

References to Oxen

1736 February 23 (Monday). Lent Neighbour Rogers my Oxen for Logging to Mr. Forb. Mill.

1736 April 17 (Saturday). *David* and the oxen at work for Neighbour Rogers.

1736 May 4 (Tuesday). David finished our ploughing over for planting. Ebenezer drove the Oxen at ploughing.

1736 May 24 (Monday). David, with my Oxen, dragging stones down on the south Side.

1736 August 26 (Thursday). Lent Mr. Rogers my Oxen to fetch his Hay home.

1736 August 27 (Friday). Dav. Bav. and John Rogers went with a Team made up of their and my Oxen and Neighbour Bruce's Cart, to the Ministerial Meadow and brought home Two Load of my Hay from thence. Obliged to bring up Water in Barrells from the old well.

1737 November 11 (Friday). My oxen were at work for Mr. David Brigham's to cart stones for their chimneys.

1738 March 14 (Tuesday). A.M. John Rogers with their Oxen and mine sledded stones from the Chimney of the Old House, but the Rain prevail'd upon us in so much that we were beat off before noon.

1738 April 15 (Saturday). Neighbour Aaron Hardy came with a Yoke of Oxen and plough'd up the rest of the stubble ground. I was necessitated a.m. to assist at the Team my Self to my great Trouble and affliction.

1738 April 21 (Friday). Simon Tainter, junior, came and wrought for me. He plough'd the remainder of the Stubble, with Brother Hicks's oxen join'd to mine. P.M. Plough'd in Barley, with only my Cattle.

1738 May 1 (Monday). Mr. Habijah Bruce sent his son Charles with a Yoke of Oxen to cross my Grass-Ground and they began to work, but old Mr. Greaves gave me so much of his Experience of planting upon the sods, that offering also to assist me in it, we proceeded to have it harrowed and then planted it. His Brother Francis Pierce also help'd in it.... P.M. Charles ploughed over the rest of the stubble ground.

1738 June 13 (Tuesday). I help'd in the ploughing among the Corn. Let Mr. Winchester have my oxen to go to Boston.

1738 December 19 (Tuesday). Mr. Grout with a Team, and Mr. Samuel Harrington with his oxen to make up another Team with my oxen and Sled, Mr. Groe, Mr. Tainter, Mr. Beriah Rice, Mr. Jonathan Forbush, junior, Thomas Winchester, Edwards Whipple, Ephraim Whitney, Samuel

Rogers, Thomas Whitney, junior. Mr. Aaron Forbush came p.m. to Cut and sled me wood from the further side of the Hill.

1738 December 27 (Wednesday). N.B. My Two Youngest Cattle and one of my Oxen not well. We cut off a part of the Tails.

1738 December 28 (Thursday). N.B. Sear'd the Ox which continued bleeding.

1739 January 31 (Wednesday). Mr. Aaron Forbush had my oxen to sled down a large stick of Ship Timber to Marlborough.

1739 April 26 (Thursday). N.B. Brother Hicks lost his Black Ox. Divers went to look for him up -- found him dead in the mire of the Meadow on the North West End of the Great Pond.

1739 May 1 (Tuesday). John Kidney, with the Oxen help'd Brother Hicks in Carting out Muck.

1739 May 9 (Wednesday). I sent out my Oxen under the Care of Ensign Maynard and Four Young Creatures under the Care of Captain Warrin, nto the Woods.

1739 August 1 (Wednesday). Mr. Biglo with Mr. Whipples Cart and Oxen and Mr. David Maynards oxen added to them carted. Three Loads of the Ministerial Meadow Hay.

1740 January 8 (Tuesday). Went off. Some Number of Hands came to get wood. Lieutenant Baker with a Yoke of oxen, and Neighbor Benjamin Fay with 2 Yoke and Cart, Lieutenant Tainter For Mr. Beriah Rice, Neighbor Grow For Deacon Newton, Harrington, Seth Rice with his Team p.m., Eliezer Rice, James Maynard, Sam Bumpso, David Baverick, Ezekiel Pratt, Hezekiah Pratt, John Rogers for Mr. Abner Newton, Josiah Green junior, Eliezer Williams, Samuel Rogers from Mr. William Nurse, Phinehas Forbush, and Thomas Whitney. The first Cart went with onely one Yoke of Oxen and therefore could not load up. The other Cart had one Yoke and an Horse, and loaded decently, the other Two Yoke of Oxen drew a sled which for want of Snow could not be loaded up. The Wood was cut on the East Side of the Hill, and was a great deal of it very Small, but they clear'd the Small Tract as they went, of such Turns as aforesaid they made (as they gave account) 39 by Duskish. Lieutenant Tainter tarried in the Evening and Cut up and Salted my Two Hoggs which were kill'd Yesterday. They weighed both of them about 19 Score.

1740 January 14 (Monday). Mr. Daniel Warrin (who bought my Oxen) drove them down to Boston.

1740 March 31 (Monday). I rode abroad to buy a Yoke of Oxen. I went as far as to Bezaleel Smiths and Mr. James Fay with me. I was at Captain Fays, Winchesters, etc.

1740 April 1 (Tuesday). In the forenoon I was variously taken up. Early I was at Mr. Hezekiah Hows for Oxen and obtain'd them for the first part of the Day. Sam and David work'd. A.M.

Sledded Stones till by the Infirmity of the Oxen and a Storm of Snow they were oblig'd to knock off.

1740 April 3 (Thursday). Much perplex'd in the morning about our spring work, the Care of it crowding upon me at a very uncomfortable Rate. After having been other where with no success, as I walk'd to Neighbor Hezekiah Pratts (who I sought to come with his Oxen and draw off the Stones from Ground which we wanted to break up for Planting) I had many musings touching the Conduct of God's Providence in the world, especially where even his own work was more immediately at stake -- but I was enabled to refer and rest matters with God.

1740 April 8 (Tuesday). A morning of great Hurry and Engagement. Mr. James Fay and Eliezer Rice each of them with Two Yoke of Oxen to break up Some Grass Ground on my south side. But our plough (which I had of the widow Tomlin) soon broke and we were oblig'd to get another, first at Ensign Maynards but Chiefly at Stephen Fays -- and his held, but the Ground was so Stoney (notwithstanding all our pains and charge in Digging many of the stones out) that they made but a poor Hand of it.

1740 May 7 (Wednesday). Mr. Jonah Warrin and Benjamin Forbush Carted 13 Load Muck with Mr. Williams's Cart and Oxen. Hicks ploughing here.

1740 May 8 (Thursday). Samuel Forbush and Jonas Warrin junior Carted 13 Load with Captain Warrins Oxen.

1740 September 12 (Friday). Ensign Forbush sent his Son and a Yoke of Cattle, Sergeant Bruce a Son and a Yoke of Cattle and Captain Warrin his Oxen, and plough and Harrow to plough and harrow [*sic*]my rugged Ground on the South Side.

1740 October 7 (Tuesday). Paul Fay Sent by Cornet Howard to help me. He carted Stones for the well with Deacon Tomlins Oxen and Neighbor Hows Cart.

1740 November 11 (Tuesday). Lieutenant Tainter and Mr. Charles Rice got me down several turns of wood with my Oxen.

1740 December 10 (Wednesday). A very blustering Storm of Snow and Rain, and we out of wood. Ensign Maynard with his oxen came of his own accord and with young John Hicks got me two turns of wood.

1740 December 15 (Monday). Mr. Bradish Sent his son Jonas to cutt Wood for me, and he got down one Turn with my Oxen, whilst I was gone to the Funeral of Mr. Thomas Warrins Son, the third of his Children that had dy'd by the Throat Distemper.

1740 December 30 (Tuesday). Mr. James Fay with a Number of Hands came to get wood and brought one yoke of Oxen.

1742 July 26 (Monday). I went with Thomas to the Meadow and got Mr. Forb. to help him with his Oxen and we got home 4 Load of Hay.

1742 September 11 (Saturday). But Lt. Brigham went with Ensign Maynard to Grindstone Hill to digg Stones, and with Mr. Nurses Team added to my oxen brought a Load of Excellent Jaum Stones from thence. But these Things proved a great Impediment to my Studys, and preparations for the Sabbath.

1744 April 14 (Saturday). Fine pleasant Day. Thomas ploughing up Stubble of the South side. Mr. Hezekiah Hows Oxen yesterday and to Day.

1744 August 27 (Monday). Mr. Ebenezer Rice came about noon to get my Team to go to Boston. I rode to Mr. Winchester and obtain'd his Oxen to go with my own to Boston. Thomas went with the Team to Mr. Abraham Temple's at Grafton for the Load and so Set out with it before Day.

1744 December 11 (Tuesday). Four Persons came to get the rest of the wood which was cut yesterday, to the Door. Mr. Dunlop (who was the Means of the rest), Mr. Jonah Warrin, Mr. Hezekiah Pratt with his Oxen and Sled and Moses Nurse with his Oxen and Sled likewise. They improv'd my Team and got down a good Pile.

1744 December 20 (Thursday). One of my Oxen ill. Captain Maynard very kind and Friendly according to his Wont in my Difficulty. He blooded the Ox.

1744 December 21 (Friday). My Ox very ill -- a Fever -- bound up. Captain Maynard here administering to him. Lieutenant Tainter here. He rak'd the Ox. At Eve he was somewhat better.

1744 December 22 (Saturday). My Ox better. Captain Maynard here (in his kindness) to See him.

1744 December 31 (Monday). N.B. My Off Ox ill again.

1745 January 3 (Thursday). My Ox bad. Eliezer Rice rak'd him.

1745 January 4 (Friday). Mr. Garfield came to look at my Ox which grows rather better. He rak'd him.

1745 February 18 (Monday). A Number of hands cutting and Carting Wood for me, viz. Benjamin Whipple with a Yoke of Oxen made up my Team. Mr. Benjamin Fay with his Cart and 2 Yoke of Oxen, and Jonas Brigham with his Cart and 2 Yoke. The Cutters were Mr. Harrington, Dunlop, Edwards Whipple, Noah How, Sam Baker, Silas Pratt, Levi Brigham, [blank] White, Charles and Artemas Bruce, Moses Warren, and Samuel Bumpso. And they got to my Door 50 Load of Wood.

1745 March 4 (Monday). Though I have had Such a fine wood pile got me, yet I am very much without Loggs. Sent to Neighbour Ebenezer Maynard who came up, with his Brother Nathan and

their Oxen and Sled, who, having Cut the Chief of them (and adding my Oxen) got me down 3 Turns of Loggs.

1745 April 30 (Tuesday). The Morning Rainy. The Deacon Newton brought his Cart and Ox and Hogsheads for Lime yet Thomas declin'd going whilst it was So Wet. I kept the Deacons Oxen till the Weather was better.

1745 May 17 (Friday). At Home, Brother Hicks (who drove up his Oxen from Cambridge) and his wife who came up (also) from Cambridge, lodg'd with us.

1745 September 2 (Monday). Moses Pratt had my Oxen to cross his Ground in Shrewsbury.

1745 September 7 (Saturday). Moses Pratt return'd my Oxen Safe after their journey and work.

1745 October 26 (Saturday). Ebenezer plough'd Stubble Hills and had Nathan Maynards Oxen with mine, Nathan having my Mare a.m. to grind Apples.

1745 November 1 (Friday). Ebenezer work'd for Noah How -- had the Oxen with him: Noah sowing Rye.

1746 January 14 (Tuesday). Neighbour Samuel Hardy came late a.m. to Swingle Flax. P.M. he join'd with a Number that were here to get me some Wood, for Lieutenant Tainter and Neighbour Samuel Harrington were here yesterday while I was absent, and rigg'd up my Sled, and they Two, with Neighbour Hezekiah Pratt (who brought a Team of Oxen), Beriah Rice, and Eleazer Rice, came and got me a Pile of Wood. N.B. Neighbour Sam Hardy join'd them.

1746 March 28 (Friday). We broke up the Ground about the settle. Thomas Winchester and Nathan Maynard help'd us. We had 5 Yoke of oxen besides my own.

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 June 23 (Monday). Thomas Winchester was to have come but did not till nigh noon, and I had sent the Oxen home which I had order'd to be got together to cross our Ground by the Settle.

1746 June 24 (Tuesday). We cross'd the foresaid Ground with Neighbour Tomlins, Neighbour Hows and my own Oxen and Mare. Yet 'twas somewhat Rainy.

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

1746 September 11 (Thursday). One of my Oxen still very mischievous.

1747 January 1 (Thursday). At my House Thomas Winchester brings a message from Timothy Warrin (who was with me lately to buy my oxen) that he did not depend on them.

1747 January 7 (Wednesday). Mr. Warrin took away the oxen he bought last night.

1747 March 17 (Tuesday). At Mr. Tinnys and Jesse Brighams to buy oxen but do not succeed.

1747 April 6 (Monday). Moses Pratt came with those oxen from Eliezer Rice's which Timothy Warrin bought of me, and with my Team join'd thereto plough'd my Stubble.

1747 April 7 (Tuesday). Neighbour Hezekiah Tomlin ploughs here with his oxen join'd to my Team.

1747 April 22 (Wednesday). Ebenezer ploughing the rest of the Stubble. N.B. Neighbour Benjamin Hows Oxen with mine -- and his brother Daniel drove.

1747 October 5 (Monday). Timothy Warrin here and by paying the money for my Oxen took upon his Bond.

1747 December 7 (Monday). There came only the few following Hands to cutt Wood (N.B. Not one Team came to sled) Messrs. Jonah Warrin, and Daniel Hardy, Solomon Baker and Benjamin Tainter, Charles Rice junior, and Timothy Newton. Benjamin Tainter took my Oxen, mare and sled and sledded down 8 Load. N.B. The first of the Hands came about 11 a.m. the rest at near Noon. Captain Maynard here at Eve whilst I sold Mr. Jonah Warrin (of whom, and his son Elijah, I had this last Fall 178£ of Beef at 12 d. per pound) Two Steers, one coming 3, the other coming 2 for 21£ old Tenor. Twas Captain Maynards Judgment that they were worth so much, and offer'd to give it for 'em if he hadn't 'em. N.B. I offer'd the Captain pay for keeping the Horses I sent to him at Thanksgiving Time, but he would not take it.

1748 February 8 (Monday). Bright and Comfortable. Nineteen persons came to get wood for me, viz. Mr. Grow, Harrington with his team, Daniel Forbush, Ebenezer Miller, Samuel, Daniel and Phinehas Hardy, Zebulon Rice, Tim Warrin, Joseph Grout, junior, Samuel Baker and Benjamin Willson, Benjamin Tainter for James Bradish, Martyn Pratt, Robert Dunlop, Jonathan Forbush, Solomon Woods, John Kelly for Beriah Rice, William Pierce. N.B. We had Mr. Richard Barr's oxen to go with mine to make up a second Team and they brought up to the Door about 30 loads. N.B. They cut it in Mr. Barr's swamp.

1748 May 3 (Tuesday). Sent 8 Cattle by the Whipples etc. to Nitchewag, under the Care of Mr. Silas Wheeler. Captain Warrin sent his sons Nahum and Jonathan with two Yoke of Oxen and Hay to keep 'em, to plough for me. Sent by Captain Maynard to Boston. P.M. my Team also ploughing.

1748 July 25 (Monday). Mr. Samuel Harrington with Cart and one Yoke of Oxen, and Benjamin Tainter with the Like Carted Hay for me from the Meadow. Harrington 2 Turns 13 Cocks each, and once with 14. Tainter with 13 Cocks all 3 Turns: Ebenezer 13 Cocks 2 Turns and his last turn being

in the Dark was but 11 Cocks. N.B. The Cocks in general large. A great Kindness this of my Neighbours. The Lord reward 'em for it.

1749 March 21 (Tuesday). Snow Storm again. Neighbour Pratt took my oxen to keep, for a short Space.

1749 March 27 (Monday). Was at Mr. Nurse's where I had a plough, and at Ebenezer Rice's. With the following Team and assistance we broke up the ground next to the Swamp. Besides Daniel with my own Oxen, Neighbour John Rogers with his, Neighbour Tomlin with his, and Nathan Maynard with theirs; to which add Neighbour Benjamin Hows. P.M. Nathan Maynard drew off, and Stephen Maynard came to work in his room with another Yoke of Oxen, so that we had p.m. 12 Oxen and turn'd it over pritty well. Mr. Tomlin and Stephen Maynard gave in their work and their Cattle -- Neighbour Rogers was very moderate in his Demands. Mr. Dunlop in the Garden the same Day.

1749 August 30 (Wednesday). N.B. Neighbour Rogers went, with his Oxen and mine and Neighbour Hows Cart, to fetch my Cyder-Mill from Mr. Woolley's of Holden; and brought it.

1750 March 12 (Monday). Cold, Raw, Searching Air. Mr. Jeduthan Fay took my Oxen to keep.

1750 March 21 (Wednesday). Storm continues Still. Mr. Jeduthan Fay return'ed my Oxen home.

1750 June 5 (Tuesday). A Day to be remember'd -- as for my Accepting the Call of the Town in the Year 1724. So now for my undertaking to begin the World again on the South Road -- a Number of Neighbours came to Clear and plough down the Knoll which I purpose to build on. It was very much owing to Lieutenant Bruce, and accordingly a.m. there was a number to clear the ground, Scil. Neighbour John Rogers, Thomas Frost, and Abraham Beeman, besides my own Ebenezer and Joseph, and p.m. a considerable Number with their Cattle to plough and levill it. Lieutenant Bruce and Oxen, Mr. Timothy Warrin with Oxen both his own and his Brother Daniels, Mr. John Rogers with Oxen, which with my own oxen made up Ten. Other Hands were Ephraim Bruce, Ebenezer Forbush, Neighbour Cook, Eleazer Williams, Timothy Warrin, Samuel Harrington, Simon Tainter, Abner Newton, Junior. N.B. Lieutenant Forbush and I transacted the Affair of our Conveyance of the Title to the Knoll and Land adjoining. He gave me a Deed of an Acre and Quarter -- for 11L old Tenor. 1

1750 June 8 (Friday). P.M. a Number of Neighbours went to my Knoll, with Two Yoke of Cattle besides my own, and with Shovels, Hoes and Barrs to levell it further. They were chiefly Mr. Charles Rice, Lieutenant Thomas Forbush, Lieutenant Bruce, Lieutenant Tainter, Mr. Grow, Bowman, Harrington, Simon Tainter Junior, Jonathan Forbush, Charles Bruce, Ephraim Bruce, Adams, Rogers (with oxen), Timothy Warrin, Abraham Bond, Samuel Forbush junior, [blank] Miller, Eleazer Williams, Abner Rice, and Daniel Forbush junior with a Cart and Oxen.

1750 October 19 (Friday). Ebenezer works there, and Mr. Joseph Green junior and Abner Whipple digg and Cart stones -- with Mr. Edwards Whipples yoke of Oxen.

1750 October 23 (Tuesday). N.B. A Sour Message to me from Mr. Barns to go to him and settle accounts with him before Night or he would send an Officer. I wrote him an answer which my wife carry'd with a 3£ Bill old Tenor to pay him for an Ox which he had bought for me at Boston last Spring when I let him have my Horse to go there; and for which he had never paid me, nor had ask'd me for his Money, but had concluded to Set it off in the Rates.

1750 November 5 (Monday). Widow Newton gave me Alpheus's digging and Carting Six Load of Clay: and this afternoon he goes with a Yoke of Oxen and assists Ebenezer in digging and Carting 3 Load more.

1751 February 4 (Monday). Ebenezer with Neighbour John Rogers's Help and his Oxen join'd to my Team carry Large Loggs to Mill.

1751 February 9 (Saturday). Ebenezer works for Neighbour Rogers, with the Oxen.

1751 May 8 (Wednesday). Fine Weather; blessed be God! Ebenezer and Thomas are gone to Bolton for Lime. They have Mr. Richard Barns's Oxen added to our own Team. They have a tedious Journey (undertaking it in one Day) and return not till late in the Night.

1751 July 22 (Monday). Neighbour John Rogers, with his Oxen added to my Team, went with Ebenezer to Meadow and brought home Two Load of Hay.

1751 September 11 (Wednesday). Ebenezer went with my Oxen in the Rain to Mr. Adams's to help him move his Barn.

1751 September 23 (Monday). Mr. Hezekiah Pratt kindly brought me a Load of Wood -- he had my Oxen with his.

1752 April 7 (Tuesday). Mr. Pierce and Elijah Rice work for me partly in digging and drawing Stones, and partly in building Stone Wall at the Front Corner next to the Road. 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 8 (Wednesday). The Breaking up Team came again this Morning and finish'd their Work. Mr. Ebenezer Nurse's came with his son Moses, viz. 4 Oxen, instead of Mr. Grouts. N.B. Mr. Pratt gives his man Cornelius's Work t'other Day in my Cellar and his oxens work yesterday and this morning, but asks pay for one Day for himself. Mr. Nurses Team with Moses tarrys all the forenoon.

1752 May 5 (Tuesday). Mr. Solomon Baker with my Cart, but his own Oxen brought me 40 Rails from Rody Smiths: and Mr. Simon Tainter 45 from the same. The former of those was gratis: for the latter Mr. Tainter ask'd 15/ old Tenor.

1752 May 9 (Saturday). Mr. Robert Claffland, with my Oxen and a Yoke of Mr. Jonah Warrins, brought 50 Rails from Mr. Elijah Rice's. P.M. Mr. Warrin himself with the Same Team, brought 50 more.

1752 December 21 (Thursday). I went over to t'other House. My 3 sons are trimming over the New swamp the Ground being open and froze. I din'd there. I gave Ebenezer my Yoke of Oxen, and Two Young Heifers coming Two: also a last Year Calf.

1754 February 14 (Thursday). I went over presently to Ebenezer p.m. but he was gone to help Mr. Daniel Maynard drive to Marlborough the Cattle he had bought of my Son (the Oxen I gave him) for 75£ old Tenor -- but Ebenezer Came over in the Evening.

1754 April 13 (Saturday). Mr. Moses Morse plough'd my Stubble at the Island, with 4 Oxen and his large Plough.

1754 April 15 (Monday). Mr. Nathan Maynard plough'd my Island stubble with Mr. Nurse's and his own Oxen.

1754 May 6 (Monday). Mr. Jonas Twitchell works for me, carrying out Dung -- my sons Ebenezer and Thomas also hard at it. Have Ebenezers Cart and Oxen and my Mare for the Team: and borrow Deacon Newtons Cart.

1754 May 21 (Tuesday). Greatly fatigued and disappointed about Oxen to plough my further Field at the Island. I Seek to above half a score Neighbours in Vain. We are also out of Rye, and when I was about to go out p.m.

1754 June 10 (Monday). My son Thomas help'd me. Had Mr. Williams's Cart and Oxen to carry out the ashes to the Island Field.

1754 October 30 (Wednesday). At Eve came Messrs. Hezekiah Pratt with a Yoke of Oxen, Solomon Baker with a Plough and with 2 Yoke. Mr. Eleazer Williams, Joseph Baker -- and my sons Ebenezer and Thomas.

1754 November 21 (Thursday). Moses Nurse with 2 Yoke of Oxen, and my Billy helping, plough'd, sow'd Rye and harrow'd it in.... At Eve Ebenezer and Samuel Forbush each with a Yoke of Cattle, Noah Forbush with my sons Oxen and a Drag, Elijah Rice, Moses Nurse and his Cousen Daniel and Abner Newton, came and plough'd a drew down Gravel from the back of my House.

1754 November 23 (Saturday). 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.

1755 April 25 (Friday). Mr. Moses Nurse with his Plough and 4 Oxen, assisted by Deacon Bonds Son Thomas and a Yoke of Oxen and from 4 o'Clock p.m. Barnibus Newtons Oxen broke up Some Grass Ground for me on the Island.

1755 April 30 (Wednesday). Mr. John Rogers comes with his Oxen and Plough -- splits hills by the Barn and sows Wheat. Billy with my Mare helps him.

1755 June 23 (Monday). Alpheus and Abner Newton a.m. draw off Stones from the Ground behind the Meeting House, with Six oxen. 2 Yoke Abners, and one Yoke Neighbour Zebulun Rice's.

1755 June 27 (Friday). We broke up about an Acre and half, behind the Meeting House. Our Team was of 20 Oxen. Captain Fay with 4. Lieutenant Brigham with 4. Deacon Bond 2. Lieutenant Tainter 2. Mr. Zebulun Rice 2. Ensign Miller 2. Mr. Samuel Hardy 2. My son Ebenezer 2. The Men who came were Captain Fay, Lieutenant Brigham, Lieutenant Maynard, Isaac Miller, the Lads were Thomas Bond, Joseph Rice son of Mr. Ebenezer Rice and had Lieutenant Maynards Plough. Lieutenant Maynard also at his Cost hir'd Mr. John Rogers p.m. to work for me among them. At Eve Captain Maynard Sent Quarter Veal and Several Pounds of Butter -- all this was given freely.

1755 August 13 (Wednesday). Barachias and Seth Morse work for me -- they get home 3 Load, 2 Load by half after 12. P.M. they rake and bring home another Load at Eve. Those were brought by our own Team: Ebenezers Oxen and my Mare.

1755 August 15 (Friday). Seth work'd for me all Day. Had Mr. Pratts Team to bring home one Load, and with Mr. Samuel Fay juniors Oxen they brought home another. And this finish'd my Haying for this Year. Those Young Men agree to have 17/ per Day -- I am indebted to them for 9 Days £7.13.0 Old Tenor.

1755 September 10 (Wednesday). Harrow my new Ground; with 8 Oxen, viz. my sons, and Lieutenant Forbush, Samuel Forbush, and Mr. Rogers's. Mr. Rogers and John Frost were the Men that manag'd it.

1755 November 14 (Friday). Brought home Mrs. Bonds Oxen and Billy and Nathan (Kenny) plough with them and my Steers at the Cook Field.

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 January 30 (Friday). At Eve I was in much Trouble about *Billy*, it being very Dark and Sometimes rainy. At length he came, and Mr. *Simon Tainter* with him, having another Yoke of Oxen, to assist him. They brought 18 Bushels of Indian Meal, and two of Rye bolted. Mr. Tainter lodged here.

1756 April 15 (Thursday). Mr. Daniel Forb.'s Son Daniel with 4 Oxen and Asher Newton with 4 Oxen likewise come to cross my field behind the Meeting House. Through a Mistake another set of Oxen did not come. We got Mr. Zebulun *Rice's*. His son Adam came and drove: and put in my own steers. My son Thomas assisted -- and with these was accomplished a good piece of work.

1756 April 16 (Friday). Mr. Jonah Warrin came with 4 Oxen, Ensign Harrington with 4 and Mr. Benjamin Tainter with 6, cross-ploughed the rest of my Field behind the Meeting House; and finished by 5 p.m. though it rained hard.

1756 May 12 (Wednesday). Billy, with Neighbour Barney Newtons Oxen, and Abners Cart goes with our steers to attempt a Load of Rails from Mr. *Moses Twitchels*.

1756 November 9 (Tuesday). N.B. Mr. Jonah Warrin with a Yoke of Oxen, *Billy* with his Brothers Oxen, and Mr. Nurse's Plough, ploughed part of my Field behind the Meeting House: but Mr. Warrin tarryed only a.m., the Coulter of the Plough being worn too much, and we could not get it immediately Mended. *Billy* having done Some small Jobbs with Ebenezers Oxen, went home with them before Night.

1756 November 10 (Wednesday). Mr. Jonah Warrin with his Oxen, and Billy with his Brothers plough again.

1756 November 16 (Tuesday). Billy has his Brothers Oxen and a Yoke of Mr. D. Hardy's, and Nathan Kenny helps him in ploughing; and in harrowing in Rye, in the field behind the Meeting House. Mr. Aaron Nurse sows the Grain.

1756 November 17 (Wednesday). Ebenezer with his Oxen, Mare and my Mare harrow the Field abovesaid, Billy driving, and Mr. Aaron Nurse sowing.

1757 January 4 (Tuesday). *Billy* with his Brothers Oxen goes to Marlborough for Sundrys my Wife bought of her Cousen Brigham, viz. Valences, [Head?] Cloth, Teister, Bed, Bolster, Pillows, and 1/2 Doz. Chairs.

1757 April 26 (Tuesday). Mr. Moses ploughs again, and with Neighbor Barny Newtons Oxen added to his, and my sons Steers break up the Balk next the Road.

1757 June 2 (Thursday). Ebenezer Setts out this morning with a Load of his Goods, for Brookfield, Mr. Hezekiah *Pratt* and his oxen with him, to help him. As I was over there, at t'other House to take leave of them (and carry them Some money to assist them in their Journey) So I was there this morning to help my wife in setting the Things that remain, in Order: and that Mr. Batherick may move into the House.

1757 June 17 (Friday). Neighbour *Barny Newton* breaks up a Field South East of my House with twenty Oxen: both yesterday and to Day.

1757 October 28 (Friday). P.M. with Capt. Woods Oxen, and Neighbour Barn. Newtons Cart, *Alex* carried over Cider Barrells to Mr. Bavericks, who makes Cider at Lt. Maynards and Alex brings five Home.

1757 November 5 (Saturday). *Alex* ploughed p.m. with a Yoke of Capt. Woods Oxen.

1757 November 7 (Monday). So cold we neither plough, nor can get Oxen if we could plow.

1757 November 14 (Monday). Fine Weather Still. Adam Rice p.m. with their Oxen gets out half a Dozen Load of muck.

1757 November 15 (Tuesday). Adam works for me; with *Barny Newtons* Oxen -- ploughs; and Sows a little Rye.

1757 November 19 (Saturday). Mr. Eleazar Whitney, and Joseph Harrington, likewise *Peter Blanc* from Mr. Benjamin Tainter, came with each of them a Yoke of Oxen and a plough, and sowed and ploughed in 3 Bushell of Rye for me. They dined here; and got done very Seasonably before Night. A great Kindness to me.

1758 April 17 (Monday). Adam Rice works for me -- ploughed stubble at the Island -- with my Ebenezers Steers, and Capt. Woods Oxen.

1758 May 10 (Wednesday). Ensign Harrington, Mr. Zebulon Rice, and Mr. Tainter with their Cattle and Hay to keep them and with Mr. Williams's and Capt. *Woods* Oxen (twelve, including my Sons) and Deacon Tainters plough broke up Some mossy and wild Grass Ground on the North East End of the Island next to Capt. Maynards Land. They dined here....

1758 September 7 (Thursday). Nathan came, but Alexander so full of pain he can't help him. Thomas has Such a Cough, he cant go into the Water. Disappointed also about the Oxen I had bespoke to get the Hay in with. It was the more perplexing because I had no great Reason from what Mr. Martyn answered me when I desired him to preach my Lecture to Day to expect him -- so that I was obliged to prepare, my Self. I hastily went up the Street to get Neighbour *Adonijah Rice*, but he was gone from Home. I went to *Barny Newton* who had an Hand with him -- but could not perswade him in any wise. In this extreme hurry and Confusion, the young man (Nathan) whom I had obtained so difficultly last night, now waiting and nobody to work with him,

I saw Deacon Tainter at Mr. Beetons Shop, and hearing him say he had been at Grafton yesterday and heard fine preaching there, the thought of our great Difficultys in this place for want of Help to get in our Hay which was suffering, there being so many sick in the Neighbourhood; more especially my own being obliged to let great part of my Grass, and some of the best of my meadow Grass, stand and die; and *that* I had with much trouble got cutt was in Danger of being lost (the thought of these and many more urgent things pressing upon me), I told the Deacon he should learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy and not sacrifice. You Mean says he, Mercy to Your Hay, dont you? I answered Yes -- and pass'd down the Road; for I was in a great Haste to find somebody that would go to work. But not succeeding at Neighbour Newtons, as aforesaid I returned to Beetons shop, and told the Deacon (in Mr. Beetons Hearing) that I would not leave what I had said without adding that I acknowledged he had been so kind and ready to help me, that there was no Man like minded -- what I said had this Effect, that he came down after me and pol'd out a Load of my Hay, with *Nathan*, to the shore. William Stone came from Lt. *Rolfs*, and poled, with *Nathan*, the rest to gather to be stacked: Thomas with the Boys got up the Load which was poled out (having Mr. Zebulon Rice's Oxen).

1758 September 20 (Wednesday). Mr. Jonah Warrin with a Yoke of Oxen, Abiel Chamberlin Sent by Mr. Tainter with 2 Yoke of Oxen, with Mr. Ebenezer Rice's Oxen ploughed my Field at the back of the Meeting House. Capt. Wood helped a.m.

1758 October 24 (Tuesday). 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.

1759 April 19 (Thursday). Ebenezer Rice junior comes with a Yoke of Oxen. *Alexander* and he split Hills.

1759 April 24 (Tuesday). Artemas Bruce came part of the forenoon to sow some Rye and Oates at the Island; and Mr. Tainter sent his Oxen and Mare with his Boy to plough.

1759 April 26 (Thursday). N.B. *Nathan Kenny* with Mr. Nurse's Oxen and Horse help in ploughing my Stubble Ground at the Island. P.M. have Mr. Ebenezer Rice's Oxen at that Work.

1759 May 8 (Tuesday). N.B. Neighbour *Joseph Baker* sends an Hand to plough. Capt. Woods and Neighbour Nurse's Oxen.

1759 September 24 (Monday). I rode to Lt. Forb. for Oxen -- to Mr. Gale's to get him to come and finish my Kitchin.

1759 September 25 (Tuesday). Mr. Benjamin Tainter with his Fathers Oxen and plough, Mr. Eliezer Williams with his Oxen, Mr. Timothy Warrins son Benjamin with a Yoke of Oxen, and Mr. Forb's Oxen, *Alexander* and *Samme* assisting, the further side of my Cook-Field is ploughed.

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 March 31 (Monday). N.B. Alexander and Breck go mid-afternoon with Capt. Woods Oxen and Cart, to the ministerial Lot, and bring 30 Posts -- but I was much concerned for them lest mischief Should befall them and walked to Capt. Rolfs. However, they returned well, through the Goodness of God.

1760 April 10 (Thursday). N.B. had Neighbour Barney Newtons Oxen, and Capt. Woods to plough stubble. *Samuel Lamb* (Capt. Woods young man) helps Alexander in it.

1760 April 17 (Thursday). At Mr. Timothy Warrins. P.M. he sends his son Joseph and a Yoke of Oxen to plough and harrow in order to sow spring Rye.

1760 April 18 (Friday). Thaddeus Warrin here again.

1760 April 25 (Friday). A Warm fine Day. We have Mr. Parkers Oxen to plough. Mr. Nurse sows Oats for me.... At the Island, Alex and Breck having got Mr. Parkers Oxen, ploughed in 3 Bushel of Oates -- Sown by Mr. Aaron Nurse.

1760 May 12 (Monday). I walk till I am weary to get some Ox Work to plough in order to planting my Orchard. Was at Mr. Warrins but he was not at home. I went there the rather because of Visiting Mrs. Warrin who grows worse. Went to Zebulun Rices. Sent to Barney Newtons in Vain. I went to Capt. Woods and reckoned with him. Gave him a Note for the whole. P.M. I visited Mr. Jacob Amsden and Lt. Bruce. Alexander ploughed a little of the orchard with Capt. Woods Oxen and broke the Beam.

1760 May 14 (Wednesday). Only the Boys plough this afternoon with Capt. Woods Oxen.

1760 July 12 (Saturday). Full of perplexity about my Hay, at the Island and *Bent Meadow*. Am obliged to go about among the Neighbours for a Team -- to Mr. *Zebulun Rice*, Capt. Wood, Neighbour Barney, Mr. Nurse, and Mr. Williams -- at last, have Mr. Nathan Maynards Cart, Mr. Williams oxen, [Neighbour Aaron?] Nurse to do the work: but not in person, Nathan *Kenny* actually goes and Mr. Nurse hoes for him.

1760 September 1 (Monday). Samuel Forb. with a Yoke of Oxen, and a Yoke from Mr. Zebulun Rice's, and another from Mr. Joseph Baker ploughed my Summer tilling Ground at the Island.

1761 April 8 (Wednesday). Alex and Breck, With Nathan Kenny, plow stubble at the Island p.m. N.B. one Yoke of Oxen of Mr. Nurse's, another of Mr. Williams.

1761 April 14 (Tuesday). Alex and Breck with Mr. Bakers oxen plough in the orchard 1 Bush. Barley.

1761 April 15 (Wednesday). Capt. Wood with two Teams -- his Son John and Levi Rice to assist, besides my two Boys to drive -- ploughs the rest of my Stubble at the Island: and finish by dinner, but they did not dine here.

1761 April 17 (Friday). Deacon Bond with a Yoke of Oxen plows and Sows for me peas, wheat etc.

1761 April 23 (Thursday). Mr. Edwards Whipple, Mr. Whitney and Capt. Wood assist me in Cutting a Well-Crotch in Capt. Maynards Land west of the Meeting House, and Mr. Zebulun Rice joins them in getting it home with 4 Oxen under a Drag. Mr. Whitney goes home, the rest dine with me: but it proved so rainy they could not get it up.

1761 May 7 (Thursday). Nathan *Kenny* with a Pair of Steers and Capt. Woods Oxen helps Alex get out Muck. P.M. Mr. Samuel Forb. plows at the Island.

1761 May 12 (Tuesday). Under Difficultys and Perplexitys about preparing our Ground for planting. But I obtained of Mr. Batheric to send his Son and his Oxen, and Mr. Samuel Forb. Oxen, to plough in the forenoon. We had a Scheme for harrowing p.m. but it fell through.

1764 September 11 (Tuesday). Mr. Kendal and his Brother Tainter with 3 Boys, Oxen, Horse and Ploughs, came kindly, and plowed stubble at my island. Sent p.m. for Neighbour Zebulun Rice to help in driving and clearing the plough. All Gratis.

1764 September 25 (Tuesday). Mr. Barnabas Newton with my Oxen, Capt. Woods, and Mr. Nathan Maynards, ploughed Stubble at my Cook Island.

1764 September 30 (Sunday). N.B. See my young Oxen from Brookfield this morning but know not who brought 'em home.

1764 October 1 (Monday). P.M. had Lieutenant Bakers two Yoke of Oxen to join with my own two Yoke to plow stubble at Cook Island. Nathan and Jonas *Kenny* helped me; and my John and Natty Chamberlin were also with the Team.

1764 November 8 (Thursday). N.B. Enoch Rice went with my two Yoke of Oxen to the ministerial Lot for Posts, but came home wholly empty. Mr. Maynard had cleared the Wood of Posts: whether he had carryed away more than his own I cannot positively tell.

1764 November 9 (Friday). My largest Oxen I have sent to My Son Ebenezer and to my Son in Law Baldwin, to be between them.

1765 January 1 (Tuesday). I was to have preached to Day at Mr. *Jonah Warrins*; but by reason of the Depth of the Snow I can't get there; and the Meeting must be deferred to another Month. We were wholly out of Loggs for the Fire: but Capt. Wood tackled an Horse to an Ox sled and

brought me five from home, or was forced to come from his wood, round by his own House. I thank God for such kind Neighbours and may He reward them!

1765 February 23 (Saturday). *Breck* has worked several Days for me. To Day he goes with my Oxen and fetches 4 or 5 hund. of Hay from t'other Barn.

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

1765 April 30 (Tuesday). Mr. Nurse's Team again. Thomas and John plow in the Orchard and Mr. Samuel Fay being here, he sows a Bushel of Barley for me, there. He is in great Trouble and Perplexity. Dines with us. Dismiss Mr. Nurse's Oxen and use his Horse only. Thomas plows in Barley and Oates in the Orchard.

1765 May 4 (Saturday). Thomas Still repairing the Fences at the Island. To do which he has my Oxen from Mr. Rice's and carries down Posts from here.

1765 May 13 (Monday). Thomas Arnold came again. He plows with my Oxen in the Cook Field.

1765 June 19 (Wednesday). Thomas Arnold with Capt. Woods oxen p.m. fetches 3 Load of the Soaked Ashes from the Potash works.

1765 June 26 (Wednesday). Letter from Billy, of the 18th that my Oxen and his Cow have strayed away from him.

1765 July 5 (Friday). At Night came *Breck* first, and afterwards Billy from Townshend. The Oxen are come home likewise.

1765 July 11 (Thursday). Foster has my Oxen (for his Service in killing for me) to fetch a Load of Clay from Mr. Pelatiah Rice's.

1765 August 9 (Friday). P.M. Billy from Townshend and brought home my Oxen.

1765 August 20 (Tuesday). Thomas Still carts Posts and Rails from the Ministerial Lot. I rode over to Capt. Maynard and told him I must either have 50£ of money for Billy, to be carried by Joseph Warrin to him tomorrow morning, or else I must be obliged to send him my Oxen.

1765 September 2 (Monday). Thomas fetches my Oxen from Mr. Tainters where they have been for some time. Thomas and John plow a while at the Island -- and before noon break off to go to preparing for getting Sand. This they accomplish p.m.: and bring a good Load.

1765 September 26 (Thursday). Thomas with my and with Capt. Woods Oxen draws off Stones from the Ground near Mr. Nurses. Jonas Kenny helps him, and dines here.

1765 October 8 (Tuesday). A Team of twenty oxen are breaking up my Field nigh Mr. Nurse's. Mr. Tainter undertook. Capt. Wood, Mr. Martin Pratt and Cornelius Biglow junior help -- and with them my Thomas Arnold. They break the Plow and break off 4 Hours, while Biglow who owns the plow goes over to Gashitts to get the Share mended.

1765 October 19 (Saturday). Thomas and John, with 4 Oxen, plow the Orchard. This Evening Thomas ceases to work for me.

1765 November 11 (Monday). Visit Young Richard Barns who was lately hooked in his Eye by an Ox.

1765 November 12 (Tuesday). N.B. John has been ploughing yesterday and to Day with my Oxen, at the Island, and preparing for sowing Rie. Yesterday Jonas Kenny helped him: to day Nehemiah Maynard.

1765 November 29 (Friday). Mr. Tainter, Capt. Wood, Mr. Martyn Pratt and Paul Biglow with 16 Oxen, to which are added Mr. Nurse's and mine, break up the rest of the further field.

1765 December 3 (Tuesday). Breck came from Townshend -- and brought Billys Oxen for me to keep.

1766 January 9 (Thursday). Billy and Breck make an Ox sled.

1766 March 3 (Monday). Billy fetches my Oxen from Mr. *Grouts*.

1766 March 10 (Monday). *Billy* having got mine and his own Oxen shod, and loaded his Cart with a great Variety -- his Chest -- Barrell of Meat -- Cyder etc. setts out, and Breck with him, for Townshend.

1766 March 11 (Tuesday). Have been much concerned about Billy, on his Journey by reason of the Lameness of my Oxen, which he has with him; and the Depth of the Snow clogging his Wheels.

1766 March 27 (Thursday). P.M. *Billy* comes home, has his and my Oxen and his Cart, with him -- leaves *Breck* at Townshend.

1766 March 31 (Monday). Mr. Joseph Grout takes Billy Oxen, to keep.

1766 April 7 (Monday). Thomas Arnold brought Billys Oxen from Mr. Joseph Grouts. With them and my 4 and Nathan Kennys, break up my West Pasture. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard, Nathan Kenny, and a son of Mr. Nathan Maynard with my John, are the Hands.

1766 April 10 (Thursday). Mr. Ebenezer Maynard with his Oxen, Nathan Kenny with his and our 6, plow again and finish in the west pasture.

1766 April 14 (Monday). Mr. Ebenezer Maynard and Levi Rice, each with Yoke of Oxen, and with mine plowed Beeton Field and Balks at the Island.

1766 April 15 (Tuesday). Ebenezer Maynard junior and Jonas, each with Oxen etc. plow the remainder -- takes till past 10 a.m. to do it.

1766 May 1 (Thursday). Caleb and John finish the muck.

1766 May 2 (Friday). They plow the great Field. My Steers are orderly, and joined with the oxen make Sufficient Team.

1766 May 8 (Thursday). *John* goes to Mr. Joseph Grouts and brings Billys Oxen. He gets Hay for his Journey, of Mr. Moses Nurse.

1766 May 9 (Friday). Billy Sets out on his Journey to Townshend, with his Cart and Oxen, and my Steers to make out his Team. He carrys various Goods -- his Desk, Curtains, Chairs, etc. *John* also goes with him to help drive his Cow and Calf, and two Yearling Heifers of mine.

1766 May 15 (Thursday). Furrowing a.m. Mr. John Kelly in affliction, trying to drive a very lame Ox, to Capt. Brigham's.

1766 June 16 (Monday). N.B. The nei[gh]bours in mending the Roads, lay a Great Stone, brought by many Oxen, to be the Bridge at Rutters Brook.

1766 July 12 (Saturday). John went with two Yoke of Oxen to the Forbes Saw Mill and brought a Load of good slabs to floor our Barn Bay before we put Hay into it -- and p.m. Caleb Strives to get home the Hay From the Meadow. Brings the most of it in one great Load.

1766 August 25 (Monday). Lt. Baker with 2 yoke of Oxen, Mr. Tainter with one Yoke, Mr. Joseph Grout with one Yoke, Mr. Pratts, Mr. Nurse's and my own with Capt. Maynards plough, crossed my new Field in Part.

1766 September 4 (Thursday). N.B. Mr. *Barnabas Newton* with a Yoke of Oxen, Levi Rice, with one Yoke, Caleb and John with my own Cattle and *Nathan Kennys* -- finished the Crossing my new Field.

1766 September 8 (Monday). N.B. Caleb has Lt. Baker's Oxen again, with Nathan Kennys and mine to harrow our New Ground.

1766 October 27 (Monday). Went to the *Pot-Ash* Works near my son's. P.M. he kills a large Ox.

1766 November 5 (Wednesday). Mr. Israel Walker here about buying or selling an Odd Ox: but I do not trade with him: he dines here.

1766 November 21 (Friday). Mr. *Solomon Miller* took my Oxen home, either for his Brother James or himself to keep them this Winter and Spring, with this Reserve that I may use them to pay Mr. Nurse the Ox Work that I owe him, and do my Spring work.

1766 December 1 (Monday). Deacon Tainter and Capt. Wood killed a young Ox for me. Weighed 21 Score.

1766 December 5 (Friday). Mr. Temple here, talks of buying my Single Ox, and my Calf.

1766 December 29 (Monday). At Eve Mr. Jonathan Grout here and we reckon. I paid him by a Note to the Constable. Only 36/ old Tenor for Pasturing and feeding the Ox which we killed.

1767 February 20 (Friday). *Jonas Kenny* brought home my Oxen unexpectedly, but the Roads are so very Slippery that they can't work. Send a Load of Ashes to Capt. Wood.

1767 April 7 (Tuesday). *John* with Cart and Oxen goes to Mill with 10 Bushels of [*blank*] and Six Bushels of [*blank*] to Mr. Whipple's Mill.

1767 April 13 (Monday). Mr. Samuel Thurston works here for Mr. Daniel Miller -- plowing with my Oxen and Capt. Woods.

1767 May 15 (Friday). Mr. Daniel Miller here and gives up all further Hope of my Oxen.

1767 August 21 (Friday). Temple and John, with 10 oxen a.m., with 12 Oxen p.m., plow in the further Field. Nathan Kenny and Nathan Maynard help 'em, and *Jacob Foster* is added p.m.

1767 August 27 (Thursday). John has my Oxen and Neighbour Nurse's Waggon. Brings it and a Bag of Apples and Cucumbers.

1767 September 14 (Monday). Mr. Nurse helps me part of the Forenoon and part of Afternoon, in harrowing and sowing Rye in W. Field. Had Deacon Woods Oxen.

1767 October 2 (Friday). Send an Ox which I am fattening, to Mr. Jonathan Grout to Pasture.

1767 October 17 (Saturday). John with my Oxen and Deacon Woods and his plough, and Henry Marble (from Mr. Barnabas Newtons) to drive, plows in the hither Part of the Island Field.

1767 October 29 (Thursday). John has brought home with my Oxen, 6 Bushels Turnips from Mr. Elijah Hardys at 7/6 but one Bushel is given: and one Barrel Cyder from Capt. Jonathan Fays (gratis).

1767 October 30 (Friday). John has (with my Oxen and Deacon Wood's) fetched home from Ministerial Lot 500 Posts; being the rest that Mr. Phinehas Maynard has got out for me.

1767 November 10 (Tuesday). Deacon Wood and Mr. David Maynard killed an Ox for me. The Weight of the Quarters, was 583 lb. And the Hide was 86. The Butchers dined with me....

1768 June 1 (Wednesday). Billy (having bought him an Horse and which he rode upon here) carries upon him the Tire which Beeton has made; with Sufficient Nails to fasten it on with. He also drives my Oxen before him, to *Ashby*.

1768 July 14 (Thursday). Mr. Nurse has brought my Oxen and new Cart, from *Ashby*.

1768 August 8 (Monday). It is a Time of Trouble and Loss with me by the frequent Rains. Several Acres of Rye reaped and exposed not only to the Weather, but Cattle, my Oxen and Cows have unhappily broke in upon the Stukes and torn them to Pieces. About half a Dozen Load of Hay at the Maynard Swamp, much of which we Should have got in before the sabbath: also what was lately mowed in my own new Swamp was fit to be carryed into the Barn, but is soaked by the heavy Showers -- and to Day the Weather is such that none of it can be touched -- but Richard Temple goes to reaping down more, though its showry and cant be gathered. Yet all is good which God Sends!

1769 October 5 (Thursday). Lt. Baker and Neighbour Newton plow in my further Field. My Sons assist, with my Oxen. Jonathan Tainter brought with their Team, a Barrell of Cyder and a Bag of Apples to cut and dry.

1769 December 15 (Friday). Sent John with a Yoke of Oxen to assist Mr. Fessenden in getting a Log to Mill. (It is instead of a Log which he cut upon the Ministerial Lot and improved for Plank which he sold to Lt. Baker.) This succeeded no further than that John cutt down a great black Oake, and Mr. Fessenden sends word, that he will come when there shall be Snow.

1770 January 19 (Friday). Mr. Nurse with Mr. Thaddeus Warrin go to the Ministerial Lot -- and having my Oxen, they draw with them and their own Teams 3 Logs to the saw-mill. But going late they come home late in the Evening.

1770 April 13 (Friday). *Elias* (my Grandson) with my Team, and Mr. *Nurse's* Oxen added, went to the *Mainard* Saw-Mill, and brought me the Rafters, or large Joists, which I have provided for the Support of the Floors of my Barn scaffolds.

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 May 22 (Tuesday). Alexander goes again to Framingham and Mr. Nurse with my Oxen and part of his own Team goes to bring up Alexanders Wife's Goods.

1770 May 30 (Wednesday). [Boston.] My Kinsman Nathaniel accompanys me to the bottom of the Common to See an Ox which was roasting whole. The Head, the Horns, the Tail on. The

Election Sermon was preached to the Court at *Cambridge*, but I was not able, without Violence, to go there, my Relatives beseeching me not to go. A Lecture was preached in Boston by Dr. Chauncy on Ps. 22.4. Mr. Mather prayed before sermon. A Fine Anthem closed as a Psalm began the Exercise. Dined in Fanuel Hall most Elegantly. Dr. *Chauncy* craved, and (called upon by the oldest Selectman, who was as Moderator, viz. Joshua Henshaw Esq.) I returned Thanks. There was Anthem -- Liberty Song -- Toasts -- the Roasted Ox surrounding the Hall -- Guns firing, frequent Cheers, etc.

1770 July 2 (Monday). Levi Leland gives me an Account of his Brother in Law *Fletcher's* Death -- that is, as far as he knew the Cause of it. Which was That he drove his Team furiously, Set them arunning, and the Pin of the Off-Ox Bow fell out, which Sat that Ox at Liberty; and the other Ox probably Struck Mr. Fletcher down and so the Wheel went over him and killed him.

1771 May 24 (Friday). Went to Mr. *Morse* and obtained Chestnut Timber for Posts for my Fence in the fore yard. *Breck* and *Joseph* go and hew and bring it with my Oxen.

1771 June 10 (Monday). P.M. I walked out to provide Oxen for a Breaking up Team.

1771 June 20 (Thursday). Deacon Wood and a Yoke of Oxen, Mr. Tainter with two Yoke, Mr. Nathan Maynard and one Yoke, Mr. Joseph Bond and one Yoke, Mr. Barnabas Newtons, Mr. Ebenezer Maynards, Mr. Beetons, Mr. Levi Warrins and my own, with Lt. Bakers great Plough, broke up the Corner of Land, north of my great Field. The plough was not good, or they would have plowed more, but they broke off by about 5 o'clock p.m.

1771 June 24 (Monday). Lt. Baker blooded my Oxen.

1771 September 7 (Saturday). Mr. Daniel *Forbes* here to buy my Oxen. Would give 80£ old Tenor but would have till next June to pay it upon Interest.

1771 September 24 (Tuesday). N.B. Mr. Francis Whipple junior buys my Oxen. Gives 80£ to be paid with Interest, the first of January next, and he drove them away.

1771 October 1 (Tuesday). I gave 8 Dollars to Lt. Baker towards buying a Yoke of Oxen for me, he owing me more than enough, with this, to pay the first payment for them.

1772 January 13 (Monday). Mr. Francis Whipple also paid 38£ 6/ in full for oxen he bought of me and took his Note which he gave me in Sept. last, for them.

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

1772 March 19 (Thursday). *Alexander* came and brought home my Oxen, but he returns to *Leicester* without Delay.

1772 March 21 (Saturday). Many people from the Several Quarters are assembled with Oxen to break through the Snow and make the Roads plain to the Meeting House.

1772 April 4 (Saturday). It is a Time of extraordinary Difficulty in travelling: but the Weather being fair, many Neighbours from North and South are trying to break ways through the Snow, not with yoked Oxen and sleds, as before; but they are driven single by reason of the heighth [sic] of the Drifts, which are Some of them above the Tops of Fences.

1773 April 16 (Friday). At Eve Mr. *Henry Quincy* and Lt. Baker who gives Account of his *Great Ox*, [*marginal notation: Drapers Paper for Apr. 8 says, the largest fat Ox ever Seen in America*] which he sold at *Boston* for 50£ lawful money, He weighed alive 2501 neat. Measured from his Nose to his Rump, 12 feet 2 inches. 9 feet [*illegible*] round: 5 feet, 11 inches high. 5 feet from top of Weathers to Br[*illegible*].

1773 April 19 (Monday). We undertook to break up what we have been wont to call the Middle Pasture. Assisting my Young Man with my 4 Cattle were Mr. Barnabas Newton with a Yoke of Oxen, Neighbour Nathan Kenny with Do., Neighbour Nathan Maynards Son Nehemiah with Do., Mr. Ebenezer Maynards and Mr. Joseph Bonds: in all 14 and Capt. Jonas Brigham's large Plough. "*Manus ad Stivam, Oculus ad Caelum!*"

1773 April 21 (Wednesday). Break up again. The Help was Lt. Harrington with a Yoke of Oxen, Mr. Nathan Kenny with Do., Mr. Silas Hill's Do., Mr. Joseph Bonds Do. Just before noon Mr. Thomas Frost work with his Cattle -- So that with mine there were still 14 Cattle at the Work.

1773 July 2 (Friday). My Cattle very disorderly caused my riding to Mr. Thomas Bonds and Mr. *Levi Warrins* to try to change away an unruly Ox.

1773 July 12 (Monday). We are thrown into perplexity by means of having sent away one of my Oxen to Mr. Baldwins pasture at *Coi's Hill* and depending upon Lt. *Bakers* young Man driving with Some of theirs, one of my young Oxen down from thence to mate the Ox which was left behind at home, the Said young Man has returned without mine, and in the mean time we are forced to be at the Charge of getting Oxen at our Neighbours to get in our Hay.

1773 July 17 (Saturday). *John* (who came home last night with the Ox, much fatigued) brought me an Answer from Mr. *Bradshaw*, that he would (D.V.) Supply *Grafton*.

1773 August 30 (Monday). Messrs. Barnabas Newton, Joseph Bond, with four Oxen apiece -- joined to my Team, Jonathan with them -- but Elias only a.m., break up at the Island.

1773 October 1 (Friday). At Eve Neighbour Newton with his Oxen, assist in plowing, and a Number of Neighbours in levelling the Knoll at the back of the House.

1773 October 29 (Friday). I was obliged to assist in preparing for the work designed this Evening. Went to Mr. *Newtons* and Deacon *Woods* etc. to ask my Neighbours to come. Accordingly a Small

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

1773 November 12 (Friday). My Son *Baldwin* here: he has sold my Sp[ar?]ked Ox for six pounds thirteen and four pence to Mr. William *Watson* of *Brookfield*, for which I have his Note of Hand.

1774 January 26 (Wednesday). Breck has got Mr. Joseph *Bond* to go to the Ministerial Lot, breaking the way from Mr. *Beetons*, and Sledding a Load. Elias with my Oxen were there also.

1774 February 21 (Monday). A number of persons came and got wood for me at the Lot which is called Capt. Ephraim Brigham's. Eight went to Cutt, viz. Messrs. Nathan Townsend, Benjamin Fay junior, *Arthur Cary* (from Deacon Wood), *Joseph Keenes* (from Lieut. *Baker*), John Fay, *Richard Temple*, *Timothy Parker*, *Abel Tenny*, from Mrs. Spring. And John Parkman joined them. The following Neighbours sledded, viz. Lt. Baker with two Teams, 4 Oxen apiece. Mr. Barnabas Newton with 4 Oxen. Capt. Benjamin Fays Team 4 Oxen, drove by his son Stephen. Deacon Wood sent a yoke of Oxen to join with mine, and Mr. Jonathan Grout drove them. They all went Twice; and Mr. Moses Nurse also brought one Load. In all Eleven Load. At night, the most of them Supped here. May God reward them and bountifully! And grant me Grace to improve the Benefit!

1774 February 23 (Wednesday). Mr. *Bond*, hired by Breck, sledded two Load of wood, and Jonathan Maynard with his Fathers Oxen and mine, two more. 4 to day.

1774 February 24 (Thursday). John Fay works for me from Day to Day in cutting wood in the Brigham Lott -- day to Day. And *Elias* a.m. sleds with our Team. P.M. Breck p.m. goes to *Lancaster*; and we have added to my oxen (instead of Breck's mare), Dr. *Hawes's* steers, and his young man to drive. Mr. Joseph Bond sleds to Day likewise. They brought home, in all, to day, Six Load.

1774 December 29 (Thursday). The Snow is so very deep that one *Hezekiah Haden* with two strong Teams going to *Boston* was stopt at Deacon *Woods*, and cant get along with his Loads. A Number of Neighbours come with their Teams to his help and break the way with great Difficulty. *Elias* goes with my Oxen as far as *Andrews's*.

1775 April 7 (Friday). P.M. one of my Cows, having got her Horn in the Hay Rack which stands abroad, an Ox came and hooked her; upon which she wrenched off the Horn, and left the Pith naked.

1775 April 18 (Tuesday). At Eve I walk'd to Deacon *Woods* to borrow Oxen for plowing.

1775 April 19 (Wednesday). Mr. Joseph *Bond* with his Cattle, [*illegible*] *Lamb*, with *Nathan Maynards*, Deacon *Woods* Oxen with my own, plowed the rest of the Mid field.

1775 November 30 (Thursday). [*blot*] Though *Samuel Williams* had so fairly agreed to go to cutting to day, yet he went not. But *Nat. Chamberlain* went, and cut there, and *Nathan Maynard* junior went with my Cart and Oxen, and a small pair of Cattle of his own, to the Lot, and brought two load home, but not quite a Cord.

1775 December 12 (Tuesday). A very cold Season. *Nat. Chamberlain* goes to the Ministerial Lot with Mr. *Joseph Bonds* Oxen added to mine and brings one Load of Wood, but it is so rough going that he goes not in the afternoon; but *Joseph Cullock* thrashes Rye P.M.

1775 December 15 (Friday). Great Numbers of Oxen and Hogs are killed from time to time at Capt. *Bakers* -- many also at Deacon <Capt.> *Woods*.

1776 January 2 (Tuesday). Went to Capt. *Bakers* and Saw the great Market there for Oxen, Hogs etc. I dined there with a Number of their Butchers etc.

1776 January 4 (Thursday). Neighbour N. *Chamberlain* goes to the Lot, with my Team, my Oxen and two Horses (*Brecks* and *Samuels*), but the going is so difficult, that he brings only one Load of Wood.

1776 January 12 (Friday). Straitened for Wood. *Nath. Chamberlain* went with my Oxen, my son *Samuels* Horse, and *Benjamin Clark* to the Ministerial Lot and brought some wood (not a full Load) for present supply.

1776 October 4 (Friday). Having no Body to help me, my Business abroad has miserably Suffered. No *Rowing* cut -- Bushes unmowed, the few Apples are lost: no plowing done, and yet keep Oxen, Mare and plough, for want of an Hand to take hold of it! Almost no Wood; but no Body to go and fetch [more?].

1776 November 20 (Wednesday). Mr. *Samuel Forbush* Sends his son *Coollidge* and a Yoke of Oxen, Mr. *Ebenezer Forbush* Sends *Asa* and Yoke of Oxen and they with *James Hicks* and my Oxen, plow all day in the Stubble at the Island, near the Brook.

1776 December 10 (Tuesday). Mr. *Francis Whipple* brought me very kindly a Load of his own Wood. This was a very providential Supply, as we were prevented going to the Ministerial Lot for any ourselves by means of the Lameness of one of my Oxen.

1776 December 16 (Monday). I walked to Mr. *Bonds*, in strait for Ox work, my own Ox that was lent, is lame yet, and we cannot get any Wood -- but in vain.

1776 December 17 (Tuesday). I went to his Brother *Josephs*, who has in kindness sent *Samuel Williams* with 2 Yokes of Oxen to the Ministerial Lot, and brought me a good Load of Wood.

1776 December 26 (Thursday). A very tedious snow storm. *Elias* went with my Oxen but before it was violent, and Neighbour *Nehemiah Maynard* went with him, with addition to the Team, and brought a Load of Wood (for which *Breck* pays him). And Capt. *Morse* had Compassion and brought a Load from home to me; and a large, good Cheese.

1776 December 27 (Friday). *Nehemiah Maynard* goes again with a Yoke of Oxen to Ministerial Lot [to help *Elias* again?], who goes with my Oxen, and brings [a?] Load.

1777 February 15 (Saturday). Two Teams, Six Oxen apiece, drove by Mr. Samuel Williams and [blank] Parker from Squire Baker, go to the ministerial Lott and bring two Load, each of them.

1777 February 25 (Tuesday). *The great Storm continues*. P.M. turns partly to Rain. Deacon *Wood* and a Number more, with a Number of Oxen, and mine are joined, try to break the Road down to *Johnsons at Southborough*.

1777 February 27 (Thursday). *Marble*, who tryed yesterday to break a way to the Ministerial Lott but could not get through, attempts again to Day, with the Assistance of [Stephen?] *Maynard* and Dr. *Hawes Oxen*; And bring a light Load.

1777 April 2 (Wednesday). *Breck* went for me to Mr. *Israel Allen's* at Shrewsbury to buy me a Pair of Oxen, and bargained for them but *it was with his Wife*.

1777 April 3 (Thursday). *Breck* went up again for the Oxen -- *but they were gone*. However, he bought, and paid for, another pair, of Mr. *Elnathan Pratt*. They are Six years old -- of Six foot Dimensions. Price £17.10.

1777 May 13 (Tuesday). *Sangor* went with my Cart and Oxen to Mr. *Thomas Whitneys*. Brought 400 lb. of Fowl-Meadow Hay.

1777 June 25 (Wednesday). Mr. *Levi Warrin* has my Oxen to go to *Boston*.

1777 November 11 (Tuesday). My Older Oxen are come from Squire *Bakers Templetown Pasture*; I went to the Squires, and committed them to him to kill and dispose of as He thinks best for my Advantage: but he must provide me a good Cow for my Beef, and I think I must have at least a side of one of them.

1777 November 18 (Tuesday). Also at squire *Bakers*, who has my Fatt Oxen to kill and dispose of.

1777 November 22 (Saturday). *Elias* brings me return from Squire Baker that they who he employs in Business have killed my fat Oxen -- the weight of which [blank].

1778 January 7 (Wednesday). After dinner, *Alexander* has my Oxen to *Godfrys* that they may be shod, and that he may take them with him to *Leicester*, in order to his having them in his Journey to No. 5, or *Marlborough* in *New Hampshire*.

1778 February 13 (Friday). Squire *Baker* Sent Three Teams, viz. 12 Oxen in two of them and four Horses in the third: bringing 3 Loads of Wood from his own Lot: drove by Mr. James Bellows, Eleazer Wheelock and Isaac Forbush. All of them dined here.

1778 March 7 (Saturday). *Alexander* Came at Midnight from *Marlborough* in *New Hampshire*, where his Family now is, and has also driven home my Oxen.

1778 May 7 (Thursday). P.M. I walked up to Squire *Bakers* with a View to put off my Oxen; but did not succeed.

1778 July 20 (Monday). Went up to Squire *Bakers* to reckon with him about the Oxen he had of me last Fall, and Beef I had of him in the winter [following?] He was at home -- but we were not able to [finish the whole?].

1778 August 24 (Monday). I went to Squire *Bakers* -- reckoned with him: and received the Ballance between the Oxen which he had of me, and the Cow which I had of him -- viz. 999 lb. @ 9d per pound. It amounted to 37£ 9.3 and he paid me 37.10.0. I dined there.

1778 September 19 (Saturday). *Isaac Forbush* comes to buy my Oxen -- says they are worth 80£ (lawful money) -- but Mr. *Isaac Parker* having them and bespoke them I can't sell them.

1778 November 9 (Monday). Mr. Timothy Whitney was here to trade with me about my Oxen. Mr. *Isaac Parker*, where they have been kept, having refused to give what one after another judged they were worth, viz. Eighty Pounds L.M.

1778 November 10 (Tuesday). Mr. Timothy Whitney has got my oxen and pays me 40£ L.M., and gives me his Horse for 40£ more in three months with interest.

1778 November 13 (Friday). Old Mr. Nathan Maynard came with a yoke of oxen. Ben Wood with a yoke and my Tim. fetches a yoke of Squire's and his plough, and they plough the Orchard, and a while at the Island.

1779 May 31 (Monday). Breck receives of me £300 which I commit to him as either lending it to him or partly to pay for a yoke of oxen bought of Mr. Crooks for £200, and the remaining 100 to trade with as may be most prudent to save the sinking.

1779 June 2 (Wednesday). Ephraim Parker is preparing to go with the Oxen and Horse to Waltham for earthen Ware.

1779 June 16 (Wednesday). Mr. Aaron Smith came -- dined with us -- Lt. Bond, and with him a yoke of Oxen and Horse -- my Eph. Parker with my oxen and Breck's mare go on in plowing fallow ground at the Island.

1779 November 22 (Monday). Ephraim Parker comes up this evening to reckon with me for his nine months Work for me: first for six months, and for them asks my biggest Oxen, for which I am told I may have £500, and for the other three months as the price is stated. But he would have me ask Advice of my Neighbors.

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 January 18 (Tuesday). As no Team of Oxen or Horses can pass, people are obliged to go to Mill with Hand Sleds. Elias went today with a Bushel of Indian.

1780 March 23 (Thursday). Mr. Stone and I walked up to Squire Baker's to the stones and to see 4 great Oxen, of uncommon Bigness and Fatness.

1780 April 25 (Tuesday). Hopkins goes to work -- uses my Steers and Deacon Wood's Oxen and Harrow and Ben Wood helps, in harrowing and getting out muck.

1780 June 2 (Friday). I went to Mr. Isaac Parker's to see what he would do about working for me instead of his Br. Ephraim, some of whose Time remains to be made up, and to make some Agreement with him to take my Young Oxen to keep.

1780 July 24 (Monday). Mr. Biglow comes again to reap. Capt. Fisher works at the Interval partly for me, helping Elias in getting the Hay there ready, and Elias brings home one Load, having Deacon Wood's Oxen added to our Team: and Elias carries one Load of the Interval Hay to Capt. Fisher, and at eve he fetches home one Load of Rye.

1780 July 28 (Friday). Mr. Bigelow reaps a.m. Elias also. Breck took a morn-spell at it. Deacon Wood has the Oxen part of a.m. Breck has them p.m. He sends them down to meet a Teemer, who is bringing up a Load from Boston.

1780 August 30 (Wednesday). Exceedingly taken up with the Creatures breaches for want of Feed -- especially my Oxen.

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 4 (Wednesday). Mr. Nathan Maynard came with a yoke of Oxen, Dr. Hawes' Oxen and my own, having Squire's Plough, and Mr. Joseph Harrington's Lad, namely Aaron Miller and

Capt. Wood's son Benj. to drive and they plowed part of my West Field and left it in a broken condition.

1780 October 9 (Monday). Jonathan Frost with my Oxen, Oliver Death with two yoke of Oxen from Squire Baker's, and Joel Kenney to help to driving, plowed in the West Field.

1780 October 14 (Saturday). Mr. Ebenezer Maynard very kind in sowing and harrowing, both yesterday till afternoon and today a.m. with his son and yoke of Oxen. He did it gratis.

1780 October 27 (Friday). to plow for me. We try the new Horse my son Alexander sent me, and with my Oxen I have a sufficient Team for splitting ----- (?) and harrowing in Rye.

1780 October 31 (Tuesday). Breck and Brigham have a drove of Oxen brought to sell.

1780 November 16 (Thursday). Mr. James Gibson here to buy my young Oxen.

1781 January 4 (Thursday). Mr. *Jonathan [illegible]ains* junr. came, and afterwards his Uncle Squire *Baker*, and bought my young Oxen, for 200£ to be paid in a Month or Six weeks, according to the present Value of Money, and with Lawful Interest from this day. Mr. *Adams* drove away the Oxen.

1781 April 19 (Thursday). Mr. *Brigham* has brought a Yoke of Oxen, and to day *Moulton* uses them.

1781 April 23 (Monday). When I arrived at home, I found that Mr. Brigham had Set John *Moulton* to plow the rest of the great Field beyond the Meeting House, has Neighbour *Nathan Maynard* and his Oxen to help; and thinks to go on with plowing the Ground beyond the Meeting House, up to the Burying place.

1781 October 22 (Monday). I went up to Squire *Bakers* after Money for my Oxen: but did not succeed.