

Rev. Samuel Barrett (1700-1772) of Hopkinton serves as doctor

1729 April 15. About five months agoe I set down some account of the more remarkable Mercies of God to Me in the Course of His Providence in and Since that my memorable dangerous Sickness when I was a Young School Boy; Having made Some (though I confess very imperfect) Record of what went before, in a little Book bearing Date August 24, 1719, and Several other Dates from thence, but in a great deal of Confusion, and with too many other marks of my puerility, when I Scribbl'd them however honest and upright my intention was to have Some Remembrances of those (to me) important Things by me; Having of late experienc'd So much of the divine Goodness as gives me new and the greatest Reason forever to esteem and admire the various Expressions thereof to me, and every way to manifest my greatfull Returns to my unspeakable Benefactor for what He has, in infinite Tenderness done for Me, I have here transcrib'd a Sort of Catalogue or Memorandum of those abovesaid Mercies to God to Me, have carry'd it along with what I have received Since.

Divine Benignity and Providence

17. My Wife's Restoration and Recovery from her great pains and illness (Laps-uteri) July 1726, under the Care of the Reverend Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Whitcomb. This is to be remembered as a Special appearance of God for us.

28. I must ever remember with hearty gratitude My Recovery out of Dangerous Sickness, weakness and Pains that I was brought low with in March 1729. I was first of all Seiz'd February 11 and kept from public Service the 16th, But was So well on the 23rd as to go to Meeting again. I was again disorder'd on the 28th and March 1, was faint and feeble the 2d, yet ventur'd to meeting and preach'd all Day and had extremity of pain in my Limbs, and oppression in my Stomach. The nights after the 7th and 8th I had such fits my Physician call'd my Distemper and Rheumatic Fever as were not without Difficulty to be born; and I fear'd a 3d would be more than Nature Could resist. The 9th I had, through the omnipotent Mercy of God, a instigation, and escaped the Danger. I was in the beginning of my illness under the Care of Reverend Mr. Barrett and afterwards of Dr. Roby. However I was under Confinement and in Weakness, in Pain and [illegible] for weeks after. April 6. I went to meeting part of the Day, the 13th all Day. On the 20th I preach'd in the forenoon but could not undertake more than to baptize a child, in the afternoon.