

HISTORY
OF THE
SEAL AND FLAG
OF THE
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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THE NEW HAMPSHIRE SEAL.

The history of the seal of New Hampshire must necessarily begin with the first establishment of a separate government for the Province, and the assumption of administration by President John Cutt Jan. 1, 1679/80.

From the first settlement in 1623 to 1641, during which time only four towns developed into existence, these towns failed to unite in a common government.

For many years the inhabitants were so few that an established form of government was not one of the necessities of a safe and orderly life. But with a steady increase in population the need of a code of laws and regulations and a recognized controlling power became manifest. As this necessity did not appear in all the towns at the same time, each dealt with its own affairs as circumstances seemed to require.

The grant of New Hampshire to Capt. John Mason was not a charter, and did not convey any power of political government. Tuttle says, in his volume of Historical Papers, 1889, "but the grant of so much power as should be necessary to protect his own rights and the rights of his servants, as well as to preserve order, must be understood as implied in the concession made to him. In the

