

ought to be considered as a great and public loss, as a fall of one of the Pillars of the Land. MR. WILLIAMS began his ministry among us in May 1686. And was the first and only settled Pastor that hath been in this place. God who sent him to us, and inclined his heart to settle with us in our small beginnings, hath made him a great blessing unto us, and we hope, through grace he hath left many *Seals* of his Ministry among us. He was sincerely devoted to the service of Christ, who graciously endowed him, with very valuable Ministerial abilities. He was much in prayer, and singularly gifted in it. He was heartily concerned for the interest of Religion, and the best good of this people; and a constant intercessor of the Throne of Grace for the same. From his ardent care to promote the honor of Christ, and the salvation of precious souls he was "abundant in his labors, both in season and out of season," Plainly, faithfully, and frequently charging and instructing both Elder, and Younger, affectionately dispensing the most seasonable Counsels, and warning to his people. Travelling in Birth with them, till Christ was found in them, and adorning the doctrine of God our Savior in a very circumspect, holy and blameless life. MR. WILLIAMS would sometimes say "it is a dangerous thing to be set in the front of New England's sins"—The divine providence that

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