

Dr. Samuel Curtis (1747-1822) of Marlborough

Harvard 1766; SHG, 16:352-54

Author of *A Valuable Collection of Recipes, Medical and Miscelaneous. Useful in Families, and Valuable to Every Description of Person* (Amherst, NH, 1819). According to the SHG, this is "perhaps the best record of pharmacopoeia and practice of a country doctor of the preceding generation."

1769 July 3 (Monday). Rode to Marlborough principally to visit Brother *Smith* under his distressing Trouble by Pain and Faintness at his Stomach.... Visit Mrs. Dexter and Dr. Curtis who lodges there.

1769 October 12 (Thursday). Mr. *Forbes* and his Wife set out for Brookfield. Dr. *Curtis* from *Marlborough* visits and dines with us. He goes to Capt. *Maynards* where are Miss *Betty Eager*, and Miss *Betty Brigham*; who were here also Yesterday; and Mrs. *Maynard* with them.

1770 September 21 (Friday). When I came home, my wife informed me of the Death of our Neighbour old Mr. *Samuel Williams* on the 17th and of a great Variety of Company which she had had while I was absent, viz. Mr. *Jonas Bond* of Sutton and his wife: Capt. *Hill* of *Douglass*: Our sister in law, Mrs. *Brown* of *Framingham* in her Journey to *Leicester*, and others with her: Mr. *John Eliot*, Candidate for the Ministry: Dr. *Curtiss* from *Marlborough* and his sister; One Capt. *Curtiss*; and Miss *Betsy Williams* of *Sandwich*: and I heard that Mrs. *Eunice Rice* was brought to bed with a dead Child.

1773 May 14 (Friday). Capt. Curtis of Boston and Dr. Curtis of Marlborough here and dine with us.

1773 October 7 (Thursday). Dr. Samuel *Curtis* of *Marlborough* came in. By him I returned the Life of Dr. *South* to his Mother *Woods*.

1775 January 16 (Monday). I returned home to *Westborough*, and in safety.... N.B. In my way home called at Mr. *Lorings*, who gave me 6 M.S. sermons of his Fathers; at Miss *Betty Eagers*, who is Sick; at Dr. *Curtis's*, where I dined; at Mr. *Smiths*, who is not better, as I conceive; and fear he will not continue long.

1778 March 31 (Tuesday). After the Blessing, The Singers (who were increased and strengthened by Some Number from *Marlborough* (Dr. *Curtis* etc.) and from *Northborough* (Capt. *Samuel Wood*, his *Brother* and sister etc.) went on in Singing some Number of Tunes.

1781 August 13 (Monday). Mr. *Ebenezer Grosvenor* in returning from *Marlborough* to *Pomfret* calls and drinks Tea here. Tells us the frightful Story of Dr. *Samuel Curtis's* Adultery with one *Johnsons* Wife, and his Absconding.