

father. It is recorded also, that the elder died before a Church had been built in Ripton, under the ministrations of Dr. Johnson; but he left a name, it is said, and an influence behind him, which lived and was fruitful in good works.

His name stands among the earliest Churchmen of Stratford, which then included Huntington, and next to the head of the list of those who petitioned the Bishop of London, in 1707, to aid them in the midst of the most rigid Presbyterians and Independents. Violent opposition and threatened imprisonment followed the ministrations of a Church Missionary, who had visited the town of Stratford, and officiated, and administered the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These petitioners especially desired of the Bishop that he would send over, with a missionary allowance from the Society, "an exemplary man in conversation, fluent in preaching, and able in disputation, that he might silence the cavils of their enemies."

These items are mentioned for two reasons; one, to show the zeal and the active interest taken by our ancestor in the cause of the Church, and the other to show the spirit of those who would stop her progress, and prevent, as far as possible, her being planted upon the soil. But it is to be observed that the principles of toleration have been slow in their progress, and nothing in all the history of man has been more vindictively and cruelly persecuted than differences of opinion upon the subjects of religion. You are all aware that each one of the compilers and reformers of our preëminently holy Book of Common Prayer, was burned at the stake for