

his uncle to pray that he might not be mistaken in a matter of such everlasting importance; that he might not build on a false foundation.

⁶⁶ See the "Belknap Papers," Vol. 1, p. 470; "Memorial History of Boston," Vol. 3, p. 7; "History of the Old South Church," Vol. 2, p. 240.

⁶⁷ A declaration made by the daughters of Dr. Byles in connexion with the settlement of their father's estate includes the statement that a number of their friends "raised a sum of money by subscription to defray the expenses of his funeral without any charge to the estate."

⁶⁸ Mass. Hist. Coll., 3, 51.

CHAPTER XII

⁶⁹ His father baptized him, recording the baptism affectionately as of "my Mather." He graduated at Harvard, as we have said, in 1751, but his ordination at New London did not take place until November 18, 1757. What he was doing from 1751 to 1755 we do not know, but from 1755 to 1757 he was (the 37th) librarian of Harvard College. See "Library of Harvard University, Biographical Contributions," Edited by Justin Winsor, No. 52; "The Librarians of Harvard College 1667-1877," by Alfred Claghorn Potter and Charles Knowles Bolton, Cambridge, 1897. In the *Boston Evening-Post* of May 2, 1768, we read: "On Friday last the Rev. Mr. Mather Byles, and Family, came to Town from New London; and we hear he embarks in the first Vessel for England, in order to receive Episcopal Ordination to qualify himself for Minister of Christ Church here, from whom he received an invitation, as lately mentioned."