

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1780

1780 January 1 (Saturday). If I have heretofore had great Cause to bless and praise the Name of God for his Wonderful Mercy and Goodness in my and my Families' Preservation, What have I now! to be permitted to begin a New Year. I would celebrate His Praises, with all Hearty Gratitude. And in Special in so difficult a Season, of so Much cold and Snow and tedious stirring, I am favoured in divine Providence, with the Necessarys and so many of the Comforts of Life. But in peculiar for the protracting the Day and Means of Grace, and the blessed Influences of the Holy Spirit. I would magnifie the Lord and hope in His Salvation.

People are chiefly employed in making Roads, providing for the Fires, taking Care of Cattle, etc. But the Lord pittty the poor and exposed!

1780 January 2 (Sunday). Exceeding Difficult getting to Meeting. A.M. I went on with the discourse on the Everlastingness of God, begun on the last Year first Sabbath, from Ps. XC.2. Master Hazzletine dined here. P.M. I repeated part of Disc. on Ps. 39.4. O that God would awaken us, and teach us to profit hereby! At night, another Snow storm.

1780 January 3 (Monday). The Storm is very severe, much more snow has fallen. It was higher than the Red Fence before my House by the Storm last week: it is now higher, and the Front Gate is not to be seen.

1780 January 4 (Tuesday). God has his Treasures of Snow and Hail and Wind. POWER belongeth unto GOD! How distressing to the Poor! Read Biographical Dictionary, Cicero, etc.

1780 January 5 (Wednesday). Through Divine Favour this was a bright, pleasant Day. Both my Sons and my Steers join with a number of the Street Neighbors with Cattle and Shovels to break the Roads. Tis difficult to compute the Heighth or Depth of it. I am almost ready to conclude that there has not been so much Snow upon the Ground at a Time ever since the GREAT STORM in year 1717.

1780 January 6 (Thursday). The great God has his Treasurers of Snow and has supreme Command of all the Meteors. It is very stormy again, and the Snow deeper, and though the Sun was visible a little while in the p.m., yet it was soon clouded, and the Storm rages at night.

1780 January 7 (Friday). An astonishing morning -- for the dreadful Storm rather increases. Besides the snowing and blowing with violence the cold is very intense. This is thought to be the most tedious of any that has come hitherto. May God most compassionate pity and relieve me, and also support and provide for the poor! Who can stand before Thy Cold! N.B. All the Pains taken about breaking Roads, in great Measure frustrated. Very few persons can stir abroad at all.

1780 January 8 (Saturday). Hardly ever was the Sun more welcome -- but yet the cold is so Sharp and the Wind so high, it is very difficult to undergo the Hardships we are called to. But

what becomes of the poor who have not the Favors which through the great goodness of God I enjoy!

1780 January 9 (Sunday). Though I had prepared an exercise, and it was a long one, yet it not being calculated for the Season, I did not use it. I was in Doubt whether there would a Meeting. But a few came upon Racketts: and I repeated what remained from last Sabbath's Entertainment upon Ps. 39.4 a. and p.m. for I was obliged for my own Sake and for the Sake of the People to be exceeding brief. A number of men came to my kitchen at noon, and I shortened the Intermission. Mr. D. Forbes is extremely bad, and desires Continuance of Prayers. At eve I read to the Family part of Mr. Shepherd's Doubting Christian drawn to Christ, in my study the Life of Susanna, Countess of Suffolk.

1780 January 10 (Monday). The Life of Mr. Daniel Forbes is much doubted of, but I cant get to him by reason of the deep snow, and difficult stirring. I am chiefly reading lives of eminent Persons.

1780 January 11 (Tuesday). Mr. Forbes still alive, but no Horse can go in the deep snow, but I have no Racketts nor Strength to go far, as to visit him. Send my Love and Sympathy by those who (eight of them) draw on an Hand Sled his two Daughters Forbush and Bond to see him before he dies. My Heart is much with him, and to God for him. Mr. Hannaniah Parker returning from him comes in at eve to let me know he is yet alive, though with signs as they think of Death upon him. May it please God to be almightily present with him! His Brother Fisk has been on Racketts there.

1780 January 12 (Wednesday). Fair, but too rough and severe for me to go abroad, and therefore cant visit Mr. Forbes, who I hear is yet alive. Read the lives of several remarkable persons, particularly in Biogr. the Life of Oliver Cromwell, and in Clark's Lives, the Life of Rev. Mr. Vine. Elias reads Earl of Chesterfield.

1780 January 13 (Thursday). A very cold day -- we think the severest of any that has come. May God almighty support us through these Extremities! but especially the poor and destitute! P.M. Mr. Elisha Forbes came and informed that his Father was dead! that he expired last evening about 8 o'clock. He was 69 years old last October. It was conceived that his Distemper was bilious: had his senses to the last, and was calmly resigned to the Sovereign Will of God. The Funeral proposed to be tomorrow, and he, Elisha, will take effectual Care of my comfortable Transportation.

1780 January 14 (Friday). Squire Baker and two or three hands with him, which soon increased to half a dozen, drew me on a sled to the House of Mourning. It was sharp cold, the Wind piercing, the sled goes over the Tops of Walls and Fences. Though it was very difficult to get there, yet there were many People -- as it is said by them that were with him most he dyed happily; so he was buried honourably, and great Respect shown to his Remains. May God graciously Support the Widow, who solidly mourns the Loss; may the Fatherless find Mercy with Him that was their Father's God. Mr. Forbes has left, of Children, Grandchildren, and one

Great grandchild, about 60. His Brother, his Sister, his oldest Son were not could none of them be notified and therefore were absent. There were so many Persons with Snow Shoes that there was a good Path and the Corps was carried on a Bier, on Men's Shoulders. I was drawn by a number of Rackettmen, in a very handsome Sleigh, with the Widow, Mrs. Abigail Forbush, and his sister, Mrs. Daniel Bond. It was too tedious for me to stay at the Grave. I came away before the Coffin was let down -- by that time I got to Breck's Store, I was nigh overcome, by one means and another. The Mourners, Bearers etc. came to my House, to hear the Will. Dr. Hawes read it. At request, I in the Evening wrote a Letter to Mr. Forbes of Gloucester. I wish ardently that I may truly profit by the Providence! Elias finishes the first Vol. of Earl of Chesterfield's Letters.

1780 January 15 (Saturday). It holds an uncommon cold, difficult season.

1780 January 16 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on Zech. 6.13. P.M. on Ps. 92.12 and mentioned the Death of Mr. Daniel Forbes, with some short character of him. N.B. The Widow Forbes, Mr. John Forbes of Otter Creek and Master Hazzletine, dined here; as did Breck and his family: also Mr. Winslow Brigham. May God graciously add his Blessing! Breck etc. attended here in the Evening.

1780 January 17 (Monday). I am reading the Life and Letters of Philip Dormer Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield. The Letters to his son Philip Stanhope Esq. Deacon Wood here with a Spare Rib.

1780 January 18 (Tuesday). As no Team of Oxen or Horses can pass, people are obliged to go to Mill with Hand Sleds. Elias went today with a Bushel of Indian.

1780 January 19 (Wednesday). Mr. Timothy Parker, his Wife and Child came a while ago in a Sleigh from Templeton, to visit their Friends here, but are not able to go back, except himself, who returns on Racketts. His wife and her sisters Newton and Wheelock visit at Breck's and I was desired to drink Tea with them.

1780 January 20 (Thursday). Elias goes again to Mill and Breck with him and carry of Rye Indian and Oats, Six Bushel. Mr. Eli Harrington of [Alstad?] makes me a long Visit. He dines here. Discourse of Church Covenant and Church Government etc.

1780 January 21 (Friday). Mr. Solomon Batherick and his Brother came and killed my principal Hog, which weighed 190. I read in Capt. Bell's and Mr. De Lange's Travels to Ispahan, Peking, [Derbeni?] and Constantinople and finished the second Vol. of that work.

1780 January 22 (Saturday). Elias goes on Racketts to Mr. Gershom Brigham's. A newspaper of Dec. 30 is the Last.

1780 January 23 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on Zech. 6.13. P.M. on Ps. 92.13.14.15. Ephraim Parker dined here. A considerable Congregation, though very cold.

1780 January 24 (Monday). An urgent message from Mr. Antipas Brigham to go to Capt. Edmund Brigham's, with request to marry him. I went, but with great Difficulty, by reason of the deep snow. My sons Breck and Elias drew me on a light sled as far as Mr. Haskill's, nigh which a number of young men, Brighams accompanied me on foot to the House, where I performed the Solemnity. After the Supper they brought me to Mr. Gale's, who kindly obliged me to lodge there. Mr. G. Andrews there and invites me to dine tomorrow.

1780 January 24 (Monday). [There are two entries for January 24.] Mr. Gale and his wife, also Capt. Edmund accompanying me to Mr. Andrews, where I was kindly rec'd and entertained. Capt. Brigham and Mr. Gale went to Deacon Woods, on an Arbitration. The Subject was a Difference between Mr. Pierce and Mr. Joseph Smith, both Blacksmiths, where many are assembled to hear William Stearns of Worcester, Esq. advocate for Smith. N.B. Mr. Andrews waited upon me home. By the way visit old Lieut. Forbush.

1780 January 25 (Tuesday). Elias leaves his Studys and helps those who are breaking the Roads with a yoke of Cattle. I read Lord Chesterfield's Letters.

1780 January 26 (Wednesday). Squire Baker is so engaged in breaking Roads that he has got Elias and a yoke of my Cattle, on the Road again. Ephraim Parker being at work for me in dressing Flax for me, brings in a quantity of it on a Pole and hangs it before the Fire to drie it. I had a good deal of Reluctance at it, remembering that Capt. Gouge's House at Hopkinton was, some years ago, burn't down by Flax taking Fire.

1780 January 27 (Thursday). As the Flax aforesaid hung before the Fire, notwithstanding the Distance it was placed at, a Coal was snapped out from the Fire, and began immediately to burn in it, which had it occurred last night, while we Slept, what would have been the Event! All hearty Thanks to our great Preserver! Elias is gone again with the Cattle today to break and shovel the Road. Mr. Andrews and Mr. Gale, generous to them, have got to the crotch of the Road, below Mr. William Wood's. The northern Neighbors have tried to plough their Road today. I read Lord Chesterfield's Letters.

1780 January 28 (Friday). The latter part of this was the most remarkable Cold Day that we have had (as every body is free to allow) and Elias goes again with Squire Baker, and drives two pair of my Steers, to breaking the Road down to Taplin's in Southborough; The evening and night were so extremely severe that I was much concerned for him till he returned; and did survive though he had been in Danger of being overcome with Cold and Fatigue. N.B. Miss Mary Bradish came p.m. and lodged here.

1780 January 29 (Saturday). The morning was the most severe and sharp. Elias thinks some of his Limbs are froze, but (God be thanked) he is about with usual Currency.

1780 January 30 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on Zech. VI.14.15. P.M. on Joh. 18.18 with some Alterations and Additions. May God bless His Word to us! At Eve, read Fleming's Confirming Work of Religion.

1780 January 31 (Monday). Read in Fleming and Chesterfield's Letters. Mr. Nathan Maynard borrows several of Mr. Prince's Sermons. Hear that Sue Bimeleck was lately frozen to Death. This whole month has been Cold to admiration. We have scarce ever known its Equal. The Cold of this Day is to high Degree of Extremity. May God Almighty sustain and support us, protect and supply us, and extend Compassion to all the Indigent, the aged and the Exposed!

1780 February 1 (Tuesday). I am reading Lord Chesterfield's Letters. I highly prize some of them. They shew him to be a man of very extensive Learning and Sagacity. Read Mr. Isaac Foster's sermon on Luke 2.14 delivered at New Salem June 9 last at the Ordination of Mr. Joel Foster. P.M. I went to Mr. B. Newton's -- reckoned and paid all by a note to Constable John Harrington. Was at Capt. Fisher's, at Mr. Graves and Nichols. Mrs. P. was at Deacon Wood's, where I drank Tea. We walked on the Top of the Snow, which was many times as high as the Top of the Fence.

1780 January 9 (Sunday). Though I had prepared an exercise, and it was a long one, yet it not being calculated for the Season, I did not use it. I was in Doubt whether there would a Meeting. But a few came upon Racketts: and I repeated what remained from last Sabbath's Entertainment upon Ps. 39.4 a. and p.m. for I was obliged for my own Sake and for the Sake of the People to be exceeding brief. A number of men came to my kitchen at noon, and I shortened the Intermission. Mr. D. Forbes is extremely bad, and desires Continuance of Prayers. At eve I read to the Family part of Mr. Shepherd's Doubting Christian drawn to Christ, in my study the Life of Susanna, Countess of Suffolk.

1780 February 3 (Thursday). I walked over to see old Mrs. Kelly and prayed with her -- dined there (at Mr. Beeton's). Called at Mr. Ebenezer Maynard's and at old Mr. Pratt's. At my return here was Lieut. Marble. Mrs. Lambson etc. who drank Tea here. N.B. Breck to Boston -- gave him 126 Dollars towards an Hatt for Elias. Sent by him a letter to Mr. Quincy to be left at Mr. Pattins for Conveyance.

1780 February 4 (Friday). Not very well after my yesterday's Walk. The Calves of my Leggs were sore, and was indisposed in Body.

1780 February 5 (Saturday). My Indisposition increases. Hear that Mr. David Goodall and his Wife were come from Athol, and passed by to Capt. Maynard's yesterday. He has been to Otter Creek, and relates that Enemies have come upon a Town there (Soby) and destroyed it. He is going to Marlborough, his Father being dyed lately.

1780 February 6 (Sunday). I was much indisposed still both last night and today. N.B. I was in my preaching a.m. I was very unable to see what I had written in my Notes, by reason of the Lines appearing in Rinkles. I carried no Spectacles -- borrowed Deacon Wood's, but to no purpose. I was able to give some account of what I had prepared, though not Verbatim. After a while could see more distinctly, preached on Zech. VI.15. Breck and his Family dined with us. So did Mrs. Maynard and her son Brigham. Have head the sorrowful news of the Death of our

Brother of the Association -- the Rev. Thomas Goss of Bolton by a Fever. The Lord sanctifie this Providence to me, to the mournful Widow, the bereaved Children, to the Association of which he was a Member, but especially the Church of which he was Pastor, and to the whole people of Bolton! That now they may be directed into methods of Peace, and the new Church especially may be wholly settled and edified. P.M. I preached on Ps. 55.22, former part (which I delivered in Oct. 1773), now to the end of page 8. Which may God graciously succeed! In the evening Exercise, Breck read Fleming's Confirming Work.

1780 February 7 (Monday). Several young Women, viz. Lucy Maynard and Anna Fay, hired by Mrs. P. to spin, came here for this week, came duly. P.M. Mr. Jonathan Forbes brought a Cheese etc. and made me a Visit. At evening Ephraim Parker borrows the History of human Nature etc. Advises concerning the sowing my Island with Clover etc.

1780 February 8 (Tuesday). Providence further frowns upon us in sending another snowstorm, which covers the Rackett Tracks and fills the Roads again. Mr. Elisha Forbes dines here, and spends most of the Afternoon -- will endeavor to provide me some Quantity of Hay seed. I read Chesterfield's Letters.

1780 February 9 (Wednesday). Elias goes with Breck and others to break the Roads to Southborough. Mr. Daniel Forbes from Brookfield, Mr. Isaac Pratt of Hardwick. N.B. I am troubled that Elias should so readily leave his Books to join with them whose Gain and Interest prompted to clear the roads for their Teams to be going again, seeing that he could have no great Inducement, but Benevolence, public Spirit etc. which had been sufficiently served by five times before now, exposing himself in Cold and Dangers by Night and by Day in this work and all of it Gratis. This Sixth Time, when his own Time is so extremely precious in which he has so much to read and write before he can be fit to return to his College Exercises again. And yet this is not the most trying. He is planning an unseasonable journey to Cambridge to fetch a Table from thence; now at the very Day when the Vacancy is finished, and he should go to stay there, the rather because he has been absent from the Recitations so long, that he ought to be one of the first that returns at this Term. He proposes also to go and return incog. presuming that the Vacancy is prolonged by reason of the difficult stirring and enormous price of wood.

1780 February 10 (Thursday). The plan for going to Cambridge is so ripened that I can't defeat it. The affair is chiefly Breck's, who loads a sleigh with Grain etc. and loads up with Rum -- has provided two Horses as well as the Sleigh. And his Brother Josiah Brigham was to go down to Watertown therewith, but Elias is so urgent to undertake it, and has already agreed to go with David Fay, who is going likewise, that this morning to my no small Disquietment, sat out. Master Hazletine dined with us. P.M. Elias returns, not being able to proceed on his Journey.

1780 February 11 (Friday). [No entry.]

1780 February 12 (Saturday). P.M. Am called from my study to visit old Mrs. Baker. (Mr. Andrews takes me into a double Sleigh with his wife and with Capt. Jonas Brigham's Wife, who

are going also to see their Mother.) She was very dangerously ill of an Asthma. Discoursed and prayed with her.

1780 February 13 (Sunday). A.M. on Ps. 92.15. P.M. used notes on Ps. 55.22 from page 9 to bottom of page 13. After meeting at eve, Squire Baker sent his Sleigh for me. Mrs. P. and I went up to his Mother. Examined and prayed with her. We returned in the Sleigh safely.

1780 February 14 (Monday). Elias rides in a Sleigh to Cambridge. P.M. Mr. Hazeltine makes me a visit and returns Edward's on Original Sin, the three pamphlets he borrowed. He now borrows Bishop Cambrey on the Divine Existence. Breck invites us to Coffee at the Shop and we complied. Read Lord Chesterfield.

1780 February 15 (Tuesday). Walked to Mr. Nurse's on various small Affairs. The air is exceeding thick. P.M. it rains, the snow wastes. I finish Lord Chesterfield's first volume. Many admirable Excellencies in these Letters, and they evidence him a Man of great Understanding, extensive Reading and accurate Taste, and yet too extremely indulgent to his Son's Pleasures -- throws him into dangers that it must be a Miracle if he escapes. And what affectionate wise, pious Parent could find in his Heart to take such pains to breed him to be a Man of this World, to the so shameful neglect and Inattention to another! notwithstanding all the Care of his Religion devolved upon his Preceptor; who he ought at least to have seconded. At eve a Storm of Wind and Rain which beat vehemently, yet unexpectedly Elias came home from Cambridge, brought Rum for Breck and a valuable, though old fashioned chamber Table, with large slate in the Middle, for himself. He got through the Storm with great Difficulty.

1780 February 16 (Wednesday). A fine day after such a violent Storm. The Snow is much sunk, but it is so pervaded by the Rain that the Creatures slump very deep, and no Horse can pass the Road. I begin to read Lord Chesterfield's 2nd Vol. I am called away to visit old Mrs. Baker. Two young men Enoch Greenwood and John Baker draw me on a Sled to the House. She is very low and in great Distress for want of Breath. She is able to say but very little. I at her request prayed with her. The same young men brought me home. May God prepare me for my own Turn!

1780 February 17 (Thursday). Mrs. Baker expired last eve a little after I left her. May God grant His Omnipotent Grace to Survivors! Mr. Sam'l Harrington of New Braintree here. Mrs. P. and I dined at Breck's. Our lowest and best well has been, ever since the great Storm, froze up and filled with Snow that we have not been able to use it, till today, when we got it open.

1780 February 18 (Friday). Closely engaged in preparing a Discourse on 1 Thes. 4.13. At eve Squire Baker here and desires me to attend the Funeral tomorrow.

1780 February 19 (Saturday). Squire sent a Sleigh for me to go to his House. Mrs. P., Sophy, Suse with her child, and little Suse of Concord rode with me, to the House of Mourning. I prayed at the Solemnity. N.B. Breck, Elias, Josiah Brigham, the two Williams (Winchester and Spring) there. Rev. Bowman and his Wife came after prayer. I did not go in to the Burying

place. I could not *comfortably*, especially stand on the snow. I came home. Breck and his Family dined with us. P.M. Pursued my preparations.

1780 February 20 (Sunday). Rev. Mr. Bowman, who attended the Funeral yesterday, came in the morning to my Assistance. In the Assembly, I prayed first, Mr. B. preached a.m. on Phil. 4.11. P.M. he both prayed and preached. His text was Matt. VII.24-27. At eve, he repeated the latter sermon, but did not lodge here, he returned to his spouse at Squire Bakers. At dinner were poor Deacon Miles and Master Hazzletine. May God graciously awaken and quicken us!

1780 February 21 (Monday). Elias went with me in the Sleigh to visit aged Mr. James Maynard, who being weak and decaying, desired Prayers yesterday -- found him better and conversible -- was not asked to pray. I went in to Amasa's. N.B. Though Amasa has kept House above twenty years, yet had never lift up his Hand for Minister's Sallery. At eve, came William's brother Jonathan from Ashburnham, and brought him Shirts and Frock and Shooes and Stockings etc. He lodges here. Mr. Bowman and his Lady made us an evening Visit. N.B. His people make very little provision for him.

1780 February 22 (Tuesday). Mr. Winchester went from us intending as far as Lancaster. N.B. Josiah Brigham is gone for Breck to Boston in the Sleigh. But today it is very difficult passing by reason that the snow is exceeding soft. It is foul weather p.m. The rain spoils travelling.

1780 February 22 [*sic*]. Yesterday and today Chesterfield's Letters.

1780 February 23 (Wednesday). Very bad Travelling. Josiah Brigham with difficulty gets home.

1780 February 24 (Thursday). Mrs. Lamson (wife of Mr. Thomas) comes to work on Elias's Cloths. Mr. Hez. Taylor of New Fane makes a visit and dines with us. Capt. Morse came in to see me.

1780 February 25 (Friday). Mr. Buckminster and his Brother Col. William call here. N.B. Mr. B. owns to me that he is the Author of the Letter which is advertised to be printed. He tells me also that in his Paraphrase on Romans 10.4, p. 13 by "another in his Neighborhood" he means Mr. Mellen of Chauxit, in his large Book, on Justification. My Daughter in-law receives a young Cow which her Father Brigham gives her. She is put into my Barn to be kept.

1780 February 26 (Saturday). Mrs. Lamson about 3 p.m. attempts to go home, but the rain prevailed so that she turned back and tarrys with us.

1780 February 27 (Sunday). A.M. Delivered the remainder on Ps. 55.22. P.M. on 1 Thes. 4.13-14 and prepared on the Occasion of the Death of Mrs. Persis Baker. Mr. Hazeltine and Mrs. Lambson dined here. She went home after Meeting. N.B. My son Breck not well. A Letter from Alix, dated the 18th. He writes of the Birth of a little Daughter on Nov. 16 last.

1780 February 28 (Monday). Old Mr. Jonah Warren dyed about 10 a.m. I wrote by Mr. Levi Brigham of Fitz-William to my son Alexander. I read part of Lord Chesterfield. My son Breck grows worse. At eve came Master Hazeltine and lodges here. Anna Fay begins to learn to write.

1780 February 29 (Tuesday). I have spent time in reading Lord Chesterfield and cant but take notice again that a Father with so much Learning and Sensibility has so little to say to a Son in whom his Soul is so bound up, about Religion and the Eternal Condition of his immortal part. As much pleasure of mind as I feel for my son Elias's Education and Settlement in the World or Serviceableness in his Generation, yet I have (I think) quite other Solitude about his most inestimable Interest, that of his Soul, and his Condition in another, an unchangeable State in another world. And O that God would grant him, and each of my dear Children His renewing and sanctifying Spirit! Breck removes to lodge here, Suse and the Children also. Miss Polly Howard makes us a visit and tarrys with us. We have now a pritty round Family, of the whole.

1780 March 1 (Wednesday). Notwithstanding the Rain and very difficult travelling, I went a.m. to the Funeral of old Mr. Jonah Warren, who expired in the Eighty [*blank*] year of his age. Many people attended. I prayed -- ventured to come home on foot. The Snow and Ice made it dangerous to ride. Breck is somewhat better. At night he grew worse. My Family and his united are 14. The Harvard Vacancy is up today; but the weather rough and Roads very bad. Elias cannot go to Cambridge.

1780 March 2 (Thursday). Am engaged in my preparations for the Sabbath. Breck is recovering. D.G.

1780 March 3 (Friday). Miss Polly Howard goes to Capt. Maynard's. Breck goes to his Shop.

1780 March 4 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 March 5 (Sunday). On 1 Thes. 4.14, on occasion of the Death of old Mr. Jonah Warrin. Cousin Maynard, Misses Brigham (as well as Breck and his Family) fill our Dining Board. P.M. repeated on 2 Tim. 3.7 to page 9 bottom. Cousin Maynard lodges here. N.B. Rec'd a Letter from Mr. Quincy by Mr. Thomas Whitney, dated Feb. 12.

1780 March 6 (Monday). Town Meeting. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard and Dr. Hawes came to me with the Town's Request to go to the Meeting House and pray with them. I went, prayed and add a few words of address to them, but no word concerning my own Case. Mrs. Maynard and her son (Master Samuel) dine with us and at eve a number of young Scholars, Hazeltine, Sam'l Brigham.

1780 March 7 (Tuesday). Mrs. Maynard and her son went home.

1780 March 8 (Wednesday). Breck, Suse and the Child moved back to their Home. Read Lord Chesterfield. At night, Pearson on the Subject I am preparing upon for the next Lord's Day.

1780 March 9 (Thursday). Mr. Thad Warrin came and killed two Piggs for me, both of them weighed 226. P.M. at Mr. Stockwell's Desire I rode down to Mr. Tim. Warrin's. Elias went with me to drive the Sleigh. I married Stephen Belknap to Eunice Warrin and supped there. Elias went for me again at evening -- and we returned safely, notwithstanding the badness of the way -- the Horse breaking in to the Snow banks, oftentimes and the Sleigh tossing uncomfortably, being also in the Rain. N.B. A number of Westborough combine to take again the Worcester News.

1780 March 10 (Friday). I agree with Breck to pay half the Price of Thursday's Worcester paper. Anna Fay goes home, though the weather is bad.

1780 March 11 (Saturday). The weather is still so rough and the roads so unfit for Travel, Elias remains at home, to my great Regret -- but it cant be helped. I desire to resign the whole matter to the Divine Providence.

1780 March 12 (Sunday). Preached again on 1 Thes. 4.14 -- "and rose again." P.M. went on with 2 Tim. 3.7 to the end of page 16, which may a Divine Blessing accompany! It was so great a Storm of Snow and Rain that there were but few at meeting -- especially in the afternoon.

1780 March 13 (Monday). Adjournment of Town Meeting. N.B. A sad Contest between Mr. Benj. Fay and Col. Wheelock, about a Chestnut Tree, cut down by the latter in the Time of the late Extremity for Wood. Anna Fay again.

1780 March 14 (Tuesday). We are much reduced as to wood, but the Weather is still too cold to be indifferent about it. No going to the Ministerial Lot. Elias goes to sundry places, and gets Hay seed to sow the Fields at the Island.

1780 March 15 (Wednesday). Elias Sows Hay Seed upon the Snow. Col. Brigham's Daughters Mindwell and Anna come up in the morning on the Snow and lodge here. Elias prepares to go to Cambridge tomorrow. I wrote to the president -- to Mr. Quincy -- to my son William.

1780 March 16 (Thursday). Elias depended upon Mr. Elisha Parker to go to Boston and in returning to bring up our Horse: but by Parker not going, Elias is disappointed and does not go. I finished reading Lord Chesterfield's Letters, but the Miscel. no farther than page 578. We have such another Winter by the Storm of Snow, which came today as makes us think of the Value of Wood, and pity such as are destitute.

1780 March 17 (Friday). Mr. Nathan Maynard junior and Mr. Isaac Parker brought Wood. Two loads apiece. Elias p.m. got Hay Seed at Mr. Batherick's, several Baggs: which William sowed at the Island.

1780 March 18 (Saturday). Mr. Moses Nurse brings a load of Wood for Mr. Maynard. N.B. The Measuring of Wood has been chiefly performed by Elias, and sometimes by Breck at the Shop.

Mr. Amos Parker here. He relates what occurred last Tuesday at North Shrewsbury by the deliriousness of Mr. Gershom Flagg, who did mischief at Mr. Fairbank's new erected House, but chiefly at the Meeting House. Mr. Parker speaks also of the Drowning of several men attempting to pass over Merrimack River.

1780 March 19 (Sunday). Preached on 1 Thes. 4.14 and p.m. on 2 Tim. 4.7 which may God bless. N.B. I read today Zech. 7. P.M. I did not read, but we sung twice, began the 119th Psalm.

1780 March 20 (Monday). Elias is still disappointed of going to Cambridge. P.M. I rode to Squire Baker's. He gave me (as I understood him) the Tallow I wanted of him. I was too destitute of common money, and therefore went to the Treasurer Newton for Supply -- but there was none for me: but he offered to lend me an hundred pounds of his own Money. I was at Deacon Wood's -- am grieved at its being such a Seat of Lazy Typlers. N.B. I returned by Dr. Hawes, W. R. Cranch's Biog. Univ.

1780 March 21 (Tuesday). N.B. I delivered to Elias Four Hundred Dollars of which one hundred and seventy-six from my own Desk and borrowed 224 Dollars of my Son Breck. Breck goes for Boston. Sent by him to Mr. Quincy and to my kinswoman, Mrs. Eliz. Bradford. Elias on Mr. Elisha Forbes' horse to Cambridge, and by him I sent to the President, and to my Son William at Concord. I borrowed 20£ of Money of Mr. Barney Newton, Treasurer, which he must have again from the Constable when he can gather it of the People.

1780 March 22 (Wednesday). Gave Mrs. P_____ 33 Dollars to pay Miss Lucy Maynard. Mr. Stone came -- dined -- preached my Lecture, on Isa. 53.6, tarried over night. N.B. We read a Narrative of the Journal and discoverys of two of General Gage's Officers, when reconnoitring the Roads and as far as Worcester -- previous to Lexington Fight.

1780 March 23 (Thursday). Mr. Stone and I walked up to Squire Baker's to the stones and to see 4 great Oxen, of uncommon Bigness and Fatness. Mr. Stone returned home. Breck returned before night -- brought two letters from Mr. Forbes to me. One from Mrs. Rebecca Wetmore at London to Mr. William Spring. One also from Mr. Thomas Barrett of Cambridge to Miss Lydia Champney, which relates the Death of her Brother, Mr. Samuel Champney, Feb'y 3rd last. Breck brought also a present of a Barcelona Handkerchief to his Mother from Samuel and another from the same to Sophy, and another from the same to Suse. I perceive that he gave 50 Dollars apiece for them.

1780 March 24 (Friday). Breck unhappily brought back the Letter I wrote to my son William, about Wood for Elias. I wrote another, but know of no conveyance. It is so rugged Weather that I am much afraid Elias will be put to Difficulty, and he obliged to buy at the excessive Cambridge price.

1780 March 25 (Saturday). Mr. Nathan Maynard junior brought one load of Wood, which my son Breck measured, and says is 77 feet. But inasmuch as (to deal rightly) several loads of late

have been of exceeding crooked wood, and this today has such a quantity of small wood I told my son I would be glad to have more allowance made on those accounts.

1780 March 26 (Sunday). Preached again on 1 Thes. 4.14 and read the verses following. I administered the Lord's Supper. O that it might be accepted through the Merits and Intercession of Jesus Christ. Old Mrs. Green dined with us. P.M. I went on with the subject from 2 Tim. 3.7. From page 23 to page 29, which may God graciously own and bless! In the eve read part of Mr. Henry on Due Return from the Lord's Table.

1780 March 27 (Monday). Dr. Crosby came in to see me. He is about selling part of his place in Shrewsbury, viz, His Buildings, and about 60 acres of his Land, to old Mr. Rider. William Winchester remains much unwell. I was obliged to get Josiah Brigham to tend my Cattle in the Morning. Breck has received two Letters from Mr. Moore.

1780 March 28 (Tuesday). Josiah Brigham goes to Boston. I write and send by him to Mr. Moore and also to Elias at College. John Barrett of Hopkinton came to see me -- dines here. His ardency is still to go to College. He is now desirous to go to that at Dartmouth. He borrows two pamphlets of Mr. Hutchinson's Sermons. William Winchester still complains of much Indisposition, yet has been to the Barn.

1780 March 29 (Wednesday). William grows worse, takes physic of Dr. Stimson, who called to see us and dines here. P.M. Mrs. P_____ to Harrington's. Suse goes to her Fathers, Breck takes care of the Cattle for me. Eph. Parker was here at Evening. I try to have him live here, but I cant succeed. N.B. Mr. Nathan Maynard junior and Lieut. Bond, bring so much Wood as compleats (as they, Maynard and Breck say) Maynard's Ten cord, so that I gave a Receipt for it.

1780 March 30 (Thursday). Parker came to work on our Flax, but found it not rotted sufficient, therefore breaks off and returns. Mr. Abr. Holland here and gives me a more perfect Account of Mr. Gershom Flagg's Frenzy. We cant but remark how uncommon the Cold has been and continued.

1780 March 31 (Friday). Dr. Stimson came from Sutton and returns to Hopkinton -- dines here; he gives William Winchester a Vomit, which works well, but he remains sick and exercised with Pain, in both Head and Stomach. The months flie apace! May I have a due sense of my own hastening hence!

1780 April 1 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 April 2 (Sunday). Preached on 2 Thes. 4.15-16. Mrs. Beeton dined with us. P.M. on 2 Tim. 3.7, and finished the Discourse except the Additions. O that I might be duly affected myself with what was delivered! At eve Breck and his attended the Repetition etc.

1780 April 3 (Monday). Went to Mr. Nurse's and Mr. Thad. Warrin's -- to bespeak Spring and Summer Work, but the Earth is as yet partly covered with snow, and where it is open, is froze.

P.M. Col. Brigham here upon an important errand in behalf of his Son Elijah, with regard to Sophy -- which I gave my Consent to.

1780 April 4 (Tuesday). Preached at Deacon Woods on Eccl. 12.13. There was a considerable Assembly. Mr. Knight and Mr. O'Donald of Boston were there, and I had an Opportunity of conversing with both after Meeting. Col. Baldwin and his son Isaac, also my grandson, Thomas P. A Letter by them from my dear Ebenezer, dated Morris Town State of New York, March 10, 1780, when he was well, though he had endured Hardships, and suffered by cold, lying on the Ground. They lodge here and have three Horses.

1780 April 5 (Wednesday). Col. etc. leave us to go to Cambridge. My son Breck undertakes a long, circular, difficult Journey, to Bridgewater, Boston etc. Very much perplexed with a flock of Sheep belonging to Dr. Hawes, daily feeding on the Rye at the Island. Stephen Maynard who has the Care of the Doctor's Affairs here in the Evening to tell me that he could not take Care of the Doctor's Sheep, being in preparation to go to Market.

1780 April 6 (Thursday). Disappointed of Help to repair my Island Fence, and therefore those Sheep are in again upon my Rye. Young Winchester is poorly -- pain in his Hip is his principal Complaint, but oftentimes in his Head.

1780 April 7 (Friday). Mr. Thad. Warrin works for me, mending my Island Fence, and Fences before the Meeting House. A Letter from my son Alexander. Miss Betsey Taylor of Grafton here -- tells me Mr. Grosvenor goes sometimes to hear Mr. Henstick, the Baptist Minister: and that many others do since Mr. G. cannot preach. At eve Capt. Wood and Mr. Jonathan Fay here.

1780 April 8 (Saturday). Fresh Troubles with the Doctor Cattle and Sheep on the Rye, notwithstanding all the pains used yesterday to make the Fence Secure and strong. 4 times today. Mr. Thomas Stone here, wants the Association Records for his Father, which I gave him, and a number of Papers belonging to the Association.

1780 April 9 (Sunday). At night sent for to visit Lt. Bond's Child -- went and prayed there. It was very rainy. A.M. preached again on 1 Thes. 4.16-17. P.M. on 2 Cor. 4.1-3. O that we might grow wiser and better by all these means.

1780 April 10 (Monday). Deacon Wood came to acquaint me that there was at his House an Indian in Gentleman's Habit, who was a Scholar and Preacher from Dartmouth Coll. I sent for him -- he came -- his name was Daniel Simon. The Brigham Scholars were well acquainted with him. His Credentials were (besides his Diploma and his name in the Catalogue) his recommendation by the President, Trustees and Tutors, License for preaching by Rev. Grafton -- Presbytery -- a Letter from president Wheelock to Rev. Mr. John Sargent of Stockbridge, and a Certificat from the Selectmen of Stockbridge. I also examined him myself. The Deacon urged he might preach in the afternoon and he would take care to notify the people. Mr. Simon was not forward, but would not deny. I could not refuse. He dined here. At 3 p.m. a Congregation

was gathered. He preached on 1 Pet. 2.7 "To them who believe, he is precious." It was a serious and Methodical Discourse, and delivered decently. I hope it was useful and profitable. A number of Scholars, who were acquainted with Mr. Simons, came in at eve to see him and he lodged here. N.B. The people made a Collection and presented him the Sum of one hundred and twenty-four Dollars. One Ebenezer Crosby came here to let himself and lodged here. N.B. Dr. Hall going to Boston calls here.

1780 April 11 (Tuesday). The Indian Preacher leaves us to go on his Journey to Stockbridge. Mr. Crosby insists for Cloths to pay for His Labour; which I not being able to engage him, he leaves me. I catechized at the Meeting House. Boys 32. Girls 17. Dr. Hawes has brought me Another Vol. of the Biographical Dictionary from Mr. Cranch. Vol. 4 Letters D and E.

1780 April 12 (Wednesday). Read Col. Ethan Allen's Narrative of his Captivity and Several Lives in Biography aforesaid, viz. Mons. and Mme. Daciers, John Daille, author of de Use Patrum, John Dee, mathematician, Conjurer etc., De Foe, Demosthenes, Thomas Dempster, noted for his remembering whatever he read, and yet commonly read 14 hours in 24.

1780 April 13 (Thursday). Mr. Jonathan Maynard brings [blank] Turns of Wood in all [blank]. Dr. Hall from Boston. N.B. General Hancock exceeding Generous to him. Col. Baldwin and Thome Parkman, Mr. Eliot, Tutor and Mr. Zechary Hicks here. These 5 last dined here. Col. Baldwin brought two letters from Elias, one of March 30th, the other April. Am informed that Mr. Samuel Williams of Bradford is chose professor instead of the late Dr. Winthrop -- that Rev. Mr. Harrington of Lancaster was married the night before last, to Mrs. Bridge of Framingham.

1780 April 14 (Friday). My kinsman (Elias Parkman of Boston) sent me a Copy of the Address of the Convention and Plan of Government. P.M. walked (on some special occasions) to Dr. Hawes. Having no man yet and young Winchester lame and infirm, my business is behind. Breck works in the Garden -- plows and hires Mr. Kenney part of the Day to renew and mend up the Garden Fence. B. sows Peas there.

1780 April 15 (Saturday). Breck and William Winchester at times in the Garden. I cannot afford any time to it, nor have I any Inclination. Josiah Brigham returns from an Excursion to purchase Cattle: he has been as far as to Fitz William and has brought two Cows, one has a Calf, t'other with Calf. They are put into my Barn to keep. Breck has now four Creatures there, his Horse and 3 cows besides the young Calf.

1780 April 16 (Sunday). A.M. on 1 Thes. 4.17-18. P.M. on 2 Cor. 4.3-4. Read a.m. Zech 9. Mr. Brigham dined here, as did Cousin Maynard. At eve Breck and his Family (as they have done frequently) came to the Repetition.

1780 April 17 (Monday). A very snowy Morning (Apr. 6 old style anno 1732 was a time of exceeding deep snow). I sent a Letter to Dr. Hawes who would go to Boston, for Elias, at College. Was at Mr. Newton's about driving young Cattle to pasture at Coi's Hill.

1780 April 18 (Tuesday). Rode to Minister's Meeting at Stow. Met Mr. Stone at Mrs. Speakman's. Borrowed of her Pope's Essay on Man, with Warburton's Notes. We called at Mr. Jonathan Loring's, and delivered him Beard's Theatre of God's Judgments which I had borrowed of him. At Mr. Newell's were Messrs. Stone, Smith, Bridge, Whitney and Biglow, and occasionally Messrs. Adams of Acton, Stearns and Allen, preachers. Mr. Mellen of Chauxit. Some debate about a Concio, whether if there be not a Concio prepared on purpose, we mayn't have a Sermon for our Christian Edification. Mr. Bridge opposes it. I asked advice about the case of Mr. Daniel Adams and his wife. Answer was to prevent its being heard in the Church till it is heard in the Civil Law, if the Woman's Complaint must be supported by her Oath. Mr. Allen prayed at the Conclusion of our Meeting. Next Meeting by divine leave to be at my House. Old Mrs. Gardner (at whose House we were) was not able to sit at Table when we dined. Mr. Stone and I rode together to Marlborough. I visited our Kinsman, Lt. Uriah Brigham, where I lodged.

1780 April 19 (Wednesday). A Storm of Rain and Snow -- but I ventured to try for Home. Sat out in the Morning under another Disadvantage, viz., the Horse lame -- got to Capt. Edmund Brigham's and dined there. Arrived safe at home about 3 p.m. All Glory to God, my Guardian at home and abroad! Am informed that Doctor's Sheep have still been troublesome.

1780 April 20 (Thursday). Mr. Nathan Kenney here and agrees (if I dont hire a man) to take my North Field to plant to the halves; and likewise to take another piece of Ground for Flax, in the like manner. I read the Conventions Address to their Constituents, with Declaration of Rights and Form of Government.

1780 April 21 (Friday). Was forced to go to Dr. Hawes on the Account of his Sheep, which were again yesterday upon my Field of Rye, and was at Neighbor Caleb Harrington's, his Hogs having done Mischief several times in my Garden, and mentioned to him my putting out my Chauncey Meadows to the halves, much interrupted and tossed in spirit by having no man to work for me, when so many different affairs to mind, in looking after my Husbandry at this Season, and Creatures to guard from transgressing.

1780 April 22 (Saturday). Mr. Eleazar Rider, who saws at the Whipple sawmill having given me Slabbs etc., Stephen Maynard in Dr. Hawes' Service, goes with my Cart and Steers, and puts in the Doctor's Steers, to the Saw-Mill, and brings a Load.

1780 April 23 (Sunday). I have for a great while thought of repeating my Sermons on Mat. 3.10, which were preached above 30 years since. I undertook it today, though with alterations and additions. N.B. Have read the Ch. publickly. At eve read a sermon of Mr. Flavell's England's Duty; on Rev. 3.20.

1780 April 24 (Monday). Mr. Hez. Maynard of Marlborough here; as was Mr. Simon How. Afterwards came Mr. Joseph Mottey, a preacher at Marlborough, with Mr. Elijah Brigham. They dined here. Mrs. P. walked to see her Cousen Maynard and tarried there. N.B. James Hopkins of Mansfield came to let himself, and he lodged here. I have made him the best Offer I could.

1780 April 25 (Tuesday). Hopkins goes to work -- uses my Steers and Deacon Wood's Oxen and Harrow and Ben Wood helps, in harrowing and getting out muck. Mrs. P _____ returns at evening. I am preparing on Zech. 7.5-7.

1780 April 26 (Wednesday). *General Fast* throughout the States. Preached on the Text above. In going to Meeting p.m. was informed that Mr. Whitney's House of Northborough was burnt down this very noon. I preached on Ps. 107.43 and took occasion frequently to apply it to the present Occurrence, so surprising and affecting! May the Lord sanctifie it to the Sufferers and to us all! The Brethren by desire was stayed to confer about the Adams Difficulty. I manifested my Desire to keep it out of the Church, but they saw cause to appoint a number to go to her. See Church Records.

1780 April 27 (Thursday). In the Morning, I rode over to see the Ruins, and sympathize with those who are bereaved. I found the sad Cause to be, Mrs. Whitney made a Fire in her Oven, that morning, sat in her Food to be baked for Supper; but the Fire, while the People were at Meeting in the forenoon, kindled in the Kitchen Chamber, and was discovered by Mr. Samuel Allen in the time of the last prayer. Many goods in the lower rooms, the Church plate etc. were saved, but the Library and Papers, which were of great worth: 4 feather Beds, all their Cloths and Linnen, except what they had on, Corn, Cyder, Sauce, etc. etc. burnt. Mr. Sumner came also and carried various Things. I went in to see Mr. Jonas Badcock, whose Hair, Face and Hands were much Scorched, Swelled and blistered by the Flames. I dined at Mrs. Briggs's where Mr. Whitney and his Family had repaired to. Mr. Sumner and Mr. Allen, preacher at Bolton, dined there also. The people meet this afternoon to see what they can do toward assisting. N.B. A great deal has been brought in already. I rode to Mr. Seth Rice's for Flax seed. I there informed Mrs. Adams of the Church's Appointment yesterday relative to her. I was at Capt. Maynard's -- visit old Mrs. Kelly, drank Tea there. When I came home am informed of the Conduct and Language of Hopkins.

1780 April 28 (Friday). Hopkins desires to go off, and though it throws me into much perplexity I consent and he goes away, giving in his work and offers to pay the Damage of Disappointment. I went over to Mr. N. Kenney and got him (again) to take my North Field to the Halves; which he agrees to.

1780 April 29 (Saturday). Kenny and his Son came to get out muck, and has my Steers and Cart. Mr. Moses Nurse joins with his Horses and waggon. I was obliged to go up to Deacon Wood's and Squire Baker's to forward a Contribution, but neither of them at home. Deacon came p.m. My son William, Lydia and William from Concord came to tarry over the Sabbath here.

1780 April 30 (Sunday). On consideration of the burning of Mr. Whitney's House, I preached (with alterations repeated) on Lam. 3.22-23 both a. and p.m. Baptized Capt. Godfry's Twins, Sullivan and Salmon. Appointed the Communion, but no Lecture. Appointed contribution for Rev. Mr. Whitney next Sabbath. At noon conferred with Selectmen as well as Deacons about the Contribution. At eve in the Family read Mr. Flavel's Sermon on Gal. 5.24. See his works p. 254, Vol. I.

1780 May 1 (Monday). The Town met to read the Address of the Convention, with the Draught they had made of a Form of Government for this State. I understood that they read it over, and after some debating upon it, they adjourned to this day three weeks. May God the Fountain of Wisdom, grant them Knowledge and understanding. Wrote a long letter to my son Ebenezer at Morris Town, New Jersey to be ready for Col. Baldwin to carry. Billy and Lydia here yet.

1780 May 2 (Tuesday). Wrote to Mr. Quincy to the care of Breck, who goes to Boston. Sophy to Mr. Whitney's and to the Fulling Mill at Northborough! [sic] I went to Mr. Thad. Warrin's, his wife sick. I was lamed by a slab falling on my right Foot. A very cold damp season. Too cold for Billy and Lydia to go home. William Winchester out of Health still: Stomach ache, Lame in his Hips, and can do very little.

1780 May 3 (Wednesday). Sheep more than ordinarily Troublesome. My affairs are much perplexed. William Parkman and his Sister Lydia leave us to go to Concord. Mr. Joseph Harrington has been here, and tells that Providence had prevented the Committee of the Church that were appointed to go to Mrs. Adams, so that they went not, for Deacon Bond was too infirm to go, Mr. Davis was very ill, and confined by a Fever, or pleurisie -- Mr. Harrington went, to little purpose.

1780 May 4 (Thursday). While much embarrassed and pritty lame, Stephen Batherick came within Reach, and was very much at Leisure. I hired him for 15/ per Day to be paid according to the old way, and he came and worked the afternoon. Breck returns from Boston, brings a Letter from Elias at Cambridge, concerning the Installment of Mr. Sam'l Williams heretofore of Bradford, Professor of Mathematics and experimental Philosophy -- a marvelous time. At eve came Lieut. Jonathan Grout, Messrs. Eli Whitney and Jonathan Forbes, and are concerned about Brother Adams's coming to Communion. I advised them to go and make him a visit, and after that let me know.

1780 May 5 (Friday). Old Mr. Hardy came in Warmth and inveighed against the Contribution for Mr. Whitney, because he has not asked any to be made for him. He is a very rich man, said he, and might take it as an Affront to him, except he desired it. I endeavored to inform him better, and chid him for his Rashness. Mrs. P _____ visits Mr. Davis and Mr. Thad. Warrin's Wife -- both sick.

1780 May 6 (Saturday). Mr. James Dix came -- but I refused to meddle at all with his Quarrells.

1780 May 7 (Sunday). None of those Brethren about Adams's Matter, make me any Return. Preached on Ps. 133.12-3. Administered the Lord's Supper. Mr. Adams did not stay to commune or disturb us. Mrs. Maynard dined with us. P.M. repeated sermon on 2 Cor. 8.7, expecting a Contribution, but Messrs. Belknap and Gale inform me, it is very much desired by considerable numbers that the Contribution might be deferred to another Sabbath; for as much as the Town when together last Monday were so engaged in the weighty affairs then depending unhappily forgot to mention it, and therefore were not so prepared as might be wished, and

may be hoped for, if they might have further time. It was therefore deferred till next Lord's Day -- but advised that the Sermon which had been delivered might be improved as an Excitement and Preparatory thereto. N.B. As to Mr. Adams, I understand that he went away from the Communion because he was himself offended. Also Capt. John Wood's Wife for some Reasons withdrew. At evening worship read the 2nd of Mr. Flavell's Sermons on Rev. 3.20.

1780 May 8 (Monday). William Winchester left us to go to Ashburnham. I wrote by him to his Mother. I gave him 10 Dollars, Mr. Barnard's Sermons to young people and on the Earthquake, and furnished him with various Things to accommodate him for his Journey. May God grant him Health and Grace! I have now neither Man nor Boy -- but Billy Spring to tend Cattle and Sheep. Dr. Hawes, the Court being Dissolved, is returned; visits and dines with me.

1780 May 9 (Tuesday). Wrote to Mr. Moore. The Referees upon the Case of Capt. John Wood, versus Benj. Fay, and his Mother-in-law set here at the Meeting House. They are Judge Dorr, Tim. Pain and Joseph Wheeler, Esq. The Lawyers are, for Wood, William Stearns, Esq., and Dan'l Biglow, for the Fays, Mr. Sprague. The latter came to see me. I attended part of the p.m. A most unhappy Strife! May God pity them.

1780 May 10 (Wednesday). Attended the Court, part of the Day. Mr. Andrews delivers me a Letter from Mr. Whitney, concerning our Contribution for him, manifesting his Satisfaction in our deferring it, and how gratefully he will accept of what soever shall be afforded. Mr. Joseph Hardy was here, and was examined in order to his joining with the Church. Mr. Joseph Smith and his Wife made us a visit. Mr. Smith manifested his Desire of the Ordinance of Baptism for their Child; but I was in much Suspense about proceeding with him.

1780 May 11 (Thursday). The Pleading finished last night about 10 o'clock. The Judges are together a.m. and draw up their Determination. P.M. Judge Dorr here. N.B. Send my Letter to Mr. Moore by Master Crosby, going to Boston, to be left at Gill's Office for conveyance. Pamela Cooledge of Ashburnham came to live here. Mrs. Hardy, wife of Mr. Joseph.

1780 May 12 (Friday). It is but a Melancholly Time with me. Nothing at all doing in my Husbandry, having neither Man nor Boy to assist me. The weather is indeed cold, and the season backward. Mr. Thomas Adams of Medfield came to see me and lodges here.

1780 May 13 (Saturday). Mr. Adams wants my Volume of Chubb's Tracts in 4to. He gives me Dr. Brown Languith's Modern Theory and Practice of Physick; Dr. Goodman's Penitent Pardon. Judge Hale's Contemplations, part 3, with his Life, and Mr. Durham on Scandal. Besides Chubb, he has Dennis's Advancement and Reformation of Modern Poetry, and leaves me two Pamphlets, viz: Dr. Cardogan on the Gout etc. and Mr. S. Webster's two Discourses on Infant Baptism. He promises Dr. Owen on Spiritual Mindedness: for which he takes with him Dr. Bray's Bibliotheca Parochialis. Further I lent him Cornelius Agrippa of the Vanity of the Sciences. To be sent to my son Samuel Boston. Mrs. [sic] Harrington here p.m. Makes Return of their Visit to Mrs. Adams, and gives me a Paper signed by her, and the Committee.

1780 May 14 (Sunday). Although I have attempted something in preparation for today's Exercises, yet had so many interruptions and avocations, that I was obliged to lay it by, and preached on Mat. 5.7 a. and p.m. N.B. After the forenoon Exercise, I read some parts of Mr. Whitney's Letter to me on the 8th to the Congregation. Appointed a Church Meeting to be the 30th. P.M. *A Contribution for Rev. Peter Whitney*. At eve read Flavel on Rev. 3.20, Sermon III.

1780 May 15 (Monday). Deacon Wood here to count the Contribution made yesterday. It was in Notes 262£, in Money (including 5 Pistareens), 175. In all to Mr. Whitney 438£. There was also a number of Dollars which were included in a paper directed to the Selectmen, for the Benefit of the poor Cripple John Forbes.

1780 May 16 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Fessenden to try to put out my Sheep, but in Vain. I dined there. P.M. rode over the Mr. Whitney's and conveyed the Contribution which we made for him in Money and Notes, and took his Receipt. I delivered him Six Books as my own Contribution, viz. Calvin's Harmony, Morning Exercise, Pierce's Sinner inplead, Claggett's Abuse of Grace, Butler's Sermons, Bradbury and Pike on Trinity. Went to Mr. Wood's the Clothier. Returned at eve. Stephen Batherick works here.

1780 May 17 (Wednesday). I keep Stephen in planting in the Beeton Field. P.M. went to Mr. Levi Warrin's, obtained easily of him to bear my Message to Mr. Daniel Adams concerning the Church Meeting to be next Tuesday come Sennight at the Meeting House 2 p.m. oc.

1780 May 18 (Thursday). Stephen still works for me in planting various Things, and Mending the fences etc. Went with him to the Island, to shew him what was most necessary -- but at night goes home. P.M. Elias came up from Cambridge, with Josiah Brigham. The last brings a Letter from my son Samuel concerning William Parkman of Boston (son of Nat.) his proposal to buy out the several Heirs to the Mansion House etc. Cousen Maynard made us a Visit, and drank Tea here. My Friend, Col. Joseph Buckminster of Framingham was buried.

1780 May 19 (Friday). *A very Cloudy Day*. It rained some part of Morning, when it held up it not only remained very cloudy, but from about 10 a.m. it grew very dark -- the Obscurity increased. By about 11 it was too dark to read unless at the Window -- by 12, I could not read anywhere in the House -- We were forced to dine by Candle Light. It was very awfull and surprising. Through divine Goodness the Light gradually returned and I wrote this before two. Before Night, I find that the unusual Darkness has given general Surprise. At eve went to Supper at Breck's, on agreeable Haddock. The Night was exceeding dark, insomuch that the Committee which sat at Deacon Woods, on the Affair of the Form of Government could not without Difficulty find their way home. Several of them did not get home at all.

1780 May 20 (Saturday). I am concerned for my Neighbor Thad. Warrin, who is so behindhand in his Business. I have offered him my Cattle and plow -- and I have said so much to him to persuade him that he uses them today.

1780 May 21 (Sunday). On account of the late unusual *Phenomenon*, I read a.m. Amos 5 and preach on v. 4.5.6.7.8. Messrs. Brigham and Hazeltine dined here. P.M. I went on in Repeating Sermon on Mat. 3.10 from page 9 with some Omissions. At Eve read latter part of Mr. Flavells Third Sermon on Rev. 3.20, which may God graciously bless to us!

1780 May 22 (Monday). Mr. Joseph Hardy here with his Relation, which requires many alterations. Esq. Baker, Mr. Batherick and Mr. Joseph Harrington came to me from the Town Meeting, to desire me to go with them to pray with them and give them my Advice, they being assembled upon the very important Affair of the Plan of Government. Went and prayed and joined with them in voting. Voted the *Bill of Rights* -- Voted the *Introduction* of the first part on Government -- voted Article I, then adjourned. Elias studys Anatomy.

1780 May 23 (Tuesday). Mr. Elijah Brigham in Squire Baker's Chaise, waits on Mrs. Parkman to Boston. I wrote to my son Samuel my Consent to my Kinsman William Parkman's having, for reasonable price, my Right in that which was my late Honored Mother's House.

1780 May 24 (Wednesday). I met with the Town on the Adjournment. N.B. Strenuously insist that the Governor shall not only declare himself of the Christian Religion, but a Protestant. It was obtained to have the Word Protestant inserted; the Vote had two against it, Capt. Fisher and Mr. Hananiah Parker.

1780 May 25 (Thursday). Mr. Joseph Hardy's Wife here, and have so many Corrections to make, that it was necessary to transcribe it. This I did for her. Elias is reading Chesselden's Anatomy. Mr. Elijah Brigham returns from Boston and Says Mrs. P _____ had a good Journey. N.B. I found that my son Breck is a FREE MASON.

1780 May 26 (Friday). I discover also that my son Sam is -- that Capt. Elias and that Coll. Baldwin are. N.B. The *American Academy of Arts and Sciences* formed, constituted And Made a Body politic and Corporate by an act of the General Assembly of this State, at their present Sessions. The Names of the Members are published in todays Spy. It is matter of Joy to me! But it was also of Surprise, as I cant trace its Conception nor Author, nor [Fantors?] the characters, Qualifications, Duty, Immunitys, and Emoluments.

1780 May 27 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 May 28 (Sunday). Read a.m. Zech. X with some Exposition of it. Preached on Amos 8.9, p.m. on Mat. 3.10. Read in the Evening part of Mr. Flavell's 3rd and 4th Sermon on Rev. 3.20.

1780 May 29 (Monday). Rec'd a Letter from Rev. Whitney to request me to dine with him and to attend the Raising a New House for him. In riding over there met with Mr. McCarty -- he was going to Boston. But turned about and went with me to Northborough. Mr. Stone came also. We dined at Mrs. Briggs, and there Supped. Mr. Maccarty went to Boston. Mr. Stone and I went to the Raising. I prayed and gave the Psalm (Ps. 127). Mr. Stone made the last prayer. No

Evil occurrence. Blessed be God! Mr. Elijah Brigham was my Company home. An Excellent Frame, and a great Company.

1780 May 30 (Tuesday). A.M. Assist the Selectmen in forming their Return to the Convention, with the Exceptions and Alterations. P.M. Attended the Church Meeting. Opened it with Prayer. The first Affair was that of Sister Persis Adams, wife of Mr. Daniel Adams who was present; but her Husband, though notified seasonably by a Messenger, sent on purpose by the Pastor to him, to acquaint with the Meeting, *for what, when and where*, did not come. This caused us to defer the Hearing any Complaint against him, till we might have accuser and accused Face to Face! Act. 25.16. The Church Meeting, as it relates to this Controversie, is adjourned to the last Monday in August next, at 2 p.m. The other Matter on which we met, was to choose two Deacons: and chose Dr. James Hawes for one, and Br. Jonathan Child for the other by 17 Votes -- the rest scattering. The Doctor desired leave to take so weighty a Concern into Consideration. The other denied and again refused, but he was urged to consider of it, and not be too resolute in Denying. The Meeting concluded with prayer and the Blessing. Mr. Cushing came from Shrewsbury (from Ashburnham yesterday) and lodged here. Has two Horses, one for Mrs. Cotton to ride upon.

1780 May 31 (Wednesday). I have writ a letter to Mrs. P_____ and Dr. Hawes was to have carried it, but he went too early this morning for it to reach him. However Mr. Lemuel Grosvenor and his Sister called here in their way to Boston, and took it. We had a cheerful and good Day -- praising God for his Goodness to his People in continuing our Liberties and Privileges and Oppt'y the Day for the Exercising them, and supplicating the Divine Presence with the People in their Solemn Assembly; and the Ministers in their Convention. Elias rode over to Hopkinton to wait upon Mrs. Cotton, but she was not well eno' to come today. Elias brings me from Mr. Barrett's the illustrated Sir Francis Bacon's Advancement of Learning. A Book of Stupendous Fame!

1780 June 1 (Thursday). Mr. Cushing Sets out for Ashburnham. I again go to the Meeting House to assist the Towns Men in their making Reply to the Convention at Boston, and Breck is desired to transcribe it for Capt. Fisher to carry with him. A variety of Company interrupts and discomposes me. I read in Biog'r. Dictionary. At Eve Mr. Elias Harding and Thankful Forbes married.

1780 June 2 (Friday). Though it is Friday, I seem obliged to go out and look after my Affairs. My Cattle begin to be unruly. I went to Mr. Isaac Parker's to see what he would do about working for me instead of his Br. Ephraim, some of whose Time remains to be made up, and to make some Agreement with him to take my Young Oxen to keep. Elias goes to Hopkinton again with Mr. Cushing's Horse with him for Mrs. Cotton, who comes here at evening. Mr. Hazeltine waits on Miss Nabby Martyn and two of Squire Baker's Daughters, and Miss Mindwell Brigham who all (of the last) drink Tea here. Dr. Gershom Brigham makes me a visit respecting the Baptism of his new-born Twins. Mrs. Cotton lodges here. I am much prevented studying.

1780 June 3 (Saturday). Ensign Snow brings his Dismission from Southborough and desires to be admitted into the Church here. N.B. Frederic Lock who works for me today in moving and setting up a Fence at the Island to make a Lane from the Road to my Pasture, meets with a Disappointment by the unruliness of my Steers, and leaves the Work undone -- which prevents my pasturing my Cows there.

1780 June 4 (Sunday). Read Zechariah II. Preached a. and p.m. on Luke 16.23 and by divine Help, I accomplished the whole. I humbly ask the Grace and Power of God may be magnified in the Awakening of many Souls! In the eve read part of another Sermon of Mr. Flavell's on Rev. 3.20. N.B. Dr. Hawes has brought me from my son Samuel, Melmoth's Sublime and beatif. Mr. Ripley of Concord is the Proprietor.

1780 June 5 (Monday). Hear that Mr. Henry Quincy is dead! If so, I heartily sympathize with my old Friend, his Father.

1780 June 6 (Tuesday). Elias setts out on Breck's Horse for Cambridge. I gave him to pay his Quarter bills and other Expenses, to be used with the utmost Prudence, Eight hundred Dollars. Mr. William Knight of Boston, Chandler made me a Visit, so did Mr. Grosvenor of Grafton, whom, to my Joy, I now hear, speak with much Audibleness and plainness. They dine with me. After dinner, I rode with Mr. Knight in his Chaise to Mr. Gale's, and preached there, on Eph. 5.2, those words "As Christ Also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us." Had to my Grief, but a small Company, but it was chiefly occasioned by his aged Mother's long Confinement.

1780 June 7 (Wednesday). Breck goes to Boston. Rides with Mr. Gale. I wrote to Mrs. P_____ by my Son; and by him sent my Watch to Mr. Cranch to be mended. In much perplexity about my Cattle which are missing; nor have they been seen ever since some time Yesterday; late in the day they are brought home. Am reading The Sublime and Beautiful of Scripture. Mr. Jonathan Forbes at Eve. His Heart is Friendly toward me under my Suffering by the depreciations.

1780 June 8 (Thursday). Though Things are Dark as to outer Circumstances, yet God is my Refuge. I would beg Grace to hope and trust in Him! Squire Baker came and invites me to the Raising of a Grist Mill and a Saw Mill. I went. The Company was double, but all supped together at Mr. Rider's. No evil Occurrence befell anyone. D.G. In the latter part of the Day came Mrs. P_____ from Boston with various Tidings in her Mouth. First the joyful that Sally was

1780 June 9 (Friday). Safely delivered, and had been favoured with a comparatively easy Travel, has a fine fat Daughter, and very like to do well. The praise to God for all His Mercys! But the sorrowful news is from the Harbour of Cape Anne, that Mrs. Forbes departed on Monday night last, in Child bed. She had been delivered of a Dead Child about two Hours before. A sad loss to my poor Son-in-law! The Lord sustain him! and pity the Motherless Children, for there are pritty many of them -- hope they will all find Mercy! I am informed that Mr. William Parkman, Grandson of my Brother, lives in the Antient Mansion.

1780 June 10 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 June 11 (Sunday). My son Samuel's Chaise being here, Breck rides with me to Northborough. I preached there on 2 Cor. 5.1 -- a Building of God etc. P.M. on Col. 3.1-2 "Sett your Affections etc." Mr. Whitney here on being saved by Hope. N.B. The Congregation sung without Reading *lineally*. I baptized Mary, an infant of William and [blank] Brigham. We each of us returned home at evening. Coll. Cushing has been here to raise Recruits here for the Army at New York.

1780 June 12 (Monday). Visited Mr. Simeon Bellows (who was prayed for yesterday), being confined by various Disorders. I dined there, prayed with them. Visited at eight of the houses of that Corner, as far as to Mr. Belknaps. Mr. Elijah Brigham and Sophy rid in Sam's Chaise to Hopkinton, Visiting Dr. Stimson. They returned here at night.

1780 June 13 (Tuesday). Wrote to my son Ebenezer at Head Quarters, Morris Town New Jersie. Was at Deacon Woods. N.B. We discoursed of the late Deacon Tainter's Legacy of fifty pounds old tenor, to this Church.

1780 June 14 (Wednesday). I should have depended upon Mr. Grosvenor to preach for me today, but it was too foul weather. I preached myself on Ps. 63.8 to page 5 and part of the Additions at the bottom continued for several Pages. By Desire of the Deacons the church Stopped: The Business was to Consider of Mr. B. Tainter's Note of Hand, by which he is bound, to pay the Legacy his Father left. Deacon Bond put it to vote, whether they would do anything about that Note? It went negatively, for there was no Hand lifted up that I saw.

1780 June 15 (Thursday). No certain news yet that Charlestown, South Carolina, is taken, but reasons to fear it is, are greatly increased. Sad accounts from the West on Mohawk River. May it please God to extend Pity and Compassion to them, as their case may be and fit us in these parts, for His Sovereign Will! Finish reading Courtney Melmoth's Sublime and beautiful of Scripture.

1780 June 16 (Friday). Mr. Abraham Holland and Miss Crosby visit here. I purchase of him Lord Somers on Government entitled "The Judgment of Kin[gdom]s and Nations concerning the Rights etc. of Kings and the Rights etc. of the People." I gave Mr. Holland for this eminent Book, Mr. Prince's Compendium Logical and 3 Pamphlets besides. Mrs. Snow and Mrs. (wife of William) Johnson. The former desires to be propounded for admission etc. Suse goes to her Father's with a view *to Wean her child*. Further Alarms -- more men called for.

1780 June 17 (Saturday). Capt. Fisher returns from Boston: informs that two thirds of the people of this State appear to accept of the Plan and Form of Government which the Convention had drawn up and recommended: That the Convention is Dissolved; and that some very important letters from Congress and from Gen'l Washington had arrived; and recommended most immediate and vigorous Exertions in raising *men and furnishing Provisions*

for the Army. He also brings a Letter from Elias, who writes that as the Conclusion of all Collegiate Exercises was at 3 o'clock the afternoon of the 13th, and no public Performances to be on the 21st as was expected, by reason of the immense Expense of necessarys there, so there is nothing to hinder his returning home on Monday next etc.

1780 June 18 (Sunday). Read Ps. 63. Preached on Ps. 63.8. Administered the Lord's Supper. Mrs. Maynard and Mrs. Davis dined here. P.M. on Ps. 133.3.

1780 June 19 (Monday). Dr. Hawes rides down to Court designing (as I suppose) that Elias shall ride up from Cambridge on his Horse.

1780 June 20 (Tuesday). The Association was at my House, but we were only Three. Mr. Stone and Mr. Whitney. They would maintain Order and therefore had a Moderator, who prayed and gave an abstract of an Exercise on Ps. 133. N.B. While we were dining came in Elias from Cambridge. The reason of Mr. Smith's absence was his very low afflicted State of Body. Perhaps for the same reason his son Bridge, is absent. Mr. Newel Raises an House today, and Mr. Whitney makes Haste back to Northborough to carry Nails for his. Mr. Samuel Thurston here and was examined. Mr. Benj. Tainter and Sons, with their Wives and Children, Goods etc. move from Westborough and try to go towards New Fane.

1780 June 21 (Wednesday). Took an Opportunity to reckon with Elias, as to his Expenses. I found there was so great Alteration of Times, Customs and Charges as was very astonishing -- especially considering that no alteration was made by the Constable, or the Town as to what is paid to me. Read the Life of the Celebrated Erasmus in Biogr. Dictionary. Rec[eiv]ed a letter from my Son Forbes dated the 6th containing an account of his Wife's Death. I undertook to write him an answer to it -- Great Difficulty in raising Men for the War. Twelve are called for, but 9 obtained: and yet (I hear) Orders are immediately for twelve more.

1780 June 22 (Thursday). My wife and Suse ride to her Father's and to Capt. Jones's. They bring home little Hannah, who has been *Weaning*. I walked to visit several Neighbours. Was at Mr. Newton's, Parker's, Warrins, Isaac Parkers (where I drank Tea). Davis's, old Mr. Pratt's. My Kinsman Lovering here from the Hamlet, and lodged here.

1780 June 23 (Friday). N.B. have been in uncommon Surprise at Elias's wanting so large a Sum of Money as was called for to pay his Buttery Bill, which amounts to £321.6. I gave him 300 Dollars of my own, borrowed of Breck 620, and am obliged to send money for the Degree which must be 30/ hard Money, which at 60 for one (as now the Custom is) comes to 300 Dollars. These I receive of Breck, and offer him 5 Milled Dollars. So that I now give Elias 1220 Dollars, and he goes to Cambridge to clear off and finish there. Lovering goes on his journey to Westfield. N.B. He gives strange account of several Praeternatural Births lately, and of the Worms destroying the Trees, in his Neighborhood.

1780 June 24 (Saturday). My son Elias returned home from Cambridge, having now finished at College, taken up my Bond which I gave to Stewart [i.e., Steward] Hastings, on Oct. 1, 1776.

1780 June 25 (Sunday). Read Zech 12. Preached on Luke 16, last v. P.M. read Luke 17. Repeated and preached on esp. v. 32. Which may God graciously bless! By Request of Selectmen and commanding Officers, I warned the Company of Soldiers to meet tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock. Mr. Elijah Brigham and Mrs. Susan Snow propounded.

1780 June 26 (Monday). The Town met, and the two Companys of Soldiers to raise men to go into the war -- 15 to be completed for six months, and there are orders for 14 for three months. Master Sam. Brigham and Winslow Maynard (son of the late James Jr. deceased) dined here. N.B. Mr. Gale takes account of the Acres I own in Westborough, viz. ab't 66.

1780 June 27 (Tuesday). Sophy rides to Boston in her Brother Samuel's Chaise. Josiah Brigham goes with her and carries Suse Parkman to her Father's. N.B. Sent by Sophy a letter to Mr. Forbes, Gloucester. Another to Mr. Thos. Adams at Medfield, also to Mr. Ripley, his Melmoth on Sublime and Beautiful of Script. Rev. Mr. Ebenezer Sparhawk of Templeton here, and dines with us. P.M. came Mrs. Sarah Thurston to be examined in order to her joining with the Church. Mr. Josiah Bowker and his Wife, with Deacon Wood's Wife, make us a Visit, and drink Tea here.

1780 June 28 (Wednesday). The Companys meet again to raise Men. Mr. Thad. Warrin mows part of my Square -- but is caught in the Rain. Two of the Selectmen, viz. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard and Mr. Tim Warrin here, to inform me that they are going to call a Town Meeting, and they ask me whether I would have any Thing put in, relative to my Circumstances. I consented that they should. Master Sam Brigham lodges here.

1780 June 29 (Thursday). I have the Comfort to have my square Piece of Grass mowed and the mower, Mr. Warrin dined with us. But the people are in trouble for they cant raise the men that are called for. Viz: 15 for Six months and 14 for three months. They meet again this afternoon. Old Mr. David Maynard and Deacon Wood here.

1780 June 30 (Friday). Josiah Brigham returns from Boston and Concord, with little Suse. Thus we finish this month, but with very gloomy and doubtful Apprehensions concerning the Events of the Next. But may a good God Support us!

1780 July 1 (Saturday). The chief Conversation is about the Men who are to be raised for Six Months, and those which are for three Months. P.M. Mr. Huntington Porter, a young Preacher, was here in his Way from Ward, where he has been preaching, to Hopkinton where he is expected to preach tomorrow.

1780 July 2 (Sunday). Read Zech. 13. I delivered the latter part of Sermon on Luke 17.32. Mr. Elijah Brigham dined here. P.M. read Ps. 92 and preached on Luke 16 ult. At eve read part of Mr. Flavell's 4th Sermon on Rev. 3.20.

1780 July 3 (Monday). Much hindered by both the old and the young Bees swarming. Went to Mr. Warren's to see his Wife, and request him to come and mow my Grass which is dying, but could not succeed. Mr. Z. Hicks does not come for Sister Champney as she expected.

1780 July 4 (Tuesday). Notwithstanding it was very rainy, I went to Private Meeting at Mrs. Newton's and preached on Isa. 64.9, occasioned by these unhappy Times. I have writ to my Daughter Baldwin.

1780 July 5 (Wednesday). Breck is gone to Boston. I read Warburton's Notes, on Pope's Essay on Man. Mr. Thos. Kendal who has been Preaching at Kittery, is returning there again; but tarrys today, while he is here. Mr. Sam Brigham commissioned to be a Lieutenant to those that are the Militia, and for three months, Desires prayers and a Sermon, in behalf of not only himself, but others that go with him. Old Mr. Daniel Hardy, who went to Brookfield yesterday a.m. returns from there today about three p.m. By him came news not only from My Daughter Baldwin, but that she has had Letters of June 15 from her Husband and Br. Ebenezer. Mr. Zech. Hicks came for his aunt Champney -- lodged here.

1780 July 6 (Thursday). Sister Lydia Champney removes from hence to Sutton, both herself and her Goods, by the Assistance of Mr. Zech. Hicks, though this parting from us is with no small Regret. At eve I was miserably dull and unfit for any Thing. The little Sleep and Multitude of heavy Cares and Trouble have made me very soggy and incapable of laudable Exertion.

1780 July 7 (Friday). But this morning am (through God's Goodness) in tolerable Plight -- had an Opportunity to discourse with Ensign James Miller, who being commonly an Opposer of the Town's Adding to my Salary, I enquired of him the Reasons, and endeavored to obviate them. A.M. Breck returned from Boston. P.M. Ensign Snow and Wife. She brought her Relation.

1780 July 8 (Saturday). Four Men came kindly to give a Morning Jobb, and cut down the English and Clover Grass in my West Field. They were Messrs. Thad. Warrin, Paul Lamson, Jonathan Pierce and Ebenezer Force. They worked till nine o'clock a.m. Mr. Brigham brought home Cloth from Clothier Woods, Northborough.

1780 July 9 (Sunday). Read Zech. 14. Preach a.m. on Gal. 6.7-8. Mr. Bridge of Worcester, Mr. Jonathan Fay, and Lieut. Sam Brigham din'd here. P.M. preached on Deut. and addressed the Soldiers who sat by themselves. Mr. Brigham and Snow were admitted into the Church. So was her Husband, who removed from Southborough. At eve in the Family read Flavell on Rev. 3.20.

1780 July 10 (Monday). Town Meet Early to compleat the Number of Soldiers, but they are so unhappy that they cannot do it. Mr. Jonathan Pierce and Isaac Ruggles came to work for me. Elias had spoke to them. They finished the Mowing of the West Field, and p.m. went to the Island. Ruggles lodges here.

1780 July 11 (Tuesday). The foresaid Men work here and Mr. Pierce all day at the Interval. Mrs. P_____ rode over to Capt. Wood's to Enquire into the Cause of spoiling a piece of black Cloth. She had no Recompense. Mr. Sam Thurston here about his joining to the Church.

1780 July 12 (Wednesday). P.M. Came Mrs. Thurston and her Mother Harrington with her to assist her in her Examination. N.B. Mr. Brigham sat out for Boston and going through Marlborough. I sent Mrs. Speakman's Pope's Essay on Man. A Piece well worth Reading. At eve I visit Capt. John Wood's Wife being in deep Grief for the Loss of their Babe. The mowers here yet. But Elias towards night gives up, is sick and goes to bed.

1780 July 13 (Thursday). Elias lies by wholly: but the hired Men attend to my Work, mowing, Raking and Carting -- they bring home one Load of Hay.

1780 July 14 (Friday). Elias is better, and though feeble he Carts Hay. 3 Loads. Mr. Brigham returns with Sophy, from Boston, late at night.

1780 July 15 (Saturday). Mr. Pierce does not come to work, but Ruggles comes for the forenoon only. Two load more from the Interval. At ev'g came Mr. Daniel Adams with a Paper which is addressed to the Church. He complains of hard Usage: and is in some warmth with me. I told him I could not lay it before the Church tomorrow, because there were various things to be done etc.

1780 July 16 (Sunday). Read Malachi, Chap. I, and forenoon Exercise was upon the beginning of it. N.B. *Mr. Brigham and Sophy were published.* Capt. Fisher, with leave, read to the Congregation, after the Blessing, his very urgent Orders for raising Soldiers. Mrs. Maynard dined. P.M. I preached on Gal. VI.7-8. On account of the Harvest. At evening I read further Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20.

1780 July 17 (Monday). The Militia Soldiers 14 under Lieut. Brigham marched. Mr. Corn. Biglow came to reap my Island Field of Rye. I had conference with Mr. Han. Parker. Elias does not work, but waits upon Miss Lois Burnet, who is here at work on his Coat which is made of the Cloth which Mr. Wood of Northborough had dyed black and fulled, lately for us. *Town Meet*, partly to see whether they will do anything in regard to my Salary. I sent them a Paper, which was read. I hear that they voted thirteen Hundred to make up the Deficiency of the last year. I thank God for thus much. May I have grace to improve it!

1780 July 18 (Tuesday). Am sadly disappointed of the Work which I hoped for. Elias, being not well, can do nothing; though everything is pressing and urgent: only he went up the street to speak to Mr. Joseph Smith, who had told me once and again that he would work for me: but is now engaged to Deacon Wood, and Elias fetched me the Paper (which the Col. as Town Clerk has) which I sent the Town yesterday -- and he copy'd it.

1780 July 19 (Wednesday). Many Interruptions and Avocations from my Studys, so that I can but imperfectly prepare for the Solemnity approaching, but would humbly commit myself, my

Way, my Work to God. Elias has been so out of health, that he has not been able for Several days to work. But today he went a while to the Interval and there being part of a Load of Hay in Cock there, he mowes 3 or 4 Cocks, and with my Team he brought it home: and p.m. he went to the Island, where Mr. Biglow is reaping, and (Mr. Biglow pitching it) Elias brought home a Load of Rye of 12 Shock and 1 Sheaf. N.B. Miss Lois Burnet at work here and part of p.m. her Kinswoman Henrietta with her. Miss Patty Fisk here and dines with us. We are under the Holy Frowns of Heaven, by parching Heat and Dryness. May the God of infinite Pity and Mercy send Relief to us!

1780 July 20 (Thursday). *A Day of humiliation, FASTING and Prayer*, on account of the uncommon Distress. Preached a.m. on 1 Kings 20.28 last clause and though I wrote much, and was long in the Exercise, yet could not be so particular in Application as I designed, and very much desired. P.M. I delivered some parts of Discourse on Eccl. 8.11 and added Applications, Reproofs, Exhortations and Cautions. When we returned, found my Grandson Isaac Baldwin from Cambridge here, going home. He lodged here with us.

1780 July 21 (Friday). Was forced to go out and look up Workmen. Capt. Fisher is gone to mowe for me at *Middle Meadow* (or my Interval). Mr. Biglow again reaps, and Elias part of the forenoon. P.M. goes to the Interval, to look after the Hay there. When he returns he goes up to the Flock of Sheep. N.B. A Fire prevailed a while in the Hill Nigh Wood's Field, but did not much Dammage, though a dry Time and somewhat Windy. Mrs. Hannah (wife of Mr. Thomas) Andrews here and passes Examination freely, as to knowledge and hopeful Experience. D.G. Paul Biglow comes with Joshua Twitchell and Fortunatus Miller. The two latter being Deserters: to see Gen'l Washington's Proclamation of Pardon to such: And P. Biglow would for a large Reward, go in Miller's stead.

1780 July 22 (Saturday). Three men are mowing at the Interval, viz. Capt. Fisher, Mr. Elijah Force (who goes for Mr. Joseph Smith, and he is instead of Mr. Isaac Parker, who will work for Smith instead of it). Mr. Thad. Warrin also works a.m., but no longer. Elias home a Load of Hay at noon. At Night another, but too late.

1780 July 23 (Sunday). Read part of II Chron. 6 and preached on 6 to 31 on Consideration of the uncommon Dryness of the Weather. P.M. on Gal. 6.8 former part. N.B. The Church was stayed and I read Mr. Adams' Paper date July 21, 1780 and signed Daniel Adams. The consideration of it was deferred to the Adjournment of the Church Meeting, which is to the last Monday in August next (God willing). N.B. Mr. Brigham and Sophy were published the last Time. At eve Read part of Mr. Flavell's 5th Sermon on Rev. 3.20.

1780 July 24 (Monday). Mr. Biglow comes again to reap. Capt. Fisher works at the Interval partly for me, helping Elias in getting the Hay there ready, and Elias brings home one Load, having Deacon Wood's Oxen added to our Team: and Elias carries one Load of the Interval Hay to Capt. Fisher, and at eve he fetches home one Load of Rye. Miss Lois Burnet and her Kinswoman (Henrietta) at work here again on making Cloths for Elias.

1780 July 25 (Tuesday). Mr. Bigelow reaps. Elias with our own Team only, brings home two Load from the Interval. Capt. F. helps him somewhat (but his chief work was at Lieut. Bond's). Miss Lois and Henrietta finish for the present.

1780 July 26 (Wednesday). Elias went with out Team, and Breck went with him to load and though it was but a small Jagg, it was the last from the Interval. In all thirteen times, the Team has gone for me, and once for Capt. Fisher. P.M. Elias goes to reaping, for Mr. Biglow reaps but slowly. Mr. Beriah Ware here, and was in great, singular and distressful trouble, but not so much upon spiritual as temporal accounts. Remarkable uneasiness by reason of a Disappointment etc. etc. This was the more noticeable as the Man is well towards 40 years of age.

1780 July 27 (Thursday). My Affairs are in a very uncomfortable situation. Mr. Biglow reaps, is too old and feeble to do much -- there is a great part of the Field of Rye yet remaining. No body offers to assist, though divers talked of it. The late Grant of the Town was *for my present Necessity* but the Money cant be raised and paid and a Man or Men provided till the Grain and Grass are lost. The Newton Meadow is untouched and no help provided. In this critical Junction, Elias would fain break off from work and rest himself, intending tomorrow to go to Brookfield and then to Springfield: though there is no man that can by any means possibly be obtained: When Mr. Biglow finishes the Reaping, there can be nobody to cart it home. Elias reaped part of the Day. I walked up to Mr. Warrin's and acquainted him with my present State. He sent his son John. I went to Mr. Kenney, who sent his son Joel -- those Boys reaped p.m. Capt. Morse came in to see me. No Hope from him of any Help. Capt. Fisher agrees to go and cut my new Swamp, and he is to allow me as he finds is just. The Drought is become very intense. The Corn suffers very much, and all Vegetables. An holy Frown of God! May we be suitably affected with it, and prepared for the Divine Will! Elias carted home about 11 Shock of Rye at evening.

1780 July 28 (Friday). Mr. Bigelow reaps a.m. Elias also. Breck took a morn-spell at it. Deacon Wood has the Oxen part of a.m. Breck has them p.m. He sends them down to meet a Teemer, who is bringing up a Load from Boston. P.M. About a quarter after two o'clock, God was pleased to remember us in Mercy and sent Rain, together with Thunder and Lightning. To His Name be Glory! Mr. Biglow went home about 4 p.m., and Elias to reaping again. At eve heard that Mr. Abraham Bond's Barn was burnt by the Lightning.

1780 July 29 (Saturday). Went in the Morning to see the sorrowful Desolations, and sympathise with the Sufferers. May the Lord sanctifie the sad Loss to them! Elias goes again to Squire Baker's Pasture to look for the Lamb which he sought for before, but returns empty.

1780 July 30 (Sunday). I preached on 1 Cor. 11-29. Administered the Lord's Supper: before which Samuel Thurston and Sarah his wife were admitted into the Church. Mrs. Maynard and Mr. Hazeltine dined here. P.M. on Gal. 6.8. At eve read (Breck, his wife etc. attending with us as usual) another part of Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20. May God graciously accept!

1780 July 31 (Monday). *My son Elias left us to go to Springfield, to keep School there. Carrys principal Classicks, excepting to teach Grammer. I wrote a letter to Brother Breck. It is an article which much Affects me. May God Almighty bless him, and make him a Blessing! Delivered him 170 Dollars.*

1780 August 1 (Tuesday). A Message by Mr. Elijah Brigham from Mr. Summer, to preach his Lecture -- borrowed Mr. Ware's Mare to ride there -- made several short Visits in the Street -- dined at Squire Baker's, but he came not home as was expected. N.B. The Private Meeting was, according to Custom, to have been at his House today, but it was put off because of the Busyness of the Season, and few Hands to do it.

1780 August 2 (Wednesday). Rode to Shrewsbury. Mr. Fairbank came here and was my Company to Mr. Sumner's: where I dined. Preached his Lecture to an extremely thin Auditory. Text Rev. 14.6-7. After Lecture came Mr. Whitney to Mr. Sumner's House. N.B. Col. Symmes' Widow there also. At eve arose a Thunder Storm. I lodged at Dr. Crosby's.

1780 August 3 (Thursday). In returning called to see Mr. Joseph Knowlton's Wife, who relapses somewhat to her old state; visit Mr. Gershom Brigham's Wife, who languishes. I went in to Mr. Samuel Fay's, his wife having been lately much indisposed -- but he treated me with *roughness*. At Deacon Wood's I saw one Mrs. Abigail Giles, Daughter of Mr. William Jenison, that was of Salem, and widow of Mr. Samuel Giles, greatly reduced and lame. P.M. Mrs. Hawes, Squire's Daughter, Polly Wood at Tea. N.B. In Biog'r. Dic. Variety in Human Life -- Eginhard's Wife (Daughter of Charles the Great) carry'd him on her Back from her Apartment through the Snow, that the prents [*sic*] of his Feet might not be discovered; yet her Father saw them from his Window. Queen Elizabeth's Life notable for her Wit and Learning, affected Grandeur and power, Magnificent Dress, Entertainment, Amours -- but secret reason is given by Mezeray when she would not Marry. Equatius (John-Baptist). This great Man had almost a divine Memory: whatever he had read or heard, he could relate by Heart, and in a very agreeable manner. He was born at Venice 1473.

1780 August 4 (Friday). Have writ to Mr. Quincy and to Mr. Moore, and committ the Letters to Mr. Elijah Brigham, who is going to Boston.

1780 August 5 (Saturday). I was much interrupted by being obliged to go to the Island to mend Fence, that the Cows might not break in upon Mr. Andrews. Mr. Abraham Bond was here with his Petition for a Contribution. Mrs. Fay (Mr. John Fay's Wife) came to be examined, but I could spend but a little Time with her.

1780 August 6 (Sunday). I had partly prepared on Malachi First, but was obliged to lay it aside, and went on considering the Harvest Season, with my Repetitions, with additions and alterations of Sermon on Gal. 6.7-8 a. and p.m. and finished the Subject. May God be pleased to add his special Blessing! I read Bond's Petition for Contribution. Mrs. Maynard dined here. At eve read in Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20.

1780 August 7 (Monday). Was anxious about Breck's Horse, which Elias rode to Springfield, and is not come back: but before noon came young Joshua Johnson of Bolton, who returning from his 3 years Warfare rode Horse from Springfield hither, thereby saving Charge, and brought a Letter from Elias, who has taken the School there, for a year upon settled pay to his Satisfaction. Thanks be to God for the Favour.

1780 August 8 (Tuesday). Mr. Samuel Crosby (young preacher) dined here. P.M. Mrs. Giles spent the p.m. here and drank Tea with us. At eve, Ebenezer Chamberlain junior full of earnest Conversation about Sallery.

1780 August 9 (Wednesday). Extracts from Biog'r. Dictionary.

1780 August 10 (Thursday). Messrs. Motlay, Ezek Savage, preachers, and one Mr. Pearson of Newbury, made me a Visit, dined etc.

1780 August 11 (Friday). Mrs. Mehitable Fay (wife of John) here with her Relation, which I corrected and copy'd. *Josiah Brigham came to Breck* again to live with him. They clear the lower Well.

1780 August 12 (Saturday). Mr. John Fay was examined -- left a Relation to be corrected and transcribed. He dines here.

1780 August 13 (Sunday). Preached on Malachi Ch. I, v. 6-9. P.M. previous to a Contribution for Mr. Abraham Bond, I preached again on John 4.10. At eve read Flavell on Rev. 3.20, Sermon 6.

1780 August 14 (Monday). Rode over to Mr. Beeton's to visit old Mrs. Kelly and prayed with her, of which she said she missed but little. Her Conversation generally spiritual and savoury. John Beeton's Wife is greatly recovered from her Lameness.

1780 August 15 (Tuesday). Though it was a very hot Day, I rode to Southborough, hoping to meet the other Brethren who would associate there -- but no other Members came. We nevertheless improved the Opportunity in Prayer and attendance on a Discourse Mr. Stone read on Gal, and I read an Extract from Cicero on Old Age, Ch. XIX. Mr. Stone has lately been exercised with the Gravel, and particularly last Lord's Day. P.M. did not go to Meeting, but is somewhat better. I returned at eve. Mr. Elijah here *de die in diem*. His Brother Josiah is gone to Medway in order to Miss Eliz. Beal's Return to Westborough again.

1780 August 16 (Wednesday). Benj. Wood and his Brother John came here to be set to work. I employed Benj. in mowing in my Newton Meadow. John hoed a little with Billy Spring in Beeton Field -- It was but of trifling Value. P.M. Ben mowed a while, and the lesser Boy reaped and cocked -- but they were all beat off by Rain, Thunder and Lightning.

1780 August 17 (Thursday). Sent by Breck to Mr. Stone's for Notes that I inadvertently left there. Breck goes before Day, designing for Boston.

1780 August 18 (Friday). Mrs. P. out of Health. Dr. Hawes to see her.

1780 August 19 (Saturday). Breck returned from Boston -- he brought me a large letter from Mr. Quincy, who since the Death of his Son Henry is moved to Boston, and for the present lives with his Daughter-in-law, who (with her children) dwells in William's Court. This Week was filled with Encumbrance.

1780 August 20 (Sunday). Read a.m. the Latter part of Joh. 4, and repeated the latter part of Discourse on v. 16. At noon, Breck and his Family, Mr. Brigham and his Sister Anna, Mrs. Maynard, Isaac and Luke Baldwin (who came from Shrewsbury this morn) dined with us. P.M. did not read before it but preached on Isa. 55.10-11, p. 191 to the bottom of p. 202. N.B. baptized Six Children of Mr. Sam'l Thurston. At eve read in my Family part of Mr. Flavell's sixth Sermon on Rev. 3.20. Rec'd a Letter from Mr. Forbes of Gloucester. Mrs. P. is so indisposed that she has been but little at Meeting for a great while: could not go today: is sick, faint, and weak. The Child also has been not well, for some days.

1780 August 21 (Monday). My young Baldwins take leave for Cambridge and Byfield.

1780 August 22 (Tuesday). A very dry hot Season. After a great deal of Pains and Trouble, Benj. Woods, who though but a Youth, works well and with the Help of Josiah Brigham, a few Hours, they get in the last of my Newton Meadow Hay. I have been employed in making Extracts from the Biog'r. Dict.

1780 August 23 (Wednesday). I am too much taken up with my Farm Affairs, particularly to have my Fences repaired, that my Cattle may have Feed, and cant attend much to my Studys. Mr. John Fay and Mr. Thad Warrin are employed.

1780 August 24 (Thursday). Mrs. Nabby Martyn is at work here for Suse. I attended the Burial of Mr. Abijah Gale's Child, Sarah, of more than four months, it dyed somewhat suddenly. I called to see Mr. Ebenezer Forbes, who (and his Wife) had been sick. Visit also the old Folks. Mr. John Fay, with his Relation here, and signs it.

1780 August 25 (Friday). Mrs. Persis Adams here and prays the Church Meeting (to be otherwise next Monday) may be adjourned to some future time, inasmuch as she cannot get ready. N.B. Breck and Suse with little Hannah go to Col. Brigham's, at eve, to lodge there, in their way to Ashburnham and Marlborough.

1780 August 26 (Saturday). Breck and Suse, leaving their little Girl, at Northborough proceed on their Journey. Mr. Daniel Adams came here to enquire whether any Complaint against him, was lodged here. There was none.

1780 August 27 (Sunday). Read Ps. 104. Preached on Mal. 1.9.10.11 and p.m. on Isa. 55, v. 11 "So shall my Word be" etc. Three persons taken into the Church. The Church Meeting was adjourned. At eve, I read further in Mr. Flavells, England's Duty on Rev. 3.20.

1780 August 28 (Monday). On Deacon Wood's Horse I rode to Mr. Gershom Brigham's to see his Wife, who is dangerously ill. The State of her Soul deplorable as well as her Body. She was very sorry that she had neglected the Lord's Supper. She was in much Confusion. I prayed with her and the Family. I dined there. Thence went to visit the North West Corner of the Town, Messrs. Gleason's, Johnathan Maynard's, and Samuel Riders, Mr. Thomas Lamson's (on Edmund Rice's place), old Mr. James Maynard, and his son Amasa's.

1780 August 29 (Tuesday). An uncommonly burning Season, hot Sun and drying Winds -- so that the Droughth is much increased.

1780 August 30 (Wednesday). Exceedingly taken up with the Creatures breaches for want of Feed -- especially my Oxen. Mr. Belknap and his wife here. P.M. Mr. David Andrews of Northborough here to request me to visit his little son extremely bad (Mr. Whitney being gone to Northborough). I went, prayed etc.

1780 August 31 (Thursday). Mr. Gershom Brigham brings his Wife's Earnest Desire that I would visit her again and preach a Sermon there today. I complied -- delivered a short Discourse (as I could) from several passages in Isa. 55, "hear and your Soul shall live." May God bless what was delivered! Mrs. Br. is brought very low. At eve found Sophy ill. She has taken physick: Mr. Elijah Brigham with her.

1780 September 1 (Friday). Breck and Suse return home having been to visit their Brothers Cushing, Levi Brigham and Alexander. Capt. Goddard of Sutton calls at Breck's Shop and relates, That the Scholars at College (from whence he was come) had so generally signed a petition that Pres. Langdon might be dismissed, that he himself had asked a Dismission and that it was granted him. Whence this has arisen, I know not.

1780 September 2 (Saturday). Sophy has been poorly several days.

1780 September 3 (Sunday). Read Ps. 105. Preached on Isa. 55.12. Mrs. Maynard dined here. P.M. preached on Exodus 18.21 on Consideration of the Election of the Morrow: and therefore added a new introduction and application, to what I heretofore prepared on that text. But it being rainy there were but few to hear it. At eve, Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20. Breck read. Mr. Brigham here.

1780 September 4 (Monday). Deacon Wood in no small Trouble on account of his Wife's Difference with his son John and his Wife, who have had grievous Contentions and Threatening to complain to the Grand Jury tomorrow. P.M. The Grand Meeting of the Town to choose a GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR, and SENATORS; Mr. Batherick and Lieut. Grout came with a Message from the Town to desire me to go and open the Meeting with *Prayer* -- went and

prayed -- the Chairman of the Selectmen prevented my going out by asking me to tarry and sit with them. The hon. Mr. John Hancock was elected Governor by sixty-one votes. There was one vote only besides, which was (mine) for Mr. James Bowdoin. Votes for Lieut. Governor were for Hon. James Warrin, out of 55, 50. I voted for Mr. Bowdoin. The meeting was adjourned to Wednesday, 4 p.m.

1780 September 5 (Tuesday). By Deacon Wood's Desire, I went in the Morning to his House, with Capt. Joseph Wood of Hopkinton and Mr. Thos. Wood of Brookfield. Deacon's Wife asked me to go alone with her, and manifested a penitent Frame: desired me to go into her son's Room, and talk with him and his Wife, which I did. Then met together and through the Goodness of God, we brought each of the Partys to Condescensions, mutual acknowledgment, and asking forgiveness and promises of Reformation. The Deacon desired me to pray and give thanks to God. Whereupon we all parted in Peace and Joy. Glory to be God alone! Josiah Brigham goes to Boston. Mr. Gleason came and informed that Mr. Gershom Brigham's Wife dyed this morning: and the Survivors desire me to attend the Funeral next Thursday.

1780 September 6 (Wednesday). Mr. Grosvenor came, dined and preached. Text was Gal. 6.7, latter clause. His voice not only audible, but sonorous, but especially the Matter good, and the Manner agreeable. After Meeting the Church stopped to receive the Answer of the two elected Deacons. The Doctor delivered a paper in which he acquiesced in the Choice if there was no Objection, and if the Choice was unanimous; otherwise he refused. The vote was then tried (though the members present were but few) upon which there was every Hand, and he was declared a Deacon of this Church. Mr. Child's answer was verbal, and still refused and the Meeting ended. Then came on the Town Meeting by adjournment, and they elected five Counsellors for this County. My son Alexander and his Wife and young Child came and lodged here. Mr. Elijah Brigham privately spoke to me of his joining in Trade with Breck and would be glad to live here this winter. But I could not determine.

1780 September 7 (Thursday). I rode of Alexander's Horses to the Funeral of Mrs. Brigham (wife of Mr. Gershom) and prayed there. When I returned, here was Mr. William Spring from Brimfield. He brought a suit of Clothes for his son Billy. He dined with us, as did Mr. Elijah Brigham (who keeps Shop for Breck). Sister Cushing and Mr. Daniel Goddard's wife dined here also, but she rode to Col. Brigham's and lodged there; the rest here.

1780 September 8 (Friday). Mr. Spring changes his volume of Royal Magazines, viz: Some parts of Vol. I and Vol. II bound together, but many numbers missing for Osterval's Causes of the present Corruption. Mrs. Cushing, Alex and his Wife, dine with us, but p.m. they all leave us, and Billy Spring goes home for a while with his Father.

1780 September 9 (Saturday). My Circumstances are somewhat singular -- the Difficultys thence arising, not a few. I made some preparations, but did not near perfect them -- and I have entered upon such Repetitions as I think I had best go on with -- correcting and amending as I review them.

1780 September 10 (Sunday). It being Sacrament Day, I (after reading Ps. 106 former part to verse 25) went on with my Discourse on 1 Cor. 11.27-29, first part. I administered the Ordinance -- the new Deacon Hawes officiating, without any special Ceremony as to his Induction. N.B. Deacon Dolliber of Marblehead, Mrs. Barrett and Mr. Stephen Stimson of Hopkinton were present. Mr. Barret and his Wife dined here. P.M. preached on Isa. 55.12 to the End of page 225. At eve read part of Mr. Flavell's seventh Sermon on Rev. 3.20.

1780 September 11 (Monday). This Day begins the 44th year since my Marriage with Mrs. P_____. May God be praised for His great Goodness! May all our Sins throughout all these Years, especially the last, be freely forgiven! May we both of us be sp'ly Espoused, and mystically united to Jesus Christ, and may God grant us Grace to discharge the Dutys incumbent on us in the Conjugal Connexion! I dined at Mr. Graves's with Deacon Dolliber. Alexander and his Wife, with their Child, from Framingham and lodge here. [Note in pencil. Married Sept. 11, 1737, he being 34 years old, minus 5 days -- see next page.]

1780 September 12 (Tuesday). Sent a Letter to Mr. Buckminster of Medway by Squire Singleterry of Sutton. My son Alex., wife and child p.m. undertake their Journey home. Messrs. Elijah and Moses Brigham dined here. Mr. Sumner came to see us.

1780 September 13 (Wednesday). Rode to Mr. Abraham Bond's: gave him a book, as my Contribution to him under the Frown of Heaven. N.B. A number of Neighbors are at work in framing a Barn for him. I visited other Neighbours thereabout, and dined at Mr. Frost's. P.M. at Mr. Hananiah Parker's.

1780 September 14 (Thursday). With some difficulty as to an Horse I rode to Grafton and dined at Mr. Grosvenor's, and preached his Lecture in his House on Mat. 17.4. May God grant His Blessing! I returned home safe at eve. N.B. A Mellancholy story is current of General Gates being defeated in the South. The particulars are not yet known. N.B. One Sibly is set to Jayl at Worcester under Suspicion of Murthering an Infant.

1780 September 15 (Friday). On Consideration of my finishing my seventy-seventh year, I was much employed in Retrospections, Humiliations, and Supplications. May the Lord graciously accept of my imperfect Petitions, pardoning etc. through Jesus Christ. Mr. Peter Whitney here and Mr. Daniel Adams junior's Wife also is examined.

1780 September 16 (Saturday). This Day I begin my 78th year. Thanks be to God, who hath sustained me! I still continue a Monument of his sparing Mercy and Goodness. To His Name be all Praise and Glory! See Natilitia. Mrs. P. being very much out of Health rode to Dr. Crosby's. At eve came my Daughter Cushing from Ashburnham. Mr. Fitch, wife and Daughter from Connecticut, and p.m. Mrs. Dolly Rice.

1780 September 17 (Sunday). Read Ps. 23 and 24, and on Consideration of my beginning a new year of my Life, I preached on Ps. 23.6,¹ and p.m. on Isa. 55.12² and may the great End and Design hereof be answered. At eve read again in Mr. Flavell. Neither my Wife nor Daughter Cushing were well enough to go to Meeting, either part of the Day.

1780 September 18 (Monday). Wrote to Dr. Crosby, by his son John. My Wife being no better. At eve came my son Forbes, but from Dedham, where he had preached yesterday. Brought with one of his Sons-in-law, Joseph Saunders, about 8 years old. They lodge.

1780 September 19 (Tuesday). Mr. Forbes and little Boy left us to go to Brookfield. Dr. Crosby here to see Mrs. P_____ p.m. She grows very sick, but it may be owing to some Pills which the Doctor gave her. At even, she continues ill and goes to bed. Mr. Cushing comes from the Cape, having been to see his Sister Stone at Yarmouth, and came back through Rochester, Wrentham, and Sherbourn.

1780 September 20 (Wednesday). Mr. Cushing last evening brought me from Mr. Moore, Shuckford's Condition vol. 1. He also, having been with various Gentlemen in his Journey, discovers to me some of the probable Reasons of the Dismission of Pres. Langdon. Mrs. P. somewhat better -- Thanks to God for the Favour of Heaven to us! P.M. Mrs. Fisk of Brookfield and her son (who belongs to College) dined here. My son William, his Wife and Child John, came up from Concord unexpectedly. Afterwards my Son Samuel and his Wife with their Baby, Sukey, came from Boston. They all lodged here. N.B. Mr. Brigham asked me whether it would suit me to have the Marriage of my Daughter to him to be tomorrow? I asked him, where he intended to live? he replied "Here, if I should like it." I answered that I was willing to do what was in my Power for him. Sent my Compliments to his Father and Mother, and Request they would come -- likewise his Brothers and Sisters. He acquainted me with his Desire to wait on Squire Baker and his Lady with his Invitations to the Wedding, also the two eldest Daughters. To which I consented. My Daughter Cushing rode to Capt. Maynard's to invite him and his Wife. The Return was that Mrs. Maynard was confined with illness.

1780 September 21 (Thursday). Mrs. P. I hope is better. Sophy has unhappily a good deal of a cough. I had a most agreeable sight of my children and their Consorts at Dinner, viz.: William and Lydia, Mr. Cushing and Sarah, Breck and Suse, Samuel and Sally, and Mr. Brigham with Sophy. To God be Praise and Glory! Towards evening according to Invitation, Joseph Baker Esq. and Lady, Mr. Winslow Brigham and Miss Alice Cushing of Shrewsbury, Mr. Hazzletine and Miss Mindwell Brigham, Master Fisk and Miss Anna Brigham, and Mr. Josiah Brigham came to wait on the Solemnity of the Marriage of Mr. Elijah Brigham to my Daughter Anna Sophia, which was performed, and after the Covenant, Mr. Cushing prayed. Mrs. P. was not able to attend with us. N.B. I began to write Mr. Quincy.

¹Psalm 23.6: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

²Isaiah 55.12: "For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

1780 September 22 (Friday). My son William and his Wife sat out early for Concord. Mr. Cushing and his Wife when the Day got up, for Shrewsbury. Dr. Crosby to see Mrs. P. P.M. Sam and Breck with their Wives wait on the Bridegroom and Bride, to Coll. Brighams. Mrs. P. has had a poor Day. At eve came Mr. Forbes and his little Boy, Jo Saunders. Mr. F. delivers me a letter from Col. Baldwin to his wife, containing an account of General Gates's Defeat. An extract from it I send to Mr. Quincy. Mr. Forbes goes to see his Sister, the Widow of his Brother Daniel. N.B. My Flax is spread -- a large piece.

1780 September 23 (Saturday). My son Samuel and his Wife and Child left us. Sent my Letter by him to Mr. Quincy. Mr. Forbes came and I delivered him his first volume of Robinson's Hist. of Scotland. He and his Joseph Saunders left us to go to Concord. At eve came Mr. Grosvenor, requesting and expecting I would preach for him tomorrow, But I had engaged to preach at Northborough. He lodged here. N.B. Mrs. Persis Adams was here to acquaint me that she could not be ready for the Church Meeting next Tuesday and prays it may be further adjourned to the 2d Thursday in November.

1780 September 24 (Sunday). Mr. Grosvenor to Northborough. I rode to Grafton and preached on 1 Chron. 29.15 a. and p.m. Returned home at eve. Mr. Whitney preached here on Roms. 3.7.8 a. and p.m. At Dinner were Doct. Crosby, and Mrs. Maynard. N.B. Mr. Whitney read to the Church a paper from me acquainting the Brethern with Mrs. Adams' Request: and there was no Objection, so that the Meeting of the Church was adjourned to the time she desired.

1780 September 25 (Monday). Breck is roused by an Information that one Williams who is Debtor to him in a considerable sum is seized and put into Jail. My son is gone to his House in N. Shrewsbury. I read Shuckford's Connection Vol. 1. But I am sorry to see my Husbandry fast asleep, no body at work for me, though my apples are rotting and wasting, and Flax seed on stry, (?) unwinnowed on the Barn Floor. Mr. Daniel Adams, Ben. Tainter, Levi Warrin complain of the adjournment: came here, but nothing could be done. Mrs. P. something more comfortable. D. Gratis!

1780 September 26 (Tuesday). Am obliged to go frequently to Mr. Thad. Warrin's for Help, and today in particular, he left his own Business and came to mine.

1780 September 27 (Wednesday). I obtained of My Neighbor Newton to send his Boys, John and Stephen to pick Apples and carry a Load, with Barrells to make Cyder at Mr. Frost's Mill. P.M. Mr. Zebulon Rice and his Wife of Brookfield came to see us: and drank Tea here.

1780 September 28 (Thursday). Dr. Crosby came to desire me to befriend Mr. David Brigham of Shrewsbury, and attend the Funeral of his little son David who dyed suddenly of Worms AEs. 3. I went with the Doctor and dined at his House. P.M. to Mr. Brigham's and prayed and discoursed with the Assembly: but I went not up to the Interment. In returning I went into Mr. Coas's and Sibley's -- at Mr. Noah Hardy's (where I was regaled with Tea etc.). Went to Mr.

Isaac Parkers etc. Mrs. P _____ somewhat better. Breck to Boston. N.B. The Doctor brought me No's 1 to 4 of the Rise and Progress of the American War.

1780 September 29 (Friday). Wrote to My Daughter Baldwin with my returning her Husband's Letter concerning Gen'l Gates' Defeat and Flight. Sent them by Lt. Joseph Bond. Mr. Daniel Adams jr. here with his Wife's Relation: but carried it back again.

1780 September 30 (Saturday). Mrs. Adams herself with her Relation tran- and subscribed. Mrs. P _____ is exercised still with her distressed stomach, but not in so terrible a Degree. Mr. Thad Warrin very kind in coming to take Care about getting home my Cyder from Mr. Thos. Frost's. When his son John brought it, Josiah Brigham unloaded, and got it down to place in the Cellar.

1780 October 1 (Sunday). Did not read publicly. Preached on Mal. 1.11. P.M. repeat Sermon on Isaiah 55.13. Admitted Mrs. El. Adams. At eve read Mr. Flavell's Sermon 7 on Rev. 3.20. N.B. To my sorrow, my Oxen have been breachy at Mr. Isaac Parker's and let in Cattle with them, into his Cornfield.

1780 October 2 (Monday). I rode to a number of Familys in the South, viz. Capt. Morse's: Lieut. and Ensign Warrin's: Mr. Elisha Forbes, where I dined, and he was very generous in a number of presents. I went also to the Widow Forbes's, where I had opportunity to see old Miss Stone, was also at Mr. Phin. Hardy's, but could find no Body there. N.B. Lt. Warrin kindly sent his young Man at eve, for two of my Calves to pasture them till weaned.

1780 October 3 (Tuesday). I preached at Squire Bakers's on Ezek. 20.11. May it please God to accompany it with His Special Blessing! May we have Grace to keep God's Statutes and Judgments, which we ought to be thankful God has given us. Since if a man do them he shall even live in them. Squire got home from Boston at about 3, yet sat out at Charlestown 25 minutes after 9 a.m.

1780 October 4 (Wednesday). Mr. Nathan Maynard came with a yoke of Oxen, Dr. Hawes' Oxen and my own, having Squire's Plough, and Mr. Joseph Harrington's Lad, namely Aaron Miller and Capt. Wood's son Benj. to drive and they plowed part of my West Field and left it in a broken condition.

1780 October 5 (Thursday). A Storm of Rain. Read Rise and Progress of War.

1780 October 6 (Friday). Daughter Baldwin sends me a packet of Letters -- one from Col. to her: 3 of Ebenezer to her, which show him to have been in a distressed, disconsolate and now in a sick and weak Condition. I wrote a Letter to him, though I am not sure how I shall send it. I am much perplexed and disappointed about getting my West Field (the rest of what I proposed) plowed.

1780 October 7 (Saturday). Intended to have gone to Shrewsbury, but rec'd a Line from Mr. Sumner neg. and recommending tomorrow come sennight. I took great pains to get another Day's plowing done, but it was all in vain, neither could I find time to prepare any New Discourse for tomorrow.

1780 October 8 (Sunday). Went on with reading in the Psalms -- read Ps. 106 to 24. And I proceeded in Repetition of Sermon on Isa. 55.13 a. and p.m. to page 251, which may God bless to our Highest Good! Rec'd a Letter from Master Nathan Fisk junior of H. C. and another from Mr. Quincy. At eve Breck etc. came, and he read another part of Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20.

1780 October 9 (Monday). Jonathan Frost with my Oxen, Oliver Death with two yoke of Oxen from Squire Baker's, and Joel Kenney to help to driving, plowed in the West Field.

1780 October 10 (Tuesday). Hear much of *Bears*. One is killed by Capt. Jonas Brigham, and others. Weighed 300. I dined at Capt. Brigham's, I visit at Col. Brigham's. P.M. Mr. Ebenezer Forbush conducted me to the thick Swamp, where is the hideous Dwelling of Jacob Garfield, and I went in, though with Difficulty, to see it. Garfield himself led my Horse out, and I visited at Mr. Tim. Warrin's -- but my principal visit was to Mr. Daniel Stockwell's young Child, which was sick -- I prayed with it -- and then went to the poor at the Work House. At my return home was informed that Mr. Fitch of Hopkinton had been here, and brought home Dr. Stillingfleet's Orig. Sacrae.

1780 October 11 (Wednesday). I am obliged to take unspeakable Pains to get a very little work done -- have obtained Mr. Thad. Warrin to thrash a little Rye to Sowe, and he winnows it -- 2 bushels. And Mr. Langton called here.

1780 October 12 (Thursday). In the Morning, Mr. Brigham and Sophy sat out for Rochester. I have writ by them to Mr. Moore, to Mr. Fitch and to Mr. Thos. Adams. Catechized at the Meeting House., had but 28 Boys. P.M. had 34 Girls. And many God graciously accompany the Influence and Warning with His special Blessing! Mr. Thos. Lamson here, to thrash today, but cannot obtain any more.

1780 October 13 (Friday). I attended the Funeral of Mr. Stockwell's Infant and prayed. The Town met to choose a Representative for the first Assembly of the New Government. Mr. John Harrington at eve, and pays all he was to collect.

1780 October 14 (Saturday). Mr. Ebenezer Maynard very kind in sowing and harrowing, both yesterday till afternoon and today a.m. with his son and yoke of Oxen. He did it gratis. Deacon Wood is in a sad Contest with one Chafey, who with his Wife and Child, boarded several months there, but refuses to pay him for it. I rode to Mr. Sumner's and lodged.

1780 October 15 (Sunday). I preached at Shrewsbury. A.M. on Jer. 8.20. P.M. on Job. 31.24. Young Mr. Crosby prayed publickly. P.M. I appointed the Communion and Lecture there, and returned home at evening. Mr. Sumner rode to Westborough in the Morning. Preached for me

a. and p.m. on 1 Pet. 3.21, last clause -- "left us an example etc." He baptized two Children, viz: Polly and Samuel Hall of Daniel Jr. and Elizabeth Adams. Mr. Sumner returned eve. Col. Wheelock is come home.

1780 October 16 (Monday). Mr. Kenney refuses to husk my Corn, though I conceived he took my Field to the halves as Dr. Hawes did, who took the whole care of husking the Corn, and carrying it into the Corn Barn. However, we came to an agreement. I told him he should ask the Neighbors to assist, in an afternoon, and though I would not make an Entertainment, yet I would give them some Drink.

1780 October 17 (Tuesday). I rode to East Sudbury to Minister's Meeting, at Mr. Smiths. (So it is called, though at Mr. Bridge's House.) Only Mr. Whitney absent. Mr. Smith very full of pain etc. and P_____ was Moderator and prayed. A Committee from Marlborough, about a Fast there, Another Committee from Bolton, with new Difficulties there. Before we broke up, Mr. Newell prayed. Next Meeting to be next April at the same place. I went to my son William's where all was well, and I lodged there in comfort and Health. D.G.

1780 October 18 (Wednesday). I payed William an hundred Dollars for so much sent to Elias, last Winter, and he paid me Six Silver Dollars which I lent him some time ago. I returned to Westborough. On my way, dined at Col. Weeks' in Marlborough. Proceeded to Mr. Elizur Holyoke's, a joiner at Col. Williams -- Col. Brigham's, and at Mr. Francis Barns's.

1780 October 19 (Thursday). Mr. Kenney brought from the North Field my part of the Corn, and a number of Neighbors husked it out. Breck was very generous in treating the Huskers with Liquor. Mr. Stephen Johnson and his Wife, from Lyne and their son Eliot of Watertown, with his new Wife, Mr. Johnson's Daughter, all lodged here.

1780 October 20 (Friday). The Company leave us expecting to meet a number of Watertown people at Westtown to dine there. Mr. Samuel Crosby preached my Lecture on Luke 2.11.12. After Lecture, Messrs. Hazletine and Fisk here at Tea etc.

1780 October 21 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 October 22 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on Mat. 26.21-22 to p. 3. Administered the Sacrament. Mrs. Maynard at dinner. P.M. on Rev. 5.5. At eve Mr. Brigham read another part of Mr. Flavell's Sermon 7 on Rev. 3.20.

1780 October 23 (Monday). The Widow Hill's little Son, Silas, of about 4 years old, very bad. I visited and prayed with him. After much Anxiety and Trouble, Capt. Wood's two sons work for me in my small Ingathering, Apples and Potatoes.

1780 October 24 (Tuesday). They come again and finish Beeton field and Orchard. Rev. Mr. Lamson, returning from Connecticut, calls here and Ben Wood goes with my few Apples and Barrells at evening to Mr. Frost's. Breck cut his Foot with an Ax.

1780 October 25 (Wednesday). We esteem this the Day of the Commencement of the honorable Revolution. *The New Constitution of Government now begins The Election of Governor etc.* It is exceedingly to be desired and prayed for, that the minds of the People were properly affected with the great Importance of this so unexampled Time! Direct the weighty Affairs of it and grant an happy Issue to His Glory and the Public Weal!

1780 October 26 (Thursday). I have been so much disappointed by those I have spoke to to work for me that I am forced to improve Capt. Woods' two Boys

1780 October 27 (Friday). to plow for me. We try the new Horse my son Alexander sent me, and with my Oxen I have a sufficient Team for splitting ----- (?) and harrowing in Rye. Mr. Brigham has returned. I visit and prayed with little Silas.

1780 October 28 (Saturday). Lieut. Levi Warrin brought me a Barrell of Cyder. P.M. I rode to Hopkinton and Mr. Fitch came here, though very rainy.

1780 October 29 (Sunday). I preached at Hopkinton on Prov. 18.10. May God grant Success to my own Soul especially. At eve, I went to Mr. Barrett's and lodged there! Mr. Fitch returned from Westborough and tells me the sick little Boy (Silas) dyed last night. N.B. The Sad News from the North West is confirmed. Mischief done at Royalton, Schoharie etc.

1780 October 30 (Monday). I took some time in viewing Mr. Barrett's Books, dined at home and Mr. Sam Crosby with me. P.M. attended the Funeral of Silas Hill. A very large Company there.

1780 October 31 (Tuesday). Breck and Brigham have a drove of Oxen brought to sell. I read Mr. Thos. Hunter's Reflections on Lord Chesterfield, very just and most elegant.

1780 November 1 (Wednesday). The Month comes in with a Violent Storm. In some part of the Day rained hard; but it soon turned to snow, and the continuance of it brings on a very winter prospect. Through divine Favour, we have Wood, Shelter and Clothing.

1780 November 2 (Thursday). Wintry Scenes. Earth covered with Snow. Cold and tedious. Mr. Cushing and Mrs. Cotton from Ashburnham, came this Morning from Shrewsbury, and dined here. Mr. Cushing p.m. returned to Shrewsbury. Mrs. Cotton lodged here. N.B. Sent Hunter's Reflections on Lord Chesterfield's Letters to Dr. Crosby per Mr. Cushing.

1780 November 3 (Friday). Mr. Brigham waited on Mrs. Cotton to Hopkinton. Sent Mrs. Abbe Vol. 2 of De Foe by Mrs. Cotton. N.B. It was brought me by Dr. Stimson some time agoe. As night came on, Elias with Letters from Br. Breck from Springfield. He brings home five young Cattle from Coi's Hill. The two largest Steers have been taken out of Pasture by Alexander some time ago. Breck sent Mr. Th. Lamson, who cutts wood for me at the Door.

1780 November 4 (Saturday). Elias goes and fetches my 12 Sheep from Squire Baker's Pasture. N.B. The principal Weather is missing, and a strange one is brought in his stead.

1780 November 5 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on Rev. 5.6. Mr. Fisk and Cousen Maynard dined here. P.M. on John 10.11. I stayed the Church and read the Letter from Bolton, requesting our Help in Council. When proposed to the Church there was no vote. There were but few Members, but there were but 4 Hands. In the eve, Mr. Brigham read Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20, Sermon 8.

1780 November 6 (Monday). *The Town Meeting*. Granted my Wood and Capt. Maynard to cut and bring it. But as to Sallery, I dont perceive that they have voted anything, but the naked Sum with the Courts Depreciation. Rev. Johnson and Lady call here in their returning home.

1780 November 7 (Tuesday). Mr. Gale was at eve thrown by his Horse and much hurt, but after a while returned home. Suse and Sophy ride to their Father Brigham's. Had some Converse with Capt. Fisher about the Town's Transactions yesterday. My grandchildren Isaac and Betsy Baldwin from Shrewsbury this morning came to see us. Isaac leads an Horse, besides one in his Surkey[?]: these (with Elias's, Breck's and my own) make six Horses which are kept here this Night. Mr. Jonathan Forbes here at eve. Talks of the Doings of the Town yesterday with great concern. He speaks also of Mr. Benj. Fay and Mrs. Th. Whitney's contests.

1780 November 8 (Wednesday). The adjournment of the Town Meeting. By Advice I sent a written Message that if they would grant me the Same Allowance of Depreciation which I was required by every one to pay for every Article, I would submit myself to be taxed. Thereupon the Town chose a Committee to treat with me, viz. Capt. Maynard, Capt. Morse and Capt. Fisher.

1780 November 9 (Thursday). The Council at Bolton met. I had told the Church I did not incline to go. See the Result at the end of this Book. The Church met by adjournment to consider Mrs. Adams' Case. The Woman was present but the *Man*, though warned was not, and therewith Mr. Adams' paper dated July 23 last. As to the Former, Mrs. Adams pleaded that she had not got her Evidences ready, but she would have spoke to her Husband, before the Church -- but he was not there: which was to our Surprise, Since he knew that at this Meeting *his own paper* was expected to be read and considered. It was declared that he was at the public Meeting when Rev. Mr. Whitney read my paper of Adjournment (which was consented to by the Brethren), and he had reason to expect that the Meeting upon these affairs would be now dissolved: The Pastor has also repeatedly told him he was not debarred from Church Meetings but was desired and expected to come. But since he was now absent, nothing more could be done about his Paper, than to read it and then the Letter sent to him which he was disturbed by, but which had nothing of grievous Nature in it: which being done, and nobody there to Sustain the Said paper, nor make Reply to the Exceptions made against the palpable mistakes it was founded upon, it was voted to be dropped: and seeing that Mrs. Adams was now supposed to be trying for Relief in the Civil Law, the Meeting was dissolved, upon which I prayed and gave the Blessing. At eve, Col. Silas Bailey here, returning from Rhode Island. His son Timothy dyed there and is buryd.

1780 November 10 (Friday). Capt. John Wood was here upon the Affair of his son Ben's living with me, and he wants that John shall live with my son Breck. Elias has set out early this morning for Boston.

1780 November 11 (Saturday). The Winter Weather continues. Elias returns from Boston between six and seven o'clock. He brings me from Samuel No. 2 to 6 (5 Books) of the American War. I have read 4. He brought also Dr. Evans which Samuel had to read, but now returns.

1780 November 12 (Sunday). Preached again on John 10.11. P.M. on Mal. 1.11. Cousen Maynard dined here. At eve Mr. Brigham read Flavell on Rev. 3.20, part of Sermon 8.

1780 November 13 (Monday). A committee from the Town came to treat with me about my Sallery. They were Capt. Maynard and Capt. Morse, but Capt. Fisher, who was the third (I think) was not with them. Their errand was to know what I apprehended my Sallery should be. I answered that the Covenant was 55£ Lawful Money, *to be made good to its then Value*. And as to what was not due, the Depreciation which now I have actually paid, and am required to pay is partly *an hundred and eight*: to some an hundred, and to others 90. If the Town would allow me the Medium, that is, an hundred, then out of Pity to the People in this Day of their Trouble, I will deduct my Proportion to bear so much of the Charge of the War, for the present year. My grandson, Isaac Baldwin came this evening from his Tour to Newbury, Dummer School etc.

1780 November 14 (Tuesday). The Town meet by adjournment. The Committee carry my Answer (as above) to them. After meeting, two of the Committee come (Captains Maynard and Morse) and acquaint me that the Town had granted me for this year the sum of £4000, which though it was 1500 short of my just due, I accepted on consideration of their Distresses: and thanked them (The Committee) for their Pains in the Affair. Capt. Fisher came in when the rest were going away: but he stayed not.

1780 November 15 (Wednesday). My Baldwins (Isaac and Betsey) leave us to return home. I wrote by them to their mother. Capt. John Woods moves and his Wife and Children except Ben who is to live with me. Capt. Wood gave me a Barrell, almost full of Cyder. N.B. Ben is to live with me for the sake of getting Learning -- to Satisfie me, for Instruction, Board, Washing and Lodging, he must tend my Cattle, and cut wood, needful chores, go of Errands etc. and he must tarry with me till next April. At eve had a message from one Mrs. Mary Nottingham, who lies sick at Deacon Wood's, to make her a visit. I went accordingly and discoursed with her and prayed with her as one extremely bad, and in a Dangerous Condition.

1780 November 16 (Thursday). I went to Coll. Wheelock's, Capt. Fisher's, Squire's -- called to see Mrs. Nottingham, who is no better. Mr. Harrington with my Team fetches me a Cedar Pole for my West Stanchells. Mr. James Gibson here to buy my young Oxen. Thad. Wait was married to Sally Morse.

1780 November 17 (Friday). Mrs. Eunice Hill of Douglass here; I sent by her to Col. Caleb Hill of Douglass (who married Mrs. Ruth Hicks) to remember their aunt Champney. At eve, Mr. Beriah Ware in Trouble.

1780 November 18 (Saturday). Joel and Gardner, Sons of Mr. Isaac Parker, have brought home a Calf, which their Father has kept a great while for me.

1780 November 19 (Sunday). Heavy rain, few at Meeting. I preached on Mal. 1.12-13. Mrs. Maynard dined here. P.M. I preached on Prov. 18.10. At eve, Mr. Brigham read in Flavell's Works -- Rev. 3.20.

1780 November 20 (Monday). Elias setts out for Springfield. I wrote by him to Br. Breck. The Town meets again by adjournment to settle their Accounts. I visited Mrs. Nottingham again. Master Fisk here at eve and lodges here.

1780 November 21 (Tuesday). Mr. David Kellogg, preacher at Framingham dined here, but I was obliged to leave him to Mr. Brigham, who was his acquaintance. P.M. I preached at Mr. Jonathan Childs, to the Widow Smith, on Ps. 73.26, which may God bless! Rec'd Letter from Mr. Moore of the 9th inst.

1780 November 22 (Wednesday). Very stormy, or I should have visited Mr. Abijah Gale, who has not got well from his Lameness. Read Hist. of the American War, No. 5.

1780 November 23 (Thursday). Mrs. Nabby Martyn has my Horse to ride to Bolton. Mrs. P. employs Mrs. Garfield to spin for her from Day to Day, and Pamela helps her. Ben follows his writing etc.

1780 November 24 (Friday). Mr. Jonathan Childs brings and gives a Barrell of Cyder and a Bag of Apples. Mr. Hezekiah Maynard of Marlborough came and had two Bushels of Rye for the two Bushel of Malt which I had of him last Spring. I wrote by him to Mr. Elizur Holyoke.

1780 November 25 (Saturday). A great Storm of Rain, Wind etc. Towards night it held up: and Miss Nabby Martyn returned on my Horse from Bolton.

1780 November 26 (Sunday). I have been so many ways interrupted, and my mind discomposed that I could make but slender preparations, and therefore I went on with the last Sabbath subject both a. and p.m. but took those words for my Text, in Prov. 21.31, last clause; with new Introduction. Mr. Fisk and Mrs. Maynard dined with us. At eve, Mr. Brigham read the rest of Mr. Flavell's 8th Sermon on Rev. 3.20. God forgive my Dullness and unprofitableness.

1780 November 27 (Monday). Robert Wightman came to thrash for me. Mr. Hazletine wants Henry's Exposition. Mr. Cornelius Waters came -- is with Mr. Brigham, lodges here.

1780 November 28 (Tuesday). Mr. Waters and Mr. Brigham go to Boston. Wrote to Mr. Moore. N.B. Wightman was in the Burgoine Army at Saratoga. Mr. Jonas Bond and his Wife here in their way to Cambridge. Coll. Brigham and Wife make a visit to both Houses. Mrs. Baker very generous, visiting and bringing with an open Hand. I was called to Mr. Barker's, his Daughter Betsey being very ill. I went; and prayed with her. Visit Mrs. Nottingham and prayed there.

1780 November 29 (Wednesday). Wightman here. Mr. Thad. Warrin and his son John came at almost ten o'clock a.m. and carted Muck.

1780 November 30 (Thursday). Was at Neighbor Newton's where was his Br. Timothy of Hardwick, who gave me a sorrowful account of his son and son-in-law's Captivation by the Indians last August from Barnard's Town, and their wives pregnant, exposed to the woods, destitute: but now at Hardwick. Mr. Brigham returned from Boston in the Night.

1780 December 1 (Friday). Rob. Wightman is so successful in his getting out and cleaning the Rye that in these few Days he has thrashed and winnowed (as he has counted) 40 Bushels besides that he plowed for me half a Day, which he gave in; and he carries away 4 Bushels for his wages. I was called away to see Betty Barker, as being near her End. I went -- found her very bad, of bilious Fever. She was too delirious to converse much. I prayed with her, and a number more. Called to see Mrs. Nottingham, who seems to be in more hopeful state.

1780 December 2 (Saturday). I find it a very difficult thing to write Sermons now in my old Age from what I did formerly; and cannot through Dimness and Trembling, make Despatch as then. As my outward Man decays, I ought to labour to have my inner man to be renewed Day by Day. Mr. Jonas Bond and his Wife returned home, but I saw them not.

1780 December 3 (Sunday). A very cold stormy tedious Day; and it was doubtful whether we could attend the Solemnities proposed: yet the Snow which fell was not very deep. I attempted, and God was pleased to carry me through. A.M. on Mal. 1.13 "And they brought that which was torn" etc. Administered the Lord's Supper to the few which came. Mrs. Maynard dined with us. P.M. on Rev. 3.2.1. May God graciously forgive, accept and bless! At eve, Brigham, Flavell on Rev. 3.20, Sermon 9, former part.

1780 December 4 (Monday). A great Disappointment arose by means of nine young Cattle of Squire's which broke in upon and destroyed a great part of my Straw which was designed for several uses: Harrington lays up a part of it on the Hovel and Cart Shed -- but, the Cattle very troublesome, and a sad interruption to me after they had been driven away, [sic]

1780 December 5 (Tuesday). Mr. Corn. Waters and Miss Sarah Shepherd going from Newtown to Sutton call and dine here. Mr. Corn. Biglow came for his Rye, to pay him for his reaping. He requires 4 Bushels and half, but releases a peck.

1780 December 6 (Wednesday). Deacon Haws brings me from Mr. Cranch another volume (the 5th) of Biog. Dict. Letters F and G.

1780 December 7 (Thursday). *Thanksgiving*. Preached on Jer. 3.23 last clause, which may God graciously prosper! Betsey Barker is dead. Mr. Elisha Livermore was marry'd to Miss Lucy Maynard.

1780 December 8 (Friday). A cold and Hoarseness increased to such a Degree upon me that (it being also a Wet Day) I did not go to the Burial of Betsey Barker, who dy'd on Wednesday morning, and Mr. Barker sent for me to-day: but I had no audible Voice. May God graciously teach and comfort them and the surviving Children!

1780 December 9 (Saturday). In compliance with Mr. Corn. Waters Request, I being somewhat better and recovering my voice in some measure, I rode to Southborough and Mr. Stone to Framingham. I went also to the Widow Wood's, on an affair of my Wife's to bespeak some weaving. Lodged at Mr. Stone's.

1780 December 10 (Sunday). A wet Day but (through divine Goodness) I felt so well that I went to Meeting and preached (at Southborough) a. and p.m. on Ps. 124 Several verses, using with some variations, part of the Introduction to the late Thanksgiving Sermon. May God grant Success! Mr. Stone returned at eve. It was too rainy for me, and they urging, I stayed there.

1780 December 11 (Monday). In my way home called at Mr. Gale's. Got home safe. D.G. Understand that Mr. Grosvenor preached for me: and on Rev. 3.2. Capt. Wood dined here. I visited at Mr. Barker's, under their Bereavement, and went to Squire Baker's.

1780 December 12 (Tuesday). Mr. Brigham goes to Boston. Wrote by him to Mr. Thos Adams. Ben Wood at his Father's Desire, goes to Worcester to attend at Court, as a Witness.

1780 December 13 (Wednesday). My Hovel, overloaded with straw, in the late Storm of Rain, broke down: Mr. Lamson and Stephen Maynard kindly came and repaired it. They dined here. I read in Biog. Dict. Vol. 5, F [and] G.

1780 December 14 (Thursday). Mr. Brigham returned in the Night from Boston and he

1780 December 15 (Friday). delivers me a letter from Mr. Quincy of the 6th. Rev. Mr. Israel Evans, a Chaplain to General Poor's Brigade, recommended to me by Mr. Grosvenor, came and lodged here. He relates how General Washington was in Arnold's plot, was designed to be Surprised and taken, at Col. Beverly Robertson's House in Philip's Manor, over against West Point.

1780 December 16 (Saturday). Mr. Evans left us to go to Concord. N.B. He presented me his Sermon delivered at Easton Oct. 17, 1779 to the Officers and Soldiers of the Western Army, after their Return from an Expedition against the five Nations of hostile Indians, published at

the particular Request of the General (Sullivan) and the Field Officers of the Army, printed at Philadelphia.

1780 December 17 (Sunday). A.M. on Rev. 1.3. Mrs. Maynard dined. P.M. on 1 Cor. 10.4. Mr. Silas Brigham dismissed. Mr. Brigham read Mr. Flavell at Even.

1780 December 18 (Monday). I attended the Funeral of old Mr. Isaac Woods. P.M. was a Town Meeting to raise Men for the Continental Army -- to provide Beef for the Army etc.

1780 December 19 (Tuesday). Mr. Beeton has made a Crane for our West Room Chimney, which I have put up. Breck and Suse and little Hannah are gone, though it is a lowery Day, to Col. Brigham's. Breck designing to go to Boston. Constable Maynard now first paid me any pen[n]y of the Grant made last July, paid £701.16,

1780 December 20 (Wednesday). Took a walk among my Neighbors to reckon with them, that I might pay them for their Work for me, last Season, this being the first time that I have had any Money to do it. I went to Mr. Kenny's, dined at Mr. N. Maynard's, was at Mr. Thad. Warrin's. Visit Mrs. Nottingham, who is yet ill and prayed with her. Two Letters from Camp from Ebenezer and from Col. Baldwin of Nov. 14, with General Orders.

1780 December 21 (Thursday). Mr. George Morey of Norton preaches here and dines with us. He informs me that there is a fast at Marlborough, in order to their Calling a Minister. Mr. Ebenezer Grosvenor being there at present.

1780 December 22 (Friday). Mr. Daniel Miller of Fitz-William dined here. Mr. Brigham returned from Boston, and says Mr. Ripley recovers. Town Meeting by Adjournment to endeavor to raise Recruits for the Continental Army; also Quota of Beef and to purchase Corn for the payment of 3 months' men. At eve Mr. Fisk who keeps the East School, here. Capt. Edmund Brigham here, on his Humiliation.

1780 December 23 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 December 24 (Sunday). Dark weather again. A.M. Mal. 1.13, last part and 14, former part. Mrs. Maynard dined with us. P.M. on 1 Cor. 10.4, "And that Rock was Christ." Mr. Brigham at eve still read in Flavell on Rev. 3.20. I read after Exercise, Pierce's Vindic. of Dissent.

1780 December 25 (Monday). In morning Family Exercise read Luke 1.25 to the End and Ch. 2, divers parts, which peculiarly respect the Nativity of our B. L. and give *Thanks* therefor. Breck and his Family dined with us. O that we might uprightly and most gratefully join with all true Christians, and with all our Souls magnifie the Lord, rejoicing forever in God our Saviour!

1780 December 26 (Tuesday). Winter cold, Sharp, Frost: difficult stirring, it is so rough. Icy, with the Snow that has covered the Ground; but we are favoured with Health, Food, Raiment, Fuel and Habitation, etc. D.G. Read Biogr. Dict. F.

1780 December 27 (Wednesday). Am forced to keep House by reason of the Sharp Air. Mr. Brigham brought Mrs. Jotham Bush to dine with us. I read, as yesterday, Biogr. Dictionary, now part of G.

1780 December 28 (Thursday). Several Neighbours came and killed my largest Hog. There were Messrs. Thad Warrin, Sol Batherick and Caleb Harrington. They would not stay to dine with us. The Hog weighed 316 pounds. At eve, Master Fisk here. N.B. Breck brings in a Letter from Ebenezer at Fishkill.

1780 December 29 (Friday). [No entry.]

1780 December 30 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1780 December 31 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on Mal. 1.14 the latter part, and p.m. on Eccl. 12.13. It is deeply to be regretted that those great and Serious Subjects have so slender Effect upon our Minds, Since they do so nearly, so inf'ly [infinitely?] concern us! I have great Reason to be astonished at myself, that I am so far below what I ought to be! I beseech God most graciously to awaken me to a proportionable Exertion! At eve Mr. Brigham read Mr. Flavell on Rev. 3.20. O that I might have a Frame of Spirit suited to the Close of the Year, and that I might have a lively Apprehension of the Close of Life, that I may be found ready for it.