

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1759

1759 January 1 (Monday). Notice of the Commencement of the Year. Cannot but gratefully recognize the divine Benefits, especially through the Co [?] I thought it proper to take Some Special religious use of this Year past: would praise God therefor; But would deeply humble my Soul before God for my aggravated multiplied Miscarriages -- beg of Him the continuance of His Favours with the Addition of Such other as shall be needed, but especially that He would grant Grace rightly to improve them -- It is also most fit and but a reasonable Service to renew the Dedication of my Self in Covenant unto God: this therefore (though in a poor manner) is attempted.

At Evening I had comfortable, Spiritual Conference with Mr. Nathaniel *Whitney*. May God bless it to each of us; and quicken us to make more such Opportunities! He pays 20/ O.T. for his News paper.

1759 January 2 (Tuesday). Deacon Tainter kills my Fatt Heiffer. Joseph Gamel helps him -- and they dine here. P.M. at the private meeting at Esquire *Bakers*; on Rom. 14.8. At Eve I visited Neighbour Nurse whose Swelling in his Thigh increases.

1759 January 3 (Wednesday). Lieut. *Joseph Stone* of Brookfield here -- says he is come with a Message from my son, to have *Breck* go up again: and he'll come for him tomorrow. At Eve Deacon *Burnap* of *Hopkinton* and Deacon Tainter comes and weighs and cutts out my Beef. Weight was 19 Score and Eight pound, the Quarters -- 35 lb. Tallow.

1759 January 4 (Thursday). *Breck* goes to meet Lt. *Stone* according to agreement but returns again; Lt. not coming to go up. Mr. *Joseph Bowman* keeps School at Deacon *Tainters*. I Send *Alexander* who begins to learn Latin: Samuel and John also go to School. Mr. *Greenw.* of Sutton here. Their Disquietment with Mr. Wellman no less. Mrs. *Jane King Maynard* here in order to get her Child Baptised -- and is ready to make her Confession. She tells me her Husband is gone off: it is not known where.

1759 January 5 (Friday). *Breck* goes again to t'other House to wait for Lt. *Stone* -- who came here, and dined with us -- p.m. he sat out for Brookfield. Miss *Betty Johnson* came about 10 a.m. Mr. Daniel Forb. dined with us. P.M. Mr. *Hall* of Sutton here in his return from Boston. N.B. Mr. Samuel Forb. of Upton brought me from Boston my (mended) *Baxter* Vol. 1, and *Fox's* acts and monuments -- Vol. 2, which I have borrowed of my Kinsman Mr. Samuel Procter, Keeper of the Alms-House, Boston. At night, near 11 o'Clock (or full 1/2 after 10) comes Noah Bigolow with earnest Desire to go over to their House. His Father he says is in great Distress on account of his Mother who is *well-liquored* (I think was his Expression) and by further enquiry I find there is a great Rout. I could not go. I was not well enough to Venture -- but told him if they needed me in the morning, and he would come with an Horse I would go. O wofull Condition of the poor, miserable Family! May God of his infinite Mercy pity them, convince, reform and pardon them And direct me in my Duty to them!

1759 January 6 (Saturday). No Horse from Bigelow's -- bad riding and bad weather and I am engaged in my preparations. Thomas had the promise of my mare to go out of Town -- but though he brought her over from t'other Barn, yet does not use her because of the dangerous Holes in the roads, and bad weather. Miss Betty Johnson.

1759 January 7 (Sunday). We are to bless God that not only the New Year has begun, but He permitts us to begin the Sabbaths of the Year! To His Name be Glory! Read 1 *Chron.* 35 and *John* 20. Preached a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 4.18. And O that God would pardon my Weakness and Miscarriages, and add His efficacious Blessing, for my own as well as the people's profiting! In the Evening after Family Exercises, read some accounts of the Martyrs and their suffering -- especially Mr. *Lamberts*. May God grant us Establishment in the Faith!

1759 January 8 (Monday). Miss Betty Johnson who tarried with us over the Sabbath, is helping my wife in various Employments. I had purposed to go to Mr. *Biglows* and to Mr. *Barrets* to Day but the Weather was too rugged for my tender Constitution. At Eve walked to Mr. Zebulun Rice's and Capt. Woods -- but am Cautious of tarrying at the last. Duly agree to go to Hopkinton tomorrow, God willing.

1759 January 9 (Tuesday). Miss Betty Johnson leaves us; having made cloths for most of my Sons as well as for me. Capt. *Wood* and I rode to visit Mr. Barrett and his son; They and theirs having gone through a variety of Changes, especially the Death of one Negro man (*Scipio*) and sickness of another (*Titus*) but great Mercys intermixed; their House saved from Burning -- but especially young Mr. Barrett a son lately born *John*. We dined there, and returning at Eve called at Mr. *Crosmans*. N.B. was at Mr. *Biglow's* as I went and enquired into the womans Conduct -- especially last Friday night. Found it very bad. Am extremely grieved to find the Family So divided and disorderly. May God grant 'em His almighty Grace that they may See their wickedness and reform!

1759 January 10 (Wednesday). P.M. I rode over to Mr. James Maynards to talk with him and his wife about their Daughter in Law, *John's* Wife and her making a Confession. Mr. Maynard not at home. Mrs. Maynard Shews great Dissatisfaction with her and must have her acknowledge her Offence against *them*. I visited Mrs. *Lock* also and exhorted her to prepare for her Duty in the Baptism of her Child. I visited at Mr. *Gleasons*, but he was not at home -- rode to Lt. Rice's to make them a visit. Capt. Wood and his Wife, and Dr. Crosby and his Wife there. But one of the main and principal Things in my going out was to See Mr. *Joseph Knowlton*, who is in a low, weak state of Body, but of a spiritual Turn of mind, and comfortable Evidence of his Good Estate towards God. I Supped there -- prayed with Mr. Knowlton and the Family, his son and wife and a Number of Young persons besides attending. Rain all the way in coming home -- so that I was very Wet.

1759 January 11 (Thursday). Thomas went yesterday to Marlborough and Sudbury -- but returns this Evening and Timothy (son of Beriah) Rice, who lives at *Westfield* with him. N.B. Mr. Goodale of Grafton dined here. Mr. Zebulun Rice at Eve. Pays for his News Paper from Edes

and Gill; 20/ old Tenor. Mr. Ebenezer Rice Sends his son Joseph with his Team to bring me a Load of pine which Alexander provided in my Hill. Mrs. Biglow here -- asks forgiveness etc.

1759 January 12 (Friday). Mr. *Ephraim Sherman* junior returns from Boston having paid Two Dollars for me in full to Mr. *Kneeland* for 7 *Edwards* on Original Sin; which I now returned to said Mr. Sherman. N.B. He brought me from Mr. Kneeland Mr. Thomas *Barnards* Sermon at the Manufactory Lecture, and *Maylems* poem on the Conquest of Louisbourg. Deacon Tainter comes and kills a sow pig for me, weighs 126 pound. He comes also kindly at night and cutts and Salts and Supps. I present him *Doolittle's* Young Mans Instructor and old mans remembrancer, which I formerly bought of Mr. Richard (afterwards Coll.) Saltonstall.

1759 January 13 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1759 January 14 (Sunday). Read the Last Chapter of the 2d Book of Chron. and the Last Chapter of St. John. Preached a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 4.18. Master Bowman (who keeps the School) dined here. In the Evening wrote a page on my subject.

1759 January 15 (Monday). Gave my self to my preparations. Mr. Jonathan Child dined here.

1759 January 16 (Tuesday). Close at my preparations. At Eve finish one sermon. Thomas rides my Mare to Hopkinton. N.B. I hear that to Day Rev. Messrs. Martyn and Maccarty and Capt. Josiah Richardson meet at Southborough on the *Belknap* affair.

1759 January 17 (Wednesday). At Monsieur LeBlanc's. His sons John and Joseph visit there.

1759 January 18 (Thursday). Mr. Oliver Carter from Leominster comes with Request of Help in preparing them for the General Court; they being next Wednesday to Shew Reasons, if any they have, why the prayer of the Petition of Coll. White and others may not be granted. He tarrys here over night. I undertake to make some Remarks on the Result of the Council which Mr. Rogers of *Leominster* and his adhering Brethren called, and which sat November 29, 1757.

1759 January 19 (Friday). Am prevented attending to my study by Reason of Mr. Carters being here, and my writing and copying the foresaid Remarks which are six Pages quarto. I Send Mr. Carter to have his help in Copying papers -- but he is preengaged. Mr. Carter is obliged to tarry another Night.

1759 January 20 (Saturday). This morning Mr. Carter receives of me the chief of the papers of our Council, engaging to return 'em safely to me again. They are No. 1 to 22, except 3, viz. No. 9, 14, 21. I deliver him my Remarks -- they are writ as for Mr. William Fairfield to whom I also Send a Line by Hand of Mr. Carter. My Son *John* very ill. Dr. Chase sent for and comes -- Says the Child has somewhat of Pleurisy. N.B. The Doctor says he will come in the Morning and will go to Meeting. Whereas he has not been at our meeting this year or two as I suppose.

1759 January 21 (Sunday). So extreme Cold I omitted the public Reading -- preached a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 4.18. May God render it effectual to our Saving Good! Mrs. Dolly Rice dined with us. John Better. Doctor at Meeting p.m.

1759 January 22 (Monday). I walked to Capt. Maynards to bespeak his Meadow that joins to me -- which he promises to me So far as this that he says I may depend upon it, if he does let it to any body. He acquaints me that he expects to be married tomorrow night; and desires me and my wife to meet him at his House on Wednesday Evening. At Evening I reckoned with Mrs. Ruhamah Newton and paid her Interest and her Account -- went over to Capt. Woods and Supped there. John Worse again.

1759 January 23 (Tuesday). In going to Lieut. Rolfs I went to *Cramberry pond* and *Thomas* being with me I put on the skates a little while (which I have not done for many years) to Shew him. John and Jo. *Blanc* return home, but I saw them not. *Alexander* a Second Time disgusted with Learning and would throw up, but I now keep him to't, since I have thrown by Business I designed he should do, and willingly go without it for his sake.

1759 January 24 (Wednesday). Mr. John Brigham of Sudbury (one handed man) dined with me, tells me Capt. Maynard and Mrs. Anne Brigham were married last Night. Just before Night I went over to Capt. Maynards as he had desired, to meet him as Bridegroom with his Bride -- (his phrase was he then designed to bring home his Wife). My Wife did not incline to go, her Child was very tendfull -- and *John* was Sick, though to Day much better; yet this is (according to usual Course) his sick Day. To God be praise and Glory. It was also somewhat odd that our Children were not invited to Wedding (as neither were we ourselves) nor were any of them to His Entertainment though many others were, not nearer related than they. But 'tis prob[ab]le their Thoughts were too much engaged to think much of This So Small Affair. It was very Cold. I walked there, and returned o' foot. I left at them at nine o'Clock, omitting Singing, rather than run the venture of being too late. Asked Cousen *Sally Brigham*, Mr. *Speakman* and Master *Wheeler* who came with her, to lodge at our House. But the Distance and especially the Cold, were sufficient Excuse with them.

1759 January 25 (Thursday). *John* much better than he was a few Days ago. At Eve Master Bowman, Deacon Tainter -- Mr. Beeton from Boston. Dr. Chase to See *John*.

1759 January 26 (Friday). Stephen Robishow came in, in the Storm, his Father-in-Law, viz. *Charles Barreve* with him, but he did not come in -- he went into my sons shop. N.B. There has been a great Deal of Travelling of late, of the French people.

1759 January 27 (Saturday). Very bright after the Storm. *John* is about again. D.G.

1759 January 28 (Sunday). Read Ezra 1, Acts 1. Preach'd all Day on 1 Cor. 4.18. Was my Self much moved, and discovered it in delivering those most weighty Things. My Concern the night and morning was Very great. I feverently pray it may be lasting, and terminate in my own

highest good. And may it have a proper Effect on the Audience! The Widows Judith Bellows and Patience Woods dined here.

1759 January 29 (Monday). Notwithstanding it snowed all Day, at Night came my Son *Baldwin* and Daughter Sarah from Brookfield, on two Horses. My Daughter Baldwin they tell me, is not well; but her sister Forbush is Fatt and hearty. Ebenezer is in the School and can't come down. *Breck* is not at rest with living there.

1759 January 30 (Tuesday). My son Baldwin goes on his Journey to *Boston*. My Wife p.m. rides to see her Kinswoman *Maynard*. Capt. Wood tells me that Ensign Jeduthun Fay told at their House that I was at Capt. *Maynards* that night he brought his Wife home, till one o'Clock: whereas it was but nine. Mr. *Nathaniel Whitney* here at Evening. I delivered him six pounds Lawful money from *Jabez Ayres* junior of Brookfield -- which money was brought down by my son Baldwin, and was committed to me for Mr. Whitney. N.B. I saw him endorse it on Ayres's Note.

1759 January 31 (Wednesday). Variously taken up in setting Things to rights in my Barn. N.B. by Reason of my Boys being in school I am obliged to take care of our few Cattle in the Day. Capt. Fay with Several presents at night and tarrys late -- to our discomposing and my sorrow!

1759 February 1 (Thursday). Mr. Aaron Nurse, with Nathan *Kenny*, *Moses* also having been with them to assist, brought home the small Stack of Hay that was set up in my *Chauncy* the same as the *Newton* Meadow. Mrs. *Joanna* Forb. here and takes home with her my little *Sophy*. My Son Baldwin came from Boston -- arrived late at Night.

1759 February 2 (Friday). This morning after 2 a Shock of an Earthquake. Its Shake and Noise 'waked me. Blessed be God for our Preservation! *Baldwin* and *Suse* Set out about 11 a.m. for Brookfield.

1759 February 3 (Saturday). Mr. *Abijah Gale* was here -- acquaints me that his Wife cannot hold Communion with Mrs. *Ward*, the Judge's Wife: But I refuse to Meddle with the Affair any further than to direct to her Duty and advise to it. Am not without some deep Impressions from the Solemn subject I am preparing upon. Did not go to Bed till after Midnight. My Body was much wasted -- and I grew faint -- but my Mind filled beyond what I could write.

1759 February 4 (Sunday). Read *Ezra 2*, Act. 2. Preached still, a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 4.18. O that the Solemn Thoughts of ETERNITY might make us all truely Serious!

The Widow *Joanna* Forb. dined here. We daily hear of the Spreading of the Meazles in divers Towns -- and frequently of the Deaths of grown persons, by them. Ex. gr. Mr. *Noah Rice* of *Sutton*. N.B. My little *John* went to meeting again. D.G.

1759 February 5 (Monday). *John* to school again; and all my Three Boys at Mrs. Forb. Invitation went to see *Sophy* and dined, all, together, there. Hear more of the *Meazles* -- fear this

Distemper is come into this parish. May God be pleased to prepare us for His Sovereign Pleasure!

1759 February 6 (Tuesday). *Alexander* Rheumatic does not go to school. This is the last Day of Mr. Bowmans School-keeping for this term. P.M. I preached at Capt. Fays on Rom. 14.8. After the Exercise Mr. Daniel Forb. communicates proposals which came from the North End relating to a Lawful School to be kept in the Town. N.B. *Sarah* went with me to the Meeting -- and of her self walked to Esquire *Bakers*. I Called there for her, and with Capt. Wood, tarried a While. Conversation chiefly Leominster Affair -- but we have had, as yet, no Information how the general Court has determined concerning their Affair.

1759 February 7 (Wednesday). Master Bowman goes to Cambridge. Mr. *Martyn* and his Wife came to see us: and dined here. They returned at Eve. Mr. Belknap here. In walking to Mr. Nurse's together he asks me whether, upon supposition he be restored to Southborough Church, I were willing to admitt him here. I told him I could not tell as yet what we Should do. But I Supposed he might hardly be willing to leave them, if all things were made smooth there, since it was so much nigher to go there, and he always used to choose it. At Mr. *Nurse's* talked with Mr. *Timothy Warrin* about their great neglect in making up Accounts with me, he being precinct Treasurer.

1759 February 8 (Thursday). P.M. Deacon Forb. returned from Brookfield. Job Lane waits on him. At Eve Mr. David Maynard here and settles with me as far as he can, but neither pays me any money nor finishes with me. After he left me Mr. Timothy Warrin Treasurer came but neither does he finish but lends me 4 Dollars.

1759 February 9 (Friday). P.M. Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior here. I call upon him to bring his two last Children to Baptism, exhorting him to give Account to the Church of the Reasons of his long Neglect of his Duty. And he parts in peace. Deacon Tainter goes to Boston: and carrys a few Fowls for my Wife and 3£ from me to Mrs. *Ward*, heretofore *Barns*.

1759 February 10 (Saturday). Job Lane returns to Brookfield and carrys 4 Dollars from me to Mr. Forb; Interest. My son Ebenezer to pay him 4 more on my Account. N.B. Master Bowman returns from Cambridge because of the Meazles. He informs me that *sister Barretts Daughter Hannah* (of about 21) dyed of the Meazels, and is buryed this week, and that Coll. *James Minot* of Concord is Dead also. He brings me a Letter from the Widow *Hill of Cambridge* to whom I had sent him to excuse my not sending Interest to her by him, for that I knew not his going down in any season to provide it.

1759 February 11 (Sunday). Read Ezra 3, Act. 3. Preached a.m. on *Heb.* 6.2, p.m. on Isa. 66.24. In both sermons carry on the Subject on 2 Cor. 4.18.

1759 February 12 (Monday). Visit Mr. *Ebenezer Nurse* a.m. Ride up to Mr. *Jonathan Fays* and dined there. N.B. he pays me upwards of 20£ old Tenor. Am informed that Lieut. *James Whipple of Grafton* was buryed on the 10th. Visited Widow *Grout*. At Mr. *Phinehas Hardys* --

Mr. Whitneys -- Blanc's. Mr. Er. Rice, having been a fishing on the great Pond and taken 11 Pickerill, Sent me six handsome ones -- besides 2 fine Heads of Cabbage, and a Quantity of Carrotts.

1759 February 13 (Tuesday). Sent by Mr. Jonathan Fay 3 Dollars with a Letter to Mrs. Prudence Hill of Cambridge in answer to hers of the 8th which I inclosed in a Letter to Capt. Taintor of Watertown desiring him to go to her Since Mr. Fay can't well do it himself. This was my Scheme by Reason of Mr. Fays backwardness to go out of his Way. But at last we settle it for Mr. Fay to go to Mrs. Hill if can't get Capt. Tainter to do it.

1759 February 14 (Wednesday). More than Ordinary Difficult for the Children to get to School by reason of the Floods.

1759 February 15 (Thursday). Mr. Jonathan Fay returned from Boston -- did not go to Mrs. Hill, but carryed the Letters to Capt. Tainter and says he delivered the money to him, who Said he would go to Mrs. Hill, and would write me a Line of his Doings. At Night reckoned with Deacon Tainter and gave him a Note to Mr. Jonathan Fay.

1759 February 16 (Friday). Noah Hardy is Supposed to have the Meazles at the Widow Newtons. Neighbour Batherick dined here. He acquaints me with Schemes of Lotterys among both Men and Youth here with us, and he is greived at it. P.M. Cornelius *Biglow* junior here with like request from his Father about his Mother as Noah brought Jan. 5.

1759 February 17 (Saturday). Capt. Maynard we hear is ill.

1759 February 18 (Sunday). Read Ezra 4 and Acts 4. Preached a.m. the last sermon on 2 Cor. 4.18. P.M. on Col. 3.3. N.B. Mr. Samuel Barrett junior of Hopkinton and sister in Law came to meeting here, his Father being indisposed and hoarse with a Cold. They dined here but returned home at Eve. May God send his Blessing on the awakening Things of this Day! Especially to my own Soul!

1759 February 19 (Monday). The Boys all go to school, though tis very muddy and rainy. Dr. Crosby here and tells me that Capt. Maynard is in high Salvation. He had 'ointed for the Itch with an Ointment from Dr. Gardner of Boston -- and using it too freely was thus affected. He had also gone into the Cedar swamp wading in the Water and to *Marlborough* and taken Cold and was in an ill state.

1759 February 20 (Tuesday). I am confined by the great Rains and Snow or I Should have visited divers Sick and afflicted Familys -- but then it gives me the better Opportunity for my studys and preparations also for Reading, viz. Mr. Edwards on Original sin.

1759 February 21 (Wednesday). A.M. visit Mr. Nurse who lies under his sore. N.B. Mr. Williams there -- I took him aside and reproved him for his Drinking. *Noah Forb.* under the Meazles though I find he is much recovered. Then proceeded to Mr. Daniel Hardys where I dined.

Thence to Mr. *Bigolows* and searched into their Disquietments and Dissentions. Rebuked and instructed and exhorted each of them with all plainness and faithfulness that I could -- left 'em with most solemn Warnings and Charges. Visited at Mr. Jonah Warrin's, his Wife being weak and Molly lately ill. At Eve Mr. Daniel Forb. here.

1759 February 22 (Thursday). Visit Mr. Nurse and prayed with him as I did yesterday Morn. Have his Horse and Sleigh for my Wife and I to visit Capt. Maynard and his Wife under their great Troubles -- though now much abated. We dined there. P.M. I rode over to Mr. *Seth Rice's* to visit especially his aged Mother. N.B. had more direct and Smart Talk with him than ever -- particularly about preaching there to his Mother: which he says he will not hinder but he will not consent to. At Eve Master Nathan Stone here and lodges with us.

1759 February 23 (Friday). Young Master Stone returns home. Robert Hearty, a Dutch man, dines here. Received (I suppose per favour of Capt. Tainter of Watertown) a Letter from Mrs. *Prudence Hill* of Cambridge, who is not So obliging as I could wish.

1759 February 24 (Saturday). Mr. Daniel Adams brought a young Sow which I have bought of him @ 14d per pound alive. She weighs 80 lb., and is about 6 months old and for her I immediately paid him by a Note to the Collector Jonathan Fay.

1759 February 25 (Sunday). Read Ezra 5, Act 5. Preached a.m. on Col. 3.3. Told the Congregation I could not divide the Sermon to make two Exercises -- therefore delivered my whole preparation at once. P.M. repeated sermon on Isa. 7.14 to p. 15 and used Several of the uses in p. 18, but omitted from p. 3 to 9. My wifes Kinswoman Capt. Maynards Wife, dined here.

1759 February 26 (Monday). Neighbour *Seth Morse's* Child sick, I went over to see it. Some time after, they supposing it to be dying, Sent for me again. At night came Mr. Forbush from Brookfield -- lodges here.

1759 February 27 (Tuesday). Mr. F. sets out for Boston to try for his wages as Chaplain etc. I rode round to t'other House Visiting at Joseph Gamels, widow Rogers's and Frosts. Mr. Rice and I agree what he shall do about the Division of the West scaffold English Hay -- and divers other Things relating to the Orchard, Fencing stuff etc. Ebenezer Rice junior is supposed to have the Meazles. It is also at Capt. Woods and Widow Newtons.

1759 February 28 (Wednesday). Neighbour Morses Child buried. 'Tis their only Child, a son of 8 months old -- dyed of the Canker. N.B. Deacon Burnap here: a great Interruption to me as I am endeavouring to prepare a sermon to the young men.

1759 March 1 (Thursday). Preached a Lecture to Young people chiefly directed to the Society of young men; on 2 Tim. 1.4, latter Clause and the 5th v. N.B. a Number of the Neutral French were at Meeting, viz. Peter and Magdalene LeBlanc, Miss *Anne Robishow* and *Modesty Landre* from Acton and [*blank*] *Duesett* from Newbury. They were here after Meeting as were a great

many other people occasionally. N.B. Deacon Tainter and Neighbour Seth Morse killed two Hogs for me, about 340 weight together, and Deacon came also at night to cutt out and Salt up.

1759 March 2 (Friday). I visited at Capt. Woods: John Wood and Daniel *Shay* having the Meazles: at Neighbour Zebulun Rice's, his son Enoch being ill -- and at the Widow Newtons, Rachel, Lydia and Josiah having the Same Distemper. P.M. my wife visits Neighbour Nurse. At Eve my son Forbush returns from Boston, goes to his own Fathers and

1759 March 3 (Saturday). Returns here in the morning as he pursues his Journey home. I bought a Barrow of Neighbour Seth Morse at 15 d. alive -- Weighed 71 lb.

1759 March 4 (Sunday). Read Ezra 6, Acts 6. Preached a. and p.m. on 2 Tim. 1.4, last Clause -- and v. 5. Mrs. Dunlop and Widow Joanna Forbush, as well as Master *Bowman*, dined here. P.M. when I appointed the Sacrament and Lecture I desired that Considering the Business of tomorrow and the Lecture on Wednesday, the Family Meeting, which according to Agreement was determined to be on Tuesday next, might be put by till the next Month.

1759 March 5 (Monday). Though it was a great Storm of Snow yet it did not hinder the Towns assembling. Deacon Pond came with Lt. Holloway to bring the Towns Desire that I would go to the Meeting House to pray with them, which I did.

N.B. Deacon Livermore here. I talked with him about the Town Debt to me, and enquired into the Reason of the Towns treatment at their Meeting Dec. [blank] 1755 when he was moderator and sent me such Votes as I received signed by him. Lt. Holloway also being here I talked with him about the Same. Young Mr. *Martyn* came And when I was going to send a Message my Self, he Answers that it was his Fathers Desire that I would preach his Lecture the same Day that I have appointed my own to be.

My Daughter Sarah has been and remains grievously exercised with Tooth-Ach. Blisters for it. As far as I can gather, all that are now sick of the Meazles in this parish are upon the Mending Hand. Blessed be God! Had a Reckoning with Lt. Rolf, and pay him £11.4.6 old Tenor.

1759 March 6 (Tuesday). The Widow Newton having sent me word yesterday that She had some money to let to me if I needed it (It was by her son *Paul*, who wanted to hire it, but She told him She could not let him have it, if I wanted it), I went to her and hired of her upward of 32£ old Tenor. N.B. I took up the Several Notes I had heretofore given and paid the Interest of each of them to this Day, and gave her New Notes of this Day, one for £8.13.4 Lawful Money or 65£ old Tenor, the Other for £1.6.8 Lawful Money or 10£ Old Tenor. In Every Thing respecting it, I was very punctual and Exact as if Deacon Newton himself were now alive. *Sarah* goes first to Dr. *Chase* to get her tooth pulled out; but in Vain; he was not at home. Thomas went with her in Mr. Nurse's Sleigh. I visit Mr. Nurse -- his Sleigh goes again to carry Sarah to get her tooth pulled. Alexander drives for her. She goes to Mr. *Biglow*, who took it out, though bad to draw. At Eve Deacon Tainter here. Tells me he has been to Sutton; and to see Mr. *Welman*

who remains very Stiff -- vindicates himself and says he has Done no Evil. Which fills me with much Grief.

1759 March 7 (Wednesday). No body to preach my Lecture but my Self, and it was well I troubled no body to come to preach, for it was so very cold I feared there would be but very few to hear. I preached on *Isa. 7.14*, repeating with additions etc. After Lecture paid Deacon *Bond* 30£ which I owed him by Note. Righteousness is as pleasing to God as Sacrifice, and more so. Send Word by Mr. *Bigelow* to his Wife not to come to the Communion next Sabbath.

1759 March 8 (Thursday). Young Messrs. *John* and *Michael Martyn* here, going to Hopkinton. Mr. *Beeton* here p.m.: wants some writing, of the Nature of a Quit Claim, from him to Mr. *Ebenezer Rice*. At Eve *William Stone* was here again upon the Affair of his joining to the Young Mens Meeting. After repeated professions of Repentance of what has been amiss in Time past, and promises to live a Sober Religious Life, I consented he Should be admitted, if the Society vote it.

1759 March 9 (Friday). Mrs. *Bigelow* here -- and I talked with her, with closeness and plainness; she acknowledges She has been over taken with Drink Since she was here before -- and asks Forgiveness. I told her I was ready to forgive -- but she must be sensible how aggravated her sin was become -- that She must mainly ask forgiveness of God and must reform. That it was So much known in the Neighbourhood that there must be a publick Confession. I also told her I would not have her to come to the Communion next Sabbath. P.M. Mr. *Bigelow* himself came - - not knowing that his Wife had been there.

1759 March 10 (Saturday). Sequestered to my preparations -- in one respect and another -- O that God might succeed me therein!

1759 March 11 (Sunday). Read *Ezra 7, Act. 7*, preached a. and p.m. on *Col. 3.3*, latter part. Administered the Sacrament of the Lords Supper. May God accept our Sacred Offering through Jesus Christ! Deacon *Tainter*, Mrs. *Bond* and Mrs. *Burnap* (wife of Mr. *John*) dined here.

1759 March 12 (Monday). The precinct Sent a Committee to desire me to go to the Meeting House and pray with them at their Meeting to choose precinct Officers. Which I did. At Eve *Jonathan How* and *Daniel Forb. junior* here on a Matter of Difficulty between them, they being members of the young mens society. It is deferred for the sake of having *Roger Bruce* with them, he being a Witness of what *Jonathan* Said.

1759 March 13 (Tuesday). Visit Old Mr. *Fay* and his Wife. Met *Ensign Fay* on the Road. N.B. his son *Hezekiah* has badly cut himself. Prayed with the old Folks. Mr. *Samuel Fay junior* with me. Had further discourse with him about his Neglect of divine Ordinances. P.M. visited at Mr. *David Maynard*, a number of the Children being ill of the Meazles. Was at Mr. *Nurse's* returning as well as going. Prayed at each of the Houses. When I came home received a Letter from my son *Baldwin* to inform me that his Father *Baldwin* dyed yesterday morning and to desire me to go to the Funeral tomorrow.

1759 March 14 (Wednesday). The Morning was very stormy. Snowed and blowed, so that I Soon gave up all Thoughts of going to the Funeral of Brother Baldwin. Neither could I so much as go to Southborough where I had designed before I received the Letter from my son Baldwin. When it ceased snowing I rode up to Mr. Zebulun Rice's, Several of his Children having the Meazles. N.B. This afternoon a Vendue of the late Mr. *John Rogers's* Place -- to be at Mr. *Bruce's*. Reckoned with Mr. Jonah Warrin, and with Mr. Zebulun Rice and gave them Notes to the Constable Mr. Jonathan Fay. *Thomas* at *Bruce's* at Night.

1759 March 15 (Thursday). Visit and pray with Mr. *Nurse*. *Miss Persis Rice* here to work for my wife, in some *Tayloring* (as they speak). My son *Thomas* not well. P.M. Visit Messrs. *Daniel* and *Timothy Warrins* Familys, there being a great Number in each sick of the Meazles. Eleven in both. I prayed with each Family. Visit at Neighbour *Bathericks* and at Lt. *Forbush's*. At my Return home found *Thomas* in a great perplexity about going to *Hopkinton*, to Mr. *George Crosmans* Wedding -- being delayed, and disappointed of an Horse, He could neither go nor know how to stay.

1759 March 16 (Friday). Was Sent for to Mr. *Nurse's*, Dr. *Prentice* being come. I went, found his wife also there. The Doctor judges the Tumour is of Scrophulous kind -- that the Patient is much wasted, is [hectic?], and he fears will not stand it long. The Doctor and his Wife dined with me. Michael Robishow and two other young French men (one from *Mendon*, the other from *Lebanon*) here, and dine here. P.M. Mr. *Charles Morris* of *Hopkinton* here. Thus my Day, in which I longed after my study, was chiefly taken up. N.B. finished reading the late Mr. *President Edwards* on *Original sin*, which I desire to thank God for! And pray it may have a happy Success!

1759 March 17 (Saturday). I sent a line Yesterday per Dr. *Prentice* to Mr. *Cushing* to change with me next sabbath. To day Mr. *Jonas Stone* comes with a message of like kind from Mr. *C.* to Me, accompanied with a Desire that I would Change with him and visit a young woman in *Shrewsbury*, *Susanna*, Daughter of Lt. *Zachary Smith*; in a low Condition and in Danger of Death. I rode to *Shrewsbury* but the Rain together with the badness of the Roads and the Night would be very Dark, I went to Mr. *Cushings* and lodged there. Mr. *C.* here.

1759 March 18 (Sunday). In the Morning Mr. *Job Cushing* junior accompany'd Me to Lt. *Zechary Smiths*, to visit his Daughter *Susanna* who had sent for me. She was exceeding low, yet had her senses. And, by what She said, Seemed to have strong evidence of a gracious State -- but I went through an Examination and gave her Strict and Solemn Charge to do her utmost in self-Search. She had also a sister, *Mary*, who was very bad, was delirious. I prayed by them and hastened back to Meeting. Preached a. and p.m. on *Eph. 1.7*. N.B. The School-Master Mr. *Ebenezer Sparkhawk* there. At Evening, after prayer, I returned. Called at Capt. *Allens*, who lent me the 2d Vol. of *Henry on the Bible*. Mr. *Cushing* being at the widow *Smiths*, I called a while there. Thus, it being very bad traveling also, I made it late home: Every body being in Bed.

1759 March 19 (Monday). I visited several weakly, afflicted people, Mrs. Mary Stewart -- the Aged *Widow Woods* -- Ensign Miller. Called at Deacon Tainters and Supped there. When I returned home several young Men here, viz. *Jonathan How*, and *Roger Bruce*. Afterwards *Daniel Forb.* junior here. But the Difference subsisting between the first and last still subsists and they leave it so. N.B. Mr. Robert Keys of Wachusett, at the Door in a sad plight, I fear the worse for Drink.

1759 March 20 (Tuesday). Visit Mr. Nurse. N.B. A New Swelling in his Groin. I instructed, and prayed for, him. Deacon Tainter and Mr. Samuel Grow dined with us. Was prevented going to See sundry Familys, who have the Meazles, by the heavy Rains. N.B. *Thomas* who rode away yesterday, returns to Day p.m.

1759 March 21 (Wednesday). It was heavy and wettish Weather, but I rode out to Visit divers Familys that have, or have had, the Meazles, viz. Mr. Beetons, Widow Smith where I dined, Messrs. Jonathan Fay, Phinehas Hardys, Joseph Bruce's. I visited also Mr. *Reuben Maynard*. Mr. William Nurse, Mr. Nat. Whitney, Monsieur *LeBlanc*. Mrs. *Jemima Miles* here. She desires me to assist Mr. Cushing in the Exercises of a Fast on account of her Husband to be at their House next week.

1759 March 22 (Thursday). Notwithstanding the Snow I again Visited. First Mr. Nurse and prayed with him. Then Mr. Martyn where I dined. Lt. *Wood*, the Clothier, who gave me the dying of my black Jacket: In returning home called at Capt. Maynards and received Billys Wages of Mrs. Maynard -- her Husband not being at Home, but was at Thomas's shop yesterday (without coming into the House) and desired I would come and take the Money. And I gave a Receipt to Mrs. Maynard for it -- for £13.15.10.2 Lawful Money -- £103.9.0 old Tenor.

1759 March 23 (Friday). My Son Baldwin came from Sudbury and is in his Journey home. He lodges here. Capt. Fay Orders a Training next Tuesday, the Day for the Fast at Mr. *Joseph Miles's*.

1759 March 24 (Saturday). My Son Baldwin having told me that he had received the Wages of his other Prentice's, and that he expected *Billys* -- withall Shewing me his Orders from *Billy* to receive them of Capt. Maynard, I delivered him every farthing of what I received of the *Captains* Wife on the 22d. This I have done for the Sake of Peace and to induce my Son *Baldwin* to carry it well to *Billy* -- yet am not satisfied with the Justice of the Demand.

P.M. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ went up to Capt. Allens at Shrewsbury and returned at Evening in Safety. She went chiefly to buy a Lining for my old Gown.

1759 March 25 (Sunday). Read Ezra 8 and Act 8. Preached a. and p.m. on *Col.* 3.3. May God Himself magnifie His Power and Grace through my Weakness and Meanness! Mrs. *Dolly Rice* and the Widow *Sara Smith* dined here with us. N.B. Enlarged the Time of Intermission to Two Hours. Sung twice p.m. In the 2d Singing began Ps. 119. Read the Proclamation for the Publick

Fast -- and mentioned at Fast to be (by divine Leave) at Mr. Joseph Miles's in Shrewsbury next Wednesday: first Exercise to be at 10 a.m.

1759 March 26 (Monday). Visit Mr. Nurse and prayed with him -- N.B. was there twice to Day.

1759 March 27 (Tuesday). Training -- The Company met to See who would 'list to go into the designed Expedition. I prayed with the Company and it being rainy we went into the Meeting House.

1759 March 28 (Wednesday). Fast at Mr. Joseph Miles's on the Account of his Dejection and Gloomyness. It was so rainy that my Wife did not go. I did not get there till (as I suppose) full ten o'Clock -- I waited about 3/4 of an Hour, and no other Minister coming and a considerable Assembly being gathered, I began prayer and preached on Jer. 31.18. ["I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou are the LORD my God."] I had prepared so much for the present Occasion as made it a long Exercise. Mr. Cushing and Mr. Hutchinson came in prayer Time. Mr. H. prayed p.m. Mr. C. preached on Ps. 34.19. ["Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them."] May God accept our offerings and bless the Word to us, and particularly to poor Mr. Miles, who is wonderfully cast down.

1759 March 29 (Thursday). My Kinsman Mr. *Adam Brown* of Ipswich, on a Journey to Connecticut, was here and dined with me. Deacon Tainter goes to Market, to Boston, and carries something for my Wife. N.B. A number of Men at Work in Clearing Some of Capt. Maynards Land, and preparing it for the Burying place. For the Fencing it some bring Fencing Stuff, Some are digging stones. I give them a few Rodds of Addition. N.B. Mr. David Maynard, Mr. Phinehas Hardy and Mr. Moses Warrin are there and hear me.

1759 March 30 (Friday). Men come to work about the Burying place but the Rain beats 'em off before Noon. Mr. Thomas Frost dines here -- he lends me 50£ old Tenor. P.M. Granny Maynard here. She brings a great number of Fish of various sorts (36) which we [were?] caught in their Brook.

1759 March 31 (Saturday). Messrs. Whitney, Hardy, Ensign Fay and the other proprietors of the upper stables give, and desire me to take away, the Muck out of their stable. Mr. Phinehas Hardy Said and not only this Year but as long as it stands. To which the rest, I conceive, accorded.

P.M. Mr. Thomas Whitney nigh Evening came from Mr. Reuben Maynards to desire me to go up there, Mr. Maynard himself lying in a very low Condition, very insensible and tis feared will never Recover. But his Wife is worse than he, and tis conceived is near her End. The Neighbours think She is dying, and earnestly desire me to go up there now immediately. This was the Message. While I prepare Mr. Whitney runs to Mr. Nurse's for an Horse. We ride up there (though it rains hard) and find a distressed House. The Doctor concludes the woman is in

the Agony of Death. I prayed with the Neighbours and Family for them. It proved so exceeding Dark and So stormy I could not go home. Spent part of the Night there. About midnight with Some Men to pilot, got over to the widow Smiths and lodged there.

1759 April 1 (Sunday). Returned to Mr. Maynards. He is Somewhat more sensible but far from being come to his Reason. The Woman alive and has had returns of Fitts all Night -- looks exceeding Ghastly and terribly. Prayed with 'em and returned home -- but very much worn and fatigued -- have taken Cold and am poorly capable of performing the Divine Services of the Day -- Yet I went through them as God enabled me. I read *Ezra 9* and *Acts 9*. Preached on *Col. 3.34*, chiefly latter part. P.M. repeated sermon on *Hos. 7.14*, latter part because of the Approching Fast -- hoping that Such Meditations might promote (by divine Help) our preparation for that solemnity. My Wife is So ill She can't dine with us.

1759 April 2 (Monday). My Wife is still worse. A great Cold, Head Ach and Fever. My little *Hannah* first goes across the Room. I visit and pray with Mr. *Nurse*. Visit Mr. *Williams* he being not well and could not till now, go to See his only Daughter, *Maynard*. But when he now goes out to mount his Horse, a Messenger meets him and informs that *Mrs. Maynard dyed last Evening*.

1759 April 3 (Tuesday). My Wife no better. Send for the Doctor but in vain. Delivered a 33£ (old Tenor) piece of Gold and another of 18 O.T. to Mr. *Daniel Forb.* to carry, the first to *Col. Brigham*, the other for Capt. *Ezra Taylor of Southborough*. A Comet was Seen this Morning. P.M. attended the *Funeral of Mrs. Dorothy Maynard*, wife of Mr. *Reuben Maynard* Aged about 35 or 36. A very sorrowful instance of human Frailty! Her first Fit was Sudden, on *Thursday* last -- after which she never recovered. May God Sanctifie this awfull stroke. My Wife still worse.

1759 April 4 (Wednesday). The Fever increases upon my Wife. She keeps her Bed. Sarah goes with little *Hannah* to Mrs. *Joanna Forbush's* to wean the Child. Molly Pratt here to help us -- washing etc. Mr. Thomas Kendal dines here. Mr. *Blanc* and *Claud Du Gas* here. Lois Wood here and watches. Dr. Chase here to see my Wife.

1759 April 5 (Thursday). *Publick Fast*. Preached a.m. repeating with Some Variations on *Isa. 58.5*, last Clause chiefly. P.M. delivered what I had prepared on this Occasion on *Hosea 9.12*. My Wife keeps her Bed. Patty *Dunlop* comes to help us. Sarah returns, but goes back to Mrs. *Forbush's* at Night. Dr. Dexter was called in to see my Wife. Dr. Chase also had been here. At Eve Lt. Rolf. N.B. I was up before Day this morning and looked for *the Comet*, but did not see it.

1759 April 6 (Friday). Visit Mr. *Nurse* and prayed with him. He is thought to be worse. Capt. *Maynard* and his Wife and their little *Thanky* rode here in their Chair. Training of Capt. *Fays* Company, to See what they will do about enlisting. I prayed with the Company, and dined with the Officers at Capt. *Woods*. In their afternoon Exercise they try for enlisting.

1759 April 7 (Saturday). My Wife so ill and Dr. *Chase* not coming as he had promised, I Sent to Dr. *Crosby*, who came. P.M. Mr. *Stone* came and desires me to change with him; but when he

saw our Affliction, he goes to Mr. Martyn. Before he goes he reads me a Letter Sent him by Capt. Taylor and Signed by him, Capt. Aaron Fay, Manasseh Stone, and [blank] containing offers and Insults -- which Mr. Stone answered with Reprehension and Resentment. N.B. Mr. Samuel Williams was with me in the Morning to acquaint me with the Death of his son *Maynard* yesterday -- and that it was desired I would attend the Funeral this afternoon. I therefore proceed to prepare for it. Afterwards his Son Eleazer comes and tells me he hears there is an Alteration of the Time, to tomorrow after Exercises. After this Mr. James *Maynard* came and told me they had concluded to bury his Brother tomorrow after the publick Exercises, for as much as they could neither get ready to Day, nor keep the Corps till Monday. But the Time was so taken up with these Several men, and the Circumstances of my Wife's Illness, that I could not prepare new sermons for the Sabbath. I wrote a few pages but did not complete the Discourse for One Exercise. My Heart has often wrought greatly on Such Occasions.

1759 April 8 (Sunday). In the morning my Wife was cool and calm as if She would Soon get Well again; made grateful mention of it in the public Devotions. Read Ezra 10, Act. 10. Preached a. and p.m. repeating sermon on Ps. 11.7, former Clause. Dr. *Crosby* here. Dr. *Prentice* who came to see Mr. Nurse came likewise. An Alteration arose in my Wife at, or before noon: She had an Ague Fit, Succeeded by a burning Fever. The Doctors, old Mrs. Dunlop, Mrs. Foster and [blank] dined here. When I returned and the Doctors with me after meeting, She was in a great Inflammation and Sweat. I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Reuben Maynard*, from his House to our burying place.

1759 April 9 (Monday). The Widow Newton watched with my Wife last night. She takes *Sophy* home with her; and little *Hannah* is at Deacon Tainters. By reason of *Patty Dunlops* uneasiness to go home, I rode to Lt. Brighams at Southborough to get Mrs. Suse *Gleason* to be in her Room, but in Vain. Was at Mr. Isaac Johnsons. Visit Mrs. *Gourdots* (or *Gurdow*) who has lost her son, his wife and a Child in *Canada*, at the Isle de *Orleans* of the small pox: and tells me 700 Neutral French had dyed of the same Distemper. Called at Mr. *Amsdens* to discharge my Duty to him respecting his Drinking and in particular laid to him his bad Condition on the Thanksgiving Day -- Not having had Opportunity to Speak to him of that till now. May God Sett home and prosper the Admonition! When I came home here was Mr. *Wellman* who came from Sutton, Supposing I had sent to him to come. He dined here. Dr. *Crosby* here. My Wife low, but her fit is gone off all this Day. At Night the Doctor here again in his Return from *Marlborough*, where multitudes have gone, it being the Day of the Mustering of the Soldiers, who are going to *Canada*. P.M. I also rode to the Widow *Thurstons* to get one of her Daughters to help us -- but in Vain. In my Way called to see Mr. Blanc and acquaint him with Mrs. *Gourdots* Troubles -- and to see Mr. James Miller and Family; and his Brother Daniels. At Deacon Tainters to see my little *Hannah*. *Nabby Rice*, Mr. *Zebulun's* Daughter, watches to night.

1759 April 10 (Tuesday). I rode out again for a Maid or Nurse to be in *Pattys* Stead -- obtain *Persis Rice*, who comes in the afternoon. My Wife was calm and cool in the Morning. At length She had a strong Ague Fitt, was sick and reached to Vomit; then came on Fever [blot]ness and Faintness; She can't part with *Patty* though *Persis* is here. Dr. *Crosby* -- and a great Variety of

Company. My son in Law *Baldwin* came; and informed that *Billy has listed* again, to go under him, who is going Captain of the Second (of *Captain's*) Companies in the first Battalion of Coll. *Ruggles's* Regiment: He supposes also that Mr. Forbush is going. I was very much struck at his Account of *Billys* going again. He dined here and soon went off to go to Boston, taking leave of me as Supposing he Should not See me again before his Marching. Dr. *Asaph Rice* from Berwick here. Mrs. Joanna Forbush, Mrs. *Joslin* who had fallen off from the Horse on which her son Whitney was waiting upon her home. She was greatly terrified and distressed, So that I was obliged to go out to her (at Mr. Whitneys Request) to compose her: in which I succeeded. Thomas rides my mare to *Marlborough*. At Eve Mrs. *Pratt* (wife of Neighbour Hezekiah) and she tarrys to Watch. The Doctor concludes my Wife's illness will turn to Fever and Ague. *Samme* is also ill. It Seems to be Fever and Ague. My Tryals are at this Time very various. May God sustain me! N.B. John Dunlop came with an Horse whilst I was in my Chamber writing the above, and carried off his sister without either of them saying one word to me.

1759 April 11 (Wednesday). My wife more Comfortable again. Sitts up longer than any Day since She was confined. *Billy* came home. Came from Brookfield yesterday, and from Worcester to Day. He coughs as one that has the Meazles and thinks he took the Distemper at his Brother *Parkmans*, he having been there several Times while the Children were coughing and ill of it. Mr. *Martyn* and his Wife here. Mrs. *Baker*, Mrs. *Maynard*, Mrs. *Thurston*. Persis Rice who lives here, watches and my Sarah with her.

1759 April 12 (Thursday). My Wife Very bad -- her Ague Fit stronger than Ordinary -- And her Fever Fit brings her into great Distress -- So that She is perhaps lower than at any time yet. *Billys* Meazles come out thick. He keeps Chiefly on the Bed, but went out twice. Dr. Crosby here and looks on him as well as my wife. *Samme* has his Fit of Fever and Ague likewise. Mr. *Moses Twitchell* works for me, mending Fence. *Suse Newton* comes to watch. I have a very poor Night my Self, with Care and Concern, tending Billy, yet have good help of *Persis Rice* and *Suse Newton*. I could not lye till Morning *but*

1759 April 13 (Friday). rose at  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 3 (though I took a Nap below). My Wife was expected to have a Well Day -- but it proved otherwise, for though She was got up, yet was She very ill. At 3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  p.m. she is aguish and it holds her to half after 5, and then comes on a Fever which continues into Night, to my great Distressing. I visited and prayed with Mr. Nurse, who grows worse; and says he is almost out of Hope of any Cure. *Billy* has the Meazles full -- and keep[s] his Bed all Day. All Things work kindly with *him*. *Samme* also is so well as to run abroad. Deacon *Tainter* from *Boston* -- brought my Wife a Bottle of *Madera*. At Eve Mr. Whitney, Mr. Wood, Mr. Daniel Forb.'s Wife here. Capt. *Wood* also -- who offers to go or send to Dr. *Wilson*. [I am?] writing to Dr. *Crosby* of it, to night, to be sent early tomorrow morning to him; I consented. And now O that God would be pleased to Sanctifie these sorrowful providences to me! Would He be pleased to extend His gracious Pity to His poor Hand-Maid, and grant her Relief to soul and Body for His Name's sake! Priscilla Rice and Lydia Newton watch.

1759 April 14 (Saturday). Thomas goes with my Letter to Dr. Crosby, while Captain Woods goes to Dr. Willson. And they both came. They dine with me, and retire to consult together. Dr.

*Willson* much inclines to give her a Vomit, yet She is So very weak it looks as if She could not Survive it: they conclude upon it and that Dr. Crosby come here to Meeting tomorrow, and in the morning administer it, and tarry to see it work. To my Surprize my eldest Brother came to See me at time of signal Distress. But he knew not of Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_’s illness when he sat out from Home. He is upon a Journey to Connecticut. My Wife has her Fit, both of Ague and Fever very strong; and she is extremely weak. *Billy* gets up and walks -- but keeps the Chamber. A great and noticeable Favour that he has the Distemper so moderately. But *Samme* is poorly -- So checkered is our State! May the Lord look upon us and be mercifull to us as He uses to do to them that fear His Name! Mrs. Bond watches.

1759 April 15 (Sunday). My Wife is exceeding Weak and low. It looks as if she would not survive it. She tells me in the morning She thinks it will be too hard for her. This sabbath morning is therefore very gloomy and sorrowful. My interruptions, Cares etc. have prevented my preparing any more than one sermon. Dr. Crosby came. Administered the vomit. It worked as many times again as the Doctor talked of -- a matter of Sixteens times. Read publicly *Neh.* 1. Preached on *Hos.* 9.12. My Brother keeps sabbath with us. The Doctor dines here. Read p.m. Acts 11. Repeated on 1 *Cor.* 6.9.10, some selected passages. My Neighbour Nurse being grown worse, at Eve my Brother and I made him a Visit and prayed with him. He was exceeding full of pain in his Back so as that he cryed out aloud. *Patty Dunlop* watches.

1759 April 16 (Monday). I rode with my Brother as far as Shrewsbury, and we dined at Capt. *Allen’s*. *Persis Rice* so indisposed, She goes home. *Jemima Maynard* is in her stead to help my Daughter Sarah. Her Mother has a fit every Day; and is in a low state. *Billy* rides to Mr. Dunlops to carry *Patty*. Mr. Dunlop works in my Garden. Widow [Woods?] watches. *Jemima Maynard* comes to work here. On the 16 Brother Hicks and his Wife from Cambridge here and lodge here. N.B. He is unreasonably set against Mr. *Wellman*, is very bitter -- declares he is a man that will not Stand by the Truth. My son William and *Jemima* were in hearing. I checked him smartly; and desired him to Say no more of these Affairs.

1759 April 17 (Tuesday). *Billy* leaves us to go into the Service. *Alexander* goes with him to help him on his way, as far as Shrewsbury. N.B. I gave him six Dollars; and he gave me a province Note of 8£ L.M. or 60£ Old Tenor. My Wife has her Fitts of Ague and Fever -- but I hope She is not so bad as heretofore. *Samme* has the Fever and Ague. Visit Mr. Nurse and prayed with him. Cousen Maynard here -- N.B. my ride to Mr. Jonathan Fay for money. Mr. *Woodward* and his wife ride to *Sutton* -- but they did not alight -- for I was not at home -- but met them near Capt. *Woods*.

1759 April 18 (Wednesday). Disappointed and perplexed about ploughing. Can’t get any done yet. Was at Capt. Maynards to reckon with him, but he was not at home. My Wife though somewhat feverish, yet escaped her Fit. Widow Newton watched last night again. Dr. Crosby here late at night.

1759 April 19 (Thursday). Miss Lavinia Baker watched last night. Visit and pray with Mr. Nurse. Mr. Benjamin Nurse and his Wife of Framingham, there. Lt. Rolf brings me a Pair of Boots he

has made for me, with English soals etc. Ebenezer Rice junior comes with a Yoke of Oxen. Alexander and he split Hills. Mr. Zebulun Rice brings a plough which he has made for me. I rode to Hopkinton. Went by Deacon Burnaps who took his Horse and rode with me through the worst of the Woods towards Dr. *Wilson's*, where my Business chiefly lay. I dined there. N.B. The Doctor generously gave me what ever he had done for me or mine. Mrs. *Henrietta Overing* is going to Rhode Island -- goes from the Doctors this Afternoon. I proceeded to Sir Harry Franklands Seat, kept now by Mr. Jacques Joseph *Villieout de Rohan* marrie avec Mademoiselle Frances [*blank*] de *Turenne*. He gave me such Slips, Branches, Cions, Seeds as I desired -- and lent me Du *Moulins* Book of Accomplishment of the Prophecys or Third Book of Defense of the Catholique Faith. I borrow'd it for the sake of a Trial with my Mr. *Blanc*, for it being in French I presume not to read much of it. In returning at Eve, called at Mr. *Barretts*, who is gone to Boston. My Wife had a Fit to Day.

1759 April 20 (Friday). Though She had no Fit to Day yet She lies in a Weak faint State, and was not up but a little while, during the Bed-making etc. *Samme* lies by with another Fit of Fever and Ague. Mr. [Ebenezer?] Chamberlain here and acquaints me with the great Difficulty he has been at in providing a place for the School and School-Master (now a little while before the Court). Upon which I Spake freely of the Folly, injustice and shamefull Conduct of the Town respecting that important Article of the School. Jemima watched last night.

1759 April 21 (Saturday). My Wife will not be perswaded but that She goes down Hill yet. Dr. *Crosby* called in here. I visited Mr. *Nurse* and prayed with him. There is a New Appearance upon his Tumor: where it has Sometimes of late oozed out a little Blood, as from a push; there is now a turning out of the Flesh about a large as a Womans Nipple. Sarah watched last night.

1759 April 22 (Sunday). Read Neh. 2, Act. 12. Preached a. and p.m. on Rom. 2.5. May God bless it to our thorough awakening! My wife I hope is somewhat better, though she is yet very weak, and sits up but very little. She has had no fit for several Days: And Sarah tended upon her in the Night. And now this Night *Thomas* waits on her.

1759 April 23 (Monday). Abroad after a Maid again. Went to Monsieur *Blanc's* for Magdalene but in Vain. P.M. Mr. *Cushing* and his Wife here to see us. The Widow *Forbush* brought little Hannah to see us.

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. I rode to Capt. *Maynards* but he was gone a Journey. N.B. Ebenezer *Maynard* junior was lately very grievously wounded in one of his Leggs by the falling down of an Axle Tree upon it. I saw it dressed. Mr. *Joseph Batchellor* of Grafton in Great Affliction by sickness and Deaths in his Family.

1759 April 25 (Wednesday). Though I sent to Mr. *Hutchinson* to come and preach my Lecture to Day he came not. N.B. He rode by the Door; and (notwithstanding Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ 's Sickness) did not call; but according to his Custom, Sent me his Message from the Shop, that he was pre-engaged. I preached my self on *Jer. XII.2*, latter part. N.B. There were so few at

Meeting, though good Weather, that I could not but take Notice of it, and lamented it in the Exercise. N.B. Mr. Thomas *Fessenden* (who is junior Batchellour) keeps School for a little while, at Mr. Francis Whipples's [*sic*] -- was here. Cousin *Maynard* and Persis Crosby also at Tea, after Lecture. Several Days of this Week I visit Mr. Nurse and pray with him -- he being Still in a dangerous State, and growing worse from time to time. Widow Betty Rogers helps us.

1759 April 26 (Thursday). I visited the Widow Martha Warrin, She being sick of a Fever, and pray with her. Capt. *Maynard* (being returned home) tells me if I will mend the Fence at his Meadow that joins upon me, I shall be welcome to the use of it.

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. At Mr. Nurse's.

1759 April 27 (Friday). Thomas has Capt. Maynards Mare and Mr. Nurse's Chair, and goes to Brookfield for Suse. I Send Ebenezer my great Cow Bell and a Dollar for his Son *Elias*. P.M. my Brother P\_\_\_\_\_ returns from Middletown, in Good Health, and Comfort, through the great Goodness of God and finds us far Otherwise than he left us, for whereas my Wife was then very weak and low, now she is greatly recruited and daily gathering Strength. To God all Glory. My Brother assists me in grafting Apricots and Apples which I brought from Sir *Henry Franklands* last week.

1759 April 28 (Saturday). My Brother early pursues his Journey home. Deacon Tainter comes from Boston, and has gratified my Wife with bringing her some Oysters. Thomas returns from Brookfield with Suse. Samme has Still the Fever and Ague.

1759 April 29 (Sunday). Read Neh. 3, Act. 13. Preached on 1 Cor. 11.23 and Administered the Ordinance of the Lords supper. Dr. Crosby, Cousen Maynard, Mrs. Taynter, Widow Forbush dined here. P.M. preached on Rom. 2.5. The Comet appeared at Evening in the South.

1759 April 30 (Monday). Visit Mr. Nurse and pray with him. N.B. Mr. Moses Nurse having carryed Capt. Ezra Taylor in full, delivered me, from him, my Note for two Guineas borrowed of him last year. P.M. Mr. Pratt kindly ploughs for me. Widow Betty Rogers leaves us.

1759 May 1 (Tuesday). Mr. *Pratt* came again a.m. to Sow and plough in Grain and Flax in my Orchard. Rode to Lt. Forb. to get him or his son to plow for me -- but with little success. Saw only his son. P.M. at private Meeting at Mrs. Grouts -- preached on Mat. 7.7.8. Would bless God for the Impressions on my own Heart, wish they might be preserved! Too few men there. In returning called to see Squire Bakers Wife who is Sick of a Fever or Fever and Ague. At home found Mr. Abner *Bailey* Minister of New Salem, in New-Hampshire Government and Master *Fessenden*.

1759 May 2 (Wednesday). Was designing to Marlborough but Deacon Tainter came and invited me and my Wife to dine at his House. Though it was a warm, pleasant Day, and though my wife went to the Door, yet she did not venture to go so far. I went and dined there. He invited Mrs.

*Blanc*, and I visited there; but she also was too poorly to go. Her daughters went. Mr. *Edward How* of Rutland (Son of the late Mr. *Nehemiah How*) here. He is trying to enlist men. Hear my son Thomas has already 'listed as a Batteau Man, under Lt. Rolf.

1759 May 3 (Thursday). A.M. came my son and Daughter Forb. with their Daughter *Molly*. They last night got only as far as Capt. *Maynards*. I catechized at the Meeting House a. and p.m. but had but few Children. P.M. Mrs. Dolly Rice and her Daughter Maynard here. Mr. Forb. rides to Dr. Wilson to get him to go chief Surgeon in Brigadier Ruggles's Regiment.

1759 May 4 (Friday). My wife so much better that She rides in a Chair to Neighbour Nurse's. I had been there in the morning and prayed with him. Alex. and Enoch Rice with two Yoke of Cattle, viz. Mr. Zebulun Rice's and Capt. Woods -- and Mr. Nurse's large plough, plow part of my stubble. P.M. ride with my Daughter Forb. to her Brother Forb. and thence to the Funeral of Mr. Elijah Rice's Child Sarah of about 3 and ½. Visited Ensign Miller who is sick. N.B. My son Forb. goes to Uxbridge, to See Mr. Jos. Manning in order to obtain him to preach for him, when he goes into the Camp. N.B. By reason of the Extraordinary Heat and Dryness of the Season there is an Extraordinary putting forth of the Trees -- and some Trees are blossomed, full out. A great Alteration this very day. *Baldwin* and his wife came.

1759 May 5 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1759 May 6 (Sunday). Read Neh. 4, Act. 14. My Son Forbush preached on Exod. 15.3. The Lord is a man of War. P.M. on [*blank*]. Deacon Forb. dined with me. A pleasant agreeable Sight to have my dear Daughters and their Husbands here with me.

1759 May 7 (Monday). Mr. Forb. Wife and Daughter leave us to go to Boston. Baldwin returning to Worcester expecting that the Muster-Master would be there for the mustering of his Company.

1759 May 8 (Tuesday). I rode to the Council at Sutton. Deacon Bond does not go with me but designs to meet me there. Mr. *Smith* of Marlborough and Deacon Wood come. Deacon Tainter also accompany me. N.B. Neighbour Joseph Baker sends an Hand to plough. Capt. Woods and Neighbour Nurse's Oxen. At Sutton we repair to Mr. *Bucks*. Rev. Weld and Delegates absent. Rev. Rice and Delegates came, but not having been there at the former session, were not of the Council because they were not before -- 12 Churches by their Pastors and Delegates constitute this Council. We proceeded to our Business. I lodged at Mr. *Welmans*, and Mr. *Dorr*, Mr. *Dunbar* and Mr. *Smith* lodges there also.

1759 May 9 (Wednesday). Somewhat unhappy by the divided Sentiments of the Council. The Contending Parties with us. I go to Squire *Goddards* at Eve and lodge there. Mr. *Maccarty* with me. N.B. Deacon Bond came but by vote was Refused to sit, because he was not with us at the first session last Fall. At Home -- *Adam Rice* and some part of Team, helps in ploughing a.m. P.M. Alexander works at Mr. Nurse's -- and at Eve is wounded in the Legg.

1759 May 10 (Thursday). N.B. Contests in Council. Mr. *Webb* and *Fish* very Opposite to Sundry others. The latter breaks out with the Meazles and goes home. Deacon Tainter, with leave of the Moderator, goes home, but N.B. *we vote by Churches*. I go to Mr. Wellman to lodge. At home -- p.m. Thomas goes with his sister Baldwin to Sudbury, and designing for Boston. At Eve comes a young man learning the Practice of Physick with Dr. Prentice, and come to Neighbour Nurse, lodges here.

1759 May 11 (Friday). A very dark, distressing Day to the Council, on consideration of what we feel in it. The Council Last night had determined there Should be a *Result*, and the Committee to draw it were *Parkman, Dunbar*, the two scribes, viz. *Morse* and *Maccarty*, and young Mr. *Dorr*. To Day they accomplished it -- and about 11 a.m. were ready to present it, but the aggrieved Party sent the Council a Paper Shewing that there were some Evidences which they wanted we should hear, which had not yet been called for. Therefore the Partys were called in, and a great Conference ensued, and hearing of more Evidences. This not only retarded the Council, but much embarrassed us. Nay some of the Members, Mr. *Webb* and Mr. *Gleason*, had hot Contests. Late p.m. our Result being finished was voted, signed and we published it. Rev. Mr. *Dunbar* prayed after reading it. Then the Council was Dissolved, and I returned home. Mr. *Smith* with me, and he though late and in the Rain continued his journey, designing to reach his own Family.

1759 May 12 (Saturday). My Family much indisposed. My *Wife* has much of her Illness remaining, though she is about House. *Sarah* lies by. *Suse* has grievous Head-ach. *Alexander* lame. *Samme* Fever and ague. *Hannah* very tendfull. I am much affected with what was done at the Council, and write my Exceptions against our last vote. Do something in preparing a Sermon on *Phil.* 2.1-5 but cannot make Dispatch by reason of the abovesaid Troubles.

1759 May 13 (Sunday). My *Wife* goes to Meeting. Read *Neh.* 5. Preach a.m. on v. 10 using my Exposition on the 8th Commandment that part which is on *Usury*. P.M. read Act 15. Preached on Ps. 34.14, using sermon on *Rom.* 12.18 from p. 14 at the bottom to the End, omitting the Additions. Mr. Fessenden dined here; as did Mrs. Tainter and her sister Harrington of Framingham. N.B. I publicly acquainted the Church in general with what we did at Sutton; and both the Church and Congregation with the Association Fast at Shrewsbury next Wednesday. Sundry Upton people here, Mr. *Fish* being confined by the Meazles.

1759 May 14 (Monday). *Suse* breaks out with the Meazles and keeps her Bed. Mr. *Richard Kelly* comes to work for me. *Alexander* gets a Yoke of Deacon *Bonds* Cattle and a Yoke of Mr. *Warrins*, and they harrow the Ground at the Island and behind the Meeting House. *Thomas* returns home from Sudbury so as to be at Dinner. I visited Mr. Nurse, whose sore has now turned out as big as an Egg. I prayed with him. My *Samme* and *Sophy* have each of them their Fit of Fever and Ague.

1759 May 15 (Tuesday). *Suse's* Meazles come out full. She keeps her Bed, but, through Mercy, is not extreme bad. Am troubled about my planting, having no body to work, not so much as *Alexander* freely, he having much Lameness in his wounded Legg. Yet many of my Neighbours

have done planting. I went to Mr. Ebenezer Forb. and obtained him to come, some time before noon. Neighbour Batherick Sent two of his Sons and his Horse to furrow in my Island -- but they neither came to dinner nor worked the afternoon. With much pains got a Team for Mr. Forb. to carry out Some Muck, but by various hindrances he accomplished but part of the work. I was obliged to go away from home, to visit Mrs. Bowman who is very bad: and sent for me.

1759 May 16 (Wednesday). Mr. Joseph Bruce, Mr. Zebulon Rice with a Boy, Isaac Woods and Benjamin Flood, came kindly and gratis to help me plant: and they accomplished the Island Field of about Two Acres. I left them to themselves and went to the Fast which the Association has appointed to be at *Shrewsbury* first parish. Messrs. *Martyn, Stone, Morse, Buckminster, Maccarty* and *Davis* at Mr. *Cushings*. Mr. *Cushing* prayed a.m. Mr. *Davis* preached on Isa. 1.11. P.M. Mr. *Martyn* prayed. I preached from *Josh. 24.15*, first and last Clauses. Returned at Evening. *Suse's* Meazels *turn* as it is vulgarly termed.

1759 May 17 (Thursday). Mr. *Martyn Pratt* and Mr. *Thomas Twitchell* came to help me in my planting and bringing Horses, they furrowed both ways and finished the Field by the Meeting House. I visited Mr. Nurse and prayed with him. I also visited Mrs. Bowman again, she being in a very hazzardous Condition. Mr. Bowman drooping, several of his Children have the Meazles: I dined there, and prayed with 'em. N.B. Mr. Ephraim Wards Wife here. *Suse* Sits up, and is (through divine Goodness) considerable comfortable.

1759 May 18 (Friday). *Thomas* goes with Lieut. Rolf to Bruce's to the Mustering of the *Bateau-Men*; and the Lieutenant tells me he expects he will be Clerk, there being no other that he knows of. I myself confined to my Study Send *Alexander* in Vain to one Neighbour and another for their Help to plough my North-East Yard. Neighbour Batherick here in Difficulty about his Deed of the *Rogers* Place, which he buys of Capt. Maynard. Little *Hannah* much out of Health.

1759 May 19 (Saturday). Though *Suse* keeps her room, yet She is able to work with her needle. A fresh Token of the divine Goodness! D.G.

1759 May 20 (Sunday). Read Neh. 6, Acts 16. Preached a.m. on Col. 3.9 and on Eph. 4.17.18. Stopped the Church and read the Result of the late Council at Sutton.

1759 May 21 (Monday). Visit Mr. Nurse and pray with him. P.M. rode to Marlborough to Mr. Ephraim Hows and pay him my Interest. Return and call at Mr. Larkin Williams but he was not at home. Saw his Wife; his Child ill. N.B. Neighbour Seth *Morse* works for me in fencing a Yard on south side of the Road and moving the Fence near the Burying place. N.B. A great Number of Men with their Teams are at work in making a Wall on the South Side of the Burying Place.

1759 May 22 (Tuesday). Visit Mrs. Bowman who is in a low Condition still, and prayed with her. Mr. Bowman has the Meazles. *My son Thomas* leaves us to go into the service. He has bought him an old Horse to ride on. Mr. Joseph *Manning*, and one Dr. *Dean* with him, visit me and dine here. Towards Evening come Mr. *Williams* of *Long Meadow* and Mr. *Breck* of *Springfield* and lodge here.

1759 May 23 (Wednesday). They leave us for Boston. Thomas returns, and goes off again. Mrs. Tainter and her sister Harrington dine here. P.M. came Mrs. *Maynard*, and with her Master Wheeler, Miss *Patty Smith* and her Aunt *Little*, heretofore *Dean*, to See us. Miss Betty *Johnson* part of the Day.

1759 May 24 (Thursday). Visit Mr. Nurse. Talk plainly with him in private, of some particular sins. Pray with him. Mr. *Daniel Miller* works for me clearing and sowing Hayseed. Miss Betty Johnson -- also Persis Rice work here -- turning my Coat. Mrs. Knowlton here and dines with us. Try in Vain for an Horse to go to Boston next week -- my Mare being ready to foal. Visit Mrs. *Bowman* again, who is yet alive, and pray with her.

1759 May 25 (Friday). Visit at Mr. Timothy Warrins. Deacon Livermore with Banisters for my Stairs. The young Women aforesaid are at work here. Alexander goes with John Wood to get Sand. My Perplexity very great about an Horse to go to Boston -- because I am necessitated to go, and none will shew Compassion. It sits very heavy upon Me. Surely they have not that Affection which they ought to have! Surely I deserve it not, through my own unprofitableness! At Eve came Mr. *Foster of Berwick* and lodged here.

1759 May 26 (Saturday). He left us. I visited Mr. Nurse. He desired his Wife and the Nurse to go out of the room. He would fain defend himself against what I said to him on the 24th. He wonders how he can be thought to be guilty of those sins which he says he always hated in others. Yet I endeavour to fasten the Admonition: prayed with him: he desires I would not so much as once think he is angry with me for my plainness. Mr. Marshall Baker here. Mr. Thomas Twitchell informs me that Mrs. Bowman dyed to Day about 12 o'Clock. By my visiting the Sick, by various Company etc., this week, have been greatly taken off from my studys: but especially by Mr. *Fosters's* coming; and then pleading off from preaching for me: and by Time spent in trying to get an Horse to go to Boston next Week. Cousen *Needham* came.

1759 May 27 (Sunday). Read Neh. 7, Act. 17. Preached on Col. 3.9 a.m. and p.m. on Eph. 4.17.18. Mr. Fessenden dines here.

1759 May 28 (Monday). Cousen *Needham* left us. A.M. attended Funeral of Mrs. Bowman. Obtain of Deacon Bond his Horse to go to Boston, but I was obliged p.m. to go to Mr. Jonathan Fays for money. His wife delivered me £100 old Tenor. N.B. Esquire Goddard of Sutton here.

1759 May 29 (Tuesday). I sat out upon my Journey. Called at Coll. Brighams to Congratulate him and his New Wife upon their late marriage. Called also at Coll. Buckminsters, where were Rev. Messrs. Bridgham, Jones, Buckminster and Parsons of Brookfield. I dined at Mr. Cushings of Waltham. Went to Cambridge. Visit Brother *Champney* -- and sister Barrett who has grievous Lameness. Did not get to Boston till 9 at Night and in the Rain. Put up my Horse at Brother Samuels and lodged there. N.B. his House repairing. Cousen Winter very low.

1759 May 30 (Wednesday). Mr. Parsons of Bradford preached the Election sermon on Esth. 10.3. Dined in Faneuil Hall. Attended the Convention at Dr. *Sewalls*. Mr. *Wigglesworth* of Ipswich Hamlet moderator and prayed. A message from the Honorable Board, signed by the Lieut. Governor to the Convention concerning the Indecencies and Disorders at Ordinations. A Committee was Chosen to consider this important Affair: All the Convention, as one Man, heartily desirous to have those great Disorders reformed.

I left the Convention before they proceeded to the Choice of a Second to Mr. Balch, the preacher for Next Year. Visit Mr. Procter. Visit my Daughter *Baldwin* at Dr. *Wheats*. In the Way there Mr. *Jones* of Western saluted me as Elected etc. May God grant me a due sense of my Insufficiency, and Direct me to what is my Duty upon this Special Occasion! Lodged at Brother *Samuels*. N.B. First Visited Mrs. *Simson*, heretofore *Messinger*.

1759 May 31 (Thursday). At the Convention -- expressed my Sense of the Regard Shewn me -- but that I know not what to think of accepting it. Was soon overpowered by Mr. Moderator, Mr. *Appleton* and a Number More. Report of the Committee in Answer to the honorable Board read -- and after a few amendments Voted, and a Contribution for printing it. Mr. *Pemberton* preached on *Rom.* 11.13. N.B. the Lt. Governor and a Number of the Council present. The Collection something more than £300 old Tenor. Dined at Mr. *Pembertons*. N.B. His Honour the Lt. Governor, Rev. Messrs. *Chipman*, *Josiah Cotton*, *Byles*, *Morehead*, *Thomas Prentice*, *Mat. Bridge*, *Badger* -- and Mr. *Cary*, were the Company. [*illegible*] I Returned to the Convention it was but a few Minutes, having much Business and many visits to make. At Eve at Mr. *John Brecks*. Lodged at my eldest Brothers.

1759 June 1 (Friday). Visit Dr. P\_\_\_\_\_s Widow. Am grieved to see the Decay and Destruction of my dear Brother *Elias's* Estate. Little *Elias* sick of a Fever. Breakfast with sister *Rebecca*. Bought my Wife a Chints Gown at Deacon *Simsons*. Leave Dr. *Wheats* (where my Daughter *Baldwin* is) after noon. Rode to Mrs. *Hills* at Cambridge. Payed her principal and Interest £115 and odd money, old Tenor and took up my note. Dined there, at near 4 o'Clock p.m. Visit Mr. *Stratton* of Waltham and widow *Baldwin* of Sudbury. Got to Wards of Marlborough about 9. Paid my Interest there. Arrived at home about 11 at Night.

1759 June 2 (Saturday). Visit Mr. *Nurse* and pray with him. Am exceedingly tired and worried with my Journey so that I am very incapable to Studying.

1759 June 3 (Sunday). Read *Neh.* 8 and *Act.* 18. Preached a. and p.m. on *Heb.* 11.16. Mr. *Stretton* of Waltham and Mrs. *How* dined here.

1759 June 4 (Monday). Visit Ensign *Josiah Rice* who is Sick and low. Pray with him. N.B. The Bridge over *Assabet* River repairing. Capt. *Maynard* leaves home for the Army. Visit his Wife. Received a Letter from *Billy* Dated Albany May 27. N.B. Called to see Mr. *Nurse*.

1759 June 5 (Tuesday). Read *Cornelius Nepos* Lives of illustrious Men, which I borrowed of Dr. Wheat. Visit and prayed with Mr. Nurse. My wife and I at Lt. Rolfs who is sick: and his Family have the Meazles.

1759 June 6 (Wednesday). Cornelius Cook of Wrentham here. Lecture on Mal. 3.7. Master Fessenden here after Lecture. I visit the widow Warrin, whose little son *Daniel* is sick. N.B. I had visited Mr. Nurse a.m. who after his sore was dressed (which I saw and assisted in) was thought to be dying, but revived.

1759 June 7 (Thursday). Was much hindred by the Affair of Mr. *Noah How* -- yet he came not as was agreed. My Daughter Baldwin had appointed to come up from Boston, and with her Miss Hannah Wheat, and her Brother would wait on 'em -- but they did not come as was expected. It proves very difficult stirring by Reason of the Rain. Mr. How came near night -- so that I was obliged to dismiss him and his Affair, Sending him up to Squire Baker to help him. After nine at Night Moses Nurse sends for me to Visit his Father who they think will not live out the Night. Went in the Storm -- conversed and prayed with him. Returned about 11.

1759 June 8 (Friday). Am greatly distressed on Account of the British Fleet in the Eastern Seas and going up St. Lawrence -- it being very Tempestuous. The Lord remember his people and His Cause! at this Necessitous Juncture! for his great Mercys Sake! P.M. Mr. Noah How here. I finished the Draught of his Will for him, because (being a Batteau-Man) he is to march tomorrow morning. At Eve I went to see Mr. Nurse and prayed with him.

1759 June 9 (Saturday). At Eve came My Daughter Baldwin accompanied with Master *Moses Wheat* and his sister *Miss Hannah Wheat*. They came from Boston last Wednesday night and tarried over the storm at Squire Brigham's at Marlborough. My Daughter Seems Somewhat better. N.B. Master Moses went to Capt. Maynards where he left his Sister, and there they lodged. N.B. They bring sad News of Cousen Winter's being at the Point of Death, being given over, in great measure, by the Physicians.

1759 June 10 (Sunday). Read Neh. 9 and Act. 19. Preached a.m. on 1 Cor. 11.23 -- p.m. on Eph. 4.18. Administered the Lord's Supper. Admitted Mr. John *Belknap* and wife and Mrs. *Pratt* wife of Hezekiah into the Church. *Mr. Ebenezer Nurse* dyed about 2 this Morning, having lain in a very afflicted Condition for about 5 Months, under the holy and Sovereign Hand of God. May it be sanctified to all of us who are round about; but especially to those more nearly concerned! N.B. Mrs. Maynard and Miss Hannah Wheat dined here and the latter lodged here.

1759 June 11 (Monday). Mr. *Moses Wheat* came with Chair and Horses; and my Daughters *Baldwin*, *Sarah* and *Susan* rode with him and his sister to Capt. Maynards, where having dined, they went to Capt. *Allens* at Shrewsbury. Cousen Maynard went not with them for she was taken ill of the Meazles. I visited Lt. Rolfs Son who is very ill. I sell 7 Barrells of Cyder to Adam Rice for 40/ per Barrell. P.M. attended *the Funeral of Mr. Ebenezer Nurse*. At Eve My Children returned from Shrewsbury and Mr. Wheat and his sister lodged here. N.B. Rev. Mr. *Jacob Eliot* of Goshon in Lebanon here. Master Fessenden here. He borrows Dr. Souths Works Vol. 2, fol.

1759 June 12 (Tuesday). My Daughter Baldwin and the Company that kindly waited upon her here left us to go to *Concord* and *Newtown*, and design to return to Boston tomorrow. I carried my Wife over to see her Cousen *Maynard* who is confined by the Meazles. N.B. Much perplexed and disappointed in the Article of an Horse to plough among my Corn. None to be had, though it is only for a *beginning*, that a Number of Hands who propose to come to hoe for me tomorrow may not stand still when they come. But I can obtain none -- till I ride to Deacon Tainters -- who presently told me he had purposed to come to my House upon this very Affair. He takes his Horse from his own plough and rides with me and (Alexander being gone to Neighbour Nathan Maynards to work for him in his Weeding, since I can't go about my own, the Deacon) takes *Samme* and goes to ploughing in my Field at the Island. For whose His kind and generous Disposition, may God Himself reward him! Deacon Bond p.m. brought two load of Wood.

1759 June 13 (Wednesday). I rode to Southborough. *Dined at Mr. Stones*. Sundry of his Children have the Meazles, viz. Miss *Mary, Joanna, Thomas* and *Peter*. I preached the Lecture on Eph. 1.7, former part, to page [blank]. In returning called at the Widow Bents and paid her my Note (the principal), which I gave her on my son Ebenezers Account with Mr. Ebenezer Rice. N.B. she could not find the Note; so she gave me a Receipt, viz. of 3£ old Tenor. N.B. Deacon Tainter ploughed in my Island Field, and Mr. Ithamar Bellows and son, Seth Woods, James Bellows, Ebenezer Chamberlin junior, [blank] Belknap, and [blank] Woods came and hoed the most of that piece. For which I desire to thank God who inclines them thereto -- and may God Bless Each of them.

1759 June 14 (Thursday). Held a Catechetical Exercise to Young Women on the Decrees of God -- 21 or 22 present. Such Weather we cannot do any Thing at hoeing, nor can we get Help if we had Weather.

1759 June 15 (Friday). Mr. Moses Twtichell works for me, hoeing and ploughing. Dr. *Crosby* acquaints me that Mr. Tainters Child has the Quinzy and desires me to go and see it. It is with great Difficulty -- yet I went -- dined there -- went to Monsr. Leblanc's, because his son in Law Joseph [*Prowaer?*] from Manchester, with Wife and Child were there. Mr. Moses Twitchell plowing and hoeing.

1759 June 16 (Saturday). This Day, being according the Old Stile the 15th, makes up Thirty five Years Since I gave my Answer to the Call given by the Town of Westborough to settle in the Work of the Ministry among them. And to Day (by the kind Motion and Endeavours of Capt. Benjamin *Wood*) Eleven persons came gratis and hoed my Field at the back of the Meeting House. They were, Capt. Wood and his Son, Mr. Williams and his son, Mr. Daniel Hardy, Mr. Hezekiah Pratt, Mr. Moses Twitchell, John How, Adam Rice, Amon Le Blanc for Capt. Fay, and William Bowman for Neighbour Barny Newton, and they finished the Field by 11 a.m. A great Kindness and Relief to me! May God Himself reward them! Mr. Twitchell tarried and helped me in the East Yard, till noon, and dined with us. P.M. Mr. *Davidson*, of *Douglas*, heretofore of

*Sutton*, concerning whom so much was done there and at *Oxford*, was here, and detained me a great While: but it does not appear to be in my power to give him peace.

1759 June 17 (Sunday). Read *Neh.* 10 and *Act.* 20. Preached a.m. on *Eph.* 1.11 and p.m. on *Eph.* 4.18. Mrs. *Hardy*, wife of *Phinehas*, widow *Thankfull* and Widow *Elizabeth Rogers* dined here. After Exercises we attended the Funeral of Mr. *Benjamin Tainters* youngest son, *Josiah-Wood Tainter*, who dyed by the *Canker*, and very soon. Capt. *Wood* and I rode together in his Chair.

1759 June 18 (Monday). Visited *Hannah Woods* (eldest Daughter of Widow *Patience*), She being exercised with grievous Fitts. Visit also Ensign Miller and dined there. P.M. Mr. Richard Kelly here; have Controversie with him about the Doctrine delivered yesterday of the divine Decrees. N.B. Adam Rice draws off and loads up 6 Barrells of Cyder which he buys of me, together with a 7th to fill up with; and gives me 40/ old Tenor per Barrell. He sat out for Boston this Evening in Company with several other Neighbours with their Teams -- and some with Cyder.

1759 June 19 (Tuesday). Deacon Tainter was so kind as to take my Mare to teach her to draw, and I had his sons young mare to ride to *Holden*, it being the Time of Association there. The Ministers there were Messrs. Cushing, Martyn, Stone, Smith, Buckminster, Morse. See Association Minutes. Lodged at Mr. *Davis's*. N.B. Mr. *Davis* much out of Health.

1759 June 20 (Wednesday). This Day was to have been a Fast; but we have information that next Week is to be a public Fast through the Province. At the Lecture Mr. Mellen prayed and Mr. Cushing preached on *Hab.* 3.2. N.B. Mr. *Maccarty* came to Day, and with him Sir *Sparhawk*. There came also Mr. *Farrar*, a young preacher. When I came home, found that Capt. *Allen* and his Wife had been here this Afternoon (though they knew I was not at home) and my Wife also was gone to see her Cousen Maynard. N.B. Artemas Bruce has brought up the Baldwin Horse here.

1759 June 21 (Thursday). I visited Hannah Woods who has Fitts Still. *Sarah* rode my Mare to Marlborough. Capt. *Benjamin Eager* of Shrewsbury dyed last night.

1759 June 22 (Friday). Adam Rice returned from Boston last night. Adam got 2 Dollars per Barrell. He paid me £13.15.0 old tenor with which I was Satisfyed. Sarah returned from Marlborough. Alexander ploughs among the Corn with my mare.

1759 June 23 (Saturday). Sent a Letter to Brother Hicks, in answer to his of the 18th in which he replys to my Daughter Sarahs concerning Money which She delivered him when he went to Boston, to lay out for her. My Letter I gave to one Mr. *Offin* Burnham of Sutton. My Wife went to Mrs. Dunlops and Mrs. Pierce's. Mr. Fessenden and his Brother here.

1759 June 24 (Sunday). Rode over to the North End, and preached there a. and p.m. on *Eph.* 1.7 and baptized Samuel the son of Samuel Allen. At Eve I returned. Mr. Martyn came here and preached a.m. on *Prov.* 8.33.34.35. P.M. he preached on *2 Cor.* 3.18. Master Fessenden

and his Brother, also Mrs. Hannah Rugg, heretofore Pratt, dined here. *John* broke out with the Meazles yesterday; to Day is pritty full -- has a Fever. Is confined to the Chamber and bears it patiently. I desire to committ this matter to God relying upon His infinite Goodness and mercy to my Children who are exposed to be exercised with the Distemper.

1759 June 25 (Monday). John keeps his bed -- the Meazles being all over him and a Fever attending -- but no bad symptoms.

1759 June 26 (Tuesday). John so much better that I carryed him down below. Dr. Crosby dined here. I can't but regret all interruption to Day.

1759 June 27 (Wednesday). Dr. Charles Pyncheon of Springfield here at Mr. Forbush's request that something might be done about Dr. Wilsons going Surgeon of the first Battalion under Brigadier Ruggles. Nathan Kenny mowed my fore Yard, Garden and part of my little pasture. I am my self most closely engaged in my preparations.

1759 June 28 (Thursday). *Public Fast* on Account of the Expedition against Canada. The Fleet we hear has sailed for *Quebec*. I preached a. and p.m. on Ps. 60.9 to 12. May God bless His word and accept our Supplications!

1759 June 29 (Friday). Visited at Mr. Eleazer Williams, his oldest Daughter ill and languishing, and 3 or 4 others sick of the Meazles, and prayed there. Visit Joseph Harrington who is sick of a Fever and prayed there. After dining at home attended the Burying of Mr. Eb. Chamberlins infant Child. N.B. Mr. Joslin uneasy that I don't baptize Jenny Maynards Child on his account, he having taken it to bring it up; whereas the parents are rather to be laboured with and brought to their Duty, that it may be done upon their Account and not a strangers.

1759 June 30 (Saturday). Yesterday Morning Mrs. *Hannah Rice* came early to desire me to let her go and live in my t'other House (though there is a Family there already). To Day having thought of the matter (as I told her I would) I Sent her word that I declined it, because of the Difficult Circumstances of my Case -- upon which she sent me a Letter full of Resentment -- and to which I thought it necessary to write some Reply. N.B. Mr. Whitney, Deacon Tainter and his son, and Mr. Joseph Bruce came to help me in half-hilling. A valuable Token of their Kindness. May God reward 'em for it! P.M. Mr. Fessenden at Tea here.

1759 July 1 (Sunday). Read Neh. 11 and Act. 21. Preached the first Sermon on Eph. 4.18 and p.m. repeated with Alterations sermon on Ps. 78 against Hypocrisie: but used 1 Tim. 4.2, former part, for my present Text. May God be pleased to impress the awful Truths upon all our souls! I beg earnestly that my own Heart may be properly affected therewith. Master Fessenden dined here.

1759 July 2 (Monday). My Children much indisposed -- tis probable some of them have the beginnings of the Meazles. I visited Lieut. Forbush who as also his son *Ebenezer* is confined by sickness. I Should have gone to Hopkinton to see whether Dr. *Wilson* has a Mind to go Surgeon

in the Army, according to the Desire of Dr. *Pyncheon* that I would; but it prov'd a very rainy Day. *Alexander* carelessly fell from the *Baldwin* Horse and incapacitated him for Business.

1759 July 3 (Tuesday). I rode over to Mr. *Isaac Pratt's* and improved him to make a pair of Breeches for Me, since he so ingenuously own'd his Defect as to my son *Thomas's*. *Samuel* very drooping. So is *Sophy: Sarah* and *Hannah* not well -- but I miss *Alexander* most, because my Field behind the Meeting House is unhoed. P.M. I preached at Mr. N. *Whitneys* on Mat. 7.9.10.11. My wife according to her appointment went to *Marlborough* with her Cousen *Maynard*. *Suse* went with me to the private Meeting.

1759 July 4 (Wednesday). My Wife did not return last Night from *Marlborough*. My little *Sophy* broke out thick with the *Meazles*. *Samme* somewhat but not perfectly: the rest are about House. Mr. *Moses Twitchell* mowes for me, here at home. P.M. Deacon *Tainter* sends a Boy to hoe and *Phinehas Forb.* comes with him: afterward the Deacon himself now the Third Time to forward my Corn Field. He tells me it was somewhat hurt by the late Frost. At Eve my wife returns. Mr. *Twitchell* goes home.

1759 July 5 (Thursday). *Samme* and *Sophy* keep their Bed all Day: *Hannah* partly broke out -- so are *Sarah* and *Alexander* and keep on the Bed considerable part of the Day. I rode over to t'other House and to look up Help to hoe. Dined with Cousen *Maynard*. P.M. Visit the Widow *Betty Rogers*, her Daughter in Law *Suse* having been sick lately.

1759 July 6 (Friday). Divers of the Children have purgings. *Samme* has also signs of Canker. He sleeps very much. *Sophys* Meazles were in splotches and Spread over her yesterday. To Day she is better but is confined to her bed. *Sarah* is chiefly upon the Bed, breaks out in a Measure and So does *Alex* -- but neither of them fully. The latter has a great Cough. *Hannah* also Somewhat more broke out, yet the Distemper is to no ripeness with her. Mr. *Twitchell* came and mowed a while but the Rain beat him off. John Howe came to hoe, but could do little else than plough, with Mr. *Twitchell*, a.m. They dined here. *Twitchell* after dinner left my Work by reason of the weather. John Howe goes to hoeing. Several Neighbours came to help -- viz. the Four *Maynards*, *David*, *Ebenezer*, and *Nathan*, and Cousen *Maynard* Sends two hands, *Solomon* *Maynard* (whom Captain has hired) and *Jacob Garfield*, with a Cheese. So that my Field is a little enlivened again. And Mr. *Twitchel* returned again to his Mowing and worked till late and lodged here. A very faithfull, diligent Man! I wish I might be as faithfull in my Business as he is in his.

1759 July 7 (Saturday). Mr. *Twitchell* mows for me. We have a sick House. May God be gracious to us. *Hannahs* Meazles fully out, and she is very touchy and troublesome. P.M. Cousen *Maynard* kindly Visits us and helps her Aunt in tending the Sick. Mrs. *Newton* comes at Night, and these two watch with them.

1759 July 8 (Sunday). *Patty Dunlop* (by Desire) comes in the Morning to assist us and tarrys till next morning. Read *Neh. 12* and *Act 22*. Preached a.m. on *2 Tim. 3.7*. P.M. repeated two Expositions, viz. on *Mat. 5.9* and on *v. 10*. N.B. In the forenoon Exercise I used great Plainness

and Freedom. May God Himself be pleased graciously to own and accept what was agreeable to His Will. Cousen Maynard remains with us. She and her Daughter *Nanny* at dinner here as were Master *Fessenden*, Patty Dunlop. All the Children continue ill, though *Samme* and Sophy tis hoped are somewhat better. We desire publick prayers for them.

1759 July 9 (Monday). Patty Dunlop and Miss Nanny Bradish watched last night. The Children are better, through the divine Goodness and Mercy; To God be Glory! Mr. *Twitchell* came p.m. and mow'd. Mrs. Kimbal of Hopkinton dyed yesterday and is buried to Day.

1759 July 10 (Tuesday). Mr. Twitchell mows for me all Day notwithstanding it was very rainy. I am reading *Persian Letters*. N.B. The melancholly account of Mr. *Ponds* unhappy Conduct, at Narragansett No. 6.<sup>1</sup> May God Sanctify it to my own humbling and Caution! And O that He would pity all his Ministers under their Many Temptations and Infirmitys and remember the gracious promise "Lo I am with you etc." The Children much better. All of them go abroad, though they are weak still.

1759 July 11 (Wednesday). Having been repeatedly requested, I made a Visit to Mr. *Joseph Miles*, who remains in a poor, weak, dark distressed Condition. I conversed with him, but he would speak but rarely. His Wife was very full and manifested great Concern for him. Dr. Crosby came. We prayed together. I returned to dine at Home. P.M. raked Hay at the Island, and my two Boys *Alex* and *Samuel* are able to help me which though it be but in some Measure yet is it a great Favour.

1759 July 12 (Thursday). Visit Mrs. Nurse and borrowed her Chair to go to *Boston* next week. Neighbour Zebulun Rice Sends a son with a Team to cart in a small Jagg of Hay from the Island. Some of my Children are drooping -- at Times *Samme*, *John*, *Hannah*. We have the Melancholly Account of the Hurricane the Night before last at Leicester by which the House of Mr. [blank] Lynde was blown to pieces with [blank] persons in it. The particulars of the Damage not yet known here.

1759 July 13 (Friday). Though I sat my self to study yet meet with many Interruptions. P.M. frequent dropping in of Company. Mrs. Foster and her Daughter Twitchell, Cousen Maynard -- Mr. Artimas Bruce's Wife.

1759 July 14 (Saturday). Am oblig'd to write several Letters -- viz. to *Thomas* at Stillwater in Hudsons River, To *Billy* gone over the Lake. To Mr. Martyn to desire him to improve the ministerial meadow this Year.

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<sup>1</sup>Other than Parkman's reference to the "melancholly account," Clifford K. Shipton was unable to learn anything more about the dismissal of Daniel Pond (1724-c. 1797), Harvard Class of 1745, from his ministry in Templeton; *SHG* 11:567-68.

1759 July 15 (Sunday). *Read* Neh. 13, Act. 23. Preached a.m. on 2 Tim. 3.7. P.M. used the Exposition on Mat. part of No. 27 and No. 28 with some Additions. Master Fessenden, Capt. Foster and his Wife dined here.

1759 July 16 (Monday). I rose early; Sat out in Mrs. Nurse's Chair and the Baldwin Horse some time before the Sun. At Mr. Stone's just when he rose. Broke Fast at Coll. Buckminsters. Baited at Mr. Ebenezer Hammonds. Dined at Dr. Wheats at Boston where I arrived at about 3/4 after one; when they were almost ready to sit down at Table. P.M. at *Brother Samuels*. His Daughter *Bradford* had a Daughter about a fortnight old -- named *Elizabeth*. N.B. her husband came home two Days before the Child was born. Mrs. Winter in a low Condition. Put up my Chair and Horse, and lodged my self, at Brother *Samuels*. Capt. Bradfords Brother from Rhode Island lodged there with me.

1759 July 17 (Tuesday). Visited most of my Relatives -- my Kinswoman Winter remains in a very low Condition, at Deaths Door. Dined at Cousen Langdons. Visited Cousen *Hearsy* who has returned to her Husband but she deeply regrets it. At Eve at Cousen *Oliver's*. N.B. She was brought to Bed this Morning with a Daughter, which she calls *Mary*. N.B. This Afternoon Lt. *John Small of Scarborough* having prepared a large Draught of the Eastern Country, by direction from the Governor and at the Province House, goes with me there to Shew it me, and it appears to be done with great Ingenuity and Correctness. I lodged again at my Brother *Samuels*.

1759 July 18 (Wednesday). My Brother Samuel made me a present of an handsome black Coat, lined with Alapeen, for which generous Benefaction the Lord graciously reward him! I brought up my Daughter Baldwin from Dr. Wheats to Cambridge, it being *Commencement*, but it was so late that the forenoon Exercise was begun, and it was a very hot Day, So that I did not go to it. I dined in the Hall. N.B. Mr. *Webster of Salisbury* returned thanks; as whose appointment I know not. But it look as if it was designed beforehand, Since he, though so young a man, compared with many others, Sat at the Governors Table. Attended the public Exercise p.m. President under Languor by reason of Indisposition. Mr. *Lovell* Orator, with good success. N.B. My Daughter *Baldwin* at Meeting also. We lodged at Sister Barretts. [*Marginal note*: I paid him 50£ and Mrs. Stoddard 30£. I bought Salmons geographical *Grammar* and a Bible for Alexander. These of Mr. Winter.]

1759 July 19 (Thursday). I carryed her into the Library. I dined at Mr. Appletons. Was the oldest minister there. Mr. Daniel Rogers of Exeter the only one besides. Coll. Dyer of Windham there. P.M. we rode to Watertown to Mr. D. Whitneys and to Brother *Harringtons* where we lodged.

1759 July 20 (Friday). Rode home. N.B. called at sister *Baldwins* and Mr. *Wymans* in *Sudbury* and at Miss *Mary Shermans* in *Marlborough*. The Family at home were in some Comfort, except the drooping of some of those who had the Meazles. Sarahs Relicks of the Distemper breaks out in a bad finger. Samuel is weak and pale. John has something of Fever and Ague:

and Hannah has sore Eyes. 4 Letters from the Lake -- 2 from Baldwin. Mr. Barrett visits here while I was at Commencement.

1759 July 21 (Saturday). My Family Circumstances and my own Indispositions prevent my preparing Sufficiently, though I have in some part, for the Sabbath. *Lucy* comfortable except her Earnestness to go to Brookfield and to see her son.

1759 July 22 (Sunday). Read *Esther* Ch. 1 and Act. 24. Preached a. and p.m. on Jer. 4.4, latter part, repeating with variations some parts of Sermon on 2 Sam. 21.14 from p. 9 to p. 22. Master Fessenden dined with us. N.B. when I appointed the Lecture I added a Number of Arguments and Encouragements to the Assembly to induce them to attend it.

1759 July 23 (Monday). Mr. *Moses Twitchell* mows Capt. *Maynards* Meadow for me. Deacon Forb. here to hear his sons Letter from the Lake; which I gratified him and his son *Zebulun* with.

1759 July 24 (Tuesday). Lt. Rolf Setts out for Albany, and my Daughter Baldwin with him to Worcester or further as She can hold out. N.B. I have writt Letters, to Mr. Forb. and to Thomas. I also wrote a Certificat in behalf of Lt. *Rolf*. *Lucy* wrote by him to her Husband and Sarah to her Brother Thomas. *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 25 (Wednesday). Two turns more of that Hay got in by Neighbour Eleazer Williams with his Team. Cock'd part of it my self; nor could help being much taken off in this difficult season for Help. Miss *Suse Low* and her Neighbour from Marlborough etc. here p.m.

1759 July 26 (Thursday). Preached my Lecture. Repeated Sermon on *Isa.* 61.2 former part. There was a tolerable Assembly; but yet many were absent. After Lecture Master Fessenden and Bowman here.

1759 July 27 (Friday). Received another Letter from Mr. *Forbush* at the Lake; and from *Billy* who is at the Same place. They are in hourly Expectation of Orders to embark upon the Lake: And all Things are carryed on with greatest Dispatch and Chearfullness. Blessed be God! Visit Ebenezer Forb.'s Child who is Sick.

1759 July 28 (Saturday). Was in Expectation of my Brother *Samuel* and his Daughter Nabby; but the Rain I Suppose prevents them. Sent Alexander to Shrewsbury to Mr. Henry Baldwins for Lucys Horse; but he was not yet brought there. Lt. Forb. here to acquaint me that his sons Child was Dead. A sore stroke! To have another son taken away.

1759 July 29 (Sunday). Read *Esther* 2 and Act. 25. Preached a.m. on 1 *Cor.* 11.23.24.25 and administered the Lord's Supper. Master Fessenden, Mrs. Tainter and Mrs. *Maynard* dined here. P.M. I repeated what I had delivered in [the?] past from several Texts; now from *Jam.* 3.16. See

the preparations on 2 Sam. 21.14. After the Exercises attend the Funeral of Mr. Ebenezer Forb.'s Child.

1759 July 30 (Monday). *John How* ploughs and Hoes at my Cook Field notwithstanding the Showers: he also sows Turnip seed there. I rode to Mr. Warrins and made her a Visit under her Infirmitys. Was at Deacon Bonds to get him to hoe for me -- and there heard the News of our Forces in the River St. Lawrence having landed in the Isle de *Orleans* -- and the Army under General Amherst passing over the Lake and landing without much Opposition. D.G. Was at Deacon Tainters. At his Request I rode with him to Mr. *Joseph Rice's*, to talk with him and his Wife on Account of their Jarrs. He made some acknowledgments, promised Reformation and hoped for Amendment. We were obliged to take up with this for this Time, it being the first of my Endeavours with him. Left him with strict and solemn Charge to mind what he had Said, and let me hear no more of his disorderly walk. *John How* lodges here.

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. P.M. *Mrs. Allen* and her Daughter (Elder *Halsey's* Daughter married to her son Samuel) came to see us. Young Ballard lodges here. Send another Letter to *Mr. Forb.* to the Care of Mr. Bowden of Holliston, to be conveyed to the Lake.

1759 August 1 (Wednesday). *John Ballard* worked for Moses Nurse a.m. and for Deacon Tainter p.m. I rode to Deacon Tainters, being sorely exercised and afflicted to get my hilling done, and he had told me he would help me again about it. Otherwise I would not have spoke to him who had helped me so much already.

1759 August 2 (Thursday). Mr. Twitchel came to mowe for me, when for two Reasons it was less agreeable to me than if it had been some Days past, *One*, I should not be so well able to take Care of it. The Other, it looked exceedingly like to be foul weather. As it proved; for before Night it rained upon the Hay. 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). I rode down into the Eastern part, visited at almost every House, but went particularly to see Mr. Ithamar Bellows wife who has been sick (and there dined) and to see Mr. Abraham Beemans Child which was lately prayed for. Visited *Mrs. Adams*. In returning home I took a great Cold, as the thunderstorm arose and I was filled with pain. Mr. Twitchell lodges here.

1759 August 3 (Friday). Mr. Twitchell works here. Deacon Tainter came in the Morning and plowed and sowed awhile; and then went home, his son being not well and his Affairs pressing and Urgent. P.M. came *Jabez Snow* junior to hoe; Ebenezer *Chamberlin* junior and *Simeon Bellows*, who also joined with him. They all gave their work. We hear many Things of the Successes of our People in the Several Armys. God be praised for what has been done.

1759 August 4 (Saturday). Mr. Twitchell and Mr. Joseph Bruce work here. They hoe a.m. in the Field behind the Meeting House. P.M. they get home a Load of Hay part of it from the Maynard Meadow, part from my own. These Things are inexpressible Hindrances to my studys, but I have prepared *somewhat* as I have been wont. But about 3 p.m. came my *Brother Samuel and his Daughter Nabby*, which rendered it impossible for me to do much more in my studys. Master Fessenden also came, p.m., brought me a little more money from Mr. Jonathan Fay. Such Interruptions even by the most agreeable Friends is very Troublesome at this Time in the Week.

1759 August 5 (Sunday). Brother Samuel and his Daughter keep Sabbath with us. Read *Ester 3* and Act. 26. Preached on Tit. 3.2, *to Speak evil of no man*, repeating a. and p.m. from page 49 to 73 of sermons which I delivered some Years ago upon that Text, for as I could not finish my preparations upon the Subject I had designed, So it would not well *do* to deliver the part I had prepared without the remainder. May God pardon my Deficiency, and bless my Poor Endeavours! Mr. Fessenden dined here. At Eve my Brother prayed in my Family Exercises.

1759 August 6 (Monday). My wife and I wait upon my Brother and Daughter to Capt. Allens at Shrewsbury; and we dined there. Mrs. *Allen* gone to Boston. My Brother and I, p.m., made a Visit to Mr. Cushing. In returning at Evening a Thunder storm -- were obliged to Stop at Capt. Eagers. We did also at Capt. Maynards.

We got out and return upon Such Visits, alas! to how little Profit of ourselves or Others! May God forgive our Impertinence and alienation from the grand purpose!

1759 August 7 (Tuesday). My Brother goes to Boston -- carrys *Sarah* instead of his Daughter and Nabby is to reside a while with us. Mr. Twitchell works for me -- but having finished mowing what I propose for this Year, to Day he rakes; and gets home 3 Load. He goes home at Night. I carryed my wife to the private Meeting at Mr. Daniel Forbushs where I preached on Exod. 14, the straights and Difficultys of the Israelites at *Pi-hahiroth* but are bid to go forward into the Red Sea. On Occasion of the present Juncture when our Forces are gone against Quebeck etc. At Evening Mr. Benjamin *How* comes here with yesterdays News Paper, that I may read it, it being full of remarkable News, of our taking *Niagara* Fort, and Ticonderoga. To God be all Glory!

1759 August 8 (Wednesday). Capt. Wood and Mr. Zebulun Rice come and pole out and cart home a Load of Hay from the Newton Meadow, and dine with me. Letter from Billy dated the Camp at *Ticonderoga* July 28. All Praise to God.

1759 August 9 (Thursday). In a great deal of Trouble to get my reaping done. Rode to Mr. Joseph Gamell, at work for Mr. Eliphalet Adams's wife. Alexander reaps a little. My Wife p.m. to visit her Cousen Maynard.

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. Eat but a mouthfull or two of

Food at Dinner. He and *Alex* finished the Rye at the Island. P.M. the Wheat at the Barn, and Steuked up the former. Mrs. *Maynard*, going to Marlborough, came this way and brought Capt. *Woods* Mother -- who dined with us. Towards Eve she walked to her sons. N.B. *John Bowden* came here to take Letters for the Army (he rides for that purpose). I Sent to *Billy* -- also to Mr. Forbush.

1759 August 11 (Saturday). Alexander by Some help from Neighbour Zebulun Rice's got in half of a Jagg of Hay from the Meadow, which is the Last (of first Cutt) which I intend to get this Year. I leave the further part of the Newton Meadow and the whole of the Ministerial Meadow. P.M. Mr. Fessenden here. He now lodges at Mr. Daniel Forb. Keeps School at Ensign Harringtons. Joyful News of *Crown Point* deserted to the English. Master Bowman comes from Brookfield with Mr. Joseph Mannings Horse. Mr. Manning preaches for my son Forb. and Sends me a Letter by Bowman that he designs to come down with my Daughter Baldwin next Week.

1759 August 12 (Sunday). Met with a great deal of Trouble by Sheep getting into my Corn behind the Meeting House; and Mr. *Mannings* Horse also unruly, and got into the Corn. It rained and my Sitting in my Chamber with my Feet wet, gave me a Cold. Read Esther 4 and Acts 27. Preach a. and p.m. on 2 *Tim.* 3.7. May divine Blessing accompany my weak Essays! Mr. Fessenden dines here Every Sabbath. At Night mercifully preserved in the Terrible Storm of Thunder and Lightning. To God be Glory!

1759 August 13 (Monday). Great rejoicing every where for Gods great Goodness in the Success we hear in the West and North. *Niagara*, *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* in the Hands of the English. And Mr. *Mitchel* an Ireland Minister dining with me, informs of good *Success* against *Quebeck*. A Letter from Mr. Forb. of July 31.

1759 August 14 (Tuesday). By Means of the ill state of the stables, Many sheep. Went to t'other House -- to Mr. How's, and Cousen Maynards.

1759 August 15 (Wednesday). Mr. Daniel Hardy and his son Adams cart home (gratis) my Rye and Oats from the Island. A.M. Mr. *Manning* came with my Daughter Baldwin and her son from Brookfield. Mr. Joseph *Knowltons* wife here, about joining with our Church. She and Cousen Maynard and her Daughter *Betsy*, as well as Mr. *Manning*, dine with us. My Daughter is still but infirm, and not able to tend and take Care of her Child -- and *Suse* being also not well work lies too heavy upon my Wife. Mr. *Manning* goes to Uxbridge.

1759 August 16 (Thursday). *Alexander* reaps the last of the Oates, and gets them into the Barn.

1759 August 17 (Friday). [No entry.]

1759 August 18 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1759 August 19 (Sunday). Read *Esther* 5. Act. 28. Preached a.m. on 2 *Tim.* 3.7 and p.m. on *Phil.* 2.1-5. In the Close used more than 2 Pages of Sermon on *Jam.* 3.16. Mary, wife of Joseph Knowlton Junior propounded.

1759 August 20 (Monday). Mrs. Betty Johnson works here. Alters the Black Coat my Brother Samuel gave me. P.M. Rode out with my Daughter Baldwin to the widow Forb., to Mr. *Daniel Forb.*, *Blanc's*, Deacon Tainters. Mr. Joseph Baker tries to Subdue my Mare to go in my Chair -- but in Vain.

1759 August 21 (Tuesday). Mr. Oliver Carter here who delivers me a summons (and a Dollar) to appear at Court, to give Evidence in the Case of Mr. Rogers and the Town of Leominster. Little Jeduthun was dipt in Cold Water this Morning. Wrote to Mrs. Winter (if She be yet living) and Sent by Benjamin Flood at Evening.

1759 August 22 (Wednesday). In conformity to the Summons Yesterday I rode to Worcester -- but I might e'en as well stay at home -- for the Cause did not come on. I dined at Mr. Maccartys. A great Number of Ministers in the Town -- Messrs. *Martyn*, *Stone*, and *Harrington* were summoned -- Messrs. *Hall*, *Wellman*, *Hill*, *Davis*, *Kendall* etc. N.B. I rode up in Mr. Forb.'s Chair and on the Baldwin Horse which I reposed in Mr. Maccartys Care and lodged there (having attended the Court in the afternoon).

1759 August 23 (Thursday). We are still detained in Worcester. Dined again at Mr. *Maccarty's* but Mr. Martin and Stone I think at the Tavern. Four of us at Evening, Being invited to judge Chandlers, we went and lodged there, viz. Messrs. *Martyn*, *Stone* and *Harrington*, besides me., but were obliged to Supp by our Selves -- a Young Lady waiting on us -- for we had neither Judge nor Mrs. Chandler.

1759 August 24 (Friday). In forenoon came on the *Rogers* Case -- perhaps about 9 Coll. *Worthington* opened it. Coll. *Putnam* and Mr. *Gridley* replied -- Coll. *Worthington* closed, when it was past 2 p.m. I dined at Judge *Chandlers* -- at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 5 I mounted the Chair in my Journey for Brookfield -- but got no further than Mr. *Eatons* -- where I was kindly received and lodged.

1759 August 25 (Saturday). Before the Family (at Mr. Eatons) were stirring I rose and tackled -- and without Seeing any of them rode to Brookfield and broke fast with my Daughter Forb. and Mr. *Manning* -- he tarried to dine and then sat out for Westborough to preach in my stead. My Daughter is distressed on Account of an hard tumor in her left Breast, which was heretofore broke: And her two Children having the hooping Cough so has my son Ebenezers Children all of them. Just at Evening Capt. Witt made me a Visit.

1759 August 26 (Sunday). Preached to my son Forb's Congregation a.m. on *Ps.* 60.9 and onward. P.M. on 2 *Cor.* 10.4. N.B. read the *Ps.* and chapter where my Texts were, before singing. Capt. Wolcott and his Wife dined with us.

1759 August 27 (Monday). Went a Visiting -- particularly to old Mr. *Bartletts*. N.B. *Andre* [*Aquie?*] un jeune Homme ne a Paris, deserte de Ticonderoga.

1759 August 28 (Tuesday). It proved very rainy. I preached a Lecture to the same Congregation Preparatory to the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, which by Desire I last Lords Day appointed to be next. Few were at Meeting. I preached on *Rom. 8.7*. N.B. Between the First Prayer and Singing Capt. Wolcott delivered me a Packet of Letters from Mr. Forb. One of them was to his Church and Congregation which, before the Blessing I read to them. Sundry Friends and Neighbours at Mr. Forb. after Meeting. Capt. Thomas Gilbert and his Wife (who was widow Brown) Supped with us.

1759 August 29 (Wednesday). Dr. *Gott* rode with me to *Sturbridge*, where I went to see Mr. *Rice*,<sup>2</sup> who is sick. I found him very low indeed. We dined there -- And by reason of their great Impertunity I tarried all Night. N.B. Dr. *Upham* came to see him -- and Dr. *Gott* had his Company to *Brookfield*. N.B. Among the Company that came in to See Mr. *Rice*, came Lieut. *Fisk*, who was a principal *Separate*. With him I had some Discourse concerning Ruling Elders etc.

1759 August 30 (Thursday). This Morning Mr. *Rice* grows worse: it is the 35th Day of his illness, and there have been imperfect Crises, at the periods of 7 Days. I had some free discourse with him yesterday and this morning concerning his Spiritual State. He said if he had strength and Opportunity for it he could give me good Satisfaction concerning what God had done for him. When I expressed by self that *If* he had true and living Faith -- and *If* he had the Love of God etc. then how rich the *promises*, etc., he answered (whether delirious in some Measure, or no I can't tell) I want none of your *ifs*. I went into another Room for a little space and while I was there Mrs. *Rice*, who was in great Distress for him, opening the Door a little, called me to go in, for she thought Mr. *Rice* was *going to leave us*. I think she repeated it. I went in and found him, to appearance in Extremity. But yet he could speak, and did not grow worse. In this low state I was obliged to leave him and his distressed Family. At Mrs. *Rice's* Desire, I wrote a Letter for her which she signed, to her Brother in Law, Ensign Josiah Rice of Westborough. Dined at old Lt. Newhalls in Leicester. Stopped but a little while at *Wor'ster*, at Coll. Gardner *Chandlers*, and at Squire *Pains*, where was Mr. *Thayer*, who is going to supply Mr. Forb.'s place at Brookfield. Weary and tired got home in the Evening and found my Family in some Comfort (through divine Goodness -- D.G.) but Alexander is taken off from Business by Fever and Ague. Miss Betty Johnson here to make up a Black Jacket for me -- the Maynard Cloth Jacket having been new dyed, and now turned.

1759 August 31 (Friday). Troubled with Cattle in the Field. Bears are rife -- One killed yesterday. Miss Betty here. Severall Letters lately from the Camp. From Capt. Baldwin to me and to his Wife; From Billy -- from Thomas to Sarah.

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<sup>2</sup>Caleb Rice, Harvard 1730; SHG 8:774-75.

1759 September 1 (Saturday). Alexander has had the Fever and Ague and Still continues infirm. Miss Betty Still here. Prepared but part of a Sermon by reason of many Interruptions and Impediments.

1759 September 2 (Sunday). Read, and gave somewhat large Exposition of *Esther* 6. Repeated Sermon on Tit. 3.2 from p. 73 to the End. P.M. read Rom. 1 and repeated Sermon on Ps. 12.2. Mr. Fessenden not at meeting, being, as I hear, not well. Miss *Betty Johnson* with us over the Sabbath. Mr. *Joseph Knowltons* Wife Should have been admitted into Communion, but She was not (I Suppose) at Meeting.

N.B. While I was gone upon my late Journey a Letter came from Mr. *Winter*, with an *Account of the Death of his dear Wife* (which was on the 17th last) and the hopefull signs of her dying in Christ -- but my Letter to her was too late for her, though gratefully received by him. We put on the Tokens of Mourning and ask public prayers. May God Sanctifie this Dispensation to us all! For She has indeed been very worthy, and in her Death there is sore Chastisement and may God be gracious to mournful Mr. Winter and his little son, and reward His servant for the great Love and tender Kindness he has Shewn his Wife at all Times, but especially in her long and expensive sickness!

1759 September 3 (Monday). In the Morning came Ensign Josiah Rice to inform me that his Brother Mr. *Rice* of *Sturbridge*, dyed Yesterday Morning, that the Widow Sent me this word, and her desire that if I could, I would be at the Funeral tomorrow. But I returned Answer that I had appointed the Communion and a Lecture on Wednesday, and therefore though I earnestly desired it, yet now, as Circumstances were, it was impracticable. Besides, there is a Funeral to be attended here to Day. I wrote a Letter to her and Sent it to Capt. Eager for Conveyance by one of the Brethren that goes up. And although I wrote to Mr. *Martyn* to preach my Lecture, yet it is uncertain whether he can come. I wrote also a Letter to Mr. Pierpont of N. Haven which I sent up to Mr. Jacob Cushing who is going to their Commencement. P.M. Cousen Nabby rode with me in the Chair to the burying of an infant Child of Mr. Benjamin Tainter -- which was Still-born.

1759 September 4 (Tuesday). We are Surprized with Sad News from the Fleet and Army in *Canada* River -- that many of our People are Slain in their Attempt and that General Wolf has raised the seige, designing to give up for this Year. At Eve came Mr. Abijah Smith of Leominster and wants Copys of Testimonys -- he goes to Capt. *Woods* to lodge. Neighbour Zebulun Rice assists me so far as to write part of one that was long. Mr. Smith aforesaid informs me that Mr. *Martyn* cannot preach my Lecture because it is his own.

1759 September 5 (Wednesday). Mr. Abijah Smith receives of me Seven Papers being Copys of Testimonys for which he tells me the Town will Satisfie me. He also informs me that he has left Order with the Town Clerk to summons me to the Superior Court -- and leaves a Dollar. I Send word by him to Mr. Stone of my Lecture to Day and of my Desire that he would preach it -- but 'twas in Vain. I was obliged my self to preach. I delivered sermon on Act. 9.6 on the Nature and Necessity of Humiliation but omitted the large Improvement and delivered a brief, fervent one

Extempore, there not being Time for any more. May God be pleased to add His special Blessing through Jesus Christ! Rev. *Hall of Sutton* from Boston, here. Tells me that fresh Advices are come in from *Canada River*, very diverse from what we lately had, especially that there were not so great Numbers slain nor did the Generall design to raise the Seige; but to Continue his Endeavours against the City till it shall surrender, unless the Season shall forbid: Yet if the Season shall prevent, not to return to England, but renew the Attack again early in the Spring. N.B. Delivered to Mr. Hall, Mr. Webb of Uxbridge's Letter to the first Church in Sutton.

1759 September 6 (Thursday). Rode as far as Mr. William *Pierce's*. Was at Mr. *Biglows* with design to talk with her again -- but she was not at home, nor her Husband. Agreed with Mr. *Adams* for 200 of his Boards. Visit at Mr. *Jonah Warrins*. N.B. Bears are rife. We Dined upon a very fine Piece brought me last Night by Neighbour Jonathan Grout. Mr. Abner Tyler of Brookfield here and tells me he understood Mr. Rice of Sturbridge was (according to the appointment) buried on Tuesday.

1759 September 7 (Friday). Better News last night from the River concerning *Quebeck*. Coll. Brigham here p.m.

1759 September 8 (Saturday). Miss Betty Johnson has been here till now.

1759 September 9 (Sunday). Read Esther 7 and Rom. 2. Preached a.m. on 1 Cor. 11.23-26. Admitted Mrs. Knowlton into the Church. Administered the Lord's Supper. Dr. Crosby and his wife at the Communion. The Doctor, Mr. Fessenden, Mrs. Maynard, Miss Betty Johnson, dined here. P.M. Preached on Phil. 2.1-5. May God grant His Blessing on the Means of Grace! And help us to keep our solemn Engagements. N.B. After the Communion: before the Blessing, gave a brief Exhortation and Charge with respect to two Things, to Walk and Conversation -- and our watch over those who walk disorderly and don't keep Covenant by duely attending upon special Ordinances.

1759 September 10 (Monday). Miss Betty Still works here. A Bear near by: half a Score and more are hunting it in Capt. Maynards Swamp, and across my Ground.

1759 September 11 (Tuesday). Lt. Jonas Brigham kills a Bear, of which he Sends me an handsome piece. Cousen Nabby and I rode to his House (carrying *Jeduthun*) and we dined there. N.B. Old Mrs. Fay and her Daughter Oake were here. Mr. Dodge of Abington and his Wife called here.

1759 September 12 (Wednesday). Having heard that Mrs. *Martyn* has been confined by illness, I rode over to see her: and since my Wife could by no means go, I took my Kinswoman again with me. Returned at Evening. N.B. hear of Several Bears Seen to day in different parts of the Town. Mr. Moses *Twitchell* mows Rowing.

1759 September 13 (Thursday). My Brother *Parkman* having been to Rutland, returns this way. He lodged last night at Capt. *Allens* at Shrewsbury: dines with us to Day, and rides with my Wife

(at my request, and I with them) to old Mr. *Bradish's*, for it is the Day of my Catechizing in that Corner of the Town. Mr. *Joslins* House being unfit, I hold the Exercise at Mr. *Chamberlins* where I had 29 (of both Sexes, older and Younger) that attended it. My Wife visits at the Houses beyond, as my Brother was left at Mr. Bradishes, while I am engaged -- but we meet, and have an agreeable Entertainment at the House after I had finished, and (at the Desire of the Young people) we had sung. My Brother lodges here, and I have great pleasure of his Company.

1759 September 14 (Friday). My Brother leaves us, to go to Boston. P.M. am sent for to go to Mr. Benjamin Tainters wife who is very ill. Went, and conversed, and prayed with her. Alexander cutts Stalks.

1759 September 15 (Saturday). Alexander, Samuel and John cutt Stalks. Miss Betty Johnson here every Day.

1759 September 16 (Sunday). Read Esth. 8 and the Exposition was the forenoon Exercise. Mr. Fessenden, Miss Betty, and the Widow *Woods* (of the South East Corner) dined here. P.M. read Rom. 3. Preached on Phil. 2.1 to 5, and may God Himself add a Blessing! N.B. finished the 119 Psalm in the last singing.

1759 September 17 (Monday). *John How* here, and is very high in his Demands for the Work he did for me. I would not contend with him: and therefore paid him what he asked, and dismissed him. The heavy Rains confine me so that I cannot go out, to prepare for my Journey. *Miss Betty*.

1759 September 18 (Tuesday). I rode to Worcester Superior Court (being summoned thereto) on Mr. Benjamin Tainters Beast. My Daughter Baldwin and her son, with my Daughter Susan having rid away (in Mrs. Nurse's Chair) for Boston. I went to Mr. Francis Harrington and lodged there. Miss Betty Johnson worked this Day also.

1759 September 19 (Wednesday). I attended the Court in the New Court House. Dined at Mr. Maccartys -- he not returned from New Haven. At Eve the Town being very full of Company I was very much put to't for a Lodging. Returned to Mr. *Maccartys* -- where I lodged with Judge Cushing. In the Evening Mr. Maccarty came home. N.B. Our Association which was by appointment to have met at Mr. Maccartys agreed to Meet at Mr. Martyns the 2d Tuesday of October. Mr. Mellen to preach the Lecture.

1759 September 20 (Thursday). Mr. *Pemberton* and Elder Halsey came from a Council at Framingham for reuniting to Mr. Bridge's Church those who had been under Mr. Reed. I dined with the Court -- as did Mr. *Pemberton*, *Maccarty* and *Hill*. The first prayed, the second returned Thanks. At Eve rode to Mr. Francis Harringtons again and lodged there.

1759 September 21 (Friday). At about 9 a.m. on Mr. Rogers's Case, in which he sues the Town of *Leominster* for his Sallary ever since his Dismission. Messrs. Gridley and *Thatcher* are for the Town -- Messrs. *Auchmuty* and *Otis* for Mr. Rogers. At noon I was wholly at a loss for dinner, till

some of the *Leominster* Men invite me to dine at the Tavern at Mr. Luke Brown's, and there I dined accordingly -- in a Manner I could not like. Attended Court p.m. and till Candle Light -- for it was so late before the Judges finished their speeches in giving the Case to the Jury. No invitation from Mr. Maccarty or any one else of the Gentlemen, either of the Court, or the Town, I got my Horse, and though night rode to Mr. Cushings at Shrewsbury and lodged there. Mr. Bennett of Leominster paid me two Dollars.

1759 September 22 (Saturday). N.B. paid Mr. Job Cushings wife 10/ old Tenor in part for carrying a Cheese to my son William when at Lake George last Year. Borrowed of Capt. Allen vol. 3 of Mr. Henry on the Bible (N.B. returned the 2d vol. as I went up to Worcester). Came home in safety about noon. N.B. Bowden of Holliston, Letter Carrier, brought a Letter from Mr. Forbush, from Crown Point -- another from Billy who is at the Road between Crown Point and Ticonderoga -- one also from Capt. Baldwin to his wife. She returned from Boston p.m. with her son, and my Daughter *Sarah* with her also. N.B. *Sarah* much out of Health.

1759 September 23 (Sunday). Read the 2 last Chapters of Esther, and Rom. 4. A.M. repeated Sermon on Act. 2.37. The Application of the Subject. P.M. on 2 Tim. 4.3, former part. N.B. Mrs. Maynard, Mrs. Hannah Rugg, Mrs. [blank] and Patty Dunlop dined here. N.B. Mr. Fessenden went yesterday to keep the School at the North End. N.B. Shortened the Intermission to an Hour and Half. *Sarah* so ill I wrote by Deacon Burnap for Dr. Wilson.

1759 September 24 (Monday). Dr. Wilson came -- dined here. Finds *Sarah* bordering on Consumption. He gives her a Vomit which works while he is here. I bought 400 white pine Boards of Mr. Daniel Adams for 7£ O.T. which he carts here. N.B. Mr. Daniel Hardy (one of the Jury on the Leominster Case) informs me that the Jury brought in for the Town, but that the Judge broke it up, and hung up the Case till another Year -- advising the Partys to a Mutual Council. I rode to Lt. Forb. for Oxen -- to Mr. Gale's to get him to come and finish my Kitchin. My wife lodges with *Sarah* to take Care of her.

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. A Bear was seen about noon a little below my House at Mr. Samuel Forb's Field. *Sarah* Seems a little better for her Physic yesterday, and had better Sleep last night than some time past. D.G. Four Barrells of Cyder (made by Mr. Pratt) brought home at night. I begin to read Mr. Henry's 3d vol. of Expositions. N.B. I return Mr. John Mead his DuPlassie's Mystery of Iniquitie, or History of Popery. Mr. Thomas Twitchell here in order to his joining with the Church. P.M. *Sarah* is poorly -- and we are full of fear.

1759 September 26 (Wednesday). Mr. Thomas Twitchell mowes Rowing a.m. and dines with us. *Sarah* is conceived to grow weaker. May God fit her and us for his holy will! Received from Boston last night per Mr. Ebenezer Cutler a Bottle of Ellebor. Nigr. Tincture and a Box of Hoopers female Pills for her. Price of both 2/8 Lawful M.

1759 September 27 (Thursday). Strove very much to prepare on purpose for the Catechetical Exercise to Day (which were in Answer to Questions 10, 11, 12), but the many different Avocations together with the Distresses of the Family were Such that I could not. I had but Sixteen that attended it, for it had rained before and about noon and it looked like a storm. I entertained the young Women upon Rom. 11.36, repeating the Sermon I made above 30 Years ago on that Text. 4 Barrells of Cyder -- of which we boiled two. N.B. Mrs. *Russell* who many years past dwelt at our North End, now at Plainfield, came in to See us. *Sarah* somewhat chearfull and lively. D.G. After Catechizing to Day I visited old Mr. Fay and his wife and their sons Family. Saw their son at work at the high way: but as I stayed till Evening there, he was, or might be, come home; but I saw no more of him.

1759 September 28 (Friday). *Sarah* is worse. I understand She can not lie on her left side without Pain and Difficulty. A great Deal of Company -- Cousen Maynard here and dined with us. Dr. *Wilson* who thinks some of the Symptoms are mitigated -- yet we fear She pines more and more. P.M. sundry women came to see her, viz. Mrs. Mary Bellows, Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Nurse. And Mrs. Bowker of Symsbury and her two sons. P.M. also came Cousen Bradford of Boston and my Daughter *Suse*, to our great Rejoicing. In the Eve Deacon Tainter.

1759 September 29 (Saturday). We are more and more disheartened about *Sarah* -- yet She her self does not seem to think She is so bad as we fear She is. Extremely fine forenoon; Mrs. *Bradford's* Chair being tackled for her and *Nabby* to go to *Shrewsbury* We got *Sarah* into it, and I drove a little way with her, I hope without Hurt. My eldest Brother (on his Journey to Worcester whither he has been summoned as proprietors Clerk of the District of Spencer) came to us, to keep sabbath here.

1759 September 30 (Sunday). I read publickly the first Chapter of *Job*, and delivered for the forenoon Exercise a Discourse on Job and on this Book. We desire the Prayers of the Church and Congregation for *Sarah*, who is very low, though we hope not worse. Our Kindred aforesaid, are with us. P.M. read Rom. 5, preached on Gen. 1.27, and may God Himself be pleased to add His Blessing! My Heart much moved for my dear Daughter -- especially for her Spiritual state and her Eternal Condition.

1759 October 1 (Monday). Mr. Abijah Gale came to work -- prepares Stuff for the Sealing my Kitchin etc. My Kinswoman, Mrs. Bradford and her sister, leave us to go to Boston. My Brother goes to Worcester; to the Adjournment of Superior Court there; and returns at Eve. My Daughter *Sarah* is much as She was. I rode to t'other House, and to Mr. Phinehas Maynards to get Beef and send by him a Letter to Mr. Lull of Ware River. P.M. Visit Old Mr. Fay etc.

1759 October 2 (Tuesday). Capt. Wood, young Mr. Crossman of Hopkinton and Mr. Nathaniel [Dean?] go to view my old Place. A.M. My Brother returns to Boston. P.M. I preached at Mr. *Samuel Grow's* on 1 Pet. 14.6. Alexander brings home 3 Barrells of Cyder.

1759 October 3 (Wednesday). Deacon Tainters sisters, *Hastings* and *Whitney*, call here. Send by the Deacon a Letter to Mr. Draper, Printer, an Account of the Death of Rev. Mr. Rice of

Sturbridge. For tis pity he Should be altogether un-noticed -- and yet there is no one of the Gentlemen who were his Bearers that has done any Thing to preserve his Memory or record his Decease.<sup>3</sup> At Eve I went up on some Business to Capt. *Wood's* -- Saw there Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior who tells me his wife is brought to Bed. I put him in mind of his Duty (to bring his Children to Baptism) and pray him not to delay any longer. He seems not to like my speaking to him -- yet it was chiefly retired -- and in soft Terms.

1759 October 4 (Thursday). Sarah has a bad Day. God prepare both her and us for His holy Will! I am reading Sir *Edwyn Sandys* Europa speculum. An excellent Work!

1759 October 5 (Friday). Dr. Wilson here. He judges the Symptoms with Sarah are abated and that therefore there is more hopes.

1759 October 6 (Saturday). Dr. Gott from Boston. Din'd here. P.M. his Sister here. Three Barrells of Cyder; one of which I disposed of to Mr. or Mrs. Nurse.

1759 October 7 (Sunday). Omitted reading a.m. because I am going on with Observations on the Book and first Ch. of Job, which was read last Lords Day. Dr. Gott at Meeting but did not dine here. Mrs. Willis (a widow woman, mother of Mr. Pratt of Hopkinton) and Miss Mary Bradish did. P.M. I read Rom. 6. Preached on *Gen. 1.27*. I was well all Day -- but at Night was Seized with Tooth-Ach and put on a Blister.

1759 October 8 (Monday). Was pritty much confined by Reason of the Ague in my Face. Sarah rides in the Chair whenever the Weather allows. Her sister Baldwin rides with her. We are not able to judge of her Case, only that She remains low. Deacon Tainter brought her up from Boston a fey Oyster in the shells -- these she Eats with a good Relish when almost Nothing besides. Two of the Parish Committee viz. Lieut. Brigham and Mr. David Maynard to see whether I would have any Thing put into the warrant for a precinct Meeting. I prayed 'em to put in the Article of setting my Sallery which they consented to.

1759 October 9 (Tuesday). Ministers Meeting at Mr. Martyns, but I am confined. Mr. Barrett having dined at Capt. *Wood's* comes here late in the afternoon. Hence he goes over to Mr. Martyn's. I have contracted for 4 Barrells and one Two Barrell Cask of Mr. William Nurse. They are brought here at Eve by the widow Smiths son.

1759 October 10 (Wednesday). I am altogether out of my Element that I can't be among my Brethren to Day. But I hope I am better. *Sarah* indeed seems to be worse. The Care and Labour of the Family very heavy upon my poor Wife, *Suse* having gone to Marlborough yesterday with her Cousen Maynard. But they return to Day. Mr. Barrett returns, and brings me the minutes of the Meeting, which I write out from him into the Book.

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<sup>3</sup>See SHG 8:775 for a reference to Parkman's notice in the *Boston News-Letter*, Oct. 11, 1758, in which he described Rice as "a worthy, useful Man."

1759 October 11 (Thursday). Mr. Thomas Frost here and mowes Bushes. Mrs. Martyn and Mrs. Minot with her youngest Child, here. We can't tell whether *Sarah* goes backward or forward. Mrs. Rice sends me 3 Barrells more of Cyder. William Pierce here -- I admonished him for his Drinking too hard and he seems to thank me. At Night I grew a great deal worse. Go to bed ill with a sore Mouth. Fear there is much Canker. I have considerable Fever.

1759 October 12 (Friday). I have worried through a bad night, but rise better this morning. Neighbour Frost again on the Bushes, but interrupted a.m. by Rain. Helps in boiling and filling up Cyder -- a two Barrell Cask. Mr. Hall and wife dine here in their returning home. I am able (through divine Mercy) to do a great deal more to day than I expected. Blessed be God for it!

1759 October 13 (Saturday). We have the Joyfull News that Quebeck is taken by the English; which we impatiently long to have confirmed. Dr. Wilson here and dined with me. He says, Sarah, upon the whole, is better. He visits Mr. Isaac Johnson of Southborough who has a sore Hand.

1759 October 14 (Sunday). I felt but poorly but I forced the best Leg foremost and went to the House of the Lord that we might praise Him for His wonderful Works which He has wrought for His people. Did not read a.m. because it had been read already and I was still making observations upon it, viz. Job 1. P.M. though I had partly prepared on another subject (the Loss of the Image of God) yet I threw it aside to deliver something upon the Great and Joyful Occasion of taking *Quebeck*. What I delivered was on 1 *Chron.* 29.11.12.13. Indeed with New Introduction and frequent Alterations. By Reason of my Illness I omitted reading publickly p.m. I don't know but twas too hard for me. At night by [*sic*] right Arm below my elbow was Rheumatic. I put on another Blister. May God be gracious and merciful to me!

1759 October 15 (Monday). Though it was a stormy and Wet Day, Yet Venerable Loring and Brother Stone made me a kind Visit in my Confinement. They Changed yesterday, and by those Means were together. Mr. Loring Speaks as he apprehended his Death was near -- and therefore told me he was come to desire me, together with Brother Stone, that if he left behind him any Special Papers, we would be so friendly as to take Care of them. After my grateful Return to him for this peculiar Token of his undeserved Esteem, and humble Engagement as God Should enable, to comply with his Request, if the Sovereign of our Life Should so order it that I Should out-live him, Brother *Stone* asked him whether it would not be best for him to leave some Writing, whereby it might be known, that he had desired this of us? And so that We might be able to receive 'em? He replied, be Sure -- he Should take Care to do that. Mr. Stone went home at Eve. Mr. L\_\_\_\_\_ tarried and lodged. I was worse to Day than Yesterday.

1759 October 16 (Tuesday). Mr. Loring took his Leave of us: and as if he was never to see us more. Sarah the best Day she has had since she came home. D.G. I was not so well -- am confined to the House. The storm cleared off but twas very Cold. Mr. *Benjamin How* at Eve brings yesterdays News, confirming it that *Quebec* is ours. N.B. A Great Day of rejoicing in Boston. Mr. Cooper preaches.

1759 October 17 (Wednesday). Am Worse, as to the Fever which attends me, and Pains in my Limbs; [betokening?] Rheumatism. I send Alexander to Dr. Wilson at Mr. Isaac Johnsons -- but he has gone. I grow worse still at Night -- lay on a great Blister on my left Arm.

1759 October 18 (Thursday). The worst Night I have had yet -- Fever, pain in my stomach, causing Difficult Breathing. Have some sense of the Dealings of God with me. D.G. I look to Him through Jesus Christ. Alexander goes to the Doctors early -- comes with him before Noon. P.M. he gives me a vomit -- Epicac. mixt Turbith. Worked 5 Times up with Nothing downward. Deacon Tainter and son with Team, Capt. Wood and Neighbour Zebulun Rice, Joseph and Jonathan Grout gathered and brought up my Island Corn, and with Others to Assist husked it out.

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. This morning Alexander went again to Dr. Wilson to acquaint him with what had occurred, and to desire another Visit. Deacon Tainter here a.m. I write to young Mr. Dorr, to desire him to preach for me next Lords Day; and Deacon undertakes to carry it. I feel exceeding poorly to Day, and wait the Will of God! The Doctor came, judges with me that there are Pripneumonic sumptions. He takes away about 5 ounces, or not more he thinks than 6, of Blood. Orders a Blister on my left side, and leaves me to take plentifully of Volatiles. [60?] Drops every three or 4 ho. He desires Counsel -- Dr. Morse of Sutton -- and Dr. Hemingway of Framingham. I obtained Neighbour Hezekiah Pratt to go for the former. No body goes for the latter. I somewhat dreaded the Night -- but

1759 October 20 (Saturday). Through the divine Mercy I had considerable rest, though fever, pain etc. The Peripneum. symptoms much abated. D.G. And feel somewhat comfortable. Deacon Tainter brings Letter from Mr. Dorr that he is engaged for next Lords Day. But will come the soonest he can. P.M. Dr. Morse and Dr. Wilson here and dine. Neighbour Pratt with them. The Doctors retire and consult: they advise to go on in the Course I am in, except if the Symptoms of Peripneum. return, to renew Bleeding. Mr. N. Whitney here. Mrs. Lucy Forb. kindly helps us p.m. But the main matter Is God with Me!

1759 October 21 (Sunday). A sorrowful Sabbath yet I felt somewhat Comfortable for one so ill. No meeting at this Meeting House. *Suse* rides with *Alexander* in our old Chair to Mr. Martyn's Meeting. He preached on Heb. 6.1-9 and on Mat. 13.44. O might I and each of us who are detained from the Sanctuary have our Hearts there, and enjoy communion with them that we may also have a Blessing thence. Not a good Night and Sarah poorly.

1759 October 22 (Monday). Mr. *Barrett* and Dr. *Wilson* dined here. Mr. *Martyn* came p.m. I felt stronger and livelier to Day. D.G. Mr. Barrett pray'd with us. N.B. The Doctor informs that

Master Nathaniel [*sic*] Stone of Southborough is sick. *Sarah* is not quite so ill as yesterday. N.B. our Changes!

The Precinct met upon the Affair of settling my Sallery, or doing as they used to. I wrote a paper -- but was obliged to break it off abruptly. Sent it by Deacon Bond -- told him to let them know if they Should proceed again to Vote against my Request, it would look to me as if they took me at a great Disadvantage, being I was now sick and unable to hold any Contest -- had rather in that Case they would adjourn that there might be a more fair Opportunity. Yet at night came in a Number who told me what they had done, and that it was as last Year, viz. 500£ old Tenor and I take Care of getting my Wood my self. The men were Messrs. Phinehas Hardy (who was moderator of the Meeting), David Maynard and Brother Ebenezer Maynard, Cornelius Biglow, Richard Barns, and D. Batheric. Deacon Tainter had striven to get my Corn Field behind the Meeting House together but others would not exert themselves as he -- he got one Load to the place for husking -- but Rain came upon it in the Night.

Upon the whole, I desire to take a humble Notice of the holy Hand of God upon me and my Circumstances. Do endeavour to possess my soul in patience, and committ my self to him that judgeth righteously.

1759 October 23 (Tuesday). I had a poor Night, feverish etc. A poor Day followed. Could read or write but very little. At Night my wife sent by Deacon Tainter to Boston. *Sarah* mends again. D.G.

1759 October 24 (Wednesday). Another feverish, disquieted Night. Mr. *David Witt* of Brookfield here and informs that Last Saturday Night Mr. Forb. returned home. Mr. Samuel Williams made me a visit p.m. He seems concerned about his soul. At night came my Kinswoman Mrs. Wilkins of *Sonhegan* and two of her sons: John and Daniel. We were so ill and so full we could not without Difficulty lodge them. Mrs. Wilkins lodged here but I sent her sons to Capt. Woods. My Kinswomans Company, though Joyfull to me, proved too much for me. I had a very feverish and uncomfortable night. Both the Young Children were ill and troublesome in the Night -- I mean Hannah and Jeduthun.

1759 October 25 (Thursday). Mrs. Wilkins and her sons broke fast here and then went up to Grafton to go to Meeting there. Lucy, Alexander and John to Mr. Martyns Meeting, it being *Publick Thanksgiving for taking Quebeck*, but I am as a broken Instrument and sorrowfully laid by! But I endeavour to Praise God with all my Heart. May the Lord be pleased graciously to accept out Offerings. And may we never forget our Obligations. O when shall the strong Holds of [satan?] in our souls be destroyed and when shall we obtain complete victory over our spiritual Foes! O Glorious Con[queror?] and Saviour hasten that illustrious Time! At Eve Nahum *Eager* came to See his Mistress, Baldwin.

1759 October 26 (Friday). I have had a better Night of Sleep -- and yet have so sweated *etc.* that I rise this Morning both fe[e]ble and trembling. Mr. Batheric and his son here to cut up the rest of my Indian Corn, behind the Meeting House. Mr. Smith came to see me, dined here --

prayed with us. Dr. *Wilson* to see me. From what I feel to Day, I am more in fear of a relaxation and that it may not soon go off. At Evening was a Strange Sight. Esq. Baker came to see me, with Mr. Nathaniel Whitney. The Squires coming is the more observable because he has not made me any Thing of a Visit, these several Years. Mr. Phinehas Hardy here in order to his going to Mendon for Mr. Dorr to preach next sabbath.

1759 October 27 (Saturday). Through the divine Goodness I feel better this Morning than I have a good while. D.G. I Send by Mr. Phinehas Hardy, a Letter I wrote yesterday to Mr. Dorr junior to come and preach for me to morrow. P.M. they came; and Mr. Dorr lodges here. My Daughter Sarah is better -- but I am my Self very much at a Stay; being feverish and weak.

1759 October 28 (Sunday). The Sabbath is the Queen of Days: May it ever be my souls Delight! I bless God that though I can't go to meeting my self here is a Servant of God to preach in my Stead, and therefore both my Family and Flock may have the Benefit of Gods Word. Mr. *Dorr* preaches a.m. and p.m. on Mat. 3.1.2. Capt. Maynards Wife dines here. I feel but poorly Still, but I pray God who has heretofore relieved me, to grant his divine Compassions towards me! I sat up too late this Evening and had but a poor Night -- but especially by reason of the little Children *Hannah* and *Jeduthun*, that are very troublesome, having bad Laxes. Mr. Dorr lodges here.

1759 October 29 (Monday). Mr. Dorr left us. Persis Rice assists my Wife and dines here. Mr. Zebulun Rice in the Name of the Committee lay in with Mr. Dorr to come and preach again if they need. P.[M.] Messrs. Fish and Manning visit me. The former prays: the Latter delivers me a Letter from Mr. Forbush inclosing his Letter to his people at the Time that I preached the Lecture in Brookfield. Mr. Biglow brought 6 Barrells which he has made for me. At Eve Rev. Mr. Campbell but pursues his Journey downward.

1759 October 30 (Tuesday). Deacon Tainter at Evening tells me *Nahum Ball* (son of the late Mr. James Ball) AEt. 29 dyed yesterday. I am still poorly.

1759 October 31 (Wednesday). Master Fessenden -- he tells us young Mr. *Nathaniel* [*sic*] *Stone* of *Southborough* is dead -- a most sorrowful stroke! The Lord support my dear Brother under this heavy Dispensation! I am still feverish and confined to the House: and have not comfortable Nights. Mr. Cordwell, his wife and Miss Ruth Hicks here.

1759 November 1 (Thursday). This Day (though I feel not well nor strong) I stepped out of the Door into the Yard, for I would fain use my Self to the air again. P.M. Mrs. Maynard kindly visited us -- and not empty.

1759 November 2 (Friday). Mr. Nathaniel Stone's Funeral, as I hear. Alexander goes to Marlborough and returns. At Eve Mr. Asher Rice was here. I made Enquiry into his Attendance on divine Ordinances in the Church where he lives -- tells me he does not go to the Communion and that 3 of his Children are unbaptized. But he Strongly asserts his own Innocence, and desires I would write to Rev. Eaton that his Cause may be heard. Mr. Zebulun Rice and after

him Deacon Tainter came here to see whether I thought it probable that I Should preach next sabbath -- for otherwise it was proposed to send for young Mr. *Dorr* again. My Answer was, I hoped to my self.

1759 November 3 (Saturday). Mr. Asaph Rice here, dined with us -- but I could not perswade him to help me to morrow, in any part of service. It was so great a storm I could not at all take the Air abroad, and I was filled with much fear, what I Should be like to do.

1759 November 4 (Sunday). After a great deal of deep Concern (especially considering that I am not quite so well as yesterday), and repeatedly committing the Matter to God, I went out to Meeting. Fearing there would be but one Exercise I preached a.m. on Eccl. 7.29. But Venturing in the afternoon I gave that which otherwise would have been the forenoon Exercise, viz. the Ild Ch. of Job. N.B. I read to the Assembly the Resolve of the Honorable his Majesty's Council, and the Declaration "and Vote of the Convention of Ministers last May respecting the Disorders at Ordinations" which I followed with my own solemn Testimony against said Disorders, and gave Caution and Exhortations.

After Meeting in the Evening and Night had some rheumatic Twinges in my right Hand and several other Joints, but they did not prevail.

1759 November 5 (Monday). I rise considerable Comfortable -- Blessed by God. Mr. Batherick about his last year Rates. Mr. Jonah Warrin comes with his Cart and brings me at least half a Dozen Bushel of Turnips -- for a present to me. May God reward him! Mr. Asher Rice again.

1759 November 6 (Tuesday). Capt. Wood, at my Sending for, came here a.m. on various Affairs. Daniel How brings a Letter from *Thomas* at *Still-Water* dated Oct. 12. And from *Billy* at *Crown Point* Oct. 16. Blessed be God for their Welfare! May they have Grace to improve it! Mr. Benjamin Tainter dined here. P.M. Mr. Mellen and his Wife here going to Hopkinton and to Sherbourn Ordination. Mr. Asaph Rice, on his Return to Berwick, here. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Fay makes me unhandsome return of my Urgent Message to him, for money, now almost five Months after the Time is up. As to me I have but a feverish, uncomfortable Day -- yet I can through Gods Goodness attend to considerable of my work. The Air has been too cool for me to go abroad. I desire to committ my Self to God. But how astonishingly Stupid my Vile Heart is!

1759 November 7 (Wednesday). The Boys go to husking to t'other House. Mr. *Locks* Ordination at Sherbourn. May almighty Grace be given him in Christ Jesus. P.M. Mrs. Maynard comes and takes my wife with her to ride to Mr. Dunlops. When they were gone came Mrs. *Wood*, who waits on her Mother *Rice*, to see us. At Eve came Mr. Whitney and Mr. Zebulun Rice. The Bus'ness Seems to be, to perswade me not to think of asking the Precinct to make any Addition to my Support this year, notwithstanding that Meat, Grain, Labour etc. are so exceedingly advanced in their price.

1759 November 8 (Thursday). My Wife goes over to Cousen Maynard and gets her Chair to be to Marlborough. Old Mr. Charles Rice p.m. had some serious talk with him. At Eve came my Daughter in Law, *Eliza*, from Brookfield and she lodges here. N.B. her deplorable Account of their having no Crop etc.

1759 November 9 (Friday). My Wife and *Suse* ride to Marlborough. They break fast at Mr. Henry Barns's, where my Wife buys a green Grogram Gown, etc. My Daughter in Law, accompanied by Mrs. Newhall of Brookfield, Sets out for Watertown and Boston. At Night Mr. Jonathan Fay pays me the remainder of his 500£ and I give him Receipt for it. I am still Weak, feverish and Rheumatic in my Hands, and o' Nights Especially. At my Son Alexander's Earnest Request I consent to their having an husking at t'other House -- though my boys have been all of them husking there one Day after another. N.B. in the afternoon I was much troubled by Piggs in the Garden, and was tempted to expose my self to the endangering my Health to drive them out and watch them, my Daughters that remain at home with me being very infirm.

1759 November 10 (Saturday). I was better than I feared, after Such a Dangerous Attempt, but am Rheumatic, in my Hands.

1759 November 11 (Sunday). I omitted Reading publickly. Preached a. and p.m. on Eccl. 7.29. Cousen Maynard dined with us. Yesterday and to Day I take Garlic Steeped in Rum against the Rheumatism. A Coarse medicine; but I submitt to it, hoping for the Blessing of God upon it.

1759 November 12 (Monday). Mr. *Campbell* called to see me in his Return home. Also Mr. *Dix* of Watertown who informs me that Mr. *Clark Pain*, Coll. Chandlers son in Law of Worcester, dyed there lately of the Small Pox, and that that Distemper spreads in New York, in Albany etc. At Eve Capt. Wood and Mr. Zebulun Rice.

1759 November 13 (Tuesday). Mr. John Chamberlin from Stockbridge. P.M. Lucy and Sarah ride to Cousen Maynards. Mr. *Oliver Carter* here. He wants a Copy of Mr. *Rogers's* first Epistle, but I have it not. I give him an Account of what *Numbers* of the Papers I have lent him and Mr. Abijah Smith, and are in the Case, and are not returned. Alex with a great deal of pain, gets a Team to bring over one Load of Corn from t'other House. Capt. *Clark*, of Rutland, carrying home his New wife (Mr. *Bucknam* of Medways Daughter)<sup>4</sup> lodges, and a Company with them at Cousen Maynards to Night -- who invites her Aunt and I to go there and Sup with them but this Invitation (besides the Impropriety of it) I am not able to accept.

1759 November 14 (Wednesday). I send a Letter to Cousen *Coarser* on the Death of her only sister, by Mr. Daniel Forbush's Wife. 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. P.M. Capt. Wood and his Wife came and with them Dr. *Wilson* and his Wife and young Mr. *Barrett* and *his*. At Eve Mr. Benjamin Tainter and his wife who have come up from Boston

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<sup>4</sup>Capt. Edward Clark of Rutland District married Anne Bucknam of Medway, Oct. 25, 1759, in Medway; Rutland VR, 124.

where She has been for a while, for her Health. I am filled with fears of the Rheumatism's prevailing; for at night I had such Pain in my left Knee as obliged me to limp; nor are my Hands free.

1759 November 15 (Thursday). Through divine Goodness I am not so bad as last Evening. My Knee easy, though my Hands are affected with Pain. Messrs. *Abraham* and *Abijah Brown* here. The former pays me his Debt to my son Thomas. The latter is in pursuit of a Farm; and they propose to go to see Mine, for which End they now called.

1759 November 16 (Friday). Mr. Biglow undertakes to go up the Road to Crown Point to Meet his sons who he thinks are upon their Return home. Mr. *Mead* here and dines with us. At Eve Capt. Wood here, and I communicate to him my Computations of the worth of my old Place, in order to set a price upon it; and desire him to attend those men who are expected to go to look for it. He answers that he will do his utmost to serve me. But I would chiefly and mainly look to God for direction, in every important Affair, and desire to depend intirely upon His Care, who *cares* for me, when no Care of my own can be of avail.

1759 November 17 (Saturday). Alexander goes to *Marlborough* to bring up a Green Grogram Gown from Miss Nanny Woods, which She has been making for his Mother. Mr. Thomas Twitchell brings me my Bible and Psalm Book, which had been Mended by my Brother Parkman and Sent by Young Seaver at Mr. Johonnots on Oct. 23 or 24 per Hand of Some Westborough man (as he supposed) but I could never find out who it was -- nor know I where it has been all this Time. At night came my Daughter in Law, from her Fathers at Watertown, and Mrs. Newhall with her -- and lodge with us. N.B. The Two Deacons a Load of Wood apiece.

1759 November 18 (Sunday). I read *Job* 3 and for the forenoon Exercise gave some Observations upon it. P.M. preached on *Luk. 2.14*. Omitted Reading. Acquainted the Congregation with the Desire of Mr. Ebenezer Sadler of Grafton to have a Contribution here for him, he having been burnt out. Also read the proclamation for *the General Thanksgiving*. Mrs. *Newhall* so ill all Day that She could not go to meeting. My Daughter went at Eve to her sister *Bonds* and lodged there. Mrs. *Newhall* with us. May God be graciously pleased to add His Blessing to the Word of His Grace!

1759 November 19 (Monday). Mr. *Goddard* of *Grafton* and his Wife came to the Door and informed me there was sorrowful News brought to Grafton by *Samuel Wetmore*, viz. that *Thomas Parkman*, my son, was dead. I Sent a Line to *Lieut. Forb.* praying him to go and See what the Particulars from *Wetmore* are. Who went accordingly. Mr. *Gale* came to Work here, to make shelves etc. in the Kitchin, but it was full nine o'Clock when he came. My Daughter in Law and Mrs. *Newhall* Set out for *Brookfield*. Deacon Tainter an other Load of Wood. Mr. *Gale* and he dine here. N.B. News that Mr. *Noah How* is dead also. N.B. I wrote a Letter to Rev. Mr. Eaton of Spencer concerning the Case of Mr. Asher Rice who has removed there, but lives in the Neglect of divine Ordinances So that a Number of his Children are not baptized.

1759 November 20 (Tuesday). Mr. *Gale* (having lodged here) works here, and Jabez Snow junior (though very late this morning) comes to work with him. Mr. Abijah Brown comes with Capt. *Wood* in Order to View my Old Place. I went over, and Shewed him the House. When I returned Mr. Davis was here. We went together to Ministers Meeting at Mr. *Stones*. *Alexander* rode to Marlborough to buy Nails and Brads. We dined at Mr. *Stones*. Mr. Barrett, Mr. Smith, Mr. Maccarty, and Mr. Cushing came towards Eve. N.B. The Troubles in Southborough unhappily continue. The Disquieted have lately asked for a Church Meeting. Mr. *Stones* Concio on Numb. 27.16.17. May God set it home upon all our Hearts! I lodged there.

1759 November 21 (Wednesday). Mr. Davis prayed. Mr. Maccarty preached a useful good Sermon on Isa. 57.1.2. May the divine Blessing accompany it to my own Heart! That I may be of the truly righteous and upright and that I may have the Peace and Happiness of such. Mr. Gale and Jabez worked to Day -- but Jabez went home at Eve. My [wife] while I am gone sees William Dunlop who is returned home. He tells her *Jonas Child*, in a Batteau on Hudsons River, informed him of my son Thomas's Death, that he had been his Mess Mate, and was with him when he dyed.

1759 November 22 (Thursday). Mr. Gale. *Jabez Snow*. *Alexander* brought a Letter which came from *Jonas Child* dated Still-Water Nov. 14, 1759 Superscribed to his Father Mr. *Joseph Bruce* of this parish in which was this Paragraph following, viz.

"I would also inform of the sorrowfull News of the Death of *Thomas Parkman* who died the twenty Third of October with a fever. He had been sick about fourteen Day. He walkt abroad the Day before he dyed, and his Death was Somewhat unexpected. Our Captain got a Coffin made and chose Nathan and Samuel Watkins and David Stow and my self for his Bearers. He dyed here at Still-Water, and was buried in a very decent manner. This you may inform his Father for Truth."

1759 November 23 (Friday). Mr. Gale and Jabez. My Wife and Lucy to Capt. Allens. Cousen Maynard here p.m. Deacon Tainter here at Eve and tells me that he and Mr. Whitney had made a Visit to Mr. Samuel Fay junior who upon their Enquiry into his Neglects of divine Ordinances receive this Answer from him that all lies with me -- that is, that though we had made up, yet I had destroyed it all since -- that is by my speaking to him at Capt. Woods on the 3d of October last. I am astonished at his Conduct.

1759 November 24 (Saturday). Mr. Gale and Jabez, Mr. Ebenezer Rice and his son and Brother *Adonijah Rice* and others are returned home, but News that *Eliphalet Adams* is Dead.

1759 November 25 (Sunday). Read Ps. 39. Preached on v. 9 a. and p.m. Omitted reading p.m. May God Sanctifie his word and his Providence to us! The widow of *Eliphalet Adams*, and Cousen Maynard dined here.

1759 November 26 (Monday). Mr. Gale came to work again. Soldiers are returning.

1759 November 27 (Tuesday). Mr. Gale works so much as to make up for the want of Saturday Night; and so counts 8 Days. Asks 20/ old Tenor per Day, but gives me one Day. He dines here. P.M. I visited Mr. Samuel Forb. junior Child being Sick.

1759 November 28 (Wednesday). Capt. Maynard returned. Breck came from Brookfield at Eve; and my Son Baldwin came about midnight.

1759 November 29 (Thursday). Public Thanksgiving. I preached on Ps. 96.1-10 and 12 and joined also for the Texts Ps. 98.1-6. Mr. Baldwin here with us. At Eve Jonathan How and Lydia Maynard were married.

1759 November 30 (Friday). My Wife, Mr. Baldwin and his wife ride over to Mr. *Martyn's*. P.M. Mr. Fessenden and his Brother (of Cambridge) came to see me. The latter informs that the Church Interest prevails very much in Cambridge and they are determined soon to build. That Deacon Whittemore having sold a piece of Land to the Gentleman who is to be the Minister, the Cellar for his House is digging.

1759 December 1 (Saturday). My Son Baldwin with us. P.M. Nahum Eager, and Nathaniel and Levi Allen here. Nahum brings the heavy Tidings that *Billy* is dead. A very humbling and Shocking stroke if true! The Lord fit and prepare us for what He shall please to inflict!

1759 December 2 (Sunday). Omitted Reading in Publick. Preached a.m. on Mal. 3.7 from p. 45 to 52. P.M. on Ps. 39.9. *Administered* the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Cousen Maynard dines here as do Deacon Tainter and his Wife. My son Baldwin with us at the Lords Table. The Air very frosty. The Night Windy and very Cold. May we fear God with whom is terrible Majesty! O that Since the Lord has favour'd me once more with Opportunity to renew my Dedication to Him at the holy Communion I may now live to His Gory and advance His Kingdom!

1759 December 3 (Monday). It is now so exceeding Cold that I am obliged to give up my Hopes of Masonry in my Kitchin this Season. Capt. *Jonas Brigham*, as he is to day, invites me to dine at Capt. *Woods* where New Commissions are to be given out. Mr. Martyn and Mr. Smith here, and putting up their Horses here, we all walk up to the place appointed. We dined there very late. Mr. *Fish* and Mr. *Hutchinson* there. N.B. Mr. Cushing was not there. I [craved?], and Mr. Martyn returned. 48 or 49 Commissions were given out. I desired the Coll. (Artemas Ward Esq.) to apprise the Men beforehand, of what the Oaths were they were going to take, and if they did not understand the Expressions used, they might have the Opportunity to Enquire into the Meaning of them. He was So good as to comply with this. The Oaths were first read over: and then he told them that if there was any one that was in any Difficulty about what was contained therein or the Phrases used, he might have it explained to him. He said there were Gentlemen present that were able to do it. But no body Answered -- so that the Oaths were administered. N.B. I delivered my Hatt to Capt. Wood to keep and safely deliver to me again -- but somebody took it away and I wore Capt. Woods Home. N.B. Mr. Fish and Maj. Spring give me the sorrowful Confirmations of the unhappy Fall of poor Mr. Manning at Uxbridge. Deacon Tainter Two Loads of Wood.

1759 December 4 (Tuesday). Notwithstanding the Cold I rode (my Daughter *Suse* with me) to the Private Meeting at the Widow *Forbush's*, and at Old Deacon *Forbushs*, Request. There were but few there. Of men, only the Deacons and Mr. Martyn Pratt; Mr. Israel Walker of Hopkinton fell in also Occasionally. I preached on *Joh. 17.4*. N.B. Mr. Baldwin rode to Rutland and from Shrewsbury wrote me a Comfortable Letter that Billy was at Springfield last Saturday -- but Mr. Joseph Chattuck (now of Brookfield, and who had Miss Thankfull Watson with him) by whom the Letter was brought says he is at Brookfield. N.B. I send my watch by Mr. Chattuck to Mr. Moses Peck.

1759 December 5 (Wednesday). My Son Billy (Glory and Praise to God!) came home well and dined with us. P.M. I visited at Mr. Abraham Beemans, the widow *Adams's*, and Lieut. Bruce's. Read winter Evenings Entertainment, Vol. 2 (dispatched the first Vol. some time ago).

1759 December 6 (Thursday). I received a Barrell of Flower from Brother Parkman, which Neighbour Moses Nurse brought up from Brother Samuels. Deacon Tainter another Load of Wood.

1759 December 7 (Friday). Last Night came Mr. Baldwin from Brookfield. Brings a Letter from Mr. Forb. in which he shews his great surprize and deep Grief at hearing the Hints about Mr. Manning, but is unbelieving. Wrote to Brother Samuel concerning the Death of Thomas and Return of *William*. Mr. Isaac Pratt leaves here 9 Johannes and four Dollars for Mr. Joseph Chaddock, which I delivered to him, and received his Receipt.

1759 December 8 (Saturday). Mr. Timothy Warrin a Load of Wood a.m. Mr. Tainter another p.m. We have thirteen in Family -- and no Beef provided nor brought in except a piece Mr. Hezekiah Pratt brings to roast (he says) for Billys coming home. Our Cows give but little Milk. No body engages to get my Wood. Nor have we any Tallow. My Wife sends to Capt. Fays Wife to spare her some (for money) and she sends her an handsome present of Beef, Sewet, Tallow and a Cheese. Nor am I out of Hopes respecting other needed Articles, Since I am in the Hands of a carefull, Watchfull, faithfull, and bountiful Providence. Only the Lord grant me the Faith to live to and upon Him; to hope and Trust in Him as I ought to do!

1759 December 9 (Sunday). Josiah Lock early, before Day, alarms, awakes us up, and carrys off Mrs. P \_\_\_\_\_ to her Kinswomans Labour; who was delivered of a son about sun rise: but my wife did not return till Night. I omitted Reading publickly. Billy desired to give Thanks to God in the Congregation for His Goodness to him in his Return Home; and desired prayers that God would Sanctifie to him the Death of his Brother. Preached a. and p.m. on Ps. 39.9, which may God bless to Me!

1759 December 10 (Monday). Got Mr. Joseph Baker to go to Mr. Jonah Warrins and view a Young Beeve. Mr. Baker returns that it is not good Beef, nor can he advise me to have her. I conform to his Judgment and Send him a Negative. At Evening Mr. Joseph Wood of Hopkinton here. His Bus'ness with me was upon the Affair of *Kenebecks*. 30 of this Parish, 8 of Hopkinton,

and 12 of Holliston being about to petition for a Township there, and heard I was either one of the Committee of that grand Propriety, or at least a proprietor; whereas both were Mistakes. N.B. Alexander and Breck thrashed Rye.

1759 December 11 (Tuesday). I made a Visit to Cousen Maynard, in her New Circumstances and dined with her, she Sitting at Table. The Captain not there. Visit Mr. Ebenezer Rice and Agree about the Hay. N.B. Ebbe sick of a fever. Visit at Mr. Nathan Maynards. At Eve Mr. B. Tainter and wife here. Mr. Forb. came from Brookfield and lodged here. Send by Mr. Edwards Whipple for my Watch at Mr. Pecks, Boston. N.B. That Mr. Goddard of Grafton who brought me the News of Thomas's Death Nov. 19, is this Day buried at Cambridge.

1759 December 12 (Wednesday). Little Jeduthun having had from some Days a bad swelling under his Chin, it broke this Morning and run: we hope to his great Relief. His Mother has been poulticing it several Days. Mr. Adonijah Rice broke and dressed out almost 6 pound of Flax for us. Mr. Forb. and he dine here. P.M. [blank] Batchellour comes and brings my Hatt that was taken away from Capt. Woods on the 3d and he informs me it was Mr. Robert Taft of Upton who undesignedly took it away, and did not mind that he had Such an Hatt till the next sabbath. Mr. Forb. goes to Visit his Father.

1759 December 13 (Thursday). I rode to Mr. Daniel Forb. and seeing Persis Crosby there, and near her Time, yet neither married nor published, I had some further discourse with her. I dined at *Ensign* now *Lieutenant* Harringtons. My son Forb. I hear is gone to Upton, and Uxbridge to See Mr. *Manning*. I visited Monsieur LeBlanc. At Eve Deacon Tainter came to see me to discourse about the still sorrowful Condition of the people of North-Sutton; he having been lately at Mr. Welmans and at his sons. The Deacon wants I Should write to him, that he may'nt be stiff with his Antagonist, nor make such sharp Remarks upon their Letters to him. But I fear my engaging in it will make the matter worse. At Eve the Widow of the late Mr. Noah How was here and I delivered to her her Husbands Will.

1759 December 14 (Friday). Mr. Edwards Whipple brings my Watch from Mr. Peck of Boston and paid him 25/ old Tenor for what he did in cleaning etc. P.M. Mr. Forb. returned and gave me an Account of poor Mr. *Manning*. And find by him that though he has been foolishly free with the woman, yet that he had not lain with her but that She acknowledges to him she is with Child by another Man. Blessed be God, that He has granted such Measure of His restraining Grace to him! But alas! That the poor man has been so left, and so beguiled! And that there is so great Dishonour to Religion on his Account! Mr. Forb. takes with him Dr. Edwards Theol. Reform. and Dr. Doddridge's 6th Vol. of Family Instructor.

1759 December 15 (Saturday). Sorrowful News of the Death of Mr. *Thomas Ball of Brookfield*, at Waltham, by the Wheel of his Cart running over him. May God prepare me for sudden Death! Besides the Account given by Mr. Gale who din'd with us, my Son Baldwin (who returned from Boston, and came nigh sunsetting) confirmed it; and Said he saw the Corps.

1759 December 16 (Sunday). A Cold Day. I omitted public Reading forenoon and afternoon. Preached a.m. on 1 Sam. 3.18, last Clause, only as a decent Introduction to another Exercise on the Subject of Resignation and Submission under Affliction. P.M. On the Occasion of Mr. Thomas Balls Sudden Death I repeated a sermon on 1 Cor., former part. ["Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame."] At Eve read Mr. Eliots sermon on Ps. 126, Oct. 25 last.<sup>5</sup>

1759 December 17 (Monday). After a great deal of Debate with my Son Baldwin respecting the Terms of Billys living with him; in which I manifested my great dissatisfaction with Mr. B.'s having the Wages of this last year as he had of the year before. My backwardness to comply with the Proposal to me to bind him unless, he might at least be made equal with the other 'Prentice that did go out in the service (viz. Daniel Wyman) upon Billys consenting if he would pay for a Gun for him, and being desirous to be bound, Mr. B. paying him now in Cash all his Extra Wages as his Clerk, the Indentures were filled up and Signed reciprocally. These Things were not accomplished till after noon. Then Cold as it was Mr. B., my Daughter and their son took leave to go as far as they could upon their Journey to Brookfield. N.B. They went in a New Chair which he had bought last week. Mr. William Nurse came p.m. and I went over to Neighbour Moses Nurse to settle the Affair of the Barrells which I had of his Uncle and those which he had of me. I made a Visit to Mrs. Rolf in her Loneliness. At Eve came Brother Hicks, who tarried with us. N.B. He is going down with a Petition to the Commissioners about Land Bank Affair again. I oblige him with drawing it over for him; and hope his being further assessed will be prevented.

1759 December 18 (Tuesday). Squire Baker goes to Boston to meet two others, Messrs. Daniel Miller and Joseph Wood, a Committee of the Petitioners of this Town, Hopkinton and Holliston, for a Township on Kennebeck River. I wrote by Brother Hicks (who left us this Morning) to my Brother Samuel if it lies in his Power, to further their Petition.

1759 December 19 (Wednesday). Billy rides my Mare to Rutland, and is from Thence to go to Brookfield designing to return to me again in a Short time, to Spend his Month here which is given him in his Indenture.

1759 December 20 (Thursday). Had a brief word with Mr. Samuel Fay junior as he was going with his Whirry to Boston. Deacon Tainter came and killed a Sow for me, and at night brought Salt, cut it up and Salted it down. She weighed Seven score and 15 pound. N.B. Mr. Francis Whipple here and dined with us. Alexander and Breck have been thrashing Rye. They now thrash Oates. They write 'o Nights. I finish Vol. 2 of Winter Evening Entertainment.

1759 December 21 (Friday). Mr. Hall and Dr. Morse of Sutton in their return from Boston, call here. Brother Hicks at Night and lodges here.

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<sup>5</sup>Andrew Eliot, *A sermon preached October 25th. 1759. Being a day of public thanksgiving appointed by authority, for the success of the British arms this year; especially in the reduction of Quebec, the capital of Canada* (Boston: Daniel and John Kneeland, 1759; Evans 8343)

1759 December 22 (Saturday). Brother Hicks leaves us to go home. Breck begins again to learn the Accidence.

1759 December 23 (Sunday). Omitted public Reading, by reason of the Shortness and Severity of the Season. Preached a.m. on *Job* 14, former part. P.M. repeated with Additions sermon on 1 *Cor.* 15.34, from p. 10 to the End, omitting in p. 15 and 16. And O that I my Self might be quickened and excited by divine almighty Grace! N.B. Capt. *Foster* now of *Durham*, dined here.

1759 December 24 (Monday). Mr. Moses Brigham brings another Load of Wood and offers to get me 10 Cord at 20/ a Cord. (We commonly mean old Tenor when we do not Specifie Lawful Money.) And I take him up at this. I read a.m. part of Mr. Pyke and Mr. Howards Cases of Conscience. P.M. Prideaux Connections. In the Evening I have the Boys.

1759 December 25 (Tuesday). Deacon Tainter, according to his kind offer came with his Sleigh or Whirrey with two Horses, to wait on me and my Daughter Sarah to Marlborough. But he had the Frenchman Le Blanc, with him to carry him to Marlborough likewise. We all dined, though late, at Mr. *Smiths* -- and thence rode to Mrs. *Woods* (Nanny), to Mrs. *Speakmans*, but no body at home. We went to Mr. Henry Barns's. *Sarah* delivers Mrs. Barns 8£ old Tenor for a Green Grogam Gown for her Mother. Mr. Barns is gone to Boston. Master Wheeler and Mrs. Speakman, old Mrs. Arbuthnot and Mrs. Instant were there. I borrowed Dr. Moss's sermons Vol. 1 of Mrs. Speakman: and of Mr. Smith the London Magazine from Oct. 1758 to April last. N.B. Neither Le Blanc, who went to Marlborough to trade, nor Mrs. Barns who trades with him and many other Customers who come to her shop, keep the Feast of the Nativity as they ought (in my judgment) to do, considering their profession.

1759 December 26 (Wednesday). Dean *Moss* and Magazines. Capt. Jonathan Ward of Southborough, here and dines with us.

1759 December 27 (Thursday). Five geese and some Fowls by Mr. Joseph Baker to Boston for us. Deacon Bond here, desires me to preach at his House next Tuesday; Family Meeting.

1759 December 28 (Friday). Mr. Jonathan Fays wife p.m. to be examined in order to joining to the Church and tarrys till 8 o'Clock to my great Interruption, though I am glad of any ones coming upon this Account and rejoice in her Accomplishments. Wish they may be truely sanctified.

1759 December 29 (Saturday). Billy returns at Eve from Brookfield on my Mare.

1759 December 30 (Sunday). Omitted the Public Reading it being very Cold. Preached a. and p.m. on *Job.* 14.1. Deacon Forb. and his Daughter (the Widow Forb.), Mrs. Chase dined here. At Eve read to the Congregation a Letter from Mr. Jonathan Morse of Shrewsbury, who was lately burnt out; containing his Request for a Contribution. N.B. It was recommended by Mr. Cushing. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Fays wife was propounded.

1759 December 31 (Monday). Precinct Meeting to call in Debts. Mr. Moses Nurse delivers me Six pounds old Tenor for his uncle William Nurse. Daniel Forb. junior desires me to go to his Fathers House and Marry him to Persis Crosby -- which I did. Called at *Blanc's*. At Eve the Committee of the Precinct, and other persons here. They advise to comply with Mr. Jonathan Morse's Petition for Contribution -- though they do not respecting Mr. *Ebenezer Sadlers*. The Year Ends with some serious Reflections.