

Account of William I Tailer.

"A wealthy and enterprizing merchant, and of exceeding good repute. He was a brave, accomplished gentleman as any in Boston in outward respects.

At the funeral of Governor John Leverett, he and three others, carried each a Banner Roll at the four corners of the hearse.

He fell into a deep melancholy and hung himself with the reins of a bridle in his own counting house. His mental dejection was noticed some months before his death, and in speaking of it himself, he attributed it to some great losses at sea.

He was buried in his own Tombe in Boston, 13th 5th at night, about 11 of ye clock.

His death was much lamented, especially as to the circumstances.

From the fact that one of the Mather ministers visited Mr. Tailer during his season of despondency, it is supposed that he was, nominally at least, included in the Puritan Fold, although his son was afterwards an Episcopalian. But neither he nor his wife were Church members.

Mrs. Tailer being desirous of having her children baptized, her mother Mrs. Stoughton, in 1668, applied to the Rev. Richard Mather, to administer the ordinance of baptism to her grandchildren on the ground that their mother was a member of the Church by virtue of her parent's covenant. But the Church in Dorchester did not see fit to grant the request, and as Mrs. Tailer declined joining the Church in full communion, not feeling herself, as she said, worthy, or as yet fit for the Lord's Supper, baptism was refused."