

“ They regard the rod, and him who hath appointed it”.—People who look chiefly at things outward, too little consider the original cause of the present troubles ; but such who fear the Lord, and think often upon his name, they see and feel that a wrong spirit is spreading among the inhabitants of our country ; that the hearts of many are waxed fat, and their ears dull of hearing ; that the Most High, in his visitations to us, instead of calling, he listeth up his voice and crieth ; he crieth to our country, and his voice waxeth louder and louder. In former wars between the English and other nations, since the settlement of our provinces, the calamities attending them have fallen chiefly on other places, but now of late they have reached to our borders ; many of our fellow subjects have suffered on and near our frontiers, some have been slain in battle, some killed in their houses, and some in their fields, some wounded and left in great misery, and others separated from their wives and little children, who have been carried captives among the Indians : We have seen men and women, who have been witnesses of these scenes of sorrow, and being reduced to want, have come to our houses asking relief.—It is not long since it was the case of many young men in one of these provinces to be draughted, in order to be taken as soldiers ; some where at that time in great distress, and had occasion to consider that their lives had been too little conformable to the purity and spirituality