

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1751

1751 January 1 (Tuesday). Every Year brings fresh occasion of Praise to the great, unchangeable, and incomprehensible Being who upholds the Universe! Let me especially praise and adore Him who preserves my Soul and Sustains my Body; who confers richest Favours on the vilest Ingrate!

To Thee Supreme, Omnipotent!
May universal Nature rise!
"Homage To thee, with one Consent,
From whom we all have all Supplies!"
But thou, My Soul, as thou'rt most bound,
Thy Breath and Being chearfull Spend.
The Great Jehovah's Praise resound
To Ages that shall never End!

At Eve my wife and I rode over to Mr. Francis Whipples and assisted at the Solemnizing the Marriage of his Daughter Lucy to Nathan Maynard.¹ N.B. She was born this Day 22 Years Since. An handsome supper, and though a Cold Night, yet it was (through the Smile of Providence) a pleasant, joyfull Time. As I would bemoan my Ingratitude, Barrenness, Senselessness, So I would beg of God to quicken, pardon and help me! To God I would committ all the Events of this Year! But! I know not what a Day may bring forth!

1751 January 2 (Wednesday). Cold, raw Day. The Earth open still and good Clearing. Ebenezer and Thomas improve it. I was much employ'd with Ramsays Cyrus and (except yesterday) for Several Days. It shews a Strong, bright Genius, and is writ with much Elegance. Old Mr. Maynard came to invite me, and my wife also to his House at Even, his Son Nathan having brought home his Bride. We went and Supp'd with them.

1751 January 3 (Thursday). Ebenezer Thrashing Wheat -- which has Suffer'd by the Rotts of the Barn. Thomas a.m. to Mr. Wymans for Several Sadlers-Tools which he has made for him. P.M. he thrash'd with his Brother. A Cold Season.

1751 January 4 (Friday). Bright and pleasant -- and not altogether so Cold as the Days past. My sons thrashing Still. Lucy to Mrs. Mehitable Brigham² to obtain her help in making her new Riding hood -- and stays all Night.

1751 January 5 (Saturday). Read a Letter from Mr. Elijah Collins concerning my Watch, and from my Brother Parkman³ concerning his Marriage last July 19 to Captain Harris's Widow, his near Neighbour, and took her to his House the 31. That her Son, William Harris's Brigantine

¹The son of David Maynard.

²Mrs. Moses Brigham.

³William or "Elder" Parkman of Boston married Hannah Harris.

was lately ashore on Plumb-Island, where his Father was cast away, and lost a Brigantine which my Brother was part owner of.⁴

1751 January 6 (Sunday). I rode over to Mr. Martyns and he came hither. He read not publicly either a or p.m. His Texts Dan. 2.21, and Mat. 6.33. He return'd home at Eve. I at his meeting read a.m. Lev. 25, and preach'd on Jer. 6.8. P.M. read Acts 2 and preach'd on Numb. 23.10. At Eve I was very much tir'd, and it being very dark when I had refresh'd my Self at Supper with Mr. Martyn, I tarried and lodg'd there. I had design'd also to go to Bolton next Morning.

1751 January 7 (Monday). It prov'd a very Stormy Morning -- it blew and Snow'd and became very tempestuous. I yielded to their Importunity to Stay till noon. After Dinner I ventur'd out, and got home safely -- my Family also in Comfort. But Captain Maynard came towards Eve, and had a fresh Debate about the precincts pulling down the old Meeting House.

1751 January 8 (Tuesday). The Storm goes over -- but very cold and snow blow'd about.

1751 January 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Whitney here -- reckon'd with him for his work, about my New House -- gave him a Note to Lieutenant Tainter for 5 Days -- 2 at framing and 3 at digging Stones -- 15/ per Day -- in all £3.15.0 old Tenor. Thomas making another New Pillion. Ebenezer sledded Wood. I kept to my Preparations with some Diligence.

1751 January 10 (Thursday). My Wife and I design'd to have rid to Marlborough, but a young Dog antickly Seiz'd upon the Lining of the Chair (which was to be set upon Runners) and tore it wholly out of the Back: which exceedingly defac'd it. However we rode over to the widow Newtons⁵ and din'd there. Captain Eager⁶ there also. At Eve my son Thomas rode over to Robert Cooks -- I thought upon Business, but (as I came to understand afterwards) to an House-warming.

1751 January 11 (Friday). Ebenezer Sledded Ship-Timber for Mr. Ebenezer Rice. Thomas thrashing.

1751 January 12 (Saturday). Rain. Ebenezer with Neighbour Benjamin How and his Brother Noah, go to the Meeting House to put up Some Sort of Steps or stairs into the Gallery. Thomas went to Lieutenant Tainter who promis'd to Send £7.3.10 old Tenor to Esquire Hazzletine of Upton.

1751 January 13 (Sunday). Very Rainy. The Rain with the Snow upon the Earth make it very difficult going to Meeting. A few of us arrive there. A.M. read several parts of Lev. 13, Scil. the heads of the paragraphs and gave Some Expository Observations. Preach'd a. and p.m. on 2

⁴*The Boston Gazette, or Weekly Journal*, Dec. 4, 1750, reported "One Day last Week, a Brigantine deep laden from the West Indies, in bad Weather, ran ashore on Plumb-Island, and tis feared will suffer much Damage."

⁵The widow of Ensign Thomas Newton.

⁶James Eager of the north precinct.

Sam. 33.3. So very rainy at Noon that I acquainted the Congregation that I Should not go out of the Meeting House, and desir'd them that went out to come in again, in 1/4 of an Hour. I eat a bit of Bread and Cheese which my Maid handed to me in the Pulpit, and I was much refresh'd. P.M. according to my proposal to the Congregation I went not out of the House, but began the Second Service as soon as the people gather'd in. Read Acts 4, and gave Some glances upon it. Preach'd as aforesaid. Got home safely though it was very tedious to me. However I bless God for my many Comforts which I am favour'd with! After Supper and the Evening Exercise in my Family I read to them Mr. Baxters Preface to his Call. May God grant His Awakening Spirit to accompany it and render it profitable!

1751 January 14 (Monday). Cloudy, Misty -- exceeding bad Stirring. My Mare troubl'd with a large Swelling which is become an hard Bunch, upon her Breast.

1751 January 15 (Tuesday). The Storm continues (ever since last Saturday) and rains all Day. My 2 Sons can employ themselves to but small purpose. I was both yesterday and this Day engag'd on my preparations. William gets to School through the Wet and Dirt. Master Forbush here at Eve and lodg'd here.

1751 January 16 (Wednesday). Mr. Stephen Fay here -- din'd with us and tarried till almost Night. The Storm not over, but rains Still. A very unusual Time. The Earth Extremely hollow, and fill'd with Water.

1751 January 17 (Thursday). According to appointment I met Mr. Stephen Fay at Justice Bakers Though it was rainy Weather and bad Stirring abroad. I din'd at Deacon Newtons. I went down with Justice Baker and Mr. Stephen Fay to look of the Land within my Plot of 4 acres and 57 Rods. Mr. Fay and I agreed to go on and give each other a Deed; I him of 3 Acres and 37 Rods of this Land, and he me of Three Acres Right of the sixth Division, to take up Common Land other where. We finish'd the Affair at Mr. Ebenezer Rice's. N.B. Mr. Rice's Young Man (Dudley) and his wife's brethren, had been at the Great Pond, though foul Weather: and caught a great Number of fine Fish -- the Pickerell, Some of them very large. They made me an handsome Present of 3 large ones. At Deacon Newtons as I return'd home, but tarried not long. N.B. Ebenezer at Mr. Cornelius Cooks⁷ assisting him in making a stubb scythe, a Whipple-Tree Chain and several other Things.

1751 January 18 (Friday). The first fair Day ever Since this Day Sennight. This Day, Ebenezer and his Brother Thomas go a Fishing at the Great Pond (mov'd by yesterdays News about Fishing). They return to Dinner. Ebenezer goes this afternoon to looking up Trees for Loggs to be carry'd to the saw-mill; his Brother goes (on Foot) to Mr. David Felton at Marlborough and bought an Horse side of Leather price 30/ old Tenor; and return'd home at Eve. Deacon Newton here. We reckon'd my Debts to him was 8£ 4s, 6d. He threw in 10/6 and I gave him a note to Mr. Samuel Williams for the rest. N.B. I press him to Peace in the Affair relating to Mr.

⁷Westborough's blacksmith.

James Maynard and Rev. Mr. Price. P.M. reckon'd with Aaron Warrin -- his account £4.10 old Tenor. Gave him a Note to Mr. Williams.

1751 January 19 (Saturday). Ebenezer and Thomas go into the Woods to Cutt Loggs.

1751 January 20 (Sunday). A pleasant Day. I read Lev. 14 to number 32 with long Expositions. Preach'd on Tit. 3.1. Din'd at Justice Bakers -- my wife and several of the Family tarried at the Meeting house -- Billy din'd at Mr. Ebenezer Rice's. P.M. read Acts 5, with some brief Exposition. Not having altogether finish'd my Preparations for the Afternoon Exercise, though I began early in the Week and continu'd more than usual at the work, yet by Reading Dr. Hoadly⁸ etc., and my meditations enlarging, yet being desirous it might not be more than Two Exercises; I wanted also some more moving Subject for the afternoon -- I therefore repeated to page 8 of sermon on 1 John 2.14, latter part.

1751 January 21 (Monday). Daniel How assisted Ebenezer and Thomas in Killing Two large Hoggs. Each 12 Score, 11 3/4. P.M. my sons thrash'd Wheat and Swingled some small matter of Flax. Mr. Phinehas Hardy, afterwards Mr. Samuel Hardy, Mr. Grow and Mr. Harrington, were here, reckon'd with them for work and Stuff about the New House and gave each of them a Note to Lieutenant Tainter. Captain Maynards Wife made us a Visit. At Eve I rode over to Mr. Williams and receiv'd £9.10 old Tenor of money from him. The forepart of this Day was exceeding pleasant.

1751 January 22 (Tuesday). The early Morn began with Storm. As the Day got up it grew exceeding Tempestuous. The Wind at South, very Stiff, and sometimes like meer Hurricanes, raining very hard also. It beats extremely against, and into the House. The Lord hath his way in the Whirlwind and in the Storm, and the Clouds are the Dust of his Feet. Nah. 1.3. Stormy Wind, fulfilling his Word. Ps. 148.8. Storm prevails till The Middle of the Day: then the Clouds Scatter and the Sun appears; yet it continues very windy. In the Storm, Two Apple Trees (which were defective) were blown down; the Roof of the Bee House was blown off. The Well-Crotch, Sweep and Pole were laid flatt, one Leaf of the front Gate was forc'd from the Post and thrown down; and it was wonderful that the Roof of the Barn was not carry'd off and destroy'd. The Rain beat through the Windows of the House so much that there were great Puddles in the Rooms and Chambers, but especially in the Great Entry; and had the Wind and Rain continued with Such Violence for a little while longer, it look'd as if the sashes of the Windows would have been forc'd down and the House laid open that we could have had little or no Comfort. But Blessed be God who in the middst of Wrath remember'd Mercy! He that raised the Stormy Wind, made it obey and fulfill his Word. We have reason to fear there is much Dammage done by this terrible Storm. I hear already of the Desolation of Mr. Daniel Forbush's Barn which was blown down to Day when the Cattle were in it, and he himself gone to Boston.

1751 January 23 (Wednesday). A.M. Ebenezer and Thomas got Wood. P.M. they went into the Woods to prepare Loggs for the Saw-Mill. Mr. Charles Rice with me and reckon'd. N.B. a Letter

⁸Bishop Benjamin Hoadly (1676-1761) was a controversial figure who published numerous works.

from Mr. Henry Goold⁹ of Concord for Money. At Eve Mr. Stephen Sadler¹⁰ and his wife and they lodg'd here; as did Master Forbush also; there being an Entertainment or Frolick, of some young people at his Lodgings (Captain Maynards) to Night.

1751 January 24 (Thursday). Moses Warrin¹¹ was married to Persis Rice, Daughter of Mr. Seth Rice. Some of the Company (without any Knowledge) took in the Key which offended a Number of persons who came to see 'em married, and particularly Jonathan Smith was so much displeas'd that he got an Horn, and when the Bridegroom with his Bride and attendants were returning home, he began to blow, even before they had got all of them away from the Road before my Gate. I therefore went out and Smartly reprov'd him for his Impudence and Folly. P.M. my wife and I, though it was very cold, took a Ride to See old Mr. Fay in his illness and confinement. We also went to Benjamin Fay, and examin'd into their suffering Young people to have a Frolick a little while ago at their house. At Eve we were at Mr. Nathaniel Whitneys and we made a Visit also to Mr. Daniel Forbush, where I saw Some of the Sorrowful Effects of the late storm, which blew over his Barn.

1751 January 25, 26 (Friday, Saturday). Sharp weather.

1751 January 27 (Sunday). Read Lev. 14 from number 33 with Remarks. Preach'd on Nahum 1.3. Din'd at Justice Bakers. P.M. read Acts 6, and repeated the Rest of Sermon to young men on 1 John 2.14, latter part.

1751 January 28 (Monday). Martha Pannell went from us to live at Mr. Benjamin Hows.

1751 January 29 (Tuesday). Was at Mr. Bathericks and Sent by Mr. Bezaleel Smith 20£ old Tenor to Mr. Henry Goold. Visited Mr. Bradish.

1751 January 30 (Wednesday). My wife and I rode to Marlborough -- as we went we call'd at Deacon Rice's¹² and din'd there. Renew'd my Desire to Jeduthan Baldwin to work for me in finishing my New House. We visited Dr. Gott who is in a waste and much confin'd. We went also to see Cousen Sally Brigham at Justice Brighams.¹³ I was likewise at Mr. Smiths¹⁴ and Supp'd there with one Mr. Osgood of Andover. N.B. Judge Dudley¹⁵ lies dead. Captain Boardman bury'd this Day. We lodg'd at Dr. Gotts.

1751 January 31 (Thursday). A very Snowy forenoon. I went to Mr. Benjamin Woods¹⁶ but returned and din'd at the Doctors. I wish I could deal more plainly with the Doctor about his

⁹Parkman's son had been apprenticed to Gould.

¹⁰Of Upton.

¹¹The son of Daniel Warrin of Westborough.

¹²Caleb Rice of Marlborough.

¹³Charles Brigham, a justice of the peace.

¹⁴The Reverend Aaron Smith of Marlborough.

¹⁵Justice Paul Dudley of the Superior Court of Judicature died Jan. 21, 1751.

¹⁶A leading citizen of Marlborough.

intemperate use of Spirituous Liquors -- yet had it over and over with him and gave him what Charge I could that he should abstain -- but I fear it is all in Vain. Mrs. Rachel Bowker there. Everyones Heart bleeds -- but we must leave it to God! P.M. we visited at Mr. Smiths (Mr. Osgood not gone) and went in to See Mrs. Williams to mourn with her under the loss of her Father. At home in the Evening.

1751 February 1 (Friday). [No entry.]

1751 February 2 (Saturday). At Eve in much Trouble. A Cow ready to Calve missing: and my young Horse lam'd himself in the Stable. He was hung by one of his fore feet in the floor of the Manger, and after much Striving fell down on the outside of the Manger, in great pain -- but was heard and Seasonably reliev'd -- but the Cow (which I bought of Mr. James Ball) missing all night though we search'd up and down the woods till about midnight, and considerable Snow upon the Ground.

1751 February 3 (Sunday). The little black Cow, missing last night, found this morning with a Calf, in the woods -- was late at meeting by Reason of tramping (in the Snow) so late last night. Read but the Two first Verses of Lev. 15, and gave some Observations upon it. Preach'd on Tit. 3.1, a. and p.m. Din'd at Esquire Bakers and p.m. read part of Acts 7.

1751 February 4 (Monday). This Day concludes the School kept by Forbush at Captain Maynards. Ebenezer with Neighbour John Rogers's Help and his Oxen join'd to my Team carry Large Loggs to Mill.

1751 February 5 (Tuesday). Worcester Court at which we expect the Case of our Treasurer Mr. Ebenezer Maynard by Appeal against the Reverend Roger Price, for Mr. James Maynards Rates, is expected to come on. Mr. Haven came to see us at Evening. N.B. Ebenezer and Thomas, Mary and Lucy gone to dine at Lieutenant Tainters and wait upon his Daughter Sadler¹⁷ in her going home to Upton.

1751 February 6 (Wednesday). Mr. Haven and I rode over to see Mr. Martyn. Mr. Cushing came there also. Call'd at Captain Eagers about Clabboards for my New House. Ebenezer and his Brother and Sister return'd from Upton.

1751 February 7 (Thursday). Mr. Haven bought of me Dr. Atterburys Two Volumes of Sermons.¹⁸ He leaves us to go to Brookfield, North part of it, to preach on probation there. Mr. David Baldwin of Leicester sold me 1000 of White Pine Boards for £15.10/ Old Tenor for which I paid him 10£ old Tenor. As I Sat at Captain Maynards came in the Reverend Mr. Price from Court -- tells me they gave him the Case yesterday, as he was sure all men of any Reason and Justice would. Captain Maynard urg'd me much to dine there but I return'd home. P.M. nigh

¹⁷Elizabeth Tainter married Stephen Sadler of Upton.

¹⁸Francis Atterbury, *Sermons and Discourses on Several Subjects and Occasions*, 2 vols. (London, 1730).

Evening I visited Mrs. Pratt. When I came home had Mr. Jonathan Bond with me. N.B. Ebenezer and Thomas carried Loggs to the Saw Mill, and Boards to the New House.

1751 February 8 (Friday). Ebenezer in the Woods about Loggs. Thomas to Marlborough and brought an Horse Hide of Mr. Felton -- cost 58/. He paid Lieutenant Nathan Brigham 21£ old Tenor in full for the Land I bought of him by the Meeting House. Thomas brings word that Cousen Sally Brigham was brought to Bed this Morning and bore a Son, being (I think) thirty Weeks Since her Marriage.

1751 February 9 (Saturday). Ebenezer works for Neighbour Rogers, with the Oxen. At Night I was with Joseph Grout junior who is Sick of a Fever, till nigh 12 o'clock.

1751 February 10 (Sunday). Many of Hopkinton People at Meeting with us Mr. Barrett¹⁹ being Sick. A.M. read Levit. 16. Preach'd on Rom. 12.18. Din'd at Justice Bakers. Deacon Kimbal²⁰ and others of Hopkinton din'd there also. P.M. read Acts 7 from number 26, gave short Exposition each part of the Day. Preach'd on Rom. 3.24 -- freely by his Grace -- (and by Reason of my Interruption last Eve did not finish the Subject which I was then engaged upon) I us'd from page 16 to 24 of sermon on Eph. 2.8. My Wife this Day 34 Years old. May God grant her the Grace so to number her Days as to apply her Heart to Wisdom.

1751 February 11 (Monday). Rainy. Ebenezer a.m. goes a Fishing at the Great Pond. At Eve the Storm increases the Wind Southerly and to the East of South, very Strong for several Hours.

1751 February 12 (Tuesday). Am running over Some of Esquire Wests Observations on the History and Evidences of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.²¹

1751 February 13 (Wednesday). I rode to Hopkinton to See Mr. Barret in his Sickness -- find he is much better. I din'd there. The Desolations in Hopkinton by the great Storm much greater than among us. Mr. Barretts, Mr. Price's, and 10 or 11 Barns more in that Town blown down. Mr. Barretts Cattle, and his Negro Man also in the Barn at that Instant. I was at Lieutenant Woods where lay ill Phebe Chamberlin and at their Request I pray'd with her. At Aaron Warrins Shop for a large Cargo of mended Shooes. Call'd at Mr. Hezekiah Pratts, whose wife wastes very much. My Son Ebenezer breaks Flax. Thomas at his Trade.

1751 February 14 (Thursday). A fine Day after a Sharp Night, but the prospect of my Debts, Building and Family Expences very gloomy and distressing. P.M. rode out -- designing to visit Lieutenant Tainter; and yet what can he be able to do for me in these uncommon Times of Difficulty and Straitness in the Province! and especially in Times of Such Trouble and Division in the Parish! As I pass'd by Mr. Nurse's Lieutenant passed along in the Common Road and went

¹⁹The Reverend Samuel Barrett.

²⁰Ebenezer Kemble.

²¹Gilbert West, *A Defence of the Christian Revelation ...as Contained in ... Observations on the History and Evidences of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ* (Boston, 1749). This work first appeared in a Dublin edition of 1747.

to my House -- but carry'd no money for my Relief. As Soon as I was inform'd that Lieutenant had passed along the Road I turn'd my Course (from going to his House) and it being probable that the Lieutenant Saw, and was inform'd that it was I, that was at Mr. Nurse's, yet that he had no Special Business with me, I went to Mr. Ebenezer Rice's and reckon'd with him. I Should have proceeded up the Road to visit Joseph Grout, but heard he was better -- had no fit Since Lords Day Evening. Lieutenant Tainter here while I was abroad.

1751 February 15 (Friday). Snow. Old Mr. Maynard and old Mr. Whipple here. By Mr. Whipples Discourse I perceive there are new Disgusts with Lieutenant Tainter -- that he doth not take Steps towards Mr. James Maynards Rates being Sunk by the Precinct: there being a Warrant up for a Meeting and nothing of Mr. Maynards Affair in it; nor to Consult the Precinct about it.

1751 February 16 (Saturday). Exceeding high westerly Winds -- Sometimes Rain, Sometimes white flying Clouds.

1751 February 17 (Sunday). I read (and gave Some Expository Hints on) Levit. 17. Preach'd on Rom. 12.18. Din'd at Justice Bakers. My wife has for a long Time refus'd to dine with me there fearing to be burdensome, though the Justice has repeatedly manifested his uneasiness at her not coming, and Said that she gave him more trouble as she did not dine there. P.M. read Acts 8, and though I had provided sufficient for another Exercise on the same subject which I preach'd on in the forenoon, yet being unwilling to harp too much on that string at this Time, I conceiv'd it best to wave what remain'd for the present, and chose to finish the Subject I was upon last Lords Day a.m. and therefore deliver'd the Rest of that Discourse (without the Reconcilement of St. James and Saint Paul) on Eph. 2.8 from page 24 to page 36, from Rom. 3.24. Which may God be pleas'd to add his Blessing to! N.B. I publicly notified a meeting at Mr. Hezekiah Pratts next Wednesday.

1751 February 18 (Monday). Was in a great deal of Anxiety on Account of my Family Circumstances, being in divers Straits and Difficultys -- much in Debt already (by means of my New Building chiefly) and unwilling to keep my Creditors out of their dues, yet oblig'd to keep plunging much deeper if I would go on with my New House and place -- and no reason to say any word to the Parish, they being so involv'd, and in Such Contention. But I took a Walk to Mr. Whipples, Mr. Williams's (to each of their Houses) to Deacon Newtons, Widow Newtons etc. In the middst of my disconsolateness on outward Accounts, desire I may not leave trusting and reposing myself in a Mercifull and faithful God: who I pray may be my Supporter under all!

1751 February 19 (Tuesday). Wrote to my Kinsman Davis²² and to Captain Charles Morris at Halifax. P.M. I rode to Mr. Grouts to See his son Joseph who is still sick, and pray'd with him. In every Conversation yesterday and to Day, with the Parishioners, endeavour to my utmost to promote peace and agreement, and to engage others to do what in them lies with those immediately concern'd, that the Contention may go no further. Was at Esquire Bakers at Eve.

²²Parkman's niece, Lydia Tyley of Boston, married Robert Davis, June 9, 1748.

He is going into Connecticut with Mr. Shattuck Flax-trader -- who is there, to sett out in the morning -- wrote to Mr. Pierpoint.²³ Solomon Baker²⁴ designing to go to Boston in the morning, Sent my Watch by him to Mr. Moses Peck by him to have a Glass fitted to it. N.B. My son William this Day ten years old -- he goes over to Mr. Benjamin Hows, and at Eve Ebenezer and Thomas go over there, and to my Grief tarry (all of them) too late. P.M. Ebenezer thrashes Barley.

1751 February 20 (Wednesday). Manifested to my sons Somewhat of my affectionate Concern for them. Ebenezer acknowledges. Thomas more insensible. P.M. at Mr. Pratt and his Wife's Desire, and agreeable to public Notice, given last Lords Day, preached to a Considerable Assembly at Mr. Pratts, his wife lying in a languishing Condition, and long confin'd from public Worship. I us'd Luke 12.40 for the Text. Pick'd the Exercise out of Sermon on Mat. 24.44, and added Two Extracts from Mr. Flavels Touch-stone.²⁵ Viz. Mr. Sedgwick's and Mr. Sydenham's Marks in brief. N.B. old Mr. Whipple and Lieutenant Tainter tarried at Mr. Pratts after the Exercise, and I endeavour'd to have some misunderstandings removed and peace promoted. I advis'd Lieutenant to make Mr. James Maynard a Visit. O that the God of peace would give peace! At Eve Mr. Jedediah Hows of Brookfield here, and Neighbour Stephen Maynard.

1751 February 21 (Thursday). After several Days of Springlike weather, we have now gentle warmish Rain.

1751 February 22 (Friday). Neighbour Batherick here and with Ebenezer hewing Timber for a Privy. Mrs. Warrin of Upton and her child here.

1751 February 23 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1751 February 24 (Sunday). Read Levit. 18. Preach'd all Day on Rom. 12.16. Din'd at the usual place, though the Justice was gone a Journey to Connecticut. N.B. Deacon Newton invited me to dine at their House, but I conceiv'd it not so well to leave Mrs. Baker now when she needed me most. P.M. read Acts 9.

1751 February 25 (Monday). Mr. Batherick and Ebenezer frame a Privy. At Captain Maynards about some Affairs of Plotts of Land, it being Proprietors Meeting at Marlborough to Day. Visited the widow Sibyl Childs. Din'd at Lieutenant Tainters. Settled with Joseph Bruce and paid all.

1751 February 26 (Tuesday). Rode to Mr. Fosgitts²⁶ and picked out 325 more Brick, and paid him £8.12 old Tenor, being in full. Paid Mr. Goddard 20/ old Tenor for Carting the former parcell of Bricks. N.B. both din'd and supp'd at Mr. Martyns.

²³James Pierpont, Jr., of New Haven.

²⁴The son of Squire Edward Baker of Westborough.

²⁵John Flavell, *The Touchstone of Sincerity: or the Signs of Grace and Symptoms of Hypocrisy* (Boston, 1731). This appeared originally in a London edition of 1678.

²⁶In Bolton.

1751 February 27 (Wednesday). Ebenezer went with neighbour Benjamin How to clear a new Road for foot people to Meeting. Lieutenant Tainter carry'd to Boston a Calf for me, which he came and kill'd last Night.

1751 February 28 (Thursday). Mr. Fish²⁷ of Upton preach'd my Lecture on Ps. 107.9. My wife not well at meeting.

1751 March 1 (Friday). Cold Day. Mr. Fish left us to go to Upton. Samuel Bumpso came hither in order to his and Ebenezer's going to Sam's Swamp to get a Stick of White Pine to make Two Troughs for my new House. They both went but did not Succeed in Sam's Swamp; but obtain'd Two in Mr. Bradish's,²⁸ which they cutt down and partly hew'd one of them. [Two words crossed out] by the help of Mr. Daniel Warrin to hew for them. At Eve Lieutenant Bruce came here and I gave him a note to Lieutenant Tainter for 72£ 10/ old Tenor, which with 27£ 10/ of the like Tenor paid some Time agoe makes 100£ old Tenor in part for Cook Island, which he promises to give me a Deed of upon Demand.

1751 March 2 (Saturday). Lieutenant Tainter here, who carry'd a Veal for us to Boston. Ebenezer to Mr. Bradish's Swamp with Mr. Daniel Warrin to hew Troughs.

1751 March 3 (Sunday). Read Levit. 19. Preach'd on Rev. 1.8. Administer'd the Lords Supper. My wife (being ask'd by Esquire Baker) din'd with us -- Mr. Williams also invited both of us to dine at their House. Molly din'd at Deacon Newtons. Some of the Hopkinton people here at meeting, Mr. Barrett not being well yet. P.M. read Acts 10. Repeated sermon on 1 John 3.3.

1751 March 4 (Monday). Town Meeting was at the North Meeting House -- Tedious Storm of Snow. Mr. Edwards Whipple has bought us 25 pounds of Flax at Northampton at 5/ and asks 1/6 for bringing -- comes to 8£ 2.6.

1751 March 5 (Tuesday). The Storm yet more tedious, Snowing, blowing and Cold, all Day and Night. I was chiefly engag'd in reading Expositors and other writers on my design'd Text and Subject -- a faithfull minister. Read especially Davenant on the Colossians.²⁹ I bless God my own Soul not altogether unaffected! Find I have great Reason for Deep Humilliation for my unqualifydness and great unfaithfulness -- the Lord pardon me, through the Great Saviour! N.B. I had appointed a Catechizing at the Meeting House to Day, but the Storm prevented going out.

1751 March 6 (Wednesday). Stormy morning -- but the wish'd for Sun appear'd before Noon. The Snow is deep, and the air very Cold. Read Gilbert West Esquire on the Resurrection of

²⁷The Reverend Elisha Fish.

²⁸James Bradish.

²⁹John Davenant, *Expositio Epistolae D. Pauli and Colossenses* (Cantab., 1627). Two other Latin editions were published in 1630 and 1639.

Christ. (It is Mr. Martyns³⁰ and I would fain return it tomorrow.) Ebenezer takes Care of the Cattle, gets wood, and is busy'd about various Choars. Thomas makes Whipps but can't get Deer's Hair for Saddles.

1751 March 7 (Thursday). I rode over to Mr. Martyns and din'd there. Preach'd his Lecture -- Text 1 Cor. 11.20, latter part. May God be pleas'd to add his Blessing! Call'd at Ensign Rice's at Evening. N.B. Mr. John Caruth there.

1751 March 8 (Friday). John Caruth junior here, from Mr. Martyn. Sent Tar, to make Tar-Water. My sons sledding wood most of the Day. N.B. one of our Geese, instead of Setting, was found Dead near the Currant Bushes -- when open'd we found her Eggs were broke within her.

1751 March 9 (Saturday). Misty.

1751 March 10 (Sunday). Read, with some brief Observations Lev. 20. Preach'd all Day on Col. 1.7. Din'd at Justice Bakers -- p.m. Acts 11. A very Rainy Day, and very difficult getting to and from Meeting.

1751 March 11 (Monday). I was at Mr. Ebenezer Rice's to pay them Rum which I had borrow'd of them -- chiefly for raising my New House, my Well, Cellar and Chimney work. N.B. the Precinct Meeting for their Annual Election of officers, thrown up. At Eve came Mr. Haven from Brookfield and lodg'd here.

1751 March 12 (Tuesday). After Dinner I undertook a Journey to Leicester -- call'd at Mr. Maccartys,³¹ met Mr. Lull in Shrewsbury with a Drove of Hogs, reach'd Mr. Goddards³² and lodg'd there. The Roads very bad, I was so late as to ride great part of the Roade from Worcester to Leicester in the Dark and Mudd.

1751 March 13 (Wednesday). From Mr. Goddards to Mr. David Baldwins. Bargain'd with him to make my Window Frames and Sashes, 13 of the former and 15 of the Latter, 24 Squares in Each Window 7 by 9 Dimensions of Glass and to lodge 'em Safe at Captain Maynards at Westborough, not exceeding the first week of June, for 48£ old Tenor Money, and 4 inner Doors, double rais'd pannells at the price which Mr. Goodwin Housewright in Worcester shall sett. Return'd to Worcester -- din'd near 5 o'clock at Mr. Maccartys. Horse kept at Captain Daniel Wards. Mr. Maccarty and I walk'd to Colonel Chandlers but he was not at Home. Spent the Eve with his Lady. Lodg'd at Mr. Maccartys. N.B. was in great Grief and Trouble by means of the bitter Lamentations and Complaints about Dr. Breck. N.B. News that Colonel Samuel Willard³³ of Lancaster was struck last night with the Numb. Palsey.

³⁰The Reverend John Martyn of the north parish.

³¹The Reverend Thaddeus Maccarty of Worcester.

³²The Reverend David Goddard of Leicester.

³³Willard was a leading citizen, a justice of the peace, and judge of the Worcester County Court of Common Pleas, and Lancaster's representative for many years.

1751 March 14 (Thursday). Was with Mr. Putnam³⁴ (as I was yesterday with Mr. Doolittle,³⁵ and Mr. Waters³⁶) on the Affair of Dr. Breck. N.B. in my returning home, had Discourse with Mr. David Crosby³⁷ about his son and Daughter Cook,³⁸ who are under the Frowns of our Church. Have heard to Day and yesterday of Several sudden Deaths -- but when I got home (instead of finding Mr. Martyn and his wife, to dine with me, as I expected) found Forbush³⁹ from College there, who came up with Tidings of Asaph Rice's⁴⁰ illness at College. But especially -- O Especially! with the heavy and grievous Accounts of the Death of my Dear Kinsman, and rather Brother or Son than Nephew Elias Parkman who was taken ill Friday night was sennight of a Pleurisie, Soon grew delirious -- continued all Wednesday after and expir'd -- was interr'd the next Saturday. May I be suitably affected with this Holy Dispensation -- remember and prepare for my own Decease! May God remember dear Nabby, and her Maker be her Husband! and with him may the dear Orphans find Mercy!

1751 March 15 (Friday). Rainy -- Thomas carry'd 19£ Old Tenor to Mr. Obadiah Newton. Captain Maynard here from Boston, but no Letter from any one.

1751 March 16 (Saturday). P.M. I rode over to Mr. Martyns and desir'd him to change tomorrow, which he consenting to I tarried there.

1751 March 17 (Sunday). Mr. Martyn preach'd for me, and I for him. My Text a. and p.m. Dan. 2.35. His was Isa. 5, beginning. I return'd home at Eve and he lodg'd with us. N.B. a Letter from Brother Parkman of the Death of the Doctor the Day, he dy'd, by the Date of it.

1751 March 18 (Monday). Mr. Martyn and I chang'd Watches, mine being so much worn and having prov'd very expensive to me to keep it in repair; and he also having lately bought Lieutenant Ephraim Brigham's -- but I Suppose he can sell mine, but his watch being by him valued at 10£ more than mine, and the Chain 40/ I gave him Bishop Hopkins' works,⁴¹ Kennets Roman Antiquities;⁴² and lively Oracles by the Author of the Whole Duty of Man.⁴³ P.M. Mrs. Newton, widow here. Mr. Abijah Gale and wife here. She was Examin'd.

³⁴James Putnam, the lawyer of Worcester.

³⁵Ephraim Doolittle of Worcester.

³⁶John Waters of Worcester.

³⁷Samuel Crosby of Shrewsbury. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, p. 255.

³⁸Sarah Crosby married Robert Cook of Westborough. Their conduct was a concern of the Westborough church for many months.

³⁹Eli Forbush, who was keeping school in Westborough.

⁴⁰(Harvard 1752). Rice practiced medicine for a time in Brookfield and later served as the minister of the First Congregational Church of Westminster, Mass., 1765-1815.

⁴¹Ezekiel Hopkins, D.D. (1634-1690), Bishop of Raphoe and Derry, was the author of numerous books. Posthumously, there was published *The Works of . . . Ezekiel Hopkins ... Collected into One Volume* (London, 1701). Two other English editions appeared by 1710.

⁴²Basil Kennet, *Romanae Antiquae Notitia; or the Antiquities of Rome* (London, 1696). At least 11 English editions had been published by 1746.

⁴³[Richard Allestree], *Whole Duty of Man* (London, [1658]). Many other editions followed. *The Lively Oracles Given to Us* (Oxford, 1658) was also published anonymously and in several editions.

1751 March 19 (Tuesday). I was with Neighbour Stephen Maynard as he and Neighbour Benjamin How measur'd Mr. Baldwins Boards.

1751 March 20 (Wednesday). Ebenezer and Thomas digging stones East of the Barn.

1751 March 21 (Thursday). Publick Fast. Preach'd all Day upon Hos. 2.8.9. At noon refresh'd at Deacon Newtons. At Eve my wife and I returning home call'd to See Mrs. Pratt who grows weaker and weaker.

1751 March 22 (Friday). Was at old Mr. Maynard's a.m. At Noon Mr. Ebenezer Harrington⁴⁴ and Ensign Stone of Framingham were here, but did not stay to dine. P.M. Mr. Benjamin Lull. Ebenezer drawing stones with the Young Horse put in with the Rest of the Team; and though it be the first Tryal does very well.

1751 March 23 (Saturday). One Mrs. Davidson here from Needham, who informs that Mr. Peabody⁴⁵ very bad, and it is doubtful whether he will ever recover.

1751 March 24 (Sunday). Read Levit. 21, omitting number 18, 19, 20, but gave a general account of what they contain'd -- preach'd a. and p.m. on 1 Chron. 29.15 on occasion of the Death of my dear Kinsman Dr. Elias Parkman⁴⁶ of Boston. May God bless these meditations to me for my highest Profit! Din'd at Esquires. P.M. read Acts 12.

1751 March 25 (Monday). Undertook a Journey to Boston. Din'd at Mr. Stone's⁴⁷ at Southborough. Call'd at Colonel Buckminsters at Framingham, but Mrs. Buckminster not at home. Rode to Natick -- found Mr. Peabody poor and weak. Lodg'd there -- with his son of Roxbury.

1751 March 26 (Tuesday). Prosecuted my Journey -- aiming to go to Mr. John Child's, Glazier at Roxbury. N.B. one Cook of Needham or Dedham piloted me, to his Grandfathers Captain Robert Cook in Needham -- to Mr. Stephen Winchester in Newton bad with a Cancer -- and to Mrs. Hastings's who formerly carry'd me up to Newtown in her Lap -- N.B. her mother Davis alive -- accounted 116 last October. There was a Mr. Childs at Madam Dudley's -- put up my Horse at Cousen Cowels -- visited my Kinsmans Widow -- Roxbury, her Negro man dy'd to Day -- little Elias very ill of a Fever. Lodg'd at Brother Samuels.

1751 March 27 (Wednesday). My Brother Parkman, Cozen Cowel and I attended the Funeral of poor Roxbury. I lodg'd at Brother Parkmans, and rejoice in his New Spouse.

⁴⁴Selectman of Framingham.

⁴⁵The Reverend Oliver Peabody of the First Congregational Church of Natick.

⁴⁶Parkman's nephew.

⁴⁷The Reverend Nathan Stone.

1751 March 28 (Thursday). The Town very much alive with people who throng into it to put off or Change their Province Bills. I attended the Public Lecture. Mr. Cooper⁴⁸ preach'd on Luke 18 chapter, 9 to 14. The Pharisee and Publican. Din'd at Dr. Chauncy's,⁴⁹ where also din'd Judge Sewall,⁵⁰ Mr. Cook⁵¹ of Sudbury and Mr. Peabody⁵² of Roxbury. Visited Mrs. Oliver and Captain Devenport Walker. Was at Mr. Foxcrofts etc. Lodg'd at Cousen Cowells.

1751 March 29 (Friday). A.M. at Mr. Eliots⁵³ -- Mr. Welsteeds⁵⁴ -- Mr. Clark⁵⁵ of Salem Village came there. Settled my Account with Brother Samuel and paid what appear'd to be the Ballance. Lodg'd at Brother Samuels. My Horse kept at My Kinsman Cowels till this Night; when he was kept at Mr. Stoddards. Visited Mr. Jeremiah Condy.

1751 March 30 (Saturday). Sett out from Boston after Noon about 10 minutes, -- rain'd somewhat while I pass'ed through Watertown -- got to Mr. Nathaniel Williams at Weston by half after Two. Got to Mr. Bridge's⁵⁶ in Season to have come home, but he was desirous we should change: at least he would go to Southborough, and Mr. Stone (having been Spoke to already to do it in Case I should need) to come to Westborough. So that I tarried at Framingham.

1751 March 31 (Sunday). Preach'd at Framingham a.m. on Prov. 14.9. P.M. on John 12.26. Exceeding Cold Wind. Mr. Samuel Haven din'd and lodg'd with me. Ensign Stone and Mr. Farrar⁵⁷ came to see me at Eve. Mr. Bridge, who came to Westborough did not return home till after I was in Bed. N.B. Mrs. Bridge's fall from the Horse Block, by reason of the Wind.

1751 April 1 (Monday). Breakfast at Colonel Buckminsters. N.B. Mr. Bridge, Mr. Haven,⁵⁸ together with his Father, and one Mr. Hale of Brookfield, consulting with me about Mr. Samuel Havens preaching with them (as he had done) in order to his settling there -- whereas he had a Call at part of Medway, and therefore, he (justly) refuses to encourage those of Brookfield till he has done with Medway. Mr. Hale rode home with me. We din'd at Mr. Nichols in Framingham.

1751 April 2 (Tuesday). I was at Mr. Jeduthun Fays. Mr. Cushing here while I was from home.

⁴⁸Samuel Cooper of the Brattle Street Church.

⁴⁹The Reverend Charles Chauncy of the First Church of Boston.

⁵⁰Justice Stephen Sewall of the Superior Court of Judicature.

⁵¹The Reverend William Cooke of Wayland.

⁵²The Reverend Oliver Peabody (Harvard 1745), minister of the First Congregational Church in Roxbury, 1750-1752. *Sibley*, XI, 563-564.

⁵³The Reverend Andrew Eliot of the New North Church.

⁵⁴The Reverend William Welsteed of the New Brick Church in Boston.

⁵⁵The Reverend Peter Clark, the minister of Danvers.

⁵⁶The Reverend Matthew Bridges of Framingham.

⁵⁷John Farrar, a prominent citizen of Framingham.

⁵⁸Samuel Haven (Harvard 1749), the son of Joseph Haven of Framingham, taught school, read divinity with the Reverend Mr. Parkman, and became the minister of the Second Congregational Church of Portsmouth, N. H., 1752-1806. *Sibley*, XII, 382-392.

1751 April 3 (Wednesday). I was employ'd partly upon some Books I brought from Boston. Night Thoughts etc.

1751 April 4 (Thursday). Preach'd Mr. Cushings Lecture at Shrewsbury on Song 1.12. Return'd at Eve. Ebenezer sowing Rye. It has been very searching Cold Weather for some Time. I have taken Cold and went to bed ill. N.B. Lieutenant Bruce went up to Grafton to meet the Reverend Mr. Prentice,⁵⁹ and expected me to have gone.

1751 April 5 (Friday). Somewhat better a.m. but was indispos'd p.m. Remains Cold. Ebenezer and Billy plough at Cook Island.

1751 April 6 (Saturday). A.M. A great Snow Storm. The Snow nigh a foot deep. Ebenezer fetch'd nine Bushels Lime borrow'd of Messrs. Woods and Oake, northside.

1751 April 7 (Sunday). Read Lev. 22. Preach'd on 1 Cor. 4.1. Din'd at Esquire Bakers. P.M. read Acts 13. Preach'd on 1 Pet. 3.5. Those words -- Love as Brethren, be pitiful, be Courteous. Us'd (with alterations) Sermons on Tit. 2.12, from page 85 to 95. Stop'd the Church, and they voted the Dismission of Samuel and Susanna Baker to the Church of Bolton. N.B. Mrs. Rachel Pratt⁶⁰ grows much weaker.

1751 April 8 (Monday). The weather being unfit for our masonry little expect Mr. Newton today, Yet I went over to the New House. Ebenezer and the Team also. Ebenezer fetch'd a Load of Clay from Mr. James Maynards, Mrs. Newtons Clay Pitts being filled and Surrounded with water. I was at Lieutenant Tainters -- visited Mrs. Pratt.

1751 April 9 (Tuesday). The Snow being chiefly gone, my masons came, Mr. Obadiah Newton and Mr. Edward Willson to top out my Chimney, but they were beat off by the Rain. Din'd them at home. P.M. about 4 they go to work again. They lodg'd here, and I kept their Horses. N.B. Ebenezer and Thomas tended the Masons.

1751 April 10 (Wednesday). Masons go to work, but were beat off again Several Times before noon. I carry'd them their Dinner. Ebenezer and Thomas tended them again to Day. P.M. they broke off about 4 or between 4 and 5 o'Clock (I suppose) it raining very hard -- and they went away both of them to Shrewsbury. I rode with Mr. Holbrook of Grafton to Mr. Amsdens -- and discours'd with each of the Gales and their wives concerning their making a profession of Religion. N.B. Sent a Letter by Mr. Holbrook to Mr. John Avery at Boston, Merchant respecting my Young Horse.

⁵⁹Solomon Prentice who had been dismissed by the Grafton church in 1747.

⁶⁰Mrs. Hezekiah Pratt.

1751 April 11 (Thursday). Lieutenant Wood of Upton and [*blank*] Chase (a young practitioner in Physic and who has taken up Lodging at Captain Bakers) din'd here. We are terrify'd with more than ordinary Gusts of Wind -- and the weather is very Cold.

1751 April 12 (Friday). Lieutenant Tainter cutt my Two Year old Colt, and Gratis, as he has been always wont generously to do all such work for me. Ebenezer and Billy go to ploughing a.m. at the Cook Island. Bright, but windy and cold. Preach'd the Lecture on Hos. 10.12, former part, omitted page 1. Proceeded to the End of page 12. After Lecture my wife and I call'd to See Mrs. Pratt, and before we came home we went to See Mr. Eliezer Rice and his wife (who had not been to Lecture either of them) to discourse with them especially with her concerning some Conversations She had had about me at old Mr. Whipple's Some Time since. He not being in the House, I desir'd her to Send for him to come in, which She did, and he came. I told him I wanted to Speak with him, and we walk'd out, to his Gate. Upon my acquainting him with my End in coming, he was Soon in a Ruffle. He tax'd me with impudence in coming now, for that I ought to have come before. I answer'd that it was but newly that I was inform'd of the persons She Spake in the hearing of, So that I was not able to Say any Thing of it besides, I was not willing to mind it or make any Thing of it, Considering the Frame she was in when I suppose she Said what she did, but that it best to let it dye -- but Seeing She came again to the Communion and She was now more in her right mind; but especially Seeing it was got about and it was Concluded by people that I had talked with her, I was desirous to know what she now had to say of it; or who the Men were that She had Said told her what She reported. He ask'd me whether I thought it convenient to talk with her now, about what she had said when (as I conceiv'd) she was not altogether herself? He also Said that he acknowledg'd he had been brought under great Trouble and Affliction in the providence of God, and he was Sorry to find that his Neighbours especially that his Minister should add Affliction to the Afflicted, and he added (most unjustly) that he thought I took a delight in it. He utter'd divers other grievous Sentences. It was so Cold we could stand no longer abroad. We went into the House -- but having intimated my purpose was to talk with his Wife, I let him understand that I was not willing to be with her alone. He Said he design'd to be with her when I did talk with her. Mr. Edwards Whipple was in the House, and I talk'd with Mr. Rice then only about our Reckoning together -- which we finish'd -- except that when he ask'd me whether It was much better if I did not get home till Evening I told him it was Friday and I wanted to go home -- but was very willing if they had any Thing to Say, or I could serve them in any Thing, to stay as long as it should need, and I waited a while, but he was silent -- So that I took leave.

1751 April 13 (Saturday). Drizzly Morning. Broke away afterwards. Ebenezer goes a Fishing till noon.

1751 April 14 (Sunday). Read Lev. 23. Preach'd on Rev. 22.16. My wife and I din'd at the Justice's. Sacrament. P.M. Read Acts 14. Preach'd on John 15.14, repeating in part but with many alterations and additions what was deliver'd before my ordination on the Text.

1751 April 15 (Monday). Rain. No Masons. At Eve came Mr. Maccarty -- after him Mr. Campbell,⁶¹ Maccarty, Wellman⁶² and I rode to Sudbury, the Association Meeting to Day at Mr. Lorings.⁶³ There were besides, Messrs. Cushing, Gardner,⁶⁴ Martyn, Smith, Morse,⁶⁵ Goss,⁶⁶ Davis. Mr. Loring for a Concio read Sermon on Ps. 90.12. N.B. Mr. Campbell and Wellman's Difficulty with Mr. Martyn and Stone, complaining of their Result at the late Council at Sutton. Mr. Stone not present the Affair not heard by the Association as such; but afforded Mr. Campbell and Wellman assistance to effect a Reconcilement between them and Mr. Martyn, which was with success, and they made up all the Matter. I lodg'd at Mr. Lorings. I rode to Concord -- broke fast at Mr. Minots. Paid Mr. Goold the full of the written agreement, Viz. [blotted] -- which added to the former 20£ old Tenor which I sent him was the whole -- and gave him a promisory Note for 18/ Lawfull Money to satisfie him for Thomas's Rates at Concord. I return'd to Sudbury by 11 o'Clock the Time of Lecture which I attended and Mr. Cushing preach'd on John 13.34. After Dinner came Mr. Bridge of Framingham, and Mr. Samuel Haven. Mr. Haven asks advice touching the admission of Mr. Joseph Haven into the Church. In returning home, called at Dr. Gotts and Mr. Smiths -- very Cold Night.

1751 April 18 (Thursday). Ebenezer ploughing Stubble. P.M. I catechiz'd at the Meeting House, about 36 Children, Males and Females.

1751 April 19, 20 (Friday, Saturday). We are much troubled about the Chimney of the New House, there being so high winds and frequent Rains -- So that we can't keep it Safely cover'd.

1751 April 21 (Sunday). Cold. Read Levit. 24. N.B. had prepar'd more than Sufficient (for quantity) for one Sermon on the Duty of people to their ministers; but thought it not prudent to deliver it till I had finish'd the whole on that head -- and therefore after much deliberating and weighing things I concluded it to be best to lay it aside for the present and took some Sermons on living Godly in the Discourse on Tit. 2.12, and deliver'd them, from page 96 to 110 with alterations from Acts 5.20 latter part (both a. and p.m.). Din'd at Justice Bakers. P.M. read Acts 15. N.B. Mr. William Pierce's young Child (of about 2 months old) well last night after sunseting, dy'd before Day this morning.

1751 April 22 (Monday). Rain -- yet attended the Funeral of Mr. Pierce's Child. Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin here in the Eve.

1751 April 23 (Tuesday). I went over to the New House with Ebenezer to direct and assist in planting Elms and Plumb Trees. No ground fenc'd thereof. Sett no Apple Trees. P.M. Mr. Martyn and his Wife here. Afterwards Mr. Abijah Weld⁶⁷ of Attlebury, with his son. Mr. Martyn

⁶¹The Reverend John Campbell of Oxford.

⁶²The Reverend James Wellman of Millbury.

⁶³The Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

⁶⁴The Reverend John Gardner of Stow.

⁶⁵The Reverend Ebenezer Morse of Boylston.

⁶⁶The Reverend Thomas Goss of Bolton.

⁶⁷The Reverend Habijah Weld (Harvard 1723), the minister of Attleborough, 1727-1782. *Sibley*, VII, 268-

and his wife tarry'd to Supper but the other to Shrewsbury. N.B. The Youth is infirm -- going to Dr. Greens.

1751 April 24 (Wednesday). Went to Lieutenant Bruce's about Mrs. Cooks Signing his Deed. At Mr. Warrins. Timothy gave me 20 young Apple Trees which I set out in vacant places of my orchard at Home. Mr. Haven din'd and lodg'd here.

1751 April 25 (Thursday). Mr. Haven with us. N.B. The Watch I lately had of Mr. Martyn Stop'd in the last Night and I can have no further good of it. Mr. Weld returning home from Leicester to Attlebury, here, and after Dinner he and Mr. Haven took leave together. N.B. The Season unusually Cold and Somewhat windy but Ebenezer (Having deferr'd it long already) Sowed Wheat.

1751 April 26 (Friday). Ebenezer Sows Flax -- and p.m. Carts muck. Thomas helps him p.m. Mr. Ebenezer Rice here. Mr. Cook. N.B. Captain Maynard brought a Letter which came from my Kinsman Davis at Nova Scotia.

1751 April 27 (Saturday). Cool windy weather yet. Ebenezer and Thomas Sowing Barley and Carting Muck.

1751 April 28 (Sunday). I have prepared about 16 pages (6 or 7 is an ordinary Exercise) on the third Article of the people's Duty to their Ministers, Viz. an Honorable Maintenance. My heart has labour'd very much about delivering it -- I much reluct at it -- am asham'd I have So much fear of displeasing the people. But being Sensible it is my Duty to preach on this Subject, have begg'd of God to direct me how I shall conduct my self in this matter -- and that I might deliver no Line but what is His. I endeavor to divest myself of my own Concern in it as much as I can, that I may deal impartially -- Have conceiv'd it would be best to deliver but one Exercise upon this Head, though I have much more prepar'd. Accordingly committing myself and my work to God, I went to meeting. Read and gave some Expository Observations on Lev. 25, and then preach'd on 1 Cor. 4.1. Deliver'd some passages concerning the Duty of Obedience to Ministers from Sermon on Heb. 13.17, but only glancingly -- and proceeded to treat of maintenance -- but could not deliver all that I had prepar'd, by 4 pages -- or more. Din'd as usual. P.M. read Acts 16. Repeated Sermon on Tit. 2.12, page 111 to 121, from Acts 5.20. Baptiz'd Mrs. Abigail Gale.⁶⁸

1751 April 29 (Monday). Visited Mr. Moses Brigham's wife who is very weak and low. Mr. Martyn while I was gone.

1751 April 30 (Tuesday). My Wife went to Marlborough and was blooded. She return'd at Eve.

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⁶⁸The wife of Abijah Gale of Westborough.

1751 May 1 (Wednesday). Having receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Stone⁶⁹ to preach his Lecture I went and preach'd on 1 Cor. 11.26 to page 11. In returning at Evening call'd at Mr. Amsdens,⁷⁰ his Daughter Abigail brought to bed before her Expected Time. N.B. Mr. Amsdens indecent Discourse and Conduct. Was at Lieutenant Bruce's and gave him a Bond for 150£ old Tenor and received a Deed of Cook Island.

1751 May 2 (Thursday). My Wife and I rode over to Mr. Martyns. Mr. Morse⁷¹ and his Spouse there. We all din'd together. P.M. at the Public Lecture. Mr. Morse pray'd and preach'd on Eph. 1.3. We return'd at Evening. Found our Tabernacle in peace.

1751 May 3 (Friday). Mr. Holbrook of Grafton here and din'd with us.

1751 May 4 (Saturday). We have now had five Calves, and four of them has [sic] come on Saturday. There has been So much of windy, Rainy, Cold weather that people don't Care to plant yet.

1751 May 5 (Sunday). Read Lev. 26 with some Exposition chiefly extracted from Mr. Henry,⁷² as has been my method for some time. Preach'd a. and p.m. on 1 Tim. 6.17.18.19. I din'd as usual. P.M. read Acts 17.

1751 May 6 (Monday). A.M. at the New House. Mr. Jonathan Forbush and Mr. Ebenezer Rice there with me. Mr. Forbush prizes Mr. Rice's Boards which he has spar'd to me. The price falls so much below Mr. Rice's Expectation that I agree not to use 'em till he is better Satisfy'd. Mr. Biglo Spends Some Hours in building a Wall against the Bank of Gravel which came out of my Cellar. N.B. frequent high Winds. Towards evening I visited Eliezer Rice who is Sick of a Fever. He and his wife also were so fervent for forgiveness and Reconcilement that I gave him my Hand -- but as to the Doctrine of Original Sin, I told him, I would wave every Thought at present, as he was not now able to undergo Discourse and Dispute. We part'd friendly. Brother Hicks⁷³ had been at my House and was gone to Cambridge. When I came home, found Mr. Edwards⁷⁴ of Northampton, who was in his Return home from Boston. He and Colonel Timothy Dwight⁷⁵ have been endeavouring to have a Council to sit at Northampton next week to advise the small part of people there whether it is best to have Mr. Edwards install'd over them, or not.

⁶⁹The Reverend Nathan Stone of Southborough.

⁷⁰Jacob Amsden.

⁷¹The Reverend Ebenezer Morse of Boylston.

⁷²Matthew Henry (1662-1714), the learned dissenting divine, was the author of numerous works published in England. Several of his writings had been published in America.

⁷³Parkman's brother-in-law, John Hicks of Sutton.

⁷⁴The great Jonathan Edwards.

⁷⁵Dwight and other friends and supporters of Edwards were working to establish a new church in Northampton for the dismissed preacher. James R. Trumbull, *History of Northampton* (Northampton, 1898, 1902), II, 228, 233-234.

1751 May 7 (Tuesday). Mr. Edwards left us. Dr. Breck⁷⁶ here and din'd with us. P.M. went to Worcester. N.B. Expected Martyn⁷⁷ and wife to go to Grafton -- but they did not come.

1751 May 8 (Wednesday). Fine Weather; blessed be God! Ebenezer and Thomas are gone to Bolton for Lime. They have Mr. Richard Barns's Oxen added to our own Team. They have a tedious Journey (undertaking it in one Day) and return not till late in the Night. Mr. Fish here and din'd with us. Brings Letter respecting his Ordination.

1751 May 9 (Thursday). My sons begin to plant the Field. A very fine Day. Patty Pannell, brought a present, of a Quarter of Veal from the Widow Tomlins with whom she lives.

1751 May 10 (Friday). Warm, bright and exceeding pleasant, after a night of plentiful Rain. My sons go on with the planting. N.B. Brother Hicks and his Daughter Elizabeth here. Visited Neighbour Eliezer Rice.

1751 May 11 (Saturday). Another very fine Day. My Sons finish'd planting at home, this morning. N.B. Thomas has work'd with his Brother for Several Days -- to Day for himself in his Shop. Brother Hicks and his Daughter return home. Mr. Levi Brigham sent us a wild Goose which he kill'd in the pond. Ebenezer p.m. sow'd the rest of the Flax.

1751 May 12 (Sunday). Ebenezer watch'd last night with Neighbour Eliezer Rice. In the public Assembly read Lev. 27. Preach'd on Jam. 2.5, a. and p.m. Din'd as usual, myself; but my wife, Thomas, William, Sarah and Susanna tarried at the Meeting House. P.M. read Acts 18. Some Number of Strangers at Meeting. Captain Cummins, who is Delegate from Mr. Wigglesworth's⁷⁸ Church to the design'd Council at Northampton. Lieutenant Steward,⁷⁹ from Marlborough, Mr. Smith⁸⁰ being absent, and some Number of others.

1751 May 13 (Monday). Went to Mr. Eliezer Rice's -- Mr. James Maynards, Mr. Seth Rice's, etc. Ebenezer harrows the Ground at the Island. An unusual hot Day. Mr. Bowman and his Brother Thaddeus din'd here. N.B. Gave to Treasurer Ebenezer Maynard per Hand of Lieutenant Tainter a Receipt of the whole of my last Years Sallery, £53.6.8 or 400£ old Tenor, but this Receipt the Committee return'd and I destroy'd.

1751 May 14 (Tuesday). We finish'd planting at the Island. Was there myself p.m. Captain Forbush there and dropp'd Corn. Mr. Silas Brigham with me, about his Affair with Mr. Morse.

1751 May 15 (Wednesday). My wife and I, together with my two sons Ebenezer and Thomas attended the Marriage of Mr. Abraham Batchellor to Mrs. Sally Newton, only Daughter of the late Mr. Abner Newton; which was solemniz'd at the Widow Newtons p.m. N.B. My Daughter

⁷⁶Samuel Breck, the physician of Great Barrington.

⁷⁷The Reverend John Martyn of Northborough.

⁷⁸The Reverend Samuel Wigglesworth of Hamilton.

⁷⁹Daniel Stewart.

⁸⁰The Reverend Aaron Smith of Marlborough.

Lucy was invited also, (and not Molly) -- Molly rode over to Mr. Martyns, agreeable to Appointment Some Time ago, and Lucy tarried at home with the children. I can't but remark what a changing world we live in. What an House of Sorrows that was for a great while, which is now of so high Joy.

1751 May 16 (Thursday). Ebenezer shearing a few Sheep.

1751 May 17 (Friday). Mr. Abraham Knowlton come from Boston call'd here. 'Tis Said that the Prince of Wales is Dead. Lucy went over to Mr. Martyns for Molly and they came home at Eve.

1751 May 18 (Saturday). Ebenezer and Thomas a.m. to the New House to take Care of the Boards and Lime there.

1751 May 19 (Sunday). In the Morning Alexander struck a Ram that return'd the Blow and knock'd him down, and repeated it as often as he endeavour'd to rise -- till my Daughter Molly running to his relief, was struck down likewise; So that they were both in Some Danger; till I went to their Succour. In Public read Numbers Chapter 1 with some Exposition. In the forenoon I thought to have preach'd for the Comfort and Support and Direction of the poor, on the Duty of contentment -- and accordingly read Several Essays on that Subject. But after all, chose to wave writing upon it, till I come to the Tenth Commandment and would also be glad to See Mr. Burroughs's⁸¹ Treatise hereof. Therefore I repeated with some alterations my Exposition on Mat. 6.25 to 30 omitting number 27. Din'd at Justice Bakers, where also din'd Justice Liscomb.⁸² N.B. Lucy, Sarah and Susanna carry'd their Dinners. P.M. read Acts 19. Preach'd on Prov. 16.31. After Divine Service, read Letter from Upton for Ordination of Mr. Fish.⁸³ N.B. I nominated Justice Baker.

1751 May 20 (Monday). Mr. Martyn came a.m. to talk about his people's Conduct in the Affair of his Sallery. He din'd and tarried till Eve. N.B. He is greatly mov'd and very resolute in the affair aforesaid. Mr. Harding of Brookfield likewise here, but did not tarry long.

1751 May 21 (Tuesday). I visited old Mr. Bradish and din'd there. Visited Mrs. Dunlop who is Sick. Was at Deacon Forbush's. N.B. Mr. Solomon Woods (Tything man) complains of my son Williams's Rudeness at Meeting on Lords Day. Was at Mr. Williams's. Call'd to see Mrs. Pratt. My son Ebenezer about a well Crotch, Sweep etc. Thomas not very well. William sett's out Cabbage Plants and goes to Mill at Mr. Allens.

1751 May 22 (Wednesday). Preach'd my Lecture myself -- on Hosea 10.12. Though with many omissions, alterations and additions -- especially on account of the Death of the Prince of

⁸¹The Reverend Jeremiah Burroughs (1599-1646), an English Congregationalist, was the author of numerous works published in England. The following was published in Boston. *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment, Containing Eighteen Rules for the Obtaining this Excellent Grace* (Boston, 1732). Another Boston edition appeared in 1742.

⁸²Samuel Lyscomb, a justice of the peace.

⁸³The Reverend Elisha Fish.

Wales. After Lecture my wife and I visited Neighbour Eliezer Rice who is still sick, and was in one of his Fitts. Several Neighbours here to raise the Well Crotch and Sweep.

1751 May 23 (Thursday). This Morning, according to appointment, my Masons were to come, but to my great Disappointment they did not come. Ebenezer mending Fences, after he had done the well-pole.

1751 May 24 (Friday). Ebenezer at the Fences, a.m. At Neighbour Bathericks Barn-raising p.m. I was in a great Deal of Trouble about Sending to Mr. Willson, the Mason, again. Neither of my Two Eldest sons return'd from Raising till late at Night.

1751 May 25 (Saturday). Instead of their rising Earlier than usual that I might Send one of them this Morning to Mr. Willsons, my Sons, both of them were so sound, that when awak'd they are disturb'd -- and not without Great Difficulty Ebenezer goes up to him to know the Reason of his not coming to my Work. The many Troubles, Difficultys and Disappointments I meet with together with the Confinement I am under by the Work and Business of my Sacred office, whilst so many and Important Affairs are depending. But especially the impudent Conduct of my Sons, render me very Impatient So that I am scarcely able to contain myself which is to my greater Grief because of the present Season, just before the holy Supper. Thomas rode to Marlborough to get Pannell Crooks and to bring home the rest of my Malt from Deacon Woods.

1751 May 26 (Sunday). Read Numb. 2. Preach'd on Rev. 22.16 a. and p.m. Administer'd the Lords Supper. Din'd at Justice Bakers -- and my wife with me. P.M. read Acts 20. N.B. Gave Warning to old and young respecting the Election and requested Young Women to dismiss Seasonably the Young Men that wait upon them.

1751 May 27 (Monday). Mr. Willson came to work -- work'd up my Bricks -- got but one Brick above the ridge of the House. Ebenezer tended him. At Eve paid off both Mr. Willson and Mr. Obadiah Newton who came this Eve in order to go to work tomorrow -- but they both went home. Mr. Breck⁸⁴ of Springfield came and lodg'd.

1751 May 28 (Tuesday). Mr. Breck to Marlborough. I undertook my Journey afterwards. Called at Mr. Timothy Warrins to receive money of Lieutenant Tainter. At Mr. Gale's to get Horse Shoes mov'd etc. N.B. One Pierce of Sutton who had been a Delegate at Northampton Council, travelled some Miles with me. Mr. Breck and I call'd to see Mr. Warham Williams but his Spouse acquainted us how hurtful it was to him to see Company, So that we did not desire to disturb him. At Saltmarsh's we saw Mr. Roberts [*sic?*] Breck of Boston and his Wife with other Company who had rid out so far for their Diversion. Heard that Captain Joseph White, Elias's Father-in-Law, was dead: and my Cousen Cowells Son Peam dy'd suddenly last week; being taken sick on Thursday and dy'd on Friday. About three years old. I put up my Horse at my Kinsman Procters in Boston and lodg'd at my Brother Samuels.

⁸⁴The Reverend Robert Breck, Jr.

1751 May 29 (Wednesday). Another Token for Good from God to New England, in that we enjoy the present Anniversary. Mr. Welsteeds⁸⁵ Sermon on Ps. 47.9, very disgusting to many people in Boston, as therein he much commended what the late general assembly had done in Sinking the Paper Currency and bringing us into a Silver Medium. I din'd at Brother Samuels. Attended the Convention p.m. N.B. Mr. Prince read divers Letters from England -- especially touching a Correspondence propos'd to be kept up between our Convention and the united Dissenting Brethren in England, particularly the Committee of Deputation there. I lodg'd at Nabby's.

1751 May 30 (Thursday). At the Convention Sermon; preach'd by Mr. Wigglesworth of Ipswich on 2 Cor. 11.2, and the Collection for the Support of the Gospel Ministry which I fear was Small. Din'd at Mr. Eliots.⁸⁶ N.B. Mr. Kneeland⁸⁷ acquaints me with a present from Scotland to Mr. Edwards of Northampton which will turn to be nigh 1000£ value old Tenor. He likewise tells me he will undertake to print the Collection of Poems which I have propos'd to him -- and this (if I understood him) whether there be any more subscribers or not. Supp'd at Cousen Olivers with some Number besides -- Mrs..[?] Davenport. He lodg'd at Brother Samuels.

1751 May 31 (Friday). Bought a Box of London Crown Glass 7 by 9 of Mr. James Pitts for 45£ old Tenor. Bought a piece of Garlix etc of Mrs. Stoddard. N.B. Mr. Moses Peck has mended my Watch. Endeavour'd to get upon my Journey but was Stopp'd at Eve, when I design'd to have gone out of Town, by Storm of Thunder and Lightning and Rain. Lodg'd at Cousen Procters. N.B. Mr. Gooldsbury⁸⁸ of Wrentham there.

1751 June 1 (Saturday). At five in the morning set out from Boston. Broke fast at Mr. Dix's⁸⁹ in Watertown. Visited Mr. Williams⁹⁰ of Waltham who is very low. Pray'd with him. N.B. Mr. Cotton⁹¹ of Newton and Dr. Convers⁹² there. Visited Mr. Williams of Watertown. He seems very much humbl'd -- yet defends himself in many respects. Din'd with Mrs. Baldwin in Sudbury; her Husband Captain Baldwin from Home, but her sons there. Was again refresh'd at Mr. Jonathan Strattons in Marlborough. Before I got up to Amsdens it rain'd hard -- stop'd a great while in the Storm at Mr. Amsdens -- before dark set out again, but the rain pour'd down so violently I was oblig'd to turn in to Lieutenant Bruce's -- Pray'd with them, lay'd down and Slep'd. At 11 o'Clock attempted to ride Home -- and arriv'd in Safety. Blessed be God!

⁸⁵William Welsteed, *The Dignity and Duty of the Civil Magistrate . . . Preached May 29th, 1751. Being the Anniversary for the Election* (Boston, 1751). The minister of the New Brick Church in Boston deplored the effects of inflation and expressed approval of the resumption of specie payment in this sermon.

⁸⁶The Reverend Andrew Eliot of the New North Church.

⁸⁷Samuel Kneeland, the printer and bookseller of Boston.

⁸⁸Samuel Gooldsbury.

⁸⁹John Dix, the selectman. Bond, *Watertown*, p. 199.

⁹⁰The Reverend Warham Williams, who died later this month, June 22, 1751.

⁹¹The Reverend John Cotton.

⁹²Josiah Convers (Harvard 1723), a physician of Watertown. *Sibley*, VII, 159-160.

1751 June 2 (Sunday). Read Numb. 3. Preach'd on Job 36.24, a. and p.m. Din'd as usual. P.M. read Acts 21.

1751 June 3 (Monday). Lieutenant Tainter was here -- wants a Receipt of the whole Rates, although above one hundred pounds behind; he offering me his Note of Hand -- I comply'd and gratify'd him. Mr. Grout here -- Mr. Grout desires a note to the Collector for 40/ which is the price of the Timber which he got me for the Frame of my New House. It was so contrary to my Expectation from one who pretended to be so generous, that I was surpriz'd at it. I was also in a great deal of Consternation at the view and prospect of our Family Circumstances -- my sons Ebenezer and Billy not able to accomplish our Weeding at Home -- yet have the Cook Island to tend besides -- my Mind could be in no Composedness for the Exercises of the Solemnity of Ordination at Upton which approaches -- told Mr. Grout I did not see but that I must Stay at Home and hoe. I took my Horse and rode out -- din'd at Lieutenant Thomas Forbushs. Was at Mr. Ebenezer Rice's etc.

1751 June 4 (Tuesday). I rode over to Mr. Cooks and to Mr. Martyns in the Morning -- Then to the Island with Victuals and Drink, supposing I should find Some Hands at Work there -- but though it was not (I suppose) past 10 a.m. A number had been there and had finish'd the work. Lieutenant Tainter and Mr. Charles Rice ploughed and young Mr. Tainter, Mr. Joseph Woods, Two Hands from Mr. Ebenezer Rice's, Two from his fathers, and one from the widow Newton, in all Seven that Hoed. Young Mr. Jeduthun Baldwin, my Carpenter, and his Prentice John Woods came about Noon -- they Eat with us and went to work to finish the New House. Whilst I was gone from home came the Reverend Maccarty and Major Keyes. Also my kinsman Mr. Needham and his wife. Mr. Breck of Springfield and Mr. Martyn and his Daughter. Mr. Haven also -- but went with Forbush. Baldwin and his Man lodg'd at old Mr. Maynards. Mr. Maccarty and Major Keyes went home: the rest lodg'd here.

1751 June 5 (Wednesday). Mr. Martyn and his Daughter rode with me and my Daughter Lucy and son Thomas to Upton Ordination. The rest went their respective ways. But by means of So much Company I was later in setting out than I had appointed. The Churches met and Mr. Dor⁹³ was chose Moderator. N.B. My Enquiry, in the Council, whether Mr. Fish had been at the Shepards Tent?⁹⁴ which was Satisfy'd by Mr. Owen,⁹⁵ his Pastor who gave a good Testimony of the Candidate. N.B. Mr. Fishs having sign'd an agreement with the people about Church Government which I could not approve of; yet did not think it sufficient to break Communion and therefore proceeding. Mr. Hall⁹⁶ open'd the public Exercise with Prayer. Mr. Owen preach'd on Eph. 4.12. Mr. Dor the Charge. I pray'd after the Charge. Mr. Barret⁹⁷ gave the

⁹³The Reverend Joseph Dorr of Mendon.

⁹⁴[Additional note: See Richard Warch, "The Shepherd's Tent: Education and Enthusiasm in the Great Awakening." *American Quarterly* 30 (Summer 1979), 177-98.]

⁹⁵The Reverend John Owen (Harvard 1723), the minister of the First Congregational Church of Groton, Conn., 1727-1753. *Sibley*, VII, 244-247.

⁹⁶The Reverend David Hall of Sutton.

⁹⁷The Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

right Hand. N.B. our Entertainment was at Lieutenant Woods. We return'd to Westborough at night and Mr. Martyn and his Daughter lodg'd here.

1751 June 6 (Thursday). Mr. Martyn etc din'd here. Lucy Bowker at work here for Ebenezer turning his Camblet Coat.

1751 June 7 (Friday). Visited Mrs. Pratt. Read to her my sermon on Ps. 23.4. But having been much worried of late and broke of my Rest, I was very dull and drowsy. Ebenezer finish'd weeding at home. P.M. hir'd William Wood to work at the New House to clear out the stones from the Chambers etc. Lucy Bowker still.

1751 June 8 (Saturday). Ebenezer Carts Boards from hence etc. to the New House. N.B. My Carpenters diet at Deacon Newtons till this Eve.

1751 June 9 (Sunday). I preach'd for Mr. Martyn on Prov. 14.9, a. and p.m. Mr. Martyn for me on Isa. 5, fore part. Rain at Eve and I lodg'd there.

1751 June 10 (Monday). Return'd home. My Carpenters diet at Widow Newtons; the Deacon and his wife going from Home this Week. Lucy Bowker, who went home Saturday Night, here again to Day. N.B. Saw Lieutenant Tainter who seems offended that I said, last Monday, that I saw not but that I must go to hoeing instead of going to Ordination on Wednesday, but I endeavour'd to render him some answer to his Opposition as well as Some Thanks for his Assistance in the work done for me.

1751 June 11 (Tuesday). I rode to Shrewsbury to ministers meeting. N.B. Mr. Morse and Mr. Davis⁹⁸ indecently laugh'd out at reading my Collection -- which was Judge Dudleys Elegant Translation of Dr. Thomas Burnets Dedication of his *Archaeologia* to King William.⁹⁹ I return'd home at Night. N.B. Mr. Morse asks advice in his Case with Mr. Silas Brigham, one of our church.

1751 June 12 (Wednesday). Went to my New House to know how my Carpenters proceeded. Visited Mr. Pratt. Visited Neighbour, Eliezer Rice whose Infant is ill. They desire it may be baptiz'd in private -- but I was going to the association. Rode to Shrewsbury to Association Lecture -- call'd at Mr. Charles Woods's. Mr. Loring¹⁰⁰ preach'd on Tit. 3.5. The sermon an hour and 36 minutes long. Captain Flagg¹⁰¹ of Worcester we hear is dying. Mr. Edwards of Northampton call'd to see us. He is appointed Missionary to the Indians of Houssatunnock to whom he is going. I ask'd advice of the Association respecting my Baptizing of Eliezer Rice's Child, especially if he should declare himself against the Commonly recognized Doctrine of

⁹⁸The Reverend Joseph Davis of Holden.

⁹⁹Burnet's work first appeared as *Archaeologiae Philosophicae: sive Doctrina Antiqua de Rerum Originibus* (London, 1692). Other editions, some in English translations, followed. The editor has found no record of publication of the translation of the dedication by the late Justice Paul Dudley.

¹⁰⁰The Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

¹⁰¹Benjamin Flagg, Jr.

Original Sin. Some advis'd one way and Some another. In returning home I went to Mr. Martyns, in company with Mr. Loring, Mr. Stone and Mr. Seccomb.¹⁰²

1751 June 13 (Thursday). I went to Mr. Eliezer Rice's whose Child is Sick. He still ask'd me what I thought of his proposal about baptizing it? I told him that if he was in Charity, and profess'd what he us'd to do; (and the like was offer'd to his wife) I was willing -- There ensued a discourse concerning original Sin and how for the Belief of it was a Term of Communion. He plainly deny'd both the Imputation and Corruption: his wife did neither but profess'd as she us'd to do. I told Mr. Rice that if I was even of his opinion and ever so willing to administer, yet as it was the first Instance, it would not do to do it without laying it before the Church, to prevent Disquietment. But especially to do it in private would be altogether impudent but if he would consent to it I would do it on his wife's Right, but he refus'd. I offer'd to do any Thing within my power to oblige him. He desir'd it might be laid before the Church, and I consented on Condition he would send his Request in Writing; which he promis'd. N.B. Mrs. Hannah Maynard the Nurse was present. P.M. at New House and visited Mrs. Pratt. N.B. Jonas Bradish undertakes to Split a Stick of Timber of nigh 40 feet long for a Trough with his Saw; but gives out.

1751 June 14 (Friday). With Mrs. Pratt who grows still weaker. Ebenezer and Thomas yesterday and to Day at Half-hilling. P.M. at the New House to see what becomes of the Timber-sawing; and there was Mr. Biglo and Alpheus Newton at it. N.B. Great frustration about Clabboards -- from 1400 which are needed, am reduc'd to 7 or 8 hundred. N.B. Boards for my Floor prove too hard, knotty, unequal in Thickness -- and Difficult to find fit Boards for another Floor -- Viz. the West Chamber, but they have laid the west lower room floor. Though there are so many Boards provided, Those which Lieutenant Tainter brought, which were design'd for the floor having been thrown by as much too knotty: O how perplexing and incumbering these avocations and Disquietments to a Minister! It is very grievous to be thus kept from my Studys. Yet I meet with Some other Things which are of a different Kind: Scil. Mrs. Pratt in her Languishment of Body, Shows a flourishing Soul; and seems to be full of affectionate Regard to me -- Says She has been hopefully thinking she shall be part of my Crown in the Great Day -- which Expression of her fill'd me with deep Humiliation at the Sense of my own infinite unworthiness of any such Honour and Happiness -- but fervent Desire and Longing that it might be so!

1751 June 15 (Saturday). Sent Billy with a Letter to Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin about Clabboards -- and another to Jonas Bradish. Mr. Cook here and reckon'd with him. P.M. attended the Funeral of Mr. Abijah Gale's Infant Child. N.B. Mr. Biglo in the morning finish'd Sawing the Trough. Baldwin with his son John came home to me: but Parkhurst went to Deacon Newtons.

1751 June 16 (Sunday). Read Numb. 4. Preach'd on Prov. 16.31. Din'd at the usual place, my wife and Sundry Small Children Stay'd at and nigh the meeting House. P.M. read Acts 22. In preaching, repeated sermon on Tit. 3.12, from page 121 to 127 from Gen. 17.1. An Hour after

¹⁰²The Reverend John Seccomb of Harvard.

the public services I went to Mr. Hezekiah Pratts and read to his wife some of my Notes on Mat. 11.28. She having express'd to me divers Times that she receiv'd much of the Benefits of God's Ordinances thereby. A Number of Neighbours also were present.

1751 June 17 (Monday). David How junior of Sudbury here to acquaint me that the Designed Council is put off to Some future Time. Ebenezer So out of Health that he goes to Day to Dr. Smith,¹⁰³ is blooded and took Physick. A Showery Day. At Eve came Mr. Zebulon Baldwin in behalf of his Father David Baldwin with a Load of Work and stuff for my New House, Viz. 13 Frames and 15 setts of Sashes (Jeduthun Baldwin makes the 2 Frames for the Garrett But Mr. Baldwin of Leicester all the Sashes) he brought also 3 inner Doors -- and 425 feet of white pine Boards which I bought of him at 30/ old Tenor per Hundred. He and his Team were entertain'd here over night -- and

1751 June 18 (Tuesday). In the Morning put in my Three Creatures and carry'd over the Load to my New House. N.B. Lieutenant Tainter there and paid me 15£ old Tenor which I paid Mr. Baldwin for his Father. N.B. Lieutenant Tainter was very Sharp upon me about the pride of Ministers, when he saw the Window Frames -- and though I reprov'd him, for the unseasonableness of it, being before such a Number of Strangers, yet I endeavour'd to let him know that I was myself griev'd that the windows were so large and I have often said it that I wish'd they were less -- but I was much more surpriz'd and troubl'd when I found that the posts of the House were a full foot shorter than I gave orders for and depended upon. This was a Disappointment which Somewhat mov'd me -- being laid with a number of other Afflictions -- but may God grant patience! Mr. Cushing¹⁰⁴ and Mr. Martyn with their wives, here; I and mine waited upon them to Southborough to See Mr. Stone and his New Spouse.¹⁰⁵ We all din'd there; Mr. Loring also with us; and return'd at Eve. N.B. Mr. Elisha Jones¹⁰⁶ of Weston here, but did not lodge. Sister Hannah Champney¹⁰⁷ here from Sutton, brought by Brother Hicks who return'd home.

1751 June 19 (Wednesday). Ebenezer not well -- but mow'd a little -- the Yard and Garden. I Sent my son William to the Island with my Mare to plough to Day under the Guidance of Mr. Williams who with Esquire Baker and a son of his with an Horse and Plough, Mr. David Maynard junior and A son, Mr. Eleazer Williams, Mr. Benjamin Fay, Adonijah Rice, Abner Whipple, Daniel Grout. These plough'd and hoed till between 10 and 11 -- when they finish'd it. I waited on them with some refreshment and acknowledg'd my great indebtedness to them for it. P.M. Mr. Benjamin Fay here. He desires, in behalf of the Committee that I would step to them which I did -- they Sat at Mr. Ebenezer Maynards. What they requested of me was to give them a Receipt in full of the Grant in February 8, 1744/5 and which I offer'd to do for them if they could assure me it was the Desire of the Precinct that I Should do it; which they did -- or at least, they

¹⁰³Dr. Joshua Smith of Shrewsbury. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, p. 436.

¹⁰⁴The Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

¹⁰⁵The Reverend Nathan Stone of Southborough married his second wife, Mary, the daughter of the Reverend Peter Thacher of Middleborough, May 16, 1751.

¹⁰⁶Jones held various town offices and later represented Weston in the General Court.

¹⁰⁷Parkman's first wife's sister, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. John Hicks of Sutton.

desir'd it in their Name. Whereupon, I comply'd therewith though I did not deliver it now; but told 'em I would write over again, what I had written and it was requested that I would give it to the Precinct Clerk, Mr. Benjamin Fay. I made them also several offers of my part with a Number (if Such would join) and poor as [*illegible*] I am and Family as I have yet would stand Equal with the richest in the precinct to put an End to the Quarrell with Mr. James Maynard. Some of the Committee gratefully acknowledg'd themselves oblig'd to me -- but Deacon Newton Said he did not think the precinct expected or desir'd Mr. Parkman to be burden'd with that Affair, but would do their Duty about it themselves. N.B. sent to Boston for Colouring by Thomas Whipple. Lucy Bowker at Night.

1751 June 20 (Thursday). Lucy Bowker works here again for Ebenezer. Thomas to Sutton, to the Raising of their New Meeting House. I Catechiz'd a.m. at the School-House, but no one ask'd me to dinner anywhere; so that I return'd home, din'd with my own Family. P.M. I rode over to the North End to get short Clabboards of Captain Eager, but he, as was also Mr. Martyn and his wife at private meeting at Lieutenant Holloway's. So that I went there also -- did not succeed about more Clabboards -- went home with Mr. Martyn. Send by him (if he goes to Boston next Monday) to Mr. Kneeland concerning the Collection of Poems which is propos'd to be printed. Supp'd with them by Day Light and return'd home. Ebenezer still not well.

1751 June 21 (Friday). Part of the forenoon assisted Ebenezer in mending Fence in the furthest Pasture -- a large Steer being very unruly. My wife is grown much lamer ever since we rode to Southborough. Sarah Sick -- no doubt by eating Currans and Cherrys. P.M. Necessity obliging I rode to Mr. Whipples¹⁰⁸ for Nails, Bradds and Colours, brought up from Boston by his son Thomas. Carry'd 'em to the New House -- rode to Mr. Twitchells at Eve. My son Thomas return'd from Sutton Meeting-House-Raising.

1751 June 22 (Saturday). Ebenezer is better: he mows between the House and Barn. Thomas mows over the Clear'd ground at the New House. Lucy Bowker here still. P.M. Mr. Hutchinson,¹⁰⁹ in compliance with a Letter which I sent him Yesterday, came -- but it was So late I did not get up to Grafton before Sun Setting. By Mr. Hutchinson's Desire I call'd to see the Child of Mr. Samuel Cooper and at Mr. Cooper's request I pray'd with them. N.B. Dr. Morse¹¹⁰ there. I lodg'd at Mr. Hutchinsons.

1751 June 23 (Sunday). I preach'd at Grafton a. and p.m. on Mat. 16.26, and Baptiz'd Nehemiah, of John and [*blank*] Adams. Return'd to Westborough in the Night. Mr. Hutchinson preach'd at Westborough on Rev. 1, latter part of number 5 and on [*blank*]. He din'd at Lieutenant Tainters.

1751 June 24 (Monday). Ebenezer mows at home. Thomas carries a Barrell of Cyder to the New House and mows over the Clear'd Ground to it. Neighbour Eliezer Rice, in his Feebleness here,

¹⁰⁸Francis Whipple of Westborough.

¹⁰⁹The Reverend Aaron Hutchinson of Grafton.

¹¹⁰Dr. Benjamin Morse, the physician of Sutton. Benedict & Tracy, *Sutton*, p. 698.

more Discourse about his Childs Baptism. P.M. I visited Mary Lattiner who lies sick at Deacon Forbush's. N.B. Jonas Bradish leaves Word that he cannot get me the Clabboards which my work-men are now ready to call for, which Disappointment putts me into no Small Difficulty. N.B. Lieutenant Tainter and his son, Messrs. Harrington, Solomon Woods and Zebulon Rice came a little before night and pulled away Some of the Gravel at the fore side of my New House. Dr. Smith at Eve.

1751 June 25 (Tuesday). My Wife growing very Lame, I waited on her to Lieutenant Bezaleal Eagers,¹¹¹ where She was blooded by Dr. Smith. I left her and proceeded up the Road to enquire after Clabboards -- hearing of Some at Worcester I road up there -- call'd at Mr. Cushings and at Captain Jennisons¹¹² -- din'd at Mr. Maccartys. Bought a thousand of White Pine Clabboards of Captain Chandler, for 20£ old Tenor. Return'd to my Wife at Eagers, were both of us decently entertain'd: and, with my mind much reliev'd by my Success, came home in peace. Another Swarm of Bees, or Two which Captain Maynard hives -- and is much Stung.

1751 June 26 (Wednesday). Sent Mr. John Rogers with my Team for Clabboards at Worcester, who brought 'em, though in the Night first. N.B. Mr. Robert Jennison (William Parkhursts Master) here, with his Wife and Brother. Mr. Stephen Maynard here, and we reckon'd. His Mother also was here. N.B. Their Extraordinary bountifulness in the Reckoning particularly in sinking the account of 43 pounds of Butter to 23, and this at 4/ per pound when I suppose the price is not much less than 5/ -- and in throwing in the bringing up of the Box of Glass for my New House; and in some other Respects, which Things are besides many presents of Meat, Cheese etc.

1751 June 27 (Thursday). Brother Hicks here and Carrys Sister Hannah Champney to Cambridge. Ebenezer and Thomas mowing. Ebenezer hangs a New, Small, Grindstone of 40/ old Tenor. I visited Mrs. Pratt and Eliezer Rice's Child.

1751 June 28 (Friday). The Young Men who finish my New House are daily at Work, but can't go to See 'em every Day.

1751 June 29 (Saturday). Brother Hicks from Cambridge din'd here. Sent by him to Mr. Benjamin Fay, the Precincts Clerk, a Receipt in Full for the 500£ grant. This I have done at the Committees Desire for peace sake. Baldwin and John Woods at Eve.

1751 June 30 (Sunday). Read Numb. 5. Preach'd on Prov. 16.31. Din'd as usual. P.M. read Acts 23. Preach'd on Lev. 19.32. Appointed the Communion but put by the Lecture.

1751 July 1 (Monday). Mr. Twitchell and Mr. Daniel Warrin of the west-side, got stones and built upon the Wall at the West End of my Dwelling House. P.M. Mr. Davis¹¹³ of Holden and his

¹¹¹Of the north precinct, and later a representative of Westborough. Kent, *Northborough*, pp. 280-281.

¹¹²Israel Jennison of Worcester.

¹¹³The Reverend Joseph Davis.

Wife. Afterwards Mr. Mccarty¹¹⁴ and Mr. Wellman,¹¹⁵ here in their Journey to Commencement. A Clap of hard Thunder. At Eve I rode to Mr. Martyns for my Watch (which he has made to go again) -- and return'd immediately.

1751 July 2 (Tuesday). Mr. Cushing and his Wife here on their Journey to Cambridge. Ebenezer and Thomas also rode down. I visited Mrs. Pratt. Din'd at Deacon Newton's where my young Carpenters board. I visited at Mr. Ebenezer Rice's where two Children have the Throat Distemper. Was at Mr. Charles Rice's and at Captain Bakers. An hot Day. At Eve I was much tir'd with my Walks. Wrote to Mr. Edmund Quincy¹¹⁶ about my Collection of Poems.

1751 July 3 (Wednesday). Keep Solitary Commencement at Home. It was Mr. Martyns Lecture and he has ask'd me to assist him in it: but I was not without apprehension I should be oblig'd to attend upon the private meeting (if I tarry in Town); and therefore refus'd him: but if I could have forseen my not going to Cambridge I should have both appoint'd our own lecture, which I Should have endeavour'd to have him preach, and likewise have assisted him to Day in his. P.M. marry'd Adonijah Rice¹¹⁷ to Hannah Crosby.¹¹⁸

1751 July 4 (Thursday). Last night were heavy rains and high winds. This morning very rainy, even to floods. P.M. came two of Brother Hicks's Daughters, Viz. Hannah and Betty. Would have gladly attended the private Meeting, which I hear is at Mr. Whitnys, but I expected an Invitation and an Horse, if they desir'd me; but neither Word or Horse had I. Yet I do not resent it; for possibly they know not I am in Town -- though I may think that enough has been Said to Spread the Knowledge of it. It was also somewhat Showery. P.M. Several Neighbours join'd together to levell the Bank of Gravell at the West End of my New House. They were Neighbour Ebenezer and Nathan and Phinehas Maynard. John Rogers and John Frost and Cornelius Cook. Mrs. Pratt sinks yet lower.

1751 July 5 (Friday). Rainy Day again. Mr. Ebenezer Rice and his wife Sent for me; their youngest son being dead by the Throat Distemper, and their little Daughter ill also of the Same. At the New House in my Return. Very letting season.

1751 July 6 (Saturday). Our Kinswoman (Hicks's) return home to Sutton. Weather dull yet. Ebenezer and Thomas return'd from Commencement. They came from Marlborough this Morning, having lodg'd at Dr. Gotts. P.M. Funeral of Mr. Ebenezer Rice's youngest Child. Dy'd by the Throat Distemper.

1751 July 7 (Sunday). Had not compleated what I design'd for the Sacramental Exercise, and by Reason of my Circumstances, together with my indisposedness (not without too Criminal

¹¹⁴The Reverend Thaddeus Maccarty of Worcester.

¹¹⁵The Reverend James Wellman of Millbury.

¹¹⁶Squire Quincy (Harvard 1722) of Braintree.

¹¹⁷The son of Charles Rice of Westborough.

¹¹⁸The daughter of David Crosby of Shrewsbury.

Indisposedness of Mind and Negligence) could prepare no other; and therefore repeat'd both a. and p.m. Read Numb. 6. Preach'd on 1 Cor. 5.7. Administer'd the Lord's Supper. My Wife and Daughter tarried at the Meeting House. I din'd at the Justice's. P.M. read Acts 21. Preach'd on 1 Cor. 5.6.7.8. N.B. I expressly told the Audience it was not what I had design'd, but what they had had before. Appointed Church Meeting and Catechizing at Mr. Joslins.

1751 July 8 (Monday). Church Meeting at one p.m. at the Desire of Eliezer Rice, who wants to have his infant Child baptiz'd but acknowledges himself though not utterly to deny Original Sin, yet to be most apt to deny the Imputation of Adams Guilt to his Posterity. Mr. Rice did not appear to be very expert in the Controversy: and was therefore perswaded to take things into better Consideration. After Meeting call'd in to see Mrs. Pratt (as I frequently do passing backwards or forwards) but she is now as a breathing Corps. Sir Forbush was with me -- and Mr. Martyn and his wife were at our House. N.B. Mr. Martyn Show'd me the Advertisement which is publish'd by my Direction of Proposals to print a Collection of Poems, etc. He informed me also of a Fast which Dr. Gott proposes to have kept at his House next week, by the assistance of Mr. Smith, Mr. Martyn and Mr. Stone.

1751 July 9 (Tuesday). Visited Mrs. Pratt who revives a little. Visited Mr. Jonah Warrin who is ill. P.M. attended the Funeral of another of Mr. Ebenezer Rice's Children, which has dy'd by the Throat Distemper, and Mrs. Rice is in some measure troubl'd with it. P.M. my workman Baldwin went to Shrewsbury. He return'd and lodg'd at my House.

1751 July 10 (Wednesday). Very hot Day. My Sons Ebenezer and Thomas are daily Hilling and Mowing, except when the Rainy weather which is indeed frequent prevents.

1751 July 11 (Thursday). Rainy at different parts of the Day. But the forenoon Ebenezer and Thomas attend the Hilling. I rode over to the New House, and down to the South East Corner. Eat at old Mr. Garfields, for Dinner. Catechiz'd at Mr. Joslins. 20 Children. Was generously entertain'd. May God reward 'em! My Sons Ebenezer and Thomas go over this afternoon to Hopkinton to the Marriage of Edmund Rice to Hannah Gashit.

1751 July 12 (Friday). It being rainy, or Cloudy, and letting Weather, Ebenezer a.m. Carted over some slit work for stairs -- and Boards to the New House. When he returns he tells me that a very considerable number of persons -- Lieutenant Tainter etc have been to Day and Hill'd my Corn at the Cook Field. N.B. Mr. David Maynard junior brought me 12£ of Putty from my Brother Samuel Parkman.

1751 July 13 (Saturday). Somewhat bright Day but we do nothing at all about Hay. Ebenezer and Thomas after killing a Lamb, went to Hilling. Sent Billy to Mr. Martyns and to Mill.

1751 July 14 (Sunday). Read Numb. 7. Preach'd a. and p.m. on Isa. 7.14. P.M. read Acts 25. Din'd as usual, at Justice Bakers. N.B. Mr. Eliezer Rice proposes to offer his infant Child to Day on his Wife's Right, but understanding that I Should Say so in the Congregation he resisted -- and being willing and desirous to gratifie him I stop'd the Church to ask them whether it would

not Satisfie them (Since they had known how the Case was, and they so would know that it was only on the Mothers Right) if I should proceed to baptize that Child when it shall be offer'd without saying anything Publickly at the time of the Administration. Their Silence was propos'd should give Consent; and it did so. I publickly desir'd the Members of other Churches would get their Dismissions.

1751 July 15 (Monday). Undertook Something of glazing -- one Small Garrett Sash completed. P.M. Mr. Abijah Gale and his wife here with their Relations. Thomas lies by, not well.

1751 July 16 (Tuesday). Exceeding hot. Thomas much out of order. P.M. I set the Glass of another Sash. Visit Mrs. Pratt, and Mr. Ebenezer Rice's Son who has the Throat Distemper.

1751 July 17 (Wednesday). Lieutenant Tainter here in the Morning and deliver'd me 22£ 10/ old Tenor. My Wife and I rode to Captain Bakers, where lodges Mr. Thomas Chase, a young Practitioner in Physick and Surgery. My wife blooded by him. Neighbours John Rogers and John Frost reap Rye, p.m. but do not get it down, though it be but an Acre. Mr. Fish of Upton here to ask me to preach his Lecture next Friday; but I am oblig'd to deny him.

1751 July 18 (Thursday). I rode over to Mr. Martyns, but he with Mr. Smith of Marlborough were gone to visit Mr. Morse. Thomas takes a Vomit. Neighbours John Rogers and Frost reap'd again, a.m., and din'd with us. P.M. Mr. David Baldwin here. N.B. he counts the Doors which he made for me (which are four pannell, and raised and quarter rounded on both sides) at 2 Days work apiece -- and at 3£ 5/ whereas Mr. Goodwin (who was the prizer of them from the account I gave him) had set them at far less.

1751 July 19 (Friday). Ebenezer to the Meadow to Cart Hay; Mr. Samuel Hardy who has taken it to Cut and rake it having been with 4 Hands, the Day before yesterday to mow, and Two Hands yesterday to rake. Mr. David Baldwin and I reckon'd -- and he consented to take an hundred pounds old Tenor for work and stuff which I have had of him paid him 20£ old Tenor (which makes up 45£ of what I have paid him in Cash) receiv'd his Order to pay Mr. Stephen Maynard 40£ and gave him a Note for 15 more (old Tenor). Mr. Morris¹¹⁹ made us a visit -- Mr. Stone and his Spouse with him. But my wife exceeding ill: vomiting etc. The Company din'd with us. Mr. Morris lodg'd here. My wife grew better. Blessed be God!

1751 July 20 (Saturday). Mr. Morris din'd with us, and Sir Forbush waiting upon him to show him the way to Mr. Martyns, he p.m. went there. N.B. Sent Mr. Eliezer Rice word by Forbush (as he return'd to his Father) that I Should not be at home tomorrow. (Otherwise, I should have expected him to bring out his Child to be baptiz'd on his Wife's account.) Ebenezer brought home Two Load of Hay to Day.

¹¹⁹[Additional note: This is probably a reference to Judah Monis (1683-1764), Harvard's first instructor in Hebrew. He was a brother-in-law of John Martyn, minister of the north precinct of Westborough (later Northborough); Sibley, VII, 639-46. See also the references to "Morris," July 20-21.]

1751 July 21 (Sunday). I preach'd at the North End on Hosea 2.8.9 and on John 6.12. Read Numb. [blank] and Acts [blank]. Mr. Morris with us. At Noon and at Eve heavy showers of Rain. I rode to Marlborough to see Dr. Gott who is in a very low State. I lodg'd there. Talk'd plainly to the Doctor -- left him. N.B. Overtook Barnes; gave him 8/ old Tenor and we were reconcil'd.

1751 July 22 (Monday). Call'd at Mr. Smiths: broke fast at Deacon Matthias Rice's and came home in Safety. Thanks to God! Ebenezer and Thomas Mowing -- part of the Barley. Benjamin Gott came up with a Chair and carry'd down his aunt to See his Father. Mrs. Mary Bradish pulls Flax. Neighbour John Rogers, with his Oxen added to my Team, went with Ebenezer to Meadow and brought home Two Load of Hay. Molly to Deacon Forbush. Sent my Horse to Boston per Ebenezer Forbush for my Brother William. N.B. On the 22nd at Eve, while I was in great Concern of Mind about Mrs. Rachel Pratts State (apprehended to be dying and yet uncertain whether she was ready) She receiv'd gracious manifestations and discoveries of the preciousness of the Lord Jesus Christ and her Interest in Him. Glory be to the Name of God!

1751 July 23 (Tuesday). The rest of the Barley cut down. P.M. Solemnized the Nuptials of the Reverend Mr. Fish¹²⁰ and Mrs. Hannah Forbush.¹²¹ My son Ebenezer and Daughter Molly there.

1751 July 24 (Wednesday). Ebenezer got home another Load of Hay from the Meadow, got in Barley etc. Cousen Proctor¹²² to Oxford in the Morning. As we rose from Dinner came my Brother Parkman and having refresh'd himself began to assist me in putting my Glass into the Sashes. N.B. He informs me that my Cousen Oliver¹²³ has lost her Alexander and that Samuel Bradshaw junior¹²⁴ lies very Sick.

1751 July 25 (Thursday). Ebenezer and Thomas Spend the forepart of the Day in mending the Fence at the Island. Molly with Sir Forbush, to wait on the Reverend Mr. Fish and his Bride to Upton. I rode over to Mr. Martyns, and borrow'd his Chair, in which I went to Marlborough to Dr. Gotts for my Wife. The Doctor was insensible as in a Dying State. We attempted to come away, but when we were dining at Mr. Smiths, came a Messenger that the Doctor was dying. We return'd and tarry'd till after 4 p.m. and left him Still breathing. Came home in Comfort. To God the Glory! My Brother sett Glass to Day.

1751 July 26 (Friday). My Brother to the New House. Ebenezer mows. Thomas and William reap Rye. Mr. Samuel Brigham came in the Morning and told us that the Doctor dy'd yesterday about 3/4 after 5 p.m. Mr. Samuel Procter return'd to us from Oxford -- in his Way to Boston. Din'd and lodg'd here.

¹²⁰Elisha Fish of Upton.

¹²¹The daughter of Deacon Jonathan Forbush.

¹²²Parkman's niece, Mrs. Samuel Proctor.

¹²³Parkman's niece, Mrs. Edward Oliver.

¹²⁴The son of Parkman's niece, Mrs. Samuel Bradshaw.

1751 July 27 (Saturday). My Daughter Lucy and I rode down to Marlborough (using by his leave, Mr. Martyns Chair) to the Funeral of Dr. Gott.¹²⁵ Mr. Smith¹²⁶ Said he was not well, and desir'd me to pray -- but I refus'd. Mr. Martyn and Mr. Stone being there the former of those pray'd. Mr. Smith, when the Corps was carry'd forth, took the other Ministers home to his House. I walk'd with Colonel Williams to the Grave. When we return'd from the Grave I refus'd to tarry to Supper, because the Sabbath was so nigh. We made haste home.

1751 July 28 (Sunday). This week past also I was So prevented Studying that I was oblig'd today to preach old Sermons. N.B. my Brother William sabbatizing with us. A.M. I read Numb. 6.8 and preach'd on Heb. 1.3 -- upholding all Things etc. P.M. read Acts 26, and preach'd the Sermon on Col. 1.21 to page 14 but from 2 Cor. 5.18. My Wife, my Brother, Son William, Jeduthan Baldwin and John Woods din'd with me at my New House.

1751 July 29 (Monday). Deacon Newtons son Peter very bad of the Throat Distemper and three more are ill. In the morning visited there. My Brother who is setting Glass at my New House, and my Two workmen there, dine at Deacon Newtons. Ebenezer and I dine at the New House. When they return from Dinner they bring sorrowful News that little Peter is dead. At Eve the Rain prevail'd so that my Brother and I lodg'd at the New House all Night; Ebenezer having carted over Bed -- Bedstead and Bedding. Baldwin and his man ran up to the Widdow Newtons and lodg'd there: for Deacon Newtons House was now in no fit state to entertain them any more.

1751 July 30 (Tuesday). My Brother and I work at the New House, about the Glass. Mr. Eliezer Rice call'd me hastily to Mrs. Pratt who is thought to be dying -- yet she reviv'd by that I got to her. Deacon Newton invit'd both me and my Brother to dine with him. My Brother accept'd and din'd there accordingly but I din'd at home yet hasten'd to the Deacons, his son John being very ill. P.M. Peter Newton burying. After Burying we return'd to our work at the Puttying Windows. Baldwin and his man lodg'd at the New House. Brother and I came home. The Waters are exceedingly rais'd by the heavy Rains of last night.

1751 July 31 (Wednesday). Rain again. Brother and my son Thomas to the New House. Ebenezer getting a Well-Crotch for the Well at the New House. P.M. I was there myself rubbing and cleaning Glass, as my Brother was engag'd in pinning it in. Thomas with his Brother mow'd, Some part of the upper South Side.

1751 August 1 (Thursday). At Deacon Newtons¹²⁷ whose son John is thought to be very dangerously ill. At Mr. Pratts. Neighbour Stephen Maynard going to Boston with his Team, my Brother after Spending the forenoon about my new Windows, and dining with us rides my Mare to Boston. Ebenezer Carts a Well-Crotch, Bed, Powdering Tubb with pork etc to the New

¹²⁵ Benjamin Gott, the physician of Marlborough, was Parkman's brother-in-law.

¹²⁶ The Reverend Aaron Smith of Marlborough.

¹²⁷ Josiah Newton.

House. Boards also from the Mill. Thomas and William reap Wheat. P.M. they rake Hay in the Southside and Ebenezer mows.

1751 August 2 (Friday). John Newton sends for me being near his End. Went: he wants I Should repeat to him the Discourse I had with him yesterday. Pray'd with him. Stephen Newton¹²⁸ is taken ill with the Same Distemper. Call'd at Mrs. Pratts -- she is just gone -- has inward Comfort, but great outward Trouble. Molly and Sarah go over to tarry at the New House to dress the Carpenters Diet. They lodge there; a Second Bed being Set up there. P.M. heavy Showers of Rain.

1751 August 3 (Saturday). John Newton dy'd last Night: and Stephen's illness increases. May God in his great Mercy look upon that afflicted Family and Spare them! Neighbour Stephen Maynard brings my Mare back from Boston, which has been very troublesome to him, and was the occasion of his Cart's being over-turn'd. He brought me 11 ½ Gallons of Rhum.

1751 August 4 (Sunday). Read Numb. ninth Chapter a.m. and preach'd the last Sermon on Col. 1.21 from page 31 with additions. Din'd with my Family at the New House. P.M. read Acts 27 and preach'd on Job 15.11, with a View to the Afflicted Cases of Several Familys in the Parish.

1751 August 5 (Monday). Deacon Kimball¹²⁹ of Hopkinton came to Plaister the West End of my New House. Mrs. Rachel Pratt, the Wife of Neighbour Hezekiah Pratt, dy'd about 1 p.m. I was with her a.m. and we talk'd of her Decease -- she having comfortable Evidence of Grace. Mr. Pratt has carry'd himself in a very exemplary Manner towards his Wife; and his House is now turn'd into a Bochim.¹³⁰ The Lord Sanctifie this Death not only to them but to all of us! Stephen Newton Sick of the Throat Distemper but is thought to be better.

1751 August 6 (Tuesday). Deacon Kimbal at the New House. Baldwin and his Man John all this Time there and my Daughter Molly lodges and works also, tending upon the Workmen in their Meals etc. Mrs. Pratt was bury'd and with much Lamentation. May it please God to enable us to improve this Breach. Mr. Martyn¹³¹ came here while I was gone to Mrs. Pratts Funeral.

1751 August 7 (Wednesday). Deacon Kimball, as well as the Carpenters. I am over there Daily. Go to Mr. Bradishs and fetch upward of 200 Lath upon my Horse before me. Ebenezer Carted Stuff for Cellar Stairs, and for a Stack Yard. Thomas assisted him part of the Day.

1751 August 8 (Thursday). Deacon Kimball etc. Ebenezer and Thomas Carted Two Load of Hay from the Meadow to the New Stack Yard which was mow'd last Saturday was sennight, and was made up the Friday following -- being drench'd by the Storms of Rain. Enough for Some

¹²⁸Another son of Deacon Newton.

¹²⁹Ebenezer Kemble.

¹³⁰Judges, II, 1-5.

¹³¹The Reverend John Martyn of the north precinct.

Number of Cocks was left finally, and lost. Yet I suppose Mr. Samuel Hardy (who had the work in his Hands) took what Care he could but it prov'd a very wet Season.

1751 August 9 (Friday). At the New House. Deacon Kimball, and his Son Ebenezer lay on the Plaistering. Cornelius Cook¹³² tends them. The Carpenters Still there and Molly and Suse to provide for us. Ebenezer and Thomas Cart one Load more from the Meadow to the New Stack-Yard -- having stack'd up the remainder of the Hay at the Meadow, there till some better Season for Carting it. Towards Night they came home to mowing. Have much of our haying to do, when many others are done. Deacon Newton came for me to visit his son Stephen who grows worse. Went according and discours'd and pray'd with him. Visited also the Widow Newton.¹³³ At Night the Walls of my New House being so green and damp, with the New Mortar, no body cares to lodge within them. Deacon and Baldwin make up a Couch in the unfinish'd part of the House. Molly and Suse go to the Widow Newtons. Others disperse otherwise.

1751 August 10 (Saturday). Ebenezer mows, and tends Hay all Day. I am in the morning in no small Trouble for an Hand to tend Plaisterers. Am forc'd to Send Thomas. They finish to Day.

1751 August 11 (Sunday). Read Numb. 10 and preach'd on 1 Cor. 6.9, the first 4 pages, which I deliver'd in the Year 1727/8. My Family din'd at the New House. Mr. Stephen Maynard at noon came for me to go up to Stephen Newton who is nigh expiring and I comply'd. P.M. read the last Chapter of Acts. Went on with 1 Cor. 6.9.10.11. Deliver'd page 5 and from page 13 to 19. (For although I had prepar'd in part on Job 15.11, Yet I could not finish it, having So many Different Cares and Encumbrances at the Time of So many workmen, and at such a Distance from home.) Stephen Newton Expir'd p.m.

1751 August 12 (Monday). At the New House with the Carpenters. P.M. at the Funeral of Stephen Newton. N.B. had Din'd at Mr. Martyn's -- and Committed to his Care a paper for Subscriptions to My Collection of Poems, he being about to go to ministers Meeting at Stow tomorrow, or likely to see several ministers in their Journey there. Hot Day.

1751 August 13 (Tuesday). Hot Weather; and yet I go to the New House my Workmen finishing for the present, what they can do for me.

1751 August 14 (Wednesday). Jeduthum Baldwin and John Woods go over to work at the Meeting House at the North End of the Town. Their Tools carry'd over in Mr. Martyns Chair, drawn by my mare. I agree to give Baldwin 18/ old Tenor per Day for 60 Days, to his Journey man, William Parkhurst, 15/ per Day, 26 Days and to his Apprentice, John Woods 10£, lumping the Latter part of his Time. (The former part he was so new and raw, nothing more than his Diet could be expected.) In all, my Debt to Baldwin is 83£ 10s, old Tenor -- his Credit 3£ 10. This Day due to him 80£. N.B. he offers to take 75£ if I pay him 40£ within a Month, and 35

¹³²The son of Parkman's neighbor.

¹³³Mrs. Thomas Newton.

within 2 months More, or give him Bond for it. The Same Day My Son Thomas carted over my Desk, Study Table, and a Number of Books, etc. Ebenezer went over and with Edwards Whipple and a few more, rais'd the Well-Crotch and sweep. P.M. They went to their Haying at home.

1751 August 15 (Thursday). Molly has liv'd at the New House ever since we dieted the Workmen, to Day she went home, and after much hard work in the Day return'd at Eve. I visited Mrs. Martha Warrin¹³⁴ in the Morning. Over to the other House to point sashes though I do but little of it. I tarried all Day at the new-House. Din'd there alone, but went back to Mrs. Parkman at Night: She being full of pain; has strange Cramps. Has also Indications that her Travail is not far off. The Lord prepare her and all of us for the Changes before us. Rainy and stormy Night. N.B. my mind in much Exercise by Reason of the great Urgency that we remove and yet our House and place there exceedingly unfit to receive us. The Hearth's unlaid, the Banks of Gravel at Each Door unlevelled. No pasture for a Cow, or feed or Hay for an Horse etc. etc.

1751 August 16 (Friday). Exceeding rainy and stormy Morning. Thomas lodg'd at the New House last Night and remains there this morning to clear out the Cellar, Shavings etc. Ebenezer goes to him to join with him therein. I rode over. Six of us dine here, and here I must begin to Study. Clearer weather p.m.

1751 August 17 (Saturday). I lodg'd at the New House. My Family here and Molly, Suse and Alexander. A very fine clear Day. Ebenezer in the Morning brought over another Barel of Cyder, and Severall Boxes of Books and Pamphletts. Mr. Samuel Harrington and Mr. Phinehas Hardy brought each of them an heavy Load of Large Flatt Stones from Mr. Harringtons Quarry, for my Hearths and passage to the Well, etc., both which were gratis. Daniel How din'd with us.

1751 August 18 (Sunday). Read Numb. 11, preach'd on 1 Cor. 6.11. Din'd at the New House. P.M. read Rom. 1. I gave an account of the Epistle and the Contents of the first Chapter. Preach'd on Job 15.11. Return'd to the old House at Eve, with Mr. John Green¹³⁵ who (as also old Mr. Joseph Green) din'd with me to Day.

1751 August 19 (Monday). At the New House in the morning -- when I came back rode up to Mr. Asa Brighams to desire Mrs. Brigham to release Hannah Pratt to nurse my wife. N.B. was at Mr. Gershom Brighams who made me a present of Cheese -- and visited Mr. Samuel Fays Wife: but din'd at Mr. Joseph Knowltons who gave me 3/4 Bushel Rye. When I came home, found Mr. Cushing, and Several Women, our near Neighbours to see Mrs. Parkman, who is every Day and Night in great Pain, and has been for some Time. Here was also Mrs. Patty Haven, and with her Deacon Burnaps¹³⁶ Daughter. Those last lodg'd with us.

¹³⁴Mrs. Daniel Warrin.

¹³⁵This was perhaps a man by that name, referred to as "a sore trial to the thrifty farmers who had to 'entertain' him by turns, and who appointed successive committees in town meeting to ascertain whether he belonged of right in town, and whether he had no relatives anywhere who could support or relieve him." DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 105.

¹³⁶Benjamin Burnap of Hopkinton.

1751 August 20 (Tuesday). The Young Women rode with me to the New House, and we din'd there p.m. I rode back and brought my Wife here to the New House, where now we take up our Dwelling, for the present, at least. O may God be pleas'd to take up His Dwelling with us. Rainy morn. They work part of the Day in Clearing out Shavings and Dirt out of the New House. At Eve, while we were in our New Circumstances, came Mrs. Peggy and Mrs. Isabella Breck, wives of Messrs. John¹³⁷ and Robert Breck¹³⁸ of Boston; (accompany'd by Captain Maynard) and they lodg'd here.

1751 August 21 (Wednesday). I waited upon the Ladys as far as the Edge of Southborough in their Journey. My sons Ebenezer and Thomas go to mowing at the Island -- but by Various Hindrances, did not begin to mow there till late in the forenoon. My Wife grew so ill that we were glad to See Mrs. Forbush¹³⁹ (the Midwife) coming to See us. And we detain'd her all night. Mrs. Bekky Warrin with her Child here, and tarrys to her Aunts Labour.

1751 August 22 (Thursday). Mrs. Forbush tripp'd away home just after break of Day. But my wife grew so bad that I hastily rode away for her again and brought her. It proves a very hot Day; but we must gather the Neighbouring Women. I rode up the Street and alarm'd the four nearest, and proceeded for Mrs. Baker -- likewise for Mrs. Nurse and Mrs. Williams who came -- and Suddenly about 11 o'Clock a.m. a Son was born. My Twelfth living Child, and my Sixth living Son. The Name of the Lord be magnified! May I obtain the Grace to walk in Wisdom and faithfulness towards all the Children which he has graciously given to me! P.M. I preach'd the Sacramental Lecture from 1 Tim. 6.2. "Partakers of the Benefit." It prov'd a very trying Time to me: But may God Support me through! After Lecture I got Mr. William Nurse to lead up my Mare to Mr. Eleazer Pratts for his Daughter Hannah, who came at Evening to Nurse my wife.

1751 August 23 (Friday). Our Hay both at the Island and at home, wet. At Eve very heavy Rains. N.B. Mr. Charles Rice (who came and hoop'd our Bear-Barrell, and does various Chores at different Times) with divers others who came likewise, fitted a Draught-Pole for the Well.

1751 August 24 (Saturday). Mr. Daniel Forbush came and laid the west Chamber Hearth. My mind greatly Exercis'd on Account of the Great Solemnitys before me; especially considering how very slender my preparation is, in all respects.

1751 August 25 (Sunday). My Great Care was that both my Wife and I might transact aright with the glorious God in the Important Work of this Day. Read (publickly) Numb. 12. Preach'd on 1 Pet. 1.19. The precious Blood of Christ. Deacon Forbush,¹⁴⁰ his sister Byles,¹⁴¹ and Mrs. Eleazer Harrington, (Mrs. Bonds Sister) din'd with us. P.M. read Rom. 2. Preach'd on Job 15.11,

¹³⁷Mrs. Parknian's cousin, a merchant of extensive business, often engaged in the Newfoundland fishery. Samuel Breck, *Genealogy of the Breck Family* (Omaha, 1889), pp. 18-19

¹³⁸This cousin of Mrs. Parkman was a cooper of Boston.

¹³⁹Old "Granny" was the widow of Thomas Forbush.

¹⁴⁰Jonathan Forbush.

¹⁴¹Mrs. Joseph Byles of Westborough.

and baptiz'd my Son Samuel. And may God accept him and make him a Great and rich Blessing to us! I have call'd him by this Name, out of respect and Affection to my Brother Samuel at Boston. May he be so endow'd as to be worthy of it!

1751 August 26 (Monday). Ebenezer Carted over my principall Book Presses, and several Boxes more. And it seems now like something of Remove. I was at Morning Prayer with my children at my former Dwelling. After Exercises I gave them Exhortation and Solemn Charge to keep the Way of the Lord. May they have Grace to attend to it and observe it! Before we parted from home, came Mr. Martyn and his Wife, accompany'd by Mr. Michael Dennis, Bookseller in Boston. Who all went with me to the New House. Where came also to visit us Mr. Miller and Mrs. Harrington each with a Cheese. Thomas to the Island a. and p.m. Ebenezer only latter part of P.M. Lieutenant Wood of Hopkinton here.

1751 August 27 (Tuesday). Ebenezer and Thomas Cart 3 Load of Hay from the Island and stack it at the New House.

1751 August 28 (Wednesday). Rode over to Mr. Martyns and din'd there. I preach'd a Lecture at the North End, on Ps. 116.9, and at Eve return'd home.

1751 August 29 (Thursday). Mr. Frost and Rogers mow'd with Ebenezer in the Swamp at home, endeavouring to cutt down all to Day that we can come at to mow. Nathaniel Whitney and his Brother in their going with a Team to the Meadow, brought me two Load of stones for the underpinning the East End of my New House. Mr. Daniel Forbush work'd here in laying the west room Hearth but did not finish it. Brother Hicks here.

1751 August 30 (Friday). At Night reckon'd with Lieutenant Tainter and with Merchant Rice, and Settled our accounts.

1751 August 31 (Saturday). I walk'd over to my Farm House, having no Horse here at the New, from thence I might Set out for Southborough whither I went towards Evening -- got there when the Sun was about an Hour high, and Mr. Stone¹⁴² came to Westborough. N.B. Madam Thatcher¹⁴³ of Middleborough there. N.B. She Show'd me the Notes of her Husband, of his Father, and his Grandfather.

1751 September 1 (Sunday). Preach'd at Southborough -- a.m. on 2 Cor. 3.15. P.M. on number 14.17, and baptiz'd David, Son of David Newton. Mr. Stone at Westborough on 1 Tim. 4.8. He also read. At Eve we each of us return'd to his respective home. May the Lord pardon what has been amiss; and accept and bless what was agreeable to His Will!

¹⁴²The Reverend Nathan Stone of Southborough.

¹⁴³The widow of the Reverend Peter Thacher of Middleborough.

1751 September 2 (Monday). I sent Billy with a Team to the North-End-Meeting House for a Cyder screw made by Deacon Livermore¹⁴⁴ for me -- one of those made by Woolly having Scal'd and Split so much that it is useless; and it is lodg'd at the North Meeting House, under the Care of Mr. Jeduthan Baldwin, who is at work there. I rode after him least some Disaster Should befall him. I din'd at Captain Eagers. A.M. reading Ansons Voiage round the world by Walter.¹⁴⁵ Ebenezer and Thomas mend the Fence of the Pasture at the Island and bring a milk Cow, and Two fatting Creatures to pasture there.

1751 September 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Daniel Forbush came and wrought at the underpinning of the East End of the House, and in the Evening finish'd the Hearth in the West Room. N.B. Reckon'd with Mr. Bowman and with Mr. Biglo. Ebenezer gets up the Swamp Hay at home: and Some Rowing. Billy cutts Stalks.

1751 September 4 (Wednesday). Mr. Biglo Sent his Son Cornelius to cutt Stalks at the Island. P.M. a number more of Lads came, Viz. Joseph and James Bowman: Samuel and Joseph Harrington, Thomas Hardy, and Daniel Grout, who cutt the rest of the Stalks at the Island and Pik'd up those which were cutt in the forenoon by about 5 o'clock p.m. At Evening reckon'd with Mr. Samuel Hardy, for his cutting and raking and cocking Hay at the ministerial Meadow, and instead of 8£ old Tenor which he took it for, I allow'd him nine; and this even although, by Divine Providence there was a Considerable Quantity was never rak'd at all, and Some Loads which were Carted home, or stack'd at the Meadow, were so wash'd with heavy Rains that it was of but little Value. Mr. Samuel Haven here and went over to t'other House to lodge. Ebenezer has kill'd some Veal and brought us a part.

1751 September 5 (Thursday). I observ'd the Day in some Religious Manner. (Vide Natal.) Mr. Haven din'd here. I was in some Difficulty to break off from my retir'd Employment to wait upon him, and not discover my Engagedness another way. I remember'd the words of the Lord in Mat. 6.18. That thou appear not to mean to fast: and agreeably I went down, convers'd, and eat somewhat at Table -- but fearing this interruption I improv'd all the forepart of the Day as Separately as I could. But alas! all is too broken, uninfluencing, ineffectual! God of his infinite Mercy and Graciousness, pittty and pardon, and grant His Grace and Mercy to Me for the great Redeemers Sake! At Eve Mr. Whipple and Mr. Biglo here.

[The following appears in the Natalitia for September 5, 1751:] I Endeavour'd to employ myself Separately and religiously -- chiefly in the following Acts of Thanksgiving and Praise; Humiliation and Penitence; Supplication and Intercession; Self-Dedication and renewing Covenant with God; Resolutions; Considerations of Frailty and Morality. In Petitioning and Supplicating the Throne of Grace, Special Subjects were, Pardon and Sanctification, Ministerial Qualifications and Success, That God would Sanctifie my present new Circumstances in my beginning the World again in this New Habitation, and particularly Direction and Wisdom to Conduct as all my

¹⁴⁴Jonathan Livermore.

¹⁴⁵George Anson, *A Voyage round the World in Years MDCCXL, I, II, III, IV*, Compiled by Richard Walter (London, 1748).

present state and Case is, Grace to Discharge Relative Dutys, The Spirit of God to Prepare for Death and Eternity, Intercession for especially My Wife -- Children -- each of them -- the Infant - - Flock -- for Ministers -- State of Religion -- Friends and Relations.

1751 September 6 (Friday). I wrote a Letter to Mr. Pierpoint of New Haven, wraping up in it a Catalogue etc. I rode to Lieutenant Eagers for Conveyance. Din'd with my Children at my former Dwelling. I hop'd for some Body to come and take up my stalks at the Island, but saw no one. Neighbour How has been burning his Bricks this week.

1751 September 7 (Saturday). Alexander so ill with Cough and Sore Throat that I had my Cloths on the Chief of the Night.

1751 September 8 (Sunday). Read Numb. 14. Preach'd a.m. on Job 15.11. P.M. read Rom. 4 and deliver'd an Expository Exercise on the sixth Commandment. Alexander was so comfortable as to go to Meeting.

1751 September 9 (Monday). Mr. Samuel Hardy here digging Stones, and I got Charles Rice junior to join with him in digging and drawing Stones till night, for a wall by my House.

1751 September 10 (Tuesday). Charles Rice and his Brother Abner drawing Stones part of the forenoon. Captain and Lieutenant Forbush gather'd up and pik'd the rest of my Stalks at the Island.

1751 September 11 (Wednesday). Ebenezer went with my Oxen in the Rain to Mr. Adams's to help him move his Barn. I rode to Lieutenant Woods at Hopkinton to attend a Fast there at his House and was agreed when he was at our House a fortnight ago, but I found they had had an Exercise there at the Time first appointed. I din'd at Mr. Barrett's¹⁴⁶ and return'd.

1751 September 12 (Thursday). Was at Mr. Hows Brick Kiln. Went to Mr. Martyns and return'd him his Book of Lord Ansons Voiages. Was at Mr. Wymans to Speak with Mr. Edward Willson. Visit Edmund Rice, and again visited Granny Maynard in her Sickness: her Husband not at Home.

1751 September 13 (Friday). Had word that Mr. William Goss at Shrewsbury had Floor Boards which hew'd lay at my Door for a small Matter of ready Money. I borrow'd 3 Dollars at Squire Bakers, and sent Mr. Aaron Nurse to Mr. Goss; but without success -- for when he come to see his Boards, he found they had taken Dammage through ill-sticking. But this Affair was a great Interruption to my Studys and Perplexity to my mind. P.M. Eliezer Rice, Mr. Fortner etc.

1751 September 14 (Saturday). Understand that Ebenezer is now got to making Cyder.

¹⁴⁶The Reverend Samuel Barrett.

1751 September 15 (Sunday). Read Numb. 15, and made the Exposition of it for the present. N.B. Neighbour Eliezer Rice was not at Meeting with us. Preach'd from Col. 3.12, on Mercifulness and Meekness; both in pursuance of my Exposition of the sixth Commandment and because it was just before the Superior Court in this County at which our people are like to have Several Cases. At Night Rain.

1751 September 16 (Monday). Very Early in the Morning came Mr. Richard Barns -- he tells me that whereas Deacon Newton had sued him for money, and he had resolv'd to withstand him on account of Exorbitant Interest, yet the Deacon after the sermon, yesterday p.m. Spoke to him as soon as they came out of meeting, and desir'd he might See him early next Morning that they might agree, he was now going up to him -- But he had an Affair of yet greater Difficulty, for Mr. Gamel (he said) was going to throw him into Jayl and the Execution has been already serv'd upon him, and he must go unless he could this Day obtain 60£ old Tenor value in silver; therefore pray'd me to help him, and offer'd me part of his Land on Sale: would let me have 3 or 4 acres of the Land next to mine. I told him I did not care to Trade with him at Such a Time as this was, with both him and me. With him, as he was in Such a Straight that he would be oblig'd to Sell cheaper than it was worth; and with me, as I was already plung'd deeply into Debt both for Land and for my New House. But he still insisted -- and told me that he knew where I could get the money, but he could not upon which he induc'd me to go to Marlborough. As I went I eat at Deacon Matthias Rice's -- made the Rest of my Dining among Dr. Gotts Children. It was Proprietors Meeting at Marlborough. I attended it and presented the plot of 5 Acres etc joining to Chauncy Cedar Swamp and Meadows. Captain Maynard oppos'd it again, as did Ensign Josiah Rice, and though it was put to vote, it did not pass. I was oblig'd to defer it, and I soon retir'd; try'd to hire money for Neighbour Barns. Succeeded at Mr. Jacob Felton's¹⁴⁷ -- receiv'd 28 Dollars. N.B. Could get but 250 whole Bricks at Neighbour Benjamin Hows.

1751 September 17 (Tuesday). Neighbour Barns Sign'd a Deed for 4 Acres of Swamp and Upland joining to my old place: and paid him 27 Dollars for it. Hannah Pratt, our Nurse went away. I went over to Neighbour Hows again about Bricks. Job Cushing junior there from Day to Day with 3 Teams -- so that I cannot be Supply'd -- for the Kiln turns out poorly, many being broke. Both Cushing and I pick'd out many halves. The whole ones 15/ per Hundred. At Night Rain -- in the Rain and Dark came Mr. William Winter of Boston, and Dr. Parkmans Widow, and Mr. Henry Newhall's Wife -- Two Chairs. Not having got our Beds from t'other House I was oblig'd to go with Mr. Winter to Mr. Ebenezer Rice's and we lodg'd there.

1751 September 18 (Wednesday). Heavy Rains. The Company din'd with us. P.M. Mr. Winter to Worcester Court. My Kinswoman and Mrs. Newhall to the other House.

1751 September 19 (Thursday). Mr. Edward Willson works in topping my Chimney -- and Mr. Daniel Forbush in building the Wall at the West End of the House. Abner Rice tends Mr. Willson. P.M. came a small Number of Young Men and Lads who help'd me a few Hours in

¹⁴⁷At one time a lieutenant and a selectman of Marlborough.

levelling the Banks of Gravell. They were Nathaniel Whitney, Joseph Dudley, Samuel Harrington, Joseph Harrington, Daniel Forbush, Adam Rice. My Kinswoman and Mrs. Newhall here. N.B. A Blunder about Dinner. A Lamb kill'd but was brought afternoon. They return'd to the other House, and I supp'd with them there. N.B. The Case of Mr. James Maynard and Lieutenant Tainter etc., try'd at the Superior Court and Maynard obtain'd Judgment.

1751 September 20 (Friday). Mr. Willson and Abner Rice on the Top of the Chimney a.m. but having work'd up my few Bricks, it is left still unfinish'd. The Company return'd to Boston: Molly accompany'd them to Marlborough. N.B. Neighbour Eliezer Rice here at Evening and asks for another Church-Meeting. I give him Several Reasons why it is at this Time utterly unsuitable -- especially considering the present frame of many persons by Reason of the Contentions at Court -- besides that it is but a little while since we had one at his Desire. Nor was there any Time for me to think of it, my Preparations for the Sabbath being now in Hand, and have but little Opportunity for them. But he went away dissatisfy'd. See a loose paper.

1751 September 21 (Saturday). A great Frost last Night. My Mind much taken off with Neighbour Rice's Conduct last Night, which was the more to my perplexing as I am thereby So much hinder'd in my Preparations for the Sabbath. Out of wood -- and no where to go to get any -- forc'd to pick up, round about the House. Have taken Cold and have a grievous Pain in my back.

1751 September 22 (Sunday). Very cold Morning. Very great Frost. Sometimes doubted whether I could venture to meeting, having Such a Pain in my Back. With much Difficulty I went. Read Numb. 16. Forenoon Exercise was an Exposition of the former part of the chapter to number 15. P.M. Read Rom. 6. Made some brief Observations upon it. Preach'd on Col. 3.7.8. Made use of the greatest part of what is under Doct. 4 from 1 Cor. 6.11, but with Alterations and Additions. Heard that Mrs. Mary Bennett, Shopkeeper in Boston dy'd lately. May God Sanctifie this to me, as I was considerably acquainted with her! She was a person of uncommon Abilitys and Attainments.

1751 September 23 (Monday). Mr. Hezekiah Pratt kindly brought me a Load of Wood -- he had my Oxen with his. Sir Forbush¹⁴⁸ goes to Boston by whom I wrote to my Brother William. Was at Mr. Clafflands. P.M. I visited Neighbour Bathericks Family -- Mr. Daniel and Timothy Warrin - - Mr. Twitchell -- and Patty Pannell being Sick I visited her also at Mr. Jonas Brighams. When I return'd at Eve, heard that my little Breck is ill.

1751 September 24 (Tuesday). Went to See little Breck at t'other House -- found him better. Mr. Jotham Maynard came from Mr. Joshua Townsend to desire me to attend the Funeral of a Child of his (about 5 Years old) who has dy'd of the Throat Distemper -- He having bury'd his son Joshua, near 10 years old, of the Same Distemper -- Mr. Martyn gone to Stow. I rode over, and din'd with Mrs. Martyn. N.B. Messrs. Whitney (of Nitchewog),¹⁴⁹ Maccarty, Davis, and

¹⁴⁸Eli Forbes or Forbush, the son of Deacon Jonathan Forbush of Westborough.

¹⁴⁹The Reverend Aaron Whitney of the plantation called Nichewoag, which became the town of

Humphreys¹⁵⁰ -- going to the Ordination at Weston. Mrs. Martyn rode with me to the Burying at Mr. Townsends. N.B. very few males only 2 from the Neighbourhood there, till they were oblig'd to send out for Neighbours to come and assist by which means they made it late.

1751 September 25 (Wednesday). This Day Mr. Woodward¹⁵¹ (as I understand) is to be ordain'd at Weston in the Room of Mr. William Williams but I could not go.

1751 September 26 (Thursday). The Reverend Mr. Maccarty din'd here. Tells me that the Ordination went on yesterday without any Lett. The Reverend Mr. Townsend¹⁵² of Needham preach'd on Mat. 11.16.17. Sam. Bumpso undertakes to mow Bushes on the North East part of my Brigham Lott. Mows a little, and moves off about his Scyth -- See no more of him to Day.

1751 September 27 (Friday). After a turn of Frosts and rugged Weather, a very fine Warm Day. My Wife went over to the other House, to See Breck who has been ill -- and about some necessary Affairs. Mr. Joseph Knowlton and his Wife with a Present (a Legg of Pork, large piece of Pork, a Cheese, and a parcell of dry'd Huckleberrys). N.B. Mr. Knowlton rode over to my other House and brought back my wife.

1751 September 28 (Saturday). Fine Warm Weather. Sam. Bumpso part of the Day mowed shrubb Bushes.

1751 September 29 (Sunday). My Wife through Gods Goodness, So happy as to go to Meeting again -- we offer public thanks. Read Numb. 16 from 15 to 35, and for the forenoon Exercise, gave Exposition. P.M. Read Rom. 7, and preach'd on 1 Sam. 2.1.6, repeating Somewhat Considerable of Sermon on that Text, but now adding in many places; especially in the Close. But it was a Subject so Suitable (Hannah with her Samuel now come to the House of God) that (as I conceiv'd) I could not resist it. May God pardon what is amiss and graciously accept of me and mine.

1751 September 30 (Monday). Samuel Bumpso mows Shrubb Bushes all Day. P.M. This Parish met. I sent a Memorial to the Meeting at the very juncture that a Committee (Mr. Williams and Ensign Miller) were coming to me to see if I had any Thing that I would communicate to them. By and by Lieutenant Tainter came to me from the people to acquaint me that they had granted no otherwise than they us'd to do (400£ old Tenor). I Sent a Reply and Request in Writing. At Eve Captain Baker and Mr. Whipple came and acquainted me that they had consider'd what I Sent to them and had granted 50£ old Tenor more. But had done Nothing about the Wood, That being an Article which they could not manage by virtue of this present Warrant: But

Petersham in 1754.

¹⁵⁰The Reverend James Humphrey (Harvard 1744), the minister of Payquage or Pequig plantation (later the town of Athol), 1750-1782. *Sibley*, XI, 416-418.

¹⁵¹The Reverend Samuel Woodward (Harvard 1748), the minister of Weston, 1751-1782. *Sibley*, XII, 349-352.

¹⁵²Jonathan Townsend.

people would have it in their Thoughts -- and doubtless prepare themselves to Say Something about it when there could be Preparation Time for it.

1751 October 1 (Tuesday). Fine Weather Still. Let Mr. Jonathan Forbush junior have 212 feet of White Oake Boards, to go to Boston, to Mr. James Allen Merchant, Taylor.

1751 October 2 (Wednesday). I rode to Grafton and preach'd the Lecture on Eph. 1.3 and return'd home at Eve.

1751 October 3 (Thursday). Preach'd my own Lecture on 1 Cor. 11.26, from page 12 to 19, from Jam. 4.8. Sir Forbush brought me from the Reverend Mr. Commissary Price¹⁵³ *Deism Reveal'd* volume I.¹⁵⁴

1751 October 4, 5 (Friday, Saturday). [No entries.]

1751 October 6 (Sunday). Read Numb. 16 from number 35 to the End. Preach'd on Jam. 4.8. Us'd Sermon on 2 Cor. 11.26, page 19 to 23. Administer'd the Lord's Supper. P.M. read Rom. 8 and preach'd on Isa. 7.14.

1751 October 7 (Monday). Rode over to Mr. Gashitts for Lath -- was at Mr. Chaddocks also. Rain at Deacon Forbush and at Neighbour Bonds.

1751 October 8 (Tuesday). Mr. Hutchinson came and rode with me to Ministers Meeting at Mr. Martyns. N.B. Sir Forbush examin'd (as well as Mr. Jacob Cushing¹⁵⁵) and approbated. Several Brothers of Mr. Loring's¹⁵⁶ Church. Mr. Loring inexorable.

1751 October 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Stone¹⁵⁷ preach'd the Public Lecture on Eph. 2.11.

1751 October 10 (Thursday). Mrs. Esther Edwards¹⁵⁸ at the other House and lodg'd there, but I saw her not. Heavy Rains. The Day appointed to gather my Island Corn but disappointed by the Weather.

¹⁵³Roger Price of Hopkinton.

¹⁵⁴[Philip Skelton], *Deism Revealed* (London, 1751).

¹⁵⁵Jacob (Harvard 1748), the son of the Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury, became the minister of the First Congregational Church of Waltham, 1752-1809. *Sibley*, XII, 252-257.

¹⁵⁶The Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

¹⁵⁷The Reverend Nathan Stone of Southborough.

¹⁵⁸Esther, the daughter of the Reverend Jonathan Edwards, later married the Reverend Aaron Burr, the president of the young College of New Jersey.

1751 October 11 (Friday). Mr. Martyn and his Wife (though a wet Day) with their Sister Monis¹⁵⁹ din'd here. Mr. Gay¹⁶⁰ and his wife lodg'd last night at t'other House, the last night and to Day they Set out in the Rain.

1751 October 12 (Saturday). Exceeding Cold, yet no Wood. Sent to Mr. Jonah Warrin, but none came. Pick'd up pine and what I could find, for the Sabbath. N.B. Packet from New Haven by President Burr,¹⁶¹ but he was not here.

1751 October 13 (Sunday). Mr. Martyn here and preach'd on Mat. 11.16 and onward and read Numb. 17. P.M. Luke 12.1, and read Rom. 9. I rode over to the Northside and read both a. and p.m. Preach'd a. and p.m. on Eph. 1.3, concluding the subject. Return'd at Eve -- but miss'd of Mr. Martyn. At Mr. Joslins etc at Eve.

1751 October 14 (Monday). I rode to Lieutenant Tainters to see what was like to come of my Island-Corn. N.B. Mr. Charles Rice makes a Corn-Binn with poles brought by my son Ebenezer.

1751 October 15 (Tuesday). Lieutenant Tainter with his Team (a Load of Wood, Quarter of Lamb and a present of Salt Pork) to cut up and Cart home my Island Corn. Joseph Grout junior with his Team, my William also came with our own -- 8 Load of Cutt up Corn were brought home. Old Mr. Rice and his sons (3 of them) and his son-in-law with a small number more, came in the afternoon and Evening and husk'd -- till about Nine o'Clock at Night -- a very Cold Evening. Mr. Breck¹⁶² of Springfield here and lodg'd here.

1751 October 16 (Wednesday). My Corn was laid expos'd where there was no fence, so that I rose Early to look after it. Mr. Breck went to Marlborough to carry up Cousen Betty Gott¹⁶³ to live with him. Mr. Jonathan Bellows came and work'd for me to Day, in taking Care of the Husks, building up the Corn Bin etc. N.B. Ephraim Bruce, Barnabas Newton and Jonathan Bellows. P.M. Sent Billy into the Whipple Corner for help in Husking. Nobody came till about 4 p.m. when Mr. Samuel Fay junior, Mr. Joseph Green junior, and four Ladds -- Viz. Abner and Francis Whipple and two sons of Mr. Fay aforesaid came and husk'd. N.B. Mr. Amsden came to see us.

1751 October 17 (Thursday). My little Daughter Susan very much indispos'd -- but we ventur'd to go to Mr. Martyn with the Child, having appointed and engag'd it. The last night so cold that the Horse was not able well to break the Ice through the Brook at Widow Tomlins. Din'd at Mr. Martyns. Mrs. Eager and her sister, Mrs. Patty Ward there. We return'd at Eve. Susen so ill we sent for Dr. Chase -- who came. My God prepare us for his holy will!

¹⁵⁹Abigail Marrett of Cambridge, who married Judah Monis, was the sister of Mrs. John Martyn of Northborough. Kent, *Northborough*, p. 287.

¹⁶⁰The Reverend Ebenezer Gay of Hingham.

¹⁶¹Aaron Burr of the College of New Jersey.

¹⁶²The Reverend Robert Breck, Jr.

¹⁶³Elizabeth was the daughter of the late Dr. Benjamin Gott of Marlborough.

1751 October 18 (Friday). Warmer Weather. Mr. Ithamar Bellows at work here in making my garden-yard -- Carting and stacking stalks etc. P.M. Lieutenant Tainter brought another Load of Wood and helps clear the Island Field, of Pumpkins, Beans, Turnips. Mr. Charles Rice cover'd and Secur'd my Corn Binn. Suse took a Vomit.

1751 October 19 (Saturday). Suse very bad (of a Fever) Dr. Chase¹⁶⁴ tends upon her diligently. God prepare us for His holy will! hear that several Children and Youth are ill of Fever also. The air much Warmer. Suse (D.G.) better.

1751 October 20 (Sunday). Read Numb. 18. Preach'd on Exod. 20.14. Many Grafton people with us. P.M. Sir Forbush, Mr. Joseph Miles, and his son Abner, and Mrs. Twitchell din'd here.

1751 October 21 (Monday). Ebenezer with the Team brought Boards from Maynards Mill -- and Two Turns from Forbush's Mill -- Viz. 700 of Mr. Joseph Woods's Boards. P.M. Mr. Jeduthan Baldwin and his apprentice John Woods came to work, to finish my East Room. Sir Forbush to Boston on the Affair of Stockbridge. Grows colder.

1751 October 22 (Tuesday). At the Widow Beeman's¹⁶⁵ (who was very bountiful, Sending Pork, Beef, and Cheese to my Wife). N.B. The remarkable Number of Teams and market Horses going to Boston, yesterday and to Day -- no less than 19 Teams only from Sutton yesterday. P.M. visited Samuel Hardy junior who is very ill of a Fever. Was at Mr. Moses Warrins, Mr. Grouts, Phinehas Hardys, etc.

1751 October 23 (Wednesday). Susen So well that the Doctor ceases his visits, and generously gives his Medicines and visits also. Sorrowful News of Two Young Women, Daughters of Mr. William Brewer¹⁶⁶ of Shrewsbury, who were drown'd yesterday at Lancaster as they were going to visit a Relation. Ebenezer design'd to have an Husking this afternoon but being belated in his Invitations was oblig'd to defer it.

1751 October 24 (Thursday). The Wind high and Southerly, the House, especially my Chamber, So fill'd with smoke that I was oblig'd to put out my Fire; this is to my great Disappointment after so much trouble and Charge to obtain Good Chimneys. Sam. Bumpso Clearing by the Stack Yard. N.B. Mr. Phinehas Hardy goes to Bolton for Lime, for Deacon Newton and me, and return'd at Night empty, bringing only a Bag of Hair from Mr. Samuel Bakers. P.M. 25 Hands help'd Ebenezer husk. N.B. Baldwin, John Woods and Sam. Bumpso went.

1751 October 25 (Friday). [No entry.]

¹⁶⁴Thomas Chase, born in Sutton, April 3, 1732, studied medicine with Dr. Benjamin Morse of Sutton. He lived and practiced in Westborough in the 1750's. Some time after 1760 he moved to New York.

¹⁶⁵Mrs. Eleazer Beeman.

¹⁶⁶Abigail and Elizabeth Brewer were drowned "in a saw mill pond" in Lancaster. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, p.245.

1751 October 26 (Saturday). Sir Forbush return'd from Boston ill. N.B. Letters to him from Colonel Dwight¹⁶⁷ and Pyncheon.

1751 October 27 (Sunday). Rainy. Read Numb. 29 and Rom. 10. Preach'd all Day on Exod. 20.14. Mr. Mead and Daniel How din'd here.

1751 October 28 (Monday). Visited Sir Forbush. Training. I din'd with the officers after Prayer with the Company. P.M. visited Mr. Jacob Amsden sick of a Fever.

1751 October 29 (Tuesday). Rode Mr. Williams's Horse to visit Mr. Amsden again; Mr. Rogers etc. Din'd at my other House with Mr. Martyn whom I accompany'd hither also. Lieutenant Hezekiah Ward here. N.B. Jonathan Bond junior (a Lad) who with my Billy and my Team plough'd in Rye at my Island. N.B. Mr. Grout, Lieutenant Tainter, Mr. Phinehas Hardy, Samuel Harrington, and Mr. Beriah Rice here. Consult about a Shed over my Kitchen Chimney and North Door.

1751 October 30 (Wednesday). Jonathan Bond and Billy plough'd in Rye again. Mr. John Beaton din'd here. Mr. Bliss¹⁶⁸ and Deacon Miles¹⁶⁹ of Concord here, going to a Council at Sutton. N.B. Mr. Hezekiah How help'd Ebenezer kill the Cow which I bought some Years ago of Ebenezer Maynard. Baldwin yesterday and to Day about the Garrett Stairs. It grows very Cold and we are Scanted for Wood; nor can I as yet tell what way I am like to have supply.

1751 October 31 (Thursday). Mr. Harrington brought a Load of Wood. So faithful and bountiful is Divine Providence and so kind and unwearied this good Neighbour (under God) to assist me! Billy brought over a side of Beef. Samuel and Hannah Hicks in their Return here. P.M. walk'd to Deacon Newton; and thence to Justice Bakers. Had his mare to visit Samuel Hardy junior, and old Mr. Fay. Mr. Bliss return'd from Council at Sutton and call'd but I was not at home. Mr. Baldwin for 2 or Three Days about the Garrett stairs

1751 November 1 (Friday). Wind at South West and my House fill'd with Smoke. See October 24. N.B. Mr. Joseph Woods here and reckon'd with him for 750 feet of Boards at 16/ per hundred. N.B. His Objections against the people's adding the 50£ lately granted to be added to my Sallery and Support. Nay and against the people's paying 500£ towards my Remove to this Place. Exclaims against my New House and thinks that it is too big, and that it is too high. He thinks there needed to be no Chamber over the room we were sitting in etc., etc. P.M. Baldwin to Shrewsbury and return'd to t'other House.

1751 November 2 (Saturday). Baldwin built the Cellar stairs. John Woods about the Garrett Floor. Mr. Robert Cooks wife here and din'd with us.

¹⁶⁷Joseph Dwight of Hatfield.

¹⁶⁸The Reverend Daniel Bliss.

¹⁶⁹Samuel Miles.

1751 November 3 (Sunday). Read Numb. 20, and Rom. 11. The Exposition of the forenoon Chapter took up both parts of the Day in the room of sermons.

1751 November 4 (Monday). Mr. Eleazer Kimball came and lath'd my Chamber in Ceiling. Baldwin and his man John preparing the East Room for the Masons. Ebenezer help'd in making Mortar.

1751 November 5 (Tuesday). Sent Mr. Jonas Twitchell to Worcester for Bricks. A very fine Day. Ebenezer makes Cyder. Sam. Bumpso has been thrashing wheat and Rye for Ebenezer for some Time. N.B. Deacon Kimball came, and with his son lath'd and plaister'd my East lower Room: Part of the afternoon Robert Claffland waited on the Masons, and did divers Chores. At Eve Alpheus Newton tended the Masons with Mortar, to plaister the East Room, and North Closet in the Chamber.

1751 November 6 (Wednesday). Alpheus tended the Masons. Baldwin trys for an Horse to go to Sudbury but in vain. Works part of the day. John p.m. to Marlborough. About 3 p.m. the Masons break off and before Night go home. Twitchell does not return from Worcester till Eve. The Weather moderate for my plaistering. N.B. Lieutenant Tainter and Solomon Baker Cart Wood from Moses Brigham's. Lieutenant 3 Times: the other 2 Turns. So many Various affairs depending, and so much Noise and Confusion in every part of the House, that I Snatch Opportunity to study with great Difficulty.

1751 November 7 (Thursday). Thanksgiving. After a very rainy Night, a Very Rainy Morning. Lieutenant Tainter brought a Loin of Mutton. We somewhat expected Mrs. Nanny Gott but she did not come. The sermon to Day on Ps. 4.7. May God accept our Sacred Offerings and grant us true Gladness in our Hearts from the sense of his Special Favour and the Light of His Countenance upon us! My Children all here together with us. Blessed be God for Family Mercys and for the Measure of Health particularly we enjoy! (although Alexander is somewhat Rheumatic.)

1751 November 8 (Friday). Settled with the Collector, Mr. Williams. Visited Adonijah Rice. Ebenezer brought over the Bricks which Mr. Twitchell brought from Worcester the Night before last. He also brought 10 Barrells of Cyder. Mr. Robert Cook here in further Preparation for his Confession and owning the Covenant. N.B. Lieutenant Ward waits upon Captain Maynard and Lieutenant Bruce to the Cook Island to settle the Measure and Bounds of it. Captain Maynard also goes with Lieutenant Ward to view the Bounds of the last Plott of Land by Chauncy Cedar Swamp. Mr. Ezekiel How there with a Letter from the aggrieved in the Church of West-Sudbury desiring a Council etc. N.B. Baldwin did not work at Evening.

1751 November 9 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1751 November 10 (Sunday). Rainy Day. I broke fast and din'd with my children at t'other House. Sir Forbush there and pray'd in the Morning. A. and p.m. read Numb. 28, and Rom. 8. Mr. Martyn rode hither, and read Numb. 21, and Rom. 11, but Sir Forbush preach'd (his first

sermons) a. and p.m. on 1 Cor. 15.55. I tarry'd and lodg'd at Mr. Martyns that I might confer with him about the Council to be at Sudbury on Mr. Loring's Case, Mr. Martyn being Sent to likewise.

1751 November 11 (Monday). In the Morning it rain'd. But so heavy did the Affair of Sudbury lie upon us that Mr. Martyn and I determin'd to ride to Southborough and Conferr with Mr. Stone who was another sent to: we stop'd at my other House where were Messrs. Noah How and Daniel Garfield junior who at this Time bought my Fat Steer -- agreed to give 13 pence old Tenor for him Hide Beef and Tallow. We call'd also to see old Mr. Rogers, with whom I pray'd. When we came to Southborough Mr. Stone was gone abroad. We sent after him -- din'd and tarry'd there until sunseting but saw him not. We drew up a Letter to the Sudbury Committee and to Mr. Loring. In my return home, call'd to see Mr. Amsden. John Woods return'd to work here p.m.

1751 November 12 (Tuesday). Mr. Martyn and his wife came here, in hopes to see Mr. Stone here, but he did not come.

1751 November 13 (Wednesday). I think Ebenezer has finish'd his making Cyder.

1751 November 14 (Thursday). Lieutenant Ward here laying out Land for me: he setts off an acre for me south of the Meeting House: and the Four Acres which I lately bought of Mr. Richard Barns. He also laid out a little Bit of Land which was Common between the ministerial Lot and my Land, being 27 Rods. At Eve I was at Mr. David Maynard juniors.

1751 November 15 (Friday). Lieutenant Ward laid out another Scrap of Land joining to the Road south west of the Meeting House, and bounding on the Burying Place. 43 Rods. P.M. Mr. Claffland work'd for me; is making an Hovell for my Cattle. Captain Tainter¹⁷⁰ of Watertown and his Wife here. Sir Forbush is gone to Brookfield to preach.

1751 November 16 (Saturday). Mr. Claffland all Day -- upon the Hovell etc. Wondrous fine agreeable weather and thus it has been for Some Time. Captain Richardson and Mr. Cornelius Woods of Sudbury here to confer with me on the Affair of their design'd Council they having receiv'd my Letter of Denyal last Night. They din'd here, but I still persisted in Denying them and finally refus'd to go. Baldwin begins the Outside of the Door -- pediment, Pillars etc.

1751 November 17 (Sunday). Moderate Weather Still. Read Numb. 22. Preach'd on 1 Thess. 4.4 carrying on my Exposition of the seventh Commandment. P.M. read Rom. 12. Preach'd on James 2.24, using in part, Notes which were deliver'd under Eph. 2.5 last Clause.¹⁷¹

¹⁷⁰John Tainter was the brother of Deacon Simon Tainter of Westborough.

¹⁷¹In the Westborough Church Records for Nov. 17, 1751, Parkman noted that "Robert Cook and Sarah his wife offer'd Confession of their being Guilty of the Sin of Fornication, and likewise their Aggravating it by Denying it; upon which they were restor'd to Charity and Own'd the Covenant."

1751 November 18 (Monday). Exceeding fine Weather. I committed my Plotts of Land lately taken up to Captain Maynard to be presented to the proprietors. Visited old Mr. Rogers -- both broke fast and din'd at t'other House. N.B. Mrs. Molly Martyn and Mrs. Betty Williams there, and din'd with us. P.M. at Captain Maynards. At Eve Lieutenant Tainter and Mr. Harrington with their Teams, and a Number of Neighbours (Pratt, Ebenezer Maynard etc.) to the Number of 14 or 16 more, besides my Two oldest sons, Spent the Evening in Levelling the Banks on the fore side of my House.

1751 November 19 (Tuesday). Very fine Day -- got Lime from Mr. Jonathan Forbush's and from Lieutenant Bruce's to Top my Chimneys and Sent Ebenezer at Eve for Mr. Willson, at Evening (after he had accompany'd Mrs. Molly Martyn home) and he lodg'd at Mr. Willsons. Mr. Daniel Forbush work'd at the Stone-wall south west of the House and at the North underpinning. Near Night came Mrs. Nanny Gott¹⁷² to See us, and lodg'd here.

1751 November 20 (Wednesday). Ebenezer return'd from Mr. Willsons (of Shrewsbury) and it being a Cloudy Morning Mr. Willson did not come. It proves a dull Day misting and likely to bring on a Storm. Mrs. Nanny p.m. to t'other House and lodges there.

1751 November 21 (Thursday). Baldwin on the Head of the Door yet. John covering and closing a little House. Mrs. Rachel Bowker¹⁷³ who came into Town with Mrs. Nanny Gott, came to see us a.m. Mrs. Nanny also return'd here. Sir Forbush came and din'd with us. P.M. he preach'd my Lecture on Isa. 50.10. May God accept of him, and both bless him and make him a great Blessing! Mrs. Bowker and Mrs. Nanny to Marlborough. Baldwin did not work at Evening. But went to t'other House and lodg'd there.

1751 November 22 (Friday). Mr. Ebenezer Kimbal here a.m. lathing the Stair way. By him I sent the Reverend Mr. Price of Hopkinton Deism Reveal'd volume I. Baldwin rode my Horse to his Fathers. John Woods about the little House.

1751 November 23 (Saturday). Mr. Ebenezer Rice brought part of my Books from Mr. Daniel Gookins Bookseller in Boston, which have lain there some time to be sold. Samuel Bumpso work'd gratis at the Vault of the little House. But it grows very Cold.

1751 November 24 (Sunday). Read Numb. 23. Preach'd on Ps. 4.7. Lords Supper. P.M. read Rom. 13 and finish'd the Discourse on Ps. 4.7. Cold Day. Read Sudbury Letter to the Church.

1751 November 25 (Monday). Proprietors Meeting at Marlborough. Sent 3 Plotts by Captain Maynard, Viz. one of 5 acres and [blank] Rods, which has been depending these Twelve Months: the second was of 27 Rods joining to the Ministerial Lot; the third of 43 Rods by the road South West of the Meeting House. They were granted, with this Exception in the Last, of Liberty for Stables on the Front of it. Lucy Bowker at work for my sons at the other House. Mr.

¹⁷²Anna, the daughter of the late Dr. Benjamin Gott of Marlborough.

¹⁷³The daughter of John Bowker of Marlborough.

Daniel Forbush lays the East room Hearth. Baldwin finish'd and paint'd the Front Door. Cold Day. At Night Snow.

1751 November 26 (Tuesday). The Snow went off; chiefly by noon. P.M. Mr. Claffland finish'd the Hovell. At Eve at Lieutenant Forbush's.

1751 November 27 (Wednesday). Mr. Edward Willson came to top out my Chimney, the morning being pleasant: and my son Ebenezer here to help him. But by that Time the Staging was compleated, the weather was So Cold, he quitted it. Samuel Bumpso here and din'd with us. P.M. they all clapp'd to and finish'd the Vault of the Little House, and bank'd it up. Mrs. Nabby Baker at work here, making my wife a plad gown. P.M. I Catechiz'd at the Meeting House. P.M. Baldwin and John Woods left us. For this turn of their Work am indebted to Jeduthan Baldwin £4.13.4, or 35£ old Tenor -- in all £9.6.8, or 70£ old Tenor this Day. N.B. His whole work comes to £113.10 shillings old Tenor.

1751 November 28 (Thursday). Mr. Claffland works here; putting up a Sort of Shed on the Northside of the House. The Cold beats him off p.m. He makes a Cask for the Well and goes home. N.B. Old Mr. Maynard and Mr. Whipple din'd here.

1751 November 29 (Friday). Comfortable Day. Messrs. Brown and Ballard from Boston call'd at the Door. Billy has been not well for some time. Pain in his Neck and Face.

1751 November 30 (Saturday). Grows Very Cold. At Eve it Snow'd fast.

1751 December 1 (Sunday). The most Snowy, winterlike Morning that have had all this Season. Although I had not any extraordinary hindrances in the Course of the week yet by one affair, or Concern or Care or Other I was so far interrupted that I finish'd but one sermon. Read Numb. 24. Preach'd on Mat. 19.4.5.6. P.M. Read Rom. 14. Repeated Sermon on Mal. 3.17, to page 8.

1751 December 2 (Monday). Various weather. Early Morn fair. Cloudy generally through the Day, and not very Cold -- but the Earth with a very Winter Face. Mr. Hall¹⁷⁴ of Sutton din'd here, in his Way to Concord. Sent Mr. Henry Gould 7£ old Tenor by him. Read Sir Hovenden Walkers journal of his Expedition to Canada.¹⁷⁵ Mr. Samuel Harrington here in the Evening. Ebenezer and Thomas brought a Side of an Hog, kill'd at t'other House -- weigh'd (the whole Hog) 11 Score and 17 pound.

1751 December 3 (Tuesday). Ebenezer went to Grafton after our two stray piggs, but in vain, he returns at Evening without 'em.

¹⁷⁴The Reverend David Hall.

¹⁷⁵*A Journal. . . of the late Expedition to Canada* (London, 1720). Admiral Walker commanded the ill-fated expedition against Quebec in 1711, which ran into stormy weather, lost 8 transports and 900 men in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and then returned to England.

1751 December 4 (Wednesday). Was at Deacon Newtons at Eve and reckon'd with him. N.B. his boarding my Workmen Baldwin, Parkhurst and Woods one hundred Days (or 14 weeks and Two Days, taking them all, together) at 25/ per Week, was, in old Tenor £17.18.0.

1751 December 5 (Thursday). Last Night and to Day Very cold. Rode Lieutenant Tainters Horse to Mr. Bradish's to the Private Meeting there. Preach'd on Jer. 6.16, to page 13. N.B. The Company Besides Mr. Bradish, his Wife, son and Daughter were Deacon Forbush, Deacon Newton, Lieutenant Tainter and his son -- and Four Women. At Night snow'd hard. N.B. Mr. Abraham Temple who brought from Boston Lining and Trimming for a Blue Cloth Jacket for me, din'd with us. At Eve Mr. Biglo, Mr. Daniel Hardy and Mr. Benjamin Winchester here. Billy not well, but is better.

1751 December 6 (Friday). Thick Cloudy; sometimes Mist, Sleet, Rain -- but not so Cold as Yesterday. Billy writes a Days, and helps a little about the Cattle etc.

1751 December 7 (Saturday). Reverend Mr. Hall of Sutton din'd here. N.B. He paid Mr. Henry Goold 18/ lawful Money, and brought me my Note -- and 5/ Change (old Tenor). And thus I have wholly finish'd with Mr. Goold. N.B. I had sufficient Preparations made Seasonably before the Sabbath -- which was a great Comfort to me. However I Still added as New Thoughts were Supply'd, especially in the Heads of Application.

1751 December 8 (Sunday). Bright and Cold. Read Numb. 25. Preach'd a.m. on Mat. 19.6. Patty Pannell din'd here. P.M. read Rom. 15. Preach'd a Sermon I now added to that made on Occasion of my Daughter Elizabeths Baptism upon Mal. 3.17. At the Close of it read from passages in the Boston Gazett or Weekly Journal No 1655.¹⁷⁶

1751 December 9 (Monday). Cold. I rode up to Mr. Samuel Hardys to See his Daughter Sarah, who has been Sick of a Fever some Time. N.B. I call'd at Mr. Benjamin Fays. N.B. I Saw two persons of the Neighbourhood there drinking Drams (Adonijah Rice¹⁷⁷ and John Dunlop), and I gave them a Brief Word upon it. I call'd also at Mr. Phinehas Hardy's to see him after his Recovery from his Wounds by the Fall of a great Log upon him. N.B. We began to keep Geese here at the new House. For Ebenezer brought a Gander from the other House, and I bought a Goose of Mr. Ebenezer Rice. Mr. Daniel Hardy brought a Load of Wood.

1751 December 10 (Tuesday). Somewhat Pleasant Day. Sir Forbush (being come from Brookfield) din'd here. Mr. Simon Tainter brought a Load of Wood from Elijah Rice's Swamp. Mr. Phinehas Hardy a Load from his own place. Lieutenant Forbush and Neighbour Batheric here and want to talk about the affair of Sudbury Council, and have been displeas'd; what they have been disquieted with was (as they apprehended) my not giving the Church Liberty to Send if they had been o' Mind to. Whereas they acknowledg'd that I gave Space for them to speak if

¹⁷⁶Evidently Parkman read all or part of a moralizing piece that appeared under the title "From a late Magazine."

¹⁷⁷The son of Charles Rice of Westborough.

they had had Disposition to Say any Thing: but what they complain of is that I did not ask the Church to Speak, as I have indeed sometimes done, when I have Seen them as I thought too Backward. But however, as to Sending, it was not expected of us, after what I had Said to Captain Richardson and therefore the Reading of the Letters was merely to oblige them. N.B. Ebenezer and Thomas are gone to wait on Dr. Chase, who, to Day brings his Wife¹⁷⁸ from Sutton. Mrs. Lucy Bowker p.m. at Work making me a Cloth Jacket.

1751 December 11 (Wednesday). Rain. I was inform'd that a Number of Young persons lodg'd last night at my other House. Mr. Halls son and Daughter, Mr. Minot's son -- and one Mr. Hale¹⁷⁹ of Sutton. Lucy Bowker here at work.

1751 December 12 (Thursday). A fine pleasant Day. Sir Forbush dines with me, and p.m. preaches to the Young people on [*blank*]. Take heed that the Light which is in you be [*blank*].¹⁸⁰ In which he takes his Leave of the Society. Lieutenant Holloway here after Meeting. May God give His Blessing to the Word deliver'd! N.B. one of the Heifers which we have been wont to keep here, calv'd -- Samuel Bumpso kind and helpfull about the Calf -- that it may be Comfortable in the Hovel: Billy being gone to Mill at Southborough with the first Grist of Corn that we ever sent from this House.

1751 December 13 (Friday). Mr. Harrington and Eleazer Whitney going to Chauncy-Meadows for Hay, brought each of them a Load of Wood. P.M. Mrs. Forbush, the Deacons Wife, fell from Mr. Wymans (of Shrewsbury) Horse, a little South of the Stables. She was much stunn'd. Mr. Wyman and I took her up in an arm Chair and brought her into my House. Sent for Dr. Chase, who came: he let her Blood. She by Degrees came to. I sent by her son Bowman to her Husband. He and his son Jonathan and Mr. Tainter brought a Whirrey, and they carry'd her Home. N.B. Mrs. Rachel Rice¹⁸¹ came to our help. N.B. I talk'd with her upon the sorrowful Subject of her Childrens Drinking.

1751 December 14 (Saturday). Mr. Jonathan Forbush came and gave me account of his mother, that she is much as she was last Night -- does not recover, though she has her sense.

1751 December 15 (Sunday). Rugged Season. Read Numb. 26, omitting Some number in the middle of the Chapter by reason of the Cold. Preach'd on Jer. 31.18.19.20, a. and p.m. Read p.m. Rom. 16. Daughter Molly tarried with us over Night -- the Night exceeding Cold.

1751 December 16 (Monday). Exceeding Cold. Reckon'd with Aaron Warrin. His account was £11 10.4 old Tenor. But the Glass which he had of me came to 42/ -- gave him a Note for 9.8.4. Lieutenant Holloway here. Spoke to him of the Towns Debt to me. He own'd it to be just -- said

¹⁷⁸Thomas Chase married Mary White, Sept. 26, 1751. John C. Chase and George W. Chamberlain, *Seven Generations of the Descendants of Aquila and Thomas Chase* (Derry, N.H., 1928), p. 102.

¹⁷⁹Jonathan Hale.

¹⁸⁰[Additional footnote: Luke 11.35, "Take heed therefore, that the light which is in thee be not darkness."]

¹⁸¹Mrs. Charles Rice.

he would talk with the Select Men about it -- and forward it with those of the precinct that he could.

1751 December 17 (Tuesday). Weather Somewhat moderated, but it is a Cold Day. Finish'd Life of Oliver Cromwell.¹⁸² Sent by Mr. Nathaniel Whitney a Messenger to Mr. Jacob Felton in Marlborough. Cold Night.

1751 December 18 (Wednesday). Very Cold -- Am Somewhat Rheumatic. Daughter Mary and Breck who have been here ever since the Sabbath, return'd home.

1751 December 19 (Thursday). Sent by Mr. Jacob Whipple¹⁸³ of Grafton to Mr. Thomas Fleet,¹⁸⁴ printer, concerning my Young Horse. See his Paper of Last Monday. At Eve Ebenezer and Lucy came over and Supp'd here. N.B. My Discourse with Ebenezer about his Settling in the World. I made him various offers for his Encouragement and he acquainted me with his Desires to Marry.

1751 December 20 (Friday). Snowy Morning -- a Dark, misty, Cold Day.

1751 December 21 (Saturday). Very rainy Morning. Mr. Jacob Whipple with a Letter from Brother Samuel Parkman concerning my Horse.

1751 December 22 (Sunday). A Cold Season -- very Slippery. Read Numb. 27. Preach'd a. and p.m. on Jer. 31.18.19.20. P.M. read 1 Cor. 1.

1751 December 23 (Monday). Visited Mrs. Vashi Newton¹⁸⁵ and reckon'd with her. Visited Mrs. Forbush (Deacon's Wife) and Supped there. N.B. Sir Forbush there. Pray'd with them. N.B. Exceeding Slippery riding -- rode in much Danger, but the Lord sustain'd and preserv'd me. I return'd home in safety -- D.G.

1751 December 24 (Tuesday). Last Night and this Morning considerable Snow storm. Cold and blowing. P.M. Messrs. Benjamin Fay and Simon Tainter here to see us and how we far'd in the storm. At Eve Sir Forbush Supp'd with me.

1751 December 25 (Wednesday). Stormy and Cold. Mr. Beeton here. He brought home various pieces of Work -- a shovel, in particular the wood of which Ebenezer had made. I went over to the other House (not having been there for a great While). Ebenezer (I conceive) going to Boston with my Young Horse, to Mr. Thomas Goldthwait -- but to my disappointment he is

¹⁸²No biography of Cromwell had been published in America. It is impossible to determine which of many works Parkman may have read.

¹⁸³The son of Deacon James Whipple.

¹⁸⁴Publisher of *The Boston Evening-Post*. The issue of Dec. 9, 1751, contained the following advertisement: "To be sold, a good Draught Horse. Enquire of the Printer."

¹⁸⁵Vashti was the wife of Abner Newton.

not going. Sir Forbush from the North Side, where he went not without Expectation that there was a Lecture appointed. The proposal was Lieutenant Holloways -- but Mr. Martyn forgot it.

1751 December 26 (Thursday). I went over to t'other House again and Sent off Ebenezer with my Horse to Boston -- he himself riding the Mare. A.M. It was a Snow Storm, but it was clear by that he was out of Town. My urgency arose from our being in Danger of loosing this Opportunity -- and we are short of Hay. When I return'd Mr. Joslin was here -- brought money.

1751 December 27 (Friday). Fair, which is rare, but cold -- a tight Season. May God uphold us!

1751 December 28 (Saturday). Mr. Simon Tainter brought (as he call'd it) a Small Jagg of Wood from Elijah Rice's -- he and his son din'd here. Stormy. Snow -- rain -- p.m. came Deacon Mellen¹⁸⁶ of Hopkinton with a Letter from the Church in Holliston to our's to sit in Council there on January 8, next; there having arisen Difficultys among some of their members -- Viz. Captain Ephraim Littlefield and Mr. Daniel Mellen.

1751 December 29 (Sunday). Ebenezer return'd from Boston last night -- and brings News that Brother Samuel Parkman is ill of a Fever. Read Numb. 28 and gave some observations. Preach'd a.m. on Job 33.27. P.M. read 1 Cor. 11, and preach'd on number 2. Us'd sermon on this Text, which were compos'd when I was young (Viz. June 1724). I therefore made great alterations and additions (in delivering although not in Writing) proceeding to page 8. After the usual Exercise I stopp'd the Church and read the Letter from the Church in Holliston, and ask'd for a Vote, but there were but very few Hands -- after repeatedly requesting that they would offer Some Reason which I might Send with our Answer, for our not complying, Justice Baker Said he believ'd there was Some Difficulty among ourselves which was the Reason -- and after further Enquiry, I found it was, and with respect to Me, he himself and others being dissatisfy'd with my so suddenly dismissing the Church when I had read the Sudbury Brethren's Letter on November 24. Mr. Francis Whipple Stops to the Same Purpose. I answer'd (in Substance) that if I had given the Church Ground of Offence it was altogether undesign'd, and I was utterly insensible of it, at the Time of it: that I conceiv'd I gave Time eno' for any Body to Speak if they had desir'd it. But that indeed Such were the Nature and Circumstances of the Affair, that I did not expect any Thing would be Said -- For what I design'd in Reading those Letters and in acquainting them with what I had done about them was, to oblige the Sudbury Brethren and to gratifie the Church also hoping for their Satisfaction and Concurrence in what I had done if they approv'd of it, or otherwise, to have the Church's Sentiments and apprehensions about what was my and their Duty. So that I was So far from designing to give any Offence, that it was all done out of Respect and to avoid all manner of Ground and of offence: That I could freely appeal to the Consciences of all that I was always Stanch for order; and though I would vindicate the Authority of the Ministry, yet made Conscience of not invading the Privileges of the Church -- and as to this present Article, it was (as I apprehended) wholly owing to a Misunderstanding of the Design I had in Staying the Church. And if the Time which I gave for any Brother to Speak (if any one inclin'd to) was Short, yet I thought it as long as was at all

¹⁸⁶Henry Mellen.

needfull or could be desir'd in such short Days and Cold Weather (N.B. it was Sacrament Day also), when people are uneasy to get home -- So that I had no imagination that any one was disquieted. But if they any of them were then uneasy, it would have been much more proper to have manifested it before now; either at the Time of it, or at least to have come to See me and Speak to me of it (as Several had done, and I had satisfy'd them) than to let it alone all this Time; and now make it Such an Obstruction to our Duty. I Said I hop'd they were not fond of Divisions, and of having Councils to come here too for we ought to learn by the Evils which others suffer'd ourselves to beware. These Things were Said at divers Times, in replying to Brother Baker and others -- but to him chiefly -- little else being offer'd but what was by him -- And I added, that if the Space which was given (however I apprehended it) between reading the Letters etc and my dismissing the Church, was verily too short, I was Sorry for it, and I ask'd their Pardon. But Justice Baker said that did not satisfie him; but he would take a Time to come and see me; which (that we might make Short) was propos'd to others also to do, and to do it in this ensuing Week -- that So this Hindrance being remov'd we might next Lords Day Act upon the Holliston Letter. This Obstruction was a Trouble to me; but that the Brethren should be so much disquieted as this came to, and yet keep it from me so long, till I am far less Capable of making Defence, did not a little Disturb me.

1751 December 30 (Monday). Very Cold Season. I went over to t'other House, and receiv'd Ebezers Account of his late Journey, in which he sold my Horse for 90£ old Tenor. It Storm'd and Snow'd hard. Zachary Hicks¹⁸⁷ was here from Sutton and lodg'd here. Ebenezer assisted by Mr. Barns¹⁸⁸ kill'd our Chamberlin cow.

1751 December 31 (Tuesday). The cold grows very intense. Zachary Hicks to Cambridge. The Frost is exceeding perceptible. The Year finishes with Weather Some of the most tedious and extreme. We hereby perceive how great and powerful God is! Surely with Him is terrible Majesty

¹⁸⁷Zachariah was the son of John Hicks of Sutton. Benedict and Tracy, *Sutton*, p. 660.

¹⁸⁸Richard Barns of Westborough.