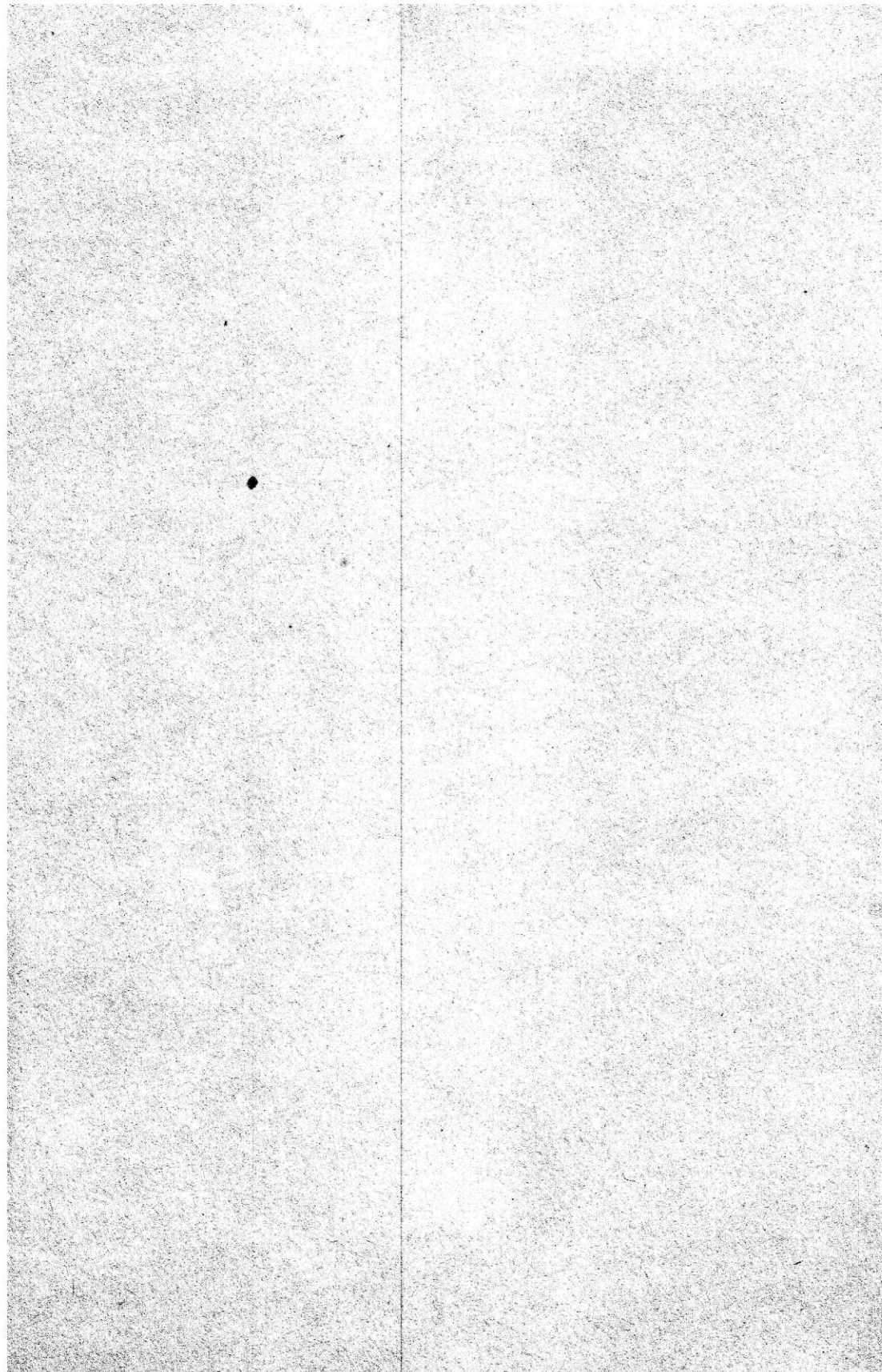


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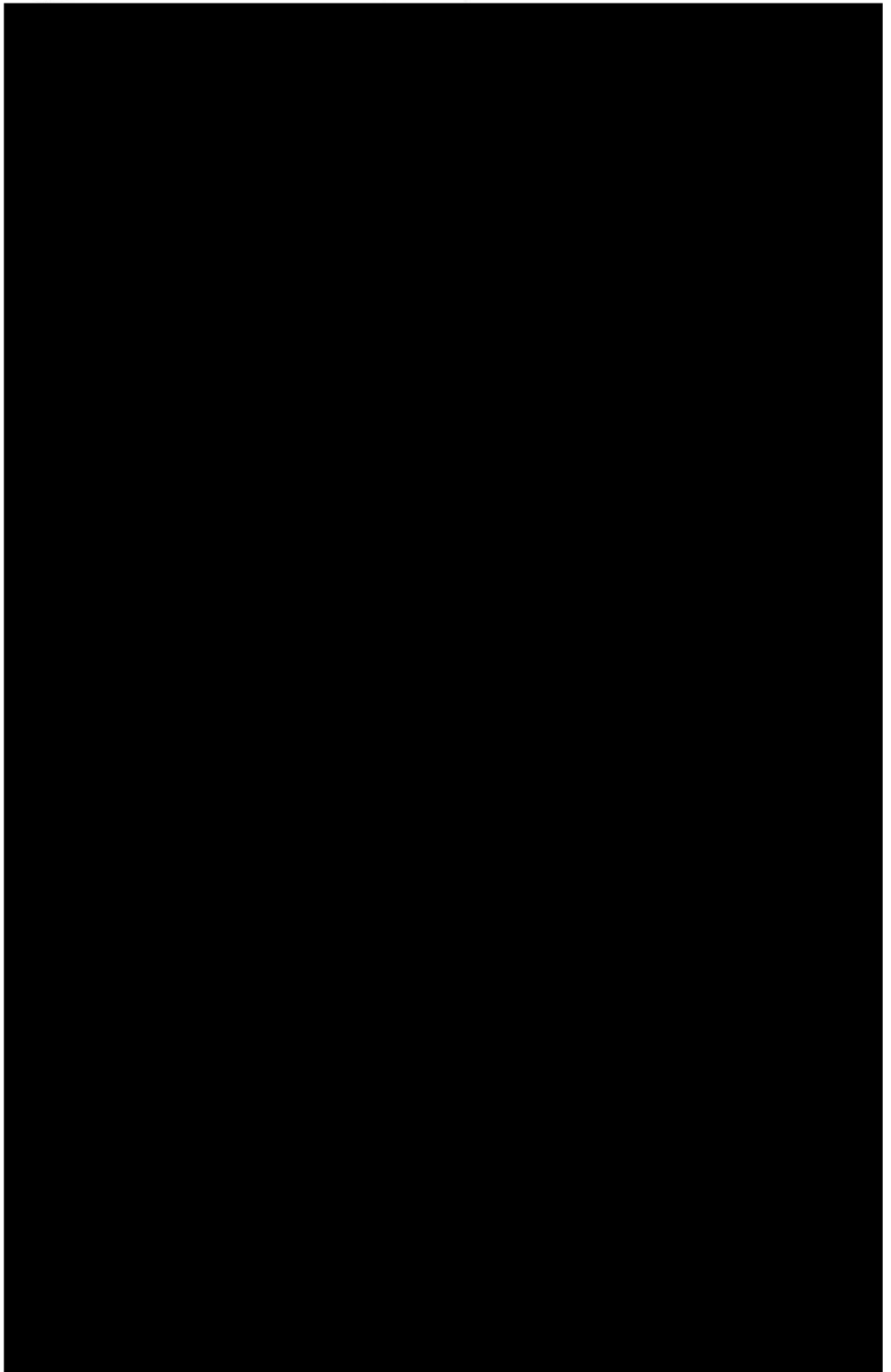
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THE GREAT DIURNAL OF
NICHOLAS BLUNDELL
VOLUME ONE 1702-1711







THE GREAT DIURNAL
OF NICHOLAS BLUNDELL
OF LITTLE CROSBY, LANCASHIRE

VOLUME ONE 1702-1711

TRANSCRIBED AND ANNOTATED BY
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THE RECORD SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

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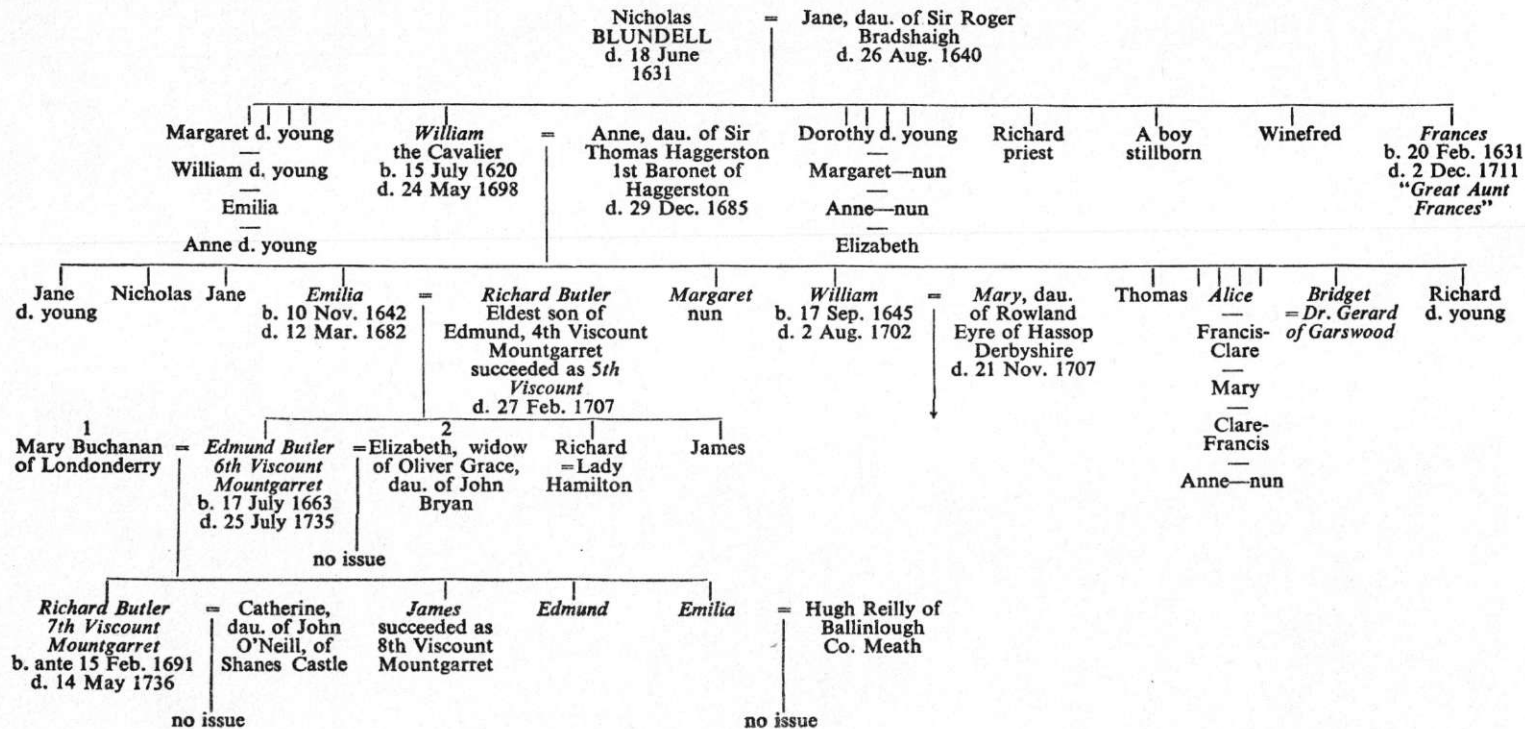
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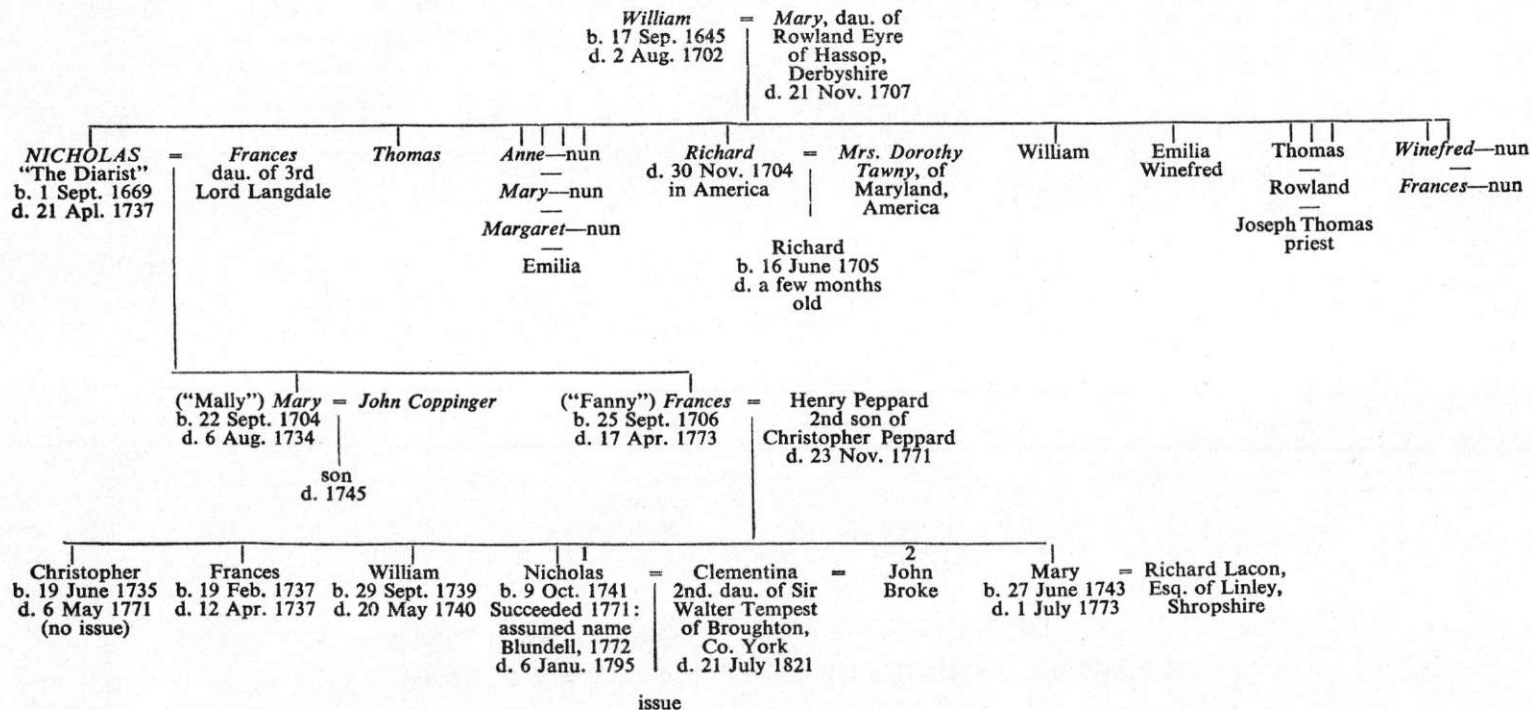
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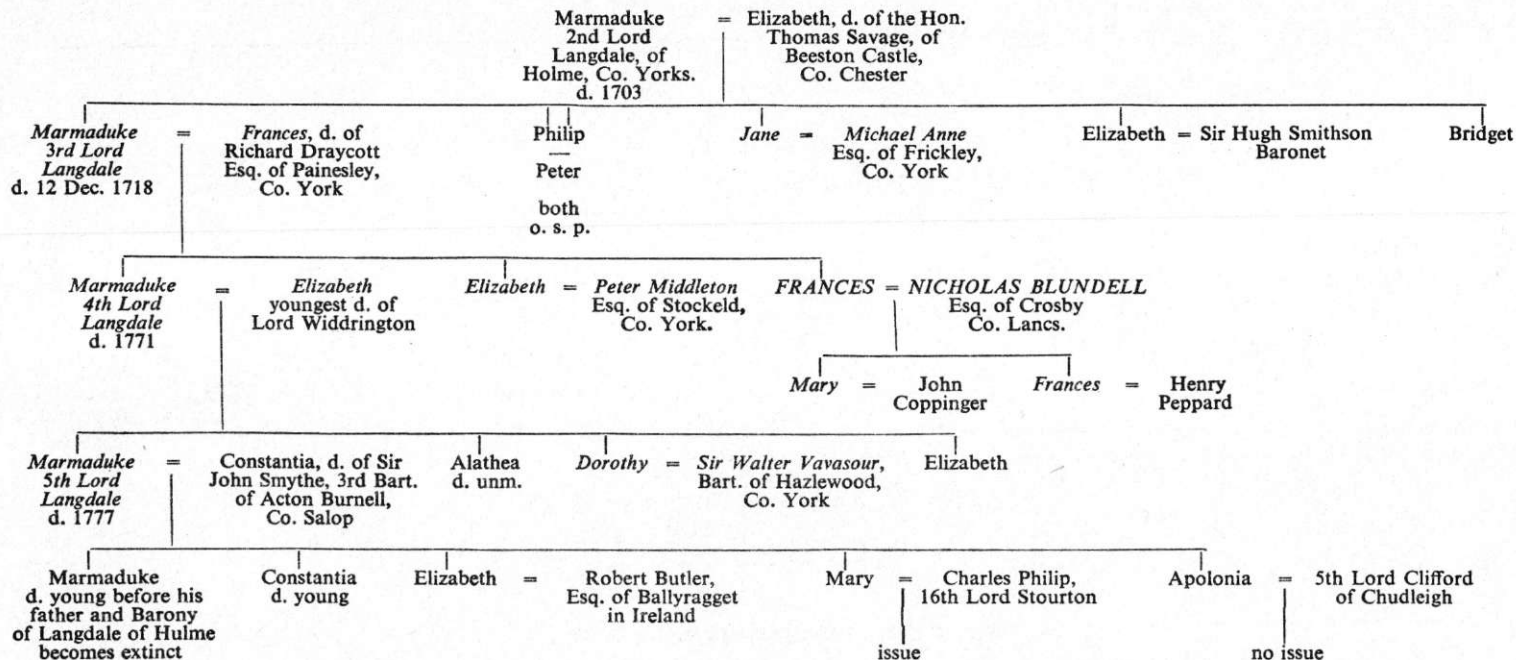
(Names in *italics* are mentioned in the Diary)



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(Names in italics are mentioned in the Diary)



Introduction

Little Crosby, a small village in South-West Lancashire, about six and a half miles north of Liverpool, is in the old parish of Sefton in the hundred of West Derby. It has changed little since the time of Nicholas Blundell. The main differences are that some of the land around the Hall where he lived has been walled off to form parkland, and the windmill with which he was so much concerned was pulled down in 1813.

The Blundell family has held the manor of Little Crosby since 1362. At the Reformation, the family refused to acknowledge the Elizabethan Settlement, and during the following generations several Blundells suffered for their recusancy. Richard died in Lancaster Gaol in 1591; his son, William, and William's grandson and heir, William the Cavalier, both went to prison on several occasions for their faith. The Cavalier died on May 24 1698. His son and heir, William, had married Mary, the daughter of Rowland Eyre of Hassop in Derbyshire. There were fourteen children of this marriage. The first born was Nicholas, the writer of the Diary with which we are concerned.

The entry of his birth in the Great Hodge Podge, a manuscript now at Crosby Hall, reads:

"Nicholas Blundell born on the first day of September, 1669 being Wednesday just at 10 in the morning, the season being hot, dry and glorious."

Little is known of his boyhood and youth, but since his father was a tabler at Crosby Hall with his father, William the Cavalier, he lived at the Hall. There he was taught English, Latin, reading, writing, and arithmetic by his grandfather. Later he was sent to the Jesuit College at St. Omer in Flanders. His writing and his progress at the College were not very satisfactory, at least to his grandfather, who remarked upon this in a letter to his grandson, whom he oddly enough addressed as "Nephew":

*"To my Grandson Nicholas
London July 7th, 1686*

"Nephew

I have yours of June 28th which, as to the sense thereof I find to be humble and loving, but I am sorry to perceive that the characters of your letters do still grow worse and worse. I may say the same of your spelling and of your leaving out of words. Your sister Mary is 4 years younger than you and yet she writes a very laudable hand. Now as to your small progress in the school, though your memory may be very bad, you must not also pretend (as you do in your letter to me) an excuse from your want of wit. I think there is no such want, and that, if your memory and genius being defective, your wit being sufficient and your diligence as much as you please, it will be in your own power to come off with credit. To comply with your request to me I have sent to Mr Beaugrand for your use ten shillings in money, and a book for the Flageolet. I have given your father notice that you tell me your money is spent and I hope, though his charges are very great and his fortune small, he will send you a further supply before the ten shillings is spent. God grant you may deserve his love as he has deserved mine, and so with my blessing and daily prayers for your welfare, I will ever remain

Your truly loving Grandfather."¹

A study of Nicholas Blundell's Diary, Letter Book and other manuscripts shows how accurate were the observations of the grandfather on the character and intelligence of his grandson. Nicholas himself tells us in his Diary of his poor memory, but he certainly was not lacking in wit or intelligence. His writing, though not good, is very legible; his spelling is extremely varied and amusing.

¹ From the "Letter Book of William Blundell the Cavalier".

Even where the same word appears two or three times in the same sentence the spelling very often will vary each time.

It was probably while at St. Omer that the young Nicholas contracted the ague or malaria which was to trouble him constantly throughout his life. His grandfather refers to this in a letter dated July 4 1691:

"Nicholas (our young man here) carried the small relics of his long quartan ague to Chorley about 14 weeks ago. He seemed at the first coming thither to be absolutely cleared of it by the change of air, yet now of late it hath seized on him again in some small degree, together with a short hot fever which made him both heartless and weak."²

On returning from St. Omer Nicholas Blundell seems to have settled down at Crosby Hall, spending his time helping his father in all the business of running a large estate, which consisted, not only of the manor of Little Crosby, but also of the manor of Ditton (about nine miles east of Liverpool), and of lands and properties in Great Crosby, Hindley, Morehouses, Ince Blundell, Thornton, Liverpool, Orrell and Warrington. He also joined in the social life of the district, and with his great interest in conjuring tricks and card games, must have been a welcome guest at house parties. Certainly when his father died on August 2 1702, and he succeeded as lord of the manor at the age of thirty-two years, he was well equipped to carry out all the duties expected of him. It is from this time that we at last get a detailed account of his life and activities, and, indeed, a complete picture of the life of a north country gentleman in the first half of the eighteenth century.

Nicholas Blundell was unmarried in 1702. His father, William, had made several attempts to find a suitable bride for him. He wanted a dowry of about £2,000. Not only could Nicholas's social position expect this, but also the Blundell estates needed the money. For a long period in the mid-seventeenth century they had been sequestered to the crown for the family's recusancy, and in 1653 a crippling sum had been paid for their return. In addition, the provision of dowries, annuities and maintenance costs for the thirteen children of Nicholas, William's grandfather, the fourteen children of the Cavalier, and William's own fourteen had made heavy demands upon family finances. There had not been the usual compensations of dowries received, because several sons had become priests. They, and their sisters who went abroad to become nuns, were an additional strain on the family purse.

For some reason William's efforts to find a bride for Nicholas failed. Whether none could be found with a sufficient dowry or whether Nicholas was proving stubborn is not known. Soon after his father's death, Nicholas came across a letter from a Joseph Hawley in answer to a request from his father to seek out a suitable bride for Nicholas. Nicholas Blundell quickly replied to Hawley:

"To Mr Joseph Hawley at Martin Sands

August the 13th 1702

Yours Mr Hawley of the 8th Ultimo came not to hand till the tenth current; you may perhaps be surprized that the answer to it comes from my hand. I wish it had so pleased God to order it otherways but the Almighty has thought fit to take my Dearest Father out of this World to a better; he departed the 2d Instant after a few dayes sickness.

I give you many thanks for the care you have taken, but at this juncture I can not as yet think of Marrying, much less resolve where to pitch; Many Ladys have been proposed with Fiveteen hundreded pounds and if formerly that pourtion was thought fit for me, I may now deserve a better, my Father having left me in a very good Sercomstance, as you may in some measure be Judg off, never the less I am beholding to you for your trouble; you having don all you were desired in it by which you have oblidged your Servant.

Nicho. Blundell."³

² *Ibid.*, draft of a letter to his grandson, Richard Butler.

³ Nicholas Blundell's Letter Book, p. 5.

However, in just over ten months of succeeding as lord of the manor, Nicholas married Frances, the younger daughter of Marmaduke, the third Lord Langdale of Holme.

There are no indications in any of his manuscripts, letters and notes as to who suggested or why he chose Frances, Lord Langdale's daughter. The first references in his Diary are to consultations with friends upon the matter before going to Heythrop, near Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire, to discuss the business with Lord Langdale. He might have been thinking of marriage when, on February 17 1703, he read over part of the family pedigree in case the information was required in such marriage discussions. At no time or anywhere is there any suggestion that he had met Frances before, which certainly suggests it was a marriage, not for love, but for the sake of the dowry and the necessity to have a son and heir.

Lord Langdale proved stubborn, but at last agreed to a dowry of £2,000. But he was adamant that this was to be paid in two equal instalments. He also required that Frances was to have a jointure of £200 a year if she were left a widow, while the Dowager Lady Webb agreed to pay Frances, her granddaughter, £100 a year as long as she, Lady Webb, lived. And so on June 17 1703 Nicholas, aged thirty-two years, was married to Frances, aged seventeen years. From her portrait at Crosby Hall she appears to be slightly built, graceful, and haughty. She certainly proved an extremely difficult person. There were times when Nicholas's mother and his great-aunt Frances found her impossible to live with, so that for some time they left Crosby Hall to live with a relative. Even Nicholas found her difficult at times. Usually he refers to her in his diary and letters as "my Wife", but now and again, when she has been proving awkward or they had fallen out, he refers to her as "She". Father Aldred, Blundell's chaplain residing at Crosby Hall and a well-loved priest, left Crosby Hall because of her, and went to live in a cottage in the village. Throughout 1703-1728, the period covered by the Diary, servants were constantly leaving after a few weeks or even days, because of the treatment they received from their mistress.

There were two daughters of this marriage: Mary (affectionately called Mally by her father) who was born on September 22 1704, and Frances (Fanny) born on September 25 1706. Both of these daughters were dearly loved by their father, but it was a bitter disappointment to him that he had no son to succeed him. This was the first break in the male succession of the family. Nicholas's longing for a son and heir is evident all through his Diary and his letters. He consulted doctors, apothecaries, midwives, quack-doctors and friends, but their advice and suggestions, remedies and prescriptions were of no avail. When Nicholas and his wife were refugees in Flanders in 1715-17, a friend at Dunkirk and a doctor at Liege advised them to bathe in the baths at Chaudfontaine. This they did as well as in the wells and springs around Spa, but without any success.

Entries in the Diary and twenty-two letters in his 'Letter Book' reveal the advanced attitude of Nicholas Blundell towards the courtship and marriage of young ladies. When the question of a husband for Mary arose, the names of several young men were suggested by friends and Roman Catholic priests. Two in particular attracted the attention of Nicholas and his wife—Thomas Strickland, of Sizergh in Westmorland, and Ralph Standish, the son of Ralph Standish and his wife, Lady Philipa, the daughter of the sixth Duke of Norfolk. Mr Strickland had demanded a dowry of £2,000, but Nicholas, not able to pay this sum, offered £1,000 and "a faire prospect of £400 per annum if he had no son". But in a letter dated April 30 1725 to Father Roydon acting on behalf of Mr. Strickland, Nicholas wrote:

"... I have said before tis my chief Aime to settle my Doughters to their own licking & that they may make choice of a Man they can Love, & I'll doe my endeavour to propose such to them whose Sercomstances may make them Happy, which is the Reason I gave Consent for Mr Strickland to come to Crosby to try if he could gain my Daughters Affections and since that an other being proposed I also gave Consent for him to come to see wch my Doughter licked the better and this I was the more willing to do becaus I heard Mr Strickland was Married to a Doughter of Mr Higgans the Gold-Smith, wch by yours I find is a Story. If my Doughter Approve of the Gentleman who makes his Addresses to her & that he is content with what I am at present Able to do as for Jounture & provition for Younger Children &c: those things may easily be settled. . ."

But Mary had no liking for Mr. Strickland. If this letter reveals the more humane attitude of Nicholas towards the marriage of his daughter than was usual at this period, then much more so does a letter dated November 26 1725, when Mr. Ralph Standish was being proposed as a suitor for her hand:

"To Cozen Gillibrond

Nov: th 26th 1725

Deare Cozen

By mine of the 24th you'd find how uneasy Mally was, and that she desir'd to have the Treaty brock off as I was told, however not having it from her own Mouth my Words in the same Letter were "'tis my Desire things should goe forward *but not entirely against the Graine*". Thus far as to my last, since wch she has seriously imparted her Mind to me, & says she thinks she can not be happy with Mr Standish if he be of that Suspicious Gelous Humour as she takes him to be and if ever it be her Fate to Marry him as she hopes it never will, 'twill be entirely by your Perswasion & becaus she finds I desire it, but not in the least according to her own Desire or Inclination. If this really be her Thought (which I as well as yourself have but too much Reason to believe) 'tis full time to put a Stop to proceedings for you know 'twas always my Promis to her that I would not oblige her to Marry against her Will and 'tis much better to break off than to proceed and make not only the young Cupple unhappy but the whole Famoly with wch they were to live, so hope you'l Acquaint Mr Standish herewith for I find 'twill be to noe purpose for the Young Gentle-Man to come againe 'tis but to entangle him more & more and I hope he may light of one who will have a greater Love for him than I feare my Doughter ever will & question not, but one with a much Greater Fortune, in the present at least wch I Heartally wish he may.

'Tis but Reason that Mally should be entirely left to her own Choyce, and if I be Reflected upon for not compelling her, I would rather be tax'd with that than give any Occasion of being esteemed a harsh or unkind Parent, but let the Matter be as it will I shall ever have a true Vallew for the Famoly I was in hopes to have ben Allied to & must always retorne you my Sincere and Cordiall Thanks for the Paines you have taiken to bring Matters about wch I am well assur'd you would not have don, but that you thought it would have ben to my Doughters Content & Happiness. I think I have said enough upon this disagreeable Subject so must conclude with my Service to the Worthy Famoly of Standish and Subscribe my self

Your Affectionate Kinsman and Humble
Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

In 1730, two years after the final entry in Nicholas's Diary, Mary was receiving the attentions of another young man, John Coppinger, the son of Stephen Coppinger, of Balyvolane and Barrismore, County Cork. John, in 1729, had been sent to stay at the house of the Earl of Barrymore at Rock Savage in Cheshire. Nicholas Blundell was well acquainted with Lord Barrymore, and it was most probably through this friendship that John and Mary met and fell in love with each other. John's father tried to prevent the match. He wished his son to consider an offer of a young heiress, aged eleven years, who would bring a dowry of £6,000 and possibly an estate of £20,000 on the death of her father. But John was not to be moved, and at last his father consented. He agreed to match the sum of £400 a year settled on Mary by Nicholas by an

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 123.

annuity to his son of £500. So, on February 3 1730, John and Mary were married. Now Nicholas could look forward to the possible birth of a grandson to succeed him. But alas the marriage was short-lived, for Mary on a visit to Crosby Hall was taken ill and died on August 6 1734.

Frances, too, married the young man who pleased her. This was Henry Peppard, the son of an Irish family then settled in Liverpool and engaged in the merchant trade. The wedding took place on July 31 1733. For a while Fanny went to live with her husband in Liverpool. On Mally's death she became the sole-heiress of her father, and on his death on April 21 1737, she inherited the Blundell of Crosby estates.⁵ The family became known as the Peppard-Blundells, but by a clause in the agreement made by Nicholas Blundell, the successor of Fanny and Henry Peppard was to assume the name and the arms of Blundell of Crosby.

For the last two years of his life, Nicholas had the joy and great pleasure of entertaining and being entertained by his grandson by this marriage, Christopher or Kit. The last entry in the Disbursement Book reads:

"for Little Master Kit 14s. 0d."

Christopher Peppard was born on June 19 1735 and died on May 6 1771 before both his mother and his father. Henry Peppard died on November 23 1771, aged 79 years and was then succeeded by his second son, Nicholas Peppard, who was born on October 9 1741. He assumed, in 1772, both the name "Blundell of Crosby" and the arms of the family. Frances Peppard, the daughter of the Diarist, died April 17 1773.

Nicholas Blundell had unconventional views on matters other than courtship and marriage. He displayed a more than usual liberal attitude towards his children, his tenants and the poor. He was most benevolent to his two daughters, allowing them considerable liberty. But he also would inflict physical punishment when he thought they deserved it. With his tenants he joined in their pleasures and pastimes, lent them his greyhounds to course hares and his nets to fish with; ate pancakes and Christmas fare in their cottages. When any of his tenants or servants were ill he visited them and showed them solicitous care, even prescribing treatment and often sending and paying for doctors to attend them. On their death he would lend the bereaved relatives and friends his coach to carry the corpse to the parish churchyard. But he could be severe with them and administer punishment or send them for trial when necessary. To the poor, though not to wandering vagrants, he was often more than generous, for in addition to the payment of the compulsory poor rate, he gave quite large amounts every year in the form of money, food, clothes, medicine and doctors' fees. He often visited the sick poor to see how they were getting on. But to the poor whose poverty was due to idleness and to those who might become a charge on the township he was as severe as any other lord of the manor.

Similarly in the management of his estates, he was not one to be satisfied with things as they were, but was always trying out new ideas. He was not afraid to experiment, and quite often consulted authoritative books of his day to keep in touch with new ideas in husbandry. He was one of the first, possibly the first, to use six sails on his windmill, considering this the most efficient number of sails.

Unlike his immediate forebears, Nicholas was not much troubled with the religious and political difficulties that had faced them. In the period during which he wrote his Diary, the sectarian situation eased considerably. He mixed

⁵ According to the probate inventory, these were valued at £631 5s. 2d.

freely with Anglican clergy and laity, and indeed on one occasion sharply reprimanded the Superior of the Jesuits for insisting that local Jesuit priests must cease to meet with Anglican clergy and gentry in a social club, of which he was one of the originators. There were occasions when Crosby Hall was searched and Nicholas had to go into hiding. And, as a Catholic suspected of being implicated in the 1715 Jacobite Rising, he found it opportune to visit Flanders for a time.

Nicholas Blundell was a most observant person, intensely interested in everything he saw and for ever recording his observations for future reference. But more important still, he was an extremely methodical person, attentive to detail, careful even over the smallest matter, constantly putting his house, his room, his books, his apothecary shop, and his garden into better order. Regularly he checked his accounts, not from a miserly point of view, but to satisfy his penchant for orderliness, and his consuming desire to have everything done correctly. How meticulous he was is shown by such extracts from his Diary:

- 10 June, 1712—I computed how many Inches there was in a Marl Cart and what number of Inshes were lost if the Carts were an Inch or more too little.
- 13 Jan. 1726—I Removed the Apple-Tree 10 in K Row in the New Orchard and planted it in the Place of 1 in I Row.
- 14 Jan. 1726—I Rid up the Apple-Tree 9 in I Row in the New Orchard and set Apple Tree 10 in its place or very near the Place."

This idiosyncrasy of Nicholas has given us an abundance of records. The Blundell of Crosby family archives are rich in personal papers from several generations, but no head of the family has left behind a fuller picture of his life or of the life of his times than Nicholas. He had half a dozen different record books, in addition to a most useful map of his lands, which he caused to be made soon after 1702.

When he became lord of the manor, Nicholas found that the Tenants Book, in which his grandfather and his father had recorded all transactions concerning their lands in Little Crosby, Ditton, Great Crosby, Liverpool, and elsewhere in Lancashire, was in a chaotic state. It must have been a nightmare of confusion to him. At once the methodical Nicholas set to work and rewrote the whole in a neat and orderly fashion in a new Tenants Book. These Tenants Books, now in the Lancashire Record Office, are a perfect record of conveyances, leases, tenants' duties, enclosures, difficulties to be faced, and, moreover, of observations on the character and behaviour of the tenants. The one written by Nicholas begins with a long discourse, for the instruction of his heirs, on the best way to run an estate.

From August 1702 to March 1737, Nicholas recorded every penny he spent in his Disbursement Book. This is a large volume, bound, like the Diary, in calf leather. It is a manuscript of tremendous interest giving the prices of food and the kinds of food eaten, the prices of clothing and household goods, the types of goods used, the wages paid to servants and labourers, the amounts paid in tithes and taxes, the cost of journeys made and of lodgings at inns. Over a period of thirty-five years one can see the rise and fall in wages and prices, fluctuating according to the weather, the effect of plagues, and events of national importance.

In his Letter Book Nicholas wrote drafts of letters between 1702 and 1731. Many of the early letters are about settling accounts upon the death of his father. An interesting series are the letters to his brother Richard who had gone out to Virginia and Maryland as an agent for a Liverpool merchant. Another series is concerned with a dispute about pews in Farnworth Church,

while those written to suitors for the hand of his daughter mirror eighteenth-century methods of conducting marriage negotiations.

In a fourth manuscript Nicholas recorded 520 anecdotes and jokes, and accounts of amusing incidents which he heard related at inns, on the bowling green, or at after-dinner gatherings. In addition this manuscript gives full instructions for performing a number of tricks and card games, for which Nicholas was a great enthusiast. Whenever he was at a social gathering or had visitors at the Hall, he was certain to shew them his "tricks of leger-de-mesne".

Any medicines and treatment prescribed by numerous doctors for himself and his family, or told to him by friends and relatives; any of the weird and wonderful remedies used or related by quack-doctors, midwives and tenants, Nicholas wrote down in another manuscript, *The Prescription and Recipe Book*. He also kept a store of these medicines, or the ingredients to make them, in a cupboard which he called his "apothecary shop", and whenever any of the family, or friends, tenants, or anyone in the manor or neighbourhood were taken ill, he would make up for them what he thought was the right prescription to use, having undoubtedly closely questioned the doctors and apothecaries who had attended him and his family on previous occasions on the details of the treatment and made notes for such future use. In the same manuscript in a separate section he wrote down a large number of recipes for all kinds of dishes, drinks, sauces, sweetmeats, etc., and also for preserving foods. These entries cover almost all branches of cookery.

But Nicholas Blundell's greatest work was his *Great Diurnal or Diary*, which he began on July 27 1702 and ended on April 4 1728. With the exception of one day, January 20 1728, he never failed to make some daily entry over the whole period of nearly twenty-six years. In it he sketched the daily activities about the house, on the farm and in the garden, and described the work, amusements and troubles of his tenants and labourers. He recorded his business and social engagements, his pastimes, the visits he and his family made, the comings and goings of friends, his ailments and those of his family and friends and the treatments prescribed. Nicholas had an eagle eye, observing anything of interest in normal daily activity as well as any unusual events. In the *Diary* he painted life in the early eighteenth century in vivid colours on a large canvas. It is a masterpiece of patience, tenacity and, remembering how much he suffered with bad eye trouble, of courage.

He wrote this *Diary* and took such enormous trouble over it for three reasons. First, he was consumed by his characteristic urge to record things. Secondly, as he himself tells us, he had a bad memory, and so writing a diary was one way of overcoming this handicap. His third reason is given, both at the beginning of the diary and towards the end of it:

"This work of mine may seem to some to be very useless. I confess severall things that are set down are of no consequence, yet considering the uncertainty both of the things I shal afterwards have a desire to know, or the day of the Month which may be necessary for me to give account of, it is not improper to be something particular considering the trouble is so small; and the advantage that I Nicholas Blundell have already found by it has been very great and has abundantly over ballanced the Trouble."

Thus he seems to have written it mainly for reference purposes, and it is for this reason that he compiled a somewhat complicated index. He also used a system of cross-headings or cross-references which he explains in his introduction to the *Diary*.

Fortunately, Nicholas tells us his method of compiling his *Diary*. He carried about with him some small note-books which he called his "small *Diurnal Books*" and made his daily entries in these. He also sometimes recorded his

observations on small pieces of paper which he called his "Diurnall Papers". Then when he was not very busy or it was wretched weather, he entered these into his larger note-books which he called his "Great Diurnalls". This he found to be a most tedious task:

"10 May, 1708—It was a wet slattering day. I began to Transcribe my small Diurnalls into my Large Book or Diurnall.

6 July, 1715—I have this day made an end of Transscribing my small Diurnalls into my Larger Books and have also finished the Large Indexes at the beginning of those Large Books and also the small Indexes at the end as far as I can at present, so that I have at last got even with that tedious peece of Work.

21 March, 1716—I Kept my Chamber most of the after noone being busy Transscribing my small Diurnall Papers into my small Diurnall Book."

Evidently these small books which he carried about with him received rough treatment:

"28 March, 1717—This being a most bitter day of Rain I stured little out. I did some little Glewing work at my Pocket Books, &c.:"

As far as we know, these small note-books no longer exist. Perhaps, having entered them up in the larger books, he destroyed them.

This method of first writing his observations in small note-books served a useful purpose. There was quite a time-lag before he entered them in his Large Diurnall or Diary, and this gave him the opportunity to add later comments to his entries. Here is an example. On December 29 1713 he wrote in his small notebook the following remark:

"Ann Riding the Widdow gave me £10 to keep for her till she call'd for it, I gave her my Note for it"

He did not enter this in his Large Diurnall until much later, and so when he did enter it he was able to add the following remark to it:

"but the Note is since lost, and I paid her the Money upon the 13th of Aprill, A.D. 1714."

The Large Diurnall consists of three volumes, each measuring $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. Each volume is bound in calf leather. The writing is quite good and clearly legible. The first volume covers the period July 27 1702 to December 31 1712. His first reference to writing this volume is made in May 7 1708, when he says, "I Prepared my Great Diurnall by making a Table in it & Ruling it." This is a reference to making the Index and to a margin which he ruled on the left-hand-side of each page. Six years later on March 17 1714, he wrote:

"17 March, 1714—I made an End of Writing downe the year 1712 in my Large Diurnall & has set it down in the first Index as the other Preceding years are done, so that now I have finished my first Large Diurnall onely making a Short Index for it at the End, the first being abundantly too Long & therefore not very usefull."

And then, seven weeks later, obviously with a thankful heart, he wrote:

"22 May, 1714—I finished the Index at the End of my Large Diurnall, so that now I hope I have no more to writ in it."

Thus after the last entry in the first volume it was seventeen months before it was finally completed.

Two weeks later he began the second volume:

"05 June, 1714—I Began my second Large Tombe of Diurnalls by begining to writ out my small Diurnalls into it."

This second volume covers the period January 1 1713 to December 31 1719. As a result of the 1715 Jacobite Rising, Nicholas fled first to London on November

24 1715 and thence to Flanders. He remained away from Crosby Hall until September 7 1717. This two years' absence put him very much behind with his Diurnall entries, and thus we find him writing:

"30 July, 1719—I have this day made an end of writing in my Large Diurnall all as I have writ in my small Diurnalls & have also made my Indexes right, so that now I am not behind hand with that work, which formerly I was very much upon Account of my being so long abroad."

Nearly seven months later he finished the second volume:

"26 February, 1720—I finished my second Large Tome of my Diurnalls having completed bothe the Indexes & writ all in it as is to be, & I began to prepare a third Diurnall by writing in it some of the Heads of the Index or Table."

This third volume covers the period January 1 1720 to April 4 1728. Incidentally it is interesting to note what he was doing the following day:

"27 February, 1720—I was very busy most of the day making an Index for some of the Receipts as Edward Howerd has writ in my Wives book of Cookery & putting the Tickles of them down Alfabetically."

This account of eighteenth-century life finishes abruptly on April 4 1728, some nine years before Nicholas Blundell died on April 21 1737, aged 68 years. He gives no explanation why he ended it so suddenly, but some entries made just prior to the last entry indicate that he was having more and more trouble with his eyes, and this may have been the reason.

Since Nicholas wrote this Diary it has been kept at Crosby Hall. In 1895 the Reverend T. Ellison Gibson published extracts, amounting to about one-fifth of the whole work, under the title *Blundell's Diary*. This has long since gone out of print. It is a fascinating book to read and historians have used it as a source of information. It is, therefore, extremely regrettable that it is not a very accurate transcription of the Diary, does not give a true picture of the manuscript, and shows little sense of values in the choice of entries. Some trivial items are given prominence, and other important entries omitted. A few examples of the ways in which Gibson made his selection may be of interest.

Gibson gives the following as the entry for September 27 1715:

"I went to Prescot and dined at Lawyer Blundells."

But Nicholas was not just paying a social call. At this time, September 1715, he was under suspicion of being implicated in the Jacobite Rebellion. It was becoming clear to him that the situation was getting serious enough to begin making preparations for settling his estate in case something should happen to him. So he went to see his lawyer. The full entry in the Diary reads:

"27 Sept., 1715—I went to Prescot and heard Lawyer Blundell read over a Deed of Settlement as he had drawn for me, in Case I have no Son nor Grand Child, I dined at Mr Blundells."

Again for March 15 1712 Gibson quotes:

"I went to see Mr Hurst who was ill of the Gout and Gravel, I think old Mr Poole was with him."

But this was by no means the main reason for this visit to Liverpool. The full entry reads:

"I went to Leverpoole, I bought some Ling and Hearing of Bessy Peele. I payed Mrs Leadbeter for the Carriage of some Grass Seeds, &c: from London for me. I sent

Charls Howerd with Money to pay what I ought to Mrs Lancaster, Thomas Harper, Bessy Peele and Edward Clifton, &c.;, Charls Howerd brought home my Grass Seeds, &c: in my cart. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb and Mr Lancaster, I went to see Mr Hurst who was ill of the Gout and Gravell, I think old Mr Poole was with him, Mr Shepheard came homewards with me as far as Great Crosby."

A comparison of the entries concerning a theft in Little Crosby in 1708, as given by Gibson's quotations and the actual entries in the Diary, reveal how inadequate Gibson has been.⁶ Richard Ainsworth, a servant of Nicholas Blundell, stole some goods belonging to his master. In his Diary, Nicholas makes numerous entries about the affair, and we get a complete story from the discovery of the theft to the trial and punishment of the thief. Gibson gives just the bare bones. He completely omits the human side of the story; the pleading of the accused and his friends, the discussion with other tenants, the hesitation on the part of Blundell, the decision to prosecute after discussing the matter with his friends, and the revealing information that the prosecuting party dined with members of the Grand Jury immediately before the trial.

To some extent we can explain Father Gibson's imperfect choice of extracts from the Diary by the interests of historians of his day. Local history in the nineteenth century was largely a matter of personalities and genealogy; the historian was not so much concerned with economic and social interests as we are now. Thus the visits of the Molyneux family were to the nineteenth-century historian of greater interest than the disastrous flooding of the fields, the fairs at Preston, Wigan, Upton, Chester and Haslingdon, the getting of coal from the coal pits, the business of ships and shipping, the details of coach journeys to London, Durham and York, the inns visited, or the treatment of the poor, the sick and the miscreants.

Quite a number of errors are made in dating the extracts used, but this, I am sure, was the fault of the printer, and should have been noticed by Augustine Watts who saw the edition through the press following the death of the Reverend T. E. Gibson.

Two important aspects of the Great Diurnall which were omitted by Gibson were the monthly and yearly weather reports, and the whole period, from March 12 1716 to August 3 1717, when the Diarist was in Flanders. From March 1709 onwards Nicholas began to keep monthly weather records. Beginning with the year 1714 he also kept yearly weather summaries. These are of great interest, for in addition to the bare facts he gives accounts of how the weather affected the economy and health, not only of South-West Lancashire, but of the whole country. It is noteworthy that he started the yearly weather summaries in the remarkably dry year of 1714 which was so disastrous to farming and threatened the country with a serious shortage of food. In spite of the inconvenience and discomfort which Nicholas must have experienced during his "exile" in Flanders, he still faithfully made his daily notes, quite frequently in greater detail and at greater length. He was fascinated by everything he saw, he was constantly moving from one town to another, and gives an untiring account of the buildings, streets, customs, methods of farming, methods of travel, as well as detailed descriptions of the large number of churches and monasteries he visited, many of which have since been destroyed in the various wars fought in Belgium and northern France. He also allows us charming glimpses of early eighteenth-century London, where he stayed some days both on his way to and from Flanders. Wherever he went he was in contact with English Roman Catholics seeking refuge abroad.

In 1952, The University of Liverpool Press published *Blundell's Diary and*

⁶ See entries from June 4 to August 21 1708.

Letter Book edited by Margaret Blundell, a member of the Blundell of Crosby Family. Taking extracts from the Diary, Disbursement Book and Letter Book she wrote an entertaining description of the social life of the early years of the eighteenth century. It makes excellent reading. Miss Blundell succeeded in what she set out to do, but it was not the full Diary that historians had been hopefully waiting for.

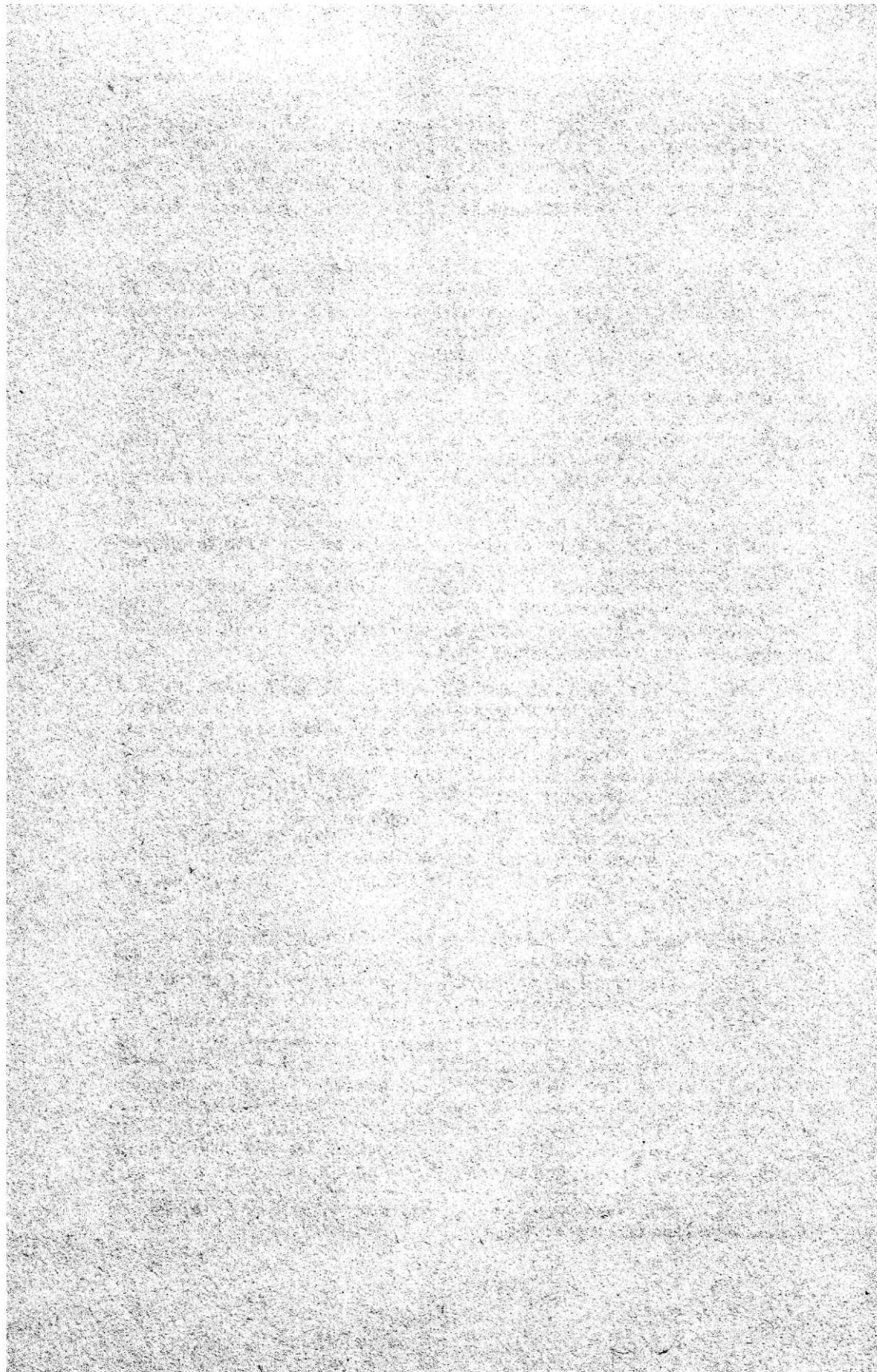
In writing his "Great Diurnall" Nicholas regularly used abbreviations instead of the full names of people and places. This makes it somewhat difficult to read unless one knows the persons or places to whom or what he is referring. I have therefore dispensed with the abbreviations and given the names in full, but this has only been done where I am sure what the abbreviations stand for. Where I am not sure, or where the abbreviation becomes conventional by frequent use, I have put down what Nicholas Blundell wrote. And since there were so many abbreviations, I have left out the usual square brackets to show them, otherwise the transcription would have been completely overloaded. Nicholas's curious spelling and his intriguing use of capital letters I have retained. His use of punctuation marks, and still more his omission of them, is inclined to be somewhat confusing. Where I thought it necessary to make his meaning clearer I have inserted punctuation marks, but not to any great extent. The Index or Table which he included in each of the three volumes I have not given in full. It is far too long and unnecessary and of little value, but I have included sufficient to show what kind of an index it was. Apart from the above points, I have transcribed the Diary exactly as Nicholas Blundell wrote it.

In the footnotes, unless otherwise stated, all statements of prices, wages and accounts are taken from his Disbursement Book.

Since 1950, owing to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Whitlock Blundell of Crosby Hall, it has been my privilege and pleasure to make frequent visits to the Hall to study the manuscripts and documents there.⁷ My sincere thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Whitlock Blundell, without whose co-operation this work could not have been carried out. I also wish to thank Mr. R. Sharpe France, County Archivist of Lancashire, and his Staff; Mr. Brian C. Redwood, County Archivist of Cheshire; Mr. J. Allen Miller, Crosby Borough Librarian and his Staff; Mr. W. Sandham and Mr. Gordon Short for their assistance with the illustrations, and others who at various times have given me help and advice. I am also deeply indebted to my wife for the patience shown and for the assistance she has given me.

My grateful thanks also to the following who very kindly gave me assistance and guidance during several weeks in Flanders when I was searching for information concerning Nicholas Blundell in Flanders: the Director and Staff of the Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique, Brussels, especially to Mlle. L. Dancckaert; M. A. Van de Walle, Stadsbestuur, Ghent; M. J. Boes, Archief, Historische Museum, Ghent, and his Staff; Professor Fr. Blockmans, Stadsarchief, Antwerp; M. E. Harsin, Le Chef du Bureau, Office de Tourisme, Liège; M. A. Schouteet, Archives de la Ville, Bruges; the Keeper of Archives, Prenten-Kabinet, Vrijkagmarkt, Antwerp, the Archivist, l'Hotel de Ville, Brussels, the Mayor and the Director of the Thermal Baths, Chaudfontaine; Dr. Jean Barzin, Spa; Canon G. Coolen, Secretary, Société des Antiquaires de la Morinie, St. Omer, France, and to others I may have inadvertently omitted.

⁷ The majority of the manuscripts and documents of the Blundells of Crosby are now deposited in the Lancashire Record Office, Preston.



A Diurnall

or

A Daly Account, wherein I have set down somthing or Other every day that hath happened from July the 27th 1702 till December the 31th 1712

I have a fowl drouht in some small books which have something more in, in some few places; but in substance the same.

Some of these Following Pages are in Nature of a Table whereby I can find out severall of the most remarkable things & allmost anithing set down in this Book.

- I We Lodged abroad or came home. Servants or others went hence or came to live here.
- II We dined abroad or were abroad at Noone.
- III We made Visets after diner.
- IV At Diversions at Home or abroad.
- V Manuall Works or Experiments made.
- VI Persons born &c: or come to any Misfortune, Sicknes.
- VII Letters writ. Writings signed. Accounts stated. Money payed. Differences desided.
- VIII Persons Lodged here or Strangers went hence.
- IX Persons Dined or Suped here or came after diner.
- X Workmen here. Furniture Repair'd, bought or sold.
- XI Misfortunes to hous &c: Persecusion Sutes &c:.
- XII Relating to Quick goods, Poultry Fowl, Vermin, Rabets.
- XIII Relating to all Sourts of Husbandry & Ploughing &c:.
- XIV Gardening, Planting, Bees, Grafting.
- XV Relating to Licker. Commicall Passages or plesant discors.
- XVI We were at Leverpoole or Ormskerk.

Note that if I dine abroad from any hous where I am a Guest or any Visets be made &c: to that Famoly, tiss then to be found in the Table or Index as if it happened at my own house, & severall other things I have set down wch do not altogether agree exactly with the Tickle, being unwilling to make more tickles; but those that anithing can best be brought under, I apply it to, and severall things I put under two or 3 heads so if I look under any of those Proper Heads I can find it; & where a thing is something doubtfull under what Head it should be put, I put it under every Head or Chapter as it can anyways be applied to.

This work of mine may seem to some to be very uesless. I confess severall things that are set down are of no consequence, yet considering the uncertainty both of the things I shal afterwards have a desire to know, or the day of the Month wch may be necessary for me to give account of, it is not improper to be something particular considering the troble is so small; and the advantage that I Nicho: Blundell have already found by it has been very great & has abundantly over ballanced my Troble.

[Now follows 16 double pages of the Table or Index under the headings listed above. A short extract of one of them is set out below to show the form they take. Under this one heading alone there are 549 references. Other headings have many more than this and some have less.]

- I My Wife I or any of this Family went abroad to Lodg or Returned home after Lodging abroad, or New Servants hiered or came to offer themselves, or others came to live here, or any of this Family gon to live elce where or

Anno Domini 1702

JULY

- 27 My Father went after dinner to wait on my Lord Molineux at the New Stand, where he was suddenly taken so very ill that he sent for me to wait on him home & bring the Coach for him.
- 28 I sent for Dr Farrington¹ to come to my Father, but he was not to be found. Wm Arnold² fell sick.
- 29 I went to Wigan and brought Doctor Frances Worthington along with me to Crosby.
- 30 Doctor Frances went over to Ince.
- 31 Doctor Frances went from hence home.

AUGUST

- 1 Thomas Brownbill my Father's God-Son came to see him, Colonel Edmund Butler³ came to Crosby from Durham in his Way to Ireland, he sent to Wigan for Doctor Thomas Worthington who came late that Night. I sent Thomas Howard to Whit-Church for Doctor Bostock, but he came not.
- 2 I sent to Dungen-hall⁴ to acquaint Cozen John Gelibrond⁵ of my Father's danger; About half an Hour after Tenn in the morning being Sunday many People in the Room hearing Mass & Mass just almost finished My Dearest Father departed this Life being much lamented by all; as his Life was Virtuous & edifying so was his Death. Sweet Jesus Receive his Soul.
- 3 Cozen John Gelibrond came to Crosby.
- 4 Doctor Tarlton came about Noone to see Wm Arnold.
- 5 Wm Arnold who had been a Faithfull good Servant & brought up from a Child at this house departed this Life. he was Groome, Coachman & Butcher. Cozen Richard Butler⁶ came accidentally to Crosby. My Father Wm: Blundell Esqr was layed in his Mother's Grave at Sephton it being her Wedding Day.
- 6 Wm Arnold was buried at Sephton.⁷

¹ Valentine Farrington, M.D., a younger brother of William Farrington, of Worden, Esq. Dr. Farrington resided at Preston.

² William Arnold, an old and faithful servant of the Blundell family.

³ Nephew to William Blundell, and eldest son of the fifth Viscount Mountgarret by his first wife, Emilia, daughter of William Blundell the Cavalier; later succeeded as the sixth Viscount Mountgarret.

⁴ Dunkerhalgh in the parish of Whalley, Lancs., the original home of the Walmesleys of Dunkerhalgh and Showley.

⁵ John Gillibrand, cousin and friend of Nicholas. Lived at Astley, Lancs.

⁶ Brother to Edmund Butler.

⁷ See Appendix A for funeral expenses for William Blundell, esquire, and William Arnold.

- 7 Colonell Edmund Butler & his Brother Richard went to Leverpoole. Cozen Richard Butler took Bootle Miller for his Gide homeward.
- 8 Mr Charlton dined here.
- 9 Cozen Hesketh the Widow came hither to condole the death of my Father.
- 10 Cozen Hesketh Returned home it being a very wet day.
- 11 Cozen Blundell of Ince⁸ came to see my Cozen Butlers.
- 12 Mrs Blundell of Ince came to see my Mother so did Mrs Walmesley of Moss-halk⁹ & her Son. Cozen Richard Butler went with Mr Charlton & Richard Tickley¹⁰ to Formby.
- 13 Cozen Richard Butler went towards Mr Fleetwoods of the Bank tho it was a very wet day. Mr Wairing¹¹ Suped there.
- 14 Cozen Edmund Butler ridd into the Demesne with me to see the Larg Heffers in the Town Medow &c. his Servant brought two Mellons from Croxtath.¹²
- 15 I went to Leverpoole with Cozen Edmund Butler we hailed the Mary with a Hand-karchaf but she answered not, he went on Bord the Harington for Dublin.
- 16 Cozen Richard Butler came back to Crosby after having been absent three Nights. he had been drinking & Railed very much against my Aunt Frances Blundell.
- 17 Cozen Richard Butler went to Leverpoole from Crosby & then intended to goe homwards. We began to shear Wheat with 18 Boons. Cozen Wm Gelibrond taken very ill of a paine in his Toe.
- 18 Mr Mullins¹³ came in the Morning to pray & stayed till next day, Mr Tasburgh¹⁴ & Little Man¹⁵ came hither in the Afternoone.
- 19 Cozen Scaresbrick & his Mother dined here.
- 20 I sent Thomas Howard towards Croston but he met Mr Trafford in the way. I sent Bedulf Wrights Letter of Attorney to Mr Lankaster at Leverpoole by Pater Gelibrond.
- 21 Mrs Blundell of Ince & Cozen Edward Skaisbrick came hither in the Afternoone. One Letter from Samure & two from Lady Curson.
- 22 All the Wheat was led out of the Oaklands. Walter Thelwall came home from Hooton. Edward Howard came to Crosby.
- 23 I discoursed Edward Howerd about Fining for his Fathers Living in Presence of James Farer.

⁸ Blundell of Ince, an old Lancashire family. The manor of Ince Blundell was adjacent to the manor of Little Crosby.

⁹ Mossock Hall, Bickerstaffe, Lancs.

¹⁰ A yeoman, of Little Crosby; also an inn-keeper.

¹¹ Parson of Great Crosby, and master of the Free School there.

¹² Croxteth Hall, home of Lord Molyneux.

¹³ Priest at Mossock Hall.

¹⁴ Rev. Henry Tasburgh, S.J., priest serving Formby; lived at the New House, Ince Blundell.

¹⁵ Rev. William Gillibrand, S.J., serving at Little Crosby. Died April 1 1722.

- 24 I received 4d. for a Fine of Edward Howerd. Mr Gorsuch & Mrs Howet dined here. I delt Almes at 3d p Person myself to the Poore of this Parish.
- 25 I sold my Fathers pad to Mr Tasburgh for £10 tis in part Payment of a debt owing by me to him or to my Uncle Thomas. Joseph Rigby came to offer to Serve to me as a Groome.
- 26 The Brick Wall between the Kitchen Garden & Back Court was finished.
- 27 The Foundasion of the Other Wall in the Back Court begun. Mr Smith from Scaresbrick dined here, he came whilst we were at Dinner.
- 28 Mr Harper came in the after-Noone. I writ to Cozen Standley¹⁶ at Preston to get my Brother Richard made a Freeman at the Gild.
- 29 Payed £3 to Peter Mason for the Interest of £50 due tomorrow. My Grewhound Bitch Spruce Whelped.
- 30 I gave 23 Crownes to Mr Edward Molineux¹⁷ for so many Clergy-Men wch I had not sent to before. I sold him 800 Breads for 2 shillings.
- 31 I Received two Hampers of Marked Bottles filled with Bristoll Beer, about one Fifth part of them was brock. Cozen Ann Harington came hither after diner.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 I hired Hen: Bilsbury for my Groome, am to give him 50 shillings per Annum & one Livery Sute.
- 2 Ten Weathers & one Cow formerly sold to Edward Rycroft and this day fetched away & payed for. I stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall¹⁸.
- 3 Harper taken into the Hous. Henry Bilsbury began his Service.
- 4 Sr James Poole¹⁹ sent his Gardiner to see my Mother. Margaret Roson discoursed me concerning Rigats Teneament.
- 5 The Court Wall from the Hall Window Finished & the Wall by the Little Hous begunn. The Larg Flagg behind the Ashmiding removed from thence.
- 6 Captain Robert Fazackerly²⁰ had been at the Gild & came hither to-day. I admonished Thomas Howerd.
- 7 I went to the High-Town to Examen after Rack²¹ found, from thence I went with Pat: Gelibrond to see Mr Tasburgh at Ince, he was then taking Phisick.

¹⁶ Edward Stanley, Esq., of Preston, died 1755. He was cousin to Sir Thomas Stanley, of Bickerstaffe, who was father of the eleventh Earl of Derby.

¹⁷ Rev. Edward Molyneux, lived with his brother, Richard Molyneux, Esq., of Alt Grange, near Formby. He served the Jesuit missions at Formby and Little Crosby. (See April 28 & 29 1704).

¹⁸ Steward to Nicholas.

¹⁹ Sir James Poole, of Poole, Cheshire; first baronet.

²⁰ Robert Fazakerley, Esq., of Fazakerley.

²¹ Wreck found on the shore at Hightown, Little Crosby.

- 8 I went to Leverpoole to the Buriall of Mr Hewston.²² Cozen John Gelibrond came to Lodg here.
- 9 I was at Ince with Cozen John Gelibrond & his Brother. Mrs Blundell Received a Present from my Lady Anderton.²³ My Lady Gerard sent a Hanch of Venison.
- 10 Cozen John Gelibrond went from hence. I went with him to Ormskerk; I bought Fish & Fowl. Discoursed Mr Jamson.
- 11 I gave Bread & Chees to James Farer for Margaret Riding.²⁴ I sent a letter to Dr Le Begg by Cozen Wm. Gelibrond.
- 12 I sent three Bonds to Mr Plumb²⁵ by Walter Thelwall to be sued. Wat Sayes he found Caterer of Formby on the Sands & carried him to Bank-Hall. I dressed my Mothers Laxom.
- 13 Mary Marrow came hither after her Return out of Bishoprick, I stated Accounts with my Mother & gave her £8 part in Money & the rest formerly layed out by her orders.
- 14 I went to Ditton²⁶ & stated accounts with James Houghton for the year 1701. I took Walter Thelwall with me, I went through Leverpoole & made James Fleetwood goe along with me & take with him the Glasses for the New-Building at Ditton.
- 15 I came home from Ditton through Leverpoole and discoursed Hornby concerning paying me some Money & buying Timber of me at Ditton.
- 16 Henry Bilsbury drive Mr Foster and me to Richard Tickleys it being the first time of his driving my Coach, at wch time he tryed two pair of old Harnish wch were fited up. I found John Lunt & my Grewhounds at Richard Tickleys.
- 17 Cozen Scarisbrick the Widow came to lodg here, her Coach was brocken here by the Horses running away when the Coachman had left them. Mr Knight came to Lodg here. Mr Gerard Barton went hence. He came hither upon the 14.
- 18 We Cut the Neck²⁷ in Rothwells Crofts. Mr Knight went hence.
- 19 I discoursed James Houghton upon a new Bargan for Ditton, he payed me £2 in Brass & one in Silver. I discoursed Mr Plumb & Gleast. I Received Letters from my Brother Richard from Virginia.
- 20 I went with Cozen Wm Gelibrond to Croxtath to Wate of my Lord Molineux after he & his Family had been abroad as I suppose in Wouster-Shire.
- 21 Cozen Scarisbrick²⁸ & his Wife were expected to dine here but came not. I stayed at home to expect Mr Hartley of Preston but he came not.

²² Levinus Heuston, a gentleman of Liverpool.

²³ Anne, wife of Sir Francis Anderton, fifth Baronet, of Lostock, near Bolton.

²⁴ The Farrers were tenants living in Little Crosby; Margaret Riding was a poor woman also living in Little Crosby.

²⁵ A lawyer, living at Wavertree near Liverpool; a friend and legal adviser to Nicholas.

²⁶ The Blundells of Crosby also held the manor of Ditton.

²⁷ This phrase, more commonly used in south-west counties, means cutting the last handful or sheaf of corn at harvest time.

²⁸ Robert Scarisbrick, Esq., of Scarisbrick Hall, Lancs., about 12 miles from Crosby Hall. Died March 1737/8, buried in the Scarisbrick Chapel, Ormskirk Parish Church.

- 22 Mr Gleast & Mr Plumb came to discours me about Money Matters. I sold Codlings at 6d p. Cent & other Apples at 2s p. Buss.
- 23 I went upon my Brother Richards²⁹ account to Leverpoole thence to Prescot³⁰ & Lodged at Ditton.
- 24 I went from Ditton to Mr Harrop at Warington according to my Brothers orders, from thence I came to Prescot where I bought Fine Muggs of Mr Cubben thence I came to Leverpoole where I discoursed Mr Houghton Merchant & so came home.
- 25 I went to John Steward³¹ & ordered him to buy goods at Chester for my Brother Richard. The great Charriot was brought home from Dungenhall.
- 26 I received £5 from Wm Plumb upon account of a Bond 'twas by assistance of Mr Plumb. Wm Kennion discoursed me concerning farming of Ditton from me.
- 27 Ewen Lea Brought me some light Wiggs for my Brother Richard but I bought them not. I payed two Fiveteens to the Poore.
- 28 Mr Tasburgh dined here.
- 29 Thomas Kerfoot brought a Grehound of Cozen Blundells of Ince wch he had taken in the Warand. I went with him to Cozen Blundell. I stayed at home to Receive Rents. I wained a Grehound Whelp.
- 30 I went to Mosburgh to wish Cozen Molineux Joy³² & to welcom her into the Country. I met Sr James Poole &c as they were going to the Wood.³³

OCTOBER

- 1 Mr Lovell & Mr Howes Lodged here.
- 2 I went after dinner to Leverpoole and helped to pack up a Kask of Prescot Muggs for my Brother Richard at Virginia.
- 3 Mr Lovell & Mr Hows went hence. I went to Leverpoole & bought goods for my Brother Richard. James Houghton positively told me he would not farm Ditton on those terms I demanded.
- 4 Mrs Blundell of Ince came hither after diner of a Viset wth Cozen Kester Anderton, I was so busy writing to my Brother Richard that I came little to them.
- 5 I went betimes in the Morning to Leverpoole to give Mr Houghton an Invoice of my Brother Richards goods. The Hors-poole was drain'd.

²⁹ Richard Blundell was an agent for Mr. Houghton a merchant of Liverpool, acting for him in Virginia. Richard had asked his brother to buy certain goods which he wished to sell in Virginia.

³⁰ Prescot, about six miles from Liverpool, was noted at this time for its pottery.

³¹ John Steward, of Great Crosby, and Alice his wife traded in goods which they usually bought at Chester Fair.

³² Robert Molyneux, Esq., of Mossborough Hall, Rainford, near St. Helens, Lancs., had recently married Anne, daughter of Sir James Poole, of Poole, Cheshire.

³³ The Wood in Melling, Lancs., was then in possession of his brother, William, a branch of the Molyneux of Sefton family.

- 6 The Deming of the Hors-poole was made up with Ashlers & Marl. The Limekill was censed in order to burn Gors in.
- 7 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & Wm Low Lodged here. this was the time I think that I cheated Wm Low with Spaw Water.
- 8 I went to Leverpoole and gave Mr Houghton an Envoyce of my Brothers goods, they were entered to-day. Cozen Thomas Walmesley Lodg'd here, so did Margarit Oughton.
- 9 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Cozen Thomas Walmesley & Pat: Gelibrond went to Sefton to meet Mr Hamerton.³⁴ Pat: Gelibrond burned his Crevat, he had his diner brought to him where he was burning Gors. Margaret Oughton went hence.
- 10 I went to Leverpoole wth Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Wm: Low &c: I received some goods from Thomas Harrop for my Brothers Richards use. I drank at Swarbricks with Captain Moone.³⁵
- 11 I went to prayers to Ince with Coz: Thomas Gelibrond. I gave George Houghton³⁶ leave to goe to Leverpoole.
- 12 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Wm: Low &c: went hence. Mrs Blackbourn dined here. Goos-Feast Munday³⁷ I ordered John Lunt³⁸ not to goe to Crosby.
- 13 George Houghton left my service & went for London. I turned John Lunt out of his Service for some Misdemenors, yet some days after upon some considerations I took to him againe.
- 14 John Steward & his Wife came with their Packs to sell goods. Pat: Gelibrond came home from Leverpoole.
- 15 I peesed again with John Lunt till Christmas upon my Mothers Request.
- 16 Charls Penington came to discours me about Farming Ditton he having been first to look at it.
- 17 I was at the Buriall of Doctor Tarlton's Wife.
- 18 I Received a Letter out of Ireland from Collonell Edmund Butler. I took Bess into the Hous.³⁹
- 19 I sent Wat to Mr Hall at Leverpoole upon Collonell Edmund Butlers account. I sent Thomas Howerd to Eckleston for Wax Candles.
- 20 Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh his Wife and Brothers Lodged here.
- 21 Coz: Molineux, I, &c: went a coursing we killed a brace of Hairs. Tho: Bradley payed me £10 upon a Bond. Cozen Blundell &c: came to wate of Cozen Molineux after diner.

³⁴ Rev. Peter Barnes, alias Mr. Hammerton; provincial of the Jesuits in England.

³⁵ Captain of the ship by which Nicholas was sending goods and letters to his brother in Virginia. The will of Robert Moone is now in the Lancashire Record Office, (L.R.O.), Preston.

³⁶ George Houghton, a servant of Nicholas.

³⁷ The ancient Michaelmas Goose Feast at Great Crosby was an occasion for friends meeting and for merry-making at the Fair which lasted two days.

³⁸ John Lunt, a servant of Nicholas.

³⁹ It was usual at the beginning of winter to bring the horses and cattle from the fields to live in the outhousing of the Hall. Bess was one of the horses.

- 22 Lady Molineux & her Daughter dined here. I went with Cozen Robert Molineux to Ince in my Lady Molineux her Coach & came Back in Cozen Robert Molineux his.
- 23 Cozen Molineux & his Wife went hence. I killed 372 old Pigeons.
- 24 Wm Barton took the Rowell⁴⁰ out of Squerall, he brought a Man with him who has a Larg Bay Hors to sell.
- 25 Mr Christopher Anderton dined here. I swaped with him for a Bay Hors I call Swap & gave him Bay Butler and my Watch &c: in exchange.
- 26 I went to Scaresbrick, the Family was gon to Garswood, Mr Smith, Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Howet were gon a Coursing.
- 27 I sent two Loads of Hay to Mr Plumb at Leverpoole Mr Edward Molineux⁴¹ sent a hors for me to buy of him but I licked him not.
- 28 Thomas Riding⁴² Discoursed me about Fining for a small Parcell in the Newfield. I went a Coursing & killed 3 Hairs. We saw some Men in Crosby Fields with Guns wch we suppose came from Leverpoole.
- 29 Wm Clough came to discours me the first time concerning Farming of Ditton to him. I went to Leverpoole & Received from Josua Ambross £10 & Interest by the Hands of Mr Plumb. I sent some Apples & a Brace of Hairs to Mr Houghton Merchant.⁴³
- 30 I sent a Load of Hay to Mr Secomb.⁴⁴ Pat: Gelibrond sent a Letter to Mr. Philmot.
- 31 I went to Leverpoole:. Discoursed Richard Nailer & John Heys his Son concerning Farming of Ditton. James Houghton cleered his Rent for the year 1701. I payed for a Watch & Clock for my Brother Richard. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond lodged here. he brought word of the death of Miss July Walmesley.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence, I sent Bow my Grehound to Mosshawk by him. Pat: Gelibrond & I suped at Ince.
- 2 I went to Croxtath with Pat: Gelibrond. We met my Lord & Mr Molineux going a Seting. We suped there.
- 3 Mr Jamson⁴⁵ kept a Court for me at Margery Howerds.

⁴⁰ William Barton was often called in by Nicholas to attend to his horses. A rowell was a small circular piece of material, usually leather, with a hole in the centre, inserted between flesh and the skin of an animal to cause a discharge of pus.

⁴¹ Nicholas frequently refers to Roman Catholic priests as *Mr* or *Pat*[er.]

⁴² A tenant living in Little Crosby.

⁴³ Richard Houghton, a merchant of Liverpool engaged in trade with Virginia, and a friend of Nicholas.

⁴⁴ Landlord of the Woolpack Inn, Liverpool.

⁴⁵ Mr. Jamson of Ormskirk, a lawyer, acted as steward of the manor court of Little Crosby for Nicholas. The court was held in a cottage in the village—

"5 November 1702—To Margery Howerd for the use of her house to keep my Court Barron in . . . 2s. 6d.

24 November 1702—Given to Mr Jamson for keeping a Court Barrown for me twice . . . £1 1s. 6d."

- 4 Earth was led from the Cop to the Terrass walk.⁴⁶ I took two Larg Heffers & four Oxen into the House to feed for Fat.
- 5 I sent Henry Bilsberry to Croxtath for a Pot of Venyson. Dr Tarlton sent a Hors to be scored with me.⁴⁷ I coursed a Hair found set by Richard Webster. Pat: Gelibrond would not goe.
- 6 I farmed my Demesne of Ditton to Wm Clough the Father & to Wm his son in presence of Walter Thelwall.
- 7 I signed Artickleys of Agreement for my Desmesney of Ditton to Wm Clough the Father & Son. I went after dinner to Leverpoole with Pat: Gelibrond. I found Cozen Harington⁴⁸ at the wool-pack,⁴⁹ I heard Lord Darby dyed sodenly at Chester.⁵⁰
- 8 It was a very Stormy day it rained into the Dining Roome, I sent Tom: Howerd into the Loft to see where the falt was.
- 9 Little Crosby Jury met at Richard Harrisons. The Milk Cows were taken into the Hous.
- 10 I sent eight Beasts to Leverpoole Fair & sold one for £3-5s-0d.
- 11 I went a Coursing to Ince after diner & discoursed Mr Blundell concerning his Watercourses. John Wadington brought a Clock for Pat: Gelibrond from Chorley.
- 12 I went to Ormskerk, discoursed Mr Howet⁵¹ concerning Mr Risley his Hunter. I played at Kards with Mr Scaresbrick & Suped at Mr Howets. I ent a Coach-Hors to Cozen Scaresbrick.
- 13 I went to Leverpoole after diner. I met Lord Molineux on the Sands.
- 14 Mr Draper⁵² came this after Noone to Crosby.
- 15 I rid to Ince with Pat: Gelibrond went thence to look for Mr Tasburgh at Edmund Trustroms.
- 16 Phisick given to Swap, Bess, &c: by William Barton. Ralph Tyerer⁵³ administered somthing the same morning to Harper. John Lunt brought me some Frute Trees from Leverpoole.
- 17 I went acoursing in the afternoone for two Hours only, because I expect my Lord Molineux to come hither but he came not.

⁴⁶ The Terrace Walk was part of the gardens at Crosby Hall.

⁴⁷ Dr. Tarlton's horse was to be kept in the pasture or stables of Nicholas who would make a charge for this service.

⁴⁸ Charles Harrington of Huyton, friend of Nicholas, lived at Scholes Hall, Eccleston, in the parish of Prescott, Lancs.

⁴⁹ The inn at Liverpool where Nicholas met friends and business acquaintances.

⁵⁰ William George Richard, ninth Earl.

⁵¹ Thomas Howet (or Hawett), Esq., of Ormskirk.

⁵² Rev. Joseph Draper, priest at Lydiate Hall.

⁵³ Ralph Tyrer was often called in by Nicholas to attend to sick horses.

- 18 Mr Richard Molineux of the Grang⁵⁴ & I set a Meer-Stone⁵⁵ to be the bondery between his Cunny Warand⁵⁶ & mine, it was set about half way between a great Sandhill and Blansherds lain end upon a Hill called Tenn-penny Hill and linable with the two Meer-stones at each end of Blansherds Lain in presence of Pat: Gelibrond & Walter Thelwall and my two Waranders Thomas Kerfoot & Wm Wignold.⁵⁷ Sr James Pool & his Son James came to lodg here. I sent my Grehound Hector to be kept at Lidiat by Mr Draper.
- 19 Sr James Poole & I went to Mr Wairings, his son & Pat: Gelibrond went a coursing & brought in a Hair for Mr Wairing from thence. we all went to drink at Henry Heskeths.⁵⁸
- 20 Cozen James Poole went in the Morning to the New Stand⁵⁹ to meet Mr Molineux of Croxtath a Shooting, Sr James Poole & I went to the Stand towards Noone, Mr Molineux treated us there with Wine and Aile.
- 21 I expected my Lord Molineux to dine here but the wetness of the Morning prevented him. Cozen Poole & I played in the after noone at Dice. Pat: Gelibrond went late to Ormskerk.
- 22 Sr James Poole went hence in the Morning to Scaresbrick, his Son went after Dinner to Mosbrough.
- 23 I went after Dinner to Leverpoole: I saw Mrs Bootle & her Daughter Lidiat at Mr Houghtons. I condoled with them the Death of Mr James Lidiat.
- 24 Mr Jamson kept a Court for me at Margery Howerds which was ajourned to this day. The Joyner & Painter came hither to Look at my Brothers clockface. Collonell Butler came hither from Ireland after his great Escape at Sea. Elizabeth Sumner Dary-Maid left my Service & was suckseeded by Mary Formby.
- 25 I walked over with Collonell Butler to Ince to see Mr Tasburgh in the Morning.
- 26 Collonell Butler & I dined at Ince.
- 27 I sent Walter Thelwall to the Buriell of a Son of Edmund Trustroms.⁶⁰
- 28 I fixed my Brothers Clock up in the Gallery to see how it would goe.

⁵⁴ Richard Molyneux, Esq., of Alt Grange, a neighbour and friend of Nicholas.

⁵⁵ Boundary stone.

⁵⁶ Rabbit warren.

⁵⁷ It was customary for Nicholas to appoint two of his tenants to look after his warren. Thomas Kerfoot and William Wignold held the appointment for many years.

"30 Mar. 1703—To Thomas Kerfoot & William Wignold my waranters for taking 148 Cupple of Rabbets before Michailmas at 2d. per Cupple and 463 Cupple between Michailmas & Sroftide at 4d. per Cupple . . . £8 19s. 0d.
To the Waranters for carrying Rabbets to John Stuards who bought them of me 5s. 0d."

⁵⁸ Henry Hesketh kept an inn at Great Crosby.

⁵⁹ Horse races were frequently run at Great Crosby and this stand built by Lord Molyneux of Sefton was a favourite meeting place for him and his friends when watching horses training or running or for shooting parties.

⁶⁰ A yeoman of Ince Blundell.

- 29 I went after diner with Collonell Butler to Croxtath & suped there, we found Mr Perce Moston & his Family there.
- 30 Mr Wairing came hither to wate of Collonell Butler & to pay his Rent.

DECEMBER

- 1 Collonell Butler went hence towards Durham. Cozen James Poole came to great Crosby to see his Hors Pedler sweat, he & Cozen John Molineux dined here.
- 2 I went towards Moshauk & met Mr Walmesley & Mr Mullins coming hither. I turned back with them & after Dinner we went to the Grange.
- 3 I killed a Little Red Cow & sent the hide by Walter Thelwall to Ormskerk to sell.
- 4 I sent Richard Ainsworth to Leverpoole with a Load of Barly to be Malted,⁶¹ it was toled by order of the Maior.⁶² Captain Robert Fazakerley came in the Evening & discoursed me concerning Jones his business.
- 5 My Lord Molineux & his Son came hither in the after-noone.
- 6 I sent Thomas Howerd to the Funerall of Ann Gower of the Moorside.⁶³
- 7 I went after dinner to Leverpoole: Walter Thelwell discoursed the Maior concerning the Toling of my Barly. Walter Thelwall Received £5 from Mr Travis by the hand of Mr Plumb. Coming home I met Mr Peeters⁶⁴ on the Sands he told me that the Great Crosby Men Refused to Appear or Answer to the Court called then by him. Two Men came to kast for Brick but did not begin this day.
- 8 The Brick-Men began to cast Clay for Brick in the Moss-hey.
- 9 I met Mr Molineux of Croxteth at Wm Harrisons in Litherland a Coursing, I took some Bottles of Beer with me.
- 10 John Lunt went with me to Leverpoole & took Captain Butlers Mair along with him. They demanded pay in hand for her. I pay'd Mrs Pluckington for Frute Trees.⁶⁵
- 11 Walter Thelwall was to have stated his Accounts with me but was prevented by an Ague Fit. Pat: Gelibrond began his Exercise.
- 12 Mr Joseph Hawley lodged here.⁶⁶ Richard Ainsworth brought a Load of Malt & Cozen Butlers Beding from Leverpoole.

⁶¹ "14 December 1702—Malting 48 Bushels: of Barly 9s. 0d.
 Duty to the Queen for it £1 4s. 10d.
 Malting 13 Bushels: of Wheat 2s. 4d.
 Duty for it 7s. 6d."

⁶² For goods sent for sale in Liverpool a toll had to be paid.

⁶³ A yeoman family of the Moorside, Great Crosby.

⁶⁴ This may have been Mr. Ralph Peters, of Liverpool, who a few years later was appointed Clerk to the Corporation of Liverpool.

⁶⁵ Mr. William Pluckington was possessed of a house, bowling green and fields on the common at Liverpool.

⁶⁶ It is possible that Nicholas discussed with Mr. Hawley the making of a map of the manor of Little Crosby. See April 5 and 6 1705.

- 13 Walter Thelwall deliver'd me a Letter for Mrs Cannell which I Inclosed with a £15 Bill & sent it on the 15th to Mr John Baker.
- 14 Cozen Butlers Doughter Mary & her Nurs came hither out of Wailes.
- 15 I went to Leverpoole put seaven Letters or more into the Post Office, it was a Snowing day. I sent Thomas Howerd to Mr Williamson the Watch-maker in Tarbock.⁶⁷
- 16 I coursed a Hair which Thornton Smith found set. John Steward & his Wife were here.
- 17 I lent Wm Davy⁶⁸ a Horse to carry Cozen Butlers Nurs to Leverpoole on. I sent Henry Bilsberry⁶⁹ to Leverpoole to learn to Butcher.
- 18 I sent Walter Thelwall to Formby to look at some Coles that were driven thither by Stress of Wether.⁷⁰
- 19 I went to Dungen-Hall by Chorley where I found Cozen John Gelibrond at his own house, I payed him £3-10s for Interest of £70 belonging to Ailes Caterold, he let me have £30 more of hers on my own Bond.
- 20 It was a very wet day wch hindered Mr Traps & me from going to Antley.
- 21 Cozen John Gelibrond went to Blackbourn, his Son & I went by Mr Ashtons of Curedale to Lower Hall, we dined there.
- 22 Cozen John Gelibrond & I went to Town-ley to welcom Young Mr Town-ley home at his return from Gant.⁷¹
- 23 There was very Much Snow, I looked out Instruments at Dungen-Hall for mesuring of Ground, Mr Lovell⁷² came from Stony Hurst, he, a Carrier, & two Horses were lost for some time on the Moore.
- 24 I came from Dungen Hall. left Cozen Thomas Walmesley there, I bought on the Road 5 quarts of Hollin berris & left them at Mrs Bartons at Ormskirk.
- 25 Two Fidlers played a while in the Hall. I think they came from towards Lostock.
- 26 Workhorses were bludied by Walter Thelwall & Wm. Gray.
- 27 I had a Letter from Mr George Wright with a Bill to Receive 50s.
- 28 Mr Wairing & his Brother came hither in the after Noone, when they were gon Pat: Gelibrond & I went to Ince & suped there it being Mr Blundells birthday. I payed one Quarter Land Tax to John Sumner.⁷³

⁶⁷ Tarbock, near Liverpool.

⁶⁸ A tenant at Little Crosby.

⁶⁹ Henry Bilsberry was groom to Nicholas, at a wage of 12s. 6d. per quarter year.

⁷⁰ "Coales bought at Formby, 13 Barralls 6s 6d.
Spent by my Servants at Formby 8d."

⁷¹ Ghent.

⁷² Rev. George Lovell, S.J., Chaplain at Dunkenhagh (Dungen-Hall), was a clever mathematician. Probably Nicholas was asking his advice in making a map of the manor of Little Crosby.

⁷³ "28 Dec. 1702—Quarterly tax for my Demesne of Crosby £7 12s. 2d.
Pole for one quarter 2. 0d.
For being a Squire & Batchlor one ½ year 13s. 0d."

- 29 Mr Brookbanck & Church Wardens came abegging with two Breefs. Pat: Gelibrond & I got our drinkers at Richard Harrisons.⁷⁴
- 30 I examined the Way-wiser⁷⁵ & tryed it in the Gallery. I gave a watch to Walter Thelwall.
- 31 I went with Pat: Gelibrond in the after Noone to Mr Wairings. I ordered Walter Thelwall to see Running Horses entered at Henry Heskeths, Lord Molineux sent for me home from Mr Wairings, he & his Son entered each of them a Running hors before me at my own hous by telling me their Names & describing them.

⁷⁴ A tenant at Little Crosby and a servant for many years to the Blundell of Crosby family.

⁷⁵ An instrument for measuring distances, especially distances travelled.

Anno Domini 1703

JANUARY

- 1 Captain Robert Fazakerley came to invite me to Ince to dance but I went not.
- 2 Captain Robert Fazakerley & I examined Mrs Ellen Fazakerley's Papers of Accounts. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 3 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & I went to great Crosby with an Intension to see Mr Wairing, but we were sent for home to wate of Mr Ralph Tildesley, Mr Edmund Trafford, &c: who were comne to see me at my own house. Cozen John Culcheth came to lodg here.
- 4 I was at Great Crosby Race where Mr Massys¹ Gelding Limber hamm wone a Plate from Pedler² &c: Cozen James Poole, Cozen Scaresbrick & his Wife came to lodg with me.
- 5 I went to Ince after dinner with Cozen James Poole, Cozen Robert Scaresbrick &c: we suped there & played at Cards & Dice.
- 6 Coz: R.S: J.P: & J. Cul: were discomposed. My Mother, Cozen Scaresbrick's Wife, &c: went to Ince.
- 7 Cozen James Poole & Cozen John Culsheth went hence. There came an Express from Dungen-hall to Cozen Robert Scarisbrick.
- 8 Cozen Scaresbrick & his Wife went hence after diner.
- 9 I went to Leverpoole with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond.
- 10 I Received a Letter for my Mother from Brother Joseph. Pat: Gelibrond had a Letter from Mr Philmot.
- 11 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went a Shooting in the Morning & came not back till the Evening.
- 12 I went after dinner to Croxtath with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond. Richard Ainsworth³ brought four Piggs from Prescott, they were about 5 Weeks old and of the Great Breed at Eckleston.
- 13 Walter Thelwall staited Accounts with me for the last year.⁴
- 14 I killed a Larg Hogg. After dinner I went a Coursing with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond. we saw severall coming from towards Crosby Marsh, who had been there in Expectasion to have seen a Foot rase, but there was none.
- 15 I met Mr Blundell acoursing & saw two Hairs Runn that were found set, he went to Andertons, & Pat: Gelibrond & I went home to writ a Letter to Mr Philmot 'twas not well taken by Blundell. Mr Cataway a Missioner for Maryland & Mr Draper came to lodg here. My Lord Molineux his Baly of Sephton demanded 4d as a cheef Rent, wch I denyed to pay as a Cheef, but my

¹ William Massey of Puddington, Cheshire.

² Horse owned by Sir James Poole, Bart.

³ Head-hind, receiving a quarterly wage of £1 0s. 0d.

⁴ The accounts of money spent by his steward, Walter Thelwall, are recorded in detail in the Disbursement Book.

Steward Walter Thelwall payed him 4d as an usuall Rent (& no otherwayes was it ever payed as I have great reason to beleive eather by my Grandfather or Father) in presence of [---].⁵

- 16 My Lord Molineux his Waranders & mine Ferreted in my Demesney, they took six Cupple of Rabets.
- 17 Mr Cataway⁶ went hence. I went with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond to Ince.
- 18 I went to Dine at Mosholk with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond. Mrs Blackbourn came to Lodg here.
- 19 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & I went to see Parson Wairing. we drank together at Henry Heskeths. I set my Name or Mark on some Goods at Thomas Thelwalls of Great Crosby which Goods he desired should continew there for Heir-looms to that Hous whilst it belonged to any Thelwall & after it went out of the Name of Thelwall the goods were to be disposed of by me or my Heir. The Goods above mensioned were a Dishbord, a Long Table & Forme & a very good Cupbord, there were present Thomas Thelwall the Donor & his Grand Son Thomas Thelwall, Cozen Thomas Gelibrond Son of Mr John Gelibrond of Chorley &c.: Mr Gower came to Lodg here at his first coming into Lancashire.
- 20 I dined at the Grang with Lord Molineux &c.; Sr William Gerard⁷ &c.:
- 21 Pat: Gelibrond, Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & I &c: went to Andertons to meet Mr Tasburgh but he came not.
- 22 Pat: Gelibrond & I swam Spruce the Grehound till she dyed. Mr Gower Pitched the Crow⁸ & threw the Hammer at James Farers.
- 23 I stated Accounts at Leverpoole with James Houghton. Mr Green & Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 24 I writ to my Brother Richard into Virginia.
- 25 I Packed up Goods in the Hall to send to my Brother Richard in Virginia. Peter Guy came to have katched Larks, but he did not try because there were but few.
- 26 I sent my Brothers Goods to Mr Houghton at Leverpoole in order to have them Shiped on Bord the Loyalty⁹ for Virginia.
- 27 Pat: Richard Lathom¹⁰ had his weding Dinner at this Hous.

⁵ Up to 1362 the manor of Little Crosby was held by the Molyneux of Little Crosby as a sub-manor of the Molyneux of Sefton. In 1362 it passed by marriage to the Blundell of Crosby, who still held it as a sub-manor of the Molyneux of Sefton. This is the basis of the demand of a chief-rent. The grandfather of Nicholas, William the Cavalier, had disputed this demand. In 1798 the Blundell of Crosby became the real lords of the manor by purchase from the Molyneux of Sefton.

⁶ Rev. Henry Cattaway, S.J., died March 13 1718.

⁷ Sir William Gerard of Bryn, Lancs.

⁸ There was an ancient custom called "pitching the bar". The bar was an iron rod, and by the word *crow*, Nicholas may have meant *crowbar*.

⁹ The *Loyalty* was a ship sailing between Liverpool and Virginia; 190 tons, 14 men. In 1702 its captain was Henry Browne; in 1703 it was Arthur Milling.

¹⁰ Rev. Richard Lathom, S.J., alias Kirkham, was made a Spiritual Coadjutor on Feb. 2 1703, and here he and Nicholas were celebrating the occasion at Crosby Hall. Father Lathom died in 1708, aged 37 years, as he was returning from Maryland.

- 28 I payed £3 to Mr Jamson for the use of Mr Mallerys £50 due Nov: Last. I went thence to Ormskerk.
- 29 I went to Leverpoole with Pat: Richard Lathom & helped him to buy goods, we discoursed Mr Sharples at Swarbricks.
- 30 Pat: Gelibrond, Mr Gower & I went to see Mr Wairing who was gon to Sephton to Solemnise the Marriage of K:C: Pat Gelibrond went to Leverpoole & Mr Gower & I coming homwards met Mr Wairing, we went back to his hous.
- 31 Cozen Hesketh went hence to Moor-hall, Mr Woofold¹¹ sent horses for her.

FEBRUARY

- 1 Mr Cataway came out of Chesshire to this Hous. Walter sold my best Red Heffer, one Hogg, & three Fat Oxen to Edward Ricroft.
- 2 Mr Gower went hence to live at Lithom. Mr Smith¹² from Scaresbrick came to Lodg here.
- 3 Mr Smith, Mr Richard Lathom & I went to Carr-Hall. we eat Eggs & Collops &c:¹³
- 4 Mr Smith, Mr Lathom & I saw them Ferreting on the Marsh, we went to Mr Wairings. In the Morning Mr Smith & I examain'd Elizabeth Blundell¹⁴.
- 5 Mr Smith went hence. I Received a Letter from Mr John Baker with advice that he had Received my Money.
- 6 Pat: Richard Lathom & I sowed Ackhorns in the Crow-Orchard in the Long Nursery: we coursed a Hair that Walter Thelwall found set.
- 7 Mr Gorsuch, his Son & I &c: went to Examen Elizabeth Blundell.
- 8 I planted one Kart Load of Quickwood viz: Asp, Bryers, Secamore, Gors, & Hep-Bryers near the Sand Hills.
- 9 I lent a Hors to carry Betty Blundell on to Leverpoole to be Examained by the Maior of Leverpoole when she was with Child.
- 10 I sent Thomas Tickle to set Alder Near the Sand Hills.
- 11 I planted Larg Barberry-Trees in the New Ground. Pat: Gelibrond lep out of the New Grounds into his Garden viz: into R:A: Fosterds. Mr Worthington Junior of Blanscow¹⁵ desired to see me at my Mill, he would not come to Crosby Hall, he discoursed me concerning sending Joseph Wadsworth to Sea.

¹¹ Richard Wolfall of Moor Hall, Aughton, Lancashire.

¹² Rev. Smith, S.J., chaplain to the Scarisbricks of Scarisbrick.

¹³ An old custom was to eat Collops (bacon) on Shrove or Collop Monday.

¹⁴ Elizabeth Blundell, daughter of a tenant, who sometimes helped as a servant at Crosby Hall, claimed the father of her bastard child was the son of Thomas Gorsuch of Gorsuch, Lancashire. At the Quarter Sessions held at Ormskirk, Easter, 1703, Thomas Gorsuch was ordered to pay her 26s. 8d. per annum from the date of the birth of her child, the father to give security to prevent the child from becoming the responsibility of the township of Little Crosby. The mother, too, had to give this security.

¹⁵ The Worthingtons of Blainscough were a branch of the Worthingtons of Worthington.

- 12 I went to Leverpoole to assist Mr Worthington in Binding Joseph Wadsworth to Sea, I discoursed Mr Houghton, Mr Sharples, &c: about it.
- 13 I went to Chorley to enquire after Ailes Caterold for Edward Howerd: thence to Wigan and so to Moshaulk where I lodged.
- 14 I discoursed Mr Blackburn of Moor-hall¹⁶ concerning Betty Blundell. I came home from Mosshalk.
- 15 Mr Hurst¹⁷ sent me a present of a Bottle of Oyle. I went to see Thomas Thelwall, Edmund Trustrom & Richard Tickley went part of the way with me.
- 16 Mr Edward Molineux came to discours me concerning taking Stocks¹⁸ Living into my own hands.
- 17 I Red over part of the Pedegry of this Family. I received Eye-water¹⁹ from ----
- 18 I sold two Busshells of Apples to Little-Mary for 9s. she took them with her to Leverpoole, she talked much.
- 19 I went with Mr Blackburn & Mr Thomas Gorsuch to examen Betty Blundell. Edmund Trustrom payed me £10 for Jane Renold.
- 20 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to Croxtath to wish my Lord a good Journey to London, thence I went to Low-hill wher Mr Harington, Mr Hind, &c: were come to meet my Lord, they had a Feast of Sturgeon; we dranck Fountineack &c:.
- 21 James Hunter Looked over Mrs El: Fazackerleys Accounts. Cozen Betty Walmsley & Mrs Cicily Worthington came to Lodg here.
- 22 Coz: Betty Walmsley & Mrs Cicily Worthington went hence.
- 23 Mr Laborn²⁰ fetched a Boat from hence wch I had taken up as a Wreck; it was by orders of my Lord Molineux but not delivered to him by me or my Steward Walter Thelwall. see more Peticulers in the Great Hodg-Podg, vide Wreck.
- 24 I went to see my Lady Anderton at Ince but I saw her not.
- 25 Cozen John Gelibrond Lodged here. John Farclough fetched an Ash-tree from hence wch he had bought of me, he payed me 8s.
- 26 I sealed a Bond of £60 to Cozen Wm Houghton of Park-hall. My Mother & I sealed a Bond of £45 to Cozen John Gelibrond &c: Trustees for Wm Whawley, both the Bonds were delivered to Cozen John Gelibrond.
- 27 I Received £10 from Edmund Trustrom for the Use of Jane Renold, this & £10 more of his Money is to goe p. Bill to London tomorrow. Cozen John Gelibrond went hence to Scarsbrick.

¹⁶ Rev. John Blackburne, a Roman Catholic priest serving Moor Hall, Lancashire.

¹⁷ A draper of Liverpool from whom Nicholas often purchased goods. Later became mayor of Liverpool.

¹⁸ A tenant in Little Crosby.

¹⁹ Nicholas suffered from some eye affliction. He failed to enter the name of the person who gave him eye-water, but from the Disbursement Book we learn that it was Dr. le Begg, to whom he paid 3 shillings for it.

²⁰ Mr. Laborn. steward of Lord Molyneux, who claimed right of wreck on that part of the hore in Great Crosby and Little Crosby.

- 28 I went to Scaresbrick to discours my Cozen Robert Scaresbrick about my going to Hathrop²¹, I lodged there.

MARCH

- 1 I was in Asco-Wood all day whilst Cozen John Gelibrond vallewed severall trees in it. Cozen Robert Scaresbrick was with us.
- 2 I came from Scaresbrick found Mr Mullins comne hither.
- 3 Mr Mullins went hence, I writ to my Lady Webb & sent Walter Thelwall with it the next day to Hathrop.
- 4 I payed £50 to Mr. Dodd's Servant at Ormskerk in presence of Thomas Howerd wch said £50 was owing to Mr Dodd by my Father upon Bond, I payed Interest for the same viz: £4-10s-0d. In the Presence of Mr Dodd to his Servant. Mr Jamson payed me at his own house £8-14s-0d. it was uppon the Account of Whitfield & Hall.
- 5 I went to Leverpoole: shewed two Horses to the Post to sell him one of them. I payed 7s. to Richard Woods for making a Duble brested Coat.
- 6 My Mother & Aunt Frances went to Ince to wate of Lady Anderton but they missed of her.
- 7 My Lady Anderton came from Ince hither.
- 8 I went a second time on Edward Howerds account to Chorley & discoursed Robert Forster at Charnock Green in behalf of Edward Howerd. Mr Brooks was there. I discoursed James Nicholson concerning a Mourning Saddle & houlters.
- 9 I went with my Aunt Frances to Croxtath. Dr Tarlton sent for his Hors wch had been Scored with me since Nov 5th.
- 10 We began to sow Beans & Whit Peas in the Cross Field. Robert Sutton brought me a Cod Fish as a Present. I lent him a Brocken Bow.
- 11 I sent Richard Ainsworth to Leverpoole with 10 Busshells of Apples to Bessy Peele.
- 12 Walter Thelwall came home from Hathrop. I heard Mr Edward Molineux at Thomas Thelwalls.²² I discoursed him concerning his Debt to Wm Fisher. I paid to Martha Fisher £4 by order of Mr Edward Molineux. John Steward & I cleerd all Accounts as well for Money owing to him for Cloth as by him for Rabet Skins.
- 13 I writ letters all day to Lord Molineux, Lord Langdale, Mr Philmot, &c:²³

²¹ Heythrop Park, near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, the residence of Sir John Webb, was the property of the Earl of Shrewsbury. Nicholas was discussing with his friend his visit to Heythrop, where he was hoping to arrange a marriage with Frances, daughter of Marmaduke, third Lord Langdale, and granddaughter of Lady Webb.

²² Roman Catholics in the neighbourhood often heard Mass said at Crosby Hall, in the barns at the Hall and Alt Grange, or in some cottage in Little Crosby. Here the Rev. Edward Molyneux, S.J., was saying Mass in the cottage of a tenant of Nicholas.

²³ Letters concerning his proposed marriage.

- 14 I sent Henry Bilsbury to the Post at Leverpoole with the Letters for Lord Molineux Lord Langdale, &c:.
- 15 I gave 2s-6d to Brother Christopher towards the Repaires of the Cover over Holly-well,²⁴ he came hither to begg for the Repare of it. Dr Lathom came hither to shew the Petission wch was presented to the Queen by Mr Bannerd Howerd in behalf of the said Dr Lathom,²⁵ Mr Haggerston, &c:
- 16 Walter Thelwall came from Blackbourn where he had bought 4 Large & good Oxen and 4 small Barron Cows.²⁶
- 17 I Raked off a Barrell of October Beer wch was over the Seller & carried it to my Seller.
- 18 I Received 16s-6d from Mr Jamson upon Account of Whit-field &c: thence I went through Ormskerk to Scaresbrick & shewed them my Lady Webbs Letter.
- 19 I sent Thomas Howerd to Leverpoole to the Post with a Letter for the Lady Webb.
- 20 I Botled off 11 doz: of Strong Beer, it was brued in March 1701/2 tis Marked in my Seller with C.
- 21 The Churchwarden Henry Williamson Acquainted me that Parson Richmond²⁷ wished he had pulled down more of the Parsonidg. of Sephton.
- 22 I opened a Barrell of Apples wch had layn in very dry Sea-Sand since they were gathered, they were very firm and sound, tho' many had a little Speck of faided, & a very few were Rotten.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole. Received from Mr Plumb upon account of Richard Vose & Ale: Tarlton £13-4s-2d. I discoursed Thomas Hornby at Robert Secombs before Mr Hurst. I gave Mr Hurst £3-15s-0d for 1½ H of Whit Brown Sugar.
- 24 Mr Wm Tarlton called here in the After-Noone to see me. Edward Rycrofts Servant fetched a Larg Red Heffer from hence wch he had bought of my Steward Walter Thelwall he payed for her & some others.
- 25 Walter went with some Cattle to Ormskerk to sell. Mary Winstonley²⁸ received two Cheeses from her Sister.
- 26 I sent Walter Thelwall to Leverpoole to see the Great Heffer after she was Slaughtered. I sent Tom: Ticklely to my Cozen Gelibronds of Chorley for the Roots of some Flowers.

²⁴ The Holy Well of St. Winifred at Holywell, Flintshire, to which pilgrimages were frequently made, was in the care of the Jesuit Fathers.

²⁵ Dr. Richard Lathom and his wife, Judith, were recusants. In 1686 they were granted a licence permitting Dr. Lathom to practise surgery in Liverpool and his wife to keep a boarding school. (DDB1/24/39. L.R.O.).

²⁶ "Wats expenses to Blakebourn Faire 8s. 7d.
Four Cows for drift £11 16s. 0d.
Two Cows not bought at Blakebourn £5 14s. 10d.
Two Yoak of Larg Oxen bought at Blackbourn £36 0s. 0d."

²⁷ Rev. Richard Richmond, rector of Sefton from 1684 to 1721, was also rector of Walton, where he lived. Died September 19 1721.

²⁸ Mary Winstanley was housekeeper at Crosby Hall at a wage of 10s. 0d. per quarter.

- 27 I sent Wat: to Leverpoole to buy a Peece of the Great Red Heffer. Jane Harrison sold me a Pot of Butter for 14s-4d.
- 28 I writ to Lord Langdale, inclosed it to Cozen Eyre the Lawyer & sent it to the Post by Pat: Gelibrond.
- 29 Darbys Wife should have Runn with Skinner Blundell.²⁹ Pat: Richard Lathom went hence to Leverpoole in hops to take Shipping for Virginia.
- 30 I set my Cunny Warand to Thomas Kerfoot and Wm Wignold. My Aunt Received the Pictur of Cozen Richard Butler out of Wales.
- 31 I payed the Quarterly Land Tax &c: to Henry Williamson. I discoursed Thomas Blansherd & Wm Wignold about removing their Houses. I spok to Thomas Kerfoot and Will: Wignold about farming part of the Heal-Bank ground.³⁰

APRILL

- 1 I began to digg in order for planting a dubb Hedg before the Gates in the Crow-Orchard. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond lodged here.
- 2 I went to Leverpoole with Intension to have gone to Poole but went not over the Water.
- 3 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 4 I Received a Letter from Lord Langdale. I sent Henry Bilsbury to Croxtath, he brought word Lord Molineux was come home.
- 5 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to wate of Lord Molineux at Croxtath when he Returned from London.
- 6 Aunt Frances had Account from Mr Bloore by orders of Lady Webb that I might wate of Mrs Frances Langdall as soone as I pleased.
- 7 Pat: Gelibrond went to Leverpoole to buy Cloth for a Black Coat. I finished the Inventory of goods left by my Father at his Death.
- 8 Thomas Howerd brought me Mr Wingats Pistolls wch he had borrowed of him for my Journey to Hathrop, they are Rather too Larg & so extraordinary fine I will not take them along with me.
- 9 John Stretbarroll & five Servants began to mold Brick for me in the Great Moss hey.³¹ Mr Tasburgh was here.

²⁹ Races between tenants, servants and labourers are often mentioned by Nicholas, and seem to have been one of the amusements of the period. The wife of Darby, one of his tenants, was frequently employed to run messages by Nicholas. Skinner Blundell was also a tenant.

³⁰ Fields in the manor of Little Crosby.

³¹ "Casting six score thousand of Brick, I onely Found the Men Lodging & Feyd the Ground. Vide more £3 0. 0.
 Some digging don by the Brick-men 3. 0.
 Lodging my Brickmen at Hugh Nailers whilst they worked for me £1 5. 0."
 These bricks were used to build a wall in part of the outhousing at the Hall. (See September 14 1703).
 "Laying the Foundation of the Long Brick wall to the kill 15s. 2d.
 Laying 287 yards of Brick at 4d. per yard they carrying and making mortar & finding themselves with meat £4 15s. 8d."

- 10 I set up my Mothers Clock-Case. I sent Thomas Tickle to Chorley for my Black Haulsters &c:
- 11 Mr Edward Molineux came to wish me a good Journey to Hathrop. I sent Richard Jump to Burdikin at Wigan for my Black Coat but not being made he brought the Cloth back.
- 12 I went to Leverpoole to have a Black Coat made by Edward Porter for my Journey to Hathrop.³²
- 13 I began my Journey towards Hathrop, dined at Warrington & lodged at Hoomes Chapell.
- 14 I went from Hoomes Chappell, dined at Stone & Lodged at Aldridg.
- 15 I went from Aldridg, bated at Birmidgham & Witch and Lodged at Wooster.
- 16 I went from Woster, dined at Winshcomb & lodged at North Leech.
- 17 I came from North Leech to Hathrop, found the Family all there, and also my Lord Langdale.
- 18 I went in the Coach with Lord Langdale and Sr John Webb to wate of Collonel Ireton but he was not at home.
- 19 I discoursed Lord Langdale in his Chamber and Lady Webb in the Dining Roome. I made by first adress to Mrs Frances Langdale.
- 20 Collonel Ireton came to Hathrop in the after-noone.
- 21 Lady Webb discoursed me in the Garden. I discoursed Mrs Langdale in the Kitchen Garden. Pat: Gelibrond and Mr Slaughter³³ walked to Fairford.
- 22 Mrs Morgan dined at Hathrop. Mr Morgan & I discoursed of Cattle & Sheep &c: Lady Dowager Webb Read the Heds of Agreement of Marriage to be between Mrs Frances Langdale & me N: B! in Presence of Lord Langdale & Sr John Webb.
- 23 Mr Trynder the Lawyer came to Hathrop for Instrucons to draw Artickleys of Marriage.
- 24 Mr Trinder drew up the Heads of Artickles of Marriage.
- 25 Mr Trinder brought to Hathrop the Heads of Artickles of Marriage fairly transcribed wch were agreed to by Lord Langdale, Lady Webb & myself. Lord Langdale went from Hathrop to Fairford in order to goe next day to London.
- 26 I writ my first Letter from Hathrop to Cozen Henry Eyre. Mr Ramsy Presbiter came to Lodg at Hathrop.
- 27 I Wated of young Lady Webb &c: to see her Son Thomas at Langford where he was Nursed.
- 28 I sent Thomas Howerd to Wooster for Gray Bonny, he came back same day, I Presented my Dimond Ring to Mrs Frances Langdale³⁴.

³² "Making a black Coat for Hathrop 5s. 0d.
More Tailers work 9d."

³³ The priest who later performed the wedding ceremony.

³⁴ "Fals Diamond Ring 14s. 0d.
Wedding Ring £1 5s. 0d."

- 29 Sr John Waters & his Lady, Mr Sheldon of Weston & his Son &c: dined at Hathrop.
- 30 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to see the Water Engin at Hathrop Mill.

MAY

- 1 I sent Thomas Howerd to Sto Faire, he bought no horse.
- 2 I walked to Mr Iretons with Mrs Frances Langdale and Pat:Gelibrond.
- 3 I went from Hathrop through Oxford to Water-Perry.³⁵
- 4 I sent George Howerd, Sr John Cursons Servant to Oxford to take a place in the Coach for me for London.³⁶
- 5 I writ at Water-Perry to Mrs Frances Langdale and sent it by Oxford Post.³⁷
- 6 I took Coach at Wheatley near Water-Perry, dined at Wickham and came to London in Company of Mr John Curson, Mr Bayly Dr of Divinity belonging to Oxford and some others.
- 7 I dined with Cozen Henry Eyre, Mr Lewson &c: in Fullers Rant. I saw most of the things in the Tower, I saw the Silent Woman Acted.
- 8 I walked to Bedlom³⁸, I met Mr Richard Norris in the Mall. I made my first Viset to Mr Trinder with Coz: Henry Eyre.
- 9 I dined at Thomas Arnolds, made my first viset to Mrs Norris my Cozen, she is I think Sister to Cozen Henry Eyre. I suped at the Kings Head in Year Street with Cozen John & Fr: Eyre, two Mr Dormers &c:
- 10 I writ Letters all the Fore-Noone in my Chamber. I saw the Jew of Venis Acted at Lincolns Inn.
- 11 I walked to West-minster & saw the Tombs, went at Night to Wills Coffy-Hous where I heard Mr Lawson talk of Calculating Nativitys.
- 12 I dined at the Blew Posts in Deverax-Court with Cozen Henry Eyre & Mr Trinder, we examained things relaiting to my Mariage.
- 13 I came from London towards Water-Perry with a disputing Parson.
- 14 I went with Sr John Curson to Oxford & saw the Theator, Library, Trinity Chappell, Labaratory, &c:
- 15 I came to Hathrop from Water-Perry with Pat: Gelibrond.
- 16 I walked in the Kitchen Garden with Lady Webb Senior & gave her an Account of my London Journey.
- 17 I walked with Mrs Frances Langdale to Fairford. Morris dansers came to Hathrop.

³⁵ "Spent on Cozen William Gelibrond, myself, two Servants & four horses from Hathrop to Water-perry & back 6s. 8d."

³⁶ See Appendix B.

³⁷ Having been accepted as the future husband, it was from the house of Sir John Curzon, of Waterperry near Oxford that Nicholas made his preparations for the wedding.

³⁸ Lunatics were confined in an asylum at Bedlam in appalling conditions. Visitors to London went to see them, and paid a fee to watch their antics as a kind of entertainment.

- 18 I rid out with Lord Gerard & Sr John Webb, saw Sink Foyle grow³⁹. I saw three of Lord Whartons Horses, I suppose they were Runners.
- 19 I went in the Coach with Lord Gerard & Sr John Webb to see Mr Greenwood at Byres Norton.
- 20 The Lords & Ladys of May came to dance at Hathrop. I presented my Guilt Coffy Spoones.
- 21 Young Lady Webb lent Mrs Frances Langdale a book of Heraldry to seek for my Lord Langdales Coat of Armes.
- 22 I sent Henry Bilsburys measure to Thomas Arnold Taylor. I played at Tables with Lord Gerard.
- 23 I saw Lord Gerards & Sr John Webbs Horses paied in the Severalls. Lord Gerard was with Mrs Frances Langdale and me discoursing in the Hall.
- 24 My grandfathers Aniversary was kept at Hathrop.⁴⁰ Mr Trinder came to Hathrop after he had been drawing up writings at London. Pat: Gelibrond Transscribed the Artickleys of Marriage twice, to be sent to Lord Langdale.
- 25 Going with Lord Gerard & Sr John Webb to see Mr Burcher of Barnesley we met him & his Lady &c: coming in their Coach to Hathrop.
- 26 Lord Langdale came to Hathrop from the North.
- 27 I discoursed Lady Webb about my going a second time to London from Hathrop.
- 28 I went to Bolton to discours Mr Trinder about his & my going to London. We danded after the Taber & Pipe. Mr Parker & his Brother Delos &c: came in the Coach to Hathrop.
- 29 The two Lady Webbs & Lord Langdale went to see Little Master at Nurs. Mrs Frances Langdale & I stayed at Hathrop. I writ to Bisshop Gifford⁴¹ by Request of F.L.
- 30 Much intercession made to my Lord Langdale to make him to sign a Single drouht to me for the payment of the 2d Thousand Pound.
- 31 Lord Gerard went from Hathrop. I went a second time to London, Lodged at Oxford with Mr Trinder. I wated of Doctor Bayly, President of Maudlen.

JUNE

- 1 I came with Mr Trinder from Oxford dined at Wickham & so came to London.
- 2 I went to Mr Medcalfs Stasioner, Suped with Cozen Henry Eyre in Fullers Rant.

³⁹ Cinquefoil, a species of plant of the *genus Potentilla*.

⁴⁰ Nicholas always kept the anniversary of his grandfather's and his father's deaths by a religious service.

⁴¹ Right Rev. Bonaventure Giffard, Bishop of Madaura; appointed Vicar Apostolic of London district, Mar. 14 1703.

- 3 I went with Mr Trinder to Mr Pigot. I Payed Mr Person for a Weding Ring.
- 4 I rid out of my own Horses with Cozen John Eyre behind Hampton to see Mrs Hubbard, she was Doughter to Captain Brock.
- 5 I Received the foule drought of my Marriage Deed from Mr Pigot & delivered it to Mr Trinder to be engrossed. I made a Visit to Lady Curson & Mrs Conley.
- 6 I dined with my Landlord Mr Plumber at his own Table & Charg. My three Cozen Eyres & I were at my Lady Cursons Lodgings all at once.
- 7 I went to Mr Henry Tyer in the Temple, he & Mr Wm: Woofold came to see me at my Lodgings in the Evening.
- 8 I delivered a Letter for my Brother Richard to one in the Virginia Coffy House. I went to see Mr Robert Brooks & his Wife.
- 9 I viseted Bisshop Gifford, Mr Woollescot, & took leave of Cozen Fowler. They began to Engroce my Marriage Deeds.
- 10 I dined at Mr Robert Brookses. I rid out with Cozen John Eyre & Mr Wm: Dormer.
- 11 I dined with Lady Curson, tryed on my Weding Sute there & in other places.
- 12 My Marriage Deeds were Examained in Cozen Henry Eyres Chamber by him, Mr Trinder & their Clarks.
- 13 I began my Journey from London towards Hathrop, dined with my Landlord of the Red Lyon in Wickham & Lodged in Why-field.
- 14 I came from Why-field to Hathrop by 10 of the Clock, found Lady Gerard there.
- 15 Lord Langdale, Lady Webb, Sr Jo: Webb &c: heard the Marriage Deeds read, all we at Hathrop concerned therein subscribed them before Four Witnesses.
- 16 Lady Dowager Webb acquainted me the Marriage was to be the day following.⁴² Lady Dowager Webb signed the Deed for payment of £100 p. An: to Mrs Frances Langdale.
- 17 I was Married to Lord Langdales Doughter by Mr Slaughter a Clergyman.
- 18 I went with Mr Georg Kent a Fishing with the Casting Net.
- 19 I went a Angling with Sr John Webb, Mr Kent &c: we took nothing.
- 20 Mr Boucher of Barnsley sent a How-do-you to my Wife & me.
- 21 I went with Sr John Webb to Parson Burchers and gave him half a Guiny as Marriage Dues.
- 22 I went with the two Lady Webbs, my Wife, &c: to Mrs Bedulfs in Boulton in Wilshire.

⁴² Since the Langdales and Nicholas were recusants, this last minute announcement of the time of the wedding ceremony was probably a precaution taken for the safety of the officiating priest, who if caught would be liable to life imprisonment, the informer receiving an award of £100.

- 23 Lord Langdale came back from the Bath or Spaw. Mr Thomas Webb was taken home from Nurs.
- 24 I went with Lord Langdale, Lady Webb, &c: to Mr Morgans.
- 25 My Charriot came to Hathrop to carry my Wife home to Crosby.
- 26 Mr Bedwell, his Wife, Mother & Doughter came to Hathrop.
- 27 Parson Burcher & his Wife came to take leave of my Wife & me.
- 28 I began my Journey from Hathrop towards Crosby with my Wife. We Lodged at Oster.
- 29 We came from Oster & Lodged at Bermidgham⁴³ at the Swan, where the Justisses were trying a Riot between some Townsmen & Souldiers.
- 30 We came from Birmidgham and Lodged at Stafford.

JULY

- 1 I came with my Wife from Stafford, bated at North Wich & lodged at Colebrook.
- 2 I came from Colebroock, bated at Warington, was met by Dr Lathom and treated by him in the Road. I brought my Wife home to Crosby.⁴⁴
- 3 Mr Wairing made me a viset as did also Mr Blundell & his 3 Sisters. Mr Scaresbrick & his Lady came to Lodg here.
- 4 Mr Blundell of Ince & his 3 Sisters dined here.
- 5 Mr Blundells 3 Sisters came to Dance.
- 6 Lord & Lady Molineux &c: Mrs Mary Oneal &c: dined here.
- 7 Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh & his Wife came to Lodg here.
- 8 Sr Wm Gerard, Merchant Houghton & Dr Tarlton dined here.
- 9 Mr Peter Mourton came to wish me Joy. I went to Ince in Coz Molineux his Coach with him & Coz: Ro: Scaresbrick we found part of Croxtath Family there.
- 10 Coz: Scaresbrick & his Lady went hence. Sr James Poole Lodged here.
- 11 Sr James Poole, Cozen Molineux's Wife of Mosburgh, my Wife &c: went to Ince.
- 12 Cozen Molineux & his Wife went hence. Mrs Molineux of the Grange, Ailes Tickley &c: presented my Wife & Suped here.
- 13 Sr James Poole, my Wife & I rid out to the Grang & to Mr Wairings. Coz: John Gelibrond came to Lodg here.
- 14 Mr Hurst & his Wife dined here.
- 15 Sr James Poole and Cozen John Gelibrond went hence.
- 16 I Received a Deed by Post from Cozen Henry Eyre for my Wife & me to signe. I Received £50 from Mr Babthrop for wch I gave him a Bill.

⁴³ Birmingham.

⁴⁴ See Appendix B for wedding expenses.

- 17 Walter brought word from Leverpoole that Thomas Brownbill⁴⁵ was comne home.
- 18 Robert Secomb & his Wife, Mr Eaton &c: suped here. Mr Prescot &c: came hither in the after-Noone.
- 19 My Wife & I dined at Scaresbrick. We found Mrs Blundell there & her 3 Doughters.
- 20 Mr Brook-bank, Mr Wairing & Mr Mourton dined here, Mr Mourton Lodged in Gatehous.⁴⁶ Coz: Eyre of Hasop & his Son and my Uncle Lawrence Eyre came to Lodg here. Mr Plumb came after dinner and examained my Papers relating to Suffering a Recovery.
- 21 I sent Walt to Preston to consult Mr Winckley about suffering a Recovery.
- 22 I went to Ince with Cozen Eyre & his Son and my Uncle Lawrence Eyre.
- 23 Cozen Eyre & his Son and Uncle Lawrence went hence. I wated of them to Leverpoole. we dined at Swarbrick.
- 24 Mr Henry Tyerer dined here, he came to discours me concerning Passing a Recovery.
- 25 I Walked with my Wife to Richard Tickleys.⁴⁷ we Rid back againe.
- 26 Patr: Francis Scaresbrick came to lodg here. Richard Harrison, Walter Thelwall & I computed the Number of Akers of Land belonging to me in order to suffer a Recovery.
- 27 I wated of my Lord Darby at Lathom.⁴⁸ I found his Brother & Mr Scaresbrick there, we played at Bowles.
- 28 I went to Croxtath to wate of Lord Molineux after his York-Shire Journey, but he was not comne home.
- 29 I went to Whitlidg green to see the Match bowled between Mr Molineux of Croxtath, Mr John Gerard & Mr Massy Mr Hugh Diconson, I joyned for a bottle with Mr Bold & Mr Atherton. I lodged at Mosburgh.
- 30 I came home from Mosburgh.
- 31 I sent Richard Ainsworth to Leverpoole for Wine.

AUGUST

- 1 My Wife, I, &c: dined at Ince with Lord & Lady Molineux.
- 2 I kept my Fathers Aniversary with Nine Paters. Mrs Harington, her Son & Doughter came hither. Cozen James Pool lodged here.
- 3 Cozen Scaresbricks Lady, Mrs Hesketh &c: dined here.

⁴⁵ Thomas Brownbill, a mariner living in North John Street, Liverpool. Mass was said by Jesuit priests in a room of his house for a number of years. Brownbill died in 1713 leaving a widow.

⁴⁶ The gatehouse was demolished in 1784-6 when extensive alterations were carried out at Crosby Hall.

⁴⁷ A yeoman of Little Crosby.

⁴⁸ Lathom was one of the Lancashire estates of the Earls of Derby; in this case, James, tenth Earl.

- 4 I went with Cozen James Poole to hunt with Lord Molineux in the New Park, we killed a Buck, Cozen John Molineux came from thence with me to lodg here. Cozen John Trafford dined here.
- 5 I went with my Wife to meet Cozen Scaresbrick, Mrs Hesketh of Rufford &c: at Lathom Spaw,⁴⁹ we dined with Young Mr Hesketh of Oughton, Mrs Entwisle, Mrs Ann Bold &c:.
- 6 Mr Walmesley of Showley lodged here.
- 7 I went with my Wife &c: towards Holy-well, we dined at Leverpoole & Lodged at Chester.
- 8 We went from Chester to Hollywell.
- 9 We came home from Hollywell. My Lady Gerard & Mr Wm Poole & his Wife were come to Crosby, they had been here 2 Nights.
- 10 My Lady Gerard, Mr Wm Poole & his Wife went hence.
- 11 I went to dine at Ageborth,⁵⁰ nobody being at home I came back.
- 12 I sent Thomas Howerd of a How-do-you to Dutton Lodg. I, Richard Harrison &c: met Mr Blundell, Richard Tickley &c: in the Mosses to vew the Water-courses.⁵¹
- 13 Mr Henry Tyrer called here as he was going to Great Crosby. T: Howerd came back from Dutton.⁵²
- 14 I went in the Coach to Croxtath with my Aunt Frances & my Wife.
- 15 Mary Barton's Brother was here.⁵³ I advised Wm Arnold not to Joyne against Lord Molineux in Sute.
- 16 I went to Preston, the Staff Quarrell with Mr J: Anderton &c: from Preston. I went by Curdeley to Lodg at Showley.
- 17 I went with Mr Walmesley first to Dungen-hall thence to Blackbourn to see Cozen John Gelibrond.
- 18 I carted over the Ford with Mr Walmesley &c: we went to Rib-Chester.

⁴⁹ A chalybeate spring well known in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries for its healing properties. About 1672, William the Cavalier wrote of it—

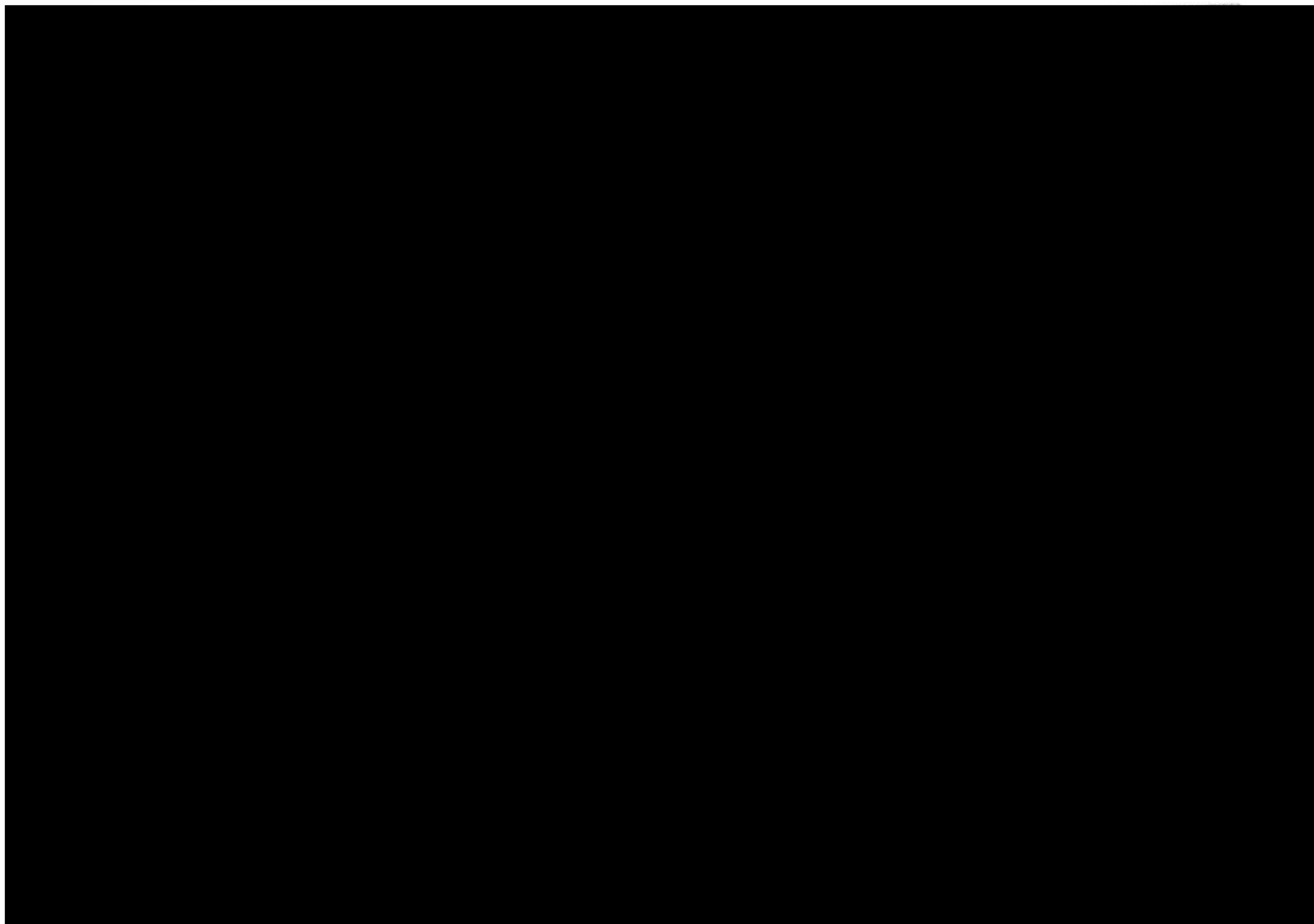
"To these waters next unto God I do certainly owe my life. 'Tis now above four or five weeks since I gave them another visit by reason of our old acquaintance. I was pretty well when I went; I drank them eleven or twelve days and returned perfectly well home. Yet I find them somewhat costly, for my stomach is so good that I eat all before me." The spring was in use till 1807, but disappeared when coal shafts were sunk in the neighbourhood. The site of the spring is now occupied by Spa Farm.

⁵⁰ Aigburth, now part of Liverpool. Nicholas was hoping to see his friend, John Harrington, Esq., of Aigburth, who had acquired Aigburth by his marriage with the heiress, Dorothy Tarleton.

⁵¹ The south west corner of Lancashire is flat and much of the land was mossland and marsh. Flooding frequently occurred and it was important to keep the water-courses clear to drain off the water. Disagreements between the townships of Little Crosby, Ince Blundell and Great Crosby were constantly occurring over the responsibility for cleaning out and repairing the water-courses.

⁵² Dutton Lodge was the home of Charles, sixth Baron Gerard of Bromley. Lady Gerard was cousin to the wife of Nicholas.

⁵³ Mary Barton, a chamber-maid at Crosby Hall; wage 7s. 6d. per quarter.



- 19 I came from Showley by Mrs Blackburns of the Hill to Lankaster, heard part of the Judges Charg & two Tryalls at Law.
- 20 I saw four Criminalls tryed, one Sr Wm Gerards Prisoner for Theevery &c: I compounded same day with Mr Winkley in order to Suffer a Recovery.
- 21 I Suffered a Recovery, Mr Henry Tyrer my Attorney. I heard the Tryall between Mr John Heys Attorney at Ormskerk & Mr Asham.
- 22 I came home from Lankaster & dined at Preston, it was a wet day.
- 23 Lord Gerard came to Lodg here.
- 24 Cozen Culcheth & his Mother &c: dined here. Two of Sr Rowland Standleys Doughters &c: came hither in the afternoone.
- 25 Cozen Richard Butler & Mr Andrews came to lodg here.
- 26 I went to Leverpoole with my Lord Gerard, my Wife, &c: Mr Howet & his Wife came to dine here.
- 27 I shewed part of my Demesne to my Lord Gerard & went with him to Ince.
- 28 Lord Gerard went hence. I brought him part of the way & then went to Ormskerk & discoursed Mr Baul, Tyrer, & Jamson.
- 29 Cozen Richard Butler went hence to Lodg at Croxtath.
- 30 I delivered up Wm Hodgsons £5 Bond at Leverpoole to Catherin [---].
- 31 I sent Walter Thelwall to Leverpoole to discours Mr Plumb & settle Accounts with Hornby, Gleast.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 I went with my Wife to Garswood⁵⁴ dined there, & thence went to Burchley, we found not the Laydis at home at ather place. My Wife took the Charg of houskeeping upon her.
- 2 We cut the Neck in the Cross Field. Mrs Swift who was formerly houskeeper to the late Lord Langdale came to see my Wife. I stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for the five last Months.
- 3 I disjested part of my Accounts.
- 4 I dined at Croxtath, found there Sr Roger Bradshaw⁵⁵ & his Brother, Mr Standlay of Preston &c: Possion first £10-6m-0s.
- 5 I went to see young Mrs Scaresbrick who was ill of a Cold, I dined there. Mr Mullins lodged here.
- 6 John Maudsley came to make a Cupbourd for my Wife in the Garden Chamber where we lay.
- 7 I went by Croxtath & Ditton to Dutton-Lodg where I lodged.

⁵⁴ Garswood Hall, home of Sir William Gerard of Bryn, fifth Baronet.

⁵⁵ Sir Roger Bradshaigh of Haigh. Jane, the wife of Nicholas Blundell, great-grandfather of Nicholas, was sister of Roger Bradshaigh, an ancestor of this Sir Roger.

- 8 Mr Holdford dined at Dutton. Lord Gerard, I, &c: went to the Bowling Green. we found Fox-hunters there viz: Sr George Warberton, Mr Ashton &c:.
- 9 Lord Gerards Butler married. I bowled with Lord Gerard, Geffery Houghton &c:.. Pat: Gelibrond came to Lodg at Dutton Lodg.
- 10 Lord Gerard, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to see the great Tree in the Park.
- 11 There was a Whit Buck killed in Dutton Park.
- 12 It rained very Much.
- 13 Pat: Gelibrond & I came home from Dutton by way of Leverpoole.
- 14 Edward Litherland the Mason Mesured the long new Brick-wall he had made for me Lineable with the Bleaching Yard.
- 15 I sent Walter Thelwall a second time to Preston to discours Mr Winkley about my Deed to lead the use of the Fine. Richard Ainsworth discoursed me about Fining with me &c:..
- 16 I sent Thomas Howerd to Scaresbrick & to Mr Jamson. Cozen Richard Butler came from Croxtath to lodg here.
- 17 Mr Mullins dined here & Mr Gunter.
- 18 Mr Wairing came hither & made his Complaint to me that he might not keep Pigeons.
- 19 I went to Warington to take leave of Cozen John Gelibrond who took Coach the day following for London. I lodged at Warington.
- 20 I came from Warington home before dinner, & then went to Scaresbrick with my Wife, Aunt, &c:..
- 21 I went to Ormskerk with Cozen Scaresbrick where he met Mr Sudall, Mr Jamson, Mr Thornton &c: at the Wheat Sheaf, & I think Mr Scaresbrick swore to the Bill & Answer relating to the Parsonage of Oughton.
- 22 We played at Cards most of the afternoone it being very wet.
- 23 My Wife, Cozen Scaresbrick, I &c: went to Ormskerke. I payed Mrs Scaresbrick in Coff half a Crown. Mr Houghton & Mr Ashhurst dined at Scaresbrick, we had Musick at night.
- 24 I went to More-hall with my Wife, Cozen Scaresbricke &c: Mr Thomas Hesketh &c: danded at Scaresbrick.
- 25 My Wife & I, &c: came from Scaresbrick home. Lord Langdales Groome came from Crosby to Scaresbrick to us.
- 26 I went with my Wife to pray for the Wife of Nicholas Shepperd. Mr Jones came to discours me concerning Dixon.
- 27 It rained much I writ most of the day.
- 28 I went to Leverpoole & payed Peter Mason £3 for Interest of £50 it was due in August. My Wife Sick.
- 29 I stayed much in my Closet Receiving of Rents: & paying Wages to Ser-

vants,⁵⁶ I turned off Richard Jump⁵⁷ & discoursed Thomas Howerd and Thomas Tickley. One came to buy Cheeses.

30 I raised the Abell Tree⁵⁸ a second time by the Long Garden Bridg. I raised the Dary and Garden-Chamber Chimney to hinder them from Smoking.

OCTOBER

- 1 Mr Swinbourn dined & lodged here, I payed him for Brother Josephs Pension. My Mother & Aunt went to Ince.
- 2 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to see Mr Levins thence I went to see Mr Wairing.
- 3 Thomas Howerd went to Dutton Lodg in hops to get a Service there.
- 4 I agreed with Thomas Brownbill to ad two lives to his in his Leas. Mr Gleast signed a Mortgage of his house in Ormskerk to Mr Plumb & me.
- 5 Captain Richard Butler came hither from Durham & went hence towards Ireland, he payed me three Guineys for the Score of his Maire for one year and above three Quarters.
- 6 I took a Dose of Phisick from Doctor Tarlton.
- 7 I killed a small Cow. Mr Standish and Mr Houghton dined here. Mrs Ann Harington & Langton came after diner.
- 8 I went with my Wife, Mother & Aunt to Leverpoole. I left them there and went forwards to Croxtath.
- 9 Mary St Legar gave my Wife warning. I layed some Apples in sand.
- 10 Richard Ainsworth was Married to Elizabeth Farrer.
- 11 I brewed for Mumm first time. My Mother & Aunt went to Mosburg.
- 12 I went to Leverpoole & payed of a Bond of £50 to Peter Mason wch was owing by my Father.

⁵⁶ "29 September 1703—This day I paid two quarters wages to most of my Servants, and the some of them were but one quarter behind, I set both down as paid this day being they were paid to this present 29.

	£	s.	d.
Walter Thelwall, Steward	3	0	0
Thomas Howard, Butler	1	0	0
Henry Bilsberry, Groome	1	5	0
Rich: Ainsworth, head hind	2	0	0
Rich: Jump, Ploughman	2	0	0
Henry Sumner, Plough driver	1	0	0
Thomas Tickley, Gardiner	1	10	0
Willi: Starkey, Cowman } at their own bound	4	0	0
John Kerfoot, Miller	4	10	0
Mary St. Leger, my Wive Maid, one quarter	1	10	0
Mary Barton, Chamber Maid	15	0	
Mary Formby, Dary Maid	17	6	
Catharine Fisher, Cook	17	6	
Given R. Jump as a gratuety	2	6	

⁵⁷ From the Disbursement Book it appears that Nicholas must have reconsidered the dismissal of his ploughman, Richard Jump, for his name appears in the Wage Lists till January 1705.

⁵⁸ White poplar tree (*populus alba*) or Abele.

- 13 Mr John Plumb came to cource with me, he dined here.
- 14 I tunned my Mumm,⁵⁹ it worked none in the Barrell.
- 15 I went to Ormskerk Race, five horses run & Mr Edmund Traffords woone.
- 16 I came in the Coach with my Wife from Ormskerk betimes in the Morning, we got home before Seaven of the Clock.
- 17 Mar: Bradshaw came hither. Mr Charles Harington sent a Servant with a Letter of Recommendasion to me.
- 18 I went in the Coach with my Wife, Mother, &c: to Wm Thelwalls & Mr Wairings it being the Goosfeast.
- 19 I went with my Wife and Aunt to Richard Tickleys to the Christoning of Richard Blundells first Child called Frances.
- 20 I went to look at my Watercourses, Mr Alban Butler came to me with a Letter from Lord Molineux whilst I was coursing. I tunned a second Brue of Mumm.
- 21 I took a second Dose of Pills by order of Dr Tarlton.
- 22 I received £50 from Thurston Waterworth for which I gave him a Bill upon Cozen Henry Eyre payable to Mrs Eckles:.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole discoursed the Gunner of the Elizabeth. Viseted Mr Pools Wife of Leverpoole.
- 24 I payed the Land Tax for one half year to Henry Williamson. Mr Smith from Croston lodged here.
- 25 I payed 5s for the Window Tax to Wm Sumner.
- 26 Mr Tasburgh & Mr Foster dined here. Mr Dicconson from Stony-hurst and Mr Swinbourn came to Lodg here.
- 27 I sent Walter Thelwall to Ormskerk to pay for my Wedding but the Receivers were gon. Mr Diconson & Mr Swinbourn went hence.
- 28 St Legar⁶⁰ let me Blud. St Legar & Mary Winstanley went to get their Teeth drawn. I walked with my Wife to the Sea Side.
- 29 Payed to Mr Wm Jamson by Walter Thelwall £50, & for Interest thereof £5-2s-6d wch said Sums were due to Mr Edward Atherton upon Bond as owing to him by my Father
- 30 I went a Seting into Litherland. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond came to lodg here after his Return from Bidleston.
- 31 I sent a hors to Leverpoole to fetch Pat: Gelibrond home to Crosby.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Mr Fazakerley & Mr Foster came after diner to cours with me. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and I coursed a hors back, his hors lep into a ditch.

⁵⁹ Mumm or Mum, a kind of beer originally brewed in Brunswick, largely imported into England in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

⁶⁰ Mary St. Legar, maid to the wife of Nicholas.

- 2 I Fited up a Tent⁶¹ for my Wife to work a peticote in as I think. Pat: Gelibrond & his Nephew went to Andertons.
- 3 Payed to Mr Wm Jamson by Thomas Tickley £3. it was for one years Interest of £50 owing to Mr Mallery by my Father the Principall is to be payed to Mr Mallery at London this very day. I sent Thomas Tickley to Scaresbrick for Frute Trees. Pat: Gelibrond, his nephew T:G: & I made a viset to Mr Levines & Mr Wairing.
- 4 Mr Peter Mourton & Mrs Jackson came to see my Wife. Mr Tasburgh & Mr Barrows came hither.
- 5 I went to Leverpoole with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond. I bought Solvers of Mr Sheelds.
- 6 I met my Lord Molineux at the Breck a Hunting. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 7 It Snowed in the Morning. I stayed at Home all day.
- 8 I met Lord Molineux a Hunting, we found no Hair, we dined at the Sun at Low-hill, a larg Shot, ill drunk.
- 9 Robert Shaw payed me £300 from Mr Winkley & Mrs Allanson. Edward Clifton came to paint my Wives Coat of Armes on the Great Charriot. Mr Levins & his wife came to Crosby. Paid by Walter Thelwall to Ellen Fleetwood at Croxtath the Sums of £90, £50, & £30 wch said Sums were owing by my Father to Winefred Rothwell, Ellen Fleetwood & her Sister, all Interest paid at the same time viz: £04-11s-0d.
- 10 Walter Thelwall sold five Beas[ts] at Leverpoole Fair. Cozen Scaresbrick sent word that she &c: would dine with me tomorrow.
- 11 Cozen Skaresbrick & Wife, Mrs Hesketh of Rufford &c:, Mr Blundell & Wife &c: dined here.
- 12 Richard Harrison brought me word from Mr Jamson that it was now time to look after John Spencers debt. I stated Accounts with my Aunt Frances⁶². I tunned October Beer over the Seller into a Hoggshead.
- 13 I met Mr Blundell a Coursing in the Mosses, thence we went to Ince, whilst I was there Mr Trafford of Croston & his Wife⁶³ came to lodg at Ince.
- 14 Cozen Trafford & Wife, Mr Blundell & Wife, &c: came hither. My Mother very ill.
- 15 I met Lord Molineux &c: Mr Trafford & Mr Blundell a Hunting at Low-hill. I hunted Harper the first time.
- 16 I went to Great Crosby a Coursing with Cozen Trafford, Mr Blundell &c:, we drunk at Henry Heskeths.

⁶¹ A frame used to stretch material on.

⁶² "One years Anuety to Aunt Frances due September the 29, 1702 . . . £25 0 0d." Frances Blundell, sister of William the Cavalier and great-aunt of Nicholas received from her brother, and later from Nicholas, an annuity of £25. When her brother, William the Cavalier was imprisoned for his recusancy or had to flee from Crosby Hall, Frances was the mainstay of the family. Nicholas affectionately spoke of her as *Great Aunt Frances*.

⁶³ The Traffords of Croston Hall near Preston, were related by marriage to the Blundells of Crosby.

- 17 I sent Walter Thelwall to More-hall to Enquire after Lord Bisshop.⁶⁴ My Wife was Bludied in the Foot.
- 18 It was a wet morning. I met Mr Molineux a hunting at the Breck. I went to Ince to take leave of Cozen Trafford. I supped there.
- 19 Ralph Tyarer Brought Cozen Wm Gelibronds hors home. I bluddied a Sick Sheep under the Eye.
- 20 I went to Leverpoole after dinner wth my Wife to get her Bludied but she was not. Robert Secombe kiss a bit.
- 21 Thomas Kerfoot & Wm Wignoll payed me £7-12s-6d. in part for Healbank. Robert Secombe came to begg Pardon for Kiss a bit.
- 22 I met Lord Molineux &c: a hunting at the Breck, we run a Hair to Litherland. Wm Thelwall, John Johnson &c: were carried from Great Crosby towards Lancaster.⁶⁵ Mr Smith from Scaresbrick lodged here.
- 23 I went to a hors Rase on Leverpoole Sands where a Gray Mair gave a Dunn Hors half a Mile at the Start, the Latter woun. I saw there Mr Hurst, Mr Robert Moore &c:
- 24 I lost a Lased Alb off the Hedg, it was supposed to be stoln about Noon. Mr Smith went hence.
- 25 I ordered Walter Thelwall to serch the Houses of L: Gilbertson, Bushell &c: with a Cunstable for the Alb wch was Stolne.
- 26 Lord Bisshop Smith of Callipolis in Asia and Mr Martin came to Lodg here.
- 27 Mr Edward Molineux came after dinner to see Lord Bisshop Smith.
- 28 Lord Bisshop confermed 75 Persons most of them Children.
- 29 Lord Bisshop confermed 25 Persons. Mr Almond dined here. Mr Thomas Woodfold came hither after dinner.
- 30 Lord Bisshop went to the Grang dined there, & confermed above 100 as tis believed. My Wife walked towards the Grang in disglise.

DECEMBER

- 1 Lord Bisshop confermed 7 here. I went wth Lord Bisshop in my Coach to dine at Ince. The case heard by Lord Bisshop between Mr Edward Molineux, Richard Tickley, &c:.
- 2 Lord Bisshop confermed 3 here. Mr Charls Harington dined here. I wated of the Bisshop part of the way towards Aigburth when he went hence. Mr Skarboroug from Townley came to lodg here.
- 3 Mr Skar-burrough went hence. I Received Letters from my Brother Richard by the Lawrell &c:. I coursed a Hare with Henry Hesketh wch George Cottom found set.

⁶⁴ Right Rev. James Smith, Bishop of Callipolis, Vicar Apostolic of the Northern District May 13 1688. Died May 13 1711, aged 66 years.

⁶⁵ Amongst the records in the Lancashire Record Office I have not been able to find any reference to this incident.

- 4 I went to Leverpoole & discoursed Mr Worthington about my Brother Richard, he was to have suckceeded my Brother in Virginia.
- 5 I and Wm Davy vewed Ainsworths Building. My Wife & Aunt Frances went to Ince. I discoursed Richard Kartwrights Mother about his coming to serve me.
- 6 I killed a Fat Hogg. Mr Molineux of the Grang payed me 10d for a Cheef Rent. A Butcher came to look at some Sheep.
- 7 I payed two Fiveteens to John Aldworth for the Poore.⁶⁶ I tooke the Mother off some Bottles of Wine & Bristow Beere. Nicholas Rilands was brought Prisoner to me for Debt.
- 8 I went to Great Crosby to cource a Hare that was found set, but it was gon. Coz: John Gelibrond lodged here in his way homwards from London.
- 9 Mrs Blundell & Mrs Woofold came from Ince hither.
- 10 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence to Scaresbrick. I Received the Glasses from Chester for the Great Charriot.
- 11 I met Lord Molineux & his Son a hunting at Litherland.
- 12 My Wife & Aunt Frances went to Ince. I went to see Elizabeth Fazakerley. I hunted for Sope & fond a great dele.
- 13 I went with Walter Thelwall to vew Wm Weedows water-courses. Henry Harker begged time for payment of Money to me. She his Wife lay with Mary Winstonley. My Wife went after Dinner to Leverpoole.
- 14 I dined at Aigburth, Mr Harington and his Son were gon a Hunting. I Found Mr Rigmaden, Simpkins, Thomas Howerd &c: in the North Chamber Carding & Drinking.
- 15 A Bedlumber was here & had nothing I think, he was rude. I went after dinner acoursing in the Orcherds &c: but found nothing. I sent Walter Thelwall to Preston to Mr Thornton with a Sertificate for my having payed in Glostershire for my Marriage.
- 16 I went with Pat: Gelibrond after dinner to Croxtath. We Suped there.
- 17 I went after dinner to Leverpoole & discoursed Mr Woodworth concerning my Brother Richard.
- 18 I payed Moses Marsh of Chester for Coach Glass &c:⁶⁷ I hunted at Litherland.
- 19 My Wife & I heard Mr Edward Molineux hold forth at Margaret Howerds. Mr Edward Molineux came hither after dinner. Catherine from the Woolpack came hither.
- 20 Thomas Howerd left his Service & was Suckceeded by Richard Cartwright.
- 21 I killed a Cow & a Hogg. I Rode to Ince after dinner with Pat: Gelibrond.

⁶⁶ "December 8. 1703—Two Fifteens for the Poor for the Demesne . . . 17s. 4d."

⁶⁷ "December 18. 1703—

	£	s.	d.
Silvering a Larg Looking Glass.		12	6
Pollishing the sade glass		8	0
A black frame and head for the glass		13	0
Two glasses for before for the Larg Charriot 4 black frames	2	16	0
Work done by the glass grinder more		6	9"

- 22 I sent a present of Fresh Meat to Margaret Brownbill.
- 23 I sent Thomas Tickley to see Widdow Scaresbrick & to get some Frut Trees
- 24 I went after dinner to Leverpoole. I received £3-5s. from Henry Harker & Mr Plumb payed me £6-9s-0d from Nicholas Riland. My Wive had her first Fit.
- 25 Thomas Howerd dined here. I red much in *Quid me persequeris*.⁶⁸
- 26 Mary Barton went to Scaresbrick to see her Brother. I went to Walter Thelwall with my Wife in the Evening.
- 27 I went with my Wife to Richard Harrison.⁶⁹
- 28 I went to Ince after dinner to solemnise Mr Blundells Birthday, he being now 40 years of Age. Mr Ralf, Thomas & John Tildesley were there.
- 29 I went with my Wife & Aunt to dine at Moor-Hall, we found there Mrs Hesketh of Rufford, Mrs Scaresbrick, Mr Ireland &c.; we lodged there.
- 30 My Wife & I &c: dined at Moor-hall. We came thence with Mrs Scaresbrick, Mrs Harington, &c: to Ormskerk to see Mrs Bold & so came home.
- 31 I played at Cards with my Wife. Cozen Thomas Walmesley, &c: Bryan Bryanson⁷⁰ discoursed me about fining for some small thing for the Children of Laurence Lea.

⁶⁸ *Quid me persequeris*; a small book dealing with the penal laws in force against Roman Catholics written by William Blundell, the grandfather of Nicholas. In 1661, William Blundell had a few copies printed. These were not for sale, but for distribution amongst friends. See December 19 1711.

⁶⁹ Visits to the cottages of yeomen and tenants in the neighbourhood as well as to the gentry formed part of the Christmas festivities.

⁷⁰ Bryan Bryanson, a tenant farmer living in the Morehouses, the northern end of the manor of Little Crosby.

Anno Domini 1704

JANUARY

- 1 Thomas Marrow of the Gate¹ declared before Richard Harrison & Richard Cartwright that he made choyce of his Son John's Life to be added to his own. My Aunt Frances walked to Ince after Dinner.
- 2 My Wife went in the Coach to Ince. Cozen Ralph Tildesley came hither from Ince.
- 3 I went with Pat: Gelibrond & Cozen Thomas Walmesley to see Mr Wairing, he not being at home we went to the Grang. I payed one Quarter of the Land Tax to Kerfoot & Henry Williamson.
- 4 Cozen Thomas Walmesley went hence. I went to see Parson Richmond, found with him Mr Marsden,² Mr Danvers, & Mr Poole of Liverpool. I think Parson Richmond had nuly been cut for the Stone, coming home I called to see Mr Wairing.
- 5 I went with my Wife & Pat: Gelibrond to Lidiat. I sent Henry Sumner to Chorley.
- 6 My Wife & Mother went to Richard Tickleys & the Grange. I stated Accounts with St Leg[ar].
- 7 I stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for four Months.
- 8 Mrs Blundell of Ince came hither as soon as we had dined. A good Scotch Piper here.
- 9 Mr Edward Molineux sent to me for his Breads. My Mother went to Ince to prayers, she stayed dinner there. I skated on Land-Lake.
- 10 Mr Gerard Barton lodged here.
- 11 I walked to Liverpool & met with the Parson of Formby, I dined with Captain Edward Tarlton.³ Mr Houghton payed me £9-11s-3½d for Butter bought by my orders for my Brother Richard.⁴
- 12 I dined at Scaresbrick & went thence with Cozen Scaresbrick to sup at Gorsuch.
- 13 I dined at Mr Levins his at the Moor-side with Mr Thomas Tildesley, Edmund Trustring &c: thence we Adjourned to Henry Heskeths & sent for Mr Wairing. Anderton played at Crosby.
- 14 My Wife went to be God-Mother to Mr Fazakerleys Daughter Mary, she took not Richard Cartwright with her but Thomas Howerd, she lodged at Scaresbrick.

¹ The village of Little Crosby consisted of a number of cottages with closes strung out on either side of a lane. At the end of the village there was a gate across this lane. Thomas Marrow, a tenant, lived in the cottage by this gate.

² Rev. Thomas Marsden.

³ Captain of the *Laurel* sailing between Liverpool and Virginia.

⁴ Houghton was the Liverpool merchant for whom Richard was acting as agent in Virginia. The butter was sent at the request of Richard, but the ship taking it was captured by a French ship.

- 15 I went to Scaresbrick to fetch home my Wife.
- 16 My Lady Molineux sent Mr Butler hither of a How-do-you. Pat: Gelibrond & I eat Christmas Fair at Richard Harrisons.
- 17 I killed a Fat Little Cow.
- 18 Mr Charls Harington & Mr Holdford's Son came hither just as we riss from Dinner.
- 19 Edward Clifton finished the painting of my Wives Closet.
- 20 Mrs Scaresbrick, Mrs Bold, &c: were expected to dine here, but it being a wet day they came not.
- 21 Mr Edward Molineux desired I would not expose to vew the Assignment of Wm Stocks Teneament. Pat: Gelibrand and she⁵ fell out at Cards.
- 22 Pat: Gelibrond went to Leverpoole. Walter Thelwall agreed with Edward Rycroft for three Bullocks, Ed: Ri: is to pay £35 for them.
- 23 My Wife sent to Doctor Fabius,⁶ he said she was with Child.
- 24 I went to Formby to acquaint Margery Blundell that her Son Nicholas wanted Money towards furnishing a house.
- 25 I went to dine at Croxtath & found Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh there. Pat: Gelibrond came from Leverpoole to Croxtath & so came home with me. Mr Aldridg at Croxtath.
- 26 Mrs Molineux of Croxtath, Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh, & Mrs Blundell of Ince dined here.
- 27 I began to furnish the Pent-hous Closet, Thomas Syer went towards London.
- 28 Mr Worthington came hither to receive my Commands before he went to Virginia.⁷ I went to Leverpoole to see Mr Hurst. I helped Richard Cartwright to buy Cloaths.
- 29 Elizabeth Johnson came hither from Rightington to offer her Service to be my Cook, I think she will not be accepted on.
- 30 Elizabeth Johnson went hence.
- 31 Mr Levins came hither as Pat: Gelibrond & I were going a Coursing, we came in and took a glass & then went and beat a Few Fields & so went to Ince and found no body at home.

FEBRUARY

- 1 I went after dinner to Leverpoole and bought four Silver Salt-Sellers.⁸

⁵ Nicholas's wife.

⁶ An apothecary, of Everton, whose real name was Bean, but was usually called after the Latin name for this plant—*Fabius*. Daniel Fabius lived at Low Hill in Liverpool. He was a Baptist and held services in his house. Died 1718.

⁷ Worthington was going as agent in Virginia for Houghton to enquire into the reasons why Richard Blundell would not let Houghton have an account of certain transactions in Virginia.

⁸ "3 February 1704—New Salt Sellers four Britannick Silver at 5s. 5d. per ounce £1 17s. 11d."

- 2 Mr Wairing came hither to see me as he was going to the buriall of his Brother Potter, I left him & walked out with my Wife & at my return found Mr Blundell of Ince & Mr Fazakerley here.
- 3 I payed all Interest due to Ann Bootle. I went with Wm Anderton to cours a Hare he had found set, we killed her not.
- 4 Edmund Trustrom came to discours me concerning his Bond of £400 for the use of his Sister Jane Renold. I let some set their hands to it that they did beleive he had payed his full propoursion according to the true intent of that Bond.
- 5 I hunted about Litherland and Walton wth Leverpoole Doggs in Company of Mr Silvester Richmond⁹ and Mr Molineux of Leverpoole, we had a long Chace.
- 6 My Wife took her first dose of Purging Salts from Doctor Fabius but to noe effect.
- 7 I hired John Banister to be my Cowman, am to give him 50s. till Christmas & half a Crown more is referd to me, I gave him one Shilling in earnest. I went after dinner to consult Dr Fabius about my Wife.
- 8 I went to Ormskirk Cocking, it being the second days fighting for a Plate.¹⁰ Mr Blundell of Ince won it.
- 9 My Wife & I & Pat: Gelibrond walked to see Mrs Levins. Cozen John Gelibrond lodged here.
- 10 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence to Ormskerk.
- 11 I sent four Cup[ple] of Rabets to Coz: John Gelibrond to Ormskerk by Henry Bilbury, he brought word Ailes Ainsworth was dead.
- 12 I went to congratulate Cozen Blundell for winning a Plate at the Cocking at Ormskirk.
- 13 Edward Lathom & his Wife dined here, he wanted to Borrow or hier some Money of me but I had none for him. I gave £50-10s to Walter Thelwall for Mr Wilson but he did not pay it to him being he came not at the time expected, tiss paid since by me Nicholas Blundell.
- 14 I went by Ormskerk thence Mr Howet & Pat: Gelibrond went with me to lodg at Dungenhall.
- 15 I walked with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond to Antley, Mr Rushton was ill of the Gout.
- 16 I went to the Aile-hous in Rushton with my three Cozen Gelibronds, Mr Howet &c.;, we were very merry.
- 17 I came from Dungenhall called at Dr Worthingtons & payed to John Baldwin of Wigan 10s-6d it being a Shop debt formerly owing by my Father.
- 18 I Walked to Wm Davis Stone Delf with my Wife. Richard Ainsworth discoursed me about his Fining for his Uncles John Ainsworth Living, he

⁹ One of Liverpool's most prominent merchants. Kept race horses and frequently competed in local horse-races.

¹⁰ "8 February 1704—Lost & Spent at Ormskerk Cocking 8s. 0d."

gave me the Stress book to peruse he being the Bayly of my Court. Richard Jump had Coca down in the bake-hous.

- 19 I saw Richard Jump married to Catherine Fisher.
- 20 She Quarrelled with me about her not tacking Phisick and my not coming to see & pitty her.
- 21 I went to Croxtath to welcome Lord Molineux home from London, he was not at home, I dined there & so went to Ditton thence to Farnworth, where I found Robert Wright, Mr Sankey, Cozen John Gelibrond &c:. I lodged at the Griffin in Farnworth, so did Cozen John Gelibrond.
- 22 Cozen John Gelibrond, Mr Harding & I valed 160 Trees at Ditton. Mr Jamson kept my Court in Little Crosby. I lodged with Cozen John Gelibrond at Mr Hardings.
- 23 I set a price on my Wood to Mr Owen. I came home by Croxtath where I found Mr Gerard of Ince, Mr Hind, My Wife, Pat: Gelibrond &c:.
- 24 I went after dinner to Leverpoole, I saw Mrs Travis who was Sick, and went to wish Dr Tarlton Joy.
- 25 My Wife went to see Mrs Molineux of the Grang & Mrs Levins they were Lying Inn. I Leased Ainsworths Living to Richard Ainsworth.
- 26 My Mother went to Leverpoole I went after dinner to Leverpoole and got my Wood at Ditton Warned to be sold.¹¹
- 27 My Wife & Aunt went in the Coach to Karr-hall. My Mother walked to Great Crosby & back.
- 28 Cozen Scaresbrick & his Wife came hither whilst we were at Dinner. This Morning I heard Wm Blansherd was almost killed in the Warand.
- 29 Some good Wives came to turn Pankakes. Wm Thelwall & Pat: Gelibrond drunk in the Gallery.¹² The Jury advised with me at the Gates.¹³

MARCH

- 1 I began to mesur Ground first. Two came from Leverpoole to discours me about my Timber at Ditton.
- 2 My Wife, Mother, & Aunt Frances walked to Great Crosby to see Wm Blansherd.
- 3 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to dine at Croxtath.
- 4 I went after dinner to Leverpoole and sold 156 Oak Trees at Ditton to Robert Litherland, Robert Barrow, & James Gregory for £46-10s-0d.
- 5 Wm Davy & John Blundell discoursed me about repairs at Ainsworth Hous. Mr Levins called here in the Evening. John Lurting gave me his Bill.

¹¹ "February 1704—Warning at Leverpoole: a sale of Timber 6d.
Spent at Leverpoole 1s 7d."

¹² The upper floor, west front, of Crosby Hall. In 1784-6 this long gallery was made into a number of rooms.

¹³ Small groups of men appointed at the manor court to decide matters concerning the fields, lanes, gates, water-courses, &c.

- 6 I began to perues some old Leases. Mr Robert Fazakerley from Ince came hither.
- 7 Thomas Tickley grafted amany Apple Trees.
- 8 Mr Mullins came in the Morning and dined here. The Huxter Women mesured Apples in the Hall.¹⁴
- 9 My Wife and Aunt went to Leverpoole & discoursed Aldridg about making a new Bed for the Garden Chamber.
- 10 I mesured the Oaklands &c: by taking two Stasions in each field. I saw some horses being driven from Great Crosby, they were Lord Molineux his.
- 11 Watty went with me to Leverpoole. I drunk with Wm Kennion, Henry Wadkinson, Wm Clough, Henry Roson, &c: Richard Woods was buried.
- 12 My Wife & I went to Margery Howerds to hear Mr Edward Molineux hold forth.
- 13 My Lord Molineux & his Son, Mr Eastcot, Dr Thomas Tildesley, Captain Robert Fazakerley &c: came hither whilst I was Mesuring & Maping Land in the Town Field.
- 14 I sent my own Teames to the Cole pit.¹⁵ Thomas Jackson came home after his being prisoner in France.
- 15 I sent Walter Thelwall to Preston Fair with Squerrall. I mesured part of the Town Field. It rained Much.
- 16 I sent Henry Bilisbury to see Lord Molineux & Mr Babthrop¹⁶ after their Preservasion from Fier.
- 17 Walter Thelwall sent five Barron Cows home which he bought at Preston.¹⁷
- 18 Walter Thelwall went after dinner to Leverpoole whilst I was mesuring the Bark.¹⁸
- 19 Mary Barton went to see Thomas Syers Wife, it Snowed at Night very Much.
- 20 I went to Leverpoole with my Instruments to Mr Moss¹⁹, I dined at Mr Lancasters and drunk at Secombs with Mr Hind, Mr Harington, &c:.
- 21 Richard Harrison payed me £6-15s-1d in part for Rack Rent.

¹⁴ Huckster—a pedlar or hawker; a seller of goods in a small shop or booth. These women were buying apples grown on the estate and stored, for sale in Liverpool.

¹⁵ "Coles 16 Baskets 5s. 4d.
Coles 5 Work & 4 Baskets £2. 17s. 0d."

¹⁶ Rev. Albert Babthorpe, S.J., stationed at the New House, Ince Blundell from 1702 to 1714, was appointed Superior of the Jesuits in Lancashire in 1710.

	£	s.	d.
¹⁷ "Barran Cows 5 bought at Preston	13	15	6
Tole for 5 Barran Cows			10
Hay one night for 5 Cows		1	3
Driving 5 cows from Preston to Crosby		2	6
Spent at Preston Faire		6	2"

¹⁸ A field in the demesne of Little Crosby.

¹⁹ "Rectifying my Crosstaff, &c. 10d.
A Cross Staff 8s. 6d."

- 22 I went to Leverpoole & brought home my Instruments. My Mother & Aunt Frances went to Ince, found young Mrs Scaresbrick &c: there.
- 23 I sent Walter Thelwall to Ormskerk with Squerrell to Swap with Mr Dru: Hesketh but he did not. The Higher Spindle of the Mill was broke.²⁰
- 24 Cozen John Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 25 Pat: Gelibrond & his Brother went to Croxtath after Dinner. Katherine Jump olim Fisher left her Service.
- 26 Cozen John Gelibrond & I went hence with Ellin Fleetwood to Richard Tickleys, he not being at home, Cozen John Gelibrond and I went to Ince.
- 27 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence to valew wood at Cunsold. I sent Henry Sumner to pay Cozen Houghton £3 for Interest of Sixty Pound.
- 28 I sent Walter Thelwall to order my Tennants in the Moorehouses to set Starr upon Fryday next.²¹
- 29 Richard Ainsworth with the Assistance of his Father-in-Law payed me £45 in part of £70 for a Fine. Jane Jones came to discource me. The Carrier brought two Trunks hither from Cozen Butler at Durham. I went to vew little Half-Acker i'th New-field, & to set out the limets of Wm Wignolds Teneament near his New barn. I drunk at Widdow Ridings with John Sumner, Wm: Wignold & Bryon Bryonson.
- 30 Mr Charls Harington dined here. Walter Thelwall left his Son with Doctor Fabius.
- 31 Ralf Tyarer rowalled Swap. I sowed part of the Town Meadow.

APRILL

- 1 One of the Stone Pillars was finished. The Back-Pourch doar was hung. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond lodged here.
- 2 I went with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond to see Mr Wairing.
- 3 Mr Jamson finished the Court in Little Crosby. Mr Harington, Cozen James Poole &c: dined here. I was at the Race on Crosby Marsh between Mr Haringtons Mair & a Hors of Mr Molineux his of Leverpoole. Cozen James Poole Lodged here.
- 4 I payed Thomas Wawley 45s. for Interest of his Brothers Money. The Bond is drawn in the name of Cozen John Gelibrond & John Tayler. Cozen James Poole went hence to dine at Scaresbrick. Mrs Aspinall came from Ince hither.
- 5 I sent my Teames to the Cole-pit.
- 6 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond shot a Crow to be layed on the Town Meadow.

²⁰ "23 March 1704—Mending the Spindle of the Mill which was broke by the Wind 4s. 6d."

²¹ Star grass or Marram grass, a coarse grass with an extensive fibrous root system, grown on the sandhills to bind the sand together and thus retain the sandhills which were of great importance to prevent flooding at high tides and storms in this area.

7 I went with Pat: Gelibrond & his Nephew to Leverpoole we dined at the Angell, thence we went to Aigbourth, & so back to Leverpoole. I found Sr James Poole at Mr Molineuxes where I drunk some time. I heard the Cookow & saw one Swallow. Mr Hurst drunk with us.

8 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went. I sent by him £25 to his Father.

9 My Wife & Aunt Frances went to Ince after dinner in the Coach.

10 Mr Levins & his Wife came hither just when we had dined. Mr Charls Harington sent Thomas Howerd to Swap his Gray-stoned hors Ironsides for my Mair Squerrall, wch I did of evenhands.

11 My Wife took off her Pills the first time. I went about seven of the Clock in the Morning to mesure Ground.

12 Mary St. Legar went hence to Leverpoole, she said she would not return to Crosby. I killed a Larg Ox.

13 My Mother decayred to my Wife she would not stay here. I hurt myself with a fawl down a Cop. I think it was whilst I was mesuring the Flat. Pat: Gelibrond found a Crosier Growing.

14 My Mother was bissy packing up. Mr Edward Molineux came whilst the Hall & Entrys were washing.

15 My Mother and her Maid bid adue to Crosby, they went to lodg at Ince. I went with them in the Charriot. I got my Collasion at Ince.

16 My Aunt went to lodg at Ince. My Wife went to Leverpoole to fetch Mary St. Legar back hither, but without Suckces.

17 I payed £7-13s-3d for one Quarters Land Tax. Richard Bryanson payed me £6 for a Fine for part of Leas Teneament. I went with my Wife to Ince to see my Mother.

18 Thelwall went to the Parish Meeting at Sephton.

19 I began Barly Seeding. Mrs Mary Winstanley brought word my Mother expected Mary Barton should be turned away ere she would come.

20 I set forwards towards Ditton but went not on, but came back through Great Crosby where I called at Mr Wairings & saw Ann Hatton who was Sick. Mr Wairing to Crosby in the after-noone. My Aunt came home from Ince. Mr Bruce from Northumberland lodged here.

21 Winny Hatton dyed somthing sodenly. Cozen Butler came to stay here awhile in her way from Durham to Ireland.

22 I fetched my Mother back to Crosby in my Coach from Ince. Mr Maynard dined here.

23 I sent my Coach to fetch Mrs Blundell of Ince to dine here. Nancy Hilton alias Bew-regard came to profer her Service to be my Wives Maid.

24 Ann Bootle came to discous me about writings to be made between her & Edward Tatlock.

Richard Ainsworth brought my new bed home from Mr Aldredg Uphoulsterer at Leverpoole. St. Legar acquainted me she had orders from her Mother to goe to London. Mr Hesketh from Mosburgh lodged here.

- 26 Mr Hesketh went hence. Thelwall went to Haslinden Fair.²²
- 27 Mr Aldridg his Man set up a New blew-bed in the Garden Chamber, but not at all to content.
- 28 I went to Leverpoole & heard upon the Sands that Mr Edward Molineux was found ded on the Sands²³. I received from Margaret Brown-bill £30 for a Fine & payed £10 to Mr Aldridg. going homwards, I met Cozen Butler, my Wife &c: going in my Charriot towards Leverpoole. I turned back with them, Cozen Butler went that day on Bord the Debora for Dublin, Sanders Drury, Commander.
- 29 I went to Leverpoole thence to the Grange where I found the Corps of Mr Edward Molineux, layed upon my Carriage, in order to be buried.
- 30 I saw Thomas Gerard Married at the Grang to Ailes Sumner.

MAY

- 1 Jane Smith came to be Cooke. I stated Accounts with St Legar.²⁴
- 2 I went to shoot Rooks at Ince, Mr Blundell was not at home; Dr Shaw & Mr Edward Molineux of Formby Shot Rooks with Ston-bows²⁵ at Ince. I sent Richard Cartwright with St Legar to Warrington when she left my service to goe to London.
- 3 I took Phisick from Dr Le beg. My Mother & Aunt went in my Coach to dine at Croxtath. Edward Tatlock came hither to discourse of writings to be made between him & Ann Bootle whom he hopes to make his Wife. Jane Jones came a second time to discourse me about Money owing by her to me.
- 4 Mrs Aldridg came after dinner and brought a Joyner with her, to mend the falts in my New bed, she suped here, I sent a Man & hors with her to Leverpoole.
- 5 I began to Shear Sheep. Walking in the Evening to Mr Wairings, I sent Letters to post by Darby Wife to Cozen Henry Eyre & Mr Cole.
- 6 I went after dinner to Leverpoole with Pat: Gelibrond when he went to buy things for his Journey towards Bidleston.

	£	s.	d.
²² "Market wages at 6d. per day to Thelwall & 3d. per day to the Rest		19	6"
"Small Weather Sheep 24 at Haslanden	7	0	0
Tole for the Sheep			8
Score of the Sheep for one Night			6
Help to drive them to Crosby		3	0
Spent in buying Sheep at Haslanden		3	2"

²³ The Rev. Edward Molyneux, S.J., was buried in the Harkirk, Little Crosby, the piece of ground set apart in the demesne in 1610 for the burial of Roman Catholic Recusants. In the Harkirk Burial Register kept by the Blundells, Nicholas wrote:

"Mr Edward Molineux bourn at Alt-Grang was unfortunately killed by a faule off his horse April the 28th. 1704, being in the 65th year of his age. He was a Clergy Priest of Doua and had for 38 yeares been a painfull Missioner in Formby, Crosby and many other places having under his charge at his death more than eight hundred penitents besides Children that depended upon him, he was buried the 29th of April A.D. 1704 in the Harkirk about tenn of the Clock at night."

²⁴ "28 April 1704—To Mary St Legar for One Months Service 10s. Od.
2 May, 1704—Given St Legar when she left my service 5s. Od."

²⁵ A kind of cross-bow or catapult used to shoot stones, frequently used in shooting birds.

- 7 I was at the Marriage of Edward Tatlock to Ann Bootle. I payed Ann Bootle £3 in part of whot I owed her.
- 8 I went to Ince with Pat: Gelibrond, two Quackers came to buy Mrs Blundells Pyed horse. Mr Wilson Priest lodg here. I finished Barly Seeding.
- 9 I payed at Croßby £50 to Mr Wilson and all Interest viz: £01-5s-0d., Mr Wilson went hence. I began to open the Soughs.²⁶
- 10 I went with My Wife & Aunt to dine at Ageburth, there was Mr Holford, Mr Bretter, Mr Smallwood &c.: I came home through Leverpoole & brought Mrs Collins to Lodg here. In my Absence Thelwall payed a Sack-Rent to Lord Rivers his Servant for Five years last past due to the Crown.²⁷ Mr Smith Priest came to discourse me concerning the writings relating to Mr Mullins.
- 11 I clensed all the three Wells and began to cover the Sough.
- 12 I went after dinner to Mr Jamson's, he not being at home I went to Ormskerk to the Buriall of Dr Barton. Mr Jamson there told me he had received both Principall & Interest from Heartley.
- 13 I sent Mrs Collins home with Thelwall.
- 14 Mrs Blundell of Ince Suped here.
- 15 My Mother & Aunt went in the Coach to Scaresbrick to Lodg there. I put up the Bed in the Blew-Chamber.
- 16 Mr Jamson payed me at Crosby £59-15s. upon Account of Principall & Interest owing to me by Hairtley. Mr Jaimson dined here.
- 17 Three of my own Teames and 8 of the Tennants brought home two Works of Coales wanting 4 Baskets.
- 18 Mr Hesketh Pres: dined here. I sent Richard Cartwright to Ormskerk to meet Nancy Hilton, who was to be my Wives Maid, but she came not this day.
- 19 I stated Accounts with Mr Tasburgh for Money owing to my Uncle Thomas Blundell. I pd to Mr Tasburgh £10 in part.
- 20 I went after dinner to Leverpoole, Jane Jones owned herself Debitor to me £3-10s-0d. in presence of Mr Plumb. Bess was Horsed.
- 21 My Wife, Pat: Gelibrond, & I walked after dinner to Mr Levin's & after Supper to Ince. Some of us would not drink.
- 22 I payed £11 to Ann Bootle the Wife of Edward Tatlock it being the Remainder of £14 owing by me to her. I began to lay the Walk in the back-Court with brocken Brick. My Wife perceived herself quick of her first Child.
- 23 Many Post-Letters came and great Nuse from Portugall.²⁸ Maids Dansing.
- 24 Thelwall went to Wigan to see the Fair. Black Mair Bonny was covered with Iron Sids.

²⁶ Drains or gutters for draining off water.

²⁷ "Sack-rent for five years last past due the Lord Rivers, Farmer of it from the Crown 13s. 4d."

²⁸ A reference to the War of the Spanish Succession.

- 25 Mr Wairing came hither to speak for some Turf. The Miller fiddled in the Mill-Kill²⁹ to the Neighbours.
- 26 I sent my Coach to Scaresbrick to carry my Mother & Aunt Frances from thence to Mosburgh. Captain Robert Fazakerly came and fished for Shoulers in the Town-field Pit.
- 27 I went to Wigan & there discoursed with Sr Roger Bradshaw concerning £100 owing by him to Mr Christopher Bradshaw, I drunk with Sr Roger Bradshaw, his Brother, &c.: I saw the German-Artist. I lodged at Doctor Worthingtons.³⁰
- 28 I went from Wigan to see my Mother at Mosburgh I dined there.
- 29 Ellen Boucher came & offered her service to be the Chamber-Maid.
- 30 I went with my Wife to dine at Mr Aldridges in Leverpoole we were at the Buriall of our Landlord Robert Secomb. Mrs Collins came back with us to Lodg here.
- 31 I went to Ince to see Mr Blundells knitters of Nets.

JUNE

- 1 Mr Foster, Captain Robert Fazakerley and I fished in the Town-Field Pit for Showlers.
- 2 Bonny Buttocks was Covered by Bramwells Whit Gray Stallion. I sent Henry Bilsberry home with Mrs Collins in the Morning.
- 3 I dressed the Gallery and Dining Roome Chimney. Edw: Howerd from Lithom came to Lodg here.
- 4 My Wife went from Dinner being ill in her Belly and Sides.
- 5 Pat: Thomas Wofold³¹ held forth the first time at Winny Marrowes most of my Servants went to hear him. Henry Bilsberry first taught Rich: Whittle to drive a Coach.
- 6 My Wife & I dined at Scaresbrick thence we went to Ormskerk Fair then to Mr Jamsons & so home.
- 7 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall I sent Richard Cartwright to Wiggan for Ann Hilton alias Bewregard.
- 8 My Wife and I went to Mosbrough to fetch my Mother & Aunt home.³²
- 9 Walter Thelwall went in the Evening to Newbrough Fair.
- 10 I was busy most of the day disjesting the Accounts I had Stated wth Walter Thelwall.

²⁹ The mill-kiln in which grain and hops were dried for making malt.

³⁰ Dr. Thomas Worthington of Wigan, friend of Nicholas and frequently consulted by him in cases of sickness. Registered his estates as a "papist" in 1717.

³¹ Rev. Thomas Wolfall, S.J., one of the two Jesuit brothers of Richard Wolfall, Esq., of Moor Hall, succeeded the Rev. Edward Molyneux, S.J., as priest at Alt Grange and remained there till his death in 1720.

³² Nicholas's mother and Aunt Frances had left Crosby Hall through some disagreement with his wife. Apparently some reconciliation had been made.

- 11 I went to Croxtath to welcome Mr Carrall Molineux³³ into the Countrey, the discourse of the Gold Watch
- 12 Mrs Blundell of Ince & Mr John Blundells Doughter came hither. Mrs Levines acquainted me of her husbands designe concerning his Son.
- 13 I went to Low Hill to the Doctors & to Liverpoole³⁴ I drunk with Mr Gleast & Dr Tarlton; it was a wet night.³⁵
- 14 I dined at the Grange, was present at the valewing of Books, I bought some,³⁶ Great Gilbert Norriss was there.
- 15 I discoursed Richard Tickle of this Town concerning his Sons Idleness. I sent John Banister to Ormskerk for Salmon.
- 16 Mr Levins came to Crosby to discourse Mr Gelibrond and Mr Tasbrough, he drue up his case to shew to the Lord Molineux. Ann Hilton alias Beuregard came to be my Wives Maid.
- 17 It being my Weding day Mr Tasburgh & Mrs Levines dined here. James Brown Fiddled at Night,³⁷ Andertons Wife told me her Husband was pressed at Wiggan.³⁸
- 18 Thomas Blundell came to me to advise concerning the Selling of his owne or his Wives Living.

³³ Caryll, second son of William, fourth Viscount Molyneux.

³⁴ Low Hill, a part of Liverpool. Nicholas had gone to consult Dr. Fabius.

"14 June 1704—Dr Fabius for casting Water 6d."

³⁵ Perhaps Nicholas seized the opportunity, the night being wet, to write the following letter. It is interesting as it reveals something of the character of Nicholas:

"To Mrs Berry at the house of the Late Lord Langdale in Kings Street near St James Park London, June the 13, 1704

"My Wife has received her Mantue & Pettycoat 'tis Much to her liking especially considering the price, but its too streat in the Shoulders & she could have wished it had not ben so grave a Couler. I have sent the Paper to Mrs Houghton as you desired & by the receipt here inclosed you may see I have payed the £3 according to order, yet one excpion I have against your Bill which is that you have not set any thing down for Postage of Letters or Pourteridge but this is a fault may for once be pardoned, but for the future please to put down all your expenses, tis enough that you have the trouble, for which my Wife returnes you hearty thanks, she is now above half gon with Child & yet extreamply sick otherwayes would have writ herself to have wished you much Joy.

I am

your humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

(From Nicholas Blundell's Letter Book).

In his Disbursement Book on May 30 1704 he wrote:

"Payed by Walter Thelwall to Mr Houghton at Ormeskerk by orders of
Mrs Ann Berry for a Callico Mantew & Peticoat Bought at London . . . £3 0s. 0d.
Carriage from London 1s. 3d."

³⁶ This was a sale of the books of the lately deceased Rev. Edward Molyneux.

"14 June 1704—Books bought at the Grang 6s. 10d."

³⁷ "17 June 1704—James Brown for Fidling 2s. 0d."

³⁸ Music at the Hall was usually provided by Richard Tatlock, a fiddler, and William Anderton, a piper. Nicholas it seems had sent for Anderton to play, but was informed by Anderton's wife that he had been pressed into the army for service in the war with France. Nicholas immediately wrote to Captain Bradshaigh appealing for his release. This appeal seems to have succeeded for Anderton often played at the Hall afterwards.

- 19 I ploughed with a Culter & no Suck³⁹ in the Mossheigh to find Stocks. Mr Gelibrond & Mr Tasburgh went to Croxtath to petition in behalf of Mr Levines.
- 20 I went to Leverpoole drunk with Mr Hind, sent p: Post to Cozen Henry Eyre, Mr Cole.⁴⁰ and Mr Richardson.
- 21 Henry Sumner brought a Wheele and some Carp from Mrs Blackbourn.
- 22 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond came to lodg here. Pat: Gelibrond began to take the Bitter Drought.
- 23 I went by Ditton to Chester with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, we lodged at the Golden Lion.
- 24 I went with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond from Chester to Holiwell, we lodged at the Cross-Ceyes.
- 25 I went into the Well with severall of the Pilgrime Sisters &c: Smiths by name in Shropshire.
- 26 I came home wth Cozen Thomas Gelibrond from Hollywell by Chester & Leverpoole.⁴¹ Truman came over the Water with us.
- 27 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence to Ormskerk, it was a very wet day.
- 28 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond returned to Crosby from Ormskerk with his Uncle. Captain Robert Fazakerley came to borrow a horse to goe to Leaton Rase on. Richard Cartwright shaved my head.
- 29 My wife, Mother & Aunt went to Richard Blundells of the Carr Side thence to Ince. Henry Hesketh, Thomas Syer and I smoked & drunk in the Hall. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 30 I Lead home Clover and began to Mow in the Mossheye.

JULY

- 1 I went to Leverpoole brought home a Cradle &c: wch was bought at Chester Fair.
- 2 Pat: Gelibrond & I went to Ince after dinner & found there Mr Thomas Richardsons Brother.
- 3 I agreed to add one Life to Taylors Teneament for £06-15s-0d. I was at Great Crosby Race between Mr Silv: Richmonds Bay Mair and Mr Ather-tons Gray. Mrs Billington came to Lodg here.

³⁹ Suck—a plough share. Culter—coulter, the iron blade fixed in front of the share in a plough. Nicholas was having the field turned over to remove the stocks or roots of old trees.

⁴⁰ Mr. Cole was engaged in collecting money for the English Poor Clare nuns at Rouen. In this case Nicholas was sending money to his aunt Margaret, daughter of William the Cavalier, who was a Poor Clare nun at Rouen.

"23 June 1704—Sent on the 20th a Bill to Mr Cole for the use of my Aunt Margaret Blundell at Roan tis received viz £30 Os. 0d."

⁴¹ "23 June 1704—Spent on myself, Man & 2 Horses going to Chester & staying one night 6s. 9d.
Spent at Hollywell staying two Nights myself, Man & 2 Horses with Coz. Tho. Gelibrond 18s. 7d.
Coming home through Chester from Hollywell 3s. 7d."

- 4 I Lead Turf with Boon Carts.⁴² My Aunt and Mrs Billington walked to Ince and suped there. I went out a Fowling & coming home I called to see Mr Wairing.
- 5 Mrs Blundell of Ince dined & Suped here. Walter Thelwall went to Lord Molineuxs Rase at Leaton Heyes.
- 6 My Wife and Mr[s] Billington went to Gorsuch.
- 7 I opened a Box of Babby Clothes which was sent to my Wife by my Lady Webb.⁴³
- 8 I was walking to Leverpoole with Pat: Gelibrond but Lurtings Wife being ill we turned back. Jane Smith Cook and Mary Formby Dary Maid changed Offices.
- 9 My Wife and Mrs Billington went in the Coach to Richard Tickleys.
- 10 I took my First dose of the Bitter drought. Mrs Billington went hence into Chesshire.
- 11 I took my second Dose of the Bitter Drought. Dorothy Blundell cut 13 Cock Chickens for my Wife.
- 12 Aunt Frances Blundell went in the Coach to Ormskerk where she saw Lady Gerard of Garswood, Lady Anderton &c:.
- 13 My Mother and Wife went after Dinner to Ince to see Lady Gerard, Cozen Scaresbrick, Lady Anderton, &c:. I walked with Pat: Gelibrond to Ince to Sr Wm Gerard &c:.
- 14 I went to advise with Dr Fabius. I dined there, thence went to Leverpoole.
- 15 I Bluddied Iron-Sides in the Taile. Mr Blundell & Cozen Edward Scaresbrick Senior came hither. Walter Thelwall taken suddenly ill.
- 16 My Wife, I, &c: dined at Ince with Lady Anderton, Mr Howet, &c:
- 17 I took a Vomit. Ann Howerd Acquainted me she designed to purchas Philip Formbys Teneament.
- 18 I began to drink of Adams Spaw.⁴⁴ She gladly would have Rode to Leverpoole to get her Tooth drawn but I prevented her.⁴⁵
- 19 Received £3 from Ann Tatlock upon Interest. Lady Anderton &c: Cozen Standley and his Wife &c: came hither after dinner.

⁴² When a tenant leased land from the lord of the manor he agreed to pay a money rent and boon duties. For example, when Henry Watkinson leased some land in Little Crosby he paid: "Rent 16 shillings per annum at the 4 usuall feast days. Three days with a Team or instead of each 1s. 0d. Three days Reaping or instead of each 4d. Six hens or instead of each—6d. Must pay at each fifteen 4d. Must find a Foot Souldier Furnished with Arms (except a Pike) to serve in the Wars when ordered by me or my Heirs." (Tenants Book, DDB1/54/41 and 42. L.R.O.)

⁴³ Grandmother of Nicholas's wife. Mrs Blundell herself was also busy making clothes for the expected baby—

"July 1704—Muslen & Holland for Babby Cloths £1 14 11½."

⁴⁴ Possibly a spa near Wigan. There was a chalybeate well in Harrogate Street, Wigan, half a mile from a bridge over the River Douglas known as Adam Bridge.

⁴⁵ Nicholas did not want his wife to ride to Liverpool while she was pregnant with her first child. See November 3 1704.

- 20 Dr Traps and Mr Wairing came hither after dinner. I rode to Adams Spaw to drink the waters.
- 21 I went to Ince and Invited Lady Anderton &c: to dine here on Sunday. Some of my Hay Makers Refused to come. Jane Smith who had not been 3 Months my Servant left her Service, she was first Cook & now Dary-Maid & is suckseeded by Bridget Sumner.
- 22 I Set the Cradle up in the Store hous.⁴⁶ Walter Thelwall went to Doctor Fabius.
- 23 Margarit Bullin who is to be Nurs to my first Child proposed me to bate one Quarters Wages if she was delivered of a Child within 30 weeks after she had declaired to my Wife that she was with Child and promised to declare that she was with Child if it should prove so whilst she was a Nurs. My Mother and Aunt Frances went to Ince to take leave of Lady Anderton. The Debate about Lady Andertons going to Scaresbrick or Scaresbricks dining here.
- 24 Henry Bilsbury went with a Cart to Leverpoole and brought home the Chear & Taberets⁴⁷ &c: and Provisions for tomorrow.
- 25 Lady Anderton &c:, Cozen Blundell &c:, Cozen Standley & Scaresbrick &c:, dined here & most of them Suped.
- 26 I went with my Wife to Leverpoole, we dined at Mr Aldridges.
- 27 I Perused some Papers Relaiting to Accounts between Mr Gleast⁴⁸ & me.
- 28 I Walked with my Wife to the Hay Makers in the Cowhey.
- 29 I went to Melling Chappell to meet Mr Molineux of Mosburgh but he not coming I went to Croxtath. Cozen John Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 30 Mrs Blundell of Ince and Mrs Wofold came hither after dinner. Cozen John Gelibrond and I walked back with them to Ince.
- 31 Cozen John Gelibrond read to me the Play called the Taiming of the Show,⁴⁹ he gave me a Bill of £30 upon Mrs Banister it was for Paying off Sister Winny & Fannys Pensions.⁵⁰ The second day of Leading Turf with Boone Carts. I gave one Shilling to Cozen John Gelibrond for wch he is to give me Five Pound when his Brother is a Bisshop.

AUGUST

- 1 I went to Dr Fabius thence to Leverpoole to buy Cloths for Ann Hilton alias Bewregard. Cozen John Gelibrond went hence.
- 2 I Solemnised my Fathers Aniversary with seaven. Nicholas Johnson worked here.

⁴⁶ "June 1704—A Cradle 15s. a quilt for it 5s. . . . £1 0. 0.
Childs Basket for the Linnen 2. 6d."
These were bought at Chester when he was going to Holywell, together with other goods:
"Carrying goods over Leverpoole Water 6d."

⁴⁷ Obsolete form of *Tabor* or *Tabret*—a small drum.

⁴⁸ James Gleast, a gentleman of Ormskirk; married Margaret Lathom, 9 February, 1696.

⁴⁹ "Taming of the Shrew."

⁵⁰ See June 20 1704, and footnote.

- 3 Richard Cartwrit read old writings to me. Pat: Gelibrond took a Sweat.
- 4 I Went with Walter Thelwall to see whot Trespass the Rabets had done to my Tennants Corn. Thomas Warton gave me 5s for NB: which I gave to his Mother.
- 5 Lord Molineux sent me a Side of Venison. the Debate about ordering of it⁵¹ Flax layed to Reet in the Cross Field.⁵²
- 6 John Blundell⁵³ discoursed me concerning his Brother Nicholas Blundell.
- 7 I went a Fowling and Saw a Man Angling in Rimrose Gutter,⁵⁴ I called at John Johnsons as I came home. Lady Gerard of Bromley came to Lodg here.⁵⁵
- 8 I went with Cozen William Gelibrond and Mr Richardson to Mr Fosters⁵⁶ we Shot there with Bow and Arrows.
- 9 I went to Leverpoole with Lady Gerard, my Wife &c.: we saw the New Church⁵⁷ and went to Mr Richmonds. Merchant Houghton told me he thought my Brother Richard was at Plim.⁵⁸
- 10 Mr Smith alias Kitchen came to discource me concerning business Relaiting to Mr Mullins. Mr Clarke came to discource me concerning Mr Martines business. I gave one Shilling to Pat: William Gelibrond for wch he is to give me or my Heirs Five Pound when he is made a Bisshop, this Shilling was given in presence of Mr Augustine Clark of Droughaday and others.
- 11 I saw Richard Tickley deliver at the Grange a Challice to Mr Clark, it was left by Mr Martine to the Parrish of St Patricks, Kilkenny, I went wth Mr Richard Molineux of the Grange & Mr Clark to Great Crosby & Moreside to get some Vestments but without Suckcess. Mr Jones came to discource me about a Debt, he Lodged here. Lady Gerard, my Wife &c: went after dinner to Ince.
- 12 Lady Gerard of Bromley went hence, it was a very wet Morning.
- 13 Mr Howet dined here, he came to see Pat: Gelibrond, he brought the News of a great Victory got by Lord Malborough and of three Generalls taken.⁵⁹

⁵¹ "5 August 1704—Lord Molyneux Keeper for a Side of Venison 2s. 6d.
23 August 1704—Lord Molyneux Keeper for Venison 2s. 6d."

⁵² Retting—the process of separating the flax fibres from the woody core of the stem by allowing it to soak in water. The flax straw was immersed in a pond or sluggish stream for 7 to 20 days; the time depending on the temperature. In this case the retting of the flax was being done in an old marl pit in the field by the village cross. See July 19 1707 and footnote; August 13 1710 and footnote.

⁵³ One of the villagers of Little Crosby.

⁵⁴ A water-course in Great Crosby.

⁵⁵ Lady Gerard of Gerard's Bromley was cousin of Nicholas's wife. She was the daughter of Sir John Webb of Odstock, Wilts. and widow of Charles, sixth Lord Gerard of Gerard's Bromley.

⁵⁶ Father Richard Foster, S.J., served the Jesuit mission at Formby from 1701 to 1706. He resided at the New House in Ince Blundell. Buried in the Harkirk, May 10 1707.

⁵⁷ St. Peter's Church; opened in 1704; pulled down in 1922.

⁵⁸ Richard Blundell was not in Plymouth. He died in Maryland, November 30 1704.

⁵⁹ Exactly which battle this was is doubtful. It may refer to the battle fought on July 2 when Marlborough and the Margrave of Baden defeated the Elector of Bavaria at the Schellenberg and afterwards crossed the Danube. August 13, the date of this entry, was the day Marlborough won the Battle of Blenheim, but news of this victory could not have got through so quickly to Little Crosby.

- 14 I went to Preston Fair, Mr Wofold went with me great part of the way, I dined with Mr Waran, Mr Osbaldeston &c: at Richard Jacksons and Lodged there.
- 15 I Dined at Jacksons in Preston with Mr Warran, Mr Osbaldeston: Mr Tunstall &c:. I came from Preston with Mr Tempest & Mr Richard Wofold.
- 16 Lord Molineux, old Mr Trafford of Trafford & I &c: were on Crosby Marsh and saw two Mares of Lord Molineux his and a Gelding of Mr Molines Sweat. I went to see Mr Wairing, his Maid told me he was gone to the Buriall of Mr Berry. Cozen Richard Butler came to Lodg here.
- 17 I Dined at Mr Edward Tarltons⁶⁰ at Leverpoole. I saw Mrs Eckleston at Leverpoole.
- 18 I Rode to Great Crosby with Cozen Richard Butler to see Lord Molineux his Horses.⁶¹ Dr Fabius came to see Pat: Gelibrond.
- 19 I went to Croxtath⁶² with Cozen Richard Butler and dined there with old Mr Trafford of Trafford, Mr Wm Escot, &c.
- 20 Mr Lancasters⁶³ Man and Pourter came to see Pat: Gelibrond.
- 21 I went to Adams Spaw with Cozen Richard Butler thence we went to Mr Fosters. My Sister Middleton⁶⁴ & her Doughter came to Lodge here. Samuel Hall came hither and beged time for payment of Ten Pounds.
- 22 Mr Howet & Dr Lancaster⁶⁵ came to see Pat: Gelibrond. Mr Blundell of Ince and Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife and Sister Middleton⁶⁶.
- 24 I went to the Grange and to Formby with my Wife & Sister Middleton.
- 25 I played at Cards with my Sister Middleton &c: in her Chamber. I had a Letter from my Brother Richard Blundell with Account of his Intension to Marry.⁶⁷ James Houghton lodged here.
- 26 I Stated & Cleered all Accounts with James Houghton to this very day.

⁶⁰ Edward Tarleton was engaged in trade with Virginia.

⁶¹ The sandy beach and Crosby Marsh adjoining the beach were often used for horse races and for training race horses, particularly by Lord Molyneux of Sefton.

⁶² Until 1702 the Molyneux of Sefton family lived at Sefton Hall. In that year they took up residence at Croxteth Hall, a few miles away. Only the moat and a few stones of Sefton Hall now remain visible.

⁶³ John Lancaster, a grocer, living in North John Street, Liverpool. In December 1707, Father William Gillibrand, S.J., the first resident Roman Catholic priest in Liverpool, lived and began to serve Mass in this house of Mr. Lancaster.

⁶⁴ The sister of Nicholas's wife. Her husband was Peter Middleton, of Stockeld, Yorkshire.

⁶⁵ Dr. Lancaster, living in Ormskirk, was brother to John Lancaster, the grocer, in Liverpool.

⁶⁶ "23 August 1704—Spent at Leverpoole with Sister Middleton 4s. 0d.
Toyes for my Sister Middletons Children 2s. 0d."

⁶⁷ On 1 August 1704, Richard Blundell married a widow named Tawny in Maryland. By her he had a son, Richard, born June 16 1705, who only lived a few months.

Cozen Richard Butler went hence to Lodg at Croxtath. I walked through the Town⁶⁸ with Sister Middleton.

- 27 Mrs Howet dined here. Mr Lancaster, Mr Letonby and their Wives came hither.
- 28 Lord Molineux, Mr Wignold &c.; Mr Harington, Cozen Richard Butler dined here.
- 29 I went with Sister Middleton to Mr Howets⁶⁹ where we found Sr Thos: Tankerd &c.; Mr Scaresbrick &c.; Dr Traps, & Mrs Entwisle.
- 30 I went with Sister Middleton, my Mother &c: to Croxtath and Dined there with Cozen Richard Butler, Mrs Bridget Blundell⁷⁰ &c:.
- 31 I went with Sister Middleton &c: to Scaresbrick and dined there with Sr Thomas Tankerd & his Lady &c:.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Sr Thomas Tankerd &c: Mr Scaresbrick &c: dined here. Marsh and Anderton played here.
- 2 Sister Middleton went hence, I brought her as far as Croston, I dined at Cozen Traffords. Mr Blundell & his Wife came to Lodg at Croston whilst I was there.
- 3 I Stated Accounts with Wm Clough the Father & Wm the Son for the year 1703⁷¹. I sent Walter Thelwall to the Buriall of Thomas Tickley⁷².
- 4 I went to Leverpoole and paid Mr Hurst £4-16s 0d in part of an old Debt, he gave Pat: Gelibrond & me some very good Drink.
- 5 I went to Nicholas Johnsons⁷³ to meet Cozen Robert Molineux, Mr John Harington was there. Cozen Richard Butler came to dine here. Mr Swinbourn⁷⁴ Lodged here.
- 6 Mr Swinbourn & Mr Tasburgh discoursed me at Car-Hall concerning Nocturnum.⁷⁵
- 7 Mr Swinbourn went hence. I dressed my Doggs for the Mange.
- 8 James Addison came to geld my Stoned Hors but being Holy day I would

⁶⁸ Nicholas frequently refers to the village of Little Crosby as *the Town*, by which he means *township*.

⁶⁹ At Ormskirk.

⁷⁰ Sister to Mr. Blundell of Ince Blundell. The Blundells of Ince Blundell were not related to the Blundells of Crosby.

⁷¹ Nicholas had leased his demesne land at Ditton on November 6 1702 to William Clough and his son.

⁷² A tenant, and gardener to Nicholas.

⁷³ Nicholas Johnson's inn was a noted meeting place in Great Crosby for the gentry, particularly on festive occasions and at horse race meetings.

⁷⁴ Rev. John Swinburne, S.J., alias Savage, born in Derbyshire, March 21 1660/1. He served the Lancashire district until his death on September 11 1716.

⁷⁵ Nocturnum, Cheshire, was one of the estates held by the Blundells of Crosby.

not let him. Landers brought me the last parcell of Cloggs for my Brother Richard Blundell in Virginia.⁷⁶

- 9 I saw Adison geld my Hors Iron-Sides. Mrs Aspinwall came to lodg here.
- 10 Mrs Blackbourn & her Son came hither after dinner. Captain Robert Fazakerley Suped here and ad stayed & played at Cards.
- 11 I put two Larg Hoggs to Feed. Richard Cartwrit gather'd Nuts.
- 12 Mr Arthor from Chester lodged here. My Aunt Frances Blundell went to Leverpoole to Collonell Butlers Lady at her coming out of Ireland, she lodged at Leverpoole two Nights.
- 13 I Bound John Blundell Apprentice for Virginia before Mr Mair of Leverpoole.⁷⁷
- 14 Collonell Butlers Lady & Aunt Frances Blundell came from Leverpoole to dine and lodge here. Cozen Richard Butler dined here.
- 15 I went to Leverpoole and put John Blundell on Bord the Lorrell⁷⁸ for Virginia, I paid £5 to Captain Tarlton for his Passage.
- 16 I met Thomas Gregson of Noctorum at Leverpoole. I went on Bord the Lorrell with Captain Edward Tarlton to see John Blundell whom I was sending to Virginia to my Brother Richard Blundell. Ann Hiltons Doughter came to lodg here. Collonell Butlers Lady & Aunt Frances Blundell went from hence to Live at Ormskerk.
- 17 I went to prayers to Ince with Mrs Aspinwall: she stayed Dinner. Collonell Butlers Lady sent her Servant from Ormskerk to me with two Bills.
- 18 I went to Leverpoole & Received from Captain Clayton £100 for the use of Collonell Butlers Lady & payed it to her at Ormskerk I gave Captain Clayton her Bills for it. I saw at Ormskerk Sr Thomas Tankerd, Mr Houghton &c: at Mr Howets Lodging.
- 19 I dined at Scaresbrick with Sr Thomas Tankerd &c:, Mr Houghton &c:, Widow Eckleston & Mr Molineux of Mosbrough.
- 20 My Wife first began to feel the Pains of Labour. I braked Flax.⁷⁹
- 21 Bryan Bryanson, Richard Molineux, Wm Weedow &c: came to discourse me concerning Wm Weedows Watercourses.

⁷⁶ Richard Blundell had asked his brother to send him clogs to sell in Virginia.

⁷⁷ Richard Blundell had asked his brother to find him an apprentice to go out to Virginia. Nicholas had some difficulty in finding one, but eventually persuaded John, the twenty-year old son of John Blundell the tailor of Little Crosby to go. John signed articles of apprenticeship before William Hurst, the mayor of Liverpool. In the Liverpool Town Book for 1697-1705 A.D. appears the following entry:

"7ber. 13:1704—To ----- Blundell Esq., & sent to his Brother Mr Richard Blundell in Virginia, and hee went in the Ship with William Parr.
John Blundell of Crosbie Parva—20 years 7 months."

⁷⁸ The *Laurel* was a vessel of 200 tons with a crew of twenty under the command of Captain Edward Tarleton.

⁷⁹ The process of straightening and cleansing the flax fibres by passing it through a comb-like instrument called a flax-breaker. This process followed that of retting the flax. See August 5 1704.

- 22 My Wife was delivered of her first Child called Mary.⁸⁰
- 23 I sent Richard Cartwright to Ormskerk & Scaresbrick to acquaint them of the Bearth of my Doughter and to Invite to the Christoning.
- 24 We prayed on the Stayers.⁸¹ I sent to Croxtath and many Letters to the Post.
- 25 My Eldest Child was Christoned Mary. Cozen Scaresbrick Godfather, Sister Middleton God-Mother. Cozen Scaresbrick & his Wife and Cozen Richard Butler dined here.
- 26 I went to Leverpoole and Drunk with Benjamin Branker⁸² and Mr Pryer.
- 27 Cozen Richard Butler came hither after dinner, he and I took 3 Bottles of Wine and cold Py to Litherland where we met Lord Molineux and his two Sons, they had been hunting. Mrs Aspinwall⁸³ went hence. Mr Hesketh Pres: lodged here.
- 28 I went to Richard Tickleys to enquire how Mrs Molineux did of her sweld Chops, thence I went to see Mrs Blundell after her third Miscarriage. Lord Langdale sent a Servant from Dutton to see my Wife.
- 29 Lady Molineux sent Mr Gorsuch to see my Wife. My Mother went to Ince.
- 30 My Brother Langdaile came to Lodge here.

OCTOBER

- 1 Many Crosby Wives came to see my Wife. I shewed my Black Kattle to my Brother Langdale.
- 2 I went to Leverpoole with my Brother Langdale. we drunk of Mr Hinds wine which we sent to the Woolpack.
- 3 Brother Langdale went hence. I went part of the way with him then went to Morehall & found there Mr Harington, his Wife &c:. Collonel John

	£	s.	d.
⁸⁰ "1 September 1704—Mrs Fletcher a Midwife		5	0
Flaxen Cloth 17 yards at 1s. 2d.. . . .		19	10
Flannel 7 yards at 1s. 10d.. . . .		12	10
Ticking		1	3
4 September 1704—Pothecary stuff for my Wife		5	7
Tape & Thread		3	2
Cambrick for French night cloths		4	10
19 September 1704—Ginger bread for my Wife			10
To Mrs Aspinwall Midwife she delivered my Wife, she stayed here in all 18 days, given 7 Guineys	7	10	6
October 1704—Gloves, Pins, &c for my Wife		9	5
Coat, Stockings &c for Mally		15	2
5 October 1704—Tax for the Bearth of my Daughter	1	2	0
17 October 1704—A Fee to Dr Worthington for My Wife		10	0
November 1704—Musslinn edging &c for my Wife & Daughter Mary	1	5	0"

⁸¹ Probably a service of thanksgiving for the first-born child, and so many of the gentry and tenants came that there was not enough room in the private chapel.

⁸² Benjamin Branker, a silversmith of Liverpool and friend of Nicholas. Sometimes called Brankhurst.

⁸³ The midwife who came on 9 September to attend Mrs. Blundell.

Ashton came after dinner to More-halle. from Morehall I went to Ormskerk in hopes to see my Lord Mountgarret.

- 4 Cozen Molineux of Mosbrough & his Wife dined here.
- 5 I bought Sweetmeat & Drinking Glassess in my Hall.⁸⁴
- 6 I Went a Seting⁸⁵ with Thelwall in the Morning to Lidiat and in the Cars I killed a Cow. Dr Lathom payed me £3 which he ought p note.
- 7 I Received at Leverpoole £26-10s-0d from James Gregory in part, for wood. Lord Langdale came to lodg here.
- 8 Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither to wait of my Lord Langdale.
- 9 Lord Langdale & I went a Coursing, we killed 2 Hares and two Rabets.
- 10 Lady Molineux &c: came to see my Wife. I Rode wth Lord Langdale to the Sea Side. Lady Dowager Webbs Letter was given to a Rong hand by mistake and made great uneasiness.
- 11 I went to see Lord Molineux his long Legd Horse heate on the Marsh, Lord Molineux &c:, Collonel Butler & his Brother were there. Collonel Bulter and his Brother dined here, Mrs Ann Bold & Mrs Fazakerley dined here in my Wives Chamber.
- 12 I went to Leverpoole with Lord Langdale, we drunk Wine at the Wool-pack.
- 13 I Rode out with Lord Langdale to the Marsh and saw Lord Molineux his Coursers take their Watering Courses in the Evening.
- 14 Lord Langdale and I went part of the way to Ormskerk with Pat: Gelibrond and so Lord Langdale and I turned of to Ince and took a Bottle wth Mr Blundell.
- 15 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here after dinner.
- 16 I met Lord Molineux a Coursing behind Crosby Schoole,⁸⁶ he and his Son dined wth me so did Mr Scaresbrick and Cozen Richard Butler. Cozen Richard Butler Lodged here.
- 17 Lord Langdale and I met Mr Blundell in the Mossess a Coursing thence we went to the Goosfeast. Anderton played here at Night.
- 18 My Mother bid a due to Crosby & went to Table at Ormskerk with Collonel Butler.⁸⁷ Lord Langdale and I went with her. Lord Langdale and I saw Lord Molineux his Horses swet.
- 19 Lord Langdale and I dined at Scaresbrick: so did Collonel Butler his Lady, my Mother &c:. Cozen Tom Gelibrond and Tom: Walmesley lodged here.

⁸⁴ "Sweet Meat & Drinking Glasses 10s. 2d." Nicholas bought these from a travelling salesman.

⁸⁵ Setting or hunting hares with greyhounds was a favourite pastime. Here Nicholas was looking for the sets or homes of hares ready to be coursed or hunted by his guests a few days later.

⁸⁶ The Free Grammar School, now the Merchant Taylors' School.

⁸⁷ Mrs. Blundell, the mother of Nicholas, had found it impossible to live happily with his wife, so went to live with Edmund Butler, her nephew, at Ormskirk.

- 20 My Wives Month being now out we lay together. Mr Tasburgh dined here.
- 21 Lord Langdale went hence. I went with him as far as Rufford & so came back and dined at Collonell Butlers, when Dinner was done Lord & Lady Molineux &c: came to dine there. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and Tom: Walmesley went hence.
- 22 Pat Gelibrond and I went to see Mr Wairing but he not being at home we returned back.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife and Mrs Ann Aspinwall we went to see Mrs Hurst the Maires.⁸⁸
- 24 Mrs Ann Aspinwall went hence, she came hither about the 6th. Mr Heyes his Servant demanded of me a Wapantagg Rent for Ditton. I Coursed after dinner with Mr Blundell & Robert Fazakerley we went to Andertons
- 25 Collonell Butler, his Lady &c: Cozen Richard Butler came from Leverpool to Lodg here. I began to plant the Stock-Roots with Oak, Ash, &c:.⁸⁹
- 26 Collonell Butler, his Doughter and Lady went hence to Ormskerk: I lent them a Pair of my Horses to help their Wresty Grays to draw. Mr Wairing stayed in the Kitchen till Supper time, he and I &c: drunk there. Cozen John Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 27 My Wife & I removed our Lodging into my Mothers Chamber. Cozen Richard Butler went hence to lodg at Croxtath.
- 28 Mr Charles Harington & his Sister and Mrs Holdford dined here. I first Acquainted my Wife with my Intension to part with Mary Barton.⁹⁰ I set the Reversion of the Moety of Thomas Blundells Teneament to John Blundell the Taylor.
- 29 I Shewed my Plantasion to Ralf Nelson wch I had begun in the Stock Roots.
- 30 I went to Wiggan dined at Dr Worthingtons and called at Collonell Butlers in Ormskerk as I came home.

⁸⁸ Mayoress.

⁸⁹ The Stock-Roots was a three acre field in the demesne land which Nicholas used as a nursery to grow trees and plants for his gardens and the fields he was cultivating.

⁹⁰ Mary Barton was chamber maid to the wife of Nicholas, being paid 7s. 6d. a quarter. It was over Mary Barton that Nicholas's mother and Aunt Frances disagreed with his wife. Nicholas wrote a letter of recommendation for Mary Barton, and as a result she obtained another post, and left Crosby Hall on January 8 1705. The letter reads—

"To Mr Oldfield at Summerford near Brugnall Green, Cheshire by Warrington Bagg. December the 10, 1704

Honrd Sir,

Though I have not the Honour to be acquainted with you I presume to send these few lines being your Steward told to me you were at want of a Chamber Maid. I am now parting with mine, she is a Catholick & a brisk Mettled workwoman, gets up Linnen both fine & Cource very well, rubbs well & is a neat clenly Lass. I should be glad to have your speedy answer whether you will have her or not & if you will; please to let her know what her work must be & what waiges. I think she will expect something above 40 shillings, If I can be provided at Christmass she shall then be at Liberty, I am

Sir,

your Most Obedient Servant

Nicholas Blundell."

(From Nicholas Blundell's *Letter Book*.)

- 31 I Buryed two Bussshels of Achhorns in the Stock Roots. Cozen Richard Butler came from Croxtath to Lodg here.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Collonell Butler dined here it being my Wives Birth day.
- 2 My Wife and I took Phisick. Cozen Richard Butler went in my Coach to Ince and dined there, and went thence to Mr Wairings.
- 3 Mr Guildus came to draw out a Tooth for my Wife.⁹¹ I lent Cozen Richard Butler my Grewhounds he Coursed and dined in Great Crosby.
- 4 Cozen Richard Butler went after dinner to Ince with Pat: Gelibrond, he lent me his man to help to take up Thorns & work in the Plantasion.
- 5 I went with Cozen Richard Butler into the Town to see his Orchard thence we went to see my Doughter Mary.⁹²
- 6 I sent Richard Cartwright for Mr Gildus to draw a second Tooth for my Wife but he refused to come.
- 7 My Wife & I took a second Dose of Phisick. I sent a Present of Hoggs Pudings to Cozen Butler at Ormskerk.
- 8 My Wife, Cozen Richard Butler & I went in the Coach to Leverpoole. Dr Shaw drew out a Stump of a Tooth for my Wife.
- 9 Mary the Servant that came from my Sisters at Gravelines lodged here.⁹³
- 10 I set many Hands on work to get Stakes and Tye Trees that I had planted. I writ Letters to be sent beyond Seas.⁹⁴
- 11 Cozen Richard Butler went hence to Lodg at Ormskerk I went with him, We and Collonell Butler looked at Mr Tyrers house. I returned hume.
- 12 Mr Evans the Dansasing Master Lodged here one Night.
- 13 I Fixed up my Wives China over the Screwtore.⁹⁵
- 14 I helped to get home a lame Cow and to sling her. My Wife hiered a Chamber-Maid.
- 15 I Discourced Edward Hatton about fining in Presence of Richard Harrison.⁹⁶ Doctor Shaw came with his Doughter hither I suppose to profer her to serve my Wife.

⁹¹ "November 1704—Drawing two teeth for my Wife. 5s. 0d.
Ditto afterwards more to cleer Scores 2s. 6d."

⁹² The baby daughter had been placed with a wet nurse and was with her till 9 July 1705.

⁹³ Two sisters of Nicholas and also his Aunt Alice were nuns in the Poor Clare Convent at Gravelines.

⁹⁴ To his sisters in Flanders.

⁹⁵ Escritoire.

⁹⁶ Hatton was discussing with Nicholas the lease of certain lands and a tenement. The money paid for the land and tenement was called the *fine*, and the process of leasing was known as *fining*. The land was actually leased for a term of three lives. See December 4 and December 23 1704.

- 16 I helped to get Underwood for my Plantasion and to set it. I lent my Coach and Horses to Henry Bilsbury that he might teach his Brother to drive.
- 17 Nicholas Abrom pay'd me his Rent. Richard Cartwright went to Kerkby. Cheese weighed to goe to Leverpoole.
- 18 I went to Dr Fabius thence to Leverpoole and so to Croxtath, found Lord Molineux not very well, he had a Present of Cockleys⁹⁷ &c: sent him by Mr Simpson.
- 19 Collonell Butler came in the Morning he dined here. Jonathon Okill came as he sayes from St Omer he lodged here.
- 20 I went a Coursing wth Pat: Gelibrond: we made a Viset to Mr Wairing. Hearty Chocks and Asparagus covered.
- 21 I went with Ann Hilton alias Bew-regard in my Coach towards Leverpoole: but it being a day of Coursing at Great Crosby, I found Dr Tarlton there & brought him to her she wanting his Assistance, thence I went to Leverpoole and discorsed Mr Houghton about my Brother Richards Mismannagement.⁹⁸
- 22 Edmund Trustrom by my Consent ordered Walter Thelwall to draw anew his Bond of £400 to his Sister Jane Renold. Mr Tasburgh made a Viset here after Dinner.
- 23 Pat: Gelibrond dined at Ince wth Mr Harington &c: I shewed my Plantasion to my Wife. Hilton took phisick from Dr Tarlton.
- 24 Mr Philipson⁹⁹ dined here. Edmund Trustrom and Richard Tickley sealed a New Bond of £400 for the use of Jane Renold.
- 25 I Engrossed Severall Letters in my Letter Book.
- 26 I went to Bryan Bryanson and ordered John Sumner to stop Wm Weedows new Water-Course.
- 27 I Visited the Sick in Little Crosby. I went a Seting towards the Edge we found a many Quailes.
- 28 My Wife and I dined at Collonell Butlers he was not at home.
- 29 Mr Smalley & Mr Plumb dined here. Mally ill of the Grips.
- 30 I went to Ditton. My Wife taken very Suddenly extreemly ill, 'twas thought she would have dyed.

DECEMBER

- 1 I was at the Townes meeting at Coudnooks in Ditton, there was Mr Houghton, Mr Wright, Wm Kennion, John Heyes and his Son, &c:.
- 2 Henry Chester paid me £4 for a Fine. I came from Ditton through Leverpoole. Collonell Butler & his Brother Richard came from Croxtath to Lodg here after I was in Bed.

⁹⁷ Cockles.

⁹⁸ Some difficulty had arisen over the returns of accounts made by Richard Blundell, agent for Mr. Houghton in Virginia.

⁹⁹ Probably Father William Phillipson, O.S.B.

- 3 Collonell Butler, his Brother & I went after dinner to Richard Harrisons.¹⁰⁰
- 4 I Barganed with Edward Hatton to ad two Lives to his Fathers Lease. Collonell Butler went hence.
- 5 Mr Blundell, his Wife, Mrs Ann Harington &c: came hither. We had an Imcomperable course at a Hare found set in Rises-Heyes by Walter Thelwall.
- 6 I dined at Collonell Butlers thence went towards Dungenhall but got no farther then Park-hall where I Lodged. Cozen Richard Butler went hence to Ormskerk.
- 7 I went from Park-hall towards Dungenhall, but Cozen John Gelibrond being gon from thence I went no farther than Chorley to see James Nicholson, Will: Low &c: and so back and Lodged at Parkhall.
- 8 I came from Park-hall dined at Doctor Worthingtons and so home.
- 9 Mr Charles Harington, Mr Robert Fazakerley, Captain, &c: called of me before diner to take a Glass as they were going to Liverpoole.
- 10 I went wth my Wife to Ince. Hilton¹⁰¹ left her service and was suckseeded by Jane Harrison.
- 11 I drew¹⁰² the Town-field Pitt under the Ice. Mrs Levins & her Youngest Doughter made a Viset here. Mr Plumb sent an Express to me concerning taking Posession of Gleasts House.¹⁰³ Margery Fazakerley came to be Cook. I Buried Achhorns &c:.
- 12 Mary Formby Cook left her Service. I dined at Collonell Butlers. Mr Plumb and I saw Posession of James Gleasts Hous in Ormskerk given to Walter Thelwall.
- 13 Pat: Wofold dined here, he Christoned Richard Ainsworths Son John.
- 14 I went to wish good Sucksess to Mr Molineux of Croxtath ere he went a Courting. I dined there. Mr Blundell of Prescot came to Croxtath.
- 15 James Barton came to look at the Hous Clock, I paid him for work done formerly at it.
- 16 I went to Liverpoole to procure £50 for my Brother Richards use but could not. Benjamin Brankers told me he was Maried, he gave a Pint of Wine.
- 17 My Wife writ to Lord Langdale & Young Lady Webb.
- 18 I called at Collonell Butlers: thence I went to Wm Lowes where I found him and James Roscold, thence I went to Lodg at Dungenhall
- 19 Mr Charls Townley Junior dined at Dungenhall. I helped to Bar out the Childrens Master Mr Norcross. I went with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond &

¹⁰⁰ An old retired servant who had served Nicholas's grandfather for eighteen years.

"Richard Harrison was a Right honest good Man, a very good Tenant"—Tenants Book, DDB1/54/41 and 42. L.R.O.

¹⁰¹ Ann Hilton had been housekeeper at £1 0. 0. per quarter.

¹⁰² Fished with a net.

¹⁰³ "11 December 1704—Mr Plumb's Messenger from Liverpoole . . . 1s. 0d." The trouble arose because Gleast failed to pay certain accounts to Nicholas.

Tom Walmesley to Antley, Mr Rushton was at home but the Doughters were not in the house. It Snowed.

- 20 I Signed a Bond of £30 to Cozen John Gelibrond. I sat in the Dining Roome whilst others were playing at Cards after Dinner.
- 21 I came with Mr Wingate from Dungenhall we Suped at Collonell Butlers, Mr Wingate stayed at Ormskerk and I came home.
- 22 I went to Leverpoole to meet Mr Wingate, he came back with me and Lodged here.
- 23 Edward Hatton payed me £20 in Part of a Fine. Mr Wingate went hence. Cozen Richard Butler came from Leverpoole to Lodg here.
- 24 Collonell Butler dined here & got his Breakfast with me next Morning.
- 25 I went with my Wife to see Mally, we eat some Christmass Fair at Richard Harrisons.
- 26 I went with my Wife to Scaresbrick and we Lodged there.
- 27 I Played at Cards with Cozen Scaresbrick & severall of his Christmass Guests.
- 28 Collonell Butler, Mrs Hesketh of the Meales, Mrs Ann Entwisle &c: dined at Scaresbrick and Dansed till next Morning.
- 29 Cozen Scaresbrick & I &c: walked out and saw a Hare Coursed that was found set.
- 30 Mr Wofold & his Wife went from Scaresbrick. Henry Bilsbury brought my Coach Horses to Scaresbrick.
- 31 Mrs Scaresbrick, my Wife &c: went in the Coach to Gorsuch. Mr Robert Fazakerley of Ormskerk and I &c: walked to Gorsuch, we Men were extreaimly Merry.

Anno Domini 1705

JANUARY

- 1 All Scaresbrick Family, My Wife, I &c: came in oure Coaches from Scaresbrick and dined at Collonell Butlers. My Wife and I Lodged at Mr Fazakerleys at Ormskerk.¹
- 2 My Wife and I dined at Mr Fazakerleys and came home from Ormskerk.
- 3 I payed to Mr Houghton Merchant at Leverpoole £55-11s-3d upon Account of a Bill drawn by my Brother Richard.
- 4 John Lurting came hither he shewed me how Fruit Trees ought to be Nailed. I payed him for Seeds, Peas, & Beanes. Pat: Gelibrond put out his Shoulder.
- 5 I Dined at Henry Heskeths at Great Crosby with Cozen Richard Butler, we should have had more Company. We stayed there drinking with Mr Blundell, Mr Wairing, Mr Ralf Tildesley, Mr Levins &c:
- 6 I went after Diner to Ince with Cozen Richard Butler, he Ran & Captain Robert Fazakerley hoped for a wager of 5s.. We Suped there. Cozen Richard Butler played at Tables & Cut.
- 7 My Wife went in the Coach wth Cozen Emilia Butler to Wm Thelwalls.²
- 8 Mary Barton left her Service. Collonell Butler dined here and took his Doughter Emilia back with him, she came hither upon the second.
- 9 My Waranters Ferated in my Demesney, we killed with Doggs, Ferets, &c: four Cupple of Rabets & three of the Rabets were with young, whilst we were ferating Mr Brookbank came a Beging to me.
- 10 I went with Cozen Richard Butler to see Parson Richmond, but he being gon to Leverpoole, we went to see Parson Marsden³ who we found ill of the Gout, coming home we called at Parson Wairings and eat an Oat kake & Butter with him.
- 11 Cozen Richard Butler began to Plant Ash and Thornes in his Teneament under me. I Ordered John Lunt to pay in £5 by March the 25th but he did not. Betty Day came to be Chamber-Maid.
- 12 Walter Thelwall went to Preston Fair. Pat: Gelibrond & Cozen Richard Butler played at Tables a good while.
- 13 Parson Wairing made a Viset here. I began again to drop my Eye after having omitted it above 14 weeks.
- 14 Mary Formby was here from Standish Hall. Ralph Tyarer came to see Cozen Richard Butlers Pony being he had the Twisting of the Guts.

¹ "1 January 1705—

Vales for my Wife & me at Scaresbrick	19s. 6d.
Vales for Dining at Collonell Butlers	5s. 0d.
Vales for lodging at Cozen Fazakerley	3s. 0d.
Horses & Servants for one Night at Ormskerk	6s. 0d."

² A tenant in Great Crosby.

³ Rev. Thomas Marsden, vicar of Walton, instituted September 7 1665.

- 15 I went with Cozen Richard Butler to see Parson Richmond we found Parson Becket there.
- 16 I was at the Buryall of Mrs Bootle at Melling, there was Mr Poole Merchant, Mr Houghton, Mr Nicholas Fazakerley, Swarbrick &c: from Melling I went to Sefton Church Ail-Hous⁴ to drink Cozen Richard Butlers Fairwell there was Collonel Butler, Mr Howet &c:.
- 17 Cozen Richard Butler & I were at Richard Harrisons, we eat and drunk there. I agreed with John Banister to be my Gardiner, am to give him £3 p Ann:
- 18 I went to Leverpoole with Cozen Richard Butler, he went hence with Intension to goe to Bristold after having been in Lancashire since Aug the 16th. I sent Walter Thelwall to Knocktorum to Sease on the Goods of Thomas Gregson for Rent but he came too late.
- 19 I went in the Morning to see Thomas Riding, he desired me to draw his will wch I did after Dinner and he Signed it, from thence I went to the North End⁵ to see John Tickley. Cozen John Gelibrond lodged here.
- 20 Cozen John Gelibrond & his brother went hence in the Morning to Ormskerk. I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for Seven Last Months.⁶
- 21 My Wife writ Severall Letters. it was a Cold day.
- 22 Mrs Blundell of Ince, Cozen Edward Scaresbrick Senior made a Viset here. Thomas Gregson of Knocktorum came hither to discourse me concerning the Arreers of his Rent. Nicholas Johnson and two Men came to make me a Waistcoat &c:.
- 23 I set up the China upon my Wives Chest of Drawers. I Carryed her Dutch Table to Gray⁷ and got it mended.
- 24 I Ordered Richard Cartwrite & John Banister to trace Rabets in the Snow; they with the help of the Waranter took six Rabets.
- 25 I was at the Buriall of John Tickley of the North end there was Mr Houghton the Attorney, Mr Shaw of Leverpoole:, Mr Formby, John Sumner &c:.
- 26 Mr Swinbourn dined & lodged here. I killed a fat little Cow.
- 27 Richard Cartwrite⁸ took of a great many Locks.
- 28 Colonell Butler dined here. Mr Wofold, Mr Blundell of Ince &c: made a Viset here.
- 29 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to Croxtath & dined there. I sent Richard Cartrite to Eckleston for wax Candles.⁹

⁴ The ale-house known as the *Church Inn* was actually in the churchyard at Sefton, and was a frequent meeting place of the gentry. Parish meetings were very often held at this inn.

⁵ The northern end of the manor of Little Crosby was, and still is, called the North End.

⁶ See Appendix C.

⁷ William Grey, a tenant and shoe-smith.

⁸ Butler to Nicholas; wage—12s. 6d. per quarter.

⁹ Eccleston, near Prescot. The Ecclestons, of Eccleston Hall, were a noted recusant Roman Catholic family. Nicholas frequently sent there for candles.

"30 January 1705—Making 8 lbs. of Wax Candles 2s. 0d."

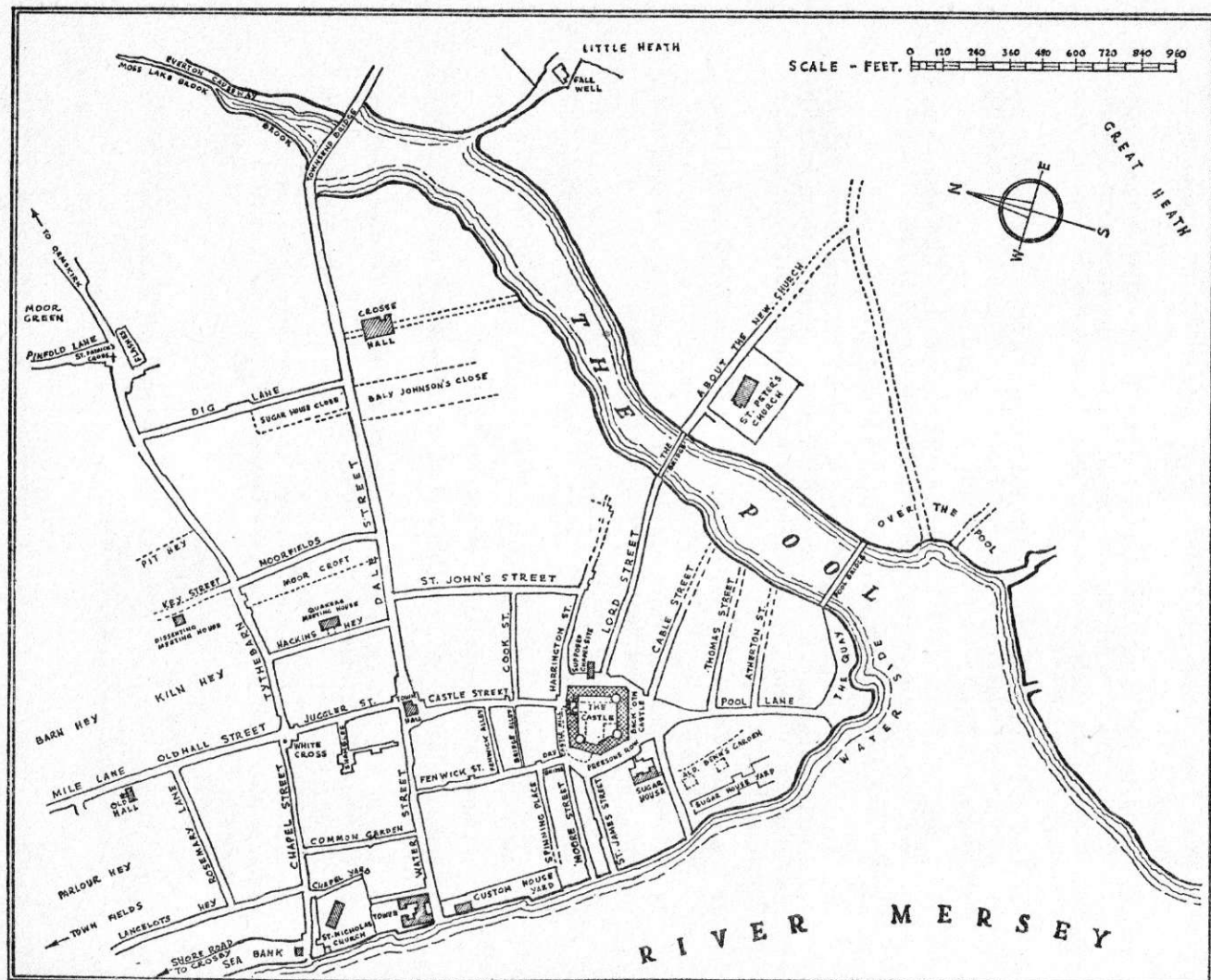


Figure 1.

LIVERPOOL IN 1705

Based on a conjectural
'Map of the Town of
Liverpool in the year 1705'
(Henry Peet: *LIVERPOOL
IN THE REIGN OF
QUEEN ANNE*)

The Woolpack Inn,
Angel Inn, Golden Lion
Inn, Bull Inn and Post
Office mentioned by
Nicholas Blundell were
all in Dale Street

- 30 Richard Cartwrite began to trim the Trees in the Crow Orchard. I sent Walter Thelwall to sease upon the Goods of Thomas Gregson.
- 31 I went to Ormskerk to the Funerall of Mrs Ann Bold, there was Collonell Ashton, Parson Sudall, Mr Jamson &c.: I dined at Collonell Butlers thence he and I went to the Wheat Sheaf where we found the Trustees of Peter Lathom viz: Mr Scaresbrick, Mr Rigby of Harrock, Mr John Heyes &c.; there was also Mr Holland Lord Darbys Servant.

FEBRUARY

- 1 I gave Henry Watkinson some Thornes & four Apple Trees. Mr Swinbourn sent an Express concerning Mrs Ann Holland.¹⁰
- 2 I lent John Banister¹¹ my Grehounds to cours with about Great Crosby.
- 3 I went to Leverpoole and bought a Hat of Mr Chorley and discoursed Mr Aldridge concerning a Bed for my Mother. I looked at Young Mr Emerys Clock.
- 4 Ann Wilson who had formerly been Nursery-Maid to my Coz: Scarisbrick came to see my Wife. I writ to Mrs Eckleston by Ann Davy who was to goe next day to service near Eckleston. Nicholas Johnson came to look at a Cloak & a Riding Coat.
- 5 I sent Walter Thelwall to Knocktorum to sell the goods of Thomas Gregson. James Formby came to teach John Banister to catch Moles, they took three. My Wife and I went to Lidiat, she fell of the Hors just after her mounting, we took a Fat Goose with us for Bessy Fazakerley.
- 6 Collonell Butler dined here, he brought News of taking Horses in Chesshire, he and my Wife walked to Ince and I followed them. Nicholas Johnson came to make a Riding Coat of a Camblet Cloak.
- 7 Mr Mullins & Pat: Wofold dined here. I went to Mr Wairings he spoke much against J 2d.¹²
- 8 Thomas Warton payed £5 to John Blundell Taylor in the Hall before me.
- 9 I Killed a large leane Hogg. I planted Crab-Stocks in the Nursery. I hiered Mary Molineux to be Chamber-Maid.
- 10 I Delivered 200 Bricks to Gee of Formby¹³. I sent Richard Cartwrite to see Richard Hatton. Walter Thelwall went to Leverpoole to set Knocktorum but did nothing.
- 11 Pat: Gelibrond came from Ormskerk hither before 10 of the Clock in the Morning. My Wife rode behind me to the North End to Condole Ailes Tickle¹⁴ for the Death of her Son John, Mrs Bamber & Betty Blundell were there.

¹⁰ Probably one of the Holland family, of Sutton Hall, Lancs.

¹¹ Gardener to Nicholas; wage 15s. 0d. per quarter.

¹² King James II. Mr. Wairing (Waring) was the curate of Great Crosby and master of the Free Grammar School.

¹³ From clay obtained from some of his fields Nicholas made bricks for his own use and for sale.

¹⁴ The wife of a yeoman.

- 12 I Sent my Wives and Nurses water to Dr Fabius. I took up abundance of Alder Trees, Mr Plumb sent me a Letter from Mr Charlton & Edward Gleast concerning James Gleasts Morgage, Mr Plumb sent his Answer also to them for me to peruse. James Davy the Slater was here, he Instruckted Philip Syer.¹⁵
- 13 My Wife went in the Coach to dine at Croxtath. I read over severall Letters. I set Slips and Cutings in the long Garden. Walter Thelwall went to Knocktorum.
- 14 I went to Ince to speak with Mr Blundell concerning the Story Raised about Janes Beating¹⁶ but he was gon to a Dogg Match at Formby.¹⁷ Ailes Steward & John here,¹⁸ I Finished spreading Earth in the Oat Croft.
- 15 I went to Ince & desired Mr Blundell to find out the Author of the Story raised concerning her Beating of Jane.
- 16 An Irish Man who called himself Collins said he had formerly been an Ensign, was comne from Bidleston and going to see two of his Doughters in Ireland, this said Man was here & gave the Account above of himself, he was a modest Beggar. Mr Wairing came hither to receive my Commands to Chorley.
- 17 I Planted Oaks in the Padock and Alder in the Stocke-Roots. I gave 10s to Captain Robert Fazakerley to dispose of for the Aniversary of Mrs Ellen Fazakerley.¹⁹
- 18 I Walked to Great Crosby with my Wife, she went to see Nurs Bullins Child, and I went to see Richard Hatton, we eat Pankaks at Margaret Athertons.
- 19 My Wife Rode behind me to Ormskerk: we dined at Collonell Butlers. I discoursed Mr Peter Ashton concerning his staying in James Gleasts Hous but he declaired to me before Collonell Butler that he would leav it at May, because James Gleast told him, Mr Plumb & I should soon be Ejected.
- 20 I met Collonell Butler at Leverpoole and was bound with him for £50 to Mrs Prescott Widow. Mrs Molineux of the Grang &c: dined here.
- 21 Pat: Wofold gave Ashes here and spoke to us,²⁰ he dined here. Henry Bridg mended an old Pillion here.

¹⁵ "12 February 1705—James Davy, Slater 1s. 0d." In the Quarter Wages List of wages paid out on March 25 1705 Philip Syer, the son of a yeoman in the neighbourhood was included:

"Philip Syer, Mason &c 15s. 0d."

¹⁶ Evidently there had been some gossip about Mrs. Blundell having thrashed Jane Harrison the house-keeper.

¹⁷ Coursing hares with greyhounds and contests between dogs in this sport was popular in the neighbourhood. It still persists in the form of the annual Waterloo Cup Coursing event at Altcar.

¹⁸ John Steward and Alice his wife kept a shop in Great Crosby, trading in goods bought at Chester Fair.

¹⁹ February 1705—Interest of £35 paid for Keeping Mrs Ellen Fazakerleys Aniversay upon the 17 £1 15s. 0d."

²⁰ Father Thomas Wolfall, chaplain to the Molyneux of the Grange, was here giving a Lenten sermon at the Hall.

- 22 My House was slightly sirched for Armes by Mr Leigh Capt in Lord Darbys Regeament and by — Dutton the High Cunstale.²¹
- 23 Charls Howerd and his Wife discoursed me concerning fineing for Philip Formbys Teneament.
- 24 Mr Plumb and I discoursed Mr Gleast at his Hous in Leverpoole. Concerning his Morgage to us. I drunk at the Angell²² with Mr Morphoy, Mr Gunter &c:
- 25 I writ severall Letters to my Friends at Ormskerk and my Wife writ severall to her Relations in York Shire.
- 26 John Stewerd Counted my Rabet Skins to 4 Doz: and 7, Captain Robert Fazakerley was present. Charls Howerd & his Wife met Philip Formby here to bargan with him for his Teneament & to pay him for it, but no bargan was made in my Presents. I began to set Achhorns in the Stock-Roots.
- 27 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here in his way to Leverpoole: I sold my Rabet Skins viz: 4 Doz: & 7 to John Stewerd for 14s.
- 28 I heard Lady Molincux dined at Ince & I partly expected she would have made an after-noones Viset here. I sowed Achhornes in the Stock-Roots with four hands. I saw some Apples Packed up to goe tomorrow to Cozen Butler and some others are to be sent to Leverpoole.

MARCH

- 1 I Planted and Layed Cutings of Withen in the Stock-Roots.²³
- 2 I Planted and Layed Cutings of Populars in the Stock-Roots. I gave $\frac{1}{2}$ B. of Barly to John Webster a Bum-Baly.
- 3 I sent two Paniers of Apples by Richard Cartwright to Leverpoole to be sold. Henry Bilsbury Clensed the Great Coatch.
- 4 I went in the Coach with my Wife to Ince to see my Lady Anderton.
- 5 My Wife went to Ormskerk to Lodg with Cozen Butler, but Cozen not being well my Wife came back. I went to see the Men scouring Formospoole, thence I went to Leverpoole and swore before Mr Mayr that I was apprehensive I would loose some Money by James Gleast. I saw 3 Beggars whiped out of Leverpoole. Mary Molineux came to be the Chamber-Maid.
- 6 My Wife rid behind me to Leverpoole she saw the Elephant. Lady Molineux &c: was at the Talbot, we went to wait of her.
- 7 I sent Richard Cartwright with some Poultry to Cozen Butlers at Ormskirk.

²¹ This was a period of toleration in religious matters, but now and again visits were paid to the homes of Catholic gentry to see they were not planning to take part in some Jacobite rising. How thorough was the search depended upon the justice of the peace and the searchers themselves. William Legh of Westhoughton was not unfriendly to Nicholas and the search was not taken seriously.

²² The inn in Dale Street, Liverpool where Nicholas frequently dined and lodged.

²³ Willows, usually grown as low bushes; the shoots when six to seven feet long and half an inch thick at the base were cut and used to make baskets and hampers.

- 8 Jane Harrison went to Ormskerk to meet som Gentle-Womens Maids. Mr Swinbourn dined and lodged here. I sowed some Crabs in the Kitchen Garden they had been Bruessed, & buried all Winter.
- 9 I Went to Gars-wood to take leave of Sr Williams two Doughters as were going to Gravelines. I dined at Garswood, there was Cozen John Gelibrond, Mr Will: Houghton &c.; the Children not being at home I went after them to Burchley,²⁴ thence to the Grank²⁵ and so home.
- 10 Cozen Robert Scaresbrick dined here. I shewed him my Swine hous.
- 11 Lady Anderton & Mrs Blundell came from Ince to make my Wife a Viset. Lady Anderton, my Wife &c: went hence to Win: Morros.
- 12 Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither. I gave John Lunt 5 Furr Trees and sold him eight Codling Trees for 2s., the Furr Trees were for Mr Foster.
- 13 John Tickley discoursed me about Fining for his Living & some more Ground. Henry Bilsbury opened some Granes of Hollin-burys²⁶ in the New Orchard.
- 14 I Agreed with John Tickley for a Fine for two Lives. It being a Snowei Morning I trased Rabets & took one.
- 15 I went to Croxtath to pay my first Viset to Mr Molineux his Lady,²⁷ I dined there as did also Mr Chorley, Mr Wofold &c.; Mr Bowers my Lord Gerards Gentle-Man was there.
- 16 I Set Cutings of Abells²⁸ in the Crofts. I took Bew into the Hous.
- 17 I sent Henry Bilsbury to Ormskerk to see if Lord Mountgarret was comne. I barganed with Ann Howerd to put hers & her Husbonds Life on a Teneament in the Morehouses.
- 18 I payed Nurs Radcliff 40s for half a years Wages. James Farer told me I must soone pay in the Money wch I owe him.
- 19 I went with my Wife in the Coach to Ormskerk to welcome my Lord Mountgarret and his Grandson Richard into this Countrey.
- 20 I set some Flowers & other things that Jo: Banister had procured for me. John Tickley payed me £20 in part of a Fine.
- 21 John Aldworth came for Brick & Apples wch I had promised Chars Howerd.²⁹ I Sowed Hollin Berris in the Crow Orchard.

²⁴ Birchley Hall, the home of the Andertons of Birchley, Lancs., a noted Roman Catholic family.

²⁵ Crank Hall, the home of Ann Singleton, eldest daughter of Singleton of Staining Hall in the Fylde. Ann was a Roman Catholic.

²⁶ Holly berries.

²⁷ Richard Molyneux, son of Sir William Molyneux, fourth Viscount, had recently married Mary, daughter of Francis, Lord Brudenell. When Sir William died in 1718, Richard succeeded as the fifth Viscount Molyneux. Richard died in 1738 and his wife in 1766. There was no male child, so Richard's brother, Caryll, succeeded him. Nicholas frequently refers to all these people in his Diary.

²⁸ White poplar.

²⁹ Charles Howerd, a tailor in Little Crosby, who also engaged in smuggling French wines. See May 20 1720.

- 22 I payed James Farer £30 in part of £40.³⁰ I and Walter Thelwall vewed some pits in Order to drane one of them.
- 23 I set five Men on work in order to drain the North-Hey Pit. John Banister grafted Virgin Apples.
- 24 I sent Richard Cartwrit to see Mrs Scaresbrick who was Lying in of a Doughter. I set 8 Men on work after dinner at the Pit.
- 25 Collonell Butler & his Son Richard dined here, his Son lodged.
- 26 I went wth Collonell Butlers Son Richard to Leverpoole we drunk Wine at the Maiors. I payed Mr Hurst £3-8s-0d in full of all Accounts, and to Mr Aldridg £4 in part of a Debt for a Bed &c:³¹ and to Mr Guildus the Potheary I Pay'd half a Crown.
- 27 I drew the farthest North-Hey Pit. I went to look at Wm Wignolds³² Swinhous.
- 28 I sent my Coach to Ormskerk for Cozen Butler she came back in it & Lodged here.
- 29 I Fixed the Bottom Cord to my little Drought Net.
- 30 Collonell Butler Lodged here. He, his Lady, Son, My Wife & I went after Dinner to Croxtath. it was a very wet day.
- 31 Collonell Butler & his Son went hence. I went to Ince to borrow Mr. Blundells Drought Net but it was not Fixed.

APRILL

- 1 Mr Blundell of Ince & his Wife came hither of a Viset to Collonell Butlers Lady.
- 2 My Wife & Collonell Butlers Lady went in the Coach to Leverpoole. Cozen John Gelibrond lodged here. he, his Brother and I walked to Ince.
- 3 Collonell Butlers Lady went hence in my Coach to Ormskerk Cozen John Gelibrond went to dine at Croxtath. I drew 3 small Pits with my Little Drought Net but took none. Mr Plumb came hither and discoursed me about going tomorrow to Ormskerk about James Gleasts hous and to discourse Mr Jamson concerning it.
- 4 Mr Plumb & I met at Mr Jamsons and discoursed him concerning Gleasts Hous & his Morgage, thence we went to Mr Peter Ashtons & he shewed us Gleasts Hous and Garden, I ordered it to be warned tomorrow. Edward Lewis of Chester a Fether Dresser came and dresed some Fethers for me.³³

³⁰ James Farrer was a most unsatisfactory tenant, farming his land very badly, a thing Nicholas detested. Probably Nicholas had taken the land off Farrer and had agreed to pay him £40 for so doing. See October 28 1705.

³¹ Nicholas was paying off his accounts to Mr Hurst the draper and to Mr Aldridge the upholsterer for a bed for his mother. See February 3 1705.

³² A tenant in Little Crosby.

³³ "5 Aprill 1705—

Dressing Fethers at 16d. for 20 pound	3s. 0d.
To Grice to warn Gleasts house	6d."

- 5 I Killed a Larg fat Bull-Segg.³⁴ I discoursed Joseph Hawleys Nephew concerning the Map of my Demesney which he had brought hither the last night.
- 6 I Stated Accounts with Mr Joseph Hawley for Mesuring and Mapping of the Township of Little Crosby, I gave him one Guiney and am to give him two more if he be living this day two years, he received Somthing formally in part of payment.³⁵
- 7 Wm Clough, the Father & Son payed me at Leverpoole £12-14s-6d in Money and his Disbursments comes to £16-5s-8d which was upon Account of Rent for Ditton Demesney. Payed to Mr Aldridg £1-10s-0d upon Account.
- 8 My Wife and I went to eat a Tansy at Charles Howers, Mr Molineux of the Grange, Richard Tickley and their Wives came to us.
- 9 My Wife and Mally went to Collonell Butlers, I dined at Scaresbrick. My Wife, Mrs Hesketh of Rufford &c: came from Ormskerk to Scaresbrick.
- 10 Thomas Kerfoot took a Rabet with Ferrets in the Brick Kill.
- 11 I went with my Wife to Dr Fabius she Shewed him her Fingers and Advised with him about Purging and Bluding. I sowed 12 sorts of Flower Seeds.
- 12 I went to Aigbournth found Cozen Moline: and his Wife there, I discoursed Mr Philipson concerning the Agreement made between Mr Harington and Edward Cowdock, thence I went to Leverpoole where Mr Plumb and I signed a Paper to Widdow Berry of Ormskerk for payment of £8 to her, it was in Relation to Mr James Gleast. Mrs Wofold Lodged here.
- 13 My Wife went with Mrs Wofold to Leverpoole. I sowed Flower-Seeds under the Buttery Window.
- 14 Mrs Wofold dined at Ince. My Wife took her first dose from Dr Fabius.
- 15 Mrs Molineux of the Grang & Ailes Tickley dined here. Mrs Wofold was very ill of her Stomack and wind.
- 16 Wm Davy discoursed me concerning Fining for Ryses Heyes. Dr Fabius came in the Evening to see my Wife, she was in a Cours of Phisick under him. Pat: Wofold & Pat: Hesketh of Mosbourn suped here.
- 17 My Wife went in her Coach with Mrs Wofold to the Grange, to Formby &c:. Pat: Hesketh came back with them and lodged here. I went to Ince.
- 18 Pat: Wofold dined here. Mr Kitchen alias Smith³⁶ came hither, I discoursed him before Pat: Wofold & Pat: Hesketh concerning Dixons Bond, he then concented that besides the £5 I had already stopt in, upon Account of Charges, I might pay out of the £20 now in my hands the Charges that is yet due to Mr Plumb and he also forgave me all the Interest due (in consideration of the troble I have had about it) excepting twenty Shillings which I gave him. I went towards Poole but missing the Boat, I went by James Houghtons to Runkhorn, so to Chester and lodged there.

³⁴ Animal castrated when fully grown.

³⁵ "6 Aprill 1705—To Mr Hawley in part for a Mapp £1 1s. 6d." See May 10 1707. This map still exists and gives an excellent picture of the manor of Little Crosby in detail. It is now at Crosby Hall. Copies at the L.R.O. and in the Crosby Public Library.

³⁶ Father Edward Kitchen, of the Kitchen family of Barton, near Preston. Entered Douai seminary in 1670.

- 19 I Appeared in the Bishops Court at Chester upon Account of a Sitation procured against me by John Hurst,³⁷ I dined at the Golden Lyon with Mr Egerton, Mr Wm Massy³⁸ &c: thence I went to Poole to wish Joy to Sr James,³⁹ when I came Sr James Poole, his Lady &c: were just going to Standlow.⁴⁰ I went with them and came back to lodg at Poole.
- 20 I danded and Played at Bragg with the Ladys &c: at Poole. Mrs Mary and An Standley⁴¹ came to Poole.
- 21 I came from Poole by the Rock Boat so to Leverpoole and then home.⁴²
- 22 I sent the Coach to Ormskirk. Collonel Butler and his Lady came back in it and Lodged here.
- 23 My Wife, Collonell Butler and his Lady and I went to Leverpoole we were at Mr Maiors. Edward Holsold came for Young Pigeons for Cozen Scaresbrick. I gave him 30 Pair.
- 24 Bess Fouled a Bay Hors Colt. Collonell Butler and his Lady went hence, my Wife and I went with them, we Suped there. I saw the three Women that were said to be Bewitched. I was a while at the Sessions.
- 25 I Barganed with Wm Davy for £70 to Leas Rises Heyes to him for two Lives in Presence of Ralph Low & Walter Thelwall.
- 26 I went with Pat: Gelibrond to Lidiat to see Mr Barret, he was not there, but there was in all six Presbiters.
- 27 Collonell Butlers Son Richard lodged here, he and I went to Mr Wairings & got the Boyes leave to play.
- 28 I Payed Bessy Whidby for Bleaching yarn.⁴³ I shot Staires in the Evening.
- 29 Collonell Butler dined and Suped here.
- 30 Cozen Dicky Butler & I went to Great Crosby to the Burriall of Richard Hatton. I went to John Tickleys to make Friends.

MAY

- 1 Pat: Wofold said here.⁴⁴ I paid Robert Lunt for Weaving fine Flaxon.⁴⁵ Edward Hatton desired more time to name a Life to his own.

³⁷ John Hurst was at this time laying claim to two seats in Farnworth Church held by the Blundell of Crosby family. See July 17 1705.

³⁸ William Massey, of Puddington Hall, Cheshire, a friend of James II, implicated later in the 1715 Jacobite Rising. He was arrested, and died in Chester Castle, February 1717.

³⁹ Sir James Poole of Poole Hall, Cheshire, had recently married his third wife, Frances, daughter and co-heiress of Major-General Randolph Egerton of Bettley, Stafford, and widow of Sir John Corbet, Bart.

⁴⁰ Stanlow, former site of Cistercian Abbey.

⁴¹ Of Hooton Hall, which is adjacent to Poole Hall.

⁴² The ferry between Rock House (now Rock Ferry) on the Cheshire side of the Mersey and Liverpool.

⁴³ "Bleaching Yarne at 1d. per pound 6s. 2."

⁴⁴ Said Mass at Crosby Hall.

⁴⁵ "May I 1705—Weaving 18 yards of Fine Flaxon it was most extreemly troublesom 12s. 0d."

- 2 Mrs Blackbourn sent me 30 Carps but they were all dead I think before they rought.⁴⁶ I went to the Marsh a Sooting with Cozen Dick Butler. Wm Davy paid me £40 in part of a Fine for Rises Heyes.
- 3 Cozen Dick Butler went hence. I went with my Wife to Leverpoole to buy Sweetmeats. Mr Barret & Mr Maynard Lodged here.
- 4 Mr Barret & Mr Maynard went hence. James Fleetwood mended the Little Lead.
- 5 I sent Henry Bilsbury to Croston with Bess and got her Covered with Dogg-Lad.⁴⁷
- 6 Thomas Riding discoursed me concerning his Laying down a Fine for Wm Weedows Living. I payed £10 Principall and £2 Interest to Richard Ainsworth for the use and by the Orders of James Farer.
- 7 My Lord Molineux, his Son, and their Ladys &c: dined here.
- 8 I helped to Bottle off a Barrall of Aile. Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here.
- 9 My Wife Spoke to Nurs Radcliff concerning what the Nurs Radcliff had said to Jo: Ma:
- 10 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. Ellen Nelson came the first time to weed here.⁴⁸ I had some discours with W:T: by the Wheat heylands concerning Lo:B:G: not having so much Aile. Wash Night.
- 11 Mr Fletcher paid me £12-10s-0d for Interest from Sr William Gerard for my Aunt Gerard & Aunt Frances Blundell, I shall send it tomorrow. Walter Thelwall left the hous in a fret upon Account of a falst Story told him by his Wife relaiting to my Wife; the Word Extravagance was the ground of it and the Story was proved to be made by Walter Thelwalls Wife.
- 12 My Wife & I discoursed Ann Thelwall, she owned her fault in raising a Lye of my Wife. I sent my Coach & Horses to Ormskirk to Carry my Mother to Croxtath. I sent £5 to my Aunt Frances Blundell upon Account & also £12-10s which I received yester day for her & my Aunt Gerard. The sheep were washed.
- 13 Last Night Bonny Buttax⁴⁹ Fowled a Filly Colt. William Tompsons Wife spoke to me about Fining. Thomas Riding discoursed me before William Weedow about laying down a Fine for Will: Weedows Teneament.
- 14 I & John Banister went all day almost to seek Mole-Nests, we took 9 young ones, and with the Grew-hounds we killed two Hares, the Moles ought to have been taken upon the 11 or before. Richard Falshaw Postilion to my Lord Gerard came hither, he sayd Mr Jo: Gerard was dead.
- 15 My Wife Stayed till Morning with John Tickleys Wife who was in Labour, she Babtized the Child, Mrs Gill the Midwife dined here.
- 16 I was present at John Tickleys when Pat: Wofold christoned the Child Conditionally.

⁴⁶ arrived: *rought*—past participle of verb, *to reach* meaning *to arrive*.

⁴⁷ A stallion belonging to Isaac Lightborne of Formby.

⁴⁸ "Weeding the Garden at 4d, per day 15s. 10d."

⁴⁹ Buttocks.

- 17 My Wife and I walked to the Grang to Prayers, we dined there as did also Mr Darcy Chantrell &c:. We went to Bryan Bryansons &c:. Mr Wairing gave me £1-2s-6d for 18 Load of Turf, he Suped here.
- 18 Richard Cartwright and Jane Harrison⁵⁰ went to Leverpoole. I sent Henry Bilsbury to Mosbrough to see if Cozen Aire was comne.
- 19 Mr Thomas Wofold came hither to goe with my Wife to lodg at Morehall but she having an Express from thence this Morning defered going. Mr Thomas Wofold dined here.
- 20 Collonell Butler dined here, he, my Wife, I &c: went to Great Crosby to see Lord Molineux his Horses but we saw them not; we came home because Mr Blundell was here, he & Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here.
- 21 I Began to lead the bottom of the Turf stack into the Hen-hous-pit. Philip Syer began to lay the Larder with Tiles.
- 22 I began to Shear Sheep.⁵¹ Richard Cartwrit bought a Tinn Watering pot.
- 23 I kept my Grand-fathers Aniversary with three Presbiters, Collonell Butler walked hither in the Morning, he and I &c: went to Nicholas Johnsons, we saw Lord Molineux his Horses going to water. I lent Coll: Butler a Horse to Ormskirk.
- 24 I Botled off October Beer. My Wife and I bought Pan-Muggs in this Town. Bonny Buttox was horsed in Ormskirk with Loxoms Bay.
- 25 Mr Levins dined here. I Bought Ball Sope⁵² here of Robert Houghton.
- 26 I walked to Marrows Turf Moss with my Wife. I discoursed Wm Tompson & his Wife about a Fine.
- 27 Margarit Standish & her Son Thomas from Eckleston came hither, I shewed her the Hous, &c:.
- 28 My Wife & I went in the Coach to Wigan, we were at Mrs Aspinwalls, Dr Worthingtons, Mr Langtons and Mrs Heskeths, we light at Diconsons, coming home Rowbothem the Taylor stayed us at Hollond to take mesure of my Wife.
- 29 My Wife & I went in the Coach to Ormskerk, we dined at Collon el Butlers. I drunk with Mr Peter Ashton, Richard Woods, &c:.
- 30 I met Col: Butler, Mr Blundell of Ince &c: we drue some Pits of Mr Robertl Fazakerley in Walton, we dined at Wm Guteridges, Edw: Could: discoursed me concerning his Bargan wth Mr Harington. Captain Richard Butler came to us in the Evening.
- 31 I walked after Supper with my Wife to the Heale Bank to see the Mares and Colts.⁵³

⁵⁰ Butler and Housekeeper.

⁵¹ "Shearing 44 Sheep 2s. 9d."

⁵² Ball soap was commonly used in the North. It was made from tallow and lyes from ashes.
 "25 May 1705—Sope 26 Dozen at 8 balles per Dozen £1 6s. 0d."

⁵³ The Heal Bank, one of the fields in Little Crosby, was frequently used to pasture mares and their colts.

JUNE

- 1 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for five Months last past, he fined with me and added more to his Living.
- 2 I went after dinner to Leverpoole, I drunk with Parson Wairing, Edward Tarlton, & Thomas Brownbill, I also drunk with Major Broadknax.
- 3 Captain Robert Fazakerley & Mr Levins came hither. Pat: Gelibrond, my Wife & I walked after Supper to see the Mares and Colts.
- 4 I lead Turf with 12 Boone Carts.⁵⁴ I Stated Accounts with Richard Jump for wages owing to him and Money promised to his Wife by me.
- 5 My Wife went in the Coach to Lodg at More-hall. I bought 15 young Duck of Emb: Blanc:.
- 6 Rougbothom brought a Silk Mantue and Peticoat he had made for my Wife, the Silk was bought at Leverpoole of Mr Shaw.
- 7 Mr Wairing suped here, after Super he, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to see Mally.
- 8 I helped Thomas Syer, Richard Bridg, &c: to draw For-mos-Poole with a Net, thence we went to the Sea & I saw them draw there with it. Severall Carts fetched Brick from my Brick-kill for Mr Tasburgh, but without my leave.
- 9 I went to fetch my Wife from Morehall, I dined there thence I went to Ormskerk to Collonell Butlers, Cozen John Gelibrond & Captain Richard Butler was there.
- 10 I went after dinner to Croxtath,, there was Collonell Butler, Mr Chorley, Cozen Robert Molineux &c:.. Lord Molineux spoke about paying the Tax for Tith Corne.
- 11 Richard Cartwright let my Wife Blood. Philip [Syer] discoursed me about keeping the keys.
- 12 John Ald: agreed with me for a Fine. I went to Leverpoole & Received Harkerk Prints of Mr Aldridg which he had got printed for me at London of the Money found in the Harkerk.⁵⁵ I drunk with Mr Becket a Parson, Hunter the Tanner, Ellen Nelson came to be the Cook.
- 13 I led Turf with 7 Boone Carts. I hung a Hive at the Granery to intice the Bees into it but it took not effect.
- 14 I went to Mosbourn to wate of Cozen Eyre, his Lady &c:.. I dined there with Sir Wm Gerard &c:., Collonell Butler, my Mother &c:.. I gave Henry Bilsbury warning to leav my Service.

⁵⁴ "1705—Feying & Evening for Turves at Five pence per

	£	s.	d.
Rood or 8 yards	3	4	9½
Delving Turves at 12d. per day	5	2	9
Wheeling Turves at 7d. per day	2	19	11½
Dressing Turves at 10d. & 12d. for 20 Load	14	8	"

⁵⁵ William the Recusant in 1610 set aside a small field called the Harkirk in his demesne for the burial of Roman Catholics refused burial at their parish church. On the day after the first burial in 1611, a hoard of 300 silver Saxon and other coins and some silver was found on the site. William Blundell drew the coins and had a copperplate made of some of them. Nicholas asked Aldridge to make some prints from this copper-plate, which is still at Crosby Hall.

- 15 I bought a Periwigg of Horse Hair from a Woman that came past my Gates. I sent John Banister with my Wives Mantews to be altered by Roughbotham.
- 16 I fixed a Jugg in a Wallplate in the End of the Barn to take Miss⁵⁶ but to no Effect.
- 17 Collonell Butler, his Lady, and Captain Richard Butler dined here it being my Weding day. Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here.
- 18 Mrs Collins came to dine here. Pat: Gelibrond went to Leverpoole to meet his Nephew that was going to Holly-well. Cozen Emilia Butler came to lodg here & to goe tomorrow wth my Wife to Mosbrough.
- 19 My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler went to Mosbrough to wate of Cozen Aire but no one being at home they came back home betimes, it was an extraordinary hot day. I sent Walter Thelwall to Wigan to meet the Bishop of Chester.
- 20 I fited my Syballing Nets for Fishing for Sparlings in hopes to sell them but did not. Richard Cartwright clomb some Chimbneys for young Swallows. Anderton played here at night to solemniz our Weding day which was on the 17th.
- 21 Thelwall discoursed me concerning Knoctorum. I Acquainted Henry Sumner & Philip Syer with my Intention of making the first Coachman & Groom, & the Latter my Groome.⁵⁷
- 22 I went in the morning with Walter Thelwall to the Morehous Turf Moss thence to see a new ditch at the side of the Heale Banck and so to the Cross-field to see Thomas Marrow who began this day to Mow there. We expected Mrs Eckleston here from Ince, she came not, but Mr Swinbourn & Mr Blundell came. I tryed an experiment with eleven living Miss in a Hot Pot.
- 23 My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler went to Mosbrough to wate of Cozen Eyre. I sent for Gray-Bonny and the Colt home from Ralph Tyerars, she went on the 16th and Fowled a Bay Hors Colt about the 21st.
- 24 I went to Leverpoole thence to Ormskerk, Mr Jo: Plumb went most of the way with me. I found my Wife at Collonell Butlers, she brought Cozen Emilia Butler home to Ormskerk.
- 25 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife, she Rode single on Button, I bought a Livery of Mr Maior for Watty, we were treated by Mr Leadbeter with Anchovys, & by Mrs Secomb with Botled Punch
- 26 I drew some Pits with Cozen Blundells Net for a Dinner for Cozen Eyre. The Bargan made with Philip Syer about Katching Fish. Poss: £10 first 'ith Char mystud.
- 27 I went to the Cocking at Ormskerk, dined at Collonell Butlers, I saw Mr Peter Ashtons Accounts.
- 28 I Set out the Desert and helped to dress flower Pots for the Chimneys against tomorrow.

⁵⁶ Mice.

⁵⁷ In the Quarter Wages paid on 24 June 1705, Henry Sumner was shown as *Ploughdriver* and Philip Syer as *Mason*.

- 29 Cozen Eyre &c: Cozen Robert Molineux &c: dined here. Collonell Butlers Lady &c: dined & lodged here.
- 30 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife, Captain Richard Butler &c: I saw there Mr Robert Brooks. I paid Merchand Houghton £30 for which he gave me a Bill.

JULY

- 1 I went after dinner with my Wife and Collonell Butlers Lady to Mosbough to take leave of Cozen Eyre and his Lady.
- 2 Collonell Butlers Lady, my Aunt Frances &c: went hence. Collonell Butler & Captain Richard Butler went to Leverpoole.
- 3 I went after dinner to Leverpoole, found there Collonell Butler and Captain Richard Butler, I saw Captain Richard Butler take Shipping for Ireland on Bord the Francis of Dublin. Mally was wained, her first tooth appeared.
- 4 I Rode out with my Wife to see the Colts, to the Turf Moss, and to Bryan Bryansons. After Supper my Wife, Pat: Gelibrond and I walked to the Sea side.
- 5 I went to Ormskerk after dinner to meet my Aunt Gerard, she & my Uncle Gerard⁵⁸ came to Collonell Butlers. I suped there.
- 6 Richard Cartwright went to Roughbothom for my Wife. Watty went to Dr Fabius for Mally.
- 7 I took Mally from Nurs & brought her home.⁵⁹ I dined at Ormskerk at Collonells, it being his Weding-day.
- 8 I sent to consult with my Mother about Mallys Costiveness. I walked with my Wife after Supper to Lunts the Weavers, and to Bessy Whidbys.
- 9 I sent Mally to be Dry-Nursed by Ellen Harrison for some time.⁶⁰ Cozen Scaresbrick, his Wife & Mother Lodged here.
- 10 Cozen Scaresbrick, I and oure Wives &c: went to Leverpoole. Uncle & Aunt Gerard &c: Lodged here.
- 11 Mrs Ellen Entwisle came hither after Dinner, we Danced Country dances.
- 12 I and all my Guests dined at Ince. Uncle & Aunt Gerard went hence.
- 13 Cozen Scaresbrick, I and oure Wives &c: went to Formby and the Grange.
- 14 Cozen Scaresbrick, his Wife and Mother went hence.

⁵⁸ Aunt Gerard was Mrs. Bridget Gerard the youngest daughter of William the Cavalier. Her husband was a doctor in Durham.

⁵⁹ "8 July—Waiges to Nurs Radcliff for 3 months and three weeks . . . £1 5s. 0d.
Gratuety at same time to Nurse . . . 5s. 0d."
Nurse Radcliffe had been employed by Nicholas from the time Mary (Mally) was born as wet nurse.

⁶⁰ Mary was now eight months old.

"6 Aprill—For dry Nursing Mally at 2s. per Week to Ellen Harrison formerly due . . . £1 10s. 0d."
See entry for October 22 1705.

- 15 Many of the Morehouses & Little Crosby came to discours me concerning Marg: Riding.⁶¹
- 16 My Wife Rode behind me to Wiggan, we went to take leave of my Aunt Gerard, we dined at Doctor Worthingtons.
- 17 I met Cozen Robert Scaresbrick at Ormskerk, we discoursed Lawyer Starkey concerning Nicholas Walls his Debt to us, I also consulted him concerning my Seat in Farnworth Church.⁶²
- 18 I dined at Park-hall & payed Mr Houghton⁶³ Interest for £60. I also payed Interest for £45 to Jo: Taylor. Edward Hatton was with me, I went to Cozen Gelibronds.
- 19 Parson Brook-bank and Parson Wairing dined with me. I ordered 18d. to be given to Margaret Riding.
- 20 I drained the farthest Pit i'th Cowhey, we took near one Busshel of Eles.
- 21 I went to see Margaret Riding who told me she was well attended.
- 22 My Wife rode behind Walter Thelwall to More-hall to see Mrs Wofold.
- 23 I went to Ailes Meling to discours Pat: Wofold concerning Mary Carys being my Nursery Maid.
- 24 Lord Molineux sent me a Hansh of Venison. I sent £2-14s-0d. by Henry Maudlesley to my Aunt Frances. I began to Slutch⁶⁴ one of the Cow-hey Pits. I bought a Swarme of Bees of John Lunt.⁶⁵
- 25 I went with my Wife to Leverpoole Fair. I discoursed Jo: Hurst concerning Farnworth seat before Mr Bretter.
- 26 I sent Richard Cartwright to Scaresbrick with some Backing Pots⁶⁶ & to Ormskerk for Salmon.
- 27 Mrs Blackburn and Ailes Tickley came to see my Wife.
- 28 Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here. I fetched a Hive of Bees from John Lunts.
- 29 I went after dinner to Ormskerk to see Collonell Butlers Lady and my Aunt Gerard. Mr Gerard Barton came to Lodg here.
- 30 Mrs Aspinwall came from Ince after dinner to see my Wife, the discourse about Wheat.

⁶¹ Nicholas was a frequent visitor to his tenants and the poor when they were sick and often shewed his sympathy to them. When Margaret Riding, a poor woman in Little Crosby, fell sick he began to send her gifts. See September 11 1702. Margarit Riding must have been a constant invalid for here three years later her neighbours are concerned about her and coming to discuss her with the lord of the manor. What steps Nicholas took are recorded in his entries for July 19, 21, and 31 1705.

⁶² There are numerous entries in the Diary and letters in his Letter Book concerning the seats in Farnworth Church.

⁶³ William Houghton of Park Hall married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Robert Dalton of Thurnham in 1683. His son assumed the name Dalton in 1710.

⁶⁴ To slutch a ditch or pit meant to clean out or remove the mud.

⁶⁵ "August, 10 1705—To John Lunt for a Swarme of Bees that was swarmed about the 3rd. June 6s. 4d."

⁶⁶ Baking pots.

- 31 I gave Margarit Riding 18d. I Found Richard Harrison's Bullock in the Ditch and helped to pull him out.

AUGUST

- 1 Mr Almond lodged here. I fetched home two Swarms of Bees from Wm: Hiltons.
- 2 I kept my Fathers Anniversary with six [presbyters]. Mr Almond went hence.
- 3 I went with my Wife to Ince. Mrs Blundell was Lying In. Collonell Butlers Lady and my Aunt Gerard lodged here.
- 4 I payed £5 to Mr Mullins for Interest due to Ailes Caterold in 1704. Mr Mullins, Mr Thorold & Dr Worthington dined here, I discoursed Dr Worthington about my Wife and Child. Mr Barton went hence.
- 5 Collonell Butlers Lady and my Aunt Gerard went hence. my Wife & I went with them to More-hall.
- 6 Lady Molineux was God-Mother to Mr Blundells Doughter Ann, I stood as God-father for Cozen Francis Anderton, I dined at Ince with Lady Molineux &c.; Lady Gormonstown and my Wife.
- 7 I went to Speak to wish Joy to Mr Norris,⁶⁷ I dined there & called at Aig-bourth as I came back, it rained much.
- 8 My Wife and I dined at Croston, we called at Ormskerk and took Collonell Butler, his lady and Aunt Gerard along with us.
- 9 I went into the town & Morehouses to Order some to scour their Water Courses but most of them were abroad.⁶⁸
- 10 I Stated Account with Richard Ainsworth for work done by Wm Davy and me at his hous, Richard Harrison was Umpior for part.
- 11 It being a most Stormy day of Wind and Rain I did Little but peruse some Disbursments and Receipts of my Grandfathers. One Man and two Women Acquaintances of Mary Molineux lodged here.⁶⁹
- 12 I demanded 8s-9d. of Bridget Sumner which she ought me.
- 13 Collonell Butlers Lady &c: Lady Gormonstown, Lady Molineux &c: dined here.
- 14 Mr Henry & Robert Witherington Presbiters Lodged here. I gave 6d in presence of the two Mr Witheringtons &c: to Mrs Aspinwall the Midwife for which she is to give me six Guineys whensoever she is Married to any one.
- 15 The two Mr Witheringtons, Pat; Gelibrond & I went to Ince and thence to Mr Fosters, we carded at Night.
- 16 I went to the Buriall hous of John Aldworths Doughter.

⁶⁷ Dr. Norris married Anne, the sole daughter and heiress of Peter Gerard of Crewood, Chester, on July 12 1705.

⁶⁸ Nicholas was ordering his tenants in Little Crosby and the Morehouses to clean out the ditches. *Abroad* means they were not at home.

⁶⁹ Mary Molyneux was the chamber-maid.

- 17 My Songoars in the Flat⁷⁰ Sung to me and I gave them Ballets and Apples. I went to the Reapers & Mowers of Corn i'th Town Meadow and Rises-Heyes.
- 18 Cozen Francis Scaresbrick lodged here. The Pump Court Well was emptyed to get out the Key of the Larder.
- 19 I went to Ince with Cozen Francis Scaresbrick. I Received £100 from John & Richard Bryanson for which I am to give them Bond.
- 20 Cozen Francis Scaresbrick went hence. Henry Dauber came to prepare a New Millstone to be put up.⁷¹ John Aldwo: discoursed me about adding the Life of Thomas Tatlock to his & his Wives.
- 21 Richard Cartwright payed £60 Principall and all Interest due for it to Mr Tootall, Butler at Park-hall, 'twas for the use of his Master Mr Houghton. I transcribed most part of a very long Letter to my Sister Mar:, 'twas chiefly about Sister Mary Robinsons Busines and my Enterest used to get Money from Ed: Trustrom for JP.
- 22 I went after dinner to Leverpoole and bought somthing for a Coat for Mally. A Souldier and his Wife was set in the Stocks at Leverpoole.
- 23 I writ a very long Letter to my Sister Margarit. I discoursed George Cottom in the Mill concerning Lord Molineux & John Hurst about wood.
- 24 I went in the Coach with my Wife to the Grange to prayers and to see Mrs Molineux who was Lying in. Mr Henry & Robert Witherington lodged here.
- 25 Mr Witheringtons went hence. I payed Nicholas Johnson for all work till this day.
- 26 The News of a Battle twixt Vandosmey and Prince Eugene was read in the Buttery by Pat: Gelibrond.⁷²
- 27 Collonell Butler dined here. Mr Wofold of Morehall came to bring my Wife her Ring.⁷³ Edward Hatton sealed a Bond of £45 to Cozen John Gelibrond and others for the use of Wm Whawley and at the same time paid me £35 in full for his Fine.
- 28 Dr Lathom dined here. I went after dinner in the Coach with my Wife to Leverpoole to see Mrs Houghton of Park-hall, we were entertained at Mr Sweetings.
- 29 My Wife went to Ormskerk. I was at the Putting up of my new Mill-Stone.
- 30 I went to Ince with my Wife to see my Cozen Ann Blundell. Mr Edmund Trafford, Mr Hamerton & Mr Needom was there.
- 31 Cozen Wm Gelibrond walked to Ince, I went part of the way with him, we took the Grehounds & bet for a Hare in the North Hey but found none. She first proposed to me seting the hous & Land and going to live in Ireland.

⁷⁰ The Flat was a field in the demesne land of Little Crosby.

⁷¹ Henry Dauber, millwright, and his brother, Richard, were often called in to do work at the Little Crosby Windmill. The cost of a millstone at this time varied between £4 and £4 10s.

⁷² Prince Eugene of Savoy.

⁷³ "August 27 1705—Mr Woofold got my Wives dimind Ring new set at London, it came to £2 1s. 6d., but two of the stones were left out wch were returned at 20s., and the remainder was paid to Mr. Rich: Woofold viz one Guiney at—£1 1. 6d."

SEPTEMBER

- 1 The Mill rights finished, they had put up a new Stone, New Coggs & Rongs, a New Coller & Saddle for the Shaft, the Iron Geer was new drest & a new gate plased in the Step. Anderton played here at Night.
- 2 Mr Blundell, his Wife, Mrs Ann Blundell, & Mr Edmund Trafford came hither in the Coach after dinner.
- 3 Richard Cartwright & I took the Bees on the Granery Stayers, John Banister made up the Mouths of the Hives in the Garden.
- 4 We cut the Neck. Richard Cartwright first began to how in the Stock Roots.
- 5 I Rode out to see my Mairs & Colts and to bespeak Rabets in expectation of Mrs Fazakerley who was to have comne today but did not.
- 6 I was at Childoll Rase where two Mr Molineuxes his Horses & two Mr Haringtons Horses Ran, Mr Chars Haringtons wan,⁷⁴ I spoke there to Mr J Hurst & to Mr John Plumb.
- 7 Richard Cartwright curled my Wigg which I designed to give to James Houghton. Philip [Syer] prepaired the Stone to fix a grate in for Bees on the Granery Staires. Codlings were gathered. Moxon brought Shoes for my Wife, me & Pat: Gelibrond.
- 8 I went with my Wife in the Coach to see Mrs Wofold.
- 9 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond came hither in the Morning, he lodged here. Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither for some Pile-Grass for Mr Blundell of Ince.
- 10 Harper was pulled out of the Ditch by the Heal-bank. The Experiment tryed to get Misse⁷⁵ turds out of Wheat with hot water but to no effect. I Woun Pat: Gelibronds hat of him at Tables & lost it again.
- 11 I had a great Breaking, Mr Smith Presbyter gave his 6d. and Pat: Gclibrond ran for it, they were found with Meat & had a Fidler and Anderton at Night and four Garlands were brought by some Great Crosby Women after Supper into the Halle.⁷⁶
- 12 Lord Mountgarret, Collonel Butler & his Lady lodged here. A Hare taiken in the Brick-kill with a Cat & a Net.
- 13 I went to Leverpoole with Collonell Butler and his Lady. Collonell Butler, Mr Sheelds & I went on Bord the Fenix and the Satisfaction both of Leverpoole. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 14 Lord Mountgarret, Collonell Butler & his Lady went hence to Ince, I went with them, they took up there my Mother & Aunt Frances and thence they went to Ormskerk.

⁷⁴ Childwall, now part of Liverpool. Charles Harrington, of Huyton. "Lost at Childol Horse Rase . . . 1s. 0d."

⁷⁵ Mice.

⁷⁶ At the end of any agricultural or other essential activity a celebration was usually held. Here one was being held after the breaking of the flax. It would appear that Father Gelibrond had been challenged to some kind of a race.

- 15 Going to Leverpoole I met Mr Thomas Gorsuch & Mr Methom coming to Lodg here, I turned back with them and after that, I went to Liverpool and Received £40 of Wm Clough & payed £6 of it to Mr Aldridg.
- 16 Mr Thomas Gorsuch & Mr Methom went hence. My Wife & I dined at Collonell Butlers, Aunt Gerard was there. I payed 7 Guineys to my Mother and 5 Guineys to my Aunt Frances.
- 17 I went to Leverpoole, and bought Cloth for a Pillion Cloath for my Wife & ordered it to be made. Mr More-Croft⁷⁷ procured me a Bill for Fourteen Pound.
- 18 I wained my three Colts, Buck, Snowball and Steele. The Great Thorn by the Kill was cut down & a wall begun to be made.
- 19 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. My Wife and I went to Leverpoole to have taken leave of Collonell Butlers Lady who as we thought would be going for Ireland, but we lost our Labour.
- 20 I heard the first time of the death of my Brother Richard Blundell, he dyed in Mary-Land Nov: 30th 1704. I Killed a Little Read Heffer i'th after-noone.
- 21 My Wife went to Leverpoole to take leave of Collonell Butlers Lady, she went on Bord with her. Collonell Butler came back with my Wife and lodged here. Mr Berry & Swift came to see my Wife, Mr Berry lodged here.
- 22 Mr Berry went hence. I went with Collonell Butler to Ormskerk and dined there, I took leave of Aunt Gerard. My Mother told me of her design to take a long Journey.⁷⁸
- 23 Mr Blundell & Robert Fazakerley came to condole me for the death of my Brother Richard. Mr Blundell told my Wife concerning my Mother & Aunts not coming to lodg here but at Ince.
- 24 I met Mr Blundell a Coursing at Richard Naylor's, we had but little spourt.
- 25 Mr Hurst Maior of Leverpoole, his Wife, and Doughter came hither. Collonell Butlers Mares came to be scored in my Ground. James Fleetwood the Glasior worked here.
- 26 I went to Leverpoole & bought of Mr Hurst⁷⁹ a second Mourning for my Wife to wear for the death of my Brother Richard, going to Leverpoole Richard Cartwright was stopt upon my Mare Harper with a Rope that came cross the way from the Ship the Hope-well.⁸⁰
- 27 Henry Bridg came to mend some Saddles for me. Nicholas Johnson fitted me up a second Mourning Coat for the death of my Brother Richard.

⁷⁷ A Liverpool merchant; mayor of Liverpool in 1706.

⁷⁸ His mother, Mary Blundell, daughter of Rowland Eyre, of Hassop, Derby., had made up her mind to become a nun, and was contemplating going to Flanders. Nicholas did not like the idea, her health not being too good. She eventually left Crosby on April 21 1706 and entered the English Benedictine Convent at Ghent. She died on November 21 1707.

⁷⁹ A silk mercer and tailor; mayor of Liverpool at the time. Died July 1715.

⁸⁰ The most frequently used road to Liverpool from Crosby ran along the shore. With the increasing volume of shipping using the Mersey, the mooring ropes across this shore road were becoming more and more of a hazard to travellers.

- 28 I began to make a Flower Knot⁸¹ before the Dining Roome Window & I layed most of the Green Sods in the Middle.
- 29 I sealed a Bond to Bryan Richardson for payment of £50. Mary Carys came to be the Nursery Maid. Wm Clough & his Father in Law John Wainright came & discoursed me concerning my Estate at Ditton and to make a New bargan with me.⁸²
- 30 I went to give Mr Wairing thanks for the Hunny Combs he sent me, he told me whot Gestes he was to have at the Goosfeast & invited me thither.

OCTOBER

- 1 I made it freese by the Fyer side with Haile.⁸³ John Banister desired his waiges to be raisd.⁸⁴
- 2 I went to Leverpoole to Enquire after the death of my Brother, I discoursed Mr Worthington, Mr Houghtons Factor,⁸⁵ about him and his Widow. I drunk with Mr Morecroft and played with him at Droughts, I proposed wagers upon the Chances of the Dice but he would not Accept of any.
- 3 Jane Harrison went to Leverpoole and got her Tooth pulled out. Walter Thelwall went to Knoctorum.
- 4 Hoome a Taylor from Ormskerk brought a second Mourning he had made for my Wife. I sent Richard Cartwright to get Walnuts & to fetch sets of Saffron from More-halle. Thomas Scaresbrick brought me 14 Ewes all supposed to be with Lamb. Thomas Kerfoot payed me £13 in part For Rent for 1704.
- 5 I planted Flowers in the Knot most part of the day.
- 6 I Planted Flowers in the Knot which came from Litherland and also severall of my own. Thelwall gave me a Letter as came from my Brother Richards Widdow.⁸⁶
- 7 I went to Leverpoole to enquire after the death of my Brother Richard from Mr Lancaster & Mr Cattaway, I gave Mr Cataway my Swourd.
- 8 I sent John Banister to Cozen Gelibrond to get sets of Flowers.
- 9 I went to the Rase on Oughton Moss⁸⁷ where Mr Darcys Kricket beat the famous London Dimple & two others. My Wife & I lodged at Collonell Butlers.
- 10 My Wife & I came home in the Coach from Ormskerk. I found Mr Glegg here, he was comne a begging for Mr Genison, Mr Glegg lodged here.
- 11 Mr Glegg went hence. I drue with Mr Blundells Net a Pit of Thomas

⁸¹ A formal bed of flowers.

⁸² Tenants from Ditton discussing new leasing arrangements.

⁸³ Nicholas was fond of trying out experiments.

⁸⁴ John Bannister, his gardener, did not get a rise; his wages remaining at 15s. a quarter.

⁸⁵ The man who had replaced Richard Blundell as a factor in Virginia.

⁸⁶ See "Richard Blundell in Virginia and Maryland", F. Tyrer, *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, October 1960, Vol. 68, No. 4.

⁸⁷ Horse races were held fairly frequently on Aughton Moss, near Ormskirk till about 1818.

Blundell and one of Richard Harrisons, we also coursed & had very fine spourt.

- 12 Mr Scaresbrick, Mrs Hesketh and her Sister Grimes dined here, I sent my Coach to Ormskerk for the Ladys and brought them back.
- 13 I went to Leverpoole to discourse Mr Houghton concerning my Brother Richard but he had not time, so I discoursed Captain Edward Tarlton & Captain Brown. I drunck with Richard Tickle and Edmond Trustrom. I proposed Richard Bryanson for Ellen Tickle.
- 14 I dined with my Wife at Ralph Nelsons. Mr Worthington the Merchant Lodged here.
- 15 Mr Worthington & I coursed before dinner. Mrs Secomb my Landlady dined with me.⁸⁸ After dinner Mr Worthington & I coursed towards Great Crosby, we drunk at Thomas Heskeths with Parson Richmond, Sudall, Brookbanks and Parson Wairing, and with Mr Allison, Carall Bootle, Poole &c.: Mr Knight lodged here.
- 16 Mr Swinbourn came to lodg here, I went with my Wife and him to Nicholas Johnsons. Mr Worthington went hence. I proposed a bargain for Weedows Teneament to Wm Wignold and John Blundell Taylor.
- 17 I Payed £7-4s-7d. to Richard Riding for one Quarters Land Tax. Mr Swinbourn & Mr Knight went hence.
- 18 I went to see a Porpous that was cast upon these Sands, I think it was between 5 and 6 yards long. My Wife carryed Collonell Butlers Doughter Mary to Ormskerk in her Coach and brought back my Lord Mountgarret who came to lodg here.
- 19 Cozen Robert Fazakerley, his Wife &c: came from Ince to see my Wife. I killed a small Cow.
- 20 Collonell Butler came to Lodg here.
- 21 Collonell Butler went in the Coach with my Wife to Ince. I went after them.
- 22 Collonell Butler & I met Mr Blundell of Ince at Formby a Coursing, there was the two Robert Fazakerleys, Richard Tickle, Edmund Trustrom &c: we dined at Mr Edward Moleneux his. Mrs Blundell and Mrs Fazakerley dined here. I brought my Doughter Mary home from Dry Nurs.
- 23 Collonell Butler, Mr Blundell & I &c: met at Parson Wairings, the Parson went with us to drink at Thomas Heskeths.
- 24 My Wife Rode behind Collonell Butler to Leverpoole. I went with them.
- 25 I went to the Bishops Court at Ormskerk & discoursed Mr Boucher about my Seat in Farnworth Chappell.
- 26 Old Thomas Thelwall was buried. I went acoursing with Collonell Butler & Pat: Gelibrond. Henry Chester my Tenant lodged here.

⁸⁸ Mrs. Secombe carried on as landlady of the Woolpack Inn in Liverpool after the death of her husband. Nicholas was friendly with the family and the daughter Betty spent New Years Day 1712 as a guest at Crosby Hall. Mrs. Secombe died in August 1712. The Secombe family probably continued at the Woolpack until 1718, when a Mr. Rensh (Wrench) took over. Mr. Wrench died October 28 1722.

- 27 I Sealed a Leas to Henry Chester for 3 Lives, it was antedated. Lord Mountgarret & Collonell Butler went hence.
- 28 I went to see some Land that James Farer had ploughed from Edward Howerd,⁸⁹ I made complaint of James Farer to Ralph Low.
- 29 Wm Clough⁹⁰ came to make complaints to me of his Sons unkindness, I went with him to Leverpoole. I drunk with Mr Hurst, Mr Allison &c: and I drunk with Sheelds, Mr Hews, & Mr Aldridg.
- 30 I went a Coursing to Holsold,⁹¹ I dined there at Seath Bibbys with Parson Brownhill, Captain Hambleton, Mr Peter Ashton, Mr Scaresbrick, Mr Howet &c.:
- 31 Ralph Low, James Farer, Thomas Marrow the Taylor and I met in the Townfield in order to Rectify some greenvanses. Dr Lancaster came hither and gave me a Vomit.

NOVEMBER

- 1 I went with my Wife to Lidiat to Prayers but we came too late, thence I went to Leverpoole where I discoursed Mr Houghton concerning my Brother Richard before Collonell Butler and Mr Andrew More. I drunk at the Tolbot with Collonell White, Collonell Butler, Mr Sheelds &c: I Lodged at the Tolbot and lay with Collonell Butler.
- 2 I came home from Leverpoole. I payed £20 to Ann Bootle alias Tatlock which was owing to her by my Father upon Note & Bond.
- 3 John Aldworth, his Nephew Thomas Tatlock and an other came to dis-course me about ading Thomas Tatlocks life to John Aldworths Teneament.
- 4 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here.
- 5 Pat: Gelibrond walked with my Wife to see Betty Blundell of the Car-side who was lying in. I took the Milk-beas[ts] into the Hous.
- 6 Mr Molins came hither. Thelwall told me of Richard Ainsworths Key of the Seller.⁹² Barnaby Mathews dressed Pat: Gelibronds Clock.
- 7 Mr Blundell, Mr Edmund Smith, and Mr John Richardson came hither.
- 8 Pat: Gelibrond & I dined at Croxtath, my Lord and his Sons were gon a Hunting.
- 9 I gave warning to Richard Ainsworth that I would part with him upon Account of his having a key of the Seller.
- 10 I went to Leverpoole & Received some Rent for my Ditton Demesney, I set it for two years.

⁸⁹ James Farrer had ploughed up some of the neighbouring strips belonging to Edward Howerd, who complained to Nicholas. After seeing what had happened, Nicholas reported it to Ralph Low, foreman of the manor court. See March 22 1705.

⁹⁰ A tenant of Ditton.

⁹¹ Halsall.

⁹² Ainsworth, his ploughman, had got hold of a key to the cellar of Crosby Hall and was making use of some of the goods stored there. See June 4 1708 and footnote.

- 11 Richard Ainsworth delivered me the Key of the Seller which he had long time made use of very much to my damage.
- 12 Mrs Ann Rothwell came to excuse her self about selling Corn.
- 13 I was at Charls Howerds where Mr Plumb kept my Court this day, he lodged here as did also Mr Clayton of Adlington.
- 14 Mr Clayton went hence to Ince, I went with him part of the way & so on to meet Cozen Molineux of Mosbrough near Melling about Mrs Ellen Fazakerleys Money, there was Edward Tatlock a dyer &c:.
- 15 Richard Cartwright, Watty and I went a Coursing, we killen a brace of Hares. I sent a Present of Apples to my Mother by Richard Ainsworth.
- 16 Richard Cartwright took Bew to Ralph Tyarers but he having the Pock Farsy he left him there.
- 17 Philip Syer turned an Arch over the Boyler in the Kitchen. Richard Cartwright buried Achhorns & Alder Berry's.
- 18 Collonell Butler dined & Lodged here.
- 19 Collonell Butler went hence before Dinner. I went a Coursing with Pat: Gelibrond towards the Heal-Bank, I looked at Bess & sent Gray Bonny home to be Shod.
- 20 I went to Leverpoole & bought Callico to line part of my Wives Mantew. Mr Richard Houghton was hurt.
- 21 John Smalshaw came hither to look at some Ash Trees, he paid me 35s: in full for some he had formerly bought of me at Ditton.
- 22 I dined at Collonell Butlers. I drunk at the Bull with Mr Peter Ashton, Cozen Gelibrond & his Son &c:. I Stated Accounts with my Aunt Frances.
- 23 I sold three Larg Ash Trees to John Farclough for £5. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond lodged here.
- 24 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence.
- 25 My Wife Rode behind me towards the Meales to see a Ship that was cast away but finding the way farther than we expected and hearing the Ship was breack to peeces we turned back homwards Re infectâ. My Servants Joyned and had a Snap-dragon.
- 26 We began to fit the two Charriots to Lighter Carriages. I Coursed a Hare found set by William Thelwall, thence I went to Parson Warings.
- 27 John Tickley fited the Carriages of the Charriots to the Wheels which are now designed for them.
- 28 I began to pull down the Fire place and Spark-Stone &c: in the Kill to prepare it for a Garden house. Richard Cartwright brought me Phisick from Dr Lancaster.
- 29 John Farer came to mend the Braieses &c: of the two Chariots. Joseph Evans a Tinker Mended a Pot & a Pann. Thomas Kirklington an old man came hither to sell Pictures and Medolls he Lodged here.
- 30 Thomas Kerklington and I went a Simpling or gathering severall sorts of Hearbs in the Fields. Thomas Peele fetched Apples hence.

DECEMBER

- 1 Thomas Kirklington and I went a Simpling, he went hence. John Farer worked here a second day at the Brayes. I went to shoot Snips but it raining I went home. I sent my Cart to fetch Darbys Oats to the Kill.
- 2 Margarit Oughton dined here, she told us of Sir James Pooles goods being seased.
- 3 I took Pills from Dr Lancaster but they worked little or none.
- 4 I Planted Goosberry and Curron Trees in the Stone Garden which I design to be shaped into Bells & Balls. I had a Pair-tree that had some Blossoms on and one was full blown, I was told it was in Blossom on or before the second.
- 5 Mr Plumb dined here, we coursed after dinner and killed one Hare. Richard Cartwright brought home my Bond for Payment of £45 made to Cozen John Gelibrond, John Taylor &c: and Instead thereof left a Bond from Edward Hatton for the like Sume with John Taylor from whom he Received my Bond & payed all Interest due at same time.
- 6 I took a second Dose of Pills from Doctor Lancaster they worked well. Walter Thelwall bought me 10 Bea[sts] at Ormskerk very Cheap viz: for £11-15s-0d.
- 7 Philip Syer began the division Wall between the Kill & the Gardiners-Hous.
- 8 Pat: Gelibrond went to Ormskerk, my Wife and I went along with him to see him safe over Sefton Water.⁹³
- 9 Mr George Carys, Mr Molineux of the Grang and Pat: Wofold came hither.
- 10 Captain Robert Fazakerley came to cours with me, we found not one Hare. I payed Thomas Harrison for Clarks wages.⁹⁴ Mr Swinbourn lodged here.
- 11 John Farclough with two of his Men & two of mine Rid⁹⁵ two Ash-trees in the New Orchard. Mr Swinbourn went hence. Mall Carys went to Leverpoole to see her Father.
- 12 I and Richard Cartwright pitched and Stopt the Window on the Stair-head to hinder the wet from coming through. I payed Martinemas dues viz: 26s. to Mr Brookbanks for this present year 1705.
- 13 Richard Cartwright drue some Nailes out of the Burned Joyses in the kill.
- 14 I was busy in my Closet all day almost in Peruesing Pocket Books & old Almanicks.
- 15 I went to Leverpoole I made a viset to Mr Houghton. I drunk at Mr Smiths with him, Collonell Butler, Sandiford, Mr Sheelds, Mr Howet, Mr Wofold and Mr Ince, some talk about Taxing Merchants.

⁹³ The River Alt frequently overflowed to flood the low-lying lands around Sefton and made it difficult for travellers to find their way.

⁹⁴ Thomas Harrison collected the church dues for Sefton Parish.

December 10—Clarks wages to Thomas Harrison for the Hall	1s. 0d.
For Garstons Living now demesney	2½d.
For Churching my Wife 4d., given more 5½d.	9½d."

⁹⁵ Pulled up.

- 16 Mrs Margaret Oughton dined here. John Oughtons Daughter was buried. Pat: Gelibrond came not to Calves Feet.
- 17 Mrs Blundell & Mrs Ann Harington came to see my Wife.
- 18 I sent Richard Cartwright to Scarsbrick with Oring Coullerd Ribbans. I sent Watty to Leverpoole for some fine Edging.
- 19 Philip Syer sifted broken Brick for the Garden & Walks. Richard Cartwright melted Window Lead. Mr Thomas Wofold was here.
- 20 Two of John Farcloughs Men Ridded the Great Ash Tree by the Crow-Orchard Gate. I Singed a Fat Hog. Mr Wairing brought me two Tombs of the History of the Reformation of the Church of England which he had borrowed of Parson Richmond for Collonell Butler.
- 21 I sent Walter Thelwall to Mosbrough with three Pound of Pepper for Rent.⁹⁶ I sent John Banister with Pudings &c: to Ormskerk. Henry Bridg discoursed me concerning making a Bridg at Formospoole.⁹⁷ John Jackson of Great Crosby discoursed me about People carting over his Land near the Schoolhous Captain Robert Fazakerley signed a Note to me for payment of Twenty Shillings.
- 22 I Received Ditton Rents. I Signed Artickles of a New Bargan with Wm Clough. I payed Mr Hurst for Coffy & Mr Shaw in part for a Shop Debt owing to him. I payed Mr Morecroft for Aurora Riban.
- 23 I writ a Letter fowl over for my Wife to send to Lord Langdale.⁹⁸
- 24 I Booked my Accounts for some Months past. Richard Bryanson & Wm Weedow the Cunstable Acquainted me with their Warant for Seazing Vagabonds &c:. Collonell Butler came hither to Solemnize to Morrow Morning.
- 25 I sent Richard Cartwright to Croxtath to see Madam Molineux who was said to be In Labour. I sent Watty to Leverpoole to the Post.
- 26 I met Henry Bridg, Wm Sefton, Thomas Kerfoot, &c: at Formospoole gutter where we Consulted about moving for a Bridg to be made there.
- 27 My Wife and I dined at Morehall with Collonell Butler, Doctor Lancaster, Cozen Robert Fazakerley and his Wife, Mr Howet and his Wife, Mr Peter Ashton.
- 28 My Wife and I went to Ormskerk, thence my Mother and she went to dine at Scarsbrick and I dined at Mr Howets with Mr Peter Ashton, Cozen Robert Fazakerley &c:, we Carded.

⁹⁶ The following note was written by Nicholas in the Great Hodge Podge, p. 64:—

"There is one Pound of Pepper to be paid yearly upon the 1st. November to Mr Molineux of the Wood for some Ground called the Pepper Fields lying in Thornton wch said Fieldes are now A.D. 1706 part of Nicholas Abrams Teneament and he, the said Nicholas Abram, is now by a New Contract made with me N. Blundell for the said Teneament obliged to pay the Pound of Peppers above mentioned to Mr Molineux of the Wood."

⁹⁷ The shore road from Liverpool to Crosby and the north was of some importance, but the crossing of Farmosspool, a water-course in Little Crosby draining into the sea, was a source of trouble. Nicholas refers to the making of a bridge over Farmosspool later. See April 21 1721 and footnote.

⁹⁸ A letter written out roughly, which was later altered or added to, then written out neatly.

- 29 I went in the Coach with my Wife to Ince to see Cozen Trafford, Cozen Standley &c: .The Gentlemen were gon a Coursing but came in before I came from thence.
- 30 I went with my Wife in the Coach to Ormskirk, I dined at Collonell Butlers with Mr Peter Ashton, Dr Lancaster &c:. Mr Henry Tyarer, Caligula, Mr Howet, &c: were there.
- 31 My Wife & I dined at Ince with Mr Trafford, Mr Standley and their Wives, Mr Ralph Tildesley &c:.

Anno Domini 1706

JANUARY

- 1 My Wife and I dined at Gorsuch, Mrs Billington came home with us & Lodged here.
- 2 John Farclough pay'd me £5 for three Ash trees. I writ Letters most part of the day.
- 3 Mrs Standley & Mrs Trafford came with Mrs Blundell of Ince to make a Viset to my Wife, after them Mr Trafford came. Anderton played here at Night, there was little dancing, but great Carding.
- 4 I went in the Coach to Leverpoole with my Wife and Mrs Billington, we were at Mrs Sweetings, I drunk with Mr Sheelds and Swarberick at Lathoms.
- 5 I Coursed a Hare which Thornton Smith found set, there was present Wm Anderton, Henry Bilsbury, Turton John Molineux &c.: I applyed Greyes to Harpers Leggs with good Success for the Grace.
- 6 Pat: Gelibrond came on purpose from Ormskerk to help Butcher Ned Hatton who was dangerously ill. I lent my Carriage to carry the Corps of Ellen Speakman to Alker. Thomas Kerfoot told me William Weedoll was falln sick.
- 7 Thomas Blundell shewed me his Leas for his Wives house which he has set. My Wife & Mrs Billington walked to Richard Roases, Georg Cottombs: &c:.
- 8 Mr Hurst & his Wife, Mrs Sweeting &c: dined here, I sent my Coach for them and brought them back again, Parson Wairing came in the Evening to them.
- 9 I Stated Accounts with Thelwall for the seven Months last past. I discoursed Richard Harrison concerning the Winter-heys.
- 10 My Wife & Mrs Billington walked to Richard Tickleys. I went to fetch them home on Hors-back. Mally began to walk of her self.
- 11 I went to Preston and met Dragoones coming thence towards Ormskerk. Mr Leomond payed me Interest for Mrs Ellen Fazakerley viz: 12s.
- 12 I came from Preston Fair to Bank where I dined at Mr Fleetwoods with him, his Lady, the Parson, Mr Hesketh Junior of the Meales¹ &c:; thence I came home where I found Mr Billington & Mrs Mary Gorsuch who lodged here.
- 13 Mr Billington went hence. Ailes Ticklely and her Doughter Ellen dined here, Ellen Ticklely Lodged here.
- 14 Collonell Butler and Cozen Robert Fazakerley dined here, they came when we had almost done dinner. Collonell Butler acquainted me with his designe to goe for Ireland. I began to plough. Mrs Molineux of Croxtath was brought to Bed of her first Child, tis to be called Mary.

¹ Meols—i.e. North Meols, now part of Southport.

- 15 My Wife, Mrs Mary Gorsuch, &c: went in the Coach to Leverpoole. I dined at Croxtath with Collonell Butler, Sir William Gerard, Mr William Molineux &c:, Anderton was here at Night.
- 16 Mr Lathom gave me directions about his Will. I gave James Lidiat some Thorns and other Quick sets. The Waranders paid me for 1705. James Gleast came hither & made some proposalls about his house in Ormskerk to give me £70. My Wife, Mrs Billington &c: went in the Coach to the Grange.
- 17 John Farclough quartered the Bottom Logg of the Great Ash-Tree by the Crow-Orcherd Gate. I Shewed Mrs Mary Gorsuch the Oat-Kill, we walked through the Town.
- 18 I Began to measure Tickleys Teneament but did not then finish it.
- 19 I Received at Leverpoole £20 from Wm Clough the Elder for Rent. Lead-beter the Groser gave me a Pint of Claret in the Talbot.
- 20 My Wife, Mrs Mary Gorsuch, &c: went in the Coach to Richard Tickleys. Collonell Butler sent to desire I would meet him tomorrow at Leverpoole.
- 21 I met Collonell Butler at Leverpoole, he paid Mr Plumb £3 for one years Interest of £50. Mr Plumb gave us three Bottles of Whitwine. I Lodged at the Talbot with Colonell Butler.
- 22 Mr Plumb & I Received each of us a Letter with welcome News concerning James Gleast. Collonell Butler & I came from Leverpoole. he dined here.
- 23 I went to Great Crosby & desided the difference between Henry Williamson & Aspinall about a ditch near Michalls well, I went to Mr Wairings but he was gon towards Ormskerk to a Funerall.
- 24 Mr Gorsuch dined here, he took his Doughter Mary hence.
- 25 I went a Traising of Rabets, it being but Little Snow we found none. Thomas Williams of Knocktorum came hither to discourse me.
- 26 I went to Leverpoole to have met Frances Kelley but she came not. Richard Writ paid me £7-10s. upon account of a Bill which was owing to Wm Clough, £5 of which I payed to Mrs Collins for the use of Mr Aldridge & £2-10s. I payed to Mr Hurst. I began to Plant Apple Trees in the New Orchard.
- 27 I was taken with a Pain in my Side like a Stitch or Plurisy, it Continued till Tuesday.
- 28 I Trimed young Apple Trees and others Planted them in the New Orcherd, Planted today thirty six.
- 29 I went to Leverpoole to take leave of Collonell Butler ere he went towards Ireland, I suped at the Tolbot with him, Captain Pywell, Mr Peter Ashton, &c: we set up drinking till Morning, we had the Drum beat whilst we drank healths, I lay with Collonell Butler at the Talbot.
- 30 Collonell Butler went from Leverpoole towards Holy Head. Pat: Gelibrond & I came home from Leverpoole.
- 31 I was busy all after noone in ordering whot Saplings were to be taken up and in triming and Dressing of them. John Banister set some Skerrets by the Cloths hedg and in the New Orcherd. Mrs Blundell of Ince came to see my Wife.

FEBRUARY

- 1 I Trimed Saplings most part of the day. John Banister planted Saplings in the Stockroots & trimmed Thorns in the Kill.
- 2 Mr Wofold of More-Hall dined here. My Wife & Mrs Billington went to Croxtath to see Mrs Molineux who was Lying in of her first Child.
- 3 I dined at Scaresbrick, I went thither to see Cozen Mary Bradshaw of Midlom.²
- 4 I delivered £20 to Mar: Molineux in presence of John Blundell she desired me to keep this for her without Interest, she had delivered it to me Octo: the 15. My Wife and Mrs Billington went to the Race at Childol, I went after them thorow Leverpoole. Mr Charles Haringtons Mare wone all the three Heats, we came home through Leverpoole and Mr Plumb treated us with wine & Sweetmeats. Thelwall refused to wate of my Wife in the Coach to Ince, though afterwards he went as he told me.
- 5 I made it publick that my Closet Lock had been attempted to be Picked. I gave my Wife two Pills she was extreemly sick.
- 6 I went to Ormskerk to fetch my Lord Mountgarret hither to Lodg for some time but he was not able to ride on Hors-back, I sent John Banister with some Quick-sets to Mr Howets, & to Scaresbrick for some Frute Trees. I payd my Mother £10 being the remainder of her third years Joynter. I payed my Aunt £4 in part of a Debt.
- 7 Collonell Butlers Coach-Horses came hither to be Scoared. I Signed a Bond to Mr Molineux of the Wood & Captain Robert Fazakerley for payment of £35, tis the Money of Mrs Ellin Fazakerley. I began to shave the outward Bark of the old Grove Apple-Tree to make it to Bear Better which it has done since. I began to sow Achhornes. Edward Hatton & Wm M: began to cut some Ash-Boughs which they had bought of John Farclough.
- 8 Cozen Scaresbrick dined here, there came along with him Cozen Mary Bradshaw of Midlom, one Mrs Ingleby & Mr Penketh Presbyter.
- 9 Mrs Billington went hence into Chesshier, I sent her to Leverpoole.
- 10 Mr Thomas Gorsuch dined here. Mr Charls Harington came hither from Ince after dinner, we played at Tick-Tack.³
- 11 I dressed and trimmed Saplings for Planting. Three new Workmen out of Great Crosby came to work for me.
- 12 Henry Worthington came hither to Hier £100 of me but I could not let him have it, he found a Wood-Cock set, I shot it. I planted a Row of Small Ash in the Stock-Roots which I had formerly seen Planted with Fir & were mostly dead.
- 13 I went to Leverpoole, met Mrs Billington there, I received £27 for her use, she came home with me. I took Thomas Gregson sworne before Mr Hurst, I set him at Liberty.
- 14 I went to Ditton & Measured Hedging and Ditching in Blundells Meadow

² Mary Bradshaw belonged to the branch of the Bradshaighs of Haigh, settled at Middleham in Yorkshire.

³ Old variety of backgammon played on a board with holes along the edge, in which pegs were placed for scoring.

& elce where, some of it was done & some was to be done. I Lodged at Wm Cloughs & played tricks at Cards &c:.

- 15 Mr Houghton, I, Henry Heys, &c: drank at Coud Nooks in Ditton.
- 16 I came from Ditton to Leverpoole & paid 50s. to Mr Aldridg & thence came home.
- 17 William Weedow & John Blundell discoursed me about Wignolds ground. I read in the Gallery.
- 18 Mrs Billington went hence to Lodg at Gorsuch, she went in my Coach to Ormskerk & my Lord Mountgarret came back in it to Lodg here.
- 19 I sent Richard Cartwright to Leverpoole with a Box of my Wives Cloths that were to be sent to London. I went to Mr Wairings and gave him the History of the Reformation which Collonell Butler had borrowed of Parson Richmond. John Banisters half Sister Lodged here, she fidled here.
- 20 I Trimed under Wood to plant in the Stock Roots. John Bryanson ridd up three old Apple trees.
- 21 I took some Notes out of Pat: Gellibronds Book of Gardening. Pat: Wofold bought here some Muslin of a Scotch-man.
- 22 I Trimed some underwood & layed it ready in the Stock-Roots in the Holes where it was to be set. John Banisters Sister went hence. She made some Buttons it being the 24th day since she made any.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole, Mr Plumb drew a Letter of Attorney for my Lord Mountgarret to empower Theody Dunn to Receive Rents &c: I gave Mary Clough some Sets of Flowers.
- 24 My Wife went a Hors-back to Gorsuch, she stayed all Night and sent the Men home. Ailes Tickley & her Doughter Margery & Betty were here. I went to see Margery Blundell who was sick, I gave advice to her Children.
- 25 Mr Tasburgh was here. One of the Milk-Cows brought forth two Calves. Nicholas Johnson came from my Lady Gerard of Dutton to see my Wife. I sold some thornes to William Blancherd. Philip Syer made up the little back doar in the Gardin hous.
- 26 I went to Gorsuch and fetched my Wife home from thence.
- 27 Pat: Gelibrond and I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell who had had four Ague Fits.
- 28 John Banister went home with Apple Trees. I and Richard Cartwrit took up Oak and Ash to be planted in the Hedges. I gave Thomas Blundell some Quickwood.

MARCH

- 1 Strawberris above one bed set in the New Orchard. Alderberris sowed in the Stock-Roots & Cutings of Within pricked down.
- 2 My Wife was very ill of her Throat and head &c: she kept her bed most part of the day. I helped to plant Cabbages.
- 3 Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here. I sent to Gorsuch & fetched Mrs Billington thence to lodg here. I Read Slynheads Book.

- 4 I perused in the Gallery after dinner a great many very small old Deeds & soured them. Lord Mountgarret had a Letter from my Aunt Frances Blundell to advise him to keep in private. Mrs Billingtons Head was brocke by a Fall. The Best Meath was made. Thomas Blancherds youngest Son brought me a Wafe Sheep. I gave Webster the Bayley some Corn.
- 5 Thelwall & I went to vew Weedows Housing, thence we went to see them set Star, then to see the Ploughed Ground in the Coppy & so home where I found a Messenger from my Mother which she had sent to see my Wife.
- 6 Ailes Tickley & her Doughter Molineux came to see my Wife. I fetched an Ash Tree from Thomas Blundells which he had falln without Leave.
- 7 I dined at Mr Howets and then went to see my Mother who told me of her Resolution to begin her Journey shortly.⁴ I discoursed Mr Jamson about the Purchas of James Gleasts Hous.
- 8 William Wignold discoursed me about Robert Blundell and Weedows Teneament and I told him I would strain on Robert Blundell for my Rent. Captain Robert Fazakerley brought us good News about the Bill against Papists. Some few Pears were grafted in the Kitchen Garden.
- 9 Mr Molineux of the Grange and I bought a Kegg of Wine between us at Leverpoole. Nelly Blundell went to Leverpoole to sell Butter, she got an ill fall of her Hors coming home. I ordered some strayed Sheep to be warned at Leverpoole. I sent Mrs Billington to Gorsuch and Miss Nancy Gorsuch came to Lodg here.
- 10 I Shewed old John Lunt my Flower Knot.
- 11 James Landers went with me to the Winter-heys to see whether they were proper for Fleying, I gave him above one Hundred & $\frac{3}{4}$ of Thornes. I sent Walter Thelwall to sease on William Wignolds goods for Rent owing me by Robert Blundell.
- 12 Collonell Butlers Servant Thomas came from Dublin, he Lodged here & told us of the Death of the Collonells Lady. We took a Rabbet in the Old wood by the Hen-hous Pit.
- 13 One of the Great Popular Trees by the Hen-hous was cut down. Mr Molineux of the Grange came to let me know he could not Bottle of the Wine which was between us.
- 14 I sent Richard Cartwright to the Grange to bottle of the wine that was between Mr Richard Molineux & me. I helped to put up the Lattice-Window in the Garden house.
- 15 Part of an Asparagrass bed was planted. John Lunt brought me some Violet Sets which I planted in the Stone Garden.
- 16 Parson Bruce from Northumberland was here. I sent Richard Cartwright to Dutton of a How-do-you to Lady Gerard. A Pain saised my Wife in her Thigh.
- 17 Richard Harrison smoked in the Gallery with my Lord Mountgarret.
- 18 I agreed with Nicholas Abrom for a Fine for two Lives. I clensed the sixteen Acker of Withen Boughs & soured them. The Coult & Calves which went most of the Winter about the House were removed to the Cow-hey. Richard

⁴ To join one of the religious communities in Flanders.

Cartwright came home from Dutton Lodg. The Knot was finished the first time over with Brick, and two Beds made in it with Scale Bones.

- 19 I Sealed a Lease to Wm Wignold as well for the Teneament he agreed for with my Father as for some Ground he has since agreed for with me, he paid me some Rent which was owing to me by Robert Blundell.
- 20 I was with Mr Molineux of the Grange & Ralph Low my Lord Molineux his Steward in the Sand-hills, we order'd Stakes to be set to divide the Grange Warand from some of my Tenants Land, there was with us Robert Blundell, Richard Bryanson, Wm Weedow &c.: Mr Molineux of the Grange, Ralph Low & I drank at Charles Howerds.⁵
- 21 Flowers were set on the North-side of the Great Courts. Jane Starkey dyed. Mr Wairing was here, he got his Collasion with me.
- 22 I helped to carry Jane Starkey to her Grave. I was told there were four Buried at Sefton this day viz: out of every Quarter of the Parish one.
- 23 I perused the Ditton Disbursments for the year 1705. I received at Leverpoole £10 from Mr Wilding for John Aldworths Fine. Mr Wairing introduced me to see Mr Coopers Flower Garden at Leverpoole. Mrs Billington came from Gorsuch to Lodg here, she rid behind Bolton.
- 24 Mrs Billington, my Wife and I walked to Great Crosby, we were at Thomas Foolers, we saw my Lord Molineux his Running Horses which were at William Thelwalls.
- 25 My Wife & Mrs Billington walked to the Carr side, I went to bring them home. Richard Ainsworth payed me £5 in part of his Fine. Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here.
- 26 My Wife & Mrs Billington walked to see Bessy Formby.
- 27 I went to Ditton, was at the Towns meeting, there was Mr Houghton, Mr Right, Thomas Rigby, Henry Heys, &c.: I Lodged at the Bank Hous.
- 28 I Payed Richard Rowson the Interest due from Mrs Blackbourn by Bond. I went about in Ditton to get Flower sets, I went to James Houghtons thence to Mr James Wildings but he not being at home I came through Leverpoole home & got the Flowers set which I brought.
- 29 I drove both great & little Brass Nails into the Lesser Charriot and did some other work about it.
- 30 I Glewed some Gold Balls on the Frame of the Alterpeece. Mrs Mary Gorsuch Lodged here. Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here.
- 31 I Dined at Collonell Butlers, I discoursed my Mother about coming to stay here before she went her Long Journey, thence I went to Scaresbrick & called at Gorsuch as I came home.

APRILL

- 1 Mr Babthrop dined here. I discoursed him concerning an Exchange for

⁵ "20 March—Spent with Mr Molyneux of the Grang & Ralf Low at Charles Howards

6d."

When wine was bought in bulk or smuggled it was very often taken to the house of Charles Howerd the tailor in Little Crosby, Howerd then distributed it to the neighbouring gentry.

Mr E. S.⁶ Old Mr Harington came from Ince hither, he went to Great Crosby I went after him, there came thither Mr Molineux of Croxtath, Cozen J. Poole, Mr Standley of Hooton, &c.; Many Flower Seeds sowed in the Knot. Mrs Billington distilled me some Sineomond Water. Mr Charles Harrington lodged here, we had two Boyes Fiddled here.

2 Mr Wofold dined here. I Signed a Lease to John Aldworth. I was at a Race at Great Crosby when Mr Molineux his Horse beat a Mare of Mr Molineux his of Mosbourg.

3 Mrs Billington went hence into Chesshire. My Wife and Mrs Mary Gorsuch &c: went with her in the Coach to Leverpoole. Mr Charles Harington went hence along with us to Leverpoole. My Wife, I, Mr John Gorsuch and his two Sisters dined at the Wool-pack. I bought some things at a Sale at Mr Brooksby's. I bought some new Puter of Mr Halsold and some goods of Mr Hurst & Mr Shaw. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond Lodged here.

4 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went hence. Mr Blundell and Mr Thomas Standley made a Viset here. Sir William Gerard came hither we had a hearing of Edmond Trustroms case & his Sister Janes before three Presbyters. Sir William Gerard suped here.

5 I drew out part of the Flower knot. The Mill-Rights went hence.

6 Mrs Mary Gorsuch went hence, I went with her as far as Thornton and thence went to John Lunts where I got some few sets of Flowers. Pat: Gelibrond sold his Horse. Nicholas Johnson worked here. I cleered of all Accounts with him.⁷ I cleered accounts with Richard Cartwright for the two last Months.

7 Mrs Blundell & Mrs Ann Harington made a Viset to my Wife. Ellen Nelson had her Wages payed her with orders to be gon, upon account of some words that past, but she went not.

8 I stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall. I told William Davy I would not bear with him any longer than till May-day. Pile Salve made.

9 I went to Leverpoole with Philip Syer and had him and Robert Obway sworne before Mr Mandet the Deputy Maior concerning the £3-4s-4d. for Mr Berry. I saw the Shew of the Church in a Box at the Wool-pack. Philips Ginger Night.

10 Pat: Gelibrond bought a Grifold Mayor. The Thatch was pulled of the Muck-hous.

11 Coopers came to make Eshens⁸ for the Gardiner & a Bee-Hive. I Sent to Scaresbrick for a Cart-Load of Barly. Thelwall brought my Mothers Silver Salver hither & told me her resolution of coming hither.

12 The Muck-hous was pulled down. I went to the Hall of Kerkby to see Edward Webster, I found there Mr Sharples, Mrs Webster the Maiores of Leverpoole, Mrs Hartley, &c:.

13 I went to Leverpoole, Wm Hurst gave me a Note for £9 upon account of

⁶ Mr. E. S. may have been the Rev. Edward Scaresbrick, S.J., uncle to Mr. Scaresbrick, of Scaresbrick Hall, and formerly chaplain and preacher to James II. Died 19 February 1709.

⁷ "6 April—Nicholas Johnson for Taylor's work 8s. 0d."

⁸ Eshen—a wooden pail or shallow tub.

Wm Clough. James Gregory paid me Interest upon account of Money he owes me by Bond for Timber.

- 14 My Wife went on Hors back to Scaresbrick, she dined there. I dined at Collonell Butlers and Invited my Mother to come soone to Lodge here, when I came home I found Lord Mountgarret very ill.
- 15 Mrs Blundell & Mrs Ann Harington came hither thinking to have found my Mother here. Mrs Molineux of Croxtath & her two Sisters made a Viset here. Collonell Butlers Gray Geldings were taken out of my Ground to be Scored in Scaresbrick.
- 16 Mr Plumb & his Wife were here. Richard Cartwright went to see Mrs Eckleston. I fetched home a Cart Load of my goods from my Mother. Jane Harrison gave my Wife warning. Parson Fleetwood came a Begging towards the Rebuilding of a Church in Oxford.⁹
- 17 I Fetched my Mother in my Coach from Ormskerk (when she came quite away from thence) to stay here some time.
- 18 Lady Molineux &c: came to see my Mother. Mrs Blundell and Mrs Ann Harington came to see my Mother as also did severall Neighbours.
- 19 Old Mrs Harington came to take leave of my Mother as also did Agnes Foxcr:, they dined here, Mrs Ann Harington came from Ince hither and went home with her Mother.
- 20 My Mother went to Ince to take leave of Mrs Blundell, my Wife went in the Coach along with her. Pat: Gelibrond & I walked on foot.
- 21 My Mother bid adue to Crosby, most of the Neighbours came to take leave of her, I went in my Coach to Warrington with my Mother, my Wife went with us, she rid part of the way, we Lodged at Mat: Pages in Warrington.
- 22 My Mother & her Maid Margery Winstanley &c: took Coach at Warrington for London.¹⁰ My Wife and I Dined and Lodged at Southward.¹¹
- 23 Mr Culcheth, his Mother, Widdow Diconson &c: dined with us at Suthward. I, &c: walked to Dobs Font.
- 24 My Wife & I came from Southward, we dined at Eckleston and so came home.
- 25 Bess Fouled a Bay Hors Colt twas got by Dog Lad, it Lived not many dayes. I bought some Tulop Roots of John Lunts Wife.
- 26 I went to Leverpoole & discoursed James Gleast before Mr Plumb concerning his Hous, thence I went to Ormskerk to the Bishops Court & discoursed Mr Boucher about Farnworth Seat. I Discoursed Jamson about buying Gleasts Hous, I drunk with Mr Howet, Parson Wairing, & Jackson the Scribener. I got Tulop Roots &c: at Lethe:
- 27 I gave Widdow Young some Sets of Flowers for Mrs Syer of the Ford. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here, he said he was quit come away

⁹ "16 Aprill—To Parson Fleetwood for Rebuilding a Church in Oxford 6d."

¹⁰ Following the death of her husband, Nicholas's mother never settled down at Crosby. She decided to go to Flanders, and after visiting her two daughters, Mary and Anne, who were nuns in the Convent of the Poor Clares at Gravelines, she became a nun in the English Benedictine Convent at Ghent, where her daughter, Margaret, was Abbess. She died November 21 1707.

¹¹ Southworth Hall, the home of Mr. Golding, a Catholic lawyer.

from Ince. Ann Howerd payed Philip Formby the last of the Money that she owes him for his Teneament. John Banister got some Tulop Roots at Ailes Melings &c.: We took a Rabet under the Plat¹² by the New Lane Gate. Ellin Tickley Lodged here.

28 Pat: Wofold & Mrs Betty Rigmaden¹³ suped here, Richard Tickley & Mr Molineux of the Grange came hither Just as we had done Supper. Nancy Gorsuch came back hither she had been at home some four days. Captain Robert Fazakerley lodged here.

29 I went to William Fleetwoods in Simonswood, he gave me some Sets of Flowers, and John Holland gave me some Tulop Roots. John Banister got me some good Flower Sets at Thomas Syers in the Ford.

30 I went to Leverpoole and writ in the Post-house to Mr Berry. I looked at some goods at Mr Hursts & Mr Shaws. I bought a Little very fine Muslin for Ruffles at Mr Morecrofts, he drunk with me at the Wool-Pack.

MAY

1 Mrs Betty Rigmaden dined here. After dinner Nelly Tickley came hither, she went to Leverpoole with my Wife & Mrs Betty Rigmaden, Mrs Betty & Nelly lodged here.

2 I walked to the Grange with my Wife and Mrs Betty Rigmaden to prayers, thence my Wife & she went to Richard Tickleys & dined there; I called at John Blundells and so home. I sent Richard Cartwright to Ormskerk with Collonell Butlers Coach-Mairs. Boltons Night.

3 Collonell Butler & his Son James came hither out of Ireland after the death of his Lady, they lodged here. I looked together old Puter & weighed it in order to sell it at Leverpoole.

4 Collonell Butler went hence and his Son James. I went to see Dr Lathom¹⁴ who was sick and had sent for me, thence I went to see Oliver Limes Gardens & coming home I went into Knowsley Gardens & got of the Gardiner some few sets of Trees and Flowers. Bess was horsed with Izacks Doglad.

5 Mrs Betty Rigmaden dined here. Collonell Butler dined & Lodged here.

6 Mr Tasburgh dined here. I endeavoured to make peace between John Tickley & his Mother.

7 My Lord Mountgarret went hence after having stayed a considerable time here. Collonell Butler and I went to see Lord Molineux his Horses Sweat at Crosby, my Lord and his two Sons &c: were there. Collonell Butler went hence to Ormskerk. Mr Morecroft helpt me to a Bill from Mr Tute. I discoursed Thomas Tildesley &c: about Farnworth Seat. I drunk with Mr Pryer.

8 I went to Leverpoole & bought some Sweetmeats for Cozen Scaresbrick. Mr Cooper gave me some Flower sets. I subscribed to Contribute to Leverpoole Plate for a Hors Rase.¹⁵

¹² Plat—a small bridge of stone or wood over a water-course.

¹³ This was probably the wife of Thomas Rigmaiden, of Ince Blundell, who was descended from the Rigmaidens of Woodacre Hall.

¹⁴ A recusant, who practised surgery; living at Aintree. See March 15 1703.

¹⁵ "15 May—Subscripsion given to Mr Shilds for the Plate at Leverpoole . . . 5s. 0d."

- 9 Charles Hower payed me £3 in part of his Fine, I sealed a Leas to him. I went into the Crofts &c: to take young Moles but I found none. Mr Babthrop was here in the Morning.
- 10 I got a Bill of £15 from Mr Tute, 'twas drawn upon Mr Travis Merchant in London. Bonny-Buttocks fowled a Filly the last Night it was got by Loxoms Bay, tis to be called Bonny Lass.
- 11 Some of the Sheep were washed. John Banister took some Young Moles.
- 12 Pat: Thomas Wofold held forth here, he and Mrs Molineux of the Grange dined here, my Wife & Mrs Molineux went hence towards Richard Tickleys but Mrs Blundell being there they went not into the house. I went by Lady Green¹⁶ to the Hall of Ince.
- 13 My Wife and I &c: dined at the Grange thence we and and Mrs Molineux, Nelly Tickley &c: went to Leverpoole and saw Acted the Earl of Essex, Mr Plumb & his Wife, Mr R. Norris &c: was there, we came home about two of the Clock in the Morning,¹⁷ Mrs Betty Rigmaden & Nelly Tickley came with us, they lodged here.
- 14 John Holland made me a Viset, I shewed him the Gardens. Nancy Gorsuch and Jane Harrison went to Ormskerk Fair.
- 15 I was at the Great Plate at Leverpoole where Lord Molineux his Hors beat Mr Silvester Richmonds Maor, I drunk a hors back with Alderman Tyarer¹⁸ &c:. Bees hived first in my Wood Hive.
- 16 I was at the little Plate at Leverpoole where five Horses run for it, a Chesnut Horse belonging to one Robinson in Wales wan it. Collonell Butler, Mrs Tute, Mrs Shields, my Wife, I, &c: saw the Gaimster Acted at Leverpoole.¹⁹ My Wife, I, Collonell Butler and his Lady Lodged at the Woolpack.
- 17 My Wife, I, Mrs Betty Rigmaden &c: came to Crosby from Leverpoole in the Coach, we dined late at home. The Wether-Sheep were Shorne. A large Stone to hold two Hives of Bees was fixed in the Stone Garden.
- 18 Pat: Gelibrond came in hast to put up his things and bid adue to Crosby but it was by a Mistake²⁰. I walked with my Gun to the Marsh & thence to the Coppy to see where the New Building was designed to stand, thence to Kerfoots, he went with me to the Sea-Side.
- 19 My Eyes being not well I could not do anything all day. I Delivered a Surrender of Brownsheys and another of Taylors Teneament to three of the Coppyholders of Great Crosby to be passed in their Court.

¹⁶ Lady Green—a hamlet near Ince Blundell.

¹⁷ "13 May—Spent on myself, Wife, &c at Leverpoole where we saw a Ply acted 5s. 6d."

¹⁸ Alderman Tyarer.

¹⁹ "16 & 17 May—Spent when I stayed all Night at Leverpoole to see a play with my Wife 6s. 4d."

²⁰ Father William Gelibrond (Gillibrand) was the resident chaplain at Crosby Hall, who also said Mass at Liverpool once a month. It is probable that he had heard some visitors were coming to search Crosby Hall and to enquire about Catholic services being held there. Or it is possible that Father Babthorpe, the Jesuit Provincial, had decided that Father Gelibrond should serve elsewhere. This seems the more probable explanation, when we note the entry for May 21. Father Gelibrond remained at Crosby Hall until December 2 1707, when he became the first resident Catholic priest in Liverpool after the Reformation.

- 20 My Lord Molineux, Mr Molineux, Mr Molineux of Mosburgh & their Ladys &c: dined here. Bonny Buttox was Horsed with Izacks Dog-lad.
- 21 Mr Swinbourn dined here. I sent Richard Cartwright to Mr Babthrop who sent to Pat: Gelibrond not to leave us till farther orders.
- 22 Mr Thomas Leadbetter dined here, I went with him to the North-end but neather Richard Tickley nor his Wife being at home we went to Ch: Howerds thence to Nicholas Johnsons, we drunk at both plases, thence we went to Mr Wairings & just called and so parted.
- 23 Watty & Henry Kerfoot tooke some Carr Crow Nests.
- 24 I went to Leverpoole and bought of Mr Hurst a Livery for Henry Sumner & a Riding Coat for myself²¹. I drunk at Mr Lathoms with Dr Tarlton & Mr Plumb.
- 25 I sent Richard Cartwright to the Post to Leverpoole with some Papers Relating to Farnworth Seat, they were Lybells of Hursts & mine. I sent them to Chester to Mr Boucher. The Knot was wed.
- 26 My Wife dined at More-hall, she went on Hors-back. Cozen Dick Butler lodged here, we went to Andertons, as we were going we saw Richard Jump &c: Busy about a Swarme of Bees. I had a second Swarm of Bees this year.
- 27 Cozen Dick Butler & I walked before Dinner to the Marsh a gunning. The Masons began to work at the Coppy Barne. Nicholas Johnson &c: came to make Henry Sumners Livery &c:. Ailes Catt: discoursed me about her Money, she lodged here.
- 28 Cozen Dick Butler & I went to Leverpoole, we drunk with Mr Leadbeter at the Golden Fleece. I bought Stuff &c: of Mr Hurst for a Coat for Mally. Coming home we saw a great many Purposes between Bankhall & Leverpoole rouling in the Sea.
- 29 Cozen Dick Butler & I went to Bank hall to see Mr Robert Moore. My Wives clothes & mine came home from London.
- 30 Mr Robert More came hither & went a Fowling with Cozen Dick Butler, he dined here. Cozen Dick Butler & I looked for Rabets for the Gunn Wager.
- 31 Cozen Richard Butler went to Richard Tickleys thence to the Carr side to see Richard Bet:. I writ some Accounts and other things.

JUNE

- 1 Mr Plumb & I assigned over our Mortgage which we had from James Gleast to Mr Jamson for which I received to my own Share £87; the Sqable between James Gleast & me.
- 2 Collonell Butler dined & suped here, he took his Son hence.
- 3 My Wife rid behind me to Ditton, I shewed her the whole house.

²¹ Nicholas was preparing for a visit that he and his wife were making to Stockeld in Yorkshire to meet some of her relations. For a complete account of the expenses of this journey see Appendix D.

4 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for the two last Months. Jane Harrison and I were very busy most of the after noone in Packing up for our York-Shire Journey.

5 I went to see how the Workfolks went on with my Barn in the Coppy. I writ 4 Letters. I weighed my Luggage or most of it that I designed to take with us into York-Shire.

6 I sent Mally to stay at More-hall. My Wife and I began our Journey in our Coach for York Shire, we called at Collonell Butlers in Ormskerk, we made a small stay at the Ancker in Eckleston. I left the Coach & Rid to Rushton More²² where I found Cozen Thomas Gelibrond,²³ he discoursed me about his Uncle, We Lodg'd at the Blew Bell in Whaley.

7 From Whaley we went to Gisbourn where we made a Small Bating thence we went to the Lamb in Skipton where we Lodged.

8 From Skipton we went towards Bluver-houses²⁴ and were overturned a Little Short of Hasle-wood²⁵ where we were assisted as I take it by one Mr Knip, thence we came to Harragate where we made a Small baiting and so to Stockhild where we found Mr Talbot, Mr Frances More &c: they suped wth us.

9 My Brother Midleton shewed me his Fishponds & my Sister Shewed me outhousing.

10 Mrs Ryder, Mr Jones a Capusine &c: dined at Stockhild. I Rid out in the Coach with my Sister Midleton to take the Air.

11 My Wife & I went with my Sister in her Coach to Ribston Sr Henry Goodricks²⁶ Fine Hous. Mr Witham formerly of the Bass suped at Stockhild.

12 My Wife & Sister Midleton went to fetch Mrs Ryder to Stockhild. My Men saw a Badger taken. Mr Robert Plumton suped at Stockhild.

13 My Brother & Sister Midleton took my Wife and me in their Coach to Haslewood Sr Walter Vavasour where we dined with Sr Walter & his Lady.

14 Cozen Michail Ann,²⁷ his Wife, Mr Marmaduke Ann and Mrs Carlton dined at Stockhild, after dinner I went with my Brother Midleton & the rest of the Gentlemen to smoke Lodg where we drunk.

15 My Sister Midleton took my Wife & me in her Coach to York, we brought Mrs Clifton to Madam Pastons, We dined at the Folkon²⁸ and went to severall Shops in the Citty. Mr Holland & I went to see the Minster.

16 Mr William Witham dined & Suped at Stockhild, our Discourse about breaking open a Tennants Doar for Debt in the Night.

²² Rishton.

²³ Son of John Gelibrond (Gillibrand) and his wife Alice Westby.

²⁴ Blubberhouses.

²⁵ Hazlewood, the seat of Sir Walter Vavasour, cousin to Nicholas's wife.

²⁶ Sir Henry Goodricke, seventh Baronet in 1813 bequeathed the Ribston estates to Sir Francis Holyoake, first Baronet of Morton Bagot, Warwickshire, who assumed the surname, Holyoake-Goodricke.

²⁷ Michael Ann, Esq., of Frickley and Burgwallis was married to Jane, daughter of Marmaduke, second Lord Langdale.

²⁸ Falcon.

- 17 My Sister Midleton took my Wife & me in her Coach to Brammam²⁹ Cozen Michail Anns where we dined with Sir Walter Vavasor, his Lady, two Mrs Charltons, &c:.
- 18 My Brother Midleton took Cozen Michail Ann and me &c: in his Coach to see the Dropping Well at Knesbrough, thence we went to Harrogate where I tasted both the Sweet & Stinking Spaw Water, I saw there Morrison the Riming Musition, he played very well.³⁰
- 19 My Wife and I came from Stockhild, my Sister Midleton brought us in her Coach to York, we dined at the Falcon, my Sister went home and my Brother Midleton went with us in our Coach to Holme³¹ where we Lodged.
- 20 I went with my Lord Langdale and my Brother Midleton³² to the Bowling Green at Lansburrough my Lord Burlingtons, we found there Sr Thomas Rudston of Heaton & his Son, Mr Robert Doleman of Pocklington, Mr Edward Fenwick, &c:.
- 21 My Lord Langdale, my Brother Midleton and I went to Cliff Mr Philip Langdales, he not being at home we staid till he came & then drunk & afterwards we took Bumpers on Horsback.
- 22 My Lord Langdale hunted a Buck with Sr Marmaduke Constable, they killed him. My Lord Langdale went to the Buriall of Mrs Metham, my Brother Midleton & I walked to the Mill & to the Church yard.
- 23 Mr Peter Vavisor of Willitof, Mr Langdale of Haughton, Mr Doleman &c: dined at Holme.
- 24 My Lord Langdale, my Brother Midleton & I dined at Evringham Sr Marmaduke Constables, there was Mr Edward Hales of Byland Abby, Mr Charlton Junior of York, &c:.
- 25 My Lord Langdale, my Brother Midleton and I went to Pocklington, My Wife, Mrs Brown &c: went in the Coach, we dined at Mr Dolemans with Mr George Palmer of Neybourn & his Brother William, Mr Lauson of Moorby, Mr Medcalf, Sr Marmaduke Constable &c.
- 26 My Lord Langdale, my Wife, I, &c: went to see the House of Launsbrough my Lord Burl:.
- 27 Parson Savage came to my Lord Langdales, we went together to Launsbrough Green where we bouled with Sr Marmaduke Constable, Mr Edward Fenwick, Mr Best of South Dalton &c:.
- 28 My Lord Langdale, my Wife, Mrs Brown & I went to Reswick Castle where we saw the Widdow Lawder and a Son & Doughter of hers, we went all in the Coach.
- 29 Mrs Lawder and a Son & Doughter of hers came to Holme. Sr Marmaduke Constable, Mr Fenwick and Mr Charlton came to Holme, we drunk hard in the Summerhous, they Suped with us at Holme.

²⁹ Bramham.

³⁰ Morrison, a well-known character, played at the Spa for seventy years. He died in 1732, aged 102 years. See Baring Gould, *Yorkshire Oddities*.

³¹ Holme, the country seat of Lord Langdale.

³² Peter Middleton, Esq., of Stockeld, Yorkshire, was married to Elizabeth, the sister of Nicholas's wife.

30 My Wife & I came from Holme to York in order to goe towards Durham, Mrs Brown came in our Coach with us, we dined and Lodged at the black Swan. I went with Cozen Thomas Gelibrond to Mrs Pastons where I discoursed her & Mr Holland about giving Audience to Cozen Thomas Gelibrond. My Wife and I made a Viset to Mrs Doleman.

JULY

- 1 My Wife & I began our Journey in the Stage Coach from York towards Durham, we dined at North Allerton & Lodged at Darlington.³³
- 2 We came in the Stage Coach from Darlington to Durham where we Lodged at my Uncle Gerards, we had in the Coach with us one who passed for a great Fortune, but we suppose she is not, we think her name is Wright, there also was one whom we suppose to be the Wife of a Scotch Officer.
- 3 My Uncle & Aunt Gerard went with my Wife & me to see the Castle, we walked in the Cathedrall & heard them sing. We saw a Poppy Play.³⁴
- 4 Mr Kennet of Coxoe, Mr Bradshaw of Midleholme & his Doughter Mary dined with us.
- 5 My Wife, Cozen Mary Bradshaw, Dr Gerard, I, &c: danded at Mr Wood his School, afterwards Mr Wood, Mr Py, Mr Brass the younger, myself, &c: drank together and went with our Musick about the Streets.
- 6 My Wife, Aunt & Cozen Emilia Butler went in Mr Fosers Coach to Coxoe, Cozen Mary Bradshaw rid behind me thither, we suped there.
- 7 My Wife, Aunt Gerard, Cozen Mary Bradshaw, I, &c: dined at Mr Fosers thence we went to heare the Musick at the Minster.
- 8 Mr Foser, Mrs Pudsy, &c: dined with us at Dr Gerards. My Wife & I began our Journey in the Stage Coach from Durham to York, we Lodged at Darlington.
- 9 We came from Darlington to Burrow Bridg where we dined, thence to York where my Wife & I lodged at Mr Nappers, we had in the Coach with us the Wife of the Master of a Ship, and part of the way we had a wife who seemed to be of good Birth and well Married, there was myself and five Women in the Coach.
- 10 We dined at Mr Nappers and thence went to see the Chapter hous, Mrs Kennet the Widdow came to see my Wife whilst we were in a China Shop. Mrs Erington came in our Coach to York, we went in it back with her to Lodg at Holme.
- 11 My Lord Langdale, Mr Savage and I went to Launsburroug Green where we bouled with Sr Marmaduke Constable, Mr Jourden Langdale, Mr Faux, Mr Best, &c:.
- 12 We Stired not from Holme, I gather'd Goosberrys in the Garden with Mrs Erington.

³³ Their coach was left at York, and thence the journey to Durham was made by stage coach.

³⁴ Puppet play.

- 13 My Wife & I came from Holme, we Passed over Booth Ferry the River Uese, My Lord Langdale came with us farther then the Ferry, we came to my Uncle Anns of Burgwallis where we found my Brother Langdale.
- 14 My Uncle Ann & I went into the Town to the Cock where we drunk with my Brother & Mr Cuny.
- 15 My Brother Langdale went from Burgwallis with an Intention to goe to Holme. Parson Morrison dined with us at my Uncle Anns. My Aunt Ann took my Wife in her Coach to Weant-Bridg, my Uncle Ann & I went with them.
- 16 My Uncle Ann, My Aunt, my Wife and I suped at John Kendalls the Sign of the Cock in the Town.
- 17 We drew a Pond in my Uncles Ground, Mr Morrison swam after the Net, he suped with us and afterwards played of the Flute and Violin.
- 18 Mr Thomas Percy of Stubs Walden and his Uncle suped at Burgwallis.
- 19 My Uncle Ann, my Aunt, my Wife and I went to Stubs Walden.
- 20 I went into my Uncles Wood at Burgwallis. I writ two Letters which are to be sent per Post.
- 21 My Aunt Ann took my Wife & me in her Coach to Old Mr Anns of Frickley, my Uncle Ann went with us, we Suped there, there was old Mr Ann, Mr George Ann & his Wife, Mr More of Bamburrow & his Doughter &c:.
- 22 My Uncle Ann, my Aunt, my Wife and I went to Doncaster to the Angell.
- 23 My Uncle Ann, my Aunt, my Wife and I went to the Parsons where we heard him and the Wates of Doncaster play. Mr George Ann and his Wife & old Mrs Ann came to see my Wife.
- 24 My Aunt Ann, my Wife and I went to see the Kill and Mills, thence to Robbin-Hud Well & to Thomas Horncastles, when we came back to Burgwallis we found old Mrs Persy of Stubs & her Son who were come to see us. My Lord Langdale lodged at Burgwallis.
- 25 My Lord Langdale, my Uncle Ann, my Aunt, my Wife and I went to Bamborrow Mr Mores,³⁵ I rid on my Lords Pad.
- 26 My Lord Langdale went from Burgwallis upon account of News relating to his Sons Marriage. My Aunt Ann took my Wife & me in her Coach to Waint Bridg we called there but did not light.

³⁵ The names of most of the people Nicholas met during this journey are to be found in the lists of Yorkshire Roman Catholics who registered their estates and value in 1719:

Lord Langdale of Holme—£599 8s. 8d.
 Philip Langdale of Houghton—£697 4s. 4d.
 Marmaduke Langdale, estate at Hulme—£118 12s. 4d.
 Robert Dolman of Pocklington—£582 1s 9d.
 Peter Vavasour of Willitofts—£135 10s.
 Sir Marmaduke Constable of Everingham—£778 10s. 6d.
 George Palmer of Nabourne—£301 13s. 7d.
 Hon. Ann Ann of Burghwallis—£139 9s. 8d.
 Marmaduke Ann of Frickley—£191 5s.
 George Ann of Doncaster—£183 3s.
 Thomas Percy of Stubs Walden—£265 16s. 6d.
 Christopher Cresacre More of Barnburrow—£351 15s. 5½d.
 William Palmer of Nabourne, gent.—£40.
 John Forcer of Old Elvet, Durham—£325 9s. 0½.

- 27 I Rid out with my Uncle Ann to see his Land in Baune, we went to Austin to Mr Cooks.
- 28 Mr Savill of Norton Priory & his Brother & Pothocary Wadington made a Viset at Burgwallis. Mr More of Bambrough dined and Suped at Burgwallis.
- 29 My Wife and I began our Journey homwards from Burgwallis, we came through Wakefield baited at the Red Lyon in Yellon a very good Inn, thence we came over Blackstone Edge to Rachdale where we lodged at the George.
- 30 We came from Rachdale to Wiganne where we baited, I discoursed Mr Graddall concerning the Commissioners who were siting upon the Estate of Mr Diconson of Rightington³⁶, we came home from Wiganne.
- 31 I Put part of my Cloths & other things into their Propper plases after my Return home. I led home some Turf with Boon Carts.

AUGUST

- 1 I went to the Coppy to see my New Barne. My Wife went to Morehall & fetched Mally home from thence.
- 2 This being my Fathers Aniversary I kept it with 3 Presbyters. Collonell Butler was also here.
- 3 Cozen Ann Blundell & her Sister Bridget came from Ince to welcome my Wife and me home. My Brother Langdale was Married.³⁷
- 4 Mrs Molineux of the Grange, Ailes Tickle, and Mrs Betty Rigmaden came to welcome my Wife home, as also did Mr Wofold, I advised with him about making a Parlor.
- 5 Mr Thomas Gorsuch and his Sister Mary made a Viset here.
- 6 We finished Shearing Barly in the Flat. I walked to the Higher Oaklands where I saw Thomas Blevin and others mowing by my Consent.
- 7 I sent Walter Thelwall to Farnworth to enquire where the Father or Mother of Thomas Tildesley was Buried. Mr Babthrop came hither to Acquaint me what he had done in Relation to providing us with a Presbiter.³⁸
- 8 Mr Wairing came to welcome me home out of York-Shire. John Banisters Uncle brought me two Dozen of Burch Beesoms.³⁹
- 9 Edward Spencer came hither for me to advise with him about making a Parlor. I sent my own Teames to the Cole-pit.

³⁶ William Dicconson, of Wrightington, was governor to James II's son at the court of St. Germain and was treasurer to the Queen. He had been outlawed and his confiscated estates were granted to the Bishop of London. (Gillow. Vo. II). Part of his property had been settled upon his younger brother, Roger. As a result of the attempted invasion of French forces into Scotland in support of the Stuarts, the estates of many Jacobite supporters were seized by the Government in 1706. Roger Dicconson successfully resisted the confiscation of his property.

³⁷ Marmaduke, who in 1718 became the fourth Lord Langdale, married Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of William, Lord Widdrington.

³⁸ Father Babthorpe, the Jesuit Provincial, was here informing Nicholas of the steps he had taken to appoint a new chaplain.

³⁹ "Burch Beesoms, two dozen 2s. 0d."

- 10 I walked with my Wife & Nancy Gorsuch to Ince to see old Mrs Blundell.
- 11 Mrs Howet and her Son Richard dined here as also did Mrs Betty Rigmaden.
- 12 I dined at the Wheat-Sheafe in Ormskerk with my Lord Molineux and his two Sons, Sr William Gerard, Mr Chorley & his Son, &c;. I discoursed Cozen Dick Butler concerning his Miscarriages. I was at the Rase on Oughton Moss where Lord Molineux his Gray Mare beat Mr Haringtons Bay Mare three Heats.
- 13 My Wife and I went to Croxtath to wate of my Lord & Lady Gerard of Brombley.
- 14 My Teames brought me home two Large Load of Dales⁴⁰ from Leverpoole. George Gooderick my Lord Langdales Man brought me word that my Brother Langdale was married, he also brought me a Bill upon my Lord Molineux for payment of £226-12-0d.
- 15 I sent Walter Thelwall to Croxtath with the above Bill for £226-12s 0d, he came back by Great Crosby where he found George Gooderick & severall of my Servants.
- 16 I writ Letters to my Lord Langdale and his Son, they are to goe tomorrow by Georg Gooderick. William Hilton desired to Hyer some Money of me.
- 17 George Gooderick my Lord Langdales Servant went hence. We carryed some trees out of the Padock, most of them are designed for my Parlor. I went to Parson Wairings, he Entertained me with the discourse of his Sons being taken by the French.
- 18 Mrs Eckleston came with the Gentlewomen hither from Ince in the Coach, she went hence home on Horsback.
- 19 Edward Hawksey Mason & Philip Syer his Partner came to Prepare the Buttery for a Dary but I have since made it into a Parlor. Richard Sefton & Joseph Carter came to saw Joyses &c: for my New Parlor. Richard Robinson the Joyner came to see what work I had for him to doe in my Parlor. Mrs Walmesley of Showley & Mr Gerard her Presbiter dined here, before dinner was done her Husband and Mr Baumber came. Ned Spencer the Hous Right came to see what work I had for him in my Parlor.
- 20 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. Two of Ned Spencers men came to work here. Richard Robinson ordered the Sawers what to doe, he & Ned Spencer Looked over the Dailes & examaned them, we considered all wayes to make the Parlor to the Best advantage.
- 21 My Wife took Mally with her to More-hall.
- 22 I went with my Wife to Dutton Lodg, we went through Warington where we met Collonell Butler & his Son &c:, they went along with us, we lodged at Dutton Lodg.
- 23 Sr Thomas Aston of Aston, his Lady and Brother &c: came to Dutton Lodg.
- 24 We Hunted & killed a very Fat Whit Buck in my Lord Gerards Park, after

⁴⁰ Dale or deal—a plank or slice sawn from a log of timber. Also means a wooden trough or tube for carrying off water.

diner we went to Bartington Bowling Green, we found there Mr Bromfield, Houghton, and the Schoolmaster &c: My Lady Gerard and my Wife came to us.

25 We discoursed of Learning and Solved Enigmas.

26 Pat: Gelibrond went from Dutton Lodg with Cozen Dick Butler towards Mr Woods his Schoole near Winchester. My Lady Gerard and my Wife went to Rock-Savage to wate of my Lady Elizabeth Savage. My Lord Gerard, Collonell Butler & I went to Bartington Green, we bol'd there with Parson Morall.⁴¹

27 Collonell Butler & I came from Dutton Lodg, we went by Runkhorne to Ditton where we dined at my house at the Bank, thence we went to Farnworth where I examined some concerning the Buriall of Mr Tildesley or his Wife, I went to look at my Seat in Farnworth Chappell & examined the Clark &c: about it, from Farnworth Collonell Butler & I came to Prescot where we stayed awhile and thence each of us came homwards together as far as our way lay.

28 I Planted in the Knot severall Sets of Riculasses⁴² which Mr Cooper gave me. I Fetcht home from Liverpoole 600 Stock Brick with my two Teames. I Perused severall old Deeds in the Gallery.

29 I Dined at Collonell Butlers it being Ormskerk Fair,⁴³ Walter Thelwall bought 83 good Sheep for £20, I drank at the Lamb with Collonell Butler, Mr Wofold, Dr Fountain a Scotchman, Dr William Lancaster &c:. I lodged at More-hall.

30 Mr Wofold came home with me from More-hall. Collonell Butler came hither, their Business was to perswade me to make the Buttery into a Parlor & not the Dary. I intend to follow their Advice.

31 I sent John Banister to Morehall with a Mare which Mr Wofold had lent me to Ride home on, he took along with him some Pigeons and Cow-cumbers.

SEPTEMBER

1 I went from Hence to Dutton Lodg to fetch my Wife home, I tooke the Coachhorses a long with me, the Waters at Warington were so high out that though it was Sunday I saw them leading of Corn.

2 My Lady Gerard took my Wife and me in her Coach to the Out-Side where we dined at Mr Billingtons.

3 My Lady Elizabeth Savage came to Dutton Lodg. I played at Tables with Mr Richardson in Mr Bromleys Chamber.

4 I Played at Tables with my Lord Gerard. John my Lords Brewer played on his Pips in the Kitchen & some of the Servants danded.

5 My Lord Gerard and I went to Sr Thomas Astons, we bouled there with Sr Thomas Aston, Doctor Norris &c:.

⁴¹ "Lost at Boles & Given to the Greenkeeper at Bartington Green 3s. 6d."

⁴² Auriculas.

⁴³ "29 August—Fairings to Collonel his children. . . . 3½d."

- 6 My Lord & Lady Gerard took my Wife and me in their Coach to see the Park and the great Tree.
- 7 My Wife and I came home from Dutton Lodg through Warington.⁴⁴
- 8 Collonell Butler dined here, Mr Tasburgh came in the after-noone.
- 9 I writ Letters. I set down my Expences at Dutton Lodg.
- 10 I payed Mr Aldridg £3-2s-6d. in full of all Accounts. Mr Hurst gave me a Bottle of Wine in his own hous.
- 11 We began to Bord the Parlor. Richard Cartwright brought some Sheet Lead for the Gutters from Leverpoole.
- 12 I killed a Bull for the Workfolks. I got in a good deal of Corn which had stood long out in the Wet weather.
- 13 I made in the Hall severall Mouths or Doars for Bee Hives. Many of the Workfolks and most of the Servants went at Night to be Mery at Great Crosby amongst them was Thomas Sefton, Robert Moss, &c:.
- 14 Ned Spencer having almost finished his work in the Parlor went hence and took two of his Men along with him. The Slaters went.
- 15 I went to Scaresbrick to see Cozen Scaresbrick and his Lady when they were comne out of York-Shire. I dined there with Cozen John Gelibrond, he came home with me & lodged here. Cozen Scaresbrick and his Lady went to Ormskerk.
- 16 I went with Cozen John Gelibrond to Ince. I stated Accounts with him for Principall & Interest for Money owing to Dungen-hall to Mr Wingate, and to himself. Mrs Woods the Midwife came to Attend my Wives time.
- 17 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence after dinner, he designed to lodg at Ormskerk. I discoursed William Starkey about his Selling up his goods & his living with me.
- 18 I dined at Collonell Butlers with Cozen Scaresbrick, Cozen John Gelibrond &c:. I took with me a Grehound for Collonell Butler which Mr Blundell had given him he had like to have been drowned in Sefton Waters. from Ormskerk I went to More-hall & from Morehall back to Ormskerk again where I discoursed Mr Wofold about sending me a Painter for my Parlor, & about barganing for Glass Pains for the Shashes. I gave 5s. to Betty Lathom, I stayed awhile at the Club.
- 19 Mr Gorsuch dined here, he came to see his Doughter Ann who is not very well. I made a Viset to the Wife of Thomas Blundell she being but lately comne on this side the Country, I also sat awhile in Margery Blundells.
- 20 Gill the Painter came to Prime the Shash windows of my Parlor. I took a hive, it had neather a Living Bee in it nor a drop of Hunny 'twas a Swarm in 1705.
- 21 Cozen Scaresbrick and his Lady, Mr Edmund Trafford & Mrs Hesketh of Rufford dined here. Henry Sumners Night in the Gatehous.

⁴⁴ "5 September—Vales at Sir Tho: Ashtons 1s. 0d.
 6 September—Given my Lord Gerards Keeper 1s. 0d.
 Lost at Boles and Tables 4s. 0d.
 Edging Bought in Cheshir for my Wife 9s. 0d.
 7 September—Vales at Dutton-Lodg when my Wife & I came from thence £2 6s. 6d.
 Spent at Warington coming home 3s. 10d."

- 22 My Wife took Mrs Woods with her to Ince in her Coach. Mrs Betty Rigmaden made a Viset to my Wife. Captain Robert Fazakerley lodged here.
- 23 I Fetched Mally home in the Coach from More-hall. Mrs Betty Wofold came along with her & lodged here.
- 24 My Wife felt the Pains of Labour coming upon her. Captain Robert Fazakerley and I went a Coursing, we light on Mr Blundell in the Mosses, he coursed with us, being it Rained we went into John Oughtons, I discoursed him about a Chees which he had found on the Marsh.
- 25 Mrs Fazakerley of Ormskerk dined here. My Doughter Frances was borne between three and four of the Clock in the after-noon. Captain Robert Fazakerley went hence.
- 26 I sent Walter Thelwall to borrow a Whit Quilt &c: of Collonell Butler. I sent John Banister to Dutton to Acquaint my Lady Gerard with my Wives Delivery, and to bring Mrs Mills tomorrow from Warington to live here for some time.⁴⁵ Mrs Blackburn was here, I discoursed her about Money she owes to the Poor of Ditton.
- 27 I adjusted a difference between Thomas Marrow Taylor & me about fence at the side of the Cow-hey in presence of Walter Thelwall and Richard Harrison, thence we went to look at a Cow of Hugh Bullins as was hurt in the Town Field. Mrs Mills came to stay here for some time.
- 28 Pat: Thomas Wofold came to see my Wife. We began to set up some of the Stiles of the new Wainscot in the Parlor to try how they would fit. Sam: Woods of Ormskerk payed me £100 for which I gave him a Bill.
- 29 My Doughter Frances was Christoned, Collonell Butler stood Godfather for my Brother Langdale and Mrs Mills stood for my Lady Gerard.
- 30 Dr Lathom dined here. I was much out of order all day with a Cold. Ann Howerd advised with me about her Husband taking Thomas Weedows Son a Prentice. I Stated Accounts with Richard Cartwright and payed him all Wages as was due.

OCTOBER

- 1 Thomas Fleetwood of Netherton came to shew me a Bay Horse to sell, the fall between him & Mrs W: and the Black Apron lost. I carryed Mrs Mills and Mrs Woods part of the way behind me to Thornton where we coursed a Hare which was found set. I shewed Mrs Mills and Mrs Woods the Kill Mill and Buriall Place.
- 2 I Walked with Mrs Mills and Mrs Woods to see Thomas Marrows Breaking, thence we went to Richard Harrisons and stayed a while and so to Mrs Anns. Charls Pinchback my Brother Langdales man came from his Master with a Letter for me concerning the Bill of £226-12s-0d payable by my Lord Molineux. The Dish of Milk & Apples found by me in the Dary. Nurs Blundell brought some Chickens instead of Boon hens.

⁴⁵ The Blundells must have met Mrs. Mills when they paid a visit to Lord and Lady Gerard at Dutton Lodge, She had been invited to act as companion to Mrs. Blundell. For three months she was a guest at Crosby Hall, and then remained for another five months as a tabler or paying guest. See 11 May and 1 August 1707.

- 3 I sent Walter Thelwall to Croxtath to Receive some Money from my Lord upon account of the Bill for £226-12s-0d but he received none. I had severall Coggs brocke in my Mill though it was but a moderate Mill wind. William Starkey came to live here, I am to keep him whilst he lives for what small thing he has.
- 4 I and Thelwall went to Vew the goods of William Starkey and to take posestion of them. Cozen Scaresbricks Lady came to see my Wife, she dined here. I bought my Hors Hobb of Thomas Fleetwood.
- 5 I gave Mr Hurst a Bill of £30 and cleered of all Accounts with him. Mr Brownbill tought me to Cercle three Poynts.⁴⁶
- 6 I intended to have gon to Warington with Mrs Mills, but we altered oure resolution. Richard Bryanson, Richard Harrison, John Aldworth &c: discoursed me concerning my Water Courses being out of order. Collonell Butler sent his Grehound hither against tomorrows coursing to have him enterd.
- 7 Collonell Butler came to course with me, we killed a Brace of Hares before dinner, he lodged here. Thelwall went to Warington to enquire after Mrs Mills Goods.
- 8 Collonell Butler went hence in the Morning. I was to have had a Court today but Mr Plumb the Steward came not. Henry Helsby the Glasyer put the Panes in the Shasses for the Parlor windows.
- 9 I went to Croxtath to wate of my Lord Cardigan and his Brother Brugenald,⁴⁷ there was Parson Copley and his Brother, Mr Rowly, Mr William Tunstall, Mr Webber &c:. The Punsh night, I called by the way and Butcher Ackers was in the Ailhous.
- 10 The Scoulding bout between Ails Davy and Darbys Wife about carrying away some Wood. The Knocking heard at the Kitchen Gardin Doar.⁴⁸ Some goods brought home from Ormskerk that were bought at Chester Fair.
- 11 I wained Bonny Lass I had two Rundlets of Wine from Leverpoole. Mr Wofold of More-hall & his Brother Thomas were here.
- 12 Helsby the Glasior brought the Leads for the Parlor Shashes. William Wignold sent his Cart for some wood that I had promised him & for an Ash which I had sold him.
- 13 John Banisters Father & Sister came hither, his Father Lodged here.
- 14 John Lurting set Some wall Frute Trees for me, I payed him for all I have had of him. Mr Thomas Leadbeter came hither, I saw him at Great Crosby & there I gave him a Bill upon Cozen Henry Eyre for £20. Mrs Mills, Nancy and I &c: went to Crosby Goosfeast, we were at Tarltons, Thelwalls, Nicholas Johnsons and Heskeths.
- 15 Mr Plumb kept my Court at Charles Howerds, I was there, we dined there,⁴⁹

⁴⁶ Nicholas was keenly interested in tricks and mathematical problems. Mr. Brownbill, a mariner from Liverpool, was evidently showing him one here.

⁴⁷ Brudenell. Richard Molyneux, son and heir of William, fourth Viscount Molyneux, married Mary, daughter of Frances, Lord Brudenell, eldest son of the second Earl of Cardigan, in 1705.

⁴⁸ See 17 February, 22 June, 23 October, 1707.

⁴⁹ "15 October—Spent at my Court & given the Jury to drink 4s. 6d."

There was a long debate about keeping Sheep. Richard Cartwright gave his Farewell at Great Crosby to the Servants &c:.

16 I payed the Land Tax to Thomas Riding & Richard Ainsworth.⁵⁰ I stated Accounts with William Weedow for all his Arreers which he ought me. Mrs Mills, Nancy and I went to Mr Wairings.

17 James Davy the Slater began to Polish & shape the Harth Stone for the Parlor. William Davy came to acquaint me that he had plenty of Corn and Hay and if I would bear a while he hoped to pay me soone.

18 James Davy Layed the Harth Stone in the Parlor. I sowed Arriculas Seeds which Mr Cooper gave me. I helped Richard Cartwright to pull up some thorns which are to be disposed of at Leverpoole by William Blancherd. Nelly Nelson & Nelly Blundell went to Leverpoole & got each of them a tooth pulled out, I lent them horses.

19 The Shashes were fixed in the Parlor. I Planted under wood in the Stock Roots. Mr Tasburgh was here. Mr Knight Lodged here.

20 Collonell Butler & Cozen Robert Fazakerley dined here.

21 Mr Knight went hence. I botled 4 Dozen and 7 Bottles of Whit Wine. We began to lead Earth from the Cop on the Side of the Farther Wheat-hey Next to the Townfield with two Carts into the same Field.

22 I went to see them seting Starr. Mrs Molineux of Croxtath & her two Sisters in Law came to see my Wife she being in her Lying Inn Month.

23 I Botled of part of a Runlet of Clarret. I sent John Banister with Ann Hodgson to Dutton to be the Cook.

24 Mrs Plumb came to see my Wife, she dined here, her Servant went a coursing with me awhile. Fanny was taken hence to Nurs.⁵¹

25 I helped to cord Mrs Mills Bed. I sent Walter Thelwall to Croxtath to see Mr Molineux whom I heard was sick. We Singed a fat Hogg. The Bull was segged. I had a Sheep bit by that Bitch which was Richard Cartwrights.

26 I took the Milk Cowes into the House. I sent Watty with a Present of Puddings &c: to Collonell Butler, he carryed a Silver Cup back to Scaresbrick and also a Bill of £100 drawn upon Henry Eyre Esqr payable to Mr R: Scaresbrick.

27 Cozen Blundell was here this after noone.

28 I went on Hors back to Leverpoole with my Wife and Mrs Mills but it being a wet day the Coach came for us & they tryed how my new Hors Hobb would draw in it.⁵² I sold my Wives Silver triming to Ben Branker & saw it burned.⁵³

⁵⁰ "16 October—Land Tax for the second Quarter £7 4s. 7d.
Ditto for Marrows 1s. 3d."

⁵¹ Frances was sent to a wet-nurse at Great Crosby.

"January 1707—Quarters Wage—Margarit Newhou, Franks Nurs . . . £1 0s. 0d."

⁵² This was a bay horse bought from Thomas Fleetwood of Netherton in Sefton parish on 1 October.

"To Thos. Fleetwood for my Hors Hobb £6 19s. 0d."

⁵³ Nicholas was watching Benjamin Branker, a silversmith of Liverpool, melt down the silver.

- 29 Nancy Gorsuch went to Leverpoole & got a Tooth pulled out. I took three Larg Oxen and a Segg into the house to fatten them. Philip Syer began to make the Stoves in the Kitchen.
- 30 I Perused a sorted severall old Deeds and writings in the Gallery most of the after-noone, my Wife & Mrs Mills was with me most of the time.
- 31 I and Walter Thelwall went to William Weedowes to the Heal-bank &c: to look at the Water Courses & Plats &c: that were sade to be out of order and to look at the Cattle.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Richard Harrison discoursed me concerning a Bond that he was desired by Mr Prescott to signe over to William Norcross, the Money belongs to my Aunt Gerard.
- 2 Mr Poynes came to live here.⁵⁴ Collonell Butler came along with him, he came to dinner. Pat: Gelibrond went hence with the Collonell. Philip Syer cut a hole at the end of the Entries & fixed some few Tiles in the Gallery.
- 3 I discoursed with Mr Poynes, he held fourth to his Auditory the first time.
- 4 Mr Tasburgh dined here, he came to see Mr Poynes. Mr Poynes & I went a Coursing, we went to see my Doughter Frances.
- 5 I met Collonell Butler &c: at Knowsley, where I bought some books of Mr Eaton, there was there Mr Brownbill, Mr Gunter, Dr Lancaster &c:.. Tis said Leverpoole Hounds hunted a Fox this day from Bank-hall to Knowsley Park. Mr Mullins Lodged here.
- 6 Mr Scaresbrick, Mr Blundell and their Wives made a Viset here from Ince as also did Mr Tasburgh and Mr Maynard. I lent Mr Maynard my Gunn. I Shewed Mr Scaresbrick the Books I bought at Knowsley.
- 7 I went with my Wife & Mrs Mills on horsback to Ormskerk we dined & Suped at Collonell Butlers. Cozen Ann Tildesley, Mrs Ellen Entwisle, my Wife, &c: played at Cards most of the after noone. I drunk with Mr Molineux of the Grange at Mar: Bart:
- 8 Henry Helsby came to fit up Windows for the Paintry &c:⁵⁵ I went to Ince to see my Cozen Scaresbrick. I played at Tables with Mr Blundell and Cozen Scaresbrick.
- 9 I Began to take up some Trees in the Stock Roots and trim some others there. Richard Cartwright and John Banister planted some under-wood there whilst I was with them.
- 10 Collonell Butler dined here, he came to hear Mr Poynes hold fourth, we had some discourse concerning Mr Poynes.
- 11 John Bryanson planted some Fur Trees in the Crow Orchard & sixteen Aicker where others were dead, I was with him & others in the Stock Roots

⁵⁴ Father Poyntz, S.J. was the priest sent to serve Nicholas and Little Crosby in place of Father William Gillibrand who had gone to serve at Liverpool. Father Poyntz lived at Crosby Hall.

⁵⁵ "8 November—Whit Glass 48 Paines at 9½d. per Pain £1 18s. 0d."

most part of the after noone Planting &c.: Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. Pat: Wofold came to see Mr Poynes.

12 I went to Leverpoole Fair with my Wife, Mrs Mills, &c.; we light at the Golden Fleece. James Gregory payed me Interest for £20 which he owes me for Timber. We were treated at Mr Plumbs.

13 I coursed both before and after dinner to get some Hares for Collonell Butler, we killed two and had very good spourt.

14 I sent Walter Thelwall to Collonell Butlers with a Brace of Hares. I sent Richard Cartwright to Farnworth to pull the Doars of my Formes, which he tells me the Clark and he did doe.

15 I Lay in Bed till after dinner being very ill of a Cold and when I was up I did little but walk from one Fyer to an other being very listles & out of order.

16 I Lay in bed till about two of the Clock sweating for a Cold which was very violent upon me.

17 Mrs Mary Gorsuch dined here and brought a Larg Powder box with her which her Father had made of Lignum Vita for my Wife. Mrs Betty Rigmaden came to take leave of my Wife ere she left these parts.

18 I began to order my Nets for taking small Birds in the Winter. I soured some writings concerning Marriages & Wills of Persons of this Family.

19 I Signed a Generall Receipt to my Lord Langdale for my Wives Pourtion & sent it to the Post by Watty.⁵⁶ I had a Violent Ague Fit.

20 I was very ill of my Head all day & much out of order. Thelwall sold my Hors Brid.

21 Dr Lancaster made his first Viset to me. Collonell Butler sent to see me. Mr Blundell came to see me.

22 Collonell Butler & Dr Lancaster dined here, the Doctor gave me a Vomit. Mr Wofold and his Brother came to see me.

23 Dr Francis Worthington cam to see me. I sent my Water to Dr o'th Low Dr Fabius.

24 Dr Francis Worthington went hence. Parson Wairing came to see me. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.

25 The Dispute in my Chamber between Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Poyns about the hight of King David.

26 I took my first Purge from Dr Francis Worthington. Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Poynes dined at Ince. Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh sent to see me. Mr Hurst & Mr Plumb came to see me I think it was today.

27 Dr Lancaster made me a Viset Gratis. Pat: Gelibrond went hence.

28 Pat: Wofold and Mr Tasburgh came to see me.

29 I took my second Dose of Phisick from Dr Francis Worthington. Pat: Wofold brought me a Bottle of good Brandy.

⁵⁶ See Appendix E.

- 30 Collonell Butler came to see me, he dined here. I got up at Noone, but being very ill of my Eyes I went soone to Bed.

DECEMBER

- 1 I kept my Bed all day upon Account of the Paine in my Eyes, I slept much. Mr Wofold writ to my Wife and sent to see me.
- 2 My Wife went to Leverpoole, Mrs Blundell came to see me and so did Pat: Gelibrond, he waited of her home, he suped there & Lodged here.
- 3 Mr Maynard came to see me & dined here. I had many Visitors after dinner viz: Collonell Butler, Mr Wofold and Mr Howet. Pat: Gelibrond went hence to Leverpoole. Richard Cartwrit left my Service.
- 4 Dr Francis Worthington came to see me upon Account of my Eyes, he applied a Blistering Plaister. Mr Scaresbrick and Mr Gorsuch came to see me.
- 5 Dr Francis Worthington went hence, he was sent for to Mr Clifton.
- 6 Being pritty well I went down Stairs. Philip [Syer] began to tear the Parlor.
- 7 Mrs Eckleston sent to see me. Mr Tasburgh was here.
- 8 Moxon the Shoe-Maker was here.
- 9 Gill the Plaisterar came to see whot work I had for him, he Tear'd part of the Parlor. Ned Hawxeye set up some of the Tiles in the Parlor.
- 10 Collonell Butler, Cozen Scaresbrick his Lady, Mrs Fazakerley and Mr Maynard lodged here.
- 11 We Dined in the Parlor, it being the first time it was uested as a Parlor,⁵⁷ we had two Fidlers at Night & danced Country Danses in the Halle.⁵⁸
- 12 My Wife took Cozen Scaresbricks Lady, Mrs Fazakerley and Mrs Mills in her Coach to Leverpoole. Mrs Blundell met them there.
- 13 My Wife took Cozen Scaresbrick &c: in her Coach to Ince. Mr Charls Harington & Mr John Chantrell dined here, they danced Country Danses with us & Lodged here, we had two Fidlers Gerard Holsold & Marsh, we danced till towards two in the Morning.
- 14 Cozen Scaresbricks, Mr Charls Harington and the rest of my Gests went hence.
- 15 My Wife writ three Letters in the Parlor, I was with her all the time.
- 16 Pat: Wofold and Mr Molineux of the Grange came to see me.
- 17 We removed the Great Gates farther of the Parlor Doar.
- 18 Two of Gills Men came to Plaster the Parlor &c:. Richard Newhous thatched here.⁵⁹ Walter Thelwall took Phisick.

⁵⁷ See 19 August 1706 and Appendix F.

⁵⁸ "12 December—To two Fidlers 4s. 0d."

⁵⁹ "Thatching & geting Safe. 8s. 6d.
Searving the Thatcher 10s. 0d."

- 19 Watty Thelwall Clensed my Closet and in the meane while I suited some keys to their Locks. I gave Walter Thelwall a Heffer worth £2-6s 8d.
- 20 I went to Leverpoole with Mr Poynes, he bought a Sute of Close of Mr Hurst. I discoursed Mr Houghton about my Brothers concern in Virginia.
- 21 Richard Robinson went hence and took most of his Tooles along with him, he having almost Finished my Parlor &c:
- 22 I sent John Banister to Scaresbrick to Ormskerk and to Morehall. I Stated Accounts with Richard Cartwright for Money Layed out for my use by him & for Wages due to him for two Months.
- 23 Gill the Painter sent his Prentice to paint the Shashes with Whit in the Parlor. Many little things done in the Parlor by the Joyners as Fixing Locks, Latches, Shelves, &c: John Bryanson helped Banister to role the walkes. Mary Molineux⁶⁰ went to the Buriall of Ailes Bushell who was Scaulded in the Boyler at the Hall of Ince.
- 24 Richard Robinsons three men went hence, they having finished the Parlor &c:. I helped to ready the Hall and lay up the Boards that were left. I sent Walter Thelwall to John Hurst to whom he shewed a Prossess from the Bishops Court to Appear at Chester.
- 25 Ned Rycroft Lodged here, he is tomorrow to take away some Sheep which he has formerly bought.
- 26 I Sent to fetch Cozen Ann Tildesley hither, she is to lodg here awhile. Mr Poynes and I went to see Parson Wairing but he not being at home we went to Ned Hattons & there I played some tricks of Leger de Mesney.
- 27 I fixed the Leather doars in the fore part of the Little Charriot instead of the Glasses. Cozen Ann Tildesley, I, &c: played at Cards. James Stuard came hither to sell some of his Books.
- 28 I sent the Coach to fetch Mrs Hesketh & Mrs Wofold hither but they came not. I discoursed Thomas Marrow Senior⁶¹ about a Crown which tis supposed he has in his Hands which belongs to this Town.
- 29 Mr Richard Jones came hither to discourse me concerning Dixons Bond. My Wife and Cozen Ann Tildesley &c: went in the Coach to the Grange, I rid along with them, but they⁶² being gon to Richard Tickleys we went thither where we found Mr Darcy Chantrell⁶³, his Brother Robert, Mr Formby and their Wives &c:.
- 30 My Wife took Cozen Ann Tildesley, Mrs Mills in her Coach to Aigbourn, they dined there.⁶⁴ Parson Wairing came to see me.
- 31 I Lent Horses to Nancy Gorsuch & Jane Harrison to goe to Leverpoole. It was a day of Thanks giving and great rejoysing for a Victory obtained by the Duke of Marlborough.⁶⁵

⁶⁰ Chamber maid.

⁶¹ Thomas Marrow senior was a tailor in Little Crosby.

⁶² The Molyneuxs of the Grange.

⁶³ The Blundells of Crosby held estates in Nocturum, Wirral, Cheshire, part of which had been leased or sold by Nicholas's father to Darcy Chantrell. This was the subject of legal dispute between Nicholas and Chantrell in 1724-7. See DDB1/8/2-9. L.R.O.

⁶⁴ They were paying a visit to the Harringtons of Aigburth.

⁶⁵ 1706 was a particularly successful year for Marlborough in the Netherlands.

Anno Domini 1707

JANUARY

- 1 Mr Darcy Chantrell, his Brother Robert, Richard Tickle¹ & their Wives &c: dined here and all of them Suped here except Richard Tickle. Anderton played here and there was a great many of Country People. I Carded in the Pantry at Night. Charles Howerd came to Serve me.
- 2 My Wife, Cozen Ann Tildesley and Mrs Mills went in the Coach to Leverpoole. Mr Poynes & I went to Mr Wairings, we had some Disputations, we stay'd there pritty late. Ann Hill came to be Dary Maid.
- 3 I told Walter Thelwall that I intended to part with his Son & make John Banister the Butler.²
- 4 Turner came to be hired to be my Butler but we could not bargain.
- 5 I Lent Jane Harrison & Mall Butler Horses to ride on to Richard Tickleys of the Northend.
- 6 Cozen Ann Tildesley went hence before Dinner, Mr Ashton sent horses for her. My Wife, Mrs Mills, and Nancy Gorsuch went 'ith Coach to the Grange.
- 7 My Wife and Mrs Mills went to Scaresbrick thinking to find much Company, but most of them were gon, they came home through Ormskerk and called at Mr Fazakerley. Mr Poyns & I went to Richard Harrisons where we eat Christmas Fair.
- 8 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for most of his Receipts & Disbursements for my use since the first of June.
- 9 John Bryanson took up Oakes and John Banister and he planted them in the Stock Roots. I sent John Banister with a Present to Cozen Fazakerley at Ormskerk.
- 10 We had a long Race after two Sheep which used to Lye in the Stock Roots. John Bryanson Planted some Oaks on the farthest side of the Crow Orchard on the Beds where Hollin Berrys had been sowed.
- 11 John Bryanson planted severall Ashes at the Side of the Little-Moss-hey. My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to see the Ditchers in the New-Laine and to see Bryanson Plant Ashes in the West Laine. Mall Butlers Mother & Brother Lodged here.
- 12 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I walked to great Crosby to see Fanny, thence we went to Ned Hattons³ and from thence we rid home, My Wife Rid single on Mr Poynes his Mare.
- 13 Will Thelwall, Anderton, I &c: went a Coursing. Walter Thelwall, his Brother Will and I went to see Bryan Bryanson who was ill, thence we went

¹ Richard Tickle, a yeoman and inn-keeper of Little Crosby.

² John Banister, the gardener, appeared as "gardiner & Butler" in January 1708. His wage remained the same, 18s. 9d. a quarter. Some entries in the Disbursement Book indicate that he was being prepared for his new appointment:

"20 August 1707—Macking a Wastcoat for John Banister 1s. 6d.
December 1707—Given Banister to pay for Larning to writ 6d."

³ A copyholder of Great Crosby.

to John Blundell where we eat Christmass Cheere, we also called & eat at Darbys. This being the Twentieth day of Christmas we had Anderton at Night.

- 14 John Farer and Henry Bridge came to mend Harnes and Saddles for me. Cozen John Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 15 Cozen Gelibrond went hence. I was at the Court of Great Crosby.⁴ Mr Heyes was the Steward. I dined there with Mr Heys, Gunter, Ralf Low &c.:
- 16 Mall Butlers Mother went hence. I went to Crosby Marsh to meet my Lord Molineux and Collonell Butler. I set my great Chaff Nets to try how they would doe.
- 17 I walked to Richard Harrisons with my Wife. I played the first time at Tables with Mr Poynes.
- 18 John Banister & Bryanson planted 100 Ashes in the Hedges.
- 19 Pat: Wofold dined here. Mr Poynes and I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell & his Wife who had been abroad⁵ I Received a Bill from my Lord Molineux for £126.
- 20 I Dined at Collonell Butlers, thence I went with him and Cozen Ann Tildesley to Scaresbrick where we played at Cards, I acquainted Cozen Scaresbrick that I had Occation for my Money to pay of my Sisters Portion.⁶
- 21 Mr Wofold and Mrs Hesketh dined here. Nancy Gorsuch was sent for by her Father to goe home from hence.
- 22 My Wife, Mrs Mills & Mr Poynes rid out to take the Aire, they went to Great Crosby.
- 23 I went to Mr Wairings to Acquaint him I would have some of his Sons Rice if it were not disposed of. I writ Letters. Detraction is a Sin, the effect of those words, spoke by P.:
- 24 My Wife went to Mrs Bootle of the Peele⁷ to shew her her Finger that was Burned. I gave Richard Cartwright orders to goe tomorrow to Eckleston to get wax Candles made for me.
- 25 John Bryanson & Banister Planted Underwood most part of the day in the Stock Roots and Padock. Salt Fish brought home against Lent.
- 26 Mr Blundell of Ince, Mr Hammerton and Mr Needom were here.⁸
- 27 Mr B: came hither to examin about the misdemanours of Pat: P: and to

⁴ Nicholas held land in Great Crosby.

⁵ When a person left his home to go visiting for more than one day he was said to "have gone abroad".

⁶ Part of the money left as an annuity to his sisters by their father.

⁷ Mrs. Bootle, of Peele near Ormskirk and Maghull, seemed to have some skill in medicine. Mrs. Blundell often consulted her. Margaret Blundell in her book, *Blundell's Diary and Letter Book*, states that Peele was in Cheshire and is now known as Morton cum Peele. This information she obtained from Bickerton: *A Medical History of Liverpool*. This is incorrect. Whenever Nicholas or his wife visit Mrs. Bootle they never mention taking a boat or crossing the Mersey to get to Peele, and always when a visit was made they invariably visited Ormskirk or Maghull. Mrs. Bootle also attended the funeral of Mr. Maghull of Maghull.

⁸ Rev. Peter Barnes alias Mr. Hammerton and Mr. Needom (or Needham), another priest, were visiting Nicholas to enquire about Father Poyntz who was proving to be a very unsatisfactory chaplain and priest.

remove him and all their effects hence. H: T: came along with him, Nelly Nelson was examined about words spoke by Pat: P: viz: Sons & Doughters.⁹ Captain Robert Fazakerley Lodged here.

- 28 Captain Robert Fazakerley and I met Mr Blundell, Mr Hamerton & Mr Needom acoursing in the Mosses
- 29 I sent Thelwall to great Crosby with a Grewhound to Cours with Dr Tarlton &c: Mr Plumb and his Wife dined here. My Wife rid behind me to Charls Howerds & Mrs Mills rid single, we went late.
- 30 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to see the Seller at Sefton,¹⁰ we were at the Buriall of Ellen Tickley, and went into the Church.¹¹
- 31 I sold my Hors Buck to William Anderton for one dayes playing of the Pips per Annum as long as he lives in Lancashire and for 25s; to be payed by Parcells as he can get it, if the Horse prove ill I promiss to bate him 5s. I Coursed towards Rises-Heys and the Heale Bank, we killed 3 Hares; Thomas Brownbill &c: came to us, I Sealed a Lease to him which had been drawn Long since, he Lodged here.

FEBRUARY

- 1 I went towards Great Crosby a Coursing but found not one Hare. I was at Parson Wairings and agreed with his Son for a Quantity of Rise. Mr Tasburgh and Pat: Wofold came hether to be Extraordinary.¹²
- 2 I writ a fowl drought of a Letter to the Provinciall.¹³ Mrs Mills looked amongst my Books for one to read.
- 3 Collonell Butler, Cozen Robert Fazakerley & Pat: Gelibrond dined here- Pat: Gelibrond lodged here. The Busley about cobing Mall.
- 4 My Wife, I, & Mrs Mills went to Leverpoole, Pat: Gelibrond went with us, we were at Rollins his¹⁴
- 5 William Wignold & Thomas Kerfoot payed me ten Pound in full for my Warrant for the last year, I reconed with them for Rabets which I should have had & for some Summer Rabets which I yet owe for. I hiered Thomas Gower to be my Butler.¹⁵

⁹ Mr. B: Rev. Albert Babthorpe, the provincial of the Jesuits in this area was conducting an enquiry concerning Pat: P; Father Poyntz.

¹⁰ It is probable that Nicholas was looking to see if any of the structure of this half-abandoned house would be useful. He did eventually use such material.

¹¹ During this visit Nicholas had some work done at their burial place in Sefton Church:
 "30 January—Given William Harrison for Flagging part of our Buriall place
 at Sefton 6d."

¹² Two local priests who came to serve Mass at Crosby Hall when Father Poyntz left.

¹³ The Rev. Peter Barnes, the provincial of the Jesuits in England, was not anxious to make any change at Little Crosby. However, Nicholas wrote to him urgently requesting a new chaplain and described the type of person he required—"... we desyre a Man of Wit and Conversation, one that can Preach well, and is willing to take Pains amongst the Poore Catholicks, of wch we have a great many, and one that is of a good Humour and will be easy and contented with Tollerable good Fair . . .". No mistake was to be made this time.

¹⁴ William Rollins kept a tavern in Castle Street, Liverpool.

¹⁵ Thomas Gower remained in service only for a few weeks.

- 6 I sowed Achhorns and Planted Oaks of one year old in the Stockroots.
- 7 I helped John Banister to take up young Ashes and to plant them on a fresh peece of Ground in the Crow Orchard.
- 8 Mr Poynes went quite away from hence. Charles Howerd wed the Beds of the small Ashes in the Crow Orchard. Ailes Caterold sent one Wilcock to see whether I could pay Inn the Money I owe her upon Bond.
- 9 I went to Prayers to Ince, Mrs Mills was there before me.¹⁶ I sent John Banister to Collonell Butlers & to Scaresbrick with some Rice, it was a very wet day.
- 10 William Weedow and John Blundell came to discours me about the Bargan made between them, John Blundell payed me £14-11s-0d. in part of a Fine for Weedows Teneament, Thomas Kerfoot came along with them. I Stated accounts with Walter Thelwall for Money Received & Disbursed for Turf for the year 1706, I also stated Accounts with him for Wages owing to him and he stopt it in towards his Fine, it was nine Pound. Thomas Gower came to be my Butler. My Wife took 3 oz. of Buckthorn Berry Serrop & 2 oz. of Sirrop of Ruburb, it worked very moderately.
- 11 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I dined at Mrs Plumbs in Leverpoole, her Husband was gon to London. I payed the Scotch Shopkeeper for Cloth bought of him some time since. I bought a Hat of Mr Chorley. I Exchanged some Silver Spoones with Mr Sheelds for six Spoones of an other sort.
- 12 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I dined at Morehale, we took Mally with us & left her there, thence we went to see Mrs Fazakerley at Ormskerk, stayed a little while & so came home.
- 13 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to Lidiat to see Bess Fazakerley.
- 14 John Banister and I set 32 Walnuts on a Bed in the Crow-Orchard. Thomas Gower and I took up 400 Thorns and John Banister & I trimed & counted them.
- 15 Nancy Gorsuch dined here. I discoursed John Sumner about John Molineux his bringing a Tenant into this Town and about some other things. Jane Harrison went to Leverpoole to doe some business for herself and others.
- 16 Pat: Wofold held forth, he dined here. My Wife, Mrs Mills & I went to James Lidiats but he not being at home we called as we came home at Mr Irelands Doar.¹⁷ Mally came home from Morehall.
- 17 When the Maids got up to Wash they heard Knocking and Laughing at the Gates and Windowes.¹⁸ I & Thomas Gower were busy almost all day in geting up the Underwood which had been set in the Crow Orchard & in prepairing it to be set in the Sand Hills. Some Larg Populars set at the side of the Cart-hous Pit. John Bryanson planted Oak, Ash, & Secamore between the Crofts & the Stock Roots. I Agreed a difference between John Blundell & William Wignold about Margits Field.
- 18 Mrs Hurst & Mrs Plumb dined here. John Hunt and Richard Cartwright

¹⁶ Having no resident priest the family were going to hear Mass at the neighbouring house Ince Blundell Hall.

¹⁷ Nicholas was not making a visit to the Irelands of Lydiate Hall, but just enquiring after their health, at the door as he was on his way home.

¹⁸ See October 10 1706; June 22, October 23, and November 6-7 1707.

ride some Withens for me in Crosby Holme and helped me to set them and other wood in the Sand Hills, as also did some of my Morehous Tenants, I was with them whilst they were seting and thence I went to see Mr Foster who was sick.

19 Ralf Low desired I would let my Lord Molineux have my New Millstone. I sent John Banister to Plant Ashes at Ditton.

20 I went to see Lord Mountgarret who was sick. Collonell Butler was gon to Leverpoole but he came soone after dinner, I dined at Collonell Butlers it being my Aunt Frances Birth day, she is now 76 years of Age, I Stated Accounts with her by word of Mouth but we set down nothing. I Demanded an Abaitment out of her Anuety towards the Great Land Tax, I was at the Bull with Mr Le Grot &c.: Going to Ormskerk I called at Mr Jamsons about Sam Prescots Bond. I discoursed Mr Heys about the Wapintag Rent but payed it not.

21 John Banister came back from Ditton, we set some Flowers which he brought from thence. John Bryanson began to plant Pritty larg Oaks in the Stock Roots. My Lord Molineux his Teame of Oxen took a New Milstone from my Mill-Hill which I let him have.

22 I went to Leverpoole and drunk Punch at Mr Tarltons with Mr William Tarlton¹⁹ & Mr Weston. John Banister brought home some Hollins.

23 Mr Moston held forth here. My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to William Thelwalls²⁰ to eat Pankakes.

24 My Wife, Mrs Mills & I went to prayers to Ince, Mrs Ann Harington was there. My Wife and Mrs Mills went to Leverpoole, they dined at Mr Hursts & went to a Ball. Ann Thelwall, Ellen Harrison, Mary Thelwall & severall of the Tenants Wives came hither to eat Pancakes & be merry, I was amongst them.

25 My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to Nicholas Johnsons & eat Pancakes, thence we went to Parson Wairings & took a Fidler with us, then we came to Richard Harrison's & Let Mally Lodg there.

26 John Bryanson began to plant Hollins in the Stock Roots. I gave Edward Hatton some Thorns and Secamores.

27 Collonell Butler sent his Servant hither to let me know his Father dyed this Morning about four of the Clock. I Planted a Bed of Withens in the Stock-roots, they were got in Great Crosby Holme.

28 I went to Ormskerk to Condole with Collonell Butler for the Death of my Lord his Father. Mr Peter Ashton was there, I saw Mr Wofold, Mr Howet, Mrs Ann Tildesley &c: there at Prayers. Mr La Grote shewed me some Pictures of his Painting at Mr Fazakerleys. I Discoursed Mr Heyes about my Wappantag Rent.

MARCH

1 I sowed some small knots in the Long Garden, that grew at the Roots of Young gors. Mr Blundell lent me his Net to draw for some Fish for my Lord Mountgarrets Funerall. Mr Blundell was with us and we drew 5 Pits.

¹⁹ A yeoman of Great Crosby.

²⁰ A tenant in Great Crosby.

- 2 I sent John Banister to Ormskerk with a Present of Fish for the Funerall of my Lord Mountgarret. My Wife took Phisick from Mr. Barrow.
- 3 I was at the Funerall of my Lord Mountgarret.²¹
- 4 Ralf Low payed me £4-5s-0d for a Mill Stone which my Lord Molineux had from me. I went to Leverpoole, I was a good while with Mr Plumb, he shewed me his Tackley for Fishing, he came with me to the Wool-pack where I shewed him some tricks on the Dise &c:.
- 5 Catherine Melling was Hiered to be the Dary Maid.²² John Bryanson finished Planting for me for this Season. I writ most part of the Day.
- 6 My Wife and Mrs Mills went to Croxtath to see Mrs Molineux who was Lying Inn of her second Child. Mr Brown formerly the Master of the Loyalty dynded here. I shewed him the Mill, Kill, &c: I began to make two Beds for Asparagrass by puting Earth and Muck into the Pit or hole which was prepaired for it.
- 7 Walter Thelwall Strained his Ancia as he was laying on a Seck of Beanes. John Garett swept most of the Chimneys in the house.²³ It was a bitter cold day. Pat: Gelibronnd lodged here.
- 8 Pat: Gelibronnd went hence. Mr Moston came hither in order to hold forth tomorrow.
- 9 Thomas Blundell told me had bought some Timber & fallen some of his own in Bolton for Husbandry use, he said there was Elme and Hegberry in that Country and promised to get me some. Nicholas Johnson came hither of a how do you from Dutton Lodg.
- 10 I Examained the old half Cheeks and Snaffles & fited some of them for use. I put some Ingredients together to make Inke. I made Cozen W. Ge: Salve alias Captain Midletons for a Bruse or Cut.
- 11 I shewed William Gray²⁴ how to make the Foxtrap fit to catch Rabets in. I shewed John Tickley to make part of a Mole trap.
- 12 I was in the Smithy most part of the day whilst William Gray was fiting up the Foxtrap to catch Rabets with. Ned Rycrofts Wife fetched a Larg fat Ox from hence and left two Cowes here which I am to feed till Easter.
- 13 I was in the Smithy most part of the after-Noone whilst William Gray was fixing me a Mole trap. William Harrison the Clark came a gathering Paist Eggs, I gave him two Pence.²⁵

²¹ "The Honorable Richard Lord Mungarrett, papist from Ormskirke, March 3" (From Sefton Registers).

He was probably buried in the Blundell Chapel.

²² Catherine Melling never appears in the Quarter Wages lists in the Disbursement Book. The entries for dairy maid over the next few years suggest difficulty in retaining a woman for this work, but it is not clear whether this was due to Mrs. Blundell's temperament.

²³ "7 March—Sweeping 13 Chimneys 3s. 0d."

²⁴ The blacksmith at Little Crosby. Nicholas was always keenly interested in mechanical devices, and often suggested improvements in machines and tools. He also supervised the work while it was being carried out.

²⁵ William Harrison, the clerk for Sefton parish, was visiting Crosby Hall to collect the Easter dues, part of which was paid in eggs, called Easter eggs or pace eggs. The Blundells of Crosby paid twelve eggs, but usually paid 2d. instead.

- 14 James Formby came hither to take Moles. I went to Mr Jamsons & Received two Bonds from him which he had orders to sue for me. I got there severall flower sets, thence I went to my Lord Mountgarret²⁶ but he was gon to Ince, I dined with my Aunt Frances Blundell and then went to see Mr Wofold at Morehale, there was there Mr Peter Ashton, Dr Lancaster, Mr Howet, &c:.
- 15 I began to sow the Bark²⁷ with Oats. The Flower knot begun to be wed & dubed, this being the first time since Christmass.
- 16 Pat: Wofold held forth & dined here, Poshion well £10 sh'on. I gave Richard Cartwright 5 half Crowns to deliver to Mr Barton at the Grank.
- 17 I Sent my Carts to the Cole Pit, they brought home almost 20 Baskets. I went to Staninoughts in Fazakerley to see him take Elles, I bought about 12 pound of him at 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. p. pound.
- 18 I Spent a good deale of time both before and after dinner in dubing the time in the Flower Knot. John Steward & his Wife were here with their Packs. I gave Webster the Bubb Baly some Corne.
- 19 Most of the Jury met and Walked about to Examain where things were amiss.²⁸ I went to Thomas Syers of the Ford to see his Garden. I bet for Hares both going and coming but found onely one, coming home we saw William Thelwall &c: burning Gors, they also helped us to beat. I called to see Parson Wairing, I bought a Hare Skinn.
- 20 I and Walter Thelwall rid into the Morehouses to Examain after Torves of mine which were said to be stolne by some of the Family of William Sumner the Miller, I went to see John & Bryan Bryanson. I drew out a Larg Knot on Paper for a Flower Knot.
- 21 I dined at Croxtath, Lord Molineux shewed me Cozen Eyres Accounts relaiting to the Payment of £126 to me, we drunk in the Cupula & saw the Servants Airing the Horses, some of us looked in the Perspective Glass, coming home I called to see Dr Lathom.
- 22 I bought some Flower sets at Leverpoole. Mary Molineux sold some Butter for me, I drunk with Ben Branker, he talked as if he would be good. Mr Swarberick drunk with me at my Inn. Brock drew in the Cart to Leverpoole the first time. I received the Stress book.
- 23 Mr Moston held forth. Lord Mountgarret dined here. Mr Tasburgh came after dinner.
- 24 I removed some Ewes and Lambs into the Cross Field. I began to dress my long bed of Ashes in the Crow Orchard & to Earth the Trees.
- 25 One Hogshead & somthing more of Strong Aile or Beer was Tunned, it was made of six Buss: of Darby Malt & six of my own. Mrs Mills went to Prayers to Ince, she dined there and stayed till Evening. Walter Thelwall discoursed me about the Irish Expedition, I shewed him a list of Debts.
- 26 I Shot Crowes. I began to cast up the Clear Proffit made by my Estate. I

²⁶ Edmund Butler, sixth Viscount Mountgarret.

²⁷ A field in the demesne lands.

²⁸ The jury from the manor court of Little Crosby were walking through the fields to settle disputes concerning boundaries between the holdings of land or strips of some of the tenants.

Examined William Wignold, his Son and Nelly French concerning my Tourves that were stolne. I proposed to buy some Ewes and Lambs of Thomas Blancherd, thence I went to see Mr Foster, Mr Tasburgh was there, thence I went to dunn John Lunt but he was not at home, his Wife gave me some Flower sets. Mr Babthrop came hither and Acquainted my Wife he had orders to live here. William Wignold came at Night to Acquaint me that Nelly French alias Riding would swear against the Stelars of Torves.

27 I took Ellen Riding sworne concerning stealing of Turves before Mr Mayor of Leverpoole, he was on horsback going to Lancaster Assises. Mr Richard Norris, Mr Hurst, &c: were present. Mr William Tarlton went with me to Mr Gibbones, he shewed me his Garden. Catherine Melling came to be the Dary Maid.

28 Two Beds of Asparagress were planted. Part of a Border of Violets set in the New Orchard and about 20 Larg Walnuts set in the same Border. Richard Cartwright Let my Wife and Nelly Nelson Blood.²⁹ I sent for Ewes & Lambs to Thomas Blancherds that I had bought of him. I Acquainted William Sumner the Miller that I had got a Witness against some of his Family.

29 I sent a great Cart Load of Corn to Leverpoole and a pot of Butter.³⁰ Nanny Hill left her Service³¹. Mrs Mills kept her bed till after noone being not able to sit.

30 I went to Ince to prayers, Dr Thomas Worthington was there. Mr Richard Wairing brought me a Cross Reliquary. Mr Tasburgh was here.

31 I put a many Sheep into the New-grounds, most of them were ewes and Lambs. Lin Seed sowed in the Bark. My Wife and Mrs Mills walked to Mr Fosters, Mr Maynard was there, he walked back with them hither and stayed a little while and so went back to Scaresbrick.

APRILL

1 Mr William Tarlton and Thomas Carter dined here. I gave Mr William Tarlton some Flower sets and discoursed him concerning my Brothers³² affairs in Newfound-Land, they went to Charles Howerds and there I found them with Richard Tickley, Mr Darcy Chantrells Wife, Mrs Betty Baumber, &c:, James Brown came to us with his Fiddle & we were very merry.

2 Mrs Blundell of Ince & Mr Edward Scaresbrick the Elder made a Viset here.

3 Dr Fabius came to see Thomas Gower, he let him Blood. Mr Wairing came hither, I went to William Wignolds & Examined Nelly Riding, John Rimer, &c: both pro and Con about the Stealing of my Turves by William Sumners Family. John Banister began the first time to trim the Hollin Hedge.

4 My Wife & Mrs Mills Rid to Warrington & back again. William Anderton let Thomas Gower blood.³³ William Troughton was here and told me

²⁹ "28 March—To Richard Cartwright for letting my Wife blood 1s. 0d."

³⁰ To be sold in the market.

³¹ The dairy maid.

³² Richard.

³³ Note the blood-letting was first done by the doctor, and on the following day by the man often called in to play on a flute or fiddle for dances! On March 25 the butler had let Mr. Blundell's blood.

News from Lancaster Assizes. I stated Accounts with Thomas Blancherd for Interest and Rent owing by him to me and for Money owing him for Sheep.

5 Some of my Sheep were washed, most of them were Wethers. Dr Fabius came a second time to see Thomas Gower. Anderton let him blood, it being third time he was bloodyed in this sickness. My Wife and Mrs Mills went into the Dove Court. Richard Harrison shewed me the Meer-Stone³⁴ which the Jury had set in his Boot.

6 My Wife, Mrs Mills & I heard Mass at Mr Fosters. Old John Lunt discoursed me about the Money he owes, I shewed him my Flower Knot.

7 Some of my Sheep were shorne, most of them were Wethers. Ralf Tyarer came to look at Buck alias Burly, he was lame in his Foot. John Banister went to fetch Dr Francis Worthington to Thomas Gower but he was ill & Could not come. Mr Tasburgh came to see Thomas Gower as also did Ailes Tickley &c.; Pat: Wofold brought Mrs Mills her snuff Box that she had lost.

8 I put up some Escutcheons in the Hall, Lord Mountgarrets was one of them. I took up two sorts of Wild whit Flowers in the Padock and Planted them in the Knot.

9 I Shewed Walter Thelwall some calculasions I had made of the Receipts and Disbursments upon Account of my Estate Debts &c.: I went with Walter Thelwall to digg a Hare out of the Watering-Poole-Hey Cop but she was gon. I broke a hole into the loft over the Chappell in order to katch Rats.

10 I went to Mr Moston³⁵ to shew him Mr Babthrops orders to come hither on Monday or Tuesday in Easter Week, thence I went to Peter Butchets where I got some Flower sets, thence I went to William Fleetwoods in Simons Wood and so home. I killed a Larg Red Segg.

11 My Wife and I distributed some Beefe in the Morning to oure Poore Neighbours. Pat: Wofold prayed here, Mr Molineux of the Grange came to him. John Tickley was employed most of the after-noone in making of Stakes to set Bees upon, in the Evening we removed three Swarms of Bees from their old Place.

12 I Removed some of the Bees back to their old Place. John Bryanson helped Banister to mow the Courts. Bryanson and Banister layed some of the Hollins. Dr Francis Worthington came hither thinking to find Thomas Gower out of order.

13 My Wife, Mrs Mills, and I and severall of the Servants went to Mr Fosters to prayers. My Wife, Mrs Mills and I went to James Lidiats and to the Hall of Lidiat.

14 I went to Catharin Sargants in Farnworth where there was a meeting upon Account of Choosing the Chapell Wardens, I shewed there my Order from the Bishops Court for my Seat in the Chapell of Farnworth to Mr Ainscow the Parson, to Mr John Corleys the Schoolmaster, to Thomas Appleton the Clark and Sexton, to Mr Nicholas Bold & severall others, thence I went to Mr Hardings & so to William Cloughs the Bank hous in Ditton where I Lodged.³⁶

³⁴ Boundary stone between the land of one tenant and that of another.

³⁵ Probably Father John Mostyn, chaplain at Lydiate Hall.

³⁶ "16 April—Given at Wm. Cloughs where I Lodged 2 Nights 1s. 6d."

- 15 I was at prayers at Mr Hardings,³⁷ thence I went to Mr Rights to a Sale of goods & thence to William Cloughs to dinner. After diner I was at the Townes meeting where there was William Kennion, Joseph Bolton, H: Hey &c.;, we discoursed about my fensing of a Pit. We chose a Maior & Drunk Anall Seed Water.
- 16 Henry Hey and Joseph Bolton came to me to William Cloughs in the Morning with the Towne Books to let me know who had any of the Towns Money in their hands, coming home I called at Eckleston to see Mrs Eckleston who had brock her Arme, thence I went to Leverpoole and Received a Hollow Cross Reliquary from Benjamin Brankhurst & so came home.
- 17 I dined at my Lord Mountgarrets but he was gon into Chesshire, from my Lords, Pat: Gelibrond went with me to Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, this being the first time I had seen eather of them since they were Married, I lodged there three nights, we met on the Road Cozen John Gelibrond and Mr Gradoll. Pat: Gelibrond lost out of his Pocket a Book and some Letters.
- 18 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went with me to James Nicholsons, I payed James 50s. for two Load of Darby Malt, thence Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and I walked to see his Stonedelf near Cross Hall. Cozen John Gelibrond came to lodg at his Sons.
- 19 Cozen John Gelibrond, his Son Thomas, Mr William Holywell and I went to Chorley to meet Mr Brooks of Astley, we drunk at Ned Luckases, there was with us Mr Brooks, his Son-in-Law, William Low &c.: Cozen John Gelibrond & Mr Holywell Left us and went away.
- 20 I came home from Cozen Thomas Gelibronds, I called to see Dd. Fisher & looked where they had been sinking for a Brine Spring near Henry Fishers, I called at my Lord Mountgarrets, Mr Robert Fazakerley was there. My Wife dined at my Lord Mountgarrets and took Mrs Hesketh home with her in the Coach. When I came home I heard Nelly Nelson had left my Service and that Catharine Melling had given warning.
- 21 Richard Ainsworth the Cunstable³⁸ and Walter Thelwall by my Orders seased upon most of William Davys goods & of part of his Teneament for Money owing to me by him.³⁹ I went to see Fanny & discoursed Nelly Nelson about coming to live here again. I led Turf with two Boon Carts, and Muck with six Boones & two of my own Carts, the Muck Carts lead each of them 10 good loads to the Coppy. Mrs Heskeths Man and Maid came hither. I Stated Accounts with Watty and shewed him what I had once designed to leave him by my Will, he leaves my Service today and designs tomorrow to goe to Ormskerk to learn to writ &c.: Bess Fowled in the Night a Filly tis to be called Brock.
- 22 Mr Plumb dined here, he and I played at Cross and Pile.⁴⁰ Mrs Blundell brought Mrs Wofold in her Coach to Lodg here. Dick Royall brought me a Letter from Mr Richardson relaiting to my Lord Gerards Funeral.⁴¹ I planted some Wild Flowers in the knot. I and Thelwall went to look at the Colt.

³⁷ Rev. William Maire Vere Hawarden, died 1728.

³⁸ Constable of Little Crosby.

³⁹ William Davy—a tenant in Little Crosby.

⁴⁰ The game of pitch and toss played with coins.

⁴¹ Charles, sixth Baron Gerard, of Gerards Bromley.

- 23 I sent Henry Gray to Ormskerk to let my Lord Mountgarret know when my Lord Gerard would be buried. Mrs Hesketh, Mrs Wofold and Mrs Mills walked to Ince to prayers, it Rained as they came back. Mr Wofold dined here. My Wife, Mrs Hesketh, Mrs Wofold and Mrs Mills went in the Coach to Richard Tickleys, Mr Wofold and I went along with them, Mr Baumber and Mr Molineux of the Grange was there. Charles Cathshaw Fidler played here at Night a while.
- 24 I shewed my Plantations to Mrs Hesketh. I began my Journey towards the Funerall of my Lord Gerard, I called at Warington where I found Sir William Gerard,⁴² thence I went to Dutton Lodg and stayed a while to refresh, thence to Minshow where I lodged at Rebecca Smiths.
- 25 I went to Eckleshall to meet the Corps of my Lord Gerard, there was there Sir John Crew, Sir Francis Lester, Mr Berington, Mr King the undertaker, Mr Fowler, &c.: I attended the Corps to Ashley where it was layed in a Vault, I lodged at Bromley, Mr Webb and Mr King of London and Sir William Gerard &c: Lodged there.
- 26 I went from Bromley to Dutton where I lodged two Nights, it rained most part of the day. Sir William Gerard came with me part of the way. M. Brown and Bet: Atherton came to be Servants here.
- 27 I was admitted to see my Lady Gerard. I walked in the Gardens & read most of the day.
- 28 I came from Dutton, called at Mat: Pages in Warington stayed a while & so home. Lord Mountgarret came to let us know he was shortly bound for York-shire, he suped here & so went home. I found M. Brown comne hither to be Cook & Betty Atherton to be Dary Maid, they came upon the twenty sixth.
- 29 I planted some stript Hollin & Yew which I brought with me from Dutton Lodg. I Racked of one Hoggs head of October which I think was brued A.D. 1703. Muss was Horsed by Isaacks Dogg-Lad.
- 30 Bess was Horsed by Isaacks Dogg-Lad. I stated Accounts with Mrs Mills. I Nailed up her Box which is to goe to London.

MAY

- 1 Joseph Hawley came hither in the Morning, I payed him two Guineys in full of all Accounts.⁴³ My Wife and Mrs Mills dined at More-hall, they took Mally with them. I went to take leave of my Lord Mountgarret ere he went into York-shire. I dined with him, and after dinner he began his Journey, I went out of the Town with him part of his way & then went to see Thomas Turners Widdow, thence to see Ann Renold who was formerly wife to William Fleetwood, she and her Husband were both at home, thence I went to John Aspinwalls to Look at his Garden & so came home.
- 2 I Botled of about 11 dozen of October Beer, it was Brued as I think A.D. 1703. I Signed a Letter of Attorney to Impower Mr William Tarlton to get in my Brother Richards Debts in New-found-Land. Two of James Winards Doughters lodged here.

⁴² Sir William Gerard, of Bryn, Lancashire.

⁴³ See December 12 1702 and April 5 and 6 1705.

3 I was at the Bishops Court at Ormskerk, I paid Mr Boucher in full upon Account of my Sute with Mr Hurst. Mr Boucher gave me some Papers relating to that Sute.⁴⁴ I drunk at Peg Had: with Mr Peter Standish, Mr Howet and Mr Robert Fazakerley. Mr Robert Fazakerley spoke to me about a Present that was sent from hence.

4 I walked with my Wife and Mrs Mills to Sefton, William Harrison shewed us the Church & went up the Steeple with us, coming home we called at Mr Smiths & drunk a Bottle of Sider.

5 I was busy most of the afternoone in botling of October [Beer] and redying my Seller. I sowed some Flower seeds.

6 Walter Thelwall went to Ditton to Henry Atherton to see what wood he wanted for the Repair of his hous, he went to old William Clough in Sutton but he was not at home, he received £12-10s upon Account of Interest for my Aunt Frances & Aunt Gerard, it was payed him at Prescott. My Wife, Mrs Mills, & I fished for Shoulers. Mrs Blundell & Mr Ralf Tildesley made a Viset here. I and Thomas Gower went out to take young Moles but we found none. After Supper William Gray clomb⁴⁵ some Crow Nests & others.

7 I and John Banister went out to Arnolds Heys &c: to take young Moles but we found none, I think tiss too late. I went to see them sow Barly in the Cppy. Ailes Tickley and Mrs Baumber were here. My Wife, Mrs Mills and I Fished for Shoulers.

8 My Wife & Mrs Mills dined at Mr Howets. Laurence Gilbertson and his Partner began to cut and burn Gors in the Little Morehey. Cozen Scaresbrick & his Lady came to Ince, I went to see them. I heard Mr Foster was dispaired off.

9 I went to the Moss where John Sumner was delving Turves, I stayed some time talking with him, thence I went to Bryan Bryansons where I saw two Letters relating towards a weding of Richard Bryanson. Mr Poynes made a viset here.

10 I went to Leverpoole & ordered Mr Plumb to take some course with the Officers of Ditton who had any of the Townes Money in their hands, I drunk with Jo: Bolton & told him what I had done in relation to the Officers in Ditton. I dined at Mr Brownbills. Mr Foster was buried.⁴⁶

11 Mrs Mills went hence to Warrington in order to goe by Coach to London, my Wife went with her to Warrington & designes to goe to Dutton Lodg.

12 I paid Easterdews & Clarks wages &c: to William Harrison. Widdow Wadkinson brought some Gees for me to keep to parts. I helped Ma: Mo: to bottle some Strong Aile & Cork up some bottles of Meade. I walked after Supper to Parson Wairing.

⁴⁴ "3 May—Beside the Expençe I have been at in bringing Witnesses, my own and Servants Expenses going to Chester, Farnworth, &c: one half Guiney given to Mr Boucher & 38s. 6d. paid formerly to him; I also gave him in full this day £4 9s. 0d.
Given to a Clark for Transcribing 2s. 6d."
See July 17 1705.

⁴⁵ To clomb or clau— to gather together, to pull with both hands, to tug.

⁴⁶ Rev. Richard Foster, S.J., born March 11 1672 was ordained priest at Prague in 1701. He was buried in the Harkirk Burial Ground.

- 13 Thelwall went to Knocktorum to look after the Brick Kill. I finished Barly seeding this year in the Copsy.
- 14 The Remainder of the Sheep were washed, most of them if not all were Ewes. I went to the Pinfold to Consult about the removing of it, there was Richard Harrison the Pinner, Richard Ainsworth the Cunstable, &c.: I went to see Fanny and Parson Wairing, I took Mally with me.
- 15 I Perused some of my Brother Richards Papers of his Newfound-land & Virginia Voyages which were upon his File. Yarne layed out to bleach. I botled off some Bottoms of Aile & Beer that wanted Tilting, we gathered together the Dreggs of some Barrells for Stilling & took down the New Hogg's head which had October Beer in over the Seller.
- 16 I Perused my Brother Richards Papers of Accounts & put them in order upon the File. I Corked up some bottles of Mead that were flown and opened some bottles of Strong Aile that I thought would flye.
- 17 I went to Leverpoole, Mr Plumb gave me two Letters he had from some of Ditton relating to the payment of some of the Townes Money which some of the old Officers had in their hands, he and Captain Robert Fazakerley drank with me at the Wool-pack. I was in the Town Hall or Chamber when a debate was argued before Mr Morecroft the Maior, Mr Clayton, &c: relating to Henry Wainright who was bound Prentice to James Harrison a Weaver. I drunk with Mr Clayton & his Uncle Mr Thomas Clayton at Mr Tuts. My Wife came home from Dutton Lodg.
- 18 I sent Walter Thelwall with a Letter to my Lord Molineux but he was not at home.
- 19 I sent Hob⁴⁷ to Leverpoole to Ralf Tyarer to look at his Back. I was indisposed upon Account of my Stomack. John Banister began to Summer-work a bed in the Long Garden, tis for planting upon.
- 20 William Fisher killed 21 Longwormes or Adders upon the Dunghill behind the New-Stables. I sent them to Dr Fabius by Ez: Marsers.
- 21 I led Coales with six Boone Carts & two of my Owne. Sir James Poole & his Son Francis lodged here.
- 22 Sir James Poole, his Son, my Wife and I walked through the Town. I sent for Parson Wairing to come see Sir James Poole but he was not at home.
- 23 Sir James Poole, his Son & I went to Ince, we drunk Punch.
- 24 Mr Moston, Mr Tasburgh, & Pat: Wofold kept my Grandfathers Aniversary here. Sir James Poole & his Son went hence.⁴⁸
- 25 I sent John Banister to Dutton to take leave of my Lady Gerard ere she left the Country. It was much Thunder & Rain in the After-noone.

⁴⁷ One of Nicholas's horses.

⁴⁸ In a letter Nicholas wrote to his mother on July 12 1707, he said:

"Sir James Poole goes from one good house to another, among the rest has been to mine, but his headquarters is at Mosburgh and Burchley and I hear that his son has proferd very kind things, yet the Father cannot be prevailed with to do anything for his own good, neither do I know that he has one penny but what his son Frances gives him."

Sir James Poole was thrice married, his first wife being Anne, daughter of Thomas Eyre, Esq. of Hassop in Derbyshire. By this marriage Sir James Poole became indirectly related to Nicholas, whose mother was Mary Eyre. Sir James's eldest son, James, married, but died without issue, October 8 1706. Sir James Poole was a Roman Catholic, as the family had always been, but his son and successor, Francis, conformed, and was M.P. for Lewes in 1743.

- 26 Madam Molineux of Croxtath and her Sisters-in-Law Mrs Mary Molineux and Mrs Betty made a Viset here, they suped here, my Wife went back with them part of the way in their Coach, it rained much.
- 27 I went after Dinner to Leverpoole with my Wife. We bought Materials to make a Coat on for Mally. I spoke to Mr Barrows for a Vomit. I had a Millstone brought, Coming from Leverpoole we called at Bank-hall and the old Woman shewed the House.⁴⁹
- 28 William Clough the Elder was brought hither by Baylys upon my Account. Ralf Tyrers Son came to look at Hobb & Bonny Buttox. I took a Vomit.
- 29 I began to examain whot my Brother Richard has had towards his Voyage to Virginia and since, in order to the stating Accounts between us & to know whether I am anything in Arreere to him, I peruesed severall papers relating thereto. Izaak Lightbourne brought his Hors to Bonny-buttocks but she not being in order I sent her to Ralph Tyrers Son to dispose of her as he would.
- 30 I made a farther scruting into my Brothers Papers relating to his Virginia Voyage. I walked into the Cow-hey to gather Roots of some wild Flowers. I looked there at the Medowing & Corn.
- 31 Cozen Scaresbrick, his Wife & Son dined here. I took John Banisters Accounts & paid him 13s-06d which he had Disbursed for me.

JUNE

- 1 I Read most of the after-noone. Fanny was here. I shewed the Parlor to my Nurs.

⁴⁹ Bank Hall (Bankhall), the home of the Moore family of Liverpool. It is clear from the Disbursement Book that Nicholas went to Liverpool on this occasion to pay the accounts of various merchants. As well as paying 10s. 6d. for material for a coat for his daughter Mary (Mally), he also settled his account with Mr. Leadbetter, a grocer:

"This Following account was given me, N. Blundell, by the Prentice of Mr Leadbetter for goods bought of him from the Begining of October last till the end of this Present May—

	£	s.	d.
For Sugars of Severall Sorts	2	7	11½
Currans at 7½d. Rasons at 6d. per pound		9	8
Figgs at 8d. Almonds at 14d. per Pound		3	6
Cloves at 10d. Cineomond at 8d. per Ounze		6	0
Nuts—10d. Mace at 20d. p. Ounze		9	2
Pepper at 20d. Rice at 4d. per Pound		5	1
Anchovis 24d. Capers at 14d. per Pound		7	6½
Candles 3½d. Starch at 3d. per Pound		3	1
Salt Peter 20d. Shot at 2d. per Pound		1	4
Glue at 4d. Pitch at 3½d. per Pound		4	3½
Stone Blue & Pouder Blue about 2s. per Pound		1	10
Train oyle at 9d. per Quart		1	6
Coffy at 9s. 0d. per Pound		4	6
Lamb Black one Barrell			3½
Ink 8d. Sweet Sope one Pound 6d.		1	2
Mugg Malloses or Treacle at 3d. per Pound		4	10½
Hunny at 13d. per Quart or 3d. per Pound		6	8½
Cap Paper 4 per Quire. Pipes 10d. per Groce		1	2
Corks at 2s. per Groce		8	0
Irish Sope at 3s. 2d. per dozen		6	4
Vinegar at 18d. Oyle at 12s. per Gallon	1	1	2½
Wine, White & Red at 4s. 10d. per Gallon	6	10	6
Hops at £4 7s. 0d. per Hundred	2	19	5"

- 2 My Wife and I went to prayers to Lidiat, we dined there with Mr Moston, as we were going we met Cozen Thomas Walmesley going to Crosby, but he turned back and designed to goe to Leverpoole. Mrs Ann Harington & Mrs Molineux of the Grange came in the Evening in the Coach to see my Wife.
- 3 My Wife dined at Scaresbrick, thence she went to Ormskerk Fair. I dined at Ince with Mr Harington, his Wife, Son, & Doughter, Mr Charls Harington & I pitched severall sorts of ways with half Crowns. Mall Butlers Sister Jane came hither.
- 4 Mr Charls Harington dined here. Holly Oaks transplanted into the great Courts. Richard Harrison paid £5-6s-8d. in full for the last years Rack,⁵⁰ some discourse about changing our Smith William Gray.
- 5 My Wife went to Wiggan, she dined at Widdow Heskeths. I dined at Mr Plumbs with Mr Charls Harington, I Looked at some of Mr Eatons Books that he designs for his Auktion. I drunk with him, Ralph Tyrer, &c.: Mr Charls Butler lodged here.
- 6 My Wife came home, she had seen Blanscow, Parkhall, Rightington, &c: I shewed my Garden & Plantations to Mr Charls Butler.
- 7 Mr Charls Butler & I went to the Marsh and Sea-side a shooting but we found little Game. Mall Butler & her Sister went to Leverpoole on their Fathers horse.
- 8 Mr Moston went hence away in hast being called by Mr Wilson the Attorney to Marry him. Mrs Blundell of Ince & one Mrs Osboldeston made a Viset here, they suped here.
- 9 My Wife went after dinner with an Intention to goe by Ruckhorn to the Outside. I went with her as far as Leverpoole and there I stayed Mr Eatons Auktion of Books till towards nine of the Clock, there was Parson Marsden, Mr Allonson, Brownbill, Mr Brankhurst, &c:.
- 10 I was at the second dayes Auxion of Mr Eatons Books at the Woolpack in Leverpoole, there was Parson Alanson, Mr Brankhurst, Brownbill, &c:.. Walter Thelwalls hous & John Tickleys were set on Fier.
- 11 I went to welcome home my Lord Mountgarret after his Return from Durham & York-Shire. I dined at his hous and after dinner we went to wish Mr Wilson Joy, thence we went to the Black Bull, I lay at my Lord Mountgarrets with him.
- 12 I came home from Ormskerk. Pat:Gelibrond and Mr Howet came with me as far as their way lay, they were going to Leverpoole. I met three of my Servants going towards Prescot Fair about 4 in the Evening.
- 13 I went to Ditton & ordered John Tickle to fall 4 Trees in Henry Rosons teneament and two in Jos: Boltens, I intend to give some of them to Walter Thelwall and John Tickle towards the Rebuilding of their burned housing, from Ditton I went over at Runkhorn to the out Side where I lodged.
- 14 My Wife and I came from the Outside over at Runkhorn so to Ditton where we light and thence home where we found William Holme the Taylor and two Men making a Coat for Mally, it was a very wet day the latter part of it.

⁵⁰ Rack rent.

- 15 My Wife and I Read most of the afternoone in the Garden, at the lous trap, and in the house.
- 16 I made a farther examination into my Sercomstance in order to shew it to J. G. and advise with him about my removing hence.⁵¹ Ince Gardiner came to get some Goosberrys for Preserving as he thought.
- 17 I Expected Mrs Scaresbrick Junior and Mrs Fazakerley to dine with me it being my Wedding day, but they came not, so we had no Company. Mr Plumb & his Wife lodged here,⁵² after Supper he and I fished for Breams in the Oaklands, we tooke severall. William Davy payed me £09-10s-09d.
- 18 Mr Plumb and I were busy most of the fore Noon in prepairing & making of Fishlines and fixing hookes. Mr Plumb and his Wife went hence.
- 19 Alderman Clayton, Mr Tyrer Junior, Mr Tute and their Wives made a Viset here.
- 20 Mrs Blundell of Ince & Cozen Edward Scaresbrick Senior made a Viset here. I sent a Load of Hay and some oats to Mr Plumb. My second Swarme of Bees. Margery Howerd dyed. I shewed Ned Spencer what Wood I designed to give Walter Thelwall.
- 21 I Received some Money of old William Clough at Leverpoole. I drank at Mr Brankhursts with Mr Hurst, and at the Post Office with Mr Molineux of the Grang. Mr Knight Lodged here.
- 22 Mr James Wilding dined here, I shewed him the Gardens &c:. My Wife went to Ince to wate of my Lady Anderton, Walter Thelwall heard knocking in our Chamber.⁵³
- 23 My Wife & I began our Journey towards Holly-well, we went over in Eastom⁵⁴ Boat with Henry Helsby and his Wife, Josua Marrow &c:. My Wife, I, and Servants lodged at Mr Taylors the signe of the Golden Lyon in Chester. I Acquainted Mr Boucher with the Designe of some in the Township of Ditton to lay Fiveteens through the Township for the Maintenance of the Parson of Farnworth.
- 24 I was at a Gardiners in Chester & bought two Roots of Renunculases, we dined in our Room, as we were going Mr Plumb came to us, we went up and drunk with him, I saw in Chester Mr Henry Tyarer, Dick Woods, William Truman, John Steward &c:. We went from Chester to Holly Well & Lodged at the Starr.⁵⁵

⁵¹ Nicholas was considering leaving Crosby Hall. This entry suggests he was in some financial difficulty. At a later date he did, in fact, lease part of the Hall. On another occasion his wife urged him to give up the Hall and go to live in Ireland. See June 30 1707. "J.G." was John Gelibrond (Gillibrand).

⁵² Mr. John Plumbe, a Protestant, living at Wavertree, was not only one of Nicholas's lawyers, but also a great friend. He must have been quite a wealthy person, for not only did he purchase some of the Moore property in Liverpool, but also the Aughton estate from Richard Hesketh.

⁵³ See October 10 1706; February 17 and October 23 1707.

⁵⁴ Eastham.

⁵⁵ Nicholas and his wife and their servants quite often made visits to Holywell in Flintshire. Pilgrimages have been made by Catholics to the shrine of St. Winifred there since the early Middle Ages. The Blundells usually stayed at the Star Inn or at the Cross Keys Inn. During the period of the Tudors and Stuarts, Catholics often met secretly at Holywell, staying at the Star Inn, which was run by Jesuit priests, one acting as inn-keeper and one as ostler, or at the Cross Keys Inn, which was run by secular clergy. At both places Mass was said. Many people visited the well to drink the waters, others went as a form of penance and others as a form of thanksgiving.

- 25 Mr Plumb came to Holly Well to us, after dinner he & I &c: played at Boules. Mrs Kenneday & her Doughter went from Holly-well.
- 26 My Wife, Mr Plumb & I came from Holly-well over Shotwigg Ford, it was very deep, thence we came to the Wood-side, where we got over, we parted with Mr Plumb at Leverpoole Towns end and so came home.⁵⁶
- 27 I counted whot Money I had by me for my Mother & Sister Fanny. Roger Leigh came with a Letter to Receive the Interest for Ailes Caterold and to call in the Principall. John Banister &c: gathered Pees, Hartichoks &c: to take to Leverpoole tomorrow.
- 28 John Banister sold Goosberrys, Currons, &c: at Leverpoole. William Clough Junior payed me some Money, we counted part of it upon the horse-stone when it was duskish.
- 29 I went to Scaresbrick to see Cozen Scaresbricks Youngest Brother Thomas, coming home I met Lord Mountgarret near Sefton Church, he had been here and was going hom, we went together into the Aile-hous by the Church & stayed a while. My Wife dined at Ince with my Lady Anderton.
- 30 I went to Dungen-hall to advise with Cozen John Gelibrond about my Removall from hence. I called at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds where I dined, I found there his Mother-in-Law Mrs Wesby. Whilst I was there Mr Hesketh of the Maines came as did also Dr Frances Worthington.

JULY

- 1 Mr Livesley & one of his Doughters came to Dungenhall just when we had done dinner. Mr Clifton of Lithom and his Lady and 4 or 5 of their Children came to Lodg at Dungenhall as did also Mr Walmesley of the Lower-hall and his Lady.
- 2 We Dined in the Great Dinning Roome at Dungenhall. I walked in the Stone Gallery with Mr William Walmesley of the Lower-hall and Pat: Thomas Gerard.
- 3 Mr Clifton, Mr William Walmesley &c: went to dine at Stony-Hurst, I came home from Dungenhall & called at Ormskerk where I drunk with Mr Ashton, Mr Howet & Mr Robert Fazakerley. Coming home I stayed at Whitley Hills where I saw them rase up a Millstone.⁵⁷

⁵⁶ While at Chester on their way to Holywell they did some shopping:

	£	s.	d.
"Bought at Chester Faire, Muslin, Ribans, Gloves &c. for my Wife . . .	11	11	½
Shoes 2 Pair for Mally	1	8	
Iron Skivers for the Kitchen		10	
Spectacles by way of Preservasion	1	0	
Pouder 6 lbs—1s. Starch ½ a hundred 9s.	10	0	
Korks 3 Grose 1s. 6d. Sugarhorns 3s. 6d.	5	0	
Flower Roots & Whip Cording		8	
Pack Cloth for the Goods	1	2	
For ourselves, Servants & horses in all at Chester	14	10	
For ourselves, Servants & horses at the Inn in Hollywell, in all.	13	6	
To the Poor the last day.	1	0	
For my Wife & me going in the Well 5 times.	2	0	
Passing & repassing Leverpoole Water & spent at the Boat house.	1	11	

⁵⁷ The quarries at Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley, were noted for the stone which was excellent for making millstones.

- 4 Mr Poynes & Mrs Osboldston came hither from Ince. I payed Ailes Leigh olim Caterold £7-10s-0d. for Interest. I Chastised Lord Mountgarrets Hector⁵⁸ for Running at Sheep.
- 5 I Helped to bottle off about nine Dozen of Strong Aile, it was brued as I think the Middle of March, one half was Darby Malt. Mr Blundell of Ince and Mr Thomas Standley of Preston made a Viset here. I Received a Letter from Doctor Gerard with advice of my Aunts Death.
- 6 I Proposed to Richard Harrison to take a great Farme. I shewed him whot I design to set apart for my Gardiner.
- 7 Mr Scaresbrick, his Wife, and his Brother Thomas, &c: dined here. I Acquainted him with my Intention of making him Umpior between my Aunt Frances and me Relaiting to an abaitment for her Anuety of £25 p. Annum. Walter Thelwall led Slates with 17 Carts. A great Falling out with Thomas Gower.
- 8 I gave Cutings of Wall Frute to John Lurting and he shewed me how to Inoculat it being now a Proper time. Garden Well was dressed. My Wife and I drunk Syder at Walter Thelwalls after supper, she was extreemly ill in her Stomack & head when she went to bed.
- 9 Pat. Gelibrond dined here. I gave the Gardiner of Ince some Cuting of Wall Fruit, John Banister went to Ince to see him Inoculate. Ailes Tickley & Mrs Betty Wofold came to see my Wife.
- 10 My Wife rid Single to Mosburgh, she dined there. I led Turf with Boone Carts, I rid with Mally in Hu: Bullins Cart to the Turf Moss then she and I went to Bryan Bryanson thence to Thomas Blundells and so home. I Stated Accounts with Thomas Gower both for Wages & for whot he has disbursed for my use.
- 11 I writ Letters for most part of the day that are to goe by Post. Dr Lathòm dined here, I promised to return his Money from London he gave me a Bill for about seven Pound.
- 12 I got a Bill of Mr Clayton for which I gave him £96 tiss for my Mother and Sister Fanny, I drunk at Mr Claytons with him and Mr Tute. I payed Mr Eaton for some books I had bought of him at the Aucktion, I drunk with him & Mr Plumb at the Wool-pack, coming home I fell & hurt my head and side.
- 13 Being out of order with my Fall I lay most of the day. Mall Butler⁵⁹ left my Service, she went after Supper.
- 14 Mrs Bootle of the Peel came to Blood me for my fall, she dined here.
- 15 The Mason began to fix the trough under the Milkhou Sink. I ordered some Phisick for John Banister by the Direction of the York-Shire Doctor made of Wine & Seeds.
- 16 Ned Hawksey finished the trough for the Milkhou sink and fixed some flags in the Seller. The Flax in the Bark was pulled. I sent John Banister to Mrs Bootle for some Phisick for Mally.
- 17 Mally took some Phisick from Mrs Bootle but it worked little or none.

⁵⁸ A dog.

⁵⁹ The nursery maid.

I Redied⁶⁰ my Closet and fixed some Pictures &c: in the Gallery which had long been out of their places. John Banister & I layed up some things into the Lofts.

18 I Walked to the Hay-Makers in the Coppy, I brought Bess & her Colt home out of Arnolds heys. A swarm of Bees was put into the Mugg hive. Betty Atherton went away in a Passion but Returned againe.⁶¹

19 I helped Charles to cut Stakes of Apple-tree Bowes to set Bee hives on. Flax layed to reet in the Cross field Pit. Mr Tasburgh came hither with Mr Moston. Mally was sick.

20 I went to Ormskerk to take leave of my Lord Mountgarret ere he went for Ireland, but he was gon to Mosbourg[h] so I Lodged at my Lord Mountgarrets.

21 I discoursed Cozen Scaresbrick at my Lord Mountgarrets concerning an Abaitment by my Aunt Frances out of her Anuety of £25 and gave him a fowl drought of the State of the Accounts between my Aunt and me, I came home.

22 I Led Turves with Boon Carts. Widdow Eckleston dined here, Mrs Blundell came to see her. Mr Charls Butler dined here, he designs to take his Doughter Mall home with him tomorrow, she has now left my Service & is gon hence.

23 I Vewed Walter Thelwalls barn in order to see whether he had committed any Trespas upon John Tickle, I discoursed Thelwall and Tickle about it. My Wife rid behind me to the Grange but Mrs Molineux not being at home we went to the North end but neather Richard nor his Wife were at home. Thelwall & I looked at a Heffer that was Starkeys tis designed tomorrow for Leverpoole Fair.

24 I went to Ince with an Intention to goe to the Flowering of Ince Cross with Mr Blundell if he went, but he not being at home I came back. some of the Servants went to the Flowering of Ince Cross.⁶² My Wife rid out to Charls Howers.

25 My Wife, Mally, & I went to Leverpoole Fair⁶³, we eat some Cold Salmon &c: at Mr Plumbs, my Wife and Mrs Plumb made a Viset to Mrs Clayton, we bought some goods of Mr Hurst, it rained hard as we came home.

26 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for some Months past. I took two Letters that were designed to goe to my Lord Langdale.

27 Mrs Molineux of the Grang dined here. Betty Atherton left my Service and was suckseeded by Mary Thelwall. My Wife Lodged at Scarisbrick.

28 Going to Ormskerk I called at the Peel but neather Mr Bootle nor his Wife

⁶⁰ To ready or make tidy.

⁶¹ The dairy maid.

⁶² The traditional custom of decorating the village cross with flowers was usually held on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John [June 24]. It was made a joyful occasion when neighbours and friends could meet. Although Nicholas refers several times to the flowering of the cross at Ince Blundell and Great Crosby, there is no mention at all of the Cross at Little Crosby being flowered.

⁶³ "25 July—Fairings for the Servants 1s. 2d."

were at home. I dined at my Lord Mountgarrets with Cozen Selbys two Sons, Cozen Gelibrond & his Son, &c:.

29 I began to Shear Barly in the Bark.

30 I Drew my second Will it being something altered from my former, I also ingrosed it. Mr Gerard Barton came to Lodg here in order to keep my Fathers Aniversary.

31 I went to Leverpoole to take leave of my Lord Mountgarret when he went over the Water in order to goe for Ireland, he gave me his Will to keep. After his Lordship was gon I drunk at the Wool-pack with Pat: Gelibrond, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to Thomas Brownbills & sat some time with him. My Wife came home from Scarisbrick.

AUGUST

1 I went with Mr Gerard Barton to Mrs Anns where James Farer treated us, thence we went with him to Richard Ainsworths and stayed some time. My Wife finished her Letter to Mrs Mills in which she gave her an Account that Mrs Mills ought me £1-4s-3d.⁶⁴

2 I kept my Fathers Aniversary with six, there was Mr Thomas Scarisbrick, Mr Thomas Wofold &c:.

3 When Mr Moston was to goe hence his Mare was wanting so I sent him home on my horses, but his Mare being found soon after, I sent Charls with her to Lidiat, I sent Charls Howerd to Scarisbrick, Ormskerk and More hall.

4 I sent Walter Thelwall to look for Mounsiner Le Mote and to propose his taking of a good & convenient house well furnished for his Master.

5 My Wife intended to have met Mrs Wofold but hearing she could not meet her, my Wife went to James Lidiats but neather he nor his Wife was at home. Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here.

6 Cozen Edward Scarisbrick Senior came hither and brought Mr Aldred along with him to live here, Pat: Wofold came to see Mr Aldred.⁶⁵

7 My Wife, Cozen Edward Scarisbrick, Mr Aldred & I walked to Ince. Mr Aldreds Portmantle was brought hither from Ormskirk.

8 My Wife, Cozen Edward Scarisbrick, Mr Aldred and I went to the Grange, we found there one Mr Brockalds &c: Pat: Thomas Wofold treated us with Punch. My Wife Walked home by way of Richard Tickleys.

9 I walked with Mr Aldred into the Fields & shewed him some Pits he might fish in, I drew the Brickkill-hole with my Little Net in hopes to have take two Large Carps but the Net was too little.

⁶⁴ See September 26 1706. Mrs. Mills left, owing money. Since she would not send what she owed, Nicholas suggested she should pay the debt by sending them coffee. This she did not do and a bitter correspondence went on until July 1710, when Nicholas refused to send her a trunk which she had left at Crosby until the debt was settled. See December 20 1708.

⁶⁵ This was the priest sent to act as chaplain in place of Father Poyntz. Rev. Robert Aldred, S.J., was born in 1674 and was probably the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Aldred, of Norfolk. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1697. He became a great friend and companion of Nicholas, and was beloved by all. He remained at Little Crosby until his death on February 23 1728 and was buried in the Harkirk. His salary as chaplain was £2 a quarter.

- 10 Dr Francis Worthington dined here. My Wife & I went to Great Crosby to see Fanny she having now one Tooth.⁶⁶
- 11 Mr Tasburgh & Mr Moston dined here. Mr Syer and William Harrison &c: came a beging upon Account of a Fire in Ireland, I gave them six pence.⁶⁷ I went the first time with Mr Aldred to fish for Shoulers, we got some and bated Pickhooks⁶⁸ with them & layed them in the Carthous Pit, as we were busy at the Pit by Candle-light Ned Hatton called Mr Aldred to help Philip Syer who was in danger of death.
- 12 I fished with Mr Aldred the first time for Eles in the Carthous pit, we layed a line from the Island to the side & had very good Sport. Mr Aldred and I Plated at Night a very long line to tie Ele Hooks to.
- 13 Mr Aldred & I fished for Eles in the Carthous-pit. John Banister brought a Box from Leverpoole which came from London with my Wives Stayes & Mallys Cap.
- 14 I went to Ormeskirk, Cozen Scarisbrick desided at my Lord Mountgarrets the Difference that was between my Aunt Frances and me Concerning whot abaitment she was to make out of her Anuety of £25 p Annum towards the Land Tax & he ordered £4 p Annum to be baited by her. I payed John Heyes 11s. for Wapantag Rent for 1705 and 1706, William Anderton went with me from his house to Ormskerk, he was going towards Preston.
- 15 Mr Aldred & I went to Ince, he went to see Mr Aspinwall & I to wish Mr Blundell Joy of his fifth Daughter. Mary Molineux went away in a Passion & Stayed away all night.
- 16 I Nailed some Bordes over the Long side Window in the Maides Chamber. I mended the Bases of the Parlor Chamber Bed. John Banister layed up the Limback &c: in the Loft over the Green Chamber and layed up some things in the Store-house.
- 17 My Wife stood God-Mother for Mrs Eckleston to Mr Blundells fifth Doughter, she dined at Ince. I went to see Thomas Riding who was ill. I sent the Coach for my Aunt Frances, Cozen Munn Butler, & Cozen Mally Butler, they lodged here.
- 18 I Disgested some of Walter Thelwalls Accounts in order to engroce them.
- 19 I Went to Dr Lathoms and paid him £6 in part of £7 for a Bill which he gave me some time since upon Mr Cogg.
- 20 My Wife & Aunt Frances &c: went in the Coach to Leverpoole, Mr

⁶⁶ In letters written to his mother about this time, Nicholas, the fond father, gives brief sketches of his two daughters:

"My Doughter Mally has very often the Ague fits but is otherways a very healthfull Lively child, very nimble of her Feet but extreemly backward on her Tong, Franck comes on bravely." (Letter Book, p. 57, March 5 1707).

"Mally is now, God be praised, quit of her Ague and is a very fine babby continews still very like my Father, pray God mak her as good." (Letter Book, p. 62; July 12 1707).

⁶⁷ When some calamity occurred, such as fire or floods, permission was granted to take up a collection, usually in churches, to help sufferers in the disaster. This permission to collect was called a *church brief*. Here the parish clerk and a churchwarden of Sefton church were making such a collection.

⁶⁸ Pike-hooks.

Aldred and I went with them, he & I drunk with Mr Eaton at the Wool-pack.

- 21 Mr Aldred went to Lodg at Lidiat in order to goe tomorrow to Brin to meet the Provisiall. I took the Swarme of Bees at the back of the Garner.
- 22 I heard Robert Blundell swear very much in the Town Medow as he was Shearing Beans. Cozen Mun Butler and I fished for Eles, both before & after dinner, we took very few. John Banister got the Clanaboyes & Batchler Apples.
- 23 Cozen Mun Butler & I went to the Coppy to my Shearers of Barly, we went to see my Horses in Arnolds heyes. I drew out a good part of a Stomidger for my Wife which I had borrowed of Mrs Fazakerley.
- 24 Ailes Tickley dined here. Mr Wife and Aunt Frances went to the Grange. I went with Mr Aldred to see Philip Syer, we stayed till the Messinger came from Dr Worton.
- 25 Mrs Chantrell & Mrs Molineux of the Grange made a Viset here. Betty Blundell of the Car-Side came to preserve some Damsons for my Wife.
- 26 My Wife and Aunt Frances &c: went to Richard Tickleys. Mr Aldred & I went to see Mr Moston who was ill of an Ague. It was a most extream hot day & so was yesterday.
- 27 Mr Aldred & I took Charles Howerd with us to the Oaklands & ordered him to clens some Plases for us to fish in, thence Mr Aldred, Cozen Mun Butler & I went to Parson Wairings.
- 28 Mr Aldred and I fished in the Oaklands it being the first time we fished there, Cozen Mun Butler was with us. William Troughton mended the Green Vestment & vamped it up with Stript Red & whit Stuff.
- 29 I writ Letters to goe to the Post. I heard the Seege of Toloone was raised. Mary Brown would needs have gon away in a fret at Night though the Doars were Locked. Nan Skinner was scouring Puter then.
- 30 Mary Brown left her Service. Cozen Mun Butler and I fished for Shoulers in the Townfield. I cut the Neck in the Town Medow.
- 31 Edward Hatton had two Doughters Christoned here. Thomas Marrow Junior payed me £3 in part of his Fine. I sent Charls Howerd to the Post at Leverpoole with some Letters.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 My Aunt Frances went hence, she took Miss Mally Butler along with her. I sent them to Eckleston. Mr Aldred and I went a Coursing it being the first time this Season. I was Aguish all day almost. I sent Walter Thelwall to Hooton to Congratulate the Birth of Mr Standleys First Child it being a Son.
- 2 Some Whitlimers came to Whiten the Parlor & Paintry. Cozen Mun Butler helped me to set up some Bottles of Aile in my Seller.
- 3 I sent Cozen Mun Butler home to Ormskerk. Mr Aldred & I went to the Grange, we saw Mr Molineux & Mr Thomas Wofold, thence we went to Richard Tickleys thinking to look at a Mare of his, he was not at home, but one Mr Brokalds was there.

- 4 I Perused severall Letters from Graveling⁶⁹ & from their Correspondents. The Hive mouths were all fixed & Plaistered with Lime.
- 5 Part of the Mating in Mr Aldreds Chamber was taken down & some Rat Holes poyed which were behind it.⁷⁰ Mr Plumb came hither, we took a Glass of Aile in the Hall, the Parlor & the Paintry being durty.
- 6 I went to Leverpoole and Presented a Petition to Mr Hurst in behalf of Edward Porter &c: I payed Mr Hurst 13s. in full of all Accounts. I sent a Present of Apples &c: to Mr Clayton and Mr Houghton. I drunk with Mr Howet &c: I agreed with Mrs Edwardson to Seal her a New Leas. I brought Mrs Chantrell behind me to lodg here.⁷¹ One Collins an Irish man lodged here.
- 7 A Servant of William Cloughs the Younger came to Acquaint me that his Master was dead, I went to Ditton & Lodged there, I found John Wainwright &c:.
- 8 I came from Ditton, dined at Mr Plumbs at Leverpoole and brought him along with me to Lodg here.
- 9 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred, and I went a Coursing both before & after dinner. Mr Plumb, my Wife, &c: played at Cards after Supper.
- 10 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred, Captain Robert Fazakerley, & I Coursed before dinner, and after dinner we went to fish in the Oaklands but tooke onely one, My Wife & Mrs Chantrell were with us, Walter Thelwall was acoursing with us in the Morning thence he went to Formby to the Funerall of his Aunt. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined and lodged here. Mr Plumb went hence.
- 11 Mr Aldred & I fished in the Carthous pit. Captain Robert Fazakerley went & met Mr Blundell a Coursing in the Mosses, thence he came back hither and so went hence to Leverpoole. My Wife & Mrs Chantrell went to Ormskirk.
- 12 My Wife went to Leverpoole with Mrs Chantrill. I was out of order of a Cold, I walked to the Mill & took a nap in it. Thornton Smith brought a Mare of Henry Hunts for Mr Aldred to look at.
- 13 I went to Leverpoole met there John Wainwright & Mary Clough his Doughter, we discoursed about their Farming Ditton for one year. I discoursed the Maior about releasing Edward Porter. Mr Gorsuch came home with me from Leverpoole, he lost his way he lodged here. Wheat Seeding begun.
- 14 Though it was a Boystrous & Stormy day my Wife went to Southward upon a designe.⁷² Mr Blundell of Ince, Mr Fazakerley and their Wives made a Viset here as did also Mr Standley of Preston & Mrs Ann Blundell.
- 15 Mr Aldred and I dined at Ince, we went a Coursing with Mr Blundell and Cozen Robert Fazakerley and then went for a while to Querks; Mr Standley

⁶⁹ Probably letters from his sisters at Gravelines.

⁷⁰ To poy or purr—to beat or poke with a stick.

⁷¹ She sat behind him on his horse.

⁷² Southworth Hall, Winwick, was then occupied by a Mr. Golding, a Roman Catholic and a lawyer. It must have been a serious matter which would cause Mrs Blundell to go riding some distance on a boisterous stormy day. Obviously from some of the entries following this entry it had something to do with Father Aldred who was lodging at Crosby Hall. The fault lay with Mrs Blundell.

of Preston went a Seting. When I came home I found an Express from my Wife with a Letter concerning Mr Aldred.

16 I writ back to my Wife at Southward. I consulted Pat: G[elibrond] at the Angell, I came with him part of the way & then turned off to Dr Lathoms. Richard Harrison bracked.

17 I met Bob Nev & trodill pro concilio, coming home I found a Hare set.

18 Parson Wairing and Thomas Bolt came hither. Charles Howerd desired I would set him at liberty to serve Mr Robert Fazakerley if he could get the Place.

19 I sent Walter Thelwall to Southward with my 2d Letter to my Wife. Mr Aldred and I went to Richard Harrisons & John Farers. I took account from Mary Molineux of the Linnen she had in her charge. I Finished my Wheat Seeding.

20 I met Walter Thelwall at Leverpoole in his Return from Southward. I Sealed a Leas to Mrs Edwardson for 3 Lives she paid me £44. Mr Plumb treated me with French Wine. I drunk with Dr Tarlton, James Houghton and William Atherton. I payed 20s at the Exchange Coffy-hous for a Periwig.

21 Cozen Robert Fazakerley came hither. I gave Charles Howerd leave to goe see his Friends.

22 Thomas Riding payed me £3-10s-0d for a Fine. Mr Aldred went somewhere abroad. Mr Hammerton came to Lodg here and to discourse about the cause of the Seperation.⁷³

23 Whilst Mr Hammerton and I were at breackfast Dr Tarlton came to cource with me, when we had done Coursing we went to drink at John Johnsons, I gave the Dr a Hare which he gave to Parson Wairing. I Breaked my Flax. John Banister came from my Wife from the Outside.⁷⁴ Mr Hammerton went hence.

24 Mr Smith from Croston lodged here. Henry Sumner went to Strain upon some that were fined in my Court provided they Refused to pay.

25 Mr Smith & I Stated Accounts between my Brother Joseph⁷⁵ & me, I made him some Proposals for my paying his Poursion, Mr Smith went hence. Wm Atherton came hither and I Agreed to set my Demesney at Ditton to him for 12 years, Thelwall drew the Agreements in Short, but by mistake dated them as upon the 24th. I sent John Banister to the Outside to my Wife.

26 I made the Pump Court well be drest to look for a key of the Seller which A: Davy lost. I and other three sourted some Apples in the Storehous. I Examined my Ditton Disbursments for 1706 and set them down in Ditton Book. My Wife came home she had been at Southward and the Outside.

27 Old John Lunt desired I would forbear trobleing him for whot he owes me for some time, I shewed him my Hives & gave him some Winter-Cherrys.

⁷³ Nicholas discussed the disagreement between his wife and Father Aldred with Father Gelibrond and other friends, and eventually called in the Rev. Peter Barnes, alias Mr. Hammerton, to get his opinion. Meanwhile Father Aldred went to live elsewhere for a while.

⁷⁴ It would appear that Banister, the gardener, had been sent with a letter to Mrs. Blundell telling her what had been decided. Banister was now returning with her reply.

⁷⁵ Joseph was a Jesuit priest serving in Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

John Banister and the Weeders sourted the Remainder of the Apples in the Storehouse. I Stated Accounts with John Banister.

28 Mrs Blundell & Mrs Ann Blundell came to see my Wife. Mr Aldred and I went to Ince.

29 Wm Tompson payed me £4 in full of his Fine and I Sealed him a Leas.⁷⁶ I agreed with him for his Son to serve me.⁷⁷ John Blundell the Housright acquainted me that his Wife had taken a Nurs-Child which was a Bastard. Mr Aldred dined at Lidiat with Mr Andrew Moston &c.

30 Wm Fisher went along the Laines with me to seek for Run Sand. Henry Bridg mended some Saddles here for me. I Perused old Papers &c: in the Gallery. Charles Howerd left my Service & went to Mr Robert Fazakerleys. Jane Harrison left my Service & is suckceeded by Holcroft Bradley, she is to be my Wives Maid and Nursary Maid.

OCTOBER

1 I Perused old Acquittanses most part of the day in the Gallery. Richard Harrison brought a Gray Mare for Mr Aldred to look at.

2 I Wained 3 Calves and one Colt, I rid my Mare Bess to the Heale Bank and Crosby Marsh. I Payed the Land Tax to John Molineux for one Quarter. I removed the Joynted Hive & set it more firme. I removed two Hives from the Stone Garden to the Wall by the Kill. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here.

3 I sorted Apples by my self in the Store-house whilst John Banister and the Weeders got & gathered Apples.

4 Wm Gray set a New Lock upon the Seller doar. I went to Leverpoole. I told Mary Clough I should not admit her to continew my Tenant at Ditton. I payed Mr Houghton £90 for which he gave me one Bill of £60 and an other of £30. I drank with Mr Hurst at his Hous when it was dark.

5 My Wife writ in my Closet to my Lady Gerard at Hathrop. John Blundell Taylor payed me some Rent and earnestly desired I would loos with him from the bargain about the Reversion of his Brothers Teneament.

6 I Lead some Run-Sand from the Ford for my Flower knot, & also some muck and old Chips for the same use. The last of my Apples were gathered. The Jury met in the Townfield about seting out some wayes, I was with them part of the While, we discoursed about the Doostone thats set in Richard Harrisons But.⁷⁸ I fited up the Hair-Cloth.

7 Mr Aldred and I dined at Mr Plumbs at Leverpoole, thence we went to lodg at Hooton.

8 Sr Rowland Standley,⁷⁹ his Son, and I went to Poole town and drunk Claret at Sams.

9 Mr Standley, Mr Aldred and I went to Poole-Hall to see the Widdow.

⁷⁶ William Tompson, a mariner, had leased some Blundell land.

"Given William Tompson when he payed the last of his Fine 2s. 6d."

⁷⁷ Robert became ploughman at 15 shillings per quarter.

⁷⁸ A doostone was a kind of boundary stone or marker-stone.

⁷⁹ Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton, Cheshire.

- 10 Mr Aldred & I came from Hooton. Dr Tarlton treated us with Wine at his own house. Mr Plumb tried his Lamp with two Weeks.⁸⁰
- 11 I went to Leverpoole and signed Articles of Agreement between Wm Atherton and me for my Demesney of Ditton. Bradley went with me to Leverpoole, I saw Parson Wairing in Leverpoole, I came home part of the Way with Mr Thomas.
- 12 Mr Aldred and I went to William Thelwalls it being Crosby Goosfeast, we saw Lord Molineux his Running Horses going home from their Airing. My Wife walked to Ince.
- 13 Mr Plumb and Dr Tarlton came to Cource with me, whilst we were coursing Mr Bixter and Mr Syer of the Ford came to us, Mr Hurst & his Wife dined here but I was out a Coursing. Mr Plumb lodged here. John Banister got a Pumpion that grew here, it was above 32 lb. wight, the Sircumferance 3 Foot, five Inches & a half; and the Roundabout the longway was 4 Foot two Inches.
- 14 Mr Plumb kept my Court at Charles Howerds I was there, Edmund Trustram, Edward Hatton, &c: discoursed about the Tith of the Coppy &c:, we had a Tryall between William Wignold and George Marcer. Richard Harrison was very hot in the Court. Mr Plumb went hence.
- 15 I went to Bold⁸¹ to wate of Mr Molineux but he was gon a hunting, I dined there, Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh was there.
- 16 I Began to remove some of the Flowers in my Knot & set them in Earth prepared purposely for them. Pat: Wofold and Captain Robert Fazakerley were here.
- 17 I sent my Cart to Leverpoole with Apples which I sold for 2s-6d. p Buss:. I dressed my Gunn and after dinner Mr Aldred went out ashooting, it being the first time since he came hither. I was indisposed & lay upon the Floor before the Nursery Fyer.
- 18 I Fetched home two Load of Slates with my own Teames. I removed some more Flowers in my Knot. My Wife was very sick and much out of order in the Night, she vomitted extreamly.
- 19 Ann Tatlock acquainted me that her Husband had given a Note to my Aunt Frances for £3 she told me the true meaning thereof. Richard Cart-writ was here. I spoke to Philip Syer to make a Fire place in the Pantry.
- 20 Mr Aldred and I went a Coursing thence we went to Mr Wairings and eat some of his Goosfeast Cheer. John Tickle payed in my kitchen from Wm Wignold some Money to Henry Sumner for the use of Georg Marcer upon account of a Sute in my Court.
- 21 I sent Thelwall to Garswood to Congratulate the Bearth of their third Son, Mr Aldred went with him. I Filter'd some Phisick for Mr Tasburgh by directions of Mr Aldred. I helped John Banister to sort Apples which are to be sold at Leverpoole.
- 22 I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with a second Load of Apples. Wm Fisher & I took up Oaks & Ashes in the Stock-Roots that I thought not fit to grow there. The Weeders planted time in the Stock-Roots. I went to the

⁸⁰ Wicks.

⁸¹ Bold Hall.

Smithy & ordered Wm Gray to alter the Dogg-Cupples and make them into two pair, I went to him againe at Night & discoursed him about his not working for Richard Harrison.

23 I Clensed my Chamber Pendulum. Henry Sumner & I buried 4 Buss: of Broom seeds & their Cods in the Sand-hills. Knocking was heard 3 times between the hours of 9 & eleven at Night.

24 I Removed some Flowers out of the Knot into the Nursery. I was busy most of the day removing Flowers in the knot from one bed to an other. Walter Thelwall went to Lady Gilbertsons to sell his goods to make Money on to pay his Rent with to me.

25 Wm Fisher took up about seaven Hundred of Thornes, Thelwall helped me to trim them, John Banister and the Weeders set the tops of them round some Apple-Trees in the New Orchard to preserve them from being eat by Hares. Ann Howerd had one Bushell of Apples for three shillings.

26 There were 75 Persons at Vespers. I writ a good part of a Letter to my Sisters at Gravelines. My Wife went to Lidiat, it was a very sharp cold Evening.

27 Philip Syer began to make a Fier place in the Paintry. Richard Howerd fited some Iron Screws to the Parlor Windows. I began to draw out the Colledg of St Omer. I mended the Larom.⁸² Five Fat Beas[ts] were taken into the hous.

28 My Wife and I went to Querks to see a Stage-Play acted, we called at the Hall of Ince & Mr Blundell went along with us, we onely stayed part of it; there was Richard Tickley, Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Robert Chantrell, and their Wives, Richard Bryanson &c.: Mr Scarisbricks Servant brought me to Querks some Interest Money from his Master twas due to me & others.

29 I Payed Richard Bryanson some Interest from Mr Scarisbrick twas due to Bryan Bryanson & to John Bryanson. John Banister helped Mr Aldred to put up part of the Mating in his Chamber, they did not finish it.

30 I was busy most part of the day in drawing out part of the Collage of St Omers.

31 Towards Evening when I was tyred with drawing part of St Omer Collage I took out the Grewhounds & looked for a Hare in the Crow-Orcherd, Padock, &c: but found none.

NOVEMBER

1 This being my Wives birth-day, Wm Anderton played here at Night, we had Carding also, I carded with them there was, Abraham, Coxhead, Philip Syer, Walter Thelwall, &c:.

2 Mr Howet dined here. I spoke to Wm Tompson to send his Son to serve me.

3 Wm Fisher left my Service and was Suckceed by Robert Tompson. Mr Aldred & I went a coursing. Philip Syer finished the fire-place in the Paintry.

4 Thelwall told me my Lord Molineux went from Warington towards

⁸² Alarm clock.

Bardsy. The Legg of Mutton taken by Swift. Philip Syer paved in the Swine Coat.

5 I helped to bottle about 4 dozen of Ail. Mr Aldred and I went acoursing, we went to Ince, but neather Mr Blundell nor Mr Tasburg being at home we went to the New-hous⁸³ &c: to look for Mr Tasburg but found him not.

6 Mary Howerd heard a Voyce which sayed 3 times distinctly *Pray for me*. I went into this Town & Great Crosby to desire the People would come to pray for the Dead in the Evening. Many came & we began the Dearge.⁸⁴ Mr Richardson from Dutton Lodg, Mr Moston & Mr Tasburg Lodged here.

7 We said 4 Masses and the Office for the Dead. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond sent me some Achhorns and by the same Messinger I sent him some Lawrell and Bay-Trees, &c:.

8 My Wife, Mr Richardson and I went to Leverpoole, I bought some Brandy at Mr Earls for Cozen Scarisbrick and my self, a Woman demanded tole for it, I brought her before Mr Maior who said I was not to pay any thing. Mr Golding came home with us, he lodged here.

9 Mr Aldred and Mr Richardson went to Ince, I stayed at home. Pat: Wofold & Mr Molineux of the Grange came hither. We had 217 at Prayers.

10 Mr Richardson and Mr Golding went hence. I went to John Bryansons who was planting Thornes in the Wheathey Cop.

11 My Wife, Mr Aldred & I went to Leverpoole Fair, I tasted some Wine & Brandy at Swarbericks, he gave us a treat of Sturgeon. There came a black dogg home with us.

12 Mr Aldred and I met Mr Blundell a Coursing, we went towards Thornton. John Banister buried about 3 Busshell of Achhorns in one Grave, and some Heps & Chats of Ashes in an other Grave.

13 I went to Ormskirk to see my Aunt, I dined there with Mr Wofold, Mrs Hesketh of Rufford &c:. Mr Fazakerley and his Wife gave me an Account of Charles Howerd. I paid for a pair of Spit-Boots, Richard Robinson was present at the Eagle & Child.

14 I Stated accounts with Laurence Gilbertson. I helped John Bryanson to take up some Trees for planting in the Hedges. Mally heard some knocking.

15 I began to make use of some Yellow Ink for my Drought of St Omers. I and Walter Thelwall looked at about 40 Sheep in the Little-Moss-hey which were new bought, they were removed to the Coppy.

16 I discoursed Laurence Gilbertson and John Blundell about the debts which I purchased of John Blundell, I payed 6s. to Mrs Ann Rothwell in presence of James Farer, it was upon account of Laurence Gilbertson.

⁸³ In 1701 Father Babthorpe and Father Henry Tasburgh built a house in Ince Blundell to be used as a boarding school for Roman Catholic children. This became known as the *New House*. It was never used as a school, but became the residence of Jesuit priests, particularly those serving the Formby mission.

⁸⁴ See October 10 1706; February 17, June 22, and October 23 1707. Mysterious noises had been heard on several occasions at the Hall. Here Nicholas seems to be taking steps to exorcise whatever it was causing the trouble.

- 17 Ralph Starkey & John Blundell came to discours me about taking part of Laurence Gilbertsons Teneament. I went a Coursing with Mr Aldred to get some Hares to be potted for him to send to London, we killed a Lashe, Thelwall & Ned Hatton were with us.
- 18 Mr Aldred & I went a Coursing before dinner, we killed a Brace of Hares. I paid Wm Harrison 26s for all my small Tiths as usuall by way of a Composition. Mr Thomas Wofold was here, he told Mr Aldred that Mr Babthrop was comne to the New-house, they went to see him. Mr Smith of Croston came to lodg here.
- 19 Mr Smith & Mr Aldred dined with Mr Babthrop at the New-house. John Bryanson planted Oaks & Ash between the Crow-Orchard and the Padock. I lent John Jackson some Instruments for Mesureing Ground with.
- 20 Mr Smith went hence. I fixed up some Maps & Pictures in the Paintry.
- 21 Gilbertson told me he was taken by a Bayly at Ormskirk. John Banister took up some Suckers of Great Nuts. Mr Aldred helped me to set four Raysors.
- 22 I worked both before & after dinner at my Drought of St Omers Collage, I shewed it to Wm Gray when he came to mend the Grate in the Parlor Chamber.
- 23 Cozen Scarisbrick sent his Servant to let my Wife & me know that his Wife was delivered of a Doughter and to desire us to come on Tuesday to the Christoning. Walter Thelwalls Spaniell came.
- 24 Mr Darcy Chantrell & his Brother Robert came hither but they did not dine. Mr Aldred and I went to see Parson Wairing but he not being at home we went to the Chappell where John Jackson was teaching to writ, this was the first day that John Banister went to Jackson to learn to writ.
- 25 My Wife and I went to Scarisbrick to Christon Frances their third Doughter, my Wife was God-Mother and I stood for my Lord Mountgarret, coming home we called at Ormskirk to see my Aunt Frances, My Wife fell of her hors coming home and hurt her Arme.
- 26 My Wife & I went to Great Crosby to see Fanny, we went to Jacksons the writing Schoole, John Jackson brought me home some Instruments as I had lent him for Mesureing Ground, he Suped here.
- 27 My Wife went to the Car side about a Cook. Mr Aldred, John Farer & I went a Coursing.
- 28 I went to the Newhous to make my first Viset to Mr Babthrop, Mr Aldred went with me. I began to mend a Huswife Net that was much eaten by Rats or Mise.
- 29 I went to Leverpoole, I gave to Mr Morecroft & Mr Alanson each of them a Hare, I paid Mr Alanson for Nailles, Toolles, &c.; I paid Swarberick for Brandy and Vinegar. I drunk with Mr Morecroft, Mr Sandeford, Parson Wairing &c: I think it was at Smiths near the Exchange. Parson Wairing & I came home together.
- 30 Mr Blundell made a Viset here. I Received a Letter from my Cozen William Eyre with an Account that my Mother was dangerously ill.

DECEMBER

- 1 Pat: Gelibrond came hither being sent for by my Wife, he dined & lodged here, after dinner he & Mr Aldred went to Ince, they came not back till after Supper.
- 2 Pat Gelibrond went hence. I could not prevale with him to hear the discourse about Leige, he & Mr Aldred went to see Richard Harrison who was not well, In the Evening I went to see Richard Harrison. I worked at my Huswife Net to mend it.
- 3 My Wife dined at Burchley, Mr Aldred and I got the Schoolboys at Great-Crosby leave to play, we took Parson Wairing to Nicholas Johnsons & treated him, some little discours about Priests not Marrying.
- 4 John Bryanson took up Oaks, Ash, Thornes, & Plain-trees for planting in Hedges. My Wife being out-of-order I set by her part of the after-noone. Bradley cut of the Hare of my Head.
- 5 I went to the New-hous and desired Mr Babthrop (who was in his exercise) that Mr Aldred might take an other tryall ere he was ordered to leave us. Mr Aldred went into his Exercise.
- 6 I sent John Banister to the Funerall of Ezabell Bushall, it was a most Tempestuous day. Mrs Pooles Servant of Burchley Richard Whittle came to see how my Wife got home from thence, she sent a Present of Apples by him to Burchley. It was so tempestius a Night that Walter Thelwall stayd at Leverpoole.
- 7 My Wife writ in the paintry. I writ Letters in my Closet. Banister writ in the Gallery.
- 8 I & Robert Tompson got some Ash chats off the young Trees about this hous. I sent John Banister to Scarisbrick, Gorsuch and Ormskirk, it was a Stormy day.
- 9 I Rid out to see whot hurt was done in the Coppy & at the Barn by the Sand & Wind the last Storme, thence I went to the Moorehouses & ordered most of the Tenants to Bring some Boone Hens, I Stayed some time at Bryan Bryansons.
- 10 I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with 6 Buss: of Apples, he sold them for 4s p. Buss:. I worked most part of the day at my Huswife Net to mend it. I mended Pens after dinner in the Paintry.
- 11 I helped John Banister to take up some Lawrell Trees in the Great Courts & ordered him to set some Holy-Oaks, Mr Tasbrough came to Mr Aldred, he being in his Exercise. I went into the Town to see Richard Harrison & Wm Davy who were sick.
- 12 Wm Barton took the Rowell out of Button, Edmund Trustrom payed me 34s which I had sent for him to his Sister. My Wife went to see Fanny she being not well, I went on horsback to fetch my Wife home. Pat: Wofold was here.
- 13 Before dinner I helped John Banister to plant some Lawrell Trees about the Arbor, and after dinner we set Tulop Roots in the Knot, in the Back-Courts &c: and some small Chives in the Nurserv.

- 14 Pat: Wofold dined here. Mr Plumb lodged here, I was walked out into the Town & came not in till he had been here a good while.
- 15 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred & I took down the Bed & Most of the Hangings in the Parlor Chamber, we looked about then for Rats and Kill'd two. Mr Aldred & I played at Chess. Though it was a very wet day we went to Course a Hare that was found set in Rises Heyes, we played at Cards after Supper.
- 16 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred & I went a Fowling in the Morning to the Marsh and the Sea Side, we came not home till about two of the Clock. Mr Plumb went hence.
- 17 I put up some Lines in the Gallery to Hang Linnen on to dry. I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with six Busshells of Apples.
- 18 Doctor Tarlton⁸⁵ came to Great Crosby and sent to borrow my Grew-hounds, I sent Walter Thelwall to him. Cozen John Gelibrond came hither when we had dined, after he had got some thing to eat I went with him to Mrs Blackbourns hous. Some of the Chimneys below Stayers were swept.
- 19 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence with an Intention to dine at Scarisbrick with Sir Wm Gerard, I gave him all the Bonds I had that belonged to Doctor Gerard. I received an Account of my Mothers death.⁸⁶ Mr Aldred, Thelwall & I &c: fixed the Teaster of the Bead in the Parlor Chaimber. I Clensed part of my Closet.
- 20 My Wife and I went to Leverpoole to buy Mourning for my Mother, we bought it at Mr Hursts, and some Musline &c: at Mr Morecrofts.⁸⁷ Some of my Ditton Tennants were at our Inn, my Wife came up to them. I was fourced to lye down ere I durst venture to ride Home.
- 21 I went to the Mill & finding a great number of Baggs with Ground corn in, we counted them & there were just 100 besides nine that were but nuly carried away, there was not one Bag to grind.
- 22 Nicholas Johnson &c: came to make Mourning for me &c: upon account of my Mother.⁸⁸ I went to get some more Taylors against tomorrow but none came. Most of the Morehous Tennants brought some Rent Hens.
- 23 I went to the Smithy with Mr Aldred & help'd him to grind Skates, whilst we were there Wm Gray docked Buck & Burned him for the Lampreys. A Taylor from Leverpoole brought home my Wives Mourning for my Mother. I gave Wm Thelwall some Secamore Trees for Planting. I was very busy Clensing my Closet.
- 24 I helped Robert to carry Bottles while Banister layed them up over the

⁸⁵ Doctor Tarlton, son of Captain Edward Tarlton, of Liverpool, was an intimate friend of the Diarist and was often consulted in cases of illness.

⁸⁶ Died November 21 1707 while serving as a nun in the English Benedictine Convent at Ghent.

	£	s.	d.
⁸⁷ "10 January 1708—Paid Mr Morecroft for Muslin &c: for Mourning for my Mother	1	1	0
When I had Prayers for my Mother	2	10	0
7 February 1708—Paid Mr Hurst in Part of a Shop Debt	5	0	0"
⁸⁸ "4 January 1708—Nicholas Johnson for Taylors Work	17	3	3"

Seller, I finished my Drought of St Omers Collage. I knock'd Lead Sparr which I intend to lay for the Rats. I buried Ash-Chats in the Long Garden.

25 I writ some Letters to my Friends to Acquaint them with the Death of my Mother. Laurance Gilberson sang here very Long.

26 Thomas Kerfoot paid me £4-12s-0d in part for his Rack Rent for the year 1705. I sent Henry Gray to the Post Office⁸⁹, he brought 12 Letters for this Family &c: Mr Aldred's Hands were burned in the Hall with Gun Powder.

27 Richard Norris dined here, I discoursed him about his Leasing for Mrs Bleackburnes if I fortun'd to buy it, I sent Walter Thelwall with him to look at Mrs Blackburn's land. James Steward dined here, he came to sell Books. Cozen Gelibrond and his Wife Lodg'd here.

28 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, I, & oure Wives went in the Coach to Ince, we suped there.

29 Mr Wairing dined here, I invited him because Cozen Thomas Gelibrond was here. After Dinner Cozen Gelibrond, I & our Wives played at Cards.

30 Cozen Gelibrond, I and our Wives went in the Coach to Leverpoole, Mr Aldred went along with us, Just before we were going Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither from Leverpoole, we shewed our Wives the Sugar house. Mr Plumb & Captain Robert Fazakerley came to us to the Wool pack.

31 William Anderton and Richard Tatlock played here, we had a Merry-Night, severall of Ince Servants were here.

⁸⁹ At Liverpool.

Anno Domini 1708

JANUARY

- 1 Cozen Gelibrond, his Wife, Mr Aldred and I play'd at Cards, I think my Wife played not with us till after Supper. Most of my Servants if not all went to Ince to the Merry Night. Richard Robinson lodged here.
- 2 Cozen Gelibrond, I & our Wives played at Cards after dinner, & talked after Supper. Richard Robinson went hence so did Mary Molineux, Banisters Father & some others that lodged here.
- 3 Gozen Gelibrond and his Wife went hence, they designed to lodg at Ormskirk. Pat: Gelibrond dined here, he went hence & designed to go to Leverpoole, John Banister and I Looked to see in whot condition the Bees were in, we found three Hives dead, we took the Combs out of two of them. John Molineux the overseear of the Poore acquainted me there was danger of us being charged with a Woman with Child from Formby.
- 4 My Wife went to prayers to Leverpoole to Pat: Gelibrond at Mr Lancasters.¹ I counted 32 Boyes and Girles at Catechismey after Vespers. I payed Nicholas Johnson for Taylors work 17s-3d. My Wife & I went to see Fanny, I think she is ill of an Ague.
- 5 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here. I helped John Banister to bottle off a Rundlet of Aile. I Mixed Spar for Rats, some with Oate-Meal and some with Butter.
- 6 Mr Roger Bryers dined here. My Wife writ in my Closet.
- 7 I and Mally went to Richard Harrisons to eate some Christmass Cheer. Walter Thelwall came home from Dungenhall, he had been to discourse Cozen Gelibrond about the Purchass of Mrs Blaickbournes Land.
- 8 I Let John Banister goe home to stay one night. Cozen Hesketh the Widdow came to Lodg here. I finished mending the Huswife Net. Gilberson and I took up some Trees for John Bryanson to plant.
- 9 I killed a Large Hogg. I made a Cradle for my Stone-bow. I sent Walter Thelwall to Preston to meet Cozen Gelibrond about buying Mrs Blackbourns Estate.
- 10 I went to Leverpoole & payed Mr Morecroft for some things my Wife had bought on him, for Mourning for my Mother. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Dr Tarlton & Parson Wairing, Parson Wairing & I came home together.
- 11 Mrs Blundell came to see Cozen Hesketh, she suped here. Pat: Wofold made a Viset here.
- 12 I shewed John Banister where to make holes in the New Orchard to plant Wall nut Trees in. Mr Aldred & I went to the Smithy to get one of the London Guns clensed that had lain by long with out being used. I shot a Hawk in the Crow Orchard & Mr Aldred shot some Larks.

¹ When Father William Gillibrand, S.J., became the first resident Roman Catholic priest on December 2 1707 he lived with John Lancaster, a grocer, in the newly-built North John Street. Mass was said in one of the rooms of the house.

- 13 My Wife, Cozen Hesketh and I went in the Coach to Ince, we dined there, Mr Aldred was also there, he & I played there at Tables, Mr Blundell was not at home.
- 14 I had prayers for my Mother with five Sacerdotal. Mr Hunter² from Stonyhurst dined here. Richard Jackson the Inn-keeper in Preston came along with him.
- 15 Mr Aldred & I marked out places where Fur trees were to be planted in the Bleaching Yard &c., we with some help took away the Doar & Stone from the Long Garden. Cozen Hesketh went hence, I sent her to Morehalle.
- 16 I called on my Aunt at Ormeskirk, went thence to Preston, I Suped with Mr Wairing Curat of Garstang, Mr Leomond payed me the Interest for Mrs Ellen Fazakerley. Mary Pilkington came to be my Cook.
- 17 I discoursed Mrs Blaickbourn in Presence of Lawier Starkey about my Buying her Estate, Walter Thelwall concluded the Bargan. I made a Viset to Widdow Blundell & Mrs Standley at Preston, I called at Ormskirk to Acquaint my Aunt whot I had done in order to my Purchas & so came home.
- 18 I went to Richard Molineux & acquainted him that I had bought Mrs Blackbourns Estate, he told me he would not goe off it till Candlemas come twelve Month. John Kerpy and Elizabeth Py came to be Married but Mr Aldred being gon to Lidiat to see Sr Pierce Mostons Son, they stay'd till he came after Super, & then were Married.
- 19 Richard Norris came to discourse me about fining for Mrs Blackbourns;³ Laurance Formby came with him, Thomas Riding discoursed me about the same Business in behalf of Richard Whithead. John Banister began to make holes in the Bleaching Yard to Plant Furtrees in. Nanny Davy left her Service.
- 20 I met the Corps of James Davys Wife, I went with it as far as Andertons & there I Called to see how William Andertons Shoulder did. I sold some Apples to Richard Ridings Wife, she and Ann Howerd discoursed me about taking the Warand.
- 21 We planted an Avenew of Fur Trees through the Bleaching Yard & Long Garden; we transplanted some larg Apple Trees.
- 22 John Bryanson planted Fur trees in the More-Hey-Lain in the Cop, I first Mesured and set out the distance, he planted one side of the Lane & part of the other.
- 23 Gilbertson, Banister and I took up Oak & Ash &c: to be planted by John Bryanson, we also took up Pairs & Apple Trees to be planted in the New-Orcherd, in the place of those which did not doe well, John Banister took up Suckers from the Wall-Frute-Trees, they are to be set in the Nursery for Grafting in. Gilbertson and I took up about 100 Oaks & Ash in the Stock-root that did not doe well & others are to be set in their plases. Mr Aldred & I layed the Huswife Net in the long-pit i'th Oak-lands but took nothing.
- 24 Dr Bradley, his Son & Mr Howet dined here, they went hence to Leverpoole; I helped William Gray to mark the Pounds on a Paire of Trones.⁴

² Father Thomas Hunter, S.J., born in Northumberland on June 6 1666, died February 21 1725. Chaplain to the Shireburnes of Stonyhurst.

³ Richard Norris wished to lease the land Nicholas had just acquired.

⁴ A weighing machine or pair of scales for weighing merchandise.

- 25 Bradley went to Ormskirk to see her Father. John Blundell and his Sister Nelly discoursed me about their Affairs in Leland.
- 26 I Leased the Moss-Side (which formerly belonged to John Johnson) to Richard Norris, we signed the Artickles of Agreement.
- 27 My Wife went to Ormskirk. I helped Mr Aldred both before and after Supper to fit up Skates with strings &c: Thomas Kerfoot and William Wignold payed me the Rent for my Warand for the year 1707. I and Walter Thelwall met Richard Norris and Richard Whithead at the Moss-Side Hous, we vewed the Orchard &c:, neather Richard Molineux nor his Wife were at home, Richard Norris & I gave the Artickleys of Agreement to Richard Whithead to keep between us, Mr Aldred went along with us, he shot a Bittern &c: Banister and Bryanson Planted 135 Ashes & some Oaks in the Stock-Roots, Gilbertson took up most of them & carried them to be Planted.
- 28 Mr Aldred and I went a Skating to the Marsh, we found very little Ice that would bear. Mr Aldred and I fixed my Large Chaff-Nets in the Flat for small Birds but took none. Pat: Green Suped here & went hence to Ince.
- 29 Mr Aldred & I went a Skaiting, John Banister went with us, he got a great fall, William Tarlton was with us, he put on the Skates. John Wainright came to Acquaint me he could not pay any Money yet, so begged more time and promised to pay all before he went off my Estate at Ditton. John Farer brought me a Letter from Ormskirk, he being tiered I let him sit and smoke in the Paintry, I promised him to give Ned Howerd some Tiles and Slates towards fitting up his hous.
- 30 Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Leverpoole, he stayed to Smok a Pipe. I Fixed the Maiden up in the Kitchen.
- 31 It being a fine Frost Walter Thelwall walked to Leverpoole I went after dinner to Leverpoole, I drunk with Mr Chorley the Haberdasher at the Wool-pack, we discoursed about Shearing & ordering of Rabet Skins & about Mr Leadbeter, Ralph Tyarer was with us part of the time. Mr Plumb gave me a Bottle of good Claret in his office, coming home I overtook John Poole &c: of Formby. I call'd at Parson Wairing but he was gon to Chorley.

FEBRUARY

- 1 My Wife and Bradley walked to Lidiate & back. Mr Aldred and I Skated at Formospoole, there was with us Thomas Kerfoot, Mary Pilkington, Mary Howerd, Mar: Darby & severall Boyes.
- 2 Mr Aldred and I went Skating to Formospoole, there was present John Jackson, Hugh Bullen, and severall Boyes, when we came home Philip Syer practised to Skate of the Hors-poole & Carthous-pit. Mrs Blundells Doughter Bridget and Mr John Blundells Doughter Barbera were here.
- 3 Mr Aldred & I made up a Shod-Sledg or Tronow, My Wife, Bradley, &c: went with us to Formos-poole & rid in it. Mr Aldred & I desided the difference between Henry Bridg and William Davy the Skinner.
- 4 My Wife and I went to Mosburgh to see Cozen Eyre & his Sister Margaret, we dined there with them, Mr Standley of Hooton, Mr Wofold, &c:.

- 5 I went to see Edmund Trustrom who was ill, coming home I called to see Mr Blundell. Thomas Gregson lodged here.
- 6 I Peruesed John Blundells Accounts relaiting to his Layland Affairs. I sent Walter Thelwall to seas upon Rises Heyes from William Davy⁵ Mr Aldred fixed a back to the Sledg or Trenow, we went with it to Formos-poole, the Maids went with us, we sent home for two Gunns to shoot wild Gees, but we killed none.
- 7 My Wife & three Servants walked to Leverpoole, I walked after them & Shot at the Sea-side. I called to look at the Oyl mill, My Wife, &c: was come to Leverpoole before me, we all dined there at the wool-pack, My Wife & I went to Mr Hursts, ere we came out of Town Mr Plumb came to us & profered us a horse but we did not accept of it.
- 8 Mr Aldred & I went to Formosspoole & Skaited a little & then came home, I left my Skates with Charls Howerd to practise with. Mr Plumb lodged here, he tryed to goe on Skates on the Carthous pit.
- 9 Mr Aldred, Mr Plumb, I & Thelwall went a Fowling, some got little & others nothing. Mr Moston dined here, he and Mr Aldred played at Chess; in the Evening Mr Aldred, Mr Plumb and I went with our Gunns to the Marsh but killed nothing, My Wife played at Whisk⁶ with us after Supper.
- 10 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred & I went a Skating to Formosspoole, we took our Gunns with us but to little Purpose. Mr Plumb went hence. John Rigby came to back & Pace Snowball.
- 11 One Ailes Rowcroft (as I take it) came to dress Fethers for me.⁷ I went to Sefton Church and met Mr Syer the Churchwarden about some lead-work that was done on the top of the Church over my Buriall-Place. I drunk in the Ail-house with him. Captain Cros-man, Ralf Low &c: John Farcloughs Prentice came and fited some Hoops for the Bell Goosberry and Curron Trees. Thomas Kerfoot and William Wignold came & discoursed me about taking my Warand, we partly agreed. I sold my Colt Steel to John Sumner.
- 12 John Banister & I took up some Oak and Ash for John Bryanson to plant in the Stock-Roots, we also took up some Oak and Ash in the Stock-Roots that were not worth growing & layed others to be set in their Roome. John Banister planted most of the Sliping of Cornelions which he had got at Sefton.
- 13 I helped John Banister & Bryanson to take up some larg Plain Trees that are to goe tomorrow to Leverpoole. John Wainright paid me £22-10s-0d. upon account of Ditton Rack.
- 14 Mr Aldred and I went to Leverpoole I paid £5 to Mr Hursts Prentice for the use of his Master in part of whot I ought him. I Stated accounts with Mr Henry Chorley relating to the Accounts between Mr Leadbeter & me.
- 15 Cozen Eyres Son of Hasop & Cozen Robert Molineux of Mosburgh dined here.
- 16 I prepaired Cutings of Withens & helped John Banister to plant them on a Bed in the Long Garden, John Banister planted Wall-Nut-Trees in the New

⁵ See April 25 1705 and June 22 1708 and footnote.

⁶ Earlier name for *whist*.

⁷ "11 February 1708—Dressing Fethers at 20 Pound for 16d. . . . 1s. 8d."

Grounds. John Sumner paid me for my Colt Steel. Parson Wairing and William Tarlton came to discours me about an exchange of Ground between them.

- 17 My Wife & I saw them throw at the Cock in the Townfield,⁸ we went to see Fanny at Nurs, she is not well.
- 18 I Drunk at Charls Howers with Mr Molineux of the Grange, Richard Tickley and the Waranders, I made there a Shamm Bargan for my Warand.
- 19 Pat: Wofold was here. Mr Aldred and I began to Stake the Island in the Carthous Pit round with Withens.
- 20 I was with the ditchers in the Oaklands both before and after dinner a Considerable time. Mr Aldred & I plumbed the three Pits in the Oaklands which I design to drain, & we took a levall to try whot fall they would have, thence we went to Ned Howerds & took Ned Spencer home with us & Shewed him part of a Wanscot Bed for Mr Aldred.
- 21 Mr Aldred & I took part of some Bedstocks from over the Servants Chamber. Mr John Gorsuch that wates of my Lady Molineux was here. I went twice to the Ditchers i'th Oaklands. Bryanson planted Oak and Ash, I think this will be the last days planting this Season.
- 22 I spoke to Richard Molineux & his Wife in the Dayry about their not leaving the Moss Side. I bought some Tobacco of Mrs Ann & cut some of it to give to my Ditchers.
- 23 Leversage the Haberdasher brought a Hat hither for Mr Aldred. I went to the Moss Side to Richard Molineux his to meet Richard Tickley, but he came not, but Richard Norris came & we discoursed the Matter about Richard Molineux his staying at that hous, thence I went to the seters of Starr, thence to see Edmund Trustrom.
- 24 Whilst Mr Aldred and I were prepairing Stakes for to set round the Island in the Carthous Pit Pat: Gelibrond came hither, he went hence to Leverpoole, we went along with him to Ned Howerds & shewed him the Chappell,⁹ thence Mr Aldred and I went to the Ditchers in the Oaklands to see whot Progress they had made.
- 25 I dined at Scaresbrick, it being Mr Scarisbricks Birthday, I came home through Ormeskerk & made a Viset to my Aunt Frances, to Mr Howets & to Margarit Barton.
- 26 I had eight Ditchers in the Oaklands in order to drain some Pits but it raining towards noone they went off.

⁸ Throwing at the cock was a popular but barbarous sport usually practised on Shrove Tuesday. Sir Thomas More speaks of his skill in casting a cock-stele, which was the stick or cudgel thrown at the cock until it was dead. If the bird was lamed then splints were tied to its legs so that the sport could continue. Cock-throwing was popular at fairs. Later it was forbidden to throw at live cocks, and instead wooden cock's heads on stands weighted with lead were used.

⁹ As a result of the disagreement between Mrs. Blundell and Father Aldred, Nicholas decided to set apart a cottage in the village of Little Crosby as a house for Father Aldred and as a chapel. He chose Ned Howerd's cottage. Ned Howerd was a privileged tenant. The Cavalier made a note in his Tenants Book in 1665 that because of the long and faithful service of John Howerd and his uncle, Edward Denton, he wished his heirs to show particular favour to their children. Nicholas faithfully carried out this instruction, and John Howerd's son, Ned, received exceptional treatment and was on close and friendly terms with Nicholas. The cottage still remains in the village, very little changed. This entry in the Diary records that work has begun on the cottage to make part of it into a chapel.

- 27 Joseph Rigby went hence, he has Broak and Paised my Mare Snowball. Mr Walmesley of Showley¹⁰ came hither whilst we were at Dinner.
- 28 We set the New pit i'th Oaklands a running. Mr Aldred dined abroad.
- 29 I Received a Long Letter from my three Sisters at Gravelings. Mr Bower came hither & heard Mr Aldred hold forth, I shewed him some of my Plantations &c:, I walked out and read.

MARCH

- 1 I gave James Shepperd 100 of Quicksets for Margery Shepperd. I took a Weesley in a Trap in the Henn-hous.
- 2 We Finished the deep Ditch that is to drain the Pits i'th Oaklands, I took home 8 of my Workmen & gave them drink i'th Hall and payed some of them their Hire. Mr Aldred & I fited up one of the Small Chaff nets with Hoops & prepaired with a Chew to set in the Stream to stop the Fish whilst the Pits Runn off, Mr Aldred and I went after dinner to the Workmen at'h Oaklands Ditch thence we went to Mr Wairings, he told us his Son was in danger to loose his Passage for Ireland the Ship being gon & he was fourced to ride after her on Shore and so get on Borde if he could. John Blundell Taylor made a Complaint to me how Mr Blundell had use'd him about Mary Fleetwoods Muck. Robert Wackfield the Wheelright worked here. I expected Mr Plumb to come to our Fishing and lodg here but he not coming along with Thelwall I sent John Banister to seek for him, he went to Leverpoole and lodged there.
- 3 We let of a good deale of the Long Pit i'th Oaklands, we took one large Eele, my Wife was with us. I went home from the Pits with Darby and John Molineux¹¹ &c: to signe a Leas to Darby of Starkeys Living, but when it came to the Pinch, John Molineux would not let Darby have any Money.
- 4 My Wife went to Ormeskerk. We drained one end of the Long Pit i'th Oaklands and drew the Clates of with a Harrow, the other end having Water in it we drew it with my Drought Net, we took some Breames & a few Tench, I put some of them into the Carthous pit and Horspoole, the Maides were with us part of the time, so was Mr Thomas & Thomas Gower, Parson Wairing came to us ere we had done.
- 5 A Poore Irish Man was here, I think he was a Lay Brother and a Fryer. Mr Aldred and I went to the Oaklands Pit but the Workmen went on so slowly by reason of the earth often falling in that we made no great progress today.
- 6 We made use the first time of the Long Scope hung in a Sling to lave the Long Pit i'th Oaklands, when most of the water was out we drew it and took a great many small Breames, my Wife came to us and saw us draw, so did William Anderton &c:.
- 7 I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell, in the absence of his Wife who was gon to Lostock Pat: Wofold dined here.
- 8 Mr Aldred and I dined at Mr Plumbs at Leverpoole, we took some Eles

¹⁰ Showley Hall, near Ribchester, Lancashire.

¹¹ Tenants of Little Crosby.

with us, Mr Plumb went with us to Stubbs, we stayed there some time and then went and drunk at the Wool-pack. Mr Aldred and I took horse and went to Mr Lancasters we stayed there some time and then came home, as we went to Leverpoole we called to see Parson Wairing he was trobled with the Stone and Gravell.

9 I Perused some of Walter Thelwalls Receipts & disbursments, it was a very cold day. After dinner I tryed to set some Rayzors and Mr Aldred red to me the Prognostications of Esqr Bigerstaff. My Head being ill I cut Breads in the Paintry.

10 Pat: Wofold dined here. We drained the Long Pit i'th Oaklands & took severall Hundreds of Breems most of them were very small, I stored most of them in the Carthous Pit, Long Brickkill-hole, &c: and gave William Anderton a good many to bate his Lines with for the Sea.

11 We made a Cut into the Long Pit i'th Oaklands to let the Water out of the Little old one when we please. Henry Kerfoot the Millers Son sade he took an Eele which was near three Pound wight, he also took two other large ones all with Choping in the Slutch. John Bryanson began this year to make holes in the Stock-roots to set Ack-hornes in. I pulverised some Calsined Bay-Solt in an Owler Bough¹² to take a Philm off Snow Balls Eye but it did not eat it off. We tuned near one Barrell and a halph of very Strong Aile, above one third was Darby Malt.

12 I mended one Seting Net tollerably well and part of another. I unknit part of a Net to get some Thread to mend one with. I Removed some Sheep out of the Flat because they came into the Crow Orchard. We began to Spin Gersye.¹³

13 I went to Dr Lathoms thence to Mr Bowers but he not being at home, I discoursed his Wife about her Son that was Prisoner in France, she gave me some Roots of Crown Imperialls; as I was coming home Duke overtook me, he was coming from Farn Race, he gave me an Account of it.

14 My Wife and I went to Richard Newhouses to see the Corps of John Cartwrits Doughter come past. Mr Plumb lodged here, he, Mr Aldred and I went to see the Pits i'th Oaklands that we were about to Fish, Mr Plumbs Seting Dogg went along with us.

15 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred and I went out a Seting, we went to see Lord Molineux his Captain the Runner, we Stayed a good While in the Stable. We let of the Little old Pit i'th Oaklands into the Long Pit and Fished it after Dinner, We drew the New Pit i'th Oaklands with Mr Blundells Net, he came to us. Pat: Gelibrond dined and Lodged here. Mr Plumb went hence.

16 Pat: Gelibrond, Mr Aldred and I drank at Nicholas Johnsons with Parson Wairing, he went first to Sefton to Bury an old Woman.

17 I went to the Funerall of old Widdow Culcheth, there was Mr Blackbourn of Orford, Captain William Bradshaw &c:, she was buried at Winwick, I went to South-ward, I lodged at Dickonsons in Wigan.

¹² Owler—dialect name for the alder tree (*almis glutinosa*).

¹³ See March 22 1708.

"16 March 1708—Gersey for Spinning at 14½d. per Pound 4s. 10d."

- 18 I drunk with Dr Worthington both at Diconsons¹⁴ and at Tootalls. I went to James Leighs in Aspoll, his Wife was lying in, I came back to Wigan, Mrs Brown gave me some Flower Sets. I called at Peter Butchets & got some Flower Sets of his Wife & so came home.
- 19 I Signed a Leas to Darby of Starkeys Living. William Davy and John Rothwell discoursed me about altering a Life in the Leas for Rises Heys. My Hous was Serched for myself, Horses and Armes &c:, by Edward Willoby Esqr, Lieuetennant Tompson . . . Orme the High Cunstale &c: they seized upon two of my Coach Horses viz: Jack and Robin and they are to be sent to them tomorrow.¹⁵
- 20 I Sent my two Horses according to Promis, they were returned to be forth coming when called for. I Perused some Letters & Papers.
- 21 I was indisposed and lay upon the Cooch in the Parlor. I sent to Leverpoole for the News.
- 22 I Took a Wheel down out of the Fals Roof and mended it to Spin Gersy with.¹⁶ Philip Syer alter'd the Fire place in the Paintry becaus it Smoked. As Pat: Gelibrond, Mr Aldred and I were going to Chop in the Oaklands Pits I saw William Davy and John Rothwell coming towards me, I turned back to them and discoursed them about changing a Life in the Leas for Ryces Heys. John Banister set some Flower Sets in the Knot that we had got at Wigan &c: he also Grafted some Pears.
- 23 Mrs Bootle came to see William Starkeys Legg and dressed it. I sowed some Tulop Seeds and others upon some New beds in the Nursery.
- 24 I Stated Accounts in part with Walter Thelwall for Receipts and Disbursements till Christmas last. Thomas Blundell came to see what business my Wife had with him, it was to make a Bobbin for the Gersy Wheele or Topknot Wheele.
- 25 I came upon a New bargan with Richard Norris because I could not give him Possession of the Moss Side Hous as I had formerly promised him we Signed the Agreement.
- 26 I & John Banister sowed Ferr Seeds in the Long Garden & in the Cops on the side of the Buriall place Lane.
- 27 I began to set Achhorns this year in the Stock-Roots.
- 28 Whilst I was walking out with my Wife and Pat: Gelibrond Betty Blundell came to me & desired I would bear some time with her Mother for her Rent and that I would not send Balyes to her Brother Thomas.
- 29 I gave Webster the Baylye some Corn. I went to Ince with Pat: Gelibrond we got our Colation there, when I came home I heard that Christian had

¹⁴ Roger Dicconson of Wrightington, near Wigan.

¹⁵ Nicholas refers to this search in a letter dated May 23 1708 to his sister Winifred, the nun at Ghent:.

May the 23d. 1708

"Just, Dear Sister, as I was going to answer my Ladys and yours of the 17th of March we had bussles & serching in this Country upon account of a Report of King James landing in Skotland wch made me not then think it proper to writ at that time . . ."

(The Letter Book, p. 76).

¹⁶ Nicholas may have noticed the spinning wheel when he was hiding the altar, vestments and holy vessels from the chapel in the false roof of the Hall.

brock his Neck by falling of the Ladder whilst he was thatching at Gregsons in this Town. Bolton my Lord Muntgarrets Servant brought some thing hither for my Wife which my Lord had bought for her in Ireland.

30 I Stated Accounts with Banister for Money Disbursed by him for my use, I helped him to Bottle of about three dozen of Aile, it was of two different Brews, we mixed it as we drew it off.

31 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. Mr Aldred, Banister, and I went this Morning to trace Rabbets, the Snow was extreemly thick, and some are of opinion that a thicker Snow could scarce have been remembered for the time by any Man, had not the Ground been wet and that the Snow thawed when first it fell.

APRILL

1 I Sent £8 to my Aunt Frances by Richard Harrison, I Killed a Larg unruly Bull Segg they houghed him on both Leggs¹⁷ and lamed him so that he was not able to walk to the Slaughter hous, so was killed on the Cawsey before the Shippon doar, and then draged to the Slaughter hous.

2 I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall for his Receipts & Disbursments since Christmass. Richard Harrison payed me £5 in part of his Rack for the last year.

3 I Booked Walter Thelwalls Receipts & Disbursments which were since Christmass. I helped Banister to remove some Couslops & Polianthus into a more regular order in the Knot. William Starkey was removed out of the Hawks mew into the Gathous Chamber to lodg there.

4 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. I fetched Harper home. Ralph Barton came to teach Thelwalls Seting Dogg. Mary Molineux Lodg'd here.

5 Richard Norris & his Wife payed me £120 in part for a Fine of the Moss-side House. Most of my Servants went to see a Play at Mr Smiths in Sefton. My Wife went to Ince. Ginny Whelped 4 Whelps.

6 Mr Aldred and I went to Parson Wairings, we took Mr Thomas along with us to Nicholas Johnsons and there made him pay some Aile he had lost in a bet to Mr Aldred and Parson Wairing; whilst we were there William Tarlton and Duke came to us. Mary Molineux went hence. Mrs Blundell made a Viset here.

7 I and Banister Removed some Emynes¹⁸ and other Flowers to their proper Beds in the Knot. Mr Aldred set some Grin-Mole-traps. Mary Pilkington had been to see her Mother and Friends she came back to day. James Leigh came along with her. I shewed him the Gardens.

8 I Payed James Leigh £75-06s.-00d. in part of whot I ought him in behalf of his Wife Ailes, he went hence. Mr Aldred fixed a Bensh in the Shady walk in the Long Garden. My Wife, Mr Aldred and I went to Gabriell Norris'es in Formby we called there, we light at Lawrence Formbys the Aile-hous, coming home we called at Richard Tickley & Thomas Blundells but light at neather Place.

9 Thomas Blundell came hither and mended one of the Little Wheelles. Mr

¹⁷ To hough—to hamstring or disable by cutting the sinew of the hough or hock.

¹⁸ Anemones.

Aldred and I went to the New house to see Mr Maynard he and Mr Thomas Gorsuch walked thither there was also Mr Babthrop and Mr Tasburgh.

10 Mr Aldred shaved my head. I went to John Lunts his Wife gave me a Root of Stript Emyny. I sent John Banister to Leverpoole to sell a few Apples.¹⁹

11 Mr Richard Molineux of the Grange and his Wife dined here.

12 John Banister sowed seeds of Piany and other flower Seeds. Lawrence Gilbertson planted some small Cutings of Withens on a Bed in the Long Garden they had lain severall Weeks with the ends of them in the Water and had Roots sprouted out an Inch or two long as also had some Large Staks of Withens that he set at the side of the Stock-Roots.

13 Laurance Gilbertson Planted some Withen Stakes on the side of the New Orchard they were sprit with Lying Long in the Water, he planted some Spanish Ash on the Left hand from the Bark Gate to the House. I took a Net in peeses wch I had fited up with a Chew to katch Fish when we drained the Oaklands Pits & fited it up again for a Chaff Net being formerly put to that use.

14 Thomas Gower helped Banister to tye the Arbor at the top & to dress it. Margaret Lurting got up some Alder &c: for under wood she set most of it in the Stock Roots. I helped Mary Howerd down with the Yarn that is to be Bucked.²⁰ Laurence Gilbertson, his Wife and I signed a Writing concerning seting his Living or at least most of it to John Blundell Taylior. My Wife and I went to the Town Medow to see them Plough, thence I went to the Coppy and my Wife called in the Town.

15 I mended the Mole Traps that Richard Howerd made and set them in the Stock-Roots. I helped Banister to bottle Aile. I went part of the way with my Wife to great Crosby. Edmund Lidiat came to speake to me about his hieing a Cow of me, Darby came with him.

16 I infused some Snake Root²¹ in Brandy. Ellen Norris and I signed the Artickleys of Agreement for the Moss-side. Edward Hatton, William Tarlton, I and Thelwall looked over some Ground in Great Crosby Town Fields in order to make some Exchanges, thence we went to Nicholas Johnsons; Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas & John Johnson came to us.

17 I Dined at Mr Plumbs he & Doctor Tarlton drunk with me at the Woolpack. I bought a new Hat of Leversage.²² I Stated accounts with Halsold the Brasier & wth John Wainright but no Money was payed upon eather side. I went to Mr Coopers & saw his Flower Garden & also saw Mr Danvers his Garden. I sent I think four or five Hundred Eggs to be sold in the Market at Leverpoole. I think they were all sold by two of my Maids.

18 William Fleetwood of Simonswood dined here, I shewed him my Gardens and gave him some Flower Sets. Richard Cartwright was here from Burchley. The Mill was Lickered & whisked about.²³

¹⁹ "Tole for Seeling Apples at Leverpoole 1d."

²⁰ A buck was a washing tub or vat in which linen, yarn or cloth was steeped or boiled as the first step in buck-washing or bleaching. Buck was also the name given to the lye in which the steeping was done.

²¹ A rhizome which, when dried, was used in medicinal preparations. It got its name from a fanciful resemblance to a snake.

²² "17 April, 1708—Liver Sage a Hat 7s 6d."

²³ Oiled or lubricated. Very often done with lard.

19 I Sowed some Flower Seeds in the Nursery as I had bought at Leverpoole. Mrs Howet dined here. I & Banister sought for Young Moles we took 5 very Young ones, I think 'tis too soone by ten dayes. A Taylor from Leverpoole came to mend my Wives Stayes.

20 I sent Henry Sumner to Fetch home my two Horses Hob & Buck and sent Robert Tompson for Bess & her Fole, I had sent them abroad to be secured, Henry Sumner came not back, but Robert Tompson did and brought Bess and her Fole Stagge it was Foeled about the forth Instant. I Sent Walter Thelwall to Scarisbrick and to Ormskirk Sessions to meet with Lawyer Starkey. Banister dubbed²⁴ the young hedg Hedg in the Crow-Orchard, he and I &c: sowed Broom seeds in the Sand hills, they were extreemly Sprouted, whilst I was there Mr Blundell came to see whot I was doing, as I was going I met William Harrison the Clark I paid him Easter-dues &c: My Wife went with me to Bryan Bryansons & stayed there till I came back from the Sand Hills & so we came home together, coming back we called at Margery Blundells. When I came home I found a Servant of Thomas Syers of the Ford to whom I payed 7s-6d for Plumbers work done at the top of the Church over my Chancell at Sefton.²⁵

21 I Stated Accounts with Mary Howerd for goods formerly bought of her & for Wages, as also for something she ought me, upon the Stating the Accounts I gave her the whole Ballance.²⁶ Mr Plumb & Doctor Tarlton dined here, after dinner they, Mr Aldred & I angled for Shoulers we had good Sport, when we came home we found Mr Tasburgh here, we had not been long at home ere Parson Wairing came to us.

22 John Bryanson finished making holes this year in the Stock Roots, there are about 2090 new holes made this year and today we finished seting Achhorns in them. My Wife and I went to the Town-Medow to see Bess & her Colt, my Wife was taken so extreemly ill she was scarce able to walk to Richard Harrisons. Mr Aldred went to Ince to wate of Sir Frances Anderton.

23 Bradley began her Journey towards her Fathers. I went to the Moss-Side to meet Richard Norris & his Wife she vewed the Huse²⁷ &c: it being the first time she saw it, thence we went to Richard Whitheads at Lady Green but he was not at home.

24 I went to Leverpoole & drunk at Dr Tarltons with him, Parson Stith & Mr Walsh.²⁸ I drunk at Secombs with Dr Tarlton &c: I drunk at a Little Hous with Merchant Poole and Mr Plumbe. James Williams & Mr Bower were in the Roome when first I came in. I heard the Proclamation Read for Disolving Parleament.

²⁴ Dub—to trim or crop.

²⁵ "20 April, 1708—To Wm Harrison for Clarks Wages. 2s 6d.
Ditto for Clarks Wages for Garstons. 2½d.
Ditto Easter dues 1s. 0d.
Lead work done over my Chancell 7s. 6d."

²⁶ "21 April, 1708—Goods bought formerly of Mary Howerd & now payed for viz: one Eshen—10d., 23 pound of old Puter at 8d. per Pound—15s. 4d., one Brass Pan—6d., Brass Spoon—6d., Back Spittle—4d., Whit Mettle—9d., in all 18s. 3d."

²⁷ House.

²⁸ Rev. Robert Stythe, one of the two rectors of Liverpool. He died in 1719. Mr. Welsh was the curate.

- 25 I went to Ince to wate of Sr Frances Anderton. Mr Aldred and I suped there, Mr Aldred also dined there. My Wife walked to Mrs Bootle & to Lidiat.
- 26 I gave Thomas Blundell a Letter for Mr Plumbe in order to stop proceedings against the said Thomas Blundell. I and Banister went out to seek for young Moles we took some, I think tiss full soone enough.
- 27 Ned Spencer spoke to me about going to Ditton to fall some Timber to build a Barn with. I Led Muck into the Bark with four Boon Carts. I went to John Blundell to see if my Britches were done, but they not being finished, I stayed and read a while there.
- 28 I went to Preston dined there wth Mr John Sherburne & payed him some Money in Part of my Purchas of Mrs Blackbourns Estate in the More-houses, Mr Starkey & Mrs Blackbourn signed some writings relating to my Purchas of Mrs Blackbourns Land.²⁹ Mr John Sherbourn & I went to Showley we Lodg'd there as also did Mr Houghton of Thurnham.
- 29 Mr Houghton and I came from Showley together as far as oure way lay. I made a Viset at Ormskerk to my Aunt Frances & to Mr Howets, I stayed there awhile & so came home.
- 30 I Shaved Mallys Head. I writ some Receipts in the Receipt Book. Thomas Blundell payed me some Money for Interest and in part for Principall.

MAY

- 1 My Wife went to Leverpoole. I writ some Receipts in the Book & examined part of it to see whether the Table was made right, I corrected it as far as I examined where I found it amiss, William Barton called here I suppose to see if I had any Occation for him, being there is now an universall distemper amongst Horses.
- 2 Pat: Wofold was here. I examined part of the Receipt Book & made the Table right as far as I went.
- 3 My Wife went abroad with Nurs New hous towards Ainty they dined there. I wayed Ginnys two Whelps Speed & Pass. I invited Parson Wairing to Dinner it was chiefly upon Account of a Dispute, formerly between him and Mr Aldred for I supposed Parson Marsden had been Acquainted therewith, but Parson Wairing could not come to dine wth me.
- 4 I went to Ditton & met there Ned Spencer we looked out some Timber towards the Building of a Barn, we marked the Trees, we came home together as far as our way lay. I came through Leverpoole I called there but did not light. John Banister took tenn Young Moles this is the Proper time I think.
- 5 Banister, I, &c: Botled 14 Doz: & $\frac{1}{2}$ of Strong Aile twas Brued about the Begining of last March one half of it was Darby Malt.

²⁹ "28 April 1708—

	£	s.	d.
Payed at Preston to Mr Sherborn part of the Purchas Money for Mrs Blackbourns	67	0	0
Ditto for Interest for £500 Purchas Mony	2	12	10
To Lawyer Starkey & his Clark in part for Drawing, Writing, &c: about the Purchas of Mrs Blackbourns Land.	1	17	0
Given Lawyer Starkeys Clark		1	0
Spent at Preston that I payed	2	0	0

6 I Botled of the Remainder of the Strong Aile. John Banister & I took 17 Young Moles in the Little Mosshey, but found not one in any other Field, I think it is rather with the latest by some two dayes, we have taken 36 yong Moles this year.

7 I Prepared my Great Diurnall by making a Table in it & Ruling it.³⁰ Laurence Gilbertson helped Mr Aldred to work at the Island a great part of the day. Sheep were washed. Philip Syer made a very little oven in the Kitchen.

8 I went to Leverpoole and payed Mr Hurst quit off. I drunk with Mr Eaton, Edward Hatton, &c:.

9 My Wife went to Ince. Bradley³¹ had been at her Fathers she came back hither, her Brother came along with her, he lodged here.

10 Mr Aldred, Bradleys Brother, and I layed Fishlines in the Carthous Pit, it was a wet slattering day & we had not much Sport. I began to Transcribe my small Diurnalls into my Large Book of Diurnall. Mrs Ann Harington and Mrs Tute came hither after dinner.

11 Bradleys Brother went hence. Pat: Wofold dined here. I went to Ince Green & bold with Mr Moston, Mr Aldred, John Steward, John Molineux &c: I & some of the company went into the Hous and drunk Punsh &c: there was Mr Blundell of Ince, Richard Tickley, Mr Molineux of the Grange, Edmund Trustrom, &c:³² Walter Thelwall & Richard Harrison went to Wigan wth a Bull of mine to sell tomorrow.

12 Walter Thelwall and Richard Harrison came home from Wigan Fair they sold my Bull. I went to Ditton thinking to have met Edward Spencer there and to have gon into the Tenants Grounds to pick out some Timber towards building a Barn at Ditton, but Edward Spencer was not there, so I spoke to some of my Tenants viz: John Bolton, William Kennion, &c: about the Timber growing in their Ground.

13 Mr Scarisbrick and his Wife dined here. Mrs Blundell of Ince and Mrs Ann Harington came hither after dinner.

14 Young Mr Gorsuch and Valantine Robinson dined here they came & fetched Mrs Billington hence, I think she came hither upon the eleventh. Mr Aldred and I went a shooting Tuits,³³ but we had not good Spourt I think it is too late.

15 My Wife & I went to Leverpoole she went with Margery Cook alias Johnson to the Weavers of Woosted, she looked at some Kallicows at Mr

³⁰ "8 May 1708—A Diurnal of a larg Size 4s. 9d."

This is the first of the three volumes, each measuring 14½ inches long, 4½ inches wide, 1½ inches thick, in which Nicholas wrote his Diary.

³¹ Mrs. Holcroft Bradley was Mrs. Blundell's maid and the nursery maid, being paid a wage of 15s. 0d. a quarter. She was constantly threatening to leave.

³² "11 May 1708—Spent at Ince Bowling Green 1s. 0d."

Church of England parsons, Roman Catholic priests, gentry, tenants and Nicholas frequently met at the bowling greens at Ince Blundell, Great Crosby and Sefton, and at local inns to play bowls and cards, to drink and to engage in discussions. They formed a social club, paying a subscription of 6d.

³³ Pee-wits, tew-its or lapwings.

Hursts but we bought none, Mrs Alanson treated my Wife and me. I drunk at the Woolpack wth Mr Plumb, Mr Alanson,³⁴ Mr Eaton, &c:

16 Mr Plumb sent an Express to give me Notice concerning an Information made against Mr Blundell of Ince by Parson Ellison,³⁵ I went to Ince to Acquaint Mr Blundell therewith & writ from thence to Mr Plumb.

17 My Wife went to Ince to see Mrs Anne Harington. I helped to dress Speed being he had an Infinite Number of Ticks upon him. Some of my Sheep were shorne.

18 My Wife dined at Bold she went on horsback and came the same day back it was the first time she has been there, it was very wet & windy. Mr Aldred & I went to Parson Wairings coming home we called at Ned Hattons. I helped to dress my Grehound Whelp Speed with Melted Grace being the dressing before with boyled Rew &c: did not make any of the Ticks to drop off.

19 John Farclough & his Prentice came to make Bee hives for me of Wood, I would have fixed a third Joynt to my Wooden hive but it would not doe. I went to shoot in the Mosses but got nothing, thence I went to the Turf Moss thence to the Coppy where we finished Barly Seeding this year & then came home. We took young Car Crows in the New Orchard and I shot the old one.

20 I mended the Trenow or Sliding Sledg and set it up. I Examained part of the Receipt Book. I helped Banister to fix the third Joynt to the first wooden Hive. Mr Aldred & Walter Thelwall went a Fowling in the Morning. Mr Aldred and I fished for Shoulers after Supper, my Wife went with us, Banister & Robert came to us & Fished.

21 Mr Aldred and I got some Shoulers in the Townfield pit for Bates and then went to fish for Pikes and Eles in the Wheat hey, we took but one small Elle.

22 I brought the Bowles down and shewed them to Mr Aldred he and I Bowled a little in the Great-Courts. Robert Tompson clomb some Car Crows & other Nests but we found no young ones.

23 Mrs Lankaster, Mr Robert Houghton, & Mrs Jackson from Leverpoole dined here, as did also I think William Thelwall, Ellen Harrison & a Neese of hers &c: Mrs Blundell made a Viset here. Mr Plumb, his Wife, & Doughter

³⁴ Allanson, mentioned in Liverpool Corporation records as an ironmonger as early as 1686.

³⁵ Rev. Timothy Ellison, vicar of Formby. Nicholas and other Roman Catholic gentry were on very friendly terms with their Protestant neighbours, and this is the only occasion on which Nicholas records any animosity shown by a Protestant clergyman to Roman Catholic neighbours. It is possible that the same parson had informed against Nicholas and other Roman Catholics, for a few days later, on the 23 May, he wrote a letter to his friend, John Gelibrond at Chorley:

"One favour I have to beg of you, that you will act for me as you doe for Yourself if you think it convenient, and I will be accountable to you for the Charge viz: in Relation to our conviction, for both our naims (amongst divers others) were returned at the Sessions as Non-Jurors, and since sent to London, as I hear, to be prosecuted against. If so my Opinion is, subject to better judgment, that it were better to quench the Fire ere it begin to flame but as yet I hear of none that has endeavoured to put any stop to what may come upon us, and those I have Spok to are resolved to take their venter. However 'tis a thing in my opinion to be delibered upon and your Assistance therein will be a great satisfaction."

(Letter Book, p. 76).

Lodged here. I drunk at Ned Howerds with him, Mr Aldred, Richard Harrison, John Farer, &c.

24 Mr Plumb went hence in the Morning, My Wife, Mrs Plumb, I, &c: went to Great Crosby & saw the Recruiting Officer³⁶ Acted. we drunk at Margarit Athertons with Parson Wairing, Mr Bixter, &c: Mr Syer of the Ford and his Wife, Mr Lathom the Landlord of the Wool-pack and his Wife, Mr Bixter, &c: Suped here, and after Supper we went to Great Crosby and heard part of the Gigg.³⁷

25 Mrs Plumb and her Doughter went hence. My Wife and I went to Ormskirk Fair we dined at Mr Howets after they had done dinner. My Lord Mountgarret was come home out of Ireland after his Confinement in the Castle. My Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick & his Lady, Mr Wofold, I, &c: Rafled for a Tay-Table at Mr Howets, all we that Rafled suped there.³⁸

26 Mr Aldred went to lodg at Scarisbrick, Ned Howerd went with him part of the way. I went to James Davys the Slaters but he not being at home I left my message wth a Neighbour of his.

27 James Davy the Slater came this Morning to discourse me. The Young Firr Trees that were sowed this year were wed the first time.

28 Mr Aldred came home from Scarisbrick. Banisters Hand cut time of Dinner upon account of Ez: quarrell & his. Thelwall came home in the Morning from Leverpoole, he had been at Upton Fair in Cheshire & bought three Cowes.

29 I Fited up a Pair of Panniers with Nets over them to carry Live Pigeons in to Bold. My Wife was walked out to Great Crosby, Mrs Ann Harington called to see her as she went home from Ince, Mrs Blundell came along with her.

30 My Wife dined at Eckleston. After Supper Mr Aldred & I went to Richard Harrisons we sat and talked a good while with him.

31 I sent 30 Pair of Pigeons or more to Bold of a Present to Mr Molineux. Mr Aldred went to Leverpoole. My Wife & I walked to the Grange, Mally walked with us and back again except some Few Roods as she was Carried.³⁹

JUNE

1 Mr Aldred & I Bowled a Match against Mr Thomas and Will Lurting at Great Crosby Green, there was old Robert Bootle and severall of Great Crosby viz: Henry Williamson, Henry Thomason, William Making, &c: some Bottles of Aile were brock with bringing to the Green.⁴⁰ A Mastly Dogg, more Meat, all absent things Stolne twas Pat: Aldreds advice. I Payed Mr Smith alias Kitchen the Interest for Mr Molins Money.

³⁶ Probably played by a strolling company of players in a private house or inn, or by local villagers. See August 7 1708.

³⁷ A humorous entertainment often acted after the main play.

³⁸ "25 May 1708—A Fairing given to Cozen Ann Butler. 6d.
Rafled for a Tea Table 6d."

³⁹ Mary (Mally) was then 3 years 7 months old, so the walk there and back of about six miles was quite a long one for an infant to make.

⁴⁰ "1 June 1708—Lost at Boles at Great Crosby 6s. 0d."

- 2 I sent Speed to Ditton to be kept by William Atherton. Thelwall bought 11 Beasts at Prescot Fair.
- 3 My Wife & I walked to Lidiat, coming back we called to see James Lidiats Wife, we lost our way in the Medowes coming home and was directed right by John Lunt.
- 4 James Davy and his Man John Gregory came to work here. I sent Thelwall to Leverpoole to get a Warand to search Richard Ainsworths hous &c: wch William Weedow the Cunstable did he had for his Assistance John Gregory the Slater & William Marser, I & Thelwall also helped to sirsch.⁴¹ Father Gelibrond prayed & dined here. My Lord Mountgarret came whilst we were at Dinner & dined here. Mr Blundell & Mr Thomas Standley of Preston made a Viset here. Ned Bridg came & help'd a Cow of mine to bring forth her Calf he first cut of the Calves head ere he could bring it from her.
- 5 I went to Leverpoole & had Richard Ainsworth examained (for Robing me) before Mr Richard Norris the Maior, Sr Thomas Johnson,⁴² Mr Maydit, Mr Morecroft, &c: I eat some Fish at Mr Allinsons. Mary Cloughs Servant payed me £15.10s.00d. in part for Rent for my Demesney at Ditton for the year 1707. Mary Pilkington made an Isou⁴³ in Mallys Arme.
- 6 Lord Mounagarret came hither to heare Mr Aldred, he dined here, and after dinner My Wife & I walked with him to Ince, we left him there in the Evening.
- 7 I went to see some Workmen I had at my Watercourse at the side of Nicholds Hey, coming home I told Richard Ainsworth I would send to fetch away the goods he had stoln from me. Bradley took Alibone for a Vomit she had lick to have dyed with it being in Appearance almost gon. Old Mrs Formby lodged here.
- 8 I and Thelwall went with William Weedow the Cunstable to Richard Ainsworths and brought home in a Cart some Boords Iron &c: as he had stoln from me. Mrs Blundell and Mrs Standley of Preston made a Viset here. Mally Ashton came to see whot work my Wife had for her to doe she is to stay here for some time. The Medowing in the New Orchard was Mowed.
- 9 One of my Eyes being ill I was not able to Read so I dressed my Closset and put some things into their proper plases. I layed up the Chess-bord &c: in the Loft over the Mated Chamber. Mr Aldred desired my Wife and me to walk down & then he spoke about not cuting his Hair & Bradley working half her time for him. Begon.⁴⁴
- 10 Mr Aldred and I went to the Grange we Bowled there, we drunk with Mr Richard Molineux, Mr Bapthorp, Richard Tickle, one Nicholson a Convert Scot, Pat: Wofold, &c I finished Summer works in the Flat.

⁴¹ This is the first of many entries concerning thefts by Richard Ainsworth, ploughman, from Crosby Hall. He had stolen from the cellar of the Hall before. See November 6 1705 and footnote.

⁴² Richard Norris of Speke was also mayor of Liverpool in 1700 and 1718, and at one time its member for Parliament. Sir Thomas Johnson, as mayor and member of Parliament, did much for the development of Liverpool in the eighteenth century.

⁴³ Issue.

⁴⁴ This suggests some disagreement over the part time employment of Mrs. Blundell's maid by Father Aldred or the cutting of his hair.

- 11 I went after dinner to Ormskirk to wate of my Lord Mountgarret. I found Mr Syer of the Ford at my Lords he was about swaping his Runing Hors with my Lord Mountgarret but they did not bargan, I Bowled with my Lord Mountgarret, Mr Leigh, Mr Peter Ashton, Caligula, &c: from the Bowling Green we went to the Black-bull to drink.
- 12 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife. I bought Sider of Mr Chorley, I agreed with Mr Secomb for a drought Net and with Mr Hurst for some Brandy. Widow Gregory paid me 24s for Interest Money.
- 13 Mr Aldred went very betimes to see Thomas Riding who was sick. Richard Robinson dined here, I shewed him the Boords, &c: that Richard Ainsworth had stolne from me, I discoursed him about making open doors to the Long Garden. Mr Walmesley of Wigan-Lain sent an Express to demand some Money that was owing to him by my Brother Richard as he said. My Wife & Mrs Formby went to the Grange.
- 14 Mrs Formby went hence Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick & his Lady Lodged here. Cozen Metham & Mr Philipson dined & lodged here, some of us played at Cards after Supper.
- 15 Mr Harington, his Son, and Doughter & Mr Bartlet dined here with the rest of our Guests. Cozen Methom & Mr Philipson went hence. Mrs Blundell & Cozen Edward Scarisbrick Junior came hither in the after noone.
- 16 Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick and his Wife I and my Wife went after dinner to Leverpoole, we made several Visets there viz: to Sr Thomas Johnson, to Mr Clayton, &c: My first Swarme of Bees put into the second Joynted Hive & set by the long Brick wall, it had been out twice before and went up againe without knitting.
- 17 My Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick and his Lady, I and my Wife dined at Agebournth, Mrs Anne Harington came hither with my Wife in the Coach she lodged here.
- 18 We drew two Pits in the Morning we took a Carp Long 2 Foot 4 inch & $\frac{1}{2}$ which weighed twelve pound, and in an other Pit we took a Pick that had an Ele in its Mouth part of it eaten, part of it Mortified & part not tuched. Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick and his Lady, I and my Wife dined at Ince with my Lady Anderton, &c: I had two Swarmes of Bees one of them was Hived in a single wooden hive.
- 19 Lady Anderton, Mr Blundell & his Wife, & Mr Charles Harington dined here with the Rest of my Guests. Lord Mountgarret, Cozen Scarisbrick & his Lady went hence. One & twenty Adders were taken on my Midings.
- 20 My Wife, Mrs Ann Harington & I went in the Coach to dine at Scarisbrick, they went home without me & left me drinking wth Cozen Scarisbrick, Mr Howet & Mr Wofold.
- 21 I sent Mrs Ann Rothwell with a Present of 22 Adders to the Doctors of the Low.⁴⁵ Mrs Ann Harington went hence. My Wife took a Vomit from Pothecary Barrows. William Atherton came to discource me about sending Masons to fey at Ditton for the New Barn.

⁴⁵ Dr. Fabius would most probably be one of them.

- 22 Mrs Hurst dined here. I had 4 Straw Hives brought me. John Rothwell payed me £30 in full of the Fine for Rises Heyes.⁴⁶
- 23 I went along with Mr Aldred & Thelwall to take Wild-Ducks, I left them & ere I was gon out of their sight they took two. Mrs Bootle bloddyed my Wife, she dined here. I gathered some Flowers for Flowering Great-Crosby Cross tomorrow. John Blundell drove me down Stakes for two Hives to stand on, we fixed them, all but daubing. I shewed Thelwall & John Ticklely where they might build if they could agree. I proposed to leas Garstons Barn to William Gray. Two Load of Slates brought home.
- 24 I Steeped my Feet in hot Whey for about two Hours to make my Cornes come out by the Roots but I think 'twill doe no good. I ordered Philip Syer & Ned Hawkseye to work for me at Ditton. John Tatlock desired to fine for the reversion of Gilbertsons Teneament. My Wife & I were at the Flowring of Great Crosby Cross.
- 25 Philip Syer fited up the Still in the Kitchen and made holes in my Seller Window to put in an Iron Barr which I fastoned in with Lead. I cut two Straw hives that were too bigg; I hived Bees in a Straw hive it being the first Straw hive I ever used. I had two Straw Covers brought me to lay over the Salt tubs. Darby Wife went to Agebirth for my Wives Ring but she could not get it.⁴⁷ I Stated Accounts with Henry Sumner for his Disbursments. Two Load of Slats brought home.
- 26 My Wife and I went to Lodg at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds⁴⁸ we called at Ormskirk and took Mr Howet and his Wife &c: along with us.
- 27 Mr Anderton of Euxton & his Wife, Mrs Traps the Widdow and Mr John Farnworth came to my Cozen Gelibronds after dinner. I sent John Banister home with a Ferret.

⁴⁶ See April 25 1705 and February 6 1708. In his Tenants Book Nicholas wrote:

"The Rices Heyes here mentioned are sold by Wm. Davy to John Ticklely; he being very backward in paying his Rent & also proving an Idle Husband, I do not intend to allow him Tenant Right especially he having onely bought William Davys Interest & not leased with me nor given me anything to be admitted Tenant."

There follows this note:

"March the 14th. 1708/9 I Nicholas Blundell own this day to have Received the Sum of Ten Pound from John Rothwell of Ince Blundell for which sade Sume I promiss to exchange the Life of William Davy whose Life is now in a Lease from me for Certaine fields called Rices Heyes Lying in Little Crosby & Instead of the said Life of William Davy I doe hereby promise to leas it to him for the lives of Margarit Davy and Margery Rothwell provided all the Covenants now mensioned in the Leas made for the lives of William Davy and Margarit his now Wife be fulfilled & that the said John Rothwell do also signe me a Bond for Payment of Five Pounds more within one month after his Death to be payed to me, Nicholas Blundell or my Heirs by his Heirs, Executor, Administrators, or Assignes & this Bargan above Mensioned is Confermed by us both as witness our Hands

Nicholas Blundell
John Rothwell."

A note follows the above:

"No bond was Signed by John Rothwell but now 1718 John Rothwell has signed me a Bond.

(Tenants Book, DDB1/54/41 & 42. L.R.O.)

The payment of £30 mentioned in the Diary entry for 22 June 1708 completed the payment of the fine of £40 for the lease.

⁴⁷ The wife of Darby, one of the tenants, often referred to as *Darby Wife*, often went on *arrants* or errands for Nicholas.

⁴⁸ Thomas Gelibrond (Gillibrand) of Astley.

- 28 Pat: Gelibrond, Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Mr Howet & I shot with Bow & Arrows and when we had done we went to Ned Luckases to pay our loosings in Aile, Mr Brooks of Astley came to us. My Wife, Cozen Gelibronds Wife & Mrs Howet went to Standish Hall.
- 29 Mr Brooks dined at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds, he went with us after dinner to Ned Luckases, Will Low was with us.
- 30 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and I went to Yarrow Bridg, we bowled there with Sr Thomas Standish, Mr Robert Leigh, Parson Shaw, Mr Allison, James Nicholson, &c.

JULY

- 1 My Wife, Cozen Thomas Gelibronds Wife & I went to Preston, we made a Viset to Widdow Blundell. My Wife bought a Callico Sute.
- 2 My Wife and I came from Chorley, I called at Blanscow, my Wife called at Ann Howerds & discoursed her, thence we went to Wigan and dined at Dr. Worthingtons, thence we went to James Leighs and so came back to Wigan where we, Dr Worthington, Mr Gerard Barton &c: saw some tricks of Legerdemesney played by one whose name as I take it was Burch; it was neare one of the Clock next morning ere we got home.
- 3 There were 72 Adders or Long-wormes taken on the Miding⁴⁹ on the Backside of my Stable & the doble Stable in about 2 hours time, 22 of which were baired & killed with lifting up onely one Pitch-fork of Dung or old Straw; some others were killed in other plases about this hous today & yesterday, when they were all together they were 81 in Count, those of the longest size were above 3 Foot & $\frac{1}{2}$, the Generallity upwards of 2 Foot 10 Inch, and very few but whot were 2 Foot & $\frac{1}{2}$, they were in weight 48 lb., Mally & I rid in the Cart to the Turf-Moss, thence we walked to the Moorehouses, we called at Thomas Ridings. Lady Anderton & Mrs Blundell of Ince came to see my Wife. Mary Molineux Lodged here.
- 4 Mary Molineux went hence, she was discoursed about being the Nurfery Maid.
- 5 I shot Throsleys⁵⁰ in the Morning. Mr Gorsuch came and payed my Wife 20 sh. in part of whot Mrs Billington owes my Wife. I led Turf with 12 Boon Carts. Mally and I rid in the Cart to the Turf-Moss thence walked to Bryan Briansons & Margery Blundells. Richard Py desired I would get him a Service, I will recommend him to Dr Worthington. John Sumner came to propose fining with me for a third Life, his Sons.
- 6 Ince Gardiner brought a Present of Collyflowers. I went to Leverpoole and at Mr Hursts I bought some thing for a Gray Dust Coat. I payed Mr Secomb for a Drought Net I drunk with him, Mr Morecroft, &c: at the Wool-pack.
- 7 Mr Wife & I were at the Funerall of Mr Bootle of the Peele, there were there Parson Dain, Parson Fleetwood, Mr Nicholas Fazackerley, Mr Carroll Bootle, Mr Bixter &c.

⁴⁹ Midden.⁵⁰ Thrushes.

8 I went to John Farcloughs to order him to come to look at some small Kask for Mr Aldred, thence I went to Dr Lathoms and spoke to him about a Picture for an Alter-Peece. My Wife went to Ormskirk to vindicate John Har: relating to some Stories that were raised of her.

9 Nicholas Johnson began to make me a Gray Dust Coat. John Farclough came to see whot work I had for him to doe. My Wife went to Ince to see Mrs Wofold.

10 Darby Wife brought a Picture for Mr Aldreds Alter-Peece from Dr Lathoms which he had lent me. I sent some timber and two Tables in a Cart to Mr Aldreds. I sent some Brined Cheeses of our own making to Leverpoole to sell. A Tinker mended 3 frying-pans for me. I book'd my Disbursments for Ditton for the year 1707.

11 Richard Ainsworth desired I would pardon him before the Assizes I ordered him to meet me at Leverpoole. Thomas Tickley my late Gardiner dined here. Mr Plumb sent a Colt hither, tis to be paised by Robert Blundell, Holme and his Man Thomas came to lodge here, they are tomorrow to begin to make a Black & Whit Callico Sute for my Wife. My Wife sent Ellen Harrison to speak about her Sister Ann Howerds coming to be Servant here. Mrs Molineux of the Grang &c suped here.

12 I Called at Mr Ogles & spoke to James Heyes about working at Ditton for me, thence I went to Ditton where I saw 3 Calves of William Athertons that were all Calved at a time, one of them was dead, the other two were very fine Calves & not small ones, the same Cow has had 7 Calves at the three last Calvings. I saw Stretbarrow set fier to the Brickkill he has made at Ditton, part of it is for me, from Ditton I went to Fletchers in Childow where I found William Atherton & his Wife, thence I went to Leverpoole & met William Gray & Richard Ainsworth. I went to the Bowling Green with Mr Morcroft & spoke to Mr Plumb about Richard Ainsworth, there was on the Green Mr Richard Norris, Dr Tarlton, Mr Sheelds &c: Mr Sheelds kicked the Bowl. Betty Harrison came to be the Cook.

13 I Barganed with Mr Aldred for some Glasses which he had bought yesterday. My Wife designed to goe lodge at Wigan at Dr Worthingtons but was prevented by the wetness of the day. I Layed some Plasters to Gray-Bonnys back.

14 My Wife & her Maid Bradley went to Lodg at Dr Worthingtons in Wigan. The Paintry was new whitened. Mr Aldred and I went to the Newhous besides 4 Presbyters there was Mr Molineux of the Grange, Richard Tickley, & Edmund Trustrom &c:.

15 Mr Aldred and I saw six Horses at Great Crosby that Duke had charge of, we were at Nicholas Johnsons with Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas & Duke.⁵¹

16 I Dined at my Lord Mountgarrets, I was at the Funerall of old Mrs Welsh there was Cozen Robert Scarisbrick, Mr Hesketh of Oughton & his Son, the Constable & his Brethern, &c: I brought Cozen Mun Butler home with me to lodg here.

17 Cozen Mun Butler went with me to Leverpoole, I there stated Accounts

⁵¹ Duke was the nickname of Marmaduke Malthus, also known as Duke Malthus. He was an innkeeper in Great Crosby, and was trainer to Lord Molyneux of Sefton, who kept his race horses at Great Crosby.

with John Stretbarrow for making Brick, I payed him in part.⁵² I payed Mr Plumb for Coffy &c: that he had bought at London for me. I bought some Wine in Lanslets Hey.⁵³

18 Mr Plumb & Captain Robert Fazackerley dined here, the latter suped here. William Grays Wife blead at the Nose extreemly.

19 I went to Ormskirk Sessions where Mr Molineux of Bold, Mr Trafford, Mr Harington, I &c: compounded to prevent conviction, we Appear'd in Court before Sr Thomas Standley, Dr Norris & Mr Case all Justises of the Peace, We Catholicks that got of our Convictions dined alltogether at Richard Woodses, after dinner we went to the New-Club-hous & thence came back to Richard Woodses and drunk Punch with Sr Thomas Standley, from thence I went to Scarisbrick where I lodged, I found Cozen John Gelibrond there, he lodged there as did also Lawyer Starkey.⁵⁴

20 Cozen John Gelibrond & I came from Scarisbrick, we ride together as far as our way lay, I went to Wigan to see my Wife she being at Doctor Worthingtons, I dined there, but my Wife was walked out to make a Viset, when she came back I came from thence.⁵⁵

21 I & Banister removed some Bottles in my Seller & took some out that had worked empty and mixed up others that were but peeses. I sent some Curtains, Chairs, Formes &c: in a Cart to Mr Aldreds. Mr Aldred & I went to the New-hous there was Richard Tickley, Edmund Trustrom, Mr Maynard, Mr Kannell, Pat: Wofold & in all three other Presbiters.

22 I killed one of the old Gray Kats. I & Banister layed up some Lumber in the Lofts &c: and readyed some Plases. I looked out some more goods for Mr Aldred. I gave some Bottles of Licker to Mr Aldred, he and I began to put up the Beads head & Vallance &c: Richard Howerd helped us.

23 Walter Thelwall rear'd his Shippon over the way. Mr Aldred & I went to the Grange we bowled with Richard Trustrom &c: thence we went to Charles Howerds, Mr Blundell of Ince was there with us.

⁵² "15 August 1708—To John Stretbarrell for making, Casting & Killing of 70000 of Brick at 2s. 11d. per Thousand, for geting Sand at 10d. per Cund [it] for Carting his tools 2½d. per Cundit, geting sods at 4d. per Hundred, for Lodging 13s., for Feying the Clay 6s., the whol . . . £12 2s. 5d.

	£	s.	d.
⁵³ "17 July 1708—Sider half a dozen		3	3
Wine & five Bottles		5	10
Dubble Refined Sugar at 12d. per Pound		3	6
To Mr Plumb for Snuff one Pound		5	0
Ditto for Coffy two Pound		18	0
Ditto a Kap for Mally		6	0
Ditto Score of two Horses & to Jack		12	0"

⁵⁴ See May 16 1708 and footnote. Also amongst those Catholics appearing was Mr. Blundell of Ince. By this composition at the Sessions Court, they were freed from appearing at a higher court which might have resulted in a severe penalty. It is to be noted that the justices before whom they appeared were on friendly terms with the defendants; one of them joined in the celebrations at the inn of Richard Wood.

"19 July 1708—At Ormskerk Sessions given to prevent my being Convicted to Lawyer Starkey ½ a Guiney; to Edg the Clark one Guiney, Court Fees 18s. 5d. in all £2 10s. 9d.
Spent at Ormskerk 4s 0d."

⁵⁵ "20 July 1708—Vales at Doctor Worthingtons 6d.
Waired by my Wife in Wigan for Spaw Water, Vales &c: 8s. 10d.
Vales at Burchley by my Wife 3s. 0d.
Dying Camblet at Wigan 3s. 0d."

- 24 I Helped Mr Aldred to work at his hous both before & after dinner, but I was indisposed. Richard Howerd fited up a Stand &c: for Mr Aldred. Walter Thelwall sold some Beas[ts] at Leverpoole Fair, & John Banister sold some Gardin Stuff.
- 25 I went to Ince and Payed halph a Guinney to Mr Blundell as he had lent me at Ormskirk Sessions. James Harrison lodged here.
- 26 Cozen Mun Butler went hence. I took an old Kat in a Net & gave it to Ned Hatton. I was invited to dine at Dukes in Great Crosby with some Gentlemen but I went not. I saw the Souldiers Fortune Acted in Richard Harrisons Barn.
- 27 I went to Leverpoole & asked Mr Plumb whether John Hurst was against my Building part of a Barn upon the Waist at Ditton, thence I went to Ditton & ordered where the Barn should be built, thence I went to Mr Hardings but he being Removed I stayed a while with his Brother Mr Maior then I came back to Leverpoole & enquired for a Small parcell that was to come for Mr Aldred by the Carrier, but it was not to be found, I came to Thomas Syers of the Ford to enquire about a Drought Net I had lent him & so came home.
- 28 I Stated Accounts with Laurence Gilberson to this day. I helped Mr Aldred to place his books.
- 29 Pat: Wofold & Thomas Tickley had some discourse in the Hall about Money left to Thomas Tickley by his Mother. I bought some Eles. Banister daub'd the 3 Straw Hives. Mr Aldred went hence to live in the Town,⁵⁶ I looked out some Linnen for him, I gave him a Load of Hay, I helped Mr Aldred to fit up his Alter & to put up some Pictures, Mary Pilkington left my Service, Betty Harrison came some dayes agoe to suckceed her.
- 30 I killed some young Kats in the Kitchen. I Smoaked some Chests upon Account of Moths. I served Mr Aldred the first time he Sayed in his new Chappell. Mr Aldred & I Bowled at the Grange, it was extreemly windy. I sent Horses to fetch my Wife home from Wigan but she went thence to Lodg at Burchley.
- 31 My Wife came home from Burchley, she had been for some time at Wigan drinking Hilton Spaw water.⁵⁷

⁵⁶ Father Aldred had now moved into his new quarters in the village where he was to live and say Mass until May 1720.

⁵⁷ Fearing his wife had not benefited as much as she ought to have done by drinking the spa water, Nicholas sent her a letter urging her to continue the treatment:

"To my wife at Wigan

July the 29th.

My Dear

Considering how ill you are of the Gravell I wounder you should be so very impurtune to come home espesially seeing the Doctor was quite against it, tis by him we must be ruled as to your Health; you may be assured I would much rather have you at home, but being tis for your good, we must both of us submit. I hope you have by this time found Benefit by drinking the waters but am afraid so much Rain as there has been of late, may have made the Spaw not be of that Strength as at any other time, so fear it has not had so good an effect as I could wish, but if you & the Doctor think it propper that you come home I here send horses for you, so leave it freely to your own Choyce to come home or stay at Doctors but to doe what is for the good of your health, which is what is much desired by

Your ever loving Husband
Nicho: Blundell."

(Letter Book, p. 78.)

Frances, however, came home on 31 July 1708.

AUGUST

- 1 I Fetched Home my Filly Brock becaus she sucked her Damm tho she was a Colt of the last year. My Wife & I went to see Fanny at Nurs.
- 2 I kept my Fathers Aniversary with three Presbiters besids those that prayed not here; Lord Mountgarret &c: dined here. Mr Aldred invited my Lord Mountgarret &c: to goe to his Hous I went with them.
- 3 John Tickley began to make a third Window in Mr Aldreds Chappell. I led Hay out of the Coppy it was mayed fully enough & 'twas onely Mowed yester day. Richard Harrison sent me a Heffer which he had Pounded, it is not owned as yet by any one.
- 4 I Bowled at Ince Green with old Robert Bootle, Edmund Trustrom, &c: Gill the Excise-man & the Inquisitor over him, came to the Aile-hous whilst we were drinking. I cut Mallys Hair off, My Wife & Mary Howerd cut off mine. Richard Ainsworth desired to know whether I would pardon him before the Assizes, I told him noe & advised him to make whot provition he could against his Tryall.
- 5 Mr Aldred & I Rode to the Sea & bathed ourselves thence he went home, and I went to the Coppy & to Woodholme to the Hay-makers, it was extreemly hot as were also the two preceding days, the lick hardly ever known at this time in these parts; towards the Evening it Thunder'd extreemly I do not remember ever to have heard so long and so lowd Cracks & so many of them, it also rained much.
- 6 Captain Robert Fazackerley dined here, he Petissioned me in behalf of James Gleast, who owes Mr Plumb & me £15, after dinner Captain Robert Fazackerley and I went to Mr Aldreds we found him in the Cross-field, he had been taking young Bitterns.
- 7 I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with some Presents of Hartichoks, Rasberys, &c: to Mr Houghton, Mr Hurst, Mr Plumb, &c: I was with Mally & Peggy Thelwall whilst they gathered up some wind blown Apples. The Souldiers Fortune was Acted in my Hall, William Marser did not Act.⁵⁸
- 8 My Wife & I dined at Mr Aldreds. Miss Mally Butler came to lodg at William Davys, she came hither to make a Viset to my Doughter Mary.
- 9 I Lent Mr Aldred 3 dozen of Stone Bottles. I was very busy in the afternoon peruesing some old Accounts of Thelwall for the last year which were not quit Adjusted. Richard Newhous thatched here, I gave him one Load of Turf. Henry Sumner began to shear Wheat in the Cross-field to make an entrance against the Boons came.
- 10 My Servants all or most of them went to Mr Aldreds after dinner. I Finished reading the second Tombe of the History of the Church of Japan. Mrs Blundell came hither whilst my Wife was writing in my Closet. Miss Mally Butler & Nelly Davy lodged here.
- 11 I shear Wheat with Tenn Shearers. I led Turf with tenn Boon Carts, I went in the Morning to the Turf Moss thence to the Heale-Bank to Thomas Kerfoot & spoke to him about Richard Ainsworths going to the Assizes. I went

⁵⁸ William Marser was a tenant in Little Crosby. It is obvious from this entry that the players were tenants and the sons of tenants. See February 1712.

to John Blundell Taylor & ordered him to meet me at Leverpoole next Saturday about the business of Margits Field between him & William Wignold. John Blundell came at Night to discourse me about it. I took a Wasp nest which was made in a Bees Hive of the last years as was dead.

12 Mrs Ann Rothwell & some Children of this Town Songoed Wheat for me in the Cross Field.⁵⁹ Two Webbs of Linnen⁶⁰ brought hom from the Weaving from Trustroms. Miss Mally Butler & my Doughter Mary went after Dinner to Ince. Jane Lidyat came to be the Cook and Betty Harrison who had been Cook for some Weeks was made the Nursery Maid.

13 It was first proposed to me to let Richard Ainsworth contribute to enlarg Mr Aldreds Hous & not to take him to Lancaster. Mr Gleast & his Wife came hither to discourse me about £15 Bond owing by him to Mr Plumb & me, Mr Jones came along with them. I sent for Richard Jump & discoursed him about whot he knew of Richard Ainsworths robing me. The Actors of the Souldiers Fortune came hither & sung the Gigg.

14 I went to Leverpoole & discoursed Mr Plumb about Richard Ainsworth, he, William Weedow, T. Kerfoot, &c: were present it was at the Wool-pack in the Dining Roome, James Farer came but would not stay. Mr Plumb & I discoursed Ja: Gleast about his £15 Bond to us. I saw my Lord Darby the Maior of Leverpoole make his Entry into the Town.

15 I went after dinner to Scarisbrick & discoursed Lord Mountgarret, Sr William Gerard and Cozen Robert Scarisbrick about Richard Ainsworth & we considered whether it were better to try him or Compound with him, I took Fanny home from Nurs she is now to stay at home for good and all.

16 I helped John Banister to bottle about six dozen of Small Aile. I made a Viset to Ince.

17 Poter began to make a Riding-hood for my Wife. I Examined my Journall to find out the dayes of the Month which I thought were most Materiall for me to be ready in against I went to prossecute Richard Ainsworth at the Assizes. I stated Accounts with Nurs Newhous & payed her whot was due.

18 I went to Lancaster to prosecute Richard Ainsworth for Robbery, Mr Plumb overtook me in Maile, we dined together at Coolings the Miter in Preston, thence I went to Marshalls the Queens Armes in Lancaster where I lodged.

19 I dined at my Lodgings with Mr Roughley and one or two more of the Grand Jury. I and Walter Thelwall were examined by the Grand Jury against Richard Ainsworth. Sr Thomas Johnson was the Foreman. I heard Judg Traycie give his charg.

20 Richard Ainsworth was found guilty of Robbery before Judg Trecy. I dined at My own Lodging. Dr Bradley drunk with me at my Lodgings.

21 Richard Ainsworth and two others were burned in the hand. I heard a Cause of Lord Darbys tried without oposition before Judg Berry. I dined at my Inn wth Mr Parker of Brusam⁶¹ &c.

⁵⁹ Songoed—gleaned.

"To some Children of Songoing 11d."

⁶⁰ Web—a whole piece of cloth after it comes from the loom.

⁶¹ Browsholme, near Clitheroe.

22 I came home from Lancaster, I dined by my self at Jacksons in Preston, I made a viset to Cozen Blundells, from thence I went to Cozen Standleys, Cozen Thomas Culcheth went with me we found there his Brother John Culcheth, Mr Blundell of Ince, Dr Farington, &c.

23 I Examined my Disbursments of my Lancaster Journey and set down in my Diurnall the dayes spent in it viz: the five last dayes above.⁶² I took an old Stock or Hive of Bees.

24 Most of my Servants went to Charls Howers to see the Souldiers Fortune Acted, my Wife and Bradley saw a little of it Acted, I rid with them to Bryan Bryansons thence they went to Charles Howerds & I stayed at Bryans till they came back, we Suped there.

25 I went to Ditton to see whether my Work-men at my New Barns wanted any materialls, thence I went to Tode Leech & discoused William Clough about whot he owes me, thence I made a Viset to Mr Hollands of Sutton, thence I went to the Hall of Wofold, but John Wainright not being at home I discoured his Doughter Mary about her Arreers to me, thence I came to Leverpoole & spoke to Mr Brownbill &c: to lend me some Blocks to hall up Timber with at my Barn at Ditton.

26 John Wainright came hither I stated Accounts with him for his Rent for my Demesney of Ditton for the years 1706 and for 1707 I told him whot his Doughter owed me for that Rack. Cozen Scarisbrick sent his Servant Mr Wadsworth to me with £210 which he owed me and others that I was concerned for, he payed of both the Stock and Interest. Captain Robert Fazakerley was here. Betty Harrison left her Service.

27 I went to th' New hous and acquainted Mr Babthorp that I had some Money for my Brother Joseph. I went to Leverpoole and got a promiss of some London Bills, I gave Mr Norris the Maior of Leverpoole a Bottle of Wine at Proctors Mr Plumb was with us.

28 I walked to Leverpoole and back again, I got a Bill for £135 of Captain Clayton and one for £100 of Mr John Harington. I payed them Money for the Bills.⁶³

⁶² "Whot Followes is the Charges I was at in Prosecuting R. Ainsworth at Lancaster & for my own Expende, some little more was spent by Thelwell of himself & Witnesses.

	s.	d.
Drawing the Inditement	2	6
Baylif	1	0
Swering 4 Witnesses & to the Pourter	1	8
Mr Plumb attorney for his Opinion	3	4
Mr Plumbs Fee at the Tryall	6	8
Dore-Keeper to the Grand-Jury		6
Meat & Drink for myself from home to Lankaster & back again	8	2
Horses	6	11
Prosses [processes] three.	1	0
Vales		10
Witnesses: Robinson 10s., Wm Weedow 7s.	17	0"

(Thelwall's accounts:)

"Getting a Warand for Richard Ainsworth & spent	2	6
Spent going to Richard Robinson	1	10
Spent by Thelwall at Lancaster on himself & in part on Witnesses	12	4½"

⁶³ "28 August 1708.

sent per Bill for Brother Joseph £100 Os. Od.
To Mr Tempest per Bill for Sister Winny £135 Os. Od."

Joseph was serving as a Jesuit priest and Winifred as a nun at Ghent.

- 29 I went after dinner to Croxtath to welcome my Lord Molineux home from Bardsey.⁶⁴
- 30 I began the first time to make Milk Punch. I dined at Mr Aldreds with Captain Robert Fazakerley, Mr Babthorp, and Mr Tasburgh. I sent Gray Bonny to be swaped at Ormskirk Fair for a Harburrow Colt, but no Swap was made for her.
- 31 I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with Bills of £235 to be sent by Post for my Brother Joseph & my Sisters at Gant. I Botled off my Milk Punch & set some of an other sourt a Runing. I Plastered Harpers back.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 I went to Ditton thinking to have been at the Rearing of my New Barn⁶⁵ but it was Rear'd yesterday notwithstanding that it was a most extream wet day, I drunk at Mrs Travises with William Atherton, Joseph Bolton, severall of my Workfolk &c: William Atherton was with us he left us and went home to the Bank hous, I went thither and danded with the Neighbour, I lodged at Joseph Boltons.
- 2 I Drunk at the Brandy Shop with William Atherton, Joseph Bolton some of the Work-folk &c: thence we went to Mrs Travises and drunk Aile, James Houghton came to us, we danded there. William Anderton came home with me as far as his way lay viz: to his own house.
- 3 I helped John Banister to Bottle off a Barrell of Table Beer. Banister got his Garden Sheers grun by Thomas Fooler.
- 4 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife and Bradley. My Wife paid Mrs Hurst for some Paterns drawing that she had got done for my Wife to stitch.⁶⁶
- 5 I Walked with my Wife to Ince to see Widdow Blundell and her 3 Doughters. I gave John Brianson directions how to make the Long-Garden Bridg.
- 6 John Brianson began the Long-Garden Bridg. I went to Mosburgh to wate of Cozen Eyre of Hasop I dined there with him, his Lady, Lady Dowager Gerard, Mr William Poole & his Wife, &c:.

⁶⁴ Bardsea, three miles from Ulverston, had just been bought by Lord Molyneux from the Anderstons of Clayton for use as a hunting seat.

⁶⁵ "This that follows is what I have Layed out at Mr Allison's, tis Cheefly for my new Building at Ditton:

	£	s.	d.
For Larg Nales & Spiking 92 Pound at 4d. per Pound	1	10	8
Storne Nales 8000 at 2s. 6d. per Thousand	1	0	0
Bording Nales 10 Pound at 4d. per Score		3	4
Teering Nails 1000		1	8
Spriggs 300			9
Scaffold Rope	1	2	
Hinges			3"

Mr. Allonson was a Liverpool ironmonger. For further expenses see December 18 1708 and footnote.

⁶⁶ "4 September 1708—To Mrs Hurst for Holland & geting it drawn for
 Stitching 5s. 10d.
 Flax one Pound 1s. 0d.
 Gersy one Pound 1s. 3d."

7 John Farclough came to lay out some Hoops which must be layed in the Water, I got him to help me to pull up part of the Stone-Bridg into the Long-Garden. John Banister fixed the doars to all or most of the Bee Hives and Daubed those that Ned. I helped to make two sorts of Mead a Stronger and a smaller Sort.

8 Mrs Blundell of Ince & her three Sisters in-Law viz: Mrs Ann Blundell, &c: made a Viset here. I gave Richard Bryanson all the Interest that was due from Cozen Scarisbrick to Bryan Richardson and John Bryanson, I also gave Richard Bryanson my Note & Bond for £110 owing to his Father & Uncle John by me Nicholas Blundell. I went to Mr Aldreds, he, Richard Harrison &c: were playing at Cards.

9 We were extreemly busy leading Corn with two Carts becaus there had been severall dayes of wet, I walked to the Coppy, &c: to see in whot order my Corn was in, coming home I called to see Jane Gray, whilst I was there Parson Wairing came to see her, thence I went to Mr Aldreds, Parson Wairing came thither after me to make his first Viset to Mr Aldred. Grace Pilkington came to be the Nursery Maid.

10 John Bryanson brought me £30 upon Interest, part his own Money, the rest his Brother Bryans. I went with John Luckas to the Turf-Moss to let him see what Turf were there, I promised him he should have some of those I had designed for my own use, it Rained much while we were out.

11 Lord Mountgarret sent a Servant to let me know Dr Gerard was at Ormskirk. Mr Blundell of Ince his Butler came to invite my Wife & me to Dine at Ince tomorrow and to desire I would be God-father to Mr Blundells sixth Doughter.

12 I Stood Godfather with Cozen Bridgit Blundell to Mr Blundells sixth Doughter viz: Elizabeth I dined at Ince. Mr Howet dined here, after dinner my Wife came to Ince.

13 I went to Ormskerk to see Dr Gerard I payed him £3-12s-00d upon account of Dr Worthington. I dined at my Lord Mountgarrets with Cozen Robert Scarisbrick, Cozen John Gelibrand, &c: Dr Gerard went away from Lord Mountgarrets. after he and Cozen John Gelibrand were gon we drank at the Golden Lyon with Mr Thomas Leigh &c.

14 I went to Ditton to see how my Work at the Brick Walls went on, William Atherton was Leading Wheat at Childow I went to him and came home through Leverpoole I called at Raph Tyrers to enquire after my hors Hob as was Lame.

15 I Killed a very Fat Little Cow. I and John Banister botled of the best Meath & some of the Smaller Sort.

16 I Payed James Leigh Husband to Ails Caterold £30 the Principall & 5s. for Interest being in full of all Accounts due to him or his wife from my Father or me, from his Hous I went to wish Sir Francis Anderton & his Lady Joy,⁶⁷ they were gon to Culcheth but they came home to Lostock where I Lodged.

⁶⁷ Sir Francis Anderton had recently married Frances, daughter of Sir Henry Bedingfield, Bart., of Oxburgh, Norfolk. Frances died not long after the wedding, and there were no children.

- 17 Sir Nicholas Sherbourn, Sir William Gerard, Mr Thomas Culsheth &c: dined at Lostock.
- 18 Sir Francis Anderton & his Lady went to Shaw place to wate of Lord Willoby I went with them & carryed Mrs Ann Harington behind me.
- 19 I came from Lostock called at Dr Worthingtons & found Dr Gerard Just ready to take hors for Durham, I went with him as far as my way lay & so to my Lord Mountgarrets where I found Cozen Scarisbrick & his Lady &c: thence I came home where I found Mrs Bacon a Relation of my Wives, she lodged here.
- 20 I Coursed a Hare that Thomas Farer found set in the Town Field it was the first time I coursed this season. I sent Cozen Bacon to Croxtath she came back again.
- 21 Cozen Bacon and I saw the Souldiers Fortune Acted or at least most of it at Mrs Ann Rothwells, I drunk at William Davys with Mr Molineux of the Grange, Ailes Tickley &c: My Wife walked to Ince, but came back to see part of the Play & all the Gigg. I hived a Swarme of Bees in a Hive of this years that was forsacken & had some Wax in but no Honey, the Bees dyed though they were well fed.
- 22 I helped John Farer and others to find out whether Mrs Ann was cozened in her Shot at the Play. Mr Maynard, Mr Thomas Gorsuch & his Sister Mary dined here. Mrs Mary Gorsuch payed my Wife 10s. I cut the Neck in the Town-Meadow in Fitches.
- 23 I went to Ditton to see how my Work-men went forward, there was none there but Richard Howerd. Sir James Poole dined and Lodged here.
- 24 I made a Viset to Ince with Sir James Poole. I wained Besses Colt, Stagg 'tis called.
- 25 Mr Blundell of Ince met Sir James Poole and me at Charls Howerds, whilst we were there Pat: Wofold & Mr Molineux of the Grange came to us.
- 26 Mr Blundell & his three Sisters, Lord Mountgarret, &c: dined here.
- 27 I Began my Wheat Seeding in the Flat. Sir James Poole went hence, he designed to dine at Croxtath. I was at the Buriall of Jane Gray I walked to Sefton & back. Jane Lidiante the Cook left her service. Richard Robinson Lodged here, he brought a Frame for a Red Japan Tay-Table of my Wives.
- 28 My Wife gave warning to Mary Howerd the Dary-Maid. Richard Bryanson brought a Colt to be kept here a while. I walked to Thomas Syers of the Ford with my Wife & Cozen Bacon, coming back we found a Red Bullock of William Mackinos dead in a Ditch. Cozen Scarisbricks Gardiner came to get some Hartichok Sets.
- 29 I Signed my Last Will it being the second I have made, it was daited in December 1706. I Signed two Bonds to Richard Bryanson & John Bryanson they bore date the first Instant. I went to Mr Aldreds to see Ned Howerd but he not being there I went to Mrs Ann Rothwells and I found there my Wife & Cozen Bacon.
- 30 I sent Cozen Bacon back to Standish by John Banister. Severall of this Town met at Great Crosby to discourse concerning the Settlement of Mary

Hatton.⁶⁸ Ann Johnson came to be my Cook. I made Wax of the Combes I had, it was Extreemly Bad.

OCTOBER

1 I melted my Cake of wax over again to clarify it, it being very drossy. I discoursed Ned Howerd in my Closet about a Bill I had pay'd for his use toward the fiting up his hous and he spok to me about his Ansient Rent. I Stated Accounts with Nicholas Gorsuch he owes me £00-15s-02d. for Interest, part of the Principall & Interest is payed.

2 I Took a Strayed Grehound Whelp with me to Leverpoole. I Barganed with Thomas Crosby and others to Marl at Ditton for me. I drunk with my Lord Mountgarret, Mr Hurst & Mr Shield at the Talbot. Mr Knight lodged here. The Townfield was turned common.

3 I went to Ince with my Wife & Mr Knight.

4 Mr Knight and I went to Mr Aldreds where we found Captain Robert Fazakerley, we all went a Coursing. Captain Robert Fazakerley left us and we three went to William Grayes, he treated us with Aile.

5 I Bought some Bulloughs. Dr Tarlton & Captain Brown came whilst we were at dinner, they dined here and after dinner we went accoursing, when we had done we went to Nicholas Johnsons and drunk a little, Mr Aldred & Mr Knight was with us. I Finished wheat Seeding in the Flat it was 8 dayes work and $\frac{1}{2}$ Ploughing and Harrowing.

6 Mr Knight went hence. I got in the last of my Corn. I helped John Banister to bottle about nine dozen of Aile and to get some Apples. Mrs Ann & Dorothy Blundell came to take leave of my Wife ere they went to Preston.

7 Robert Tompson helped John Banister and me to get Apples in the Crow Orchard. Whilst I was at Mr Aldreds Mr Gower & Mr Barrows came thither, thence they went to Leverpoole, they suped and Lodged here. Mr Aldred also suped here.

8 Mr Gower and Mr Barrows went hence. My Wife and I went to Ditton. I concluded where the Swinhouses should be builded, coming home we called in Childow & drunk a dram.

9 I took a Map of Mr Aldreds Yard and Orchard. I helped John Banister to get Virgine Apples in the New-Grounds & Long Garden.

10 My Wife dined at Scarisbrick and coming home called at Mr Howets in Ormskerk. I dined at Mr Aldreds. Bradle, &c: drunk Thomas Gowers Farewell at Great Crosby.⁶⁹

11 Mrs Molineux of the Grange and Mrs Ann Baumber made a Viset here. Parson Letus, William Harrison & one of the Church-Wardens came to get Charity upon Account of a Fyer which had been in Ireland. Margaret Lurting helped me & John Banister to get Apples.

⁶⁸ The meeting was to decide which of the two townships, Great Crosby or Little Crosby, was responsible for the maintenance of Mary Hatton, a poor woman, daughter of Richard Hatton, deceased, who formerly held some copyhold land in Moor Lane, Great Crosby.

⁶⁹ Gower was butler; his name appearing in the quarter wages list in June 1707 for the last time. He was succeeded by John Banister, the gardener. For performing both services Banister received no increase in his quarterly wage, but would, of course, receive more in vales or tips from visitors.

- 12 I bought some Muggs in the Town. I took some Garth-wood out of the Cart-hous Pit that was swimming about & had been layed in to Streep. I writ some few Receipts in the book. Some goods were brought hither for Mr Aldred from Leverpoole they were sent from London.
- 13 My Wife and I went to Aigbournth to wish Mr Charls Harington Joy, he had then brought his Wife thither,⁷⁰ we called at Leverpoole and took Mrs Tute along with us in the Coach to Aigbournth, we dined there with Sir James Poole, Mr Molineux of Mosbourngh, his Wife, Brother William, one Jolly a Scotch Taylor, &c:.
- 14 I mended a Looking Glass for the Nursery. I put up some pegs in the Paintry to hang hats on and Nailed up 3 Black and whit Pictures under the Lintall. A Boy brought me about 3 Busshels of Haws. Robert Tompson & Grace Pilkington helped us to gather Apples, I think we have now but one Tree to gather, whilst we were gathering Apples Richard Buckley brought me a new Chaffing Dish. Pat: Wofold was here. My Wife dined at Mr Fazakerleys in Ormskerk.
- 15 My Wife and I was at the Buriall of Bryan Bryanson, Richard Tickley, Mr Molineux of the Grange and their Wives, &c: were at the house.
- 16 I Drunk at the Wool-Pack in Leverpoole with Mr Plumb & Ben Brankhurst. I Stated Accounts with Holsold the Brasior at Leverpoole. I & Robert Sutton endeavoured to make John Aindow to goe home with his Wife.
- 17 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here. Leadbeters Prentice I think his Name is John Simpson, one Bradley and two others that came to Crosby Goosfeast were here in the Afternoone.
- 18 It being Crosby Goosfeast I dined at Mr Wairing with him, his two Sons, one Williamson the Schoolmaster of Formby, Thomas Syer of the Ford, &c:, My Children dined at Richard Newhouses. The Maids stayed late and were locked out.
- 19 It being Crosby Goosfeast my Wife and I went to William Tarltons, thence we went to Nicholas Johnsons, William Tarlton and his Wife were with us, thence we went to Ned Hattons. I put some Ingredients together to make Ink. I made my Salve for a Bruse.⁷¹ I fetched Hobb home from Ralf Tyrers he had ben some time under his hands.

⁷⁰ Charles Harrington, eldest son of John Harrington, Esq., of Aigburth (buried at Huyton Church, April 14 1714), had just married Anne, daughter of Sir Rowland Stanley, of Hooton, Cheshire. They lived at Scholes Hall, Eccleston, where he died and was buried at Huyton, March 12 1719. His wife, Anne was buried at Huyton, October 14 1722. John Harrington had acquired Aigburth by marriage with the heiress, Dorothy Tarleton. In 1713, John Harrington of Aigburth petitioned the Lords for a bill to sell his wife's property in Liverpool—43 tenements in Harrington Street.

⁷¹ "16 October 1708—Ingredients for a Salve 3s. 2d.
Gum for Ink 4 oz. 4d.
Galls 10 oz., Coperass 6 oz. 10½d."

In the *Great Hodge Podge*, p. 178, Nicholas gives the "best recipe for inke":

"Galles five ounces } roughlie brused
Gumme Three ounces
Copperas 3 ounces

Put the 2 first into a quart of white wine, stir it up once in 3 dayes, & then put therto the coperas, stir it then twice a day for 7 or 8 dayes more. Strayne it through a course cloath, and if you will have it shine put in half an ounce of fine sugar after it is strayned.

Put a haire scutt in your inke horne, and the haire will not trouble your pen."

To this a footnote was added later: "It is too much Gum."

See November 22 1708.

- 20 Mrs Blundell of Ince & Mr Aldred dined here, James Fleetwood the Glasior worked here. My Teames brought two load of Turf for Mr Aldred from Robert Sutton.
- 21 I sent a Cart to Ormskerk to fetch home some Candles & Potatoes &c.: Peggy Thelwall and I songowed for Apples in my Orchards. Some Cabbage-Plants pricked out in the Kitchen Garden.
- 22 I Stated Accounts with Thelwall for the last six Months and examined all Accounts that were since July the 1st 1707, we did not absolutely finish, I having a mind of some Relaxation for a time we went a Coursing, Mr Aldred went with us, we diged a Rabet out of a hole in the Limekill Croft.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole and made a Viset to Mr Brownbill in his New hous in John Street, we discoursed about Mrs Blackbourn and her Sercomstance, I brought my Weding Coat to Mr Plumb for him to take with him into Ireland, but he took it not, I drunk with him & others at an Aile-hous.
- 24 Thomas Kerfoot payed me £02-03s-00d which I had formerly lent him at Lancaster. I helped my Wife to writ to Cozen Mary Webb to Invite the Lady Dowager Webb to come to Crosby.
- 25 I went to Ditton I measured part of the New Brick-work there in order to know whot that part would come to, but I did not then compute it up, there were two young Women there, I Shewed them & Sera Atherton, &c: some of my Tricks of Leger-demesney, I called at Leverpoole at Mr Plumbs to Acquaint him the Kill at Wofold was burned, but he was not at home. Pat: Gelibrand Lodged here. Henry Dauber came to work here in order to put up a New Mill-Stone. John Farclough the Cooper worked here.
- 26 Pat: Gelibrand went hence. I gave William Athertons Son some Sets of Flowers &c: he came hither for them I also gave him a Drought for a Flower Knot which I drew to-day for Ditton Garden. James Davy the Slator worked here. Ralf Tyrer looked at a Red Cow of mine that was not well, Darby had her to hyer. I Payed Richard Robinson for making a black Frame for a Red Japan Tay-table.
- 27 I went to Leverpoole and advised with Mr Plumb about securing whot John Wainright & his Doughter owed me for Ditton Rack, I found Mr Houghton at his Bowling Green, I discoursed him some little about my Brothers Accounts, the Green was then part of it in laying new, I drunk with Mr More of Manchester at my own Inn.
- 28 Thornton Smith brought me a Chaffing dish which he had made for me. John Wainright came to discource me about whot was owing upon Account of Ditton Rack. Mally brock the Looking Glass. I Hired John Massy to be the Plough-driver, gave him 12d. Earnest and am to give him £1-2s-6d for half a year.
- 29 I sent Walter Thelwall to Wofold to take up some goods of John Wainright in part of whot was owing me for Ditton Rack, but they did not bargain. I Shewed John Blansherd of Lady Green where he might take Stones from at my Delf⁷². I gave leave to Mr Wairings Man to lead some Shilly from my

⁷² The delph or quarry at the north end of the village had been first used to obtain sandstone in the mid seventeenth century. It was filled in with bomb-damage rubble after the Second World War.

Delf. I made up some Doses of Powder for the Falling Sickness for Mary Pilkingtons Sister. Henry Dauber put me up a New Mill Stone, I was at the putting of it up.

30 The Mill-Rights went hence. I went to Leverpoole, I made a bargain with John Wainright for five Cowes to take them in part for Ditton Rent. William Clough gave me bond at Mr Plumbs. I drunk with Mr Lownes and Ralf Tyrer at the Wool pack. I drunk with Mr Hurst at his own hous.

31 My Wife and I Read in my Closet. Mr Aldred suped here.

NOVEMBER

1 This being my Wives Birth-day Mrs Blundell of Ince, Mr Tasburgh and Mr Aldred dined here. Daniell Barrows brought me five Cowes in part of Rent for whot his wife owes me for Ditton Rack, I take them at £14-10s. John Blundell the Taylor payed me £2 which he had newly received from Darby Mackdonell.

2 Robert Tompson left my service and was succeeded by Joseph Massy.⁷³ I perused some old Accounts of Thelwalls to find out whot Black-Cattle I should have by compairing those bought with those sold and killed. I went part of the way with the Corps of James Farer towards its funerall.

3 I killed a fat Cow, I lodged at Dungenhall, going thither I called at Seath Woodcocks and saw Mr Barlows Water Engin thence I went to Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and dined there, I saw his Cole-Work it being the first time I had seen it, when I came near Dungen-hall Cozen John Gelibrond, Mr Starkeys Doughter &c: overtook us.

4 I Received £20 from Cozen John Gelibrond & signed him a Bond for payment of the same at 5 p. cent. to Mary Duxon, I played at Tables with Mr Lovell.

5 I went from Dungenhall to Showley to wish young Mr Walmesley Joy of his London Wife, I dined & Lodged at Showley.⁷⁴

6 I went from Showley to Preston to meet Cozen John Gelibrond, we discoursed Lawyer Starkey about security for my Payment of the Purchas Money for Mrs Blackbourns Land. I dined at Preston with Cozen John Gelibrond, Mr Gradall &c:, from Preston I went to Lodge at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds where I found Mr Thomas Walmesley and his Wife who were also come to lodg there.

7 I Dined at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds and came home from thence. My Wife dined at Ince.

⁷³ Robert Tompson had been plough-driver at 8s. 9d. a quarter. His successor, Joseph Massey at 12s. 6d. a quarter, remained only a short while; he last appears in the wages lists in January 1710. In the March 1710 list we find Robert Tompson back again as plough-driver at 13s. 9d. From the March 1711 list we find he had been promoted to ploughman at 15s. 9d. a quarter.

⁷⁴ Thomas Walmesley was the son and heir of Richard Walmesley, Esq., of Chorley, and his wife Jane, sister of William Houghton, Esq., of Park Hall. He had recently married Mary, daughter of William Colegreave, Esq. But note this visit was to Showley Hall, near Ribchester Lancashire.

8 I went to see Mr Tasburgh who was not well & to bring him a Book which Mr Lovell sent by me from Dungen. I Stated Accounts with Jane Lidiat Cook & payed her 5s. for six weeks Service, she left my Service before Michallmas. John Farer shewed me a Bond from Thomas Riding & William Wignold relating to a Bargan about the Green-Hey. I took in some of the Work-Horses to lye in in the night and also the Milk Cows.

9 Thelwall gave me a List of whot Black-kattle I have. I payed the remainder of Robert Tompsons Waiges to his Mother. I dined at Mr Aldreds with Mr Moston, Mr Thornton and Dr Worthington, it being the Doctors birthday he gave us a bole of Punsh, whilst we were at dinner Mr Babthrop and Mr Mannock⁷⁵ came to us and dined.

10 I went into most of the Fields of my Demesney that are in my own hands to Look at my Kattle & horses. I Payed £20 to John Molineux for the use of Mr Tasburgh tis in part of whot I owe upon account of my Uncle Thomas Blundell. William Davy diged out a Hare for me that I had run into a Rabet hole in Thomas Marrows Moss. Thelwall sold three Beas[ts] at Leverpoole Fair and bought two, he brought home a Grewhound that Lord Mountgarret sent me. Joseph brought a Seting Dog from Mr Plumb that I am to keep for him.

11 The Hare that I took alive Yesterday I Coursed today in the Townfield, she made an extraordinary fine course, there was present Thomas Farer Walter Thelwall, John Banister, &c.: Thelwall and I examained some Accounts that were of a Long Standing and onely imperfectly adjusted, but this day we stated all Accounts till October the first. I helped Bryanson to take up some Oaks & Alk they being the first we had taken up this year for Planting. Bradley went with my Wife to Leverpoole Fair.

12 I dined at Ince with my Lord Mountgarret and Mr Thomas Leigh, after dinner we went a Coursing, Mr Blundell, &c: went with us.

13 I went to Leverpoole, I went with William Atherton to see when Mrs Cayton would pay me whot she owes him. I discoursed William Atherton about agreeing with Philip and Ned Hawxeye to pay them by gess for the Brickwork at Ditton. I drunk with Mr Roger Bryers and Mr Wilding at the Wool-pack, I promised Mr Roger Bryers my Grewhound Bowe.

14 Mr Roger Briers sent for Bow, he was delivered to the Messenger. Mr Blundell of Ince and his Wife came hither, I went with Mr Blundell to Mr Aldreds it being the first time he had ben there.

15 Henry Bridg came to mend Saddles &c: for me, he worked here. I layed 25 Busshels and a half of Hawes in two Holes in the Limekill Croft the farthest hole has about half as many in as the other. I led three Load of Earth for the knot & began to lay it on the Beds. I drunk Punsh with Mr Tute, Morfew, Captain Robert Fazakerley, &c: at Nicholas Johnsons.

16 Henry Bridg finished working here for me. I lent my Grewhounds to some Leverpoole-men to Cours with in Great Crosby. I Began to make a Dose of Phisick for William Tompson for the Dropsy. I made a Lattice for the Larder Window & fixed it. I payed William Harrison the Clark 26s. for my Composition for Small Tiths. John Banister planted some Plaine Trees for Mr Aldred, Mr Aldred and I helped him.

⁷⁵ Father Francis Mannock, S.J., lived at the house of Thomas Brownbill in North John Street, Liverpool.

17 I Strained William Tompsons Phisick & finnished making it for him. I coursed a Hare that George Cottom had found set, Parson Letus,⁷⁶ &c: was with us, I dined at John Tarltons with Richard Roas, Robert Bootle and their Sons, Parson Letus, &c: Mr Darcy Chantrell and his Wife dined here, she lodg'd here.

18 Mr Wilding was here in the Morning. I went to Ditton we mesured the Ridings that are to be Marled; I agreed with the Masons for the work already done by them at Ditton, My Wife and Mrs Chantrell went part of the way with me viz: to Mr Robert Chantrells.

19 Mrs Chantrell went hence. I agreed with Thomas Riding to put his Wives Life on. I payed John Steward for Hops, &c: John Banister planted 23 Apple Trees and one Pare Tree for Mr Aldred, I helped him to get them up and to plant them.

20 My Wife was going towards Leverpoole but Harper⁷⁷ would not carry her, so she was fourced to light and walk back, I went with her single to Leverpoole. I drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Molineux of the Grange. Thomas Houghton payed me for some Bark. My Wife put some Gersy to be woven and dyed by Thomas Dixon. Mr Darcy Chantrells Wife came home with us from Leverpoole to lodge here. Margarit Charnock came to be the Cook.

21 Mr Darcy Chantrell came hither just when we had dined, he lodged here, he, I and our Wives went to Richard Tickleys of the North End, we found there Mr Robert Chantrell, Mr Molineux of the Grange, &c:, after Supper we played at Cards.

22 Mr Darcy Chantrell went hence. I killed a Fat Hogg. Joseph brought home 13 Ewes from Leverpoole which Thelwall bought there Last Saturday. I Strained my Ink which I have ben long in making. I made a second dose of Phisick for William Tompson.

23 The Court being kept at Great Crosby I went thither but Mr Ford was not come who I thought was to be the Steward, but Mr Heys the old Steward was there so was Henry Williamson, Henry Thomason, William Thelwall, &c: but the Company not being all met and the Court not Called I came home. I heard Mr Ford came afterwards. John Banister dressed Mr Aldreds young Apple Trees & planted him some Hasles. I began to disjest or put into order Thelwalls Accounts for six Months.

24 Mr Darcy Chantrell came hither & took his Wife hence before dinner, I coursed a Hare which Thelwall had found set; the Ground being frozen & I having occasion for one, I set a net where I thought she would come but she did not so I mist her. I booked Thelwalls Disbursments since Aprill the first till September the last.

25 I walked to see Parson Letus but he was gon to Walton, his Landlord Mr Lucas was at home. Mrs Ann Bamber &c: was here. I looked out my Skates in expectation to use them tomorrow. I laped up some Wax Candles for Mr Aldreds Chappell.

26 Mr Aldred & I Skaited it being the first time we have Skaited this Winter and I make not the least question but we might have Skaited Yesterday and

⁷⁶ William Latus was the curate of Sefton Church.

⁷⁷ Harper—name of the horse she wished to ride.

am apt to believe we might have Skaited upon the 24th. My Wife went to Lodg at Neston at M^r Darcy Chantrells, I went with her to Leverpoole & there I did something in order to settle my Accounts between Mr Leadbeter and me by peruesing & examining of them before Mr Chorley & his Prentice John Simpson.⁷⁸ I Received £20 from Mrs Cayton.

27 I Sourted the Apples in the Dining Roome & layd them in Straw & Cover'd those in Storehouse better uppon account of the frost. Mr Aldred & I Scated, Philip Syer & John Hunt went with us, when they had done they went a shooting & I Stayed a while & then came home. I Put some Black Pudings in Pickley to keep.

28 I Dined at Mr Aldreds with Mr Robert Chantrill. Mr Aldred & I went a Skaiting, Thomas Kerfoot, William Gray &c: were with us, we had the Trenow.

29 Mr Aldred, Parson Wairing, and Parson Letus dined here.

30 I was going to Ince to see Mr Tasburgh but hearing he was not at home I turn'd back & found Grace Pilkington endeavouring to open the Dining Roome dore with some Keys she had got to get Apples to give to Ince Servants that were here. I Suped at Mr Aldreds & played after at Cards with him, Richard Harrison & Walter Thelwall.

DECEMBER

1 Mr Aldred and I dined at Mr Thorntons at the New-hous, there was Mr Moston, Mr Mannock & Mr Tasburgh. I hanged my Grewhound Bow, I think he had runn nine Winters at the least. My Wife came home from Neston.

2 Mr Aldred dined here. I booked Thelwalls Receipts for six Months. I layed about 3 quarts of Heps one quart of Achhorns and the Stones of two Pound of Rasons into the Ground. I sent Thelwall to see Mrs Scarisbrick who was Lying in of Joseph her sixth Son.

⁷⁸ "This following is the Perticulars of what I have layed out in Groceries from the Last of May 1707 till the last of this Present December. £ s. d.

For Nutmegs at 9d. per oz: Sineomond 7½d. per oz: Mace about 20d. per oz: Coves 9d. per oz: Cloves pepper 2s. per Pound, Black pepper 20d. per Pound for all	16	4
Brown Sugar 3½d. per Pound. Loaf about 7½d. per Pound; Pouder Sugar 7d. per Pound	11	8
Sugar Kandy whit at 2s., Brown at 1s. per Pound	1	2
Curans about 7d. Reasons about 6d. per Pound	12	5½
Almonds one Pound	1	0
Chocolet one Pound 2s. Coffy ½ Pound 6s. 6d.	8	6
Anchovis 2s. Capers 1s. 4d. per Pound	5	8
Hops about 13d. per Pound	1	0 0
Vinegar at 1s. 6d. per Gallon	12	9
Oyle at 3s. per Quart	12	0
Sope six Pound	1	8
Powder blew ½ pound	1	0
Tobacco of severall Rates	3	4½
Galls 10 oz: Copperas 6 oz.	10	½
Lamp Black 6d. Twine 6d. Pins 4d.	1	4
Corks one Gross	2	0
Manks Woosted at 1½d. per oz.	4	3
Shot at 2d. per Pound. Brown Paper 1½d.	1	9½

- 3 I writ a very long Letter fowl over to my Aunt Frances Blundell but I sent it not. I killed a fat Hogg.
- 4 I Brought a Hare to Parson Letus & gave it him, thence I rid to John Lunts to speak about the Money he owes my Aunt Frances but he was not at home. I dressed the Larom Pendelom in our Chamber.
- 5 My Wife was very ill of a Cold, she writ Letters in the Parlor & I writ in my Closet. Nanny Hilton Lodged here.
- 6 Some of the Chimneys were Swept. I Shot a Kite. Lord Mountgarret & Pat: Gelibrond dined and Lodged here, we went to Mr Aldreds, he came home with us & Suped here. Mrs Blundell made a Viset here.
- 7 Lord Mountgarret & Pat: Gelibrond went to Leverpoole to meet Sir William Gerard and Sir Rowland Standley about Mr Chantrells business of Nocturnum. Lord Mountgarret & Pat: Gelibrond dined & Lodged at Leverpoole. Bolton coming from Leverpoole towards Crosby got a fall & brocke his Shoulder. I went to see Dr Lathom he being not well, I made by his orders some Alterations in his Will in Favour of his Neece Betty Lathom. Buck was tryed to draw in the Coach the first time.
- 8 Mr Thornton, Mr Tasburgh & Mr Aldred dined here, Mr Thornton & Mr Tasburgh lodged here. I payed Mr Tasburgh Eleven Pound in Part of whot I owe upon Account of my Uncle Thomas Blundell. Lord Mountgarret came from Leverpoole to Nicholas Johnsons, I went towards Evening to him, where I drunk Punch with Lord Mountgarret, Mr Blundell of Ince, Mr Tute, Mr More of Manchester, &c.: Mr Edge acquainted me that I might meet his Master, Mr Kennion at Wiggan upon the 10th if I thought fit about £100 owing by Sir Roger Bradshaigh upon account of Mr Christopher Bradshaigh.
- 9 Hilton went hence. My Wife went to see Mrs Scarisbrick who was lying in of her Son Joseph, Mrs Blundell went along with my Wife & she brought her home to Ince in oure Coach. Mr Blundell came hither after dinner & we went a Coursing for a while, but did not Cource a Hare that John Johnson had found. set for us. Pater Gelibrond bought a Hors of Mr Thornton, he & Mr Tasburgh dined here, they went hence after Lodging here. I Payed £7 to Pat: Gelibrond.
- 10 Lord Mountgarret & Pat: Gelibrond went hence. I went to Wigan and met Mr Kennion & his Clark Mr Edge, about Mr Christopher Bradshaighs Business, I Signed a Writing wherein I declaired that Sir Roger Bradshaigh was indetbed [*faded*]⁷⁹ to my Grandfather and he viz: William Blundell my Grandfather was Executor to Mr Christopher Bradshaigh. Upon some Prospect of having the Debt paid I gave consent that Sir Roger Bradshaigh should sell some Land by Act of Parleament, Mr Gilbert Sail of Hopkar also gave consent to the said Act he lickwayes being one of Sir Roger Bradshaighs Creditors; I dined at the Crosskeyes in Wigan with Mr Kennion, Mr Edge, &c: I came home from Wigan.
- 11 I went to Leverpoole and Received seven Guineys from Mrs Cayton upon Account of William Atherton. I bought some Stamped Paper of Mr Eaton, & some Pins &c: of Mr Morecroft. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Dr Tarlton.
- 12 James Davy came hither & desired I would take some care to have the

⁷⁹ About four words too faded to read.

Slating at Ditton mesured. Holme the Taylior came to demand pay for Altering Mallys Coat.⁸⁰

13 I Sowed some Seeds of Riculasses in the Nursery. Bryanson took up some Oaks &c: to plant in the Hedges. I gave John Sumner about 200 Bricks to make a Chimbney. Nicholas Johnson & his Men worked here. I went to Ditton after dinner, I Lodged at the Bank hous, after Supper I Shewed William Atherton, Philip Syer, &c: some tricks of Legerdemesney and I set some of the Workmen &c: upon playing of Tricks for pastime as leaping of the Rowling Pins &c:, there were two Taylors working there.

14 I made the New Slaiting, Flaging and Brickwork at Ditton to be mesured, but I did not Compute it all to see whot it would come to. Mathew Heyes the Smith gave me his Bill for work done for me. I dined at Ditton & came home thorough Leverpoole. Dr Bradleys Doughter Amarensia Lodg'd here.

15 I Gave Thelwall warning to leave my Service. I sent Banister to Leverpoole with Amarensia Bradley she was hier'd by Mrs Tute to serve her. I hurt my Face with Shooting at a Kite. Kerfoot payed me £8 in part of his Rack for 1706. John Banisters Father lodged here.

16 Thomas Banister went hence. I endeavour'd to Cast up part of the Slating & Flaging at Ditton, but was so long blundering about it that I dozed my self. I took the Lock off my Gun & I think it wants mending. Thomas Marrow Taylior worked here. I sent Thelwall to Ormskerk to Receive Money for Oats that were sent thither last Thursday. I was present most part of the time whilst they were Tunning and gave orders how some of it should be mixed viz: old Ail & new small Beer.

17 I helped John Banister to bottle about 11 Dozen & 4 Bottles of Ail. Thelwall & I cast up part of the work done at Ditton to see how many Foot some perticuler parcells of it contained.

18 My Wife & I dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole. Hole: Bradley & her Sister Amarentia went with us, her Sister went to serve Mrs Tute. Most of my Ditton Tennants met me & payed me their Rents. I payed James Davy in full for Flaggs, Slates & for dressing & laying them at Ditton and also for some work done here.⁸¹ I gave William Atherton some Locks for Ditton. Mrs Cayton payed me some Money upon Account of William Atherton. James Davy the Slater had most of it. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Taylor the Watch-maker. Betty Harrison came to be Chamber Maid & Dary Maid, she is to suckceed Mary Howerd when Mary leaves her place.

⁸⁰ "12 December 1708—To Holme for Altering Mallys Coat 1s. 0d."

⁸¹ "18 December 1708—
 To James Davy for Slats 7 Rood & $\frac{1}{2}$ at 20s. per Rood for my
 Barn &c: at Ditton 7 10 0
 For Dressing, holling & Laying 7 Rood & $\frac{1}{2}$ of Slats on Ditton Barn
 Swinhous at 12s. per Rood 4 10 0
 For Laying & Poynting 26 Yards of Ridging Stones at one penny per
 yard 2 2
 For 30 Yards of Flaggs at 6d. per yard 15 0
 For Dressing and Laying 34 yards of flaggs in Ditton Kitchen &c:
 at 6d. per yard 17 0
 Ja: Davy for going twice to the Delf 2 0
 Ditto for three days Work at Crosby. 2 6
 To his Man dor 3 days 1 6
 Dressing $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Rood of Slate at Crosby. 3 6"

- 19 I Examined my Receipts & Disbursments of Yesterday and put them into some order. Mr Aldred dined here.
- 20 I payed Ann Johnson her Waiges she designs to goe tomorrow. Mr Aldred gave my Wife a very fine Pair of Ivory tenns of his own making. I helped John Banister to Ready the Dining Roome and to carry the Nets and some other things into the Store-hous, we also readyed other plases & layed up some things & hung Pictures in different Plases. I opened Mrs Mills Trunk to see what was in & then I set it up over the Green Roome.⁸²
- 21 Ann Johnson left her Service she had been the Cook, but for some little time she has ben employed in other work. I sent Mr Robert Chantrell about 40 Plane-trees by his Servant. I heard Mass at Lidiat thence I went to Lord Mountgarrets, I dined there, whilst I was there Mrs Hesketh of Rufford went past she was going to Thurnom. I payed my Aunt Frances six Pound and gave her my Bond for £20, I went awhile to the Club to the Golden-Lyon, there was there Lord Mountgarret, Mr Thomas Leigh, Mr Peter Ashton, Mr Howet, &c: Houghton came to me and I bespoke some Ball Sope of him. It was both dark & wet when I came home.
- 22 I killed a Fat Cow. I mixed some Ingredients to make Aqua Coelestes⁸³ & set it in a Running. I altered some Bottles of my best Lickor in my Sellor as Wine & Brandy &c:. I hung some other Pictures on the Great Stare case & plased them in a Different order to what they were. I removed Severall Books Chiefly Spirituall books & Schoolbooks into different plases in my Closet.
- 23 I Botled of the Aqua Coelestis which I have new made & made a smaller sort of Aqua Coelestis. I Removed all the Bottles of Ail & Beer in my Seller. I Reddied my Closet & plased some of the books in order. Dorothy Blundell came to be the Nursery Maid.
- 24 I went after Dinner to Leverpoole, Mrs Cayton payed me £8-10s-00d. I went to Thomas Brownbills & discoursed him about Mrs Blackbourn, Mr Morpew gave me a Bottle of Wine at his own house.
- 25 Mr Aldred prayed and dined here. Peggy Charnock went to Lidiat to see her Sister.
- 26 My Wife & I dined at Mr Aldreds. Mary Howerd left her Service & is suckceeded by Betty Harrison. Mrs Barbara Blundell came to see her Sister Dorothy, she brought two of Mr Blundells Doughters of Ince along with her. Mr Howet & Mr Robert Fazakerley & their Wives lodged here. I sent our Coach to Ormskerk to fetch their Wives. Mr Aldred suped here.
- 27 Mr Aldred prayed dined & Suped here. I, Mr Robert Fazakerley, Mr Howet and our wives went to Mr Aldreds. Some of us played at Cards both before and after Supper.
- 28 Mr Aldred prayed dined & lodged here. Mr Fazakerley, Mr Howet and I went to Ince to wate of Sir Francis Anderton & Mr Harington, &c:, it being Mr Blundells Birth day we had a Bowl of Punch there. Our Wives went in the Coach to Parson Richmonds of Walton. We had Musick at Night. I gave Mr Richard Wairing & Mr Thomas a Glass of Aile in my Parlor.

⁸² See September 26 1706: August 1 1707.

⁸³ See May 5 1720 and February 3 1721 for full instructions for making this drink from brandy, crab apples, lemons and sugar.

29 My Wife, Mrs Fazakerley and Mrs Howet went in our Coach to Ince to wate of the Young Lady Anderton, Sir Francis Anderton drove them home, he Suped here, he had ben here this after noone and then Mr Charles Harington and his Brother John were with him, we drunk the Butlers health in my Seller. We had two Fidlers Tatlock & Wassall. Mrs Allanson lodged here, I sent to fetch her.

30 My Grewhound Whelp Speed which had ben kept at Ditton was brought home. Grace Pilkington came home, she had ben abroad for some days. Sir Francis Anderton, Mr Blundell, Mr Charls Harington and their Ladys made a Viset here, old Mr Harington &c: was also here, the Gentlemen drunk in the Gallery. Mr Plumb lodged here, he, I, &c: dansed country dances after Super.

31 Mr Plumb went hence, Bradleys Brother walked with him to Leverpoole. Mr Charls Harington came hither from Ince before dinner but dined not here. I Payed Richard Harrison one Quarters Land Tax. Pat: Wofold Din'd here. Mr Howet, Mr Fazakerly and I made a second Viset to Ince.

Anno Domini 1709

JANUARY

1 My Wife, Mrs Fazakerley, Mrs Howet and Mr Fazakerley went in the Coach to see a Rase on the Sands between one Hors of Sir Frances Andertons, one of old Mr Haringtons and two of Mr Charles Harington, it was Cheefly for diversion & for some few shillings which was layed out in a Treat at Mr Aldreds. I was at the Rase, and when it was over Sir Frances Anderton and I, &c: went to Mr Aldreds to partake of the treat, there was at Mr Aldreds Sir Frances Anderton, Mr Blundell of Ince, Mr Charls Harington & their Ladyis, &c: Mr Fazakerley and the rest in my Coach went after the Rase to the Grange. Mr Fazakerley & his Wife & my Wife went to Ince a Maskarading. Bradleys Brother who had ben here for some Nights went hence. Mr Howet went hence, it being a Frost he walked home.

2 I sent Mrs Fazakerley & Mrs Howet home, but Mr Fazakerley stayed here, he & I went to the Grange, there was there Sir Frances Anderton, Mr Blundell, Mr Charls Harington & their Ladys &c: Pat: Wofold treated us men with very good Punch.

3 Philip Syer, Ned Spencer, &c: were here to recon with me for work done by them at Ditton for me but William Atherton not being here we did little in the matter. Mr Aldred and I Skated on Formospoole, Mr Fazakerley, Philip Syer, &c: went [with] us. Houghton brought me about 25 Dozen of Ball Sope.

4 I Payed Ned Spencer £7-7s-3d in part for work done for me at Ditton. Mr Charls Harington called here before dinner in his way home from Ince, but he dined not here, he sought awhile about the hous to find a Woodcock. Mr Fazakerley dined at Ince. I cupled Hector & Speed together and led them thorough the Town to teach them to goe quietly cupled.

5 Mr Fazakerley went hence, Mr Aldred and I went with him to Ormskerk, we dined at his hous thence we went to Lord Mountgarrets, we were at the Club the Golden Lyon with Mr Howet, &c:.

6 Mr Aldred and I went to Skate on Formospoole but it was so windy & cold I stayed but a while, Philip Syer, &c: was there, soone after I came home Philip Syer came to me & acquainted me that Mr Aldred & he designed to goe a Fowling. My Wife & I went to Richard Harrisons & eat some Christmas Fair. Some of Ince Servants came hither & eat some Christmas Fair, My Maids went to Ince at night, Mr Mostons Maid Betty came to see her Sister Peggy Charnock.

7 Thomas Marrow the Taylior worked here. John Tickley cut down an old Ash Tree that hung over the Grove-Ditch. I Clensed my Gun & fixed my Skates better. Mrs Anne Rothwell acquainted me she was robed, I lent her 10sh. Nicholas Shepperd paid me in part for the Great Morehey, we had some discours about a new bargain. I Received Walter Thelwalls Accounts but we onely perused them slightly over.

8 My Wife and I went to Leverpoole. Bradley went along with us in order to make an End one way or other with her Preston Spark. My Wife and I got a Snap of a dinner at Mrs Lancasters, we bought some lofe Sugar there¹ Mrs

¹ "9 January 1709—Loaf Sugar at 8d. per Pound 3s. 8d.
Fine Brown at 5d. per Pound 5s. 0d.
Cours Brown at 3d. per Pound 1s. 6d."

Cayton payed me £09-10s-00d it being the Remainder of £59-00s.-00d. which she ought to William Atherton, whot she payed me today I distributed as followeth, part to Mr Hurst, to Mr Allanson, Leadbeters Shop, & to Philip Syor. Mr Plumb & I pitched on a day to keep my Court.

9 Mr Plumbs Servant came to Acquaint me he could not keep my Court according to the time appointed.

10 Thomas Gower was here, he is newly comn from London. I clensed my little Cocking Gun & shot Black-birds with it, & with my other I shot a Kite & 9 Shepsters. My Wife went to consult Ailes Tickley about the Gravill &c: but Ailes was not at home, however my Wife brought some powders home with her to take.²

11 Mr Aldred and I had a deal of discourse about Fatoning of Kattle & Sheep after the Beyond-Sea manner, and of other sort of Husbandry. I booked my Accounts for December.

12 Three of my Work-horses were Bluddied. Ralf Tyrer dressed Bonny Lass, she had Strained her back I suppose with a fall on the Ise. I weighed some old Brass and Puter which I intend to send to Leverpoole. Mr John Blundells Son John & his Doughter Barbera came from Ince to see their Sister Dorothy here.

13 I Carried severall Phisicall things out of my Closet and layed up some Papers & Letters in their proper plases which had lain Irregularly for some time in the Red Trunk. Mr Walmesley the Elder of Showley lodged here. Wassell the Fidler play'd here at night. I played at Cut in the Hall.

14 I went with Mr Walmesley to Thomas Syers of the Ford, Mr Walmesley sold some land to him, I played some tricks there of Leger de Mesney, Coming home Mr Walmesley and I called to see Mr Wairing, we stayed a good while with him. I shewed Mr Walmesley the Wheat hey, &c: and advised with him about keeping Sheep in those Fields.

15 Mr Walmesley went to Leverpoole I went some hours after him, he, Mr Aldred and I drunk wine at Mr Morphews, I bought some Brandy of him. William Clough & John Wainright payed me each of them a Little Money. Mr Pryer drunk at the Wool-pack with me, Mr Walmesley & Mr Aldred &c:. coming home we called at Mr Barrows the Apothecarys, he gave us a Drame at the Dore. I Stated Accounts with Mr Thomas Leadbeter.

16 Richard Tickley & Mrs Ann Baumber dined here. Mr Walmesley and I went to Mr Aldreds and set some time with him. Mr Aldred dined & suped here & after Supper play'd at Cards with us.

17 Mr Walmesley went hence. Richard Harrison shewed me a letter from Cozen Richard Butler. Thomas Riding payed me some Money in part of a Fine. I put some Ingredients together to make Aqua Coelestis and set it to drain.

18 I Lent Richard Harrison £4 for the use of Cozen Richard Butler tis payed to me. I Bottled of the Aqua Coelestis. I & John Banister walked over the Stock-roots & took up those Oaks & Ash as we thought would not doe and we tooke up some Oaks in the Nursery to Supply the places of part of those in the Stockroots.

² Alice Tickle was the wife of a yeoman living in a part of the manor of Little Crosby called the North End.

19 I & John Banister examined the Padock to see where any trees were wanting or where any were not lickly to doe well, Banister planted some Ashes where I orderd him to make holes in the Padock. John Bryanson took up about 400 Thornes. I helped him to cut & trim some of them. The Garden Miding that lay in the Folds near the Stone Garden Gate was most of it carried into the Little Moss Hey. I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marrow [the] Taylor for Money owing me for Rent and Boon for which he gave me his Note & I crossed him out of my Book. My Children took Phisick for some out breacks they had. My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Blundell.

20 John Banister & Bryanson planted Oaks & Ash in the Stock Roots. Mr Wairing made a Viset here. I gave Mr Aldred some Lead to make a Pan on for making Wax Candles. I lost 12d. to M: Pil: about Bridgett Harrison not designing to marry. A New Gate was hung at this Town & I proposed an Agreement for me to find a Little Gate to hang by it for the Convenience of the People & the Town is to maintain it.³

21 I helped John Banister to take up a great many Larg Plane Trees & some of the Larger sort of Oaks. Bryanson planted about 30 Pritty Larg Oaks in the Stock Roots. Philip Syer acquainted me with his thoughts of bein Mason at Croxtoth or elce to work at a New Church at Manchester.

22 My Wife went with me to Leverpoole, Mrs Allison treated us with Jocolet⁴ I payed all I ought to Mr Allanson & to Mr Hurst, & cleered of all Accounts with Mr Halsold as well for Brass & Puter sold to him as for Goods bought of him. I drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Plumb. I became first acquainted with Gabriell Norris,⁵ I discoursed him at the Wool-pack about his Bargan for Mrs Blackbourns.

23 I went to Lidiat & heard Mr Moston hold forth, I dined there. My Wife heard Mr Burton hold fourth at Formby, she dined at Richard Tickleys. Dolly Blundell went to Scarisbrick to see her Sister. Mr Plumb Lodged here.

24 Mr Plumb & I made a Viset to Mr Blundell. In the Evening Mr Plumb & I went to the flight at Formospoole, but we Shot nothing. Philip Syer made a place or two of Gors to Ly at to shoot from.

25 Mr Plumb kept my Court at William Davys, Edmund Trustrom was there, he gave me 40sh. to send to Gravelines. Mr Plumb & Aldred went towards Formospoole at Flight time, I stayed at home & Skated. Mrs Blundell sup'd here, so did Mr Thomas but not in the Parlor, when Mrs Blundell was gon I took Mr Thomas into the Parlor & gave him a drink, he set some time with us.

26 Mr Aldred, Mr Plumb & I Rode to Charles Howerds & then walked & watched in the Sand Hills to shoot Wild Gees at the Morning Flight; we walked thence toward Alt with our Guns and followed the River for the most part, we came over the new Wooden Bridge⁶ and so home past Ince Mill but in all this Round we killed nothing, Mr Plumb & I called at the Grange as we came past, to see Mr Molineux. Mr Plumb went hence. I paid John Stewerd 13s. 6d. for Cambrick &c:.. One Banks came a beging upon account of a Loss he has had

³ One of a number of gates placed across the roads, lanes and footpaths to prevent cattle straying. This gate cost 3s. 6d. See March 9 1709.

⁴ Chocolate.

⁵ Gabriel Norris lived in James Street. He was a mariner. See March 10 1709 and footnote.

⁶ See December 21 1705.

at Sea, he brought a Letter of Recommendation from my Lord Molineux. Ralf Tyrer layed a Charge to Bonny Lass for a Strane she got in her Back I suppose by a Fall on the Ise.

27 Most of the larg Stones were lead out of the Long Garden that the Bridg was made of. Henry Dauber came to Fall some Crab Trees and to make them into Coggs and Rongs.⁷ I sent William Harrison to fetch my Gun to Mr Aldreds to me, but he shot it off against his will as he was coming with it and put it so out of order that I was foured to goe home with it and mend it. In the Evening Mr Burton, Mr Aldred and I went to the Flight at Formospoole, they Suped here.

28 I Hiered William Ainsworth to be my Servant, he came yesterday with a Letter of Recommendation from Mr Walmesley Senior of Showley. I went after dinner to Croxtath to wate of Lord Molineux who was comne to stay there a few dayes upon business.

29 I marked the small wights viz: Pounds and ounces &c: to know them. Mr Aldred & I folded up Wax Candles a good while before dinner and most part of the after noone.

30 I Shewed Thomas Arnold where he might have Stones from, Philip Syer was with us. Gabriell Norris came to name the Lives he would have in his Leas of Mrs Blackbourns late Land.

31 Mr Aldred and I made an end of laping up Wax Candles. I began this year to Moss the Apple Trees this year in the Crow Orchard. I cut some Ash boughs ready for burning in the Dining Roome. Philip Syer began to mend the Oat-Croft wall. My Wife took a Vomit of her self.

FEBRUARY

1 John Rimer helped to moss Apple Trees, he helped me to take up an Asp in the Padock & to remove some Gors &c: in the Stock Roots. I Sealed a Leas to John Sumner wherein I added the life of his Son Henry to the Lives of John & his Wife.

2 Mr Aldred dined here, he, I, Thelwall, John Farer, &c: went a Coursing, I entered my Whelp Speed, it being the first time he Run since he came home from Ditton. I writ a Letter to my Sister Midleton from my Doughter Mary, it was of her owne endighting.

3 Philip Syer made a hole in the Wall in lower Granery to set a Cupbord in, he began to lay a Cundit of Stone overcross the way between the Long Garden & the Bleaching yord, I helped to carry a great many of the Stones, whilst we were there the Doggs run a Hare past us & took her, I got her alive from the Grehounds.

4 I began this year to Fallow in the Bark for Barly. I helped John Rimer to remove the tops of a Crab tree out of the Sixteen Aicker, John Lunt paid me 10s. in part of whot his Son owes to my Aunt Frances Blundell. Mrs Blundell made a Viset to Mr Aldreds she called here coming back. Mr Richard Wairing came hither after Supper to take leave of me, he stayed a good while in the Parlor, he was for sailing the next fair Wind.

⁷ Crab apple tree wood was often used to make the teeth in the large wooden gear wheels of windmills.

- 5 Philip Syer finished the Stone Cundit or Plat between the Long Garden and Bleaching Yard. I and Thelwall coursed a Hair which he had found set in Wheat Hey. I began to burn Ash Boughs in the Dining Roome both to Air the Roome & for the Ashes. I set about 132 Walnuts on part of my Bed in the Long Garden. John Banister planted Goosberry & Curron Trees for Mr Aldred.
- 6 My Wife and I went to Richard Harrisons and sat some time there. We read in the Dining Roome in a Spirituall Booke.
- 7 Mr Tute, Mr Charles Harington & their Wives &c: dined here.
- 8 Philip Syer cut a Window in the Loft over the Servant Chamber. Above eleven Hundred Thornes were pulled up, I helped to count some of them. John Banister took a Rabet Nest with 4 young ones in it, they were just ready to runn.
- 9 John Banister planted a Cloase Hedg for Mr Aldred. I Stated some Accounts with Thelwall but we did not quite finish them. I went towards evening to see Richard Harrison there was with him Mr Aldred, William Making & William Arnold.
- 10 I Dined at Ormskerk at my Lord Mountgarrets. I shewed my Lord and my Aunt Frances a Letter from the Lady Abbess of Gant threatening my Sister Winnys coming for England & my Answer to it. Holme shaped a Pair of Breeches for me of Norway Leather. Lord Mountgarret, Mr Thomas Leigh and I &c: were at the Club and the Golden Lyon.
- 11 I writ a long Letter twice over to Lady Abbess at Gant but did not send it My Wife writ a letter or two in the Parlor. Jane Harrison came home yester-day from serving Mrs Howet & today she made my Wife a Viset.
- 12 I Went to Leverpoole, I set a while in Mr Hursts with him. I drunk in the Wool pack with Mr Plumb &c: thence I went to an other Roome and drank with Mr Secomb the Maior, Mr Pryor, &c:. I sold a Gold Ring and some Silver Lase to Mr Branker. I bought some Salt Salmon of William Griffy at 4d p. Pound. Mr Aldred, Charles Howerd & William Anderton shot amongst them three Swans, the Largest of them weighed above 27 Pound; from the Tip of the Bill to the end of the Toes it was five Foot Four Inches and a half long, and from the tip end of one wing to the other it was Eight Foot Five Inches, Charles Howerd made me a Present of one of the Swans as was shot. Mr Aldred orderd his Grehound Pass to be hanged.
- 13 I sent John Banister with a Swan to Mr Plumb as a Present. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here, he, Mr Aldred, & I made a Viset to Mr Blundell of Ince, my Wife was there.
- 14 John Farer, Banister & I went out to trace Hairs & Rabets. I shot two Kits. I sat awhile in the Evening with Richard Harrison.
- 15 John Farer and John Banister went out before dinner a Trasing, they took a Hair & a Rabet, I went out after dinner with them but we got noe thing. I shot one Kite & 13 Crows.
- 16 John Banister got a Rabet with Traising. I set my Chaff Nets in the Bark and took above a dozen Small Birds. I killed two Thrushes with whipping them. I Skated at Formospoole it was very Rough.
- 17 My Wife went to Ince to wate of Mrs Trafford of Croston. I began to lead

some earth out of the Stone Garden into the Bark. I went to Mar: Blundell and told her whot she was indebted to me for, and we stated the Accounts between us. I looked over some Papers relating to the Towns account. I found William Sumners Certificat.

18 I Stated Accounts with Ailes Travis, she payed me part of her Rent for Rigats Teneament; I gave her something to make use of for her Doughter that has the Kings evill. I gave John Blundell severall peeses of Parchment to be Taylors mesures. I mended a Smoothing Iron. I mended the Meal Chist in the Storehous. I took two Warming Pans to the Smithy & got one tolleble good one made of those two.

19 I Payed William Weedow whot I ought him for his Charges of going to Lancaster to swere against Richard Ainsworth, I stated Accounts with him for some other concernes. I began to writ out an Account of whot was owing me for Rent & other things for which I had neather Bond nor Note under my Debtors Hand. My Wife went to Leverpoole, Jane Harrison went with her, it was a very Cold Wind.

20 Mr Trafford of Croston, Mr Blundell of Ince & their Wives &c: made a Viset here.

21 I went to the Aile-hous at Sefton Church to consult about scouring the River Alt; I met there Mr Blundell of Ince, Mr Maile, Mr Tatlock, Mr Fazakerley of Prescot, Yeoman of the Gore, Robert Bootle, &c:.

22 Mr Aldred and I went to Leverpoole, we drunk Punsh at Mr Tuts, Mr Pryor was with us at the Wool Pack.

23 I coursed a Haire that Walter Thelwall found set and an other that John Hunt found set, we killed them both, Mr Aldred was at the latter Course. I tyed Speed to a Tup & beat him for runing at Sheep. I sent John Banister to Sefton to get some Slips of Cornelion Tree he also brought home with him a Ladder which I had bought in Maile. My Wife made a Viset to Betty Blundell of the Carside who was lying in, she called at Ince Hall & Mrs Blundell went along with her.

24 I went to Ormskerk to wate of my Lord Mountgarrets Eldest Son Cozen Richard Butler who was comne home from Schoole, I dined at my Lords and my Wife dined at Mr Howets.

25 Edward Hatton paid me his Rent for the Brandyearth. I set the Coppy, Ackers, &c: to Henry Hunt & Walter Thelwall for one year. Some discourse about Betty Harrison going to Burchley & of her Sister R. Ev: Mr Aldred & I agreed upon a Sallery,⁸ we discoursed about some bargans made by me.

26 Bannister planted some Slips of Cornelion tree. Mr Aldred acquainted me

⁸ Father Aldred was paid a salary of £2 per quarter year. Other wages paid for this quarter (March 25 1709) were:

"Walter Thelwall, Steward, he left my Service	1	10	0
John Banister, Gardiner & Butler		18	9
Hen: Sumner, Plough-Man, Groom & Coachman		15	0
Joseph Massy, Plough driver		11	3
Holcroft Bradley, my Wives Made, left Service		15	0
Dorothy Blundell, Nursery Maid Quarter		8	9
Betty Harrison, Chamber Maid & Dary Maid		10	0
Margarit Charnock, Cook & Brewer		10	0
John Kerfoot, Miller at his own Bord	2	5	0"

with the discourse he had yesterday with Thelwall.⁹ I discoursed Richard Harrison, &c: about Betty Harrison going to Burchley & she speaking herself to me, it was resolved she should not goe. I read much in a Book which gives directions for Husbandry, for Planting, about Bees, &c:. I Stated Accounts with William Davy for 40s. he had formerly payed me, it was applied towards paying his Rent. Philip Syer & Ned Hawksey came to rase the New-Grounds Wall higher, but the day proving wet they were driven off. Dolly Blundell went to Leverpoole, Mr Blundell sent Thomas Sweetlove hither with a hors to carry her on to Leverpoole, I sent a load of Barly to be Malted at Sefton, this being the first I sent thither, and I fetched a Load of Malt from Mr Houghtons kill at Leverpoole, it being the first I have had made there.

27 William Wignold. T. Kerfoot, & Thomas Blansherd pay'd me for the Warand. My Wife and I walked out in the evening, she went to Andertons & I went to Hu: Nail: I discoursed him about his Scouring Whinepoole, and about his Employment at Leverpoole, &c:.

28 I was in both Great Crosby Townfields with Thomas Gower & Edward Hatton, &c: whilst they were mesuring Ground in order to make some exchanges. I drunk with James Williamson, Anthony Fleetwood, William Thelwall, &c: at Ann Ashtons. I was at Heskeths at the Court of Great Crosby which was held by Mr Ford; I dined with the Steward of the Court, Mr Wairing, &c: after the Court. I also drunk with them, Mr Thomas, Henry Thomason, Thomas Gower, &c:. My Wife dined at Ince.

MARCH

1 Edward Ryecroft brought three very Large and fat Bullocks to be kept here a while by me. I helped to take down the Curtain Rod from the Bed in the Garden Chamber & made Gray to mend it & helped him to put it up again. I Shot a Kite in the 16 Aicker & stood near the Footway going to the Bark. I put 10 Leaves of Lawrell into near a Quart of Brandy to try to make Ratephia of it. I Fixed the Sound post in the Base Viall as well as I could, it being fallne down. I went to the Coppy Barn to see whot store of Hay I had there, thence I went to the Sea side and followed the River Alt to the Meadows and thence went on to Great Alker and so back againe by Alt Stone Bridg then past Richard Tickleys and so home, in this Round I killed one pritty large Fowl.

2 I Peruesed some of Jane Harrisons Receipts to see which of them my Wife had not, and some of them I writ in her Book. I Counted my Rabet Skins to see whether the Waranders had given me a Just Account.

3 Mr Aldred prayed and dined here. Parson Wairing dined here, My Tenant Thomas Warton should have comne with him but he was so busy shooting at the Cock he could not come, but after dinner he came and eat some Pancaks &c: with us. I and John Banister went out a traising but we got nothing. William Atherton of Ditton Lodged here he brought some Eles with him. I put two Hoggs up to feed.

4 William Atherton & I Stated Accounts for Part of the New building at Ditton, for Taxes, &c:. A Grand falling out with Bradley upon which she

⁹ There had been some disagreement between Nicholas and his steward, Walter Thelwall, who had served the family for many years. Father Aldred apparently was trying to settle the quarrel. See March 8 and 25 1709.

went out of the Hous with an intention to goe quite away, but she came back againe.¹⁰

5 I took the Coffy Mill in peeses to see whot was the falt with it. Mrs Ca: Gorsuch came to profer herself to serve my Wife if we had any employment for her, she lodged here.¹¹

6 Ned Spencer was here. Mr Blundell & his Lady made a Viset here. Philip Syer acquainted me that Mr Molineux of Croxtath designed to Build, I writ a Letter of recommendation for him to carry to Mr Molineux. Holme the Taylior brought a pair of Breeches he had made for me of my Norway Skin.

7 I Began to plough Leyes this year in the Cowhey. I sent Mr Aldred a Cart Load of Turf and an other of Cole. Laurence Gilberson took up 120 Ashes to be planted at Ditton. The Jury met, they came hither to see whot Business I had for them to consider on. Lord Mountgarret & his Son, Cozen Scarisbrick & his Lady dined here, the Gentlemen and I went to Mr Aldreds. Mrs Blundell came hither after dinner. I gave my Grehound Hector to Lord Mountgarret.

8 Henry Ascroft & John Banister took up above 40 Apple Trees & twelve Hundred Thornes which I intend to send to Ditton. John Bryanson and Henry Ascroft got some Slips of Goosberrys which I also design to send to Ditton; they helped to lay most of the Wood in the Ground which I design for Ditton, I gave them their Dinners in the Stone Garden. My Wife went to Great Crosby, I went after her, we eat Pankakes at Richard Newhoues & Ralph Nelson thence we went to Nicholas Johnsons and eat Pancakes, we saw part of a Cock fight in Great Crosby. I called to see Duke, he being newly comne home. My Children were at Great Crosby. Fanny stayed all Night at her Nurses. Most of my Servants went at Night to Great Crosby to drink Walter Thelwalls Farewell, when I came home I found Richard Shepherd here very sick.

9 Jane Harrison went to Lostock to Service. The Little Gate to the Town was hung. My Wife took Fanny to Mrs Bootle, because she had the Canker in her Mouth.

10 My Wife and I made a Viset to Parson Letus & his Wife,¹² it being the first time we had ben there to see them since they were married, thence we went to see William Thelwall and his Wife, it being the first time we had ben at his Appartment in Sefton, we saw his Wife but he was not in the hous, thence we went to John Farcloughs. I spoke to him to come to work for me. Gabriell Norris¹³ called here to acquaint me that Richard Molineux carryed Muck of his Ground. James Duxbury called here to discourse me about the Lime I had from him for my Ditton Building.

11 Thelwall & Dolly Blundell took Fanny to Mrs Bootles for the Canker in her Mouth. Ralf Tyrer came to look at my Twin Heffer, it was Lame. I dresed our Chamber Pendelum & took up a good many Trees in the Crow Orchard which I design for Under-wood.

¹⁰ This was a disagreement between Mrs. Blundell and her maid Bradley.

¹¹ Both Frances and Catherine Gorsuch, of Gorsuch Hall, young cousins of Nicholas came to Crosby Hall to act as companion to Mrs. Blundell. See April 3 1709.

¹² William Latus, curate of Sefton, had married Anne, daughter of John Crosse, of Crosse Hall, Chorley.

¹³ See January 22 1709. Norris came to live in Little Crosby. In the sixth roll of Roman Catholics who had to register their estates or holdings in 1717 there appears the name: *Gabriell Norres of Little Crosby, marriner*. But in the eighth roll an entry reads: *Gabriell Norres, late of Formby, now of Ince Blundell, marriner*. (QDP/2/1-22. L.R.O.).

12 Thelwall paid me some Money it being the Ballance of our Last Accounts ending with December. I went to Leverpoole. I stated Accounts with Mr Plumb for Money he had Received for me from Henry Tyrer in Dublin. I paid James Duxbury £4 in part for Lime, Mr Plumb was present. John Wainright paid me 17s-6d. in part for Ditton Rent and John Tildesley gave me his Note for 40s. it was owing by him to John Wainright. Robert Litherland paid me 24s. for Interest of twenty Pound. I drunk at the Woolpack with James Williamson & his Son Henry with Richard Plumpton, James Duxbury, &c:.

13 I Stated my Accounts of Yesterday. I writ a long Letter to Richard Royall from his Mother Margaret Mackdonell.

14 I Rode out before dinner & called to see John Steward & Edmund Trustroms Wife who were both ill, I think I did not light, I told Edmund Trustrom that I intended to writ to Graveling soone, thence I went to Richard More he gave me 10s. to send to Graveling as a Charity. I agreed with John Rothwell to change the Life of William Davy for the Life of Margery Rothwell & Received £10 from him upon that Account,¹⁴ I dined at Carr Hall with Mr Burton¹⁵ & Mr Moston. My Wife went to Coppole and discoursed Ann Howerd about coming for some time to supply the place of Ho: Mr Thomas Gorsuch & Mr Mainard came hither but neather I nor my Wife being at home they did not stay. Hol: Bradley hearing Mr Howet was dangerously ill she went to see him & left her service. I sent John Banister to Ditton with a great Many Trees to be planted there viz: Ash Thornes Appletrees &c: Nicholas Sheperd paid me £4 in full for Rent for the last year for the Great More-hey. I made an Exchange with Mr Aldred between his Mare Giny and my Gray Bonny.

15 Mr Burton sent to me for some Plane Trees &c: I helped the Man to get them up. Gray fixed my Irons in the handles for marking Beas[ts] in the Hornes. I began to open my Apples which had been cover'd all Winter, two of the Maids & I sorted part of them. I beat Speed a Second time for Running at Sheep. Edward Porter was here it being the first time since he came out of Lancaster Prison.

16 I Burned some of my Beas[ts] in the Hornes, this being the first time I began to mark them in the Hornes. Mr Aldred, Thelwall, &c: help'd me. Mr Richard Molineux of the Grange payed me 01s.-08d. for Chief Rent for the two last years, he payed it in the Kitchen. I Paid Mr Aldred in part for his Mare Ginny which I lately Bargained with him for. Ned Rycroft sent for one of his Oxen which I had kept for him awhile. Thomas Banister brought me some Burch Water to make Wine on, he also brought me some Bullo Trees & Plumb Trees.

17 I Took my Figureing marking Irons for Beas[ts] to Gray to get them Lengthoned and the Hoops put better on. John Banister came home from Ditton where he had ben planting Trees. Thelwall went to Ormskerk and brought word that Mr Howet dyed yesterday. I writ a Long Letter fowl over to my Aunt Ailes. Mrs Barbara Blundell made a Viset here.

18 I went to Mr Ropers and discoursed him about the Management of Clover Grass, thence I went to Leverpoole & discoursed Mr Secomb the Maior about buying some Clover Seed for me, I found Lord Mountgarret & his

¹⁴ See April 25 1705, February 6 and June 22 1708.

¹⁵ Rev. Christopher Burton, S.J., had succeeded the Rev. Richard Forster at Formby. He died at Watten in Flanders, July 23 1744, aged 73.

Son Richard at Mr Hursts. I Payed Edward Hawksey £4 in part for Work done at Ditton.

19 I went to the Funerall of Mr Howet of Ormskerk; Lord Mountgarret, Mr Molineux of Mosby, Mr Scarisbrick, Parson Siddall, Mr John Hayes, &c: were there. Cozen Dic: Butler came home with me to lodg here. My Wife went to Leverpoole.

20 Cozen Dic Butler, My Wife, Mr Aldred and I went to Ince, Mr Blundell gave us a Bole of Punsh.

21 Cozen Dick Butler went hence, Darby Wife carried my Base Violl for him to Ormskerk. The Taylors began to make my Wives blew Riding Coate. I set a while with Richard Harrison thence I went to Thomas Bullins to see how he did but I thought it not proper to see him. The Kite which I shot the first of this Month was alive, it has eat nothing to my knowledg since I shot it excepting the Neck of a Black-bird which I put with it but eaven that I think it did not eat neather do I conceive it could eat anything unless it kil'd any Mise in the Roome which I think is not very Probable, it dyed in the Night. I payed William Harrison Clark of Sefton 2d. insted of Paist Eggs. I Weighed some Oat-Meale for Andertons Wife.

22 John Banister planted two Fur-Trees in the Avenew where others were dead viz: near the Bridg between the Long Garden and the Bleaching Yard. Mrs Barbara Blundell dined here. Walter Thelwall went with me into the Garners & gave me an Account of all my Corne there. Thomas Bullen dyed. Ned Hawksey & Philip Syer finished raising the Long Garden & New-Grounds Walls, they helped me after Collation to Compute whot quantity of Brick and Stone was used by them in each particular building at Ditton as I had a mind to take notice of.

23 Thelwall & I marked the Milk Cowes &c: that were in the hous. I Stated Accounts with Thelwall for his Receipts & Disbursments since the 1st of January, he Pay'd me the Ballance of Accounts.¹⁶ I set underwood in the Stock-Roots.

24 I Booked Thelwalls Receipts which he gave me Yesterday in his Accounts. My Wife and I went to the Funerall of Thomas Bullen, Mally went to the Church with us, it was the first time she has ben there, she Rode home most of the way before us, I met Mr Ford, Lord Molineux his Steward in the Church Yard. I discoursed him about the Proposall made for Scouring Alt. Thomas Whithead brought a Bay Mare for me to look at & proposed a swap between her & my Mare Muss but we made no Bargan. A Border of Rew was planted in the Stone Garden oposit to the Bees.

25 I met most of the Jury at William Weedows, I went with them to look at some Water-Courses and other plases that were out of order, thence I went to Charles Howerds with them but stayed not, thence I went to the Grange to look at some Seed Oats & Beans but Mr Richard Molineux not being at home, I did not goe into the hous but went to Richard Tickleys where I found both Mr Richard Molineux and Richard Tickle, Adam Blundell sung to us there, before I came away Pat: Wofold came to us. I Stated Accounts with Edward Hawksey and Philip Syer for Work done by them for me both at Crosby & Ditton but I did not then clear off whot was due. Walter Thelwall left my Service, he has ben Servant here about 35 years.

¹⁶ See Appendix G.

26 William Ainsworth came to be my Servant, he is to buy and sell for me & do anything I shall set him upon.¹⁷ I payed of all I ought to Philip Syer & Ned Hawksey both for work done for me at Ditton & Crosby and now all Accounts are Cleer except some little as is owing to them for stones of theirs sold by me. Mrs Blundell made a Viset here, but my Wife was gon to William Andertons. I Fished the Brickkill Hole &c:. I was at the Funerall of Edmund Trustroms Wife, there was there Robert Bootle, Henry Hunt the Butcher, Richard Tickle & his Wife, Mrs Molineux of the Grange &c:, as I went towards the Funerall I called of Mr Blundell of Ince and he went along with me, this was the Fiveteenth Buriall that has ben out of Ince-Township since about a week before Christmas; and the Sexton told me he thought there had not ben above six more in that time out of all other parts of the Parish.

27 I sent John Banister to Scarisbrick and Gorsuch. I writ a long Letter to my Aunt Ailes fair over in the Parlor. My Wife heard Prayers at the Grange. I stated Accounts with Darby for Stones owing by him, and Arrants gon by his Wife &c:.

28 I took William Ainsworth with me to the Mill & took up tole Corn it being the first time I or he had done anything in that nature since Thelwall left my service. John Banister planted some Sets of Flowers in the Knot that he had got at Gorsuch, and part of the Bullows & Plumb trees that his Father brought he planted in the Arbor walk & at the higher end of the Long Garden &c:. I gave Mary Pilkington some Sets of Flowers &c: for Mr Aldred, I went to his hous to see how he ordered them & there I found Mr Manock, Mr Burton & Mr Green, I stayed some time with them in Mr Aldreds Chamber. I went after Mr Blundell when he was going towards the Rase at Leton Heys and gave his Servant Thomas Sweetlove a Note to give to Mr Leomond of Preston, then I went to Edmund Trustrom who gave me 20s. to send as a Charity to Graveling, then I came home & sent Henry Sumner with a Cart to buy a Load of Seed Oats at the Grange which he did, when he came hom I sent him to Mr Smiths with a Load of Barly to be Malted & to fetch a Load of Malt from thence. I helped to prepare a Bed in the Servants Chamber for William Ainsworth to lye in.

29 I began to sow Oats this year in the Farther North-Hey. My Wife dined at my Lord Mountgarrets. I went after dinner to Leverpoole, I desired Mr Maior to send for some Cloverseed for me. I drunk with Mr Plumb at the Wool-pack, we discoursed Mr James Gleast about the Money he owes us.

30 John Banister began to Graft this year. William Ainsworth cut down the Spreding Crab tree that grew over the Lous trap. Hus: Bullen shewed me some fence belonging to Winny Marrows Teneament that belongs to me to doe. Richard Harrison came hither and stayed some time, it being the first time he had ben here since he was sick. I took William Ainsworth with me to Petchers Field and shewed him some Turf that are to be sold, thence we went to William Tompsons and looked at a Cow of mine that he has that is not well, thence we went to Richard Bryansons, thence to see my God-Daughter Mr Blundells Child, thence to Richard Tickleys, thence to Edmund Trustroms where I looked at some Gray Peys, thence to Nicholas Gorsuchs & John Tarltons.

31 I sowed some Heps & Ash Chats in the long Garden. James Massy began to tend my Sheep. I sent William Ainsworth to Ormskerk, it being the first time he markited for me. My Wives Bitch Mopsy was brought from my Lord

¹⁷ William Ainsworth, a tenant farmer, was appointed to do some of the work which Thelwall had been doing.

Mountgarrets, it was given to her upon the 29th Instant. I made some Paper Bags in the Parlor at Night.

This Month was generally most extreemly cold and sharp winds, I think there was not above 6 or 7 tollerable warme dayes.

APRILL

1 I Tooke William Ainsworth into the Dove-Court to look if there were any Young Pigeons, I Counted the holes, there was 689. I went to Linaker, Bootle, &c: to enquire for Gray Peas, thence I went to Leverpoole & sold my Rabet Skins to Leversage. Mr Scofield the Apothecary gave me some Ive Jubs & Date Stones.

2 I set some Ive Jubs & Date Stones but none of them came up. I sent John Banister to Leverpoole to sell Apples. William Ainsworth went to Linaker to fetch some seed Peas from Henry Marser. John Farclough came to acquaint me that he was under some troble about an Ash Tree which he brought home to his Hous out of the Park. Peggy Charnock and Betty Harrison went to Leverpoole. I was busy most part of the after noone in Booking part of my Receipts & Disbursments for the two last Months. I removed my outlying Horses into the Town Meddow.

3 Mr Aldred dined here. Cozen Catherine Gorsuch came to stay here as a Guest for some time. The [?] got a Rabbet out of a Hole in the Crofts that Gilbertsons Buty drov into it.

4 John Farclough came to Cross-cut two Ash Trees in the New Orchard that I designe for Garthwood. I was at the Funerall of Robert Blundell, there was there Nicholas Johnson, John Sumner, William Sumner the Miller, William Weedow, &c: coming home I enquired in Netherton if I could buy any Hedging Wood, then I called at John Tarltons and spoke to him about seeking for a Fat Cow and a Bull Calf for me, then I went to Nicholas Gorsuch & told him I would employ him in work. Ned Hatton & Barbara Johnson paid me Rent.

5 Edward Rycroft sent for his two Larg Oxen from hence. Ginny had 9 Whelps eather this Morning or in the Night and seaven or more of them were Dogs, tis her second Litter, it was exactly this day twelve Month she whelped. I Planted about 70 Abells towards the farther end of the Morehey Lane. John Tarlton came to look at some Calves, he bought none. Mr Molineux of the Grange called here to let us know Lord Mountgarret & Sir James Poole designed to dine here tomorrow.

6 Lord Mountgarret & his Son Richard and Sir James Poole dine here, after dinner I went with them to Dukes, we drunk a Bowl of Punch there and looked at the three Runing Horses, from thence Sir James & I went to Parson Wairings & stayed there a good while, Sir James lodged here. We began this year to make Cheeses.

7 Sir James Poole walked to Ince but Mr Blundell being gon to Formby he came back without going into the hous, I walked after him and met him coming back, Sir James Poole writ in my Closet the Names down of some of his Deceased Friends which he found in my Prayer Book & in the great Hodgpodg. William Ainsworth sold 5 Heffers for me at Ormskerk, it is the first time he has bought or sold Cattle for me.

8 Sir James Poole & I went to the Grange, we drunk punch there, we stayd Collation, my Wife rid thither behind Sir Jams, she stayed but a while & Sir James his Man carried her home behind him. I began to Spread Mole Hills this year. The Asparagus Bed was uncovered. The Bridg between the Bleaching yard & the long Garden was planted on each side with Withens.

9 Sir James Poole met Mr Molineux of the Grange, &c: at Charles Howards, they had a Bole of Punsh, I went not with him but went to Leverpoole, I paid James Duxbury in full for Lime. I cleered & paid off all Accounts with John Simpson for Goods bought as well in Mr Leadbeters time as since in Mr Chorleys time. I saw a Souldier in Mr Eatons Shop runne Needles into his Cheek & Nose.

10 Sir James Poole went hence, I went with him as far as the Hall of Magull where I became acquainted with Mr Smith & his Wife. Hol: Bradley dined here, I paid her all as was due to her for Waiges.

11 Mr Fazakerley of the Hill house dined here, I sold him four Beas[ts]. Edward Rycroft came to look at some Lambs & Swine of mine but he bought none. I sold Richard Bridg som Seed Oats. I tooke the last of my Apples out of the Reeds & soured them.

12 I sent the Beas[ts] to Mr Nicholas Fazakerley as he bought yester day of me, as they were going one of them fell down & broke one Horn quite off. Cozen Catherine Gorsuch made Wafers it being the first time she made any at this hous. I tryed to draw Brock, it being the first time she ever drew. I sent John Banister to Leverpoole to sell Apples & to buy Clover Seed.¹⁸ I turned out two of my Milk Cows. Duke came to look at some Oats for his Running Horses.

13 Mr Fazakerley of the Hill hous bought four more Heffers on me. Dr Smith came to see Richard Harrison, then he came hither to see William Starkey, he bluddied Starkey, the Doctor dined here, after dinner I went with him to Richard Harrison & Thomas Marrow the Taylor. John Rigby came to Breack and Pase my Mair Snowball a second time to make her perfect in it. Topping the Parater was here abeging for Corn, I gave him some.

14 I was very busy most of the after Noone computing whot I gave the Bricklayers per Cundit & per Thousand for work done for me at Ditton and in examaining some other of my Expenses of Ditton Building. I took Henry Sumners Accounts both of whot he had disbursed and of whot Corn was Sowed, Winnowed, &c: I finished Winnowing all my Oats of the last years Crop.

15 Mr Gorsuch dined here, he came to see whot my Wife had to say to him about his Doughter. I sent William Ainsworth to dun John Wainright but he got neather Money nor goods. I went to dun John Lunt upon my Aunt Frances Blundells account, thence I went to Netherton about some Hedging Wood but the men were not at home at eather place, but I spoke to their Wives. My Wife had the first certain Account of my Grand-Mother Webs death from my Brother Langdale, thô we had some time agoe a report of it. I went after twelve of the Clock in the Night to see Richard Harrison, I found my Wife there.

16 William Ainsworth brought home two young Swine from Formby. I Began to sow Clover Seed in the Bark. I went to Leverpoole after dinner & payed

¹⁸ "13 April 1709—Clover Seed 100 Pound £2 9s. 8d.
Tole twice when I sold Apples 2d."

Mr Morecroft £3-16s which he had payed at London for me. I also payed Mr Hurst for Coffy that he had bought for me.¹⁹

17 Mr Blundell of Ince and his Wife made a Viset here.

18 Joseph Rigby went hence becaus Snowbawl was so lame she was not fit to Ride. Richard Harrison dyed about 3 in the Morning, he had ben servant 18 years to my Grandfather, he was a truly Honest Man & of very sound Judgment. William Starkey dyed about eleven of the Clock at Noone, he was my Cow-Man & had ben a servant to this Family about [blank] years & I think never a meniall Servant in my Fathers time nor of a great will of mine but towards the latter end of his time I mantained him at my own hous with Apparell & all things necessary, Pat: Gelibrond dined here, he came to discourse me about taking Mrs Howet to table. I drew one of Margaret Watkinsons Pits, we tooke one Tensh & some larg Shoulers, while we were there Mr Manock & Captain Robert Fazakerley came to us.

19 Richard Harrison & William Starkey were buried, they met at the Cross by Watkinsons, my Wife, I, and Mally were at their Funerall as were all my Men Servants. Webster the Bayly & his Wife, William Thelwall, William Weedow &c: came to Starkeys Funerall²⁰ Mr Peter Morton, &c: came to Richard Harrisons Funerall.

20 William Ainsworth, Thomas Marrow & I tyed most of my Sheep one of their Fore Leggs to their Heads. William Ainsworth tryalled some Barly and made some addition to the Tole Corne²¹ and made some other alterations in the Granery, he & I took some Corne to the Mill and brought something from the Mill, we also removed my 3 youngest Colts into the Pick. I lent Ellen Harrison three dozen of Glass bottles & Corks. The Arbour was tyed up & trimmed. Mr Aldred came to acquaint me that Mr Golding designed to sue for £100 that Lady Webb had settled upon my Wife and me.

21 I killed a good Swine. Ellen Norris called here as she was going to take leave of her Husband at Leverpoole to know where she might have some Clay for Daube & to know whether her Leas was finished but I onely drew a fowl drought of it today it being the first time I ever drew. I fixed a New Pane in the Parlor Window. I sent William Ainsworth twice to Leverpoole to get somthing for Snowbawl & when he came with it I helped to dress her for the Farcy.²²

22 I Shewed Gabriell Norris his Servant where he might get some Clay for Daube. I set the Winterheys for 3 years to John Sumner & William Wig-nold not knowing that Ellen Harrison had first let Walter Thelwall have them for this Present year. I helped William Ainsworth to remove the young Beas[ts] out of the North Heys into the Little Dob-heys, we fenced them from the Great Dobheys.

¹⁹ "16 April 1709—Coffy 3 Pound, to Mr Hurst £1 1s. 0d."

²⁰ "Aprill, 1709—Stockings for Starkey 1s. 2d.
Dr Smith for coming to see Starkey 1s. 0d.
A Coffin for Starkey 6s. 6d.
Bread, Tobacco & Pip[e]s for Starkeys Funeral 7s. 6d."

²¹ Corn taken as payment for grinding corn at Blundell's Windmill in Little Crosby. It was stipulated in leases that tenants must grind their corn at the lord's mill, and usually every sixteenth measure of corn was taken as toll or payment for such grinding. It is this corn which Nicholas calls the *tole corn*. It was also stated in most leases made by Nicholas that the tenant "and all who live on the premisses must grind at my Mill or pay 2s. 6d. per Bussell" (DDB1/54/42. L.R.O.).

²² A disease of animals, especially horses.

- 23** My Wife was out of order & lay down after Prayers till dinner was over. I stated Accounts with Mrs Ann Rothwell. John Banister went to Leverpoole to buy Provision for tomorrow &c:.
- 24** I had Pickled Black Pudings to Breakfast. My Wife dined at the Grange. I dined at Mr Aldreds with Edward Howerd. I went to Leverpoole & acquainted Mr Plumb that I heard it was said that my £100 by my Wife yearly was in danger to be lost, I advised with him about it, we drunck together at the Wool-pack, thence I went to Ditton & lodged at the Bank.
- 25** I heard Mr Mair pray, James Houghton, Henry Roson, &c: were there. I dined at William Athertons, after dinner he went with me to Farnworth, I was there in the Chappell when the Chappell Wardens brought in their accounts, there was present Parson Ainscow, Mr John Write, Mr Nicholas Bold of Marsh Hall, Samuel Williamson, John Holden, Peter Slinhead, &c: I did there declare I would not pay by way of a Church Ley towards maintaining the Parson and thô six Church Leys had ben gathered for the Parsons use yet I got mine back againe of John Holden the Chappell Warden and then I gave 06s-06d. to Parson Ainscow as a free Guift declairing at the same time it was onely as a free Guift & for the future I intended yearly to give some small thing towards the Parsons Maintainance, but was resolved never to pay any thing to him by way of a Church Ley, this said declaration I made at the Griffin in Farnworth in Presence of Mr John Right, Parson Ainscow, The Stewerd of Farnworth Court, whose Name I think is Blunt; there was also Present as I take it Samuell Williamson, Mr Sankey & severall others.²³ I Lodged at the Bank in Ditton. Mrs Howet & her Maid Bradley came to table here, my Wife sent the Coach to fetch them.
- 26** I went to Southward & heard Prayers at Ralph Keyes, I dined at Southward but Mr Golding was not then at home, but he came as soone as we had done Dinner, I discours'd him and his Wife about the Report I heard that he designed to Sue for £100 per Annum left by my Lady Webb. I came home & Richard Molineux paid me his whole years Rent for Mrs Blackbourns & gave me his Accounts.
- 27** I Examined Richard Molineux his Accounts and Computed up the Money to see how it agreed with our Reconing yester Night. My Mair Ginny Fowled a Hors Colt betimes in the Morning as I suppose, I will call it Jocky 'twas got by a Bay Hors of Farcloughs of Great Crosby. Parson Wairing made me a Viset. I paid Mr Aldred £4 more for his Mair.
- 28** John Banister went to Ormskerk to see his Uncle that lives in Bristold. Mally came sick home from Ralf Nelsons, she had ben there some two or three Nights. I took the Lock off the Garden Chamber doar and clensted & drest it.
- 29** Mr Aldred and I went to Fish in Alt behind the Grange with Snig²⁴ Hooks on two Long Lines and with one Bobb, we took one small Flook, we left oue Lines for a while and went to the Grange; as we were taking up oure Lines Mr Blundell came to us, we went with him to Charles Howerds and drunk there, coming home I called to see John Sumner who was sick, and I called at Richard Molineuxs and Faulted his Wife becaus Turves were carried from that Living.
- 30** I Read over the Writings relating to the £100 settled upon my Wife by my

²³ Although a Roman Catholic, Nicholas, as lord of the manor of Ditton, was liable to pay certain leys or church duties at Farnworth parish church.

²⁴ Eel.

Lady Webb. I Redied my Closet. I Clensed the Lock for the Penthouse Closet & put it on the Doar. Mr Philipson & Mr Tute made a Viset here after dinner. I sent John Banister to the Funerall of Nicholas Abrom.

This Month was indifferent Seasonable Weather thô a very backward Spring it having ben generally verry cold & but a little Raine.

MAY

1 Thomas Kerfoot payed me some Money in part of whot he owes for Rack Rent. William Gray payed me £3 that I had formerly lent him. Duke Bluddied my Wife, Nicholas Johnson, William Gray, I, &c: were present.

2 Thomas Marrow came to be my Cow-Man. I sent a Red Bull Seg to be scored at Sefton Park till Michalmas, I am to pay 25s. till then. I put 5 Cows into the Dob Heys that had lane in the hous till now. I helped William Ainsworth to tryall some Barly for Seed. I ordered William Weedow the Cunstable and William Ainsworth to Strain on Hugh Naylor for his Rent, they took a Cow out of the Ground that belonged to John Tarlton. Mr Maynard dined here, he say'd the Family of Scarisbrick designed to dine here tomorrow. I took up some sets of Flowers & Herbs for Mary Jackson and gave them her.

3 William Weedow & William Ainsworth let John Tarlton have his Cow again and they took a Gelding that belonged to Hugh Nailor. Mr Scarisbrick, his Lady & Mother dined here. Mr Aldred pray'd & dined here.

4 I sold 60 Busshell of Oats to Richard Haut of Rainford at 22d. p. Busshell, they are to be deliver'd at Ormskerk. I was at the Funerall of Mr Magull of Magull, there was at the Hous Mr Blundell, Parson Brownhill, Parson Walker, Parson Letus, Mr Carrold Bootle, Mr Peter Morton, &c.: Richard Naylor payed me almost all the Rent that his Son Hugh ought me. The Milk Cows were layed out to Grass. Ginny was horsed by Isaak Lightbowns Dog-Lad.

5 I sent a Red Bull and 3 other Beas[ts] to be scored for some time in Sefton Park. I removed some Beas[ts] out of the Dobb Heys into the North heys because they were unquiet. I writ a Letter to my Lady Abbess Gerard and an other to my Sister Winny.

6 I went to Thomas Syers of the Ford to try whether Bess was in order to be Covered, coming home I called to see Makings Stoned Hors. I sent William Ainsworth to James Norris with a Dunn for the Remainder of the Fine for Rothwells Living. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here, it being the first time he came to lodg since he was a tabler upon Mrs Howets Account.

7 I went to Leverpoole I payd off Dixon for Weaving and Dying Camblet and for other work.²⁵ I set a great while with Mr Silvester Richmond at his

²⁵ "7 May 1709—

	s.	d.
Buttons for Shirts		9
Twisting 6 Pound of Woosted at 3d. per pound	1	6
Twisting 4 Pound of Woosted a second time		10
Dying 6 Pound of Woosted a Skye Blew	3	0
Woosted Ready Spun & Twisted	3	3
Weaving Camblet 15 yards at 6d. per yard	7	6
Callandering Camblet 15 yards		6
Wollin yarn dyed Blew two pound	1	0"

At the same time other materials and clothes were bought, but it is not clear if these were bought from Mr. Dixon: [Continued over]

Hous, we discoursed about Planting, sowing Cole Seed²⁶ and Improving Ground. Mrs Sweeting made a viset here.

8 My Wife & Mrs Howet went in the Coach to Ince, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to Ince on Foot.

9 I sent a Man and Hors to Ormskerk with Mrs Howet. My Wife went to Leverpoole to meet Mrs Billington, she made a Viset to Mrs Tute who was lying in. I lead two Load of Clay for Mr Aldred. John Blundell & his Prentice worked here in mending & macking Secks, Twill-sheets and such like. Henry Hunt acquainted me that my Fence was bad between Crosby Marsh and the Ground he and Thelwall has from me.

10 William Blundell began to thresh for me. John Ticklely worked here, he cut some Boughs of the great spreading Oak in the New Orcherd for grained Stubs &c: and some Asps and Populars for Railes. Joseph Rigby came to perfect Snow-ball in her Paise.

11 My Wife went to Leverpoole with an Intention to have gon with Mrs Sweeting to Lodg at Hooton, but the Sea being very rough she did not venture over but came back at Night. I made a Composition of Lime &c: and Mixed it with Barly tis to be sowed, its according to the Instructions I have in a Book in quarto only with this Alteration that the three Powders are in duple propourtion. Some Particulers of Sitters up and Stealers of Aile with Instructions to prevent each. John Banister & the Weeders &c: Winnowed & Tryalled some Barly for Seed, I helped to put it into the Secks. I helped to put up 60 Busshells of Oats that are to goe tomorrow to Ormskerk. Mrs Blundell came hither, I suppose it was to see Mrs Howet. Parson Bruce Lodg'd here.

12 Parson Bruce went hence. I sent 60 Busshells of Oats to Ormskerk which I had sold some time since. I sent a Jagg of Hay to Mr Aldred. William Tompsons wife brought me home a Cow which they had from me upon Hire. Wheat being now at a good rate I set Threshers at work to thresh all I had. I and John Banister went to take young Moles, we tooke 21, tis the first time we have ben out this year, I think it is too late by above a Week because all we tooke were very Large.

13 John Banister tooke 16 Moles. I sowed one Busshell of Barly in the Cowhey dresed with Oyle & other Ingredients as Powder of Cole-seed &c:, it was prepaired upon the 11th but did not answer expectation neather did the sowing of about 10 Busshell of Powder of Cole-seed in different Parts in the Cowhey. I

[Continued]

	s.	d.
"Muslin for my Wife at 5s. 6d. per yard.	14	0
Buttons, Galloone, &c: to Make up my Wives Blew Riding-Coat	7	3½
Callico, &c: to face a stuff Mantew	1	8½
Callico for Aprons for my Wife	3	0
Bonnet for my Wife	1	0
Mending my Wives Shoes	1	0
Mourning Shoes & Gloves for my Wife	8	6
Pins, Thread, &c:	2	6
Painted Holland for Fanny	3	6
Gloves for the Children	1	8
Sho: buckles for Mally		4
To Holm for making the Childrens Coats and for thread, &c: for them	10	10"

²⁶ Coleseed—the seed of a variety of cabbage, and the name given to the plant cultivated for its seed, *Brassica campestris*, from which rape of "sweet oil" is obtained. It is also the name sometimes given to sea-kale, *crambe maritima*, and to rape, *brassica rapus*.

finished my Barly Seeding this year in the Cowhey. Most of the work horses were turned out to grass. Pat: Gelibrond went hence.

14 I went to Leverpoole & bought things for a Livery for Henry Sumner. I bought a new half Busshell and saw it Cut & sealed in the Exchange.²⁷ I was a while at Mr Claytons & spoke to him for a Bill of about £70, most of it is for my Sister Winny. I drunk with Mr Tute, Captain Tarlton, Mr Molineux of the Grange, &c: at the Kings Armes. Mr Thomas came to Great Crosby with me.

15 My Wife writ three Letters in my Closet. Mr Aldred suped here, he Lay'd a wager with Mrs Howet about her Maid Bradleys marying.

16 Edward Spencer came to see whot work I had for him to doe in the Loft. My Sheep were washed. I went to the Turf Moss & discoursed John Sumner and William Tompson who were feyng for Turf. I acquainted John Sumner I had got William Blundell to Wheel for him, thence I went to Gabrill Norris hous and his Wife Discoursed me about some goods that she thought Mrs Blackbourn would lay Clame to, there my Mare brocke her bridle & we chased her long but could not take her so I walked home. My Wife, Mrs Howet, and I suped at Mr Aldreds.

17 Mr Silvester Richmond came hither before dinner, I went out with him to look at some Ground to see if it was proper for Cole-Seed. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh was also here and went out with us, but neather of them stay'd Dinner. I payed £70 to Mr Clayton at Leverpoole for which he gave me three Bills, which together with my Receipt for my Lady Webbs Legacy I sent per Post to Mr Charls Tempest.²⁸ Mr Aldred was at Leverpoole and Received severall Letters per Post & leave to goe to London.

18 I Began to shear my Sheep this year. I rid out to the Turf Moss upon Snowball, it being the first time I ever mounted her, I came home through Ince Town. My Great Mare Bess was covered by Thomas Syers Blind horse the first time.

19 Mr Aldred began his Journey for London. I fetched my Red Bull out of Sefton Park and turned him amongst Thelwalls Heffers. As I was going towards Ormskerk I met William Atherton & Henry Heys coming hither, so I turned home with them and discoursed them in my Closet about making some Exchange of Lives in their Leases, I agreed with William Atherton, but not with Henry Heys. Holme brought my Childrens new Cloths.

20 I Marked my Sacks. Mrs Howet went a Fishing with me to the Town Field Pit, we took about 50 Showlers, I think I took six times two at once for I had two hooks at one line, tis the first time I fished with her. I began to lead part of the Head-lands in the Cross Field. I payed Easter dewes & Clarks wages to William Harrison. Bess was cover'd a second time this by Thomas Syers Blind Bay Stalion.

21 John Banister took a Rabbets Nest in the Crofts with four young ones in it, I found it some time since, Mrs Howet and I, &c: was with him. I & John Banister took the dead Combes out of 7 Hives that were all dead, we dressed the Wax and it was onely two Pound & a half or $\frac{3}{4}$. William Ainsworth went to Burchley of a How-doe-you to Mrs Poole who was Lying in.

²⁷ Nicholas was buying a half bushel measure for measuring grain. This had to bear a seal to show it was a correct measure.

²⁸ "17 May 1709—To Mr Tempest for the use of Sister Winny. . . . £103 15s. Od."

- 22 I Read much in a Spirituall book in my Closet. Thomas Kerfoot payed me £5, I agreed to take his Bond for part of whot he owes me, I discoursed him about delving my owne Turves bigger. I Stated Accounts with Philip Syer & Ned Hawksey for Stones of theirs sold by me and for work done by them at my Delf, Walter Thelwall was with us to adjust Matters, I payed them off in full of all Accounts.
- 23 Mr Peter Moreton & Pat: Wofold made a Viset here after dinner. My Wife & Mrs Howet went to Ince to see Mrs Wofold. Richard Howet Servant to John More came to see whot quantity of Bark I had to pill. William Ainsworth washed some Sheep a second time that had been durtyed since they had ben washed first. I took account of all the Sheep and Lambs I have.
- 24 Mr Smith alias Kitchen came hither in the Morning I payed him Interest for Mr Mullins Money. I took the highest Joynt of my Joynted hive, the first Swarme I think was put into it A.D.1706 there was about three quarters of a pound of Wax and about half a Pint of Honey. Parson Letus, &c: was here a beging upon account of a Fyer at London. I helped William Ainsworth to weigh my best Wool in the Servants Loft. William Ainsworth went with me to the Turf Moss, we set a Pit out stright which John Rimer had cut most shamefully crooked.
- 25 Mrs Howet went to dine at Scarisbrick and designes to Lodg at Ormskerk. Four of John Moors Men were here to pill 8 Oak Trees of mine. I was at the Sale of Timber at Mr Bootles in Melling, it belongs to Thomas Hurst Ship Carpenter of Leverpoole, I bought of him & John Glover five Trees, there was at the Saile Richard Kerkby to fall the Timber, Thomas Whatton, Antony Darwin, John Tickley, &c: My Wife went to Hunters in Ainty, it was the first time she rid on Snowball.
- 26 My Wife went to Burchley to see Mrs Poole who was lying in, she called at Ormskerk coming home, & brought Mrs Howet home with her hither. Thomas Blevin fetched a Swine from hence as I had sold him a few dayes since, he paid me for it. I went to Marrows Moss to see whot quantity was delved, I stayed a while with Richard Ainsworth whilst he was delving, and coming home I stayed some time in John Farers Shop. I finished sheering Sheep this year.
- 27 William Ainsworth went the first time to sell Turf at the Morehous Moss. I began to make Aqua Coelestis of Leverpoole Brandy, John Banister helped me and we removed some Bottles of Licker in my Seller. The She-Gallants was Acted Imperfectly in the Hall.
- 28 I sold some Bark here to John More & agreed with him to carry it to his Hous. William Ainsworth went with me to the Turf Moss & to some of the Tenants Moss pits, I shewed him where they were and gave him some Instructions about them, coming home we called at Kerfoots thence came to the Ackers²⁹ and we brought my Bull from thence and put him to Thomas Blevins Beas[ts] in the Oaklands. Richard Jackson shewed me some Ground in the Hors-heys where he desired to delve Turf I gave him leave to delve part.
- 29 Bradley, William Ainsworth, Dorothey Blundell, &c: were confirmed at More hall. My Wife and Mrs Howet went to prayers to Lidiat, they dined

²⁹ Name of a field.

there, I went with them part of the way and then came home and went to prayers to Ince, most of this Family being abroad I made a Melius inquirendum and found some things. Richard Ainsworth shewed me where I ought to mend the way to the Cowhey that is overagainst the six butts.

30 John Banister & John Bryanson helped me to bottle Aile. John Bryanson helped me to set out about an Aicker of Ground in the Winter-heys which I designe to sowe with Cole Seed.

31 I went to see my Marlers at Ditton it being the first time I had ben there since they began which was upon the — Instant, I came home through Leverpoole. Mr Morecroft and I Read the Articles of Peas that were in the News, thence we went to the Castle to see what alteration was made. I made a Viset to Mr Plumb, he being just newly comne home from London, I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Bixter &c.: John Addison gelded my Colt Stag and two of the Neighbours. Mrs Bootle of the Peele dined here. Darby Wife went to see if Mary Winstanley would come to be my houskeeper. I fetched home one Load of Coles from Sir Thomas Standleys Pits, it being the first I have got home this Summer. Edward Rycroft came to buy some Sheep, but William Ainsworth and he could not bargain.

Very Seasonable Weather and things as forward as could be expected considering some of the Months last past.

JUNE

1 I Put Mally into the Seller Well for some out breacks she had. I agreed with Landers to digg Flea-Turf for me and shewed him where he was to dig in the Winterheys. William Dobb came to see whot Ground I had to be ploughed for Burning,³⁰ I shewed him part of the Winter-hays. I went to Mr Blundells Marlers in Fleetwoods grund & gave them half a Crown. After Supper I went to the Peel to look at a hors for my Wife, but I licked it not.

2 John Tarlton looked at my Sheep to give me an account whot he thought they would be worth per Score.³¹ Rebecca Hunter was here. Most of my Servants were at Ince to heare the Bishop, Lord Bishop and his Companion Mr Riding³² made a Viset here, Pat: Wofold and Mr Blundell came with them.

3 My Wife, Mrs Howet, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to Ince to wate of my Lord Bishop. I set out some Turf at Marrows Moss, they were the first set out

³⁰ "8 June 1709—Delving Fleas in the Winter heys at 2d. per eight yards Long & 2 broad 4s. 9d."

Fleas or flea turf or flay turf was the mossy sod of poor quality lying above the good turf. This was sometimes sold, and sometimes, after ploughing it up, burnt and the ash used as a fertiliser.

³¹ The sheep had already been shorn, and from this entry in the Disbursement Book it is seen that the shearing was done by a woman:

"24 May 1709—Shearing Sheep at 15d. per Score & the Shearer found herself 3s. 9½d."

The last part of this entry means that the shearer provided her own food.

³² The Right Rev. James Smith, Bishop of Callipolis, Vicar Apostolic of the Northern District. "Riding" was a mis-spelling of "Royden", who at the time was chaplain to Bishop Smith. Father Royden, born 1662 and ordained priest at Douai, was Vicar General by 1692.

there this year.³³ I sent John Banister to Croxtath to welcome my Lord home.

4 I Carried a Spade with me to the Winter-heys & Marked where they were to begin to make the Ditch. I was very busy clensing my Closet & readying some things.

5 My Lord Mountgarret and his Son dined and Suped here.

6 I agreed with John Blundell Taylor for the Reversion of Gilbertsons Teneament. I began to get Fleas & Turf in the Winterheys where a Ditch is designed to be. I helped to dress the Wax that was got out of the highest Joynt of the Wooden hive. I tooke William Ainsworths Accounts for Money Received for Turf. I Sold Ten Sheep to Thomas Blevin. I Stated Accounts with Izabell Mars: and Margery Lurting.

7 Thomas Thwates a late Parson of York-Shire was here a begging. Whilst I was with my Workmen in the Winterheys Richard Dobb came to me to see whot I would have hime to plough for me.

8 My Wife and Margery Pilkington went to Mr Bowrs, Pat: Gelibrond and I went to Croxtath to wish my Lord welcome home from Bardsey, coming home we called to see Dr Lathom. Mr Glegg,³⁴ &c: brought me about 67 Carp from Hooton.

9 Mr Glegg went with me to the Winterheys, I let him see my Delver of Turf and shewed him whot work I was about. I went with Richard Park to the Winterheys & set him out some Turf, thence we went to Marrows Moss and set some out for Mrs Jackson. I spoke to William Gray about his Doughters Tong³⁵, I fetched home my first two Load of Timber from Melling.

10 I Set out Turf betimes in the Morning at Marrows Moss, i'th Winter heys and at the Morehouses. Thomas Blevin chose out 10 Sheep that I sold him some few days since. I brought home two Load of Timber from Melling, one was on a Bolster.

11 My Wife went to Croxtath to welcome home my Lady Molineux from Bardsy, she took Mrs Howet with her to Leverpoole and there left her & so took Mrs Sweeting to Croxtath with her, I met her at Leverpoole and came home in the Coach with my Wife & Mrs Howet, I was with them at Mrs Sweetings. My Wife and I made a Viset to Mrs Clayton. I Payed Ralf Tyrer in

³³ The squares of turf after cutting were stacked to dry. After taking what he wanted, Blundell then sold the rest to tenants and others. The selling was often on fixed days by the steward, and Blundell was nearly always there to see he was not cheated. Sometimes tenants got the turf they wanted themselves, but were expected to bring the cartload of turves to the Hall to let Blundell see they had not taken too many turves or cut them too large, or to let the steward see them. The turf, whether it was found on his own demesne land or that of the tenant, belonged to the lord of the manor. Sometimes when a lease was signed, a clause was included giving the lord of the manor, the right to take turf from the land being leased. In his Tenants Book Nicholas says that by custom "they have Liberty to get in their Tenements enough for their use, paying 3d. per Lode."

³⁴ In the Rolls of the Freemen of Chester 1709-10, Edward Glegg is given as "son of William Glegg of Whitby, Co. Chester, Gentleman, apprentice of Thomas Jackson, of Chester, skinner, defunct."

"9 June—Given Mr Glegg & others for bringing me a Present of Carp from Sir Rowland Standley 10s. 0d."

³⁵ See June 13 1709.

full of all Accounts,³⁶ I drunk at the Wool pack with him, Thomas Hurst, &c.: I payed Do: Edwardson in full for making my Malt and for Duty, we had a dispute there with Walter Thelwall about some Rent received by him from Dor: Edwardson. I was some time with Little Mr Kelly. Mr Aldred came home from London.

12 Mr Aldred dined here, he and I made a Viset at Ince, we set some time with Mr Tasburgh in his Chamber.

13 John Blundell Taylor & William Weedow advised with me about Removing Nelly Whithead to Layland. James Norris payed me the Remainder of the Fine for Edward Rothwell. Mr Aldred and I perused some Papers relating to the Payment of my Brother Josephs Sallery at Flamsted. Mrs Molineux his Doughter of the Grange came to play with my Children, but Mally was gon with my Wife & Mrs Howet to dine at Standish Hall. I advised W. G. to chastise his Doughter for Stealing.

14 I Acquainted Thomas Blanshard that William Tompson and others complained he did not do Neighbourly things. I Perused severall old Letters and put some of them into better order. My Wife went to Ormskerk Fair, she dined at Mr Fazakerleys. after dinner I played awhile at Tables with Mrs Howet.

15 Richard Dobb came to plough for me in the Winterheys but finding it difficult he left it. I Plased my Wives China on her Screwtore. I bottled of a Little very ordinary Burch Wine. Mary Winstanley Lodged here, I fetched her from Ormskerk, she designes to stay some time to assist in the Hous but not just as a Servant, yet to work and overlook.

16 Mr Tasburgh made a Viset here. I fetched home the last of my Timber from Melling, my five Trees was six Load. I was in the Barn a great part of the time whilst they were winnowing 19 Busshell of Wheat.

17 I Dined at Garswood and signed some writings for selling Knocktorum to Mr Chantrell, he came with me as far as Knowsley where we called & drunk at the Gates.

18 I went to Leverpoole and got a Bill of Mr Clayton for £22 which I designe to send to Mr Cole³⁷ and an other of £7 18s. which is for Mrs Berry. I drunk at the Wole-Pack with Mr Hurst, Mr Plumb, Mr Poole of Low-hill, &c.:

19 I Writ two Letters to Mr Cole and Mrs Berry and inclosed a Bill in each. Richard Bryanson the Fore Man of my Jury advised with me, because my Court is to be kept soone. I spoke to Charls Howerd about his Turf being too Larg but he Submiting I took onely 4d per Load from him. My Wife tooke Mrs Howet with her in her Coach to Eckleston, they dined there with Mr Scarisbrick and his Lady, &c.:

20 I went to Ditton thorough Liverpool and gave Mr Clayton a £20 Bill which would not be payed to my orders at London. Mr Mather of Warrington and I agreed some dispute Relating to some Trees which grew in a Field being part of

³⁶ "13 June 1709—

Ralf Tyarer for Pains in dressing Hobb	5s. 0d.
A Charg for Bonny Lass Back	2s. 0d.
Opening a Cows Brisket	6d.
A Farcy drink for Snowball	1s. 6d."

³⁷ This was to pay the annuity of his aunt Margaret Blundell.

whot H: Hey has lately bought from Mathers Teneament. I Sold a Tree to Mr Mather, Robert Barrows, &c: was present. I played some Tricks of Legar demesne before some of my Marlers, Henry Heys, &c: at William Athertons, there I sold a Tree to Henry Heys and agreed with him to add a third Life to that peece of Teneament which he has bought of Mather. I Lodged at the Bank-hous-William Athertons.

21 I came home from Ditton thorrow Leverpoole and brought Mr Plumb along with me to keep my Court. We went to William Davys but the Jury not being ready the Court was adjourned. Mr Chorley of Leverpoole came to look at some woole which I shewed him, but I sold it not. Mr Plumb dined here. I gave William Atherton £10 towards paying my Ditton Marlers. My Wife was at Ormskerk Rase, she came too late rather to dinner to Mr Fazakerleys. Mr Aldred made a Present to my Wife of a Coffy Pot, & to my Children of each a Capp, he also gave some other things.

22 Mrs Standley of Preston, Mrs Ann Blundell, &c: made a Viset from Ince. I went to Leverpoole it being the first Market that was on a Wednesday. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Tandy, Sir Cleave Mores Ingeneer for his Water, with Mr Hurst, Mr More-Croft, Mr Alanson, &c:.

23 Mr Aldred and Pat: Wofold dined here, I went with them to the Grange, we played at Bowles with Mr Molineux of the Grange, we drunk a good while there, coming home we called at Richard Bryansons & there stayed a while.

24 I Received Rent from some of my Tenants, I discoursed John Tickley about his Courting and about ading his Wives Life to his Leas. I stated Accounts with John Tickley and Darby. My Wife and Mary Winstanley went to Leverpoole.

25 I went to the Winterheys with Richard Bridg, Robert Johnson, &c: and set them and some others some Fleas out. My Wife took a Purge from Potheary Barrows. I went to Leverpoole and received £10 from Henry Heys. Mr Houghton promised me two Bills on Tuesday next amounting to £20.

26 I helped Mr Aldred to put up two Larg Pictors that came from London. My Wife and Mrs Hewet went to Ince to keep Mrs Blundell company because her Husband had gon to Preston upon the Account of his Mothers death.

27 Tomkins a Hater of Leverpoole came to looke at my Wool, he bought it not. Mr Howet met Mr Holland at Leverpoole. My Wife & I went to Lodg at Scarisbrick, we took Mally with us, it is the first time she has ben there, we took Cozen Catherine Gorsuch along with us in the Coach & set her down at home, she has ben here partly as a Servant for some time but now we part with her.

28 Cozen Scarisbrick & I were at the Funerall of old Mrs Blundell of Ince,³⁸ oure Wives also met the Corps, there was at the Funerall Lord Mountgarret and his Son, Mr Standley of Preston, and his Son &c:, as we were coming out of the Church Mr Clayton of Leverpoole and Mr Hurst just came.

29 Cozen Scarisbrick and I were at Wigan Cocking, we dined at Twotalls with Sir Frances Anderton, Mr Hesketh the High Sheriff, Mr Dodd, Mr

³⁸ Bridget, daughter of Sir Thomas Tyldesley, who was killed in a skirmish at Wigan Lane in 1651. Her husband, Henry Blundell of Ince Blundell, died in 1687.

Cheetom, Mr Brathord, &c.: I Joyned with the Sheriff for a Bottle of Wine at Dinner, when the Cocking was over I drunk above Stayres with Sir William Gerard, Mr Townley, Mr Lancton, Mr Hu: Anderton, &c.:³⁹

30 Lord Mountgarret and his Son and Mr Thomas Leigh dined and Suped at Scarisbrick. I saw Mr Smith of Croston⁴⁰ doing something at Cozen Scarisbricks great Diall.

Very seasonable good Weather all this Month.

JULY

1 Cozen Scarisbrick, I, and oure Wives dined at my Lord Mountgarrets, we danned at Houghtons with my Lord Mountgarret and his Son & Daughter Emilia who was lately come from York and with Mr Thomas Leigh.

2 We came home from Scarisbrick, we called at Lord Mountgarrets but did not light.

3 Mr Walmesley the Elder of Showley lodged here. My Wife went to see Dukes Wife who was lying in. Mary Winstanley went hence to Standish, William Harrison rid before her and coming home the Mare fell and broke his Leg.

4 I saw Mr Yats set William Harrisons Leg that was brock yester day. I went to Leverpoole and sealed a Bond of £100 to Mr Walmesley of Showley, Mr Morecroft was present. Mr Walmesley went hence. I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Plumb, & Mr Poole. Mr Gerard Barton Lodged here. I sold some Wheat to Richard Jackson & stated accounts with him for Ploughing i'th Winterheys, for Turf, &c.:

5 Mr Gerard Barton & I made a Viset to Ince. I cleered Accounts with Ezabell and Margery for weeding in the Gardens & with Ann Blundell for Wheeling Turf & with Lawrence Gilbertson. I Led most of the Timber to the Hill that I had falln about the Hous.

6 I was in the Winterheys when they finished delving the Moss-pit to Inclose the Cole-Croft. More the Taner sent a Cart to fetch some Bark hence which I had sold him. I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft & William Blundell for getting Turf &c.: I made a proposall to Betty Blundell to keep a Cow of mine paying one shilling per Month. Mrs Betty Wofold and Betty Blundell of Carr-Side suped here.

7 William Atherton sent to know whether I would pay the Marlers at Ditton by Measure or Count. Mr Molineux of the Grang was here in the Morning. I suppose he came upon Account of Business with Mr Gerard Barton. Mr Tasburgh dined here. William Ainsworth and I sold some Weathers and Lambs to Thomas Blevin. I had two Swarmes of Bees, one was put into an old Wooden Hive & an other into one of the Millers Strawhives. I Led one Work of Coles with my own two Teames and four Boones.

³⁹ "29 June 1709—Lost at Wigan Cocking £1 0d. 6d.
Going twice into the Cock-pit 2s. 0d.,
Spent on my Self, Servant & Horses at Wigan 4s. 7d."

⁴⁰ Rev. John Smith, S.J., formerly chaplain at Scarisbrick now chaplain to the Traffords at Croston. Died 1754, aged 85.

8 London Fir-Seed sowed on my Bed in the Long Garden. Mr Gerard Barton went hence. I had three of my own Teames mending the way by Brownbills to the Moss, I went to them, thence to Richard Tickleys and payed his Wife for some salt Butter which we had of her. Mr Chorley came to look at my Wool.

9 I went to Leverpoole, John More payed me for some Bark, I drunk with him and Thomas Hurst at the Wool-pack and with William Atherton & Izaak Lightboun. Ralf Tyrer dyed.

10 Mrs Molineux of the Grang and Ailes Tickley dined here, my Wife & Mrs Howet went with them to the Car Side. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here.

11 Ince Gardiner helped John Banister to Innoculate. Pat: Gelibrond went with Mrs Howet to Leverpoole, she came back hither but I suppose Pat: Gelibrond went to Ormskerk. I went to Ditton to see my Marlers the third time. William Ainsworth read over a foule drought of Henry Heys Lease to him, John Bolton took William Atherton & me to his House.

12 I made some Aqua Coelestis. Mr Tasburgh dined here. I went with Thomas Massy and Lawrence Gilberson into the Dobb Heys &c: and set them some ditching.

13 John Banister drove the Bees out of an open Joynt of the Wooden-hive into an old Wooden Hive which stood about 10 yards off it. I went with Joseph Massy to shew him where he might lay a Jagg⁴¹ of Grass in the Little Morehey that was Mowed in the Gardens. I shewed some little Grass near the Cross Field to Thomas Whithead and sold it to him. My Wife & Mrs Howet cut my Hair off. I sent William Ainsworth to Ditton, he reckoned with the Marlers & payed most of them, they Finished Marling at Ditton, William Ainsworth Lodged at Ditton.

14 William Ainsworth came home from Ditton by way of Sefton & brought home a Cow of mine from thence, he and I walked into the Cowhey to see how the Grass was grown & to look at the Corne. Joseph Rigby began to pase Mr Aldreds Hors. Finding not two of my Dogs in their Cannell, I went to the Marsh & found them & brought them home with me, I tramed Tray.⁴² Mr Aldred and Parson Wairing suped here.

15 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for Money Received for Turf, for Scoar paid by him for some Beas[t]s at Sefton and some other Accounts I took of him. John Banister, &c: gathered Gardin Stuff which I design to send tomorrow to Leverpoole to be sold. Mrs Howet was very ill of the Grips.

16 John Banister sold some Garden stuff at Leverpoole. My Wife and I went to Leverpoole, I stated Accounts with Mr Hurst, George Norton, & Thomas Hurst and payed whot I ought them. I drunk a while at Mr Silvester Richmonds with his Brother Henry and I think Mr Brooks of Norton, Mr Waintworth, &c:.

17 Mrs Howet went after dinner to Ormskerk and came back. Pat: Gelibrond being lame of his Toa I set a good while with him in the Parlor to keep him company. My Wife went to see Nurs Newhous who was very ill.

⁴¹ A *jagg* may be (1) a load, usually a small cart load, of grass, hay, wood, etc., (2) a load to be carried on the back, (3) or a portion or lot.

⁴² To trammel—to hobble.

- 18 John Banister being gon to Leverpoole for Sugar and Sack, &c: I hived my third Swarm of Bees which I had this year. I boyled some Inck to try if it would keep better. William Ainsworth began to Ingros Henry Heys Leas, it being [the] first, I think, which he ever Ingrosed. Mr John Blundell of Mill-wood came hither after his Squable with the Gardiner, he Lodged here.
- 19 Lord Mountgarret and his Son Richard & Doughter Emilia Lodged here. Mr John Blundell went hence.
- 20 My Gests, my Wife, & I went to Mr Aldreds, we played at Cards when we came home. Mrs Howet went to the Grange to see Mrs Molineux who was sick.
- 21 Lord Mountgarret and Pat: Gelibrond went hence. Cozen Dick Butler & his Sister went in the Coach with my Wife and me to Leverpoole. Cozen Dick Butler and I drunk Wine with Mr Rolins at his Hous. Mrs Sheelds Son played to us of the Violin at the Woole Pack. My fourth Swarme of Bees this Year put into an old Straw hive. Mr Aldred dined here.
- 22 Cozen Scarisbrick, Mr Hust & their Wives, &c: dined here. Lord Mountgarret Lodged here.
- 23 Lord Mountgarret, his son Richard and Doughter Emilia went hence, my Wife went with them behind Sefton Church. Pat: Gelibrond payed all as was owing upon Account of Mrs Howets Table, &c: I got in 10 great Load of Hay out of the Oat Crofts and Moss hey with my two Teames this after noone.
- 24 Mary Winstanley told me the Business was quite of with her Warick-Shire spark.
- 25 My Wife went to see Mrs Molineux of the Grange who was sick. I Stated Accounts with William Tompson not onely for delving Turf &c: for me but also for Rent &c: owing to me by him, we cleered Accounts and then went together to look at my Ground in the Winterheys as I designed for Cole-Seed. Mrs Howet Lodged at Mr Fazakerleys in Ormskerk. Betty Harrison fetched Water from the Town Well.
- 26 Mrs Howet came back from Ormskerk. It Rained I think all day and hinderd my Wife &c: from going to Leverpoole Fair. Mrs Howet & I played at Cribbage in the after noone. Mr Inglefield, Mr Burton, Mr Tasburgh, & Mr Aldred suped here, they all Lodged here except Mr Aldred.
- 27 Mr Inglefield &c went hence in the Evening. Ellen Eves came to profer herself to be Houskeeper here, she is recommended by Mrs Poole of Burchley, she lodged here. William Ainsworth and I Removed the remainder of the Stack of Wheat in my Barn, we killed above twenty Mise. John Howerd of Coppold came to let my Wife know that his Doughter was coming out of Ireland.
- 28 My Wife, Mrs Howet and I went to Wigan, we dined at the Leggs of Man. I met the Duke of Norfolk and his Dutches⁴³ behind Ashton in their way towards Stonyhurst, I drunk at Ashton with the Duke, his two Brothers, Sir Nicholas Sherbourn, Sir William Gerard, &c. I Wated of the Duck and Dutches, &c to Wigan and Supped at Tootalls with the Duke of Norfolk and his two Brothers, Sir Nicholas Sherbourn, Sir Frances Anderton, my Lady

⁴³ Thomas, eighth Duke of Norfolk, had recently married Mary, only daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas Shireburne, Bart., of Stonyhurst, Lancashire. The duke died without issue, December 23 1732; the duchess surviving him till September 24 1754. She spent her widowhood at Stonyhurst until her marriage with the Hon. Peregrine Widdrington.

Dutches of Norfolk, Lady Savell, Lady Howerd, &c I Lodged with my Wife at the Legs of Man in Wigan.

29 I Wated of the Duke and Dutches of Norfolk &c out of Wigan part of their way towards Preston, then came back to Wigan and so came home with my Wife and Mrs Howet.⁴⁴

30 Mary Winstanley went hence, she had ben here some Weeks not as a Servant, but yet partly in the Nature of one to assist my Wife, she is to serve my Lord Mountgarret. Mrs Howet & her Maid who had tabled here one quarter of a year went hence, she designs to table at Leverpoole. My Wife and I went with them to Leverpoole, Mrs Howet dined with my Wife & me at the Wool-pack. I Stated Accounts with Mr Morpew for some Sack which John Banister had payed him for.

31 I went to Ince to wish Mr Blundell welcome home from York-Shire Spaws, my Wife went with me, thence I went to Carr hall, Mr Thornton, Mr Tasburgh & Mr Burton was there, Mr Thornton and I made some proposalls about swaping Horses. Mr Aldred acquainted me he had thought to leave this Town.

Till about the 10th unseasonable and very wett, from the 10th till 25th tollerable good hay wether thô with some Rain, 26th a most bitter day of Rain to the great damage of Sefton Medows; 28th, 29th Extreemly hot; 30 and 31th Close Sultry days thô with coole breezes of Wind.

AUGUST

1 John Lucas came to see whot he owes me but I had ere this got a writ against his goods. Thomas Blevin payed me for some Ground and Sheep, I sold him a Cow & set some Ground to him for 3 years. I went to see my Ditchers between the Marsh & Nichols Hey, thence I went to the Grange and desired Mr Thomas Wofold to come tomorrow to pray for my Father. William Ward came to acquaint me whot he had done at John Lucas his. I payed the Land Tax to William Gray.

2 Besides whot I gave to other Presbiters I had five prayed here to keep my Fathers Aniversary viz: Mr Tasburgh, Mannock, Aldred, &c.: He began to gather Pins for one year.⁴⁵ I sent my Miller to Leverpoole to buy Pole Davy for Mill Sales.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Although Nicholas does not mention it in his Diary, on this day he paid for some coal he had obtained at Huyton, near Liverpool, probably from the pit there belonging to Jonathan Case.

⁴⁵ 29 July 1709—

Coles from Highton 13 Baskets at 2d. per Basket, they were one Load	2s. 2d.
Coles from Sir Thomas Stand[ley], one Work & 36 Baskets at 1½d. per Basket, they were nine Load & Cost.	13s. 10d."

⁴⁵ See also February 1, May 1, June 1 and August 2 1710. Nicholas and Father Aldred his chaplain seem to have had a bet as to who could collect most pins in one year.

⁴⁶ *Poldavy* or *pole davy*—a coarse canvas or sacking, originally woven in a town in Brittany from which it derived its name.

⁴⁶ 13 August 1709—Pole Davy for Sail Cloth for the Mill, 'tis so good, that 'tis supposed it would have serv'd for two more Voyages, it cost per yard about 8½d. in all. . . . £1 15s. 8d.

17 August 1709—Spent in buying the Pole-Davy. . . . 2s. 0d.

Cording for Mill Sails 2s. 0d.

Nicholas apparently bought second-hand material here.

3 Thomas Marrow Junior payed me £2 in part of his Fine. I went to Leverpoole and drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Morecroft, coming home I called to see Mr Richmonds People thrash Cole-Seed. I went part of the way towards the Sea with my Children but turned back, my Wife & Dorothy Blundell went with them, they were put into the Sea for some out breacks. I had a Calf Caved today, 'twas as larg as some of a Month old, it is 2 Foot 7 ins high & weighed 109 Pound, it has Hornes half an Inch long.

4 Edward Bridg came to look at my Cow which had the great Calf, we endeavour'd to set her on her feet but could not so we brought her home in a Cart & slung her in the Calf-hous-Stable. I bathed my Children in the Sea, it being the first time I was with them, & the second time they had ben bathed in the Sea. Fr: Howerd who had ben Servant to my Lady Gormonstown came to proffer herself to be houskeeper here, but she was not accepted of. William Weedow sold me a Sack of Wheat at Ormskerk.

5 I went with my Children to the Sea, William Ainsworth bathed them. I went to the Winterheys to my Burners of Ground, thence to Great Crosby & asked Mr Thomas to let me have some Chips for my Chimneys, thence I went to Rothwells Ground & got John Tarlton to come to look at my lame Cow, we slung her a second time.

6 I killed my Cow that was hurt in Calving. Edward Lidiats Wife brought me home a Cow she had of mine. I think to parts, I marked her in the Horne. I Finished Mowing this year in Woodholme.

7 William Fleetwood of Simonswood was here, I drunk with him in my Seller. I went to Dr Lathoms & asked him for a Receipt for one at York Schoole, my Wife went with me.

8 I helped Joseph to remove some Heffers out of the Dobb-heys, thence I went to the Morehouses & warned some Boones to lead Turf on Thursday & not on Tuesday as was first order'd, I went with Jane Bryanson to look at her Corne that was eaten with Mr Molineux his Rabets of the Grange.

9 I went to Leverpoole and drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Hurst, I payed him £60 for which he is to give me a Bill, 'tis to be sent for my Brother Josephs use.

10 I Stated Accounts with William Blundell for mowing &c: for me & cleered all of. I put a new Clock-Cord to the Pendelum. I Redied my Closet. My Wife went to Great Crosby to see for some Cherrys, John Marser brought her nine Pound.

11 I got home the last of my Hay this Year out of Woodholme. This is the first day this year that I led Turf with Boone Carts, there was 12 Boone Carts and one of my owne. Ellen Eves came to be Houskeeper here.

12 John Tickley pay'd me £2 in part of his Fine, he put two heavy Cloggs⁴⁷ to my Doggs. I set down some things of Husbandry as Corn sowed, Hay made, &c: in my new book of Accounts for such lick things. William Ainsworth has ben looking [for] three Heffers that went out of the Folds.

13 I began this year to Shear Barly in the Bark with eight Shearers. Going to Leverpoole I called at Bank-Hall. Mr More shewed me part of a Sluce which

⁴⁷ A clog—a block or heavy piece of wood attached to the leg or neck of an animal or man to impede motion or prevent escape.

Tandy had made for his Waterwork;⁴⁸ I discoursed William Sumner the Miller of Bootle about removing him out of this Town.⁴⁹ I drunk at the Woole pack with Mr Hurst, he got me a Bill for £70 of Mr Pemerton.

14 I Lodged at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds in my way towards Preston Fair.

15 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, William Low & I went to John How: to have seen a Match shot for a Bow, but the Archers would not put in for it, so they made a Match & shot 4 & 4 of each side, the Archers were Thomas Wastley, Sargant Roscow, one Mr Hatton &c.: Whilst we were drinking Mr Worthington of Blanscough came to us, coming home Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, I &c: Stormed Bark Stack Castle.

16 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond was at the Funerall of John Foster. My Mare Harper being Stayed away, I borrowed a Mare of Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and went to Preston Faire, I dined at Cozen Walmesleys, Mr Houghton the Elder came thither before we rose from Dinner. I drunk at Dick Jacksons with Mr Barlow of Barlow, Mr Leomond, &c:., Soone after I came back to my Cozen Thomas Gelibronds my Mare Harper was brought thither to me.

17 I came home from Cozen Thomas Gelibronds & called at Ormskerk & saw my Lord Mountgarret and his Son and Doughter. My second day of Leading Boon Turf, I had 13 Carts. Philip Syer worked here, he mended severall odd things in the hous. I put Chips into some of the Chimneys. William Thelwall and an other came & fetched my Segg back and put him again into Sefton Ground from whence he had strayed.

18 I helped Philip Syer to Load some Plat Stones for the Town-Meadow. I Removed a Beast out of Thomas Blevins Pasture that was scored with him into my Edish.⁵⁰ My Bull was removed into the Great Morehey to Nicholas Shepheards Beas[ts] and Mr Aldreds hors was put into my Edish. My Wife & I began our Journey toward Whit-Chourch,⁵¹ we came too late for the Boats at Leverpoole so we went over at Runkhorne, after which we lost our way & went to Windy Weston where we got a Guide that brought us to Frodsom where we Lodged; After we went from home Mally was ill hurt on her face with the Rowling Stone.

19 We went from John Websters the Signe of the Bears Paw at Frodsom where we lodged last night, to Whit-Church to Mr Benbows the Signe of the Red Lyon where we dined and discoursed Dr Bostock about my Wives Paine in her back, from Whit Church we went to Chester where we Lodged at Mr Taylors the Signe of the Golden Lyon.

⁴⁸ In 1709 Sir Cleave Moore procured an act of parliament for the construction of water-works and engaged Mr. Tandy as engineer. See November 7 1709.

⁴⁹ Although William Sumner was the miller at Bootle, 3 to 4 miles away, he lived in Little Crosby. He was a most unsatisfactory tenant, and was frequently fined by the manor court for not clearing his ditches, for not looking after his fences or for allowing his cattle to stray. He had also been in serious trouble with Nicholas. See March 20 1707.

⁵⁰ Edish or Eddish—the second crop of grass, clover or similar crop.

⁵¹ This visit to Whitchurch was made to consult Dr. Bostock about the pains Mrs. Blundell was suffering in her back. Nicholas also used the visit to seek advice about the health of his children. (See August 25). When his father was taken ill in July-August 1702 Nicholas sent the butler to Whitchurch in Shropshire for the “renowned” Dr. Bostock. The fees paid to the doctor on this visit were very high:

“19 August 1709—Dr Bostock for a Fee for my Wife	£1 1 6.
Phisick at Whit-Church for my Wife	15. 6d.
Going to Whitchurch & coming back for my Wife, my self, &c: . . .	£1 4 11.”

Also see September 3 1709.

20 We saw severall of the Paletines in the Wool-hall⁵² &c:. We dined at Chester & thence went to the Rock hous, but the Boat was gon, so we got a Smoke made, but no Boat coming to us, we went to the Wood Side,⁵³ where Mr Darcy Chantrell came to us & got a Boat for us so we came home. The Stone Garden Well was dressed.

21 Mr Aldred tryed in the Moss hey how far he could throw an Arrow.

22 I took an old Hive of Bees. My third day of Leading Turf with Boones. I help'd Gilberson & Thomas Massy to mesure some ditching which they had done for me towards the Heal-bank, I paid them for it & set them more. I went to the Turf Moss & mesured the four Pits in Petchers Field. I turned the Bull Calf out to Runn upon the Whit Cow. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Expenses into Shrop-Shire, &c:.

23 John Banister and I Clensed some of the Windows with Chalk but it did not doe well. The Miller & I consulted how to shape the Pole Davy to the Best advantage for Mill-sailes. I went with Thomas Whidby to Marrows Moss because he thought he had taken more Turf that he ought to have had.

24 I Payed 18s. 02d. to Ge: Woods & Samuel Cook two Baylis upon Account of a Sute between Walter Thelwall & Thomas Midleton. I went to Ince Bowling Green, there was there Young Robert Bootle, Edmond Trustrom, Mr Formby, Richard Tickle, &c:.

25 I helped John Banister to Bottle about 7 Dozen of Aile, Bolton & his Wife were here. The Children took Phisick by directions of Dr Bostock. I Booked my Disbursments for the last Month. There came an Express from Croston to enquire for Wall Frute, &c: for Sir Nicholas Sherbourne, she lodged here.

26 John Banister went to Leverpoole & sold some Pigeons that the Croston Express would not take with her. I went betimes in the Morning to my Burners in the Winterheys & after dinner I stayed with them till night and gave them a Sillibube. My Bull Calf was found dead, I boyled it for the Dogs. William Ainsworth brought me a large Bay hors which he had in exchange for Muss I call him Lobster. Part of the Wheat in the Flat was shorne with 17 Shearers & the Barly in the Cross field.

27 I went to Leverpoole I drunk at the Wool-Pack with Mr Alison, James Nicholson, &c:. Mr Chorley gave me a drink at his House.

28 I sent William Ainsworth to Scarisbrick & to the Sawyers to come to prepayer some Railes for the long Garden Wall.

29 Philip Syer began to work at the Vistow in the Long Garden Wall. I went to the Scourers of Formospoole Gutter. Cozen Dick Butler dined here, Mr Aldred and I went with him to the New-hous, from thence Mr Burton came with us to Ince Greene, we four Played at Bowles, Mr Molineux of the Grange was there, Cozen Butler and I came home from the Green & left the Company there, Cozen Butler went hence and took my Gun along with him. An Express brought my Wife a Gersy Wheele by orders of Dr Wortons Wife.

⁵² This must have inspired Nicholas, for in the following winter, he applied himself to doing his "Paletine Work". See October 22, November 22, December 2, 6, 24 1709, August 22, 26 1710.

⁵³ Rock Ferry was formerly one of the ferries across the Mersey from Birkenhead to Liverpool. Failing with a smoke signal to get a boat, Nicholas then went to another of the ferries at Woodside.

30 I Went to my Shearers in the Town-Medow thence to look at two Dowles⁵⁴ at the side of the Winterheys & then to my Burners. I sent William Ainsworth to Ormskerk Hors Fair as he was going he swaped Bonny Lass for a Black Mair.

31 Richard Sefton & Joseph Carter came to saw for me, I drew out part of two Droughts to see which I licked the best for the Vistow for the long Garden Wall. The Wheat was lead out of the Flat. Ellen Norris came to hear the Fowl drought of her Leas read to her which I did. Lord Mountgarrets Servant came to let me know that my Lord, Mr Leigh, &c: designed to dine with me tomorrow, he brought a Brace of Grehounds with him to cource with tomorrow. I Transcribed my Grandfathers Song to the Tune of Roger o' Coverley tis to be sent to Mr Townley at York.⁵⁵

Till the 20th very good harvest Weather, from the 20th very unsettled and cold Weather with many sudden showers till the end. Wheat is this year very much struck, to that degree that I was told one might in some Fields pick 140 Strucked Ears without stirring out of the Spot and I believe one fifth Part of some Fields was Strucken, 123 Strucken Eares was picked out of one of my Sheaves but the Generallity was not so bad.

SEPTEMBER

1 Lord Mountgarret and his Son and Mr Thomas Leigh dined here, they came to solemnize my Birth day, we went out to Course before dinner but we had no spourt.

2 Mary Pilkington cut a second Issue in Mallys arme. I put up the Whit Window Curtons & Vallance in the Blew Chamber & Chappell. I mended one Seting Net.

3 Mr Aldred and I mesured where the Middle of the Railes in the long Garden Wall is to be. I went after dinner to Leverpoole and gave £10 to Mr Hurst for a Bill which I sent to Mr Ch: Tempe:, I Payed Potheary Barrows his Son all I ought for Phisick. I brought Pothocary Schofield directions from Doctor Bostock to make up some Phisick for my Wife. I wated of Dr Clayton at his Brothers. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Morecroft. Eves his Bitch Fan had four Whelps.

4 I Read a good while in my Closet. I stated Accounts with Nelly Nelson for Duck, Chickens, Shearing, &c:. I Stated accounts with Darby & Henry Ascroft and agreed a difference between Ascroft & Whidby about some Turves.

5 I fetched home my Segg from Sefton he was to have stayed till Michailmas. My two Teames lead Wood for John Tickley. Mr Taylor of the Golden Lyon in Chester & Mr Rollins of Leverpoole made a Viset here.

6 I Led some Turf for Henry Ascroft. Part of the sods in the Cole-Croft that they could not burne, I led to some slacks and holes in the same Field.

⁵⁴ Dowl—a boundary mark, usually an oblong block of stone, marking the bounds of a field. Sometimes given as *Dool*.

⁵⁵ This song was written by the Cavalier in 1641. It is descriptive of the merry-making on festive occasions in the neighbourhood around Little Crosby. Towneley, to whom Nicholas was sending a copy, was Charles Towneley, brother to Richard Towneley, Esq., of Towneley, and interested in literary works. See Appendix H.

Henry Sumner fetched me home a Load of Salt from the Dungeon. Philip Sior began to build the Long Garden Wall where the Vistow is to be. I helped John Banister to bottle about five dozen of Aile.

7 I went to Grange Bowling Green, there was Mr Fazakerley of the Hill hous, Mr Formby, Parson Letus, Robert Bootle the Elder, Nicholas Weedow, Mr Burton, &c.; after Bowling I and some of us went to the Grange and drunk some of Charles Howerds Aile, when I came home I had a Rase after some body from the Garden towards the Barns. Mrs Poole of Burchley lodged here.

8 Mr Aldred prayed & dined here. Mr Blundell and his Wife & two Sisters made a Viset here after dinner.

9 I went in the Coach to Leverpoole with my Wife and Mrs Poole of Burchley, we went to Mr Hursts then to Mr Letonbys then to the New Church thence to Mr Scarisbricks then to Mr Dones next to Mr Claytons & so home.

10 My Wife, Mrs Poole, Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach to Lidiat to see Mr Moston. The Miller played here after Supper & some of the Servants &c: danced.

11 My Wife, Mrs Poole, Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach & dined at Ince; there dined there Mr Wofold of Morehall, his Wife, his Sister Wall and Brother William, &c: Mr Scofield the Appothecary from Leverpoole came hither just as we were going to Ince.

12 John German came from Leverpoole to make my Railes for the Long Garden Avenew. I Stated Accounts with Mrs Ann Rothwell for making Hay, for Tracle, &c:. Mrs Blundell of Ince and Cozen Bridgett and Dorothy Blundell made a Viset here, they Suped here.

13 We put up a few of the Railes slightly in the Long Garden avenew to see how they would Look. Mr Moston from Lidiat dined here. Mrs Poole of Burchley went hence, my Wife went a little way with her. I walked to the Morehouses to warn Boon Shearers.

14 I helped John Banister to Bottle 9 dozen & a half of Aile. I helped Thomas Massy and Lawrence Giberson to mesure some Ditching on the side of the Little Mosshey and on the side of the North hey, I payed them for it. Sevrall Boon Shearers came to make out a peece of their day which they were behind.

15 John Abrom the Cunstable of Thornton brought John Blundell Taylor, Prisoner hither, he was going with him to Leverpoole 'twas upon Account of his Sister in Layland. I went into the Town to get some Children to come to pick the Stroke out of Wheat as is for Seed, whilst I was at Darbys William Tarlton and Edward Hatton, &c: came to me and acquainted me that severall of their Town Beas[ts] were put into this Pound by the Morehous Pinner.

16 I killed a Fat-little-Cow. I had two Flocks of Gees brought which William Ainsworth had bought to put into the Stubble. I cut the Neck in the Wheat-hey with 20 Shearers.

17 The Cole Croft was sowed with Cole-Seed. The Railes for the Avenew on the Long Garden Wall were put together and carried into the Hall. The Sawers went hence, they had worked part of the time for Walter Thelwall, they Pirched most of my Wood in the Bleaching Yord which they had Sawed.

18 I Cut some Breads for the Alter. Mrs Scarisbrick sent to let my Wife know she was at Ince & to desire her Company.

- 19 I helped Mr Aldred to Coppy out Mr Smiths Accounts for Blandick. I made a new Bargan with John Blundell Taylor for Gilbertsons Teneament he payed me £5.
- 20 Henry Dauber came to see what was a miss with my Mill Shaft. I put a Plaister to Speeds Leg as was very ill bitton. William Ainsworth went towards Haslinden Fair.⁵⁶
- 21 I Shaved Mallys Head. I payed John Blundells Doughter for burning for me in the Cole Croft.⁵⁷ John Germon came to paint the Railes for the Avenew in the Long Garden.
- 22 Pat: Wofold, Brother Formby & Mr Aldred called here I went with them to the New hous. William Ainsworth came home from Haslinden Fair.
- 23 I Lent John Germon a horse to goe to Leverpoole to fetch some more oyle and Colours. I helped John Germon to mesure the Wainscoting in my Parlor & to Compute how many Yards it would be. William Ainsworth sold six Beas[ts] to Henry Hunt.
- 24 John Germon having finished the Railes for the Avenew in the Long Garden went hence, I payed him for all his Work.⁵⁸ I payed Dorothy Blundell for three Quarters Waiges. William Ainsworth went out with me a Seting it being the first time I had ben out with Tray this Season, we had no set. Betty Blundell of the Car-Side came to help my Wife to preserve Damsons.
- 25 Dorothy Blundell left her Service. My Wife and I dined at Scarisbrick.
- 26 My Wife and I dined at Mr Aldreds with Mr Tasburgh & Mr Burton, I payed Mr Tasburgh 15s. for a Medall of King Charles. Ma: Billington desired to know whether I was against her coming to serve here. I helped John Banister to bottle about 5 dozen of Aile.
- 27 My Wife, Mally, & I and Mr Aldred dined at Lord Mountgarrets; we met my Lord going towards Leverpoole and his Son was to goe at Night to Morehall to meet some company.
- 28 Thomas Tyrer Roweled Bess for a lameness in her Shoulder. I sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole to fetch Winny Marrow to be ready to goe to the Sessions. My Wife hiered Mary Bell to be Chamber Maid & Nursery Maid.
- 29 I Stated accounts with Thomas Marrow for Wages owing to him & for Corn &c: owing him by William Wignold. Thomas Blanshard, & William Weedow spoke to me about Suing with Great Crosby for breaking our Pound. I went in the Evening towards Ince but Mr Blundell not being at home I came back.
- 30 Brother Edward Formby was here this Morning, I discoursed him about the Money as is owing me by Lady Carrill at Dunkirk. Mr Aldred and I went to Parson Wairings, he and Mr Thomas went with us to drink at Nicholas

⁵⁶ "21 September 1709—Cowes two Bought at Haslinden £5 8s. 0d.
Spent by two Persons going to Haslinden 10s. 0d."

This was Haslingden, near Blackburn, about 35 to 40 miles from Little Crosby.

⁵⁷ "21 September 1709—Burners of Ground in the Cole-Croft Women had
6d. per day & Lads 4d. per day.—in all £3 7s. 6d."

⁵⁸ "24 September 1709—To John Germon for Making Railes for the Long
Garden Avenew at 12d. per day 6s. 0d.
John Tickley for Working at the Garden Railes 2s. 0d.
Painting & Gilding Railes for the Long Garden 11s. 0d."

Johnsons. Nicholas Johnson worked here, I payed all I ought him for work. I got in all my Whit Corn this Year which is extreamly early as this year shapes, for in Maney parts there is yet near half standing.

Till the 7th tollerable Faire, from the 7th untill the 10th unsettled Weather with severall Showers then very fine Weather for two or three dayes, but then till the 29th intollerable Rainy Weather which would have done immense Dammage amongst Corn but that we had also very great Winds which dried in a Few hours whot had ben soundly wet before with Rain, the two last dayes very fine weather.

OCTOBER

1 Walter Thelwall payed me £30 of which £15 was for six Beas[ts] sold by William Ainsworth to Henry Hunt & the other £15 of it was in part for Rack Rent for the Ackers &c:. I booked my Receipts for the last Month & the greatest part of my Disbursments. I wained Ginnys Colt Jockey.

2 Jane Bryanson came hither to make my Wife a Viset, she shewed her the hous & Gardens. I pay Grays Bill of for Smiths Work done by him. I acquainted Mr Aldred with the desire Mary Pilkington had to come serve here.

3 Mr Leadbeter dined here, after dinner we went a Coursing, then to Nicholas Johnsons, he came home with me and lodged here.

4 Mr Leadbeter, Rigmaden, John Farer, &c: went a Coursing with me, when we had done dinner Walter Thelwall went a Seting with me. Mr Leadbeter went hence.

5 I Steeped some Wheat in Sea-Water which I designe to Soe tomorrow. I helped William Ainsworth to remove some Beas[ts] out of the Cowhey which I designe to send to Ormskerk tomorrow. I turned my Weaning Colt Jockey out into the Wheat hey. I went to look how my Cole-Seed comes up. My Wife and Eves went to Leverpoole. Thelwall dres'd the Jack.

6 I Paid Thomas Kerfoot for geting & Dressing Turf for me & he paid me some Rack Rent, I told him I had some thoughts of taking part of his Rack into my hands unless his Rent was better paid. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here, after dinner he, I and Mr Aldred went out a Coursing.

7 I met Dr Tarlton & Mr James Scarisbrick of Leverpoole a Coursing, when we had done we went to Nicholas Johnsons & dined there. I finished Wheat-Seeding this year in the Cross Field. Mary Pilkington left Mr Aldreds Service.

8 Mary Bell came to be Nurcery Maid and Chamber Maid. My Wife went to Sutton to discours Mary Scot about coming to be Houskeeper here. I sent to see Lady Molineux who is dangerous ill.

9 Mrs Blundell of Ince & her Sister Dorothy Blundell went to Mr Aldreds & then came hither. Richard Swift told me that his Land-Lord Thomas Farer threatened to turn him [out] of his Farme.

10 I payed the Land Tax to William Gray & Thomas Blansherd. Ann Tarlton came to be Dary Maid here. Betty Harrison gave Account up of the Linnen to Mary Bell, my Wife and I tooke Notice whot there was. The Town Field was

turned abroad.⁵⁹ I began to get my Apples. William Ainsworth bought me some Sheep at Ormskirk.

11 James Fleetwood came to mend the little Lead as was melted. I payed the Window Tax to Hugh Bullin. William Ainsworth sold a Cow to Ned Ryecroft. I put up a Larg Segg to feede. William Ainsworth went a Seting with me, we took nothing.

12 Betty Harrison left her Service. Dr Smithson came hither to enquire for Mr Aldred. Thomas Kerfoot payed me £4 in part of his Rack Rent. I coursed a Hare that Ned Hatton found set, we lost that but killed an other. William Ainsworth bought me some Sheep at the Stags Head.

13 Cozen Dick Butler Lodged here, I went with him to Ince where we found Dominick Sherbourn, thence we went to the North End.

14 Cozen Dick Butler, Mr Aldred & I went out a Coursing before dinner, we killed four Hares; after dinner Cozen Dick Butler and I went and Coursed a Hare that John Blundell Write found set, they were breaking at his Hous a lifted me. Cozen Dick Butler went hence. Mr Wilding payed me his Rent whilst John Tickley was putting up a Shelf in my Closet. Parson Wairing came hither to invite me to dine with him at the Goosfeast.

15 I went to Leverpoole and drunk at Mr Brownbills. I bought some Sweetmeats.⁶⁰ Mr Knight lodged here.

16 Jane Harrison was here, she went with my Wife to Crosby Goos-feast. Fanny Lodged at her Nurses. One of my Black Mares was puld out of a ditch.

17 William Tarlton payed me his Rent, he proposed to buy a Hors of me and bid me Money at two. Mr Knight went hence. We expected Mr Molineux of Mosburgh and his Lady & Mrs Eckleston to lodg here but they came not.

18 Lord Mountgarret & his Son dined here, I went with them to Great Crosby Goos-feast, we eat at William Tarltons, we went to a Rase on Crosby Marsh between a Black Mare of John Gerards of Garswood & a Bay Mare of Leverpoole.

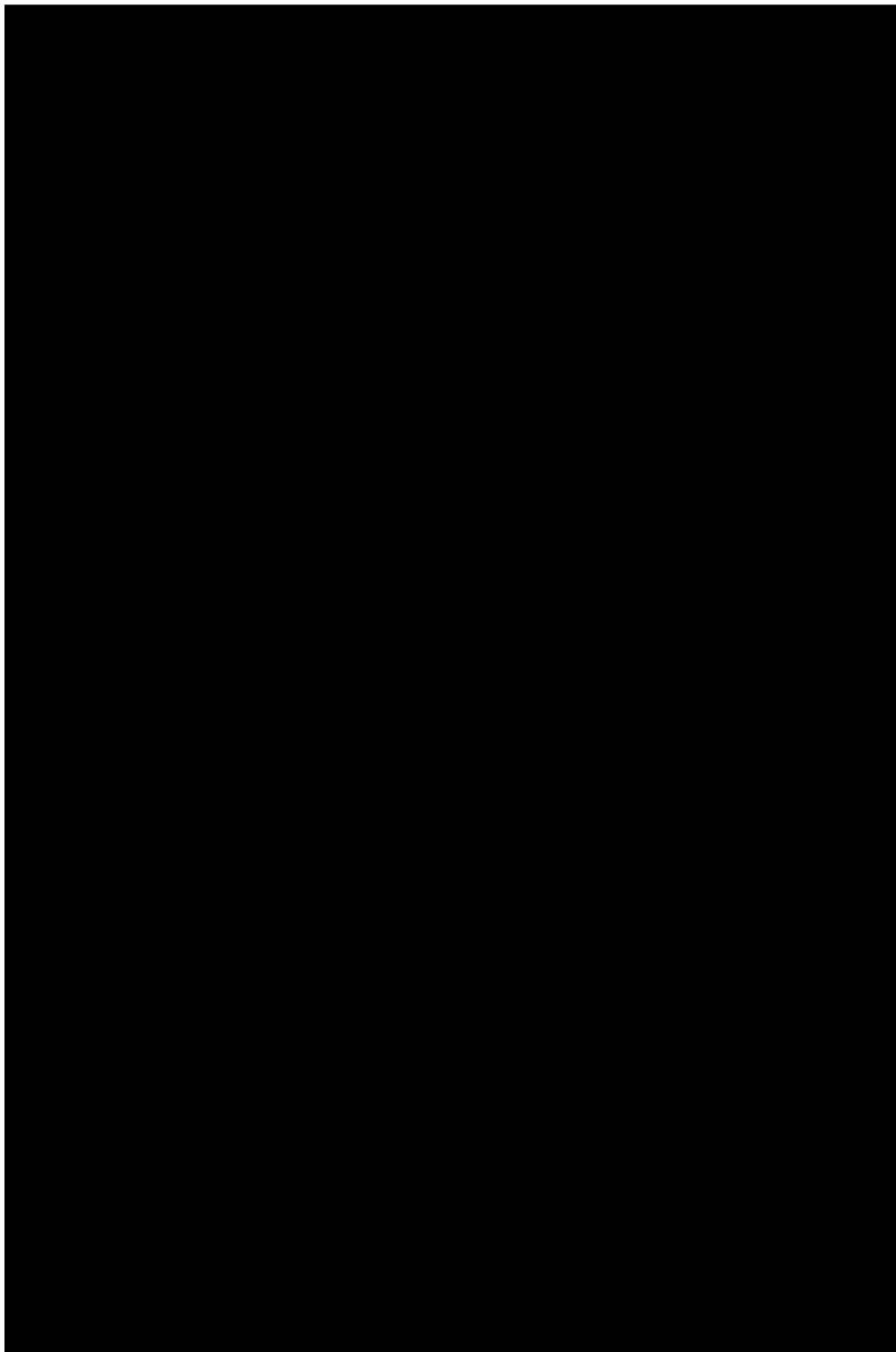
19 Parson Letus came hither a beging with a Breef for loss Sustained by Fire. I helped John Tickley to naile the Sailes upon the Fan for Winnowing Corn, when we had done it we tried it.

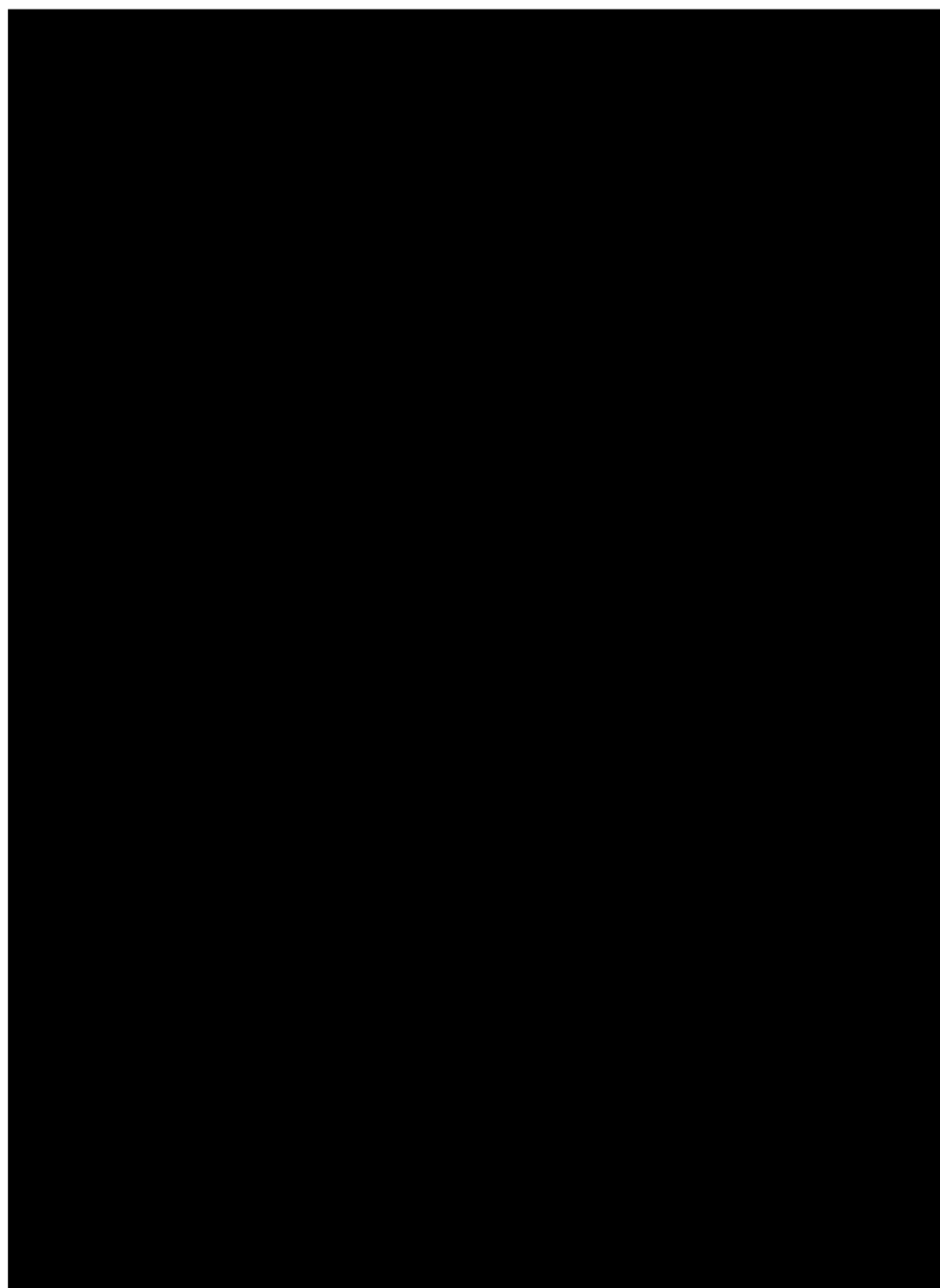
20 Pat: Wofold & Mr Philipson dined here, they went with my Wife & me to Ince, we went thither to wate of Sir William Gerard & my Lady, we found there Lord Molineux, Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Harington, Young Mr Gerard of Highfield, &c: the Coach came for my Wife & me.

21 Lady Gerard of Garswood & her Doughter came hither after dinner from Ince as did also Mr Harington & his Doughter Ann, Mr Blundell & his Lady & some of his Children and his two Sisters Bridget & Dorothy, Mr Dominick Sherbourn, &c: I set up a good new Dyall Post in the Bleaching Yord. William Ainsworth payed £43 to Mr J. Prescott at Preston, tiss in part of my Purchass Money for Mrs Blackbourns Land.

⁵⁹ i.e. opened to grazing.

⁶⁰ "October 1709—Sweetmeat Pastes of Frute at 2s. 6d. 3s. 1s.,
Sweetmeats Frosted at 4s. per Pound 5s. 6d."





- 22 I was a great part of the after Noone in my Closet making Peeses ready for my Paletine work. I Clarified some Aqua Coelestis which was wors for keeping. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, his Lady, & Mrs Eckleston Lodged here.
- 23 Mr Molineux & I went to Ince. Mrs Blundell, &c: came hither of a Viset to Mrs Eckleston & Mrs Molineux. Mr Gray Lodged here. We played at Cards after Supper.
- 24 My Wife, Mrs Molineux & Mrs Eckleston went after dinner to Ince. Mr Molineux and I, &c: went to the Grange but no body being at home but Servants we did not light there but came to Mr Aldreds.
- 25 Mrs Eckleston went to Ince. Mr Molineux, his Wife and mine went in the Coach to Croxtath, they dined there. Mr Hesketh of Mosb:hall and I made a Viset to Parson Wairings, his Son Richard gave me a Cocoa Nut, we cut it open after Supper.
- 26 I and all my Gests went to the Grange, Mr Blundell of Ince was there. Buck was not well, I bluddied him.
- 27 Cozen Robert Mollins, I, and oure Wives went in the Coach to Ince we dined there with Mrs Eckleston, &c:. Cozen Dick Butler sent an Express with some Fish for me, she called of me at Ince as she was going back. Mr William Molineux Lodged here. Mr Gray went hence.
- 28 Mr William Molineux went hence. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh dined at the Grange & then went upon Business to Formby where Mr Blundell met him. We took a Rabbet that was Coursed into the Brickkill. Dorothy Chadock an old Servant here, came to see me & to look about her. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth.⁶¹ I Discoursed Philip Syer about geting Stones for me & payed him for all work due to him to this day. Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters Bridget & Dorothy made a Viset here. Wassall played here, we had a Merry Night.
- 29 I Stated Accounts with Mr Molineux of Mosburgh for Oats, &c:, he, I, & &c: went out a Coursing before dinner. Mrs Molineux of the Grange and Pat: Wofold dined here. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, his Lady & Mrs Eckleston went hence. William Ainsworth swaped my tall Hors Lobster at Leverpoole for a Gray Mare which I call Punsh.
- 30 Mr Mullins & Dominick Sherbourn made a Viset here from Ince. Dorothy Chadock lodged here. A Grand falling out with Eves.⁶²
- 31 I took two Cowes into the house to feed. Mr Mullins dined here. Eves left her service. I sent William to see my Aunt Frances, &c: who were ill at my Lord Mountgarrets.

Till the 14th very Fair & fine Weather, from the 14th till the 25th almost every day some little rain thō seldom much, from the 25th till the end very fine Weather thō sometimes a little Rain.

⁶¹ "25 October 1709—

	£	s.	d.
Spent by Will Ainsworth in buying Sheep & making other bargans .	6	1	
Market Wages at 3d. per day	5	6	
Weathers 40 at 4s. 5d.; Weathers 40 at 3s. 2½d.; Ewes 10 at 2s. 6d.			
and two given in at the Bargan, the 92 Sheep cost	16	9	2"

These were the sheep bought on October 12 1709. Whenever any servants went to buy for Blundell at a market they were paid a market wage of 3d or 4d. a day in addition to their quarterly wage.

⁶² One of the maids.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Ralph Nelson, John Tickle, William Gray went a Coursing with me, we had extraordinary good Spourt. Dorothy Blundell lodged here.
- 2 I sent John Banister with a Brace of Hares to Alderman Clayton⁶³. I went with Richard Bryanson, John Poole, &c: to the New-field to look at some Ground that there was a dispute about how far it came, John Farer was with us & had my Grehounds, thence I went past Ince Green (where Mr Aldred, Mr Burton, &c: were) to John Rothwells, but he not being at home I went to Nicholas Gorsuch his, he not being at home, I went to John Farcloughs to ask him to come & work for me tomorrow. I put up two Swine to feed. John Wainright was here, I saw him not.
- 3 John Farclough came to mend some Barrels that were not stansh. I sent William Ainsworth to Ormskirk to buy some Potatows &c:. William Gray went with me a Coursing.
- 4 Walter Thelwall & John Farer went with me a Coursing, then I went to Great Crosby Court which was kept by Mr Ford, I dined at Thomas Heskeths with Mr Ford, Parson Wairing, Mr Roger Bryers, &c:. William Atherton⁶⁴ Lodged here, he payed me Rent for Ditton Rack.
- 5 I Signed a Leas at the Woolpack in Leverpoole to Henry Heys & an other to William Atherton and they lickwise signed to me. I payed off Edward Spencer, James Davy Slater & James Duxbury for Worke done at Ditton & for Lime, I drunk with them at the Wool pack & there sold Black Bonny to William Atherton.
- 6 My Wife went to Lodg at John Jackson in Layland. I sent John Banister to Mosburgh with a Letter to let Mr Molineux know that I designe to come on Tuesday for some Carp Fray.
- 7 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh sent two Horses to fetch some Beans from hence. I Signed a Leas to the Widdow of Nicholas Abrom. I Stated Accounts with John Sumner for Feying & Delving Turf &c:. Henry Dauber the Millwrit came to work here. I went to Bootle to see how Sir Clave Mors Waterwork went forward thence I went to Leverpoole for some Papers &c: that I left on Saturday at the Wool pack, I drunk there with Mr Alanson and went to see Mr Plumb, he being lately comne from Ireland. Philip put up some Tiles that were wanting in the Parlor, &c:.
- 8 My Wife came home from John Jacksons. Mr Aldred went with me to Mosburgh, we dined there with Sir James Poole, Mrs Mary Standley of Hooton, &c:. Mr Molineux of Mosburg gave me some Carp Fray &c: which we took today with drawing and draining part of his Fishpond.
- 9 Darbys Wife brought me from Mosburgh 138 Carp Fray, 8 Tensh Carp or Mungrills and 22 Loaches. I put into the New Pit in the Oaklands 40 Carp Fray & 5 Mungrills, into the Carthous pit 30 Carp & three Mungrills, Wheat hey Pit 18 Carps, Town Field Pit 22 Carp. Richard Newhous thatched for me here. Most of my Sheep were marked that William Ainsworth bought for me some

⁶³ William Clayton, a merchant of Liverpool, father of Sarah Clayton who designed Clayton Square in Liverpool.

⁶⁴ Blundell's chief Ditton tenant, who often came to Crosby Hall to discuss Ditton affairs with him.

time agoe. My Wife went to the Carr Side & discoursed Betty Blundell about Catherin Carys.

10 I put 10 Carp Fray into the Little Brick-kill hole in the Mosshey and 18 Carp Fray into the long Pit or Brickkill Hole, & 21 Loaches into the three Pits in the Cow Hey. I coursed a Hare that John Banister found set in the Cowhey. I Rode to Ince to let Mr Blundell look at my Mare Punsh, he not being at home I went to John Rothwells thence to Richard Bryansons & so to Margery Blundells, I made a bargain with her to keep a Cow of mine till May-day next.

11 Mr Blundell of Ince, Richard Bryanson, Walter Thelwall, William Weedow, I & &c: met in the Mosses and discoursed about the Divition Ditch⁶⁵ & the Water Courses. I brought home a Tree which Henry Dauber bought for me to be a Mill Shaft.⁶⁶ I discoursed Henry Sumner and he is resolved to leave my Service unless I will advance his Wages.⁶⁷

12 The old Man Thomas Kirklington who sells Picturs & Tenns was here. I Nailed four Peeses of Lead to my Fann for Winnowing Corn. I helped John Banister to bottle about 12 Dozen of Aile. I looked about the hous for severall things that were layed out of their plases. I took the Milk beas[ts] into the Hous.

13 My Wife went to the Carr-side, thence to Ince. I stayed after Vespers a good While with Mr Aldred.

14 I sent William Ainsworth with Black Bonny to William Atherton, he had bought her of me. I went to the New hous with intention to goe with Mr Burton to Ann Tatlocks in Formby, but finding Richard Tickle, Edmond Trustrom, &c: there I went not to Formby. Mr Plumb Lodged here, he came to keep my Court tomorrow.

15 Mr Plumb, Mr Aldred and I went a Coursing in the Morning and then Mr Plumb went and kept my Court at William Davys. Cozen Dick Butler lodged here.

16 Cozen Dick Butler, Mr Aldred & I went a Coursing before dinner. Ailes Tickle, &c: dined here. Mr Aldred lodged here. Catherin Carys came to be the Houskeeper. William Weedow, &c: met Mr Blundell of Ince &c: about the Divition Ditch.

17 Pat: Thomas Wofold dined here. I went to Ince with Cozen Dick Butler & in the way I bought a Cow of Nicholas Gorsuch. I Hiered Charles Howerd to be my Plough man, Coachman, &c:, and am to give him 50s per Annum.

18 Cozen Dick Butler, Mr Aldred & I, &c: went a Coursing before dinner; after dinner I met Mr Blundell of Ince & Mr Barton a horsback a Coursing, my Mare Punsh was layed in a ditch in Mr Brownbills Ground. Pat: Wofold dined here.

⁶⁵ The division ditch was a wide deep ditch marking the boundary between Little Crosby and Ince Blundell. It was made following a dispute between the lords of the manors in the fifteenth century.

⁶⁶ Great care was taken in choosing a tree to make a millshaft. Generally an oak tree about one hundred years old was used; and the best time for cutting down the tree was October. Before this the bark of the chosen tree was stripped off, so the sap was practically dried out by October.

⁶⁷ Sumner, head hind, groom and coachman was paid 15s. Od. a quarter. He must have left his service since his name does not appear in the wage lists after January 1710. His place was taken by Charles Howerd who was paid 12s. 6d. a quarter. (See November 17 1709). When he took the job he was given a shilling as hiring fee:

"17 November—Earnest when I hired Charls Howerd 1s. Od."

- 19 Cozen Dick Butler went hence, I went with him to Leverpoole, as we were going we Coursed a Hare as Thelwall found set. I bought a Quarter of Beef but Henry Sumner did not carry it home. I payed off James Halsold in full.
- 20 I sent Henry Sumner to Leverpoole for the Beef which he left there yesterday. Mrs Blundell and her two Sisters Mrs Bridget & Mrs Dorothy Blundell made a Viset here.
- 21 I sold 20 Bussell of old Beans to Antony Fleetwood. Mr Aldred & I went to see Parson Letus who had brock his Leg.
- 22 I sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole to borrow some Pullys to help me up with my New Mill Shaft. I made use the first time of my Larg new Bag for Aqua Coelestis. I set some little of my Paletine work together to see how I had Propoutioned it. I Payed the two Sawers Richard Sefton & Joseph Carter who had ben working for me chiefly about the Mill Shaft & Sailes.
- 23 I sent a Cart load of Beans to Leverpoole as I had sold to Antony Fleetwood. Mr More of Bank-hall & one Mr Fitz Gerald dined here. I stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. The New Shaft was put up, tis the first I ever had with six Sailes.
- 24 My Children took Phisick for the Wormes. Margery Charnock left her Service. I sent William Ainsworth with some old Gees to be kept by Nicholas Gorsuch but they would not stay with him. I was a good while in the after-noon at the Mill & helped them to fix the Cogg Wheele. I booked my Receipts for the last Month.
- 25 I gave Mr Darcy Chantrell the Writings made with Thomas Williams for some terme of years in Nocktorum. Leverpoole Hounds hunted near this hous, I went to them awhile & thence went to Bank hall to wate of Sir Clave More but he was not at home.
- 26 I Coursed a Hare that Little Henry Sumner found set.
- 27 My Wife rode to Ince of a Viset. I sent Joseph Massy to Leverpoole for a Pennance becaus he refused to fetch a Mugg of Butter out of the Town.⁶⁸ I sent Cozen Dick Butler his Gun by an Express that he sent for it. Mr Aldred set with me most of the afternoone.
- 28 I Stated Accounts with Nicholas Gorsuch & took his Note upon demand for whot he owes me. I Stated accounts with Henry Dauber and payed him in full of all Accounts. I Winnowed both Oats & Wheat.
- 29 I payed 26s. for my Composition for small Tiths to William Harrison Clark of Sefton. I went to Leverpoole and made a Viset to Mr Plumb who was not very well. I drunk Mr Chorleys⁶⁹ farewell with Mr Alanson. I saw Sir Clave More at the Post Office. From Leverpoole I went to Ditton & lodged at William Athertons.
- 30 From Ditton I went to Warrington Fair & sold my Mare Harper, she is designed for one Mr Bradshaw of Manchester for a Hunter; there was one Mare sold at five farthings per Pound. I dined at Dr Booths in Warrington with Mr Maior alias Hard.; I drunk at Warrington with Mr Joseph Bolton, William

⁶⁸ This was the second occasion within a few days that servants had refused to carry out certain tasks Nicholas had asked them to do. Joseph Massey, as plough driver, probably did not consider it as part of his duty to bring butter from Little Crosby to Crosby Hall. He either left Blundell's service or was dismissed, for after January 1710 his name no longer appears in the wage lists. See January 17-21 1710.

⁶⁹ Chorley was a Liverpool haberdasher.

Atherton, &c.: I lodged at Ditton. Henry Dauber went hence, he having set my six sale Mill agate.⁷⁰

Till the 9th very fine weather, from the 9th till the End seasonable weather enough for the time, thō with frequent Shours of Rain & bitter cold winds & some two dayes of sharp frost. This Month may be said to be rather weter then ordinary.

⁷⁰ "28 November 1709

Mill Wrights at 8d. per day when they put up my Shaft with six sailes	£	s.	d.
A Tree for a Mill-Shaft	1	14	8
Spent in buying the Tree & for Victualls	2	1	0
Given the Millwrights when they had Finished		2	6
		1	10
16 December 1709			
Sale Thread		1	10
Timber for a Saddle for the Mill		2	0
Hogs Grace at 4d. per pound		4	0
23 December 1709			
Smiths Work for the Mill, chiefly about the Shaft	1	9	6"

This introduction of six sails on the windmill at Little Crosby was a striking innovation, for out of the many thousands of windmills built in England only about sixty or seventy had more than four sails. It is possible that Nicholas was a pioneer in the use of more than four sails. John Smeaton (1724-1792), builder of Eddystone Lighthouse and an expert in mill mechanics, is generally considered as the man who did much to encourage the use of more than four sails in windmills. The first mill he built of this type was a mill with five sails at Leeds in 1774, some 65 years after Blundell had first used six sails. How long the Little Crosby mill continued with six sails is not certain. *A Chart of the sea-coast of South Lancashire in 1737* shows the mill with six sails. But on another chart of the entrance to the Port of Liverpool, 1764, the mill is shown with four sails. (DDB1/24/25 and DDX/99/5. L.R.O.)

DECEMBER

- 1 I came home from Ditton, called of Mr Green at Prescot, thence went to Eckleston & dined there, where I saw a Swine that was valewed at £4-10s-00d. I called at Dr Lathoms & advised him to make his Tenant pay his Rent. John Banister found his Box opened & 30s. of Money was taken out of it.
- 2 I helped John Banister to bottle Aile. I began to set my Paletine Work together, it was a larg Church & the first peece of that sort I ever did, I much whot finished it.
- 3 I helped John Banister to Bottle an other Rundlet of Aile. Mr Aldred went a Coursing with me.
- 4 I Coursed a Hare that John Melling found set.
- 5 We made some Math, a mistake both in the Quantity of Hunny & Water. I Stated Accounts with William Weedow. I sent a Cart Load of Barly to be Malted at Mr Smiths & fetched a Cart Load of Malt from thence. I sent to see a Son of Cozen Scarisbricks who had brock his Arme. I took the Larum Pendulum in peeases and censed it.
- 6 I hung up my Paletine Church in the hall. I sold 12 Busshell of Wheat to Parson Richmonds Man for 6s.-8d. per Busshell & he is to fetch it from hence. The Pigeon hous was dressed. I shot some old Pigeons with a Gun.
- 7 I Stated & Cleered Accounts with Ails Davy. I went to the Stone Delf at Thomas Farers it being the first time I have ben there since Philip Syer began to get this time. William Ainsworth went a Coursing with me. Frances Howerd came to be the Houskeeper but for some reason it was thought proper for her to goe to Ellen Harrisons tonight before she was seen in the Hous. I gave Richard Swift leave to build a Carthous upon the waist at the side of Thomas Farers Barn. John Blundell maid & mended Sacks.
- 8 Frances Howerd came hither to be Houskeeper. Margarit Jackson came to be the Cook. My Wife went to see Mrs Blundell who was lying in. I went a Coursing towards the Edge, there was with me Walter Thelwall, John Farer, John Hunt, &c:
- 9 John Garret swept about half of the Chimneys in the hous.⁷¹ Marg: & Ezabell censed the old Stable and dressed most of the Fethers. John Banister got 6d. for a Box o'th Eyre.⁷²
- 10 My Wife went to Leverpoole to buy Provisions against Christmas and some other things, she made Mrs Howet a Viset after her return to Leverpoole from London.⁷³
- 11 I sent Joseph Massy to Ormskirk with the Pillion that Margarit Jackson rode hither on.

⁷¹ "9 December 1709—Sweeping Chimbnies at 3d. per Chimbney . . . 2s. 3d."

⁷² This statement is puzzling. It is not clear whether it may have been a practical joke, or whether Banister, the butler and gardener, had received a blow on the ear as a punishment (probably from Mrs. Blundell) which he considered undeserved, and was receiving 6d. as a form of compensation.

⁷³ "Coffy 3 lbs. bought by Mrs Howet. . . . £1. 0s. 0d."

The next item in the Disbursement Book reads:

"Coffy pots 6 of Prescot Wair 3s. 0d."

- 12 I Picked three Pound of Coffy, out of one Pound I picked 69 Stones and out of an other onely one Stone.⁷⁴ I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft. I booked my Receipts for the last Month.
- 13 I went to Bank hall to wate of Sir Clave More, he was not at home, but I saw his Sister, coming home I called at Parson Wairings and Stayed a good while with him.
- 14 I found Darby & Skinner Blundell playing at Tables at Ailes Davys after Eleven of the Clock at Noon, they had ben playing all the Night. I Cut of part of the Tailles of my Sheep, 'tis said they will feed the better for it. I went to see Parson Letus who was ill of a brocken Legg, I found there Mr Walker Curat of Male.
- 15 I went to the Grange and fetched home a Blew Shag Riding Coat which came from London for me. I found there Mr Burton and Ailes Tickle, thō it was a Cold day I took Mally before me to Margery Blundell. Mrs Aspinwall came from Ince to make a viset to my Wife.
- 16 Frances Howerd who should have ben Houskeeper here left her Service. I set the same Ground to Walter Thelwall & Henry Hunt as they had before. I kill'd a Hog.
- 17 I went to Leverpoole & met some of my Ditton Tennants there, it being the Saturday before Christmas Eve. I drunk at the Wool pack with William Atherton, Joseph Bolton, &c.; I made a Viset to Mrs Howet, it being the first time I had seen her since her coming to Leverpoole from London. Carus Brother lodged here.
- 18 Carus Brother went hence. My Wife went to Ince and then to Thomas Swifts Wife who was in sharp & dangerous Labour. Mrs Moss of Leverpoole Midwife Lodged here. Mr Aldred dined here, I set a good part of the after noon with him.
- 19 I Put some Lead Revets into severall of the hand Screens and mended them. I Redied my Closet and Clensed it pritty thoroughly against Christmas.
- 20 Mr Aldred and I went to Ince. Mr Blundell went out a Coursing with us. James Davys man the Slater worked here. I payed Philip Syer for his Work & shewed him the Map I had made of part of my Demesne.
- 21 John Hunt, John Farer, William Davy, &c: went a Coursing with me. I Stated Accounts with William Weedow for some things he had bought for me at Leverpoole.
- 22 I Booked my Disbursments for the last Month, I killed a Cow against Christmass. Some of my Horses were bluddied. I met Mr Morpew & Pat: Wofold at Great Crosby, we went out a Coursing but found no Hare.
- 23 I payed Mr Smith for making two killfull of Malt and for duty for it. I fixed the kandlesticks in new plases in the Ship.
- 24 I Removed my Paletine Church into an other part of the Hall & put up some Esscutions. I made some Paper Baggs to put Brass in. I Stated Accounts with Ascroft & Skinner.

⁷⁴ Nicholas on two or three occasions complains about finding stones mixed with the coffee beans bought and sent from London.

- 25 Mrs Blundell sent my Wife a Present of a Rowl of Brawn. Mally lodged at Ellin Harrisons.
- 26 Walter Thelwall, John Hunt, &c: went a Coursing with me, we started about 8 Hars in I think less then two Hours time, but it was so extreamly Windy that several of them stole off & we had but little Sport. Cozen Scarisbrick, his Wife, Son James and Doughter Betty Lodged here as also did Mr Robert Fazakerley & his Wife.
- 27 Mr Blundell & his two Sisters Bridget & Dorothy suped here. Wassell was here, we had a Merrinight, we danned Country Danses.
- 28 Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Robert Fazakerley & I went to Mr Aldreds & set there a good while, oure Wives went to Leverpoole, it was a bitter Cold day. Wassell⁷⁵ was here, we had a Merrinight and Fyered the Gunns.
- 29 Lord Mountgarret, Mr James Tildesley, & Captain Robert Fazakerley dined & Lodged here. Cozen Dorothey Blundell & Mrs Holland from Leverpoole Lodg'd here, we danned Country Danses after Super.
- 30 Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Robert Fazakerley and I walked to Ince, oure Wives went thither in the Coach. Lord Mountgarret, Mr James Tildesley, &c: went hence. Thomas Tyrer Roweled a Mare & Gelding of mine that were lame. Wassell went hence.
- 31 Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Fazakerley &c: played at Tables. Mrs Scarisbrick, Mrs Fazakerley and my Wife went to Richard Tickleys.

Till the 14th Seasonable weather thō some violent Stormes of Wind & Raine, from the 14th till the 26th generally fine calm Weather, from the 26th till the End very Winterly Weather with Snow, Wind and some Frost.

⁷⁵ "To Wassell the Fidler 3s. 6d."

Anno Domini 1710

JANUARY

1 Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Robert Fazakerley, Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach to the Grange, we found there Richard Tickle, John Poole, Mr Edward Molineux, Edmond Trustrom, &c:.

2 Mr Scarisbrick, Mr Robert Fazakerley and their Wives went hence. I payed the Land Tax to William Gray. I stated accounts with John Tickle for Work, &c: and with Darby for work done by his Wife &c:. I Stated Accounts with Henry Sumner and payed him all his Wages due to him, he being to leave my Service.

3 Henry Sumner left his Service. I lay in Bed till towards Evening being ill of my Eyes. Thomas Whithead Gardiner in Chester came to see me whilst I was in bed.

4 Catherin Carus left her Service. I lay in Bed till near Noone, after dinner I went to the Barn to see the Children pick Strucken Wheat.¹ Mr Aldred came to see me and suped here.

5 I Lay in bed till after dinner. Mr Aldred put oyl'd paper over the Window, he kept me company all the after noone, Thomas Marrow shaved behind my Ears & layed Blistering Plasters on.

6 Mr Aldred prayed & dined here. William Thelwall came to see me. John Marser of Melling brought Burch Beesoms.

7 Lord Mountgarret sent to see me. Mrs Blundell of Ince & her Sisters Dorothy & Bridget Blundell came to see me & stayed in the Roome a good while, I got not up till Night.

8 Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me.

9 Dr Smithson came to see me and let me Blood, he lodged here.

10 Dr Smithson went hence,² Mr Aldred went with him to Leverpoole & Swaped his Whit hors, Mr Ned Molineux came back with him hither. Mary Bell left her Service.

11 I gave Walter Thelwall my Deed for the Security of £100 per Annum for him to Coppy it out.

12 Parson Wairing and Mr Burton came to see me.

13 Mr Plumb came to see me. Mr Aldred and Walter Thelwall examained the Coppy of the Deed for £100 per Annum.

14 Sir James Poole came from Great Crosby to see me, he dined here. Lord Mountgarret came in the Evening to see me.

¹ Wheat afflicted with some disease. "In the latter part of June . . . green wheat is most liable to receive the stroke, as the farmers call it, that is, the honey-dews, which are of a sulphureous, glutinous nature, will then fall on the green ear and stalks and glew up the tender hose of the ear." [Ellis: *Modern Husbandry* (1750), Vol. II, p. i.]

² Dr. Smithson was a Liverpool doctor.

"10 January 1710—Fee to Dr Smithers for me 10s. 0d.
Blistering plaisters & Eye Water for me 10d."

- 15 Dr Smithson came to see me in the Morning, he order'd me a Tizan³ & Lodg'd here.
- 16 Dr Smithson went hence. I was ill in my head great part of the after noone. Jane Walton came to be the Chamber Maid.
- 17 Mr Aldred shaved my head and put on three plaisters which he brought from Dr Smithson. I was told Joseph Massy had robed me.
- 18 I went down it being the first time of these many days. I sent Weedow to Leverpoole to get a Warrant upon account of things stolne by Joseph Massy.
- 19 Ellen Massys hous & some others were serched for things supposed to be stolne by Joseph Massy. I searched Josephs Chest where I found some things that he had stolne; Weedow the Cunstable seased upon Joseph Massy & I turned him out of my Service. Mr Maynard came to see me. I fetched home some Ashwood from Melling.
- 20 William Weedow took Joseph Massy to Leverpoole where he was examined by the Maior &c.:⁴ Thomas Tyrer took the Rowels out of Bess and Shaft. I killed a Fat Hogg.
- 21 I Stated Accounts with Joseph Massy for Money lent to him by me & for Waiges owing to him. I shaved my self.
- 22 Mr Aldred prayed & dined here. I sent John Banister to the Funerall of Lord Mountgarrets youngest Doughter, but it seems she was buried last Night.
- 23 Mr Manock came to see me. I advised with Thomas Marrow whot Ground was most proper for sowing. Catherin Fazakerley helped my Wife to make some Head Cloths which I helped today to shape for her, she Lodg'd here because she is to sew for my Wife for some time. William Atherton sent me a Red Cow which I bought of him some time since, she has had 7 Calves at three times & 6 of them lived till they were killed by the Butcher, when I had her she onely brought forth one Calf & thô she was often Bull'd yet never held when I had her, and was very often abulling & when she was turn'd out in the Morning would frequently goe to the Rubing Stup & ride it. I payed Lawrence Gilbertson & Thomas Massy for Digging.
- 24 Mally took a Dose of Phisick for the Worms & upon Account of the Itch. Ails Steward was here, my Wife and I bought some Handkarchaffs &c: of her, I shewed her some things that Joseph Massy had stolne, some of them he said he had bought of her.
- 25 Parson Wairing came to see me. Robert Tompson came to be my Plough driver. My Wife went to Leverpoole to discours one that Mr Manock

³ In his *Book of Prescriptions and Recipes* Nicholas gives the following for making a Tisan:
"Tisan, to Make

Take 3 ounces of Perle Barly & put it into 3 Quarts of Spring Water, put into it also Reason [raisins] of the Sun stoned & Figgs of each 3 ounces, Licarise 3 ounces, & two ounces of Dats stoned & about 6 Leavs of Colts Foot, the leavs of 3 or 4 Spriggs of Hoar-hound & one pennyworth of Maden-hare, boyl altogether till it comes to two Quarts then Strane it through a Sive & let it settle, then runn it through a Jelly bagg or peece of Flannell. Drink a Quart a day, a draught in the Morning fasting, an other about four of the Clock & an other the last thing you take when you goe to bed."

⁴ "Charges spent in punishing Jos: Massy, in all 7s. 7d."
Massey was dismissed from his service and was succeeded as plough driver by Robert Tompson on January 25 1710.

recommended to her for a Houskeeper but she did not answer Expectation. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. Hoggs Pudings put into hot Pork Brine. The Keys of the Barns &c: first time hung up by my Closet doar. Formby Butchers payed me for a Cow. I set a Trenchard Trap in the Larder.

26 I clensed a good many Needles that were ill rustyed. I stated accounts with William Weedow for his Work, for whot he had layed out upon Account of Thomas Hooley,⁵ &c: I stated accounts with John Banister. I sold a Load of Oats & a Sack of Wheat at Ormskirk.

27 Widdow Morecroft of Ormskirk sent 10 Dozen of Ball-Sope.⁶ I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft. Mrs Blundell & her Sister Dorothy made a Viset here.

28 I Payed Mr Aldred his Salery, I sold him a heap of Oats at a Guess in the Barn, I helped him to lap up about nine Pound of Wax Candles. Charls Howerd sold a Load of Barly at Leverpoole and coming home he fell off the Cart and put out his hip Bone. Caty Fazakerley went hence, she had bene here some dayes sewing for my Wife.

29 Young Mr Yats put in Charls Howerd's hip. Captain Robert Fazakerley was going to lodg at Ince, he called here to see me. Mr Plumb sent an Express with an Answer whot was to be done concerning Dr Lathoms Tenant who was brocke.

30 John Lydiat the Wheel-right came to work for me the first time. I bought a Copper Pudingby-Pan of Christopher Parker.⁷ One Harper of Bootle and Martine of Fazakerley came to buy a Hors of me but we could not bargain. Lord Mountgarret lodged here, he met today Lord Molineux, &c: at Great Crosby, they dined at Dukes. Captain Robert Fazakerley came hither soone after diner, he din'd here.

31 Lord Mountgarret dined here, he went hence. There being some Snow on the Ground John Banister &c: went a Coursing or Traising, they got five Rabets and one of them had 5 young ones in her. Mr Richard Wairing came to take leave of me, he designes to goe to Bristold. Doctor Smithson called after Supper to see me.

Till the 18th fine seasonable weather, from the 18th till the 24th a moderate frost, then till the end fine Weather for the Season thō some little Snow.

FEBRUARY

1 I lay in bed till towards Eleven of the Clock, and before I got up John Blundell Taylor told me he designed to goe today to Mosburgh to let Mr Molineux know the Bargan he had made for part of Naylors Teneament. I Planted Oak and Ash in the Stock Roots, it being the first I had planted this Winter. I helped my Wife to make about 32 Quarts of Mead. I put some Wheat to steep in Coffy Grounds & Water to try to make Coffy of it. 572 gathered since August the 2d.⁸

⁵ See Appendix I.

⁶ "27 January 1710—Ball Soap at 1s. per dozen, 8 balls to the dozen and each dozen weighing 2½ lb. 15s. 0d."

⁷ "Puding Pye Pan of Copper 4s. 0d."

⁸ See August 2 1709 and footnote.

- 2 My Wife and I went after Dinner to Ince. Parson Wairings Doughter made a Viset here, but she went home before we came back from Ince.
- 3 Samwell Stones a poore Man with a Breef was here, after I had given him some Charity, he desir'd I would chang his Brass into Silver which when I had done he desir'd me to change his sixpenses into half Crowns. I helped both before and after dinner to take up Ashtrees to be planted. I brought home two Load of Ashwood it being the last of 7 Load or Tenn Trees which John Tickley had bought for me at Melling. Hugh Bullen came with a Cart & fetchd away some Beding which I had lent him, he has since this time brought it back againe. William Atherton stated Accounts with me and paid me his Candlemass Rent, Joseph Bolton came with him to bargan for putting in two Lives into his Leas but we did not bargan, they stayed here all Night.
- 4 I agreed with William Atherton to give him £43-05s-00d to marl for me this year at Ditton. I drunk William Atherton & Joseph Bolton in my Seller ere they went hence. Most of the Ashes that were planted in the Buriall-place Laine were carried in a Cart because they were got up with a Deal of earth, I went to see them Planting. I began to plough in the Flat, it being the first time I have ploughed since Christmass.
- 5 My Wife and I went in the Coach to Ince to wate of Mr Scarisbrick & his Lady who dined there.
- 6 Dr Lathom sent for 4 Gees which he is to keep to parts, but being they did not doe well I gave them him. I shewed Richard Bryanson where he may get some Stones towards his Building. I Rosted my Steeped Wheat to make Coffy on but it did not doe well. They began to get Stocks in the Rough North-Hey.
- 7 I Pulled up the Little Fur trees that were hoven up out of the Ground with the Frost, and pricked them down in order. I helped to take up some Ashes that are to be planted at the side of the Mosshey, &c.; I helped to lay some of them, we killed a Rabbet as we were going Round the Little Mosshey with the Ashes. I helped John Banister to set out some Beds in the New Grounds to sowe Haws on. Mr Thomas & Thomas Fooler called here, I gave them a drink in the Gatehouse.⁹ Mrs Bridget Blundell and her Sister Dorothy came to take leave of my Wife being they were going away from Ince. I got home a Load of Hedging Wood & a Load of Malt. My Wife was ill in her Head, Stomack, & Belly.
- 8 I took a Vomit from Dr Smithson. Mr Peter Morton came to see me. I mended the Lid for my Seller Window and put it up. My Wife walked to Great Crosby before dinner and came not back till after Noone.
- 9 I went to the Ploughers in the Wheat Hey thence to the Hedgers in the Pick & then to the Getters of Stocks in the Midley North Hey but they were just coming from their work. I helped John Banister to bottle above 5 dozen of Aile. John Banister planted six Apple Trees for Mr Aldred in the plases of some others that had not done well.
- 10 I went before dinner to the North hey to see William Ainsworth looking for

⁹ The gatehouse was pulled down in 1784-6 when Nicholas Peppard, grandson of the Diarist, carried out extensive alterations which completely changed the Jacobean appearance of Crosby Hall to a semi-Georgian style.

Stocks. Part of the Flower knot¹⁰ was new Earthed with Slutch. I lent Speed for Mr Gerald Wairing to Cours with. I helped to Winnow some of the Worst Wheat with the Fann. I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marrow Junior, he payed me the Remainder of his Fine excepting what is due for Interest.

- 11 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. My Wife & Mally walked to Margery Blundells. I helped John Banister, &c: to sow about 8 Busshells of Haws.
- 12 My Wife, I, and the Children went out to take the Aire in the Coach, it was the first time that Charles Howerd drove us. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Leverpoole and we took him in the Coach with us as far as Rimrose & coming back we called at Parson Wairings but went not out of the Coach.
- 13 I began to make like Flowers for the Grates against Summer. I helped John Banister to take up 30 Apple Trees. Topping the Parater was here a beging corn, I gave him some. Richard Cartwright was here from Burchley.
- 14 Mary Scot was here to discours my Wife about being Nursery Maid & Chamber Maid. William Ainsworth brought home some Beas[ts] he had bought at Blackbourn. I sent John Banister with a Present of 30 Apple Trees to Mr Trafford of Croston.
- 15 I made or cast my Rabbet Skins to see how many I could sell them for. Nicholas Johnson mended both the Charriots in places where they wanted. Philip Syer fixed a Scouring stone in the Pump Court.
- 16 Nathan Howerd who had ben here some time to help his Brother went hence. Jane Walton left her Service. I met Mr Plumb at Doctor Lathoms, we discoursed about the goods that were taken unfairly off Dr Lathoms Teneament.
- 17 John Banister dresed a Vine for Thomas Gore and some Goosberry Trees for Nicholas Johnson. William Ainsworth took Speed to Ditton to be kept. We winnowed Oats most of the Day. My Wife made a good provision of Ginger bread.
- 18 Edward Bridg came to look at a Burston Bellyed Cow of mine, Edward Howerd from Lithom lodged here, he gave John Banister some Tobacco seed which he sowed, some of it came up, but he brought it not to any perfection.
- 19 My Wife dined at Scarisbrick but came not home till towards 4 in the Morning. William Ainsworth writ in my Closet by my directions a Letter from Ellen Whithead to her Husband.
- 20 My Wife & I dined at my Lord Mounagarrets, it being the first time we had eather of us ben there since his Son & Doughter had the small Pox. Cozen Scarisbrick and his Lady came to my Lord Mountgarrets after dinner. Young Mr Tyrer sent hither for some Pigeons, I got him some old ones being I had no young ones & he was very desirous to have some.
- 21 I Shewed the North-heys to Mathew Worthington and his Partners & set

¹⁰ The knot-garden was typical of Tudor and Jacobean gardens. It was usually a rectangular garden divided into a pattern by low evergreen hedges; the spaces between being filled with low plants. Nicholas frequently used auriculas, cowslips and other plants which he bought or obtained from friends.

part of them to be Push-plowed by them.¹¹ I sold my Rabet Skins to Edward Halsold of Litherland. Thomas Kerfoot & his Partners payed me the Rent for my Warant. The Boys of this Town flung at a Mallard in a Tub of Water. I fetched my Wife and Fanny home on Horsback from Great Crosby. Edward Rycroft sent an Ox to be kept here by me.

22 I Sealed a Leas to Thomas Riding & gave him some Plain trees & other Trees to set. I mesured the Moss-pits in Marrows Moss that John Sumner had feyed, I stated Accounts with him and we cleered off all Accounts. I helped Banister to put some New Aile into two Dozen of old Darby Beer. Edward Howerd went hence.

23 I Sold two Calves to Edward Rycroft. Mary Scot came to be Nursery Maid & Chamber Maid.

24 Edward Halsold fetched the Rabet Skins from hence as he had bought of me some time since. I gave Ellen Harrison some Silver for her Gold & Brass. Mr Allison of Leverpoole came to see me.

25 My Wife went to Leverpoole to speak to Pat: Gelibrond but he was not comn back out of Cheshire. I sowed some Fur Seeds, &c: on a Bed in the Long Garden. Gray made a Heater to Rost Cockles.

26 Mr Aldred dined here, he rede to me in the Parlor. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole.

27 John Farer came to mend & dress the Coach Harnish. Henry Dauber and his Nephew came to work here and to make a Brake for my Mill. Richard Hewit was here I Sold him 60 Busshells of Oats. Edward Bridg cut a Cow Side of mine & took from her that way a vast large Calf.

28 Henry Dauber and my Miller went to Leverpoole to look at the Breaks that are in some of the Mills about that Town. Mr Syer of the Ford was here, William Ainsworth sold him ten Weathers.

This Month Remarkable fine Weather for the Season yet not without some Raine.

MARCH

1 I distribited the Cow that Edward Bridg cut the other day amongst my poor Neighbours, its Calf is also dead. I put up 2 young Swine to feed. Hollin Lyers and Cutings of Withens that had got Rooting were planted in the Stock Roots for under-wood.

2 I began to rid Gors in the Stock Roots. one Spencer a lame Disbanded Officer was abeging here. William Wignold gave me the Ritings between him & Robert Blundell to shew to some of the Town. Weedow and I looked at some of the Water Courses near the Winterheys to see which way the Water must goe off when I make new ditches in the Winter heys, coming home I called at Darbys and discoursed him & his Wife about their Son katching Rabets.

3 Mr Syer of the Ford fetched some Sheep from hence as William Ainsworth

¹¹ The push-plough or breast-plough was used to take off the mossy surface or poor undrained soil or for paring turf. It was slow and very hard work indeed, See March 7, 13, 20 and April 4 and footnote.

had sold him. William Ainsworth bought 40 Weathers at Morehall of Mr Wofold. I finished picking of my Strucken Wheat.¹² Pat: Gelibrond lodged here. I booked my Disbursements for December.¹³

4 William Ainsworth brought home some Sheep from Morehall which he had bought of Mr Wofold. Pat: Gelibrond went hence, I went to see Thomas Marrows Pushploughers, thence I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell, there was there Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Aldred. I booked my Receipts for December.

5 Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole.

6 Ellin Norris sent me 53 Pound of Hemp for which I am to pay her 3½ p. pound. Mr Molineux of the Grange payed me 10d. for his Chief Rent. Edward Rycroft payed me 20s. the remainder of 21s for two Calves, he dined here. I stated Accounts with John Banister. I discoursed Richard Jackson about the Misunderstanding that is between John Hunt & John Johnson & advised him to propose agreement between them in Relation to the Exchange of Ground about which they differ.

7 I lay in Bed till after Noon being indisposed with a Cold. The Push-ploughers began in the Farther North Hey for me.

8 I Booked my Receipts for January & February.¹⁴ Mr Walmesley late of Showley dined here. Cozen Dick Butler dined and lodged here, he went with me to the North hey to see my Push-ploughers.

9 Cozen Dick Butler and I Ride to the Grange but neather Mr Wofold nor Mr Molineux being at home we went to Parson Wairings and stayed there a good while. Piter Whit came hither but I not being at home he went away againe. The Millrights finished here & went hence.

10 Cozen Dick Butler being here I drew the Wheat-hey Pit & the Pit ith Oaklands by the Wheathey Gate, out of the first we onely got 4 small Picks.¹⁵ Thomas Syer of the Ford fetched some Sheep hence that he had bought here & had strayed hither from him, John Bolton of the Evsom came with him to buy some Ewes but William Ainsworth being gon to Leverpoole to try to find Petir Whit I sold him none. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here in his way from Ince to Leverpoole. Cozen Dick Butler read a good part of Sr Martine Marr-all to me.

11 Cozen Dick Butler went hence. Peter Whit lodged here.¹⁶ I mended the Great Chariot with Glew where it wanted. Parson Richmonds Servant fetched the Remainder of his Wheat which he had formerly bought of me and pay'd me for it.

12 Peter Whit and I set a while with Mr Aldred in the after noone & he came back with us & stayed till almost Supper expecting Captain Robert Fazakerley.

¹² "Pickers of Strucken Wheat at 4d and 2d. per day £1 13s. 5d.

¹³ Nicholas was entering the money he had spent in December 1709 into his Disbursement Book three months later. See Appendix J.

¹⁴ It is unfortunate that his Receipts Books appear to have been lost.

¹⁵ Pikes.

¹⁶ Peter White, ship's captain; not known whether engaged in Transatlantic, Irish or Mersey trade only.

- 13 I fetched home a Load of Beans from Thomas Syers of the Ford as William Ainsworth had bought of him for Seed. I payed William Harrison 2d. instead of Paist Eggs. Peter Whit read Masinellows Revolution at Naples to me, I went with him to the Push-ploughers.
- 14 Peter Whit went hence to his Ship that lyes in Farcloughs Lake¹⁷ near the Meales. William Ainsworth brought a Box home from Leverpoole that came from London for my Wife with a Black Silk Scarf & some Coffy in it.¹⁸ John Banister began to graft this Season. William Ainsworth brought home two Large Cowes he had bought of Richard Renold by Ins Mill.
- 15 I began this Year to sow Beans in the Field. Ellin Norris paid William Ainsworth £40 for my use which he is to take with some more to Preston today.
- 16 William Ainsworth bought three Beas[ts] at Preston Fair & pay'd £40 to Lawyer Starkey upon account of Dungenhall towards my Purchas of Mrs Blackbourns Estate. I mended three of Cozen Dick Butlers Seting Nets.
- 17 I mended two of Cozen Dick Butlers Seting Nets. William Ainsworth came home from Preston Fair. I helped Charles Howerd to remove some Oats in the farthest Granery.
- 18 I mended one of Cozen Dick Butlers Seting Nets before dinner and stuck close to my Work i'th after Noone to mend his worst net but could not compas it. John Banister went home to lodg, Ann Tarlton went with him part of the way, she also stayed all Night. I writ out Nicks advice. I Nailed some ribs i'th window to keep Pigeons from coming into the Loft ore the Green Roome.
- 19 Henry Stannynought brought me about 20 Pound of Eles from Fazakerley. Edward Pourtor was here after dinner, he brought Mr Jamson a Writing-Master of Leverpoole along with him, I shewed him some of my Droughts and some Curiosities.
- 20 John Bryanson came hither to know how Accounts stood between John Rimer and me. Ellin Norris payed the remainder of her Fine and I Sealed her a Leas. I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell. I came home by my Pushploughers in the North hey then went to discours Thomas Farer who was ditching between it & his Little Ease. Catherine Carus was here.
- 21 I Began to make Aspargrass Beds. Roger Hadock the Bayly of the Hundred was here to beg Corn, I orderd him $\frac{1}{2}$ of Barly. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. Parson Wairing brought me towards Night some Papers of News that Mr Aldred had lent him.
- 22 Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Aldred dined here. I finished sowing Beans in the Fields and Began my Oat Seeding. I helped to sow about six Busshells of Hawes in the New Grounds. I layed up a Melder¹⁹ of Meale in the Storehouse, Nanny Tarlton carryed her from thence on her Back down Stayres. I finished

¹⁷ Fairclough's Lake was a sheltered stretch of water off the shore of North Meols, near present-day Southport. It is shown *A Chart of the Sea Coast from the Harbour of Wyer to Black Comb* by Samuel Fearon and John Eyes. (1738).

¹⁸ "Silk Scarf bought at London for my Wife. . . . £4 7s. 0d.
Coffy at 6s. 8d. per Pound £2 0s. 0d.
Box & Portage 3s 0d.
Carriag of Coffy & Scarf from London 2s. 3d."

¹⁹ A melder—a quantity of meal ground at one time.

mending Cozen Dick Butlers worst Seting Net, twas the seventh & last Net I had mended for him, if they all wanted as I think they did. Ned Ricrofts Ox was taken hence.

23 Peter White came hither after dinner, he lodged here, I shewed him my Mill & Kill thence I went with him to Ellin Harrisons. Mr Aldred smoked a Pipe with us there. Edward Hatton shewed me Mr Entwisleys Opinion relating to Thomas Bullins Will. John Lurting fetched a Load of Barly hence which he had bought of William Ainsworth. I booked my Disbursments for January. William Ainsworth payed my Aunt Frances Blundell £25 and Mr Richard Wofold £19-05s-00d. for Sheep formerly bought of him. One from Ormskirk was here to acquaint me he had Muslins &c: to sell.

24 I lent Peter Whit a Mare to ride on to Leverpoole. I booked my Disbursments for February. I gave William Ainsworth some heads²⁰ to make a Leas on for Thomas Marrow of the Gate. John Banister went to the Cockley Skeere.²¹

25 Dr Frances Worton came from Ince hither, I consulted with him about Mallys head and my Eyes. Peggy Jackson & Nanny Tarlton went to Leverpoole.

26 I sent William Ainsworth towards Blackburn Fortnight Fair. Peter Whit Read to me in the Parlor.

27 William Ainsworth bought me some Beas[ts] at Blackburn Fortnight Fair.²² Peter Whit went hence to his Ship in Farcloughs Lake, I sent William Weedow on horsback with him, he sent me by him some Ta: Can: and Bu:. I went to see Mr Blundell, I found there Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Smith of Croston, &c:. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here. Henry Bushell brought me 3 Layers of Geliflowers from Thomas Whithead of Chester.

28 William Ainsworth came home with some Beas[ts] from Bleackbourn. I helped to sowe the remainder of the Diked Ground in the New Grounds, it took about 4 Bussell & $\frac{1}{2}$ of Haws, some few Haws were sowed on my Bed in the Long Garden. James Parker payed the Remainder of his Rent for Rothwells Teneament.

29 Dr Francis Worton pulled up some of the Hair of Mallis Head.²³ I payed Mr Aldreds Sallery & gave him some Wine & Breads for the Alter.

30 My Wife & I went to see Peter Whits Ship that lyes in Farcloughs Lake, he dined with us at John Rimers in the Meales & after dinner he went on bord his Ship the Betty with us.²⁴ I Began to spread Mole hills, tis very late of the year, but they were so wet they could not conveniently be spread sooner. Pat: Gelibrond went hence. I sowed those few Ackhorns in the Stock Roots as I got in the Winter.

²⁰ Heads—headings or particulars to be entered in the lease. There were several Marrows in Little Crosby; Thomas lived near the gate at the entrance to the village.

²¹ Cockley—cockle; skeere—skirr—a dialect word meaning 'to skim' or 'to flight'. This was a game or contest to see who could skim cockles furthest along the surface of the sea or a lake. In this case it would almost certainly be held on the shore at Crosby.

²² "Bease five bought at Blackburn £9 18s. 0d.
Spent in buying & bringing them home 7s. 0d."

²³ "29 March 1710—To Dr Francis Worton for Pulling Mallys Hair £1 0s. 0d."

²⁴ "30 March 1710—Given to Peter Whits Sailors at the Meales. 2s 0d.
Spent at the Meales. 2s 6d."

- 31 I Shewed some Larg Weathers to Thomas Blevin. I went to Ince to see Mr Blundell, I found Dr Bostock there.

The second day of this Month and the four last were very fine & calme, the rest most excessive windy with almost Constant Raine the lick scarce ever known in the Memory of Man.

APRILL

- 1 I Stated accounts with Henry Ascroft, he helped me to set out a Wide-Mospit between the two farther Winterheys.
- 2 I payed the Land Tax to William Gray. Philip Syer told me the Proscriptions which the Yorkshire Doctor the Quacker had given him.
- 3 I payed the Window Tax to Hugh Bullin.²⁵ I began to plant part of my Aspargrass Beds between the Closehedg and the Long brick Wall by the left hand piler. I sowed 3 Beds in the Long Garden with Heps. William Ainsworth helped to lay up my Sawed Wood viz: Gate-barrs, &c: over the Garden hous. I Stated Accounts with him. John Tickle & John Blundell came to work here.
- 4 I Strained upon a Cow of William Wignolds for Rent due to me from Robin Blundell. The Push-plowers finished the Farthest North-hey & went hence.²⁶ I marked most of my Beasts that William Ainsworth has bought for me.
- 5 Walter Thelwall cleer'd of his Rack Rent to me for the Healbank &c: Mr Rob: Daniell Steward of Dungenhall brought me some Writings from Cozen John Gelibrond relating to John Johnsons late Land which I have bought, we Stated Accounts Ralating to Moneys pay'd upon that Account to Dungenhall. Peter Whit was going in his Ship from Farcloughs Lake towards Leverpoole but he himself landed near the Grange,²⁷ he sent his Ship forwards and Walked hither on foot, I lent him a Hors to ride on to Leverpoole. I sent John Banister to Leverpoole with a Present of Apples to Mr Houghton, Mr Clayton, &c:.
- 6 I killed a Larg Fat Red Bull-Segg, one side of him weighed 466 Pound. I was very busy Stating Accounts between Dungenhall & me. The Higher Bark Gate was hung to a Stub made of a Mill Shaft.
- 7 I sent William Ainsworth to Dungenhall with my Accounts Stated & with the Mesureing Instruments which I had borrowed from thence. Dr Francis Worton made a Viset here from Ince.
- 8 The last of the Hep Seeds were sowed in the Long Garden. I got some Poles for Worthing hook steales &c:. Henry Ascroft Left off Thrashing for

²⁵ "3 April 1710—Window Tax paid to Hugh Bullen 5s. 0d."

²⁶ "4 April 1710—Push ploughing the farthest North Hey at 15s. per Aicker and Meat. £3 18s. 3d.
Given the Pushploughers 1s. 9d."

When the push-ploughers had finished, the burners then came. See April 18 and 27 1710 and footnotes.

²⁷ The Grange or Alt Grange lay in Little Altcar near Formby, about two miles north of Crosby Hall, upon the shore.

me & designs soone to begin to dig Turf. I mended some things that wanted nailing.

- 9 My Wife and I walked to Ince to make a Viset to Mr Blundell & his Sister Ann, he was gon out in the Sheas²⁸ to take the Aire.
- 10 I gave some Corn to John Webster the Bayly. My Wife went with me to Ditton, we Rode on Mr Aldreds Mare, I left my Wife at William Athertons and went to Farnworth, but the Parish Meeting being over I went to the Cocking at Giligants the Signe of the Naggs Head, I gave there 7s-6d. to Parson Hargrave as a free Guift, but not by Way of a Ley,²⁹ there was Present Mr John Write of Cranton, Mr Nicholas Bold, Robert Write the Tanner, William Atherton, &c.: I drunk there with them with Mr Harding of the Lougher house, Mr Harding of the Hook Hous, James Houghton, &c.: My Wife and I lodged at the Bank at William Athertons.
- 11 My Wife & I dined at Southard. Henry Heys and his Wife Suped with us at William Athertons. William Ainsworth brought home 12 Beas[ts] he had bought at Blackbourn for me.
- 12 My Wife & I went with Joseph Bolton to his Hous, we dined there, we came home from Ditton. John Lidiat & his two Men came to break some Ashwood for Wheel Timber &c: they lay not in the Hawks Mew. Robert Tompson went home sick.
- 13 I went to the Winterheys to see Henry Ascroft feying my New Moss pit as is to be, coming home I met Pat: Wofold, he gave me 10s. thô not to be known from whom it came.³⁰ I washed most of my Largest Weathers. I marked 12 Beas[ts] as William Ainsworth had bought at Blackbourn for me & one other as was unmarked. I Lent my Teame to William Marser to fetch home a Load of Turf, I think from Formby or Alker. I finished my Lenten Seeding this year in the Cowhey. Dr Francis Worton brought some Phisick for Mally.
- 14 I went to Leverpoole in Expectation to have seen a great meeting of Quaickers but most of them were gon. I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Plumb, he acquainted me with a discovery how he had ben robed & otherways abused by a Woman, he shewed me severall Letters from Oliver Lime. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Peter Whit & Patrick Kelly. Lord Mountgarret & his Son Richard lodged here in their way towards Ireland.
- 15 I went to Leverpoole with my Lord Mountgarret and his Son Richard & saw them take boat in order to goe over the Water & so to goe to Holly Head. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb & Mr Morecroft, coming home I cal'd to see Philip Syer and stayed some time with him.
- 16 Mr Boyer of Aintry & his Wife dined here. After dinner I went to my Lord Mountgarrets to take leave of his Son James who was going for Blandick,³¹ I suped at my Lords with Mrs Fazakerley & her two Sons.
- 17 I Went to bed at Noone being very ill of my Eyes & otherways indisposed.

²⁸ Chaise.

²⁹ Nicholas was making it quite clear that the 7s. 6d. given to the parson at Farnworth was a gift and was not to be regarded as a precedent that he was admitting his liability to pay church lays or dues because he held a pew in the parish church.

³⁰ This was probably a case of restitution through the confessional.

³¹ Blandyke, Flanders, where the boy was being sent as a scholar at the English Jesuit College, St. Omer.

Jane Harrison was here from Lostock. Mr Aldred looked to see whot Pickhooks and Snigg-hooks I had of his.

18 Mally & I took Phisick from Dr Francis Worton. I began to delve Turf between the two Farthest Winterhey. I began in good earnest to burn the Farthest North-hey having tryed before how it would burn.³²

19 I went to the Winter-hey to see how my New Moss pit went on & to my Burners in the Farthest North Hey. I was most of the after Noone with my Burners in the North hey. Two Gates were hung to the two Farther North heys. Bess was Horsed with Farcloughs Bay.

20 I went to Scarisbrick to take leave of Cozen Scarisbricks two Elder Sons who were for going to Blandick, I dined at Scarisbrick with old Mr Harington &c: he came homwards with me as far as oure way lay, we called at Mr Irelands in Maile.³³ The Pump Court Well was dressed & the Paving Stones taken out that had ben thrown into it, to keep it cleer, but they did not much good.

21 I was most of the fore Noone with my burners in the North hey & a great part of the after noone. Richard Cartwrit came in the Evening to let my Wife blood but being it was too late he is to come some Morning.

22 I was part of the fore Noone with my Burners; after dinner I went to Ellin Harrison & gave her my opinion about the deviding & valewing of her goods, thence I went to John Farers & stayed a good while in his Shop talking with him.

23 Richard Cartwrit let my Wife blood in the Foot, she fainted having parted with 20 oz. of Blood as is supposed. I sent to the Funerall of Gabriell Norriss his Mother.

24 I Washed all or most of my Weathers that were unshorn. Mr Blundell & his Sister Anne made a Viset here. I went to Richard Bryansons to see how his new Parlor went on, coming home I called at Gabriell Norrises & Marg: Blundells.

25 I helped William Ainsworth to remove 28 Beas[ts] out of the Winterheys into the Dobb Heys. I was with my Burners in the Farthest North hey both before & after Dinner. I began my Barly Seeding on my Burned Ground in the Farthest North hey. Parson Wairing & his Son Gerard Wairing made me a Viset. I pay'd Mr Smith for making me four kilfull of Malt & for duty for it.

26 I Turned of a great many of my Burners of Ground having almost finished. I sent a Present to Richard Bryansons Rearing of his Parlor and went thither my self, I drunk there with Mr Molineux of the Grange, Richard Tickley, Walter Thelwall, John Sumner, &c:. As I was going to Richard Bryansons I met William Harrison the Clark of Sefton and I payed him my Easter Dews &c: I sent some Pigeons to Leverpoole to be sold, they are the first I sold this year.

27 I Finished burning the Farthest North Hey.³⁴ My Wife, Mr Aldred and I went to Richard Bryansons & eat some of their Rearing Fair.

³² The turf, moss and gorse turned up by the push-ploughers was then burned to clear the land; the ash forming a good fertiliser.

³³ Maghull. The Irelands of Lydiate Hall held the manors of Lydiate, Melling, Cuncscough and Eggergarth in the neighbourhood of Maghull.

³⁴ "29 April 1710—Given John Banister for his caire in burning 1s 0d.
1 May 1710—Reering Sods in the Farthest North hey for Burning 2s. 6d.
Burning the Farthest North-hey at 4d. per day to Boys & Gearles &
6d. to Women £4 0s. 8d."

28 I set a good while in the Mill talking with the Miller, I brought home with me a young Rabet which the Miller told me had ben suckled or at least layen with his Kat and kitlings ever since the 25th. I put it to a Kat of mine that has kitlings and she takes well to it.

29 I went to Leverpoole and bought some things of Mr Hurst for my self & Children. I drunk at Mr Silvester Richmonds with him and Parson Foxcroft who was formerly Curate of Sefton. I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Plumb & Mr James Wilding, Mr Wilding came home with me & lodged here.

30 Mr Wilding went hence after dinner. Thomas Tyrer Roweled my horse Shaft.

Till the 13th for the most part sharp cold weather for the Season with frosts in the Night for the most part and sometimes a little Rain, from the 13th till the end for the most part frosty Cold Nights, & the dayes generally windy & dry with great want of Raine.

MAY

1 The Young Rabet dyed that was suckled or at least nurished by my Kat. Jo: Blundell & I signed a Writing of a Bargan made between us for the reversion of Gilbertsons Teneament. Betty Blundell brought home a Cow of mine hithir which her Mother had of me upon hier, I turned a Calf on her. Thomas Moss the Bayly of Farnworth was here to get some thing of me for Service done & to be done, I gave him a Shilling. Mr James Wilding dined here, I shewed him my Mill, we walked through the Town & called at Mr Aldreds, he not being at home we went to Ellin Harrisons & stayed there. I gather'd 261 since the 2d of February.³⁵ Sir James Poole Lodged here. William Ainsworth bought a Hors of Thomas Blevin.

2 I Reddied my Closet & put severall things into their Proper Plases. Mr Aldred dined & suped here.

3 I payed two Gr[o]ats to William Crisp my Lord Molineux his Bayly for two years Customary Rent due to my Lord. Sir James Poole & I made a Viset to Parson Wairing. The Young people of this Town had Musick at Night and a Bone Fire.

4 Sir James Poole & I rode out in hopes to have met Mr Blundell but missing of him we went to Newhouse & thence to Thomas Meddows in Ince, we sent for Dr Tildesley to us, Sir James Poole was taken for my Lord Mountgarret.

5 Sir James Poole & I went to the Grange, and Pat: Wofold gave us a Bowl of Punsh. The Larder doar &c: was brock open.

6 Sir James Poole, Mr Aldred, and I fished for Showlers in the Townfield Pit & then went with the Showlers to Fish for Pick in the Old Moss on Crosby Marsh, but we took no Picks. Peter Whit lodged here.

7 Peter Whit went hence to Leverpoole, Sir James Poole & I walked with him to Great Crosby, we drunk at Nicholas Johnsons with Parson Wairing & Captain Robert Fazakerley.

8 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here; I treated Sir James Poole and him

³⁵ See August 2 1709 and footnote.

with a Bowl of Punsh. Sir James Poole went hence. Mary Scot went home upon Account of her Fathers Death.

9 Mally went first time to Schoole to Ellin Whithead to learn to sew.³⁶ I sent my two Teames to Ormskirk to fetch home some Seed Barly that William Ainsworth had bought for me. I went to Parson Wairing to see if he could let me have some Pigeons but he could not.

10 I discoursed John Parkinson about Planting & ordering of Asparragras & about his coming to live in these parts if he could take a Teneament under me. I took a Dose of Phisick for my Eyes.

11 I lead Muck with three of my owne Carts & with 3 Boones. I sent a Present of Young Pigeons to Cozen Molineux of Mosbough for storing his Dove-Court. I went to Ince to wish Mr Blundell a good Journey becaus I heard he was going for his health out of this County.

12 I went to Leverpoole, James Halsold the Braysior treated me with Pickled Oysters. I met Mrs Allison and her three Sons walking towards Litherland, as I came back I met them riding homwards. James Addison Gelded my Colt Jockley. My Wife and I walked after supper to Great Crosby & bought some Meat of Henry Fleetwood.

13 William Dale the late Church Warden of Sefton demanded 6d. of me at Mr Aldreds for work done at my Chancell in Sefton Church which I payed him. I set out a Rood of Fleas in the Winterheys for Ellin Harrison.

14 My Wife & I went to Dr Lathoms. Mary Scot came back from the Funerall of her Father.

15 Parson Letus & the Church Wardens &c: were here a beging for the Palatines but I gave them nothing. I removed some Flowers in the Knot that were not in their proper places. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Receipts & Disbursments.

16 John Tarlton payed me for two Beas[ts] which William Ainsworth had sold him some time since. I & John Banister went a Katching young Moles in their Nests, I think too late by a Week, we took 19, Ginny was with us & killed a Hare. Mrs Billington & Mr Plumb lodged here.

17 Mr Aldred, Mr Plumb & I Angled for Showlers in the Townfield Pit, we also angled before dinner in the Carthous Pit, and after dinner we went to Ince Green and bowled with Parson Letus, Mr Burton and Robert Bootle, Mr Nicholas Fazakerley was there and bowled. William Gray brought me three Beast[s] that he had pounded.

18 Mr Plumb went hence. Dr Smithson dined here. My Wife & I saw the Strange Starr, it appeard about the East & Shot downwards towards the North, the Streamer of it seemed to be fully four yards long, it appeared about half an hour after Nine at night & lasted about the Space of half an Ave Maria.

19 I stopt some of the Cracks in the Diall post with Flax and Putty & primed it over.

20 I finished painting the Diall post. I painted part of the Rails in the Long Garden Vistow. This was the last day of katching young Moles this Season, we took in all 24. Pat Gelibrond Suped here. Ginny was horsed by Izaks Bay.³⁷

³⁶ "17 November 1710—Teaching Mally one Quarter to sew 1s. 0d."

³⁷ "Horsing Bess & Ginny 5s. 6d."

- 21 I went after dinner to Croxtath to wate of my Lord Molineux, but he being gon to Bold I came stright home, Mary Scots Sister Ann dined here.
- 22 I went before diner to Winterheys where they were delving Turf, thence to the Morehous Moss, then to Arnolds heys where Thomas Marser was walling and so home: after dinner I went to the Morehouses to see whether my Tenants were willing to let Gabriell Norris have 6 Cowgates on the Morehous Marsh, thence I went to Edmund Trustoms to see if he would have anything to Graveling now when I write. Mrs Billington dined at Ince, my Wife went thither after dinner. I finished Barly Seeding this year in the North Hey.
- 23 I Washed my Ewes. I had three Beas[ts] pulled out of my New Moss pit in the Winter heys. Henry Ascroft and I Set out a new Moss pit in the Nearest North hey. I took up most of my Best Tulops. Mr Maynard & Mr Gorsuch dined here.
- 24 I Began to delve my New Moss pit in the Nearest North hey. I sent William Ainsworth to see Cozen Molineux of Mossburgh who has miscarried a second time. I went to the Morehous Moss and spoke to William Tompson and John Sumner about Gabriell Norris having Gates on the Morehous Marsh. Mary Whidby olim Crew Lodged here. I sent my Teame with Richard Bryansons and others of the Neighbours to fetch some Slates for his New Parlor from Robys Slate Delfe.⁸⁸
- 25 I Sheer my Ewes. I was a good While in the Nearest North hey with my Delver of Turf and made William Blundell to take the Pit deeper.
- 26 I helped to take up almost all the remainder of the Tulops. Mrs Blundell of Ince & Mrs Ann Blundell made a Viset here.
- 27 I went to Leverpoole after dinner, I drunk at Mr Plumbs with him and Mr Par, I made a Viset to Mrs Howet, I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Allison.
- 28 Mrs Billington, My Wife and Children went to Ince. There were about 64 Young People playing in a Ring on my Green and about 20 Spectators. Badley lodged here.
- 29 Richard Bryanson brought William Renold hither, I shewed him whot I would have him doe for me at the Pump Court well but he could not come to work for me in my time. One of my Heffers lost part of her Taile and had lick to have bled to death. Michail Short chose out and marked some Sheep he had bought lately of William Ainsworth. William Ainsworth bought me a Bull at Ormskirk. My Wife, Mrs Billington and I met Mrs Blundell of Ince and Mrs Ann Blundell at Mr Aldreds, we had a Cold Supper there brought by both Partyes.
- 30 The first Swarme of Bees I had this year knit upon John Banisters hat when he had it on his head. Mrs Billington went hence to Lodg at Gorsuch.
- 31 I went to the Morehous Moss thence to see how Tickley went forward with Fensing Nichols Hey. I Sent my Teame a second time to the Slate Delf for Richard Bryanson. I writ out my Disbursments for March. I sent Bradley hence to Leverpoole.

Till the 18th dry warme Weather with Frosts in the Night and very little Raine,

⁸⁸ Most probably the Roby Mill quarries north of Up Holland, Lancashire. Slates or roofing slabs from these quarries were often used in building.

from the 18th till the End excessive hot & little or no Rain here (tho it rained in other parts of Lancashire) till the 30 & 31th and those two dayes we had two good short Showers, the lick drought to this has not ben known at this time these twenty Years.

JUNE

- 1 I Writ out my Disbursments for Aprill. Parson Wairing was here, he came about Turf. Picked up 111 since the 2d of May.³⁹ My Wife was at John Lurtings Rearing.
- 2 John Tickley cut down some Trees about the Gardins for Railes for Arnolds Heys. I was a good part of the after Noone in the nearer North Hey and made part of the Hedg be rid up between it and the Rough North hey.
- 3 William Ainsworth gave me his Accounts of Corne got by the Mill, uested in the Hous &c.: I began to lead my Coles this year from Mr Molineux of Mosburghs pit with my owne two Teames. William Ainsworth and I set out a second Mospit in the Winter Heys.
- 4 My Wife & I went to Great Crosby to attend the Funerall of Philip Syer but Mrs Blundell & Mrs Ann Blundell being comn hither, we came home to them.
- 5 I took Phisick for my Eyes by advice of Dr Francis Worton. I mended a many bad Pens.
- 6 I went to Leverpoole and spoke to Mr Morphew to sell some Wool for me. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Jams Halsold the Brasior. I had a second Swarm of Bees this year.
- 7 I sent 158 lb. of Wool to Leverpoole for Mr Morphew to sell for me. William Ainsworth went to Prescot Fair. I dressed the Parlor Chimney with Flowers &c.:
- 8 My Wife, Mr Aldred & I went in the Coach to see Ails Tickley who had brock her Arme, we set Mr Aldred & Mr Burton down at Ince Green & so went past the Hall of Ince, coming home we met Mr Blundell coming home from Dr Bostock. I went with John Blundell Taylor to Gilbertsons to see where he design'd to make a New ditch.
- 9 I went to Ince to Wish Mr Blundell welcome home from Whit-Church. I put a Swarme of Bees into a Hive that had good fresh Combes in it. William Ainsworth went towards Newbrough Fair.
- 10 Mrs Golding of Southward lodged here. I was most of the after noone in the next North Hey helping the Workmen up with two great Roots of Trees out of the new Mospit.
- 11 Mr Aldred dined & Suped here. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here in his way from Ince to Leverpoole. William Holme the Taylor was here.
- 12 Mrs Golding went hence. William Kennion & Henry Roson dined here, I agreed with William Kennion to put in two Lives into his Teneament. I finished my Mospit in the North hey.
- 13 My Wife and I went in the Coach to Ormskirk as we were going we met

³⁹ See August 2 1709 and footnote.

Mrs Eckleston going towards Ince, we dined at my Lord Mountgarrets & thought to have gon to the Race but no Hors running but Captain I went not to the Ground. Young Mr Trafford of Croston & Mr Mun Trafford were at my Lord Mountgarrets. Mrs Billington came home with us in the Coach.

14 My Wife, Mrs Billington & I went to Ormskirk. My Wife took up Cozen Emilia Butler & my Aunt Frances in the Coach, we all went to Oughton Moss and saw a Plate Runn for by five Galawayes, a Hors of my Lord Chulmundeleys wane it. We Suped at my Lord Mountgarrets.

15 My Wife, Mrs Billington and I went to Leverpoole and saw the Play acted called Sephonisba or Haniballs overthrow, My Wife bought some cloths for Fanny and something for Stayes for herself at Mr Hursts.⁴⁰ I discoursed Dr Smithson about his ordering too much Lodinum for Mr Lancaster, we came home about three in the Morning. They took a great many Adders in the Miding, I think at least sixteen. My Cart and some others of the Neighbours brought Mr Aldred some Coles home.

16 I began to still some Eye-bright.⁴¹ I went to the Farthest Winterheys to see how my second Moss-pit goes forward, I stayed there a good while and then helped William Weedow to remove my Beas[ts] from thence into the Dobb heyes.

17 It being my Weding day Mr Aldred dined here. John Banister helped me to set out my second Moss-pit longer in the farthest Winter heys from thence I went to Richard Tickleys and found both him and Mr Molineux of the Grange there.

18 My Wife, Mrs Billington, Mally and I went to take the Aire in the Coach at the Sea side then we called at Richard Bryansons, as we were going towards Richard Tickleys we light of him, his Wife, and Pat: Wofold, &c., so we turned homewards and called at Gabrill Norris his. James Holme the Taylor brought a Pair of Stayes for my Wife to try that he was making for her.

19 I went to Ditton to the Marlers that were Marling two Fields called the Woods, I strained on old Chester for his Sons Rent. I drank at the Whit Ball in Ditton with William Kenion, Joseph Bolton, &c.: William Kennion gave me Possession of one Roode Land of Ground which I had bought of him, we signed a Contract made between us for ading two Lives to his owne.

20 Mrs Billington went hence. John Garret swept the Dary Chimney. John Banister and two of my Maids went towards Holly-Well.

21 I went to Leverpoole and payed Mr Allinsons & Leadbeters Shops off in full of all Accounts, and I paid part of whot I ought at Mr Hursts, I drunk at the Woolpack with Patrick Kelly and Mr Allanson. I drew my Young Hors Stag the first time.

⁴⁰ "15 June 1710—Seeing a Play with my Wife & Mrs Billington, Spent in
all with Servants, Horses, &c.: 7s. 7d.
Strip Satinet &c: for a Coat for Fanny 10s. 9d.
Making Fannys Coat 3s 0d."

See June 24 1710

⁴¹ Eyebright—a small wild flower; often boiled in water and used to treat certain affections of the eyes. Throughout his life Nicholas suffered from some affection of the eye. Later this caused him to wear glasses, and when he was nearing fifty-eight years it troubled him seriously and was probably the reason why he stopped writing his Diary nine years before his death. In his Book of Prescriptions and Recipes there are 33 prescriptions for eye afflictions given to him by doctors and friends. In most of these he uses eyebright which children in the village gathered for him.

- 22 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. William Athertons Wife and Henry Heys Wife Lodged here.⁴² I walked with them through the Town, and showed them the Gardens, Mill and Hous.
- 23 Sera Atherton and Margarit Heyes went hence, I got some Sets of Flowers & Sweet Herbes &c: for them. John Johnson and Richard Bridge shewed me a Field that Edward Farclough was inclosing in Great Crosby South Field which as they did apprehend would be a prejwdice to Henry Aspinwall, thence I went to Parson Wairings and stayed a while with him and his Son Gerard Waiting, thence I came to Mr Aldreds and found Captain Robert Fazakerley there, I stayed a good while with them. My three Servants came home from Holy-Well. I Booked my Disbursments for the last Month.
- 24 Mr Blundell of Ince made a Viset here, it is the first time he has ben here since he was so very ill. I Stated Accounts with Darby, William Blundell, and William Weedow, &c: Dr Cawood⁴³ the Oculist from Dublin came to look at my Eyes, he Lodged here. James Holme brought a New Coat he had made for Fanny.
- 25 I Lent Dr Cawood a Hors to Leverpoole. Mr Aldred and I went to Ince to wate of Sir Francis Anderton but he and Mr Blundell were Ride out to take the Aire so we went to Edmond Trustroms where we found Mr Tasburgh, Thomas Goer, &c: Mr Aldred dined here. Captain Robert Fazakerley suped here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole.
- 26 I went with Dr Cawood to Ince, he Looked at Henry Livesleys Eyes but he did nothing at them, thence we went to the New hous where we found Mr Aldred, Mr Maynard and Mr Tasburgh, as we came home we went to the Next North hey where some of my Servants &c: were busy geting a great Tree out of the Ground, I made them yoak four Horses to it with help of which we got it up.
- 27 William Ainsworth helped me to mesure the Moss-pits that were delved in the Nearest North-Hey and in the Winterheys, I made some observation how I should devide the Rough Winter hey into Choses.⁴⁴ I put Ingredients together in order to make three Quarts of Ink.
- 28 I went with Doctor Cawood to Leverpoole to assist him in geting Acquaintance and to procure a Chamber for him where his Pasients may come to him, we drunk at the Post Office with Doctor Smithson, Doctor Person, &c:.
- 29 My Wife went to Ince to take Leave of Mr Blundell and his Lady ere they went to Harragate Spawes, I went some time after her to Ince & found Sir Francis Anderton, Mr Blundell & his Lady, &c: coming out of the Gates to goe to Formby Fair, so my Wife and I went along with them.
- 30 William Ainsworth, Thomas Marrow & I went into the Cross Field to see whether my Wheat had a great deale of Strock in it, we found one Root that had Eleaven Ears from it & all were strucken but one. Dr Cawood tooke me in hand to Cure my Eyes and made me a Issue in each Eare. I had a good Milk Cow dyed with eating too much Clover, they took a Calf out of her about an Insh & half long, it was perfectly shaped, I think the Cow was Bullid about six

⁴² Wives of two of his tenants at Ditton

⁴³ Dr. Cawood was found rooms in Liverpool by Nicholas, where patients could consult him. He seems to have established himself there for some time.

⁴⁴ Probably *Closes*.

Weeks since at the most. I intend to keep the Calf in Spirets of Wine as long as I can, when it had ben so kept two years it still retained its perfect shape, but it was not half so big as when it was put into the Spirets.

This Month was very seasonable Weather.

JULY

1 Mathew Travis was hurt with a Lader of mine that he should have taken in a Cart to John Lurtings. I tyed some Eye-bright in bunches to dry. I took up some Roots of Flower Deleuses &c: which I intend to keep out of the Ground for some time. I went with my Children to the Winterheys but they were gon off from Delving Turf.

2 I went to Condole Jane Bryanson for the death of her Son, Dr Cawood went with me.

3 Dr Cawood let me see him Anatomize the Eye of a Cow. I paid Ann Blundell for wheeling Turf & she paid me her Rent. Edward Hawkseye flagged the Bottom of the Pump-Court Well to make the Water clearer, it did it some good. I Booked my Receipts for Aprill & May.

4 John Banister layed some Bottles of Green Goosberrys in a hole in the Ground. Dr Smithson & Dr Person dined here, they went to Ince Bowling Green and my Wife and I went to the Buriiall of Richard Bryanson.

5 Pat: Parker the Provins[ial], Mr Bapthrop, &c: came hither in the Evening. Pat: Smith of Croston lodged here. I gave some Quicksilver & Sallet Oyle to my Whit Cow that was in very great danger of Death, it cured her, she dinged little before she took it.

6 Mr Aldred & I went to the New hous to take leave of Pat: Parker but he was gon ere we came. Pat: Smith of Croston went hence. My Wife, Dr Cawood & I fished after Supper for Showlers in the Townfield-pit. I got hom the last of my Timber.

7 Dr Cawood & I fished at Watkinsons Pit by Margery Shepheards. I payed the Land Tax to Walter Thelwall. I Stated Accounts with William Tompson for Delving Turf &c: for me.

8 Peter Whit Lodged here. William Ainsworth gave me some Money he had received for Turf.

9 Pat: Smith of Croston Lodged here. I gave John Blundell of Thornton a Licence to set Gilbertsons Teneament for five years.

10 Dr Cawood made a Seton in Pat: Smiths Neck.⁴⁵ I put my Little Calf into Rectified Spirits of Wine to keep it. I shot some Throstles &c: in the Gardens. Mr Whit went with me to look at my Cole-Seed. I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft for Feying & Delving Turf &c:.

11 I Led Turf with 8 Boon Carts & two of my owne, Henry Cowley was hurt with his owne Cart. Peter Whit went hence. Pat: Smith, Dr Cawood & I went to Ince Bowling Greene, there was Robert Bootle, Mr Gerard Wairing, &c:

⁴⁵ A seton was a twist of cotton or other thread inserted in a wound to keep it open to allow it to run.

- 12 I Barganed with Jane Bryanson & John Bryanson to put the Lives of Bryan Lea and his Sister Margarit into Bryansons & Marsers Teneament. I walked to my Mill with Pat: Smith.
- 13 John Lidiat came to mend both the Chariots. Dr Cawood, Pat: Smith & I made Parson Wairing a Viset, we drunk with him & his Son Gerard Wairing at Nicholas Johnsons.
- 14 I began to learne of Dr Cawood to play at Picket.⁴⁶ I went to William Tompsons to rectify a mistake as I thought there was between us in reconing for pay for Delving Turf &c.; he was gon to the Smithy at Lady Green so I went thither after him, Dr Cawood rode out thither with me.
- 15 Doctor Cawood, Pat: Smith & I played at Tables, it was a most bitter day of Wind and Rain.
- 16 Mr Aldred dined & Suped here. Ralf Low desired I would lend him a Pair of Horses to fetch home Mr Blundells Coach.
- 17 William Atherton sent home my Hors Hob as I had Lent him to draw in the Marl-pit. Dr Cawood & I went to Prescot, I went to Mr Oliver Lime to know whether he would venture with Dr Cawood for his Eyes, we light at the Signe of the Ship, discoursed our Land-Lord Thomas Moss, coming home the Dr called to see a Child in Ainty that Mrs Boyr brought us to. Pat: Gelibrond & Captain Robert Fazakerley lodged here, they walked hither.
- 18 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. John Banister took a Wasp Nest in the Flower Knot. I Stated Account with Thomas Marrow for work done for him and for Wages &c: due to him.
- 19 Pat: Gelibrond & Pat: Smith went hence, Pat: Gelibrond went to Leverpoole with Mr Aldred, me & Dr Cawood, we drunk at the Wool Pack with Mr Hurst & Mr Allanson, I payed Mrs Allanson for goods she had bought for me at Chester Fair.⁴⁷
- 20 I Began by Orders of Dr Cawood to take Drops, Eye Bright Tea, & to put Clary Seeds into my Eyes. I mesured one of the Mossplits in the Winter heys, Dr Cawood helped me, we went to my Ditchers at the End of the Winterheys. We fished in the Evening for Shoulers in the Townfield Pit.
- 21 I Winnowed the last of my last years Wheat. I helped them up with a great Plat Stone out of the Ditch at'h end of the Winter Heyes, she & her Children rode thither it'h Cart. I began to sand the Reans⁴⁸ in the Flower Knot. Mr Aldred & Dr Cawood fished for Shoulers in the Morning in the Tound Field pit.

⁴⁶ Picket or piquet—a card game played by two persons with thirty-two cards.

⁴⁷ "24 June. Bought at Chester Fair:

	s.	d.
Starch $\frac{1}{2}$ of a Hundred	8	6
Grounds of Pouder 24 Pound	7	4
Corks six Grose	12	0
Pins of different Sorts 7 Sheets	3	7
Drinking Horn		6
Capers 4 Pound	4	0
Anchovis 4 Pound	5	4
Muggs Box & Bag to hold the goods	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Carriage of the above goods from Chester	1	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
"8 July—Muslin bought at Chester for my Wife	9	0"

⁴⁸ It is not clear what *rean* means in connection with the flower knot. Usually it means (1) a water-furrow, or (2) a balk, ridge or terraced strip.

- 22 Dr Cawood & I went to Leverpoole, we looked at the Dock that is in making,⁴⁹ we went to see them make Whit-Mettle Mugs,⁵⁰ we made Mrs Howet a Viset, we drunk at the Wool-pack with Dr Smithson, Dr Person & Mr Plumb, coming home we called at Parson Wairings but did not light.
- 23 Mary Winstanley dined here, she came to advise with Dr Cawood about her Eyes. Joseph Rigby came to pace Mr Aldreds Mare, he is to lodge here.
- 24 Dr Cawood went with me to my Ditchers in the Winterheys. Dr Cawood went to the Flowering of Ince Cross. William Ainsworth bought me a Cow at Leverpoole Fair.
- 25 My Wife, Mally, & Dr Cawood went in the Coach to Leverpoole Fair, I spent most of the afternoone in Reading old Letters writ to my Grand-father. William Ainsworth went towards Holy-well.
- 26 My Wife & I walked to Jane Bryansons, she gave my Wife a Gold Ring for Mally.
- 27 I Shear'd my Cole Seed. Mr Aldred & I went to my Lord Mountgarrets to take leave of Cozen James Butler ere he went to Blandick, but he went yisterday, Dr Cawood went with us, we dined there, Dr Cawood went thence to lodg at Mr Traffords of Croston. William Ainsworth came home from Holy-well.
- 28 Mr Manock & Mr Brownbill dined here, we went after dinner with Mr Aldred to his Hous thence we went to Ince & mesur'd the Chapell upon a Wager, as we went I shewed Mr Brownbill how I design'd to lay some ground to his Lain & he granted me a way thorough that Lain to the Winter heys upon that Consideration, but his sub-tenant would not consent to it, so I do not intend to make use of the Liberty he gave, from Ince we went to the New hous, Mr Manock & Mr Brownbill came home with me from thence as far as their way lay.
- 29 Joseph Rigby went hence. I Booked my Disbursments for June.
- 30 I killed a Rabet in the Stone Garden with Ginny. Mary Scot went to the Hall of Lidiat.
- 31 I Led Turf with 8 Boones. I went in the Morning to the Turf Moss at the More-houses & there I let John Farclough have a Larg Load of my Turf. I had intended to have threshed my Cole Seed but Cozen Scarisbrick, his Lady and Mrs Ann Harington coming to dine here I was prevented. Mr Barton came to Lodg here in order to keep my Fathers Aniversary. William Ainsworth bought me four Beas[ts] at Newton Fair.

Till the 15th tollerable good Weather with some seasonable Showers of Rain, 15, 16 & 17th most seveal dayes of Wind & Rain the lick scarce ever knowne at this time of the year, from the 18th till the end seasonable Weather.

⁴⁹ This was the first dock to be made in Liverpool. It was designed by Thomas Steers. Later it became known as the Old Dock. In his Diary Nicholas records that the ship *Mulberry* was the first to enter the dock on June 8 1715. Knowing his errors in spelling this may have been *Marlborough*.

⁵⁰ In the eighteenth century pottery-making had begun to develop as an industry of some importance in Liverpool. It became noted for its delft ware with a white opaque glaze produced by using oxide of tin. See April 23 1712. The industry was mainly centred in Dale Street and Shaw's Brow (now William Brown Street).

AUGUST

- 1 I Threshed my Cole Seed, we began before dinner and stayed at it till we had done, Dr Cawood came home hither from Croston.
- 2 I Burned my Cole-Seed Straw & Chaff. I kept my Fathers Aniversary with five Sacerdotal. Margery Blundell brought a Present of a Rabet Pye. I gathered 1163 since this day twelve Month.⁵¹
- 3 Mr Barton went hence. Dr Smithson came to take leave of me being he is for leaving Lancashire, Dr Person came with him. Parson Wairing & his Son Gerard Wairing made me a Viset.
- 4 Dr Cawood helped me to examain my Apothecary Shop & to put it into Order.
- 5 Henry Trustrum brought home two Peeses of Sail-Cloth he had woven for me, I payed him for it & we cleared of all Accounts between us.⁵² I Papered a great many Glasses of Sweetmeats. Mr Aldred gave my Wife a good many Apricocks. Mr Blundell of Ince came home out of York Shire.
- 6 My Wife, Mr Aldred, Dr Cawood & I went in the Coach to Ince to welcome home Mr Blundell & his Lady out of York Shire.
- 7 John Tickley put a new Lock on the Lougher Garner Doar. Thomas Marrow began to make me new Sail-Cloaths of the Cloth I had got Woven on Purpose. I Booked my Receipts for June & July. Edward Alanson came from Chorley to Consult with Dr Cawood about his Eyes. H. Woodcock came with him, the Doctor being gon to Leverpoole they went after him, I went with them to Parson Wairings & spoke to James William: the Over-seear about Scouring Formospoole Gutter.
- 8 Dr Cawood came home from Leverpoole, he lodged there the last night. I helped John Tickley to fix Doars to the bottom of the Great Stayers. I examined Ann Skinner & Sera Sumner about their Laying Hemp in the Northhey Mospit. I finished Mowing this year in Woodholme & payed Henry Ascroft & William Marser for Mowing.⁵³
- 9 I helped John Tickley to glew four new Feet to the Table in the Parlor Chamber & to glew some Fans &c:. John Tickley put up boards to the Clock hole into my Seller.
- 10 I Waired 24s. in Chinae in my Hall for my Wife.⁵⁴ Mr Aldred, Dr Cawood & I went to the Grange Greene & saw a Match Bowled there between two young Men of Ince & two old Fellows of Formby, a Slave comne from Turkey was on the Green. Richard Jackson Gardiner & Edmund Blevin threw each a Pair of Bowles for a Wager whether could fling farther. I wained a Calf.

⁵¹ See August 2 1709 and footnote.

⁵² "5 August 1710—Weaving Flaxon Cloath 2s. 2d.
 Winding Hempen Yarn both Teer and heards at one Farthing per
 Pound 1s. 6d.
 Weaving Sail Cloath some 3 Quarters broad, other one yard broad
 at 1½d. per yard 6s. 3d."

⁵³ "8 August 1710—Payed H. Ascroft and Wm: Marser for Mowing for me
 at 2s. 6d. per Aiker £2 1s 3d.
 Given my Mowers 9d."

⁵⁴ Travelling salesmen made frequent calls at Crosby Hall.
 "Chinae 2 Dishes & two Boles for my Wife £1 4s. 0d."

- 11 I Pulled my Flax. I began this year to shear my Wheat in the Crossfield by making a seting in for my Shearers against tomorrow.
- 12 I Shear Wheat with Eleven Boone Shearers &c:. I sowed some Cole Seed on a Small Tong Sharp in the Farthest North-hey. My Aunt Frances & Cozen Emilia Butler came to lodg here, I sent the Coatch to fetch them from Ormskerk.
- 13 Mr Aldred Dined & Suped here. I Walked in the Gardens &c: with Cozen Emilia Butler, after Supper we played at Cards.
- 14 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here to my Aunt Frances & Cozen Emilia Butler. I warned Boones to Lead Turf and to shear upon the sixteenth.
- 15 Mr Aldred, Dr Cawood and I went to Ince Green to see the Match Bowled between the same two Formby & two Ince Men as was bowled upon the 10th Instant at the Grange; Ince Green was so wet that the Spectators would not goe on it, there was there Mr Formby, Parson Letus, Robert Bootle and his Son, &c:.
- 16 I Shear Wheat & Led Turf with Boones. My Wife, Aunt Frances & Cozen Emilia Butler went to Mr Aldreds.
- 17 I Got in the last of my Medow Hay. My Wife, Aunt Frances, Cozen Emilia Butler and I went in the Coach to Leverpooole, we made a Viset to Mrs Howet, to Mr Hurst, &c:, we bought some Silk of Mr Hursts, tis designed for Mally.
- 18 My Wife, Aunt Frances, Cozen Emilia Butler, &c: dined at Eckleston, there was there Mr Molineux of Bold, his Lady and abundance of Company. I put my Flax into the Water to Reet.⁵⁵
- 19 I Rode out with my Cozen Emilia Butler to the Sea-Side to take the Aire. Mr Aldred got a Grass in the Crow-Orchard that was almost six Foot four Inches long.
- 20 Sir James Poole dined here. Mrs Anne Harington made a Viset here from Ince.
- 21 Mrs Howet, Mr Hurst & his Wife dined here. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 22 I Set my Paletine Church together the second time, there is I think in it 299 Sticks or different peeces of Wood. My Wife, Aunt Frances & Cozen Emilia Butler made a Viset to Ince but Mrs Blundell was gon to Croxtath. I Began to lead my Wheat into the Barn out of the Cross field.
- 23 Mr Aldred, Dr Cawood & I fished in the Carthous pit we took a few Tensh, Breames & Eles. Mr Burton & Mr Tasburgh dined here. My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler Rode single to Leverpooole, Mr Thornton came hither with them, he Lodged here. Michaiil Short fetched a Beast from hence and payed me some Money upon Account. The Stone Cross in this Town was set up unknown to me by the Order chiefly of William Gray the Oversear of the High Wayes.
- 24 My Wife, Cozen Emilia Butler and I made a Viset to Mr Moston of Lidiat. Pat: Smith of Croston lodged here.
- 25 Mr Thornton went hence. Pat: Gelibrond, Dr Cawood and I dined at Croxtath, we found there Mr Molineux and his Lady, Mr Trafford of Trafford, &c:. Jane Bryanson payed me some Money for a Fine for ading Margarit Leas Life.
- 26 Pat: Smith went hence before dinner. Aunt Frances, Cozen Emilia Butler

⁵⁵ See comment on October 19 1710.

& Pat: Gelibrond went hence after dinner. I set a Peece of Paletine work together for my Cozen Emilia Butler & gave it her. I warned boon Shearers both in Great Crosby & this Town against the 28th.

- 27 Lord Molineux sent me some Venison. Dr Cawood Read most of the afternoone to my Wife & me.
- 28 I Began to take off part of the Roof of the Chappell in order to mend the Gutter and the Slates.
- 29 I Shear Oates with 21 Boones &c: I began to pull down the end of the Chappell in order to build it up with Brick. I sent 681 lb. of old Lead to be new cast for the Gutter over the Chappell.
- 30 Lady Molineux & her Doughter Ann &c: dined here. Mrs Eckleston & Mrs Blundell of Ince made a Viset here after dinner.
- 31 Dr Cawood dined at Scarisbrick, he Lodged at my Lord Mountgarrets. I went to Netherton and spoke to Edward Hawkseye to come work for me, thence I went to Leverpoole & drunk at the Mariners Armes with Thomas Brownbill &c:. I bought a fanciful Ring of Mugg Mettle to drink out of, & brock it ere I got it home.

Till the 17th bad heasy weather or Rain almost every day, from 17th till the end of this Month veary good weather except now & then some Little Raine.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Thomas Marrow brought me home some Lead from Leverpoole to lay in the Gutter over the Chappell, he also brought home a Pump Tree that Mr Plumb had given me. Mr Plumb made a Viset here & towards Evening Young Mr Tyrer & Mr James Tildesley called here of him, they had ben a Parleam-enteering, they went home together. Dr Cawood came home from Ormskerk.
- 2 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth. I Signed a Leas to Thomas Marrow of the Gate. My Children went up the Long Lader to the top of the House. Peter Whit lodged here, he came from Leverpoole with Dr Cawood.
- 3 Mary Scots Sister Ann was here. Mary Bell & her Mother was here. Mr Aldred was here most of the afternoone, he Suped here.
- 4 It was a most bitter Morning of Rain which was very troublesome being part of the hous was unslated. Edward Hawkseye began to build up the End of the Chappell with Brick. I went to Ince but Mr Blundell was Rid out, I thought to have found Dr Cawood & Peter Whit there but they were gon to James Brownes. My Wife Rode with Mr Aldred to Ailes Stewerds.
- 5 I Sold the Skins of my Summer Rabets to Edward Halsold. Peter Whit went hence. Mr Plumb Lodged here.
- 6 Mr Aldred & Mr Plumb went a Fowling before Dinner, Mr Manock & Mr Maynard were here after Dinner, Mr Maynard, Mr Plumb & I went a Coursing. Mr Plumb shot a Hare. James Davy began to lay the Leads over the Chappell, the Bigest Sheet was 490 lb. wight. Mr Molineux of the Grange conducted Dr Cawood hither part of the way from Leverpoole.
- 7 Mr Plumb went hence. Dr Cawood gave me his Full Instructions in Writing what I was to doe for the Benefit of my Eyes when he was gon for Ireland, Dr Cawood went to Ince to take leave of Mr Blundell, I went with him. William Blacklidge brought me a Mill Stone from Whitle Hills.

- 8 I gave Dr Cawood my Gratification for his Advice & attendance & for things for my Eyes.
- 9 Dr Cawood went hence to Leverpoole with Intention to have gon for Ireland but the Wind being cross he came back, I went with him, we dined at Mrs Lawsons, there was in the same Roome with us at Different times Robert Bootle & his Son, Richard Rose, Mr Molineux of the Grange, &c.; we drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Plumb, Patrick Kelly, &c.: My Ditchers found a Basket Hilted Sword & a Lock of a Gun or Pistoll as they were ditching between the Long Garden & the Bleaching Yord, tis probable they had laine there since the time of the sivell Wars.
- 10 Mr Aldred dined & suped here. My Wife read to me in a Spirituall book.
- 11 Dr Cawood went in the Morning to the Sea Side in hopes to have met the Ship which he designs to goe in for Ireland but he mist of her and towards Evening he went againe, my Wife & I went then with him but we all came back againe.
- 12 Dr Cawood took Shipping at Leverpoole for Ireland. I went to Leverpoole for some Lat Nails, I drunk at the Woolpack with Dr Tarlton & with Mr Morphew at his own house.
- 13 One from Leverpoole I Suppose the Huntsman was here to enquire for some of Leverpoole Hounds as were strayed here away as he was told. I planted some Hollins in the Stock-roots as were taken up in the Hollin Hedge where the way is designed to be into the New Orchard.
- 14 Andrew Guyes Son was here to Acquaint me that his Father would pay whot Rent he owes me. I took William Ainsworths Accounts of Corne Uesed in the House, got by the Mill &c.: I booked my Receipts for August. William Ainsworth took Possession of the Gatehouse Chamber to keep his Writings &c: in. I sent John Banister to Ormskerk to my Lord Mountgarrets with a Present of Cowcumbers &c: for Picklings.
- 15 Cozen Richard Butler of Bristoll lodged here as also did William Clegg. Ellin Massy paid me some Money as her Son Joseph ought me. I booked my Disbursments for July.
- 16 I began to make a ditch to let the Water out of the Grove Ditch into the Carthous Pit. James Davy went hence he having new covered part of the Chappell &c:.⁵⁶ Cozen Richard Butler went to Leverpoole & sold the Teneament he holds under me which was formerly William Stocks.

⁵⁶ "18 September 1710—

	£	s.	d.
Slaters cheefly over the Chappell	1	5	3
Given the Slaters			9
Carpinders for work over the Chappell	14	6	
Joyner for making frames for the Chappell windows	3	1	
Joyes at 3d. per yard for Chap: window frames	6	8	
Oack boards Inch thick to lay under the Lead over the Chappell at 1½d. and 2d. per Foot	19	4	
More wood bought of John Tickley		2	8
Wood bought of Jo: Hurst for Sawing, &c.:	3	17	0"

"18 November 1710—

Masons Work about the Chappell	12	1	
Casting my old Lead at 5s. per Cent	1	8	3
New Lead for over the Chappell at 16s. per lb.	3	18	0
Buring two Joynts in the Lead		2	0
New Glass Windowes for the Chappell at 5d.	11	9	
Iron Casment at 1s. per Foot	4	9	
Pining in the Casement.			6"

- 17 Cozen Richard Butler & I went in the Coach to Ormeskerk, we dined at my Lord Mountgarrets, Mrs Hesketh of Rufford was there.
- 18 I went to Formoss-poole-Gutter expecting to have found 8 Men at work, but thō it was past four of the Clock I onely found one man there, the rest not as yet being comne from their Dinners or Rather from the Ailehouse. Cozen Richard Butler & Mr Aldred went to Ince, they found Lord Molineux & his Lady &c: there, they had dined at Ince. Henry Hunts Wife brought a good Quantity of Bullows⁵⁷ hither for my Wife.
- 19 Cozen Richard Butler dined at the Stand with my Lord Molineux, Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, &c:. I took the Parlor Lock in Peeces & dressed it & set it on the Doar. Parson Wairing and Mr Philipson was here to have made a Viset to my Cozen Richard Butler.
- 20 Cozen Richard Butler of Bristold went hence, I went with him to Leverpoole but being they could not get his Horses into the Boat he Stayed at Leverpoole all Night, I dined at the Woolpack with Cozen Richard Butler, Walter Thelwall &c: and afterwards we drunk a Bowle of Punsh at Mr Tutes. Grays Brandy & Toste.
- 21 I Met William Weedow the Overseear of the Poore, Richard Jackson & some others of the Town at Thomas Marrows the Taylors to Consult whot Course to take with Henry Cowley ⁵⁸ Mary Scot went home and came back at Night.
- 22 William Ainsworth & I Examined the Coppy of Thomas Bullins Will which he the said William had this day transcribed from a Coppy approved of at the Bishops Court. Mally was extreemly ill all day thō she began yesterday to be out of order. I sent to Ailes Tickley for some Flower Sets and gave her some of mine for them.
- 23 I went to Leverpoole & got a £10 Bill of Mr Tute for my Aunt Frances Blundell, I drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Plumb & Dr Tarlton. William Weedow went to Preston to consult Lawyer Starkey about Removing Henry Cowley out of this Town.
- 24 I Sent John Banister to my Aunt Frances Blundell with a £10 Bill which I had got at Leverpoole for her. Mally began to be pritty much brock out of the small Pox.
- 25 Dr Tarlton came in the Morning to Course with me, Mr Aldred & Captain Robert Fazakerley came to us on the Ground, Dr Tarlton & Mr Aldred dined here, Dr Tarlton & I went with Mr Aldred to his house, after dinner they went to Nicholas Johnsons and after I had ben some time with my Shearers I went to them, William Tarlton came to Nicholas Johnsons to us.
- 26 The new Windows in the Chappell were put up. I cut the Neck with Barlye in the farthest Wheat-hey, I went in the Evening to Ince Green, there was there Mr Formby, Lightbown of Formby, Edmund Trustrom, &c:. Mr Blundell of Ince & Captain Robert Fazakerley were in the Aile hous, I went to them.

⁵⁷ "Bullows" or "bulloes"—a dialect form of "bullace", the wild plum, rather larger than the sloe. The name is also given to the tree bearing the fruit.

⁵⁸ Nicholas was here discussing what steps were to be taken with one Cowley, a poor person who was living or had come to live in Little Crosby. If he remained then he would have to be maintained by the lord of the manor and the tenants. This was to be prevented at all costs; hence the discussion. See September 23 1710.

- 27 I was very busy making up my Accounts of what was to be allow'd by Dungen hall as an Abaitment for Money paid by me.
- 28 I took the Little Pendelum in our Chamber in peeses & dressed it. I set severall Tulop & s other Roots of Flowers in the Knot which had ben kept out of the Ground since they were taken up some time since.
- 29 Cozen Scarisbrick sent to see Mally, she was blind with the Small Pox. I went to Leverpoole & paid of Pothecary Barrows Bill, I drunk with him & John Simpson at the Woolpack.
- 30 I Stated Accounts with John Ticklely for Wood bought by him for me of John Hurst and also for some Wood bought of him for the Chappell Windowes &c:. I got up the Turnops as were sowed in the Farthest North Hey. William Ainsworth shaved my head.

The three first dayes tollerable good, then till the 22d. very unsettled Weather being some dayes violent Stormes of Wind and severall dayes of Raine eather more or less, & some dayes very good, from the 22d till the end very fine weather excepting the 29th which was some little Raine.

OCTOBER

- 1 Mally began to see, the Small Pox begining to abate. I Advised William Gray to leave of keeping the Town Smithy and to make a Smithy if he had a mind for his owne use in some of his housing belonging to the late Teneament of Cozen Richard Butler.⁵⁹
- 2 I went to Formospoole Gutter where People should have ben working, but none of Great Crosby being there, I went to Great Crosby & order'd the Overseear to send 8 in the After noone to Ballance 4 of this Town & Morehouses that would be there all day.⁶⁰ I went after dinner to Old Robert Bootles &c: to see for good Seed Wheat, I went to John Lunts a dunning & came home by Formoss-Poole-Gutter but the Work Men had set it a Runing & were gon home.
- 3 I went to Grange Green with Mr Aldred, we bowled there before dinner with Parson Letus, Robert Bootle, &c: it was the finishing day of Ince Green for this Season, but we dined not in Ince Town but at Charles Howerds, there was at dinner Mr Formby, Parson Letus, Mr Parr, Edmund Trustrom, &c:.
- 4 I Redied my Closet and put Severall things into their Proper Places that should not be in my Closet. John Lurting was here to see if I had any Paster Ground to set him.
- 5 I Boyled some Ink to try if it would keep better, I think it is not a good way for it made it very thick. Thomas Blevin payed me some Rent for Ground he has of me. I was in the Smithy whilst William Gray made me some Staples &c:. I sent William Ainsworth to Scarisbrick of a how-doe-you to Mrs Scarisbrick who was lying in of her Son Henry, he took my Grewhound Ginny to Ormeskerk to Cozen Emilia Butler, I have lent her to her for a while.
- 6 Young Richard Webster brought a Shoo for dressing the Walks, I discoursed him about being Smith in this Town. John Banister dressed some

⁵⁹ See January 10 1711.

⁶⁰ Since this important drainage ditch was also the boundary for some distance between the townships of Great Crosby and Little Crosby, men from both townships had to keep it free from obstruction.

Wax of mine & some of his owne. William Ainsworth brought home some Seed Wheat.

7 I Began to lead the earth from the side of the new Mospit in the North-hey & to fill the old Ditch with it. A Stawed Hors of mine called Robin would not draw the empty Cart but run back with it & killed himself with a fall upon the eaven Grond. I took the Oyled Paper from over the Skye-light in our Chamber, it had ben on ever since I was last ill of my Eyes. I Set the Grove-Ditch aruning into the New Sluce and so into the Carthous Pit. I helped to set up six Posts in the Bleaching yord to put Lines to for hanging Linnen upon. Mr Knit Lodged here. Marg: Davy went hence, she had ben some time here tending Mally of the Small Pox. I was told there was a Cart Load of Geece or at least a great maney Geece brought in a Cart to Leverpoole to be sold today.⁶¹

8 Mr Knite went hence. Mally came down into the Parlor, it being the first time since she was ill. My Aunt Frances sent home my Grehound Ginny from Ormskerk.

9 I payed Thomas Kerfoot for delving Turves &c: and he paid me part of his Rack Rent. I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marrow, I paid him his Quarters waiges & gave him Warning to leave my Service at Christmass. I sent William Ainsworth to Culcheth to wish Mr Culsheth Joy, he is to Lodg at Southard.⁶²

10 I Stated Accounts with Margery and Ezabell. Fanny cut her Eye-Brow with a fall. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.

11 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. I Coursed a Hare that Thomas Farer found set. I set the Clough in the New Orchard ditch at the end of the long Brick Wall but did not fix it as firme as it must be.

12 I got in the last of my Corne this Year, it was Barly in the farthest Wheat Hey. I went to Great Crosby Court, it was kept by Mr Ford, I found there Mr Peter Ashton, Mr Green of Prescott, Mr Bootle the Lawyer &c:, after the Court I drunk with Parson Wairing, Mr Williamson of Litherland, James Williamson, &c:.

13 I got away the Rubbage most of it out of the Back Court that was layed there under the Chappell Windowes when that end of the Chappell was altered. I began to Examen my Disbursments for my New Barn &c: at Ditton & to put them into a Little better Method. Little Crosby Townfield was turned abroad.

14 I bought some Indion Sweetmeats and Hunny of Bessy Peele. I bought some Hops &c: at Leadbeters. I bought a good Many Muggs at Leverpoole & sold some Potatowes. I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Plumb, Joseph Eaton, Mr Gleg an Attorney as I think, &c: John Simpson gave me his Farewell, he is going for Barbados.

15 Mr Scarisbrick sent his Servant to me with a Letter. Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh sent a Servant to my Wife with a Letter. I helped my Wife to writ two Letters. William Weedow told me he was willing to conclude to be my Cow-man eather at his own Table or at mine.

⁶¹ Nicholas must have bought some of the geese, for early in his accounts for November, he records having paid 19s. 6d. for 21 geese.

⁶² Thomas Culcheth had just married. He had no children. On his death, October 8 1747 his estates passed to Thomas Stanley, Esq., of Eccleston-in-the-Fylde, his cousin.

- 16 It was the Mining day at Jane Bryansons, there was Pat: Wofold, Mr Tasburgh, & two others, I heard them all. It being Crosby Goosefeast I dined at Parson Wairings with Mrs Cross Parson Letus Sister in Law, William Harrison the Clark & his Wife, &c:.
- 17 My Wife went to see Cozen Scarisbrick who was lying in of her Son Henry, I went with her, we dined there.
- 18 John Adulph Castalier a Germon shewed here a Coach & Four Horses with People in it made all of Ivory that did not weigh two Graines, he had severall Cups of Ivory that I do think 30 of them would not weigh one Graine.
- 19 I Broaked my Flax with two Breakers and six Swinglers.⁶³
- 20 Widdow Bolton a Chiruganess came hither to dress a Cut that Fanny had got over her Eye with a Fawle & to look at Charles Howerds Thigh. I helped John Banister to bottle about 12 Dozen of Aile. I finished my Wheat Seeding on the Wheathey Lands. I Glewed my Wives Wheele, the Coffy Mill, &c:.
- 21 I sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole with a Present of Pigeons & a Hare to Mr Houghton. I lent Darby my Lottery for two Dice being he was to have a Cake play tonight but he did not make use of it.
- 22 I helped my Wife to write two Letters in the Parlor, she Read to me in a Spirituall Book.
- 23 Mally took a Pource it being the first since the Small Pox. I Brewed 13 Busshells of October Beer. Ned Hawkseye came to finish the Gable End of the Chappell.
- 24 I sent William Ainsworth to fetch my Grewhound Speed home from John Boltons. I went myself a Coursing to the Winterheys where I had some Carts leading Earth. I sent Charles Howerd to Leverpoole with a Pot of Baiked meat as is to goe by the Carrier to Mrs Aldred of a Present.
- 25 I Coursed a Hare in the Morning as Thomas Farer found set in Woodholme, after dinner Mr Aldred & John Farer went a Coursing with me towards Great Crosby.
- 26 I made a Mixture to feed my Bees one half was Sugar, one Quarter Tracle & one quarter the Scummings of Sweetmeats, it was in all 12 Pound, they eat it but it did not keep them all alive. I tuned a Barrell of October Bear. I was at Great Crosby Court when Thomas Gore past over his Estate by Surrender to Mr Peter Ashton who was there as also was Mr Green of Prescot, Parson Wairing, &c: I fetched home my Provision of Candles from Ormskerk & bought some Potatowes.
- 27 I Staited Accounts with Thomas Massy. William Ainsworth went towards Preston Fair & to his Fathers.
- 28 Walter Thelwall & John Farer &c: went a Coursing with me towards the

⁶³ After reeting the flax (see August 5 1704 and August 18 1710 and footnotes) it was then swingled and broken. In swingling the flax was beaten and scraped with a wooden tool shaped like a sword called a swingle. This was to part the fibre from the wood of the stem and to separate the coarse and fine fibres. In the process of breaking (see September 20 1704 and footnote) the flax was combed with a wooden comb. The combing at the breaking was roughly done, as this was only the first step in carding. Sometimes "swingling" was known as "scutching".

More-Side & Edge. Three of my Servants went of their owne Business to Leverpoole.

29 Mrs Molineux of Grang & Captain Robert Fazakerley were here.

30 William Ainsworth came home, he had ben at Preston Fair. Yester Night & this Morning I took my first Purge by orders of Dr Cawood. Mally & Fanny took Phisick. Dolly Blundell who was formerly Servant here & her Sister Bridget dined here. Mr Manock was here, I gave him some Money I had to keep for him & made it up £40 what I aded was for Gant & Graveling.⁶⁴

31 I Went in the Morning to my Workfolks in the Winterheys, William Ainsworth went with me, we took the Grewhounds with us, I found a Hare set. I cut of Mallys Haire. John Banister cut of some of the Lower Boughs of my Largest Fur Trees, tis now a very proper time.

The three first dayes very calme & fine, the eight next generally eather wet or very windy, from the 11th to the end very fine Weather.

NOVEMBER

1 I Turned off Lawrence Gilberson for Working for me any More. Captain Robert Fazakerley and Mr Richard Howets Wife should have comne hither to dinner but they came not till we had done, but as soone as they had dined they went with my Wife and me in the Coach to Formby Allotide, coming out of Formby we broke the Coach Pole.

2 I writ severall Letters. Edward Haw[k]seye began to lay the Tactables upon the Gable end of the Chappell.

3 I Sent William Ainesworth to Leverpoole to the Post with Letters.

4 I took two of my Workhorses into the Hous to ly in in the Nights. I put up one Swine and two Cowes to feed. I began to thrash my Corne. I Coursed a Hare as William Ainsworth found set. William Ainsworth shot a Wild Duck in the Foulds that used to come amongst the tame Ducks.

5 My Children & the three Maides went in the Coach to Formby.

6 William Marser began to work for me by day wages. I booked my Disbursments for September. Ned Hawkseye helped me to adjust part of my expences at Ditton Brick Barne &c:. I payed for whot work he had done for me. I Lent my Grewhounds to Captain Robert Fazakerley, he met Mr Tute &c: at Litherland.

7 Yester Night & this Morning I took my second Dose of Pills by Advice of Dr Cawood.

8 I Booked my Disbursments for October. I Stated Accounts with William Weedow.

9 I went with William Ainsworth to Jane Bryansons, he read a fowl drought of a Leas to her and an other to John Bryanson, we Coursed as we went.

10 I took the Milk beas[ts] into the Hous, John Banister & William Harrison went a Coursing with me, I gave William Harrison a Hare.

⁶⁴ Ghent and Gravelines.

- 11 I went to Leverpoole Fair with my Wife, we dined at Mr Richard Howets. William Atherton paid me £10 in part of his Rent, whilst I was drinking with him & Dr Person at the Wool-pack Pat: Gelibrond came to us.
- 12 I Stayed after Vespers with Mr Aldred and Smoked a Pipe with him.
- 13 Henry Dauber the Mill-right came to put me up an other Lyer. Mally began to goe to Mar: Davys to learn to Sew. I Stated Accounts with William Blundell & Henry Ascroft & paid them for work by them & their Wives. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Receipts & Disbursements for my use.
- 14 Yester Night & this Morning I took my third Doce of Pills by the directions of Dr Cawood. I made up some Necklases for my Wife & Children. Walter Thelwall paid me some Rent for the Ackers &c:. I paid him the Land Tax and paid James Davy the Window Tax.
- 15 Henry Dauber put me up a New Lyer in my Mill. I writ a Long Letter to Cozen John Gelibrond.
- 16 Tyrer the Butcher sent for those few Sheep I have now left, he having bought them some time agoe. I went to Leverpoole to put in my Clame for 40s. that was owing to me by John Tildesley, he being now dead, I drunk with Joseph Pryer at his own house & with Ben Branker at the Wool-pack.
- 17 Mr Philipson dined here. I paid 26s. to William Harrison for my Martinmas dues. John Leigh brought me 5 dozen of Burch Beesoms.
- 18 I Pulled up by the Roots some of Fannys Hair of her head. Henry Dauber went hence. I took William Ainsworths Accounts of Corne got by the Mill, used in the Hous, &c:. I booked my Receipts for Sept & October. I told Mary Scot my Wife designed to part with her. I sold my first Cart Load of Barly this year at Leverpoole.
- 19 Mary Winstanley came hither to see if I could let her have about £40 for a Friend but I could not.
- 20 Yester Night & this Morning I took my fourth dose of Pills by directions of Dr Cawood and I cut some Papers in the afternoone. A Messengar that came to Ince from Dr Bostock brought me a Letter from him. I fetched home a Cart Load of Salt.⁶⁵
- 21 Ellen Harrison payed me 24 lb. of Salt that she had borrowed. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince.
- 22 Ailes Steward was here with her Pack before dinner & sold some things to my Wife. My Wife, I & the Children saw a Hare Coursed that William Ainsworth found set in the Cross field.
- 23 I drove some Nailes in the Baises of our Bed and some Brass Nailes about the Windowes &c: where they were wanting.
- 24 I went to Richard Tickleys but he was gon to Alker so I stayed till he came back & he promised to give me £5 within these two dayes for the use of the Pastor of St Patricks in Kilkenny. I Began to set down in my Ditton Book in a Methodicall order my Disbursements for my New Barn &c: at Ditton.
- 25 I was very busy most of the Day regulating my Disbursements for my New Barne &c: at Ditton.

⁶⁵ "19 November 1710—Salt at 4s. per Busshell £4 Od. Od."

- 26 Richard Tickley sent me the £5 which he promised me the other day. John Nicholson a Quaker & Seller of Sheep dined & Lodged here. My Wife, Mr Aldred and I ride to Jane Bryansons.
- 27 William Ainesworth bought me some Sheep at the Stags Head. Thomas Kerfoot paid me some Rent for Ground he has of me upon Rack. I Set some Snairs in the Seller to katch Rats.
- 28 I got two Rats in one of my Snair Traps in the Seller. I helped John Banister to bottle of a small Runlet of Brandy. Charles Howerd, Banister and I beat for a Garden Hare, we killed one. Mr Aldred brought me a Letter from the Post, he suped here.
- 29 I Dined at my Lord Mountgarrets in Ormskerk and gave my Aunt Frances the £5 which I had received from Richard Tickley, tis for the Pastor of St Patricks in Kilkeney, from Ormskerk I went to Cozen Thomas Gelibronds where I lodged.
- 30 Pat: Gelibrond, Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & I went to Chorley Town to meet Young Mr Gerard of Highfield & Pothocary Gerards Son, we drunk with them at Ned Luckas his thence we adjourned to two other Houses.

Till the 8th generally fair weather, from the 8th till the end seasonable Weather enough for the time of the year thô many dayes of small Raine.

DECEMBER

- 1 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond shewed me his Fishary in the Brook in his Wood & his Water Engin, we played at Cards both before and after Super. Mrs Earra & her Brother Daniell came from Dungenhall to Cozen Thomas Gelibronds.
- 2 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond shewed me his way of Painting with Cut Woosted. I came from Cozen Thomas Gelibronds, Pat: Gelibrond came with me part of the way but his Hors being out of order I over went him, I called at my Lord Mountgarrets in Ormskerk and so came home.
- 3 I Sent my Miller for the Mill rights my Mill having sufferd very great Damage in the Sailes & Shaft &c: this last night by the Winde.
- 4 I Sold some old Pigeons to Ann Wearden, she designs to pot them & send them to London. I Removed some of my Bee-Hives & set Long Stones under them instead of Stacks. John Lurting brought me a Pole to make a Ladder of Instead of mine which his Servant brocke and fetched away a Long Ladder he had lent me and also my Broken Ladder. I payed Ned Hawksey he having Finished the Chappell &c:.
- 5 Richard Dauber came to Repair the great loss I have sufferd in my Mill. I fixed up the Alter-Peese & set the Alter and Side Tables in their proper plases, the Chapel not having yet ben dressed since it was pulled in Peeces.
- 6 I Brushed & Clensed some of the Pictures belonging to the Chappell. Michall Short sent me some Money he ought me. I took eleaven old Pigeons for eating. Henry Dauber the Millright & his Nephew James came to mend my Mill and the two Sawers Richard and Joseph came to doe the Sawing Work for it. I went a Coursing and found a Hare set & sent for John Farer to

see it coursed, it led us such a Round that I lost both Men & Dogs so came home and helped Henry Dauber to see whether I had any Tree growing about the Hous proper for a Mill Shaft.

- 7 I Felled an Oak Tree between the New Orcherd & the New Grounds for a Mill Shafft. I killed a fat Hogg.
- 8 I got the Tree to the Saw Pit as is to be a Mill Shaft. I went a Coursing, John Farer, William Ainsworth, &c: went with me and Walter Thelwall came after us.
- 9 I Took 41 old Pigeons, some of them I had sold & the rest are to be used in the house. I went to Leverpoole, I drunk at the Wool-Pack with Mr Plumb, Thomas Ford, Thomas Hurst, &c:. William Abbot came home with me as far as Great Crosby.
- 10 My Wife Read to me in a Spirituall Book and towards Evening I Coursed a Hare that Robert Tompson found set in the Cow-hey.
- 11 Charles Howerd got me some Malt gran at Leverpoole & brought me home two Fir Baulks for my Mill from Thomas Hurst. I was busy most of the day paisting and mending Pictures and puting them up in the Chappell.
- 12 I hung up the Remainder of the Chappell Pictures.
- 13 I helped John Banister to bottle 10 Dozen of Strong Aile as was brued last October. Whilst I was with the Millrights at the Mill Parson Wairing came to us and he came home with me and stayed a while. William Weedow acquainted me that his Wife was to take a Bastard Child to Nurs.
- 14 William Ainsworth and Banister went a Coursing with me, both before & after dinner & John Farer also went with me after dinner.
- 15 Henry Sumner my Lady Andertons Coach Man was here. I Paisted 54 Paper Baggs to put Brass in & did some other paisting work at some Pictures.
- 16 I Sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole to meet my Ditton Tenants. I made up two very small Sives for my own use & for the Paistry. After Supper I made some Snares to take Rats, & cut Woosted for Painting.
- 17 Cozen Scarisbrick sent his Servant with an Invitation for my Wife & me to come to Scarisbrick at Christmass. Peggy Jackson went to Ormskerk, she brought home my Wives Callico Mantew from William Hulme.
- 18 Mr Plumb, Dr Tarlton & Mr Aldred dined here, we went a Coursing before Dinner on Foot & after Dinner on horsback & so went to Nicholas Johnsons.
- 19 John Garret swept some of the Chimneys. I Booked my Disbursments for the last Month.
- 20 Whilst I was at the Mill with my Workmen Yeomond of the Gore Houses came to speake to Henry Dauber, he came home with me & stayed some time, I killed a fat Little Cow. I went a Coursing towards William Abbots so went in to see how he went forwards with Mr Aldreds Tabernacle, I found Mr Aldred there, he came thence back with me.
- 21 I put up a New Mill Shaft. I met some of Great Crosby & the Morehouses near Formos-poole we vewed how the Sand had recked up my Fleame at

the side of Nichols Hey and we proposed some Methods to be taken for the future,⁶⁶ I Coursed both going & coming back, William Ainsworth, John Farer, &c: was with me. George Barker found a Hare set.

22 I Redied & Clensed my Closet against Christmas. I sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole for some Nails for the Mill. I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft.

23 I payed off the Sawers, they and the Mill-rights went hence. I went to Leverpoole and dined at Dr Tarltons. I Cleared off all Accounts with Mr Hurst, Mrs Leadbeter, and Thomas Hurst. William Kennion paid me £10 in part of his Fine.

24 I Coursed a Hare as William Ainsworth found set. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole, he suped here.

25 Mr Aldred dined and Suped here. I Read in my Closet in a Spirituall Book.

26 I discoursed Thomas Blevin about making an Exchange of Ground for some he has upon the Rack from me. Some of my Tenants paid me their Rent. William Ainsworth, Walter Thelwall, John Farer, &c: went acoursing with me.

27 Mr Aldred dined and Suped here. Anne Scot, her Child, & her Brother John Lodged here. Darby played at Whisk with us in the Parlor.

28 Mrs Anne Wairing and Thomas Wharton dined here. Edward Clifton came hither to agree with me about painting part of my Mill, but we made no bargain. This being Mr Blundells birth day I went to Ince to make him a Viset.

29 My Wife and the Children went in the Coach to Jane Bryansons, Mr Aldred and I went with them and thence Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach to Richard Tickleys and so came back againe to Jane Bryansons.

30 John Farer, Nicholas Davy, &c: went a Coursing with me, whilst we were out I was sent for home being my Brother Langdall was comne to Lodg here.

31 My Wife, Mr Aldred and I went out in the Coach to take the Aire with my Brother Langdale. Mr Aldred dined and Suped here.

Till the 17th few dayes or Nights without Raine or excessive great Windes, from the 17th till the end Cold Sharp winds thō little or no frost and much small Cold Rain.

⁶⁶ Evidently the storm of December 2 and 3 had blown up a great deal of sand from the shore and blocked up some of the water-courses.

Anno Domini 1711

JANUARY

- 1 Thomas Marrow left my Service. My Wife, My Brother Langdale & I made a Viset in the Coach to Parson Wairings, we found there Parson Letus, Duke the Jockey, &c:.
- 2 My Brother Langdale, Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach to Leverpoole, we drank at Swarbricks and at the Talbot & thence we went with Mr Morphew to his hous where he treated us.
- 3 Robert Houghton brought me a Quantity of Sope. Mr Blundell of Ince made a Viset here. We had a Merry-Night, Tatlock played of his Pipes and Fiddle.
- 4 My Brother Langdale, Mr Aldred and I went in the Coach to Formby to Law: Formbys. William Ainsworths Father lodged here.
- 5 Brother Langdale, John Farer & I &c: went a Coursing, we run a Hare that Thomas Farer found set.
- 6 Andrew Guye came hither and paid his Rent. William Davy & I sealed a Leas to each other. I Set the Middle North-Hey to Mathew Worthington & two Partners to be Push-ploughed, I am to give for Pushing it £03-15s-00d. Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here to my Brother Langdale. I played at Tables with my Brother Langdale & Mr Aldred.
- 7 Brother Langdale, My Wife & I dined at Ince, Mr William Gibson was there.
- 8 Brother Langdale went hence, my Wife & I went about four Miles with him, when I came home I went to help William Ainsworth home with Bess because she has cast her Fole, and to put two Cowes out of the Morehey that I Supposed were put in there on purpose because they were on Bulling, I sent them to the Pinfold.¹
- 9 Mr Molineux of the Grange was here and paid me 10d. for a Cheefe Rent. My Mill was set a going, it being the first time it went since it was so ill Brocken. I payed whot I ought to the Mill Rights they having now done working for me.²
- 10 Richard Webster Junior brought some of his Tooles to the Smithy being he is to be the Smith of this Town. I helped William Ainsworth to take up some Trees to give to Mr Wairing to plant in his Hedges. Some of this Town &

¹ Evidently some person put the cows in the field without the permission of Nicholas and without paying him the usual charge in the hope they would be serviced by the bull.

² "19 December 1710—

For Balks at 18d. per foot for Whips for the Mill Sailes	£	s.	d.
Tarr	3	1	0
Wading for peeing [piecing] the Mill Sailes	1	7	½
Smiths work done at the Mill since it was brocken by the Storme	19	0	"

"9 January 1711—

Mill rights at 8d. per day	2	3	4
Given the three Mill Rights	1	6	
Carpinders work at the Mill	8	0	
Nails for the Mill at 4d. per Pound	11	4	"

"27 January 1711—

Taylors Work Cheefly for maiking Sailes	8	6	"
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the Morehouses met me at William Weedows to discours about our Water Courses, thence I went to Jane Bryansons & propos'd that William Tompson might have Marcers Orchard, William giving an Equivalent for it.

11 I Began to Plough this Year viz: to put down the Wheat Ridges in the Crosfield. I went to Great Crosby and Spoke to James Williamson³ to send some Hands tomorrow to help to Scour Formosspool Gutter. The Overseers of our High Ways John Tickley & Bryan Lea went with me, William Weedow & Hugh Bullen from near Orill Hill Plat along the Division Ditch between Ince & Little Crosby to see in what Order it was in & to see what Head-bolts were made. Pat: Gelibrond & his Brother Lodged here.

12 I made a Viset with Cozen John Gelibrond to Mr Blundell before Dinner. Pat: Gelibrond & his Brother went hence. I went to see how the work went forwards at the Scouring Formosspool Gutter & the side of Nichols Hey.

13 I sent William Ainsworth to Scarisbrick to see Cozen William who is not well. I went to Leverpoole, I payed Gilbert Barrows all that I ought his Father for Pothecarary Stuff.⁴ I drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Plumb & Dr Tarlton.

14 Henry Blundell and Edward Hailwood spoke to me to know what I would doe about my Water Courses being the Sessions are at hand. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.

15 Pat Gelibrond, William Ainsworth, & I went a Coursing both before & after dinner, John Farer went with us after dinner & Mr Aldred came to us. Mally took a Dose of Phisick. John Lurting came to see if it were not too late to Raise my Fruit Trees that are set to my Walles. Charles Howerd brought me home 20 Bussell of Potatoes from the Red Lyon in Skermasdale. Richard Webster oure new Smith began to work of his Traid in this Town.

16 I helped John Banister to Bottle about six dozen of Aile.

17 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Receipts & Disbursments for my use. I Pastored the Stockroots. Pat: Gelibrond and Mr Aldred went to Leverpoole.

18 Pat: Gelibrond went hence, Mr Aldred went with him to Ormskerk. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here in his way from Leverpoole to Ince, he Suped here. We made 13 Pound of Hunny into Meade.

19 I helped William Ainsworth to take up a good many Ashes, John Banister plained about 30 of them in the Padock & Henry Ascroft planted some in the Hedges, this is the first day I planted Ashes this Winter.

20 Richard Webster shod my Young Horse Stag on his Fore Feet, it being the first time he was shod. I Booked my Disbursments for the last Month, and my Receipts for November & December. I took William Ainsworths Accounts of Corne used in the Hous, got at the Mill, &c:.

21 Mr Aldred & I went a Skaiting to the Old Moss, there was there Mr Taylor

³ Overseer of the highways for Great Crosby..

⁴ "Boxes of Pills four Doses for me	s. d.
Diet drinks four papers of Ingredients	3 0
Chymicall prepared drops for me	5 6
Purges four for Mally	4 0
Powder for the Worms, &c:	4 0
	1 2"

of Ormskerk the Watchmaker, Richard Making, Thomas Hesketh, William Tarlton, &c:.

22 Mr Aldred and I went a Skaiting to Formosspoole. It being a pritty hard Frost I began to lead with two Carts the Sluch that was got out of the Long Garden Ditch to the Borders under my Brick Walles.

23 James Addison Segged my Red Bull. Mrs Margery Michellson alias Blundell was here & discoursed me about Money as is owing to her by Mrs Blackbourne, and told me she had a Judgment upon her Estate which I have bought. I helped John Tickle to put up Pullis in the Pigeon House to draw up the Trap doar.

24 I Peruesed severall of the Letters I received the Last yeare in order to put them in a better Method. I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marrow the Taylor.

25 I Powdered some Whit Lead and Red Lead in order for my Painting or Rugg Work. Ann Armetriding came to be my Wives Maid, but is to goe back tomorrow.

26 I Helped to take Twenty seaven old Pigeons. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Leverpoole from Ince. I Stated Accounts with John Tickle for work done by him and for his Rent owing to me.

27 I Went to Leverpoole with my Wife and Jane Harrison, we saw the Great Saxon, Maxemilian Christofer Miller,⁵ Mr Alanson and I agreed a difference that was between us relaiting to Money owing by my Father to him upon Account of Mr Conley, we agreed the Business before Mr Plumb in his Office. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb, Allison & Dr Fabius &c: and with Mr Ford the Putear, Dr Traps, &c:.

28 I went to Ormskerk to see my Aunt Frances who is ill of her Eyes.

29 Thomas Marser & I made a Divition between us of the Stones he has got in my Delf, coming back from the Delf I called at John Farers & there discoursed Dr Davy, young Robert Bootle was there. I sifted my Woosted Coulers as were cut for my Rug work & devided them into 42 different Sorts. I took account of whot old Candles John Banister has in his Custody.

30 I paid Mr Smith for making one killfull of Malt for me & duty for it. I helped William Ainsworth to take up some Ashes for planting today.

31 I helped William Ainsworth to take up some Ashes which are to be planted today. William Atherton paid me his Rack Rent for Ditton. Mr Aldred and I went to Mr Nicholas Fazakerley of the Hill hous, Mr Molineux of the Grange was there.

Till the 17th very open fine Weather for the Season except one day of Raine, from the 17th till the End of this Month pritty hard sort of constant Frost thō sometimes it Thewed a little.

FEBRUARY

1 Thomas Kerfoot paid me part of his Rack Rent for the Healebank Grounds.

⁵ "27 January 1711—Seeing a Great Man myself & others"

- 2 My three Waranders paid me their Rent for my Warant, some other of my Tenants paid their Rent. Mr Plumb walked hither from Leverpoole & back, he dined here, after dinner Mr Aldred & I went out with him with our Guns to Crosby Marsh & thence Mr Plumb went home.
- 3 I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marrow Junior for Waiges owing to him and for Money received by him for Drying Oats at my Kill and for what he owes me for Interest for not paying his Fine in due time. I payed William Weedow for worke done by him before Christmass & reconed up to him what he owes me for Corne. I Skated on the Carthous Pit both before & after dinner. Margarit Jackson had her Wages paid her with orders to be gon forthwith, but she went not.⁶
- 4 John Whidby brought me a Bottle of Eye Water as Dr Cawood sent me out of Ireland. I went with Mr Aldred &c: to the Old Moss to Skate, the two Charles Howerds, Richard Trustrom, & severall others were there. Richard Bridges Doughter Mary cut her Eye-Brow ill with a Fall upon the Ice, I came home with her & drest it.
- 5 My Wife had licked to have ben choaked with a Peece of Mutton. Pat: Wofold & Pat Hesketh Suped here. Pat Hesketh Lodged here.
- 6 I Booked my Receipts & Disbursments for the last Month. Pat: Gelibrond came from the New hous & lodged here.
- 7 When we had almost done Dinner Mr Burton & Mr Green of Hooton came hither. Pat: Gelibrond went hence to Leverpoole with Mr Green.
- 8 My Wife, Mr Aldred, Pat: Hesketh and I went to the Newhous, we dined there, they came directly home and I called at Ince to see Mr Blundell & Mr Tasburgh who were both ill, I gave there Captain Robert Fazakerley 15s. upon Account of Mrs El: Fazakerley. Old Mr Walmesley late of Showley was here but we being abroad he stayed not.
- 9 John Banister went a Traising in the Snow, he killed one Hare. Speed was ill hurt by the Mill Sailes. Pat: Hesketh went hence, I lent him a Hors & sent William Ainsworth part of the way with him.
- 10 I was Busy most of the After noone peruesing some Bills of Shopkeepers & others as were paid off, some years since & some lately, I put them upon the file in a Regular Forme.
- 11 I payed William Gray his Bill off for Smiths work. My Wife went to see Mrs Bower. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here in his way from Leverpoole to Ince.
- 12 My Wife, Mr Aldred, Fanny & I went in the Coach to Ormskerk, we dined at my Lord Mountgarrets. I paid my Aunt ten Pound. Jane Harrison came home with us.
- 13 I Sold the remainder of my Rabet Skins to Edward Halsold. I put up some

⁶ Margaret Jackson had come to the Hall as cook on December 8 1709 at ten shillings a quarter year. She appears to have left at the end of September 1711, for in the Quarter Wages list for September 1711 we read:

"Peggy Jackson, Cook left her Service 10s. 0d."

On October 2, a few days later, Nicholas wrote:

"Peggy Jackson, besides what I payed her Quarterly I owght her for some time at the beginning when she came before a quarters end & some since the last Quarter for all which I think I payed her 12s. 0d."

black and whit Pictures in the Pantry. I Stayed at home to keep house when most of the Family were gon out.

14 Parson Wairing made me a Viset here. My Wife hiered Ailes Finsh to be Dary Maid.

15 I was busy most of the day examaining my Book called Tenants Book⁷ and peruesing of papers Relating to Teneaments.

16 John Banister got a Rabet with trasing in the Snow, it was with young. The Gutters over the hous not being well clensed since they were repaired, they Recked up & the Snow came down much into the Blew Chamber when it melted, which gave us some troble. I went to Andrew Bartons the Tenant at James Lidiats to see if he had any goods to sell that would be for my purpose being he has had a day of Sail, thence I went to the Hall of Lidiat and made Mr Moston a Viset.

17 Thomas Blundell turned the tail end of my Mill-Shaft with his turning Toolles that I might order it so with Iron that it could not be blown out of the Mill. Ann Tarlton Darymaid left her Service & is Suckceeded [by] Ailes Finsh.

18 Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole, he suped here.

19 William Atherton came from Ditton to acquaint me the Wapantag rent was demanded. Mrs Blundell of Ince made a Viset here. Three Push-Ploughers came, to begin to work for me tomorrow, I went with them to the Winterheys & shewed them where they were to begin, coming home I called at Mr Aldreds & computed how many Miles he had rode upon account of Blandick.

20 The Push Ploughers began to Push in the Winter heys. I went to Leverpoole and sent a Box up to London by the Carrier with my Blew Coat & some other things in it. John Smalshaw payed me a Guiney in part for a Bell he sold for me. I paid Mr Alanson £3 upon account of a Debt owing to him by my Father or rather by Mr Conley. Mr Plumb not being at home I left my Marriage Deeds with his Boy to be peruesed. I drunk at the Wool pack with Dr Tarlton & Mr Alanson, coming home I called at Parson Wairings & gave him a Letter relating to the payment of his Salery.

21 Nicholas Worrall came to me to know what I remembered concerning the Bargan made between old Mr Walmesley & Thomas Syer of the Ford relating to Worralls Teneament, I writ a Letter by him in his behalf to Thomas Syer. I agreed with Thomas Blevin to take the Nearer Wheat hey again into my own hands thô I had set it him for a tearme of years. Mr Aldred dined & lodged here because Marg: Marcer was in Labour.

22 Mally was God-Mother to William Marsers Son John. I Punshed some of the Sheets of Tinn which are for the Doars of my Larg new Salf.⁸ Ailes Finsh left her Service. A fourth Push-plougher came & began to push for me.

23 Ailes Kerfoot came to be Dary-Maid. I Stamped some more Tinns for the Doors of the Salf. I went the first time to the Winter heys to see my Push

⁷ The Tenants Book of his grandfather is now at the Lancashire Record Office (DDB1/54/41). This confusing mass of leases must have proved irritating to meticulous Nicholas. He, therefore, rewrote the Tenants Book. This is also in the Lancashire Record Office (DDB1/54/42).

⁸ Safe.

Ploughers, thence I went to the Coppy to see if any of Formospoole could be let of, thence I went to Margery Blundell & gave her leave to fall an Ash tree.

24 I writ & Read in my Closet. John Banister went to Leverpoole. William Weedow went to Butcher Armetridings to see if his Doughter Ann would come to be my Wives Maid, but he came not back tonight.⁹

25 William Weedow brought Ann Armetriding to be Servant here but for some reasons she is not to come into the House this Night. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here coming to Ince from Leverpoole.

26 Ann Armetriding came to be my Wives Maid, Nurcery-Maid and Chambermaid. John Banister fetched two Plumb Trees from John Lurting and set them to the Wall in the Back Court. I payed William Harrison the Clark of Sefton 2d. instead of twelve Past Eggs. Mrs Margery Blundell alias Michelson brought me the State of Accounts between her & Mrs Blackburn. I began to break up the Nearer Wheat-hey.

27 Mary Scot left her Service and went to serve Mrs Howet at Ormskirk. William Ainsworth found some of my Sheep behind Ormskerk that were strayed away. Edward Hower(d) sold his good will of the Green Hey to William Wignold as he told me, and I saw him receive part of the Money for it at his own hous, Thomas Riding, Thomas Blansherd, &c: were present.

28 William Ainsworth & Weedow went with me before Dinner to see if any Water could be let of at Formos-poole, and after dinner I set some hands at work to let the water of. Mr Aldred & Ned Howerd came hither before dinner but dined not here, after dinner we smoked together. Thomas Blundell brought me some Sets of Elme and Hegg Berry.

Till the 11th unsetled sort of Weather, some dayes pritty hard Frost, others Snow or Cold Winds, upon the 11th it began to thaw in earnest & the Frost which began upon the 17th ultimo: seems now to break but it did not continew thawing for there were severall dayes after the 11th that were frosty, and this Month continewed to the end very unsetled weather being sometimes Snow, Rain, Frost or Fair Wether.

MARCH

1 I Helped William Abbot to glew some Tea-Tables &c: and to mend a Chest in the Store Hous. I set Traps in the Store-hous & took four Rats by morning following. Mr Gib: called up Th: by two in the Morn. William Ainsworth found the remainder of my Sheep behind Ormskerk that were strayed away viz: the four that were wanting.

2 I Helped William Abbot to put one Pully to the back Doar of the Parlor and to put a Lock upon the Bewford. I put my first peece of Cloth into the frame or Tent for my Rugg work and primed it over the first time. I sent John Banister to Scarisbrick with some sets of Holy-Oaks &c: and to get some sets of Goosberrys.

3 I went to Leverpoole & Sealed a Leas to William Kennion & bargained

⁹ Ann Armetriding was paid 3s. 4d. for one month's service as chamber and nursery maid (March 1711, Quarter Wages List). Evidently she did not remain long for in the October 1711 List we read:

"Ann Armetriding given her when she left my Service 5s.0d."

with him & Henry Roson for ading a 3d Life in Henry Rosons Teneament.¹⁰ I Payed £3 to Mrs Prescot for Interest of £50 owing by My Lord Mountgarret. I drunk with Mr Hurst at his own hous. Mr Plumb gave me Account whot Notes he had taken upon the Perusuall of my Marriage Deeds. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb, Mr Ford the Puterar, &c.: Mr Ra: Peters pay'd me £5 from Mr Wilding 'tis put out to Interest for the Poore of Little Crosby.¹¹

- 4 Mrs Moss deliver'd Ailes Swift of a dead Child, she lodged here.
- 5 I Went to my Push-ploughers in the Winter-heys & made them set out where the Foot way is to be, thence I went to see whot quantity of Water was Runn of at Formospoole or rather out of the Coppy. Topping the Paritor was here, I gave him some Corne. Mally began to goe to Catherine Fazakerley to learn to Sew. James Davy & his Doughter gave Bond to me & William Weedow for £5 which we let him have of the Townes Money as was left to the Poore by John Aldw.: I agreed with Ned Hawkseye to get Stones for me to parts, we computed how big the Rooks are to be made. Henry Standanought brought me some Eles for which I paid him 4d. p. Pound.
- 6 I went to the Delf to see what progress Ned Hawkseye has made in geting Stones. I was busy most of the after Noone helping William Abbot to nail the Hare Cloath on the Salfe which he is making to hang in the Larder. Thomas Tyrer came to see a Heffer of mine as is not well. I had six hands very busy all day winnowing Oats & Barly, with a good Wind they Winnowed 196 Bussells & $\frac{1}{2}$ but had not time to clense the Barne.
- 7 I helped William Abbot to put up the Great Salfe in the Larder. I fetched home a Load of Hay from the New hous which I had bought of Mr Burton. I sent three Hands to help my Morehous Tenants to set Starr.
- 8 I helped John Banister to bottle above five dozen of Aile. I went to Richard Tickleys & there acquainted Mr Molineux of the Grange that I thought it proper to let two Justises of the Peace to vew our Water-Courses to see which way were the most proper for the Water to goe, thence I went to Ince and discoursed Mr Blundell also about the Vewing of the Water Courses, I found there Mr Ride: Lord Bisshop his Chaplain, Pat: Wofold, Mr Philipson &c.: Mr Aldred made a Viset here, it was the first time he has ben here since his foot was so ill, he gave me a Paire of Ivory Tenns which he made on purpose for my own use.
- 9 I was busy most of the after noone with William Abbot & Ned Hawkseye giving them directions what work to doe.
- 10 Mr Molineux of the Grange called here in his way to Leverpoole to acquaint me with Mr Blundells opinion concerning my Water-Cours at Formospoole, I went to Leverpoole and advised with Mr Plumb what method to take concerning the said Water-Cours,¹² I drunk at the Wool pack with Mr Plumb, Mr Andrews, &c.:

¹⁰ A tenement in Ditton.

¹¹ Nicholas mentions on several occasions that visiting friends gave him money for the use of the poor. In this case it was put out to interest; the interest was then used either as gifts of money or to provide the poor with flax, wool or other material. The poor were also given relief from the parish stock, which was administered by the churchwardens of Sefton Church. This was a general fund which could be used for the maintenance of the church fabric as well as for the relief of the poor.

¹² "10 March 1711—Fee given to Mr Plumb about Fore Moss. . . . 2s. 6d."

- 11 Mrs Blundell, Mr Ra: Tildesleys Widdow, and Mrs Ann Harington made a Viset here. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here going to Ince from Leverpoole, he Suped here.
- 12 I Redyed & censed my Closet. I cut a good deale of Eye bright for me to smoke. Walter Thelwall brought my Wives Receipt Book which he had ben writing in, for her to see whot more she would have writ in it. John Banister went to Ormskerk in hops to have got his Brother off as was Pressed to be a Souldier but could not. Richard Bridg, William Lurting, &c: came to discours me about Formos-poole Water. William Ainsworth brought home a Mare which he had in an Exchange from John Lurting.
- 13 I Began to draw out some Pictures with my Pensall for my Rugg work & to trye to finish one of them with cut Woosted but it did not doe right. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here. William Abbot finished whot work he had to doe for me here at this time. Thomas Kerfoot payed me part of his Rack Rent.
- 14 Pat: Gelibrond & I made a Viset to Mr Blundell of Ince thence we walked to the New Hous, but nobody being at home there as we wanted we walked towards Richard Tickleys & met Mr Burton, Mr Tasburgh & Mr Aldred coming from thence, so we turned back with them to Thomas Medows in Ince Town,¹³ I layed the wager about the Mesuring of an Eshin.¹⁴ Edmund Trustrom came to us.
- 15 Pat: Gelibrond went hence, I gave him some Sets of great Nuts & some of my Virginian Peas to take to his Nephew Gil:.
- 16 I Planted some Elme and Hegg Berry Trees that Thomas Blundell gave me and Transplanted some Fur Trees in the Avenew thorow the Long Garden where others were dead. I went to Leverpoole and drunk with Dr Person at the Wool-pack & Post Office.
- 17 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Receipts & Disbursments for my use.
- 18 I Sat after Vespers with Mr Aldred a good while. Jane Harrison came to take leave of us ere she goe for London as she said she designed to doe soone, but did not.
- 19 Ailes Kerfoot was hurt with a Strocke of a Cow of mine. I sent William Ainsworth to Scarisbrick of a How-doe-you. Mr Nichola from Hooton was here a beging for one in want. Mr Taylor the Watch maker dined here.
- 20 I began this year to sow Beans in the Farther Wheat-Hey and Oats in the Nearer. I Pricked out severall of my young Furr that were sowed about this time twelve Month, I think they were Scotch Furr, William Hodgson, Mary Fleetwoods Man came to mend my Little Lead but finding it so bad I resolved to have a new one, so set him to mend some of the Windows. Captain Robert Fazakerley brought us News that the Family of St Germans was privately gon away in the Night. I went to Mr Aldred, he was katching Shoulers in the Townfield Pit, thence I went to the Men that were working at Formos-poole-Gutter, thence I walked to Great-Crosby and drunk at Nicholas Johnsons with Duke, Edmund Trustrom, Thomas Syer, &c: thence I went to Parson Wairings to Condole with him for the death of his Son Richard.

¹³ These were the priests they went to see at the New House in Ince Blundell, the residence of the Jesuit priests serving the Formby mission.

¹⁴ "14 March 1711—Lost upon a Bet about Mesuring a Bale 1s. Od."

- 21 John Banister began this year to Graft. I turned out three of my Cows that were gon drye. Henry Ascroft and William Blundell helped me to set out a Long Moss-pit in the Winter-Heys, it Rained extreemly hard and made us take shelture in Thomas Brownbills hous.
- 22 Darbys Wife brought me some Burch Water from Ormeskerk. John Banister helped William Abbot to take up some Plane Trees which I had given him. I went with Richard Webster our Smith to the Mill to shew him a Modell that the Miller had made of wood for him to make some Iron work after to put to the Taile of the Shaft to keep it from going out of the Mill.¹⁵ Ned Hawkseye took down the Little Lead in the Brewhous & the Oven in the Corner of the Bake-hous in order to set Leads in both Plases.
- 23 William Hodgson, Mary Fleetwoods Servant put me a New Lead Bottom to an old Lead Boyler. I met severall of Great-Crosby, the Morehouses and this Town at Formosspooole Gutter, to consider how to get the Water off, there was all or most of Great Crosby Jury, James Williamson, Edward Farclough, William Lurting, &c.; Thomas Blansherd, William Tompson, &c.; Walter Thelwall, William Gray, &c;.
- 24 William Hodgson rode behind John Banister to Leverpoole. I payed Mr Smith of Sefton for a Load of Hay and for Duty and making of two Kilfull of Malt.¹⁶ I went to Leverpoole and gave directions to Norton the Sadler to make me a Hammer Cloath.¹⁷ I pade Mr Low for some Glass-bottles¹⁸ & spoke to Mr Secombe about getting me some Clover Seed. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Halsold the Puterar & Mr Hurst.
- 25 I Payed the Miller part of his Wages. Some of my Tenants paid me their Rent.
- 26 John Bryanson paid me his Rent &c: and I payed him Interest for Money upon Bond. William Ainsworth helped me to set out part of a Moss-pit in the Winter-heys, thence we went to see Great Crosby Men, &c: working at Formosspooole Gutter. I Examained William Kerfoot & his Wife what they knew concerning an old Fleame or Water Cours which some sayes run formerly through the Coppy. I sent William Ainsworth into the Morehouses and this Town to desire my Tenants to help me tomorrow to Scourer my Water-Cours at the side of Nichols-hey.
- 27 I had 32 Hands working for me at my Water-Cours at the side of Nichols-Hey, I went to them in the Morning and brought them some Strong Drink and Bisket, and went againe after Dinner & brought them more strong drink, we finished scouring that Water-Cours & then I went to Great Crosby and

¹⁵ "Rich: Webster the Smith his first bill of work done for me since Christmas.

	£	s.	d.
Shoeing Horses at 14d per four new Shoes and the Smith has the old ones	16	5	
Plough Irons new laying & Claping Ploughs	13	7	
Coach, Carts, Harrows, & other Husbandry	12	5	
Gates & Doars out of the Hous	1	11	
Work done within the Hous	4	5	
Iron work at the Small End of the Mill Shaft at 4d. per Pound	1	1	8."
¹⁶ "14 March 1711—Hay at 4d. per Stone & some at 20sh. per Load	£9	5s.	0d.
24 March 1711—Making two Kilfull of Malt		9s.	0d.
Duty for two Kilfull of Malt	£1	7s.	0d."

¹⁷ A cloth covering the driver's seat or 'box' in a state or family coach.

¹⁸ "Bottles pint at 18d. per dozen 6s. 9d.
Bottles holding about 2 quarts, at 4½d. per Bottle 2s. 3d."

acquainted John Johnson, James Williamson &c: what work I had finished, then I made a Viset to Parson Wairing. William Ainsworth brought a Box from Leverpoole which came from London with Head Cloaths &c: in for my Wife & Mally, he also brought home a Hammer Cloth that George Norton made.

28 I picked some of the Coffy as came yesterday from London.¹⁹ I made Jemmy Marrow to Ride up & down my Water-Cours at the side of Nichols hey, William Ainsworth & I went to see whether it did any good in order to make the Stream carry away some of the Sand. I mended two of the Glasses in the Great Chariot.

29 I went to Leverpoole and took with me £8 to Mr Manock from Mr Aldred. I drunk with Mr Clayton at his hous. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Alanson & Samwell Edwards. I proposed a Swap with Samwell Edwards between my Button and his Gray Galloway. Mr Plumb being out of order I went up to his Chamber to see him.

30 I took account of William Ainsworth of Corne winnowed uesed in the hous, &c: William Ainsworth cut the Hair off my head. Richard Cartwrit let my Wife blood in the Foot. John Farer came to cut out New Bridle Reanings²⁰ for the Coach Horses and to mend and Clense the Harnish.

31 I made an end of Thrashing my Last years Barly. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Leverpoole from Ince. I redied my Closet and put severall things into their Proper Places. I Fetched home a small brewing Lead with a Copper Bottom.²¹

The Begining very unsettled Weather proper for the Season afterwards generally very wet and Cold & till the end continewed to be so and extreamly wet which made a very backward Lenton Seeding.

¹⁹ On a former occasion when Nicholas received some coffee from London he found a large number of stones in it. This time the coffee came with other goods bought in London:

"Apparell &c: sent from London by Mrs Aldred for my Wife, Self, &c:

	£	s.	d.
Ribands, Starchings & dressing Heads, &c: for my Wife		13	0
Edging, Ribaning & Linnen and making it up for Mally	1	10	2
Coat for Mally, in all	1	10	6
Scouring and altering my Blew Coat	1	1	6
Coffy six Pound	1	16	0
Boxes, carriage to London, Porteridg backwards & forward, Paper for Packing up in, &c:		4	11
Carriage of two Boxes from London		4	0.

²⁰ *Reanings*—obsolete form of *reins*.

	£	s.	d.
²¹ "Lead a new one for Bruing at 1½d. per Pound	1	12	6
Burning two Joynts in the Lead		2	0
Copper bottom for the Lead at 20d. per Pound	1	11	3
Fixing in the Copper bottom		2	6
Lead Bottom for boyling washing water		8	3½
Fixing in the Bottom & burning the Joynts		4	0
Sawder [solder] two Pound		1	8
Mending Windows		4	8
Flanders Brass Pan at 20d. per Pound		6	4
Hand Candlestick of Brass		1	3
Petty Pans of Copper at 15d. & 9d.		12	0
Dishes for feeding Bees			8
Tinn at 6d. per Sheet		4	0
Lantorn, puting in new Lights		1	0
Coffy Pots mending three		1	0."

APRILL

- 1 Charles Howerd went to the Out-Side to fetch Mrs Billington hither to goe with my Wife to Scarisbrick but she came not. Thomas Fleetwood & Edward Bridge came to look at a Heffer of mine that had calved her Red.
- 2 Thomas Kerfoot paid me part of his Rack Rent. Charles Howerd came back from the Out-side & brought not Mrs Billington with him. My Wife, I, and Mally went in the Coach to Lodg at Scarisbrick.
- 3 Cozen Scarisbrick, I and our Wives went to a Race on Oughton Moss, where a Gray Mare from Bretherton run against a Bay Hors from towards Clitherow, the Mare carried two stone more than the Horse & she wan all the three heats, one was over ere we came to the Ground; when the Race was past Mr Scarisbrick & I went to Lancets the Signe of Queens Head in Ormskerk where we drunk Wine with Sir Thomas Standley, Mr Standley Son to Sir Thomas Standley, Captain Standish, Parson Hindley of Oughton, Mr Ashurst of Ashhurst &c.: Robert Tompson brought my Blew Coat to Ormskerk, it was just comne from London & new vamped up.
- 4 Mr Scarisbrick & I dined at Burchley with Sir William Gerard & his Brother John. Mr Banks of Winstanley & his Brother the Parson, Mr Leigh of Lime &c.: Mr Aldred came to Lodg at Scarisbrick.
- 5 I walked out with Cozen Scarisbrick to Look at his Plantations of Oaks &c: and to his large Mill-damb. Mun Trafford lodged at Scarisbrick. A Red Heffer of mine dyed.
- 6 I went in the Morning from Scarisbrick to advise with Mr Heys at Ormskerk about geting some Money from James Spencer as is owing by him to me, I came back to Scarisbrick to dinner. My Wife, I & Mally came home from Scarisbrick.
- 7 Mr Heys sent an Express to me to let me know what he had done in relation to get me some Moneys from James Spenser. My Wife went to Leverpoole to discourse Mary Heyes about coming to be Servant here. John Lunt paid me 10s. in part of what he owes my Aunt Frances Blundell upon Bond.
- 8 Mr Edmund Trafford and Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here.
- 9 I killed a Fat Little Cow. William Ainsworth went with me to look in the Fields for a proper place to set Potatoes in. I went to the Winterheys to Henry Ascroft who was delving Fleas for himself, thence I went to the Farthest North hey where I had two Ploughs going. I booked my Receipts for February & March.
- 10 I payed one half years Window Tax to William Weedow.²² I went to Leverpoole to advize with Mr Plumb about Sam Prescots Money or rather Spencers and to get two Receipts drawn to be given up to him. I dined at Mr Plumbs with him & Parson Richmond. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb & Mr Alanson. Mr Gleast signed a discharge before them to James Spencer for me to deliver.
- 11 Ellin Harrison signed a Releas to James Spenser of the Money his Father was bound for, with Samuell Prescot she Signed it at home in Presence of Walter Thelwall & William Marser. I Stated the Accounts that are between my

²² "10 April 1711—Window Tax for halph a year 15s. Od."

Aunt Frances Blundell and me Relating to her Annuety & instead of finding her with Meat and Lodging, and Computed what I have payed her towards it. The Children walked with me to the Nearer Wheat Hey where they were sowing Oats.

12 I Received some Money at Mr Heys his in Ormskerk upon account of a Debt owing by Samwell Prescott, the Money was payed by James Spencer Son to one of the Bonds Men, the Debt being desperate I had but 6s.-6d. p. Pound for the Stock. I saw Mr Scarisbrick at my Lord Mountgarrets, I payed my Aint Frances £01-11s-01d. which cleared Accounts between us then as we thought. John Garret swept the Dary Chimney.

13 I Sowed some Flower Seeds in the Knot &c:.. I made my 4th Seeding of Virginia Peas.

14 Penny a Poore Man with a Pension signed by my Lord Molineux &c: was here to begg. Mr Aldred payed me £50 for which I gave him a Bill upon Mr Rodbourn. I went with two Workmen after Dinner & made them try to let of some of the Water out of the Coppy thorow a place that was brock on purpose in the Coppy Wall, thence William Ainsworth & I went to the Winter hey to see how they went on in Rearing of the Pushed Ground this being the first day they began to rear. Mary Heyes Brother came hither from Leverpoole about his Sister who he thought was to have comne to-day to be Servant here, but she comes not.

15 My Wife & Mally walked to Ince. Mr Aldred dined here, he went to Ince Town & brought me word I should be Indicted at the Sessions tomorrow about Formos Poole Water Cours, but it proved false.

16 I payed William Harrison the Clark his Waiges & Easter Dues. Pats: Tasburgh, Burton & Aldred dined & suped here, we drunk in the Arbour. Munn Trafford came from Ince to us, he Suped here.

17 Evans the Dansing-Master came from Ince to make me a Viset, Munn Trafford & Captain Robert Fazakerley came with him. Richard Sefton & Joseph Carter the Sawers came to work for me. I began to take up some Flowers out of the Knot & set them in the Nursery to be ready there against I new Modell the Knot.

18 Henry Ascroft began to delve Turf for me in the Winterheyes, I went to him and to see how my Rearers of Sods went on in my Pushed ground in the Winter-heyes. I Stated Accounts with John Banister.

19 I Killed a Larg Fat Hogg. John Lidiat came to make and mend me some Ploughs. I sent a Load of Barly to be Malted by Mr Smith.

20 I planted the third Bed of Asparagus by the long Brick wall with Sets of one year old. I went to the Cow-hey to my Digers for Potatowes, thence to the Winter-heys to the Rearers of Sods for Burning.

21 I Payed Richard Webster the Smith for work done by him for me since Christmas, it was his first Bill he ever gave me since he was Smith of this Town.²³ I Ridled some Hay-Seeds at Mr Aldreds as he gave me. I Stubbed or brock within or near the Ground the Stumps of some of the trees that were cut down between the Bark & the Flat. John Lidiat the Plough Right and the two Sawers went hence they having done working for me at this time. Ned Hawkseye has for the present left of get Stones in my Delfe. Mun Trafford & Captain

²³ See March 22 1711.

Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here. Robert Tompson went with me to my Fleame at the side of Nichols Hey and drew a pair of Harrows along it with two Horses which did clense it something, thence we went to my Delf and brought a New Trough from there for the Smith and helped him to fix it in its place in the Smithy.

22 My Wife rid behind me to Jane Bryansons, Mr Aldred went with us, thence he & I went to the Grange but Mr Richard Molineux being gon to Charles Howerds we went thither where we found him, Richard Tickley, Mr William Crisp, Richard Blundell, Edward Hatton, &c.: Ginny Fowled²⁴ but it lived not many houres.

23 John Webster the Bayly came to beg Corn, I gave him some. I went to the Mill & stayed a good while there & proposed to the Miller to take his Son into my Service.²⁵ Mary Winstanley made a Viset here, I payed her 30s. for Interest of £30. I tought John Sumner, William Marrow, Robert Tompson &c: to play at Penny prick with the Foot balle.²⁶ My Wife and Mally walked to the Grange. I sent William Ainsworth to Hooton to see Cozen Standley, she is ill of the Small Pox.

24 William Ainsworth came home from Hooton by way of Prescot Fair. Darby began to work for me by day wages. My Wife rid behind Mr Aldred to Dr Lathoms to prayers, they dined there.

25 I made a Viset to Mr Moston at Lidiat,²⁷ thence I went to Fra: Farers about some Owler Trees but he not being at home I went myself into the Fields to look at them but they were not for my purpose.

26 I went to the Stone Delf and took Account of Ned Hawksey what Stones he had got to parts & set down the Price and Number of each sort, I agreed to give him £2-2s-6d. for his Shaire, thence I went to the Winter heyas. Mr Manock called here as he went towards Leverpoole from Ince, he was on foot. I Lent Mr Smith of Sefton £3 but he has accounted for it.

27 I Planted the Cop between the Bark & Flat with Thornes of the Springs Growth. John Banister made the Children each of them a Flower Garden. I made my sixth seeding of Virginia Peas.

28 I turned my Milk Cows to Grass. I washed my Sheep. I began to sow the Farther North-hey with Barly and with Flax-Seed.

29 Thomas Harper brought a Pare of New Boots hither as he had made for Mr Aldred. John Banisters Father came hither to advize with me about selling his Teneament. Walter Thelwall paid me the remainder of his Rack Rent. John Banister took a Fulmert with his hands.

30 I went to Preston to wate of my Cozen Eyre & his Lady, I suped with them at their New Lodging and with Mr Standley & his Grand-Mother Patton, Parson Young, &c.: I Lodged at Richard Jacksons the signe of the whit Bull in Preston.

Till the 12th unsetled sort of wet Weather, from the 12th to the 18th fair weather,

²⁴ Foaled.

²⁵ John Kerfoot or Carefoot was miller from 1702 to Michaelmas 1715. His son, Henry, eventually became coachman in March 1713.

²⁶ Penny-prick was a game in which the players threw or shot at a penny placed on a prick or mark. Here apparently the players kicked or threw a football at the penny.

²⁷ Rev. John Mostyn, S.J., chaplain at Lydiate.

from thence till the end now & then very wet dayes which has made the Ground fully as wet as in Winter.

MAY

1 I Dined at Cozen Eyres Lodging with him, his Lady, Mr Standley of Bigarstaff his two Aunts, Mrs Whithead & one of her Sons, Parson Young, &c.: I made a Viset to Mrs Ann and Bridget Blundell, to Mr Walmesley Junior, to Mrs Walmesley Senior and to her I payed £61 in part of £100 which I ought to her Husband upon Bond, since then all is cleered of, both Principall & Interest.²⁸ I was most of the after noone at the new Coffy hous with my Cozen Eyre, where he, young Mr Standley, Mr Walles, &c: played at Passage;²⁹ Captain Sidall, Dr Farington, &c: played at Inn & inn. I Suped at Cozen Eyers, Lodging with him, Sir Thomas Standleys Son, Parson Young, Mrs Green & others of the Tablers. Mrs Dalton of Thurnham was also there. Ginny was covered by Thomas Bickarstaffs Bay.

2 I Breackfasted at Mr Wildings then went to the Coffy-Hous to take leave of Cozen Eyre & then to Chorley to the Funerall of Mr Walmesley of Dungen-hall,³⁰ there was there Sir Thomas Standleys Son, Mr Robert Leigh, Mr Brooks of Astley; the four Trustees viz: Sir Nicholas Sherbourne, Sir William Gerard, &c: I went with the Corps as far as Radbourn towards Blackbourn and then came home, but called at my Lord Mountgarrets in Ormskerk. Some of my Sheep were Shorne.

3 Mich: Short came to see what goods I had to sell him, I shewed him my Fat beas[ts] and Sheep. Mrs Blundell made a Viset here. I lent my Servants a Cock to fight at Charles Howards, he wan his Battle. The young people of this Town had a Merry-night at the four Lain ends, Tatlock was their Musition, I went after Supper to them & smoked a Pipe at William Davys.

4 Thomas Moss Bayly of Farnworth was here, I gave him a Shilling. I beted 10s. with Betty Swift that Thomas Farer was not Married & I lost it. Jane Bryanson & Gabriall Norris Wife came hither and advised with me about the Water-Cours from Formos-pool.

5 I went to Leverpoole and got Bess Horsed with Thomas Bickarstaffs Bay. William Kennion payed me £5 upon Account of a Fine for Henry Rosons Teneament. I payed Holsold the Puterar all I ought him; I drunk at the Wool-pack with him, Mr Pryer & Mr Evans the Dansing Master, Mr Evans came home with me to Lodg here.

6 Mr Walmesley of Wigan Laine dined here, he came to demand somthing from me, which was owing to him as he said by my Brother Richard, I gave him a Guiney.

²⁸ "24 May 1711—Mr Walmesley late of Showley & to his Wife at two pay-ments in full of a Bond owing to him I payed at twice . . . £100 0s. 0d. Interest the £100 for one year and above three weeks . . . 9 7s. 6d."

²⁹ "'Passage' is a game of dice to be played at but by two, and it is performed with three dice. The caster throws continually till he hath thrown doublets under ten, and then he is out and loseth; or doublets above ten, and then he passeth and wins."—*The Complete Gamester* (1680).

³⁰ Francis Walmesley, of Dunkenhalth, aged 14 years, only son of Batholemew Walmesley of Dunkenhalth, Esq., who died 7 January 1702. He was succeeded by his sister Catherine, who on March 1 1713 married Robert, seventh Lord Petre.

7 Mr Evans began to teach my Children to dance.³¹ I began to prick my last years Wheat there being abundance of Strocke amongst it. I met severall of the Morehous viz: Thomas Blancherd, William Wignold, John Sumner, &c: at William Weedows ground to advise with them about geting of the Water which trobled them. John Johnson, Henry Trustrom, & Richard Bridg came hither and advised with me about Scouring Formoss-pooole Gutter, we pitched upon tomorrow to begin. I went with John Tickley to William Grayes Moss to look at a Plat there which did John Tickley a prejudice by Lying too low. Captain Robert Fazakerley was here.

8 I went to Formos-pooole Gutter where ten Men from Great Crosby were working but none were there out of Little Crosby or the Morehouses. I sent a Cart to Ormskerk for Pan-Muggs & other Muggs. I sowed 655 Graines of Barly in the New Orchard it grew upon 28 Eares which all came up from one Root and did undoubtedly proceed from one Grain of Barly which grew upon my Burned Ground in the Farthest North-hey, I sow'd these 655 Graines abundantly too thick which was the reason they came not on, so was frustrated of the experiment I intended to make of its increase by sowing it for some years together. I sowed 14 Graines of Barly that grew upon one Eare shaped something like the Foot of a Bird with short claws growing from it, some few of the Ears that came from it were partly of the same shape & a great many of the others were struck, so that I made no farther tryall by sowing it againe.

9 I sent two pair of Harrows with each two Horses to Harrow my Fleame at the side of Nichols Hey, I went to them. I took William Ainsworth with me to the Winter-Heys and shewed him how to sell Turf & Fleas. Four Push-ploughers came and began to push the Rough North Hey.

10 Mr Evans came from Ince hither, he taught my Children a little, he intended to have gon to Leverpooole but he stayed here all night.

11 I led Muck with four Carts & four Fillers into the Cross Field. The falling out in the Barn between Ailes Davy & Fr: Harrison as they were picking Wheat. John Banister went out to take young Moles, he took 9, Seaven of which were in three Nests & dead, which I suppose might perhaps happen because the Ground was extreemly wet and cold.

12 I Sowed Barly in the Crosfield with ten of my own Horses. Henry Ascroft found a Hasley Nut three Foot deep in a Moss pit which he was making in the Winterheyes. We had a great deale of Troble to get home a Mad Cow of mine that has Calved.

13 Richard Tickley & John Tatlocke came to discourse me about a Bargan made of Gilbertsons Teneament with John Blundell Taylor in which John Tatlock was concerned. I Stated Accounts with some of my Work Folks. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpooole, he Suped here.

14 I Began to take William Ainsworths Accounts of his Receipts & Disbursements but we did not quite make an end of them. I Lead Muck and Turf Ashes into the Cross Field with four Carts.

³¹ "6 May 1711—Enterance Money to Mr Evans for my two Children . . . 5s. 0d." Evans, the dancing teacher, seems to have travelled on horse-back to wherever he was to give the lessons, staying one night as he did in this case. A few months later he died in Liverpool. Lessons in dancing were then given to the children by a Mrs. Richardson. The fee was 2s. 6d. per child per month.

15 Charls Howerds Wife was here, she Shewed me a Receipt for the Convulsion Fits which her Son is troubled with, I gave her some Herbs to make a Dyet drink on for him. I went with Mr Aldred to Ince Green & Bowled with Mr Robert Blundell, Mr Aldred, &c.; when we had done bowling we went into Thomas Medows to drink & there I made a Match with Mr Robert Blundell which we are to bowl tomorrow. I took leave of Edmund Trustroms Daughter Ann who is going to Graveling.

16 Mr Aldred went with me to Ince Green where I Bowled the Match with Mr Robert Blundell which we made yester night viz: One Game hand to Fist, and after that single ends for an hour. Mr Bower & his Wife made a Viset here, they bought a Stone of Wool. Thomas Bicker-Staff brought his Stallion hither & tryed whether two of my Mares were in order that he had lately covered, he bought William Ainsworths Mare.

17 Mally reads pritty redily in the Spealing book so we have leaft it of and she has now begun to read. Peggy Jackson being much out of order I sent her away for some time, being she desired it.

18 Tho I sold some few Loads of Turves lately yet this was the first day of Sale this year in the Winter-heys onely, William Ainsworth went betimes to sell Turves in the Winter-heyes and I went after him, I found there Richard Park, Thomas Bootle, &c.: I bought a Little Spaniell Bitch of a poore Boy for my Children but it over went them. Thomas Bigarstaff sent for his Mare as he had bought of William Ainsworth.

19 I sent Charles Howerd to the Buriall of Henry Livesley. I finished my Barly Seeding excepting some little as is to be sowed on some ground which I intend to burn if the Weather will permit. Nanny Armetridings Sister Betty lodged here.

20 Mrs Bowers of Aintry dined here. Mrs Blundell of Ince & Mrs Bridget Blundell made a Viset here. Cozen Emilia Butler Lodged here.

21 I went with my Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler to Formby to Law: Formbys. William Ainsworth bought me four Cowes.

22 James Davy the Slater came to see whot work I had for him, he mesured the Entryes and I ordered him to provide me some Flaggs for them &c: and to get me some slates. Richard Rose was here & paid me for some Barly as he is to have, I shewed him some of my Gardens. My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler made a Viset to Ince. The Miller played on his Fiddle to the Young People on the Green.

23 I began to burn my Push-ploughed Ground in the Winter-heys & North-hey, I was with them most of the day. Dr Lathom dined here. Mr Hurst of Leverpoole suped here.

24 I went betimes in the Morning to my Burners in the Winterheys. I borrowed £10 of John Bryanson and payed all that I ought to Old Mr Walmesley late of Showley (who dined here), upon Account of £100 due to him by my Bond. I have since payed the £10 borrowed of John Bryanson.

25 Mrs Barker made a Viset here to my Cozen Emilia Butler but she was gon with my Wife to Leverpoole. Ned Hawkseye & William Abbot put up some Windowes in Ailes Davys Hous by my Orders.

26 I Rid out to Mr Burtons with my Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler.

- 27 Mr James Wilding dined here. Mrs Blundell & her Sister Bridget Blundell made a Viset here. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here.
- 28 John Lidiat & his two men came to make me a new Pair of Cart-wheeles. Henry Dauber & His Brother Richard came to put me up a New Mill-Stone. Pats: Tasburgh, Burton & Aldred dined here, Edmund Trustrom was here & drunk with us in the Arbour. The Push-ploughers finished working for me at this bout, I payed them for Pushing part of the Winter heyes.
- 29 Pat: Gelibrond walked with me to my Burners in the North-hey & Winterheyes. My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler made a Viset to Ailes Tickley.
- 30 Pat: Gelibrond went hence, Cozen Emilia Butler & I brought him part of his way towards Ormskerk, as we came homewards Cozen Emilia Butler & I called to see William Thelwalls Doughter Betty who is lately Married. Speed³² was severely whiped for taking a Shoulder of Mutton off the Spit.
- 31 Betty Armetriding went hence. Peggy Jackson our Cook who went hence home Sick returned back hither to her Service. I Rode to the Sea Side with my Cozen Emilia Butler and my Wife, we called at Jane Bryansons coming back. I Angled for Showlers in the Townfield Pit, my Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler went with me.

Till the end of this Month generally very fine Weather excepting some three dayes that we had bitter Stormes of Raine, the six last dayes were very hot & some of them very violent hot for the Season.

JUNE

- 1 My first Swarme of Bees this year flew to Edward Farcloughs & went under his Slates. Ann Trustrom came to take leave of me ere she went to Graveling.³³
- 2 I Set out a New Mospit in the Morning in the Winterheys being that Misproved which I set out the last before. Henry Ascroft, William Weedow, &c: helped me to set out this pit. I was with my Burners most of the day in the North hey & Winterhey. I began to sow Barly on part of the Burned Ground in the Middle North hey. Mr Evans his first Month was up as he said for teaching my Children to Dance. Cozen Emilia Butler went hence.
- 3 Mr Aldred & I went to Ince to welcome home Mr Blundell³⁴ from Whit-Chourch. Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to Ince from Leverpoole.
- 4 I went in the Morning to my Burners in the North hey & gave those leave that had a Mind to goe to Ince to Prayers being Mr Blundell was newly dead, I also went thither to prayers. I made a Bargan with Thomas Meadow of Bigarstaff to burn the Gorse in the Pick &c:. Henry Dauber put me up a New

³² A greyhound.

³³ Ann, Daughter of Edmund Trustrom, a yeoman of Ince Blundell, was going to join the community of the Poor Clare Nuns at Gravelines.

³⁴ It is possible that Henry Blundell, Esq., of Ince Blundell was ill and had been to Whit-church to consult Dr. Bostock. He died immediately on returning. He was succeeded by his son, Robert, who later married Katherine, daughter of Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton, Cheshire.

Millstone. I was most of the after noone with my Burners in the Winterheys I sent them two larg Pailles of Whey which was very acceptable. I set out the Flea Turf by Roods that are on my last Moss pit. Richard Sefton & Joseph Carter came to saw some Burch Railes for me.

5 I Rid to Ince to prayers & came back on foot with my Wife; Sir William Gerard, Mr Scarisbrick, &c: was there. I was with my Burners most of the day in the North hey and Winterhey.

6 I began to plough and sow my burned Ground in that part of the Winterheys which now I intend to call the Slip. I was with my Burners in the Winterhey & Northhey, in the Northhey they set the last on Fier so that tis much whot finished. The Mill Rights went hence having Finished their Work.

7 This Morning being very wet when I was in the Winterheys & my Burners not having much to set on Fier I sent them home till farther orders. I was at the Funerall of Mr Blundell of Ince, there was Mr Tyrer the Maior of Leverpoole, Alderman Clayton, Mr Tyrer the Attorney, &c:

8 I went to see Ellin Harrison and William Marser who were both ill.

9 I Mowed the New Orchard. I went to Leverpoole and bought some Sugar & Sack of Mr Morphew. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb and Mr Alanson.

10 My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Blundell. Parson and his Son made a Viset here. Tuet Wills Wife came hither in pursute of her Bees which she thought had comn into my Gardens but she found them not.

11 I Helped Ellin Harrison to pack up some of her Doughter Janes Cloaths that are to be sent to London as she sayes. I went to my Delvers of Turves in the Morehouses and to my Workfolke in the Winterheys. Ginny had her 3d Litter of Whelps since I had her, she had eight and all but one I think were Bitches. I began this year to weed Corne. William Ainsworth bought me three Cows at Newbrough Fair.

12 Thomas Meadow, his Doughter Debora and two Sons began to cut down and Burne Gors for me in the Great Moss-hey.

13 Margarit Pinington was here with her Child that wanted both Hands and Leggs. I took Account of William Ainsworth of Corne uested in the House, got by the Mill &c: and Finished the Accounts of his Receipts & disbursments. I began to sow Frensh Wheat³⁵ and Barly in the Slip. I began to Weed my Flax. The Servants killed 19 Adders about the Swinehouses.

14 I went to Great Crosby Court, but was not amongst them whilst they were siting, I drunk with Mr Ford the Steward, Walter Thelwall, William Tarlton &c: I shewed there some tricks of Legerdemesney &c: to Parson Wairing, James Williamson, Mr Thomas the Officer³⁶ &c:.

15 I Stated Accounts with Mr Smith for £3 formerly lent to him & payed what was owing for making Malt and duty for it. William Abbot came to advise with me about his being raised in the Land Tax.

16 My Servants killed 33 Adders. I Finished Sowing that part of the Winter hey which now I call the Slip, it is newly burned. I stated Accounts with

³⁵ French wheat or buckwheat.

³⁶ Customs officer.

Henry Ascroft for Feying & Delving Turves in the Winterheys, he having this day finished delving for ought I know as yet.³⁷

17 Mrs Mary Winstanley was here after dinner. Some of Lady Andertons & Ince Servants were here. I Killed three of my Kats for eating the Cheeses.

18 William Ainsworth bought a young Bay Gelding of William Dike. I killed a very small Cow in the Evening, she was not very Fat. One Cart of mine & some of the Neighbours brought home some Coles for Mr Aldred. I hived a Swarme of Bees, it being the first I had hived this year, tho I have had one or two more Swarmed before but not hiv'd. My Wife went to Mrs Bootles of the Peele to shew her a Soar place she has in her Legg. Pat: Gelibrond lodged here.

19 I Booked my Disbursments for Aprill. Mr Turbarville made a Viset here from Ince.³⁸

20 Mrs Bootle came to look at my Wives Legg as was soar. I helped John Banister to bottle one Runlet of Aile, he began his Pilgrimage towards Holy well, I took his Accounts of Money Disbursed by him for my use.

21 I began to Shear and Mow the Cole Croft. My Wife and Pat: Gelibrond made a Viset to my Lady Anderton at Ince. Mr Aldred and I Bowled at Great Crosby Green with Parson Letus, Mr Gerard Wairing & Mr Thomas, when we had done we went to Nicholas Johnsons & there drunk with Parson Wairing, Mr Evans &c.: My Wife sent Margarit Darby towards the Outside.³⁹

22 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. I got home my first Load of Slates this year from Roby Delf. I Helped to remove the Beas[ts] out of the Dobb Heys into the Winter Heys. Great Crosby had some hands scouring their watercours under the Coppy Wall & I had four hands scouring mine at the side of Nichols Hey.

23 I Shewed John Sumner of this Town where he was to begin to dig Turves on Munday in Thomas Marrows Moss. Mr Turberville & Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset here. My Servants killed 22 Adders. John Banister came home from Holy-well.

24 My Wife took Phisick. Mrs Bootle came to look at my Wives Legg. I went to Ormskerk to wate of Cozen Dick Butler, it being the first time since he came last from Ireland. I dined at my Lord Muntgarrets, Captain Robert Fazakerley made a Viset there, we came home together as far as our way lay. Mr Molineux of the Grange brought me a Letter from Mr Molineux of Mosburgh.

25 Elizabeth Bolton came to look at my Wives Legg & applied some things to it. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here as he was going to Leverpoole from Ince. I went to my Delves of Turves in Thomas Marrows Moss & the Winter-heyes, thence I went to my Ditchers at the side of Nichols Hey. My Teame & severall of the Neighbours Lead Coales for the Smith. Cozen Dick Butler sent hither for a Horse which I promised to lend him. The Servants killed 16 Adders.

	£	s.	d.
³⁷ "Feying, Delving, Wheeling & Dressing Turves for my own use	4	13	0½
Feying, Delving & Wheeling Turves for Saile in Patchers Field, Winter-heys, &c.	8	15	10"

³⁸ Rev. John Turberville, S.J., a relative of Lady Anderton and her chaplain at Lostock, was with Lady Anderton during her visit to the Blundell of Ince family.

³⁹ i.e. outside Little Crosby.

26 I went to Leverpoole and Acquainted Mrs Prescott that my Lord Mountgarret designed to pay off the Bond which he owes her. Mrs Bootle came to look at my Wives Legg. The Servants killed 15 Adders.

27 Pat: Wofold dined here. I went to Winny Marrows & told her where she might cut down an Ash Tree for the Repairing of her out-housing. I finished Weeding my Corne this year. My Servants killed 7 Adders.

28 I Began to state Accounts with William Ainsworth but had not time to finish them. Pat: Gelibrond came hither in the Morning to see my Wife, I went back with him to Ormskerk and dined at my Lord Mountgarrets, Sir William Gerard & Mr Fazakerley were at my Lords in the after noone.

29 I Played at Cards after dinner with my Wife, Mr Evans, &c: My Children & the Maids went to Formby Fair. Fortune Parker came to discourse me concerning her Husband purchasing of Henry Chesters Teneament in Ditton.

30 I went to Leverpoole & contracted with Christopher Parker to leas to him that Teneament which Henry Chester holds in Ditton under me, Henry Chester, his Wife, Mr Sandeford, &c: were present. I made a Viset to Mr Hurst and drunk with him. I spoke to Betty Bolton at Leverpoole to look at my Wives Legg which she did & Lodged here.

Till the 14th tollerable good Weather from thence till the end but unsettled sort of Weather being severall wet dayes.

JULY

1 Pat: Turberville prayed here & preached, he dined here. I payed Thomas Worthington for himself & Partners pushing the Middle North hey.

2 Richard Bridge, John Johnson, &c: came to Acquaint me that they would have some hands sent out of this Town to help them to Scour Formospoole Gutter. I was busy both before and after dinner in taking William Ainsworths Accounts which we began upon the 28th ultimo. Land Tax payed to Richard Jackson & William Tompson, Hugh Bullen brought me back one Feather Bed & other Bedding as I had lent him.

3 Sir William Gerard & Mr Scarisbrick sent from Ince of a How-do-you to my Wife. Lady Anderton made a Viset to my Wife. Cozen Dick Butler sent to invite me to his Ball at Ormskerk this Night but I went not. I began to pull up Docks in the Bark.

4 Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here in his way to Ince from Leverpoole. Mrs Margery Blundell alias Michelson dined here, she came to discourse me about the Money owing by Mrs Blackbourne to her & her Sister. I went to John Farcloughs and got a Spade Tree⁴⁰ made for geting Docks up with, I went to see Dr Lathom & writ a Letter for him. I booked my Disbursments for May.

5 I Booked my Receipts for the three Last Months. I began to use my New Pair of new shod Cart Wheelles.

6 I Booked my Disbursments for June. I Stated Accounts with William Weedow.

7 I Sent William Ainsworth to Wigan for Doctor Worthington to come look at my Wives Legg, but the Dr Came not back with him.

⁴⁰ Spade-tree or spade-stale—the wooden shaft of a spade.

- 8 Mr Aldred prayed & preached here. Doc: Worton came to look at my Wives Legg.⁴¹
- 9 Mrs Billington lodged here, I sent to fetch her from Leverpoole.
- 10 I went with Mr Aldred into the Winter-heys to show him my improvements there, thence we went to the New house to make Mr Tasburgh a Viset, he being comn thither yester day to live there. I began to make a good Quantity of Aqua Coelestis.
- 11 Mr Smith of Croston made a Viset here from Ince. I brought home two Load of Flags from Roby. I finished Slutching the Grove Ditch.
- 12 I helped them to raile & Fence the Slip from the rest of the Winterheys. Shaft rann backwards with a Load of Stones & fell into the Duckcoy & brock the Cart & a wheele.
- 13 I went with John Garret & made him to fence the Slip from the rest of the Winterheys very well with Gorse.
- 14 William Ainsworth helped to bottle my Aqua Coelestis. I went to Leverpoole & drunk with Captain Clayton at his own house, I drunk at the Woolpack with Mr Plumb & Mr Ford my Lord Molineux his Steward, when I was coming homwards out of Leverpoole a little, I turned back for Parson Wairings company, I found him at the Talbot and drunk there with him, Parson Welsh, &c.; Parson Wairing & I came home together as far as our way lay.
- 15 Mr John Gorsuch made a Viset here. Mrs Osbaldeston my Lady Andertons Woman made a Viset here from Ince. Cozen Emilia Butler & Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 16 Mrs Scarisbrick & Mrs Ellin Entwisle dined here, Mrs Molineux of the Grange and her Sister Betty Blundell Suped here.
- 17 My Wife & Cozen Emilia Butler, &c: made a Viset to my Lady Anderton & Mrs Blundell of Ince. I went to look at my Burned Ground Barly in the Slip & the Middle North hey. Cozen Dick Butler Lodged here.
- 18 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh & Mr Tasburgh dined here. Mr Plumb lodged here.
- 19 Cozen Dick Butler & his Sister Emilia went hence towards Ireland, my Wife and I &c: went with them to Leverpoole, we dined together at the Woolpack with Pat: Gelibrond & Mr Plumb. Cozen Dick Butler & his Sister Emilia went over the Water and designed to goe to Parke Gate, Pat: Gelibrond went over in the Boat with them. I sold my Gray Gelding Shaft to Mr Cuninghams at Leverpoole.
- 20 Pat: Gelibrond came back from Park Gate, he lodged here. I began to try an experiment to keep harty Chocks but did not doe all at them as I designed.
- 21 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. My Aunt Frances sent home my Base Violl which I lent Cozen Dick Butler. I saw Peter Slinhead stand in the Pillery at Leverpoole for writing against Dr Secheverall and the Church of England,⁴²

⁴¹ "8 July 1711. Dr Worton Fee for Looking at my Wifs Leg 11s. 9d.
 Salves, &c: for my Wives Legg 9s. 6d.
 Phisick bestowed on Nelly Whithead 1s. 2d."

⁴² "8 July 1711—Slinheads Book 4d."

I discoursed Mr Houghton Merchant about Husbandry but chiefly about improving of Land, I drunk with him at his own hous. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb, the two Mr Fords, &c.: Ned Hatton and I came home together as far as our way lay.

22 I Went after dinner to Croxtath to welcome home my Lord Molineux, I found there old Mr Harington & Will Nelson.

23 Mrs Billington went hence to Lodg at Gorsuch.

24 I Buried some Harty Choks in a Mug in the Ground & some I hung up in the Hous to try to keep them but it did not answer expectation, the Stalks were Pitched. I sold my Colt Jockey to Mr Aldred.

25 My Wife rid behind Mr Aldred to see Ails Mering.(?) Back possion-moughist. Pat: Wofold was here.

26 My Wife, Ellen Harrison & Nanny Armetriding went to John How: at Coppold more & came back again. I sent to Ormskerk for some Cole Seed. I red most part of the afternoone.

27 I Began to sow Cole Seed in the Middle North hey. Ned Hawkseye began to make a peece of a Wall in the Harkerk of some of the Chappel Chamber Stones.

28 I Payed off & discharged severall of my Hay makers, having now got in all my Hey except some Little about Pits Sides and some as is of no great Vallew.

29 My Wife and the children went in the Coach to Gorsuch and brought Mrs Billington from thence to Lodg here, they called at Ormskirk as they came home to see my Aunt Frances Blundell. Mrs Bridget Blundell & her Sister Dorothy came to Mr Aldreds before Vespers, I was there when they came. I read in the Edifying Letters a great Part of the day.

30 Ned Hawkseye began to make the Plat at the end of my Duckcoy. I saw my Colt Jockey dockt as I had sold to Mr Aldred.

31 I was in this Town when there was a Huant cry after two Men which was supposed to have stolne some Gold from a Watch-Maker in Leverpoole. Walter Thelwall gave me £5-9s-0d. which Mary Winstanley had sent me for a Cow.

Almost all this Month Fair and Extraordinary Hay weather.

AUGUST

1 My Wife and Mrs Billington went to Croxtath to wate of my Lady Molineux, dinner was over ere they rought. William Ainsworth bought me four Larg Oxen at Newton Fair. Mr Gerard Barton Lodged here. I payed off the Weeders in the Gardens & most of my Workfolks and now begins with them of a new Reckoning. The Miller Fiddled to the Children i'th Hall.

2 I kept my Fathers Aniversary with Five Sacerdotals. I sowed one but in the Middle North hey with Turnop Seed and then I went to Mr Aldreds where I found my Wife, Mrs Bilington, Mr Burton, &c.: My Wife sent to see Mrs Wofold who has put out or hurt her hip. Mr Tasburgh, Mr Aldred, &c: dined & Suped here; after super my Wife, Mrs Billington &c: played at Cards.

3 William Ainsworth helped me to mesure part of the Rough Winterhey that I might conclude how to devide that part of it into Closes, I sent William Ainsworth thence to the Morehouses, & Little Charles Whithead and I brought home the Bull with us out of the Winterheys. My Whit Cow had two whit Calves, one a Bull, the other a Haffer Calf, I designe to rear them both. My Wife & Mrs Billington were at Ince.

4 Mr Gerard Barton went hence. Mary Winstanley sent to me about a Cow which she had bought of me & is hiared out to my Lord Mountgarret. I began to pull my Flax in the Farthest North hey, I Finished Plowing the Middle North hey for Cole Seed & finished my sowing of it with Cole Seed, I sowed one But of it & somthing more with Turnop Seed.

5 Mr Turberville, Mrs Bridget & Dorothy Blundell dined here, they came to Mr Aldreds to prayers & heard him preach. Lady Anderton & Mr Turvile, &c: came hither after dinner, t'was the first time he has ben here.

6 I Led Turves with 12 Boon Carts & two of my own. I went to the Turf Moss, thence to my Work folks at Nichols-Hey Fleame, thence to Parson Wairings, he was gon to Nicholas Johnsons, I went thither where I found him, Jams Williamson, &c:, we made no stay there. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.

7 I got home my own Flax as grew in the farthest North hey & began to Ripple it.⁴³ I Began to Mow Oats in the Town Meadow as came from shaken & scattered Corne of the last Year. James Davy began to dress Flaggs as I design to lay the Entryes with. My Wife, Mrs Billington, Pat: Gelibrond & I went to the New house, but Mr Burton not being at home Pat: Gelibrond & I went to the Hall of Ince & so came back again to Mr Burtons, he was then comne in.

8 I Led Turves with 13 Boone Carts & two of my owne. Mrs. Billington went hence towards Chesshire, I sent her as far as Leverpoole. I went to Ince Bowling Green, there was there Mr Nicholas Fazakerley, Mr Formby, &c:, I went of the Green to help to pull a Mare of Richard Whitheads out of the Ditch, Thomas Blansherd the Smith, &c: helped to pull her out. I was sent for home of the Green becaus Captain Clayton of Leverpoole, his Wife and Sister were comne hither.

9 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. Parson Wairing made me a Viset. I Layed about 22 Threave & a halfe of my own Flax in the Water and Margarit Darby layed about 16 Threave which she sowed with me to parts.

10 I Payed Thomas Kerfoot for Delving Turves, &c: and he payed me some Rack Rent. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here. Mrs Margery Michel-son came to discourse me about the Money that Mrs Blackbourne owes her. My Aunt Frances Blundell and her Maid Sera Wilson lodged here, I sent the Coach to fetch them from Ormskerk. Jane Bryanson brought a Present of Chickens.

11 Margarit Darby & I devided the Flax Bows that were between us. Charles Howerd & I sowed about ten Busshell of bad Hay-seed on those two Buts in the Middle North-hey as were sowed with Turnop Seed. I brought home my last load of Flags from Robys Delf.

12 William Hodgson & his Wife came to look about them here. My Wife & my Aunt Frances Blundell made a Viset to Ince.

⁴³ To draw it through a kind of comb to remove the seeds.

- 13 I Led Turves with 17 Boone Carts I led home some of the Oats as were mowed in the Town Meadow.
- 14 I went to Ditton and drunk at Appletons with William Atherton, Joseph Bolton, Henry Heys, &c: thence we went to Thomas Owens and drunk there. Roger Bridg was found drowned in Watkinsons Pit.
- 15 I put Stag to the Coach, it was the first time he drew in it. Lady Anderton, Mrs Blundell of Ince & her three Sisters in Law, &c: were here.
- 16 Young Robert Bootle and John Rose came to see if I had a Feeding Cow to sell. Mr Knight Lodged here.
- 17 William Ainsworth came home, he had ben at Preston Fair & at his Fathers. Ailes Kerfoot⁴⁴ left her Service. Mr Knight went hence. I brought home my Last Load of Slats from Roby Delf.
- 18 I Began to shear Wheat this year in the Wheathey Lands, I went to my Shearers, thence to my Workfolk at the Water Cours on the Side of Nichols-hey, they finished working at that Water Cours. Mr Aldred sent his Colt Jockey as he bought of me to be kept at Lostock. I helped John Banister to Bottle one Rundlet of Aile. Ann Tarlton came to be the Dary Maid.
- 19 My Wife & Aunt Frances Blundell went to the Hall of Eckleston & dined there.
- 20 I helped John Banister to Bottle one Runlet of Aile. I took up the Brick and Tiles in the Entrys in order to Flagg them. John Melling the Cooper worked here, it being the first time he worked for me here since he set up on himself. Richard Cartwrit let my Wife Blood.
- 21 James Davy began to Flag the Entryes. I helped Mr Aldred to cast up some Accounts of Blandick. I helped to pull up a sort of a Weed or Bastard Flax that was left growing upon the Flax Ground in the North hey, some calle it Bail or nb.
- 22 I got home three Load of Burch Wood from Simons-wood, it was a very wet day.
- 23 There was a poore man here who called himself Neathway, he said he was a Non-Juring Parson. I helped Henry Ascroft & others of my Workmen with a Tree that lay in the Ground and was above 12 yards long but we could not get it up.
- 24 Thomas Meddow has finished burning Gors for me. I Stated Accounts with William Tompson for delving Turves, &c: for me. Mr Evans & I made Parson Wairing a Viset. My Wife & Aunt Frances Blundell went to Leverpoole, they bought things at Mr Hursts.
- 25 I went to Leverpoole & signed a Leas to Henry Roson of Ditton. William Kennion signed a Leas & Releas at Mr Plumbs to me, it is to confirme the Bargan of one Roode of Land which he has sold or given to me in part of his Fine. I made a Bargan with Joseph Bolton to ad two Lives in his Leas. I drunk with Mr Plumb at the Wool pack. I came home a good part of the way with James Williamson & his son Henry, &c:.
- 26 Mr Molineux of the Grange came home with me from Mr Aldreds after Vespers & stayed a good while. My Wife & Aunt Frances went to Ince

⁴⁴ She was the dairy maid at 10s. 0d. per quarter.

but Mrs Blundell, &c: not being at home they went to the New hous & so to Jane Bryansons. Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters Ann & Dorothy were here but my Wife & Aunt not being at home they went to Mr Aldreds & stayed there till my Wife & Aunt came to them, they all played at Cards.

27 Thomas Meadow measured the Remainder of the Gors Ashes & paid me 20s. upon Account. I Finished picking the Strock out of my Last years Wheat.

28 William Ainsworth sold two Bullocks & two Cowes for me at Ormskerk Fair. Mrs Blundell & two of her Sisters in Law Mrs Ann & Mrs Dorothy suped here, they played at Cards both before and after Supper, I played with them after Supper.

29 I got in my Wheat which I grew on the Wheathey Lands. I Paisted the Drought which I had drawn of St Omer Collage upon old Linnen & I did some other paisting work. Nanny Armetriding and William Ainsworth went to Ormskerk Fair. William should have sold Mr Aldreds Mare but did not.

30 I gathered some Goos-Grass that grew on the Flax Ground in the North hey. I intended once to have sowed the seed of it but think I shall not.

31 I Began again to work at my Rug-work-Paint thō I once had an unsuckcesfull tryall at it before. James Davy finished Flagging the Entryes. I killed a Red Cow.

Till the 20th very fine weather though now & then some little Raine, 20 & 21th a good deal of Rain, 22th a bitter day of Rain, from the 22th to the end good Weather.

SEPTEMBER

1 Henry Ascroft & William Blundell helped me to set out some Moss-pits in the Winter-heys against the next year, thence I went to the Sea Side & took William Wignold with me to see for a Proper Place to get Slutch in which I intend to lead to my Ground.

2 My Wife & I dined at Scarisbrick, we went to wate of Madam Walmesley of Dungen-hall, Mrs Dorothy Blundell went with us, we took her up in our Coach at Thornton, Dr Lancaster & Mrs Fazakerley dined with us there, we brought Mrs Fazakerley home to Ormskerk in our Coach & then brought Mrs Dorothy Blundell to Ince and so came home. James Holme and his Men came hither to be ready tomorrow to work for my Wife and Mally.⁴⁵

3 Richard Webster the Smith brock the Britch pin of my Gunn with trying to unscrew it.

4 My Wife & Aunt Frances made a Viset to Ince. Parson Letus sent my Wife a Present of Pares.

5 James Holme having done working here I payed him off. My Aunt Frances & I went in the Coach to the New-hous where we found my Wife, Mrs Blundell of Ince & her two Sisters in Law Mrs Ann & Dorothy Blundell, we played at Cards & Suped there.

⁴⁵ Tailors.

"Altring my Wives Mantue, &c: 2s. 6d.
Making Mallys Coat here 5s. 6d."

6 Thomas Blevin payed me his Rent for the Oaklands. James Swift from towards Heskin Schoole brought me some Ball Sope. Tick: began to set Pickes in the Clay round the Duck-coy, I helped him to set some.

7 I got home the last of my Timber as I bought at Croxtath. Garret & I set some more Pickes in the Clay that goes round the Duckcoy. Ralf Low was with us.

8 John Banister & I took a Rabets Nest with seaven young ones in which I found in the Little Morehey. Mrs Fazakerley of Ormskerk dined here. Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters in Law Mrs Ann & Dorothy Blundell made a Viset. I went to Leverpoole to have met Mr John Hurst of the Scouls but he came not, I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Molineux of the Grange, & with Mr Plumb.

9 My Wife went towards Ince to have heard Mr Turville⁴⁶ Preach but she turned back. My Aunt Frances Blundell & I went to Ince to wate of Cozen Scarisbrick and his Lady who dined there.

10 I got home my Flax that was spread in the Slip. John Banister Botled off a small Runlet of Sack and I Removed some Bottles in my Seller & put Papers upon some of them to know what was in. I sent John Banister to Mr Nicholas Fazakerley with a Letter relaiting to our Watercourses.

11 Mrs Barker & Mrs Heywood came hither to see my Aunt Frances Blundell but she was gone with my Wife to Ince to play at Cards & to sup there.

12 I helped Mr Aldred to make up his Accounts for Blandick but we did not finish them. I met Parson Wairing, William Tarlton, Richard Westhead & Henry Williamson at Ann Ashtons in Great Crosby, the Meeting was concerning a Reference that is designed to be put to Parson Wairing & me, &c: Concerning Rabets taken by Henry Williamson, &c:

13 I Spoke to Old Robert Bootle about being a Referry with Parson Wairing and me. I Removed my Wives Screwtore & China in her Chamber & removed some other Furniture in the Roome. I sold some Timber to Mr Shepard for the repare of Formby Mill. Betty Bolton was here, she told me what severall Oyntments &c: were good for as I had by me.

14 I got a good many large Stones out of the farthest end of the Grove Ditch. I mended my Wives Dutch Table and put a Thumb Latch to the Matted Chamber Doar. John Banister dressed the Wax of four hives of my Bees as were dead. I Stated Accounts with the Smith for work done for me, for things sold to him & for Money lent him.

15 Henry Williamson told me he would not stand to the Arbitration between him & the Waranders if old Robert Bootle were an Arbitrator. I met Mr Hurst of the Scoules⁴⁷ at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole where we agreed a difference that was between us concerning making of Plats for a Way to my Hough Field in Ditton, William Atherton & Henry Heys were present. I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Morphew, Captain Robert Fazakerley, &c:. I saw a Shew of a

⁴⁶ The Rev. Charles Turville, S.J., had recently been appointed chaplain at Ince Blundell. He was born March 10 1683, son of William Turville, Esq., of Aston Flamville, Leicester. In 1722 when Mrs. Blundell left Ince to live in Flanders, he went with her as chaplain, and was with her till her death in 1753, when he retired to Watten, where he died in 1757.

⁴⁷ John Hurst, of the Scholes, died three years later and was buried at Prescott on September 4 1714.

Little Woman. I Reoned with James Davy for Flagging the Entrys & for other work and payed all I ought him.⁴⁸

16 My Wife & Aunt Frances made a Viset to Antony Fleetwoods Wife. I sent William Ainsworth to Mr Scarisbrick with a Letter.

17 I went to Ormskerk to discour Henry Tyrer about Mrs Margery Michelsons Judgment but he was not at home, I drunk at the Talbot with Mr Walmesley the Watch-Maker, coming home I called of John Sedon & discoursed him about sowing Malt-dust upon Medowing, when I came home I found Mr Smith of Croston here, he brought my Wife a Present which Mrs Frances Trafford had brought for her from my Sister at Quant, he went with me to Mr Aldreds where we Suped & played at Cards with my Wife, Mrs Blundell of Ince her two Sisters-in-Law Mrs Ann & Dorothy, &c:.

18 I went to Ormskerk and discourced Mr Tyrer about Mrs Blackbournes debt to Mrs Margery Michelson, I drunk with Mr Robert Fazakerley at his own Hous. I Finished Shearing all my Corne excepting what was sowed late on Burned Ground.

19 I Dressed my Bale or Nb Seed. Mrs Blundell and her two Sisters Mrs Ann & Mrs Dorothy Blundell got their Collations here & after it we played at Little Plays. I had a Letter of the Death of Mr Evans and an Express came to fetch his Mare hence.

20 Mr Smith of Croston went hence. I went to Garswood and dined there with Mrs Walmesley, Mr Scarisbrick, Mr John Gelibrond, &c:. I Discoused Cozen John Gelibrond, &c: about the Debt owing by Mrs Blackbourne to Mrs Margery Michelson. Sir William Gerard took Phisick. Mounsuer La Abbe taught Mrs Walmesley, &c: to Dance at Garswood, I saw them Dance. I brought Sir William Gerard a Present of a Miss-Clenly.

21 I Payed Thomas Marser for Stones I had of him. My Aunt Frances, My Wife and Children made a Viset at Ince.

22 I went to Leverpoole designing to have ben at the Funerall of Mr Evans, but he was not buried today. I drunk at the Wool-pack with John Archer & Mr Hurst.

23 My Wife & I read to my Aunt Frances Blundell in a Spirituall Book in the Parlor.

24 I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for Money Received & Payed for my Use. I put a Lock upon the Clock-hous-doar & gave William Ainsworth charge of it. My Aunt Frances went hence to Ormskerk, I sent her in my Coach with her Maid.

25 I Payed John Sumner for Feying & delving Turves for me in Petchers Field. John Archer dined here, I stated Accounts with him for what was between Mr Evans & me. I ty'd up most of my Provision of Eye Bright in long Strings in order to hang it up. William Ainsworth went a Coursing with me, it was the

⁴⁸ "15 September 1711—

	£	s.	d.
James Davy for Scapling, dressing and Laying 60 yards of Flags in the Entrys at 4d. per yard	1	0	0
Scapling mors Flags at the Delf at one penny per yard		1	8
Dressing some Flags here at 1d. per yard which were not layed.			10
Slats dressing one Rood		5	0
Slaters for Repairs about the Hous		2	2."

first time I have coursed this Season. John Banister brought me a Present from the Carrier at Leverpoole which my Aunt Ailes had sent us from Graving.

26 I Brock open the Doar out of the Arches into the Loft, William Ainsworth was with me. Jams Addison gelded my White Bull Calf, it was a Twin with a Cow-Calf, tiss almost eight weeks old.

27 William Ainsworth went with me to the Middle-North-hey, we marked some Roots of Barly as we thought severall Ears sprang from. The Smith docked my Gelding Stag, we cast him first.

28 I helped John Banister to take up some Flowers out of the Knot and to lay them in the ground, they are to be set again in the Knot when it is new Moddalled. William Ainsworth went a Coursing with me, we Mesured the Fleame at the side of Nicholls hey & thence we followed the Coppy and Arnolds hey wall and so mesured on to Arnolds hey gate. Thomas Kerfoot went with me to the Sea Side to see where I could lead some Slutch from to lay on part of the Winter-heys. Mrs Blundell and her Sister Mrs Dorothy Blundell made a Viset here.

29 I went to Leverpoole to desire Mr Tyarer the Maior of Leverpoole or Mr Clayton to meet Mr Nicholas Fazakerley and Mr Brooks upon Wednesday at Charls Howerds, but both of them being gon out of Town I told Mr Plumb my Business to them.⁴⁹ I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb & Mr Chorley. E: Eves came to be my Wives Maid.

30 Ann Armetriding left her Service. I went in the Coach to Ince with my Wife and Mr Aldred. James Holme came hither to work tomorrow for my Wife.

Till the 5th fine weather, from the 5th to the 17th severall Showry dayes, from the 17 till the end very Fine Weather.

OCTOBER

1 I Helped John Banister to bottle of a Runlet of Aile. I sent a Present of 26 Sorts of Flower Sets to Betty Secomb. My two Teames Led Brick with some of the Neighbours for John Tickley from Leverpoole. I put up 2 Hoggs to feed. I went to Great Crosby to speak to Marg: Newhouse about the Flax as she sowed to parts with me, but she not being at home I stayed in Dukes Stable expecting of her. R. Swift discoursed me about his Son Henry staying & his Wives in this Town. I Computed the Length of the Water-Cours from Formospoole Gutter to Arnolds Hey Marsh-Gate both by my own Measure and by my Map. Catty Howerd came to be the Cook here.

2 Peggy Jackson the Cook left her Service. I think Mallys Issue was let dry up. I began to lead away my Barn Miding and the Marle⁵⁰ that I got out of the Duckcoy with 4 Fillers & three Carts, I Lead 114 Lode to the Mosshey, most of it to the farthest Side. Dorothy Ainsworth Lodged here.

3 Mr Tyarer the Maior of Leverpoole, Mr Brooks and Mr Nicholas Fazakerley vewed Formosspooles Gutter and some other of oure Water-Courses, I was

⁴⁹ The flooding at the Farmosspooles Gutter was his business.

⁵⁰ Marl—a calcareous or limy clay of a friable nature much used for improving the land. The one hundred and fourteen loads of manure from the Barn midden and marl dug out when cleaning the Duckcoy were used to fertilise the Mosshey. See October 6 1711.

with them as also was Mr Plomb, Mr Molineux of the Grange, Edmund Trustrom, Richard Tickley, &c.; we dined at Charles Howerds.⁵¹ Mrs Blundell and her two Sisters Mrs Ann & Mrs Dorothy made a Viset here.

- 4 I Booked my Receipts for July, August & September. Little Crosby Townfield was turned Common.
- 5 I Paisted some Pictures &c: upon Paper in imitation of Painted Patchwork. Dorothy Ainsworth went hence. I Booked my Disbursments for July & August. I think Formoss-poole Gutter was Scoured.
- 6 I Finished Leading the Barn-Miding and Marle into the Little Moss-hey, there was 546 Loads beside about 30 Load that was got out of the Gutter at the side of the Midding, it set over almost one Aicker & a half. I Paisted a Map upon old Linnen & put up some Escutcheons in the Hall. I Painted black the sides of the two Peeses of Patch work viz: the Painted one and that which I made.
- 7 Captain Robert Fazakerley called here as he was going to the Grange from Leverpoole, he Suped & Lodged here.
- 8 I Breake 40 Threave of Flax with five Breakers and 24 Swinglers, it was 20 Dizon & eight Stricks of well drest Flax & weighed 90 Pound, they also Breake about 2 Dizon and a halfe of Richard Newhous his & scutched it once over. The Miller & his Son Fidled here after Supper for the Breakers.⁵² Whilst William Gray was Shearing in his Burned Ground in Stocks Moss I pulled up one Root of Barly which most undoubtedly came from one Grain and had 28 Ears of Corne besides five Strawes which wanted Ears & were I believe snaped off with a Violent Wind. I also pulled up one Root of Bigg or Bear Barly in the same Field with 14 Ears of good Corn. Mr Aldred bought me three Pair of Stockings of Ailes Steward.
- 9 I took William Ainsworths Accounts of Corn got by the Mill, uested in the hous, &c:.
- 10 I had five Carts, 4 Fillers and two heapers Leading Slutch from the side of Alt into the Sand Hills, they led 150 Loads, I went to them before Noone, after Noone I went againe but ere I came my Work Folk were gon off. Pat: Gelibrond Lodged here.
- 11 I Nailed up a Map in the Paintry & the two Peeses of Patchwork Pictures. Pat: Gelibrond went hence.
- 12 I Put some Peach Stones &c: to infuse in Brandy to make Ratefia on. I helped to take Account of the Table Linnen, Sheets, &c: and helped Mr Aldred to make some Paist-bord here. Charles Howerd brought me home from Cozen Thomas Gelibronds some Pump Trees &c: for a Chean Pump.
- 13 I was with my Shearers in the Slip, they cut the Neck there. I drove a Pin at

⁵¹ "3 October 1711—Layed doen at Ch:Howerds for the Town of Great Crosby when the Justises met 8s. Od."

⁵² "Breake 34 Threave of Flax, being my own & some that I had 60 parts with Five Breakers at 8d. a day 3 4
Swingling & Slansing & Scutching at 6d. 10 6
Witch & Under Witch 1 0
Hatchelling all the Flax at 2d. & Meat 9
Weaving Teere of Flax at 2d. per Yard 1 6
Weaving Hurdes of Flax at 2d. per Ell 1 1."

John Tickleys Rearing. Ned Hatton brought me home from Leverpoole a Load of Muggs, Salt-Fish, &c., in my own Cart and with his Horses.⁵³

14 My Children went to Great Crosby Goos-feast, they Lodged in Great Crosby.

15 I went in the Morning with John Tickle to the Heal-bank & shewed him where he might have some Gors for mending Formosspoole Gutter with, but they were never got for that use, then we went to Formoss Poole Gutter being it was set today arunning, we took the Grehounds with us but found no Hare. Young Mrs Alanson, Mrs Leadbeater, &c., made a Viset here and were gon againe ere I came home from the Heal Bank. It being Great Crosby Goos-feast I dined at Parson Wairings with him, Parson Letus, & his Wife and Sister-in-Law, Parson Marsden, Parson Mount, Mr Williamson, & Mr Whithead School-Masters of Formby, Dr Tarlton, &c.; thence I went to Nicholas Johnsons with some of Mr Wairings Gests viz: Parson Letus, Mr Whithead, &c., Mr Berry the Attorney came to us. I was told that two Companys of Coursers found about Great Crosby today eleaven brace of Haires.

16 I went a Coursing by myself & runn a Hare into a hole by Thomas Marrows Moss, Robert Tompson diged her out, as I was coming home I light of William Tompson & Richard Jackson, they came home with me & I payed them the Quarterly Payment for the Land Tax. I Payed Thomas Farer the Half years Tax for Windows. William Ainsworth brought home 51 Sheep of John Nicholsonsons from the Stags Head, I am to have 18d p. Score for keeping them for each Week they stay in my Ground.

17 We began to Hatchell & Spinn this years Flax.⁵⁴ My Wife sent John Banister to Scarisbrick of a How-do-you to my Lady Tankerd.

18 I Found Robert To[mpson] & Henry Kerfoot playing of Reed Pip[e]s when they should have ben geting Potatows. William Ainsworth bought some Pigs at Ormskerk, I design to keep them.

19 As John Banister & J. Sumner were diging the Flower Knot in the Stone Garden they found, as I take it, the Clay Floorer of some old Roome & part of a Foundation Wall.⁵⁵

20 I began to feed my Swine for Fat with Boyled Potatowes. I fetched home 4 Pigs & one Speaning from Ormskerk. I got up the last of my Potatows. William Ainsworth went with me a Coursing, I found a Hare set.

21 William Ainsworth went to Mr Gerard Bartons with a Hors he had bought for him, he was not at Home, he also went to Burchley of a how-doe-you. Most of my Servants went to Nicholas Johnsons to drink one Shilling as Mrs Leadbeter had given them.

22 I Began to Lead off the Feigh of my last Summers Mospits in the Winter-heyas and to fill up old Ditches with it, I went to my Work-folks in the Winter-heyas, thence I went to James Browns in expectation to have seen a Match of Shooting with Bowes & Arrows but the Formby Archers came not,

⁵³ October 1711—Muggs for the Hous use 8s. 0d.
Cod Fish salted but very moyst, 112 lb. 12s. 0d.
Pourtor for helping to load it 2d."

⁵⁴ A hatchel or hackle—an instrument used to dress or comb flax.

⁵⁵ The oldest reference to a building on this site is in a document dated 1275, which mentions *the old hall*.

I found at James Browns, Pat: Wofold, Mr Aldred, Mr Burton, &c:, Mr Edward Molineux of Formby came to us in expectation of seeing the Shooting Match.

23 Mally and I took Phisick, we took part of it over night. Henry Cowleys Wife being dead he came to advise with me before I got up. Edward Hatton being Trustree to her Children by her first Husband Thomas Bullen, came to advise with me about his disposing of the Children.

24 Henry Cowleys Wife was buried. John Banister and I began to new Modell my Flower Knot & drew out some beds & the Weeders began to plant time round them.

25 William Ainsworth went a Coursing with me before Dinner, we killed all we run at, viz: four Hares & one Rabet, John Banister was with us part of the time. I was busy all the after Noone helping John Banister to draw out the Flower Knot in the Stone Garden, tis drawn after another Modell to what it was the first time. Joseph Carter & Richard Sefton came to saw Oak-boards for me & Burch Railes.

26 I Began to make a Net to draw the Duck-Cow with.

27 I Bought some goods at Henry Cowleys Saile. Henry Trustrom brought me home from Weaving two Small Webs of Flaxon Cloth.

28 I Went to see Parson Wairing, he being very ill, his Brother the School-Master of Prescott was there, I signed a Petission to the Company of Merchant-Taylors of London in behalf of Mr Gerard Wairing that he might suckceed his Father by being School-Master at Great Crosby.⁵⁶ I took a Bottle of Phisick with me to Ned Hattons for his Doughter that was ill of the Ague Fits. My Wife made a Viset to Ince.

29 Mally & I took Phisick, I took some of mine over night.

30 The Sawers went home being it is so very Stormy Weather. I layed four of my Work Horses into the Hous.

31 I Layed my Milk Beas[ts] into the hous. I Attended the Corps of Parson Wairing to Sefton, there was Parson Letus, Mr Peter Morton, Alderman Webster, Alderman Hurst, Mr Allanson, &c:, there was also at Parson Wairings, Parson Becket, Parson Mount, &c, I suppose they went along with the Corps to Sefton, it was carried on my Coach Carriage.⁵⁷

Most unsetled Wet and Windy Weather and most especially the latter half of this Month.

NOVEMBER

1 My Wife went to condole Mrs Ann Wairing for the death of her Father. My Children went in the Coach to Formby Allotide. I went a Coursing, John Hunt, John Blundell the write, &c: went a Coursing with me, I gave eather of them a Hare.

⁵⁶ Gerard Waring succeeded his father and remained headmaster until his death, March 26 1730, when he was 42 years old.

⁵⁷ "1711, October 31—John Waring Minister and School master of Much Crosbie."
(Sefton Church Registers).

- 2 John Banister helped me to pack up Mrs Mills things in her Trunk, tis to be sent to London by the Carrier.⁵⁸
- 3 I got in the last of my Corne. I sent severall Sorts of Corne in my Cart to Leverpoole to try the Market but none of the worst Tole was sold. Henry Ascroft puld up some Hundreds of Thornes that grew on long Beds in the Crow Orcherd.
- 4 Eves went to Leverpoole. I read in a Spirituall Book in my Closet.
- 5 Captain Robert Fazakerley came from Leverpoole and went back again, he & Mr Aldred dined here. Mrs Blundell and her Sister Mrs Ann Blundell made a Viset here. John Banister met his Father in Oughton and thence went to a Play in Lidiat. I have for severall Months past found Henry Kerfoot for the most part with Meat and drink and given him 2d per day for driving Plough & Cart, &c.; but now having no farther occation for him, I have turned him off for the Present.
- 6 I Lent Thomas Blundell some Railes for proping a Pann which wants mending, he took them away in his Cart.
- 7 I Signed a Leas to Henry Aspinwall and an other to Edward Hatton of their Teneaments; Aspinwalls was agreed for in my Grandfathers dayes but never signed till now, Edward Hatton had Fined with me. My Wife & Children went out to take the Aire in the Coach, tis the first time they have ben drawn in it by Staggs. In the Evening William Ainsworth and I went out a while a Coursing, we killed one Hare.
- 8 William Atherton & Joseph Bolton came hither, I went a Coursing with them and got each of them a Hare, William Atherton paid me one half years Rent for Ditton Demesney & Joseph Bolton paid me his second Payment in part of his Fine, they Lodged here.
- 9 William Atherton & Joseph Bolton went hence. Thomas Gelibrond sent his Servant to desire I would come to the Christoning of his Son and be Godfather to it.
- 10 I Lodged at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds, I called in Ormskerk as I went & drunk with Mr Wofold at the Talbot. I paid my Aunt Frances Blundell £7 and £1.
- 11 I Stood God-father with Mrs Howet to Cozen Thomas Gelibronds Son John, he was born upon the [blank]. Mr Daniell dined at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds. Eves went to Burchley.
- 12 I came home from Cozen Gelibronds, I called at Wigan at Dr Wortons but I saw neather him nor his Wife, I payed a Shilling to Mrs Brown the Apothecarys Widdow, it was owing to her by Mrs Mills. My Wife & Children went to Leverpoole Fair. I Layed seaven Fat Beas[ts] into the Hous.
- 13 I was at Great Crosby Court, twas held by Mr Ford the Steward, I saw there a Tryall between Henry Bridg & Thomas Arnold, Edward Hatton was the Fore-Man of the Jury that tryed that Cause, I drunk at Ann Ashtons where the Court was kept with Mr Ford the Steward, Mr Thomas, Thomas Gower, Mr Gerard Wairing, Walter Thelwall, Mr William Crisp, &c.; after Mr Ford was gon, Edward Hatton, Richard Westhead, William Tarlton and I went to Nicholas Johnsons where I sold my Mare Punsh to Richard Westhead for £4 in

⁵⁸ See December 20 1708 and footnote.

hand & eleven Pound more to be paid upon the Birth of my first Son by my now Wife. I Lent my Coach Carriage to carry the Corps of Elizabeth Farclough to Sefton.

14 I took William Ainsworth with me to the Winterheys and made him boar for Marle but we found none.

15 Walter Thelwall, John Farer, &c: went with me a Coursing, we killed one Hare; whilst we were in the Mosses Ned Hatton came to me to Petission I wold be off the bargan I had made with Richard Westhead for my Mare Punsh but I would not consent to it.

16 Ralf Nelson petissioned I would be off the Bargan I had made with Richard Westhead for my Mare Punsh but I would not consent to it. I killed a fat Hogg. I Stated Accounts with Ailes Davy and John Banister.

17 I went to Leverpoole, I drunk at the Wool-pack with Captain Lancaster, &c.; I also drunk with John Lurting, Duke, Norton the Sadler, &c.; I payed Norton all I ought him. I spoke to Mr Plumb to keep my Court upon the 27th Instant.

18 My Wife & I went to Will Davys after Vespers to pray for Ralf Low who dyed there today.

19 I went to William Davys intending to have gon thence to the Funerall of Ralf Low, there was John Yates, Walter Thelwall, Ned Hatton, Duke, &c: perceiving it was likely to be late ere the Corps moved, I went to Sefton Church to Valentines about a Meeting as was there relating to scouring Alt without a Commission of Suars, there was Mr Nicholas Fazakerley, Mr Ford the Attorney, Mr William Crisp, Mr Tatlock, Robert Bootle, &c.; I was at the Funerall of Ralph Low, his Corps was carried on my Coach Carriage, after the Funerall was over I went into Valentines & drunk with John Yates, Young Mr Bower, Walter Thelwall, &c.; There was three Burialls today at Sefton. John Banister cut the lower Boughs of most of the larger sort of Furr Trees.

20 Betty Bolton made an Issue in my Wives Legg but it never came to perfection. William Ainsworth and John Banister went a Coursing with me both before & after dinner, we got one Rabet & noe Hare.

21 Richard Hewit came to buy some Oates of me but I sold him none. I Signed a Leas to John Bryanson & an other to Jane Bryanson. Ned Hawkseye mended the Hob in the Paintry & made the Back Court Doar to shut Close. I sent William Ainsworth to Richard Westhead with my mare Punsh being he had bought her of me some time agoe but he sent her back in hopes I would come upon a new Bargan about her but we stuck to the first bargain.

22 William Ainsworth bought some Sheep of the Quaicker John Nicholson at Ormskerk, the Sheep have ben scoared with me for some time. Mrs Richardson a Dansing Mistress came to profer herself to teach my Children to dance, but we would not let them learne then. Mrs Blundell & her Sister Mrs Ann Blundell made a Viset here but they staying till it was both dark & wet my Wife sent them home in the Coach. Some Peas & Beanes were sowed on the Terrass Walk, it being the first time any thing has ben sowed there as I know on.

23 I sold my Rabet Skins for 4s. p. Dozen to Joseph Greenwood, old Ned Halsold came with him. I payed my Martine-mass dues or Composition Money for Small Tiths viz: 26s. to William Harrison the Clark of Sefton.

24 I perused some very old Court Roles that were long before my Grand-fathers time. John Banister trimed some Hundreds of young Thornes that were taken up from the Long beds in the Crow Orchard.

25 I sent to see my Aunt Frances who was not well. My Wife made a Viset to Ince. William Gray acquainted me there was a designe against me by Great Crosby, &c: about my Water Courses, he sat with me in the Paintrey talking a good while.

26 Mr Plumb dined & Lodged here, he went a Shooting before dinner about the Orchards, he killed two, after dinner I went out a Coursing with him.

27 Mr Plumb & I &c: went a Coursing in the Morning, when we had done he went to the Hous of Thomas Bullen deceased in this Town where he kept a Court for me, Walter Thelwall was the Fore-Man and William Ainsworth was the Bayly; Richard Westhead discoursed me at Mrs Anns about a New Bargan upon account of my Mare Punch. Ned Hatton was present; In the Evening I went to the Hous where my Court had ben kept, I drunk there with Edmund Trustrom, John Molineux &c.; I also went to the Roome where the Jury was & drunk with them, there was Walter Thelwall, William Gray, William Wignold, &c.: Dr Lancaster came to see Mally, she is ill of the Masless.

28 Mr Plumb went hence. I began to lead some earth for Thomas Marrow that lay inconveniently for him in his Yard. Walter Thelwall went with me to Ormskerk to see my Aunt Frances Blundell who was ill, we drunk at the Talbot with Pat: Wofold & Dr Lancaster.

29 Cozen Scarisbrick sent of a how-doe-you to see Mally. Mr Shephard paid me for some timber which he had for the Repair of Ince & Formby Mills. William Ainsworth went to his Fathers to Lodge.

30 Mrs Blundell came to see Mally who is ill, Mr Turvill came with her. My Wife went to Ormskerk to see my Aunt Frances Blundell who is ill. I sent my Coach to Leverpoole to fetch Nanny Davy, who is ill, home to her Fathers. A man brought two young Spanings⁵⁹ from Ormskerk as William Ainesworth bought me yesterday.

This Month continews lick the last to be extreemly Wet, scarce one day and I think never two intire dayes together without Raine.

DECEMBER

1 Dr Lancaster came to see Mally, he dined here, after dinner he went out with me a Coursing & then went home.

2 My Aunt Frances Blundell⁶⁰ being dead I went to Ormskerk to see who was to be her Executors, Cozen John Gelibrond being one he came thither to her Lodging where we read her Will & perused some Papers.

⁵⁹ Spaneing—a weaned pig.

⁶⁰ Great aunt Frances Blundell, born February 20 1631, was a woman of outstanding character. When her brother, the Cavalier, was wounded in the Civil War and a fugitive in hiding, she was a tower of strength to his wife and family. When the fourth Lord Mountgarret objected to the marriage of his son and heir to Emilia, the eldest daughter of the Cavalier, and refused to recognise their children, it was Frances Blundell who finally persuaded him to change his mind. She was a source of strength to the Cavalier after his wife died, and in one of his last letters he wrote of her—"She hath indeed been one of the best spokes in the wheel on which our fortunes have turned."

3 I went to Ormskerk & brought the Corps of my Aunt Frances Blundell thence on my Coach Carriage and buried her in the Harkerk.⁶¹ Cozen John Gelibrond, Pat: Gelibrond, Doctor Lancaster, Mrs Ann Gorsuch, &c: came along with the Corps, they Lodged here.

4 Cozen John Gelibrond, Dr Lancaster & Mrs Ann Gorsuch went hence. I sent William Ainsworth to Leverpoole with a Pot of Baked Hare to goe by the Carrier to London & to Fetch a Box of Coffy as came by the Carrier from London. I sent my Mare Punsh to Richard Westheads, he was not at home to receive her, but after some time his Wife took charg of her.

5 Pat: Gelibrond went hence. I went to Great Crosby to Nicholas Johnsons where I drunk with John Yates the Elder, Walter Thelwall & William Davy, &c.: William Davy was examined by Walter Thelwall &c: about some Money as is said to be owing to Ralfe Low by the said William Davy. Fanny was ill of the Mazells.⁶²

6 John Yates the Elder & Walter Thelwall were here before dinner, I gave some of my Best October-Beer to them and then we went to Course a Hare as Little Henry Sumner found set, after that I helped William Davy to settle his Accounts with John Yates & Walter Thelwall relating to Ralf Lowes Concernes. Thomas Holland the Father & Thomas his Son were here, I reconed with them for what I owe them for Flaggs and Slates which I had from Roby Delf, but I payed nothing to them. Mr Babthrop, Mrs Blundell and her kinsman Mr Steven Anderton made a Viset here.

7 I Dined at the Swan in Ormskerk with Cozen John Gelibrond. He and I and Walter Thelwall examined what Personall Estate my Aunt Frances Blundell had when she dyed. Cozen John Gelibrond & Ailes Steward Stated and cleered Accounts for Muslen &c: bought of her by my Aunt Frances Blundell for the use of my Lord Mountgarret and his Children. I payed Mr Henry Tyrer £26 in presence of James Worthington in full of the Principall due p. Bond to Mary Winstanley from me. I Put up some Geese to feed in the Duckcoy it being the first time it has ben put to use.

8 I found Sir Francis Anderton and Mrs Blundell at Mr Aldreds but he was gon to help Ginnet Arnold to dye; Sir Francis Anderton and I, &c: went to course a Hare as Thomas Farer had found set, when the Course was over we came back to Mr Aldreds, he was then comne from Great Crosby.

9 Sir Francis Anderton, Mrs Blundell, &c: made a Viset here. My Wife sent to see Mrs Poole of Burchley who was lying in of her Son Richard.

10 I met Sir Francis Anderton, Mr Steven Anderton &c: a Coursing in Formby, we had very fine spourt; Sir Francis Anderton, I, &c: Rid down to the Sea Side & saw them take Flookes; Mr Steven Anderton and Mr Flemmin Rid a Rase upon the Sands. I Dined about four of the Clock at Cattys in Formby with Mrs Blundell of Ince, Sir Francis Anderton, Mr Flemmin, &c.: I layed the wager there with Mr Steven Anderton about the Number of Holes in a Flagelet.

⁶¹ The entry written by Nicholas in the Harkirk Burial Register reads:

"Mrs Frances Blundell, daughter to Nicholas Blundell and Great Aunt to me Nicholas Blundell, dyed in the 81 year of her age, December the 2d. 1711, and was Buried the day following in the Harkirk; she was never married; she dyed at Ormskirk; she had lived at Crosby the Greatest part of her life."

⁶² "20 March 1712—Phisick & Fee to Dr. Lancaster when Mally had the Measells £1 5s. 0d."

- 11 I Dined at Mr Plumbs at Leverpoole, I discoursed him about a Sute that I was apprehensive I should have concerning my Watercourses, I gave him a Fee and Ordered him to Fee Lawyer Starkey and Lawyer Blundell if they were not preingaged,⁶³ I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb, Mr Morphew, Mr Lancaster & Mr Aldred, I gave them a Treat of Oysters.
- 12 I Helped Banister to set some Tulop Roots in the Knot as were but newly taken up.
- 13 Cozen John Gelibrond sent a Servant hither of a How-do-you from Scarisbrick. William Ainsworth went with me after dinner a Coursing. I went to see Margery Blundell who is ill, and discoursed her about an Ash-Tree she had ordered to be fallen, it not being the Tree I gave her leave to fall as I thought. Richard Webster came hither at Night & brought along with him the Foolish Fellow William Speakman that played upon an Eller Pipe.
- 14 I helped John Banister to bottle about six Dozen of Aile. I picked Stones out of about 3 lb. of Coffy as came from London. Walter Thelwall came and acquainted me what he heard relating to a Sute as is threatened by Ince against me concerning my Water Cource. John Garret swept some of my Chimbnys.
- 15 I coursed a Hare before dinner as Thomas Farer found set. I Stated Accounts with William Ainsworth for his Receipts & Disbursements for my use and took his Accounts of Corne got by the Mill, uested in the House, &c.: I helped to lay up the Wicker Cradle which had ben taken down for Fanny While she was ill of the Mazells and to hang up some yarne. Gabriall Norris Wife sent a Present to my Children of a Pack of Frensh Cards.
- 16 Mrs Blundell & Mr Turvile made a Viset here. Eves went to Ormskerk and discoursed Mrs Barker about coming to live here as a Tabler but we made no agreement with her.
- 17 They Winnowed both before and after dinner, Oats & Barly in both the Barnes at once. I Booked my Receipts and Disbursements for October and November.
- 18 I helped John Banister to plant one Bed of Emynyes in the Knot in the Stone Garden and an other Bed with Polianthes, Peagles, &c:.
- 19 John Farer & his Nephew Ned Farer came to mend and lick the Coach Harnish. My Eyes being not very well I spent most of the after Noone in sourting the printed Sheets of the Book entickled *Quid me persaequeris*⁶⁴ & in laying as many Sheets together as made up bookes a peece.
- 20 I Killed a Fat Swine & a Cow against Christmas but the Cow was not fat being she never fed well, which was occation'd by an impostume which we found her to have when she was killed, it lay near the Liver which was much decayed and rotten there-with. I set a Turn-Stile near the Little Moss-hey Gate. I began to make some Aqua Celestis a new way viz: to whicken it with East lick Aile but it did not answer expectation. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here.

⁶³ "11 December 1711—

A Fee to Mr Plumb upon account of Formby	3s. 6d.
A Fee to Mr Plumb for Mr Blundell of Prescott	10s. 0d."

Blundell, the lawyer, of Prescott, whom Nicholas consulted on several occasions, was no relation of the Blundell of Crosby family.

⁶⁴ See December 23 1703.

- 21 John Tarlton killed a small Heffer in my Slaughter house for Walter Thelwall & Henry Hunt. John Farer went a Coursing with me, we killed one Hare, I sent it to Mr Aldred. The Jury met to vew the Watercourses.
- 22 I went to Leverpoole & received most of my Rent from my Ditton Tennants viz: William Kennion, Henry Hey, Richard Roson, &c: I bought some Spises & Frute &c: at Leadbeters & payed for what I then bought. I payed Pothecarys Barrows almost all that I owe him.⁶⁵ I drunk at the Wool-pack with Mr Tute, Captain Lancaster, &c:.
- 23 My Wife made a Viset to Ince, I being somthing indisposed spent most of the after-noone in siting in the Neighbours houses viz: Mr Aldred, Harrisons, &c:.
- 24 I went to the Smithy and made the Smith to fit up a Butlers box with Staples &c: for a Lock. Mr Robert Blundell, William Ainsworths Brother-in-Law Lodged here.
- 25 Mrs Blundell of Ince and Mr Turvile made a Viset here.
- 26 Mr Robert Blundell went hence, he designed to goe to Eckleston to his Aunt. I payed my Miller half a years Wages, he dined here & then designed to goe home. I Expected Cozen Thomas Gelibrond & his Wife, &c: to Lodge here but they came not.
- 27 Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, his Wife, Pat: Gelibrond and Mrs Howet came to Lodg here. It being a hard Frost I drew away on the Sledg a Larg Square Stone that reared up by the Back Court doar.
- 28 Robert Rimer and his Wife brought me both Fish & Fowl. We had a Merry Night, Tatlock played here of his Pipe[s] and Fiddle, there was pritty throng Carding, one Company played at 6d. p. Cut till after Nine next Morning.
- 29 Pat: Gelibrond went hence to Ormskirk. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond and I went to Mr Aldreds and sat a good while with him. The Children, &c: went out in the Coach to take the Aire.
- 30 I Shewed my Mill to Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, he and I walked to Ince, our Wives and Mrs Howet went in the Coach, we all came home from thence together in the Coach. Mr Aldred dined at the Grange.
- 31 My Wife, Cozen Thomas Gelibronds Wife and Mrs Howet went to Leverpoole in the Coach, they brought Betty Secomb my Landladys Doughter of the Wool-pack back with them to lodg here. Captain Robert Fazakerley lodged here as also did Sera Wilson my Aunts old Maid. Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Mr Aldred and I went to Nicholas Johnsons where we saw William Tarltons Son Edward a boy not four years of Age smoake a good part of a Pipe of Tobacco, I think about the Quantity of half a Pipe and when I asked him whether he would rather have a Pipe of Tobacco or a Butter Cake he answered Tobacco, we stayed there till it rained and then sent for Horses & so rid home. The three Push-ploughers Mathew & Thomas Worthington and John Gennions were here to see if I had any work for them.

⁶⁵ "22 December 1711—

Phisick to Pothecary Barrows for me.	s. d.
Ditto for my Wife	6 7
Ditto for the Children	2 6
Ditto for the Poore	1 10
	4 8."

Till about the 21th generally Raine some part of the day or Night; the great abundance and Continewance of Rainy weather which has lasted for 8 or 10 weeks has ben extraordinary the Licke not known in these parts by any one now living. From about the 21th till towards the end of this Month it was a pritty hard Frost with some Snow.

Appendices

APPENDIX A AUGUST 6 1702

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF EXPENSES INCURRED AT THE FUNERAL OF WILLIAM, HIS FATHER, AS SET OUT BY NICHOLAS BLUNDELL IN HIS *DISBURSEMENT BOOK*.

	£	s.	d.
"August, 1702			
Spent by my Servant in seeking for three Doctors for my Father.		9	8
Doctors Fees for my Father	6	3	6
To the Potheary for Fisick for my Father		16	0
One sute mourning for my Mother		14	0
One sute mourning for Aunt Frances and making of it	2	9	6
One Sute Mourning for Cozen William Gillibrond and making of it	6	15	0
For my Mothers Maid one Sute		19	3
One Sute Mourning for my self and making of it	7	2	0
Three Sutes Mourning for Men Servants.	10	10	0
For making Mourning for the Servants at my Table		10	0
Covering a Saddle with Black Cloth & for Bridle Crupper &c.	1	10	0
For twelve Escuchions & 4 Streamers	1	6	6
For a Plain Black Coffin		10	0
The Lone of two Mourning Cloakes		10	0
For Shammy Gloves & Crape hatbands	4	16	0
Spent by Walter Thelwall when he lodged one night at Leverpoole in order to provide Nesessaris for the Buriall		2	8
Spent at Leverpoole by Servants that fetched things from thence for the buriall		1	3
Given Thomas Marrall who drove the Cask-Carriage with my Father to Sefton		5	0
Hard Spisess viz: Mase, Nut meuges		6	11½
Wine Biskets fourteene Pounds		16	4
Bread given to the Tennants & Neighbours but not to the Beggars	2	0	0
Mourning buckles 9d. buttons 3d.		1	0
Church dues for my Father		1	10
To the Ringers at Sefton		10	0
Mourning Shoes of Neats Leather		4	0
Whit Wine & Clarret 4 dozen	4	0	0
Leverpoole Beer one Barrell & half	2	8	0
Tobacco 2 shilling Pipes 6d.		2	6
To the Poultry Maid at Ince for giving two Turkis towards provision for the buriall by her Masters order		1	0
Poultry		13	4
Salmond Fish		3	0
Two Piggs		7	0
Mutton	1	1	0
Hams of Pourk		3	0
Flesh Pies, Tarts, Custards, &c	1	5	0
Butter, Bread, Bear, &c. of my own not bought		1	0
Tax to the Queene for Buriall of my Father as being an Esquire	5	4	0
To Mr Carlton & 24 others, none under 5s. p. peece and to some more ¹	8	14	6
To Mr Barlow & 40 others.	10	5	0
To Mr Hulme & 7 others	2	0	0
To Mr Russall & 2 others		15	0
To some of my Friends in Ireland	1	1	6
	£88	14	3½

Corn given to the Poore of the Parrish of Sefton forgot to be mentioned before. It was then very cheap—valew in all then given £1 10 6

Disbursed by me Nicholas Blundell for William Arnold who had ben a Faithfull good servant

¹ These sums of money were paid to priests and others for the saying of Masses for the departed.

	£	s.	d.
To Mr Gelibrond, Mr Edward Moleneux, &c:	2	2	6
To his Nurs Keeper.		2	6
Coffin		6	6
Bread & Beere	1	0	0
Church dues		1	2
Doctor & Pothecary		7	6
	£4	0	2

APPENDIX B APRIL—JULY 1703

THE EXPENSES INCURRED BY NICHOLAS BLUNDELL IN GOING TO, AND RETURNING FROM, HEYTHROP IN OXFORDSHIRE, FOR HIS MARRIAGE TO FRANCES, THE DAUGHTER OF LORD LANGDALE, AS WRITTEN IN HIS *DISBURSEMENT BOOK*.

"An account [of] what I spent and Waired from April the 13, 1703 when I began my Journey to Hathrop till July the 2nd. when I brought my Wife to Crosby.

	£	s.	d.
Spent on Cozen William Gelibrond, myself, three Servants, & five horses from Crosby to Hathrop, we lay out four Nights and spent in all	4	14	11
Apr 15 A painted Caine		4	0
One case of Pistalls	1	10	0
Slippers		4	0
Hors Hier		9	0
Curri-comb & brush.		2	6
For a Farryer for curing Bonny and Keeping her 12 days	1	15	6
Spent by T. Howerd when he fetch'd Bonny from the Farryer at Woost		5	6
One dozen of Orringes		2	0
Tobacco one Pound		1	8
A Campain Perry-Wigg	10	0	0
A Trunk for the Wigg		7	0
Carriage of the Wigg from London		3	0
Coach hier by the buyer of the wigg		2	0
Spent on Coz: Wm: Gelibrond, myself, two Servants & four horses from Hathrop to Waterperry & back		6	8
Riding in the Coach from Waterperry to London	10	0	
My Servant riding behind the Coach		5	0
Spent on myself & Servant going to London.		4	6
Steel buckles for Garters			10
A Caine bought at London		5	0
A Dutch Table		9	6
One plane pare of black Sconnses		1	0
Gilt Coffy spoons half a doz:		18	0
Small knives & Forks of each $\frac{1}{2}$ Doz:		10	0
One Penknife		1	0
Three Japand Loks	1	1	6
Six brass bolts		5	0
Plyers one Pare			10
A Copper cheane for a Watch, washed over with Silver			10
Two Pare of Shoes		7	0
One Crevat		4	6
Small toys for Children at Hathrop		4	6
Guilt Sconnses		9	0
Stands to be fixed in the Wainscot.		2	6
Hands Screens		1	0
Soft Red Wax one pound & $\frac{1}{2}$		1	9
Silver lase for my Hat		2	6
Sowing on the lase & trimming up my Hat		2	0
A box to pack up goods in		1	6
To a Pourter		1	0

		£	s.	d.
12 May	Paid to Mr. Wastenus upon account of my Sister Ann & D. D.	3	16	6
	Two Chambers at London 7 nights		9	0
	Given the Chamberlain			6
		£31	5	0
	Seeing the Tower &c:		2	3
	Seeing a Play		3	0
	Washing linnen		1	8
	Spent by myself & servant while at London on meat & drink	1	6	11
	I riding in the Coach & Howard behind from London to Waterperry		15	0
	Spent by my self & servant coming from London to Waterperry		3	0
15	Vales at Water Perry		11	0
	Vales by Cozen William Gelibronde at Waterperry		3	6
	Spent at Fair ford		3	4
	Spent by T. Howard at Stow fare		3	0
	Vales at Mr Greenwoods		2	0
	Box of Pills for my Eyes		8	0
	Small Courding & nales.			4
	Spent by T. Howard at Oxford		2	10
	To the Taber & Pipe		2	0
28	To Mrs Mary St. Legeere, Madame Langdales Maid	1	3	6
	Expenses upon the road for myself, man & two horses from Hathrop to London & Back againe.		17	11
	Scabbord 1s. 6d., Fals Scabbord 1s.		2	6
	Wedding Ring	1	5	0
	Mending a Saddle			7
	Buckskinn Boots		13	0
	Fals Diamond Necklase.	1	1	6
	Fals Diamond Ring		14	0
	Charrity		4	0
	Dressing up a Silver Snuff box			6
	A Silver thimble		1	6
	Washing Linnen at London		1	4
	Spent on my self & Servant for meat & drink whilst at London a second time	1	17	7
	Corn & Hay for 2 horses, 12 Nights	1	17	11
June 13	Vales at London		5	0
	Gloves at about 15s. per doz: pare	1	6	4
	Powder & Washballes		8	2
	Paper & Wax.		2	2
	Blew Cloth 5 yards $\frac{1}{2}$ at 18s. per yard	4	12	3
	Purance 16 yards to line the coat and Wastcoat at 1s. 3d. per yard.	1	0	0
	Silver thread for Button holes 3 oz. $\frac{3}{4}$ at 6s. per ounce	2	12	6
	Silver Buttons for my coat, 3 doz & $\frac{1}{2}$ at 7s. 6d. per doz.	1	6	3
	Silver brest Buttons 5 doz: at 2s. per doz:		10	0
	Stitching & sowing Silk		3	6
	Buckrom & stay tape		3	6
	Shammoy Pockets & lining for Britches		5	6
	Puffs for Britches & Velom for holes		1	6
	Bayes for the side of the Coat		1	2
	Scarlet stockings		10	0
	Making this my Wedding Sute	1	15	0
	Gray Cloth for 2 Livery Coats, Blue searge for Wastcoats & Lining, Silk Mohaire, Thread, Shammoy, Buckrom & Kanvice, Fustion for lining in part & Pockets	5	8	9
	Silver lase for two Liveries	1	4	2
	Two shoulder knobs		6	6
	Whit Mettle Buttons for the two Liveries		10	0
	Making my Coachmans Livery at London		14	0
	Two pare of blew livery stockings		5	3
	Sending my Coachman into Lancashire		14	0
June 17	Given in Gold & Silver to my Wife when I married her	8	2	6
	Given Mr Slawber	1	1	6
	To Musick at my Wedding		10	0

		£	s.	d.
	To the Ringers at Hathrop		5	0
	Given the Parson at Hathrop for dues		10	9
	Vales at Mrs Bedulls & at Mr Morgans		4	0
	Hempseed for Horses		1	0
	Post letters for me & Cozen William Gelibrond at Hathrop & London		8	8
	Post letters for my Wife.		1	10
	For service done me by the Collector of the tax for Weddings		10	9
	Given Lord Langdales Groom		2	6
	Spent by T. Howard by my orders		3	6
	Shoeing Horses	1	0	6
	Smiths work done at my Charriot		17	4
	Mending my Servants clothes		2	0
	Courding to tie my Luggage with		1	6
	Carriage of my Wifes Box from London		2	0
28	Vales at Hathrop to the Housekeeper one dooble pistole, to the Butler one Pistole & ½ Guiney, Chamber Maid one Pistole & ½ Guiney, Cook one Broad peece, Groome one Guiney, Under Cook, under Butler & under Chamber maid each half a Guiney, My Wifes Chamber maid 10s., Under Groome 5s., Dary Maid 5s., in all.	9	10	9
	Snuff		1	3
	Bottle screw 1s. 6d., Gunn screw 1s. 6d.		3	0
	A Gerdle Buckley for my Wife.		6	0
	Two new keyes for the Screwtore		2	0
	Pollishing a sword hilt		1	0
	A Gunn bought at Bermidgham	1	10	0
	A Brass boulst-lock		2	6
	A Key ring			6
July 1	Sir John Crews Butler		2	0
	Mending my watch		1	0
	Washing Servants Linnen at Hathrop	1	2	2
	Payed to Farriers besids what I payed at Wooster for Bonny	1	0	8
	Vales given at Hathrop by Cozen Gillibrond.	1	10	0
	Spent from Hathrop to Crosby on my Wife, Cozen William Gelibrond, myself, 6 servants & 11 horses—4 nights	9	4	0
	To Richard Cartwright for wating of Mr William Gelibrond to Hathrop along with me	1	0	0
	To Richard Cartwright for using his own horse in the Journey to Hathrop.	1	11	6
	Gratuity to Cozen William Gelibrond	1	1	6
	Gratuity to Mr Philmot		10	9
	Spent by 3 servants & 7 horses in bringing my Charriot to Hathrop	3	17	2
	Tax to the Queene for my Marriage	5	2	6
	Inrouling the Deed at London to Lead the uses of the Fine	1	4	6
	Mr Trinder for drawing Marriage Deeds	12	18	0
	Mr Trinders Clark for Engrosing, Stamps, &c.	5	4	0
	More paid by Cozen Eyr to Mr Trinders Clark	3	4	6
	Cozen Eyres Clark for Engrosing, Stamps	6	6	0
	Cozen for perusing Marriage Deeds, &c.	10	15	0
	Mr Pigot for drawing security for £500	4	6	0
	Some few more Expences about my Marriage Deeds as Postage spent, &c:	9	0	
	To Musisions at my Hombringing	1	6	6
	Vales at severall plases where I Livd		3	0
	To Mr Hurst Servant for bringing me a present		2	6
	To Cozen Scarisbrick Servant for bringing a Present		2	6
	Gardiner of Scarisbrisk for bringing Frute		2	6
July 16	A Deed by post from Cozen Eyre		2	0

APPENDIX C JANUARY 20 1705

USUALLY AT THE END OF A QUARTER, NICHOLAS BLUNDELL CHECKED OVER THE ACCOUNTS OF HIS STEWARD. IN THIS CASE IT WAS THE ACCOUNTS FOR JUNE TO DECEMBER 1704, AND THE SUMS PAID OUT BY THE STEWARD,

WALTER THELWALL, WERE ENTERED IN THE *DISBURSEMENT BOOK*, ALONG WITH THE SUMS PAID OUT BY NICHOLAS HIMSELF:

"I stated accounts Jan. the 20th. with Walter Thelwall who has layed out for use since June the first as Followeth viz:

	£	s.	d.
Weeding Corne & in the Garden 152 days	2	10	8
Making hay 345 dayes	5	15	0
Money to 109½ Boones instead of Meat at 4d. per day	1	6	6
Swingling at 6d. per day		16	6
Mowing 33 days at 15d. per day	2	1	3
Datall workmen at 8d, 7d, & 6d. per day	1	18	4
Ditching 38 Roods		6	4
Mill wrights Work		4	2
Mending Coach Harness		2	6
Ridding all the Gorse in the Great Moss hey, the Gorse the Riders had	15	0	
Sweeping five Chimneys		1	6
Drying 752 Bussshell of Oats at four pence per score	12	6	
Malting 96 Bussshell of Barly	18	0	
Dutty to the Queen for 96 Bushels of Barly	2	12	11½
Thrashing Beanes 89 Bussshels		9	0
Thrashing Pease 31 Bushels		3	3
Straw, Daubing, Thatching, &c.: at Rig:	15	0	
Killing two Cows 2s., One hogg 4d.		2	4
Gelding a Horse		1	0
Darby Wife for going Arrants		3	4
Scowring my Coat		1	0
Market waiges to Thelwall at 6d per day & to others at 3d.	1	1	5
Mending sause panns		1	4
Glayers work for repayres		5	5
Smiths work:			
at Coach, Cart, Plow, Husb: geers, &c.:	19	3½	
at Gates, Barne, doores, &c:		1	4
within the House		7	8
at the Mill & sharpening Picks		5	0
Shoeing Cart & Saddle horses	1	17	9
Masons work at the pillars before the Gallery window 140 dayes & ¼ besides Meat, drink, & Lodging; the Master workman had 9d. per day, some of his men 8d., others 6d. payed	3	16	4
More masons work		14	0½
Butchers meat	3	18	6
Fowl		2	0
Fresh Fish	1	16	11
Eggs		1	4
Geese 51	1	14	6
Chickens 61		16	8
Sheep 10	1	10	0
Black Kattle 9	26	12	6
Spent at Faires & for driving Cattle		9	4
Potatows 30 Bushels		19	3
Turnops 2 Bushels		1	4
Green Pease		1	0
Malt 56 Bushels	6	4	0
Wheat 5½ Bushels		19	8
Oats 20 Bushels	1	0	0
Salt 16 Bushels	3	4	0
Onions 12 Pound		1	0
Wine 5 dozen & a half	6	3	6
Vinegar 9 Gallons		14	2
Oyle two quarts		6	0
Liverpoole Beere ½ Barrell 16s., & 9 Gallons 5s.	1	1	0
Hopps 52 Pound	1	15	4
Ising Glass		1	7
Shell Biskets two pounds		3	0
Coffy two pound		10	8
Rise at 5d. per Pound		2	2
Almonds at 16d. per pound		3	10

	£	s.	d.
Anchovise 24d. per pound		6	8
Capers at 14d. per Pound		4	8
Rasons at 7d. per Pound		4	6½
Currans at 7½d. per Pound	15	3	
Mase at 22d. per ounce	3	7	
Cinamond at 8d. per Ounce	5	1	
Nut-Megs at 4½d. per oz:	8	2½	
Figgs at 4½d. per Pound		4½	
Berbados Suger ½ of a Hundred	5	7½	
Sugar Powdered & in Lofe	19	3½	
Rose Water	1	1	
Cloves	3	6	
Clove pepper & black pepper	3	11	
Ginger	1	2	
Bagg Skinns 10	3	6	
In chang for old Pewter	1	6	
Pewter Mustard pots two	1	2	
Fish plate & Pudding pann	3	8	
Tinn Lamp	1	6	
Dary pann the Bottom Copper the side Brass 26 lb. at 20d. per Pound	2	3	4
Brass Kandle stick	1	8	
Brass Skimmer & Iron Steale	3	6	
A Thorne for Bruing		4	
Large Kask for leading water in	12	0	
A Lock	1	4	
Tobacco pipes one gross & ½	2	6	
A Toppknot wheele	7	0	
Wiskets 16	3	10	
Burchbeesoms 42	3	5	
Muggs	1	3	
Tallow Candles 246 lb. at 3½d. per pound or one penny p. pound & Tallow in exchange of Tallow I gave 175 lb. and in Money, £1-15s-5½	1	15	5½
Sope	14	9	
Starch at 4d. per pound	6	0½	
Stone blew		9	
Rubbing Brushshess	3	8	
Mopps two	1	4	
Ashes 15 Busshells for Bucking	1	5	0
Cow tyes 12		10	
Seale Cloth 36 yards	13	6	
Laths	1	8	
Nales of all Sourts	10	0	
Hoggs Grace 6d. Trayne oyle 9d.	1	3	
Tarr 3 pints	1	0	
Shearing Hook two & 2 stones	1	6	
Sithes two & 2 Stones	5	0	
Spades two	3	8	
Sives two		11	
One Lanthorne	1	6	
Mending Cartsaddles, Collers, &c.:	5	0	
To Farrier for Phisick, &c:	6	0	
	£19	17	0½

APPENDIX D MAY 24 1706 EXPENSES IN JOURNEY TO STOCKHOLD

	£	s.	d.
Stockings for my Wife		4	0
Stockings to be given by me two pair		4	0
Ruffles four Pair for me		4	8
Shammy & Holland for Pockets Lining Breetches &c.:		8	0
Silk for Puffs & lining Pockets		4	6
Fine drawing		1	6
For Wadding		1	6

	£	s.	d.
Making Coat, Waistcoat & Breeches		18	0
Woosted Stockings		7	0
For my Wife			
Musslin for Heads & Ruffles	1	2	0
Macking up Night-Clothes, Heads & Ruffles		10	0
Washing & Starching Lase & Muslin		4	6
New Ribans & Wyering and making them & some old ones up	1	6	8
Roules & Wyers for Heads		5	0
Edging 3 yards		3	6
Gause Handkarchaff		5	0
A Fann		5	0
Head Boxes two		1	6
Dying two Mantues & 2 Petic coats		12	0
Making two Mantues & 2 Petic coats & One Apron		13	0
Silver Trimming		10	0
Bordering, Ferrat, Thread, &c:		8	6
A Box & Courding		2	4
Pourterage at London		1	6
Charges for my Wife, Self, one Maid Servant & 3 Men-servants, going from Crosby to Stockhild and Lying out two Nights	1	3	11
Charges for six Horses from Crosby to Stockhild 3 dayes Journey	1	2	7
Vales at Stockhild	1	13	6
To the Stage Coach for 3 Places going from York to Durham and back again Spent on the Road going by the Stage Coach from York to Durham & back again on my Wife, Self, 2 Servants, one horse & Vales in the Inns & to the Coachman	6	0	0
Spent at Durham, given to Musick & lost there at Cards	1	11	3½
Given by my Wife to Mr Focers Coachman for driving her to Coxhoe		7	4
Vales at my Uncle Gerards		5	0
Spent at York when I went from thence to Durham & when I came back to York viz: for my Wife, self, servants & Horses	8	6	
A Hat	2	7	2
6 Toyes for my Sister Midletons Children		10	0
Ezops Fables for my Neece Midleton		3	0
Sizars for my Wife		1	6
Some small things for my Wives Apparell as Lases, Head-Wyers, &c.		1	0
York Ginger bread		11	6
Part of a Sute of Babby Clothes		3	0
Hackney Coach at York	1	6	0
Harnes to prevent a Horse from Striking in the Coach		1	6
Spent by my Servants by my order		7	0
Cork Scrue		1	4
Seeing York Minster &c.		8	
Pouder, Puffs & Washballes		1	6
Lost at Launsbrough Green and given to the Green Keeper		8	9½
Vales at Holme		4	6
To Farryers for my Horses	1	17	0
Passing Booth Ferry		8	0
Spent at Doncaster when I was there with my Uncle & Aunt Ann		5	6
Post Letters		7	8
A Snuff Mill		8	
Repaires of all Sourts to the Coach, Saddles, &c.		6	
Shoeing Horses		17	10
Vales of Severall places where we dined or went of an Afternoone		9	0
To severall Guides		15	0
Vales at Burghwalles		6	0
From Burgwallis to Crosby for our selves & Servants	1	8	6
From Burgwallis to Crosby for horses		14	7
Things given to my Wife, valew about		14	0
Besides what was directly for my Yorkshire Journey I paid for the use of Wife, Jane Harrison, wch had been lost by the Carrier & something also given to Mr Berry for Expence & troble in all		7	6
	3	11	0
Given by my Wife to Servants at Morehale when she Fetched Mally thence		10	0

APPENDIX E NOVEMBER 19 1706

IN NOVEMBER 1706, NICHOLAS BLUNDELL RECEIVED THE SECOND PAYMENT OF £1,050 FROM LORD LANGDALE AS PART OF THE SUM AGREED UPON WHEN HE MARRIED FRANCES, LORD LANGDALE'S DAUGHTER. THIS FOLLOWING ACCOUNT, TAKEN FROM HIS *DISBURSEMENT BOOK*, IS INTERESTING BECAUSE IT SHOWS HOW THE MONEY WAS USED AND HOW FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT WHEN BANKS AND CHEQUES WERE NOT IN USE.

"What Followeth in this page was most of it payed by Bill out of the Thousand & Fifty Pound being the last payment of my Wives Poursion.

	£	s.	d.
To Pay of a Bond due to Mr Walmesley of Dungen-Hall or to his Executors	100	0	0
All Interest due to the said Bond	5	10	0
To pay Mr Wingat as due per Bond	200	0	0
All Interest due to Mr Wingate	5	0	0
To pay my Coz: Gelibrond himself as due to him per Bond	70	0	0
All Interest due to Cozen Gelibrond upon account of the last above mentioned Bond	3	10	0
To pay Cozen Gelibrond one other Bond	30	0	0
All Interest due to the Last mentioned Bond	1	2	6

Besides the Bills Mensioned I gave to Cozen Gelibrond in Specie 2s. 6d.

To Mr Tempest in full for my Mothers Joynter till September 29, 1706 £40.0.0

To Mrs Mary Winstanley by orders of my Aunt Frances Blundell £5.0.0

To my Aunt Frances Blundell in part of my Debt to her, paid—£50.0.0

To Mr Berry at London in full for goods bought for my Wife & me, £3.0.0.

To Mr Hurst part for goods Received & the Rest he gave me in Money, for his Money & Goods I gave him a Bill payable to him for £30.0.0.

Put out to Interest to Cozen Scaresbrick but first Received from Mr Woods. 100 0 0

Paid to Cozen Scaresbrick for the use of Bryan Richardson £50 & for the use of John Bryonson £50, these two Sums were owing to them upon a Bond by me viz: 100 0 0

To Mr Leadbeter part for goods Received & the Rest he is to give me in Money for wch Goods & Money I gave him a Bill for £20

Walter Thelwall gave me Money for a Bill wch I gave him payable for £20.0.0.

Formerly owing to Cozen Eyre £2.5.0

Mr Bertiliny disbursed as follows:

£4.0.0 for my Wives Mantu inside lining, tassals & making &c: 3 3 8

Coffy, Chocolet & Box 16 4

To Mary Winstanley by my Mothers Orders I payed 5 12 8

Mr Kennet in part of—

Given to Cozen Eyrs Servant & for Carage, &c: 10 4

Received from my Lord Molineux by Walter Thelwall & disbursed by him for my use—£100.

APPENDIX F DECEMBER 11 1706 EXPENSES IN MAKING A PARLOUR AT CROSBY HALL

"An Account of the Charges in making the Parlor & the charges & expence of other work caused by that alteration, part of the Money was paid by me, but most of it by Thelwall and may be found in his book of Disbursements for 1706. This work was begun in August & not Finished till Christmas Eve.

What Thelwall & I have Disbursed upon Account of the Parlor is set down in the following Page:

	dayes	£	s.	d.
Joyners at 12d. per day, at 8d. & 5d..	288	9	4	6
Carpinders at 6d. per day	58	1	9	0
Sawers at 8d. per day	28		18	8
Masons at 8d. per day and 10d. per day	121	4	11	6
Slaters at 8d..	6		4	0

	£	s.	d.
Daubers at 6d.	4	2	0
Plasterers at 6d.	7	3	6
Laying Flaggs & Harth at 8d.	12	8	0
Glayers Work besides the Sashes	3	2	4
Smith for Sharpening Tooles	0	3	0
Totall to Workmen	527	17	3 6
Bourds for Wanscoting & Doars	9	4	6
Bourds for Flooring	2	0	0
Nails but cheffly Spriggs	1	14	8
Hinges		11	0
A Brass Lock & two Keyes		9	0
Small Locks, Latches & bolts		4	8
Iron Stayes for the Wainscot		5	0
Slates		3	0
Flaggs 10 yards		5	0
A Harth Stone		5	0
Stock Brick		6	0
Lime		15	10
Lead at 1d. per Pound for Plummets for the Sashes & for the Gutter	1	2	4
Whit Glass at 9½d. per Pain & fixing	1	18	0
Candles at 3d. per Pound used by Workmen		7	6
Bevering & Spent on Workmen		12	0
Tiles 6 dozen		15	0
A stone Grat	1	8	0
Brass Hook to Hang Hats on		1	6
Totall for things Bought	21	18	0
Timber of own, New & old	5	0	0
New brick of my own besids old		14	0
Work done with my Men & Horses	2	5	0
Lats, Hair, Planks & other Wood cut for present use & now damnified, as also damage done to Pailles, Spades, Rops, &c. all moderately computed will amount to		1	5 0
Dyett & Lodging to Workmen of all sourts Reconing Holy-day meat is above 600 dayes wch at 4d. per day is	10	0	0
Totall for Meat & my own Materialls	19	4	0

APPENDIX G MARCH 23 1709

ON MARCH 23 1709 NICHOLAS BLUNDELL "STATED ACCOUNTS WITH WALTER THELWALL FOR HIS RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS SINCE 1 OF JANUARY". THE RECEIPT BOOKS NO LONGER EXIST, BUT HERE ARE THELWALL'S DISBURSEMENTS AS GIVEN IN NICHOLAS BLUNDELL'S *DISBURSEMENT BOOK*, NOW AT CROSBY HALL.

"March the 23rd. I Stated Accounts with Walter Thelwall who has disbursed for my use since Christmas as followeth.

	£	s.	d.
Dattall Work-men	2	19	3½
Mill-rights 4½		3	0
James Davy for Work done at Ditton	1	0	0
To Coopers		4	2
Work Done by Coopers at their own house		2	8
Bucking Table Linnen		2	6
Weaving Sail Cloth at 1d. per yard		2	6
Making two Kill-full of Malt		9	0
Duty for two Kilfull of Malt	1	7	7½
To Ma: Blundell in part for a Cow		5	0
Wild Ducks four		2	0

	£	s.	d.
Sugar at 3½d. per Pound	19	6	
Spirits of Brandy one Quart	2	0	
Brandy at 3s. 8d. per Gallon	17	10	
A Run[n]dlet to hold the Brandy	1	8	
Quarter of Mutton	1	10	
Potatows 10 Bushels	9	10	
Salt Salmon 30 Pound wight	10	0	
Cloves 2 oz.	1	6	
Balle Sope 26 Dozen	1	6	0
A Puter Dish	3	0	
Darby Wife going Aronds		10	
A Little Gate for the Town	3	6	
Market Wages	2	8	
Post Letters	1	0	
Allom ¹		2	
Hedging Wood two Load	2	0	
Shot 4 Pound		8	
Buttons for my Shirt 2 Dozen		3	
Warands ² for Bridges &c.	1	8	
Sale Cloth at 4½d. per yard	8	7½	
Sale Cloth 60 yards at 5d. per yard	1	5	0
A Sive & Ridle for the Mill	2	6	
Lats ³ for Ditton at 2d. per Cent:	1	3	0
One Part for Lime for Ditton	2	0	0"

APPENDIX H AUGUST 31 1709

SONG COMPOSED BY WILLIAM BLUNDELL
"THE CAVALIER"

"A Contry song remembring the harmeless mirth of Lancashyre in peaseable tymes.⁴
To the tune of Roger's Coveley,

Robbin and Raph and Willy
tooke Susan and Ginnett and Sisly
And Roger and Richard and Geordy
took Mary and Peggie and Margery
and daunced a hornepype merilie
tripped and skipped nott wearilie
Tyr'd out the Bagpype and Fidle
with dauncing the Hornepipe and didle.

But Gilbert and Thomas and Harry
whose sweetharts weare Nell Nann and Marie
Tooke sydes against Gyles James and Richard
whose wentches weare Jeane Jane and Bridgett
The wager was for a wheate Cake
they daunst till thire bones did ake
That Gilbert and Nannie and Nellie
did swett themselves into a Jelly.

The Ladds of Chowbent⁵ weare there
and had brought thire doggs to the Beare
But they had no tyme to play
they daunced away the daye

¹ Alum.² Warrants.³ Laths.⁴ i.e. before the Civil War.⁵ Chowbent—a village near Leigh.

For thither then they had brought Knex¹
to play Chowbent hornepype that Nicks
Tomms and Geffreyes shoone
wearne worne quit through with the tune.

The ladds of Latham did daunce
thire Lord Strange's hornepype which once
was held to have beene the best
and far to exceede all the rest
But now they doe hould it so sober
and therfore will needs give it over
They call on thire Pyper then jovially
play us brave Roger o' Coveley.

The meales² men daunced thire Copp
and about the maypoule did hopp
Till thire shoose weare so full of sand
that they could no longer stand
The Formeby trotter supply'd
whoe though that his Breeches weare wide
Yett would he nere give it ore
till the Pyper was redy to snore.

But Gilbert and Susan and Nannie
With Tom and Dick Sisly and Mary
Tripped and Skipped full merily
The Musique now sounding out chearily
Dick booted Nel frowted he showted
tak't thee James Pyper of Formeby
Tak't thee, Tak't thee, Tak't thee
tak't thee James Pyper of Formeby.

At length it was tyme to goe
alass Susan did heare the Coke crowe
The maydes might goe make up thire fyres
or els be chidd by thire Syres
next holy day they'te daunce thire fill
at Johnsons o'th Talke of the hill³
where Bell shall be brought to play
good Lord how I longe for that day."

APPENDIX I JANUARY 26 1710

DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIPS OF LITTLE CROSBY AND FORMBY AS TO THE PLACE OF SETTLEMENT OF THOMAS HOOLEY, A POOR PERSON.

In 1709 there was a dispute between the overseers of the poor of Little Crosby and of Formby as to the place of settlement of Thomas Hooley. The dispute was taken before the justices of the peace at the Midsummer quarter sessions held at Ormskirk. Judgement was given:

"Upon a full heareing of a Difference between the Overseers of the poore of Crosby parva and Formby both in the said County touching the Legall settlement of Thomas Hooley who lately came to Inhabitt into Crosby parva aforesaid not having acquired any Legall settlement there nor given security to the overseers of the poore there according to Law but being poore and likely to become chargeable upon the Inhabitants of Crosby parva aforesaid. And it appeareing to us upon Oath that the said Thomas Hooley was a hired servant in Formby aforesaid for the space of one whole yeare & served accordingly & noe prooffe being made to us that hee hath gained any Legall Settlement elsewhere since, Wee therefore two of her Majesties Justices of the peace and quoram in and for the said County doe hereby adjudge and declare the last legall settlement of the said Thomas Hooley to be in Formby aforesaid and Doe order the Overseers of the poore of Crosby parva aforesaid to Remove him thither and the overseers of the poore of Formby aforesaid are hereby required to receive and provide

¹ Thomas Knex was a piper from Chowbent.

² Meales—North Meols, Southport.

³ "Talke of the hill"—Tulketh Hill, now part of Preston.

for the said Thomas Hooley according to Law. Given under our hands and seales the 11th. day of July Anno Dom. 1709

Tho. Stanley
Wm. Case

To the overseers of the poore
of Crosby parva to remove &
Convey & to the overseers of
the poore of Formby to receive
& provide for the said Thomas
Hooley according to Law

These¹

From the clerk's note at the foot we find the dispute was "Settled as said on hearing."

In his *Disbursement Book* Nicholas Blundell records his expenses in this case:

"10 October, 1709—Given to William Weedow towards the Sute about Thomas Hooley. . . . £1 0s. 0d.
27 Jan: 1710—Charges spent in trying Hooleys Settlement £2 3s. 7d."

APPENDIX J MARCH 3 1710

THESE ACCOUNTS OF MONEY, SPENT BY NICHOLAS BLUNDELL DURING DECEMBER 1709, WERE ONLY ENTERED IN HIS *DISBURSEMENT BOOK* ON MARCH 3 1710.

		£ s. d.		
"December 1709				
1	Vales when I dined at Ekleston			6
	Fine Edging for my Wife bought by Mrs Howet	15	0	
	Ordinary edging for my Wife	1	7½	
	Neck Handkarchaffs & Gloves for my Wife	12	2	
	Muslin for my Wife	9	4	
	Silk Lases for my Wife	2	0	
	Brass Inkhorn for my Wife		6	
	Mending my Wives Shoes		3	
	Given to John Banister for a Box oth: by my Wife ²		6	
	Flaxon Calicow & Stuff for the Children	7	4	
	Ribans, Gloves & Pins for the Children	5	4	
	New Shoes for the Children & mending old ones	6	3	
	Buckles for the Children		4	
8	Given by my Wife to the Nurs &c at Ince	4	6	
	Charity		9	
	Taylors Work	1	0	
	Roman Vitrgall &c: for Mally		5	
9	Sweeping Chimbnies at 3d. per Chimbney	2	3	
	Onions at 1d. per pound	1	3	
	Whit Peas 6 Quarts	1	0	
	Eggs. Bread & Bearm	8	0	
	Butter at about 4½d. per Pound	7	0	
	Leomonds	5	1	
	Turkeys & Chickens	6	10	
	Fowl	2	2	
	Pickled Oysters	2	0	
	Sausages		5	
	Ginger Bread		7½	
	Savoy Biskets	1	8	
	Cloves, Seneomond, Mase & all Hard Spises	11	1	
	Carroway Comfits	1	2	
	Sugar	10	5	
	Curans & Reasons	11	8	
	Anchovis & Capers	9	7	

¹ QSP/992/8. Lancashire Record Office.

² On December 1 1709, John Banister had 30 shillings taken out of a box. So the 6d. may have been given him to buy a new box. There may be another explanation, Mrs. Blundell may have given Banister a box on the ears for something she imagined he had said or done. Afterwards, finding that he was not guilty, she or Mr. Blundell was compensating him. This happened on other occasions.

	£	s.	d.
Stone blew $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Pound			5
Almonds one pound		1	8
Leomond pill ¹		1	0
Honey at 5d. per pound		6	3
Tobacco.		4	5
Oyle one quart		3	0
Coffy 3 lbs bought by Mrs Howet	1	0	0
Coffy pots 6 of Prescot Wair		3	0
15 A Blew Shagg Riding Coat & the Carriage	10	9	
Beesoms of Burch		7	11
Lamblack, Bay salt & Salt Peter.		1	9
Muggs		1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Puter Cups & Spoons for the Children		1	5
Nut-Meg Grater			2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Candles at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound	1	7	9
16 Wages for a few dayes to Fr: Howerd		5	0
Hogs Grace ² at 4d. per pound		4	0
Sale Thread.		1	10
"Lanthorn for the Stables		1	1
Swaples & Threshold		1	4
Spades three		5	0
Such Molds two at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound		5	0
Trying whether my half Busshell was true			4
Sterop Leathers &c:		3	6
Bridles		1	10
Timber for a Saddle for the Mill		2	0
Fiveteens for the poor four	1	14	8
Ditto for part of Thomas Marrows Teneament			8
Church Lyes two		13	0
Repair of Bridges & other warants		3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gun powder two Pound		2	4
20 Masons paid for to Philip Syer in full		2	6
Slaters man one day			6
Killing a Hogg			6
Dattall work at 6d. per day	1	10	0
Weeders in the Garden at 4d. per day		6	8
Char Women & going Arants		3	2
Market Wages to my Servants		3	3
23 Making two kilfull of Malt		9	0
Duty for two kilfull of Malt	1	6	10
Mending my Bush-Wigg		2	6
Smiths Work for Heaters, Grates, &c: in the Hous		6	6
Ditto for the Mill Cheefly about the Shaft	1	9	6
Ditto for Husbandry geere, Coatch & Gates		2	8
Shoeing Horses for Saddle & drawing		13	2
Thatching, two days		1	0
Interest due to four Bonds paid to Richard Bryanson	7	0	0
Carpinders work paid to John Tickle		9	9
To Wassell the Fidler		3	6
28 Hay for Horses when my Wife was at Leverpoole with Mrs. Scaresbrick		1	0
Totall Charg of Feying, Delving, Wheeling and Dressing 365 Load of Turf			
for my own use for the Hous, kill & Mill	4	18	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Feying, Delving & Wheeling Turf in Marrows-Moss for Saile	1	19	4
Feying, Delving & Wheeling Turf in Petchers Field for Saile	3	6	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Feying, Delving & Wheeling Turf in the Winter-heys for Saile	1	6	0
Lost by me at Cards this Christmass		2	6
Spent by me this Month at different times		1	5
Spent by my Servants at times		1	0
Post Letters for my Wife & me		1	5
Given my Wife for pocket Money	1	0	0
Fish		6	9
Butchers Meat		10	6"

¹ Lemon peel, candied.² Hog's grease or lard.

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Names of places are printed in italics. Where no county is indicated, the place is either well known or in Lancashire.

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