

Gardens and Gardening

1726 May 30 (Monday). I read Bradleys General Treatise on Husbandry and Gardening and Extracted Observations.

1728 August 7 (Wednesday). I went to See Mr. Miles's Library. His widow show'd me her house and Garden.

1736 April 19 (Monday). David with Neighbour Rogers's Cattle joined to mine and *Jonathan* for Driver ploughed up part of the stubble Ground. Gardening.

1736 April 27 (Tuesday). David about various Chores -- picking up stones, sledging stones etc. I was at Capt. Eagers a.m. Garden p.m.

1738 March 30 (Thursday). Did something at Gardening.

1738 July 7 (Friday). In Riding to Boston I first call'd at Captain Sharps -- then I stop'd at Judge Dudleys and din'd there. N.B. Mr. James Cushing and his wife there. The Judge very entertaining and instructing in his Conversation. He led me into his Gardens, into his Library, etc.

1739 March 26 (Monday). N.B. began to Garden. We plough'd in some early Peas.

1739 April 25 (Wednesday). Planted Peas, New Haven Squashes, etc. in the garden and sow'd various seeds.

1740 March 24 (Monday). Did something at Gardening.

1740 April 7 (Monday). P.M. Gardening.

1740 May 31 (Saturday). Hicks weeding our Garden.

1740 July 31 (Thursday). A Clear good Hay Day. We open'd and Spread what the Storms had Soak'd and recock'd it by the help of Neighbor Daniel Warrin who help'd me from noon till 4 o'Clock p.m. We pol'd in Some leavy Hay from the New Ground on the East Side of the upper Garden.

1742 June 7 (Monday). *Thomas* mowed the Garden walks a.m. and went p.m. to Boston with his Hoops.

1744 June 11 (Monday). *Thomas* mow'd the fore Yard and Garden.

1744 August 9 (Thursday). *Thomas* Set up a New Rail Fence between my Fore yard and Garden.

1745 March 8 (Friday). Fine Weather. I was induc'd to have Something done at Gardening.

1745 June 18 (Tuesday). Thomas began to Mow the Garden and Fore Yard.

1745 June 27 (Thursday). People report here for the Fruits of my Garden. Cherry and Currants.

1746 March 8 (Saturday). They sow'd some Peas in the Garden, and thrash'd Barley again.

1746 March 14 (Friday). Ebenezer Sleds the Stones of the old Garden to the Well.

1747 March 30 (Monday). Did something in the Garden. The season forward.

1747 April 2 (Thursday). Exceeding pleasant. Warm, excellent Weather. Mr. Dunlop came from Lieutenant Tainters with an Horse for my wife and me to ride over there to Day. He Stay'd the forenoon and wrought in my Garden.

1747 April 3 (Friday). Rain'd hard last night and this Morning, but about 10 clear'd off and Mr. Dunlop came to work in my Garden.

1747 April 6 (Monday). Cool Day, but the Season wondrous forward. Apple trees begin to put forth their Leaves. Mr. Dunlop came Early to work at my Garden, but went away about 3 in the afternoon, being oblig'd upon some unavoidable Business at Hopkinton. And was So generous as to give all his work these Several Days -- making more than a Day and a half.

1747 April 16 (Thursday). Early in the Morning Mr. Goss and I rode to Mr. Seccombs, and breakfasted there. N.B. brought from thence several books -- Seldons Table Talk: Warders Monarchy of Bees etc. And from his Garden Box trees and a Variety of Curious Graffs etc.

1747 June 11 (Thursday). Ebenezer Mow'd the Garden and fore yard.

1748 April 8 (Friday). Mr. Dunlop works in my Garden, sows parsnips etc.

1748 April 11 (Monday). Mr. Dunlop again works for me in the Garden.

1748 June 16 (Thursday). Helped Joseph pole in the Yard and Garden Hay.

1748 October 20 (Thursday). Mr. Barnard of Marblehead the public Lecture on Rom. 5.12. Din'd at Dr. Sewals: who shew'd me Mr. Moorheads Letter in Defence of himself against Mr. Buckminster. P.M. at Deacon Bouteneau's Garden.

1749 March 27 (Monday). Mr. Dunlop in the Garden the same Day.

1749 April 28 (Friday). The Beds of the Garden, by the Drought and by the Fowl, chiefly destroy'd.

1750 March 30 (Friday). Ebenezer So weak yet, and indispos'd that he can't bear Work. Being a Warmish Pleasant Day, we are invited to gardening. Patty Pannell does what she can in making Beds and Sewing some early Seeds.

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.

1750 June 21 (Thursday). Ebenezer did so much as to mow the Garden and foreyard a.m.

1751 June 19 (Wednesday). Ebenezer not well -- but mow'd a little -- the Yard and Garden.

1752 April 7 (Tuesday). Mr. Harrington came with 4 Oxen, Mr. Simon Tainter came with his Fathers Team with 4 Oxen and brought Mr. Gashetts Plough, Mr. Grouts Son came with 4 Oxen, Mr. Pratt came with a Yoke of Oxen, and all these with my own join'd to them made up a team to break up, and follow'd it all Day -- they broke up a Piece of Ground for a Garden Spott -- and a Field in which I purpose to plant an Orchard, but it not being wholly compleated, they agree to come again all of them (but Mr. Grouts Son) tomorrow morning and finish the Work.

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 April 15 (Wednesday). Mr. Dunlop has work'd in my New Garden, in digging up Roots, and subduing it; this is now the third Day.

1752 April 16 (Thursday). Was oblig'd to do something in the Garden myself. Sow'd a few seeds etc.

1752 April 20 (Monday). In the Garden again.

1752 April 29 (Wednesday). My Business abroad all lys Still, except, what I can do in Gardening.

1752 May 1 (Friday). Through the great Goodness of God we have had a rainy Night, and it showers this Morning to the great reviving of the Earth.... The Day proves chiefly a rainy Day; though it rains not hard, yet, it wetts steddily. Mr. Joseph Gambet diggs in my Garden p.m.

1754 April 1 (Monday). Ebenezer plough'd [in my Garden and split] the Indian Hills at my New Barn -- and carry'd out some Muck from the stables.

1754 April 2 (Tuesday). Richard Kelly setts up, and mends, Fence at the Island, and prepar'd Beds in the Garden two long Beds for Hotspur Peas.

1754 April 29 (Monday). Thomas help'd me at the Garden a.m.

1754 July 19 (Friday). We Set out early from Mr. Woodward's, and broke fast at Mr. Isaac Baldwins. N.B. Jeduthun there. We fish'd in the pleasant Pond beyond the Garden.

1754 November 23 (Saturday). Last Night is froze hard. Billy having harrow'd yesterday with Ebenezer's Oxen at the Island at Night went home with them. He this Morning return'd here with them, and Carted out Muck into the Garden and Grass Ground. Thomas help'd him a.m. but was ill p.m.

1756 April 6 (Tuesday). Mr. *Dunlop* worked for me in my Garden.

1756 April 12 (Monday). A.M. Garden.

1757 April 18 (Monday). *Blanc* worked for me -- partly in the Garden and partly tending the Mason. P.M. Mr. *Dunlop* in the Garden....

1757 April 27 (Wednesday). P.M. Mr. *Dunlop* here and sows divers sorts of Seeds in my Garden.

1757 May 9 (Monday). *Peter Blanc* wrought for me, partly in the Garden.

1758 April 13 (Thursday). Old Mr. *Dunlop* in my Garden -- Sows Carrot Seed.

1759 April 16 (Monday). Mr. *Dunlop* works in my Garden.

1759 June 27 (Wednesday). Nathan Kenny mowed my fore Yard, Garden and part of my little pasture.

1759 November 9 (Friday). N.B. in the afternoon I was much troubled by Piggs Health to drive them out and watch them, my Daughters that remain at home with me being very infirm.

1760 April 9 (Wednesday). Have begun to Garden.

1760 June 27 (Friday). Mr. Daniel Miller comes to clearing, and, under him, Mr. *Moses Twitchell* and *James Bowman* junior -- the last Mowed my Garden.

1760 July 7 (Monday). Silas Frost mows by the Garden.

1760 July 8 (Tuesday). My Sons got in part

1761 March 27 (Friday). The Boys work in the Garden. Sow Parseley, Parsnip etc. etc.

1764 June 21 (Thursday). Capt. *Maynard* came and told me that by wholly unable to go on with

his Bargain with him; and was likely to miss of the Benefit of his Money. Captain came to complete our Business. My Part was in Readiness; but he wants I Should trie to perswade *Bruce* to condescend to let Beeton at least set up his shop at the Corner of the Garden -- he was also in great Haste so that we once more defer -- viz. till next Monday.

1764 June 28 (Thursday). Jonas Kenny mowes the Garden Walks.

1765 April 17 (Wednesday). We do a little at Gardening.

1765 July 1 (Monday). Jonas Kenny mows a little in the Morning for me my Garden Allys and Borders etc. and John went afterwards to Mr. Nurses, to work for him.

1765 July 8 (Monday). Grass, viz. between the Garden and Meeting-House.

1765 July 9 (Tuesday). At Eve found that Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Bellows, had each of them Sent a son, who had mowed the remainder of the Lot between the Garden and Meeting House.

1765 August 20 (Tuesday). Mr. Fessenden and I rode to Ministers Meeting at Southborough. See Minutes of the Association.... Every Conversation is filled with the late Riotous proceedings in Boston -- hanging Mr. A.O. in Effigy: destroying the Stamp Office -- and much dammaging the House, Gardens and Furniture of Mr. Secritary Oliver etc. etc.

1766 April 11 (Friday). John diggs in the Garden.

1766 April 26 (Saturday). Caleb gets out muck from the Stables, helps in the Garden etc.

1766 May 9 (Friday). *Caleb* mends Fence at the Island: and does Some Work in the Garden.

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

1767 May 15 (Friday). T. and J. finish planting Indian Corn. P.M. Temple and John with the Oxen at Mr. Nurse's. Mr. Daniel Miller here and gives up all further Hope of my Oxen. We are still at Times doing something about Gardening.

1768 May 9 (Monday). Was Sometime in the Garden, in some small Employments, yet necessary.

1768 October 14 (Friday). N.B. *Breck* has made a Garden Gate and hung it with Hinges which Mr. Nurse has brought me gratis.

1769 April 10 (Monday). Do something in gardening.

1769 April 17 (Monday). *John* does something in the Garden, but at length is not well, and retires into the House.

1770 April 26 (Thursday). I am obliged to do something about gardening. Sowing parsnips and Carrotts. I hired Ebenezer Maynard to mend Fence.

1773 April 7 (Wednesday). Very much taken up with out gardening. *Breck* has Sent to *Boston* for an Assortment of Seeds for his Shop – supplys me with several Sorts, and assists in the work we are engaged in. *John Fay's* Time was out last night, but he works for me to Day, and spends his Time and Pains in the Garden. At Night I paid him as he expects from my promise L 25 old Tenor.

1776 April 24 (Wednesday). Spent a great part of my time in directing the gardening: could do but little my Self.

1778 May 4 (Monday). Busied about our gardening.

1779 May 14 (Friday). *Breck*, *Parker* and *Tim*. are still upon the Vine and garden.

1770 April 9 (Monday). Am furnished by Mr. *Whitney* with a Variety of Garden Seeds.

1770 April 17 (Tuesday). Lt. Baker, with a Yoke of Oxen, Neighbour Barnabas Newton with Do. and Plough, came, and with my own Oxen and Boys, and Neighbour Jo. Bonds Oxen, they plowed up that Piece of Grass Ground which was between the Meeting House and my Garden.

1770 July 18 (Wednesday). Lodged as usual, at Cousen Barretts. N.B. Sister Lydia Champney more infirm: but not confined. The Rabble did mischief in their Garden last night.

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 November 7 (Wednesday). Mr. Biglow repairs the Garden Wall by the lower Well, and dines here.

1772 May 9 (Saturday). *Breck* riggs up my Vine House in the Garden.

1772 May 22 (Friday). Mr. Benjamin How places the Great Stone at the West Door and forms and adjusts the Stone steps into the Garden.

1773 June 25 (Friday). Have a peculiar Favor in divine providence by a good Crop of Clover between the Garden and meeting House-Road. Three of our common Loads between 60 and 70 Cocks. D.G.

1773 August 7 (Saturday). My Son *John* has been in relaxation this week. Is not altogether well. Sometimes worked a while in the Garden. Sometimes Assisted *Jonathan* and took Care as he

thought needful, of my Affairs, and Set his own to rights, and looked after his own Things, to repair etc. and get himself ready for his own Business.

1774 May 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Fisher undertakes to do the work of my Fence against the Garden with Pales and to make two Cart and one Horse Gate, for one Guinea. And his Diet, I finding the Stuff. He begins to Day and *Abel Tinny* is with him.

1774 July 11 (Monday). *Asa*, though laid by on the 9th p.m., yet is at his business again today. He is mowing the rest of the Clover between the Garden and the Road. I assisted in opening the Cocks which had stood over the Sabbath.

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

1777 April 9 (Wednesday). Deacon *Burnap* visits me. *Bradshaw* lodges with us. N.B. He gives me Dr. *Price's Observations on the Nature of Civil Liberty*, as he does Several Sorts of *Garden seeds* also.

1777 April 10 (Thursday). I do something in the Garden.

1777 April 11 (Friday). Though I am desirous to be in my Study, yet the incumbrance of the Garden is a great [*illegible*] and Interruption to me therein.

1777 April 14 (Monday). Walked over to Capt. *Morse's* and was favored with various sorts of Garden Seeds.

1777 April 26 (Saturday). Having no man, nor prospect of any, *Breck* works some time in the Garden; and *Elias* sleds stones.

1777 May 14 (Wednesday). Went into the Garden p.m. to work a while in the Garden -- plant peas, Pepper etc. N.B. *James Hicks* so lame by Reason of Sore Cracks in his Feet, that he can do very little service for me.

1778 May 14 (Thursday). I was much in the Garden.

1778 May 15 (Friday). I was taken up the most of the Day with variety of Petit Affairs, of the *Garden*, and of the *Cattle*.

1778 May 16 (Saturday). To my great Regret I was continually taken up with the Small Affairs of the Garden, the Cattle, etc. etc.

1779 February 16 (Tuesday). *Elias* p.m. makes a Business of trimming the great Apple trees in the Garden etc.

1779 April 3 (Saturday). Alter and enlarge the Garden. Eph. Parker setts out stumps, roots etc.

1779 April 14 (Wednesday). Fine weather. Gardening, plant Trees. Move the Bees.

1779 May 13 (Thursday). Breck undertakes to new modell the Frame for the Grape Vine in the Garden to run upon: and Parker and Timothy help him.

1780 April 14 (Friday). Having no man yet and young Winchester lame and infirm, my business is behind. Breck works in the Garden -- plows and hires Mr. Kenney part of the Day to renew and mend up the Garden Fence. B. sows Peas there.

1780 April 15 (Saturday). Breck and William Winchester at times in the Garden. I cannot afford any time to it, nor have I any Inclination.

1780 April 21 (Friday). Was forced to go to Dr. Hawes on the Account of his Sheep, which were again yesterday upon my Field of Rye, and was at Neighbor Caleb Harrington's, his Hogs having done Mischief several times in my Garden, and mentioned to him my putting out my Chauncey Meadows to the halves, much interrupted and tossed in spirit by having no man to work for me, when so many different affairs to mind, in looking after my Husbandry at this Season, and Creatures to guard from transgressing.

1781 May 12 (Saturday). Breck sats up a Gate at the North End of the Garden.

1782 April 13 (Saturday). *Breck* employs several Men in mending the Wall of the Garden, and work in the Garden. They are *James Downs* and *Ebenezer Mclendy*.