

Here may the Eye survey the tossing Sea
 And sport the sight with Ships that sailing be
 Upon this Coast, which come from distant Lands ;
 And then may turn and view the Beach and Sands,
 True Gratitude forbids I should be mute,
 Where Generous Souls, our Spirits do Recruit.
 Now sure, this Town deserves our best of Praise,
 Since none more strived our Spirits soon to raise.
 But stop my Muse, let's haste on our Survey
 And stretch our coast along the Eastward Bay.
 So then from thence we measur'd by the Sands
 An Eastward Course along those Pleasant Lands,
 And came to *Dartmouth* a most liberal Town
 Whose liquid Treats their generous Actions crown,
 Here is the place where we did end our Works
 Here we left off, (and did it with a jirk)
 And then retir'd our Field Book for to scan,
 And of this large Survey to make a Plan.

W. C.

1741. Rev. John Checkley.

The Rev. John Checkley (1680–1754), born in Boston, and celebrated for his violent controversies with the Congregational clergy of that town and his persecution, or at least prosecution, on that account, was from 1739 rector of King's Church, in Providence, now St. John's. He had travelled extensively in Europe, and was fond of collecting paintings, rare books and manuscripts. He is spoken of by writers in the early part of the present century as one of the wits of his time, and his bon-mots and witticisms were cur-

rent for a whole generation after his death. He was universally beloved by his parishioners and by his fellow-townsmen. The extract given here is taken from Checkley's "Notitia Parochialis," appended to the second volume of Dr. E. F. Slafter's life of him, Vol. XXIV. of the *Prince Society Publications*, pp. 197, 198.

NOTITIA PAROCHIALIS.

1. Number of Inhabitants,
In the towns out of which my Parishioners come (I mean those who frequent my church) about fourteen thousand people.
2. No. of the Baptized.
Impossible to tell. But I conjecture that in Providence not One in Ten, and in three Towns above Providence not one in thirty.
3. No. of adult persons baptized this half year.
One.
4. No. of actual Communicants of the Ch. of England.
Thirty-seven.
5. No. of those who profess themselves of the Ch. of England.
About two hundred.
6. No. of Dissenters of all sorts, particularly papists.
About eight Thousand, & much to be feared one half of them Infidels. Some few papists, who I believe harbour many others in Disguize.
7. No. of Heathens & Infidels.
About six Thousand, and a round number of them Atheists, as far as wretched man can be such.
8. No. of Converts from a prophane, disorderly and unchristian Course of Life, to a Life of Christian purity, meekness and Charity.
Two.