

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1757

1757 January 1 (Saturday). I was So closely engaged in my preparations for the Sabbath approaching (this being Saturday) that I had not Opportunity to employ my Self as I had desired and purposed. My many, unavoidable and pressing Cares which my Numerous Family oblige me to, having very much prevented (but neither can I clear my Self of the Charge of Sloth and Negligence) my preparing my Sermons in the Earlyer part of the Week. Nevertheless I endeavoured in enlarged Devotions, and in divers parts of the Day, gratefully to acknowledge the unmerited Goodness of God to Me, as throughout my Life in general, So in the Course of the Last Year in Special to Me, to my Family, and to my People. How wondrous the Sparing Mercy of God to me and Mine in a peculiar Manner in the Times of great Distress in the Summer; and afterwards so sore Visitation by the wasting Sickness! I would therefore praise the Name of God for His undeserved Favour to *Me Personally* in sustaining me under and recovering Me from the Sore sickness, I was my Self Exercised by; viz. *Fever, Jaundice* and *Rheumatism*: And for His distinguishing Lenity to *my Family* that So few of them had the Dysentery; and that those who had it, yet were Supported and carryed through it; And though that awful Distemper did So sorrowfully rage amongst us in this Parish for a While, and carryed off many of the Flock, yet that in the Middst of wrath the Lord was pleased to remember Mercy, and has Spared and restored So many! O may God grant that we maybe truly humble, Penitant, thankful, Circumspect and faithful! And now since He has been pleased to grant that a New Year Commences, may I, may we all, have Grace to Live to the Glory of our Adorable Healer and Preserver! May All the Events before me, whether my Appointed Time be longer or shorter, be under the Ordering of infinite Wisdom and May I and Mine be ever Prepared for the whole Will of God! I desire ever to repose my self in Him!

1757 January 2 (Sunday). Read 1 King. 20 from v. 22 and preached on Mat. 25.10, last Clause, both a. and p.m. P.M. read Mat. 22. Old Mrs. *Woods*, Widow dined here. At Eve read Mrs. *Pierpoints* Journals. *Breck* learns in the Accidence.

1757 January 3 (Monday). *Magdalen* and *Mary Blanc* here with my Daughters. Adjournment of Town Meeting upon Debts etc. Comfortable in Body though less So in Mind. May God, who alone can, enlighten and strengthen!

1757 January 4 (Tuesday). *Billy* with his Brothers *Oxen* goes to *Marlborough* for Sundrys my Wife bought of her Cousen *Brigham*, viz. *Valences*, [Head?] Cloth, *Teister*, Bed, Bolster, Pillows, and 1/2 Doz. Chairs. *Thomas* setts out for *Boston*. He has Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior's Horse. My Wife and I were invited to go to the Said Mr. *Fays* to Day to Visit them, but the weather proved too cold. Capt. *Baldwin* from *Brookfield*.

1757 January 5 (Wednesday). He leaves us to go to *Sudbury* etc. A Cold Day this likewise.

1757 January 6 (Thursday). I preached at *Deacon Bonds* on Joh. 4.24 to p. 4 and then used what I wrote on the Catechism of Gods being *a Spirit*. At Eve visit *LeBlanc*. N.B. My Wife with me, at both. We went on foot, it being very pleasant inviting Weather. Esquire *Baker* there. N.B.

*LeBlanc* tells me his sister *Mary* married an Englishman by whom she had a number of Daughters: one of which married Governor Cosby, another Governor Enfield, of *Annapolis*, the last of which is the present Governor there and that his Kinswoman is also now living there. When I came home found Mr. John Hemingway of Framingham here, and he Lodged here.

1757 January 7 (Friday). Hemingway to Shrewsbury south End to keep School at Mr. *Daniel Hemingways*. My son *Thomas* returns from Boston, brings me a Message from my eldest Brother that he is about Marrying to *Mrs. Mary Hawkins* (an old Maiden) within a few Weeks, the Lord willing.

1757 January 8 (Saturday). Fowl weather. *Billy* variously employed. Shaves a few Lath etc.

1757 January 9 (Sunday). Rainy -- hot Fog. Read 1 K. XXI a.m., Mat. 23 p.m. The Exposition of the former was the Exercise for each part of the Day. In the Evening went on with Mrs. Pierpoints pious Journals.

1757 January 10 (Monday). Visit Mr. Joseph Knowlton, who is in a weak state, and his twin sons Samuel and Nathaniel sick of a Fever: visited Mr. *Gershom Brigham*, and Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior, also Abner Whipple who has a Fever.

1757 January 11 (Tuesday). Magdalene and *Mary LeBlanc* here. Mr. Hezekiah *Pratt* paid me 12£ Old Tenor for the Cyder Mill which he bought of me and I gave him his Note.

1757 January 12 (Wednesday). I rode to Mr. *Gashets*, *Chadocks* etc. Was in Quest of Mr. *John Child* the Glazier. N.B. Monsieur *LeBlanc* moved from Mr. Bigolows to the School House. Mr. Bigolow carried me in his Whirry at Eve to see them. There were *Joseph LeBlanc* and *Marien Gordeau*, Monsieurs 2d son, and Cousin, the first from Cambridge the other from *Sherbourne*, to see 'em. Mrs. Blanc very sick. Mr. Biglow brought me home and supped with me.

1757 January 13 (Thursday). Monsieur *LeBlanc* and his son *Joseph* (agreeable to my Invitation last Night) dined with me. N.B. At Eve sent by Mr. Ebenezer *Cutler* £[70.10?].0 Old Tenor to be left at Mr. Winchesters for Mr. Nathaniel Ball of Grafton. Mr. Joseph Batchelor was with him.

1757 January 14 (Friday). Capt. Baldwin came this Evening and lodges here. Mr. Thomas Twitchel here. I reckon with him and pay him all, by a Note to the Collector Mr. Ebenezer Forbush. Cold Night.

1757 January 15 (Saturday). Capt. *Baldwin* consents to take *Billy* as Apprentice. And he is to go up to Brookfield in a Fortnight or 3 Weeks. Capt. B. Sat out to Day, facing the Cold, for Brookfield.

1757 January 16 (Sunday). Read 1 K. 22 to v. 19 and gave Expository Observations. P.M. read Mat. 24. Preached a. and p.m. on *Luk.* 13.25-29. Do earnestly beg I may feel the Power of Gods word my self. Was very fervent in delivering a Solemn Charge to the Congregation p.m. May it

fasten upon my own Soul! After I had delivered the Blessing I Stopped the Congregation and read the brief Pamphlet (the chief of it) entitled "a Call from the City to the Country." It respected united Prayer on Lords Day and Wednesday Mornings. This I resolve by Gods Grace, to comply with as I can, myself, and do recommend it to my People. Widow Thurston and Widow Rogers dined here. At Eve looked again into Mrs. Pierpoints Journals.

1757 January 17 (Monday). Very Cold. Mr. Thomas Goodenow dines here. P.M. Billy to an Artillery Training at Mr. *Benjamin Tainters*. Mr. Rolf here, brings me a pair of Cork shoes. I read Dr. Sewals and Mr. Prince's sermons on the Death of the late Venerable and Pious Mr. secretary Willard. O that God would raise up others such into Public Offices, for with Him is the Residue of the Spirit! At Eve my Son Ebenezer here. He is under considerable Affliction by his Mare's being lame. He had let her to Joseph Baker to go to Marblehead and was kicked by an horse in a stable. This proves a bad sore. Poor Daniel *How*, in a distracted Condition here. God be thanked that We enjoy our senses! May God pity such as are destitute, and give me and mine the Grace to make a good use of the powers vouchsafed us!

1757 January 18 (Tuesday). An exceeding Cold Morning. May we have a due Sense of God's Power, Majesty and Glory! May we be mercifully sustained! And May all the poor and needy be supplied, as through God's great Goodness we are! *Magdalene* and *Mary Blanc* here and dined with us. Mr. *Stone* and Mr. *Smith* came from Hopkinton to see me, and dined here. P.M. Judge Ward here.

1757 January 19 (Wednesday). The Cold rather increases. This was one of the Coldest mornings. *Lord Loudon* upon the Road to Boston. Judge Ward dined with us and p.m. I visited (by Special Request) Mr. Joseph Knowltons two sons again, Nathaniel being very low. Had Mr. Williams's Mare. Called at Mr. Eliezer Rice's. *Peter* and *Amon Blanc* there. N.B. There were two French men called at my House to day, their Names *Peter* and *Simon Blanc* - Cousins (as they say) of our Neighbours.

1757 January 20 (Thursday). More moderate. I walked to Mr. Rolfs, and to Lieut. Forbush's. P.M. Dr. Wilson has been to See Nathaniel *Knowlton*, and calls here. Mr. John Child has been at t'other House Mending the Windows there, for which he asks 3£ old Tenor.

1757 January 21 (Friday). Rain -- p.m. and towards Evening it grew very tempestuous. The snow which had lain for a Considerable time, goes off apace.

1757 January 22 (Saturday). Mr. Joseph Knowltons son *Nathaniel* (one of the Twins) dyed last night: the Other, *Samuel* very bad also.

1757 January 23 (Sunday). Read 1 K. 22. Gave Remarks and Observations. Repeated sermon 5 on Eph. 2.21.22. Took only the last verse for my Text. N.B. Chose this the rather because of the Subject designed for the p.m. (on which I had spent my Time for preparations) and the Business of next Week. N.B. This morning ended Mr. *Lowman* on the *Rev.* and therewith finished the reading the Bible in the Family once more. May the Seal of it be impressed on our Hearts! Old

Mrs. Maynard, Widow of the late Capt. John Maynard, after many Entreatys, dined here. P.M. Read *Mat. 25* and preached on *Act 6.1*, to 7th v. previous to the Choice of another Deacon. Appointed a Church Meeting to be next Thursday for that purpose. At Eve Mrs. Pierponts Journals.

1757 January 24 (Monday). Snow storm. Began in the Family to read *Ainsworths*, Translation of the Pentatouchs and Annotations.

1757 January 25 (Tuesday). Storm continues and much snow has fallen. Lt. *Tainter* goes to *Boston* notwithstanding and is charged (as usual) with Errands from us – Especially by him I return to Miss *Anne* and Mrs. *Mary Fleet* the 7th Volume of the History of Miss *Clarissa Harlowe*.

1757 January 26 (Wednesday). P.M. I took a walk to Mr. *Zebulun Rice's*. He went before me without much Path, to See Monsieur *Blanc*. I carryed with me Dr. *Douglass's* Historical Summary of *Nova Scotia*. *Blanc* gave me Some Account of the Fight at the *Grand Pre* in *Menis* but he said he was not there. N.B. He was more attentive to my Discourse of Religion -- and what I insisted for was; that as Religion is the Service of God, it must be performed according to His own mind, if we would have it to be acceptable to Him: If then He has Seen meet to discover His Mind we must strictly observe it. Now since the Bible is the Mind of God, we must be very exactly Carefull to put nothing into our Religion that is *not* in the Bible; nor omitt anything that *is* there. When he told me that the people of *Anapolis* never Speak to one another about Religion but are free and Willing that each Party Should enjoy their own Way; the English go to their own Church and the French to theirs. I prayed him not to take it in ill part that I spake to him about Religion: If I had any Love to him I *must*. There was no such way to manifest my true and hearty Love to him as this. All that related to this present Life and World was *un petit Affaire*, but what relates to the Great God and to long Eternity is, *un Grad Affaire*. He gave very free Consent to this, and Seemed willing to attend. I told him I heard some of the French were afraid of the English and especially of ministers, lest they Should speak to them about religion; and more peculiarly did not love to have their Children to be among the English for fear they Should be influenced to turn Hereticks -- but I prayed him not to be *in Chagrin* on this Score. He told me he was not afraid for either himself, or his Children. I might Speak freely. I told him "I wanted to know *His* Religion and the *Manner* of his performing and he should know mine; that we might see whether his or mine was most agreeable to the Bible: and we would throw away whatever, in either, was not agreeable to the *Bible*." He was profoundly still. I insisted for his having a Bible; that it did not do, for the Priest only to have the Bible: the Priest must allow you to see *for your self*. Every Body must see for Himself in matters of Religion. We must not go along in the Dark. I added that I did not want any of my people Should trust me in *that*; but examine all I Said by the Bible.

1757 January 27 (Thursday). Lt. *Tainter* came from Boston and brought Wool and Cotton for *Lucy*. He dined with us: as did Judge *Ward*. P.M. our Church Meeting to choose a Deacon instead of Deacon *Jonathan Forbush* junior deceased. After prayer and acquainting the Church with what the Design of the Meeting was, I read what the Platform says of a Deacons Business

etc.; Votes were brought in. There appeared 12 out of 25 for Lt. Tainter. Six were for Brother Whitney; five for Brother Daniel Forbush, one for Brother Francis Whipple and one for Brother Moses Warrin. We tryed again and there were 17 for Brother Tainter. Whereupon he was declared Chosen. After this I mentioned to the Church that my Judgment had been many years ago, and was Still that Deacons ought, according to the *Institution* in Act. 6 to be Ordained. I also desired the Church to think upon the Affair of Sister *Judith Bellows*. We prayed, and I gave the Blessing. May God be with His servant who has been elected! I can't but look upon him as being, all things considered, the Suitablest Person among us for the Office; and hope God will graciously accept and reward him for his readiness to serve in the Kingdom of Christ he having in a distinguishing manner a ministerial Disposition, and is very helpful to the poor and afflicted.

1757 January 28 (Friday). [No entry.]

1757 January 29 (Saturday). I wrote a Letter in French to Mr. LeBlanc, desiring him to come to Meeting tomorrow and to dine with me. Sent it by Lt. Tainter. Too much belated to my great sorrow in my Preparations for the Sabbath. But may God grant a suitable Frame of Spirit to the Subject I am preparing upon!

1757 January 30 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 1. Gave some brief (unwritten) Observations. Preached a. and p.m. on 2 *Cor.* 5.11, former part. Mrs. *Hastings* and Mrs. *Whitney* of Waterton (sisters of Lt. Tainter) dined here. They inform that *John Harrington* of *Waltham*, who killed young Larnard some time ago, is condemned to die. P.M. I read part of *Mat.* 26. Scil. to v. 36. Great Thaw, and rains.

1757 January 31 (Monday). The Snow greatly melted away. N.B. a strange Man came in here muffled and in a Frock, Said he was from New York, wanted to have a Bible handed to him. He thereupon turned to *Joel* 2, and strongly recommended it to me to read it, and give solemn Warning to the people. We shall soon see (he said) cause enough for it. I asked to sit -- "it was no matter." I asked him if he would Eat or drink -- and what was his Name. His reply still was, "it mattered not" -- and left us. *Amon Blanc* at dinner here. P.M. Billy goes to Artillery Training at Neighbour *Alpheus Newtons*.

1757 February 1 (Tuesday). Began to read the *Apocrypha*. *Billy* clears north of the Orchard. Adam Rice works with him and dines with us. At Eve came Brother Hicks from Boston and lodges here.

1757 February 2 (Wednesday). Very stormy last Night and this Morning -- Snow, Rain, Hail. Yet Brother Hicks leaves us to go home. N.B. Brother Hicks informs me that he designs to Review the Action between *Collins* the Quaker and him and again wants me to recollect his Sending by me a Message to *Collins*, to know whether Mr. Oliver Ward had paid, or how much he had paid upon his Bond. This put me upon reading over great Part of my Journals of the Years 1736 and 1737, which brings to my remembrance so many Things, many besides what are written, that I am much affected, and am very glad I have taken those pains to preserve what Passes from Day to Day. For although many things are small and of little worth in them selves yet do the

Recollections of them prove of Service divers ways, putting me in mind of several Circumstances which attended them which tis needful to recover: But there are some Other Things which are of Such Importance in my Life that they ought by no means to be dropt. I must notwithstanding upon the Review, bewail it that my Life is of so little importance or profit to my self or Others. O what is mine compared with the Lives of Some Others! Ex. gr. St. Augustine's, who preached every Day; and wrote Books enough besides to take up the most of a mans Life, with proper attention to read: Dr. *Hammonds* who Studyed etc. 16 Hours of the 24. Mr. R. *Baxter* who was even a prodigy of Fruitfulness. May God be pleased to awaken me out of my Sloth, and pardon and help me for His Name's Sake!

1757 February 3 (Thursday). I looked over the Notes I designed to preach from at the private Meeting at Mr. *Bradish's* -- but presently after Dinner came Mr. Hezekiah Pratt with an Horse beseeching me to hasten to his House, whither Some men had brought poor Mr. *Edward Wilson* of Shrewsbury. They brought him out from home in order to his Seeing me, but they could get him no further. I therefore went to him and found him in a very distressed Condition under Strong Temptations and frequently ready to lay Hands on himself. I gave him some quieting Counsel and Directions and prayed with him. The men who waited on him were Mr. Brewer and Mr. John Garfield. In the Evening Deacon Forbush and his Widow Daughter here and supped with me. This Evening visited us also Lt. Tainter with his sisters, Hastings and Whitney. When they were gone, I had some sorrowful Reflections on my Conversation's being So unprofitable and lifeless as it was among them. O that God would pardon and quicken me! And make me more Serviceable to His Kingdom and useful to mankind.

1757 February 4 (Friday). *Billy* went to Mr. Johnsons Mill in Southborough with a Team, Carrying 8 Bushels of Indian and 4 of Rye, and came home early, the whole grownd into good meal. But it proves a great Trouble that we can't succeed at Mr. *Whipples* which is so much nearer. News from the Lake of another Exploit of Capt. Rogers.

1757 February 5 (Saturday). Lt. Tainters sisters go to Watertown. There came up another storm of Snow. My Heart was much engaged in my preparations and do earnestly Wish I may feel what I write! It is so lengthened out that I cant finish and yet it must be but one Exercise.

1757 February 6 (Sunday). Storm continues -- Snow -- p.m. Rain. Read 2 K. 2. Preached a.m. on 2 Cor. 5.11. P.M. read Mat. 26 from v. 36. Repeated a sermon on Ps. 63.8 to p. 6. And O that God would add his Blessing to the fervent Endeavors of the Day, in Special to Spiritual and Everlasting profit of my own Soul! Mr. John Chamberlins Wife dined here. In the Evening Mrs. *Pierpont*. N.B. had some Serious Discourse with Billy, which I beg of God to Succeed to his Saving Good.

1757 February 7 (Monday). Snowy Weather still. P.M. it cleared off. Mr. Amos Wait of Grafton, from Boston, dined here. He brings me a Line from my Kinsman W. B. P., that probably Brother P\_\_\_\_ will be marryed this Week. Sent by Daniel Nurse to Mr. William *Boardman* for an Hatt for *Billy*. In the Eve Mr. Daniel Forbush here. Read some of Mrs. *Pierponts* Journals,

find them very entertaining and quickening -- but not without divers very exceptional Things respecting their Separation and suffering Persecution from Authority in New Haven.

1757 February 8 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Bond* dined here and spent the p.m. here. It was a pleasant Day, but I was much oppressed with various Thoughts partly my Spiritual State, and partly also Some unavoidable temporal Affairs. May I duely acknowledge God in all!

1757 February 9 (Wednesday). Had Mr. Benjamin Tainters Mare to go to Marlborough. Was at the Widow Grace Barns's; visit Mrs. Mary Steward at Mr. Peter Bents. N.B. Mrs. *Bulah* and *Betty Bent* promise me their Meadow which joins to mine. Dined at Mr. *Smiths*; but he was gone to Sudbury. Billy and John wait on their Mother in a visit to Mrs. *Martyn* and return in safety. Mr. *Martyn* came there -- which I wondered at, because my Wife was at his House. Mr. *Martyn* and I went over to see Mrs. *Spikeman* (who dwells in Dr. Gotts House) news having arrived to her that Capt. Spikeman was killed by the Enemy in a late Encounter, at Lake George or Champlain. At Eve I returned home and in my way hired 31£ old Tenor of Mr. Ephraim How. Capt. *Baldwin* came. He informs that my Daughter Forbush has had a broken Breast.

1757 February 10 (Thursday). A Great Storm of Rain. Capt. Baldwin with us. Daniel Nurse informs us that Brother William Parkman was married on the 8th.

1757 February 11 (Friday). Bright and not very Cold. Capt. B. returns to Brookfield and Carrys Some of Billys Cloths. My Wife goes to t'other House; and carrys *Samuel* there and leaves him. Brother Hicks going to Boston again upon the Collins Affair, dines here. P.M. Mr. *Ammiel Weeks* of Brookfield here. Tells me Lord Loudown is on the Road, returning to the Westward. At Eve came Mr. *Childs* man to glaze my Kitchin, but I Sent him to *Abner Newton*. Billy trims my young Orchard.

1757 February 12 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 February 13 (Sunday). Read 2 King. 3. Repeated on Ps. 63.8 from page 6 the remainder with Omissions, alterations etc. P.M. read Mat. 26 from v. 36. Preached on *Ezek. 22.30* on which I mainly Spent my time for preparation So that I was obliged (many Cares and avocations pressing) to repeat as abovesaid. It is my earnest wish and prayer that God will please to raise up, and Spirit Such as may Stand in the Gap before Him for this Land! O that it might please Him to qualifie and introduce me (though infinitely unworthy) into the Number, though the most inferior Number of them of those that Shall do some Service in those respects! No Earthly Honour being comparable to serving God most High in the great Affairs of His Kingdom. Evening *Pierpont Journals*.

1757 February 14 (Monday). P.M. visit *LeBlanc*. He Objects against us that many of us, Protestants, (as Quakers) are not baptized -- and that we dont practise *Penitence*. To the former I replied that we looked upon them as heretical, as well as Papists. To the latter 1.) That particular Days of Penitence, Whether Days of the Week, ex. gr. Friday, Jesus Christ has not appointed them in the Sacred Scriptures. 2.) Public Fasts are according to the Special

Occasions thereof. 3) Private Fasts are left to the wisdom and Devoutness of particular persons them Selves. N.B. It was So dark and slippery that being 'o foot I called at Lieut. Tainters; Supped there; and he discerning my State, offered and accommodated me with Horse and Lad to wait upon me home.

1757 February 15 (Tuesday). *Peter Sever* (Mr. *John Childs* Young man) glazed my Kitchin, Bedroom etc. He dined here. And Mr. *Uriah Brigham* and his Wife, Dr. *Gott* and Mrs. *Betty Gott* (lately come from Springfield and soon returning there) made us a Visit, dined etc.

1757 February 16 (Wednesday). Visit Mr. *Joseph Knowltons* Family. Not only have their two sons *Samuel* and *Nathaniel* lately dyed, but Miss *Abigail*, and *Mary Pratt* now ly ill of the same Fever, and Young Mr. *Knowlton* (who lost 3 Children last Fall) is taken sick. A very distressing time with them, and calls for sympathy. I visited also at *Phinehas Gleazons*, *Edmund Rice's*, Mr. *James Maynards* -- old Mr. *Whipples* etc. N.B. Mr. *Edward Wilsons* Son was here to desire me to assist in a Fast to be next Tuesday at Mr. *Wilsons* (in Shrewsbury) on Account of his grievous Tryals and Distresses. Mr. *Ebenezer Forbush*, Collector, his first visit to pay me money. *Barnabas Newton* here, desiring to join with the Church.

1757 February 17 (Thursday). Very rainy. Mr. *David Batchellour* going to Boston and Wenham. *Vid: Memor.* My Preparations at Evening.

1757 February 18 (Friday). Still rainy. Have deep and distressing Concern about my own Spiritual State; and find abundant reason to abhor my Self before the Lord, to humble my Self to the Dust. And O that God would have Mercy on Me: for His great Name's Sake! At Eve Mr. *Noah Brooks* here. Deacon *Forb.* and his Daughter, the widow, here. N.B. I gave her a Note of 11£ Old Tenor for the Pork which I bought of her, being 147 pound at 1/6. N.B. My Son *Thomas* brings me from his Brother *Ebenezer* a proposal about their taking the old place -- but is what I can't comply with.

1757 February 19 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 February 20 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 4. Text Ezek. 22.30 a. and p.m. P.M. read Mat. 27 to v. [blank]. In the Evening read in Mrs. *Pierponts* journals, which often fill me with Shame and Grief to Consider how far Short I fall, and though I am ready to form Resolutions etc. yet alas how far short I fall in them also!

1757 February 21 (Monday). Visit the Widow *Grout*, old Mr. *Fay*, and others.

1757 February 22 (Tuesday). Attended at the Fast in Shrewsbury at the House of Mr. *Ed. Wilson*, he remaining in a very distressed, tempted state. Mr. *Cushing* prayed and Mr. *Hutchinson* preached a.m. Text Ps. 32.3 to 6 inclusive. P.M. I prayed and Mr. *Martyn* preached. Text *Zeph.* 3.2. A very great Concourse. The sermons very seasonable and excellent Discourses. May they be savingly profitable! I returned at Eve. I called at Mr. *Joseph Knowltons*, the young woman being Still very low.



1757 February 23 (Wednesday). Visited old Capt. Forb., Mrs. Chase; Widow Rogers, Mr. Barns and Artemas Bruce, the Frosts -- The widow Maynard -- and was at my sons, where I have not been ever since December [9?] (as I remember). Both he and his wife under much Disquietment, yet it is not in my power to remedy it. I came home Smitten with my having disappointed Barny Newton whom I had directed to come here this Eve, but the pressure of my Affairs with my son made me utterly forget it, till I got near home. He had been here and waited long enough, and was gone home. May God forgive it through Jesus Christ.

1757 February 24 (Thursday). This morning went to *Barny* to acquaint him with how 'twas and desire him to over look it and come this Evening. P.M. preached a Lecture to young men on *Tit.* 2.6 and finished this Subject. After meeting my Daughter in Law stayed with us and lodges here. *Barny Newton* Examin'd.

1757 February 25 (Friday). Eliza comes into my Study to acquaint me that her Husband insists on my telling him what I will give him -- whereas I have let him know my Mind divers Times already; if he will but repair the Fences, which he neglects to do. I Sent him a writing to inform him of my Thoughts; my purposes and my Expectations. This is an Affair which gives me inexpressible and piercing Trouble. I desire to Committ it to God and wait on him for Direction and Assistance. Deacon Tainter from Boston having kindly done many Errands for us. The Lord reward him for the great Care he takes of my Affairs!

1757 February 26 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 February 27 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 5 and Mat. 27 from v. 35. Preached on Ezek. 22, v. 31, a. and p.m. Evening Mrs. Pierponts Journals. My Mind and Heart are continually in grievous Exercise: but would hold fast by God.

1757 February 28 (Monday). Went over to Ebenezers to discourse with both him and her. Visit at Mr. Rody Smiths, and Mr. Jonas Twitchells: dined with this last. Visit Jane *Kelly* who is lame at Mr. Ephraim Bruce's. Visit the Widow Beeman and her son, *Eliphalet Adams*, Daniel and Tim. Warrins.

1757 March 1 (Tuesday). My Wife rides to Marlborough to get a Pair of New Stays made by Miss Nanny Woods; and buy Billy a Castor Hatt. Returns at Eve. Dr. Crosby and Mr. John Martyn junior dined with me. P.M. I went again to see Mr. Blanc.

1757 March 2 (Wednesday). My son William leaves me to go to 'Prentice to Capt. Jeduthan Baldwin at Brookfield. My son Ebenezer goes up with him. Mr. Martyn and his Wife dine with me, and tarry till Evening when I went to justice Bakers, where I married Mr. Jn. Martyn junior and Mrs. *Nabby*. When we had supped Mr. Martyn and his Wife returned here and lodged.

1757 March 3 (Thursday). Mr. M. and wife went home. Their son carryed home his Wife to his own House. *Thomas* and *Lucy* wait upon 'em (as they did the last night). Mr. Barrachias Morse

dined here. P.M. preached at the Widow Newtons on *Joh.* 4.24, latter part. Dr. Crosby here and brought me a Cap he had bought for me at Boston. N.B. Ephraim How of Brookfield here at night, and lodges here, but his Horse is kept at Mr. Nurse's.

1757 March 4 (Friday). Mr. Ephraim How pursues his Journey. He seems to be a serious young man; and it is Surely a great pleasure to see such.

1757 March 5 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 March 6 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 6 and Mat. 28. Preached a. and p.m. on Luk. 9.62. O that it might please God to bless the word to our Saving Good! I have put my Hand to the Gospel-Plough in a double respect, and desire to be humbled that in so many regards have Seemed to look back. The Lord humble and quicken me! N.B. My wife goes with Mr. Edwards Whipple to his Wife's Groaning. Troublesome getting to Meeting and but few there.

1757 March 7 (Monday). The Town Sent Mr. Williams and Mr. Jacob Rice to desire me to pray with them previous to their Election of Town Officers. I did accordingly. N.B. had some serious Discourse with Ensign Josiah Rice respecting his son Joseph who, as I have heard has behaved very disorderly of late.

1757 March 8 (Tuesday). Sent a Letter to Mr. Benjamin Lull by his son in Law *Rogers*. N.B. had a troublesome Walk in the Evening from the widow Rogers's whither I went to carry my Letter - it being Dark, muddy and lowery. Near home struck my Leg against a stump and wounded my right Legg very sorrowfully which gave me great Uneasiness most of the Night.

1757 March 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Martyn preached an Excellent Sermon at my Lecture from *Ezek.* 3.7, which may God bless to the moving and melting our Hard Hearts! I was glad to see so many at Lecture and wish with all my Heart it may prove a Time of divine Grace with us. N.B. *Prudence Hardy* having put out her Angle [*sic*], came to our House with Mrs. *Parker*, the Bone setter, and had it Sett.

1757 March 10 (Thursday). A Stormy Day yet the Company were called together by Capt. Fay to See who would list upon a Designed Expedition. They gathered into the Meeting House and I prayed with them there. My son Ebenezer mentions his Desire to join with the Church.

1757 March 11 (Friday). Mr. Batheric talks with me about taking my other place to the halves.

1757 March 12 (Saturday). Bought two shoats of Neighbour Alpheus Newton alive at 12d per pound.

1757 March 13 (Sunday). Omitted reading publicly. Preached a.m. on *Joh.* 14.6. *Lucy* was admitted into the Church. I administered the Sacrament of the Supper. Deacon Tainter waited (with Deacon Bond). Deacon Tainter and Mrs. How dined here. P.M. omitted reading publicly.

Preached on Luk. 9.62. May God Succeed it! At the Concluding of the Exercises it rained hard. My sons wife with her Child, and Mrs. Mercy Chamberlin tarried and lodged here.

1757 March 14 (Monday). Neighbour Alpheus Newton brings the 2 Swine I bought of him of the 12th. One a Barrow, the other a sow. Weighed, the former 96, the other 84, so that they come to nine Pound old Tenor. Mr. Batheric came and agreed to take my old Place to the halves. He desires me to write the Terms on which he is to take it. My Daughter in Law, and Lucy go to Watertown in my Chair. A very fine, Spring like Day. P.M. visit and pray with old Mr. Maynard.

1757 March 15 (Tuesday). A.M. Stormy. The Life of Prince *Eugene*. P.M. visit Old Mr. Whipple. Visit also Mr. *Joseph Knowltons Family*. His Wife in a very low Condition, in much Danger. Mr. *Cushing* came. At his, and their importunity I prayed. When I returned to Mr. Whipple's, prayed with him and Supped there.

1757 March 16 (Wednesday). My wife and I rode over to Mr. Martyns. Dined there. Preached his Lecture on Judg. 14.14. Cold weather. Called at Young Mr. *Martyn's*. Returned home at Eve.

1757 March 17 (Thursday). Rugged Morning; yet Mr. *Jabez Snow* and Mr. *Gale* came to work in the Kitchin. They make Stairs to go up into the Kitchin Chamber. Mr. Joseph Batchellor here, and informs that *John Harrington* is to be executed to Day, at Cambridge. The Sermon to be preached to him at Charle[s]town.

1757 March 18 (Friday). Mr. Snow and Gale lodged here last night, and work here to Day. They are about the Stairs aforesaid. P.M. Mr. Francis Whipple came for me to visit his Father who grows worse. I went, examined and prayed with him. He entertains much Hope in his Death. The Carpenters work this Eve, though not last: and lodge here.

1757 March 19 (Saturday). The Carpenters put on Boards under the Clabboarding, put up the West-Stair Case Window and heading etc. They prove a great Interruption and impediment to me in my studys.

1757 March 20 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 7. Preached on Joh. 14.6. Mrs. *Kelly* wife of Mr. *Richard or Long Kelly*, dined with us. P.M. read Mark 1. Repeated sermon on 1 Sam. 25.32.33 to page [blank]. Was much tired at night, but may God refresh my inner man! We have heard that Lucy was ill at Brother Harringtons at Watertown, and therefore could not go to Boston as She purposed.

1757 March 21 (Monday). The Carpenters here to Day -- making the North Door, and Heading for the West Door. Lowery, that they cant Clabboard. At Night came Capt. Baldwin and lodged here.

1757 March 22 (Tuesday). Capt. B. rode away early for Boston. To Day a General Training through out the Province to press men if they have not enlisted, to go to War against the French. A very stormy Time; snow, Wind, and Cold. Our Company met at the Meeting House; and I prayed with them there.

1757 March 23 (Wednesday). Another Stormy Day -- and very Cold. Mr. *Gale* came to Work: but Mr. Snow did not. I read the History of Prince *Eugene*. Mr. *Gale* lodges here.

1757 March 24 (Thursday). A fine Day, but a very winterish prospect. Mr. *Gale* alone to Day also. P.M. My little *John*, who has been several Times before delivered from Death, was remarkably Saved, though he fell from the Chamber down upon one of the Great Stones of the Kitchin Hearth. All hearty Praise be given to the glorious God his preserver. Walked up to Mr. *Alphy Newton's* to buy Boards of his Brother Abner; and there were Capt. B. *Wood* and his Wife from Hopkinton, who I hear are about to take that old *Place*.

1757 March 25 (Friday). Mr. Snow came to work again; with Mr. *Gale* who lodges (as well as works) here. A.M. I borrowed Mr. Nurses Mare and rode to Mr. Eliezer Rice's -- break fast there on fresh Fish. Visit *Old Mr. Whipple* who grows much weaker, and I fear draws near his great Change. Nor is he in Terror at it, but thinks, God having wrought a good work in him, his Hope is well grounded. I prayed with him. He gave his dying Testimony to the Christian Religion and the Expediency of our waiting upon God in the Ordinances of His Appointment. He was greatly rejoiced at my Coming. When I took leave, his reply was, "*Farewell, my Father!*" But with what Shame and Grief does it fill me that I So little deserve this! P.M. *Abner Newton* brought me the Boards I lately went for -- viz. 206 feet -- for which I gave him 50/ old Tenor, they being though white pine very much Culled. Snowed again. A sorrowful Time with those who want Hay; as I hear many do. The Carpenters lodge here. Lucy returned home.

1757 March 26 (Saturday). They work to Day also. Snow and sometimes Rain, but neither very Cold nor windy. Capt. Baldwin dined here, and desires he maybe married on April 21, to which I consent.

1757 March 27 (Sunday). Very rainy -- had agreed to change with Mr. Martyn, and so depended upon it that I was not prepared to preach at home yet the Weather prevented. I read a.m. 2 K. 8. Repeated the rest of Sermon on 1 Sam. 25.32.33. P.M. read Mark 2. Repeated Expository Exercises on Mat. 12.38.39.

1757 March 28 (Monday). Mr. *Gale* at work but Mr. Snow did not come. N.B. Mr. Samuel Fay junior greatly offended with my wife innocently commending his. He said people envied him his Happiness and found fault with divine Providence. P.M. my wife and I visit old Mr. Whipple who is yet alive, and a little revived.

1757 March 29 (Tuesday). Muster of the Soldiers listed or pressed in Coll. Williams Regiment. The Coll. etc. at Lt. Maynards. Mr. *Gale* at work on Cellar Stairs. Messrs. Cushing and Maynard Executors of late Dr. Smiths will, Settle Account with me.

1757 March 30 (Wednesday). Mr. Gale. Very Stormy -- Rain, snow, etc.

1757 March 31 (Thursday). Mr. Gale -- Mr. Snow p.m. I rode to old Mrs. Maynards and to Mr. Hows -- dined at Mr. Hows -- visit at Several Houses at the plain. P.M. ride south upon divers occasions -- was at LeBlanc's. Examine my son Ebenezer in the Evening. Mr. Gale rides home on my Mare and lodges at home: Mr. Snow lodges here. Bright day.

1757 April 1 (Friday). Messrs. Snow and Gale, clabboarding etc. Mr. Benjamin How here to look of Walnut Chairs my wife bought for Lucy at Marlborough and are some of them much broken -- that he may mend 'em. Moderate weather, but cloudy and sometimes snows -- an uncommon season for frequency of foul weather.

1757 April 2 (Saturday). Messrs. Snow and Gale. They finish the Pediment of the West Door and windows etc. And they go home at Evening.

1757 April 3 (Sunday). Depended upon Changing with Mr. Martyn, but it proved so Stormy that I could not go. I wrote this morning an Exposition of the Chapter to be read, viz. 2 King 9, which I delivered for the forenoon Exercise. P.M. read Mark 3 and preached on *Joh. 14.6*. N.B. *Joseph Rice*, dressed as a Soldier was here in the morning in his way to Marlborough where he and the rest of our Soldiers from this Company are billeted: he desires prayers, and I gave him Solemn Admonition and Charge.

1757 April 4 (Monday). *Mr. Jonathan Whipple*, having deceased last Saturday, was interred p.m. He was in his 79th year. I read his Will to the Mourners at my House. But I was in Some surprize when I found that though I wrote it my Self, there were but two Witnesses, who had signed it. But *Mr. Francis* Said he Should not object against it. Conscious of the Danger that *Mr. David Maynard* was in the like Case (writ by me, and in my keeping) I went over to old Mr. Maynard and acquainted him with it and Since I did See him sign, Seal and publish and declare his, and likewise did see the witnesses Sign (as I remember being with them and guiding them in what they did), I therefore, at his Desire, and in their Sight, Signed as Witness also. This was also in presence of two of the Heirs, *Nathan* and *Hannah Maynard*. This I apprehended to be my Duty to do; and might justly and in Truth do; and this notwithstanding the Date of the Will, for that is not the Date of the Signing. N.B. Mr. Snow and Gale not at work to Day. N.B. Mr. Nic. Bryard a soldier requests me to preach to the Soldiers who are quartered in this Town.

1757 April 5 (Tuesday). *Snow and Gale*. In no Small Difficulty about a further Supply of Board Nails for them, there being none at either of the Traders in Town. Sent to Boston by Mr. *Charles Bruce*. Employed in preparing a Sermon to the Soldiers.

1757 April 6 (Wednesday). Preached to the Soldiers from *Luk. 3.14*. *Bryard*, who had Spoke to me in the Name of the rest, there with 7 or 8 Soldiers besides. Our own are at Marlborough and therefore did not attend. *Snow and Gale* -- and attend etc.

1757 April 7 (Thursday). My Carpenters here. N.B. my Nails not coming from Boston a Disquietment -- borrowed 100 of Mr. *Warrin* and 100 of Mr. Biglow. It was the greater Trouble to me as it was at a Time when I was preparing to preach again to Day. And p.m. did so at Mr. Zebulon or rather Mr. *Charles Rice's*. On Song 2.4, latter part. O may we all be under Christs Banner and may we experience it to be Love!

1757 April 8 (Friday). Messrs. *Snow* and *Gale* finish their work for this turn and each receives a Note to the Collector in full. Mr. *Snow* of 10£ 9s, and Mr. *Gale* of 15£ old Tenor each. Mrs. *Miller* here full of obliging and affectionate regards. She teaches *Sarah* to make a particular kind of Gartering. N.B. At Eve Lt. *Rolf* brings home my Boots New Vamped. My Troubles and Disquietments by So many Avocations etc. almost unsupportable.

1757 April 9 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 April 10 (Sunday). I rode over to Mr. Martyn's, and he hither. I preached there a. and p.m. on Ezek. 22.30. P.M. read v. 31. Returned at Evening. Mr. Martyn preached here a.m. on Ps. 79.8.9, p.m. on Jer. 7.12, and baptized 3 Children, Eunice, Daniel and Asa, children of Timothy Warrin, Jonas Twitchel, and Artemus Bruce. He went home at Eve.

1757 April 11 (Monday). [No entry.]

1757 April 12 (Tuesday). I rode to Southborough, it being Ministers Meeting there. For Mr. Barret at whose House it was appointed to be excused himself through want of Hay. There were but few present. Messrs. Cushing, Martyn, Smith, and Mellen. Neither Conc[ioto?]r nor *Lecturer* came. Mr. Stone read us a Discourse on Rom. 13.14. There were no Collections, but a passage I read out of Mr. Loring's Convention sermon, concerning ministers union Friendship, and Meeting together.<sup>1</sup> This I would have to be transcribed and sent to him, since he so unreasonably withdraws and separates himself, and this they thought was very fit to be done.

1757 April 13 (Wednesday). It was very much insisted for and pressed that I would preach the Lecture. I could not without Difficulty comply. Was obliged to write a great deal of the Application there. I preached on 1 Joh. 2.18. N.B. after Sermon Mr. *Mellen* had many Things to Say which we endeavoured to Answer. My Wife rode to Boston to Day, and Lt. Tainter waited on her. My son went with his Team to Brookfield to work on the Gilbert place. I returned home. My Tabernacle in peace. D.G. Little *Sophy* weaning, and takes it tolerably.

1757 April 14 (Thursday). P.M. Adam Rice ploughs for me -- but with my own Creatures. Mrs. Beckky Warrin here.

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<sup>1</sup> Israel Loring, *Ministers Insufficient of Themselves Rightly to Discharge the Duties of Their Sacred Calling, Shewed in a Sermon Preached at the Convention of Ministers of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, N.E. at Boston. On Thursday, May 27. 1742* (Boston: Printed by Tho. Fleet, for D. Henchman in Cornhill, 1742). Evans 4990.

1757 April 15 (Friday). Stormy though not much Rain falls. My Wife with Deacon Tainter, returns from Boston, and safely. D.G.

1757 April 16 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 April 17 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 10. Preached on Joh. 14.6 -- *the Life*. P.M. read Mark 4 and preached on v. 25, using the Exposition of Mat. 13.12, for I chose to deliver all I had prepared on the forenoon Text, at one Exercise. May the glorious God magnifie His mercy towards me and His people, in bringing us into the happy Experience of divine Life from the Lord Jesus Christ and may we live for ever, through Him!

1757 April 18 (Monday). *Deacon Kimbal* came to plaister my Bedroom, Entry etc. *Amon Blanc* worked for me -- partly in the Garden and partly tending the Mason. P.M. Mr. *Dunlop* in the Garden, and p.m. Mrs. *Mary Nurse* at work, making Breeches for Alex. and Samuel. So many different persons at work proves an unwelcome Avocation at Such a Time as this.

1757 April 19 (Tuesday). Deacon, *Dunlop*, *Amon*, Mrs. *Mary* at work, but a far greater Hindrance to my Studys from Visits made me by Messrs. *LeBlanc* and *Joseph Robishow*, who dined with me.

1757 April 20 (Wednesday). Deacon, *Amon* and Mrs. *Mary*. My wife very ill last Night -- but was better when she got up. Was able to finish a New Plad Gown for me. Capt. Baldwin having received no Letter from me concerning the Alteration of the Time of his Marriage from the 21st Day as was proposed, by reason of the publick Fast, to the 28th (but yet I Sent one by Mr. Abner Rice of Brookfield) came here this Evening, and lodged here. N.B. his horse was Sent to Esquire *Bakers* to be kept there.

1757 April 21 (Thursday). *Publick Fast*, on account of the Signal Advantages which the French gained over us in the Year Past, and on Account of our present Circumstances. I preached a.m. on 2 *Chr.* 6.34.35, repeating sermon on 1 K. 8.44.45. P.M. preached on Ps. 78, v. 34 to 37, which May God bless (as to the Special and Saving Good of the people, So to my own)! I desire to lament my unpreparedness and Slothfulness. May the Lord quicken me, and recover me!

1757 April 22 (Friday). Rain. Baldwin can't journey to Sudbury as he proposed. Mrs. *Mary Nurse* here, making me a black Jacket, the Cloth of which was given by Mrs. *Maynard* last Fall was 12 Month. Mr. *Martyn* and his Daughter *Minot* (to my great interruption, though at another time it would be to my great pleasure) made us a Visit, and lodge here.

1757 April 23 (Saturday). Rainy. Mr. *Martyn* and his Daughter tarry to dine with us. P.M. they return. Can do very little in my preparations for preaching, which fills me with much sorrow and Grief. Ebenezer returned from Brookfield.

1757 April 24 (Sunday). Ebenezer and his Wife came (to my sorrow) so late as this morning with their *Relations*. They were admitted after the forenoon Exercise into the Church. I read 2

K. 11. Repeated sermon on Song 1.12. Administered the Lords Supper. P.M. omitted the public reading. Repeated Sermon on Ps. 4.7 to page 9.

1757 April 25 (Monday). Mr. Moses Nurse ploughs part of my Stubble at the Island field. P.M. The French Girls here. I rode to Ensign Millers -- and called at *Blanc's* in the Evening as I returned home. Can make very little progress in Opening his mind or convincing him of Errors. Our Conversation of little other avail than to promote Civility and Benevolence.

1757 April 26 (Tuesday). Mr. Moses ploughs again, and with Neighbor Barny Newtons Oxen added to his, and my sons Steers break up the Balk next the Road.

1757 April 27 (Wednesday). Mrs. Green, wife of Mr. Joseph Green junior being Sick I visited her, and went also to See Mr. Joseph Knowlton in his Sorrows for the Loss of his late excellent wife: himself is decaying apace, and his Son Joseph is also in a Languishing Condition. P.M. Mr. Dunlop here and sows divers sorts of Seeds in my Garden.

1757 April 28 (Thursday). Capt. *Baldwin* Came, accompanied by his Brother *Nahum* but his Father and Mother, whom I had writ to, came not. My son Thomas went to Mr. Stones of Southborough and brought up Miss *Huldah*. P.M. Mr. *Martyn* and his wife came. My Son *Ebenezer* and his Wife; at Eve Mr. *John Martyn* junior and his wife -- and at the Edge of Evening *the Marriage of my Daughter Lucy* was Solemniz'd by Rev. Mr. *Martyn*. May God make 'em an happy Couple; but especially Heirs of the Grace of Eternal Life! Mr. *Martyn* and his wife lodged here; and Miss *Huldah Stone*, who is come to stay with us a while to assist *Lucy* in her preparations for *Brookfield*.

1757 April 29 (Friday). I waited on the Company, to visit Monsieur *LeBlanc* and his Family. We were besides my wife, and the New married Couple, Mr. *Martyn* and his wife, Mr. *Nahum Baldwin* and Miss *Huldah*, and my son *Thomas*. We returned home to dine, and took *Magdalene* and *Mary*, Since we could not obtain the man and his wife, to dine with us. *Isa. 58.7*. P.M. Mr. *Martyn* and his wife went home: Mr. *N. Baldwin* left us to go to a Meeting on Military Affairs in *Framingham*. In so much Encumbrances and Avocation am sadly impeded in my preparing for the sabbath.

1757 April 30 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1757 May 1 (Sunday). Cold, rough, cloudy weather. Read 2 K. 12. Preached on Ps. 45, former part of v. 2. P.M. read Mark 5. Repeated on Ps. 4.7, the rest. Ebenezers Children *Ebenezer*, *Elizabeth* and *Mary* were baptized. May God graciously pardon the Neglect hitherto! And graciously accept the dedication of them. May they be great and rich Blessings and the Parents be enabled to discharge their Duty to them to bring them up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord!



1757 May 2 (Monday). Cold. Capt. Baldwin left us to go to Brookfield to come again not till after Election. Miss *Huldah* still with us. A sober, discreet young Lady. Assists Lucy in Quilting a Bed Quilt.

1757 May 3 (Tuesday). Went over to t'other House, my Son preparing to go again to Brookfield. Reckoned with Lt. Maynard; my Account with him £15.5.3 old Tenor. He threw in 40/ old Tenor and I gave him a Note to the Collector Forb. for the rest and for £8.15 which he paid me. I also borrowed of him 10 Dollars till Mr. Forb. could collect some for me. Visit Mr. David Maynards Wife who is near her time and in dejection. *Adam* Rice at plough for me with our Team. Hear the Sorrowful News that *Jamaica* is taken by the French. Miss *Huldah Stone* assists *Lucy* in Quilting as above. Returned the 10 Dollars I borrowed of Mr. Beton.

1757 May 4 (Wednesday). *Miss Huldah*. My son Ebenezer goes again to Brookfield and carries up his Son with him. May God Succeed the Journey! Alexander and Breck cart Muck. Have *Barney Newtons* Cart.

1757 May 5 (Thursday). Mr. Zebulon Rice works for me in Carting Muck -- 9 Load. I visited Mrs. Green again who remains sick and low.

1757 May 6 (Friday). Mr. Jonas Twitchell comes to acquaint me with the Death of his son Samuel, in his 5th year, by Fever and Flux; and that his Wife and another Child are ill of the Same Distemper. William Stone, 'prentice to Mr. Rolf, works for me, carting out Muck. He and my Boys got out 10 Load. Jane Kelly here p.m. to quilt for Lucy.

1757 May 7 (Saturday). Another Son of Mr. Twitchell being dead (Josiah of 2 years) they were both buried this afternoon -- on which I attended.

1757 May 8 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 13. Preached on Ps. 78.36.37. Mrs. Joanna Chamberlin (wife of Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin) and Persis Crosby (who resides at present with my Daughter Elizabeth) dined here. P.M. read Mark 6, and taking v. 39 to 44. I repeated my Exposition of Mat. 14.19 to 21.

1757 May 9 (Monday). My wife went to Southborough with Miss *Huldah Stone*. *Peter Blanc* wrought for me, partly in the Garden.

1757 May 10 (Tuesday). *Peter*. We plough with a feeble Team. My old Mare and my sons Steers, and Sometimes the Boys put in a pair of steers of Mr. Nurse's. Much of my Time consumed in going about in the Neighbourhood to forward our Business. My Wife returned from Southborough.

1757 May 11 (Wednesday). *Peter*. Mr. Ebenezer Forb. harrows some new ground turned up by Mr. Nurse.

1757 May 12 (Thursday). *Peter* furrows out for planting. I complied with Mr. Edwards Whipple who requests me to dine with them at the removing his Barn and I took the Opportunity to visit Mrs. Green again.

1757 May 13 (Friday). *Peter*. We planted. But on God does all *attend*.

1757 May 14 (Saturday). Mrs. Judith Bellows here -- returns me the Confession which I drew up for her; She says She can't comply with it. N.B. I had about this time a great deal of Talk with Jonathan Cook; chiefly about his admission into the Church of the North side. Boys finish planting. My son Alex goes to help Mr. Rolf in ploughing. I rode to *Southborough* -- Mr. *Stone* hither.

1757 May 15 (Sunday). I preached at Southborough a. and p.m. on Ezek. 22.30 and p.m. I read also v. 31. O that I had the Qualifications of a Gapman, and that God would please to quicken me to the Duty! I tarried at Southborough. Mr. Stone returned home.

1757 May 16 (Monday). The End of my staying at Southborough was that I might go to Marlborough this morning which I did (having Mr. Abijah *Gales* Horse which I borrowed for this purpose). Rode to Esquire Brighams -- to Mrs. *Betty Eagers*, where I got two young Mulberry Trees -- dined with my wife's Kinswoman Mrs. *Anna Brigham* -- gave her a note of 50£ old Tenor upon Interest, as part of pay for Lucys Curtains, Chairs, etc. Went to Mr. *Ephraim How's* but he was not at home. Paid his wife 7£ Old Tenor and took her receipt. Capt. Storer of Boston going to Worcester.

1757 May 17 (Tuesday). Capt. *Storer* comes to Mr. Ebenezer Rice's with an Officer and attaches his House and Land.

1757 May 18 (Wednesday). Lucy and Suse ride to Marlborough in my Chair. I am much taken off my Studys by being obliged to look up Money, the Collector being deficient in paying me. The French Girls bring 33 Yards of Cloth, which *Magdalene* has Spun and wove for us. They dined here. P.M. was to See Mrs. Woods. N.B. She is come (with her Husband Capt. Benjamin Wood) to live here nigh us again. I walked as far as Cornelius Biglow juniors after money -- but without any success at all. The Boys clearing at the Island. My Burthens heavy; but may God sustain me!

1757 May 19 (Thursday). Catechized a. and p.m. at the Meeting House.

1757 May 20 (Friday). Went to Worcester with Mr. Edwards Whipple; my Son Thomas with me, we being the witnesses of Old Mr. Whipples Will; which was now proved. We all dined at Capt. *Curtis's* -- and gratis (though a Tavern). Returned at Eve. N.B. in this Journey called to see poor *Willson* and prayed with him -- also Miss *Mary Johnson* and prayed with her.

1757 May 21 (Saturday). Was obliged to go into the Neighbourhood for Money and Horse for my Journey to Boston.

1757 May 22 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 15 (Mr. Stone had read the 14th). Repeated sermon on Song 2.11.12.13. Mrs. Mercy Chamberlin dined with us. P.M. preached on Jer. 6.29.30. On the Death of Mr. *Cotton of Newton* -- read Mark 8. N.B. Cautions to the people at Noon concerning the profanation of Sabbath and at Night concerning Disorders at the ensuing Election.

1757 May 23 (Monday). I obtained, though with Difficulty, Capt. Woods Chair and Horse and my Wife and I rode to Watertown. For our Journey Mr. Forb. the Collector, paid me only 5£ old Tenor. Wherefore I took up £59.10.2 old Tenor of *Capt. Fay*: and we went to Marlborough and took up £44.3.0 old Tenor of the widow *Grace Barns*. We dined at Esquire Brighams -- had Mr. Maccartys and his mother's Company on the Road to Waltham -- lodged at Brother Harringtons.

1757 May 24 (Tuesday). We rode to Cambridge and having visited my relations there, I went to see Mr. *Lewis Robishow* and his Family. At Boston visit Cousen *Procter*, who has the Care of the Alms House; but we put up at Brother *Samuels*. He keeps a stable and an Horse but is gone a Journey to Nottingham: N.B. *Pito* dyed last Friday, at *Chelsey*. Visit Brother Parkman and his new Wife. At Eve my wife goes to *Savage's* Vendue -- but buys nothing. We dined and lodged at Brother *Samuels*. N.B. Dr. Sayer of Wells there.

1757 May 25 (Wednesday). Mr. Pemberton preached the Election Sermon on *Deut.* 5.29. I dined in Fanuil-Hall. P.M. at the Convention. Dr. Sewall Moderator and prayed. Mr. Cooper Scribe. After Meeting visit my Cousen Oliver: but neither he nor his Wife at home. At Mr. Eliots. At Mr. John Brecks with my Wife. Brother Robert Breck and Mr. Williams of Sandwich Sup there with us. We lodge at Brother *Samuels* -- he came home p.m.

1757 May 26 (Thursday). In the morning at the Alms-House. Pray there in the Hall, with the many variously miserable Members. At the convention. The Sermon by Mr. *Rand of Kingston* on 1 *Thess.* 2.4. Dined at Mr. *Mather's*. Brother Samuel and I at Brother Parkmans to Settle our Mothers Estate; but Cousen Briant and Oliver not with us, we did not finish. Supped and lodged at Brother *Samuels*. N.B. My wife at Church's Vendue and buys only a piece of Garlix.

1757 May 27 (Friday). Breakfast at Cousen *Winters* and dined there. Mrs. *Winter* and her sister *Carser* in languishing state. My wife and I, both of us variously employed in buying Household goods for *Lucy*. We leave the Town, and get up to Mr. Isaac Browns, where we were kindly and generously entertained and urgently invited to lodge there; but stood along to Mr. *Woodwards*, where we designed to put up. Neither He nor his Wife came home. We still continued our Journey to Sudbury, to my new Brother *Baldwins* -- 'twas nigh 10 o'Clock and they were all fast asleep. We called 'em up and we lodged there.

1757 May 28 (Saturday). In our Journey home, we stopped at Miss Mary Sherman's, and were well refreshed. Got home but a little after 12, so that we dined at home. Our Tabernacle in peace. D.G. N.B. *Billy* here.

1757 May 29 (Sunday). I read 2 K. 16 and p.m. read Mark 9. Preached, a. and p.m. on 2 Song. 12. At Dinner were Mrs. Tainter and her Daughter Forb. as were Mr. Cutting of Sudbury and his Wife.

1757 May 30 (Monday). Training Day. Capt. Fay comes to view my Arms. I visit Mr. Jonas Twitchels young Child, being sick -- dined there. Towards night visit Mr. *Blanc*. Pay Magdalene one Dollar. Mr. Fish here -- informs me of the Design of a number of Ministers to preach at Cumberland, and asks my Concurrence; to which I Consent.

1757 May 31 (Tuesday). LeBlanc and his Daughter *Mary*, with his son *Joseph LeBlanc* (from Cambridge) are early this morning on their Journey o'foot to visit their Friends down below. I rode over to t'other House to see how my Daughter in Law and the Children that are with her, do; and to enquire after my son who does not come from Brookfield as expected: but hear nothing of him. I also visited old Mr. *Maynard* to read his Will to him again; it being his earnest Desire to hear it. He Said upon it, that it was all in every part, as he would have it to be. This I told Mr. Nathan Maynards Wife, and Miss Hannah Maynard, in the hearing of Dr. *Crosby*. P.M. I visited Mr. Joseph Greens Daughter *Mary* who is sick and at Dr. *Crosby's* Desire, went to the raising of his House.

1757 June 1 (Wednesday). I understand that Ebenezer came from Brookfield last night. Daniel Wyman, 'prentice to my son Baldwin, came here last night, from Sudbury; and lodged here. This morning Billy and he drove my Bell-Cow (of Cambridge breed) to their Master Baldwin: And they are to take my Young Cattle with *Ebenezers* along with them to Brookfield. Judge *Ward* brings me a paper of Subscriptions, headed by Mr. *Stone* and a great number more of *Southborough* people to print my sermon on *Ezek. XXII.30*. Dr. *Crosby* here informs me that this morning poor Mr. *Wilson* of *Shrewsbury* escaped his House and Watchers, and is not found, though many are in Search for him. Mr. *Wilson* had got away into the Woods of Phinehas Gleasons place and was found there. My Wife at *Ebenezers* to assist them in going away. And stays there all night. For *Eliza* goes away in middle of the Night with the two little Girls, *Betty* and *Molly*; in my Chair drawn by my Mare, and my Daughter *Sarah* goes with her to help her.

1757 June 2 (Thursday). Ebenezer Setts out this morning with a Load of his Goods, for Brookfield, Mr. Hezekiah *Pratt* and his oxen with him, to help him. As I was over there, at t'other House to take leave of them (and carry them Some money to assist them in their Journey) So I was there this morning to help my wife in setting the Things that remain, in Order: and that Mr. Batherick may move into the House. Which he begins to do by bringing Some of his Goods. P.M. Lecture on 2 Chron. 6.26.27 on Occasion of the great want of Rain.

1757 June 3 (Friday). *Alex.* and *Breck* carry Ashes in the wheel barrow to the Field and lay it on the Indian Corn. Mr. Batherick moves into my t'other House, to live there according to our agreement in which he undertakes the work of that place, the profits being to the halves.

1757 June 4 (Saturday). The Boys carry Ashes. The Dryness of the Earth increases. N.B. Mr. *Eliezer Rice* comes here p.m. and complains of Brother *Samuel Fay* junior and tells he has taken

the previous Steps etc. But there being no Opportunity now to call the Church together before the Communion (tomorrow being appointed to be sacrament Day) I wrote to Mr. Fay (which Rice promised to send to him right away; and Rice gave me under his Hand ~~to go on with~~ that if he did not Support his Complaint he would make Mr. Fay proper Satisfaction) to Advise him to suspend coming to the Communion for the present. N.B. My Daughter Lucy not well.

1757 June 5 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 17. Preached on Joh. 14.6, last Clause. Administered the Lords Supper -- but not till I had spoke to Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior. I asked him whether he had not received a Letter from me? He answered that he had received one this morning but did not know what was in it, for he could not read writing. I told him I Sent to him as Soon as I received the Complaint and related to him the Substance of the Letter. He asked me whether the man was of the Church. He said he Supposed that person was not allowed privilege etc. I answered him that I conceived he was not cut off from Such privilege as these. However, I advised Brother *Fay* to withdraw, that the Communion might not be disturbed. Upon which he withdrew, saying as he went that he counted he had met with hard Treatment. The *Deacons*, *Tainter* and Bond and Mr. *Moses Twitchells* Wife dined with us. P.M. read Mark 10 and having delivered all my preparations in one Exercise, p.m. I repeated, with Alterations my Expositions on Mat. 15.12.13.14. Signs of Rain go over.

1757 June 6 (Monday). Mr. Moses Nurse has brought up from Boston two iron Kettles, an Iron Pott, Andirons etc., which were lately bought chiefly for Lucy, Safely and gratis. Mr. Phinehas Hardy makes me a Cart Gate. Mr. Zebulon Rice helps him part of the forenoon. *Amon Blanc* ploughs among my Corn. Mrs. *Rachel Rice* Sick. I visited her twice: prayed with her. My Daughter Lucy So ill that at her repeated, earnest Request I write a Letter to her Husband at Brookfield; and send it by Abner Newton who goes Express to inform Charles etc. Rice of their Mothers low Condition. *Amon Blanc* goes home at Night. A Shower goes over to the South West, but none here.

1757 June 7 (Tuesday). Called up before sun rise to visit Mrs. *Rice* who draws near to Death. My wife went up with me. Prayed with her. She was hardly Sensible of anything. What She Said was very imperfect. *Onesiphosus Ayres* of *Brookfield* came with a Team and carryed off *Lucys* Goods. Mr. Jonas Twitchell helped load. Dr. Crosby here to see Lucy who was very ill in the morning. *Ayres* dines here: he setts out about 3 p.m. *Amon Blanc* ploughs among my Corn again. Yesterday had merchant *Rice's* Horse; to Day Mr. Ebenezer Maynards. Very hot dry Weather. May God be merciful or we soon perish! Mrs. *Rachel Rice* died p.m.

1757 June 8 (Wednesday). *Amon Blanc* and my two Boys *Alex.* and *Breck* hoe my Corn. Capt. Baldwin (who came a Little after Midnight) to Day takes his Wife out in a Chair, and they ride over to Mr. *Martyns* -- and return at Evening. P.M. came his Father and Mother; and at Evening his Uncle *Samuel* (with whom he served apprenticeship). They Supped and lodged here. I would view the kind Hand of Providence that when I was Somewhat put to't for fresh Meat, Mr. *Maynard* kindly Sent me a Quarter of veal and some Butter. Mrs. *Dolly Rice* an old Cheese. Thomas went to Southborough to invite Miss *Huldah Stone* to go with his Sister to Brookfield;

but returned without her, it being too short Warning, yet longer could not be given because *Lucy* was So ill yesterday that it was uncertain whether she could go her self.

1757 June 9 (Thursday). Still hot and dry. My Daughter *Lucy* left us, and went with her Husband to *Brookfield*. The Company that went from hence with 'em, were, his Father and Mother and uncle Samuel Baldwin, Dr. *Gott* and Miss *Betty Williams* and *Thomas* and *Suse*. At 9 a.m. was the Funeral of Mrs. *Rachel Rice*, wife of Mr. *Charles Rice*. Her Death is much lamented.

1757 June 10 (Friday). Very dry yet. My two sons Alex. and Breck are weeding still.

1757 June 11 (Saturday). A most sorrowful Drought. P.M. I met with a grievous Interruption in being called away to visit *Old Mrs. Whipple*, who is in a low Condition. Examined and prayed with her -- found her in a very agreeable frame, and hope she is Sincere. But it was a great Dammage to my preparations.

1757 June 12 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 18. Preached on Jer. 50.7 because of the present melancholly aspects. P.M. read Mark 11, and not being able to prepare the designed afternoon sermon I repeated with some enlargements Sermon 1 on Job 15.11 on Consideration of the Death of the late excellent Mrs. *Rachel Rice* and altho' I would be humble for my Defects, yet would be thankful for the Assistances afforded, so that it became a peculiar season. I was much moved my self and hope Others were so. O that God would grant an abiding Effect!

1757 June 13 (Monday). *Amon LeBlanc* here: he hoes a.m. and they finish at the Island. He divides the Cow Yard at the Barn and fences a piece of Ground for Tobacco, and cleared beyond the Orchard. P.M. came our Kinswoman Mrs. *Anne Brigham* and Mrs. *Dane* (Mr. *Smith* of *Marlborough's* Sister) to see us.

1757 June 14 (Tuesday). *Amon* cleared. My Wife went to See old Mrs. *Whipple*. Mr. *Batherick* here. I read to him the Agreement I had written, and we both Signed it. He informs me of the great Difficulty in watering the Cattle. Offers to try for a Well over at the lower side of the Pastures, if I will Send an Hand -- which I agree to.

1757 June 15 (Wednesday). *Amon* goes to t'other House and works there in digging a Well to water the Cattle, which he tells me at night they have accomplished. At Eve came Mr. *Edwards* of *Stockbridge*, and Mr. *Hauley*, *Missionary*, and lodged here.

1757 June 16 (Thursday). I accompanied Mr. *Edwards* and *Hauley* a few Miles upon their Road being my Self going to Mr. *Jabez Snow's* to the burying of his infant son. N.B. Mr. *Edwards* Shewed me his Book against the Adversarys of the Doctrine of Original Sin, especially against John Taylor. N.B. God was pleased to grant us a refreshing Shower of Rain this morning. I think there has been no rain since May 24 till now. D.G. But it was neither Extensive nor lasting. Mr. *Moses Twitchel* and *Abraham Bond* at work at the Clearing towards Mr. *Nurses*, he not having

yet finished the Piece he undertook last year. P.M. Mr. *Daniel Miller* cleared for me, and asked me only 4/ Old Tenor for it. At Eve reckoned with Mr. Rolf and paid him all.

1757 June 17 (Friday). Neighbour *Barney Newton* breaks up a Field South East of my House with twenty Oxen: both yesterday and to Day.

1757 June 18 (Saturday). One Mr. John *Bish* from Providence here. Sells *Thomme* Sugar and Chocolat. The Drought increases.

1757 June 19 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 19. Preached on Jer. 50.7. Mr. Jonas Twitchells Wife and Daughter dined here. P.M. read Mark 12 and on Consideration of the lamented Death of my Dear and Much honoured Master, the *Rev. Mr. John Barnard of Andover*, I preached on Mat. 24.46, using chiefly what I delivered some years ago on that Text -- from page 27th to the End: with Alterations and Additions.

1757 June 20 (Monday). *Amon Blanc* at work Clearing a.m. P.M. prepares for planting Tobacco -- plant the Yard by the Barn. I visited old Mrs. *Whipple* again.

1757 June 21 (Tuesday). *Amon* and my two Sons Alex and Breck hoe again at the Island Field. Mr. Cushing and I rode together to Association at Mr. *Barretts*. N.B. I had Mr. Timothy Warrins Mare. N.B. Mr. *Martyn* and Mr. *Smith* came to the Meeting, and no body else. Mr. Barretts Concio on 2 Tim. 4.8. To my shame and Grief I was very drowsy. May God forgive my Sloth! N.B. Deacon Barrett and his Wife, and Mr. Chamberlin on a Visit there. As I went I called to see Capt. *Wood's* Wife, who is under a Salvation at Hopkinton for her Lameness. Mr. Cushing and I lodged at Mr. Barretts.

1757 June 22 (Wednesday). Mr. *Smith* the Public Lecture on Ezra 9, part of 13 and 14. The Association voted compliance with the late Convention Vote recommending Special Seasons of prayer and Reformation of manners at this extraordinary Crisis of our public Affairs: and determined upon a Course of Lectures, in our five Congregations and in Southborough. Mr. Cushing and Mr. *Martyn* returned with me. N.B. *Amon* etc.

1757 June 23 (Thursday). *Amon* and my Boys are still hoing the foresaid Field. Mr. *Martyn* a.m. with one Mr. *Oliver Carter* of Leominster. They dine here. Mr. Carter wants Advice and Direction under the Difficultys with Mr. Rogers their Minister. Thunder storm. Refreshing Showers. Thanks to God!

1757 June 24 (Friday). *Amon* again and my Boys Hoing. P.M. Mr. Cornelius Cooks Wife of Wrentham here to see us, with her sister Hardy. N.B. a Striped Cotton gown made for me.

1757 June 25 (Saturday). This Day we had the great Blessing of Rain p.m. after a very distressing Drought. D. O. M. Gloria! I rode to Marlborough, Mr. Smith to Mr. *Martyns*. Mr. *Martyn* to preach for me. Mr. LeBlanc and his Daughter Mary returned from their Tour.

1757 June 26 (Sunday). A very Rainy Day till late in the afternoon. To God be praise and Honor! I preached at Marlborough a.m. on Jer. 5.20-25 and v. 29. P.M. on consideration that a Fast is appointed to be on the next Thursday partly on occasion of the Drought; but receiving to Day Such refreshing and plentiful Showers, and Such soaking Rain, I preached p.m. on Isa. 65.24. Mr. Smith returned at Evening but I tarried there all night.

1757 June 27 (Monday). I returned home in the morning. My Boys finished the Second Hoing. *Amon* here to help 'em. The rest of the forenoon and p.m. Cleared. Old Mrs. Whipple dyed yesterday, and was buried to Day, just 12 Weeks after her Husband. And I remember She told me her Husband had said to her just before his Death, that he did not think She would outlive him above 3 months. She Seemed to be a religious Woman and gave reason to hope She was in Christ nor was She afraid to dye. She told me that when her Husband dyed, the Lord took her up, and manifested his Grace to her, more clearly than Ever. I wish I might rightly improve Such a Death. Lord make me know my End! N.B. Great Disorder yesterday in the singing, which was led by Mr. *Batherick*. N.B. Last Sabbath he himself went out; tis thought disturbed with the Singing. Lt. *Maynard* and others set their Stables to rights, having been greatly disordered by the Storms, a Year and more agoe. N.B. Sent Mr. Ebenezer Cutlers Money (reposed with me for that End) to Rev. Stone of Southborough per Hand of Judge *Ward*, who was here again about printing my Sermon on Ez. 22.30. N.B. Abner Sawyor of Lancaster dined here.

1757 June 28 (Tuesday). *Amon* begins to mow. The Grass most exceedingly thin and dry -- next to none of it: but we cut it in hopes it will Spring again through the Great Mercy of God. Wrote Answers to Mr. Hutchinsons odd Letter of Yesterday, in which he desires to change next Sabbath but I am promised to Mr. Cushing and complains that we have had no more correspond of late, yet rides by my Door from time to time without Calling.

1757 June 29 (Wednesday). *Amon* mowing again. Mr. Nathan Whitney brought me a Letter from Mr. Edwards now at Boston and a Copy of proposals for printing his Defence of the great Christian Doctrine of Original Sin.

1757 June 30 (Thursday). *Publick Fast* on Account of the War and the Drought. I preached a.m. on Jer. 50.7 and p.m. delivered sermon on 2 *Chron.* 20.12, latter part with many Alterations and Additions. Do earnestly wish we may have a proper sense of our State, and a Spirit of Prayer to look to God for Help.

1757 July 1 (Friday). I visited old Mr. Rice, Mr. Joseph Bruce, LeBlanc, Deacon Tainter and Bond, but got home to dine with my wife. P.M. Nahum Eager comes from Brookfield with Letters -- and informs that the Cow which I gave my Daughter *Lucy*, has been Some time missing, and was in hopes to find her here -- but we have Seen nothing of her. At Eve Neighbour Hammonds Wife came up and called here. Capt. *Fay* here and wants the money I lately borrowed of him.

1757 July 2 (Saturday). I rode to Shrewsbury. Met Mr. Cushing at Mr. Joseph Knowltons, his Son Nathan being Sick. Called at Mr. Garfields to See him in his low Condition. I prayed at each of these Houses. But what peculiarly affected me was what I met with at Mr. *Samuel Fays*, his



Daughter *Dilly* being with Child -- she says by Aaron Garfield. A most Sorrowful Providence for he has left her, and denys his being the Father of the Child. I lodged at Mr. Cushings and he here.

1757 July 3 (Sunday). I preached at Shrewsbury on Heb. 10.31 a. and p.m. Mr. Cushing for me on Joh. 1.1 and on [*blank*]. I baptized *Jonah* son of Benjamin Maynard. I returned home at Eve, as did Mr. Cushing also.

1757 July 4 (Monday). *Amon* clears Ground, and both my Boys with him. Madlin and Mary LeBlanc here p.m. Mrs. Larthun from Mill River Sells 24£ Tobacco to Thomas. Ensign *Harrington* here.

1757 July 5 (Tuesday). Very great Rain. *Amon* came, but went home again, having got out a little Corn which is all he does for me to Day.

1757 July 6 (Wednesday). *Amon* mows at the Island. I am taken up in fulfilling my engagement to Capt. Fay of whom I had borrowed Money. And I provided to pay him. I borrowed Thirty pound old Tenor of Deacon Bond, and the rest as I Should need it, of Deacon Tainter. I visited Mr. Solomon Woods young Child at the point of Death. Visit Ensign Miller. Called at Mr. Hammonds to See his Wife who is newly come to live here.

1757 July 7 (Thursday). Mr. Ebenezer Rice sent us String Beans, the first we have had. P.M. My wife and I went to the private Meeting at Capt. Fays. N.B. Mr. Grows Rebuke to me for my being late. He said their Time was one o'Clock; whereas I Supposing it was 3 in long Days had told Capt. Fay I should be there *then*; which he said nothing against: but we agreed to that Hour. Preached on Job. 15.11. And O that God would give his Special Blessing!

1757 July 8 (Friday). Dr. Crosby here. P.M. there was (as I was informed) an Earthquake. May the Lord of His infinite Goodness and Mercy grant us Grace to improve it! I suppose the reason why I did not perceive it was, my attention at that juncture to Shutting a Door which was repeatedly thrown to by the Wind. So that I thought no other than of the Motion by the Door. Mr. Phinehas Gleasons Wife here. I examined into her Qualifications for special Ordinances though they had both of them owned the Covenant in *Framingham*. I was not well satisfied with their Attainments.

1757 July 9 (Saturday). Thomas with the Boys got in two or three Cocks of Hay from the Island: but it was with great Difficulty, having no Team.

1757 July 10 (Sunday). I read 2 K. 20. Was Somewhat lengthy in the Exposition. Preached on Ps. 119.126. Joseph Bowman dined with me. P.M. read Mark 13. Preached on Job 15.11, former part; repeating Sermon on that Text, with some Alterations.

1757 July 11 (Monday). *Amon LeBlanc did not come to work*. I walked into my Neighbourhood to look up Money, to borrow, Since the Constable can't pay me. Dined at Mr. Moses Brigham's

where I borrowed 25£ old Tenor. This I carried 22£ 10 of, to Deacon Tainter, hereby returning what he kindly lent me last Thursday. Called at LeBlanc's and at Mr. *Hammonds*. N.B. *Silas Biglow*, a lame Youth, Son of Mr. Samuel Biglow of Shrewsbury here and lodged with us.

1757 July 12 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Biglow*, Mother of said Silas, and Mrs. Hardy (wife of Aaron) dined here. Very rainy p.m. *Amon* here and hoed a.m. -- not p.m. My Wife and I, when it held up, rode to Mr. Jonah Warrins Solomnizing the Marriage of Seth Morse to *Sarah* Warrin. Mr. Elijah Warrin and his Wife came home with us and lodged here.

1757 July 13 (Wednesday). *Amon* here and hoed. Mr. Stone preached my Lecture on James 4.8.9. N.B. He brought with him his Wife, Mrs. *Prince*, widow of the late Dr. *Moses Prince*, and her Daughter, Miss Jenny -- also Miss Betty *Bethune*, her Sister, who dined with us.

1757 July 14 (Thursday). *Amon* hoed a.m. and mowed at the Island p.m. Mrs. Gleason here again, and wants to have her Child baptized: but is in Some hurry to get home again because of her Baby, and therefore does not give me much Opportunity to discourse with her; but tis Evident She has not proper Qualifications to wait upon God in a right manner neither do I think her Husband has. So that though I have Inclination to Serve them wherein I can; yet I cannot in Conscience proceed as yet.

1757 July 15 (Friday). A.M. *Amon* mowed to make up for the lost time by the Rain on the 12th p.m. At noon he was not well and went home. Mr. *Forb.* of *Brookfield* came from Cambridge. He dined here: tells me there is no Commencement this Year but the Degrees are given in private. He goes to his Fathers and designs to go as far on his Journey tonight as Worcester. N.B. Mrs. *Hammond* Visits me; and is so indisposed here that I don't know what to make of it. She asks to be allowed to partake at the Lords Table tomorrow -- this Surprizes me. I ask her to wave it for this Time, because She is Such a Stranger to me. It proves very rainy. My little matter of Hay is out in the Wet. 4 or 5 Cocks made up. The rest was mowed this morning. Mr. *Hammond* came for his Wife at Eve.

1757 July 16 (Saturday). Mr. Hammond came here about his Wife's Affair. She takes it hard that I deny her coming to the Communion. I am in much Difficulty, not thinking it my Duty to disclose my Suspicions; but a way was brought about in providence which I hope will help me. It is this, Mr. *Hammond* is uncertain whether She belongs to Weston Church, or whether She was not dismissed to the Church in Lincoln. Upon this and her not being Well so that it is uncertain whether she will come to Meeting to morrow, we conclude to wave it for this Time. It is so showery, nothing can be done about Hay. Natty Martyn brought a Letter from Leominster.

1757 July 17 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 21. Preached on 1 Cor. 10.4, last Clause. Administered the Lord's Supper. P.M. read Mark 14 to v. 27. I had exerted my Self in the forenoon So as to deliver all I had prepared (though it was I think somewhat above an Hour). Therefore I repeated sermon on Isa. 40.8 which I had delivered nigh 20 Years ago -- but now with Some Omissions, Additions and Alterations. N.B. Stopped the Church and read a Letter from

aggrieved Brethren of the Church in Leominster, desiring our Assistance in Council on the 26th of this Month. I left it to the Churchs Consideration.

1757 July 18 (Monday). *Amon* worked -- hoed. They finished hilling. He mowed p.m. in Newton Meadow. P.M. visit Mr. Wood returned from Hopkinton and from Salvation.

1757 July 19 (Tuesday). A.M. I went to See Old Mr. *Kelly* who is dangerously ill. P.M. to Mr. *Martyns* to confer with him about the *Leominster* Affair, there having no man come to me from thence, that I could enquire of. Found him resolved to go next week to See his Daughter *Minot* instead of going to Council, She being very near her Time. I returned at Evening. *Amon* and *Adam Rice* mowed in Newton Meadow -- the latter only a.m. He was So ill he went home. Hear that *Nathan Knowlton* (about 24 Years) was buried to Day.

1757 July 20 (Wednesday). I visited Deacon *Forbush* who is ill. N.B. A Course of Lectures was this Day begun (according to the Agreement at the last Association) at *Shrewsbury* and Mr. *Barrett* preached -- but I could not attend. He came here at Evening and lodged here: he told me his Text at Lecture was *Rev. 3.1*. *Amon* reaps in the Orchard but does not finish it, for I Sent him to the Meadow near night to rake and secure Hay there.

1757 July 21 (Thursday). Mr. *Barrett* and I walked up to Capt. *Woods*, where I left him. Capt. *Wood* kindly lent me his Team to get in Hay and Rie. *Amon*, and *Adam Rice* worked here. They got in two Jaggs of Hay -- and having finished reaping the Orchard they bound and got that in -- nigh 3 shock of it -- and they began to reap the field behind the Meeting House. N.B. received a Letter from Mr. *Stone* by Coll. *Ward* -- reprehending for not designing to go to *Leominster* Council, whereas I told Mr. *Carter* *I could not* -- and therefore they ought not to have sent to us. Wrote an Answer to it. Am greatly rejoiced on Account of the divine Favour in bringing the British Fleet safe to *Halifax*.

1757 July 22 (Friday). *Amon* brings to work here *Stephen Robishow*, son of Mr. *Joseph Robishow* of *Uxbridge*; he offers himself to be hir'd to reap to Day -- and I set him to work. They reap Part of the Field behind the Meeting House.

1757 July 23 (Saturday). It proves a very rainy Day. *Amon Blanc* and *Stephen Robishow*, having lodged here last night, go off this morning. Mr. *Phinehas Gleason* here. I instruct him but cant consent to baptize his Child.

1757 July 24 (Sunday). Read and gave expository Remarks on 2 K. 22. Preached on Ps. 119.126. P.M. read Mark 14 from v. 27, and on occasion of the Council in the Ensuing week preached on the Divinity of our Lord, repeating with alterations and additions Sermon on *Isa. 9.6*, those words, *The Mighty God*. After Exercise stopped the Church on the *Leominster* Affair. See the Church Records.

1757 July 25 (Monday). *Amon*, and Mr. *Moses Twitchel* go to mow in the ministerial meadow. They both lodged here. *Barney Newton* gets in part of my Rye in the South West Field. Deacon

Tainter brings me Mr. Martyn Pratts Horse, to ride on to *Leominster*. P.M. came Rev. Mr. *Bucknam* of Medway with his Delegate Mr. Joshua *Partridge*, on their Journey to Leominster. I rode with them to Mr. *Morse's* and we lodged there.

1757 July 26 (Tuesday). We got to *Leominster*, to Mr. *Oliver Carters*, the House appointed for the Entertainment of the Council. And there met fourteen Churches by their Ministers and Delegates; and of the Church of Groton by their Delegates: in all, 15 Churches. The Church in the North part of Westborough did not Send at all: for Mr. Martyns going to Concord was a prevention of it. Before even the Churches proceeded to form into a Council it was Strenuously moved by me, and Some Others that a Message might be Sent to Mr. Rogers to See whether he would join with his Brethren in laying their Difficulty before us: and I apprehend it would have been happy if this had succeeded, or if he had been at this time Sollicited to join in choosing a mutual Council. But it was more successfully pushed to *form*. Accordingly we formed -- and then it was again moved to send to Mr. Rogers. A Committee was appointed and went -- but brought back the sorrowful return, of refusal. I, with 17 more lodged at Mr. Carters. *Amon* and *Twitchell* mowed and raked in the Ministerial Meadow; Alex and Breck also there p.m.

1757 July 27 (Wednesday). Had the publick Hearing. Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth prayed publicly. Mr. R's adhering Brethren came: one Mr. Colbourn principal. Dr. *Peabody*, and Mr. Nathaniel Rogers (though members Otherwhere) appeared for him also. N.B. Their Unhandsome Letter to the Council. When the Assembly broke up I would have gone to Mr. Rogers's to see him and his Wife etc. but when I came out into the Evening Air, having no Jacket on, it was too cold for me and I was forced to return to Mr. Carters, where I lodged. *Amon* and Mr. *Twitchell* at the Meadow. Mr. Zebulon Rice p.m. is here reaping. *Jo-Ben* Rice also reaped p.m.

1757 July 28 (Thursday). This Day we Spent in reviewing our Minutes, and reading over Papers, debating and Voting. The work of writing required my very Close attendance all Day So that it was as much as I could well Stand -- but God supported my feeble frame. Mr. Eliezer Rice carted home 3 Load of Hay and carryed in the remainder of my Rye. *Amon* and *Twitchell* to the Meadow. My son Thomas worked there most of the Day with them.

1757 July 29 (Friday). Neighbour Hezekiah Pratt brought home a Load of Hay from Ministerial Meadow. Mr. *Twitchell* worked for Neighbour Eliezer to pay for his work with his Team Yesterday in Carting home Hay. *Amon* did not work but Mr. *Twitchell* work for me at Neighbour Eliezer Rice's, in pay for his Carting Hay. At Leominster the Business was to form and publish the Result of the Council, the principal Difficulty and weight of which work unavoidably lay upon me: but Mr. *Wigglesworth* wrote the preamble, and the Advice part, Mr. *Pemberton* the Exhortations. I was So early and closely applyed to it, Obliged to forego dining with the rest; that I could not well stand it: however there was much pains taken to Support and strengthen me. It was 3 or 4 o'Clock p.m. before we could go to the Meeting House. Mr. Marsh of Narragansett No. 2 and Coll. White, as we were riding to it, affirmed they heard no Such Question put to Mr. Rogers last Tuesday, as our committee affirm, respecting his joining in Calling a mutual Council, and yet they were (they said) in the room all the time (said Committee were there; and close by them when they Spake to Mr. R.). When we came into the Meeting

House, there was handed to the Moderator by Mr. Smith of Marlborough a Letter from Mr. Rogers, in which he affirms he heard not the Question put by the Committee whether he would join etc. in calling a mutual Council? The moderator called upon the Committee to testify; and they did So, in the face of the Assembly. I also read what they Signed as attesting in our minutes. In brief, it was conceived that this Letter was come utterly too late, and we could not but look upon it as with an ill design, Seeing that Mr. R. had been, we have reason to think, informed that this was our apprehension, Some time ago; and therefore if he was o' mind to do any good by Such a Letter to us, he would not have deferred sending it till all our work was done but publishing it. The Result was therefore read, and Mr. Pemberton prayed, after which the Council was adjourned without Day. Esquire Baker and Mr. Whitney accompanied me to Dr. Stanton Prentice's in Lancaster. There we sat out after Sunsett and rode home by Moon Light -- got here between 12 and 1, safe by the Blessing of God.

1757 July 30 (Saturday). Very indisposed and unqualified for Study and had many Things to take me up, which prevented my preparing any new sermon. *Amon* worked for me at Mr. Twitchells, to pay him for working yesterday. And Neighbour Eliezer Rice brought home another Load of Hay. N.B. Neighbour Moses Nurse sick. I visited him.

1757 July 31 (Sunday). Read 2 K. 23. Preached on Rom. 5.12, repeating my Sermon on that Text, both a. and p.m. P.M. read Mark 15. Stopped the Church and read to them the Leominster Result. N.B. I informed the Assembly, of a Lecture to be on Wednesday next, at the Other Precinct.

1757 August 1 (Monday). *Adam Rice* mowed for me in the Ministerial Meadow a.m. only. *Amon Blanc* did not work for me but for Mr. Joseph Bruce. Jonathan Livermore junior a Sophomore, who keeps School at Mr. *Whipples*, informs me that Mr. Martyn did not appoint any Lecture yesterday; which much Surprized me, and the rather because it was So agreed upon at the Association and the Time and Place were written down; and it was also laid upon Me to preach; which therefore I had expected to do. Rev. Mr. *John Searl* dines with us. N.B. Neighbour Eliezer Williams young Child very bad. I went in the Eve to See her. Transcribed and Sent a Result to Deacon Greenough at Boston.

1757 August 2 (Tuesday). *Amon Blanc* at the Meadow. Adam mowed there p.m. My Wife and I Visit the South East Corner. Particularly observed Mrs. Mary Bradish's manner of teaching Children to read. Dined at Mr. Chamberlins. At Mr. Jonathan Bellows's Entreated his Wife to put an End to our Trouble with her -- but She resists it as much as ever. N.B. Mr. Tinney tells me Mr. Martyn appointed no Lecture.

1757 August 3 (Wednesday). *Amon* at the Meadow, a.m. and comes home with Mr. Edwards Whipple who brings a sixth Load from that meadow -- and worked for Mr. Whipple p.m. to pay him for it. There was a Lecture at the North End but I was not informed of it till it was over. Mr. Martyn neither came nor sent to me -- but Mr. Cushing there and preached as I heard afterward. I transcribed a Result for the Brethren at Leominster.

1757 August 4 (Thursday). Thomas very earnest about buying Merchant Rice's House. I visit Mr. Williams's Child, which is much revived. My son *Thomas* works for me at the Meadow -- p.m. worked for Neighbour Eliezer Rice who brought up the last Load out of the Meadow, and run it into his own Barn till morning. P.M. I preached at the Private Meeting at Mrs. Grout's on Joel 3.13, first part. My Wife with me. We visited old Mr. Fay and his Wife and at Capt. Woods. At our Return home found Mr. *Oliver Carter* of Leominster here, who is come for the Result. He lodges here. N.B. Mr. *James Bowman* brings me One of Mr. *Niles's* Books against John Taylor of Original Sin. N.B. *Amon Blanc* works not for me, but for Mr. *Edwards Whipple*.

1757 August 5 (Friday). Mr. *Moses Twitchel* and *Amon* mowe a.m. in my *Newton Meadow*. Mr. *Carter* after Breakfast (Coll. *William Ward* also with us) receives the Result. With it I lend a select Volume of Choice Tracts, viz. the London Ministers of the Necessity of Believing the Trinity; Mr. *Boyse* of Dublin against Mr. *Emlys* etc. P.M. Rain.

1757 August 6 (Saturday). My two sons *Alex* and *Breck* rake in *Newton Meadow*.

1757 August 7 (Sunday). Sorrowful Tidings! That the French and Indians have shot, and carried off prisoners, nigh 300 Men, who were a scout from one of our upper Forts; and that a great Army were coming to beset Fort *William Henry*. I read 2 K. 24. Preached a. and p.m. on Ps. 119.126 and finished what I had to say on that subject. P.M. read Mark 16. May God set home by His holy Spirit what has been delivered agreeable to his Will.

1757 August 8 (Monday). *Amon* all Day. Mr. *Twitchell* half a Day. Got home one Load from *Newton Meadow*. Visit *Moses Nurse* who is Sick. News flies thick and fast of the Troubles at the Forts. May God prepare us for all Events! Read part of Mr. *Niles* against John Taylor.

1757 August 9 (Tuesday). Mr. *Twitchell* and *Amon* mowing at *Newton Meadow* and the Balks round the *Island Field*. My son *Thomas* p.m. in carting home 2 Load. I visited *Moses Nurse*. Went to t'other House. The Well Mr. *Batheric* and *Amon* dug in the back Pasture, dry. Visit Mr. *Ebenezer Maynard* who and his wife have Fever and Ague -- it has his Brother *Daniel* also. Went to see their Father and dined there. The Antient man is grown very weak; and I treat him as one Near his End: prayed with him. *We finish Haying*. News by Posts very frequently. The Hearts of all Seem much moved.

1757 August 10 (Wednesday). My Wife has Number of Young Women to quilt for her a Bed Quilt. They were, *Susan Newton*, *Elizabeth Chamberlin*, *Lavinia Baker*, *Persis Rice*, a.m. and p.m. Mrs. *Morse* (who was *Sarah Warrin*) and her sister, p.m. *Amon* works for Mr. *Moses Twitchell*, for his work for me Yesterday. I rode to *Marlborough* to the Lecture as agreed upon by the Association at *Hopkinton*. Dined at Mr. *Smiths*. I prayed the first prayer. Mr. *Loring* preached on 1 Thess. 5.[1]7, *pray without Ceasing*. Mr. *Martyn* prayed after Sermon. He prayed 1/2 an Hour. Mr. *Loring* was to have offered a Concluding prayer after his -- but he grew tired. He gave the Blessing. O that God would pity His people at this remarkable Juncture! For another Post came down last night who says, that though the Fort was not taken, yet the Enemy were all round about -- and that except they have relief speedily they can't keep

it. I visited our Kinswoman Mrs. *Anna Brigham* -- and paid [Miss?] *Nanny Woods* (£3.7.6 Old Tenor) in full for making her Stays. In returning home went to see also Mrs. *Grace Barns* widow one of my Creditors, whose Patience I am obliged to ask, as my Collector fails in paying me my dues. My sons Alex. and Breck try to reap my Oates.

1757 August 11 (Thursday). It grow grows very dry -- Grass much diminished -- a burning Sun and drying Wind -- yet Some Sprinkling of Rain. Boys reaping Oates. *Betty Chamberlin* helps my Wife a.m. in Quilting. I take Notice of her kind Disposition -- and Sympathize in the Distresses her nearest Relations must be Supposed to be in at *Stockbridge* when our Enemy's are so numerous, and *the People* in those exposed places in so imminent Dangers. May an infinitely Merciful God appear for their Help and Deliverance! At Eve Mr. *Larkin Williams* here in his return from Mendon, whither he had been to warn that part of the Regiment (as I suppose *this* had been) to be ready at a minutes Notice. My wife blooded by Dr. Chase.

1757 August 12 (Friday). P.M. Great Rain. At Eve a comfortable Visit from Capt. *Woods*.

1757 August 13 (Saturday). My son Thomas in going to fetch some sand, broke my Chair Wheel and returned empty. News that *Fort William Henry is taken*. Joseph Bowman here.

1757 August 14 (Sunday). Read 2 King 24. Preached a.m. on Prov. 18.10. P.M. read Luk. 1 to v. 39 and I preached on Isa. 31.6 but used chiefly Sermon on Act. 3.19, from p. 14 to 19. Joseph Bowman propounded. Rainy. After meeting so cloudy there was no making any Observations on the Eclipse.

1757 August 15 (Monday). There has been of late much Talk of Indians Seen in our Woods -- at *Uxbridge, Mill-river* etc., which raises in many people Suspicions of what may be the Cause of it. *Amon* came to work. He reaps the rest of my Oates. P.M. he mows Bushes. I visited his Father. Dined at Mr. *Nat. Whitney's*. The Company under Capt. *Fay* called together and every 4th man is taken to go out against the Enemy. The Troop also meet at Capt. *Bezaleel Eager's*, They being warned to go. N.B. my son Thomas trades with *William Stone* to go in his Stead. N.B. Capt. *Wood* and his wife here.

1757 August 16 (Tuesday). *William Stone* goes into the service in stead of my son *Thomas* but he has my Gun and my Mare. The Association meets here, viz. Mr. *Cushing, Barrett, Stone, Smith, and Morse*. Mr. *Morse* gave an Exercise on Rev. 3.1.2. At night Mr. *Barrett* went up to Capt. *Woods* to lodge there. N.B. The public Troubles much increase for we hear that there is a French Fleet come to *Louisbourg*, of 20 Sail and 10,000 Troops: and can't understand that Lord *Loudon* has Sailed from Hallifax. Former Troubles were but Drops; now our Distresses come down in full Shower and storms. *Amon* did not work for me.

1757 August 17 (Wednesday). Mr. *Martyn* came -- and Mr. *Loring*. Mr. *Morse* prayed before the public Sermon: Mr. *Loring* preached; his Text was Ps. 2.6. N.B. Elizabeth Chamberlin assists my Wife. *Amon* not here. N.B. Major *Keyes*, Mrs. *Cushing*, the widow *Smith* and Miss *Molly Cushing* dined with us.

1757 August 18 (Thursday). I went to See Old Mr. *Maynard* who is very low. Mr. *Martyn* came to me there, and informed me that his Daughter *Minot* was delivered of a son. He also tells me that a post is gone along who informs that Fort *Edward* is besieged. May God most Gracious and mercifull appear for our Succour! May our Refuge be ever more in God! I walked to Mrs. *Rice's* (*Eliezers* Wife) to talk with her about her *Williams* going for *Thomas* and to know whether she did indeed Consent to it, Since he is gone; though I had Charged him not to go without her Allowance. She was not at home. *Hephzy* told me She did not Consent -- but She see he *would* go: and She did not appear displeas'd with me or my son for if he did not go for *Thomas* he *would* for some body else. I reply'd that I was not willing to be the instrument of his Rebellion against his Mother -- and therefore bid him be sure, See to this, if he went, that he had his Mothers good will in it. *Hephzy* Said her Father (his Guardian) consented to it.

1757 August 19, 20 (Friday, Saturday). There Seems to be no certain News of any thing but the dismissing the lower Companys that have marched up the Road; the Roads being full of Confusions. General *Winslow* is gone up, and has given Orders for the soldiers Return who belong this way and Eastward. I visited old Mr. *Maynard* again, who grows weaker and weaker: and gives this Character of himself that *he is worn out*.

1757 August 21 (Sunday). My Mare being gone into the service I rode one of Mr. *Nurse's* to the North End, and Mr. *Martyn* came there. I preach'd there a. and p.m. on Dan. 4.27. He preach'd here on 1 Cor. 3.18. We, each of us, returned home at Eve. N.B. I visited Old Mr. *Maynard* both in the Morning and Evening. O that God would accompany his Ordinances with His special Blessing! And Whilst I am concern'd for the *public* Weal, may I especially take the Divine Counsel my self, that it may be a lengthning out of *my own* Tranquility!

1757 August 22 (Monday). Rainy. *Amon Blanc* did not come to work. I read the Remarks on Mr. *President* Claps History and Defence of the Doctrines of the New England Churches. Hear that *William Stone* is come back to his Master *Rolf's* -- and my Mare is brought home to me.

1757 August 23 (Tuesday). Rain a.m. No *Amon* to day. *Adam Rice* setts his Nett in my Field, and catches Pidgeons, about 4 Dozen this forenoon. *William Stone* comes here and gives Some Account of his Journey -- that he went as far as *Westfield* -- that the Men are not finally dismissed, but must be ready to go again when called. At night came my Son and Daughter *Baldwin* from Brookfield. He gives me account of the late Fight and surrender of the Fort *William Henry* from his Brother *Nahum* who was there.

1757 August 24 (Wednesday). My son *Baldwin* and his Wife left us to go to Sudbury. I rode to *Southborough* to the Fast there on Account of the Great Troubles of the present Times. Mr. *Stone* prayed and Mr. *Smith* preached on 1 K. 8.44 to 49 a.m. Mr. *Barrett* prayed and I preach'd p.m. on Ps. 119.126. Returned home at Eve. May God be graciously pleas'd to accept our Offerings, and Succeed His Messages! Mr. *Batherick* brought Two Barrells of New Cyder. Mr. *Nurse* had one of them.



1757 August 25 (Thursday). I had no help in my Lecture. Preached my Self on Isa. 31.6. Used sermon on Act. 3.19 from page 19 to 24.

1757 August 26 (Friday). [No entry.]

1757 August 27 (Saturday). Rainy Seasons -- Still Sat out Cabbage Plants. Joseph Bowman.

1757 August 28 (Sunday). In the Morning two Soldiers were here who came [from] fort William Henry, and were there both when it was taken and six Days after. Their Names Samuel Howard and Thomas Lee. Read 2 K. 25 and preached on 1 Cor. 10.4 -- *This Rock was Christ*.

Administered the Lord's Supper. Widow Woods (who has lately lost her son, Mr. Joseph Woods) and Mrs. Dunlop, dined here. P.M. read Luk. 1 from 39 v. Preached on Prov. 18.10. Baptized *Joseph Bowman* and admitted him into the Church. N.B. It was about 5 o'Clock when our Exercises were over.

1757 August 29 (Monday). *Amon Blanc* comes no more to work for me, having Leave from me to work where he can Employ, and for any better wages than I can afford, my haying being over.

1757 August 30 (Tuesday). Mr. *Campbell* of Oxford, on his Journey to Boston, calls here and dines with us.

1757 August 31 (Wednesday). I Sat out with my Wife to go to Mr. *Martyns* and thence designing to go with Mr. *Martyn* to Mr. *Morse's* Lecture -- but on the way we heard that *Mrs. Martyn* was not come from *Concord* yet. Left my Wife at Mr. *Noah Hows* (who is lately married) and to visit that Neighbourhood; and I rode over to young Mr. *Martyns*, who informed me his Father was gone to *Concord*. This I wondered at, because Mr. *Morse*, I supposed had engaged him to preach his Lecture. I proceeded to Mr. *Morse's*: And though Mr. *Smith* was there, and Mr. *Davis*, and afterward came Mr. *Cushing*, yet I was obliged to preach. It was on Ps. 46.1.10. N.B. Some persons who have come from the Forts, have the Small Pox: In *Shrewsbury* one has lately dyed of it, and another is Sick of it. Mr. *William Crawford* at Worcester, is Sick of it. I returned home at Evening. My son and Daughter *Baldwin* came and lodged here. They have been at Boston and kept sabbath there.

1757 September 1 (Thursday). My *Baldwins* left us for *Brookfield*. N.B. Delivered the Paper to Lt. *Rolf* which Contains the agreement between my Son *Thomas* and *William Stone*. N.B. as it was agreed that Lt. *Rolf* Should keep it, so I had sent to him to come and take it, but he neglected it. N.B. He owned before several Witnesses that he had Received the word which I sent him, to take it. P.M. Catechized at Mr. *Joslins*: had 42 Children. Mrs. *Mary Bradish's* Scholars all attended. She her self went to the House; and was at the Entertainment with me after the Exercise, as were also my little sons *Samuel* and *John*. Visited the Widow Woods (Mr. *Joseph Woods's*) and her Children.

1757 September 2 (Friday). Have been Somewhat engaged in transcribing my sermon on *Ezek.* 22.30, hoping to change with Mr. Hutchinson next Sabbath (to whom I had writ) but have heard it is to be their Communion. Mr. Campbell of Oxford, in his return home calls here, with one Mr. Wesson. Mr. Ebenezer Forb. paid me £20.15.6 Old Tenor.

1757 September 3 (Saturday). Obligated to prepare a sermon for the sabbath. Mr. *Martyn Sends* Nathaniel with a fretfull Letter about the Shrewsbury Lecture. To which I wrote him an Answer which manifested my hearty Grief.

1757 September 4 (Sunday). I read 1 Chron. 1 to 23 and gave some account of the Design of this Book and Contents of the first Eight Chapters. Preached on Prov. 18.10. Old Mrs. Rogers, widow, dined with us. P.M. read Luk. 2. Preached an old sermon on Joel [3?].13 Concerning *Gods Judgments.*

1757 September 5 (Monday). *Amon and Magdalene Blanc* here early, going to Cambridge etc. Could not get a piece of Gold changed -- therefore paid them only 5£ and Sixpence old Tenor. Viz. to Amon £[5]3/, to Magdalene 47/6. Settled all accounts with *Mr. Beeton* and paid him all to this Day. N.B. Near Esquire *Bakers* had some Discourse with him about visiting -- for I went for that End. When he spoke of my going in to See 'em (which was upon my saying that I had been thinking to make a Time on purpose to make 'em a visit) I told him *he did not give me leave*, by coming to See *me*. He answered that they were very busy, and were hard driven. And When he asked me to walk on, he soon told me that he must come out again to his work. I remarked to him how odd a Thing it was that such a Person as *he* would not afford so much as One half an Hour in a Twelve Month to spend with his Minister -- for he had not bin once to see me this twelve month.

1757 September 6 (Tuesday). Visited Mr. David Maynard another who has an intermitting Fever and divers of his Children, the Fever and Ague. Prayed there. Visited the old Gentleman also and prayed with him. Transcribing but with much interruption. At Eve Mr. Biglow -- tells me they have probably a Penobscot Indian in Concord Jayl.

1757 September 7 (Wednesday). I rode to Shrewsbury Lecture and preach it: on Ps. 78, v. 34-37. Dined at Mr. *Cushings* -- my Daughter *Sarah* with me. N.B. Mr. *Morse* and his Wife, and Mr. *Davis* there. The last prayed before sermon. N.B. Capt. *Nat. Allen* of Boston has bought the House and Place that was *Gershom Keyes's*; and is making great Alterations there. Returned at Eve. Poor *Dolly Fay* is a Bed -- was delivered last Lord's Day.

1757 September 8 (Thursday). Stalks Secured. Am diligently transcribing.

1757 September 9 (Friday). Alexander and Breck Thrash Oates which were on the Floor -- and then Rye.

1757 September 10 (Saturday). Mr. Batherick brings me 3 Barrells of Cyder -- one of which Thomas boils p.m. Mr. Batherick dined with me and carries over more Barrells. Rain after much dry weather.

1757 September 11 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 9 and preached on *Isa.* 31.6. N.B. Besides the 4 pages I had writ, used three pages and ½ of Sermon on Acts 3.19, viz. from page 24 to 27. P.M. read Luk. 3. Preached on *Jer.* 13.23. Rainy Day. N.B. Mr. *Ben Tainters* Wife dined with us.

1757 September 12 (Monday). Rain.

1757 September 13 (Tuesday). Am Still at Times transcribing for the press.

1757 September 14 (Wednesday). My son Baldwin came here in the morning. He had lodged at Mr. *Martyns* -- tells me his wife is out of Health and depressed. He left us to go to Brookfield. Mr. *Forb.* and his Wife came the Same forenoon. Took Mr. *Forb.* with me to Hopkinton Lecture (on Account of the public Distresses). We dined at Mr. Barretts. Mr. Prentice of Holliston and his Wife there. Mr. *Stone* preached on Deut. 29.24. I prayed before sermon. Mr. *Stone* tells me he designs to go next Sabbath to preach at Cumberland. In returning at Eve Mr. *Forb.* and I called at old Mr. *Kelleys* to see him in a very low Condition and (as seems) nigh to Death. Old Mrs. *Lovell* also lying in a very dangerous state at her son *Pierce's* they besought me to go in. Those Visits made us late by that we got home.

1757 September 15 (Thursday). Mr. *Forbush* and his wife to *Boston*. At Parting he gave me a Letter from *Ebenezer*. He tells me he has sent for sundry *Goods* by a Team. Mr. *Batheric* comes and informs me that the Team will call about noon for them. *Thomas* goes over to see to the putting 'em up. P.M. Lecture to Young people on Eccl. 1.2. N.B. Master *Nathan Stone* (who keeps our school) here after meeting. Send to Boston by Capt. *Fay*.

1757 September 16 (Friday). It being 5th Day old Style, See Natal. At Eve Mr. *John Harwood* took Charge of a Letter from me to Mrs. *Abigail Stoddard* at the Cornfields Boston.

1757 September 17 (Saturday). I could not have rest in my own Mind without going to See Old Mr. *Kelly* again and Old Mrs. *Lovell*. I accordingly walked as far as Mr. *Jonah Warrins* (calling at Mr. *Hammonds* and Saw his Wife ill, with *Something*. She went out and vomited. It filled me with Trouble!). Mr. *Warrin* furnished me with an Horse and I endeavored to discharge my Duty to the sick old people above mentioned. P.M. I rode up to Mr. *Ebenezer Cutler's* in Grafton, he lying Sick of a Fever. Proceeded -- and arrived at Mr. *Hutchinsons*; but he was gone to *Westborough*. Went in to the School House to see the French Family there, *Claude du Gas*. They are not so Sociable, as our Neutrals.

1757 September 18 (Sunday). Preached at *Grafton* a. and p.m. on *Heb.* 10.31 and baptized the Child of Mr. *Hezekiah Taylor*, the Name *Simeon*. N.B. Mr. *Prentice* not in Town. Mrs. *Prentice* at Meeting a.m., not p.m. Returned Home at Evening. Mr. *Hutchinson* on *Mat.* 19.16-22. P.M. on *Gen.* 4.7 at *Westborough*.

1757 September 19 (Monday). We are in the Family Much put by, for want of Water in our Well. There not being enough for the Kitchin use. Washing deferred on that Account.

1757 September 20 (Tuesday). Mr. *Forbush* and his Wife come from Mr. *Martyns*; for whom he preached last Lords Day. *Molly* got no further on Saturday Night than Mr. *Smiths* at *Marlborough*. They lodged at their Uncle *Holloways* last Night. They Dined with us and then took leave to go to their Father *Forbush's* and then design home by the way of Brother *Hicks's* at *Sutton*.

1757 September 21 (Wednesday). Mr. *Barrett* came and preached my Lecture on *Rev. 3.4*. Mr. *Cushing* also came -- and both dined here.

1757 September 22 (Thursday). At Such times as I can make from Family Cares, am *transcribing* etc.

1757 September 23 (Friday). Part of this Day also. My wife's Leg grows bad.

1757 September 24 (Saturday). Mr. *Joshua Winter* and his Wife (from Boston Yesterday) came to see us, and dined with us. They lodged last night at Brother *Baldwins* at *Sudbury*. N.B. This morning Coll. *Tim. Brigham's* Wife dyed. She was taken (as is Supposed) with an Apoplexy last Evening and continued till about 2 this Morning. They Sent *Jonathan Johnson* to me to desire me to attend her Funeral next Tuesday. Such a sudden Death administers Solemn Warning to all survivors. May God grant us all the Grace needful that we may make a fit improvement of it! And get ready our selves!

1757 September 25 (Sunday). My Kinsman *Winter* and his Wife here. Read 1 Chron. 10. Preached on Jer. 8.6. P.M. read Luk. 4. Preached on *Prov. 13.21*. *Evil pursueth sinners*. Used part of Sermon on *Isa. 33.14*. Used viz. from page 15 to 26, Top. N.B. I did not discover till next morning, that I had ever repeated pages 15 and 16 before. Though it be set down upon the Cover, yet I did not See it. N.B. Mr. *Nathan Stone* junior our present School-Master, dined here. N.B. I stopped the Church to desire their minds about my going to preach at *Cumberland* the 3d Sabbath of the next Month. It was voted, I think, unanimously. I did also put the Church in Mind of two Other Articles, viz. the Affair of Sister *Judith Bellows*; and the Ordination of Deacons, both which articles I might reasonably have expected that Some or other of the Church would have Spoke about at Some time or other; but having waited for that in Vain I was now obliged to desire them to ripen their Thoughts that we might do Something to Effect. I am much troubled with Soreness in my Eyes.

1757 September 26 (Monday). Mr. *Winter* and his Wife p.m. ride to Deacon *Tainters*; I went with them but my Wife confined with her lameness: Which increases.

1757 September 27 (Tuesday). My Kinsman *Winter* and his Wife left us. I rode down to *Southborough*. Dined at Mr. *Stones* as did Mr. *Smith*. I prayed at the Funeral of Coll. *Brighams*

Wife. An affecting Occasion! May the Impression last! I returned home at Eve -- part of the Way Esq. Baker and his Wife Company.

1757 September 28 (Wednesday). Mrs. Tainter yesterday brought and applied a Tobacco Ointment to my Wife's Legg -- but it is no better. I am also troubled still with sore Eyes, the Effect of a Cold which hangs about me. Mr. Ebenezer Forbush brought me 11£ O.T. N.B. Mr. Nathan Stone junior called at his leaving our School, and returning Home.

1757 September 29 (Thursday). I finished my transcript of Discourse on Ezek. 22.30, but now I can't send it. At Eve visit *Joseph Baker* who has Rheumatism. Alexander has an Ague. Mr. Batherick brought home 6 Barrells of Cyder. Had a Quarter of Beef of Mr. Jonah Warren -- *weighed* about 104. Dr. Chase bleeds my wife.

1757 September 30 (Friday). Old Mr. Maynard Sends for me, thinking he is near his End. I went, but did not find as I feared. He was able to Converse. I dealt freely with him -- and prayed with him. Went to Lt. Maynards upon the unavoidably necessary Affair of Disposing of my Old Place. Borrowed an Horse there. I rode over to see Mr. *Jacob Rice* who lies Sick of a Fever -- he and his Wife being still of our Church. Returned to Lt. Maynards at about 2 p.m. Eat there. Bought 200 of Boards of him which Mr. Gashit brought home. My Wife in great smart her Leg growing Worse. My mind much exercised for my son Ebenezer. Mr. Batherick and Noah How here -- Mr. *Gashitt*. They all eat here. Alexander thrashes.

1757 October 1 (Saturday). Last night and this Morning much exercised with Cares -- not Succeeding in Endeavours to provide for my son, by selling my old Place. But Would humbly beg the Grace to enable me to commit my Way to God and rely upon Him to sustain and provide for me and mine.

1757 October 2 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 11. Preached on Prov. 13.21. Used some further parts of Sermon on Isa. 33.14, viz. p. 26 (which was used only in the former part of the page and but glances of the rest), part of page 36, then to page 40. P.M. read Luk. 4 and preached the first Sermon which is writ on Prov. 13.21. N.B. *Old Mr. Maynard* dyed at Eve. I went to him and Prayed with him just before he departed -- Aetatis 88.

Written from a rough paper of hints [i.e., October 3-9].

1757 October 3 (Monday). Sett out late for Brookfield. Called at Capt. Stearns's at Worcester, and at Mr. Roberts's at Leicester. Mr. Nathaniel Harrington of Weston my Company great part of the Journey. Arrived at my Son *Baldwins* at Eve. Lodged at my son *Forbush's*.

1757 October 4 (Tuesday). Happy among my Children who (through divine Favour) are generally comfortable. Dined at my son Baldwins. P.M. went with my son Ebenezer and Forb. to take some View of the Farm of the late *Mr. Jonathan Gilbert*. Capt. *Witt* and Dr. *Gott* had been to see me a.m.: but [missing?] of me I went to them at Eve. Lodged at Mr. Forb.

1757 October 5 (Wednesday). Mr. Forb. and I rode up to Ware River to Mr. Lulls: dining at Deacon Cutlers as we went. Mr. Lull signed another Deed of the 62 and the 35 Acre Lotts in Townshend, but would not come to a Composition of our Affairs, as I endeavoured, though I made him large offers. At Eve we supped at Deacon Cutlers -- and Esq. Ayres with us, whom I had obtained to ride up to Deacon Cutlers in hopes to have had need of him to take the Acknowledgement of another Deed from Lull but I could not perswade Lull to go there. N.B. the Esq. asked nothing for his pains.

1757 October 6 (Thursday). I went again into the *Gilbert* Affair -- dined at my son Ebenezers. N.B. My Children at Each Family dined with me both yesterday and to Day (except *Billy*). P.M. preached a Lecture there, on Ps. 119.126. After Lecture at Baldw. with Lt. Thomas Gilbert, there, about his Brothers place. N.B. Mr. Kendal from Suffield, and Mrs. Bowker, heretofore Sarah Tainter, lodged at Mr. Forb. last night.

1757 October 7 (Friday). At Mr. Forb. (where I have lodged every night) and at Ebenezers where we prepare some Agreements about the *Gilbert Place* and include *Thomas Hardy* likewise. My Daughter Baldwin indisposed and dejected. It was 11 a.m. before I took leave. Mr. Forb. rides with me as far as Capt. Wolcotts that we may have some discourse with him, the Grand Juror, about the School (which *Ebenezer* has undertaken to keep). Capt. Wolcott proposes to accompany me on my Journey to the lower part of Worcester, but does not overtake me, till I had dined at Mr. *Eatons* in Spencer. I heedlessly overshot Mr. Roberts at Leicester. Mr. Maccarty not at Home. We were invited in by Coll. Chandler; where we drank Tea and hastened on our Journey. Lodged at Mr. Cushings.

1757 October 8 (Saturday). Returned home. All Well (D.G.) except my Wife, whose Lameness is much increased since I left her. N.B. Thomas took Care of gathering my Corn at the Island and getting it in. For they had Mr. Zebulon Rices and Mr. Nurse's Teams. They had also an Husking last night; about 10 or 12 persons here.

1757 October 9 (Sunday). I was not able to prepare for to Days Exercises by reason of my unavoidable Journeys last Week, and the Circumstances of Yesterday. Read 1 *Chron.* 12. Preached on *Heb.* 13.20. That Clause -- "that brought again from the Dead our Lord Jesus" -- and administered the Lords Supper. Mrs. Tainter and her Daughters Forbush and Bowker and her sister Harrington dined here. P.M. repeated sermon on *Gen.* 25.8 on Occasion of the Death of *old Mr. David Maynard* who was buried on Tuesday last, Mr. *Martyn* praying with the people at the Funeral. N.B. *Old Mr. Kelly* was buried on Monday the 3 instant but without a minister.

1757 October 10 (Monday). P.M. Visited Old Mrs. How and old Mrs. Maynard, who are both Sick. At Evening Sent my Manuscript of sermon on Ezek. XXII.30 to Mr. *Kneeland*, by Mr. Moses Brigham with a Letter to Mr. *Cooper* to inspect the press. My Wife continues very lame. May God sanctifie this great Affliction!

1757 October 11 (Tuesday). Went to the Association at Mr. *Martyns* -- few there -- and lodged there. Mr. Cushing, Stone, Morse and Davis all that came. Mr. Morse has troubles with his

people about his salary. Mr. Davis has a fit. The last tells me my Cousen *Betty* Parkman is come up in her Fathers Chair with Mrs. *Allen* (Captain's Wife, of Shrewsbury).

1757 October 12 (Wednesday). Mr. Davis preached on 1 Cor. 15 ult. My Wife came over with Cousen *Betty* Parkman and dined at Mr. *Martyns*. When we returned home, Mrs. *Allen* was come from Shrewsbury and Mrs. *Baldwin* of that Neighbourhood with her. I visited Old Mrs. *Maynard* again, who grows worse. I doubt of her Life -- yet she is herself full of Hopes.

1757 October 13 (Thursday). My Kinswoman, Miss *Betty* Still with us.

1757 October 14 (Friday). She has my Mare to go to Boston and leaves her Fathers Horse. My son *Thomas* goes with his Her [sic] as far as Coll. *Williams* at Marlborough where Mrs. *Allen* was to meet her to proceed on their Journey down. I made another Visit to Old Mrs. *Maynard* and I dealt somewhat plainly with her, She being somewhat better for Conversation than when I saw her last: but yet in a low Condition. May God pardon my Defects and bless and prosper my weak Endeavours. Sat out late in the Afternoon upon my Brothers Horse, for *Cumberland*. Stopt at *LeBlanc's* and gave *Ammon* 2 Dollars: called at Deacon *Bradish's* in *Upton* and took him with me to go to Mr. *Fish*, where I lodged.

1757 October 15 (Saturday). Deacon *Tainter* came to Me at Mr. *Fish's*, and he accompanys me on my Journey. Dined at Mr. *Dorrs*. P.M. we got to *Cumberland*. Arrived at Mr. *John Lovetts* in good season, and Health. D.G. And lodged there.

1757 October 16 (Sunday). I preached at Mr. *John Lovetts* in *Cumberland* a. and p.m. on Mat. 16.26 to a very mixed Assembly. May God grant Success. At Eve Deacon *Tainter* and I rode to Mr. *Welds* at *Attleborough* and lodged there. N.B. great storm of Wind and Rain at Night.

1757 October 17 (Monday). Bright morn. Deacon and I, accompanied by Mr. *Weld* some Miles, rode to *Wrentham*. Visit Mr. *Bean*, but especially my old Friend Mrs. *Messenger*. Dined in *Wrentham* precinct with Mr. *John Carns* (who preaches there) at the House of Deacon *Thurston*. Called at Mr. *Frost's* at *Mill River*: and in the Evening at Mr. *Stephen Sadlers* in *Upton*. Arrived at home much worried and spent. Yet was in Bed but a little while before I was called up again to go to Old Mrs. *Maynard* who was dying -- and expired before I got there. Prayed there; and it being near midnight and indisposed, I lodged there also. N.B. my Wife took physic -- 6 Lockyers Pills -- which work much upon her. N.B. Rev. *David Turner* of *Palmers River*, lately dead.

1757 October 18 (Tuesday). Returned home in the Morning --but have been so fatigued, am fit for little all Day. P.M. Mrs. *Bond* and Mrs. *Harrington* visit my wife in her Lameness: and She is also Rheumatic.

1757 October 19 (Wednesday). Mr. *Moses Twitchel* came to burn up Bushes, which Should ha' been done last Year, but he proves not well. *Thomas* goes to Boston. Rides his Uncle's Horse. P.M. I visit *Hutchins* (a transient young Man) who is dropsical: and bleeds at the Nose -- and in a

hazardous Condition. As I was returning from him, Mr. Thomas *Stearns* of Lunenbourg, but of the Church of *Leominster* Met Me, Deacon Gardner Wilder of the Same, being at my House also, to take Some Advice. I chiefly advised them to wait upon Mr. *Rogers* when the Time Set by the Council was out, and Shew him all hearty Respect; and not to be hasty in applying to the Moderator for the Council to meet together again -- but to do everything which might prevent Such imputations as there were before, of Suddenness and rashness.

1757 October 20 (Thursday). I attended the Funeral of Old *Mrs. Hephzibah Maynard*. She was 70 Years old last January -- a woman of remarkable Diligence and Skill in Family Affairs; and very compassionate and bountifull to the Poor; a Very Serviceable person in the Neighbourhood, and gave ready Assistance to all who Sought to her. She was in a peculiar Manner liberal and helpful to Me and Mine at all times. She was also very Steddy and Constant in Attending the Publick worship and Ordinances. And She told me She hoped She was in Christ: but it does not appear to me that She expected to dye by this Sickness; for though her illness increased upon her from time to time yet she cherished Hopes She Should get over it. I wish I might learn to *live*, that I may be in continual readiness to *dye* -- that I may be *Willing*, and *look for it!* And might I be so sensible of the drying up of *Streams*, that my Dependence may be more on, and my Recourse to the Glorious and inexhaustible Fountain!

1757 October 21 (Friday). We are still in much Affliction for want of Water -- but especially by reason of my wife's lameness; with which she is still confined, and at times in great smart.

1757 October 22 (Saturday). My Kinsman Nathaniel Parkman and Brother Samuels Daughter Abigail came up from Boston to make us a Visit.

1757 October 23 (Sunday). I read 1 *Chron.* 13 and on Occasion of *Mrs. Maynards* Death I preached on Prov. 31.10 and p.m. read Luk. 6. On account of the Sorrowful News of the Hurricane which disperses our Fleet in the Eastward and the French taking *Hanover*, I repeated Sermon on Ps. 51.18.

1757 October 24 (Monday). My Kinsman, and young Kinswoman still with us. P.M. they take a Ride to t'other House. They are in the Rain which every one besides is thankfull for. At Eve the storm increases.

1757 October 25 (Tuesday). The Rain detains them. P.M. Cousen *Nat* and I take a ride to Widow Forbush's, Deacon Tainters, Bonds, etc. Ensign Harrington brings me 140 feet of Board and Some slabbs for Floor of my Kitchin Chamber.

1757 October 26 (Wednesday). The Morning bright, our Kinsman etc. leave us. I preached at the North precinct Lecture on *Jer.* 50.7. N.B. but about 19 or 20 Men at Meeting. Returned at Evening but as I returned visited Old *Mrs. How*, who is in a low and languishing Condition: I fear She'll not go abroad again. N.B. sent several Letters to Brookfield by Thomas Hardy.



1757 October 27 (Thursday). Being repeatedly disappointed of *Edes* and *Gills* paper I Sent 'em a Letter by Mr. *Elisha Brigham*. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ in great Distress with her smarting Legg.

1757 October 28 (Friday). It grows very Cold, rugged Weather. Had a Quarter of Beef of Mr. Williams; weighed 76 @ 1/ old Tenor. Eleazar brought it. P.M. with Capt. Woods Oxen, and Neighbour Barn. Newtons Cart, *Alex* carried over Cider Barrells to Mr. Bavericks, who makes Cider at Lt. Maynards and Alex brings five Home.

1757 October 29 (Saturday). Deacon Tainter dines with me.

1757 October 30 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 14. Preached on Ruth 3.11 and Spent what time I had on this, neither could I finish the Subject. P.M. read Luk. 7 and delivered an Exposition of v. 31 to 35, which was before delivered on Mat. 11.16 -- except that now there were here and there Sundry additions, Alterations to the present Times. N.B. Mrs. Dunlop and her sister Kelly dined here.

1757 October 31 (Monday). A.M. I visited Mr. *Eliezer Rice* and Family most of 'em being Sick of the fever and ague, and have been much afflicted with it. N.B. her Brother *Samuel Bootman* of *Sutton* dyed on Saturday last. This man has lived at least Two Years to the Astonishment of all that Saw him; having So languished and grown rotten by a Sore he was exercised by. This Precinct met together to See whether they would make some Addition to my Sallery for this Year; and to see what they would do about my Wood. As to the former (as the Clerk Mr. Phinehas Hardy informed me) they made it 500£ old Tenor including my Wood: And would do nothing as to providing anybody to get it, as they did last year. At Eve Mr. Tim. Warrin here and undertook to provide my Wood for 35£ old Tenor. N.B. Deacon Tainter, and Mr. Jonas Twitchell were here and heard what was agreed to: as did Capt. *Wood* also. N.B. his Discourse before Capt. Wood came in, of the Disquietments Some people were in about me and particularly my preaching yesterday forenoon: principally that my own Family were culpable. May God grant me the Grace to deal impartially; and carefully reform what is amiss among us! I beg I and Mine may be an Example to the Flock! And May we make a fit use of the unreasonable Murmurings of those who make groundless Exceptions! I desire particularly to pray for Such: God grant me an Heart to do this to divine Acceptance! N.B. Mr. *Ezekiel Leonard* of Southborough dyed Suddenly. What an Awful Warning to all Survivers.

1757 November 1 (Tuesday). Our Preparing to sow has been too long delayed. With difficulty got ready to plough to Day. Having Mr. Zebulun Rice's Steers, set my boys to work with them and my own Mare to Splitting Hills; but they were unable without my own Assistance a.m. Had Enoch Rice to help p.m. N.B. Mr. *Oliver Hayward*, a Cripple, from Mendon here. Old Coll. *William Ward* here also: his Conversation grave and Spiritual. As to the poor Cripple, May God preserve my wife in her pregnancy, from all hurtful Impressions but especially give me and mine the grace of true Gratitude for our Limbs and help us in a right manner to improve them to the divine Glory; and grant all temporal and Spiritual Blessings to the poor man and his Family! Especially to those of his Children who are (4 of them) in like unhappy Condition with himself!

1757 November 2 (Wednesday). Made a Visit to my Neighbour *Hammond*, and discoursed with both Him and Her, especially with her: and discovered the Reasons of my Difficulty about her coming to the Communion. See *July 16 and 17*. All this Time I have been distressed in my Mind about her; not merely by reason of what I saw *then*, but *since*. What She says to me at this time, together with a recommendation from Rev. *Woodward* of *Weston* has given me such a Measure of Relief as that I told her she might come the next Communion. At Eve Mr. Timothy *Warrin* brought the *first Load* of Wood, of his Engagement for this year.

1757 November 3 (Thursday). Mr. Stephen Buss of Leominster, here, to bear a Message from Venerable Mr. Loring, Moderator that the Council is to meet at Concord on the 9th Instant. Capt. Wood accompanied me to Hopkinton Lecture. We dined at Mr. *Barretts*. I preached on *Isa. 7.14*. N.B. Exceeding few at Meeting. Returned home at Evening and brought Hamiltons Voiages to the East Indies, to read.

1757 November 4 (Friday). Mr. James Fay and his Wife make me a Visit, and dine with me. I was glad to see them but it was an inexpressible Trouble to me to be interrupted in my studys to Day having met with so much hindrance every Day of the Week hitherto. My Wife Still very lame. N.B. *Nathan Kenny* worked here -- ploughed -- had a Yoke of Deacon Bonds Cattle. At Night came in a stranger who thought it was a Tavern and ordered his Horse to be put out. It was Mr. Caleb *Trowbridge* junior son of Mr. Trowbridge of Groton. He lodged here. This also was a sad, unavoidable Detriment to my Studys. O that God would remember me in His Great Mercy!

1757 November 5 (Saturday). Mr. Trowbridge left us early in the Morning. *Alex* ploughed p.m. with a Yoke of Capt. Woods Oxen. Mr. *Jonah Warrin* a Load of Wood, and his Cousen *Timothy*: one. Coll. *William Ward* came here p.m. Esq. Baker, *LeBlanc* and his sons and Daughters return from Lynn.

1757 November 6 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 15. I have prepared and finished a sermon on Prov. 31.30. But for several Reasons judged it better to defer delivering it. There were divers strangers; and Several of the people had been in a ruffle about my preaching the last Sermon to women; therefore I waved it for the present; and repeated part of Exposition of the 3d Commandment. Coll. *Ward* dined with us. So did Mr. Ezekiel *Upham* of Sturbridge. P.M. I read Luk. 8. Repeated 2 Expositions on Mat. 9.18-26, with Some Omissions and Alterations. Stayed the Church. See Church-Records. At Eve I read over and corrected my Discourse in the press on Ezek. 22.30.

1757 November 7 (Monday). So cold we neither plough, nor can get Oxen if we could plow. I write to Mr. Kneeland. Went to t'other House. Mr. Batheric and I divide the Indian Corn, and the English Hay in the West Bay. N.B. *Nathan Kenny* thrashed Rye for me.

1757 November 8 (Tuesday). *Nathan Kenny* winnowed Rye. Mr. Asaph Rice here p.m. I rode (on Mr. Benjamin Tainter's Mare) to *Sudbury*, in my way to the Leominster Council, 2d session

at *Concord*. Venerable *Loring* ill with nephistick Pains. I visited him, and it was much to our mutual Refreshing. I lodged there.

1757 November 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Loring had a bad Night -- in great pain -- had not his Cloths off all night: yet he is reckoned to be in the main, better than he was Some Days agoe. He was in a very Spiritual and heavenly Frame. He desired that all those Things which had Occurred in Time past might be wholly over. I rode to Capt. [Davids?] and he being one of the Members of the Council, took him with me. Our Meeting was at Mrs. Jones's; Widow of the late Mr. Ephraim Jones. In the Council there were several messengers presented themselves who were not at the former session. Two or three that had been chosen by the Churches they belonged to but were prevented coming: but Deacon Bond who was chose by our Church instead of Brother Nathaniel Whitney, was the only one, who was of that sort (of being not only not of the former Session, but chose de novo) and, to my Sorrow, he was, by vote of Council excluded, and he returned home. The Council received a Letter from Mr. Rogers, briefly Shewing that he was willing to join with his Brethren in calling a Mutual Council. It was much debated whether he Should be gratified or not? I was fully perswaded it might be for the best, and therefore voted for it; and there were 4 more of my mind; but the rest voted otherwise. Yet in the General there was a good Harmony in the Council. I lodged at Mrs. *Jones's*.

1757 November 10 (Thursday). With close application to our Business we dispatched it and came to a Result. Those that compiled it were the following Committee: The Moderator Mr. Pemberton and I. We finished it and published it this Evening. And there was so remarkable an unanimity that Every one, without Exception Signed it. Blessed be God for this Token of the divine Favour! I lodged at Esq. *Whitings*: and Mr. Bridge of Chelmsford with me.

1757 November 11 (Friday). I made a few Visits -- to Master Minot, the Doctor and Mr. Bliss. Transcribed a Copy of the Result for the Brethren. Mr. Harrington (the other scribe) undertaking to write one for Rev. Mr. Rogers. Coll. Timothy Brigham brought up from Boston a Number of my Books. I had 10 of them and presented 9 of them to the following persons, viz. to Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, Clark, Chipman, Pemberton, Bucknam and Dunbar; and to Major Hartwell, Deacon Greenough and to Mr. Oliver Carter. Having dined at Mrs. Jones's, I rode to Southborough, being accompanied by old Coll. Ward and Coll. Brigham. And thus this remarkable session of the Council finished. May God have the Glory! And may God give Success! I visited Mr. Stone, but (Mrs. Stone looking every Hour) lodged at Coll. *Brighams*.

1757 November 12 (Saturday). I returned Home. Found my Family in Peace. D.G.! Undertook to compose a Sermon on 2 Cor. 2.17.

1757 November 13 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 16. Preached on Prov. 31.30. Mrs. Steward and Mrs. Dolly Rice dined with me. P.M. Read Luk. 9 to 27 v. Preached on 2 Cor. 2.17. After sermons read the Proclamation for the Thanksgiving: and appointed the Communion. Stayed the Church and read to them the Result of the late Council on the Affairs of Leominster.

1757 November 14 (Monday). Fine Weather Still. Adam Rice p.m. with their Oxen gets out half a Dozen Load of muck. At Eve made a Visit to Capt. Woods, his Wife's Leg growing Worse again. Deacon Kimbal there plaistering his rooms.

1757 November 15 (Tuesday). Adam works for me; with *Barny Newtons* Oxen -- ploughs; and Sows a little Rye. N.B. Wrote to Mr. Pemberton at Boston per Mr. Ball of Grafton. Admirable fine Weather. My Wife rode in the Chair to See Mrs. Rolf who is o' Bed. At Eve *Billy* came from Brookfield. He brought a Letter from *Ebenezer* of his Willingness and Desire to buy the *Gilbert* place, and that he would have me provide 200£ for a first payment.

1757 November 16 (Wednesday). We are still in great Straits for Want of Water: our Well is yet so low that we can't dip a pail-full without going down into it. Monsieur *Jacques Morris* and his Wife, Neutral French, who live at Leicester came to See me, dined with me, and tarried till near Evening. My Son William goes agunning and brings in 7 Squirrells. Mr. Samuel Hardy here, and Sits down at Supper with us. My mind and Heart much engaged and employed in my Preparations for tomorrow, notwithstanding the many Interruptions and Obstructions I meet with.

1757 November 17 (Thursday). Public Thanksgiving. I preached on 1 *Chron.* 16.34.35.36. Rain a.m. Therefore though I invited Monsieur LeBlanc and his Wife, they did not come. *Peter* dined with me. And Seeing it cleared away p.m., I Sent again for his Father and Mother; who came and Supped here. In the Eve Mr. Francis Whipple and his Wife came to see us; which would have been very acceptable to me, but that it was a means (together with the French people's being here) of the Delay of our Evening Exercise to an unfit Lateness.

1757 November 18 (Friday). Rainy Day, therefore no Sowing my Rye as was designed. Thomas goes to Worcester on the probation of Old Mr. *Maynards* Will. Deacon *Bond* dined with us.

1757 November 19 (Saturday). Mr. Eleazar Whitney, and Joseph Harrington, likewise *Peter Blanc* from Mr. Benjamin Tainter, came with each of them a Yoke of Oxen and a plough, and sowed and ploughed in 3 Bushell of Rye for me. They dined here; and got done very Seasonably before Night. A great Kindness to me. *Billy* returned to *Brookfield*. Charles Rice junior went up also. We have the Sorrowfull News of the Death of *Amos Whitney* (Son of Mr. Nathaniel *Whitney*) at Fort Edward. N.B. Capt. Curtis of Worcester here -- reads me Mr. *Mellens* Acknowledgment Made to Him.

1757 November 20 (Sunday). In the Night and Morning, my Heart was very heavy -- a very great Engagement of thought upon my Subject, which I was not able to finish, yet enough was prepared for the Season of the Communion. It was impossible for me, with my interruptions and avocations the last two Days on which I had great Dependence, to prepare for both parts of the Day. Read 1 *Chron.* 17. Preached on Luk. 23.33, that clause "and they crucified Him." Administered the Lord's Supper. N.B. Mrs. *Hammond* was mentioned to the Church, and attended. *Deacon Tainter* dined with me. P.M. omitted the Reading. Repeated part of Sermon

1 on Jer. 5.20-25-29. It was So rainy after Sermon that Old Mrs. Woods (widow) tarryed with us and lodged here.

1757 November 21 (Monday). Bright, but cool. Catechized at the Meeting House both a. and p.m. Mr. Asaph Rice here. Tells me he is going to look out a place to settle in, in the Practice of Physick. Thinks of Braintree. Transcribe part of the Genealogy of our Family.

1757 November 22 (Tuesday). Thomas, and a Number more, ride to Brookfield to Ordination. I visit old Mr. Samuel Fay. N.B. *Mrs. Miller* was at my House; Seems to be a Woman of much Sorrow -- very much on Account of her Children. I visited Capt. Woods Wife whose Leg is sore again and confines her from public Worship.

1757 November 23 (Wednesday). The Day for the Ordination of Mr. Joseph Parsons junior at Brookfield 1st Church. Monsieur Joseph Robishow and his Wife came to see us; and dined here. As did Mrs. Allan from Shrewsbury and her son William but they all left us so Soon in p.m. that I rode down to See Mr. Jacob Garfield and his Wife. He was not at home; but after a Brief Admonition to his Wife -- I went to Mr. Joslins, who had been confined with Fever and Ague, but grows better. However my Errand to him, as was very much the Reason of my riding abroad Yesterday, was to borrow money; my Collector Forbush not Supplying me though I am reduced to great and uncomfortable Straits for want of it: And try from one to another to borrow -- without Success -- til Eliza *Phillips* in part, and Mr. *Joslin* more fully, answers for my Present Occasion. In Returning at Eve, visit old Mr. Bradish, and Mrs. Rolf. Council at Narraganset No. 2. 12 Churches. Transcribe a Result for Deacon Greenough at Boston.

1757 November 24 (Thursday). Fresh interruptions and Avocations by the Coming of Mr. Nathaniel Colbourn and Mr. Thomas Legget from Leominster with a Letter from Mr. John Rogers requesting Copys of what his opposing Brethren who called the late Council, had brought in against him. I could not answer this Request. If I would lend the Papers they would enter into Bonds of whatever Penalty to return them in safety but I could not comply -- unless they would go only to Hopkinton and copy them this Evening So as to return 'em tomorrow. This they engaged -- and having taken an Account of what they were which they desired; They (having dined with me) left me for Hopkinton.

1757 November 25 (Friday). Snow Storm. Messrs. Colbourn and Legget here again -- dined with us -- returned the papers I lent them yesterday, all of them safely. And the Copys which they have taken, being to be attested by me, I gave my self (though Friday) to Supervising and correcting them. This was a great Trouble to me at this Time when I have met with So much hindrance in my Studies through every Day of the week. N.B. I wrote out the paper containing Names of the Church and Congregation etc., and with this there were 10, which were compared and attested by me. They tell me a great Council of upward of 20 Churches is Sent for, to come next week.

1757 November 26 (Saturday). Thomas does not come from Brookfield. We are Straitened for Wood till about Sunsetting when Mr. Warrin himself came with a Load. N.B. Mr. Pitts of Bellingham Founder, dined with us.

1757 November 27 (Sunday). Very Cold. Read 1 Chr. 18. Made use of Sermon on Jer. 5.29, but made many alterations accommodating it to the present Times. Mr. Jonas Twitchel's Wife dined with us. P.M. I read Luk. 9 from v. 27. Preached on Joh. 7.17 on Occasion of the Ecclesiastical Councils so frequently Occurring.

1757 November 28 (Monday). Got upon my Subject for next Lords Day. Read Dr. Tillotson upon my Text, though a great part of his Discourses are with very different View from mine. At Eve Thomas returns from Brookfield -- brings me from Mr. Roberts of Leicester Life of Czar *Peter*.

1757 November 29 (Tuesday). Deacon Tainter came, and with him Peter Blanc, and kill for me a Steer which was wont to be called the Sagg.

1757 November 30 (Wednesday). Mr. Cushing has Sent to me that Mr. Stone, on whom he depended to preach his Lecture to Day, had a Lecture of his own at the same time, and therefore entreated me to assist him. With much Difficulty I got an Horse. Dined at Capt. *Allens* of Shrewsbury. Went to Meeting, but the Ministers (for there was a Number come) were got to Meeting before me. Mr. Morse prayed. Mr. Stone (who had forgot to appoint his own Lecture) preached -- Text James 4.8.9. At Eve I rode with Mr. Martyn and his wife to their House; as did Mr. Stone -- heard the papers of the Council on Affairs of Mr. Marsh at Narraganset No. 2. Supped there, but returned home, though late. N.B. Mr. Batherick is moved from t'other House.

1757 December 1 (Thursday). My Wife rode with me to Deacon Tainters where I preached -- Text Ps. 51.11, former part -- to page 9. N.B. Monsieur Blanc and Wife there; the first Time that he has ever attended upon any of my sermons.

1757 December 2 (Friday). Mr. Amsden came for me -- Mr. Smith at Boston -- to go to Marlborough to the Funeral of Dr. Robinsons son Thomas-Amsden, a Boy of about 9 or 10. Returned at Eve. I can't but take Notice of the Providences which take me off from my preparations for the pulpit.

1757 December 3 (Saturday). Devoted to my preparations. Wonderful pleasant Weather. Mr. David Maynard, though the Assessors have not Sent him the Ministerial Rate, brought me an 18£ piece of Gold and a Note to Mr. Joslin for more.

1757 December 4 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 19. Preached on Joh. 7.17. P.M. read Luk. 10. Made a Sermon on v. 2.3 from part of an Exposition on Mat. 9.37.38 and part of an Exposition on Mat. 10.16, accomodating it to the present Times and Occasions. Were somewhat late when we had done. N.B. Nobody dined with us; which is contrary to my Inclination.

1757 December 5 (Monday). Ensign Harrington came early with his Horse for me to ride to Stoneham and Boston: my Principal (earthly) end and Design being to take up Some money for my son Ebenezer to enable him to pay for the Gilbert place in Brookfield. I rode to Mr. *Joslins* and received of him a piece of Gold of 33£ old Tenor -- 2£ 18s 3.2 L.M. or £21.17.2.2 old Tenor being Mr. *Joslins* province Rate I was empowered by Constable David Maynard to receive -- and the Change he could not give me. I engaged therefore to deliver it when I returned. I dined at Mr. Bridge's in Framingham; had a Dark ride in the Evening through Menotomy and the rest of the Road to my Kinsmans Mr. *Joseph Briants* in Stoneham, where I lodged.

1757 December 6 (Tuesday). Mr. John *Searl*, preacher at *Stoneham* came to see me and broke fast with us at Mr. *Briants*. We rode to his (Mr. *Searls*) Lodgings to Dinner. My Kinsman and his Wife in their Chair accompanied me from thence some Miles, to the Road to Medford. I visited my Class-mate Turill. At Charleston Ferry ventured to ferry over -- did safely. William Bowes Parkman took Care of my Horse. Lodged at Brother *Williams*.

1757 December 7 (Wednesday). Dined at Mr. Speaker Hubbards. The Company with him besides were Judge Russell, Justice Boardman, Coll. Worthington, Josiah Quincy Esq. and Coll. Lawrence. At Eve at Mr. Pembertons. Lodged at Cousen Winters. N.B. There has been another Council at Leominster called by Mr. Rogers and his adhering Brethren consisting of [*blank*] Churches -- viz. Mr. *Gays*, Dr. *Chauncys*, Dr. *Mayhews*, Mr. *Rands*, Mr. John *Browns*, Mr. *Shutes* [*blank*] and it is a loud Complaint they make against the proceedings of the agrieved Brethren of the Church in Leominster and our Councils in abetting them and condemning Mr. Rogers. *Them*, because they were so precipitant in calling a Council -- whereas they not only endeavored to try among themselves by a previous Church Meeting, When Mr. R. would give them no satisfaction and tryed again at another Church Meeting to have him join with them in Calling a mutual Council, without success, but they had been waiting upon him, at times ever since last March, when their Dissatisfaction with him was greatly increased by reason of his Publishing his sermon on the Nature of Spiritual Conversion: *Us*, because *First*, we judged *on one side only*, not having ever heard the other: Whereas if we had done so, it may be enquired whether This last Council has done any better? For have they not judged and Condemned our Council without ever hearing or knowing the Grounds upon which We proceeded? Neither have [*they*] at all Sought to hear us or be acquainted with what has induced us to Judge as we have done; any further than is expressed in our Results. But as to us, it is well known what pains *We* took to inform Mr. *Rogers* of our *Coming* and to desire him to give us what Light he could in what would come before us; and to have Mr. Rogers join with his Brethren in calling a mutual Council: which he refused. Neither did we form our Judgment from hearing one side only, however; for we had Mr. R's Works from the press; had his own Hand Writing, in sundry performances of his; besides what Several Men had taken from his Mouth and wrote down, and were ready to give Oath to. *Secondly*, they Say it was a Minor part of the Church which called us -- the Platform not knowing any Such way -- nor the Acts of such a Council Valid according to our Constitutions. To which it may be replied, That it has always constantly been the Custom in these Churches to do thus, notwithstanding the third way of Communion mentioned in the Platform: Nay if but one Single Member is under Grievance, and applies for a Council, he is

gratified; and it is thought very hard if he can't be. And I understand that that great and wise Man Judge *Remington* gave it as his Opinion that this being the Common Custom of these Churches, it was Valid in Law. For he said, My Lord Chief Justice *Hale* declared that Common Custom was Common Law. But be this as it will, with respect to our first coming together in Council, Yet in Calling us together the Second Time, There was a Major Part of the Church that requested it. So that inasmuch as in the Congregational Scheme of the Church Government the Power is Supposed to be in the Church; if then a Major part of the *Brethren* be the Church particularly in the Affair of constituting or removing an Officer; and if it be by the advice of an Ecclesiastical Council whom Such Major part of the Church have requested to meet for that End, that the said Majority vote the Dissolution of the Pastoral Relation, it must needs be Valid.

1757 December 8 (Thursday). A Stormy Day, Rain and Snow; Old Mr. Checkley preached the Public Lecture on Ps. 101 v. 1. Dined at Mr. *Foxcrofts* where also dined Mr. *Clark* of Danvers, and Mr. *Pemberton*. N.B. Mr. Pembertons short answers to me about his Wife's letting Money. In the Eve at Mr. *Eliots*; and lodged there.

1757 December 9 (Friday). On the Affair of hiring Money. Cousen Billy has kept my Horse these Three Nights. Brother *Samuel* who lately arrived from *Casco*, befriends me in it. Dined at [blot] Stoddards. P.M. ride to Cambridge. Mr. John Hicks takes Care of my Horse. Visit Monsieur Lewis Robishow. Lodged at Sister Barretts.

1757 December 10 (Saturday). Bright morning. Agreeable to the advice and Direction of Mr. Speaker Hubbard, I went to the Widow Hill in Cambridge. She having Some of the College Money -- and took up of her 56£ 5/ old Tenor. Dined at Mr. Samuel Baldwins at Westown about 2 p.m. Oated at Coll. Buckminsters. Called at Mr. Stones in Southborough. Got home about 6 in the Evening and found all my Family in Safety. D.G. Mr. George Crossman Sent me a new Clipped Wigg. N.B. Mrs. Hannah Rice, wife of Jacob, in the North End, and who was lately dismissed from our Church, though not yet admitted there, is dead.

1757 December 11 (Sunday). Read 1 Chron. 20. Preached a. and p.m. repeating Sermon on Eccl. V.1. Read p.m. Luk. 11. N.B. Brother *Harrington* of Waterton dined here. P.M. Mr. Benjamin Tainter, tything man, as soon as the Blessing was given, Spoke aloud to two Young Women for laughing etc. in the Time of divine service. They were *Abigail Whipple* and *Lydia*, Daughter of James, Maynard. Tis matter of great Grief that persons from whom I ought to hope So well, Should behave so ill!

1757 December 12 (Monday). Sent by Mr. Joseph *Harrington* (my Brother in Law) 56£ 5/old Tenor to my son Ebenezer that he might be in preparation for purchasing the *Gilbert* Place; designing to send him more when I Shall receive it. In much Difficulty to keep my Mare, or any other of my Creatures, over at t'other place. Samuel goes to Mrs. Mary Bradish's School and boards there.

1757 December 13 (Tuesday). Sent by Mr. Solomon Stow of Grafton Sundry Books belonging to my late Kinsman Dr. Elias Parkman, viz. Lowman on the Revelation, Watts on the Improvement



of the Human Mind, Savage's History of Germany and Lives of the Emperors; and Mr. Broughtons Consent of Scripture; to Mr. Joshua Winter for Conveyance to the Doctors Widow, at Boston: His Library being to be sold at Vendue next Thursday, by divine Leave.

1757 December 14 (Wednesday). Visit Capt. Wood's Wife in her Lameness -- his Mother there. N.B. first wore a new, clipped Wigg, lately received from Mr. George Crossman of Hopkinton. Dined at Mr. Beetons. Reckoned with Widow *Ruhamah Newton* and with her son *Barnabas*.

1757 December 15 (Thursday). To Day I suppose the Library of my late Kinsman Dr. Elias Parkman is exposed to Sale at public Auction at his late Dwelling House in Boston.

1757 December 16 (Friday). My Wife much recovered from her Lameness; the Sore almost wholly healed up. To God be unfeigned Praise!

1757 December 17 (Saturday). Stormy. Mr. *Hall* of Sutton, journeying from Boston, home calls to See me. Certifies me that a principal Article in the Protestation of Mr. *Gay, Rand, Mayhew* etc. at No. 2 against the Result of the Council there, was without Grounds; nay that it was opposite to the Truth. The Storm prevailed at night -- but *Samme* gets home. N.B. Mrs. Judith Bellows here with another Paper -- but not acknowledging her Offence.

1757 December 18 (Sunday). Great Storm of Snow last night and this Morning. Very few at Meeting. Read 1 Chron. 21. Preached a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 10.4. P.M. omitted public Reading. N.B. Stopped the Church to read a Letter from the 2d Church of *Shrewsbury* and Mr. Morse's Complaint to his own Church about his Difficultys among them, but our Church did not vote to go to the designed Council. Esq. *Baker* was he that opposed it; and Said there was provision made in the Law and He did not think it was fit to call a Council about Ministers Sallerys. It was answered that not attending to an Ordinance of God is Surely matter of Ecclesiastical Cognizance, that Mr. Morse had been to the Court heretofore, that there were divers other Difficultys among them and this was of Special Weight, viz. what respected Mr. Morse's Remove from them. Esq. replied that if it had been any Complaint the Church made against the Minister for Error or Vice there would be something, but as it was of a minister about his people, that he had not sufficient Sallery, there was nothing in't and therefore no need of Sending. I found I gained Nothing by my reasoning; I was grieved we did not send, nor show 'em Compassion; I told 'em I could not but bear my Testimony against the Conduct of the Church herein and so gave the Matter up. The Weather cleared up at night. Exceeding difficult travelling -- but 9 of the Church at Meeting besides my self. However, our *fewness* was not all objected against though it was mentioned to them and that the time appointed was the 20th Day.

1757 December 19 (Monday). Sent Alexander with *Samme* on my Mare, to Mrs. *Mary's* school again: but it was with great Difficulty that Alex. got over to t'other Barn for the Creature go upon, the Snow is So deep. A.M. Very pleasant over Head; p.m. clouded up and thaws very much. Read Mr. Robert *Abercrombie's* Remarks on Messrs. Morehead, Parsons and McGregore.

1757 December 20 (Tuesday). The Council Sitts at North Shrewsbury to hear the Complaint of Mr. Morse. I can't but Sympathize, and remember them in Prayer. N.B. Deacon Gideon Newton of Southborough who was here last Night to go along with me to the Council, calls again this Morning, by whom I wrote a Letter to Rev. Mr. Morse, to give him and those concerned an Account of our Church's not Sending.

1757 December 21 (Wednesday). I went to Southborough to the Funeral of old Mrs. Johnson widow of old Clerk Johnson, who dyed somewhat suddenly last Saturday Night. N.B. in returning I went to Mr. John Bents and took up a Note of my son *Ebenezers* (which he had given to Mr. Ebenezer Rice) by giving a note of Hand for Eight Shillings L.M. or 3£ old Tenor and therewith took up a Note of the Said Mr. *Rice's*, of £11.5.0 old Tenor.

1757 December 22 (Thursday). Deacon Tainter and his son came kindly killed an Hog for me -- weight 239 1/4 and the Deacon came at Night, cutt it out and Salted it up. I visited Mr. LeBlanc. Presented him with a New Testament in French, with the Catechism and Confession of Faith of the Reformed Churches in France: I also lent him *Histoire abbrgee de Martyrs francois*. And I carryed a Rosary, or long String of Beads, for him to explain. N.B. I returned Mr. Ebenezer Rice his Note to Mr. John Bent. See Yesterday.

1757 December 23 (Friday). Last night divers of our Children much indisposed, but through divine Goodness they are better this Morning. Mr. *Martyn* visited me and gave me account of the proceedings, and Shewed me the Result of the Council at Shrewsbury: he dined here: returned at Eve though it grew very windy and Cold. *Alexander* much indisposed to Day; goes to Bed p.m. N.B. Wrote to Honorable Mr. *Hubbard* at Boston concerning Some of the College money in the Hands of the Widow *Hill* at Cambridge, covered by a Letter to my Brother Samuel to look after the Affair. Sent by Mr. Joseph *Mosely* of *Sutton*. N.B. delivered to the Widow *Kelly* a Quarto Bible which I bought for her at Mr. Winters in *Boston*.

1757 December 24 (Saturday). Brother *Harrington* here. He came yesterday from Brookfield. Brought me a Receipt from my son *Ebenezer* of the 25 Dollars I Sent him by the foresaid Brother *Harrington*. (See the 12th Day of this Instant.) He left us to go to Watertown.

1757 December 25 (Sunday). Thawy and rainy. Read 1 *Chron.* 22. Preached on 2 Cor. 10.4. At noon received two Letters from Boston: one from my Brother *Samuel*, the other from my Kinsman *Winter* of the extreme illness of my Eldest Brother of a Pleurisy, dated the 21. They were very shocking. P.M. I desired public prayers. Read Luk. 11 from v. 27. Preached on Eccl. 5.1, latter part, using chiefly a sermon from thence which carryed on the Scheme of the sermons of the 11th but with many additions especially of Application. Stopped the Church to read them Mrs. *Judith Bellows* Paper of the 3d instant, and left it to their Consideration. Craved leave to read to my Brethren some passages of the Letters received to Day and entreated their sympathy. After meeting borrowed Cornet *Brighams* Horse to go to Boston, and he left him for Me. And now O that I might my Self be properly affected with this great Affliction! And might be suitably prepared for the holy and Sovereign Will of God!

1757 December 26 (Monday). Set out for Boston -- the Morning Cold, the Road in lower Towns very icy. Called at Mr. Stones in Southborough, at Coll. Buckminsters in Framingham (before Noon), at Mr. Samuel Baldwins. Stopped at Mr. Rogers's (blacksmith at Newton) and had the Horses fore-Shooes Sharpened and re-sett. Was at Boston before Dark. Put up my Horse at Brother Samuels Stable. Visited my dear Brother Parkman who, through the Goodness of God is yet alive, and has his reason -- though just before I arrived it was thought he was departing. He was in a very happy Frame of Soul; *knowing* in whom he had believed, and resigned to the will of God. We who were about the Bed were ready to Say, mark the Perfect Man and behold the upright etc. for though he had many Miscarriages and Defects yet he bewailed them and his divine Redeemer was his Advocate, made Satisfaction to the divine Justice, and cast the white Robe of his Righteousness over him. I lodged at Brother Samuels and with him had sweet Conversation.

1757 December 27 (Tuesday). Visit my Brother again, who was able in a wonderful Manner to express himself concerning the almighty and Sovereign Grace of God which had been extended to him -- and had been of a long time (as he expressed it) above half an hundred Years. Visited cousen Abigail P\_\_\_\_ who last week sold her Husbands the late Dr. Elias P\_\_\_\_'s Books, in main part, at Vendue, but got but little for 'em. I dined at Dr. Perkins's. N.B. I borrowed the Earl of *Orrerys* account of Dr. *Swift*. Supped at Cousen *Nathaniel's*. Find him more Serious than heretofore. Lodged at Brother Samuels. N.B. Capt. Job Bradford who courts my Neece (Miss Betty), is newly come in from *Nevis*.

1757 December 28 (Wednesday). Another admirable Morning with my Brother P\_\_\_\_ who is Still in strength of understanding and exercise of Vigorous active Faith. Mr. Eliot there and prayed this (or yesterday) Morning and Cousen Bradshaw was there to see her Father, though she was under great Infirmitys, and under Spiritual Trouble. I dined at Cousen *Nathaniels*. Can do but little of my own Business but visit my Dear Brother (with whom my Heart is very much) and my other Friends. Supped at Mr. Joshua Winters and lodge at my Brother Samuels.

1757 December 29 (Thursday). Very Rainy. At my Brothers who Still lives and discourses in a wonderful Manner. I went to Lecture. Mr. Mather preached on Rom. 6.1.2. Dined at Cousen Langdons. P.M. Visited Mr. John Ruddock: Mrs. [*Coverley?*] and especially my Brother who though in the morning he was comfortable, yet is now much sunk yet in a stedy Assurance of Eternal Glory. I caught a few words from him which I wrote from his mouth. Took solemn Leave of him not knowing but that my Affairs might allow me to undertake my Journey in the Morning. In the Evening I visited Mr. Mather; and then Deacon Greenough where I supped. Lodged again at Brother *Samuels*.

My Dear Brother Said, [*blank*].

1757 December 30 (Friday). I went hastily once more to See my dear Brother once more Seeing I left him So low yesterday p.m. Again bid *Adieu*. Attended to my Secular Affairs, chiefly the hiring Money for my son *Ebenezer*. Spoke with Mr. *Hubbard* on the Change who would have

me proceed to take Mrs. Hills Money -- because if it came to him, he must, as previously obliged, let it to another. N.B. Mr. William Blair Townsend accosted me on the Town House steps. He being one of the last Council at Leominster. Dined at Brother *Samuels* and p.m. rode to *Cambridge*. Mr. *Stone* rode part of the way, he being on his Journey home. Took up £56.7.4 old Tenor of Mrs. Hill. It was Evening Dark and muddy; So could not go to any other House in Cambridge. Stood forward to Brother Harringtons and lodged there.

1757 December 31 (Saturday). Set out in the Morning, upon my Journey home. Though it had rained very hard in the Night and in early Morning yet it held up so that I ventured. It rained at times most of the Day, especially when I was at *Weston* where I called at *Livermore's*. I dined at Coll. *Buckminsters*. Called at Mr. *Stone's* who had got home before my Coming there. I arrived in Comfort at my own House, and found my Tabernacle in Peace. Blessed be God! But it was far otherwise at my Friend *Maynards* -- viz. Lieutenant *Stephen's*, for this afternoon he buried his Wife, *Thankfull*; Daughter of Deacon Newton who dyed in Child Bed on the 29th. This is the 7th person that has dyed in that House in little more than 13 months. And the Loss of this last is great among us, as She was a Woman that feared the Lord and had many Excellent Qualifications. The Lord Sanctifie it to him and his Children. To Me also and to mine!

So teach us, Lord! th' uncertain Sum  
Of our Short Days to Mind,  
That to true Wisdom all our Hearts  
May ever be inclined!