

## Rye

1726 April 9 (Saturday). N.B. The 5th and 6th Neighbor Clark and his Son ploughed (with my Mare and Mr. Wards Horse) my Stubble, and the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9th Neighbor Clark with my Boy went on (as aforesaid) in ploughing and sowing of Wheat and Rye and Barley.

1736 August 3 (Tuesday). A Melancholly Time as to English Corn whether [reap'd], or standing, and as to Hay. My whole Field of Rie Standing or rather lying down by the Several Storms upon it, which has given great Advantage to the [*illegible*] which together very much pull and keep it down. And I have a Load or Two of Hay abroad -- some in Swarth and some in Cock. Mr. Increase Wards wife<sup>1</sup> here. Very rainy towards Eve and in the Eve. Mrs. Ward tarried all night.

1736 August 13 (Friday). N.B. David in my absence had cut and carryed in my Crop of Rie -- and mowed and got up the remainder of the Hay. Mr. Ithamar Bellows helped him one Day -- so that now Haying was over both at home and at the Meadow -- unless a few bottoms to be raked or Such like. David had also pulled my Hemp and bound it up.

1738 February 15 (Wednesday). Jotham Maynard thrashing Rye.

1738 February 16 (Thursday). Jotham Maynard thrash'd Rye, and p.m. he clean'd it up. 5 ½ Bushels.

1738 April 14 (Friday). David Batherick again. He Sow'd Rye.

1738 April 20 (Thursday). John Rogers wrought for me -- ploughed in Rye and Barley.

1738 August 9 (Wednesday). Eliezer Rice and John Rogers carted Hay from the Meadow. Two Load apiece. Moss Mowing in the Morning and raking and Cocking the rest of the Day. At Night the Carters got in my Rie into the Barn, almost wholly.

1738 September 1 (Friday). Mr. Pannell and his son came to my Rye-Thrashing. They went home at Night.

1738 September 2 (Saturday). Mr. Panel and his son came again to Thrashing and finish'd the Rye, Moss gathering up and pikeing the Stalks.

1738 October 5 (Thursday). Old Mr. Maynard Winnow'd 12 Bushels and nigh 3 Pecks of Rice [*sic*] for me. N.B. Mr. Pannel had winnow'd 2 Bushels before.

1738 November 7 (Tuesday). Mr. Tainter Sow'd and plough'd in Rye for me.

1739 October 2 (Tuesday). Sam Bumpso thrash'd Rye for me.

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<sup>1</sup>Ruth Ward, wife of Increase, was admitted to the Westborough church, Aug. [8?], 1731 (WCR, 28).

1739 October 12 (Friday). Samuel Bumpso thrashing Rye.

1740 April 16 (Wednesday). Jonathan Tainter and Sam Hicks ploughed in Rye.

1740 August 9 (Saturday). Mr. Biglo and How with him reap'd half an acre of Rye, so that it was all secur'd at once.

1740 September 26 (Friday). Mr. Thomas Billings came for Lieutenant Holloway and Sow'd nigh Three pecks of Rye upon my New Ground on the South Side.

1740 November 3 (Monday). Marritt and Dunton finish'd thrashing my Rye, and p.m. Cut Wood.

1740 November 10 (Monday). Mr. Warrin winnow'd my Rye. 11 Bushels and a Peck.

1742 July 27 (Tuesday). *Mary Joslin* dyed yesterday and her Brother *Isaac* to Day of the Throat Distemper. They sent for me but I was not at home, neither would my Affairs permitt me to go when I did get home -- my Rye and Wheat upon Spoil I was obliged to look up a Reaper.

1742 July 30 (Friday). Mr. *Biglo* and *Pierce* reaping my Rye and *John Rogers* at the Meadow with *Thomas*. They brought home one Load but got mired with the next, broke the Axle tree, and therefore left the Load and raked and Cocked the rest. A Terrible Storm of Thunder and Sharp Lightning, vehement wind and Rain at Evening but God was gracious and almighty to preserve us.

1742 July 31 (Saturday). *Thomas* brought home a Load of Hay from the Meadow and got in our Rye.

1742 December 28 (Tuesday). Thomas Winchester thrashing Rye.

1742 December 29 (Wednesday). Thomas Winchester thrashing Rye.

1742 December 30 (Thursday). Thomas clear'd up the Rye.

1744 January 16 (Monday). Neighbour Wheeler here, he brought 2 Bushels of Rie at 16 shillings per Bushel.

1744 January 30 (Monday). Another Town Meeting upon my support etc. They voted but £200 -- Old Tenor. The North Side very Resolute. They urg'd that the Town gave me last year more than I needed or desir'd, that provisions were cheaper, etc., whereas I never gave so much as for both my Beef and my Rie -- and also for Labour.

1744 March 21 (Wednesday). Captain Forbush here, and told me that Considering the Town had not granted sufficiency for my Support he would send me a Bushel of English Grain, Wheat and Rye.

1744 April 11 (Wednesday). Thomas Sowing Rie in the lower Field.

1744 July 12 (Thursday). Ensign Bruce here in the Morning. Some time before noon he Sent me his son Jonathan who reap'd down my Winter Rye, 6 Shock, and we got it into the Barn at Evening.

1744 July 23 (Monday). Thomas mow'd at Lieutenant Tainters for Mr. Dunlops reaping Rye this Same Day for me.

1744 July 24 (Tuesday). The last of our Home Cutt Hay got into the Barn. Thomas Reap'd Rye the rest of the Day.

1744 September 18 (Tuesday). Thomas thrash'd rye.

1744 October 24 (Wednesday). Thomas Winchester carting Dung and clear'd up Rye.

1745 July 22 (Monday). Ebenezer having been somewhat poison'd by his working in the Meadow last week, goes not today with Thomas, but Reap'd Rye.

1745 July 23 (Tuesday). Ebenezer at the Rye.

1745 July 24 (Wednesday). Ebenezer at the Rye.... At Eve I help'd Ebenezer in his unloading Hay and Carting in a Turn of Rye.

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

1745 November 8 (Friday). Was oblig'd to preach my Lecture myself. Repeated from 2 Cor. 5.1. N.B. did not know that I had repeated this Sermon before. N.B. Ebenezer plough'd in Rye.

1745 December 24 (Tuesday). Daniel How thrashing Rye with Ebenezer. Thomas Winchester came and Thrash'd a.m. and p.m. kill'd Two Piggs which weigh'd about 100 apiece.

1745 December 27 (Friday). Ebenezer and Thomme thrash'd Rye.

1745 December 28 (Saturday). Ebenezer winnow'd some Rye.

1746 January 4 (Saturday). Thomas and Ebenezer thrash'd Rye. Ebenezer was hurt on his Eye and Cheek Bone by the breaking of Thomas's Swingill, or beating his own against him.

1746 January 10 (Friday). Thomas Thrashing Rye Still. Ebenezer daily with him.

1746 April 14 (Monday). Thomas sowing Rye.

1746 July 19 (Saturday). Late in the forenoon came Elijah Warrin and afterwards Mr. Dunlop came and reap'd my Winter Rye, and bound it and got it in to the Barn. Exceeding good Rye for the bigness of the Piece. Blessed be God!

1746 July 31 (Thursday). Morn much as yesterday, no reaper, yet the Day prov'd fit. My Sons to the Meadow. This Day I thought I would even go to the Meadow to see what they did there, and towards night I did so.

1746 August 1 (Friday). Isaac Amsden and Jonathan Devereux (the latter Sent by Captain Maynard) reap'd a.m. but the Rain came upon them and beat them off for this Day.

1746 August 2 (Saturday). Bright good Day. The Rye Cutt yesterday to be turn'd and taken up. Considerable Hay lies in swarth at the Meadow -- and what to be reap'd So that I have no little Care upon me to interrupt me though I can do none of the Labour. Cattle and Hoggs often breaking in. How many Times my Soul is oppress'd in this manner!

1747 January 5 (Monday). A.M. my sons thrash'd Rye.

1747 January 6 (Tuesday). My sons thrash Rye.

1747 January 7 (Wednesday). My sons thrashing Rye.

1747 January 12 (Monday). The Rye Ebenezer has got out is 10 Bushels which (with 2 Bushel got out before and sown before Winter) makes our Winter Rye 12 Bushels.

1747 July 17 (Friday). Mr. Dunlop and Mr. Martyn Pratt came to reap Rye for me. P.M. Joseph Grout came to reap also. They got the Southside down and Load in, the other part was Shock'd in the Field.

1747 November 11 (Wednesday). Ebenezer sows Rye about this Time.

1747 November 20 (Friday). Mr. Jonathan Rogers thrash'd out some of my Rye for himself to Sow. He din'd with us.

1748 July 15 (Friday). Mr. Dunlop came and reap'd in my Rye Field. Ebenezer assisted him. At Eve he went to Marlborough....

1748 July 16 (Saturday). Ebenezer return'd. He reap'd, and various Jobbs took up the Day.

1748 July 18 (Monday). Mr. Dunlop came and reap'd a.m. and Samuel Burnap so came gratis and mow'd. Rain part of the Day. They got in one Load of Rye before the Rains. Mr. Dunlop went away p.m. after reaping a while. They all (of 'em) got down the Rie.

1748 October 4 (Tuesday). Was at Mr. Knowltons who was very kind favouring me with Rie meal and a Quarter of Mutton which I brought home with me for we had great need of them being in hopes of divers Hands tomorrow to gather and husk my Corn -- and had no Body that I could send so far to mill as Mr. Drury's.

1748 December 26 (Monday). Ebenezer thrashing Rye.

1748 December 27 (Tuesday). Ebenezer thrashing.

1749 July 5 (Wednesday). Ebenezer and Thomas reaping Rye, of which I have a very likely piece.

1749 July 8 (Saturday). Rain in the Morning. Clear'd off afterwards So that Ebenezer and Thomas hoed Rye into the Indian Hills -- but could not meddle with the Hay that lies out both in Cock and Swarth.

1749 July 17 (Monday). Mr. Dunlop was So kind as to Reap gratis for me (which Joseph Bowker had done also whilst I was from home last Week). A pritty good Crop of Rye, through the Divine Bounty.

1749 August 4 (Friday). Out of Rye. Ebenezer and Thomas p.m. thrash'd.

1749 September 1 (Friday). Ebenezer and Thomas cutting Stalks -- Thrashing Rye etc.

1750 July 12 (Thursday). Ebenezer and Joseph reap Rye and did not go to Lecture.

1750 July 13 (Friday). Ebenezer and Joseph, besides what they do about the Hay, reaped and got in part of the Rye. It has been, now for Some Time a wondrous growing Season. Might our Hearts be as fruitful and flourishing!

1750 October 6 (Saturday). Jonathan Smith helps Ebenezer Thrash Rye.

1751 April 4 (Thursday). Ebenezer sowing Rye.

1751 July 17 (Wednesday). Neighbours John Rogers and John Frost reap Rye, p.m. but do not get it down, though it be but an Acre.

1751 July 18 (Thursday). Thomas takes a Vomit. Neighbours John Rogers and Frost reap'd again, a.m., and din'd with us.

1751 July 26 (Friday). Ebenezer mows. Thomas and William reap Rye.

1751 August 19 (Monday). N.B. was at Mr. Gershom Brighams who made me a present of Cheese -- and visited Mr. Samuel Fays Wife: but din'd at Mr. Joseph Knowltons who gave me 3/4 Bushel Rye.

1751 October 29 (Tuesday). N.B. Jonathan Bond junior (a Lad) who with my Billy and my Team plough'd in Rye at my Island.

1751 October 30 (Wednesday). Jonathan Bond and Billy plough'd in Rye again.

1751 November 5 (Tuesday). Sam. Bumpso has been thrashing wheat and Rye for Ebenezer for some Time.

1752 July 9 (Thursday). N.B. Mrs. Mary Steward visited us and left a present in silver (50/ old Tenor) in new linnen Cloth for Shirts for several of my little Children, and in some Rie meal, to the Value of near 5£ old Tenor.

1752 July 22 (Wednesday). Aaron Warrin mows, rakes, and Carts from Ministerial Meadow. I walk'd there, and to Mr. Greens. Rode his Horse to Mr. Knowltons. His son Henry works in the Meadow p.m. Aaron Warrin got home one Jagg of 11 Cocks -- ventures into the Meadow with the Team for Second and getts mir'd, boggled and belated -- came home with 8 Cocks in the Rain and Dark -- and is sick in the night o'bed. Ebenezer Forbush brings me 12 Cocks from the Rie Meadow and Joseph Bruce helps unload it.

1752 July 23 (Thursday). Morning Cloudy, doubtfull Weather -- but Aaron goes to the Meadow again. P.M. I rode down to Messrs. Daniel and Timothy Warrin, to get them to Cart for me some of the Hay from the Rie Meadow.

1752 July 28 (Tuesday). A poor Night again with pain. A.M. to Mr. Ebenezer Rice's to get Mr. Dunlop to reap, he having long disappointed me, yet it is Winter Rie and suffers. Mr. Jonathan Bellows reaps from about 11 a.m. till night -- and p.m. Mr. Dunlop and Short Richard Kelly come from Mr. Ebenezer Rice's and reap. My son Billy also reaps.

1753 January 22 (Monday). N.B. I sell my Turkeys to Mr. Bond for Rye. The Turkeys at 20/ apiece and Rye at 25 per Bushel.

1754 May 21 (Tuesday). We are also out of Rye, and when I was about to go out p.m. Mr. Isaac Johnson of Southborough came to desire me to go and see his Father in his last Minutes (as they apprehend), Mr. Stone being gone with his Wife to Mr. Martyns. It was exceeding difficult for me to go, yet I went.

1754 August 1 (Thursday). Joseph Bowman and Richard Kelly reap'd, bound up and with Mr. Timothy Warrins Team Carted in my Rye -- Thomas and Billy helping them.

1754 November 19 (Tuesday). Neighbour Moses Nurse plough'd Indian Hills for me in order to Sow Rye.

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.

1755 July 31 (Thursday). Went to Mr. Richard Kelly to get him to reap my Rye.

1755 August 5 (Tuesday). Was at Mr. Jonas Twitchells. He had given me Encouragement that he would work for me and he had told me he Should very gladly pay his Rates this Way -- but when it came to, disappointed me. He allow'd he had said to me that he thought I might depend upon him. This was the Reason of my saying any thing to him. The Collector also having told me that this man would help me, I ask'd him now to help me but so much only of tomorrow as to bind and shock up my Rye (being but an acre and quarter of it) but he answered me indecently -- So that I left him; and was much offended with him. Went to Mr. Rody Smiths, who was also to have work'd for me; but neither could I get him.... Mr. Batheric and Ebenezer Forbush reap'd the piece which the Reapers Yesterday had left.... At Evening Messrs. John Rogers and Rody Smith assisted by John and Silas Frost, gather'd up and bound my Rye, and Neighbour Rogers came with his Team and brought it home. This was done gratis.

1755 August 20 (Wednesday). Mr. Dunlop also comes to take Care of my Wheat, drie and thrash some of it.

1755 September 17 (Wednesday). Mr. Nichols came to Work -- he thrash'd Rye -- Billy with him.

1755 September 18 (Thursday). Mr. Nichols cleans up Rye and remainder of Wheat which Dunlop thrash'd, and mow'd Bushels in the New broke up Land.

1755 September 19 (Friday). Nicols still at work for me -- mows bushes in the design'd Rye Field.

1755 December 19 (Friday). Billy not well, but thrashes Rye.

1756 January 5 (Monday). Billy went to Mill to *Hopkinton* and brought home 3 Bushels Rye which I have bought of Mr. Daniel Forb.

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 August 2 (Monday). *Seth Woods*, from *Jonas Bradish*, reaps in my Rye Field.

1756 August 3 (Tuesday). Jonas Bradish comes p.m. with a Team and gets in my Rye which Seth Woods and my sons had reaped -- Mr. Rolf with him.

1756 August 9 (Monday). Nathan Kenny helped Billy thrash Rye.

1756 November 6 (Saturday). *Billy* thrashes Rye.

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 27 (Saturday). Billy finishes thrashing our small Crop of Rye.

1757 February 4 (Friday). *Billy* went to Mr. Johnsons Mill in Southborough with a Team, Carrying 8 Bushels of Indian and 4 of Rye, and came home early, the whole grownd into good meal. But it proves a great Trouble that we can't succeed at Mr. *Whipples* which is so much nearer.

1757 July 25 (Monday). *Amon*, and Mr. *Moses Twitchel* go to mow in the ministerial meadow. They both lodged here. *Barney Newton* gets in part of my Rye in the South West Field.

1757 July 28 (Thursday). Mr. Eliezer Rice carted home 3 Load of Hay and carryed in the remainder of my Rye. *Amon* and *Twitchell* to the Meadow. My son Thomas worked there most of the Day with them.

1757 September 9 (Friday). Alexander and Breck Thrash Oates which were on the Floor -- and then Rye.

1757 November 7 (Monday). Went to t'other House. Mr. Batheric and I divide the Indian Corn, and the English Hay in the West Bay. N.B. Nathan Kenny thrashed Rye for me.

1757 November 8 (Tuesday). Nathan Kenny winnowed Rye.

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

1757 November 18 (Friday). Rainy Day, therefore no Sowing my Rye as was designed.

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 July 24 (Monday). P.M. Neighbour Zebulun Rice ploughed with my mare, having first sowed with Rye, my new turned up Land, at the Island.

1758 August 1 (Tuesday). Adam here a little before sun sett to bind and stuke my Rye.

1758 August 19 (Saturday). It did not rain, but the threatning Signs urged our getting in the Rye that Stands abroad. Thomas a.m. in getting home Rye. It is damp; Some of it grown. N.B. had Mr. Zebulon Rice's Team.

1758 September 26 (Tuesday). Seth Woods and Reuben Bellows on the Bushes and old Mr. Dunlop thrashing Rye.

1758 December 4 (Monday). Tis grown very Cold again. Alexander and Breck thrash Rye.

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 July 24 (Tuesday). *Alexander* begins to reap the early Rye. P.M. one Jagg of the Maynard Meadow got in by help of Nathan Kenny, with Capt. Woods Team -- but a Thunder shower soaked the rest.

1759 July 31 (Tuesday). *John How* works again, and *John Ballard*, a Lad from Hopkinton came to hoe for me. N.B. I had let him have  $\frac{1}{2}$  Bushel Rye yesterday, in their straights; for which he offered to come and work. Deacon Bond came with a son and Horse and ploughed and hoed till about 11 a.m. Neighbour Moses Nurse cradles some Rye at the Island.

1759 August 2 (Thursday). Deacon Tainter came and ploughed with my Mare, not without turbulent Opposition: He worked till middle of afternoon: And he sowed Rye for me (behind the Meeting House).

1759 August 9 (Thursday). Alexander reaps a little.

1759 August 10 (Friday). Mr. Gamel comes to Work, but comes in a great Frett; at which I was much grieved when he came to the House and shewed it here.... He and *Alex* finished the Rye at the Island. P.M. the Wheat at the Barn, and Steuked up the former.

1759 August 15 (Wednesday). Mr. Daniel Hardy and his son Adams cart home (gratis) my Rye and Oats from the Island.

1759 October 19 (Friday). Had a very bad Night last, the worst of any yet, this sickness. It was by reason of the Fever, and a most terrible oppression at my stomach, which gave me great pain in drawing my Breath -- held me for 2 Hours in the Dead of Night, but either by taking a Portion of Polychriston, or putting on Rie Cakes, to my [Face?], or rather by the merciful Hand

of God with them, I was greatly relieved, and about one o'Clock could lie on my right side and went to sleep for some time. But still it was a tedious Night.

1759 December 10 (Monday). N.B. Alexander and Breck thrashed Rye.

1759 December 20 (Thursday). Alexander and Breck have been thrashing Rye. They now thrash Oates. They write 'o Nights.

1760 February 13 (Wednesday). Alex and Breck thrash Rye one Day after another.

1760 March 6 (Thursday). Capt. Wood winnowed 7 1/2 Bushels of Rye for me.

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 July 23 (Wednesday). My Lecture at 10 a.m. preached by Mr. Stone from Joh. 6.[5?]. At Deacon Tainters Motion a Number of Hands came and cutt down my Field of Rye, back of the Meeting House. A Sett before Meeting and another sett after. They were Deacon Tainter, his son and servant, Mr. Daniel Forb., Thomas Twitchell, and Joseph Harrington, also Lieutenant Harrington -- these before meeting. P.M. were Joseph Harrington, Tainters young man, viz. John Ball, Noah Hardy, Adam Rice, John Wood and a Young man with him. A great Kindness, we treated them as well as I could. May God reward them!

1760 July 25 (Friday). Mr. Twitchell came, but not till between 10 and 11 a.m. He and the Boys are getting up the Hay. He works an Hour and half in the Night in binding Rye. Mr. Solomon Baker here with his Relation.

1760 July 26 (Saturday). Mr. Twitchell works till towards Noon in getting in Rye.

1760 July 28 (Monday). Visit at Mr. Warrins; and was at Deacon Bonds for Rye.

1760 August 1 (Friday). My sons have got through their Hilling. We have sowed two Bushels of Rye in that Field which we Call the *Cook* Field.

1760 August 7 (Thursday). Sorrowfull Tidings wound my Ears, nor less my Heart, that Brother *Cushing of Shrewsbury* is dead -- dy'd suddenly in his Field gathering up Rye. May God Sanctifie the awful Breach! O that God would remember his bereaved Handmaid -- the Children -- but especially the Flock! Which now it may be feared, will fall into various Divisions. But may the great Shepherd guide and restrain and provide for them!

1760 August 8 (Friday). Nathan Kenny got in my spring Rye, and dined here.

1760 October 27 (Monday). My Sons thrash Rye.

1760 November 10 (Monday). N.B. Alexander thrashes Rye with Mr. Parker at the old Barn.

1760 November 11 (Tuesday). So he does to Day. Breck thrashes at home both Yesterday and to Day.

1760 November 12 (Wednesday). I receive 8 Bushell of Rye (Spring Rye) for my part. Alexander winnows at home.

1760 November 29 (Saturday). Alexander and Breck winnow Rye.

1761 February 11 (Wednesday). My Boys thrash Rye.

1761 March 30 (Monday). Alexander and Breck with Mr. Zebulun Rice's Team went to Mr. Johnsons Mill with 12 1/2 Bush. of Indian and 7 1/2 Rye.

1761 April 10 (Friday). Having much Trouble with my Sheep getting in upon my Neighbour Beetons Rye, I had yoked 5 of them.

1761 April 11 (Saturday). Neighbour Barny is building (with a Number of Hands and a Team to assist) a stone Wall on the South Side of the Road before my Door, to fence his Rye Field: And setts it, as it is apprehended, a Rod into the high way.

1764 July 24 (Tuesday). *Breck* reaps and John hoes a.m., both of them and Jonas Kenny p.m. taking up Rye which was reaped yesterday.

1764 July 25 (Wednesday). Mr. Moses Parker reaps a.m., carts in one Load of Rye p.m.

1764 July 27 (Friday). Breck reaps. Jonas Kenny plows, and Cradles Rye etc.

1764 July 28 (Saturday). Breck finishes reaping Rye and gets it in. A light Crop -- about 20 shock only, for [blank] Acres of Ground. But *any* is more than Desert.

1764 August 11 (Saturday). Deacon Tainter came in the Morning to plow in my Corn-Field in order to our hoeing it again but my plough was broke, and therefore to mend; and I had no Rie to sow; he had himself a great deal of Hay and Oates to take Care of at home; so that he returned without doing any Thing. But 4 Young Men, *Levi* Warrin, *Elisha* Forbush by Proxy, *John* Forb. in his room; *Thomas* and *Joseph* Bond, came and hoed the Corn in my Orchard and finished before 10 o'Clock. Breck and John plowed for 'em.

1764 August 13 (Monday). Deacon Tainter, with Boy and Horse, comes to plow among my Corn, which is behind the Meeting House -- but first sows it with Rye -- [which?] Breck and John hoe, and (with some small assistance of two or three at sunseting) finished the Field.

1764 September 7 (Friday). Richard Barns junior thrashes Rye for me.

1764 November 9 (Friday). Mr. Nurse wants to borrow 4 Bushel of Rye, to sow. Nathan has got out two Bush. He and Mr. Gamel, now thrash and clean out the rest.

1764 December 17 (Monday). Mr. Abraham Bond thrashes Rye.

1764 December 18 (Tuesday). Mr. Adonijah Rice winnows Oats -- but chiefly Rye -- 11 1/2 Bushels of Rye.

1765 July 3 (Wednesday). Sent for more Grain per Mr. *Moses Nurse*.

1765 July 6 (Saturday). At Neighbour Nurse's. He has brought up from Boston 2 Bush. of Rye, which he had borrowed of me: and 4 Bush. of Indian Corn, for which he gave 21/ per Bush. and asks 5 per Bushel for Carting.

1765 July 25 (Thursday). In the Morning came old Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Zebulun Rice, Lt. Baker and two Hands with him (a man and a Boy), Mr. Thomas Twitchell, and his son, together with Silas Hill, with their Sickles and reap'd down my Field of Rye.

1765 July 27 (Saturday). Neighbour Newton with Assistance of Neighbour Charles Rice and son Zebulun took up my Rye, and he brought it in. Neighbour Baker (Capt. Wood allowing him a Hand to work half a Day) fetched me a Load of Hay from *Ensign Josiah Rice*, for which I am to give him 4 Dollars. Lieutenant also kindly assisted about the Rye.

1765 August 12 (Monday). *Thomas Arnold* here and thrashes Rye. Plows also in the West Field.

1765 September 7 (Saturday). Thomas and John Sow and harrow in, [4?] Bush. and half of Rye.

1765 November 20 (Wednesday). John harrows a.m. and plows in a little Rye.

1765 November 25 (Monday). Very Cold morning -- froze hard. John had not finished plowing in Rye last Saturday; and to Day, it was too Cold; tryed, but could not now.

1766 February 14 (Friday). *Elisha Forbes* brought 19 Bushels of Rye @ 30/ old Tenor.

1766 July 22 (Tuesday). Caleb Carts home 5 shocks 8 Sheaves Rye and one Load of Hay.

1766 July 31 (Thursday). Caleb reaps Rye, but chiefly Cradles Wheat.

1766 August 1 (Friday). C. and J. about the Rye and Wheat -- they get in [blank] Shock of Rye and [blank] Shock of Wheat. They work till past 10 in the Night and Mr. Nurse and Nathan Kenny help them.

1767 July 18 (Saturday). Temple has got in the New Field by Nurse's. 20 shock of Rye.

1767 July 30 (Thursday). Temple carts in the last of the Rye. 26 Shock from the Island Field. He says there are in all, 80 shock and some Sheaves, from the Several Fields.

1767 September 12 (Saturday). Temple, having lodged here, lays hold of my Thrashing of Rye. *John* is better -- is gone to *Allens Mill*.

1767 September 14 (Monday). *Temple* came to thrashing Rye. 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 September 15 (Tuesday). *Temple* winnows 20 Bushels Rye.

1767 September 30 (Wednesday). Richard Temple comes from Framingham late in the forenoon, winnows 6 1/2 and goes to thrashing Rye.

1767 October 1 (Thursday). Mr. Thomas Temple comes to work, joins Richard in Thrashing. P.M. they go to drawing stones for Wall. John fetches 4 Barrel from Mr. Nurse's to put Rye into.

1767 October 2 (Friday). Richard winnows Rye a.m. Clears 13 Bushels. P.M. Thrashes Again. John p.m. gathers in Beans. Richard says we have now carry'd in 50 bushels of Rye, which is cleaned up.

1767 October 8 (Thursday). N.B. Richard Temples has finished thrashing my Rye. I think it amounts to 72 shocks. He leaves me at half after 2 p.m.

1767 November 13 (Friday). Temple finishes swingling my last years Flax, which being so much rotted, wastes away exceedingly. P.M. John and he plow in Rye at the *Cook* field.

1767 November 17 (Tuesday). N.B. Mr. Frost had sowed some Rye and John and Nathan Maynard junior plowed it in, at the Island.

1767 November 21 (Saturday). Neighbour Newton kindly sows Rye and John plows it in.

1768 February 29 (Monday). For want of English Hay, John cutts Rye straw and mixes Meal for the mare.

1768 June 30 (Thursday). Capt. Townshend of Hopkinton with a Lad, William Gibbs, buys a Bushel of Rye and pays me for it. They also both dine here.

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!

1768 August 11 (Thursday). By Reason of so much Rain both Rye and Hay are put into the Barn too Damp; so that there is reason to fear they will mould.

1768 November 10 (Thursday). Richard Temple comes to thrash my Rye notwithstanding the Storm -- send John to Mr. Solomon Bakers for my fat Cow which he has been pasturing. Put up the Mare and fat Cow.

1768 November 19 (Saturday). Temple, by means of the Storm, can't winnow the Rye. He gets *John Rogers*, from Arnolds, to help him Pitch up the Straw etc.

1769 June 12 (Monday). N.B. This morning, as *Temple* was plowing with my Mare, She was frightened Suddenly and ran away; passed through the adjoining Rye, threw down the Fence, passed over the Rails and went up the Road. Temple was So hurt in his left Arm, that he broke off from Work, in the forenoon, and went to Mr. *Parkers*, and to Dr. *Flynts* to get his Elbow Set; and did not return till late at night.

1770 April 7 (Saturday). Jonas Kenny helps my grandson Elias in going to Mill with my Team. They carry 11 Bush. Rye, and 9 of Indian, having about 3 of Indian in the House. He succeeds.

1770 April 23 (Monday). Much afflicted by the breaking in of Cattle through the stables into my Rye Field.

1770 April 25 (Wednesday). Much perplexed about Cattle and sheep breaking in upon my Rye Fields. Am obliged to confine my sheep in the Barn and give 'em Hay, great part of the Time.

1770 July 31 (Tuesday). Joseph having got in the Rye yesterday (viz. in the whole 33 shock), to Day he goes to mowing in the *Newton Meadow*, and at Evening brings home a Load of it.

1771 November 12 (Tuesday). Mr. James Maynard was here, dined with us. He borrows a Bushel and half of Rye of me.

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

1773 January 27 (Wednesday). Mrs. *Crosby* (Doctor's Wife) was here, with the Rye which the Doctor pays in the name of Mr. James Maynard. Her son Samuel with her. They drink Tea with us.

1773 April 22 (Thursday). I change 4 Bushel of Rye for 4 Bush. of ground Malt with Mr. *Samuel Allen*, and receive 20/ old Tenor Difference.

1773 May 1 (Saturday). P.M. *Alexander* came with *Ruth Bellows*, and returned with a Bush. of Rye and a Bush. and half of Indian Corn.

1773 May 18 (Tuesday). This morning *Elias* of Brookfield with his Horse Load of Rye (4 Bushels) left us, and *Jonathan Maynard* with 5 of my Cattle to go to Brookfield to be pastured at my Son *Baldwins*.

1774 July 20 (Wednesday). We have begun the *Rye Harvest*; and are much favoured with good Weather. God be praised for it. May God grant to me to remember the Great Harvest at the End of the world! That I may prepare for it!

1774 August 17 (Wednesday). P.M. a great Fire broke out in Capt. *Maynards* Stubble of his Rye Field, Some of his men burning Brush there. The Wind was high, which caused the Fire to rage and prevail. I rode to the plain and alarmed them from the words Capt. *Maynard* Spoke to me. Many gathered, but through divine Favour the Fire was stopped. There arose also a Thunder storm and an heavy Rain; and which continued into Night.

1775 January 23 (Monday). *Elias* went with my Sleigh to Mr. *Goddards* at Shrewsbury and carried 9 Bush. of Rye in part of pay for Boarding and teaching.

1775 March 15 (Wednesday). *Elias* indisposed for Study -- but is about and goes to Mill with a Team, with about 9 Bush. of Rye, and 8 of Indian Corn.

1775 December 12 (Tuesday). *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.

1776 July 29 (Monday). Mr. *John Chamberlain* and his son *Phinehas* came to reap, but it was So rainy a Season that they went home again.

1776 July 30 (Tuesday). A fine, bright Day for our Harvest, but no *Chamberlains*.

1776 August 3 (Saturday). Mr. *John Chamberlain* reaps in the west Field. Old Mr. *Morse* is also hoing in the North. They, both, finish their work and go home.

1776 August 5 (Monday). Visit Mr. *Francis Pierce's* Sick Child, and prayed with it. I rode to Mr. *Frost's* to See what is best to be done about *Elias*. Conclude to have him Stay there another Month. Dined there. Returned p.m. Called at Mr. *John Chamberlains* and agree to give him 4 Bushels of Rye for his Reaping.

1776 December 24 (Tuesday). I rode out partly to obtain somebody to thrash my Rye, partly to get wood; and to visit.

1777 January 25 (Saturday). *Henry Marble* comes and they winnows [*sic*] up Rye.

1777 January 27 (Monday). *Marble* and *Ph. Brigham* thrash -- and Shock.

1777 January 28 (Tuesday). *Marble* and *Ph. Brigham* thrash -- by 1/2 after 10 a.m. make an End of thrashing. *Brigham* goes away -- *Marble* helps *Elias* load some wood at the Island, dines with us and leaves us. They have been here Eleven Days besides this part of a Day. They have thrashed nigh 50 shock. They ask 2/ per Day.

1777 February 6 (Thursday). *Marble* finishes winnowing my Rye. Of *Marbles* and *Phinehas Brigham's* Thrashing there was about 48 Bush.

1777 March 25 (Tuesday). *Henry Marble* and *Phinehas Brigham* dine here, as does *Jonathan Marble*. N.B. I payd the two former, 3 Dollars for their thrashing my Rye. They all go to *Brookfield*.

1778 March 28 (Saturday). Col. *Levi Brigham* here, and kindly brought me a Bushel of Ground Malt: and Old Mr. *Maynard* brought Do., being instead of Rye which he borrowed.

1778 July 16 (Thursday). In some [Consternation?] at the *Loss of Rye* out of one of the Hogsheads in the Corn Barn.

1779 May 17 (Monday). Visit at Mr. *Ebenezer Chamberlain junior*. He presents me half a bushel of Indian meal -- tells me his Brother *Daniel* went to *Marblehead* with a load of Indian and Rye, and had 25 Dollars p. Bushel.

1780 January 20 (Thursday). *Elias* goes again to Mill and Breck with him and carry of Rye Indian and Oats, Six Bushel.

1780 April 5 (Wednesday). Very much perplexed with a flock of Sheep belonging to Dr. *Hawes*, daily feeding on the Rye at the Island. *Stephen Maynard* who has the Care of the Doctor's Affairs here in the Evening to tell me that he could not take Care of the Doctor's Sheep, being in preparation to go to Market.

1780 April 6 (Thursday). Disappointed of Help to repair my Island Fence, and therefore those Sheep are in again upon my Rye.

1780 April 8 (Saturday). Fresh Troubles with the Doctor Cattle and Sheep on the Rye, notwithstanding all the pains used yesterday to make the Fence Secure and strong. 4 times today.



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.

1780 July 17 (Monday). Mr. Corn. Biglow came to reap my Island Field of Rye.

1780 July 19 (Wednesday). Elias has been so out of health, that he has not been able for Several days to work. But today he went a while to the Interval and there being part of a Load of Hay in Cock there, he mowes 3 or 4 Cocks, and with my Team he brought it home: and p.m. he went to the Island, where Mr. Biglow is reaping, and (Mr. Biglow pitching it) Elias brought home a Load of Rye of 12 Shock and 1 Sheaf.

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 27 (Thursday). My Affairs are in a very uncomfortable situation. Mr. Biglow reaps, is too old and feeble to do much -- there is a great part of the Field of Rye yet remaining. No body offers to assist, though divers talked of it. The late Grant of the Town was *for my present Necessity* but the Money cant be raised and paid and a Man or Men provided till the Grain and Grass are lost. The Newton Meadow is untouched and no help provided. In this critical Junction, Elias would fain break off from work and rest himself, intending tomorrow to go to Brookfield and then to Springfield: though there is no man that can by any means possibly be obtained: When Mr. Biglow finishes the Reaping, there can be nobody to cart it home. Elias reaped part of the Day. I walked up to Mr. Warrin's and acquainted him with my present State. He sent his son John. I went to Mr. Kenney, who sent his son Joel -- those Boys reaped p.m. Capt. Morse came in to see me. No Hope from him of any Help. Capt. Fisher agrees to go and cut my new Swamp, and he is to allow me as he finds is just. The Drought is become very intense. The Corn suffers very much, and all Vegetables. An holy Frown of God! May we be suitably affected with it, and prepared for the Divine Will! Elias carted home about 11 Shock of Rye at evening.

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. P.M. About a quarter after two o'clock, God was pleased to remember us in Mercy and sent Rain, together with Thunder and Lightning. To His Name be Glory! Mr. Biglow went home about 4 p.m., and Elias to reaping again.

1780 October 11 (Wednesday). I am obliged to take unspeakable Pains to get a very little work done -- have obtained Mr. Thad. Warrin to thrash a little Rye to Sowe, and he winnows it -- 2 bushels.

1780 October 27 (Friday). 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 November 24 (Friday). Mr. Hezekiah Maynard of Marlborough came and had two Bushels of Rye for the two Bushel of Malt which I had of him last Spring.

1780 December 1 (Friday). Rob. Wightman is so successful in his getting out and cleaning the Rye that in these few Days he has thrashed and winnowed (as he has counted) 40 Bushels besides that he plowed for me half a Day, which he gave in; and he carries away 4 Bushels for his wages.

1780 December 5 (Tuesday). Mr. Corn. Biglow came for his Rye, to pay him for his reaping. He requires 4 Bushels and half, but releases a peck.

1781 January 12 (Friday). Mr. *Isaac Ruggles* brings back the Order I had given him upon Mr. Nathan Maynard Constable; and I gave him another Order upon Mr. Barnabus Newton, Treasurer; for the Same sum, viz. 75£. Mr. *Elijah Force* was with him, and to him I offered 50 Dollars, before Witnesses, namely, Mr. *Ruggles* aforesaid, and Mr. *Beriah Ware*, who was present, and also Pamela Coolledge. But he would not take it unless I would give him 4 sh. I offered to pay him in Rye; But Still he would not take it -- unless I would give him a Bushel. I must give him two Yards of Tow-Cloth. My Wife interposed and said she would make it for him. I asked him whether I did ever promise him Tow Cloth? He Said, No: I did not. But *That* would satisfie. I required to know what in Money, would content him? He said 70 Dollars. I was not willing to give him so great a price for one Days work, and would rather give him tow-Cloth, if I knew of what kind. He said, Such as was strong and fit for a Blacksmiths Trowzers or shirts to work in. Thus we parted. *Ruggles* and *Pamela* were witnesses of what we said.

1781 April 12 (Thursday). Mr. Solomon *Miller* received his Pay for dressing Flax for me, viz. 87 3/4 at 18d per pound. I gave him two Bushels of Rye at 4/8d 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.

1782 July 13 (Saturday). My Son Ebenezer very helpful in taking up and carting in Rye.