

From the public News-Papers.

BOSTON, JULY 14. & 17. 1766.

AST wednesday morning died here greatly
 and sincerely lamented, by all who knew him,
 the Reverend JONATHAN MAYHEW, D. D. Æ. 46,
 a friend to liberty and learning, a lover of mankind,
 and a uniform disciple of Jesus Christ.

Soon after he had finished his studies at Cambridge, where he exhibited lively marks of an original genius, he was called in the year 1747, to the pastoral care of the West Church in Boston, which he accepted; promising, like a true Christian, to make the Word of God his only rule of faith and practice, and stedfastly refusing to teach for doctrines the commandments of men.—In this charge he continued 'till his death, loving his people, and by them beloved, explaining with manly fortitude such truths as he found contained in the Bible however discountenanced, esteeming the approbation of his Father in heaven far before the applause of the world, constantly inculcating by his preaching and conduct, the doctrines of Grace, as he thought them delivered by our Saviour and his apostles, and that Religion which is from above, and is full of mercy and good fruits; without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

In his early productions, his uncommon talents, and generous independency of spirit, are eminently conspicuous: And though, for his declared enmity to every priestly usurpation of authority over the consciences of men, he had very soon to encounter the whole force of enthusiasm and bigotry; yet his
 strength

strength of mind, integrity of soul, and unconquerable resolution in his Master's service, supported him under every *temporal* discouragement, and enabled him to triumph over all his adversaries ; while his respect for, and observance of, the precepts of the Gospel, at length convinced the world of the sincerity and uprightness of his heart.

His Works already published, will transmit his name to posterity, under the endearing character of a steady and able advocate for religious and civil liberty, and of a firm believer, as well as constant practiser of pure and undefiled religion, as contained in the scriptures ; of which, as he left every one to judge for himself, so he always insisted on the same indulgence ; never presuming to *force* his doctrines further than their truth and the gospel would carry them.

If at any time, thro' the warmth of his imagination, his earnestness in the cause of religion and truth, and his fixed aversion to establishments of men in the Church of Christ, he may, in some few instances, have been hurried beyond the bounds of moderation, his many virtues, and great services towards establishing christianity on its most enlarged foundation, abundantly atone for such foibles : Indeed the natural keenness and poignancy of his wit, whetted often by cruel and unchristian usage, *must* palliate his severest strokes of satire. Nor will these light objections depreciate his general reputation, if it be remembered, that in his most social hours, he invariably sustained the united character of the Christian and the Gentleman.

From the influence of his extensive correspondence with some of the wisest and best men in the English nation, that Seminary of learning in which he was educated, received many and considerable donations ; and if in him that seat of literature has

not lost a wealthy benefactor, it is deprived of one who virtually by his influence might have been such, and one who was a sincere friend to that freedom of education which is essentially necessary to the well-being of any academy designed for the education of youth and the benefit of mankind.

In him, *it may be truly said*, his disconsolate widow has lost a kind and affectionate husband, his children a tender and faithful parent, his family a humane and indulgent master ; the poor of *all denominations* a charitable and constant friend ; his church a worthy, learned, social, virtuous and religious pastor ; this continent a resolute and strong defender of its religious independency ; and mankind a bold and nervous assertor of their rights, and that liberty wherewith Christ has made them free.

His Funeral which was attended on Friday last, by all ranks of people of every denomination, was at once a striking instance of that universal esteem he justly merited, and that charity he was himself remarkable for when alive, being in all respects worthy so great and benevolent a character, and as numerous and melancholy a procession as was ever known in this town.

“ Wrapt in his Arms who bled on Calv’ry’s Plain,
 We murmur not, blest Shade ! nor dare complain :
 Fled to those Seats where perfect Spirits shine,
 We mourn our Loss, yet still rejoice in thine ;
 Taught by thy Tongue, by thy Example led,
 We blest Thee living, and revere Thee dead.
 Pass’d from our View, our Eyes no more shall see,
 Or Truth, our Ears again receive from Thee ;
 Yet long our Hearts, thy Precepts shall retain,
 Deep in our Memory thy Love remain ;
 Our Care be still in virtuous Deeds to vie,
 Our constant Pray’r, like Thee to live and die.”

By Geo. W. H. H. H.