

Dr. Richard Perkins (1730-1813) of Framingham

Richard Perkins (1730-1813), Harvard 1748, practiced medicine in Framingham. After his marriage in 1760, he settled in Bridgewater.

1736 March 10 (Wednesday). Variously taken up with Visits and Business. At Mr. Fennels' (Bookseller) Shop -- Dr. John Perkins² there. He informs me that many in Town are sick of the Kingston Distemper,³ and that more dye of it than a while agoe -- however (through Divine Mercy) no proportion to what have dyed at the Eastward.

1754 January 28 (Monday). Dr. Perkins of Framingham informs me that Mr. Benjamin Goddard, who was with me last Tuesday, dy'd last Night.

1754 September 11 (Wednesday). At Eve came Dr. Perkins, and Mr. Hezekiah Coolidge and lodg'd here.

1754 September 12 (Thursday). General Muster of Colonel Williams Regiment. 5 Southern Companys at Mendon with Grafton Troop: 8 Companys of Foot and one Troop at Westborough. I pray'd with Captain Bakers Company at the Meeting House. Had Captain Baker's Horse to ride over to the Field which was in Captain Maynards Pasture. Dr. Perkins and Mr. Coolidge rode with me.... Dr. Perkins, Mr. Asaph Rice and Mr. Baldwin, together with Mrs. Molly Martyn lodge here.

1754 September 13 (Friday). Dr. Perkins and Mr. Rice and Mr. Baldwin, as also Mr. Hezekiah Coollidge return home.

1757 December 27 (Tuesday). Visited cousen Abigail P____ who last week sold her Husbands the late Dr. Elias P____'s Books, in main part, at Vendue, but got but little for 'em. I dined at Dr. Perkins's.

Mr. Fennel, bookseller

Dr. John Perkins

Parkman was undoubtedly familiar with reports of the outbreak of diphtheria in Kingston, New Hampshire. See *Boston News-Letter*, Aug. 21 and 28, 1735; *Boston Gazette*, Aug. 25, 1735; *New-England Weekly Journal*, Aug. 26, 1735.