

## Wool

1727 April 6 (Thursday). I rode to Boston to gain Information concerning my Brother, and I was Certify'd that on the 27th of the Last Month My Brother John Parkman was coming in from Anguilla (having been at Barbadoes to which port he came from Cork) in a Vessel built by him at Dighton, And with the Building, fraughted rigged and mann'd at his Father's his Brethren's and his own charge. He was now laden with Cotton, Rhum and diverse valuable articles, no small quantity of Gold, but the Heavy and greatest part of his Lading was Salt. But that this (27th) Day proving very Stormy they were driven near Cape Ann and finding that all that remain'd for them to do was to shift for their Life because of the Dangers they were come into upon the Rocks, especially being nigh Normans Woe (a great Rock So call'd which they now drove upon). My Brother endeavoured by the help of the Fore tack, and taking the advantage of the heaving of the vessell, to swing off from the Vessell, if possible on upon the Rock. But the vessel unexpectedly and Suddenly hove back and brought him into the deep. The Tumultuating and raging Sea foaming upon him, and frustrating all Endeavours to recover him (though they threw out Ropes to him that slip'd through his hands and though the Mate had him once by the hand as he came along by the fore Chains) Swallow'd him up, and he perish'd in the Deep. Alas! My Brother! that Sucked the Breast of my Mother, that was brought up with me, is Separated from me and his Eyes clos'd in the night of Death. But I would not utter my complaints as if I mourned without hope. I trust that Living and Especially that Dying he was the Lords. Neither would I do otherwise than humbly own and Submissively acknowledge the Sovereign Power and Dominion of God, and bow my Self down before the unsearchable wisdom, the reproachless holyness, and with all the infinite Goodness and Divine Tenderness of my heavenly Father, and would dutifully and reverently Say that it is the Lord -- and since it is he, Let him do what Seemeth him good. His wayes though full of wonder yet holy are they all, and righteous are they all, and Every of his Works for the honour of his glorious Name, and all his Dispensations towards us for our highest Benefit if we will duely Improve the Same. How broken was his Body and batter'd against the Rocks when the people of the Place found the lifeless Corps on the fatal shore in the morning! When I see the Blood afresh trickling down from his wounds my heart is again Set ableeding, and when I see his Ruddy Countenance and his athletick Constitution so soon triumph'd over and Subdued! But let me go back again and See what comes of the Rest of the Company and not let all my Care waste itself here. They were wondrously Sav'd on the large Rock (on which they had dropt from the Bowsprit of the vessel before She stove) and here they remain'd through the night though in the greatest Danger all the while of being wash'd away with the Sea that broke over them. The vesell being broken to pieces Some of the Goods were wafted along by the Rock and the Men Sav'd Some Baggs of Wool. The rest of the Cargo Goods, etc. was Lost. On the 29th our People receiv'd the Message in the Evening. On the 30th (being Fast Day) My Remaining Brethren went to Cape Ann but could not get there timely enough to do anything to purpose. On the 31 They Solemnized the Funerall, and buried him in that Town. On Saturday (April 1) they returned home. This is a Brief and Melancholly account. I Beseech God to make it Spiritually advantagious, though outwardly it is So grievous to us.

1739 May 11 (Friday). N.B. Ebenezer rode to Marlborough to carry wool to be spun at the widow Bents and to bring my great Coat from Mr. Tainters but succeeded not in the last.

1740 June 10 (Tuesday). Hezekiah Tomlin came into the House while we were asleep in the Night and lay in the Garrett on the wool till the morning unperceiv'd -- And went off as Slyly likewise.

1746 July 15 (Tuesday). My wife bought and paid for 20 lbs. of wool of Mr. Thomas Ward, at 8/6 per pound. 1748 March 15 (Tuesday). I rode to Justice Harris's on account of a piece of all wool cloth I had sent him to be dress'd....

1754 January 21 (Monday). At Eve Lieutenant Tainter brought wool and Cards which he had bought for us at Boston.

1756 January 7 (Wednesday). N.B. *John Maynard*, Capt. *Maynards* Grandson, came with a present of Beef and Sewet; but he especially brought from his Grandmother 2 and 1/2 Yards of black, home-made Cloth, to make me a Jacket: it is of fine Wool, and is well wrought -- a worthy Token of her Goodness! May God return it in Spiritual Blessings in heavenly Things in Christ Jesus!

1756 February 12 (Thursday). At Eve Lt. Tainter brings various Things from Boston for us: particularly 20£ of Wool.

1757 January 27 (Thursday). Lt. Tainter came from Boston and brought Wool and Cotton for *Lucy*. He dined with us: as did Judge *Ward*.

1764 November 21 (Wednesday). Mr. John Fessenden dines here. He takes my Sheep to the Halves. Viz. 8 of them and is to return them in two Years: half the wool each Year and half the stock.

1766 August 30 (Saturday). John goes to Marlborough with a Bag of Wool for Billy -- to be left at Merchant Barns's for Conveyance, and a Letter to Mr. John Dexter, praying him to look again for Mr. Smiths Book *Mason of self-Knowledge* -- but returns this word, that he can't find it.

1766 October 31 (Friday). Mrs. Whipple here, and receives a parcel of woollen Yarn which I have brought from Billy to be wove.

1767 January 12 (Monday). Mr. Wheelock has made us a Side saddle. I found the principal Leather and Wool. He asks 20£ old Tenor -- says he could not sell it under 30.

1771 April 11 (Thursday). Mr. Daniel Forbes brings 8 lbs. of Wool from Boston at 10/ O.T. for which I payed him. He dines here.

1772 February 26 (Wednesday). Sent by Mr. Morse for 12 lbs. of Sheeps Wool and gave him Money for it.

1778 July 24 (Friday). Four Young Women came about 4 p.m. to break Wool for Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_.

1778 August 25 (Tuesday). *Breck* informs me that Mr. *David Stow*, son of *Grafton* was at his shop and told him *Elias's* weather had sickened and dyed, that it was wholly lost, Skin and wool, for it was Some time before they found it, and it Stank.

1778 September 24 (Thursday). Mr. *Forbes* and his son leave us to go home by way of *Cambridge* and *Boston*. He proposes to Send, if he can, for his Sheep this Fall, but to leave me the Lambs; but he must have a pound of Wool per Head -- that is 9 pound as if they were kept till January when at furthest he will send for them.

1781 January 16 (Tuesday). *Benjamin Wood* rode to Mr. *Samuel Allens* to carry Six Leggs of Pork to be baconed: and brought home a Piece of woollen Cloth for my wearing, from Capt. *Maynards*: being [blank] yards.

1781 March 16 (Friday). The sheep that was lost in the late snow storm, was found and her Wool saved.

1781 August 21 (Tuesday). My son is going to Point *Judith* for Wool.

1781 August 25 (Saturday). My Son Alexander returned from Point *Judith*, with Wool.

1781 October 3 (Wednesday). I have writ also to Mr. *Forbes* upon his supposed Marriage -- on what I have done about Sister *Champney* -- and concerning the Wool I owe him; and have caused nine pound to be weighed out for him: which is ready for him.