

"I see now I went too far in saying that we were willing to be connected with the North Church at all."

IV. *James Sherman and Charles Williams, Church Wardens.* Boston, 21 March, 1791: "We this day received yours of 5 March instant, directed to the Wardens of the North Church, Boston."

V. *Dr. Walter to Jonathan Simpson.* Shelburne, N.S., 5 April, 1791: "The two Churches of Cambridge and Boston North being united under me with an assistant." "I have only some fears in my own mind respecting the gentlemen of the North."

But it has been said that, although Christ Church may have been popularly called "the North Church" after the old North Meeting-house was taken down, yet it was never so called while the latter was standing.

This is a mistake, as I will now proceed to show.

The Rev. Mather Byles, Jr., while pastor of the First Church in New London, became an Episcopalian, and received in 1768 a call to Christ Church, in Boston, whose rector, Dr. Cutler, had died three years before. His acceptance created considerable dissatisfaction in the New London parish, and resulted in a conference between the pastor and people, an account of which was published that year, in a pamphlet of considerable interest.*

On the reverse of its title-page, the writer says, "As the Public are so very desirous of knowing the Reasons of Mr. Byles's leaving the Church of Christ, in New London, where he was so happily settled to all Appearance, in so unexpected a departure for Boston, without Time or Inclination of seeing or bidding any of his best Friends farewell; will let them know it is in Consequence of an Invitation of the Wardens, Vestry, &c., of the Episcopal *North Church*, Boston: which he has thought fit to accept," &c. Then follows the account of the conference, near the beginning of which the minister says, "I will now communicate to you a letter I received from the wardens and vestry of the *north church*, in Boston, dated 8th of March," &c. (p. 3). "And since that have received a line from brother Walter, wherein he advises me: 'This day, at a meeting of the wardens and vestry of the *north church*, in Boston, they have come to the determination of sending for you to Boston,'" &c. (p. 4).

Mr. Byles's acceptance of the call to Christ Church made

* A Debate between the Rev'd Mr. Byles, the Pastor of the First Church, in *New London*, and the brethren of that Church, held at the meeting-house, previous to his leaving said Society, containing the substance or heads of the Discourse which then passed. As also a specimen of one of the many volumes which Mr. Byles is supposed to have been convinced by, &c. By A. Z., Esq. See 84th chap. of Ezekiel. To which are added some remarks. *New London*: Printed in the year 1768. Sold at *Draper's* printing-office, *Boston*.