

## Hats and Hatters

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

1738 July 7 (Friday). Stop'd again at Mr. Benjamin Eaton's Hatter in Roxbury.

1738 December 8 (Friday). Finish'd the Indentures and binding of John. Was at Colonel Goffs for my Hatt.

1739 May 29 (Tuesday). N.B. Mr. Samuel Liscomb of Southborough this afternoon inform'd me that Jacob Johnson and Daniel Taylor of Southborough each of about 22 or 23 years were lost at the Pond in Westborough which is the Head of the Sudbury River, and it was concluded they were drowned. Their Horses, Shooes and Stockings were found by the Pond, their Canoo, Hatts and Cranberrys floating but their Bodys not found, this Morning at 8 o'Clock.

1742 November 27 (Saturday). One *Ben Amos* an Hatter from Hartford here, whom I sat to work to dress my Hatts. Stormy Night.

1746 January 7 (Tuesday). Sent 5 Musk Squash Skins to Mr. Eaton, Hatter at Boston, by Noah How.

1746 September 9 (Tuesday). N.B. Dr. Smith there, their Daughter Betty being ill. He brought Ebenezers Hatt from Mr. Cushings.

1747 April 12 (Sunday). Sacrament Day, yet this Morning just as I was going out to Meeting (with my Hat in my Hand), comes Levi Brigham with his and his wife's Relations which must be look'd over etc.

1747 September 2 (Wednesday). P.M. Dr. Colman was bury'd. When such pillars fall, how the Whole Fabric Trembles! Help Lord! What threatening aspects! A vast procession at the Funeral! Twas observ'd that 66 Couple being the Males of the Church and the Colleague pastor in deep mourning before the Corps: Six senior pastors Pall Bearers with Hat bands down: 100 Couple of mourners and men -- among the Latter, the Council, a great number of ministers -- 4 Episcopal, among which Mr. Hooper lately from England -- 46 Couple of women. 4 Coaches in the first of

which the Governor. 8 four wheel Chaises and 7 Common. May the God of the Spirits of all Flesh grant double portions of His Spirit and quicken all surviving ministers to the work the Works etc.!

1748 May 26 (Thursday). Bought Brother Alexanders Hatt for 8£ Old Tenor.

1748 May 27 (Friday). Bought my Brothers Hatt for 8£ Old Tenor and they presented me with my Fathers Cane, of Whales Tooth.

1748 July 8 (Friday). Very early went over to my Brother. Had a good Morning with him. And visited also his son John. Hasten'd to Dr. Colmans to pay for my Books. My Kinsman Harsey help'd me move them to his House. Din'd at Mr. Cowells. Mounted from Mr. Olivers, who and his Spouse were very generous and bountiful in Special by a very handsome Hatt for my Alexander as well as Pickled Oysters, Mackrell, fine Biskitt for my wife. I sett out between 3 and 4 o'Clock.

1749 May 30 (Tuesday). Mr. Sweetzer has made me a new dark brown Wigg. Besides the Hair I provided, it cost me £4.14.0, and Mr. Eaton a Bever Hatt, 12£.

1749 December 7 (Thursday). Sent Billy to Mr. Billings, who last night took a wrong Hat.

1752 March 2 (Monday). Town Meeting. I was at Captain Maynard's a.m. but returned seasonably to pray with the freeholders at their assembly. Captain Forbush and Mr. Grout were their messengers. A great deal of company at my house all p.m. and Eve -- among the rest Mr. Joshua Townsend -- who was extremely full of Talk, and unmannerly with his Hatt, which since he us'd to be our Schoolmaster I took the more Notice of and as decently as I could, hinted to him.

1752 December 26 (Tuesday). At Eve Ebenezer here and brings me an Hat which he brought from Mr. Doolittle's.

1757 February 7 (Monday). Sent by Daniel Nurse to Mr. William *Boardman* for an Hatt for *Billy*.

1757 March 1 (Tuesday). My Wife rides to Marlborough to get a Pair of New Stays made by Miss Nanny Woods; and buy Billy a Castor Hatt.

1758 September 10 (Sunday). N.B. in the forenoon, having forgot Mrs. Millers Relation and the Covenant I took my Hatt, while the Congregation were singing, came home and got them and returned before they had done.

1758 November 3 (Friday). I stopped at Mr. Abiel *George Hatter* in Roxbury; took and paid for 2 Felt Hatts for my little Boys.

1759 December 3 (Monday). N.B. I delivered my Hatt to Capt. Wood to keep and safely deliver to me again -- but somebody took it away and I wore Capt. Woods Home.

1759 December 12 (Wednesday). P.M. [*blank*] Batchellour comes and brings my Hatt that was taken away from Capt. Woods on the 3d and he informs me it was Mr. Robert Taft of Upton who undesignedly took it away, and did not mind that he had Such an Hatt till the next sabbath.

1760 February 6 (Wednesday). N.B. Delivered Mr. Forb. 2 Dollars on the 29th last, for my Son Ebenezer on Account of an Hat which Mr. Forb. bought for him.

1764 October 8 (Monday). My Kinsman goes to Capt. Maynards and brings from thence a Beaver Hat, which I consented to give a Guinea for, on Mr. Moses Nurse's Account.

1765 May 30 (Thursday). Meet Mr. *Stone*, who goes with me to Capt. Smith's -- Haberdasher -- where I bought a second hand Bever Hat, for 4£ old Tenor.

1765 June 1 (Saturday). Left my Beaver Hat (for which I gave a Guinea to Capt. Maynard, Some time agoe) with *Alexander* and took what I had bought for him, home with me.

1766 February 14 (Friday). Mr. Biglow, to whom I gave Order to Collector Tainter, for all my Debt to him and for a Dollar for Neighbour Pratt who says he has lost a Note which I gave him to Mr. Gale, for an Hat I bought of him.

1766 May 30 (Friday). Have bought me a New Beaver Hatt at Mr. Boardmans. Cost 5 Dollars.

1768 June 12 (Sunday). Had a Contribution for Mr. Joseph Sherman. And because of its being Such a snare to Send an Hat along the Gallery seats among the Boys (which have not behaved well at such a Time), I thought it best to alter our Custom and recommended to them to walk down and go round as formerly was the Custom of this People and all others that I knew of. But there were only a few that Complied; and doubtless the Contribution was the more Slender on that Account. I had said also to the Congregation that I was informed that some had been so indecent to put in what they Should not; and there was reason to fear some had taken *out*.

1769 November 18 (Saturday). P.M. Rode to Southborough -- to Capt. Wards. Bought of him 2 1/2 yards Half Thick, for Pillion Cloth and 2 1/2 Tow Cloth, half a piece of Quality -- and a felt Hat for *Elias*. Mr. Stone to Westborough.

1770 July 4 (Wednesday). Mr. Joel Brooks brought me a New Hat from Mr. *Nathaniel Balch* of Boston.

1770 August 30 (Thursday). At Eve Sent by Mr. Francis Whipple, to Mr. *Nathaniel Balch*, Hatter in Boston, 5 Dollars.

1773 November 24 (Wednesday). Much engaged -- but one *Robert Rose*, an Hatter, here, interrupts me with his work.

1774 September 7 (Wednesday). *Breck* gives me account that yesterday there assembled at *Worcester* 4722 Persons who were in arrangements under their particular Heads, leading each

Town, but without Arms: Those Heads treated with the Judges and other Officers of the Court. The Court House was filled with Committees of Correspondence from each Town; and the Door fastened and guarded. The court walked from *Haywards* Tavern to the Court House between the Ranks, with their Hatts off; and then back; a Paper being Read, Signifying that they would *Endeavor* etc. -- but this not Satisfying, another was drawn, and Read Promising *that they would not Sit* etc. in *that* or any other Court -- under the new Regulation by the late Acts of Parliament. I dont understand that there was any Disorder.

1776 October 26 (Saturday). N.B. wrote from thence to Mr. *Goss* of the next Ministers Meeting to be at his House -- and came to Mr. *Barny Baily*s -- Mr. *Jotham Maynards* and delivered him the 40/ L.M. which I had of Capt. *Maynard* and made a memorandum of it on the Brim of my Hat.

1778 October 26 (Monday). Mr. *Eleazer Bradshaw* the Hatter, dines here.

1780 February 3 (Thursday). N.B. Breck to Boston -- gave him 126 Dollars towards an Hatt for Elias.

1782 May 9 (Thursday). Mr. *Merriam* of *Ashburnham* (Hatter) here, and dines with us.

1782 May 22 (Wednesday). Mr. Samuel Noyce carries my Hatt to Watertown.