

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1776

1776 January 1 (Monday). Since it has pleased God in His great Goodness to protract the Day of His Patience to this time, to my just Astonishment, it must be my earnest Care and diligent Enquiry, What I Shall render to the Lord for all His Benefits which He has conferred upon me, by Which Means I Shall glorifie Him most, and how I shall best improve the Opportunitys I yet through the divine Indulgence enjoy; So as to answer His kind Design therein? I therefore Spent this New-Years Day in Thanksgiving praise, Supplications, Reviews, Remorse and Humiliations together with humbly Renewing my federal Engagements and Resolutions to be the Lords: And O that God would please to pardon, quicken and assist me; the rather because my further Space is Shorter and shorter; is altogether uncertain, and I know not what a Day, what an Hour may bring forth. Might I therefore be effectually impressed with it, that I get and keep ready for my Departure!

As to the *Changes*, the *Transactions*, the *Accidents*, and *Events* of this ensuing Year, which we have now begun, whether I Shall live to see them or no, they are like to be to an high Degree important. They are in the Hands of the Omnipotent Supreme, who is to be owned and acknowledged the universal Monarch, most wise and righteous, good and faithful. May I have the Grace to [trust?] the inestimable Cause depending, with Him; and would [re?]pose all that relates to Me and Mine, in His Care, His Power, His Tenderness and Unchangeableness. *All* will [is]sue in His Glory. In Him *All* is safe and secure forever!

1776 January 2 (Tuesday). I visited in the Street -- one Mr. *Hemingway* a Fisherman from Boston, ill with pleurisy. Mrs. *Keene* -- her Husband and a great Number of Soldiers are returned home. Went to Capt. Bakers and Saw the great Market there for Oxen, Hogs etc. I dined there with a Number of their Butchers etc. N.B. Mr. *Josh. Johnson* brings me a Copy of the Result of the Council of 11 Churches at *Bolton* June 11, 1771. Mrs. P _____ rode with *Breck* in the Sleigh. He rode to Worcester, she went to Mr. *Seth Rice's* and dined there. But her chief Design was to visit her Cousen *Davis*, who is weak and low. N.B. Coming out of Mr. *Davis's* Door her feet slipped, She fell and Sprained her left Wrist.

1776 January 3 (Wednesday). Mr. *Joseph McCulloch*, being returned from the Army (as the rest of the soldiers of the former enlistment are), was here and helped in Killing Some of our Pork, viz. a Sow weighing (at Evening) 210, and a Pig of 120. My Son *Breck* was with him in doing it. P.M. I visited old Mr. *Whitney*, who continues paralytic. He could not speak at all -- his Mouth is drawn on one side: but seems to have the use of his Reason. His Wife is much indisposed also. By Desire I prayed with them in their Affliction. At Eve Hannah goes to watch with her Cousen *Davis*. Mr. *Cullock* comes and cutts out and Salts up our Pork: and Mr. *Elisha Forbes* with a variety of worthy presents to Me, Cheese, Beef etc.

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

1776 January 5 (Friday). [No entry.]

1776 January 6 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1776 January 7 (Sunday). Blessed be God we have the Favour to enjoy another Lords Day -- that we may begin the Year of Sabbaths! God only knows whether we Shall have this privilege continued through it. I preached on *Rom.* 3.28, carrying on the Course of Sermon of Last sabbath and Sabbath before. Now on *Faith.* P.M. I delivered with alterations and Additions My two sermons on *Eccl.* 7.1 and in the Close offered pathetic Exhortations considering the important Changes and Events of this ensuing Year. May God succeed them especially to my own Soul! Mrs. *Rombly*, and Miss *Suse Brigham* dined. Mr. *May* at Coffee with us at Eve. He prayed and lodges here, as does *Suse*.

1776 January 8 (Monday). *Breck* goes to *Providence*. Mr. *May* to his school. But *Suse* tarrys with us. I visited and prayed with Mr. [*torn*] *Hawes*. Also Mr. *Artemas Bruce's* little Daughter and prayed there. I visited at Mr. *Abraham Beemans*. Did not dine. Went to *Ensign Snows*. *Ensign* and his Wife being gone from home I acquainted Mrs. *Breed* that I was in need of Eating; upon which she readily dressed some Food. At length the good Folks returned and entertained me with Gladness. In returning home I called to see and Caution *George Andrews*: and at Mr. *Timothy Warrins*, his son *Timothy* being ill at the Camp. N.B. My son *William* wrote me by one *Osmer* and inclosed part of his Brother *Forbes's* Letter from *Gloucester* of his Wifes Illness, and fear of her Cancer's rising again. At eve wrote to Mr. *Forbes*.

1776 January 9 (Tuesday). Too rough Weather for me to go abroad. We had bad news concerning the younger *Timothy Warrin*, that it was feared the moving him to *Watertown* proved too much for so sick a man; and that he was near his End. *John Fay* dines here. *Suse Brigham* is here still.

1776 January 10 (Wednesday). We hear that Mr. *Timothy Warrin* junior dyed last Night at *Watertown*. It was by a putrid, pleuretic Fever. A sorrowful Death, considering some particular Circumstances of it! May the Lord hereby awaken Survivors! *Suse* leaves us. She goes to her Aunt *Brighams*.

1776 January 11 (Thursday). I rode up to Mrs. *Mehitable Brighams*, and with me my Daughter *Hannah*; *Sophy* riding in another Chaise with Mr. *May*. Mr. *Thomas Rice Willard* came with another Chaise for *Hannah*, but not in season. It was to the Wedding of Mr. *John Fay* and Miss *Mehitabel Brigham* junior which was Solemnized, and we supped and sang there. After my Return home solemnized the marriage of Mr. *Thomas Andrews* and Miss *Hannah Forbush*. Masters *May* and *Willard* brought home my Daughters and Miss *Suse Brigham*. Mr. *May* and *Suse* lodged here. Mr. *Timothy Warrin* came here while I was absent, lamenting his son *Timothy's* unhappy Death.

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

1776 January 13 (Saturday). My own Cart being Mended by Mr. Nurse, Chamberlain with *Ben* went with the same Cattle as yesterday and brought one Load. Mrs. P_____ and I rode in Mr. *Newtons* Chaise to the Funeral of Mr. *Timothy Warrin* junior. His Father mourns deeply the Loss of this his principal Son. I pray God to sanctifie this Bereavement to all survivors, especially near Relatives.

1776 January 14 (Sunday). Went on with my Subject upon Faith from Rom. 3.28. Mr. Benjamin Warrin and his Wife came at Noon with their Confession. P.M. I preached a sermon partly with reference to the season, and partly with view to the late Death of the younger *Timothy Warrin* which I beg of God to bless to us. Mr. May after Meeting -- at Coffee, at Supper, and prays. He lodges here. Many Westborough Soldiers are returned.

1776 January 15 (Monday). I rode in the Chaise to visit old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush* and prayed with her. Went to Mr. Abraham Bonds; but he was not at home. Visit Mr. *Barns* and his son *Francis*. Mr. *Andrews* here to acquaint me with the Death of the Indian *Esther David* or *Bimeleck* on Saturday night last, and to desire me to attend the Burial tomorrow. At Eve *Sophy* has a Letter from her Sister *Cushing* of the 11th, informing that Mr. *Clark* of *Ashburnham* desires that his son *Benjamin* may return home when his time is out.

1776 January 16 (Tuesday). Wrote to Mr. *Cushing*. Mr. *Grosvenor*, Mr. *Jos. Hall* and his Sister Miss *Debby*, in a sleigh going to *Watertown*. One Mr. *Jason Livermore* of *Leicester* was going down the Road in a Sleigh. Mrs. *Wood* desired him to call here and take me in, to go as far as Mr. *Andrews's* with me; where we stoped and dined. After Dinner he carried Mrs. *Andrews* and me to the House of the Widow *Gale*, where the Corps was brought. About half a Score Indians were met together and some Number of the English Neighbours. I discoursed with what plainness I could, and with what pathos. I prayed -- and went into Mr. *Gale's* to see his Father and Mother. Prayed also with them. Began to read an *Out-of-the-Way* Piece entitled *The Restoration of all Things*, or a Vindication of the Goodness and Grace of God to be manifested at last in the Recovery of his whole Creation out of the *Fall*.¹

1776 January 17 (Wednesday). Write by *Thomas Burdett* to Mr. *Levi Wilder* to bring me from Mr. *Sprague* at *Lancaster, Blackstone*. *Nat Chamberlain* and *Williams* brought 1 Load each -- dined here. Storm p.m. so that they cant go with Teams in the Afternoon.

1776 January 18 (Thursday). Have bought a Deer skin at the Shop, at 16/ Lawful Money, and Miss *Nabby Woods* comes at Even to make a pair of Breeches of it for *Elias*. N.B. Mr. *Grosvenor* and Miss *Debby Hall*, one of her Brothers also, called here. Mr. *Grosvenor* renews his Desire to Change next Lords Day. Sorrowful News from *Quebeck* -- General *Montgomery* Slain.

¹Jeremiah White (1629-1707), *The Restoraiton of All Things* (London, 1712).

1776 January 19 (Friday). Miss *Nabby* works here. She dines. Chamberlin goes three times with the Team to the Lot. Williams Chops and has his Dinner Sent him. Mr. *Leonard* came in his way to the Camp, and dines and lodges. But *Billy* comes from *Concord* -- with The Heavy News, and Letter from my dear son *Forbes*! Of my most dear Child *Mary's* Departure on the 16th at Eve, between 9 and 10 o'Clock! O Lord, Help!

1776 January 20 (Saturday). Mr. *Leonard* leaves us. *Billy* returns home -- takes *Samuels* Horse with him. Mr. *May* finished his school yesterday. I rode to *Grafton* and lodged there, as Mr. *Grosvenor* did here.

1776 January 21 (Sunday). I preached at *Grafton* on Judg. 10.6.7.9.10, and 16 a. and p.m. And returned at Eve: as did Mr. *Grosvenor*. We met at Mr. *Joseph Grouts*, he and 4 Children Sick. Mr. *Grosvenor* prayed with them.

1776 January 22 (Monday). Wrote to My son *Forbes*. *Breck* returns from *Connecticut*.

1776 January 23 (Tuesday). Was called to Mr. *Joseph Grout's*, the Family being greatly distressed. It was feared *Joseph* (junior) and *Seth* were in danger of approaching Death. I prayed with them. Mr. *Jonathan Grout* waited on me, forth and back. At Eve I went to Mrs. P_____ at Mr. *Spring's*. N.B. *Joseph Culloch* who lives there is most probably in a very miserable plight, at this very juncture: but I was not so apprehensive of it while I saw him, as to say any thing to him or those who were with him. Yet I can't but deplore so horrible Dishonour and Offence to the glorious God and the Guilt and Danger of the poor Man! May the Lord Omnipotent awaken, and Snatch him, and other such Wretched Creatures, from Destruction!

1776 January 24 (Wednesday). *Elias* tends the Barn etc. *Ben Clark* being gone with *Nath. Chamberlin* to sled Wood. Sent my Letter to Mr. *Forbes* by Mr. *Elisha Forbes*. My son *Samuel* rode to the hither Parish of *Wrentham* and returned at Eve, before dark. N.B. I walked to Mr. *Springs* where *Culloch* lives, and Seriously, affectingly admonished and warned him for his Conduct last night, for which he thanked me. O that God would set it home upon his soul and that it might make a lasting, effectual Impression! Widow *Abigail Martyn* buried at *Northborough*.

1776 January 25 (Thursday). Capt. *Jonas Brigham* came in the Morning -- sat, and talked sociably. Reckoned with *Breck* and paid his Account as per Book.

£ 7.14.0

1.

8.4

9. 2.4 [?]

And Paid him for sundrys that were not set down. I still owe him 10/3d.2.9 or £3.17.2.2 old Tenor. Letter by *Rufus Rose* from My Kinsman *Loyd* at *Granville*, concerning his Wife's Illness.

1776 January 26 (Friday). Jej: and Prec. -- and wrote to Mr. *Loyd* per *Rufus Rose*.

1776 January 27 (Saturday). Mr. *Bowen* here, going to preach at *Chauxit*. He asks Advice, which I cannot give. Refer him to Mr. *Stone* who was at the Council there, and has the Result (which I have not). As was Mr. *Whitney*, and has it also (I suppose) and therefore he goes there. At Eve I went to Mr. *Nathaniel Whitneys*, who was dying. He departed while I sat there. I prayed with the living -- and then returned.

1776 January 28 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on 1 *Chron.* 29.15.² Mrs. *Ayres* (old Mrs. *Dunlops* Daughter) dined here. N.B. I could not finish the preparations which I designed; and therefore with new Introduction concerning the Occasion, namely my late Bereavement (the Death of my eldest Child) and several other Deaths of late (particularly what occurred last Night), I delivered the abovesaid sermons; which may the Lord sanctify to us all! Especially those of us more immediately concerned. Capt. *Maynard* (with previous leave) Speaks to the Assembly to meet tomorrow for Recruiting.

1776 January 29 (Monday). I rode in my sleigh to Mr. *Daniel Warrins* to see his poor, low Brother in Law, *Daniel*, who consumes away. I discoursed and prayed with him. He desires a sermon may be preached to him; his Mother also, long confined from public worship, desires the Same. N.B. Mr. *Timothy Warrin* is Sunk extremely and mourns bitterly for the Loss of his Son. All that is left is empty. At Night I wrote to Mr. *Moore*, to be sent by my Son *Samuel*.

1776 January 30 (Tuesday). Wrote to Mrs. *Moore*. My son *Samuel*, his Wife and Child, with *Elias* also, go in the Sleigh to *Concord*; *Samuel* designing to take his own Mare at *Concord* and proceed to *Plymouth, Rochester, Dartmouth* etc. *Deacon Miles* in a delirious Frame, came to see me. Mr. *Timothy Warrin* came with a Sleigh and carried Mrs. P _____ and Me to the Funeral of old Mr. *Nathaniel Whitney*, who expired when within about seven Days of Eighty Years of Age. May God be graciously pleased to Sanctify this Death of one of the most Antient Members of the Church, to all of us who Survive! At Eve came Master *Samuel Jenison* from *Mendon*, and lodges here.

1776 January 31 (Wednesday). Mr. *Jenison* dines with us, as does Mr. *Grosvenor* and his Sister *Chloe*, also her Friend Miss *Gratia* [*Payton?*]. *Nath. Chamberlain* having 'listed to go into the Army, I am now at a loose End respecting Wood. Another Month Gone! May I be duely affected!

1776 February 1 (Thursday). Brother *Smith* of *Marlborough* came -- dined with us. I was obliged to leave him, and attend upon a religious Exercise at Mr. *Daniel Warrins*, where I preached p.m. on *Eccl.* 12.1 at the Request and chiefly directed to Young *Daniel* (Brother in Law) who is in a consuming State and reduced very low. May the Lord be pleased to add His

²! *Chron.* 29.15: "For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding."

Blessing! Plentiful Supper followed. Squire *Whipple* tarried with me and attended me home. Mr. *Ebenezer Davis* of *Charleton* here, and tarrys over night.

1776 February 2 (Friday). Mr. *Davis* leaves us. Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* kills two young Hogs for me. Reckoned with *Nat. Chamberlain* for nine Days Carting Wood, and for one Day helping Mr. Nurse in Shooing my sled @ 9/ per Day. The Reckoning of Cutting the Wood, viz. how many Load or Cord, is deferred. Mr. *John Fessenden* was here and paid me, in Bills £67.10.0 old tenor and by Mr. *Barn. Newtons* Account £15.2.6 old Tenor in all, this time, £82.12.6 or £111.0.4 L.M.

1776 February 3 (Saturday). Seventeen New Recruits for the Army, out of this Town, march to go to *Cambridge* Head Quarters. *Nathaniel Chamberlain*, going to the Army, receives of Me 4 Dollars.

1776 February 4 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on 1 *Tim.* 2.5, "There is -- one Mediator between G. and M. the M. Christ Jesus," carrying on the Discourse from *Rom.* 3.28. May a divine, [blot] efficacious Blessing render the word successfull! A Letter from my Son *Baldwin*, of *Jan.* 18 on the Death of his Sister *Forbes*. *Suse Brigham* dined with us.

1776 February 5 (Monday). My Son *Samuel* returned from *Rochester, Bedford* etc.

1776 February 6 (Tuesday). By reason of the very Cold weather, I am obliged to keep House and have Leisure for my Studies. Sermonizing etc.

1776 February 7 (Wednesday). Notwithstanding the Cold I walked to Neighbour *Thaddeus Warrins*, and (though with some Difficulty) prevailed with him and *Samuel Williams* to go tomorrow to Cutting and Sledding Wood. Went to Mr. *Nurse's* also to reckon with him for mending my Cart and shooing my Sled. 24/ for one; 4/6 only for the other -- 5/ also for Bows and soals for Cattle. P.M. and Eve *Nanny Beeton* with her Kinswoman *Miss Polly Ayres* and a Friend of hers, were here. *Miss Polly* takes the *Profile* of the Faces of *Breck, Samuel, Sally, Sophy, Hannah* and *Elias*. [blot]

1776 February 8 (Thursday). *Warrin* (as agreed) went to cutting -- and *Williams* Sledding -- See the Almanack. *Ben* went with *Williams* and *Elias* at the Barn etc.

1776 February 9 (Friday). *Williams* takes *Elias* with him to Sledding. My Son *Baldwin* (having visited his Wife at *Brookfield*) returns to the Camp this way. Breakfast here. He delivers me a Proclamation from the General Court, to be read to the public Assembly. My Thoughts are Somewhat exercised upon the 3d Paragraph containing a Maxim etc.³

³The paragraph to which Parkman objected reads: "It is a Maxim, that in every Government, there must exist somewhere, a supreme, sovereign, absolute, and uncontrollable Power: But this Power resides always in the Body of the People; and it never was, or can be delegated to one Man, or a few; the Great Creator having never given to Men, a Right to vest others with Authority over them, unlimited either in Duration or Degree." *By the Great and General Court of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay. A proclamation. The frailty of human nature, the wants of individuals, and the numerous dangers which surround them, through the course of life, have in all ages,*

1776 February 10 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1776 February 11 (Sunday). A.M. on 1 Tim. 2.5. P.M. on *Heb.* 12.24, carrying on the Same subject, and used some of the preparations at Catechetical Exercise on the *Mediator*. Did not read the proclamation -- the Season was tedious; and I must have curtailed the sermon to its Detriment.

1776 February 12 (Monday). Wrote divers Letters; to Mr. *Rawson* -- to Mr. *Pierpoint*. At Eve General Wards son *Thomas Walker*, and Daughter *Sally*.

1776 February 13 (Tuesday). *Breck* sets out for *New York*. Send the Letters wrote yesterday by him. Mr. *Stone* came to see me, dined. He prayed in my Study with me. Deacon *Batchellor* came here. I mentioned the Exceptionable Passages of the proclamation to both of them.

1776 February 14 (Wednesday). Mr. Daniel *Warrin* (Neighbour to Mr. *Thomas Twitchel*) came requesting me to Visit *Molly Twitchell*, who was very ill of *Canker*. I went -- but she expired before I got to the House -- in her 24th year. I prayed with them. Dined at Mr. *Phinehas Hardy's*. P.M. I visited old Mrs. *Whitney*. N.B. soldiers are marching from *Connecticut*, to the Army. Two lodged here last night, viz. Mr. *Chaplin* and Mr. *Mosely*.

1776 February 15 (Thursday). Dr. *Hawes* acquaints me with the very distressed Condition of Mr. *Edmund Antwistles* Family. I went to See 'em, and found his Wife and two Children and a Girl (whose name was *Grover*) Sick -- but especially their sister *Submitt Harrington*, was exceeding bad. All of them of the *Canker*. Prayed and discoursed with them as they could bear. N.B. Mr. *Benjamin Hicks* dined here. Mr. *Gale* came and delivered me a *Brief* for a Contribution for his son in Law, Mr. *Nichol* of *Munson*, whose House, goods, etc. were burnt last December. N.B. [by?] *Moses Brigham* I sent to Mr. *Cushing Ortons sermon*. [At evening?] married Mr. *Reuben Maynard* and *Molly Garfield*. Two Soldiers came and lodge. They are of *Lebanon Crank*. One was Mr. *Pomroy*, the other *Basto*.

1776 February 16 (Friday). Attended the Funeral of Miss *Mary Twitchel*. Prayed there.

1776 February 17 (Saturday). I am informed that Mrs. *Antwistle* and her sister *Submit Harrington* are dead. Mr. *Edwards Whipple* here. He has a Cancer on his Lip -- is going to *Mendon* to put himself under the Care of Dr. *Pope* -- and desires public prayers tomorrow for him. *Mindwell Batherick*, whose Cloths etc. were burnt in an House at *Westminster* -- and needs Charitable Assistance.

1776 February 18 (Sunday). By reason of a proclamation from the General Court, which has Some Passages concerning Government I preached on Ps. 2.6 on Christs executing the Office of

a *King* -- He alone having Universal, Supreme absolute, uncontrolled Dominion and sovereignty. P.M. on the Example of Christ from *John 12.26*. Read the proclamation, with some Corrections. After meeting I went to Mr. *Antwistles* -- and many of the Congregation. His Wife and sister to be buried this Evening. I prayed with them. Then by Desire, went to Mr. *Daniel Warrins* -- (Mrs. Parkman with me. We rode in Capt. *Maynards* covered Carriage, at Cousin *Maynards* Invitation). Young *Daniel Warrin* is much lower. Prayed with him. At Eve *Benjamin Clark* left us to return home to his Father, at *Ashburnham*. He went over to Mr. *Bathericks*, to be ready to go with *Richard Barns* junior, his Wife and *Mindwell*, early tomorrow Morning. Three Young Soldiers, from *Wallingford*, on their Journey to the Camp, came in and lodged with us, viz. *Nathan Chittenden*, [blank] *Foster*, and *Asahel* [blank].

1776 February 19 (Monday). Read an excellent Tract (of I suppose Dr. *Cotton Mathers*) entitled "Right Sentiments of Religion? Instructions for a son of my Loves and Hopes."

1776 February 20 (Tuesday). Rode in my sons Chaise to *Shrewsbury* to see Mrs. *Sumner* who still lies in a languishing Condition. Dined there. Prayed with them under their Affliction. Sister *Cushing* came there. In returning at Eve called at *Beetons*, and took Miss *Polly Ayres* with me to our House to work as a Taylor. She lodges here. N.B. am informed that *Isaiah Thomas* Printer of the Spy at *Worcester*, is disenabled; his Printing Office etc. seized.

1776 February 21 (Wednesday). Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* here to inform me that his Brother *Daniel* dyed last Eve, about the Sunsetting. He was nigh 18 years old. May God sanctify this to his mother, and to the Rest! *Moses Sever* here for his Note which Lieutenant or Capt. *Joseph Baker* gave him of 15£ Lawful Money, and which was entrusted to me. *Sever* not humble. I did not care to give it to him, but committed it to Mr. [illegible] *Warrin* to be carried up to Capt. *Baker*, that they might settle [illegible] he sent it me again. At Eve came Mr. *Piper* with [request?] to send it up to him notwithstanding. I gratified him, [illegible] me security.

1776 February 22 (Thursday). *Elias* is Sent with a Line from me to Capt. (I hear it is now *Squire*) *Baker*, concerning poor *Sever's* [Case and?] Conduct. P.M. attended the Funeral of *Daniel Warrin*.

1776 February 23 (Friday). [No entry.]

1776 February 24 (Saturday). The Affair of poor *Sever* is finished. Mr. *Piper* brings from him another Dollar in acknowledgment from *Sever*, for his wickedness. This I deliver to *Elias*.

1776 February 25 (Sunday). Preached on Rom. 3.28 a. and p.m. Read the proclamation for Public Fast. N.B. had a greater Number of Notes than usual. *Suse Brigham* here.

1776 February 26 (Monday). A.M. at *Squire Bakers* -- his Wife is ill. He lends me his Horse to go over to the House of the late *Martyn* Tavern, there being a Vendue of Household Goods. I dined there -- returned at Eve.

1776 February 27 (Tuesday). Rode to *Southborough* to See Mr. *Stone* who was so ill on Lords day as not to preach -- but was better, and was gone to Col. *Jonathan Wards*. I went to Mr. *Bowens* and dined there. P.M. was stormy -- Rainy and very bad Road. Yet returned to Mr. *Stones*, and then home. Mr. *Thomas Kendall* Missionary, came to see me, and lodged here.

1776 February 28 (Wednesday). Mr. *Kendal* has a large subscription (the Introduction wrote by Dr. *Langdon*) for his going to preach at [*Cagnarvage?*]. General *Washington* begins it with 42/- - it is followed with many Officers and others; so that it amounts to full 30£ Lawful Money. I gave him Somewhat. Mr. B. *Bradshaw* came from *Providence*, and last from his Fathers: breaks fast here and left us to go to New *Braintry*. Mr. *Kendal*, Mr. *Israel Walker* and his Wife dined here. P.M. Mr. *Kendal* leaves us to go to Mr. *Seth Rice's*.

1776 February 29 (Thursday). Mr. *Bradshaw* having given me one of the Books entitled *Common sense*, I begin to read it -- bold Strokes!

1776 March 1 (Friday). Exceeding Cold.

1776 March 2 (Saturday). Deacon Wood -- advises to have the desired Contribution for Mr. *Nichols*. *Joshua Twitchell* came on Saturday Evening to request me to go to his sister *Suse* who was very bad of Throat Distemper. We sat out at 8 o'Clock; 3 mile and an half to ride -- found her very ill -- also her sister *Sarah* and others of their Family, their Parents especially, had been and continue affected with the same Distemper. I returned home at Eleven.

1776 March 3 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Rom. 3.20*. P.M. on consideration of the ensuing Fast I preached on *Zech. 7.5*, using, with New Introduction and various alterations, a sermon composed Oct. 17 in the year 1723. Appointed the Contribution to be after the Fast. And the Communion to be next Lords Day. May God prepare us all for those Solemnitys!

1776 March 4 (Monday). I visited *Abel Woods*, who was wounded by the Kings Forces 11 weeks agoe, and is still languishing under the sore. A little iron Ball of one pound went through him just below the Ossaerum, came out at his Groin, and dropped down within his Trowzers. Some small scaling of the Bone had come away -- He has So much [*illegible*]r that he is not out of Danger. Discoursed and prayed with him. P.M. *Town Meeting*. Mr. B. *Tainter* and Lt. *Thomas [Barns?]* came to me in the Name of the Town, desiring me to go to the Meeting House and Pray with them. Which I complied with. N.B. Divers persons heard many Guns firing last night as if there were some Attempt from [*illegible*] upon *Boston*.

1776 March 5 (Tuesday). Wrote to my Son *Ebenezer* by Mr. *William Bowman* of *Brookfield*. He informs that Mr. *Joseph Gilbert* of *Brookfield* (tis Said he was commissioned to be a Lieutenant Colonel) lately dyed of a Fever.

1776 March 6 (Wednesday). There is much Talk of some great Action now undertaking, by our Forces, against *Boston*. May God give Wisdom and Direction!

1776 March 7 (Thursday). *Public Fast*. I preached a.m. on *Rev. XIV.6.7*. P.M. used 6 pages of Sermon on *Jer. 12.3* and some Hints of Application in loose papers, and divers Extemporaneous Addresses. After the Blessing we made a Collection for Mr. *Malachi Nichols* of *Munson*, and gathered £3.5.8.2 lawful money for him: which was brought here by the Deacons, and I took it under my Care. May God graciously hear Our Prayers, bless the word delivered, and accept our Alms!

1776 March 8 (Friday). Reckoned with *Samuel Williams* and paid in full, viz. for Cutting 7 Cord of Wood at 6/ and for 2 Days work @ 10/ and for 1 Day in this Month at 11/ old Tenor.

1776 March 9 (Saturday). Mr. *Whitney* came to desire me to Change tomorrow, but this being out of my power, he asks the Same for next sabbath. To which I consent, D. V. N.B. *Tainter* is deficient as a Post -- neither rides himself nor Sends any one for the *Papers* -- so that we go without.

1776 March 10 (Sunday). Preached on *1 Cor. 5.8*. Administered the Sacrament of the Supper. N.B. No wine to be got -- the Deacons brought Metheglin. *Suse Brigham* dined here. P.M. on *J [er?]. 7.3*. May God be graciously pleased to accept our renewed Engagements and bless this word to us! At Even went to see Mrs. *Piper*, newly brought to bed, and is very low; prayed with her in her Distresses.

1776 March 11 (Monday). A.M. went to see Mrs. *Piper* again. She is in a dangerous state. P.M. read part of *Willisons* excellent *Sacramental Directory*. Which may a gracious God bless!

1776 March 12 (Tuesday). Capt. *Wheelock* early, Suddenly, hastily calls me to Visit Mrs. *Piper* as being near her End. I rode speedily (before Breakfast -- nay before Family Prayer), found her groaning as in very great Distress. Prayed with her, Commending her Case to God, most gracious and compassionate. Read in *Flavell* on *Fear*. Deacon *Batchellor* of *Grafton*, brought home a Piece of Diaper which he has been weaving for us. The Measure is 35 Yards. For Weaving I payd him £7.0.0 old Tenor in full. Mrs. *Piper* dyed about noon, about 42 and an half.

1776 March 13 (Wednesday). A.M. visit Refugees from *Charlestown*, at Mr. *Levi Warrins*. They are, aged, paralytick Miss *Stone*, Mrs. [*Mallet?*] and Mrs. *Scott* with 3 Children. P.M. was at Squire *Bakers* first, and then to Mr. *Pipers*, Sympathizing with him under his Bereavement. Read part of Mr. *Flavells* excellent Discourse on *Fear*.

1776 March 14 (Thursday). Finished a Second Reading of Bishop *Burnetts* Conclusion of his History of his own time. Read further in *Flavells Treatise on Fear*. Little Samuel is ill with the *Rash* (as it is commonly called) and is very uneasy. I attended the Funeral of Mrs. *Piper*. N.B. her Father *Whitcomb* and one of her Brothers were there.

1776 March 15 (Friday). Spend a great part of my Time in Reading *Chambers Cyclopedia* on *Mercury* -- *Chymistry* -- *Paper*. Mr. *Bowman* of *Oxford* from the Camp. He says it seems as if

the Regulars are moving off. It looks as if they were going to *New York*: And 5 Regiments of our own Forces are going that Way.

1776 March 16 (Saturday). Was to have (by appointment) changed with Mr. *Whitney* on the morrow; but the bad Roads and great Rains, caused me to write to him by Mr. *Daniel Wood* of *Upton* who was going by the Door, requesting that Mr. *Whitney* would defer our Changing till the next Sabbath.

1776 March 17 (Sunday). The Roads are full of Soldiers. Many are travelling to Day. My Son *Baldwin* came here this Morning -- eats Breakfast, and presently leaves us. He is going to *New York*, as *Engineer*, and does not know (he says) but that he Shall go to *Canada*. He tells me the *Regulars* are *Pillaging and destroying Boston*; and preparing to go off. It was so fine a morning that (notwithstanding my Letter to Mr. *Whitney*) I sat out for *Northborough*; but found the Roads too muddy and hollow, and the attempt to travell, impracticable. I returned, and preached at Home -- a.m. on *Rev. 14.7*, which I had newly prepared: and p.m. Sermon on *2 Chron. 20.20*, with many Omissions and Alterations. May God bless my poor Essays!

1776 March 18 (Monday). Mr. *Phin. Hardy* came with a Message from his son *Elijah's* Wife, who is in a low Condition of Body, but wants to See me on account of Some Troubles of a Spiritual Nature. I therefore went -- discoursed with her, and upon her discovering her Difficulty to me, I (by divine Blessing) gave her Light and Instruction: prayed with her and din'd there. P.M. Visited at Mr. *Twitchells*, Mr. *Sol. Millers*, *John Harr* [ing?] *tons*, *Lt. Harringtons*, Mr. *Elisha Forbes*, where is Still old Mr. *Woods*. Was at Mr. *Tainters* to See several Persons who have come out of *Boston*, viz. one *Sucker* a poor Woman of about [blank] Years; and one Mr. *Safford*, his wife and Several Children. When I returned home in the Evening Every Mouth was open to relate to Me the News of the Day from *Boston*. Scil. that the *Regulars* evacuated the Town yesterday, and that at or about noon a Regiment of Provincial marched in.

1776 March 19 (Tuesday). My Son *Samuel* early this Morning Sat out for *Boston*. I impatiently wait for further Confirmation of the News from thence. P.M. Mr. *Philips* (from *Grafton*) brought a Letter from *Breck*, dated the 11th instant to his Brother *Samuel* informing that he had been to *Philadelphia*, and was hastening as he could, his Return home; though obliged to tarry a while till he could convey Goods he had purchased, to *Norwich*. Deacon *Livermore* of *Northborough* came in and would know of me (I understood him as bearing a Message from Mr. *Whitney*) whether I should attend the Lecture there tomorrow? I told him that by leave of Providence I *would*. At Eve Miss *Eunice Fish* and another young Lady (a *Baldwin*) were here. Agreed with *Nathaniel Chamberlin* to live with me six Months to do my Work on the Place for 11£ to begin the First of April next; but has Liberty to lodge at Mr. *Moses Nurse's*, where his Wife and Children are: agreed that he must attend my Bus'ness in fowl weather as well as fair, and that he be here in the Evening if I want a small Chore to be done. N.B. Mr. *Abraham Bond* shews Resentment because I made Enquiries into the Report of his Drinking: upon which I admonished and warned him.

1776 March 20 (Wednesday). Notwithstanding the badness of the Roads I rode over (on Mr. Nurse's Horse) to *Northborough* Lecture. Called at Mr. *John Maynards* and paid him (old Tenor) 5£ 5/ for making 4 pair of Shooes; and 25/ upon Account of what work he did for us heretofore. Dined at Mr. *Whitneys*, and preached on Rev. 14.6.7. In returning home I met Mr. *Beeton*, who came up from *Boston* and brought home my Son *Samuels* Mare with a Letter to *Sally* -- informing that at the Regulars leaving the town (*Boston*) Lieut. *Robinson* who lodged at Mr. *Shaws*, has, like a Villain, carried off 3-4ths of his Shop Goods. My Son is obliged to stay there to look after his Interest, at this extraordinary juncture. At night, about 9 o'Clock an extraordinary Light, as of a great Burning, appears in the East. We are full of Fears what it may be. But we hope in the Goodness of God.

1776 March 21 (Thursday). Companys of Soldiers are continually marching upwards -- Supposed to be going to *N. York*. P.M. Dr. *Ball* here. I visited *Abel Woods* who is Still confined by his Wound at Mr. *Tim. Warrins* -- instructed and prayed with him. He is in an hopeful way of Recovery. I drank Coffee at Dr. *Hawes*.

1776 March 22 (Friday). I visited a Young Soldier, named *Jason Walker*, of *Brookfield*, about 17 or 18 Years old, who is Sick at Mrs. *Springs*. *Elias* goes to *Samuel Allens* with 3 Legs for Bacon.

1776 March 23 (Saturday). *Breck* returned from his long Tour to *Philadelphia*. *Samuel* also returned from *Boston* p.m. and came most of the way on foot. He rectifies what is before said about the carrying off his Goods -- not Lieut. *Robinson*, but two *Jones's*, Sons of the late Col. *Elisha*, were known to do it.

1776 March 24 (Sunday). I prepared an Exercise on Faith justifying without Works, carrying on the Discourse on *Rom. 3.28*, but by reason of these remarkable Times, I preached a. and p.m. on *Ps. 145.8* to page 17; the middle of it. May God bless it to us for our Saving Benefit! *Suse Brigham* dined with us. In our Evening Exercise, for the Family Good I read the 4th of Mr. *Jos. Alleines* Letters, being a *Call to the Unconverted*. Mrs. P _____ has been out of Health for several Days; but especially has been full of Pain in the Nights. *Suky* [*Moore?*] is also from Day to Day much indisposed.

1776 March 25 (Monday). My Kinsmen Messrs. *Samuel and Benjamin Hicks* of *Sutton* call here in their way to *Cambridge*. Master *Samuel Crosby* dines here. Read in *Chambers Cyclop.* and Practice of Piety. Mrs. P _____ is rheumatic and feverish. *Sukey* remains ill.

1776 March 26 (Tuesday). My Son *Samuel* goes to *Boston* again. Agreed further with *Nat Chamberlin*, that on Consideration of his going home on Saturday Nights and tarrying at home over the sabbath, and that his wife will wash and mend for him, I shall allow him 13/4 more than the 11£ which I before engaged to him for 6 Months -- and that he must begin next Monday Morning. I visited Mrs. *Amsden*, [*blot?*] and prayed with her. I dined there (at Capt. *Maynards*). Went also to see old Mrs. *Kelley*. As I returned home, was at Mr. *Ebenezer Maynards* who was not there, but *Jonathan* and his wife inform me that their Father, they

expected to bring home his new-married wife, this afternoon. Mr. *Leonard* returns to *Woodstock*, but did only call here, I not being at home, and he in Company.

1776 March 27 (Wednesday). *Breck* goes to *Providence*. Messrs. *Samuel* and *Benjamin Hicks* returning home, call and dine. They bring a Letter from my son *Cushing*, who informs that Mr. *Clarke* of *Ashburnham* does not incline to Send his Son *Ben*. Also that Mr. *Lawrence* of *Ashby* has taken up his Note, having paid the Remainder of his Debt: that he has Sent the Money by his Neighbour *Davis*, to his Brother of *Waltham*, for me.

1776 March 28 (Thursday). I visited Mr. *Paul Biglow* (after the Death of their Child), and Prayed (by Desire) with them. Went in also to See Mr. *Daniel Adams's* Wife, who has been long confined with Sickness. P.M. solemnized the Marriage of *Simon Forbes* and *Susan Miller*. Wrote a Letter to Mr. *Cushing* about *Ben. Clark*. At Eve a letter from my Son *Forbes*, dated *March 2*, in which he laments that he had not had any Answer to his Sorrowful Account of the Death of his Wife: whereas I did Send by *Elisha Forbes*, Soon after. He now writes more particularly, of Some Things Especialy which were omitted before. Mr. *Ebenezer Davis* of *Charlton* lodged here. Received a mournful Letter from Mr. *Forbes*.

1776 March 29 (Friday). Mr. *Davis* dined here. *Breck* returned from *Providence*. P.M. Mr. *Jos. Coollidge* from *Lancaster*. At Eve came Mr. *Thomas Adams*. They both lodged here.

1776 March 30 (Saturday). I deliver Mr. *Adams* the Books I have borrowed of him, Except what I have bought of him, and except *Johnsons* Christian Plea. He takes away with him, of my Books, Dr. *Twiss's Vendicæ Gratia*; and *Shepherds Parables*. For which he is to Send me Dr. *Fullers Worthys*, and Lord *Landsdown*; and I have his *View of human Nature*. Both Mr. *Adams* and Mr. *Coollidge* left us a.m. P.M. I wrote to Mr. *Forbes*.

1776 March 31 (Sunday). Though it was Stormy I undertook to ride to *Northborough*, agreeable to a Message sent to Mr. *Whitney*. Met him coming here; but he tells me Mr. *Smith* is at his House, and I must go to *Marlborough*; with which I complied, though it was difficult to face the Storm, Snow, not a little (under Foot) and Rain in my Face. Meet Several Companys of Soldiers, marching upwards. I preached at *Marlborough* a. and p.m. on *Jer. 11.3*. May God bless the word to all of us, for our thorow Amendment and Reformation! At Eve it was so wet, and So difficult travelling, that I was obliged to tarry there. Neither did Mr. *Smith* return home. His Negro Woman *Happy*, has a strong Fitt. They needed, and had, my Help. And call in a Neighbour who was Strong to lift her, being very heavy. The Fitt came on again. She was lifted to the Bed, and lay composed, though she had not her Senses. Mr. *Noah Rice* a young Scholar (Son of Mr. *Jabez*), came in the Evening to see Me.

1776 April 1 (Monday). *Hap.* was quiet through the Night. In returning home I called to See Coll. *Williams*. Lit at Mr. *Caleb Rice's* -- His Wife very low and distressed. Lit also and refreshed at *Cornet Brigham's*. When I came home, found that Mrs. P _____ had been poorly, and took Physic yesterday. *Sukey* mends slowly. Mr. *Whitney* preached a. and p.m. on [blank]. Am informed that my Kinsman *Loyd* came here last night and lodged here. This Morning he sat out

for *Boston*. He Says his Wife dyed *Feb. 21* and that a Letter to *Leicester* from his Sister *Bradford* certified that his son *Samuel* dyed March [blank]. Mrs. *Polly Eyres* at work and dines, here.

1776 April 2 (Tuesday). *Nath. Chamberlain* was yesterday not well, and therefore did not come: but this Morning came and began to work for me for six Months as we have agreed. I rode to see Joseph Grout junior who is much better. I dined there, and p.m. visit Mr. Elijah Hardys Wife, who is sick of a Fever. Prayed with her. Visited at Ens. Millers. When I returned found Mr. *Phin. Gleason* and his wife here who made us a Kind and generous Visit.

1776 April 3 (Wednesday). A.M. Visit old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush*. Saw her Cancer. Prayed with her. P.M. Mr. *John Putnam* brought me from Mr. Cushing of *Ashburnham*, in Bills which Mr. *Charles Lawrence* of Ashby, left for me when he took up his Note (which was left with Mr. *Cushing*). Also a Receipt from *Ashby* Assessors, of Tax and [Posts?]. He Also drove away Mr. Cushings Cow which I have kept for him through the winter. I had a Letter from him, and returned an Answer per the Same Bearer. My son *Alexander* came from *Leicester*. He has been confined with illness -- but (through the Goodness of God) is much recovered. He tarrys overnight. Mr. *Daniel Forbes* junior of *Brookfield* having been at Cape Ann, and Seen his uncle *Eli*, calls here; and he having undertaken the Charge of my Son *Baldwins Coi-Hill Pasture*, agrees to take some of my Creatures to keep the ensuing Summer, if I send them.

1776 April 4 (Thursday). My Son *Alexander* goes home. N.B. I have prepared the [Way?] with him for pasturing Some Young Cattle, if I shall Stand in need. Sent a letter to Mr. *Forbes*, by Mr. *Levi Warrin*, to be committed to the Care of *Gloucester* Representative at *Waterton*. Read the New Edition of *Common Sense*, which has Additions.

1776 April 5 (Friday). [No entry.]

1776 April 6 (Saturday). Mr. *William Blair Townshend* and his Son *Thomas*, dine here.

1776 April 7 (Sunday). A.M. Repeated (with proper Variations according to the Present times) the latter part of Sermons on Ps. 145.8, but this Exercise was introduced by reading *Nahum* 1.3. O that God would please to grant His Grace to us all, that His Goodness might so affect as to lead us to Repentance and that His Longsuffering might prove salvation to us! P.M. preached on *Justification by Faith alone*, and *not by Works*, carrying on the Subject began from *Rom.* 3.28, but the Text of the Exercise was *Eph.* 2.8, former part. Our Cousen *Maynard* dined with us.

1776 April 8 (Monday). An extraordinary Military Meeting of the people to choose *Militia*-Officers for this Town. Mr. David Maynard and Mr. Seth Morse came in and gave me Account. N.B. Neighbour *Wheelock* (I'm informed) is *Major*; and *Cornet Brigham* is made a Lieut. *Coll.* and these *Preside* at the Meeting. Capt. *Golding of Grafton* is made *Chief Col.* and Capt. *Job Cushing* another *Major*.

1776 April 9 (Tuesday). *Nathaniel Chamberlain* is so indisposed that he does not come to work. I went over to see him. Visit also the widow Williams. At Eve Received a large and very affectionate Letter from my Son *Forbes* of *Gloucester*, dated 14 Mar. He informs me that the Church has given him a Call to settle with them.

1776 April 10 (Wednesday). Visit Mr. Abijah Gales Sick Child, *Elisha*, which languishes. Prayed with them and dined there. Visit the widow Gale, and her son *Amsden Gale*. Visit *Abel Woods*, who remains confined by his Wound yet. I went in likewise to see aged Lt. [blot] and his Wife who are confined by their Infirmities. N.B. [blot] Hammett of Boston, dined here, in his way to Connecticut.

1776 April 11 (Thursday). *Abigail Woods* came to make me a black Serge Jacket, but works only part of the Day (came late and broke off early -- her Brother *Abel* is gone in a Waggon this afternoon part of the way to *Brookfield*). Mr. *Cordwell* of *Sutton* here, returning home. I trade with Capt. *Maynard* for a 3 year old Steer to match One of Mine; *Elijah* being fond of obtaining it. Lt. *Uriah Brigham* brings me a Letter from Squire [Jos.?] *Dorr* of *Mendon* informing me of his Mothers Death and desiring Me to attend the Funeral tomorrow.

1776 April 12 (Friday). I had designed to go to *Mendon* to the Funeral of old Madam *Dorr* and my son *Samuel* had purposed to go to *Boston*, with his Wife and Babe; but the Morning prov'd very Stormy -- snowed very hard -- till it lay thick. Rained afterwards -- which prevents our journeying our several Ways. But I am especially Sollicitous, how poor *Abel Woods* fares, who was carryed in a Waggon yesterday, as far as Capt. *Job Cushing's* -- being in his Way to *Brookfield* to be under the Care of Dr. *Kitteridge*.

1776 April 13 (Saturday). Breck has a bad Cough, and is much indisposed.

1776 April 14 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Rom.* 3.28. Our Cousen *Davis* is got out to meeting after long confinement. P.M. delivered in one Exercise (omitting the 2 first Pages) Sermon on *Luk.* 12.19.20. N.B. Mr. *Grosvenor* not well, Some of his people were at Meeting here. Breck took a vomit, and is better.

1776 April 15 (Monday). Samuel and his wife and Child Set out for *Boston*. Dr. *Elliot*, who came out of Boston this Morn came here at Even and lodged [here?] with us.

1776 April 16 (Tuesday). Dr. *Elliot* prosecutes his Journey. He is going to *Fairfield* to his Wife and Children. I rode with him in my Way to *Northborough*, Ministers Meeting to Day at Mr. *Whitneys*. There were present, of the Association, only Mr. *Goss* and Mr. *Newell*; but Mr. *Morse* of *Shrewsbury* was with us. I think he said Nothing of his own Affairs. I was chose Moderator and prayed. We heard somewhat of Mr. *Goss's* present Circumstances. He intimates that Mr. *Walley's* Party grow cool, and that some of them attend his Meeting. In returning home I called at Capt. *Maynards* to see Mrs. *Amsden*, but She was so weak She could say nothing to me. I prayed with her. I wrote to Mr. *Stone* to come and preach my Lecture.

Mr. Bradshaw here. He is come, from *Boston*, and from his Father's at Stoughtonham; and lodges with us.

1776 April 17 (Wednesday). Mr. Bradshaw leaves us to go home to New Braintry. Mr. *Stone* did not come to preach. I preached myself to a few that came. I preached on *Ps. 2.11*, having regard to Gods Goodness in the precipitant Removal of the Kings Forces from *Boston* and Castle *William* by which means the Capital is opened for the Inhabitants to re-enter the Town with Freeness.

1776 April 18 (Thursday). Mr. *Caleb Harrington* a.m. assists me in setting out Trees etc. Mrs. *Stone* of *Framingham* dines with us -- her Daughter *Goddard* of *Shrewsbury* also; and Mr. *Thomas Townsend* (Son of Mr. *William Blair Townsend*) all dined with us. At Evening came a soldier, Says his Name is *James Formoyle* of *Bedford, Pensylvania* belonging to Capt. *Cluggedge's* Company, in Col. *Thompson's* Regiment of *Riflers* -- has been Sick, but is now hastening to *New York*. Prays he may lodge by our Fire. I pityed and suffered him.

1776 April 19 (Friday). We have Cause to remember this Day twelve months past. This was the Commencement of Hostilities between the Kings Troops and the Provincials, at *Lexington*. What a Year! How unparalleled! We have had of it! O might it please God, the God of all Grace and Goodness to Sanctifie His holy and righteous but heavy and distressing Judgment of unnatural, intestine War, upon us, a poor Sinful degenerate, Heaven-provoking People! And in the midst of Wrath remember Mercy! And as He has begun to shew Compassion to us, in the withdraw of the Oppressing Army and Naval Forces, So would perfect the begun Salvation!

1776 April 20 (Saturday). Mr. *Caleb Harrington* a.m. setts out a Number of Different sorts of Trees for me, and carries home a Number for himself. Hear there was a Lecture at *Northborough* yesterday in Remembrance of the Battle at *Lexington*. But Mr. *Whitney* gave me no intimation of it, nor any of the Ministers besides (that I know of) last Tuesday when I was at his House.

1776 April 21 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on *1 Cor. 5.8*. Administered the Lords Supper. May it please God to Pardon the Sins of our holy Things, and accept our Offerings for Christs sake! May we also be enabled to keep the sacred Bonds which we have been renewing! P.M. Text *Gal. 1.15*. Used, with various Alterations sermon on *Isa. 55.5* from p. 135 to p. 143. N.B. Mrs. *Maynard*, her Daughter *Davis* and Suse *Brigham* dined here. *William Fleet*, Flax-Comber, came here before Noon; dines and lodges and (without any Desire of mine) *Stays* with us.

1776 April 22 (Monday). *William Fleet* works here in hatchelling Flax. P.M. Visited Mr. *Simeon Bellows's* son *Daniel* sick of a Fever; and prayed there. Heard that Mr. *Edmund Chamberlains* Wife is very ill of a Fever (soon after Childbearing). I went to see her -- and prayed with her. A worthy, pious woman. I returned by *Ens. Snows*. At home I found my Kinsman *Loyd* who has been to *Boston* and is returning to *Granville*: he lodges here, as does *Elijah Brigham*, being lately come from *Dartmouth* College.

1776 April 23 (Tuesday). *Fleet* at work on Flax. (N.B. Mrs. P. lately bought of Breck an hundred Weight.) We do something of Gardening. Plow etc. P.M. Visit old Mrs. *Smith* who is ill and for some time confined. Conversed and prayed with them. Called also at Mr. *Nurses, Pratts* and *T. Whitneys*. Conversed with them and their Children. Return at Eve. *Fleet* talkative etc. etc.

1776 April 24 (Wednesday). Would Send Mr. *Newells* Vol. of *Guthries Cicero* by *Elisha Forbes* to Treasurer *Gardner* at *Watertown* for Conveyance; but am disappointed. *Fleet* proves troublesome in the Family. Spent a great part of my time in directing the gardening: could do but little my Self. At Eve received a large Letter from my Friend *Edmund Quincy* Esq. Still at *Lancaster*; to my great Refreshing.

1776 April 25 (Thursday). My dear son *Forbes* came this Forenoon. He is Journeying in a Surkey from *Gloucester* to *Brookfield*. He lodged last night at the widow *Brighams* at *Southborough*. Dines with us and goes on his Journey. N.B. He leaves a Letter to our Church requesting Assistance in his Installment. And asks me to preach on that Solemnity. P.M. Visit old Mrs. *Kelly*, and called to see Mr. *Ebenezer Maynard* and his New Wife, whose Maiden name was *Sarah Winchester*. Cousen *Mainard* and her sister *Nichols* rode to our House and took up Mrs. P _____ with them into their Carriage and carryed her to squire *Baker's*. *Fleet* is here yet -- very talkative and troublesome. Received Mr. *Bowen's* request to change with him, who preaches at *Watertown*; next Sabbath. But I was obliged to write a Denyal; having so many pre-engagements to fulfill.

1776 April 26 (Friday). Sent Mr. *Newells* Book to Squire *Gardner* (See above 24) and an Answer to Mr. *Bowen*, by Mr. *Daniel Grout*. Deacon *Wood* here in the Morn to request me to go to his Brother *Joseph's* Child's Burial -- but I am bespoke already -- for p.m. I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Ab. Gale's* Child, *Elisha* of nigh 11 Months, which dyed yesterday of a Consumption. I prayed there. Also I (by desire) called at Mr. *Timothy Warrins*, Two of his Daughters, *Eunice* and *Ruth*, and a grand daughter (of Six years) being Sick of a Fever. Prayed with them. N.B. The troublesome *William Fleet*, having finished his combing 104 lb. of Flax in the forenoon, 1 d. lawful per lb., left us.

1776 April 27 (Saturday). For a while we have been destitute of a News Paper; but now do receive again.

1776 April 28 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on my Subject which I have been treating of for Some time, viz. *Faith* and *Justification* from Rom. 3.8. To Day the 6th, 7th and 8th of the *Fruits* and *Effects* of it, but read *Rom. 5.1* for the present Text. P.M. delivered again (with peculiar Introduction, connecting it with the forenoon Discourse) Sermon on *Isa. 55.5*, those words "and Nations etc. shall *Run* unto thee." May God add his Blessing! Mrs. *Rumley* dined with us. After Meeting Deacon *Miles* here.

1776 April 29 (Monday). Mr. *Whitney* of *Northborough* here. Asks me to his Lecture on Wednesday. I attended at the House of Mourning and Prayed before the Interrment of *Daniel* son of *Simeon Bellows*, about 7 years old -- and their youngest is also Sick: both the Father and

mother so indisposed as that neither of them could go to the Grave. I visited also at Mr. *Seth Woods*, where two Children are sick: and the Man Pleuretic. Prayed with them. Mr. *Edmund Chamberlin* requested me to visit his Wife again. I complied, went, discoursed with her and pray'd etc. When I returned home, found my Son *Alexander*, his Wife and Ch[blot] a here. They lodge with us.

1776 April 30 (Tuesday). The heavy [r]ain a.m. hinders *Alexander* journeying till after dinner. Then he and His Set out for *Framingham*. I rode p.m. to *Worcester*. On my way called to talk with Mr. *Daniel Forbes* (at old serjeant *Maynards*) concerning the *Gloucester* Letter. Called also at Mr. *Sumners*, but did not go in -- his Wife extremely low. Hastened to Mr. *Maccartys* -- who presented me with one of his Thanksgiving Sermons, on Ps. 34.1.⁴ In returning called at Mr. *Samuel Bridge's* etc. At Capt. *Curtis's*. At Mr. *Sumners*. Arrived safely at home between 9 and 10. Thanks to God!

1776 May 1 (Wednesday). Mrs. *Cullock* (her husband gone to *New York*) Sends for me to see her little son, *Elijah*, who is extremely ill by a Swelling in his vitals (as apprehended) and I prayed there. Went to *Northborough*. Dined at Mr. *Whitneys*. Preached his Lecture on *Mat. 26.35*, former part. After Exercises was at Mr. *Bass's*. Returned him his Magazine which I had borrowed. I called at Capt. *Maynards* to see Mrs. *Amsden* -- but though I Spoke to her, She could not one word to me, nor could I turn her face to see me. When I came home, was informed that Mr. *Coffin* and his Wife came here, but pursued their Journey to *Brookfield*. *Elijah Culluck* dyed about 4 o'Clock p.m. Mr. *Eli Whitney* came at night to inform me that his Brother *Nathaniel* was dead, and to desire me to attend his Funeral on Friday.

1776 May 2 (Thursday). Went in the Morning to Mrs. *Cullocks* and prayed there. She desires me to attend the Funeral of her Child next Friday at 9 a.m. I Catechized at the Meeting House. 36 Boys. 32 Girls. P.M. My Son *Alexander* returned from *Boston* -- the News that 30000 Troops are coming -- 3 Destinations, viz. *New York*, *Virginia* and *Quebec* -- and *small Pox* at *Brookline* etc. He leaves us to go to *Leicester*. Nigh sun setting came my Son *Samuel*, his Wife and Child.

1776 May 3 (Friday). A.M. At the Funeral of little *Elijah McCullock* 3 1/2 years old: and prayed. N.B. Deacon *Wood* was Seized Suddenly with very violent Pain, in his Brea[st?] Side; but it went over. P.M. I rode to *Grafton* to the Funeral of the late Mr. *Nathaniel Whitney* (Son of our late Mr. *Nathaniel Whitney*). He was taken ill last Saturday afternoon with Aguishness, upon which followed a Fever, and expired on Wednesday p.m. AEtatis [blank]. Mr. *Grosvenor* was there but could not speak louder than Whisper, so that I prayed. I called to See young *Joseph Grout*, who is better: as I did likewise to discourse with, Capt. *Benjamin Fay*, upon the *Gloucester* Affair. At Evening found my Daughter in Law *Lydia*, who has brought me from her Husband £7.9.6 Lawful Money or £41.1.3 old Tenor upon one of the Notes which he gave me. Also here

⁴Thaddeus Maccarty, *Praise to God, a Duty of Continual Obligation. A sermon, Preached at Worcester, Thursday, November 23d, 1775. Being a Day of Public Thanksgiving, by the Appointment of the General Assembly* (Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1776. Evans 14830).

is come *James Hicks* and his Brother *William* and lodge here. *Jeremy* with a View to living with me.

1776 May 4 (Saturday). I wrote to his mother at *Cambridge* about it. They leave us. Mr. *Ebenezer Chamberlain* comes to inform me that both Mr. *Simeon Bellows's* Children are dead. N.B. Something he said of Mr. *Ezra Bakers* not coming to Meeting, unless so often as the Law requires.

1776 May 5 (Sunday). A.M. on the *Fruits and Effects of Faith* (the Subject which I have been upon from *Rom. 3.28*), but this particular Exercise from *Gal. 2.20*. *Suse Brigham* dines. P.M. on Consideration of the Deaths in the last Week I preached (in one Exercise) Discourse on *Ps. 103.14*. Gave a public Notice of the Funeral of Mr. *Bellows's* two sons, to be tomorrow morning, 8 o'Clock. Stopped the Church and read the Letter from the first Church in *Gloucester* requesting Assistance in the Installment of Mr. *Forbes*. It laboured -- divers made objections, viz. Mr. *Thomas Bond*, Mr. *Batherick*, Mr. *Joseph Harrington*. When the Vote was put, the Opposers went into the womens Seats: they were, Mr. *Daniel Hardy*, Mr. *Ithamar Bellows*, Mr. *David Batherick*, Mr. *B. Tainter*, Mr. *Samuel Forbush*, Capt. *Morse*, Lt. *Bond*, Mr. *Joseph Harrington*, *Levi Warrin*, *Eli Whitney*. On the other side there were 22.

1776 May 6 (Monday). We are informed that a Number of great Ships are come near to *Boston*, and many thousand Troops on board of them. I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Bellows's* two little Boys, *Asahel*, of nigh 5 Years; and *Eli* about 7 or 8 Months. Prayed there -- and visited Mr. *Seth Woods's* two Sick Children: and prayed with them. Returned to *Bellows's* and dined there. P.M. went in to Mr. *Ebenezer Chamberlain* junior to See a sick young woman, viz. Miss *Lucretia Bellows* of *Southborough* and prayed with her. Confirmation of the News so far as induces my son *Samuel* to hasten to *Boston* this afternoon. Capt. *Morse* here in the Evening to Speak of the public Distress, and of the Churches proceedings Yesterday. Mr. *Caleb Wilder* lodges here.

1776 May 7 (Tuesday). The News that a great Fleet of Men of War and Transports, are come nigh to *Boston*, abates and revives --but in this fluctuation the Hearts of many are aking, and cry to God. I read Additions to *Common Sense* in 5 Articles.

1776 May 8 (Wednesday). Mr. [*Caleb?*] *Harrington* goes to Dr. *Balls* for *Hay*. My Team goes, and *Chamberlain* goes also. They bring 400 lb., 2 for each of us. Mr. [*Peter?*] *Coffin*, with his Wife (my grand daughter) came lodging last night at *Worcester* in their [*illegible*], from *Brookfield* and in their Way to *Cape Ann*. They dined here. Their Father *Forbes* came afterwards and *Alexanders* Wife and Child. They all lodged here.

1776 May 9 (Thursday). Our Company left us. Fresh News of Fleets and Armies. At Eve I asked Capt. *Isaac Phillips* with his Daughter, going from *Boston* to *Grafton*, where he has lived for Some time, to turn in hither and lodge: Which they complied with, and came in and lodged accordingly.

1776 May 10 (Friday). Capt. *Phillips* and *Daughter* left us. Mr. *Cornelius Waters* dined with us.

1776 May 11 (Saturday). My Son *Samuel* came from *Boston*. Says, no Vessels nor Troops are come -- but the people are diligently at work in fortifying Several important places, viz. *Fort-Hill*, the *Castle*, *Noddles Island* etc. Mrs. *Hicks*, waited on by her son *Zechary*, brings her son *James* to live with me till he shall be 14 Years old. D.V. They tarry here with us. Being short of Hay, am forced to send her Horse to Mr. *Nurse's*. Mr. *Waters* and Miss *Cloe Grosvenor* here. Her Brother was married yesterday.

1776 May 12 (Sunday). Preached again further on the *Fruits and Effects of Faith*, carrying on the Subject begun on *Rom. 3.28*, but now used that Text *Rom. 9.33* from p. 67 to 72. Which may God graciously Succeed! P.M. on *Isa. 55.5* from p. 149 to 155. Read the *Congress's Proclamation* for a *General Fast* through the Provinces. Read also the Petition of Mr. *Thomas Knowlton* for a Contribution. N.B. at noon I Stopped and consulted the Deacons of the Church and Select Men of the Town, concerning the Petition aforesaid who advised to the Reading of it.

1776 May 13 (Monday). Mrs. *Hicks* and her son *Zachary* left us. Her son *James* tarrys to live here, as above. Mr. *Chapman*, Taylor, of *Hopkinton* dines here. P.M. Young Mr. *Aaron Hutchinson* comes to See us. *Breck*, *Sophy* and *Hannah* go to Mr. *Grosvenor's* to wait upon him as newly married. They Return at Evening.

1776 May 14 (Tuesday). *Samuel* rides to *East Sudbury* and to *Boston*. P.M. Mrs. *Townsend* Visits here. News Subsides -- but I hear that our people are at work in fortifying.

1776 May 15 (Wednesday). Closely applyed -- but after Dinner came Mr. *Benjamin Thurston*. Afterwards Mr. *Peter Whitney* -- Speaks diminutively of Fasts, and as if weary of them. Tells me he had read an Answer to Common sense, and Additions -- but esteems it but a weak Thing.

1776 May 16 (Thursday). *Elias* is at his Books again; (though we have not near done our planting) by reason of my Discourse with him lately; yet I did not expect he would have been so suddain in his Resolutions -- but I have Mr. *Harrington* to help my young man; and have *Jimmy Hicks* to do what he can in waiting upon them. Mr. Benjamin *Tainter* junior Post Rider -- desires mine and Mrs. *Parkmans* Company at 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, at his Fathers House. We rode there accordingly, though extremely against my Inclination, but there was no avoiding it. I married them -- but obstinately resisted all their Invitations to tarry to their Supper. I am informed that there is another Marriage this Evening at Mr. *Barnabas Newtons* of one *Samuel Gardner* to *Sally Pierce* who has lived here at Deacon *Woods* for Some months past.

1776 May 17 (Friday). A *General Continental Fast*. I preached a.m. on *Isa. 9.13.19.21*. P.M. used again Sermon on *Ps. 20.7*. Which may God graciously accept and bless!

1776 May 18 (Saturday). Though it looked like Rain, I sat out on a Journey to Mr. *Frost* of *Mill-River*, to see whether he would take my son *Elias* to instruct and board him. It proved a rainy

Day. I called at Mr. *John Tafts* and was kindly entertained. Dined at Mr. *Frosts*, and he consented to take him, at a Dollar per Week. Young Mr. *Frost* consents to preach for me sabbath after Election. I returned by Mr. *John Chamberlains* at *Hopkinton* who kindly refreshed me. N.B. he gave me account of a late Mob which arose at *Holliston* etc. to defend two men from Constable and Sheriff. Arrived at home seasonably and Comfortably. Thanks to God for His Goodness and Protection!

1776 May 19 (Sunday). Preached at *Northborough*. Texts the Same as Fast Day. But Success depends on God alone. N.B. At Eve called to see Mrs. *Amsden* at Capt. *Maynards* but she could not speak to me. Mr. *Whitney* preached for me on *Phil. 4.6*.

1776 May 20 (Monday). *Town Meeting* to choose a Representative. Previous to it Messrs. *Haskill*, *Ebenezer Chamberlain* and *Eli Whitney* came as being Committee of Inspection, and brought a *Declaration* etc. appointed by the General Court. This I at once complied with Signing. Capt. *Maynard* chose Representative.

1776 May 21 (Tuesday). *Elias* went to *Mill-River*. Reckoned with *Breck* and paid him the Ballance.

1776 May 22 (Wednesday). *Fisher* a.m. Whitewashing the West Room. *Harrington* p.m. the East. *Breck* sets out for *Weathersfield*. P.M. Mr. *Fitch* makes us a kind visit. We have Alarming News from *Quebeck*. God prepare us for His sovereign will!

1776 May 23 (Thursday). [No entry.]

1776 May 24 (Friday). President *Daggett* of *New Haven*, on his Journey from *Boston* home, came in to see me and dined here. I was much refreshed by his Company. *Thankful Warrin*, widow of the late *Timothy Warrin* junior deceased and Daughter of the late *Noah How*, was here a Second time to discourse with me in order to her making a Confession and owning the Covenant. Mr. *Abijah Gale* came with an Order from Mr. *Nichol* of *Monson*, to receive the Contribution made for him. I delivered it accordingly and took his receipt for it.

1776 May 25 (Saturday). I was in full Expectation of Mr. *Moore*, and that he would preach for me tomorrow; but I was utterly disappointed; he came not. Mr. *Thomas Knowlton* came and received the late Contribution of this people for him; for which I have his Receipt, viz. for £4.16.10. *Breck* returned from *Weathersfield*.

1776 May 26 (Sunday). Very much disappointed that Mr. *Moore* did not come. I was very little prepared. Preached what I had formerly on *Isa. 55.5* both a. and p.m. from page 155 to p. 167. N.B. propounded the Widow *Thankful Warrin*, for Humiliation and Owning the Covenant.

1776 May 27 (Monday). P.M. Mr. *Joseph Appleton* from *Brookfield*, and who has received a Call to settle there; and *Isaac Baldwin*, came here and lodged.

1776 May 28 (Tuesday). Mr. *Appleton* and *Isaac Baldwin* left us to go to *Ipswich* and *Byfield*; *Isaac* to go to School there. I undertook my Journey to *Gloucester*. Called at Mr. *Stones* -- Mr. *Bowens* -- Mrs. *Bridges* at *Framingham*. Rode to *Newtown* and lodged at Mr. *Pidgeon's*.

1776 May 29 (Wednesday). Young Mr. *Pidgeon* waited on me, with Chaise and Horse, to *Watertown*, where the *Assembly* meets. Mr. *Samuel West* preached on Tit. 3.1. Dined publickly at the Widow *Coollidges*. P.M. the Convention met there; at which I attended after the Moderator was chosen -- viz. Mr. *James Chandler* of *Rowley*. At Eve returned to Mr. *Pidgions*. Mr. *Moore* came there and lodged with me.

1776 May 30 (Thursday). Attended the Convention. Mr. *Cook* of *Menotomy* preached on [blank]. A Collection was made for Ministers Widows. Adjourned to the School House. I prayed at the Conclusion. Dined at Mr. *Thomas Russells*, Taylor, at *Watertown*. P.M. Messrs. *Moore* and *Cushing* rode with me to *Boston*. This is the first time of my going to this miserable place Since last Election time. [We went to *Fort-Hill*, *Beacon Hill* etc. Was at Mrs. *Surcombs*.] Visit divers others; my Friends and Relatives -- as *Coarser*, *Oliver* etc. Lodged at my Kinswoman *Bradfords*. We put up our Horses at the Sign of the *Yankee Hen*. Lodged (and Mr. *Moore* with me) at Cousen *Bradfords*; She and Several Children being returned to Town.

[Marginal notation: N.B. What is within Crotchets[?] was (I believe) on the next Morning.]

1776 May 31 (Friday). Took a View of the Fortifications on various Eminences. Went to *Charlestown*; in Ruins -- to *Bunker-Hill*, *Winter-Hill*, *Prospect-Hill*. Parted with my dear sons in Law. Rode to Mr. *Turells*, and was there refreshed, though late for Dinner. T. *Appleton* came here. I rode to my Kinsman *Briant* at *Stoneham*. Lodged there. N.B. Was received with great Joy; and was entertained generously.

1776 June 1 (Saturday). My Kinsman *Briant* and his wife kindly waited on me to *Reading*, where was my Sister *Rebecca* at her Neece's, Miss *Betty*, and with her Miss *Molly*, *Jarvis's*. Dined, and p.m. proceeded to *Salem*. Called at old Master *Nuttings* -- thence to Mr. *Willards* at *Beverly* where I lodged.

1776 June 2 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. for Mr. *Willard* on Judg. X.6.7.9.10 and 16th v. Which may God graciously Succeed! At Evening Mr. *Willard* and I visited the widow of my late Classmate *Champney*.

1776 June 3 (Monday). From *Beverly* rode to *Manchester* and dined at Mr. *Toppan's*. P.M. passed through bad Roads, and by many Sordid Hutts. At Eve arrived at Mr. *Forbes* in *Gloucester*, who dwells in the House that was Mr. William [blank] at the *Harbour*, and his Son and Daughter *Coffin*, with their little Daughter also, my Great grand Daughter, in the Same House. Here I lodged, and continued while I was in the first Parish.

1776 June 4 (Tuesday). Mr. F. and I visited and dined with Mr. *John Rogers*, Minister of the *Town* Parish (as its called), though the 3d Church. But we returned at Evening and saw our

Delegates, who were come -- viz. Mr. Daniel Forbes and Mr. *Abijah Gale*; My Sons *Ebenezer* and *Breck*, and *Daughter Hannah* also; Not to forget Miss *Suse Brigham*, all arrived there this Evening.

1776 June 5 (Wednesday). An Ecclesiastical Council was formed at the House of Mr. *Samuel Whittemores* consisting of Six Churches with their Elders and Delegates, viz. of *Westborough*, 2d and 3d in Brookfield, and the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th of *Gloucester*, except Rev. *Ebenezer Cleavland* pastor of the last, who is Supposed to be at N. York. *Parkman* Moderator, and Rev. *Obadiah Parsons* Scribe. The Church which sent for us, by Desire, came in. No Objection. Mr. *Forbes* was admitted a Member: and the Church renewed their Request to have him inaugurated or installed their Pastor. Adjourned to the Meeting House. The Solemnity was Opened by an Anthem and Mr. *Ward* prayed. *Parkman* preached on *Heb. 13.17*. After which proclamation was made that if any had Objection etc. The Choice and Acceptance renewed. Mr. *Fisk* prayed before the Charge, which Mr. *Rogers* gave. Mr. *Fuller* gave the Right Hand and Mr. *Parsons* prayed after it. A Psalm was sung. Mr. F. gave the Blessing -- and an Anthem concluded. All was performed without the least Interruption, notwithstanding there were several Companys of Soldiers at the Harbour. Nor any *Murry* there, nor his Followers. At Eve at Coll. *Jonathan Stevens's*. N.B. At Mr. *Forbes's*, when we returned, the Company of Singers performed with much Decency and Agreeableness.

1776 June 6 (Thursday). *Breck* and *Suse* returned homewards. I rode with Mr. F., his son and Daughter *Coffin*, my Son *Ebenezer* and Daughter *Hannah* to Col. *Coffins*, where were a Number more, and all of us dined very handsomely. P.M. I with Mr. F. and *Ebenezer* rode to Mr. *Jaques's*, where lies the poor man in a very deplorable Condition -- but with wonderful Patience in bearing, and his dear *Judith* in faithfully tending him. Prayed with them. Returned to Col. *Coffins*, and lodged there.

1776 June 7 (Friday). We went to *Squam* -- Mrs. *Coffin* with us. Dined at Rev. *Parsons's*. Preached his Lecture on *2 Cor. 5.20*. At Eve in returning to the Harbour called at Dr. *Plummers* - - but I took Cold, and became very Hoarse.

1776 June 8 (Saturday). A rich prize taken by Capt. *John Adams* was brought into the Harbour yesterday: a vessel between 4 and 5 hundred Tun -- with much plate, and about 30,000 Dollars, about 400 Casks of Sugar and Rum, a great deal of Mohogany, bags of Ginger, Piemonto, livestock (Turtles, Goats etc) bound from *Jemacia* to London. We went on board in the Morning and were treated civilly and generously by the Mate, who now had the Care and chief Command. We also a.m. rode to the End of the Cape -- and returned so as to dine at Col. *Stevens's*. P.M. We (that is, Mr. F. and *Ebenezer* with me) rode to See the Rock, *Normans Wo*, where my dear Brother *John* perished.

1776 June 9 (Sunday). Was so hoarse I endeavoured to excuse myself from preaching but I was compelled to try. My Text was *Rom. 15.2*. I found it so difficult to Speak that I refused in the p.m. Mr. *Forbes* preached on *2 Cor. 5.20*. At Eve We went, by Special Invitation, to Mrs. *Saunders's* (Widow of the late honorable *William Saunders*, and Daughter of Rev. *Smith* of

Falmouth), a worthy, pious and agreeable Lady; and treated us with great Respect. After our Visit there, I walked, with divers to accompany, to the Burying Place, to See my Daughter *Forbes's* Grave. O might I be adequately affected, and Suitably prepared!

1776 June 10 (Monday). *Ebenezer, Hannah* and I sat out from *Cape Ann* to come home. Mr. *Forbes* and his Son *Coffin* accompanied us -- first to his store, which was a few Miles out of the *Harbour*. And there were well refreshed. After riding a few Miles further, they left us and we proceeded -- to [*Hamlett?*] and dined at Mr. *Cutler's* where was his Wife's Brother, Mr. *Balch*, who preached for Mr. *Jonathan Parsons* of *Newbury*, who is out of Health. P.M. Mr. *Cutler* goes with us to See Sister *Abigail* and her Daughter *Dilly* (who married Mr. *Ebenezer Lovering*) and has a flock of Children. They received us with Joy and Generosity. I took an Account of the rest of my Brother *Johns* posterity. Leaving them we came to *Beverly* and lodged at Mr. *Enos Wheelock's*.

1776 June 11 (Tuesday). In our Journey towards home we called at Mr. *Holt's* of *Danvers*; at sister *Rebecca's* at *Reading*. Dined at Mr. *Prentiss's*. Called at Mr. *Thomas Harringtons* (in *Watertown*) to bait the Horses. Thence to See my Kinsman *Proctor* at *Lincoln*; who now boards at Mr. *John Adams's*, and lodge there.

1776 June 12 (Wednesday). Sat out before Breakfast (though not without Family Prayer) and came to My Son *Williams*. Both breakfast and dine there. N.B. my son *William* droops. *Ebenezer* and *William* take a ride into the *Town*, and return Seasonably for Dinner and the remainder of our long Journey. Through the Great Goodness of God arrived in considerable Comfort, and found my Family in a measure of safety and Joy. All Thanks and Praise! But Mrs. P_____ informs me that *Elias*, the Day after the Election, having mounted a young Horse which he rode here, in order to ride back to *Mill-River*, the Horse reared up, threw *Elias* off, and as it is said the Horse fell upon him, and his Head meeting with sharp stone; cut a great Gash in it, from whence the Blood issued plentifully -- but his Life and senses were preserved. Dr. *Hawes* dressed it, and by the Blessing of God it is in an hopeful Way. She informs me also that my Son *Moore* was here and preached the first sabbath of my Absence, and my Son *Cushing*, with *Sally* and son *John* were here during the Election Time for several Days -- that the Election Day was a Day of *Training* the 2 Companys of Soldiers -- that her Brother and Sister *Breck* have been here on June 5 and lodged -- and when they left our House, it was to go to Mr. *Whitneys* at *Brookline, Connecticut*. That *Alexander* came also. That there was a great Frost the morning of June 1 etc. etc.

1776 June 13 (Thursday). Mrs. P. and I rode in *Samuels Chaise* to Mrs. *Kendals*, where was solemnized the Marriage of *Phinehas Forbes* to *Ruth Adams* late of *Holliston*. A consid. [*blot*] Entertainment but I could not bear the Evening Air, and therefore [*blot*]out Singing. *Ebenezer* goes home.

1776 June 14 (Friday). Pritty much indisposed through the Day. Went to the Doctors to See the Dressing of *Elias's* Wound. [*Blot*] Mrs. *Warrin* (the late *Timothy's* Wife) with her Confession; which I Set to rights and give it her again to consider. Hear *Elias*, who is with us.

1776 June 15 (Saturday). Am still hoarse, have pain in my Back, and poorly able to Study.

1776 June 16 (Sunday). Was much indisposed Still with my Cold, pain in my Back. Have not been able to finish what I attempted of preparations, but went to meeting and preached on *Eph. 6.13* to 18th v. a. and p.m. Restored a penitnant (Mrs. *Thankful Warrin*) and baptized two Children. Appointed the Communion and the preparatory Lecture. May God graciously accept!

1776 June 17 (Monday). Visited Mr. *Richard Barns's* Wife who is very ill of the *Cholera Morbus*; and I fear will die soon. She seems to have the Symptoms of Death upon her. Instructed, exhorted and prayed with her. And visited also old Mrs. *Sarah* Forbush, under her Cancer Still and prayed with her. Dr. *Hawes* constable, delivered me 50 Dollars. (The Year was up yesterday.) My Son *Samuel* and wife are packing up and preparing to remove. Wrote to Mr. *Fitch* to preach my Lecture. Town Met to choose a *Recognizer* and elected Deacon *Bond*.

1776 June 18 (Tuesday). In the morning my Kinsman Capt. *Samuel Trask* informs me of the Death of Mrs. *Barns*, which was Yesterday about 6 p.m. News of two Transports with 196 Troops on board, taken Sabbath Evening by our Privateers, and carryed into *Boston*. My Son *Samuel*, his Wife and Children remove to *Concord*. *Amasa Maynard* carryed their Goods in his Team. *Breck* also sat out for *Albany*. Mr. *Peter Adams* was yesterday Sorely wounded in one of his Ankles, by a broad Ax. I therefore went to See him. Squire *Baker* is building a great Store House, especially for Beef and Pork for the Army.

1776 June 19 (Wednesday). Attend the Funeral of Mr. *Richard Barns's* Wife aged 55 last November. Mr. *Thomas Winchester* of *Hardwick* came to see us. Tells me his Daughter *Molly* (of 24) is become delirious. Mrs. *Godfry* and her Boy are with us and lodge here.

1776 June 20 (Thursday). *Elias* returns to Mr. *Frost* of *Mendon* -- has Squire *Whipple's* Horse, and *James Hicks* goes to bring him back. Mr. *Fitch* came from *Hopkinton*. Dined with me and preached my Lecture from *2 Cor. 8.9*. A very good and seasonable sermon. May the Blessing of God accompany it into our Hearts! Mr. Ed. *Goddard* of *Swanzy, New Hampshire* and his Wife, here after Meeting.

1776 June 21 (Friday). My Kinsman Mr. Ebenezer *Lovering* with his son *John*, came here in the morning (having lodged at *Andrews's*) and broke fast with us. He sat out again for *Westfield*. Privateers (we hear) take, one time after another Transports which the King Sends, with many Highlanders to Subdue *America*. A great Account of the Mighty Army which is coming. Mr. *Nicholas Dudley*, preacher, at Eve and lodges here. So does Billy Bradford. Also the Widow *Bellows* and her Daughter *Godfry* and *Child*.

1776 June 22 (Saturday). Mr. *Dudley* left us to go to *Fullam*. Mrs. *Bellows* returned home. Her Daughter and Child tarry. *Ripley* came from *Brookfield*. Says my Daughter *Baldwin* has had a Letter from her Husband informing that he has been inoculated with the Small Pox at [*St. Ours?*] near [*torell?*] in *Canada*.

1776 June 23 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on *Isa.* 55.5 -- last Clause, "for He hath glorified Thee," to pag. [blank] and suited to the Occasion of the Sacrament which was administered after it. Mr. *Ripley* and Mrs. *Godfrey* with us: who with Mrs. *Maynard* and Miss *Suse Brigham*, dined with us. May our great Defects be forgiven and Grace given to keep our solemnly renewed Vows! P.M. Preached on *Col.* 2.12, carrying on my Discourse on *Faith* and made application to the present Times. This Sermon took up my Time for Composition in the Week. Read Mr. *Thomas Knowltons* Letter of Thanks for our late Contribution for him. Have the affecting News of Mrs. *Nurse's*, Mr. *William Nurses's* Wife's Death, this Morning. A woman of great Stedness and Prudence in her Family; and beloved of all: leaves her Husband in a poor, broken Condition -- his Memory especially Shattered etc.

1776 June 24 (Monday). *Riply* goes to *Concord*, and is going to *Plymouth* to keep school there. I write by him to Mr. *Moore*. [Mr. *Joseph Caryl* from *Hubbards* town and with him Mr. *Thomas Pierce* and his Lad, with a Team for Rum, dine here.] [Marginal notation: N.B. This, between Bracketts, was on the 25th.] P.M. was *Training* -- they held it very late -- when it was passed nine at night, Drum and Fife rattling; the Ground dry and hard made the Sound the greater and it grew very troublesome: I conceived that the Company was dismissed, but that a Number of Idlers and vain Persons were gathered round a Drum and were diverting themselves; I therefore went out and Spoke to them. They did not so regard as was reasonable for me to expect; but I broke off and turned 'em away. Some of them Seemed to dislike it, and the Drum was Struck again -- upon which I told 'em if they did not desist, being it was so late, I would complain to Authority, upon which the Drum Moved off, round the Meeting House -- but Seeing that the Principal Body of Men remained, I enquired for Capt. *Morse* to acquaint him that it was late etc. Lt. *Thomas Bond* presented himself and said *he* had Command, that the Company was not dismissed, and that they were upon Special Bus'ness. I replied that if so I did not desire to 'meddle with their military and necessary Affairs -- but prayed their Drums etc. might cease to make such a noise to disturb the Neighbourhood So late at night. To this there were rough answers from some who moved away as they Spoke; upon which I enquired what their Names were. Mr. *Joseph Harrington* came and handsomely made Defence of their tarrying to dispatch their Business, and then they would endeavour to retire. Upon that I (desiring their troublesome music might be still) returned home. Mrs. P_____ and Several besides, of the Family, were ill through the Night. I was troubled at so much rugged turbulent Behavior of those whose Morals I was So nearly concerned to watch over. May God forgive what was amiss in Such a time of Temptation!

1776 June 25 (Tuesday). Wrote, and Sent by Mr. *Daniel Godfry*, to Mr. *Quincy* at *Lancaster*. A.M. Attended the Funeral of Mrs. *Rebecca Nurse*, Wife of Mr. *William Nurse*. P.M. Mr. *Jonathan Maynard* came to me about the Supposed Counterfeit Bill, which Mr. *John Maynard* came about and by means of his relating so many Circumstances about it, I took it of him, least it should be more and more defective by often fingering. I conclude I received it from Mr. *Fessenden* late Constable, on Feb. 2 last. Went to see poor *Nanny Beeton*, who is greatly disordered in Mind and Body.

1776 June 26 (Wednesday). Mr. *Whitney* and Mrs. *Hammock* visit us. He relates Sad News from *Canada*, of our Forces being driven from their Posts. May God prepare us for all Events! Mr. Wh. desires we may change next Lords Day. Reflecting on the Affair of the Counterfeit Bill, and concluding I had it of Mr. *Fessenden*, I endeavoured to see him at Capt. *Maynards* breaking up Team; for I heard he was to be there; but he came not.

1776 June 27 (Thursday). I again went out to the Team, to see and Speak with Mr. *Fessenden* but he was not there. I walked up to Ensign *Fays* to see his Daughter Mrs. *Rhoda Maynard* who lives at her Fathers, having at time, very bad Fitts. They are jealous She has been *poisoned*. I heard (I suppose) Ensigns Voice in the House, but he did not come in to see me. Mrs. *Spring* has a Letter from her Husband at Albany of June 9. P.M. I went to See Mr. *Ebenezer Forbush's* Children Sick of the Throat-Distemper. *Abner* (of near 10) very bad. *Katy* (of about 8) not quite so ill; yet has a strong Fever. I prayed with them. *Abner* dyes before night. Was uneasy that I did not See Mr. *Fessenden* but could not go there o' foot.

1776 June 28 (Friday). Terrible Drought continues. Bad news frequently arriving -- especially from *Canada*. P.M. Rev. *Hall of Sutton* called to See me. I rode over to Mr. *Fessenden* with the Counterfeit Bill, which Mr. *Jotham Maynard* brought me. I shewed him and offered him it -- but he utterly refused to take it. Moreover he said he was willing that rational, judicious men Should Judge of it. Also that he would talk with John Maynard about it. My Son *Samuel* from *Concord*. N.B. Agreed with Mr. *Benjamin Tainter* junior to Supply me with the *Worcester News Paper* Every Friday, for 10/ Lawful Money per Year.

1776 June 29 (Saturday). Attend the Funeral of *Abner*, Son of Mr. *Ebenezer Forbush*. My Son *Samuel* returns to *Concord*.

1776 June 30 (Sunday). My Engagement to Mr. *Whitney* carried me over to *Northborough* (had Neighbour *Barn. Newtons* Horse). Preached on *Jer. 14.22* a. and p.m. The forenoon was Clear and Hot; but in the afternoon was a Plentiful Rain, accompanied with Thunder and Lightning. A very mercifull Relief! May God be praised for it! N.B. Mr. *Simon How* of *Marlborough* at Mr. *Whitneys*. Mr. *Whitney* preached here on *Mat. 5.43* to the End. We each returned to our respective Homes.

1776 July 1 (Monday). I visited at *Deacon Woods*. His Son *Johns* little *William Pitt*, of about 8, is ill of what is termed the Camp Distemper. Prayed there. P.M. The Companys of Militia (having been warned publickly yesterday after the Exercises) met together to gather out a Number of Men to march to *New York*. Our Proportion is 28. Mr. *John Ball* of *Northborough* who is employed by the Court in this Affair, is here and acquaints me with Some of the Reasons of the Delaying to send Recruits to *Canada*.

1776 July 2 (Tuesday). The People are obliged to meet together again to day, men being backward to 'list, unless besides the general Courts Bounty (which is 3£ and [3?] Dollars) they have given them 30 Dollars by them that hire them. *Nathaniel Chamberlin*, though he has often assured me that he would not 'list till he was forced -- yet I was informed he was prevailed

upon; and did. Mr. *Thomas Adams* brings home my Books, and Dr. *Fullers Englands* Worthys which I bought of him before. He has brought a Number more which he urges me to Exchange Some of mine for. He dined with me, and having Shewn me some of his Daughters Compositions (by ways of Essays) he left me, to return to *Medfield*.

1776 July 3 (Wednesday). Mr. *Jonathan How* of *Grafton* came to desire me to go up to *Grafton* to the Funeral of a Child of his Brother *Abner's* -- whose Wife also and another Child were very ill. I went, I prayed. Mr. *Grosvenor* was present, but can only whisper. Went to his House and to Mr. *Hutchinsons* in my returning home. Called also at Mr. *Joseph Grouts* whose Wife has lately been delivered, notwithstanding some peculiar Difficultys.

1776 July 4 (Thursday). I rode up to Mr. *Joseph Harringtons* to see his Child, and prayed with her. She has the Dysentery. In returning went into Deacon *Woods* (whose wife was lately brought to Bed, and whose Grand Child was still sick). But thence rode to Southborough. Dined at Mr. *Stones*. P.M. Preached there on Ps. 46.1 and 10. It was Lecture and Training. May God grant His own gracious Presence and efficacious Blessing! I came home by Miss *Bulah Bents* where I called; also at Mr. *William Johnsons* and *Reuben Bellows's*.

1776 July 5 (Friday). More Men, I hear, are called for, as the former 28 for N.Y. So now 8 from this place to go to *Canada*. Chamberlain is with me to day only by a few Short Spells -- mowes a little in the morning, plows about an hour, hoes a little -- and Rain beats him off. Mrs. *Wheelock* was here and was examined.

1776 July 6 (Saturday). *Chamberlain* is very uneasy with his having enlisted, but cannot get off.

1776 July 7 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on *Joh. III.36*, drawing my Discourses of *Faith* to a Close, and directing Some serious Things to the Newly 'listed Soldiers. P.M. I thought it best to deliver again Some parts of Discourse on Ps. 78, v. 3.6.7. Baptized 7 Children. Mr. *Joseph Harrington* acquaints me his Sister *Stow* is dead and it is requested by his Brother in Law, that I would go to the Funeral and considering the Great Affliction of the Family, another Child lying sick, and that there has been no preaching, one sabbath after another, they desire that I would Preach at the House of Mourning.

1776 July 8 (Monday). I did so; Mr. *Joseph Willard* of *Mendon* prayed before it, and I after it. My Text was *Joh. 18.11*. N.B. Dined at Mr. *Grosvenors*, and was there after Exercises, as was Mr. *Plumb* a Young Preacher. I called at Mr. *Hutchinsons* who was not at home, and at Capt. *Phillips's*. I returned home at Evening safely. D.G. O that I might my Self have Grace to improve the Word and Providences of God which are so affecting!

1776 July 9 (Tuesday). Having heard that Deacon Wood had experience in the Trouble of Counterfeit Money I went to confer with him. Wrote to Mr. *Fessenden*. N.B. Mr. *Pope* of *Spencer* here and lodges with us.

1776 July 10 (Wednesday). Mr. *Pope* left us. I borrowed Mr. *Jonathan Maynards* Mare to go to New *Braintry*. Sat out after Dinner and got to *Leicester*. In my way called at Dr. *Crosbys*, Mr. *Sumners* and Mr. *Maccartys*. N.B. Highlanders at *Worcester* Court House. Lodged at *Alexanders*. He has listed *indeed*; and is preparing for his March, as Eldest Sergeant and Clerk. He seems inclined and determined to go. Their Destination is *New-York*.

1776 July 11 (Thursday). Sat out for *Brookfield*, but rode 4 miles in the Rain. Dined with my Daughter *Baldwin* -- then went to *Braintree*. In my way called at my Grandson's *Ebenezers* who is lately married to Miss *Sarah Lyscomb*, daughter of Capt. *John Lyscomb*. Arrived at my Sons So seasonably as to go to Mr. *Ruggles's*, and (by Desire) to visit old Mrs. *Wilson* (who used to live at *Hopkinton*) and prayed with her. Lodged at *Ebenezers*. N.B. Mr. *Bradshaw* lame.

1776 July 12 (Friday). Mr. *Ruggles* visits me. Ebenezer talks of enlisting but is too Subject to pains to presume to. He rides with me in my returning to *Brookfield* to my aged Kinswoman Mrs. *Sadler* -- and as far as Mr. *Caruths*. At *Brookfield* I called again at my Grandsons. Visit Mr. *Appleton* at Mr. *Gilberts* -- dined with my Daughter *Baldwin*. Visit sister *Champney*. Rode to *Leicester*, and lodged at *Alexanders*. Though I can't but wonder at his going into the Army, yet I can't help his doing it. May God most gracious direct and support him! May his Family also be under the divine Care!

1776 July 13 (Saturday). Returned home -- having called at Mr. *Maccarty's* (where I saw Mr. *Davis* of *Holden*). At Capt. *Curtis's* and Mr. *Sumners*. Arrived about 2 p.m. -- find *Breck* here. He is come from *New York*; he came on the 10th p.m. He Saw a Number of the Kings Forces, viz. Great Ships etc. An Engagement commenced on *Staten* Island. Tis said that General *Putnams* Party prevailed. Am told that *Nathaniel Chamberlain* is Sick. At Evening Mr. *Fitch* of *Hopkinton* came here to 'Change with me. His Horse is turned (by Order) into Squire *Bakers* Pasture.

1776 July 14 (Sunday). Early (having the widow *Hills* Horse), I rode to *Hopkinton*. Preached a.m. on *Exod.* 33.15. P.M. on *Luk.* 12.19.20. May the Lord Himself add His Blessing. After Meeting visit Dr. *Wilson* who is very ill. Seems partly delirious. Prayed with him. Fear he will not continue. I went into Mr. *Barretts*, his uncle, the Deacon, and his Wife being there. Lodged at Mr. *Fitch's*. He returned home. At *Westborough* he preached on 2 *Pet.* 3.11.12.13.14.

1776 July 15 (Monday). Rode to Mr. *Frosts* at *Mill-River*, to See *Elias*. Dined there. My Son is much recovered from his Wound received on May 30. P.M. returned home. *Breck* is gone to *Concord*.

1776 July 16 (Tuesday). Am not a little perplexed about the Creatures breaking in, and my Husbandry work is like to hang behind. Mrs. *Richardson* of *Sudbury* and her Grand son, Dr. *Crossman* of *Northbridge*, dined here. N.B. I could not attend the Association which meets at *Stow*.

1776 July 17 (Wednesday). My Perplexitys continue as to our Creatures Breechiness. I visit at Mr. *Ebenezer Forbush's*, his Daughters *Betty* and *Patty* being Sick of the Throat Distemper. Instructed, and prayed with them. P.M. received a large Letter of the 7th instant from my Friend *Edmund Quincy* Esq. at *Lancaster*. His Letters are extremely grateful to me, but fill me with Shame that my part of the Correspondence is so very unequal. May God grant his eminent Talents may be continued and made usefull! I read the Surprizing yet real Adventures of Monsieur *Pierre Viaud*.

1776 July 18 (Thursday). Dr. *John Wilson* of *Hopkinton* dies.

1776 July 19 (Friday). Mr. Jonathan Cook here. He has listed to go to New York. Discovers his Infidelity, respecting the Scriptures, and of the Son of God.

1776 July 20 (Saturday). Reckoned with *Nathaniel Chamberlain*. I find he has worked for me 61 Days. What he asks is five Dollars per Month. This, together with 21/ old Tenor on the Old score of his Cutting wood for me at the Ministerial Lot, I paid him, in full. P.M. *Elias* came home from *Mill-River*. Major *Wheelock* came to me with his Wifes Relation, but it needed Alteration - - wherefore he desired the Affair of her Dismission [*sic*] might be deferred to another sabbath.

1776 July 21 (Sunday). I preached a. and p.m. on *Exod. 33.15*, with Additions and Alterations. N.B. p.m. Major *Wheelock* and Lieutenant *Godfry* ask Publick Prayers in their own Name and of the rest of the soldiers going to *N. York*. They Sat together. I directed an Address to them in the latter part of my p.m. sermon. To receive they rose from their seats. N.B. At the Request of Capt. *Morse* and Lt. *Townsend* I read (after reading the proclamation for a Fast) Resolve of Court for raising more men, who are to go to *Canada*: and warned the People to meet tomorrow at 3 p.m. May God graciously accept what has been this day attempted! Especially with respect to the soldiers!

1776 July 22 (Monday). The people met together to raise recruits for *Canada*. And those who have 'listed for New York begin their March. Mrs. Cotton accompanied with one Mr. Stimpson visits us. *Sophy* goes to *Concord*, and *Elias* goes with her; that Samuel may go to *Portsmouth* to look after his Goods, taken away violently, by Several *Jones's*, as its Said, and retaken and carryed into the abovesaid Port.

1776 July 23 (Tuesday). Six Persons (our Quota) enlist, upon the Encouragement given by the Town in Addition to the provincial Bounty. Among the rest, to my regretting, my Neighbour *Caleb Harrington*: who must leave home with Difficulty, because of his Wife's Circumstances. Mrs. Cotton and Mr. Stimpson dine here; and p.m. leave us. *Elias* returns from *Concord*, but is so indisposed that he can't return to Mr. *Frosts*. A.M. I visited *Richard Temple* who is ill of a Fever at Mr. Newtons; and prayed with him. Towards Eve I rode down to Capt. Edmund *Brigham*, who Still lies under his Lameness.

1776 July 24 (Wednesday). *Elias* early returns to Mr. *Frosts* at *Mill-River*. I am not so well as usual, yet through divine Mercy, not very ill.

1776 July 25 (Thursday). A Number of kind Friends came and reaped for me at the Island Field, viz. Deacon Wood, Mr. Edwards Whipple (and his Son John a part of the forenoon), Messrs. Nathan Maynard, Thaddeus Warrin, Benjamin Tainter, Francis Whipple by a Proxy which was received but Especially Joseph Baker Esq. with 3 more hands -- these dined here as did Mr. *Barnabas Newton*; and he with Squire and all his 3 Hands; also Thaddeus Warrin (at Deacon Woods Cost) assisted in further Reaping, taking up: and brought home a Load. A Singular Favour in divine Providence. May God bountifully reward them!

1776 July 26 (Friday). Breck helps me in several Things relative to the Island Field. He with *Jimmy* reaps the rest. I help in gathering. Breck binds, and carts home. N.B. Six men more Sent for to go to *Dorchester* to keep *Garrison* instead of a Number going from thence to *Canada*. The Town meet -- and They soon succeed in raising the Supply. My son *Breck* seems inclined to list. However they have enough without him. May God graciously influence his Mind and Heart in all!

1776 July 27 (Saturday). I rode over to Mr. *John Chamberlain* to hire him to come to work for me, and he consents. Mr. Moses Nurse mowed for me a.m., at the Island-Brook: and afternoon I worked in Raking etc. N.B. I had prepared as much of a Sermon as was sufficient for one Exercise. But urgent Necessity now compelled me. Mrs. *Wheelock* with me before Night.

1776 July 28 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on the subject which I have been long upon, viz. *Faith*; our *Justification* and eternal *salvation* thereby. I was now in the closing up of the whole, the *motive*, and *Inducements* to *believe* on the Lord Jesus Christ. This part was begun from *Joh.* 3.36 but today finished on *Mat.* 25.46 from p. 87. Mrs. *Maynard* and Mrs. *Hannah Rice*, widow of the late Mr. *Noah Rice* of *Sutton*, dined with us. P.M. I preached on *Isa.* 63.8, repeating what I delivered formerly from that Text, to p. 8. I admitted Mrs. *Wheelock* -- and appointed the Communion.

1776 July 29 (Monday). Mr. *John Chamberlain* and his son *Phinehas* came to reap, but it was So rainy a Season that they went home again. Old Mr. *Seth Morse* came and hoed in north Field p.m. I visited *Richard Temple*, who is become very Sick and low: conversed and prayed with him. N.B. Mrs. *Rebecca Spring* and her *Billy* leave us to go to her Husband in *New York*; and her *Peggy* is left at *Deacon Woods*.

1776 July 30 (Tuesday). A fine, bright Day for our Harvest, but no *Chamberlains*. Mr. *Morse* came to hoe in my North Field. I am taken off from my Studys by the unavoidable Necessity of attending the Sick, visiting old Mr. *Whitney* and *Richard Temple*, and to my Harvest Work, though I can do but little of it.

1776 July 31 (Wednesday). Breck helps in Raking and carting home a few Cocks from the Brook. Poor *Richard Temple* is grown, I hear, exceeding bad. *Breck* has watched with him.

1776 August 1 (Thursday). *Publick Fast* in this Colony. I prepared in some Measure, on another Text; but was obliged to go on (with Alterations and Additions) preaching from p. 8 a. and p.m. sermon from *Isa.* 63.8 and finished that subject. As this is a most remarkable Day, when most probably Lord viscount *Howe*, Commissioner from the King of Great *Britain* (having published his Declaration of Pardon to *Americans* etc.), may be now transacting with the Congress at *Philadelphia*, touching a Reconciliation, it is most requisite that fervent Requests be put up to Almighty God to [blot] impart Counsel and Wisdom to the respective Partys, and preserve them whatever may tend to widen the Difference. May it please the God of infinite Goodness to pardon and accept us in our importunate Supplications! Mrs. P _____ to See *Temple*, at Eve.

1776 August 2 (Friday). *Richard Temple* dyed this Morning in the 32 year of his Age. I went up to Mr. *Newtons* where he lay, and where his *paramour*, Miss *Persis Baker*, of *Bolton* who had been published to him, was. Mrs. *Beeton* was here and requests that a grand Daughter which She has taken to bring up, may be baptized. I propose to Speak to the Brethren of the Church about it.

1776 August 3 (Saturday). Went in the Morning to Mr. *Thaddeus Warrins* and Mr. *Nathan Maynard* junior and obtain of them to undertake to get my Interval Hay, this Year -- to begin next Monday Morn. Mr. *John Chamberlain* reaps in the west Field. Old Mr. *Morse* is also hoing in the North. They, both, finish their work and go home. P.M. I attend the Funeral of Mr. *Richard Temple*, who was buryed from Mr. *Barnabas Newtons*. His Three Brothers, *Josiah*, *Jonathan* and *Ebenezer*, and two Sisters, *Sarah* and *Phebe*, were there; but Miss *Persis Baker* of *Bolton* appears to be chief Mourner.

1776 August 4 (Sunday). I had made Some preparation but laid it by unfinished and used Sermon on *Isa.* 55.5, pag. 171 to 176. Administered the Lord's Supper. A Number of *Grafton* members present, and Capt. *Jonas Brigham* acquainted me that *Persis Baker* desired to communicate. When I mentioned her as Member of the Church at *Bolton*, I guarded it with Saying, that the Church knew how I understood that. Deacon *Miriam*, Mrs. *Maynard* and Miss *Suse Brigham* dined here. Mrs. P _____ not well: goes not to Meeting to day. P.M. preached on *Isa.* 55.6. Dr. *Hawes* here at Eve.

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

1776 August 6 (Tuesday). I made Several necessary Visits -- yet it was a busy Day with us as to the Hay. I went to See old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush*, and prayed with her. N.B. many living Creatures infest her terrible sore. I went to Col. *Levi Brighams*. I went to See whether he consented to *Brecks* intimacy with his Daughter *Suse*. He was gone to *Worcester*, but I acquainted Mrs. *Brigham* with my Errand and prayed her to do it for me. I visited old Mrs. *Beeman*, Mr. *Bass*, Mr. *Whitney*; where I dined; came home round by Mr. *Crooks*, where I stopped, and visited the widow (of the late *Edmund*) *Rice*, also at *Amasa Maynards* and Squire *Whipples*.

1776 August 7 (Wednesday). *Breck* goes a Journey after Teams which were expected with various Goods from *Albany* and *New-York*, to be brought from *Norwich*, but did not come. Mr. *Francis Pierce's* Child dies. I was differently employed but alas! Too little purpose; attending upon Haying, and my Workmen that make up and bring home 2 Load from different Lots. See *Almanack*.

1776 August 8 (Thursday). Rainy and Cloudy. I Suppose Mr. *Fitch* attends the Burial of *Pierce's* Child, it being from an *Hopkinton* Family, but interred in our Burying place.

1776 August 9 (Friday). [Letting?], heavy Weather -- yet I am not a little interrupted; and can do very little in my Studys. This is peculiarly Strange that the Recruits which are so much wanted at *Canada* are So long delayed, and have no marching Orders; but the Men are [illegible] and are in so unprofitable a Situation. P.M. Mrs. *Rumbly* made me a Visit, before she returns to *Boston*. She keeps close to her Antibaptistical Principles.

1776 August 10 (Saturday). *Breck* returns home. Mr. *William Blair Townshend* and his wife came to see us, and dined here. I Spake to him of my Son *Elias's* going to College, and that he might perhaps befriend me as to some or other of the charitable Benefactions.

1776 August 11 (Sunday). Preached with proper Variation what I designed for the late *Fast Day*, on *Isa.* 64.1-5. P.M. on *Isa.* 55.6. Baptized Mrs. *Wheelocks* 3 Children, viz. *Moses-Bond*, *John*, and *Lydia*.

1776 August 12 (Monday). So much Rain we are put greatly behind in our Haying; they that were to work for me are unable to do their own work in harvesting, and therefore cannot do anything for me. Mr. *Elijah Warrin* of *Upton* dies of a Wasting Distemper, in the 55th or 56th year of his Age.⁵

1776 August 13 (Tuesday). Visit a Child of Mr. *Piper* that is Sick at Mr. *Ebenezer Millers*. Also old Mrs. *Woods*; both in my way to *Upton*, where I went to the burying of Mr. *Warrin*. Our Kinswoman is left sorrowfull no doubt; but her late Husband has been So plodding and Successful that his Estate is not Small; and only 3 Children. Mr. *Fish* prayed. In returning home I called at Mr. *Martin Pratts*. N.B. Mounting the young Horse I rode upon I was in peculiar Danger by being cast on the Horse's Neck, from which I could not recover for some time; but by the good Providence of God I was saved. D.G.!

1776 August 14 (Wednesday). I have had but a restless -- night, and somewhat lifeless Morning -- yet am (through Gods Goodness) in some Comfort through the Day. *Sophy* rode to *Leicester*. Mr. *Levi Warrin* came to mowe but the Weather was so uncertain that he returned home.

⁵Elijah Warrin mar. Rebecca Hicks, Oct. 3, 1748 (Westborough VR, 216)

1776 August 15 (Thursday). Mr. *Warrin* came again, and though it was cloudy he mowed in my *Newton Meadow* -- but about 9 o'Clock was called off and went home. P.M. though it rained yet *Benjamin Tainter*, *Nathan Chamberlin* Sent by Capt. Morse, *Daniel Warrin* and Moses Warrin, the last Sent by Mr. *Levi Warrin*, came and mowed my *Newton Meadow*: all of it out of good will. Squire *Whipple* visits me. At Eve Lieut. *Bond* for himself and the Soldiers going to *Canada*, asks a Sermon to be preached to them next Sabbath.

1776 August 16 (Friday). *Moses Warrin* came p.m. from Mr. *Levi Warrin* to look after the Hay that was cut yesterday. P.M. came my son *Samuel*, his wife and little *Sally*. *Kezia* came home with *Sophy* who returns this Eve from *Leicester*.

1776 August 17 (Saturday). Mr. *Lambson* in the morning repairs the Appendages of the Hogsstye; and then goes, his Brother *Nat* and *Ben Tainter* junior also with him, about 9 o'Clock to raking Hay at the *Newton Meadow*. *Tainter* dined here with the rest, but went to *Harrington* p.m. P.M. came *Moses Warrin* and *Asa Adams* to rake and pole. They made it dark by that they brought the 3d and last load: but all of them large. Lt. *Bond* requests for himself and the other Soldiers (viz. 6 for *Crown-Point*, 6 for *Boston*, from hence; and 4 who have listed for other Towns), that I would preach to them. My Time has been spent accordingly.

1776 August 18 (Sunday). A.M. Preached on *Prov. 18.24* (but did not discern till in the Pulpit that I had delivered the first Sermon not only before, but within a Year) With new Introduction with many necessary Alterations accommodating it to the present Circumstances and proceeding into sermon 2d on that Text. At noon came my Kinsman Mr. *Thomas Needham* in his March to *Crown Point*; came to See me, and one Mr. *Shaw*, another Soldier with him. They dined here but could not Stay, being obliged to obey Orders. P.M. I preached to the Soldiers from *Luk. 3.14*. Mr. *Beeton* and his Wife promised before the Church and Congregation to take Care of the Education of a Grand Child which was baptized, and nam'd *Martha*. At Eve Mr. *Elijah Brigham* here.

1776 August 19 (Monday). Visit little *William Pitt Wood* at Deacon *Wood's*: the Child being still very weak and low. Was at Mrs. *Keens* where I read her Husbands Letters from *New York*.

1776 August 20 (Tuesday). My Son *Samuel*, his Wife and Child go back to *Concord*. The Association met here, viz. Rev. Messrs. *Stone*, *Smith*, *Goss*, *Whitney* and *Newel*. See *Association Minutes*. Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* and *Nathan Maynard* junior go to the Interval. I hire also Mr. *Paul Lambson* (whom we diet) and Mr. *Jonathan Maynard* and Mr. *Nurse* with his Team (of 3 Horses) -- both the last diet them Selves. They bring home four Load from the Interval.

1776 August 21 (Wednesday). My Daughter *Kezia* came here from *Framingham* and tarried with us. Mr. *Amos Trask* of *Salem* dined here, and went to *Sutton*.

1776 August 22 (Thursday). *Kezia* returned to *Leicester*. My haying goes on heavily. I went out to get Laborers. Was at Mr. *Samuel Hardys* but did not Succeed: to Mr. *Bruce's*, and obtained *Asa* for this afternoon. Went to Mr. *Daniel Warrins* on other Accounts.

1776 August 23 (Friday). Visit old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush* under her Cancer, and prayed with her. At Mr. *Thomas Frosts*: his son Jonathan mowes for me to Day. P.M. I went to the Interval and was at old Mr. *David Maynards*. Mr. *Sumner* at Eve.

1776 August 24 (Saturday). *Breck* in attempting to unload a Load of Hay unhappily Sprained his Back. Mr. *Francis Whipples* Child (his little *Francis*, of almost 16 Months old) fell into a Tub of hot wort, and dy'd at Evening. I rode to *Shrewsbury*.

1776 August 25 (Sunday). I preached at *Shrewsbury* a.m. on *Exod.* 33.15. Soldiers are marching to *Dorchester* -- others are required to March to *Crown [torn]* next Tuesday. P.M. I preached on *Luk.* 12.19.20 [torn]ent success! Mr. *Sumner* at *Westborough* a.m. on 2 *Sam [torn]* p.m. on *Josh.* 5.13.14 and read the *Declar [torn] Independency*.

1776 August 26 (Monday). *Crosby* of College here. I lent his Mother for a fortnight Dr. C. *Mathers Magnalia*. The Widow *Martha Warrin* here for 2 Letters I have writ for her, one to her son *Mitchel* at *Deerfield*; Another to her Son *James Warrin* in the Army at *Canada*. I gave to my Neighbour *Caleb Harrington* a Letter to Col. *Baldwin* supposed to be at *Crown-Point* and another to his Wife at *Brookfield*. To day was buryed Mr. *Whipples* Child. I attended and prayed.

1776 August 27 (Tuesday). The Weather So dull and drizzling we can't meddle with the Affair of getting Hay. Mr. P. *Lambson* part of p.m. is making another Closet in the Garret for Doves. Our Six Soldiers for *Canada* march from us -- May God grant His Presence with them!

1776 August 28 (Wednesday). In the Morning Visit Mrs. *Andrews* who is Sick -- and pray there: called to see poor Mr. *Rumbly*; who is unable to go across his Room. By request I prayed there. Mr. *Lambson* part of a.m. finishes what he does about the Dove House.

1776 August 29 (Thursday). Sore Frown of Heaven upon us in the dull, heavy Weather every Day: the Mornings especially. P.M. Mr. *Peter Whitney* and Mr. *Zyphion Thayer* came to See me. The former acquaints with what he intends to do in reading the Declaration of Independency, viz. to preach a Lecture and to have other Great Doings in *Northborough* on that Occasion. About 6 p.m. was hastily Sent for to visit Mrs. *Andrews*, who was very low and exceeding full of Pain. I went though Evening and sometimes damp and drizzling. Discoursed with her, and found Good Things in her. Prayed among them.

1776 August 30 (Friday). Mr. *Joseph Bonds* Child was Sadly Scald by hot water [torn] from a Kittle at the Fire. I hastened [torn]out being Sent for) and prayed by it. The Lord Sa[torn] Such sorrowful Occurrences one after another! [Torn] the Child dyed.

1776 August 31 (Saturday). Though it is [torn] weather yet no Hay ready to Cart home. Mr. *Joseph Bond* here to acquaint me that he purposes to bury his Child tomorrow after Meetings. I am greatly Indisposed. Received from Mr. *Thayer* 2 Volumes of the History of *Louisiana*. *Elias*

came home. I was much indisposed through the Day: At night vomited heartily, as well as purged -- and I hope it was a great Relief to me.

1776 September 1 (Sunday). Through divine Goodness I was better. Preached on *Isa.* 64.1 [illegible] to 7. P.M. on Occasion of the late sorrowful repeated Disasters I made an Exercise out of the Sermon on *Ps.* 103.14: and after the Public Services I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Joseph Bonds* Child, and prayed there.

1776 September 2 (Monday). Mr. *Samuel Hardy* works for me: mowing at Interval. Col. *Buckminster* and his Lady here in their Way to *Rutland*. Read the History of *Louisiana* (translated) by M. le *Page du Pratz*, in 2 vol: *London*, printed 1763. Visited Mrs. *Andrews*. She is now so weak that She can Speak but little. She seems to have Hope in God though Christ. I discoursed to her, and prayed with her. *Elias* Carts one Load of Hay.

1776 September 3 (Tuesday). We have variety of Occurrences for One Day. *Breck* brings Miss *Suse Brigham* to dinner, and then p.m. setts out with her to go to *Providence*; Commencement to be there tomorrow. Mrs. *Wilder* of *Ashburnham*, her Sister *Smith* of *Southborough* and Miss *Sally Wilder* must needs, in their coming from *Mendon* hither, meet my son etc. on the Road. They dine here, though late; and after Several Hours go to *Southborough*. An Account by Capt. *Morse* last night from *Worcester*, that there had been a Battle at *New York* last Week, and many Slain is for the Substance of it confirmed by Mr. *Smith* from *Mendon* by two young Men, One of them Son of Maj. *Smith*, who were [newly?] come from *New York*, who relate the like. May God the Judge of all the Earth, appear for our Help! *Elijah* [*Bruce?*] (of 16 years) works for me p.m. in raking etc. and lodges here. *Elias* carts home two load Hay.

1776 September 4 (Wednesday). Mr. *Nathan Maynard* has not worked much for me of late, but Mr. *Warrin* has Stuck by my Business and to Day they cart home two load and therewith finish Haying. N.B. last Year we made an End a Month sooner, viz. Aug. 5. Nigh Evening I visited Mrs. *Andrews*, who is yet alive though very low and unable to speak much: She was not able even to bear much Discourse with her. I prayed with her and took final Leave. N.B. In going to Mr. *Andrews* Deacon *Stow* of *Grafton* accompanied me. Every body is full of the News from *New York*. Capt. *Morse* having been last night here and requested I would write a Letter for him to *Henry Marble*, from whom he had received a notable one; which he brings to me, I wrote an answer and sent it by his Son *Abner*.

1776 September 5 (Thursday). Mr. *Reuben Maynard* has lost a Child of about two Months old. I went to the burying of it and prayed among them. Wrote to my son *Alexander* at *New York*; and Send it by Mr. *Henderson*, the Post. Mrs. *Andrews* (I hear) expired this afternoon about 3 o'Clock. She was nigh 52.

1776 September 6 (Friday). Miss *Nabby Woods* is still at work here. She is now turning a blue broad Cloth Coat for me.

1776 September 7 (Saturday). Mrs. *Andrews* was buried. I prayed on that Occasion. *Breck* and Miss *Suse* return from *Providence, Newport* etc.

1776 September 8 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on 1 *Cor.* 15.51[57?]. Was led to this by Mrs. *Andrews* Death. *Suse* dined here. I read to the Assembly Dr. *Stiles* and *Hopkins* Address to the Publick for Contribution for propagation of the Gospel in [*Africa?*].

1776 September 9 (Monday). *Elias* returns to Mr. *Frost* in order to his going with him to Cambridge to be examined. P.M. Sir *Stone* of *Shrewsbury* (a new Graduate) and *Crosby* of College, were here. The latter returns my *Magnalia* from his Mother. I am reading the History of *Louisiana*.

1776 September 10 (Tuesday). I desire to [*illegible*] the Wormwood and the Gall. This day 12 months my dear son *John* dyed. Am I in any [due proportion?] better? Sister *Cushing* and her Sister *Curtis* visit and dine. P.M. Old Mrs. *Holloway* came to see us, and brought a present of a handsome Cheese.

1776 September 11 (Wednesday). Visit old Mr. *Eliezer Pratt* -- discoursed and prayed with him. Mr. *Stone* came, dined and preached the Lecture on *Isa.* 12.3, a serious, profitable Discourse, which may God succeed and prosper! Mr. *Stone* returns home after Exercises etc.

1776 September 12 (Thursday). *Breck* goes to the Hospital at *Uxbridge* to be inoculated. Mr. P. *Whitney* (I hear) has appointed a Lecture to day on Occasion of reading the *Declaration of Independency* but my Affairs and Circumstances would not admitt of my attending it. I could not have an Horse -- had divers men to work -- my Boy was needed to carry Rails and Posts, but could not without my Direction etc. etc. At Eve came Mr. *Solomon Parsons* of *Cape Ann-Harbour*, and his Wife was with him. They brought me a Letter from Mr. *Forbes* of 9 September informing that Mrs. *Coffin* has had another Daughter. They also lodge here.

1776 September 13 (Friday). Another Letter from Mr. *Forbes* acquainting me more particularly with the Birth of my grand-Daughters 2d Child, on the 20th of August. Mr. *Parsons* and Wife leave us to go to *Sutton* and round about [*blot*] *Leominster* etc. before they return to *Gloucester*.

1776 September 14 (Saturday). *Elias* returns from *Cambridge* and has passed Examinations.

1776 September 15 (Sunday). [*Marginal notation*: New York was entered and seized by the Kings Forces Sept. 15.] When *James Hicks* went to the Cow yard for the Cows in the Morning, to drive them to the House to be milked, a young Cow (called the White Face) was fallen down dead, out Side the Cow Yard, an upper Rail down not far from the Place where she lay. Sent for Deacon Wood, who with *Joseph Chamberlin* came [and bleed?] her. Preached before the Communion on 1 *Cor.* 15.55.6.7, carrying on, with Additions, Sermon on v. 57 begun lately on Occasion of Several Deaths. Administered the Lords Supper. Mrs. *Maynard* and Miss *Suse Brigham* dined here. P.M. on *Isa.* [*illegible*] May God accept and succeed! I was [mindful of its

being the?] Conclusion of my 73d Year. May God grant [*illegible*] [and affected herewith. O that?] I might close the Year as I might wish to close my Life! Exercising true and living *Faith* in God and in Jesus Christ, [repenting?] and mourning truly and bitterly for [*illegible*] and depending on the [Blood?] and Merits of [*torn*] Christ for Pardon, Justification [*illegible*] Sanctification, Committing my Soul and Body for Time and Eternity [*illegible*] [to him who made,?] redeemed and would humbly hope has received me May his Work be perfected, that I may be prepared for, and Admitted to His heavenly eternal Kingdom!

1776 September 16 (Monday). This Day I improved mainly in Reviews and Recollections -- in Gratulations, Humiliations and Petitions: having abundant Cause for all of these. But I am astonished at the Longsuffering of God and my own Ingratitude to Him; who has endured me through so *many* Years; and now allows me this Day to begin my 74th. I ardently wish it may be to the divine Glory; and that I may be indeed ready for the Awful summons hence! Apprehending there would be Opportunity to Send to Cape *Ann* I wrote to my Son *Forbes*; and was up till past 12. N.B. The Companys of Militia assemble, Orders being come for 23 men to hasten away to *Horseneck* N. *York*. But men are not voluntary because no Time is set for their Return.

1776 September 17 (Tuesday). Attended Ministers Meeting at [*illegible*]. Only Messrs. *Bridge*, *Whitney* and *Biglow*, there. Mr. *Stone* prayed, and delivered a Concio, on *Mat.* 6.10, first part, "Thy Kingdom come." Next Meeting *Marlborough*. When I returned home Mr. *Daniel Forbes* junior came here having killed and Sold my fat Steers which he drove to Maj. *Whittemores*; he delivered me 9£ lawful and 9/ old. N.B. He informs me that his uncle *Forbes* was (as he [*illegible*] conceives) married last Lords Evening to the Widow *Saunders*, where he once boarded. But his [*illegible*] Law *Coffin*, does not like. The new married have Set out by Land for [*Falmouth?*] *Coffin* and wife with [*illegible*] try again and Succeed.

1776 September 18 (Wednesday). Our Men are certified of their *Term* -- to tarry 2 Months. I visit, and prayed with old Mr. *Eleazer Pratt*.

1776 September 19 (Thursday). *Hannah* [*illegible*] for Trimmings for *Elias's* Cloths [*illegible*] entitled "The Fall of British Tyranny and *America* Liberty triumphant" -- which Mr. *Whitney* Sends me to read. Received a Letter from Mr. [*Quincy?*] of the 6th instant. I am much indebted to him for his Friendship. Married Mr. *Isaiah Fairbank* to Mrs. *Ruth Eager*.

1776 September 20 (Friday). Mr. *Bradshaw* comes in the Morning to Breakfast. He is going to *Byfield*, or *Newbury* about his Brother *Parkman Bradshaws* going to *New-Haven* College. *Elias* helps me part of the Day, in mending the Fence joining to Mr. *David Maynard* at the Interval. *Hannah* rides to *Marlborough* on *Elias's* Account Still. We took up but one Hive of Bees, there being but little Honey in it -- have but little profit in keeping them.

1776 September 21 (Saturday). Received Mr. *Frost's* Letter of the 19 containing an Account of his going down to *Cambridge* with *Elias* and *Hastings*, their Examination and being Accepted by the President and Fellows: also his Accompt of Board and Tutoring; which latter amounted to

3£ 6.8 Lawful Money. N.B. Capt. *Morse* who is going with 20 Men to *Horse-neck*, came to me *yesterday* to request in his own Name and of Others, that I would preach to them tomorrow.

1776 September 22 (Sunday). Preached a.m. from Ps. 2.8 on Occasion of our Contribution to day. *Suse Brigham* dined here. P.M. preached on *Prov. 23.14*, latter part, with an Address to the Soldiers. *Contribution* for propagation etc. in *Africa* which amounted to £4.7.10 Lawful Money, which may God graciously accept! Received a Letter from Col. *Baldwin* at *Ticonderoga*, dated Sept. 15. In the Evening wrote to *Alexander* at *New York*.

1776 September 23 (Monday). Send a Letter per Mr. *John Beeton* to my son *Alexander* at *Chelsea, New York*. Received one this same forenoon from Him at *Chelsea*, in which he informs that he has been sick 3 weeks of the *Dysentery*; but is better. By [Other?] Letters from Soldiers [near *New?*] *York* it appears that they have a very hard time of it, and are sadly [gained?] upon; are nigh giving up the [illegible]. Mr. *Nathan* [Fisher?] writes that [illegible] what *Soldiering* meant till now. At Eve Mr. [illegible] *Gleason* was here, and gave me 3/6 lawful for his Contribution to the *African* Cause, which added to the above is £4.11.4. Add 8d more, £4.12.0.

1776 September 24 (Tuesday). Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* [here. I?] reckoned with him for his Work in getting my [torn] paid him all. Also Mr. *Nathan Maynard* was here, and I reckoned with him. I Paid him likewise in full. P.M. rode to Capt. *Maynards* who upon mention of Mr. *Fessenden* and the Counterfeit Bill told me that if I would let him, he would manage that whole *Affair* and he would give me as much as I was in danger of loosing by the Bill. I told him I would not deliver the Bill as a good Bill, because it had been already [illegible]. He replied that he did not desire I Should nor would he bring me into any Snare. He gave me a thirty Shilling and a ten Shilling Bill L.M. I went to Mr. *Maynards* and told him I was ready to deliver him his Money but he rather [inclined?] that I Should give it to Mr. *Jotham Maynard*. Therefore I did not deliver it to him. Called to see Mrs. *Godfry* and also old Mrs. *Kelly*.

1776 September 25 (Wednesday). A Chest, and Sundry utensils are provided for *Elias* to keep Chamber in College. Letters arrive from the Camp near *New York*, of Sorrowful Struggles there, and Reports of a Smart Battle -- that the City *N.Y.* is given up, and many lives lost. Capt. *Davis* of *Concord* dined with me. Visit old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush* and Prayed with her. Was at *Frosts* and paid him for his son *Jonathans* work 17/6 old Tenor. N.B. 2/6 yet due.

1776 September 26 (Thursday). Walked up into the Street, anxious for the public state. Sent a verbal message to *Alexander* by Mr. [illegible] *Mixer*, a Suttler from *Framingham* going to the Camp. Was with Squire *Baker* and acquainted him that Capt. *Maynard* had undertaken to Settle my Difficulty with *Fessenden*. N.B. *Elisha Forbes* has disappointed *Elias* in going to *Cambridge* without taking his [blot] Table etc. as *Elias* says he had promised him. Mr. [Gleason?] of *Leicester* and his Wife, dined here. At Night married *Eliezer Pratt* junior to *Mary Druce* of *Grafton* and *John Beeton* junior to *Eunice Hill*.

1776 September 27 (Friday). [No entry.]

1776 September 28 (Saturday). I was prepari[*torn*] for the Lords Day; but unexpectedly Mr. *Stone* [*torn*] Change with me. I rode his Horse to *Southborough*.

1776 September 29 (Sunday). I preached at *Southborough* a. and p.m. on *Rom. 8.34*; to the End of p. 20. Mr. *Stone* (as I was informed) a. and p.m. on *Isa. 26.10*.

1776 September 30 (Monday). Mr. *Stone* came home in the Chaise in which my son *Elias* rides. He takes me in (it is Mr. *Barnabas Newtons* Chaise and Squire *Bakers* Horse) and we go to *Newtown*. Called at Coll. *Buckminsters*, and refreshed. Dined at Deacon Browns. Called again at Mr. *Woodwards* (where I saw Mr. *Roberts* and his Sister *How*). Went over the Bridge at *Waltham*. Called at Mrs. *Hastings's* -- but she was not at home, and her Son *Aaron* was at College: I proceeded to Mrs. *Gibbs's*, She having often Sent me her Request, and we very agreeably lodged there. N.B. Mr. *Eddy* there, having lived there these Seven Years. Thus closes this Month -- "So teach us, Lord: th'uncertain sum of our short Days to mind etc."

1776 October 1 (Tuesday). We left Mrs. *Gibbs* and rode to *Watertown* in quest of Mr. *Stephen Hall* of *Sutton* who took the Charge of *Elias's* Chest and an Oval Table, to be carried to *Cambridge*. Found him, but the Chest etc. were left at *Waltham*. We went to *Cambridge*. Put the Horse and Chaise under the Care of Mrs. *Hicks*. Viewed the Chambers appointed for my son. *Hastings* there and they rode to *Waltham* and brought the Chest and Table which *Stephen Hall* took care to get brought there. Dined with Dr. *Langdon*. P.M. Sought for a Bonds man. Walked through the late Entrenchments and Barracks. Visit venerable Dr. *Appleton*. At Eve Cousen *Thomas Barrett* is bound with me to the Steward -- and I pay the Steward 5 Dollars -- Upon which he signs the Receipt, and I return [it to] the President who signs the *Admittance*. Visit Mr. [*Hall?*], one of the Tutors, where I also had Mr. *Guilds* Company -- who is another of the Tutors. Lodge at Mrs. *Hicks's*.

1776 October 2 (Wednesday). Having Settled an Agreement with *Hastings* and paid all that was due, having breakfasted at *Barretts*, and called at Mr. *Cushings* at *Waltham*, I hastened to *Concord* and dined with my Son *Samuel*. P.M. Visit Dr. *Minot* -- Mrs. *Emmerson*, who had lately lain in, her Husband also gone to *Ticonderoga*, where he has been Sick; and a man is gone with an Horse to help him in returning home. At her and her Mother *Emmersons* request, I prayed with them. At Eve visited aged Master *Minot*. Lodged at my Son *Samuels*, where was also Mrs. *Carter* and her Daughter *Cary*, of *Newburyport*.

1776 October 3 (Thursday). I rode thence to my son *Williams* who was gone to *Newport, Rhode Island*. In returning to *Westborough* dined at Mr. *Weeks* in *Marlborough*. The Coll. and his Wife were gone a Journey. Stopped at the widows *Gale* in *Westborough* by reason of *Amsden Gales* Death in the Army. Before I got home I prayed at the Funeral of old Mrs. *Sarah Forbush* who dyed on the 1st of her Cancer. When arrived here received several Letters from my Son *Moore*. Was informed of Sundry Persons having been here. As, not only my Grand Daughter *Betsey Baldwin* (whom I met in her way to *Concord*) but *Joshua Winter*, *Parkman Bradshaw*, etc. Mrs. *Harrington*, our nearest Neighbour was (after Several Days Distress) delivered of a Son, to our great Joy -- and would praise God for it!

1776 October 4 (Friday). Having no Body to help me, my Business abroad has miserably Suffered. No *Rowing* cut -- Bushes unmowed, the few Apples are lost: no plowing done, and yet keep Oxen, Mare and plough, for want of an Hand to take hold of it! Almost no Wood; but no Body to go and fetch [more?]. Have 34 Pound of Beef from Mr. *Barnabas Newton*, at 18d. P.M. Mr. *Sumner* came to See me. Wants a printed Account of Mr. *Ely* who is troublesome at *Templeton* and elsewhere. Dr. *Eliot* Sends a Girth borrowed in his Journey to *Fairfield*; it was a Trifle only: but with it [torn] Catalogue, 8 vo. and a Letter, containing serious and religious [blot] on the Times; which grow still more gloomy.

1776 October 5 (Saturday). Mr. [blank] [Gleason and?] his Wife of *Leicester* (nigh to my son *Alexander*) were here and dined after us. Wrote by them to *Kezia* about sending home my Cattle. *Breck* returned from *Uxbridge*, where he has been at the *Inoculation Hospital*. Has had the Small Pox on [the?] Method, and is Recovered, through the Goodness of God and is come home in Safety. D.G. I visited my near Neighbour Mrs. *Harrington*, the first time Since her lying in: and may God be praised that both she, herself, and her little son are so comfortable!

1776 October 6 (Sunday). Preached a.m. on Ps. 2.8. P.M. on *Prov.* 28.14, latter part. Deacon *Wood* here after Meeting. Shews me a Letter from his son *John* in the Army nigh *New York*. *Elijah Brigham* here and tarrys with us over night. Wrote to Mr. *Grosvenor* Receipt from Mr. *Thomas Barretts* Wife, to cure his Hoarseness.

1776 October 7 (Monday). Wrote to *Elias* at College by Mr. *B. Tainter* junior and Sent a Number of Articles also by him. Rev. Mr. *Ebenezer Grosvenor* and his Wife called here in their Journey home from *Pomfret* and *Grafton*. Ride about for Help but in Vain.

1776 October 8 (Tuesday). Catechized at the Meeting House -- had 50 Boys a.m., 20 Girls p.m. Read the History of *Louisiana*, Vol. 2.

1776 October 9 (Wednesday). Mr. *John Ball*, being Spoke to by *Breck*, dug potatoes in the *Beeton* Field. Three young Women had visited here, but *Sophy* this Morning sat out with *Elijah Brigham*, for *Ashburnham*. Near Night came Mr. *Ezra Carpenter* and lodged here. Mr. *Joseph Hardy* desires me to Visit his Father.

1776 October 10 (Thursday). Mr. *Carpenter* leaves us to go to *Providence*. I rode to Mr. *Phineas Hardy's*, he being very ill of the [Phthytick?], a Fever attending. Discoursed with him. Dined there. Prayed there. Visit at Mr. *Twitchels* and *Benajah* *Brighams*. Then rode to Mr. *Silas Warrins* at *Grafton* in search for a few Barrells of Cyder, but unsuccessful. Returned by Mr. *Jos. Grouts* and Capt. *Jonathan Fays*. My Kinsman *Josh. Winter* from *Gloucester*, lodged here.

1776 October 11 (Friday). Wrote to *Alexander* by Mr. *Ware*. Mr. *Simeon Rice* goes with him. Their Wagon is loaden chiefly with strong Liquors. My Cousen *Winter* goes to *Brookfield*. N.B. He says Mr. *Forbes* lives in Mrs. *Saunders* House and has married her. P.M. *James* fetched a

Barrell of Cyder from Capt. *Jonathan Fay's*, which he said he should ask Nothing for. At Eve received a Letter from *Elias* per post.

1776 October 12 (Saturday). Mr. *Constantine Hardy* came hastily with an Horse for me to go immediately to his Father who is conceived to be near his End. I went with him -- found Mr. Hardy beyond conversing -- he was [blot] we prayed. He expired [illegible] afternoon in his 73d year. I dined there. We eat the Bread of mourning. He has left 12 grown up Children. P.M. I rode to Mr. Childs, called at several [Neighbours?] -- particularly old Mr. *Pratts*, who is grown [better. When I returned?] I am much out of my Element inasmuch as I cant compose new preparations for the ensuing Sabbath; having had so many other Employments, Interruptions, Avocations, and Cares this last week.

1776 October 13 (Sunday). I preached a.m. on *Isa. 28*, expounding and glossing on the whole, as heretofore. P.M. on *Eccl. 12.7* on occasion of the Death of Mr. *Phinehas Hardy*: and on this morning dyed Mr. *Stockwells* little son *Anson*, nigh 5 years old. May a gracious God over look what has been amiss and Succeed His own Work!

1776 October 14 (Monday). Attended the Funeral of Mr. *Hardy*, prayed with the people and after that rode down to Mr. *Stockwells* Childs Buryal, prayed with them and went to the Grave. Not only the hoary Head, but blooming, youthful Beauty, is laid in the Dust. Col. *Levi Brigham* and his Wife make us a Visit. The Subject Breck and Suse's Union in Marriage. My Son *Samuel* from Concord.

1776 October 15 (Tuesday). *Samuel* goes to *Providence*. I rode to Association at *Marlborough*. It is turned into a Fast on Account of the public Troubles. But neither Mr. Stone nor Mr. Goss were there. Mr. Smith was not able to perform any of the public Service. Mr. Biglow prayed and Mr. Bridge preached on *Zech. 14.6.7*. P.M. Mr. Whitney Prayed, and I preached. My Text *Isa. 64.1-7*. Mr. Newell prayed after my sermon. May God most gracious accept our Offerings and answer our prayers! I returned at Eve.

1776 October 16 (Wednesday). A Letter from Mr. *Cushing* and wrote an Answer -- both by Mr. David Maynard junior. Deacon Wood, Mr. Solomon Baker, Mr. Nathan Maynard with others came p.m. and cut up and brought my Indian Corn. At Eve the Deacon went home, but gave us Cyder for the Huskers at Supper, who, Men and Boys, amounted to 14 only. In the dark I fell into an Hole, and sorely wounded my Self, so that I could not Sleep.

1776 October 17 (Thursday). Sent a Letter inclosing 3 Dollars more and therewith Linnen, viz. two shirts, and a stock, two pair of stockings, a Looking Glass and a Box containing 4 1/2 Dozen Candles, by Mr. [Tainter?] to *Elias* at *Cambridge*. The Husking was not over. It was unhappily wetting weather, though not very rainy. I read part of Mr. John Cleveland against one Murray [that?] has in [illegible].

1776 October 18 (Friday). I visited Several Families in the South East Corner. Dined at Mr. Ithamar Bellows'. Went to See *Solomon Estes*, who lies under a broken, but new sett Bone, at

Mr. *Ezra Baker's*. By Desire I prayed there. Visited old Mr. *Chamberlain*, called at his Son *Ebenezer's* likewise by reason of the News that *Joshua* is taken prisoner by the Regulars at N.Y.

1776 October 19 (Saturday). Went to See Mr. *Eleazer Pratt* in his low Condition and prayed with him: and further into that Neighbourhood to buy Cyder, being necessitated thereto.

1776 October 20 (Sunday). Preached a. and p.m. on Gal. 1.15.16. May God bless it to us all!

1776 October 21 (Monday). Undertook a Journey to *Ashburnham*, where I have not been for a Number of years. Was forced to Stop at Beetons for Horse-shooing. Bad News from Lake *Champlain* by *Stephen [Badlem?]*, Captain of the Artillery, that our Fleet is shattered. I dined at Mr. *Whitneys*, *Northborough*. P.M. to *Lancaster*. Drank Tea at Mrs. *Wilders* (Widow of Col. *Caleb*). Lodged at Mr. *Harringtons*.

1776 October 22 (Tuesday). Mr. *Harrington* rides with me -- first to Mr. *Quincy's*, and then further accompanied me 3 or 4 Miles. I dined at Mr. *Gardners* at *Leominster*. N.B. Col. *Wood* of *Stow*, with his Wife and son there. P.M. prosecute my Journey, and meet with Mr. *Paul Langdon* from *Winchester*, who confirms the bad News from the Lakes, that our Forces by Sea are defeated. A Letter has come from General *Gates* to Capt. *Alexander* to hasten his militia forthwith. Arrive at *Ashburnham* at Eve. Found My Children, and theirs well. D.G. But I was troubled with a Pain in my back. May the Lord pity me! But especially May the Lord pity His People in the great Distress!

1776 October 23 (Wednesday). Arose refreshed and comfortable. Blessed be God! Am happy in the Enjoyment of my Children and their blooming entertaining pratlers. Read Some of Mr. *Grove's* sermon. Viewed the Farm etc.

1776 October 24 (Thursday). Mr. *Cushing* and I took a Ride to Mrs. *Winchesters*, where were Apples worthy to be distinguished. Din'd at Squire *Wilder's*; but he was not at home. Viewed and admired, his Chamber and Garrett of Indian Corn, which were an entertaining Sight. In returning to Mr. *Cushings* I called at Mr. *Overlocks*, and at Deacon *Fosters*. How calm and still these Regions are, compared with the tumultuous Seats of War! The Lake *Champlain* and Environs; *New York* etc.

1776 October 25 (Friday). I took leave of my Children and *Sophy* accompanys me as far as *Lancaster*; we had a comfortable Time of it. But N.B. We called at Mrs. *Winchesters* who was very ill and full of Pain by *Rheumatism* -- of her I borrowed Dr. *John Morse's Serm.* Vol. 1. On the Road overtake One *Morse* and his sister in Law, from Otter-Creek: he relates the same bad News. We called also at Mr. *Paysons* where we dined, at Mr. *Gardners*, where we were agreeably entertained. Reach *Lancaster* at Evening. *Sophy* went to the Widow *Wilders*. I repaired to Mr. *Harringtons* where was Mr. *Quincy*, who was waiting for my Coming. We Supped and Spent the Evening together with mutual Delight and Profit, as I humbly hope; and I lodged there also.

1776 October 26 (Saturday). In the Morning went to Capt. *Greenleafs* (where Mr. *Quincy* lodges) and received a Volume of Sir *William Temple's* Works, which I have borrowed of Mr. *Quincy*, and promise to Send him that judicious *Writers Essays*. I thence went to Mrs. *Wilders*, who regaled me sumptuously. Made an early Dinner on *Salmon* etc. Left *Sophy* there with the young Ladies. N.B. wrote from thence to Mr. *Goss* of the next Ministers Meeting to be at his House -- and came to Mr. *Barny Bailys* -- Mr. *Jotham Maynards* and delivered him the 40/ L.M. which I had of Capt. *Maynard* and made a memorandum of it on the Brim of my Hat. Called at Mr. *Whitneys* in my hasting home. Here arrived in Safety and Joy, finding my Family all well, as God had upheld me through the Journey, and no Evil has befall'n me; but have been favoured with moderate Weather, though so late in the Year -- for all which Goodness and Kindness of a gracious God I desire to praise His Name, and would look upon my Self as under peculiar Obligations to glorifie Him, as I have engaged, by His Grace to do. N.B. My Grandsons *Ebenezer* and *Elias*, the wife also of the former, from *Brookfield*, were here last Tuesday, and went from here this Morning.

1776 October 27 (Sunday). As I could not prepare any new Sermons, I preached a.m. the Remainder of the Discourse on *Gal. 1.15.16*, Suited to the Solemnity of the Lords Supper, which I administered and may God graciously accept! A Considerable Number of *Grafton* people were with us. Capt. *Brooks* and his Wife dined with us: as did Master *Joseph Hall* (Son of Rev. Mr. *Hall of Sutton*) who is come to keep our school; Mrs. *Maynard* and Miss *Katy [How?]* of *Marlborough* and Miss *Suse Brigham*.

P.M. I preached on 1 *Sam. 4.13* as most accommodated to these unhappy Times. N.B. We have a Rumour, that *Every other man of the militia* must now be sent for to go to *Ticonderoga*.

1776 October 28 (Monday). I visited old Mr. *Eleazer Pratt* again, and prayed with him. Also old Mr. *Nurse*. Was at Mr. *Childs* and Mr. *Reuben Maynards*. Dined at Capt. *Brooks's* (though unexpectedly) with Mr. *Grosvenor*. N.B. A Sick Lad of Capt. *Kimballs* his Name *Elijah*; his Age 7, his Disease a Consumption. We prayed together. I went to Capt. *Witherbys* about two young Creatures that are yet left at *Ashburnham*. Was at Mr. *Nathan Banisters* -- at Dr. *Crosbys*, at Mr. *Joseph Knowltons*, and at Mr. *Gershom Brighams*. Neither were all these all the places I went to this short day.

1776 October 29 (Tuesday). *Simon Crosby*, going to *Cambridge* calls for Linnen and Letter to *Elias*. Mr. *Grosvenor*, his spouse and Sister *Chloe*, also his Brothers son *Ebenezer* and Daughter *Lucy*, dined here, on their Journey to *Scituate*. I mentioned to him my hearty Willingness (with my people's Consent) to afford him help in preaching a Day for him, Deo Juvte.

1776 October 30 (Wednesday). *Breck* goes to Boston -- but by the Way of Concord and Cambridge. I sent by him to Dr. *Langdon* "the Master Key to Popery": and a Letter to Mr. *Moore* to the Care of Col. *White*, Representative for Rochester. Write to Col. *Baldwin* at *Ticonderoga*.

1776 October 31 (Thursday). Was chiefly taken up with the writings of the Elegant Sir William Temple. Thus ends this month -- *Fugit Hora sine [mora?]*!

1776 November 1 (Friday). Mr. *Noah Hardy* and his Wife came in, having been to *Gloucester*; visited their Uncle and New Aunt, *Forbes*. At Eve *Breck* returned from *Boston* and *Cambridge*. Says *Elias* is not well -- is returning home. Left him at *Framingham*, where he lodges to night.

1776 November 2 (Saturday). Sent *James Hicks* with an Horse to meet him. He arrived about noon. P.M. *Sophy* came from *Lancaster*. The Death of Rev. *Emmerson* of *Concord*, at *Otter Creek*, confirmed and very much lamented. Help Lord the Godly man ceaseth! Master *Timothy Harrington* was So respectful as to accompany her; and went back. Master *Stone* of *Shrewsbury* and *Crosby*, from College, here also.

1776 November 3 (Sunday). Preached again on 1 *Sam.* 4, now on v. 22, a. and p.m. *Grafton* again destitute: many of the people here. I could not but Pity their Case; and proposed to the Church and Congregation that I would (if it might be with their Concurrence and Consent) go next Lords Day, God willing, and preach there. No Objection was made. A Letter from my son *Baldwin* at *Ticonderoga*, dated Oct. 13.

1776 November 4 (Monday). Visit old Mrs. *Whitney* who is sick. Prayed with her and dined there. P.M. visit old Mr. *Eleazer Pratt*, who was past Speaking. He seems to be dying. I prayed with them.

1776 November 5 (Tuesday). Wrote to my Son *Baldwin*. Hear that Mr. *Pratt* dyed last Evening. I rode to Mr. *Childs* to marry *Samuel Whitney* and *Lavinia Biglow*; and I dined with them. Another Letter from Col. *Baldwin*, dated Oct. 17, containing further sad Accounts of the Defeat at the Lake.

1776 November 6 (Wednesday). Attended the Funeral of old Mr. *Pratt*. *Squire Baker* raises a large Building for a Tan-House. I, by request, went, but did not tarry to their Supper. *William Bowes Bradford* of *Leicester* came -- lodges here.

1776 November 7 (Thursday). *James Hicks* goes to *Cambridge*. *Billy Bradford* returns to *Leicester*. *Elias* goes with my Team to Mr. *Jonathan Childs* and brings 4 Barrells of Cyder. 3 from him at 7/ per Barrell. One from Mr. *Thomas Whitney* is given. Mr. *Grosvenor*, his Wife and sister called here, as they return to *Grafton*. N.B. Mr. *Daniel Forbes* junior brought me a Letter from his uncle at *Gloucester*, giving Me Account of his Marriage; and of 10 French Gentlemen with their servants there.

1776 November 8 (Friday). Early in the Morning *Elias* left us to go to *Cambridge*, but he goes by the way of *Concord*. Gave him two Dollars. This Day 52 years agoe, the Church in *Westborough* was gathered and I was (though unworthy) ordained a Minister of the Gospel, and Pastor of this Flock. I admire and adore the Condescending Goodness of God in it; in preserving My Life, Reason, Health, and continuing me in this Office; and desire deeply to humble my self for my

many Deficiencies and Miscarriages; implore Remission through the Blood of the great Atonement, and beg ardently the supplys of the Spirit of God and that I may be quickened, assisted and strengthened by almighty Grace; be made faithful and Successful, till I Shall be received, with those committed to me, to Gods heavenly and eternal Kingdom!

1776 November 9 (Saturday). I rode to *Grafton* p.m. to preach for Mr. *Grosvenor*. *Hastings*, as I was informed afterwards, *Elias's* Chambermate, came to *Westborough* and lodged here. He is going to a Sick Brother at *Ticonderoga*. *James Hicks* returned from Cambridge.

1776 November 10 (Sunday). I preached at *Grafton* on *Judg.* II.10.11.12 a. and p.m. My own People were destitute. May the Lord teach us to profit! The Lord remember His servant *Grosvenor* under his Affliction, and open his Mouth again, a Door of *Utterance* to preach the Word of God and that his Tongue may Shew forth His high Praises! At Eve visited the widow *Prentice* and Mr. *Grosvenor* with me. I lodged again there at Mr. G.'s.

1776 November 11 (Monday). In returning home I called at Mr. *Grouts* to see his son. At his request I prayed with him. I also visited at Capt. *Jonathan Fays*. I went likewise to see old Mrs. *Whitney* and prayed with her. When I got home received a Letter from *Elias* who Seems to desire to go to the Hospital to be inoculated. I wrote an Answer permitting him -- but know not how to send it. N.B. *Caleb Blood*, a young Baptist preacher came in -- and dined here. At Eve came *Jesse Cutter* from *Brookfield*: tells me my Daughter *Baldwin* is very poorly. She has Sent me a Number of her Husbands Journals.

1776 November 12 (Tuesday). *Cutter* goes to *Concord*, to wait upon *Betsey* home. Mr. *Cornelius Waters* came and lodged here. Mrs. *Spring* at Eve, come from New York.

1776 November 13 (Wednesday). Mr. *Waters* undertakes, at my request, to preach the Lecture, in my Stead, at *Grafton*; and leaves us. At Eve came my Daughter *Sally Parkman* and with her came *Cutter* and my grand-daughter *Betsey Baldwin* and they lodge here. N.B. Deacon *Wood* here at Eve, and Speaks of a Number of young Gentlemen from Boston who come up here for the Sake of hunting -- Squirrells etc. Mrs. *Wight* and two Daughters of Rev. *Stephen White* of *Windham* dined here. Mrs. *Fessenden* and Mrs. *Davis* here p.m.

1776 November 14 (Thursday). *Cutter* and *Betsey* left us. N.B. I returned Col. *Baldwins* Journals by them. Mr. *Bradshaw* returning home from Boston, calls here. Informs me that our Kinsman Mr. *Thomas Bailey* has had a Vendue to sell my Brother *Williams* Goods etc. I walked to Mr. *Ebenezer* and *Samuel Forbushs*. N.B. I have received a Letter from Mrs. *Eunice Cook* of *Douglass* requesting a Contribution from this Town. P.M. The infamous *Thomas Cook* came boldly to See me. I gave him what Admonition, Caution and Charge I could. My Wife very much indisposed from Day to Day. Sick at her stomach -- sometimes Vomits -- took Physic.

1776 November 15 (Friday). Mrs. *Parkman* not able to go to *Concord*, though *Sally* came up on purpose (with *Chaise*) to wait on her. *Sally* returns to *Concord*, and *Hannah* with her.

Memorandum gave *Hannah* two Dollars. And paid to *Breck*, for Mr. *Jonathan Child*, in full, for Cyder and Apples, £1.7.4 L.M. At Eve Master *Hall* came, Spent the Eve and lodged, here.

1776 November 16 (Saturday). Master goes to his School (that by Mr. *Jonathan Grouts*). P.M. Mr. *Francis Whipples* wife came in a Chaise with her Sister *Caruth*, who came from Brookfield to visit her parents, and brought her Child. They drank Tea here.

1776 November 17 (Sunday). I preached a. and p.m. on *Deut.* 10.12.13. A Number of *Upton people* here, Mr. Fish being gone to preach at *Medway* 2d Parish, the Minister whereof is a Chaplain in the Army. Miss Abigail Fish here after Meeting. N.B. Master *Hall* was at Dinner here. N.B. *Breck* was published. Dr. *Hawes* came in to See Mrs. *Parkman*, who is very Stomach sick. She takes a Vomit, which worked 3 times.

1776 November 18 (Monday). *Town Meeting* p.m. The Addition which the Town votes makes my Sallery £500 O.T. for this Year; but no Vote for Wood. Mr. David Maynard here. Paid him for his Daughter Ann's weaving [Chask?] etc. in O.T. £2.17.6.

1776 November 19 (Tuesday). Mr. *Samuel Forbush* plows at my Island p.m. Read Bishop *Moore's* Sermon on the Wisdom and Goodness of Providence on Prov. 3.6. A very good and seasonable Discourse. May I obtain and exercise that very Spirit and Disposition at this time, which is therein recommended! P.M. Mrs. *Spring* and Child -- they lodge here.

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

1776 November 21 (Thursday). My two young Creatures which have been Summered at my son *Cushings*, and brought down by Capt. *Witherby*, arrive safe. Mrs. *Spring* and her Daughter still with us.

1776 November 22 (Friday). I am informed that divers of our Militia Men have returned from the Army. The Roads filled with Soldiers returning.

1776 November 23 (Saturday). Early this Morn Mr. *Jos. Keens* (who is returned from the Army) Summons Mrs. *Parkman* and Mrs. *Spring*, to go to his Wife's Labour. They went a litte before 4 o'Clock; about 5 her Child, a Daughter, was born, and in the morning Still, they came home with Gladness. Mr. *Artemas Howe* and his Wife (my Grand Daughter *Elizabeth*) called here and dined with us, in their way home, at *Dudley*.

1776 November 24 (Sunday). Preached on *Duet.* 10.12 a.m. We are short on't for Wood that Mrs. P _____ had no fire built in the Kitchin at Noon. P.M. The Times and my Circumstances required me to repeat Sermon on *Isa.* 1.9 to page 6. May it be sanctified to us; and O that we might be of the Small Remnant!

1776 November 25 (Monday). We are in some Consternation for at the Return of Numbers of the last Recruits, which went to *N. York*, we are informed that *Fort Washington* is taken by the Kings Forces. Read in Bishop *Moore's* Sermons -- and looked over Magazines etc.

1776 November 26 (Tuesday). The Account of Fort Washington is confirmed. Thus, again God Sees meet to frown upon us. May we be prepared for what He will do next! N.B. a Message from Mr. *Fitch* to preach his Lecture on the 28th. P.M. I was much indisposed. Was much pained at my Stomach -- loaded and Oppressed. My Bowells were affected. At Eve I was ill, but it worked off. Read Bishop *Moore's* Sermons.

1776 November 27 (Wednesday). I am (through the Goodness of God) better: but Mrs. P_____ no better.

1776 November 28 (Thursday). Town Meeting to see whether the Town consents to the General Courts forming a Body of Laws for this State: Whether the Town will send another Representative along with Capt. Maynard and To draw out every fourth Man of the Militia to go into the Army at New York. N.B. *Breck* is one. I went to *Hopkinton* Lecture. I preached on Rev. 14.6.7, which may a divine Influence accompany, to my own soul and the Auditors! I returned at Evening. Capt. *Morse* gives me but a dark Account of the State of our Army *New Yorkward*. May God help us, under our discouraging prospects!

1776 November 29 (Friday). Had some Conversation with Ensign Bowman about the late proceedings of the Town. N.B. *Breck* pays the Fine, 10£ Lawful Money, instead of going to the Army at, or near *New York*.

1776 November 30 (Saturday). [No entry.]

1776 December 1 (Sunday). Preached again on Isa. 1.9, accommodated to the present times. Capt. *Morse* and a Number more give Thanks for safe Return from the Army. Dr. Crosby and Master Hall, Miss *Suse Brigham* dined here. P.M. preached on Deut. 11.26.27. May God give His Blessing!

1776 December 2 (Monday). *Breck* goes to *Concord, Salem, Boston*. P.M. The Town Met by adjournment. By Advice I sent them a Paper requesting the Town to get *my Wood*. *But there was no Vote for it*. At Eve came Mr. *Buckminster* of *Rutland*, and lodged here. Tells me tis reported *Ticonderoga* is taken.

1776 December 3 (Tuesday). Mr. *Buckminster* leaves us, for Framingham and Boston. Old Mrs. *Mary Whitney* dyed this Morning. Mr. *Paul Lambson* prepares and puts up a new Sweep for the lower Well. Mr. *Daniel Warrin* junior dines here and fetches a Load of Wood. P.M. attended the Funeral of Mr. *Joseph Grouts* little Daughter *Dolly*, of between 4 and 5 Years. In returning I visited and prayed with Mr. *Rufus Pratt* and *James Fay*, son of Capt. *Benjamin*, who are sick.

1776 December 4 (Wednesday). Though I prepared for *Shrewsbury* Lecture and went as far as to Mr. *Nurse's*, yet it was so rainy that I conceived it to be my Duty to return home. Mr. Thaddeus Warrin came and helped me weigh, cutt out and Salt up my Beef.

1776 December 5 (Thursday). Mrs. Spring and her son are here with us. She [spins?] etc. I attended the Funeral of old Mrs. *Mary Whitney* in her 77th year. There is reason to hope she dy'd in Christ. Glory to the Riches of divine Grace! Mr. *Jonathan Forbes* came at Evening and took up his Note of 3£.

1776 December 6 (Friday). Mr. *Jeremiah Barnard* of *Bolton*, going to *Providence* to preach, calls here.

1776 December 7 (Saturday). I have had but a poor night, with pain in my Stomach and Bowels. *Elias* came home from *Cambridge*. He has been *inoculated* at the Hospital, at *Sewels Point*, under the Care of Dr. *Aspinwall*. The Charge for Every Thing is 12 Dollars. *Breck* returns from *Salem Vendue*: and *Hannah* returned from *Concord* with him.

1776 December 8 (Sunday). I had but an ill night -- better in the Morning. A.M. on *Deut.* XI.28 to p. 12. Mr. Hall and Miss *Suse Brigham* dined here. My Neighbour *Caleb Harrington* returned home from *Ticonderoga*. P.M. on Consideration of Mrs. *Whitneys* Death I delivered part of a Discourse on *Luk.* 12.36.37, omitting all the Introduction. N.B. It was with great precipitance, by reason of an *Alarm* which the Captains of the Militia, Capt. Edmund Brigham and Capt. Morse had received from the Governor of *Rhode Island* -- and which they requested before Singing might be immediately read, and was accordingly. This caused a great Body of the Congregation to pour out of the Meeting House, to go home, and get ready, to beat a Minutes Warning; the sign to be the firing of three Guns: and then to march towards *Providence*, according to Orders from the Brigadier. [Not clear where this is to be inserted:] Received and read the Proclamation. *Suse Brigham* lodges here. N.B. Nat. Chamberlin is come home.

1776 December 9 (Monday). My Neighbour *Harrington* returned me 10 Dollars which I lent him on Aug. 6th last. The Soldiers meet, but don't March. No Orders come.

1776 December 10 (Tuesday). Mr. Francis Whipple brought me very kindly a Load of his own Wood. This was a very providential Supply, as we were prevented going to the Ministerial Lot for any ourselves by means of the Lameness of one of my Oxen. Dr. *Crosby* goes to *Cambridge* for his son. I sent by him *Twelve Dollars* to young *Prince* at College which *Elias* borrowed of him to pay the Charges of his Inoculation, and 2 Dollars for *Hastings* for a Load of Wood. N.B. Sent my Son *Cushing* Dr. *Prideaux* [Connection?] Vol. 1 by Mr. [here a line cut off at bottom of page].

1776 December 11 (Wednesday). *Elias's* Eyes so weak, he says, he cannot study. Dr. *Crosby* and son. Mrs. *Rice*, Mr. *Zebuluns* Wife, from *Brookfield* dines, and Spends the afternoon here. The soldiers not gone to *Providence* yet. Mrs. P _____ remains indisposed. I am also Oppressed with Cold.

1776 December 12 (Thursday). *Thanksgiving*, accompanied with *Humiliation* and *Supplication*. Preached on Ps. 97.1, "The Lord reigneth, let the Earth rejoice." Which may God bless to me and the whole Audience! 3 Soldiers give Thanks for safe Return, viz. Lt. Bond, Hannaniah Parker and Daniel Hardy. Sir *Stone* (who keeps school at the South school-House) dined with us. At Eve came *Nathaniel Needham*, and afterward his Father, Mr. *Thomas Needham*, from *Ticonderoga*, my Kinsmen. They tarry with us to night.

1776 December 13 (Friday). The *Needhams* go on their way, bound for *Salem*. Mr. *John Taft* of *Upton* dines here. Informs me that *Newport* is taken by the Regulars. May God Himself be our Refuge and Deliverer!

1776 December 14 (Saturday). Lieut. *Bowman* came to desire for himself and 23 Others, Soldiers, who were going out to join the Army nigh *New York*, public Prayers for them, and would be glad if I would direct a word of Advice to them. To which I consented -- and at Evening he gave me an Account of their Names. Mrs. P _____ poorly. I am my self affected with pain in my stomach.

1776 December 15 (Sunday). Preached again on 1 *Cor.* 5.8. May God grant I may be in all Things Sincere! Administered the Lords Supper. Master *Stone*, Cousen *Maynard* and Miss *Suse Brigham*, dined here. P.M. on *Luk.* 12.36.37 and added an Address to the Soldiers. Read a Letter from Dr. *Crosby* desiring the People to prepare Rags and [Herbs?] for the Soldiers. After the Exercises came [*illegible*] Mr. *Moses Twitchel*, who is returning home from Fort William Henry. Deacon Bond came and brought (which has been for a great while omitted) a Tankard of Wine.

1776 December 16 (Monday). The 24 [23 only] *Soldiers March*. I sent by Mr. *Jonathan Batherick* the Money which I owe to Mr. *Frost* of Mill-River, viz. £2.15.0 L.M. *Breck* sett's out for *Boston*. Mrs. P _____ takes Physic. Pill. [*Cocha?*] which works well -- and p.m. She is more comfortable. I walked to Mr. Bonds, in strait for Ox work, my own Ox that was lent, is lame yet, and we cannot get any Wood -- but in vain. Am seeking for Some body to thrash, but don't Succeed much, unless Neighbour Samuel Williams will come. N.B. Neighbour Nurse has been gone with his Team ever since last Monday, and is not returned. A stir in Town about *John Whipple* who though drawn out to go among the Soldiers, will neither go nor pay his Fine.

1776 December 17 (Tuesday). Went to visit Mr. *Solomon Baker*, confined by a sore bred in his Face: was discharged plentifully. Dined there. In reckoning with him for keeping my late fat Cow 18 Days, Corn and Hay and tendence -- but he gave it, and would ask me Nothing. May God reward him, in both temporals and Spirituals. I went to his Brother *Josephs*, who has in kindness sent *Samuel Williams* with 2 Yokes of Oxen to the Ministerial Lot, and brought me a good Load of Wood. Visit Mrs. *McCulloch*, and Mrs. *Keen*. Also Mrs. *Wood*, who is much recovered. N.B. I saw there Mr. *Samuel Fay* junior of *Killingly*. Hear *John Whipple* has paid his Fine. *James Hicks* has cut his Ankle with an Ax when he was at the ministerial Lot with Williams.

1776 December 18 (Wednesday). Neighbour Nurse came home (this ninth Day, and with 4 Horses). He was not very well. The Charge must needs be, in these times, very great. Mrs. P_____ scarce any thing better. Mrs. *Dolly Rice* visits here. Mr. *Ebenezer Chamberlain* brought me a large Load of wood from his own Land. Read part of Venerable *Hookers* Doubting Christian drawn to Christ.

1776 December 19 (Thursday). Neighbour *Thaddeus Warrin* and his son in Law, *Nat. Chamberlain*, killed two Pigs for me. Neighbour *Caleb Harrington* carries to market for Mrs. P_____ 6 Fowls.

1776 December 20 (Friday). *James* is worse -- his ankle -- has taken Cold. *Elias* is forced to do the unavoidable Chores, cut wood [*illegible*] prepare for going to Mill etc.

1776 December 21 (Saturday). *James* is laid up, confined by his [*illegible*] *Elias* is obliged to bestir himself for us; for Wood, etc. and for [*illegible*] likewise for Mrs. *Harrington*, whose Husband is gone to *Waltham*. To God our Preserver be Glory and Praise that we are in such safety [and have?] so many Supplys and Comforts! May it please God to pity the Poor and Destitute! Especially *poor Sailors* who are now upon our Coasts. A great storm of Snow. At Night *Breck* returns from *Boston*. The Storm very tedious to him. He brings a Token of Mr. William B. Townsends Regards to me; An handsom *Muff*, in its Case. He says it was his Father Hubbards -- My late worthy Class-mate's. May God reward him for his generous Benefaction! And give me Grace suitably to improve this and every Favour to me!

1776 December 22 (Sunday). Difficult Congregating. Preached a.m. on *Sincerity*; carrying on the Subject from 1 *Cor.* [5?].8, but now read for the Introduction of this Exercise, *Josh.* 24.14. P.M. read *Jer.* 5.6, latter part. But from thence finished sermon on 1 *Sam.* 4.21.22. May God grant Success! Masters *Hall* and *Stone* dined here!

1776 December 23 (Monday). Mr. *Fisher* (Adjutant) here and relates the actions at *N. York* on the Sabbath and Monday of Oct. [*blank*].

1776 December 24 (Tuesday). I rode out partly to obtain somebody to thrash my Rye, partly to get wood; and to visit. Was at Deacon Woods a.m. Dined at Mr. Jos. Harringtons. Visit old Mrs. *Woods* at Mr. *Elisha Forbes's*. Was at Mr. Eb. Millers, and his Brother Isaac's. At Mr. Tainters. Visit old Mr. *Jonah Warrin*. In the Evening called also at Capt. *Morse's*. At Home a Letter from *Rochester*.

1776 December 25 (Wednesday). Exceedingly Cold morning. Write to Mr. *Quincy*, but can't send. Miss *Eliz. Harrington*, Daughter of Lt. Samuel, here to be examined, and gave satisfaction. At night Mr. *George Smith* of Northborough Supped, but did not lodge etc.

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

Compassion and brought a Load from home to me; and a large, good Cheese. Read him part of Mr. *Moore's* late Letter of Troubles at *Eliz. Islands*, and *Rhode Island* on the 7th etc. by the Kings Forces.

1776 December 27 (Friday). *Nehemiah Maynard* goes again with a Yoke of Oxen to Ministerial Lot [to help *Elias* again?], who goes with my Oxen, and brings [a?] Load. We have the Sorrowful News that on the 13 instant the famous *General Lee* is taken Prisoner at *Baskenridge* in *New Jersey*. A very affecting Providence!

1776 December 28 (Saturday). Mr. *Israel Walker* and his wife dined here. Miss *Nabby Woods* came on the 25 and has worked here, on *Brecks Cloths*, but goes home to Mr. [*illegible*]ters at Evening. Mr. *Belknap* here and asks me to marry him next Thursday (AETs 72 and 8 months) to the widow *Kendal*, who is in her fifty [*blank*] Year. Mr. *Lambson* repairs the Sleigh.

1776 December 29 (Sunday). A.M. on 1 Joh. 3.21. In further prosecution of the Subject of *Sincerity*. P.M. Repeated my Exposition of Mat. 16.27. Which may God be pleased to bless! In Special as both the Exercises may furnish us with Suitable Meditations and Employments for the last Sabbath of the Year. Miss *Suse Brigham* dined here.

1776 December 30 (Monday). Mrs. P_____ very much indisposed through the Night, which was very frosty: She got up many times; and is in a very ill state of Health. *Breck* sett off Some time before Day, in the Sleigh, for *Boston*. A Sharp Cold Season. I wrote by him to Mr. *William B. Townsend*.

Miss *Nabby Woods* came last Evening and is at work here upon *Brecks Cloths*. Her Brother *Abel* (who was sorely wounded etc.) returning from petitioning the Court, for a proper Consideration of his Condition was here. He relates that a Post went into *Boston* last Thursday who came with Intelligence that there has been a great Engagement of the Armies in the *Jersies*, and many Slain.

1776 December 31 (Tuesday). It is of the Lords Mercies that I am not consumed! Such is the Longsuffering of God that I have arrived at the Last Day of another Year. Jej. and Prec. In which [would] beg divine Grace to humble my self for my many Miscarriages, and great Deficiencies, through the Course of My whole Life; especially of the Year past. And do humbly solicit and supplicate Forgiveness, through the Blood of the great Atonement. I would take this Opportunity for *Humiliation* on the Account of the Present sorrowful State of the Publick -- the Sore and heavy Judgments of God upon us; and the awful Defection of the Land in general; the Decay of Godliness and the Increase of Sin and Iniquity -- which call for fervent Crys to Heaven and Resolutions of Reformation. May God most gracious and Merciful hear, and pity and Save us! O that my poor attempts might be graciously accepted through the only and glorious Mediator! I understand that Mr. *Caleb Rice* of *Marlborough* is dead; and to be buried to day. May God be gracious to the bereaved Widow, the fatherless Children; the mournful Parents and Friends! Mr. *Benjamin Bradshaw* came, drank Tea (I not with them) and left us for *Boston*.