

COLLECTIONS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

DIARY

VOL. VI.—FIFTH SERIES.

SAMUEL SEWALL



Committee of Publication.

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BOSTON:

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M.DCCCLXXIX.

only down. That I at night advised to it next morn-
ing.

March 17th returned for Constable Place.

March 18th. Court Court was.

March 19th. Council for Examination of Officers appointed
this day: but the Gov. came not to Town; Secretary re-
ceived us from his Excellency's Letter, that was ad-
vised to Friday, Mar 20 at 4 p. M. Friday, Mar 21.
About 10 in. Maxwell came to my house and wrote me
to meet his Excellency in Court at 3 p. M. About an
hour after came again, and asked me to attend the Court
precedely. After some other business, the Gov. was
called in. The Justice & Judge of the Infer. Court at the
request of Mr. Secretary, this part of the Negotiation. All
was over when the Arrival of the Lines opened for the
Council.

Seventh-day, March, 24-1717. Mr. Thomas the At-
torney and I set out for Plymouth about 1 p. M. Got to
Weymouth a pretty while before Sunrise. I stayed at
Cousin Hunt's.

March 25-1717. Hear Mr. Peter Thacher of Wey-
mouth, who performed previous well. Came to his house
at Weymouth to see his new-marr'd Wife, which might
be thought not convenient to be less full. Sup at Mr.
Thacher's.

March 26-1717. For Plymouth, Justice Kitchin writing
to me. About 10 o'clock with Mr. Attorney, who left the
Church at 11 o'clock. Stay'd at Salton's. Were not
to be there till a morning after the 27th. Got to Plymouth
about 2 o'clock at Willard's. March 27. About

10 o'clock we went to the Court at Plymouth. The
Court was held at 11 o'clock. The Court was
held at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

Wiley, who arriv'd at that's house at 10 o'clock.
Open the Court.

March 28. with several in the Court at Justice Place
at 11.

March 29. Col. Byfield upon the case of the
Sims; between Mr. Attorney and the other three hours
were taken up from 11 to 2. Peter was brought with
himself to Justice Col. of 2 years old was brought off
the principal Evidence.

DIARY

OF

SAMUEL SEWALL.

1674-1729.

VOL. II.

1699-1700-1714.

March 30. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

March 31. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

April 1. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

April 2. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

April 3. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

April 4. Mr. Attorney and I went to the
Court at 11 o'clock. The Court was held at 11 o'clock.
The Court was held at 11 o'clock.

only Sworn. Past 8. at night adjourn'd to 9. next morning.

About 150£ received for Constable Fines.

March, 17. Gen^l Court rises.

March, 22. Council for Nomination of Officers appointed this day: but the Gov^r came not to Town; Secretary acquainted us from his Excellency's Letter, that twas adjourn'd to Friday, Mar. 23. at 3 p. m. Friday, Mar. 23. About 10. m. Maxwell comes to my house and warns me to meet his Excellency in Council at 3 p. m. About an hour after comes again, and warns me to meet the Gov^r presently. After some other Business, the Gov^r nominated Mr. Tho. Brattle a Judge of the Infer. Court in the room of Col. Foster; this pass'd in the Negative.¹ All was over before the Arrival of the Time appointed for the Council.

Seventh-day, March, 24. 1711^o Mr. Corwin, Mr. Attorney and I set out for Plimouth about 1 p. m. Got to Weymouth a pretty while before Sun-Set: I lodge at Cousin Hunt's.

March, 25. 1711. Hear Mr. Peter Thacher of Weymouth, who prays and preaches well; though he had been at Boston to see his new-married Sister, which might occasion his preparations to be less full. Sup at Mr. Thacher's.

March, 26. proceed to Plimouth, Joshua Kibbe waiting on me. From Cushin's with Mr. Attorney, who kept the Sabbath at Hingham. Din'd at Bairstow's. Were met by the Sheriff a little on this side Cook's; got to Plimouth before 5. Quarter'd at Witherell's. March, 27. Major

¹ After Brattle's rejection, the Governor nominated, for the fourth justice of the Common Pleas of Suffolk, Samuel Lynde, April 2. He was rejected, and the Council added: "It is their unanimous opinion That the three surviving Justices, being a Quorum according to the Law, are legally qualified to hold the said Court, and ought to hold the same accordingly, that the service of the Queen nor subjects be prejudiced for failure thereof." Finally, June 11, 1711, Thomas Palmer was nominated and confirmed. — Eds.

Walley, who lodg'd at Cook's, comes to us seasonably. Open the Court.

Martij 28. *mihi natalis, in Aedes intravi et ibidem Preces effudi.*

March, 29. Col. Byfield argues the Case of Prohibition; between Mr. Attorney and him, about three hours were taken up, from 11 to 2. Indian man charg'd with Ravishing an Indian Girl of 3 years old, was brought off, the principal Evidence being dead. Col. Thacher came to us; I gave him a Consolation to Mr. Lothrop. Artillery Sermon of Dr. Mather; to Mr. Little, and Mr. Sheriff Consolations. To many Question about marrying ones Wives own Sister.

Sixth-day, March, 30. Set out about 8. m: baited at Bairstow's, dined at Cushing's. Mr. Corwin rode away alone, and went out of his way towards Bridgewater; but got to Cushings. Baited at the half Moon at Miller's, came all together into Town; found all well. *Laus Deo.* God is the more to be acknowledged because I had more misgivings than at some other times.

Second-day, April, 2. Mr. Walter is chosen to Preach the Artillery Sermon. At a Council, the Gov^r Nominats Mr. Sam^l Lynde to be a Judge in stead of Col. Foster. I desir'd time of Consideration as Col. Foster us'd to doe. Council is adjourn'd to the 19th of April.

April, 3. I dine with the Court at Pullin's. Mr. Attorney treats us at his house with excellent Pipins, Anchovas, Olives, Nuts. I said I should be able to make no Judgment on the Pipins without a Review, which made the Company Laugh. Spake much of Negroes; I mention'd the problem, whether should be white after the Resurrection: Mr. Bolt took it up as absurd, because the body should be void of all Colour, spake as if it should be a Spirit. I objected what Christ said to his Disciples after the Resurrection. He said twas not so after his Ascension.

April, 4. Wadlin comes in from Salt-Tertuda [Tortugas],

in whom comes Mr. Josiah Willard,¹ who has been twice taken. Used civilly at first by the Privateer; but suffer'd hardship in Prison at Martinico. After, was going to Barmudas, was taken, Strip'd, and us'd Roughly.

Capt. Jn^o Rainsford and Pulcifer are dead.

April, 13. Dr. Mather visited me, I return'd his little Book out of which I reprinted the Case of Conscience against a man's marrying his Brother's [?] sister.² He went into Chamber and Pray'd with my wife and family, particularly for Joseph, who was there. Joseph returns to Cambridge in the afternoon.

About 5. p. m. Richard Hobby, Son of Capt. John Hobby, a desirable youth of about 13 or 14 years old, was kill'd with the overthrowing of a Cart upon him near the N[orth] Meetinghouse.

April, 15. Mr. Pemberton is indisposed as was administering the Lords Su^{per}. Had so much of a Fever as to keep him at home in the afternoon, by which means Mr. Holyoke was alone.

April, 19. 1711. Council, present his Excellency the Gov^r

Winthrop	Penn Townsend
Elisha Hutchinson	Joseph Lynde
S. Sewall	E ^m Hutchinson
Isa. Addington	Andrew Belchar
Pet ^r Sergeant	Ed ^r Bromfield
John Walley	Nathan ^r Norden.

¹ This seems to be Josiah Willard, born 1681, H. C. 1698, for many years Secretary of the Province. The Willard Memoir, p. 369, says: "After leaving college, Mr. Willard became a tutor at that institution, pursued his studies in divinity, and began to preach; but, on account of an unconquerable diffidence, he soon relinquished the profession. He travelled abroad, to the West Indies and Europe; and, at one time, commanded a ship in the London trade." — Eds.

² In Brinley's Catalogue we find the following title: "An Answer of Several Ministers in and near Boston, to that Case of Conscience, Whether it is Lawfull for a Man to Marry his Wives own Sister?" pp. 8, 8vo. Boston: Bartholomew Green, 1695. Signed by Increase Mather, Charles Morton, James Allen, Samuel Willard, James Sherman, John Dar^rorth, Cotton Mather, and Nehemiah Walker. — Eds.

The Gov^r Nominated Mr. Sam^l Lynde for a Judge of the Infer^r Court; which pass'd in the Negative. I observ'd but one for him; and that was Cap^t Norden in a mean way; as far as I could hear, he said he knew nothing against him. The Browns of Attleborough, Rehoboth, Swanzey pleaded before the Gov^r and Council about Wills and Lands bequeathed in Narraganset. I enquired what we had to do, to judge of Lands in the Narraganset Countrey? Mr. Secretary said, I was in the right. However, the Petition was dismiss'd, upon the head of the young men having offer'd equal Terms of Accomodation.

April, 20. 1711. Mr. S. Gerrish goes to Wenham.

April, 21. Plenty of Swallows. Note. Hannah Gerrish was taken very sick last night.

April 22. Lords Day, B. Gray calls me up at 1. at night: I find poor little Hannah Gerrish in an Agony, I went to Prayer; afterwards B. Gray read the 5th Rom. I found the Chapter so full of Comfort that awhile after I read it over again. About 6. m. Mr. Wadsworth came and pray'd with little Hañah. Mr. Gerrish her Father came home at ½ hour past Nine: put up a Note in the Afternoon, which Mr. Pemberton read coming out in his Gown.

April 23. I was call'd up between 2 and 3 at night, but my little Hañah Expired before I got thither. However, She had the Respect of one visit after death. She Expired about ½ hour after 2 at night. The Lord prepare me for my great Change.

Third-day, April, 24. Hañah Gerrish is buried. Bearers, Gillam Phillips, and Benj. Gray: white Scarvs. Was put into the Tomb just before Sun-set, several of the Council, Dr. Cotton Mather, Mr. Wadsworth, Colman there. Note. This day, about noon, John Kent of the Island had his Barn burnt by Tabacco, and Six oxen and four calves in it, and a Goose bringing young ones. The Oxen were heard to roar afar off: but the Flame was so rapid, the