

## Amsden: References in the Diary of Ebenezer Parkman

1724 October 6 (Tuesday). I had my Landlords Horse to Ride to Marlboroto See Mr. Breck. I acquainted him with our Management and with Mr. Rice 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. Here were Captain Willard of Sutton. Mr. Bailey of Lancaster and Mr. Wilder.

1726 February 14 (Monday). I rode to Marlborough to Mr. Brecks. We walk'd to Mr. Woods. I paid up my account with Mr. Woods. We went into Mr. Amsdens and Mr. Thomas came in.

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 April 28 (Thursday). I rode down to Marlborough and preach'd the Lecture from Acts 16.24. After Lecture I paid Colonel How £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.

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. Amsden yet I got to my Father Champneys whilst the Day light was visible.

1726 December 8 (Thursday). 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 Amsden I went in with him into his Father Behmans, and thence I came home with Mr. Amsden.

1727 August 15 (Tuesday). I went to see Mr. Amsden who was Sick and had desired praying for him.

1737 March 31 (Thursday). N.B. Mr. Abraham Amsden of Marlborough here to desire me to attend the Funeral of his Brother Thomas' only son, a youth near 21, and very hopeful, who died after a short illness of but a few Days. O that I and that the people of Westborough, at least some of them might be of that small Remnant which God has left of truly Godly Ones! and O that we might have Grace to Demean and to acquit ourselves as such; and that it might please God to keep off His Judgments that this Land may not be made as Sodom and like unto Gomorrah, but that the Divine Mercy might be afforded to us as we need it and that Glory may yet Dwell in our Land!

1737 April 1 (Friday). I rode down to Marlborough to the Funeral of Joseph Amsden's. Many youth present and seem to be affected. O that there might be abiding impression on their souls! and upon all of us. This is the second death in that near Neighbourhood of youth in Flower and Glory within a very little while. N.B. This Joseph Amsden was one of the Bearers of the other, scil, the young woman that Dyed at Deacon James Wood's on the 19th of last month. After Burial I returned to Captain Amsden's to afford him what consolation I could under his melancholy circumstances.

1736 September 22 (Wednesday). Called at Coll. *Wards* and Mr. Amsdens as I returned in the Evening.

1738 August 16 (Wednesday). Ebenezer rode with me to Marlborough to Captain Peter Rice's, to the widow How's who carry'd Ebenezer to Uncle Gott's (with Captain Amsden), to Mr. Phelp's, Mr. Peter Butlers, to Mr. Brown the whitesmith, Colonel Woods's, and to Dr. Gott's.

1738 August 23 (Wednesday). I rode to Marlborough, in Company Mr. Stone, Mr. Rogers (preacher at Marlborough) and Captain Amsden. Lodg'd at Dr. Gott's.

1739 April 28 (Saturday). Ebenezer Rode my Horse to Mr. Jacob Amsdens to have him kept there.

1739 May 7 (Monday). N.B. Sent for my Horse from Mr. Jacob Amsdens.

1739 August 21 (Tuesday). Stopp'd a while at Mr. Amsdens, at Mr. David Hows, at Mr. Cooks, at Dr. Robys, at Woolsons from where I had Captain Samuel Chandler's (of Woodstock) Company -- and at Mr. Benjamins at Waterton. Arriv'd at Father Champneys after Dark.

1739 September 19 (Wednesday). N.B. Neighbor Amsden brought in Father Champney who in his distraction had worry'd up o'Foot from Cambridge, having Set out the Day before, and layn out last night in the Cold and Frost.

1740 February 14 (Thursday). Captain Amsden burnt my Mares Mouth for (what is call'd) the Lampers.

1740 April 2 (Wednesday). I rode down the road with Mrs. Edwards as far as Mr. Ebenezer Newtons of Southborough hithermost Corner -- and returning I visited Sarah Bradish at Mr. Amsdens, Thomas Bruce's wife, Abijah Bruce, Abigail Bruce, who were sick and Suse Rogers who is yet alive.

1740 June 13 (Friday). Mr. Wigglesworth's Horse and my Mare got out of the pasture and had got down to Mr. Jacob Amsdens before sun rise. His young Man brought 'em back to us.

1740 October 2 (Thursday). I rode to the Fast at Hopkinton which was on account of the Throat Distemper. I pray'd and preach'd A.M. on 1 Pet. 5.6 and at noon I rode to Marlborough to the

Funeral of my worthy Friend Colonel Benjamin Woods. There were Mr. Swift, Loring, Cushing, Stone, Rice (of Sturbridge). Mr. Swift pray'd. Colonel William Ward, Major Keyes, Captain Amsden, Samuel Brigham Esquire, Captain Williams and Captain Barnard were the Bearers.

1740 December 31 (Wednesday). Colonel Ward there at Evening. Had his Company as far as his House, where I call'd; as I did also at Mr. Jacob Amsdens, it being exceeding Cold.

1742 February 26 (Friday). My son Thomas went to Mr. Johnsons Mill and by his being belated he got no farther back than Mr. Amsdens and lodged there. We not knowing what had befallen him sent Mr. Smith (a Taylor) and Thomas Winchester for him: but they returned without him. We reposed in Gods Providence.

1742 February 27 (Saturday). Thomme returned and gave us account of his ill Success in returning, but Mr. Amsdens kindness in entertaining him.

1742 July 25 (Sunday). N.B. Mr. Jacob Amsdens wife came to Meeting, who has never been at the public Worship till now ever since I was first in this Town.

1745 July 2 (Tuesday). My Wife rode with me as far as Mr. Amsdens, whom I obtain'd to carry her (and her child) to Marlborough to see Sister Breck who was extreme urgent to have her be with her in her affliction and Confinement.

1745 September 13 (Friday). P.M. went to Mr. Ebenezer Johnsons of Southborough to see his wife who was very sick and low, and Mr. Stone at Harwich was at Mr. Jacob Amsdens as I return'd home.

1746 February 26 (Wednesday). Preach'd at Southborough Preparatory Lecture on Rom. 6.13. Return'd at Eve. N.B. was in at Mr. Jacob Amsdens going and returning. Had a Mess of his boisterous windy Talk against -- and manifesting dissatisfaction with me for my preaching and praying so much about the Spirit.

1746 April 14 (Monday). Isaac Amsden sues William Rogers junior before Nahum Ward Esquire.

1746 July 29 (Tuesday). At Eve was at Mr. Amsdens to get Reapers.

1746 August 1 (Friday). Isaac Amsden and Jonathan Devereux (the latter Sent by Captain Maynard) reap'd A.M. but the Rain came upon them and beat them off for this Day.

1746 August 11 (Monday). Ebenezer to the Meadow -- Thomme at Home. Rode to Mr. Cooks, Captain Warrins, and then visited Mr. Amsdens Family, So marvellously preserv'd last Saturday in Time of most awful Thunder and Lightning. The Effect very noticeable -- a Furrow in the Ground of 30 feet -- the Boards of their Bee House Shiver'd and plough'd -- one Hive Split -- Two of the Posts of the Bee House Splitt also -- one of them from Top to Bottom etc. May God

sanctifie his providence to them! May we all Truly Fear this Great Omnipotent Being and be ever ready for His Will.

1746 December 3 (Wednesday). As I return'd home visited Mr. Jacob Amsden who has been very ill, and still confin'd.

1747 April 27 (Monday). I proceeded to Mr. Joseph Tainters at Marlborough and at Colonel Williams -- call'd also at Mr. Amsdens at Westborough.

1748 March 14 (Monday). I was somewhat late in the morning before I set out upon my journey. Called at Captain Warrins to meet Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlin, the collector. Was also hindered a little at Mr. Jacob Amsden's.

1748 May 7 (Saturday). Isaac Amsdens Child dy'd in bed with them Suddenly last night.

1748 May 8 (Sunday). Gave public Notice of the Funeral of Isaac Amsdens Child to be tomorrow morning 8 o'clock. N.B. I wrote to Mr. Martyn at noon, and sent it this Eve after meeting by Mr. James Ball to let him know of this Funeral -- we having agreed to go tomorrow morning over to Lancaster to see Mrs. Wheeler before she dyes; but now I may not hinder his going, though I be prevented myself by the Funeral aforesaid (Though I fear whether some Evil mayn't come of it, that I have written upon the Lords Day.)

1748 May 9 (Monday). Funeral of Isaac Amsdens Child at 8 A.M.

1748 June 22 (Wednesday). Catechetical Exercise on the Third Commandment. After the Exercise I went to Mr. Amsdens to the raising of his New House. My Wife not well and therefore could not go with me.

1748 June 23 (Thursday). P.M. marry'd Abijah Gale to Abigail Amsden. N.B. Mr. Amsden and Mr. Gale present, with many young people. Mr. Amsden excepted against that passage in the marriage Covenant, Obey him. This was clear'd up from Eph. 5.24.

1748 August 15 (Monday). Call'd at Mr. Amsdens. Proceeded to Marlborough to Mr. Williams and got my Saddle pad new stuff'd in and in other respects Mended -- which he did gratis. He told me of Thomme's being out too late some nights, complain'd of his being too much acquainted at Uriah Amsdens. He said something of throwing up the Indentures -- but that went over. Call'd at Dr. Gotts. Mr. Smith gone to Cape Ann. Call'd at Lieutenant Beemans who is sick. My Neighbour Jacob Amsden with me there -- but he left me and went back to the Doctors having forgot something. This disappointed me of an opportunity I intended to make of free Discourse with him.

1748 September 12 (Monday). I rode down to see Mrs. Amsden who is Sick.

1748 September 13 (Tuesday). While we were at the House of Mourning Message from Mrs. Amsden that she was near her End. After prayer and the Corps moving out to go to the Grave I went down to Mr. Amsdens -- and pray'd there she being exceeding low.

1748 September 14 (Wednesday). Mr. Batheric came to work but was soon call'd off to make a Coffin for Mrs. Amsden.

1748 September 15 (Thursday). In returning I attended upon Mrs. Amsden Funeral.

1748 December 5 (Monday). I both breakfasted and din'd at Mr. Martyns -- for after I had taken leave I was met and detain'd on the Road by Captain Amsden....

1749 January 10 (Tuesday). P.M. came Mr. Joseph Williams from Marlborough in a Disquietment about Thomas -- in Special his being at Uriah Amsdens (where he had contracted acquaintance by means of the womans being a Westborough woman) after he had forbid him. And nothing would Satisfie with him or Thomas but throwing up the Indentures, which after much Debate therefore We did. Thomas acknowledging his Fault in using Amsdens House against his (his masters) will: and his not coming home from Horns of Southborough (at the Time of the late trooping there) along with Silas (his fellow 'prentice) but riding home with Said Amsden -- and some other Indiscretions -- and Williams acknowledged he had not done well in speaking to Thomme's Disparagement undervaluing his Time, and was sorry that in his passion he should Express himself So. This is a New Affliction, but tis unavoidable. I desire to acknowledge the hand of God in it, and Submitt to His holy will. O that God would grant Repentence and forgiveness for what has been amiss!

1749 February 13 (Monday). This was the Sorrowful Day of the Funeral of Mrs. Judith Stone, the amiable and lovely Spouse of my Brother Stone of Southborough.... The carrying Bearers were Justice Liscomb and Deacon Amsden, Deacon Woods and Captain Brigham.

1749 December 26 (Tuesday). My wife and I rode in the Slay to visit a Number of Neighbours, viz. Captain Forbush, Old Mrs. Forbush, Lieutenant Bruce, Mr. Amsden, where we din'd -- My little Alexander being with us. Then we proceeded to Elisha Wards and return'd by Isaac Amsdens.

1750 April 19 (Thursday). I rode down to Mr. Amsdens to get his son in law Abijah Gale to go into the Ministerial Lott and cut Timber for my intended House. He consents and I procure Neighbour John Rogers to go with him.

1750 April 25 (Wednesday). Was at old Mr. Johnsons and at Mr. Amsdens and took particular Demensions of the Timber for my House, of Abijah Gale whom I employ'd to undertake my Frame.

1750 September 10 (Monday). Was at Mr. Amsdens at Eve to get Mr. Gale to come to Work for me in Covering my House, which he consented, at length, to, if he could hire any man to Work for him in his Husbandry.

1750 December 5 (Wednesday). P.M. I rode to Mr. Amsdens to make him a Visit since the Death of his two Brethren, Beemans, and to see his son Abijah Gale who has been Sick.

1751 April 10 (Wednesday). I rode with Mr. Holbrook of Grafton to Mr. Amsdens -- and discours'd with each of the Gales and their wives concerning their making a profession of Religion.

1751 May 1 (Wednesday). In returning at Evening call'd at Mr. Amsdens, his Daughter Abigail brought to bed before her Expected Time. N.B. Mr. Amsdens indecent Discourse and Conduct.

1751 June 1 (Saturday). Was again refresh'd at Mr. Jonathan Strattons in Marlborough. Before I got up to Amsdens it rain'd hard -- stop'd a great while in the Storm at Mr. Amsdens -- before dark set out again, but the rain pour'd down so violently I was oblig'd to turn in to Lieutenant Bruce's -- Pray'd with them, lay'd down and Slep'd. At 11 o'Clock attempted to ride Home -- and arriv'd in Safety. Blessed be God!

1751 October 16 (Wednesday). N.B. Mr. Amsden came to see us.

1751 October 28 (Monday). P.M. visited Mr. Jacob Amsden sick of a Fever.

1751 October 29 (Tuesday). Rode Mr. Williams's Horse to visit Mr. Amsden again; Mr. Rogers etc.

1751 November 11 (Monday). In my return home, call'd to see Mr. Amsden. John Woods return'd to work here p.m.

1752 February 12 (Wednesday). P.M. In returning home called at Mr. Jacob Amsdens....

1752 March 4 (Wednesday). I return'd [from Southborough] (in the Rain) at Eve. Call'd at Mr. Amsdens.

1752 December 25 (Monday). I rode to Mr. Amsdens to Mr. Thaddeus Gale's son Jacob who lies Sick. N.B. Dr. Robinson of Marlborough there. Din'd with him at Mr. Amsdens Table. N.B. Instead of Resentments with Mr. Gale, who has been of a long Time represented by Mr. Grow as offended Mr. Gale came to me and thank'd me for my Visit etc. and then presented me with a double Toasting Iron requesting I would come again and See them.

1754 February 13 (Wednesday). As we return'd at Eve [from a fast in Marlborough] in the Cold, we visited Mr. Jacob Amsden, who Seems to have met with a great deal of Trouble and Affliction which may God Sanctifie to him for his Spiritual and Eternal Good!

1754 March 19 (Tuesday). Din'd at Mr. Amsdens. Mr. Abijah Gale gives me Dimensions for a Leanto.

1754 June 5 (Wednesday). N.B. Inform'd concerning Brother Abijah Gales Conduct towards Mr. Isaac Amsdens wife; and desire he would stay from the Communion till the Cause can be heard.

1754 August 13 (Tuesday). When I return'd at Eve Mrs. Hephzibah Maynard here. Desires me to try what I can do to reconcile Abijah Gale and Isaac Amsden.

1754 August 14 (Wednesday). I visited Ensign Mathis of Southborough and came home by Isaac Amsdens, Esquire Liscombs, and Mr. Abijah Gales, calling at those places; and endeavouring what I could a Reconciliation.

1754 September 18 (Wednesday). I attended Court.... P.M. came on the Cause, upon which I was Summon'd, viz. of Isaac Amsden plaintiff against Abijah Gale Defendant; for that the Said Abijah assaulted the Plaintiffs Wife, attempted to discover her Nakedness and to have Carnal Knowledge of her Body -- I was put under solemn Adjuration and was ask'd what I knew of the Cause Depending and especially Whether I had met with anything from Mrs. Amsden that was contrary to the Oath which She had taken? My answer was to this Effect -- That it was Surprizing to me to be summon'd, having had no Knowledge of the Case, till of late, Sometime Since the Prosecution or Complaint before Mr. Justice Liscomb that I know now no otherwise than by Report and Conversation as any other Neighbours might do. That from what was Said to me at my summoning I had no reason to Suppose any thing would be desir'd of me at this Court more than to be present to hear the Cause (being Mr. Gale's Pastor) and to give my Testimony of him which I could freely do, and did so, viz. that for any Thing I had ever known of him he was of unblemish'd Reputation till this Affair: and I might Say much the Same of Mrs. Amsden who was brought up in my near Neighborhood, and was of good Character among us. This Answer of mine was upon Colonel Brattle's interrogating me as upon Oath whether I knew anything of this Cause, or had heard this Woman Say any Thing different from what She had now Sworn? And this was also urg'd by the Chief Justice Sewal; to which therefore I further reply'd that I had indeed made Mrs. Amsden a visit and did put Some Questions to her, but I was not prepar'd to Say what her answers to me at that Time were: and that I could not think it fit or just for me to utter what was so brokenly and imperfectly remember'd -- So that I was not ripe to Say any thing of the Particular Expressions She us'd. When the Judge ask'd me whether I remembered that it was Opposite, or Contrary to her Oath? I answer'd that as I remember'd it was what did not carry the Matter so far as the Complaint She has made upon Oath -- but I was not Ripe for offering any More of it. The Colonel chew'd upon that that I said I was not ripe -- that I ought to say what 'twas -- but I told him I would not be impos'd upon. For I conceiv'd it wrong to utter what was So unshapen in my Mind -- and I said I perceiv'd that Mrs. Amsden at the Time of my Discourse with her was in such a Surprize and flutter that I did not know whether what She had answer'd was her real Mind -- and She was So uneasy at my putting these sorts of Questions to her that I thought it best not to proceed, and therefore desisted -- so that I conceiv'd it unjust for me to declare what I apprehended She did, under these

Circumstances, Say. The Jurys Verdict came in against Gale; for it appear'd there was an Assault.

1754 September 19 (Thursday). N.B. Talk'd with Mr. Isaac Amsdens Wife about what she said to me at their House etc. See loose papers.

1754 September 28 (Saturday). Mr. Isaac Amsden of Southborough here to ask me whether I had not talk'd with Ezra Taylor about what his Wife Said to me at Major Howards on the 19th. I told him what it was and that I wrote it down that same Eve, and with all that I was ready to shew it [to] him, but he answer'd that twas no matter, or to that purpose.

1755 April 1 (Tuesday). News that the Burning last night was Captain Thomas Amsden's House in Marlborough. Suspected to be by his son in Law Dr. Robinson.

1755 May 24 (Saturday). N.B. old Mr. Graves, Deacon Amsden and Deacon Woods desir'd me to preach at Southborough tomorrow, Seeing Mr. Forbush would preach for me, and Mr. Stone was gone to Hardwick.

1755 December 22 (Monday). At Mr. Amsdens, Bruce's -- Bathericks.

1756 March 17 (Wednesday). N.B. Mr. Jacob Amsden taken sick of a Fever. I called to see him.

1756 March 24 (Wednesday). Visited *Jabez Snow*, sick -- and Mr. *Amsden*, still Sick. There I dined.

1756 June 28 (Monday). Mr. *Jacob Amsden* made me a seasonable visit (particularly considering what he brought). It is the glorious God who over rules every thing in His holy Providence.

1756 December 28 (Tuesday). When I left them I visited the Widow *Gale*. Was at Mr. Abijah *Gale's*. N.B. Capt. *Thomas Amsden* there.

1757 December 2 (Friday). Mr. Amsden came for me -- Mr. Smith at Boston -- to go to Marlborough to the Funeral of Dr. Robinsons son Thomas-Amsden, a Boy of about 9 or 10. Returned at Eve. I can't but take Notice of the Providences which take me off from my preparations for the pulpit.

1758 November 22 (Wednesday). Mr. *Amsden* came and presented a young Turkey to roast tomorrow: he having fatted it on purpose for me. May God grant him the Grace of seriousness!

1759 April 9 (Monday). Called at Mr. *Amsdens* to discharge my Duty to him respecting his Drinking and in particular laid to him his bad Condition on the Thanksgiving Day -- Not having had Opportunity to Speak to him of that till now. May God Sett home and prosper the Admonition!



1760 May 12 (Monday). P.M. I visited Mr. Jacob Amsden and Lt. Bruce.

1765 January 22 (Tuesday). I rode to Marlborough.... Called at Mr. Amsden's as I came home.

1766 February 16 (Sunday). Called to visit old Mr. *Amsden* who is ill and weak.

1766 February 26 (Wednesday). P.M. I rode to Mr. *Amsden*, and found him in a Wasting state. I conducted my Discourse with as much plainness, faithfulness and pungency as I could. May the divine Blessing attend it!

1766 April 16 (Wednesday). Visit at Edmund Brighams, William Woods -- and Mr. Amsdens, where I dined.

1766 April 26 (Saturday). P.M. Mr. *Stone* comes and I go to Southborough on Mr. Nurse's Horse. In the Way go in to Mr. Amsden who is low. Talk plainly to him. Pray with him.

1766 April 27 (Sunday). Preach'd at *Southborough* a. and P.M. on 2 Cor. 4.18. At Eve in returning visit Mr. Amsden and pray with him.

1766 May 2 (Friday). Am Sent for to visit Mr. Amsden. Am obliged to ride Mr. Fosters Horse mine being in his Service to go a large Journey to Thompson. At Mr. *Amsdens* Neighbour *Timothy Warrin* who (upon Occasion of Mr. Gale's saying that Mr. *Amsden* had not been well affected to me, though he never knew the Cause of it) had some thing to Say about Mrs. *Andrews*, which I replied to as Time and Circumstances would allow. Prayed and conversed with him and them; but he could hardly Speak. Mr. Andrews and his Wife came at length: But nothing besides greeting passed.

1766 May 6 (Tuesday). My Wife and I attended the Funeral of Mr. *Jacob Amsden* who has just completed his 77th Year.

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).

1768 September 21 (Wednesday). I visit Capt. Maynards Family, his sons Wife, Mrs. *Amsden*, and *Solomon* Maynard being sick.

1769 December 17 (Sunday). Mrs. Mary *Amsden*, widow, dined with us.

1773 March 8 (Monday). N.B. In returning, I visited the widow *Gale* and son *Amsden*.

1776 March 26 (Tuesday). I visited Mrs. *Amsden*, [*blot?*] and prayed with her. I dined there (at Capt. *Maynards*).

1776 April 10 (Wednesday). Visit Mr. Abijah Gales Sick Child, *Elisha*, which languishes. Prayed with them and dined there. Visit the widow Gale, and her son *Amsden Gale*.

1776 April 16 (Tuesday). In returning home I called at Capt. *Maynards* to see Mrs. *Amsden*, but She was so weak She could say nothing to me. I prayed with her.

1776 May 1 (Wednesday). I called at *Capt. Maynards* to see Mrs. *Amsden* -- but though I Spoke to her, She could not one word to me, nor could I turn her face to see me.

1776 May 19 (Sunday). N.B. At Eve called to see Mrs. *Amsden* at Capt. *Maynards* but she could not speak to me.

1776 October 3 (Thursday). Stopped at the widows *Gale* in *Westborough* by reason of *Amsden Gales* Death in the Army.