

*Courant* ran along until June 4, 1726, when it stopped. Between February 11, 1723, and July 20, 1724, it was nominally printed by Benjamin Franklin in Queen Street; from July 27, 1724, until June 4, 1726, it was issued in Union Street, still in Benjamin Franklin's name. Benjamin, however, finally left Boston, in October, 1723.

<sup>64</sup> This letter is printed in "D<sup>r</sup> Franklin's Life and Letters." It appeared also in "The Bower of Taste," March 1, 1828.

#### CHAPTER XI

<sup>65</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Jeremy Belknap, the eminent historian and liberal theologian, was the eldest child of Joseph and Sarah (Byles) Belknap. He was born in Boston June 4, 1744, and died June 20, 1798. In 1765, when he was debating whether he should enter the ministry or not, in distress of mind he wrote his great-uncle expressing his fear that he was not fit spiritually for the ministerial office. To the young man's frank letter D<sup>r</sup> Byles replied in the kindest and most judicious and Christian way that while he is glad of the deep piety his nephew shows he feels that he is mistakenly writing bitter things against himself. "My dear Child," he tenderly says, "it is with a mixture of pleasure and sorrow that I read your letter. I am pleased to see your great care not to enter the ministry in a state of unrenewed nature; and I am grieved at your censure upon yourself." "May God bless you, my Son," the writer closes, "and sanctify and comfort you; and introduce you with the noblest preparation into the ministry. So prays your affectionate M. Byles." To this kindly letter Belknap replies asking