

Appendix I

A List of the original members of The Providence Island Company as at 19th November, 1630 (with details of their background and connections).

FIENNES, William, 8th Baron, 1st Viscount Saye and Sele (1582-1662), educated at New College, Oxford, succeeded to the barony 1613, created viscount in 1624. Member of the House of Lords and a very staunch Puritan. One of the foremost opponents of Ship-Money. At the start of the Civil War he raised a regiment of foot. After the war Cromwell asked him to sit in the House of Lords he had created; he declined. Involved in the intrigues in 1660 to restore Charles II to the throne, he was appointed Lord Privy Seal as a reward. His contemporaries charged him with duplicity and dubbed him 'Old Subtlety'.

William Fiennes was certainly not a poor man, but he had nine children, five of them girls. They all married well; their dowries, therefore, would have been costly. He also purchased three manors for three of his sons: James, Nathaniel and John. The fourth son, Richard, had to make do with a sum of money as his portion. This outlay plus the upkeep of his many estates and his position as a political peer would mean that money must have featured importantly in his life. Hence his investment in several colonial enterprises was not just for religious and political reasons. That he lost money on his American ventures is on record.

Clarendon's comment on William Fiennes in his famous *History of the Rebellion and Civil War in England* refers to him as 'A man of a close and reserved nature. He was a notorious enemy of the Church. He had always opposed and contradicted all acts of state and all taxes and impositions which were not exactly legal. He had great authority with all the discontented party throughout the kingdom, and a good reputation with many who were not, who believed him to be a wise man, and of a very useful temper in an age of licence, and one who could still adhere to the law'. A skilled political strategist.

BARRINGTON, Sir Thomas (1589-1644). M.P., brother-in-law to Gerrard and cousin to Oliver Cromwell and John Hampden; he was also related to Oliver St John.

GERRARD, Sir Gilbert, of Middlesex (1587-1670) M.P., Puritan. Married the daughter of Sir Francis Barrington. His family were long connected with colonial ventures. A personal friend of Warwick, Pym and Sir Nathaniel Rich. Deputy Governor of the Providence Island Company 1634-35.

GREVILLE, Robert, 2nd Lord Brooke, of Warwick Castle (born 1608, shot dead by a sniper at Lichfield on 2nd March 1643). An M.P. A very wealthy man, from the influence of Saye he became a Puritan and very prominent in the Puritan struggle and the consequent Civil War. It was Saye who brought him into the PIC. Clarendon described him as 'rather seduced and corrupted ... therefore his death was looked upon as no ill omen to peace'.