

## **John Parkman (1753-1775)**

For 1753, only January is extant.

Born: 21 July 1753.

Died: 10 Sept. 1775 (Death not in WVR.)

### **1754 JULY 21: 1 YEAR OLD**

1754 September 24 (Tuesday). My wife dips little John into Cold Water to cure him of his Ricketts.

1754 September 25 (Wednesday). My Wife and I rode in the Chair to visit aged Widow Hannah Rice and took little John with us.... John was dipped again.

1754 September 26 (Thursday). John was dipp'd again, and we cease for a while.

1754 October 2 (Wednesday). William waits upon his Mother to Mr. Martyns, and Lucy undertakes to wean little John.

1754 October 3 (Thursday). Sent Billy to Mr. Garfields for pursely Water for little John, and bagg of Apples from Mr. Joseph Knowlton -- which he brought.

1754 October 26 (Saturday). A Cool Morning after the Storm. My Wife goes on in plunging little John in Cold Water.

1754 October 27 (Sunday). John dip'd again.

1754 November 5 (Tuesday). A very rainy Day. We have reason to fear little John is much troubled with Worms as well as Ricketts: and is much oppress'd having very labouring Breath. May God teach us to profit by his holy Hand upon us.

1754 November 6 (Wednesday). My Wife and I took John into the Chair and rode to Lieutenant Tainters -- were well entertain'd and return'd.

1755 July 9 (Wednesday). Little John taken ill -- vomits, is feverish etc.

### **1755 JULY 21: 2 YEARS OLD**

1755 October 16 (Thursday). Little John Sav'd from Drowning. Bill had dug an Hole in Neighbour Barnabas Newtons meadow in the Time of Drought, which was now fill'd with Water; into this John fell and Samuel pull'd him out. *D. Grates plurimas!*

1755 October 28 (Tuesday). Mr. Martyn and his Wife here and dine with us. They carry home my little John.

1755 November 12 (Wednesday). I went over to t'other House in my way to the North End.... I went also to Mr. Martyns, where is my little son John Still.

1755 November 28 (Friday). A fine Morning. My Wife and Lucy are gone over to Mr. Martyns. At Eve they return and bring home my little John.

1756 March 13 (Saturday). Storm of Snow. Ebenezer brought over Samuel from t'other House and John remains there.

### 1756 JULY 21: 3 YEARS OLD

1756 August 11 (Wednesday). Billy reaps Oats. *John* goes to School.

1756 August 16 (Monday). Breck and John go to School to Mr. Gardner as far as Mr. *Jos. Green's*.

1756 October 12 (Tuesday). N.B. John is ill; Lucy not well.

1756 October 13 (Wednesday). My little John worse.

1756 October 14 (Thursday). John's illness increases upon him. May God fit him and us for the divine Will! This Day was observed as a Day of Fasting and Prayer on the Account of the Sickness.... Dr. Crosby here.

1756 October 15 (Friday). John grows Worse.

1756 October 16 (Saturday). My little John a little better. *Dr. Crosby* here both Yesterday and to Day. *Alexander* is followed with the Fever and Ague, at t'other House.

1756 October 17 (Sunday). My little *John* is worse; his Flux continues, and a great Aversion to take either Medicine or Food. Must leave him in the Hands of God who alone can help him. My son *Ebenezer* is ill also.

1756 October 18 (Monday). *John* remains in a very low Condition. We are waiting the divine Will: but need His Special Aids that we may be conformed thereto.... At Eve little *John* still continues; but very ill and Weak. My Wife almost disheartened about him.

1756 October 19 (Tuesday). I 'waked early; a great while before Day: being full of deep Concern for my little Son, my Heart wrought much. Was very fervent and importunate in Addresses for him: as also for Pardon of Personal and Fam. Offenses --for the great Grace likewise of preparation for the divine Pleasure. When I went into the room where my Wife and

son were, I found he was much revived; and hopes gladdened us of his Recovery. D. Opt. Max. Grates per plurim. ex imo Corde per solva!

1756 October 20 (Wednesday). Little *John* grows Still better. D.G. Dr. *Crosby* here.

1757 February 9 (Wednesday). Billy and John wait on their Mother in a visit to Mrs. *Martyn* and return in safety.

1757 March 24 (Thursday). P.M. My little *John*, who has been several Times before delivered from Death, was remarkably Saved, though he fell from the Chamber down upon one of the Great Stones of the Kitchin Hearth. All hearty Praise be given to the glorious God his preserver.

#### 1757 JULY 21: 4 YEARS OLD

1757 September 1 (Thursday). P.M. Catechized at Mr. *Joslins*: had 42 Children. Mrs. Mary Bradish's Scholars all attended. She her self went to the House; and was at the Entertainment with me after the Exercise, as were also my little sons *Samuel* and *John*.

1758 May 3 (Wednesday). N.B. Alexander with his Brothers Steers, and only the help of the little Boys Samuel and John gets out 7 Turns of Muck, though some of them the Cart not full, and perhaps neither of them So full as if the Team was stronger.

#### 1758 JULY 21: 5 YEARS OLD

1758 November 20 (Monday). Several of our Children are conceived to have the Chicken Pox -- tis Supposed they have taken it from some or other of my Son Baldwins Family who have been here. Miss *Betty Johnson* is here making a Coat for *John*, as Mrs. How (*Noahs* wife) is making one for Samuel.

1759 January 4 (Thursday). Mr. *Joseph Bowman* keeps School at Deacon *Tainters*. I Send *Alexander* who begins to learn Latin: Samuel and John also go to School.

1759 January 20 (Saturday). My Son *John* very ill. Dr. Chase sent for and comes -- Says the Child has somewhat of Pleurisy. N.B. The Doctor says he will come in the Morning and will go to Meeting. Whereas he has not been at our meeting this year or two as I suppose.

1759 January 21 (Sunday). John Better. Doctor at Meeting p.m.

1759 January 22 (Monday). John Worse again.

1759 January 24 (Wednesday). Mr. John Brigham of Sudbury (one handed man) dined with me, tells me Capt. Maynard and Mrs. Anne Brigham were married last Night. Just before Night I went over to Capt. Maynards as he had desired, to meet him as Bridegroom with his Bride -- (his phrase was he then designed to bring home his Wife). My Wife did not incline to go, her Child

was very tendfull -- and *John* was Sick, though to Day much better; yet this is (according to usual Course) his sick Day. To God be praise and Glory. It was also somewhat odd that our Children were not invited to Wedding (as neither were we ourselves) nor were any of them to His Entertainment though many others were, not nearer related than they. But 'tis prob[ab]le their Thoughts were too much engaged to think much of This So Small Affair.

1759 January 25 (Thursday). *John* much better than he was a few Days ago.

1759 January 27 (Saturday). *John* is about again. D.G.

1759 February 4 (Sunday). N.B. My little *John* went to meeting again. D.G.

1759 February 5 (Monday). *John* to school again; and all my Three Boys at Mrs. Forb. Invitation went to see *Sophy* and dined, all, together, there.

1759 June 24 (Sunday). *John* broke out with the Meazles yesterday; to Day is pritty full -- has a Fever. Is confined to the Chamber and bears it patiently. I desire to committ this matter to God relying upon His infinite Goodness and mercy to my Children who are exposed to be exercised with the Distemper.

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

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

1759 July 12 (Thursday). Some of my Children are drooping -- at Times *Samme*, *John*, *Hannah*.

1759 July 20 (Friday). The Family at home were in some Comfort, except the drooping of some of those who had the Meazles. *Sarahs* Relicks of the Distemper breaks out in a bad finger. *Samuel* is weak and pale. *John* has something of Fever and Ague: and *Hannah* has sore Eyes.

#### 1759 JULY 21: 6 YEARS OLD

1759 September 15 (Saturday). *Alexander*, *Samuel* and *John* cutt Stalks.

1759 October 25 (Thursday). *Lucy*, *Alexander* and *John* to Mr. Martyns Meeting, it being *Publick Thanksgiving for taking Quebeck*, but I am as a broken Instrument and sorrowfully laid by!

1761 January 2 (Friday). I teach my Sons *Alexander*, *Breck* and *Samuel* at home and little *John* begins to learn to write.

1760 January 3 (Thursday). Four of my Boys go to school.<sup>1</sup> Billy at work upon the Crooks part of the Day -- till he cutts his Leg with an Addze, which takes him off.

1760 February 8 (Friday). My Boys who were sent to School, return home again and say their Master is Sick.

1760 February 9 (Saturday). Master Fessenden sick o'Bed -- therefore the Boys return again.

1760 February 20 (Wednesday). All my Four Boys go to School, but it is so far (to Mr. Francis Whipples) that it is a great Trouble and Charge.

1760 April 12 (Saturday). Was some what interrupted by a very unexpected and undeserved Letter from Mr. Ebenezer Rice. Wrote some Reply but could not send it, my Boys being from home till Evening.

1760 May 6 (Tuesday). After Meeting my wife and I, Mr. Fessenden, Jacob Rice, and my Boys went to the raising of Mr. David Maynards Additions to his House.

1760 May 14 (Wednesday). Little of planting to Day. Only the Boys plough this afternoon with Capt. Woods Oxen.

1760 May 21 (Wednesday). My Boys go to School as they can.

1760 June 10 (Tuesday). A.M. The Boys finish Weeding at the Island. They plough the Orchard p.m.

1760 June 13 (Friday). Boys are Still hoing the Orchard.

1760 July 9 (Wednesday). Silas Frost works here. He mows the West Pasture and behind the Meeting House and a while at the Island.... The Boys get in more Hay.

### 1760 JULY 21: 7 YEARS OLD

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

1760 July 28 (Monday). *Silas Frost* hoes for me; the Boys with him in Hilling.

1760 October 7 (Tuesday). Training appointed for all Day but the Captain was so ill he held only the forenoon Exercise. I prayed with them and dined at Capt. Woods with them. N.B. Capt. *Taplin* among us -- he being come from, and belongs to Fort Cumberland. My Sons, Some of them hurt by an Horse's running loose with my Chair. *Breck* chiefly hurt; he and *Samme* Being thrown out of the Chair, when the Horse broke the Tackling, and broke loose from Chair

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<sup>1</sup>Alexander, b. 17 Feb. 1747; Breck, b. 17 Feb. 1749; Samuel, b. 22 Aug. 1751; John, b. 21 July 1753.

and all, and run off, home: It being Mr. *Beetons*. But it was wonderfull the Boys were not destroyed. D.G.

1760 October 24 (Friday). Was at Squire Bakers. N.B. his son had swapped away the Mare he had of me, but the Squire represented the Affair of my Trading with his son as if I had sold her to his Son as a good Saddle Horse, whereas they found her to be fit for no mans Use: And that many Neighbours had known that She was used to bad Tricks. But I answered that his son had been made acquainted with what she was; and that I was not to blame in it; that I wished also that his son had not done any thing about her. For She had for Some Time done very well with us as to the Saddle -- My wife, Daughters and little Boys being well able to manage her with out Trouble or Difficulty.

1760 November 28 (Friday). Mr. Fessenden -- and my 4 Boys went to school. Billy after dinner left us.

1761 March 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Grow Sent me an Horse and I preached at his House. Text 2 Cor. 4.17. After Exercises I proposed to the Brethern of the meeting to See whether they could not agree upon some special methods for the better regulating of our young people in their Conversing together preparatory to Marriage. And I spoke with Some Warm, giving divers Reasons for it. Visited Mr. Samuel Hardy who is sick of a Fever. Returned by Deacon Forbush's -- who complains of Disorders among Youth and desired me to prepare and preach a Sermon for the Suppression thereof. My Son John rode with me -- Occasioned by his going to Mr. Isaac Pratts for a Coat, made there for him.

1761 March 6 (Friday). John goes to Brookfield with Samuel Cutler etc. in the Slay.

1761 May 20 (Wednesday). N.B. Mrs. *Maynard* Sends *John* for her Aunt, who goes to her Groaning.

#### 1763 JULY 21: 10 YEARS OLD

1764 June 18 (Monday). Mr. Art. Bruce and Richard Barns junior hoed with *John* -- had Mr. Nurse's Horse.

1764 June 19 (Tuesday). Richard helps John again -- Mr. Ebenezer Maynards Horse.

1764 June 23 (Saturday). N.B. John brought me 16£ old Tenor from Mr. Batherick.

1764 July 6 (Friday). Breck and John finish half-hilling the great Field.

1764 July 7 (Saturday). *Jonas Kenny* helps Breck and John a.m. half-hilling the Orchard: they [him?], part of p.m.

#### 1764 JULY 21: 11 YEARS OLD

1764 July 21 (Saturday). Breck So commands my mare as to make her plow; and he and John hoe in the Field behind the Meeting House.

1764 July 23 (Monday). Neighbour Lock and his Brother Jonathan How reap for me at the Island. Breck with them. John hoes.

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

1764 July 30 (Monday). Breck and John [*blank*].

1764 August 11 (Saturday). Breck and John plowed for 'em.

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

1764 August 17 (Friday). I gratify Mr. *Lock* in Sending John to Southborough with his Horse to help his Brother Josiah up the Steep Hills.

1764 September 10 (Monday). The late Frosts so great as to turn the Corn stalks white. John carts part of the Day.

1764 September 11 (Tuesday). John brings news from Mill (where he goes again to Day) that the Man who had the Small Pox at Bartlets is dead and was buried last sabbath.

1764 September 14 (Friday). *John* cutting Stalks again.

1764 September 15 (Saturday). Nathan Kenny and Ebenezer Maynard junior help John in Cutting and Picking up stalks: and they finish that Work.

1764 October 1 (Monday). P.M. had Lieutenant Bakers two Yoke of Oxen to join with my own two Yoke to plow stubble at Cook Island. Nathan and Jonas *Kenny* helped me; and my John and Natty Chamberlin were also with the Team.

1764 October 5 (Friday). Jonas Kenny helps John in sorting and Spreading the Corn. Very few Baskets fit to grind.

1764 November 2 (Friday). John not well.

1764 November 3 (Saturday). John still confined.

1764 November 15 (Thursday). Levi Rice helped John cart out our Muck.

1764 November 30 (Friday). Breck works for me a.m. He and John Thrash Oates.

1764 December 7 (Friday). John Went to Mill and Paid Mr. Allen 18/ for a pair of his large Fowls.

1764 December 26 (Wednesday). Though it is a great snow storm, we have but little Wood. Neighbour *Lock* is so very kind as to come and see how we are, and helps John in getting Wood out of the Snow, into the House.

1765 February 4 (Monday). John went, with Difficulty, to Mr. Allens Mill.

1765 February 15 (Friday). Attended the Funeral of John Pratt. A very mournful Time! May God Shew Mercy to the poor distressed Father, and the bereaved sisters! A great Concourse of People, though it was difficult stirring. Billy is one of the Bearers. My Wife too tender and lame to be there, but my two Daughters that could, and Breck and John, were there. The snow is Still so high, that they carry the Corps over the Wall of the Burying Place. Dr. Crosby here after the burying.

1765 February 20 (Wednesday). Bought a little skin at Mr. Wheelocks for Elias and get Mrs. *Johnson* to make them and because the Goat skin is So large as to be like to be enough for *John*, She is to make him a pair with that.

1765 March 9 (Saturday). Breck and John Sled wood in the Morning from the Island.... Breck a. and p.m. cutting Wood at the Island; and p.m. John helps him.

1765 March 16 (Saturday). Breck and John go to draw Timber out of the woods into the Road.

1765 March 27 (Wednesday). John goes to mill to Mr. Johnsons.

1765 March 28 (Thursday). *John* went to Mr. Allens and bought another large Fowl 10/.

1765 March 30 (Saturday). I Sent *John* to Mr. *Howes* with a Letter I have lately received from Mr. Eaton of Spencer, upon the Dwight Affair.

1765 April 4 (Thursday). P.M. *John* with *Breck* cart Timber from Mr. Beetons, and they bring all from thence.

1765 April 11 (Thursday). John and Levi Rice bring Slit work and Boards from Forbe's Mill.

1765 April 12 (Friday). John went afterwards o' foot to bring her back -- but goes to Marlborough and brings home some Leggs of *Bacon* from Deacon Woods.

1765 April 30 (Tuesday). Mr. Nurse's Team again. Thomas and John plow in the Orchard and Mr. Samuel Fay being here, he sows a Bushel of Barley for me, there. He is in great Trouble and Perplexity. Dines with us.



1765 May 1 (Wednesday). Thomas and John Draw Stones to make a Wall at the End of the Orchard.

1765 May 4 (Saturday). Thomas Still repairing the Fences at the Island. To do which he has my Oxen from Mr. Rice's and carries down Posts from here. Part of p.m. he (and John) dig Stones for the Wall.

1765 May 14 (Tuesday). Thomas and John plowing again.

1765 May 15 (Wednesday). Thomas and John plow.

1765 May 16 (Thursday). Thomas and John plow a.m. P.M. furrow out.

1765 May 17 (Friday). Thomas and John furrow out. Several Lads came to assist in getting out Muck and placing it in the Hills.

1765 May 18 (Saturday). Thomas and John still carrying out Muck and planting. They finish our Planting Corn.

1765 June 7 (Friday). Nathan and Jonas Kenny help John in Weeding our Indian Corn.

1765 June 10 (Monday). Thomas Arnold having been weak and infirm could not come to his Work in either of the last Weeks; but now is Somewhat recruited, and comes to work again, and goes to weeding, with John.

1765 June 11 (Tuesday). Thomas and John finish their Weeding by noon; and work p.m. for Neighbour Nurse.

1765 June 14 (Friday). Yesterday and to Day Thomas and John cleared at the Island.

1765 June 21 (Friday). Thomas and John finish laying Ashes on the Corn and ploughed and hoed.

1765 June 22 (Saturday). Thomas and John hoeing.

1765 July 1 (Monday). Jonas Kenny mows a little in the Morning for me my Garden Allys and Borders etc. and John went afterwards to Mr. Nurses, to work for him.

1765 July 6 (Saturday). Breck mows a little -- and p.m. hoes with John at the Island.

1765 July 8 (Monday). *Nathan Townsend* mowes part of my principal Grass, viz. between the Garden and Meeting-House. Ben. Bryant, brother of late *Lemuel* Bryant of Braintree, but himself a Sordid Beggar, is here. John tarrys out, at Mill, till almost Midnight.

1765 July 9 (Tuesday). Received 36£ old Tenor (4£ 16 L.M.) of Capt. Maynard per my Son John.

1765 July 20 (Saturday). John is hilling.

1765 JULY 21: 12 YEARS OLD

1765 July 22 (Monday). Breck and John Hilling.

1765 July 23 (Tuesday). Breck and John are Hilling a.m., rake p.m.

1765 July 25 (Thursday). Nathan Kenny (at my Request) comes to help John Rake in the Meadows.

1765 July 29 (Monday). John is hilling yet. I am much hindered about the *Rice* Hay, but John and I get it in.

1765 August 1 (Thursday). Capt. Maynard burys his Child, *Robert-Breck*. My Wife and I had Mr. Nurse's Chair and Horse. I prayed at the Funeral -- John a Bearer.

1765 August 9 (Friday). Thomas and John finish Haying.

1765 August 12 (Monday). Billy leaves us to go to Townshend and John goes with him to Lancaster to bring back my Horse.

1765 August 16 (Friday). Sent John to Southborough for Suse, who returned at Eve.

1765 August 22 (Thursday). Thomas and John mow Bushes.

1765 August 26 (Monday). *Thomas and John* mow Bushes.

1765 August 27 (Tuesday). Thomas at Bushes. John to Drurys Mill.

1765 August 31 (Saturday). Thomas and John both yesterday and to Day mowing Bushes.

1765 September 2 (Monday). Thomas and John plow a while at the Island -- and before noon break off to go to preparing for getting Sand. This they accomplish p.m.: and bring a good Load.

1765 September 3 (Tuesday). Thomas and John plowing at the Island.

1765 September 5 (Thursday). Thomas and John plowing.

1765 September 6 (Friday). Thomas and John harrow. Sow one Bush. Wheat, which I have of Mr. Tainter.

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

1765 September 9 (Monday). Thomas and John Clearing in Maynard Meadow.

1765 September 10 (Tuesday). They Cut stalks and Clear.

1765 September 11 (Wednesday). Thomas clears; John at Cutting stalks. P.M. they take up stalks.

1765 September 12 (Thursday). Thomas and John are about the Stalks and Clearing.

1765 September 13 (Friday). Received a Bushel of Wheat of Capt. Maynard, which Thomas and John harrowed in, at the Island.

1765 September 16 (Monday). Thomas and John Clearing at the Island.

1765 September 20 (Friday). John, Sophy, Hannah and the little Boys, all at school.

1765 October 1 (Tuesday). Thomas and John gather Apples and dig about 11 Bushel of Potatoes.

1765 October 7 (Monday). Billy at the Corn Barn. Thomas and John burning brush, digging Stones p.m. Jonas helps p.m.

1765 October 8 (Tuesday). My Son John sick and takes Physic of Dr. Hawes.

1765 October 9 (Wednesday). John lyes by.

1765 October 19 (Saturday). Thomas and John, with 4 Oxen, plow the Orchard.

1765 October 26 (Saturday). John brought a Barrell of Cyder, Bag of Apples, another of Turnips and Two good Cabbage Heads from my Neighbour Hezekiah Pratt.

1765 October 28 (Monday). Sent John to Mr. John Locks with Sundrys for Billy: *two Dollars* etc. for David Lock of Townshend to carry with him.

1765 November 12 (Tuesday). N.B. John has been ploughing yesterday and to Day with my Oxen, at the Island, and preparing for sowing Rie. Yesterday Jonas Kenny helped him: to day Nehemiah Maynard.

1765 November 15 (Friday). Deacon Tainter comes with two Barrells of Cyder, which are given -- one by himself, the other by Lt. Harrington and 4 Bush. Apples for Sauce. *Silas Hill* comes with the Deacon. *John* fetches home. Mr. Bakers -- *Silas* gets 'em down. Providence cast him (accidentally to us) for my help, both to the Deacons Help and mine here. *Sarah* undertakes to make a Cask of Apple-sauce, for which End She bought a Quantity of Cyder etc.

1765 November 18 (Monday). *Levi Rice* helped John to Day in Carting out Muck.

1765 November 19 (Tuesday). At Eve Mr. Cushing begins a *singing School* at [blank] and my son John goes to it.

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

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

1765 December 11 (Wednesday). Billy and Breck *return to Townshend*; and John goes with them to bring back my mare.... I was obliged to tend the Cattle etc. -- John being gone -- and got Cold.

1765 December 13 (Friday). John returned from Townshend. He came away yesterday; and lodged last Night at Mr. Jotham Maynards.

1765 December 31 (Tuesday). Mr. Zech. Hick and his Brother Samuel here. They carry to market for my son John six Fowls.

1766 January 2 (Thursday). The Lord's name be praised who protects and has Supplied us! For the storm lasts and is very tedious. It continues through the Day. We have both Billy and Breck to help John, both as to the Creatures and Wood; which we have enough of at the Door.

1766 January 17 (Friday). Sent to Boston by Deacon Tainter. I wrote to Brother Parkman. John sent 8 or 9 fowls, and 1 Partridge. Billy to Medway.

1766 January 20 (Monday). Mr. Cushing has given Sarah and John their Schooling. Deacon Tainter returns from his Marketing and pays John for his Fowls etc.

1766 February 3 (Monday). I visited in the South of the Town -- to Mr. Bowmans, Constantine Hardys, Isaac Adams's, and Dunlops. Went also to the Edge of Hopkinton -- to Mr. Kinsmans and had Breck and John with me -- for I bought a store shoat there, weight 106 at 1/3 per pound. My sons led it home.

1766 February 14 (Friday). Billy works at Mr. Warrins: Breck writes: John Cyphers.

1766 February 18 (Tuesday). *Breck and John* to school.

1766 March 15 (Saturday). So tedious stirring I am forced to Send for Thomas Arnold from Mrs. Johnsons, to help John in watering the Cattle and getting Wood for Tomorrow.

1766 March 24 (Monday). Jonas and John cart Gravel from the Back of the House to the Hollow in the Way of the Barn.

1766 April 7 (Monday). Thomas Arnold brought Billys Oxen from Mr. Joseph Grouts. With them and my 4 and Nathan Kennys, break up my West Pasture. Mr. Ebenezer Maynard, Nathan Kenny, and a son of Mr. Nathan Maynard with my John, are the Hands.

1766 April 11 (Friday). John diggs in the Garden.

1766 April 18 (Friday). Neighbour John Wood wants John to carry a Letter to Framingham containing subscriptions for continuing the County Road. John takes the Opportunity to visit Alexander.

1766 April 19 (Saturday). John does not return till towards Night.

1766 April 22 (Tuesday). John fetches from Kendalls a Load of slabbs. *Caleb Winch* comes to me, and having dined, goes to work.... Caleb and John plow the Orchard etc.

1766 April 23 (Wednesday). Caleb and John plow East Yard and Indian-Hills of Beeton Field etc.... Caleb and John fetch 2 Pigs from Mr. Tainter, which cost 30/ apiece old Tenor -- they are [blank] weeks old.

1766 April 25 (Friday). John to Allens Mill with an Horse Cart.

1766 April 28 (Monday). *Caleb* comes at noon. He and *John* get out muck at the Stables.

1766 April 29 (Tuesday). Caleb and John carting muck from the Stables.

1766 April 30 (Wednesday). Caleb and John cart muck from the Barn.

1766 May 1 (Thursday). Caleb and John finish the muck.

1766 May 2 (Friday). They plow the great Field. My Steers are orderly, and joined with the oxen make Sufficient Team.

1766 May 8 (Thursday). My Wife and I, also *John*, attend the Family Meeting at Mr. Daniel Hardys (which was put off to this Day, by reason of the Funeral of Mr. Amsden on the Day upon which it ought otherwise to have been). I preached on *Rev. 22.14*.... *John* goes to Mr. Joseph Grouts and brings Billys Oxen. He gets Hay for his Journey, of Mr. Moses Nurse.

1766 May 9 (Friday). Billy Sets out on his Journey to Townshend, with his Cart and Oxen, and my Steers to make out his Team. He carrys various Goods -- his Desk, Curtains, Chairs, etc. *John* also goes with him to help drive his Cow and Calf, and two Yearling Heifers of mine.

1766 May 13 (Tuesday). Caleb and John harrow new turned up Ground at the Island.

1766 May 14 (Wednesday). They sow that Ground with Oates: and Beeton Field with Flax. Nigh a Bushel.... The Boys go on in furrowing.

1766 May 15 (Thursday). P.M. I went to the Raising of Lt. Forbush's House, and was at the Entertainment. N.B. Neighbour Batherick Sat the Psalm and Sung a New Tune, and triple Time, viz. *New York*. N.B. both *Caleb* and *John* at this Raising.

1766 May 16 (Friday). *Caleb* and *John* Planting *Indian Corn*. A.M. Garden.

1766 May 17 (Saturday). My Lads finish planting Corn and Potatoes, a.m.

1766 May 21 (Wednesday). *Caleb* and *John* cart fencing Stuff for the little Lot before meeting House; having mended the Fence at the Island, and altered it -- running across at the Beaver Damm.

1766 May 23 (Friday). *Caleb*, *Jonas Kenny* and *John* digg Stones in the further Field.

1766 May 24 (Saturday). *Caleb* and *Jonas* digg Stones a.m. *Caleb* p.m. helps *Mr. Foster* in his Planting; and *John* goes part of p.m. *Brother Breck* (who had lodged at *Capt. Maynards* last night) came to See us -- dines -- lodges.

1766 June 2 (Monday). *Caleb* and *John* Spent the Chief of last Week in digging stones in the further-Field. They clear there to Day.

1766 June 3 (Tuesday). *Caleb* and *John* *begin to Weed* the *Indian Corn*.

1766 June 6 (Friday). *Caleb* and *John* *finished Weeding* the *Indian Corn*, at Noon. P.M. They hoe in the Orchard Fore Yard, East Yard etc.

1766 June 7 (Saturday). *C.* and *J.* digg Stones.

1766 June 12 (Thursday). *Foster* helps us in digging Stones, with *C.* and *J.* [*John*].

1766 June 14 (Saturday). *Caleb* works for *Lt. Baker*, and *John* with the mare for *Neighbour Nurse*.

1766 June 16 (Monday). *C.* and *J.* [*John*] variously employed -- hoeing Beans, setting out Plants etc. etc.

1766 June 20 (Friday). By reason of the Rain *Caleb* and *John* begin to plow for 2 Hoeing.

1766 June 23 (Monday). *John* to Mill at Eve.

1766 June 24 (Tuesday). *C.* and *J.* [*John*] hoe.

1766 June 25 (Wednesday). *C.* and *J.* [*John*] finish 2d hoeing.

1766 June 26 (Thursday). *Caleb* began to mowe my English Grass, a.m. and tends it p.m. *John*, at their importunity, goes to help *Neighbour Nurse's* Labourers.

1766 June 27 (Friday). *Caleb* mows a.m. *John* hoes at *Nurse's*. P.M. *Caleb* and I pole in some of the Hay.

1766 June 28 (Saturday). *Caleb*, to gratifie Neighbour *Foster*, who has not done his Corn, works for him to Day. John takes Care of the Hay at Home, and shutts up the Mischievous Fowls, of which we have many, and they have greatly picked and destroyed the Cabbages etc.

1766 July 4 (Friday). *Caleb* bottoms Chairs, being foul Weather, and teaches John to do it.

1766 July 7 (Monday). *Caleb* and John begin the 3d Hoeing.

1766 July 11 (Friday). *Caleb* and John mowe and take Care of the Hay.

1766 July 12 (Saturday). John went with two Yoke of Oxen to the Forbes Saw Mill and brought a Load of good slabs to floor our Barn Bay before we put Hay into it -- and p.m. *Caleb* Strives to get home the Hay From the Meadow.

### 1766 JULY 21: 13 YEARS OLD

1766 July 25 (Friday). John is hoeing in the Orchard etc.

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

1766 August 2 (Saturday). John at the Bushes.

1766 August 6 (Wednesday). *Caleb* and John get in the last Load of Meadow Hay.

1766 August 7 (Thursday). *Caleb* and John get in a Load of Stover cut within the Island Field -- some Grass, Some Weeds, Some Oates cut before ripe.

1766 August 8 (Friday). *Caleb* and John mowe Bushes.

1766 August 11 (Monday). At Neighbour Nurse's Importunity *Caleb* and John goe to help him in his haying and Harvest.

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

1766 September 4 (Thursday). N.B. Mr. *Barnabas Newton* with a Yoke of Oxen, Levi Rice, with one Yoke, *Caleb* and John with my own Cattle and *Nathan Kennys* -- finished the Crossing my new Field.

1766 September 12 (Friday). Mr. William Pierce comes to work upon the Wall of the further Field. *Caleb* and John help him.

1766 September 16 (Tuesday). See *Natal*: My Wife and Daughter ride together in a Chaise, and *John* takes up *Betty* behind him on my Mare; but *John* is to go no further than Worcester. The rest aim at Seeing Brookfield to night. May they have a prosperous Journey by the Will of God!

1766 September 17 (Wednesday). *John* returns from Brookfield.

1766 September 20 (Saturday). When I came home I prepared a line to Mrs. Andrews, and sent *John* to her, with it.

1766 October 3 (Friday). At Eve I was at Capt. *Woods* and bought a Deer skin for a Pair of Breeches for *John*. Get Mrs. Johnson to make them.

1766 October 8 (Wednesday). *John* went 'o foot to Townshend for my Cattle.

1766 October 14 (Tuesday). *John* came from Townshend with the Steers and Heiffers -- and Letter.

1766 October 30 (Thursday). *John* works at Mr. Nurse's.

1766 October 31 (Friday). Jonas Kenny and *John* plow the Orchard, and in the Beeton Field.

1766 November 1 (Saturday). *John* brings from Lt. Bakers two Barrells of Cyder of my own Fruit.

1766 November 4 (Tuesday). *John* is much taken off Day to Day -- has a grievous pain in his Stomach.

1766 November 6 (Thursday). *John* is about again.

1766 November 8 (Saturday). *John* carrys two Baggs of soft Corn for my steer that [is] fatting at Mr. Jonathan Grout. Deacon carrys two Baggs more.

1766 November 11 (Tuesday). Visit Mrs. Nurse. Nathan Kenny helps *John* in getting out Muck -- chiefly from the Door.

1766 November 13 (Thursday). *John* went to Capt. Jonathan Fays and brought one Barrell of Cyder and a Bag of Turnips, both which he presented me.

1766 November 14 (Friday). *John* Went with a Team to Mr. Edwards Whipple, and brought me two posts for a Fence about the Well, on the northerly and westerly sides of it. And which Posts Mr. Whipple is so good as to give me. At Night though a great Rain, *John* goes to the Singing Meeting at the Whipple School House.

1766 November 15 (Saturday). But Deacon Tainter brings a Load and takes *John* with him to go and cut another which he brings from the high Way.



1766 November 18 (Tuesday). P.M. John went with my mare and a whirry to Lt. Harringtons, and brought a Barrell of Cyder from thence.

1766 December 9 (Tuesday). *John* goes to *Oxford* for *Caleb*, and he works for it in Clearing in my *Chauncy* Swamp.

1766 December 10 (Wednesday). *John* not being yet returned from *Oxford*, I borrowed Capt. Woods Horse and carryed my Wife to Squire *Whipples* (he having come to us on Monday Eve last, and invited us to his House, to come before 12). There we dined handsomely and Plentifully.... *John* returns at the Evening from *Oxford* with *Calebs* Cloths.

1766 December 12 (Friday). *Caleb* and *John* are getting out Flax.

1766 December 16 (Tuesday). *John* at Eve to Singing school kept by Mr. *Thayer*.

1766 December 17 (Wednesday). *John* Goes to School from Day to Day.

1766 December 20 (Saturday). A very difficult Day to stir in. The snow deep, blown about and drifted; the air cutting. *John Arnold*, from Mrs. *Johnsons*, comes at my Desire, p.m. to help my son *John* in cutting Wood for the Sabbath.

1766 December 25 (Thursday). *John* at School from Day to Day.

1767 January 20 (Tuesday). *Breck* (as well as *John*) to singing school.

1767 January 23 (Friday). Some Number of the Family are much indisposed by Colds. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_, *Sarah*, *Suse*, *John*, *Sophy*, and *Elias*: But through divine Goodness, I am well and am closely engaged in my Preparations.

1767 February 17 (Tuesday). Though Cold, *Billy* and his Wife sat out for *Townshend*. They ride Single. *John* is gone before them to bring back my Mare. After they went away, we regretted that we suffered them to set out in so Smart Weather. *Sam. Brigham* comes from Capt. *Maynards* to take Care of my Cattle while *John* is gone.

1767 February 19 (Thursday). At Eve *John* returns from *Townshend* and informs me that they got up safely, though it was verily a Cold Journey to 'em.

1767 March 21 (Saturday). *John* went to Capt. *Maynards* and brought my Mare from thence -- and took Cold.

1767 March 25 (Wednesday). N.B. My son *John* ill.

1767 March 26 (Thursday). Dr. *Haws* visits *John* and he takes Physic, which works but once upward but many times downward.

1767 March 31 (Tuesday). John is so much better that he goes to Mill (to Mr. *Whipple's*).

1767 April 2 (Thursday). John droops again. Brigham here yet.

1767 April 7 (Tuesday). *John* with Cart and Oxen goes to Mill with 10 Bushels of [blank] and Six Bushels of [blank] to Mr. Whipple's Mill.

1767 April 15 (Wednesday). Mr. *Jonas Bradish*, with old Mr. Rice, Capt. Wood and my son John, goe to the Southermost Bounds of the Pine Field -- and lays out some Land there, to be added to my 13 Acres and 14 Rods.

1767 April 22 (Wednesday). Temple and John have been plowing.

1767 April 30 (Thursday). I Sent *John* to Capt. *Wood*, and to Mr. Edwards Whipple to go down to Mr. Andrews's.

1767 May 14 (Thursday). Temple and John *plant Indian Corn*.

1767 May 15 (Friday). T. and J. [John] finish planting Indian Corn. P.M. Temple and John with the Oxen at Mr. Nurse's.

1767 May 21 (Thursday). Temple and John digg Stones in the middle Pasture.

1767 June 12 (Friday). At Sunrise Mrs. P. in Mr. *Wheelocks* Chair, sets out, *John* waiting upon her, for *Ashby*.

1767 June 15 (Monday). John returned from *Ashby*.

1767 June 25 (Thursday). P.M. At *Mr. Edwards Whipple's Raising of an House*. Temple and John there.

1767 July 9 (Thursday). Temple and John finish getting in the Common Hay of my Champney Meadows. A little is left by the Bridge which is not yet grown.

1767 July 10 (Friday). Temple and John plow in order to hoeing a Third Time.

#### 1767 JULY 21: 14 YEARS OLD

1767 July 21 (Tuesday). Received 3 *Jo's* from Capt. Maynard per John.

1767 July 25 (Saturday). John is poorly -- pain in his stomack and Bowels -- keeps House for the most part.

1767 August 19 (Wednesday). Temple and John with 10 Cattle plow in the further Field. Nathan Kenny and Josiah Newton help 'em.

1767 August 21 (Friday). Temple and John, with 10 oxen a.m., with 12 Oxen p.m., plow in the further Field. Nathan Kenny and Nathan Maynard help 'em, and *Jacob Foster* is added p.m.

1767 August 27 (Thursday). Send *John* early to Mr. *Tainters* for a Barrell of Cyder, which he Sends me Word he will give me if I will fetch it. John has my Oxen and Neighbour Nurse's Waggon. Brings it and a Bag of Apples and Cucumbers.

1767 September 1 (Tuesday). *John* waits on his sister *Sarah* in Dr. Haws' Chair to Hopkinton.

1767 September 6 (Sunday). *John* So poisoned he stays at home to Day.

1767 September 9 (Wednesday). John still very much Swelled with Poison.

1767 September 12 (Saturday). *John* is better -- is gone to *Allens Mill*.

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

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

1767 October 10 (Saturday). R. Temple and Jonas Kenny came from Mr. Nurse's and pitched up the Husks. John carries up the Hog Corn.

1767 October 17 (Saturday). John with my Oxen and Deacon Woods and his plough, and Henry Marble (from Mr. Barnabas Newtons) to drive, plows in the hither Part of the Island Field.

1767 October 20 (Tuesday). John brought 53 posts from the ministerial Lot, got out by Mr. Phinehas Maynard.

1767 October 29 (Thursday). John has brought home with my Oxen, 6 Bushels Turnips from Mr. Elijah Hardys at 7/6 but one Bushel is given: and one Barrel Cyder from Capt. Jonathan Fays (gratis).

1767 October 30 (Friday). John has (with my Oxen and Deacon Wood's) fetched home from Ministerial Lot 500 Posts; being the rest that Mr. Phinehas Maynard has got out for me.

1767 November 5 (Thursday). John fetches a Barrell Cyder from Mr. Phinehas Hardy's.

1767 November 6 (Friday). *John* goes to Mr. *Jonathan Grouts*, and brings a Barrell of Cyder.

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

1767 November 17 (Tuesday). N.B. Mr. Frost had sowed some Rye and John and Nathan Maynard junior plowed it in, at the Island. John Waits on his Mother to Mr. *Parkers* to watch there.

1767 November 19 (Thursday). By Reason of the storm my son Baldwin tarrys and dines with us. But p.m. leaves us for Sudbury. I delivered him £7.10 old Tenor to lay out for a great Coat for John.

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

1767 November 24 (Tuesday). Was obliged to leave my study, and go up to the Shops, Wheelocks and Woods, to buy John a stout Jacket for his Winter Business. N.B. Dined at Lt. *Bakers*, with Master Jamison. At Eve send for 2 yards and 1/2 Kersey from Mr. John Woods, and must give 35/ per yard. Pay him £4.1.0. My son Baldwin came from Boston last Saturday -- to Day hither. He has bought Three yards of Broad Cloth for a Great Coat for *John*. Gave at Vendue 51/ per yards. He also bought Buttons 17/. He lodged here.

1767 November 25 (Wednesday). Paid my son B. £1 old Tenor. Have given him in all £8.10.0 for the Cloth and Buttons. He goes to Brookfield.... *John* is so indisposed that I was obliged at Evening to go to the Barn.

1767 November 26 (Thursday). John abroad again. He fetches half a Quarter of sugar which John Maynard has brought up for Me from Boston.... Payd *John* £4 for his two sheep which I have sold to Lt. *Baker*; and *John* trades with *Jonas Kenny* for two and a Lamb to be received next Fall, but Mr. *Moses Nurse* gives the Note to Me of what John is to receive for his money.

1767 December 4 (Friday). *John* gets my Mare Shod at Mr. Beetons for Billy to go to Medfield and Boston. The storm of snow prevented their Journeying in the morning as they designed, and got up a great while before Day. But having dined, though it still snowed, both Billy and his Wife with the Child in her Arms, Set out, first for Medway -- and then Purposing to go to her Fathers. I keep one of his Horses whilst he is gone with mine.

1767 December 10 (Thursday). At Eve *John* and *Richard* bring an Hive of Bees which Mr. *Parker* makes me a present of.

1767 December 16 (Wednesday). Richard Temple worked for me in swingling Flax. John assisted in Breaking.

1767 December 23 (Wednesday). *John* to Northborough.

1768 February 12 (Friday). Breck, John and Elias go to Mr. Goddards school, at the Warrin school-House.

1768 February 23 (Tuesday). Breck and John leave us to go to *Ashby*. They carry Cart Boxes which I have at Capt. Maynards; [*marginal notation*: weighed 31 lbs.] and Hoops for the Hubbs,

of a pair of wheels, which Billy is to make. The Hoops were made by Mr. Townsend, weighed 14 lbs. at 2/ per pound for making: the Iron I had of Mr. Nurse at 2/ per pound.

1768 February 25 (Thursday). *John* returns, at Eve from *Ashby*; and well. D.G. They had Mr. Whipple's Horse (besides my Mare) to ride over there -- and return in safety, the Floods by the late Thaw, were swelled in Lancaster.

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

1768 March 15 (Tuesday). John went to Mr. Flagg, Maltster at Grafton. Pays for and brings 4 Bushel of MaLt. The price 1/2 a Dollar per Bushel.

1768 March 17 (Thursday). Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ accompanied by *John*, in Lt. *Bakers* Chair, sets out early for Boston.

1768 March 19 (Saturday). Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ and John came home from Boston, and have had a good Journey. Thanks be to God! but sorrowful News that my Friend Holbrook is Sick.

1768 April 4 (Monday). Enoch Rice came to live with Me. He goes down to the swamp to clear; John with him, and Alexander a.m.

1768 April 7 (Thursday). But John was poisoned by working in the Swamp, in which was Dog-Wood.

1768 April 12 (Tuesday). Enoch and John clear at the Swamp a.m. Dig Stones at the further field.

1768 April 21 (Thursday). Send John to *Marlborough* and further if it Shall need, to Enquire for my Saddle Baggs. He returns with them. Mr. *Smiths* servant had carryed them into his House, and forgot to give them to Me or tell me of it.

1768 May 4 (Wednesday). William takes away his White Cow and her Calf. John goes with him, and they drive before them my Nurse Cow and two yearlings to summer at *Ashby*.

1768 May 7 (Saturday). John returns from *Ashby*.

1768 June 6 (Monday). Richard Temple works here, with Alexander and John.

1768 July 8 (Friday). Mr. *Moore* and *Suse* ride to Northborough. John does light work. Makes Hay and rakes, but finds he can't bear to mowe.

1768 July 18 (Monday). Set John to Mr. *Hawkins* at Northborough for a blew, Cloth Coat which he has made for me: and he brings it.

1768 JULY 21: 15 YEARS OLD

1768 August 1 (Monday). Alexander Stimson and my Son John, with Mr. Thaddeus War[*illegible*] go to my Maynard swamp to mowe. I went to carry 'em their Dinner; but *John has cut himself* with his scyth and taken off part of the Ball of one of his great Toes.

1768 August 2 (Tuesday). John too lame to do any Thing about our Haying.

1768 August 15 (Monday). Between 1 and 2 o'Clock called up Alex. and John who with a Lanthorn went to the Barn to take Care of some Hay that lay exposed -- but they could not do much, the Storm came on and we went to Bed again.

1768 September 1 (Thursday). P.M. borrowed Mr. Nurse's Horse and rode to Mr. Amasa Maynards and agreed with him for some Boards, and *John* goes with a Team for them -- brings 600, at 20/.

1768 September 3 (Saturday). *John* goes with the Team to Mr. *Amasa Maynard* and brings 200 more of Boards.

1768 September 21 (Wednesday). *John* goes as far as Worcester to bring back the Horse, which his Brother rode upon. Miss *Betty Gott* came.

1768 October 20 (Thursday). Send by *John* a (designed) fat Cow to be kept at Mr. *Solomon Bakers*.

1768 October 27 (Thursday). The weather so cold and the Corn so wet, John can accomplish but little in the harvesting. He carrys Apples and Barrell to Mr. Bakers Cyder Mill. He trys for help in Husking, but no body encourages him.

1768 October 28 (Friday). In many perplexitys about getting in the rest of the Corn -- It being too much for John. A great part of that which was husked lying abroad and a great Body of husks, which had been wet with the storm -- several Load yet in the Field -- and not easy to get any Hand to help. Friday with me and can't go my self -- and am to be gone (with leave of Providence) next week -- but p.m. Nathan Maynard junior and his Brother Nehemiah came and cut up and carted the Corn from the Field, and about 20 at Evening husked it out, and got in great part of the Husks.

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

1768 November 15 (Tuesday). No Success to even our best Endeavours to get an Horse for my Daughter *Sarah*. *John* also would fain go with his sister, but in [Vain?]. Neighbours keep aloof from us (except Mrs. Maynard who came here Yesterday). Send six Horses to so many Neighbours.

1768 November 16 (Wednesday). The Company leave us. The Team with Goods -- Mr. *Moore* in a Chaise with span of Horses. My *Suse* leaves me! May God go with her! *Sarah* also, upon my Mare: and I have obtained Dr. Hawes' Horse for *John* who joins them.

1768 November 24 (Thursday). At Eve came *Ebenezer*, *John* and *Sarah*, having Sat out from *Rochester* yesterday, and lodged at *Wrentham* last night; they broke fast at Mr. *Bucknams*, and dined at Mr. *Barretts*.

1768 November 25 (Friday). *John* goes with the Team to Lt. Bakers for 4 Sleepers for Stable Floor -- brings but three, and those but small ones.

1768 November 26 (Saturday). *John* went to Mr. Tainters with the Team and brought a Barrell of Cyder, and apples for Apple-sauce.

1769 January 3 (Tuesday). Mr. Thaddeus Warrin works in Lt. Bruce's Cedar Swamp, and *John* with him, to get Rails. They get 80.

1769 January 5 (Thursday). *John* goes to Master Jamesons School at Mrs. Kendalls.

1769 January 6 (Friday). *John* goes to School again.

1769 January 7 (Saturday). Was much impeded by a Cold. *John* at home.

1769 January 9 (Monday). *John* goes to School again.

1769 January 11 (Wednesday). Mr. David Maynard and Neighbour Barnabas Newton killed our 2d Hog. At Eve *John*, assisted by Nehemiah Maynard, Cut it out. Weighed 229.

1769 January 12 (Thursday). *John* rides to Capt. Wards for Mr. Arnold.

1769 January 13 (Friday). N.B. *John* and *Jonas* Kenny go to the Ministerial Lot, with my Team to get Logs for Planks. It rains so much and it is so heavy for the wheels that *Jonas* can get but one to the mill; though *John* has cutt another.

1769 January 17 (Tuesday). *John* and *Jonas* get two Logs to Maynards saw-mill.

1769 January 18 (Wednesday). *John* to school again.

1769 January 19 (Thursday). *John* goes with the Sleigh to Mr. Gales to have it Painted: and proceeds as far as Mr. Golding the Weaver at Marlborough.

1769 January 21 (Saturday). *John* goes to the Mills with the Team. To Mr. Whipples Corn mill with a Grist, and to Mr. Maynards saw-Mill, and brings Eight plank.

1769 February 1 (Wednesday). When *John* returns at Eve, from School, he relates Some Sad Occurrences which may prevent his going to Mr. *Jameson* again.

1769 February 8 (Wednesday). Mr. Cushing takes my Mare and *Sleigh* (newly painted by Mr. Gale, and to day brought home by John) and goes to *Oxford* for *Sarah*, if She be well enough, and the Weather fit for her, to come.

1769 February 9 (Thursday). *Breck* and *John* are applied to their Writing, what time can be afforded from the unavoidable Business of the Barn, Wood, going to Mill etc.

1769 February 11 (Saturday). *John* carries £ 6.15.5 old Tenor to Mr. John Kelly of Northborough being in full for Beef and Tallow of him.

1769 February 13 (Monday). *Breck* undertakes (his Brother *John* assisting) to lay the new Stable Floor.

1769 February 20 (Monday). Wrote and Sent to the Selectmen a Request that they would insert a Clause respecting my wood, in their next Warrant for Town Meeting. Sent it by my son *John* to Deacon Wood.

1769 February 23 (Thursday). *Breck* and *John* Cyphering.

1769 March 16 (Thursday). *John* sleds a Maple Log to Mill which Mr. *Barns* has given me, having been brought here from his Swamp as Fire Wood by the Baker-Team.

1769 March 24 (Friday). *John* and *Jonas Kenny* with my Team and Mr. Nurse's fetch [blank] Posts from the ministerial Lot. They were got out by *Solomon Batherick*.

1769 March 25 (Saturday). *John* lays out Flax to rot; it not being Sufficiently rotted last Fall.

1769 March 28 (Tuesday). *John* gets a couple of Bags of Hay Seed from Mr. *Batherick's* to sow part of my West field, which I would lay down.

1769 April 1 (Saturday). Sent *John* to Shrewsbury for Hay-seed, and he brings some from Deacon Miles.

1769 April 5 (Wednesday). *Ebenezer Maynard* is cutt in his Ankle by *Johns Ax* flying out of his Hands, as he was driving a Post, and glanc'd with great force to *Ebbe* on t'other side the Fence. It happened about 11 o 'Clock a.m.

1769 April 7 (Friday). Sorrowful news from Shrewsbury of Miss *Bridget Cushings* being very ill, her Case desperate and has Sent several Times for my Daughter *Sarah* to go to See her. *John* goes up with her; and leaving her *there*, he returns.

1769 April 12 (Wednesday). *Cambridge*. Requested Mr. *Thomas Barrett* to take my Son *John* as an Apprentice; but don't succeed.



1769 April 17 (Monday). *John* does something in the Garden, but at length is not well, and retires into the House.

1769 May 6 (Saturday). John rides Mr. Moore's Horse to Marlborough and brings from Deacon Woods (Maltster) [blank] Legs of Pork.

1769 May 11 (Thursday). John and Richard with the Team go to the Ministerial Lot for Some Timber to compleat the Floor and Scaffold at the Barn.

1769 May 12 (Friday). Mr. *Zebulon Rice* works here a.m. in laying the rest of the Floor in the new part of the Barn: and Temple and John assist him in it.

1769 June 2 (Friday). Took leave about noon and rode to *Cambridge*, to receive Cousen Thomas Barretts Answer concerning his taking my Son *John*. It is Negative.

1769 June 5 (Monday). I have much Trouble in my mind for my Son *John* that he is not Apprenticed, but cannot tell where to put him. *John* has his Finger jammed between the Stones in making Wall.

1769 June 13 (Tuesday). John is ill with stomach-Ach.

1769 June 14 (Wednesday). Temple unable to work. *John* does Somewhat a.m. Goes out again at almost 5 p.m.

1769 June 15 (Thursday). Neither Temple nor John can work to Day. My weeding is deferred. John goes up to *Grafton* or *Uxbridge* to one Mr. *Dun* and brings from thence a foot-wheel, price 5£ O.T.

1769 June 16 (Friday). *John* not well, but goes to plough. Temple is Still too lame to do any Thing in the Field, goes to Mill, etc.

1769 June 19 (Monday). Temple goes to work again. *John* rides to Mr. *Dun's* to carry back one foot Wheel, and bring us another and better.

1769 June 27 (Tuesday). My Daughter Sarah droops. John also is too poorly to work.

1769 July 1 (Saturday). My Son John is still incapable of Labor.

### 1769 JULY 21: 16 YEARS OLD

1769 August 11 (Friday). My Daughter *Sarah*, who is So much my Comfort, and Guide of the House now her Mother is gone, grows ill; goes to bed before Dark. She is Worse. After I was got to Bed, She wants to see me. She has been so sick as to Vomit some Number of Times. I call *John* to go to the Doctor. Temple readily offers to go -- and the Doctor Came, leaves various Things, besides an Anodyne. It is nigh 11 in the Night when he leaves us.

1769 August 22 (Tuesday). Sat out on my journey from Brookfield. Mr. *John Eliot* accompanys me to his Father's, where we breakfast. Squire is gone a Journey. I called again at each of the *Watsons* on my son *John*'s Account but neither of them inclined to take a 'Prentice.

1769 September 9 (Saturday). Mr. *Moore* and I ride to the Head of the River. I talk with Mr. *Swift* the Sadler about his taking *John*, but it doth not succeed.

1769 September 19 (Tuesday). *Sarah* and *John* go to *Boston*.

1769 September 23 (Saturday). *Sarah* comes home, with *John* from *Boston*.

1769 October 12 (Thursday). N.B. Sent *John* to Lt. *Baker*'s with the *Mare* which I had of him more than a Twelve-Month agoe, as I could not with all my trying, make her do for my and my Family's use; and Lt. had told me again and again that he would take her if I returned her. This therefore I have now done.

1769 October 13 (Friday). My Son *John* exerts himself in gathering and getting in, husking and laying up, the Corn himself; with out troubling the Neighbours.

1769 October 19 (Thursday). *John* got an Horse at Mr. *Nurse*'s and pursued to *Shrewsbury*. In the mean time Deacon *Bond* had taken 'em up Nigh his House, and came with them. I viewed and rode the Said young Horse; also I took Such Advice as I could; and concluded to have him, though it is a Venture, at so little Acquaintance with him: but I can't well do otherwise since he is So strongly recommended by Mr. *Forbes*, who has writ to me about him. The Terms are £100 old Tenor to be Paid in two months. Before I consented, I rode to Lt. *Baker* and consulted him, both about the Horse and about the Pay. *Ezra* assures me the Age is 3 Years only, last July. And the Letter says he is warranted Sound. *Ezra* and *Polly* leave us.... My son *John* seems to be much indisposed, but went to Meeting. He has greatly exerted himself in our Harvest-Work.

1769 October 21 (Saturday). Having no body but *John* and my little *Elias* to do the Harvest-Business, I was obliged to assist, what I could in it.

1769 October 25 (Wednesday). N.B. My Son *John* has mentioned to me his Inclination to Learning.

1769 November 4 (Saturday). *John* goes to Capt. *Maynards* Cyder-Mill, for a Barrell of Cyder which Mr. *Ebenezer Maynard* is So kind as to Present me.

1769 November 14 (Tuesday). Mrs. *Arnold* in Labour. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ is gone to her. Her Husband is gone for Dr. *Ball*, but her Distress dispatches *John* after them to make greater Haste. She is delivered before the Doctor comes.

1769 November 22 (Wednesday). *Sarah* and her Company leave us; *John* also and *Sophy* goes with them. The Day bright, and May God Himself Graciously guard and bless them! They

design as far as Col. *Caleb Wilders* in *Lancaster*, by Night; and to *Ashburnham*, by leave of Providence, tomorrow.

1769 November 27 (Monday). At Eve came *John* and *Sophy* from *Shrewsbury*, they having come from *Ashburnham* last Saturday, and remained over the sabbath partly among the *Cushings* and partly at Mr. *Sumners*.

1769 November 29 (Wednesday). *John* is poorly and confined; none but *Elias* to tend the Cattle etc. Mr. *Isaac Stone* of *Woodstock* here with Leather Breeches to sell. I agreed with him to make a Pair for *John*, the best he can afford for 5 Dollars, to send them in about a Month.

1769 December 1 (Friday). It being moderate, pleasant Weather, *John* goes out abroad.

1769 December 2 (Saturday). *John* but poorly, yet can be about something.

1769 December 13 (Wednesday). *John* is greatly indisposed, but lends an Hand; *Samuel* is also assisting.

1769 December 14 (Thursday). *John* so well as to go to Mill with the Team.

1769 December 15 (Friday). Sent *John* with a Yoke of Oxen to assist Mr. *Fessenden* in getting a Log to Mill. (It is instead of a Log which he cut upon the Ministerial Lot and improved for Plank which he sold to Lt. *Baker*.) This succeeded no further than that *John* cutt down a great black Oake, and Mr. *Fessenden* sends word, that he will come when there shall be Snow.

1769 December 19 (Tuesday). *Ebenezer* is putting the Floor etc. of my New stable, into Order, and *John* assists him.

1770 January 4 (Thursday). Mr. *James Parker* is come to keep at the *Whipple* School; and this being much nearer, both *John* and *Elias* go there.

1770 January 9 (Tuesday). *John* and *Elias* goe to school.

1770 January 10 (Wednesday). My Grandson *Elias Parkman* came from *Brookfield* yesterday, arrived here this morning with a Letter from his Father that *John* is to go to Mr. *Hitchcocks*, Sadler in *Brookfield*.

1770 January 11 (Thursday). *John* was very much indisposed: Had taken some [Aperiants?], and had taken Cold by going out too much in so searching Weather. At Eve he was very sick.

1770 January 13 (Saturday). *John* but tender. Am obliged to depend upon my two *Elias's*, with *Johns* oversight of them.

1770 January 14 (Sunday). My son *John* goes not out -- has last night taken physic, and is tender (though his Physic does not work), and is under Other Disadvantages.

1770 January 15 (Monday). John being confined, having taken another Portion of physick, and the Bucket of the Lower Well having dropt in, the Cattle (17 Head) were drove to the ponds in the South Pasture; but it was very icy and Slippery under the Snow, so that the *Pied Coww* (as She is called), somewhat heavy with Calf, fell in to the water, and her hinder parts were covered. We were alarmed. Mr. Edmund Chamberlin helped her out. The most of the Cattle were afraid to go to drink. Was obliged to go to Neighbour Arnolds for assistance to get up the Bucket. John Arnold succeeds in it, and in fastening it on the Pole. It is with considerable Exertment that my two Boys, this cold Day, get their work done. Orig. Sacrae.

1770 January 18 (Thursday). John goes to Brookfield designing to live with Mr. *Hitchcock*, Sadler. I wrote to Mr. Hitchcock by him, and to his Brother P\_\_\_\_\_ to look after the Affair.

1770 January 26 (Friday). *Jonathan Forbes* goes to *Brookfield* charged with bringing back my Horse which John P\_\_\_\_\_ rode up.

1770 January 31 (Wednesday). At Eve came Jonathan Forbes from Brookfield with my Horse, and with a Letter from Mr. Forbes, that *John* is gone to live as apprentice to Mr. Hitchcock, that my son Breck is also come from *Ashby* to work with Mr. Hitchcocks Brother, a Shop-Joyner -- and that all, especially my Daughter *Baldwin*, are well. Blessed be God for all His Goodness to me and mine!

1770 February 7 (Wednesday). Alexander Oliver goes home to Brookfield. Wrote by him to John.

1770 March 19 (Monday). Mr. Forbes tells us that Ebenezer has called his last Son *Benjamin*. Brings the uncomfortable News of Alexanders shop being broke open while he was at Westborough etc., that he had lost about 30 yards of Cloth, and was in pursuit of the Thief who was gone into Connecticut. A Letter also from *John*.

1770 May 22 (Tuesday). P.M. towards Eve came Breck and John from Brookfield.

1770 May 24 (Thursday). When I returned home, found here Mr. *David Hitchcock* (John's Master), his Wife and little son *Pelatih*: and afterwards came Mr. Cushing and his Wife. But Alexander and his wife and Child were gone to *Leicester*. The forementioned, with Mr. *Moore*, his Wife and Child, made up a numerous Family.

### 1770 JULY 21: 17 YEARS OLD

1770 September 18 (Tuesday). Dined at Mr. F's. P.M. [pay?] an Indenture for *John*. Mr. F. returns from *Conway*. Lodged at my son *Baldwins*.

1770 September 19 (Wednesday). Dined at Mr. *David Hitchcocks*. John was bound to him. Squire [Foster?] and Mr. Moses Hitchcock Witnesses.

1770 October 5 (Friday). Sent Ten pounds old Tenor to *John* by the Widow Kendall going to Simsbury.

1770 November 16 (Friday). Wrote to my Son by John.

1770 December 5 (Wednesday). My son John came from Brookfield. Says Mr. Parsons is so weak and low that he is not capable of moving any Limb except [*blank*] that he is quite emaciated and longs to dye. Alexander came at Night and brought a Cow to be kept here this Winter.

1770 December 7 (Friday). John and Sophy went to Shrewsbury: to Mr. *Cushings* and to Mr. *Sumners*.

1770 December 10 (Monday). John returns to Brookfield. N.B. Bought his Six sheep for 40/ per Head old Tenor.

1771 May 3 (Friday). Mr. *David Hitchcock* of *Brookfield* comes from the Ordination of his Brother *Enos* at *Beverly*: dines with us and then pursues his Journey home.

#### 1771 JULY 21: 18 YEARS OLD

1771 August 21 (Wednesday). Mr. Moses *Hitchcock* of Brookfield and his Sister *Sally* here -- dined here -- Mr. *Forbes*, and a little Boy with him from *Boston* returning to Brookfield.

1771 September 11 (Wednesday). My Son *John* from *Brookfield*.

1771 September 12 (Thursday). *John* to *Concord*, designing to Boston.

1771 September 16 (Monday). *John* returns from *Concord* and Boston.

1771 September 17 (Tuesday). Mr. *Sumner* came early in the morning; and I sold him a Young sow, of English, or the great breed: weighed 97 lb. at 15d per pound. John and Joseph helped him lead her off, he having paid me for her.

1772 July 9 (Thursday). My son *John* at Even.

#### 1772 JULY 21: 19 YEARS OLD

1772 October 2 (Friday). *Breck* from *Boston*. My Sister in law, Miss *Lydia Champney*, with my Son *Baldwin*, and little *Eli Forbes* came. Also Mr. *D. Hitchcock* and Wife. They all lodge here.

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<sup>1</sup>Enos Hitchcock (1745-1803), Harvard 1767, minister at Beverly (1771-80) and Providence (1783-1803). He was born at Brookfield.

1772 October 3 (Saturday). The Company leave us for *Brookfield*.

1772 November 7 (Saturday). *John* came from *Brookfield*. Has had a bad Cut upon his left Thumb, which is yet a troublesome sore.

1772 November 9 (Monday). *John* meets me to give me the Sorrowful News from *Rochester*, that *Suse* was nigh Expiring last Evening and a Man was come on Purpose to acquaint me with it. I hastened home -- found here a man who came *Express*, with a moving Letter from Mr. *Moore*, writ at 4 p.m. yesterday, and the Bearer, Mr. *Eleazer Barrow*, sat out when the sun was about 1/2 an hour high; and arrived here before two this afternoon; informing that my Daughter had been delivered above a fortnight before; has a Daughter -- but her self was taken very ill last Saturday, and grew so bad the Doctors judged last Evening that She would not live till morning; and I was desired to hasten to her. I proposed to go in a Chaise. We provided one -- but could not get a suitable Horse. My own was too young. *Breck* and *John* ran from Neighbour to Neighbour in Vain.

1772 November 21 (Saturday). At Eve we arrived here in Peace and Safety. Our Family well -- Blessed be the name of our kind and merciful Preserver! who has carried us through this tedious Journey. N.B. I am informed that my Son *John* returned to *Brookfield* on the 11th.

1773 January 1 (Friday). Received a kind, affectionate consoling Letter, from my Children in *Brookfield* -- all of them, men and women, and their Brother *John* also, Signing it. The Spirit in which it Seems to be writ, of piety, and tender sympathy, is very agreeable; I am heartily Thankful for it; and pray that it may be blessed to me; I earnestly pray also that God would be pleased to bless each of them, and all of theirs! And may He support and comfort all, with divine Consolations and prepare us for His blessed will! Neither can I forget, in the meantime, my dear son *Moore*, who bleeds exceedingly under his wounds; or his dear motherless Babes, whom the Lord take up, and make rich Blessings in their Generation!

1773 January 21 (Thursday). At night *John Parkman* came from *Brookfield* by the way of *Oxford*. Wants me to consider and consent to an Agreement he has made with Mr. *Hitchcock* for his time.

1773 January 23 (Saturday). *John* goes to *Brookfield* with Mr. Forbes, to whom I have committed *Johns* Indenture, and have writ to his Master *Hitchcock* concerning his Coming away -- Since he is So uneasy there, and has in part agreed with his Master about the Terms etc. This is also the 2d Journey *John* has taken to me on this Affair. As Wisdom is profitable to direct and a good man orders his Affairs with Discretion, May we have divine Guidance to manage this important matter to divine Glory and with success!

1773 January 27 (Wednesday). My Son *John* returns from *Brookfield* -- having purchased his Time; a Year and almost Six months for 14£ and a Note of hand of 14 sh. both Sums lawful Money, besides. But I did not Consent to his giving up the Note. However it is irrecoverable and the Indentures are given up.

1773 February 1 (Monday). *John* left us to go to *Shrewsbury* and work with Mr. Joseph *Stone*, sadler.... Wrote several Letters. One to Mr. David Hitchcock of Brookfield.

1773 February 10 (Wednesday). P.M. to my Surprize come *Sophy* from *Ashburnham*, accompanied by a sleigh full from *Shrewsbury*, viz. her Brother *John*, Mr. Joseph *Stone* and his Wife and Wifes sister With Misses *Lydia* and *Lucy Cushing*. At Eve the Sleigh returned.

1773 March 8 (Monday). My son *John* came home from *Shrewsbury*; his time with Mr. *Stone* being expired.

1773 March 12 (Friday). *John* and *Elias* go to *Brookfield*.

1773 March 18 (Thursday). At Eve came my Son *Alexander* and laments it that he hath missed again of Seeing his Brother *William*, this being, he says, the 3d or 4th time when it has been so; and he has not seen him for [blank] Years. *Elias* also came with *Alexander* in his returning from *Brookfield*. Tells me *John* is in Mr. *Hitchcocks* Business for a while -- and then is to go to *Oxford*.

1773 April 10 (Saturday). Mr. *Bradshaw*, with my Son *John* (who works with Mr. *William Watson* at *Oxford*) came here. They lodge here.

1773 April 12 (Monday). *John* goes away, designing to go to Mr. *Watsons*.

1773 June 17 (Thursday). N.B. *John* waited on his Sister *Hannah* to *Marlborough* to get two Gowns made, viz. Taffety and Bengall.

1773 July 14 (Wednesday). *John* has the disagreeable Task of a Walk to *Brookfield* to drive down a Steer.

1773 July 17 (Saturday). *John* (who came home last night with the Ox, much fatigued) brought me an Answer from Mr. *Bradshaw*, that he would (D.V.) Supply *Grafton*.

#### 1773 JULY 21: 20 YEARS OLD

1773 August 4 (Wednesday). *John* is not well, yet goes about.

1773 August 7 (Saturday). My Son *John* has been in relaxation this week. Is not altogether well. Sometimes worked a while in the Garden. Sometimes Assisted *Jonathan* and took Care as he thought needful, of my Affairs, and Set his own to rights, and looked after his own Things, to repair etc. and get himself ready for his own Business.

1773 August 9 (Monday). My Son *John* is at work for *Breck*, making an Housing for him.

1773 August 10 (Tuesday). *John* Still in his own *Sadlery*.

1773 August 11 (Wednesday). *John* takes the Horse and *Elias* with him, and rides to *Mendon* designing to go to one Mr. *Smith* a Sadler there.

1773 September 26 (Sunday). At Night came *John* from *Providence* -- from *Wrentham* to Day, and not well. I had sent him my Horse by Mr. *Dupec*.

1773 September 27 (Monday). *John* is poorly and can't go to *Oxford* as expected.

1773 September 28 (Tuesday). In the Morning my son *Alexander* came with my Speckled Cow, and 2 quarters and head and [Ploock?] of the Calf. But *Alexander* not well: worried with driving the Cow in the Night. P.M. He and *John* go away together, one to *Leicester*; the other to *Oxford* to work at Mr. *William Watson's*. O that God might be the Guardian of them both!

1773 October 28 (Thursday). A Letter from *John* of his having sold my Horse to Mr. *Ezra Bowman* of *Oxford* for 14£ lawful.

1773 December 11 (Saturday). *Reckoned with John*. There remains half a Day due to me.

1773 December 15 (Wednesday). At Eve agreed with *Jonathan* to stay a month longer at the rate of 7£ 10/, but upon some Conditions, viz. he must go away if there should come Sledding or if *John Parkman* comes home.

1773 December 31 (Friday). At Eve *John P\_\_\_\_\_* came from Mr. *Watsons* at *Oxford*: has done living there: brings me a Letter from Mr. *Bowman*, concerning the Transactions of another Council at *Somers*, and Mr. *Eli* and his Brethrens Renunciations and his Dismission.

1774 January 11 (Tuesday). At Eve *Breck* and *John* ride in the sleigh to *Shrewsbury*, and return.

1774 January 12 (Wednesday). An exceeding Cold Season, yet my Son *John* is at the ministerial Lot cutting wood and sledding from thence.

1774 January 14 (Friday). *John* with me to take Care of Barn etc.

1774 January 18 (Tuesday). My son *John* is full of Pain, having Strained himself by lifting, at divers times. Uncommon cloudy and stormy Weather, and the snow is now very deep. Mr. *Hancock*, the Taylor, for *Breck* and *John*, came and works.

1774 January 22 (Saturday). Extream Cold. Too Cold for *John* to Sled Wood (having already his Heels froze, and *Benjamin Clark* two fingers).

1774 January 26 (Wednesday). *Breck*, *John*, and *Hannah* ride in the Sleigh, to *Boston*.

1774 January 28 (Friday). At Evening *Breck* and *John* returned from *Boston*.



1774 February 2 (Wednesday). It being a good Season for *sleighing* My Son John and I rode to Mr. *Stone's*, *Southborough* but Mr. *Stone* was unhappily gone to *Marlborough*. We Dined with Mrs. *Stone*, as did Mr. *Newell*, a Candidate.

1774 February 10 (Thursday). Bright, but so windy as to blow up Roads. Neighbour Joseph Bond with Team of five Cattle trys, with my Team also, to fetch wood from Brigham Lot. My Son *John* goes to chop, and young *Nathan Maynard* with him; but it was so tedious they broke off about noon; with Difficulty got two Jaggs part of the way; but they brought but one home though they joined all the Cattle to make one Team.

1774 February 21 (Monday). A number of persons came and got wood for me at the Lot which is called Capt. Ephraim Brighams. Eight went to Cutt, viz. Messrs. Nathan Townsend, Benjamin Fay junior, *Arthur Cary* (from Deacon Wood), *Joseph Keenes* (from Lieut. *Baker*), John Fay, *Richard Temple*, *Timothy Parker*, *Abel Tenny*, from Mrs. Spring. And John Parkman joined them.

1774 February 22 (Tuesday). They that went for wood yesterday, So broke the way, and made it fit to Sled in; and the Cutters cut So much more than was brought home; that therefore Lieut. *Baker* in his generousness sent his Team and Man again to Day, also to sled Wood for me; and Neighbour *Newton* in his Goodness likewise, sent his Team and Man to sled up, what was left and what another Number of Cutters cutt, viz. Mr. *Keene*, *John Fay* hired, *Stephen Maynard* hired, *Nathaniel Chamberlin* hired, and *Phinehas Brigham* (son of Widow *Hitty*). To the Teams, add my own of 3 Cattle, and p.m. Dr. *Hawes'* Steers instead of the Mare, and my son *John* drove. *Breck* also procured Mr. *Joseph Bond* to come with his 5 Cattle. They all went 3 times each -- therefore brought 12 Load to day.

1774 February 24 (Thursday). *John Fay* and *John P* \_\_\_\_\_ cutt out and Salted down the Pork killed yesterday.

1774 March 24 (Thursday). My son *John* goes to *Lancaster* etc. to look for a place to Settle in.

1774 April 4 (Monday). P.M. My Son *John* left us to go to Mr. *Watsons* at *Oxford* to work there.

1774 May 15 (Sunday). N.B. My Son *John* came this morning. The Rain yesterday prevented his coming before. He has been to *Lancaster*.

1774 June 14 (Tuesday). At Eve John came from *Oxford*.

1774 June 17 (Friday). My Son *John* Setts out very early for *Boston*. N.B. *John* gave me last Eve Mr. *Ezra Bowmans* Note for Fourteen pounds L.M. for my Horse.

1774 June 20 (Monday). *John* returns from *Boston* but only from Col. *Buckminsters* this morning.

1774 June 23 (Thursday). Mr. *Joseph Hancock* works here one Day after another on divers Garments, making a Jacket for *Elias*, Breeches for *John* and *Ware*.

1774 June 25 (Saturday). *John* goes to *Settle* at *Lancaster*.

1774 July 5 (Tuesday). N.B. Delivered *Breck* 4£ Lawful Money to be sent to *Samuel* as part of what *John* borrowed of him. And I wrote to *Samuel* but it was not sent.

#### 1774 JULY 21: 21 YEARS OLD

1774 July 22 (Friday). *Breck* goes to *Lancaster* to carry *John* Saddle Trees etc.

1774 July 23 (Saturday). *Breck* returns, and brings a Letter from my Daughter *Cushing*. *Breck* relates what *John* met with from a Thief who, lodging in the Same Chamber at Mr. *Locks* Tavern in *Lancaster*, picked his Baskets and carried away two Pocket Books -- but he has recovered them and the Thief is put into *Worcester* Jail.

1774 August 7 (Sunday). My Son *John*, who came from *Lancaster* last Eve, is with us.

1774 October 22 (Saturday). My Son *John* came last night from *Oxford*, but intends to go to *Lancaster* again.

1774 November 9 (Wednesday). *John* at Eve came from *Lancaster*.

1774 November 10 (Thursday). I have the Comfort of a Number of my Children and others with me, this Morning. But Mr. *Moore* and Cousen *Oliver* went to *Boston*. *John* and *Sophy* to *Lancaster*. Mr. *Lawrence* early to *Ashby*. Mr. *Cushing* after Dinner to *Shrewsbury*.

1774 November 16 (Wednesday). Though it was rainy yet *Breck* (who had been to *Lancaster* to wait on his sister *Sophy* there to work for *John*) returned from thence; and tells me that the Council which Mr. *Mellen* had called, could not get together yesterday, and embody, so soon, but that the Congregation of *Chauxitt* were together at their Meeting before them and Voted Mr. *Mellen's* Dismission.

1774 December 6 (Tuesday). *John Parkman* from *Lancaster* at Evening.

1774 December 7 (Wednesday). *John* returned to *Lancaster* a.m.

1775 January 18 (Wednesday). *Breck* returns -- *John* with him.

1775 January 25 (Wednesday). *John* went away early in the Morning for *Lancaster*.

1775 March 9 (Thursday). We hear from *Lancaster* by Mr. *Joseph White*, that my son *John* has been sick -- but walks about again.

1775 May 6 (Saturday). My son *John* came from *Lancaster*. Is an Invalid.

1775 May 11 (Thursday). *John* droops: is too poorly to go to Meeting.

1775 May 17 (Wednesday). By *Thomas's* Massachusetts Spy (which *John* returning from *Oxford* through *Worcester*, brings) we have an Account that *Ticonderogo* was lately taken out of the Hands of [the Regulars?], by *Connecticut* men.

1775 May 20 (Saturday). After long looking for Mr. *Loyd*, to day he came, and brought with him his Daughter *Nabby* (about 9 Years) and it makes my Family Somewhat numerous, to have the *Loyd* Addition (which are them Selves now Six) and *John* is still with us, drooping and almost unstrung.

1775 May 24 (Wednesday). *John* undertakes to ride to *Lancaster*; *Breck* to *Medford*.

1775 June 16 (Friday). My Son *John* first bleeds at the Nose; at night he *Spits Blood*; or rather Coughs up, in considerable quantities, *Blood*; and it holds him for some time; so that it was alarming to us! He has 4 or 5 turns of this by the Morning. We are greatly concerned for him.

1775 June 17 (Saturday). I went early to Dr. *Hawes* -- him we improve to relieve *John*, if under God he may.

1775 June 18 (Sunday). My son *John* was so weak and low that *Breck* went for Dr. *Willson*, who came, and Dr. *Hawes* consulted with him. Dr. *W.* dines here. We have asked public Prayers to Day; May it please God to hear and grant a gracious Answer!

1775 June 19 (Monday). My son *John* is very weak and low. The Lord be Gracious to him!

1775 June 20 (Tuesday). *Aaron* watched with *John* last night, and is blooded himself by Dr. *Hawes* this morning. *John* very weak and low.... *John* is very low. May a gracious God look upon him!

1775 June 21 (Wednesday). My Son *John* is poor and weak, but has not bled much to Day. Thanks be to God herefor!

1775 June 22 (Thursday). *John* had a little Respit, but is very low.

1775 June 23 (Friday). *John* has another turn of Spitting of Blood, a.m. and grows faint upon it, [and] his Feet and Leggs are Cold, and his Case is more and more hazzardous.

1775 June 24 (Saturday). All our Case is gloomy -- but *John* continues alive.

1775 June 25 (Sunday). *John* very low, but Slept quietly. Mr. *Beriah Ware* watched.... Mr. *Wilder* dined with us, and at Eve went home to *Lancaster* with Message to *Johns* Doctor, Dr. *Wilder* to come and See him.

1775 June 26 (Monday). Dr. *Wilder* from Lancaster visits *John*, who seems to be a little better. Thanks to God for it! The Doctors *Hawes* and *Wilder* confer together on my sons Case. May God give success thereto!

1775 June 27 (Tuesday). *John* has Slept well, last night, and for Several Nights, but is exceeding Weak and low: A Small Cough continually attends him also.

1775 June 28 (Wednesday). *Ripley* waits on my Daughters *Forbes* and *Baldwin* who are come from *Cape Ann* -- and they lodge here. We are again 19 in Family, a Number of which are infirm, viz. besides *John*, *Hannah* and *Ben* [?].

1775 June 29 (Thursday). My Son *Cushing* came; and he lodges here [*torn*] in Coming, was to see his mother *Cushing*, who has been ill for Some time: and to see his Brother *John Parkman*, who Still lies in a weak and low state.

1775 July 1 (Saturday). *John* is but weak and low; he fears he looses Ground.

1775 July 3 (Monday). P.M. Mrs. *Harrington* (Lieutenant *Samuels* Wife) made us a friendly Visit: especially on the account of *John*, in his low Condition.

1775 July 4 (Tuesday). Those that tend upon *John* don't need to Sit up through the Night, but lye by him, and rise two or three times in the night to hand him what he wants. Lt. *Baker* kindly here.

1775 July 6 (Thursday). At Eve I understood that *John* has had a poor afternoon -- was Sick, and restless.

1775 July 7 (Friday). *John* is somewhat revived again. *Hannah* is much out of Health: and we are at a loss what to do for her. Dr. *Hawes* being frequently here to See *John* takes Care of [her?].

[1775 July 8 (Saturday)?]. Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_s task heavy in tending the Sick etc. [*torn*] my Son *William* is greatly impressed with the [*torn*]oubles -- is affected with his Situation [*torn*]ewhat infirm in Body, especially in Mornings. Endeavour to support him. He returns home.

[1775 July 10 (Monday)?]. *John* is better, yet very weak. But *Hannah* is worse -- has the *Rash*, as the Doctors Judges.

### 1775 JULY 21: 22 YEARS OLD

1775 July 22 (Saturday). We were Surprized about 9 or 10 o'Clock a.m. with *Johns Bleeding* again. The Blood came up by a little Cough, as it did before. He was himself alarmed -- "must bid the world Adieu! " -- said he. Yet p.m. he was more comfortable insomuch that Mr. *Stone* coming to change with me, I ventured to leave him.

1775 July 23 (Sunday). I returned home after the Exercises, but to my Sorrow found that my dear *John* had bled a good deal about Midnight (or this Morning rather) and to a greater Degree than that lately and thus he did this Evening. May the Lord support him and prepare him for his holy will!

1775 July 24 (Monday). Mr. Pet. *Whitney* here, and his sister *Briggs*. He prays with [torn] *John* being very low.

1775 August 22 (Tuesday). *John* is low -- but able to converse. Thanks to God! *Breck* watches with *John*.... *John* has so great a purging [torn] him self to night.

of any yet. Purging has fol-

him all night. Attended the Funeral of *Asa Bel-*

Sorrowful Time. The Lord look upon us in

But prepare us for His holy Will!

is still alive, though it is wonderfull that he has had two

*Breck* and *Aaron*. *Breck* Bed

*Johns* Room, for the better Convenience of tending him

1775 August 27 (Sunday). *John* is much as he was. *Aaron* and *Sophy* have watched [with] him. He sometimes bleeds [out?] the Nose.... *John* is very faint and At Eve Seems as if he could not continue. Says he longs to die. I told him he had need have Assurance that it will go well with him. He answers that he had. I added, that he must know, [illegible] grand Conditions of the Covenant of Grace, Faith and Repentance. He replied, that he had. [St.?] *Maynard* kindly watches [again] [torn] *Parker* with him. We look for the awful Time of J[torn]

1775 August 28 (Monday). The Dispensations of God are wonderful. *John* is yet [torn] though he had no sleep last night. N.B. Last Evening c[torn] sons *Ebenezer* from New *Braintry* [Alexander?] [from?] to see poor *John* -- who is in the Valley of the Shadow of [torn] Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ who continually tends upon *John* [torn]. *Alexander* returns to Leicester.... *Ebenezer* [watch?]es with *John* who is yet worse.

1775 August 29 (Tuesday). *John* has [torn] yet [illegible] [torn] times as if [torn] newly wak'd. [torn]

1775 August 30 (Wednesday). [torn]

*John* is so bad at Night that it is doubtful whether he will live till Morning. *John Warrin* (son of Mr. Timothy) watches. Calls us up about 3 in the Morning.

1775 August 31 (Thursday). *John* can get no Rest -- wants to be moved often, but is less able to move himself -- worries through the Night.... *John's* Visage alters -- is apprehensive that Death is not far off. Says that in his sleep he saw an Angel of Light coming to him. I told him that no stress could be laid on these Things: but that he must rely only on Such Evidences as the [illegible] infallible word of God sets before us.

1775 September 1 (Friday). *John* was so low in the Night that I rose a little after 2 o'Clock this morning. Can do but little in my study as the Troubles of my Family increase, for *Breck* is also confined, and my Avocations and Interruptions by various means increased.... *Elijah Brigham* here also. The latter Stays and watches with *John*. N.B. *John* having got some Sleep, has been somewhat more Comfortable this afternoon, so that I read to him some part of *Scudders* daily walk. And in the Eve was better. Thanks to God.

1775 September 2 (Saturday). *John* has Slept sometimes; but 3 times has bled at the Nose.

1775 September 3 (Sunday). A very wet Day. Such had been the Avocations of the [torn] that I could [torn] forward my preparations [several lines torn].

*John* [torn].

1775 September 4 (Monday). *Nathaniel Chamberlain* has watched with *John*, who still continues at the very Gate of Death, yet is upheld.

1775 September 5 (Tuesday). *John* has had a worrying, restless night.... [torn] *Brigham* (who has lived here ever since last [blank]) watches with *John* to night.

1775 September [6?] (Wednesday). [torn] remains in the like low Condition, but sleeps somewhat [torn] in the late times.... My Son *John* h[torn] had [torn] Rest (as *Eli Harrington* that watched [torn]) but yet I think he looses Grou[torn] [weaker?] than ever I knew him [torn] quick, and attended with a trembl[torn] when he lifts them up [torn] I prayed. I took leave; and [borrowing?] [torn]

1775 September 8 (Friday). Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ watched with *John*, and rose at 4 in the Morning. He continually decays, yet lives. Who knows what God designs?... When I returned [found] *Bowen* and his wife, also Miss *Nancy Wilder*, here. [torn] *Bowen* takes a Saddle of my son *John's* Make. [Paid?] I suppose 10 Dollars.... *Moses Brigham* watches with *John*.

1775 September 9 (Saturday). *John*, though he seemed to the Watcher, to have had a tolerable Night, yet he had grievous Turns of Coughing; and he thought it is probable he should die in one of those Fitts of Coughing (but yet no bleeding for some time).... *John* so bad that not only *Stephen Maynard* but Mrs. P\_\_\_\_\_ also watches this night, it having been conceived that a little after noon he was struck with Death, was delirious and in [torn] Sweats.

1775 September 10 (Sunday). *John* lives

Preached a.m. on Ps. 43

the Cup which my F. hath given me to drink etc. to p. 10 with some part of Sermon on Mat. 26.39, viz. p. 13.14. Which O that I might suitably apply! I am now brought to the Tryal. Neighbour *Newton* comes to watch. *John ceased to breathe* at 10 Minutes past 10 o'Clock at night.<sup>3</sup> An End! behold, an End is come!

1775 September 11 (Monday). Neighbour *Newton* and his wife were here with the Corps through the last night, laying it out etc. We are preparing for the sorrowful work of burying. Mr. *Fisher* makes the Coffin, and Mr. *Thaddeus Warrin* undertakes to dig the Grave. I writ[torn] a Number of Letters to my Children. Mr. *Newton* carries Messages to *Brookfield*. Capt. *Maynard* to *Concord*.

1775 September 12 (Tuesday). [torn] drooping, and has a bad Cough. Fear what the Event may be.

1775 September 13 (Wednesday). [torn]ning attend the Funeral of Mrs. *Belknap* so far as to go to the [torn] pray there. My Son *Ebenezer* went with me. Mr. *Forbes* [torn] (having been to Dr. [Pope?] at *Mendon* about her Breast) came, as did *William* [torn] and Daughter *Lydia*. *Alexander*, his Wife and young Child -- *Samuel* with his [torn] -- Mr. *Whitney* came also and dined with us. Mr. *Stone* came [torn] before [the procession?]. The following young Men were Bearers [torn] *Uriah Brigham* [torn] *Thomas Stone*, *Benjamin* [Tainter?] junior, *Jonathan Fay*, *Samuel* [torn] and *Stephen Maynard*. Thus we go through the mournful work of [torn]ing our Dead. May God almighty Support and comfort us! And [torn] I be Ever mindful of and preparing for my own Decease! [torn] *Forbes* and his Wife and [illegible] [marginal notation: their sister *Baldwin*] But *Ebenezer* went to Deacon *Bonds*. B[torn] and his Wife and Daughter (though Evening) sat out for home. *Alexander* [torn] and Child left us for *Leicester*, and *Samuel* [illegible] greatly obliged to Capt. *Maynard* [illegible]

the and same which

his Wife also was exceeding kind in Coming, and not only taking her Aunts Care in the Kitchin upon her, but labouring [illegible] there -- (though there were Mrs. *Spring*, Mrs. *Hannah Warrin*, Mrs. *Mary Crosby*, and *Suse Brigham* (there) besides). When therefore I saw that her son, *Samuel Brigham*, was dropt from being a Bearer, I was surprized and grieved. My Daughter *Baldwin* tarrys with us.

1775 September 14 (Thursday). Mr. *Forbes*, his Wife and [illegible] left us and are going to *Cape Ann*. *Ebenezer* goes home. N.B. wrote by him to *Samuel Brigham* and Sent him the *Allens Alarm*,<sup>4</sup> which I had given my Son *John*.

1775 September 22 (Friday). *Breck* to *Lancaster* about *Johns* Affairs.

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<sup>3</sup>Death not recorded in the *Westborough Vital Records*.

<sup>4</sup>Joseph Alleine (1634-1668), *An Alarm to Unconverted Sinners* (Boston, 1703; Evans 39,390). There were at least eight subsequent editions before 1775.

1775 September 26 (Tuesday). *Johns* Chest was brought by Mr. *Phelps* from *Lancaster*.

1775 November 8 (Wednesday). This Day (but according to old stile the 28th of October), *one and fifty years ago*, the Church of Christ in *Westborough* was founded, and I, though unworthy, was ordained the Pastor. This I endeavoured to take a religious, grateful Notice of, a.m. *Thanking* and *praising* God for His great Goodness and longsuffering, *humbling* my self deeply before the Lord for my Great Defects and Miscarriages, and on Consideration of the holy Frowns of God upon me in the Course of the last year, Especially by the withdraw of my people's Affection from me, Religions dwindling and decaying, withholding from me Support, Wood etc. except the Slender sallary, granted in the beginning -- and the sore Displeasure of God in the Death of my dear son *John*: On Consideration also of the Public Calamitys -- Petitioning and Pleading *Pardon* through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ -- Resolving, by the Grace of God to endeavour after New-Obedience and [Faith?].

1776 September 10 (Tuesday). I desire to [*illegible*] the Wormwood and the Gall. This day 12 months my dear son *John* dyed. Am I in any [due proportion?] better?