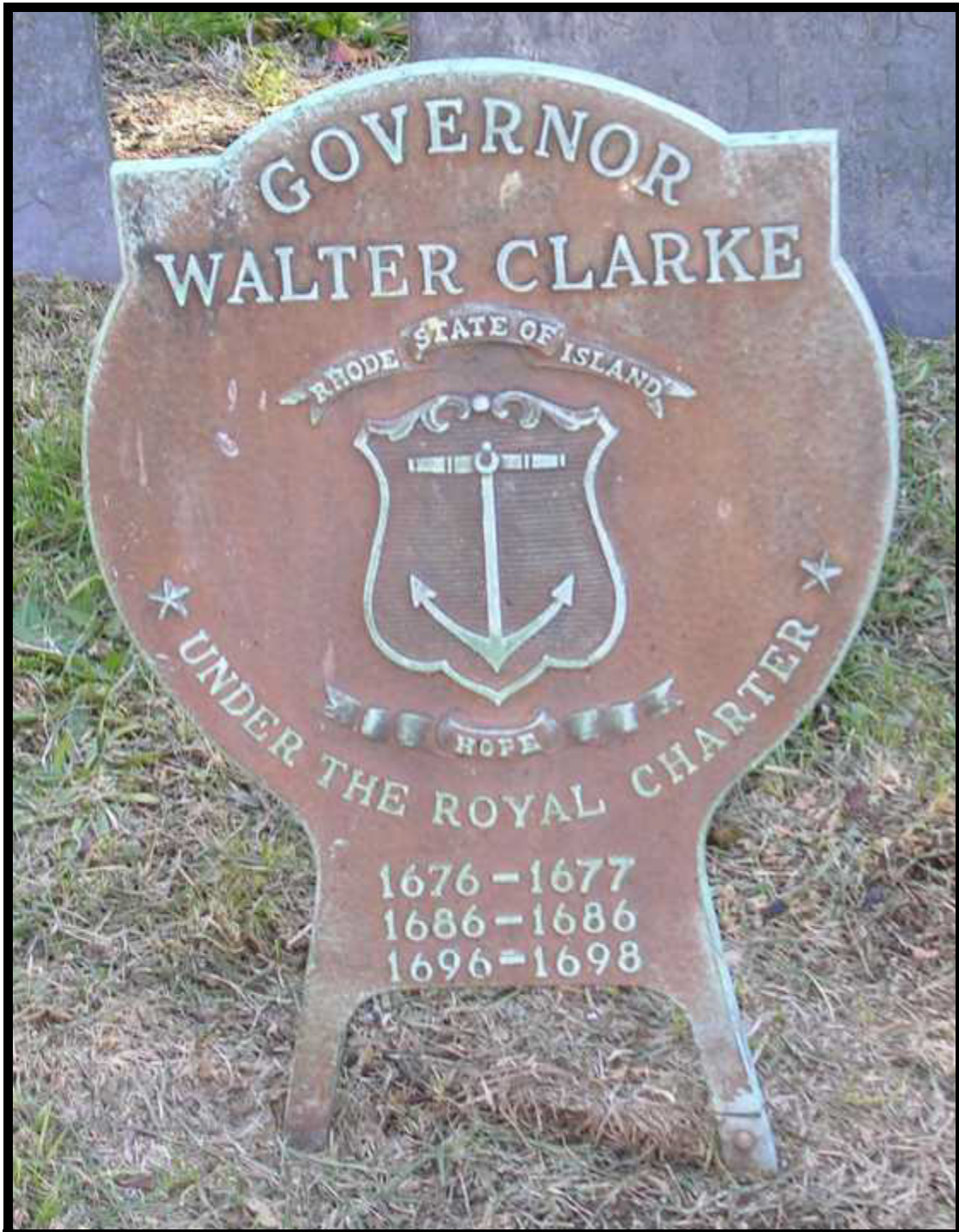


FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

22d, versus the 23d, versus the 28th of May:



(Perhaps an examination of [Quaker](#) records will eventually establish the exact date.)



GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: December 10, 2013



FRIEND WALTER CLARKE

GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

GO TO MASTER HISTORY OF QUAKERISM

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



GOVERNOR WALTER CLARKE

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Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@brown.edu>. Arrgh.