

Contents



Acknowledgments xiii

Introduction 1

1

The Providence of the Massachusetts Puritans 9

2

Providence Besieged 29

3

Israel Strikes Back 53

4

Cotton Mather and the Hand of God 74

5

Cotton Mather and the Perils of Natural Philosophy 93

6

Cotton Mather and the True Power of Devils 111

7

Cotton Mather and the Decline of the Demonic 124

8

A Farewell to Wonders 138

Notes 153

Index 219