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Journalist, Minisden Biograpgy.com From an early age, Cotton Mather was filled with a desire to emulate, even to exceed, their accomplishments. His life was a series of trials and sufferings. COTTON MATHER 1662/3-1727/8. The eldest son of New England's leading divine, Increase Mather, and grandson of the colony's spiritual founders Richard Cotton Mather Vindicated: A New Look at the Salem Witch Trials. Cotton Mather. Cotton Mather was left at twenty-five in charge of the largest congregation in New England, and he ministered to it for the rest of his life. Cotton Mather at the Congregational Library: An Annotated. Richard Mather, Cotton Mather seemed destined to achieve fame. His own After receiving his M.A. at age 18, he felt called to a life of service in the clergy. Cotton Mather 1663-1728 - Georgetown University Cotton Mather 1663-1728, Puritan clergyman, historian, and pioneering student of science, was an indefatigable man of letters. 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