

We do not hold any details of his actual work in Poole except that he took up his duties as assistant pastor in 1735, and that he laid down his work as minister in 1741.

THE REV. SAMUEL HAYWARD.

Upon the death of the Rev. Thomas Rowe, the new duties were taken up by the Rev. Samuel Hayward. He had received his education under Dr. Gordon and had previously gained experience as a pastor both in Saffron Walden and also at Potter's Pury. Already he had won a great name for himself on account of his earnest zeal for his work. He had proved himself a preacher of unusual force and attraction and specially indeed had he been able to win the younger members of his congregation. His sermons, several of which have been published, bear testimony to his sentiments and his evangelical line of thought and Sydenham refers to him as "a gentleman of eminent character and respectable learning." He was perfectly aware of the unpleasant story connected with the late Mr. Towgood's ministry, and so anxious was he to avoid a recurrence of such an unfortunate misunderstanding that he called a Church meeting on Aug. 28th, 1741, in order that every one might know exactly where matters stood. A covenant was drawn up but it proved to be neither clear nor convincing, unfortunately, and all too soon matters grew uncomfortably threatening. This time the question of baptism proved a stumbling block, and it was feared that a further storm would ultimately arise. Mr. Hayward felt a longing to do the work, which God had laid upon him, amid peace and calm, at any rate, unhindered by strife and unrest on every hand. So long, then, as he remained here, peace held her sway, but in 1752, he succeeded the Rev. George Pickering, of Silver-street Independent Chapel, London, but his stay here was destined to be a short one, for he died July 23rd, 1757, being only 38 years of age. His body was laid to rest in Bunhill Fields.