

Diary of Ebenezer Parkman, 1719-1728

Cambridge, August 24, 1719. Blessed be the name of the Lord that I am Continued unto this very Day. Nevertheless all my Backslidings from his Testimonies are commissions of So many great and heinous Sins as I have been guilty of. The Mercy of God is Still lengthened out unto me and I receive the favours of life and Health and as I hope enjoy the day of Grace and Opportunity of getting good for My Immortall Soul; which must be first and Chiefly by Faith and Repentance. In order to which I do profess the Faith and Belief contained in the Nicene In the Apostolick Creed. ...And according to the direction of the Sacred Word of God, and particularly According to the Direction of Mr. Robert Russell¹ have long purposed to make a Collection of First The Great Mercys That the Mighty JEHOVAH has favoured me with. And First, In That He, at My Birth (In the Year of Christ, 1703, September the fifth on Sabbath day Morning, between Six and Seven of the Clock) Caused me to See light; and that it was not Among Pagans, nor Mahometans, nor Jews, but among Christians; and that In (Boston) a place where the Grace of God, bringing Salvation, hath Appeared; and of Religious Parents also, by whom I was well Educated; being first Sent to the reading, and in the Year 1711, to Writing, to Mr. John Cole and having continued there almost two Year (which was till the founding A Grammar free School at the North end and near My Fathers dwelling) I went to Mr. Recompence Wadsworth,² to learn Lattin. This was on the twentieth of April in the Year 1713, and Mr. Wadsworth dying, Mr. John Barnard³ (Afterwards an ordained Minister of the Church of Christ at Andover) was Settled in his place. And October in the Year 1714 I was visited with a Low fit of Sickness beginning with a fever and attended with the Meazells, and after that with great weakness and Infirmities as also great pain, which Set me upon thinking upon what would be the Estate, the Condition of My Soul after my Dissolution, which was apprehended by all to be Nigh, often in My Mind repeating the Psalmists words Blessed is he whose Transgression is forgiven whose Sin is Covered, Heartly wishing and praying that My many and great Iniquities might be all so pardoned and washed away in the Blood of the Lamb of God that taketh away the Sin of the World, promising allso that if God would in his great Mercy Spare my Life I would Spend it more to the Glory and praise of his great Name through his grace assisting me; and God was pleas'd to look upon my Affliction and my Pain and to remember me in my Low Estate, and the Lord Raised me from my Bed of long Sickness and Languishing renewing allso my Strength So that in the Latter end of December I went to School again and continued So doing till by the Often persuasions of the Reverend Mr. John Webb⁴ and My Brother William⁵ My Father Sent Me to Harvard College Cambridge where I was admitted on August 22, 1717, and had Pain,⁶ Davis,⁷

¹The English divine, of Wadhurst, Sussex.

²(Harvard 1708). Clifford K. Shipton, *Biographical Sketches of Those Who Attended Harvard College*, V (Boston, 1937), 461-463. Subsequent reference: *Sibley*, V, 461-463.

³(Harvard 1709). The minister at Andover, 1718-1757. *Sibley*, V, 475-479.

⁴(Harvard 1708). The minister of the New North Church of Boston, 1714-1750. *Sibley*, V, 463-471.

⁵Ebenezer Parkman's eldest brother.

⁶Stephen Paine (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 510-511.

⁷Simon Davis (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 469.

Champney⁸ for my Chamber fellows for the first year; removing the Second I had Jenison,⁹ Pierpont¹⁰ and Wyman¹¹ (for my chamber fellows) In both which Years I had Mr. Hezekiah Gold¹² for my Particular friend for whose instructions advice and inculcations both in Temporalls and in Spiritualls, I Shall have occasion of praising God Throughout Eternity. On April 19 I had Some Strivings and Motions of the holy Spirit to turn and live, and on December 27 allso but they Soon vanished as the Morning Cloud and as the early Dew. The Blessing of My Mother, the Advice of my Brother William, and the instructions of Mr. Webb, are I hope not quite (though I fear almost) fruitless. That I had the Reverend Mr. John Leveret¹³ for my President and Mr. Thomas Robie¹⁴ for my Tutor is no Small blessing. Through the deceitfullness of my heart I Neglected this work (the Collection of Mercys) to my great Shame and Sorrow till February 19, 1719/20. When again I was awakened out of my Sleepy Security of Sin, I was roused out of my Sloth, and the awakenings of my Conscience, which had for a long time been Quiet, giving me but now and then a touch and a Small hint that I remained in my unconverted State, began afresh upon me, the Divil and my own wicked and abominably Sinfull and polluted heart persuading me that there was no hopes of Salvation lest That the Door of Mercy was Shut and the Day of Grace over -- and that No man had Ba[c]kslidden or apostatized as I had done; till Barrett put me in Mind of one passage in Scripture Jer. 3.6.14.22 together with the following Hosea 14.4. I was little encouraged, utterly ashamed of my self and hating my self I resolved I would return, and that I would once more Seek to God by Prayer. This I did, but soon grew Lookewarm Neither cold nor hot wherefore I might justly have been Spew'd out And Yet, through the Abundant, the Infinite grace and unparallel'd Mercy of the Eternal JEHOVAH I have such privileges Yet, the Lord knows how long they may be continued for there Never was any in the world So unworthy as I am

DIURNA: or An Account of the Remarkable Transactions of Every Day: No. 7. Being a Continuation of a Design form'd in the Year 1719/20, February 19th. August 1723

1723 August 1 (Thursday). I got to Cambridge by noon, return'd my Horse, paid 1/2 a Crown to Mrs. Fessenden.¹⁵ Mr. Bridgewater¹⁶ was at College. I went to Boston about 5 p.m. Met at

⁸Joseph Champney (Harvard 1721) was Parkman's future brother-in-law. *Sibley*, VI, 437-438.

⁹Samuel Jennison (Harvard 1720). *Sibley*, VI, 389-390.

¹⁰Thomas Pierpont (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 547-549.

¹¹John Wyman (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 591.

¹²(Harvard 1719). Later the minister at Stratford, Conn. *Sibley*, VI, 311-314.

¹³(Harvard 1680). John L. Sibley, *Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University*, III (Cambridge, 1885), 180-198. Subsequent reference: *Sibley*, III, 180-198.

¹⁴(Harvard 1708). *Sibley*, V, 450-455.

¹⁵Sarah Fessenden, who was licensed to sell intoxicating liquors at retail. Lucius R. Paige, *History of Cambridge* (Boston, 1877), p. 22

¹⁶Probably Edward Bridgewater (Harvard 1718) who was in Cambridge in August, 1723. *Sibley*, VI, 231-232.

Barrett's.¹⁷ Green¹⁸ was absent. Barrett pray'd first. I read part of a Discourse from 1 Sam. 16.7, and concluded. I lodg'd at my Fathers.

1723 August 2 (Friday). I bid farewell at home in the Morning, and walked up to Cambridge in my Boots and Spurs in order to go to Worcester. Mr. Sturgeon¹⁹ of Waterton (a Scotch minister) his Case pleaded to Day at the Cambridge Sessions. I din'd at Mrs. Bordman's.²⁰ Just after Dinner in the College Yard I met with Young Mr. Thomas Rice²¹ from Worcester to accompany me up there. I prepar'd and rode away to Mr. Champney's,²² where with sitting, etc., we tarried till near 4 o'Clock before we Set out. We reach'd to Lieutenant Jones's²³ at Weston (where I lodg'd) just before Dark.

1723 August 3 (Saturday). In the Morning about 8 (having been Kindly entertain'd) I again Set out for Mr. Jenison's²⁴ where I had appointed to Meet Mr. Rice, From thence I had more Company, viz. Mr. Golding²⁵ (brother to Mrs. Jenison).²⁶ We set out about 10. We stop'd at Sundry Taverns (which particularly I do not remember) before we got to Mr. Bricks²⁷ of Marlborough; here I was well received though I never was in the least acquainted with the Gentleman til now. N.B. we arriv'd here by 1/4 after one and Set out between 3 and 4, having stop'd Twice or Thrice more, jolted and tired, I entered Lieutenant Lee's²⁸ house at Worcester where I was Kindly received by Deacon Haywood,²⁹ etc. With Pains in my Head and a Sore Throat I went to Bed.

1723 August 4 (Sunday). In the Morning I was much Better, but my Sore Throat continued. I preach'd all Day on 1 Sam. 16.7. I din'd at Deacon Haywoods. I was obliged to retire to finish my Sermon at Noon Time. Sundry Persons (as Mr. Flagg,³⁰ etc.) came in to see me in the Evening.

¹⁷Samuel Barrett (1700-1772), son of Deacon Samuel Barrett of Boston. A classmate and lifelong friend of Ebenezer Parkman. First minister of Hopkinton. *Sibley*, VI, 428-432.

¹⁸Joseph Green (Harvard 1720) of Boston. Minister at Bamstable, 1725-1770. *Sibley*, VI, 385-387.

¹⁹Robert Sturgeon, minister of an independent Congregational Church, Watertown, Mass., 1721-1722.

²⁰Probably Mary Bordman, who was licensed to sell liquors.

²¹Thomas Rice (1701/2-1785).

²²Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's future father-in-law.

²³Lieutenant Josiah Jones, one of the founders of the town of Weston.

²⁴William Jennison (1676-1744) of Sudbury. Later he moved to Worcester and became Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

²⁵Either Windsor Golding (b. 1675) or Thomas Golding (b. 1678).

²⁶Elizabeth (Golding) Jennison (1673-1756).

²⁷Reverend Robert Breck (1682-1731), (Harvard 1700). Minister at Marlborough, 1704-1731. *Sibley*, IV, 515-518.

²⁸Lieutenant Henry Lee.

²⁹Daniel Heywood (1695-1773). An early settler of Worcester, selectman for 20 years, and an officer in an early military company. William Lincoln, *History of Worcester* (Worcester, 1837), p. 42.

³⁰Either Benjamin Flagg (1662-1741) or his son Captain Benjamin Flagg (1690-1751).

1723 August 5 (Monday). Towards Night to my Great Joy and Reviving came Colonel Winthrop³¹ and Colonel Minot,³² and with them Mr. Adam Winthrop³³ of College.

1723 August 6 (Tuesday). Prayers and Breakfast Ended we took pleasant walks to See the Farms those Gentlemen had in the Town. While the Colonels and Lieutenant Lee were further Engaged about their Particular Country Managery, Mr. Winthrop, Mr. Flagg and I walk'd to a fine Brook and Fish'd. We Caught Salmon-Trouts, etc. These were very well taken; and we din'd richly on them, Colonel Minot himself dressing them. According to my own Assigination, there came the same young Mr. Rice that accompanied me up, with purpose this Afternoon to go over to Sutton to visit Mr. McKinstry.³⁴ Thus I was obliged to leave this good Company and take my Ride, and we made no other Stop than at Mr. Rice's Lodging, a little. We did not gain Mr. McKinstry's House till just Dark, though twas counted but 6 Miles. I found them in good Health, and I was well Entertained. Here I lodged very pleasantly, (considering, _____). [Word crossed out.]

1723 August 7 (Wednesday). It rain'd all this Day which prevented our Return home. Mr. McKinstry walked with me to his Meeting house, and to Lieutenant Kings³⁵ (a Sensible Man in the Neighborhood) and thus droll'd off the Time, without much Discourse on any head at all.

1723 August 8 (Thursday). There was a Raising of an House, a Suiting Diversion for Mr. Rice, while Mr. McKinstry, his wife and I took a Ride to Oxford to See Mr. Cambell.³⁶ This is Six Miles and 1/2. This was very diverting, and I found Mrs. Cambel³⁷ in pretty Good Humour. We had a good Contrivance in or going to a Water Melon house, for Mrs. Cambel must ride upon the Easiest-going horse which was Mr. McKinstry's, and So my old Friend must ride with me. This was a lucky Stroke to bring me an opportunity to discourse of Matters and things formerly in Requests. She was more Contented with her Irish Mate than I expected to find her. She said he was a good-natur'd Soul indeed, and She wanted Nothing on Earth but to be a little nearer her Friends. She Desir'd I would come and live at Worcester, etc. Mr. McKinstry, his Wife and I returned to Sutton just about Dark. N.B. We pray'd in the Family by Turns.

1723 August 9 (Friday). Returned to Worcester. We call'd to See Captain Jones³⁸ but he was not at home. Here I had the Information by a Dispensation of Providence in the Burning of the House of Captain Keys³⁹ of Shrewsbury with 3 of his Sons and Two workmen finishing the house

³¹Colonel Adam Winthrop (1676-1743), (Harvard 1694), Councillor of the Province. *Sibley*, IV, 209-214.

³²Colonel Stephen Minot (1662-1732). Justice and selectman of Boston.

³³Adam Winthrop (1706-1744), (Harvard 1724). Son of Colonel Winthrop. *Sibley*, VII, 446-447.

³⁴Reverend John McKinstry (1677-1754). First minister of Sutton, Mass. William A. Benedict and Hiram A. Tracy, *History of Sutton* (Worcester, 1878), pp. 691-693.

³⁵Lieutenant Jonathan King who had come to Sutton in 1717.

³⁶Reverend John Campbell (1691-1761), first minister of the First Congregational Church, Oxford, Mass., 1721-1761. George F. Daniels, *History of Oxford* (Oxford, 1892), pp. 49-52.

³⁷Esther Whittle, Wheatly, or Whately of Boston, who married the Reverend Mr. Campbell, Feb. 6, 1722. Daniels, *Oxford*, p.426.

³⁸Captain Nathaniel Jones.

³⁹Captain John Keyes (1675-1768). The three sons were Solomon, John and Stephen. The carpenter's

in it. It broke out about Midnight. I visited Mr. Gershom Rice⁴⁰ (the Man that first Invited me up) and Thence Strait home. Old Mr. Gray⁴¹ and Mr. Flagg were to see me. Lieutenant Lee being gone to Boston, It was very lonely During his Absence, for he was Sociable.

1723 August 10 (Saturday). In the Morning I revolved [?], in order to prepare for the approaching Sabbath. While we Din'd, Mr. Joseph Dana⁴² came in.

1723 August 11 (Sunday). I preached all Day. Din'd as before at Deacon Haywoods. As I returned home I had the Benefit of very Heavenly Conversation from old Mr. Gray. Mr. Flagg was with me all the Evening. We had News by a Post that rode through the Town to day that a Number of Indians were coming to Scout from Canada to those out Towns under the Command of one Captain Nathaniel.

1723 August 12 (Monday). Lieutenant Rice⁴³ call'd to See me to Day. I went over to Mr. Grays. At Night Sundry Men of the Town, viz. Lieutenant Rice and his Brother James, The Two Deacons, viz. Haywood and Mores,⁴⁴ Mr. Flagg and Mr. Joseph Dana together with my Landlord, Lieutenant Lee (just return'd from Boston) treated with me about Settling as their minister, etc. I fix'd Tomorrow to be the Day for my returning to Boston. It was very Late when they Left me.

1723 August 13 (Tuesday). I was very much disturbed through the Peoples not providing a Horse for me to ride down upon, according to agreement. To my Shame I am oblig'd to add that I loll'd off the Day in Indolence.

1723 August 14 (Wednesday). Mr. Lee was very much disturbed for the Same Reason; took his Horse and Rode away to know the Cause. He did not return till after Dinner. But he told me he had Secured my Journey, and about 3 o'Clock p.m. came Mr. James Rice with a very good horse, and we rode away about 4. He related many Particulars of the Story of Mr. Gardiner,⁴⁵ who had been dismissed from them -- his Innocence, etc. We reach'd Marlborough at the Close of the Day. We met with Mr. Breck in the Street. He asked me into his house and to Lodge with him, but that would obstruct our getting down Time enough for Lecture the next Day. We Thank'd him for his Expressions of Kindness, remounted and rode along for Sudbury. It was too late to gain the Town. We stop'd at David How's Tavern,⁴⁶ and having Eaten part of a Fryed Gosling for supper, prayed, etc., we repair'd to repose. N.B. This was the first Time that I ever Lodged in a Tavern on the Road.

apprentices were Abiel Bragg and William Oakes. See *The Boston News-Letter*, Aug. 15, 1723.

⁴⁰Gershom Rice (1666-1768), the second settler of Worcester, who arrived m 1715. Lincoln, *Worcester*, pp. 40-41.

⁴¹John Gray, an early proprietor.

⁴²Originally of Cambridge; later of Oxford and Worcester.

⁴³Gershom Rice, Jr. (1696-1781).

⁴⁴Nathaniel Moore, third settler of Worcester, from Sudbury.

⁴⁵Andrew Gardner (Harvard 1712), first minister of Worcester, 1719-1722. *Sibley*, V, 638-641.

⁴⁶The Wayside Inn of Longfellow fame, in Sudbury, built by David Howe in the early 18th century. Alfred S. Hudson, *History of Sudbury* (Sudbury, 1889), pp. 591-599.

1723 August 15 (Thursday). Very Early we prepared (viz. by Prayers, Eating, etc.), and Set out. Stop'd at Jenisons.⁴⁷ We call'd again at Willsons,⁴⁸ and next at Warham William's,⁴⁹ who had been Sick very lately. We din'd at Each's. Thence to Boston, But at Charleston Mr. Rice parted with me. I invited him home with me, but he had Business for an avocation. At home I found My Sister Elius⁵⁰ (as we Sometimes call her) with a Child that was born the Fourth of this Instant. We Miss'd of being at Lecture, but I walked up to Mr. Edwards's Shop to hear the News, and see my Friends. At Night our Society Met at Barretts, at which I first pray'd and Mr. Eliot⁵¹ Discoursed from James 1.5, and I Concluded. Thence I went to my Father's where I Lodged.

1723 August 16 (Friday). Mr. Barrett and Mr. Rice (My Companion down) came to See me; and they acquainted me with the Sad Story of Mr. Willard⁵² and Four Children of Mr. Stevens⁵³ of Rutland taken Yesterday by the Indians. In the Close of the Day I walked to Cambridge.

1723 August 17 (Saturday). Being Saturday, Mrs. Elizabeth Nutting⁵⁴ and I rode to Concord. We baited at Muzzie's⁵⁵ at Lexington. Our visit was to Major Prescott;⁵⁶ where we were well received. I had a Note in the Evening to preach all Day tomorrow from Mr. Whiting.⁵⁷ But though press'd very hard by the Major and Madame also to Comply, I wholly and vigorously Deny'd.

1723 August 18 (Sunday). Mr. Whiting preach'd all Day. Mrs. Prescott went to her Sons in the Evening. The Major went to Sudbury and remain'd there, having in the Morning emitted a Warrant for a press for men to go against the Indians. We were very pleasantly Entertained by Mrs. Rebecca Prescot,⁵⁸ etc.

1723 August 19 (Monday). This Day Everything was managed Suitably to the Relation they bore to each and their own Figure. In the Afternoon we concluded to go back, and the Horse balked. We (though with Some Difficulty through the Immoderate Kicking) mounted and rode about a

⁴⁷Also in Sudbury.

⁴⁸Probably Nathaniel Willson in Sudbury.

⁴⁹Reverend Warham Williams of Waltham (Harvard 1719). *Sibley*, VI, 361-364.

⁵⁰Elizabeth (Weld) Parkman, wife of Ebenezer's brother Elias. The child was Elizabeth.

⁵¹Jacob Eliot of Boston (Harvard 1720), minister of the Third Church, Lebanon, Conn., 1729-1766. *Sibley*, VI, 380-382.

⁵²Reverend Joseph Willard, while out hunting game, was killed by the Indians, Aug. 14, 1723. *Sibley*, VII, 650-651.

⁵³Deacon Joseph Stevens. On Aug. 14, 1723, two sons, Samuel and Joseph, were killed, and two others, Phinehas and Isaac, were taken captive. Francis E. Blake, *Rutland & the Indian Troubles of 1723-1730* (Worcester, 1886), p. 7.

⁵⁴Mrs. Jonathan Nutting of Cambridge.

⁵⁵Benjamin Muzzy (1680-1764).

⁵⁶Jonathan Prescott of Concord.

⁵⁷Reverend John Whiting of Concord (Harvard 1700). *Sibley*, IV, 532-535.

⁵⁸Mrs. Jonathan Prescott.

Mile, when we met with Sir Sparhawk,⁵⁹ by whose Earnest Desire we went back to Major Prescotts and remain'd another Night.

1723 August 20 (Tuesday). Mr. Sparhawk, according to Appointment, came to us in the Morning and we remounted; and coming to the house where Mrs. Nutting was, Mr. Whiting came up to us, and passing his Compliment, told us he was Glad to Meet such Company, etc. He rode with us. We came to Lexington, baited, and left Sir Sparhawk. But Mr. Whiting was our Pleasant Company to the Top of an eminent Hill in a Farm of his, whence we had one of the most Delightfull Prospects that ever I had in my Life. From this Hill we Sunk a little to a Country House -- into which this Good Gentleman Conducted us and bid us Welcome. Here we din'd and thence rode with very good Speed till we were obliged to Stop at an House upon Cambridge Common, being overtaken with a heavy Shower of Rain. But we reach'd home before Night. I went back to College and Lodged there.

1723 August 21 (Wednesday). In the Morning came Mr. Shattuck⁶⁰ of Westborough to Invite me to preach in That Town. After a Pause of about an hour and Debating with him, I agreed; and took an Horse that he Said he had brought Down; and rode down to Boston to prepare for going with him. There were Three Score Mohawks arrived at Boston just before Noon. I returned to Cambridge and rode over to Champneys⁶¹ where my Horse was taken care of. N.B. Mr. Shattuck was sent over to Mr. Champney to Inquire for me.

1723 August 22 (Thursday). I Set away for Larnard's⁶² at Waterton where I had appointed to meet with Mr. Shattuck at 12 o'Clock. He was not Come. I Sat down and waited for him till he came. We began our Journey from this Tavern about 1/2 after 12; to Mr. Willsons where by Two. Thence at 1/2 after Two to Mr. Swift's⁶³ by 4. Thence at 5 to My assign'd Landlords, Mr. Maynard's⁶⁴ by dark. Prayers Ended I went to my Bed and Lodged (with Mr. Chandler of Concord, a House Carpenter, at work in finishing the Meeting house) very comfortably.

1723 August 23, 24 (Friday, Saturday). There was nothing Remarkable these Two Days that I remember more than my Miscellaneous Discourses with this Chandler (who seems to be an Understanding Man) and my preparations for Sabbath Day.

1723 August 25 (Sunday). I preach'd first at Westborough all Day. My text was 1 Samuel 16.7. N.B. I set the Psalm..

⁵⁹Deacon Nathaniel Sparhawk, a selectman of Lexington. [Correction: This would have been John Sparhawk (1702-1747), Harvard 1723. *Sibley*, 7:258-59.]

⁶⁰Isaac Shattuck.

⁶¹Samuel Champney, Parkman's father-in-law.

⁶²Thomas Learned, tavern keeper.

⁶³Reverend John Swift of Framingham (Harvard 1697). *Sibley*, IV, 387-390.

⁶⁴David Maynard, an original settler at Westborough. A manuscript volume of Westborough Church Records, kept by Ebenezer Parkman and later ministers, is preserved by the Westborough Historical Society. At the beginning of this Parkman made a list of the first settlers of the town. The list is printed in Heman P. DeForest and Edward C. Bates, *History of Westborough* (Westborough, 1891), p. 4.

1723 August 26 (Monday). I expected Barrett and was very Impatient that he did not come. In the Evening Mr. Ward⁶⁵ (as I remember) and one or two more were to See me, and he Appointed to go with me tomorrow to Hopkinton. Accordingly on the

1723 August 27 (Tuesday). My Landlord having borrowed me an horse (of his Neighbour Mr. David How) Mr. Ward and I rode away. We first call'd at Mr. Woods⁶⁶ but he was not at home. We rode to Mr. Barretts Lodgings but he was not there. We rested a While Smoak'd, etc., and took our Horses and went out to Meet him. Mr. Wood was riding with his Wife. Mr. Barrett we Saw, and brought Them home. I Lodg'd with Mr. Barrett. I had his very Strong Pressures to take up with Westburgh, etc.

1723 August 28 (Wednesday). I went out a hunting with Mr. Barrett, a Young Faun having been Seen not long Since -- and Flocks of Turkeys. We Search'd the woods but Saw Nothing but Pigeons. We brought home Seven or Eight of Those. Towards Night Mr. Wood came to See us, etc. Lodg'd with Mr. Barrett.

1723 August 29 (Thursday). At Mr. Woods -- din'd there -- they entertaining us handsomely. Went home alone.

1723 August 30 (Friday). Read Dr. Prideaux⁶⁷ and Spectators. Visit divers Neighbors. See Ammi Printer at Captain Fay's.⁶⁸

1723 August 31 (Saturday). Prepar'd for the Sabbath (but my Sermon already made). N.B. On the 23 of this Month Deceas'd that Venerable Man Doctor Increase Mather, in his 85th Year.

[1723 August?] 26. I was sent for in the Evening to visit a sick Young Woman at Mr. Tomlin's.⁶⁹ I went and pray'd with her.

[No date.] I walked to the Meeting House with a Pistol in my Hand by reason of Danger of the Indians. When I return'd was much affrighted with the Sight of an Indian as I suppos'd; but drawing nigher I perceiv'd it was my Landlord. In the afternoon about 4 o'Clock, there was an Alarm in the North and people hastened with their Arms, But it came to little.

(1723) September. At Westborough.

⁶⁵Increase Ward.

⁶⁶Captain John Wood of Hopkinton.

⁶⁷Humphrey Prideaux, D.D. (1648-1724), Scots scholar. The work may have been *The Old and New Testament Connected, in the History of the Jews and Neighboring Nations* (London, 1716-1718), 2 vols.

⁶⁸Captain John Fay, town Clerk of Westborough. See George H. Johnson, *Fay Family Tree* (Columbus, 1913).

⁶⁹Deacon Isaac Tomlin.

1723 September 1 (Sunday). Preach'd all Day on 1 Cor. 3.11. In the Evening visited Mrs. Tomlin. In the Night I was very restless.

1723 September 2 (Monday). Came away from Westborough.

1723 December 1 (Sunday). Mr. Thatcher⁷⁰ a.m. Mr. Webb⁷¹ p.m.

1723 December 6 (Friday). Mr. Prince⁷² preach'd a Lecture.

1723 December 8 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day at Newton for Mr. Cotton,⁷³ on 1 Sam. 16.7. N.B. Mr. Joseph Champney⁷⁴ and Mr. Cotton.

1723 December 15 (Sunday). I rode from Cambridge over to Waterton and preach'd at the Old Meeting house, both a. and p.m. on 2 Cor. 3.11. Entertain'd at Lieutenant Coolidges.⁷⁵ Return'd at night to Cambridge.

1723 December 18 (Wednesday). The Reverend Mr. Gee⁷⁶ was ordain'd Colleague Pastor of the Old North Church with Doctor Cotton Mather.

1724 January 1 (Wednesday). To Day it was very Stormy or I should have (according to appointment) visited Mr. Breck.

1724 January 2 (Thursday). Fair Pleasant Weather invited me to Visit Mr. Breck. I rode my Landlords horse. The Conversation was very instructing and very Pleasant. We Sat up very late discoursing of many Things miscellaneously. I read Edifying Letters of the Jesuits, Missioners to the East Indies; after I was a bed.

1724 January 3 (Friday). Mr. Breck oblig'd me to offer the morning Sacrifice. After Sundry Colloquys we took a Walk to Merchant Woods'.⁷⁷ I borrow'd the Spectator of him (volume 9). I din'd at Mr. Breck's. After a Dinner, a Pipe, and Some Discourse, of Mr. Ickyl's⁷⁸ Seat at Stow, of Westborough, etc., I repair'd home.

⁷⁰Reverend Peter Thatcher (Harvard 1696), of the New North Church, Boston. *Sibley*, IV, 303-308.

⁷¹Reverend John Webb (Harvard 1708), of the New North Church. *Sibley*, V, 463-471.

⁷²Reverend Thomas Prince, of the Old South Church, Boston (Harvard 1707). *Sibley*, V, 341-368.

⁷³Reverend John Cotton (Harvard 1710). *Sibley*, V, 510-524.

⁷⁴Parkman's classmate (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 437-439.

⁷⁵Lieutenant Richard Coolidge, a representative of Watertown.

⁷⁶Reverend Joshua Gee (Harvard 1717). *Sibley*, VI, 175-183.

⁷⁷Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

⁷⁸A Mr. Jekyl, an Englishman residing at the lower village in Stow, gave the town a small bell to hang in the meeting house in 1722. *Stow, Mass., 1683-1933* (Stow, n.d.), p. 11

1724 January 4 (Saturday). I prepar'd (partly) for Sabbath. In the Afternoon came Mr. Elmer⁷⁹ and Mr. Goddard⁸⁰ of Shrewsbury as they were passing to Sherborn. Mr. Elmer invited me in Mr. Barrett's Name to meet Mr. Barrett and the Company with his Wife, down at Framingham next Wednesday.

1724 January 5 (Sunday). I preach'd at Westborough all Day. My Text was Math. 28.6. In the Evening I was visited by Mr. Thomas Forbush.⁸¹

1724 January 6 (Monday). Town Meeting. In the Evening Captain Fay and Mr. Oliver Ward⁸² with Mr. Daniel How were with me. Mr. Eliot and I nominated. Messrs. Baker⁸³ and Holoway⁸⁴ committee.

1724 January 7 (Tuesday). I rode home, p.m., with Mr. Elmer who came to See me this morning. Upon Seeing Mrs. Elmer in lonely and dejected Circumstances I made many Reflections concerning my own Manner of Living in Future Times, etc. I went to Mr. Cushings⁸⁵ to See his Library and Discourse about Dr. Manton's Works, 5 Volumes,⁸⁶ which he had talk'd of Selling to Me. I rode back to Mr. Elmers, and (though by this Time it was very Dark) I rode home alone.

1724 January 8 (Wednesday). In the Morning came the Committee to treat with a Minister, to acquaint me that the Town had nominated Mr. Eliot with me in order to Choose one of us Minister for This Place. I was moved with the Thought and manifested to them the Sense I had of the Weightiness of the Affair, And in Truth I was at a Stand (though I did not express any extraordinary hesitation) considering My incapacite on Every head. But my Eyes and my Heart were directed to the Father of Lights from whom descends every Grace Sufficient that I might be endow'd and prepar'd in Some measure for which his providence might call me. Mr. Cushing by this Time was come and waited for me below. The Committee retir'd and I prepar'd to Ride. Mr. Cushing and I rode to Mr. Whoods to gain Intelligence. We were directed to Mr. Swifts. We rode down and got there about Dark. The Company was not arrived till 8 o'Clock. Mr. Barrett and his Wife, Two Fathers, Brother Thornton Barrett⁸⁷ and Sister Greaves.⁸⁸ Mr.

⁷⁹Reverend Daniel Elmer (Yale 1713), who preceded Parkman as minister at Westborough. Dissension arose and Elmer was dismissed. He moved to Springfield in 1724, and in 1728 was ordained at Fairfield, New Jersey. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 51. Franklin B. Dexter, *Biographical Sketches of the Graduates of Yale College . . . 1701-1745* (N.Y., 1885), pp. 110-111.

⁸⁰Edward Goddard.

⁸¹One of the first settlers and selectman of Westborough. See Frederick C. Pierce, *Forbes and Forbush Genealogy* (n.p., 1892).

⁸²A selectman of Westborough.

⁸³Edward Baker.

⁸⁴William Holloway.

⁸⁵Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury (Harvard 1714). *Sibley*, VI, 45-46.

⁸⁶Thomas Manton, D.D. (1620-1677), Presbyterian divine, whose numerous works appeared in various editions.

⁸⁷Of Hopkinton.

⁸⁸Perhaps Rachel Graves, wife of Joseph Graves of Framingham.

Tilestone⁸⁹ and Son James⁹⁰ were there. Mr. Tylestone informed me of the Death of Uncle Clough⁹¹ and Mr. John Mountfort⁹² at Boston. We Sup'd very plentifully and for Rarity had a Pea-Hen roasted. I lodg'd there with Mr. Tilestone and Mr. Thornton Barrett.

1724 January 9 (Thursday). In the Morning Mr. Swift oblig'd me to pray, and to return Thanks after Breakfast. Mr. Morris and Deacon Barrat⁹³ went Back to Boston. By the Deacon I convey'd a Letter to John Hicks⁹⁴ for me. Between 12 and 1 o'Clock we Set out from Mr. Swift's for Hopkinton. We stop'd at the Tavern (Maynards)⁹⁵ where there was a great Number of Hopkinton People, and at Mr. Jones's⁹⁶ we stop'd also. Colonel How⁹⁷ was in the Company and with great Ceremony congratulated me. We rode together on the Journey to Hopkinton, and he Gave me to Understand that he had been at Westborough at his Son Agar's where he was informed how Affairs were carry'd on. And the Colonel told me of the Opposition Mr. Thomas Ward⁹⁸ endeavour'd to raise, of which I believe more may be Said hereafter. At Hopkinton there were very plentiful Provisions made, And there were many People. In the Evening we Sang a Psalm, the 128 by Mr. Deming⁹⁹ and Sundry Psalm Tunes. I had a great Deal of Discourse with Mr. Barret, of the Country, etc. Mr. Deming, Mr. Cushing and I rode home with Mr. Whood. Mr. Deming pray'd. Mr. Cushing and I lodg'd together.

1724 January 10 (Friday). In the Morning I was appointed to go back to Mr. How's (upon Mr. Cushing's Horse) to Bring Madame Graves in Company with Mr. Barrett and Madame, Old Mr. How¹⁰⁰ and his Wife. We din'd at Mr. Whooods Upon roast Goose, roast Pea hen, Bak'd Stuff'd Venison, Beef, Pork, etc. After Dinner we Smoak'd a Pipe, read Governor Shute's¹⁰¹ Memorial to the King and Mr. Cushing and I rode home. This Eve I visited Old Mr. Rice.¹⁰² Ensign Newton¹⁰³ was with him. I borrow'd an Horse of him for my Service to Marlborough and to Stow. I returned Mr. Pratt's¹⁰⁴ Horse, which I had Us'd through all these Frolicks, by his young Son. In the Morning I rode to Marlborough. After Dinner (upon Roast Beef) with Mr. Breck, and our Concerting Measures upon Changing, Mr. Breck rode away for Westborough.

⁸⁹Probably James Tileston (1678-c. 1740) of Boston.

⁹⁰James, Jr. (b. 1704), son of above.

⁹¹Ebenezer Clough, father-in-law of Ebenezer Parkman's brother, Elias.

⁹²A prominent merchant of Boston.

⁹³Samuel Barrett, father of Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

⁹⁴Of Cambridge.

⁹⁵Jonathan Maynard's tavern in Framingham.

⁹⁶Colonel John Jones, then in Hopkinton (now Ashland).

⁹⁷Thomas Howe of Marlborough.

⁹⁸One of the first inhabitants of Westborough.

⁹⁹Probably Daniel Deming (Harvard 1700) who had been minister at Needham, Mass., and was later supply pastor at Lyme, Conn. *Sibley*, IV, 518-519.

¹⁰⁰Captain Thomas Howe of Marlborough.

¹⁰¹Governor Samuel Shute of Mass.

¹⁰²Thomas Rice of Westborough. See Andrew H. Ward, *A Genealogical History of the Rice Family* (Boston, 1858).

¹⁰³Thomas Newton of Westborough.

¹⁰⁴John Pratt of Westborough.

1724 January 11 [?] (Sunday). I preach'd all Day at Marlborough from 1 Sam. 16.7. In the Evening Mr. Breck returned.

1724 January 12 (Monday). In the Forenoon Mr. Breck and I rode to Stow to Mr. Gardners¹⁰⁵ and over to See Mr. Ickyls Seat. We arrived again at Marlborough about Seven, Evening.

1724 January 13 (Tuesday). [No entry.].

1724 February 28 (Saturday). I receiv'd the Vote of the Town of Westborough in which I am call'd to the great and arduous Work of the Gospel Ministry among them.¹⁰⁶

1724 June 5 (Friday). Answer'd the Town of Westborough in the Affirmative, relying upon their Christian Goodness and Generosity (Since they Shew such fervent Affection to me) to maintain and Support me among them, according to which this Office they call me to shall require.

1724 July 1 (Wednesday). Commencement. Happen'd to be the Day I receiv'd my Master's Degree.¹⁰⁷

1724 August 1 (Saturday). I prepar'd for the Sabbath. Mr. John Prat came to Me concerning my Hay. He had bargain'd with me to take it by the Halves. But his Business now was to tell me that he had found that was like to be but about 7 Loads and he thought I had better profit all for my own Spending. He said he had got Two loads of it in Cock for me. I Should be welcome to his Labour therein and he would help Me in Mowing another Day if I could procure him Company. I was very thankful to his kind Disposition and determin'd to accept. About nine this Evening we had an Alarm all over Town but heard no Cause.

1724 August 2 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day. My Text: Acts 2.37.38.

1724 August 3 (Monday). Rainy Weather. I went out to get Men to Mow and Make my Hay. I was at Mr. Rice's. His son Beriah¹⁰⁸ agreed. At Mr. Prats his Son agreed, and the old Man himself engag'd to See to the Making. This was very kind. But I got Mr. Clark¹⁰⁹ to help him. I

¹⁰⁵Reverend John Gardner (Harvard 1715). *Sibley*, VI, 88-90.

¹⁰⁶See DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 62-63. On Jan. 6, 1724 the Westborough town meeting appointed "a Commeete to Go to Sum Reverend ordained Elders that are a quanted with Mr. Ebenezer Parkman and Mr. Jacob Eliot, Both of Boston, and Candideats for the ministry, for their advice and Recommendation in order for Election as the Law Directs." In February Parkman was chosen minister and the town voted a yearly salary of £80, and £150 for "a settlement," the latter to be paid in three equal annual installments.

¹⁰⁷Parkman married Mary Champney, a daughter of Samuel and Hannah Champney of Cambridge on July 7, 1724 in Cambridge. See Paige, *Cambridge*, p. 507, and *Cambridge Vital Records*, II, 299. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 71, incorrectly give the place and date of the marriage as Boston, Sept. 14, 1724.

¹⁰⁸Beriah Rice (b. 1702), son of Thomas Rice.

¹⁰⁹*Westborough Vital Records* (Worcester, 1903) do not give any record of a Clark in this period.

was at Mr. Aaron Forbushes¹¹⁰ and Bakers. Returning home I was caught in the Rain and was very Wet. Went into Mr. Prats to Dry and get a Coat. Thence home. The Next Day I was at the

1724 August 4 (Tuesday). Fast at Hopkinton [*sic*] in order to Ordination. Mr. Baker a.m., Mr. Dor¹¹¹ and Mr. Swift p.m. They Read a Paper of Meeting to Pray and Confer, etc. N.B. We met in Mr. Barrett's New House. Immediately after Exercises I rode away for Cambridge and got down about Eleven. N.B. Mr. Hobby¹¹² speaker at Hopkinton.

1724 August 5 (Wednesday). Brother Hinds¹¹³ [Hicks?] talked very hot about Living at Westborough.

1724 August 6 (Thursday). I rode round to Boston but did not get there till Lecture was over. The News was Malden Emerson's¹¹⁴ House was Burnt last Friday Night. Four Men taken at Rutland, 3 kill'd and one Captur'd.¹¹⁵ There was one more wounded. I rode up to Cambridge to Night though it rain'd all the way.

1724 August 7 (Friday). I rode to Framingham. Lodg'd at Mr. Jones's.¹¹⁶ I visited Increase Ward.¹¹⁷

1724 August 8 (Saturday). In the Morning I rode to Hopkinton. Mrs. Spencer here still. I read severall fine Poems, etc.

1724 August 9 (Sunday). I preach'd at Hopkinton; Mr. Barrett at Westborough. My Text was Rev. 3.20, and John 15.14. N.B. The first (through forgetfulness) I preach'd the Second time in this place.

1724 August 10 (Monday). Mr. Barrett's Wife and Mrs. Spencer rode with Me to White Hall.¹¹⁸ In the After noon we gathered Hazelnutts. Towards Evening rode home.

1724 August 11 (Tuesday). In My Study of King on Church.

¹¹⁰An early inhabitant of Westborough.

¹¹¹Reverend Joseph Dorr (Harvard 1711) of Mendon, Mass. *Sibley*, V, 574-578.

¹¹²William Hobby (Harvard 1725). Later minister of First Church at Reading, now Wakefield, Mass. *Sibley*, VII, 530-537.

¹¹³Perhaps Jacob Hinds (1685-1764?) who lived at various times in Brookfield, Marlborough, Shrewsbury and West Boylston. [Note: This may have been a misreading for John Hicks.]

¹¹⁴Reverend Joseph Emerson (Harvard 1717) of Maiden. *Boston News-Letter*, Aug. 6, 1724. *Sibley*, VI, 170-175.

¹¹⁵*Boston News-Leiter*, Aug. 6, 1724. The three men who perished were James Clark, Joseph Wood and Uriah Wood. Eleazer Ball was wounded. The name of a boy captured is unknown. Blake, *Rutland and the Indian Troubles*, pp. 10-11.

¹¹⁶Colonel John Jones.

¹¹⁷The only Increase Ward noted lived in Westborough.

¹¹⁸A large pond in Hopkinton.

1724 August 12 (Wednesday). Visited Landlord Maynard. He not at Home.

1724 August 13 (Thursday). I rode to Marlborough Lecture. Mr. Cushing preach'd. After Lecture Mr. Gardiner of Stow came to Mr. Brecks. Captain Fay¹¹⁹ and Mr. Prat rode home with me.

1724 August 14 (Friday). Read Martin Mar Prelate, and prepar'd for the Sabbath this and 15th Day.

1724 August 16 (Sunday). Preach'd all Day. Acts 2.37.38.

1724 August 17 (Monday). I rode to Cambridge through Framingham on Mr. Samuel Hardys¹²⁰ Horse. Met Deacon Haven¹²¹ on the Roade. We Call'd at Captain Goddards and at Mr. Swifts. Here was Mr. Brintnal.¹²² I asked him to help me. I got down in the Evening.

1724 August 18 and 19 (Tuesday and Wednesday). It rain'd so I was detain'd at Cambridge.

1724 August 20 (Thursday). I rode to Boston. Mr. Sewall¹²³ preach'd. He is Chosen president of Harvard College. In the after noon I was at Mr. Gee's where were Mr. Thomas Foxcroft,¹²⁴ Mr. Wigglesworth,¹²⁵ Mr. Prince (Nathan),¹²⁶ Mr. Turell¹²⁷ and Mr. [blank], a Gentleman from the Bank. I return'd to Cambridge in the Evening.

1724 August 21 (Friday). I rode away for Westborough. Met Mrs. Martha Clark¹²⁸ and Sister with Mrs. Lasten by riding to Newton. Farther on the Road I met Mr. Bartlett¹²⁹ of Brookfield by whom I learnt Something Considerable of the Town. I stopt at Merchant Woods¹³⁰ at Marlborough. He walked with me to Mr. Brecks.¹³¹ Mr. Breck I found ill. I lodged here. Early to Westborough in the morning (22) to prepare for the Sabbath.

¹¹⁹Captain John Fay.

¹²⁰Of Westborough.

¹²¹Moses Haven of Framingham.

¹²²William Brintnal (Yale 1721), schoolmaster of Sudbury, 1722-1726. Dexter, pp. 244-245.

¹²³Joseph Sewall (Harvard 1707), D.D., minister of the Old South Church, Boston. *Sibley*, V, 376-393.

¹²⁴(Harvard 1714). Minister of the First Church in Boston. *Sibley*, VI, 47-58.

¹²⁵Edward Wigglesworth (Harvard 1710), D.D., Professor of Divinity, Harvard College. *Sibley*, V, 546-555.

¹²⁶(Harvard 1718). Tutor and fellow of Harvard College. Brother of Thomas Prince, the historian. *Sibley*, VI, 268-279.

¹²⁷Reverend Ebenezer Turell (Harvard 1721), minister of Medford. *Sibley*, VI, 574-582.

¹²⁸Mrs. Uriah Clark of Framingham.

¹²⁹Thomas Bartlet.

¹³⁰Benjamin Woods.

¹³¹Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

1724 August 23 (Sunday). Preach'd all Day. Tit. 2.12. News that Captain Harmon¹³² had slain 5 or 6 Score Indians at Norridgewock with Sebastian Ralle¹³³ the Old Jesuit and brought in his and 26 or 27 Scalps besides and Delivered Three Captives from the Enemy. Among those that were Slain of the Indians Bummageem was one. His wife and Two Sons were taken Captive and brought to York and Piscataqua. And in all we lost not a Man but an Indian, a Cape Fellow. Deo Opt. Max. Gloria Triumphi. Captain Harmon (it is storied) found an Iron Chest with the Jesuit which had many Letters in it, Some from Gentlemen at Boston (O Horrids) Betraying our Country.

1724 August 25 (Tuesday). I rode Early in the Morn to Marlborough. Mr. Breck ill yet. Then rode (with Deacon Peters) over to Stow to the Association¹³⁴ at Mr. Gardners. A Thin Meeting, Mr. Swift and Cushing, Mr. Jenison,¹³⁵ Mr. Barrett¹³⁶ and Mr. Brintnall. Mr. Ickyl, etc. up at Stow.

1724 August 26 (Wednesday). Mr. Barrett Preach'd but Mr. Jenison prayed. Good entertainment, but no great Matter of Business done. I rode away with the Rest about 5 o'Clock p.m. Mr. Brintnall to preach for Me. I rode to Cambridge. Cousin Sarah Champney¹³⁷ at Uncle Champneys.¹³⁸ Between 10 and eleven o'Clock.

1724 August 27 (Thursday). Not very Well. I could not go to Boston.

1724 August 28 (Friday). I rode to Framingham; preach'd. The Text was John 15.14. Deacon Robie lodged with me.

1724 August 29 (Saturday). Mr. Brintnall came. We rode to Captain Goddards and to Westborough.

1724 August 30 (Sunday). Mr. Brintnall preach'd for Me but he would not pray at all Save after the forenoon Sermon. He said he was indisposed. Indians at Northhampton and Westfield.

1724 August 31 (Monday). Workmen about the Chamber.

¹³²Colonel Johnson Harmon.

¹³³Father Sebastian Rale, head of the Jesuit mission at Norridgewock, Maine. See James P. Baxter, *The Pioneers of New France in New England* (Albany, 1891)

¹³⁴The accepted date and place for the formation of the Marlborough Association of ministers is June 5, 1725, at the house of Mr. Breck in Marlborough. From this entry in the Parkman diary it is clear that an association was in existence before that time. Levi A. Field, *An Historical Sketch of the First Congregational Church in Marlborough, Mass.* (Worcester, 1859), pp. 16-18. Joseph Allen, *The Worcester Association and Its Antecedents* (Boston, 1868), p. 5.

¹³⁵William Jennison (Harvard 1724), later minister of the Second Church of Salem, Mass., 1728-1736. *Sibley*, V, 371-374.

¹³⁶Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

¹³⁷Daughter of Joseph and Sarah Champney of Cambridge. Sister of Parkman's classmate, Joseph Champney.

¹³⁸Joseph Champney, Sr.

1724 September 1 (Tuesday). Those that were Members of the Committee¹³⁹ met at Mr. Pratts.

1724 September 2 (Wednesday). In the Morning I rode with My Landlord¹⁴⁰ over to Hopkinton to Mr. Barrett's Ordination. We met in Mr. Barretts New House. Mr. Appleton¹⁴¹ Pray'd First; Mr. Webb of Boston Preach'd; Mr. Dor then pray'd; Mr. Swift gave the Charge; Mr. Brown¹⁴² of Reading the right Hand of Fellowship; and Elder Lyman¹⁴³ Set the Psalm. We din'd handsomely. Mr. Cushing, Mr. Thornton Barrett,¹⁴⁴ Cousin Charles Coffin and I all Lodg'd at Mr. Woods. N.B. Mr. Webb, discourse in the Evening, of the Doctors of the Church. Viz. Tillotson, Scott, etc.

1724 September 3 (Thursday). Mr. T. Fowle and Mrs. Spencer came over to us at Woods. We had a good Dinner. Mr. Cushing and I carried the Ladies home to Mr. Barretts and return'd to My Lodging at Westborough. Mr. Cushing Lodg'd with Me.

1724 September 4 (Friday). Mr. Cushing went home p.m. The Members of the Church, with those that had offer'd themselves to join, Came to See me and acquainted Me with their Meeting last Tuesday, with their most happy Union; and to See what I thought necessary further to be done. Our Consultation lasted til sundown. We concluded with a Prayer.

1724 September 5 (Saturday). I prepar'd for the Sabbath. O My own Inconstancy and instability in these unsettled Times! -- when Steadiness is so much demanded.

1724 September 6 (Sunday). I preach'd from Luke 10.42 and James 1.22.

1724 October 1 (Thursday). Dr. Mather¹⁴⁵ preach'd the Lecture, which was upon the Death of Gurdon Saltonstall, Governour of Connecticut. Mr. Green¹⁴⁶ was in Town but I could not come to Speak to him. I waited upon Mr. Webb¹⁴⁷ at Mr. Bromfields¹⁴⁸ for the covenant of our Church at Boston. Just at Night my consort and I went over to Charleston. She was very much affrighted indeed, But Mr. and Mrs. Appleton¹⁴⁹ were in the Boat. My Horse was put up at Boylstons.¹⁵⁰ We visited Mrs. Larkin.¹⁵¹ I came up to Cambridge, though a little late.

¹³⁹This meeting reached the decision to organize a church in Westborough. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 69.

¹⁴⁰David Maynard.

¹⁴¹Reverend Nathaniel Appleton (Harvard 1712) of Cambridge. *Sibley*, V, 599-609.

¹⁴²Reverend Richard Brown, Jr.

¹⁴³Deacon Caleb Lyman of the New North Church, Boston.

¹⁴⁴Of Hopkinton.

¹⁴⁵Cotton Mather.

¹⁴⁶Joseph Green of Boston.

¹⁴⁷Reverend John Webb of Boston.

¹⁴⁸Edward Bromfield, selectman of Boston.

¹⁴⁹Probably Reverend and Mrs. Nathaniel Appleton of Cambridge.

¹⁵⁰Richard Boylston of Charlestown.

¹⁵¹Probably Mrs. Edward Larkin of Charlestown.

1724 October 2 (Friday). I came up to Westborough. I din'd at Mr. Williams'¹⁵² (Weston). I asked him to preach my Ordination Sermon. He made Some Provisos. I left him now by 3/4 past 3, But got up to Mr. Brecks by Daylight in. He was very ill. He invited me to tarry with him tonight, but I had appointed to meet our Church at my Lodging and therefore left him. In riding thence home I met with a Sad Mischance. My Cloak (and van Mastericht wrapt in it) broke from my Portmanteau as it was buckled behind me. And it was very dark, but Still I thought it best to alight and look back for it. (I was not so far as Captain Wards.) I did so; and keeping my horse in my hand, with my Eyes near the Ground, and Swinging my Cane for 3/4 of a Mile back, I at length found it. I therefore did not get home till the people were gone. I got a very bad Cold and Sore Throat, But

1724 October 3 (Saturday). I prepar'd for the Sabbath And

1724 October 4 (Sunday). preach'd all Day from Josh. 24.15.

1724 October 5 (Monday). In the Afternoon the Church Members met together.

1724 October 6 (Tuesday). I had my Landlords Horse to Ride to Marlboro to See Mr. Breck. I acquainted him with our Management and with Mr. Rice¹⁵³ and his Concern, etc. Mr. Breck said he did not Expect that he should be with us, however he had no thought of any such thing as Excepting against Mr. Rice. I call'd in at Merchant Amsdens.¹⁵⁴ Here were Captain Willard¹⁵⁵ of Sutton. Mr. Bailey¹⁵⁶ of Lancaster and Mr. Wilder.¹⁵⁷ N.B. Captain Willard concerning Mr. Cushing and I. I rode to Mr. Samuel Hows¹⁵⁸ in my way to Mr. Swifts. I lodg'd at Mr. Swifts.¹⁵⁹

1724 October 7 (Wednesday). Mr. Stone¹⁶⁰ came to See Mr. Swift in the Morn. I inquir'd of Mr. Swift concerning a form of Letter to Send to Churches to request their Help in Ordination but was not satisfy'd. I rode to Mr. Jones'¹⁶¹ where I heard of Mrs. Barrett¹⁶² and the Death of her Child. She had been in Travail a long time and very hardly escaped herself. I rode up to Hopkinton and was in good Season for the funerall. A Sorrowful Time! I rode to Mr. Woods¹⁶³ and lodg'd there.

¹⁵²Reverend William Williams (Harvard 1705). *Sibley*, V, 295-300.

¹⁵³Probably Thomas Rice of Westborough.

¹⁵⁴Captain Isaac Amsden of Marlborough.

¹⁵⁵Jonathan Willard.

¹⁵⁶Benjamin Bayley or Bailey, constable.

¹⁵⁷Probably Ebenezer Wilder, also of Lancaster.

¹⁵⁸Of Framingham.

¹⁵⁹Rev. John Swift of Framingham.

¹⁶⁰Probably Thomas Stone, selectman of Framingham. Josiah H. Temple, *History of Framingham* (Framingham, 1887), p.708.

¹⁶¹Probably Colonel John Jones of Hopkinton (now Ashland).

¹⁶²No indication of a Barrett death at this time in *Hopkinton Vital Records* (Boston, 1911).

¹⁶³Captain John Wood of Hopkinton.

1724 October 8 (Thursday). I return'd to Westborough. I call'd to see Mr. Increase Ward to discourse with him about his Entering into the Church, baptism, etc.

1724 October 9 (Friday). My Business about this time was reading Ordination Sermons and wherever the Minister's Duty was Explain'd, Especially van Mastricht, De Ministeris Ecclesiastico.

1724 October 10 (Saturday). According to Mr. Barretts Desire I rode over to Hopkinton. On the road met Captain Fay and his Wife going to Mr. Woods.

1724 October 11 (Sunday). I preach'd at Hopkinton and Mr. Barrett at Westborough. My text, Heb. 12.1; James 1.22. Mr. Barrett went and return'd to Day. Mr. Fowles good Company Here.

1724 October 12 (Monday). I return'd to Westborough. Mrs. Wood¹⁶⁴ at her house discours'd about Some Methods for the people in their provision for Ordination. In the Evening came a Committee to treat with my Landlord about providing, etc. There was much Caring about bringing up my Goods.

Memorandum. I formed Letters (by the Towns Desire) to be Sent to Severall Churches, (viz. Boston to Mr. Webb, Framingham Mr. Swift, Marlborough Mr. Breck, Lancaster Mr. Prentice¹⁶⁵ and (a Letter from myself to ask him to preach), Sudbury Mr. Loring,¹⁶⁶ and Mendon Mr. Dorr). These were drawn up on the 9th Day.

1724 October 13 (Tuesday). I read Sermons, etc. Mr. Edmund Rice¹⁶⁷ with me in the Evening.

1724 October 14 (Wednesday). This Day I Solemnly Dedicated to Humiliation and Prayer to prepare myself (by the grace of God) for the Awful Time approaching.

1724 October 28 (Wednesday). This was truly the Greatest Day I ever Yet Saw -- The Day of my Solemn Separation to the Work of the Gospel Ministry and my Ordination to the Pastorate in Westborough.

The Solemnity came on and proceeded in the manner following.

In Order to the gathering the Church, a Covenant was prepar'd before hand; read, and consider'd by the Candidates for Membership, and was Sign'd.

N.B. An Ecclesiastical Council was form'd, and they having got all Things ready (as they apprehended) proceeded to the Meeting House. N.B. Reverend Mr. Swift was Sent to, but he

¹⁶⁴Mrs. Benjamin Wood.

¹⁶⁵Reverend John Prentice (Harvard 1700). *Sibley*, IV, 529-532.

¹⁶⁶Reverend Israel Loring (Harvard 1701). *Sibley*, V, 75-83.

¹⁶⁷Of Westborough.

was detain'd by Sickness in his Family. Nevertheless the Church sent two Delegates, viz. Colonel Buckminster¹⁶⁸ and Captain Goddard.¹⁶⁹

Reverend Mr. Breck was also Sent to, but he was himself so ill (of the Strangury) that he could not attend. Those ministers being Absent, the Council, with Consent, Admitted and requested Reverend Mr. Williams of Weston to Assist.

Being come to the House of God, the Reverend Mr. Dorr of Mendon open'd the Solemnity with Prayer. The Reverend Mr. Prentice of Lancaster preach'd a Suitable Sermon from 2 Cor. 12.15. Afterwards The Reverend Mr. Williams of Weston aforesaid pray'd and gather'd the Church. There were 12 besides the Pastor Elect, who sign'd the Covenant and answered to their Names in the Assembly.

The Reverend Mr. Prentice gave the Solemn Charge.

The Reverend Mr. Loring of Sudbury the Right Hand of Fellowship.

The Ordain'd appointed the Psalm (part of the 68th) and gave the Blessing.

I wish Every Day throughout my Life, may bear a Suitable proportion to this Day! That I may be Strong in the Grace which is in Christ Jesus, and that I may grow then into the Glory of God and the Edification of His Church! Amen!¹⁷⁰

September 1725. My mother rode up with me to Westborough.

1725 September 14 (Tuesday). This Morning was very Cloudy, Not only abroad as to the weather but in the house with respect to my wife who for about Three hours was in great Extremity. I thought I had not been earnest enough with God yet, notwithstanding what passt last night, etc. Then again Engaged in a Short but Fervent Devotion, and Ten Minutes past Eight my wife was delivered of a Daughter. I cried unto God most high, unto God who is a very present Help in time of Trouble and performeth all things for us, and He brought Salvation. He put joy and Gladness into our Hearts; and O that we may never forget his Benefits!

1725 September 17 (Friday). My Father came up to us.

1725 September 19 (Sunday). The Child was Solemnly given up to God in Baptism (My Father holding it up). I call'd it (by my wife's Name) Mary.

1725 September 28 (Tuesday). My Father and Mother rode to Boston. My mother stopt at Marlborough being ill.

¹⁶⁸Joseph Buckminster of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 490

¹⁶⁹Captain Edward Goddard of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 566.

¹⁷⁰See DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 81-84, and Westborough Church Records.

1725 October 4 (Monday). Mother Champney came up, being brought up by Father Champney. My wife a very Sore Breast. Breast Broke under Mrs. Whitcombs Care. Breast Broke a Second Time.

1725 November 8 (Monday). I rode down with Mother Champney to Cambridge.

1725 November 9 (Tuesday). I went to Boston with Sister Lydia.¹⁷¹ My horse was carried back to Cambridge by a Boy. I Supp'd at Brother Alexander's¹⁷² (who was married Last month, just after my Father left home for Westborough).

1725 November 11 (Thursday). Mr. Thatcher¹⁷³ preach'd the Publick Lecture. The Boy having brought Back my Horse, I toward night prepar'd, and understanding, by Sister Lydia, that Mrs. Dorcas Bows¹⁷⁴ (my wife's Kinswoman) would ride up to Westborough with me, and that Mrs. Dorcas waited for me at Charleston, we went over by Ferry and we overtook her at Neck o'Land. We proceeded on Horseback with good pace; and Sister alighting at a place whence she Could with much Ease walk to Sister Hicks'.¹⁷⁵ I returned and took up Mrs. Dorcas and by these means we got up Comfortably.

1725 November 12 (Friday). Brother Champney¹⁷⁶ and Sister Lydia accompanied Mrs. Dorcas and Me to Westborough; and we got home in good Season. I was forc'd to ply myself to finish my Preparation for Sabbath, which besides what I could do at Boston must needs be Thought to take up the whole Thirteenth Day of the Month.

1725 November 14 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. and p.m. from Eccl. 9.10.

1725 November 15 (Monday). I was call'd out to see Mrs. Tomlin¹⁷⁷ who was in Travail and in terrible Fits. She continued in them in a very awfull and Ghastly manner. The Infant was Dead at the Birth. When I return'd home I found Mr. Cushing¹⁷⁸ at our House.

1725 November 16 (Tuesday). Mrs. Tomlin dy'd, a Sore Trial to the Young Man, Who in such a mann'r Lost his First wife and Child.

¹⁷¹ Lydia Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

¹⁷² Alexander Parkman (1699-1747) married Esther, widow of John Pilkins and daughter of George and Rebecca Walker, Oct. 1, 1725.

¹⁷³ Reverend Peter Thatcher of Boston.

¹⁷⁴ Mrs. Nicholas (Champney) Bowes, Mrs. Parkman's cousin.

¹⁷⁵ Mrs. John (Champney) Hicks, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Champney of Cambridge.

¹⁷⁶ Samuel Champney, Parkman's brother-in-law.

¹⁷⁷ Mrs. Isaac Tomlin of Westborough.

¹⁷⁸ Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

1725 November 17 (Wednesday). Brother and Sister return'd home to Cambridge. Mrs. Tomlin Buried. Mrs. Dorcas rode with me to the Funerall and after it we went up to Captain Fays.¹⁷⁹

1725 November 20 (Saturday). I rode down with Mrs. Dorcas to Cambridge.

1726 January 1 (Saturday). Besides my making my preparations for the approaching Sabbath, I have little to remark concerning this Day, as it looks as if very many kindred and most of my Dayes have rolled away without anything worth noting upon them. Some are left Blank because of the Confusion I am put into by Diem perdidit; or because with all my Desire to Improve my time, I prove but of little importance either to Myself, or anyone Else. I had through the whole of this Day crowds of imperfect Reflections upon the Consumption of Time and the misimprovement of my Talents. Late in the Evening when I had finished my Sermons, as my manner has often been to look into Myself and view the State of my Heart, that I may be in some Measure prepar'd for the Holy time and solemn Employments coming on; at this Season, I say, my Thoughts run more free from those Confusions and interruptions just mentioned, than in the Day, but were chiefly engag'd upon my grievous Neglect of the Affairs and Concerns of my Soul and preparations for Eternity, and particularly upon my omission of this Method of keeping a journal (or Diary) so long as I have. And I regret that when I did make a Business of it, there was so much time and pain spent in Vanity. I fix'd a Resolution to prosecute other Aims and purposes, and to confine myself more severely and strictly to Studies of Grave and Serious Subjects, to Enquirys into my own Deportment, and to such observations on the Demeanour and Conduct of these as that thereby I may learn the most Suitable regular method of forming my own Thoughts and Actions.

1726 January 2 (Sunday). My Early Thoughts were upon the Revolutions of Time which will, none knows how soon with me, be swallowed up in Eternity, And upon the wondrous Grace of God in Continuing the Day and means of Salvation. Our Entertainments for this Day was raised from 1 Cor. 16.22. Mr. Nehemiah How¹⁸⁰ and Mr. Joseph Wheeler¹⁸¹ din'd with us. The Evening Reflections were much the Same as Last Night.

1726 January 3 (Monday). I began, in a Serious Manner, with the abovesaid purpose of numbering my Dayes; and I beseech God to aid me by his Holy Spirit, that I may do it aright, and that I may apply my Heart to true Divine wisdom. And there is so much and more need of Dependence upon God, because I am very suspicious that without Such preternaturall power and assistance lent me, what through my wretched Inconstancy, Inadvertence and want of Resolution against which would interrupt the Affair, would either altogether Drop or loose its principal Design.

¹⁷⁹Captain John Fay of Westborough.

¹⁸⁰Of Westborough.

¹⁸¹Of Westborough.

1726 January 4 (Tuesday). I went to Mr. Bakers,¹⁸² Captain Fay and to his Brothers. At the Captain's we were much engag'd about the circumstances of my delivering my Quit Claim to Mr. Elmer's¹⁸³ Land to Captain Goddard,¹⁸⁴ etc.

1726 January 5 (Wednesday). My Chief Concern lay with the 1 volume of the Occasional Papers and with Sir Matthew Hale's Contemplations.

1726 January 6 (Thursday). Captain Fay (with his Team), Mr. Charles Rice,¹⁸⁵ Mr. Miller,¹⁸⁶ Mr. Grow,¹⁸⁷ Mr. Baker, Mr. Campbel, Mr. Samuel Fay's Son, and an hand from Rice, came to Cut and Sled wood for me.

1726 January 7, 8 (Friday, Saturday). Prepar'd for the Sabbath (that is with the Preparation made in the former part of the Week). I bought a Bearskin Muffler. Mr. Rice was with me about keeping his Man.

1726 January 9 (Sunday). A.M. Our Contemplations were on Job 28.28, and p.m. on John 17.3.

1726 January 10 (Monday). Neighbor Clark dress'd Flax for me, and his Son thrash'd Oats. Mr. Rice brought his Mare to my Stable. Mr. Whood sent me a Peacock and Peahen.

1726 January 11 (Tuesday). I rectified Sundry of my Accounts.

1726 January 12 (Wednesday). A Spaniard, Oko Smiths, of Valencia came and offered himself to my Service. In the Evening I rode abroad to Captain Byles¹⁸⁸ who Complain'd much of Pains and Lameness. I pay'd him for four Barrells and a powdering Tub made for me. Thence I rode to Neighbor Brighams¹⁸⁹ Whose Son and Daughter were ill. N.B. This Morning my Peacock dy'd.

1726 January 13 (Thursday). Hannah Warren¹⁹⁰ had my Man [*sic* in Walett - should it be Mare?] to go to Boston.

1726 January 14, 15 (Friday, Saturday). Prepar'd for the Sabbath.

1726 January 16 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Col. 3.2. I observ'd a general delinquency in our people in coming to meeting, through which I am oblig'd to wait near half an hour or altogether, as it has Sometimes prov'd before I could begin the Exercises of Evening.

¹⁸²Edward Baker of Westborough.

¹⁸³Reverend Daniel Elmer, formerly of Westborough.

¹⁸⁴Edward Goddard of Shrewsbury. Andrew H. Ward, *History of Shrewsbury* (Boston, 1847), pp. 283-284.

¹⁸⁵An early inhabitant of Westborough.

¹⁸⁶James Miller of Westborough.

¹⁸⁷Samuel Grow of Westborough.

¹⁸⁸Captain Joseph Byles, an early inhabitant of Westborough.

¹⁸⁹David Brigham.

¹⁹⁰Of Westborough.

1726 January 17 (Monday). Last night was Exceeding Cold. This Morning One of my Summer Piggs I perceived was frozen to Death. Mr. Barrett¹⁹¹ came to see us, and with Heavy Tidings of my Fathers being so very ill that my Brother by him sent me this word, that there was Ground to fear My Father would never go abroad again; and therefore it was much desir'd I would immediately go down. Hereupon I went first to Mr. David Maynards and then to Mr. Pratts¹⁹² for an Horse, mine being not yet returned, but I succeeded not till Eleazer Pratt¹⁹³ went to Mr. David Goodno's and Obtained His. My Walking so far in the Cold, together with my Troubles and fears, and the Worries of my Mind, were such that I felt very uncomfortable, and I had an Uneasy Night, a bad Cold and grievous Head ach. And a Tedious Journey at this Season in Prospect, Besides the Melancholly Expectations of what I was altogether unprepar'd for.

1726 January 18 (Tuesday). Three quarters after nine in the Morning, I mounted from home upon a very poor dull Horse, which was another Affliction to meet [to me at?] this time. At Mr. David Hows¹⁹⁴ I saw Mr. McKinstry¹⁹⁵ of Sutton with his friend Briton. Very Snowy. In Weston I met my own Beast and it much rejoic'd me to Change. I got to Father Champney's¹⁹⁶ in good Season to have gone to Boston, But the Storm was so violent, the wind very high and no less Cold, and very Slippery Riding, Besides that I was so tired and faint that I was necessitated to tarry all night here, though my Resolution had been very Strong to have seen my Father if alive before I left. Father Champney was very melancholy and Dejected, a great Alteration from a few Months ago.

1726 January 19 (Wednesday). I got into Boston before noon, and joyfull to tell, my Father I saw Sitting up and in some Hopefull Way. *Soli Deo Omnipotenti Gratias ago maximas qui hodiernas preces matutinas audiebat et a tanta miseria et Calamitate quanta involutus fui Eiexit.* I visited Mr. Thatcher in the Evening. Mr. Webb¹⁹⁷ came in, and the Conversation turned upon the Kingdom of Christ, the calling of the Jew, etc. I observ'd Mrs. Thatcher¹⁹⁸ to discourse with a great deal of pertinence and Solidity as well as Zeal upon the Side of the millenists. By and by Madame rose up and to Mr. Webb we'll go if you please Sir from the Jews to Spanish and Polish at which game [?] they play'd till near nine when I left them and went to Captain Boyse's¹⁹⁹ to see Cousin Dorcas Bowes. He was presently very Earnest about the Late Transactions at the wedding of Miss Sarah Champney²⁰⁰ to John Lowell,²⁰¹ who were married the 23 of Last Month. To Day Mr. Lowell ordained at Newbury.

¹⁹¹Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

¹⁹²John Pratt.

¹⁹³Of Westborough.

¹⁹⁴At the Wayside Inn in Sudbury.

¹⁹⁵Reverend John McKinstry.

¹⁹⁶Samuel Champney, Sr.

¹⁹⁷Reverend John Webb of Boston.

¹⁹⁸Wife of the Reverend Peter Thatcher of Boston.

¹⁹⁹Samuel Boyce of Boston.

²⁰⁰Daughter of Noah and Sarah (Tunnell) Champney.

²⁰¹Reverend John Lowell (Harvard 1721). *Sibley*, VI, 496-502.

1726 January 20 (Thursday). Mr. Gee²⁰² preach'd the publick Lecture on Psalm 122. I went in the Afternoon to Mr. Lewis's to see Mrs. Edward's, but she herself was so ill with a broken Breast, and her son was apprehended to be dying, that therefore I could not see her. Captain Storey²⁰³ convers'd with me about his Sons living with me. His words were these about the Conditions of our Discourse. 'Take the Lad, Sir, Till about May, when I expect to return from Sea, but if it please God to prevent me, if you like the Boy keep him till he is 15 or 16 years old, when I would have him to put to apprentice. All I Desire is that you keep him warm, and feed him Suitably. Instruct him Christianity. My main Expectation and hope is that you'll give him Education proper to such an One. Let him Serve you as he is able, impose not on him those heavy burthens that will either Cripple him or Spoil his Growth. But in all regards I am willing he should Serve you to his Utmost. Upon my Consenting to this he said he has no Hatt. Let him have one of yours, and if it should so happen that he doth not remain with you I'll pay for it.' Upon all which I got him a Hatt at my Brothers and took him with Me at the Entrance of the Evening. It was very Cold and for the Sake of the Boy I was forc'd to call in twice by the way to Cambridge. We got up to Father Champney's in good Season, but very Cold.

1726 January 21 (Friday). It was near Eleven before I could Mount for home. I Stopp'd and Din'd at Captain Brintnalls,²⁰⁴ and got home before Day Light in. Engag'd in My Preparations for the Sabbath, which were now to Begin.

1726 January 22 (Saturday). I was bound very Strict to my Study, and very little time for Reflections or Meditations.

1726 January 23 (Sunday). I finish'd my Sermons before meeting time which were a further prosecution of my Thoughts upon Col. 3.2. It was a very Extreme Cold Day, Especially the forenoon. Captain Fay din'd with me.

1726 January 24 (Monday). I visited Mr. Thomas Newton²⁰⁵ who had been ill some time. I am thankful to Mr. Pratt who came to my Family to assist them in my Absence, and to see what might be done for their Comfort, and today came himself and went to Mill for me. Much foul weather, frequent Snows.

1726 January 25 (Tuesday). In the Evening I was full of Reflections upon my Negligence and in Trouble upon that account. The Circumstances of my Family are such that I can't avoid innumerable interruptions and impediments as it has prov'd all this winter, that I have been much obstructed in my Studies. I pay'd Mr. Goodeno 15 shillings for Labour in last Hay time.

²⁰²Reverend Joshua Gee of Boston.

²⁰³Probably Rowland Storey of Boston.

²⁰⁴William Brintnall of Sudbury. Hudson, *Sudbury*, pp. 299-301.

²⁰⁵An early inhabitant of Westborough. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 46-47.

1726 January 26 (Wednesday). I visited Mr. Jonathan Howard²⁰⁶ who has been ill. His Mother likewise was Some little time agoe much afflicted with a Tumor in her Throat. Returning I call'd in at Mr. Eager's²⁰⁷ and supp'd there.

1726 January 27, 28, 29 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). My Time was these Dayes taken up with Enquiries into my Subject for Next Lords Daye's Sermons and preparing them.

1726 January 30 (Sunday). Our Text was Heb. 10.25. Forenoon particularly was very Stormy and a great deal of Snow fell.

1726 January 31 (Monday). In the Evening I went down to see Lieutenant Forbush²⁰⁸ who yet remains in Sad Circumstances and much pained. I Entertained My Self with St. Augustine of the City of God with the Notes of Ludovicus Dives. This Book to my Conceiving is of Superiour Value and usefullness.

1726 February 1 (Tuesday). A Clear Day, except the first part of it, but the wind very high and blew the Snow about very much, Especially towards and in the Evening Exceeding Vehement and Cold. I read likewise the account given of Madame De Maintenon by the Guardian.

1726 February 2 (Wednesday). This morning was bitter Cold. We have hitherto had a very Severe Winter as we have Scarcely had for many Years. I began my preparations for the Sabbath. I read the notes of Rescomen on Horace in part.

1726 February 3, 4, 5 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I was Employ'd upon my Subject consulting Dr. Merlock, Mr. Charnock,²⁰⁹ etc.

1726 February 6 (Sunday). I preach'd on Heb. 10.25. In the morning I was put into great confusion and astonishment while Engag'd in the first prayer, to Such a Degree that it was with much difficulty that I proceeded, for I Entered upon the Sacred Employment with trembling and fear from the meditations I had all the morning upon my unworthyness and Sinfullness, my Slothfullness, negligence and unprofitableness in the most Exalted Trust and with Some of the highest Advantages. And the lively apprehension hereof so fill'd and possess'd my mind in the Holy Exercises that I could Scarce regard anything besides. I consider it as a righteous Castigation of God for my unfaithfullness to him in the great work to which he has called me, and I would humble myself before him and Implore his pardon through the Blood of Christ, and his grace to quicken and assist me. Both at noon and at night I Sadly reflected hereupon and offered prayers to God for Reconciliation and mercy.

²⁰⁶Of Westborough.

²⁰⁷James Eager, an early inhabitant of Westborough.

²⁰⁸Thomas Forbush of Westborough.

²⁰⁹Stephen Charnock (1628-1680), an English Puritan theologian.

1726 February 7 (Monday). Neighbor Clark²¹⁰ related the management of the Church of Stow in the Case of Richard Temple, a Member thereof. We got out a parcell of grain that was so full of Tares it was Scarce fit for use.

1726 February 8 (Tuesday). I was abroad at Mr. Oliver Wards and reckoned household with him. In the Evening Mr. Thurston²¹¹ and his wife were here till it was Late. We reckoned etc.

1726 February 9 (Wednesday). I was at Mr. John Maynards²¹² about noon. In the first of the Evening came Mr. McKinstry of Sutton and Mr. Walker,²¹³ one of his parish and they lodged with us.

1726 February 10, 11, 12 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I was chiefly taken up with my Sermons. Very pleasant weather because thawing.

1726 February 13 (Sunday). I again preach'd on Heb. 10.25.

1726 February 14 (Monday). I rode to Marlborough to Mr. Brecks.²¹⁴ We walk'd to Mr. Woods.²¹⁵ I paid up my account with Mr. Woods. We went into Mr. Amsdens²¹⁶ and Mr. Thomas²¹⁷ came in. My Full purpose was to return home, but Mr. Breck was so very Urgent with me, Since I had not been there for the Space of 3 months, that I tarried there all night.

1726 February 15 (Tuesday). After Dinner Mr. Breck appointed to go to his Daughters with me. I went to Mr. Edward Rice's²¹⁸ Shop and there, taking leave of Mr. Breck, I rode to Williams's²¹⁹ To see Mrs. Williams,²²⁰ it being the first of my being in Town Since she was married. Returning home I call'd at Captain Wards²²¹ to warm me it being Cold and to spend a Little time in Conversation with the Captain but he had taken a fortnight ride into Connecticut.

1726 February 16 (Wednesday). I read Dr. Mathers Directions to a Candidate of the Ministry which pleased me very much.

²¹⁰This person appears often in subsequent entries. Neither the Westborough town records nor the town history records any Clark in this period. Also Clark and Clarke genealogies do not reveal further information about this man.

²¹¹Joseph Thurston.

²¹²Of Westborough.

²¹³Lieutenant Obadiah Walker.

²¹⁴Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

²¹⁵Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

²¹⁶Captain Isaac Amsden of Marlborough.

²¹⁷William Thomas of Marlborough.

²¹⁸Of Marlborough.

²¹⁹Colonel Abraham Williams, a prominent resident of Marlborough. Charles Hudson, *History of Marlborough* (Boston, 1862), p. 470.

²²⁰Elizabeth Breck, daughter of the Reverend Robert Breck, married Abraham Williams, Dec. 22, 1725.

²²¹Nahum Ward of Shrewsbury. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, pp. 457-459.

1726 February 17 (Thursday). I read Ned. Wards Trips to New England and Jamaica, p.m. The Evening I Enter'd upon my Sermons on which the reading Mr. Watts²²² Guide to prayer Employ'd the 18th and 19th Dayes.

1726 February 20 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Gen. 12.8.

1726 February 21, 22, 23 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday). I was oblig'd to Strict attention and Study. I sent Mr. Ward to Mr. Barretts but he was from Home, and therefore no Dependence to be had upon him.

1726 February 24 (Thursday). We had a Lecture upon 2 Cor. 5.17.

1726 February 25, 26 (Friday, Saturday). I us'd utmost Diligence to prepare myself for the Approaching Solemnity, yet I was somewhat put to it to finish before I went to Bed on Saturday Night.

1726 February 27 (Sunday). It was very Stormy and Consequently few Communicants to be Expected and 'Twas not without much Difficulty that my Wife surmounted the Wind and Snow. But I hope we all had much Reason to rejoice in the presence of God that we Enjoy'd at the Holy Supper of the Lord, which I administered, having preach'd upon Psalm 84.1. In the Afternoon I again Discours'd on Gen. 12.8. Our Exercises were very short.

1726 February 28 (Monday). I rode as far as Mr. Warrins and Mr. Amsdens. Mr. Amsden, upon Occasion of his Horse and a great number in the Neighborhood besides, and in every Town about us, gave out various Reflections upon the Sad Mortality and Destruction of Horses; and the sore visitations in the Extream scarcity of Corn and Hay at this Juncture, through which Multitudes are sorely Distress'd.

1726 March 1 (Tuesday). Mrs. Whood and her Son with a Sled came and fetch'd away their Hay out of my Barn.

1726 March 2 (Wednesday). Mr. Cushing came to see us, and Mr. Woods of Marlborough was here at the same time. A Swine (given us by Mr. Holloway²²³) kill'd for us by Neighbor Clark and David Maynard. Mr. Cushing Lodg'd here. He gave us an account of Mr. Elmer and his Enfield People, etc.

1726 March 4 (Friday). He Returned Home. I in part prepar'd a Sermon.

1726 March 5 (Saturday). I went on with my preparation till Noon, when I rode to Shrewsbury, and Mr. Cushing rode back my Horse to Westborough.

²²²Isaac Watts, D.D. (1674-1748), the famous English hymn writer.

²²³Adam Holloway of Westborough.

1726 March 6 (Sunday). I preach'd at Shrewsbury upon John 12.26 a.m. and p.m. Captain Keyes²²⁴ over to see Me.

1726 March 7 (Monday). Mr. Cushing came in the morning to Me. We went over to Mr. Keyes's, where we had a strange Report about Mr. Breck's going to Merchant Wood's. Old Mr. Joslin²²⁵ of Marlborough, a very grave and good man buried there. I wrote to Boston by Lieutenant Leonard²²⁶ of Worcester. I return'd home.

1726 March 8 (Tuesday). Mr. Williams of Marlborough here to ask me to preach Mr. Brecks Lecture next Thursday.

1726 March 9 (Wednesday). I went to Captain Byle's and to Mr. Brighams to see his dau'ter in Law who continues Sick. At her Desire I pray'd with her. Mr. Brigham came home with me to prune my Trees. I went over to Neighbor Pratts to the Raising of his Barn.

1726 March 10 (Thursday). This morning, though not very good weather, I went to Marlborough to Lecture, But Mr. Cushing both pray'd and preach'd notwithstanding I was sent to, for I was not very well and I was glad I could persuade him. His Text was Mat. 11.12. We went down to Mr. Woods and it became very Stormy and rain'd hard. Mr. Thomas was with us with many of his diverting amusements and adventures in London. Mr. Woods presented me a Girdle. Mr. Cushing Lodg'd with me at Mr. Brecks.

1726 March 11 (Friday). Captain Brigham²²⁷ came in and gave us all an Invitation to Dinner with his Troop the last Tuesday of this Month. When we had din'd we left Mr. Brecks. I return'd home by way of Deacon Rices.²²⁸ It was most Tedious Riding by the breaking in of the Horse. We were run into some Difficulty about going to Mill through it being So long Stormy. But William Clark on the 12th went for us. Neighbor Clark brought Three Cows and Mr. Oliver Ward an Horse to my Barn.

1726 March 13 (Sunday). My Text this Day was Math. 6.6.

1726 March 14, 15 (Monday, Tuesday). There is Need of again and again Remarking the Extreame Difficulty and Distresses of People For themselves and their Beasts for want of Both Corn and Hay.

1726 March 16 (Wednesday). I was abroad at Mr. Increase Wards, Captain Fays,²²⁹ etc., about my Spring Business, to hire Labourers, and make Enquiry after a Man to Live with me.

²²⁴John Keyes of Shrewsbury. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, pp. 340-341.

²²⁵Nathaniel Joslin died March 5, 1726.

²²⁶Moses Leonard.

²²⁷Nathan Brigham of Marlborough. Hudson, *Marlborough*, p. 334.

²²⁸Caleb Rice of Marlborough. Hudson, *Marlborough*, p. 435.

²²⁹John Fay of Westborough.

1726 March 17, 18, 19 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I further pursu'd my Subject of Secret worship and accordingly

1726 March 20 (Sunday). I preach'd on the same Text as Last Sabbath. Jason Badcock an illegitimate born Child presented by Mr. Joseph Wheeler was Baptiz'd. That I might warrant this practice by Suitable Defence thereof I consulted our gravest New England Divines, Increase Mather, etc., First, and then Foreign most Judicious as van Mastericht (as well as those of our own Nation) Ames, etc.

1726 March 21, 22, 23 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday). I made it my Business to Enquire into the State of the Land and to Study the Causes of the Divine Judgement and what God is Demanding of Us by his Severe hands upon us. It is a Distresing time. Multitudes under heavy Sufferings for want of Hay for their Creatures.

1726 March 24 (Thursday). A Publick Fast. My Text was Jas. 12.4, a.m. and p.m. I Labour'd hard. When Exercises were over my mind was possess'd with it that God would be favourable to us this Year Ensuing.

1726 March 25, 26 (Friday, Saturday). Very Strictly Engag'd in my Preparations.

1726 March 27 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Ps. 25.11.

1726 March 28 (Monday). About This Time Neighbor Green²³⁰ was urgent with me to sell him part of my Land.

1726 March 29 (Tuesday). Mr. Rice Sundry Times visited me upon account of his Mare. Mr. John Pratt with me about my Meadows, etc.

1726 March 30 (Wednesday). No whither can one turn but the Calamity of the times are felt, Everyone Complaining and Lamenting. My Neighbor Clark though a foreigner I could not but Commiserate, and I actually did put forth Myself to my utmost to succour him Every Way, By Grain, Hay, keeping Creatures, Money, etc. O Miserere Deus! Corn was Sold at Oxford for 8 shillings per Bushel, and in other places.

1726 March 31 (Thursday). I rode down to Captain Wards to Engage Robert Henry to Live with me and I did so and Silence Bartlet, one for 23 t'other for 8 pounds per Year.

1726 April 1 (Friday). William Wilson of Concord, a poor Shiftless man Lodg'd with us Last night, and about the same time Simon Tainter²³¹ (who had been with me some time agoe) was with

²³⁰John Green.

²³¹Of Westborough. He was admitted to the church, April 3, 1726. Westborough Church Records. Simon Tainter, who later became a deacon, and who lived until 1763, was a good friend of Parkman. Harriette M. Forbes, *The Diary of Rev. Ebenezer Parkman* (Westborough, 1899), pp. 11-12.

Me in a very Heavenly and Devout Time, Conversing of his State and preparations for his admittance into the Communion. I was upon My Preparations as also the 2nd Day.

1726 April 3 (Sunday). I preach'd upon the Same Text as last Sabbath, Ps. 25.11. John Whoood of Hopkinton at Dinner with us. He rode home his Horse which I had had to keep.

1726 April 4 (Monday). One of Mr. Ward's Cows went home. What man would not think it worth Noting that [he] has Seen the mighty Contests and Brawlings that are often made about the most inconsiderable things of this kind, and the Reflections cast upon the honesty and uprightness of those of Sacred Character (because they ought to be Examples to observe), if there is not a peculiar preciseness and Exactness in making up the minutest part of an account.

1726 April 5 (Tuesday). Silence Bartlet came to Live with us. Two of Neighbor Clarks Cows went away. My Hay growing very short, or my Tenderness towards this man would not have suffer'd me to Send them away.

1726 April 7 (Thursday). Mr. Rice's Mare went away after Lecture. I preach'd this Day on 2 Cor. 1.12. I very Eagerly expected Mr. Barrett,²³² having sent to him in good Season, but (as it has happened these Three Times with him) I was disappointed.

1726 April 8 (Friday). Another of Mr. Wards Cows was Sent home.

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

1726 April 10 (Sunday). This Day was our sacrament. I preach'd upon Lamt. and 2 Cor. 1.12. I have great Reason to express all gratitude to God for his presence with me, inasmuch as I trust I had much of the presence and spirit of God with me.

1726 April 11 (Monday). Robert Henry came to live with me. Neighbor Clark Sow'd My Oats, and Some Peas. William Clark Harrow'd till Eleven o'Clock and then Robert took the Work.

1726 April 12 (Tuesday). I rode down to Association at Marlborough. Present, Mr. Swift,²³³ Mr. Breck, Mr. Prentice,²³⁴ Mr. Loring,²³⁵ Mr. McKinstry,²³⁶ Mr. Cushing,²³⁷ Mr. Gardner,²³⁸ Mr.

²³²Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

²³³Reverend John Swift of Framingham.

²³⁴Reverend John Prentice of Lancaster.

²³⁵Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

²³⁶Reverend John McKinstry of Sutton. Benedict and Tracey, *Sutton*, pp. 33-35. He was not a member of the Marlborough Association. Allen, *Worcester Association*, pp. 5-7

²³⁷Reverend John Cushing of Shrewsbury.

²³⁸Reverend John Gardner of Stow.

Cook,²³⁹ Mr. Barrett, Mr. Burr²⁴⁰ and myself. Mr. Swift opened the Association with prayer, and Mr. Thomas McKinstry²⁴¹ proposed a Matter between himself and one of his parish, in which he requested our Sentiments and advice concerning the best Manner of Managing it. He had preach'd a Sermon from these words in Eph. 5.20: "Giving Thanks alwayes for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." In which Sermon he maintained that we ought to give Thanks to God not only for Prosperous but Even Adverse Dispensations. One Putnam (and Sundry others Combining) had been Set Against, and Still manifested uneasiness at Such Doctrine and this man was Resolute to make a stir about it. He had alwayes been Discontented with Mr. McKinstry but now Charges him as inorthodox. We therefore wrote a brief Declaration according to Mr. McKinstrys Request in This Wise.

Application being made to us the Subscribers, conven'd at Marlborough April 12, 1726, by the Reverend Mr. John McKinstry, Setting forth that he had delivered certain Doctrine as follows, viz., that the Children of God ought to give thanks to God at all Times for all his Providence to us, Whether they be prosperous or Afflictive, and the Doctrine was Dissatisfactory to some of his Brethren. Our Opinion hereupon being Desired we freely Declare that we judge said Doctrine to be agreeable to the Sacred Scriptures and Sentiments of the most Judicious Expositions of Orthodox Divines. Sign'd by Ebenezer Parkman, John Swift, Robert Breck, John Prentice, Israel Loring, Job Cushing, John Gardner, William Cook. Having din'd, Mr. Axtil²⁴² of Marlborough Desir'd advice of the Association in his Case, who for irregular Behaviour and Discourse with respect to one Tabitha Rice²⁴³ (who had laid a Child to his son), and the Church, likewise in Managing the Affair, was suspended. But his Infirmary of understanding rendered him incapable of the plainest Counsell and Direction which from Everyone given him. Mr. Cook also Proposed a Cause between Two of his Parish who were uneasy with one another in a Bargain they had made about some Land. But some other Business Engaging me I took little notice of it, Seeing it was not in my Power to advantage it any manner of way.

Association Breaking up, I rode with Mr. Barrett as far as Mr. Eagers²⁴⁴ of the Town where my Horse broke, but Lighting upon Mr. McCollisters²⁴⁵ Son upon a Horse I rode home. My Beast was Safe at my own Barn. Brothers Champney²⁴⁶ and Hicks²⁴⁷ were to see us.

²³⁹Reverend William Cooke (Harvard 1716) of Wayland. *Sibley*, VI, 134-138-

²⁴⁰Reverend Isaac Burr (Yale 1717) of Worcester. Dexter, pp. 163-165.

²⁴¹This should be Reverend John McKinstry.

²⁴²Thomas Axtell. Axtell was the subject of several discussions by the Marlborough Association. See Allen, *Worcester Association*, pp. 12, 19-20.

²⁴³The daughter of Edward Rice of Marlborough. There is no record of the birth of her child close to this date, but there is a record of a daughter, Sarah, born to Tabatha Rice, July 10, 1723. Tabatha Rice married one Nathaniel Oakes or Oke, Feb. 20, 1726/7. *Marlborough Vital Records* (Worcester, 1908), p. 160, p. 304.

²⁴⁴Either Zachariah Eager or his brother Zerubbabel, both of whom were residents of Marlborough at this time.

²⁴⁵Probably John McCollister of Westborough.

²⁴⁶Samuel Champney, Jr., of Cambridge, Parkman's wife's brother.

²⁴⁷John Hicks of Cambridge, Parkman's brother-in-law.

1726 April 13 (Wednesday). Our Brethren went to Hopkinton and so home. Neighbor Green Bought part of the South Side of my Land. In the Evening we gave writings.

1726 April 14 (Thursday). Mr. Barrett came to see us.

1726 April 15, 16 (Friday, Saturday). Gloomy Weather for the Season. We had Cold Storms for most of the week.

1726 April 17 (Sunday). I preach'd upon 2 Cor. 1.12 and Ps. 25.15. I was Extremely Tired in my Body so that I could not only not keep off the Bed but Scarce lye on it.

1726 April 18 (Monday). Neighbor Clark had my Beast to plough for him.

1726 April 19 (Tuesday). Neighbor Clark's last Cows went home.

1726 April 20 (Wednesday). I heard of Severall more Creatures Dead.

1726 April 21 (Thursday). Neighbor Green paid me forty pounds upon first bonds. Planted Apple Trees.

1726 April 22 (Friday). Bright, warm, after long Cold Rainy Weather.

1726 April 23 (Saturday). We were in a sad Commotion by the Hills being fir'd. Robert was Exceeding unfortunate to burn the Brush after long uneasiness through my fears of his persuasions. I gave him leave to set fire to the most Distant Heap and the last in the wind, but the Leaves were drie and the wind fresh so that it put us to great Labour to carry it. It burnt about 20 Rod of my fence and would have Consum'd without a period if I had not receiv'd Neighbor David Maynards Help, and been very Diligent my Self. But before Neighbor Maynard came, it raged to such a Degree that we grew so hot and faint as Severall times to give up and Robert²⁴⁸ Lay'd himself down in an Expiring posture, till quickened by a New Resolution. It got Lead upon the Fence before Help came. Through Divine favour we put a stop to it to our great Joy att about noon. It continued to burn indeed, but not to run and Spread. We were oblig'd to have an Eye over it continually, and I was not, many times, without fear of its catching again because Towards night there were great Gusts of Wind, Thunder and Lightning and very little if any Rain. This was the more terrible as happening in the middst of my Preparation for the Sabbath. But God was very Gracious.

1726 April 24 (Sunday). I preach'd upon James 1.21, both a. and p.m. I baptiz'd Josiah Newton's²⁴⁹ Daughter Mary.²⁵⁰

²⁴⁸Robert Henry, Parkman's hired hand.

²⁴⁹One of the first inhabitants of Westborough.

²⁵⁰Born April 20, 1726.

1726 April 25 (Monday). I Catechized the Children at the Meetinghouse. Number above Twenty.

1726 April 26 (Tuesday). Mr. Ward came with his Cart and We Carted out 20 Load of Muck. I made up accounts with Mr. Ward.

1726 April 27 (Wednesday). Again Carted 12 Load of Muck.

1726 April 28 (Thursday). I rode down to Marlborough and preach'd the Lecture from Acts 16.24. After Lecture I paid Colonel How²⁵¹ £3.10 for Beef I had of him and Mr. Wood 20£, which (with 10£ at one time and 20£ at another before) made up the 50£ which I borrowed of him last Year. I paid him the Interest also which was 1£ 25 Shillings. I made up with him also for Sundrys had in his Shop. Here was Mr. Thomas. Mr. Wood presented Me a Dozen of long Pipes, and Mr. Amsden presented Me a pair of Tobacco Tongs. It was between 10 and 11 when I got home. Bass and Shadd sent to us.

1726 April 29 (Friday). Rob was Employed about Setting up New Fence. But I was taken up with my Preparations for the Sabbath.

1726 April 30 (Saturday). Went on with my Compositions. Robert plough'd for Planting.

1726 May 1 (Sunday). I preach'd on James 1.21 a. and p.m. I receiv'd Asher Rice²⁵² into our Communion. N.B. Captain Fay offer'd to Say Something concerning the Congregations tarrying to Such admissions, but having given Sufficient Notice in my Conversations of my whole Purpose and practice in these Regards I put a stop to him immediately and said no More.

1726 May 2 (Monday). I read Miscellaneously. Robert Plough'd part of the Day. Put up some Fence in 1st part.

1726 May 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Breck came to see me. Robert plough'd again till towards night, when (after I had been with Mr. Breck to Mr. S. Maynards) I rode with Mr. Breck to Shrewsbury where we lodg'd.

1726 May 4 (Wednesday). We walk'd to Mr. Cushing's house and thence to Mr. Smith's²⁵³ (who kept our Horses last night) where we [were] decently Entertained. We returned to Mr.

²⁵¹Thomas Howe of Marlborough, an Indian fighter, Justice of the Peace, and representative of the town. Hudson, *Marlborough*, pp. 382-383

²⁵²Asher Rice was the son of Thomas Rice. In 1704, when eight years of age, he was captured by the French and Indians. Four years later he was recovered by his father. Asher was an eccentric who retained some habits acquired when living with the Indians. He later moved to that part of Leicester which became the town of Spencer in 1775. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 37-40. See also *The Story of the Rice Boys* (Westborough, 1906).

²⁵³Peter Smith of Shrewsbury, a founder of the church there. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, p. 431.

Wards²⁵⁴ to Dinner after which Both Mr. Breck and Mr. Cushing rode with Me to My house at Westborough. They parted a little before night. Robert did somewhat more at ploughing this afternoon.

1726 May 5 (Thursday). Finished his Ploughing.

1726 May 6, 7 (Friday, Saturday). He planted Indian Corn, But I confined myself, and for want of Some inspection it was so furrow'd I could have been Glad to have had it to have done again.

1726 May 8 (Sunday). I preach'd upon James 1.21, a.m., and on Phil. 3.13, p.m. I baptized Neighbor Prat²⁵⁵ Junior his Daughter Betty.²⁵⁶

1726 May 9 (Monday). I rode (with my Wife) to See Mr. Thomas Newton²⁵⁷ for whom (and for the widow Record Ward²⁵⁸) Prayers were Yesterday publicly Desir'd. We were in also at John Pratt Juniors and p.m. at Neighbor Josiah Newtons. This Last gave Me a pair of Shoes for my Self and a pair for My Lad.

1726 May 10, 11 (Tuesday, Wednesday). Robert got Rails. I began my Sermon.

1726 May 12 (Thursday). Captain Fay came to our house. I fell upon a Discourse about his Speaking in the church as above mentioned, without Notice given Me concerning it, etc., etc. Mr. Cushing came to see Me.

1726 May 13, 14 (Friday, Saturday). I was Strictly Engag'd upon My Subject.

1726 May 15 (Sunday). We were Entertain'd upon Phil. 3.13.14, a. and p.m. The widow Ward died.

1726 May 16 (Monday). Robert Went to Work at Mr. Oliver Wards, whose Mother, Record Ward was this Day Buried. I was at the funerall all 4[?] p.m., and then My Wife and Child I carried with me to Mr. Brecks Who we found was not Well, and did not go to Meeting yesterday in the Afternoon. We lodged here.

1726 May 17 (Tuesday). We rode to Cambridge. Call'd at my wives Uncles about 3 p.m. Convers'd and refresh'd and went to her Father's.²⁵⁹ Here we lodg'd. I was not well after Evening prayer in the Family.

²⁵⁴Captain Nahum Ward, a prominent resident of Shrewsbury.

²⁵⁵John Pratt.

²⁵⁶Born May 8, 1726.

²⁵⁷An early resident and militia officer of Westborough.

²⁵⁸Widow of Increase Ward. Mother of Oliver Ward, selectman of Westborough.

²⁵⁹Samuel Champney of Cambridge.

1726 May 18 (Wednesday). I rode to Boston. My Mother not well. My Brother John Tyley²⁶⁰ return'd from Honduras, having been taken by Ned Low the Pirate. Towards Evening I went back to Charlston for my Horse at Boylstons,²⁶¹ where I met Mr. Cotton²⁶² of Newton and a Company of his Neighbours, Mr. Ephraim Williams,²⁶³ etc., who had all been out afishing. I rode with them to Cambridge and then parted to go to Father Champneys where I lodged.

1726 May 19 (Thursday). In the Morning I got on my Journey home. I lit of one [blank] of Lancaster who behaved himself very handsomely and bore my Expenses of Eating and Drinking and oats at the Tavern. I stop'd at Mr. Swifts whose Family (Severall of them being very ill and the rest not well) was much afflicted. I got home seasonably but much fatigued.

1726 May 20, 21 (Friday, Saturday). Strictly Employ'd in My Preparations. My Lip broke out and was very troublesome. Captain Ward here about Robert. Robert came from Mr. Oliver Wards.

1726 May 22 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Prov. 3.6. Mr. Willard²⁶⁴ of Hassenimisco's Child Hannah²⁶⁵ was baptized.

1726 May 23 (Monday). In the morning about 7 or 8 I set out for Cambridge. I call'd at Neighbor Thurstons,²⁶⁶ he being agoing out waited for his Horse. I tarried an hour and half and then went away without him, as far as Mr. William Johnsons,²⁶⁷ where he came up with me. We rode to Mr. Swifts but did not 'Light. Mr. Swift very ill, Hence we went to Natick but Mr. Peabody²⁶⁸ not at home. Madame persuaded us to tarry for him Since he would not be at the Election, and Seeing Mr. Hale was with him. They came in the Beginning of the Evening, and we had a very pleasant time till Two o'Clock in the Morning, when we forc'd our Conversation to break up. (N.B. The Family had Liberty to repose about 10 in the Evening and Neighbor Thurston then retir'd from us.) I had the afflicting account of poor Mr. Osgood²⁶⁹ our Classmate, his Recess from Topsfield. In the Morning we Sung a Psalm and I was call'd upon (for I refu'sd it last night and Mr. Hale was desir'd thereupon) to perform the address to Heaven. Then we Walk'd about Mr. Peabodys Farm. We convers'd, we smoak'd, and we (hardly) parted. Mr. Hale with us we proceeded as far as Mr. Ephraim Williams of Newton, but he was not at home. From this Place we Urg'd our way to Father Champneys (Mr. Hale

²⁶⁰Parkman's brother-in-law, husband of Elizabeth Parkman.

²⁶¹Richard Boylston of Charlestown.

²⁶²Reverend John Cotton.

²⁶³Colonel Ephraim Williams who moved to Stockbridge in 1739.

²⁶⁴Major Joseph Willard went to live at Hassenemisco, an Indian village, in 1717. He was a founder of the town of Grafton. Frederick C. Pierce, *History of Grafton* (Worcester, 1879), pp. 49-50, 604.

²⁶⁵Born May 22, 1726, according to Westborough town records.

²⁶⁶Joseph Thurston.

²⁶⁷Of Marlborough.

²⁶⁸Oliver Peabody (Harvard 1721). Later minister of the First Congregational Church (the Indian church) in Natick. *Sibley*, VI, 529-534.

²⁶⁹William Osgood (Harvard 1721) had begun preaching in Topsfield in the fall of 1725. In July, 1726, he was dismissed by his congregation. *Sibley*, VI, 508-509.

dropping us at the verge of Waterton) and thence to Boston, My Wife being carried thither by her Brother this Morning. I sent back my Horse to Cambridge.

1726 May 25 (Wednesday). Mr. Thatcher²⁷⁰ preach'd an Excellent Sermon from those words Psalm 77.20 "Thou leddest thy People like a Flock by the Hand of Moses and Aaron." But I was much interrupted by a Lip full of anguish that put me to great Trouble. I was not at the publick Dinner for this Reason, that our Family were gathered together at my Fathers and I was Obliged to dine with them. And this, and my Lip detained me from the Convention.

1726 May 26 (Thursday). I was at the Convention (at Mr. Sewalls²⁷¹). Mr. William Williams²⁷² of Hatfield preach'd. After it we din'd at Holmes's. Much Discourse of a true Representation of the affair of the Synod Concerted last year. Dr. Mather²⁷³ acquainted us he had Sent some letters hereabouts, but I had no perfect account being absent yesterday, as aforesaid. I sent for my Horse but it was late and then I was Easily prevailed with to tarry till the Morning.

1726 May 27 (Friday). Mr. Coffin and Mr. Lee came in just before we Left Home. The Last walked with me to the Ferry. My wife was very Timerous. I waited for one Boat after another before we ventur'd. It was near 10 o'clock ere we mounted. We rode to Cambridge to Hick's and Fathers. Bundled up, Din'd a little after 12 and (with our Brother Champney) Set out. Call'd at My Wive's uncle Champney's²⁷⁴ and Every now and then Stopt in the Road to fix the Child. We parted at Livermores,²⁷⁵ where Mr. Breck,²⁷⁶ Mr. Woods²⁷⁷ and Rasto call'd us, and we rode (after Severall Hesitations for Mr. Breck and on account of the Child) to David Hows²⁷⁸ where we tarry'd Several Hours. Notwithstanding (coming by the Farms in Marlborough) we reach'd home before Day Light in.

1726 May 28 (Saturday). We Rested. Brother returned home.

1726 May 29 (Sunday). Early in the morning I rode to Hopkinton, met Mr. Barrett a little on this Side his house. I preach'd all Day from Acts 24.16. Mrs. Barrett did not make a Dining. I waited for Mr. and Mrs. Barrett (for Drugs for my Child) till it was too late to return home. Mr. Barrett Baptized Jedidiah²⁷⁹ the Son of Peres and Lydia Rice.

²⁷⁰Reverend Peter Thatcher of Boston.

²⁷¹Reverend Joseph Sewall (Harvard 1707) of the Old South Church, Boston. *Sibley V*, 376-393.

²⁷²Reverend William Williams (Harvard 1683). *Sibley*, III, 263-269.

²⁷³Cotton Mather.

²⁷⁴Joseph Champney, Sr.

²⁷⁵Joseph Livermore of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 625.

²⁷⁶Reverend Robert Breck of Westborough. [Correction: Marlborough.]

²⁷⁷Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

²⁷⁸The Wayside Inn in Sudbury.

²⁷⁹Of Westborough. Date of birth in town records is May 29, 1726.

1726 May 30 (Monday). I returned home. Robert began to weed the Corn. He had Mr. Oliver Wards Rocket and Horse to assist him. I read Bradleys General Treatise on Husbandry and Gardening and Extracted Observations.

1726 May 31 (Tuesday). I read Dr. Cotton Mathers *Ratio Discipline Fratrum Nov. Anglorum*,²⁸⁰ a Book which I have long wish'd for, or something of this Kind. I apprehend there was great need of the Publication here of [it] and I have a great value for it. Before it I knew not where there was anything fixt and stated for our Regulation in the Lesser Circumstances; or what to do about Severall Modalities in our Ministrations. For My own Part, I hitherto had governed My Self Chiefly by what the Assembly at Westminster had given me; but for more minute Articles I consulted what was customary with the best men among us and as far as they agreed with my Sense I followed them in My Management. I have Likewise Laid before me our own Platform and Confession of Faith, and various other Books I have Consulted for the Formation of my Directory. Where there was Honey to be Extracted I have not refused to Suck even the Common Prayer Book of the Church of England. But the Book above mentioned has proved the most illuminating and Instructing Especially in Circumstantialls. Silence Bartlet not well.²⁸¹ She went to the Doctors.

1726 June 1 (Wednesday). Robert came between 1 and 2 p.m. to Hoe for me.

1726 June 2 (Thursday). Robert still at Howing. Perhaps there may be many more Tedious and Chafing things in Hirelings than ever Mention has been made of. Silence Bartlett being much indispos'd went to Marlborough to take advice of the Phicician.

1726 June 3 (Friday). Robert at the Same Business still with William Clark to assist him. I was at my Preparations. In all my Wayes, outward on Secular Wayes as well as Spirituall I acknowledge God.

1726 June 4 (Saturday). It was very hot all Day. We have had a very fierce Sun and but little Rain for Some time. In the Evening I went down into my Cellar thin clad as I had been in the Day and got a bad Cold.

1726 June 5 (Sunday). I rose much indispos'd. I went to public Worship which my wife urged very much against. I was very faint when I Entered the house, but (with much difficulty) I went through the Exercises of the forenoon. In the Intermission I was still worse. I tarry'd at home, and sent Mr. Symms's²⁸² Sermon to delaying Sinners to be Read. Neighbor Thurston and Mr. Tomlin,²⁸³ I was told, pray'd. I grew very ill, having pains through my Limbs, oppression and sharp pains at my Stomach that caused much faintness. Just the way of Divine Providence I would acknowledge God.

²⁸⁰Published in Boston, 1716.

²⁸¹Mrs. Parkman's young helper in the house.

²⁸²Thomas Symmes, *A Monitor for Delaying Sinners* (Boston, 1719).

²⁸³Deacon Isaac Tomlin.

1726 June 6 (Monday). My illness increased. My Wife was not well nor any Child. I sent John Storey to Marlborough for Silence Bartlett. Robert wrought for Neighbor Clark.

1726 June 7 (Tuesday). I sent for Mr. Barrett.

1726 June 8 (Wednesday). Robert had not finish'd Howing till 11 o'clock. And then I order'd him to get up my Mare and carry Silence Bartlet to Brookfield. After they were gone Mr. Barrett came to see Me.

1726 June 9 (Thursday). Mr. Ward²⁸⁴ Sent his Daughter Dinah to us. Robert returned just within Night.

1726 June 10, 11 (Friday, Saturday). This week was a weary time. What I could read chiefly was the Arch Bishop of Cambrays Telemathus, by Boyer. Dinah Ward went home.

1726 June 12 (Sunday). I could not go to Meeting. I would humble myself before God for my former Negligence and unfaithfulness on this Blessed Day which justly Deserves the Divine Frowns. I Beseech God to assist me by his Grace to greater Diligence and Zeal and Constancy in his Service, especially in my Great work on this Day for the Future.

I Sent a sermon to the meeting house but there being but 3 or 4 Men there they returned to my house. Most of the people were gone to Meeting in neighbouring Towns. There were Worcester people here for Mr. Burr²⁸⁵ was ill. It was doubtfull whether there would be any Meeting at Shrewsbury for Mr. Cushing²⁸⁶ Broke his Arm some Time since and has not been able to preach for 2 Sabbaths. The Time look'd very Melancholly. It show'd in a Lively Light the great Priviledge of Comfortable free Enjoyment of the Lords Day.

1726 June 13 (Monday). I read Drydens Virgil from the 7th Aneid.

1726 June 14 (Tuesday). Training Day. The Officers sent importunate Addresses to me to have me dine with them. I rode as far as Mr. Maynards²⁸⁷ (the next house) and it made me more chearfull. It was Town meeting also, in the Afternoon upon account of our Sutton neighbours that would be Set off to us.²⁸⁸ Robert was at Moulding up my Indian Corn. He did not make that Heavy Business of the First part that he did before. I prosecuted some preparation for Next Sabbath.

²⁸⁴Oliver Ward of Marlborough. Dinah (b. 1709) was his eldest daughter.

²⁸⁵Reverend Isaac Burr of Worcester.

²⁸⁶Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

²⁸⁷David Maynard of Westborough.

²⁸⁸See DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 101.

1726 June 15 (Wednesday). I read in Sir Matthew Hales Contemplations.²⁸⁹ Rebecca Paddison came to Live with us.

1726 June 16 (Thursday). N.B. We kill'd our Calf. The inability and negligence of Robert! An Exceeding Dry time.

1726 June 17 (Friday). Most of us were ill with Colds, and many roundabout us also.

1726 June 18 (Saturday). I finished my Preparations. I had Sundry Reflections upon my past unserviceableness that might Righteously detain me from Gods house not only a Day or Two, but forever.

1726 June 19 (Sunday). I preach'd on Prov. 3.6; p.m. on Eph. 5.16. Captain Willard²⁹⁰ din'd with me and Mrs. Holloway.²⁹¹ Concluding Exercises in the Afternoon, I was very much Spent. I was very Faint and my knees trembled very Sensibly and so I continued till I had rested my Self some time at home. I had in the Evening a good Season of Serious Enquirys unto my Self. God grant me more such and bless them to me.

1726 June 20 (Monday). I rode as far as Mr. Tainters²⁹² to raising his Barn. It was a pleasant time, but not altogether without Trouble and Toil.

1726 June 21 (Tuesday). I grew Weary of Robert Henry; having set me up Some Lengths (perhaps a Score) after his Manner, I made up accounts with him and gave him his Liberty.

1726 June 22 (Wednesday). Robert Henry went away. I reckon'd with Neighbor Clark. N.B. After a long time of Drought God in Mercy remembered us, and Last night and this morning (with not a little Thunder and Lightening) Sent us plentifull Showers of Rain. I remain faint through pains in my Stomach which often Oblige me to desist Studying. Yesterday Rebecca Paddison, apprehending Some Dangerous Tumour in her Breast, returned to her Mother. Brother Champney²⁹³ came up to See us.

1726 June 23 (Thursday). Brother returned home. I felt much pain in My Stomach, which made any work very Heavy.

1726 June 24 (Friday). I Employ'd the Chief of this Week in My preparations for the Sabbath, for my Indispositions allow'd me but very little Liberty without a Respit and avocation.

1726 June 25 (Saturday). Mr. Tainter and Bowman of Sutton mow'd for me.

²⁸⁹Hale (1609-1676) was the famous English jurist. His *Contemplations Moral and Divine* (London, 1676) appeared in numerous subsequent editions.

²⁹⁰Benjamin Willard, father of Major Joseph Willard.

²⁹¹Mrs. William Holloway of Westborough.

²⁹²Simon Tainter of Westborough.

²⁹³Samuel Champney, Jr., Parkman's brother-in-law.

1726 June 26 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day and Administer'd the Sacrament, But I Scarce went through the Business.

1726 June 27 (Monday). This Day, for want of all other Help than my little Boy, I rak'd and turn'd my Hay till just before Night. Neighbor Clark sent his Son to assist in making it up.

1726 June 28 (Tuesday). This Morning we had many refreshing Showers, which I look upon as a great Mercy notwithstanding I had near two Load of Hay Expos'd in it. Hannah Paddison came to live with us.

1726 June 29, 30 (Wednesday, Thursday). We pol'd in our Hay. Neighbor Green and William Clark, My Self and Boy. My Self and Neighbor Green.²⁹⁴ Notwithstanding such Exercise last mentioned was my Diversion and Choice, yet I found it sometime tir'd me very much. It set me into Reflections upon the unhappy times we are fallen into and the Ingratitude of most of the people of the Country to their Ministers, very few besides the Boston ministers being able to Support themselves with what they Receive from their People. Certainly they are straighthanded and if they Reap Sparingly no wonder since they Sow very Sparingly. He that would be just will attribute hereto and not to the want of Either sufficient parts of Eager Inclination if there are not so great men among us as were famous in New England in the Dayes of Fathers. Most ministers do groan under their pressures and it is an addition to the weight that Sinks them that the Generality of People are of the Sort and Spirit that it Scarce ever can prove to the Advantage of men to complain, but it is best to Suffer patiently, to obtain relief. They Desire to be left to their own Generosity, the Extent of which is Enough Demonstrated. This Reflection is the more melancholly when it is Evident Such Evil conceits are daily propated [propagated?] to the Dishonour of God with the Disparagement of his Ministry. For, trifling as the following observation is, it is true: That their [blot] inward Respect is much proportion'd to our Externall appearance; when therefore it becomes mean through their neglect it will be in Danger of becoming worse through their Contempt. But (*Christo gratias*) I have had little Experience, as yet.

1726 July 1, 2 (Friday, Saturday). Whatsoever I have done in the former part of the Week in Reading Either Commentarys or sermons upon my Subject, or collecting observations thereon, yet these Days I would spend in strictest Engagement in writing and reviewing my preparations for the Public.

1726 July 3 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Eph. 5.16, p.m., on Jer. 4.14.

²⁹⁴ John Green of Westborough.

1726 July 4 (Monday). I rode away to Mr. Brecks,²⁹⁵ who acquainted me with what was done last association. Especially referring to Mr. McKinstry's²⁹⁶ Cause, and Mr. Barretts²⁹⁷ with Mr. How. Thence I rode to Mr. Woods. Thence to Mr. Cooks where I din'd on fry'd Pigeons. Thence to Livermores, from whence to Father Champney's.²⁹⁸ My Journey hither was very Tedious but I proceeded to Boston. Through my illness I was very much tired. Brother John,²⁹⁹ I was informed was ready to sail for Dublin in a vessel belonging to the Family. Brother Alexanders³⁰⁰ wife Last week was Delivered of a Daughter.³⁰¹

1726 July 5 (Tuesday). I was about various Concerns but I was very faint and incapable of Business. I was at Mather Byles's³⁰² and he show'd me (at my Request) his Poem to Mr. Dowding on his Verses of Eternity, Sent in a Letter to Sir Byles. This Poem was published in the Courant No. _____.³⁰³ He repeated his own and Mr. Adams's³⁰⁴ Poems on Captain Winslow³⁰⁵ deceas'd with all which I was very well pleas'd. I was at various places but I was not well in Either. I was very much afflicted with the Oppressions at my Stomach. I was with Dr. [Louis] Dalhonde.

1726 July 6 (Wednesday). Commencement. I was much of a stranger at College, but my indispositions much prevented my making my Observations. The Batchelours had their Degrees in the Meeting house in the Morning. But there was so much rain at noon that the masters Disputations were in College-Hall and their Degrees given them in the Afternoon. I was at Sir Bridghams³⁰⁶ Chamber at Dinner but I was not fit for any Conversation through my Lifelessness. I was desir'd by Mr. Barrett to Meet here with our Association upon Mr. McKinstry's Cause, But no body came. Mr. Breck led me to Sir Saltonstalls³⁰⁷ Chamber where there being little Company I had most Quiet. It was a very rainy Time which kept the Town full of People, full of Jollitys and no one knows what. At Night having borrowed a Large Sturdy Coat I ventured over to Father Champney's but it was very wet, uncomfortable. Here was Cousin Dorcas Bows³⁰⁸

²⁹⁵ Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

²⁹⁶ Reverend John McKinstry of Sutton. Benedict and Tracey, *Sutton*, pp. 32-35.

²⁹⁷ Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

²⁹⁸ Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's father-in-law.

²⁹⁹ Parkman's brother-in-law, John Tyley.

³⁰⁰ Parkman's older brother, Alexander.

³⁰¹ Esther Parkman, born June 29, 1726.

³⁰² Mather Byles (Harvard 1725), poet, humorist, minister of the Hollis St. Church, Boston, 1732-1776. *Sibley*, VII, 464-493. For information on Byles' poetry see the Introduction by C. Lennart Carlson in the 1940 facsimile edition of Byles' *Poems on Several Occasions* (Boston, 1744).

³⁰³ *The New England Courant*, No. 237, published in Boston. Dowding may have been Joseph, b. 1702.

³⁰⁴ John Adams (Harvard 1721), poet, minister and classmate of Parkman. *Sibley*, VI, 424-427.

³⁰⁵ Captain Josiah Winslow (Harvard 1721) was the commander of a fort on St. George's River in Maine, and was killed in an Indian engagement April 30, 1724. *Sibley*, VI, 587-589. Byles' poem was printed in his *Poems on Several Occasions* (Boston, 1744), and Adams' in his *Poems on Several Occasions* (Boston, 1745).

³⁰⁶ James Bridgham (Harvard 1726). *Sibley*, VIII, 7-10.

³⁰⁷ Nathaniel Saltonstall (Harvard 1727). *Sibley*, VIII, 263-265.

³⁰⁸ Mrs. Parkman's cousin.

and Susan Champney.³⁰⁹ We lodg'd Comfortably. But a little after midnight Mrs. Jerusha Fairweather and Mrs. Mary Gain Came over. I was awake but they concluded I was asleep, and therefore I was never Troubled.

1726 July 7 (Thursday). In the Morn I found that Two Young Gentlemen had waited upon the forementioned Ladies but Despairing of Room in the House, never Enquir'd and roll'd into the Barn. Yet one was Sir Clark³¹⁰ one of the Orators; the other Mr. Woodbridge,³¹¹ son of Governor Woodbridge³¹² of the Asiento Company in the West Indies. It was Dark weather but pleasant Company particularly Mrs. Gains, with whom I chiefly confin'd my Conversation. About Ten I return'd over to the Town. I met Mrs. Porter who had just before had a turn of Illness and was coming out of Colledge to take the Air. She Desir'd me to walk with her. I embraced the opportunity, and (with her Sister, Two Miss Charnocks³¹³ and their Gentlemen Mr. Baxter³¹⁴ and Mr. Baker³¹⁵) we walk'd round the Common, a long walk for an ill Man and a woman but half reviv'd. We lodged Safe at Sir Balch's³¹⁶ and I bid them Adieu for I was Oblig'd to hasten to Boston, to finish the Rest of my Business. I did so and Returned back to Cambridge. I waited on Sir Clark, and gave up the Cause. I retir'd to Father Champneys again and was much Diverted by the Facetious Company of Mrs. Gain.

1726 July 8 (Friday). About Ten (as I remember) I took horse for home, Mother Champney³¹⁷ being with me. I was become much better and my Journey was Much Easier than I (fearfully) Expected it would be. We came home very Safely. (*Deo Optimo Salvatori Gratas quam plurimas.*) Asher Rice had been here at work (Mowing). When I had been at home sometime and had Contented my Self with my appointment with Mr. Cushing to Change. I was Surpriz'd to hear that his Arm was very bad and he gone or going to Narragansett, upon which I was driven to Compose Discourses for Sabbath Day. But I was in a flutter and could write but four lines. I Examined myself concerning my Negligence. I considered my Journey as Necessary to seek advice touching my Health; that I had no Opportunity or Strength; and the Divine Providence intervening and removing the means of my assistance I had the more Solid grounds to proceed to Entreat the Divine Help.

1726 July 9 (Saturday). Anyone will suppose me most strictly Engaged in My Study to Day. My first Sermon I finished and Some part of my Second before I Slept. I made addition both in the morning and at noon.

³⁰⁹Susanna Champney, daughter of Joseph Champney, and Mrs. Parkman's cousin.

³¹⁰William Clark (Harvard 1726), later a Boston physician and political writer. *Sibley*, VIII, 12-19.

³¹¹Benjamin Woodbridge (Harvard 1728). *Sibley*, VIII, 533-535.

³¹²Judge Dudley Woodbridge of Barbados.

³¹³Elizabeth and Mary, daughters of John and Mary Charnock of Cambridge or Boston.

³¹⁴Joseph Baxter (Harvard 1724). *Sibley*, VII, 304-305.

³¹⁵Thomas Baker (Harvard 1724). *Sibley*, VII, 294-295.

³¹⁶William Batch (Harvard 1724). *Sibley*, VII, 296-304.

³¹⁷Mrs. Samuel Champney, Parkman's mother-in-law.

1726 July 10 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Jer. 4.14. My Wife was Taken with a shivering and Trembling while in the afternoon Exercise, but Showed nothing to me till I was come out of meeting, when She walked very Slow and look'd more pale and sunk than I had ever seen her on any occasion that I remember. But she made a shift to get home and then grew somewhat better. I concluded it to be issue proceeding from the Procidentia Uteri which she had been Troubled with. This accident put us upon Weaning the Child which this Night began.

1726 July 11 (Monday). I went out to see my Hay; Mr. Rice³¹⁸ came to see me and he with my own people (Two of them) got it into Cock. The Boy, first with me and then the men, poled it in, there being appearance of foul Weather nigh, and the cocks standing round the Barn, very Easy at hand. Now and in the next Morning together we carry'd in above Thirty.

1726 July 12 (Tuesday). My Wife Rode with me to Mr. Cushings whose arm Continues very Stiff and Troublesome. Yet Patient Job was good Company. What a favour of heaven to have the mind Stock'd with wise, with Divine Principles whereby it is fortify'd and kept Even. My Wife Seem'd to have a comfortable Time, and I made my Observations upon the Pleasure she seem'd to take in this Ride. Yet I understood afterwards that while at Mr. Cushings She was not very well.

1726 July 13 (Wednesday). I read Sundry Poeticall Pieces as the Temple of Death essay on the Spleen[?]. I pursued my Preparations.

1726 July 14 (Thursday). I was much taken up with Looking out for Labour about my Barley Harvest. Isaac and Hezekiah Pratt³¹⁹ mow'd it in the first of the afternoon. I was some time in Conversation at Neighbor Clarks with him and Mr. Rice. [Blot] Molly³²⁰ not well.

1726 July 15 (Friday). My Wife Complaining of weakness. Neighbor Maynard came to make up my Barley and get it in. My Studys minded.

1726 July 16 (Saturday). My Barley Secur'd by Neighbor Maynard and his son. Molly was much indispos'd and I sent Yesterday to Marlborough for Mrs. Williams but she was not there. To Day I sent Hannah Peterson to her house, but she sent me Reasons she thought Sufficient for her not coming. We were very low at the news my wife being oppress'd with Every illness: The Procidentia, etc., the turning of her Milk, Her Mouth Obstructed, pain in her Breast, and great pain and weakness in Every part.

1726 July 17 (Sunday). My Wife rose out of Bed but exceeding ill, bound together with her Excessive pains; came down; I'm afraid took Some Air at the Door; grew much worse. I got her up Stairs in order to go to Bed again, but she almost swoon'd away. Recovering a little from her faintings, She demonstrated to us that she was in grievous agonies. She undress'd and with the

³¹⁸ Asher Rice of Westborough.

³¹⁹ Both of Westborough.

³²⁰ Mrs. Parkman.

Tenderest Help [of] her Mother and myself She was assisted to Bed. But Every maladie was Enraged, by Every weakness and discouragement left almost Lifeless. I walked a little in the Room, her mother holding in one hand her hand, her other laid upon her Head. I cast my Eyes now and then upon her and Concluded she was drowsing, but I went to her to look upon her, and Spoke to her. Receiving no kind of Return Her Mother put her hand to her mouth. I urg'd Some Testification or sign, but none being given; but she lay in a profound stillness when as though had hitherto been vigorously struggling Her Teeth were set, her Limbs Cold, her Eyes Distorted, and very Little Life any where perceptible, when her Mother gave me the word that She was Dying. How I felt outgoes Description. I hastened the Maid to Mrs. Forbush. My Wife Lay for the space of 3 quarters of or altogether an hour I suppose in such a Condition. O Dismal Hour, wherein the Struggle with my heart for her Division was like the Rending the Soul from the Body! It was truly a most gloomy Time! Mrs. Forbush came just when She spoke, a Galbunum Plaister was taken off which was too strong for her. Something was given her and She Revid'd a little but Continued in the Last Extremitys. It was a Reprieve but it Seem'd a Short one. We Expected we must be Rent asunder this Day! It grew more and more Intollerable! I was full of prayers and anon I had Some Hope. I grew more Confirmed in Hope. It brought fresh to my Mind all the Bitter Sufferings of her Dark friday, Ever long, about nine Months before, wherein I had the Same prospects. The Salvations of God then, strengthened my Trust in him. She became more sensible. We Encouraged ourselves in the Lord and He show'd us his Mercy. While We have any being let us praise the Lord! It grew very Late, but Leaving her under the Divine Protection, and to the care of Mrs. Forbush and Madame Maynard I repair'd to the House of God. Our Devotions, if they were fervent, they were short. Mrs. Peterson came and by various Applications she grew more Easy. I was full of Thankfullness and went again to the public worship, Mrs. Bayles tarrying with her. Our Text a.m. and p.m. was Jer. 4.14. She continued extream bad. I sent Daniel Hardy³²¹ to Mr. Barrett. Mrs. Peterson watch'd. I have almost utterly forgot what became of me that night. (Now I recollect.) Mr. Barrett came. He said and did very little. He gave us an account of what Mrs. Whitcomb had sent. He gave us better Balsom of Fennel for her violent Fever, gave her some Tent wine.³²² He pray'd with us. We lodg'd together.

1726 July 18 (Monday). Molly was further revived, and though she was very weak, yet she was all Day much more comfortable. Mr. Barrett went away about 8 o'Clock. Mrs. Maynard watch'd.

1726 July 19 (Tuesday). Molly grew worse by a vomiting flux; the Morning very grievous. I sent Phinehas Hardy³²³ to Mr. Barrett who sent us Some plaisters and more Tent. She was somewhat better in the Afternoon; by various Applications the Flux Stay'd till night. Mrs. Thurston³²⁴ watch'd. These Dayes I could do little besides reading Mr. Shepherds Sincere

³²¹Of Westborough.

³²²A deep red wine of low alcoholic content obtained chiefly from Spain.

³²³Of Westborough.

³²⁴Mrs. Joseph Thurston of Westborough.

Convert³²⁵ and Dr. Edward's Exercitations Critic. Philosoph. Historic Theog. on Some S.S. Martha Becom an Indian came.³²⁶

1726 July 20 (Wednesday). And this morning Joshua Misco³²⁷ and his Squa howed my Corn. I went in the Afternoon to seek Labourers. At Peres Rice's³²⁸ was one Stearns³²⁹ of Sutton, who was full of inconsistance about the Affairs of Mr. McKinstry and the Doctrines he had delivered. When I came home my wife had been (tho' without any the least Reason) very much affrighted with the Indians, and full fear of what they might do. And yet there was no greater peace and good Temper than they Demonstrated and went away soberly to their Lodging in the neighborhood. She was not well pleas'd with her Mother; and left with me Notwithstanding Necessity call'd me forth; and I took a Season when Company was with her. But the Weakness of her Body brought strange apprehensions in the mind.

1726 July 21 (Thursday). Asher Rice mow'd a part of the day. Fitting weather. The Indians finished my Corn and went off.

1726 July 23 (Saturday). Father Champney came up.

1726 July 24 (Sunday). I preach'd in the morn on Jer. 4.14. Afternoon upon Prov. 29.1. My wife recovering.

1726 July 25 (Monday). It was Father Champneys Design to have carryed Mother Home, yet She could not Safely leave her Daughter. My Father made up my Hay. I rak'd myself I suppose an hour. And before noon he went away for home. Whitcomb here all night.

1726 July 26 (Tuesday). Mr. Bowman³³⁰ came again to Mow for me. Mr. Cushing here. Bowman pol'd what Remained of my Hay. Mr. Cushing returned home.

1726 July 27 (Wednesday). I read Occasionall papers, Vol. 2.

1726 July 28 (Thursday). I preach'd a Lecture at Shrewsbury. My Text was 1 Cor. 16.22. I was with Captain Keyes³³¹ at his Sons who treated us with Brandy and Brandy punch. I returned in the Evening. Neighbor Clark reaping my maslin.³³²

³²⁵Thomas Shepherd, *The Sincere Convert, Discovering the Small Number of True Believers, and the Great Difficulty of Saving Conversion* (Cambridge, 1664).

³²⁶One of the works of John Edwards, D.D. (1637-1716), the English divine. Parkman possessed several of the books of Edwards. See DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 73-75. [Addition to Walett's footnote: John Edwards, *Exercitations Critical, Philosophical, Historical, Theological: on Several Important Places in the Writings of the Old and New Testament. In Two Parts* (London, 1702).]

³²⁷One of the Indian proprietors of Hassanamisco.

³²⁸Perez Rice of Westborough.

³²⁹Either Ebenezer Stoms or Samuel Stearns.

³³⁰Probably James Bowman of Westborough.

³³¹John Keyes of Shrewsbury.

³³²Mixed grain, especially rye mixed with wheat.

1726 July 29 (Friday). William Clark reap'd half the Day and this finish'd my maslin. Nothing obstructed my Diligent application to my Preparations.

1726 July 30 (Saturday). The frequent showers so Engaged Everyone about his Corn and Hay that it was no Easy matter to Obtain Help. It was with great Difficulty I got Neighbor Clark and his son to Shock my grain, which having layn long in the Field in all weathers and a threatening storm nigh, I was Restless till the Grain my Chief Dependance was upon [was] Secur'd. Shall I note here the Answers given by Two persons that my wife remark'd when she sent to Neighbor Clarks for assistance. Neighbor Clarks grain was upon Spoil and he was reaping it. He had Many (I think Ten) load of Hay that had been very long in cock in the Meadows and must be Tho't to be rotting. Himself lame in his hand, besides his common lameness in his Leggs. His Son, who was all his Help, had hurt his ancle, and therefore he directed the messinger to ask Neighbor Maynard who had his own, his sons David, Jesse, Josham, Jonathan and Ebenezer's Help, though one or Two of the last were not like the others. His Business in Good forwardness. He [Maynard] Replys when my Grass and Corn will move into my Barn without hands I'll leave it to Help Mr. Parkman -- not before. The Messenger returns to Neighbor Clark. He answers what shall I do? My own is really Suffering and Everything is backward for want of a Team, for I have none and can get none, But he is Labouring for our Souls and why Shall I refuse? and came away.

1726 July 31 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. and p.m. on Prov. 29.1. I was very weary at noon, and I had the Toothach. Neighbor Grove din'd with me. At Night I was much more weary. Our Repetitions were omitted.

1726 August 1 (Monday). I stir'd myself pritty much about my Hay, raking etc. Just before Even I walk'd down to See Neighbor John Maynard who lay ill. I pray'd with him.

1726 August 2 (Tuesday). Our Mother Champney with my Child rode to Cambridge, stopping only at Livermores.³³³ Got down about 5 p.m. though we set out at almost 10 a.m. We had a comfortable Journey. But we found sister Ruth ill. Brother Samuel Parkman happened to come up here and return'd again. Sister Lydia³³⁴ and I walk'd over to Brother Hicks'.³³⁵ She went to the Docters and then we returned home.

1726 August 3 (Wednesday). I rode to Boston. Brother Samuel Parkman rode my Beast to Cambridge. I was at Mr. Bakers,³³⁶ Demings, Greens³³⁷ and Boyce's.³³⁸

³³³Joseph Livermore of Framingham.

³³⁴Lydia Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

³³⁵John Hicks of Cambridge, Parkman's brother-in-law.

³³⁶Thomas Baker (Harvard 1724).

³³⁷Probably the home of Parkman's friend Joseph Green (Harvard 1720).

³³⁸Samuel Boyce of Boston.

1726 August 4 (Thursday). I bought Mr. Willard on the Catechism,³³⁹ price 55 Shillings. My appointment was to go back to Cambridge this morning and to proceed as far on my Journey as the Time would permit. I sat tediously waiting for my Horse, but not coming I neither went to Lecture nor any whither else all Day. About Sun setting Brother came and then I came to Cambridge.

1726 August 5 (Friday). Leaving Sister Ruth³⁴⁰ very ill I rode as far as Captain Brintnalls³⁴¹ where I waited for his Son some time, but not coming I hasted to Marlborough. I din'd at Mr. Woods.³⁴² Was at Mr. Brecks³⁴³ -- for there was no little need of Resting, it was so exceeding hot. Thence (Gladly) home. But here the Evening was very disconsolate! My Wife was on the Bed lonely but sadly weeping, oppress'd and discourag'd with her own Pains and ills, and with the Sickneses of many in the Town. Sarjeant Rice,³⁴⁴ and Son Eleazer,³⁴⁵ Neighbor Maynard, Asher Rice, and Jeduthan³⁴⁶ Fay all suddenly taken and very bad each with scorching fevers.

1726 August 6 (Saturday). My Wife was better. I rested myself, till Mr. Cushing came in the Afternoon. I rode to Shrewsbury. Very hot indeed all the last 3 days.

1726 August 7 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Eccl. 11.8; p.m. on Rom. 1.20. The Heat to Day also was very Tedious. But after Exercises the Heavens grew Black and we had great Rains till Sunset when I rode Back home.

1726 August 8 (Monday). I went to see Mr. Maynard and then Mr. Rice and his Son with all which I pray'd.

1726 August 9 (Tuesday). I was Requested to Mr. Rice's to assist him in settling his worldly Estate and Setting his house in order. Here was his Brother Joshua Rice.³⁴⁷ I pray'd with him and his son.

1726 August 10 (Wednesday). I was at Mr. Rices again to finish his Last will and testament. Here was Captain Brigham³⁴⁸ and Deacon Rice.³⁴⁹ I pray'd here again. I call'd in to see Neighbor Maynard as I went home, and I pray'd with him likewise. In the Afternoon I rode out to See the Sick in the other parts of Town -- Peres Rice and Jeduthan Fay.

³³⁹Samuel Willard, *A Compleat Body of Divinity in Two Hundred and Fifty Expository Lectures on the Assembly's Shorter Catechism* (Boston, 1726). *Sibley*, II, 13-36

³⁴⁰Ruth Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

³⁴¹William Brintnall of Sudbury.

³⁴²Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

³⁴³Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

³⁴⁴Edmund Rice, an original settler of Westborough.

³⁴⁵Eleazer Rice lived in southwestern Marlborough but was admitted to the church in Westborough.

³⁴⁶Son of Samuel and Tabitha Fay.

³⁴⁷A proprietor of Worcester who later (unknown date) removed to Marlborough. Lincoln, *Worcester*, p.

45, 47.

³⁴⁸Nathan Brigham of Marlborough.

³⁴⁹Caleb Rice of Marlborough.

1726 August 11 (Thursday). Another, one Nathanael Child, taken ill.

1726 August 12 (Friday). Finished my Preparations. Very Sickly in Mendon and severall other Towns. Phinehas Hardy mow'd in my Lot for himself.

1726 August 13 (Saturday). Very Rainy. My wife not well.

1726 August 14 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon John 2.1. Edward Baker was propounded to the Church.

1726 August 15 (Monday). I was sent for to Mr. Rices. They apprehended him (according to his own phrase) near winding up. When I came to him the Springs of Life were very weak and Low. He could speak Yea or No but I had no answer from him to many Questions I asked him. I pray'd Earnestly for him; I discoursed to his Wife and Children and Friends about the Bed and then Solemnly bid him Farewell. He gave me fervent tokens and I Left him. He dy'd about an hour after. Captain Fay³⁵⁰ and Two Sons came to take care of Some Hay which Phinehas Hardy and Thomas Forbush, Junior³⁵¹ mow'd to Day for me.

1726 August 16 (Tuesday). In the Morning Prescott³⁵² a Young Scholar and my wife's remote Kinsman came to See us, but tarried but an hour or Two. Mr. Edmund Rice's Funerall, after which I visited Nathaniel Child and Asher Rice (sick).

1726 August 17 (Wednesday). I prepar'd for my Lecture. Phinehas and his Brother Daniel³⁵³ mow'd for me to Day. Captain Fay came and Two Sons (but one finding himself not well returned home) and with his Team and got in part of my Hay. He left his Team with me. My Wife rode away from us for Cambridge (the Lad John before her).

1726 August 18 (Thursday). Captain Fay came again and Lieutenant Forbush to get up the Rest of my Hay. Mr. Thomas Forbush³⁵⁴ lent them his hand after Meeting. I preach'd a Lecture from Rev. 22.20.

1726 August 19, 20 (Friday, Saturday). Having had Such avocations this week, no one can think me Idle these Two Dayes, seeing a Sacrament approaches.

³⁵⁰Of Westborough.

³⁵¹Son of the Westborough selectman.

³⁵²Peter Prescott (Harvard 1730). Son of Dr. Jonathan Prescott of Concord. *Sibley*, VIII, 772-774.

³⁵³Hardy brothers of Westborough.

³⁵⁴Selectman of Westborough.

1726 August 21 (Sunday). Sacrament Day. I preach'd a.m. on Heb. 10.22. Captain Willard,³⁵⁵ Dr. Matthews,³⁵⁶ Hezekiah Ward³⁵⁷ and Mrs. Grove of Greenland communicated with us. P.M. I preach'd upon 1 John 2.1. Many Marlborough people, Mr. Breck I concluded to be absent.

1726 August 22 (Monday). So many of my Friends absent I was very lonely. I walk'd down to Neighbour Greens.³⁵⁸ I read miscellaneously. I kill'd 8 Pidgeons (and how many more I know not) at a shot.

1726 August 23 (Tuesday). In my lowly State I wrote a Letter to my wife which I never Design'd to Send. I had great opportunity to Discourse with my Maid servant of things of an Everlasting Importance. I improv'd it in some measure, but found she had received but very barely in her Education, being very unacquainted with the Principles of Religion, and not able to so much as to return any Answer to the Catechism taught our Smallest Children. Alas! The Irreligion and Ignorance of many (professedly Christian) Families among us of this Country, notwithstanding the Care universally taken for their Instruction!

1726 August 24 (Wednesday). Phineas Hardy went to Boston. I wrote diverse letters. Several: to my Father, Deacon Henschman. I was at Lieutenant Forbushes.³⁵⁹

1726 August 25 (Thursday). I read various things. Very Impatient Except when I was immers'd in Thought. I went down to Lieutenant's again expecting the Young Man, but he came not. Neighbor Clark with me in my Return home.

1726 August 26 (Friday). I receiv'd from Boston. Mr. Willard on the Catechism brought up to me.

1726 August 27 (Saturday). I have been finely at Liberty this Week for my Preparations. Yet not finish'd till within Night sometime.

1726 August 28 (Sunday). I preach'd again upon 1 John 2.1, a. and p.m. I was much wearied at noon, and very unactive. Aged Mrs. Holloway³⁶⁰ was Suddenly taken ill this morning. At Midnight Mr. Holloway came to me and desir'd me to rise and ride to his Mother. I did so. When I came to her she could Scarce Speak, but her understanding was Strong. I pray'd after which She Reviv'd and spake a great deal to me alone of her former Desires and the Comforts She had lately received from Deacon Keys³⁶¹ of Shrewsbury, etc.

³⁵⁵ Benjamin Willard of Grafton.

³⁵⁶ Dr. John Matthews, physician of Marlborough and Southborough.

³⁵⁷ Of Marlborough.

³⁵⁸ John Green of Westborough.

³⁵⁹ Lieutenant Samuel Forbush of Westborough.

³⁶⁰ Mother of William and/or Adam Holloway of Westborough.

³⁶¹ Deacon John Keyes should not be confused with Captain John Keyes, another resident of Shrewsbury. The ancestry of both is unclear. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, pp. 339-341.

1726 August 29 (Monday). About 4 o'Clock I went up and went to Bed. I return'd home about nine. I sent for Mr. Oliver Ward's Horse and about 11 Rode away for Cambridge. It was past one when I left Mr. Amsden³⁶² yet I got to my Father Champneys³⁶³ whilst the Day light was visible.

1726 August 30 (Tuesday). Brother Champney³⁶⁴ with us. We set out near Night, and without stopping at any Tavern we came to Westborough presently after sun-down.

1726 August 31 (Wednesday). My Corn Stalks were Cut (in part). My Child not well, she now breeding her Eye Teeth. I have had very Sensible Perception of the Truth of the Apostles Saying 1 Cor. 7.31. The Fashion of this World passeth away. Truly a very Slender observation makes it Obvious. Everything in Nature being in incessant Motion; and we living by Changes The Age Wears off Time is at last to be small ow'd up in Eternity.

1726 September 1 (Thursday). Brother Champney went from us. I went over to Neighbor Pratts³⁶⁵ in the Eve, where was Neighbor Charles Rice, and Neighbor Baker³⁶⁶ both under great Difficulty for grinding (the Mills about us being dry), and fearing they must be Oblig'd to go as far as Providence. William Clark cutt Stalks till noon.

1726 September 2 (Friday). Neighbor Pratt kill'd a Calf for me. In the Afternoon He Cutt the remaining part of My Stalks. Sundry Persons taken Sick among us of a burning ague: Neighbor Isaac Pratt and his wife, Noah Rice,³⁶⁷ etc.; and Some of the Distemper (distinguishing from the former and) call'd the Fever and ague. My Contemplations were Governed by the Times and

1726 September 4 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Hosea 4.12. In the Eve as I had infinite Reason I reflected on my unusefulness and unprofitableness and my vile Ingratitude to God in Continuing in so [*illegible*] Commission of Sin and perfunctory Superficial performance of Duty.

1726 September 5 (Monday). This Day being my Birth Day (when I enter'd into my 24th year) I had a great variety of Contemplations of the volubility of Time of the vast importance of making preparation for Eternity the great Business of Life. And I am urged to be the more Speedy and fervent by the Consideration of the Tenderness and infirmity of my naturall constitution through which I have long been much obstructed in my great work. But what have my Strongest Resolutions Many times come to? and what is my own sufficiency without assistance of Divine Grace? O that I may Live to Christ, and by the Faith only of the Son of God, that I may have the honour and Happiness of doing Some service to his interest, that I may be wise to win souls, and when I have preach'd to others may not be myself a Castaway.

³⁶²Captain Isaac Amsden of Marlborough.

³⁶³Samuel Champney, Sr., of Cambridge.

³⁶⁴Samuel Champney, Jr.

³⁶⁵John Pratt of Westborough.

³⁶⁶Edward Baker.

³⁶⁷Youngest son of Thomas Rice of Westborough.

1726 September 6 (Tuesday). Our Child was very ill, and especially at nights very unquiet.

1726 September 7 (Wednesday). We were in great Concern about the Child.

1726 September 8 (Thursday). We Sent to Dr. Matthews for Little Molly ill with a fever and violent flux. The cause was from her breading her Eye Teeth. We have Sometimes been up with her till after midnight. My wife has not had a Comfortable night's Rest this week. I reflected upon Davids case when his Child was Sick.

1726 September 9 (Friday). My Babe I hope is better and in some method of Recovery.

1726 September 10 (Saturday). The Season of Strict Engagement. Mr. Baker, whose Desires I had before receiv'd and propounded openly, brought his Relation.

1726 September 11 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon John 3.19. Mr. Baker was admitted into our Church.

1726 September 12 (Monday). Dr. Matthews came in to see the Child, which was ill yet, but through the Divine Goodness in a more hopeful Condition than heretofore.

1726 September 13 (Tuesday). I rose very Early, sometime before Day, and more than 1/4 before sunrise was mounted on my horse and rode to Shrewsbury. With Mr. Cushing³⁶⁸ I went to Lancaster where Ministers were Associated. Several persons were here besides the members: Mr. Andrew Gardner,³⁶⁹ Mr. Cook,³⁷⁰ Mr. Trowbridge,³⁷¹ Mr. Frink,³⁷² Brintnall,³⁷³ Samuel Willard,³⁷⁴ etc. What was of greatest moment that I remember was advice to Mr. McKinstry³⁷⁵ concerning the Management of his Cause.

1726 September 14 (Wednesday). Mr. Loring³⁷⁶ preach'd Excellently on the Text Ps. 119.18. It was very stormy, so that We did not return home.

1726 September 15 (Thursday). Most of us mov'd off in the morning but Mr. Cushing and I tarried till after Dinner, and then came away together as far as Deacon Keyes, Some little way on this Side [at] whose house I turned away for home. The Weather was not Settled yet, but I got to my house Comfortably.

³⁶⁸ Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

³⁶⁹ Formerly the minister at Worcester.

³⁷⁰ Reverend William Cooke of Wayland.

³⁷¹ Reverend Caleb Trowbridge (Harvard 1710) of Groton, Mass. *Sibley*, V, 545-546.

³⁷² Reverend Thomas Frink (Harvard 1722) of Rutland, Mass. *Sibley*, VII, 69-75.

³⁷³ Reverend William Brintnall, minister and schoolmaster at Sudbury.

³⁷⁴ (Harvard 1723). The preacher in the Stony Brook region of Marlborough and later the minister at Biddeford, Maine, 1730-1741. *Sibley*, VII, 281-287.

³⁷⁵ Reverend John McKinstry of Sutton.

³⁷⁶ Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

1726 September 16, 17 (Friday, Saturday). I Employ'd myself only on my Preparations for the Sabbath approaching, When

1726 September 18 (Sunday). I preach'd again a.m. and p.m. on the Same, John 3.19, and baptiz'd Mr. Isaac Shattucks child Mary.³⁷⁷

1726 September 19 (Monday). Now I am Enter'd into a Busy time and active wherein my Heart has often Trembled with Me, that is of assisting the sick in their preparations for Eternity. Mr. Isaac Pratt and his wife, and Mr. Tainter³⁷⁸ and his wife ill. I visited and pray'd with them.

1726 September 22 (Thursday). Mr. Pratt dy'd, and

1726 September 24 (Saturday). was Buried.

1726 September 25 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on 1 Pet. 4.3 and p.m. likewise. In the Evening I formed Severall Designs (in my Secret Reflections) about my future more Extensive serviceableness and particularly in my Fathers Family when I go to Boston (from one time to another) to assist their Spiritual Welfare.

1726 September 26, 27, 28 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday). And this Week is full of Employments, my providing and preparing for my Lecture and Sacrament. And wonderfull is the Goodness and favour of God in carrying me so comfortably thro' hitherto; though I have many times had more unavoidable Avocations than I hope others of my Brethren in the Ministry. On the 27, Mr. Maynard³⁷⁹ of Shrewsbury brought in my Colt which had rang'd the Woods the Summer past.

1726 September 29 (Thursday). I preach'd a Lecture on Acts 8.21, preparitory to the Holy Communion. When the Sacred Exercises were over I Stop'd the Brethren to propose to them a Method of Supporting the Elements at Sacrament by a Contribution every Sacrament. For in time past they had proceeded in a Way that being more agreeable to what they were brought up in, they were urgent with me to allow, but it had frustrated the purpose.

1726 September 30 (Friday). I was Diligent in my Great Work, but God forgive my unprofitableness and Negligence! (I have reason to say so though I have never so Diligent.) O that his Grace may Supply where I am insufficient.

1726 October 1 (Saturday). The Sacrament drawing nigh it was much my Care to provide not only for the ordinary Sabbath Exercises, but for the Solemnity of that speciall Ordinance of Christ.

³⁷⁷Of Westborough. The birth day is recorded as August 10, 1726.

³⁷⁸Simon Tainter of Westborough.

³⁷⁹Simon Maynard.

1726 October 2 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Heb. 10.22 and Administered the Sacrament of the Lords Supper. P.M. my Text was 1 Pet. 4.3. [*Two illegible, blotted lined follow.*]

1726 October 3 (Monday). Mr. Cushing was at our house before his Journey to Hingham. We began our Indian Corn Harvest, and I sent my Apples to the Cyder Mill at Mr. Forbush's.³⁸⁰ I went down to Mr. Forbush's myself before the Team (which was Mr. Warrens³⁸¹) came along. Neighbor Green assisted in a Lesser Third part of what I planted of Corn.

1726 October 4 (Tuesday). We Husked Corn. I myself did little besides.

1726 October 5 (Wednesday). I finish'd the 2nd Volume of the Occasional Papers and Sent it by Neighbor Green to the owner Mr. Woods of Marlborough.

1726 October 6, 7 (Thursday, Friday). I made some preparation though I expected Mr. Cushing. Captain Keyes of Shrewsbury lodg'd with us last night.

1726 October 8 (Saturday). Mr. Cushing came to me according to our appointment on Monday Last, and I went to Shrewsbury.

1726 October 9 (Sunday). I preach'd at Shrewsbury on Phil. 3.13.14, a. and p.m. Mr. Cushing came up on my Mare.

1726 October 10 (Monday). We walk'd over to Mr. Gershom Keyes'. It rain'd all Day but I went down to Mr. Eagers³⁸² and Sojourn'd. I read great part of Mr. Penhallows History of the Wars of New England with the Eastern Indians.³⁸³

1726 October 11 (Tuesday). Mr. Breck³⁸⁴ and Two of his Deacons (Rice³⁸⁵ and Keyes) came to our House. Mr. Breck lodg'd with us.

1726 October 12 (Wednesday). I rode with Mr. Breck to Sutton where was form'd an Ecclesiasticall Council by the Desire of Mr. McKinstry, the Pastor of the Church of Sutton and the aggriev'd Part of the Town and Church upon occasion of their Differences. The Council consisted of 7 Churches, viz., Framingham, Marlborough, Lancaster, West and East Sudbury, Weston and Shrewsbury, The Pastors and Delegates. The Reverend Mr. Swift³⁸⁶ of Framingham, Moderator; The Reverend Mr. Prentice³⁸⁷ of Lancaster, Clerk. The Public Hearing

³⁸⁰Jonathan Forbush of Westborough.

³⁸¹Daniel Warren of Westborough.

³⁸²James Eager of Westborough.

³⁸³Samuel Penhallow, *History of the Wars of New England, with the Eastern Indians* (Boston, 1726).

³⁸⁴Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

³⁸⁵Deacon Caleb Rice of Marlborough.

³⁸⁶John Swift.

³⁸⁷John Prentice.

Lasted for this Day till nine at night. Ministers were Entertain'd and lodg'd at Mr. McKinstry's; the Delegates in the Town.

1726 October 13 (Thursday). We were again at the Meeting house and the former part of the Day was spent in further hearing. The Contending or opposing (I had rather than aggriev'd) party was very Resolute to use their Utmost to Carry their will, But very unhappily Expos'd themselves (especially Some few of them) very much. The Council had a great deal of Patience because they would guard against Every Exception that might render their Result invalid with any one. The Council Sat the Latter part of the Day and till 2 in the morning. I Spent Time with Mr. Campbell,³⁸⁸ Mr. McKinstry, My Sister (who was here at her Brothers) and in the Evening with Mr. Dike³⁸⁹ (a man of great understanding) and others of the Standing Party (as they Stil'd themselves), among whom I had many circumstances open'd much to my Content.

1726 October 14 (Friday). The Council Sat again this Forenoon. Afternoon the Result was publish'd, which advis'd them to methods of Pacification, when it had pass'd Censure upon the various allegations on both Sides. Mr. McKinstry manifested his acquiescence. Mr. Johnson,³⁹⁰ Mr. Putnam,³⁹¹ etc. demonstrated dissatisfaction and Passion. The Council urg'd them to Consider and weigh what was done, but they were wholly intractable forward. And such was the Frame we left them in. I got home (safe) a little before night.

1726 October 15 (Saturday). Carry'd on my Preparations. Yesterday Mr. Brigham³⁹² (having gather'd my Corn the Day before) brought five Fat Creatures to my Pasture. Yesterday (or the Day before I know not which) Mr. Forbush Sent my Cyder home, 5 1/2 Barrells. Neighbor Clark help'd me put it into the cellar.

1726 October 16 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on 1 Pet. 4.4; p.m., 1 Pet. 4.17.

1726 October 17 (Monday). I finish'd Mr. Penhallow's History.

1726 October 18 (Tuesday). I was abroad in the Nei[gh]bourhood at Mr. Peres Rices³⁹³ where I discours'd with one Mr. Robins whose daughter my Wife would have to live with her. At old Mr. Rice's,³⁹⁴ etc.

1726 October 19 (Wednesday). I was much indispos'd with a Cold, but went to Lieutenants.

³⁸⁸ Reverend John Campbell of Oxford.

³⁸⁹ Nathaniel Dike of Sutton.

³⁹⁰ Elisha Johnson.

³⁹¹ Elisha Putnam.

³⁹² David Brigham, a neighbor of Parkman.

³⁹³ Of Westborough.

³⁹⁴ Probably Charles Rice of Westborough.

1726 October 20 (Thursday). My Cold increas'd and I had much Trouble from a Sore Throat, so I was Oblig'd to keep Close. I study'd the blessings of [*blot*] and the Mischiefs of Divisions among People and this I continued the 21 and 22.

1726 October 23 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Heb. 12.14. But I had much difficulty to go through the Exercises by Reason of my being Stuff'd with my Cold.

1726 October 24 (Monday). [No entry.]

1726 October 25 (Tuesday). I rode to Marlborough, it being Ministers Meeting. We were generally together. Mr. McKinstry ask'd what advice we could give him to direct his future Behaviour and Managements. Upon his Request the Eleven Ministers assisted him With Their Counsel. Mr. Swift (Mr. Cushing having pray'd) discours'd upon a Sower went forth to sow. I rode with Mr. Cook and Mr. Frink and Sister Hicks to Sudbury. I lodg'd at Mr. Cook's.

1726 October 26 (Wednesday). I rose early, at day break, mounted my horse and rode away without disturbing anyone of the house (as I had premonish'd them). I came to Cambridge about Ten, and thence to Boston about 2 or 3 o'Clock p.m. I was with Mr. Samuel Mather³⁹⁵ this Evening. He read to Me a Letter of his Father to Lord Chancellor.

1726 October 27 (Thursday). Mr. Thatcher³⁹⁶ of Milton preach'd the Lecture, on Ps. 63.5. I was after Lecture with Mr. Byles,³⁹⁷ and very well Satisfy'd with his Improvements especially in Poetry. Deacon Coffin³⁹⁸ of Newbury was at My Father's. My very Good Friend Mr. Isaac Greenwood³⁹⁹ returned from England about a Week or Ten Dayes Since and was now in Town; but all My Diligence and Eagerness could not bring me to a Light of him. It was Windy and Cold I declin'd returning back upon my Journey as I had proposed. I bought Dr. Mather's Christian Philosopher,⁴⁰⁰ Sermons on Prayer with a Pamphlet or Two, of Mr. Gerrish.⁴⁰¹

1726 October 28 (Friday). It continued very Cold yet in the Afternoon I ventur'd out upon my Journey to Cambridge.

1726 October 29 (Saturday). I returned home, Stopping only at Mr. Swifts and at Captain Goddards.⁴⁰²

³⁹⁵Samuel Mather (Harvard 1723), the son of Dr. Cotton Mather, and later minister of the Second Church in Boston, 1732-1741, and the 10th Congregational Society, 1742-1785. *Sibley*, VII, 216-239.

³⁹⁶Reverend Peter Thacher (Harvard 1671), minister of Milton. *Sibley*, II, 370-379.

³⁹⁷Mather Byles of Boston.

³⁹⁸Deacon Nathaniel Coffin, also the town clerk of Newbury for nearly 40 years. John J. Cumer, *Ould Newbury: Historical and Biographical Sketches* (Boston, 1896), pp. 170-1

³⁹⁹(Harvard 1721). Classmate of Parkman and later the first Hillis Professor of Mathematics at Harvard College. *Sibley*, VI, 471-482.

⁴⁰⁰Cotton Mather, *The Christian Philosopher: a collection of the best discoveries in Nature, with religious improvements* (Boston, 1721)

⁴⁰¹Samuel Gerrish, town clerk of Boston, and a well-known bookseller.

⁴⁰²Edward Goddard of Framingham.

1726 October 30 (Sunday). I preach'd Two Sermons I had about a Twelve Month or more before upon Eccl. 12.1, which I appriz'd My audience of in a Brief Sentence immediately after I read my Text. Old Mr. Rice din'd with me.

1726 October 31 (Monday). My Employment various.

1726 November 1 (Tuesday). In my Seclusion from most of those Objects which Engage the Busy and active part of the world I find not daily such a number Observations to be made upon what is roundabout me where I am not plac'd in the midst of the Crowds, Employments and accidents that must be always before hand with the mind; we cannot have so many rare accounts as in those places of Concourse and action, that we are in Retirement chiefly taken up about our Domestick affairs, and personal concerns. And it is very rare that we can have any matter of very great importance or weight to interest the world in, when under Confinement to so narrow a Sphere of motion. Here Likewise it might be added that much of the time revolving is consumed in much the Same manner, the Same Business or Amusements; and other parts of it may be Equally divided by so great a number of Engagements that it may be hard to say which took us up most, and it would be too great a Labour to insert all. Indeed sometimes there is a close Relation and Dependence one upon another, and then the giving one may give us all, an hint being Sufficient to bring the whole circle of actions or accidents into our minds and view again. And it is not alwayes an action that may be accounted of itself of the greatest importance, that is of the greatest moment and Necessity to be mention'd as an hint of the Rest that was done. For that which is but a Trifle above, may best Serve to direct us to the whole Series. The First 4 or 5 Dayes of this Month I do not remember anything worthy my Observation in this place. Except that on the 4 I rode out in the afternoon, a thing I hitherto have never done before.

1726 November 6 (Sunday). I preach upon Luke 5.32, a. and p.m.

1726 November 7, 8 (Monday, Tuesday). Very Busy in preparing for the Solemnity approaching. I was at Mr. Wards at Supper after the Raising his Mill. N.B. We sang Ps. 128th after Supper.

1726 November 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Ward sent his Man with a Load of Wood, and he carted another Load for me.

1726 November 10 (Thursday). Public Thanksgiving. I preach'd on Ps. 100.4.5. Many Private (as well as public) Mercies call forth all Expressions of Gratitude. Remember July 17, Last, with many other signall appearances of God for me.

1726 November 12 (Saturday). Mr. Wheeler⁴⁰³ brought Old Mrs. Holloway to Me. I hope God has had Compassion on this aged person, her Confessions, etc., appear very Cordial. The work

⁴⁰³Joseph Wheeler of Westborough.

of God appears manifestly in her. I would praise the Name of God if he has made me anyway instrumental for her Souls advantage.

1726 November 13 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Heb. 10.22. Administer'd the Sacrament, but immediately before sacrament I admitted Mrs. Holloway into the Church. I preach'd p.m. on Luke 5.32. I hope this has been a Good Day. The Grace of God be magnify'd.

1726 November 14 (Monday). I rode to Marlborough. I met Mr. Cushing a little before we Came to Mr. Brecks. We were Disappointed in our Visit to Mr. Breck, He being gone to Boston. We went to Mr. Woods',⁴⁰⁴ and to Mr. Thomas's,⁴⁰⁵ the last having been very ill, and continuing under Confinement. Mr. Cushing went away for Lancaster when I went into Colonel Hows⁴⁰⁶ to clear off my Beef Score, and thence I returned immediately home.

1726 November 15, 16 (Tuesday, Wednesday). I gave my Self very much to my Subject, being persuaded I shall be Depriv'd of Opportunity to study in the Latter part of the Week.

1726 November 17 (Thursday). In the Morning I rode to Shrewsbury to Mr. Cushing. There was Captain Baker of Brookfield. Mr. Cushing rode with me to Lancaster. Mr. Prentice was come out to go to Meeting. He had Some Expectation of my Coming. He gave me his Bible and I preach on (a Text I had not Design'd to, but I was straitned for Time and Could not Look over the whole of any Sermon and I therefore chose one I had frequently and somewhat lately preach'd) Acts 16.24. We tarried all night at Mr. Prentice's, and had good Entertainment.

1726 November 18 (Friday). After Dinner we returned home. Mr. Samuell Fay⁴⁰⁷ and his Son⁴⁰⁸ Cut and Carted me 1/2 Dozen Load of Wood.

1726 November 19 (Saturday). I was very Strictly Engaged.

1726 November 20 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Mark 3.33.

1726 November 21, 22 (Monday, Tuesday). I read and wrote some remarks upon a Book entitled Reliquise Anti Baxteriance.

1726 November 23 (Wednesday). Captain Keyes of Shrewsbury was here to see Me.

1726 November 24, 25, 26 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I was very much afflicted with Toothach and an ague in My Face. Alas how Small a Matter will discompose and Obstruct those, who in the best plight have but just Sufficient powers to perform any Service at all! N.B.

⁴⁰⁴ Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

⁴⁰⁵ William Thomas of Marlborough.

⁴⁰⁶ Thomas Howe of Marlborough.

⁴⁰⁷ One of the earliest settlers of Westborough and the younger brother of Captain John Fay.

⁴⁰⁸ Either Samuel, Jr. (b. 1705), Jeduthan (b. 1707), or Ebenezer (b. 1713).

24. I married Ebenezer Savage⁴⁰⁹ and Mary Hamilton of Rutland, Mr. Parsons,⁴¹⁰ Mr. Burr,⁴¹¹ and Mr. Cushing being absent.

1726 November 27 (Sunday). I was grievously exercis'd all last night with pains in my Face. In the morning I was easier and went to Meeting. The Text a. and p.m. was Eph. 2.5. We were Inform'd that Mr. Breck Yesterday buried his Youngest Child.⁴¹² It dy'd very Suddenly. Mrs. Willard,⁴¹³ Mrs. Maynard, Mr. Behman⁴¹⁴ and his wife Din'd with us.

1726 November 28 (Monday). I read the Occasional Paper vol. 3.

1726 November 29 (Tuesday). Mr. Cushing came to see Us and lodg'd with us.

1726 November 30 (Wednesday). Mr. Cushing return'd home. Mr. Thomas Forbes, Junior was with me upon the Business of his Admission into our Church. He made some Hesitation about Making a Relation, But I satisfy'd him of the usefulness of the Practice if well observ'd and therefore the Expedience thereof. He was So well persuaded that he presented me one to be Read to the Church.

1726 December 1, 2, 3 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I Employ'd myself almost wholly upon the Subject I Design further to Entertain my people with.

1726 December 4 (Sunday). I preach'd a. and p.m. on Eph. 2.5. It was a very stormy Day and I had but few hearers. Mr. Jedediah How set the Tune and read the Line, p.m.

1726 December 5 (Monday). Mr. Thomas Forbush, Junior's youngest Child⁴¹⁵ dy'd very suddenly this morning, as I hear many Young Children in severall Towns round here. In the Eve my Little Daughter was ill, But

1726 December 6 (Tuesday). Through the Divine Favour She was this Morning well recovered. In the Afternoon I was at the funerall of Mr. Forbush's Child.

1726 December 7 (Wednesday). I rode over to Mr. Eagers upon the Affair of my absent Heiffer, But he was gone to Marlborough. Hearing Mr. Thomas Ward⁴¹⁶ was at Mr. Allens⁴¹⁷ Mill I went

⁴⁰⁹Given in *Westborough Vital Records* as Ebenezer Savige and Mary Hambleton, and in *Rutland Vital Records* as Ebenezer Savage and Mary Hambleton.

⁴¹⁰Reverend David Parsons (Yale 1705), minister of the First Congregational Church of Leicester, Mass. Dexter, pp. 36-37.

⁴¹¹Reverend Isaac Burr of Worcester.

⁴¹²Anna Breck (b. March 13, 1725).

⁴¹³Probably Mrs. Martha Willard of Hassinimisco.

⁴¹⁴Probably Eleazer and Hannah Beemon or Beamon of Westborough.

⁴¹⁵Thomas, Jr.

⁴¹⁶Of Westborough.

⁴¹⁷Ephraim Allen who lived in that part of Westborough which became Northborough in 1776.

Thither and met with him. Mr. Allen requested me to go in and see his Wife. I did and had an hour or Two's Discourse with her. I both found and left her in a poor Melancholly, dejected, distressed Condition. From hence I rode to Marlborough. I went down to Mr. John How's (who I heard had my Heiffer) first with Two Young Men, Nathaniel Oak⁴¹⁸ and Joshua Goardin, and then with Mr. Ward (who had kept the Creature all Summer and winter Last) to prove it mine, if they were able to give Testimony. They said (upon Seeing her) that they were not only able but ready, if call'd thereto, to give oath it was mine. But these all not satisfying Mr. How we went over to Mr. Woods and Chose him and Mr. Jedediah Brigham⁴¹⁹ to Determine between us. Upon hearing us it fell with full Consent to me and I gave Mr. How 10 Shillings for keeping her. After this (it being Somewhat after nine o'Clock) I went to Mr. Brecks where I Lodg'd.

1726 December 8 (Thursday). Mr. Breck walked with me to Mr. Woods's. Here was Old Mr. How⁴²⁰ of Hopkinton who told over the Manner and Methods of Mr. Barretts⁴²¹ coming into Hopkinton and Settling there. Mr. Woods went up with us to Mr. Brecks where we din'd upon a Turkey. When Near night I came away, but meeting Mr. Jacob Amsden⁴²² I went in with him into his Father Behmans,⁴²³ and thence I came home with Mr. Amsden.

1726 December 9, 10 (Friday, Saturday). My Sermons took up the whole of my Time. I sent John and Nathaniel Oak to Marlborough, and in the morn they brought the Heiffer home.

1726 December 11 (Sunday). I preach'd again All Day upon Eph. 2.5. Old Mrs. Forbush,⁴²⁴ Mr. How⁴²⁵ of Hassinemisco, and his wife, Mrs. Newton,⁴²⁶ Mrs. Goodeno⁴²⁷ din'd with us. An Exceeding Cold Day.

1726 December 12 (Monday). Very Cold. Our schoolmaster, Mr. Townsend⁴²⁸ came into Town, and the School began.

⁴¹⁸Nathaniel Oak (Oaks, Oakes), Jr. of Marlborough, later a resident of that part of Lancaster which became Bolton in 1738.

⁴¹⁹Son of Samuel Brigham of Marlborough and the proprietor of a tannery in that town. Hudson, *Marlborough*, pp. 334-335.

⁴²⁰John How who was prominent in the establishment of the First Congregational Church in Hopkinton in 1724. *Manual of the First Congregational Church in Hopkinton* (Boston, 1881), p. 20.

⁴²¹Reverend Samuel Barrett, first minister at Hopkinton.

⁴²²Of Marlborough.

⁴²³Jacob Amsden married Sarah Beaman, daughter of Thomas Beaman of Marlborough, October 28, 1719. Jacob Amsden, son of Isaac Amsden, Sr., of Marlborough lived in Westborough as early as 1722.

⁴²⁴Probably the wife of Deacon Thomas Forbush.

⁴²⁵Nehemiah How.

⁴²⁶Either Mrs. Thomas or Mrs. Josiah Newton of Westborough.

⁴²⁷Mrs. David Goodenow of Westborough.

⁴²⁸Joshua Townsend of Brookfield was engaged for £18 to teach six months in three parts of Westborough. For twelve or thirteen years he continued to be the schoolmaster. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 96-100.

1726 December 13 (Tuesday). I was at Captain Fay's,⁴²⁹ Mr. Pratts,⁴³⁰ etc., to get hands to Cut wood and kill my Swine.

1726 December 14 (Wednesday). Neighbor Pratt and Maynard⁴³¹ came and kill'd Two of my Swine. P.M. it was Stormy, Snow, etc. Mr. Ward Reckon'd with me.

1726 December 15 (Thursday). Very high Winds and Sharp Cold. Mr. John Pratt, Junior and his Brother Came and Cutt Several Load of wood for me. An High German Doctor was here.

1726 December 16 (Friday). I finish'd Mr. Addison's 3d volume containing His Dialogues upon Medals, The Present state of the War, 1707, and of the Christian Religion.

1726 December 17 (Saturday). Upon My preparations.

1726 December 18 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Luk. 6.46. Mr. Simeon Howard din'd with us.

1726 December 19 (Monday). Very Stormy. High winds and Rain.

1726 December 20 (Tuesday). William Clark Thrash'd Oates for me. Mr. Barrett⁴³² expected according to word sent us but Came not. Mr. Peres Rice here with Complaints against his uncle, Mr. Samuel Fay, etc. He told me Some in the Town were Examining whether my marrying the Rutland couple was according to Law. Mr. Breck sent home my Political State 12 volumes, and a Pamphlet, by his son Mr. Robert and young Rice of College.⁴³³

1726 December 21 (Wednesday). Very Cold and we but Short firewood.

1726 December 22 (Thursday). In the morning I sent for Neighbor Clarks cart for my Lad to bring home wood upon. But there Came some young Men that both Cut and Carted a good supply (of 7 Load). Captain Fay's 2 sons and Team, Peres Rice's Servant and Nathaniel Child⁴³⁴ were my men.

1726 December 23, 24 (Friday, Saturday). My whole time is taken up about my subject, and I Desire no other Employment on these Dayes.

⁴²⁹Captain John Fay of Westborough.

⁴³⁰Probably John Pratt, a neighbor of Parkman.

⁴³¹David Maynard.

⁴³²Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

⁴³³Caleb Rice (Harvard 1730), youngest son of Caleb Rice of Marlborough. Later the first minister of Sturbridge, Mass., 1736-1759. *Sibley*, III, 774-775.

⁴³⁴Nathaniel Child of Westborough.

1726 December 25 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Luk. 11.26 a. and p.m. Mrs. Holloway⁴³⁵ din'd with us.

1726 December 26 (Monday). A.M. I read Lowths Directions for Reading the Scriptures.⁴³⁶ P.M. I read the Clergyman's Vade mecum.

1726 December 27 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Barretts. Here was Mrs. Ford⁴³⁷ and Mrs. Leasingby.⁴³⁸ O'bed I read Mr. Moodys⁴³⁹ Memoirs of Joseph Quasson and Just Sentiments on the protestant Religion. I likewise dip'd into Mr. Cooper's⁴⁴⁰ Account of Mr. John Coney.

1726 December 28 (Wednesday). Very Stormy and Cold, but notwithstanding the women, out of their humourousness and gaiety Rode along with me to Mrs. Woods.⁴⁴¹ I brought home my peacock, and got home well though it was a difficult Time, for the Riding, the Cold Storm, and it being in the Evening.

1726 December 29 (Thursday). The storm Continues very hard. I read in Mr. Coney's Life and it very much affected me as I very well knew the man. I could not but have the Saddest Reflections upon my Self when I see what men of far inferiour advantages attain to; and under no such bonds as I am by my Solemn Consecration to God, in my holy ordination.

1726 December 30 (Friday). Mr. Barrett, Mr. Burnay and Wood came over with Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Fowl⁴⁴² and Leasingby to our house, and they returned in the Evening.

1726 December 31 (Saturday). Very backward in my preparations but as the Year Concluded, the week and the Day my Sermons were brought to a Sufficient Length (if Every Discourse could be as good as it is Long).

1727 January 1 (Sunday). This Morning I preach'd upon [blank] And on the Same text in the Afternoon. It is very Necessary I should Strengthen my Resolutions and mend my pace in the Christian Course, if I would finish Well. Alas! how many Seekers are those who trifle in vain Efforts; when it is our great Duty to Strive to Enter in at the Strait Gate. A Strait Gate truly is the Gate of Life (and so it ought to be) but do I not prove my Self the Author of many of the

⁴³⁵Either Mrs. William or Mrs. Adam Holloway of Westborough.

⁴³⁶Probably the popular work *Directions for the profitable reading of the Holy Scriptures* by the English theologian, William Lowth, D.D. (1660-1732). The work first appeared in a London edition of 1708. Numerous other editions followed.

⁴³⁷Probably Mrs. Stephen Ford of Charlestown.

⁴³⁸This name appears several times but extensive search reveals no clue to the identity of the person.

⁴³⁹Samuel Moodey or Moody, *A Summary Account of the Life and Death of Joseph Quasson, an Indian* (Boston, 1726).

⁴⁴⁰William Cooper, *The Service of God. . . Preach'd on . . . the Death of Mr. John Coney [An Appendix, Containing a Further Account of Mr. John Coney, Collected from his Private Writings]* (Boston, 1726). Cooper (Harvard 1712) was minister of the Brattle Street Church in Boston, 1716-1743. *Sibley*, V, 624-634.

⁴⁴¹The home of Captain John Wood of Hopkinton.

⁴⁴²Probably Mrs. John Fowle of Charlestown.

Difficulties that add to its Straitness? O that I might obtain the quickening Grace of God to inspirit me, and make me fervent and Constant to the End of my Life! but particularly this Year I am now Entering upon that I may have a more Comfortable reflection upon it, and account to give of it, than of the Year past. And as I beseech the Influence of the Divine spirit and Grace in My Soul, I would likewise the Divine Conduct in the Blessing upon my bodily and secular Affairs, that I may do and Enjoy Nothing but to the honour of God.

1727 January 2 (Monday). I rode to Mr. Swifts⁴⁴³ according to appointment made with Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Leasingby to meet them there at one o'clock. And though I was precisely at the hour, they did not wait for me. However, they were not So long gone before Me, but that I caught up with them a mile or Two further down. We were in at Livermore's⁴⁴⁴ and din'd there. It was heavy riding and sometimes rainy; so that it was somewhat tedious! I lodg'd at Father Champneys.⁴⁴⁵

1727 January 3 (Tuesday). I rode to Boston and found my Fathers family comfortable (Thanks to God).

1727 January 4 (Wednesday). Towards night I went to Mrs. Edwards's (the widow of my good Friend John Edwards⁴⁴⁶) and pay'd the Ballance of our Account. Thence I went to Deacon Greens⁴⁴⁷ printing house and paid him for my years news, etc, etc. I had design'd to have been upon my Journey home, but it continued such dark and wet weather that I defer'd it.

1727 January 5 (Thursday). I went to Lecture and heard Mr. Prince⁴⁴⁸ Excellently preach on Prov. 27.1. I met with my dear friend Mr. Greenwood after his long absence from me and was made acquainted with his Design of Setting up an experimental Course of Mechanical Philosophy. I hope it will be followed with the Divine Blessing and all his other good Designs succeeded. Mr. Gee⁴⁴⁹ invited us to dine with him. I spent a part of my Afternoon with a great deal of Delight (there being other very good Friends there) but I was oblig'd to Engage my Self in my Necessary affairs. It was raining but I was much constrain'd to go as far as Cambridge and I reach'd there.

1727 January 6 (Friday). Brother Champney⁴⁵⁰ and Sister Ruth⁴⁵¹ rode with me home. It was very Serene weather but as heavy travelling as I can remember through the Late Excessive Rains. We got home very timely and I found my Family well. God has carry'd me through many a Difficult Journey, and given me great occasion to magnifie his goodness, extended in this Last.

⁴⁴³Reverend John Swift of Framingham.

⁴⁴⁴Joseph Livermore of Framingham.

⁴⁴⁵Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's father-in-law.

⁴⁴⁶Of Charleston.

⁴⁴⁷Bartholomew Green (1666-1732) of Boston, printer of the *Boston News-Letter*.

⁴⁴⁸Reverend Thomas Prince of the Old South Church.

⁴⁴⁹Reverend Joshua Gee of Boston.

⁴⁵⁰Samuel Champney, Jr., Parkman's brother-in-law.

⁴⁵¹Ruth Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

1727 January 7 (Saturday). Mr. Barrett has appointed to Change on the Sabbath approaching, but I have heretofore met with so many disappointments there, I was very full of concern lest I should be put to some Difficulty. However I rode over to Hopkinton, which when I came to I was wel Satisfy'd in finding him ready to ride to Westborough. Here was Elder Barrett⁴⁵² and Mr. Charles Coffin, which made me to be Chearfull again.

1727 January 8 (Sunday). I preach'd at Hopkinton (in their new Meeting house) on Phil. 3.13.14 a. and p.m. After the Exercises I found it necessary to return home, they having no Hay at all at Mr. Barretts and severall Horses to provide for.

1727 January 9 (Monday). It continues (as it has been ever since Friday) very foggy and rainy weather. Brother Champney much afflicted with the Tooth ach.

1727 January 10, 11, 12 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). I was variously Employ'd in reading Mr. Joseph Addison's Works, vol. 1, 12 [rwb 2?], etc, etc. Captain Fay came desiring me to visit his son, but my circumstances would not allow me.

1727 January 13 (Friday). Brother Champney went home.

1727 January 15 (Sunday). I preach'd on Luk. 13.24, a. and p.m.

1727 January 16 (Monday). A fierce storm of Snow.

1727 January 17 (Tuesday). Mr. Holloway Sent his Lad for me to [see] his Child.⁴⁵³ I rode over and found it but alive. I pray'd with them for it, and then the Child Chang'd and Expir'd while I continued to Instruct, Exhort and Support the Heavy and Sorrowfull Parents under the grievous Loss, it being a fine son of his own Name and in its 3d Year. Mr. Cushing⁴⁵⁴ to see me and lodg'd with us.

1727 January 18 (Wednesday). I was at the Funeral of Mr. Holloways Child. I rode upon Mr. Holloways Horse both Yesterday and today. It was raw, bleak Weather and I find I caught a cold. I could not go to the Grave but turn'd in at Mr. John Pratt Juniors.

1727 January 19 (Thursday). I had a Sore troublesome night of the last, having the Teeth ach and ague in my face. Mr. John Fay, Junior sent a Man and horse fore [*sic*] me, but I was so ill and the weather so Wet that I was prevented.

⁴⁵²Samuel Barrett, Sr., of Boston, the father of the Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

⁴⁵³William, Jr., son of William Holloway of Westborough.

⁴⁵⁴Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

1727 January 20 (Friday). Mr. Simeon Howard⁴⁵⁵ and his Man with his Team came to get me a Supply of wood. I join'd William Clark [*sic*] with them.

1727 January 21 (Saturday). I was pretty well recovered from my indisposition. Mr. Balley⁴⁵⁶ came to our house Expecting to Meet Mr. Jenison,⁴⁵⁷ whom they had engaged to preach at that part of Marlborough call'd Stony Brook,⁴⁵⁸ but he came not.

1727 January 22 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Luk. 13.24; p.m. on Heb. 4.1. The Lord Graciously forgive my unprofitableness!

1727 January 23 (Monday). Mr. Pratt brought me his horse to ride to his Brother John Fays. I went up accordingly and found him in grievous pains. I pray'd with him and used my Endeavours to Comfort and Relieve him as far as Means so poor as those I am empower'd with, might be Effectual.

1727 January 24 (Tuesday). Mr. Cushing came to see me. I find next to inconceivable Benefit by having frequent Conversation with my friends, especially with my Brethren in the ministry. But I am griev'd they can have no greater advantage by me. The Father of Light communicate Wisdom to me but especially make me wise in the Things of God! Mr. Cushing lodg'd with me. Mr. Cushing return'd home. P.M. I was much affected with what I read in the Life of Mr. Mat. Henry,⁴⁵⁹ of his wonderfull Labours and Serviceableness. Example seems to have a far greater influence upon me than precept, since it so gratifies my under powers, my imagination, and curiosity; and thereby captivates my affections. Its sad that my understanding and Judgement are no more Employ'd upon the purity and perfection of the Divine Laws, and the infinite Justice, Supremacy and goodness of my God that enjoins their observance! But I am glad I can any way be wrought upon, and brought to my Duty.

1727 January 26 (Thursday). Attended to my Subject. Phinehas Hardy⁴⁶⁰ came and first back'd my Colt.

1727 January 27 (Friday). Mr. Samuel Willard⁴⁶¹ of Boston Merchant was brought here by his Kinsman Mr. Simon Willard⁴⁶² of Hassinamisco. I noted well his excessive antipathy against Mr.

⁴⁵⁵One of the original settlers of Westborough. In *Westborough Vital Records* the name is spelled Howard, Haywood and Hayward.

⁴⁵⁶Benjamin Bayley of Marlborough. Hudson, *Marlborough*, p. 321.

⁴⁵⁷William Jenison (Harvard 1724), later minister of the Second Church, Salem, Mass., 1728-1736. Sibley, VII, 371-374.

⁴⁵⁸In 1727 this part of Marlborough was incorporated in the new town of Southborough.

⁴⁵⁹[Additional note: *An account of the life and death of ... Mr. Matthew Henr: ... who died June 22d, 1714 ... Chiefly collected out of his own papers, and faithfully published by W. Tong.* London: Printed for M. Lawrence; Em. Matthews; and S. Cliff, 1716.]

⁴⁶⁰Of Westborough.

⁴⁶¹(Harvard 1723). Later minister at Biddeford, Maine (1730-1741). *Sibley*, VII, 281-287.

⁴⁶²Son of Benjamin Willard, one of the original proprietors of Grafton, Mass.

Thomas Smith⁴⁶³ (a Preacher) with whom he was formerly exceeding intimate. There is Sad work when Such sort of Companions fall out and rake into the Dirt and Dung hills of their Conversations to blaze the Mystery of iniquity about the world when it is Shamefull so much as to think of what is done of them in secret. But I hope God has given his grace to Mr. Smith and that he has truly repented of all his Youthfull Sins. God Grant Mr. Willard the Same, and I would not forget my Self. But I am Oblig'd to acknowledge the Goodness of God in the Restraints granted to Me, So that I never was carried to the prodigious Enormitys of Such Men. Yet God forbid I should Pharisaically Say I am not as other Men.

1727 January 28 (Saturday). My Heart in the Evening too indifferent and Slightly [?] in my Examinations. O Lord Quicken thou me in thy Way! To the Dust my Soul cleavest fast.

1727 January 29 (Sunday). This was a good Day in Several regards. I was much affected with the Sermons I Delivered from Ps. 95.7. Today if ye will hear his voice. But it had been better if Mr. Willard of Boston and others at my house had not at noon been so full of unsuitable Discourse. God forgive wherein I in any ways countenanc'd it by my Criminal silence. The Evening I would not let go off without some very Serious Enquirys what if this be all the Day that Ever I shall hear the will of God in? What if I should die before another Morning? Let me now put My Self into some actual Readings for my Last hour.

1727 January 30 (Monday). What I did Chiefly was in the Clergymans Vade Mecum Volume I.⁴⁶⁴

1727 January 31 (Tuesday). I rode to the South part of Marlborough (call'd Stony Brook) to Dr. Bellus's,⁴⁶⁵ to see Mr. Willard, and here was his Kinsman that had been up with me. I tarried here till near night and then rode up to Mr. Brecks. N.B. Captain Willard's Characters of Mr. Ebenezer Gee⁴⁶⁶ and Mr. John Mountfort⁴⁶⁷ at Boston.

1727 February 1 (Wednesday). Mr. Willard and his Kinsman, the Chearful Captain⁴⁶⁸ came while we were at an Excellent Dinner on Roast Turkey, etc., at Mr. Brecks. Near Sundown I was very Eager and Earnest to come home. Mr. Breck urged Exceedingly to stay but I resisted his most pressing Importunity and took my leave. I mounted and my Business leading Me down to Mr. Woods's,⁴⁶⁹ Messrs. Willards would walk thither. Mr. Wood treated us handsomely and we all Sang the more chearfully. Here I rose up not a few times to return home but Captain Willard

⁴⁶³(Harvard 1720). Son of a Boston merchant and later minister of Falmouth, now Portland, Maine, 1726-1795. *Sibley*, VI, 400-410.

⁴⁶⁴[John Johnson]. *The Clergy-Man's vade-mecum: or an account of the ancient and present Church of England...* Third edition (London, 1700)

⁴⁶⁵Isaac Bellows.

⁴⁶⁶(Harvard 1722). *Sibley*, VII, 76.

⁴⁶⁷(Harvard 1722). *Sibley*, VII, 101-102.

⁴⁶⁸Captain Benjamin Willard of Grafton.

⁴⁶⁹Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

hung upon Me and would by no means let me have my way. Mr. Jonathan How⁴⁷⁰ (the Tavern keeper) came up from Boston while we were at Mr. Woods's and having several Haddock I bought one for my Wife; and we returned to Mr. Brecks, where We had Sad and Melancholly News of a Young Man Mr. Simon Bradstreet that last friday fell down very suddenly on Mr. Greenwoods wharf at Boston and next morning dyed. The News Letter had given an account of the very Surprizing and most Sudden Death of Mr. Samuell Hirst⁴⁷¹ A.M. of Harvard College, who not long Since fell down Dead on the long wharf at Boston, being in perfect Health (to appearance) the moment before. And one Lewis⁴⁷² Sometime publisher of the Boston Gazette, the same afternoon was taken with an Apoplectick fit and dy'd in Two Hours. O that I may also be ready, and that all Young Persons might fear and prepare, Since So many die in full strength, etc., to Demonstrate to us that in an hour that we think not our Lord cometh! I lodged at Mr. Brecks tonight also.

1727 February 2 (Thursday). In the morning Jonathan How came and invited us to a fish dinner. Accordingly we all went up to his house and Din'd with him on Haddock. Here his Brother Hezekiah⁴⁷³ of Westborough happen'd very Lukily, whom I implor'd to carry home my Fish and some necessarys. When we came from Mr. Hows, we parted with Mr. Breck and rode to Mr. William Jonson's⁴⁷⁴ and thence up to my house, Messrs. Willards being with me. They lodg'd with us.

1727 February 3 (Friday). Messrs. Willards went to Stoney Brook, while I confin'd my Self in my Studys as also

1727 February 4 (Saturday). This Day. It was exceeding Stormy and Snow'd hard.

1727 February 5 (Sunday). I preach'd on Heb. 3.14, both fore and afternoon. The hard weather allow'd me but a small Congregation.

1727 February 6 (Monday). My Brethren Elias and Samuel⁴⁷⁵ came (with Lieutenant Samuell How of Framingham their Conductor) to See us.

1727 February 7 (Tuesday). Mr. How went home after Dinner. My Brethren acquainted me that my Sister Susanna⁴⁷⁶ had been Twice publish'd to Captain Josiah Willard of Salem. A cold Season.

1727 February 8 (Wednesday). It being Somewhat warmer, my Brethren went away for Boston. Towards night came the Willards and lodg'd with us.

⁴⁷⁰Of Marlborough.

⁴⁷¹(Harvard 1723). *Sibley*, VII, 190-192.

⁴⁷²Thomas Lewis.

⁴⁷³Hezekiah Howe was an original settler of Westborough.

⁴⁷⁴William Johnson of Marlborough.

⁴⁷⁵Elias and Samuel Parkman of Boston.

⁴⁷⁶Susanna Parkman of Boston.

1727 February 9 (Thursday). Mr. Willard preach'd my Lecture from Prov. 27.1. I beseech God to grant this Young Gentlemans Endeavours may [be] [*illegible*] and accepted. He has undertaken for nine Sabbaths at Stoney Brook and I pray his Labours there and Everywhere besides may be Succeeded for the great good of many! After Lecture they went away. Mr. Jonathan How of Marlborough and Jedidiah How of This Town came to Sing. Mr. Bradish⁴⁷⁷ came to Request my Prayers and Assistance in a Matter grievous and Burthensome to him respecting his Oath of Administrator to an Estate of a Kinswoman of his (when living) of Boston.

1727 February 10 (Friday). My Heart is so backward I fear my Preparation for the Sacrament Approaching will be none of the Best. I find all my Sufficiency must be of God.

1727 February 11 (Saturday). It was Violently Stormy, Blustering Cold Snow, Extream Tedious and Difficult. The Snow Deep.

1727 February 12 (Sunday). I was much afraid the Sacrament must have been put by, and Captain Fay⁴⁷⁸ mention'd its being So; but provision being made and a Very Considerable number of Communicants present I proceeded though truly it was a Very Severe Season. I preach'd on 2 John 8, a.m. and on Heb. 3.12, I trust in the Meritts and advocacy of Christ, but I'm sure my performances, some of them can recomend Me to God.

1727 February 13 (Monday). I began to Read the Synopsis Criticism⁴⁷⁹ on the New Testament for a Morning Exercise. Captain Willard call'd here.

1727 February 14, 15 (Tuesday, Wednesday). I read miscellaneously. Chiefly Mr. Willard⁴⁸⁰ on the 5th and 7th Commandments and the Art of Speaking.

1727 February 16 (Thursday). I was Employ'd on my Subject as This is my Business and Employment, and such an one as calls for great Constancy and patience. So God grant I may So continue in it as in some measure to Deserve the Approbation and Comendation I Know thy services.

1727 February 17 (Friday). Mr. Cushing came to see Me. I would fain reap Some Benefit of Every Such Conversation.

1727 February 18 (Saturday). I was taken up with my preparations.

1727 February 19 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Heb. 3.13 a. and p.m.

⁴⁷⁷James Bradish or Braddish, an original settler of Westborough.

⁴⁷⁸John Fay of Westborough.

⁴⁷⁹This may have been *Synopsis Criticorum aliorumque S. Scripturae Interpretum*, 1678.

⁴⁸⁰Reverend Samuel Willard (1640-1707), vice-president of Harvard College.

1727 February 20, 21 (Monday, Tuesday). I early (in the Week) began my Studies for my Sermons. I conceive many advantages would accrue by it, and I'm Sure not a few Disadvantages would be avoided by it.

1727 February 22, 23, 24 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday). Mr. Ball (Junior) cut wood for me. I could make but Slow progress in my Business because of my Affliction by the Toothach.

1727 February 25 (Saturday). My Toothach continues; but I finish'd my sermons (to a very small matter) by almost an hour before Sunset, when Mr. Cushing came and requested me to go to Shrewsbury. But my indisposition Oblig'd me to tarry all night.

1727 February 26 (Sunday). In the morning I rode to Shrewsbury and a.m. preach'd on Ps. 95.7; p.m. on Phil. 1.27. In the Even, Captain Keyes⁴⁸¹ visited me. I read Mr. Hancocks⁴⁸² Ordination Sermon⁴⁸³ by his Father,⁴⁸⁴ and Mr. Ward Clarks⁴⁸⁵ by his Father in Law.⁴⁸⁶

1727 February 27 (Monday). After I had gone with Mr. Cushing to his house, din'd, etc., I returned home. Many of the Town came in to see me, it having been Town meeting. Mr. Ball (Nathan)⁴⁸⁷ brought me Tobacco.

1727 March 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday). Notwithstanding the preparations I made for last week yet I proceeded to other. I preach'd on Phil. 12, a. and p.m. I rode to Stoney Brook, to Mr. Willard.⁴⁸⁸ With him was Mr. Brintnall.⁴⁸⁹ The last rode with me to Mr. Swifts. I was design [?] to Boston, but receiving a Letter from my mother by Mr. B. How at Framingham meeting house, I turned back. I rode to Mr. Hows⁴⁹⁰ and lodg'd there.

⁴⁸¹Captain John Keyes of Shrewsbury.

⁴⁸²Reverend John Hancock (Harvard 1719), minister of First Church of Bramtree (now Quincy), 1726-1744. He was the father of the patriot John Hancock, first signer of the Declaration of Independence. Sibley, VI, 316-319.

⁴⁸³[Additional footnote: John Hancock (1671-1752), *A sermon preached at the ordination of Mr. John Hancock* [1702-1744]. *A.M.: in the North Precinct of Brantree [sic]; Novem. 2. 1726* (Boston: Printed for Thomas Hancock in Ann-Street near the drawbridge, 1726). Evans 2748.]

⁴⁸⁴Reverend John Hancock (Harvard 1689), minister of Lexington, 1698-1752. Sibley, III, 429-439.

⁴⁸⁵Reverend Ward Clark (Harvard 1723), minister of First Congregational Church of Kingston, N.H., 1725-1737. Sibley, VII, 156-158.

⁴⁸⁶Clark's ordination sermon was by John Odlin (Harvard 1702; minister of Exeter, N.H. Odlin was not Clark's father-in-law, for Clark married Mary Frost, the daughter of Charles Frost of Kittery, Maine. Sibley, V, 168-172 and VII, 156-158. [Addition to footnote: John Odlin (1681-1754), *Christian courage necessary for a Gospel minister. An ordination sermon preached at Kingston, Sept. 29. 1725. When Mr. Ward Clark was ordained Pastor of the church there* (Boston: Printed by B. Green, 1727). Evans 2939.]

⁴⁸⁷An early settler of Westborough.

⁴⁸⁸Samuel Willard, the preacher at the Stoney Brook part of Marlborough.

⁴⁸⁹Reverend William Brintnall of Sudbury.

⁴⁹⁰Probably at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, kept by David Howe.

1727 March 7 (Tuesday). In the morning I rode to Marlborough. Din'd at Mr. Woods (with Deacon Wilder⁴⁹¹). I went with Mr. Breck⁴⁹² to his house and (it storming hard) I remained here all night.

1727 March 8 (Wednesday). The storm continued, but yet after dinner I removed. Mr. Breck went with me to his Son Williams⁴⁹³ (his daughters lately lying in⁴⁹⁴). Thence I returned home.

1727 March 9 (Thursday). Very high winds. I my Self Sleded home wood with my own Team (mare and Sled).

1727 March 10, 11 (Friday, Saturday). Considering my Appointment to go to Boston next week, I Employ'd my Self in preparing Sermons to serve one on the following Sabbath, for I had finished for the approaching Sabbath.

1727 March 12 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day on Phil. 2.12.

1727 March 13 (Monday). My Wife had Designed to go to Boston with me but it was so rainy that she was obliged to give up her intention. About Eleven it held up and I set out. I was at Mr. Coles⁴⁹⁵ (the shoemaker) where I saw Distracted Mrs. Bowtel.⁴⁹⁶ I got down to Cambridge between 7 and 8.

1727 March 14 (Tuesday). I rode to Charleston with Father Champney (it being Court Time), and thence over to Boston with Brother Hicks.⁴⁹⁷ I spent my Time at home.

1727 March 15 (Wednesday). We had very joyfull news from my Brother John.⁴⁹⁸ In the Evening I was at Mr. Greenwoods⁴⁹⁹ Lecture which was upon Projectile Motion. I can't but Conclude these Exercises by Experiments are the most beneficial as they Reduce all to Sensible Demonstration. When I return'd I went in with Mr. Greenwood to Dr. Clarks.⁵⁰⁰ At home I saw Captain Willard⁵⁰¹ of Salem.

⁴⁹¹Deacon Joseph Wilder of Lancaster.

⁴⁹²Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

⁴⁹³Reverend Breck's son-in-law, Abraham Williams, a prominent resident of Marlborough.

⁴⁹⁴Elizabeth Breck, daughter of Reverend Robert Breck, married Abraham Williams.

⁴⁹⁵Probably Samuel Cole of Framingham.

⁴⁹⁶This was perhaps a woman who had married one of the Boutwells of Reading, Mass. In 1728 Samuel Cole of Framingham married a Sarah Boutwell of Reading.

⁴⁹⁷John Hicks of Cambridge, Parkman's brother-in-law.

⁴⁹⁸Parkman's brother-in-law John Tyley.

⁴⁹⁹Isaac Greenwood, Parkman's classmate and later first Hollis Professor of Mathematics at Harvard College.

⁵⁰⁰John Clark (Harvard 1687), a physician of Boston. Professor Greenwood married Clark's daughter Sarah. *Sibley*, III, 375-379.

⁵⁰¹Josiah Willard.

1727 March 16 (Thursday). Mr. Sewal preach'd the Lecture on John 15.5. I din'd at Brother Williams. In the Evening My Sister Susanna was marry'd to Captain Josiah Willard of Salem by Dr. Mather.⁵⁰² The Ceremony over we Sang Psalm [*blank*] and the Doctor had many uncommon Observations upon the Concluding words of the psalm and explained Several other Texts in that millenary Scheme. I must observe here that I had very much Concern upon my Mind lest Every Thing throughout this transaction should not be to the Glory of God, and devout in the Eyes of Men. But last of all did I Suspect my Self.

1727 March 17 (Friday). My Brother Elias gave me one of Mr. Webbs⁵⁰³ books on the 4 Last things; and Deacon Henchman⁵⁰⁴ gave me the Extraordinary binding. I visited my friend Mr. John Adams.⁵⁰⁵ In the Evening we had much more Company than I thought of. Mr. Secretary Willard,⁵⁰⁶ our Cousens, Mrs. Sarah Porter and her Sister, Mrs. Dorcas Bows,⁵⁰⁷ etc., etc. I have grievously and Sadly reflected upon my Levity this Evening. I am very much afraid that in the Eyes of Some of the Company my Demeanour was not altogether becoming. But there was nothing criminal in my Conduct with one that considers what a time of Joy it was with us. However I think I might have spent more time with the graver people, especially have improv'd the opportunity of acquainting my Self better with the Secretary and perhaps it had not been to my Disadvantage.

1727 March 18 (Saturday). I had additional Trouble by some Discourse my brother Samuel had with me upon the articles of my tarrying no more in Boston when I went down; for it was very stormy weather and I was urgent to return home. It rain'd till between 10 and 11, when holding up a little I left home, truly with my heart full of Sadness. *Veruntamen in quoquo peccavi, vel mete vel oculo, vel olioquiui Sanguis pratiosus Jesu Mei per totum purgabit!* It was one o'clock (as I remember) when I set out from Cambridge. I lit upon Mr. Tainter⁵⁰⁸ riding up with Hannah Warrin.⁵⁰⁹ I rode to Dr. Bellows of Marlborough, Stoney Brook, where I stop'd, Mr. Willard being gone up to Westborough. I was not well, or I should have reach'd home, and there was almost Sunrise to have gone by. I went to Bed not very Well. I was exceedingly fatigued and very faint. But what Surprized one very much in the morning Mr. Willard came in - - for my wife Expected that if I returned from Boston at all I should reach home though it were 12 at night first. He soon went back to Westborough and I preach'd at Stoney Brook (the South part of Marlborough) a. and p.m. on Prov. 3.6. At Even I returned to my own house. I found all things Comfortable. *Deo Opt. Max. Grates.*

⁵⁰²Cotton Mather.

⁵⁰³Reverend John Webb of Boston. The work was *Practical Discourses on Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell. In Twenty-four Sermons* (Boston, 1726)

⁵⁰⁴Daniel Henchman, publisher and bookseller in Boston.

⁵⁰⁵(Harvard 1721). Of Boston. A classmate of Parkman.

⁵⁰⁶Josiah Willard (Harvard 1698) of Boston, college tutor, preacher, shipmaster and Secretary of the Province. *Sibley*, IV, 425-432.

⁵⁰⁷Sarah (Champney) Porter was evidently either a cousin or a niece of Mrs. Dorcas Bowes, who was Mrs. Parkman's cousin.

⁵⁰⁸Simon Tainter of Westborough.

⁵⁰⁹Mrs. Hannah Warren of Westborough.

1727 March 20 (Monday). Mr. Willard left us to go to his Lodgings.

1727 March 22 (Wednesday). I had not very well got over my Journey yet. Mr. Cushing (I understood) brought home his wife. I a little wonder'd why I was not sent for but Time will open the Cause.

1727 March 25 (Saturday). I received a Letter from Mr. Cushing which invited me to go to his house on the 21 to Meet his Wife, and the Letter was written some considerable Time ago, but miscarry'd till now.

1727 March 26 (Sunday). I preach'd on Phil. 2.12, a. and p.m.

1727 March 27, 28, 29 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday). I was closely and Strictly Engaged in My Sermons and in my Enquiries into [*blot*] of the Land and of my People, particularly that I might prepare my Self for the Solemnity drawing nigh. But it is to be remark'd that the 27th was a very Tempestuous, Cold, Snowy Time, at which my Brother John Parkman was Shipwreck'd at Cape Ann. The Thirtieth was Publick Fast. I preach'd upon Ps. 51.10 all Day and Endeavour'd to improve the Day also as preparation for our Sacrament.

1727 March 31 (Friday). I apply'd my Self to my Study only.

1727 April 1 (Saturday). I was Strictly Employ'd in my preparations for the Sabbath approaching.

1727 April 2 (Sunday). Sacrament. I preach'd all Day upon 2 John 8. After Meetings my Wife gave me the Heavy Tidings of the Death of my Brother John Parkman, but I had no very certain account.

1727 April 3 (Monday). I went up to Mr. Fays⁵¹⁰ and Engaged him to go down with me, my Wife and Sister, But

1727 April 4 (Tuesday). On the Day appointed it rained hard and put all things off.

1727 April 5 (Wednesday). I sent to Mr. Fays but was disappointed, and in the afternoon I went away alone; To Mr. Swifts⁵¹¹ first, the Association not being dispers'd. Thence I rode to Mr.

⁵¹⁰Probably Samuel rather than Captain John Fay of Westborough.

⁵¹¹Reverend John Swift of Framingham.

Peabody⁵¹² with Mr. Baxter⁵¹³ and Wife,⁵¹⁴ and Mrs. Peabody and Mr. Bucknam.⁵¹⁵ At Mr. Peabody was Major Quincy⁵¹⁶ of Braintree.

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

⁵¹²Oliver Peabody, minister of the Indian Church of Natick.

⁵¹³Reverend Joseph Baxter (Harvard 1693), minister of Medfield, 1694-1745. *Sibley*, IV, 146-153.

⁵¹⁴Baxter's third wife, Mercy Bridgham.

⁵¹⁵Reverend Nathan Bucknam (Harvard 1721), minister of the First Church in East Medway (now Millis), 1724-1795. *Sibley*, VI, 434-437.

⁵¹⁶Edmund Quincy (Harvard 1699), Councillor and justice of the Superior Court. *Sibley*, IV, 491-495.

Fast Day) My Remaining Brethren went to Cape Ann but could not get there timely enough to do anything to purpose. On the 31 They Solemnized the Funerall, and buried him in that Town. On Saturday (April 1) they returned home. This is a Brief and Melancholly account. I Beseech God to make it Spiritually advantagious, though outwardly it is So grievous to us.

1727 April 7, 8 (Friday, Saturday). I Attended Mr. Thatchers⁵¹⁷ Lecture. Mr. Waldron⁵¹⁸ desired me to preach for him. I would fain have flattly Deny'd him, but my Father was by, and I knew his mind was Set. I did not dare to refuse. I was obliged to Study very hard to prepare my Self for the Publick Exercises. With much Labour I finished my Sermon before Bed time. But I could not but be greatly concern'd about So hasty Compositions.

1727 April 9 (Sunday). I attended at Mr. Thatchers in the forenoon, therein embracing an Opportunity to Communicate with the Church I had relation to. It was a Sacred joyfull Season. I would hope my Soul was refresh'd therewith. I din'd at Mr. Waldrons and preach'd (though in a poor, lame manner truly) to his Congregation upon the Text 1 King 13.30. It met with some kind acceptance in the Family and at their Request I repeated it in the Evening.

1727 April 10 (Monday). I Spent the Time chiefly in the Family.

1727 April 11 (Tuesday). I rode to Reading to Mr. Burts⁵¹⁹ to obtain his Daughter to Serve in our house. From thence I rode to Salem, to Brother Willards and lodged there.

1727 April 12 (Wednesday). It being Lecture at Mr. Stantons⁵²⁰ I tarried beyond my Design in this Town. I din'd at Mr. Stantons where was Mr. Blowers,⁵²¹ Mr. Fisk,⁵²² Mr. Ward,⁵²³ Mr. Chever⁵²⁴ of Manchester, and Mr. Jeffords,⁵²⁵ the last of which preach'd on Mat. 11.30. Presently after Lecture Brother Willard and Mrs. Grafton rode with me to Boston.

1727 April 13 (Thursday). Mr. Foxcroft⁵²⁶ preach'd at the Publick Lecture. Sister Willard⁵²⁷ went to make Salem her home, diverse of the Family with her, to accompany etc. I rode from Winnesimmet to Cambridge and there was taken very ill.

⁵¹⁷Reverend Peter Thatcher of Boston.

⁵¹⁸Reverend William Waldron (Harvard 1717), first minister of the New Brick Church of Boston. *Sibley*, VI, 214-219.

⁵¹⁹Thomas Burt, Jr. His daughter was Sarah (b. 1711) who later married Joseph Gilbert of Boston.

⁵²⁰Reverend Robert Stanton (Harvard 1712), minister of the Second Church of Salem. *Sibley*, V, 647-648.

⁵²¹Reverend Thomas Blowers (Harvard 1695), minister of First Church at Beverly, 1701-1729. *Sibley*, IV, 225-228.

⁵²²Reverend Samuel Fiske (Harvard 1708), minister of the First Church at Salem, 1718-1735. *Sibley*, V, 413-424.

⁵²³Reverend Robert Ward (Harvard 1719), minister at Wenham, 1722-1732. *Sibley*, VI, 350-352.

⁵²⁴Reverend Ames Cheever (Harvard 1707), minister at Manchester, Mass., 1716-1743. *Sibley*, V, 326-329.

⁵²⁵Reverend Samuel Jefferds (Harvard 1722), minister at Wells, Maine, 1725-1752. *Sibley*, VII, 83-85.

⁵²⁶Reverend Thomas Foxcroft of Boston.

⁵²⁷Parkman's sister, Susanna.

1727 April 14 (Friday). I continued so ill all Day that I scarce got up. I was confin'd to the Bed in the Day but in the Evening was worse. Mrs. Burt⁵²⁸ by appointment brought her daughter.

1727 April 15 (Saturday). The journey home look'd very discouraging I was so ill. But riding an Easy horse and Father Champney⁵²⁹ with me, with the Girl, we reach'd home. I was very much unfitted for publick Service.

1727 April 16 (Sunday). But resting well through Divine Goodness I rose enlivened and repeated to my Congregation (with Some Addition and a few alterations) what I delivered last Sabbath upon the Death of my Brother. At night I was considerably better Still.

1727 April 17 (Monday). So that in the Morning My Wife and Child rode down with our Father Champney. I was concern'd that the Stubble was not plough'd for planting, according to agreement made with Mr. Hezekiah Ward,⁵³⁰ nor was there any ploughing for Sowing.

1727 April 18 (Tuesday). I got Mr. Thurston⁵³¹ to plow and sow my Barley, and Mr. Hezekiah Ward ploughed part of the Stubble.

1727 April 19 (Wednesday). And again he ploughed in the Stubble.

1727 April 20 (Thursday). And he ploughed a Morning Spell more.

1727 April 21 (Friday). Sometime after Sun down Lieutenant Forbush⁵³² came and requested me to go down to See his Wife who they thought was drawing near her End and wanted to See Me. I went down. When I Entered I Said Mrs. Forbush I am Sorry to See you So ill; I am come at your Desire; which way can I become the most Serviceable to you? She reply'd She was under apprehension of the approach of Death and she could not but be under fears on So great an Occasion. Upon which I proceeded to enquire into the grounds of her Fears telling withal that I should endeavour to remove them and (receiving Some very generall answers) to promote the matter the more readily I began to Say Something concerning true Repentance, universal Obedience and the unfeigned Love of God and to the People of God which finding in her might Shew to her the Truth of Grace to be wrought in her, which being demonstrated must necessarily make all things bright and clear and comfortable. But this process I managed in such as easy and familiar manner as this following.

1. I am hoping (Mrs. Forbush) you have freely repented of any sin that you have known your Self guilty of. She answer'd that She trusted she had, and was heartily willing to, of all that she had been chargeable with that she had not particularly known of, etc.

⁵²⁸Of Reading.

⁵²⁹Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's father-in-law.

⁵³⁰Of Westborough.

⁵³¹Joseph Thurston of Westborough.

⁵³²Samuel Forbush of Westborough.

2. You have told me heretofore that you have us'd your utmost to keep the Commands of God universally but especially now Since you have openly dedicated your Self to God, and join'd your Self to the Communion of the Lords people and waited upon Christ Table I conclude you have much ground for Satisfaction and Comfort. (You Should have if you have Sincerely and uprightly done your Duty.) To which she [said] It has indeed been a Comfort to me and I am now glad that I have not that work to reproach my Self with the commission of, (or in these words) I am glad havn't that work to do now (having some reference I believe to the Trouble that many have been in at such an hour that they had never obey'd the Comand of Christ) etc., etc., etc.

3. Well, Mrs. Forbush but to let you see things more plainly Still. Let Us a little further enquire. Don't you find in you Such a Love to God as has made you both repent of Sin and Obey his Comands from a Desire of his Glory? etc. etc.

But to find out some further proof of all this and to have some stronger evidence of your Love to God and Christ, have you a pure love to the Godly; do you love the Disciples of Christ, those that you think bear the Image of God unfeignedly?

She. I hope really that I do.

N.B. Mr. Thomas Forbush⁵³³ and wife, Captain Byles⁵³⁴ and wife, and Jedediah How⁵³⁵ were in the Room, besides the family. But the person being look'd upon as near expiring I thought not to thrust those persons So well acquainted with the woman, as nearer She has not (except one), out of the room, and Seeing my discourse was generall and what anyone might hear. Yet when under any of those heads any particular private matters have occur'd it has then been usuall with me to desire the Company to withdraw. But here I apprehended would be such things spoken as might be very profitable and suitable for all that heard, as I concluded these near Relatives were gratify'd not a little by them. However, upon some account or other it Seems Old Mr. Forbush⁵³⁶ is displeas'd and though at the most awfull time when every thought was profoundly Serious and solemn Yet he thinks fit to [*illegible*] upon us in a sad passionate manner upon the last Sentence, spoken thus. Sir, We are grown folks. I turned about in great Surprize and calmly looking upon him and then as calmly Speaking asked what he had said. He repeated the Same words as before. I asked him what then? (Now raising my Self up in my Chair) why then (says he) we understand these things already have read in the Bible and Some other Books, and ourselves know these things being grown folks and come into years. Here up I Spoke the words following (his Wife, his Sisters, especially the apprehended Dying person besought him not to open his mouth any further, they being astonished as well as I and the woman declaring it much to her Comfort and benefit that I had proceeded as I had and that it

⁵³³Selectman of Westborough, brother of Samuel.

⁵³⁴Joseph Byles, an original settler of Westborough.

⁵³⁵Of Westborough.

⁵³⁶The oldest Forbush in Westborough at this time was Thomas Forbush.

was the End of her sending for me, etc.). Mr. Forbush, I am astonish'd at such an interruption at such a season, when I come upon my Commission and Charge to minister in the name of God to a Servant of his ready to leave to world, etc., etc. Says he, If I had been in your place I would not have asked Such Questions. I reply'd in defence of them. He Said Mr. Breck would not ask Such. I answer'd I was not now to enquire what Mr. Breck would ask, but I was able to affirm that the most Learned, the most pious and the most Judicious ministers would. I therewith pray'd him to Say which were improper and wherein. He appear'd not able to tell so much as what any one Question was that I had asked. Well, Said I, Seeing you won't or can't tell me which, etc., I'll endeavour to recollect all that I have said, though I did not Study before I came down what I should say, nor had I time; neither did I confine my Self strictly to any Method but Said what I thought of the greatest weight in the Case before me. I then recapitulated and demanded as I went along what exceptions he had to make and wherein they were so grossly injudicious as to be foundation enough for his So Strange interposition. 1. He Suppos'd She had repented before now and she had examin'd her Self before this time o'Day often and often no doubt. And then I had liv'd in the house and knew the woman long ago. So that I had no need to ask Questions now. Besides I had or Should have ask'd her when She was admitted into the Church. Truly, said he, if it was my wife you Should not have asked her whether she had repented of her sins. We hope She has done it long ago. To which I Said, This Person I knew So Well as that I Saw no danger from my asking generall Questions. She had had nothing Scandlaous in all her Life that I know of, neither could any one think that I desir'd to rake into all the particulars of her past conversation in the world and managements in the Familie (not but that If I had made Such enquiries She might I believe have produc'd what would have been very instructing). Were I examining a person that had been notoriously vicious and demanding a particular confession and before So many witnesses it had been another thing; but I have been endeavouring to assist this person in preparing actually to give up her account to the great Judge, and though she may have view'd it numberless times and we may have review'd and examin'd it together yet now at the awfull juncture before delivering it into his hands we act most wisely to look all over as carefully as possible to find out whatever escapes or flaws there may be, Since it can never be done after, throughout Eternity, and Eternity depends upon this account. Mr. Forbush those Questions appear injudicious to you; yet they are so far from being a reflection upon your Sister that the most avanc'd Christian that is on Earth won't Scruple to ask them and they are the very questions therefore that the gravest and profoundest Divines in the Christian Church do put in these Cases, etc. etc. 2. You ask (Say'd he) whether she had not comfort in her having been at the Sacrament. How needless that question. What do you think She went to it for, Sir? I admire at you Mr. Forbush. Your Sister's End was to testifie her Obedience to the Command of Christ, and to obtain of her Lord Divine Grace and Support under all Troubles and difficulties, to Engage Gods mercifull presence in a time of Extremity, especially when Death approaches. She has been I Say, for these great and important things and now when She needs them most of all I ask whether she has got her Errand and how she is Sure She has these things and This is impertinent, etc., etc. 3. And You asked whether She lov'd the Godly? What a Question that is! I know what you mean whether She loves all that Appear professedly to be Christians. I havn't a Charity for everybody because they make a profession. There is some that I know of that I won't have a Charity for though they have join'd to the Church. To which I rejoin'd Mr. Forbush in trying whether true Grace be in the heart love to

Christ's Disciples is always enquir'd into. I doubted not but your Sister doth So, yet it is ask'd to make all things as clear and fair as possible. By Christ's Disciples I mean the Same as Saint John doth by the Brethren by which are understood all that any way bear the Image and Resemblance of Christ, and Mr. Forbush notwithstanding what you have last Said as to your Charity I'll tell you mine is So extensive that there is not a person in all Westborough but I would charitably hope he may be a subject for the Divine Grace to work upon. Well, he would not, etc. It was time I should do what I could for the woman. I told him he had prevented me and unfitted me, etc., but I turn'd about and went on. Mr. Forbush ask'd I'd forgive him if he had said anything wrong but he thought he would not ask Such questions. So that I So far lost my labour with him. I told him if he was So much disturb'd about them, I would submit them to the Judgement to whatsoever ministers in the Country he should Choose. I pray'd him to consider his sister. He was willing with all Saying that he knew not how soon he should need me on the Same account and therefore again desire me to forgive his bluntness, but yet He could not desire me if ever I should to ask him such sort of Questions. Thus did he in a strange manner keep up the flame by throwing in oil when he pretended to cast in water to quench it. No, Mr. Forbush Said I with some earnestness, I'm afraid you would not care that I should deal feelingly with your soul. I now told him of my being oblig'd in Conscience to do my utmost for persons when as his Sister, etc. I shall take no further notice of the Strange reply he made me nor the long discourse he further occasion'd. I was griev'd heartily to See So much of his ignorance and passions. It grew very late. It was well the woman (it may be through her fright) was reviv'd. We came into So amicable a Compositon as to go to prayer and we parted Friends. But both my Head and heart were full. It was Twelve when I got home. Sister Ruth discern'd my Trouble. I went to bed but could not Sleep for a long time. I beseech God to quicken me hereby in my work, and make me more diligent to accomplish my Self lest I meet with worse trialls than this. I remember and would take notice of it that the Suddenness and lateness of Lieutenant's coming for me prevented my usual address to heaven before such Ministrations. I would be humbled for my Sin and take the Punishment God inflicted for it.

1727 April 22 (Saturday). Mr. Ward came with his Team and carted out Muck upon my Corn grounds. Mr. Ward in the afternoon plough'd a spot for flax and went home.

1727 April 23 (Sunday). I preach'd on 1 Pet. 2.11.

1727 April 25 (Tuesday). I went to Shrewsbury to see Mr. Cushing⁵³⁷ after his Marriage though truly it has now been some time since. But the reason was his Letter which he Sent me just before his bringing his wife home miscarried.

1727 April 26 (Wednesday). Mr. Thomas Newton⁵³⁸ came to see me and Mr. Townsend⁵³⁹ the Schoolmaster.

⁵³⁷Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

⁵³⁸Of Westborough.

⁵³⁹Joshua Townsend of Westborough.

1727 April 27 (Thursday). Very stormy.

1727 April 28 (Friday). One of my Boars was cut, a somewhat dangerous adventure, but 'twas now cool after the storm.

1727 April 30 (Sunday). I preach'd on 1 Pet. 2.11.

1727 May 1 (Monday). I went abroad to Mr. Josiah Newtons, etc. When I return'd I found my wife brought home by her brother.⁵⁴⁰

1727 May 2 (Tuesday). Brother carry'd Sister Ruth⁵⁴¹ down home.

1727 May 4 (Thursday). Mr. William Nurse⁵⁴² came with his Team and plough'd for me for planting but he was late in the morning and many hindrances So that not much was accomplished.

1727 May 6 (Saturday). Mr. Green⁵⁴³ ploughed.

1727 May 7 (Sunday). I preach'd on Ps. 119.9.

1727 May 8 (Monday). Captain Fay⁵⁴⁴ ploughed. All this before we could plant. And it was but 2 1/2 Acres. I was at Mr. Bakers.

1727 May 9 (Tuesday). It rain'd So that Mr. Baker⁵⁴⁵ could not come.

1727 May 10 (Wednesday). Mr. Baker and Mr. Charles Rices Son came and planted for me. I was afflicted with a Boar I lately Cutt, for there was Hazard So late. N.B. Lecture put by.

1727 May 12, 13 (Friday, Saturday). My Child was very ill. In the morning I found the Boar dead.

1727 May 14 (Sunday). I preach'd on Song 2.3 and Administer'd the Sacrament; p.m. on 2 John 8.

1727 May 15 (Monday). I went to see Mr. Tainter⁵⁴⁶ and Mr. Jonathan Forbush⁵⁴⁷ who was sick. I Sent Some Hair to Boston by Mr. Baker.

⁵⁴⁰Samuel Champney, Jr., of Cambridge.

⁵⁴¹Ruth Champney of Cambridge, Parkman's sister-in-law.

⁵⁴²Of Westborough. Not listed as one of the original settlers of the town.

⁵⁴³John Green, Parkman's neighbor.

⁵⁴⁴John Fay, the prominent early resident of Westborough.

⁵⁴⁵Edward Baker of Westborough.

⁵⁴⁶Simon Tainter of Westborough.

⁵⁴⁷The younger brother of Thomas and Samuel Forbush of Westborough. He changed the name to Forbes.

1727 May 16 (Tuesday). I went down to Marlborough. I acquaint Mr. Breck⁵⁴⁸ with my trouble with Mr. Forbush. He said though he was known to be the plainest and bluntest Man, yet he wondered at his extream Ignorance, unguardedness, etc.

1727 May 17 (Wednesday). Mr. Stone,⁵⁴⁹ Mrs. Goddard⁵⁵⁰ and her son David were here.

1727 May 21 (Sunday). I preach'd on Ps. 119.9.

1727 May 22 (Monday). I rode over with my Wife to Mr. Ephraim Allens⁵⁵¹ to see his poor afflicted wife. I had hair of her which I Sent to Boston by Mr. Hezekiah Ward for we returned by the way of Mr. Brighams.

1727 May 23 (Tuesday). In the Night I marry'd Mr. Daniel Warrin⁵⁵² to Mary Wetherby.

1727 May 24 (Wednesday). It was very Cold. Tis the Day appointed [f]or the ordination of Mr. Amos Throop⁵⁵³ at Woodstock. Gods presence be in his Church and with his Servant.

1727 May 25, 26, 27 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). I had Sufficient Business with my Sermons, considering especially what my avocations may be next Week.

1727 May 28 (Sunday). I preach'd again on Ps. 119.9, a.m. but p.m. on Ps. 25.7. I beseach God to bless these Courses of Sermons not only to the young people of this Town, but to me who stands in the greatest need of assistances of these kinds!

1727 May 29 (Monday). Early in the morning I rode to Mr. Brecks upon my Journey to Boston, but the weather being various he detain'd me till after dinner when I left him. I hit upon Judge Meinzie⁵⁵⁴ and had his Company to Cambridge. He was very civil and generous to Me on the Road, though his Conversation I had no great Esteem of. I turn'd out of the Road to go to Father Champneys and thence proceeded to Boston, and was not much after nine at my Fathers House.

1727 May 30 (Tuesday). I was not abroad much, except among my Relatives.

He became a deacon of the church and died in 1768.

⁵⁴⁸ Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

⁵⁴⁹ Lieutenant Isaac Stone of Shrewsbury, selectman of that town. Ward, *Shrewsbury*, pp. 423-424.

⁵⁵⁰ Probably Mrs. Edward Goddard of Shrewsbury.

⁵⁵¹ Of that part of Westborough that later became Northborough.

⁵⁵² Captain Daniel Warrin or Warren was an original settler of Westborough. His first wife was Rebecca Garfield.

⁵⁵³ (Harvard 1721). Minister of the First Congregational Church, Woodstock, Conn., 1727-1735. *Sibley*, VI, 572-574.

⁵⁵⁴ John Menzies, a Justice of the Peace of Middlesex County.

1727 May 31 (Wednesday). Mr. Joseph Baxter of Medfield preach'd the Election sermon from 1 Tim. 2.1.2. Mr. Stimpson,⁵⁵⁵ Mr. Greenwood,⁵⁵⁶ Mr. Turell⁵⁵⁷ and I din'd with the officers of the Town Militia and the company of Cadys [Cadets?] which waited upon his Honor the Lieutenant Governour.⁵⁵⁸ Mr. Turell Pray'd and it fell to me to return. The Afternoon was in greatest part Spent at Mr. Henschmans⁵⁵⁹ Shop with Mr. Greenwood, Turell, Prince,⁵⁶⁰ etc., etc. We went to Mr. Sewalls⁵⁶¹ to the Convention. In the Evening I was with Mr. Lowell⁵⁶² and his Wife⁵⁶³ first at his and then at her Fathers. I was also at Captain Kings where Mr. Joseph Parsons⁵⁶⁴ was with Mrs. Porter. I invited him to lodge with me. Accordingly he did. He told me sorrowfull News of Mr. Samuel Coffins⁵⁶⁵ being far Spent in a Consumption and his Life dispair'd of.

1727 June 1 (Thursday). In the morning (family exercises and breakfast ended) we walk'd up to Mr. Sewalls. Mr. President Wadsworth⁵⁶⁶ preach'd in the Convention from Hagg. 1.13. The Devotions over though there had been long contests and debates about the phrasing of the address drawn up by Mr. Colman⁵⁶⁷ to be Sent to his Majestie from the ministers in New England. Yet there were very hot and very long oppositions today also. And upon no other than the calling themselves the Ministers of the Churches, and whether it should not be the Teaching Elders, etc. Mr. Williams⁵⁶⁸ of Deerfield was chosen to preach the Next Year. We din'd at an house Some little way below Mr. Sewalls in the Same Street.

1727 June 2 (Friday). It was late in the morning before I could set out from Charlston upon my Journey. I din'd at Father Champneys. At Mr. Learned's⁵⁶⁹ was Mr. Cheney of Brookfield and his wife; and thither came Breck⁵⁷⁰ from College. We all rode up within the bounds of Marlborough together where I parted from my Company. I got home seasonably.

⁵⁵⁵Joseph Stimpson (Harvard 1720), of Charlestown. Later minister at Maiden, 1735-1744. *Sibley*, VI, 410-411.

⁵⁵⁶Isaac Greenwood, Professor of Mathematics at Harvard College.

⁵⁵⁷Reverend Ebenezer Turell (Harvard 1721), minister of Medford, 1724-1778. *Sibley* VI, 574-582.

⁵⁵⁸Lieutenant Governor William Dummer was acting governor at this time, pending the arrival of Governor William Burnet.

⁵⁵⁹Daniel Henschman, publisher and bookseller in Boston.

⁵⁶⁰Nathan Prince, tutor at Harvard and brother of the famous historian, Thomas Prince.

⁵⁶¹Reverend Joseph Sewall of the Old South Church, Boston.

⁵⁶²John Lowell (Harvard 1721) of Boston was the first minister of Newburyport, 1725-1767. *Sibley*, VI, 496-502.

⁵⁶³Lowell married Sarah Champney, a cousin of Parkman's wife.

⁵⁶⁴(Harvard 1720). Minister of Bradford, 1726-1765. *Sibley*, VI, 393-396.

⁵⁶⁵Brocklebank Samuel Coffin (Harvard 1718) of Newbury. *Sibley*, VI, 234.

⁵⁶⁶Benjamin Wadsworth, President of Harvard College.

⁵⁶⁷Dr. Benjamin Colman (Harvard 1692), minister of the Brattle St. Church, Boston, 1699-1747. *Sibley*, IV, 120-137.

⁵⁶⁸Reverend John Williams (Harvard 1683), first minister of Deerfield, 1686-1729. *Sibley*, III, 249-262.

⁵⁶⁹Thomas Learned was a tavern-keeper in Watertown.

⁵⁷⁰Robert Breck, Jr. (Harvard 1730), son of the Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough. Breck, Jr., was later minister of the First Church of Springfield, 1734-1784. *Sibley*, VIII, 661-680.

1727 June 3 (Saturday). I was much Engag'd and Employ'd that I might make up my preparations for the Sabbath.

1727 June 11 (Sunday). King George dy'd at his Brother Ernest's Palace at Osnaburg.

1727 June 14 (Wednesday). The sad News of the Kings Death arriv'd at Richmond and George II was proclaim'd at Leicester House.

1727 July 3 (Monday). My Little Daughter Molly was extremely ill So that we thought between 9 and 10, She would have expir'd.

1727 July 4 (Tuesday). Mr. Jonathan Howard⁵⁷¹ dy'd. My Child was very bad about noon and continued So, Sometime. But it was Some Comfort that Captain Whooods Widow was with us.

1727 July 17 (Monday). I went to Cambridge.

1727 July 18 (Tuesday). To Boston and return'd to Cambridge.

1727 July 20 (Thursday). I came home and our Mother Champney⁵⁷² with me.

1727 August 1, 2 (Tuesday, Wednesday). It was exceeding hot So that I could scarce mind my Business; but was oblig'd to make Some preparation for my Lecture.

1727 August 3 (Thursday). Mr. Cushing and his Wife happened to come to See us upon this Day. But he had no Notes with him and I had not finished my Sermon, so that I was debarred their Company very much. I Lectur'd on 1 Chron. 28.19. Mr. Cushing pray'd. His Wife not at Meeting. After Meeting I had information that Mr. Tomlins⁵⁷³ Daughter was dead. A Young Woman that had lain confin'd ever since I had been in Town; and dy'd unbaptis'd. (*O Jesu Misericors ne mihi imputatur*). I went over to the house and discours'd with Mr. Tomlin and with the family, etc.

1727 August 4 (Friday). She was buried. I was full of Concern. God Sanctifie her Death to others of her Age and Circumstance.

1727 August 5 (Saturday). It continues very hot, and parching weather.

1727 August 6 (Sunday). I had appointed on this Day to administer the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, but we were disappointed, the Elements not being brought up nor the Person (Thomas Ward) that went for them, return'd. God graciously forgive wherever he has Seen Guilt, and

⁵⁷¹Of Westborough, although the death is not recorded in the *Westborough Vital Records*.

⁵⁷²Mrs. Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's mother-in-law.

⁵⁷³Isaac Tomblin was an early settler of Westborough. The *Westborough Vital Records* do not give the death of this person.

whatever Unpreparedness in his Servants that Should provoke him to debarr us therefrom! I preach'd on 1 Chron. 28.9, a. and p.m. It was very hot and I was very faint and weary when the Exercises were over.

1727 August 7 (Monday). I went to Mr. Thomas Newton's, who had a great deal to Say about Mr. Peres Rice⁵⁷⁴ and wanted much that he Should be brought under Church censure, Seeing the Court of Judicature had found him guilty of violating the Civil law, in the act against Selling drink without License. I was at said Rices also but not to Discourse with him, nor did I upon anything besides coming to Mow for me.

1727 August 8 (Tuesday). Father Champney came up to See us. It is a favour of heaven that we can hear of the welfare of our Friends, and ought to be thankfully acknowledged.

1727 August 9 (Wednesday). Mr. Bradish⁵⁷⁵ came and by his Help we got in near a load of Hay which was mow'd by Nathaniel Child last Saturday.

1727 August 10 (Thursday). Father Champney return'd from us. Near Night Captain Goddard⁵⁷⁶ came. It has been a time of parching Drought, but God mercifully remembers us and sends us Rain.

1727 August 11 (Friday). Rain by the Divine Mercy.

1727 August 12 (Saturday). Mr. Thomas Weld⁵⁷⁷ came up to us.

1727 August 13 (Sunday). Mr. Weld preach'd a.m. on Ps. 63.3. I administered the Sacrament of the Lords Supper. Mr. Weld preach'd p.m. on John 9.4, former part. The whole of his performances were laudable. God make him an eminent Instrument of his Glory in his Church.

1727 August 14 (Monday). I accompanied Mr. Weld as far as into the Mendon Road (beyond Mr. Eams of Hopkinton) he being determined to go to Mr. Dorrs.⁵⁷⁸ I was at Mr. Jonathan Forbes' where there were not a few Sick. Mrs. Forbes was not Recovered. Three of their Daughters had a strong fever and Rebecca Paterson [Paddison?] lay very ill.

1727 August 15 (Tuesday). I went to see Mr. Amsden⁵⁷⁹ who was Sick and had desired praying for him.

⁵⁷⁴Son of Thomas Rice, one of the original settlers of Westborough.

⁵⁷⁵James Bradish, an original settler of Westborough.

⁵⁷⁶Captain Edward Goddard of Shrewsbury.

⁵⁷⁷(Harvard 1723). Later minister of Upton, 1738-1744, and Middleborough, 1744-1749. *Sibley*, VII, 273-277.

⁵⁷⁸Reverend Joseph Dorr of Mendon.

⁵⁷⁹Jacob Amsden of Westborough.

1727 August 16 (Wednesday). I read in Wollastons Religion of Nature.⁵⁸⁰ I take it to be a very Excellent Piece.

1727 August 17 (Thursday). I Study'd the Works of God beginning with Gods Efficiency in generall.

1727 August 18, 19 (Friday, Saturday). I forwarded my preparations, considering my wife's Hour was before her, and in Expectation of it immediatly. I had the News of the Kings Death.

1727 August 19 (Saturday). In the Afternoon my wife was pained, but no great Complaint till the Evening when She grew very ill. I went to Bed Somewhat late but could lie but a very few minutes. I rose and (being, as I gathered about midnight) rode to Mrs. Forbush and brought her up But she was not very much Employ'd till morning.

1727 August 20 (Sunday). I rode for Mrs. Byles and sent for other neighbouring women. My wife had many pains, But I Saw Liberty to go to Meeting at the proper hour. I delivered the morning Sermon upon 1 Chron. 28.9. In the Afternoon I preach'd upon Rom. 11.36 wherein I had occasion to Mention the Kings Death, and to give fair hints at the Circumstances of my Family. When I came home at Even my wife was Still full of pains but no immediate apprehension that she should be delivered. But, a little more than half an hour after sunset (having been no long time in Extremity) She was Delivered, and the will of God was to favour me in a very high Degree. God gave Me a Son, which I have set up for my Ebenezer, for hitherto the Lord hath Helped Me. We have indeed a great deal of Reason to praise and magnifie the name of our gracious God who So Signally and mercifully appears for us, and lays us under ten thousand the strongest obligations to him. O that I may never forget his Benefits! But O that I may both Live and Speak Gods praises! Were comfortably carry'd through the night. Blessed be God!

1727 August 21 (Monday). I went down to Mr. Thomas Forbes⁵⁸¹ and was intending to marry his Daughter⁵⁸² to Mr. Cornelius Cook,⁵⁸³ but they could produce me No legal certificate But I discoursed to them of their unhappy Circumstances and their Sin and urg'd to serious unfeigned Repentance. Mr. Cook I advis'd to go and get another Certificate, while I tarried there. He went away but a storm coming up and night hastening on, and my people at home extreemly prone to be very much Scar'd, I left them and walked home, leaving word that Mr. Cook should bring home my Horse, which He did. It was a very Awfull and terrible night and we had very little Rest (the Thunder and Lightening were So sharp) till near Day break.

⁵⁸⁰William Wollaston, *The Religion of Nature delineated* (London, 1725). Numerous other editions followed.

⁵⁸¹Thomas Forbush did not change his name to Forbes as did his brother Jonathan. Parkman was confused at this point.

⁵⁸²Eunice Forbush.

⁵⁸³Also of Westborough.

1727 August 22 (Tuesday). I again rode to Mr. Forbes' and married Cornelius Cook and Eunice Forbush (so they will Spell their Name). I hasted home, a storm arising as it did last night. I went to Mr. John Maynards and brought up his wife to watch with mine. It was a very terrible storm and far louder Thunder than the night before, but lasted not so long. By nine o'Clock it abated.

1727 August 23 (Wednesday). Major Prescott was here to See us and informed us that Mr. Thomas Forbush, Junior⁵⁸⁴ his Barn was Shatter'd by the Thunder last night.

1727 August 24 (Thursday). My Wife and Infant through the Divine Goodness in very hopefull and favourable Circumstances. Little or nothing that was difficult with us.

1727 August 25 (Friday). Colonel How⁵⁸⁵ and Mr. Woods⁵⁸⁶ of Marlborough visited me.

1727 August 26 (Saturday). If on Saturdayes in Generall I am professedly more employ'd than on any other Dayes I am Surely to be thought to be more on this, and I Endeavoured to possess my Thoughts in all Seriousness, of the Weighty and solemn Transaction of Dedicating my Son to God, and I would in the Fear of God Undertake this Sacred Business.

1727 August 27 (Sunday). I Sincerely comitted the great Article of offering my Son unto God and implor'd the divine direction and assistance, with Confession of my Sins and Thankfull acknowledgements of all especially his Signal Mercies. I then proceeded to the Exercises of the Day, and preach'd in the Morning on Mat. 19.13.14.15, as I did in the afternoon likewise on the Same. And then (I hope in the integrity of my Heart and with Souls Desire of the Glory of God and the invaluable Spirituall Blesings of the Covenant) I baptiz'd My Son Ebenezer and put him into the Arms of the Saviour that He might Bless Him according to the gracious Encouragement given to His People. And I hope I found Favours with the Lord. Mr. Joseph Wheeler presented His Son Aaron⁵⁸⁷ at the Same time. The Lord has done great things for me for which I was filled with Joy and Gladness. O that Gods Grace may be given me that I may always walk in a suitable manner Before Him. At this Season I improv'd the Opportunity [to] renew the Dedication of my Self and My Daughter Mary and all mine unto our glorious God in the Covenant of Grace.

1727 August 28 (Monday). I Catechiz'd the Children and I happen'd to appoint the Same hour and Place that the Town meeting was warn'd, but I was earlier than they and they waited till our Exercise was finished. Diverse persons were at my house in the Evening. I heard Yesterday and again today that my sister Tyley⁵⁸⁸ was very ill after Delivered in childbearing.

⁵⁸⁴Also of Westborough. Later a deacon and selectman for many years.

⁵⁸⁵Thomas Howe of Marlborough. Hudson, *Marlborough*, pp. 382-383.

⁵⁸⁶Benjamin Woods.

⁵⁸⁷Born July 7, 1727.

⁵⁸⁸Parkman's sister Elizabeth, who married John Tyley of Boston. She died August 30, 1727.

1727 August 30 (Wednesday). I took an opportunity by Mr. David Maynard⁵⁸⁹ to send down to Boston.

1727 August 31 (Thursday). A Letter was written by Mother certifying me of the Dangerous Circumstances of my Sister, desiring me (if by any means I could) to go down and See her in her last hours in Some measure triumphing over Death and rejoicing in hope of the Glory of God.

1727 October 29 (Sunday). After 10 o'Clock at night the Sky clear, the air cold, there was a very terrible Earthquake which lasted Shaking Extreemly about a minute and half, -- a trembling continued for a Considerable time Longer. And within 65 minutes 5 More Rumblings and quiverings might be perceiv'd, Especially the last of those 5. But yet this was not Like the First of all. In about 18 minutes more a Seventh, and near Two o'Clock an 8th, and between 5 and 6 in the morning (perhaps 35 minutes after 5) there was a Ninth. The First of all these, if not all the rest were heard (am ready to think) all over New England.

1727 October 31 (Tuesday). In the night Sometime (the weather being Cloudy if not Rain) there was heard by Diverse persons, another Such noise.⁵⁹⁰

1727 November 1 (Wednesday). In the night Likewise, it having been very Stormy Snow in the Day and the Storm not over, there was the same.

1727 November 3 (Friday). My Wife and the Young People of the house asserted that between 4 and 5 p.m. heard the Like again. The Weather being Rainy or misty. And This was confirm'd by many other persons.

1727 November 4 (Saturday). The Sun Shone through a Dusky, Smoky Air and generally through Thin Clouds, the wind Southerly and therefore the weather much chang'd, being pretty warm.

1727 November 5 (Sunday). A Warm Southerly Wind, a very Thick, Smoaky air till night. In the Evening it So cleared away as to be bright Starlight. But it was while I was observing the weather that I Saw a Flash of Lightning. I was not able to discern any Clouds, Yet I am prone to think there was a thick Cloud low in the West. For it Could not be half an hour (I believe, if it was more than a Quarter) before it rain'd, and all of a Sudden beat down in Such mighty Showers that it Startled us very much. However it lasted not long. After a few Such violent Showers it almost Ceased.

1727 November 6 (Monday). The 6th was a Warm, bright, pleasant Day.

⁵⁸⁹One of Parkman's neighbors.

⁵⁹⁰The foregoing entries for Oct., 1727 were recorded in Parkman's Natalitia.

1727 November 7 (Tuesday). The 7th Likewise, the wind blowing, indeed Somewhat Fresh, from the S.W.⁵⁹¹

1728 January 1 (Monday). A moderate pleasant day, My heart was filled with Joy before God for his wondrous Sparing Mercy in bringing Me to the Light of this Day beginning another Year which truly, considering the Deserts of Sin and the late threatenings of Providence, it was almost beyond my Expectations to See. Oh that it might please God, through his abundant Mercy in Christ to remove away those Sins of mine and those of his people of this Land that brought down Tokens of Displeasure in Such distressing and fearfull Dispensations as those of the Last Year, lest if his anger be not turned away his hand Should be stretched out still this Year also, and our plagues be made wonderfull, if we be not brought to utter Desolation.

As to the Earthquake, being down at Mr. David Maynards in the Evening (requested to visit his 5 Sick children and pray with them) Mr. Daniel Maynard of Marlborough enquir'd whether any of us had heard it, intimating herewith to us that Some persons were afraid they had, and afraid that it had been heard Every Sabbath night Since the great shocks. When I came home I understood by Noah Rice⁵⁹² and Daniell Hardy that Mr. James Miller and Nathaniel Whitney⁵⁹³ each of them were so apprehensive that they heard it in the night before last that they both got up. The Divine Compassion that Safeguards and Delivers us! O that God would still deliver us. I was not without Some hearty, though I confess too weak and lame Endeavours after, as the pardon of the Miscarriages and offences of the Last year (particularly of March 17th which Oh that it may be blotted out of the book of Gods remembrance) to Such a Settled pious Disposition that this Year may be Spent wholly to the Glory of God, in a walk that may please him, and in Essayes to promote his Church's interest to the last of my Capacity.

1728 January 2 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Hezekiah How's. I went with him to Examine some of the Bounds of the ministerial Lot, that I might make some Improvement of it.

In the Evening Mrs. Mary Whiting⁵⁹⁴ was with me requesting I would Examine her in order to her joining with our Church. I hope the work of grace is at least begun in her Heart.

1728 January 3 (Wednesday). Reading Mr. Foxcrofts Sermon on the Earthquake (preach'd by him before the Court).⁵⁹⁵ I was mov'd I hope rather with justifiable emulation and ambition than Envy. But verily I was much Excited most of the Day to reflect on the progress and advancement he and Some few other persons of distinguish'd Characters had gain'd in both Piety and Learning. I could but draw up a Resolution that though my powers are small yet according to my Measures I would by the Grace of Christ, lead a Religious, Serviceable and

⁵⁹¹Entries for Nov., 1727 are from the Natalitia.

⁵⁹²Son of Thomas Rice, one of the original settlers of Westborough.

⁵⁹³All of these were young men of Westborough.

⁵⁹⁴No record of a family of this name in Westborough at this time.

⁵⁹⁵Thomas Foxcroft, *The Voice of the Lord, from the Deep Places of the Earth* (Boston, 1727).

contented Life, with Diligence and industry laying in what Store of Knowledge, and especially Striving after as many Divine Virtues to adorn and accomplish me, as I may be able.

Lieutenant Forbush⁵⁹⁶ came to me in the Evening who among other things, Speaking of Samuell Hardy's Case⁵⁹⁷ Express'd himself so as Convinced me I should meet with some Trouble in managing it.

1728 January 4 (Thursday). Private Meeting at Mr. Pratts. I sent Dr. Increase Mathers Kingdom of Christ is approaching,⁵⁹⁸ etc., by Mr. Thurston. Deacon Fay⁵⁹⁹ and Mr. Abner Newton⁶⁰⁰ and others came to see me in the Evening. Very cold. Mr. How brought me Store Geese.

1728 January 5 (Friday). Very Sharp Cold. Mr. Nathaniel Whiting came to be Examin'd in order to his admission to the Lords Supper.

1728 January 6 (Saturday). The First of my Discourses on Ps. 60.1.2 took me up (though began in no improper Season of the week) till 3 p.m. of this Day When I began the first of those Discourses on 1 Cor. 6.9.10.11, and it was prepar'd before it was over late in the night. I Suppose it not much after Eleven when I was actually in my bed. It must be remembered that my Choice was determined upon the Subject though I had no so much as laid my Scheme before the hour abovesaid.

1728 January 7 (Sunday). I preach'd on the footnotes on 1 Cor. 6.9.10.11, in the Afternoon on Ps. 60.1.2.

⁵⁹⁶Samuel Forbush of Westborough.

⁵⁹⁷The Westborough Church Records, Feb. 11, 1728 contain the following details. "Another Affair was also brought before the Church at this meeting. The Pastor took their Advice in what would be most warrantable and Regular to be done in the Case of Samuel Hardy and his wife who desir'd baptism for their Child born Three Dayes within Seven Months after the parents' Marriage. No opposition was made to proceeding to grant the Privilege, the Circumstances of the fright it was declar'd the mother was in, occasioning as was believed the hasty birth, together with their Serious Declaration that they were innocent, being all the Satisfaction the Church could have in a Case of this Nature." Parson Parkman may not have been convinced that this was the right decision. At any rate he brought this matter before the Marlborough Association where the advice given was that the child "be baptized." Allen, *Worcester Association*, p. 12. Finally, on April 28, 1728, the Reverend Mr. Parkman baptized Elizabeth, the daughter of Daniel and Tabitha Hardy.

⁵⁹⁸Mather did not publish a work with this title. Possibly Parkman was referring to *The Glorious Throne: or A Sermon Concerning The Glory of the Throne of the Lord Jesus Christ Which is now in Heaven, and shall quickly be seen on the Earth* (Boston, 1702). [Addition to Walett's footnote: Increase Mather, *A discourse concerning faith and fervency in prayer, and the glorious kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, on earth, now approaching. Delivered in several sermons, in which the signs of the present times are considered, with a true account of the late wonderful and astonishing success of the Gospel in Ceilon, Amboina, and Malabar* (Boston in N.E. Printed by B. Green for T. Green, at his shop in Middle Street., 1710). Evans 1473.]

⁵⁹⁹Captain John Fay was one of the first deacons chosen by the Westborough church Oct. 12, 1727. The other was Isaac Tomblin.

⁶⁰⁰The son of Thomas Newton.

1728 January 11 (Thursday). The Church (at my appointment) came together and I entertain'd them with a Discourse from Acts 6.6 but I left the method we should proceed in to the Church's Consideration. Afterwards they came down to my house whereby Mr. Asher Rice⁶⁰¹ was no small [*illegible*]⁶⁰² about Mr. Josiah Newton.

1728 January 13 (Saturday). A very Violent storm of Snow. Just before dark Mr. Campbel⁶⁰³ of Oxford came in, being on his journey home. He lodg'd here.

1728 January 16 (Tuesday). David Farrar, Thomas Kendal, Phinehas and Aaron Hardy cut wood.

1728 January 21 (Sunday). I preach'd both fore and after noon from 1Cor. 6.9.10.11. I rode to Mr. Pratts and to Mr. Increase Wards⁶⁰⁴ and Ballanced with Constable Warrin.⁶⁰⁵ Mr. Collister⁶⁰⁶ came with his complaints and witnesses.

1728 January 22 (Monday). I rode to Mr. John Pratt junior where was Captain Fay. With him I had discourse concerning the Sad Broils in the Town. We went to Mr. Thomas Rice's⁶⁰⁷ where it was continued till Evening. I rode over to see Mr. Shattuck⁶⁰⁸ (which was my purpose in coming out) he being in a low state. We return'd to Mr. Rices and then I came home. There I found Father Champney⁶⁰⁹ and Sister Lydia.⁶¹⁰ The Town is in great uneasiness and ready to fall together by the Ears for the management of their military officers but mostly for receiving money for writs and Summons when he had none of the Justice. Hezekiah Pratt and Eleazer Ward cut wood.

1728 January 23 (Tuesday). Father Champney return'd. Mr. Ward sledded the wood, the young men Cut, Several Load.

1728 January 24 (Wednesday). Mr. Campbel preach'd in the forenoon from Jer. [*blank*]; in the Afternoon from Acts 16.30. On the occasion of the Earthquake. Mr. Thurston came and Sledded 4 more.

1728 January 25 (Thursday). Mr. Campbel left us. A great noise like a gun was heard in the air between 1 and 2 o'Clock in most Towns about us as in ours. The young men came to set up a

⁶⁰¹Son of Thomas Rice, one of the original settlers of Westborough.

⁶⁰²Josiah and Thomas Newton were cousins. Both were original settlers of Westborough. See DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, pp. 46-47.

⁶⁰³Reverend John Campbell.

⁶⁰⁴Increase Ward operated a saw-mill in that part of Westborough that became Northborough.

⁶⁰⁵Daniel Warrin, an original settler in the eastern part of Westborough.

⁶⁰⁶John McCollister of Westborough.

⁶⁰⁷Believed to be the first settler of that part of Marlborough that became Westborough. DeForest and Bates, *Westborough*, p. 20.

⁶⁰⁸Isaac Shattuck.

⁶⁰⁹Samuel Champney, Sr., Parkman's father-in-law.

⁶¹⁰Lydia Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

society. We first pray'd and then I gave them Some Articles to Sign and they Sign'd them. I gave them what Counsel I was able and dismiss'd them.

1728 January 26 (Friday). Mr. John Pratt junior and his brother Eliezer, with Mr. David Goodenow came, two to cut and one with a Team, to Sled wood and they Sledged 15 Small jaggs (their Team being Small But the Team did not tarry till night).

1728 January 28 (Sunday). Diverse young men were with me requesting advice and instruction touching their setting up a private society. I desir'd 'em to come again on this Sennight. This Eve Mr. Asher Rice and Mr. Josiah Newton were again with me endeavouring something towards their reconciliation, but all means were in vain. Instead of healing new work was made for, Mr. Rice having charg'd Mr. Newton with having (not only deceived in the article they were upon) but a principle of falsehood in his heart, which was so high, and beyond his real intention to Speak, he acknowledg'd it was wrong to Speak So of his brother and was Sorry for what he had said. The Cause was rais'd to a difficult pitch, and little prospect of Concord or Composition. Extreem cold. The Earthquake was heard as was reported and Some say, felt this Morning about or just after Break of Day. I preach'd again upon 1 Cor. 6.9.10.11. In admitting [*illegible*] Tomlin⁶¹¹ to the Church I was So much employ'd in my thoughts by incorporating the Baptismal Covenant and Church Covenant together that I forgot to go to prayer before I baptiz'd Him, which I remain'd thoughtless about till I went up into the Pulpit from the Basen. It put me into a Consternation. I went to Prayer in which I lamented the miscarriage and enlarg'd the Prayer with those petitions that might be proper on this occasion. But I desire to lay my Self low before God for so grievous an omission and would learn hence forward to be more carefull and watchfull but especially more strongly relying on the Divine aid.

1728 January 29 (Monday). Deacon Tomlin⁶¹² was with me entreating me to do something about Mr. McCollisters cause with Mr. Newton, before the next Sacrament.

1728 January 30 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Behmans,⁶¹³ and thence (with Mr. Wheeler⁶¹⁴) to Marlborough. At Mr. Williams,⁶¹⁵ Mr. Breck⁶¹⁶ was, and immediately asked me whether I had heard the Earthquake about 3/4 of an hour before (it being then after Two o'clock). I had not heard anything of it. It was heard and felt also by most persons. The Sound was great, and, with many, a shake was distinctly perceiv'd. Some were ready to say that it was heard every day for 4 or 5 dayes last past. Unto the Lord from whom cometh our help.

I had something of Difficulty in my trading with Mr. Williams.

⁶¹¹From the Church Records it appears this was Hezekiah Tomlin.

⁶¹²Isaac Tomblin.

⁶¹³Eleazer Behman or Beeman of Westborough.

⁶¹⁴Joseph Wheeler, an original settler of Westborough

⁶¹⁵Colonel Abraham Williams.

⁶¹⁶Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

I lodg'd at Mr. Brecks. We discours'd upon the Signs of the Times. We rode to Mr. Woods. A wedding was Solemnized at Mr. Brecks. Samuel Eady⁶¹⁷ was joined to Elizabeth Bellows.⁶¹⁸ I was compell'd to bear Some part.

1728 January 31 (Wednesday). The morning was very stormy, snow and Rain. But after dinner I rode Home. My Wife told me Mr. Ashur Rice had been here again with a great deal to say about peoples uneasiness at my refusing at least deferring to have a Church Meeting on the account of accommodating the Differences.

[At a later point in the diary Parkman inserted several entries for January, 1728, as follows.]

1728 January 28 (Sunday). It was heard by very many, and

1728 January 30 (Tuesday). Almost all people heard it and many felt it shake the houses.

1728 February 1 (Thursday). I am in great Concern respecting first my own Spiritual State and fearing the Earthquake that great and terrible operation of the Divine Hand has not been so Suitably regarded by me as to produce a due Effect, and The impressions that were made I fear May be Sadly wearing off; and my preparations to meet my God are very low and Scanty.

Secondly. I am concerned in my mind about the Troubles that threaten in this Town. I See my Self unable to manage a Quarrell and very much indispos'd towards it; but especially I would be afraid of the Interest of Religion Suffering; I would dread the Sins and mischiefs my people may be rushing into; and Contention has the blacker aspect in the Day wherein we see Such evident manifestations of the Divine Displeasure upon us.

Whereupon I, in the fear of God, would Set apart this Day, therein to seek the face of God, to avert the Evils threatening, to give me his Grace to quicken me, and savingly to Convert me unto him, to give me a sealed pardon of my sins, and assist me to walk before him according to his most Blessed will; graciously to interpose for his people of this Town and restore peace and unanimity to us (which Blessings, Gods name be praised, that we happily enjoyed so long; and O that God would forgive our misimprovement of them). However, to prepare and accomplish me with wisdom from above, and vouchsafe his immediate assistance and Conduct through all that may be before me; and grant the Issue may be his own Glory. And now the Lord be with me in the Dayes work and Show me his favour for his mercies Sake. Let also these my Endeavours contribute not a little to fit me for waiting upon God in the Solemnities of the Supper of the Lord. I religiously observed the Day according to the abovementioned appointment of it, till I was interrupted by Mr. Tainter⁶¹⁹ who came from the Private Meeting (about 3 p.m.) desiring me to go to their Assistance in the Exercises. I went and Entertained my hearers with my Discourse (Sometime Since publicly deliver'd) upon Hoseah 4.12. So that I

⁶¹⁷Samuel Eady or Eddy of Oxford.

⁶¹⁸Daughter of John Bellows of Marlborough.

⁶¹⁹Simon Tainter.

had nevertheless, Opportunity to carry along the Private Designs abovesaid. At least they (I took care) were not forgotten or neglected. I had design'd for the Sake of promoting peace among my Brethren, to have gone to them in the Evening and I therefore Desired them to take all Suitable Methods for pacification and Reconciliation. Mr. Newton⁶²⁰ was gone home but Asher Rice immediately Step'd forward full of his bitter case, but was almost immediately oppos'd by Ensign Newton, and then almost everyone in the Room engag'd in an unsuitable Clamour, which it was hard to lay. The Subject was that a Church meeting would alone help our State and was the only method that could be taken. But at length by Mr. Bradishes⁶²¹ urging it that "inasmuch as it could not be Expected to have a Church Meeting before the Sacrament he thought our present Duty was to Endeavour if possible to obtain that Christian Disposition that might qualifie us to come acceptably to God and comfortably to ourselves; or however to prosecute these Ends as far as we could in doing what was to be done, and after the Sacrament if need were he would advise to discourse about a Church Meeting or what else was Suitable." I thought it Sage and Sat in with it and entreated for a composure and sedateness of Spirit as considering how holy the order we were to put our Selves into preparation for. I ask'd whether they were so disquieted that they could not in a Christian Temper Sit down at the approaching ordinance. Though I had no direct answer yet I found that many of the Church would be disquieted if Mr. Newton should be there; and Some, on the other Hand, would be disquieted if Mr. McCollister and Rice⁶²² should be present. I advised and Entreated therefore that a person or Two Should be with those three men together and improve the Time and their utmost Skill to compose them, And if no Methods could be Successfull, I desir'd those 3 persons to absent themselves from this administration rather than disturb the whole communion. And so requested nothing more might pass among us this Night but what might be of an healing and salving nature. And this met with universal acceptance and thereupon we broke up. So that I hope there was Some happy issue and Effect, notwithstanding that unlikely view I had in the foregoing part of the Evening. To God be the Glory of any Good enabled from him to do. And I hope it was not altogether without Benefit and Comfort in my own Soul that this Day has been set apart; though too much reason to reflect on my own unstableness and inexpertness, thro' which if it had not been, perhaps I had reap'd more the Mercy of God through the Merits of Christ vouchsafe Remission.

1728 February 2, 3 (Friday, Saturday). Prepar'd for the Sabbath but not without Troublesome casts doubting of a Reconciliation between those foresaid Dissenting persons, and Sorrowing that Things should be brought to that pitch among us already that any of us should be oblig'd to withdraw from the Sacrament through want of Peace and Christian agreement. Tabitha Hardy⁶²³ with me.

1728 February 4 (Sunday). I preach'd from [*blank*]. Mr. Newton withdrawing (the other Two I believe were not at meeting) was a melancholly Sight to me. I administer'd the Sacrament. I

⁶²⁰Josiah Newton.

⁶²¹James Bradish.

⁶²²Asher Rice.

⁶²³Mrs. Samuel Hardy of Westborough.

hope God was convers'd with. For any Communications I would praise his Name But I would humble my Self that I receiv'd no more Spiritual Benefit. In the Afternoon I preach'd upon the Same Text.

1728 February 10 (Saturday). Mr. Jonathan Forbush came and requested I would go See his Son in law Isaac Shattuck before He dy'd, and gave me his sons Earnest Desire to see me. Accordingly I went. Found him low and decay'd in Body, almost beyond all Hopes, But with great Encouragement touching Eternall matters. Having discours'd and pray'd with him I took my leave.

1728 February 11 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Isaiah 1.4 a. and p.m. After the Exercises Sister Lydia rode with me to see Mr. Shattuck, Found him living and that appear'd to be all. Scarcely speaking but manifesting great ground of hope through almighty grace of God thro' the merits of Christ. We thought he began to Change. We pray'd recomending him to God and his family to the Divine grace and protection in as brief an address as posible. I took my last leave. Returning Sister Lydia fell from the horse but more surpriz'd than dammag'd. At our house was Mr. Bows⁶²⁴ who had preach'd at Southborough on the Day past.

1728 February 12 (Monday). I rode down with Mr. Bows to Cambridge, dining at Mr. Jonsons⁶²⁵ of Southborough and calling in likewise at Mr. Briton's⁶²⁶ of the Same Town and at Mr. Williams⁶²⁷ at Weston.

1728 February 13 (Tuesday). Mr. Isaac Greenwood⁶²⁸ was inaugurated in the College Hall, the overseers and a great number of Gentlemen being present and handsomely entertain'd at Dinner after. In the Exercise Mr. Flynt⁶²⁹ first pray'd and then made a Latin oration. The statutes of his founder read. The oaths were administered and he made his Declaration according to Mr. Hollis's Statutes that he would religiously observe them, and Mr. Greenwood made an handsome Oration in Latin. Mr. Flynt renunciated or openly declar'd Mr. Greenwood Professor of Mathematicks and Naturall and Experimental Phylosophy according to Mr. Hollis's institution. Mr. Appleton⁶³⁰ pray'd and we in Conclusion Sang Ps. 104, the 1st and 2 last Stanzas of Tate and Brady's Version. It was a Day of Solemnity and great Joy, and I hope Glory was given to God. I tarried at College chiefly with Mr. Greenwood till time to repair to Lodgings at Father Champney's. I was at College at Mr. Greenwoods over a Dish of Tea, Stay'd till Sundown and then I went to Boston. Kept my Horse at Mr. Goldthwaits. The Great Dr. Cotton Mather dy'd this morning 4 a.m. after Suffering of an asthma.

⁶²⁴Nicholas Bowes (Harvard 1725), later the first minister of Bedford, 1730-1754. *Sibley*, VII, 455-457.

⁶²⁵William Johnson resided in that part of Marlborough that was incorporated as the new town of Southborough in July 1727.

⁶²⁶John Britton of Southborough.

⁶²⁷Reverend William Williams (Harvard 1705), minister at Weston, 1709-1750. *Sibley*, V, 295-300.

⁶²⁸First Hollis Professor of Mathematics at Harvard College.

⁶²⁹Henry Flynt (Harvard 1693), Tutor at Harvard College. *Sibley*, IV, 162-167.

⁶³⁰Reverend Nathaniel Appleton, D.D. (Harvard 1712), minister of the First Church of Cambridge, 1717-1784. *Sibley*, V, 599-609.

1728 February 15 (Thursday). Mr. Colman⁶³¹ preach'd Dr. Mathers funeral Sermon from Gen. 5.24. I went in the Evening to Mr. Gerrish's⁶³² Retail. Here was Mr. Sewal,⁶³³ Mr. Prince,⁶³⁴ Mr. Cooper⁶³⁵ and Mr. Foxcroft. After Candle Light I rode out of Town, to Cambridge upon my journey home. Here I found my wife and Son who were brought down yesterday by William Clark of Westborough. It rain'd So I was detain'd. Now I had opportunity to see much of Father Champney's Methods which were much out of due Course through the violence of a Fever many years agoe. Great grief and Concern in the Family.

1728 February 17 (Saturday). It Storn'd So that I was utterly prevented moving from the house, either to Westborough or to Boston.

1728 February 18 (Sunday). Mr. Appleton a.m. on Eccl. 7.2 for That is the End of all men. I preach'd p.m. from Acts 24.16. Supp'd at Mr. Appletons. Mr. Marston Gibs and Fitch⁶³⁶ of Piscataqua there, and afterwards Mr. Remington,⁶³⁷ Mr. Wigglesworth⁶³⁸ and Sir Rogers.⁶³⁹ I return'd to Father Champney's at nine.

1728 February 19 (Monday). I rode to Boston to Dr. Mathers Funerall. It look'd very Sad -- almost as if it were the funerall of the Country. A very Sad Breach. Of for Sufficent portions of Gods Spirit upon surviving ministers! Vast Concourse Exceeding long Procession and numberless Spectators. Every heart Sad. This Evening at cousin Dorcas Bows⁶⁴⁰ where was Mrs. Rebecca Adams and by and by Brother Samuell Parkman.

1728 February 20 (Tuesday). An Appointment to go to Salem. Brother Elias and his wife went over. I rode from Charleston to Mores at Lyn, where I met them. But sister Willard⁶⁴¹ being gone to Boston we returned back. Dr. Delhond, etc., in Company.

1728 February 21 (Wednesday). Stormy. But yet I rode to Cambridge with Father Champney who ferry'd his horse over though it was grown Dark.

1728 February 22 (Thursday). I was much detain'd the forenoon by making writings, Deed, Bonds, Etc. Father Champney bying woodland of Cousin Daniel Champneys Children. I stop'd

⁶³¹Reverend Benjamin Colman of the Brattle Street Church.

⁶³²Samuel Gerrish, the bookseller.

⁶³³Reverend Joseph Sewall of the Old South Church, Boston.

⁶³⁴Reverend Thomas Prince also of the Old South Church.

⁶³⁵Reverend William Cooper (Harvard 1712), of the Brattle Street Church, 1716-1743. *Sibley*, V, 624-634.

⁶³⁶John Fitch (Harvard 1728) of Portsmouth, N. H. The son of the Reverend Jabez Fitch. *Sibley*, VIII, 426-427.

⁶³⁷Jonathan Remington (Harvard 1696), Tutor at Harvard College, a judge, and Councillor of the Province. *Sibley*, IV, 300-303.

⁶³⁸Edward Wigglesworth (Harvard 1710), Professor at Harvard College. *Sibley*, V, 546-555.

⁶³⁹John Rogers (Harvard 1728). *Sibley*, VIII, 480-481.

⁶⁴⁰Mrs. Dorcas Bows, cousin of Mrs. Parkman.

⁶⁴¹Parkman's sister Susanna, wife of Captain Josiah Willard of Salem.

at Mr. Williams's a little while, but it began to Snow and I hastened. The Storm increas'd greatly So that night coming on also I turn'd away to Mr. Winchesters,⁶⁴² and lodg'd there.

1728 February 23 (Friday). The Morning was much worse till near Eleven, and though the wind was very high and the snow blowing very much, yet the Clouds began to grow thinner. He rode with me into the Road, the Paths being very much blown up and indeed the Roads too. I met with great Difficulties. I hardly reach'd Mr. Moss's where I had refreshment for my Self and horse, and a Young Man offer'd to ride with me. We reach'd Mr. Nathan Brigham's,⁶⁴³ refresh'd again, and Mr. Brigham rode up into this Town. But it was a Sad time to be abroad in, the Snow being very deep and great Danger if happening out of the Path and yet the Path almost wholly blown up. But through the Divine Goodness I arrived without Damage and found my people well. *Deo opt. nostro grates.*

1728 February 24 (Saturday). I went on with my Preparations.

1728 February 25 (Sunday). Ps. 60.1.2 both a. and p.m. Isaac Shattuck died last Wednesday was Sennight. A good Character of his last minutes. Mr. Barrett⁶⁴⁴ and presently Dr. Gott, came to see me. Dr. Gott⁶⁴⁵ left us this eve.

1728 February 29 (Thursday). Mr. Barrett return'd home.

1728 March 3 (Sunday). I preach'd on Is. 1.4, both a. and p.m. I was not a little affected in the afternoon. I request of God to make these sermons profitable to my Self as well as to others that I may deplore my own Iniquities with which as I have been laden with the guilt of them. So God grant that I may be after a godly Sort weary and heavy laden, so under a sense of them that I may be a true mourner for the Sins of others and lament over the Calamities of the Land!

1728 March 4 (Monday). My wife and Child brought home by brother Champney. It was a warm Day, the Snow therefore Soft and the wayes heavy and tiresome, but (Thanks to God alone) got home well. Dr. Gott here but not a long time.

1728 March 5 (Tuesday). I was at Mr. Newtons⁶⁴⁶ where was The Ensign⁶⁴⁷ and we had pritty much Discourse about our Troubles in Town and the Ensign Said Things had never laid Easy with a certain person ever Sins [*sic*] Our church Covenant was chosen and my refusing a Quitclaim to Mr. Elmer,⁶⁴⁸ which that person had himself written and offer'd me to sign; and that Things Still lay brooding, etc.

⁶⁴²Probably Ebenezer Winchester, prominent citizen of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 752.

⁶⁴³Captain Brigham of Marlborough.

⁶⁴⁴Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

⁶⁴⁵Benjamin Gott, a physician of Marlborough.

⁶⁴⁶Josiah Newton of Westborough.

⁶⁴⁷Thomas Newton, cousin of Josiah.

⁶⁴⁸Reverend Daniel Elmer, formerly a preacher at Westborough.

1728 March 6 (Wednesday). Brother Champney went home. In the Afternoon Mr. Thomas Forbush⁶⁴⁹ was here on the Business of his Children, parted quiet though there had been Some warm Discourse. Just after I was got to Bed (about 3/4 after Eleven) we were afrighted by the awfull sound of the Earthquake. All that were awake heard it. I lay awake an hour and half, but hearing nothing I Compos'd to sleep. God be prais'd from my Soul for his wonderous Deliverances. Let me never forget his Benefits.

1728 March 7 (Thursday). It being Family meeting at Mr. Forbush's and earnestly desir'd by him to be present thereat I went to Mr. Forbush's and repeated a Discourse from John [*blank*]. After the Exercises Mr. McCollister and Asher Rice requested a Church Meeting which I comply'd with, that is to See whether the Church would consider and Act upon it seeing it is a mix'd Case, etc. Visit'd Lieutenant's⁶⁵⁰ wife who was very low. Riding home Mr. Wheeler set forth the uneasiness people were in on the account of Mr. Newton,⁶⁵¹ and that some, truly, could be scarcely kept from falling upon my Self Seeing I would not let it come forward, whereas I had always declar'd that I waited for nothing more than to have it brought into a proper fitness for the Church to hear. Captain Fay⁶⁵² and his wife, Wheeler and James Ball stopt at my house.

1728 March 8, 9 (Friday, Saturday). I was full of Concern and hearty Prayer on account of the threatening Evils.

1728 March 10 (Sunday). Not very well in the morning and at noon but God strengthening I went through the Exercises. Preach'd a. and p.m. from Isa. 1.5. Church meeting appointed. Full of hearty Concern and I hope mainly for the Glory of God and the Interests of the Souls of Men, for I find no great value for whatever Temporal Interests I can find in this Town.⁶⁵³

1728 March 11 (Monday). The Church met. I had great fear of disorder, but by the favour of God we went on smooth. Mr. Forbush, just before meeting began, told me I should have wisdom to take Care of my Self but people Said now Mr. Parkman's undone -- but this person has frequently enough shown that his Passions forc'd him to Speak what makes much mischief, though the most ungrounded. I having given a Serious Discourse to keep us all upon our guard in all church matters and Read the Platform Ch. 10. I laid open the case and advis'd first to an arbitration. It was accepted by all. The chief trouble was to find arbitrators. Mr. Bradish excepted against Peres Rice.⁶⁵⁴ Said Mr. Newton had bragg'd he had got Mr. Parkman and Mr. Bradish of his Side and he car'd not for all the Church besides. This Information he said came from John Eames of Hopkinton. Mr. Newton declar'd he spake no Such thing nor had he seen John Eames. I openly clear'd my Self from being of either side and by Gods Grace I will remain

⁶⁴⁹Prominent early settler of Westborough.

⁶⁵⁰Samuel Forbush.

⁶⁵¹Reference to the quarrel between Josiah Newton and Asher Rice.

⁶⁵²John Fay of Westborough.

⁶⁵³In the Church Records of this date it is indicated that a number of people were "Complaining of Josiah Newton's deceiving them in his administration in the office of Military Clerk."

⁶⁵⁴Son of Thomas Rice, an original settler, and brother of Asher Rice.

impartial. The Arbitrators went out and took up the Time. When they came in they declar'd it their Opinion that if Mr. Newton had taken the money by deceit he should return it, but they enquired whether they ought to bring it to Trial whether he had deceiv'd, etc. I reply'd their work was yet to do. I desir'd they would go on and finish it this Evening or Some day Speedily -- for they ought to clear off all that was of a Secular Nature in the Cause. It grew Dark. There was opposition by Peres Rice that the witnesses ought to be sworn, etc. I dismiss'd this Business and propos'd another affair for the Church's Consideration, Advice and Concurrence in. That is the Case of Samuel Hardy and his Wife, etc. I desir'd the Brethren would give me their minds and make what opposition they would ever offer. When one or Two had spoke Peres Rice (who gave us more Trouble than any one this meeting) Said he thought we must either wait till the Civil part of the Case was dispatch'd, till either the Court had done with it or rather till it had been put to an arbitration (reflecting upon the manner of managing the other Business of his Brother Asher and Newton), but (thought there's difficulty in keeping our Selves under Suitable Command under such girds) I calmly assur'd him it was a far different Case, etc.

The Church gave their Consent to my Proceeding with the said persons and granting them Priviledges if they should Seriously declare their innocence, etc., upon which we clos'd the Meeting. After prayer Asher desir'd it might still go on that He might be heard in what he had of a Distinct Case to be Heard. I told him the meeting was over. What if the Brethren Should hear it? I am indispos'd but they may mediate between you when I am retir'd home. It Satisfy'd him and the Church might, etc. His Speaking the word church confirmed me in it that he thought it would be as much the Church that would act in the Evening upon anything he should bring before them (as much I say) as before the prayer and Blessing and dismissal of the meeting, and as much in my absence as when I was there. So that my Reply was thus, viz. But observe, it hasn't been known that a Church can act (as a Church) without the Pastor, or make acts without the Pastor, which dash'd the whole and I returned home desiring the Arbitrators to finish their work as [soon as] possible and give me notice of it and when they Should desire it there might be (if needfull) another Church Meeting. Diverse came into my house with me. Mr. Tainter Supp'd with me. He agreed to keep my mare, I being short of Hay. Thus finish'd this troublesome Day. My Soul praise the Lord for his gracious assistances and Restraints; and the Lord forgive Every offence by me, and all the offences of my Brethren this Day! For Scarcely do any come off innocent when involv'd in Dissensions.

1728 March 13 (Wednesday). I sent my Mare to Mr. Tainters to be kept at his Stable. In the Evening at Mr. Forbush with demands upon Samuel Hardy and his Wife touching their Child, and upon the midwife, etc., etc. Call'd to see Lieutenant's wife.

Read Dr. Sherlock on Divine Providence.⁶⁵⁵

⁶⁵⁵William Sherlock, *A Discourse Concerning the Divine Providence* (London 1694). Numerous other editions were printed.

1728 March 14 (Thursday). Mr. Eager⁶⁵⁶ with me in the Evening till late. Discourse the Quarrell with Mr. Newton. It was to have been our Lecture but, the above Said Troubles happening, and Mr. Barrett who was to have assisted me Sending word that He could not attend it, but Especially my Seeing reason for deferring the Sacrament, I put it by.

1728 March 17 (Sunday). I preach'd on Mat. 10.29.30.

1728 March 18 (Monday). It appears to me of the Last Importance for the people of this Province to take heed to them Selves when they are proposing Holy Dayes to be kept unto God, for without they are duly observed they are Such grand pieces of Solemn Mockery that I cannot but Think God is greatly provok'd by them. They are Loathsome to him and he is weary to bear them. I cannot but conclude that one of the great Reasons of the Lords Controversie with this Land is taken from Hence. O therefore that Care may be taken about the Approaching Fast that it may not be in vain but a Fast that God hath Chosen!

1728 March 21 (Thursday). Publick Fast. I preach'd all Day upon Hosea 13.9. I would Lament that there are So many others that profane these Dayes of our Solemn Assemblies, but I have chiefly Reason to Reflect upon and condemn my Self who have not been suitably prepar'd for, nor have been So full and Sincere in my Humiliation to Day as I ought to have been.

1728 March 22 (Friday). Mr. Coolidge⁶⁵⁷ (having preach'd at Southborough yesterday) came up to see me, being conducted up by Mr. William Johnson, Junior,⁶⁵⁸ who last night as he was, with Mr. Bigolo, at their Saw-Mill, was Surprised with a very Conspicuous Aurora Borealis. Mr. Coolidge desir'd to Change with me the Sabbath Approaching and truly it was not unacceptable to me Seeing the Labors of this week have been already very great. And a person Sick at Mr. Thorntons whom I was requested to visit yesterday. When Mr. Collidge left me I rode from home to see Mr. Thorntons Daughter who was very Sick. At Mr. Eagers was Mr. Benjamin Flagg of Worcester who inform'd me of Mr. Elmer's Death.

1728 March 23 (Saturday). Josiah Newton and John McCollister came to our house to hear the Arbitration of their Case, which the Arbitrators had sent by Edward Baker this morning. They (after I had discours'd a while with them) were heartily and lovingly reconcil'd (as things appear'd). I had some difficulty with Mrs. Byles⁶⁵⁹ about her sons Child, as I told her of the various objections I met with to oppose my Baptizing it as Deacon Tomlins,⁶⁶⁰ Mr. Wheelers⁶⁶¹ and Bakers,⁶⁶² etc. Mr. Collidge being come hither I rode to Southborough and Lodg'd at Mr. William Johnsons.

⁶⁵⁶James Eager of Westborough.

⁶⁵⁷Samuel Coolidge (Harvard 1724), schoolmaster at Watertown. *Sibley*, VII, 326-331.

⁶⁵⁸Of Southborough.

⁶⁵⁹Wife of Captain Joseph Byles of Westborough.

⁶⁶⁰Isaac Tomlin.

⁶⁶¹Joseph Wheeler.

⁶⁶²Edward Baker.

1728 March 24 (Sunday). I preach'd at Southborough in the forenoon from John 15.14. Din'd at Mr. [blank] Johnsons. I preach'd in the afternoon from Ps. 95.7. Mr. Collidge came to Southborough in the Evening.

1728 March 25 (Monday). Mr. Coolidge and I rode to Marlborough. Upon the Road he gave me some account of the Sin and Misfortunes of Mr. Samuel Jeffords⁶⁶³ at Wells. I lodg'd at Mr. Brecks.⁶⁶⁴ I took advice of Mr. Breck touching our Affairs at Westborough.

1728 March 26 (Tuesday). Return'd to Westborough.

1728 March 27 (Wednesday). Great Disquietments among us. I had trouble enough Every Day and Yet all that came to Me had the Reconciliation of our Two Brethren read to them (as those Brethren desir'd it might be) and Every person went away with the greatest Satisfaction. It was Suspected that I favour'd Mr. Newton which (if I can judge) I acted against, and was full in it that he ought to give Satisfaction to those he had offended for the wrong done them by Him.

1728 March 28 (Thursday). I Rode (with my wife) to Shrewsbury upon my Young Horse, and being disappointed by both Mr. and Mrs. Cushings⁶⁶⁵ absence from Home we presently returned to Westborough, but not home, we having determined to Visit Mr. Paterson. We went not only there [*entry ends incomplete at this point*].

1728 June 13 (Thursday). Thomas Kendal began to work for me.

1728 June 15 (Saturday). Thomas Kendal had my Mare to go down to Lexington.

1728 June 16 (Sunday). [No entry.]

1728 June 17 (Monday). [No entry.]

1728 June 18 (Tuesday). I preach'd at the Young mens meeting at Mr. Wards.

1728 July 1 (Monday). [No entry.]

1728 July 2 (Tuesday). [No entry.]

1728 July 3 (Wednesday). My wife and Children were brought up in a Calash with brother Champney⁶⁶⁶ and Sister Lydia.⁶⁶⁷

⁶⁶³ Reverend Samuel Jeffers of Wells, Maine.

⁶⁶⁴ Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

⁶⁶⁵ Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

⁶⁶⁶ Samuel Champney, Jr. of Cambridge, Parkman's brother-in-law.

⁶⁶⁷ Lydia Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

1728 July 4 (Thursday). I lectured on Isa. 26.9.

1728 July 5 (Friday). Brother and Sister rode down in the Calash.

1728 July 6 (Saturday). My interruptions have been very great; but God graciously assists me.

1728 July 7 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day upon Phil. 3.8.9.10.11, and in the forenoon I administered the Sacrament of the Lords Supper.

1728 July 9 (Tuesday). Mrs. Burt⁶⁶⁸ came for her Daughter.⁶⁶⁹

1728 July 10 (Wednesday). Mrs. Burt carry'd away her Daughter. A great Affliction to us.

1728 July 11, 12, 13 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). It was a time of much Trouble and Concern with us respecting our weakhandedness.

1728 July 14 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day on Phil. 3.8.9.10.II.

1728 July 15 (Monday). I rode to Cambridge with Neighbor Green.⁶⁷⁰ Found nobody at Father Champneys but sister Hannah⁶⁷¹ just when I was going away and there came two men that would go in for Cyder. I went in again and tarried till they went away. I rode with them to Boston. Trouble Brother Samuell⁶⁷² and Mr. Dorcas.⁶⁷³

1728 July 16, 17 (Tuesday, Wednesday). I visited my Relatives and acquaintances. At Mr. Thatchers.⁶⁷⁴

1728 July 18 (Thursday). Mr. Sewall preach'd Excellently from Ps. 119.115. Occasion, Phillips and Woodbridge Duel.⁶⁷⁵ At Mr. Wilsteeds in the Eve. Here was Mr. Joseph Green⁶⁷⁶ of Barnstable. The Governours⁶⁷⁷ coming in Everyones motions. His Excellency's Family came to Dr. Cooks this Eve.

⁶⁶⁸Mrs. Thomas Burt of Reading.

⁶⁶⁹Sarah Burt had been Mrs. Parkman's helper.

⁶⁷⁰John Green.

⁶⁷¹Hannah Champney, Mrs. Parkman's oldest sister.

⁶⁷²Samuel Parkman of Boston.

⁶⁷³The reference (clearly legible) to a "Mr. Dorcas" is a bit puzzling. Parkman was probably referring to Dorcas Bowes, who married Samuel Parkman Jan. 29, 1729.

⁶⁷⁴Reverend Peter Thatcher of Boston.

⁶⁷⁵Henry Phillips (Harvard 1724) killed Benjamin Woodbridge in a duel on Boston Common, July 3, 1728 and escaped to France. The affair caused much excitement and produced several sermons in Boston and elsewhere. *Sibley*, VII, 424-429. See Samuel G. Drake, *The History and Antiquities of Boston* (Boston, 1854), pp. 579-580

⁶⁷⁶Reverend Joseph Green, minister of Barnstable, 1725-1770.

⁶⁷⁷Governor William Burnett.

1728 July 19 (Friday). A very great Day. His Excellency's Entrance into Boston was truly very Stately and Splendid. I was at Mr. Eliots.⁶⁷⁸ I din'd at Holmes's.⁶⁷⁹ Sister Lydia rode with me to Cambridge. Earthquake at Newbury, etc.

1728 July 20 (Saturday). I rode up home. Got home a little after noon. Prepar'd what I could for the Sabbath. I praise God for his goodness this Journey.

1728 July 21 (Sunday). I preach'd in the forenoon on Phil. 3.8.9.10.11. Afternoon repeated the Sermon (Numb. 28) on Prov. 10.28.

1728 July 22 (Monday). I rode up to see Mrs. Nurse⁶⁸⁰ who Suffer'd by a fall into the Cellar. Earthquake at Boston, at Newbury, as far as York, and many think it was then heard among us.

[In another part of the diary the following note appears:]

July 22 [1728]. At Boston a small shock but at Newbury the houses shook. Some thought they heard it among us at the Same time, viz. about break of Day. I am apt to think I heard it myself.

1728 July 23 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Barretts⁶⁸¹ but found him not, He being over at Holliston.

1728 July 24, 25, 26, 27 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday). As much time as I had spent upon my preparations but I was greatly taken off by the affairs of my house and of this Busy Season abroad.

1728 July 28 (Sunday). I preach'd all Day on Gen. 18.25. Mr. Nurse ill and distracted was at our house when meeting was closing, and till our Evening Exercise was over. I was in no little concern of mind about the Earthquakes Continuing.

1728 July 29 (Monday). I assisted with my own hands in the Carting, etc.

1728 July 30 (Tuesday). Having got in my Hay, Rice, Barley, and Wheat, I dismiss'd Thomas Kendal for a while. Now we are intirely alone having no Servant nor any one in the House. Our Loneliness gives Scope for Thought. God Sanctifie our solitude, and help us to improve in acquaintance with Himself. There was much Lighting in the North almost the whole Evening.

1728 July 31 (Wednesday). A very hot Day. About 11 at Night came up a storm of Rain with Thunder and Lightning.

⁶⁷⁸Jacob Eliot of Boston, later first minister of Lebanon, Connecticut.

⁶⁷⁹Ebenezer Holmes (Harvard 1724), a merchant of Boston. *Sibley*, VII, 368-371.

⁶⁸⁰Mrs. William Nurse of Westborough.

⁶⁸¹Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

1728 August 1 (Thursday). Mr. Flynt⁶⁸² and Mr. Greenwood⁶⁸³ (who had taken a Circular Ride) came to See us. Our sisters Lydia and Ruth⁶⁸⁴ and Kinswomen Mrs. Abigail and Susan Champney⁶⁸⁵ came likewise.

1728 August 2 (Friday). Mr. Flynt and Greenwood rode to Marlborough. The rest tarry'd. Sister Ruth and the rest (except Sister Lydia) left us. These Dayes were very hot.

1728 August 4 (Sunday). I preach'd from Gen. 18.25, and from Ps. 119.68.

1728 August 6 (Tuesday). Early in the morning Sister Lydia and I rode (single) to Cambridge, from whence I proceeded to Boston.

1728 August 7 (Wednesday). I went to See Mr. Miles's⁶⁸⁶ Library. His widow show'd me her house and Garden.

1728 August 8 (Thursday). I entered into Obligation to my Father for the Negro Barrow. My Father gave me 5£. I pay'd him 3£ and gave a promissory Bill to pay 66£, the whole making 74£ which was the price of him.

Mr. Cooper⁶⁸⁷ Lectur'd on Job 37.16. I din'd at Mr. Coopers, Mr. Thatcher and Mr. Byles⁶⁸⁸ also.

1728 August 9 (Friday). I rode to Cambridge, Barrow, alias Maro, running on foot. Though somewhat rainy, it clear'd away after noon. After 4 o'Clock I set out, my Self on one horse and the Negro on the other. At Larnards⁶⁸⁹ met Mr. Swift.⁶⁹⁰ Rode to Mr. Swifts and lodged there.

1728 August 10 (Saturday). We rode home by a little after noon. Prepar'd somewhat upon John 1.46 and carry'd on the Exercises with the Applicatory Considerations in the Sermons on John 12.26.

1728 August 12 (Monday). I was at Lieutenant Forbes's,⁶⁹¹ his wife being very ill.

⁶⁸²Henry Flynt, Tutor at Harvard College.

⁶⁸³Professor Isaac Greenwood of Harvard College.

⁶⁸⁴Ruth Champney of Cambridge.

⁶⁸⁵Abigail and Susan Champney, cousins of Mrs. Parkman.

⁶⁸⁶Reverend Samuel Myles (Harvard 1684), Rector of King's Chapel, Boston, 1680- 1728. The library in question was sent over by the Bishop of London. Sibley suggests that it was "perhaps the best theological library in the country." The remnants of this library were deposited in the Boston Athenaeum in 1823. *Sibley*, III, 287-293.

⁶⁸⁷Reverend William Cooper (Harvard 1712) of the Brattle Street Church *Sibley*, V, 624-634.

⁶⁸⁸Reverend Mather Byles of Hollis Street Church, Boston.

⁶⁸⁹Thomas Learned, tavern-keeper of Watertown.

⁶⁹⁰Reverend John Swift of Framingham.

⁶⁹¹Samuel Forbush did not change his name to Forbes, but Parkman's reference is doubtless indicative of some confusion in the minds of townspeople.

1728 August 13 (Tuesday). There arose a storm of Thunder and Lightning in the Night.

1728 August 14 (Wednesday). About 2 in the morning the Thunder and Lightning were very Sharp and terrifying. Neither was it a Crack or Flash or Two, but it continued for (I Suppose) an hour and half exceeding dreadfull. Once it was So hard Thunder that the house Jarr'd in some sort as in an Earthquake.

Mr. Rice was here, and Goddard⁶⁹² from College. The latter Said the people of Framingham entertain'd disaffections to Mr. Swift. My heart is mov'd greatly; and I think merely for the Cause of God in these melancholly and divided Times.

1728 August 15, 16, 17 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday). The Remaining Dayes of the Week I abode more strictly by my Preparations for the Sabbath. Late on Saturday Night I was Sent for by Lieutenant Forbes to his wife who departed this Life (a little before 12 o'clock) before I could get to the house. A very meek, patient, Godly person, under the sufferings She bore through most of her Life, by Sickness and weakness.

1728 August 18 (Sunday). I preach'd from Ps. 119.68 both forenoon and afternoon.

1728 August 19 (Monday). Mrs. Forbes was buried. A Large funerall; many people from Marlborough being up here. Mr. Foxcroft⁶⁹³ of Boston, Esquire Pool⁶⁹⁴ of Reading and Lieutenant How of Framingham came to our house and lodged with us.

1728 August 20 (Tuesday). Those Gentlemen rode away to Leicester to be (with others) a Council upon the Difficulties of that people. Mr. Swift of Framingham, Elder Lymen and Mr. Loring of Boston came but rode quickly away upon the lastnam'd Concern. Esquire Pools advice and offers respecting Mrs. Burt.

1728 August 22 (Thursday). Our Father and mother Champney, with aunt Champney⁶⁹⁵ and her son John⁶⁹⁶ came to See us.

1728 August 23 (Friday). Mr. Winchester⁶⁹⁷ came to wait upon his mother in law back to Framingham.

⁶⁹²David Goddard (Harvard 1731) of Watertown and later the second minister of Leicester. *Sibley*, IX, 40-43.

⁶⁹³Reverend Thomas Foxcroft.

⁶⁹⁴Benjamin Poole, selectman of Reading. Tilley Eaton, *Genealogical History of the Town of Reading* (Boston, 1874), pp. 108, 282, 283.

⁶⁹⁵Mrs. Joseph Champney.

⁶⁹⁶Mrs. Parkman's cousin.

⁶⁹⁷Ebenezer Winchester of Framingham.

1728 August 24 (Saturday). Mr. Baxter⁶⁹⁸ and his messenger came hither from the Council, with word that they had stood out the hearing but had drawn up no Result -- but had appointed to meet at Sudbury to finish the Affair.

1728 August 25 (Sunday). I preach'd a.m. on Ps. 119.68, and administered the Sacrament. I preach'd p.m. on 1 Cor. 10.16. I have no slender Reason to lament my insensibility, indolence and utter unfruitfulness under all Gods Goodness to me; and it is nothing else but the infinite Mercy of God to poor sinners, his infinite Patience and Compassion towards us under our manifest infirmities that has brought me to the Sacrament for my Conduct is Such that my unprofitableness and indifference might utterly debar me and leave me discouraged.

1728 August 26 (Monday). Father and Mother Champney returned home.

1728 August 27 (Tuesday). Under the Engagements of my Family by reason of our want to Help, our Negro being New, I am much taken off from my Work, but I trust in God it may be better with me and more leasure ere long.

1728 August 28, 29, 30, 31 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday). Much Concern in the minds of all people throughout the Province on the account of the Difficulties at Court about settling the Governours Sallery. And no prospect of its being any better between the Governour and the Lower House. Indeed the Governour has always been fair and pleasant and is not willing to make Complaint against the Province. But his Instructions from his Majesty oblige him to move in this Manner and the House think they loose all Priviledges if they comply. Its a difficult Time respecting our Credit in England, but the Heavens do rule. God gives us Wisdom and turneth the Heart of the King which way Soever He will.

1728 September 1 (Sunday). I preach'd upon Isa. 31.2. I have great experience of the Divine Compassion showed me under my insufficiency and great unworthiness, in that he so graciously assists me in the performances of my Sacred function. God alone have the Praise. God keep me from Vain Glory.

1728 September 2 (Monday). Mr. Thomas Weld⁶⁹⁹ (having preach'd yesterday at Southborough) came to see me, and lodg'd with us.

1728 September 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Weld rode with me to Framingham, expecting an Association. It was very rainy and very troublesome getting there; and yet we were disappointed through Mr. Swifts mistake. He had told his Family that the Association would be there next week; and so he went to Sudbury to the Council upon the Difficulties at Leicester.

⁶⁹⁸Reverend Joseph Baxter of Medfield.

⁶⁹⁹(Harvard 1723). Later minister in Upton, 1738-1744, and Middleborough, 1744- 1749. *Sibley*, VII, 273-277.

Mr. Cushing was thus disappointed with us, and we rode away to Colonel Buckminsters⁷⁰⁰ and lodged there.

1728 September 4 (Wednesday). This morning after breakfast we rode from Colonel Buckminsters to Marlborough and din'd at Mr. Woods.⁷⁰¹ Thence Mr. Weld and I went first to Mr. Brecks door but he being gone to the foresaid council we went with Mr. Park⁷⁰² to his Lodgings. With Mr. Park there was Sir Kent,⁷⁰³ Schoolmaster at Framingham. Near Sunset we parted and I Came home. On the Road home I had many Reflections upon My Life Past, the unusefulness and unprofitableness of it. I was griev'd at my taking no better notice of the divine Dealings with me. I was jealous of my Self and Suspected whether there was not some undue End in taking the accounts in this Book, Seeing this Design had no better Success. I would humbly hope that the Glory of God and my Spiritual Emolument has and shall determine me in the writing this Journal. I was full of Enquiry how I should best Spend the Morrow to the Glory of the God of my Life and my highest Advantage. I resolv'd in the Fear and by the Grace of God to Separate the Day to Seeking the Face of God, and Enquiring out as under the divine Influence, the best Methods for the Conduct of the Future part of my Life, Respecting my whole Behaviour, and proceedings, in my Secret Walk, in my Studies, in my ministrations, and my Several Relations. And the Spirit of God purifie, Sanctifie, Assist and direct me, and grant his Blessing upon me in the Prosecution of this my Purpose!

N.B. See for the 5th Day, the Beginning of the Book entitled Some Remarkable Passages, etc.⁷⁰⁴

[Entries for September, 1728, end at this point. There is then a blank page in the diary, and then the following undated entry:]

Several gracious Promises of God. Ps. 32.8. I will instruct thee, and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine Eyes.

Zech. 10.12. And I will Strengthen them in the Lord, and they Shall walk up and down in the name of the Lord.

September 5th [1728] (Wednesday). At Westborough.⁷⁰⁵

This being my Birth Day it may be a most proper Season to look back upon my Life Past, that I may See what account I may give unto the Great Judge of all the Earth. What penitence and Contrition I ought to express for the many Sins of my Conversation in the world the Twenty-five years that I have liv'd in it, and What Praises I owe to the God of my Life for the innumerable and unspeakable Benefits he has most bountifully (though most undeservedly) bestowed upon

⁷⁰⁰Joseph Buckminster, Sr. of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 490

⁷⁰¹Benjamin Woods.

⁷⁰²Probably John Park of Framingham.

⁷⁰³Benjamin Kent (Harvard 1727). *Sibley*, VIII, 220-230.

⁷⁰⁴Another name for his Natalitia.

⁷⁰⁵The entry for Sept. 5 is entirely in his Natalitia.

me. I deem it suitable also and prudent to take this Time especially to renew my Covenant with my God, which I solemnly entered into before Him on September 5 in the year 1719. Furthermore it is most proper now to be anew proposing methods of future Conduct, that the future part of my Life may be more profitable, and fruitfull than the former has ever been.

Accordingly I committed my Self to God in a solemn address, and besought his direction and assistance in the Several parts of this important work above mention'd. And then I proceeded to look into my Life past where I discern'd innumerable articles that require deep Repentance -- among the rest my Sad misimprovement of my Time in my Youth, as appears by the papers that give an account of the past of my Conversation. It must be Judg'd from the Said Papers that my Course of Life has been full of Impertinencies, except I was to Live Some Centuries. Then indeed it might prove more Excusable to take my methods to know men and Things (as my pretence was); or it had perhaps been laudable to Spend a Month or some Small part of ones whole Life in this manner. I consum'd a great part of my Time. I Endeavour'd to affect my Self with Grief herefore and proceeded with Exercises of fervent Devotion, Reading the Divine Oracles and Serious Meditations, I carried on the Day till 3 p.m., when Mr. Wheeler came, and I went with him to Captain Fays to the Private Meeting. I went in while the Captain was at Prayer. Our Exercise was upon Col. 3.4. Christ who in our Life. I chose this because I would have Christ to be my Life, and I would be quickened and instructed at this season to live to him. God give me Grace to do so! I spent the day throughout as a Day of Devotion, and I beseech God to accept me herein. But I was not able to go through all my Proposal about Searching out the Suitable methods of future Conduct. These I deferr'd to the first opportunity I may have therefor. Nor did I draw out in writing what I could remember of the mercies of God to me and my Family, But I propos'd to do [so] as Speedily as my Circumstances will favour me. My Covenant with God was not solemnly renewed in that express manner I had propos'd but read over and anew consented to. But a reason of its not being So expressly renewed might be my apprehending it convenient to transcribe a Covenant Somewhat more Correct, which I would Solemnly Sign before God (having some regard to the Directions of Mr. Alliene,⁷⁰⁶ in his sure Guide to Heaven, Dis:x, p. 127, Edition at London anno 1705, in that affair).

O Glorious God in Trinity, I pray Thee be my covenant God!

I do now Solemnly Take Thee, O ETERNAL FATHER, to be my God, my Father, my Friend, and my only Portion. I take Thee O ETERNAL SON, to be my God, my only Mediator and Redeemer.

I take Thee O ETERNAL SPIRIT to be my God, my Guide, my Sanctifyer and Comforter.

And I Sacredly Devote and Dedicate my Self wholly, Soul and Body, all the Powers and Faculties, all the Members and organs of Each, to Thee, the one onely living and true God, to be Thy Servant, Renouncing all my Sins and Lusts my Self, the world, the Flesh and the Devil, and humbly beseeching the Pardon of all the Violations of all my Former Covenants and Obligations,

⁷⁰⁶Richard Alleine, *Heaven Opened, Or a Brief and Plain Discovery of the Riches of Gods Coventn of Grace* (Boston, 1699).

with all my other Iniquities, through Jesus Christ, I consecrate my Self to THEE alone. And Promise, by thy Grace, to perform the Duties of my holy Christian Profession, and to Discharge my ministerial work. To ratifie which, I subscribe, with my Heart and Hand, humbly, and I trust, Sincerely, Ebenezer Parkman. Westborough November 24, 1729. Renew'd January 1, 1730 and This Transcript made January 3.

Some Rules for my Conduct in my Religious, Ministerial, Civil, Domestic, and Relative Life.

1. I would that my Eyes and Heart by carry'd to God at first Waking; That every Morning when I awaken I may be Still with God, as God is Still with me.
2. That nothing be undertaken which may defer my early sett, Solemn Morning Devotions to God, that I may be sure to begin the Day with God, set out in his Fear, and Spend it to his Glory.
3. When I rise from Dinner Let the first Opportunity be laid hold of for a solemn Address to God.
4. Let there be some Serious Reflections in the Evening and a solemn Address to God -- closing my Eyes with recommending my Self to the Lord my Keeper, who is the Great Keeper of Israel, who never slumbers nor sleeps.