

Appeal for Contributions after a Fire

Transcribed by Prof. Ross W. Beales, Jr.

I having pleased the Sovereign God, in a very Sore and distressing manner to frown upon me and my Children who lately dwelt with me, in taking away from us our Dwelling House by Fire, which broke out at Midnight between the 17th and 18th Day Instant, and so Suddenly prevailed, after the Discovery of it, that although we escap'd with our Lives (to God be all hearty Praise and Thanks) yet we have lost the Chief of our Goods, Cloths, Stores etc.: and were able to Save but little: By which means we are reduced to a miserable and destitute State and Condition. I do gratefully acknowledge the Kindness of the People of God among whom we live; but yet find it needfull, and think it my Duty to address several Neighbouring Towns for Relief and therefore as I have the Place of my Birth, So I humbly beg Leave to lay our distressed Circumstances before you, among whom I lived through a great part of my Youth full Life; for whom therefore I would retain proper Respect, and especially the Church into which I was admitted.

Source: on back of an addition to sermon on Mal. 4.1, 1752, 1762 (Parkman Family Papers), Box 1, Folder 5.