# The First Parliament Part 1

## Woodes Rogers

- First Royal Governor – Arrived in New Providence July 26th, 1718
- Pirates knew he was coming – some fled, some stayed and fought

## New Providence

- The island was in a bad state
- The forts were in ruins – roads were overgrown – garbage was everywhere
- Hardly any crops were growing
- Rogers made a plan to bring law and order to the island for success

## 1st Parliament

- Woodes Rogers formed a council of 12 men to help him govern the islands.
- They cleaned up and rebuilt the town and repaired the fort.
- Spaniards tried to attack Nassau in 1720, and were driven back by Fort Nassau.

## Pirates being Pardoned

- Rogers offered remaining pirates a pardon (release from punishment) for them to stop attacking ships
- 300 pirates gave up their way of life. Those who refused were put in prison.
- Many pirates were hanged. The islands were a safer place to live and trade.
- Motto: Explusis Piratis – Restituta Commercia – When the pirates were driven out, trade was restored.

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