Did Henry Wolcott fall into the scheme of settling the Connecticut Valley or did he lead? It was not very difficult to hold back, for there were plenty of emigrants of good station to buy his house and take his place in Dorchester. He really led, but he didn't care to pose as a leader. Ludlow liked the name -- Wolcott furnished the constructive planning and guided the company's rank and file.

Henry Wolcott and his family did not remove until the spring of 1636. Whether they came overland or by the river, is not clear. But there isn't much question that he had listened to young John Winthrop, who arrived with two or three companions and two thousand pounds in cold cash, to settle at the mouth of the river, in behalf of the assignees of the Warwick Patent. Winthrop had already sent twenty men to build the fort and lay out the settlement. John Winthrop, Jr. was sworn diplomat. Of course his father did not want the towns to emigrate. Young John rightly concluded that people in a patented territory, even if at first they didn't acknowledge the patent, were more valuable than trees or stumps. It's quite clear, I think, that he aided in the removal and in the issue of the so-called Massachusetts Commission -- which wasn't a commission at all.

Master Henry Wolcott, Jr. was a good shorthand writer, although his notes were not interpreted until more than two centuries later. I imagine that he also had something to do with persuading the leading men of the Dorchester company, his father, and in getting his mother to agree to the project to let him start farming on the rich soil in the Valley, improved annually by the silt from the upper river. Sand was carried down at times by the floods, but sufficiently