

*The Diary of Ebenezer Parkman*  
1729-1738

EDITED BY FRANCIS G. WALETT

A P R I L 1729<sup>1</sup>

15. About five months agoe I set down some account of the more remarkable Mercies of God to Me in the Course of His Providence in and Since that my memorable dangerous Sickness when I was a Young School Boy; Having made Some (though I confess very imperfect) Record of what went before, in a little Book bearing Date August 24, 1719, and Several other Dates from thence, but in a great deal of Confusion, and with too many other marks of my puerility, when I Scribbl'd them however honest and upright my intention was to have Some Remembrances of those (to me) important Things by me; Having of late experienc'd So much of the divine Goodness as gives me new and the greatest Reason forever to esteem and admire the various Expressions thereof to me, and every way to manifest my greatfull Returns to my unspeakable Benefactor for what He has, in infinite Tenderness done for Me, I have here transcrib'd a Sort of Catalogue or Memorandum of those abovesaid Mercies to God to Me, have carry'd it along with what I have received Since.

#### Divine Benignity and Providence

1. Recovery from a very Dangerous Fit of Sickness, and of near, if not altogether 4 Months Continuance, at the Time of the Meazles raging in this Country. I was taken in October—had a Fever, then the Meazles—then languished as aforesaid. But the Lord was gracious and redeemed my Life from Destruction.
2. My being Sent, and my admission into, Harvard College, in the Year 1717. Examin'd July 8, admitted July 11, and went up to dwell at Cambridge August 13. Under Mr. Leveret,<sup>2</sup> president, and Mr. Robie,<sup>3</sup> my Tutor.
3. The good measure of Health, and the Prosperity enjoy'd while I liv'd at College.
4. The Honours of Bachelor of Arts, conferr'd in the Year 1721, July 5.

<sup>1</sup> All of the material for April 1729 is found in the *Natalitia*.

<sup>2</sup> John Leverett (Harvard 1680).

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Robie (Harvard 1708).

5. What acceptance I met with (the Same year) in my keeping School at Newton, and Preservation from the Infection of the Small Pox, by which many of my Friends were remov'd into the Eternal World.

6. My Brother Elias's<sup>4</sup> Kindness and Bounty when he took me to Board in His House and allow'd good and pleasant accomodations there, in April 7th, 1722 and continuing the same for Near a Year and half, that is, till my more frequently going into the Country to preach, which was July 27, 1723 at Hopkington (or rather August 2 at Worcester) more occasionally, and afterwards (August 21) at Westborough more constantly, during the latter part of which Time, I did also reside at Times at Cambridge, where I kept a Chamber with Mr. Edward Hunting.<sup>5</sup> Indeed from the time of my first preaching at Wrentham (which was April 14, 1723) or before I was not constantly at Boston, but divided a part of my Time at Cambridge. Nevertheless I account that near a year and half I was at my Brothers, because thither I went as to my home when I was at Boston and kept my Library, etc. there, and had a Chamber Study and entertainment occasionally there, for the Space of Two years I suppose.

7. My admission into the New North Church and the assistance in my preparation therefor, March 31, 1723.

8. The Assistance God was pleased to grant me, and what Acceptance I (undeservedly) met with in my Preaching, which began first of all (as abovesaid) at Wrentham, April 14, 1723. My Text was 1 Cor. 3, 11. "Other Foundation can no man lay."

9. The Honour of a Second Degree at Harvard College, viz. of Master of Arts, conferr'd July 1, 1724.

10. The Blessing afforded me by my Marriage July 7, 1724 to Miss Mary Champney, Dauter of Mr. Samuel Champney at Cambridge, at which the Reverend Mr. Appleton,<sup>6</sup> with gracefull Solemnity officiated. And here I would Bless God for his wondrous Grace in restraining me from the Sin of Fornication,

<sup>4</sup> Elias Parkman of Boston.

<sup>5</sup> Edward Hunting (Harvard 1725). *Sibley*, VII, 542-543.

<sup>6</sup> Reverend Nathaniel Appleton.

and carrying me through so many Temptations as Those pass'd in the Time of Courtship.

11. The Distinguishing Honours, and gracious Presence of God, at my Ordination, October 28th in the same year 1724. N.B. The Reverend Mr. Dorr<sup>7</sup> open'd the solemnity with prayer. The Reverend Mr. Prentice<sup>8</sup> preach'd on 2 Cor. 2, 16. Reverend Mr. William Williams of Weston pray'd and gather'd the Church. Mr. Prentice gave the charge. Reverend Mr. Loring<sup>9</sup> of Sudbury the Right Hand. Sung Ps. 69, 17 to 21.

12. Recovery from the illness that debarr'd Me the public Exercises, immediately after my ordination, Two Dayes of Service.

13. I look upon those Kindnesses receiv'd from my Westborough Neibours, as the Favours of Providence to me and my Family, and do return Thanks to God for them.

14. Gods appearing for my Wife in her hour of Peril and giving us a Dauter (which was Mary) September 14, 1725.

15. Three weeks after her lying in my wife had a very Sore Breast, which broke twice, and brought us into a great Affliction. I would thankfully remember the Deliverance out of that Grievous Trouble.

16. My Fathers recovery out of dangerous Sickness in January 1725/6, I would always number amongst Gods mercies to Me, and particularly because I then look'd upon my Self very unprepar'd to entertain his Death, as I ought.

17. My Wife's Restoration and Recovery from her great pains and illness (Laps-uteri) July 1726, under the Care of the Reverend Mr. Barrett<sup>10</sup> and Mrs. Whitcomb. This is to be remembered as a Special appearance of God for us.

18. The Lords Compassion in healing My Dauter when very ill. July 3, 1727, is to be observ'd by Me.

19. Deliverance to my Wife when in Travel [sic] the Second

<sup>7</sup> Joseph Dorr of Mendon.

<sup>8</sup> John Prentice of Lancaster.

<sup>9</sup> Israel Loring.

<sup>10</sup> Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

Time, and giving me a Son, August 20, 1727. This I call'd Ebenezer, Saying with Gratitude Hitherto hath the Lord helped.

20. I would record the Salvation vouchsaf'd us in the Time of the uncommon Thunder, Lightning and Wind in this Month, August (1727).

21. Still greater and more memorable Salvations in the Great Earthquake, and I would that more Special Notice be taken of it because I would lay those Threatenings in Divine Providence, with the awakenings of His word publicly delivered the Day before; which compleating the Third year Since the gathering our Church and my own ordination, I preach'd on Luke 13, 7.

22. The Goodness of God to me in the time of uneasiness touching Mr. Josiah Newton and preventing Divisions among us. April 4, 1728.

23. Recovery of my Son out of Sickness which he Labour'd of in the Months of September and October, of this Year 1728.

24. My Recovery from my Ague in November, Seizing Me the 7th at Night and continuing to the 15th a great part of the time in much Extremity.

25. Healing my Son in December in the Same Year.

26. I would put into this Account the Favour of my Library, So much larger than (considering my Circumstances) I might have expected it to be, Though I would humbly wait for the Divine Goodness in further Additions to it still, but especially beg for Grace to improve it to the Glory of God.

27. I would reckon also the Comforts pour'd on in from my Farms. But I pray God to preserve me from Worldly mindedness and Covetousness which may prove to the Detriment of my Spirituall State, and to my Studies and Ministrations. And thereby not a little to the Dishonor of God, and the Holy Ministry, and to the Disservice of the Interests of Religion. To that I would be not a little concerned on this Score.

28. I must ever remember with hearty gratitude My Recovery out of Dangerous Sickness, weakness and Pains that I was brought

low with in March 1729. I was first of all Seiz'd February 11 and kept from public Service the 16th, But was So well on the 23rd as to go to Meeting again. I was again disorder'd on the 28th and March 1, was faint and feeble the 2d, yet ventur'd to meeting and preach'd all Day and had extremity of pain in my Limbs, and oppression in my Stomach. The nights after the 7th and 8th I had such fits my Physician call'd my Distemper and Rheumatic Fever as were not without Difficulty to be born; and I fear'd a 3d would be more than Nature Could resist. The 9th I had, thro the omnipotent Mercy of God, a instigation, and escaped the Danger. I was in the beginning of my illness under the Care of Reverend Mr. Barrett and afterwards of Dr. Roby.<sup>11</sup> However I was under Confinement and in Weakness, in Pain and [illegible] for weeks after. April 6. I went to meeting part of the Day, the 13th all Day. On the 20th I preach'd in the forenoon but could not undertake more than to baptize a child, in the afternoon.

29. I would Set it down among the Divine Mercies that after the Difficulties, weakness, pains in my Stomach, faintness, etc., on my Journey to Boston June 2d, 3, 4 which put me and my Relatives into great Fears and Concern. I was carry'd thro and brought home to my Family June 6, though continuing in much feebleness and in Fear and Care about the Event. I would record my Thanks also that I found my Son So recovered from the illness he had been for some time labouring under, and that he was much afflicted by, when I went from home.

30. July 3, 1729. The Salvation of God was Seen, and my Wife brought forth a Second Son, and upon Consideration of God repeating his Blessing in this kind, as well as my having an ancestor of that Name, I call'd him Thomas.

31. August 18. The Goodness of God was manifested to us and to my little Dauter Mary in preserving her when She had Sadly wander'd away, and was a long time lost in the Swamp; and directing a Young Man (David Maynard, Jr.) to her Deliverance.

<sup>11</sup> Ebenezer Roby (Harvard 1719), a physician of Sudbury. *Sibley*, VI, 336-339.

32. February 17, 1729/30. In my great Weakness, the Reverend Mr. Campbell<sup>12</sup> of Oxford visited me, and persuaded me to ride. We rode to Marlboro and then proceeded to Cambridge. My Wife also went with me but it was, above all, a kind and merciful God who sustain'd me. The Glory to His Name! The 19th Day was Fast at Westborough on my account.

N.B. The affectionate Regard which the Reverend Mr. Breck<sup>13</sup> show'd me in the Exercises at the Fast which was kept at Westboro on the foresaid occasion: in particular in his Sermon which was from that Text Phil. 2, 27. "For indeed he was sick" etc. Reverend Cushing<sup>14</sup> also assisted in the Fast.

33. Deliverance to my Wife when Travailing with my Second Dauter, September 20, 1731. On account of the Singular Love and Affection, and memberless kind Regards of my Wife's sister, Miss Lydia Champney, we Thought fit to call this Child by her name, Lydia.

#### JULY, 1729<sup>1</sup>

8. I have warnings from God by my Infirmities, that I must remove from my Temporal Possessions (and I had them from God but for Temporal). This Clay Tabernacle I now inhabit Cracks and threatens me that it must Dissolve, 'tis but Earthenware, and it doth not Sound whole. A Little matter will dash it to pieces.

Now what do I know about any Right I have to an Eternal Inheritance, to a Building of God, an house not made with Hands Eternal in the Heavens, wherein I may Spend an Happy Immortality, Since I am upon the Move.

#### SEPTEMBER 1729<sup>1</sup>

4. How Shall I best employ my Self to Day? It being the last Day of my 26th Year.

<sup>12</sup> John Campbell.

<sup>13</sup> Robert Breck of Marlborough.

<sup>14</sup> Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> All of the material for July 1729 is to be found in the Natalitia.

<sup>1</sup> All entries for Sept. 1729 are from the Natalitia.

Answer 1. In Solemnly Praising God for his mercies throughout my Life, particularly in the Course of this Year.

2. In humbling my Self for my Sins especially those of this Year.

3. In preparing my Self for Tomorrow's Business. Reading over what I have heretofore done, and what others have transacted, on Such Dayes, etc.

All which may be well assisted (perhaps) by waiting upon the Exercises of the private Meeting at Mr. David Brigham's to Day (when I am very much importun'd to be present.)

But (alas) the weakness of my Body, and the Confusion of my mind at Seeing So much Business to do, and So Slender Ability to accomplish it!

But besides, Providence calls me to Work for others, as well as for my Self to Day. I must attend to what may fit me there for, and then Return to my private Concerns. The Grace of God enable me, under my Infirmities, and magnifie His Power through my Weakness!

5. 1. Bless God for the Light and Liberties of This Morning, and petition Direction and assistance in Such an Observation of the Day as may be most for the Divine Glory, and my Souls Comfort.

2. Let the Exercises of the Family (although not formally or noticeably by others) contribute as much as may be to the Holy Business of this Day.

3. Thankfully review the Divine Mercie to me and mine through my Life past, particularly Such as we have receiv'd in the Course of this Year, and Solemnly offer unto God the Praise. Read and Sung Ps. 145 in Tate's Version.

4. Bewail my Iniquities before God.

1. Sin, in General: its 1. Turpitude, Vileness, and Offensiveness especially to God most Holy and glorious

2. Fatal Consequences.



## 2. In Particular:

1. The Sin of my Nature, and thereby
  1. The Weakness and Darkness of my Intellectual Powers;
  2. The Perverseness and Corruptness of my Elective Powers.
2. The Foolishness and wickedness of my Childhood and youth
  1. Falseness. Ps. 58, 3. Brother William, Mr. Fl. [?], Mr. L. [?].
  2. Thievishness, apples, corn.
3. The Vainness, Impurity and Impiety of my Youth and more Mature age.
  1. The Vainness in
    1. Dress
    2. Company
    3. Studies: Romances and Tales; Poems and Playes.
    4. Waste of Time. Impertinence. Walking about Town, etc. See my Journals No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
  2. The Impurity.
    1. Heart uncleanness and adulterie, thro The Eye—Pictures, etc; The Ear—Songs, etc.
    2. Wantonness in Carriage and Actions in various Instances and Respecting which I have Great Cause Exceedingly to bewail.
  3. Impiety.
    1. Restraining Prayer sometimes.
    2. Superficial performance of that and other Duties and formal attendance upon ordinances, The Word, Sacraments, etc.
    3. Unaffectedness at Providences, Mercys—publick, private
      1. Public Calamities.
      2. Personal Sufferings.

3. Domestic and Relative Evils, Deaths, Sickness, etc.  
My Father, Mother, etc., etc.
4. Unfaithfullness of my whole Life unto
  1. God, under
    1. My Baptismal Covenant.
    2. My Covenant of September 15, 1719.
    3. My Profession Engagements, March 31, 1723
    4. My Marriage Covenants. July 7, 1724 and September 1, 1737.
    5. My Ordination Vows, October 28, 1724, O.S.
    6. My frequent, especially September 5, Pretences and daily Devotions (which are so many Engagements) to Walk with God.
    7. Special Providences, as
      1. Mercies: Deliverances and Recoveries, to me, my wife, children and other Relatives—and to my Friends.
      2. Afflictions. Sickness and pains: my own, my Wife's, my childrens.
  2. Man, unto
    1. Parents, Brothers, Sisters.
    2. Acquaintance and Friends.
    3. Christians in Communion with me.
    4. Wife
    5. Children and Servants.
    6. People of Westborough and other Congregations where I have preach'd.
    7. Neighbours.
5. My Self, as to (1) My Outward, (2) and (3) Spiritual and Eternal Interests. My Unfaithfullness, Impiety, etc. of my more mature Life may be further set down in this form following.
  1. My Hypocrisie and Insincerity.
  2. My Slender, partial Obedience.

3. Neglect of Divine Dealings with me.
4. Covetousness, Love of the World and Disrelish of Divine Things.
5. Disquietness, Discontent and Envyng.
6. Slothfullness and Idleness. Unseasonable Sermonizing.
7. Forbearing to reprove Sin, through Fear, Favour.
8. Unsabbatical Behaviour.
9. Equivocating.
10. Eating and Drinking more than answer'd the Ends to be propos'd therein and what I count Exceeding Christian Laws therein.
11. Breaking out to angry Resentments.
12. Vain Glory, Self Conceit and Self Dependence.
13. Detractions.
14. Unbelief.

5. The Fifth Thing on this Day was that which next followeth, and which was in this Form.

5.<sup>2</sup> ¶Whereas it hath pleased the Almighty Author of my Being and the God of my Life out of his abundant mercy and Grace, to permit my Lot in a Land of Gospel Light, my Birth of Religious Parents, my Dedication to Him Early by Baptism, and my Education not only in the Nurture and instruction of the Lord, but with some peculiar happy Circumstances, both to fit me for and Engage me to His Service and Glory. Since also I have openly profess'd my Self a Disciple of Christ and in a Sacred manner bound my Self to the Strict observance of His Divine Commands, and have been Moreover, with utmost Solemnity Consecrated and Set apart to Him and his peculiar work. To all which the Dispensations of his Providence of Grace have been added and conspir'd together to affect me with my indispensable obligations to Fidelity to Him. But inasmuch as by too many Evidences it appears that without the Special Restraints and Assistances of Divine Grace, my natural Corruption proves many times prevalent over all my Professions and Resolutions and even my most

<sup>2</sup> This additional entry for Sept. 5, 1729 is also from the Natalitia.

Sacred Ties; that I may do whatever in me lies for the [illegible] thereof, and that I may be the better defended against future Assaults and Temptations (Yet without Relying on any other Endeavours of Mine, but only upon the Mediation and Merits of my Blessed Lord Jesus Christ and the Aid of His Spirit) I would, as the best revealed Expedient, in Sacred Form Renew my Covenant with God and Solemnly Sign this Instrument. [N.B. The then design'd Instrument is that in page 2, but it was not drawn out till some time after this, though I now renew'd my Covenant Dedication.]

NOVEMBER, 1729<sup>1</sup>

Westborough November 24, 1729.

A Solemn Covenant was drawn out fair and in all Seriousness (as I was able) sign'd and ratify'd before God. The Form was that in page 2.

DECEMBER, 1729<sup>1</sup>

December 5, 1729. It is a Day of great Darkness and Distress with both me and my Family. My own Weakness and Infirmitys increasing daily upon me and troubles of my heart greatly enlarged by my Disorders mocking the force of all Medical methods with me hitherto. My Wife also, under much Indisposition and trouble with her Breast. The Children likewise afflicted with Cold and very peevish under their uneasinesses. But Especially Maro at the Point of Death. The waves and Billows roll and roar out of the Deeps. I would Cry: Lord hear my Voice! Let not the Water floods overflow us, neither let the Deep Swallow us up!

December 6. The Hand of God is still heavier upon us. Exceeding weak, low and faint, my Self, almost ready to lie down under my prevailing Infirmities. But when both my Flesh and Heart fail, God is still the Strength of my Heart, and my Portion for Ever. But Dark as it has been with us it is become much

<sup>1</sup> From the Natalitia.

<sup>1</sup> All entries for Dec. 1729 are from the Natalitia.

Darker at or about the Sun setting. The Sun of Maro's Life Sat. The First Death in my Family! God enable me to See His Sovereign Mind, and Comport with his holy Will!

As my Servant is Summon'd to go before, So God only knows whether his Master is not Shortly to follow after; and so the former to prove as an Harbinger to the latter. O that the whole Family may be getting ready, in another Sort than ever heretofore! But Especially O that God would enable Me to Live apace, Seeing I am Dying apace; to give Diligance, to work with my might, and to stand Waiting all the few Dayes of my appointed time, till God Shall call; that when I hear the Summons, I may, with Serenity, Say, Speak Lord, thy Servant heareth, may Depart in Peace, and See the Salvation of God!

While God is Stripping me of Outward Enjoyments I humbly trust God will let me have more of Himself and bestow more of Spiritual, invaluable Blessings.

Every Comfort is that to us, that God makes it, and is so long with us as He pleases to Continue it.

#### Conclusion of the Year 1729

It is Said in Psalm 55, 19. "Because they have no Changes, therefore they Fear not God." (By which it obviously appears to be intimated, that Changes are very usefull and proper, nay very needfull means to excite the Fear of God.) I would then, from these words, Infer 1. That they are to be well observ'd and esteem'd as they are Such excellent means of Grace and God is to be praised for them. 2. Such persons fall under a no less Severe, than just Reprehension, who, although they have Changes, yet fear not God, and 3. It is matter of Melancholly Consideration whom those that meet with many Changes, have notwithstanding, but Slender Effects wrought upon them, by So powerfull means and but little more (if any) of the Fear of God excited in them thereby.

#### Reflections

I have pass'd through many Changes, Especially this Last Year has been a Year of Changes. I would Humbly and Devout-

ly take notice of the Hand of God in them. I would humbly acknowledge and revere the Sovereignty and Majesty, and adore and magnifie the Righteousness and Holiness, the Wisdom and Goodness of God therein. I would humbly submit and resign my Self to his Sovereign and all wise Disposal with Satisfaction, remembering that I am in my Faithfull Creator's and Compassionate Redeemer's Hands, and I would, with Religions Fear and Care, Enquire after the holy Ends and Designs of God in his Several Visitations; and would give my Self to all Endeavours (*ἄνω θεῶν*) to answer the Divine Demands. But before I proceed any further I would Look back with Shame and Sorrow on the Provocations offered to God, to punish and afflict me, as He has, in the various Sufferings I have been brought into, and would with Regret and Grief Observe the but faint Influence I have permitted My Changes to have upon me, and that there are so few Signs of the true Fear of God in me. And Finally would Earnestly beseech God to accompany all his Methods with me, with his Almighty Grace, that they may not fail, hence forward, to produce both his own Glory and my Spiritual and Eternal Good. And Oh that the more and the Greater Changes I pass through the more I may fear, and glorifie God whom alone I am to acknowledge in them.

JANUARY, 1730<sup>1</sup>

January 1. I would heartily bless God for carrying me through the great Difficulties, Infirmties and Sufferings of the Year Past, and vouchsafing me the Beginning of another. I would humble my Self for the Sins of the Year Past with the rest of my Life before. I would Humbly give my Self up to God and Solemnly Renew my Covenant Transactions with Him. I would Humbly refer and Comitt to him all the Events and accidents of my Sickness and Health, beseeching the Divine Pity, Support and Direction Still, and Finally, would Fervently Begg His Favour and Blessing this Year and all my Dayes on Earth, and Assistance to Discharge all Duty. And when Years and Dayes Shall finish

<sup>1</sup> From the Natalitia.

and when the Stream of Time shall be Swallow'd up in the Ocean of Eternity I may be Ever with the Lord. Through Jesus Christ alone, To whom be Glory forever. Amen.

FEBRUARY, 1730<sup>1</sup>

February 19. This Day was observed at Westborough in a Religious Manner with Fasting and Prayer on the account of my remaining Infirmities. The Reverend Mr. Breck and the Reverend Mr. Cushing managed the Exercises. The former preach'd from those words in the Epistle to the Philippians 2, 27, For indeed he was Sick, etc. I was my Self at Cambridge and Endeavour'd to hold Communion with them. How I employ'd my Self is hinted in the Minutes in Loose Papers. O that God would hear and forgive and Do, for his own name's Sake!

SEPTEMBER, 1730<sup>1</sup>

September 5. At Cambridge. Read Ps. 90 the Eve before. In the Morn Ps. 103 and 145. I was much affected with some Conversation with my Brother William on Spiritual Subjects. I was Earnestly Desirous that with finishing my 27th Year I might finish intirely my Course of Sin, that I might certainly take leave of the latter, as I do of the former, never to see anything of it more. And it was my passionate Request that if I never was yet Regenerated (as to my Grief I have not Evidence enough that I have been) This, This Day I may without fail be Born again, and This be my Glorious Birth Day to God!

I would 1. Bless God, for the Mercies of my whole Life, common and Signal, particularly this Years for upholding me through my many and Great Difficulties, weakness, etc., and bringing me to the return of this Day, through so many fears when my Life was So much being in Doubt. 2. I would Affect and humble my Self for my Sins, especially my September 5th. My Covenant Violations, etc. 3. I would humbly renew my Covenant Trans-

<sup>1</sup> From the Natalitia.

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actions with God. 4. I would study New and better Methods of Glorifying God. [This I propos'd for, and endeavoured to attend upon in the Forenoon]. [In The Afternoon what follows]. 5. I would devoutly committ the remainder of my Life to the providences and grace of God, and the Conduct of his good Spirits. 6. I would meditate on the Frailty and uncertainty of human Life. At Noon I read Isaiah 55 and made a Recollection of Solemn Repetition of my Covenant, and P.M. I read Ps. 39.

[I would perform none of these formalities as if I would thereby Merit anything before the Lord, but only in hopes they maybe some way beneficial to fix and excite and quicken my wandering, Vain heart].

On the above mention'd Day I resolv'd that I would, by Divine Assistance, Endeavour from this time forward 1. To make a great Business, a solemn, Set, Separated, Sanctify'd undiverted Business of Prayer; in Praying to Pray; to watch unto Prayer, and as much as I can to Delight in Prayer; 2. To make every part of my Life as directly to the purpose of Life as possible; 3. As far as possible to do some Good every where and in Every Thing; 4. To watch against Formalities and ostentatiousness, and against relying upon Good Works. 5. To enquire diligently after the Great Designs of God in his Severe Dispensations towards me, in his Severe Inflictions on my Body, and of long Continuance, and carefully to attend to answer them, as far as God shall enable me.

#### SEPTEMBER, 1731<sup>1</sup>

September 5. At Westborough. Since my Birth Day fell out this Year on the Sabbath (as the Time of my Birth itself was, and My first Solemn Dedication by Baptism the Same Day in the afternoon) I turn'd the Course of my wonted public Exercises in some Measure to suit the Season with me, seeing my mind would be unavoidably employ'd much this way.

In my own retir'd Devotions I offer'd Thanks to God for the return of this Day, and Specially for the Divine Goodness in the

<sup>1</sup> From the Natalitia.



Course of this Year past in Vouchsafing me Such Measures of Recovery and Strength for the Divine Service; humbled my Self as I could for my innumerable Transgressions, the Sin of my Nature and the Vanity and impurity of my Childhood and Youth; and humbly Devoted my Self wholly to God and Committed my Self to Him in Covenant. Read Ps. 103 and then proceeded to the Family and Public Offices. I preach'd on Ps. 51, 10. I may Lament before God my Coldness, unhumbleness, my undedicatedness to God Seeing I am under So peculiar and unspeakable Obligations!

SEPTEMBER, 1732<sup>1</sup>

September 5. At Westborough. Besides enlarging my Devotions according to my Custom on this Day, (in Praises for the Divine Mercies through my Life and particularly through this Year past, in reviewing my Life and humbling my Self for my past iniquitys, Vanitys, impuritys and impietys, and reading Such suitable passages of the Sacred Scriptures as Ps. 145, Dan. 9, a.m., Ps. 103 and Job 14, p.m.), I made it considerably my Business to try and prove my Self whether I have indeed had a work of Grace Savingly wrought in my heart—in answer to the Following Question.

Question. What are the Signs of Conversion, and are they to be found in me? (And I esteem it a proper Enquiry, on my Natural Birth Day, What I may be able to find of my Spiritual Birth unto God.)

Answer. 1. Sign. Ps. 18, 23. I was upright before him, for I kept my Self from my own Iniquity. Do I?

2 Sign. 2 Cor. 5, 17. If any man be in Christ he is a new Creature. Am I? Have I experienc'd this?

3 Sign. Gal. 5, 24. He that is Christ's hath Crucified the Flesh, with the Affections and Lusts. Have I?

4 Sign. Rom. 8, 9. If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His. Have I the Spirit of Christ?

<sup>1</sup> From the Natalitia.

N.B. Mr. Guthrys Trial of a Saving Interest in Christ<sup>2</sup> of great use.

N.B. Interruption by a woman under great Trouble of mind. Her name was Crouch,<sup>3</sup> wife of William Crouch of Shrewsbury.

N.B. An Earthquake just about (or a little after) Noon.

#### SEPTEMBER, 1733<sup>1</sup>

September 5. Westborough. See my Almanack for this Day. The Ordination of Mr. William Hobby at Reading (at which Solemnity I chose to be present) was manag'd with great Devotion by the principal Persons of the Council, who were ordainers. Mr. Appleton's<sup>2</sup> Sermon (on 2 Tim. 2, 21) was especially very instructing and moving, And I hope was not without Some good quickening Influence upon Me.

But I was not able to keep my Self through the whole (nor through so considerable part) of the Day, as I propos'd and hop'd for, upon my own particular Case—The Vanity of Company, Strangers, Old Friends, etc.; my being much a stranger in the place, and riding off again the Same Day, extreamly and unavoidably diverted me.

#### SEPTEMBER, 1734<sup>1</sup>

September 5. Westborough. 1. Thanksgiving, general particular for the year past. 2. Confession, general, particular for the year past. Coldness and withdraws from God. Hypocriticalness and formalness. 3. Petition. 4. Renewed Dedication. 5. Serious purposes. 6. Before Each, Contemplation.

<sup>2</sup> William Guthrie, Scottish Presbyterian divine, published *The Christian's Great Interest* (c. 1658), which appeared in numerous later editions.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Hannah Crouch.

<sup>1</sup> From the *Natalitia*.

<sup>2</sup> Reverend Nathaniel Appleton of Cambridge.

<sup>1</sup> From the *Natalitia*. Although headings of pages of Parkman's birthday for the years 1736 through 1742 appear in the *Natalitia*, he recorded no observations.

FEBRUARY, 1737<sup>1</sup>

by the means thereof. That we may be awares and have our Eyes open our minds apprehensive now, and not have the first thorow sense of those Things in the midst of the unhappy Experience of them.

14. I put off my Journey by means that it was Town Meeting.

15. I rode to Concord. Mr. Flagg<sup>2</sup> of Grafton my Company, from Biglo's in Marlboro. Mr. Whiting<sup>3</sup> and his wife had rid out. Captain Joseph Buckley Spent the evening with us. I had conversation an hour or two with Mrs. Israel Whiting, lodged here.

16. Lieutenant Trowbridge<sup>4</sup> came to Mr. Whiting's and was my Company to Watertown. Lodged at Father Champney's<sup>5</sup> at Cambridge.

17. Rode to Boston. My mother still in a measure of Comfort through the Blessing of God. I could not be seasonable for lecture. N.B. Captain Foot<sup>6</sup> and Sister Elizabeth<sup>7</sup> and Mrs. Mary Tilestone took a ride with me in a double Slay at evening to Captain Sharp's<sup>8</sup> at Brookline, and Brother Elias<sup>9</sup> came to us upon my Horse, after supper there. At 10 o'clock they returned in the Slay but I tarried. N.B. The discovery of my Inclinations to Captain Sharp and to Madame. By their urgent Persuasions I tarried and lodged there. N.B. Mrs. Susanna Sharp.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The original of the diary from Sept. 1728 to Jan. 1740 has evidently been lost. Fortunately a portion of this (February 1737 to November 1737) was published by the Westborough Historical Society in *The Diary of Ebenezer Parkman . . .*, ed. by Harriette M. Forbes (Westborough, 1899). The present editor has been completely dependent upon the transcription of Mrs. Forbes, and only minor changes of form in her text have been made. This has meant, essentially, writing out abbreviated words as has usually been done throughout the diary. Some material from Mrs. Forbes' notes has been incorporated in this work, and numerous other references added.

<sup>2</sup> Eleazer Flagg.

<sup>3</sup> Reverend John Whiting of Concord.

<sup>4</sup> William Trowbridge of Newton, selectman and deacon.

<sup>5</sup> Father of Parkman's first wife, Mary Champney, who died Jan. 29, 1735/6.

<sup>6</sup> Probably Captain John Foote of Amesbury, Mass.

<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Elias Parkman.

<sup>8</sup> A prominent and wealthy resident of Brookline.

<sup>9</sup> Elias Parkman of Boston.

<sup>10</sup> The daughter of Captain Robert Sharp whose hand in marriage Reverend Parkman was seeking.

18. I rode to Father Champney's and thence to Westborough. N.B. Mr. Tilestone and Captain William Roby of Boston my Company from Watertown to Sudbury.

19. Engaged in my preparations. N.B. I cast a handful or two of Salt into my Pump.

20. On Luke 16, 13. P.M. repeated Sermon on Heb. 12, 1. At evening visited Mr. Stephen Fay<sup>11</sup> who was very low etc.

21. The small matter of Salt which I cast into my Pump on the 19th wonderfully loosened the Spire though it had been frozen for a long time (See Downs') and to our Joy and Pleasure had the use of the Pump again. Very pleasant weather.

22. A number of Hands came to get wood. Mr. Grout<sup>12</sup> with his Team, Mr. Tainter<sup>13</sup> with his and Mr. Harrington<sup>14</sup> with his, Mr. Grow,<sup>15</sup> Daniel Hardy, Daniel Forbush,<sup>16</sup> Elias Rice, Noah Rice,<sup>17</sup> James Fay,<sup>18</sup> James Bowman, Zebulon Rice, Solomon Rice, John Rogers, Timothy Warren, Jonathan Forbush, Junior, Thomas Winchester, David Baverick, Ebenezer Nurse, Simon Tainter, junior and Samuel Bumpso.

23. Very stormy. Rain and Wind, especially very Windy in the Night. N.B. Sister Hicks<sup>19</sup> another son, born a little before night.

24. Had sent to Mr. Prentice<sup>20</sup> of Grafton and very much depended upon him to preach my Lecture, but he failed. I repeated Sermon on Heb. 7, 25. A very cold day—very slippery—few at Lecture. Heard by Cousen Winchester that Sister Ruth Champney at Cambridge was sick.

<sup>11</sup> The son of Captain John Fay. He survived this illness and later became a prominent citizen of Hardwick, Mass. Johnson, *Fay Family Tree*, pp. 26-27.

<sup>12</sup> Joseph Grout.

<sup>13</sup> Deacon Simon Tainter.

<sup>14</sup> Samuel Harrington.

<sup>15</sup> Samuel Grow.

<sup>16</sup> Son of Deacon Jonathan Forbush.

<sup>17</sup> Son of Thomas Rice.

<sup>18</sup> Son of Captain John Fay.

<sup>19</sup> Rebecca (Champney) Hicks, Parkman's first wife's sister.

<sup>20</sup> Reverend Solomon Prentice (Harvard 1727), minister of Grafton, 1731-1747. Sibley, VIII, 248-257.

25. A very cold day again. Ensign Ward of Marlborough here to obtain my Evidence of what the Association which met at Framingham October 16, 1733 judged concerning Mr. Kent.<sup>21</sup> At eve I gave my Testimony, confirmed by an Oath before Justice Keyes.<sup>22</sup> Ensign Ward being there present.

26. At eve came Dr. Thyery but he would go and lodge at Ensign Maynard's.

27. A.M. on 2 Cor. 13, 14. Sacrament. Dr. Thyery and Deacon Fay and his wife dind with me. P.M. on Mat. 7, 3, 4, 5. Dr. Thyery at eve, but was called away to visit Stephen Fay.

28. The weather was very Raw Cold. The Wind was north and very bleak. I visited Mr. Beeman's<sup>23</sup> Family and Mr. David Brigham. The Dauter of the former and the Wife of the Latter were ill.

Monsieur Thyery came to my house P.M. and I had some Expectations of Mr. Prentice of Grafton, and his wife to visit me, but they did not come. The Doctor spent the evening and good part of the night with me, but presently after he got to Bed came Simon Tainter, Junior upon a most urgent message from Stephen Fay, to have the Doctor visit him forthwith. Howbeit he would not rise till he had taken several naps. I did not get to bed till past three o'clock. N.B. Town Meeting to add to the Seats in Meeting House.

### MARCH, 1737

1. It had been very Icy and now by a snow upon the Ice and it was very Slippery and Troublesome riding. I rode to Mr. Cook's<sup>1</sup> to fix my Horse. Called at Captain Forbush's.<sup>2</sup>

2. Sister Lydia rode down to Cambridge with me. N.B. We set out somewhat before 10 A.M., rode double, yet got to Father

<sup>21</sup> Benjamin Kent (Harvard 1727), minister at Marlborough, 1733 to 1735 was dismissed and tried as a heretic.

<sup>22</sup> Captain John Keyes of Shrewsbury.

<sup>23</sup> Ebenezer Beeman of Westborough.

<sup>1</sup> Cornelius Cook, the blacksmith of Westborough.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Forbush.

Champney's at Cambridge promptly at 5 P.M. N.B. Mr. John Jarvis was returning from his journey to Marlborough, whither he had been to wait upon Mrs. Hannah Breck,<sup>3</sup> who made a visit yesterday to her sister Mrs. Gott<sup>4</sup> in her illness.

From Father Champney's I rode to Roxbury, called at Mr. Increase Sumner's. Thence I rode to Boston, waited upon my mother, and then went and Supped at Brother Elias's. N.B. Mr. Bowman the wharfinger and his wife at Supper with us. My Horse sent to his Stables. Lodged at Brother Elias's.

3. Mr. Mather<sup>5</sup> Lectured on [blank] against Covetousness. Dined at Brother Samuel's.<sup>6</sup> P.M. visited Mrs. Pierpont,<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Hannah being at Marlborough. Mr. Pierpont also had taken a Journey to New Haven. Towards night I rode over to Roxbury. N.B. Mrs. Sumner<sup>8</sup> ill. I proceeded to Captain Sharp's.<sup>9</sup> By Captain Sharp's strong Solicitation I tarried all night. N.B. Mrs. Susan not very willing to go so far in the Country as Westborough, etc., etc., etc.

4. I rode to Father Champney's. Thence I went over to the Town. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Monnef, Junior at Father Champney's. I returned P.M. from Town and went again to Captain Sharp's. N.B. Captain Sharp and Madame gone to the Funeral of a Relative at Roxbury. I tarried whilst the Captain and his Spouse came home. Arguments which be fruitless with Mrs. Susan. I returned to Father Champney's between 8 and 9 in the Evening.

<sup>3</sup> The daughter of the late Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough who married Reverend Parkman of Westborough, Sept. 1, 1737.

<sup>4</sup> Sarah Breck, also a daughter of the Reverend Breck, married Dr. Benjamin Gott of Marlborough in 1728.

<sup>5</sup> Reverend Samuel Mather of the Old North Church, Boston.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Parkman of Boston.

<sup>7</sup> Mary, the widow of Reverend James Pierpont (Harvard 1681) of New Haven. She was the daughter of Reverend Samuel Hooker of Farmington, Conn., and the granddaughter of Reverend Thomas Hooker, the first minister of Hartford. Parkman was very fond of Mrs. Pierpont and she appears in the diary numerous times. After her death, Nov. 1, 1740, Parkman wrote a long eulogy which he intended to publish but did not. The manuscript is in the library of the American Antiquarian Society. See Sibley, III, 222-230.

<sup>8</sup> Mrs. Increase Sumner.

<sup>9</sup> In Brookline.

5. Sister Lydia was willing to go up again to Westborough with me if the weather would allow. Upon her mentioning her carrying up some other Coloured clothes than her black, and our putting off our Mourning it (by Degrees) moved me very much and my Passions flowed almost beyond Controll, till I was obliged to retire away. Every matter most exceeding Sorrowful to me. The weather was very discouraging to Sister Lydia's Design, nor could she in prudence venture though I tarryed for her till 11 when I set out. It rained and I had a very wet troublesome Journey. I rode over the new Bridge in Sudbury and went to Captain Clark's<sup>10</sup> of Framingham. The Waters flow abundantly, Ice rots away, the Snow melts again, the Rain beats and the Storm strong. Captain Clark very urgent to have me stay, but I was resolute to get as far as I could. I called at Mr. Stone's<sup>11</sup> at Southborough, and about nine at night reached home. *D.O.M. Gratia.*

6. Repeated Sermon on Acts 2, 37, 38. Dr. Thyery at meeting.

7. Dr. Thyery visited me and dind with me. I prayed with the Town before their Elections. Mr. Prentice of Grafton visited me, and note well that the Day I went from home last week both he and his wife came to see me, just after we were gone. A very fine pleasant Day.

8. Cloudy. Some Snow. N.B. Many of the People gone to Sudbury about Housetonnic Rights.<sup>12</sup>

9. The water everywhere exceeding high. Visit Mr. Sam Fay, and Stephen Fay.

10. The Winds more than ordinarily violent. A Barn was blown down in Framingham. A man narrowly escaped drowning at Framingham River. The water being so deep, the Current so strong and the Winds so impetuous.

<sup>10</sup> Isaac Clark.

<sup>11</sup> Reverend Nathan Stone (Harvard 1726), first minister of Southborough, 1730-1781. *Sibley*, VIII, 99-105.

<sup>12</sup> The development of Houssatonnuc townships was a matter of interest to numerous people in central Massachusetts. Reverend Parkman later purchased a share in the area that became Sheffield.

11. Divers Neighbours (Mr. Maynard, Mr. Grout, and Mr. Charles Rice), here in the Evening. Catechizing, but only 4 boys, besides my own. No catechizing P.M. No children came.

12. [No entry].

13. A.M. on Matt. 7, 6 and P.M. repeated Sermon 46 being the 4th on Act 2, 37, 38.

14. I visited Stephen Fay, Captain Fay and old Mr. Rice.<sup>13</sup> David went away.

15. Early in the morning to Mr. Whipples,<sup>14</sup> etc. At noon I was extremely indisposed. Faint etc. Storm, snow. P.M. Dr. Thyery was here, I grew better. D.G.

16. *Dies. Humill. and Proc. Secret.* See my own Memoirs. At eve, Mr. Whipple. N.B. An ewe that was gored very ill—fine pleasant Day. Roads extremely hollow. Some of the oldest persons declare they scarce ever knew the Earth to have been so frozen as this winter.

17. A.M. Storm of snow. Rain. Trouble with my sick ewe. Mr. Whipple to Boston.

18. P.M. I rode to Marlborough to Colonel Wood's.<sup>15</sup> Eve at Dr. Gott's.<sup>16</sup> Mrs. Gott had been very ill, but is recovering. Mrs. Hannah Breck with her, but I spent my time with the men, scil. the Doctor, Colonel, and Mr. Daniel Steward.<sup>17</sup> Late in the Evening Deacon Woods<sup>18</sup> came to request me to visit a young woman at his House (Dauter of Mr. Samuel Stow)<sup>19</sup> apprehended to be at the Point of Death. I went, prayed with her etc. I lodged at Colonel Wood's.

19. A.M. To Dr. Gott's but a short space with Mrs. Hannah.<sup>20</sup> At my Request, she had (she assured me) burnt my Letters,

<sup>13</sup> Thomas Rice, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>14</sup> Francis Whipple of Westborough.

<sup>15</sup> Colonel Benjamin Woods.

<sup>16</sup> Benjamin Gott of Marlborough.

<sup>17</sup> Daniel Stewart of Marlborough.

<sup>18</sup> There was no Deacon Woods in Marlborough at this time. James Woods was elected in 1741 and served many years.

<sup>19</sup> Mary Stow died March 20, 1737.

<sup>20</sup> Hannah Breck of Marlborough whom the Rev. Parkman was courting.



Poems etc. P.M. Funeral of Captain Eleazer How.<sup>21</sup> Captain Brigham<sup>22</sup> informed of the Death of President Wadsworth,<sup>23</sup> the Night before last, also lately Part of Northampton Meeting-House fell and wounded many, in time of Divine Service, and the Burning of Young Colonel Chandler's<sup>24</sup> House at Woodstock, and three persons consumed in it, scil., Mrs. Wright, her son and a man who was asleep with him. I returned home. At eve, Dr. Thiery at my house in great Urgency going to Boston for Drugs, to relieve Stephen Fay, no persuading him to the Contrary altho the Roads are extreme Bad, the night Dark etc. N.B. A piece of Cotton Linnen of 12 yards from Mr. Caruths.

20. On Matt. 7, 7, 8. P.M. on Matt. 7, 9, 10, 11.

21. I visited Stephen Fay—was at the Captain's, find Thyery is not a man of Truth or Probity. At Cousin Winchester's etc.

22. Rain and Cloudy. Visited old Mr. Ward's<sup>25</sup> Family, reckoned with Mr. Josiah Newton. Rainy—came home in the Night and in the Rain.

23. Cold notherly wind. P.M. visited old David Monanaow,<sup>26</sup> Indian, he tells me he was 104 last Indian Harvest. Says the name of Boston was not Shawmut but Shanwawmuck. Chauncy Pond was called Nawgawwoomcom and Marlborough, [blank]. N.B. Mr. Seth Rice<sup>27</sup> here about this time to discourse with me on the life of his sister Thankful. I visited Mr. David Brigham's<sup>28</sup> family, and old Captain Byles.<sup>29</sup>

24. Froze hard again last night. Cold windy day.

<sup>21</sup> Of Marlborough. The commander of a company of militia.

<sup>22</sup> Nathan Brigham of Marlborough.

<sup>23</sup> President Benjamin Wadsworth of Harvard College.

<sup>24</sup> Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Chandler, Woodstock's first representative to the General Assembly of Conn. Clarence W. Bowen, *Woodstock An Historical Sketch* (New York, 1886), p. 47.

<sup>25</sup> Probably Thomas Ward, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>26</sup> Sometimes spelled Munnanaow and Munnanaow. He fought with King Philip but afterwards returned to his home in Marlborough.

<sup>27</sup> Seth Rice and his sister Thankful were 2 of the children of Edmund Rice, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>28</sup> One of Parkman's neighbors.

<sup>29</sup> Captain Joseph Byles of Westborough.

25. I rode to Marlborough, din'd with Mr. Hovey at Mm. Madame Fish's. Spent the afternoon at Dr. Gott's—was at the Colonel's, but returned to Doctor's. Mr. Hovey there with a Bass Viol. N.B. Mrs. Hannah Breck at the Doctor's still. Our conversation of a piece with what it used to be. I mark her admirable Conduct, her Prudence and wisdom, her good manners and her distinguishing Respectfulness to me which accompany her Denials. After it grew late in the Evening, I rode home to Westborough, through the Dark and the Dirt, but cheerfully and comfortably (comparatively). N.B. My Family all abed.

26. I had appointed to ride to Grafton in order to changing with Mr. Prentice tomorrow, but it proved so very Rainy all day that it was unpracticable.

27. Fair and pleasant Day. Matt. 7, 12 A.M., but P.M. repeated Sermon II, Acts 2, 37, 38. N.B. Mr. Silas Brigham<sup>30</sup> and Mr. Eleazer Pratt<sup>31</sup> of Shrewsbury had desired me to baptize their Children. Accordingly, in my manner I desired the Children might be brought forth to Baptism. But only one appeared. I looked about till I conceived that something had befallen the other or those concerned with it. I proceeded and baptized Mr. Pratt's (which was the Child that was brought) when the prayers were over we proceeded to the last Singing; in the Time of the last Singing Mr. Brigham and his Child came in. After the Blessing and when I was down in the Alley going out, Mr. Brigham asked me whether his child could not be baptized. I answered, it could not now. My Reasons are these. Besides that, when I am spent with the foregoing Services, it is too much to expect me to repeat over them again. Besides that, such a custom indulged would involve us in great irregularity and Difficulty, but this administration for my known Friends would have forced me to make it a custom, and besides the impatience of many of the Congregation to get away home, being they live 4, 5 or 6

<sup>30</sup> Of Westborough. The child was Jemima, born 4 days before. On April 3, 1737 the child was baptized by Reverend Prentice of Grafton.

<sup>31</sup> Eleazer and Ruhamah Pratt lived in a part of Shrewsbury later added to Westborough. Their child, Sarah, was six months old.

miles off. Besides those Reasons, I would urge that it was so very sudden upon me that I could not judge which way I could vindicate it if I should proceed. Again, by the suddenness I was too much confused to have my Power at command to perform the Devotions; nor was I furnished therefor (Eccl. 5, 1, 2). So that it would have been nothing short of horrible Presumption for me to have done it. Lydia Cutting not well.

28. Lydia<sup>32</sup> worse, having a bad Ague in her face and it threw her wholly by; but it was so ordered in Providence, that Deborah Ward came to see us and she served us.

Adjournment of Town Meeting. N.B. Brother Hicks<sup>33</sup> had been chosen Constable, but gets off by virtue of a Commission to be Deputy Sheriff. (David Baverick diets here.)

29. Very Rainy. Lydia worse, considerable Fever. Benjamin How with David at his work and din'd with us. Neither of them to be persuaded to go for Dr. Gott for Lydia. Jonathan Rogers came to go, but we did not send.

30. Lydia somewhat better, very fine weather.

31. Publick Fast. I preached on Isa. 1, 9. N.B. Mr. Abraham Amsden<sup>34</sup> of Marlborough here to desire me to attend the Funeral of his Brother Thomas' only Son,<sup>35</sup> 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 or 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!

<sup>32</sup> Lydia Champney, the sister of Parkman's first wife.

<sup>33</sup> John Hicks, Parkman's brother-in-law by his first marriage.

<sup>34</sup> Abraham and Thomas, as well as Captain Isaac, were sons of Isaac Amsden, an early resident of Marlborough.

<sup>35</sup> Joseph, who had died the day before.

## APRIL, 1737

1. 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, scilicet, 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. N.B. Colonel Woods with me. N.B. Captain Nathan Brigham gave further accounts of the Fury of the Mob at Boston—assaulting the Town House etc. At Eve, I was at Dr. Gotts, Mrs. Hannah was thought to be gone up to Mr. Week's<sup>1</sup> or Captain Williams,<sup>2</sup> with design to lodge there, but she returned to the Doctors. And she gave me her Company till it was very late. Her Conversation was very Friendly, and with divers expressions of Singular and Peculiar Regard. Memorandum. Oscul. But she cannot yield to being a step mother. I lodged there, and with great satisfaction and Composure.

Memorandum. Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> has begun to learn his 2. Accidence and now makes a Business of it.

## SEPTEMBER, 1737

[blank] which were upon their journey to Connecticut came to see us, dind with us and prevented us (although Sister Lydia and Mrs. Bekky were gone already as Earnest of our Going) till so late in the P.M., then the Rain coming also that we were utterly disappointed.

21. We rode to Cousen Winchester,<sup>1</sup> but they being gone and

<sup>1</sup> Supply Weeks of Marlborough.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Abraham Williams of Marlborough married Elizabeth Breck, sister of Hannah Breck.

<sup>3</sup> Parkman's first son, born Aug. 20, 1727.

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Champney, cousin of Parkman's first wife, was the second wife of Benjamin Winchester of Framingham.

their neighbours also to Worcester, we struck along up to Mr. Prentice's at Grafton. N.B. Their son Nathaniel's finger had been wounded, the Top of one of his Fingers being cut off. N.B. Mrs. Sartel<sup>2</sup> of Groton here. Called at Captain Fay's as we returned home in evening.

22. Visited Captain Eager's<sup>3</sup> wife who had been some time sick.

23. John Clung<sup>4</sup> so urgent for his money (because of his journey to Pennsylvania) that I was obliged to ride about to gather it, till I succeeded at Treasurer Newton's.

24. Message from John Hamilton<sup>5</sup> under condemnation for Burglary requesting that I would visit him. N.B. Lydia sick and my wife<sup>6</sup> burthened with the Business of the Family. N.B. Fire raging in the Bushes on the west side of Powder Hill, drie by the Drought and the Frost and the Wind very high. Brother Hicks alone there, till I assisted him, and we succeeded. D.G.

25. Mr. Pierpont came to us this morning, having come from Boston but a little before sunset last evening. N.B. News that the vessel in which his goods were had struck upon Martha's Vineyard, but had got off again. He (as he can) pursues his journey to see in what condition they are at New Haven. A.M. I repeated on 1 Chron. 26, 9. P.M. I preached on 1 Pet. 3, 7.

26. Mr. Pierpont and his wife left us. I with my wife accompanied them to Shrewsbury. I still continued with them as far as Worcester and dined with them at Captain Howard's. P.M. having taken leave of those Excellent Friends, I rode to Mr. Burr's,<sup>7</sup> not finding him at home, I hastened to the Prison to see

<sup>2</sup> Probably a relative of Sarah Sartele (Sartell or Sawtell) who married Reverend Solomon Prentice of Grafton in 1732.

<sup>3</sup> James Eager of Westborough.

<sup>4</sup> Should be McClung.

<sup>5</sup> Otherwise known as Hugh Henderson, at that time in jail in Worcester awaiting execution.

<sup>6</sup> On Sept. 1, 1737, Hannah Breck, daughter of the late Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough became Ebenezer Parkman's second wife. Hannah was 21, some 13 years younger than Reverend Ebenezer. She bore him 11 children and survived him nineteen years. She died in 1801 at the age of 81.

<sup>7</sup> Reverend Isaac Burr of Worcester.

the Criminal. Among other Questions, I asked him his true Name? He answered Hugh Henderson. He acquainted me with his Birth and Baptism etc. He was much concerned and distressed about his state, and ready to confess himself a great Sinner, etc. I prayed with him. He requested I would come and see him again. I hastened to Shrewsbury and with my wife, returned in the evening. N.B. John McClung took leave of us.

27. We took up our Flax. We supp'd at Brother Hicks's.

28. I was much indisposed with Headache.

29. Lectured on 1 Sam. 15, 22. At eve Mr. Jarvis came from Boston.

30. [No entry].

#### OCTOBER, 1737

1. [No entry].

2. Sacrament. Ps. 63, 8. Repeated on Is. 53, 1. Patience Forbush<sup>1</sup> came again.

3. Catechized at the Meeting House. Judge Dudley<sup>2</sup> on his return from Springfield made us a visit, and dind with us. Lydia Cutting left us.

4. Mr. Jarvis, Sister Lydia<sup>3</sup> and I rode to Cambridge. Mrs. Susé Champney<sup>4</sup> there. Mr. Jarvis lodged with me at Father Champney's.<sup>5</sup> N.B. I rode down to Mr. Dana's<sup>6</sup> Tavern about my Wife's Trunk.

5. Early this morning we rode to Mr. Dana's again, and saw the Trunk in good order, in the Team to be transported up, and then we proceeded to Boston. Dined at Brother Elias's. My honored Mother in good health. D.G. I returned to Cambridge. Found Mrs. Susé Champney there still.

<sup>1</sup> Daughter of Deacon Jonathan Forbush of Westborough.

<sup>2</sup> Paul Dudley (Harvard 1690), later Chief Justice of Massachusetts. *Sibley*, IV, 42-54.

<sup>3</sup> Lydia Champney.

<sup>4</sup> Susanna Champney, cousin of the first Mrs. Parkman.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Champney, Sr., father of Parkman's first wife.

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan Dana kept a tavern near the center of Brookline.

6. N.B. I set out from Cambridge before Day—got to Harrington's before sun rising from there set out at sunrise, but did not get up to Westborough till nigh one. Visited Hannah Bond, who lay sick at Captain Forbush<sup>7</sup> After that dind at Home. Young men came to gather my Corn. Set them to work.

Went to the private meeting at Mr. Townsend's<sup>8</sup> and preached on 2 Pet. 1, 10. Visited Hannah Bond again. About 18 or 20 hands husked out all my Corn. N.B. In my absence Winter Apples gathered in.

7. Mr. John Pratt brought home my cyder which he had made.

8. Mr. Pratt brought home the remainder of my cyder. Susa Cutting came.

9. I repeated my Sermon IV upon Is. 53, 1 from John 10, 26. P.M. Sermon II on 1 Sam. 15, 22 from Ps. 40, 6, 8.

10. Visited Mrs. Dantforth<sup>9</sup> who is in a languishing state. Was also at Mr. Hayward's<sup>10</sup> and at Mr. Lock's.<sup>11</sup>

11. Visited Mrs. Rogers<sup>12</sup> who is sick, Hannah Bond and old Mrs. Pratt.<sup>13</sup> N.B. overtook some Travellers on Foot with their Muskets: one of them very unmannerly and saucy. P.M. Mr. Tozier<sup>14</sup> and his wife here. Old Mr. Rice<sup>15</sup> visited us. John McClung here.

12. I went to Worcester to see Hugh Henderson, found him in much the same distressed state that I left him in, but I hope more knowing and acquainted with his Condition and with his Duty. N.B. Mr. Burr at the Goal with me. I prayed with him, a multitude attending. He earnestly desired me to see him again and wishes over and over that I would preach to him.

<sup>7</sup> Captain Samuel Forbush of Westborough.

<sup>8</sup> Joshua Townsend of Westborough.

<sup>9</sup> Mrs. John Danforth.

<sup>10</sup> Simeon Hayward.

<sup>11</sup> Joshua Lock.

<sup>12</sup> Mrs. John Rogers.

<sup>13</sup> Probably Mrs. John Pratt.

<sup>14</sup> Richard Tozer of Westborough.

<sup>15</sup> Edmund Rice, an original settler of Westborough.

N.B. When I called at Mr. Cushing's<sup>16</sup> as I went up, Colonel Woods was there, on his return from Rutland. As I returned in the evening, there rose a storm of Lightening and Rain. Mr. Lock came and carried in Corn.

13. John McClung (who lodged here last night) carried in more of the Corn from the Barn. Paid John the whole and he bid farewell. At evening Brother Hicks helped in more Corn.

14. Jonathan Rogers got in Pumpkins, and the remainder of the Corn.

15. Noah How helped in with Turnips and some of the Potatoes. At eve old Mr. Rice, Mr. Jarvis came up.

16. Mat. 3, 1-4. John 16, 8. N.B. I was called away between 8 and 9 in the morning to see old Captain Byles, who was very bad with his Throat and at night I visited him again. N.B. The Congregation disturbed P.M. by the burning of Mr. David Brigham's House but when people gathered in again, and were composed, I went on with the rest of my sermon. A very sorrowful Providence! a great Loss! but I trust them and all of us to profit by it, that our Hearts may be taken off from temporal transitory Enjoyments.

17. Rainy. Various Company all day and at Evening. N.B. Mr. James Fay dind with us. N.B. Mr. Wheeler<sup>17</sup> distressed in Conscience for Hugh Henderson. Captain Williams from Marlboro.

18. Visited Captain Byles who is grown exceeding bad again. Visited the wife of William Rogers, Junior and proceeded to Mr. Brigham's to see their Desolations. A Sorrowful Sight! I desire heartily to sympathize. Returned to Captain Byles. He dyed this evening. N.B. Mr. Jarvis went to Boston in the morning. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Forbes<sup>18</sup> at my house in the Evening and after him Messers. Edward and Benjamin Goddard.<sup>19</sup>

19. Mr. Brigham's son David fetched away divers things which we lent them in their necessity. Nathan Maynard P.M. digging Potatoes.

<sup>16</sup> Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

<sup>17</sup> Joseph Wheeler.

<sup>18</sup> Deacon Jonathan Forbush was one of the first to change the name to Forbes.

<sup>19</sup> The Goddards were from Shrewsbury.



20. Funeral of Captain Joseph Byles. My Spouse, Mrs. Richard Burrough and my Dauter Molly all there with me. The deceased was a bright example of Diligence and Industry in his calling, Constancy at the House of God, diligent attention to the Worship and Word preached, Truth and Faithfulness to his word and exact Honesty in his Trading. To which add a singularly manly Heroic Spirit. Visited old Mrs. Pratt at Eve. Captain Eager came home with us.

21. Closely engaged in my preparations. At eve Brother William Parkman came from the Council at Concord, which had voted Mr. Whiting<sup>20</sup> unfit to sustain the holy ministry and advised the church of Concord to dismiss him, which they complied with. N.B. Mr. Francis Pierce here—finished with him about his Boards. N.B. My Brother left us. Dr. Gott called in, P.M. I rode to Shrewsbury and met with Mr. Burr at Mr. Cushing's. I proceeded to Worcester and stopped at the Goal at the Grates to speak with the Prisoner and to put him in mind of the preparations needful for him to make in order to keeping his Last Sabbath. I lodged at Mr. Burr's.

23. Early in the morning began to write my address to the Prisoner. A.M. on Eccl. 11, 9, a crowded assembly, poor Hugh Henderson present. P.M. on Job 3, 36. A very great congregation, it being in their apprehension the last Sabbath Sermon the poor Criminal is to hear. At evening called at Mr. Eaton's<sup>21</sup> and at the Sherrif's, who went with me to the Prison. I interrogated the Prisoner what was the occasion of his coming to this country—whether he had discovered and acknowledged all that was fit and proper for him to reveal? Whether he had any confederates? A great number flocked in the Goal when at his Request I prayed with him. I left him between 8 and 9. By that I went to Mr. Cushing's where I intended to lodge. They were all in Bed wherefore, though cold, I proceeded home to my own House. N.B. Mr. Jarvis came up last night in a chair.

<sup>20</sup> Reverend John Whiting, minister of the First Church in Concord, 1712-1737.

<sup>21</sup> Joshua Eaton (Harvard 1735), the first lawyer to settle in Worcester and later the first minister of Spencer. *Sibley*, IX, 533-538.

24. Mr. Burr left us early in the morning. P.M. Mr. Jarvis, my wife, Mrs. Bekky and I rode to the Great Pond to Captain Warren's<sup>22</sup> and Captain Forbush's. N.B. Supped at Captain Forbush's.

25. Mr. Jarvis and Mrs. Bekky Burough left us. I rode to Hopkinton Association. All that came besides were Mr. Nathan Stone and Mr. Solomon Prentice. Mr. Barrett<sup>23</sup> concio.on 1 Pet. 4, 11. If any man speaketh.

26. Public Lecture by Mr. Solomon Prentice on Job 12, 35. First part. N.B. I had a very Sudden Turn of Sharp Pain in my Side after Dinner, but through Mercy, I recovered.

Mr. Prentice went home with me and lodged at our House.

27. Rode with Mr. Prentice to Grafton and preached his Lecture on Jude 10, 21. Returned to Westboro at night. N.B. The Governor has reprieved Hugh Henderson for a month at the request of Mr. Burr and Mr. Prentice.

28. Ah! what sad grounds of Severe Reflection upon myself for my wretched negligence and unfaithfulness! How great need of renewing and fixing my Resolutions of Reformation. But especially of crying unto God for pardon of what is past and Grace to assist and quicken me henceforward!

29. [No entry].

30. All day on Job, 3, 36. Rain A.M. High winds at even. N.B. Mr. Chamberlain<sup>24</sup> din'd with us.

#### NOVEMBER, 1737

1. Visited Mr. Danforth.
2. [No entry].
3. Stormy.
4. Very cold.
5. I rode to Southborough. Met Mr. Stone by Captain Warren's. Very cold. Mr. Peabody<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Moquet<sup>2</sup> of Framingham here.

<sup>22</sup> Daniel Warren.

<sup>23</sup> Reverend Samuel Barrett of Hopkinton.

<sup>24</sup> Ebenezer Chamberlain of Westborough.

<sup>1</sup> Reverend Oliver Peabody of Natick.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Moquet, an innkeeper. Temple, *Framingham*, pp. 642-643.

6. Preached at Southborough, on Job 3, 36 A. and P.M. At eve, Colonel Ward<sup>3</sup> and his wife came in to Mr. Stone's. N.B. The Colonel's exceptions against that passage in my forenoon sermon, p. 2—too Small for the Divine Oracle to have been exprest about either.

7. At Mr. Tim Brigham's.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Stone brought Mrs. Parkman to his House, we dind there, after which I rode to visit old Mrs. Morse<sup>5</sup> at Marlborough, confined by her Broken Bone, and in great distress of mind, whilst Mr. Stone went with my wife up to Dr. Gott's. There we tarried all night.

8. Called at Captain Williams, and at Mr. Ebenezer Beeman's on our way home. P.M. Funeral of one of Mrs. Seth Rice's Dauters<sup>6</sup> who dyed by a Quinsy. Rain. N.B. The Floor of the Room at Mr. Rice's broke under us.

9. Stormy.

10. I rode to Mr. Wheeler's, called at Mr. Danforth<sup>7</sup> as I went, but din'd at Mr. Wheeler's. N.B. Mr. Thomas Ward at Mr. Nathan Balls's. I was at Mr. Lawrence's<sup>8</sup> and at Mr. Gershom Fay's<sup>9</sup> and at Mr. McCollister's.<sup>10</sup> N.B. Disappointment about Swine notwithstanding my long Dependence.

11. We first tyed up our Cattle in the Barn. My oxen were at work for Mr. David Brigham's to cart stones for their chimneys. I was at Mr. Grout's about Beef.

12. Fine warm day.

13. John 3, 36 and P.M. on John 16, 8. Captain Eager sick.

14. Brother Hicks went to Cambridge upon my Horse.

15. Trooping and Training—prayed with the foot before Dinner and dind with the officers of both Horse and Foot—prayed

<sup>3</sup> Colonel William Ward of Southborough.

<sup>4</sup> Timothy Brigham was a distinguished citizen of Southborough, being town treasurer and selectman for many years.

<sup>5</sup> Widow of Joseph Morse.

<sup>6</sup> Ruth Rice died Nov. 7, 1737, age about 18 months.

<sup>7</sup> John Danforth of Westborough.

<sup>8</sup> Benjamin Lawrence of Westborough.

<sup>9</sup> Gershom Fay, Jr., the nephew of Captain John Fay lived in that part of Westborough that later became Northborough.

<sup>10</sup> John McCollister.

with the whole Body at Eve. N.B. Captain Eager detained by his sickness and Lieutenant Baker<sup>11</sup> also absent. N.B. I wrote to Worcester by Captain Moses Rice,<sup>12</sup> being I could not visit the Prisoner.

16. Brother Hicks came up with Sister Willard.<sup>13</sup>

17. Mr. Tainter came to me before Sunrise and informed me of a most Sudden and awful accident in their neighbourhood. That the wife of Mr. Joshua Harrington (who came up with his Family to Dwell among us, but this Day three weeks) was Shot in the head last evening, a little before Sundown, by a servant named Ebenezer Chubb in his 15th year, and she dyed upon the Spot. Mr. Tainter was going for the Coroner. Public Thanksgiving. Preached on Lev. 3, 1. After the publick exercises, the Coroner's Inquest sat on the body of Mrs. Harrington and their verdict was Accidental Death.

18. My wife and Sister were with me at the funeral of Mrs. Harrington.

19. [No entry].

20. Sacrament. John 16, 8, repeated. Mat. 10, 29, 30 P.M. N.B. Mrs. Trewsdale<sup>14</sup> of Newton, mother of Mrs. Harrington, above mentioned, dind with us.

21. I rode up to Worcester to see Hugh Henderson again. Was sorry to find he had tried to make his escape by filing the Goal door. We talked more of other matters, and kept longer off from the main point of his case than heretofore. I'm more put to it to judge of his Frame. Mr. Burr came to me, requested me to preach to him on Wednesday. Hugh desires it of me, and several of the people repeatedly and urgently insist and plead for it. I prayed with the prisoner and took leave at about seven o'clock. N.B. His Discourses of the Jury, not going by the laws of God and the Country in Condemning him, having but Circumstantial Evidence. As to Newton, he offered him all reasonable

<sup>11</sup> Edward Baker, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>12</sup> Keeper of a public house in Worcester.

<sup>13</sup> Parkman's sister, Susanna, wife of Captain Josiah Willard of Salem.

<sup>14</sup> *Newton Vital Records* indicate that Elizabeth Trusdall married Joshua Harrington in 1731.

Satisfaction, etc. But he added, that he was guilty, and his many sins had provoked God to anger, etc.

I called at Mr. Cushings and supped there. Thence I rode home.

22. Deacon Miles of Concord here to bring the Request of the Church that I would assist in the Fast they have appointed in order to the Calling another Minister.

23. The wife and younger son of Mr. Increase Ward very bad. I visited them and old Mrs. Pratt A.M. P.M. I rode up to Worcester at the Request of the Criminal and others to preach to him. There were so many at the Goal that we were obliged to go to the Meeting-House. I preached on 1 Tim. 1, 15. Supped (with Mr. Campbell)<sup>15</sup> at Deacon Haywards.<sup>16</sup> We visited the Prisoner. He spoke of having a solemn warning taken from his mouth, but chose to have it deferred to the morning, but prayed I would be early. We lodged at Mr. Burr's.

24. I went to the Prisoner as early as I could, and Mr. Burr was with me to assist in penning down what the Prisoner had to deliver by way of Confession and Warning to the World before his Execution. In it I was as punctual and strict as I could be in inserting his own words as near as I could, and when any others were used. It [Here this portion of the diary ends].

1738

JANUARY

1. Nothing less than Patience and Forbearance which is Divine could permitt me another Year Still! A.M. on Mat. 8, 5—P.M., on Eccl. 1, 2. I would Committ to God the Events of this Year, and I would enter a fixed Resolution, by the Grace of God to Serve Him in Fidelity in Some preferable Degree to what I have done heretofore.

2. Was at the Funeral of the Young Child of Mr. Thomas Bruce.

<sup>15</sup> Reverend John Campbell of Oxford.

<sup>16</sup> Deacon Daniel Heywood of the Old South Church in Worcester.

3. Was at the Funeral of a Child<sup>1</sup> of Mr. Josiah Russell, of about 5 years old, an hopeful, desirable Child—The Third that has dyd of late by the Quincy, and the 10th that has dyd in 10 weeks.

4. Captain Eager calld me in the morning to go over to Upton to the Ordination of Mr. Thomas Weld.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Tainter also went over with us. The Churches sent to were, the Church in Mendon, Brookline, Hopkinton, Attlebury, Uxbridge and Grafton; Mr. Barrett prayd before Sermon, Mr. Allen<sup>3</sup> preach'd on Isa. 6, 8. Mr. Dorr<sup>4</sup> gave the Charge; Mr. Weld of Attlebury the right Hand. Entertainment was plentiful at Ensign Woods. N.B. Deacon Millins<sup>5</sup> of Hopkinton Disputes for Ruling Elders, in opposition to the Doctrine deliver'd to Day. A very fine, bright, moderate Day. Return'd at Evening.

5. At Private Meeting at Brother Hicks's. Preached on Ps. 73, 25. Received the melancholly news of the Death of Madame Chandler, who deaced on [blank].

6. James Bradish, Junior, carryd away my Flax to dress it.

7. Visited Mr. Increase Wards Family, 4 of them being sick. Rebecca very low.

8. On Matt. 8, 5-1 Cor. 15, 31. Moderate Day. Large Company.

9. Visited Mr. Wards Family again. Rebecca still living, though exceeding bad. Sent by Mr. Whipple to Boston—Letters from New Haven. Moderate, bright Day. N.B. Mr. Campbell of Oxford here.

10. Visited old Mr. Forbush.<sup>6</sup> Returnd by Mr. Cooks<sup>7</sup> and Mr. Wards.

<sup>1</sup> The death of neither child is recorded in *Westborough Vital Records*.

<sup>2</sup> (Harvard 1723). *Sibley*, VII, 273-279.

<sup>3</sup> Probably James Allin (Harvard 1710), the first minister of Brookline. *Sibley*, V, 506-510.

<sup>4</sup> Reverend Joseph Dorr of Mendon.

<sup>5</sup> Henry Mellen.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Forbush.

<sup>7</sup> Cornelius Cook, son-in-law of Thomas Forbush.

11. Ensign Maynard here from Boston. Provisions exceeding Dear there.

12. I rode to visit the Indians, Old David,<sup>8</sup> etc., at their Wigwam. At Captain Warrin's about Pork; and rode up to Mr. Reuben Maynards on the same account but he not at home, being gone to Mr. Joseph Miles' wedding. N.B. I visited Mr. Samuel Fay and Family, and Mr. Bezaleel Smiths.

13. Mr. Elias Havin,<sup>9</sup> on his journey to preach at Leicester here and lodged here. N.B. Captain Fay here at Evening also, and Mr. Reuben Maynard. It has been a Week of remarkably warm, pleasant Weather little freezing even o'nights. N.B. I had visited Rebecca Ward, P.M. being called by Mr. Samuel Fay, junior.

14. Mr. Haven left us. Very high winds, but not very Cold. Rebecca Ward<sup>10</sup> dy'd.

15. Matt. 8, 14, 15. John 16, 8. Raw Cold. Many Weathers.

16. Very Cold. P.M. at Captain Warrins, but he was not at home.

17. Rebecca Ward was buried.

18. [No entry].

19. Rode up to Captain Fays, to Mr. Reuben Maynards and to Cousin Winchesters.

20. The Weather has been for Some Days wondrous fine and moderate.

21. [Blank] Miller, a Glazier, mended our Glass.

22. Matt. 8, 16, 17. Luk. 1, 6. My Spouse was taken into the Church. Rained hard in the night.

23. At Eve Mr. Miles (son of Deacon Miles) from Concord with a present of Onions. The same Eve Mr. Horn, Mr. Daniel Fay, and Mr. Joseph Woods of Southborough were here. In the Hands of the Former were a pair of Gloves for my wife and me from Colonel Chandler<sup>11</sup> of Worcester.

<sup>8</sup> David Monanaow or Munnanaw.

<sup>9</sup> Elias Haven (Harvard 1733), schoolmaster at Hopkinton and later minister of Franklin, 1738-1754. *Sibley*, IX, 304-309.

<sup>10</sup> Daughter of Increase Ward.

<sup>11</sup> John Chandler, Jr.

24. Read Dr. Edwards<sup>12</sup> on the Use and Abuse of Apparell.

25. Mr. Cushing made us a visit and tarried into Evening.

26. Mr. Increase Ward and his son had requested that we would keep this Day in humiliation and Prayer on account of the Frowns of Heaven upon them in their grievous Sickness and Bereavment. Considering also that the Providence of God had been remarkable in the Late Mortality. The Exercise was publicly mentiond in the Congregation the Sabbath past, but because of Mr. Ward's and his Familys Circumstances we kept it at his House. Mr. Prentice<sup>13</sup> came at our request and assisted in the Prayers. I preachd on John 2, 2. Repeating with some alterations and Additions, part of my sermon on 1 John 4, 10. Many were gathered together and the Family provided a decent refreshment afterwards.

27. Rain, Cold and windy. But in general the weather has been unusually Moderate, or rather warm.

28. My Kinsman<sup>14</sup> came up from College upon my Horse, which I sent down for him, by Ensign Maynard.

29. On Eph. 3, 10, a. and p.m.

30. How different my State from what it was 2 years agoe! God has Set one Thing over against another. We should Sing of the Mercys of the Lord for Ever, but not forgetting his Judgments! Mr. Seth Rice's wife here. We went down to Ensign Maynards in the Evening. N.B. Mr. Haden here.

31. Very Cold windy day. Dr. Gott and his wife and Mr. Timothy Harrington made us a Visit and din'd and spent the Afternoon among us, except what time divers of us were down at Ensign Maynards, where were a Meeting of Houssatunnoc Petitioners for the drawing their Lotts. N.B. Colonel Woods there also. Very Cold Evening but they all returnd to Marlborough.

January leaves us like itself, but the most of the month has been the moderatest that most can remember.

<sup>12</sup> A work by the English Calvinist divine, John Edwards (1637-1716).

<sup>13</sup> Reverend Solomon Prentice of Grafton.

<sup>14</sup> Elias Parkman (Harvard 1737), Ebenezer Parkman's nephew. *Sibley*, X, 223-224.



## FEBRUARY, 1738

1. [No entry].

2. I cannot but remember the Wormwood and the Gall of the Funeral Day Two years agoe<sup>1</sup> and Desire my Soul may still be humbled within me. But God has turned the mourning of the Day (Day Two years agoe) into rejoicing and my sorrow into Gladness. But O that I may neither forget the Blessing enjoyed in my Dear Molly, nor the holy, Severity of the most high in So Sorely and grievously bereaving me of her! [illegible] Storm of Snow. Clear'd Somewhat when it was towards Evening.

3. [No entry].

4. [No entry].

5. Matth. 8, 18, 19, 20. Eph. 5, 25. Rain a.m.

6. Cold. Slippery. Mr. Francis Whipple and his Wife visited us at Eve.

7. Considerable Storm of Snow. Ensign Maynard at Evening. Reading Potters Greek Antiquitys.<sup>2</sup>

8. Bright fine Day. Ensign Maynard went to Boston. I rode down to the South East of the Town, visited Mr. Bradish,<sup>3</sup> Goslin, Jonathan Bellows, Chamberlain, and at Evening Old Mr. Forbush.

9. We rode to Marlborough, our Kinsman in Company, he being accommodated with an Horse by Mr. Aaron Forbush.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Bliss<sup>5</sup> preach'd to the Young Societys in that Town, from Ps. 119, 9. N.B. Confusion in the Singing by the young man's reading the Longer meeter in Standish Tune, throughout the Singing. After Service we went to Dr. Gotts, where we were refresh'd for we did not dine at Captain Williams's where we call'd before meeting. Divers of us Spent the Eve at the Colonel's. My Spouse and I lodg'd at Dr. Gotts, but my Kinsman with Mr. Bliss.

<sup>1</sup> The first Mrs. Parkman died Jan. 29, 1736.

<sup>2</sup> John Potter, *Archaeologica Graeca: or the Antiquities of Greece*, 2 volumes (Oxford, 1697-99). Numerous other editions followed.

<sup>3</sup> James Bradish.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Deacon Thomas Forbush.

<sup>5</sup> Daniel Bliss (Yale 1732), later the minister at Concord, Mass., 1738-1764. Dexter, pp. 439-440.

10. Settled all accompts with Colonel Woods,<sup>6</sup> unto this Day. Visited Mr. David Goodenow of Westborough under Lameness and Confinement at Marlborough. Din'd at the Doctors and then rode up home. Snow'd while we were upon the way. Town Meeting at Westborough. N.B. I gave Mr. James Miller a request to be admitted into No. 3 of the Houssatunnocs. Ensign Maynard brought up divers Things from Boston for me. N.B. Oysters, Salt Fish, etc.

11. Ensign Maynard din'd with us upon Salt Fish, etc.

12. Mr. Grow<sup>7</sup> dind with us. Variable Weather. Eph. 5, 25. Repeated Sermon 2 on Matt. 20, 6. From 1 Tim. 5, 13.

13. Mr. Tainter came and kill'd our Hog. Weigh'd about 12 score. N.B. Mr. Tainters Cousen Kendal<sup>8</sup> of Suffield here. They din'd with us. N.B. I wrote to Mr. Timothy Woodbridge,<sup>9</sup> junior of Simsbury by Mr. Kendall. Brother Hicks just at night pinch'd up the Barn Floor, and cutt up and Salted my Pork at Evening. Potter's Antiquities.

14. Mr. Weld of Upton came to See me and [illegible].

15. Mr. Weld left us. Pleasant Day. Jotham Maynard thrashing Rye. One of my little last year Twin Lambs found Dead at the old House. At Evening Neighbor Hezekiah Pratt, Mr. Whipple,<sup>10</sup> Mr. Livermore,<sup>11</sup> and Mr. James Fay<sup>12</sup> here.

16. I visited Edward Fay Sick at Mr. Increase Wards. Jotham Maynard thrash'd Rye, and p.m. he clean'd it up. 5½ Bushels. N.B. I reckon'd with Mr. Josiah Newton. N.B. I deliver'd up to Mr. Hezekiah Pratt a Bond of 900£ which he had given his Parents and which was repos'd in my Hands.

17. Very Cold, windy. Dr. Gott din'd here.

<sup>6</sup> Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel Grow of Westborough.

<sup>8</sup> Susanna, daughter of Deacon Simon Tainter, married Thomas Kendall of Suffield, Conn.

<sup>9</sup> (Yale 1732), tutor at Yale College at this time and later minister in Hatfield, Mass., 1740-1770. Dexter, p. 469.

<sup>10</sup> Francis Whipple.

<sup>11</sup> Jonathan Livermore.

<sup>12</sup> Son of Captain John Fay.

18. Mr. Weld came at Candle Light. I had a troublesome Cold ride—got no further than to Mr. Phinehas Hardy at Grafton. Lodg'd there.

19. Mr. Hardy was so kind as to ride over to Upton with me. A Cold windy Day. I preach'd on Heb. 13, 17. Was entertain'd at Ensign Jonathan Woods. Went into Mr. Sadlers<sup>13</sup> after the afternoon service. Conversation on his wide Difference with Mr. Weld.

20. I rode down to Mrs. Dorrs at Mendon, and din'd there. Mr. Dorr acquainted me with the Disquietments at Bellingham and the late Councils there. Mr. Weld and my Kinsman came to Mendon. When we return'd from thence we call'd at Mr. Sadlers and at Captain Hazletines.<sup>14</sup> Late home and Cold. My wife had a very ill turn, and had been very ill for Two Dayes. Keeps her Chamber. Abort,<sup>15</sup> etc., etc.

21. My wife keeps Chamber. Mr. Stone<sup>16</sup> of Southborough made us a Visit.

22. Read Eusebius Hist. Eccl. by Valesius.<sup>17</sup> Mr. Maynard and Sister Hicks were kind in visiting my wife.

23. It was generally very good pleasant Weather.

24. Mr. Jonathan Whipple was So kind as to present me with a Store Pigg about Six weeks old.

25. [No entry.]

26. Matth. 8, 21, 22. Eph. 5, 25.

27. Very Cold. Brother Breck<sup>18</sup> of Springfield came at Evening.

28. My Spouse first got down stairs after her illness After Dinner Brother Breck and my Kinsman rode to Marlborough. I rode as far with them as my visit to old Mr. Forbush led me. Mr. Forbush in a very low State and not likely to Continue. At

<sup>13</sup> Captain John Sadler, one of the first selectmen of Upton. *Upton, Mass., 1735-1935* (Upton, 1936), pp. 11, 14.

<sup>14</sup> John Hazeltine, an early resident and prominent citizen of Upton.

<sup>15</sup> Old usage for an untimely birth or miscarriage.

<sup>16</sup> Reverend Nathan Stone.

<sup>17</sup> An English translation of Valesius' edition of Eusebius, *History of the Christian Church*, 3 volumes (Cambridge, 1720).

<sup>18</sup> Samuel Breck (Harvard 1741), Parkman's brother-in-law, married Elizabeth Cooley of Springfield, Mass., in 1744. He became a surgeon.

Evening wrote by Neighbor David Maynard, junior, to Brother Samuel Parkman by who I sent the Ballance of Mr. Billings (Taylor at Boston) Accompt, being 9£.

MARCH [1738]

1. Expected my Kinsman but in vain. N.B. Our Brethrens Interest in Marlborough sold by auction for 113£.
2. Lecture on Gal. 6, 15. Church Meeting. See the Records.
3. Brother Breck and my Kinsman return'd and din'd with us. P.M. Brother Breck went from us on his Journey to Springfield.
4. Fine Weather—invites to Guardening. The Chive and parsely Sprung.
5. Rain. Sacrament. Heb. 10, 35. P.M. Exod. 18, 21. Mr. Greaves, Deacon Fay and his wife din'd with us. Very much tir'd at night.
6. Town meeting. Chose only 4 select men all Day. Rain, Cold.
7. Adjournment of Town Meeting. Grows Cold again. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Forbush helped me in laying a front Hearth Stone in my Study.
8. Cold, windy Day. Visited old Mr. Thomas Forbush. My Kinsman (accommodated with Mr. Francis Whipples Horse) rode with me to Shrewsbury. N.B. Mr. Cushing gone to Lancaster. N.B. A Meeting of the Proprietors of the Houssatunnoc Township No. 3<sup>1</sup> at Captain Daniel Hows. And on Consideration of my paying 15£ I was admitted into their Society. N.B. The peculiar Friendliness of those who were Westborough Members, and especially of Mr. James Miller, who in a Singular manner espoused my Cause. The remaining Right (of the Seven that were to be disposed of) was sold to the highest Bidder for 26£ 10s. Late in the night when we got home, and very Cold, but through the Goodness of God we got home Safe and well.
9. Catechizing at the Meeting House forenoon and Afternoon.
10. I visited old Mr. Thomas Forbush being esteemed to be near his End. He acknowledged his Passionateness, and rash

<sup>1</sup> Later the town of Sheffield, Mass.

Speaking, especially in the Times of our Contention, and ask'd forgiveness.

11. A very sharp Storm,—the Snow deep for it fell all Day.

12. I had prepar'd a Discourse to Wives, but I did not care to deliver it because there were So few at meeting. I repeated a. and p.m. Sermon on Gal. 6, 15.

13. It was a Day appointed to get Wood for me, but the Depths of the Snow prevented Captain Eager and his Neighbours. But Captain Warrin and his Son Jonas came with a good Strong Team, and Neighbor Aaron Hardy and his Boy, Samuel Forbush (son of the Ensign) and Charles Bruce, and in the afternoon John Rogers and John Bradish came; and they got me a good Pile, 10 very large Loads, though it was heavy, troublesome Stirring and but one Team.

14. A.M. John Rogers with their Oxen and mine sledged stones from the Chimney of the Old House, but the Rain prevail'd upon us in so much that we were beat off before noon. N.B. Lieutenant Holloway<sup>2</sup> brought News from my mother, Brother, etc., with Flower, etc. N.B. Mr. Wheeler here. Talk of Jason again.

15. Very much troubled with the Tooth ach by means of the Cold I took yesterday.

16. The Tooth ach prevails upon me.

17. With great difficulty attend'd at all to my Studys, by means of Pain.

18. Blistering relieves me as it has been wont, but am much indispos'd.

19. On Eph. 5, 22, 33. N.B. So ill a Night last that when I awak'd in the morning I concluded I Should not be able to go to meeting. But Samuel Forbush came with an Earnest Request from his dying Grandfather that I would step down to him. I rose, and wrapping up well I ventur'd, pray'd with him, etc. As the Day rose I grew more lively, and by Divine Favour I got through the Exercises. N.B. Mr. Samuel Mason<sup>3</sup> of Stonington din'd and Supp'd and lodg'd here.

<sup>2</sup> William Holloway of Westborough.

<sup>3</sup> Descendant of Captain John Mason of Pequot War fame.

20. Under Indisposition still and great Fear of the Return of the Rheumatism. N.B. Old Mr. Forbush dy'd last night about 10 o'Clock. Mr. Mason rode to Mr. Peabodys.

21. A Dull Day but I ventur'd out being it was the Funeral of old Mr. Forbush. N.B. Mr. Reuben Maynard of Shrewsbury brought home the Pork I bought of him. The weight was 239£. Mr. Tainter was so kind as to come and Cutt it out and Salt it down.

22. Obadiah Walker<sup>4</sup> here.

23. Mr. Daniel Whitney of Waterton here with Mr. Tainter, having been up to view Mr. Thomas Wards Farm.

24. [No entry].

25. [No entry].

26. On Ps. 146, 3, 4.

27. Captain Abraham Williams<sup>5</sup> here and din'd with us. P.M. My wife and Kinsman, with Captain Williams and me, rode to Cousin Winchester, who had lately lain in, and leaving my wife, we rode to Grafton. But Mr. Prentice was gone to Cambridge. Captain Williams, in returning, continued his Journey to Marlborough, but we stay'd So long at Cousen Winchester as to sup.

28. My Wife and Kinsman and I were at Ensign Maynards at Eve.

29. Proprietors Meeting of the Houssatunnock Township No. 3. N.B. A mistake of Date of what was transacted at last Meeting at Shrewsbury by which what was then done is render'd somewhat uncertain. N.B. Some Considerable writing done of Conveyance of Titles, etc.

30. My Kinsman left us, upon my Horse, accompany'd by Mr. Francis Whipple. Did something at Gardening.

31. [No entry].

#### APRIL, 1738

1. Mr. Whipple return'd with my Horse from my Kinsman.

2. On Eph. 6, 4. Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlains Wife din'd with us.

<sup>4</sup> Of Marlborough.

<sup>5</sup> Parkman's brother-in-law of Marlborough.

3. Raw Cold.

4. I rode abroad for Help in my Farm Business. Went to Mr. David Brigham's and found their Dauter Deberah very ill of a Fever. I took a ride round by Captain Forbush<sup>1</sup> and old Mr. Wards.<sup>2</sup> Silas Brigham here at Evening, his sister Deborah being at the point of Death. Easterly lowering Weather.

5. Deborah Brigham very low and dangerously ill. A very great storm of Rain, Cold and tedious, especially in the Morning. When it was more moderate I went down to see Deborah Brigham. Our maid boiling Soap.

6. Mr. Pratt, with his Cattle, Brother Hicks's and my own, to which we added Mr. Rogers's in the Afternoon broke up the Grass Ground on the West and South of the old House. P.M. I visited Mr. Josiah Russells Child which was Sick. Cloudy and Raw weather yet. Mr. Pratt, p.m., plough'd Stubble Ground.

7. Easterly Wind, Cloudy, Cold—Rain at Times throughout the Day.

8. The Same Weather still. Captain Brigham<sup>3</sup> of Marlborough here. P.M. I rode to Shrewsbury and met Mr. Cushing<sup>4</sup> coming to Westborough. Mr. Burr<sup>5</sup> at Mr. Cushings.

9. I preach'd at Shrewsbury on Rev. 3, 1. Return'd at Eve, home, and there found Mr. Andrew Boardman<sup>6</sup> School Master of Hopkinton who lodg'd with us.

10. I rode to Marlborough. Mr. Burr (who preach'd at Marlborough yesterday for Mr. Bliss) was there when I went down. Conversation with him about Bedford Lands in Connecticut. Din'd at Dr. Gotts. Talk'd with Ensign Gotham Ward touching what had been reported of the neiboring ministers in the Affair of Marlborough against Mr. Benjamin Kent.<sup>7</sup> In

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Forbush.

<sup>2</sup> Increase Ward.

<sup>3</sup> Nathan Brigham.

<sup>4</sup> Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

<sup>5</sup> Reverend Isaac Burr of Worcester.

<sup>6</sup> Andrew Bordman (Harvard 1737), later minister of the First Congregational Church in Chilmark, 1746-1776. *Sibley*, X, 121-122.

<sup>7</sup> Minister of Marlborough.

returning Home, had Colonel William Wards Company. N.B. Took down a Jack at Father Breck's.<sup>8</sup>

11. David Baverick wrought for me.

12. David Wrought to Day also, and Mr. Aaron Forbush wrought with my Team in Splitting Hills.

13. Fast. On Ps. 65, 2.

14. David Batherick again. He Sow'd Rye.

15. David Still. He Carted stuff and mended Fence. Neighbor Aaron Hardy came with a Yoke of Oxen and plough'd up the rest of the stubble ground. I was necessitated a.m. to assist at the Team my Self to my great Trouble and affliction.

16. Sacrament. Repeated Isa. 50, 10. P.M. Eph. 6, 4.

17. I rode into the Southwest part of the Town for necessary Supplys for the occasion approaching. N.B. Mr. Hall of Sutton here. N.B. Mr. William Caruth planted Potatoes for me.

18. Brother Hicks and his wife rode upon my Horse to Cambridge. The Association met at our House, Viz. Mr. Prentice<sup>9</sup> of Lancaster, Mr. Loring,<sup>10</sup> Mr. Cushing, Mr. Stone of Southborough, Mr. Prentice of Grafton (who also brought his Spouse with him). Mr. Jabez Richardson<sup>11</sup> and Mr. Andrew Boardman likewise came. No Body was prepared to give a Concio. At their Request I repeated my Discourse on Eph. 3, 10. Our Conversation turn'd upon the Affairs of Marlborough as they respected the Settlement of Mr. Bliss among them. Mr. Stone and Mr. Boardman left us.

19. Mr. Bliss and Mr. Haven came. Mr. Prentice of Grafton laid some Difficultys he was labouring under, before us. Mr. Prentice the Moderator gave Mr. Bliss reasons why he Suppos'd the Association would not look upon themselves call'd to meddle with the Affairs of Marlborough. The Moderator preach'd the public Lecture on Ps. 73, 25. I pray'd the Church to receive

<sup>8</sup> Home of the late Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough, father of Parkman's second wife.

<sup>9</sup> Reverend John Prentice.

<sup>10</sup> Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

<sup>11</sup> (Harvard 1730), an itinerant preacher and schoolmaster at Woburn. *Sibley*, VIII, 778.



their Votes for a Deacon or Deacons. The First (which was not ripen'd till the 3d Trial) was for Brother Thomas Forbush, For whom (at last there were 24 Votes out of 36 Members). Then the Church unanimously mov'd for a second to be Chosen—to which I consented. But seeing the Association were waiting for me I (with the Church's Consent) appointed Deacon Fay to receive the Church's Votes whilst I withdrew. When I returned I found they had chosen Brother Seth Rice to be the other Deacon.<sup>12</sup>

20. John Rogers wrought for me—ploughed in Rye and Barley.

21. Simon Tainter, junior, came and wrought for me. He plough'd the remainder of the Stubble, with Brother Hicks's oxen join'd to mine. P.M. Plough'd in Barley, with only my Cattle. I planted Cucumbers, Squashes. At Eve visited Mr. Hezekiah How, his Dauter being Sick.

22. Rain a.m. Held up p.m., yet Brother Hicks comes not with the Children.

23. Eph. 6, 4. Very pleasant weather.

24. A Fine, forward season. Brother and Sister Hicks came up from Cambridge and brought home my Dauter Lucy, who had been at Cambridge for 2 Years, and through the Favours of Heaven she had a fine, Comfortable journey. D.G.

25. Mr. Haden here, and help'd me mend the Boxes of my Pump.

26. John Rogers wrought for me, plough'd my ground second Time.

27. Catechiz'd at the Meeting House. N.B. 42 Boys A.M. [blank] Girls p.m. Mr. William Caruth came and P.M. planted more potatoes.

28. The Spring advanc'd mightily, but today was very Cold. Suse Cutting had today to visit her Friends in the South of the Town.

29. Trees put out very much—begin to Bloom.

<sup>12</sup> See Church Records, April 19 and May 25, 1738. Both Thomas Forbush, Jr., and Seth Rice declined election.

30. Eph. 6, 4. God grant that all Parents might have a due sense of the weighty Duty incumbent on them respecting the Education of their Children! their Important Chance and tremendous Reckoning!

## MAY, 1738

1. Mr. Habijah Bruce sent his son Charles with a Yoke of Oxen to cross my Grass-Ground and they began the work, but old Mr. Greaves gave me so much of his Experience of planting upon the sods, that offering also to assist me in it, we proceeded to have it harrowed and then planted it. His Brother Francis Pierce also help'd in it. N.B. Goodman Gore of Marlborough here. Pleasant weather. P.M. Charles ploughed over the rest of the stubble ground.

2. Hired James Bradish and Noah How to cart out Muck, but before noon came Mr. John Watkin from Upton and offer'd to undertake my Work for longer or shorter Time. Accordingly a little before noon he went to work. P.M. Noah went home, and Mr. Watkin wrought at the Team in his Stead. Cool, raw weather, p.m. Great Expectation of Rain at the dry Time, but Clouds fail.

3. Watkins burning Brush all Day on the Hill and in the Low Ground as well as on the south side.

4. Watkins carted muck and Harrowed. P.M. came Abraham Moss, whom I at Eve hired for 4 Months for 20£.

5. Abraham Moss began to work. Watkins work'd till noon and then, with Consent, left us. Carting Muck and harrowing and furrowing out.

6. Furrowing and planting. Fine refreshing Showers of Rain upon the Thirsty Earth.

7. Repeated the greatest part of Sermon 4 and 5 on Mat. 20, 6 from Rom. 12, 11 and P.M. preach'd on Eph. 6, 1, 2, 3.

8. Rode to Captain Forbush, Captain Warrins, and to Mr. Joslins. N.B. Mr. John Swift, junior<sup>1</sup> here. Abraham Moss planting.

<sup>1</sup> (Harvard 1733), son of the Reverend John Swift of Framingham and later the first minister in Acton. *Sibley*, IX, 333-336.

9. High Cold winds. Moss plough'd up the lower south side Stubble. P.M. plough'd it again and furrow'd it out.

10. A.M. finish'd planting Corn. Abraham planted more Potatoes. I sent 5 Young Cattle into the Woods in the Drove of Captain Warrins,<sup>2</sup> etc. Susanna Cutting rode upon my Horse designing to visit her Parents at Waterton. P.M. a great Storm of Rain. Yesterday Mr. Bliss deny'd Marlborough.

11. [No entry.]

12. [No entry.]

13. Deacon Miles<sup>3</sup> of Concord and his Wife were here. P.M. I rode down to Southborough intending to Change with Mr. Stone; and Mr. Stone was accordingly dressing himself when Mr. Man<sup>4</sup> from College came and so earnestly requested and importuned me to change with him that (at Mr. Stones Desire also) I rode over to Marlborough whilst Mr. Man rode up to Westborough.

14. I preach'd at Marlborough on Rev. 3, 1. At the Doctors<sup>5</sup> at Eve, and lodg'd there.

15. Town Meeting at Marlborough to choose a Representative, and church meeting to choose a Pastor. My Business lay with divers persons at both the Meeting House and School House (at the former the Town, at the latter the church met), So that I was unavoidably up there—but lest I Should fall under some Reproach I refus'd to pray with the Church notwithstanding their Sollicitous Messages one after another. N.B. Discourse with Mr. John Sherman about Mr. Brecks pew which some had disorderly and clandestinely pull'd down in Marlborough Meeting House. Having call'd at Captain Warrens I returned home.

16. Susanna Cutting returned home.

17. Mr. Whiting and his Wife, with her Dauter Mrs. Hall made us a Visit and lodg'd.

18. They took leave for Concord.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Warrin, one of the original settlers of Westborough.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Miles.

<sup>4</sup> Hezekiah Man (Harvard 1731). *Sibley*, IX, 65-67.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Benjamin Gott, Parkman's brother-in-law.

19. Abraham Moss went to Framingham.

20. Eph. 6, 1, 2, 3.

21. Town Meeting to choose a Representative. Captain James Eager chosen. N.B. Mr. Thomas Baker, a Taylor, at work here. N.B. Abraham return'd. N.B. I rode to Mr. Beemans<sup>6</sup> and took up 20£ of Bills of the Colony of Rhode Island, of him, and gave him Bond.

23. Brother Hicks<sup>7</sup> rode to Cambridge and carry'd Ebenezer<sup>8</sup> down with him.

24. I rode into the South part of the Town as far as to Mr. Millers where I din'd and to Mr. Samuel Harringtons. N.B. at my returning there was at Captain Fays Mr. Whitman,<sup>9</sup> minister of Farmington, and one of his Sons. N.B. I visited Mr. Samuel Fays wife, but he was himself at New Medfield.

25. Lecture. Repeated Sermon on John 20, 28. Church was Stopp'd to receive the answers of the Brethren who were chosen Deacons.<sup>10</sup> They each of them answer'd in the Negative. There was much debating whether we Should accept Such Reasons as they Supported their Denyal with except what Brother Forbush offer'd concerning his Bodily Infirmities which considering the End and Design of our Choosing Deacons was esteemed of avail by all that Spoke. There were so many differing Sentiments that I was oblig'd to offer to them to Dissolve all that had been done hitherto upon this Business and adjourn to this Day fortnight. N.B. Mr. Livermore put down the New Box, which I had of Mr. Reed of Boston, into the Pump, on the long Spire that it might work in the lower Part of the pump.

26. Variously moving about from house to house for Horse and Tackling<sup>11</sup> for my wife to journey with me next week. N.B. The Pump works well and delivers the Water plentifully. N.B. Colonel William Ward<sup>12</sup> here just at Eve.

<sup>6</sup> Eleazer Beamon of Westborough.

<sup>7</sup> John Hicks, Parkman's brother-in-law.

<sup>8</sup> Parkman's oldest son.

<sup>9</sup> Reverend Samuel Whitman (Harvard 1696). *Sibley*, IV, 315-317.

<sup>10</sup> Thomas Forbush, Jr., and Seth Rice had been elected April 19, 1738.

<sup>11</sup> An old term meaning the harness of a draft animal.

<sup>12</sup> Of that part of Marlborough that became Southborough.

27. Benjamin Forbush came to lead Horse to plough. Sent him to Ensign Forbush's for his Horse for my Wife, and succeeded.

28. Sacrament on Heb. 10, 38, and Eph. 6, 1, 2, 3. N.B. Very Seasonable Rain.

29. When the Rain in the Morning permitted, My Wife rode with me first to Mr. Joslins<sup>13</sup> which was a great hindrance to our Journey; then we proceeded to Marlborough, but the Rain prevailed to such a Degree that we were confin'd there all Night. N.B. The Wooden Horse which some of the Rabble had fastened at Colonel Woods's Door. N.B. Proprietors Meeting but I had not Plot with me. N.B. This Rain a great Mercy.

30. We waited till after dinner for weather, but then ventur'd to undertake our Journey. Mr. Cushing of Shrewsbury and Master Harrington in Company. N.B. just at Evening from Captain Wells to Father Champney's<sup>14</sup> we were in a heavy Shower of Rain. Lodg'd at Cambridge.

31. We rode to Boston. Mr. Webb<sup>15</sup> on Isa. 9, 6. We din'd at Brother Parkman's. P.M. an Ague utterly indispos'd me for going abroad till the next Day. So that I was not at the Convention at Dr. Sewall's.<sup>16</sup> Lodg'd at Brother Elias's. N.B. Mr. Weld<sup>17</sup> of Upton and Mr. John Hunt<sup>18</sup> (preacher) Supp'd at Brothers. N.B. Ebenezer Rode with us from Cambridge to Boston, which he had not Seen Since he was a Babe, but he in no wise likes it, because of the Evil Smells etc. He is under great Infirmitys—weak and Sick and a bad cough.

#### JUNE, 1738

1. Was not at the Convention, but was at the public Concio by Mr. Barnard<sup>1</sup> of Marblehead on Coloss. 1, 18. The Collection

<sup>13</sup> Joseph Joslin of Westborough.

<sup>14</sup> Samuel Champney of Cambridge, father of Parkman's first wife.

<sup>15</sup> Reverend John Webb of the New North Church.

<sup>16</sup> Reverend Joseph Sewall of the Old South Church.

<sup>17</sup> Reverend Thomas Weld.

<sup>18</sup> (Harvard 1734). Hunt did some preaching and then settled down in his home town, Watertown, to become a prosperous merchant and Representative to the General Court. *Sibley*, IX, 414-418.

<sup>1</sup> Reverend John Barnard (Harvard 1700), minister of the First Church of Marblehead, 1715-1770. *Sibley*, IV, 501-514.

for propagating the Gospel amounted to 207£. I din'd at Mr. Edmund Quincy's<sup>2</sup> where also din'd Colonel Chandler<sup>3</sup> of Worcester. P.M. I visited my wife's Aunt Mrs. Loring,<sup>4</sup> and her Kinswoman Mrs. Keggell.<sup>5</sup> I also waited upon Dr. Delhonde<sup>6</sup> for Ebenezer who remains feeble, Sick and Coughing. In the Evening I was at Brother Alexander's where also was my Wife, and we lodged there.

2. Visited in divers places but particularly was at Mr. Thomas Tylers.<sup>7</sup> N.B. Discourse of Mr. Pierponts<sup>8</sup> Circumstances and Affairs at New Haven. P.M. My honored and aged Mother undertook the journey to Westborough with me, my wife riding Single and my mother behind me. We proceeded as far as Father Champney's at Cambridge and lodged there, but were oblig'd to leave poor Ebenezer behind at Boston.

3. We chang'd Horses and my wife rode upon mine and my mother and I upon Ensign Forbushes, and by these means my mother had a very Comfortable Journey, and got up in good Season whilst the sun was a Considerable Height through the great Goodness of God. N.B. Mr. Prentice<sup>9</sup> of Grafton with us. N.B. Weeding finish'd in my Absence.

4. Repeated Sermon on Ps. 119, 136. N.B. Very Crowded assembly by means of Shrewsbury people and Some of Grafton.

5. Abraham Clearing up on the Hill. N.B. My Ague hangs about me yet.

6. Abraham Clearing, hoeing Beans, Covering Potatoes.

7. Mr. Joslin here.

8. Mr. Prentice of Grafton, his wife, and little son Nathaniel with Mrs. Elizabeth Rolfe of Boston, here and din'd with us.

<sup>2</sup> (Harvard 1722). A well known resident of Boston. *Sibley*, VII, 106-116.

<sup>3</sup> John Chandler.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Daniel Loring.

<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Parkman's cousin, Hannah Breck, married Abel Keggell, a merchant of Boston.

<sup>6</sup> Louis Dalhonde, a physician of Boston.

<sup>7</sup> (Harvard 1730). A Boston merchant. *Sibley*, VIII, 791-793.

<sup>8</sup> James Pierpont, Jr. Son of the late Reverend James Pierpont (Harvard 1681) of New Haven.

<sup>9</sup> Reverend Solomon Prentice.

P.M. was Church meeting. I was oblig'd to leave the Company. About 28 members were together. Brother Nathan Ball would not vote at all. The First Business was to Choose more Deacons. Brother Jonathan Forbush was elected by 17 votes out of 26 or 27. And Brother Josiah Newton by 15. N.B. I did not my Self vote for either. Brother Newton answered by way of Acceptance. I then enquir'd whether the Brother who did not vote or any other of the Church had any material objection against either the Churchs proceeding in this Affair or against the persons elected to be Deacons. But none was made. As to the other part of our Business See Church Records.<sup>10</sup> When I return'd home Mr. Hall of Sutton had been there to request me to preach for him next week. But All the Company abovesaid were gone off. N.B. Mr. Joseph Wheeler here after meeting, and we had Some more Discourse about the old Disquietment respecting Jason. He still goes away disquieted. A very Cold wind at Eve. N.B. I hear that this Day Captain Ephraim Williams of Newton with his Family are on their Journey to Houssatunnoc. N.B. Abraham Moss gone today Upon his Business at Sutton.

9. Cold wind to Day. Moss begins half hilling.

10. [No entry].

11. On Consideration of its being the first of our Sending a Representative to the general Court, and that he had obtain'd Liberty to come up, and was now in Town, and on Consideration of our having So much to do in the Affair of Deacons which calls men to Serviceableness, generousness and public Spiritedness, I preach'd on Act. 13, 36. N.B. A great Congregation, many Strangers here, and besides them, many Southborough people, Mr. Stone being gone to Harwich. Dr. Matthew's<sup>11</sup> wife din'd with us.

12. Captain Ware<sup>12</sup> of Sherborn came over from his Brother

<sup>10</sup> The church was also concerned with "the Conduct of Mr. Samuel Fay in keeping from our Communion himself, and withholding his Wife therefrom also, although he had permitted her to bind herself thereto by Solemn Covenant."

<sup>11</sup> Wife or widow of John Matthews, physician of Marlborough and Southborough.

<sup>12</sup> Joseph Ware, prominent citizen and operator of a grist mill in Sherborn. Abner Morse, *Genealogical Register . . . and History of the Towns of Sherborn and Holliston* (Boston, 1856), pp. 253-254.

Williams's to See me. Catechiz'd at Lieutenant Holloways. Was at Mr. Billings's to have a plough made. Fragrant Showers. Abraham Setting plants, Clearing, etc.

13. I help'd in the ploughing among the Corn. Let Mr. Winchester<sup>13</sup> have my oxen to go to Boston.

14. [No entry].

15. My wife rode with me to Grafton. It look'd showery. When at Grafton it rain'd too hard for her to proceed with me according to Design, but Mr. Prentice went with me to Sutton Lecture. I preach'd on 2 Thess. 2, 16, 17. N.B. The Church of Sutton dissatisfy'd with Mr. Peres Rice.<sup>14</sup> Mr. Prentice and I at Mr. Rice's in the Evening and Justice Dudley<sup>15</sup> there also. Mr. Prentice and I rode down to Grafton, where I left my Spouse and we lodged there.

16. We returned from Grafton. N.B. Captain Fay<sup>16</sup> with us. Din'd at Captain Fays. P.M. Cousin Winchester brought up Ebenezer from Cambridge.

17. Abraham mowing about the Barn.

18. I preach'd on Act 13, 36. P.M. repeated Sermon Jam. 1, 21 from 2 Pet. 1, 20, 21.

19. Captain Eager<sup>17</sup> and Captain Warrin here at Evening.

20. Trooping and Training. Mr. Cushing pray'd with the Foot. At Association at Southborough, where were Mr. Prentice of Lancaster, Mr. Loring, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Seccomb,<sup>18</sup> Mr. Jabez Fox<sup>19</sup> and Mr. Josiah Brown.<sup>20</sup> See Association Records. Mr. Seccomb and Mr. Brown deliver'd each an exercise.

<sup>13</sup> Benjamin Winchester of Brookline, who married Elizabeth (Champney) Chamberlain, the first Mrs. Ebenezer Parkman's cousin, was living in Westborough at this time. He later moved to Grafton where he died in 1762.

<sup>14</sup> A former resident of Westborough. Son of Thomas Rice.

<sup>15</sup> Paul Dudley, a judge of the Massachusetts Superior Court.

<sup>16</sup> John Fay of Westborough.

<sup>17</sup> James Eager of Westborough.

<sup>18</sup> Reverend John Seccomb of Harvard, Mass.

<sup>19</sup> (Harvard 1727). Son of the Reverend John Fox of Woburn, Mass. Jabez did some preaching but was not ordained. He became the notary public and representative of the port of Falmouth, Maine. *Sibley*, VIII, 134-137.

<sup>20</sup> Josiah Brown (Harvard 1735) sometime preacher and schoolmaster of Lancaster and Sterling, Mass. *Sibley*, IX, 476-478.



21. Mr. Loring at the public Lecture on 1 Thess. 5, 19. N.B. Colonel Woods<sup>21</sup> and Dr. Stanton Prentice<sup>22</sup> with us. N.B. receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Timothy Woodbridge Junior<sup>23</sup> at Hartford.

23. Hot Day. The Children went a Cherrying P.M. to Captain Fays. Abraham mowing Some Spots about the House.

24. Abraham mowing Bushes. P.M. Mr. Stone came up to change, without any previous agreement or Intimation of it. Yet I gratify'd him immediately and rode to Southborough. Hot Day.

25. Very Hot. I preach'd at Southborough on Rev. 3, 1 a. and p.m. Mr. Stone came at Evening. Hot night again.

26. Weather continues hot.

27. Kill'd a Calf which at Eve (though an hot Season) I sent to Boston by John Rogers at Eve. P.M. near Evening came our Two Brethren of Springfield, who lodged here.

28. Brother Breck<sup>24</sup> rode to Marlborough. Hot weather still. P.M. came Dr. Gott. And after him Dr. Crouch with Two more, from Hadley call'd a while.

29. My wife and Brother Samuel Breck<sup>25</sup> rode with me to Marlborough, the weather being cool, cloudy and pleasant, and we din'd at Dr. Gotts. P.M. I preach'd to Three societys of young men who were met together at the Meeting House, on Eccl. 11, 9. N.B. Mr. Jabez Fox of Woburn present. After meeting the Societys Sent me four of their Number with their Gratitude. N.B. I went to Mr. Peter Butler and agreed with him to make me a Side Saddle for my wife, And an Housing for my Self of Homespun Cloth which I carry'd to him. In our returning home we were late, in the Dark and Wet and alone—but our Family not o'Bed.

<sup>21</sup> Benjamin Woods of Marlborough.

<sup>22</sup> Stanton Prentice, son of the Reverend John Prentice of Lancaster. Charles J. F. Binney, *The History and Genealogy of the Prentice or Prentiss Family, in New England* (Boston, 1852), p. 178.

<sup>23</sup> A tutor at Yale College.

<sup>24</sup> Reverend Robert Breck of Springfield, Parkman's brother-in-law.

<sup>25</sup> (Harvard 1742). Parkman's brother-in-law, who later became a physician at Worcester and Great Barrington. *Sibley*, XI, 131-132.

30. Wet forenoon. Moss went to Mr. Thomas Billings's for my plough which he made for me. N.B. Mr. Jonathan Forbush here p.m. Moss mowing southside, upper End. N.B. Benjamin How brought home an Irish or Foot Wheel which he had made for Molly.<sup>26</sup>

JULY, 1738

1. Brother Samuel Breck return'd from Marlborough. Raking and getting in Hay.

2. On Mat. 8, 23-27, and on Acts 13, 36.

3. Undertook to wait upon my Honored Aged Mother to Cambridge. At the widow Harringtons<sup>1</sup> in Marlborough we were oblig'd to Stop; my Mother could not ride upon that Pillion which we us'd any longer. She lay down and was refresh'd. We borrow'd Mrs. Harringtons Pillion and remounted. We had a prosperous Journey by the will of God and got down in season to Father Champney's where we lodged.

4. We rode to Charlston and din'd at Cousen Solely's. My Mother in great Comfort return'd to her own House. Blessed be God for his sustaining Mercy to her in this observable undertaking!

(N.B. When my Mother took her Leave of my Family, and bless'd them among other of her Expressions, these were remarkable when She kiss'd my two Sons in the Language of the patriarch Jacob when he lay'd his aged hands upon Ephraim and Manasseh "God almighty bless the Lads and make them a Blessing," etc.).

I return'd to Cambridge at Evening. N.B. Mr. John Osborn junior, of Rowley, with his mistress lodg'd at Father Champneys. Mother Champney and Sister Lydia were disquieted with me that I had remark'd to Brother Hicks their Sending So over strict a Charge by Cousen Winchester, about Ebenezer, when she brought him from Cambridge to Westborough on June 16 last. N.B. Mrs. Suse Champney there.

<sup>26</sup> Mary, Parkman's oldest child, who was born Sept. 14, 1725.

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. David Harrington.

5. It being Commencement I was chiefly at the following Chambers, Scil.: Sir Loring's,<sup>2</sup> Sir Davis's.<sup>3</sup> I visited Several others, as Sir Tyler's,<sup>4</sup> where I broke fast. I din'd but poorly in the Hall. P.M. The Presidents<sup>5</sup> Oration was very excellent. Lodg'd at Father Champney's and Sir Mower<sup>6</sup> with me.

6. I was again at College. Broke fast at Sir Mowers. Din'd at Sir Davis's at the Chamber they kept over the Common. N.B. I admonish'd Daniel Champney, junior,<sup>7</sup> at Sir Davis's, for his Drinking. N.B. Mr. Robert Sharp<sup>8</sup> and his Sister Mrs. Susan<sup>9</sup> at College. Mr. Robert led me to his Sister at Sir Whites<sup>10</sup> Chamber, but it was at Eve and they were soon removing home. I lodg'd at Father Champney's. My Kinsman Parkman walk'd over with me.

7. In Riding to Boston I first call'd at Captain Sharps<sup>11</sup>—then I stop'd at Judge Dudleys and din'd there. N.B. Mr. James Cushing<sup>12</sup> and his wife there. The Judge very entertaining and instructing in his Conversation. He led me into his Gardens, into his Library, etc. Stop'd again at Mr. Benjamin Eaton's Hatter in Roxbury. At Boston my Honored Mother and sister Willard<sup>13</sup> were both ill and kept therein Bed, which was the occasion of my Staying in Town all night. Lodg'd at Brother Elias's.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Jonathan Loring (Harvard 1738), the son of Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury, who later became a lawyer in Marlborough. *Sibley*, X, 298-299.

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Davies (Harvard 1738), later a Roxbury physician. *Sibley*, X, 285.

<sup>4</sup> Andrew Tyler (Harvard 1738), minister of First Congregational Church of Westwood, 1743-1772. *Sibley*, X, 329-334.

<sup>5</sup> Edward Holyoke (Harvard 1705) became the ninth President of Harvard College, Sept. 28, 1737. *Sibley*, V, 265-278.

<sup>6</sup> Richard Mower (Harvard 1738) of Lynn. *Sibley*, X, 306-307.

<sup>7</sup> Of Cambridge. He was the nephew of the first Mrs. Parkman.

<sup>8</sup> Son of Captain Robert Sharpe of Brookline.

<sup>9</sup> Susanna Sharp, whom Reverend Parkman had courted after the death of his first wife. See Diary for February 17, 1737 and March 3 and 4, 1737.

<sup>10</sup> Benjamin White (Harvard 1738), sometime schoolmaster at Gloucester. *Sibley*, X, 338.

<sup>11</sup> Robert Sharpe, Sr., of Brookline.

<sup>12</sup> (Harvard 1725). Minister of Plaistow, New Hampshire, 1730-1764. *Sibley*, VIII, 499-501.

<sup>13</sup> Parkman's sister Susanna, who married Josiah Willard of Salem.

<sup>14</sup> Elias Parkman of Boston.

8. Mother Somewhat better. I rode to Cambridge and thence to Westborough. One Mr. Caleb Johnson of Shrewsbury my Company the upper part of the Journey. Found the Family, through the Favour of God well.

9. Repeated Sermon on Gal. 3, 14.

10. Mr. John Caruth here, whom I paid. Mrs. Bulah Bent<sup>15</sup> of Marlborough here.

11. Very dry Season. Yet there was a little Shower at Night. N.B. I put up a Flap at the pulpit.

12. Old Mr. Lord<sup>16</sup> of the Cape was here upon a journey upward. Mr. Rand<sup>17</sup> of Sunderland and Mr. Billings<sup>18</sup> here and din'd with us.

13. Brethren Breck and Samuel here returning to Springfield. N.B. Samuel has been Examin'd and accepted at College when some Number were turn'd by. My Lecture was on John 6, 53. Mr. Jonathan Forbush accepted of the Deaconship. The Committee from Mr. Samuel Fay advis'd that I should make him a visit for that he had intimated that he should be glad to See me. N.B. Mrs. Rice of Hopkinton who was heretofore Whood was with me.

14. My Wife began to Spin Worstead.

15. [No entry].

16. Sacrament. On Song. 4, 16. Heb. 10, 38.

17. Pol'd Hay from the lower South Side. Dry Time.

18. I rode to Mr. Ephraim Allen's<sup>19</sup> and to Mr. Daniel Bartletts.<sup>20</sup> A plentiful and very Mercifull Rain while I was at Mr. Bartletts, which detain'd me there (I suppose) Several Hours. When it Slack'd I got as far as Mr. Eliazar Hows<sup>21</sup> at Marlborough

<sup>15</sup> Daughter of Peter Bent.

<sup>16</sup> Reverend Joseph Lord (Harvard 1691), minister of Chatham, Mass., 1718-1748. He was also a schoolmaster and physician. *Sibley*, V, 101-106.

<sup>17</sup> Reverend William Rand (Harvard 1721), minister of Sunderland, Mass., 1723-1745, and Kingston, Mass., 1746-1779. *Sibley*, VI, 549-553.

<sup>18</sup> Edward Billing (Harvard 1731) of Sunderland, who later became the first minister of Belchertown, Mass., 1739-1752. *Sibley*, IX, 22-28.

<sup>19</sup> Of Westborough.

<sup>20</sup> Ensign Bartlett lived in Marlborough.

<sup>21</sup> Captain Eleazer Howe.

where I was kept till almost night. My Business from thence carry'd me to Mr. Peter Butlers.<sup>22</sup> At Colonel Woods in the Eve, Colonel Sent for Mr. John Rogers<sup>23</sup> and Sir Loring, who came accordingly. I lodg'd there.

19. At various places. Din'd at Dr. Gotts. Raining, yet I was oblig'd to get home. I was very wett, rode hard and it pritty much indispos'd me.

20. Catechiz'd at the meeting House. Rain'd—not many Children. Moss mow'd p.m.

21. [No entry].

22. Mr. Jotham Brigham of Marlborough came up with the Request of Mrs. How the wife of Jonathan How, that I would go down to her Husband, who was under terrible Distraction, and Mr. Rogers would come up to Westborough to change tomorrow. We had a great Deal of Hay to take care of, but towards Night I rode down. Mr. Rogers came up but I miss'd of him. Mr. How was in a piteous State intirely wild and confus'd, continually talking and worrying and Several to hold him. When I had pray'd with them I repair'd to my Lodgings at Madame Fisks.

23. I preach'd at Marlborough on Luke 19, 42. Was very much tir'd and Spent at Evening. Mr. Rogers came from Westborough. I lodg'd at Madame Fisks again. N.B. A Frost in low Ground.

24. After having been at various places as my Business call'd, I visited Dr. Gott and (with him) Mr. Jonathan How again. N.B. In Time of prayer he had a very violent Convulsion fit. After prayer and a great part of an Hour Spent whilst he was yet Striving in his Convulsion, I return'd to the Doctor's and having din'd with them, I came up home.

25. I visited Mr. Samuel Fay as the Committee had desir'd on the 13th. He deny'd that he had Said any Thing as if he desir'd any visit from me. His chief objections and offence against me were what arose from my bringing in new Singing and my

<sup>22</sup> Of Marlborough.

<sup>23</sup> (Harvard 1732). Later the first minister of Leominster. *Sibley*, IX, 189-198.

wearing a Wigg. I reply'd that I was not aware that I had at any time given him just Reason of Offence but if he judg'd I had and we could not succeed in Reconciling the matter our Selves it was our Wisdom to get the Assistance of Some prudent, Serious, Christian Brethren about us; and I desir'd him to choose who he pleas'd that were such and I would be advis'd and guided by them. N.B. I inform'd him of not only what notice I took of his Conduct when my Brother Parkman was with me at his House to make him a Visit and he would not So much as come down from the Chamber to Speak with us, and of what I have divers times heard of him having for Several Years kept himself from seeing me in the pulpit, etc.—Which he own'd with a Laugh. He was urg'd to choose some Christian men to hear his Grievances—but he gave no reply to any of those Proposals. He did vouchsafe to thank my visit when I withdrew. At Eve A black thunder Storm arose. I got Shelter at Lieutenant Bakers. There was an heavy Shower and Sharp Lightening—but it clear'd up finely before it was too late to come home.

26. Mr. Thomas Brigham of Marlborough came up to acquaint me that Mr. Jonathan How dy'd last Night and that his widow earnestly desir'd me to go down to the Funeral tomorrow. Our Barley was mow'd and rak'd.

27. My Wife and I rode down with Neighbor Hezekiah How and his wife to Marlborough to the Funeral of Mr. Jonathan How. At the Doctor's after Funeral. N.B. Mr. Dyer of Boston there trading with the Doctor for his House down in the street.

28. Moss began p.m. to mow in ministerial Meadow.

29. Moss mowing in the Ministerial Meadow again.

30. On Heb. 10, 38. O that it might please God to Succeed so moving matters!

31. I rode to South West part of Town. Sent to Boston and my Kinswoman Winchester was at Mr. Tainters<sup>24</sup> in the Evening. Moss raking in the meadow till Eve and then he went away to go up to Sutton.

<sup>24</sup> Deacon Simon Tainter of Westborough.

## AUGUST, 1738

1. At the Earnest and repeated Sollicitation of Mr. Ebenezer Chamberlain my wife and I rode down to the South East Corner of the Town, took the most of the Familys, but din'd with him, and at an handsome Entertainment his wife having lately lain in, and Every Thing very flourishing with them. N.B. Captain Warrin's wife<sup>1</sup> in a languishing State, and N.B. whilst we were at Mr. Jonathan Bellows's, Mrs. Belknap had one of her Fitts. We were in a Second Time at Ensign Forbushs.<sup>2</sup>

2. Moss return'd from Sutton very Early this morning—laid down to Sleep but went to work afternoon. N.B. Jonathan Forbush junior and Simon Tainter junior came very kindly and gave me a Days work each of them in mowing at my Meadow. The widow Rice<sup>3</sup> (heretofore Oake) here. P.M. I rode over to the North Side of the Town and visited Seven Familys, particularly Silas Fay who buried a Still born child yesterday. My son Ebenezer has a bad Swelling behind his Ear. Dr. Matthews<sup>4</sup> call'd in, accidentally.

3. Rain. Moss gone to mow what he can in the Meadow. Captain Forbush<sup>5</sup> and others at work upon the highway before my Barn; but p.m. the Rain was heavy and beat Every Body off. All that we have done at the Meadow lyes expos'd in this wet Storm.

4. Rains very hard all the morning. Latter part of the forenoon Moss bor'd a pole for a Ladder. Captain Forbush mending the highway before my House.

5. Fair Weather. Moss rak'd and cock'd Some of the Hay at the Meadow and mow'd Some more, But the Meadow very wet.

6. A.M. on Mat. 8, 28-33, p.m. on 10, 34.

7. Early in the morning I rode down to Mr. Bradishes to get James to help me in the Meadow and mett him going there. Both

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Daniel Warrin or Warren of Westborough.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Forbush, Jr., also selectman of Westborough.

<sup>3</sup> The widow of Thomas Rice, formerly Mary Oakes.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. John Matthews, the physician of Marlborough.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Forbush, an original settler of Westborough.

Moss and he rak'd all Day except a little turn of mowing in the Morning. I went to see them and to Mr. Eliezer Rice's and Mr. James Maynard's<sup>6</sup> where I din'd. N.B. I was bit by Mr. Eliezer Rice's<sup>7</sup> Dog. Mr. Pannell reap'd part of my Rie.

8. Moss at the Meadow. Fair good weather. Captain Warrin and his wife and Joanna Tainter<sup>8</sup> here in order to their joining to the Church. Mrs. Baker<sup>9</sup> and Deacon Newton's<sup>10</sup> wife visited Mrs. Parkman. N.B. Mr. Pannel came again to reaping and finish'd my Rie.

9. Eliezer Rice and John Rogers carted Hay from the Meadow. Two Load apiece. Moss Mowing in the Morning and raking and Cocking the rest of the Day. At Night the Carters got in my Rie into the Barn, almost wholly. Mrs. Williams<sup>11</sup> and Mrs. Rachel Rice<sup>12</sup> visited Mrs. Parkman. Fine weather.

10. A fine Day again. Moss at the Meadow. Ebenezer being troubl'd with a bad swelling in his Neck went to Marlborough to wait upon Dr. Gott<sup>13</sup> for Advice. David Baverick wrought for me at the Meadow with Moss, in poling, mowing, etc.

11. Very good weather. John Rogers Carting Hay from the Meadow. Captain Forbush Sent for me to the Funeral of his Infant (Still born) and both my Wife and I went to the House but not to the grave because of the Hurry and Urgency of my Business at Home.

12. Was in Some perplexity for Some Hand to help Moss in poling and Carting the remainder of the Hay from the Meadow. Went to old Mr. Maynards<sup>14</sup> and talk'd with him again about agreeing with Hicks,<sup>15</sup> and he told me that as to the methods

<sup>6</sup> An original settler of Westborough.

<sup>7</sup> Eleazer Rice lived in Marlborough close to the boundary of Westborough.

<sup>8</sup> The daughter of Simon Tainter of Westborough.

<sup>9</sup> Mrs. Edward Baker of Westborough.

<sup>10</sup> Mrs. Josiah Newton of Westborough.

<sup>11</sup> Probably Mrs. Abraham Williams of Marlborough, the sister of Mrs. Parkman. Hudson, *Marlborough*, p. 470.

<sup>12</sup> Probably Mrs. Luke Rice of Marlborough.

<sup>13</sup> Benjamin Gott, the physician, of Marlborough.

<sup>14</sup> David Maynard, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>15</sup> John Hicks of Westborough, Parkman's brother-in-law by his marriage.



which I propos'd, he would think upon them. Ebenezer went to Marlborough again about his Neck and got a Plaister for it.

13. On Mat. 9, 1-8, a. and p.m.

14. Brother Samuel Breck (who came from Springfield last week) brought up Sister Gott here. Mr. Abraham Rice of Marlborough and his Wife here in order to their owning the Covenant. But I was engag'd to go to the Funeral of Mr. Simeon Howards Second Son who was about in his 5th year and dyed somewhat suddenly by a stoppage in his Throat yesterday morn. After the Funeral Captain Eager<sup>16</sup> and Lieutenant Holloway<sup>17</sup> Stood with me at the burying place discoursing, and the latter Shew'd his displeasure at my not coming over more frequently to visit their side of the Town, partialy my not being at the Funeral of Neighbor Silas Fays Child of late, and my not being at the Funeral of his own Child—but I Strongly vindicated my Conduct and gave my Reasons for each. Captain Eager came home with me and supp'd with me. N.B. They went down, at my earnest sollicitation to Old Mr. Maynards to try if possible to make up the Difference Subsisting there, and Stop the Law suit Commencing. Bezaleel Frost<sup>18</sup> of Framingham who had difference with Abraham Moss came up late in the Evening to be reconcil'd and I us'd my friendliest Endeavours to put a period to their Contest. He lodg'd here.

15. Both Hicks's and Moss's Law suits put by by persuasions and methods of peace and reconciliation. Borrow'd Colonel Nahum Wards<sup>19</sup> 1 Volume of Pools English Annotations.<sup>20</sup> Moss gone to Worcester with Bezaleel Frost.

16. Ebenezer rode with me to Marlborough to Captain Peter Rice's,<sup>21</sup> to the widow How's<sup>22</sup> who carry'd Ebenezer to Uncle

<sup>16</sup> James Eager.

<sup>17</sup> William Holloway.

<sup>18</sup> The son of Samuel Frost of Framingham. Temple, *Framingham*, p. 554.

<sup>19</sup> Of Shrewsbury.

<sup>20</sup> Matthew Poole's *Annotations upon the Holy Bible* was first published in 1688. Other editions soon appeared.

<sup>21</sup> Prominent citizen and captain of the "train-band."

<sup>22</sup> Lydia Howe, widow of Jonathan Howe who died June 22, 1738. Hudson, *Marlborough*, p. 384.

Gott's (with Captain Amsden<sup>23</sup>), to Mr. Phelps's<sup>24</sup> Mr. Peter Butlers, to Mr. Brown<sup>25</sup> the whitesmith, Colonel Woods's, and to Dr. Gotts. When the Doctor had advis'd respecting the Sore upon Ebenezer's Neck, we return'd home, altho it was nigh nine when we set out from Marlborough. N.B. Moss return'd before Day, this morning. He mow'd over the Bushes.

17. Moss mowing Bushes. P.M. I rode up to Mr. David Crosbys in Shrewsbury to get him to make me a pair of Boots. Call'd at Mr. Cushings—supp'd there. Between 10 and 11 o'clock at night when I return'd.

18. Rainy Day.

19. [no entry].

20. On Coloss. 4, 1, a. and p.m.

21. In the forenoon I went over to Mr. Jonathan Whipples to desire him to be with me at Mr. Samuel Fay's and sent Ebenezer to Ensign Forbush's to request the Same of him. I proceeded to Mr. Winchesters by whom I sent to Boston, and then Return'd to Captain Fays to meet with Mr. Whipple and Ensign Forbush, The former of which was there. I went down to Mr. Samuel Fays and Mr. Whipple came to me. I us'd all the most Serious and affectionate Methods with Mr. Fay and improv'd Mr. Whipples assistance to compose a Reconcilement, but in vain. Upon which I took a formal Leave of him. N.B. In going up to Mr. Winchesters I met Mr. Campbel,<sup>26</sup> Mr. Hall,<sup>27</sup> Captain Larnard<sup>28</sup> etc. going to a Council at Concord. When I had been at home some time Captain Warrin and his wife came, upon the Affair of their Relations preparitory to their admission into the Church.

22. Rode to Lancaster Association not without being Sadly bewildered in the Woods, having lost my way once and again in

<sup>23</sup> Isaac Amsden of Marlborough.

<sup>24</sup> John Phelps of Marlborough was a cordwainer. He moved to Rutland, Mass., about 1742.

<sup>25</sup> James Brown.

<sup>26</sup> Reverend John Campbell of Oxford.

<sup>27</sup> Reverend David Hall (Harvard 1724), second minister of Sutton, Mass. *Sibley*, VII, 345-356.

<sup>28</sup> Isaac Larned, selectman of Oxford, Mass. Daniels, *Oxford*, pp. 580-581.

going over. Mr. Loring,<sup>29</sup> Mr. Williams<sup>30</sup> of Weston, Mr. Cushing,<sup>31</sup> Mr. Nathan Stone,<sup>32</sup> Mr. Solomon Prentice, and Mr. Stearns<sup>33</sup> present. Mr. Loring's Concio on Acts 10, part of 38th example who went about doing good. See Association Records. N.B. One Mr. Carter<sup>34</sup> dyed over there—a person of some Worth.

23. I preach'd publickly on Isa. 53, 1. Very hot, Dry Time. N.B. Mr. Stearns propos'd to have Mr. Prentice of Lancaster Dismiss'd that he might assist in founding another Association to the Northward, but the Motion was oppos'd.<sup>35</sup> I rode to Marlborough, in Company Mr. Stone, Mr. Rogers<sup>36</sup> (preacher at Marlborough) and Captain Amsden. Lodg'd at Dr. Gott's.

24. Mr. Rogers and Dr. Gott rode up to our Lecture. Mr. Rogers preach'd on [blank].

25. My wife weaving Fringe for new, Horse Furniture.

26. Moss picking up Apples for Cyder.

27. Sacrament. Captain Warrin and his wife admitted notwithstanding her Waste and Languishment in her Limbs. Sermon on Song 4 and Heb. 10, 29. Captain Williams of Marlborough here. N.B. remarkable Thunder and Lightning, yet he went to Marlborough in the Evening when the Rain was over.

28. My wife rode behind Ebenezer to Marlborough and return'd Safe at Evening.

29. [no entry].

30. Mr. Silas Witherby and his Lad came to make the Leaves of my Front Gate.

31. Mr. Witherby and his Lad here Still at work upon the Gate. Moss carry'd a parcel of Apples over to Mr. Hezekiah How,<sup>37</sup> who made up a Barrell, and part of a Second, of Cyder.

<sup>29</sup> Reverend Israel Loring of Sudbury.

<sup>30</sup> Reverend William Williams.

<sup>31</sup> Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

<sup>32</sup> (Harvard 1726). First minister of Southborough, Mass. *Sibley*, VIII, 99-105.

<sup>33</sup> Reverend David Stearns (Harvard 1728), *Sibley*, VIII, 496-498.

<sup>34</sup> Samuel Carter died August 22, 1738. He was a former selectman of Lancaster, Mass.

<sup>35</sup> See Allen, *Worcester Association*, p. 19.

<sup>36</sup> Probably John Rogers (Harvard 1732), later the first minister of Leominster, Mass. *Sibley*, IX, 189-198.

<sup>37</sup> An original settler. Parkman's neighbor and friend.

## SEPTEMBER, 1738

1. Mr. Witherby finish'd and put up my Gate, and altho he Set the price of his work to be 20 Shillings, yet considering he frequently came to Meeting here, he gave in Ten thereof. He made an End and went off Sometime before Night. Mr. Pannell and his son came to my Rye-Thrashing. They went home at Night. Moss fetch'd home the Cyder from Mr. Hows and Cut Stalks A.M.; work'd at Brother Hicks's p.m.

2. Mr. Pannel and his son came again to Thrashing and finish'd the Rye, Moss gathering up and pikeing the Stalks.

3. On Coloss. 4, 1. Heb. 10, 39. N.B. Mrs. Leeds of Groton in Connecticut (sister of old Mr. John Greaves) and Mr. Livermore din'd with us. N.B. I acquainted the Congregation that I know not but that I should be absent on the next Lords Day, and therefore desir'd that all such as could would wait upon the Christian Assembly where they could go the most Conveniently to, and hop'd that those who could not go to other meetings would, as Gods people meet together and worship him here, and if they should do so I wish'd them the Divine Presence among them and Blessing upon them.

4. N.B. A very great Drought. Great Trouble about getting Corn Ground. A burning Day. N.B. Moss in a great Fret after Dinner. He gathered the little piece of Corn of the South side.

5. I interrupted greatly in my purpose and Endeavours of this Day by the kindly intended visits of Mr. John Barrett and Mr. Benjamin Gerrish<sup>1</sup> of Boston on their journey to Middleton in Connecticut, and of Mr. Cushing and his Wife. Vid. Natal.<sup>2</sup>

6. At about 9 a.m. my Wife and I set out upon our Journey to Springfield and New Haven, on my Own and Cousen Winchester's Horses. Mr. Tainter bore us Company to Mr. Cushings at Shrewsbury. N.B. I bought a Foot Wheel at Mr. Cushings which Mr. Tainter was So kind as to bring home. Din'd season-

<sup>1</sup> He later moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and became a prosperous merchant.

<sup>2</sup> Despite Parkman's reference to the Natalitia there is no entry in it for this date.

ably and agreeably at Colonel Chandlers<sup>3</sup> at Worcester. P.M. rode to Richardsons at Brookfield by about  $\frac{1}{4}$  after 5. N.B. These Richardsons were heretofore Malden Milk Folks to our Family at Boston. They were very obliging and would receive no pay but for our Oats. We got to Mr. Cheneys<sup>4</sup> a little before Candle Light, but were so unhappy as to find neither Mr. Cheney nor Madame at Home. Mr. Cheney was gone to wait upon a number of Gentlemen who were upon the Road, Scil. Colonel Wendell,<sup>5</sup> Mr. President Holyoke,<sup>6</sup> Mr. Appleton,<sup>7</sup> etc. We tarried with and were entertain'd decently by Mrs. Dolly Hanley expecting Mr. Cheneys Return, but he came not. Dr. Pyncheon<sup>8</sup> of Springfield came in and tarried over night likewise.

7. In the Morning, just as we were mounting, Mr. Cheney (who had lodg'd with Mr. Bridgham<sup>9</sup> at Brimfield) came, and stay'd us whilst we made a visit to Colonel Dwight.<sup>10</sup> N.B. Colonel engag'd in building a new House. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  after 8 we set out with Dr. Pyncheons Company. Light at Ashleys.<sup>11</sup> Left Ashleys between 10 and 11. At  $\frac{1}{2}$  after one arriv'd weary and tir'd at Scots in Kingston. Din'd there. Left Scotts  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 2. One Mr. Ball of Springfield and an Irishman bound to Glasgow added to the Company. At Lambs in Springfield  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 3. N.B. Norwich Indians at Lambs. Left Lambs 20 minutes after 4. Mr. Breck came out to meet us a little before we got up to the Town. We arriv'd by Day Light—and not so tir'd as last night, nor as I was at Scotts in Kingstown.

<sup>3</sup> John Chandler, a very prominent citizen, who at one time or another held virtually all the offices in the town. Lincoln, *Worcester*, pp. 296-298.

<sup>4</sup> Reverend Thomas Cheney (Harvard 1711), first minister of Brookfield, Mass. *Sibley*, V, 561-563.

<sup>5</sup> Jacob Wendell, merchant of Boston, member of the Council of the province after 1737 and commander of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery.

<sup>6</sup> Edward Holyoke (Harvard 1705), President of Harvard College. *Sibley*, V, 265-278.

<sup>7</sup> Reverend Nathaniel Appleton of Cambridge, Mass.

<sup>8</sup> Joseph Pynchon (Harvard 1726), physician of Springfield, Mass. *Sibley*, VIII, 90-92.

<sup>9</sup> Reverend James Bridgham (Harvard 1726), minister of Brimfield, Mass. *Sibley*, VIII, 7-10.

<sup>10</sup> Timothy Dwight of Northampton, Mass.

<sup>11</sup> The Ashley family kept a tavern in Westfield, Mass., for many years.

8. Rainy Day. The Heavy Showers were a great Blessing, it having been a Time when there has been an unusual Drought. Mr. President Holyoke remains in Town—takes up his Lodging at Colonel William Pyncheon.<sup>12</sup> Colonel Pyncheon din'd with us. The President with us p.m.

9. Fair, bright Day. I waited upon Colonel William Pyncheon after I had view'd the River, the burying Place, etc. N.B. Some remarkable Inscriptions. N.B. Whilst we were at Colonel Pyncheon's with the President, Mr. Williams<sup>13</sup> of Longmeadow came and after him Mr. Hopkins<sup>14</sup> of the other Parish. They shap'd a Scheme for my assisting Mr. Williams by Mr. Hopkins preaching there and my preaching on the west Side, which I consented to after we had all din'd together at Mr. Brecks. N.B. Mr. Breck and I paid our Regards to old Colonel Pyncheon and his son Captain William, And p.m. Mr. President, Mr. Breck and I waited upon old Madame Brewer.<sup>15</sup>

10. In the morning I cross'd the River and went up to Mr. Hopkins. N.B. The first and Second Drum beating to give Notice to the People. Preach'd on Luk. 16, 23. N.B. The Women all sat upon the wrong side of the Meeting House. Deacon Parsons<sup>16</sup> very Courteous to me, and walk'd with me to the Ferry at Eve. At Mr. Brecks Mr. Hopkins in his return from Longmeadow. Cold Night.

11. Mr. Holyoke and Some Number besides were going up to Mt. Tom (call'd So as Tradition has it from one Rowland Thomas) and to Mt. Holyoke, (call'd so from one of the Presidents ancestors) and from thence they purpos'd to Mr. Rands<sup>17</sup> at Sunderland. But we rode to Long Meadow, when the Frost of this Morning which was very great was in great Degree gone, met Mr.

<sup>12</sup> Of Springfield.

<sup>13</sup> Reverend Stephen Williams (Harvard 1713), minister of the First Congregational Church of Longmeadow, Mass., 1714-1782. *Sibley*, VI, 25-35.

<sup>14</sup> Reverend Samuel Hopkins (Yale 1718), minister at West Springfield, Mass., 1720-1755. *Dexter*, 184-187.

<sup>15</sup> Widow of Reverend Daniel Brewer (Harvard 1687) of Springfield, Mass.

<sup>16</sup> Ebenezer Parsons of West Springfield.

<sup>17</sup> Reverend William Rand (Harvard 1721), second minister of Sunderland, Mass., and one of Parkman's classmates. *Sibley*, VI, 549-553.

Allis<sup>18</sup> hastening to join the foresaid Company. Mr. Williams set out with us, so far as to guide us to the way to Enfield. We cross'd the Ferry and rode (with one Kebby in Company) to Mr. Devotions<sup>19</sup> at Suffield. N.B. A fine prospect on the North of Suffield Meeting House. After kind Entertainment, dining, etc. we set out from thence in the middle of the Afternoon, rode to Windsor and Hartford and were kindly entertain'd at Mr. Austins.<sup>20</sup> N.B. His Honor Governor Law,<sup>21</sup> Captain Wadsworth,<sup>22</sup> etc. at Mr. Austins. N.B. 500 Hogsheads of Tobacco ship'd off last year from Connecticut River to the West Indies and chiefly from Windsor.

12. Mr. Austin persuaded me to go up on the State House to take a View of the Town, the River, etc. We visited Mr. Secretary Willis.<sup>23</sup> There was Mr. Woodbridge<sup>24</sup> of Symsbury and Mr. Case,<sup>25</sup> who were going to New Haven. This therefore was our Company. Stopp'd at Beckleys<sup>26</sup>—at Aspinwalls<sup>27</sup> in Kensington. N.B. In Wallingford or North Haven, a vessel building some Miles from the Water. N.B. Corn field 5 miles Long. N.B. A Late sorrowful occurrence by Thunder; the steeple shiver'd and a man thrown down from it and kill'd. N.B. 4 Persons buried in the highway for suicide. N.B. Pleasant Fields appear'd at an agreeable Distance on the North East side of the Mountain. We stopp'd again at Hammerstones<sup>28</sup> in North Haven. There Mr. Wheelock<sup>29</sup> who had been Some time with us on the Road left us.

<sup>18</sup> William Allis of Sunderland.

<sup>19</sup> Reverend Ebenezer Devotion (Harvard 1707), third minister of Suffield, Mass. (now Connecticut). *Sibley*, V, 329-331.

<sup>20</sup> John Austin of Hartford, a merchant of that town.

<sup>21</sup> Jonathan Law (Harvard 1695), Governor of Connecticut. *Sibley*, IV, 237-242.

<sup>22</sup> Joseph Wadsworth of Windsor, Conn.

<sup>23</sup> George Wyllys (Yale 1729), Secretary of the Colony of Connecticut. *Dexter*, 399-400.

<sup>24</sup> Reverend Timothy Woodbridge (Yale 1706), minister of Simsbury, Conn., 1710-1742. *Dexter*, pp. 57-58.

<sup>25</sup> Benajah Case (Yale 1733), later minister of New Fairfield, Conn., 1742-1753. *Dexter*, pp. 475-476.

<sup>26</sup> Lieutenant Joseph Beckley of Wethersfield, Conn., was the proprietor of an important tavern on the road between Hartford and New Haven.

<sup>27</sup> Eleazer Aspinwall of Farmington (Kensington Parish).

<sup>28</sup> John Hamaston, Jr. (1685-1767).

<sup>29</sup> Reverend Eleazer Wheelock (Yale 1733), minister of the third church of Lebanon (Columbia), Conn., 1735-1770; later the founder and first president of Dartmouth College.

N.B. College illuminated, seen Two Miles off. Call'd first at old Madame Pierponts<sup>30</sup> where was Mr. Russells wife<sup>31</sup>, of Middleton, Mr. Pierponts sister. Found Dear Mrs. Pierpont Well and our meeting was with reciprocal Joy. Mr. Pierpont<sup>32</sup> was Still at Boston.

13. Being the Day of their Commencement I attended at College and at the Meeting House. Mr. Gay<sup>33</sup> of Hingham, Mr. Storer<sup>34</sup> of Waterton, Mr. Pemberton<sup>35</sup> of New York, Mr. Smith<sup>36</sup> of Weymouth, and Mr. John Hunt<sup>37</sup> preacher, were there. N.B. Mr. Dickerson<sup>38</sup> of Elizabeth Town—divers Clergymen of the Church of England, especially Mr. Johnson<sup>39</sup> and Wetmore.<sup>40</sup> N.B. Mr. Elmer<sup>41</sup> of Cohanzy. N.B. Mr. John Barrett and Mr. Benjamin Gerrish, Merchants of Boston, there. I din'd in the Hall. The Exercises and Entertainments handsome and agreeable, and especially the Valedictory Oration. The Company was

<sup>30</sup> Mary (Hooker) Pierpont, the widow of the Reverend James Pierpont (d. 1714), survived until Nov. 1, 1738. She was the granddaughter of the Reverend Thomas Hooker, the first minister of Hartford, Conn. Her daughter, Sarah, married Jonathan Edwards, D.D., the president of Princeton College.

<sup>31</sup> Mary Pierpont was the wife of the Reverend William Russell (Yale 1709), minister of Middletown, Conn., 1715-1761. Dexter, 90-91.

<sup>32</sup> James Pierpont, Jr. (Yale 1718), son of the Reverend James Pierpont of New Haven. Dexter, 189-190.

<sup>33</sup> Reverend Ebenezer Gay (Harvard 1714), minister of Hingham, Mass., 1717-1787. *Sibley*, VI, 59-66.

<sup>34</sup> Reverend Seth Storer (Harvard 1720), minister of Watertown, Mass., 1724-1774. *Sibley*, VI, 412-414.

<sup>35</sup> Reverend Ebenezer Pemberton (Harvard 1721), minister of the Presbyterian Church, New York City, 1727-1753. *Sibley*, VI, 535-546.

<sup>36</sup> Reverend William Smith (Harvard 1725), minister of the First Congregational Church of Weymouth, Mass., 1734-1783. Reverend Smith's daughter, Abigail, became the wife of President John Adams. *Sibley*, VII, 588-591.

<sup>37</sup> (Harvard 1734), of Watertown, Mass. He preached at Dedham and at Bellington, but in 1740 became a merchant at Watertown. *Sibley*, IX, 414-418.

<sup>38</sup> Reverend Jonathan Dickinson (Yale 1706), minister of Elizabethtown (Union), New Jersey, 1709-1747, and later President of Princeton College. Dexter, 45-52.

<sup>39</sup> Reverend Samuel Johnson (Yale 1714), minister of Christ Church, Episcopal, Stratford, Conn., 1723-1754 and 1764-1772. He was the first President of King's (now Columbia) College, 1754-1763. Dexter, 123-128.

<sup>40</sup> Reverend James Wetmore (Yale 1714), minister of Christ Church, Rye, New York, 1726-1760. Dexter, pp. 133-138.

<sup>41</sup> Daniel Elmer (Yale 1713). Formerly of Westborough, Mass., and at this time minister of the church of Christ of Cohansey, Fairfield, New Jersey, 1727-1755. Dexter, pp. 110-111.



not very numerous. The Custom of giving Diploma at the time of giving the Degree is most fit and proper in my Eye and what I could wish our College would come into.

14. Went up to College a.m. In returning I carry'd down with me to Mrs. Pierponts, to Dinner Mr. Bliss, Mr. Case and Mr. Hunt. P.M. Mr. Elmer and Mr. Pemberton came to us. N.B. Sarah Cunnabel, Mrs. Pierponts Maid in a Fit.

15. We (Scil. Mrs. Pierpont, my wife and I) din'd at Mr. Noyes's.<sup>42</sup> N.B. Mr. Edwards<sup>43</sup> of North Hampton with us. P.M. Mr. Noyes, Mr. Edwards and I visited Mr. Isaac Dickerman,<sup>44</sup> a middle Batchelour, who was in a Languishment. Visited Mr. Daniel Edwards<sup>45</sup>—the Rector—and went into the Library—still with Mr. Jonathan Edwards. Mr. Woodbridge accompany'd us home to Mrs. Pierponts. I was much indispos'd altho I kept about, and was in Variety of Company, but especially I was very uncomfortable in the Evening and through the Night.

16. Mr. Edwards of North Hampton came to see me and walk with me to College, which I attempted altho I was not well. Mr. Woodbridge<sup>46</sup> conducted us into the Library and I Spent Several Hours diligently in viewing the Books. A most Curious and Costly Collection. Din'd at Old Madame Pierponts. P.M. I return'd to the Library again. At Mr. Noyes's. I was very feeble, and my stomach deprav'd. Return'd to my Lodging before Night. N.B. Sarah Cunnabel another Fit.

17. Too much indispos'd still for my public Service, yet was oblig'd to try. Mr. Hunt preach'd a.m. on Tit. 3, 2. I din'd at Mr. Noyes's. N.B. I left my Bible at Home when I went to meeting p.m. I hastily fetch'd it. Mr. Noyes pray'd. I preach'd on Job 19, 25. Supp'd at Mr. Noyes's. N.B. Old Mr. Warham Mather,<sup>47</sup> the Rector and Mr. Daniel Edwards there after Supper.

<sup>42</sup> Reverend Joseph Noyes (Yale 1709), minister at New Haven, 1715-1761. Dexter, pp. 85-89.

<sup>43</sup> Reverend Jonathan Edwards (Yale 1720), the great divine of Northampton, Mass., and later President of Princeton College.

<sup>44</sup> (Yale 1736). Dexter, p. 558.

<sup>45</sup> (Yale 1720). Dexter, pp. 216-217.

<sup>46</sup> Probably Timothy Woodbridge, Jr., tutor at Yale College.

<sup>47</sup> (Harvard 1685), sometime preacher and teacher, and Judge of the Probate Court at New Haven, 1716-1727. Sibley, III, 319-320.

Walk'd to Mr. Prouts<sup>48</sup> where we were very kindly receiv'd. From thence we retir'd home. Several very Cool Nights.

18. Mr. Prout, his Lady and Dauter, Mr. Hunt and Sister, and Mr. Pomroy, all came in to see us at going off. Mr. Hezekiah Pierpont<sup>49</sup> came and waited upon Mrs. Pierpont Some Miles with us. I rode up to College and to the Rectors for Mr. Woodbridge who had appointed to go with us, but he did not go. Mr. Daniel Edwards and Mr. Belden of Norwalk were our Company. Sorrowful Leave-taking of our Friends. Mr. Pierpont and Madame his Sister rode as far as Hamesdens and there parted. We set out from thence at almost noon. We din't at Halls<sup>50</sup> in Merrydan, a Corner of Farmington (as I remember) at  $\frac{3}{4}$  after one. Set out again just an Hour after. Stop'd at Beckleys. Mr. Thomas Goodwin,<sup>51</sup> late of Boston, now of Weathersfield, in Company. We halted at Mr. Goodwins at Weathersfield, and then tho weary'd and tir'd we stood it out to Mr. Secretary Wyllys's in Hartford, and there were friendly receiv'd and lodg'd that Night. N.B. The Antient Pedigree of Wyllys.

19. In great Doubt in the Morning about prosecuting our Journey being it was so lowery—but Mr. Edwards being waiting, we mounted from Mr. Austins in order to go to Windham; but the rain prevail'd so much that we bid farewell to Mr. Edwards, who being Clerk of the Court was oblig'd to go, and we return'd to Mr. Austins and spent the Day. P.M. Mr. Ellery's<sup>52</sup> Musick. At Eve Mr. Ellery and I visited Mr. Whitman and Mr. Wyllys. We Lodg'd at Mr. Austins.

20. In the Morning Mr. Ellerys little son was Scall'd with hot Chocolat, which as it put every one into great affliction it much retarded us and prevent'd our journeying Early. Mr. Wyllys and Mr. Ellery were so good as to ride with us. N.B. One of our

<sup>48</sup> John Prout (Yale 1708), a merchant of New Haven and Treasurer of Yale College. Dexter, pp. 76-77.

<sup>49</sup> The youngest son of the Reverend James Pierpont of New Haven.

<sup>50</sup> Reverend Theophilus Hall (Yale 1727), first minister of Meriden, Conn., 1728-1767. Dexter, pp. 352-353.

<sup>51</sup> (Harvard 1725). Sibley, VII, 517-518.

<sup>52</sup> John Ellery (Harvard 1732), originally of Boston, was a prominent merchant of Hartford. Sibley, IX, 148-150.

Horses blunder'd overboard of the Ferry Boat, wet the Side-saddle etc., but we receiv'd not much more Damage than the Hindrance to our Journey thereby. N.B. Our Great Suspence whether we Should ride Springfield Road again or to Windham. One Mr. Stebbins was going to Springfield. Many Arguments were us'd against Bolton and Ashford Road, but most of all my Wife's Circumstances prevail'd to go Springfield way. Mr. Willys and Mr. Ellery accompany'd us as far as Grants<sup>53</sup> Tavern, where we din'd, oated etc. and all at their Expence. At almost 3 p.m. we took leave of those Gentlemen, mounted from Grants. Call'd at Mr. Reynolds's<sup>54</sup> in Enfield. Continued on to Long Meadow where we overtook Dr. Pyncheon. Arriv'd at Mr. Brecks a little before Day Light down, nor were we so overtir'd as at some other Times.

21. Mr. Breck rode with us Two or Three miles. Stopp'd a little at Lambs but din'd at Scotts. Lost our way before we got to Ashleys and wander'd some but found our Road so seasonably as to get to Mr. Cheneys in the first of the Evening. Were cheerfully received and handsomely lodg'd.

22. We set out early from Brookfield. Saw nothing of Mr. Bliss at Richardsons as was appointed tho we tarried some while there. Din'd at Mr. Goddards's<sup>55</sup> at Leicester (whose wife had lately been deliver'd of a son). He set out with us for Worcester. Met Mr. Abijah Bruce of Westborough on the Road. Call'd at Mr. Burrs<sup>56</sup> and at Mr. Cushings. Got home in Safety and found all Things well and in Prosperity. Moss<sup>57</sup> went off the Monday morning after we departed. Blessed be the Lord who hath smil'd on our going out and returning Home, who hath been our Shade upon our Right Hand and preserved us and ours from all Evil. To His Name be Glory from henceforth and forever!

<sup>53</sup> Ebenezer Grant (Yale 1726), a leading merchant and inn-keeper in the East parish of Windsor (now East Windsor). Dexter, p. 328.

<sup>54</sup> Reverend Peter Reynolds (Harvard 1720), minister of Enfield, Conn., 1724-1768. *Sibley*, VI, 396-399.

<sup>55</sup> Reverend David Goddard (Harvard 1731), second minister of Leicester, Mass., 1736-1754. *Sibley*, IX, 40-43.

<sup>56</sup> Reverend Isaac Burr of Worcester.

<sup>57</sup> Abraham Moss, Parkman's hired man.

23. I had agreed with Mr. Brown<sup>58</sup> of Lexington to preach last Sabbath but he came not by which means our people were without preaching Two Sabbaths.

24. Repeated Sermon on Matt. 26, 41. Rainy.

25. Rainy. Town Meeting upon my Support and to See what is best to be done about a Meeting House. I put in a Memorial to the Town and they made my sallery and support 200£. The other Affair was adjourn'd for a Fortnight.

26. Abraham Moss came here, acknowledg'd his unfit Conduct and Language in his Passionate Heat on the 4th Instant. P.M. I rode out to Several near neighbours. Mrs. Byles,<sup>59</sup> etc. Raw Cold. Perplex'd concerning a well, my Pump and Well being altogether dry.

27. Rainy again, and continued all Day very Wett. Arbitrators of the Affair between old Mr. Maynard<sup>60</sup> and Brother Hicks met today. Scil. Colonel Wards<sup>61</sup> of Southborough, Captain Williams<sup>62</sup> of Marlborough, and Captain Eager<sup>63</sup> of Westborough.

28. Rainy Still. Old Mr. Maynard came and requested me to go over to his son in laws, Nathaniel Oakes<sup>64</sup> to see their Young Child. P.M. It held up. I went over with him. The Child was thought to be in great Danger of Death. They requested that I would baptize it. They sent about to the Neighbours to come in. There came upward of 20 persons, and I baptiz'd it by the name of Ebenezer. After that Exercise I rode up to Lieutenant Holloways,<sup>65</sup> visited Silas and Timothy Fay, and call'd at Captain Eagers at Evening.

29. Silas and Timothy Fay came and began a New Well for me.

30. Stormy Day again.

<sup>58</sup> Josiah Brown (Harvard 1735), sometime preacher and schoolmaster of Lancaster and Sterling, Mass. *Sibley*, IX, 476-478.

<sup>59</sup> Mrs. Joseph Byles.

<sup>60</sup> David Maynard.

<sup>61</sup> William Ward, justice of the peace and holder of several town offices.

<sup>62</sup> Abraham Williams, Parkman's brother-in-law.

<sup>63</sup> James Eager.

<sup>64</sup> Nathaniel Oak married Keziah Maynard, June 7, 1736.

<sup>65</sup> William Holloway of Westborough.

## OCTOBER, 1738

1. Very Stormy. On Heb. 10, 39. P.M. repeated on Mat. 26, 41. Mr. Townsend<sup>1</sup> din'd, and by reason of the Storm continuing lodg'd here.

2. Rainy morning, but when it slack'd Mr. Townsend return'd home. Eleazer Rice call'd me to visit Mr. James Maynard and his Children who were sick. I went and found Mr. Maynard very bad. P.M. I was at the Funeral of Mr. Nathaniel Oakes young Child (vid. supr.).

3. Expecting Moss for his Money, I rode to Mr. Joslins to provide it for him. When I return'd home Colonel Richard Saltonstall<sup>2</sup> was at my House upon his Journey from Springfield Court. N.B. Mrs. Eager, Mrs. Holloway, and Mrs. Wheeler to visit my wife. At Evening having rode with Judge Saltonstall to See him well out of Town, I visited Mr. James Maynard again and those Two of his Children which were Still very Bad. N.B. John Rogers carted me 500 Bricks from Pelatiah Rice's.

4. [No entry].

5. Old Mr. Maynard Winnow'd 12 Bushels and nigh 3 Pecks of Rice for me. N.B. Mr. Pannel had winnow'd 2 Bushels before. Susan Cutting rode to Shrewsbury. At Eve rode to Mr. Grouts<sup>3</sup> where I Supp'd. Mr. Tainter and his wife, etc. there. N.B. Mrs. Tainters high Disgust at our Dining the Sabbath before last in the Kitchen—She Surmizing that it was done with design to keep People from coming to warm themselves, which had not entered into our Thoughts, but was done because the House was Cold by the Storm and we had no fire in the Dining Room. At Winchester<sup>4</sup> and at old Mr. Samuel Fays.<sup>5</sup>

6. Visited Mr. James Maynard in the Morning, who grows Somewhat better. Thomas Winchester gather'd in our Beans, pick'd winter Apples, etc. Susan return'd from Shrewsbury at Night.

<sup>1</sup> Joshua Townsend, the first schoolmaster of Westborough.

<sup>2</sup> (Harvard 1722). *Sibley*, VII, 117-121.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph Grout, selectman of Westborough.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Winchester of Westborough.

<sup>5</sup> An original settler of Westborough.

7. Children picking Apples.

8. On Eph. 6, 5, 6, 7, 8.

9. All the officers met together at Ensign Maynards upon the Affair of a Regemental Muster. Mr. Prentice<sup>6</sup> of Grafton, Mr. Cook,<sup>7</sup> preacher at Marlborough, Dr. Gott, etc., were here. Town Meeting by adjournment to See what Should be done about a Meeting House. Dissolv'd. Divers Neighbours kindly help'd David Baverick (who wrought for me to Day) in Cutting up my Corn and carting it into the Barn. N.B. Noah How help'd David a.m. in carting in stalks, and Noah and his Brother Daniel<sup>8</sup> carted my Apples to their Mill. At Night 10 or a Dozen young men and Lads Husk'd part of my Corn.

10. Rain'd hard in the morning. P.M. it ceas'd and then I rode to the Southermost Houses towards Hopkinton. Supp'd at old Mr. Graves's.<sup>9</sup> N.B. Colonel Ward,<sup>10</sup> Captain Williams and Captain Eager, Arbitrators upon Mr. Maynards and Hicks's Difference. They brought in to Hicks's Dissatisfaction.

11. David Baverick wrought for me carrying up Corn, making a Partition Fence. Susanna Cutting<sup>11</sup> left us. She rode to Waterton upon my Horse.

12. Receiv'd Three Barrells of My own Cyder from Mr. How's Mill, and 4 More of Mr. Whitney<sup>12</sup> which I bought for 11 shillings per Barrell. Mr. Prentice of Grafton and Mr. Samuel Cook came and din'd with me. Mr. Cook preach'd on 1 Cor. 6, ult. Church meeting after Lecture on the Affairs of Mr. Samuel Fay, etc., and Concerning the Fragments after the Lords Supper, and concerning Vessels of the Table and a Baptizing Bason. Adjourn'd to this Day sennight. Ebenezer Maynard brought 2½ Barrells more of my Cyder from Mr. How's.

<sup>6</sup> Reverend Solomon Prentice.

<sup>7</sup> Samuel Cooke (Harvard 1735), later minister of the First Congregational Church of Arlington, Mass. *Sibley*, IX, 500-508.

<sup>8</sup> Sons of Parkman's neighbor, Hezekiah How.

<sup>9</sup> John Graves of Westborough.

<sup>10</sup> Nahum Ward of Shrewsbury.

<sup>11</sup> Mrs. Parkman's helper.

<sup>12</sup> Nathaniel Whitney, a selectman of Westborough.

13. We boyl'd Cyder this Forenoon.

14. [No entry].

15. The Lords Supper was administered. Preach'd on Matt. 22, 12, Eph. 6, 8. At Eve I visited Mrs. James Maynard who lay in an extremely Dangerous state. When I return'd from Mr. Maynards I found Mr. James Pierpont at my House, who this Evening came up from Marlborough, and was upon his Journey to New Haven.

16. I Catechiz'd at the Meeting House a. and p.m. Rain a.m. Did not clear off p.m. Yet Mr. Pierpont was intent upon his Journey home. Mr. David Buys<sup>13</sup> of New Glascow being here and going upwards, Mr. Pierpont was not to be persuaded to stay. He design'd for Worcester tonight.

17. Mr. Stone and I rode up to Shrewsbury to Ministers Meeting. See Association Records. Mr. Aaron Whitney<sup>14</sup> offer'd himself voluntarily to Examination. Mr. Tainter here at Eve with Lads who Husk'd more of my Corn but did not finish it.

18. Mr. Stone preach'd a very useful Sermon on Col. 1, 27. N.B. Mr. Loring absent, 'tis Thought on the Affair of Woburn, where there was a large Council last Week. Mr. Stone return'd home with me.

19. Deacon Forbush<sup>15</sup> somewhat after noon. Church Meeting was not duely attended either by any Number of Members or Seasonably by those who did come. See Church Records. Mr. Whipple<sup>16</sup> and Mr. Bradish<sup>17</sup> here at Eve.

20. Neighbor Hezekiah How brought 500 more of Bricks home for me.

21. Mr. Williams here. P.M. Ensign Maynard<sup>18</sup> brought a Kegg of Rhum from Boston.

<sup>13</sup> Probably one of the Boies family of New Glasgow (Blandford), Mass.

<sup>14</sup> (Harvard 1737), later the first minister of the First Congregational Society of Petersham, Mass., 1738-1777. *Sibley*, X, 260-263.

<sup>15</sup> Thomas Forbush, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>16</sup> Francis Whipple.

<sup>17</sup> James Bradish, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>18</sup> Stephen Maynard.

22. On Matt. 9, 9. P.M. on Ex. 10, 11. Mr. Chamberlain<sup>19</sup> din'd with us.

23. At Deacon Tomlins,<sup>20</sup> Seth Rice's, Jedediah How's. P.M. getting up Corn from the Barn.

24. Captain Forbush came and invited me to Dinner to Day at Ensign Maynards. Trooping and Training. I pray'd with the Company, din'd with the Officers and pray'd with the whole Body at Night and we sung part of Ps. 144.

25. Very Rainy Day. At Eve I rode to Ensign Forbush, Master Townsend's, etc.

26. Mr. Hezekiah How and Mr. Francis Whipple accompany'd me to Grafton Lecture. I preach'd on Jude 10, 21, 1st Clause. We return'd at Eve.

27.28. I desire to take some serious Notice of the Longsuffering of God towards me and his Church in this place in continuing under the precious advantage of the Gospel these fourteen Years. I see great Reason to humble myself for my unfaithfulness Negligence and Unprofitableness and I would penitently repair to God in Christ for forgiveness.

29. We meditated upon What it is to be in Christ, what Benefits there are thereof, the Great Advantages of having been in Christ some years, and the great Privilege, advantage and Comfort of Knowing and being Sure of this; with Reflections adapted to the present Time and our present Circumstances. From 2 Cor. 12,2.

30. Very rainy and exceeding high Winds.

31. Meeting of proprietors of Houssatunnoc No. 3 at Ensign Maynards. My admission (on Condition of my paying 15£ and 6£ more towards Meeting House, etc.) Confirm'd. Mr. Palmer, Mr. William Maning and Mr. Thomas Hastings came up.

#### NOVEMBER, 1738

1. Mr. Palmer had my Horse to go to Worcester his own being lame. Mr. Manning, Hastings and Hicks din'd with us. Mr. Palmer return'd and he and Mr. Manning lodg'd here.

<sup>19</sup> Ebenezer Chamberlin.

<sup>20</sup> Isaac Tomlin or Tomblin.



2. Mr. Palmer etc. return'd home. Church Meeting. See Records.<sup>1</sup> Had a pair of Turkeys of Mr. Jonathan Bellows brought home.

3. [No entry].

4. The Boys dug potatoes. Aaron Forbush, junior, and his Brother Benjamin dug p.m.

5. 2 Cor. 12, 2 and 1 Pet. 4, 4.

6. Rainy. Town meeting again about a Meeting House, but it fell through for want of selectmen.

7. Mr. Tainter Sow'd and plough'd in Rye for me. John Hicks junior dug Potatoes. Captain Goddard<sup>2</sup> here. I visited Captain Warrins<sup>3</sup> wife. Very fine Weather.

8. Fine Weather Still. I rode up to Mr. Garfields Lime Kiln now in Burning. Return'd by James Maynards whom I visited as he is Slowly creeping up from his low Condition, and his little son John worse again. N.B. Molly<sup>4</sup> went with Mr. Tainter up to Mr. Joseph Miles's and then home with Mr. Tainter.

9. My wife rode with me to visit upon the North side of the Town. Din'd at Captain Eagers and proceeded up to the Bowkers. Supp'd at Lieutenant Holloways. N.B. I bought a Swine of him for which I agreed to give him 3£. In returning we visited Mr. Josiah Rice, whose wife was sick of a Fever.

10. Mr. Peter Smith<sup>5</sup> of Shrewsbury and his Daughter<sup>6</sup> here. A Glazier also (one Child of Roxbury) to mend up my Glass. Salt brought up gratis by the Teams which went from here.

11. Abraham Moss here. He mention'd a mistake he thought was made in the Counting the money which was paid him, which expos'd him to loose 20 shillings.

<sup>1</sup> The church debarred Samuel Fay from the communion because he had prevented his wife from coming to church. On Dec. 17, 1738 Fay's acknowledgement of his offence was accepted.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Goddard of Framingham.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Daniel Warrin of Westborough.

<sup>4</sup> Parkman's oldest child, Mary.

<sup>5</sup> One of the founders of the church in Shrewsbury.

<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth Smith, born Dec. 22, 1724.

12. Mat. 9, 12, 13. Eccl. 9, 3. Mrs. Byles and widow Pratt<sup>7</sup> and others din'd. It was a Cold Day, and the more tedious as it came upon us Suddenly. First time of Snowing at all, this Year.

13. The Cold increas'd and was very pinching. Ty'd up as many Cattle as we could.

14. More Moderate. Training Day. Andrew Cwees [?] brought the Swine which I bought of Lieutenant Holloway last week, price 3£.

15. Sister Hicks<sup>8</sup> brought to bed of her 10th Child—my wife over there till 5 o'Clock this morning. Mr. Aaron Forbush came to go up to Wachuset. Ensign Maynard rode with us to Captain Eagers and Lieutenant Holloways but the Rain prevail'd so that we return'd back after dining with Lieutenant Holloways. N.B. snow'd this morning.

16. Rainy.

17. [No entry].

19. Eccl. 9, 3; Ps. 51, 15.

20. Sold Mr. Tainter 3 Largest Weathers I had. Eve I visited Mr. Noah Rice's wife who was very sick and dejected. Very cold Night.

21. Snow.

22. [No entry].

23. Thanksgiving. Heb. 13, 15, 16. Neighbor Joseph Green Supp'd with us. A very Cold Day.

24. Ensign Maynard and I reckon'd and settled accounts. Deacon Newton here at Evening.

25. Cold season. Dr. Gott<sup>9</sup> here. My Wife has for some time had her Limbs exceedingly swelling insomuch that she can't well go about.

26. Sacrament. Matth. 22, 12. Ps. 74, 17. Very cold. 3 Deacons and Neighbor Thomas Bruce din'd with us. P.M. Snow.

27. Out of wood, except very great Loggs. Stephen Maynard at my desire brought a Load. Town Meeting the 4th Time about

<sup>7</sup> Mrs. John Pratt, Sr., mother of John Pratt, Jr., an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>8</sup> Mrs. John Hicks of Westborough, Parkman's sister-in-law.

<sup>9</sup> Benjamin Gott, the physician of Marlborough, Parkman's brother-in-law.

a Meeting House or repairing the old one, or Dividing the Town. N.B. 23 votes out of 47 for the first. Mr. Tainter<sup>10</sup> alone my Butcher in killing the old Cow. Weight 327, Tallow 42, Hide 50. Sold the hide to Captain Eager for 25 Shillings. I was at Ensign Maynards in the Eve. N.B. Lucy Forbush came to work for us.

28. Snow'd. Mr. Taynter and his wife here cutting up and Salting down my Beef. At Mr. Cornelius Cooks.<sup>11</sup> Evening at Deacon Newtons.<sup>12</sup>

29. Mrs. Dorothy Rice<sup>13</sup> here. We rode over to see sister Hicks. We suppd there. Brother Samuel Breck<sup>14</sup> came up to see us, and tarried.

30. Read Andrew Marvels<sup>15</sup> Rehearsal transpos'd.<sup>16</sup> Evening made up accounts with Mr. Hezekiah How. N.B. Mr. Ebenezer Johnson of Southborough and others here.

#### DECEMBER, 1738

1. Snowy Day. Brother Samuel Breck went to Marlborough. Mr. Tainter came and got up Wood for me.

2. Snow'd hard. My wife grows more and more indispos'd.

3. Bright Day. Mat. 9, 14-17. Ps. 119, 5. Mr. Bradish and Mr. Samuel Harrington din'd with us. Lucy Forbush went home at Eve.

4. Very Cold morning. I rode over to Old Mr. Ward<sup>1</sup> and got his Dauter to come and Serve us. Thence to Deacon Newtons and after that I went to Cambridge. A troublesome cold Journey. Sister Lydia<sup>2</sup> had been very ill but was recovering.

<sup>10</sup> Deacon Simon Tainter.

<sup>11</sup> The blacksmith of Westborough.

<sup>12</sup> Josiah Newton

<sup>13</sup> Wife of Seth Rice, son of Edmund Rice, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>14</sup> Parkman's brother-in-law, the son of the late Reverend Robert Breck of Marlborough.

<sup>15</sup> Andrew Marvell (1621-1678), an English poet and satirist.

<sup>16</sup> *The Rehearsal Transpos'd, or Animadversions upon a late book intituled 'A Preface showing what Grounds there are of Fears and Jealousies of Popery'* (1672).

<sup>1</sup> Increase Ward, an original settler of Westborough.

<sup>2</sup> Lydia Champney, Parkman's sister-in-law.

5. Rain & cold. Din'd at Father Champneys. P.M. I rode to Boston. Small Pox in Town, in several places. Lodg'd at Brother Elias's.<sup>3</sup> N.B. Brother Samuel<sup>4</sup> had bargain'd for an Irish Lad of 15 years, with Captain Solomon Lombard—for £7, 15, and he was lodg'd at Brother Elias's till my Coming to Town. The Boys Name was John Ridney, born in the county of Waterford in Ireland.

6. Din'd at Brother Elias's. P.M. at Brother Alexander's.<sup>5</sup> At Eve at Mr. Webbs<sup>6</sup> with Brother Elias. My aged Mother still in a measure of Comfort. D.G.

7. Mr. Checkley<sup>7</sup> on Amos 3, 2 at public Lecture. N.B. great Trouble occasion'd by my having an hat left me in the Pew which was not mine by (as I found the next Day) Mr. Daniel Lagg of Cambridge. Din'd at Brother Samuels. At Eve John consented to be bound and go up with me forthwith. Whilst I was concern'd about the means and way of getting John up to Westborough Brother Hicks was at Brother Elias's. By various impediments we were hinder'd going over the Ferry till after nine o'Clock at night, but they ferry'd over, Brother and John and my Self for 2/6. Rode to Cambridge. Lodg'd John at the blue Anchor,<sup>8</sup> whilst Brother and I with our Horses were taken care of at Mr. Whittemore's.<sup>9</sup> N.B. Mr. Whittemore and wife and their sister Fisher from Boston not till after 12. A Cold Night.

8. Finish'd the Indentures and binding of John. Was at Colonel Goffs<sup>10</sup> for my Hatt. At Brecks Chamber at College. Sent John over to Father Champney's and upon Brother Hick's mare I undertook my Journey home. N.B. Colonel Fullam<sup>11</sup> at

<sup>3</sup> Elias Parkman.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Parkman of Boston.

<sup>5</sup> Alexander Parkman of Boston.

<sup>6</sup> Reverend John Webb of Boston.

<sup>7</sup> Reverend Samuel Checkley (Harvard 1715), later minister of the Second Church of Boston, 1747-1768. *Sibley*, VI, 74-78.

<sup>8</sup> An old tavern in Cambridge operated at this time by Joseph Bean. Paige, *Cambridge*, pp. 225-226.

<sup>9</sup> Probably Deacon Samuel Whittemore of Cambridge.

<sup>10</sup> Edmund Goffe (Harvard 1690) of Cambridge, onetime selectman and representative, who was commissioned colonel in 1724. *Sibley*, IV, 57-60.

<sup>11</sup> Francis Fulham of Weston, Mass. Bond, *Watertown*, p. 227.

Mr. Woolson's<sup>12</sup> Tavern. Not home till very late and Cold and Spent. N.B. In my absence a good Ewe (that which Mr. Ball<sup>13</sup> presented me at the Setting up my Flock) fell into the old House Cellar and dy'd there.

9. Brother Hicks and John Ridney came up on my Horse. A very Cold Day. Jerusha Ward<sup>14</sup> went home.

10. Ps. 119, 5, and p.m. Repeated sermon 2 on Ps. 90, 9 from Ps. 39, 5.

11. Patience Forbush<sup>15</sup> tarried last night that She might Serve us two or Three Days. Mrs. Knowlton and Mrs. Whipple to visit my wife. Mrs. Maynard and Cousen Winchester here also. In the Evening her Husband came. They tarried and Supp'd with us.

12. Snow. Ensign Maynard.

13. Mr. Cushing<sup>16</sup> made me a kind visit. Patience went home at night.

14. I rode to Marlborough, Ebenezer<sup>17</sup> with me, to Colonel Woods's<sup>18</sup> (who was gone to Charleston) to Mr. Butlers,<sup>19</sup> Mr. Tainters and Dr. Gotts. At the last place was Mr. Samuel Cook and others. We return'd home though late.

15. Abiel Allen came p.m. to serve us. Mr. Grout at Eve to consult upon the affair of getting wood. Snowy Night.

16. My wife has not only Swell'd greatly in her Limbs but (besides her pregnancy) in her Body, and is exceeding full of Pain. I sent Ebenezer to Marlborough to the Doctor's. A warmish, thawy Day. Wind at Sundown.

17. Rom. 8, 16 occasioned in part by the growing extravagance of Velvet and scarlet among people of low Rank. P.M. repeated

<sup>12</sup> The Woolson family had operated a tavern in Watertown since 1686. Bond, *Watertown*, pp. 668-669.

<sup>13</sup> Nathan Ball, an early settler.

<sup>14</sup> Daughter of Increase Ward of Westborough.

<sup>15</sup> Daughter of Deacon Jonathan Forbush of Westborough.

<sup>16</sup> Reverend Job Cushing of Shrewsbury.

<sup>17</sup> Parkman's oldest son, now eleven years old.

<sup>18</sup> Benjamin Woods.

<sup>19</sup> Peter Butler of Marlborough.

sermon on Ps. 119, 9. My wife very ill. Public Prayers for her. At night extream full of Pain, and continued all Night. N.B. Mr. Eliezer Bellows<sup>20</sup> and Granny Forbush<sup>21</sup> din'd with us. Exceeding Cold Night.

18. The Morning Exeeding Cold. Dr. Gott here. Mrs. Knowlton and Mrs. Williams here to see my wife. She continues Swell'd and full of Pain.

19. Mr. Grout with a Team, and Mr. Samuel Harrington with his oxen to make up another Team with my oxen and Sled, Mr. Groe,<sup>22</sup> Mr. Tainter, Mr. Beriah Rice,<sup>23</sup> Mr. Jonathan Forbush, junior, Thomas Winchester, Edwards Whipple, Ephraim Whitney,<sup>24</sup> Samuel Rogers, Thomas Whitney, junior. Mr. Aaron Forbush<sup>25</sup> came p.m. to Cut and sled me wood from the further side of the Hill. N.B. One Mr. Daniel Damon of Leicester, who was born near Sydmouth in old England hear with Dears Leather. Bought a skin and a Brass-Albany-Tobacco Box of him. Brother Samuel Breck came up from Marlborough and lodg'd here. With him came sister Gott<sup>26</sup> and Mrs. Bulah Bent,<sup>27</sup> and after them came Captain Williams. These latter went down to Marlborough at Eve. N.B. Mrs. Byles and Mrs. Bruce to visit my wife and at Eve Mrs. Susanna Forbush.<sup>28</sup> A very Cold Night.

20. Very Cold and windy. Brother Samuel rode away upon his Journey to Springfield.

21. The Cold Somewhat abated. Sister Hicks here.

<sup>20</sup> Eleazer Bellows came to Westborough in the 1720's. The *Westborough Vital Records* record the births of three daughters and one son to Eleazer and Sarah Bellows, August 18, 1728.

<sup>21</sup> Widow of Deacon Thomas Forbush who died in May 1738.

<sup>22</sup> Samuel Grow.

<sup>23</sup> Son of Thomas Rice, an original settler of Westborough. Beriah lived in Westborough until about 1742 when he removed to Annapolis, Nova Scotia.

<sup>24</sup> Son of Nathaniel Whitney of Westborough.

<sup>25</sup> Eldest son of the late Deacon Thomas Forbush.

<sup>26</sup> Parkman's sister-in-law, the wife of Dr. Benjamin Gott.

<sup>27</sup> Beulah was the daughter of Peter Bent of Westborough.

<sup>28</sup> Mrs. Aaron Forbush.

22. Snow. The Boys Sledding up the remainder of the wood which was cut on the 19.

23. Cold. Sledding again. N.B. My wife in much Trouble by Headach last night.

24. Rom. 8, 6. P.M. Snow. Storm'd hard at Evening and very Cold. N.B. very few at meeting. My wife's Headach extreme.

25. Moderate, pleasant, bright morning. Neighbor Oak came with a Team, neighbor Jacob Rice,<sup>29</sup> Jonathan Maynard,<sup>30</sup> John Oake and Lieutenant Holloways men came to get wood. Fitted up our Team to go with them but after 4 Turns our sled was crush'd down. It rain'd when they came to Dinner and the rain preval'd So as to prevent their going for any more.

26. A little after 4 in the morning my Wife call'd Me up by her extreme pains prevailing upon her and changing into signs of Travail. I rode over to Deacon Forbush's<sup>31</sup> and brought her [sic] over as our midwife. Sister Hicks, old Mrs. Knowlton, Mrs. Whipple, Mrs. Hephzibath Maynard,<sup>32</sup> Mrs. Byles and Mrs. Rogers were call'd and brought and stay'd all Day and Night. The Weather Moderate and plesant.

27. In the morning the Women Scattered away to their several Homes except Mrs. Forbush who did not leave us. At Eve Deacon Forbush and Mr. John Pannell here. N.B. My Two Youngest Cattle and one of my Oxen not well. We cut off a part of the Tails. Mr. Tainter here to mend the sled. At night it grew exceeding Cold.

28. At about 4 in the morning Mrs. Forbush call'd me up with great earnestness to gather some women together. It was very Cold, and I ran on foot to sister Hicks and to old Mrs. Knowlton—sent to Mrs. Maynard and rode to Mrs. Byles, all which came together by Daybreak. We were in the Article of Distress. About

<sup>29</sup> Son of Jacob Rice of Marlborough. Jacob and his wife were admitted to the Westborough church in Dec. 1731.

<sup>30</sup> Son of David Maynard.

<sup>31</sup> Jonathan Forbush.

<sup>32</sup> Wife of Captain John Maynard.

Seven o'Clock my Fourth Daughter was born. An exceeding Small Child and great doubt whether it would continue alive. But my wife in a good State, through the wondrous Goodness and Mercy of God. A Cold Day. Sent Ebenezer Maynard to Dr. Gotts, and to call Mrs. Mary Sherman<sup>33</sup> to Nurse. N.B. Sear'd the Ox which continued bleeding. N.B. Suse Cutting,<sup>34</sup> being married to John Rogers, as I concluded, is come up to dwell at Neighbor Rogers's. Nurse watch'd.

29. Mrs. Forbush carried home by Ebenezer. N.B. Mrs. Tainter here to discourse with me upon the Offence I had manifested at her Dauters being the Introducers of Velvet whoods among young persons of low Rank in the Congregation and she in a Christian manner Submitted and ask'd forgiveness inasmuch as She had been the Author of it. Martha Maynard<sup>35</sup> watch'd.

30. My wife in great Pain. Mrs. Maynard here. At Evening my wife exceedingly pained under her Breasts—thought to be the Coming of her milk. Molly Lee and the Nurse watch'd.

31. Cold, p.m. Snowy. Concluded the Year with Rev. 20, 12 and Discourse before the Baptism of my Daughter Elizabeth God hath Sworn on Mal. 3, 17. My Wife Easier to Day. Rebecca Hicks<sup>36</sup> watch'd.

As I have renewed my Engagement unto God and given up my Self and mine to Him, So, on the other Hand, God himself hath Sworn that they that Fear Him Shall be His in the Day that He will make up his Jewells. And O that We might be of that number! And that this Dear Infant in particular may be a rich Jewell in the Cabinet of God!

In finishing the Year God enable me to have a reallizing thought of the finishing of all Things, and that Great Day of the Eternal Doom for all both Small and Great, that I may be found ready for it whenever it Shall break forth!

<sup>33</sup> Mrs. John Sherman of Marlborough.

<sup>34</sup> John Rogers of Westborough married Susanna Cuttin in Watertown Dec. 26, 1738.

<sup>35</sup> Daughter of David Maynard of Marlborough.

<sup>36</sup> Mrs. John Hicks, Parkman's sister-in-law.



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