
This is the biography of Samuel Sewall (1652-1730), a colonial American writer, intellectual, judge, and community leader. Its originality lies in the fact that it is the first biography written of this important figure and that it explores both the public and private existence of a puritan intellectual of the period. Its significance is that it sheds light not merely on the assumptions behind the Salem witch trials, but also on the perception of human psychology and the developments of religion and society during this period. The project was supported by AHRB funded research leave and a Writer's Award from Arts Council England. Its rigour lies in the way political, social, religious and personal elements are held in balance. Evidence of its significance lies in the fact that Margaret Drabble chose it as one of her three books of 2005 in the TLS and the fact that it was serialised in abridged form as BBC Radio 4's Book of the Week (22-26/08/05). It was widely and favourably reviewed. Hilary Spurling in the Telegraph described it as a 'timely and disturbing book'; David Aaronovitch in The Times referred to it as 'this marvellous book'.

Salem Witch Judge: The Life and Repentance of Samuel Sewall. Eve LaPlante. 4.0 out of 5 stars 43. Paperback. $14.99 Prime. Also the experience of one man is not forming the American Conscious especially since he is a wealthy white man with political clout. However, the book was a great read, a history book disguised as a novel and a whole chapter on this man's hatred of wigs, literal wigs that made it quite enjoyable. Read more. The Salem Witch Trials have been covered in academic works, plays, and movies; they are fascinating examples of mass religious delusion and judicial error, and it is commendable that we do not let them go. The trials didn't last long; the public quickly turned away from this mistaken view of religion and justice. Biographer and novelist Francis looks at the Salem witch hunt of 1692 with fresh eyes, through the story of Samuel Sewall, New England Puritan, Salem trial judge, antislavery agitator, defender of Native American rights, utopian theorist, family man. The second-generation colonists were pitted against the pagan Native Americans and a hostile mother country intent on imposing control. Out of the struggle to maintain unity emerged the forces that drove the Salem tragedy. Five guilt-wracked years after pronouncing judgment, Sewall recanted the guilty verdicts, praying for forgiveness. This marked This is the biography of Samuel Sewall (1652-1730), a colonial American writer, intellectual, judge, and community leader. Its originality lies in the fact that it is the first biography written of this important figure and that it explores both the public and private existence of a puritan intellectual of the period. Its significance is that it sheds light not merely on the assumptions behind the Salem witch trials, but also on the perception of human psychology and the developments of religion and society during this period. The project was supported by AHRB funded research leave and a Write