

Corn (English and Indian), Husking, Husks, and Huskers

1726 February 28 (Monday). I rode as far as Mr. Warrins and Mr. Amsdens. Mr. Amsden, upon Occasion of his Horse and a great number in the Neighborhood besides, and in every Town about us, gave out various Reflections upon the Sad Mortality and Destruction of Horses; and the sore visitations in the Extream scarcity of Corn and Hay at this Juncture, through which Multitudes are sorely Distress'd.

1726 March 14, 15 (Monday, Tuesday). There is Need of again and again Remarking the Extream Difficulty and Distresses of People For themselves and their Beasts for want of Both Corn and Hay.

1726 March 30 (Wednesday). No whither can one turn but the Calamity of the times are felt, Everyone Complaining and Lamenting. My Neighbor Clark though a foreigner I could not but Commiserate, and I actually did put forth Myself to my utmost to succour him Every Way, By Grain, Hay, keeping Creatures, Money, etc. O Miserere Deus! Corn was Sold at Oxford for 8 shillings per Bushel, and in other places.

1726 May 6, 7 (Friday, Saturday). He [Robert Henry] planted Indian Corn, But I confined myself, and for want of Some inspection it was so furrow'd I could have been Glad to have had it to have done again.

1726 May 30 (Monday). Robert began to weed the Corn. He had Mr. Oliver Wards Rocket and Horse to assist him.

1726 June 14 (Tuesday). Robert was at Moulding up my Indian Corn. He did not make that Heavy Business of the First part that he did before.

1726 July 20 (Wednesday). And this morning Joshua Misco and his Squa howed my Corn.

1726 July 21 (Thursday). The Indians finished my Corn and went off.

1726 July 30 (Saturday). The frequent showers so Engaged Everyone about his Corn and Hay that it was no Easy matter to Obtain Help. It was with great Difficulty I got Neighbor Clark and his son to Shock my grain, which having layn long in the Field in all weathers and a threatening storm nigh, I was Restless till the Grain my Chief Dependance was upon [was] Secur'd. Shall I note here the Answers given by Two persons that my wife remark'd when she sent to Neighbor Clarks for assistance. Neighbor Clarks grain was upon Spoil and he was reaping it. He had Many (I think Ten) load of Hay that had been very long in cock in the Meadows and must be Tho't to be rotting. Himself lame in his hand, besides his common lameness in his Leggs. His Son, who was all his Help, had hurt his ancle, and therefore he directed the messenger to ask Neighbor Maynard who had his own, his sons David, Jesse, Josham, Jonathan and Ebenezer's Help, though one or Two of the last were not like the others. His Business in Good forwardness. He [Maynard] Replys when my Grass and Corn will move into my Barn without hands I'll leave it to

Help Mr. Parkman -- not before. The Messenger returns to Neighbor Clark. He answers what shall I do? My own is really Suffering and Everything is backward for want of a Team, for I have none and can get none, But he is Labouring for our Souls and why Shall I refuse? and came away.

1726 August 31 (Wednesday). My Corn Stalks were Cut (in part).

1726 October 3 (Monday). We began our Indian Corn Harvest, and I sent my Apples to the Cyder Mill at Mr. Forbush's. I went down to Mr. Forbush's myself before the Team (which was Mr. Warrens) came along. Neighbor Green assisted in a Lesser Third part of what I planted of Corn.

1726 October 4 (Tuesday). We Husked Corn. I myself did little besides.

1726 October 15 (Saturday). Yesterday Mr. Brigham (having gather's my Corn the Day before) brought five Fat Creatures to my Pasture.

1727 April 22 (Saturday). Mr. Ward came with his Team and carted out Muck upon my Corn grounds.

1729 September 5

4. Bewail my Iniquities before God.

1. Sin, in General: its
 1. Turpitude, Vileness, and Offensiveness especially to God most Holy and glorious
 2. Fatal Consequences.

2. In Particular:

1. The Sin of my Nature, and thereby
 1. The Weakness and Darkness of my Intellectual Powers;
 2. The Perverseness and Corruptness of my Elective Powers.
2. The Foolishness and wickedness of my Childhood and youth
 1. Falseness. Ps. 58.3. Brother William, Mr. Fl. [?], Mr. L.[?]
 2. Thievishness, apples, corn.

1736 June 18 (Friday). Deborah returned home. David finished ploughing in the Corn.

1736 August 3 (Tuesday). A Melancholly Time as to English Corn whether [reap'd], or standing, and as to Hay. My whole Field of Rie Standing or rather lying down by the Several Storms upon it, which has given great Advantage to the [*illegible*] which together very much pull and keep it down. And I have a Load or Two of Hay abroad -- some in Swarth and some in Cock.

1736 October 1 (Friday). Clearer Weather to Day. It has been a very Melancholly long Time of Rainy Weather; In so much that the Corn is almost in Danger of Moulding in the Field. But David had watched his Opportunity for gathering the Little piece in the Lower Southside.

1736 October 14 (Thursday). Ten or Eleven young persons came at Night and Husked out the Remainder of my Corn.

1737 October 6 (Thursday). Young men came to gather my Corn. Set them to work. About 18 or 20 hands husked out all my Corn. N.B. In my absence Winter Apples gathered in.

1737 October 12 (Wednesday). As I returned in the evening, there rose a storm of Lightening and Rain. Mr. Lock came and carried in Corn.

1737 October 13 (Thursday). John Clung (who lodged here last night) carried in more of the Corn from the Barn. Paid John the whole and he bid farewell. At evening Brother Hicks helped in more Corn.

1737 October 14 (Friday). Jonathan Rogers got in Pumpkins, and the remainder of the Corn.

1738 May 10 (Wednesday). A.M. finish'd planting Corn.

1738 June 13 (Tuesday). I help'd in the ploughing among the Corn.

1738 September 4 (Monday). N.B. A very great Drought. Great Trouble about getting Corn Ground. A burning Day. N.B. Moss in a great Fret after Dinner. He gathered the little piece of Corn of the South side.

1738 September 12 (Tuesday). N.B. In Wallingford or North Haven, a vessel building some Miles from the Water. N.B. Corn field 5 miles Long.

1738 October 9 (Monday). Divers Neighbours kindly help'd David Baverick (who wrought for me to Day) in Cutting up my Corn and carting it into the Barn. N.B. Noah How help'd David a.m. in carting in stalks, and Noah and his Brother Daniel carted my Apples to their Mill. At Night 10 or a Dozen young men and Lads Husk'd part of my Corn.

1738 October 11 (Wednesday). David Baverick wrought for me carrying up Corn, making a Partition Fence.

1738 October 17 (Tuesday). Mr. Tainter here at Eve with Lads who Husk'd more of my Corn but did not finish it.

1738 October 23 (Monday). P.M. getting up Corn from the Barn.

1739 June 19 (Tuesday). I rode Mr. Aaron Forbush's Horse to Grafton to Association leaving Jonathan Rogers to plough and hoe among my Corn. N.B. had Neighbor David Maynard Juniors Horse to plough.

1739 July 10 (Tuesday). No Body at Work at Corn or Hay from Day to Day (except a Few Rows of Corn plough'd by Deacon Forbush) John Rogers being Sick.

1739 July 12 (Thursday). I walk'd to Mr. Rogers's in the Morning. Dr. [?] Daniel Forbush and Zebulon Rice came to Hoing my Corn. At about 3 p.m. came Mr. Winchester and Mr. James Fay and mowed in my upper South Side.

1739 October 4 (Thursday). P.M. John Oake, James Geoffrey, James Eager and Samuel Allen gather'd that part of the Corn by the old House and with Jotham and Stephen Maynard and Noah How husk'd it out in the Evening.

1739 October 9 (Tuesday). William Johnson making Cyder for me still. Captain Forbush with his Team, Timothy Warrin and John Rogers came p.m. to get up and husk'd Corn.

1739 October 18 (Thursday). Several Nei[gh]bours on the South side of Town Mr. Bowman, Stone, Martin Pratt, Beriah Rice, Jonathan Forbes, and Phinehas Walker, Dan Hardy, came and gather'd my Corn.

1739 October 23 (Tuesday). Neighbor Maynards, Whipples, Forbushs etc. Lads Husking.

1740 April 30 (Wednesday). Hicks Carting Muck (having taken the Business of my Indian Corn for half the Crop of it).

1740 October 2 (Thursday). Thomas and Joshua Winchester gathering apples and Corn in the upper Field. Carry'd in Stalks, etc.

1740 October 5 (Sunday). Greatly afflicted with the Cattle breaking into the Corn.... In the middle of the Night was call'd out of my Bed because the Cattle had broke into the Corn.

1740 October 6 (Monday). P.M. Lieutenant Baker Sent his son and Team and Neighbor Pratt his Moses to gather my Half of the Lower Field of Corn, Beans, etc. Several Neighbors at Eve.

1740 October 9 (Thursday). Husk'd at Eve, but my wife not well.

1740 October 15 (Wednesday). When I came home I had the Sorrowful Sight of the Mischief done by my Cattle breaking in upon my Corn which lay husk'd in the Barn, for I could have no Convenience to carry it up. The Disaster respecting the Corn was so much the more trouble some as my Corn was exceeding Short having but half the Field and what there was was exceeding poor and mean and soft. P.M. James Bradish so kind as to give me the cutting of Three Load of Wood, and the Carrying up the good Corn which I had in the Barn, which the

Cattle did not get over to (but to the Soft Corn only). N.B. The good Corn carry'd up from the Barn was 14 or 15 Basketts -- and this was the biggest part of my Corn this Year.

1742 May 1 (Saturday). Thomas gott out Corn.

1742 July 1 (Thursday). A pleasant Day and no Rain. *Thomas* has ploughed among the Corn for Hilling -- the Corn having grown wonderfully, and some Time agoe it was beginning to Spindle out. A most remarkably forward Season.

1742 October 1 (Friday). We have some Number of Cold frosty Nights, but the last was very Cold -- the air Raw and looked snowy. This Morning very Cold. Corn gathering Yesterday and to Day.

1742 October 4 (Monday). About 16 or 18 Hands husked out my Corn.

1744 May 1 (Tuesday). Thomas Winchester planting Corn south side.

1744 September 28 (Friday). Thomas fetch'd 3 Barrells of Cyder from Mr. Grout and one from Mr. Miller. P.M. gathering Corn.

1744 October 1 (Monday). Nei[gh]bours Young Men came and Husk'd.

1745 October 16 (Wednesday). Thomas Winchester Made Cyder a Day and Half, and gott in Corn a Day and half.

1745 October 19 (Saturday). N.B. Thomas Winchester work'd for me last Tuesday and Wednesday in making Cyder and gathering Corn. N.B. About 40 Barrells of Cyder this Year, 10 of them boyl'd. 30 now in Cellar.

1745 October 24 (Thursday). My Boys have been much employ'd in Husking -- for I was dissatisfy'd with late night Huskings.

1746 June 10 (Tuesday). Rainy. My Cattle grow very troublesome by breaking in upon my Corn, whilst Ebenezer and Thomme were gone a fishing. Mr. Eliezer Rice hobbled my Ox which was the Ringleader in the Mischief.

1746 July 8 (Tuesday). Thomas etc. Hilling my Corn.

1746 July 15 (Tuesday). Lent my Mare to Mrs. Barns to send to her Father in Law for Help to Hill their Corn.

1746 July 22 (Tuesday). My Interruption great by Cattle breaking into my Corn. Ebenezer and Thomme at Meadow.

1746 July 23 (Wednesday). One of my Oxen very troublesome in breaking in upon the Corn.

1746 October 8 (Wednesday). My Sons have pick'd up our Apples, gather'd the Beans, and this afternoon some of the Corn.

1746 October 17 (Friday). More than ordinary Cold and Raw Weather -- very uncomfortable for people that labor abroad. My son gather'd some of the Corn.

1746 October 20 (Monday). The Snow has wholly disappeared. A Very pleasant warm Day. My sons Carted Stones in the fore part of the Day, and then gathered Corn.

1746 October 23 (Thursday). P.M. my Sons gather'd the rest of the Corn.

1746 November 7 (Friday). 'Rody and Jonathan Devereux help'd my sons husk at Eve, but twas very Cold.

1746 November 11 (Tuesday). At my own house and Barn Elizer Rice and 4 or 5 more are Husking, it being very moderate Weather.

1746 December 31 (Wednesday). But have been of late more than ordinarily fill'd with perplexing Cares and important Business -- as particularly my Bond with Mr. Jesse Rice of Marlborough; the weighty Affairs of my settlement with this Precinct; the Sickness at Mr. Whipples; the troublesome Affair, and great Disappointment about my Pork; but especially a Daily anxiety about my Cattle my Hay being very Short and my Stock much increas'd. My Corn also Much Shorter than Ordinary; which was caus'd me to ride much more than I should have done, and yet without success.

1747 January 6 (Tuesday). A.M. Mr. Chamberlin buys my fattening Sow alive. He offers 18 d per pound when kill'd, or 12 d alive. She weighed 108 alive and comes to 5£ 8 shillings of which he pays be 4£ old Tenor. My sons thrash Rye. P.M. I rode out again after Hay. To Eliezer Rice's, Ensign Rice, Eliezer Bellows, Joseph Knowltons (N.B. his wife ill). In returning I was in at old Mr. Green's for Corn. Agree with Joseph that what I have of him I must give 12 shillings per Bushel for. At my House found Timothy Warrin and Eliezer Rice about my Cattle, and I sold 'em to Neighbour Warrin for 44£ and a Days Work ploughing Stubble in the Spring. He gave me Bond to be paid September 29 with Interest -- but I engag'd that if he would pay me by March 10 there should be no Interest at all. He promis'd also to bring me a Load of Rails from Mr. Harringtons.

1747 May 9 (Saturday). Warm Day. Ebenezer began to plant Indian Corn.

1747 June 20 (Saturday). Goodhew, Daniel How, Nathan Maynard, Benjamin Whipple and Rody Smith came in the morning and hoed my Corn and my Beans and had done by 11 a.m. a great Kindness, and Relief though it took but so little Time.

1747 July 11 (Saturday). Neighbour Batherick began to cut my Ministerial Meadow. The Boys made an End of Hilling the Corn.

1747 August 4 (Tuesday). At Eve Mr. Beriah Rice came (when we were short enough as to grain) with a Bushell of Indian Corn and a Bushell of Rice.

1747 September 29 (Tuesday). A number of Hands came and gather'd my Corn. Mr. Samuel Fay junior, Joseph Green junior, Edwards Whipple (who was a first mover) and p.m. John Chamberlin, John Rogers, Benjamin Tainter, Joseph Bowker. Had Mr. Tinneys Cart as well as my own.... At Evening husk'd. I know not of more than a small Number, and we provided accordingly, but there came (as I think they were counted) 34. Yet God was pleas'd to bless out Provision and he[?] had Considerable left. N.B. they finish'd at 10 o'Clock. Sang latter part of Ps. 4 in Tate and Brady. Through the Bounty of Providence a good Crop.

1747 September 30 (Wednesday). Ebenezer carts up the Corn from the Barn to the House. Hir'd Mr. Chamberlin, who came about noon and help'd us till night.

1747 October 30 (Friday). Rain. As we have been blessed with a good Crop of Corn, so likewise of Turnips, which are now Cutting.

1748 May 5 (Thursday). Joseph and Ebenezer are ploughing and mending Fence. The Weather from Day to Day so Cloudy and cold and sometimes Rains that we declin'd planting Indian Corn.

1748 May 6 (Friday). The Weather forbids planting Still. My Hay I think is now wholly done but had some Kindly from old Mr. Maynards.

1748 May 7 (Saturday). We planted some of the Ground.

1748 May 30 (Monday). This Day the Parish met upon adjournment Concerning my Support among them. They pass'd a vote in the following words viz. Voted and granted to the Reverend Mr. Parkman our minister the Sum of one Hundred and fifty Two pounds ten shillings old Tenor -- This with what they had heretofore granted was to make up 400£ Old Tenor -- for his Support this Currant Year, provided Mr. Parkman will give the said precinct a full Discharge from the Time said Precinct began their Contract with him for his Service in the Work of the ministry among them untill the fifth Day of June 1748. Josiah Newton Moderator. And then sent Two persons, viz. Mr. Samuel Williams and [blank] to desire me to go up to the meeting House that they might Speak with me personally. Upon which I went up. When the opportunity was prepared for me to speak, I desir'd the precinct, in order to my fulfilling the Condition abovesaid to give me (according to what was inserted in the Warrant for this meeting) some direct and plain answer to my reasonable Request last December (for so long this affair had been depending, which request was) that they would explain their Expression in their Votes of February [blank] 1744/5, wherein they Say that they will give me 55£ New Tenor Money so called etc. Upon my making this motion Several seem'd to be disgust'd; and even some that I suppose were friendly and were the means of obtaining to Day's vote, and some were ready to

throw it up, or would have it re-consider'd. We had Some warm debate about that Explanation which the then Moderator (Deacon Newton) and the Clerk (Mr. Francis Whipple) had given me (by desire) that Evening after the Vote was made. N.B. When the Paper I had lately given the present Committee of the precinct (who were appointed to treat with me) was referr'd to and the words were recited from it which (as I conceive) the said Moderator and Clerk in February 1744/5 deliver'd me as the meaning of the vote which had been pass'd that Day, immediately Captain Warrin was in a great Heat, and express'd himself indecently -- saying that That was a Corrupt Thing, pointing said to Paper. I therefore referr'd to myself to the very words of the Moderator and Mr. Whipple -- but though they said much the same things as heretofore in showing the Interpretation of the foremention'd voted, yet they now add that they did not hereby intend that the Precinct would keep up the Value of money according to Gold or silver; but that it Should be according to the Determination of the Court. And when they had said this divers others struck in, and Insisted that That was the true intent and meaning. Whereupon I reply'd that being Sensible I could recover nothing but what was written in the Votes how ambiguous Soever, I desir'd it might be wav'd for the present (for it was almost dark and the people seem'd uneasy that they might go home) and I would have the precinct to take a Time to settle our agreement; and concerning their Vote of today for supply this year Currant, I openly declar'd that I accepted of it upon the Condition therein inserted, and that I could do no otherwise, through the Necessity of my Case. No sooner was this Spoke, than new Displeasures arose -- but I went to a window and wrote what I had said (viz. My Consent to the vote upon the Conditions therein express'd) on the paper of the Vote itself. Then the Moderator dissolv'd the Meeting. N.B. When I propos'd Corn and other Necessarys of Life to be a standard, if they did not like to have Gold and Silver, Brother Williams answer'd that then if there Should come ever so dreadful a Scarcity and if Corn Should be many pounds a Bushel I would have it of them to the full notwithstanding. I was griev'd at this answer and I hope my Reply was satisfying. N.B. Lieutenant Tainter and Mr. Eliezer Rice in a Contest, about something which the former affirms I said. Scil. that (on Consideration of the Difference among the people) I was ready to throw up the Precincts Votes without any Ifs and and's. Where as I told him it was upon Supposition that they would do Something else as good in the Stead thereof. It was a grief to me to find there were so many Disquietments and I was especially Sorry that when the people had granted as much as I expected (if it went not so much as was properly due) that I must accept it in such a manner as looks to them unkind and as if I was Still bearing upon them. Weeding Corn over.

1748 July 5 (Tuesday). N.B. On the fifth Deacon Newton Sent Timothy and Mr. Charles Rice sent Charles to help us in hilling our Corn. On the seventh he sow'd the South field with Rie.

1748 October 4 (Tuesday). Was at Mr. Knowltons who was very kind favouring me with Rie meal and a Quarter of Mutton which I brought home with me for we had great need of them being in hopes of divers Hands tomorrow to gather and husk my Corn -- and had no Body that I could send so far to mill as Mr. Drury's.

1748 October 5 (Wednesday). Benjamin Tainter only came to gathering Corn a.m. Some others p.m. viz. Neighbours Edwards Whipple, Joseph Green junior, Thomas Whipple, Mr. Elijah

Warrin.... Several Hands came in the Evening to Husk, but it had rain'd so in the afternoon that they had gather'd but part of the Corn, and the Company chose to come again. There were about eleven.

1748 October 6 (Thursday). At Eve Rain. Some Number of Hands dropp'd in till into the Evening and some of them had gather'd more Corn, but the south Field yet to gather. But neither did they incline to husk this night. I taught 'em something about singing.

1748 October 7 (Friday). Rainy. Disappoint'd of gathering the rest of my Corn.

1748 October 10 (Monday). P.M. at the Funeral. N.B. several young men turned away from the procession and came up to help Ebenezer in gathering my Corn, viz. Abraham Batchellor, Phinehas Maynard and several more. 32 persons assisted in Husking. Finish'd the work by about 10 o'Clock. After Supper we Sung latter part of Ps. 4 and pray'd before the Company went off.

1748 October 12 (Wednesday). Mr. Hezekiah Pratt afforded me the help of his Boy Cornelius Cook and his Team to get up the Corn from the barn. Ebenezer and Cornelius hard at it all Day.

1749 May 1 (Monday). Ebenezer and Daniel began to plant the Fields of Indian Corn.

1749 May 19 (Friday). Daniel carry'd out the whole of our Ashes upon the New Ground, planted with Indian Corn.

1749 June 10 (Saturday). Ebenezer and Daniel setting out Cabbage and Tobacco Plants -- and began to half-Hill the Indian Corn.

1749 July 1 (Saturday). An Hot and very drying Day. Corn curls pritty much. Every Thing looks very languishing but English Grain.

1749 July 26 (Wednesday). Three of Mr. Barns's Cattle very troublesome one Night after another and now get into the Corn.

1749 August 25 (Friday). Ebenezer and Thomas a.m. mow Weeds for Fodder. P.M. Cutt Stalks.... We Need Indian Corn -- borrow'd a Bushel of Lieutenant Thomas Forbush, and Neighbour Batherick went to Mr. Allens Mill with it.

1749 October 11 (Wednesday). At Eve I return'd home, there being a great Number of young Men husking my Corn this Evening.

1749 October 14 (Saturday). Ebenezer has carry'd up the Corn into the Garrett, and we have great Reason to Bless God for his abundant Goodness and Bounty to us, especially considering the terrible Drought, for we have a competent Crop. May we have grace to improve it to the Glory of the Giver!

1749 October 17 (Tuesday). Nathan Maynard help'd me in raking our Husks into Heaps and Cocking them before the Threatening Storm.

1749 December 6 (Wednesday). Neighbour Hezekiah How and Neighbour Daniel Warrin assist my son in killing 3 Swine, one weighing above nine, another above 7, another almost 4 Score. Foreseeing I must give some of my Corn to my Cattle and Horses by reason of the shortness of Hay, I chose to kill my Pork early though it be small -- have laid up the more Beef.

1750 February 12 (Monday). At Eve Ebenezer taken very ill, Shaking and great pain in his Side follow'd with Fever and Thirst. N.B. he had winnow'd some Quantity of Indian Corn in the Day and very probably took Cold by it.

1750 February 22 (Thursday). Rode to Southborough -- at Mr. Johnsons to Buy Corn for my Horse at Mr. Fays.

1750 April 14 (Saturday). Jonathan Fay here for Corn for keeping my Horse. Have let him have 3 Bushels.

1750 April 20 (Friday). Messrs. Gale and Rogers go into a Ministerial Lott as agreed Yesterday but they find only Two sticks and cutt but one of them. It rain'd also and beat 'em off in the forenoon. I rode to the South Side as far as Mr. Charles Bruce's -- din'd at Mr. Bowmans. Proceeded to Mr. James Bradishes accompany'd by Mr. Bowman and engag'd him to work on my intended Frame. Was at divers Houses besides, promoting the Same Affair. For the Time of preparing to build is so far elaps'd that unless I am very industrious and Successfull there can be little Hopes of getting into an House before next Winter. But I meet with considerable Encouragement -- and especially from Mr. Bowman, who likewise presented me a Bushel and half of Indian Corn, and carried it to Lieutenant Tainters, in order to its being Sent to Mill.

1750 April 27 (Friday). Joseph Bruce works here. They begin to plant Indian Corn.

1750 May 4 (Friday). Ebenezer finish'd planting Indian Corn.

1750 July 7 (Saturday). Ebenezer and Joseph have finish'd the hilling of Indian Corn this Week -- having had Mr. David Maynard junior's Horse to plough.

1750 October 5 (Friday). Ebenezer has been Carting Apples etc. No corn gather'd yet. But we suffer'd great Dammage by the cattle; of them 12 in Number broke out of the Cow Yard last night -- were in the Corn, among the Apples, Cabbages etc. N.B. the Weather has been very Cold for several Days.

1750 October 8 (Monday). Jonathan Smith thrashes with Ebenezer. A.M. they gather Corn.

1750 October 9 (Tuesday). Jonathan Smith at work with Ebenezer in cutting up Corn.

1750 October 12 (Friday). Jonathan Smith work'd here getting in Corn.... Three Sons and Two Daughters, with Patty Pannell husk Corn in the Barn this Eve, and Except Molly, they Stay till Eleven o'Clock.

1750 October 23 (Tuesday). Association Fast at Bolton, but I could not go by reason of the work which is doing at my new House, and expect Huskers at Night, but it was put by.

1750 October 24 (Wednesday). P.M. at the New House desir'd Rody Smith to ask Mr. Barns to come and husk to night. A Number were ask'd, but there were but six only who came, scil. Neighbour Benjamin How and his Brother Daniel, Neighbour John Frost and Samuel Forbush, Cornelius Cook and John Pratt.

1750 October 26 (Friday). Joseph Winchester and Jonathan Smith husk'd with my sons at Evening till 10.

1750 October 29 (Monday). Neighbour Rogers husks with my sons in the Barn this Evening.

1750 November 21 (Wednesday). Thomas a.m. carts wood; p.m. husks.

1750 December 3 (Monday). Ebenezer and Thomas husking p.m.

1750 December 7 (Friday). My Sons finish'd husking.

1751 May 14 (Tuesday). We finish'd planting at the Island. Was there myself p.m. Captain Forbush there and dropp'd Corn.

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.

1751 October 10 (Thursday). Heavy Rains. The Day appointed to gather my Island Corn but disappointed by the Weather.

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.

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. 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.

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.

1751 October 23 (Wednesday). 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). P.M. 25 Hands help'd Ebenezer husk. N.B. Baldwin, John Woods and Sam. Bumpso went.

1751 December 12 (Thursday). 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.

1752 March 13 (Friday). Mr. Thomas Axtell here, and with him Mr. Aaron Hardy. Mr. Axtell here many Hours -- he din'd here -- with much Ado we came to an agreement. I engag'd him 4 Bushels of Indian Corn for what he had given my Piggs.

1752 June 9 (Tuesday). I am inform'd that last Friday, 17 Hands came a.m. and wed [sic] my Corn. They were those following -- Mr. David Maynard and 2 sons, Mr. Eliezer Rice and his son - - Messrs. Nathan Maynard and Hezekiah Pratt. Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin and son -- Mr. Joseph Woods and Son. Mr. Joslins Boy -- Lieutenant Tainter and Grandson -- Mr. Harringtons 2 sons -- and a Son of Ensign Miller.

1752 June 15 (Monday). Ebenezer has met with several Checks upon the Field of Indian Corn on the south side of the Road. The piggs rooted it up a while ago so that he was forc'd to plant the chief of it over again: and now as soon as it is come up again a Flock of Sheep has broke in upon it and crop'd it down.

1752 June 19 (Friday). At Eve I fell on one corner of the Corn Barn and greatly wounded myself.

1752 June 24 (Wednesday). Lieutenant Tainter came and brought an Horse, plough and Lad to plough my Island. Mr. Williams also plough'd, Ebenezer Rice junior led, and Eleven Hands hold - - viz. Messrs. Grow, Harrington, Jonathan Forbush and Daniel Grout, Joseph Baker, William

Stone, James Bowman, Jonathan and Thomas Bond, Abner Warrin came and half hill'd my Corn at the Island; and they finish'd by half after 9 a.m.

1752 July 10 (Friday). Mr. Samuel Williams with my Mare, and with Billy to lead, plough'd among my Indian Corn: and Mr. Eliezer Rice came with plough, Horse and Boy and plough'd likewise, but there were but few Hoers -- only Mr. Edwards Whipple and his Boy which made me go to Mr. Clafflands and get Robert to help. The Men broke off about 1/2 after 10 a.m. The Boys, viz. Robert Claffland, Moses Sever and my Billy, hoed all Day, but did not finish the work. N.B. Sow'd Rie, which I had of Mr. Hezekiah Pratt, at the Hilling. This work was gratis, as was Alpheus Newton's also, who mow'd at the Island a.m. Mr. Jonathan Bellows (upon hire) mow'd and rak'd at the Meadow, and Mr. Eliezer Rice help'd him rake p.m. changing work with us.

1752 September 1 (Tuesday). I am inform'd that divers Bears are about, and that one lay in my Field at the other Place lately, and has done Damage in the Corn.

1752 October 9 (Monday). This Day was appointed and agreed upon by Lieutenant Tainter and others to gather my Corn at the Island, but the storm continues; and nothing can be done although there is reason to fear it will rot.

1752 October 12 (Thursday). Mr. William Rogers works for me, clearing about the East Part of the Barn Land for though it is fair yet my Corn is not fit to gather.

1752 October 13 (Friday). A Fair and pleasant Day for our Harvest. D.G. Lieutenant Tainter, Mr. Jonathan Forbush, Joseph Bowman and Isaac Miller cut up my Corn; and my Son William with my Team to Cart it; and afterwards Mr. Harrington with his Team; So that they got it all home before noon.... P.M. a number of Hands husk'd out my Corn. Old Mr. Maynard and his sons, Ebenezer and Nathan, old Mr. Rice, Joseph Bowman, Isaac Miller, Mr. Bonds 2 Sons, 2 from Mr. Jonah Warrins, Daniel Grout, Constantine Hardy and some others, made up the Company. The Husking was over by that the Evening came: but they tarried so long as to thrust the Husks into the Barn.

1752 October 14 (Saturday). Billy with assistance putts the remainder of the Husk'd Corn into the Barns. It was so Spoil'd with the Drought and with the Frost that there is but here and there a good Ear among it. But God is holy and Sovereign.... Rain p.m.

1752 October 26 (Thursday). Mr. Aaron Nurse with my Billy puts up my Husks from the Barn Floor.

1752 October 31 (Tuesday). Ebenezer makes an Husking this Evening.

1752 December 4 (Monday). N.B. We this Day gave out the Last of the Corn in the Corn-Barn (which was the Island Corn) Nor is there any left of all the Indian Corn that I rais'd here, excepted a few Ears in the Garrett which were trac'd up. Billy gets out Corn for our Eating, at

t'other House. At Evening Snows -- in the Night the storm prevails, and by Morning the Snow is pritty deep. But God protects and guards Supplys and comforts us.

1754 February 11 (Monday). Ebenezer here at Eve. He seems Somewhat Sick of the Bargain with Mr. Smith of Brookfield and yet does not appear Willing to Throw it up. He hopes I will Send for no more Indian Corn from the Other House.

1754 May 16 (Thursday). I went into the Neighbourhood to get somebody to plough or harrow my Ground, but without Success. I was at Mr. Daniel Warrins -- but he offer'd a Bushel of Indian Corn.

1754 July 4 (Thursday). My wife tells me that 16 Hands came Yesterday forenoon and hoed the rest of my Corn over.

1754 September 20 (Friday). Lieutenant Forbush here at Eve tells me of his Cattle being once and again in my Island -- and to Day in the Corn.

1754 September 21 (Saturday). Lieutenant Forbush now Setts the Fence between Beriah Rice and me in the Meadow.

1754 September 27 (Friday). Billy cutt up part of the Corn by the Barn.

1754 October 7 (Monday). Lieutenant Tainter, Messrs. Jonathan Forbush, Eleazer Whitney, Thomas Twitchell, Amariah Thurston, with several Lads, Daniel Grout and Joseph Harrington came and cutt up my Corn at the Island, and Mr. Ebenezer Forbush with his Team brought it in. They made 4 Load of it and had done by noon. Four of them stay'd to dine. It was our purpose to have husk'd in the afternoon (for some persons said they Should choose it rather than in the Eve) and a few Neighbours were Sent to, but none came but old Mr. Maynard. So then we sent again, desiring they would come in the Evening, but neither did there come any but a few Boys who ran away home again.

1754 October 8 (Tuesday). To Day some of my own Family who did not use to husk, put their Hands to it.... Noah Forbush part of p.m. husking -- a number more came in the Evening, viz. Thomas Hardy, Alpheus and Abner Newton, Charles Rice and Ebenezer Rice junior -- very frosty Night, they did not stay to husk the whole.

1754 October 9 (Wednesday). Thomas and Billy husk.... Thomas and Billy, and 3 Rices (Merchants Sons) husk in the Evening.

1754 November 6 (Wednesday). Ebenezer has an Husking p.m.

1755 June 10 (Tuesday). Rody Smith work'd with Billy in hoeing Corn.

1755 June 13 (Friday). Mr. Kenny and his son Nathan I hir'd to hoe my Corn with Billy.

1755 July 3 (Thursday). My Wife tells me that Mr. Hezekiah Pratt and 14 others came last Tuesday p.m. and hoed my Corn.

1755 July 11 (Friday). Great Rains -- all Hay making Suspended -- Indian Corn generally very low.

1755 September 19 (Friday). N.B. We have been much troubl'd by ten Hogs of Captain Samuel Forbush, which get into my Corn Field.

1755 October 17 (Friday). My Sons Thomas, and William undertake to gather our Corn, but it rains hard before they got home one Load.

1755 October 22 (Wednesday). Thomas and William cutt up and bring in 3 Turns of Corn from the Cook Field. A great Frost last Night.

1755 November 1 (Saturday). Storms again. A Sorrowfull Time. Many have not gather'd Corn, nor made their Cyder.

1755 November 10 (Monday). A very Rainy time. My Son Ebenezer has neither gather'd his Corn nor made his Cyder: and its So with divers others.

1755 November 11 (Tuesday). Rain a.m. P.M. Billy works at Mr. Nurse's in cutting Turnips. At Eve Nathan Kenny, and Solomon and David Maynard husk'd out the rest of our Corn.

1755 November 12 (Wednesday). I went over to t'other House in my way to the North End. Ebenezer was cutting up his Corn: his Brother Thomas and Mr. John Frost help him.

1755 November 13 (Thursday). Fair again. Billy with Mare and Steers work'd for Mr. Nurse all Day. Thomas for Ebenezer, who finishes getting in his Corn.

1755 November 25 (Tuesday). N.B. Thomas and Billy at their Brother Ebenezers who has a Husking to Day.

1755 December 26 (Friday). Somewhat moderater. My Son Ebenezer came and with Thomas's Help kill'd two Swine; which were but Small, one 126, the other 119, our Corn having been so cut off by the Frosts, both late in the Spring and early in the Fall.

1756 January 28 (Wednesday). The Weather in the Morning was doubtful. My Son William Sat out with a Team made up of my Steers with my sons Cart, and Neighbour Barnabas Newtons oxen, to go to Sutton for Corn from Mr. Trasks. Mr. Jonathan *Kenny* induces him and is very fair in promising me to go with him and assist him and See him well back as far as Mr. *Jennisons* -- but when Mr. Kenny had set out it began to rain -- for which reason I Sent word that if it rained they Should not proceed, yet they proceeded notwithstanding the Rain.

1756 May 8 (Saturday). Billy plants Indian Corn at the Island, the weather p.m. being warmer.

1756 May 18 (Tuesday). Messrs. Samuel Hardy, Zebulun Rice and his Brother Charles worked here in fencing the Field behind the Meeting House and p.m. planted the Chief of it. Mr. Charles Rice Came and dropped Corn part of the afternoon.

1756 May 19 (Wednesday). Mr. Charles Rice came in the Morning and finished the dropping my Corn, and a.m. *Billy* finished the covering.

1756 June 14 (Monday). A Number of Young Men (of the New Society) came and hoed my Corn at the New Field behind the Meeting House. They were *Samuel Hardy* junior, *Barny Newton*, *Daniel Forb.* junior, *Jonathan Stow*, *Abner Whipple*, *Joseph Harrington*, and *Levi Warrin* for his Brother *Abner*.

1756 July 15 (Thursday). Thomas and Billy begin to hill the Corn at the Island, and finish it.

1756 July 17 (Saturday). Our Orchard field was Sowed yesterday when My sons began to plough and Hill the Indian Corn there, and to day partly work there (Thomas but a Spell, a.m.) and secure part of the Hay in [of?] the Home Lot.

1756 July 21 (Wednesday). Had not so comfortable Night -- a.m. less lively, and more feverish than yesterday. Such is the will of God that I have my ups and downs. Yet as to my Circumstances many Things are chearful. Mr. Twitchell works for me in taking Care of the Hay. Mr. Barachias Morse and Francis Pierce mow in the Ministerial Meadow, but especially fourteen Hands, great and small, came and hilled my New Field of Corn behind the Meeting House. They were Lt. Tainter, and his son Benjamin (with their lad Enoch Biglow), Ensign Harrington, Messrs. Solomon Woods, Zebulun Rice, Jonathan Grout, Amariah Thurston, Joseph Pratt, James Bowman junior, Isaac Miller, Eli Whitney, Elisha Forbush, John Forbush, Joseph Bond. I would take a grateful Notice of this Favour in Providence.

1756 September 17 (Friday). The Frost having in some Measure seized my Corn, *Billy* (agreeable to the practice which some of the Neighbours go into) strips down the Husks, as it stands in the Field. Ebenezer Rice junior helps him.

1756 September 21 (Tuesday). *Billy* gathers part of the Island Corn. Nathan Kenny helped him p.m. We were obliged to gather it because of the Hoggs invading it.

1756 September 22 (Wednesday). Billy gathered the rest of the Corn at the Island.

1756 October 7 (Thursday). A Number of Persons, about 32, came and husked out my West Field of Corn, and that by the Barn. My son Thomas helped me Yesterday and to Day in Cutting it up and gathering it into Heaps. Mr. *Alph. Newton* likewise assisted part of p.m. and Mr. Moses Nurse in the Evening got his Team, and by the help of Some of the Hands brought in

what was not carted in the Day. Lt. *Tainter* and his son, Deacon Bond, Mr. Jonah Warrin, Mr. Eliezer Rice were part of the Company.

1756 October 8 (Friday). Very rainy Day. All my Corn and Husks lie abroad.

1756 October 18 (Monday). Mr. Thomas *Frost* with Billy carting in Stalks, Husks, Pumpkins.

1756 November 5 (Friday). *Billy* brings over 4 Bushell of Turnips from Ebenezer and works for him p.m. in gathering or cutting up his Corn.

1757 June 3 (Friday). *Alex.* and *Breck* carry Ashes in the wheel barrow to the Field and lay it on the Indian Corn.

1757 June 6 (Monday). *Amon Blanc* ploughs among my Corn.

1757 June 7 (Tuesday). *Amon Blanc* ploughs among my Corn again.

1757 June 8 (Wednesday). *Amon Blanc* and my two Boys *Alex.* and *Breck* hoe my Corn.

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

1757 October 8 (Saturday). N.B. Thomas took Care of gathering my Corn at the Island and getting it in. For they had Mr. Zebulon Rices and Mr. Nurse's Teams. They had also an Husking last night; about 10 or 12 persons here.

1757 November 7 (Monday). Went to t'other House. Mr. Batheric and I divide the Indian Corn, and the English Hay in the West Bay.

1758 March 13 (Monday). Alexander goes over to t'other House to Secure the Corn there, the House being beset by Squirrils. I went over -- got Mr. *Moses* Nurse to go with a Sled and Tumbrill and brought 36 Bushels over here, of Sound good Corn.

1758 March 14 (Tuesday). Alexander brought over the Hog Corn from t'other House.

1758 June 8 (Thursday). N.B. Moved away my Corn Barn.

1758 June 9 (Friday). More than ordinary Cold.... Great and Sad Interruptions to me in my Studys. But especially by my Sore disappointments in getting my Corn hoed: Brother Zebulon Rice who had so engaged Adam to me that I relied upon him, but now has undertaken other Business.

1758 June 12 (Monday). N.B. Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin and a number of Youth and Lads, his own and Neighbours to hoe my Corn, and finished it. May God reward 'em for this most seasonable Kindness!

1758 July 22 (Saturday). N.B. Alexander has been so manly as to hill the Corn in the Orchard.

1758 September 26 (Tuesday). Much troubled with Cattle etc. breaking into my Corn at the Island.

1758 October 23 (Monday). Mr. Ebenezer Rice Sent me a Line requesting that I would go over there to Day and divide the Hay and Indian Corn; which, p.m. I complied with.

1758 October 24 (Tuesday). Deacon Burnap receives and pays for one of *Edwards* on Original Sin. William *Dunlop* here being newly come from the Lake and brings me fresh news from my *Billy*. My own Boys are employed about my Corn and have the Assistance of one of Mr. Rice's Twins: thus, *Alexander* goes over in the morning and with Mr. Rice's Oxen and Mr. Pratts Cart, assisted by Joseph Rice (or rather the Twin with his) my part of Crop of Corn is brought over and laid upon my House; and after Dinner they go to my Cook Field, and cutt up and bring home part of that. Thomas helps them in loading and driving home. Rain at Eve.

1758 October 25 (Wednesday). Boys are husking. P.M. rainy. Nathan and Jonas Kenny husk.

1758 October 26 (Thursday). A very winter like Face on every Thing.... My sons are husking -- but my own Business succeeds but poorly. Alas, that I am so sluggish! I had need be quickened, for the holy God has awfully smitten us, in taking away a most eminent person, the Rev. Pious and learned Mr. THOMAS PRINCE of Boston who dyed last Lords Day Evening.

1758 October 31 (Tuesday). Mr. Batherick helped my son *Alexander*, in Cutting down the remainder of my Indian Corn.

1758 November 13 (Monday). Still very Cold. This is the more distressing as many people have not got in their Corn -- sawce etc. My Cabbages are abroad and chiefly Spoiled, they being so hard froze.

1758 November 18 (Saturday). Send *Alexander* to carry a Bushel of Indian Corn to Mill, which when Ground I direct him to present to the widow *Elizabeth Rogers* in her lonely Condition.

1759 June 12 (Tuesday). N.B. Much perplexed and disappointed in the Article of an Horse to plough among my Corn. None to be had, though it is only for a *beginning*, that a Number of Hands who propose to come to hoe for me tomorrow may not stand still when they come. But I can obtain none -- till I ride to Deacon Tainters -- who presently told me he had purposed to come to my House upon this very Affair. He takes his Horse from his own plough and rides with me and (*Alexander* being gone to Neighbour Nathan Maynards to work for him in his Weeding,

since I can't go about my own, the Deacon) takes *Samme* and goes to ploughing in my Field at the Island. For whose His kind and generous Disposition, may God Himself reward him!

1759 June 22 (Friday). Alexander ploughs among the Corn with my mare.

1759 July 4 (Wednesday). P.M. Deacon *Tainter* sends a Boy to hoe and *Phinehas Forb.* comes with him: afterward the Deacon himself now the Third Time to forward my Corn Field. He tells me it was somewhat hurt by the late Frost.

1759 August 12 (Sunday). Met with a great deal of Trouble by Sheep getting into my Corn behind the Meeting House; and Mr. *Mannings* Horse also unruly, and got into the Corn.

1759 October 18 (Thursday). Deacon *Tainter* and son with Team, Capt. Wood and Neighbour Zebulun Rice, Joseph and Jonathan Grout gathered and brought up my Island Corn, and with Others to Assist husked it out.

1759 October 22 (Monday). Deacon *Tainter* had striven to get my Corn Field behind the Meeting House together but others would not exert themselves as he -- he got one Load to the place for husking -- but Rain came upon it in the Night.

1759 October 26 (Friday). Mr. *Batheric* and his son here to cut up the rest of my Indian Corn, behind the Meeting House.

1759 November 7 (Wednesday). The Boys go to husking to t'other House.

1759 November 9 (Friday). At my Son Alexander's Earnest Request I consent to their having an husking at t'other House -- though my boys have been all of them husking there one Day after another.

1759 November 13 (Tuesday). Alex with a great deal of pain, gets a Team to bring over one Load of Corn from t'other House.

1759 November 14 (Wednesday). Alex spends the Chief of the Day in trying to get a Cart and Oxen to bring over the rest of my Corn from t'other House, but returns disappointed and Grieved.

1760 May 15 (Thursday). My sons go about in Vain to get an Horse to furrow *out our remaining Ground* -- till Mrs. *Tainter* (Benjamins Wife) rode here for this End that their Horse might plough for me. She dines here, and my sons plough furrowing out and finishing our planting of Indian Corn. A few Beans, Peas etc.

1760 October 11 (Saturday). Alex -- having thrashed out our Oats -- winnows up about 16 B. P.M. He cutts up and gathers in the Corn in the Orchard. Nathan Kenny helps him with their Waggon....

1760 October 20 (Monday). It was my Design to have got in my Corn last Thursday, but Deacon Tainter and Capt. Wood advised to let it alone till this Day; I therefore did so. To Day Mr. Tainter brought a Load of Wood and brought in the Corn from the Island, being 4 Load. Capt. Wood and Mr. Zebulun Rice came in the afternoon and help'd in Cutting it up etc.

1760 October 24 (Friday). Alexander and Breck go to Deacon Bonds to Husking.

1764 June 25 (Monday). P.M. Capt. *Maynard* and I finished our Affair. My wife and I signed the Deed of my old place to him, and he Signed Six Notes of Hand to me, of three hundred thirty three pounds, six shillings and Eight pence Lawful money; Including First, £13.6.8, the price of the Meadow, which he gives me Deed of: *Secondly*, he is to give me up my Note of Hand to his wife of 6£ 13.4, so that the *first* Note is of 40£ to be paid Sept. 1 next; this is the first payment -- the *Second* Note is of £60, to be paid Apr. 2, 1765. The *third* of 60£ Apr. 2, 1766 with Interest for one Year. The *Fourth* for 60£ to be paid Apr. 2, 1767, with Interest for two Years, the fifth of 60£ to be paid 1768 with Interest for three Years. The Sixth for £33.6.8 to be paid Apr. 2, 1769, with Interest for four Years. A memorandum was also signed by us and witnessed, that the respective partys agreed that the writings Should bear Date from Apr. 2 last. Samuel Taylor and Silas Hill were witnesses. Mr. Beeton was present; and I told both Capt. Maynard and Mr. Beeton that I should reserve a certain large pine in the Hill and Timber for a Corn Barn. Thus have I disposed of my Place and House; and may God forgive what is amiss [*torn*] but all may be to the divine Glory! May I have Right to an inheritance incorruptible etc. and a Building of God an House not made with Hands, Eternal in the Heavens!

1764 July 3 (Tuesday). Eli Medcalf works here in ashing the Corn. Breck mowes.

1764 July 25 (Wednesday). Mrs. Rolf breaks fast with me, and goes over to Upton to her Brother Nathaniel Flagg's -- and I fear on foot -- Whilst I want my Mare to plow among Corn.

1764 August 11 (Saturday). Deacon Tainter came in the Morning to plow in my Corn-Field in order to our hoeing it again but my plough was broke, and therefore to mend; and I had no Rie to sow; he had himself a great deal of Hay and Oates to take Care of at home; so that he returned without doing any Thing. But 4 Young Men, *Levi* Warrin, *Elisha* Forbush by Proxy, *John* Forb. in his room; *Thomas* and *Joseph* Bond, came and hoed the Corn in my Orchard and finished before 10 o'Clock. Breck and John plowed for 'em.

1764 August 13 (Monday). I walked to *Pratts* and several *Maynards*. Mr. Winter and his Daughter here a.m. They have been to Worcester and are returning to Cambridge. Deacon Tainter, with Boy and Horse, comes to plow among my Corn, which is behind the Meeting House -- but first sows it with Rye -- [which?] Breck and John hoe, and (with some small assistance of two or three at sunsetting) finished the Field.

1764 September 10 (Monday). The late Frosts so great as to turn the Corn stalks white. John carts part of the Day.

1764 October 4 (Thursday). Capt. Fay and Son came with a Team to get in my Corn. There came many more to get it in and husk it: and they Sup with us. They are, in all, 28. After returning Thanks, we sang part of Ps. 4 in Tate and Brady. But we need to be humble for the Frown of providence in the lightness of the Crop.

1764 October 5 (Friday). Jonas Kenny helps John in sorting and Spreading the Corn. Very few Baskets fit to grind.

1764 November 7 (Wednesday). Mr. Artemas Bruce brings 10 Bush. of Turnips and a Load of Corn from the old place.

1765 March 14 (Thursday). Billy and Breck cut Timber on t'other place, for a Corn Barn.

1765 April 1 (Monday). Breck goes with my and Capt. Woods Oxen and Neighbour Newtons Cart to cart Timber for a Corn Barn.

1765 April 8 (Monday). It being foul Weather Billy can't *frame* the Corn Barn.

1765 April 12 (Friday). Billy and Breck begin to Frame a Corn Barn for me.

1765 May 18 (Saturday). Thomas and John still carrying out Muck and planting. They finish our Planting Corn.

1765 June 7 (Friday). Nathan and Jonas Kenny help John in Weeding our Indian Corn.

1765 June 21 (Friday). Thomas and John finish laying Ashes on the Corn and ploughed and hoed.

1765 July 3 (Wednesday). Sent for more Grain per Mr. *Moses Nurse*.... Mr. John Wood brings me up 1 Bush. Indian Corn and 49 and 1/2 lbs. Cheese from Mr. Goddards of Weston.

1765 July 6 (Saturday). At Neighbour Nurse's. He has brought up from Boston 2 Bush. of Rye, which he had borrowed of me: and 4 Bush. of Indian Corn, for which he gave 21/ per Bush. and asks 5 per Bushel for Carting. Breck mows a little -- and p.m. hoes with John at the Island.

1765 July 8 (Monday). Billy and Breck are framing my Corn Barn.

1765 July 9 (Tuesday). Received 36£ old Tenor (4£ 16 L.M.) of Capt. Maynard per my Son John. I returned 3 Dollars which I borrowed of Mr. Wheelock, to Send for Corn by Mr. Nurse.

1765 July 10 (Wednesday). After Dinner Billy raises the Corn Barn and that being over, Billy and Breck rake and get in Hay.

1765 July 12 (Friday). Breck again for me. Fetched Boards and Slit Work from Forbes's Saw-Mill. Also (by help of Jonas Kenny with him) the Clover I bought of Mr. Moses Nurse and got in the Hay of the West Pasture. P.M. Billy returns and goes to work a while on the corn Barn, but is called off and goes with Dr. Hawes to help move his Barn,

1765 October 5 (Saturday). Billy works at the Corn-Barn.

1765 October 7 (Monday). Billy at the Corn Barn.

1765 October 11 (Friday). Mr. *Hastings* comes to build me a Stone Chimney in my Study. It proves unhappy to my Studys -- for my Neighbours came to cutt up and gather and Husk out my Corn. Thomas taken off from tending the mason. Deacon Tainter and others cutt up; his son with a Team and Capt. Wood with his Team also, bring in the Corn. A considerable Crop -- thanks to God! Many come to husk. They husk it out. 47 at supper besides my own. Sing part of Ps. 65.

1765 October 12 (Saturday). Thomas variously employed -- but the Corn too Wet to be meddled with.

1765 October 14 (Monday). Deacon Tainter comes to help in sorting the Corn, and dines here. Thomas carries the Corn to the Barn.

1766 April 23 (Wednesday). Mr. Daniel Forbes junior with his Account of Boards and slitwork for my Corn Barn.

1766 May 16 (Friday). *Caleb* and *John* Planting Indian Corn. A.M. Garden. P.M. study.

1766 May 17 (Saturday). My Lads finish planting Corn and Potatoes, a.m.

1766 June 3 (Tuesday). *Caleb* and *John* begin to Weed the Indian Corn.

1766 June 6 (Friday). *Caleb* and *John* finished Weeding the Indian Corn, at Noon. P.M. They hoe in the Orchard Fore Yard, East Yard etc.

1766 June 25 (Wednesday). N.B. We went to See the Corn Mill which Mr. Martyns sons had newly erected.

1766 June 28 (Saturday). *Caleb*, to gratifie Neighbour *Foster*, who has not done his Corn, works for him to Day.

1766 July 10 (Thursday). *Caleb* finished our 3d Hoeing of Indian Corn and begins to mow in the afternoon, at the *Bent* Meadow.

1766 October 13 (Monday). Mr. Biglow left us. I visit old Mrs. Byles -- dined there. Visit at Neighbour Elijah Rice's, Twitchells, Elijah Hardys, Ensign Millers -- but especially old Mrs. Grow and prayed with her -- and Lt. Harrington confined by a bad Fall yesterday and prayed with him. N.B. Caleb bestirred himself and Neighbours came, cutt up, Carted in and husked out my Indian Corn. 51 Hands at supper. N.B. when I named and read part of the 4th Psalm to be sung, Neighbour Batherick Struck -- but it was a Tune I knew not. He sung almost wholly alone throughout the whole Singing. For which I was very sorry. When he had done, he told me it was *Plimouth*.

1766 October 14 (Tuesday). James Haven from Lt. Baker, helps Caleb in carrying the remainder of the Corn -- and getting the Husks into the Barn. N.B. 134 Baskets of good Corn.

1766 November 8 (Saturday). Deacon Tainter cutt and carted a Load of Wood from Mr. Moses Brigham's Lot: and gave it. He dined here. John carries two Baggs of soft Corn for my steer that [is] fattening at Mr. Jonathan Grout. Deacon carries two Baggs more.

1767 May 14 (Thursday). Temple and John *plant Indian Corn*.

1767 May 15 (Friday). T. and J. finish planting Indian Corn.

1767 October 8 (Thursday). Mr. John Wood invites me to supper at his House this Evening after their husking in the afternoon.

1767 October 9 (Friday). P.M. Deacon Wood, Lt. Baker, Neighbour Zebulun Rice, Lt. Baker [*sic*], Mr. Nathan Maynard, Neighbour Seth Morse (who brought a large Cheese) and a Number more (between 30 and 40 in all) got in and husked out my Corn. The Crop proved but indifferent. For entertainment Mrs. P. instead of the usual hot Supper, baked Applepies and agreeable Cakes, which with Cheese proved an Acceptable [Reflection?] to the Company. N.B. Master Jamison here likewise. We sung part of the 4th Ps. Mr. Seth Morse set the Tune.

1767 October 10 (Saturday). R. Temple and Jonas Kenny came from Mr. Nurse's and pitched up the Husks. John carries up the Hog Corn.

1768 October 25 (Tuesday). A Number of Neighbours came in the Afternoon, and cut up the Corn of the West field, and part of the North, and this Evening husked. There were about 20. They were chiefly Mr. David Maynard, Zebulun Rice, Edwards Whipple, Tainter, Lieut. Baker, McCulloch, Neighbour Newton, Joseph Bond and James Bellows, Isaac Miller etc. etc., but it rained and beat them off, when they had husked about half of what they had gathered.

1768 October 27 (Thursday). The weather so cold and the Corn so wet, John can accomplish but little in the harvesting. He carries Apples and Barrell to Mr. Bakers Cyder Mill. He tries for help in Husking, but no body encourages him.

1768 October 28 (Friday). In many perplexitys about getting in the rest of the Corn -- It being too much for John. A great part of that which was husked lying abroad and a great Body of husks, which had been wet with the storm -- several Load yet in the Field -- and not easy to get any Hand to help. Friday with me and can't go my self -- and am to be gone (with leave of Providence) next week -- but p.m. Nathan Maynard junior and his Brother Nehemiah came and cut up and carted the Corn from the Field, and about 20 at Evening husked it out, and got in great part of the Husks.

1769 January 21 (Saturday). John goes to the Mills with the Team. To Mr. Whipples Corn mill with a Grist, and to Mr. Maynards saw-Mill, and brings Eight plank.

1769 October 13 (Friday). My Son *John* exerts himself in gathering and getting in, husking and laying up, the Corn himself; with out troubling the Neighbours.

1770 May 15 (Tuesday). Called also at Mr. Andrews's, where I was accommodated with peculiar Seed Corn.

1770 July 19 (Thursday). [*Marginal notation: Much said of Worms in multitudes, infesting Fields, of Corn, and the Grass.*]

1770 September 28 (Friday). *Elias* went to Neighbour Arnolds Husking.

1770 October 15 (Monday). Joseph returned this Morning early from Hopkinton and procures Isaac Lamb to work with him. They cut up the rest of the Corn between the Garden and the Meeting House.

1770 October 17 (Wednesday). Deacon Wood offers to come and husk tomorrow afternoon, and to promote it among others, if I liked it.

1770 October 18 (Thursday). *Deacon Wood*, Lt. Baker, Mr. Daniel Hardy and his son Adams came about 2 p.m. to See if it would do to husk; for the Weather was misty. I wholly left the Matter with them to do as they inclined. They went to the Barn. I chose to attend as closely as I could to my Study. There came some Number more, viz. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard, Barnabas Newton, Thomas Bond, Moses Wheelock, Thomas Arnold, Silas Hill, Levi Warrin, Nathan Kenny, Joseph McCulloch, Benjamin Wood (who lives with his uncle), Ebenezer junior, Nathan junior, Jonathan, Nehemiah, Stephen, Calvin, Daniel Maynard, Benjamin Taynter junior, Daniel Adams junior, John McCulloch, Jacob and Aaron Foster, Abijah Gale (N. Kennys Lad) and Sherebiah Fay. Messrs. Baker, Newton and Bond provided a Small Quarter of Beef about 60 weight and gave it. Also the former brought a Basket of excellent sauce, Carrots and Turnips. May God reward him and them, for so great Kindness and Generousness!

1770 October 19 (Friday). Isaac Lamb is detained here by Joseph Wood to help him carry Corn, lay up the Husks etc. but about 2 p.m. Joseph goes away with a Company of young people that came to See him. This I would not resist although it was to my Hurt, because I had promised

Mr. Chamberlin to send for 6 Barrels of Cyder early tomorrow Morning and *Lamb* was not willing to engage to go in Josephs stead.

1770 November 1 (Thursday). At night having received the repeated Invitations to go to Supper at Mr. Nurse's, after their Husking, which they began in the afternoon, but especially to gratifie Mrs. Nurse in her urgent Requests, I went over. I went not to the Barn -- but we could not rise from Supper till about 10. This sort of Entertainment I have not usually gone to. I don't know *when* I have ever been at one Since I was ordained. I was not willing to grieve my Neighbour or I would not have gone now. But since it was So late when we left the Table, I would not so much as sit down again, but hastened home; exhorting all others to do so.

1771 April 25 (Thursday). N.B. Mr. *Ithamar Bellows's* House was burnt down to day; The Fire broke out from a Crack in the Oven -- about 9 o'Clock a.m. They saved their Meat chiefly, but lost a great Quantity of Corn -- great part of their household Goods -- Apparrel, Linnen etc. A very sorrowful Loss! May the Lord sanctifie this Dispensation to them, and to us all!

Boston Evening-Post, May 6, 1771, p. [2]: "On Thursday sen'night the Dwelling House of Mr. Ithamar Bellows, of Westborough, was consumed by Fire, together with most of the Furniture and about 100 Bushels of Grain. The compassionate, generous neighbours, are in great forwardness in their work to get up another building, for the unhappy sufferers."

1771 July 10 (Wednesday). Extremely put to't for want of an Horse to plow amo[*torn*] the Corn.

1771 August 13 (Tuesday). A great deal of Trouble by the breaking in of Swine into my Corn; and the Destruction that they made there.

1771 October 4 (Friday). When I returned found there was fresh Dammage in my Cornfields.

1771 October 8 (Tuesday). This Day was appointed to cutt up, cart and husk my Corn, but it had rained in the Night, was cloudy this Morn, and drizzly Sometimes in the Day that we deferred the Corn gathering but my Fields are more and more invaded by my own Cattle. A very great Affliction to me. Coffin etc. left us.

1771 October 9 (Wednesday). It was So great a Storm Night and Morn that we could not husk.

1771 October 10 (Thursday). My Fields are so infested with Cattle and Hogs that we were forced to go and begin to Cut up the Island Field -- but the Rain beat them off of my Corn.

1771 October 11 (Friday). The weather being good, my Hands resolutely Set to the Cutting up of my Corn. Deacon Wood sent a Team and his hired Man. P.M. a great many more came. They brought it in and husked it out.

1771 October 12 (Saturday). I was grievously exercised at times with pain in my Stomach and Bowels so that I was not able to do much in my Study -- but was forced to regard the necessary

and unavoidable Affairs abroad. After Such a tumultuous husking -- this was a great interruption, though I did not pretend to work, but to oversee it. P.M. a Storm threatening and my 3 Youths incapable to Secure the Corn and Husks, I was obliged to go to Mr. *Nurse's* and *Warrins* for help. Mr. *Aaron Lamb* and *Sherbiah Fay* came and assisted; also Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* for an Hour or more, in sorting and carrying in Corn etc.

1772 January 20 (Monday). Too stormy for the Boys to go to School. They give them selves to getting out indian Corn.

1772 February 6 (Thursday). Alexander has my oxen, and having bought a sled, he carrys home 1 and 1/2 Bush. of Rye and about two of Indian Corn.

1772 June 20 (Saturday). Alexander came from *Leicester*. N.B. He takes with him three Bush. of Indian Corn. I hear there is an extraordinary Scarcity of Grain, especially in upper and new Towns.

1772 June 30 (Tuesday). N.B. Deacon Wood was here with a Letter which he had received from his Son *John* at *Colrain*, which gives Account of the great scarcity of Corn in the New Towns above us.

1772 October 9 (Friday). Still the distressing Rains and the Cloudy Weather continue; except that sometimes the Sun has broke out, and there is much less wet to day. It is feared the Indian Corn will suffer in the Field; moulding in the Husk.

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.

1772 October 30 (Friday). Phinehas Forbes, having filled up his Time with me, *now leaves me*. I have him a promissory Note for 11£ lawful Money with Interest. N.B. As soon as Phinehas was gone, Discovered my 3 Stacks of Husks were so wet as to take Dammage.

1772 October 31 (Saturday). Yesterday being rainy could not have any thing done to Save my Stacks of Husks, though they Smoked visibly. To Day (depending upon Mr. Jonathan Barns to preach for me), I went out, and prevailed with Mr. Moses Nurse and Mr. Thaddeus Warrin to

come and pitch off the Stacks and Spread the Husks abroad, and ventured to let them lie so over the Sabbath, they being too wet to make up again.

1773 May 1 (Saturday). P.M. *Alexander* came with *Ruth Bellows*, and returned with a Bush. of Rye and a Bush. and half of Indian Corn.

1773 August 6 (Friday). Mr. Cushing acquaints me that he had paid my Rate and Charges at *Ashby* and took a Receipt of it from the Collector, old Tenor 38/9. This I paid him and besides this I lent him 3 Dollars but gave him two Bushels of Indian Corn which he has received from me Some time agoe.

1773 October 14 (Thursday). I rode to *Grafton* Lecture. Called to See *Joseph Grout* junior. Dined at Mr. *Daniel Grosvenors* Lodgings, viz. at young Mr. *Merriams*. Mr. *Sumner* preached on *Deut.* 32.47, which may God bless and prosper for our Saving Good! We retired after Meeting to Mr. *Jonathan Wheelers* and drank Tea. We also stepped in to see Mrs. *Hutchinson*, her husband being gone to preach at *Colrain*. I returned home at Evening. Though *Jonathan Maynard* had laid aside the Design of our Husking to day, yet he undertook to get Hands together and they cut up, carted in the rest of the Corn, So that at Eve about 30 Hands came and husked it out. We got 'em a supper, and had Mr. *John Harrington* to tend and Mr. *Thaddeus Warrins* Wife to Cook. Dr. *Joslyn* and Mrs. *Cotton* here, but the Doctor went with Dr. *Haws* to lodge. Mr. *Benjamin Webb*, School master, among the People; and he returned Thanks. We Sang part of Ps. 65, v. 2 and v. 8 to the End of 11.

Psalm 65, v. 2: O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

Psalm 65, v. 8 They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and the evening to rejoice.

9 Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blesses the springing thereof.

11 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

1774 October 12 (Wednesday). *Asa* is lame, but husks in the Barn.

1775 March 15 (Wednesday). *Elias* indisposed for Study -- but is about and goes to Mill with a Team, with about 9 Bush. of Rye, and 8 of Indian Corn.

1776 October 16 (Wednesday). Deacon Wood, Mr. Solomon Baker, Mr. Nathan Maynard with others came p.m. and cut up and brought my Indian Corn. At Eve the Deacon went home, but

gave us Cyder for the Huskers at Supper, who, Men and Boys, amounted to 14 only. In the dark I fell into an Hole, and sorely wounded my Self, so that I could not Sleep.

1776 October 17 (Thursday). Sent a Letter inclosing 3 Dollars more and therewith Linnen, viz. two shirts, and a stock, two pair of stockings, a Looking Glass and a Box containing 4 1/2 Dozen Candles, by Mr. [Tainter?] to *Elias* at *Cambridge*. The Husking was not over. It was unhappily wetting weather, though not very rainy.

1776 October 24 (Thursday). [Ashburnham.] Mr. *Cushing* and I took a Ride to Mrs. *Winchesters*, where were Apples worthy to be distinguished. Din'd at Squire *Wilder's*; but he was not at home. Viewed and admired, his Chamber and Garrett of Indian Corn, which were an entertaining Sight.

1776 December 17 (Tuesday). Went to visit Mr. *Solomon Baker*, confined by a sore bred in his Face: was discharged plentifully. Dined there. In reckoning with him for keeping my late fat Cow 18 Days, Corn and Hay and tendence -- but he gave it, and would ask me Nothing. May God reward him, in both temporals and Spirituals.

1777 January 1 (Wednesday). P.M. Mr. *Edwards Whipple* came about my Debt to him for Indian Corn nigh a year ago. It was 4 1/2 Bushels at half a Dollar.

1777 January 22 (Wednesday). *Henry Marble*, after thrashing in the Day, Shelled out Corn in the Evening.

1777 April 14 (Monday). Went over the Widow *Whipple*: bought 4 Bushels of Indian Corn of Jonathan, and agree with the Miller, Mr. *Broad*, for 2 more.

1777 September 10 (Wednesday). N.B. *Lambson* has heard so much of several persons trying to make *Molasses* of Indian Corn stalks, that he is earnest to See what he can do about it, and therefore prepares for it.

1777 September 11 (Thursday). I went to Mr. J. *Bonds* and to [*torn*] *ons* to see what they have done in making the [*torn*] of *Molasses*, and I visited old Mrs. *Kelly*.

1777 September 12 (Friday). Reuben assisted by his uncle Paul, grinds and presses out 4 Gal. (as he says) of the Juice of the Corn stalks.

1777 September 23 (Tuesday). Mrs. P _____ brews with Spruce and Corn stalks instead of *Molasses*.

1777 October 2 (Thursday). At night came Mr. *Cornelius Waters* and a young Gentleman, an *Hazzletine* with him, of *Dartmouth* College, but I was in so much trouble about my Daughter, and my pasture so gnawed up, that I could not freely ask them to tarry all night, though I did

repeatedly urge them to stay to sup here. N.B. Mr. *Waters* has a Specimen of an excellent Spirituous Liquor distilled at *Salem* from indian Corn Stalks.

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

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

1778 April 14 (Tuesday). Agreed with Dr. *Hawes* to take Several Parts of my place to the Halves. As, all that lies down below the [illegible] at the Cook Island, and on the Brook, Maynard and Newton Meadow the Corn and Flax Land there, also the Pasture Land there, and the New Swamp. Likewise the Indian Field by Mr. Nurse's Road: The mowing Ground which is west of the Meeting House.

1778 July 16 (Thursday). In some [Consternation?] at the *Loss of Rye* out of one of the Hogsheads in the Corn Barn.

1778 October 7 (Wednesday). *Stephen Maynard* (for the Doctor) brings in a Load of Indian Corn.

1778 December 10 (Thursday). Concerned for Breck who is I suppose at Boston, and has sent a load of corn.

1779 May 5 (Wednesday). Benj. Bancroft of Sutton Stores his Load in my Barn.

1779 May 7 (Friday). P.M. I rode to Mr. Thomas Bellows to see him in his weak and low condition, and prayed with him and his son's Family -- thence I proceed to divers Other of the Families in that corner, viz. Mr. Chamberlain. N.B. his son Daniel gives me half a bushel of Indian Corn, and lends me a bushel and half more.

1779 May 8 (Saturday). Mr. George Stimson was here and carried away from my barn four bushels (as he says) of Indian Corn, which is part of the load stored there by Benj. Bancroft on last Wednesday, for which he gave me his Receipt. He says the load is his, and that he Shall soon take away the Rest of it. Mr. Isaac Miller was here and signed an acknowledgement.

1779 October 11 (Monday). This day we cutt up, carted home and husked out our Indian Corn. Ephraim Tucker went with my Team and Deacon Wood with his. About nine dined here. There were forty or more of Men and Boys at Eve, and several Neighbors were so generous as to contribute to the Entertainment. Squire Baker above 50 lbs. of Meat, Mr. Ebenezer Forbes,

Beef and 3 cabbages, Lt. Bond, Pork, Mr. Barnabas Newton, a Cheese, Breck, sufficient Rum. Through the Goodness of God we had a good crop, Sound Corn and the Joy of Harvest. To Him be all Honor and Glory! We sang latter part of Ps. 65.

See Entry for 1773 October 14, 1773.

1779 November 25 (Thursday). Mr. Elisha Parker came, and Ephraim and I came to some agreement, viz. to give him my Principal Oxen for seven months of his work: and to pay him in Money or Indian Corn for the two Months of October and November, according to common custom, in the old way or in proportion as men's wages are for youths'.

1780 April 27 (Thursday). In the Morning, I rode over to see the Ruins [of the house of Rev. Peter Whitney of Northborough], and sympathize with those who are bereaved. I found the sad Cause to be, Mrs. Whitney made a Fire in her Oven, that morning, sat in her Food to be baked for Supper; but the Fire, while the People were at Meeting in the forenoon, kindled in the Kitchen Chamber, and was discovered by Mr. Samuel Allen in the time of the last prayer. Many goods in the lower rooms, the Church plate etc. were saved, but the Library and Papers, which were of great worth: 4 feather Beds, all their Cloths and Linnen, except what they had on, Corn, Cyder, Sauce, etc. etc. burnt.

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

1780 October 1 (Sunday). N.B. To my sorrow, my Oxen have been breachy at Mr. Isaac Parker's and let in Cattle with them, into his Cornfield.

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

1780 October 19 (Thursday). Mr. Kenney brought from the North Field my part of the Corn, and a number of Neighbors husked it out. Breck was very generous in treating the Huskers with Liquor.

1780 December 22 (Friday). Town Meeting by Adjournment to endeavor to raise Recruits for the Continental Army; also Quota of Beef and to purchase Corn for the payment of 3 months' men.

1781 October 4 (Thursday). Mr. *Brigham* took care of the Husking and of the *Huskers*.

1782 March 30 (Saturday). Daniel Nurse is Shelling out Indian Corn.