

Bread

1739 January 26 (Friday). Dr. Gott and Captain Williams here. Doctor din'd. Captain Williams went to Ensign Maynards and when he return'd was in so great an Hurry that he would only Eat a mouthful of Bread and cheese although Food was preparing for him. It was what gave us some vexation because I had invited him to Dinner.

1750 September 5 (Wednesday). I went not over to the Workmen, but sent over as usual which was daily Beer and Cyder, and a bottle of Rum; some Days Bread and Cheese for Bait; and p.m. dinner for Two or Three, the rest bringing for themselves.

1750 September 7 (Friday). Deacon Forbush a.m. and his son Daniel at the Cellar. Deacon Newton tends 'em. At the Frame, Messrs. Gale, Bradish, Grow, Tainter, Batheric, Charles Rice, Nathaniel Whitney, Bowman, Harrington, Jonah Warrin, John Rogers, and [blank] who all gave their Work of this forenoon. Mr. Martyn and Mrs. Molly din'd with us, Mr. Haven went briskly to Mrs. Martyn and brought her over (Mr. Martyn having come without her). P.M. My Neighbours rais'd my New Frame and we sung part of Psalm 127. Scil. one Stanza and Psalm 128 (second meetre) except the last half stanza. Sundry Neighbours Sent and brought Cheese, Cake, Wheat Bread, etc. which with Some Apples Pyes which my Wife provided, made up our Entertainment. Mr. Martyn pray'd and Mr. Haven return'd Thanks.... Thanks to God for the Favours and Salvations of this Day!

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 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.

1755 September 3 (Wednesday). The ministers (most of us) went to Mount Wachusett. Mrs. Mellen and her Sister Robbins with us and Mrs. Mellen had a Fall from her Horse but recover'd. We refresh'd ourselves on the Top of the Mount, Having carry'd up Bacon, Bread and Cheese, Rum.

1764 October 20 (Saturday). Mr. Williams and I (as requested) dine at Coll. Otis's. N.B. His Barn -- Drills -- Onions -- 420 Bush from 135 Rod of Ground -- 90 Bush from 19 Rods. His Wine of Currants -- Cyder -- made better by this method -- viz. Draw it off in March, before the Bud Swells; put in 2 oz. of Pulverized Allum, in a pint of West India Rum -- and break in 2 Cakes of Gingerbread.

1765 May 31 (Friday). We Broke fast at the Alms House -- and were going to Mr. *Holbrooks* (where my Mare was kept) to mount, when Mr. *Surcomb* came, and engaged us to return to his House. We were obliged (irresistably) to go -- but it was not to our Loss. He and his Wife loaded us with presents -- Tea, Bread, Wine, Cane Spirits, Bear -- to carry home with us. May God reward such Kindness and Bounty!

1766 August 5 (Tuesday). Mrs. Johnson had my Mare for Thomas Arnold to carry Bread to Worcester.

1768 June 22 (Wednesday). Went over to Northborough Lecture. Dined at Mr. Whitneys. Mr. Belcher Hancock there. Messrs. Morse and Sumner also. I preached on Joh. 6.35, "I am the living Bread."

1772 October 19 (Monday). A number of Neighbours, about 30 old and young, came about 9 or 10 o'Clock to husk my Corn. I committed the whole matter of their Refreshments and their Dinner to them, to have every thing relating thereto when and as they Should please. Accordingly They had Liquor and Bread and Cheese to their Satisfaction, but they did not choose to have the dinner till they had done husking the Corn, which was carted. A Load was left in the Field. This they could not meddle with because what was brought held them till sunsett. I went out to them not less than three times to entreat to have their Food, and See that they had Drink enough. But yet two, Mr. Tainter and Mr. Biglow, appeared offended and I was told that some went away -- but a Number returned again and stayed to eat with us. The abovementioned were also pacified. The Two Deacons (especialy Deacon Wood), together with other elderly Men, conducted the Affair. The Corn was very Moist, having been greatly Soaked by the late great Rains.

1773 May 11 (Tuesday). Read on Redeeming the Time; and Dr. *Chauncy* on Breaking of Bread a Gospel Institution.

1773 October 29 (Friday). Accordingly a Small Number were so kind as to assist me at Evening in *drawing off the Gravel* from the Knoll behind my House. Deacon *Wood* with a yoke of Oxen, Mr. *Barnabas Newton* with his Plough and oxen, Mr. Jonathan *Grout* with a large Gravel-Drag (except the Tongue), Mr. *Spring*, *Wheelock*, Several of the work-men from the Meeting House. However, there were in all, but a few for such a Work -- neither *Breck* nor *Harrington* nor *Caruth* nor *Snow*, could be with me. Yet a good Job was done. Their *Treat* was Drink and Bread and Cheese.

1774 September 3 (Saturday). Capt. *Benjamin Fay* came here between 2 and 3 o'Clock in the morn in much Concern and knew not what to do. After Light and through most of the forenoon, vague uncertain Reports. *Sutton* men that had gone to Deacon Wood, came back to go down the Road again. My son *Breck* with provisions, Bread, Meat, etc., Coats, Blanket etc., for it was rainy, rides down towards Cambridge to relieve *Asa Ware*, Mr. *Spring*, and others who were unprovided.

1775 June 8 (Thursday). I visited at Lt. *Bakers* on consideration of the Great and unusual Trouble the Family was of late exercised by. It was this: On Thursday, the first Day of the Month, Mrs. *Baker* and a Number of the Children, after eating their Breakfast of Bread and Milk, were strangely affected; were taken with *Vomiting* and *Purging*; and with some of them it continued through the Day. Nor can they, any of them give any Account of what was the Cause, or what could Ail 'em. Mrs. *Baker* has also lately lost her Brother *John*, Mr. *John Death*, in the Army; on which Account I sympathize with her.

1776 October 12 (Saturday). Mr. *Constantine Hardy* came hastily with an Horse for me to go immediately to his Father who is conceived to be near his End. I went with him -- found Mr. *Hardy* beyond conversing -- he was [*blot*] we prayed. He expired [*illegible*] afternoon in his 73d year. I dined there. We eat the Bread of mourning. He has left 12 grown up Children.

1779 February 12 (Friday). At Even I rec'd a Letter dated January 25, from my son *Forbes*, acquainting with the Death of one of Mr. *Forbes'* Daughters, by a Fever, and the Distress Cape Ann is in by the Small Pox, that he, being desired by the Selectmen and the Doctors *Plummer* and *Coffin* to assist, has innoculated and administered physic to near 100: Col. *Stevens* and his Wife have got safely through. But alas for the poor people, who want Bread, and Cloths and Fuel! May God pity them and grant Supplys, especially of his Almighty Grace and Spirit: that they may duly improve providences, and the Seasons and means of Salvation!

1779 March 24 (Wednesday). *Ephraim's* brother *Elisha* was here and dined with us. He speaks of the Straits and Difficulties to which many of the People of *Bolton* are reduced, for want of Bread and how scarce Meat is there. May the great Provider Pity them, especially at this Season, and all others that are exposed in this terrible Storm! In Special that are at Sea.

1779 December 18 (Saturday). It is exceeding Stormy, snowing, blowing and very cold, but through God's great Goodness, we have Shelter, Wood, Bread, Meat, Drink, Cloths but especially Health, Reason, above all the Day of means of Grace! To His Name be praise and glory! May God commiserate the exposed, and the Necessitous!