

THE TRIAL.¹

*In a Special Court of Oyer and Terminer, New York City,
February, 1702.*

HON. WILLIAM ATWOOD, ² <i>Chief Justice.</i>	} <i>Judges.</i>
HON. ABRAHAM DEPEYSTER, ³	
HON. ROBERT WALTERS,	

January 6.

Lieutenant Governor *John Nanfan*^{4a} and his council complained of libels against the government in the form of petitions circulated and signed by Colonel Nicholas Bayard and others, and addresses to the King of England, the Parliament and Lord Cornbury, who had succeeded Lord Bellamont as Governor of these Colonies and who was now on his way here.

Attorney General Broughton⁴ gave a written opinion that

¹*Bibliography.* Chandler's American Criminal Trials. See 1, American State Trials, 116; Howell's State Trials (London, 1812), Vol. 14.

²ATWOOD, WILLIAM. Born in England; published a large number of controversial pamphlets during last two decades of the Seventeenth Century, and the early years of the Eighteenth; arrived in New York, where he had been appointed Chief Justice and Judge of the Court of Admiralty, August, 1701; suspended from his office by Lord Cornbury and forced to flee from the colony, June, 1702; died 1705. (See 2 Dict. of Nat. Biog.; New York State Library Ann. Rep., 1902; Calendar Council Minutes, 1668-1783.)

³DEPEYSTER, ABRAHAM. (1658-1728.) Born and died in New York City; mayor of New York, 1691-1695, and afterwards chief justice of the province; president of the King's Council and acting Governor.

^{4a}NANFAN, JOHN. Born Birtsmorton, Worcestershire, England; captain of Sir John Jacob's regiment of infantry; sailed for New York, 1697, where he served as Lieutenant-Governor under Richard Coote, Earl of Bellamont; was Acting Governor from death of Bellamont, 1700, until the arrival of Lord Cornbury, 1701; returned to England, 1705, and died at Greenwich, 1716.

⁴BROUGHTON, SAMPSON SHELTON. Came to New York colony from England, 1701; Attorney General, 1701-1703; member of council of Lord Cornbury, 1702. (See New York State Library Annual Report, 1902; Calendar of Council Minutes, 1668-1783.)