

Flax

- 1726 January 10 (Monday). Neighbor Clark dress'd Flax for me, and his Son thrash'd Oats.
- 1727 April 22 (Saturday). Mr. Ward in the afternoon plough'd a spot for flax and went home.
- 1737 September 27 (Tuesday). We took up our Flax
- 1736 May 14 (Friday). *David* Mending Fence a.m. Sowed Hemp and Flax seed p.m.
- 1738 January 6 (Friday). James Bradish, Junior, carryed away my Flax to dress it.
- 1739 May 12 (Saturday). Cold and high winds So that we cannot sow our Flax
- 1739 May 14 (Monday). Sow'd our Flax
- 1739 December 12 (Wednesday). Jotham Maynard dress'd Flax for us.
- 1740 January 2 (Wednesday). Jotham Maynard getting out Flax for us.
- 1740 May 14 (Wednesday). Brother Hicks Sow'd my Flax
- 1740 July 29 (Tuesday). Flax pull'd.
- 1744 January 17 (Tuesday). Thomas Winchester Came and Elijah Rice to dress Flax, but it was So very Cold that they could not Stand it, they broke off and got Wood for me a spurt and went off.
- 1744 January 21 (Saturday). Thomas and Elijah at the Flax -- but I was not well myself one Day after another.
- 1745 March 16 (Saturday). One Mr. Daniel Hubbard of Suffield here with Flax
- 1745 December 28 (Saturday). Thomas broke out Flax a.m. P.M. he went home.
- 1746 January 3 (Friday). Thomas Winchester and Ebenezer gett out Flax
- 1746 January 7 (Tuesday). Thomas Winchester breaking Flax and Ebenezer Shingles.
- 1746 January 11 (Saturday). Thomas and Ebenezer dressing Flax
- 1746 January 14 (Tuesday). Neighbour Samuel Hardy came late a.m. to Swingle Flax
- 1746 January 31 (Friday). Mr. Samuel Hardy and William Rogers junior Swingling Flax

1746 February 11 (Tuesday). Neighbour Samuel Hardy Swingling Flax

1746 July 19 (Saturday). The Girls also pull'd the Flax -- which was more than ordinarily thin. Yet its more that I deserve.

1747 February 19 (Thursday). Very pleasant Day. Ebenezer breaks flax

1747 April 6 (Monday). Deacon Forbush's wife here and brought me excellent Flax seed, a peck and half, and Eli half peck from his uncle Tainters, all of it gratis.

1747 July 13 (Monday). Our Girls Bekky Hicks and my Lucy pull'd Flax. Mary Bradish came and pull'd another Piece of Flax

1748 February 29 (Monday). Mr. Jonathan Forbes, Junior, came and brought 2 pound of Flax from his Mother and gave me his part towards 400£ salary, viz. 35 shillings over and above what he had paid the collection (Old Tenor).

1748 March 22 (Tuesday). This morning Ebenezer set out upon a designed journey to Connecticut after flax and was to have gone with Mr. Samuel Baker but when he was at Esquire Baker's he understood there were several men, come down with flax, who gave a most discouraging account of the river and that there was no room to expect any flax on this side under 4 shillings the pound. He therefore returned home, and my wife and I rode over to the said Esquire's and we (the Esquire and I) bought a Bagg of 200 weight -- their price was 5/ per pound but they threw in 40 S in the whole Bagg and 3 pound and 1/2 of over plus weight. So that we did not give quite 4/9 the pound.

1748 April 9 (Saturday). Ebenezer sledding off Stones from the Field by the House, a.m. P.M. ploughed there and took up Flax

1748 August 5 (Friday). Ebenezer mowing the Flax ground over, the Flax coming to nothing nor any of it pulled.

1750 December 12 (Wednesday). Ebenezer a.m. fits up an House for the Doves, which were lately presented me, and p.m. Swingled Flax

1750 December 28 (Friday). Ebenezer got out Flax. Mr. Frost broke it, and he Swingl'd.

1751 January 21 (Monday). P.M. my sons thrash'd Wheat and Swingled some small matter of Flax

1751 February 13 (Wednesday). My Son Ebenezer breaks Flax

1751 February 19 (Tuesday). Was at Esquire Bakers at Eve. He is going into Connecticut with Mr. Shattuck Flax-trader -- who is there, to sett out in the morning -- wrote to Mr. Pierpoint.

1751 March 4 (Monday). 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 April 26 (Friday). Ebenezer Sows Flax -- and p.m. Carts muck.

1751 May 11 (Saturday). Ebenezer p.m. sow'd the rest of the Flax.

1751 July 22 (Monday). Mrs. Mary Bradish pulls Flax

1752 April 10 (Friday). N.B. Mr. William Rogers and his wife apprehended and carry'd before Justice Liscomb for Stealing (as it is suspect'd) Flax out of Mr. Jonas Brighams Barn, and at Night the Man was committed to Jayl.

1752 April 13 (Monday). Old Mr. Dunlop came to work in my New Garden, to dig out the Roots which the plough has left, and prepare it for the Rake. His son John also wrought for me. They both came late. John Singled Flax

1752 August 17 (Monday). Ebenezer gets in the last of my Island Hay, and the Flax

1752 November 2 (Thursday). Messrs. Elijah Rice and Martyn Pratt break out and swingle Flax

1752 December 6 (Wednesday). Messrs. Martyn Pratt and Elijah Rice, get out Flax Neighbour Eliphalet Adams also.

1753 January 9 (Tuesday). At Eve Mr. Jedediah Fay from Ashford with the Flax. I bought 11£ weight of him.

1756 January 16. Dr. *Brigham* visits me -- finds, by probing a little, that my Leg is Somewhat hollow. He carries on a pulticing with *pond Lilly* roots and *Flax-seed*; anointing it with Ointment of *Marsh mallows* -- the pledget is of *Basilicon*.

1759 May 1 (Tuesday). Mr. *Pratt* came again a.m. to Sow and plough in Grain and Flax in my Orchard.

1759 December 12 (Wednesday). Mr. Adonijah Rice broke and dressed out almost 6 pound of Flax for us.

1760 March 3 (Monday). N.B. Paid Mr. Francis Whitmore £6.5.0 Old Tenor for 20 lb. Flax.

1765 March 2 (Saturday). N.B. *Sarah* went up to Mr. *John Wood's* and bought, in my Name, 100 lb. of Flax, at 6/6. Mr. *Stone* also bought some.

1765 March 4 (Monday). Returned home. Sent for more *Flax* per Mr. Wood, for Mr. Stone....
Paid Mr. *John Wood* for his Flax, by a Note to Mr. Gale.

1765 May 2 (Thursday). Thomas Sows Some Flax

1765 August 23 (Friday). Thomas thrashes Flax and clears up the Seed.

1765 August 24 (Saturday). Thomas returns but it proves a rainy Day. He does various
necessary Chores. Carrys out and Spreads Flax etc.

1766 February 14 (Friday). Messrs. Elijah and Adonijah Rice break and swingle Flax

1766 April 18 (Friday). *Elijah* and *Adonijah* Rice get out the rest of our Flax, and I pay for what
has been done about the whole of the Flax: and for stone Wall work last Year.

1766 May 14 (Wednesday). They [Caleb and John] sow that Ground with Oates: and Beeton
Field with Flax. Nigh a Bushel.

1766 July 2 (Wednesday). Neighbour *Morse* has brought 60 lb. Flax from Mr. Perren's at
Roxbury, 40 for me and 20 for Mrs. Nurse.

1766 September 10 (Wednesday). A very considerable Quantity of Flax this Year.

1766 December 12 (Friday). Caleb and John are getting out Flax

1767 February 18 (Wednesday). Walked up to Capt. Wood's to get Samuel Hardy junior to
come to work for me in getting out Flax. N.B. He, his Wife and 3 Children were lately brought
into Town by the Select men of Marlborough.

1767 March 19 (Thursday). Reuben Pratt works for me, swingling Flax

1767 April 27 (Monday). Called at Lt. Harringtons for Flax seed.

1767 September 10 (Thursday). [Neighbour?] *Silas Hill* p.m. thrashes Flax seed.

1767 September 11 (Friday). Richard Temple comes and thrashes out Flax seed and Spreads my
Flax

1767 September 23 (Wednesday). Mr. Nurse works for me in getting in my Flax (120 bundles)
and carting in my stalks.

1767 November 11 (Wednesday). Richard Temple who by Reason of the Rain, could do but little about my Flax (having cutt out my Beef last Evening), Salted it a.m. and it clearing away p.m. he went to Swingling.

1767 November 13 (Friday). Temple finishes swingling my last years Flax, which being so much rotted, wastes away exceedingly.

1767 November 14 (Saturday). By reason of the Storm Temple leaves me. Weighs his Flax which he has dressed -- it was but 19 lb. and $\frac{3}{4}$. Asks $\frac{52}{6}$ for his work; that is, these 5 Days; part of which was employed in breaking Flax, plowing etc.

1767 November 30 (Monday). Temple having tarried here over the Sabbath, breaks Flax

1767 December 1 (Tuesday). Richard Temple dresses Flax a.m. but breaks off because of unfit Weather.

1767 December 16 (Wednesday). Richard Temple worked for me in swingling Flax. John assisted in Breaking.

1767 December 18 (Friday). Richard Temple works for me this third Day in getting out Flax

1768 February 11 (Thursday). Payed 6£ old Tenor to Mr. *Zebulun Rice* for 20 lbs. Flax, at 6/ per belong to Jonathan Walker of No. 4.

1769 March 25 (Saturday). John lays out Flax to rot; it not being Sufficiently rotted last Fall.

1769 June 15 (Thursday). Mr. John *Wesson* of Wellington, Connecticut, here with Flax. Buy 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. at 5/ old Tenor.

1770 January 9 (Tuesday). Richard Temple Swingles Flax

1770 February 16 (Friday). P.M. Mr. *Jonathan Walker* from No. 4 with Flax: bought 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of him, part of 5/, part $\frac{5}{7}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ per pound. Gave him a note for £5.16 old Tenor to Mr. *Daniel Forbes*.

1770 March 6 (Tuesday). Brought home 20 lb. of Flax which Mr. Forb. bought for me of a Flax-man from Western @ 5/ per pound.

1770 December 28 (Friday). *Elias* being gone, I was obliged to winnow a Parcel of Flax-seed, Somewhat above two Bushels, for the Oyl Mill in *Sutton*: but fear I got cold, and that the Rheumatism would follow.

1770 December 29 (Saturday). Mr. *Timothy Allen* of *Sutton* came; dined with us; I sold him two Bushell of Flax seed @ 20/ old Tenor per Bushel: which he paid.

1772 January 25 (Saturday). *Sophy* returns from Capt. Maynards (whither She went the Day before Yesterday) and says *Isaac Davis* has paid for 100 weight of Flax there for me at 5/ per pound.

1772 January 27 (Monday). Sent to Capt. Maynards for 100 weight of Flax and 25£ for it, to Davis -- and receive the Flax.

1774 October 26 (Wednesday). Mr. *Thomas Fleet*, Flax-dresser, dined here.

1776 April 21 (Sunday). *William Fleet*, Flax-Comber, came here before Noon; dines and lodges and (without any Desire of mine) *Stays* with us.

1776 April 22 (Monday). *William Fleet* works here in hatchelling Flax

1776 April 23 (Tuesday). *Fleet* at work on Flax (N.B. Mrs. P. lately bought of Breck an hundred Weight.).... *Fleet* talkative etc. etc.

1776 April 24 (Wednesday). *Fleet* proves troublesome in the Family.

1776 April 25 (Thursday). *Fleet* is here yet -- very talkative and troublesome.

1776 April 26 (Friday). N.B. The troublesome *William Fleet*, having finished his combing 104 lb. of Flax in the forenoon, 1 d. lawful per lb., left us.

1777 March 15 (Saturday). Mr. *Kendal* with me. Mr. *Barnabas Newton* goes to *Marlborough* for Flax. Gave him seven Dollars and an half, but he brought only 13 lb.

1778 February 14 (Saturday). Mr. *William Watkins* of *Patridgefield*, and his Brother *Samuel Sell* me 96 wt. of Flax and are to the paid by 48 pound of Soal Leather, or in money in that Proportion.

1778 February 24 (Tuesday). Messrs. *William* and *Samuel Watkins* here at Dinner and I pay them for 88 lb. of Flax -- for which I give them 44 lb. of Soal Leather (which I borrow at Squire *Bakers*) -- and for 8 pounds (which the Flax exceeds the weight of the Leather, for we have 96 bl. of Flax) I pay them six Dollars.

1778 March 2 (Monday). N.B. I am to pay Squire *Baker* for 3 sides of Soal Leather which I have given for 88 lb. of Flax, which I had of Messrs. *Watkins* -- see on *Feb. 24*.

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.

1779 February 12 (Friday). A sad disappointment in the over rotted flax, which appeared by the breaking and swingling a part of it. The young man (Phin Brigham) desists as working in vain, throws in his pains and leaves it.

1780 January 26 (Wednesday). Ephraim Parker being at work for me in dressing Flax for me, brings in a quantity of it on a Pole and hangs it before the Fire to drie it. I had a good deal of Reluctance at it, remembering that Capt. Gouge's House at Hopkinton was, some years ago, burn't down by Flax taking Fire.

1780 January 27 (Thursday). As the Flax aforesaid hung before the Fire, notwithstanding the Distance it was placed at, a Coal was snapped out from the Fire, and began immediately to burn in it, which had it occurred last night, while we Slept, what would have been the Event! All hearty Thanks to our great Preserver!

1780 March 30 (Thursday). Parker came to work on our Flax, but found it not rotted sufficient, therefore breaks off and returns.

1780 April 20 (Thursday). Mr. Nathan Kenney here and agrees (if I dont hire a man) to take my North Field to plant to the halves; and likewise to take another piece of Ground for Flax, in the like manner.

1780 April 27 (Thursday). I rode to Mr. Seth Rice's for Flax seed.

1780 September 22 (Friday). N.B. My Flax is spread -- a large piece.

1780 September 25 (Monday). But I am sorry to see my Husbandry fast asleep, no body at work for me, though my apples are rotting and wasting, and Flax seed on stry, (?) unwinnowed on the Barn Floor.

1781 January 29 (Monday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* came to work for me in getting out Flax. He fetches the Doctors. *Break and breaks*. He also swingles a little -- about 4 pounds.

1781 January 30 (Tuesday). It proves foul weather, and so unfit for Flax that Mr. Miller returns home.

1781 February 6 (Tuesday). Mr. *Sol. Miller* and his son Jacob came to Work -- on the Flax -- they diet and lodge here.

1781 February 7 (Wednesday). The *Millers* here.

1781 February 28 (Wednesday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* and son at the Flax

1781 March 1 (Thursday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* and his son Jacob come and dress Flax

1781 March 5 (Monday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* and his son a.m. only.

1781 March 9 (Friday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* and his son *Jacob* came to dress Flax, but went home at night. 19 Bundles were broke; $8 \frac{1}{4}$ swingled.

1781 March 12 (Monday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* swingles $7 \frac{1}{2}$ of Flax. Began about 11 a.m.

1781 March 13 (Tuesday). Mr. *Miller* again and swingles $8 \frac{1}{2}$. Mr. *Thomas Kenny* came to dress out Flax. He himself both breaks and Swingles $8 \frac{3}{4}$.

1781 March 17 (Saturday). Neighbour *Thomas Kenny* dresses Flax

1781 March 31 (Saturday). At noon Mr. *Thomas Kenny* goes to work on the Flax again, the small Remainder. He finishes the whole (being only 3 lb.) in little more than 2 hours. The whole that he has broke and swingled is 22 lb. for which he asks 66 Dollars -- paid him 33. He went to Breck for the rest.

1781 April 12 (Thursday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* received his Pay for dressing Flax for me, viz. $87 \frac{3}{4}$ at 18d per pound. I gave him two Bushels of Rye at $4 \frac{1}{8}$ d old Way (as its called) and a Note to the Treasurer *Newton* for £2.8.3 with which he was satisfied for the whole Debt.

1781 May 10 (Thursday). Mr. *Jonathan Maynard* here and buys Flax Seed.