

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1777

1777 January 1 (Wednesday). I have now fresh Occasion, O that I might have an Heart to praise the Lord for His Goodness, and for His wonderful Works, in particular in sustaining and Supporting me through the many Vicissitudes of another Year, and granting me the Beginning of *this*, which I am allowed to behold the Light of. Bless the Lord O my Soul and forget not His Benefits! I employed myself much in Reviews of the year past -- renewed my Covenant Engagements to God Great God. And O that I might have Grace to fulfill them accordingly! I desire to Committ to God the Changes and Accidents of this Year; and the more peculiar the Dark Aspects, by the holy Judgments of God upon us, the more devoutly and penitently would implore the divine Pity and Compassion and that the whole Land may be prepared for the Great Events of this Year!

Mr. *Belknap* and Miss *Elizabeth Beals* dined here. P.M. Mr. *Edwards Whipple* came about my Debt to him for Indian Corn nigh a year ago. It was 4 1/2 Bushels at half a Dollar. N.B. Mr. Whipple, in speaking of the public state, condemns all that is doing -- calls it Rebellion against lawful Authority -- that we cannot prosper -- but shall be overthrown. Deacon *Wood* and his son *John* here at Evening. The latter has come from New York and the Jersies, and gives me Account of the state of the Armies, and sundry Engagements there: and upon the whole that the Kings Forces are much too successful in those parts; and that the [Liberty?] Army is but illy provided for.

1777 January 2 (Thursday). Mr. *Belknap* and a small Number attending took me with them to the Widow *Kendals*, where I dined, and p[*illegible*] [married them?].<sup>1</sup> I pray they may live together as heirs of the Grac[*torn*] they manifesting as that they may never repent of what has now been [*torn*].

1777 January 3 (Friday). Disappointed of Neighbours coming to get *Wood* by [*torn*]oads. *Elias* studys a little p.m.

1777 January 4 (Saturday). Miss *Nabby* goes home at Eve.

1777 January 5 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on 1 Chron. 29.15. Its being the First Sabbath of the New Year. Messrs. *Hall* and *Stone* dined here, as did Mrs. *Ruth Godfry*. At Noon Deacon *Wood* delivered me a paper containing an Account of a Battle at *Trenton* (New Jersey) Dec. 16 last, by General *Washington* with 300, and General *Howe's* Forces, of 1600. The latter were routed. Preached p.m. on 1 Joh. 3.21.

1777 January 6 (Monday). *Elias* goes to and *Mendon* for what cloths etc. *Breck* left after his Inoculation. *Hannah* goes with him as far as to Mr. *Fish's* at *Upton*. At Eve came my son *Baldwin* who is returned from *Ticonderoga* -- confirms the Account of General *Washingtons* success over the King's Forces at *Trenton*. Lodges here.

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<sup>1</sup>John Belknap mar. Joanna Kindal, Jan. 3, 1777; Westborough VR, 122.

1777 January 7 (Tuesday). Col. *Baldwin* as chief Engineer in the northern Department, is charged with Affairs of great importance from General *Schuylcr*, and goes to *Boston* etc., etc. *Elias* and *Hannah* return home. Finished a Letter to Mr. Quincy.

1777 January 8 (Wednesday). Visited Mr. *Reuben Bellows* under his Lameness, his Well Leg heretofore now broke by a Fall and prayed with him. Called to see young *Estis* also. Brought up Mrs. *Godfry* to our House to assist Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ in preparing for the morrow. P.M. I attended the funeral of Mr. *Nehemiah Maynards* Child which dyed of Canker Quinzy, in its 3d year. The name *Elizabeth*. At Evening Breck becomes very ill and goes to Bed.

1777 January 9 (Thursday). None of my Children from New *Braintry*, etc. are come though Sent to. Messrs. *Hall*, *Stone*, and *Crosby* come a.m. They, with my Daughters accompany *Breck* (who is better) to Col. *Brighams*. I went with them. Mr. *Whitney* of *Northborough* there ready. We dined sumptuously. P.M. Mr. *Whitney* prayed and administered the marriage Covenant to *Breck* and *Suse*. I prayed after. My son *Alexander* Came from *Leicester* and attended the Solemnity. In closing the solemnity the *Bridegroom*, *Bride*, Mr. *Whitney*, the young Gentlemen, *Winslow Brigham*, *Edward* (son of Captain *Jonas*), two or three young women came to my House, where we *supped*. Mr. *Whitney* returned home. And part of the Company did so. *Alexander*, Messrs. *Hall* and *Stone* tarried. May God grant His special Blessing! Pardoning all amiss and grant the Joy may never Cease! O that we may all be espoused to Jesus Christ!

1777 January 10 (Friday). *Alexander* tarrys to dine, leaves us p.m. Sent by him a Letter to Mr. *Quincy* and to Mr. *Maccarty* for a Receipt [*illegible*] Money sent by young Master *John Barrett* last *Sept.* 2[8?], being the Contribution for pr[*torn*]g the Gospel in Africa. Young [*torn*] and Henry *Marble* dine with us.

1777 January 11 (Saturday). The [*torn*] making Alterations in the East room; viz. removing out C[*torn*] etc. and [sealing?] up *Suse's*. The same thrashers here, and dine with us. Miss *Elizabeth Harrington* with her Relation. *Breck* purchased a large fresh Cod-fish of 3 lb. weight, and cost £3.2.6 old tenor on which we sup with much Satisfaction.

1777 January 12 (Sunday). Preached again on 1 *Joh.* 3.21, which I pray may be profitable to us! Messrs. *Hall*, *Stone* and *Crosby*, also Miss *Molly Pratt* and [*blank*] *Brigham* (from Coll. *Brighams*) dined here. P.M. with Some regard to my son *Breck's* new Circumstances I preached on *Prov.* 2.1 to 5. Admitted *Elizabeth Harrington* and baptized two Children. May God graciously accept and bless what has been done!

1777 January 13 (Monday). *Billy Spring* comes to live with *Breck* at his store. I read Mr. *Howe's* Excellent Book of the *Blessings of the Righteous*. *Jonas Sartle* of *Groton*, an Invalid from the Army, came in, and lodges here. N.B. I had been at Deacon *Woods* -- his grand-Daughter *Polly* is Sick -- at her Desire, prayed with her.

1777 January 14 (Tuesday). I went over to see old Mrs. *Kelly*. In my way called in to Mr. *Hannaniah Parker*. When I returned expected to see Deacon *Wood* and Mr. *Nathan Maynard junior* who had been killing two large swine for me, but the Deacon was gone home, and Joseph *Culloch*, who came with him, and assisted -- but Maynard stays and dines here. P.M. Mr. *Stone of Southborough* Visits me. And at Eve came Mr. *Thomas Kendal* from *Ticonderoga*, and lodges here. At Eve also *Joseph Culloch* and his Brother *James* came and weighed, cut out and salted up my *Pork*. One weighed 274, the other 259. N.B. Breck keeps House.

1777 January 15 (Wednesday). Messrs. Nathan Maynard junior and Nathaniel Chamberlin went to the ministerial Lot and cutt wood for me. Elias went with 3 Cattle (as men speak) and sledged home two load. Mr. *Kendal* has given me Account of his Endeavours to obtain Ordination but was frustrated in his whole Attempt. I dealt plainly with him, and I hope he received it well. May God Sett it home on his Heart! N.B. I payd him 7 Dollars for a Gun, Cartooch Box and Ammunition. He dined and p.m. left us to go to Framingham. Mrs. *Hawes* and her sister *Hill* made us a Visit, and drank Tea here.

1777 January 16 (Thursday). We have the News of another Victory which General *Washington* has obtained over the Regulars 3 miles from Prince Town, in the *Jersys*; 500 killed and taken prisoners; *January 10*. At Eve came Masters *Hall* and *Stone*. Supped and lodged here.

1777 January 17 (Friday). Mr. *Isaac Miller* came to excuse his not coming to thrash.

1777 January 18 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1777 January 19 (Sunday). Preached on the same Subject of *Self Judging*, The 4th Article, of *Love of the World*. Used for the Text *Ps. [27.6?]* last Clauses of it. P.M. delivered the latter Sermon on *Prov. 2.1-5 [torn]* [reading?] verses to the 9th. May the divine Energy accompany it [torn]. N.B. At dinner, besides our own Family, and [torn] *Suse* and *Billy Spring*, had *Winslow* and *Mindwell Brigham*, Miss [May? illegible]; also Master *Hall* and Dr. *Crosbys* Wife. Sixteen in all.

1777 January 20 (Monday). Read *Antoninus Philosophus* -- that is, the *Preliminary Discourse* by *Gataker*; and part of the *Life* by *D'Acier*. P.M. Mr. *Lambson* is at work repairing the sled with a New Tongue. Towards Evening Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ and I (by Invitation) drank Tea at the Store.

1777 January 21 (Tuesday). Read Mr. *Isaac Ambrose* on Redeeming Time -- and on *Evidences* -- very useful by the Blessing of God. In the Eve read Bishop *Butlers* Sermon I on Human Nature and on the Government of the Tongue, neither of which (as I conceive) breathe much of Christianity. But he is a celebrated Writer.

1777 January 22 (Wednesday). *Isaac Miller* was expected to thrash for me; but did not come. Sermonize. Read variously. At eve Breck, his Wife and Boy sup with us. *Henry Marble*, after thrashing in the Day, Shelled out Corn in the Evening.

1777 January 23 (Thursday). Are in some *Perplexity*; being not able to get Supply of Wood or Meal. It is a dry, cold, freezing season; the Roads icy, Slippery, yet much bare ground; and poor sledding: In the woods the snow is too deep for a Cart. And as to *Grinding*, the mills of this and the next neighboring Towns fail very much. Some go to *Sawyer Mill at Lancaster*. At Eve came Son *Ebenezer* from New *Braintree*, and lodges here. N.B. Capt. (I hear he is now Major) *Silas Bailey*, came in to bring me a proclamation for a Fast. In his talk inveighs against the Ministers of the Association who Aug. 20, 1771, declared against the *Bolton* people's irregular proceedings with Mr. Goss. N.B. Deacon *Wood* was present and heard him.

1777 January 24 (Friday). A.M. Snow -- p.m. the Storm turns to Rain. *Ebenezer* tarrys with us. The Wind rises, the Snow, all that has lately fallen and more, is carried off -- the waters flow, the fields are swept and drenched, the mills are going again, though for a long time they have been quiescent.

1777 January 25 (Saturday). *Ebenezer* leaves us to go to *Watertown*. *Henry Marble* comes and they winnows [*sic*] up Rye.

1777 January 26 (Sunday). I carry on the Subject of Self-tryal from 1 *Joh.* 3.14 a.m. with Additions. P.M. Still go on from 1 *Joh.* 3.21. Used some parts of my Discourse on 1 *Joh.* 3.14. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ went to meeting, after being kept at home for two months. Thanks to God for His Goodness. Mr. David Maynard junior dines with us.

1777 January 27 (Monday). Master *Hall* and his Brother *Jonathan* here going to *Hollis*. *Marble* and Ph. *Brigham* thrash -- and Shock. P.M. Col. *Brighams* wife and her sister *Hitty* here, drink Tea etc.

1777 January 28 (Tuesday). *Marble* and Ph. *Brigham* thrash -- by 1/2 after 10 a.m. make an End of thrashing. *Brigham* goes away -- *Marble* helps *Elias* load some wood at the Island, dines with us and leaves us. They have been here Eleven Days besides this part of a Day. They have thrashed nigh 50 shock. They ask 2/ per Day.

1777 January 29 (Wednesday). Fast [*torn*]out *New-England*, on account of the War. I preached [*torn*] this Occasion from *Zeph.* 1.12. but p.m. was obliged to deliver [with some alterations?] sermon on Ps. 81.11 to 15. May God accept our supplications, forgive our Sins and bless the word to us all! *Breck* and *Suse* with us at Supper. At Eve *Ebenezer* came from *Watertown*, having been to *Boston*. He lodges here.

1777 January 30 (Thursday). My son sets out for home though it is in a great storm of Snow. We are unhappily very Short of Wood -- but I would listen to the divine word: "I would have you to be *without Carefulness*."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>1 Corinthians 7:32: "But I would have you without carefulness."

1777 January 31 (Friday). This day was pitched upon by some Number of Neighbours to cutt and cart Wood. But squire Baker could not come, and therefore it fell through so far as to appoint Monday -- yet 3 Cutters went to the Lot, and worked -- Elias Sledged 2 Load. Dr. *Hawes* Sent one Load of his own.

1777 February 1 (Saturday). Mr. *Quincys* Letter of the 17th ult. came to hand. Mrs. *Spring* is with us -- came yesterday p.m. and lodges here. My Son *Baldwin* having collected a sufficient Number of Artificers, Tools and Materials for the Service of the Army in the Northern Department is now by Letter from General *Schyler* [sic] at *Albany* hastening back -- was here p.m. but, after refreshing, leaves us. N.B. Mr. *Stones* Letter to change tomorrow came too late.

1777 February 2 (Sunday). Being next to treat of the Seventh Article as a sign of Sincerity, viz. *Growth in Grace*, and being able to compose but a little upon it, I improved my former Preparations on 3 *Pet.* 3.18 and continued them p.m. Mrs. *Beeton* dined with us. *Breck* and *Suse* with us at Eve, attend at our Repetition. N.B. Mrs. *Spring* went from us in the Morn.

1777 February 3 (Monday). The Weather has been such as greatly to spoil the sledding. Therefore no body came to get Wood for me as proposed; except Mr. *Andrews* who brought one Load from the Lott. Henry Marble works for me and lodges here.

1777 February 4 (Tuesday). Marble -- *Elias* sleds. I went to Dr. *Hawes* to reckon etc. but he was not at home. Mr. *Emmerson Foster*, preacher from *Marlborough*, came with a Letter from the Church of *Marlborough* signed by Mr. *Smith*, to desire me to assist in a Fast there next week. He dines here. P.M. he goes to *Northborough*. My son *Samuel* and his Wife came to see us.

1777 February 5 (Wednesday). Our Expectations of Mr. *Cushing's* coming utterly fail. It is Rainy, and the Snow is washed away. Sam and Sally disappointed of their intended Ride to Ashburnham -- p.m. cleared so that I visited *Nehemiah Maynards Wife's* Child which is very bad. Prayed there. Visit Squire *Whipple* also, he being very ill -- prayed with him. In returning I called at squire *Bakers*. N.B. Monsieur *Pierre Robishow* there.

1777 February 6 (Thursday). Marble finishes winnowing my Rye. Of Marbles and *Phinehas Brighams* Thrashing there was about 48 Bush. My Son Samuel and his Wife are confined here by the roughness of the bare Roads -- and the Indisposition of the latter. The Child which I visited yesterday, died this morning.

1777 February 7 (Friday). *Samuel* has Mr. *Paul Lambson* to put a Shooe upon his Sleigh: and I improve him to put another New Side to my Sled. Mr. *Lambson* dines here. I attended the Funeral of the Child aforesaid. At Eve Dr. *Hawes* came and reckoned with me. In his account he generously gave in his Visits. He paid me the Remainder of the Rate of my Sallery for the last year issuing on June 5 old style. It was £12.10.5.2, including my Debt to Mr. *Edwards Whipple* of 2 Dollars and 1/2 and 1/ - 1d 1/. The rest of Mr. *Whipples* Rate was further subtracted Out of the above sum I paid the Doctors Bill, which was (in L.M.) £2.15.7.1. The Cash I received was the sum of L.M. £8.18.9.1. And I gave him a Receipt in full.

1777 February 8 (Saturday). My son *Samuel* and his Wife, though it was cloudy and began to rain, yet having waited long for fit weather, Sat out for *Concord*. *Breck* waits upon *Sally* with Mr. *Newtons* Chaise, *Sam* puts his Mare into his Sleigh-Thills, and drives her before him, he running on foot, hoping that from the 26th Milestone in *Marlborough* they Shall have snow. *Marble* goes home.

1777 February 9 (Sunday). I had prepared a paper, being an Exemplification of a Souls self-Examination of Growth in Grace, and though there is enough of it for a Sermon, and I designed to deliver it after a *third* Exercise on 2 *Pet.* 3.18 (two had been delivered last Lord's Day). But I found it best to go on with what I composed some time agoe upon that Subject, though it took up both a. and p.m. And deferred the Soliloquy. *Marble* dined here. At Eve *Breck* and *Suse* came to our *Family Exercise*. *Breck* again with me about joining to the Church.

1777 February 10 (Monday). A.M. was at the Funeral of Mr. *Jonathan Grouts* young infant. Visit Capt. *Jonathan Fay* who has the Asthma and bad Cough. I visited also Mr. *Daniel Nurse*, who has the Rheumatism. Prayed there, his aged Father and his sister attending. I dined with the younger Family. P.M. delivered Mr. *Benjamin How* my Gun to mend the stock.

It is a remarkable Day. The Town Meet to consider the Courts Act for Regulating the Prices of Things and The Companys Meet to enlist soldiers. The Committees from 5 Neighbouring Parishes meet to Consult and Advise together upon those difficult matters -- But I know not to what purpose as to either of those Affairs.

1777 February 11 (Tuesday). Was a *storm of Snow* increasing to great violence. But We have usual Health and Help and some Wood. Thanks to God therefor.

1777 February 12 (Wednesday). Though it was fair Weather, yet too Cold and rough, for me to venture to go to *Marlborough* Fast; nor could I have an Horse: The mare (*Brecks*) of Necessity goes in the Team to sled Wood. Miss *Nabby Woods* has worked here; this is now the 3d Day in altering and preparing *Elias's* Cloths -- goes home this Evening. Mr. B. *Bradshaw* and his Brother *Parkman* came and lodge here. Capt. *Maynard* and his wife make us a Visit.

1777 February 13 (Thursday). The *Bradshaws* having but one Horse, put him into my Sleigh and take in *Elias*, to go to *Cambridge*. *Breck* sat out for *Windsor*. Mr. *Fisher* begins the Course to fetch the *News Paper* from *Worcester*. N.B. gave *Elias* 3 Dollars. Old Mr. *Cornelius Biglow* is with me, desirous to join with the Church. He dines with us.

1777 February 14 (Friday). I was in great Expectation of *Wood-Cutters* and *Sledders*, but none came a.m. but p.m. Deacon *Wood* and Squire *Baker* Sent, the former one Team, the other sent two large Teams, to the Ministerial Lott. Each of them brought one Load. One of the Squires Teams brought a very large one. I believe that the Squire also carryed the Men Rum. The Hands went to Supper here. They were *Samuel Williams*, one *Flynt*, and *William McCulloch*. *Phinehas Hardy* being occasionally with us, tells us his Sister *Lydia* is thought to have the Small

pox. N.B. My Kinsman *Alexander Oliver* here in a Journey from *Boston* to *Brookfield* and lodges here. Informs me that Miss [*Pashy or Patty?*] *Pidgeon* (as She was called) lay dead at *Newtown*, as he came along.

1777 February 15 (Saturday). Mr. *Oliver* leaves us to return home. N.B. Miss *Lydia Hardy* is broke out with the Small Pox, having, as 'tis supposed, taken the infection from a Soldier as she passed in the high Way. Two Teams, Six Oxen apiece, drove by Mr. *Samuel Williams* and [*blank*] *Parker* from *Squire Baker*, go to the ministerial *Lott* and bring two Load, each of them.

1777 February 16 (Sunday). Preach a. and p.m. on *Eph. IV.14.15*, those words, "That we henceforth may grow up into him in all Things." The Exercises were a *Self-Examination* of Growth in Grace. Mrs. *Spring* dined and after Exercise tarrys and lodges.

1777 February 17 (Monday). A Town-Meeting to see what the Town will do to encourage soldiers enlisting. P.M. Mr. *Bradshaw* returns in my Sleigh from *Cambridge*. Brings *Elias's* Quarter Bills; and from Dr. *Langdon* Dr. *Witherspoons* sermon the General Fast last May. *Bradshaw* lodges here.

1777 February 18 (Tuesday). *Bradshaw* goes on his Journey. I wrote to Miss *Nabby Barrett* a Critical Remark on the *fair Circassian*; but did not then send it. Mr. *Thaddeus Waring* and *Nat. Lambson* killed a Pig for me. Weighed 154. Read Dr. *Witherspoons* sermon. Mr. *Benjamin How* has mended, and brought home my Gun stock. A Training for enlisting -- but no success. Not one.

1777 February 19 (Wednesday). *Marble* Came again in the Morning. P.M. Mr. *May* from *Woodstock*. My Son *Alexander* from [*Boston?*] [*illegible*] Messrs. *Whitney* and *Bass* with their Wives, and Miss *Beulah Wood* from [*illegible*] in a sleigh and return home. Mr. *Whitney* tells me that Mr. *Dickinson*, the famous *Philadelphia Farmer*, has gone over to the Regulars. *Breck* returns from *Windsor*.

1777 February 20 (Thursday). I went to Mr. *B. Newton* and *Deacon Wood* to know their Minds about getting wood. They consented and I thought they would notifie others. Mrs. *Spring* having stayed here from Sabbath till now, goes up to *Deacon Woods*. *Alexander* goes home. Mr. *May* tarrys -- but Sends his Horse to *Deacon Woods*.

1777 February 21 (Friday). Mr. *Newton* with his Team, and *Deacon Wood* Sent *William Culloch* with his Team, but the sled of the latter broke. *Newton* with the Addition of the *Deacons* Team brought two large Loads. *Marble* with My Team brought two. Neighbour *Harrington* went to the Lot and chopped -- but no other Cutters came. Mr. *Moses Nurse* went to the *Lott* with a Team of two Horses and brought one Load. Mr. *May* left us a.m.

1777 February 22 (Saturday). *Marble* to the *Lott* a.m. with my Team -- but brought only a part of a Load. Capt. *Benjamin Fay* Sent one Load of his own. I wrote to Mr. *Cushing* and *Squire Quincy*.

1777 February 23 (Sunday). A.M. on 1 *Joh.* 3.21. But I was not able to prepare for p.m. and therefore preached a Sermon from 1 *Tim.* 6.2, those words, "Partakers of the Benefit," but made Addition of 5 Heads of Application. May God bless my feeble Attempts! In the Evening *Breck* and *Suse* attend our Exercise in the Family and lodge here. N.B. *Breck* is with me again to discourse of joining with the Church.

1777 February 24 (Monday). I wanted to Visit Widow *Bulah Gale* whose Husband Mr. *Jacob Gale* dyed lately at *Ticonderoga*; also her mother in Law mourning for the Loss of her only remaining son; and her D[*illegible*] of her late only Brother; but a great snow storm confines me all Day. I particularly thank God for my many Comforts: and pray for divine pity to all that are in want, and that are now exposed.

1777 February 25 (Tuesday). *The great Storm continues.* P.M. turns partly to Rain. Deacon *Wood* and a Number more, with a Number of Oxen, and mine are joined, try to break the Road down to *Johnsons* at *Southborough*. Sermonizing.

1777 February 26 (Wednesday). Many Companys that rode out in double Sleighs are detained by the deep Snow, and can't without difficulty get back again, particularly Mr. *David Maynard* junior with his Wife and Child, from *Westminster* are blocked up, and kept from home. Mr. *Perry* of their Company confined also. N.B. Mr. *Constantine Hardy* breaks out with the *small pox*.

1777 February 27 (Thursday). *Breck* Sets out for *Cambridge* and *Boston*. I am confined from visiting poor Mr. *Samuel Hardy* and his Wife; the latter is Sick. *Marble*, who tryed yesterday to break a way to the Ministerial Lott but could not get through, attempts again to Day, with the Assistance of [Stephen?] *Maynard* and Dr. *Hawes Oxen*; And bring a light Load.

1777 February 28 (Friday). Read Dr. *South* on 1 *Joh.* 3.21. It is a rugged, uncomfortable season, but through the great Goodness of God I have Health and ability to follow my studys. Omitted, that Yesterday old Mr. *Biglow* was here again about joining to the Church, and brought a Relation. But I urge him still to go and be reconciled to his Wife, or use means to effect it. My Son *Ebenezer* came and his Son *Edward* from New *Braintry*.

1777 March 1 (Saturday). My Son and his *Neddy* Sat out for home (in a large, 2 Horse Sleigh, with a Cargo of Rum etc.) but their Journey will be difficult and long, by reason of the Roads being so blocked up with snow. At Eve *Breck* returned from *Boston*. He brought a Letter from his Brother *Cushing* of Feb. 23, which informs; that his wife was that Day delivered of a Daughter, which was that Day baptized *Sarah* -- Mother and Child comfortable. To God be all Glory and Praise!

1777 March 2 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on 1 *Joh.* 4.17, finishing the Subject begun on 1 *Cor.* 5.8 and carried on from 1 *Joh.* 3.21 and other Texts. Which may it please God to bless and prosper both with the Hearers and the unworthy speaker. P.M. on *Mat.* 7.12, using my Expository

Exercise on that Passage, with divers additions, etc. *Breck was propounded*. It was a Cold Day and a thin Meeting. At Eve *Breck* and *Suse* with us. I wrote to Mr. Cushing.

1777 March 3 (Monday). *Town-Meeting*. Capt. *Morse* and Mr. B. *Tainter* came to request me to go and pray with them. I complied. Mr. *Biglow* dined with us. Mr. *Joseph Green* came to acquaint me with the Death of his sons eldest Child, by a *Quincy*, and desires me to attend the Funeral tomorrow. I am informed that the *Small Pox* increases; that *Joseph, Daniel* and *Lucy Hardy* are so under the Symptoms or Fears of it, that they have gone into the House, and into the Room of Infection. Mr. *Benjamin Whipple* of *Bennington* came to see me. Mr. *Jonathan Grout* here concerning his supplying me with Malt. At night the dining-Room Chimney took Fire and burnt out freely; but no Harm.

1777 March 4 (Tuesday). It was Stormy, and the wind and Snow vehement, yet I was carried in the sleigh to Mr. *Greens*, the House of Mourning, and prayed. *Breck* accompanied me and drove.

N.B. I wrote a Letter to Mr. *Stephen* and Mrs. *Ruth Fay* at *Bennington*, which I committed to the Care of Mr. *Benjamin Whipple*, who is soon to go there.

1777 March 5 (Wednesday). Read variously -- especially *Chambers Cyclopaedia*. The Girls p.m. and Eve Visit Mrs. *Beeton* and Mrs. *Parker*. *Breck* with sleigh goes to them. Mr. *Daniel Forbes* junior here from *Cape [Ann?]*, returning home to *Brookfield*, designing to return next Tuesday come sennight.

1777 March 6 (Thursday). I visited Mr. *Samuel Hardys* Wife; but the man not at home. At her desire I prayed with her. The Family in low Circumstances.

1777 March 7 (Friday). Engaged in my Preparations.

1777 March 8 (Saturday). A Sad disappointment by the Sleds breaking. [P?] *Lambson* p.m. to mend it. See my Almanack. The Roller splitting, the New Tongue was drawn out and broke.

1777 March 9 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Amos IV.11*, last Clause. P.M. on occasion of a great Number of persons putting up Notes to desire prayers under their Bereavements I preached on *Heb. 2.15*. N.B. Lieut. *Hezekiah Ward* of *Grafton* dy'd Suddenly on the 6th. Mr. *Josiah Newton* dyed lately at *Brookfield*. AEtatis 29. He received the *Small Pox* by Inoculation but was seized by a bilious Cholic, which proved fatal to him. At Eve *Breck* and *Suse*.

1777 March 10 (Monday). I visited at Neighbour *Newtons* in their sorrows. Read part of Dr. *I. Mathers Angelographia*, viz. the Case of Conscience concerning *Angelical Apparitions*.

1777 March 11 (Tuesday). I went to Squire *Bakers*, but he is gone to his Brother *Solomon*, who is at Dr. *Whites* at *Holliston* by reason of a grievous sore in his Cheek. Mr. P. *Whitney* here. P.M. hear that Mr. *Edwards Whipple* is very ill with a sore Throat and Canker. I went

immediately to see him -- but he was dead before I got to him. A sorrowful Sudden Death! The Lord grant I may be ready for my own! Prayed with the afflicted Mourners.

1777 March 12 (Wednesday). I had purposed to go to *Southborough* and see Mr. *Stone*, but the Weather, being rainy and the Roads full of Water, prevented. Mr. *Joseph Green* came to ask me to attend his Brother *Whipples* Burial tomorrow.

1777 March 13 (Thursday). Attended the Funeral of Mr. *Edwards Whipple*, prayed at the House of Mourning -- and because the Grave was not finished (by reason of the Stonyness of the Place the Digger was obliged to try three times) I spent Some time in Exhortation to the Company who were at the House. Mr. *Whipple* was a Member of our Church -- a principal Singer -- dyed in the 55th year of his Age.

1777 March 14 (Friday). A.M. came Mr. *Thomas Kendal* -- dines and lodged here.

1777 March 15 (Saturday). Mr. *Kendal* with me. Mr. *Barnabas Newton* goes to *Marlborough* for Flax. Gave him seven Dollars and an half, but he brought only 13 lb.

1777 March 16 (Sunday). In the morning came Mr. *Elijah Hardy* and informs that Since Day light his Brother *Constantine* dyed -- but it was by means of the *Dysentery* setting in with the *Small Pox*. Another, and very worthy, member of this Church hereby taken away from us! Help, Lord! Mr. *Kendal* preached a.m. on *Joh. 12.36*, former part. P.M. he preached on *Rom. 8.3.4*. My son *Breck* was admitted into the Church. I appointed the Communion and the Lecture. N.B. Mrs. *Maynard* and Mr. *James Bellows's* Wife, also Miss *Nabby Woods*, dined here. Mr. *Kendal* and *Breck*, after the public Exercises, went to Mr. *Hardys* to assist in the Interment of Mr. *Constantine*.

1777 March 17 (Monday). Rode into the South part of the Town, to visit divers Familys, viz. Capt. *Morse*, under pain and Confinement by reason of the Fall of a Pole, loaded with Raw Hides, which knocked him down. Discoursed and prayed with him; and I dined there. Went to Mr. *Phinehas Forbes's* -- to Mrs. *Bowmans* -- her Husband in the Service: and to Mr. *Isaac Adams's*, whose Wife had a Son born to day, after many years (10 or 11) ceasing to bear. But (as was my principal Design) visited, comforted and prayed with Mrs. *Mindwell Hardy*, Widow of the late Mr. *Constantine Hardy*. Found her in a good, Sedate, Pious, resigned, though very afflicted, Frame. Was at Mr. *Elisha Forbes's*; and at Mr. *Joseph Harringtons*, where I supped. At home found my Daughter *Hannah* ill: her Face greatly Swelled and pained. Mr. *Kendal* lodges here. Received a Letter from Mr. *Quincy* of Feb. 27 and 28 in answer to mine concerning the Defection of the *Philadelphian Farmer*.

1777 March 18 (Tuesday). I spent some time in discoursing with, and reading to Mr. *Kendal*. What I read was some part of Bishop *Burnet* of the Pastoral Care. Viewed some of his Compositions, and freely talked with him about them. N.B. finished and Sent a letter to Mr. *Forbes* of *Gloucester*.

1777 March 19 (Wednesday). My Lecture. Mr. *Stone* was Sent to, but did not come. Mr. *Whitney* (by desire) came -- dined -- Preached on Mat. 7.21. Which may God graciously Succeed! Mr. *Kendal* with us -- also Miss *Eunice Fish*. Am informed that a mutual Council sits to Day at *Petersham*.

1777 March 20 (Thursday). Mr. *Kendal* rode with me over to *Northborough* Lecture. We dined at Mr. *Whitneys*. Mr. *Sumner* and Mr. [blank] *Fairbank* (called at *North Shrewsbury*) were there. The latter preached on *Isa.* 28.16 -- "Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation, a Stone" etc. Mr. *Whitneys* Chimney took Fire and the Roof was kindled, but soon extinguished. We returned at Eve, though it was difficult by reason of Rain, cold Wind, and mudd[y Roads?].

As I was in the Evening in my Chamber about 9 o'Clock and going [torn] to [torn], I was taken with Faintness, and at the Door [illegible] as a Log. Mr. *Kendal*, and soon the rest [torn] [illegible] I had fallen against the Conk-shell and wo[torn] Head, breaking a part of the Shell; also the Candlestick which [torn]nd, was bent etc. etc., but through the Goodness of God I came to [torn] a little space. Mr. *Kendal* prayed and I went to Bed and [torn] freshed and Comforted. Blessed be God for His sparing [torn] May I take Warning -- Wait and watch as one that is Ever Ready for the Coming of my Lord!

1777 March 21 (Friday). Through the great Goodness and Longsuffering of God I am in a comfortable state, and able to attend to my Studys. All Praise is due to God my Preserver and Strengtheners! Mr. *Kendal* with us Still. P.M. Mrs. *Beulah Gale*, widow of the late *Jacob Gale*, was here to discourse with me, in order to having her Children baptized: but I chiefly directed her to look to her own state, her Qualifications for giving up herself to God. Directed and encouraged her to Seek the true Knowledge of God, true Faith, Repentance and a Spirit of Holiness etc.

1777 March 22 (Saturday). Mr. *Kendal* was willing to stay and help me on the Sabbath approaching, but I thought I might venture to undertake, by leave and help from God, to perform the Services, and therefore inclined that he should go to *Grafton* and preach for Mr. *Grosvenor*. P.M. he went. My Daughter in law, *Kezia*, came from *Leicester*, and goes to *Framingham*. *Jonathan Marble*, twin Brother of *Henry*, came and lodges. He has come from my Daughter *Baldwins* where he lives: and he tells me she is but poorly: is much upon the Bed.

1777 March 23 (Sunday). My preparations for Preaching being in such Readiness that my mind was much at rest; though my Body was feeble and my Animal Spirits were but weak. I entered upon the important work, I hope in the Fear of God and in the Faith of Jesus Christ (as I humbly hope). A.M. my Text was *Rom.* 8.1. P.M. Text was [blot]. 4.11, latter part, which may God graciously bless! And as the holy Supper was administered may God be pleased to accept our Offerings and help us to fulfill our vows! N.B. my son *Breck* was now first at the Communion. [*Elijah Brigham?*], Cousen *Maynard* and *Jonathan Marble* dined here. At Eve came Miss [*Nabby?*] *Woods* and lodges here. *Breck* and *Suse* and Billy with us at noon [and Evening?]. Received a Letter from Mr. *Moore*, which acquaints me with his designed Marriage to Miss *Nancy Hammond* of *Newport*.

1777 March 24 (Monday). I have been but feeble and faint, yet having been carried through the various Exercises of the sabbath and of the Sacrament, as also of the Family, through the great Goodness of God, I render praise to His glorious Name. The *Marbles* go to [Upton?]. I light of one *Thomas Snow* of *Oxford*, and [*illegible* and *torn*] to work for me. The Town Meet [*torn*] they shall do about *raising Men* whether there s[ould be?] Hospital for *Inoculation* etc. As to this last ther[*torn*] Vote.

1777 March 25 (Tuesday). Mr. *Kendal* com[*torn*], Mr. *Cushing* from *Ashburnham* and my Daughter in la[*torn*] *Framingham*. They all lodge here. N.B. *Breck* went to [Boston this morning?] Major *Wheelock* with him. *Henry Marble* and *Phinehas Brigham* dine here, as does *Jonathan Marble*. N.B. I payd the two former, 3 Dollars for their thrashing my Rye. They all go to *Brookfield*.

1777 March 26 (Wednesday). *Kezia* delivers me 41£ 1 s. for which I gave Receipt. She returns to *Leicester*. This is the Day appointed for the Ordination of Mr. [*blank*] *Fairbank* at North *Shrewsbury*.

1777 March 27 (Thursday). I hear the Ordination at *Shrewsbury* was put off. I rode to *Southborough* on Mr. Ebenezer Forbushs Horse to See Mr. *Stone* and his Family. Mr. *Stone* informed me that his Daughter *Rice* was thought to be dying and that he, being sent for, was riding there, but the Horse stumbled and threw him, by which he was sadly bruised -- and was blooded. His Daughter *Joanna* very ill of a Fever, and keeps her Bed. But it was Lecture Day, and Mr. *Stone* could not go out. However, Mr. *Wheaton* from *Framingham* was there and preached. Text *Joh. 3.3*. N.B. Col. *Buckminster* accompanied Mr. *Wheaton* and dined with us. By Desire I prayed with Miss *Joanna*. In my returning I visited the three Widows *Gale*; I also called in to see old Mr. *Gale* and his Wife, confined by their Infirmitys. Am now informed that Mr. *Fairbank* was Ordained this Day. Mr. *Cushing* goes to *Shrewsbury* -- But

1777 March 28 (Friday). He returns here to recover his Dog -- takes him and goes to *Northborough*. N.B. Having brought the 1st Vol. of *Prideaux*, he borrows the 2d and 3d.

1777 March 29 (Saturday). The Talk of the Day is of *Inoculation*. My Daughters very much set upon it.

1777 March 30 (Sunday). A.M. on *Rom. 8.1*. P.M. on 2 *Cor. 5.5*, but the Subject the Same as from *Heb. 2.15*. The Widow *Bulah Gale* was propounded. *Breck* etc. at Eve, also *Elijah Brigham* -- and lodges here.

1777 March 31 (Monday). Read great part of the Day in *Chambers Cyclopaedia* on various Heads and have agreeable Entertainment and profit. The select Men are together upon the important affair of *Inoculation*. *Breck* watches with Mr. *Andrews*.

1777 April 1 (Tuesday). *Breck* informs that Mr. *Andrews* has had a bad Night. I expected Thomas Snow of Oxford to work for me, but he did not come. I rode up to Mr. *Thomas Whitneys* to see his youngest Son that is sick of Fever, Worms etc. Prayed there and dined with them also. Went over to Mr. [torn]ph *Grouts*; Capt. *Jonathan Fays* -- call at each of [torn] but particularly was at Ensign *Fays* to see Mrs. [torn] (of Chauncytown). N.B. hear that the Stores at *Pickskill* (60 miles from New York) on N. River, are destroyed by our own soldiers, by reason of a Man of War going up, and invading them.

N.B. Mr. *Grosvenor* and his Wife, Mr. *Kendal*, with Master *Hall* visited, and dined here -- though I Saw nothing of them.

Mr. *Tainters House* is improved as an Hospital, and a Number of young men are inoculated to day. May God be pleased in the midst of Wrath to remember Mercy!

1777 April 2 (Wednesday). Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ visits her Cousen *Maynard*. *Sophy* to *Marlborough*. Mr. P. *Whitney* makes me a short Visit. P.M. Mr. *Spring* comes to see me. Miss *Nanny Beeton* here and lodges. *Breck* went for me to Mr. *Israel Allen's* at *Shrewsbury* to buy me a Pair of Oxen, and bargained for them but *it was with his Wife*.

1777 April 3 (Thursday). *Breck* went up again for the Oxen -- *but they were gone*. However, he bought, and paid for, another pair, of Mr. *Elnathan Pratt*. They are Six years old -- of Six foot Dimensions. Price £17.10. *Nanny Beeton* still with us, and lodges here.

*Sophy* and *Hannah*, I am informed, are *inoculated* this evening, by Dr. *Hawes*. I could not resist their Importunity. May God be gracious to us all, as the Matter now requires!

1777 April 4 (Friday). My Daughters are recluse in the Back Chamber, and are dieting themselves. *Nanny Beeton* goes home. I have neither *Thomas Snow* nor any body else to work for me. But the Weather is cold and windy.

1777 April 5 (Saturday). The Girls take Physick, but none of us go to 'em, but Mrs. *Crosby* who having had the Small Pox, waits upon 'em. Mr. *Spring* and his wife came at Eve and lodge here. N.B. Mr. Benjamin Fay junior and his Wife here. They desire to join with the Church but I desired Mr. Fay to endeavour Reconcilement with Mr. *Thomas Whitney*.

1777 April 6 (Sunday). Mr. *Bradshaw*, who lodged at Squire Whipples last night, came here this morning. Mr. Benjamin *Tainter* and his Wife desire prayers for a Number of their Family who are inoculated. Miss *Lydia Hardy* recovered from the Small Pox, comes to Meeting and returns Thanks. Mr. *Andrews* desires continuation of prayers.

I preached again on *Rom. 8.1*. P.M. on 2 Cor. 5.5, which may God bless to us! A Number of persons dined with us: besides *Breck*, *Suse* and *Billy Spring*, Mr. *Spring* and his wife, Messrs. *Bradshaw*, *Levi* and *Elijah Brigham*. At Eve Mr. *Spring* and his Wife went to Mr. *Edm. Brighams*. Mr. *Bradshaw* lodges here.

1777 April 7 (Monday). He gives me the Bishop of St. [Asaphs?] sermon on *Luk. 2.14* before the society for Propagating the Gospel Feb. 1[9?], 1773.<sup>3</sup> He pursues his Journey to Boston. Capt. Thomas Whipple with him. By Mr. *Bradshaw* I sent a Letter to *Elias*, and to Dr. *Langdon* his Dr. *Witherspoon*. *Breck* goes to *Lancaster*. I have no body but my Boy, to work for me. Am forced to be abroad my Self, setting in[torn] many things, as I am able. *My two Daughters* g[torn] *Tainters*, with Mrs. *Hawes* and her son -- [torn] C[torn] *Hawes*. May God be gracious and shew them Mercy in this time of Darkness!

1777 April 8 (Tuesday). I have some Serious Thoughts and Employments on my Childrens present Condition in the Hospital, and of the many that resort there for the same purpose: May God graciously forgive our Sins [illegible] pull down his Judgments! And prepare us for Mercys needed!

Two *Fairbanks* (*Jonathan* and *Drury*) came with one *Thaddeus Wait*, who wants to let himself to me.

N.B. Mr. *Jonas Bradish* was here; but was in haste; Says he will write to me -- about the baptizing his Children.

1777 April 9 (Wednesday). *Thaddeus Wait* came -- asks 58 Dollars for Six Months; I consent to give him 57 on Condition he will be very industrious etc. Otherwise but 56: and he is to make up lost time, viz. Fasts, Lectures, foul days etc., is to come by or before this day sennight. Dr. *Jenison* dined here, as did four Young Women going to Hospital. P.M. Mr. *Bradshaw* returned, dined here also. Deacon *Burnap* visits me. *Bradshaw* lodges with us. N.B. He gives me Dr. *Price's Observations on the Nature of Civil Liberty*,<sup>4</sup> as he does Several Sorts of *Garden seeds* also.

1777 April 10 (Thursday). A town Meeting to grant Money etc. Also a *Training Day* for enlisting soldiers. I do something in the Garden. Mr. *Bradshaw* took leave. *Elijah Brigham* here from the Hospital. He borrows *Salmons Geography* and the *View of the Human Nature*.

1777 April 11 (Friday). Though I am desirous to be in my Study, yet the incumbrance of the Garden is a great [illegible] and Interruption to me therein.

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<sup>3</sup>Jonathan Shipley, Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, *A sermon preached before the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; at their anniversary meeting in the parish church of St. Mary-le-Bow, on Friday February 19, 1773* (Boston: Thomas and John Fleet, 1773; Evans 13009). American editions were also published in New York, Philadelphia, Newport RI, and Norwich CT.

<sup>4</sup>Richard Price, *Observations on the nature of civil liberty, the principles of government, and the justice and policy of the war with America. To which is added an appendix, containing a state of the national debt, an estimate of the money drawn from the public by the taxes, and an account of the national income and expenditure since the last war* (Boston: T. and J. Fleet, [1776]; Evans 15032). Other American editions appear in Philadelphia (twice), New York, and Charleston, SC.

1777 April 12 (Saturday). *Breck* goes to *Oxford*; and returns at night. Hear that *Hannah* has Symptoms of the Distemper upon, but *Sophy* not much altered. The Doctor tells me there are 43 persons, men, Women and Children belonging to this and the nei[gh]boring Towns, at the Hospital.

1777 April 13 (Sunday). Squire Baker acquaints me with the general Requests of those who are at the Hospital, that public prayers be made for them. I preached a.m. on *Rom.* 8.1. P.M. on Occasion of the Judgment of God upon us in the Small Pox, I preached on *Isa.* [64.9?]. The body of the Discourse was what I delivered in the year 60 but with Introduction, alterations, Additions, and especially Applications Suited to the present Circumstances which may God graciously be pleased to own and bless! [Mr. *Elijah Brigham?*] and Cousen *Davis* dined here. Am informed my Daughters are both of them broke out. May God sustain and preserve them! May they have Grace to profit Spiritually hereby and prepare them for His holy Will!

1777 April 14 (Monday). Went over the Widow *Whipple*: bought 4 Bushels of Indian Corn of Jonathan, and agree with the Miller, Mr. *Broad*, for 2 more. I spoke to Squire *Baker* and to Deacon *Wood* to use their Endeavours to bring Mr. Thomas Whitney and Mr. Benjamin Fay to some Agreement. Walked over to Capt. *Morse's* and was favored with various sorts of Garden Seeds. N.B. Dr. *Crosby* here in his Way to *Cambridge* and *Boston*. He kindly offers to assist *Elias* in his coming home. Mr. Nurse and Chamberlin, who plow for me, dined here. Read Sir William *Temple* on the united states of *Holland*.

1777 April 15 (Tuesday). Rode to the Association at Mr. *Bridge's* at *East Sudbury*. Had so far the Company of young *David Fay*, who there took my Horse to lead him to Cambridge for *Elias* to ride up thus far, it being Vacation time. Present at Mr. *Bridge's*, Messrs. *Smith*, *Goss*, *Mellen*, *Whitney* and *Biglow*. Nothing special but that Mr. *Mellen* prayed. Conversation was on the Times, Circumstances of divers Ministers in their Difficultys among their people -- besides Several that were there, Mr. *Hill's* at *Shutesbury*. Mr. *Smith* and I lodged at Mr. *Bridge's*.

1777 April 16 (Wednesday). Waited for *Elias* till after Dinner. Mr. *Smith* to *Marlborough*, it being the Day of both a Church and Town Meeting chiefly relative to the Settling Mr. *Foster*.

I rode to Mr. *Stone's*, because he was not at Association. Found that Miss *Joanna* was Still very low. I lodged there.

1777 April 17 (Thursday). Came home in Safety. D.G. *Elias* arrived last Evening. I received a Letter from *Thaddeus Waight* of *Holliston*. He could not come to live with me: he must go out a soldier. Mr. *Kendall* from *Grafton* visits, dines; and p.m. takes Leave.

1777 April 18 (Friday). Am in new perplexity about Help in my Husbandry. *Breck* rides to *Northborough* to try for a Son of Deacon Newton. I read Mr. *Stones* M.S. sermon on *Josh.* 22.22, which he preached at *Southborough* May [blank] 1775.

1777 April 19 (Saturday). *Breck* and *Suse* ride in Mr. *Newtons* Chaise to *Concord*. I hear my Daughters in a Way of Recovery. D.G.

1777 April 20 (Sunday). Rode over to *Northborough*. Preached a.m. on *Amos* 3.2 and p.m. on *Amos* [*torn*], latter part. Mr. *Whitney* preached here on *Eccl.* [8.11?]. N.B. [Mr. *Solomon*?] *How* was there, as he was the last time I preached there on the Sabbath. By reason of the Rain, I lodged at Mr. *Whitneys*. N.B. Mr. *Batherick* was taken ill in the Meeting House, and was led hither and laid him on the Bed. He was carried home in a Chaise. It is conceived to be an apoplectic Case. Lord, may I be ready!

1777 April 21 (Monday). I returned from Mr. *Whitneys*. Call at Capt. *Maynards* -- to see Mrs. *Kelly* -- Mr. *Hannaniah Parker* -- but especially Mr. *Batherick* -- found him capable of walking; could talk a little, but his Pulse sluggish. Prayed with him. A town Meeting concerning Inoculation. At Night my son *Alexander* came.

1777 April 22 (Tuesday). *Alexander* goes to *Framingham* in his way to *Lynn*, to View a place there with mills etc. to be sold. One Mr. *John How* of Boston (Brother, he says, of Mr. *Joseph How* Tinman) in the Road, travelling on Foot. I took him in and gave him food -- calls Mrs. *Surcomb* his Sister etc. etc. etc. I visited again Mr. *Batherick*. N.B. *Mindwell* his Daughter with a Baby, though she is unmarried. Severely rebuked her. P.M. Catechized at the *Bond*-school House. 12 Boys and 14 Girls. After Catechizing Called at Deacon *Bonds* and at old Mr. *Warrins*.

1777 April 23 (Wednesday). Mr. *Thomas Adams* from *Medfield* -- dined; changed a Book or two -- and returned. *Breck* and *Suse* from *Boston*. Squire *Baker* here, acquaints me with the dangerous state of his Daughter *Sarah* at the Hospital. Master *Crosby* brings me from his Mother, Secretary *Moretons* Memorial, to read.<sup>5</sup>

1777 April 24 (Thursday). My Daughters *Sophy* and *Hannah* return from the Hospital, as they hope cured of the Small-Pox. To God be Glory and Praise! And may they ever live devoted to the Service and Honour of their almighty Healer and Saviour!

1777 April 25 (Friday). Mr. *Solomon Baker* is very ill of the Small Pox at the Hospital. So is his Neece, Miss *Sally Baker*, Daughter of the Squire.

1777 April 26 (Saturday). Having no man, nor prospect of any, *Breck* works some time in the Garden; and *Elias* sleds stones.

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<sup>5</sup>Nathaniel Morton (1613-1685), *New-England's memorial: or, A brief relation of the most memorable and remarkable passages of the providence of God, manifested to the planters of New-England in America; with special reference to the first colony thereof, called New-Plymouth. As also a nomination of divers of the most eminent instruments deceased, both of church and common wealth, improved in the first beginning and after progress of sundry of the respective jurisdictions in those parts: in reference unto sundry exemplary passages of their lives, and the time of their death. Published for the use and benefit of present and future generations* (Newport: S. Southwick., 1772; Evans 12469). Two earlier American editions appeared in 1721.

1777 April 27 (Sunday). A.M. on *Rom.* 8.4 -- "who Walk not after the Flesh" etc. P.M. on *Hos.* 6.6 to page 7.

1777 April 28 (Monday). Training to enlist Soldiers for *Providence*, five out of the South [Comp?] and four out of the [North?]. N.B. I visited and prayed with Deacon *Woods* Wife, who is Sick. P.M. had a great deal of interruption by Company. Mr. *Kendal* from Grafton; dines and takes Leave.

1777 April 29 (Tuesday). Mr. *Solomon Baker* dyed about 10 o'Clock a.m. Mr. *Samuel Goodenow* of *Elizabeth Town* in the *Jerseys* here, and desires a Contribution. Shews me a large Certificate and Recommendation from the (as he says) Minister, Elder, Deacons and Clerk of the Church of *Elizabeth Town*.

Sister *Cushing* here and dines with us. P.M. Mr. *Goodenow* here again, and his Uncle Capt. *Benjamin Fay* with him. One *Samuel Hiscock* of *Hopkinton* came to let himself to me.

1777 April 30 (Wednesday). I am informed that Mr. *Solomon Bakers* Corps was bury'd early this morning before [blank].

Mr. *Francis Whipple* came and informed me that his poor little Child (which was always from its Birth unlike other Children, weak, pining, unable to Speak etc., yet well nigh 6 years old) dyed this morning. Hear that Regulars have burnt *Danbury*.

1777 May 1 (Thursday). *Publick Fast*. Preached a.m. on *Hos.* 6.6. P.M. on *Isa.* 5.7. N.B. used some parts of my Exposition on the 8th Commandment. The Lord accept our Penitence and our Prayers -- and give His Blessing to the *Word* delivered! I committed Mr. *Goodenow's* Certificat to the Deacons; who advised to the Reading it to the Congregation. Appointed the Communion.

1777 May 2 (Friday). At 9 a.m. attended the Burial of Mr. *Whipple's* Child. N.B. *Breck* carrys *Elias* in Mr. *B. Newtons* Chaise to *Cambridge*. I met with Mr. *Thomas Whitney* and urge him to Reconcilement with Mr. *B. Fay*. Says he is willing to lay it before two men; or to issue [it?] in the Law.

1777 May 3 (Saturday). Sorrowfully interrupted by unavoidable worldly Affairs and Business; having no man to do any work for me. *James Hicks's* Hands sore that he can't work. *Breck* returned from *Boston*.

1777 May 4 (Sunday). Preached on *Gal.* 5.16 a.m. and 25th p.m. Administered the Lords Supper. Mrs. *Maynard* dined with us. *The Lord* pardon my unpreparedness and add His Blessing to my weak Endeavours. Accepting my renewal Engagements to be His, and *His only*. At Eve *Breck*, *Suse* and *Elijah*. N.B. Read publicly *Sam. Goodenows* Recommendation and Request for a Contribution. N.B. a Number of persons gave Thanks for recovering from the *Small Pox*.

1777 May 5 (Monday). Rainy. News of a British Fleet in the Bay. Read part of Secretary *Moretons* Memorial.

1777 May 6 (Tuesday). A Number of Men at Work in Carting out muck, viz. Mr. *Nurse* with 2 Teams, Thad *Warrin* and *Chamberlain*. I went to Squire *Bakers* to see his Daughter *Salley* remarkably recovered from the Small Pox and got home. N.B. The squires remarkable Generosity in giving me the Quarter of Beef which I had of him some Months agoe (Oct. 14 last, which weighed 121 lb.), and consents to take 3 young Creatures to pasture this Summer ensuing. He is also very providentially accommodated with an Opportunity to Supply me, which he does, with a Pair of black leather Breeches. Thanks to God for his Favour and Smiles this Day!

1777 May 7 (Wednesday). The Scenes Shift: My Principal Hog has languished for some time, in a Consumption, and he has this day (as we suppose) dyed, to our considerable Loss and Disappointment -- but was not found.

1777 May 8 (Thursday). I rode to *Southborough*. Dined at Mr. *Stone's*. Miss *Joanna* is recovering. I preached the Lecture on *Rev. 14.6.7*, which may the Lord bless to me and to the Hearers. Mr. *Stone* desired my Notes; which therefore I lent him. Called at Mr. *Johnsons* -- and to See old Mr. *Gale* and his Wife, on Occasion of the Death of their son *Henry*.<sup>6</sup>

N.B. *David Sangor* of *Framingham* came to live and work here.

1777 May 9 (Friday). Though it was a rainy, Stormy time, I rode to See Mrs. *Lewis*, a *Charlestown* Woman, who is Sick at Capt. *Ben Fay's*. Prayed with her.

1777 May 10 (Saturday). A Cold, cloudy Season, unfit for Planting or Sowing.

1777 May 11 (Sunday). Preached on the Same Texts as last Sabbath but made large additions to my former Notes, with Special Reference to the present distressing and gloomy Times. N.B. No preaching at *Hopkinton*. Mr. *Samuel Barrett* here and dined with us. P.M. on *Rom. 8.1*, latter part.

1777 May 12 (Monday). This Morning I send Six young Cattle to Mr. *Baldwins* Pasture at *Cois Hill* at *Brookfield*, under the Care, for driving, of Benjamin *Bowman*, and Nathan *Champney*. *Sangor* helps part of the way. I visited Deacon *Woods* Wife, who is in distressing Pain. P.M. Visit Mrs. *Lewis* at Capt. *Fays* and prayed with her.

1777 May 13 (Tuesday). *Sangor* went with my Cart and Oxen to Mr. *Thomas Whitneys*. Brought 400 lb. of Fowl-Meadow Hay. *Hannah* is much out of Health. *Breck*, in Mr. *Newtons*

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<sup>6</sup>Not in Westborough or Southborough VR.

Chaise, goes with her to *Marlborough*. Return at Eve. Mrs. *Priscilla Whipple*, her Sister, Mrs. *Persis Putnam*, visit us. Mr. *Bradshaw* here, from Boston.

1777 May 14 (Wednesday). Mr. *Bradshaw* goes on his Journey. I visit Mrs. *Wood*. Was with the Doctors, viz. *Darling* and *Kitteridge*, at Breakfast. Deacon *Livermore* dined here. Went into the Garden p.m. to work a while in the Garden -- plant peas, Pepper etc. N.B. *James Hicks* so lame by Reason of Sore Cracks in his Feet, that he can do very little service for me. Memorandum. We took Dr. *Kitteridge's* Advice on *Hannah's* Case. She rode to the Widow *Brigham's*.

1777 May 15 (Thursday). *Hannah* rode as far as Mr. *Haskills* with Mrs. *Meheitabel Fay* and her little sister; both of them Invalids. *James* has a very great Cold. A *Training Day* to enlist or draw out Soldiers into the Continental Army. The four *Brighams* of *Dartmouth* College were here, viz. *Moses*, *Levi*, *Elijah* and *Samuel*. Mrs. *Spring* came to see us -- dines and lodges here. Mr. *Benjamin Fay* came to me to speak about his joining with the Church, but I exhort him to go and be reconciled to his Brother. Deacon *Wood* and serjeant *Forbes* were here, and expressly approved of my Method, in deferring the Propounding of Mr. *Fay* and his Wife, till they are reconciled to their Adversary (or at least use some proper means of Reconciliation by committing their Cause to some Wise, indifferent persons to judge and determine).

1777 May 16 (Friday). *Hannah* rides with her Sister *Suse* to Col. *Brighams*; and Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ makes a Visit with Mrs. *Spring* to Mrs. *Newton* and Mrs. *Wood*. The last is still sick, but is better. Mrs. *Spring* tarrys there. Messrs. *Elijah*, and *Eli Brigham* [came at?] Eve, bringing with them a young Gentleman, of *Dartmouth* College, Mr. *Goodrich*. They sup here.

1777 May 17 (Saturday). *Sangor* having dined, went to *Framingham*. A Training or Military Meeting, on Account of Recruits.

1777 May 18 (Sunday). The Contributing to the Relief of Mr. *Samuel Goodenow* occasioned my preaching on *Heb. 13.3*, the Same Discourse except a few Alterations which I delivered Mar. 18, 1753, previous to a Contribution for his Father. Gather the Sum of £4.19.[ blot].2 L.M. N.B. *Elijah* and *Eli Brigham*, also Mr. *Goodrich*, dined here: and the two other *Brighams*, *Moses* and *Samuel*, were with us after Meeting and at Evening Exercises of the Family: but then they returned to their respective homes or lodgings. Before which They Sung An Anthem of *Charity*. My Daughter *Hannah* droops; yet p.m. She went to Meeting.

1777 May 19 (Monday). *Reuben Lambson* came to me to live with me and work for me. N.B. Mr. *Samuel Goodneow* was here. I delivered him the Contribution and had his Receipt for it. *David Sangor* returned from *Framingham* to fetch his Things and receive his Wages for his

Work. Eight Days he worked for me: and I paid him £6 old Tenor. He approved himself so well that I lent him (at his request) Monsieur *Jurieu* Vol. 1 of the Critical History.<sup>7</sup>

The Town Met to choose Representatives -- and elected Capt. *Maynard* and Mr. *Daniel Forbes*. To whom may the God of all Grace and Wisdom impart that Counsel and Wisdom which they at this peculiar season need!

1777 May 20 (Tuesday). *Hannah* a.m. Worse. P.M. rides as far as Capt. *Maynards*. Mr. *Hall* of *Sutton*, going to *Concord* and *Boston*, dines with us. At Eve engage *Reuben* to live with me Six Months; but says he must have 10 Dollars per Month.

1777 May 21 (Wednesday). He is very diligent and drives on. But our public state is dark. The British Force is said to be near upon the Coast: and our Three year Soldiers few, hardly obtained -- and what have 'listed are not (many of them) such as one would choose.

1777 May 22 (Thursday). Went to Squire *Bakers*. Consulted the Law Book, and Squire *Samuel* being there, asked their Opinion on this Case, Whether a Couple designing marriage, and having been legally published, but though no objection arises from any Quarter, yet by various occurrences in Providence their solemn Junction is deferred from one Year to another, Shall they need to be re-published? They both answer that *they needed not*.

P.M. old Madam and the younger Lady made us a Visit and drank Tea here. Mr. *Hall* returning from *Roxbury* (he went not into *Boston* for fear of the Small Pox) was with us. He heard that General *Bourgoyne's* Army and Fleet are within 4 or 5 Days from our Harbour. N.B. read *Moretons* Memorial.

But what is most remarkable to day is *Breck* and *Sophy* set out for *Rochester*, and carry with them *Suky P. Moore*. May God grant them a prosperous Journey by His holy Will!

1777 May 23 (Friday). *Hannah* is Still in but a feeble State.

1777 May 24 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1777 May 25 (Sunday). A.M. on Oppression. Text was *Eccl.* 4.1, but carried on the Discourse from *Isa.* 5.7. P.M. on *Micah* 7.7.

1777 May 26 (Monday). My Son *William* came up for his Mother to go to *Concord*. His Wife was brought to bed yesterday morning with another Daughter. Thanks to God! He dines with us, and after 3 his mother not prepared to go, I sat out with him in the Same Chaise, and before the Light was gone arrived at his House.

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<sup>7</sup>Pierre Jurieu (1637-1713), *A Critical History of the Doctrines and Worships (both Good and Evil) of the Church of Adam to Our Savior Jesus Christ; giving an Account of the Origin of all the Idolatries of the Ancient Pagans, as far as They Relate to the Jewish Worship* (2 vols.; London: J. Taylor; and G. Sawbridge, 1705).

1777 May 27 (Tuesday). Having lodged and dined at my Sons, rode into the town, found my Son Samuel, his Wife, Children and Family in Health. To God be praise and Glory for So multiplied Favours! Visited Dr. *Minot* -- his little son *John* very ill of Canker. Went also to my Venerable and Pious Friends, Master *Minot* and his Wife. Supped and lodged at my Son *Samuels*.

1777 May 28 (Wednesday). Frosty Morn, but a good Day. I did not incline to be at *Boston*, though it is an important Day, wherein not only Counsellors are to be chosen but a Constitution of Government to be planned. Hear the grand President of the Congress, is arrived at *Boston* in Pomp. May God grant that the general Assembly may be conducted with Wisdom! My Son *Samuel* and I rode to Mr. *Lawrences* at *Lincoln*, and to my Kinsman *Procters*: but returned to dinner at *Samuels* and Spent the Afternoon in Visiting the widows and afflicted. Particularly Mrs. *Emerson* and her Children -- then her Mother *Bliss* -- the Miserable Mr. *Isaiah Barrett* -- at Eve the *Minots*.

1777 May 29 (Thursday). Lodged as last night. My Son waited on me to his Brothers (*Williams*) Where is one Mr. *Samuel Hosmer*, belonging that Neighbourhood; who relates Marvels of *An Egg at Rev. Mr. Dix's in Townshend*; which the said Hosmer declares he saw, Mr. *Ezekiel Miles* junior with him: that on the Egg there were the figures 1777 with a number more. Dined with William and p.m. Sat out for home and (only calling at Mr. *Thomas Biglows* to refresh), I arrived at home Safe before sunset.

1777 May 30 (Friday). *Breck* and *Sophy* returned from *Rochester* and dined at home.

1777 May 31 (Saturday). Prepared in part -- but conclude not to use it tomorrow.

1777 June 1 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on Micah 7.7. May the Word be effectual to my own highest Good! Cousen *Maynard* and our Sister *Brigham* (*Suse's* Mother) dined here. Appointed a Catechizing, God Willing, the next Tuesday a. and p.m. N.B. A Negro Man, who calls himself *Enoch Noble*, and pretends to practise Physick, and was Sent here (we suppose) by Deacon *Woods* Wife, has come to See *Hannah* this Morning and She inclines to take Something of him.

1777 June 2 (Monday). *Sophy* goes with *Hannah*, after dinner, in Mr. *Tainters* Chaise, to Mr. *Grosvenors*. Mr. *Jason Wait* of *Alsted* makes me a kind Visit.

1777 June 3 (Tuesday). In the Storm of thunder and lightning, Mr. *Amasa Maynards* young, agreeable Horse was killed. By the Rain till late in the Eve, *Jonathan Whipple* and his Bride were prevented, but they and their Company came at last and were married.

1777 June 4 (Wednesday). We hear that yesterday's Storm was more Severe down lower. Five men at *Framingham* were standing together -- Two of which were killed, the other three, though Struck down, recovered; an Horse that was near them was killed. God be praised for

His preserving Mercy to us! *Hannah* rode a little way. Mr. *Joshua Hicks* dined with us. My Grandson *How* called here in his way from *Dudley* to *Marlborough*. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ sat out (with *Breck* to accompany her) to *Concord*. Rev. Mr. *Stephen Johnson* of *Lyme* and his Wife, came in late p.m. -- and lodged here. My son *Alexander* also came from *Leicester* to see his Sister *Hannah* and lodged here.

1777 June 5 (Thursday). Mr. *Johnson* and Wife go on their Journey. *Alexander* returns. Widow of the late *Constantine Hardy* dined here. P.M. My Daughter *Baldwin* came to us, Mrs. (wife of *Zebulon*) *Rice* with her. N.B. Having transcribed what was wanting in my Dr. *Evans*, I delivered Mr. *Fitch's* Book to Deacon *Burnett* of *Hopkinton* for Conveyance. *Breck* from *Concord* a.m.

1777 June 6 (Friday). *Elias* came home from *Cambridge* before Day, to See his Sister *Hannah*, and it happened that his sister *Baldwin* is here also. He takes a Ride with *Hannah* in their sisters Chaise.

1777 June 7 (Saturday). *Elias* waits upon his Sisters in Mrs. *Baldwins* Chaise. They remain very infirm and tender. Mrs. B. has the Doctor at Eve. Miss *Patty Fish* here p.m.

1777 June 8 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on *Luk. 13.23*. Miss *Patty Fish*, and Miss *Nabby Woods* dined here. N.B. My Exercises were with Difficulty by reason of a Cold and great Hoarseness. My Daughters *Baldwin* and *Hannah* were too Weak and infirm to go to Meeting.

1777 June 9 (Monday). Mr. *Caleb Wilders* Wife and Daughter were here, and Miss *Patty Fish*, and dined here. P.M. Col. *Brighams* wife came in the Rain. My poor invalids are confined by the weather, and can't ride out.

1777 June 10 (Tuesday). *Hannah* is very weak, but her Cough not so violent. Mrs. *Wood* rides for her Health, and came here; She is so good as to take up *Hannah* into the Carriage, and they rode to *Beetons*. I am in my preparation upon my Subject, of the *Fewness of those who Shall be saved*.

1777 June 11 (Wednesday). Sent *Elias* for Dr. *Ball*; who came, and Dr. *Hawes* is here with him, to consult about *Hannahs* Case. My Daughter rode a little way, a.m. Mr. *Sumner* came and dined with me. He preached for me, and happened to take the very Text I have been preaching, and am still preparing on. But was an excellent, useful, Seasonable and I believe very acceptable Discourse. May God be pleased to add His Blessing! And in Special to me! After meeting, Mr. *Sumner* prayed with and for my two infirm Daughters. *James Miller* junior and his Wife came in to talk with me about joining to the Church, but I was forced to defer it. Capt. *Morse*, Town Treasurer, came and was urgent and in an hurry to deliver me part of the Rates. N.B. He paid me all that Mr. Constable D. *Adams* was to collect, viz. £34.18.1 Lawful Money.

1777 June 12 (Thursday). In my preparations. *Hannah* remains poorly.

1777 June 13 (Friday). My Grandson *Isaac Baldwin*, from Mr. *Moody's* School in *Byfield*, came here to his Mother, and Capt. *Hale* of *Brookfield* from *Concord* with him. They lodge here.

1777 June 14 (Saturday). Capt. *Hale* and *Isaac* leave us to go to *Brookfield*. Dr. *Hawes* daily visits my Invalids.

1777 June 15 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Heb.* 13.12. Administered the Lords Supper. Mrs. *Maynard* and Miss *Polly Pratt* dined with us. P.M. on *Luk.* 13.23 and finished that Subject. May God forgive my Deficiencies and Miscarriages and add His Blessing!

1777 June 16 (Monday). *Training*. Mr. *Stone* visited us and dined here. Reckoned with *Henry Marble*. Paid him £2 L.M. N.B. *Elias* goes to *Cambridge* afoot. Gave him 3 Dollars. *Hannah* Seems to be better. D.G.

1777 June 17 (Tuesday). *Breck* went to *Boston*. I went to Ministers Meeting at Mr. *Biglows* at *West-Sudbury*; and got there early. Not only was no one Member come, but no one did come at all, but Mr. *Bridge* who was accompanied by Mr. *Wheaton*. N.B. Capt. *Freeman* and his Lady live at Mr. *Biglows*. The Other two of the Association chose me Moderator. Mr. *Biglow* prayed. Agreed to have the next Meeting to be in *August*, 3d Tuesday; at my House. I rode to Mr. *Smiths* at *Marlborough*. Col. *Williams* was there: and there I lodged. Mr. *Smith* had been ill some time, and was Still in but a weak and dull state.

1777 June 18 (Wednesday). I rode up to *Northborough* to see Mr. *Whitney*, and din'd there. Mr. *Marsh* of *Weathersfield* dined with us. P.M. I visited at Mr. *Seth Rice's*; called to see old Mrs. *Kelley* at Mr. *Beeton's*. At home, *Hannah* a little better. Deacon *Woods* and Dr. *Hawes* at Evening.

1777 June 19 (Thursday). A.M. Mr. *Fish* and his Wife called here. He explains 1 *Cor.* 10.1.2.3.4. P.M. Mr. *Bowman* calls here in his Way from *Boston*.

1777 June 20 (Friday). *Breck* returned from *Boston* by the way of *LonDerry* and *Concord*. Tells us *Sally* is about yet; but that *Lydia* is much exercised with nervous Head-Ach and a bad Breast. Received a Letter from Mr. *Quincy*, now at *Worcester*, dated this day.

1777 June 21 (Saturday). Wrote to Mr. *Quincy* by Mr. *James Wilder*. Master *Crosby* and his sister came from *Cambridge* and drank Tea here. N.B. Mr. *Fitch* and wife and daughter dined here in their Way to *Connecticut*.

1777 June 22 (Sunday). Rode to *Northborough* and preached there a. and p.m. on *Luk.* 13.23. Mr. *Whitney* a. and p.m. on *Joh.* 17.15. Baptized Mr. *Bass's* Infant. I returned at Eve by Dr. *Balls* for my Daughters *Baldwin* and *Hannah*; both of them but weak and low.

1777 June 23 (Monday). A variety of Company -- Mr. *Phinehas Bowman*, as an Officer, came to see Mrs. *Baldwin*. Also the Widow of the late *Eliezer Rice* mourning for her son *Alpheus*. Mr.

*James Miller* was here and was examined. Capt. *Edmund Brigham* pays me the remainder of my Sallery, [blot] issuing at June 16 New style viz. £ [31.12.2?] which with what Capt. *Morse* paid makes £66.13.4.

1777 June 24 (Tuesday). Dr. *Ball* visits my Invalids and dines here. P.M. Visited the widow of the late Mr. Constantine *Hardy*. Also Mr. *Eli Whitneys* Wife, who is very dangerously ill. Prayed with her. *Breck* to *Boston*. Not only I, but a Number more of the Family were taken ill, about 1 o'Clock a.m.

1777 June 25 (Wednesday). Mr. *Levi Warrin* has my Oxen to go to *Boston*. Neighbour *Nurse* and *John Warrin* return from *Lexington* with two load of Earthen Ware and a Letter from *Samuel* concerning the Clock which *Breck* sold and sent to *Samuel*, the Case of which is now brought back from *Concord*, I fear through some Misconstruction and Mistake. P.M. Messrs. *Stone*, *Crosby* and *How*, with *Crosbys* two Sisters, *Sally* and *Dolly*, visit here.

1777 June 26 (Thursday). Wrote to Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ at *Concord* -- and to *Samuel* about the Clock and his *Chambers*, 4 Volumes. Sent the Letters to *Gleasons*, *Waltham* by *Stephen Loomis* of *Hartford*. Yesterday and to day wrote to Coll. *Baldwin* -- but instead of any other Way to Send it, *Isaac* comes from *Brookfield* and leads down an Horse for his Mother. At Even. came Mr. *Ebenezer Lovering* of *Ipswich Hamlett*. N.B. *Breck* came from *Boston*. Invalids, accommodated with Neighbour *Newtons* mare, take a ride, nothing refreshing them like *Riding*.

1777 June 27 (Friday). My Kinsman *Lovering* goes on his Journey to *Westfield*. The Two Doctors here. *Hannah* Blooded. Mr. *Joseph Roberts* here in pursuit of his Negro *Constant* who strols about under the Name of *Enoch Noble*. The same that came here on the 1st.

1777 June 28 (Saturday). Mr. *Roberts* returns home to *Weston*, with his Runaway, *Constant*. *Isaac Baldwin* leaves us to go to *Cape Ann* -- but to day to *Concord*. I wrote by him to Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_, who is still there, and to Mr. *Forbes* at the Harbour.

1777 June 29 (Sunday). I have not finished indeed what I designed to preach -- but on this sabbath I was expected to preach to the young Soldiers which are enlisted for 3 years or Continuance of the War; and therefore I delivered my Discourse on *Prov. 4.10* and added a pathetic Address to them. Mr. *Henry Marble* and [1?]2 more, were Present in the Assembly and gratefully standing up. May God by His holy spirit impress all their souls, and of the whole Audience with a due Sense of these weighty Things delivered to them! My Daughters are rather worse. *Hannah* especially has more discouraging symptoms -- and *Sophy* is much affected with it. May God graciously appear for our Help, or prepare us for His holy will! It is a Time of great Trouble!

1777 June 30 (Monday). *Hannah* through the great Goodness of God has rested comfortably, but *Lucy* had a poor morning: *Riding* being usefull, I rode with her in her Chaise to Mr. *Gleasons*. I went also to Dr. *Crosby's*. The Doctor is at *Providence* in the Army. His son being at home I agree with him to go with my Daughters in a designed Journey to *Concord*. Mr. *James Miller*

junior here -- also Mr. *B. Fay* junior. Squire *Whipple* being about to go to *Brookfield*, call for and takes a large Letter which I wrote to my Son *Baldwin* at *Ticonderoga*. I looked for Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ to come home, but she did not come.

1777 July 1 (Tuesday). Mr. *Crosby* came. The Girls prepared and Mounted in Mrs. *Baldwin's* Chaise, and Drawn by *Brecks* Mare, and Mr. *Crosby* rode the *Baldwin* Horse, to ride as far as they could towards *Boston* via *Concord*. Mrs. *Baldwin* is too poorly (as she thinks) to venture; and therefore tarrys here with Me. Before noon came my Son *William* waiting upon his Mother, who met the Girls and an increased Company (Master *Joseph Hall* of *Sutton* etc.) going to *Concord*. P.M. The Town dwellers receive, for every House in Town about half a Bushel. Col. *James Mellen* of *Hopkinton* came in, being an *Express* from General *Schuyler* to Governor *Trumbull*, to the *Massachusetts* etc., that a great Body of Regulars were come to *Crown Point* last Friday, that he himself Came from *Albany* on the Sabbath, etc. etc.

1777 July 2 (Wednesday). *Marble* etc. march to *Worcester*. Mr. *Daniel Forbes* from *Brookfield* brings Letters of the 17 and 20 -- all from Mr. *Baldwin* at *Ticonderoga* -- and from *Skeenesboro*. The scope is, The Regulars are come from *Canada*, and are got to *Crown Point*. Recruits from the handiest of [these?] states are call for immediately.

1777 July 3 (Thursday). My Daughter *Baldwin* Seems [more revived?] now she has her Mother to Converse [torn] her, and make her Chearfull. At Eve *Winslow Brigham* -- lodges among us. By the News-Paper some encouraging Accounts from N.Y., *Jersies* etc.

1777 July 4 (Friday). Mr. *Hall* (*Josiah* of *Sutton*) came with two of Deacon *Tarrant Putnam's* Daughters, return from *Concord*, and inform that *Hannah* got down to *Samuels* pritty well, and on Thursday undertook to go to *Boston*. They turn out here -- drink Coffee etc.

1777 July 5 (Saturday). Cousen *Beckky Warrin* of *Upton* came to See Mrs. *Baldwin* -- dined here.

1777 July 6 (Sunday). Preach'd on *Hosea* 6.4 a. and p.m. *Simon Crosby* came to enquire after his Brother (who went with *Sophy* and *Hannah*, but is not returned), and he dined here. At Eve Mr. *Daniel Forbes* junior was here to take Letters etc. from Mrs. *Baldwin* for *Brookfield*. And I sent by him to Mr. *Quincy*, at Mr. *Salsburys* at *Worcester*.

1777 July 7 (Monday). I am informed that the Militia Companys in this Town meet to choose their officers. The North Company choose the same that they heretofore had. The South choose Mr. *Nathan Fisher* their Captain -- Mr. *Jonathan Grout* the first Lieutenant and Mr. [blank] the second. Mr. *Daniel Forbes*, the Representative, made me a Visit and relates to me some of the principal transactions in the Court. Capt. *Edmund Brigham* came to desire me to visit aged Miss *Stone* (who came from *Charlestown*, and is now Sick) at Mr. *Haskills*. I rode and returned on Capt. *Brighams* Horse -- discoursed and prayed with her. N.B. My Daughters *Sophy* and *Hannah* return from *Concord*, *Boston*, *Cambridge* etc. Sir *Crosby* accompanys them

throughout their Journey. *Hannah* has born the Ride pritty well: but we can't tell yet, the Effect of it. My Daughter *Baldwin* has been much exercised with her Disorders.

1777 July 8 (Tuesday). She has wrote to her Brother *Forbes* to meet her at *Concord*: and therefore *Breck*, after Dinner, waits upon her, in her own Chaise and with her Horse, to go down there. *Reuben Lambson* goes with some Acquaintance to his uncle *Nat's* in *Lancaster* but it was at a most critical Time, when he had mowed the primest of my English Grass, Yesterday and this Day, till between 3 and 4 p.m. and great Signs of a storm. But he leaves it. However, as he asked, so I was forced to give him, Leave to go; and I went and raked my Self.

1777 July 9 (Wednesday). It rained in the Morning but the showers intermitted -- sun shined so as that my Bees swarmed -- no body to help, till Mr. *Belknap* accidentally came. I had sent for Neighbour *Harrington*, who came and they hiv'd the [swarme?]. Mr. *Belknap* dined with me. *Reuben Lambson* came home at night.

1777 July 10 (Thursday). Carry[s?] my own and other Letters directed to my son *Baldwin*, to Deacon *Woods* for Col. *Mellen* to take the Care of in his going to *Tyconderoga*. Was at Mr. *Lambsons* for hives. His two Friends Messrs. *Potter* and Thomas *Whipple* there. P.M. came Mr. *Goodale* from *Marlborough*, but of *Dartmouth* College, to enquire whether he could live with me to study etc. In the night *Breck* returns from *Boston* -- brings up the work of a Clock which he has bought at a Vendue.

1777 July 11 (Friday). *Hannah* has a more difficult morning by a severe Turn of Coughing: Appetite depraved etc.

1777 July 12 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1777 July 13 (Sunday). On consideration of the Sorrowful News that our People have evacuated *Ticonderoga*, I chose that Text in *Isa.* 8.17, but after proper Introduction and with various Alterations, I used the last sermon on *Micah* 7.7. The Widow (of *Eliezer*) Rice dined with us. P.M. the third time on *Hosea* 6.4. May God graciously add his Blessing! N.B. *Hannah* asks publick Prayers.

At Evening Exercise, read (very much for *Hannah's* sake) principal part of Mr. *John Masons* 2d Discourse on *Mic.* II.10, former part. A good Composition. May the reading of it be savingly blessed to us!

1777 July 14 (Monday). Many Confirmations of the sad News (of Tych\_\_\_\_\_). A Method the South military Company takes to settle their Officers. *Hannah* rides with *Suse* in the *Baldwin* Chaise, to Col. *Brighams* but is much exercised with Cough at Evening. Mr. *Bradshaw* came from New Braintree and lodges here. His Horse is kept (by order) in Capt. *Maynards* Pasture.

1777 July 15 (Tuesday). I was about to go to *Cambridge* to bring up *Elias*, but Mr. *Bradshaw* takes this Affair upon him. Rides in the *Baldwin* Chaise with the *Baldwin* Horse, and his own

Horse is rid by *Samuel Hindes* of Watertown. I visit old Mrs. *Stone* at Mr. *Haskills* -- discoursed and prayed with her. My poor Daughter is in a low state -- Cough, purging, faint, no appetite -- wastes, I think, more and more.

1777 July 16 (Wednesday). Jej. and prec. My Wife rides with *Hannah* on Horse back to Capt. *Maynards*. *Hannah* greatly Sunk in Spirit as well as Body. May God graciously extend Compassion! A Day of Trouble *in the Family*, as well as distressing on Account of the Public State. The loss of So Strong a Fortress as *Ticonderoga* and the Tumults in the Western Frontiers. But the most high is our Refuge. P.M. *Elias* returned from College. *Parkman Bradshaw* came with him in the *Baldwin* Chaise. They inform that yesterday there was a Funeral Oration in the Chappel occasioned by the Death of Mr. *Benjamin Wadsworth*, who departed by the Small Pox. Very much lamented, especially by his Class, to which *Elias* belonged.

1777 July 17 (Thursday). *Bradshaw* rides the *Baldwin* Horse to *Brookfield* and leads an Horse of *Breck's* to be pastured at *Coi's Hill*. *Breck* also goes to *Worcester*, and designs then for *Hubbards Town* to one Dr. *Clark*, to bring him to See *Hannah*.

*Alexander* came to see us -- dines here: as does Mr. *Aaron Crosby* from *Onohoquaghe* and Miss *Zeruiah Rice* of *Brookfield* who brings three Letters from *Betsy Baldwin*, which are, two of them from her Father, to her, and to *Isaac*; the 3d from her to her Mother. I Committ all of them to the Care of Mr. *Crosby* who is going to Boston. N.B. I inclose them [blot] a Letter to Mr. *Forbes* at *Gloucester*.

1777 July 18 (Friday). *Hannah*, though She was pritty Comfortable Yesterday, had a bad night for coughing, etc. The morning Mr. *Wood* who is out of Health and rides about to help her, came here and in the *Baldwin* Chaise took *Hannah* and rode up to *Shrewsbury* to meet with the abovesaid Dr. *Clark*. But they all returned without that Part of their Errand.

1777 July 19 (Saturday). *Hannah* another poor Night for Coughing, etc. Mr. *Hannaniah Parker* has two Children ill of the Canker. Sends for me. I went. Prayed and discoursed with them. Mr. *Bradshaw* returned from *Boston*, and stood along a.m. for N. *Braintry*. Mrs. *Hitty Rice* dined here.

Account book: Mr. Benjamin Bradshaw bought for me at Boston, Sundry Druggs etc. *Lucatell*; Bals.--Bals. *Polychrest* [sp.?] Hooper's Pillul. etc. for which, and some other Things, I paid him in full.

1777 July 20 (Sunday). On *Hos.* 6.4. I was long, because I was desirous to finish the Subject. N.B. *Breck* went Express to Capt. *Timothy Brigham* with Orders from Col. *Wheelock*. *Suse's* two sisters, *Mindwell* and *Anna*, dined here. P.M. preached on *Mic.* 6.6.7.8. Used former preparations to p. 6. At Col. *Wheelocks* desire I read an Order from the Council that all the people be furnished with Arms and Ammunition -- and 6 Days provision -- and be ready at a

Minutes Warning. I appointed Communion -- but on consideration of the public Troubles, the Business of the Season, and the Affliction of my Family, omitted the Lecture.

1777 July 21 (Monday). *Sophy* and *Hannah* p.m. rode over to Mr. *Monro's*. They carry a Packet for the Post to carry to Col. *Baldwin*. Mrs. *Hannah Rug* visits here. The Girls return well, as I hope, though the Air was heavy, and it began to rain.

1777 July 22 (Tuesday). My Son *Samuel* comes from *Concord* with his sister *Baldwin* and dined with us. P.M. *Samuel* returns home -- leaves *Chambers Dictionary*, 4 Vols. only. He takes with him *Mason* on *self-Knowledge*. Mrs. *Elizabeth Harrington* made us a kind, Sisterly visit. Mr. *William May* brings me somewhat more Account of the *Evacuating Ticonderoga* -- that it was most probably by *Treachery*. At night we hear a Post is come for our Militia to march to *Providence*. And Sad News from *Otter Creek*. Deacon *Wood* kindly Visits me, and brings a Present of green *Peas*.

1777 July 23 (Wednesday). It is a time of remarkable Distress among people by reason of the *Alarm*, it being the most busy Season. God has blessed us with great plenty, but the Hands that are necessary to gather in the Harvest, are called away. *Breck*, as *Adjutant*, goes to *Southborough* to carry Orders, to the Officers there.

1777 July 24 (Thursday). Although the Regiment which is now Suddenly raised by the foresaid Alarm, was appointed to meet at *Grafton* to Day, Yet *Elmer Cushing* brought from his Father Orders of the Council, not to March till further Notice, but to hold themselves in Readiness for the very shortest Warning. *Hannah* is a little better at times, but fear, not in the main. She rides a little almost every Day. *Sophy* takes the principal Care of her Day and Night.

1777 July 25 (Friday). *Breck* hires Mr. *Levi Warrins* Horse to go in the *Baldwin* Chaise to *Brookfield* and waits upon his sister home. P.M. *Sophy* and *Hannah* have Mr. *Newtons* Horse and Chaise to ride a little way.

1777 July 26 (Saturday). They ride to Col. *Brighams*, and *Sophy* on horseback to *Marlborough*. P.M. Col. *Job Cushing* came, and shews me several Expresses to march to the Westward with all speed. N.B. *Breck* was come back from *Brookfield*. These fresh and sudden Orders put the people into fresh Trouble, and cause a great deal of Consternation. I have various unavoidable Interruptions. Mr. *Moses Nurse* rowels *Brecks* mare, as being distempered.

1777 July 27 (Sunday). *Suse* was so afflicted and impressed that She had an ill Night, and this morning fell into Travail. Dr. *Hawes* deliver'd her at about 20 minutes after 8 o'clock in the Morning, of a Male Child, *premature*. The Companys of Militia are called to gather and appear, before Meeting -- [torn] dispatch'd their Business as to attend public worship. Preached on *Heb. 13.13*. Administered the Lords Supper. Sister *Brigham*, and widow (*Elijah's*) *Warrin*, from *Upton*, dined with us. P.M. I preached on *Eph. 5.15*. At the Close addressed those that had been at the Communion and the Soldiers who were Soon to march. May it please [God] to pity us, and pardon, and appear for us in the midst of So many Distresses! It is a Time for us

seriously to consider how we have been indulged with the Seasons of Grace, and free Liberty to assemble without Disturbance: but for our shameful abuse of our Privileges, the holy God now frowns upon us, and threatens to deprive us. May we be quickened by these Warnings, and may we the more highly prize and more carefully improve our Sabbath Advantages!

N.B. *Hannah* was remarkably exercised last night by uncommon and most tedious Smart in *her Feet*, which was caused by a plaister of Turpentine applyed to them: Her Pain was so great as to need, and had, the Doctor in the Night, and both her Mother and sister (*Sophy*) were obliged to attend her till break of Day. So that with what occurred with *Suse*, we had double Distress! But God has graciously carryed us through. To His Name be praise! And may we have Grace to improve these so peculiar Dispensations!

1777 July 28 (Monday). In the morning Mr. *Paul Lambson* prepared a Coffin, dugg a Grave; and we interred the *Abortion*. The Men, provided to march to the westward, gathered to Capt. *Maynards* early, and repaired to Col. *Cushings*. Twenty Four Officers, Soldiers, and a Waggoner go from this Town on this Occasion; and three more go as far as to *Brookfield* to guard the stores there. N.B. *Breck* has obtained to have *Moses Brigham* admitted in his room to march at this time, considering our present Circumstances in the Family.

1777 July 29 (Tuesday). *Hannah's* Feet easier, but She can't walk. *Suse* gathers strength. P.M. Miss *Abigail Baldwin* and her sister *Relief* here -- Tea etc. I am much employed in *Chambers* Cyclop. and *Scotts* supplement. At Eve *Eli Brigham* is come from *Dartmouth* College, and [*illegible*] relates somewhat of the Troubles in the West and North -- but that he thinks the College will not break up. Mr. *Moses Brigham* has got another *Adjutant*.

1777 July 30 (Wednesday). A *Still* from a Lambs Entrals, for *Hannah* brought from Mrs. (*Jeduthun*) Fay.

1777 July 31 (Thursday). Capt. *Morse's* Wife made us a Visit. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard acquaints me with the Death of one of Mr. *Parkers* Children, and to go to the Burial tomorrow.

1777 August 1 (Friday). Attended early in the forenoon the Burying of Mr. *Hannaniah Parkers* little *Sophy*, who dyed of the Canker and sore Throat, in her 4th Year. P.M. Neighbour [*Benj.?*] *How* brings Roots etc. N.B. His News Paper in Vindication of Surrendering of *Ticon*.

1777 August 2 (Saturday). Have been and am much engaged in my preparations. Wish I might be [*properly?*] impressed my Self therewith!

1777 August 3 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on *Jer. 8.*[20?]. Wish and pray it may suitably affect my own Heart, and all others! Col. *Brigham* and his Wife were here at Dinner with us. *Hannah* is yet very low and weak: It is difficult to discern it if She is really any better.

1777 August 4 (Monday). Mr. *Jonathan Batherick* here and perswades *Suse* to take his Infant of a fortnight old, to *Suckle* it: and p.m. it is brought, Mrs. *Batheric* being very low.

1777 August 5 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Batherick* has had so poor a night that they are almost ready to despair of her Life. Mr. *Solomon* is come to request me to go to her. I got Mr. *Nurse's* Horse (though rainy) and went to see the poor sick Woman. Discoursed and prayed there. Went also to Lt. *Forbush's* to See them. Would take due Notice of the Frown of God in the rainy Weather.

1777 August 6 (Wednesday). I rode to Deacon *Bonds* -- [mending shooes?] for *Elias*. Went up to see aged Mrs. *Woods* and prayed with her. To Mr. *Isaac Millers* but could not see either the man or Woman. Went into Mr. *Ebenezer Millers*, and Widow *Rogers*. At Eve Mr. *Elijah Brigham*, from *Dartmouth* College here and with him one Mr. *Johnson* of *Windsor*, came. Supped here.

1777 August 7 (Thursday). Mr. *Elijah*, Mr. *Eli Brigham* here -- with the foresaid Mr. *Johnson*, dined with us. The two former here also at Eve. The First lodges here.

[*torn*]on of *Douglas*, here. He breaks Fast [*torn*] my great Interruptions; though he be [*torn*] of him a Ticket in the Continen[*torn*] Dollars, to be drawn in a few [*torn*] from the Consideration [*torn*] Bene- [*torn*] maintaining the pu[*torn*] Charge [*torn*] my people [*torn*]ed [*torn*] Lines, "As Labor" etc. [*torn*] Mr. *Quincy* of July 26.

[*Note*: Rest of page is badly mutilated, with only a few words legible.]

1777 August 11 (Monday). I am not very well by reason [*torn*] Cold. Mr. *William Badcock* brings me from Mr. M[*orre's*?] a Letter from my Son *Baldwin*, dated Camp at *Saratoga* Aug. 2, giving an Account of our Army's retreating Still towards *Albany*. *Hannah* poorly, but rides.

1777 August 12 (Tuesday). *Hannah* rode with Mr. *Elijah Brigham* to Mr. *Whitneys* at *Northborough*. I rode his Horse to visit in the South. I din'd at Mr. *Noah Hardys*. Visit at Lt. *Bowman's* -- but my main Design was to visit Mr. *Solomon Millers* Wife who has been in a poor weak state -- her Deafness such as that it is difficult to converse; but more difficult still to pray with her -- but I did what I could as to both, and in a Measure Succeeded. Was at Mr. *Thurstons*. Call at Mr. *John Harringtons* and at Lt. *Harringtons*. When I returned home Mr. *Bradshaw* came and his Brother *Parkman* from New-Braintree, and they and *Elijah Brigham*, lodge here. Hear my dear Daughter *Baldwin* is very low. Her Husband Sends another Letter to *Breck*, of near the Same Date with mine, of our Armys retreating still towards *Albany*; and of the Miserys which many People suffer in those exposed parts, by the Crueltys of the Enemy. How distressing these times of public and private Troubles!

1777 August 13 (Wednesday). *Elias* goes back to *Cambridge*. *Breck* goes to *Boston*; has Mr. *Newtons* Chaise and takes in *Elias*, with his Cloths and Books: and *Bradshaw*, the latter designing to go on Foot, when his Brother has gone with him as far as *Gleasons* in *Framingham*. N.B. *Edward Brigham*, going with a Team to *Cambridge*, carries in it a Bed, Covering, Bedstead etc. for *Elias*; he having another Chum. N.B. I gave *Elias* in Cash £6.13.2.1 to pay Quarter Bill,

the Butlers Bill, and for incidental Expenses. Mr. *Bradshaw* has presented me Dr. *Eliots* 20 sermons.<sup>8</sup> At eve he returns with his Brothers Horse, and lodges here.

1777 August 14 (Thursday). Mr. *Bradshaw* goes home. P.M. hear that a Number of the last Recruits from this Town are returned home again of their own Heads -- 'tis said through Disgust and unwilling to be under General *Schuyler* and [*torn*] *Clair*. *Hannah* is still [*torn*].

1777 August 15 (Friday). In the Morning visited and [*torn*] Hearing that

[*Note*: Rest of page is torn and illegible.]

[*Note*: Shipton cites diary for August 19, 1777, for a meeting of the Marlborough Association at which it was decided to boycott the Marlborough pulpit until the town took steps to protect its minister. On July 29 guns had been fired into Smith's room, presumably to protest his criticism of the Whigs.]

1777 September 1 (Monday). *Breck* has a Letter from Col. *Cushing* at *Bennington* to hasten him (as Adjutant) up to him. Fresh Orders are brought into Town for men to march up to relieve those who went lately upon the Alarm. Mr. *Stone*, who was here, takes a Message to Major *Champney* at *Southborough*, and goes home that way to deliver it. My Son *Samuel*, his Wife and young Child, came from *Concord*, and dined here. We have more Discovery of the great Ravage Neighbour *Newtons Hoggs* have done at my Island Field. A Committee of 12 Men sit at *Southborough* upon a Controversie respecting a Road from Mr. *Peter Brewers* to Horns Mill. *Sophy* and *Hannah* rode down to Mr. *Stones*. N.B. It proved a damp, heavy air for them to return in; and *Hannah* had (I fear) rather Hurt than Benefit.

1777 September 2 (Tuesday). *Hannah* has coughed so much last night, she has had almost no sleep. *Breck* has word from Col. *Cushing* that he is appointed over a Regiment which has already an adjutant so that he need not go. P.M. I went up to Mr. *Newton's* to bespeak his Chaise, and acquaint him with the Dammage done to my Field by his *Hoggs*. Was also at *Deacon Woods*. My sons *Breck* and *Samuel* with their Wives, taking their Sister *Hannah* with them ride to Col. *Brighams*.

1777 September 3 (Wednesday). After dinner my son *Samuel* etc. left us. N.B. he has bought him an handsome fall-back Chaise. He carrys with him two volumes of the great Dictionary being *Scotts* supplement to *Chambers*. *Breck* setts up his new Clock, bought at Vendue at *Boston*. Mr. *Samuel Forbushs* Daughter *Persis* dyed this morning of the Throat Distemper. AEt. 10. A great Number of prisoners are conveyed through *Northborough* in their way to *Boston* by a Regiment under Command of Col. *Riviere*.

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<sup>8</sup>Andrew Eliot (1718-1778), *Twenty sermons on the following subjects....* (Boston: John Boyle, 1774; Evans 13266).

1777 September 4 (Thursday). *Breck* goes to *Worcester* and takes *License to Retail*. I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Samuel Forbush's* Daughter *Persis*. N.B. A Number of persons, viz. a Man, *Charles Hunt* and his Wife and 4 Children; also another Woman, *Betty Smith*, from *Danbury*, here, begging Relief. We had also a Number [torn] Visitants. My son *Alexander* came from *Leicester* [torn] his Son *Alexander*. His wife was delivered of a Daughter [torn] Tuesday was sennight, and is in an hopeful Way. D.G. *Nabby Woods* here at Work for *Breck*. I wrote to Mr. *Cushing* by Mr. *Nathan Maynard* junior and Sent him two Letters of Mr. *Baldwin* to me, Since the Evacuation of *Ticonderoga*.

1777 September 5 (Friday). *Alexander* pays me 12 Dollars, and gives me a New Note of 8£ instead of his old ones. He leaves us; but leaves his little Boy with us, he being soon to march with soldiers to *Bennington*. *Hannah* has an ill Day; is feverish etc.

1777 September 6 (Saturday). *Hannah* is somewhat better, but evidently wastes. *Breck* was obliged to ride at Evening to Major *Champneys* at *Southborough*, on the Account of Commissions to be brought up to this Town.

1777 September 7 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on *Mat. 17.4*. May God forgive my unpreparedness, and grant His Blessing, though altogether undeserved! I administered the Lords Supper. O that I might have such Tokens of the gracious presence of Christ, as that I might say (and hope I can in some Measure) that *it is good for us to be here*. Cousen *Maynard* and Mr. *Noah Hardy* Wife dined here.

1777 September 8 (Monday). I went up to Squire *Bakers* to get his Chaise for my dear *Hannah's* Journey. His Carriage being defective, he let me have the *Top*, which we put on Mr. *Tainters* Wheels, and Mr. *Noah Hardy* being come, *Sophy* and *Hannah* undertake somewhat after noon, to ride to *Billys* if they can reach it. This important Enterprize I would humbly *committ to the* sovereign and most gracious God! May the Lord grant success and return them in safety; or prepare all for His holy will! P.M. was a *Training* in order to draw forth and send out more soldiers instead of those who have returned home. N.B. *Molly Pratt*, who has helped *Suse* ever Since her lying in, returns home this Evening to Col. *Brigham's*. But *Nabby Woods*, who works for *Breck*, is here. One Miss *Hannah Allen* of *Sutton* is in a distracted Condition, and stroling She knows not whither, comes here, tarrys and lodges here. A Letter from my Daughter *Cushing*.

1777 September 9 (Tuesday). *Hannah Allen* left us. May God grant to me and mine the Grace to improve our Reason to His Glory that grants it to us! P.M. attended the Burial of Mr. *Francis Barns's* little son *Ephraim*, which was nigh two years old -- dyed of the Throat Distemper. N.B. have been informed that the Rev. Mr. [blank] *Johnson*, pastor of the Church in *Harvard*, departed this Life on the [torn]. May I be awakened to Diligence and Faithfulness; and may God [torn] grant I may, my Self, be ready for the awful S[ummons?].

1777 September 10 (Wednesday). Fast at *Hopkinton* on Account of the public Troubles; the Body of that people having been prevented joining in the late public Fast, by the Absence of Mr. *Fitch*. The Morning was so rainy that I could not get over to the forenoon sermon but I

preached p.m. and delivered the substance of my Discourse on *Hosea 6.4*, which O that God would please to accept and to bless. I returned home at Evening. N.B. *Lambson* has heard so much of several persons trying to make *Molasses* of Indian Corn stalks, that he is earnest to See what he can do about it, and therefore prepares for it.

1777 September 11 (Thursday). I went to Mr. J. *Bonds* and to [*torn*] *ons* to see what they have done in making the [*torn*] of *Molasses*, and I visited old Mrs. *Kelly*. *Breck* goes to *Boston*. At Eve received a Letter from Col. *Job Cushing* -- also two Letters, one of Aug. 22, the other the 31, from Camp at *Vanschoicks Island*; of Col. *Baldwins* and his Journal from June 13 to Aug. 24 sent to his wife at *Brookfield*. Inclosed are Lists of Killed, wounded, taken, with Return of Ammunition, artillery Stores, Cloathing, Baggage, Engineers Tools -- taken at *Fort Stanwix*, Aug. 24. Sold for £1,000.

1777 September 12 (Friday). Was called early in the morning to visit a Child of Mr. *Samuel Forbush* which is thought to be near his End. Went, prayed, etc. Reuben assisted by his uncle Paul, grinds and presses out 4 Gal. (as he says) of the Juice of the Corn stalks. Dr. *Stimpson* waits on Mrs. *Cotton* here; they dine with us. The former goes to *Sutton*, the latter tarries over night with us.

1777 September 13 (Saturday). Mr. *Forbushs* Child dyed [in the?] night; almost 2 Years. Mrs. *Cotton* dines with us, [and towards Eve?] Dr. *Stimpson* being come from *Sutton* they return to *Hopkinton*.

1777 September 14 (Sunday). I preached another sermon on *Jer. 8.22*. *Winslow* and *Mindwell Brigham*, also *Molly Pratt*, dined here. P.M. on Consideration of the Death of my dear Classmate, the Rev. Dr. *Ebenezer Pemberton* of *Boston*, of Rev. Mr. *Johnson* of *Harvard*, and that it is so sickly and dying a time among my Neighbours I repeated my Sermon on *Eccl. XII.7*. But I found when it was too late to alter it that I had repeated it already. For I Should not have done it but through inadvertence. N.B. Capt. *Edmund Brigham* and a Number of soldiers with him, going to *Bennington*, desire prayers and I preached to them. After Meeting attended at the House of mourning.

1777 September 15 (Monday). Was at Deacon Woods. David *Sangor* goes to *Connecticut* to buy Sheep; I gave him six Dollars to buy me some. A Gentleman is there who wants 150 Teams to cart stores to *Bennington*. At Night *Breck* returned from *Boston*. He believes that the Girls are gone to *Cape Ann*. He says *Elias* is sick at College -- has a Fever, and wants to come home.

1777 September 16 (Tuesday). My Son *Ebenezers* Wife and her son and Daughter *Bradshaw* came from *Shrewsbury* here to Breakfast. They are going to *Boston* etc. Having Squire *Whipple's* Horse, I rode to *Southborough* to Ministers Meeting at Mr. *Stone's*. All came except Mr. *Goss*, who has (we are informed) a Cause at Superior Court to Day. [I was?] chose Moderator. Mr. *Stone* prayed. He also read a Discourse on *Isa. 58.6*. May it be accompanied with divine Blessing! Returned at Eve. Received a Letter from Col. *Baldwin* of Sept. 7.

I have endeavoured as I could to remember this Day is my *Birth Day*, when I enter upon my 75th year. The Lord impress my Soul with a deep sense of it! *Vid. Natal.*

1777 September 17 (Wednesday). I spent the Day in considerable part, in reviewing some of my peculiar papers, and in serious Reflections.

I find great Reason to be very humble and ashamed. May God graciously pity and pardon me for Christs sake.

1777 September 18 (Thursday). I am daily concerned for my Children that are upon so doubtful a Journey, especially my dear *Hannah*. May God sustain and support her, and grant safe Return! Read in Sir William *Temples* Memoirs etc. Have received an handsome Letter from serjeant *Marble*.

1777 September 19 (Friday). Am more and more solicitous about my Children, as it is foul weather from Day to Day: And *Elias* being ill at College and can have no Wood.

P.M. Mr. *Grindal Rawson* here -- dines -- and communicates his Desire of a Council to advise about his Wifes Case relative to the Church of *Harvard*. But though he sollicit my going, I am obliged to deny. I recommend Mr. *Stone*; and he went there. Mr. Jonathan *Grouts* Wife makes us a Visit p.m. and drinks Chocolate.

1777 September 20 (Saturday). Abundance of News about a great Battle in the N.W. and many Slain -- but tis as [*torn*] uncertain. P.M. *Reuben* goes with Cart etc. for Cid[er] from Capt. *Kimbal* of *Grafton*. He brings two Barrels and a Bag of Apples from Capt. Brooks.

At Eve came *Elias*, not well, from *Cambridge* on an Horse he had hired of one Mr. *Jarvis*. And with him came, in a Chaise, my Daughter in Law *Elizabeth* and her Daughter *Bradshaw* to tarry over the sabbath. N.B. Mrs. *Bulah Gale* (widow of the late Mr. *Jacob Gale*) who was 5 months agoe propounded in order to her owning the Covenant but was obliged to go to *Hubbards-town*, came and gave me an Account of what had hindered her Return; but now desired to proceed to her Duty.

1777 September 21 (Sunday). Did not finish my preparations and on Consideration of Several Deaths, especially <of [dear Classmate?] *Pemberton*> (I see also in one of the *Boston News-Papers*, an Account of the Death of my Brother *Johns* Widow, Mrs. *Abigail Parkman* at *Ipswich* in her 80th Year), I preach on *Heb. 6.12* a. and p.m.

1777 September 22 (Monday). *Eliza* and her Daughter *Bradshaw* went a.m. to Deacon *Bonds*. I visited Mrs. *Piper* and prayed with her. Visited Mr. *Eli Whitney* and dined there. At Mr. *Tainter's*, who remains Weak and confined. Prayed with him. And was at Capt. *Morse's*, where was his Father Warrin. At Eve came my Kinsman *Loyd* and his Daughter *Abigail*, from *Granville*, and lodged here. N.B. The two Barrells of Cyder lately bought at *Grafton* (the price of which was 2 Dollars) were boiled.

1777 September 23 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Parkman* and her Daughter *Bradshaw* came from Deacon *Bonds*, and proceeded immediately on their Journey towards home. I Sent a Letter to serjeant *Henry Marble*. Mr. *Loyd* and his Daughter leave us to go to *Bedford*, and to *Boston*. Miss *Ruhamah Brown* of *Framingham* here and dines with us. Is returning home from *Leicester*. *Elias* so indisposed he can't study. Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ brews with Spruce and Corn stalks instead of Molasses.

1777 September 24 (Wednesday). An unusual Course of Wet Weather for some Days -- and to Day a.m. till 11 a.m. -- p.m. clear. Major *Asa Brigham* here. Mr. *Tainter* brought Peaches and Plums. Cut 3 Pigs and a Calf, gratis. Dined here.

The Sad News of Lord *Stirlings* Defeat at or near *Iron Hill*, 15 miles from *Philadelphia*, confirmed. *Elias* rides to Capt. *Jonathan Fays*, p.m. and up to *Grafton*.

1777 September 25 (Thursday). I visited Mrs. *Piper* again and prayed with her. Master *Joseph Hall* of *Sutton* dined here. I rode to the East part -- to Mr. *Ezra Parkers*, and find him Sick of a Fever -- to Mr. *Belknaps* -- but neither He nor she at home. Was well refreshed there, not withstanding. Called at Widow *Bellows's* and at Mr. *William Johnson's*. Visit at Mr. *Snows* and Mr. *Abraham Beemans*. N.B. his son *Abraham* is Sick. At each of these last House, had a Present of a Cheese.

But this Afternoon, while I was abroad, my Daughters *Sophy* and *Hannah* with Mr. *Noah Hardy* returned home from *Cape Ann*: but [I see?] not *Hannah* [this?] night. I understand She is more sick and wasted than when she went away. Mr. *Cushing* came -- and lodged here.

1777 September 26 (Friday). This Morning I went in to see my Daughter *Hannah* who I conceive is lower and weaker. God grant His Almighty Grace as her Case requires, and fit her and all of us for His sovereign Pleasure! Principal Officers of the Regiment meet at *Brecks*: viz. Col. *Wheelock*, Major *Beeman*, and Major *Champney* -- Orders being come for every other man of the Militia to march immediately for the further Assistance of the Army in the N.W. Mr. *Cushing* stays to dine and pray with *Hannah*, then leaves us to go to *Concord* in his way to *Boston*. Major *Champney* tells me a Report is gone down by Capt. *Brewer* who is gone hastily to the Courts, that Gen. *Burgoyne* has been shot and has dy'd. But there are many Reports, said to be certain Truths, which want confirmation. Further informs me that Mr. *Stone* sat out for *Yarmouth*, early in the week, his son being very ill, if alive. At Eve came Mr. *Bradshaw*. Nigh 9 at Night came Mr. *Forbes* of *Cape Ann*, with his Wife and son. They all lodge here. Mr. *Bradshaw* gives me a better bound *Eliots* Sermons in lieu of what he gave before. Mr. *Forbes* communicates his Letter from Col. *Eveleigh* of *South Carolina*; and thinks Mr. *Paine*, who is the Author of *Common Sense*, and an Acquaintance of Col. *Evelith's*, is *Junius*, or at least one of the three which make up that Character which is so celebrated.

1777 September 27 (Saturday). *Hannah* is somewhat comfortable in the morning. Our Company leave us for Brookfield etc. Mr. *John Forbes* of *Rutland* on *Otter Creek*, driven off from his House etc., came here.

By Vertue of the *Orders* to the Officers the People are called together but the *Orders* being *recommendatory* to go out immediately to reenforce Gen. Gates in the N.W. they did not readily comply: For whereas every other man of the Militia was called for, but about 20 appear.

1777 September 28 (Sunday). I preached a. and p.m. on *Jer. 8.22*. *Mindwell Brigham* and *Molly Pratt* dined here. After he had dined *Breck* went to Capt. *Maynards*, from thence marched to *Worcester* and *Leicester*, in his way to *Bennington*. Col. *Wheelock* gone also. At Eve Dr. *Crosby* came to see *Hannah*, and pursues the Directions of Dr. *Plummer*.

1777 September 29 (Monday). *Elias* was to have gone back to *Cambridge* on Saturday last, but is so out of Health that he could not undertake it. I was therefore obliged to go out into my Neighbourhood in quest of somebody to lead down Mr. *Jarvis's* Horse, but could not succeed. *Hannah* pines away more and more. We are ready to despair of her Recovery. Her Mind I hope is suitably employed on the vast Affairs before her. My Heart is much affected with our Troubles. O that it might please God who is most compassionate, to pity us!

1777 September 30 (Tuesday). Not having success yesterday in my Endeavours to Send Mr. *Jarvis's* Horse, I rode out again to day. Went up to Mr. *Joseph Grouts* -- Capt. *Jonathan Fays*. Dined at Mr. *Elijah Hardys*. Visit Capt. *Benjamin Fay* who is very ill of Fever, Dysentery and Gravel. Discoursed and pray'd with him. No success about the Horse.

At finishing this Month, May I be the more humble by the Reflection etc.!

1777 October 1 (Wednesday). In the Morning Mr. *Moses Nurse* takes the *Jarvis Horse* at the Tail of his Waggon to deliver him at *Cambridge*. *Hannah* has somewhat more Comfort, yet has more Fever: especially p.m. Conversed with her, read to her -- viz. Dr. I. *Mathers* sermon on [blank]. Master *Samuel Crosby* dined with us, as did Dr. *Stimpson* and Mrs. *Cotton*, who are returning from *Pomfret*. N.B. *Elias* went to Mr. *Belknaps* with the Team and brought thence Six *Barrells*, for which he asks 2 Dollars apiece. Two he left at Mr. *Chamberlains* to be filled. Mr. *Forbes* and Lady and son came, nigh 9 at night, and lodge. I read *Flavel* on *Mortification*.

1777 October 2 (Thursday). Mr. *Forbes* etc. leave us a.m. Leaves Dr. *Robinsons* History of *Scotland* and 2 of his MS. sermons. Catechizing a.m. 27, p.m. 28. N.B. Sent a Barrell to Capt. *Jonathan Fay*; another to Lt. *Jonathan Grout*. *Hannah* not so feverish: rode to Dr. *Hawes* -- but seems to decline: her Cough etc. no better. At night came Mr. *Cornelius Waters* and a young Gentleman, an *Hazzletine* with him, of *Dartmouth College*, but I was in so much trouble about my Daughter, and my pasture so gnawed up, that I could not freely ask them to tarry all night, though I did repeatedly urge them to stay to sup here. N.B. Mr. *Waters* has a Specimen of an excellent Spirituous Liquor distilled at *Salem* from indian Corn Stalks.

1777 October 3 (Friday). *Hannah* is more comfortable in Mind and Body. Blessed be God for any respite! But *Elias* droops.

1777 October 4 (Saturday). *Hannah* evidently looses Ground -- does not get over the Fatigue of her Journey. I read to her some chosen Passages of Dr. *Doddridges* Rise and Progress. Which may God bless!

1777 October 5 (Sunday). Preached again on Jer. 8.22. O that we might have the Precious Remedy applyed effectually by the Holy spirit to our Souls Healing! No preaching at *Southborough*. Mr. [Absalom?] Ward dines with us -- as does Molly Pratt and Mindwell Brigham. P.M. Delivered the first sermon on Isa. V on v. 1-7. At Eve repeat the morning sermon. N.B. received a Letter from my son *Baldwin* dated Camp above *Still-Water* Sept. 26. Glory to God for all their Successes. *Breck* writes on the outside, *Worthing* Oct. 2, that he is well and All with him.

1777 October 6 (Monday). Before Day Mr. *Jonathan Forbes* called me out of Bed to go and See Capt. *Benjamin Fay* who it was thought was drawing near his End. I went just after Break of Day; and found him exceeding low, his Fever high -- but though he appeared to have his Reason, yet he could say but little. Prayed with him and discoursed as the Case required. Went to Deacon Wood and acquainted him with the designed Meeting tomorrow at Widow Hardys. Saw the Success of his New Squeezing Mill. *Hannah* weaker -- read to her part of Mr. *Showers* sermon on *Mat. 24.44*. At Eve *Hannaniah Parker* here and tells Me Capt. *Fay* dy'd about Sunsett. May God Sanctifie it, and humble us by it! The Solid Members of our Church are more and more diminished, when We more and more need them. May God most gracious Pity and Pardon us!

1777 October 7 (Tuesday). *Hannah* has a bad Day: fever, Coughing; and She is very Weak. Mr. *Benjamin Fay* here to acquaint me with the Death, and desires me to attend the Funeral of his Father -- tomorrow at 2 p.m.

P.M. I preached at a private Meeting, at the House of Mrs. *Jemima Hardy*, widow of the late Mr. *Constantine Hardy*. My Text was *Phil. 4.6* and I used two pages and half of my Sermon from thence, but used part of Exposition on *Mat. 6.25*. Before returning I Spoke to them that were present of my Willingness to Serve them as I used to etc., and Mr. *Benjamin Tainter* desired the Monthly Family meetings might be revived, that the next Meeting might be at his House, the first Tuesday in the next month. Called to See Mrs. *Piper*, who is much recovered. D.G.

1777 October 8 (Wednesday). We are apprehensive that *Hannah* can continue but a little longer. Almost every Day Shews a Difference. Her mind is more calm: yet not without Disquietment. In Every Prayer I would remember both her, and our own share in her sufferings! May the Lord graciously and almightily appear for both her and us! We are too unfit to meet our God in these ways of Severity (yet Righteousness) with us! P.M. I attended the Funeral of the late Capt. *Benjamin Fay*, and prayed. N.B. Mr. *Sumner* and Dr. *Crosby* were with me. Sister *Cushing* came with those Gentlemen to see *Hannah*. At the House of Mourning

nothing was more remarkable than the Strange Alteration of the Corps -- Swelled enormously, discoloured, purple etc., fermenting and turning apace to putrifaction -- exceeding offensive, and the general Desire was to have the Coffin nailed up. N.B. An urgent Message to me, while yet in their Yard, but presently after prayer to go up into one of the Chambers where was a young Woman, ill in Body and distressed in Mind. Mr. *Sumner* also was requested to go up to her. We complied -- discoursed with her. I desired Mr. *Sumner* to pray with her; which he did. He also came with Dr. *Crosby*, to my House, discoursed and prayed with *Hannah*, and is very sympathetic. May God graciously reward Him and extend Compassion to his own tender, weak spouse! But especially reward him in spirituals!

1777 October 9 (Thursday). *Hannah* is so low She speaks but a little, and *Sophy* is continually attached to her, till I fear the Event. *Suse* is very helpful as a kind, affectionate sister; took Care of her last night, when Cough followed her so tediously, that She had but little Rest. *John Brown* going to *Leicester*, dined here. Mr. *John Fay* of *Levertt* here, and asks whether he mayn't own the Covenant here? For though there is a Church, yet there is no minister in their Town. Mr. *David Sangor* came (though it was rainy) from *Framingham* to bring me back the Dollars which were committed to him on the 15th and brought home safely Monsieur *Jurieus* Crit. Hist. Dear *Hannah* has the Covenant read to her; to which She freely (and She thinks *heartily*) consents. She has Such signs and Tokens of Sincerity and of Faith in Christ, that I am much relieved; and desire to praise God for it. She says (among other Things) that if there was no Hell, She would Shun and loath sin.

1777 October 10 (Friday). *Hannah*, though I don't know but that She is lower then ever, yet has had a night of more Quiet from coughing and from other Disorders, than of late.

A Report that *Philadelphia* is taken by a part of the regular Army.

1777 October 11 (Saturday). Rev. Mr. *Thatcher* of [Gorham?] (in the Eastward) going to *Lebanon* breaks fast with us. *Hannah* I think looses Ground still.

1777 October 12 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on *Jer. 8*, concluding Clause. *Molly Pratt* and *Mindwell Brigham* dined here. P.M. preached again an Exposition on *Mat. 16.28*. At Eve read to the Family part of Mr. Byfields Cure of the Fear of Death<sup>9</sup> -- on Consideration of *Hannahs* low state.

1777 October 13 (Monday). Went to Deacon *Woods* and got his Horse. Rode to see the widow *Fay* who is Sick; and dined there. Rode to Mr. *James Bellows's* and Mr. *Broads* (at the Mills). Was at Widow *Bakers*, who is, with her Brother *Josephs* wife, very generous to me. But my principal Design was at old Mr. *David Maynards*, whose wife is very ill. Prayed there. At Eve

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<sup>9</sup>Nicholas Byfield (1579-1622), *The Cure of the Feare of Death. Shewing the Course Christians May Take to Bee Delivered from These Feares about Death, Which Are Found in the Hearts of the Most. A Treatise of Singular Use for All Sorts* (London: Printed by G. P[urslowe] for Ralph Rounthwaite at the Flower-de-Luce and Crowne in Pauls Church-yard, 1618).

read Dr. *Whitakers* Sermon on Judg. 5.23, "Curse ye Meroz," etc.<sup>10</sup> *Hannah* is in much bodily Distress -- extreme low -- besides cough, a very smarting Pain in her side -- and is grown raw with lying -- complains that she has not Assurance, can't pray Steddily -- her Cough very bad, but what is special is, *she is much weaker*. Little *Alexander* has been ill these two Days with bad Cough and sore Throat. Was Vomited this morning.

1777 October 14 (Tuesday). *Hannah* draws near her End -- in the Morning is sensible of it -- asks me to go to my study, and pray for her -- or rather Stay and pray by her -- which I did. I read to her part of Mr. *Crawfords* *Zions Traveller*, S.XXVI, Edit. 3. Edinb. p. 75.6.7.<sup>11</sup> To which she added her own *Amen*, as peculiarly Suiting her. And She Seems to have her understanding clear. As we sat down at Dinner in all probability an internal sore in her side broke, and there came forth at her mouth putrid Matter. She waxes weaker and weaker. She looks round upon us, but can't utter any thing. She appears to have hope in her Death. Her breathing is feebler. She Sinks by Degrees without any Groan, Sign or Gasp, *She ceases*. It is 20 minutes past 2 p.m. We resign her to the Great almighty Author of her Being, and that gave her to us. Blessed be His Name, who has continued her so long to us, and has granted Such hopeful Tokens of the Grace of God to her! Cousen *Maynard* came and with our sister *Brigham*, watched here, and especially with little *Alexander*. My Neighbour *Barnabas Newton* setts out for *Brookfield*, and New *Braintry*; but in peculiar to call this Evening at my Son *Alexanders* to inform him, if he be there, of the dangerous condition his son lies in. Neighbour *Nathan Maynard* will go hastily to *Ashburnham* to inform Mr. *Cushing*.

1777 October 15 (Wednesday). *Elias* goes on an Horse of Col. *Brighams*, and with him (who is Representative for *Northborough*) to *Boston*, to *Cambridge*, and to *Concord*, to inform his Brothers there, of what God has seen meet to do. *Alexander* and his wife and young Child.

1777 October 16 (Thursday). Mr. *Whitney* came -- dined -- preached on *Prov. 3.17*. After the Exercise, he returned home. Mr. *Newton* here at Eve and his Wife; they watched. *Ebenezer* came from *Dudley*, from burying his Daughter *How*. *Isaac Baldwin* here from *Brookfield*. My Son *Alexander* waited on me to Mr. *Nathan Maynards*. Thence we walked over to Mr. *D. Maynards* to see his Wife. Prayed with her. Her Fever strong. Dr. *Gordon* and his Lady, journeying from *Lyme* to *Boston*, call upon us and lodge here. N.B. Certifies me of General *Gates's* Temp[erance?]. *Elias* returns from *Cambridge*. *Ebenezer* and *Isaac* lodge at the Doctors. Mrs. *Lucy Forbush* came and watched with little *Alexander*.

1777 October 17 (Friday). Dr. *Gordon* and Lady leave us. My Son *Cushing* came a.m. Mr. *Whitney* and spouse. My son *William*, his Wife, his son *William* and his Daughter *Lydia*, my son *Samuel*, Miss *Patty Fish* -- dined with us. Mr. *Caleb Harrington* has dug a Grave. Mr. *Paul*

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<sup>10</sup>Nathaniel Whitaker (1732-1795), *An antidote against Toryism. Or The curse of Meroz, in a discourse on Judges 5th 23, by Nathaniel Whitaker D.D. Pastor of the Presbyterian congregation in Salem, state of Massachusetts-Bay. Published at the desire of many who heard it. Dedicated to His Excellency, General Washington* (Newbury-Port: [Mass.] Printed by John Mycall., MDCCLXXVII [1777]).

<sup>11</sup>William Crawford, *Zion's Traveller : Or, the Soul's Progress to Heaven; In the Several Steps Whereby It Ascends from Deep Distress and Misery, to the Height of Triumph and Glory*.

*Lambson* has made and brought a Coffin. Mr. *Whitney* at the *Funeral* prayed with us and the Assembly which gathered upon the Sorrowful Occasion. Messrs. *Thomas Stone, Edward, Antepas* and *Winslow Brigham*, [blank] *Wheelock* and *Reuben Lambson*, were Bearers, and we solemnly interred my dear *Daughter Hannah's Remains!* May God most gracious grant us the Grace of holy Mourning and to be ready also! The Company retire to go home except my sons *Ebenezer* and *Alexander*, his Wife and two Children, *Isaac Baldwin*, Miss *Jedidah Woodward* (who watches with little *Alexander*) and *Molly Pratt*, who tarrys to help us. Mrs. *Harrington* is ill and Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ goes to her to night.

1777 October 18 (Saturday). Little *Alexander* is Still under the Distemper; and his Case doubtfull. Mrs. *Harrington* brings forth another son. At Eve, by Special Request, I go to Neighbour *Harringtons*, and pray and give thanks.

1777 October 19 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Mat. 17.4* and administered the Sacrament. Cousin *Maynard* and Miss *Katy How* with her, dined here. P.M. delivered two sermons in one Exercise, with some Omissions, from *Ps. 39.9*,<sup>12</sup> on Occasion of the Death of my Daughter *Hannah*; and desire Grace to enable me in the Same Manner, with the holy [Psalmist?], to Exercise holy *Resignation* and *submission to the sovereign Will* of God. Miss *Betty Bevil* tarrys here and watches with the Child.

1777 October 20 (Monday). Mr. *Haven* of *Framingham* here to enquire concerning his son *David's* Death, in Battle; concerning which *Breck* had writ to me. I wrote to *Breck*, and Send it by the Hand of *Alexander*: to the Post for Conveyance -- for *Alexander* returns to *Leicester*, his little Boy being better, as we hoped. N.B. The *wonderful News* of Success against the Kings Forces in the N.W.

1777 October 21 (Tuesday). Though it rained yet I went to *Marlborough*, it being Association there. Only Mr. *Whitney* and Mr. *Newell* came besides. Mr. *Smith* prayed and read a Discourse on *Phil. 1.21*, which I hope is to my Spiritual Profit. Was at Mr. *Uriah Brigham's*. From thence I rode over to Mr. *Stone's*, having heard that he was Sick, and found him so: confined to his Bed by a Fever. I lodged there.

1777 October 22 (Wednesday). Rode home. Little *Alexander* is grown better. N.B. The News of Gen. *Burgoin* and his Army's surrendering to General *Gates*, is confirmed every where. P.M. My Cousin *Winchester* came with her daughter *Maynard* to see me. The Wife of Mr. *James Miller* junior examined. Dr. *Crosby* came to See our Invalids -- among which Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ is to be reckoned, she being much out of Health.

1777 October 23 (Thursday). Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ is in a very drooping Condition. *Elias* can't study, but can go about other Business. His Eyes are weak, and it affects his Stomach to read.

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<sup>12</sup>Psalm 39.9: "I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it."

1777 October 24 (Friday). *Elias* most probably took Cold yesterday and lyes by. Our minds are much agitated respecting the *Manner* and *Terms* of General *Burgoines* surrendering to G. *Gates*

1777 October 25 (Saturday). We hear there has been great Rejoicing at *Boston* on Account of the Success of our arms in the West. Mr. Benjamin How brings me one of the Thursday Papers, which confirms the Articles of *Convention* (so its called) between the two Generals. I have been preparing on *Eph.* 2.1.2 but on Consideration of the remarkable Favour of Heaven in the submission of the *British* to the *American* Forces, and the minds of people being engaged [*torn*] this wonderful Providence. I looked up a suitable Thanksgiving Discourse and set to adapting it to this [joyful?] Occasion. *Elias* is feverish; has sore Throat and [*torn*] under Dr. *Hawes'* Care. *Alexander* came from *Leicester*.

1777 October 26 (Sunday). Preached again a.m. on *Ps.* 39.9. *Mindwell Brigham* dined here. Preached p.m. on *Ps.* 108.5.6. *Gratulatory* for the late Smiles of divine Providence on the American Arms. Which May God graciously prosper to us all who have heard it! *Elias* is, through divine Goodness, better: but *Alexanders* Cough is bad. May God mercifully prepare him for His holy will!

1777 October 27 (Monday). *Alexander* waits upon me with the Chaise and Horse he came with, to see Mr. *Reuben Bellows'* Wife, who lies sick; and having discoursed with her, I prayed there. We then proceeded to *Southborough*, and visited Mr. *Stone*, who though at the Close of the last Week he was somewhat better, was grown Worse. Prayed with him. We dined there. He manifests great Humility, and a deep sense of his need of Mercy. A storm of Rain arose and continues. In returning home we went to Mr. *Abraham Beemans*, his son *Abraham* being Still much out of Health: the man himself and his two other sons also not well. We called at Mr. *Thomas Andrews*. Though it proved a stormy Day, yet we arrived safely at Eve. D.G.

1777 October 28 (Tuesday). A very unusually wet Season which confines my Son *Alexander* and his Wife and Children here. *Elias* has sore Throat etc.

1777 October 29 (Wednesday). It is Still a storm. Read part of *Drexilius*. *Elias* is poorly, able to keep off from the Bed. Lambson can do but little.

1777 October 30 (Thursday). Fair -- but windy and cold. *Alexander* pays me 12 Dollars of the Interest of 100 Dollars which I paid for him to Capt. *Mackey* at *Boston* Some time agoe. He, his wife and two Children leave us to return home to *Leicester*. I visited Mrs. *Ann Maynard* again. Discoursed and prayed with her. *Breck* returned from the Army in the West, and has endured his Excursion considerably well. Thanks to God for His Favour to him! Miss *Nanny Wilder* and Miss *Sally Wyman* of *Lancaster* dined here.

1777 October 31 (Friday). Mr. *Paul Lambson* came p.m. to mend the Roof of the Barn by putting in shingles where they were wanting: and *Reuben* helped him. They mend also some parts of the Roof of the dwelling House. Mr. *Thatcher* of *Gorham* returning from Connecticut calls here.

That another Month is gone, calls for Serious Reflection!

1777 November 1 (Saturday). This Month begins with a cold, frosty Air. The Morning [*torn*] Cold. *Breck* in looking over some of my Bills of mo[*illegible*] finds among some that I took of *Alexander*, a 30/ *New Hampshire Money* Bill which he fears is counterfeit.

1777 November 2 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on Ps. 119.71, but used the Notes on Ps[*illegible*] 9 from p. 19 to 25, and p.m. on *Eph.* 2.1.2, which I composed on Occasion of the Dissoluteness of these Times. May God be pleased thoroughly to awaken us hereby! Mrs. Gale and her sister *Jones*, Winslow Brigham and his sister *Mindwell* dined here. N.B. Great *Killing of Cattle* at squire Bakers to day. At Eve read Drexelius on Eternity.

1777 November 3 (Monday). I gave Mr. *Cornelius Biglow* some *New-Hampshire* Bills to be by him changed at *Exeter*.

I visited Mrs. *Lucy Forbush* who is Sick, and prayed with her. P.M. late, was at Deacon *Woods*; and at Eve at squire *Bakers*. N.B. Cattle killed yesterday, which are to be sent to *Worcester* for the Supply of the Army, with the other Necessarys of Life, as now at this time, General *Burgoynes* Army are expected to be on their road to *Boston*.

1777 November 4 (Tuesday). This was to have been private Meeting at Mr. *Tainters*, but it is put off to next week, by reason of many people going over to the Post-Road to see the Regulars in their moving towards *Boston*. *Breck* and *Suse*, *Elias* and *Sophy* ride there.

Two Regular Ensigns here and lodge, viz. Messrs. *Jonas Parker* of *London* and *Robert Mercy* of *Ireland*. Paid *Reuben Lambson* twelve Dollars or 3£ 12.

1777 November 5 (Wednesday). The two Ensigns, after attending Prayer and Breakfast, left us to go to their Regiments. *Elias*, on *Brecks* Mare, undertakes to go up to *Cois* Hill to drive down my young Cattle. My Husbandry Business run sadly behind, by reason of *Reubens* working, now the fourth Day, for his uncle *Paul*: and wants to go away to *Worcester* tomorrow also.

1777 November 6 (Thursday). *Reuben* went to his uncles in order to his going to *Worcester*, but though he tarried there all the forenoon, yet he went not. It rained, and the Horse he was to have rid got away. But p.m. he returned and went to my Business -- husking.

1777 November 7 (Friday). [*illegible*] *Lambson* himself went to *Worcester* -- and in my stead [*torn*] with the Printer for the remainder of the Year's Papers. This Evening finishes the 53d Year since the Gathering of this Church and my Ordination as Pastor thereof.

1777 November 8 (Saturday). [Ble]ssed be God for the Light of this Morning which begins the 54th year of my Ministry. I kept the Day retrospectively and religiously. May God most merciful and gracious forgive all the many and great Defects I have been guilty of, through so

long a Course, and especially the Deficiencys and Miscarriages [of the?] Year past! And now I am grown old and my Death [must?] be near, may God grant I may improve my Time [and?] all my Other Talents to the divine Glory, and the eternal good of Precious Souls! O that I might be quickened in Proportion to my Age and the short Remains of my Life yet to come! Hear that Major *Asa Brigham* is Dead.

1777 November 9 (Sunday). I preached a.m. again on *Eph.* 2.1.2 and closed with some Remarks and Observations on the Day. May almighty [Grace?] succeed my feeble Efforts. Preached p.m. again on *Ps.* 119.71 and carried on the Subject of the Benefit of Afflictions from pag. 24 to 29 inclusively. At Eve repeated the forenoon Sermon. N.B. Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ read in the Study *Masons* Discourse on *Phil.* 3.13.14.

1777 November 10 (Monday). *Reuben* did not come home last night. This morning I went to Neighbour [Lambsons?]; and found that *Reuben* was gone to *Lancaster*, to my Disappointment - - but came home after Dinner, and it being rainy shelled Corn. I am much disappointed in not having my Island Field plowed; which had been occasioned by *Reubens* being so much gone in the Weeks past.

1777 November 11 (Tuesday). My Older Oxen are come from Squire *Bakers Templetown* Pasture; I went to the Squires, and committed them to him to kill and dispose of as He thinks best for my Advantage: but he must provide me a good Cow for my Beef, and I think I must have at least a side of one of them. P.M. I walked to Mr. Tainters to the Family Meeting and preached again on *Phil.* 4.6 to p. 9. Which may God bless to us for Christs sake!

1777 November 12 (Wednesday). *Elias* returned from *Coi's Hill, Brookfield* but from *Baldwins* of *Shrewsbury* only, this morning. He has brought but 4 Creatures out of six -- but an Heiffer I designed to kill, is missing. See the 5th. I wrote to my Daughter *Baldwin* and to Mr. *David [torn]*cock Taverner, with Notification to be set up at *[torn]* Public Houses. Committed them to the Care of Mr. *[torn]* *[Work?]* of *Royalston*. Read Sir William *Temples* works Vol. 1.

1777 November 13 (Thursday). Visit *Asa Forbush* who has come home from the Army, sick, His Mother still very much wrought down by her illness. Prayed there. P.M. Read Sir William *Temple*. Mr. *William May* came and lodged here, but put up his Horse at Deacon *Woods*.

1777 November 14 (Friday). Mr. *Joseph Bond* came and with *Brecks* help, killed a [Red?] Steer for me. Mr. *May* and Mr. *Bond* dine here. P.M. Mr. *May* *[torn]*

1777 November 15 (Saturday). We are disappointed in the *Worcester Spy*: no body goes for it. Deacon *Livermore* dined with us. Sent by him to Mr. *Whitney* to *[torn]* after [Thanksgiving?].

1777 November 16 (Sunday). A.M. on *Eph.* 2.1.2. P.M. on *Ps.* 25.10 and used the last sermon on *Ps.* 39.9. Read the Proclamation for Thanksgiving.

1777 November 17 (Monday). Though a rough, cold, stormy Season, visit Mrs. *Ann Maynard* and prayed with her. Dined at squire *Whipples*. Visit at Mr. *Greens*. Went to Mr. *Gleasons*. Stayed there while he shod the Mare. At Eve was at Mr. *Amasa Maynards* in the Snow. Got home safe. D.G.

1777 November 18 (Tuesday). Visit poor [Benj. *Garfield?*] under a sad sore and prayed with him. P.M. Visit the Widow *Ruhamah* [Pratt?], sick of a Fever and prayed. Called at Mr. *Benjamin Fays*, who is uneasy because I dont proceed to propound him to the Church, though he is in sad Contest with Mr. Thomas *Whitney*. Called to see Ensign *Fay* and his Wife. Also at squire *Bakers*, who has my Fatt Oxen to kill and dispose of.

1777 November 19 (Wednesday). *Elias* goes to Capt. *Maynards* for a Barrell of Cyder given by Mr. Ebenezer Maynard. At Night came the worthy Dr. *Ezra Stiles*, on his journey from New-Haven to *Portsmouth* and lodged here.

1777 November 20 (Thursday). Public *Thanksgiving*. Dr. *Stiles* preached on *Gen. 49, v. 22, 23, 24*. A very acceptable Entertainment. May God bless it to us, and may it please God to grant His servant Wisdom and Direction in the weighty Affair before [torn] respecting the *Presidentship of Yale College*, to which [he has?] [torn] Election, and concerning which he asks my Advice. N.B. a Number [of Persons?], namely Lt. Bond, Mr. Joseph Harrington, Mr. Ebenezer [torn], Mr. Jonathan Forbes and [blank] came in after the Exercise to manifest their Acceptance of what was delivered, and [torn]sult me touching the printing [illegible] but they d[torn]d to consult the Town on the [matter at their Meeting?] tomorrow.<sup>13</sup> May God be pleased to [illegible] this [torn] Glory and our highest Benefit! I am thankful for [torn] Providence which brought Dr. *Stiles* to us, and enabled him to [torn] so agreeably and profitably.

1777 November 21 (Friday). Dr. *Stiles* leaves [torn] *Cambridge* in his way to *Portsmouth*. Wrote by him to [torn]on respecting *Elias's* staying at home till the Vaca[torn] [illegible] shall [torn]turn, he may have a Waitership [torn] [How?] dines here, being at work for *Breck*. *Suse* [and *Sophy?*] [torn] down to Col. *Brighams*, where [torn] an Entertainment. Mr. *Whitney* and his Lady are there. *Town Meeting*, for [illegible] *my Wood*, Sallery, Soldiers Families etc. Mr. *Joseph Harrington* came and ask'd me to head a Paper for Subscriptions to printing Dr. *Stiles'* Sermon.

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<sup>13</sup>"This day a Gen1 Thanksgiving through Mass. & Connecticut. I preached at Westboro in Mass. for Revd & venerable Mr Parkman on Gen. xlix, 22-26. The people immedy requested a copy for the Press, but the Sermon being a hasty production only a few minutes of that Mornings Composition & mostly extempore, I declined it. Mr Parker [sic] persuaded me to accept the Presidency." Franklin Bowditch Dexter, ed., *The Literary Diary of Ezra Stiles, D.D., LL.D., President of Yale College* (3 vols.; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1901), 2:230. Stiles also noted that Parkman "gave me an account of Pres. Leveretts Presidency at Harv. Coll. where he was educated under him. Mr Parkman shewed me a Volume of his Academic Manuscript containg Copies of *Brattles Logic*, *Leveretts Philosophy* or *Physics*, *Flynts Geography* &c. Mr. Leverett was a fine classic Scholar but seldom made public Orations, not so often as Mr. Holyoke. Mr. Levrett great and awful in Government." *Ibid.*, 2:231.

1777 November 22 (Saturday). Young [*Forsdick?*] here going to *Cambridge*; and by him I write to Mrs. *Hicks* about her son *James*, his Chapt Hands and Feet. *Elias* brings me return from Squire Baker that they who he employs in Business have killed my fat Oxen -- the weight of which [*blank*].

1777 November 23 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Eph.* 2.4.5. P.M. delivered sermon on Heb. 12.23 to the End of p. 9, omitting p. 1. After the public Exercise Visit old Mrs. *Ruhamah Pratt* and prayed with her.

1777 November 24 (Monday). *Reuben Lambson* (or *Lamson*) is in such Earnestness to go away, though he has not filled up his lost time by Eight Days, that his uncle *Paul* undertaking for 4 of them and himself to either serve or drop [the pay?] of 4 more, I payed him 45 Dollars, which with 12 [*torn*] paid him heretofore made 57. The remaining three, which I have not paid, is to [*torn*] shooe Leather and the Deduction aforesaid, or his further service. Upon which he went off in Haste.

Mr. Nathaniel Sherman of New-Haven, came, dined and lodged. I Headed a paper for subscriptions to print Dr. *Stiles's* late Thanksgiving Sermon, at the Desire of Mr. Joseph Harrington.

*Town Meeting.* I'm informed that they vote £100 for my sallery, and 42£ for my Wood -- viz. for 35 Cord, at [*blank*] Dollars per Cord.

1777 November 25 (Tuesday). I was prevented going to Ministers Meeting at Stow, by the Stormy Weather. Dr. *Hall* of Sutton called here in his way to Boston. Mr. Sherman dined and p.m. left us. *Breck* papered his lesser Room; and *Elias* [helps?] him great part of the Day and the Evening. I am sorry [*torn*] [Loss?] of his time.

1777 November 26 (Wednesday). *Sophy* has been at Mr. [*illegible*] yesterday, brings from them the Desire of Miss [*ilegible and torn*] of Ipswich, who is at her uncle's, and is very ill, that [*torn*] visit her: for which reason this Morning I [went -- ?] called at Neighbour [*torn*] (who has great pain etc. [*torn*] his Sore). Dr. *Hawes* with me [*torn*] to [*torn*] [found?] him better: In the road there [*torn*] two Grandsons *Ebenezer* and *Elias* who had been down at M[*torn*] I believe [*torn*] *Ebenezers* Wife and Child were in [*torn*] I did not know [*torn*] they were returning to Bro [*torn*] dined at Mr. [Stones?]. On my Road back met [*torn*] who has begun to preach, and a [*torn*] Kinsman [*torn*] to *Dedham*. I called at [Mr.?] William *Woods's* to see [*torn*] [stranger?], who is sick there; one William [*torn*]. Made a Visit at Mr. *Andrews's* -- discoursed and prayed with the [*torn*] woman abovesaid. Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ visits at Cousen Maynards. The [*torn*].

1777 November 27 (Thursday). Mrs. *Mary Crosby* (Widow) who has lived here for more than two years, now leaves us. Mr. *John Harrington* by the Direction of the select me of this Town, takes her into his Waggon, to transport her to *Boston*. May god graciously restrain her from Vice, convert her to Himself, and eternally Save her!

N.B. *Elias* so loses his time from Day to Day that I am full of Trouble, and I could not but complain and resent it.

1777 November 28 (Friday). *Elias* goes in search of my Heiffer and steer missing from *Coi's Hill*. The Widow *Eunice Cook* from *Douglass* dines here. Dr. *Hall* coming from Boston was here in his Way home. Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ walked to Squire *Bakers*: and Mr. *Lambson* visits us.

1777 November 29 (Saturday). A very tedious storm of Rain -- but through the Mercy and Goodness of God we have shelter, Fuel, Health and comfortable supplies. May the Great Name of [our?] Preserver and Benefactor be magnified. I pity those [torn] poor and destitute, and peculiarly the *sick*. May God graciously [torn] supply and heal! But a Number of Capt. *Maynards* Children, having the *Meazles*, I hope are well provided for, though I know not how my son *Alexanders* Family is, being visited with that Distemper, himself being gone a Journey after [illegible] [not?] returned yester Day.

1777 November 30 (Sunday). Preached a.m. from *Ps. 73.28* but carried on the Subject from *Mat. 17.4*. Administered the Lords supper. P.M. repeated sermon on *Heb. 12.28* and finished it. A Dark Day, as to the Weather -- but Darker as to Attendance, there being but few at Meeting, or at Communion.

1777 December 1 (Monday). *Breck* sets out for [Hartford?] on public Business, employed by squire Baker. The *Town Meets* by adjournment on the Affairs of the Soldiers money. [Miss illegible Jones?] came to work here. Mr. Belknap here about the Barrells he has made and sent me; [illegible] Barrells; but have so bad joints that they are [somewhat?] [illegible] and two more are [torn] Barrells, [illegible] I dont [illegible] [torn] me: yet his Price, instead of [torn] Dollar, [torn] or to 14 shillings.

1777 December 2 (Tuesday). [torn] Preached [torn] Widow *Mehitabel Brigham*s [torn] *Phil. 4.7* from page 9 to 16, which may God graciously bless to us! It was [torn] windy, rough weather [torn] there were but few [torn] but [illegible] willing to [torn]rage these Meetings [illegible] am sorry none of my own were there.

1777 December 3 (Wednesday). *Suse*, having an Horse from her Fathers, and *Sophy* with *Brecks* Mare rode away (though a Cold season) to Leicester, and designing to visit further.

1777 December 4 (Thursday). My Son *Moore* came by the way of *Providence* and *Uxbridge* to make us a Visit. He knew Nothing of the Death of his sister *Hannah* till he heard it here. He lodges here.

1777 December 5 (Friday). Mr. Moore had designed to go to Oxford, but his mare is too ill to go any further. I rode to Mr. *William Woods*, and took Miss *Eunice Jones* with me as far as her uncle *Gale's*. At Mr. *Woods* lay the poor young stranger [William Haden?], Sick of a fever and Flux, and dangerously ill. I went on purpose to see him, but he was delirious. I prayed with

him, but fear his Death is nigh. I called to see poor *Garfield*. *Breck* returned from *Lebanon*. A Letter from Mr. *Quincy* at *Lancaster* via *Worcester* dated [blank].

1777 December 6 (Saturday). Mr. *Moore* tarrys to dine with me but can't keep sabbath here. He leaves us to go to *Oxford*. Towards Eve came Mr. *Corn. Waters* to preach for me, and therefore lodges here. He came from *Grafton*. He found Mr. [*Pratt* or *Brett*?] was to preach there.

1777 December 7 (Sunday). In the morning came from *Southborough* Mr. *Jeremiah Barnard* to assist me. Mr. *Charles [Stearns?]* being there to preach for Mr. *Stone*. Mr. *Barnard* a.m. prayed, and Mr. *Waters* preached from *Cant. 5.1*, on those Words, "He is altogether lovely." P.M. Mr. *Waters* prayed, and Mr. *Barnard* preached from *Gen. [24?].12* and first Clause of v. 13 on *Jacobs* Dream of a Ladder. I baptized several Children and read the Congress's Proclamation for a *general Thanksgiving*. The abovementioned Gentlemen lodged here. N.B. The Widow *Eunice Cook* dined here.

1777 December 8 (Monday). Those Gentlemen left me [*torn*] *William Hadan* at Mr. [*torn*] His [*torn*] Mr. *William Hadan* of old *Braintree* [*torn*] Mother, [*torn*] far happy as to be there; and purpose to remov[*torn*] Corps to their own [*House*?].

1777 December 9 (Tuesday). On Mr. *Nurse's* Horse (and [*torn*] very rough) I rode to M[*torn*] *Woods*, the House of mourning to see and Symp. with [Mr. and?] Mrs. *Haden* before the removing the Corps of their [*torn*]. We prayed together and took solemn Leave. I dined at Mr. *Gales*. Went up to Mr. *Beetons* to see old Mrs. *Kelly*, and *Thomas Beeton*. The last is very Sick of Fever and Flux. I returned by Mr. *Nurse's*. Many of the [?].

1777 December 10 (Wednesday). Read *Robinsons* History of *Scotland*, in part.

1777 December 11 (Thursday). Wrote to Mr. *Quincy* and Sent Sir *William Temples* Works, Vol. 1.

It was by Moss *Lois Sawyer*, who was with Miss *Comfort Bellows* going to *Lancaster*. I visited dined there with Dr. *Flynt*. I prayed with them.

At Eve *Suse* and *Sophy* returned from *Brookfield*. They inform that my Son *Baldwin* is at home.

1777 December 12 (Friday). My son *Alexander* brought his son with him and leaves him here whilst he himself goes to *Framingham*.

1777 December 13 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1777 December 14 (Sunday). Preached on *Rom. 6*. Read only two first verses,

but are

strictures on many other verses, of the Chapter. *Molly Pratt*

P.M. repeated one of my sermons on *Job* 14.1 on occasion of the Death of the young stranger, Mr. *Hayden*.

1777 December 15 (Monday). Town Met again by adjournment. *Samuel Brigham* from *Dartmouth* College here. Deacon *Wood*.

1777 December 16 (Tuesday). *Sophy* rides to *Upton*. Miss *Molly Harrington* here – Exam

She informs me that Rev. *Taylor* of *New [Fane?]* has lost his House by Fire, and Saved but little of his Goods. May it be Sanctified and duely improved!

1777 December 17 (Wednesday). *Sophy* returned from

1777 December 18 (Thursday). *Continental Thanksgiving*. Preached from Ps. 72.4. verses  
May God to

Young *Elisha Fish* and *Samuel Brigham* dined with us. *Brigham* tarried to sup with us and lodged

1777 December 19 (Friday). I sent, by him for

of dear sickness )

Deacon *Thomas* of

still. Miss *Mindwell*

Cousen *Molly Pratt* dined here. P.M. and *Sophy* go with them

*Brighams*

1777 December 20 (Saturday). Candidate

the South of *Worcester*, dines here. At night came my Son *William*.

1777 December 21 (Sunday). I preached again on Ps. 124 but this Exercise was chiefly on v. 50. Many persons at noon according to Custom flock to my House, but we are *not accommodated with Wood* to make them a Fire in the Kitchin. P.M. preached another

of my Sermons on *Job* 14.1. Which may God graciously succeed!

1777 December 22 (Monday). *Breck* sets out before Day for *Boston*.

*William* goes to *Capt. Maynards* to visit there but dines here, and p.m. he goes to *Noah Hardys* and Sells him (*Hardy*) for

23£ L.M. Mr. *Bullard* returns from [fort?] [*Beggachadge?*]

and goes I settle with my Son *William*

He takes up his note by paying me only £

For I remitt him

N.B. I delivered him Sixty Dollars of my Money which Mr. *Hardy* is to deliver me when he takes the Mare which he has bought of *William*

1777 December 23 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Dolly Rice* makes us a Visit

shop. Mr. *Noah Hardy* is here: gives a Note of Hand to my son *William* for 23£ L.M. for his Mare; which Note is lodged with me, *Billy* have gone home early in the morning: but thus it happens that I do not receive the 60 Dollars [aforesaid?] instead of those which I lent *Billy* last Eve. *Harrington* brings some Pine.

1777 December 24 (Wednesday). Old Mr. *Richard Barns* wants to be married to Miss *Jemima Maynard*; and they unhappily need to be. I married them in my Study, by reason of Strangers below. *Suse, Elias* etc. were present. *Breck* returned from *Boston*. I had sent a Sum of Money to be changed by the Treasurer, but unhappily an Eight Dollar Bill comes back as being Counterfeit. What I received from the Treasurer was a Note of 10£ 14 shs. signed by *Henry Gardner*.

1777 December 25 (Thursday). I went up to Deacon *Woods*, *Capt. [Fishers?]* and Mr.

at the first visit the Wife of Mr. at the

received *John Woods* of *Connecticut*

viz. Mr. *Newtons* I visited the Wife of Mr. *Graves*

At Eve came my Son *Forbes* from *Cape Ann* lodged here

1777 December 26 (Friday). Breakfast with Mr. *Forbes* He goes to

Sorrowful Accounts of our Continental Soldiers [sufferings?]

for want of shoes, stockings etc.

1777 December 27 (Saturday). *Elias* is forced to go to the Lot

picks out and brings home a Load of Maple

1777 December 28 (Sunday). Stormy, Snow etc. Few at Meeting. Preached again

on

2-8 Master Fish dined here and dined in the Study

people who themselves Dining Room

P.M. I went on with the Discourse concerning *Afflictions* -- but used, for a Text, Ps. 34.11, former part. N.B. Mr. Sick of a Fever and Prayed for.

1777 December 29 (Monday). So very Cold I could not go to Mr. *Beetons*, Yet Mr. *B. Bradshaw* is journeying to *Boston*. He came from *Shrewsbury* this morning to Breakfast here, and tarrys to dine with us, *Molly Pratt* came to spin, and is to live a while here.

1777 December 30 (Tuesday). It being more moderate, I rode over to Visit Capt. *Maynard* and his Family, they have been exercised with sickness, with the Meazles, a number of them and *Geoffry* falls into a *Waste*. I dined there. Capt. tells me that Brother *Smith* of *Marlborough* has moved with his Goods to P.M. Visit Mrs. *Beeton* and prayed with her. *Elias* went to the Ministerial Lot, and Mr. *Caleb Harrington* to help him. They bring home a Load of Wood. *Deacon Wood* brings a large Load; as does Lt. *Harrington* -- both of their Wood. I am reading Dr. *Robinsons* well writ History of *Scotland*. *James Hicks* is exceedingly exercised with chapped Feet and Hands.

1777 December 31 (Wednesday). *Ebenezer* junior and *Daniel Chamberlain* bring Two Load of their own Wood.

Mr. *Jonathan Child* here -- brings a Spare Rib -- a great Rarity.

Through the Patience and Longsuffering of God I have arrived at the Conclusion of another Year! Blessed be His glorious Name for all His Goodness. May the various Providences, Changes, [Disquietments?], Losses, I have been exercised by in the Course of this year, be sanctified to me and mine! And O may I be prepared for the Day, the Hour, which is to Close my Life!