

they affirmed it to be true, telling me how God approved of their religion, and witnessed miraculously against ours. But I still told them, I was persuaded his soul was in heaven, and that their reports were only devised fables to seduce souls. For several weeks they affirmed it, telling me, that all who came over the river from the island affirmed it to be a truth. I begged of God to blast this hellish design of theirs, so that in the issue it might be to render their religion more abominable, and that they might not gain one soul by such a stratagem. After some weeks had passed in such assertions, there came one into my landlord's house, affirming it to be a truth reported of *Zebediah*; saying, *Joseph Egerly* had been over the river, and told one of our neighbors this story. After a few hours I saw that neighbor; and asked him, whether he had seen *Egerly* lately? He said, Yes.—What news told he you? None, said he. Then I told him what was affirmed as a truth. He answered, *Egerly* said nothing like this to him, and he was persuaded that he would have told him, if there had been any truth in it. About a week after came one *John Boul* from the island of *St. Lawrence*, a lad taken from *Newfoundland*, a very serious sober lad of about seventeen years of age; he had often before come over with *Zebediah* to visit me. At his coming in, he much lamented the loss of *Zebediah*;