

CHAPTER 12: “THE MINISTER’S VIGIL”

WORDS

bandying	grisly	somnambulism
catarrh	grotesque	to and fro
conjectured	inextricable	torpid
decorous	luminary	torrent
defunct	lurid	tremulous
despondency	malevolence	vault
efficacy	obscure	wary
expiation	rheumatism	
forebode	scurrilous	

QUESTIONS

1. What is a vigil?
2. Where does Dimmesdale hold his vigil?
3. Why are Hester and Pearl out at midnight ?
4. What promise does Dimmesdale refuse to make to Pearl ?
5. What is miraculous about the meteor?
6. Quote a line that shows Chillingworth as a symbol of evil.

NOTES

Governor Winthrop: Winthrop, John (1588-1649), official first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, elected before the colonists left England. (John Endecott was technically first governor of Salem.) He arrived in America on 12 June 1630. He served as governor many times.

Geneva cloak: a black cloak worn by Calvinist clergy