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THREE

MILITARY DIARIES

KEPT BY GROTON SOLDIERS
IN DIFFERENT WARS

With Introductions

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20/6/05.

GROTON, MASS.

Preface

In this volume are printed the Diaries of three Groton soldiers, who served in different wars. They have already been published in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, but now for the first time they are brought together.

The first Diary was kept by Lieutenant Dudley Bradstreet at the siege of Louisburg, during King George's War; the second by Sergeant David Holden, during the latter part of the French and Indian War; and the third by Amos Farnsworth, during the early part of the Revolutionary War.

From time to time in these pages interesting facts crop out, which illustrate military customs at different periods of time, such as modes of punishment in the army, and manner of life in camp and on the march, etc. Some of these customs are so trifling in their character that they have escaped record in the more formal histories of campaigns. In the lapse of years they either have been forgotten or by gradual changes have been lost; and they can be traced best by contemporaneous narratives, such as are found in these Diaries.

The writers were plain men-leading quiet lives in a rural neighborhood. At home they were farmers, but when their country needed their services, they were soldiers. Men of this class made up the yeomanry of New England who kept alive the religious and political principles brought to these shores by the Pilgrims and the Puritans. Austere in their belief, they practised those homely virtues which lie at the base of all civilization; and we of to-day owe much to their memory and example.

March 16, 1901.

THE following Diary, kept by Amos Farnsworth, of Groton, during a part of the Revolutionary War, contains some facts of local interest and historical value. Mr. Farnsworth was a member of Captain Farwell's company of minute-men, who marched on the memorable Nineteenth of April from Groton to Lexington, where they bivouacked for the night, and the next forenoon pushed on to Cambridge. He was a good type of the Middlesex yeomanry, and both by kinship and social intercourse was connected with some of the best families in the neighborhood. His deep religious nature crops out continually through the pages of the Diary, and, as there seen, shows the spirit which animated him in his opposition to the mother country. He was a fair representative of the average soldier of the period, being more of a patriot than a scholar; and during the times that tried men's souls this quality was of greater importance than a knowledge either of spelling or writing. The Diary contains many little entries which throw much side-light on certain events. It is the only contemporary record which tells where the company bivouacked at the end of the first day's march, a fact of some interest to the descendants of the soldiers.

Amos Farnsworth, one of ten children, was a son of Amos and Lydia (Longley) Farnsworth, and was born at Groton, on April 28, 1754. He was a lineal descendant in the third generation from Matthias Farnsworth, one of the earliest settlers of the town. During his youth the facilities for giving a

boy in the country a common-school education, as it is now understood, were very limited. In the main a child's elementary instruction was received by the fireside at home, where the three R's were taught; and whatever else he acquired beyond these rudiments was generally given during a few weeks' schooling in the winter. This statement seems to be needed in order to explain the writer's deficiencies in style and spelling, which were no greater than those of the average well-to-do farmer of that period.

On May 7, 1782, Mr. Farnsworth was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Elisha and Elizabeth (Adams) Rockwood, of Groton, who was one of ten children; and they were blessed with four sons and one daughter. He belonged to a race long-lived as well as prolific. At the time of his death, which took place on October 19, 1847, he was aged 93 years, 6 months, and 1 day; and his widow survived him less than two months, as she died on December 11, 1847, aged 90 years, 7 months, and 24 days. At the date of their death each one of this venerable couple was, respectively, the oldest person in town. Of their five children two reached or passed the age of ninety years, and two others the age of eighty years or more, while the fifth child lived well beyond the period allotted by the Psalmist, of threescore years and ten.

The leaders of the American Revolution showed much wisdom in the strict attention paid to the preparatory details of their work; and every move on the board was made with reference to something that was to follow. The final success of the military struggle was due as much to their foresight and sagacity in this respect as to the deep feeling of the people. The alarm at Lexington on the memorable Nineteenth of April aroused almost simultaneously the whole country for miles around, so carefully had the region in the neighborhood been allotted to special messengers, whose duty was assigned beforehand for such a purpose. On the side of the patriots the skirmishes of that day were fought by companies made up largely of minute-men, organized on

recommendation of the First Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, in a Resolve passed at Cambridge on October 26, 1774. At that time it was recommended to the field officers of the various militia regiments that they should enlist at least one-quarter of their respective commands, and form them into companies to be held in readiness, at the shortest notice from the Committee of Safety, to march to the place of rendezvous. Such soldiers soon became known as "Minute-men"; and at the first signal of hostilities they were on hand, armed and equipped, ready for any emergency that they might be called upon to meet. At this critical period in many ways they proved to be of great help to the popular cause. The existence of such a body of drilled men seems to have been prompted by the practice of nearly twenty years before, during the French and Indian War, when there were bands of men, known as "Alarm lists," who were to be ready for military service at a minute's warning. And in their turn these Alarm lists followed the precedent set by the Suffolk and Middlesex regiments, which at the beginning of Philip's War were ordered by the General Court to "be ready to march on a moment's warning." Even before this time, as early as August 12, 1645, in anticipation of trouble with the Indians it was ordered that thirty men out of every hundred in the militia should be ready "at halfe an howers warning" for any service that they might be called upon to perform by their commanding officers.

These various instances all contain the germ of the system; and they show that, for a period of a hundred and thirty years before the Revolution, the minute-man was a prime factor in both the Colonial and Provincial militia.

The news of the advance of the British troops on Lexington and Concord reached the village of Groton early in the morning of the Nineteenth, when word was sent at once to all parts of the town calling on the minute-men to rally on the Common in front of the Meeting-house. The alarm,

probably, was a continuation of the one sent from Charlestown just before midnight, and reached Groton soon after sunrise. There is some reason to think that this intelligence was expected at that particular time, and that messengers were ready to carry it to the out-lying homes of the farmers. On April 17 it was voted by the Committees of Safety and of Supplies that the four six-pounders should be transported from Concord to Groton, and put under the care of Colonel Oliver Prescott; and on the next day it was also voted that certain ammunition, as well as a large number of tents, and two medicine chests, should be sent there for safe-keeping. As open hostilities began so soon afterward, there was probably no time to make the removal. The community was much agitated, and men were thoroughly aroused. The air was full of rumors, and nobody knew their source. They seemed to come by "grape-vine telegraph," - as the expression was in the Union army during the War of the Rebellion.

Upon the recommendation of the Provincial Congress, two companies of minute-men had been enlisted in Groton. According to a printed sermon preached before them, on February 21, 1775, by the Reverend Samuel Webster, of Temple, New Hampshire, their officers at that time had been already chosen, and while there had been "heats"—as the minister expressed it—in other towns over the choice of officers, there had been none at Groton. Unfortunately, at a later period "heats," or contentions, did break out in one of these companies, as appears from an entry in the following Diary, on April 26, 1775.

These two companies of minute-men had been expecting the call, and, true to their designation, were ready to march at short notice. On that eventful Nineteenth both companies — one of them under the command of Captain Henry Farwell, and the other under that of Captain Asa Lawrence — rallied on the Common, where ammunition was given out to the soldiers. It is probable that by the middle of the forenoon they started for the scene of action. One of these

companies bivouacked that night in Lexington, and it is very likely that the other did also. The intense excitement of a forced march, due not only to what they saw on the way, but to what they heard, speeded their steps, and there was no lagging on the road. They left their homes as British subjects, but came back as independent citizens, who never again knew the authority of a king.

The events of the Nineteenth brought political matters to a head. The hasty assemblage of military companies, which then rushed to the neighborhood of Boston, by no means formed an effective army. While the men and officers had the true martial spirit, they were undisciplined as well as inexperienced.

The need of a thorough re-organization of these various bodies was felt both by the Committee of Safety and by the Provincial Congress; and steps were taken at once by the authorities to consolidate the detached companies and skeleton commands, and to bring order out of chaos. According to the Muster-roll of Captain Henry Farwell's company, printed on page 13 of "Groton during the Revolution," re-enlistments began in his command on April 25, and presumably also in the other companies.

At this time a consolidation was made of Farwell's company with Captain James Hosley's company of minute-men from Townsend, an adjoining town. Probably a similar consolidation took place with other companies of like character as to neighborhood of homes, mutual acquaintance, etc. The minute-man had enlisted for a short and indefinite term of service, and when the emergency was over, his part of the contract was fulfilled. The men whose names appear on the Muster-roll as having served only six days were those, presumably, who re-enlisted in Farwell's company, or in some of the other companies, and remained in the field near Boston. In the new formation Farnsworth was made a corporal; and during the campaign of 1776 he was commissioned as an officer in Captain Shattuck's company.

It is known that a few of them joined either Captain Asa Lawrence's company or Captain Joseph Moors's, which were enlisted for a period of eight months, or until the end of the year 1775. The men who are accredited on Farwell's roll of minute-men with seventy miles' travel are those, doubtless, who returned home soon after the reorganization.

After the consolidation of Farwell's company with Hosley's, the roll includes the names of a few men from other towns besides Groton and Townsend. Timothy Stone enlisted from Ashby; Peletiah Russell from the Coös Country in New Hampshire, and later was a resident of Groton; Jonathan Sawtell, a native of Groton, from Rindge, New Hampshire; and Jeremiah Wier, from Limerick, the old name of Stoddard, New Hampshire.

In the year 1776, at the defence of Ticonderoga, Mr. Farnsworth served as Ensign in Captain Job Shattuck's company, Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment. Later, on October 19, 1778, he was commissioned as First Lieutenant in a company of Matrosses, commanded by William Swan, of Groton, in the Sixth Regiment of Militia under Colonel Reed. At the end of the war, on July 9, 1783, he was commissioned as Captain of a company of Matrosses, which is an old name for artillerymen. This company was organized on October 19, 1778, and for a long time was known as the Groton Artillery. After an existence of nearly a century, for one reason or another, its former prosperity seemed to desert it; and by an order from the Adjutant-General's office, under date of August 15, 1878, the company, together with several others at the same time, was disbanded.

In conclusion I wish to thank Mr. John Prescott Farnsworth (H. C. 1881), of Providence, R. I., the owner of the Diary, for his permission to copy it. Mr. Farnsworth is the eldest child of the late Claudius Buchanan Farnsworth (H. C. 1841), the eldest child of Luke Farnsworth, the eldest child of Major Amos Farnsworth, the writer of the Diary.

Diary

AMOS FARSWORTHS JOURNAL.

Wednsday morning. April 19. 1775. was Alarmd with the news of the Regulars Firin At Our men At Concoord Marched and Came there where Some had Bin ciled Puled on and Came to Lexington where much hurt was Done to the houses there by braking glas And Burning Many Houses: but they was forsed to retret the they was more numerous then we And I saw many Ded Regulars by the way. went into a house where Blud was half over Shoes.

thursday Aprel 20 Came to Cambridge in the fore noon. thare was Some men wanted to go to Charlston I went for one and Vewed the regulars And found thay was intrenching on Charlston hill

Friday Aprel 21 nothing meterial hapned in the fore noon About Sun set marched with the rigiment in Compony with Col. Larnards rigiment to Roxbury.

Saterday April 22 Cept in mothon, mooved from that hous that we was in to Another this night was Alarmed by the Regulars firing at our gard on the neck turned out And marched towards them but nothing more Ensued Soon turned into our barrocks and Slept quiet.

Sunday Aprel 23. lay Stil in the fore noon in the Afternoon the Regiment to the meeting hous And herd a fine Sermon from Timothy 2. 3 thou therefore Endure Hardness as a good Solder of jesus Christ.

monday April 24 in the forenoon I went round on the Marsh below our Gards within about Sixty rods of the Regulars. this night the Regulars fired at our gard but thare was no larm

Tusday Aprel 25. lay Stil in the forenoon in the afternoon we went up to the Genarals And Receved ordars and marched to Cambridge Again. oh the goodness of God in Preserving my life from Danger.

Aprel 26. 27. 28. and 29. Days. Was A Strugling with the offisers which shold be the hiest In offist Finaly Farwell 1 got ordars to List And listed Some And then gined with townshind Company And made out A Company. I myself Listed with the rest

Sunday April 30 Retired alone in the morning for Secret Prayer. Preaded the Sun half a Nour hie for Prayers And then About Ten oclock went to a Barn And herd the Re^v M^r Emerson ² from the first Book of Samuel 30. 6. and Daved was gratly Distressed &c

And in the afternoon herd the Re^t M^r Goodridge From those words in judges 20 C 22 & 23 Verses more Porticuly the last Claus in the 23 Varse And the Lord Said go Up Against him. An Exelent Sermon he incoridged us to go And fite for our Land and Contry: Saying we Did not do our Duty if we did not Stand up now.

Mondy May ye I in the morning Etended Prayers in the meeting hous Soon was Cawled upon main Gard marched to leachmors Point stayed thare 24 hours And returned back to the Barn Again

Now from Mondy till Saturday night Nothing Meterial hapned. Did my turns of duty And we mooved A Saturday to a hous Oppersit the Collig &c

sunday M 7 Was upon Piquit this Day But got leve to go on the Comon And herd Prayers and Preaching all Day By the Re^t Docter Langdon⁴ Presedent And the Rt M^r thatcher.⁵ o this was fine Preaching.

Monday tus wedens May 8. 9 & 10 days Etended Prayers Morning And night there was Several gons Discharged about this time Kiled one or two others Escaping narraly Blesed Be God that my life is Preserved

- ¹ For the Muster Roll of Captain Farwell's company of minute-men, as well as that of the consolidated company, see "Groton during the Revolution" (pp. 11-15).
 - ² Rev. Joseph Emerson, of Pepperell. See Butler's History of Groton (p. 317).
 - 3 Lechmere's Point, in what is now known as East Cambridge.
 - ⁴ Dr. Samuel Langdon, at that time President of Harvard College.
- ⁵ Probably the Rev. Joseph Thaxter (H. C. 1768), chaplain of Colonel Prescott's regiment, and afterward settled at Edgartown.

Thursday May ye II This Day was By us As a fast And had the opertunity to hear Preaching And was Entertained by the R^t M^r Adam in the Forenoon from Psalms 50 I5 this was An Exelent Precher And At night atended A funaral of A Man that died with A wound of A Bawl. For these two Days nothing hapned More then Usal only that two Men Died out fo the Camp: A Saturday the Battallon marched to Charlston to Shoe themselves to the Regulars

Sunday May ye 14 felt Calm And Serious Went to meeten at the Church hous And Herd the R^d M^r Nobol: ¹ in the forenoon from Isaiah 59. 1. Behold the lords hand is not Shortned that it Cannot Save &c. And in the Afternoon herd the Same man in the Meeting hous from Exedus 32. C from the Bigining of ye 9 virs to ye end of ye 13. And an Exelent Sermon both forenoon and Afternoon as I Ever I herd: And I was filed with Wonder at the goodness of God in Using means with his People to Reform them. And I Was filed with Anchous Desires After Holiness And I Resolved Afresh to live and Devote my self more Strictly to Gods service then ever Yit I have Done God Enabel me to keep this Rezerlution

Mondy May ye 15. Nothing hapned to Day more then Usual only At night we was Alarmd with the newe of Regulars which Proved the Grand Rounds that our men Shot At Being Scart.

Tusday May ye 16 Nothing Done But Our Usual Preadings which Are At Six oclock in the morning And at ten: And at fore At night. and I mounted Piquit at Night And went the Grand Rounds

Wedensday May ye 17 Did But little to Day. At Night A Fier Broke out in Boston And burnt Considerabel Store houses and Barrocks And we hear that two Regulars was Burnt And now thursday friday And Saturday Nothing meterial hapned

Sunday May 21 Etended Pray on the Common in the morning After that retired for Secret Prayer. And about ten went to the Chapel And herd the revent Docter Langdon from Hebrews 2 10 for it Became him, &c And he encorridge us to Enlist our Selves under the Great Jeneral of our Salvation: And in the afternon Went to the Meting hous and herd Mr Havery from Second Chronicles C 15. 14, 15 Varses And thay Sware Unto the Lord with a loud

 $^{^{1}\,}$ Rev. Oliver Noble (Y. C. 1757), chaplain of Colonel Little's regiment, who at this time was settled at Newbury.

Voice, &c O the Goodnes of god in Promiting me the liberty of Prayer And to hear Preaching. there was many guns herd to Day which we hear was by Regulars going to Waymouth After Some of our Cattle And hay But thay was Defeted By our Men: And thay was mad and fired Along the Shore.

Monday May ye 22 Felt Considerabel calm: Etended Prayers morning And Night: Blesed Be God for Such a Seson

Tusday May ye 23 Nothing more then Common to Day only at night went a Scout Down to Leachmors Point About three milds from Cambridge: in the morning returned to Cambridge Again. Alas it is A Day of grate trouble and Confusion: Grant Blesed God that I may Consider of my ways And repent And return unto the Lord. And O Blesed God owne me in Jesus Christ.

Wedensday May ye 24 nothing more then Common to Day thursday May ye 25 Nothing more then the usal Dutys

Friday May ye 26 in the morning I Etended prayers And at night: i hope that I Git Good in this Day of grace. At night I and about ten of our Company march! with A party of men betwixt two and three hundred for Noddels island [East Boston]; heded By Col Nixson we marched throu Mistick [Medford] Moldin and to Chelsea

Saturday May ye 27. went on hog island And Brought of Six hoses twentyseven hornd Cattel And fore hundred And Eleven Sheep about the midel of the afternoon went From hog island to Noddles island and Sot one Hous and Barn on fiar kild Some hoses and Cattel Brought of two or thre Cows one horse I with five men got of the horse And Before we got from Noddels island to hog island we was fird upon by a Privatear Schooner But we Crost the river and about fiften of us Squated Down in a Ditch on the mash and Stood our ground. And thare Came A Company of Regulars on the marsh on the other side of the river And the Schooner: And we had A hot fiar untill the Regulars retreeted. But notwithstanding the Bulets flue very thitch yet thare was not A Man of us kild Suerly God has A faver towards us: And He can Save in one Place as well as Another we left the island about Sun-Set and Came to Chelsea: And on Saturday about ten At night Marchd, to Winnisimit ferry whare thare was A Schooner and Sloop Afiring with

¹ Colonel John Nixon, who commanded a regiment enlisted in Middlesex and Worcester Counties.

grate fury on us thare But thanks be unto god that gave vs the Victry at this time for throu his Providence the Schooner that Plad upon us the day before run Aground and we Sot fiar to hur And Consumed hur thare And the Sloop receved much dammage. in this ingagment we had not A man kild: But fore wounded but we hope all will Recover. one of the fore was A tounsing [Townsend] man belonging to our Company the bulet went throu his mouth from one Cheek to the other. thanks be unto God that so little hurt was Done us when the Bauls Sung like Bees Round our heds.

Sunday May 28 Left Winnisimit ferry About ye middle of ye fore noon And Came to Chelsea And About two in ye afternoon Receved ordars to march and Came to Cambridge, By ye way of Penny ferry.²

Monday May 29. Etended Prayers At ye Usal times in ye afternoon Etended A funeral A man 1 of our own Company

Tusday May 30 Etempted to Preforme Some Privit Duties But was Cold And Ded in duty. O that God would make me more livey in his Servis And forgive my Backwardness to Duty. thare was two men Buried to Day out of our Regiment.

Wed? May ye 31. felt Calme And Serious to Day God enabled me to wat on him three or fore times today in Secret Blesed be God for Such A Ceson. thare was three men belonging to the Armey Buried to Day

Thursday June ye I thare was Sheep And Catel and horses we hear to ye Amount of fore or five hundred Sheep twenty or thurty Cattel And A number of horses brought along that our Peopel took from the Regulars of noddles island. Blesed be God for the interposition of his Provedence on our Side in that He has Delivered into our hands So much of thare goods or Substance And in Saving of us in ye late Battle when in Such Ement Danger Suerly God fote the Battle And not we

Friday June ye 2 Felt Lively to Day in Sperital things: Blesed be god for such A Ceson. I was troubled about this time with a

¹ William Smith, of Townsend, who died on May 29, and was buried on the same day. See "Groton during the Revolution" (pp. 7, 8), for facts concerning him and the skirmish at Chelsea.

² Penny Ferry, established in 1640 between Charlestown and Malden.

Pane in My hed: thare was A Tounshind man 1 Belonging to our Company Buried to Day

Saterday June ye 3 had A Sense of my Dependance on god and Gods right to me. Abought fore in ye afternoon Peraded with the Battallion And Saw two men whipt for Stealing and Another Drombout of ye Camps. O what A Pernitious thing it is for A man to Steal And Cheat his feler nabers And how Prevocking is it to God.

Sunday June ye 4 Etended Publect worship And in ye forenoon herd ye Re⁴ M^r Whitcome from Isaiah: furst Chapter: from ye twentyfirst verse to ye end of ye 24 verse. And in ye afternoon herd ye Re⁴ M^r Avery: from Stockbridge: who Spoke Exelenty from Job 35 C and 9 10 11 12 13. Oh this is a fine man

Monday and Tusday june 5 And 6th Days Preformed Some Privet Duties But not with Life to ye Degree As I wished for. oh God do not Leve and forsake me Althoe I forsake the on monday my Brother [Benjamin] ² Came and took my Plase And on tusday about noon I Sot out on my jurney for home And Arived about ten at night found my Parance And frinds well. Thanks be unto God that has Preserved our Lives and helth for these Seven weeks: althoe Some of ye time we have bin in Emment Danger. I was Fil⁴ with love to God as I Rode Along And Lifted up my Sole to God in Ejackculation Prayers and Prase

Wedensday June ye 7 To Day I Visited my Frinds in ye forenoon oh what A mersifull Father God is. how Stooped And mad must A man be to Continue in an unrenued State in this wonderfull day of Grase.

Thursday june ye 8 In ye afternoon I Etended A Lecter and herd M. Faxter [Thaxter] from John 15. 8 herein is my father glorified, &c

¹ John Burge, of Townsend, who died at Cambridge, presumably from disease, on June 3, according to the Return of Captain Farwell's company. See "Groton during the Revolution" (p. 8). He enlisted on the same day as Smith, and his term of service, according to the muster roll, was five days longer.

² This entry and the one under date of Wednesday, June 14, show that a man in the army, during the early days of the Revolution, could have a temporary substitute when absent; and the muster roll of the company furthermore shows that it could be done without loss of pay.

See entry of December 5 for particulars of a sad accident by which this brother Benjamin and the father were drowned in the Nashua River.

Friday Saturday and Sunday June 9. 10. 11. days Diferant Exersises of mind these Days

I went to meeten on Sunday And herd ye Re! Mr Commens: in ye forenoon: from Pauls words: But Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ. And in the afternoon from Some of S Peters words in 1 of Peter 5. 7. Casting all your care upon him: for he careth for you. the Church purtook of the Sacrement to Day: oh that God would Prepare me for Such near Communion with him

Monday Tusday Wedensday And Thursday. June y: 12. 13. 14. 15 days Alas my Backsliding hart: Oh how have I Revolted from the Liven God Alas Alas when I am left of God I Do Soon fall into Sin Oh that God would Glorify his grace in Parding my many-Fold Sin and gilt: Althoe I am A grate And very wicked And Vile one

on wedensday I Took Leve of Frinds And Rode to Cambridge And my Brother Came home

Friday june. 16. Nothing Done in ye forenoon in the afternoon we had orders to be redy to march At Six Agreable to Orders our Regiment Preadid and about Sun-set we was Drawn up and herd Prayers: And about Dusk Marched for Bunkers hill; under Command of our own Co! Prescott. jest before we turned out of ye rode to go up Bunkers-hill; Charlestown we was halted; And about Sixty men was taken out of our batallion to go into Charlestown; I being one of them: Capt Nutten 1 heded us Down to ye town house; we Sot our Centres by ye waterside; the most of us got in the town house But had orders not to Shut our eyes Our Men marched to Bunker-Hill And begun thair intrenchment And Careed it on with the utmost Viger all Night, Early in the Morning I joined them

Saturday June y 17. the Enemy appeared to be much Alarmed on Saturday Morning when thay discovered Our operations and immediately began a heavy Cannonading from a batery on Corps-Hill Boston and from the Ships in ye Harbour. we with little loss Continued to Carry on our works till 1 o'Clock when we Discovered a large Body of the Enemy Crossing Charles-River from Boston. thay landed on a Point of land about a Mile Eastward of our Intrenchment And immediately disposed thair army for an attack

¹ Captain John Nutting, who commanded the company of Pepperell minutemen.

previous to which thay Set fire to the town of Charlestown. It is supposed that the Enemy intended to attack us under the Cover of the Smoke from the burning Houses, the Wind favouring them in Such a Design; While on the other side their Army was extending Northward towards Mistick-River with an apparant Design of surrounding our Men in the Works, And of cutting of any Assistance intended for our Relief. thay ware however in some Measure, counteracted in this Design, and Drew their Army into closer Order. As the Enemy approached, Our men was not only Exposed to the Attack of a very numerous Musketry but to the heavy Fire of the Battery on Corps-Hill, 4 or 5 Men of War, Several Armed Boats or Floating Batteries in Mistick-River, and a number of Field pieces. Notwithstanding we within the intrenchment, and at a Breast Work without, sustained the Enemy's Attacks with [g]reat Bravery and Resolution, kiled and wounded great Numbers, and repulsed them several times; and after bearing, for about 2 Hours, as severe and heavy a Fire as perhaps ever was known, and many having fired away all their Ammunition, and having no Reinforsement: althoe thare was a great Boddy of Men nie By: we ware over-powered by Numbers and obliged to leave the Intrenchment retreating about Sunset, to a small Distance over Charlestown Neck. N. B. I Did not leave the Intrenchment utill the Enemy got in I then Retreated ten or Fifteen rods, then I receved a wound in my rite arm the bawl gowing through a little below my Elbow breaking the little shel Bone Another bawl struk my Back taking of a piece of Skin about as big as a Penny But I got to Cambridge that night. Town of Charlestown supposed to contain about 300 Dwelling-Houses, a great Number of which ware large and elegant, besides 150 or 200 other Buildings, are almost all laid in ashes by the Barbarity and wanton Cruelty of that infernal Villain Thomas Gage Oh the goodness of God in Preserving my life Althoe thay fell on my Right hand and on my left: O may this act of Deliverance of thine oh God lead me never to Distrust the, but may I Ever trust in the and put Confodence in no Arm of flesh. I was in great Pane the first Night with my wound

Sunday June 18 I and Phinias Hobord 1 Came to Mr Watsons

¹ A son of Nathan and Mary (Patterson) Hubbard, of Groton, who was a sergeant in Captain Farwell's company.

on *Monday june* 19 M^r Hobord and I Sat out for Home Came as far as Lincol, met our Honered fathers. Got as far as Concord that night

Tusday june 20. we got home

Now for a Conciderable time Pas I Could not keep my Jornal for my wound in my Arme But Now I begin to Rite a little

Monday Augus 14th Sot out For Cambridge Got thare that Day; found our Company perty well:

Now from monday to Saterday nigt Nothing hapned worth noteis

Lords Day August 20th in the morning I Etended prayers about 10 We went And herd the Re^t Doct^r Langdon on the Common From S Luke 7 Cha^t from the 36 Varce to the end of the Chapter And in the afternoon from S John 7. 17. Hee spoke Excellently from the words

Monday August the 21 Nothing meterial

Tusday. Wedensday august 22. 23. Days Only our Usal Dutes. I went to Watertown to see Mr Devens, About Some Cast but Could not Git it

Thursday August th 24 Etended prayers as usal: About twelve Oclock I had my arme Dres! And Docter Hart 1 Opened it nigh 2 Inches Down to the Bone: About 3 in the afternoon Co! Prescott Gave orders to March to Sewels 2 Pinte and thay marched But I Did not Go with them because of my wound

Friday Satterday August 25. 26. Days A little Firing from the Enemies works to Day But Did but little hurt

Lords Day august 27th Etended Meeten and herd the Revent Dr Langdon from furst of Luke 74. 75. Varces: in the forenoon he Shew, our Natteral Depraveity and Enmety to God and Gods way whilst in our unrenewed Estate: in the afternoon Shew us that we Should Sarv him in holiness and fear. O that I might Practis accordingly

We was alam⁴ several times to day: by reson of our Men Begining to intrench on Ploud Hill: ³ thare was Considerable firing we had

¹ Dr. John Hart, of Georgetown, surgeon of Colonel Prescott's regiment.

² Sewall's Point is in that part of Brookline now known as Longwood.

⁸ Ploughed Hill, known later as Mount Benedict, stood in that part of Charlestown which afterward became Somerville. In very recent times it has been levelled to the ground.

2 Men kiled and 2 wounded: our People Sunk one of the Enemies Floting Batteris

Munday and Tusday August 28. 29. Sum Firing these days one of our men was kild by the floting Batteries in Mistick River tusday night one of the Riful Men was buried under armes Church way:

with great decency and Solemnety

Wedenday Thursday August 30. 31. Days the Enemy has Bin a Cannonading and Buming of us: But du little hurt: Thanks be to God for any tokens for good I found a young Gentleman that I Could Freely Convers with on Sperital things I find God has a Remnant in this Depraved and Degenarated and gloomy time

Friday and Saturday September 1. 2. Days Nothing Strange

hapned these Days

Lords day Sept. 3 Etended Prayers and Preaching in the fore Noon the Revent M^r Lenard ¹ from Deuteronomy 20. 1. 2, 3, 4. In the Afternoon a Gentleman unknoon by me spoke from Esther 9. 1, 2.

Munday Sept. 4 Sum firing to Day

Now from the forth Day to the Seventeth Day nothing of Great Consequence hapned in the Armey we Carried on our works on Ploud hil with great sped

Lords Day Sept the 17 Etended meeten And heard the Re! M! Lennard from jeremiah 15. 16. Thy words ware found and I Did eat them, &c he spoke Excelenty And the Church Purtook of the Sacrament in the forenoon oh thet I was made alive unto God and Prepared for such near Communion with Christ in the Afternon the rev D! Langdon Preach! from Revelation 21. 3. Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will Dwell with them, and thay Shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. this was good Preaching

From Sabarday 17 D to Sabarday 24 Day of Sept. Nothing of Consequence hapued only the enemy fired Sume And wounded 2 or 3 men.

Lords Day Sep! 24. Etended Prayars half after 6 in the morning: and Preaching at 10 oclock, — D! Langdon Preached in the forenoon from 1 of Peter 5. 10. 11. In the afternoon R! D! Appilton²

¹ Rev. Abiel Leonard (H. C. 1759), of Woodstock, Conn., chaplain of Colonel Putnam's regiment.

² Rev. Nathaniel Appleton (H. C. 1749), minister of Cambridge.

a good old Minister in his 81 or 2 year of his Age he took his Text out of 1 of Timothy. 6. 12. Fight the good fight of faith, Lay hold on eternal life,

Monday: sept 25th one man was whip! and Drummed out for Stealing: he was a bold and unshamefasced wrech. o that men was wise thet thay understood that thay would Consider on thare latter End

Tusday and Wedensday Sept. 26. 27. Days our men went from Roxbury And Took from Gage 12 Cattle and 2 horses And Burnt a Bulding

Thursd Friday Sept. 28. 29. d Nothing worth notes

Saterday Sept. 30th One of our Regis was Buried: And one Man Belonging to Cambridge was taken Poorly of a Sudden and Died Amediately Alas upon what a Slender thread do our lives hang on; yet we are as Carles as thoe we was to live always.

Lords Day october 1th I here the Ret Dr. Appleton he Preachd again from 1 timothy 6. 12: He Shew what Puting on the hole Armer of God was in its several Peaces of armer. having our lins gurt about with truth: And having on the brest plate of Righteousness and your feet shod with the Preparation of Peace: Above all taking the Sheld of faith wharewith ye shall be able to Quench all the fiery Darts of the wicked and take the helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit which is the word of God Praying always with all Prayer And Supplication in the spirit. Ephesians 6 C. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. in the afternoon here the Ret Mr. lennard from Isaiah 40. 28. Nothing of Consequence hapned from the Furst of Oct; to the end of the Seveneth Day Only A number of boats are Making: and Sum Cannaiding from Boston neck But did but little hurt

Lords Day Oct. 8th I herd the Revent M. Lennard From Isaiah 30. 18; he is a God of Judgment: Blessed, are all thay that Wait on him And in the afternoon A Gentleman Unknown to me: From S. Matthew V.c., 5.v. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth

Munday Oct. 9th the Carpenter are Giting Timber and Fraiming Barraks as fast as thay Can by the generals order

Tusday Wedensday Thursday and Friday Oct. 10. 11. 12. 13 Days
The Armey lies without much Bisnis Carried on only Bulding Barrocks and fortifying a little: we Act in the Defensive more than
Affensive

Saterday Oct. 14th Nothing of Consequence

Lords Day Oct. 15th Herd Rt Mt Lenard in the forenoon From Psalms 48. 8. God will establish it for ever in the afternoon a Stranger to me Precht From Naham 1. 7. the Lord is Good, a Strong hold in the Day of trouble and he knoweth them that trust in him. The Treated upon the Power And goodness of God he Sed his Power Shone Conspicious in the Creation: and in Saving and leading the Childrin of Israel through the Sea and wilderness Saving the three from the Rage of the fire &c

Monday Oct: 16th Nothing more then Common

Tusday Oct. 17th Our People Went this evening with two Floating Batteryes Down Cambridge River to fire on Boston: thay went within About A Mile and half: fired Sum time, when one of thare Cannon Split: wounded Eight Men whareof One Died. O the Sad Efect of wor: when will the time Com when we need larn war No more

Wedensday Oct: 18th Nothing Meterial: my Honnered Father Came Down to See me and the armey

Thursday Oct. 19th and Friday Oct. 20th A Great talk of more troops being Sent to Boston But our Men ant Scart at trifels. I would to God that our People had as good Courage in the Speritual warfare as thay have in the Temporal one

Now from Oct. Friday 20th to thirsday 26. of great noteis

friday Oct. 27 I got a Furlow and Rode home to groton I was Not very well when I left Cambridge and when I came home the Docter Said I had the Camp Fever which verily Apered and was true.

Saterday Dec. 2d. I left my Jurnal at Cambridge that I could not keep it for Six Weeks I have bin unwell all this time and am Still so. Alas I have bin Ded the most of this time to Speritual things oh that God would quicken me by his grace

Lords Day Dec² 3rd I Stay^d at home all Day I have such a Hedake that I Cannot Read but Very little, I feel for the most Part very ded and dul in Releguon at this time.

Monday Dec. 4th Nothing of Consequence

Tusday Dec. 5th I Rode in the forenoon to the Docters returned about Noon; my Father and Brother Benja went Down to Nashaway-River to Cross the Same. by Some meens the Canoe Sunk and

God in his holy and Riteous Provedence Suffered them both to Drowned O! how Awfull is Death Espesually when it is sent in such a sudden and Suppriseing Mannar. But when I Consider it is the Hand of God I must and Desire to be Resined to Gods will: oh grant blessed God to thy Sarvant that I may make a wise and Religous improvement of every Dispensacion of thy Providencees

Wedensday Dec. 6th our frinds and Naighbors all Day Sarched the River and found my Brother

Thirsday friday Saterday and Lords-Day Dec. 7. 8. 9. and 10th Days People Sarchd for the Body of my Father but found it not

Monday Dec. 11. the Funeral was and the R! M! Bigalow was sent for he Prayed with us

Tusday Dec. 12th I hope was a good Day to my Sole at Night I Prayed in the famerly and God seemed to give me boldness to the Throne of grace

Wednesday dee. 13th God has of late frouned on our Enemies and Given into our hands much warlike stors: And at Newfoundland the Kings Fishermen Amounting to more than 4000 Men Was Lost in a mighty Storm on the 9th of September. And two Vessels was struck with Lightining Belonging to our Enemies.

Thursday Dec. 14th O how Marvelously good is God to me in keeping me from the Flames of Hell and Death When the arrers of Death and of Gods rath flies so thick.

Friday Dec. 15th Alas what a backward Hart have I and how Slothfull that, before I am aware My Hart is Sat on the things of this world and Deceives me.

Saterday Dec. 16th O ym dulness to Duty oh that I did take more delite in the ways of Godliness: Quicken me oh God of thy own mear good Pleasure because I am dul of understanding.

Lords-day Dec. 17th I went to Gods Houss in the afternoon and heard the Rev. Mr. Biggalow from S. Matthew 24. 44.th Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as you think not, the Son of man cometh.

Monday Tuesday and Wednesday Dec. 18. 19. 20th days. our

¹ Rev. Isaac Biglow (H. C. 1769), who was preaching at this period as a candidate for the vacancy caused by the dismissal of Mr. Dana. He was born at Weston, on May 13, 1750, and died on April 18, 1777. He studied for the ministry, but never was settled over a parish. The father wrote his surname "Bigelow," but the son dropped the middle letter.

westorn Forses are very Sucsesfull in Subdueing our forron and Domistick enemies: Providence seems to faver us, O that we might Eye the hand from whence Comes all our Help.

Thirsday Dec. 21st O my backwardnes to Duty; oh bring me out of my Self and may I see the Necessity of Puting of the old man With his Deeds and of Puting on the New.

Friday Dec. 22d. Lord thou hast I acknowledge bin good and rought out our Deliverance from time to time. Thou didest Plant us hear in this good land and thy Right hand hath saved us ever since. But Alas what a bad improvement have we made of these things.

Saturday Dec. 23. And now o Lord we are in troble Boston is a seat whare our Unnatteral Enemyes are in Prosession: the People of the Town of Boston that are our frinds have bin forsted to leave the town or be shut up and Confined thare amoungst our foes And alas o God we have Sined as a Continant we have Sined as A Provence we have sined as Connected with a town and a Famerlyes and Privets: But oh God do not Cast of this thy Land that thou hast garded so long

Lords-day Dec. 24th felt two Dul in duty: good God take away this acused hard Hard of mine and give me a soft Hart one that may be esely Impresed upon by thy word

Monday Tuesday, 25, 26th of Dec: I fell dull in Duty and yet I dont se my sin so as to follar it as I ought: I am a great sinner yet I Dont se my Sin aright.

Wednesday Dec 27th Two Carles in watching over my Conduct for I git into the world and Depart from God.

Thirsday Dec. 28th Lord I find it a hard Peace of work to deny myself oh that thou Lord would make it more easey by granting thy Holey speret to thy unworthy servant.

Friday Dec. 29th I Thought on a life of Religion; But with two much Coldness

Saturday and Lords-day Dec? 30, 31th. Alas what gloomy time is this to my Sole; oh that God would Cause light to arise out of the midst of darkness and Shuew to me his Salvation

Monday and Tuesday January 1, 2d Days, Being the year of our Lord Christ 1776. oh How unprofitable have I bin this Year Past in the Servis of God.

Wednesday Jan? 3th oh that I might live more nigh to God for

the time to come: For I se that mortals must dy: This Day Aunt Longley 1 of Shierly was buried. And another Woman of the same Town was at hur work: Instantly fell Down and died in an Hours time; grant blessed God that I may not Loose the improovment of these Despencations of Devine Providence, But may my Sole be filed with Admiration for thy Distinguishing goodness to me.

Thursday Friday Jan? 4. 5th alas what a sinner I am, my sins are of the blackest Die Alas thay are inhanst because when I had akened in some Degree to a sence of my duty I have fell into Carnal Security again: Oh will the Lord help me out of the Deep mier in which I am fallen

Saturday and Lords-dad January, 6.7 two dul in duty: I went to Meeten all Lords-day and heard the Rev. M. Biggalow from, S, John 3. 16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begoton Son, &c. he shue the Method of Salvation by Christ Jesus.

Monday Tuesday Jan? 8. 9. I am unworthy of a plase in the world: it is a wonder of the Lord's mercy that I am not Consumeed.

Wednesday Jany 10th alas the degeneracy of the times

Since Godly men deca O Lord, do thou my cause dend: For scarse these wretched times aford, one jest and faithfull frend.

[Some pages of the Diary here missing.]

Monday Tuesday Febry 19. 20th [1776] Alas the Divel has great hold of me I am under his laws and am secure

Wednesday Thursday Feb y 21. 22. How have I got into the world o Lord keep me from the sin of the world

Friday Saterday 23 24th Feb? I indulge Security and am blind Lords-day Feb? 25th Went to Meeten and herd Rev. M: Emerson of Concord from Isaiah in forenoon 3 Chap. 10. 11 Verses Say ye to the righteous that it shall be well with him: Wo unto the wicked it shall be ill with him; Afternoon from S Luke 18. 7. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which Cry day and night unto him, though he bare long with them? felt dul in duty: I Pray God grant that by the Preaching of this Worthey Man I may be stired up to my duty and to a holy walk with God

¹ The wife of William Longley, of Shirley, who was Mary, eldest child of Joseph and Abigail (Sawtell) Parker, of Groton.

Monday Tuesday Feb? 26. 27th Security and backwardness to duty

Wednesday Feby 28 I went to a funeral of Dec[on] Colyars 1
Thursday Feby 29 Security

Friday March y: 1st I went to se Abigail Stone who was very sick She was in great consern about hur sole

Saturday and Lords-day March 2. 3^d I have two much cause to lement my Past life I went to meeten herd Rev. m. Bigelow forenoon 2 Corinhians 4. 18. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. he set forth the Excelency of things unseen to things seen: Afternoon from Psalms 16. 11 in thy presence is foolness of Joy, at thy right hand thare are pleasures forevermore.

Monday Tuesday March 4. 5th oh Lord lift me out of the Pit of Security: and save me for I am a sinner

Wednesday March, 6, I herd that Father was found near Pepperil Bridge. I took my hors and rode there; and found that he had bin seen on the top of the water near shore but was not stoped: I Pray God grant that His body may be found If Consistant with thy will for it is a living sorrow But why should I be so anxious about the body when the sole is gon to its place. oh that I was more Anxious to secure the immortal part which nither Dies nor deays.

Thursday March 7th was sot apart for Fasting and prayer: but we had no Preaching: I was at the fun of m! Dodges Child, Decon [James] Stone made the Prayer?

Friday March 8th Show to me my security O Lord most High?

Saturday Mar. 9th I with two or three others sot out in order to go down by the side of Nashawa River to the mouth of the same we got to the lower bridge then left the river: being dark, for lodging: Part of us stayed at Esq. Lovels I and Brother Holden went further to William Luns

Sabath-day Mr^h: 10th went quit to the mouth of the river then back for home Came to Holis: Betwixt Longleys Island and

¹ Probably alluding to the funeral of some one in Deacon Collier's family.

² A daughter of Deacon James and Mary (Farwell) Stone, born on December 2, 1736.

³ Jabez Holden, who married Rachel Farnsworth, an elder sister of the diarist.

Jacho Mill 1 about a Mile below s. Mill thare we found the Bodey that we was looking after took out the same and Brot it home

Monday March 11th the funeral was set and M. Bigelow Came and went to Prayer: oh that I might think on his words and be ready for a suden Chang?

For the most of this Week I was thoughtless and Blind; and have not don my duty: and I never shall if god does not help; and Quicken me and oh Lord Put within me a right Hart and temper of mind?

Lords Day March 17th I herd the Revt M. Bigelow from James 2. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18th He incested most on the 18 verse: he sed a ded faith without works is ded? this day ye British troops left Boston

March Monday 18th I am Exercised with an exceeding Hedake: o the troubels of this life. Yisterday the British Troops left Boston

Tuesday Wednesday March 19, 20th Alas I have not the Presence of God Good God Help me to disern my Blindness and Dedness in matters of Religion

Thursday Friday March 21, 22nd Coldness in duty

Saturday March 23^d I went to see Abigail Stone who was sick and very low: Prayed with hur But was Two Cold and lifeless; oh warm my Hart Blesed God; and may I be more Earnest in Beging for mercy?

Sabath-day March 24th Herd Rev! M. Bigelow forenoon Philippians, 2, 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; Afternoon Psalms 44 the six first Verses. We have heerd with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us what work thou didst in their days, in the times of old. &c He sed that our fathers Coming hear being in the Year 1620 on the 11 of December; was similer in many instances to that of God bringing his Ancant People the Jews into Canan, out of Egypt: for he has sufered no Enimy to Destroy us: for when France Sent a

[Some pages here missing.]

I went to meeten and heerd Rev! M. Daniel Emerson 2 From 1

¹ Longley's Island is probably the island near the mouth of a small brook, in what is now Nashua, N. H.; and "Jacho's Mill" is the same as Jaquith's, later known as Runnells's, in Hollis, N. H.

² Rev. Daniel Emerson (H. C. 1739), of Hollis, N. H.

Corinthians 11. 26 For as oft as ye eat this bread and drink this Cup ye do shew the Lords death til he come

The Church of Christ in this Place Purtook of the Sacrament O that I had Grace to fit me for such near approch to Christ at his Table But now I turn my back But as I turn Such Thoughts as these sugest to my mind; Ah thou ungratefull retch to slight the ordiance of the Supper see my Children feed there Sols Richly: whilst thine is a Starveing: Wouldest thou not pay more regard to the last words of a Dear and dying frind if by so doing you would Reep so much advantage as you might by this ordiance. As I walked out with what shame did I skulk for Rev, m. Emerson spoke Close to those that turn thare backs

Lords-day May 5 [1776] I herd Rev! M! Adams from Romans 12. II Not slothfull in business A meen Sermon afternoon M! Whitemore from Mathew 6. 10 Thy will be done in Earth as it is in Heaven, he Spoke little better

Thursday May 9th was sot Apart by the Town for fasting and Prayer that God would be Plesed to send Us a man for a teacher that will be faithfull Over the flock Rev. M. Whitney of Shirley Preached in the forenoon from Colossians, 1. 7 Afternoon Rev. M. Emerson from S Luke 10. 2 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth labourers into his Harvest this was preaching he had no nots oh that I might treasher up the truths

Lords-day May 12 went to meeten in the afternoon her Mr Bigelow from Ecclesiastes 9. 10 felt Cold and dul in duty

My Brother Jonas Came hom from Mechias [Maine.]

Friday May 17th this day was sot Apart by the Grand Congras as a day of fasting and Prayer throughout the Continent I went to meten and herd Rev, M. B. from 2 Chronicles 20 from the fifth to the thirteenth Verse: But O Coldness in duty Help good Lord and forgive

Sabboth day May 26 oh dedness in duty I went to Meten herd Mr. Fisk forenoon from Psalms 4th 6 Afternoon Mathew 22. 5 But they made light of it A Smart Young Precher

Lords-day. June 2 I went to meeten herd R[ev.] M. B. from I Corinthians 10. 31. Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do do all to the glory of God was sleepey and dul in the forenoon O that I was more lively in duty: But Alas Coldness in maters of Religion

Monday June 17th on this day of the month was Charlestown fight a year ago I was wounded by our

[Some pages here missing.]

Groton March 20th 1778 I being prest with a sence of my Duty in Coming to the Lords table and being Convinced that it was my Duty: it being an absolute Command of my dying Saviour I went to our Paster the Rev. Daniel Chapplin to offer myself to the Communion But Alas what oppertions did I meet with from the Divil and my Corrupt and wicked Hart to that degree that I had thots of turning back but Considering how unsoldierlike it was to turn the back I went forward. and I was I hope in some Mesure anabled to lay open my Hart and desire to him and he Delt faithfully & kindly with me

22 Lords day I was Propounded for Communion now for this week my mind was differently Exercised Some times A glimpse of hope and other times overwhelm^d with fear

29 Lds was afected with the Preching

April 1 Wednesday herd a lecter by Rev. Daniel Emerson from Zepheniah 3. 17 he will rest in his live

Thursday April 2nd Etended our Privit Meeten But was dull in duty oh God Parden and forgive

- 3 fr was Meloncoly
- 4 S. I hope I enjoyed some of the Presence of God: O God make me thankfull
- 5 Lds. I went to Meetin & herd y.º Rev. M. Chapplin from Luke 14. 17th Come for all things are Now ready, I was Admited to Join with the Church of Christ in this place: and O how did I long to love God, and do my duty and live up to my Sacramental Engagements O God I beg that thou wood Increase my faith & love & Repentance and obedance and O God may I never fall into Security And it was Communion day &c and we was Entertained in the afternoon from Romans 4. 16 Therefore it in [is] of faith that it might be by Grace
 - 6 M^d injoyed Some freedom in famerly Duty thanks be to God

¹ Rev. Daniel Chaplin (H. C. 1772), minister of Groton. He and Mr. Bigelow, previously mentioned, had preached as candidates for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Dana.

- 7 Tu O God grant Me thy quickening Spirit & O may I prase and love the
- 8 We, I herd d¹ Parker ¹ an Anabaptis preacher he spoke from Exodus 17th 6 and thou shalt smite the Rock &c
- 9 Th, I am two luke warm: O Lord Shoe to me my true State & Condition and if there is any Sin that I have never Repented of Discover it unto me & give me repentance and O God give me a true hatred of Sin and a Grater love to Religon.
 - 10 Fr, dull in Religon & Stuped
- vords Came often to my mind, and the Plowing of the Wicked is Sin: now thinks I it may be I am sining in Every furrow I turn and if that is the Case what a load of Sin and gilt awaits me. But O God if I am a wicked Man in the sence of the words wilt thou discover unto me my Sin and O God wilt thou Give me Repentance and sarch me O God Shoe me the Plage of my Hart
- 12 Ld, I Heard M. Thatcher. Lord Make me to know my duty and give me love and faith
- 13 M, d, O security, and dulness, and slothfullness to duty oh may I see my self and Repent.
- 14 T, u, O Lord may I grow in Grace and in the knowledge of the truth & O Lord may my Coruptions be Subdued.
- 15. 16. W, Th, my mind was sumthing Composed I went to Privit meetin on Th we Red a sermon of M. Davis, oh Jeruselim Jerusalm who kileth the Profets and stoneth them that are sent unto you how often would I have gathered you together as a hen gathereth hur Chickings under hur wings and you would not.
- 17 F, I feal Cold and dul & feal I want a sence of the love of God &c
- 18 S, Lord lift upon me the light of thy Countance and be my God
- 19 L, d, went to Meetin M: Chaplain Preached in the forenoon from S! Mathew 10.th 33. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in Heaven. Afternoon Luke 14. 22. And the servant said Lord it is dun as thou hast Commanded and yet there is room. oh the hardness of my hart that I cant Moorn more for Sin. But I moorn that I Cant moorn
- ¹ Dr. Isaiah Parker, who had previously studied medicine, and who two months later, on June 10, was ordained at Harvard.

and (desire to) Pray that I might moorn, and may I be thankfull that I Can see myself in any degree

20 M, I seemed to be presed to secret duty by my Consiance, but felt a strange backwardness O that I did love Religion.

[Some pages here missing.]

- 5, 6, 7 [May, 1778,] T, W, Th, had some asistance in Prayer for which I desire to be thankfull: but am two lukewarm and Dull and lifeliss in Duty
- 8, 9 F, S, on F went to a funeral of M: William Grean's 1 but was dul when the duty of Prayer was Proformed: in the Evening love was somewhat in Exercise by Conversing with Christions friends

oh that I was thankfull for favors Resieaved and that I did live near to God & in the way fo my duty

Revelation 22. 17. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely afternoon from Amos 4. 12. &c but althou the Preeching was powerfull yet in the afternoon I was dul and Cold oh that God wood warm me with his spirit Even me who am a ded dog and oh forgive forgive and power out thy Sperit and quicken me by thy divine Grase and shed abroad thy love in My Soal in the Evening was Melted with a Sence of my hard hart & was led to join with Dr Wats

Dear Saviour, Steep this rock of mine in thine own crimson sea! Noone but a bath of blood divine can melt this flint away.

- 17 L d, during the last week I was much tempted to Sin and to backslide from God & was in a Cold frame for the most part I went to a privit meeten & Church meeten this day I heard Mr. Chapplin from Luke 10. 42 But one thing is needfull; and Mary hath Choson that Good part &c Afternoon Colossians 3. 2. Set your affections on things above &c Alas I git from God my guide and so am tempted by the Divil and my wicked hart to Sin of the blackest nature
- 18, 19, M, T, oh how am I Urged on to Sin by the flesh and the Divil: oh Lord subdue my Corruptions and may I see more of the plage of my own hart & hate Sin with a parfect hatred and turn to the Lord who will pardon
- ¹ According to his epitaph, William Green died on May 7, 1778, in the eightieth year of his age.

Now for the remainder of this Week I was Exersised with temptatision to Sin and was foild by Saton and fell into great sin; for it was my Constitutinal sin: & I thought I had got the victory over it and was of my guard But oh the blackness of my Crime it being comited deliberately and knowingly how do I deserve Hell and misery & Everlasting banishment

- 24 L, d, M: Chaplain Preached from Colossians 3. 1. If ye then be risen with Christ seek those things which are above afternoon ye same chapter & 3 verse: for ye are ded and your life is hid with Christ in God But was Cold and dul having no Sense of of [sic] my danger or my Duty the six next days was followed with temptations to Sin; and alas I have no strength to withstand with that farmness as I ought
- 31 L, d, Atempted secret Prayer in the Morning But O I dont meet with God Alas I fear He has withdrawn wholey from me and well he may on account of my late sin in in [sic] particular O was Ever any Creature Porsed with such a hard Hart as I am; did ever a Creature stand it out against there Creatore as I do O that God wod humble me on that acount I herd M. [Moses] Adams of Acton from Luke 14. 18 And thay all with one Consent began to make excuse Afternoon Mathew 9. 12. But when Jesus heard that he said unto them thay that be whole need not a physician but thay that are sick.

Monday, T, June 1, 2. 1778 O the dulness & indiference that has seasd my hart: art Thou quite gon O Lord O return unto thy unworthy Servent; thou wood be jus I must confess if thou was to tak away the Strivings of thy Spirit from me. But oh God do not withdraw and give me up to hardness of Hart and a Reprobate mind But wash me in the great fountain But O Lord I have nothing to plead as to worthiness But I have much to Plead as to my Nesesity & want

- 3 W, went to lector and herd, M! Newel from Colossians 1. 27 which is Christ in you the hope of Glory
- 4 Th, was dul in Religion was Riding with a Christion frind; had agreable Conversation on the rode. herd a lector at Luningburg by M^r whitney ¹ from Acts 3. 26. in turning every one of you from his iniquities. I was furnished with mater of self Examation

¹ Rev. Phineas Whitney (H. C. 1759), of Shirley.

by the reading of M. Flavels life But O how do I come short of his example and how infinitely short of the Example of Christ

- 5, 6, F, S, had some inlargment in duty But mostly cold and dul in duty
- 7 L, d, this was Communion day with our Church & there was Seven persons taken into the Church M: Chaplain Preached from Romans 6. 1, 2. What shall we say then shall we Continue in Sin that grace may abound God forbid how shall we that are ded to sin live any longer therein Afternoon Colossians 3. 4. When Christ who is our life shall appear then shall ye also appear him in glory. his Proformance was Extraordany I had something of a vew of the odaous nature of Sin and some cuting Reflections on the Acount thereof
 - 8, 9, M, T, was slothfull in duty for the most part
- To W, rod to Harvord to an Ordanation of D! Parker of the baptis order; D! Stilman gave the discorce his text was in the 2, Timothy 2. 2. And the things that thou hast heard of me, among many witnesses the same Commit thou unto faithfull men who shall be able to teach others also. M' Allin gave a lector towards night in the same place from Mathew 5. 6. let your light so shine before men &c
- 11. Th, went to Privit meetin why oh my Sole dont you love your redeemer more and hate Sin more
- 12, 13, F, S, had some inlargment in the duty of Prayer and meditation make me thankfull o Lord
- 14 L, d, herd MF Chaplin from Hebrews, 6. 7, 8. For the earth which drinketh in the rane that Cometh oft upon it, &c Enjoyed some Comfort in duty and was asisted in Spakeing in the famerly on important truths.
 - 15, 16 M, T, was tempted to Sin even to my right hand Sin.
- 17, 18 W, Th, went to Westford to an ordination 1 But it was put By til the nex wek on acount of some Dificualtyes and divisions in the Church had opertunity for meditation by the way
- 19, 20, F, S, had some freedom in prayer But alas at what a low rate do I live with God and in religion; oh that God wold revive the things that begin to die in me
- ¹ June 17, 1778, was the day appointed for the ordination of Mr. Jesse Read at Westford, which, owing to dissensions in the church, did not take place. See Hodgman's History of Westford (pp. 269-271), for an account of the difficulty.

21 L, d, herd M: Thatcher from Corinthians 13. 5. Examin yourselves whether ye live in the faith how apt I am to Rest secure and live in the neglect of duty; and sin at a high rate; oh God shoe to me my Sins and foly and Grant me new obediance

For the three next days I Enjoyed somthing of the Divine Presence was with a Christon that spoke on the power of religion: oh that I did live near to God and Duty the Sun was in an Aclips on Wednesday 24 Day which aforded me mater of Medation

- 25 Th, went to privet meeten O that I was more thankfull
- $26\ F$ the Wather was Exceding hot & I was much exposed to it which led me to reflect on the State of the finerly impenant who will be forst to bare the scaldings dróps of Gods wrath without any toleration or mixter of mercy
- 27 S, O that my hart was in Heaven while my hands is Engaged about my lawfull buisness.
- 28 L, d, herd M. Chaplin John 6. 44. No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him; &c Afternoon Mathew 5. 6. Blesed are thay which do hunger and thurst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. O how dull am I under the Preeching of the word: for which I am to blame quicken me O Lord by thy Spirit

Now for three days I was two dul in religion and duty

- 2 July Th, Sot out Early in the morning & went to Worster & saw fore Persons Hung for the murder of M. Spooner of Brookfieald: Viz, M. Spooner his wife M. Buchanan. Brooks & Ros all young persons and O what a solam sean it was: to Behold Persons lanching into the world of sperits O Lord keep me from falling into Sin which Exposes life to to [sic] publick Justis: But Alas how have I Exposed my life temporal & Etarnal to Divine Justis thou oh God would be Just to make me Miserable and Cast me of for ever
 - 3 F, went to Church meeten O at what a low rate do I live
 - 4 S, was Enabled to use fervency in Prayer in the morning
- 5 L, d, herd M. Chaplin from Colossians 3. 4. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye Also appear with him in
- ¹ This case had caused great excitement in central Massachusetts on account of the social standing of Mrs. Spooner. Her accomplices were James Buchanan and William Brooks, who had been soldiers in Burgoyne's army, and Ezra Ross, a former soldier in the American army from Ipswich.

glory. Afternoon Proverbs 8. 17. I love them that love me and those that seek me early shall find me. Lord cause thy word preeched this day to be profitable to all that herd it; Especily to my Sole and the Youth in special Now for the Past week I was much in the world; But Enjoyed some Comfort in God in the way of duty

12 L, d, herd M. Thatcher from Jeremiah 13.23. Can the Ethiopian chang his skin or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good that are accustomed to do evil. Afternon Luke 10.29. But he wiling to Justify himself said unto Jesus and who is my neighbor

19 L, d, the last week I was in a dul frame in Religⁿ herd M. Thatcher &c.

26 L, d, O how was I the week Past ded and liftis in Duty taking little or no delight in secret Prayer O Lord Pluck me as a brand out of the burning & deliver my sole from the pit of distruction herd Mr Chaplin from Acts 3. 19. Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the Presence of the Lord. he Pointed out Repentance as the way to life in a strikeing point of light O that I could feel this true repentance which would afect a true refermation in my hart and life

2 L, d, August herd Mf Chaplin from John 7. 37. In the last day that great day of the feast Jesus stood and cried saying if any man thurst let him come unto me and drink. afternoon Ephesians 6. 4. And ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord this was Communion day with our Church but I was Exceeding dul and stuped

16 L, d, herd M! Chaplin from Romans 16. 27. God only wise afternoon Ephesians 6. 4.

30 L, d, herd M: Chaplin from Ephesians 6.4. his Preeching was powerfull. addressing Parents and Children with a mooving afection O that it might proove of real benefit to all and to me in particular.

this week I was Exersised with temptation oh the fountain of Corrupttion and Sin that loges in my Brest

6 September L, d, herd M: Chaplin from Romans 8. 9. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is noone of his he shew the affect of the Spirit by Giving a short commentary on Galatians

5. 22, 23. oh Lord work in and for me thy good Pleasure & help me in the neglected duty of Self examanation and O that thou wood sharch me and discure to me the Plag of my own hart

13 L, d, herd M: Brick from Isaiah 40. 1 Comfort ye comfort ye m[y peop]le saith your God afternon Malachi 3. 14. Ye have said it is vain to serve God: he spoke with a feealing sense of what he sed

27 L, d, herd Mr Perry 1 from James 1. 2. My bretherin Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations Afternon Genesis 23. 2 And Sarah died in Karjath-arba the same is hebron in the land of Canaan and Abraham came to morn for Sarah and to weep for hur.

4 L, d, herd M: Thare Mathew 5. 13. ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor wherewith shall it be salted it is henceforth good for nothing but to be Cast out and to be troden under foot of Men Afternoon Zechariah 9. 12. Turn ye to the stronghold ye prisoners of hope

8 T, October Was on a Jorney to Boston & was tempted to Sin and I indulged the thought to two great a length and was hurred on to the wounding of my sole and dishonor of God Lord Convince me of sin and convert me unto thy self

18 L, d, herd M: Chaplin Matthew 6. 10 Thy kingom come. Afternoon Romans 8. 1. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which is in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit. O that I Could feel the water of this preaching

25 L, d, herd M^I Chaplin from Mathew 6. 10. thy will be dun on Earth as it is in heaven. Afternoon Ezekel 18. 31 for why will ye die

1 November L, d, herd M! Powars 2 of Cohors from Proverbs 18.

10. the name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and is safe [] Powerfull []

[Some pages here missing.]

Blessed is the nation whos God is the Lord; and the people whome he has chosen for his own inheritance

¹ Perhaps the Rev. Joseph Perry (H. C. 1752), of East Windsor, Conn., who on October 23, 1755, had married Sarah Lawrence, of Groton.

² Rev. Peter Powers (H. C. 1754), of Haverhill, N. H., which was then known as Lower Coös.

- 3 [January, 1779], L, d, herd Mr Chaplin from Luke 9. 23^d. And he said to them all, if any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross daly and follow me Aft. Philippians 4. 5 The Lord is at hand. I am wofully stupid and in a lithargick state and seem to be left of God & given up to Hardness of hart oh that God wold apear for me in much mercy & awaike my drousey powers to obediance for if thou Lord dost not apear I shall be lost forever
- 24 L, d, herd M¹ Chaplin from Mathew 6. 33^d. But seek ye the kingdom of God and his rightoness & all thess things shall be added unto you
- 31 L, d, herd M^r Chaplin from 1 John 4.9. in this was manafested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begoting Son into the world, that we might live through him. Afternoon Luke 9.23. and take up his cross daly and follow me
- 7 L, d, February this was sacrament day herd M: Chaplin from John 6. 56. he that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me and I in him Afternoon Psalm 110. 3. Thy people shall be willing the day of thy power in the Beauties of holiness for the wome of the morning: thou haish the dew of thy youith oh that I had a hart to sarve God but how do I live secure and dull in the injoyment of Gospel ordinances; O the the [sic] wickedness of the hart
- 21 L, d, herd M! Chaplin 2 Corinthians 6. 2 behold now is the excepted time behold now is the day of salvation: afternoon S, John Verily verily I say unto you He that believeth on me hath everlasting. Lord return unto me who has bacsliden from the & grant that I may never back slide from the more; help lord for vain is my own help, and atemps to Chang my own hart for Sin brakes out, and love groes Cold
- 28 L, d, herd M! Chaplin I Peter 5. 6. Humble your selves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due tim
- 7 L, d March herd M! Chaplin from Hebrews 6. 18. That by two immutable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us
- 14 L herd M. Chaplin from Galations 2. 19th For I through the law am ded to the law that I might live unto God. Time lost and wo is me

[Some pages here missing.]

- 25 L, d, April [1779,] herd M! Chaplin from 1st Corinthians C.
 10. nor dronkards shall inherit the kingdom of God oh hardness without a Parrial
 - 2 L, d, May herd M! Chaplin from 1 Timothy 6. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil
- 6 Th, this was a day set apart by our honerable Contanental Congras as a day of Publick fasting and Prayer herd M. Chaplin from Lamentations 3. 40, 31. Let us search and try our ways and turn again to the Lord. For the Lord will not cast of forever. O the stupidity of my mind and dedniss in duty o that I was truly awakened to my duty which must be by an almity power or else I shall be dead still

The following entry also appears on a page of the Diary. Amos Shed, mentioned therein, was the eldest child of William and Lydia (Farnsworth) Shed, and was born on April 17, 1766. His mother was a sister of the diarist; and presumably the paper was drawn up when the young man became of age.

To all whom it may concern know that I Amos Shed of Groton in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massechusetts Labourer Have this day recd of Amos Farnsworth of the afores. Groton Gentlemen my guardian Nineteen Pounds nine shillings and one farthing in full of one right or double portion or share in the real Estate of my late Grandfathers Amos Farnsworth deceas. Estate accrued to me in right of my late mother Lydia Shed deceas. In consideration of the above sum I do for my self Heirs and assigns acquit all my right in my late Grandfathers Estate to him and his Heirs forever

The following two or three pages are found in a separate note-book, and contain entries made during the campaign of 1776, while Mr. Farnsworth was in Captain Job Shattuck's company, of which he was Ensign.

	0 " 3 " 0
John Parker	0 " 3 " 0
Lent M. Gilson	0 " 3 " 0
	0 " 2 " 6
August Ticonderoga 27 1776 Lent Thomas Baker	0 " 4 " 0
August Ticonderoga 29th 1776 Lent Levi Parker twelve Dollars	
Sept. 7 Lent Ephraim Robins five Shilings York	
Sept 17 lent Elisha Hoit one Dollar	
John Nutten d ^r	0: 2:5:0
lent William Colburn	o: r:6:0
Sept. 20th Lenard Taylor Money Payd at Several times.	0:12:4:0
Sept. Lieu! Connant Dr.	0: 2:3:0
Sept. 26th Payd for washing for the Deceased in	
Capt. Shattuck Comp.	0:10:9-0
Lent Sarg! Parker one Dollar.	
Lent Sargt Sawtell five Dollars	
Capt Shattuck to sause	0:1:10:0
Lenard Taylor Dr	o:1:8:3
Lent Thomas Baker	0-2- 0
Lent Joseph Taylor Seven Dollars	
Lent Amasa Gilson One Dollar	
Lent Amasa Gilson	0:7:6:0
lent Joseph Taylor Seven Dollars	
lent Thomas Baker Two Dollars	
Oct: 1776 Isaac Warren Dr. for a Pare of Stockens	0-7-0-0
Spencer Dec. 6th 1776 Lent Isaac Williams two Dollar	s & Six Pence

Some remarks to help the Memerry

July Tuesday 23th 1776. I sot out on my march for Canada Got to Charlstown New hampshire

Saturday July 27. Marched from Charlstown.

Monday August 5th Arived at Ticonderoga

Saturday August 10

Tuesday August 20th we mooved acrost the lake and Pichd our Tents on Ticonderoga

Thursday Sept? 12 Eight of us went upon the Generals Bisness 8 mils Below Crown-Point

friday Sept! 13 Returning back Stopt and supt at a Widow woman's hous in Aderson [Addison, Vt.] whare the Smal Pox hod bin the day before Stayd at Adderson all night

Saterday Septr 14th we Returned back to Tie

Friday Oct. 11th our fleet and the Enemy had a battle. And Continued till Sunday Oct. 13th and we lost twelve Sail & five Retreeted to Ty

Monday Octr 28th the Enemy Apeared in Site on a Point of land and in Battucks [Batteaux] advancing towards us we was Alarmed and Expected an atack we was in high Sperits

Sunday Novr. 3^d the Regulers left Putnam and Crown Point and went to winter quarters

Tuesday Nov. 26th we Set out for home by the way of Albany arived at Fort Gorge Wednesday: & Fort Edwood Thirsday and fort An & Saratoga & Stilwater Friday

Saterday lay near Albany

Sunday December 1st Eat brakefast in Albany I went to Meeten in the fore noon herd Preeching from Acts 2. 36, 37, 38 Crosed Hutsons river in the afternoon lay at Green Boosh

Monday Dec^r 2 Came to Canterhoock [Kinderhook, N. Y.] & Barrenton [Great Barrington, Mass.] & westfieald & Springfieald & Brookfieald & Worsister & Lankister & Shirley & Got to Groton Saterday Dec^r. 7th

Ticonderoga

An acount of the Persons that has dyed Since the 20th August 1776 in Colon Jonat Reads Regiment

Lieu! Tomson of Capt Toys Comp Died with the Small pox at fort Jorge

Corporil Spoldin of Cap! Fords Comp! 1 died at fort Jorge Small Pox.

Wednesday Sept. 4 M. Baker Cap! Parkers C Dyd And M. Dammon of Cap, Bancroft

Wednesday Sept: 10th 1776 Joshuea Shattuck of Capt Shattuck Conpany Did

Saterday Sept. 14 M. Walker of Capt. Parkers Comp, Died M. Goodil of Capt, Mils Com James Graham of Capt. Shattuck

¹ This company was commanded by John Ford, of Chelmsford.

Compy Died on Friday Sept! 20 with the blody-flux Elazor Whipple of Cap! Shattuck Comp, Died on Saturday Sept! 21st

Sunday Sept! 22d. Jonas Blood of Cap! Shattuck Comp.

Monday Sept 23rd John Graves of Capt Shattuck

Wednesday Sept. 25th M. Rice of Capt Wheelors Comp

A fue Days ago Lieu! Prat of Capt. Toys Comp! Dyed at fort Jorge with ye Small Pox

Sunday Sept". 29th M. Shattuck of Cap! Gats Comp.

Oct: 2nd Wednesday Benja Jewet of Capt. Shattuck Comp.

Oct: M! Gates and M! Prest of Cap! Gates Com?

Oct: 12 Ens. Underwood of Cap! Wheeler Com!

Oct! 15 M! Goodale of Cap! Gates Comp.

fore of Cap! Bancrofts Com?

M! Kingman of Cap! Parkers Company Died on Thursday Oct!

M' toy of Cap! Toys Comp Died Oct! 21

Nehemiah Parker of Cap! Shattuck Comp! Died on Oct! Tues-day 22

Saturday Oct. 26 Will. Colburn of Cap! Shattucks M! Underwood of Cap! Whel

Nov! 17th M! Leason of Cap! Whelors Comp.