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DIARY OF JOHN HARROWER,
1773-1776

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DOCUMENTS

Diary of John Harrower, 1773-1776

THAT indented servants were a large class among the emigrants to the American colonies is well known, but it is not to be expected that we should ever obtain a large amount of knowledge of the fortunes of a class so obscure and inarticulate. It is known, also, that of the many Scottish indented servants who came to Virginia before the Revolution, some were employed as schoolmasters. But it was by no means to be expected that we should be able to print, not only the actual diary of an indented servant, but that of one belonging to this peculiarly interesting class. That we are permitted to do so is owing to the kindness of Mrs. Sally Nelson Robins, assistant librarian of the Virginia Historical Society. The document, printed with necessary omission of portions not now interesting, affords most valuable glimpses into the life of an indented servant in America, even though the writer was plainly above the average of that class in intelligence and not all his experiences are typical. The book in which the diary is written is a small quarto volume (about 8 x 6 in.) bound in vellum, and containing at present 145 pages. It once contained a few more. It was found among the papers of the Corbin family, of Moss Neck and Farley Vale, Virginia.

Diligent efforts have been made to discover something of the earlier history of John Harrower, of Lerwick in Shetland. These have been seconded, with the utmost kindness, by James M. Goudie, Esq., of Lerwick, a devoted student of Shetland antiquities, and by Francis J. Grant, Esq., *Rothesay Herald*, Edinburgh. But little has been found. Mr. Goudie has obligingly sent a series of contributions by him to the *Shetland Times*, embracing extracts from the kirk-session records of Lerwick, and others entitled "Annals of the County of Zetland," edited by another hand. These cast light upon some of the friends mentioned by Harrower, they illustrate the surroundings from which he emigrated, and they to a certain extent exhibit his points of contact with America before he thought of coming here. Thus, on October 15, 1773, only seven weeks before he left his home, a letter from the sheriff substitute is laid before the kirk-session asking charitable aid for the many destitute

passengers of a ship wrecked at Walls, a few miles away, and confined there for a time by reason of the infection among them. It was an emigrant ship. The Rev. Mr. Mill says in his *Diary*¹ concerning it :

“A vessel from Leith with 260 emigrants for North Carolina was by stress of weather put into Vela Sound in Walls. The smallpox at same time carried off severals, and some of their children crammed in the hold were said to be stifled to death and thrown overboard into the sea, before they landed ; after which the vessel was driven from her anchors, and so damaged that they could not, for several months, put to sea again. The people were dispersed through the several parishes for subsistence according to the Sheriff’s decret. They went back for Leith in April, and the project for America thereby miscarried.”

But only two direct references to John Harrower have been discovered in Lerwick records. One shows him, as one of the heritors or landholders of the parish, attending a meeting in December, 1765, which votes to send to Scotland for a supply of oatmeal for the poor. The other, January 14 of the same year, is the record of his admission into the Morton Lodge of Freemasons,—“Harrower, John, Merchant, Lerwick.” In records at Edinburgh Mr. Grant finds evidence that he came to Shetland after 1750. He also finds in the Sasine Register, under date of 1762, 1767 and 1770, three evidences of tenements held by “John Harrower merchant in Lerwick and Anna Graham his spouse.” This would seem to have been a previous wife ; or the pair may possibly have been our Harrower’s father and mother.

Evidently Harrower was a minor person in Lerwick. Yet he wrote a very good hand, and was fairly well educated at a time when schools hardly existed in Shetland. Whatever may have been the cause of his leaving home (there is no fuller indication than that contained in his letter to his brother-in-law), every page of the diary shows that he was frugal and industrious to a high degree, and he was evidently much regarded by Colonel Daingerfield. Finally, if Jock, his oldest child, was born in November, 1762, he may not improbably have been thirty-five or forty when he left Lerwick. Nothing more is known of his subsequent life than that, after his sojourn at “Belvidera,” he became a sort of manager at “Moss Neck,” near Fredericksburg, the home of Richard Corbin. For this information, and for some of the footnotes, we are indebted to Mrs. Robins.

As to Mrs. Harrower, Mr. Goudie writes :

“His wife belonged to one of the leading families in the town—the Craigies of Stebbiegrind. A portion of the sea-front of the town still

¹ *Diary of the Reverend James Mill* (Scottish History Society, V.), p. 40.



bears their name—' Craigie's Stane.' Miss Turnbull Stewart, a representative of the Craigie family whose residence is the Old Manse, informs me that Mrs. Harrower died in that house. She further says that she remembers coming across an old letter addressed to one of the Craigies, in which the hope was expressed that Mrs. Harrower was being cared for. Nothing is known about Mrs. Harrower's children, but it is evident that she did not join her husband in America."

The old letter referred to may have been that of August 28, 1775, addressed to Captain James Craigie.

DIARY.

Munday, 6th Dec^r 1773. This morning I left my house¹ and family at 4 O'Clock in order to travel in search of business and immediately went on board a sloop ready to saile for Leith, Oconachie M^r and at 5 O'Clock he sailed Accordingly with the wind at N. At this time I am Master of no more Cash but 8½d and stockins² &c. to the amount of £3 st^r³ or thereabout, a small value indeed to travel with.⁴

Munday, 27th. Wind at S. E. with heavy rain. Both the Smacks in the River yet. This evening it being S^r John's night the Free Masons made a very grand procession through the high street. they began at 6 pm and it was 11 pm before the last loge hade done. they were attended by a party of the Grandideers⁵ who carried their flambows and each Loge walked seperatly, they being three.

Tuesday, 28th. Wind at E. fine weather. this day I once thought of engaging with the M^r of the Elizabeth Brigantine bound for North Carolina but the thoughts of being so far from my family prevented me. at noon the wind came all round to the N. V.⁶ and then Mr. began to make ready as fast as possible for sailing.

Wednesday, 29th. At 2 AM left my Logging having been here 16 days and my method of living was as follows Vizt for Breackfast ½d. worth of bread ½d. worth of Cheese and a bottle of ale at 1d. For dinner ½d. worth of bread, ½d. worth of Broath, 1d. worth of Meat and a bottle of ale at 1d. and the same for supper as for breackfast, and 1d. a night for my bedd. On leaving my logings at the time above mentioned I went onb⁷ the sloop Williams, Wm. Bell M^r, for Newcastle, and he immediately hauled out of the harbour and made saile with the Wind at N. N. V. At 9 pm was obliged to ly too for the tide on Tynemouth bar. at midnight bore away for the Bar and got weel over it.

Thursday, 30th. At 1 AM we passed by shiels⁷ and went up the River Tyne, and at 2 AM made fast to Newcastle Key, we having been

¹ At Lerwick.

² Shetland stockings were famous, and were already an important article of export.

³ Pounds sterling as distinguished from pounds Scots, the ordinary money of account in Shetland.

⁴ Persuading the master to set him ashore at Montrose, Harrower walked thence to Dundee, where he remained from December 13 to December 29.

⁵ Grenadiers.

⁶ *L. e.*, NW.

⁷ Shields.

no more than 24 hours from Dundee here 3 of which we lay too. At 9 AM I went ashore to Newcastle in Comp^s with M^r Bell and 5 others who were passengers along with me, and after drinking a English poynt of ale a piece I enquired at the Pilots and others if there was any Vessel presently at Newcastle bound for Holland but found there was none. At same time was informed that Sunderland was a more proper place to look out for a ship bound there. . . .

*Munday, 3^d Jan^o, 1774.*¹ This day snowing very hard, Wind at N. N. E. At 9 AM went out to see if I cou'd sell any stockins, but returned again at 10 AM without selling any ; I then paid my bedd for two nights which cost me 2d. each night at same time sent out for $\frac{1}{2}$ worth of bread and 1d. worth of cheese for my breakfast and I found both bread and Cheese far less for the money than at Dundee. Yesterday I neither eat nor drank any thing all day but my dinner which cost me $6\frac{1}{2}$ and Just now I am Master of no more Cash than 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and when I shall get more God only knows. At 11 AM Crossed the River to South Sunderland and Called to see Wm. Scollay, but was told he was not at home. after that I traveled the Town untill 2 pm in which time I sold three pair of stockins for four shillings and four pence, which was eight pence less than they cost me in Zetland. I then returned home and bought 1d. worth of bread 1d. worth of cheese and 1d. worth of small beer which served me for dinner and supper.

Wednesday, 5th. Wind and weather as yesterday. this afternoon I hear of a Brigantine called the Nancy ready load for Holland, and that she always used that trade.

Thursday, 6th. Wind at S. and a verry gentle thaw. at 8 AM I went to Warmouth² and spacke with Mr. George Lacen [?] Com^r of the Nancy Brigantine, who informed me, that he himself was not sure where he was to go, But that I might speacke to M^r John Taylor the Owner which I immediatly did and he told me, that if the Rivers was open the Nancy would go to Holland, if not probably to London, and that I was extreamly welcome to my passage. I then waited on Mr. Lacen and aquainted him of the same, and imediatly put my trunk and bundle on board. . . .

Freiday, 7th. Got out of bedd at 6 AM this morning. at 8 AM went. at 9 AM they began to haul out of the harbour and came to an Anchor in the Roads at 10 AM and lay in the road untill four keels of Coals was put on board, each keel being Twenty Tun, and they were all Onb^l by half an houre past noon. At 1 pm got under saile with the wind at N. B. E.³ with a verry high sea runing, a great deall of which she shipped all this afternoon. steered until midnight S. S. E.⁴

¹ At Sunderland, where no ships for Holland were to be found, the ice in the Dutch rivers precluding the voyage.

² Monk Wearmouth, opposite Sunderland.

³ *I. e.*, north by east.

⁴ From this time till noon of the 11th the brigantine sailed along the English coast, finally coming to anchor at Portsmouth, where the captain went ashore to sell his coal and where Harrower vainly sought passage to Holland.

Wednesday, 12th. This morning fine clear weather but hard frost. I waited onb^d. until three pm for Cap^t. Lacoers [?] returning. But when I found he did not I left a letter of thanks to him for his favours shown me, for he would take no passage money from me, Besides that he used me like a Brother making me sleep and eat with himself; I then went ashore and immediately set out for London with no more cash in my pocket [but] 1s. 8½d. St^r. I pray, May God provide more for me and for all who are in strait. Immediatly as I left Portsmouth I fell into Comp^t and conversation on the road to whome I sold two pair of stockings 4 6d. it being the price they cost me in Zetland. I traveled four Miles this afternoon and lodged all night at Post down^l bridge and the House had a Battery of Twelve Canon round it, here I supped on eight Oisters and 1d. and ½ worth of Bread, with a poynt of strong and a poynt of small beer which [cost] me 3d., being in all 4½d. for supper, here I paid 3d. for my bedd, and it was warmed with a warming pan, this being the first time I ever seed it done.

Thursday, 13th. Wind at E. so thick that I could not see above 100 yards distance. I crossed over Post down hill and Breackfast at Handen,² and after crossing a large barren Common of that name I dinned at Petersfield and then Got as far as Raik in the County of Sussex where I staid all night, having traviled twenty miles this [day] which is more than I did expect carring my Box and Bundle on my back; They have for firing here, nothing but a kind [of] heath like flaws,³ at this place I paid 3d. for my bedd, My diet being all the old storry, Bread, Cheese and beer, and I hade a Rush Candle to light me to bedd.

Friday, 14th. This morning I sold in my lodgings sundry articles to the amount of 18/9d. St^r which Articles cost me £1. 5/6 St^r. So that necessity obliged me to lose 6/9d. . . .⁴

Sunday, 16th. This day after breackfast and read^e some Chapters on a Newtestament I found in my room, I made the two following verses which I here insert below.

My absent friends God bless, and those,
my wife and Children dear :
I pray for pardon to my foes,
And for them sheds a tear.
At Epsom here this day I ly,
Repenting my past sins :
Praying to Jesus for his mercy,
And success to my friends.

Here I hade an extream good dinner in Publick, for sixpence. in the Afternoon I took a Walk and seed round this place a great many fine Houses and gardens most of them belonging to Londoners.

¹ Portsdown.

² Horndean.

³ Flax.

⁴ Harrower then walked on by way of Godalming and Guildford to Epsom, where he spent Sunday.

[*Tuesday*], 18th. This day I got to London and was like a blind man without a guide, not knowing where to go being freindless and having no more money but fifteen shillings and eight pence farthing a small sum to enter London with ; But I trust in the mercys of God who is a rich provider and am hopefull before it is done some way will cast up for me. I took up my lodging at the old ship Tavern in little Hermitage street,¹ Mr. George Newton being the landlord, but in Prison for debt at present.

Wednesday, 19th. This day I shifted my cloaths and put on a clean Ruffled Shirt, clean Britches and waistcoat and my Brown Coat, I not having any other cloaths on ever since I left Lerwick but my blew Jacket and Bigg Coat above it and a plain shirt. At 11 AM I called to see Cap^t Perry, but was told he would not be at home untill 5 pm. Having eat nothing for 24 hours, I dinned in my Lodging this day which cost me 1/2 St^r. After dinner I took a walk with the mate of a ship a Scotsman who carried me through Virginia street, London street, part of White Chappel street, down to London Hospital, through Ragg fair, the Minnories, Round Tour hill, and the Tour, through Saint Catharins, and Bur street and so home.

A 5 pm called again at Cap^t Perrys and the first face I saw was Willie Holcraw of Coningsburgh² who I found staid here as a servant, and while I was speacking to him, Cap^t Perry came home and he immediatly knew me, and desired me to walk in which I did, and after sitting some time and drinking some tea, I called Cap^t Perry aside and made my Intentions known to him, at same time begged his advice and assistance ; He told me he hardly thought there would be any Business got for me in London. But told me to call on him at the Jamacia Coffee House to morrow at Change time. I then went home. and soon went to Bedd.

Thursday, 20th. This morning breackfast at home and paid 6d. for it. At noon called at the Jamacia Coffee House and soon after seed Cap^t Perry and waited here and Change untill 3 pm but no appearance of any Business for me. the time I was in the Coffee house I drank 3ds. worth of punch, and I was obliged to make it serve me for Dinner. at night I hade ½d. worth of bread and 1d. of Cheese and a poynt of Porter for supper it being all I cou'd afford.

Friday, 21st. This morning I seed an advertisement for Bookeepers and Clerks to go to a Gentlemen [at] Philadelphia. I went as it directed to N^o 1 in Catharine Court princes street, but when I came there I was told they were served. I then waited again on Cap^t Perry untill after 3 pm But to no purpose. I this day offered to go steward of a ship bound to Maryland but could not get the birth. This day I was 3 or 4 miles through London and seed S^t Paul's Church, the Bank of England where

¹ In Wapping, near the London Docks.

² Or Cunningsburgh, a village about eight miles south of Lerwick. The name Halcrow appears frequently in the documents printed as appendixes to the *Diary of the Reverend James Mill, Minister of the Parishes of Dunrossness, Sandwick and Cunningsburgh* (Scottish History Society, V.).

I seed the gold lying in heaps, I also seed Summerst house,¹ Gild hall, Drury Lane, Covingarden,² Adelphus Buildings and several other pleaces. I then returnd and near my lodgings I dinned at an eating house and hade 4d. worth of roast Beiff 1d. worth of bread and a poynt of small beer, in all 5½d.

Saturday, 22d. This morning I seed an advertisement in the Publick ledger for a Messenger to a publick Lodge, Sallery 15^s St^r per week and another advertisement for an under Clerk to a Merch^t to both which I wrote answers and went to the places apointed, and found at each place more than a dozen of Letters before me, so that I hade litle expectation that way they being all weel aquanted and I a stranger. I then went to change to see if any thing would cas[t] up but to no purpose, so I returned hom at 4 pm and spent the evening in a verry sollitary manner supping on bread and Cheese as usuall.

Sunday, 23d. This morning I drank some purl for breackfast and then I took a walk in the forenoon through severall streets, and at 1 pm I returned to the eating house I hade formerly been at and dinned which cost me 6½ today having hade 1d. worth of pudding more than I formerly hade. In the afternoon I went to a Methodists meeting. The Text was in the V Chap: Mathew and the 20th Verse. After sermon I came home and being solitary in my room I made the following Verses which I insert on the other side of this leaf.

Now at London in a garret room I am,
here frendless and forsaken ;
But from the Lord my help will come,
Who trusts in him are not mistaken.

When freinds on earth do faint and faile,
And upon you their backs do turn ;
O Truly seek the Lord, and he will
Them comfort that do murn.

I'll unto God my prayer make,
to him my case make known ;
And hopes he will for Jesus sake,
Provide for me and soon.

Munday, 24th. This morning I wrote six tickets to give to ship-masters at Change seeking a steward's birth onb^d some ship, but could not get a birth. I also wrote a petition in generall to any Merch^t or Tradesman setting forth my present situation, and the way in which I hade been brought up and where I hade served and in what station, at same time offering to serve any for the bare suport of life fore some time. But all to no effect, for all places here at present are intierly carried by

¹Somerset House. Not the building now so called, but its predecessor, the old mansion of the Protector Somerset.

²Covent Garden.

friends and Intrest, And many Hundreds are sterving for want of employment, and many good people are begging.

Tuesday, 25th. Having heard last night that John Ross sloop was come from Zetland, I took a Boat this morning and went onboard her and seed him and Robert Irvine. And then I hade the happiness to hear that my wife and Childrein were all well on the 3^d In^d it being the day they left Bressaysound.¹ The rest of this day I was employed in presenting the Petition I hade drawn up on the 24th Ins^d to severall Merch^{ts} and others and doing all I cou^d to get into business of some kind near home but all to no effect.

Wednesday, 26th. This day I being reduced to the last shilling I hade was obliged to engage to go to Virginia for four years as a school-master for Bedd, Board, washing and five pound during the whole time. I have also wrote my wife this day a particular Acco^t of every thing that has happned to me since I left her untill this date; At 3 pm this day I went on board the Snow Planter Cap^t Bowers Com^d for Virginia now lying at Ratliff Cross, and inediatly as I came Onb^d I rec^d my Hammock and Bedding. at 4 pm came Alex^r Steuart onb^d the same Ship. he was Simbisters Serv^t² and had only left Zetland about three weeks before me. we were a good deal surprised to meet w^l on another in this place.

Thursday, 27th. This day ranie weather. the ships crew employed in rigging the ship under the Direction of the mate and I was employed in getting my Hammock slung. at 2 pm came onb^d Alex^r Burnet nephew to Mr. Francis Farquharson writer in Edinburgh and one Samuel Mitchell a Cooper from Yorkshire and both entred into the berth and Mace³ with Stewart and me.

Saturday, 29th. This day came on b^d Alex^r Kennedy a young man from Edinb^d who hade been a Master Cooper there and a Glasgow Man by trade a Barber both which we took into our Mace, which completed it being five Scotsmen and one Yorkshireman, and was always called the Scots mace, And the Cap^t told me he was from the Toun of Aberbothick in Scotland, but th^t he [had] not been there since he was fifteen years of age but hade been always in the Virginia trade which I was very glad to hear.

Munday, 31st. This day I went ashore and bought a penknife, a paper Book, and some paper and pens and came on board to Dinner. It is surprising to see the N^o of good tradesmen⁴ of all kinds, th^t come onb^d every day.

Freiday, February 4th. This day at 7 AM unmoored from Ratliff-cross and fell down the river with the tide there being no wind. This day I seed Deptfoord, Greenage⁵ Hospital, Blackwall and Ullage.⁶ at 1

¹The harbor of Lerwick.

²*I. e.*, a servant of John Bruce Stewart of Symbister and Bigton, an important proprietor in the south of Shetland. *Diary of Rev. James Mill*, pp. 22, 151, etc.

³Mess.

⁴*I. e.*, artisans.

⁵Greenwich.

⁶Woolwich.

pm came to an Anchor a little below the $\frac{1}{2}$ way house. At 6 pm got under way again and fell down untill quite dark and then came to an Anchor a little above Pourfleet.

Sunday, 6th. At 7 AM got under way with a fair wind and clear w! and at 11 AM came to an anchor off Gravesend and immediatly the Merch! came onboard and a Doctor and clerk with him and while the Clerk was filling up the Indentures the doctor search'd every serv' to see that they were sound when . . . seventy five were Intend¹ to Cap' Bowres for four Years.

Monday, 7th. This forenoon employed in getting in provisions and water. at 4 pm put a servant ashore extreamly bade in a fever, and then got under saile for Virginia with seventy Servants on board all indented to serve four years there at their differint Occupations myself being one of the Number and Indented for a Clerk and Bookeeper, But when I arrived there I cou'd get no such birth as will appear in the place.² At pm we came to an anchor at the nore it blowing and snowing verry hard.

Tuesday, 8th. At 5 AM made saile from the Nore with the wind at W. N. W. Clear weather and blowing hard. at 2 pm got off a Pillot from Deall to take our River Pillot ashore for which Boat Cap' Bowers paid one and a half Guineas, and after buying some Gin here we stood streight to sea Under Close R. T. sails³ and our fore saile, a verry high sea running all this day.

Sunday, 13th. Wind at V. B. S.⁴ squally weather. Eight saile more at anchor in Company w! us. At noon the Indented servants was like to mutiny against the Cap! for putting them to Allowance of bread and Mate, but it was soon quelled, Our mace not joyning with the rest. in the afternoon he went ashore, But before he left the Ship he called me and begged I wou'd stand by the Mate if there arose any disturbance among the rest of the servants.

Saturday, 26th. Wind at N. B. E. fine moderate weather. got up Yd⁵ and Topmasts. at 10 AM The Cap! went ashore to get more fresh provisions, at 4 pm he came onb! from Portsmouth with Bread, Beiff Pork and Water and then imediatly got under sail and stood out to sea. At this time we had three men sick onb! one with the flux, one with the fever and Ego,⁵ and one frost bitt in his feet. At 11 pm the wind came all round to the N. V. Blowing verry hard. at Midnight close reefd the topsails.

Sunday, 27th. Wind at N. V. at 4 AM Tack'd ship. At same time the man who was bade with the flux was found dead in his hammock. at 8 he was sewed up in it and at 9 AM he was burried in the sea after reading the service of the Dead over him, which was done by the Mate.

¹ Indented.

² This and the entry of May 25, *post*, show that the entries down to the latter date are not in the absolute sense contemporary; but a passage in a letter, under August 7, 1774, seems to indicate that daily notes were taken.

³ *I. e.*, close-reefed top-sails.

⁴ *I. e.*, west by south.

⁵ Ague.

Freiday, March 11th. Wind weather and course as yesterday. this forenoon clear but verry squally like. at 4 pm stowed the Maintopsail and at 7 pm stowed fore Top saile and close reefd the Main saile and scuded under it. The wind blowing excessive hard and a verry high sea running still from the westward. at 8 pm was obliged to batten down both fore and main hatches, and a little after I really think there was the oddest shene¹ betwixt decks that ever I heard or seed. There was some sleeping, some spewing. . . . some daming, some Blasting their leggs and thighs, some their liver, lungs, lights and eyes, And for to make the shene the odder, some curs'd Father, Mother, Sister, and Brother.

Saturday, 12th. Wind weather and course as before. we are now past the skirts of the Bay of Biscay and entred into the Atlantick Ocean, going at the rate of 8 knots per houre.

Sunday, 13th. Wind at S. S. E. course V. B. S. at 11 AM Moderate weather. let out all reefs. at noon in Latitude 44 North per observation. This afternoon got most of sick and ailing to deck the number of which I cannot really now ascertain. But I thank God I have as yet kept my health weel. At 3 pm there was two servants put in Irons for wanting other than what was served. But they were soon released on their asking pardon and promising to behave better.

Sunday, 27th. Wind, weather, and course as yesterday. at 8 AM got up all hammocks and the sick likways they being now in number about 37, there being th[ree] sick in our mace Viz! Stewart, Burnet, and the Yorkshire Cooper. at noon we all betwixt decks cleand out, and washed with winegar.

Thursday, 31st. Wind weather and course as before. The sick are now increased to the number of fifty betwixt decks, besides three in the steerage Viz! two seamen and a passanger.

Sunday, April 3d. Wind weather and course as before. Last night Alex! Stewart was so high in the fever that I sat up with him all night, and Burnet and the Cooper are still verry bad, but not so high as Stewart. This day the Cap! ordered some Cock and hen to be killed and fresh broth made for the sick.

Munday, 4th. Wind weather and course still as before and jogging on from 4 to 6 knots at an average per houre. at 5 pm I was obliged to get Stewart blister'd and sat up again all night with him, having become his nurse for Country sake he being the first in the Mace that was taken ill, and I was not sure how soon it might be my own fate. But thank God I am as yet well and hearty. This night I supped on a dish called Scratchplatters. it is made of biscuits broack small and soaked in water until they are soft, and then Winegar, oile, salt, and Onions cut small put to it, and supped with spoons.

Wednesday, 6th. . . . I have wore no Britches nor stockins since we got into the trade winds² only a pair of long trousers down to my buckles. And this day having put on a shorter pair untill my longest

¹Scene.

²Lat. this day 27° 37' N. On the tenth they were near Barbadoes.

pair was wash'd, I got both my Ancles burned by the sun, it is so verry hot here.

Tuesday, 19th. . . . This day I brought up M^r Jones¹ Journall for five days back, also Cap^t Bowers Journall for four days back and at same time begged me to mark the Logg Book and ordred that Whoever hade the charge of watch to aquant me what the ship went per Logg &c.

Thursday, 21st. This morning a young lad, one of the serv^{ts} being verry ill with the Fever and Ague, he begged me to apply to Mr. Jones the Cheif Mate, and told me he cou'd give him something that would cure him; Mr. Jones first desired me to give him a Womite and then wrote the following lines on a slip of paper and after folding it up gave it to me, to see it tyed up in the corner of his handkirchif or Cravat and wear it at his breast next his skin with strick charge not to look at it himself nor let any other person see it or look at it untill he was got wel. The words are as follows.

When Jesus saw the Cross he trembled,
The Jews said unto him why tremblest thou,
You have neither got an Ague nor a fever.
Jesus Answered and said unto them
I have neither got an Ague nor a fever
But whosoever keepeth my words
Shall neither have an Ague nor a fever.

Mr. Jones told me when he gave me the above copy it [was] a ser-tain cure for the fever and Ague, the paitient being first vomited and then wearing the lines as above directed, But if they show it to any or look at it themselves it will have no effect.

Freiday, 22d. This day I was seased with a sever Cold and Aching in my bones, But I thank God I am weel car'd for and has every thing sent me from the Cabin I can desire.

Wednesday, 27th. This morning I am fairly got the better of my cold and the Aching in my bones and am able to stir about. . . . At 7 pm we made Cape Henry and the Coast plain. we then highesed our flagg for a Pillot Boat and at . . . pm we hade four Pillot boats along side and Cap^t Bowers took one M^r Cooper who brought us within the Capes, and to an Anchor at 10 pm where we lay all night.

Thursday, 28th. At 7 AM the Pillot wegh'd Anchor and wrought the ship up to Hampton Roads where we came to an Anchor at 10 AM. This morning I was employ'd in Making out a Clean list of the servants names and Business and age, and how soon I was done² Cap^t Bowers went ashore in the Pillot boat to Hamton on Elizabeth river. we have some goods to put out before we leave this place. at night, a deal of Thunder, lightning and rain.

Monday, May 2d. Wind as before, fine fair warm weather. got out the rest of the goods that was for Hampton. at 2 pm the Cap^t Carried

¹ James Jones, chief mate, then sick.

² I. e., as soon as I was done.

five serv^{ts} ashore to Hampton in order to sell their Indentures, But returned again at Midnight with [out] selling any more but one Boat Builder, he brought onb^d with him four Barrells Virginia Pork and one Puncheon D^o rum, and 3 live hogs.

Tuesday, 3^d. Wind at W. N. W. fine moderate weather. at 6 AM weigh'd Anchor from Hampton Roads, and stood out to sea untill we made the Entry of Rappahannock river, which we did at 10 AM, proceeding up the same for Fredericksburgh. at 6 pm came to an anchor at Arrabanna.¹

Friday, 6th. Wind as before. at 4 AM got under saile and stood up the river and at 9 AM passed by the 'Town of Hobshole² and let it on our Larboard hand as we did the 'Town of Arrabanna. at Hobshole there was five Glasgow ships and an English Brigantine lying. at 2 pm we passed by Leedstown³ on our Starboard hand where there was a ship from London lying with Convicts. at night came to anchor about 6 Miles above Leedstown.

Saturday, 7th. This morning thick weather. at 10 AM got under way and stood up to Port Royall on our Larboard hand where we arrived at 2 pm, 'The Cap' going ashore to change his Pillot, and at 4 pm returned with Another and we immediatly got under way again and got about 7 miles above Port Royall before dark. all along both sides of the River there is nothing to be seen but woods in the blossom, Gentlemens seats and Planters houses.

Sunday, 8th. Early this morning died the old German, a man between 60 and 70 years of age. at 5 AM weigh'd Anchor and tow'd and warped up, it being quite calm. at 9 AM was obliged to come to an Anchor, and ly untill the tide made, and then weigh'd and got about 3 Miles above Port Morton where we lay all night. this forenoon we lost one of our live hogs, he Jumping overboard and swimming ashore and immediatly got into the woods. at night the Cap' carried the old German ashore and Burried him somewhere in the woods.

Tuesday, 10th. At 2 AM weigh'd and stood up with the tide, came to an anchor at 6 AM and lay untill Do. 8 when we weigh'd with a fair wind and got to our Moorings at 6 pm at the Toun of Fredericksburgh.

Wednesday, 11th. At 10 AM Both Coopers and the Barber from our Mace went ashore upon tryall. At night one Daniel Turner a serv' returned onb^d from Liberty so drunk that he abused the Cap' and chief Mate and Boatswan to a verry high degree, which made to be horse whip' put in Irons and thumb screwed. on houre afterward he was unthumbscrewed, taken out of the Irons, but then he was hand cuffed, and gagged all night.

Thursday, 12th. All hands quite on board this day. Turner un-gagged But continued in handcuffs.

¹ Urranna, in Middlesex County.

² Hobb's Hole, in Richmond County. See AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, V. 313, 314, Journal of Philip Fithian, August 2 of this same year.

³ Leeds, in Westmoreland.

Friday, 13th. This forenoon put ashore here what bale goods we hade remaining onboard. in the afternoon Mr. Burnet, Stewart and myself went ashore on liberty to take a walk and see the Town, who's principal street is about half an English Mile long, the houses generally at a little distance one from another, some of them being built of wood and some of them of brick, and all covered with wood in the form of slates about four Inches broad, which when painted blue you wou'd not know it from a house slated with Isedell slate.¹ In this Town the Church,² the Counsell house, the Tolbooth the Gallows and the Pillory are all within 130 yd^s of each other. The Market house is a large brick Building a litle way from the Church. here we drank some Bottles of beer of their own brewing and some bottles of Cyder for which we paid 3½ per bottle of each.. returned on board in the evening. Turner still in handcuffs.

Monday, 16th. This day severalls came onb^d to purchase serv^{ts} Indentures and among them there was two Soul drivers. they are men who make it their business to go onb^d all ships who have in either Servants or Convicts and buy sometimes the whole and sometimes a parcell of them as they can agree, and then they drive them through the Country like a parcell of Sheep untill they can sell them to advantage, but all went away without buying any.

Tuesday, 17th. This day M^r Anderson the Merch^t sent for me into the [cabin] and verry genteely told me that on my recomendations he would do his outmost to get me settled as a Clerk or bookeeper if not as a schoolmaster which last he told me he thought wou'd turn out more to my advantage upon being settled in a good famely.

The ships crew and servants employed in getting ashore all the cask out of the hould, no sales th^e day.

Wednesday, 18th. This day the ships crew and servants employed in getting out the ballast and unrigging the ship. One Cooper, one Blacksmith and one Shoemaker were settled with Masters this day.

Thursday, 19th. One Farmer's time sold and one Cabinet Maker on tryall.

Saturday, 21st. This day one M^r Cowly a man 'twixt fifty and sixty years of age, a serv^t, also three sons of his their ages from eight to fourteen were all settled with one McDonald a Scotchman.

Monday, 23d. This morning a great number of Gentlemen and Ladies driving into Town it being an annual Fair³ day and tomorrow the day of the Horse races. at 11 AM M^r Anderson begged to settle as a schoolmaster with a friend of his one Colonel Daingerfield⁴ and told

¹ Easdale or Eisdale, a small island among the Hebrides, entirely composed of slate, and at this time famous for its quarries.

² Of the parish of St. George.

³ A law of 1738 (Hening, V. 82), ordered that fairs should be held at Fredericksburg twice a year for the sale of "cattle, victuals, provisions, goods, wares and merchandizes." The law, continued from time to time, had last been renewed in 1769.

⁴ Col. William Daingerfield of Belvidera was the son of Edwin Daingerfield and Mary Bassett, daughter of Col. William Bassett of Eltham. The Bassetts were near of

me he was to be in Town tomorrow, or perhaps tonight, and how soon he came¹ he shou'd aquant me. at same time all the rest of the servants were ordred ashore to a tent at Fredericksb⁵ and severall of their Indentures were then sold. about 4 pm I was brought to Colonel Daingerfield, when we imediatly agreed and my Indenture for four years was then delivered him and he was to send for me the next day. at same time ordred to get all my dirty Cloaths of every kind washed at his expense in Toun; at night he sent me five shillings onb^d by Cap^t Bowers to keep my pocket.

Tuesday, 24th. This morning I left the Ship at 6 AM having been sixteen weeks and six days on board her. I hade for Breackfast after I came ashore one Chappin^t sweet milk for which I paid 3½ Cur^t. at 11 AM went to see a horse race about a mille from Toun, where there was a number of Genteel Company as well as others. here I met with the Colonel again and after some talk with him he gave me cash to pay for washing all my Cloaths and something over. The reace was gain'd by a Bay Mare, a white boy ridder. There was a gray Mare started with the Bay a black boy ridder but was far distant the last heat.³

Wednesday, 25th. I Lodged in a Tavern last night and paid 7½ for my Bedd and 7½ for my breackfast. this morning a verry heavy rain untill 11 AM. Then I rec^d my Linens &c. all clean washed and packing every thing up I went onboard the ship and Bought this Book for which I paid 18d. St^r. I also bought a small Divinity book called the Christian Monitor and a spelling book, both at 7½ and an Arithmetick at 1/6d. all for my Acco^t.

Thursday, 26th. This day at noon the Colonel sent a Black with a couple of Horses for me and soon after I set out on Horseback and araved at his seat of Belvidera about 3 pm and after I hade dined the Colonel took me to a neat little house at the upper end of an Avenue of planting at 500 yd^r from the Main house, where I was to keep the school, and Lodge myself in it.

This place is verry pleasantly situated on the Banks of the River Rappahannock about seven miles below the Toun of Fredericksburgh and the school's right above the Warff so that I can stand in the door and pitch a stone onboard of any ship or Boat going up or coming down the river.

Friday, 27th. This morning about 8 AM the Colonel delivered his three sons to my Charge to teach them to read write and figure. his oldest son Edwin 10 years of age, intred into two syllables in the spelling book, Bathourest [Bathurst] his second son six years of age in the Alphabet and William his third son 4 years of age does not know the letters.

kin to Martha Washington. Col. Daingerfield's grandfather was William Daingerfield, who married Elizabeth Bathurst, daughter of Lancelot Bathurst of Virginia, fifth son of Sir Edward Bathurst of Sussex, England.

¹ *I. e.*, as soon as he came.

² A Scottish measure, about equivalent to an American quart.

³ The Fredericksburg races were by this time a long-established institution. See Mr. W. G. Stanard's notes on Virginia horse-racing in the *Virginia Magazine*, II. 293-305.

he has likewise a Daughter whose name is Hanna Basset Years of age. Soon after we were all sent for to breackfast to which we hade tea, Bread, Butter and cold meat and there was at table the Colonel, his Lady, his Children, the housekeeper and myself. At 11 AM the Colonel and his Lady went some where to pay a visite, he upon horseback and she in her Charriot. At 2 pm I dined with the Housekeeper the Children and a stranger Lady. at 6 pm I left school, and then I eat plenty of fine strawberries, but they neither drink Tea in the afternoon nor eat any supper here for the most part. My school Houres is from 6 to 8 in the morning, in the forenoon from 9 to 12 and from 3 to 6 in the afternoon.

Sunday, 29th. There is no church nearer Belvidera than Fredericksburgh, and for want of a saddle I was oblided to stay at home all day and when I was alone in the school I thought on the following verses.

1st

In Virginia now I am, at Belvidera settled,
but may they ever mercy find, who hade the cause
that I am from my sweet wife seperated
And Oblided to leave my Infant Children Fatherless.

2^l

As a schoolmaster, I am here ;
And must for four years, remain so ;
May I indeavour the Lord to fear,
And always his commands do.

3^l

For in Gods strength I do rely,
that he at his appointed time,
Will bring me back my family,
if I his precepts do but mind.

4th

O May my God provide for them,
Who unto me are near and dear ;
tho they afar off me are from
O Jesus keep them in thy fear.

5th

Do thou enable me to labour,
and my fortune do thou mind ;
that what I get by thy favour,
I to my family may send.

6th

O Lord my God do thou them save
from dangers and from death
And may they food and rayment have
and for the same may thankfull be while they have breath.

7th

And may we all ever gloryfie thy name
and loud thy praises sing
and unto all make known the fame
of Jehova our almighty king.

8th

O ever blessed be the Lord,
the King of all the earth is he,
let us exalt his name with one Accord
and thankfull unto him be ye.

Finis.

After dinner I took a walk about a Miles distance from the house along the highway, and by the road side seed a Corn Mill and another pretty house called Snow Creek belonging to the Colonel.

Tuesday, 31st. This day there was about fifty white Ewes and Lambs feeding 'twix the main house and the school door and so tame that they wou'd come and look in at the door and see what we was doing. the lambs here are as large at this date as in Zetland at Michelsmass, being of the english bread.

Wednesday, June 1st. This day there was prayers in all the Churches in Virginia¹ on Acco' of the disagreement at present betwixt great Brittain and her Colonies in North America, On Acco' of their not agreeing to pay a duty on Tea laid on them by the british parliment and the Bostonians destroying a Quantity of Tea belonging to the British East India Comp^y in 1773.

Freiday, 3d. This day I eat green pease at dinner, this being the last of them this season here.

Wednesday, 8th. This day I eat plenty of fine ripe Cherries brought out of the woods this morning by the Colonel.

Freiday, 10th. Rec^d two pair fine new brown thread stockings. Below is an Inventory of the Cloaths &c I brought to Belvidera with me Viz.

One Superfine Brown Cloath Coat full mounted.
One D^r vest Coat.
One floored² silk D^r
One fine marsyled³ D^r
One Brown Duffel D^r
One pair new black Stockins Britches
One pair new Doe skin D^r
One pair flannen Drawers.
One pair Osenburgh⁴ D^r

¹The fast-day decreed by the Virginia House of Burgesses. See Jefferson's autobiography.

²Flowered.

³Marsilles.

⁴Osnaburg.

Six Ruffled Shirts
 five plain white D^o
 One Cheque D^o
 One Blue Cloath Jacket
 Seven Musline Stocks
 One Black silk Cravate
 One pair Ribbed Cotton Stockins
 Ten pair worsted D^o
 One new Hat and one D^o Wigg.
 Five pocket Napkins.
 two hand Towels
 two pair Trousers
 One pair Shoes; with Pinchback shoe, stock and
 knee buckles.
 One trunk, with fine lock and hinges.

} Severall other
 Articles besides
 what are here
 mentioned but
 are too tedious
 to mention.

Saturday, 11th. At 9 AM left the school and went a fishing on the River with the Colonel his eldest [Son] and another Gentleman in two Canoes, Mrs. Dangerfield another Lady and the other two boys mett us at Snow Creek in the Chair at 2 pm when we all dined on fish under a tree.

Sunday, 12th. This day at Church at Fredericksburgh and at same time settled a Correspondance at Glasgow for getting letters from home, by their being put under cover to Messrs. Anderson and Horsburgh Merch^o in D^o and the expence charged to Mr. Glassel¹ Merch^l in Fredericksb^s Virginia.

Tuesday, 14th. This morning entred to school William Pattie son to John Pattie wright, and Salley Evens daughter to Thomas Evens Planter. This day I wrote my wife a particular Acco^t of all my transactions since I wrote her from London 26th Jan^r last, the Copy of which I have by me.²

Thursday, 16th. This eveng the Colonel told me he hade about 400 Acres of land in wheat and as much in Indian Corn every year and that he comonly exported about 3600 bushels of wheat every year besides serving his own Family. But that he did not expect to have above the one half th^r year owing to a strong frost they had in Aprile last.

Freiday, 17th. This day rec^d two pair new Rushia drill britches and two new short Coats of Brown Holland.

Munday, 20th. This morning entred to school Philip and Dorothea Edge's Children of M^r Benjamin Edge Planter. Same day Colonel Dangerfield began to cut down his wheat, which they do with a syth.

Tuesday, 21st. This day M^r Samuel Edge Planter came to me and begged me to take a son of his to school who was both deaf and dum, and I consented to try what I cou^d do with him.

¹ John Glassell was a Scotsman who came to Fredericksburgh and became a prominent merchant there. A wharf there is still known as Glassell's. He returned to Scotland at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. His only daughter, whose marriage-portion was fifty thousand pounds sterling, married in 1820 Lord John Campbell, afterward the seventh duke of Argyll; and was the mother of the late duke.

² See its text under August 7, *post*.

Thursday, 23^d. This day entred to school John Edge son to the above named M^r Sam: Edge. he is a lad about 14 years of age and is both deaf and dum.¹

Saturday, 25th. This afternoon I went and took a walk in the wheat field and under a tree I filled all my pockets of as fine walnuts as ever I eat, But so hard shell that I was obliged to have a hammer to breack them.

Sunday, 26th. After Breakfast I took a walk 3 Miles to Mr. Edge's, the dum lad's fathers where I dined and drank some grogg and returned home in the afternoon. at night I had a small Congregation of Negroes, learning their Catechisim and hearing me read to them.

Sunday, July 3^d. At home all the forenoon, in the afternoon went to see One Mr. Richards an Overseer and his wife where I eat plenty of honney out of the Comb, it being taken out of a Beehive in a tree in the woods last night.

Freiday, 8th. After school houres I went two Miles to see the Taylor who made my Cloaths he being a Brittoner but married to a Bucksine,² and I found his wife and Daughters drinking tea, at which I joyned them, The Taylor not being at home.

Tuesday, 12th. Sold the spelling book that I bought Onb^d the Planter 25th May last, and got the same money for it that I paid for the Christian Monitor and it.

Saturday, 16th. This afternoon the Colonel finished the cutting down of His wheat which cost of wages to hired people £23: 10 Curr^s besides their victualls and drink.

Munday, 18th. This morning entred to School Lewis Richards. Same day I put on a pair of newshoes made in Fredericksburgh of English calf leather the price of them 12/6 Cur^s. Same day gave one pair of old worsted stockings for 22 foot of Gum plank 10 Inch broad and one thick to make me a Chest.

Tuesday, 19th. On Freiday 15th Ins^t John Edge the Dumb lad left the school at 6 pm and has not returned since.

Wednesday, 20th. On Munday 4th Ins^t at 6 pm William Pattie left the school and has not returned since.

Munday, 25th. Nothing remarkable. Jn^o Edge return^d to school.

Sunday, August 7th. This afternoon meeting accidentally with a Gentleman here who was on his way to London I wrote my wife a few lines by him having wrote her fully 14th June last but having omitted to

¹ Nothing in the diary surpasses in interest the entries relating to John Edge. He was, in fact, so far as is known, the first deaf mute instructed in America. No instance so early occurs in Dr. Alexander Graham Bell's "Historical Notes concerning the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf," in the *Association Review* for February, 1900, and subsequent numbers. John Bolling of Cobbs, Virginia, the first American deaf mute to receive an education, was sent to John Braidwood's school in Edinburgh in 1771, and did not return till 1783. What methods Harrower used, we can only guess. It is highly improbable that he knew those of Braidwood, who carefully kept them secret; and Cobbs was far away. For subsequent details of Harrower's experiment, see the entries of July 19 and 25, 1774, March 18 and May 20, 1775, but especially the letter of December 6, 1774.

² *i. e.*, American.

insert the Copy in it's proper place I now do it here before I insert the copy of my second Letter to her from this country.

BELVIDERA 14th June 1774.

My Dearest Life

I wrote you from London on Wednesday 26th Jan^y last which Im hopefull came safe to hand, and found you and my dear Infants in perfect health, and am hopefull this will find both you and them in the same state, As I am at present and have been I bless God since I left you. You will remember when I wrote you last, I informed you that I was to go for Baltimore in Maryland, But I altred my design in that and came here it being a more healthy plect. I sailed from London on Freiday the 4th Feb^r last, and arrived in Hampton roads in Virginia on the 27 April, having been a Month of the time at Spithead in England. As to particulars of our Voyage &^c it would take up too much room here to insert it. But I have a Journal of every days transactions and remarkable Occurances since the morning I left you which will be amusing to you when please God we are spared to meet, for I design to see and prepare a way for you all in this Country how soon I am able.—I shall now aquant you wth my situation in this Country. I am now settled with on Colonel W^m Dangerfield Esq^r of Belvidera, on the Banks of the River Rappahannock about 160 miles from the Capes or sea mouth, and seven Miles below the Toun of Fredericksburgh. My business is to teach his Children to read write and figure, Edwin his oldest son about 8 years of [age] Bathurest his second 6 years of age and William his youngest son 4 years of age. he has also a Daughter whose name is Hanna Basset. I came to this place on Thursday 26th May and next morning I received his three sons into my charge to teach, the two youngest boys I got in A : B : C. and the oldest Just begun to syllab and I have now the two youngest spelling and the oldest reading. I am obliged to teach in the English method which was a little aquard to me at first but now quite easy. I am also obliged to talk english the best I can,¹ for Lady Dangerfield speacks nothing but high english, and the Colonel hade his Education in England and is a very smart Man. As to my agreement it is as follows Viz! I am obliged to continue with Col^l Dangerfield for four years if he insists on it, and for teaching his own children I have Bed, Board, washing and all kind of Cloaths during the above time, and for what schoolars I can get more than his Children I have five shillings currency per Quarter for each of them, which is equall to four shillings sterling, and I expect ten or twelve to school next week, for after I hade been here eight days and my abilities and my behavior sufficiently tried, the Colonel rode through the neighbouring Gentlemen and Planters in order to procure scollars for me, so that I hope in a short time to make something of it. And as I have no Occasion to spend a farthing on myself every shill^l I make shall be carefully remitted you, for your support and my Dear Infants. But I

¹The Norse language was not quite extinct in Shetland in 1774, according to Low, *Tour through the Islands of Orkney and Shetland*, and the ordinary speech of the islanders was a dialect much mixed with Norse words and forms.

must be some time here before any thing can be done, for you know every thing must have a beginning.

As to my living I eat at their own table, and our vitualls are all Dressed in the English taste. we have for Breackfast either Coffie or Jaculate,¹ and warm Loaf bread of the best flour, we have also at table warm loaf bread of Indian corn, which is extreamly good but we use the flour bread always at breackfast. for Dinner smoack'd bacon or what we cal pork ham is a standing dish either warm or cold. when warm we have greens with it, and when cold we have sparrow grass. we have also either warm roast pigg, Lamb, Ducks, or chickens, green pease or any thing else they fancy. As for Tea there is none drunk by any in this Government since 1st June last, nor will they buy a 2^{ds} worth of any kind of east India goods, which is owing to the difference at present betwixt the Parliment of great Britton and the North Americans about laying a tax on the tea; and I'm afraid if the Parliment do not give it over it will cause a total revolt as all the North Americans are determined to stand by one another, and resolute on it that they will not submit. I have the news paper sent me to school regularly every week by the Col'. —Our family consists of the Col', his Lady and four Children a house-keeper an Overseer and myself all white. But how many blacks young and old the Lord only knows for I belive there is about thirty that works every day in the field besides the servants about the house; such as Gardner, livery men and pages, Cooks, washer and dresser, sewster and waiting girl. They wash here the whitest that ever I seed for they first Boyle all the Cloaths with soap, and then wash them, and I may put on clean linen every day if I please. My school is a neate litle House 20 foot long and 12 foot wide and it stands by itself at the end of an Avenue of planting about as far from the main house as Rob' Forbes's² is from the burn, and there comes a bonny black bairn every morning to clean it out and make my bed, for I sleep in it by myself. I have a verry fine feather bed under me, and a pair of sheets, a thin fold of a Blanket and a Cotton bed spread is all my bed cloaths, and I find them just enough. as for myself I suppose you wou'd scarce know me now, there being nothing either brown, blew, or black about me but the head and feet, I being Dressed in short cloath Coat, vest Coat, and britches all made of white cotton without any lynng and thread stockins and wearing my own hair curled round like a wigg. at present a suite of Cloaths costs five and twenty shillings here of making which I really think verry high.

I was Sunday last at Fredericksburgh at church and I then settled a safe Correspondance for your letters to come to me, and shall give you

¹ Chocolate.

² In the "Annals of the County of Zetland", referred to in the introductory lines, *supra*, this entry is to be found, under date of 1767: "Compeared Robert Forbes and James Forbes, both Operative Masons in Lerwick, Who undertook to furnish and work all the Free Stone necessary in the foresaid Intended Tolbooth," etc. Passages in the letters of December 6, 1774, August 28 and September 8, 1775, which see, *post*, serve to identify the former of these two brothers with Harrower's former friend.

the proper directions below. As for myself I thank God I want for nothing that is necessary, But it brings tears from my eyes to think of you and my infants when at the same time it is not in my power at present to help you. But how soon I am able you may depend upon it. I have little else to say at present; only may the great God who governs all things wisely suport you and my Infants, and guide and direct you in all your ways.

I shall write you again soon and when you write me direct my letters as follows Viz^t to John Harrower at the seat of Colonel W^m Dangerfield Esq^r of Belvidera near Fredericksburgh on Rappahannock River Virginia: Then you must take half a sheet of paper and write another letter the contents of which may be as follows Viz^t Gentlemen, being desired by my husband to send his letters under cover to you, You will please forward the inclosed by the first ship bound for any part in Virginia and charge M^r Glassel Mercht^t in Fredericksburgh with the expence you are at; I am yours &c^t Signed A. H. After you have closed my letter and directed it as above, You will inclose it in the above, and direct it as follows To Mess^{rs} Anderson and Horsburgh Mercht^t in Glasgow. You must get some person to fold up your letters properly and on who writes a clear Distinct hand to direct them. Pray write me verry particularly how it is with you and my D^r Infants, likeways any thing that is remarkable in the Country. I shall conclude this with offering my Comp^{ts} to all enquiring freinds if I have any and my sincere prayers both evening and morn^g for you and my Children. My Blessing to you all, is all at present from my Dearest Jewell your ever aff^{ct} Husband untill Death. Signed, John Harrower.

Addressed, To Mrs. John Harrower in Lerwick, Zetland.

2^d Letter from Virginia.

BELVIDERA 7 Aug^t 1774.

My Dearest Life

I wrote you verry fully 14th June last to which I refer you it being verry full, but meeting Accidentally just now with a Gentleman bound to London, I have just time to write you a few lines while he is at Dinner to let you know that I am still in good health I thank God for it, and am hopeful this will find you and my D^r Infants the same. I gave you verry full Directions in my last how to write me but in case this should come to hand before it, I shall here again repeat them.—See Directions page 63.¹—If this or my other letter comes to hand before the Paquet leaves Zetland for the last time this winter² pray do not fail to write

¹ A reference to the preceding page of the manuscript book.

² The compiler of the eighth edition of *A Tour through the Island of Great Britain*, London, 1778, says, IV. 324, that the Shetlanders are deprived "of all foreign correspondence from October to April, during which time they hear nothing of what passes in other parts of the world. A known instance of this was, that though the Revolution [of 1688] happened to begin in November, they knew nothing of it till the May following." This is taken from Brand's *Brief Description of Orkney and Zetland*, 1701, (Pinkerton, III. 773) but was doubtless practically true seventy years later; for it will be observed, under date of May 27, 1775, *infra*, that Harrower's first letter from his wife, in answer to his letter of June 14, 1774, is dated March 1, 1775.

me verry fully by her. I have Just time to aquant you that I am settled here as a Schoolmaster and can really say with great truth that I never lived a genteel regulare life untill now. I shall write you again soon verry fully and untill then I am with my blessing to you my Dear and my Dear Infants Your ever Aff^o husb^l untill death — Signed — John Harrower.

Adressed, To Mrs. John Harrower, Lerwick, Zetland.

Tuesday, August 16th. Expecting a visit of one M^r Kennedy an Edinburgher, a Cooper now in Fredericksburgh, I this day sent to Town for a Quart of the Best Vestindia Rum which cost me Eighteen pence Virginia Currancy.

Wednesday, 17th. This evening entred to school Thomas Brooks M^r Spotswoods^l carpenter in order to learn Writing and Arithmetick at nights and on Sundays.²

Friday, 19th. This day at noon Col^l Will^m Daingerfield finished his wheat harvest by getting the last of it brought home and stacked.

Sunday, 21st. At home teaching Brooks. Nothing remarkable.

Munday, 22d. This afternoon Col^l Daingerfield begun to sow wheat again for the next years crope. They sow their wheat here in the field where there Indian Corn is growing and plough it into the ground, so that the Corn and wheat both Occopy the ground from this date untill January next and then the Corn is cut down.

Tuesday, 23d. This day at noon was finished at one of Col^l Daingerfields Barns a new Machine for beating out of wheat. it is a circle of 60 feet diameter in the center of which their is a paul [pole?] fixed in the ground from which there goes three beams that reach the outer edge of the great circle and betwixt the outer ends of them are fixed four rollers, each roller having 320 spokes in it, they are 6 feet long, viz! the rollers, and goes round upon a floor of 3 Inch plank of 7 feet long from the outer edge of the great circle and round the outer ends of the floor plank there is a thin plank upon it's edge and round the inner edge the same which keeps in the wheat. the Machine is drawn round by 4 Horses and beats out 100 Bushels of wheat every day. It was begun 1st instant.

Sunday, 28th. At home all day teaching Brooks.

Sunday, September 11th. D^r teaching Brooks. at 1 pm came M^r Kennedy from Fredericksburgh here to see me and after we had dined we ended the Quart of Rum I Bought 16th Last Mⁿ.

Tuesday, October 4th. Went to Fredericksb^g and seed a Horse Race for a Hundred Guineas, Gained by M^r Fitchews Horse.³

¹ Presumably Alexander Spotswood of Newport, afterward brigadier-general; grandson of the famous governor.

² Mill's *Diary* shows, *passim*, how a Shetland minister of that day regarded the "Sabbath"; but it also shows that he could not induce all the islanders to observe it with the same strictness.

³ Sporting readers, if there are such among the votaries of history, will find the details of these days' races, derived from the pages of the *Virginia Gazette*, in Mr. W. G. Stanard's article already referred to, on Racing in Colonial Virginia, *Virginia Maga-*

Wednesday, 5th. This day a Horse race at Fredericksburg for Fifty pound, and it was gain'd by a Horse belonging to Col! Tailo.¹

Thursday, 6th. This day a Horse race at Fredericksburg for Fifty pound, and it was gained by a Horse belonging to M^r Fitchew.

Friday, 7th. The race this day at Fredericksburg for Fifty pound was gained again by another Horse belonging to M^r Fitchew.

Saturday, 8th. This day the races at Fredericksburg was finished and this night finishes the Puppet shows, roape dancings &c, which has continued every night this week in town. I only seed the purse of a Hundred Guineas run for, and that day I hade the Misfortune to have my Horse, saddle and bridle stole from me, while I was doing some business in town. And I never could hear, nor get any intelligence of either of them again.

Sunday, 23^d. At church but there was no sermon only prayers. This day I carried home a Westcoat with a silver sprig through a strip'd white satine and Padasoy silk, which I had formerly bought made as it was being nothing worse than new for 8/6 Virginia Currancy, and a Brass Inkholder with a penknife in it bought at 1/6 C.²

Monday, 31st. This morning two Carpenters was put to new weather board my house on the outside with featherage plank, and to new plaster it on the Inside with shell lime.

Tuesday, November 1st. This day Col! William Daingerfield finished sowing his Wheat, having sown in all this year 160½ bushels. This day I eat extream good green Pease they being the second croap this season. In the afternoon they began to gather new corn and bro! home 8 Bar^{ls}: at night from 1000 Corn hills.

Sunday, 27th. This day at Church and heard Sermon by Mr. Muree³ his text was in Hebrews 13th Chap: and 18th verse. Bought a hanging lock for my Chest at 7½ Currancy.

Rec^d from Colonel Daingerfield New Coat and veastcoat of Claret couler'd Duffel.

Tuesday, December 6th. Wrote home.—3d Letter from Virginia.

zinc, II. 293-305. The first day's race, "Jockey Club Plate," 100 guineas, open to members only, was won by Wm. Fitzhugh's Regulus, beating Alexander Spotswood's Eclipse, Mann Page's Damon, Wm. Brent's Figure, Wm. Fitzhugh's Master Stephen, and Moore Faunterloy's Faithful Shepherdess. On the second day, a purse of £ 50, 4 mile heats, was won by John Tayloe's Single Peeper. On the third day the "Town Purse," 4 mile heats, was won by Wm. Fitzhugh's Kitty Fisher. On the fourth day the "Town and Country Purse," 4 mile heats, was won by William Fitzhugh's Volunteer. These were the last of the great races at Fredericksburg. The Revolution was impending, and there was a general sentiment to the effect that racing should stop.

¹ Col. John Tayloe of Mt. Airy in Richmond County. See AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, V. 307.

² Currency.

³ Rev. James Marye was rector of St. George's Parish from 1767 to 1780. He was the son of Rev. James Marye, the former rector, a Huguenot refugee.

BELVIDERA 6th Dec^r 1774.

My Dearest Life,

Since my arvail here I wrote you 14th June and 7th Aug^r last to both which I shall partly refer you. I now rite you with a shaking hand and a feeling heart to enqair of your and my D^r Infants welfare, this being the return of the day of the year on which I was obliged to leave you and my D^r Infants early in the morning which day will be ever remembred by me with tears untill it shall please God to grant us all a happy meeting again. I trust in the mercies of a good God this will find you and my D^r Infants in perfect health as I am and have been ever since I came here, for neither the heat in summer nor what I have as yet felt of the cold in winter gives me the least uneasiness I thank God for it. About 20 days ago I only laid aside my summer dress, and put on a suit of new Claret Coulerd Duffle neatly mounted but no lnying in the Coat only faced in the breasts. I wrote you in my first letter, that I was designed Please God to prepare a way for you and my Infants in this Country; And I begg youll give me your thoughts fully upon it, in your first letter after receipt of this with respect to your moving here. If you do your method must be thus; Take your Passage to Leith, from thence go to Glasgow and from that to Greenock where you will ship for this country. But this you are not to attemp untill I have your thoughts upon it and I send you a recomendation to a Merch^t in Glasgow and cash to bear your expences. I have as yet only ten scollars One of which is both Deaff and Dumb and his Father pays me ten shilling per Quarter for him he has been now five M^o with [me] and I have brought him tolerably well and understands it so far, that he can write mostly for anything he wants and understands the value of every figure and can work single addition a little. he is about fourteen years of age.¹ Another of them is a young man a house Carpenter who attends me every night with candle light and every Sunday that I don't go to Church for which he pays me fourty shillings a year. He is Carpenter for a gentleman who lives two miles from me and has Thirty pound a year, free bedd and board.

The Col^l Children comes on pretty well. the Eldest is now reading very distinctly in the Psalter according to the Church of England and the other two boys ready to enter into it; the Col^l and his Lady being extremely well satisfied wth my Conduct in every respect; On 31st Jully last M^o Daingerfield was deliv^d of a fourth son who is now my nameson. I am now very impatient to hear from you and I [beg] of you not to slip a Packqut without writting me, Accord to the directions I formerly sent you which I shall again repeat in this for fear of my former letters being miscarried which I hope not; The next time [I] write you I hope to be able to make you a small remittance.

¹The entries under March 18 and May 20, 1775, seem to indicate that the experiment did not proceed beyond the date of this letter.

I would have at this time wrote your Brother M^r Craigie,¹ for I truly belive his private good wishes to me was always sinceer, But I want to hear from you first by which I hope to learn how every one's pulse in your place beats towards me and his among the rest, which I hope you'll not fail to take notice of.—I now as far as my sheet of paper will allow me, for your Amusements and information, shall write you some of the news of this Western World, and first with respect to myself. Know that I have not drunk a dish of Tea this six M^o past, nor have I drunk a dram of plain spirits this seven M^o past, nor have I tasted broth or any kind of supping mate for the above time unless three or four times some soup : Notwithstanding I want for nothing that I cou'd desire, and am only affraid of getting fatt, tho we seldom eat here but twice a day. for Breackfast we have always Coffie with plenty of warm loaf bread and fine butter. at 12 oClock when I leave school, I have as much good run toddie as I chuse to drink, and for Dinner we have plenty of roast and boyld and good strong beer, but seldom eat any supper. There has been a hote War here this last summer betwixt the fronteer Countys of this Collony and the united tribes of the Shawaneses, Delewaris, Mingoes and Tawa Indians settled on the otherside of the Banks of the Ohio. On Monday morning 10th Oct^r last a Deccisive Battle was fought at the mouth of the great Canhawa² Betwixt 150 of Augusta County troops under the Command of Col^l Cha^s Lewis 800 of the troops belonging to Botitourt, Bedford and Fincastle County, under the Command of Col^l Fleming and Col^l Field; The Battle began half an hour after sun up and continowed verry hot until after noon, when the above Indians being above 800 in number were put to flight. In this Action were killed the above Col^l Cha^s Lewis and Col^l Field, Four Captains three subalterns and 44 private men. Col. Fleming was wounded three Captains four subalterns and 79 private men. The same evening after the Battle an express araved at the Camp from Lord John Dunmore Governour of Virginia for this Division of the Army to Joyne him, he being then 75 Miles further up the Ohio on the Indian side with 600 more of the troops belonging to the foresaid Countys, he then knowing nothing of the Battle. Next day this part of the Army decamp'd and when they hade Joyn'd His Lodg^g. All the Army march'd forward in order to Burn and destroy the whole Indian Towns ; But when they were within three Miles of them, The Indians came out naked as they were born and Begged for Mercy and peace, they having lost above double the number of men that we did in the late engagement. Accordingly peace was granted them on the following terms Viz^t 1st They are to deliver up all the white prisoners they have, next they are to deliver up somany of their principall men of each nation, to be kept as hostages for their good behaviour in time to come, lastly they are to

¹ Mrs. Harrower's brother, Captain James Craigie, to whom a letter printed later is addressed, was a leading merchant of Lerwick. In the "Annals of the County of Zetland," referred to in the introduction, *supra*, he appears as appointed in 1763 to be overseer and superintendent of the building of the new tolbooth. In 1766, however, he is permitted to resign, his health having recently become impaired.

² The celebrated battle of Point Pleasant.

pay the whole expence of the war in land at three pound per M Acres. So much for Indian news.

You no doubt have heard of the present disturb^t Betwixt Great Britain and the Collonys in N. America, Owing to severall Acts of Parliment latly made greatly infringing the rights and Liberties of the Americans, and in order to enforce these Acts, The Harbour and Toun of Boston are at present blockt up by a fleet and armie under the Command of Gen^l Gage. The Americans are determined to Act with Caution and prudence in this affair, and at same time are resolved not to lose an inch of their rights or liberties, nor to submit to these Acts. And in order to enforce a repeal of them, A Generall Congress was held at Philadelphia by Delegates from the following Provinces Viz^t New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, The Countys of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex on Delewar, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. The Delegates were chosen from the Houses of Burges of each of the above Collonys and met on the 5th Sept^r last and continued sitting untill the last of Oct^r And it is resolved that they will allow no goods to be imported into America from Great Britain, Ireland, or any of the Islands thereto belonging aⁿ the 1st Ins^t Nor will they export from America to Great Britain or Ireland or any of the Islands thereto belonging any goods after the 1st Dec^r 1775 during which time any that are indebted to Great Britain may pay up their ballances. Ma[n]y and pretty are the resolves of August Assembly, but room wou'd fail me here to insert them. By the Congress the Bostonians are desired not to leave the Toun nor to give any offence to Gen^l Gage or the troops under his Command, But if he or they offers to commit the least Hostielyties in order to enforce any to the Obedience of these Acts, they are to repel force by force and the Bostonians can raise in their Collony in 24 Hours warning ods of 60 M men well disiplined and all readdy provided w^t arms and amunition. And the resolves of the Congress every one of the above Collonys and each man in every Collony are determined to abide by. And it is my oppinion that the laboring part and poor of Boston are as well supplied at present by controbutions sent free to them from the other Collonys as when their trade was open. M^r Daingerfield this year for his own hand gives them fifty Bushels of wheat and One Hundred Bushels of Indian Corn, By which ye may Judge of the rest.¹

The 19th August last, M^r Daingerfield finished his wheat hearvest and began to plow and sow wheat again for the next crop 22 said M^o and after sowing 260 Bushels finished it the 1st of Nov^r. they are now gathering Indian Corn of which he will have better than 4000 bushels 3000 of which he will Use for his Nigers and horses, the rest for sale ; so much for American and Plantation news the Veracity of which you may depend upon and may show the same to any of your freinds or well wishers.

¹ There is on record at the Virginia State Library a list of contributors to this supply of the Bostonians. It embraces the names of many well-known men of the day, and the gifts range from one barrel of corn up.

Your directions for me is to Jn^o Harrower at the seat of Col^l Will^m Daingerfield Esq^r of Belvidera near Fredericksburgh Rappahannock River Virginia, and then inclose it in a letter to Mess^{rs} Anderson and Horseburgh Merch^{ts} in Glasgow and desire them to forward the same under Cover to M^r John Glassel Mer^t in Fredericksb^g their Correspondent who will pay all charges for my acco^t.—Pray my Dearest let me know what my D^r Boys and Girle are doing. I hope Jock¹ and George are still at school and I begg of you to strain every nerve to keep them at it untill I am able to assist you, for he who has got education will always gain Bread and to spare, and that in a genteel way in some place or other of the World. I suposse Betts is at home with yourself, but pray keep her tight to her seam and stockin and any other Housold affairs that her years are capable of and do not bring her up to Idleness or play or going about from house to house which is the first inlet in any of the sex to laziness and vice. Send me an Acco^t of their Ages from the Bible which ye may do verry short by saying Jo: Born — day Nov. 1762 Geo: Born &^{ca}

I yet hope please God, if I am spared, some time to make you a Virginian Lady among the woods of America which is by far more pleasant than the roaring of the raging seas round abo^t Zetland, And yet to make you eat more wheat Bread in your old age than what you have done in your Youth. But this I must do by carefullness, industry and a Close Application to Business, which ye may take notice of in this letter I am doing Sunday as well as Saturday nor will I slip an honest method nor an hour whereby I can gain a penny for yours and my own advantage.

There grows here plenty of extream fine Cotton which after being piet clean and readdy for the cards is sold at a shilling the pound; and I have at this time a great high Girl Carline as Black as the . . . spinning some for me for which I must pay her three shillings the pound for spinning it for she must do it on nights or on Sunday for any thing I know notwithstanding she's the Millers wife on the next plantation. But Im determined to have a webb of Cotton Cloath According to my own mind, of which I hope you and my infants shall yet wear apart; I cou'd write to you for a week for it gives me pleaser while I am writting to you, But as room fails me I must conclude with offering my good wishes to your Broth^r, M^r and M^o Vance,² M^r and M^o Forbes³ and M^r Ferguson⁴ if deserving at your hand with my Comp^{ts} to all who asks for me. And my

¹In 1810 a J. Harrower, Caledonia Lodge of Masons, Edinburgh, affiliated at Lodge Morton, Lerwick, and he was appointed Proxy Master of the latter in 1815. This may have been our Harrower's son.

²James Vance seems to have been one of the most prominent and most esteemed men in Lerwick. He was land-waiter and postmaster for the government, and the kirk sessions records show him as precentor, and afterward as session clerk, kirk treasurer and elder. He was warmly interested in the promotion of education and other good works. His wife was Barbara Craigie, sister of Mrs. Harrower, and of Captain James Craigie.

³See note 2, on p. 84, *supra*.

⁴William Ferguson was married to Ann Ross, sister of Margaret Ross, wife of James Craigie. He was supervisor of excise at Lerwick, and was a native of Thurso in Caithness.

sinceer prayers to God for you and my D^r Children and belive me to be ever while I have breath, My Dearest Jewell, your Aff^r husb^l till death. Signed J. H. Addressed To M^r John Harrower in Lerwick Zetland By Edinburgh, North Britain.

Saturday, 10th. This day after 12 O'clock rode to Town and deliv^r my letter dated 6th Ins^t to M^r John Glassell to be forwarded to Britain per first ship. Bought 1 PadLock at 1. Curr^t and 1 Dozⁿ Vest buttons silver plated at 1 Curr^t and pocket expence 9^d Curr^t.

Wednesday, 14th. This day M^r Daingerfield hade 35 Hoggs Killed weighting at an average about 150 lb. and they are to serve for salt Beacon untill the return of next year this time. all the Hams and Shoulders are cured with salt peter. Sold $\frac{1}{2}$ dozⁿ horn Buttons at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Tuesday, 20th. last night I dreamt that my wife came to me here, and told me she had sent Johnnie and Bettie to Deall^l to stay and left George in the house with M. J. the servant.

Sunday, 25th. Christmas day, stayed at home all day along wth the Overseer and Children because I hade no saddle to go to the Church with. In the morning the Col^l Ordred up to school two Bottles of the best Rum and some suggar for me.

Monday, 26th. This forenoon the Col^l wou^d have me to take his saddle and ride to Toun and Amuse myself, and when I was going gave me Six Shillings for pocket money. I went to Toun and Dined in a private house and after buying 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Dozⁿ Mother of Pearle buttons for my white morsyld Vest I return^d home in the evening.

Tuesday, 27th. St. Johns day. This day^s a Grand Lodge in Toun, And the whole went to Church in their Clothing and heard sermon.

Thursday, 29th. I began to keep school.

Friday, 30th. This day there was severall Gentlemen from Fredericksburgh here at Dinner with whom I dined.

Tuesday, January 10th, 1775. This day Tho^s Brooks who has atten[d]ed ever night and on Sundays left school being obliged to go 40 miles up the country to work. at same time he gave me an order on Col^l Daingerfield for £1. 10. 8. Curr^t of which £1. 5. 2 was for teaching him.

Saturday, 21st. Some time ago I having got a present of piece of Lead coul^l Cloath from Miss Lucy Gaines^s I got made in a Vest by Kidbeck the Taylor for which I have this day paid him 3^s 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cur^t.

Sunday, 22nd. This day at Church in Town and heard M^r Marec preach Text 2^d Cor 4 Chap: and 18th Verse.

Tuesday, 31st. 1 pm yesterday Ja^r and W^m Porters, sons of M^r William Porter Merch^t in Fredericksb^g came here to School.

Tuesday, February 14th. This day the Col^l on finding more wheat left among the straw then should be blamed M^r Lewis the Overseer for

¹A village on the mainland of Scotland, in Caithness, about ten miles south of Thurso. Harrower may have come from there or had relatives living there.

²Always a day of especial festivity at Fredericksburg, ending in a ball at the Sun Rise tavern.

³The housekeeper.

his carelessness, upon which M^r Lewis seem'd verry much enraged for being spoke to and verry sawcily threw up all the keys he had in charge and went off; upon which the Col^l sent for me and delivered me the keys of the Barn and begged I would assist him in his business untill he got another Overseer.

[*Wednesday*], 15th. This morning the Col^l sent to scholl for me, and begg'd me to go to Snowcreek Barn and deliver the wheat that was there first to the Vessel who was come to receive the whole of it. She was a schooner of 120 Tun M^{ts} name Jn^o Lurtey.

Tuesday, 21st. Empl^d as Yesterday. This day the Col^l engaged a young man for an Overseer Whose name is Anthony Fraser.

Thursday, 23^d. This day finised trading out wheat, also deliv^d the last of it having delivered One thousand five hundred Bushels and 240 Bushels formerly deliv^d by M^r Lewis which with 260 Bushels sown makes 2000 Bushels besides serving the Fامily and some bushels sold to people who works on the plantation.

Munday, 27th. This day M^r Fraser came here and entred to take his charge as Overseer, and he is to have his bed in the school along with me. he appears to be a verry quiet young man and has had a tolerable education. his Grandfather came from Scotland.

Saturday, *March 18th*. Last night a verry keen frost so that all the fruit that is blossom'd is in danger of being killed by it. Same day I wrote M^r Samuel Edge the following letter Viz^t

Sir

When I had the pleasure of seeing [you] on the 4th Feb^r last at your howse you then told me you was to be in Town the week after, and proposed calling here in your way home, in order to pay me the twenty shillings as agreed on; but since have heard nothing from you. Nothing but the real necessity for some books (which I greatly want) Oblidges me now to trouble you with this, hopping if it is any ways convenient for you, that you will send the cash per the bearer (and if required) how soon time will permit me to see you shall give you an ample discharge. My compliments to yourself M^{rs} Edge and Miss Sally and am &c^{ca}

Saturday, 25th. At noon went to Newport to see M^r Martin Heely schoolmaster to M^r Spotswood's Children, and after Dinner I spent the afternoon with him in conversation and hearing him play the Fiddle. He also made a Niger come and play on an Instrument call'd a Barrafou. The body of it is an oblong box with the mouth up and stands on four sticks put in bottom, and cross the [top] is laid 11 lose sticks upon [which] he beats.

Sunday, 26th. 9 AM Set out on horseback for Mount Church¹ in Caroline County in Company with M^r Richards, M^{rs} Richards, M^r Martin Heely, M^r Anthony Frazer and Miss Lucy Gaines. And heard M^r Waugh preach his text being the 1st V. of the 12th Chapter of Ecclesiast-

¹For Mount Church, in St. Mary's parish, see Bishop Meade's *Old Churches, Ministers, and Families of Virginia*, I. 410-412. Rev. Abner Waugh was the incumbent of the parish, having recently succeeded the more famous Rev. Jonathan Boucher.

tes. After which we all returned to M^r Richards before 3 pm where we dined and spent the afternoon. From Belvidera to Mount Church is 10 Miles.

Saturday, April 1st. At 6 pm M^r Martin Heely schoolmaster at Newport for M^r Spotswoods Children came here to pay me a Visite and staid with me all night.

Sunday, 9th. This day a good number of Company dined here among which was M^r and M^{rs} Porter from Town, who heard their eldest son read and seemed verry well pleased with his performance since he came to me; Myself at home all day.

Freiday, 14th. This being good Freiday, I broke up school for Easter Holly day, and the Col^l: three sons went to Town with M^r Porter's two sons this forenoon I went a money hunting but cate'd none.

Saturday, 15th. This forenoon I went a Money Hunting again an other way but hade no better success then yesterday. This afternoon M^r Frazer went up the Country to see his Mother and friends, and I give out corn for him, untill he returns again.

Munday, 17th. At 8 AM I rode to Town in order to see the boys and Amuse myself fore some hours. On my Aravel in Town the first thing I got to do was to dictate and write a love letter from M^r Anderson, to one Peggie Dewar at the Howse of M^r John Mitchel at the Wilderness. After that I went to M^r John Glassell's store to enquire for letters from home but found none: here I mett with the Col^l who gave me two pair brown thread stockins for my summers wear. At 2 pm I dined with him in M^r Porters, and soon after Returned home.

Thursday, 20th. This morning all the boys came to school again at their Usual hour. On tuesday last was missed out of the pasture a breeding mare. search being made fore her by the Overseer he found this afternoon the Neiger fellow who hade rode her off and after riding her about 24 Miles from the Plantation turned her loose in the high road. he is a Blacksmith by trade and belongs to and works at a Plantation of M^r Corbins,¹ and after he had confessed the fact M^r Frazer ower Overseer stript him to the [skin] and gave him 39 laches with Hickry switches that being the highest the Law allows at one Wheeping.

Munday, 24th. This morning the Col^l began to have his Indian Corn planted which they do in following maner Viz! The plowers plow three furrows close together from one end of the field to the other, the middle furrow of each three being 6 feet distance from the middle of the next three and so on from the one side of the field to the other, Then they run one furrow across the field and at 6 feet distance another and so on in streight lines from the one end of the field to the other which leaves the whole field like a dambrod² then the Neigers drop the corn in every square and at the same time with a strock of their How cover [them]. the grown betwixt the furrow are brocke up Afterw^{ds} at Liesure with the Ploughs without any Damage to the corne. But the best method is when the ploughs is lay off the ground withe one furrow a Neiger

¹To whom Harrower was afterward overseer.

²Checker-board.

ought to follow every Plough drop the corn and immediatly cover it up. Some are now done planting of corn. last night Mr. Frazer found the Mare that was rode off and brought her home.

Friday, 28th. This day by an express from Boston we are informed of an engagement betwixt the British troops and the Bostonians, in which the former were repuls'd with loss, but no particulars as yet.

Saturday, 29th. This day there was at Fredricksburgh about 600 men under Arms composed of the independant companys of severall Counties. they designed to have Marched to Williamsburg and to have made the Governor deliver back some powder he caused to be Clandestinely carried off, but was prevented by an express from the speaker with advice that the Governor was ready to give it up on ten minutes warning.¹

Wednesday, May 3d. This day the Col^d bought and rec^d ten bushels of Span^s Salt for ten bushels Indian Corn. at noon the Col^d Nigers finised planting Indian Corn having planted about 300 Acres of land, which took about 25 Bushels of seed.

Saturday, 6th. This afternoon I planted 41 hills of grownd with Cotton seed.

Sunday, 7th. At 2 houses this day seeking money that was owing me but got none.

Monday, 8th. This morning I planted 22 Hills of grownd with Water Mellon and Mush Mellon Seed. This afternoon I eat ripe strawberries.

Saturday, 20th. This day I wrote the following letter to Sam^d Edge for Twenty shillings that has been due me since the 25th Nov^r 1774.

Mr Samuel Edge

Sir—I wrote you 18th March last requesting you then to send me per the Bearer then sent, the twenty shillings you are indebted to me, which money you promised to have paid a Month before that time. Notwithstanding of which I have neither seen nor heard from you since, which to me appear some what Strange.

On Saturday last I was informed you intended to send me a wild Goose hunting by giving me a Draught on another. But if any one is owing you I do not chuse to demand the debt; Therefore I hereby aquant you that I will not accept a draught upon none; Therefore I am hopeful you will now send the money by the bearer hereof as I really have pressing occasion for it and cannot be longer without it, having neither stock nor store here to receive money with to purchase what I really cannot be without. your compliance to the above will greatly oblige and wherein I can serve you may freely command Sir yours &c^a

Signed J H

Addressed To Mr. Samuel Edge, Overseer.

This afternoon I was invited to a Gentlemans house in order to eat plenty of ripe Cherries.

¹ See Henry's *Patrick Henry*, I. 277-279; Sparks's *Washington*, II. 507-509.

Sunday, 21st. This day I hade sent me a present from M^r Porter in Fred^r two silk Vestcoats and two pair cotton britches all of them having been but verry little wore by M^r Porter.

Saturday, 27th. This afternoon I rode to Town and bought at M^r Porters Store 2 handkerchiefs and one Yd Bedd Tyke¹ at 2/2d Curr^r being all 5 2d. Curr^r. At same time rec^d a letter from my Wife dated 1st March 1775. It came under cover to M^r John Glassell Merch^t in Toun and cost me 1/3d Curr^r. At same time rec^d from Tho^r Anderson a pair of new Shoes on the Col^ls Acco^t.

Saturday, June 3d. At 9 AM M^r Porter's two son's was sent for and they went to Toun to keep Whitsuntide holliday.

Wednesday, 7th. Began to keep school again.

Freiday, 16th. This day at 9 AM Col^l Daingerfield set out for his Q^r down the Country at Chickahommanie to receive his Cash for the last years produce of said plantation from John Miller his Overseer there.

Sunday, 18th. This day at 10 AM went to John Pattie's and rec^d 6/ for teaching his William $\frac{1}{4}$ of a year and from [thence] to Thomas Evans's and rec^d 20/ for teaching his Daught^r Sarah for One Year.

Saturday, July 1st. At noon I went to Frederick^s and bought 15 bigg Double Gult buttons at 4/9 One hank silk twist at 1/ and one ounce brown thread at 6d. my pocket expence this day 1 . I returned home an heure before sun down.

Freiday, 7th. This day at sunset Col^l Daingerfield finished cutting down 260 Bushels sowing of wheat in fifteen days with seven Cradlers and it was done in 6 days less time than 203 bushels sowing was last Harvest and with fewer hands. For this Harvest his money payments to Out labourers is reduced no less than £18.4. 6d. lower than it was last and at same time the Wheat better put up all which is chiefly owing to the Activity of Anthony Frazer the present Overseer.

Saturday 8th. This moring began to bring Wheat to the Barn with two Carts Six Oxen in the One and three Horses in the Other.

Sunday, 16th. This day I went to Church in Toun and heard sermon preached by one M^r Murray his text was Math: 6th and 24th V. I was no pocket expence this day.

Wednesday, 19th. This day I was Informed that M^r Daingerfield hade made a Complaint upon me to the Col^l for not waiting after Breackfast and dinner (sometimes) in order to take the Children along with me to scholl; I imagine she has a grudge against me since the middle of Feb^r last the reason was, that one night in the Nursery I wheep'd Billie for crying for nothing and she came in and carried him out from me. Some nights after he got into the same humour and his Papa The Col^l hearing him call'd me and Asked why I cou'd hear him do so and not correct him for it; Upon that I told him how M^r Daingerfield had behaved when I did correct him. At that he was angry wth her.

¹ Bed-tick.

Saturday, 22d. On Saturd^y 13 Ins^t some words happned betwixt John M^rDearmand and the Col^o about John's not being expedecious enough About stacking and requiring too many hands to attend him upon which John left the work immedeatly and has not returned since. And by the Acco^t in my hands I find the Col^o is in Johns debt £9. 10. 9 Virg^s Currency.

Sunday, 23d. M^rs Porter having been here all night from Town ; I this day after breackfast brought all the boys with their books into the passage to the Col^o who heard each of them read and was highly pleased with their performance. M^rs Porter likeways told that her sons did me great honour ; as well as the rest.

Wednesday, 26th. This day at noon was finished the bringing hom and stacking the Col^os Wheat having 18 Stacks of 100 Bushels each by Computation besides a Large Barn fill'd up to the roof. It was Lrought home this year in 15 days less time than it was last year. I this day ate Watermelon of my own planting it being the first I ate this season.

Wednesday, August 2d. Yesterday the Col^o Began to Sow Wheat for the ensewing croop. This day came to School W^m John and Lucy Patties, and are to pay conform to the time they Attend. expecting a Visit of M^r Kenedy sent to Town for a bottle of Vest India Rum which cost me 1 3 Currency.

Tuesday, 22d. This morning the Col^o began to trade out wheat in the Yard with horses which is done in the following manner Viz! They take wheat from the stack and spreads it about eight foot broad in a large circle, and with as many horses as they have they ride upon it round and round and 3 or 4 men keep always turning and stirring it up, and by this method they with 10 or 12 horses will trade out 100 Bushels in a day. where they trade Just now is 300 feet Circumference.

Munday, 28th. Cobby of my 4th Letter wrote this day to my wife. *My Dearest Life*

Your most agreeable favours I rec^d 27th May last, which was dated 1st March, And you may belive me it gave me the greatest satisfaction I have hade for twelve months past to hear from your own hand that you my Dearest Jewell and my sweet Infants are and has been in a good state of health since I left you, As I still am and has been for the above time, For which we have all great reason to render all due praise to that ever Glorious Being who wisely governs and directs all our Accions : And may he for the sake of him who suffered on the Cross for all sinners continoue to protect and direct you and all that concerns us for the better. I would have wrote you sooner after the receipt of yours, had I not been waiting an Answer to a verry long letter I wrote 6th Dec^r last which I find had not come to your hand when you wrote me but am hopefull it has long before now and an Answer to it on its way here. When you write me I intreat you to do it on a sheet of the largest post paper you can get and leave no waste room in it, as the postage is no more than if it was three lines on $\frac{1}{4}$ sheet. And sure I am you can find subject enough to fill a sheet of paper as you well know that

whatever comes from your hand must be agreeable. I am extremely glad to hear you are Chietly directed by your Broth' Cap' Craigie and I think myself highly obliged to him both for his advice and assistance to you in my absence, I having of this date wrote him myself and given him my most hearty thanks for his good offices to you and begged his continuance of the same.

I begg you to advise with your Brother on that paragraph of my last letter with respect to your moving here, and I have likeways now begged him to write me his thoughts on the same subject, so that I expect you will both write me fully on receipt of this, and I begg you to put him in mind of it. I have also wrote him to be assisting to you, untill such time as the ports are open for trade betwixt Britain and the Collonies and the disputes made up betwixt them, for untill that is done there is no such thing as remitting money or goods from any part of America to Britain, which gives me a good deal of trouble on your Acc^t of which your Broth' can more fully inform you of, As also of the engagements that has been betwixt the British troops and the forces of the united Collonies before Boston as room wou'd fail me here to do it. As to M^r Forbes pray make my Compt: to him and spouse and tell him from me that I make no doubt from the information I have of his making good bread in this Country for that a Journaman Bricklayer here has no less than five shillings a day Currancy which is equall to four Shillings St^l. And I am aquanted with an Undertaker in that branch of business who is now set down on good Estate and rides in his Chair every day. But if he was to come over he must resolve to give closs application to business and keep from drinking. About 7 months ago a Gentleman in Fredericksb^t had his two sons taken from the high school there and put under my care for which he pays me £5 a year. He is an English man himself and his Lady from Edinburgh,¹ and I have the pleasure to have given the parents such satisfaction that I hade sent me in a present two silk vest-coats and two pair of britches ready to put on for changes in summer. I observe my Dear Dogg George writes me his name at the foot of your letter, But I am surprized that you take no notice of Jack and Bettie. But I hope you will not fail to be more particular about them in your next, and give my blessing to them all and tell them from me that I hope they will be obedient to you in every respect and mind their books. Before I get things brought to a bearing was any vessell by chance to put into Bressaysound² bound for any part of Virginia or for Pawtomack river which divides this Collony from Maryland, I wou'd have you at all events Make your Brother apply for your Passage with the Children and a servant and imediatly dispose of every article in the house your Feather Bedds Bedding and Cloaths excepted, and if any money to spare lay it out in Linen;³ and write me imediatly on your Aravell here by post

¹Mr. and Mrs. Porter.

²The harbor of Lerwick.

³Linen was one of the chief articles of domestic manufacture and export from Shetland in the eighteenth century.

and I shou'd soon be with you. May God grant that such a cast may happen to you. I must now conclude by offering my Compt^r to M^r and M^{rs} Vance, and all who enquires for me in a friendly way, with my blessing to you my sweet life and my Dear Infants is all at present from, My Dearest Jewell, your ever affectionate Husband while—Signed J. H.

Belvidera 28th Aug^r 1775. Addressed to M^{rs} John Harrower in Lerwick, Zetland, by Edinburgh, North Britain.

Same date. A Coppy.

D. Sir

I make no doubt but by my not laying my mind open to you sooner I have partly incur'd your displeasure, But before I am done shall hope for your excusing me, And allow me to take this opportunity of returning you my most gratefull Acknowledgements for your good advice and Assistance to my Dearest Wife and Children since we have been absent from one another, and I earnestly intreat your continuance of the same and am hopefull you will not see her in strait untill I am able to repay you, and wherin I can serve you or yours it shall never be wanting on my part. My design of leaving Zetland for some time was only known to my wife; And the making it known to any person else wou'd not in all probabilitie wou'd not have hindred it; I being so straitned that nothing but money upon Intrest for some Considerable time cou'd have saved me from being personally exposed; But when I left the Country, I did not intend going further than Holland, or even London cou'd I have found business there to my liking but not finding that, and the frost being strong in Holland, I was determin'd to see what I cou'd do in this Western World. And as to my business and situation here, Annie can fully inform you if she has not already done it. Here I have kept my health much better than ever I did before in any place, and am as happily situated as I cou'd wish had I my wife and Children with me, Only not in a way at present to make much money, tho I hope in a short time I shall be able to make more; I have now wrote Annie to advise with you with respect to her moving to this Country with the Children, and shall expect her thoughts upon it in her next; And I earnestly begg of you that on receipt of this you take the trouble to write me yourself and give me your mind on the same subject, likeways let me know how trade goes with any thing else that is remarkable in the country, And Annie will give you the proper directions for me.

Untill the disputes betwixt Government and the Collonies are settled there is no such thing as getting any remittance made to any part in Britain; Hostilities being already begun at Boston and three Engagements already fought betwixt the British troops and the provincials the last of which on the 17th June last at Charleston near Boston, when the Provincials gained the day as they did of the other two. In this last Eng^r Gen^l Gage had above a thousand men left dead on the field of Battle and 500 wounded. Among the dead are many of the British offi-

cers, which is owing to the Americans taking sight when they fire, An instance of w^h I shall here give you. Col^l Washington of this Collony being appointed Generalissimo of all the American Forces raised and to be raised, made a demand of 500 Riflemen from the fronteers of this Coll^y. But those that insisted on going far exceeded the number wanted when in order to avoid giving offence. The commanding Officer chose his Comp^y by the following method Viz^t He took a board of a foot squar and w^h Chalk drew the shape of a moderate nose in the center and nailed it up to a tree at 150 yd^s distance and those who came nighest the mark with a single ball was to go. But by the first 40 or 50 that fired the nose was all blown out of the board, and by the time his Comp^y was up the board shared the same fate. How or when these differences will [end] God only knows, But the Americans are determined to stand by one another to the last man and all exports and imports are intirely stopt also planting of Tobacco. On 26th last M^o wheat Harvest was finised on this Plantation by getting the last of it brought home and stacked, the Amount of which will be about 3 thousand bushells, and now ten ploughs are at work every day ploughing wheat into the ground again for the next croop. It is sown here in the same field where the Indian corn is growing, so that both grow together untill the M^o of Nov^r when the corn is gathered and the field cleared of the stalks. Indian corn is planted at six feet distance each way as streight and regular as you do Cabbage in a garden and when it is sprung up only two stalks left in a hill; It will grow from five to twelve or fourteen high and each stalk will have two if not three Ears on it and each Ear will have from five to Eight hundred grains on it, the size of which you know. But from Ap^l the time it is planted untill now that the wheat is sown among it, It is kept as clean of grass and weeds as a garden by the Ploughs running continually betwixt the rows first the one way and then the other, and the Howers going round the hills with their hows, and without this work it wou^d come to no perfection. Of Corn there will be on this Plantation about 8 or 9 Hundred Barrells at five Bushells to the Barrell, about 350 Barrell will be used for the Nigers and Horses, the rest for sale, the price about 10/ per B^l. As for what the White ates of it is but triffling for three Barrell of Corn is rather more than any one Man can use in a year let him ate no other bread, the value of which is only 30/. All the white people on the Plantation is the Col^l, his Lady, five Children, a Housekeeper an Overseer and myself, But I think no more now of seeing 40 or 50 Nigers every day, than I did of seeing so many [Dabbling?]wifes at Johnsmiss^l with single stockins, two or three of the best of which if I hade here I cou^d sell to Good Acco^t. On casting my Eye out of the window I cannot help most heartily wishing you hade some of the most Charming Water-mellons I have now growing and some of them ripe within less 3 Yd^s of where I sitt. Some of which will weigh from 20 to 30 lb. My Plantation for my Amusement consists of the following Articles Viz^t Water

^t St. John's Day.

melons, mushmelons, Cucumbers, Pumpkins, Gourds spanish Pitatoes and Cotton. So much for Plantation information.

I am truly affraid I have incoached on your patience already in giving you the trouble of reading this long epistle therefore I shall conclude at this time by earnestly entreating you to write me at Large and let me know your thoughts on the present disputes betwixt the Collonies and the Ministry. My Compt^r to M^r Craigie Miss Peggy and your two sons to M^r and M^{rs} Sands¹ and their children and please accept of the same yourself from him who is with sinceer regard D^r S^r your Most Aff^r Broth^r and Hu^r Serv^t J. H^r

Belvidera 28th August 1775. Addressed to Cap^t James Craigie in Lerwick, Zetland, by Edinburgh, North Britain.

Saturday, September 2d. At noon rode to Town and delivered two letters to Mr. Henry Mitchell, One for my wife and one for her Brother Cap^t James Craigie After which I retur^d home by sundown.

Wednesday, 6th. This day I was informed by M^r Frazer that M^{rs} Daingerfield talking to them of me that morning about some Glue disrespectfully calld me Old Harrower by which and her behaveiour to myself I find her grudge continous tho she has not courage to say any thing to myself well knowing she has [no] foundation to go upon.

Sunday, 10th. This day came Dick a Serv^t belonging to M^r Anderson from Town and a Comerade of his to see me and Brought me a pair new shoes and a pair for M^r Frazer also a Bottle Vest India Rum which we drank in school in Company with M^r Frazer.

Monday, 11th. This day sent my letter to wife to Fredericksb^r by M^r Frazer and gave him 1/6 to give with it at the post office as Postage to New York. But M^r Brown my friend the Clark told M^r Frazer he wou^d send it home free for me by a Ship going to saile.

Friday, 15th. Wrote my 5th Letter this day from Virginia, This being the Cobby.

My Dearest Life, Yours of the 12th May last I received 2^d Ins^t immediatly after sending off one for you and one for your Aff^r brother dated 28th last M^r Both which will come to your Hand I imagine at the same time that this will as I am oblidged to send this to New York by post in order to come to London by the Pacquet, There being no more Opportunities from this Collony to Glasgow this season, by reason that the Nonimportation and Nonexportation Acts of the Continental Congress now takes place and will continue untill the disputes betwixt Great Britain and the Colonys be settled. And I intreat you immediatly on receipt of this letter to wait on your Brother and show it to him, and he will more fully inform you of these Matters than room will permit me to do here, As my principal Design of writing you this so soon after my last is to make you as easy as possible I can, both with respect to my not sending for you and making you a remittance. As to the first of these I cou^d not be certain if you wou^d come to this Country or not untill I

¹Rev. James Sands was the minister of Lerwick.

rec^d your last letter. But as I find by it you are satisfied to come here, you may believe me nothing in this world can give me equall satisfaction to my having you and my D^r Infants with me. As a proof of which I have ever signified the same in my letters to your brother. And I now declare unto you as I sincerely write from my heart before God, that I will how soon I am able point out the way to you how you may get here, and at same time make you what remittance I can in order to Assist you on your way. But you must consider that as I had not a shilling in my pocket when I left you It must take me some time befor I can be able to make you a remittance. Therefore I even pray you for Gods sake to have patience and keep up your heart and no means let that fail you: For be asured the time is not Longer to you than me, And the National disputes and the stopage of trade betwixt this and the Mother Country if not soon settled will of course make the time longer as your bro^r will inform you. As to your Jocks upon me with respect to my getting a Virginian Lady it is the least in all my thoughts and am determined to leave that Jobb for you by aiding your sons with your advice to them in their choise of wives among the Virginian Ladys: For I am resolved (as at first) to do as much for you as God is pleased to put in my power.

I am glad you are moved to a place of the Toun, as you say agreeable to your own disposition, but am extreemly fearfull for you on Acco^t of the earthen floor: And considering Forbes behaviour to you, what I wrote you in my last concerning him you have prudence enough to keep it to yourself, and I will give myself no further trouble here about him. I am verry uneasy about your being so tender this spring But am hopeful you have quite got the better of it before now. At same time it gives me great satisfaction to hear the Children are all well, and that Jock is still at Walls.¹ I hope he is now making some progress in his Education, and am hopeful George will do the same. As for Betts Im not afraid of her considering whose hands she is under. I have nothing further to add at present only I again begg of you to keep a good heart and do the best you can untill it please God to enable me to assist you and for aught I think you shall hear no more from me untill I be able to remitt you either more or less.

My Compliments and sincere good wishes to your Brother M^r Craigie, his spouse and Family likeways my Comp^t to M^r and M^r Vance, and all others wh may enquire for me in a friendly way; with my sincere love and prayers to God for you my Dearest Jewell and Children is all at present from your ever Aff^l Husb^d signed J. H. Belvidera 15th Sept^r 1775. Addressed To M^r John Harrower in Lerwick Zetland by the New York Packet to London and by Edin^g North Britain.

Thursday, 28th. This morning I rec^d from Benjamin Edge by the hand of his daughter two Dollars, one half and one Quarter Dollar being in all sixteen shillings and Sixpence in part payment for teaching his son

¹On the west of the island of Mainland, about ten miles from Lerwick.

and daughter. Same day I seed a Comp^s of 70 Men belonging to one of the Regiments of Regullars raised here for the defence of the rights and liberties of this Coll^y in particular and of North America in Generall. They were on their March to Williamsburg.

Thursday, October 12th. Company here last night Viz! Old M^r Waller, her son and his wife and at school there M^r Heely Schoolmaster and M^r Brooks Carpenter and they wth M^r Frazer and myself played whist and danced untill 12 OClock, M^r Heely the Fidle and dancing. We drank one bottle of rum in time. M^r Frazer verry sick after they went home.

Munday, 16th. This morning 3 men went to work to break, swingle and heckle flax and one woman to spin in order to make course linnen for shirts to the Nigers, This being the first of the kind that was made on the plantation. And before this year there has been little or no linnen made in the Colony.

Tuesday 17th. Two women spinning wool on the bigg wheel and one woman spinning flax on the little wheel all designed for the Nigers.

Munday, 23d. One Friday last I lent to Miss Lucy one pair of my shoes to spin with. This day General Washintons Lady dined here, As did her son and Daug^r in Law,¹ M^r Spotswood, M^r Campbell, M^r Dansie, Miss Washington and Miss Dandridge, They being all of the highest Rank and fortunes of any in this Colony.

Saturday, 28th. Last night came here to school M^r Heely and Tho: Brooks in order to spend the evening, but by reason of M^r Frazer's not coming from the House, and some stories told them by M^r Richards in order to sow disention, She being really a Wolf cloathed with a lambs skin and the greatest Mischief maker I have seen in all my Travels, The first time I seed her, I cou'd observe in her countenance Slyness and deceit, and I have always avoided going to the House as much as possible. But now I really think she ought to be avoided by every christian who regards peace and their own character, They both went home at 10 pm.

Sunday, 29th. Yesterday at noon M^r Heely came here and asked me to take a walk with him in order to see Miss Molly White late housekeeper at Newport she having some shirts of his making for him, and after crossing the river we found her at an Aunts house of hers one M^r Hansfords where we stayed all night, and this day Miss Molly came with us two Miles to a Gentlemans house in our way home, and after acquainting M^r Heely where his shirts was ready for him the conversation turned upon clearing themselves to each other of most malicious stories raised by the above M^r Richards in order to set them at variance and included with them was Miss Lucy Gaines our housekeeper, and myself. But now that every one has discovered the snake, I belive in time coming her bite will be avoided.

¹ John Parke Custis and his wife Eleanor Calvert. The Mrs. Spotswood referred to was probably the wife of Col. Alexander Spotswood of Newport, a niece of Gen. Washington. Mrs. Campbell was probably Mary, the widow of John Spotswood, son of the governor, who married John Campbell, Gentleman. Miss Washington must have been a niece of Gen. Washington, and Miss Dandridge was perhaps a niece of his wife.

Thursday, November 9th. Upon Thursday 2¹ Ins^l there was a Camp Marked out close at the back of the school for a Batalion of 500 private men besides officers and they imediatly began to erect tents for the same.¹ And this day the whole was finished for 250 men being 50 tents for the privates and 6 D^r for officers and 3 D^r for the Comissary and his stores, with one for a Buffalo which is to be shown which I shall afterwards describe.—This day the 250 men being 5 Companys from different parts araved at the Camp the other 5 Companys not being as yet compleated.

Saturday, 11th. At 11 OClock forenoon I rode to Toun and bought one stone Mugg and Tin pot at 10d. and 1¼ yd. Linen at 5^c of which I wanted two stocks for winter wear, and the rest of it I made a present to Miss Lucy, for her readiness to do any little thing for me; I seed no worsted stockins for sale but one pair all Moth eaten and as they were they asked no less than 6^d for them. I dined at M^r Porters spent 7½ at M^r Anderson and then came home by sun down.

Sunday, 12th. This day a great number of company from Toun and Country to see the Camp four of which (Gentlemen) paid me a visite which put me to 1/3 expence for a bottle of rum. at noon by Accident one of the Captains tents was set on fire and all consumed but none of things of any Acco^t. Lost.

Monday, 13th. This forenoon the Col^l sent a waggon Load of Turnups and Pitatoes to the Camp as a present for all the men.

Tuesday, 14th. All the minute-men in the Camp employed learning their exercise.

Wednesday, 15th. This morning I drank a small dram of rum made thick with brown suggar for the cold, it being the first dram I have drunk since I lived on the Plantation.

Thursday, 16th. The soldiers at muster.

Friday, 17th. The soldiers at D^r, and I left of going into the Nursery and taking charge of the children out of school.

Wednesday, 29th. This day the camp was brocke up and the whole Batallion dismissed after each private receiving 22 days pay at 1¼ per day and 1^d for provisions out and home. During the time the camp was by the school it cost me 8^d 1½ of expences which is more by 2 than it cost me for 12 Months before.

Saturday, December 2d. At noon went to Toun and seed two Companys of regulars from the Ohio among which was one real Indian. he was of a Yelow cotler short brod faced and rather flat nosed, and long course black [hair] quite streight. he spoke very good english. I staid in Toun all night and slept at M^r Andersons; I bought from M^r Porter a black Silk Handkerchief at 5^d.

Sunday, 3d. After breakfast I went and found out Miss Molly White and left with her cloth to make me two winter Stocks and a stock to make them by. Dined in Toun, came home in the afternoon.

¹An ordinance of the July Convention had provided for twenty days' drill on the part of the minute-men of each group of counties. The minute-men of the district composed of Caroline, Spotsylvania, King George and Stafford were to number five hundred rank and file. Henng, IX. 10.

Wednesday, 27th.

- 1st Both the last nights quite drunk was I,
Pray God forgive me [of] the sin ;
But had I been in good company,
Me in that case No man had seen.
- 2^d Plac'd by myself, without the camp,
As if I were unclean—
No friendly soul does my floor tramp,
My greiff to ease, or hear my moan.
- 3^d For in a prison at large I'm plac't,
Bound to it, day and night ;
O, grant me patience, god of grace.
And in thy paths make me walk right.
- 4th This day alone, at home I am,
Repenting sadly and full sore
That ever the like unto me came.
When this I see, The cause I will repent for ever more.

Wednesday, January 10th, 1776. This day we had the Confirmation of Norfolk being reduced to ashes by the Men of War and British Troops under Command of Lord Dunmore. It was the Largest Town in the Collony and a place of great Trade, it being situated a little within the Capes. Several Women and Childⁿ are killed.

Saturday, 15th. After 12 O Clock I went six Miles into the Forrest to one Daniel Dempsies to see if they wou'd spin three pound of Cotton to run 8 yds. per lb., $\frac{2}{3}$ of it belonging to Miss Lucy Gaines for a gown and $\frac{1}{3}$ belonging to myself for Vestcoats, which they ag^d to do if I carried the cotton there on Saturd^y. 27th Ins!

Sunday, 14th. At 11 AM I Sett out for Mansfield the seat of Man Page,¹ Esq^r in order to see one M^r Reid Gairdner² who came from Dunkel in Scotland. M^r Scott Watch maker from Toun being also with him. I staid with them untill after sundown, having dined and being very genteely entertained. M^r and M^{rs} Porter and all their Children came here to dinner and staid all night.

Monday, 15th. Miss Lucy spinning my croop of Cotton at night after her work is done ; to make me a pair of gloves.

Wednesday, 17th. This evening Miss Lucy came to school with M^r Frazer and me, and finished my croop of Cotton by winding it, after its being doubled and twisted the whole consisting of two ounces.

Tuesday, 23d. This day I entred Edwin into the Latin Gramer.

Saturday, 27th. After 12 pm I went to the Forrest to the house of Daniel Dempsies and carried with me three pound of pick'd Cotton two of which belongs to Miss Lucy Gaines and one to me, which his wife has

¹Mann Page of Mansfield, half-brother of Governor John Page, was a member of the Continental Congress in 1777.

²I. e., gardener.

agreed to spin to run 8 Yd per lb., I paing her five shillings per lb. for spinning it and it is to be done by the end of May next.

Tuesday, March 5th. This morning Bathurst Daingerfield got don reading through the Bible and the Newtestament, and began to learn to write 15 Ult^e. I gave them Holyday this Afternoon.

Saturday, April 20th. At noon I asked the Col^o for a bottle of rum as I expected two Countrymen to see me tomorrow, which he verry cheerfully gave and desired me to ask him for one any time I wanted it and told me to take them to the Howse to dinner with me. in the afternoon he, his Lady, and Daughter went over the river to M^r Jones's in King George County.

Tuesday, 23d. At noon rode to Town, got the Newspapers and settled with M^r Porter for teaching his two sons 12 M^o when he verry genteely allowed me £6 for them, besides a present of two silk vests and two pair of Nankeen Breeches last summer and a Gallon of rum at Christenmass, both he and M^r Porter being extreamly well satisfied with what I hade don to them.

Wednesday, 24th. General Muster of all the County Malitia in Town today. at Breackfast the Col^o desired me to go and see it if I pleased, But being in town yesterday I chose to stay to day with my boys.

Sunday, 28th. This day came here to pay me a visit M^r Reid from Mansfield and M^r Scott from Toun and dined with me in the great house by the Col^o order, and after we hade spent the afternoon verry agreeably together they returned home in the evening.

Sunday, May 5th. Early this morning I went to M^r McCalley's and entred his oldest son (about 8 years of age) to writting, stayed there all day and rode his horse home in the evening. The Col^o went to Newport and dinned there.

Tuesday, 7th. Billie ended reading through his Bible.

Thursday, 9th. After dinner I took the boys with me to Massaponacks Briges to see 56 prisoners that was taken at the late battle in North Carolina,¹ among them was a great many Emigrants from Scotland who were all officers. I talked with several of them from Ross Sh^r and the Isle of Sky.

Freiday, 17th. Gen^l Fast by order of the Congress. I went to Church in Town but no sarmon. dined at M^r McAlleys and came home in the evening. The Col^o and his Lady at Mount C^h.

Munday, 27th. At 9 AM I went to M^r McAlleys and staid teaching his Son and sister untill dark and then rode home bringing with me 1½ Yd. Linen for summer breeches.

Thursday, June 6th. In the afternoon I went to M^r Becks, when he told me that M^{rs} Battle wanted to see me and to talk to me about teaching her two daughters to write, upon which I imediatly waited upon her and engaged to return upon Saturd next by 1 pm and begin them to write but made no bargain as yet.

¹ Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776. In the list of prisoners, Force's *American Archives*, Fourth Series, V. 63, are many Highland names.

Saturday, 8th. At noon I went to M^r Bataile's and entred two of her Daughters to writting, Viz. Miss Sallie and Miss Betty and continued teaching them until night, when I agreed to attend them every Saturday afternoon and every other Sunday from this date until 8th June 1777 (If it please God to spare me) for four pound Virginia currancy.

Sunday, 9th. After breakfast I rode to M^r McAlleys and teach'd his son to write untill 4 pm and then came home in the evening.

Freiday, 14th. At noon Went to Jn^r McDearmons and had 6 Yd stript Cotton warped for 2 Veastcoats and two handkerchiefs all prepared at my own expence.

Wednesday, 19th. At noon went to snow creek and the boys and dined at the spring on Barbaque and fish. At 5 pm I went to M^r Bataile and teac'd until $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour past 7.

Wednesday 26th. At 5 pm I went to M^r Becks and had a short Coat cut out of cotton cloth wove Jeans. I bought the cotton and paid for spinning it at the rate of 2/6 per lb. and one shilling per Yd. for weaving.

Sunday, July 7th. This morning I rode to Mansfield and breakfast with M^r Reid and stayed and dined with him and in the afternoon he and I rode to see the Rowgallies that was building where we met with M^r Anderson and Jacob Whitely and went to Town with them to Whitelys where we Joyned in Comp^y with M^r Wright and one M^r Bruce from King George. about 11 pm we brock up and every one went to his own home as I did.

Wednesday, 10th. At 6 pm went to M^r Bataile's and teach'd untill sunset and then return'd home and soon after hea[r]d a great many guns fired towards Town. about 12 pm the Col^l Despatched Anth^y Frazer there to see what was the cause of [it] who returned, and informed him that there was great rejoicings in Town on Acco^t of the Congress having declared the 13 United Colonys of North America Independent of the Crown of great Britain.

Thursday, 25th. I imployed this morn^g and forenoon getting Lead off Snowcreek house.¹

¹ Probably for military uses.

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