Writing the Dead: Death & Memory in the Edwards Family

New England Funerary Sculpture (wood, 15” high), c. late 17th/early 18th c.
Lucy Edwards Stone, 1736
East Windsor Hill, CT
Esther Stoddard Edwards Stone
& Timothy Edwards Table Grave
East Windsor Hill, CT
Job feels the rod yet blestes God
He saved from all the storms he met God
Job feels the rod yet blestes God
The moon gave light in the night
Job feels the rod yet blestes God

Job feels the rod yet blestes God
He saved his life and was brought back to his family
Job feels the rod yet blestes God
He was saved from all the storms he met
Job feels the rod yet blestes God
The moon gave light in the night
Job feels the rod yet blestes God

Mary Edwards Writing Exercise, 1744
Embroidered and Painted Mourning Picture
Early 19th century
Timothy Edwards,
“Some things written ... Concerning the Life and Death Of my very Dear and ever honoured Father Mr Richard Edwards,” c. 1718
Jerusha Edwards Stone (detail), c. 1730

Here lyeth the Body of
MRS. JERUSHA EDWARDS
Aged about 19 years and
a half who died the
22nd day of December 1729
Though here her Body was laid...

(Transcription of inscription on the stone)
Timothy Edwards,
“my Daughter Anne
Of her /dear/ Sister Jerusha,”
c. 1730
Samuel Hopkins
on Jerusha Edwards,
Dec. 25, 1729

Samuel Hopkins
on Jerusha Edwards,
Dec. 25, 1729
On the 1st of September, the Rev. William Blandford, lately a Banns of the Ministry of the Church of New England, and Clerk of the College of New Hampshire, after which he pronounced the following Sermon on the Following,

The BOSTON Newsletter, Feb. 2, 1730

Jerusha Edwards Obituary,

New England Weekly Newsletter

Feb. 2, 1730
Gravestones of Jerusha Edwards & David Brainerd (prone)
Bridge Street Cemetery, Northampton, Mass.
got ye remember of my past
new sermon & a new paper &
which ye carrier will bring if
he can I hope at Mr. Bromfield
is to return ye week after
tell my father if given
Lyman is not in town & I do
not know how I shall know if he
his gone away checklet your

Jerusha Edwards (in Boston)
to Esther Edwards,
c. June 1747

In Jonathan Edwards, Sermon on Zech. 4:12-14 (Nov. 11, 1747)
Job 14:2. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he sendeth forth roots as in a rush; his sweetness is as the grass, and no man remembereth him in the future. Feb. 21, 1748.

Jonathan Edwards,
Sermon on Job 14:2,
Feb. 1741 & Feb. 21, 1748
In 2014: still upright

Today: lying prone

Jerusha Edwards Stone, c. 1747
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Jonathan Edwards,
Sermon on II Sam. 22:26-27,
c. 1730, p. 1