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THE GREAT DIURNAL OF NICHOLAS BLUNDELL

VOLUME THREE 1720–1728

THE GREAT DIURNAL OF NICHOLAS BLUNDELL

OF LITTLE CROSBY, LANCASHIRE

VOLUME THREE 1720-1728

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THE RECORD SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

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Preface

Nicholas Blundell's *Great Diurnal* ends abruptly on April 4 1728, some nine years before his death on April 21 1737 at the age of sixty-eight years. He gives no explanation why he ended it so suddenly. The hand-writing towards the end of the Diurnal seems to indicate that he was having more and more trouble with his sight, but further research, particularly on the Blundell Tenants Books for Little Crosby and Ditton[1] and his Disbursement Book[2], has led me to believe that the trouble with his eyes was only a contributory factor. The main reason was his growing concern about the descent of the estates.

His grandfather, William Blundell the Cavalier, his mentor in his boyhood and youth, must certainly have imbued Nicholas with a great interest in the history of the family, and with equal certainty drawn the attention of Nicholas to the fact that the descent of the family through the male side had been unbroken for centuries. Nicholas tells us that he himself went through the family muniments which go back to the twelfth century. With this pride in his ancestors and his family record, he must have been deeply grieved that he had no son to succeed him.[3]

It is clear from a study of all his manuscripts and letters that by 1727 Nicholas had realised he was to have no son and heir, and at once began to take steps to prepare for the future descent of the estates. It is this theme which runs through the greater part of the entries in the last years of his Diary. It was this obsession with the future which brought the Diary to a sudden end.

If he was to have no son, then it seemed prudent to get his daughters married, possibly to provide a grandson. The finding of suitable husbands for the daughters figures largely in the entries in this Volume and in numerous letters in his Letter Book. But the entries show that though his financial affairs were proving difficult, Nicholas placed his daughters' happiness in marriage before the wealth that might come from marriage into a wealthy family.

The future of the family estates was an important matter to Nicholas. He liked to have everything recorded neatly so that estate finance and organisation could be handled efficiently. His grandfather had compiled a Tenants Book in 1659.[4] His father and he himself had continued to use it, but changes in the tenancies and the addition of scraps of information here and there had cluttered the pages with erasures and amendments. To neat, orderly Nicholas this was so distasteful that in 1728—note the date!—he began to make a new Tenants Book,[5] which was destined to serve the family until 1810. Both books have survived, and so together summarise the story of the Blundell estates from the last days of the Interregnum to the Napoleonic Wars.

Nicholas used the long introduction to his new Tenants Book to instruct his heiresses and their future husbands in estate matters. He laid down what should happen to the estates at his death, and set out his wishes in the preface of a third Tenants Book, which he called the Tenants Book of Ditton[6]:—

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[1] DDBl/54/40–2. Lancashire Record Office.

[2] Now, 1972, at Crosby Hall.

[3] See Volume Two, pp. 198–203.

[4] DDBl/54/41. Lancashire Record Office.

[5] DDBl/54/42. Lancashire Record Office.

[6] DDBl/54/40. Lancashire Record Office.

"*Ditton Demesne and Tenants in this Book*

I have Composed a Book which I call the Tenants Book giving an Account of all the Tenants I have, with som uesfull Remarks, both upon some of the Teneaments & upon som of the Tenants; but thinking 'tis very probable that my Ditton Estate may go to Frances my Younger Doughter & the rest of my Estate to Mary my Elder Doughter, I thought it proper to make a Book onely relaiting to my Ditton estate which may be of good service to whomsoever is Master of Ditton.

In the Begining of the New Tenants Book I have set down severall things by way of Instruction to my Heir, which I hope may be of good Service; for which Reason, provided Crosby and Ditton be Seperated, I shall Advise the Master of Ditton to peruse the Advice given to my Heir in the begining of that Book; which he may well do to Transcribe in this, or as much of it as may concerne him.

Demesney of Ditton called the Bank

As to my Demesney of Ditton called the Bank I have had som thoughts to make a Mapp of it which has made me more careless than otherways I would have ben in knowing the Contents and Valew of each Field; however will at present do it as well as I can, which shall hereafter be rectifyed by me where I find it amiss if I have an Opertunity to do so; so would not have my Heir too much to depend upon eather the Contents or Valuation of each Field."

Obviously, Nicholas gave precedence to the Tenants Book. He may have continued to make his daily notes on his papers and in his note-books, but since these have not survived, we do not know. The last entry in the Great Diurnal was April 4 1728. There is nothing final or retrospective about it: indeed it looks forward to the new season in the garden and the fields.

On May 26 1723, Nicholas and his wife began their journey to Flanders to bring home their two daughters, who since July 31 1717 had been left in convents there.[7] The elder daughter, Mally, had at one time expressed a desire to remain at the convent, but then changed her mind and wanted to come home. However, when her parents arrived in Flanders she told them she wanted to be a nun. This annoyed her father, especially as it was now evident that she would probably succeed to the estates. He insisted on her returning home, but promised her that if after a period at home she still wished to become a nun, she could do so.

Within a year of the return of the two daughters, plans were being made for Mally's marriage, and one of the most fascinating features of this Volume are the entries between April 21 1724 and May 26 1726 concerning her courtship. These entries, the accompanying foot-notes and several letters quoted from the Letter Book of Nicholas throw an interesting light on courtship and marriage in the early eighteenth century. Several sons of gentry came to pay their respects, but it was not till February 3 1730 that she married John Coppinger, the son of Stephen Coppinger of Balyvalone and Barriscourt, County Cork, Ireland.

On July 3 1733, the younger daughter married Henry Peppard, the son of an Irish family then settled in Liverpool and engaged in the merchant trade.

Mally did not live long to enjoy her marriage, for she died on August 6 1734. Fanny became the sole heiress, and on the death of her father on April 21 1737, she inherited the Blundell of Crosby estates. Fanny and her husband became known as the Peppard-Blundells, but by a clause in the agreement made by Nicholas Blundell, the successor of Fanny and Henry Peppard who succeeded to the estates was to assume the name and the arms of the Blundell of Crosby.

For the last two years of his life, the Diarist had the joy and pleasure of entertaining and being entertained by his grandson, Christopher or "Kitt". The last entry in the Disbursement Book reads:—

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

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[7] See Volume Two.

This Christopher Peppard was born on June 19 1735 and died May 6 1771 before his mother and father. Henry Peppard died on November 23 1771, aged 79 years and was then succeeded by his third son, Nicholas,[8] who was born on October 9 1741. Following the instructions of his grandfather, he assumed in 1772 the name *Blundell* and the arms of Blundell of Crosby. His mother, Frances Peppard, the daughter of the Diarist, died April 17 1773.

It is strange that so meticulous a person as Nicholas Blundell should appear to have left no will at his death. None has been found although search has been made. This is even more difficult to understand when one recalls that on several occasions he mentions that at various times he had made a will. Especially did he take the trouble to do so before leaving for Flanders. (See October 21 and November 2 1715: on November 6 of that year he wrote—"I Signed my fourth and last Will.") Sometime after his return from Flanders he wrote, on April 13 1719,—"I writ my Will new over with some alterations", and three weeks later, on May 5, we find him asking Mr. Case to be one of his executors. On December 1 1724 he signed a sixth will. In view of this failure to find a will, it is fortunate that an inventory of his possessions was made at the time of his death and this has been preserved amongst the Blundell of Crosby muniments. (See Appendix A.)

On several occasions in his Great Diurnall Nicholas refers to bringing home shilly (shilling, sheeling) from Sefton Corn Mill. (See January 1712). "Shilly" is the husk of oats, wheat, etc, and was scattered on the land to improve it. However, the word "Shilly", especially in northern counties, where it is given as "shilla' or "shilloe", can also mean small pebbly stones, shingle, gravel, or a mass of thin slate or small stones, or even a gravelly beach or shore. Mrs. M. W. Goulding of Silverdale, Lancashire, has very kindly drawn my attention to the fact that "shilloe" (often pronounced "shilly") meaning "shale" was once obtained from the now disused quarry on Arnside Knott on the Silverdale Road. Until recently, Mrs Goulding tells me, there was a notice board bearing the words "It is strictly forbidden to remove any Shilloe from this site." Thus when Nicholas Blundell mentions that he obtained "shilly" *from his delph*, it is very likely that he was taking a load of small stones to use in path-making in his garden. (See June 27 1712).

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[8] The second son, William, born September 29 1739, died on May 20 1740.

Anno Domini 1720

JANUARY

1 Ned Howerd came to desire I would deside a difference between him & Mr Aldred.

2 Richard Webster our Smith brought me his Bill of worke done for me, which I peruesed and allowed of. John Lunt Junior was here and profered his Service to cut and Naile my Wall-Frute Trees.

3 My wife & I went in the Coach to Ince, Miss Bridget was newly come home from Preston.

4 This being the first Munday in the new Yeare and Ellen Harrison not being here I served the Poore of this Parish and gave them some Money. I demanded a Fine of John Sumner of this Town for his Fathers late Teneament.

5 I Layed some Haws in the Ground as were gathered the begining of this Winter. Captain Robert Fazakerley dined here, he went out acoursing with me, so did Thomas Marrow of the Gate, William Thelwall, Roger Marser, &c:, Roger Marser and some others mesured some Ditching in severall Parcells as he had helped to ditch.

6 Ailes Tickle[1] sent hither to invite my Wife and me to dine with her tomorrow.

7 My Wife dined at Ailes Tickleys. I went into Thomas Syers where he gave us a Bowl of Punsh, we were seaven in all viz: Mr Syer of the Ford, James Berry the Atturney, Mr Byron, &c:.

8 I went to Preston, I set up my Horses at the Miter and dined there, they got me Lodging in a privat Hous. I made a Viset to the three Sisters the Mrs Blundells.

9 It being the Great-Saturday I exchanged my small Coach-Hors Jack with Henry Heys for a large Bay Gelding not five year old, I calle him Stag. I came home through Ormskerk where I called at Gris'es and smoked a Pipe there with Dr Lancaster.

10 Ellen Harrison was here, it is the first time since she went hence sick to her Sons.

11 Thomas Marrow began to make me a Pair of new Saile Cloths for my Mill, I went to the Mill and tryed one & stayed there a good while.[2]

12 John Rose came hither and invited me to come tomorrow to his House. Cozen Gillibrond of Chorley sent his Servant hither with a Pair of Panniers for some Apples as I had promised him.

13 I planted sixteen Abell Trees in my Avenew in the Crofts & pailed them round. I went to John Rose'es, he gave us a Glass of very good Aile, there was Parson Wairing, Yeoman of the Gore-hous, Mr Bayron, &c:, we were eight in all.

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[1] Wife of a yeoman.

[2] The material bought on December 19 1719 was now being made into mill sails by the village tailor.

14 Robert Tompson began to dry for me, 'tis the first time he ever dryed and the first time any Oates were dryed on my Kill since it was so well mended.[1]

15 I began to delve ground in the Bleatching yord for a Scrue Hedge or Snake-Hedge to be planted with Privet. I paid the Land Tax to William Weedow. Mrs Blundell being very ill my Wife went to see her.

16 I Tryed my new Hors Stagg (as I had in a Swap at Preston) to draw in the Coach.

17 Mr Shepperd came hither when we had dined. My Wife & I went in the Coach to Ince with my New Hors Stagg, he performes extraordinary well.

18 I sent Betty Swift to Formby with two Bushells of Apples, she sold them but not so readily as at Leverpoole.

19 William Carefoot helped me to bottle off a Rundlet of good Aile. I gave Edward Farer some slips of Currons & Goosberry Trees.

20 My Teame and three others led Slates from Mr Bowers for the West-Laine Hous, I then drew my Colt Favorit the first & he dos extraordinary well.[2]

21 I sent William Carefoot to Ormskerk for a Bundle as was to come from Preston for my Wife, he brought it home with him.

22 Margarit Davy met John Rothwell & Mr Rigmaden here, they discourced before me concerning Margarit Davy redeeming Rises Heys, but little was done in that affaire.[3] I went to see the two John Sumners Wives in the More-houses, they being both ill, thence I went to Thomas Carefoot and William Weedow who were fencing my Grand Cop at the Sniggary and then I went to Parson Wairings where I stayed a good while and smoaked a Pipe with him.

23 I went to Leverpoole & paid Mr Plumbe all I ought upon Account of the Sute between George Lathom and Walter Thelwall.[4] Mr Whit paid me the Interest of Mr Bradshaws £50. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Whitley, Mr Bayron, Mr Allonson, &c:.

24 Thomas Fleetwood Senior and I had some discource about his Bargan with Old Ann Oughton alias Swift.

25 I went to Ince Green when Parson Wairing flang a Lead over the Green but it not being very fairly done we had a small squable about it,[5] Yeomon of the Goar, Mr Bayron, two Robert Bootles, &c: were there; Mr Cottom came

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[1] See December 24 1719 and foot-note.

[2] The colt, for the first time, was being used to "draw" or "pull" a coach.

[3] Margaret Davy, as one of the lives in a lease, already was a tenant of Nicholas Blundell. On February 1 1725, this passed, by a new lease, to her son, Thomas. This Thomas had at one time been guilty of killing rabbits in Blundell's warren, so a clause was inserted in the lease—"Must not destroy any of my Rabbets". Nicholas, when entering details of this lease in his "Tenants' Book", added

> "There is a Strong Claws in this Lease to oblige Thomas Davy to pay £5 per annum to his Mother during her life at two equal payments viz: June the 24th & December the 25th."

Margaret Davy died January 5 1731.
See August 7 1719

[4] "Payed towards the Sute twix Lathom and Walter Thelwall . . £12 2s. 6d."

[5] Probably the throwing match mentioned February 22 1720. "Yeoman of the Goar" or "Gere-hous" (January 13 1720) appears to be a title and not a surname.

to us when the Throw was over. Parson Wairing and I bowled against Mr Aldred & Mr Bayron, all above Naimed & severall others went together into Whartons.

26 William Gray & Thomas Syer told me they did believe Richard Webster our Smith was runn away for Debt. Captain Fazakerley called here as he was going to Leverpoole, he had ben all Night at the New Hous in order to Cource & had my Bitch Fly.

27 James Davy having don Slating the West-Laine Hous for the Present at least I paid him much what all at Mr Aldreds. It being supposed that Richard Webster was run away for Debt, William Gray having a Judgment Bond against him went to advise with Mr Plumb, when he came back, he and I went to Richard Websters, his Wife gave William Gray possestion of her goods in the Hous and gave me Possestion of what was in the Smithy in order to pay what she ought to both of us, Thomas Marrow Junior and William Carefoot were present. Thomas Pinington brought me some Oats as I had bought of him.

28 My Cow not being well I sent to Thomas Melling to come to look at her but he came not.

29 Thomas Melling came and order'd a Drink for my Cow. I helped Mr Aldred both before & after Dinner to prepair against Tuesday.

30 I was very busy both before and after dinner prepairing Slips and Cutings of Privet & William Carefoot planted them in the Screw or Snake Hedg in the Bletching Yord. Robert Whawley Overseeor of the Poore of Thornton & George Cottom met William Weedow over-seeor of this Town, William Gray, &c: here about the Setlement of Richard Webster our Smith and his Famoly.[1]

31 Mrs Blundell and her Doughter Bridget came hither to take leave of us, because they intend to begin theire Journey tomorrow towards London. Mr Robert Fazakerley and his Brother Thomas made a Viset here.

This Month was very unsetled Weather being now & then two or three days faire & then perhaps as many days rane less or more, very cold Winds and oft much Raine.

FEBRUARY

1 I Fetched home a Cow as I had bought of Richard Buckley. I went to Mr Bayrons where we had a Glass of very good Aile, we were eleven in all viz: Mr Syer, Yeomon of the Goar, William Williamson, Parson Acton, &c.

2 I agreed with John Sumner of this Town for a Fine for his Fathers late Teneament. I hiered William Weedow to be my Servant. Ewen Maudsley and James Davy came to agree with me for Poynting and whitliming the West-Laine Hous but it was set to an other.

3 William Atherton[2] payed me by Bill of Disbursments & by Cash in full for

[1] Little Crosby disputed with neighbouring Thornton responsibility for maintenance of Richard Webster's wife and children. See later entries in February and March.

[2] A tenant who acted as Blundell's steward at Ditton.

his last years Rent, he lodged here the last Night & brought me two Cheeses. I set some Onions by the Hall window for Seed.

4 I payed all I ought to William Thelwall for work & wood. I gave Edward Farer some Cutings or Burs of Apple Trees. I gave John Sumner of this Town a Note of the Bargan he had made with me for his Fathers late Teneament

5 Thomas Morrison and his Wife were here. I went to Great Crosby & got a Shoe set on Stagg.

6 I dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole. This Town & Thornton had a Tryall before Mr Maior of Leverpoole and Mr Richard Norris for the Setlement of Richard Webster & his Famoly, our Atturneys were Mr Plumbe and Mr Peters, Thornton had Mr Brownsword. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Jenks, Captain Tarlton, &c:.

7 Betty Blundell of the Car-side came to Mr Aldreds in the Morning being Mr Turvill was not at Ince, she dined here.

8 William Carefoot strained on the goods of Richard Webster our Smith for Arreers of Rent due to William Gray & me, we both were present so was Thomas Marrow Junior the Cunstable. William Weedow came to be my Servant.

9 Richard Jackson began to trim my Wall-Trees and to digg for Peas, Beans & Salleting.

10 Richard Jackson set 19 Onions for Seed, one was twelve Inshes in Circumference, I set some Dwarf Peas & sowed some Seeds for Salleting.

11 I Planted some Rasberry but it had ben better they had ben planted two Months since. Jackson toped most of my Wall-Frute Trees as came from London. I went to William Blundells where I stayed awhile, thence to Gabriel Norris'es, I smoaked a Pipe there with him, thence to Ann Tompsons, she being lately dead I prayed by the Corps, thence I went to William Wignolds new Hous to look at it & stayed there a good while with him.

12 I let William Weedow goe to the Funerall of Ann Tompson. Mr William Brooks lodged here.

13 I went with Mr William Brooks[1] to Leverpoole, I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Thorpe, Thomas Hurst, &c: and there paid Samuell Rigby for a Glass for my little Charriot.[2] Mr Hulme the Atturney spoke to me about Richard Websters Debts.

14 Betty Blundell of the Carr-Side & her Doughter Ailes dined here.

15 Mary Marser paid me all she owes me for Rack Rent & I paid her for two Load of Barly as her Teame & mine took for me today to Thomas Tickleys Kill. Being Mr Hulme the Atturney was to have ben in this Town today I went to Mr Aldreds where I smoked a pipe with him and Pat: Wofold, but Mr Hulme came not. I planted some Rasberry Trees and some Cabbage Plants.

16 I planted some Curron & Goosberry Trees in the Border over against the Hall-Window at the side of my Wives Walk. I planted thirty seaven Firr

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[1] A visitor then staying at Crosby Hall.

[2] "A side Glass for the Little Charriot . . . . . £1 9s. 0d."

Trees of one year old opposit to the Bay Trees at this end of the Union Walk.

17 I planted severall Crab Stocks being seedlings of a year or two old from Crab seeds. Mr Hulme the Atturney came hither and paid me 50s. for Richard Websters Rent for my Smithy & then I went with him to the Smithy where he seased upon the goods in it in behalf of William Sumner.[1]

18 William Gray and I were busy most of the forenoon taking Suckers away from the Roots of Apple Trees and other Frute Trees. I was busy most of the after noone Triming the Codling Trees in the Kitchen Garden viz: thining the Boughs and toping them. My Wife went to see Betty Tristram who was Lying in and in danger of death. Old William Barton came to see me.

19 I Trimed some old Codling Trees & cut out severall Shoots of the last year there being abundance too many. Jackson having done working for me for the present went away, he new Moddoled the right hand Close-hedg Garden and trimed some Apple Trees in the New Orchard. Roger Haddock the Bayly of the Hunderd was here a Beging for Corne I gave him some. Thomas Syer began to plough, 'tis the first time since Christmass.

20 I went to Mr Cottoms & pai'd him what I ought him for Fustion &c: for a Frock, I smoaked a Pipe there with Doctor Tarlton, I went to see Fleys Whelps. I went to Mr Maior of Leverpoole & Mr Norris to the Bird in the Hand where I discoursed them concerning the Setlement of Richard Webster & his Famoly, I drank at the Wool-pack with Thomas Hurst, young Robert Bootle, Mr Byron, Mr Allonson, &c:. Thomas Hurst bought a Hors of young Robert Bootle. Richard Westhead pretended to be my Guide home but lost his way and brought me thorrow Litherland Town.

21 I was at the Buriall of Richard Tristrams Wife and Doughter, there was at the Buriall Hous, Mr Cottom, Mr Bower, John Tyrer and his Wife, &c:.

22 I planted in the Barbary Walk some slips of Barbary Trees with Roots to them. I was at the Saile of goods at Ellen Websters and at the Smithy. William Jump & Edmund Tristram made me a Viset. I drank at Thomas Hesketh's with Parson Wairing, Mr Byron, John Rose, &c:. I delivered the Stakes to Parson Wairing & Mr Aldred as I had kept upon Account of a throwing Match.

23 Toping the Parater was here a beging for Corne I gave him some, William Thelwall set me a good New Lock on my Seller Doore.

24 Being it was a wet after Noone I made William Carefoot to ree some of my Corne[2] and to dress my Granery.

25 I went to Leverpoole with my Wife we dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Booth, &c:, I went with my Wife to Mr Cottoms where we stayed a while, but he was not at home. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Bryon Harding, Mr Allonson, &c:.

26 I sent some Roots of old Hasles and old Thornes & some sets of Broome, and Slips & Cutings of Barbary Trees to my Grand Cop by the Sniggary, I went to see some of them planted. I finished my second Large Tome of my

[1] If this is not a mistake and meant to be William Grey, then this is a third person to whom Webster was in debt.

[2] To ree—to clean or sift winnowed grain, specially by giving a circular motion to the sieve so that the chaff, etc., collects in the centre.

Diurnalls having compleated both the Indexes & writ all in it as is to be, & I began to prepair a third Diurnall by writing in it some of the Heads of the Index or Table.[1]

27 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 & puting the Tickles of them down Alfabetically.

28 Betty Blundell of the Carr-side and her Sister in Law Dorothy Blundell dined here, Ailes Tickley was expected but came not.

29 I went to the West-Laine Hous being they were busy Bording it.

Cold and unsetled weather very propper for this Month but not much Frost.

MARCH

1 William Holme from Leverpoole came to buy some Apples of me to sell againe. I sold him two Bushells. This being Shrove Tuesday I saw Richard Syer, John Ainsworth, &c: throwing at a Cock before my Gaites in the Foulds.[2]

2 John Radcliff began to work for himself in my Smithy. I payed Edward Howerd for writing Receipts of Cookery, &c: in my Wives book.

3 I sowed some Green Mail and Spinage & some Sallet Seed. I set some pritty Larg Thornes at the end of the Close-Hedge-Gardens.

4 Mr Saile sent his Servant Richard Hilton hither with some Beech Trees for me. I helped him to take up severall Slips of Currons & Goosberry Trees and gave him severall Roots of Flowers, &c:.

5 I went to Mr Cottoms and bought the out-Side and lining, &c: for a Livery Sute for William Carefoot[3], I dined there with Mr Billing My Lord Molineux his Gentleman.[4] Mr Peters brought me an Order to the Wool-pack for the Setlement of Richard Webster and his Famoly in Thornton,[5] we drank there together; Mr Byron, John Rose, &c: came to us; coming home I fell upon the Sands and Hurt my Hip very ill & my Hand.

6 Being very lame with my Yesterdays fall I was not able to goe to Mr Aldreds, he came to see me.

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[1] "Larg & Small Diurnall . . . . . 6s. 0d."
This entry in the Disbursement Book recalls two other purchases he made at a book-shop or stationers just prior to this. The first is intriguing in view of his smuggling activities at later dates (see April 27; May 5 & 27, June 1, 4 and 8 1720):—
"Act against Runing goods . . . . . 10d."

[2] See February 17 1708.

[3] William Carefoot, probably a son of the miller, appears first in the Wages List in 1718 as husbandman, but by 1722 he was "Hind, Groome &c:" and in 1723 as "Hind, Coachman, &c: at a quarterly wage of £1. The cost of the Livery for him was:—
"Livery Hat, Lace & Stockings . . . . . 9s. 9d.
Inside, out-side, &c: for a Livery Sute for William Carefoot . . £3 6s. 10d."
He remained as Coachman till December, 1727, when he left Blundell's service.

[4] Rev. Richard Billinge, S. J., was then priest at Croxteth Hall. He died 1732/3, aged 58.

[5] The local J.Ps. decided that "the last legal settlement" of Richard Webster was in Thornton, and that therefore the Thornton overseers were responsible for the maintenance of his wife and three children.

7 Charles Howerd and his two Men came to make me a Fustion Frock and William Carefoot a Livery Sute, Charles Howerd went hence betimes from his Work, being sent for upon Business. I began to lay Muck to the Roots of my old Apple-Trees as I had baired the Begining of Winter and to cover them up again. I planted the Beech Trees as Mr Saile sent me the last Week. Joseph Rigby came to introduce Philip Durell to be my Butler. Pat: Burton made a Viset here, he stayed Collation.

8 I took a Tryall of Philip Durell to be my Servant.[1] I sowed some Seeds of Annuell Gilliflowers in the Knot, but they came not up.

9 Mr Molineux of the Grange and Mr Sheperd dined here. Charles Howerd gave Pat Gillibrond, Mr Aldred and me a Bowl of Punsh here.

10 Ailes Tickley made my Wife a Viset. Pat: Clifton & Betty Blundell of the Car-side were here. My Wife gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

11 Thomas Howerd was here, 'tis the first time since he came into these parts, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

12 I went to Leverpoole thence to Low-Hill to Mr Plumbe, I acquainted him that we had got an Order to Remove Richard Webster and his Famoly; I came back againe to Leverpoole and drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Robert Fazakerley Senior, Mr Whit, Thomas Hurst, &c:.

13 I gave a Comfortable Drink to my Hors Stagg. I sent of a How-do-you to Mr Scarisbrick.

14 I went to the West-Lain-Hous and smoaked a Pipe with Mr Aldred. I lead 300 Bricks for Ann Buckley.

15 Thomas Howerd was here, I writ a Letter in his Behalf to Sir James Poole. Thomas Carefoot was here with his Ferrets & took two Rabbets.

16 Henry Ascroft brought a Whip of mine as he had found. I made & mended severall Pens.

17 I sowed three sorts of Onion Seed on four of the Onion Beds.

18 I went to the Edge Mr Bayron was gon to the Ford but his Wife sent for him, he soone came back and Mr Syer along with him. I stayed and Smoaked a pipe with them. Mr Bayron gave me some Imps or Cutings of three Sorts of good Apples.

19 Mrs Rachell Smith and Dorothy Blundell dined here. Mr Scarisbrick sent his Servant with £50 to me and I sent him a Bill of the like Valew drawn upon Mr Rodbourn.

20 Ailes Tickley, Dorothy Blundell and Betty Blundell dined here. I went part of the way towards Sefton with the Corps of Robert Tompson & then Mr Richard Molineux the Saylor came back with me, we smoaked our Pipes.

21 I grafted an old Apple Tree in the New Grounds with 12 Imps each of a Different sort.

22 I was with William Thelwall a good while, whilst he was making my trible

[1] As Durell's name does not appear in the Wages Lists he must have proved unsuitable. Robert Weedow's name appears as butler in 1721 at 10s. 0d. a quarter.

Trenshar Trap for Rats, he brought it home. I sowed some Leek-Seeds & four sorts of Sweet-Herb-Seeds in the Kitchen Garden.

23 I finished Grafting the Apple Tree in the new Grounds, it has in it 25 Imps or Grafts and I think they are of 24 different sorts of Apples. I sowed 3 or 4 sorts of Peas for seed on the Cabbage Bed in the New Orcherd and sowed some Peas & Beans for the Hous use.

24 My Closet being very unready I put it into better Order. I washed and cleansed my Gun.

25 I Sealed a Leas to John Sumner of Little Crosby and he the Counter part to me, he paid me £25 in part of his Fine.

26 William Thelwall mended my Rat Trensher-Trap and I gave him directions to make an other sort of a Trap.[1] I agreed with John Abbot to pave in the West-Laine for me and then I went to Mr Aldreds where I smoaked a Pipe with him and Pat: Wofold.

27 Betty Blundell of the Carr Side dined here. I sent William Carefoot of a How-do-you to Scarisbrick. Mr Pursall was here we Smoaked our Pips, and shewed some Tricks to each other.

28 I was with William Thelwall a good while, whilst he was making me a third sort of a Rat Trap.

29 William Thelwall finished my third sort of a Rat-Trap as he had made for me, I set it.

30 My Teame and foure others lead Flags and Slates from Leverpoole for the West-Laine-Hous.

31 Richard Jackson paid me his Rack Rent. Thomas Syer payed me part of his Rack Rent. I was busy a good part of the day in the Gardens sowing Beet Seed, Carrot Seed, Green Maile, &c:, I uncovered my Aspargus Beds and dressed & earthed them. I made an end of opening & diging about my Artichoakes; it had not ben amiss if the Aspargus & Artichoakes had ben done sooner.

Till the 13th very Faire, the four next days cold & raw with some Snow & Sleet and sharpe winds; from the 17th to the end of this Month seasonable Weather, being now and then two or three days faire and perhaps as many dayes Raine more or less.

APRILL

1 I sowed some Colly-flower Seed on a Hot-Bed in the Stone Garden. I put about 61 Imps into Stocks in the Nursery, I think they were of six sorts of Apples.

2 I sowed some Aspargus Seed in the Closehedge Garden. I went to Leverpoole, I paid there John Abbot &c: in part for work done at the West-Lain-Hous. I drank at the Wool-pack with Henry Harper, Thomas Hurst, &c:.

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[1] "My first sort of Rat Trap, the wooden part of it. . . . . 1s. 5d.
Smith for Iron work at my Rat Traps. . . . . 2s. 0d.
Traps for Rats, Mice, & Moles . . . . . 5s. 9d."

3 I read in a Spiritual Booke by my Wife whils she was writing Letters most of the after noone.

4 I let Edmund Tristrame have four Score Pound for which he and his two Sons Richard and Joseph gave me their Bond. Thomas Beswick was here and demanded a Crown Rent from me of 02s.-08d. per Annum for my Lord Barramore, but I told him some reasons why I would not then pay it.[1]

5 Pat: Hardesty dined here. I mended the Teaster of our Bed it being much out of order.

6 I went with Ann Buckley to my Brick-Kill and ordered her some more Bricks.

7 I went with Thomas Carefoot to the Coppy and told him what I would have done there in order to fence it better. I put about 43 Imps of Virgin Apples into Stocks in the Nursery.

8 I helped John Abbot to mark out where the Cawsay was to be in the West-Laine. I fetched home a good Treesall from James Rigbys & plaised it in the Kitchen.

9 I set about one Busshell of Rufford Potatows in the Oat-Croft without any Muck or Straw.

10 Miss Margarit Blundell & Betty Blundell dined here.

11 Being I had an Ague Fit the last Night I lay in Bed today till near Noone. My Wife sold one of my Swine to James Crofts.

12 I began to lead Stones & Sand for my New Cawsay in the West-Laine,

13 James Crofts fetched a Swine of mine and one of Thomas Syers away from hence, but after I think an Hours Strugling with Thomas Syers he was forced at last to carry him away in a Cart. I payed the Window Tax to Edward Rothwell and the Land Tax to William Weedow. Cozen John Gelibrond lodged here.

14 I sowed some Parcely & Corn Sallet Seed in the Kitchen Garden, and Celecia Lettice in the Close Hedg Garden, I Grafted nine Imps or Cutings of Darby Apples in the Nurcery. Cozen John Gelibrond went to Leverpoole and put in his Clame for a Debt owing to him by Mr Earle.

15 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence. I set some Kidney Beanes and some Peas on a Bed in the Stone Garden. I sowed a second Crop of Spanish-Radish-Seed in the Close-Hedg-Garden, Benjamin Greenhalge the Baly of Darby was here a beging Corn, I gave him some.

16 I Grafted three Imps or Cutings of Striped Hollin upon some Hollins in the Hollin Hedg.

17 My Wife and I went to Ince to wish Mrs Blundell and her Doughter Mary wel-come home from London.

18 My Wife and I went to Mathew Withingtons in [West] Darby, we took Nelly Howerd with us & left her there, thence we went to Mr Carters of

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[1] Nicholas claimed that this 2s. 8d. was already included in the Wappentake Rent of 16s. 6d. which he paid annually. He based his claim on a copy of a document dated 1662. For more details see Appendix B.

Blacklow in Roby where we called & looked at his pritty Hous and Gardens and then went to William Athertons to the Bank in Ditton where we lodged.

19 My Wife and Cera Atherton made severall Visets viz: to Henry Heys, Joseph Boltons, &c:. William Atherton and I went to the Ball where we drank with Joseph Bolton, Henry Heys, William Kennion, &c:.

20 Being it was so wet a day we came not home, so I went to Joseph Boltons. I sent to the Scous to condole Mrs Harington for the Death of herHusband.[1]

21 My Wife and I came home from Ditton, we called at Mr Plumbs new Hous in Wartery, he was there and shewed it to us,[2] we went to Leverpoole, Sera Atherton went with us, I bought her some Whit-Mettle waire at the end of Daile-Street and a Hat for her at Mrs Rumsys, We all dined at the Wool-pack, I drank there with Mr Robert Tatlock, Mr Whitle, William Hulme the Atturney, &c:.

22 I set a few Cabbage Plants in places where there wanted. I set some more Beanes.

23 My Wife and I walked to Sefton to make a Viset to Parson Acton & his Wife, 'tis the first time eather of us went since they came thither, but neather of them being at home we went to Thomas Bradleys where we stayed a good while, but he was not at home.

24 I gave my Horse Stagg a Drinke for his Cold by directions of Thomas Bigarstaff. Cozen Scarisbricks Servant was here of a How-doe-you.

25 Henry Curedon came to be my Servant.[3] Ann Howerd of Coppold was here, I shewed her my Gardens. I sent some old Glass to Mr Aldreds because his Glasior came thither today to work for him.

26 I was at the farther end of the Barbary Walk with Thomas Howerd & his Brother John &c: and furnished them with two good Kasks. Patrick Norris was here to heare what News Thomas Howerd brought out of the Island.

27 Mr Thomas cerched the West-Lain-hous and a deale of the Out-Housing at this Hous for Brandy as he heard was conceiled here, Thomas Marrow our Cunstable and Henry Williamson were with him.[4] I set some Indion Cresses and some Abell Truncions.[5] James Worroll the Millright came to work here.[6]

28 I gathered Leaves from I think 33 different sorts of Tulops as I have already in Bloome.

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[1] Scholes Hall, between St Helens and Prescot. Charles Harrington, of Huyton Hey, Esq.; buried at Huyton Church, March 12 1720.

[2] See September 1 1719 and foot-note.

[3] He did not stay long. His name appears in two Wage lists only, for the last quarter of 1720 and the first quarter of 1721, when he was paid 15s. 0d. a quarter.

[4] Thomas, from Great Crosby, was a customs officer. Shortly after his visit, Nicholas, Father Aldred and Charles Howerd were dealing in large quantities of brandy and claret. See April 30, May 5 and 27, and June 1, 4 and 8.

[5] Abell—white poplar.
Truncion—his way of spelling 'truncheon'; an obsolete rare word meaning: 1, a stem or stock of a tree; 2, a length cut from a plant, especially one to be used in grafting or planting; a stout cutting.

[6] "*Worrall James* Millwrite at the Grange in Chesshire to be left with Samuall Truman the ower End of Water Street, Leverpoole."—Letter Book.

29 I helped Joseph Massy to set out a Moss pit in Thomas Marrows Moss Richard Jump came to buy my Black Mare Bess but we could not bargan.

30 I booked my Disbursments for the last Quarter. Mr Williamson the Wine-Cooper came hither & Ordered two Kasks of Clarret for Thomas Howerd.

Thô we had now and then some good Showers yet there was severall fair days together sometimes; so that towards the end of the Month we wanted Raine.

MAY

1 My Wife sent Ned Howerd to Wooton to wish my Lady well-come-home.[1]

2 William Carefoot planted part of a Bed in the New-Orcherd with Slips of Artichoaks. I dined with Henry Tyrer at Widdow Barrows in Ormskirk and drank there with Mr Ashhurst, Justis Walmesley, &c:. I was at part of the Tryall between Thornton and our Town concerning the setlement of Richard Webster & his Famoly, there was Mr Entwisley the Chancellor, Mr Richard Norris, &c: upon the Bensh.[2]

3 Parson Acton, Mr Bayron and young Robert Bootle were here a beging towards the rebuilding of St Johns Church in Chester, I gave them something.[3] My Wife and I went to Mr Whittles he was not at home but his Wife was, coming back we call'd at William Tarltons where we stayed a good while. Young Landers began today I think to delve Fleas for me, in Gate-Hey.

4 I racked off about three Dozen of Bottles of my Crabb Vargeus as I made the 3rd of last October.

5 I mixed about eight Gallons of Frensh Brandy with Water & all other Ingredients and set them a runing to make Aqua-Coelestis on; the Water had ben well boyled before today; and some of the Ingredients put to it viz: Sugar 12 lb. Vargius, Lime-Juce & Juce of about two dozine of Leomonds, but none of them were mixed with the Water till it was cold.[4]

6 We mesured over the Boarding at the West-Lain-Hous, Thomas Howerd, James Rigby & William Thelwall were there. John Abbot began to pave in the West-Laine, but his Man began yesterday to prepayer the Ground for it. I went to John Aspinwalls & to Parson Hindleys to get some Roots of Flowers, my Wife went along with me, I marked some Tulops at Aspinwalls, Mr Loxley gave me some Roots of Pilianthus & Tulops; Parson Hindley having hurt himself with a Fawl I went in to see him, my Wife and I made a long stay there.

7 John Aspinwall brought me the Tulops as I marked yesterday in his Garden, I set them & the Flowers as Parson Loxley gave me yesterday.

8 I fetched Mrs Lettonby hither from Leverpoole and brought her back againe, she dined here, she is shortly for going to Madam Bagnolls. Pat: Turvill was here.

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[1] Lady Molyneux.

[2] The original order (See March 5 and 12 1720) was upheld.

[3] "To a Breefe for a Church in Chester . . . 2s. 6d.

[4] See February 3 1721.

9 Thomas Syer lead Muck into the Farther Oak-lands with tenn Carts. I sowed some Sellary Seed it was a year or two old but it came not up. I made my last Seeding of Garden Peas I think for this Summer. I finished maiking my Aqua-Coelestis which I began about five dayes since there was of it, in all one Kegg as held about 10 Gallons, the rest I bottled off being as I think about six Dozen and a half. Mr Aldred removed from Ned Howerds to live at the West-Laine Hous, he designes to lodg there tonight, I went thither this afternoone & took a pipe with him, they were very busy puting things into Order

10 I layed my Cows out to Grass. Parson Loxley was here, I gave him some Tulop Roots.

11 I Brought Mrs Letonbys Will to Leverpoole as I had drawn for her, she signed it. I paid James Chaddock for Lime & James Holsold for Iron Caisments, both were for the West-Laine-Hous, we drank at the Wool-pack, John White was with us.

12 I sowed some Purslain Seed, I sowed some Cowcomber Seed about a week since on the same Bed.

13 Thomas Syer paid me part of his Rack Rent, we staited Accounts for what he has disbursed for my use and I allowed it him. I set some Ditching in the Winter Heys to Henry Swift & James Massy. Mr Aldred said Mass the first time at the West-Lain-Hous I served him.[1] William Weedow left my Service.

14 I bought two peeces of Saile-Cloath at Leverpoole of William Ball. I drank at the Wool-pack with Joseph Bolton and with Thomas Hurst, Mr Whittle, &c:.

15 William Ball was here I paid him for the Saile Cloath as I bought of him yesterday.[2] My Wife went to Darby to see Mrs Fazakerley who is very ill. Pat: told me of Aile and Brandy stolne by William Thelwall.[3]

16 They began to delve Turves in Thomas Marrows Moss 'tis the first dayes delving This year for Saile.

17 I planted out young Radish Letice and Onions.

18 John Gregson brought my Wife and me some new Shoes. I sent a few old Pigeons and young ones to Mr Plumbe to store his Dovecoat with at Wartery.

19 It being Mr Aldreds Birth-day he gave a Bowl of Punsh at his hous to Parson Wairing, Mr Bayron and me &c:, we were seaven of us.

20 John Abbot having finished my Cawsay in the West-Laine I paid him off.[4] Sera Atherton Lodg'd here. I took a Rabbet Nest just by the Flower Knot with five young ones in.

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[1] A proud occasion! At last this chapel, designed and built by Nicholas, was ready to use. It was probably the first Roman Catholic chapel to be built in England since the Reformation. Certainly it preceded by sixty years the chapel in the grounds of Lulworth Castle, which usually boasts that distinction.

[2] "Sale Cloath for the Mill at 4½d. per yard . . . . . 18s. 6d.
Haire Cord for the Mill . . . . . 2s. 0d."

[3] Probably the son of Walter Thelwall, a carpenter in Little Crosby.

[4] "Paving the West-Lain at 1sh. p.Rood . . . . . £1 16s. 3d."

21 Sera Atherton went with me to Thomas Marrows Moss and to Gate-Hey where she saw them delving Turves and Fleas. John Landers having don delving Fleas for me, I paid him off and he gave me what he has received for Fleas as he had sold for me.

22 My Wife and I went to Ince, I gave Mrs Blundell some sucking Rabets. I shewed Mr Turvill the List of Ships as I had got upon Account of a Waiger with him. Edmund Tristram and Thomas Syer drank with us.

23 I Removed the Great Stone as has time out of Mind stood neare the lower Bark-Gate and fixed it at the turning of the Cawsay in the West-laine. Thomas Syer finished his Barly Seeding as he has under me, he sow'd Flax Seed in the Little-Moss Hey.

24 I sowed some Scutchenira and Endive Seed in the Stone Garden and some Kidney-Beanes & Scutchenira Seed in the Close-Hedg-Garden.

25 Thomas Lurting beged my Pardon and owned he had ben concerned with William Thelwall in robing my Sellor. I told Charles Howerd I knew who had stolne his Brandy. I went to the Winter-Heys and set more Ditching to Henry Swift & James Massy.[1]

26 My Wife & I dined at Scarisbrick, the three Sister Blundells from Preston were there, coming home we made a short Viset at Gorsuch.

27 Charles Howerd botled off some Clarret, Mr Aldred had some of it & I had above eleven Gallons of it. Mrs Blundell & her two Doughters made a Viset here.

28 It is supposed that William Thelwall is run his Country becaus 'tis publickly known he had a false Key of my Seller. Mr Turvill was here, we layed waigers about Casting Accounts & then went to Mr Aldred, Wat came to us thither.

29 Mr Turvill called here & smoaked a Pipe and then went to Crosby Marsh to see the Runing Horses. Mr Aldred and Thomas Howerd had ben to see the Runing Horses, they called here and took a Pipe with me in the Gate Hous.

30 Cozen Scarisbrick and his Son James dined here, we went together to Crosby Race where my Lord Molineux his Crop beat a Whit Hors called Crutches. I drank upon the Ground with Mr Heskaine, Mr Robert Fazakerley Junior, &c:. Mr Plumbe and his Son were upon the Ground. William Atherton & William Kennion Lodged here.

31 William Atherton and William Kennion went with me to look at John Briscows Barne near the New Park. I went to Mr Aldreds & smoaked a Pipe there with young Mr Clifton & Doctor Traps and then they & Mr Aldred came after me to the Hall where they stayed a while. Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Shepperd and his Wife made a Viset here.

The five first days Raine, the three next faire, then every day except one till the 23d Raine & for the most part pritty much, scarce ever so much Raine known in May, from the 24th till the end of this Month very little Raine and some days very hot.

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[1] For the second quarter of 1720, Nicholas paid £3 7s. 6d. for ditching by day labour. For Henry Swift see January 2 and 3 1712, and Vol. 2, Appendix A.

JUNE

1 I went to Matthew Withingtons to enquire about a Paicing Gallaway, thence I went to Mr Shepperds and spoke to him about his Paicing Mare; when I came home I found Mr Scarisbricks Man here, Charles Howerd had ben mesureing him some Clarret. William Twotall brought me a Mill-Stone from Whitle-Hills.[1]

2 Robert Webster brought me a pritty Paising Nag to look at, I bought him for my Wife and call him Rufler.[2] Being Nicholas Davy dyed today my Wife and I went to pray by him. I put a New paire of Saile Cloaths on my Mill, they cost 4½d per yard and about foure Months since I put on an other new pare as I think cost 8d. per yard.[3]

3 Thomas Syer and William Carefoot sold Turves for me in Thomas Marrows Moss, this is the first day of selling Turves this yeare. I went to the Winter-Heys and mesured the Ditches as Henry Swift & James Massy had Clensed for me in that Ground, they were with me, thence I went to my Delvers of Turves in the More-houses and so to Bryan Leays to make a Viset to his second Wife.

4 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh sent his Servant for some Clarret, Thomas Howerd drew it off. Jackson Nailed my young Wall Trees as were fit for it.

5 I went to Astley where I Lodged.

6 Cozen Gilibrond and I went to prayers to his Sons, Cozen Thomas Gelibrond shewed me his Water Engin for Cherning with &c:, Mr George Clifton came to Astley, we drank in the Hall. Cozen Gilebrond & I went to make Friends and came not home till two in the Morning.[4]

7 Cozen Gilibrond and I went to his Sons to prayers and then went to Cowlings to Read the News,[5] Cozen Thomas Gelibrond went with us. I came home from Astley.

8 Thomas Howerd botled off the remainder of his Clarret as was in my Seller. Mr Turvill & Pat: Clifton made a Viset here, I paid Mr Turvill for what I lost to him upon Account of severall Waigers layed about my Casting Accounts. I payed Thomas Howerd for the Claret I had from him.

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[1] Suitable stone was only obtainable from a limited number of quarries in this country. Nicholas Blundell obtained his from Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley, Lancashire. Between 1660 and 1675 a new millstone cost £4 to £4 2s. 0d. In 1702, the price was £4, but by 1714 it had risen to £4 5s. 0d. When Nicholas bought the stone mentioned on June 1 1720, he grumbled at the price, and made a note about it in his Disbursement Book:—

"Mill-stone, (shold onely have ben — — —) . . . . . £4 10s. 0d."

In 1723 he again had to pay £4 10s. 0d., but perhaps he objected more strongly about this, for the next stone he bought was cheaper—£4 5s. 0d. in 1726. Alas, in 1731 he had to pay £5. In 1769 his successor had to pay £7 for a new mill-stone, while in 1823 the price had increased substantially to £42!

We gain some idea of how long a mill-stone lasted when we note that he put a new mill-stone in his mill in 1702, 1705, 1707, 1710, 1711, 1715, 1720, 1721, 1724, 1726, and 1731.

[2] "A Paising Pad, for my Wife, Rufles . . . . . £5 1s. 6d."

[3] See May 15 1720 and foot-note.

[4] Possibly this may have some reference to something that happened on August 8 1719.

[5] Cowling was the landlord of the "King's Head" Inn in Chorley.

9 My Wife & I went to Leverpoole, we went to look at the Charrity Schoole.[1] I bought somthing of Mr Cottom for a Riding Coat for Henry Curedon I. drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Cottom, Mr Robert Fazakerley Senior, Mr Bayron, &c:.

10 I went to Ince, Mr Turvill gave me a Bowl of Punsh, Thomas Syer drank with us.

11 Being Robert Bootle Junior finished his Marling today, I went to his Hous and gave somthing to his Marlors, I drank there with John Rose, Bryon Fleetwood, &c:, I proposed to them to set an Egg on the end upon a Looking Glass, William Harrison the Clark did it.

12 Robert Bootle Junior came hither and acquainted me I might have some Trees for Railes at John Briscows. We were as busy as was proper prepairing against tomorrow.

13 Cozen Scarisbrick and her Son James, the three Sister Blundells from Preston, &c: dined here. I went with the Gentlemen my Gests to Mr Aldreds.

14 I paid Henry Swift & James Massy for scouring most of the Ditches in the Winter-Heys and went thither with them & set more Ditches to them to be scoured. I also set a long Ditch at the same time to Thomas Pinington. William Carefoot lead Brick with my Teame for Edward Hatton.

15 Mrs Cottom and one of her Sisters Mrs Yates & Mr William Plumbe dined here, Mr Cottom came after Dinner, Robert Bootle Junior brought home my Cheane Pump as he had borrowed whilst he was Marling, he stayed & smoaked a Pipe with us. In the Evening Mr Cottom and Mr Plumbe went to see their Horses as are scored in the Ackers &c:, I went with them.

16 My Wife intended to have met Mrs Scarisbrick &c: at Gorsuch but her Finger being ill she went to get Betty Morrison to look at it, Betty was not at home but her Doughter dressed it, Betty Morrison lodged here.

17 I went to John Briscows & bought some very fine Owler[2] Powles of him for Railes.

18 I took up as many of my Seedling Tulops as I could find as were two years old. My Hive in the Kitchen Garden Swarmed, it was a very large Swarme. I Hived them.

19 Pat: Gelibrond prayed at Mr Aldreds. Mr Turvill, Mr Aldred and Thomas Howerd were here, we Smoaked in the Arbour. My Wife went to see Mrs Blundell being she has had some Ague Fits. Pat: Gelibrond and I went after Supper to Mr Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

20 Henry Swift delved Turves for me in Thomas Marrows Moss being John Massy is not well I went to him, James Massy is feying there an other Moss pit. John Melling came and new boared severall of my Fauset Holes in my Barrells.

21 I made Mary Jackson a Viset, 'tis the first time I have seene her since she came now to live in this Town. I asked Bryan Lea to remove his Bease out of his Field where I am delving Turves.

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[1] The Blue-Coat School; See January 3 1718.

[2] Alder

22 I went to Ince Green and bowled with Thomas Howerd &c:, we stayed pritty late thô we had not much company.

23 I went to Leverpoole and payed Mr Cottom for what I had bought of him for Henry Curedon, I came home before dinner. I went with Pat: Gelibrond to Lidiat to see Mr Moston.

24 I payed John Sumner the Father and Son for Feying & Delving Turves. Bryan Lea &c: paid me their Rent. The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here.

25 I Reconed with my Weeders in the Garden and payed them.

26 Mr Aldred came hither to borrow some things against tomorrow, Thomas Howerd came with him, he treated us with Clarret.

27 My Wife and I dined at Mr Aldreds with my Lord & Lady Molineux, the Famoly of Ince &c:, we were eighteen in all.[1]

28 I helped to pack up and Courd my Wives Trunks as are to goe to York, I sent them to Leverpoole to the Carrior.[2]

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[1] The house-warming party.

[2] The Blundells were getting ready to pay a visit to Mrs. Blundell's sister, Mrs Middleton, at York. As usual preparations were made well ahead: new clothes bought or made, old clothes repaired, washing done, harness repaired, and so on:—

	£	s.	d.
"Mending my Wives Silver Buckle			4
Pirle Coler'd out Side for a Quilted pettcoat, Ferret & Bordering	1	10	9
Quilting my Wives pettycoat		4	0
Silk Laceess, Sowing Silk, Tape, Feret		4	9
Loops & Buttons for my Wives Mantu			4
Gold Hatband, Open Lace, Buttons & Loop		9	7
Muslen, Starching & Making up		7	10¼
Neck Carchaff		5	0
Stay Brade, Galloone, &c.		2	0
Black Pertion & bordering, &c.		7	0
Riban for Cross Knot, &c.		3	7
Mrs Heys Bill for altering Mantues, &c.		17	0
Edging		2	9½
Black Patches			4
Washing two Sarsnet Hudds			8
Scouring & Callendering a Callo-Mantue & Petticoat, &c.		4	8
Hat for my Wife		6	0
Mending my Wives Shoes		1	6
Mending my shoes		1	3
Mending my Sadle			10
Stocking for me		2	6
Woosted for me & Shalloone			6
Gloves for me			8
Taylors Work		3	0
Smiths Work for the Coach & Husbandry use		2	10
Smiths Work Shoeing Horses		9	5
Mending Coach Harnish			8
Out-Side & Lining &c: for my Wives Cloak, & maiking it	2	4	6
Altering Mantews, &c.	2	0	0
Girdle Buckle		1	0
Millenors Bill	3	8	0
More things bought from Millenors		11	1
Washing six Pair of Gloves		1	6
Mending my Wives Fann		1	0
Altering my Coat		1	0
Riban for my Crevat Neck			6
Nantwitch Stockings		2	6
Flanell for a Waist-Coat		2	3"

29 Mr Aldred not being at home, my Wife and I went to Ince to Prayers. I Bowled at Ince Greene with William Harrison (the new Schoolemaster who came thither today to be the Schoole-Master) with Thomas Howerd, Robert Bootle Junior, &c:.

30 My Wife went to the New Hous, Betty Blundell met her there.

Till the 18th severall dayes pritty much Raine which was very Acceptable, from thence to the end of this Month very little Raine, but generally very faire & extreamely hot.

JULY

1 Old Mr Walmesley of Showley dined here. I booked my Disbursments for the last quarter.

2 I finished Delving Turves this yeare. I went to the Boorers for Coles neare Cook-Stoole-Pitt, there was Richard Newhouse, Richard Bridge & an other, then I went to Parson Wairings & smoak'd a Pipe with him.

3 The Famoly of Ince made a viset here, they came to take leave of my Wife ere she goe to York.

4 Thomas Syer setled his Accounts with me for Turves sold by him & corrected some Mistake as had been commited in them. My Wife went to take leave of the Famoly of Ince.

5 My Wife and I began our Journey towards York, we dined at the Leggs of Man in Wigan with Cozen Gelibrond of Astley and his Brother William, we Lodged at the Row Buck in Ratchdale.

6 From Ratchdale we went to Yellon where we dined at the Red Lyon, thence to Leeds where we lodged at the Queens Armes a very good Hous and very oblidging People and very reasonable.

7 I saw Mr Thursby's Collection of Curiossitys which are very well worth seeing, We dined at oure Inn at Leeds & then went thorrow Todcaster to York where my Wife & I lodged at my Sister Midletons, I sent my Men & Horses to the Falcon.

8 My Lady Smithson dined with us. I bowled with Mr Naper, &c:.

9 Mrs Menell of Kilvington dined with us. Mr Robert Dolman made us a viset. I made a Viset to Mrs Medcalf the Widdow.

10 My Wife and I heard part of a Sermon at Mrs Pastons. Cozen Barbara Dolman, Mr Naper and his Wife &c: dined with us.

11 The Carrior brought my Wives Clothes to York. I went from Yorke to Todcaster to Bradford and so to Hallifax where I Lodged at the Signe of the Cross a large but nasty Hous.

12 From Hallyfax I went to Burnley where I dined at the Spar Halk,[1] it was the worst way I ever rode, for so long together. I sent William Carefoot home and I went to Showley where I lodged.

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[1] Probably "Sparrow Hawk".

13 From Showley I came past the Lower Hall of Sambsbury[1] and Curedley Hall & so to Astley where I dined with Cozen Gelibrond but his Wife was not at home, thence to Ormeskerk where I took a Pipe at the Swan with Parson Loxdall, he came homwards with me as far as his way lay. This Rode as I came from York is much about and very bad but I came it for variety.

14 I booked down my Journey to and from York and set down all my expencess in it.[2]

15 I began to make use of the Parlor to writ and read in, instead of my Closet. I took up most of my Tulops in the Nursery, but I think very few of the old Roots are alive. I smoaked a Pipe at Mr Aldreds at Night. Charles Howerd the Taylor was there.

16 I payed Robert Barton £200 for which he gave me a Note from his Mistres & his old Mistres 'tis for the use of his Master my Cozen Scarisbrick who is now at London. Peggy Plat went home to stay, till my Wife comes out of York-Shire.[3]

17 Mr Aldred and I went to Ince, Benjamin Branker & Mr Cottom came thither, when we were comne away they went in againe to drink a Bottle of Wine & then came hither & tooke a bit of Supper, I shewed Benjamin my Picture of the Old Man & the Candle.[4]

18 Mr Aldred went to Parson Wairings to look at a Pair of Bedstocks Curtaines &c:, I went with him, he did not buy them then; he, Parson Wairing and I went to Thomas Hesketh's, where we took a Pipe, I left them there.

19 I went to Crosby Marsh & saw five of my Lord Molineux his Horses sweat viz: Fox-Hunter, Stroaker, Sobryety, Crop and his Black Gallaway Darcy. My Lord Molineux and his two Brothers Mr Carroll and Mr Thomas &c: were there, being it rained before the Horses came to the Ground we went into the Warand-Hous[5] where we stayed a good while and took a Glass of Wine.

20 I went to Ince Green and Bowled with Mr Robert Heys, Parson Wairing, &c:, Mr Sandford whom they call my Lord Mar was there. I had five hands gathering Goosberrys &c:.

21 I sent Betty Swift with some Presents of Rasberrys & Hartychockes to Mrs Alanson and Mr Cottom. Pat: Clifton came to invite me to dine at his Hous on Monday.

22 I went to viset the sick in this Town. I staited Accounts with Margarit

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[1] Samlesbury.

[2] "In Cash to my Wife at different times in York, &c. . . . . £ 27 s. 6 d. 0
Carriage of Goods to & from York 1 0 0
Packing Cloath for a Cheese 4
Cushons for the Head to carry on 2
Ellen Sheperd whilst my Wife was in York . . . . . 6 0"

[3] "Cloath given to Peggy Plat . . . . . 4s. 8d."
Peggy Platt's name never appears in the servants' Wages List. She may have been an additional daily help. At the beginning of 1720, we note:—
"Apparrell given to Peggy Plat . . . . . 7s. 9d."

[4] See December 23 1717.

[5] The House in the Rabbit Warren.

Massy for work done by her Husband and for Money owing by him to me.

23 I Finished one Cask and began to make an other with Goosberrys and Water to make Vinegar.

24 I Read in the Hall in a Spirituall Book most of the afternoone.

25 I dined at the New-hous with the Famoly of Ince and the Ladys of Maile &c:.[1] I sent of a How-do-you to my Lady Peters and of Business to Mr John Culcheth.[2]

26 I saw a Mare swet at Crosby as is matched to run against my Lord Molineux his Black Darcy. Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh was there, he and Mr Aldred dined here, The Famoly of Ince made me a Viset.

27 Jackson trimed most of my Wall Frute Trees.

28 I put some good old Muck to five of my best Flower Beds in the Knot and to my Bed of Forrain Tulops & to one Bed in the Nursery of Flowers. I set about 1500 Tulop Roots and Chives in the Nursery.

29 I began my Journey towards York to fetch my Wife home, but before I got to the Bark Gate, Stagg flung Henry Curedon off and also my Maile Trunk, and Rufler refuesed to goe forwards with me, which stayed me a good while but all things being mended we set forwards and dined at the Black Bulls Head in Manchester a very good Inn thence to Weley Bridge in Chesshire where we lodged at Edward Waringtons a good Inn.

30 I went to Sheffild where I Lodged at the Golden Crown a very good and cheap Inn. Mr Sherbourn came to me and I went back with him to his Hous.

31 I heard Mass at Mr Sherbourns and dined there, I came to Pontefract which is very famous for Lickarish where I saw a bundance of Gardens or rather good Back-Sides or small Closes planted with it, then to Ferry Bridge where I lodged at the Angell a good Hous.

Till the 28th very unconstant Weather some days very hot but generally more raine than we could wish for our Harvest, the four last days extreamely hot.

AUGUST

1 I came thorrow Todcaster to York time enough to dine at my Cozen Irelands with my Sister Midleton, my Wife and Mrs Frances Plumpton; after dinner we played at Cards in two Companys and at Night went to the Assembly where I doe believe there were above 200 Gentlemen & Ladys, and I counted in one Roome 15 Cupples in one Company dansing Country Dances.

2 I heard Judge Page give his Charge. I was at part of a Tryall concerning the Bonderys between Calverley & Bradford before Judg Mountague. Mr Stanfield and I were at Mr Brighams, we went thence to the Black Swan where we drank with Sir Carnaby Hagerston, Sir John Swinbourne, &c:.

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[1] This was the house-warming for the Rev. William Clifton, S. J. who had recently come to serve the Catholics at Formby. The priests at Formby used the New-House at Ince Blundell to live in.

[2] See Appendix B.

3 Sister Midleton and I &c: dined at Mr Standfields; after dinner Sir Carnaby Haggerston, Mr Solvin Junior, &c: came to us, we Carded by Turnes and somtimes drank.

4 Sir Carnaby Haggerston, Mr Solvin Junior, & Mr Tosar Junior dined here. I was at a Tryall about the Seasure of Brandy and Callico &c:.

5 I was at the Tryall of a Woman for Murdering her Bastard Child 'twas her third Bastard, and of a Man for stealing a Silver Tankerd and at some other Tryalls all before Judge Page; when the Tryalls were over I dined at the Falcon. I saw the Play acted called the Committy, My Wife, Sister Midleton &c: was at the Play.

6 Neece Midleton, Mrs Frances Plumpton, my Wife and I went to Home, Mr Martine was there, he came part of the Way back with us to shew us a nearer way.

7 Sir Carnaby Haggerston made his first Viset to my Neece Midleton, Sir John Swinbourne was here.

8 I was at some Tryalls or at least at part of some Tryalls, before Judge Mountague and before Judge Paige. I was at the Horse Raice where four Ran for the Kings Golden Cup as they called it, but it was for a Purs of one Hundred Guineys, Mr Wettys Bay Hors called Merry-Man wan it. My Wife and I were at the Play called The Devills to doe about her. Sister Midleton &c: went to the Assembly.

9 I went to the Tennis Court and saw Mr Ireland &c: play at Tennis. I saw Mr Dashwoods Gray Hors True-blew ride over the Ground by himself for a Silver Soop Dish of £30 Vallew. I was at a Puppy Play.

10 I went to the Minster with my Neece Midleton, Mrs Frances Plumpton & my Wife and shewed them the Monuments & Chapter-hous. Mr Ireland and his Wife, Mr Plumpton Junior &c: dined here. I was at the Hors-race where Foure Horses ran for a Silver Tea Cettle Vallew £40, it was woone by Mr Dashwoods bay Mare Harmeless, I drank at the Folcon with Mr Atkinson.

11 We all dined at Mr Dolmans with Mr Craythorn and his Lady, Mr Cutler and his Lady &c:. I was at the Horse-Race where twelve ran for the Ladys £60 Gold Cup, it was woon by Mr Chetwins Gray Hors Trout. I saw 7 Horses runn three Heats for 6 Guineys which it is said were given by my Lord Ossulston for Horses as had never woone a Plaite, one Cooper wan it.

12 I was at the Cock-pit where I think I saw 4 or 5 Battles. I was at the Hors-Race where nine Gallaways Ran for a Silver Cup and Cover for it of £20 Vallew, Mr Nicholsons Gray Mare Annaka wan it. These five last days I saw 37 Horses Run. The Gallaways run four Heats for the Plate. Mrs Frances Plumpton, My Wife and I were at a Puppy Play.

13 We all went after dinner to Mr Irelands where I played at Cards with my Sister Midleton, Mrs Ireland &c:, Sir Carnaby Haggerston and Mr Solvin Junior &c: were there.

14 William Carefoot came to Town with two of my Horses. I Smoaked a Pipe at the Folcon with Mr Brigham. Two of Mr Napers Doughters suped here, I payed off their two Bills.

15 Pat: Townley prayed here, he and Mr Dolman dined here. I payed what I

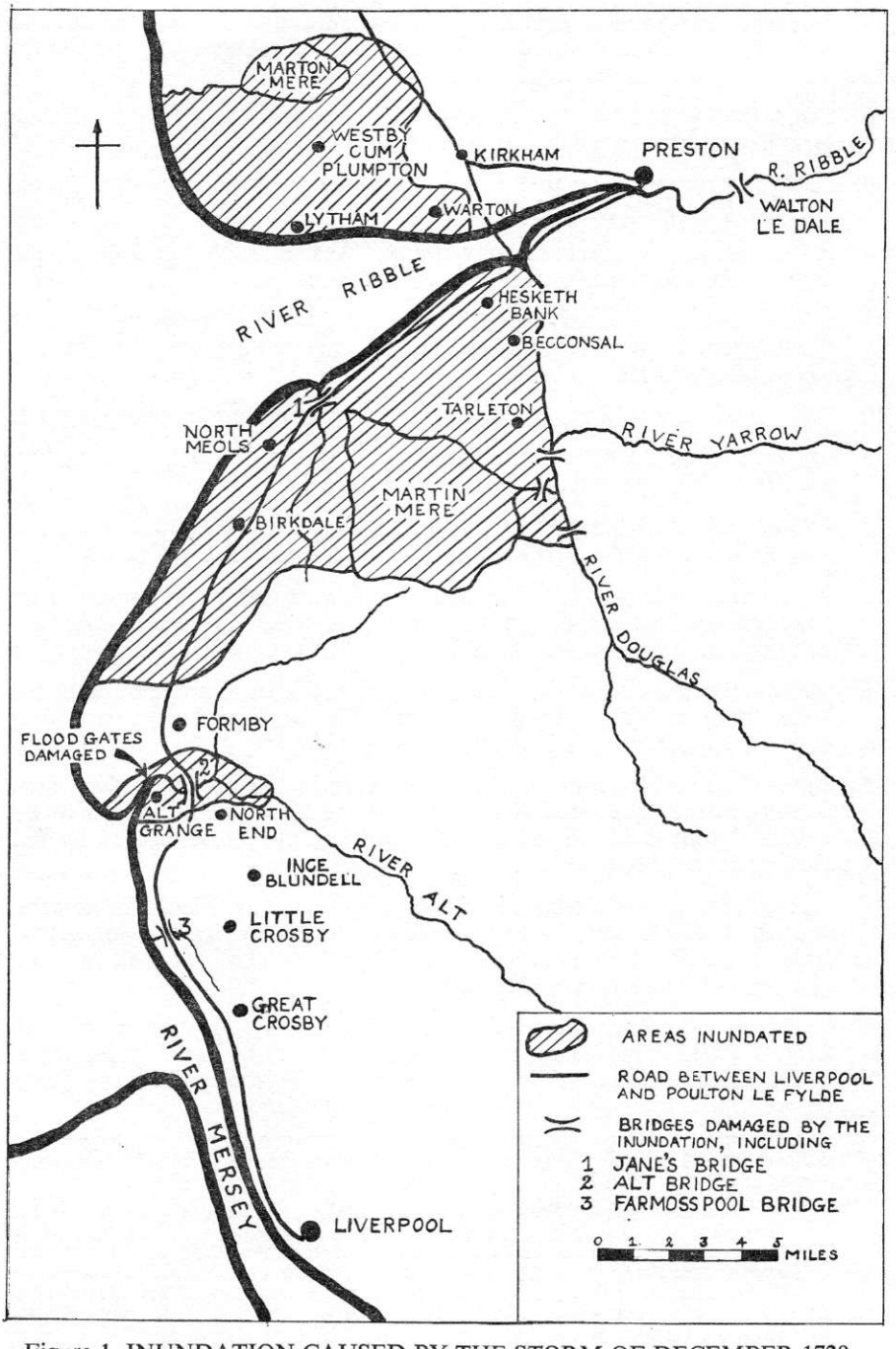


Figure 1. INUNDATION CAUSED BY THE STORM OF DECEMBER 1720.
See entry December 18 1720 and the weather notes at the end of that month.

5 I went to Garswood to wish Joy to Esqr Gerard and his Lady, he &c: was gon a Hunting and were to dine in Ashton. I dined at Garswood, Mr George Clifton came ere dinner was done.

6 I went to Great Crosby to wish Joy to Thomas Syer & his Famoly of their New Hous, he was not at home.

7 I helped Arthor Wilson to Remove the Jack out of the Dary into the old Kitchen, but we did not quit fix it right.

8 Robert Weedow was here to know a Finall Answer, I told him I should not take him for a Servant.[1] Pat: Munson suped here.

9 John Garret swept some of my Chimneys. I fixed the Dresser again in the old Kitchen. We were very busy severall of us geting the twist out of a New Rope as was for the Jack.

10 Being the Jack would not goe well I undertook it and made it doe very well.

11 My Wife made a Viset to Ince. Mr Aldred came and smoaked a Pipe here with Pat: Gilibrond and me.

12 Arthur and Landers began to saw my Popular Tree as was fallen the last year by the Hen-Hous. I Killed a Cat for worrying Pullets & Pigeons.

13 I was at the Smithy both before and after Dinner geting some small things done for the Hous use, I fixed up some things in the Kitchen. Joseph Thelwall was here, he is lately come out of Ireland & designs soone for London &c:.

14 Mr Lovell being dead at the New-hous, I went thither to prayers and Dined there with Pat: William Molineux, Pat: Gelibrond, &c:, I came part of the way with the Corps, it was Buried in the Har-Kerk.[2]

15 I sowed some Hot-spur Peas by the Hives in the Stone-Garden, some Saleting in the Close-Hedg-Garden and some Yew Seed at the side of the Hasle Walk. I went to John Molineux 'his, he payed me £15 as was left by Will by Lawrence Johnson to me Nich: Blundell.

16 Pat: Gelibrond went hence, his Horse being very lame I lent him an other and sent Henry Curedon along with him to lead his Hors. I sowed part of the Border in the New Orcherd with Horn-Beame Seed. The Sawers having done sewing my Popular Loggs I payed them off.[3]

17 I met severall of my Ditton Tenants at Leverpoole, they payed me their Rent. I payed James Banner and his Partner for casting Clay for me at Ditton for Brick. I dined at the Wool-pack. Mr Bayron and I came home together as far as our way lay, we came thorrow Litherland.

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[1] See November 5 1718 and September 24 1719. Weedow served as Blundell's butler from the summer of 1721 to 1726.

[2] "121—Mr George Lovell, a Priest in the Society of Jesus, a virtuous good Man and a very great Mathematission, was a Missionor in Lancashire, and lived most of his Time with Bartholemew Walmesley, of Dungen Hall, Esq., both at Dungen Hall, and attended him in his Travells, but being become a perfect Child, and having entirely lost his Memory, he was kept for some time at the New Hous in the Carhouses in Ince, where he dyed Decem. the 12, 1720 and was Buryed upon the 14 in the Harkirk next to Mr Tasbur[gh] on this nearer side of him." 'Register of Burials in the Harkirk'.

[3] "Sawing at 8d. per Rood . . . . . 15s. 2d."

21 I sent William Carefoot to fix my Snigg Net in my Grand Water Cource.

22 Thomas Tickley was here I payed him for making my Malt and for Duty. I payed William Harrison the Clark of Sefton for my last Martinemass dues or small Tiths. The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here.

23 I Rode out to the Sea side to see if there were any Rack [wreck] upon my Coast, John Harrison sent me a long Reed as he had found, there being great quantitys of them all along this Coste but little or noe Rack elce.

24 Pat: Munson dined here, but we had don Dinner ere he came. Thomas Howerd was here.

25 I sent my Carriage to Carry the Corps of Bryan Leas second Wife to Sefton

26 William Carefoot took the Suckers from the Codling Hedg in the Kitchen Garden and I took out some Kankered Boughs and cut out severall Boughs in order to thinn the Trees.

27 William Johnson was here to get somthing of me for the Ague Fits but I had nothing ready for him.

28 I gave Mr Aldred eight Apple Trees, William Carefoot and I helped him to plant them.

29 I gave a Drink to Rufler for his Cold.

30 My Wife and I went to prayers to the Grange and heard Pat: Munson preach.

Till the 15th now & then Raine but generally pritty Faire and some Frost, from the 15th till the End of the Month almost every day extreamely wet & great Winds. This may well be said to have ben a Wet and very windy Month.

DECEMBER

1 My Teame helped Thomas Syer to Remove his Goods hence to Great Crosby, part of his Famoly also Removed.

2 The Remaining part of Thomas Syers Famoly went hence, I took Possestion of his end of the Hous.[1] I was with Pat: Munson at Mr Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

3 I took down the Partition Walls as were between Thomas Syers Appartment and mine. I went to Leverpoole, Mr Whit paid me the Interest of Mr Christopher Bradshaws £50. Henry Ascroft acquainted Mr Plumb with the Difference between him & his Step Son and we discoursed upon the Matter. Samuell Newport shewed me Mr Darcy Chantrells very pressing Letter for Noctorum Rent.[2]

4 William Johnson was here, I gave him some thing for his Doughter as had the Ague Fits.

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[1] Thomas Syer had occupied half of Crosby Hall since 1715; see July 23 1715 and footnote.

[2] See Foot-notes to September 6 1704; and December 29 1706.

6 My Wife and I made a Viset to Ince, I smoaked a Pipe in Mr Turvills Chaimber, he read to me an inclosed Letter from Pat: Molineux.

7 Jackson planted me 35 London Trees viz: Pear, Cherry, Plumb & Apple and one Nectron and one Peach, in the Long Garden, the New Orcherd and the Stone Garden and some to the Walls and also a Dozen Pair Stocks from London in the Nursery.[1]

8 I Finished covering my Aspargus and Hartichoks. I was at John Sumners Sale of goods in this Town.

9 Mr Billington dined here. The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here. I went after Pat: Gelibrond to Mr Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

10 William Atherton paid me in full for his half years Rack Rent, he lodged here and was very Aguish at Night.

11 John Sumner of this Town paid me all his Fine as is yet due and I paid him for a Cart & Wheeles &c: as I bought of him.[2]

12 I delivered a Purs of Gold to Robert Taylor, Servant to Cozen Gelibrond of Astley, he came hither for it. I put good Ridled Virgin Earth to the Roots of the Old Plumb and Cherry Trees at the farther side of the New Orcherd, the Border they grow on is new delved.

13 Mr Pursall smoaked a Pipe with me, 'tis the first time he has ben here since his Long Sickness. My Wife made a Viset to Ince.

14 I sent a Load of Wood to the Snigary, most of it was old Curron & Goosberry Trees as had ben taken up a good while, and also some fresh Sets of Broome and Hasley &c:.

15 Mrs Blundell came hither in her Charriot and took my Wife with her to Leverpoole, they dined at the Tolbot. Dr Lancaster made a Viset here in the Morning & then went to dine at Great Crosby. I took my Milk Beasts into the Hous.

16 I Botled off one Kegg of about eleven Gallons of Brandy. I went to Mr Aldreds, Pat: Busby was there.

17 Yester Night and this Morning I took Phisick according to Doctor Cawoods Directions. Pat: Gorsuch and Pat: Manson made a Viset here, they sat with me in my Chamber.

18 I made a Viset to Parson Wairing & stayed a good while.

19 I closed up the Mouths of my Bee Hives and began to feed them with hard Biskets made of Bean Flower and sweet Wort, it had not been amiss if I had don it two Months sooner.

20 Thomas Carefoot set my Snigg Net in the Water Cource though not in the Sniggary, 'tis now a long time since it was set.[3]

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[1] "Frute Trees from London . . . . . £1 10s. 0d.
Carriage of Frute Trees . . . . . 8s. 2d."

[2] See March 25 1720. Sumner leased a house, newly rebuilt in brick, opposite the cross in the village. He took it for the lives of himself and his wife. He paid a fine of £54, an annual rent of 12s 0d., and undertook the customary boons.

[3] "Snigs"—. Lancashire dialect word for eels, still to be caught in the ditches and pools around Sniggary Wood, a copse in Little Crosby.

22 I went to Leverpoole to see a Large Ship Lansed [launched] but it was Lansed two days since. I payed Norton the Sadlor all I ought him.

23 Mr Shepperd dined here. Cozen John Gelibrond went to Ince.

24 Cozen John Gelibrond went hence, he went to Scarisbrick, I went with him to wish Mr Scarisbrick welcome home from London, we dined there, Cozen Gelibrond went home to Astley & I stayed awhile longer at Scarisbrick.

25 I tooke up all my Frute Trees on the Border of the Terras Walk except the two Cradles and began to prepair it for seting Cherry Trees on. I planted some of the Trees, as I took up from the Walls, at the side of the Union Walk.

26 I made some Holes in the New Orcherd and Long Garden to plant some London Trees in, and began to Ridle the old Slutch in the Great Moss-Hey to plant some London Wall Frute Trees in.

27 I Botled off the two Casks of Goosberry Vinegar as I made this last Summer, that which stood in the Garden was much the Better.

28 Jackson was here I shewed him what preparations I had made in the Gardens for my London Trees as are coming down. I stated Accounts with Thomas Syer.

29 I began to Carry Ridled Earth to the Holes where my London Trees are to be set. I Trimed the Frute Trees as were taken up from the Border on the Terras Walk.

30 My Wife went to Ince & invited Mrs Blundell &c: to come to Solemnize her Birth day on the first of next Month.

31 I took the Jack to peeces and helped to dress it.

This Month was rather wet than otherways for there was seldom above one entire faire day together and then generally two or three dayes Raine more or less and very often pritty much Raine.

NOVEMBER

1 This day being my Wives Birth day the Famoly of Ince dined here, so did Ailes Tickley and Betty Blundell. Betty Thomas of Priestons Row[1] in Leverpoole came hither to sell some Forraine goods.

2 I sent William Carefoot to Leverpoole for some London Trees but they were not come, John Lunt brought me a Letter from Mr Ball.

3 Cozen Scarisbrick, his Son James and Mr Burton dined here.

4 I put some Large Nuts, the Stones of Whit Mogull Plumbs, and a few Achhornes into a Hole in the Ground to keep till I sowed them. Pat: Munson made a Viset here, 'tis the first time.[2]

5 I gave Mr Aldred six old Trees viz: Pair, Plumb & Cherry, I helped him to plant them.

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[1] Preesons Row; named after Alderman Preeson, the first man to build a house on the edge of the Castle ditch in Liverpool.

[2] Father Manson successor to Thomas Wolfall.

Viset. My Wife went to look at Thomas Syers new Hous, 'tis the first time she has ever seen it.

10 John Pinington worked here, 'tis the first time he worked for me.

11 I Booked my Disbursments for the last Quarter. I layed Rufler & Stag in the Hous, to ly in, in the Nights onely.

12 I Attended the Corps of Mr William Wofold from Leverpoole to Highton where he was Buried, I was one of the Bearers,[1] so was Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, Mr Smarley the Atturney, &c:.

13 Mr Cottom &c: called here as they were going to Mr Aldreds to Cource. I was at a Race on Crosby Marsh between a Bay Mare of Mr Heskains and a Gray Mare of Mr Entwisleys. Mr Heskaine wan the Race and I wan some Money at the Race of Jack Sefton. When the Race was over I drank at Thomas Hesketh's with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Hulme the Atturney, Mr Whittle, Bayron, &c:.

14 Henry Tarlton killed a Fat Hogg, 'tis the first he ever killed for me.

15 I went with Thomas Pinington and James Massy to the Cow-Hey, they mesured the Gutter they had ben scouring for me, then we came home, I payed them and Henry Swift for that Work. I sent my Teame to Leverpoole to bring me home some Beef and Glass Bottles.[2]

16 Sir William Gerards Youngest Son Mr John and Mr Aldred dined here. The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here.

17 Mr Cottom called here for his Bitch Flye. This being Crosby Goosfeast I went to Nicholas Johnsons and drank there with Ned Hatton, William Gray &c: then I went to Margarit Lurtings and drank there with Mr Cottom, Young Mr Pepper,[3] Mr John Gerard Junior &c:.

18 Joseph Thelwall was here, he is nuly come from London. This being Crosby Goos-feast I went to Thomas Hesketh's & drank there with Mr Williamson of Litherland, Parson Wairing, Mr Bayron &c:, James Rigby came home with me.

19 Joseph Thelwall and William Gray dined here. I began to take up some old Frute Trees in order to set others to the Wall in their Plaises.

20 I Sealed a Leas to William Blundell of his Teneament & he Sealed the Counter part to me. Cozen John Gelibrond lodged here.

21 Cozen John Gelibrond went upon Business to Ince, I went with him, we dined there.

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[1] William Wolfall, son of William Wolfall and his wife, Mary, daughter of Thomas Carus. Richard, the eldest son of this marriage, had married Anne, daughter and heiress of Edward Stanley, of Moor Hall, and on his father's death succeeded to the estates. Dying childless in 1718 the estates passed to the William Wolfall, whose funeral Nicholas was attending. Wolfall formed part of Huyton, near Liverpool. He was succeeded by his brother, Henry. The Father Thomas Wolfall, S.J., whose death Nicholas Blundell noted on Sept. 6 1720, was another brother.

[2] "Muggs . . . . . 4s. 5d.
Glass Bottles . . . . . 13s. 4d.
Butchers Meat . . . . . £5 14s. 10d.
Sausages . . . . . 7½d."

[3] Henry Peppard?

sold. My Team helped Thomas Marrow of the Gate to Lead Flaggs from Robys Delf. I went to look at Thomas Syers New Hous in Crosby, he was there.

28 I Finished laying my Apples in Straw as are to be kept, they had not sweat. Thomas Syers Shearers cut the Neck in the Flat.[1]

29 My Wife and I rode to Ince we played at Cards & Suped there, after Super I played some Tricks of Legerdemesney.

30 Nelly Howerd cut my Haire off my Head. I began to open the Sough from the Seller being it was stoped.

Till the 7th very fair, the next six days raine more or less, the next five dayes Faire, then till the end tollerably faire though now and then som small Showers but not so as to doe any Dammage to Corne Harvest or to Wheat Seeding for both were extraordinary good. The great Sickness which we have had for about three Months or more being an Intermiting Favour, begins somthing to abaite towards the end of this Month.

OCTOBER

1 My Wife went to the Carr Side to see her God-Doughter Frances Blundell who is dangerously ill.

2 I Read in a Spirituall Book in the Hall. I took some Pigeons to send to the Carr Side.

3 Yester-Night and this Morning I took a Dose of Pills according to Doctor Cawoods direction. I sent my Coach Carriage to be mended and put my Black Mare Bess to draw in it to uses her to the Coach, she dos extreamely well.

4 My Wife was at the Labouring of William Tarltons Doughter[2] when she was Delivered of her first Child. I Rode out to Sefton to look at the new Diall-post & so back againe.

5 I Payed the Land Tax to Thomas Marrow of the Gate and the Window Tax to John Tickley. My Wife overtooke the Corps of her God-Doughter Frances Blundell and went along with it to the Church. I went to John Blundells the Write he being dangerously ill, I was desired to goe then to him.

6 My Wife took Phisick from Doctor Lancaster. I priked out some young Cabbage Plants. I took the Hous-Clock a peeses.

7 I set the Hous-Clock together. Thomas Melling came to look at my Black Cow, she has cast Calf.

8 I went to look at Thomas Syers Beanes in the Flat, severall of them had one or two Holes apeece in and some of them a little sort of a Fly in, like a Clock I take it to be a Weevell.

9 Sir William Gerards[3] youngest Son Mr John & Pat: Aldred made me a

[1] The neck is the last sheaf of corn cut in the harvest field; in this case, a field in Little Crosby called the Flat.

[2] Daughter of a yeoman in Great Crosby.

[3] Of Bryn, near Wigan.

11 Henry Curedon came againe to his Service, he has ben at home awhile because he was not well.

12 I Botled off a Rundlet of Aile & an other of Aqua Coelestis. Mrs Blundel and her Doughters Mrs Margarit and Mrs Mary made a Viset here.

13 My Wife and I dined at Mr Cottoms with Parson Mallery, Mrs Cottom came home with us and Lodged here.

14 The Famoly of Ince dined here, so did Mr Plumb and Mr Cottom and Mr Burton & Pat: Edward Scarisbrick. Thomas Syer began his Wheat Seeding i'th Little More-Hey.

15 I Sowed some Tulop Seed & set Ninety seaven Seedling Tulops on the Propper Bed in the Nursery. I set twenty two Chives of York Tulops in two Rowes on the Forren Tulop Bed.

16 I Stated Accounts with Henry Swift, James Massy & Thomas Pinington for Work done by them, I paid them in part and they payed me part of what they ought me. Pat: Gelibrond went hence, my Wife rode out, part of the way with him alone.

17 I went to Leverpoole, Mr Fazakerley paid me two years Interest due upon two Bonds. Mrs Ginks shewed me her Hous as she is now removing to. I drank at Mrs Ladys with Mr Allonson &c: and at the Wool-pack with Mr Shepperd. I paid Mr Norton £3 in part for New Furniture for my Wives Sadle & for other things.

18 My Wife and I dined at Ince.

19 Betty Swift began againe to work for me in the Gardens 'tis the first time she did since her long Sickness.

20 I payed my Easter dues & Clarks waiges &c: to William Harrison the Clark.

21 Thomas Davy came to demand a Fine for his Late Fathers Teneament, I told him what I expected, John Blundell Taylor came with him. My Wife went to see her who was Margery Lidiat.

22 This being Mallys Birth day the Famoly of Ince came hither to drink her Health. I began in good earnest to gather my Apples, 'tis too late a great deal for the forwardest sort by at least one Fortnight or more.

23 James Davy came to put up severall Slates as were wanting, he fixed an other Grate in the Parlor.

24 I met William Atherton at Leverpoole, he paid me £10 in part of his Martinemas Rack Rent. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Whitley, Thomas Hurst &c:.

25 This being Fannys birth day the Famoly of Ince came hither to drink her health.

26 I finished gathering my Apples excepting here and there a very few. Peggy Plat was blooddyed by William Gray.[1]

27 Yester-night and this Morning my Wife took Phisick from Doctor Lancaster. I sent two Panniers of Apples as would not keep to Leverpoole to be

[1] William Gray, one of his tenants in Little Crosby.

Heys as they had done for me, then I went into the More-houses and Viseted most of the sick there.

30 Dorothy Blundell dined here. I took account of what Apple-Trees &c: I had in the Long Garden. Mr Turvill came to acquaint me that my Lady Anderton was dead.

31 Henry Curedon continewing ill, his Father fetched him home.[1] I went to Ince Green and Bowled there with Mr Aldred, Bayron, Wat: &c:.

The first day very hot the six next days wet, then now and then a fair day or two but generally very wet and a bundance of Raine this Month.

SEPTEMBER

1 My Wife and Pat: Gillibrond went to Ince to condole Mrs Blundell for the Death of my Lady Anderton,[2] I followed them, we came home together.

2 Dorothy Blundell & Mrs Sheppherd made a Viset here. Mr Aldred gave Pat: Gillibrond and me a Bowl of Punsh at his Hous.

3 I was at the Buriall of Mr Fazakerley of the Hill-Hous, I went with the Corps to Walton Church, there was Parson Loxdale, Parson Wairing, Yeomon of the Gore-Houses, Mr Whittle, &c:.

4 My Wife and I went to the Hall of Maile,[3] Mr Thomas Molineux was there so was Mrs Whittle.

5 I helped Thomas Howerd to mesure a Kegg of Brandy as I had from him, I paid him for it, he dined here.[4] I fetched home two Swine and intend to feed my other.

6 I sent Stagg becaus he is not well to Leay in Bigarstaff. Pat: Wofold being dead, my Wife and I went to the Grange to Prayers.[5] I went to see Robert Bootle the Younger.

7 I went to Garswood to wish Esquire Gerard wel-come-home from his Travells abroad, I dined there with Mr Sturton, Mr Poole of Burchley &c:.

8 My Wife went to see Mr Robert Fazakerleys Wife who is dangerously ill· I went to Robert Bootles Junior and brought him Twenty Pound for which he and John Rose gave me their Bond.

9 Thomas Pinington brought me six larg young shell Ducks.[6]

10 My Lord Molineux sent his Keeper with a Side of Venison hither. I lent Thomas Howerd six Bottles of Clarret. I sent six Shell Ducks of a Present to Sir William Gerard.

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[1] See July 29 and September 11 1720.

[2] Robert, the son of Mrs Blundell of Ince eventually came into possession of the Anderton property.

[3] Maghull, Lancashire.

[4] "Brandy . . . . . £2 15s. 0d."

[5] Father Thomas Wolfall, S.J., chaplain at Ince Blundell; aged 45 at his death. See footnote to Oct. 12 1720.

[6] "Shell Ducks, six . . . . . 6s. 0d."

ought at the Folcon for Mansmeat and Horsmeat. I took leave of Mr Ireland &c:, Mrs Naper came to take leave of my Wife, she lodged with my Sister.

16 My Wife and I began our Journey homwards from York, we Lodged at the George in Otley a very good Inn, but noe good out-side.

17 We called at Mr Atkinsons and dined there, then went to Gisbourn but there not being a good Inn, we went to the Signe of the Boot in Sola Abby but none of us went into Bed.

18 We went to Preston & dined and Lodged at the Miter, we made a Viset to the three Sister Blundells and to Mrs Fleetwood Butler. I saw the Man eat Fier and saw a peece of Mill-Stone-Greet about foure Inshes thick broke upon his Brest with a Hammer; there was also Sword Dansing, Playing Trumpet Tunes upon a Tobacco-pipe, Jugling, &c:.

19 We came from Preston, I sent Henry Curedon & Nelly Howerd home, My Wife and I went to James Rigbys where we dined thence to Croston to Mr Traffords and so home.[1]

20 Mr Turvill came to wish us welcom home. I began to pull my Onions.

21 My Wife writ Letters in my Closet and Read to me. Mr Turvill made a Viset here.

22 Jackson sowed some Cabbage Seed in the Kitchen Garden. Mrs Blundell and her two Doughters came to welcome home my Wife.

23 I Reconed with James Massy & Henry Swift for work done by them for which I payed them. I drew off the Ingredients as I had put together for making Goosberry Vinegar, and put Sugar to both Kasks of it.

24 Mrs Scarisbrick sent to welcome-home my Wife out of York-Shire. My Wife went to Leverpoole to see Mrs Lettonby who is lately come from Graveling. Dr Lancaster came to see Catty Syer, he came in here & smoaked a Pipe with me.

25 I went to Ormskerk in expectation to have swaped away my Black Mare Bess, Mr Traffords Man Mr More met me there with a Bay Gelding, but he was not for my Purpose. I drank at the Swan with Mr Smith of Maile &c:, coming home I called at Parson Hindleys, I walked with Parson Loxley into his Flower Garden.

26 I sowed some Turnopp Seed but it is too late by above a Month.

27 I went to Leverpoole, I dined at Mr Cottoms. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Robert Fazakerley Senior and at Will Rolins his with Mr Boyer.

28 My Wife intended to have Rid out, but being it was wet she did not. Mr Aldred smoaked a Pipe here.

29 Henry Swift, James Massy and I mesured some Ditching in the Winter-

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[1] "My Wives Journey & mine to and from York, my expences & Vailes there, Money lost at Gaiming, &c. . . . . £ 12 s. 9 d. 0
Sweetmeats for Neece Langdale 9
Almonds sent to Sister Midleton 6 0
Carriage of our Cloaths from York . . . . . 1 0 0"

18 Never the like Thunder & Lightoning known at this time of the year as was this Morning or rather after Midnight. Cozen John Gelibrond made a Viset here from Ince, he interceaded for William Thelwall that he might come againe, I gave my consent, his Brother Joseph was present.[1]

19 Thomas Bradley was here to have hiered some Money of me but I did not let him have any.

20 Mary Fleetwood sent two Men to mend my Windows which are upon Thomas Syers leaving them pritty much out of order.

21 I went to Leverpoole and would have paid the Sack Rent of 2s.-8d. per Annum to the Land-Lord of the Bird in Hand but he would not receive it.[2] I bought some Cours Linnen to give to the Poore for Shifting.

22 Jackson came to dress & thinn the Boughs of my Apple Trees. I sent a Present of Apples to Garswood. William Holme sent his Son for some Apples, I sold him two Bushells.

23 Jackson planted a Pare Tree under my Closet Window, I think it was of his own Raising. Owen Mackdanell was here and gave me his Fathers Will to keep. Mrs Eves Lodged here.

24 John Pinington having don whit washing &c: for me I payed him off. We went in the Night to Prayers to Mr Aldreds and when we came back we found the Turf Stack in the Bake-Hous on Fyer which probably in a very little time would have set the Hous on Fyer.

25 I Read in a Spirituall Book most of the after Noone in my Closet.

26 Mrs Eves went to lodg at Leverpoole. Mrs Blundell[3] being this day 42 years old, My Wife and I dined at Ince, we carded and Supped there.

27 My Wife went to Leverpoole, she made a Viset to Mrs Williamson. Peggy Plat left her Service and went with my Wife to Leverpoole, Mrs Eves came back with my Wife from Leverpoole.

28 The Famoly of Ince dined and Suped here so did Betty Blundell of the Carrside, we played at Cards both after Dinner & Super.

29 Mrs Eves went hence, she intended to lodg at Mrs Parrs in Sefton, my Wife went with her & Suped there & play'd at Cards. Nelly Howerd went to stay at Mathew Withingtons awhile.

30 Jane Starkey came from Pat: Clifton to invite us to dine with him next Tuesday. I drew out a Drought of a Foundation of a Barn &c: as I intend to build the next Summer at Ditton. Favorits Taile was cut off.

31 Buck and Rufler were Bluddied. John Lunt came to me of a Message from Mr Ball.

Till the 10th generally Raine, then to the 16 very Faire, the four next days very wet and extreamly Windy the like scarce ever known and never so high a Tide known as was these four dayes especially the 18th & 19th chiefly at the Meales,

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[1] See May 15 1720 and foot-note.

[2] See April 4 1720, foot-note, and Appendix B.

[3] Mrs Blundell of Ince.

Alker, Alt-Grange & towards Lancaster, there also was very great Thunder & Litoning, towards the End of this Month generally faire but much Wind.[1]

January Wet & Windy, February, March & Aprill very seasonable, cold raw winds but little or no Frost. May very wet. June seasonable. July & August extreamly wet. September very fine Harvest Weather and a Curious Wheat Seeding. October very wet. November wet & very Windy. December wet & most extraordinary great Winds with Thunder & Lightoning, never so much damage done by High Tides in these parts as now. A Sickly Summer both here & Beyond the Seas.

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[1] See "Inundation of the Lancashire Coast in 1720", Joan Beck, *Trans. of the Historic Society of Lancs. and Cheshire*, Vol. 105.

Anno Domini 1721

JANUARY

1 Mrs Par of Sefton & her Doughter dined and Supped here.

2 Mr Turvill called here and went with my Wife to Wooton [Woolton], they dined at the Talbot in Leverpoole, I stayed at Home and gave New Tickets to the Poore of this Parish.[1] I fixed up the Jaw-bone of a Sherk in the Hall. I went to Ned Howerds and took a Glass of Aile & a Pipe with him.

3 My Wife and I dined & Suped at the New hous with the Famoly of Ince and Pat: Munson; Ailes Tickley & Betty Blundell dined there. Henry Curedon killed four Misse as were in one of my Bee Hives.

4 My Wife went to Darby and agree'd for Jane Withington to come to serve her. Mr Thomas Walmesley Lodged here.

5 I paid the Land Tax to John Molineux for John Blundells late Teneament. Mr Thomas Walmesley and I went to Mr Aldreds, we found Pat: Gillibrond there.

6 Mr Thomas Walmesley and I walked out to my Brick Kill, then we went to Margarit Lurtings where we smoaked a Pipe. I payed the Land Tax to Thomas Marrow of the Gate.

7 I saw Jane Starkey pay £3 to Owen Mackdanell in part of her Purchas for his Teneament. I put up severall Escutcheons in the Hall. I set 15 Roots of very good Renunculas as I bought at York.

8 Mr Thomas Walmesley and I walked to Thomas Hesketh's & took a pipe, then to Nicholas Johnsons where we found Mr Aldred, Edward Hatton, &c:, we smoaked there.

9 Mr Aldred began to improve the Watering-Poole-Hey by leading Earth from where it might be spaired and laying it on other parts of the Field where it was most wanting.

10 Mr Thomas Walmesley went hence. Mathew Withington brought Jane his Doughter hither to be Servant here. William Harrison pulled up some Thorns in the New Orcherd.

11 Pat: Norris and Pat: Busby dined here and then went to the Grange. I went to my Thatcher and Dauber at the Sniggary & Coppy Barn, then to the Grange where Pat: Munson gave us a Bowle of Punsh, we were nine in all. Pat: Norris and Busby Lodged here.

12 Pat: Norris and Busby went hence, they dined at Mr Aldreds. My Wife & I were at the Buriall of Mr Robert Fazakerleys Wife, Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, Mr Scarisbrick Junior and I &c: were Bearers.

13 James Davy mesured the Bake-Hous to see how many Yards of Flaggs it would take to Flagg it.

14 Oughen Mackdanell shewed me the Probat of his Fathers Will which he has brought from Chester. I sowed some Dwarf Peas in the Stone Garden, they

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[1] See September 23 1717 and foot-note.

Might have ben sowed above a Month since. Elizabeth Swift being ill hurt with a Large Stone as fell upon her from the top of the Chimney at the fore Laine End Hous I went to her & order'd somthing for her Wounds.

15 I Lodged at the Signe of the Red Lyon in Warington.

16 I went past Norton Sir Thomas Brooks'es to the Lodg in Rock Savage Park where I payed two Pounds to John Chadwick Junior in full for 15 years Seick Rent due to the Crown viz: 2s.-08d. per Annum, thence to Runckhorn where we came over, when I was got a little on this side the Water, I met John Chadwick Senior and shewed him his Sons Receipt for the two Pound which was allowed by John Chadwick Senior.[1] I Lodged at the Bank at William Athertons and there made a Bargan with Debora Mather to add two Lives to her own in her Leas.

17 I came to Leverpoole & dined at Mr Cottoms with Mr William Plumb &c: and drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Robert Fazakerley & Mr Alanson.

18 Pat: Munson made a Viset here, Denis Allonson[2] came to know whether I expected a Book of Gardening from London. I went in the Evening to Mr Aldreds, he gave me part of a Bottle of Punsh and I smoaked a pipe there.

19 I set some Cabbage Stalks on the Terras Walk for Sprouts.

20 I sowed Haws on my two New Beds in the New Orcherd. Mr Aldred was here & smoaked a Pipe with me. My Wife went to William Weedows.

21 I dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole with Mr Booth, Mr Turner &c:, Mr Cottom brought me a Hundred Leomonds,[3] I payed him for them and payed off all I ought him for Shop Debt.

22 John Tickley the Overseeor of the Poore, Gabriell Norris, John Molineux, &c: came hither & desired I would hinder any Strangers from coming to live in this Town.

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[1] See April 4 1720 and Appendix B.

[2] Bookseller from Liverpool. Blundell quite frequently bought books and pamphlets. He noted the following in his Disbursement Book:—

	s.	d.
1719		
Book of Gardening by Lawrence	6	6
Dixonarium Rusticum	7	0
Act against Runing goods		10
History of Robinson Crusoe	9	0
1720		
A Mapp of London & some Pictures	2	6
Short way to end Controversy	3	6
History of Theeves	7	0
Paper and an Almanick	1	0
1721		
Pamphlets	1	7
Maps for the Parlor	4	6
Paper & an Almenick	1	9
Pa[m]flets at twice	9	0

In addition he recorded buying newspapers two or three times a year, the amount paid each time was usually about one shilling.

[3] The 100 lemons cost 8s. 0d. See February 3 1721.

23 I gave Mr Aldred some Young Thorns for a Close Hedg. Jane Starkey and Owen Mackdonnell were here, she should have payed him her purchass Money for his Teneament, but being Writings were not Ready she would not doe it.

24 Mrs Parr of Sefton dined here. I sowed some Beans on the Terras Walk.

25 Jane Starkey shewed me an Assignment as Owen Mackdonnell had Signed yester day to her. I set some Aqua Coelestis aruning & made today about a Dozen Bottles.

26 I light of Christopher Parker in the Smithy,[1] he payed me his Rent, his Wife bought some Feathers here. I set some Onions for Seed in the Stone-Garden, the White ones neare the Wall the others a little farther off.

27 I was very busy most of the day making Aqua Coelestis, I took a Bottle of it to Mr Aldreds, he was very busy prepairing against Thursday.

28 I sent a Sack of Wheat to Leverpoole, William Carefoot sold it.

29 My Wife and I went to Ince, Wat Thelwall was buried from thence, he dyed there, I walked a part of the way with the Corps.

30 I was very busy both before and after dinner making Aqua Coelestis.

31 Mary Blundell of the Northend was here, she designes soone to goe to serve Madam Reed. I was at Mr Aldreds whilst Ned Howerd was helping him against Thursday, I did not help him this bout, I stayed & smoaked a Pipe with him.

Till the 13th generally faire & severall days more like Spring than Winter, from the 13th to the 28th some days Wind others Raine the four last days frost Snow & true Winterly Weather, more than we have had yet this Winter.

FEBRUARY

1 William Atherton came hither and payed me his Reck Rent, he brought a Present of a Mugg of Butter from his Wife. Ralf Hindley the Brick-layer and Daniell Chaddock the Mayson came to meet William Atherton here, we all went out to my Stone Delf on the Hill to see what sort of Stone it was, I discoursed Daniell Chadock about geting it, they all three Lodged here. I signed a Leas to Debera Mather & sent it her by William Atherton.

2 William Atherton &c: went hence. I Botled off the last of my Aqua Coelestis, I made at this time about nine Dozen & a half of Aqua Coelestis. Mrs Blundell intended to have come today to take leave of my Wife becaus she intends shortly for London, but business hindered her, so she sent her Doughters Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary.

3 I Scoaped 30 Leomonds, the Juce of them made one Pint and about the fourth of a Pint, I put to it one pint of Brandy. I also made some Shrub; the proportion was Brandy two Quarts, Crab Vargious one pint & a half, Leomonds six, Dubble Refined Sugar one Pound. The proportion of Mixture for my last

[1] Parker was the new Smith, renting the smithy.

Brue of Aqua Coelestis was Brandy two Quarts, Crab Vargeus one Pint & one fifth of a Quart, Lime Juce one fifth of a Quart, Lisbon Sugar one Pound, Leomonds three and being the Brandy was very good I put to it four Quarts and one pint of Water, the Water was first bouled, the outward Rine of the Leomonds was infuesed in it so they were also in the Shrub, but the Brandy & Leomond Juce had not any Rine infuesed in it. Cozen Gelibrond of Astley Lodged here. This Night I had a Cargo of 16 Larg ones brought to Whit Hall.[1]

4 William Carefoot[2] covered the Cargo very well with Straw. I marked out severall Placess in the Padock & Crow-orcherd where I intend to plant Ash and Oak.

5 Being Mrs Blundell began her Journey towards London today, her Doughters Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary and Betty Blundell came to prayers to Mr Aldreds, they dined here so did Mr Sheperd, he also Lodg'd here.

6 Cozen Gelibrond and Mr Sheperd went hence. I removed the Loustrap from the New-Laine & set it in the West-Laine.[3] Thomas Marrow and Partners paid me their Rent for the Ackers &c:, I agreed with them to hold it for a longer Terme. I Rid up the Great Leaning Popular as grew near the Hen-hous-Pit. I went to Great Crosby Court which was kept by Mr Greene, there was Parson Wairing, Mr Crisp, Thomas Syer, William Tarlton, &c:.

7 I Booked my Disbursments for the Last Quarter.

8 I met Jane Starkey at Leverpoole but being Mr Plumb was not in Town we went to his Hous but he not being at home we did not light, I went back to Leverpoole and payed Mr Allonson all I ought him, we drank together at the Woolpack.

9 I went with James Massy & Henry Swift & helped to measure some Ditching they had done for me towards the Coppy long since & then we stated Accounts. I bought a Side of a Hogg of Richard Ainsworth he helped to bring it hither and see it weighed. I payed him for it, we stated Accounts & made stright by paying what was due on both Sides. My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Parr.

10 Charles Howerd brought me a good provision for Aqua Coelestis, I shewed him his goods well stowed in Whit-Hall. I went to old John Sumners and proposed a Service at London to his Doughters but neather of them would accept of it. I began to lead away my Potatow Ground in the Oat-Croft & lay it on other parts of that Field where it wanted most.

11 I went to Leverpoole upon Jane Starkeys account, Mr Plumb got her a Warant from Mr Mayor to seaz upon Thomas Taylor and his Wife[4] I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Booth, Mr Turnor, Mr Whittle, &c:.

12 Mrs Margarit & Mary Blundell came from Mr Aldreds and dined here. Cozen Gelibrond of Astley came from More-Hall & dined here. Mrs Parr and her Doughter dined here but we had dined ere they came.

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[1] Once again he is engaged in smuggling: *Larg ones* meaning casks. The entry for February 10 1721 shows that White Hall was somewhere in or near Little Crosby.

[2] Hind and groom to Blundell

[3] "Lous" is a dialect form of "loose". A "loustrap" may mean a trap which was portable.

[4] Jane was a Blundell tenant. For some reason unknown, Taylor, a Little Crosby labourer, and his wife made a "forcible entry and detention of three closes of moss ground belonging to Jane Starkey". The case heard at the Easter sessions 1721 went against Taylor. See February 14, March 25, April 8, 20, 22, 24, 25, May 7 and July 6 1721.

13 Edmund Croston came & worked for me, 'tis the first time since he worked of himself.

14 My Teame and 12 others helped James Scarisbrick to remove out of this Town. Thomas Taylor and his Wife were taken by a Warand & brought before Mr Mayor of Leverpoole upon Jane Starkeys Account, Jane got the better of them. My Wife met Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary Blundell at the Carr side.

15 Mr Whittle came to buy my Black Mare Bess but we could not bargan, two Henry Harpers came with him, they stayed and took a pipe with me. Pat: Clifton was here.

16 Thomas Howerd taisted severall Casks of Clarret, he and Mr Aldred payed me some as I had lent them, I went to Pat: Cliftons & Turned my Pancake there, I found my Wife, Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary Blundell &c: there, we all played at Cards.

17 I went to my Workmen as were cuting Hedging-Wood in the More Laine by Rothwells.

18 Being Dorothy Blundells Son Henry of Ince Town was dead I sent my Coach Carriage to carry him to be buried. Mr Thwaites was here but being he has not carried himself well, I neather gave him any thing nor entertained him as usual.[1]

19 Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary Blundell dined here so did Ailes Tickley, Betty Blundell & Ginnet Jump.

20 I sold my Rabbet Skins to Richard Wignold he payed me for them and took them away. I removed the Candles out of my Seller, into the Candle Closet.

21 I Botled 28 Bottles of Shrub the Proportion of Mixture was the same as when I made Aqua Coelestis the 3rd Instant, onely now about one third of the Sugar was Dubble Refined & this Shrub had noe Water in but all Ingredients elce for Punsh. I stayed at Home, all the rest went abroad,[2] my Wife went to Ince.

22 Being William Blundell was ill I went to see him, coming back I stayed awhile at Ann Marsers the Widdows, I also called at Mr Aldreds and smoaked a Pipe with him and Thomas Howerd; Pat: Clifton came thither.

23 William Thelwall fixed a New Coffy-Mill in the Paistry but being it would not grind he took it down againe. I sowed some Peas on a sort of a Hot Bed.

24 I went to Leverpoole and drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Aldred, John Whit & John Marsden. Mr Aldred and I came home together.

25 I Removed the Dreser out of the Kitchen into the Bake-Hous and put the new Dreser into the Kitchen as was in the Dayry. I gave a Man some slips of Currons and Goosberrys for Mr Munson. Henry Curedon left my Service. Cozen Gelibrond of Astley sent me £100 by his Servant Robert as I had let him have and Interest for it. I Received a Box from my Sister Midleton with Chinea & Coffy in it.

26 My Wife made a Viset to Dorothy Blundell[3] to condole the Death of her Son Henry.

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[1] See June 7 1709 and May 24 1712.

[2] This is the expression Nicholas often used when people went out of Little Crosby visiting friends. Anywhere out of Little Crosby he frequently called "the outside".

[3] Most likely the Dorothy Blundell who was nursemaid to the children in 1709.

27 I planted about 50 Ashes in the Padock and Crow-Orcherd 'tis the first day I have Planted Timber this Winter. I set Achhornes in the New Plantation in the Flat most of them were sprouted 3 or 4 Inshes. I raised the Firr-Tree in the Bleaching Yord as was almost blowed down and layed large Stones round it upon the Ground.

28 I Dined at Mr Shepperds in Darby with Mr Molineux of the Grange and Richard Blundell of the Carr-Side, we looked at the Hous & out-housing to see in how bad repair it was.

Truly Winterly Weather and generally pritty hard Frosts every Night, and cold persing Winds in the day.

MARCH

1 I sowed four sorts of Peas for Seed and some London Beans. I sowed some Peas for the Hous use.

2 I got home two Large Oak Trees as lay in the Ground one in the Cow-hey the other in that part of the Moss-hey as is now called the Brund Croft. I set some Great Nuts at the side of the Union Walk.

3 My Little Larom having a Stricking part put to it, I fixed it in our Chamber.[1]

4 I clove a great many Lats and very good Gate Barrs out of one of the Moss-wood Trees as I got home the other day.

5 Dorothy Blundell dined here. I Read a good part of the after Noone in a Spirituall Book.

6 Mrs Barker dined here. Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary Blundell made a Viset here so did Betty Blundell.

7 I began to break the other Moss-wood Tree as I got up the last week.

8 I was a good part of the after-noone in the Padock with my Work-men whilst they were falling two old Shrub Oak Trees there.

9 I planted eight Firr Trees in the Avenew where others were dead, they grew in the Long Garden, I neather cut Root or Bransh. I sowed about 90 Stones of Whit Mogull Plumbs in the Nursery. Tootall Dined here he is now come from Madam Bagnolls Service.[2] Pat: Gelibrond went hence. My Wife dined at Mr Shepperds.

10 I Planted four Beech Trees & Tenn Elmes (being two sorts of Elme) in the Avenew and also some Abells.

11 I have now finished planting in the Avenew for this Season & have fenced the Trees pritty well.

12 Mr Shepperd & his Wife, Dorothy and Betty Blundell din'd here.

13 I went to Leverpoole and drank at Evis'es with the Maior Mr Taylor, Pothocary Barrows &c: and at the Wool-pack with Mr Cottom and Mr Plumb Junior.

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[1] Alarm clock. "Making my Larom to strike . . . . £1 1s. 0d."

[2] See October 6 1719.

14 I went to the Mill with John Tickley and agreed with him for a part of his Ground by the Mill to window [winnow] on.

15 I got William Gray to help to pull up Thornes, he and William Carefoot pulled up about one Thousand, I helped to thinn them. Pat: Clifton was here.

16 Ailes Stock being dead, my Wife and I went to the New-hous to prayers, we dined there with Mrs Margarit Blundell, Mr Molineux of the Grange &c: we went part of the way with the Corps & then came home past Ince Mill.

17 Mr Plumb sent me a Present of Oysters. I went to my Workfolks as were Fencing & Railing at my Grand Cop by the Sniggary, thence I went to the Grange to Mr Molineux his Coppers and gave them somthing to make them to shout.[1] Cozen Gelibrond of Astley lodged here.

18 Cozen Gelibrond went hence. I went to look at a Heffer of Peggy Thelwalls but did not buy her.

19 George Smith the Gardiner was here, so was Mr Molineux of the Grange. Charles Howerd payed me £5 as I lent him and I pay'd him for some Brandy.

20 I went to the Carr-Side in hopes to meet Mary Blundell who was going to live with Madam Reed, but missing of her I came back & found her here.

21 I sowed some Salleting in the Close-Hedg-Garden and some Turnop Seed on the Terras Border.

22 I Went to Thomas Hesketh's & drank there with Parson Wairing, Parson Acton, Captain Parkinson, Mr Bayron, John Rose, &c:.

23 Jackson Planted me some Cabbage Plants, & trimed most of my Frute Trees as came last from London, he grafted seaven different sorts of Apples the whip-graft way on my Hodg-podg Tree in the New Ground.

24 I went to my Workmen as were prepairing to take up part of the Coppy Wall being I intended to Remove it, some of Great Crosby were to have met me there, about agreeing where to set it, but nobody came except Thomas Syer.

25 I Stated Accounts with Henry Ascroft and we cleared all off on both sides, I told him Mr Plumb would have him & Jane Starkey break open the Gate as Thomas Taylor had locked. Robert Bushell fetched some Thornes from hence for Ince.

26 Dorothy Blundell dined here.

27 I met some of Great Crosby Men[2] viz: Thomas Syer, Thomas Goar, Richard Cartwrit &c: at my Grand Cop, we discoursed concerning removing part of my Coppy Wall, they gave me leave to remove it a Little & set it upon their Marsh according as we then Marked out. I began to take up the Pot-Herbs &c: in the Kitchen Garden and new Moddell it, I planted severall of the things again upon other Beds. Mrs Parr made a Viset here.

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[1] Giving money to workmen "to make them shout" was a custom when marl pits were being dug. Here "the coppers" were probably building "cops" or mounds of earth to keep back flood water.

[2] Yeomen; members of the Great Crosby Jury.

28 I went to Thomas Marser who was seting my Coppy Wall a little upon Great Crosby Marsh according as it was agreed upon yesterday. I sowed Parsely & Corn Sallet Seed in the Kitchen Garden.

29 I Sowed some Onion and Carrot Seed on the Bed overagainst the Stone Garden Well. I payed the Land Tax to Thomas Marrow of the Gate and the Window Tax to John Tickley. Mrs Parr sent my Wife some Burch Water, I sent to her for more, we began to make Wine of it.[1]

30 I went to my Work Folks as were working at the Coppy Wall and to the Writs as were repairing the Gates about the Coppy &c:.

31 I went to my Work Folks as were working at the Coppy Wall and to the Writes as were Railing between Bryan Leas Ground and Blundells Meadow.

The Begining of this Month the Weather was very sutable for the Season then somtimes a fair day or two but generally some small Raine though neaver violent Showers.

APRILL

1 They Tuned the Burch Wine in my Seller. I mended the Fence between Arnolds-Heys & the Marsh.

2 Emblan Blansherd dined here. I read a good part of the day in a Spirituall Book.

3 Henry Ascroft began to delve Turves for me in John Blundells late Teneament 'tis my first days delving this year. I was at the Funerall of Widdow Maile of Maile, the Bearers were Mr Rigby of Hadolk, Mr Clayton of Adlington, Junior, Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh, &c:, My Coach carried two of Widdow Mailes Doughters &c: to and from the Church. I stayed drinking at the Ail-Hous in Sefton Church Yord a good while with Doctor Lancaster, Richard More, &c:.[2]

4 I went to Henry Ascroft who was Delving Turves for me. Margarit Taylor was carried a second time before Mr Mayor of Leverpoole upon Account of Jane Starkey.

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[1] "Burch Water . . . . . 3s. 2."

"*To make Birch Wine*

To every galon of birch likyor being first well boyld put 2 pounds of fine powder sugar boyle the sugar no longer then you may, Scum it clear let it stand to setle, And when it is cold pour it from the grounds, put to every 12 galons a pint of east keep the tub close covered & if the wether be cold throw a blanket over it & when you think it is Worked enough take to every galon A pound of resony cut small, Smoake your vessell with brimstone & put in your raisons & so tunnit it up, leave your vesell open i day or 2 till you think it has done working then stop it up close & after 3 months try if it be Clear enough to botle perhaps it will be neare Michellmas before it be fit to Botle; the trees must be tapt the begining of March, keep your liquor free from Raine and keep it not above a night after it is got for it prickes with keeping."

(Nicholas Blundell's "Book of Prescriptions and Recipes.")

[2] William Maghull had died in 1709; his widow was Cecily, daughter of Thomas Bootle of Melling. Her will is dated March 31 1717 and was proved at Chester May 11 1721. Her two daughters were Ellen, who married Joseph Yates of Peel in Little Hulton, and Elizabeth, who married Edward Aspinwall.

5 My Lord Langdale sent his Servant hither from my Lord Molineux'es of a how-do-you. I began in good earnest to spin Hay and made a good part of one Leaf of a Screene. My Team brought home a Load of Coles for our Smith from behind Holland he had no other Teame but mine.

6 I sowed some Whit Beet Seed on the Border of the Terras Walk. I payed off Edward Croston & Arthur Wilson for working for me & have done with them for a while.

7 I went to Leverpoole upon Jane Starkeys Business but being it was Good Fryday no business could be don, so Thomas Taylor & his Wife were kept Prisoners at Leverpoole. I began to set Potatows in the Town-Medow.

8 I went to Leverpoole & had Thomas Taylor and his Wife before Mr Mayor of Leverpoole, Mr William Plumbe and Mr Peters were present. I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Syer of the Ford, Mr Booth &c:.

9 Mrs Margarit Blundell & her Sister Mary dined here so did Betty Blundell & her two Doughters.

10 My Wife sent Ned Howerd to Wooton[1] to welcom-home my Lady Molinuex My Wife and I dined at Scarisbrick with Mr Trafford of Croston and his Brother Richard, Mr Nelson of Fairest & Mr Ashton &c:.

11 I Peruesed (John Tickley) the Overseeor of the Poors Account as are to be read today in Sefton Church. I payed two Church-Leys to Edward Rothwell. Mrs Par of Sefton made a Viset here. My Lord Langdale & Mr Thomas Heskaine Lodged here.

12 I Rode out with my Lord Langdale &c: to look at the Land Mark at the Grange.[2]

13 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh dined here. Mr Carroll Molineux dined and lodged here.

14 My Lord Langdale, Mr Carroll Molineux, Mr Heskaine and I went to Mr Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh, Pat: Munson dined here, he also went to Mr Aldreds, Pat: Gelibrond came to us.

15 Mr Carroll Molineux & Mr Heskaine went to Wallowsey[3] and saw my Lord Molineux his Horses sweat, they came back to dinner and then went with my Lord Langdale and me to the Grange where Mr Munson gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

16 We expected Mr Scarisbrick to dine here but he sent his Excuse.

17 My Gests went hence, Mr Aldred went along with them. Thomas Syer payed me part of his Rent for the last year. John Landers began to delve Fleas in

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[1] Woolton Hall, which had been bought in 1700 by Richard, 5th Viscount Molyneux. Lady Molyneux continued to live at Woolton Hall after the death of her husband in 1738 until her death on March 20 1766.

[2] A tall wooden structure erected near the shore for the guidance of shipping sailing to and from Liverpool. It is marked on a Chart of the Lancashire Coast between Formby and the River Wyre, 1737, by Fearon and Eyes. To avoid sandbanks as ships were entering or leaving Formby Channel, captains were instructed to keep the Formby Land-Mark and Billinge Hill some 12 miles inland in line. (See DDBl/24/25, Lancs. Record Office).

[3] For some reason not known Lord Molyneux transferred the training of his race-horses from Great Crosby to Wallasey on Wirral.

Gate-Hey. Henry Ascroft began to delve Turves in Thomas Marrows Moss, he had delved one Pit this year before in John Blundells late Teneament.

18 I Planted some pritty large Thornes at the side of the Sixteen Aiker, they had ben taken up about three Weeks since & layed in the Ground.

19 Ned Spencer came to discourse me about my New Building as is to be at Ditton. Mr Hardesty prayed and dined here. Thomas Syer brought me some Silver & desired I would chang it him for Gold which I did.

20 I went to Wartery to Mr Plumb and discoursed him concerning Jane Starkey & Thomas Taylor, I dined there with his Sister and Brother in Law. Thomas Howerd was here, we stated Accounts, I shewed him what I had in Whit-Hall. Pat: Clifton Suped here. Nanny Weedow came to take Leave of me, she is to goe tomorrow towards London.

21 Mr Taylor the Mayor of Leverpoole and Mr Richard Norris came to vew Formoss-poole Plat, Thomas Syer and I &c: were there with them, thence we went to Charles Howerds & took a Bowl of Punsh, Mr Peters swore foure Witneses in Order to get a better Bridg there, after Leverpoole Gentle-Men were gon I stayed and drank with Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Ned Molineux &c:.

22 I Ordered my Teame to Plough for Jane Starkey in Spight of Margarit Taylor. I Grafted three sorts of Apples on the Hodg-podg Tree, & two Imps of Harrisons in the Nursery, I think the Imps had ben got above three Weeks and I feare were too dry.

23 Mr Henry Blundell was at Prayers at Mr Aldreds 'tis the first time I have seen him since he came from beyond the Seas.[1] Mr Robert Fazakerley Junior &c: were at Mr Aldreds, they went to Ince with Mr Henry Blundell, their Viset being to him chiefly.

24 I went to Ormskerk Sessions chiefly upon Account of Jane Starkey but the Grand Jury slashed her Bill; I dined at the Kings Armes with Mr Antwisley the Vice Chancellor, Mr Case, Lawyor Blundell &c:, I was upon the Bensh with Mr Richard Norris &c:. In the Evening or rather at Night I drank at the Swan with John Crook of Scarisbrick, John Wilm of Martins Croft, John Merry &c:. My Hors stayed at William Grises and I Lodged at his Doughters.

25 It being a White-Meat day I dined at a Table by myself at the Swan. I went upon Jane Starkeys Account before the Grand Jury, Mr Wissall would not try the Cause, I was upon the Bensh most of the after Noone, Mr Ashhurs, Mr Maudsley &c: were the Justises of Peas. Mr Rigmaden and William Thelwall &c: came home with me as far as their way lay. Mr Peters was for Jane Starkey.

26 I went to Ascroft who was delving Turves for me in Thomas Marrows Moss and then to three Delvers of Fleas in Gate-Hey. I sowed some Potherbs Seed in the Kitchen Garden, some Beans on the Terrass and Peas in the New Orcherd.

27 I Planted Lettice, Spinage and Male all with four Leaves in the Stone Garden. I sowed sone Flower Seeds and Kidney Beans &c: in the Close Hedg Garden. I sent some Flower Roots &c: to Mrs Par and Pat: Clifton. My Wife went with Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary Blundell to Leverpoole, they dined at the Talbot. I layed my Beas[ts] out.

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[1] Henry, the brother of Robert Blundell, of Ince Blundell, Esq. had just returned from the Jesuit College at St Omer where he had been a student.

28 I Took measure at the Mill to see how much would be suffisient for a Pair of Sale Cloths.

29 I went to Thomas Marser who was making a Wall from the Grand Cop to the Sniggary. Peggy Plat lodged here.

30 My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Wofold of More-Hall. Mr Henry Blundell made a Viset here 'tis the first time since he came from London.

This has ben a very wet & Cold Month and severall have not yet don their Lenton Seeding. I think there were not above five entire fair days the rest of the Month being every day some Raine and generally pritty much.

MAY

1 I went to Leverpoole and drank at the Wool-pack with Norton the Sadlor thence to Ditton, I lodged at the Bank.

2 Ned Spencer, William Atherton and I went into the Tenants Ground and Picked out some Trees as we thought would be proper for my New Building at Ditton, I sold the Bark to Thomas Houghton, then we went to the Aile-Hous where we found Ralf Hindley, Joseph Bolton, &c:.

3 I told Ailes Kennion about her Husbands cuting down my Timber. I went to the New-Hall & spoke to Mr Shepperd concerning what security Mrs Wofold could give for a Sume of Mony thence to Leverpoole where I met Mr Aldred about Darcy Chantrells Money, we drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Smarley &c: but I not being well I drank no Aile.

4 I went to Henry Ascroft he was delving Turves for me, I bought an Infole Mare of him then I went to my three Delvers of Fleas in Gate-Hey and took Account what Roods they had sold for me and how many I should have to pay them for Delving.

5 I Planted some Hartichoaks in the New Orcherd. I went to Richard Mores and discoursed him concerning what Edmund Trustram had received for Jane Renolds use as part of Nicholas Renolds Personall Estate,[1] thence I went to

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[1] See February 19 1703, February 4 and November 22 1704, and April 4 1706. Jane was a nun at Gravelines, Flanders. She was the sister in law of Edmund Trustram, of Ince Blundell. Her father, Nicholas Reynolds, left a considerable sum of which his two daughters, the wife of Edmund Trustram and Jane Reynolds, were each to receive between £400 and £500. In 1702, Nicholas wrote to Madame Cannell of the Poor Clare Nuns at Gravelines explaining that Trustram was not able to pay Jane Reynold's portion because he had been cheated and defrauded of a large part of the estate of the deceased Nicholas Reynolds.

However, nineteen years later, Nicholas discovered that it was not true that Edmund Trustram had been defrauded. The following is the second of two letters he wrote to Madame Bagnall on this matter:

"To Madam Bagnoll May the 20 [1721]

Madam

By yours of the 30th ulti: you inform me that your Friend gave you advice that Edmund Trustram had given Bond to make his Sister-in-Law Jane Renolds Portion equall to his Wives, which as you say your Friend tells you he has not done, so you desire my assistance herein; I have made the best enquiry I can into the Matter by asking every one as I thought likely to informe me. I find Edmund did give a Bond but

[*Continued over*]

John Aspinwalls and looked at his Flowers, thence to Oughton where I Light of Parson Loxdale at the Claks. I smoaked a Pipe there.

6 I Payed Landers for Delving Fleas. Peggy Plat went hence. I dined at the Wool-pack at Leverpoole with Mr Whittle, Mr Booth &c: and then made a Bargan with Mr Turner for some Lime Stone and Glass-Bottles. I went with Ailes Atherton to Mr William Plumbes Office, she gave him Directions to draw a New Lease. I went to look at Mr Willes his Flower Garden and at Mr James Tildesleys. I drank at Night with Mr Peters, Mr Williamson of Litherland &c: at the Wool-pack. Mr Aldred and I should have received some Money from Noctorum but were disapointed, he came home with me.

7 My Wife should have met Mrs Scarisbrick at Mrs Barkers but it being a very wet day she sent an Excuse to Scarisbrick. William Weedow went to Ormskerk to Jane Starkey who was Prisoner there upon Thomas Taylors Account, he came hither at Night & gave me an Account what was to be don for her. Mr Rigmaden came with him.

8 John Vose & Ned Spenser &c: began to contrive and Build a Stable & Shippon for Mr Aldred. I began to make a Bewfet in the Back Parlor[1] I dined at Charles Howerds with Mr Taylor the Mayor of Leverpoole, Mr Richard Norris, Mr Smith the Collector, Dr Diggans, &c:, Mr Corleys should have met us there to have discoursed about building a Bridg over Formoss-poole Gutter but he came not, Mr Peters was there so was Edward Litherland.

9 John Pye came hither, I went with him to the Delf by the Pinfold and discoursed him about geting Stones to sell for the Bridg over Formoss-poole Gutter. Richard Blundells Doughter Ailes Lodged here, she is to goe to Schoole to Betty Jackson so stayes here for some time. My Gray Mare Flea brought forth a Bay Filly Fole, I call it Ginny.

10 Esq[r] Gerard & Pat: Norris dined here. Pat: Gorsuch & his Sister Ann lodged here. I sowed some Cowcomber Seeds they ben steeped in New-Milk above Twenty four Hours.

[*Continued*]

'tis not so fully expressed as I suppose your Friend heard it was, however, I am o opinion Edmund Received considerably more than what he owns to have done & consequently is oblidged both in Honour & Consience to give you more than what he has already done notwithstanding the Bond be Cansoled as he gave to Sir William Gerard. The Reason I have for it is this; that his Father-in-Law Nicholas Renolds dyed worth in Bonds & Notes upon Demand £1619. Goods Quick & dead £200. Teneaments of a Considerable Vallew had they ben sold as soon as Nicholas dyed, but being the Lives did not long continew they may modestly be Vallewed at £164 all which being put together makes £1983 out of which (tho Edmund says adeal was lost) I can not find that above £144 was lost so there Remains good £1839, half of which I am informed he Received and the half of what he Received ought to have ben payed by him to Sister Jane Renolds viz: £459.15s.0d., how much of it he has payed to your Hous I know not but hope he will pay all as is behind, for I do verely believe there was no more of Nicholas Renolds Money lost than what I mentioned before; perhaps endeed some of the Money might be got by Sute & that charge ought to be allowed him so you see Madam I speak for him as well as against him and if what I have don herein can be any ways servisable to you (and Convince Edmund Trustram that he is bound both by Law & Consience to pay you the Remainder of what he owes you) I shall think my time well spent in making this Enquiry and shall ever Remain Madam

Your Faithfull Humble Servant

Nicholas Blundell."

[1] Probably "buffet".

11 I made my last Seeding of Peas and Beans for this year 'tis a very good time to sow now for a last Crop, but I think one may sow Peas a Fortnight hence. I went to make my first Viset to Mr Henry Blundell but he was not at home. My Wife went with Pat: Gorsuch & his Sister Ann to the Grange to Viset Mr Munson.

12 Pat: Munson dined here. I went to gate-Hey and sold Fleas to William Abrom, John Molineux, &c: 'tis the first days Saile since they gave over delving Fleas, coming home I called at Mr Aldreds & found Mr Munson & Pat: Gorsuch there. I began to paist some Mapps upon Linnen for furnishing the Back Parlor.[1]

13 Pat: Gorsuch went hence, Mr Aldred Reared his Stable & Shippon. I planted above fourty Colliflower Plants. I set some Kidney Beans for a second Crop.

14 Mr Henry Blundell and his Sister Mary dined here. James Banner was here, I payed him some Money in part for Brick as he is making for me at Ditton. William Barton paid some Money here to Mr Aldred from Darcy Chantrell, Mr Smarley came with him. Mr Cottom made a Viset here.

15 I Drank a Bowl of Punsh at Mr Aldreds with Mr Peters and Mr Williamson of Litherland. My Wife went with Cozen Nanny Gorsuch to Litherland to make a Viset to Mrs Williamson.

16 I Brought a Load of Lime from Leverpoole for Mr Aldred. I put a New Bead String to my Stone-Bow and tryed it.

17 Yeomon of the Goar Houses was here, I lent him some Money. Thomas Syer Mucked the Farther Wheat-Hey, he had I think nine Carts & a half. Corles and Edward Litherland should have come to look at my Stone-Delf upon Account of a Bridg to be built over Formoss-poole Gutter, but being they came not Thomas Syer and I went to Thomas Hesketh's hoping to meet them there, they went to Formoss-poole but came not to my Stone-Delf.

18 I Walked to Crosby Hors Rase, it was three heats for a Sadle, Mr Syer of the Ford wan it, two other ran for it, when the Rase was over I drank at Margarit Lurtings with Mr Syer of the Ford, Thomas Syer &c:. my Gray Mare Flea was Horsed at Ormskerk by Blackmores Bay Stallion.

19 Robert Weedow went with me to sell Fleas but there came not many Customers. Nelly Davy who is lately come from Ireland was here.

20 I Sealed a Leas in Mr Plumbs Office to Ailes Atherton & She the Counterpart to me. I exchanged some Tulop Roots with Mr Willis. Mr Cottom gave me a Bowl of Extraordinary good Punsh at his Hous, Mr Hugh Patton was with us. I bought some Wine of Mr Williamson & payed him for it.

21 Mr Henry Blundell, his Sisters Mrs Margarit & Mrs Mary, Betty Blundell and Ginnet Jump dined here.

22 I shot some Crows with my Stone-bow in Ince Wood & Mr Henry Blundell shot some with a Gunn.

23 Cozen Nanny Gorsuch went hence. I called at Margarit Davys to see her Doughter Ellen as is comne out of Ireland.

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[1] "Maps for the Parlor . . . . . 4s. 6d."

24 I helped to Bottle off three Casks of Aile and was very busy both before & after dinner puting my Seller into better order.

25 Cozen Scarisbricks Son Joseph called here as he was going to Leverpool from the New-Hous, he came to take leave of me, he is going to St Omers. I helped William Thelwall to Remove my Wives Press into the Dressing Roome from the Head of the Great Stares.

26 I went to Gate-Hey and sold some Fleas, thence to old John Sumner who was Delving Turves for me in William Blundells Sparling Field, I mesured the two Pits as are feyed there. Being Mrs Blundell and her Son came home yester Night we sent to wellcom them home.

27 My Wife and I called at the Signe of Sir William Gerards Crest in Ashton, thence to Gravock where we Lodged.

28 My Wife & I went to Hopker, Mr Culcheth and Mr Tompson came thither to make us a Viset and then came back with us to Gravock[1] and Suped there.

29 Mr Richard Saile & I went to Leigh and looked at the Church, I saw there some remarkable Bones of Persons as were dead, we went to Garswood & attended the Funerall of Sir William Gerard to Winwick Church where he was buryed, there was at Garswood Mr Banks of Winstanley, Mr Antwisley &c:, from Winwick I went to Culcheth with Mr Culcheth and made a Viset there to the Laydys.

30 My Wife and I came from Gravock, we dined with Pat: Billing at Brinn thence to Mr Lanctons of the Low, I drank there with Mr Bradshaw, the three Mr Diconsons &c:, then to Holland[2] where we stayed awhile at the Agle & Child and so came home.

31 James Worroll came to put me up a New Mill-Stone, he brought an other Man with him.[3]

Till the 16th very wet for this time of the yeare with cold winds, then faire almost every day and some of the dais towards the end of this Month were very hot.

JUNE

1 I took up my Renunculas and Emony Roots in the Knot at least most of them. I took up most of my worst Tulops as grew in the Knot. My Wife and I went to Ince to welcom-home Mrs Blundell & her Son but they were gon to the Carr Side so we came home againe.

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[1] Grave Oak Farm, close to Hopecar, near Leigh, was the seat of the Catholic family of Sale. William, the son of Gilbert Sale, then dead, lived here with his wife, Jane, daughter of Edmund Trustram of Ince Blundell. His mother was then residing at Hopecar, which was finally sold by her son, Gilbert Sale, of Liverpool, in 1770. The visit was most probably in connection with the fraud over the legacy to Jane Reynolds (See May 5 1721 and foot-note.) as well as for the funeral of Sir William Gerard.

[2] Up Holland, near Wigan.

[3] See April 27 and June 1 1720.

2 This being the first day of Seling Turves this year, I went in the Morning to Thomas Marrows Moss & to More-hous-Moss & sold Turves to Richard Renold, John Chesshire &c:. William Thelwall fixed me a New Bensh at the side of the Hasle Walk.

3 James Worroll put me up a New Mill-stone, I was at the Mill then, so was Thomas Hesketh, the Miller of Ince Mill, the Miller of Sefton &c:. Nanny Howerd came for some Clarret, I drew her some.

4 Mr Aldred gave my Wife and me some very ripe Strawberrys out of his own Garden.

5 I sent William Carefoot towards Weeton Fair which is to be tomorrow. Pat: Munson made a Viset here. Mr Ing: was here I bought some Wine of him.

6 I mesured one of the Moss-pits in Thomas Marrows Moss, Henry Ascroft and Betty Swift having at present don geting Turves there I stated accounts with them & payed them for geting & wheeling Turves &c. Nelly Davy helped me to paist some Maps for the Back Parlor. William Carefoot brought me home nine Twinter Heffers as he & his Father bought for me at Weeton Fair; this being the Tuesday before Corpus Christi it was the Beast Faire there, & began before Sun Rise or rather the last night.[1]

7 Thomas Marrow bought me a pritty Red Bull at Prescot Faire.[2]

8 John Leigh brought me three Dozen of Burch Beesoms.[3] Mrs Parr made a Viset here so did Parson Wairing, they suped here. My Mare Flea was Horsed at Ormskerk by Blackmores Bay Stallion.

9 William Ball of the Meales brought me some Twill for Saile Cloaths for my Mill. I dressed my Renunculas and Anemony Roots. This being the second day of Selling Turves this yeare I went to Thomas Marrows Moss & the Morehous Moss & sold some to John Lunt &c:.

10 Pat: Munson not being well I went to see him, I found there Mr Ned Molineux & the School-Master of Ince.

11 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here 'tis the first time I saw Mr Blundell since he came home.

12 Toping the Parater was here, I gave him some Corn. I began to lay the Crow Orcherd & Padock together by leveling the Cops as were between them. Mrs Parr, Mrs Brooksby &c: made a Viset here.

13 Mathew Withington worked here, he began to make a Wince for the Cherne and to fix Hoops over the Seat in the Long Garden.

14 My Teame and eleven others brought home some Slates for Mr Aldred from Moss-Bank. I went to Ince Green, there was Parson Wairing, old Robert Bootle &c:, I bowled hand to fist with Mr Harington each four Bowles.

15 Mrs Sheperd made a Viset here. I went to see Ailes Tickley, she has ben ill.

16 Henry Bridg was here mending some Hors-Collers, Sadles, &c:. Pinington layed the Flaggs better in the Milk-Hous. Pat: Clifton was here.

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[1] "Heffers nine with totall Expence . . . . . £19 7s. 3d."

[2] "One Bull with all Expence . . . . . £3 0s. 6d."

[3] "Beesoms & Wiskets . . . . . 7s. 11d."

17 I went to Leverpoole & discoursed Mr Massy the Painter about Painting Benshes in the Garden and some Gates.[1] I payed Mr William Plumb for Drawing some Leases for me &c:. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Bayron &c:, he came home with me as far as his way lay.

18 One Ball a Relation of Jane Withingtons came hither to see her. I Read in a Spirituall Book a good part of the after-noone in the Hall.

19 Thomas Melling came & did somthing at a Heffer of mine as had the Heart Fellon. I went to William Mellings Marlors & gave them somthing. I went to Thomas Carefoot who was delving Turves for me in Petchers Field, I mesured the Pit to see what the Feying would come to.

20 Pat: Gelibrond and I went to Ince, Mr Blundell was not at home, but he just came as we were going towards the Stables so we turned back to him & his Brother.

21 I let John Rose have sixty Pound upon Interest, he & Robert Bootle Junior gave Bond for it. Yeomon of the Gorehouses payed me twenty Guineys in part of what I had lent him. I went to Ince Greene & bowled there, Yeomon of the Gorehouses, the two Robert Bootles &c: were there.

22 Yesterday William Carefoot went to William Athertons with some Scaffold Poles for my new Building as I am soone for building there and today he came home with some Glass Bottles from Thatway Heath.[2] We expected Lord Bisshop to come hither but he being not well Pat: Munson came to let us know he was not able to come. Some of my Servants and Thomas Syers &c: killed 50 Adders most of them in some old Hay as was lately put out of the Hay-Loft and lay behind the Stables, severall of them were of the largest Size.

23 Thomas Sweetlove made a Viset here. William Gray and I took the Jack in peeces & mended it againe.

24 I went to More-hall to wate for my Lord Bisshop, I dined there with Pat: Royden, Mrs Barker &c:, coming home I overtook the Morris Dansers as were going to Flower the May-Pole in Magull. Mrs Parr made a Viset here.

25 My Wife went to see Ailes Tickley. I read in a Spirituall Book.

26 I Began to stack Turves at Home for my own use. My Lord Bisshop Witham,[3] Pat: Roydon, and Pat: Munson lodged here.

27 Mr Scarisbrick Junior & his Uncle Edward dined here. Lord Bisshop confirmed fourteen. Pat: Hardesty lodged here.

28 Confirmed 163. Patrick Norris his Wife & some others from Leverpoole dined here. Mr Roydon and I &c: went with Mr Aldred to his Hous. I put on a New-pair of Sail-Cloths upon my Mill about this time.

29 Confirmed 89 and one. Pat: Turvill made a Viset here.

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[1] Over the next few years, Nicholas made extensive alterations to his garden, which is shown on a drawing, the earliest one of Crosby Hall, made in 1738.

[2] Thatto Heath, St Helens, Lancashire.

[3] The Rt. Rev. George Witham, Bishop of Mareopolis and Vicar Apostolic of the Northern district. He died April 16 1725, aged 70 at the Family seat, Cliffe Hall, in Yorkshire, buried in Mansfield Church.

30 Confirmed nine and four. I made some Aqua Coelestis of Shrub, the proportion was six Pints of Shrub & tenn of Water. My Wife went with Pat: Roydon & Pat: Munson to Formby and to the Grange.

Till the 20th onely three days entirely Faire, the rest most of them pritty much Raine, the other days to the end of the Month all extraordinary Hot with a Few flying Drops of Raine.

JULY

1 My Lord Bisshop has Confirmed here in all 284 of which four were Confirmed today. My Lord Bisshop went hence to Ince, I went along with him.

2 My Wife and I dined at the Hall of Eckleston.

3 I took up my Forrane Tulops and my Seedlings. I went to Mr Bayrons Marlors and made them to shout. I made a Viset to my Lord Bisshop at Ince. Pat: Rivers came from Ince & Lodged here.[1] I tryed to draw my Colt Jewell, he doth extraordinary well. Betty Morrison lodged here.

4 I set a Dozen Bottles of Sower Clarret on the Leads upon the top of the Hous to be Vinagre. I clarifyed some Frensh Clarret, to tenn Pints of Clarret I put two Pints of Whit-Wine and half a pint of Brandy, and by Runing it through my Bagg as I doe Aqua Coelestis I made it extraordinary Cleere & a pritty pale Red, but 'tis not worth while to do any more so.

5 Parson Wairing & I bowled at Ince Green against Mr Heys Junior and Thomas Kennion.

6 I Sealed a Leas to Jane Starkey and she the Counterpart to me.[2] Mr Bayron had his Finishing day for his Marling, I went to his Hous where I met severall of my Neighbours viz: Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, two Robert Bootles, Mr Syer, Yeomon of the Gorehouses &c:.

7 I Stacked Fleas by the Winter Hey gate with four Carts & Four Stackers, they Stacked 18 Rood; Yesterday two Carts & four Stackers Stacked 14 Rood by Brownbill Bridge. Thomas Syer came hither and helped me to Compute the Vallew of most of my Demesney being I designe to set out most of it by Parsells.

8 My Wife and I began our Journey towards Holy-well but no Ferry Bote being on this Side I hiered the Sower-Milk Gallay, she Carried us & our three Horses over at twice & Landed us at the Wood-Side, thence we went to Shotwick & so to Holly-Well where we Lodged at the Starr. My Wife went into the Well.[3]

9 My Wife & I went into the Well, I was much out of Order after I came out and Continewed so for some Hours. I went with my Wife to Mrs Crews, she walked out with us to a plesant sort of a Walk.

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[1] See January 21 and 22 1717.

[2] Evidently Jane Starkey had now been released from Ormskirk Gaol. See May 7 1721.

[3] See June 24 1707.

10 We came from Holliwell to Flint where we baited awhile at the Signe of the Ship, thence to Shotwick where I Rode over without a Guide and came back agin with one to fetch my Wife over,[1] then to Eastom where I left my Servant & Horses, My Wife and I went over in the Sower-Milk Galley & Landed about eleaven of the Clock at Night at Leverpoole, we lodged at the Wool-pack.

11 Mrs Lettonby dined with my Wife & me at the Wool-pack, Mr Booth &c: also dined with us. Being the Dock was let drye I went to see it as also did severall Hundreds of People. When my Wife & I came home we found Mrs Ann Wilding, she came to stay some time here, she stay'd about 3 years.[2]

12 I Botled off a Kegg of Clarret viz: 57 Bottles besides what I shall have more with Tilting it. I went to the Winter Heys and there Mary Weedow and I cast up how-many Roods of Fleas she had dressed for me.

13 I Demanded a Fine of Lawrence Blundell for his Fathers Late Teneament, I Layed up the Summers over the Garden Hous in Order to Loft it over.

14 I went to Thomas Syers being invited by him to meet Mr Blundell there, but neather of them came. Henry Watkinson & Robert Whawley came to discource me about Farming some Land of me but we did not bargan.

15 I Botled off the remainder of a Kegg of Brandy as I had bought viz: three Dozen and two Bottles. I began to make Wine of the Couslops [cowslips] as came from York.

16 I met Mr Blundell, Mr Byron and Mr Cottom at Thomas Syers, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh.

17 I set part of my Demesney to Henry Watkinson[3] & Robert Whawley.

18 We Tunned the Couslop Wine. I payed off William Thelwall for Work done by him & for goods made.

19 I was Witness to Ellen Harrisons Will. I Bowled at Ince Green with Mr Blundell, Mr Bayron &c:, I drank in the Hous with Parson Wairing, Mr Bolton &c:.

20 Mr Turvill made a Viset here so did Mr James Clinton and his Wife, Mr Rigmaden gave me a Bond for one Hundred Pound which I payed to him this Morning.

21 Ned Farer came to dress the Harnish and Little Charriot, being I am in hopes to sell it. Doctor Lancaster made a Viset here.

22 I sowed some Turnop-Seed and Salleting in the Close-Hedg Garden. I sent my Black Mare Bess to Leverpoole, William Atherton is to have her awhile to lead Slats with for my New Shippons &c: at Ditton.

23 I sent a How-do-you to Cozen Thomas Gelibronds six Children, who were ill of the Small Pox. My Wife and Mrs Ann Wilding made a Viset to Ince.

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[1] "Wives Journey & mine to and from Holly Well . . . . . £2 2s. 3d.
To Priests there & Elce-where . . . . . 8s. 6d."

[2] As a boarder or "tabler".

[3] See Appendix D.

Mr Molineux of Mosburgh sent to me for the £10 I had Received from Mr Leomond but for some Reason I would not send it now.

24 I got in the last of my Hay. I was at Ormskerk Race, there was Mr Molineux of Mosbourgh, Old Mr Walmesley of Showley, Mr John Gorsuch, Mr Plumb, Mr Maior of Leverpoole, William Atherton, &c:, there were three Horses ran for the Plate, a Hors called Mr Listers wan it.

25 I made a Bargan with William Westhead for the Coppy &c: for three years.

26 I went with my Wife & Mrs Ann Wilding to Leverpoole, we made a Viset to Mrs Clinton, Mrs Wharton and Mrs Alanson. I bought some Chinea of a Woman as came from Preston, I drank at the Wool-Pack with Mr Branker & Mr Allonson.

27 I was at Mr Aldreds when Jack Pemberton began his Journey towards London &c:. I dressed my Tulop Roots most of them very well & put them into Bags for keeping.

28 William Kennion of Leverpoole came to look at my Hous Clock in order to mend it, he took part of it back with him.

29 Mr Aldred and Charles Howerd drew off some Bottles of Clarret.

30 I heard Pat: Hardesty hold forth[1] and then went to Ditton, I Lodg'd at the Bank.

31 I was amongst my Workmen as were Building some New Out-housing for me at the Bank, there was Ned Spencer, Ralf Hindley &c:, I came home thorrow Leverpoole and drank at the Woolpack with Mr John Smarley, John White &c:.

Till the 13th Faire and generally extraordinary hot, then every day except one some Raine & generally pritty much which has made a Backward Hay Harvest.

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[1] "To Pat: Hardestys Chappell . . . . . £1 1s. 0d."

Father John Hardisty, alias Tempest, S.J., came to Liverpool in the spring of 1713, succeeding Father Mannock as priest there. The need for a church was urgent and Father Hardisty decided to build one and a house for the priest. The house was built in Edmund Street which was owned by Sir Cleave Moore, and named after his wife, Ann Edmund. The street was then only a small path outside the town, leading from the Old Hall to the Mill in Pownall Square. The church was many years in building on a site across the road from the Old Hall at the South west corner of Edmund Street. It is quite possible that the acre of land which Nicholas Blundell bought for £18 on May 6 1715 from Sir Cleave Moore was intended as the site for the church. Building operations were delayed by the 1715 Rebellion. When they actually started is not known, but by 1727, it must have been nearly completed for Blundell records seeing 256 people receiving palms on Palm Sunday in the Church. Certainly it was completed by 1736, and thus from hearing Mass in Mr Brownbill's House, the Catholics of Liverpool could worship in what may have been the first Catholic church built in an English town since the Reformation.

The money used to build the church seems to have come from subscriptions like the one guinea which Blundell gave, but the following extract from a letter written in 1751 by Father Hardisty to Viscount Molyneux, S.J. suggests that Father Hardisty contributed in great part himself:—"From friends in other places I had part of the money I built with, but much the greater part was what I spared, living frugally and as not many would have been contented to live."

[See *Liverpool's Hidden Story*, R. J. Stonor.]

As a result of the 1745 Jacobite Rising, a mob burnt down this church on April 30 1746.

AUGUST

1 My Tenant Mr Wharton & his Wife dined here, they came when we had almost dined. Pat: Acton lodged here, he came with an Intention to stay some time to Baith in the Sea, I went in the Evening with him to the Sea side to shew him what Conveniency there was for him.

2 I went with Pat: Acton to Leverpoole & Procured him a Place to lodg at & a Conveniency for Baithing in the Sea, we dined at the Wool-pack & drank there with Mr Thomas Hurst &c:.

3 Mr Syer was here I gave him a Guiney for my Subscription toward Crosby Plate, Mr Bayron came with him.

4 I was busy mending the litle Charriot and driving in Brass Nailes where they were wanting. Some Pot Herbs were cut & layed to drye for a Winter Store.

5 My Teame and two others brought me home some Flags & Slats from Roby Delf. I was with the Work-Men as were Building the Bridg over Formoss-poole Gutter, they will finish the Arch today, I gave them a Dozen of Aile, Ned Litherland was there.

6 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here. Mr Blundell and I walked to Crosby Marsh and saw most of the Running Horses.

7 Cozèn Scarisbrick, his Lady, Son James &c: dined here. Mr Shepperd came to look at my Little Charriot being Mrs Wofold wants one.

8 Pat: Burton dined here. I was at Crosby Race; Crop, Whit-Stocking & a Gray Mare Ran; Whit-stockings got the Plate viz: £20, I drank a Bottle of Wine with Doctor Gibbans, Pothecary Lathom, &c:, I should have desided a Dispute between Pat: Turvill & Mr Cottom but could not doe it, Mr William Plumb was present.

9 As my Wife and I were going to Crosby Race Cozen Scarisbrick met us, we turned back with him and when we had stayed here awhile we went together to the Marsh, but the Sport was over ere we came. I drank on the Marsh with Mr Standley of Hooton, Mr Molineux of Mosbourgh, Mr Blundell &c:.

10 My Wife and Mrs Ann Wilding dined at Dr Lancasters. I sent my Little Charriot to More-Hall for Mrs Wofold to look at, I left it there, but doe not yet know whether she will buy it. William Kennion mended the Hous Clock. Mr Carroll Molineux, Mr Clifton and Pat: Aldred came hither at Night and took a Glass with me.

11 I Leaved the Hors-poole & took in it one very good Carp, three good Tenshes and three plitty Larg Breams & a great many small Eles.

12 Jane Withington & Nelly Howerd went to Darby to stay two or three Nights becaus it is the Waikes there, Betty Carefoot came to supply in their Places.

13 I went to see some Sick in Great Crosby viz: Richard Thorp & his Wife, Ezabell Banister, &c:, I called at Margarit Lurtings & Smoaked a Pipe.

14 I Sowed some Turnop Seed on the two Beds by the Rose Hedge.

15 I went to Leverpoole with Ned Spensor, we spoke to Captain Parkinson to get a long Rope for Halling up my Timber for the Rearing of my New Shippons &c: at Ditton. I made a Viset to Mr Taylor the Maior of Leverpoole, he gave me a Bottle of Wine. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Robert Fazakerley and Mr Whittle. Mr Whittle and I came home together as far as our Way lay. I brought home a Box as Mrs Aldred[1] sent me by the Carrior with Coffy &c: in.

16 I went to Ince Green, there was very little Company, two Robert Bootles were there. Cozen Gelibrond of Astley lodged here.

17 James Davy began to Flagg the Bake-hous. Cozen Gelibrond of Astley bought four Keggs & sent his Servant Robert home with them, Cozen Gelibrond and I went to Ince, the Gentlewomen were gon to the Carr-Side, we follow'd them & came back with them to Ince.

18 Cozen John Gelibrond dined at Ince, I went in the Evening to bring him back hither and met him coming, Mr Blundell &c: were along with him.

19 Cozen Gelibrond went hence, he let Mr Blundell have some Gold upon his Note, Thomas Syor and I were present. Lawrence Blundell came to Acquaint me he would not pay the Fine as I demanded for his Fathers late Teneament.

20 My Wife & Mrs Wilding went to Mathew Withingtons and to Croxtath, I was the onely Person as stayed at home.

21 I went to Ditton to the Rearing of my New Shippons &c:, I dined at William Athertons with Joseph Bolton, Henry Heys, Peter Rollinson &c:. I Lodged there.

22 I Came thorrow Leverpoole home and delivered the long Rope to Captain Parkinson as he had borrow'd for me.

23 I Bowled on Ince Greene with Mr. Carefoot, Thomas Kennion, &c:, at Night I went into Whartons and drank with Parson Wairing John Rose &c:.

24 My Wife, Mrs Wilding & I went to Lidiat to Prayers, Mr Blundell was there; My Wife and Mrs Wilding stayed at Sefton & made some Visets there, I left them & came home. William Hulme brought my Wife a New Paire of Stays as he has made for her.

25 Charls Howerd & his two Men came to make my Winter Sute with French Buttons. James Davy having finished Slateing over the Window of the Apple Loft he went hence.

26 Emblen Blansherd came hither with some Honey, I payed her for it.

27 William Gray Suped here, I desired him to sell a Cow for me tomorrow at Ormskerk Faire. Thomas Brownbill took somthing out of Whit Hall, he gave me four Papers.

28 My Wife and I went to Lodg at Astley, we called at Francis Farers, he shewed me a Place in his Ground where 'tis supposed there formerly stood a small Castle and in takeing up the Foundation (for that was all as was left of

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[1] A London friend of the Blundells.
"Carriage of a Box from London with Coffy in, one with Paper Hengings & one small one and what the Cost at London, & Porterage & for two Canisters . . . . . 16s. 3d."
The "Paper Hengings" were for wall-papering the new parlour he was making out of the dairy.

it) he found a Large Mugg-Bottle which I suppose held about three Gallons, the Mouth was large enough for a Girle to put her Hand into it, it had two large Bows as came from the Mouth of it, to the Belly to carry it by; it was of a Cource brown Clay & seemed not to be nicely made nor well burned, 'twas so broke in Diging it up that I could onely Judge at the size of it; he also shewed me a peece of a Mugg which seemed to be the Bottom of a Quart Jugg and had Stamped upon it, in the inside of the Bottom these Words in this Caracture OF BASSI, It was made of extraordinary good Mugg Mettle, and was where it was broke as Red as the best Sealing Wax, the out Side was not so clear a Red, the Bottom was about the thickness of half a Crown, the sides considerably thiner; the Bottle was about an Insh thick; he also shewed me some peeces of Tile which were of a very Red Colour & of much Better Mettle than any of our Brick Tiles are now made of & very well burned, some were two Inshes thick & some almost four Insh as I gess, but were so brocken into such small peeces one could not tell how many Inshes squaire they were.

29 This being my Cozen Gelibronds Weding day his Son Thomas came to Astley after dinner, & Cozen Thomas his Wife dined at Astley.

30 Cozen Gelibrond of Astley went in the Morning to Preston. I went after Dinner to Yarow Bridg Green and Bowled with Mr Robert Lee, Parson Rawley, &c:, Young Mr Trafford was there.

31 Cozen Gelibrond and I dined at Cozen Thomas Gelibronds and then we three went to Mr George Cliftons where we found our Wives.

Till the 9th Faire except some little Raine one day, from thence to the end of the Month very unsetled Weather and generally pritty much Raine.

SEPTEMBER

1 Cozen Gelibrond and I went to look at Mr Crumptons New Hous,[1] thence we went to Chorley where we met Cozen Thomas Gelibrond, Mr George Clifton, &c:.

2 My Wife and I came home from Astley, we called at Ann Howerds and went to look about us at Blainscow and then to Ormskerk, we called there & wished Joy to Dr Lancaster & his Wife, Cozen John Gelibrond came a good part of the way with us.

3 Mr Robert Fazakerley Junior was at Pat: Aldreds in the Morning, he dined here.

4 Pinington unslaited the old Stable and is to lay the Slates on againe. Thomas Marser began to make a Wall between the Apple Loft and the Higher Kill. Being Lawrence Blundell would not give me what I demanded for a Fine of his Fathers late Teneament, I gave him tenn Pounds in Money and have given him formerly otherways to the Valew of Tenn Pounds more, so that now he can not clame any Teneant Right to it. James Crofts was here, I sold him a Fat Cow.

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[1] This stone house stood a little to the north of Chorley, until 1817 when it was pulled down by R. T. Parker, of Cuerdon, to whom Crompton's great-grandson had sold it. It came to be known as Higher Chorley Hall. Lower Chorley Hall was replaced in 1807–8 by the present Gillibrand Hall, built by Thomas Gillibrand.

5 Mrs Parr sent my Wife a Present of Paires. I Pulled down the End Stable. Mr Baxter came to Hier some Money of me, but I did not let him have any.

6 I Botled off about 3 Dozen and a half of Burch Wine. I Bowled at Ince Green with Mr Blundell, Mr Harington, &c:, Parson Wairing, Thomas Kennion, &c: were there. Mrs Bayron, Mrs Syor, &c: made my Wife a Viset.

7 I Botled off above four Dozen of Couslop Wine. I sowed some Tulop Seeds & set some Seedling Tulops on their own Bed. I set some York and Forrain Tulops on their Proper Bed & some good Tulops in the Knot. I fetched home two Dozen of Flower Pots from Leverpoole. Stokes the Chandlor was here.

8 I sent Betty Swift with a Present of Barberys to Mrs Peters, Mrs Wharton, &c:. My Wife was very ill in her Head and Cold. Mrs Wofold sent my Little Charriot home againe, she will not buy it.

9 I set an other Bed in the Knot with good Tulops and the two Hearts with off-sets of good Tulops.

10 Doctor Lancaster & his Wife made a Viset here, 'its the first time since they were Marryed, Mrs Catherine Tyrer came with them, they dined here. Mr Aldred came hither after dinner, we had a Bowl of Punsh.

11 My Lady Molineux sent hither for some Frute, I sent her some. I Helped William Gray to take the Jack in Peeses and to set it up againe.

12 William Thelwall put me a New Lock to my Apple-Loft Door, Three Glaysors came from Mary Fleetwood to work for me, they put me up Windows to the Sellar and to the Gatehous Sellar, they were made of my old Sefton Glass.[1]

13 Humphrey Blundell came to supply the Millers place awhile being he went ill home on Sunday. I began to gather my Apples for keeping; the ripest sort might som of them have ben gathered sooner, the second sort now, and if the Weather be good others may be ungot a Week longer.

14 Yeomon of the Goar Houses pay'd me the Remainder of the Money I had lent him. William Kennion came & mended my Chamber Clock. I sowed some Poppy & everlasting Gilly Flower Seed neare the Hall Window. I set some ordinary Tulops on the Borders in the back Courts, and severall Chives of very good ones. I sowed Radish, Lettice, Welsh Onions, Cabbage, Male & Spinage Seed in the Close Hedge Garden, the Cabbage seed should have ben sowed a Month sooner.

15 I sowed some Parcelly & Corn-Sallet Seed in the Kitchen Garden and Turnop & Cole-Seed in the Stone Garden, I think all should have ben sowed sooner. I went to see Pat: Clifton he has ben ill. I gave him some Eye-Balsom being one of his Eyes is very bad.

16 I met some of my Ditton Workmen at Leverpoole & payed them viz: Ned Spencer, Ralf Hindley &c:. I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Wright, Mr Formby &c:.

17 My Wife and I dined at Scarisbrick, we found the three Mrs Blundells of Preston there. I came directly home, my Wife went through Ormskerk, she called at Mr Tyrers.

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[1] See May 15 and 22 1719 and foot-notes.

18 I took some Young Pigeons for Parson Acton, William Harrison the Clark helped me. My Lord Molineux sent me a Side of a Stagg.

19 I went to see the Sick in the More-houses thence to Formby to see my Miller, I took a Pot and a Pipe at Lawrence Formbys and went to see Ailes Tickley & Richard Renold and so to Gabriell Norrises but his Son (who was ill) being asleep I saw him not. I sent a Present of Venison to Cozen Gelibrond of Astley. My Wife and Mrs Ann Wilding went to Mrs Crisps and Played at Cards with Mrs Parr &c:.

20 Robert[1] (in his way from Astley) called at Garswood from me to congratulate Sir William Gerard for the Birth of his Son. Young Robert Bootle payed me Interest for £20 due to Mrs Rachell Smith. I was at Ince Green, there was Mr Harington, John Rose, Mr Boyer &c:, I bowled with Mr Carefoot & Banister &c:.

21 My Wife & Mrs Anne Wilding went to Leverpoole. I was at the Funerall of Parson Richmond of Walton, that is I attended the Corps to the Church, there was Parson Acton, Clayton and Wairing &c:, I drank at the Ail-hous with Mr Yates, Cottom & Mr William Nelson &c:.

22 I Began to sow Wheat in the Cross Field. I wained my Bay Filly Ginny. I was at the Funerall of Captain Robert Fazakerley in the New Church Yord,[2] The Bearers were Mr William Holly-well, Mr James Tildesley, myself &c:. I payed Mr Cottom all I ought him, I took a Pipe at his Hous. I drank at the Wool-Pack with Mr Allison &c.

23 The Glaysor put up Windows in the Apple Loft.

24 I went to Prayers to the Hall of Wood thence to Mosburgh but the Famoly being abroad I dined there and then came home.[3]

25 I went in the Morning a Seting with Mr Saile, we took one Parteridge, he dined here, after dinner William Gray went with him, they took none. I Payed Mrs Fazakerleys tenn Pound to Roger Bowling Servant to Mr Molineux of Mosbourgh. I was at the Funerall of Jane Bryanson,[4] there was her Brother-in-Law Thomas Spersar, Thomas Blansherd, William Weedow &c:, as we were going with the Corps (which was carried on my Coach Carriage) the Famoly of Scarisbrick and the three Sisters Mrs Blundells of Preston over took us, they dined at Ince.

26 Cozen Scarisbrick, his Lady, and Son James and the three Mrs Blundells of Preston dined here. I saw a Large Flock of Wild Geece they are the first I have heard of this Season.

27 I began to get my Potatows in Order to keep. I bowled at Ince Greene with Mr Rigby of Cowley-Hill,[5] Mr Yaits of Maile &c:.

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[1] Robert Weedow his butler, who had been sent to the Gillibrands at Astley with a present of Venison.

[2] St Peter's, Liverpool.

[3] Hall i'th' Wood, Melling, home of a branch of the Molyneux of Sefton family since Edward III's reign. In 1664 Robert Molyneux of the Hall i'th'Wood married the Lathom heiress of Mossborough Hall, six miles to the east. Mossborough thenceforward became the principal home of the family. The priest at Mossborough Hall, as we see from this entry still said Mass at the Hall i'th'Wood.

[4] Wife of a tenant farmer.

[5] Cowley Hill, St Helens, Lancashire.

28 I finished gathering my Apples 'tis now full late enough onely that the Weather has ben extraordinary good.

29 I Received Rent from some of my Tenants. I Stated Accounts with William Weedow for Work done by him and for Dressing Fleas.

30 I met Joseph Bolton at Leverpoole. I Sealed a Leas to him and he the Counterpart to me. I drank at the Wool-pack with John Rose, Young Robert Bootle &c:. I came home by the way of the Edge with Mr Byron.[1]

Till the 22th very unsetled Weather commonly some Raine but neaver any to doe any harme, then very Faire till the end of this Month except the last day. It has ben a very fine Wheat Seeding and I think the forwardest I have known.

OCTOBER

1 Betty Farer was here, she came over to see her Mother who was dangerously ill.

2 Mrs Parr dined here, Pat: Bartlet dined & Lodged here.

3 Henry Wadkinson & Robert Whawley were here, I read over to them the Agreement between us of their Bargan with me for part of my Demesney. Henry Ascroft brought some Rumm hither, I bought it of him, then we went and Mesurared a Moss-Pit, he had Feyed in Thomas Marrows Moss, I payed him for it and we clear'd off all Accounts as were between us. I went with Pat: Bartlet to the New-Hous but Mr Clifton not being at home we went to Henry Whartons & took a Pot.

4 I Finnished my Wheat Seeding in the Cross Field. I put about 20 Busshells of Potatows in a Hole by the New Orcherd Gate. Pat: Bartlet dined at Ince, I met him at Ince Green and Bowled with him, Mr Rigby of Cowley-Hill &c:, My Wife went to Richard Mors to wish Joy to Mrs Molineux of the Grange, Mrs Parr went with her. Pat: Bartlet went hence.

5 I went to Formby to see when my Miller John Rigby would be able to come to me againe, I gave him a Pint of Aile at Henry Norrises, I Smoaked a Pipe there. I attended the Corps of old Robert Bootle to the Church, there was at the Buriall Hous, Mr Byron, Mr Cottom, Yeomon of the Goar-houses, &c:.

6 I went to speak to Mrs Catherine Tyrer being desired by my Wife but she was not at home. I set up my Horses at the Seaven Starrs. I dined at Dr Lancasters and went to Mr Tyrers & wished his Wife Joy, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh. My Teame and two others fetched me home some Flaggs for the Back Parlor from Pinbo Delf.

7 I Set the Bark to Nicholas Lurting. I was with Humphrey Blundell a good part of the time whilst he was laying down and hanging the Mill-Stone.

8 Nanny Oliverson came to hear what Account I had of her Doughter Mary, being I sent her Word she was very ill.

9 Dr Lancaster and Pat: Gelibrond came hither, but the Dr first made some Visets in this Town to the Sick.

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[1] A lawyer living at Sefton.

10 The Townfield was turned abroad. Ginny Parr dined here & then my Wife went with her to her Mothers to make a Viset to Mrs Molineux of the Grange who was there with a Deale of other Company. I put six Dozen of Frensh Clarret into Sawdust to keep it warme. I Followed Pat: Gillibrond to Mr Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Exolent Punsh. My Teame brought home some Scaffold Powls and Laddars as were uesed at my New Building at Ditton.

11 Mr Molineux of the Grange and his Wife, Mrs Parr &c: dined here. Thomas Marser covered the Sough in the Great Courts as came from the Wells.

12 Being Pat: Gillibrond took Phisick today we dined with him in his Roome. Thomas Marser cut a Window out of the Sellar into the Garden & fixed Iron Stansions in it. James Crofts fetched away a little Fat Cow as I had sold him.

13 Thomas Syer dined here. I Payed the Land Tax & Window Tax to Edward Howerd. The Well in the Stone Garden was emptyed & very well dressed.

14 William Thelwall helped to Rid the Crooked Popular Tree as grew at the end of where the Gravall Walk is to be. I melted a great quantity of Window Lead. I payed Humphrey Blundell for supplying the Millers place for above a Month. Bryan Lea call'd me out of Bed, he wanted to speak with El: Ho:[1]

15 Mrs Crisp dined here. Being it was Crosby Goosfeast I went to Margarit Lurting where I drank with Henry Harper, Edward Hatton, Richard Westhead &c:, these above mentioned and I went to Nicholas Johnsons & stayed a good while.

16 John Rigby being now pritty well recovered he came again to tend my Mill. William Atherton came to acquaint me that the Wapantack Rent was demanded of him. It being the Goosfeast I went to Parson Wairings where we had a very good Bowl of Punsh, there was Parson Acton, Parson Bell, Parson Balden, Mr Rigby of Cowley Hill &c:.

17 Pat: Hardesty called here as he was going to the New-Hous. I took a Vomit from Betty Morrison.

18 I met Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas Whittle & his Brother, two Thomas Syers, Mr Molineux the Groser of Leverpoole, Mr Byron &c: at Thomas Hesketh's, it was an appointed Meeting by some of us, we were tenn in all.[2]

19 I hung up severall Ropes of Onions for my Winter Store. Some of them I burned the Roots off to make them keep longer. My Bay Colt Jewell was docked. Mr Blundell and I &c: met at Thomas Syers & eat some Goosfeast Fare & took a Glass of Aile with him at his Hous.

20 William Weedow & his Son in Law William Taylor discoursed me about Fining for John Blundells Late Teneament. I took a Dozen Bottles of Sower Clarret off the Leads as I had put there to be Vinegar. I Bottled off a Kegg of Brandy of Eight Gallons, it was above three dozen Bottles.

21 I Began a Brew of Aqua Coelestis with a very little pail Clarret in it, 'twas made of the Sediments of Bottled Shrub.

22 Jackson was here, we went into the Gardens to see in what Order things were in. My Wife & Mrs Wilding went to Mrs Clips[3] and to see Sefton Church.

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[1] Ellen Howerd, one of the maids?

[2] A meeting of the social club. See May 11 1708, and Vol. 2 Appendix H.

[3] Crisps?

23 Yester Night & this Morning I took a Dose of Pills according to Dr Cawoods directions.

24 Jackson brought some Cabbage Plants & pricked them out for me. He trimed some of my London Wall-frute Trees. Pinington put up Glass Windows in the Pigeon Hous, in my Stable and over the Servants Chamber.

25 I made up my Bee-hives & poynted them well to keep out Mice. I helped Jackson to trim one of my Cherry-Tree-Cradles. Thomas Syer was here in the Evening, he Suped here. Robert Weedow went to Alker to his Sisters Braiking, & William Carefoot to his Fathers Braiking [of flax].

26 Mrs Allonson & her two Sons dined here, they came whilst we were at Dinner. I made a Bargan with Oliver Taylor to let him have John Blundells late Teneament for three Lives.

27 Oliver Taylor & I Signed the Bargan we made Yester day.

28 I dined at the Wool-pack, I drank there with Mr Whittle, Mr Robert Fazakerley Senior. I Ordered Mary Fleetwood to make me new Windows for the Back Parlor. William Weedow & Richard Ainsworth came home with me.

29 William Sheperd the Gardiner and Robert Bushell were here, we considered how the Walk upon the Terrass was to be made from the Steps to the Gravell Walk. I sent Mr Lathom of Leverpoole a Grewhound of his as was taken up in my Warand. My Wife went to Ormskerk and brought home with her the Whit Damask.

30 I took a Dose of Pills according to Dr Cawoods Orders.[1] James Crofts & Partner came to look at an old Fat Cow as I intend to kill, they payed me for a Cow as I had sold them. Pat: Billing made me a Visett, he & Mr Blundell dined at Mr Aldreds.

31 I Planted two Large Firrs in the Avenew, they grew where the Horn Beam Hedg is to be. The Long Looking Glasses for the Parlor and Silk Cushons &c: were brought home.

Till the 10th unsetled Weather, then almost every day very wett till the 27th then three days faire, the two last wet.

NOVEMBER

1 John Vose[2] dined here, he came to see what I had for him to doe, I advised with him about my New Fassioned Summer-Hous as is to be at the End of the Gravell Walk, and some other Work. Thomas Arnold was here, I writ to Mr Scarisbrick in his behalf about his taking a Teneament under him.

2 I Planted the Largest Firr, as grew at the Edg of the Gravell Walk, in the Avenew.

3 I Looked at the Silk Cushons &c: as Mrs Clinton made up for the Parlor; I had not seen them before since they came.

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[1] See June 24 1710.

[2] Vose was the village builder. See September 30 1719.

4 Thomas Syer payed me £15 in part of his Last years Rent & sent me five pound more by his Son Richard. I went to Mr Williamsons of Litherland and desired him to get some one at Leverpoole to buy me a few Planks of Firr, I spoke at the same time to Arthur Wilson to come to work for me. Nanny Weedow was here 'tis the first time I have seen her since she came from London.

5 Thomas Radcliff payed me some Money as I had lent him, his Wife came along with him, I shewed them the Hous & Gardens. Catty Syer made a Viset here.

6 I Looked at a Pritty Larg Cabbage as was growing in Mr Aldreds Garden, I counted one & twenty Little ones as grew under it, & quite round it, severall of them were about the bigness of my Hand and all, or most of them, would be very well worth cuting for boylill. I was very busy opening an Avenew from the Gravell Walk through the New Grounds. I fetched home some Horn-beame & Ferr Trees from Shepperds the Gardiners.[1]

7 Pat: Gorsuch dined here. Sheperd the Gardiner was here, he Planted as many of the Horne-beam & Firr Trees as he could, whilst he could well see; I had severall Hands at Work & got the Gravell Walk pritty well Planted on each Side.

8 Henry Watkinson, Robert Whawley & I signed the Agreement made by us for part of my Demesney for three years. I planted some Large Wall-nut Trees in the New Grounds.

9 Mrs Crisp and her Mother made a Viset here. I killed a Little Old Cow. I began to Levell the Avenew through the New Grounds.

10 I sent a Bull to Leverpoole Fare but did not sell him. I was busy all after Noone triming the Arbur. John Hoole came to profer his Service to be my Gardiner, he has ben Gardiner severall years at Garswood. I was told that Bats flew about this Evening as Briskly as in Summer. I saw one flying.

11 I Planted the larg Mulberry Tree, there came Milk out of the Roots when they were cut. I Calsigned some Egg Shells.

12 John Whits Prentice came for John Lathoms Grewhound, I delivered the Dogg to him.

13 Arthur Wilson, Thomas Marsor, Pinington, and James Davy, came to make a New Bewfet in the Back Parlor, to make Brick Chimbneys at the four Laine-End Hous, to Daub the the four Laine-End-Hous and to New Flagg the back Parlor.[2] I drank part of a Bowl of Punsh at Mr Aldreds with Mr Thomas Molineux & Mr Cottom, Pat: William Molineux was there, Mr Taylor the Watch-maker came to us, he had ben here with my Wife.

14 Three of John Voses Men came & began to alter the Window in the Back Parlor.

15 Pat: Gorsuch made a Viset here in his way home from Ince.

16 Catty Tompson & I Signed the Bargan we had made for a half Rack for Tompsons late Teneament. My Wife took a Dose of Pills from Doctor Lancaster.

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[1] "Horne Beame, Firr, Whicken and Burch Trees . . . . . 17s. 0d." Whickens; 'whick(e)=quick; quick-thorns or hawthorns.

[2] This thatched cottage, standing at the cross-roads at the north end of the village was pulled down early this century.

17 Pat: Turvill, Mr Blundell and his Brother made a Viset here. I dres'd some Young Apple-Trees &c: with Hous-of-Office Muck to prevent Hares from Pilling them. I layed my two Coach-Horses Buck and Stagg in the Hous, they are onely to ly in at Nights.

18 Thomas Clifton put the Glass Lights into the Back Parlor Windows and pinned the Glasses in the Caesments.

19 Ailes Withington was here after Dinner. I Read a good deale in a Spirituall Book.

20 I began to rid up the old Apple-Trees in the Crow-Orcherd, and marked severall Scruggy Oaks there, as are to be Rid up to make roome for better.

21 John Vose came himself to work here. I set the Cow-hey to Robert Johnson for three years. I was at Nicholas Johnsons with Mr Peters, Mr Crumpton, Mr Lathom of Leverpoole, Parson Wairing, &c:, Mr Peters paid Money to some Cunstables for their Towns Watching on the Sea Cost.

22 John Vose began to lay the Foundation of my Whimsicall Summer Hous. Mrs Parr made a Viset here in her way home from the Grange.

23 I supplyed some of the Places (as were voyd in the Avenew) with Firr, Beech, & Elme. Mrs Ann Gorsuch was here tiss the first time since she came to Live at Ince.

24 I was with them a good part of the day in the Back Parlor whilst they were geting up good Stones as they found under the old Flaggs buried in the Sand, we were severall Hands & got up two very Large Stones.

25 I went to Leverpoole with Mrs Ann Wilding she designs to stay awhile at her Uncle Almonds. I payed Mrs Clinton seaven Pound in part of what I ow her. I payed Mary Fleetwood & James Holsold for Windows & Caesments for the Back Parlor. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Allonson & Mr Williamson, I payd Mr Williamson for some Wine I had of him today.

26 Pat: Aldred perceived that the Hall Chimney was on Fire & came to tell us, but no dammage was done.

27 I Read over to Robert Johnson a Fowl drought of the Bargan made between us for the Cow-Heys. My Wife took some Pills from Doctor Lancaster the last Night, but was not able to take the Remainder this Morning. Two more Joyners came at Noone to work with Arthur, I employed them in Triming Trees in the Crow-Orcherd. I payed Martinemas Dues, Easter Dues &c: to William Harrison the Clark of Sefton.

28 Mr Blundell and Pat: Turvill dined here unexpected. I set on two to Thresh for Thomas Syer. Pat: Gorsuch lodged here, 'tis the first time he came to assist my Wife.

29 I Began to lay my Apples in Straw for keeping, I could not lay them in sooner for want of good Straw. I was with them most of the time.

30 Pat: Turvill not being at Ince Mrs Blundell & her two Sons and two Doughters came to Prayers to Mr Aldreds. Being Mr Lathoms Grewhound of Leverpoole was here, William Carefoot & some of this Town went a Coursing with him.

Not above three days at the most faire this Month, the rest generally very Wet and as great a Flood now as is Commonly known at any time in a Wet Winter.

DECEMBER

1 Henry Hunt and his Wife whose Name was Bushell were here and desired me to give them somthing, becaus she Claimed a Teneant-Right to a small Cottage in the More-houses.

2 I Planted one Pritty Oak Tree in the Crow-Orcherd. I covered my Aspargus.

3 Mrs Crisp & her Mother dined here. I made a Viset to Mr Blundell, I think it is the first time I have found him at home when I went to see him.

4 I was at Thomas Farers & heard the Quarrell between him & Mr Sadler. Mr Sadler dined here.

5 John Garret swept some of my Chimneys. It being a Hard Frost John Jackson helped to lead away part of the New Walk in the New Grounds in Order to levell it.

6 Sedon began to make me some Half-Sale-Cloths for my Mill of an old Ship-Sale, it was pritty good and Cost about 8d. per Yard Squaire. Old John Sumner brought me a Seck of Oats.

7 Pat:Munson made a Viset here. I Botled off a Rundlet of very good Aile.

8 My Wife made a Viset to Ince. I went to see Thomas Syer, he is not well, Mr Thomas and some others came whilst I was there.

9 Elizabeth Swift and I Signed our Bargan to each other for a Little Cottage she has Built upon the Waist.[1]

10 Arthur came to see how his Men had don their Work in the Back Parlor, Mr Denis Allonson came with him. Mr Plumb lodg'd here.

11 Mr Plumb kept my Court at Charles Howerds, I went with him, when the Court was over he came home with me & dined and Lodg'd here.

12 Mr Plumb went hence. I was Witness to Ellen Harrisons Signing a Scedall Assized to her Will. I layed Nine Heffers & one Bull in the Hous to be kept with Straw in the Nights.

13 John Vose fixed a Grate in the Back Parlor. Thomas Marser made a Sough from the Cooks Larder into the other Sough.

14 I went to Great-Crosby Court and Joyned with James Williamson in Cuting off a Setlement he had formerly made; Mr Greene was the Steward; Mr Secom the Post Master,[2] and Ralf Marser the Atturney where there.

15 Being it was very wet John Vose and his Men dressed Bricks in the Gate-Hous.

16 Most of my Ditton Tenants met me at Leverpoole and pay'd their Rent. Thomas Houghton payed me for Oake Bark.

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[1] See April 21 1719, and foot-note.

[2] Of Liverpool.

17 Mrs Parr made a Viset here. Robert Bushell brought me some Hot-spur-Beanes.

18 I set my Worst Anemony Roots in the Back-Courts, my Best Anemonys & best Renunculas Roots I put into Flower-pots. some ordinary Anemony & Renunculas Roots I set on their Proper Beds in the Knott as are for the Best sort of Anemony and Renunculas. I made my first Seeding this Winter for early peas & Beans, both they & the Flower Roots ought to have ben set above one Month since.

19 Pat: Gorsuch lodged here, he came to help my Wife for the Jubyly. Mrs Wilding came back from Leverpoole.

20 I helped Arthur &c: to put up the Paper Hangings in the Back Parlor.

21 Jackson was here I shew'd him my Gravell Walk.

22 I Planted two Silver Firr Trees in the New Grounds & some Slips of Barbery Trees with Roots to them in the Barbery Walk. I was busy before Dinner driving in Nailes with peeses of Guilt Leather to make the Paper Hangins in the Back Parlor ligh closer to the Wall. Seadon &c: helped me after dinner to fit up the old Arme-Chear with a Quilted Covering, though we worked hard at it, we could not finish it.

23 Seadon and I finished Covering the old Armed Chear as much as we could now do at it. Pat: Munson made a Viset here.

24 Pat: Aldred came hither with me after Evening Prayers, he stayed a good bit.

25 It being Christmas day we went in the Night to Mr Aldreds and againe today about tenn of the Clock. Ned Howerd &c: dined here.

26 My Wife and I dined & Suped at the New-Hous with the Famoly of Ince &c:.

27 My Wife and I dined at Mrs Parrs (it being her Doughters Birth-day) with Mr Plumb of Heskaine, Richard More, Mr Molineux of the Grange and their Wives &c:.

28 Thomas Cooper of Kerkby brought me some Young Birch-Trees and Whickens. Five of my Horses were Bluddied. Mrs Sadler dined here. Mr Dugdell the Painter came to see if I would employ him to paint for me.

29 Mrs Blundell and her two Doughters Mrs Margarit and Mrs Mary made a Viset here.

30 Olivor Taylor signed a Bond to me for Payment of his Fine for John Blundells late Teneament. I Nailed the Lace on the Purple Chear, as I have lately Appolster'd.

31 Mrs Parr, Mrs Byron, Mrs Crisp &c: dined here.

The six first days a pritty Hard Frost, then very Heasy Weather and a Cold Thaw for seaven days with a Little Raine; from thence to the End of the Month unsetled Weather, being somtimes two or three days wet, then perhaps as many Faire and Somtimes Frost.

January very Seasonable Weather, February Cold Winds and Frost, March very seasonable Weather, Aprill, May and June very Wet, July till the midle very hot then very Wet till the End of the Month, August Wet, September very fine Weather, October & November very Wet. December very seasonable. The Small Pox has ben very Mortall this year. In France, according as our News Papers constantly give us an Accont; there the Plage has Raiged violently this Year.



Anno Domini 1722

JANUARY

1 My Wife and Mrs Wilding went to Mrs Lettonbys, they Lodged there. My Servants all went to the Hall of Ince after Supper there being Musick there.

2 I Planted some Birch Trees and Whickens in the Avenew. My Wife and Mrs Wilding came home from Leverpoole. William Atherton, Edward Spencer and I began to Setle our Accounts but could not finish them, they lodged here.

3 Parson Wairing dined here, Robert Bootle, John Rose, Mr Byron & Thomas Syer were here after dinner, I had invited them.

4 I Began to Gravell the Walk as I have made in the New Grounds.

5 I Signed the Towns Accounts, they are to be brought tomorrow to the Sessions. I Acquainted the Overseeor of the Poore John Sumner, John Molineux, Richard Ainsworth, &c: that I had got a place to put out the Money belonging to the Poore of this Town.[1]

6 I Played at Cards at Robert Bootles with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Byron, &c:, we were invited thither.

7 John Vose came to let me know he would come to work here, when the Frost was gon. My Wife and Mrs Wilding walked to Mrs Crisps & back againe.

8 I cut most of the Lawrell & Bay Trees in the Great Courts. Pat: Hardesty and Mrs Walmesley lodged here, they walked from Leverpoole.

9 Mr Blundell, his Brother Henry, Pat: Turvill & Mr Harington dined here, Mr Blundell and some of his Attendance shot some Wood-Cocks about the Hous. I began in good earnest to open a Vistow opposit to the Gate-Hous. Mr Hardesty Marryed a Cupple in my Chappel as came from Leverpoole George ——— and Jane ———.

10 I payed the Land Tax to Ned Howerd. Mrs Walmesley went to see Ann Davy. Pat: Hardesty dined at the New hous.

11 Mrs Parr dined & Lodg'd here.

12 I Rid up severall Large Trees in the Vistow before the Gate-Hous and Removed them towards where I intend to Plant them. Pat: Hardesty went hence. I was at John Roses, there was Parson Acton, Parson Wairing &c:, we were invited thither.

13 I sent Mrs Walmesley home to Leverpoole. Mrs Parr went hence.

14 Thomas Carefoot and William Wignold paid me their Rent for my Warant. Catty Syer made a Viset here.

15 Robert Barton Servant to Mr Scarisbrick payed me some Money as his Master owed me upon Bond & Interest for it. I stated Accounts with James Davy for Slating &c: for me at Ditton and for other work done here and payed him in full of all Accounts. I Planted two Larg Oaks at the side of the Avenew

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[1] See November 7 1715 and footnote.

before the Gatehous, they are about 32 Inshes in Circomference. Two Men who said they came from Coventry left each a very Rich Pack here to be kept for them till tomorrow.

16 My Wife and Mrs Wilding made a Viset to Mrs Byron. I saw young Mr Yats and Doctor Orme set William Marrows Thigh, he broke it yester day coming from Preston Faire.

17 I Planted some Large Oaks in the Crow Orcherd & in the Evening I went with Pat: Gorsuch to Thomas Syers where we found Mr Syer, Mr Byron, Parson Wairing, &c:.

18 I was very busy all day removing larg Oaks and Ash Trees in the Crow Orcherd.

19 I Let Richard Blevin have some Money, Part my own, part belongs to the Poore of Little Crosby as is expressed on the Back of the Bond, he and Richard Boone gave Bond for it.[1] I was very busy all day making my Avenew before the Gatehous, I almost finished one Side.

20 I was very busy all day removing Oaks & Ash Trees in the Crow Orchard and have now set all the large Trees at each side of the Avenew before the Gate-hous. I payed John Tickley for two Kill-full of Barley and he paid me some Rack Rent.

21 Humphrey Darwin shewed me John Bryansons last Will concerning five Pounds left to the Poore of the More-houses John Molineux payed me Five Pound as was left by Lawrence Johnson to the Poore of this Town.

22 I Began to Levell the Avenew as I have now made before the Gate-hous and Trimmed severall Trees on each side as hang too much over the Walk. James Woroll came towards Evening to cut out some Coggs & Rongs of old Apple Trees, but it being too late he did not begin to work.

23 James Worrall Rid up a Pear Tree which is designed for Coggs and Rongs. I helped John Vose to shape out my Coate of Armes with Brick and to contrive how it is to be made at the Higher End of the Gravell Walk. Jane Starkey and James Massy gave me directions to draw the Contract of a Bargan between them.

24 Jackson came to thin my Apple Tree Boughs. John Vose began of the Brick-Work at the farther end of the Gravell Walk where my Coat of Armes is to be made. Mrs Frances Gorsuch Lodg'd here.

25 I went to my Grand Cop at the Sniggary where I had five Hands setting severall sorts of Young Trees to grow for Shelter there. Mrs Ann Gorsuch dined here. Catty Tompson told me she was Marri'd (but it was falce), Gray and I &c: considered what to doe in the Matter.

26 The Mill Writes went hence, they have made me five Sets of Coggs & Rongs of Apple Trees and Pear Tree Wood. It being very wet John Vose and his Men went home. I went to Mr Aldreds, he and Ned Howerd were prepairing against this day seven Night.

27 I Lent my Carriage to carry the Corps of Ned Blansherd to Sefton. I called at Mr Williamsons (as I was going to Leverpoole) to see his New Parlor. I

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[1] See January 5 1722 and foot-note.

was present in the Exchange when Mr Maior and Mr Norris examained Richard Goar concerning his Setlement & his supposed Marriage to Catty Tompson; John Sumner the Overseeor of the Poore gave a Treat of Wine at the Talbot to Mr Plumbe for Service done to day by him in the Court concerning Richard Goar & his supposed Wife Catty Tompson, William Gray & I went with Mr Plumbe to the Talbot.

28 Mrs Frances Gorsuch went hence. I went to discource Pat: Clifton concerning Catty Tompsons Marryage but he was not at home, so I came back & found Pat: Aldred here, he suped here.

29 I set Tompsons Teneament to John Sumner Junior for one Year.

30 Edward Litherland was here to Consider about making Stone Capitalls for the four Pillars of my Arch Sumner-hous, but we did not Bargan. Mr Dugdall came to see what I had for him to doe, I shewed him the Back Parlor, he cast it over to see how many yards of Painting it would be, we partly agreed upon the Matter. Pat: Munson made a Viset here. Joseph Young came to agree with me about geting Stones in my Quary but we made no Bargan. Mr Thomas Tyrer & Mr Jackson of Leverpoole made a Viset here, Pat: Aldred came with them.

31 Mrs Byron and her Doughter dined here, Mrs Parr came after diner. Jackson sowed some Sallet Seeds on the Border in the Close-Hedg Garden & set some Onions by the Pillers to grow for Seed.

Till the 13th Faire and generally some Frost in the Nights, from the 13th to the 21 pritty Faire though somtimes a Little Raine, from thence to the End Cold Winds & pritty much Raine.

FEBRUARY

1 I was busy triming the Arbor. I Pricked down one Dozen Slips of Red Ruff Goosberrys & one Dozen of Black Dambson Goosberrys in the Kill Garden I had them from Antony Coxhead.

2 I Payed the Miller half a years Waiges the Last Quarter will not be due till the 25th of next Month. Margarit Massy payed me Rent for her Hous.

3 I Strained upon the goods of John Sumner Junior for Catty Tompsons Rent. Olivor Taylor, his Son William and Charles Howerd were here: William Taylor signed the Bond for Payment of the Fine for John Blundells late Teneament. I Planted almost three Rows of Cabbage Plants on the Hasley Bed in the long Garden. Christopher Parker paid me his Rent, I gave him some Burs of Codling Trees. I took a Vomit from Pothocary Lathom.

4 I Order'd Pinington to come work here tomorrow & bring his Man.

5 Being Ellin Harrison dyed today I went in the Evening to pray by her Corps.[1]

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[1] Ellen was the widow of Richard Harrison who died April 18 1709. In his Tenant's Book, Blundell wrote of Richard:—"Richard Harrison was a Right honest good Man, a very good Tenant." In the lease made on August 22 1698 it was stipulated that—"if Ellen do out live her husband or son, then Ellen is to enjoy but ½ of the premisses dureing the terme abovesaid" (*i.e.* "for 99 years if he, his wife, or son William or any of them live so long."). She was buried at Sefton Church.

6 My Wif and I were at the Funerall oI Ellin Harrison, her Corps was carried on my Coach Carriage.

7 I fetched home some Malt as Thomas Tickley made for me.

8 John Vose having now fixed the second Pine Apple upon the Pillers at the higher end of the Gravell Walk, began to make Somthing to put upon the Pillars of my Arch Summer-Hous.[1]

9 John Vose, &c: Plaistered the Pine Apples over with very fine Lime and Hear and almost finish'd all the Plaistering as is to be under them upon the Necks and Cornish. I Began to dress the Hasle Hedg and tye the Side next to the Walk somthing like a Lattice to keep it even. I Layed the Filarea and some of the Lawrells in the Great Courts.

10 Mr Dugdale and his Son began to Paint the Back-Parlor, they did it over with Clear-Cole the first time. The Punsh Bowl being fixed in the Middle of the Arch over my Coat of Armes and it and the two Pine Apples being Plaistered I gave the Brick-men a Drink upon the Scaffold. Richard Carwrite. Robert Johnson and I Mesured out four Aikers in the Cowhey as are to be Ploughed by Robert Johnson.

11 Thomas Melling brought me some thing to dress my Lowsy Heffers with.

12 Richard Westhead payed me £25 in Part of his Rack Rent. I saw Mr Dugdall draw out a Lyon Rampand for William Thelwall to cut out for part of my Crest.[2]

13 I set some small Slips of severall sort of good Goosberrys as I had from Pat: Aldred and some slips of the large Red Goosberrys from Antony Coxhead. I Planted some Suckers of the large Nuts at the left hand side of the Close Hasle Walk in the Long Garden.

14 I Sowed severall Sorts of Salleting in the Kill-Garden & Close-Hedg Garden & one Bed of Carrots in the Stone-Garden. The New-Bed next to the London Appletrees in the New Orcherd, I sowed with severall sorts of Peas all for Seed & Beanes, all the Beans & the farthest Peas were George Smiths Hot-Spurs, the Border next to it is sowed with Robert Bushells Hot-Spur Beans.[3]

15 They fixed my Crest over my Coat of Armes at the Higher End of the Gravell Walk. Pat: Munson was here, he envited my Wife and me to dine upon the 19th at the Grange.

16 I Planted some very little Thorns at the Back of the Large Nuts Trees in the Close Hasle Walke. I Planted some larg Thornes at each side of the Avenew before the Gate-Hous. Mr Dugdale having finished Painting the Back-Parlor I payed him for it. I began to put the Capitalls upon the Arch Summer-Hous.

17 Nicholas Sumner & two others from Formby bought tenn Hundred of Thornes of me. I sowed the Border in the New Orcherd next to the Medowing

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[1] The decoration at the top of each pillar was a large carved pineapple.

[2] The crest is *a demi lion rampant sable, holding in its paws a cross tau fitchee argent.*

[3] "Peas & Beans for the Garden . . . . . 2s. 4d.
Garden Seeds Peas & Beans . . . . . 6s. 8d."
and also:—
"Peas for Potage . . . . . 6s. 0d."

with Blew Peas & Gray Rouncevalls and the Bed next to it with Beans and I think Hotspur Peas & towards the Midle of the Bed, two Rowes of Blew Peas; this and the Border are for the Hous use.

18 This being the first time Mr Hardesty began to pray Monthly at Lidiat My Wife and I went thither, we dined there; Mr Molineux of the Grange & his Wife were at Prayers there. I Received from Dr Cawood six Boxes of his Eye Balsom & three Botles of his Eye Water.

19 My Wife and I dined at the Grange with Mrs Parr, Richard More &c:. Mrs Wilding went to Leverpoole to stay a few Nights.

20 John Vose having now finished his Work at each end of the Gravell Walk except some little as is of no great Consequence I pay'd him in full of all Accounts.[1] I Trimed some of the Young Oaks in the New Plantation, I began at the third Row from the out side and so trimed every other Row as far as I went.

21 I Planted about forty Slips of Goosberry Trees from Ditton, at the Side of the Union Walk. I set 13 Walnuts on two Round Beds in the New Grounds which had each 3 Walnut Trees planted on them. Pat: Turvill, Wh: & Ch:.[2]

22 Mr Dugdale dressed over the Wainscot in the Great Parlor with Cleere Cole. Being the Arches by the Hors-poole are in danger of Failing, John Vose fixed two Rods of Iron from Pillar to Pillar.

23 I Mesured and Weighed some of the Furniture as Mrs Clinton made up for the Parlor.

24 I dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole with Mr Booth &c:. I payed Mrs Clinton in full for some Furniture for the Parlor. I took a Pipe with Mr Cottom at his Hous.

25 Mrs Crisp dined here. I went to Ditton and Lodged at the Bank at William Athertons.

26 I Payed Ralf Hindley in full for work done by him for me at Ditton. Henry Heys and William Atherton went with me & shewed me an Ash Tree as Mr John Mather Layes clame to. I sold some old Timber to Samuell Chaddolk. I came from Ditton to Leverpoole where I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Jack, Mr Smarley the Atturney &c:, Pat: Aldred and I came home together.

27 Thomas Syer payed me £20 in part of his Rack Rent, he smoak'd a Pipe with me.

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[1] "Smiths Work: Gugeons, Filbows &c: for the Gates . . . . . 10s. 9d.
For my Crest & Summer Hous . . . . . 4s. 7d.
Red Paint for Gates, &c.. . . . . 4s. 0d.
The Lion for my Crest and making it . . . . . 6s. 3d."

[2] On February 22, Blundell wrote this letter to Mr Billing, possibly the superior of Father Charles Turville, S.J., chaplain at Ince Blundell:

"Sir

I am Sorry to tell you that Pat: Turvill was here yesterday and told my Wife he heard she was a Whore, words not fit to come out of his Mouth nor endeed any ones elce without more Reason given which makes her highly to Resent it and not without Caus and especially becaus he will not tell his Author, onely that he has heard it; this I think ought not to be put up without some sort of Satisfaction which I leave to your Prudence to mannage and am

Your Humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

See March 14 and 18 1722.

28 I sowed some Collyflower, Sellery and Red Beet Seed in the Close-Hedg Garden. Doctor Lancaster made a Viset here. I met most of the More-hous Men at Charles Howerds & made some proposalls to them for Inclosing part of the Morehous Marsh.

This generally was a very fine & faire Month, the Begining was Windy, and severall other days there was a sharp Cold Eare & now and then some little Raine, the last day was very Wett.

MARCH

1 Mall Puss Kitled this Morning or last Night, she had four. Henry Stananought brought me some Eeles.

2 Phillip Syer was here, I gave him severall sorts of Flower Sets for his Sister Catherine.

3 I Cut the Tops of most of the tall Hasles at the Side of the Hasle Walk. Henry Gray has don all he had to doe at the Arch Summer Hous. Mrs Wilding came back from Leverpoole.

4 Betty Charnolk dined here. Mr Jackson of Liverpoole & Georg Smith were here but did not stay. I gave them a Glass at my Sellar.

5 Henry Watkinson & Robert Whawley were here to desire I would help to fence the Grounds they farme from me. Mr Dugdale began to lay on his last Paint viz: Pirle Colour on the Wainscot in the Parlor.

6 I Clensed the Work-Hous & fixed a Bensh in it, in order to be ues'd for a Work-Hous.

7 I was in Sefton Church where there should have ben a Tryall between Parson Egerton and Parson Hartley but Parson Hartley soone gave it up, Lawyer Blundell and Lawyer Starkey were there; there were Nine Clergy Men and nine Lay-Men on the Jury, they gave the Cause to Parson Egerton, so that he is now to be the Rector of Sefton.[1] I drank at Thomas Tickleys with Mr Plumbe, Mr Cottom, Pothocary Lathom, Mr Thomas &c:.

8 Mr Dugdale having now finished painting my Parlor, I payed him in part, he went hence. Henry Brudg worked here, he mended some Hors Collers &c:. I set about one Hundred of my own Cabbage Plants in Holes in the New Orcherd.

9 Thomas Marsor began to lay the Foundation of the Brick Wall at the End of the West Laine. John Gregson was here, I paid him for severall Pear of Shoes for my Wife.

10 I began to mend my Larg Drought Net in order to catch Fish with it.

11 Edward Hatton payed me some Money as I had lent him some Months since.

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[1] John Clayton had presented Richard Hartley, who was instituted December 26 1721. The Earl of Cardigan now claimed that he had had the right of patronage granted to him by Sir Richard Molyneux. He presented Thomas Egerton. The commission upheld Cardigan, and Egerton was instituted on April 13 1722. He held Sefton in plurality first with Warrington and then with Cheadle.

12 Thomas Cooper brought me some Burch Water, we began to make Wine of it. Thomas Hesketh was here with a Cart for some Stakes for tying Trees to as are Planted at Crosby Bowling Green, I gave him as many as he had Occation for.

13 A Messenger from Wigan brought me a Straw Book as Mrs Bagnoll sent me, Mr ——— ——— brought it from London. I drew the Little Pit in the Great More-hey, and Watkinsons two Pits, I took 3 good Tensh one good Jack and about a Dozen of good Shoulers.

14 Pat: Turvill was here but did not begg Pardon.

15 Henry Gray & his Man began to Poynt my Chimneys with Sleck Morter. I set some Shallot, it should have ben set sooner. They Tunned the Burch Wine.

16 Jane Starkey & James Massy signed a Contract as I had drawn for them of the Bargan they had made. I Pricked out a great many Cutings of Popular on the Border of the Left Hand Abell Walk.

17 I went to Leverpoole and Drank a Bowl of Punsh at Mrs Aldridges as Mr James Clinton gave me, Young Mr Made was there. I gave Thomas Moss Instructions to draw a Leas for Olivor Taylor. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Smarley the Atturney, Thomas Moss, &c:.

18 Thomas Tickley was here, I payed him for making me three Kilfull of Malt & for duty for it. My Wife met Mrs Scarisbrick at Lanslets at Ormskerk. Pat: T:, Wh: & Ch:.[1]

19 I attended the Corps of Thomas Bradley to the Church, there was Parson Walker, Mr Smith of Maile, Mr Byron &c:. My Wife went towards the Hall of Wood but turned back againe.

20 I Planted some Hornbeame as have ben Layed in the Ground ever since the Hedge was Planted at each side of the Gravell Walk. I Grafted the Leomond Apple the highest, Miss Dimple next & the Blossom Russet the Lowest all between the Wood and Bark on the Hodg Podg Tree in the New-grounds. I had five Women spreding Mole Hills.

21 Thomas Marsor having finish'd the Brick Wall at the End of the West Laine I helped him to mesure it & pay'd him for it.

22 Tarlton killed a good Swine for me, as was from the Inn Side of his Rib to the top of his Back fully seaven Inshes & a half thick.

23 I fixed a Sun Dyall upon the Wall at the End of the West Laine.

24 I payed £4 to Richard Goar for which he gave me his Note upon demand and his Wife gave me her Leas or rather my Lord Molineux his Note for her Title to Norris Aicker which I am to keep for my farther Security.[2]

25 Mr Aldred was here I walked with him into the Gardens, he smoak'd a pipe with me.

26 John Sumner of this Town paid me the last of his Fine. William Tarlton,

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[1] See February 21 1722.

[2] See January 25, 27 and 29 1722. By now Gore and Catherine Tompson are probably married, and the £4 0s. 0d. is compensation for the unfulfilled lease.

William Harrison &c: paid me their Rent. I gave James Massy a Hen Egg to set for me under his Henn, the Circomference of it was six Inshes & half a quarter.

27 I Perues'd John Sumner the Overseeor of the Poors Accounts & signed them. Ailes Carefoot who had formerly ben my Servant came hither to look about her. Pat: Gorsuch Lodg'd here.

28 Jackson Grafted me three Pear Trees in the New Orcherd with each a Different sort and the tall Pear Tree in the Nursery with the Pear from the Parsonage of Sefton, I fear they will not doe well becaus the Imps have ben too long got. Thomas Thelwall the Smith mended my Jack.

29 I sent Richard New-hous a peece of Mill-Stone to be a Harth-Stone & then went after my Wife and Pat: Gorsuch to Henry Norrys'es where we had a Formby Sod.[1]

30 Jackson began thorroly to dress my Aspargus Bedds on the Terras and Removed some Larg Roots (as are I think seaven years old) to places where they were wanting.

31 Jackson planted the two farthest Beds on the Terras with Aspargus, the Midle Row on each Bed was larg Roots of 7 or 8 year old & of each side a Row of Aspargus of about two years old, I Raised it all from Seed the two next Beds to them he Planted with old & young Roots of Aspargus but in a different Order from the other two, the three next Beds all are of my old sort when they were first made, though renewed yesterday in some places where there wanted with Plants of the same sort. I set some very small Roots of Anemonis on the long Borders on each side the Back Courts.

Till the 18th I think not above two dais faire and generally very Cold, then three dais faire, the rest to the end of the Month wet and Cold except the 23rd, 30th & 31th.

APRILL

1 Mr Shepperd and his Wife[2] made a Viset here, they Suped here.

2 I Opened my Hartychocks and began to digg about them. Mrs Sadler walked hither, she dined here; whilst we were at Dinner Mr James Clinton,[3] his Wife, her Sister and Mrs Knight came and dined here.

3 Mrs Scarisbrick sent word she would dine here tomorrow. I want to Ailes Mellings to look at her Ariculases, so to Thomas Tickleys and then through Ince Town home. Olivor Taylor payed me the first Payment of his Fine. I Sealed a Leace to him of John Blundells late Teneament and he the Counterpart to me.

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[1] The word *sod* had three meanings in relation to food:—
a a sod of food, liquor, etc., boiled or prepared by boiling.
b boiled meat.
c a roll made of coarse flour; also known as a *bap* or *bap-cake*.

[2] Of West Derby.

[3] Clinton was formerly a tenant of Lydiate Hall, but had given up farming and engaged in the wine trade at Liverpool.

4 Cozen Scarisbrick, his Son &c: dined here.

5 I set some Kidney Potatows in the Oat Croft. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodged here.

6 Cozen Gillibrond and I walked along the Division Ditch from the Bridg to Orill-Hill-Plat, where we met Old John Sumner & William Weedow, they went with us to look at Gabriell Norris his Plat, Richard Molineux his Plat &c:. Richard Molineux and John Molineux went with us to what is Called Lady-Green Water-Cours, we followed it from Orill-Hill Laine almost all along, to the Plat in Ince Braud Laine.

7 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. I went to Leverpoole, Debera Mather sent me the last of her Fine by her Doughter. I drank at the Wool-pack with Rigby the Glass Grinder, young Hadock the Quaicker, Thomas Hurst &c:, the Dispute about the Word Synonimus.

8 Mr Shepperd of Darby and his Son Thomas dined here.

9 James Massy brought me two young Chickens being the Product of the large Hen Egg which was set under his Hen the 26th ultimo, I examained them very nicely with a Magnifying Glass & found no Defect at all in eather of them, one was endeed considerably larger than the other; the Hen broke the Egg before the Birds were hatched, so they were not come to their Groth, although they had their Propper Shape and Proporsion. I was at Robert Bootles with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Byron &c:. Mrs Molineux of the Grange and Mrs Parr made a Viset here.

10 My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Byron. John Jackson brought me a Kegg of Whit Wine from Daniel Sefton.

11 I met Mr Molineux of the Grange, Richard More &c: at Charles Howerds, I made an Agreement there between Richard Jump and Bryan Lea for what Trespas shall be done by Richard Jumps Rabets during his Terme of 4 years at the Grange, Thomas Blansherd & William Wignold were there but would not make any Agreement with Richard Jump, thence I went to Crosby Greene & Bowled with Pothocary Lathom &c:, I went in to Thomas Hesketh's and drank with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Jackson of Leverpoole &c: I payed Daniel Sefton £3 upon Account of Wine I had from him. Mr Dugdale came and began to doe what Painting is to be done at my Coat of Armes and the Arch Summer Hous.

12 I Began to Levell the Back of the Cope at the side of the New Orcherd next to the Foulds and designe it for a Strawberry Bank but have set part of it with Peas for this yeare. Mr Dugdale went hence I payed him in full for Painting & for a Picture Fraime,[1] he, Henry Gray and all my Servants were merry at Margarit Lurtings.

13 Henry Swift & James Massy began to Cast for Potatows to parts in the Oat-Croft. Lawrence Gilberson being dead I went and prayed by him. Thomas Syer walked a good part of the way with me. My Wife went to the Hall of the Wood.

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[1] "Dugdall the Painter in full . . . . . £5 12s. 6d.
A good Lackered Fraime . . . . . 10s. 0d.

14 I Bought a Druget Sute of Mr Cottom except somthing as I had of my own towards it,[1] I dined at his Hous with Mr Pepper &c:, I drank at Mrs Ladys with Mr Plumbe &c:.

15 My Wife & Mrs Wilding walked to Mrs Crisps. The Maids went to the Grange.

16 I set Kidney Beans in the Close-hedg Garden. I Sowed Beanes in the Cross-Field and Harrowed them.

17 Mr Sadler dined here. I set part of a long Row of Beans in the New Orcherd, they had ben Steeped about nine Hours in Water. I went to my Delvers of Fleas, they began yesterday.

18 Mr Cottom, Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: dined here. I Bowled at Crosby Green with Parson Wairing, Mr Byron &c: I went into Thomas Hesketh's and drank with Parson Acton, Mr Thomas Whittle &c:.

19 I Set two Trees up stright at the side of the Avenew before the Gates as were Blowed much out of their due Order.

20 I Began to levell the New Foot-way tn the Great Moss-hey. I went to Leverpoole and drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Peters and Mr Plumbe, I gave Mrs Peters Orders to get a Warant for Ann Ballard for Cuting the Starr,[2] coming home I called at Parson Wairings and found Pat: Aldred and Mr Byron there, it was an Appoynted Meeting.

21 I Payed the Land Tax and Window Tax to Edward Howerd. I stoped the Foot way in the Little Moss-Hey & the Rode now is to be through the Great Moss-Hey.

22 I Began to take some Notes out of the Book Entitled The Shortest way to end Disputes about Religion.

23 Cozen Scarisbrick made a Viset here, she found nobody at home but me, My Wife & Mrs Wilding were gon to Leverpoole.

24 I put some Ingredients together to make Ink on.[3] I planted some Rasberry Trees where the Great Nuts grew, they were got up 2 or 3 Months since and layed carelesly in the Ground, but are very likely to grow & doe well. John Rad: took the Rackens in the Kitchen down and began to make them so as to turne.

25 I went to Crosby Greene but did not Bowl. William Dandy brought me a Sute of Gray Druget he had made for me, I tryed on the Coat & Waist Coat at Thomas Hesketh's, I drank there with Mr Cottom, Parson Wairing &c:.

26 Robert Lunt the Cunstable of Ince brought Richard Ballards Wife a Prisoner to me, he took her yesterday with a Warant for cuting Starr in my Warant.

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[1] "Stockings for my Wife

	£	s.	d.
Busks two for my Wife		2	10
Materialls for a Druget Sute		1	4
Making my Druget Sute	3	7	0
Shoes for me		11	0
Stockings for me		8	0
Gloves for me		2	8
Morning Cap		2	0
		5	0"

[2] Star-grass or Marram grass.

[3] See foot-note October 19 1708.

27 Mrs Parr made a Viset here, my Wife went with her to Great Crosby and then came back together, she suped here. Flea was Rean Walted.[1]

28 I went to Great Crosby and warned Thomas Thelwall, Edward Hatton &c: to lead Muck the next Week for Boone.

29 Thomas Syer was here, he stayed a good while & smoaked a Pipe with me. Cozen Nanny Gorsuch made a Viset here.

30 Thomas Syer payed me some Money in part of his Rack Rent. I was with Arthur Wilson awhile & helped him to put up Railes to fence the Brick-kill in the Ackers.

Very little Raine till the 16th then eight days of Raine for the most part, then generally faire till the end. It was a most extraordinary Cold Month, not above 3 days tollerably warme which made a very backward Spring for Grass.

MAY

1 My Wife went to Leverpoole, she made a Viset to Mrs Holywell.

2 I Lead Muck with six Carts to my Summer-worked Ground for Barley in the Cross Field. I Bowled at Crosby with Parson Wairing, Pothocary Lathom, &c:, Mr Formby, Mr Cottom &c: were there.

3 Mrs Crisp dined here. Mr Aldred and I went to Sefton to make a Viset to Parson Egerton but he being gon to Walton we went to Thomas Hesketh's, Thomas Syer came to us, so did Thomas Hurst, & Mr Gamond.

4 I Sowed some Barly upon Summer Work in the Cross Field.

5 I went to Leverpoole & payed Edmund Gee for Daile-Boards for Floaring the Back Parlor,[2] I drank with him, Mr Cottom & Mr Robert Fazakerley at

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[1] The meaning of this is not clear. If *flea* refers to the poor top sod in the marshy lands then *rean* here may mean a water-furrow. See foot-note to July 21 1710.

[2] The conversion of the dairy into a parlour was now almost completed.

"The Charge of Making the Dary into a Parlor

	£	s.	d.
I Recon Meat for the Workmen & pay for my own Teame, Masons for altering the Windows, the Fier Place & making a new Wall between it & the Entrys.		12	6
Daile-bords Popular, sawing & Carting	2	15	6
Joyners Work & their Meat, I suppose	1	10	0
Nails, Wall-hooks, Glew, Latch & Hinges		13	2
Mending the Grate		1	0
Flaggs, Scapolling & Bringing	1	19	0
Dressing Flaggs, taking up the old Floar, laying & Victuall.	1	7	4
Poynting, Teering, &c.		4	0
Tiles at 1s. 9d. p. Dozen.		5	3
Glass-Windows & Caesments	1	1	6
Painting, I suppose		13	6
Brick, Lime & Hair I shall not recon to the full becaus I got some good Stones &c. out of it	1	0	0
Paper for Hangings (I shall Recon nothing for the Box or Carriage becaus what is left will almost ballance those things	2	0	0"

In addition individual items used in making the parlour are mentioned in other places in the Disbursement Book:—

	£	s.	d.
"Paint for the Back Parlor		7	0
Painting the Back Parlor &c.	1	10	0
Making up Furniture for the Parlor & part of the Materialls	10	13	0
Peer Glass & Chimney Glass	7	0	0
Hinges &c. for the Back Parlor		2	0
Harth-Stone for the Back Parlor		7	6"

the Wool-pack and with old Mr Walmesley of Showley and Mr Crompton &c:

6 Mr Shepheard dined here. Mrs An Gorsuch came hither, my Wife went with her to Thomas Syers.

7 I began my Journey towards Ashburne Faire in Darby-Shire, I dined at Starkeys the Agle & Child in Warington, I discoursed Mr Mather about some Timber I had fallen in Henry Heys Teneament, I called at Bartington Bowling Green Hous but did not light, so to Holmes Chappell & then to Dailes the Black Lyon in Congleton where I Lodged, I saw a Show of Leger-de-Mesne &c:.

8 I went from Congleton to Leek then to Jeromy Groves the Talbot in Ashburne in the Peak in Darby-Shire where I dined with Hollys of Moss-lee in Staffordshire & Mr Burhall who came along with me for some Miles, they shewed me where the River Jurnet sinks under the Ground and continews to run under Ground for about three Miles. I bought a Large Bay Guelding five years old of one Guy, I call him Bull. I Lodged at a Privet Hous.

9 I went to see Mr Blundells four Black Mares as he had bought for his Coach, he drank a Glass of Wine with me at my Inn.[1]

10 I Bought a Large Bay Filly two years old, I call her Muss. I came from Ashbourn to Mr Kents, he went with me to Painsley & Shew'd me the Hous, from Mr Kents I went to New-Castle and Lodged at the New Row-Buck.

11 From New-Castle I came to Warington, I dined at the Agle & Child and then to William Athertons in Ditton where I Lodged; I was at the Ball with Joseph Bolton, William Welshman &c: where we had a Consultation about a Millor & his Famoly as are lickley to be Chargeable to the Township of Ditton.

12 I came home by Low-Hill, Sera Atherton came so far along with me.

13 My God-Son James Blackbourne, Mr Molineux of the Grange &c: made me a Viset in the Evening, my God-Son discoursed me about a £5 Bond debt as was owing by his Father to the Poore of Ditton, Mr Molineux[2] payed me his tenn-penny Rent.

14 My Wife and I went to Preston, we Lodged at the Black Bull, Cozen Gillibrond of Astley was there, he came to us.

15 I went to Prayers to Stony-Hurst, I saw the Hous & Gardens, I dined there with Pat: Brinkhurst, I came from thence to Ribchester where I saw two Remarkable Stones for Antiquity, the one is the Corner-Stone of a Building & supposed to have ben part of a Roman Alter on which they Offer'd up Sacrifize, the other is about the thickness of a Rowling-Stone though longer & supposed to have ben part of a Pillor, I was upon Ancor-Hill where tis Supposed there had ben Ancor Smiths Shops, becaus some times Ancors & Peeses of Ancors are found, one who was with me shewed me where he or his Workmen a few years since found neare half a Bushell of small Ship Nailes some yards deep in the said Ancor Hill; I Light at the Unicorns Head and drank there with Mr Walmesley

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[1] Black horses were fashionable, but Nicholas bought none on this visit to Ashbourne fair:—

	£	s.	d.
"Bay Guelding 'Bull'	10	9	0
Bay Filly two Years old	5	10	0
Spent in buying the Hors & Mair, viz: going & coming from Ashburn	1	18	7"

[2] Mr Molyneux of the Grange, Altcar.

of Showley & his Son Thomas & with Mr Hayhurst a Shop-keeper &c: and also drank with them at the Red Lyon, I came from Ribchester to my Inn at Preston, My Wife and I saw a Droll Acted, some Tricks of Leger-des-Maine, Sword Dansing &c:.

16 As we came home from Preston we called at Dr Lancasters in Ormskirk and stayed awhile, I payed him in full for Phisick.

17 I Pricked out a few Collyflower Plants & Sowed Purslain Seed on my Ritch Bed in the Stone Garden.

18 John Landers & I Setled Accounts for Delving Fleas and for Money Received by him for Fleas and clear'd all off on both Sides, he met me in Gate-Hey and shewed me which were sold & which were not, thence I went to Thomas Marsor who was making a New Pinfold on the High-Town Greene, he began it on the 16th Instant. Richard Renolds Widdow advised with me what to do to prevent being cozened by her Husbands Relations.[1] Mrs Wilding cut my Hair off my Head. I sowed some Cowcomber Seed.

19 I put Favourit and Bull to the Carriage with the other two Horses to teach them to draw the Coach, they doe extraordinary well.

20 Mrs Wilding gave us a Treat of Coffy upon Account of her Brothers Birth day which is past some days since.

21 I took up the Fine Flaggs in the Back Parlor being I designe to Board to it. I was very Aguish in the after noone.

22 I Planted sone Collyflower Plants in the Kill & Close-hedg Gardens and the Terras. Parson Wairing, Mr Syer, Mr Byron &c: were with me at Mr Aldreds he gave us a Bowl of Punsh. I sent two Dozen young Pigeons to Mr Plumbe to Store his Dove-Coat.

23 I sold three Heffers at Prescot Faire.

24 My Mare Flea Foal'd a Dunn Filly this Morning or more lickley in the Night for it was scarcely alive when it was found which makes me think it was starved being it was a wet Night or elce was hurt by the Mare being Rain Walted about a Month since. Mrs Ann Gorsuch came to take leave of my Wife being she shortly leaves her Service.

25 I went to Gate-Hey and sold some Fleas to Abidant Harrison thence to Blundells Sparling Field where old John Sumner & his Son John were delving Turves, they began on Monday last. Ascroft began to-day to delve Turves in Thomas Marrows Moss.

26 I went to Leverpoole and spoke to Edward Litherland for a Harth-Stone for the Back Parlor.

27 Being it was a very wet day I stired little out, I Read in a Spirituall Book.

28 Mathew Morris the Germon came from Leverpoole & mended my Jack.

29 I took a Pipe with Ned Howerd at his Hous. I took part of a Bowl of Punsh at Mr Aldreds with Mr Jackson & Mr Thomas Tyrer.

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[1] Reynolds had been a tenant of some copyhold land in Great Crosby.

30 Arthur Wilson Layed the Harth in the Back Parlor and has now finished Bourding it. Mrs Syer, Mrs Par, & Mrs Byron dined here. I Bowled with Parson Richmond, Mr Formby, &c: at Crosby, I drank at Hesketh's with Pothecary Lathom, Mr Green the Atturney &c:.

31 I Put some thing as I had from the Wine-Cooper into a Kegg of Wine to Refine it. My Gray Mare Flea was Horsed at Ormskerk by a pritty Bay Stallion as comes from towards Exton but he is not large.

The two first days faire, then three wet days, the three next days faire, from the 9th till the end of the Month onely two fair Days, the others generally very wett, never so much Rain known in May by any Man.

JUNE

1 Some dayes since I put Ingredients together to make Ink and today I pour'd it off the Dreggs. William Carefoot began to Mouth my Hors Favourit. I sold & delivered my Rabet Skins to Richard Wignold.

2 John Radcliffs Wife was brought to bed, Margaret Watkinson brought me somthing from her, I began to prepear it.

3 My Wife sent a Present of Pigeons to Mrs Acton by Mrs Wilding.

4 I Helped Thomas Marsor to Mesure the More-hous Pinfold being he Intends to finish it today. Thomas Hesketh claimed two Strayed Calves as I had in my Ground, he took them away.

5 Being Thomas Carefoot intends to begin tomorrow to delve Turves he and his Wheelor Caty Patrick came for a Wheel-Barrow & a Board.

6 I light of Thomas Syer in this Town-field, he came to the Hall with me, and we Smoaked our Pipes together,

7 I Began a Brew of Aqua Coelestis, the Proportions are much the same as what was made February 3d 1721, I made it of tenn Large Quarts of Brandy & today I Botled twenty Bottles of it.

8 This being my first day of Selling Turves this year, I went with William Carefoot to Marrows Moss & the Morehous Moss and sold to John Banister, Edward Rothwell, John Chesshire &c:. Betty Bolton called here, she had ben to see Richard Boones Wife of Ainsdale, Thomas Marrow Junior shewed her his Thumb & Robert Weedow his Foot, I had them both in Cuar.[1] I Finished my Brew of Aqua Coelestis, there were in all 50 Bottles of it.

9 Doctor Lancaster was here, I went with him to see William Thelwall. Landers had ben delving more Fleas for Saile, I paid him for it.

10 Richard Cartwright let my Wife Blood. Robert Weedow went home and took a Vomit. Pat: Aldred came & took a Pipe with me.

11 I gave William Taylor a Cart Load of ordinary Timber towards Repairing his housing. I drank part of a Bowl of Punsh at Thomas Hesketh's with Mr

[1] See foot-note to March 18 1712. "Had them both in Cuar" probably means that Blundell was treating them with materials from his 'apothecary shop'.

George Tyrer, Young Mr Case, Old Mr Stokes, Mr Jackson and severall Costomhous Offisers &c:, I Bowled with Mr Williamson who Married Mrs Hurst, Parson Wairing &c:, I drank with Parson Acton, Mr Thomas &c:. William Carefoot bought me a Bull, two Bullocks & six Heffers at Newbrough.

12 I Fixed a Cheane to the Pound in the Morehouses and then I went to Charles Howerds and drank part of a Bowl of Punsh with Corless the Surveor of Bridges. My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Acton, she Suped there, severall of the Wives of the Parish met her there, 'twas an Appointment.

13 I Bowled at Crosby with Parson Wairing, Mr Barton of Walton &c:, I drank with Mr Byron, Doctor Bromfield &c:.

14 I went to Edward Rothwells Marlors & made them to Shout. My Wife walked to Mr Williamsons of Litherland to look at their New Parlor. Parson Wairing, Pat: Aldred & Mr Thomas were here, it was an Appointed day, they sup'd here.

15 I had a Swarme of Bees came into an empty Hive as was one of the last years Swarmes & dead. This being Mr Munsons Birth-day I went to the Grange to Solemnize it, we were eleven viz: Richard More & his Brother in Law John Plumb, Mr Byron, John Rose, &c:.

16 I helped Henry Ascroft to mark out a Moss-pit in the Horshey, I intend to get Turves there this year.

17 My Wife and I heard Pat: Hardesty hold-forth at Lidiat, we dined there with Mr James Clinton, his Wife and her Sister, we all went to look at Mr Pooles Hous and then to Francis Farers, we saw his Doughter Ailes who had seen her Angell Gardian, My Wife and I intended to have gon after dinner to Scarisbrick.

18 Pinington began to lay the Bottom of the Arch-Summerhous with Tile. Parson Acton & his Wife, Mrs Syer &c: made a Viset here and Suped here.

19 Old John Sumner helped me to mesure the Feying of the two Moss-pits in Blundells Margits Field. Thomas Carefoot helped me to Mesure the Feying of the Pit in Leas Ground. I sent to Wooton to wish my Lord and Lady Molineux welcom-home and to invite my Lord Langdale from thence to come hither. I Began to get home my Provision of Coles, I fetched a Load from Whiston, I think they are the first I ever had from thence.

20 Parson Acton, Mr Syer & Mr Byron the Church-Wardens &c: were here abeging upon Account of the Great Losses sustained in Lancashire in December An: Do: 1720 by the Violent overflowing of the Sea; they did not shew me the Breef, but I went after Dinner to Great Crosby where I peruesed it and the Account there was that the Sea had overflowed 6600 Aikers of Land, had washed down 157 Houses and damnifyed 200 more, that the whole loss was Computed to be more than £10227. I Suppose this Account may be pritty exact for I heard some Persons examained upon Oath concerning some part hereof and they Swore pritty near what I had heard from other Persons.[1]

21 Lawrence Rigby came to Borrow my Coach Carriage to Carry the Corps of Mr Taylor the late Maior of Leverpoole from Leverpoole to Preston. Henry

[1] "Given upon Account of the Breef for those that suffered in Lancashire by the Overflowing of the Sea . . . . . 5s. 0d."
See weather report for December, 1720 and foot-note.

Curedon dressed up the Harnish for this Journey. Mrs Ann Gorsuch lodged here.

22 William Carefoot went with my Coach Carriage to Leverpoole and carried the Corps of Mr Taylor from thence to Preston where he was Buried.

23 William brought my Coach Carriage back from Preston. Marsor fixed the Steps between the Gravel Walk and the Hasle-Walk. Samuell Rigby sent his Prentice hither with a Pair of Glass Scaunses.[1]

24 My Lord Langdale & Mr Carroll Molineux dined here.

25 My Wife and I did not goe into Leverpoole but went directly over in the Rock Boat[2] & so to Chester where we Lodged at the Golden Lyon.

26 My Wife and I made a Viset to Mrs Blundell of Ince at her Lodgings. We bought a Dozen Rush-bottomed Chears, a Corner Cupbord &c:, after dinner we came to Eastom and came over in the Boat, but did not come on Shoar, of neorr an Hour after the Boat ran on Ground becaus the Horses could not be got out, We came stright home.[3]

27 My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Harington at Ince. William Carefoot and Robert Weedow went to Ormskerk Race, five Ran for a Plate.

28 Jacksons Wife came for some Cutings of Appricock & Plumb for Inoculating, I gave her some.

29 Cozen Gillibrond and her Doughter Jane came hither in the Morning, they Lodged here.

30 William Ball from the Meales was here with a Peece of Sail-Cloth, I bought it of him. My Wife & I went with Cozen Gillibrond & her Doughter to Leverpoole, we dined at the Wool-pack, I drank there with Mr Syer, Mr Byron, Thomas Hurst, &c:.

Till the 10th not above one day without some Raine, the seaven next days Faire, the rest of the dais till the end of the Month generally wet so that this may well be called a Wet Month and Nothing like Summer.

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[1] Sconces, a form of candle-holder:—
"Glass Sconcess a Long Pair . . . . . £1 0s. 0d.',

[2] Ferry between Liverpool and Rock Ferry.

[3] "

	£	s.	d.
Muggs & Whit Mettle		5	3
Eshens and Milk Pailes		3	3
Wiskets and Mops		3	4
Petty Pans		2	8
Sope		8	10
Carding Table	1	14	0
Corner Cupbord		10	0
Japaned Hand Dish		4	0
Rush Bottomed Chears one Dozen	5	14	0
Pruning Knife		1	0
Knives & forks half a dozen		13	0
Silver Ladle for Coffy		19	0
Candle-Stick for Smoaking		1	0
Gerthwebb at 3d. per Yard		3	8
Pocket Book with 4 Ivory Leavs		3	0
Spurs & Buckles for Fairings		1	0
Carriage of most of the goods above mentioned from Chester to Eastom & over the Water to Leverpoole, Porterage, &c..		8	8"

JULY

1 My Cozen Gillibrond and her Doughter went hence, my Wife went with them to Ormskerk, they dined at Doctor Lancasters.

2 Jackson came to trim my Wall Trees, it would have ben better if they had ben trimed three weeks sooner. My Teame and eleven others lead Coals for Mr Aldred. We expected my Lord Langdale to come hither to lodge but he came not.

3 I set some Hot-spur Beanes in the Stone-Garden, they should have ben set fully three weeks sooner. This was my last day of Delving Turves this year. Pinington finished slating the hovell of the Pigeon Hous. My Lord Langdale & Mr Heskaine Lodged here.

4 Mr Eckleston Gors: dined & Lodged here. Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: dined here. We went to Crosby Green, I Bowled there with Parson Wairing &c:, there was Parson Acton, Mr Whittle &c:.

5 My Teame and six others Lead Coles for the Smith. I went with my Lord Langdale to the Stand[1] and dined there with Lord Molineux, Mr Richard Lee &c:.

6 Parson Acton, Mr Cottom and Pat: Bartlet dined here, I went with my Gests to Crosby Green and Bowled with my Lord Langdale Hand to Fist, Mr Thomas, Mr Byron &c: were there.

7 My Lord Langdale went hence, I went with him to Seaside & stayed there whilst he was Baithing, he then went towards Wooton; Mr Heskaine and I came to Thomas Hesketh's, Parson Richmond, Parson Martin &c: came to us.

8 My Wife was busy most of the afternoone writing Letters but I was not with her.

9 Mr George Clifton, his Wife and Mrs Mary Wilding lodged here.

10 Mr George Clifton, I and the two Mrs Wildings walked to William Sumners alias Mr Wildings Teneament. I fetched from Leverpoole some goods which I bought at Chester Faire.

11 Mr George Clifton and I went with our Wives & two Mrs Wildings to Leverpoole.

12 The Weather has ben so very Wett I durst not begin to Mow before today, and tis not lickley to be much better. My Wife and I went with our Gests to the New-hous but Pat: Clifton not being at home we came back & then went to Mr Aldreds. Pat: Clifton came thither to us.

13 My Wife and I went with our Gests to the New Hous, Pat: Clifton gave us a Bowl of Punsh. Pat: Aldred dined here and then met us at the New-hous.

14 I Payed the Land-Tax to William Thelwall & William Weedow. Mr George Clifton, Pat: Aldred and I went to Crosby and Bowled with Parson Wairing.

15 Pat: Clifton made a Viset here, he Suped here.

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[1] See November 20 1702 and foot-note.

16 Mr Clifton and his Wife went hence but being it Rained they turn'd back again & stayed till after dinner, they left Mrs Mary Wilding here.

17 Pinington finished Tearing the Apple Loft. William Goar proposed to Farme all the Winterheys for a Terme of years. Thomas Syer payed me twenty Guineys in Part of Rack Rent.

18 Pinington began to flagg the Gate-hous. Pat: Munson was here.

19 I finished writing a very Long Letter to Pat: Daniell.[1]

20 Mr Blundell borrowed my Drought Net. I sent to wish him & his Lady welcom to Ince, he brought her first home yester-night.[2] I Lead Hay with three Carts before Dinner & with two after, I was pritty much with them, I have got tenn good Load of Hay out-of the Oat-Croft.

21 Arthur fited up some Fraimes for some of my Commicall Paper Pictures. I Looked at most of my Goosberry Trees and Marked severall of them to know what sorts they were.

22 John Gregson brought me a Pair of Shoes, I payed him for them and for what was owing upon my Wives Account. My Wife and I went to Ince to wish Mr Blundell & his Lady welcom to their own Home.

23 I Helped Pinington to take the Levell of the Hasle Walk, it falls above two Foot & a half from the Gravell-Walk to the Palizade Walk.

24 Mr John Harington made me a Viset from Ince.

25 I Stated Accounts with John Sumner the Father & John his Son for Delving Turves &c: and Cleared Accounts on both sides. I cleared off all Accounts between John Pinington and me. Mr Blundell & his Lady made a Viset here 'tis the first since he brought her home to Ince, Mr Standley & his Lady, Widdow Blundell & her two Doughters &c: came along with them.

26 My Hors Bull was run into the Neck, I suppose with the Horn of a Beast this Morning. My Wife and I went in the Coach to Leverpoole, we took up Mrs Cottom & then went to Wooton where we dined with Dr Lawson of Chester, Mr Richard Lee &c:. We came back through Leverpoole and stayed a good while; the two Mrs Wildings went with us to Leverpoole, we left them there.

27 Margarit Watkinson brought me some thing from young Smiths Wife of Thornton for me to prepare for the Convulsion Fits.[3] I sowed Turnop Seed by the Rose Hedg.

28 Dorothy Blundell came hither in order to prepare for a great dinner on Monday next. I was with my Hay-Makers a great part of the after Noone.

29 I assisted what I could against tomorrow & sent William Carefoot to Mr Shepperds &c: upon the same Account.

30 Mr Blundell and his Lady, Mr Standley and his Lady, Widdow Blundell & her two Doughters &c: dined here.

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[1] See Appendix E.

[2] Robert Blundell had recently married Catherine, daughter of Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton.

[3] See June 2 1722 and Vol. 2 Appendix D.

31 I sat Reading on the great Stone and watching my Carts geting in Hay out of the Moss-Hey, I was pritty much with them.

The first day Faire and I think the fifth or at least but little Raine; the Rest of the Month extreamly wett and very often what we call a Spitfull Shower which frequently prevented Leading of Hay; however there generally being good Winds, the Hay was soon got dry again, however it may be said to have ben a very wett Month and the Waters of Dughous &c: have ben out as much as usual in most Winters.

AUGUST

1 I have this day got all my Hay out of the Town Meadow, I had twenty good Load.

2 Thomas Marser began to rebuild the Bark-Wall. My Wife & I dined at Ince, there was my Lord and Lady Molineux &c:, we were in all about Twenty at both Tables.

3 I Finished Mowing my Meadow Grass. William Weedow took 4 young Rabets as he was Diging in the Stone Garden overagainst the Well and let one other overget him. John Rose payed me Interest for Money he owes me upon Bond.

4 My Wife and I went to Mr Aldreds to meet Ince Famoly; the two Mrs Blundells, Mrs Standley &c: came, but none of the Gentlemen except Mr Henry, the Rest were detained at Ince, by some Gentlemen who came.

5 I sent to fetch Mrs Mary Wilding back from Leverpoole, Mrs Letonby came along with her and dined here, I sent her back to Leverpoole in the Evening.

6 I went to Ailes Tickley and to my Grand Fence by the Snigary, I light of Mr Nicholas & Thomas Syer in the Town-Field, they came home with me & I gave them a Drink.

7 Mrs Mary Wilding went hence, Thomas Wastley came yesterday for her. I began to uese Spectacles but not as a Constansy, onely when the Print is too Small for me or that it is rather too dark to see my Letters plaine without them for now they are of advantage to me, though formerly they were not. I Botled off both sorts of the Burch Wine which was made in March last viz: five dozen and one Bottle.

8 Dr Lancaster came to see Mary Jackson, he made a Viset here. I Bowled at Crosby Greene with Mr Swettenham, Mr Cottom & Alderman Tyrer.

9 I got the Last of my Meddow Hay in, though have som little in other Places, which perhaps I may Mow, I had in the little Moss-hey 32 large Loads. Edward Fareclough came to see what Work I had for him to do.

10 I Agree'd with old John Sumner to set Tompsons late Teneament to him upon a Rack Rent. My Wife went to Lidiat to Prayers & went to Confession she designs now to make use of Pat: Hardesty.[1] Mrs Syer & Mrs Byron made a Viset here, the Green Plumbs.[2]

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[1] This seems to suggest that again Mrs Blundell had quarrelled with Father Aldred.

[2] "The Green Plumbs" may have been a reminder about the cultivation of plums, but it rather suggests that he was amused by the after-effects of eating green plums.

11 I went to Leverpoole, I gave Mr Sheperd somthing towards Darby Plait,[1] I drank with him & Ben Branker I dined at the Woolpack with Mr Byron, Mr Whitle &c:, I payed Edward Litherland for a Black Harth-Stone and Rigby for a Pair of Glass Sconnses.

12 My Maides Jane Withington and Nelly Howerd went to Darby to stay two or three Nights upon Account of the Waikes

13 William Fleetwood of Simons Wood brought me a Passion Flower to look at; I advised with him about hanging a Wood-Cock Net. I took up my Seedling Tulops & my Forrain & York Tulops. Mrs Byron and her Sister, Mrs Acton &c: suped here. I put an Apron Net into the Cart Hous Pit at Night & took some Fish.

14 I Bowled at Crosby with Apothecary Lathom &c:, there were severall Great Matches Played, and a Deale of Company upon the Greene, Lawyer Bootles youngest Brother was there, so was Mr Whittle &c:, Pat: Aldred & Mr Crisp Bowled a Match by Moone Light and one Candle, there was present at it Parson Wairing, Young Mr Swettenham, Mr Byron, I, &c:.

15 My Wife and I went to Mr Sheperds, I saw Darby Plate run for by seaven Horses, it was wan by one Spensers; Mr Cottom, Andrew Barton, John Rose &c: were there.

16 Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: called here, my Wife went with them to the Grange 'twas an Appointed day.

17 I met most of my Jury in Woodholme viz: John Sumner, John Jackson, Gabriell Norris, Thomas Radcliff &c: to Adjust a difference between William Gray & some of his Neighbours about enclosing there, but Gray would not comply with what we all thought reasonable.

18 I Began to Reap my Wheat in the Cross Field. I was with them whilst they got some Hay out of the Plantation.

19 Widdow Blundell and her two Doughters, Mrs Blundell and her Sister Harington &c: made a Viset here.

20 I fetched some Geece in a Cart from Darby. Mathew Morrison the Germain Smith came to borrow some Money of me, I would lend him none but promised to lay out som with him. I sent some Kasks to Edward Fareclough to be mended.

21 I went with my Wife to Leverpoole, we dined at Mrs Letonbys, I Drank a Glass at Mr Cottoms and he with me at the Wool-pack. I took a Broaken Coach Glass to Rigbys and saw him cut it.

22 I Bowled at Crosby with Mr Cottom, Henry Harper, &c:, Mr Carol Molineux and Mr Syer were at Thomas Hesketh's taking the Naimes of the Horses which were to run for Crosby Plaite, I drank there with Mr Whittle, Mr Byron, &c:. The Squabble between Andrew Barton & Thomas Fleetwood about a Guiney Bet of throwing a Bowl. Mrs Brooksby suped here.

23 I Peruesed my Rentallys of Rack & Antient Rents and my Tennants book of Fines agred for with them, I writ somthing in each Book.

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[1] See August 15 1722.

24 Pat: Williams pray'd at Mr Aldreds & din'd here, its the first time he has ben here since he came to live at Ince.[1] My Wife made a Viset to Mrs Sadler. I sent to invite the Famoly of Scarisbrick to dine with me on Wednesday but they are otherways engaiged.

25 I Smoaked a Pipe at Mr Davys in Union Street [Liverpool], Mr Plumbe & his Son were there. I fetched my Coach Glass home from Rigbys & drank with him at the Wool-pack.

26 I went to Crosby Marsh and saw most of the Runing-Horses out, Mr Cottom and Mr Whittle were there.

27 I went part of the way with the Funerall of Mary Jackson. Mrs Mary Molineux of Mosburgh lodg'd here. Mr Clifton Lodg'd at Mr Aldreds, I went after Supper to wate of him and stayed there some time.

28 Mrs Sadler came to assist my Wife against tomorrow. Miss Jenny Gillibrond came to Lodg here, she went with my Wife to Crosby Race, I was there, there were four Ran for the Plaite, it was wan by Mr Watkin William's Bay Mare Stairing Dolly. I layed a Waiger & Mr John Poole held the Stakes.

29 My Lady Molineux and her Doughters, Cozen Scarisbrick & his Son James, Mr Trafford &c: dined here. William Kennion & William Atherton were also here, Edward Spencer came with them, I payed James Rigby for Sawing for me at Ditton. My God-Son James Blackbourn was here, he came to see if I had any Writing which belong'd to him but I had none. I saw the Match Runn upon Crosby Marsh between my Lord Darbys Mare Stockings & Lord Molineux his Black Gallaway, Lord Darby wan; Mr Plumbe & his Son, Mr Cottom &c: were there. Mr Clifton and Pat: Aldred came after Supper & took a Glass with me.

30 Mr Eckleston Gorsuch and Mr Harington came from Ince hither in the Morning, they took a Breakfast here & then went to Leverpoole. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh dined here, My Wife & Mrs Mary Molineux went to Ince.

31 I Drees'd most of my Tulop Roots and put them up in Bags to be kept. Mrs Mary Molineux went to Ince and Dined there.

Till the 11 every day Raine and generally very much, then five days faire & some of them very hot, from then till the End of the Month some days faire some fowl, though generally pritty much Raine & this may well be said to have ben a Wett Month.

SEPTEMBER

1 I Burned above one Groce of Pipes in the Washhous Grate which are fully as many as I could conveniently. I mixed some Pouders together for Convultion Fits.

2 I went with my Wife & Mrs Mary Molineux to Eckleston, we dined there.

[1] Father Williams, S.J., had succeeded Father Turville, See September 9 1711 and footnote.

3 Dr Lancaster and his Wife dined here, she went with my Wife and Mrs Mary Molineux to Morehall in the Coach, the Doctor stay'd here till the Evening.

4 Mrs Mary Molineux went hence, Miss Jenny Gillibrond went with her to Leverpoole.

5 I Bowled at Crosby with Mr Cottom, Pothocary Lathom &c:, Mr Alanson, Andrew Barton &c: were there; when we had done I drank in the Hous with Mr Byron and his Friend who was going to Ireland.

6 The Pump being out of Order William Thelwall took off the Higher Joynt & fixed a new Leather or a lower Kan in the Pump but could not make it to doe well.

7 But that this after Noone was extreamly wett my Farmers Henry Watkinson &c: would have finished sowing the Farther Oaklands with Wheat. Mrs Acton made a Viset here.

8 I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Whittle, Mr Syer &c:, Mr Fazakerley payed me Interest for two Bonds, Lord Langdale sent his Servant hither from Wooton of a How-doe-you, he came to Leverpoole to me.

9 Nelly Byron[1] came hither to play with Miss Gillibrond, she Lodg'd here.

10 Thomas Marser and two other Hands were working at the Snigary to get it in Order, being I intend to set a Pick [pike] in it soone, I was with them most of the day. I let Thomas Arnold have £100 upon Bond.

11 I was part of the day at the Snigary whilst they were fiting it up and have now so far finished it as that I set my Pitch in it but not with any Great Hopes of katching. Elizabeth Swift brought me some Damson Plumbs from Cozen Thomas Gillibronds, she went yesterday for them. I got in all my Barley.

12 I Led Turves with 8 Boone Carts & two of my own, 'tis the first day of Leading Turves this year with Boones. I Smoaked a Pipe at Thomas Syers, he was busy but Edmund Tristram stayed with me. My Wife & Miss Gillibrond went to Mr Actons, Nelly Byron went hence.

13 Richard Wastley mended my Pump, William Thelwall & William Gray help'd him, I was with them most of the day. My Wife took Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: with her in the Coach to Leverpoole. Elizabeth Swift came to me for her Directions being she is to goe tomorrow towards London with Betty Gibson.[2]

14 Miss Jenny Gillibrond went hence. I set some Riculas which Cozen Gillibrond gave me in the Knot.

15 I Began to make a Nurcery for Flowers at the farther End of the Close-Hedg-Garden & set some Flower Roots in it.

16 My Wife walked to Ailes Mellings. The Servants all went out & I stayed & kept Hous.

17 I Led Turves with Boone Carts. I went to the Turf-Moss after diner.

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[1] The young daughter of an attorney living at Sefton.

[2] "Elizabeth Swift's Journey to my Children . . . . . £1 17s. 6d." See Appendix E.

18 I went to William Fleetwoods and looked at his Cock-Net,[1] but he was not at home. Mrs Corles & her Doughter maid a Viset here from Ince, they suped here.

19 I set my Forren & best Offsets of Tulops on their Propper Bed & set seedling Tulops & sowed Tulop Seeds on their Propper Bead, I put a good deal of Compost into boath Beds. I Bowled at Crosby with Mr Hulme the Atturney Hand to Fist, four Bowles out of a Hand, Mr Whittle, Byron & Andrew Barton were there.

20 I filled the two Tulop Beds in the Knot with Compost and set them with Tulops, if they had ben set three Weeks sooner, it had ben never the wors. I went to see William Thelwall he was taking a Vomit.

21 John Arnold Sealed a Bond to me he being bound with his Father in the said Bond and his Father Having formerly Sealed the said Bond. I payed Edward Fareclough for a New Cask & for mending severall old ones. Jane Withington went with a Present of Pigeons to the Ladys at the Scoues [Scholes] but they were not at home.

22 William Fleetwood brought me a Cock Net I bought it of him, he helped me to remove my Glead Poles & to fix Pulle(y)s to them, we tryed the Net but did not put right Cords to the Pulleys.[2]

23 Dr Lancaster dined here, he came to see William Thelwall.

24 My Wife dined at Mr Crisps with Parson Acton & his Wife, Mrs Byron, &c:. Mr Plumbe dined here, we went out a Seting before dinner but took Nothing. Mr William Plumbe, Lawyer Radcliff &c: made a Viset here. I saw a very Large Flock of Wild Geece, 'tis the first I have seen this Season. I cut the Neck in the Cross Field.

25 Thomas Syer, Richard Westhead & I Stated Accounts for Rent due to me for their Grand Rack. Robert Bootle Payed me Interest for twenty Pound. My Wife went to Wigan to see Widdow Harington, she Lodged at the Legg of Man.

26 I Bowled at Crosby with Andrew Barton, Mr Byron &c:, Pothecary Lathom, Mr Thomas &c: were there. I drank with Robert Bootle, Billing of Ormschurch & John Rose.

27 I was in the Wood most of the day whilst Arthur Wilson made me a Hous to sit in for my Glead. Mrs Syer and Mrs Byron were here, I gave them some Flower Sets.

28 I fixed a Cord to my Glaid & have now trim'd it very well, I was giving directions most of the day.

29 My Wife &c: went to Ditton, they Lodg'd at William Athertons. I was the onely Person who lay this night in the Hous.

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[1] Net for catching wood-cocks.

[2] Glade—net—a net stretched across a glade or open space or passage in a wood or forest and used to catch birds, particularly wood-cock.

"We in England are wont to make great Glades through thick Woods and hang Nets across them; and so the Wood-cocks shooting through the Glades . . . strike against the Nets, and are strangled in them."

(1678. Ray Willughby's "Ornith: I, Addit. III, 32).

30 After Vespers Mr Pursall smoaked a Pipe with me. My Wife came Home from Ditton thorrow Leverpoole.

This has ben a very Fair Month though now & then a wet day but not so as to doe any great prejudice eather to the Harvest or Wheat Seeding for both were very good.

OCTOBER

1 I Began in good earnest to gather my Apples for keeping, I had 3 or 4 Hands before dinner and eight Hands most of the After Noone, we gather'd about 38 Bushells. Richard Atherton Daubed & Thatched my Hous by the Glaid.

2 I Led a deal of good Earth &c: into the Moss-Hey. I gather'd about 25 Bushells of Apples this after Noone. Pat: Beeson the Provincial & Mr Burton Lodg'd here. Mr Munson suped here.

3 I Payed the Land Tax and Window Tax to William Weedow & William Thelwall. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

4 Cozen Gillibrond and I went to Ince but Mr Blundell not being at home we came soone here & found Mr Plumbe here, he Lodg'd here. I now finished gathering Apples, I have gather'd in all about 72 Bushels beside what were Wind blown.

5 I walked with Cozen Gillibrond to Thomas Syers, he went with us to Crosby Green where we bowled.

6 I Set Roots of Renunculas & Anemonys on their Proper Beds in the Knot. Cozen Gillibrond dined at Ince, when he came back I went with him to Mr Aldreds, we just met him coming home from Lithom.

7 Mr Blundell[1] and his Lady &c: made a Viset here.

8 Cozen Gillibrond went hence, I went with him to Leverpoole, we made a Viset to Mrs Hollywell. I drank a Glass of Punsh at Pothecary Lathoms & smoaked a Pipe. I pay'd Mr Ward for Lime Juce & discours'd Mr Seel about the price of Daile Boards, I drank with them at the Wool-Pack.

9 My Wife went to Leverpoole, I was at Mr Syers of the Ford, with Parson Acton, Mr Williamson of Litherland and Mr Byron, we had a Bowl of Punsh.

10 I saw the Race at Crosby between Georg Smiths Mare & Burchalls Mare, Smiths wan, there was Mr Cottom, George Smith, Andrew Barton &c:. I Bowled at Crosby with Mr Amory & John Blansherd &c:, I drank with Apothocary Parr, Mr Molineux of Leverpoole the Grosor, Mr Syer &c:. Alexander Lever sold two Peeses of Fustion by Auxion.

11 I Began to hang the Glead Net but did not see one Cock. I Began in good earnest to get up my Potatows, they got one which was 7 inshes long wanting one eigth of an Insh.

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[1] Of Ince.

12 Henry Swift as he was geting up Potatows found the Top of a Kidney Potatow which lay upon the Ground and had at severall Joynts of it small Potatows growing, the Bigest I think was scarce an Ounce, some were extreamly small there were in all eight besides a compotent number at the Root.

13 I took a Throstle this Morning in the Glead 'tis the first Bird I have taken in it. Mr Blundell, Mr Townley & Mr Morgell made a Viset here.

14 Robert Weedow took a Cock this Morning 'tis the first which has ben taken in my Glead. I made a Viset to Ince, I went thence in Mr Townleys Coach with him and Mr Blundell &c: to the Grange, Mr Molineux gave us a Bowl of good Punsh. Mr Sheperd & his Wife & Mrs Crisp dined here.

15 I Looked at a Mous Trap which one of the Maids had set, it was a Wyer or Cage Trap & took them alive, I found two Mice taken, and one of them had kindled or brought forth five young ones in the Trap. My Wife went to Ince to wate of Mrs Townley & to Condole Mrs Blundell for the Death of her Sister Harington. It being Goosfeast Monday I went to Thomas Syers & took a Pipe with him, then I went to Nicholas Johnsons & drank with Thomas Syer, Nicholas Sumner & James Pinington. I saw there the Child which was born (as I think in Garston) without Legs or Armes.

16 Mrs Syer, Mrs Williamson and her Doughter Tatlock made a Viset here. Mary Fleetwoods two Sons came to mend my Windows & fit up one light for the Smithy.

17 I marked out where I intend to make an other Pipe to come to my Glaid. I Bowled at Crosby with Mr Amary and with Parson Wairing & Mr Whitle, I drank with Andrew Barton &c:.

18 I Began in good earnest to make an other Pipe for my Glead thorrow the Padock towards the Arch-Summer-Hous.

19 I was pritty much in the Wood with my Workmen who were maiking an other Pipe for my Glead.

20 Some of the Oaks which grew where the new Pipe for the Glead is to be I planted in the Crow-Orcherd. Mr Blundell, Mr Townley, his Lady and Sister made a Viset here, the Gentlemen & I attended my Glaid at Night but saw nothing.

21 I made a Viset to Ince, Mr Standley of Hooton & Mr Townley were there.

22 Mr Standley of Hooton and Mr Blundell made a Viset here. My Wife dined at the Edge.[1]

23 I Rid up two Larg Popular Trees which grew in the old Dove Coat Croft and were in the way of my new Pipe which I am making for my Glead & for the same Reason I Rid up a Large Oak which grew in the Corner between the Union Walk & the Barbery Walk.

24 I Bowled at Crosby with Andrew Barton &c: I drank with Mr Cottom, Mr Amary &c:.

25 Jackson trimed most of my Wall-Frute Trees.

26 John Tarlton & his Son killed me a very Fat Little Bullock.

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[1] Part of Sefton.

27 Parson Wairing made me a Viset, I was watching at my Glead, he came to me, I went in with him & smoaked a Pipe.

28 I went to Leverpoole to the Buriall of Mr Rensh the Land-Lord at the Wool-pack, John Rose & Robert Bootle overtook me ere I got to Town; there were at the Buriall-Hous Mr Cottom, Mr Syer &c:, I attended the Corps to the old Church and then came home, I call'd to see Thomas Syer who was ill in Bed.

29 My Wife and I went to Ince & heard part of the Office for the Dead & Mass for Mrs Ann Standley.

30 Mrs Wilkinson the late Widdow Haringtons Maid dined here.

31 I Bowled at Crosby Green with Mr Byron, Andrew Barton &c:, John Meadow & Andrew Barton played in Hesketh's at Breaking the Seeling, Parson Wairing & Thomas Fleetwood &c: were there.

Till the 25th generally very Faire & calme, scarce such a season known at this time of the yeare, though some times a Shower, from the 25th to the End of this Month pritty much Raine.

NOVEMBER

1 Parson Acton and his Wife, Mrs Byron &c: dined here. Mrs Byron gave her Little Dogg Toy to my Wife and left it here.

2 I cut down two Oak Trees in the Padock which were upon the decay. Pinington finished slaiting part of the Coach-Hous.

3 I Removed some of the Bay Trees and Lawrells in the Great Courts & began to Moddall it after a new Method viz: to order the Bay Trees so, as to make them all into Pillers.

4 My Wife went in the Morning to Lidiat to Mr Hardesty, she dined at Mr Crisps, I made a Viset to Ince, Pat: Aldred came thither being sent for by Mr Blundell.

5 Jackson and I examained the Wallfrute Trees & some others to see what sorts were wanting. I mesured a Turnop which was in Circumference two Foot eight Inshes.

6 My Wife dined at Mr Actons. It being a very Windy & Stormy day I read most part of the after Noone by the Fire in the Paintry, & in the Evening I went into the Town to Ned Howerds &c:.

7 I was at Crosby Green where Mr Byron Bowled five Gambes against Thomas Fleetwood, I was not present at all the Gaimes; Thomas Fleetwood got the od Gaime. This is supposed to be the finishing day of Bowling this Season, there was Parson Wairing, Mr Whittle, John Rose &c:.

8 Arthur Wilson work'd most part of the day in the Dubble Stable Stable fiting up the Manger &c:.

9 I went in the Evening to see Thomas Syer & stayed a good while with him.

10 I Dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole with Mr Formby, Mr Whittle &c:, William Atherton pay'd me his half years Rack Rent for Ditton. Robert Weedow & William Carefoot helped the Waranters to watch this Night, they saw two Men but could not take them.

11 Mrs Wilkenson, Mrs Crisp &c: din'd here. Robert Weedow took two Cocks in the Glead this Evening.

12 I Began to lay my Apples in Straw in order to keep them. Mr Rigmaden payed me som Interest Money. James Worall & his Man came to new Cogg & Rong my Mill.

13 Mr Crumpton came to see what Appolstering Work I had for him to doe.

14 I sowed some Dwarf & Hot-Spur Peas on the Border of the Teras.

15 I went to Thomas Taylor who was burning Gorse in Shepers Sunny Field, I gave him some Gors of mine for his Laybour of Cuting them.

16 My Jury met and Walked about to see what was amiss, the Foreman John Sumner, William Gray and William Weedow came to discource me.[1] Robert Bushell brought me two Larg Red Beet Roots the least of them was 13 Insh & $\frac{1}{8}$ of an Insh in Circomference.

17 James Worrall finished new Cogging my Mill. I sowed Dwarf Beans in the Stone Garden.

18 Mr Henry Blundell was at Prayers at Mr Aldreds & dined here.

19 Mr Plumbe came hither, I went with him to Charles Howerds where he kept my Court, John Sumner Senior was the Foreman, when the Court was over Mr Plumbe came home with me, he Lodg'd here.

20 Henry Watkinson and his Partners pay'd me their half-years Rack-Rent.

21 Mrs Sheperd, her two Sons & Dorothy Blundell dined here. I went to old John Sumners & Order'd him to examain Ann Marser about the Iron-geear for the Han-Gate, but she denighed it, so I order'd William Weedow to get a Warant for her tomorrow.

22 I went to William Davys and Order'd him, in presence of his Wife, not to set her Teneament without my Consent, my Wife went with me as far as her way lay and then went to Dorothy Blundells.

23 I went to the Setters of Starr in the Sand-Hills, there was Old John Sumner, Thomas Pinington, William Harrison &c:. William Carefoot began to Mouth Jewell.

24 I went to my Grand-Cop by the Snigary where my Workmen were seting Cooch-Grass or Quicks which were got in the Garden.

25 Mr Williams not being at Ince Mr Henry Blundell came in the Morning to Mr Aldreds, he dined here.

26 My Wife went to Leverpoole, she Lodg'd with Mrs Ann Wilding at Mrs Dicconson.

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[1] The jury appointed by the manor court were looking to see in what state the ditches, paths and fields were in.

27 I drank at Thomas Hesketh's with Parson Wairing & Mr Byron, Mr Edward Archibold came home with me, he Lodg'd here.

28 Mr Archibold looked at my Great Charriot but did not think it was worth my while to have it altered as I proposed. My Wife came home from Leverpoole. I made a Viset to Ince being Mr Blundell & Dr Molineux had ben here yester day & mist of me.

29 Jackson Planted severall sorts of Frute Trees for me viz: all which I Received the other day from London except the two Dwarf Apple Trees which are to set in Boxes, they are the third parcell which I have had from Nicholas Parker.

30 Mr Blundell, Doctor Molineux and their Wives &c: made a Viset here so did Mr John Harington and Mr Aldred.

Till the 9th generally very wett, from thence to the 19th very little Raine; very great Stormes of Wind till after the Midle of this Month, from the 19th to the End of this Month unconstant Weather viz: Fair, Rain, Frost & Sleet.

DECEMBER

1 I Brought home some Dail Bords from Leverpoole & the two Squair Boxes in which I intend to set the two Dwarf Apple Trees.

2 My Wife went to see Mrs Syer of the Ford.

3 I Planted a Sucker from a Paradice Stock in the Snake Hedg.

4 I Faulted Mr Blundell for shooting neare my Wood, Dr Molineux and Pat: Bartlet were with him, but they were got as far as to the Cross Field ere I spoke to Mr Blundell. I shot a Water-Hen in the Cart-hous Pit. Elizabeth Swift came hither, she onely came home today from London.[1]

5 John Garret swept some of my Chimneys. Elizabeth Swift delivered some things & some Letters here which she brought for us from beyond the Seas. Parson Wairing came hither for some Phisick for the Fawling Sickness for a Friend of his.

6 Pat: Bartlet called here in the Morning. My Wife went to Halsold & sent for Cozen Nanny Gorsuch to come to her. I was busy most of the after-noone fixing a New peece of a Net to my Cock-net to enlarg it, but I did not finish my Work.

7 I was very Busy most of the day fixing new Cords to my Cock Net and fiting it to the Glead. Edward Hatton came to me ere I had don & helped me.

8 I went to Leverpoole and drank with Patrick Kelly, I gave him £10 from Edward Howerd, 'tis for Lawrence Siddale. I brought home a Handsome Grate, for the Great Parlor, which the Germain Smith made me.[2] Andrew Barton pay'd me half a Crown which I formerly wan of him.

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[1] See September 13 1722 and foot-note.

[2] "Handsom Stove Grate with Brass and Cast Iron Back . . . £2 8s. 0d.
Strong Brass Fender . . . . . 15s. 0d.
Tong, Firepote, Shovell and Hooks for them . . . . . 9s. 6d."

9 My Wife went to Mathew Withingtons, she dined there.

10 Mr Shepperd called here in the Morning. Cozen Scarisbrick and his Son James dined here. My old Mare Flea being intirely uesless and not able to stand I killed her.

11 All my Servants went to the Buriall of Nanny Carefoot.

12 I was busy most of the after Noone helping John Sedon to draw out a Quilt.

13 I went to see Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh he having ben ill of the Siatica, I dined there with Mr Hesketh of the Maines, Parson Peplow of Rainford[1] &c:, I payed Mrs Mary Molineux for some Gold Lace for my Wife.

14 Arthur Wilson having finished sawing for me, I was a good part of the after noone helping him to mesure his Sawing. I payed him for it. Mrs Par made a Viset here.

15 I Planted the Goosbery Nursery at the Side of the Wall in the New Grounds with severall sorts of Good Goosberrys, most of them had good Roots.

16 Ailes Withington was here. My Wife made a Viset to Ince.

17 I Put some Sugar & Leomonds to some Cowslap Wine which was not very good & Run it through my Bagg and made very good Licker of it. I cover'd my Aspargus.

18 I drank at Margarit Lurtings with Thomas Syer.

19 Pat: Clifton came to invite my Wife and me to dine with him in Christmas.

20 I cut some of the Firrs in the Avenew through the Long Garden and Bleaching yord.

21 I Killed a good little Hogg.

22 I went to Leverpoole and Received Rent from William Atherton, Henry Heys and some other of my Ditton Tenants. I let Robert Whittle have £120 upon Bond. I paid Mr Seele for one Hundred of Daile Bords.

23 Robert Weedow went to the Buriall of his Uncle.

24 I made some Punsh, part of the Ingredients were very small Burch Wine & very small Lime Juce. I Steeped the Pills of three Dozen of small Leomonds in two Larg Quarts of Brandy and put the Jeuce of them into one Large Quart of Brandy.

25 We went in the Morning to Mr Aldreds and againe at tenn of the Clock. The Miller & Elizabeth Swift din'd here.

26 My Wife and I dined at the New-Hous with Mr Blundell and his Lady, his two Sisters Margarit and Mary, Betty Blundell of the Car-Side, &c:.

27 The Famoly of Ince din'd here except Mr Henry. Cozen Nanny Gorsuch Lodg'd here.

28 I stated Accounts with Elizabeth Swift for her Journey to my Doughters.

29 Mathew Morrison brought me a Brass Fender &c: for the Parlor & put a Lock of his own maiking upon the Back Parlor Doar.

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[1] Robert Peploe, nominated to Rainford church by the vicar of Prescot in 1722.

30 Cozen Nanny Gorsuch & Pat: Aldred went with my Wife and me in the Coach to Ince, we dined & Suped there.

31 Parson Acton and his Wife, Parson Wairing, Mrs Byron, Mrs Williamson &c: dined here. After Dinner I gave a Bowle of Punsh to severall of my Neighbours, to the two Thomas Syers, John Rose, &c:, we were tenn in all.

Till the 11th unsetled Weather, from thence till the 23rd very wett & very Windy, the rest of the Month very Misty & Heasy & some little Frost & some Raine.

January pritty Faire & but Little Frost. February Windy, Fair and very cold. March Wett & Cold. Aprill extreamly Cold. May & June never so much Raine known in these Months & now little signe of Summer. July extreamly Wet and the small Rivers now overflowing as much as usuall in most Winters. August Wett unsetled Weather. September & October very Fair & fine Weather and an extraordinary good Harvest and Wheat Seeding. November and December Great Stormes of Wind & much Raine, but little Frost. Very great damage done in the West Indies &c: this year by great Winds. The Plague raiged in part of France.

Anno Domini 1723

JANUARY

1 My Wife and Cozen Nanny Gorsuch dined at Mr Byrons. I went to Leverpoole with Pat: Aldred thence I went to Ditton & lodg'd at the Bank. I let Edward Hawkseye see me take the Half Crown out of a Cloth.

2 I met Mr Bretter at the Towns Meeting in Ditton, we prevented our being put on to be Cunstables, there was Mr Chadock Steward to Mr Dalton, Daniell Eckleston, Henry Heys &c:[1] My Wife and Cozen Nanny Gorsuch made a Viset to the Grange & Suped there with Mr Blundell and his Lady &c:.

3 As I came home from Ditton I called at Mr Plumbs in Wavertree and dined there with Mr Smarley and his Wife &c:, Parson Kelsey came to us in the after Noone. My Wife & Cozen Nanny Gorsuch dined at Mr Williamsons in Litherland.

4 I Took a Glass of Aile at John Roses with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing &c:, we were eight in all. My Wife and Nanny Gorsuch made a Viset to Mrs Par.

5 I was at Charles Howerds at a Shooting for a Hat, I think there were 20 who Shot, 'twas got by John Melling of Melling. I drank there with Mr Molineux of the Grange, John Blansherd of Ince, Mr Ned Molineux &c:.

6 Robert Bushell was here, My Wife sent a present of Apples by him to Mrs Blundell.

7 I Began to take up the Oaks which were in the way of the Avenew in the New Plantation and set them in other parts of the same Plantation & began to make an Avenew through it.

8 Mr Molineux of the Grange, his Wife, Betty Blundell, Mrs Parr &c: dined & Suped here. Two Doughters of Mr Williamsons of Litherland Lodg'd here.

9 Henry Marser the Mason came to see what work I had for him, I shew'd him the Nursery Windows &c:.[2] My Wife & I suped at Pat: Aldreds with the Famoly of Ince &c:. a Night or two Since my Hen-hous was Robed of about a Dozine Hens.

10 My Wife and Cozen Nanny Gorsuch met Mrs Byron &c: at Mr Syers of the Ford, they Suped there. I went and Wished Joy to Bryan Leas third Wife, Pat: Gorsuch came thither whilst I was there.

11 Pat: Gorsuch and his Sister Frances dined here in their way home from the Grange. Mrs Wilding lodg'd here, she brought Rufler home, she rode on him to Dutton Lodg this Christmas.

12 James Marrow came hither with £500 from Cozen Gillibrond of Astley, I went with him to Leverpoole and pay'd it to Mr Plumbe for which he & his Son gave Bond. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumb, Parson Balding, Parson Wairing &c:. Betty Blundells Doughter Ailes Lodged here.

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[1] See January 4 1719 and foot-note.

[2] From this day until the family's return from the Continent, there are numerous entries concerned with altering and preparing rooms for the two daughters.

13 Mrs Hawley and Dorothy Blundell dined here. Cozen Nanny Gorsuch went hence to stay some time with Mrs Crisp.

14 I Began to take up some young Ashes off the Bed in the Long Garden, I intend the best of them for Mr Blundell

15 My Wife & Mrs Wilding dined at Mr Crisps. I went thither in the Evening & drank part of a Bowl of Punsh with Mr Syer, Williamson, John Rose &c:, we were tenn in all. I suped there with Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c:.

16 I Pay'd the Land Tax to William Weedow & William Thelwall. I put the Juce of six dozen of small Leomonds into one larg Quart of Brandy and the Pills of them into two Large Quarts of Brandy.

17 My Wife sent the Coach to fetch Mrs Acton & Mrs Byron &c: hither to dinner; she took them in the Coach to the Carr-side, from thence she brought them home to Sefton &c:. I tooke down my Glead Cord, the weather being bad and almost past time of the year for Cocks to Glead.

18 I was busy all the after Noone planting Ashes in the wood, I planted about Fifty.

19 I Planted about twenty young Ash-trees in the Wood & four Wall-Nut Trees in the New-Grounds.

20 Mrs Wilding went to stay some time at Mr Crisps. I went to Ince, I suped there with Dr Traps.

21 Dr Traps dined here. Sera Atherton Lodged here, William Carefoot & Robert Weedow went with Robert Atherton &c: to Formby Dowvaile.

22 I planted some young Thornes upon my old Nursery Bed in the Long Garden.

23 Sera Atherton, Robert Atherton &c: went hence.

24 George Parker the Joyner came to take measure of the Garden Chaimber being he is to make the wood-work of the Bed for it.

25 William Thelwall fixed a Wheel up, for the Jack Cord to runn on instead of so many Pulleys. As Thomas Marsor and I were going to measure that part of the Bark Wall which he has lately Rebuilt, Mr Cottom, Mr Thomas Tyrer & some other Coursers came past us & were going homwards.

26 I Set two large Cabbages in the Kitchen Garden for Seed. I sent about 26 Apple-Trees to Leverpoole to goe thence to be planted at the Bank in Ditton.

27 Mrs Crisp, Mrs Wilding & Cozen Nanny Gorsuch dined here.

28 Thomas Syer & I went to John Walmesleys where we & Richard Cartwrite had a hearing between Thomas Taylor & Jane Starkey concerning £5 which she should pay to Owen Mackdanell. Mrs Acton sent my Wife a present of a Chees &c: Mr Aldred bought some Whit-wine for me at Leverpoole & sent it home in Thomas Marrows Cart.

29 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here except Mr Henry. Mr Blundell suped here.

30 I was Witness to a Bond which Margarit Davy signed to John Sumner, it was made to his Brother William who is now dead.

31 My Wife went to Leverpoole to shew her Finger to Betty Bolton. As John Radcliff was Shoeing Jewell behand (it being the first time he was Shod Behind) Mr Cottom, Mr Crumpton, Apothecary Lathom &c: came past, I gave them a Glass of Aqua Coelestis at the Gate-hous but they would not light.

Till the 12 generally every day very cold and some frost but not much, then pritty much Raine for seaven days. The next 2 or 3 days pirfect March Weather, then pritty faire to the end of the Month except one day.

FEBRUARY

1 William Atherton payed me his Rack Rent for my Demesney of Ditton, he Lodged here. Mrs Rachel Smith being in danger of Death I went to see her.

2 My Wife and I heard Mr Munson hold forth at Mr Crisps[1], we dined there, Parson Acton came to Mr Crisps we took a Pipe together.

3 My Wife and I were at the Funerall of Mrs Rachell Smith, she was Carried upon my Coach Carriage & buried in Walton Church, there was John Tyrer, Mr Boyer &c: Cozen Nanny Gorsuch came from Mr Crisps to lodg here.

4 Henry Swift killed me a very fat Little Red Cow.

5 Henry Marser &c: began to cut the Windows in the Nursery in order to have them made in an other Form against my Doughters Lodg there, I planted two more Silver Firs by the Steps to the Gravell Walk.

6 The Famoly of Ince dined and Suped here except Mr Henry.

7 John Tyrer & I met Mr Boyer & Thomas Fleetwood at Mrs Smiths where they praysed[2] her goods. Jackson Planted some Privet in the Stone-Garden but it did not doe well.

8 Jackson set severall Layers of Striped Hollin in the Hasle Walk, they grew pritty well but were afterwards removed from thence, he layed severall Layers of the Stript Hollin in the Flower Knot.

9 Mr Blundell[3] was a Shooting about this Hous, he came in and gave me a Brace of Parteridges.

10 My Wife and I dined at Ince we heard Pat: Williams hold forth.

11 I went to Leverpoole and pay'd Patrick Kelley for a dozen Chears he brought me out of Ireland, but I could not get them out of the Custom-hous.[4] I sent

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[1] Father Manson, chaplain at Ince Blundell, was preaching at the house of Mr Crisp, in Sefton. Crisp was bailiff or agent for Lord Molyneux.

[2] Appraised.

[3] Of Ince Blundell.

[4] "Irish Chears one Dozen . . . . . £2 0s. 0d.
Gratuity to the Sailors . . . . . 1s. 0d.
Duty for the 12 Chears . . . . . 10s. 5½d."

a Servant to Mr Scarisbrick with a Condoling Letter upon Accounts of his Sons Misdemeanour.[1]

12 My Wife dined at More-hall. I was at the Saile of goods at the lait Mrs Smiths in Aintry, there was Mr Boyer, John Tyrer, Thomas Fleetwood &c: Henry Marser has now finished cuting the Windows in the Nursery & Green-Roome.

13 William Thelwall and Arthur Wilson fixed up their Benshes in the Hall to work the Wainscoting of my Doughters Roome. Mrs Sadlor dined here she came about Dr Lathoms Hous.

14 My Wife went to see Mrs Acton who was Lying in of her Son Robert. Pat: Aldred and I drew off about 27 Gallons of Whit-Wine in the Gate-hous Sellor, Pat: Clifton was here he was to have part of it.

15 I met John Tyrer at Nanny Bukleys we Staited our Accounts to see what Remained in our Hands to be disposed off according to Doctor Lathoms Will, Mr Boyer, and Thomas Fleetwood were there.

16 William Ball brought me a peece of very good Twill for a Window Sheet.

17 Danyall Sefton was here after Vespers. Mr Sadlor came hither I went with him to my Lords Armes in Aintry where we discoursed Mr Boyer concerning Dr Lathoms late Hous & Land.[2]

18 Mr Sadlor & Mr Boyer came to Acquaint me they had agreed the Matter about Dr Lathoms Teneament. William Carefoot set Muss the first time upon the Bit in order to Mouth her.

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[1] From the tone of the letter it looks as if young Scarisbrick was either forsaking the Roman Catholic faith or at least abandoning his intention of becoming a priest.

"To Robert Scarisbrick, Esq[r] Feb. the 11, 1722/3

Deare Cozen,

I was much surprised at the first News of your Sons Disobedience & carriage towards the best of Fathers, but most of all when I heard it publickly spoke of, but am willing to perswaid my self that things are not so bad as Represented 'quia Fama Mendax' According to the Proverbe, however thought it was my Duty as a Relation & well wisher of your Famoly, to condole with you for what has Happened which I am sensible must be an extraordinary Affliction to you, but should be glad to heare you had any Hopes of his Recantation; he seems to be a Man of so much Judgment & discresion that I doe not dispaire but (by your good Prayers & prudent Management) he will open his Eyes and be made sencible of his Folly & I hope to Eat of the Fatted Calf at the Return of the Prodigall Son for none can wish it more Heartily then doth

your Affectionate Kinsman and
Humble Servant

Nicholas Blundell

My Wife Joynes with me in her Hearty Sorrow for the Occation of your great Affliction & but for that we had intended to have waited of you yesterday but thought our Company would be troblesom."

(Nicholas Blundell's 'Letter Book'.)

The will of Robert Scarisbrick, dated 1727, speaks of his eldest son, James, of whom there had been "no certain account for several years past". According to the *Victoria County History of Lancashire*, Vol. 3, p. 269, Robert Scarisbrick died in March 1738. James, had entered the Jesuit novitiate, but left after eighteen months' trial He died before his father died.

[2] See June 23 and 24 1713.

19 I went to Great Crosby & vewed some Land which Thomas Thelwall desir'd to Change with John Hunt, they went with me & I consented to the Change. My Wife &c: made a Viset to Mrs Crisps, they Suped there. I try'd to draw my Mare Muss she dos extreamly well.

20 I fetched my goods from Mrs Smiths & sold some more of her goods then John Tyrer & I went to my Lords Armes and tooke a Pipe, coming home I called at Ann Buckleys and drank with Mr Byron of the Edg, Mr Crisp &c:.

21 Mr Crumpton went with me to the Custom-Hous, I pay'd the Duty there for my Irish Chears, Mr Jackson assisted me in it and then went with me to the Wool-pack where we Smoaked a Pipe.

22 I put up a Small Hog to be fed. I made my Incomperable Salve for a Cut or a Bruse.[1]

23 My Wife and Mrs Ann Wilding went to Leverpoole.

24 Mrs Hawley dined here, my Wife went with her to Sefton & then she went to Lidiat to Pat: Hardesty.

25 Mrs Syer, Mrs Byron &c: din'd here. I fetched home my Irish Chears from Leverpoole which were in the Custom-Hous.

26 My Wife and I dined at Mr Actons with Mr Syer, Benjamin Branker and their Wives &c: after dinner we were twelve of us who drank there, the Occation was the Christoning of Mr Actons Son Robert.

27 Pat: Aldred & Mr Jackson of Leverpoole called at my Office. Richard Westhead pay'd me some Rack Rent.

28 I Sowed some Malt Dust on the Meadowing in the Oatcroft. My Doughters Roome being much what Wainscoted quite Round, they began to draw it into Panells.

This was an Extraordinary Wett Month, I think there was little or noe Rain upon the 7th, 9, 10, 11, 12 but the Rest of the Month generally very Wett; little or no Ploughing yet except a few Leyes, all Roads now most extreamly Wet & Bad.

MARCH

1 Mary Fleetwood sent two with Glass for the Windows in my Doughters Chamber & the Green Roome, they put them all up. Jackson Grafted four Sorts of good Pears in the New Orchard.

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[1] "*A Salve for all kinde of Sores, wounds, Falls, aches & Spraines.*

Take of Burgundy pitch	1 pd.
of Gumlemney	½ pd.
of Bees Wax	2 oz.

off deares Suet as much as a wallnutt, put them all together into a Skellet and melt them softly, and Stirr it all the while, and when it hath Boyled ½ an hower Softly, then Straine it into a pinte of the best white wine and keepe it Stirringe up and downe therin till the wine be Consumed. Then make it up with Sallet oyle into Roules for your use, it will keepe seaven yeares. when you would apply it to any Ache or Sweelinge put thereto one pd. of frankinsense."

2 I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Syer, John Rose &c:, I discoursed Mr Peters concerning removing William Sumners Doughter out of this Town ere she be deliver'd. I drank at the Wool-pack with Thomas Hurst, Mr Syer &c:, Mr Byron & John Rose came home with me from Leverpoole as far as their way lay.

3 Mrs Byron & Mrs Crisp dined here. Henry Gray came to see what damage was done to my Arch Summer-Hous &c: by the Frost.

4 I promised Mar: Bullen to give her somthing towards her Doughter Anns Journey to Paris. I sent three Kilfull of Barly to Thomas Tickley to be Malted.

5 I drank at Hesketh's with Parson Wairing, Mr Byron and John Rose. Mr Pursell came to us with his Petistion.

6 This being a Saile day at the Parsonage of Sefton I went thither & bought some old Slates of Mr Pusy, Mr Syer, Mr Byron &c: were there. I went in with Mr Acton and took a Pipe with him.

7 This is my first day Ploughing since Christmass.

8 I Planted about half the Ground at the side of the New Orcherd which I designe for Strawberrys. Dugdall was here to see if I would employ him in Painting my Doughters Chamber. Thomas Marrow & John Tickley pay'd me their Rack Rent for the Ackers &c:.

9 I Finished my Great Plantation of Strawberrys on the Side of the New Orcherd. I set some Turnops for Seed.

10 I dined at Scarisbrick, Mr Gorsuch & Mr Wadsworth came thither after dinner. Mrs Williamson of Litherland dined here, Cozen Nanny Gorsuch went back with her to stay a few Nights.

11 Mr Sheperd came to Acquaint my Wife he had a Doughter Born.

12 Henry Gray came & began to prepair somthing for mending the Arch-Summer-Hous & my Coat of Armes, becaus what he did before did not doe well. I got some Imps of Apple-Trees at Robert Bootles. I set some Barbery Trees at the Side of the Barbery Walk in places where there wanted.

13 I sent Mr Blundell a Present of about 200 fine Ash-plants.

14 I set some Cutings & Slips of Hornbeame in the Kitchen Garden but they did not grow. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

15 I went to Mr Sheperds with my Wife & Cozen Gillibrond, they were Gossops to his Doughter Frances,[1] we dined there. Mr Green the Atturney came thither after Dinner.

16 My Wife & Cozen Gillibrond &c: went to Leverpoole, they dined at the Talbot. I set some Roots of Single Pyany in the Gate-hous Garden.

17 Cozen Gillibrond and I made a Viset to Ince. My Wife &c: went to see Mrs Syer who was lying in of her seaventh Doughter.

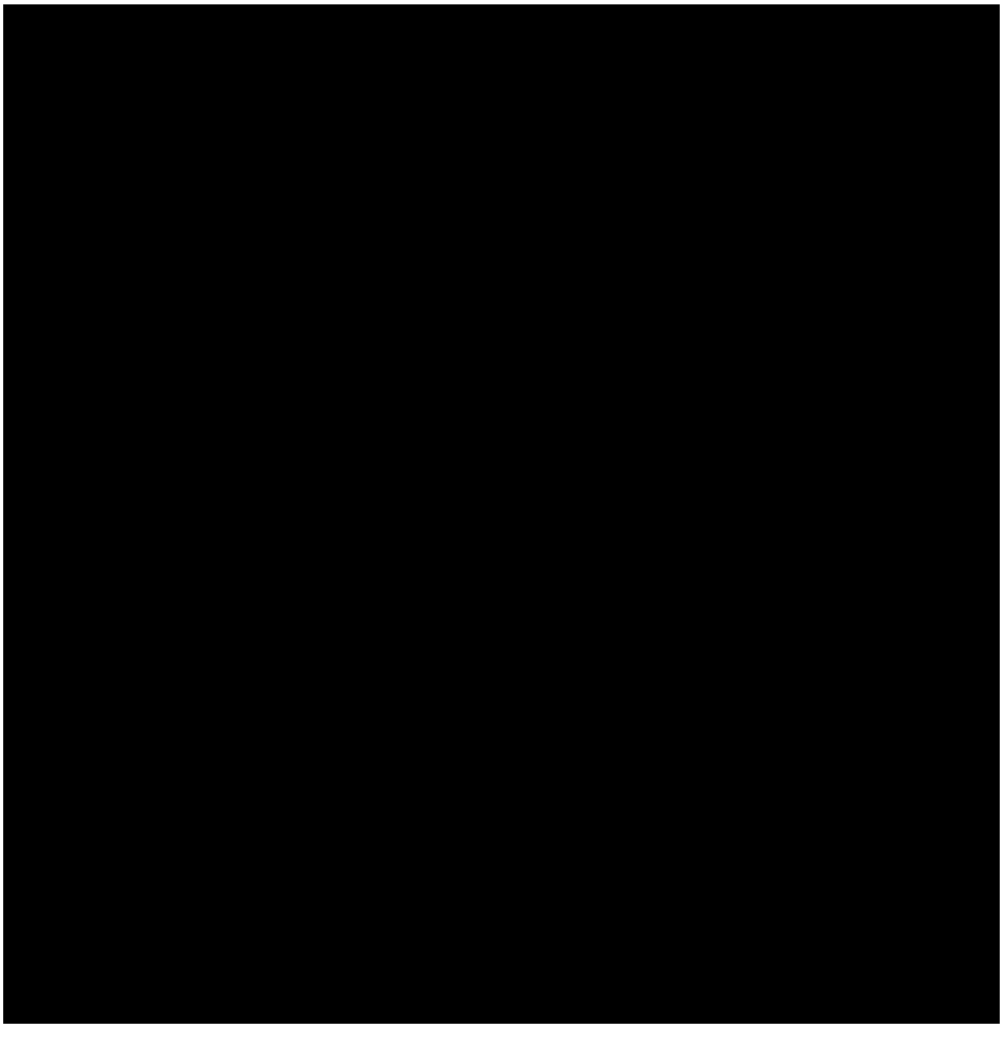
18 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. Thomas Cooper sent me some Burch Water by his Son Henry. I began to uncover my Aspargus.

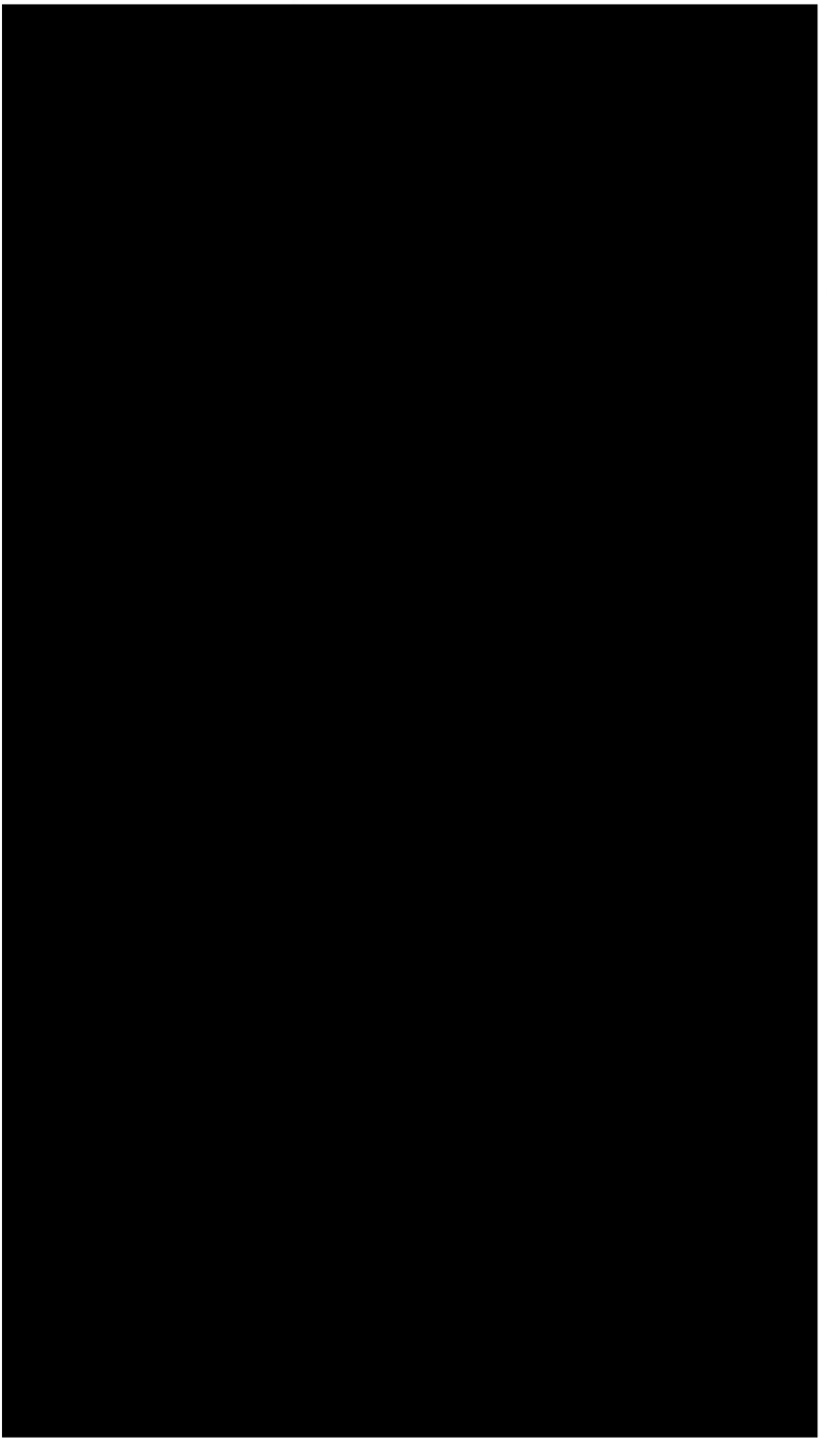
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[1] God-parents or sponsors.









19 My Wife and I &c: dined at Mr Syers with Parson Acton & his Wife, Mrs Wairing &c:, I drank part of a Bowl of Punsh there with Mr Bixter of Leverpoole, Mr Byron, Tatlock the Dyer &c:, the Occation of this Meeting was for the Christoning of Mr Syers Doughter Rachell.

20 Mrs Knight of Leverpoole and her Doughter made a Viset here.

21 I Smoaked most of my Apple Trees.[1] Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron, &c: made a Viset here. Mr Blundell should have come hither to have gon with me to Mr Actons, but he went thither, so Mr Acton sent for me, he gave us a good Bowl of Punsh, Pat: Munson & Aldred were there.

22 I went to Leverpoole & discours'd Mr Fazakerley at Jacksons concerning his Debt to me, Mr Plumbe was present. Mr Plumbe & I dined at the Talbot, I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Crumpton &c:.

23 Mr Sadler payed me £50 for the Purchase of Dr Lathoms late Hous and Teneament.

24 My Wife &c: made a Viset to Ince. I sent upon Business to Mr Sadlers.

25 John Whit called here for some Letters to take with him to the Post. Mrs Parr made a Viset here, we play'd at Cards.

26 My Wife and I &c: dined at Formby at Henry Norrises with Parson Acton, Mr Byron and their Wives &c:.

27 I met Mr Sadler at his Hous in Aintry & sold him some of the Remaining goods of Dr Lathoms, John Tyrer was there, he and I agree'd how theMoney Remaining in my Hands is to be disposed of to Mr Lathoms Relations. Mr Crumptons Man began to put me up a New Red Bead in the Garden Chaimber.

28 Cozen Nanny Gorsuch went home to stay 2 or 3 Weeks, my Wife & Mrs Wilding dined with her at Widdow Barrows in Ormschurch. Mr Crumpton came to see how his Servant went forward in seting up my New Bed.

29 Pat: Hardesty dined here, he came to my Wife.

30 I Grafted some Cuting of Apple-trees in the Nursery. My Wife and Mrs Wilding went to Leverpoole, they dined at Mr Hardestys.

31 Pat: Aldred and I went to Ince, Mr Cottom was there, we had a Bowl of Punsh.

Till the 17th every day some Raine except one and some of the days pritty much, from thence to the End of the Month every day faire onely a little Raine one day.

APRILL

1 The Appolstaror finished new Vamping up the Green Bed in the Parlor Chaimber. Pat: Gorsuch & Mrs Molineux of the Grange made a Viset here.

2 I dined at Mr Cottoms, I bought Outside &c: for two Livery Sutes of Mr Cottom. I payed him £100 for which he gave me a Bill payable at London.

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[1] To kill off pests.

3 I went to Sefton & pay'd Mr Pusy for a Load of old Slates, when I came home I helped Mr Marsh Mr Crumptons Man to fix up the Blew Bed in my Doughters Roome but we could not finish it.

4 My Wife & I lay in the Nursery which is now fiting up for my Doughters but the Bed is not quite finished.

5 I Helped William Thelwall & Arthur Wilson to measure the Wainscoting of my Doughters Roome, but we did not compute how much it was. Mr Crumpton came to see when his Man would have finished here. Arthur Brownbill & his Uncle came to me.

6 I helped to draw off the Kegg in my Sellor & began to make Aqua Coelestis of it. Arthur Brownbill was here, I payed him all I ought him. Mr John Lathom was here, I pay'd him £10 which was owing to him by his Sister Elizabeth, John Tyrer & he din'd here.

7 Mr Crumptons Man went hence he having yesterday finished what Uphoulsterars Work I had for him to doe. My Wife went to the Wood and proposed Ann Buckleys Doughter to Mrs Sadlor for a Servant.

8 Thomas Syer and I Staited Accounts for his Rack Rent for the year 1721 but he paid me no Money.

9 Doctor Longworth came to look at Sedons Mare & then came to look at two Horses of mine as are not well.

10 Yeomond of the Goar was here & Acquainted me that my Lord Molineux desired the River of Alt might be Scour'd as usuall. I payed the Land Tax & Window Money to William Thelwall.

11 I Counted the Crow-Nests in my Wood which were Built & in Building, I counted 94; the last year I think I had but two Nests.

12 Being I designe soone to goe to fetch my Doughters home I gave Jackson directions what he was to doe in the Gardens whilst I was abroad, he brought me some Sets of Pot Herbes & set them. It being a fine Evening I layed two Apron Nets in the Carthous Pit & before I went to bed I took four Breames.

13 My Eyes being very ill I was not able to Reade, so I began to lay ready some things against my Journey to Flanders.

14 Pat: Aldred came in the Evening with Mr Jackson of Leverpoole and John White I gave them a good Bowl of Punsh. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodged here.

15 Cozen Gillibrond went in the Coach with my Wife to Scarisbrick, they din'd there, coming home the Pole of the Coach brocke. Mr Sheperd din'd with me.

16 Mrs Byron & Mrs Syer dined here, my Wife went with them to the Carr Side. Dr Lancaster dined here. Cozen Gillibrond went hence.

17 George Smith & a Son of Rainfords the Gardinor were here, I walked into the Gardens with them.

18 Richard Cartwrit let me Blood upon Account of my Eyes, my Blood was very bad. Mr Ned Molineux was here to know whether I should see his Son

at Doway. I pay'd William Thelwall & Arthur for Wainscoting my Doughters Roome.[1]

19 Yester Night & this Morning I took a Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods directions. Mr Blundell & Mr Thomas Trafford came to see me.

20 I Finished my Seting Potatows. Mr Blundell sent to see me. Betty Blundell made a viset here.

21 I sent to Scarisbrick to acquaint them I was not well of my Eyes, so desir'd they would defer their intended Viset hither tomorrow. I sent to Leverpoole for some Eye Water & Drops.

22 William Gray came to take leave of me, he is going to live in Waxford. Pat: Hardesty & Mr Eckleston din'd here. Parson Acton came to see me.

23 Yester Night & this Morning I took a Doce of Pills According to Dr Cawoods directions. Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me.

24 Dr Lancaster came to see me, Richard Cartwrit bluddied me by his Orders. Mr Byron &c: were here abeging upon Account of a Breef I think for dammage done in Sussex by Water. Widdow Eckleston and Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh sent to see me.

25 Thomas Moss the Baylif of Farnworth was here I gave him two Shillings.

26 Pat: Williams came to see me. Mrs Syor & Mrs Byron made a Viset here. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent to see me.

27 Yester Night & this Morning I took a third Doce of Dr Cawoods Pills. Mr Crisp came to see me, so did Mrs Molineux of the Grange.

28 Mrs Crisp dined here. Mrs Blundell & Mr Henry came to see me.

29 Parson Acton & his Wife came to see me, so did Pat: Hardesty.

30 I Order'd Henry Gray to goe home being this is a brocken Week.

The two first days fair the nine next pritty much Raine. the next four days variable, from the 16 to the End of the Month very fine Weather & fair except the two last days.

MAY

1 Mr Scarisbrick sent a second time to see me. Dr Lancaster came to see me, he dined here.

2 I took a fourth doce of Pills. Mrs Parr & Mrs Byron made a Viset here, they suped here.

3 Nanny Hill olim Fazakerley came to see me.

4 Parson Wairing came to see me.

5 Ailes Withington came to see me so did Thomas Syer. Mrs Hawley came to see me, she dined & suped here. Ailes Tickley Suped here.

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[1] "Weneceoating the Norsery at 8d. per yard & meat . . . . £4 0s. 0d.
(had the Wencecoating been done by day waiges it wood have come to £2 6s. 6d.)"

6 Pat: Clifton and Pat: Williams came to see me so did Pat: Munson and Mr Ned Molineux. I Lead Muck into the Crosfield with six Carts & five fillors.

7 Mr Cottom & Mr Pepper came in the Morning to see me. Mr Scarisbrick sent a third time to see me. Betty Blundell suped here.

8 Dorothy Blundell made a Viset here & Suped here.

9 Mrs Syer & Mrs Byron dined and Suped here. Parson Acton and his Wife Suped here.

10 Nanny Hill olim Fazakerley called to see me as she was going towards Ailes Tickleys, she dined here.

11 Thomas Marsor cut a Hole at the End of my Doughters Closet & put a Window Frame into it to look into the Pump-Court.

12 My Wife went to see Mr Williamsons Doughter who was Married to Tatlock, Son to Tatlock the Dier she was liing In of her first Child.

13 I Set some Kidney Beanes. My Wife met Mrs Par & Mrs Syer at Mr Byrons, she Suped there.

14 Mr Scarisbrick & his Lady and Mr Wadsworth dined here. Old John Sumner not being able now to Delve Turves for me & his Son John having taken a great Rack they can not delve Turves for me any more so James Massy and Henry Swift supplyes their Place and began to day to delve Turves for Saile in the Morehous Ground.

15 Apothecary Lathom was here, I payed off his Bill in full of all Accounts. I Sowed some Peas & Beans in the New Orcherd & Cowcomber Seed on my Common Hot-bed.

16 I went to Launders who was delving Fleas in Gate-hey & took an Account of What he had sold. Henry Bridg was here mending Hors-Collors &c:.

17 Mr Cottom, his Wife, her Sister and Mr Thomas Bickster din'd here, I pay'd Mr Cottom for Materialls for two Liverys in full of all Accounts.

18 Henry Gray has now finished working at my Coat of Armes and Arch-Summer-hous & seems to have repaired all falts. My Wife & Mrs Wilding walked to Lidiate & back againe.

19 Cozen Nanny Gorsuch & Mrs Crisp dined here, I gave Mrs Crisp a Whit Kitling.[1]

20 Mr Blundell & Mr Thomas Heskaine made me a Viset. Edmund Tristram pay'd me some Money he ought upon Bond and Interest for it, I delive'd up the Bond, Thomas Syer was with him.

21 I Sent my Luggage to the Carrier at Leverpoole to be carried to London. I gave William Carefoot full directions what to do in my Absence & read my Orders to him.[2]

22 This being Mr Blundells Birth day my Wife and I went to Ince, he is now I think 23 years old. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

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[1] White Kitten.

[2] It was unusual for the groom to take charge. It was usually the butler. But in the wages list for this half year, Kerfoot was paid £2 0s. 0d. and Weedow, the butler, £1 10s. 0d.

23 We had a good Dish of Beanes and Bacon for dinner, Mrs Parr dined here, she went with my Wife to the Grange in the Coach. Mr Sheperd came to wish me a good Journey.

24 Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron, Mrs Parr, &c: dined here .Mr Crumpton was here, I pay'd him for my New Red Bead and in full of all Accounts.

25 Ned Howerd writ pritty much for me both before & after diner. I packed up a Maile-Trunk against my Journey tomorrow. I Staited Accounts with severall of my Work-folks. Mr Blundell and his Lady &c: came to wish us a good journey.

26 Mr Crisp, Thomas Syer &c: came to take leave of us. We went over from Leverpoole in Eastom Boat and dined at Hooton with Doctor Low, thence to Chester where we Lodged at the Coach & Horses,[1] we found Cozen Thomas Gillibrond & his Doughter Jane there.[2]

27 My Wife & her Maid Ellen Howerd, Cozen Jane Gillibrond, Lieftenant Barker, Lieftenant Sole & I began our Journey towards London in the Stage Coach from Chester, we din'd at the Georg in Whit-Church; then to New-port where we lodg'd at the Whit Swan.

28 From Newport we came to the Welsh-Harp where we dined thence to Coventry where we Lodg'd at the Coach and Horses.

29 From Coventry we came to Northhampton a very pritty Town, the Market place large, the Streets broad and a very handsom Church, we din'd there at the Black Bull, thence to the Swan in Newport-pannell where we took a Refreshment, 'tis Famous for Bone-Lace weaving, thence to Woobourn where we Lodged at the George.

30 From Woobourn we came to St Albons where we dined at the Black Bull, thence to the George in Alders Gate London where Mr Parks met us & brought us to Mr Hattons Wax Chandlor at the Golden Ball in Great Duke-Street where we Lodged whilst we stay'd in Town.

31 I Payed Mr Magen £3 from Mrs Leconby. We dined at Mr Parks with Pat: Clark & Mr Medcalf. I went to the four Swans at the Miles End in Stepney where I saw most Extraordinary Large Cornations or July-flowers. Pat: Richardson made us a viset.

Most extreamly hot the Greatest part of this Month & every day faire except the 6th, 19, 20 & 24th but all the Raine which fell those four days, being put together would not make up as much as an Aprill Shower, the 30th we had a Small Shower for about an Houre. There is now very great want of Raine all England over.

JUNE

1 My Wife and I saw Mrs Gibson at Mr Parks.

2 Mr Traffords Son & Mr Robert & William Scarisbrick made us a Viset. I went with Miss Gillibrond to St Pauls and walked with her over London Bridge. I drank with Mr Hanson at the Holy-Lambe.

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[1] For the expenses of this journey abroad see Appendix F.

[2] Jane Gillibrand was being escorted by Mrs Blundell to Ghent where she was to enter a convent school.

3 My Wife, I, Miss Gillibrond and Mrs Aldred saw Cartooch Acted at the New Play-Hous.

4 I made choice of some Cloth at Mr Humphrey Traffords for a Sute of Cloths for me. Mrs Berry made my Wife a Viset. I payed some Money to Mr Gage.

5 My Wife and I made a Viset to my Lady Gerard, we found Sir John Webb, his Lady and two Sons there. I went to Mr Rodbournes, he pay'd me my Wives Annuety which was due last March.[1]

6 I fetched my Luggage to my Lodgings which came by the Carriar today. My Wife dined at my Lady Gerards. The two young Mr Scarisbricks took a sort of a Small Super with us.

7 Mrs Hatton went with my Wife and me to look at some Lodgings against my Doughters come to Town. Barton the Taylor brought me a new Sute of Cloths he had made me. I shewed Mr Parks how to make Aqua Coelestis & help'd him to make some.

8 I brought Mr Cottoms Note for £100 to Mr Ashhurst, he accepted it. Mr John Culsheth lent me fourty Guineys. I pay'd off my Taylor Bartons Bill.

9 I Walked with Miss Gillibrond to St James his Park &c:, I gave my Fairwell at Mr Parks to Humphrey Trafford, Captain Knight, my Landlord Hatton &c:.

10 We began our Journey from London towards Calis, we went by Coach from our Lodgings to the old Rose in Shad-Themes where we got a Refreshment, Mr Parks & our Landlady Mrs Hatton, came with us to the old Rose thence we went by Boat to Greenwich where we went on Bord the Duke of Charas, Captain Knight Master and sailed thence to Graivsend, at five in the Evening we weighed Ancor and then Mr Robert Scarisbrick left us, he came along with us from our Lodging at London.

11 We went on shore at Margit, at night we cast Anckor in the Downs oposit to Daile [Deal]

12 We Landed at Calis about three of the Clock after Noone & went to Table Royall where we Lodged. Captain Knight went with us to Mrs Depues and then I went with him to his Lodging the signe of London where we drank together.

13 From Calis we came in a Convenience to Gravling and Lodg'd at the signe of the Angell.

14 I discoursed with Mother Abbess at the High Grate. I writ a good part of the after noone.

15 My Wife and I went into the Monastery, we dined with the Religious in the Refectory & gave them a Portion of Wine, we suped with Mother Abbis, she made us a Present of some things. I trimed some of their Vines.

16 My Wife went into the Monastery of the Black Nunns. I discoursed Mother Abbis in the Lower Box.

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[1] See June 16 1703.

17 We came in the Careba from Gravling to Dunkerk where we lodg'd at the Court of France.

18 There being a Breach at the Poore Clears I went into the Monastery in the Morning and got my Breakfast, My Wife and I were in the Monastery most of the Afternoone. I saw Pat: Confesor give Mrs Catherine Witham her last bit of Flesh.

19 I saw Mrs Catherine Witham Cloathed their Father Sindeck handed her. I went after dinner into the Monastery & writ to Charles Lathom.

20 We went in a sort of a Caraba from Dunkerk to Newport where we got a Refreshment at the Crown thence by Boat to Brudges where we Lodged at the Golden Lyon.

21 From Brudges we came by the Boat to Gaunt, my Wife & I Lodged in the out quarters, Fanny & Nelly Howerd for one Night onely at the Baikers & Miss Gillibrond went in, to be a Pentioner.

22 I writ down some of my last Disbursments.

23 I Shewed my Doughter Frances the Grand Baginage & went with her to severall good Churches in Town.[1] Mally declaired her Mind fully to her Mother.

24 I bought some fine Gaunt Cloth for two Pairs of Sheets. I made a Viset to Pat: Saltmarsh.

25 I made & mended severall Penns for my Sister. The old Bow dined with us. Garni:

26 Pat: Daniell and we five went in the Diligance from Gaunt to Allost where we stay'd awhile, thence to Brussells where we Lodged at the Signe of St John of Babtist in Bergar Straut or High Street.

27 We dined at my Lady Darwinwaters, then made a Viset to Countess Newburgh, to the Daimes & to the Dominican Nuns or the Spellicans.[2]

28 Pat: Waikman from Lady Darwinwaters dined with us.[3] Fanny and I were at the Palace & saw the Appartments which were extreamly Fine & Rich, we saw one Table made of curious inlaid Marble and other Rich Materialls all made in Flowers & other pritty Figures, that Table was said to cost Fifty Thousand Patacoones. The Privat Closet was small but most extreamly butifull, the Doars &c: were inlayed with Images and Flowers of Silver and the Floor was inlayed with a Map of the World each Kingdom being distinguished by Plates of Brass of various Colours & there were other Plates of Brass of various Figures inlayed in the Floore; there was also in the saim Closet a Rich seat which would hold three Persons with a Rich Canopy over it, there were severall small Looking Glasses Fixed in the Wainscot &c: which made a great addition to its buty; the other Rooms were butifull, most of them finely Painted at the top and Hung with good Tapestry; the Floores of some neatly layed with Oak, some

[1] For many of the places visited see foot-notes for the previous visit to Flanders in 1715–17.

[2] The convent of the English Dominican Nuns, rue Spellekens, in the north-east quarter of the city. See August 21 1716 and foot-note.

[3] Father Wakeman was chaplain to Lady Derwentwater who had lived in Flanders since the 1715 Rebellion.

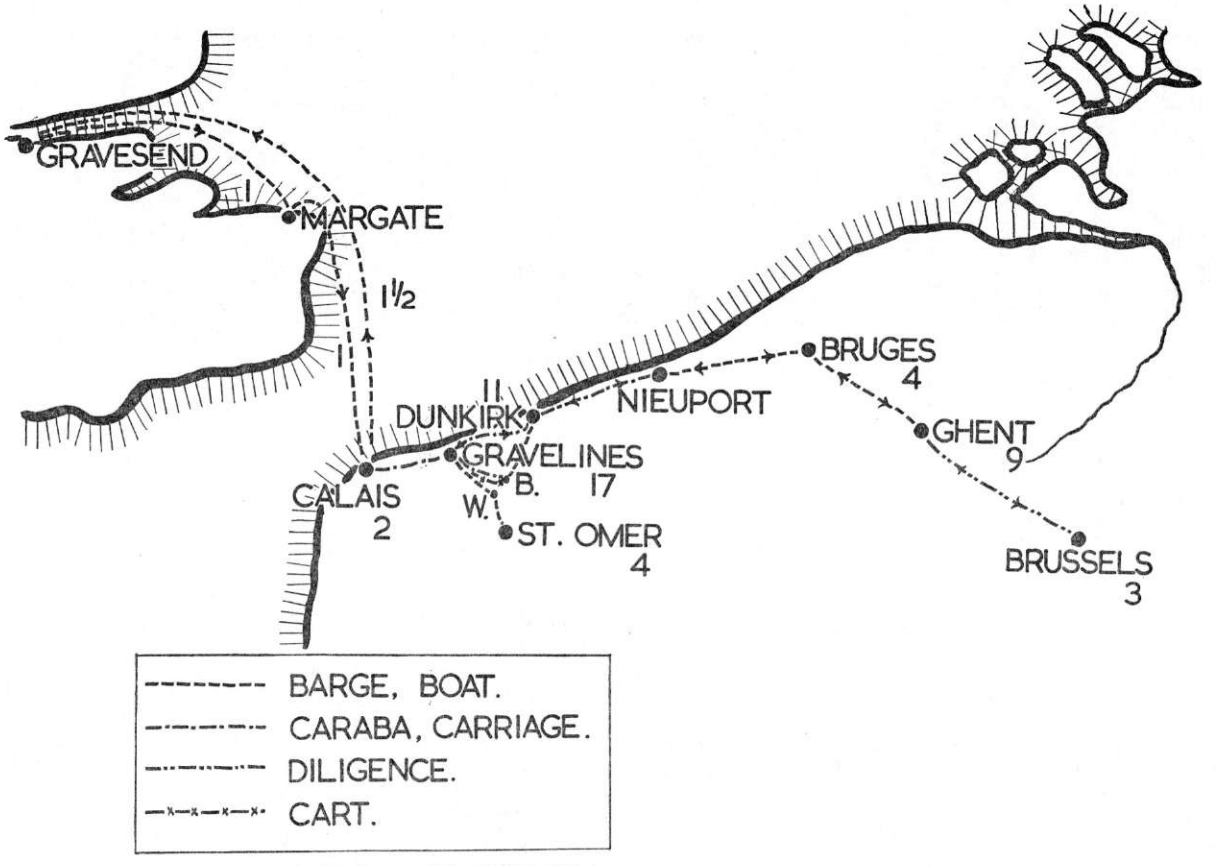


Figure 3. BLUNDELL'S TRAVELS IN FLANDERS, JUNE 10—AUGUST 6 1723.
The figures indicate the number of days spent in a single place or in crossing the Channel.

in one Figure some in an other very pritty & neat but not very costly. Fanny and I were at the Jesuits Church and saw there I suppose about 600 of their Scollars. After dinner I went with my Doughters and Pat: Daniell into the Park and saw the pritty place where the Water-works are, but they were not in order to play, however 'twas well worth seeing being nicely made with Shells &c: then I went with my Wife & Doughters to the Toore a le Mode or as some call it de la Rivour.[1]

29 Pat: Daniell and we five came from Brussells to Gaunt in the Diligance; it being Market day at Allost I saw severall parcells of Butter weighed before it was to be carried into the Market as I think; they gave about one Penny for weighing twenty Pound & so proportionable & then each received a stamped Paper with the wight of their Butter & the day of the Month writ on it. In this days Journey I saw them dressing Flax, the way of Breaking it, is to lay it on a Barne Floore and beat it with a sort of a Hammer made of a Peece of Plank two Insh thick, The Swingle Stock had a slit to put the Flax into neare the top of it, the Swingle hand had both Back and Edge the same, so both were equally uesfull, the Handle was like the Handle of a chaifing dish & was fixed in the Middle of one End, they sat to their work and had a Leather Cushon for the Swingle hand to fall on to prevent the Edg from being dinged, when the Flax was tollerably well dressed, after this Swingling they scraiped it upon their knee with a sharp Iron somthing like the Scraiper which Joyners somtimes ues.

30 It being a sort of a great day at the Daimes I was at their High Mass and at their Benediction. I went with Mr Gerni: to the Grand Begannage & saw severall Images of Religeous &c: in Wax work.

The three first days very hot, the five next unsetled Weather, then fair till the 19th and some of the days very hot, from the 19th almost every day raine and generally pritty much till the End of the Month.

JULY

1 Pat: Daniall, Fanny and I saw the moving Picture.[2] We gave the Nunns a Treat of Coffy and Tea and Mally gave them a Treat of Wine, they had a Recreasion day.

2 I Bought some extraordinary fine Lace for two Heads and Ruffles for my Doughters. I Bought some Roots of Anemonys & Tulops. Pat: Danniall, Fanny and I saw the Gunn which shoots a Bullet with Wind instead of Powder; when once well filled with Wind it will shoot off eight times as the Person told

[1] This was the Palace of the Dukes of Brabant. Within eight years of this visit the Palace was completely destroyed by fire. A plaque in the wall of the building opposite Lloyd's Bank, rue Royale, states that:—

"Here stood the Palace of the Duke of Brabant, built about 1200, destroyed by fire, 3 February, 1731."

The site was built over in 1790, but twelve metres beneath Lloyds Bank, there still remain well-preserved portions of the chapel walls and pillars built by Charles V. On one wall there is still some wall-paper or other decorative material. Between the stone blocks can still be seen the rye flour which was used instead of mortar. Also to be seen is quite a good length of the fifteenth-century six foot wide street, rue Isabelle, which once ran beside the Palace. It is in an excellent state of preservation.

[2] See December 30 1715 and foot-note.

me who shewed it, you may if you please each time charge it with a Ball; when I saw it, it onely shot off 4 times becaus it was not well fill'd with Wind, I shot it off the fourth time & not understanding it I lost more Wind than was necessary. I also saw the Brass Cannon shot off with Wind, it was not charged with a Ball but it would carry a Ball about four Inch Circumference.

3 Fanny went to Dance & saw the Miraculus Root in the Imitation of a Crusifix.[1] Pat: Daniall and I went to Mr Fodergalls the English Hatters, we also went into the Capesignes Garden. I went after Supper to Pat: Poyns[2] his Lodging & took a Bottle of Wine with him and Mr Girni.

4 I went with Pat: Daniell to Mr Hudsons, he shewed us his Hous and Gardens which are extreamly neat & pritty, there is one Bed which cost at the second Hand £100 and severall peeces of Tapestry each said to cost £100, The Parlor is plentyfully furnished with good Pictures which are vallewed at one Thousand Pound & one of them is valewed at £400. I was at the Dominicans Church, it has but one Ile or Arch besides the side Alters, but that Ile is by my Paising it over seaventeen yards wide at the least.

5 I and my Famoly came from Gaunt in the Barge to Brudges, we Lodged at Mrs Barentons neare Straw Bridge,[3] Mr Fodergall came with us in the Barge.

6 Fanny went with me to Princenhuff[4] where I saw Mr Scarisbricks two Doughters & two Doughters of Mrs Blundells.

7 It being a great day at the Carmes upon Account of the Scapular of our Lady we saw their Procestion goe past our Lodgings, we heard their High-Mass & their Salew. Pat: Horton went with me to the Barnerdine Monks, 'tis said the Compas of their Inclosure is as larg as the Town of Ostend, the Pryors Garden is very pritty having in it a bundance of tall Uew Trees very well trimed, their Cloysters are very Large & neat and their Convent is very Large but their Church seems to be very small and meane.[5]

8 We five went into the the Augustin Nunns Convent which is most extreamly neat, larg and Convenient, most of the lower Pasages are Layed with Whit & Black Marble, the Pentioners Appartment is remarkably neat and Convenient, the Convent is Larg and the Garden not small, We gave them a Glass of Wine. We tooke leave of Mrs Markham, Pat: Horton, Mrs Carroll and the rest with whom we are ues'd to dine & Sup at the Augustines.

9 We left Brudges & came in a Coach to the Barge in which we came to Newport and there hir'd a Caraba to Dunkerk, the Poore Claires having a breach my Doughters lay in the Convent, my Wife and I lay in the out Quarters.

10 I went to get a place in the Caraba for Fanny in Order to send her to Gravling but could get none. My Wife lay in the Convent.

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[1] See July 31 1716.

[2] Father Poyntz, S.J., for a short while, in 1706, chaplain to Nicholas.

[3] Strobrug (Pont de la Paille), which connects the street Spinolarei with Sint-Annarei, still exists, as probably does Mrs Barenton's house.

[4] See September 12 1716.

[5] Carmolite convent demolished at the French Revolution.

11 Fanny went with me to the Bason or Dock, I paised it over and it was 301 yards Long and 122 yards wide at the farthest End. Pat: Francis went with me to look at the New Key which they are maiking. Captain Smith was here I discoursed him about carrying over some Nunns Works.

12 We all dined in the Monastery. we gave the Poore Clairs a Dinner and Wine, I shewed them some of my Tricks with Cards &c:. My Wife and Doughters went into the Daimes Monastery.

13 Fanny & I came from Dunkerk in the Boat to Burbrook thence in a Cart (which met us there) to Gravling, I lay in Pat: Extraordinarys Roome.

14 I was at a Christoning in the Great Church, the Priest when he ues'd the Oyles diped a wyer in them and not his Finger, when the Child was Christoned the God-Mother lay'd it for some time upon one of the Alters.

15 Mr Bartlet was here in his way to Dunkerk. Pat: Manock was here in his way from Dunkerk to Callis.

16 Pat: Atwood, Mr Darnell &c: came hither. Mr Wingate brought Mrs Clifton hither to be a Quier Nunn.

17 Mr Darnell and his Famoly, Mrs Picket, Fanny and I &c: went in two Carriages from Gravling to Kindall where we met my Wife and Mally in Dunkerk Boat, we all went in it to St Omers, I and my Famoly Lodg'd at Chas Royall[1] a good & Cheap Inn, at Kindall I observed that when they burn'd a Brick Kill they set it on Fier when it was not many Courses from the Ground, & when those were hot then they put on 3 or 4 Courses more with Sleck between as usuall so let those 3 or 4 Courses be hot & then put more and in this Manner continew'd till all the Brick were pilled up in a very high Kill or Stack; The Brick Kill I saw thus order'd seem'd to be entirely cold at the Bottom the Midle part Glowing Hot and the top of it Raw Brick & still more to be put on, as it burned up higher.

18 At St Omers we saw Mr Bosiors Great Action Eustachius.

19 Pat: Rector shewed the Sodality Refectory &c: to my Wife, my Doughters and me &c:, I looked at the Mill belonging to the Collage, I think the Diamiter of the Cogg Wheele is eight yards and the Stone four Foot.

20 It being St Ignatius day we were at High-Mass & Vespers at the Collage. I treated Mr Darnell and his Son &c: at my Lodging with Burgundy Wine and Frute.

21 My Wife and I saw Fanny & Miss Picket Confirmed by the Bishop of St Omers in his own Chappell, we saw a great deale of the Bishops Kitchen Plait, his Crosior, some of his Rich Vestments and Miters. Being St. Ignatius day is Solemnised at Watton we went thither in a Pleasure Bote and came before the Solemnity was over, we dined there & then went in the saime Boat to Gravling.

22 It being the Feast of Porsiuncula I went to the Fryers to Benediction.

23 The Polacks [Poles] were here with their Dansing Bears.

24 Cozen Dick Butler was here. We removed oure Lodging from the Angell some of Mrs Trabans & some to Father Sindecks.

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[1] Chasse royale.

25 I Began to examen how the £50 was disposed of which I formerly sent to Madam Bagnoll & perues'd the Particulars.

26 I went to Calis to enquire for a Ship to goe in to England, I dined with Cozen Dick Butler at the Silver Lyon and drank with him and Mr Fanshea at the City of London.

27 Mr Dorrill, Mr Clark & his Lady, Mr Darnell & Famoly came hither.

28 My Wife and Doughter Mary went into the Convent.

29 I Saw Mrs Ann Clifton Cloathed, Mr Henry Darnell lead her, Mr Darnell, Mr Clark &c: were present. my Wife and Mally went hence in the Careba to Dunkerk.

30 I went in Gravling convenience to Burbrook thence by Boat to Dunkerk where I Lodg'd at Madam Reeds.

31 I Bought some Cherry Dery. Pat: Francis and I barganed for a Caraba to carry us hence to Graveling on Fryday.

Till the sixth pritty much Raine except one day, the six next days faire & some of them pritty Hot, then two wett, the next two faire, the next 2 wett then four hot days; from the 22d very unsetled till the End. This month has ben extreamly wet, yet some days violent Hot.

AUGUST

1 Captain Magay dined with us. My Wife, I and Mally went into the Monastery, they &c: put on the Habit it being St Clayrs day. Edw: and his Wife came hither from England.

2 My Wife, Mally and I came from Dunkerk to Gravling in the Careba which we had hir'd and coming past Mardike I had seaven new Luidoars taken from me, but I soone got them againe.

3 I and my Famoly & Mrs Sharlot Picket &c: came from Gravling to Calis, we Lodged at the Table Royall, Captain Knight came to us, so did Mr Siomond Fanshaw.

4 I and my Company being seaven went on Bord the Duke of Shandos & set saile towards London, Captain Knight Master.

5 A Pink[1] ran fowl of us & did us some damage in our Riging, some Botes came to us with Frute &c: to sell. We cast Ancor short of Graves End, some Offisors came on Bord of us. Ailes & Nelly Howerd went on Shore & Lodg'd at Graves End.

6 We Landed at London and Lodg'd at Mr Rollins a Perug-Maker at the Signe of the Golden Lamp in Bow-Street. I brought Mrs Picot to her Fathers.

7 I Endeavoured to get my Lugage from on Bord but could not accomplish it. I Received part of my Money from Mr Pirson and part from Mr Write.

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[1] A sailing vessel with a very narrow stern, used chiefly in the Mediterranean Sea.

8 Mr Parks help'd me to get my Luggage on Shore & to clear it. I went on Bord and brought my Luggage to the Custom-Hous Warf where it was sirched and some Spirituall Books & Pictures taken from me to be burned. I brought home my Luggage. I drank at the Gold Key and Golden Lyon neare the Custom-Hous with Mr Parks and Captain Knight and pay'd him for our Passage & Mrs Pigots.

9 Mrs Aldred helped to buy some Clothes for my Doughters, she din'd with us. I pay'd for the Lace which I bought at Gaunt. Mrs Butler & Miss Ann Scarisbrick made us a Viset so did the two Brother Scarisbricks and severall others.

10 Sir Girvas Cliftons Son William[1] and my Doughter Frances stood Gossops to Mr Parks Son William.

11 The two Brother Scarisbricks dined with us. the two Brother Traffords made us a Viset. My Wife and Doughters went to St Paules. My Lady Gerard made us a Viset after it was dark.

12 I gave two Pound to two of John Lathoms Doughters and they helped me to buy Clothes for their Sister Ann.

13 We removed oure Lodging from Bow-Street to Mr Smiths Fraim-maiker at the Golden Head in Great Duke-Street.

14 I Payed Mr Gage in full of all Accounts owing to Lady Knatchbull. I went with my Wife & Doughters to Mr Alaxanders and bought some Silks for them.

15 My Wife, I and Doughters made a Viset to my Lady Gerard and then went to Mrs Berrys, she went with us to St James'es Park.

16 I went with my Doughters over London Bridg & up to the Top of the Monument.

17 I Received £50 from Pirson. I Received a Setlement (made upon my Doughters) from Lawyer Culsheth & advised with him about it. I made a Viset to Mr Traford and Smoaked a Pipe there.

18 I went with my Wife & Doughters to Mr Blevins. I was at the Queens Head in Great Queen Street where I drank with Mr Rodbourn, Mr Tankerd and Mr Good.

19 I shewed my Wife & Doughters The Tower, Bedlam, and Westminster Abby.

20 I went by Boat with my Wife & Doughters to Hammer-Smith, we made a Viset to the two Miss Webbs and got a Refreshment at Thomas Gorsuches.

21 I with my Wife and Doughters went to the Camp in Hide park thence to Kinsington, we walked below in the Hous & looked through the Windows into the Gardens which are extreamly fine but might not goe into them, thence we went to Strand on the Green where I saw part of Nicholas Parkers Large Nursery,[2] I pay'd all I ought him & he treated us very handsomly.

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[1] Sir Gervase Clifton, of Clifton, Baronet, was the father of fifteen sons by his wife, Anne, daughter of Dudley Bagnell of Newry.

[2] "Lime Trees twelve . . . . . 12s. 0d.
Goosberry & Apple Trees, &c: . . . . . £1 4s. 0d.
Carriage of Trees from London . . . . . 14s. 0d.'

22 My Wife, Mally and I made a Viset to Thomas Atherton.

23 Mrs Fleetwood Butler went with my Wife and me to find some Camblets for Riding Habets for my Doughters, we bought none.

24 Mr Robert Scarisbrick went with my Wife, me and my Doughters to Greenwidg Hospitall where we saw extraordinary fine Painting at the top of what they call the Chappell, we were in some of the Dormitarys which were very Neat and in the Park which is very plesant.

25 My Wife, I and Doughters din'd at my Lady Gerards & thence made a Viset to Mrs Berry.

26 Mrs Berry help'd my Wife and me to buy Materialls for Habits for my Doughters and some Chinea, she dined with us. I went with my Doughters to Bartholemew Fair, we saw a Droll, a Little Man and a Popit Play. I met Lawyer Culcheth, Dr Eyre, & Sir Francis Anderton at the Castle Tavern in Drury Laine & took a Bottle with them.

27 I took places for us in Chester Coach. I was at Bartholemew Fair in Smithfield where I saw the Famous Juglor & a fine Tumbler at one Booth and Patient Grisell at an other.

28 Thomas Gorsuch and his Wife made us a Viset, they dined with us, so did the two Scarisbricks.

29 I deliver'd some Boxes to the Leverpoole Waganner. I went with my Wife and Doughters to Sadlors Wells & saw the Diversion there.

30 I Bought my Doughter Frances a Pocket Glass to make ues of being she is short Sighted.

31 I Pay'd Mr Waldesgrave for some Silver work he did for me, we drank a Bottle together at Mr Parks.

This Month was generally very Faire onely 3 or 4 small Showers & most of the days were extreamly hot.

SEPTEMBER

1 Joseph Thelwall came to our Lodgings, he is newly come over. We four dined at Mrs Berrys. My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to my Lady Webb upon Account of my Lady Darwinwaters death. Lady Gerard made a Viset to my Wife. I drank at Mr Parks with the two Traffords & Mr Robert Scarisbrick.

2 I Received £100 by Orders of Mr St Amand. I drank at Mr Parks with Dr Philipson, Mr Wingate &c:.

3 We four made a Viset to Mr Darnell and saw the whole Famoly. I play'd at Tables with Mr Darnell at Jefersons. Pat: Richardson & Mr William Scarisbrick din'd with us.

4 Mrs Standley went with my Wife and me to buy some sham Plait. I was at the Lancashire Club in Fleet Street with Mr Lee of the Bank, two Mr Traffords &c:.

5 Mr John Culcheth[1] made me a Viset & told me he was soone for going into the Country. I drank with Mr Levers & Captain Knight at Mr Parks.

6 Mrs Darnell and her two Doughters made my Wife a Viset.

7 I Stay'd at Home most of the after noone expecting Mr Darnell but he came not.

8 We four made a Viset to Mrs Sexton, Mrs Colegrave & Mrs Blevin, coming home we took a turne in Grays Inn Garden.

9 My Wife and I saw Humphrey Anger and Joseph Midleton Hanged at Tyburn. Miss Blevin made us a Viset.

10 We four made a Viset to my Lady Westmoreland at Twitnam[2] and dined there, coming home we were overturned, Fannys Arme & my side was hurt, Surgeon Gihee let me Blood.

11 Nicholas Gorsuch made me a Viset. Lady Gerard and Lady Webb made my Wife a viset. Surgeon Medcalf came to look at Fannys Ailements and mine.

12 I eat part of a Devonshire Py at Mr Parks with Mr Darnell, Mr William Clifton &c:.

13 Medcalf let Mally Blood. Mr Ducket made me a Viset.

14 I was at Mr Fuborts and saw him teach to ride the Great Horse. We four saw the Consious Lovers Acted at Drury Laine Theatur.[3]

15 My Doughters and I were at the Quaikers meeting in the Strand. Fanny was taken very ill, Doctor Eyre came to see her.

16 Mally and I saw the Corps of Mr Fetherson carried in Forme by the undertaiker. Surgeon Medcalf let Fanny Blood.

17 Mr William Clifton gave my Doughter Mary & me the Play called Love for Love.

18 I was at Mrs Standleys when four Paters said the Office of the Dead for Mrs Bridget Standley. I was at the Lancashire Clubb at the Legg with Mr Nicholas Parker, Mr Fleetwood Leigh &c:.

19 My Wife and I were at Pankarage at the Buriall of Mrs Bridget Standley, Mally was a Pall Bearer. I was at the Cock-pit Bowling Green.

20 I was in the Hors Market in Smithfield. Mr Medcalf treated Mr Robert Scarisbrick & me at his Hous.

21 I was at the Jews Sinegogg by Leadon-Hall Market.

22 Mr Sexton and his Wife disopointed a good Plot layed against the Governess. I drank at Mr Parks with Captain Knight and his Brother.

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[1] Of Gray's Inn; son of John Culcheth of Culcheth and his wife Mary, daughter of Hugh Dicconson, of Wrightington, near Wigan.

[2] Twickenham.

[3] "The Conscious Lovers" by Steele, was first acted on November 7 1722, and was first published by Tonson on December 1 1723.

23 I pay'd off Mr Medcalf. We walked to see the Duke of Norfolks Hous in St James his Squaire but there was no Body to shew it. We took Coach and went to Hanever Squaire.

24 Mr Medcalf went with us 4 to Summerset Gardens where we took Boat and went towards Foxhall[1] & then went to the New Spring Gardens, coming Home we went into the Chappell at the Banketing Hous.

25 I was at the Cockbit-Bowling Green, I was Chearman at the Legg Club, there was Mr Parker, two Traffords &c:.

26 I went to the Waganner with two Boxes designed for Lancashire.[2]

27 We four went to make my Lady Gerard a Viset & to take leave of her, then we went to see the Duke of Norfolks Fine Hous in St James Squaire.

28 Mr Medcalf went with us four to the Play called Hamlet Prince of Denmark thence he took us to his Hous & treated us very handsomly.

29 We four dined at Mr Blevins with Mr Hugh Diconson, Mr William Clifton &c:, thence we made a Viset to Mr Darnells & so to our Lodging where Lady Gerard came to take leave of us as also did Lady Webb.

30 I & my Famoly began our Journey homwards in Chester Coach in company of one who called herself Jackson, we din'd at the Black Bull in St Albans, Mr Robert Scarisbrick & Mr Medcalf met us there & din'd with us, We Lodged at the Red Lyon in Wobourn.

The five first days faire & hot, the 3 next unsetled, from the 8th to the 15 Faire, and some of the days very hot, the 15th wett, 16th Faire, 17 Wett then every day fair till the End of the Month except the 28th. There has not ben known so dry & so hot a September by any Man living nor such want of Raine at Michalmas as now is, All ditches as dry as in the Hight of Summer.

OCTOBER

1 From Woobourn we came to Northampton where we dined at the Angell, thence to Hillmoton where we had 6 fresh Horses & so to Coventry where we Lodg'd at the Coach & Horses.

2 I Hir'd a Hors at Coventry & overtook the Stage Coach at the Welsh Harpe where I left my Hors, we Dined, thence we went to Newport and Lodg'd at the Red Lyon a cheap Hous.

3 From Newport we went to Whitchurch & dined at the George thence to Chester where we Lodged at the Golden Raven a very Cheap Hous, my Horses met me there.

4 We dined at our Lodgings & then came over in Eastom Boat but there not being Roome in it for my Horses, I left them and my Men in Chesshire. My Wife Lodg'd at Mrs Letonbys, I and my Doughters Lodg'd at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole.

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[1] Vauxhall.

[2] "Carriag of 2 Boxes from London . . . . . 4s. 11d."

5 My Horses came over the Water to Leverpoole & then we all came home. I was busy most of the after Noone unpacking my Luggage which was come from London.

6 The Famoly of Ince made us a Viset so did Mrs Williamson of Leverpoole & Mr Sheperd.

7 Dorothy Blundell came to wellcom us home so did William Atherton & some of my Neighbours.

8 Mr Rigmaden was here, he pai'd me some Interest Money, Mr Williamson was with him. Richard Blundell of the Carr-Side was here & desir'd his old Servant Bridg might Farme eather Tompsons late Teneament or Sumners but I refues'd him.

9 Mr Scarisbrick sent to wish us welcom home. Pat: Hardesty din'd here. Pat: Clifton &c: made us a Viset.

10 Mr Acton & his Wife, Mrs Parr, Mrs Byron and the rest of those good Wives came to welcom us home.

11 Robert Bootle and John Rose were here & payed me what Interest they owe.

12 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

13 Mr Cottom dined here. Cozen Gillibrond, my Wife & Doughters went in the Coach to Ince, I walked after them.

14 Lady Molineux sent to welcom us home. Mr Thomas Standley late of Preston din'd here, when he was gon, I walked towards Crosby & met Cozen Gillibrond coming back from towards Leverpoole, he light & walked with me to Mr Wairings where we found Parson Acton, Thomas Bickster & Mr Jackson of Leverpoole, Mr Byron, Mr Thomas Whittle &c:.

15 Cozen Gillibrond and I vewed the greatest part of the late Thomas Marrows Teneament, John Jackson shew'd it to us, John Sumner of this Town was with us and made some proposalls to change some Ground of his for part of Thomas Marrows late Teneament. Mr Syer & Mr Byron made me a Viset, so did Pat: Gorsuch & Burton.

16 Edward & Robert Blansherd payed almost all which was owing to me by their Father deceased. Cozen Gillibrond went hence. Mr Eckleston sent to wish us welcom home so did Lady Gerard & Mr Culcheth. Dr Lancaster & his Wife din'd here.

17 I began to lay up my Apples in Straw to keep. Mr Plumbe & his Son William dined here. I went to Hesketh's being it was the Goosfeast.

18 William Thelwall went with me to see what was to be don at the Snigary.

19 Yesternight and this Morning my Wife took a Dose of Pills from Dr Lancaster. Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh sent to welcome us home. Parson Wairing made me a Viset, Pat: Aldred was here, Parson Wairing and I went & took a Pipe at his Hous.

20 Mrs Wofold dined here. Cozen Nanny Gorsuch Lodg'd here.

21 I set my Roots of Anemonys, Renunculas & Tulops which I brought out of Flanders.

22 Mr Robert Brownbills Wife & his Brother Thomas dined here. I hang'd my Glead the first time this Season but saw nothing.

23 I Payed the Land Tax and Window Tax to Richard Ainsworth. Mr Gorsuch & his Son Eckleston lodged here.

24 I payed my part of the £100000 Tax to John Molineux & John Tickley.[1] Mr Gorsuch & his Son went hence.

25 Mr Scarisbrick, his Lady, Doughter Ann & Pat: Morphew dined here.

26 I put some Achhornes into Sand to keep till I set them, it had ben much better if they had ben put sooner into Sand. I sowed Seeds of my own Tulops upon the Seedling Tulop Bed in the Nursery.

27 Mr Henry Blundell made a Viset here, Mr Pursell writ for my Wife to R: Nev:.

28 I Stated Accounts britty near the Matter with Thomas Syer & Richard Westhead for two years Rack Rent. My Wife & Doughters went in the Coach to Leverpoole, she shew'd her Legg to Dr Bromfield.[2]

29 Dr Bromfield came hither and dresed my Wives Legg. Pothecary Livlesley came hither & desired I would make use of him being I had made use of Mr Latham his Master for my Apothecary.[3]

30 I went to Arnold Raines[4] to meet some Company in Order to buy Land to

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[1] In 1722 revived hopes for the Jacobite cause provoked the Atterbury Plot, so called because Bishop Atterbury of Rochester was one of the accused. To punish the plotters Walpole imposed an extra tax of £100,000 on the income of both Non-jurors and Roman Catholics (9 Geo I, cap. xviii). This tax was first imposed in 1722, and remained on the statute books until 1867, though long before that it had ceased to be imposed.

In the Registers and Accounts for Sefton Parish, there is a reference to this tax:—

"1723. Pd. for a Warr[t] from the Com[tes] to assess the Papist Tax by . . . . . 6d.
Pd. for attending the Com[es] of the Papist Tax att Aughton . . . . . 6d.
Spent att severall times aboute laying the Papist Tax . . . . . 3. 7½d.
Paid for a collecting warr[t] for the Papist Tax, and to Mr Byron [attorney] for his journey . . . . . 5s. 6d."

The Disbursement Book reveals how much Nicholas paid on this occasion for his double land tax and towards the £100,000 which he calls the 'Grand Tax':—

	£	s.	d.
"Land Tax	3	12	9½
Window Tax		15	0
Grand Tax	14	17	2
Ditto for Tompsons Teneament		5	1½
Fifteens to the Poore, &c.	5	10	9
To Warants for Bridges	1	14	4"

[2] Dr James Bromfield, or Broomfield, one of the promoters of the Liverpool Infirmary, the borough's first important hospital.

"Dr. Bromfield in part for coming to dress my Wives Legg. . . £2 12s. 6d.
Dr. Bromfield for visets to Wife . . . . . £2 7s. 0d."

[3] Edmund Livesley was the son of Gilbert Livesley (or Livesey), a merchant of Liverpool. Later in the Diary, Edmund is referred to as *chirurgeon*.

[4] Reans—a balk, ridge or terraced strip.

enlarge that high-way but the Company was gon to Clarks to Sefton, I went thither where I found Alderman Tyrer, Mr Peters, Mr Byron &c:, The Overseeors of the Parish there barganed with Mr Crisp in behalf of my Lord Molineux & with Alderman Tyrer for some of their Land to be aded to the Road in Arnolds Reanes

31 Mrs Williamson of Litherland & one of her Doughters made a Viset here.

Every day till the Midle of this Month except four there were pritty good Showers, which were very agreeable, for there is still great want of Raine & eaven now at the end of this Month all Pits and Ditches are dryer than has ben known in the dryest Summer by any Man Living in these Parts, from the Midle of this Month till the End, generally faire though severall days a little Raine.

NOVEMBER

1 My Wife & Doughters went out to take the Aire in the Coach, but meeting Mr James Clenton & his Wife coming hither they turned home againe.

2 Mr Henry Blundell brought us a Present of Woodcock & Partridges. Pat: Munson brought us a Present of Partridges. I sent to Astley to see Cozen Gillibrond being she has ben out of Order.

3 Mrs Mary Molineux of Mosburgh made a Viset here from Ince with Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters.

4 Yester night and this Morning Mally took a Doce of Pills. Dr Bromfield sent a Present of Oysters.

5 Robert Blansherd, his Wife and Brother Edward were here to agree with me about a Fine, I made a Proposall to them, but we did not bargan.

6 Dr Bromfield was here, I pay'd him off for coming to dress my Wives Legg & then we went together to Hesketh's. Mr Syer and Mr Byron came to us, when the Dr was gon Parson Wairing came to us.

7 Mrs Blundell brought somthing for my Doughters to take inwardly & also for an outward Application.

8 Nathaniall Howerd was Arested by George & Richard Woods, I writ to Mr H: Tyrer in his behalf. William Atherton pay'd me his Martinemas Rent for Ditton Demesney, he Lodg'd here.

9 I Removed my Coat of Armes, which is cut in Stone, out of my Seller & made more Roome to set Bottles in.

10 Thomas Syer & I discoursed about setling our Accounts for Arreers due to me, but we did little onely talk of the Matter.

11 I sowed some Cabbage Seed to be cut for Cale in Winter.

12 Thomas Syer pay'd me £4 in part of Rack Rent. I went to Leverpoole and stated Accounts with Mr Cottom but pay'd him nothing. I drank at Jacksons with Mr Robert Fazakerley, Atturney Hulme &c:.

13 I took account of William Carefoots Receipts whilst I was abroad.[1] William Thelwall finished my Doughters Large Chest of Drawers & fix'd them in their Closet.

14 My wife and I dined at Ince with the Ladys of the Scoues.

15 I went to Leverpoole and gave Mr Cottom £50 for a Bill of Exchange which he got me some dayes since, I also pay'd him for the Carriage of my Boxes from London & for goods bought of him[2] & then I went with Mr William Plumbe to his Fathers and din'd there & so back through Leverpoole home.

16 I made some Shrub against tomorrow.[3] I set some Cabbage Plants in the Long Garden.

17 The Famoly of Ince din'd here with their Gests the Ladys of Scows &c:.

18 I Pricked out some Young Letess on the Border in the Kill Garden. Dr Bromfield made a Viset here, he lanced my Wives Gumbs.

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[1] See Appendix G.

[2] During this quarter, on his return from Flanders and London, where he had already spent a great deal on clothing for his two daughters, Nicholas spent still more on clothing and materials for them; more than he usually did. No doubt, he had in mind, good marriages for them.

	£	s.	d.
"Shoes & Cloggs for my Wife		17	4
Galoone			5½
Thread			11
Silke Lace			5½
Printed Linen for a Night Gown for my Wife & making it	1	12	4
Thread & Buttons for my Shirts		1	10
Shoes & Clogs for my Doughters	1	18	8
Stuff Night Gowns, Mantews and Petty coats of dyed Linen & materiall for them, and making all up	8	3	9
Cloak for Doughter	1	2	0
Hoop Petty Coats	1	15	0
Ticking, &c: for Pockets		2	5
Silk-Laises and Feret		2	8
Hungary Water & Ribans		2	2
Comb & Brush		1	5
Stocking & Gloves		6	8
Silver Shoe Buckles		7	10
Under Petty Coats for my Doughters	2	0	4
Thread for mending Apparell		3	4
Hammor-Cloth Lace for it and making	1	4	9"
And in the first Quarter of 1724:—			
"Calemanco & Silk for my Wife		4	6
Woosted for my Stockings			2
Wigg Combe			3
Making Night Gown & some Materiall for my Doughter		17	0
Scouring Doughters Peticoat		2	0
Silk Lining for Doughters Caps Hud		2	9
Neck Carchaffs for Doughters		10	6
Quality Biding for Doughter.		1	1½
Ferret & Tape for Doughters		2	8½
Mits for my Doughters		1	4
Sarsnett Hudd for my Doughter		7	0
Gold-Smiths Work for Doughter		1	6
Thread for Weaving Lace for my Doughters		6	2"

[3] See November 23 1723.

19 I Pay'd Mr Hardesty £36-16s-00d which I had receiv'd at London by his Orders. I was very busy all the after Noone marking out places in the Crofts where I intend to set Achornes being resolved to make that part into a Wood & shall hereafter call it the Vistow-Wood.

20 I Planted some London Tress viz: Goosberry, Apples on Paradice Stocks, Paradice Stocks and Pear-Stocks at the side of the Gravell Walk, in the Kill Garden, the Closehedg Garden & the Kitchen Garden. I drank at John Tarltons with Lawyer Radcliff, Mr Plumbe & his Son, when they were gon I went in & drank with Robert Bootle & John Rose.

21 Nelly Howerd went to stay at Darby till Dr Bromfield had cuered her.

22 I Agreed with Robert Blansherd for a Fine for two Lives in his Ansient Teneament & for two Lives in the other half of the Hand-Gate Teneament. I pay'd my Martinemas Dues of £01-06s-00d or Composition for Small Tithes to William Harrison the Clark of Sefton and I pay'd him my Easter Dues &c:.

23 I made 12 Large Quarts of Brandy into Shrub, the Proportion was to each part of Brandy half a Pound of Lisbon Sugar, 4 good Leomonds & a larg Aile-Glass of Lime-Juce, the Pills of all the Leomonds were Infused about six Howers in Brandy.

24 Cozen Ann Gorsuch went hence, she has ben a Gest here for som Weeks. Pat: Aldred & I went to Ince, we met Mr Blundell coming this way but he turned back with us.

25 Ann Renold, her Doughter and Doughters Husband were here and discours'd me concerning the Arreers of Rent due to me for Robert Blundells late Teneament.

26 I Lay'd my Milk-Beasts & Coach-horses in the Hous in the Night onely. Dr Molineux dined here.

27 Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh came hither but my Wife and I being gon with our Doughters to Leverpoole he stay'd not; We dined at the Woolpack & made a Viset to Mr Blevin, I shewed my Doughters the Glass-hous & Charity Schoole. Pat: Bartlet Lodg'd here.

28 My Bull which I sold to my Workmen was Baited upon the Green & then they killed him in my Slaughter-hous. Mr Thomas Whitley called here & discoursed some little about what is owing by Mr Robert Fazakerley to me, he came not into the Hous.

29 Antony Bulfinsh came to try two Pair of Stays which he had made for my Doughters.

30 Pat: Hardesty and Mr Aldred acquainted me that the Writings of Knocktorum were not to be found.

Till the 14th every day pritty much Raine except two, from thence to the 21th faire, from the 21 to the end of the Month every day very wet. Notwithstanding all this Raine, the Ditches are not yet neare so full of Water as usuall.

DECEMBER

1 Mr Standley of Hooton & Parson Poole came hither with Mr Blundell.

2 I took Posestion of Ann Renolds Teneament for Arreers of Rent in Presence of William Carefoot & Charles Howerd. I went to Ince where I found Mr Standley, Parson Poole, Mr Morgell &c:.

3 Joseph Thelwall was here, he has left Mrs Bagnolls Service.

4 I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts and Disbursments whilst I was abroad and payed him the Ballance of Accounts, but there being a Mistake Commited it was rectifyed at Night.

5 Pat: Walmesley dined here.

6 As I was going to Leverpoole I fell off my Hors. Mr Plump & Mr Wittle met me at Leverpoole, we looked at some of Mr Fazakerleys Houses in Union Street in Order for me to have some of them for what Money Mr Fazakerley owes me, but I thought them too deare. I din'd at the Wool-pack with Mr Plumbe and Mr Whitley.

7 John Garet Swept some of my Chimneys.

8 Pothecary Livlesley called here to see how I did after my Fall.

9 Mr Roger Diconson came hither in the Morning, but did not stay dinner, he discours'd me concerning Lawyer Culcheth and Sir James Standley.

10 I Writ a good many of the Expencess of my late Journey in Flanders faire over in my Book of Disbursments.

11 I Lay'd two young Bullocks and eight Heffers in the Hous to ly in onely in the Nights.

12 Mrs Sheperd made a Viset here. Edward Turners Servant was here, I pay'd him for some Glass Bottles which I had from Thatway Heath.

13 I finished my Ditch at the Side & End of my Vistow Garden and have now made it so that no Horses can come into it or into that which I design to call the Vistow Wood.

14 I Planted twelve Larg Lime-trees in my Vistow in the Vistoe Garden, the Roots of them had layen about 3 Weeks in the Ground since they came down from London.

15 My Wife & Doughters went to Ince. Thomas Syer payed me some Money in part of his old Rack.

16 My Doughters took Phisick. I Planted some Elmes in the Vistow at the back of the Long Garden, I brought them from Longford in September A.D. 1718.

17 I was with Richard Cartwrite & John Sumner of the Cross whilst they Mesured some Ground in the Townfield, in order for an Exchange between John Sumners Ground & the late Thomas Marrows the Taylor.

18 I set three Cluster Rose Trees in the Back Courts, they came from London about a Month since, none of them lived.

19 My Apples roting this Winter much more than usuall, I began to remove them from the Straw they were first lay'd in & lay'd the sound ones in Leys in Oat-Straw.

20 I went to my Workmen who were fencing my Grand-Cop at the Snigary. Dr Landcaster made a Viset here. There was a Man here who shewed some tricks of Leger de Mesnea, a Boy who tumbled & a Woman who danced with six Swords.[1]

21 I Received most of my Ditton Rents at Leverpoole. I Signed a Leas to Robert Blansherd & he the Counterpart to me, in Presence of Mr William Plumbe & William Atherton. Parson Wairing, Mr Syer & I came home together as far as oure way lay, I called with Mr Wairing at his Hous but did not light.

22 I drank at Hesketh's with Parson Wairing, Mr Syer &c:.

23 Parson Wairing, Pat: Aldred and I made a Viset to Mr Brooks the Vicker of Walton, his Curat Parson Davis was there & Mr Whittle.

24 I went to pray by the Corps of Ann Oughton.

25 Mrs Bavarious brought a Present of Brawn by Orders of her Mistris. Mr Henry Blundell made a Viset here in the Evening.

26 Parson Acton, Mr Molineux of the Grange & their Wives, Mrs Byron &c: dined here. Mr Jackson of Leverpoole came after Dinner & took a Glass with me.

27 I Rode out with my Doughters to Formby, we stayed at Lawrence Formbys & then went to Catty Sumners. Mrs Sadlor[2] made a Viset here.

28 I went to look at a Ditch between Mr Wildings Teneament & William Weedows & desided the difference between them. Doctor Lancaster dined here, he brought some Phisick for my Doughters. Robert Whittle was here he payed me some Money for Interest.

29 My Wife went in the Morning to Lidiat, she dined at the Tenants.

30 My Wife & Doughters dined at the Grange. I took a Glass at Mr Aldreds with Parson Acton, Mr Byron and John Rose.

31 There was a Riding for Ann Norris who had beaton her Husband, they called here in their Round, Henry Swift was their Ridor.[3] Mr Wilding Lodg'd here.

Not above three Faire days this Month, the rest generally very wet and Violent Stormes of Wind.

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[1] "To Juglers & Dansers & Caroll Singers . . . . . 3s. 2d."

[2] from Aintree.

[3] This was a method of a community showing disapproval of the behaviour of one of its members, especially in the case of a man tyrannising his wife, or a wife her husband. A cart was drawn through the village. In the cart were two men, one of them, dressed as a woman and holding in his hand a stick or long basting-ladle. At each place they stopped the 'woman' belaboured the man with the stick or ladle, and at the same time they shouted at one another. Sometimes a procession of men and boys, blowing horns, followed the cart, and the occasion frequently developed into a riotous display.

January unsetled Weather & Cold but not much Frost. February extreamly wet. March seasonable for the time. Aprill very unsetled Weather. May hot and dry. June & July extreamly hot & though now and then some good Showers, yet in Pasture Ground the Grass was burned up. August & September still hot & want of Rain not withstanding there has ben severall good Showers. October though there has ben a good deal of Raine this Month, yet at the End of it the Ditches are as dry as usually in Summer. November & December generally pritty much raine, yet not sufficient to fill the Hors-poole as full as commonly it is in Summer & there is very little or no Water in the Garden Ditches nor are the Pits & Ditches filled yet to their usual hight. This Summer has ben so dry that severall were forced to drive their Cattle to Water where they could find it. The Hay was made almost as soon as Mow'd and the Corne Ripe before it was well fed so that there was a poore Crop of every sort of Graine except Wheat. Potatows very few & generally bad. Apples were ripe before their time, which I suppose was the Caus they would not keep as well as usuall. The Summer was very unhealthful upon the Sea Cost in Lancashire but not Mortall. The Winter like a Spring & in some places Apples &c: fairly knit. There were great Stormes of Wind both in Summer & Winter.

Anno Domini 1724

JANUARY

1 I went with my Doughters to Ditton, we Lodged at William Athertons. I was at the Towns meeting at the Ball on the Broad Heath, there was Mr Cubbon, Mr Halsold an Atturney who was Representative for Mr Winkley, Henry Heys, &c:.

2 The Widdow of Christopher Parker proposed to Lease with me but I Refues'd for some good Reasons. My Doughters went to Henry Lotons.

3 We came from Ditton home through Leverpoole, I desir'd Mr Norris to meet me the next Month at Ditton.

4 My Thornton Tenants pay'd me their Rack Rent but Henry Watkinson was not with them but came soone after.

5 Mr Henry Blundell and Pat: Aldred dined here, Mr Henry Blundell suped here.

6 Mrs Crisp dined here. Nicholas Lurting payed me his Rack Rent.

7 I was busy in my Vistow Wood with nine Hands. There was a sort of a Towns meeting in my Hall to consider how to dispose of William Sumners Money towards his Mantainance during his Life. Mr Cottom, Mr Byron & Robert Bootle came & took a Glass with me.

8 Nurse from Ince brought Little Miss hither.

9 My Wife, I and Doughters din'd at Mr Aldreds with Mrs Byron & her Sister, Mrs Syers, &c:.

10 Pat: Gorsuch dined here. Richard Westhead pay'd me some Rent.

11 I Began to make new Rent-tallys in my Book of Rack Rents, Book of old Rents and a Rentally for Leas Rents in Ditton.

12 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here.

13 I gave new Tickets to the Poore of this Parish.[1] Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

14 My Wife, I, Doughters and Cozen Gillibrond dined at Ince.

15 I Went to see in what Order Formoss-poole Gutter was and to see what my Work-men had done at my Grand Cop by the Snigary. Mr Plumb made a Viset here to Cozen Gillibrond.

16 I Sowed some Dwarf Pease and an other sort of Peas, 'tis my first seeding of Peas for Summer. My Wife, Doughters and Cozen Gillibrond went in the Coach to Mr Williamsons in Litherland.

17 I agreed with James Marrow for a Fine of his Fathers late Teneament & we Sighned Artickleys of the Agreement. Cozen Gillibrond went hence.

18 Richard Cartwrite came to let my Doughters Blood but could not neather in the Arme nor Foot.

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[1] See September 23 1717 and foot-note.

19 The Famoly of Ince din'd and Suped here.

20 I Planted Hartichoks and Rasberys in the New Orchard.

21 Mr Hardesty dined here, my Doughters went home with him and Lodg'd at his Hous, I went along with them. Parson Acton came home with me as far as our Way lay together.

22 I Pay'd the Land Tax. John Sadlor came to see if I would employ him in katching Moles, he set severall Traps.

23 I Began to thinn my Apple Trees by cuting out some of the large Boughs, 'tis the first day I have cut any out this Winter. Parson Wairing made me a Viset.

24 Joseph Thelwall came to take leave of me, he begins his Journey towards London. My Doughters came home from Leverpoole.

25 I try'd how Jewell & Muss would draw in the Coach, they did extreamly well especially Muss.

26 I examained severall small Parcells of Relicks to see which were proper to be put into my Doughters Reliquarys.

27 William Thelwall fixed me in a New Coach-Pole. Edward Farer Mended & lickered my Coach-Harnish.

28 My Wife and Doughters dined at More-hall. I set some Cabbage Sprouts for Sprouts and some Whit Beets for Lenton Potage.

29 Jackson trimed some of my Wall Frute-Trees & sowed some Salleting, he set some Crab-Stocks under the Maids Window. Mrs Byron, her Sister Jane, Mrs Syer &c: made a Viset here & prevented my Wife & Doughters from Riding out. John Sadlor went hence, he has tacken 6 Dozen & 8 Moles. I and my Famoly & the Famoly of Ince except Mrs Margarit Suped at Mr Aldreds.

30 My Wife, Doughters and I dined at Mr Plumbes at Wevertry, his Son & Mr Cottom were there.

31 John Sumner, Thomas Bridge, Richard Goar & I Looked over the most part of William Tompsons late Teneament & Housing to see in what Repear it was in, I then set it upon a Rack of £5 per Annum to Richard Goar in presence of the other two. I deliver'd Posestion to Charles Howerd of Ann Renolds Teneament and he deliverd Posescion to me againe & then I set it of a Rack Rent to Charles Howerd, Thomas Bridge was a Witness to what was done then between Charles Howerd and me.

First day Fair, the second raine, the four next Wet & Great Winds, then 9 days wet & windy, then very wet till the End of the Month except the three last days which were faire.

FEBRUARY

1 I Dined at the Wool-pack in Leverpoole, I Drank there with Mr Formby, Mr Morphew &c:. William Atherton came home with me and pay'd me his Candlemas Rack Rent. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent me a Present of Young Elme Trees.

2 My Wife and Doughters sup'd at Ince. I went with William Atherton to Ditton & Lodg'd at his Hous.

3 I went to the Ball upon the Broad Heath where there should have bin a Townes Meeting, Parson Langford of Haile, Mr Henry Write & some few of Ditton met me there, but some Gentlemen who promis'd to come, came not, so little or no Busines was done.

4 I came home through Leverpoole where my Doughters met me, we dined at the Wool-pack & made a Viset to Dr Bromfield.

5 I sent to see Mrs Eckleston who has hurt herself by a Fall off her Horse. I Began to plant the Elme Trees which I had from Chorley.

6 My Wife & Doughter made a Viset to Mrs Syer of the Ford. Mr Blundell & Mr Harington made a Viset here.

7 William Carefoot ploughed part of Elizabeth Swifts yord, she had 3 Hands diging in it.

8 I Planted two Virgin Apple-trees in the Long Garden and two other Apple. Trees in the New Orcherd. I sowed some Colly Flower Seed on my Hot Bed-

9 Betty Farer made a Viset here, she came to see my Doughters.

10 Mrs Williamson & her Doughter Tatlock made a Viset here, so did Doctor Bromfield.

11 Three of Mary Fleetwoods Men were here they mended two Boylors & some Lead Gutters upon the Hous and some Glass Windows. Mr Plumbe & Mr Cottom had ben a Coursing, they call'd here but would not stay.

12 I was with my Workmen who were mending the Rode near Weedows which was wash'd out by the Flood, there were 4 Carts and four Fillers. I fix'd up the Little Lead in the Brewhous with a Close Cover.

13 Pat: Hardesty went with my Wife and Doughters to Mrs Parrs. I drank at Hesketh's with Parson Wairing & Mr Harrison who is in Order to be a Parson.

14 I set Oyled Woollen Yarne about some of my young Apple Trees to keep Hares from Parking [barking?] them.

15 I went in the Evening to the Mill and Smoaked a Pipe.

16 Mr Francis Walmesley and Mr Archer made a Viset here. My Wife & Doughters went to Ailes Tickleys.

17 Mrs Byron and her Sister, Mrs Syer &c: dined here.

18 My Wife & Doughters went to see Mrs Acton who was lying in of her Doughter Margarit, she was Christoned today. My Wife & Doughters Suped at Mr Crisps.

19 I Began to set Achhornes in my Vistow Wood.

20 My Wife went to Leverpoole and shewed her Legg to Dr Bromfield. Mr Henry Blundell & Mr Williams made a Viset here.

21 My Bay Mare Jenny was Docked. I took Williams [Carefoot's] Accounts.

22 Pat: Hardesty dined here. Dorothy Blundell made a Viset here.

23 The Famoly of Ince except Pat: Williams made a Viset here.

24 I Began to Levell the Vistow. William Harrison, John Tickley, Thomas Fooler, Henry Fleetwood &c: came to Acquaint me that the Water had not free Passage at the Snigary.

25 Thomas Cooper came to see what Burch Water I would have this year. I pay'd one years Waiges to Ellen Howerd & Jane Withington.

26 I set a Larg Spanish Onion for Seed. I set some more Cabbages on my Bed in the Long Garden.

27 Mr Cottom & his Wife dined here. I went to Ormschurch where I found Mr Blundell & his Lady & Cozen Gillibrond of Astley at Lancets, we all went to Dr Lancasters, I pay'd him what I ought for Phisick &c:.

28 I set some Turnops for Seed in the Kitchen Garden.

29 Jackson brought me one Hundred of Crab-stocks for Grafting in when they are ready. Mr Cottom sent me some Muscovy Ducks for a Present. My Doughters took Phisick.

The six first days raine & Snow, the 2 next faire, the 9 next Snow and very Wett, then some days faire some fowl till the End of the Month.

MARCH

1 Mrs Crisp let Mally blood in the Arme & Fanny in the Foot.

2 Dr Bromfield made a Viset by the by, he came to see my Wives Legg. I went to Mr Sadlors & Discoursed him and his Wife about taiking a Tablor.

3 I began to remove the Sweet Herbs out of the Kitchen-Garden and set them upon the Terras. My Doughters took Phisick from Dr Lancaster.

4 I Set almost one Bushell of Kidney potatows in the Vistow Garden.

5 I Began to make a new Nursery in the Kitchen Garden. I Began to Lead Earth & Dung to my New Aspargus Bed in the Vistow Garden.

6 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley came hither in the Morning so did Mr Sheperd, we went out to vew the Water-Courses which Anoys Ince and Crosby, Mr Blundell, Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Rigmaden &c: met us, and all things were very Amicably agree'd.

7 Mr Gillibrond and I went to Ince and shewed my old Map of the Water Courses to Mr Blundell, Mr Woodcock his Steward, John Molineux, &c:.

8 Doctor Bromfield applyed a Fomentation to my Wives Legg.

9 I Sealed a Leas to James Marrow & he the Counterpart to me and a Bond for Payment of his Fine. Cozen Gillibrond went hence. I finished making the first part of my Asparguss Bed in the Vistow Garden.

10 I sent my Cart to William Athertons for a Load of Oats. I Began to plant my New Nursery in the Kitchen Garden with Young Appletrees. Dr Bromfield Bluddied Mally under the Tongue.

11 My Wife took Phisick from Dr Bromfield. I set some Barbery Slips with Large Roots in the Barbery Walk.

12 I Planted the Crab-Stocks which I had from Jackson in my New Nursery in the Kitchen Garden. I set some Cabbage Plants.

13 I began to draw some Flowers on Fustion for my Doughters to work for under Petty Coats.

14 I went to my Worke men who were seting Roots of Trees and young Plants at my Grand Cop by the Snigary, they had three Cart Load.

15 John Whit sent me a Letter from Sir James Poole.[1]

16 Thomas Cooper brought me some Burch Water. I set some Slips of Whit Dutch Currons.

17 I Sowed Cabbage Seed to be cut for Sprouts. I sowed Hot Spur Peas, Turnop Seed, Onion & Saleting.

18 I set some Pease for Seed in the Vistow Garden. I made a Viset to Parson Wairing.

19 My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole. I tunned my Burch Wine.

20 I went to Mr Aldred with William Thelwall and gave him directions to wainscot part of his Chappell.

21 I Began to lead away a Potatow Bed in the Town Meadow and layed it to raise the Ground where it was low.

22 My Wife rode dubble on Jewell to Mrs Sadlor's 'tis the first time he carried Dubble.

23 Joseph Greenwood bought my Rabet Skins & took them away. I gave Fanny a Vomit.

24 I went with Pat: Aldred to Leverpoole, we dined at the Talbot, we discoursed Mr Darcy Chantrell about my laying a Morgage upon Knocktorum. Mr Plumbe and I discorsed Mr Thomas Whitley about Mr Fazakerleys Houses in Union Street which I have som thoughts to take to Secure the Money owing to me by Mr Fazakerley.

25 I went to Formby to see if I could light of a Young Woman who would goe to Serve Mr Parks at London. My Wife & Doughters went to Ormeschurch.

26 I Planted my four next Aspargus Beds in the Vistow Garden with year old Plants from Batursay in Surry.[2] I Grafted one Pare-Tree in the New Orcherd with my own Cutings of Burgamy Pares & an other with Cutings of the Sefton Pare.

27 William Carefoot went to the Buriall of Richard Ainesworth.[3]

28 I Set some Peas & Beans for use in the Vistow Garden.

29 I Walked out & Read a good deale it being a fine day.

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[1] of Poole, Cheshire, baronet.

[2] "Aspargus Roots from London and Preston with Carriage, &c: . . £1 14s. 6d."

[3] See June 4 1708.

30 Doctor Bromfield was here so was Pat: Gorsuch.

31 I Finished making my second part of my Aspargus Bed in the Vistow Garden. I began to sow Oats in the Town Meadow.

The four first days pritty faire, then Raine every day till the 23rd and Generally pritty much, from that to the End of this Month tollarable Faire. It has ben a Wett & sharp Cold Month but little or no Frost.

APRILL

1 I Stated Accounts with Thomas Syer and Richard West-head for theire Grand Rack & agreed upon what they were in Debt to me.

2 Mr Sadlor was here, I discoursed him about Engraving my Armes upon some Silver Plate.[1]

3 William Thelwall fixed up the Wainscoting where we kneele at Mr Aldreds.[2] Thomas Leach Gardiner of Enom[3] in Preston brought me 500 Sets of his Aspargus, he and Jackson set a good many of them on the Ground which I had prepaired for them in the Vistow Garden.

4 My Aspargus Bed being too Little I began to enlarg it. I was busy a good part of the after Noone, cuting Waterboughs out of the Apple Trees and Triming standerd Plumb Trees and Walnut Trees.

5 Mrs Wofold Lodged here.

6 My Wife & Doughters went to Ince with Mrs Wofold. Dr Bromfield and Mr Cottom made a Viset here, I went with them to Great Crosby, we drank at Hesketh's with Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas &c:.

7 Mrs Wofold went with my Wife and Doughters to Leverpoole. I went to Ince but Mr Blundell being gon to Ince-Town I went thither & Bowled hand to fist with Mr Henry Blundell.

8 My Doughters Lodg'd at Mr Cottoms. My Wife and Mrs Wofold made a Viset to Mrs Williamson of Litherland, they Suped there.

9 Mrs Wofold went hence. I was at the Buriall of Mrs Molineux of the New Hall,[4] I met the Corps upon the Moss behind Ellethon Hunters, when the Funerall was over I went in & drank with Mr Hulme the Atturney, George Smith, Richard More &c:.

10 I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts & Disbursments.

11 I Finished planting my Aspargus Beds in the Vistow Garden, they took neare one Thousand. I pricked out some Colly-flower Plants. My Doughters came home from Mr Cottoms.

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[1] See July 5 1712 and foot-note, and April 2 1728.

[2] "Wainscoting the Chancell in Mr Aldreds Chappell & for Bords, &c: it coms to 2s. 9d. per Yard of wch the Workmanship is 14d. per yard . £2 1s. 10d." .

[3] Enom—Avenham. see foot-note to March 26 1724.

[4] New Hall, the chief residence of the Molyneux family of Alt Grange, was on the border of Fazakerley and Walton.

12 Mr Shepperd of Darby was here, I lent him some Money.

13 I Pay'd the Grand Tax to John Molineux; and the Window Money & Land Tax to Ned Farer & John Ainesworth. I went to Leverpoole and Attended the Corps of Mr William Cleaveland[1] from his House to the Old Church, there was at the Funerall Hous Lawyer Bootle, Mr Peters &c:. I Pay'd Richard Blackway for a Side-Sadley.

14 I Sowed some Letice & Onion Seed & set some Cabbage Plants. Dr Bromfield was here and dress'd Elizabeth Swifts Hand & Margarit Grays scolded Foot.

15 I sowed some Red-Beet Seed. Parson Brooks of Walton, Mr Pepper, Mr Cottom & Parson Wairing made me a Viset.

16 Margarit Gray went to stay at Leverpoole till Dr Bromfield had cuerd her scalded Foot.[2] I met Mr Molineux of the Grange in the More-houses we went to look at the Fence between North-end Hey and Blundells Meadow. Mr Wharton & his Wife made a Viset here.

17 I set some Hartichock slips in the Vistow Garden, they did extreamly well.

18 I went to Leverpoole and discous'd Mr Plumbe & his Son concerning a Morgage upon Knocktorum, I discorsed Mr Chantrell & Mr Smarley upon the same Subject. Mr Blevin & his Wife made a Viset here.

19 Mr Cottom, his Wife and Mrs Yates &c: dined here.

20 I Put some compost into my Flower Pots in order to Plant Auriculas in them.

21 Winny Scot signed her Will before me &c:. I went to Thomas Marser who was laying a small open Plat at Beanes Gate. Pat: Bartlet Lodged here. William Atherton sent me two Heffers to keep for him in my Grass.

22 Pat: Bartlet let Mally Blood she began yesterday to be Feverish, he went hence, he went with me to Crosby Green where I Bowled with Parson Wairing, Mr Byron &c:.

23 William Taylor pay'd me part of his Fine.

24 I went to Mr Sheperds, he helped me to look over & Valew Mr Fazakerleys Teneament called the New Hous in Fazakerley, thence we went to Walton and drank with Parson Richmond and the School-master, I came home through Leverpoole. I sowed some Dwarf Kidney Beans of the Purple kind.

25 I went with Pat: Aldred to Leverpoole, we discours'd Mr Plumbe and Mr Smarley concerning the New Writing which are to be made upon Account of £500 owing by Mr Darcy Chantrell. I discoursed James Chadock and Mr Whitle about my buying the New-hous in Fazakerley but could make no Bargan. My Pigeon Hous was brock open, between eleaven & twelve of the Clock at Night as I do suppose.

26 My Wife & Mally went to Ince. Fanny was not well, I stay'd at home with her.

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[1] A Liverpool business man.

[2] Margaret Grey was the cook at Crosby Hall. Her name does not appear in the wages list for the next quarter, probably the period she was off sick.

27 Mrs Wilding went to Mr Crisps to stay some time to sew for her.

28 Parson Acton and Mr Byron were abeging here with a Breef upon Account of Fire. My Doughters rode out with me to the Grand Wall at the Snigary where I had six hands at work, thence through Great Crosby & so to old John Lunts.

29 I Sowed 3 Beds in the Flower Knot with Holly-Oak Seed which did very well. I Leveled the Vistow.

30 I set some Beanes, Dwarf Peas and Kidney Beanes in the Vistow Garden.

The first day fair, the four next some raine, the five next dais faire, then every day Raine till the 28 & generally pritty much & great Windes.

MAY

1 Pat: Aldred and I went to Ince, Yeomond of the Gore came thither & acquainted me with the Designe of Scouring Alt. My Eyes began to be ill.

2 I marked 36 different sorts of Tulops which I have. I set some Roots of Balme & Mint & sowed some Cowcomber Seed & Kidney Beanes.

3 My Wife, Doughters and I dined at Scarisbrick.

4 My Eyes having ben 3 or 4 days out of Order I took a Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods directions.

5 Thomas Brownbill & his Kinsman Mr Toping Lodg'd here. My Wife and Doughters met Mrs Blundell &c: in Ince Town.

6 Thomas Brownbill & Mr Toping went hence, they went with me to Sephton, I shewed them the Seller at the Hall & the Church, I went to Paul Windles upon account of a Meeting which was there about Scouring Alt, there was Mr Tyrer of Ormskerk, Yeomond of the Goar-Houses, Mr Smith of Maile, Parson Acton &c: Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: Suped here.

7 I took a second Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods Direction.

8 Pat: Turner & Pat: Williams made a Viset here so did Dr Bromfield. I have now completed my Vistow or at least what I intend to doe this Summer.

9 I Sowed one Row of Hemp-Seed on each Border on the Side of the higher End of the Gravell Walk.

10 My Wife & Doughters went to Mr Sheperds. William Pinington & Richard Tickley fought & both were put into the Stocks.

11 I Sowed some Purslaine Seed. I sowed Seeds of Sunn Flowers, they did very well.

12 I led Muck with 3 Carts into the Stock Roots.

13 I Began to sow the Stock Roots with Barlay.

14 John Vose came to see what Work I had for him. My Wife, I & Doughters dined at Dr Lancasters.

15 I went to my Delvers of Fleas in Fleam-Hey, they began to delve there upon the 11th, I delved none in that Field before this yeare. I dined at the Talbot in Leverpoole with Pat: Billinge, Mr Aldred &c:, we met about Knocktorum affaire. I bought outside &c: for a Summer Frock for me of Mr Cottom.

16 Being I do suppose my Seller is Robed by the assistance of a Picklock I took an Account of some of my Bottles.

17 My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Ince, they suped there.

18 My Wife, I and Doughters walked to Parson Actons, we dined there, Fanny was not able to walk all the way back, so I went home & fetched a Horse & brought her home from Mrs Parrs.

19 John Whit brought me a Handsome Hors-Hair Perry-wigg.

20 They began in William Blundells Ground to delve Turves. I Finished Barly Seeding in the Stock-roots. I bowled at Crosby with Parson Harrison, Mr Byron &c:, Parson Brooks, Parson Davis &c: were there.

21 They began to delve Turves in Thomas Marrows Ground. I Lay'd the Ashlors which are to be under the Palizade before the Vistow and fixed up part of the Wood-work.

22 Jackson trimed the Thime in the Flower Knot and most of the Close-Hedges.

23 My Doughters and I dined at the Legs of Man in Wigan thence we went to the New-Hall of Atherton which is in Building and then to Manchester where we lodg'd at the Bulls Head a very good Inn.

24 My Doughters and I saw the old and New Church, we were at the Quaickers Meeting & in Mr Edwards his Pritty Garden. We made a Viset to Mrs Yates.

25 Mr Wilding went with us in the Morning to Trafford but we were all Disapointed. It being Salford Fair I light of a Paising Gelding there, I rode him into Manchester & bought him, I call him Pesient Grissell.[1] I went with Mr Yaites to his Hous thence we went to his Mothers where we Sup'd, my Doughters were there.

26 My Doughters and I came from Manchester to Culcheth whence we went with part of that Famoly to Garswood & dined there and then came home.

27 Mrs Syer, Mrs Byron & her Mother &c: made a Viset here. I went to Crosby Green, there was Parson Egerton, 'twas the first time I was acquainted with him, there was also Pothocary Livlesley, Mr Cottom &c:.

28 I Sowed some Seed of July Flowers or Carnation in the Close-Hedg Garden, it did very well.

29 Mr Plumbe dined with Pat: Aldred and me at the Talbot at Leverpoole where we discoursed Mr Chantrell & Smarley the Atturney, concerning Knocktorum Affaire but what seemed to be agreed to before was now in a Manner destroy'd.

30 I went to the Winter-Heys & took Account of what Fleas were unsold, they finished cuting Fleas in Fleame Hey for the present at least; I stated Accounts with my Delvers of Fleas, they gave me what Money they had received & I pay'd them for their Work.

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[1] "Fairing to them at Manchester . . . . . 10s. 0d.
Patient Grisall a Paisar . . . . . £6 4s. 0d."

31 I had a Swarme of Bees Knit in the Stone Garden, Robert Weedow hiv'd them. Mrs Blundell, Mr Henry &c: Suped here.

The six first days faire and some of them very hot, then unsetled Weather till the 14th with Wind, then faire till the 22d, the six next days wett and then faire till the End of this Month except the last day.

JUNE

1 I Shewed Massys Wife what Fleas she was to dress and shewed Robert Weedow which Roods of them he was first to sell.

2 I Began to take up my Tulops. I took up most of my Renunculas.

3 Mr Cottom and Pat: Hardesty came hither just as we had don Dinner, they went with me to Crosby Greene, there was Mr Byron, Mr Richard Molineux, Robert Bootle &c:. My Wife & Doughters went to Mr Syers of the Ford.

4 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley came hither in the Morning, he went with me to Crosby Green, there was Mr Byron, Mr Thomas &c:, Parson Egerton should have bowled a Match but he came not. My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Williamson at Leverpoole.

5 Mr Plumbe dined here. Cozen Gillibrond went to Ince, I went thither in the Evening, we got oure Collations there.

6 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. William Thelwall hanged the two Little new Gates out of the Courts into the Stone Garden & into the Flower Garden, he primed the New Gates &c: at the farther Side of the Long Garden before the Vistow.

7 Jane Wilding went towards Chester. Mr George Gorsuch dined here.

8 Mr Furnivall was here betimes in the Morning, I sold him a Load of Hay. I went to Leverpoole & barganed for a Pair of Mill Sailes to be made of Pole davy,[1] Pat: Aldred and I came home together from Leverpoole. I sent to Wooton to welcom home my Lord & Lady Molineux. My Wife and Doughters met Mrs Blundell at Mrs Parrs, they Suped there.

9 My Brother Joseph[2] Lodg'd here. Parson Acton, his Wife & Mrs Giles &c: Suped here.

10 I made my last Seeding of Garden Pease & Beane for this yeare I think. I Bowled at Crosby with a Younger Son of Atturney Tyrer, Yeomon of the Goar &c:, Mr Tatlock of the Bank his Brother Thomas & Tatlock the Dier were on the Green.

11 My Wife & Doughters went to Mr Byrons. I went with my Brother Joseph to Ince.

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[1] "Millsailes 4 half Cloths of good Canvis & making them . . . .£2 11s. 6d.". New sails were put up every June. Sometimes all four sails were renewed and sometimes only two. These particular sails did not last the full year. They had to be replaced early the following February, due to the heavy rain and strong winds of 1724.

[2] A Jesuit priest serving in the Yorkshire mission. See Appendix H.

12 Parson Richmond, Parson Davis, Mr Thomas Tatlock & Mr Thomas Whitley made a Viset, they Lodged here.

13 I & Mr Byron bowled a Match at Crosby Green against Thomas Fleetwood & Mr Thomas.

14 My Wife, Doughters, my Brother and I dined at Eckleston, coming home Parson Davis & Tatlock the Dyer stop'd me a little at Jack Seftons. I called at Tatlocks of the Pear-Tree, he gave me £20 for his Sons first years Pention and thirty Shillings for his Private Expences.[1] Cozen Thomas Gillibronds Wife lodg'd here.

15 I put a New Pair of Pole Davy Saile Cloths upon my Mill.

16 My Wife, I and Doughters &c: dined at More-hall with Mrs Blundell &c: thence we went to Oughton Moss and saw three run for the Great Plate, a Gray Hors of my Lord Darbys wann, Mr Plumbe and his Son William were there. My Brother & I stay'd to see five Horses run for a Sadle.

17 This being our Weding day Mrs Blundell, Mr Henry &c: made a Viset here, they Suped here.

18 Cozen Thomas Gillibronds Wife went hence. William Atherton brought me my Mare Muss which I had lent him some Months. My Wife and Doughters met Mrs Blundell &c: at the New Hous.

19 My Wife, Doughters & I dined at Wooton, we found Mr Cottom there.

20 My Wife, Doughters, my Brother and I Lodged at the Whit Bull in Preston.

21 I Walked with my Wife & Doughters to Enom Walk and to the Gardens, we made a Viset to the Sister Blundells & to Mrs Butler. I gave Mr Thomas Starkey a Glass of Wine at my Lodgings. Ann Andrews came to Lodg & Table with Ailes Oneall.

22 We came home from Preston, we all called at Dr Lancasters & stay'd a good while.

23 I went to Ince to welcome hom Mr Blundell from London. Pat: Gorsuch & Dr Bromfield were there.

24 Pat: Gorsuch was here, he went with me to Crosby Greene, I Bowled with Parson Harrison, Mr Byron &c:.

25 My Doughters began their Journey towards Hollywell.

26 I Sowed some Turnop Seed. I took up my Seedling Tulops in the Nursery. William Carefoot not being at Home I went to the Moss and sold Turves at the Morehous Moss & at Marrows-Moss. William Kennion came to acquaint me he had sold his Teneament to Daniall Eckleston if I were content.

27 My Doughters came home from Hollywell, they dined at Hooton going thither & coming back.

28 Mr Blundell and his Brother Henry made a Viset here.

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[1] Henry Tatlock was then a student at St Omer English Jesuit College. Later for most of his life he served as priest at Lydiate and Fazakerley, residing mostly at Fazakerley, where he died 1771, aged 62. The Tatlock family, living at Tatlock House, Kirkby, was an old recusant family. Formerly tenants of the Fazakerley, of Fazakerley Hall, the Tatlocks intermarried with the Fazakerleys. Henry Tatlock's mother was of that family.

29 My Wife and Doughters went to Croxtath to look at the Hous and Gardens. I Bowled at Crosby with Parson Harrison, Mr Byron &c:, Parson Egerton came in the Evening, we had a Bowl of Punsh upon account of a Waiger lost.

30 Mr Yates of Maile made a Viset here in the Morning. Lawrence Sidell came to receive my Commands for Dublin.

Till the 10th Faire and most of the days very hot, then generally Raine till the 18, the three next days faire & then every day Raine & generally pritty much till the End of the Month, some of the days at the End of the Month were very Windy.

JULY

1 My Wife, Doughters and I went to Mr Yates of Maile who was very oblidging to us.

2 My Wife, Doughters and I went to Ince and partaiked of Mr Henry Blundells Treat upon Account of his Birth day though it was some days since.

3 My Brother dined at Ince, I went thither in the Evening.

4 I Rode out to Formby with my Brother, we took a Glass at Lawrence Formbys.

5 My Wife & Doughters dined at the Scoues with Mrs Blundell of Ince &c:. My Brother went hence, he went with them to the Scoues, I could not well goe having a great Paine in my Brest.

6 Mr Shepperd of Darby was here, so was his Son & Mother in Law.

7 Richard Cartwrite Bluddied me for a paine which I had in each Brest.

8 I Booked my Disbursments for the last Quarter. Pat: Hardesty Lodg'd here in his way home from Yorkshire.

9 James Worrall sent a Man to work at my Mill, he began to dress the New-Millstone.

10 I Marked most of my Curron Trees in the Nursery to know what sorts they were.

11 I went to Leverpoole & went with Mr Plumbe on Bord the Mary to look at some Mugg-Flower-Pots. I got my Dinner at Dr Bromfields. I payed Mr Cottom all I ought him and drank with him at his own Hous, Mr Peters was there. I and Mr Crumpton rectifyed some Mistaickes which were in his Bill, I took a Glass with him at his Hous.

12 I Read a good part of the after noone & finished my Booke.

13 Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh and his Brother dined here.

14 I sent Muss to Longworth, he Rowel'd her for the Water-Farcy.[1] I Removed two large Trees in the Barbary Walk.

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[1] See October 24 1702.

15 I went to Crosby Green but did not Bowl, there was Parson Brooks, Atturney Hulme &c:.

16 I Sow'd Early Dutch Cabbage Seed to be early Cabbage next Spring.

17 Mary Fleetwoods Son came to mend my Windows. I agreed with William Marrow for a Fine to put three Lives into his Fathers late Teneament.

18 The Millwrits took both the Mill-stones down out of the Mill in Order to put up two others.

19 George Smith came in the Evening to look at my Gardens, Mr Livesley the Chirurgeon came along with him.

20 James Crofts was here, we Stated Accounts and cleer'd off what was between us. Pat: Aldred sent from Ormskerk to me for some Writings of Knocktorum which were at his Hous, I sent them to him.

21 Pat: Turbervill made a Viset here, but I was gon to the Mill to see them put up a New Stone, so he went to Mr Aldreds, I followed him thither where I also found Mr Blundell and his Brother; before we Parted Mr Eckleston came to us, he Lodged here.

22 Mr Cottom & Dr Bromfield dined here, they went to Crosby Green with Mr Eckleston & me, I Bowled there with Mr Gammon, Emary &c:.

23 The Millwrits finished working here. Mr Eckleston and I made a Viset to Ince, we Suped there.

24 I Rode out with Mr Eckleston to the Grange. We went to Crosby Greene I bowl'd there with Parson Wairing & Mr Thomas.

25 We all played at Cards. In the Evening I took a Walk with Mr Eckleston.

26 I and my Famoly dined at Ince with Mr Standley of Hooton and his Lady &c:. Mr Eckleston went hence to dine & Lodg at Ince.

27 My Doughters and I went to Knowsley to see the Hous and Gardens, we met Mr Sheperd and his Wife there, we dined there with Mr Richard Norris, Mr John Poole and his Son David.

28 I was at the Race on Leverpoole Sands, five Horses Ran for the Plate & Spencers Bay Mare wan it, there was Mr George Tyrer, Mr William Plumbe, Mr Cottom &c:.

29 Mrs Standley of Hooton and Mrs Blundell made a Viset here. I finished my Hay Harvest except some which I have in my Garden and Wood.

30 My Wife and Doughters went to Leverpoole. Fanny stood God-mother to Mr Crisps Doughter Frances. Mr Eckleston called here in his way home from Ince.

31 John Voce began to make a Place for a Seat in my Doughters Flower Garden. Mr Standley of Hooton, Mr Blundell, Thomas Heskaine & Jack Chantrell made a Viset here.

It was a very wett Hay Harvest I think every day some Raine except the 25th and 28th & generally very wett this Month.

AUGUST

1 My Wife, I and Doughters met Mrs Blundell, Mrs Standley, &c: at Mr Aldreds.

2 Mr Blundell, Mr Standley & their Ladys &c: dined here. Dr Traps came whilst we were at Dinner.

3 Mr Cottom and his Wife, Mrs Williamson, Mrs Leconby and Pat: Hardesty dined and Sup'd here.

4 John Voce began to build the Summerhous at the farther Corner in the New-Grounds.

5 I Bowled at Crosby Green, Mr Cottom, Mr Warbrick &c: were there, Ralph Peters came in the Evening.

6 I was in the Vistow-Wood most of the afternoone whilst they were leading Hay out of it.

7 I fell some decay'd Oakes in the Wood and at the Side of the Union Walk towards Building my Summer-Hous.

8 Mr Standley of Hooton, Collonell Collumbine, Mr Blundell & their Ladys & Sir Francis Anderton &c: made a Viset here.

9 My Wife, I & Doughters made a Viset to Ince, we found my Lord and Lady Molineux there, I Suped there.

10 My Wife and Doughters went to Leverpoole, I went to Formby to buy some light Turf, I found Thomas Syer there, he came home with me.

11 May the 16th I took Account of what Number of Bottles I had of most Sorts of Licker in the Gate-hous Seller, because I suppose it was robed by assistance of a Picklock and this day I examained them againe & find missing 6 Bottles of Mountain Wine, 8 of Whit Port, 9 of Burch Wine and I think above one Dozine of Aile.

12 I fetched Home a Cart Load of Light Turf from Formby. Robert Finsh the Glasior from Ormschurch came to see what work I had for him to doe at my Summerhous. I gave Nicholas Sumner a Bill of £8 upon Mr Parks. I went to Crosby Greene where I found Sir Francis Anderton, Collonell Columbine &c: I Bowled with Apothecary Virnon &c:, there was Parson Crosby, Parson Kelsey & Mr Cottom.

13 I sent a good part of a Cart Load oI Light Turf to Mr Plumbe of a Present. The Brick-Work of my Summer-Hous was finished.

14 Before three this Morning I disturmbed two Cupple of Woosters Jane Withington, Nelly Howerd and their Sparks.

15 John Jackson went with me to look at Thomas Syers Wheat which grows in Tarltons Ground, we computed the valew of it. Mathew Withington came to chapter his Doughter for courting in the Night.

16 My Wife, Doughters & I went to the Grange, we found Pat: Gorsuch there.

17 One of the Whit Mogull Plumb Trees was so full that I took off 400 and left

a good many on the Tree to ripen, those which I took off I set in the Nursery to try if the Stones would grow. Jane Withington & Nelly Howerd left their Service, they went to Darby Waikes.

18 I Rear'd my Summer-hous.[1] I began to gather my forwardest sort of Apples & Pears. I took the Slates off part of my Closet.

19 I Sowed the Seeds of severall of my best Sorts of Goosberrys in the Nursery.

20 Mr Eckleston sent his Servant to me with a Letter of Grand Apportance but to no Purpose.[2] Mr Molineux of the Grange, his Wife & Pat: Gorsuch dined here.

21 I Removed some Hay out of the Barn into the Cart-Hous to make more Roome in the Barn to set Corne in.

22 I Began to Reap Wheat and Oats. I Believe they gather'd about 20 Busshell of Windblown Apples.

23 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here so did Mrs Knight.

24 I let Richard Heaton have £8 upon Interest, he has since pay'd it in.

25 Thomas Marrow and John Jackson desir'd I would meet Mr Henry Tyrer tomorrow about Tithing the Corn which grows on our Poore Moss Ground. William Thelwall hurt his Head by a Fall off the Scafold at my Summer-Hous.

26 Jane Struther came to Offer her Service to my Wife, she was not Hiered. I Stayd at home expecting Atturney Tyrer, but he sent me word he would not come so I went in the Evening to Crosby Green, there was Mr William Nelson, Mr Crisp, Mr Syer &c:.

27 I Was at the Race on Crosby Marsh between a Gray Gelding of one Stirrops of Warington & a Black Darby-shire Mare, the latter wan, I saw but one Heat, there was Mr Cottom. Dr Bromfield &c:, when the Race was over I

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[1] "Bricklayers for the Summer-hous & Doughters Garden . . . . £ 1 s. 15 d. 0
Smiths Bill for the Garden Hous 9 4
" " " " " " 5 8
Glass Windows for the Summer-Hous at 4½d. per Foot . . . 15 3
Putty for Summer-Hous Windows 2 0
Lead for the Top of the Summer-Hous at 2d. per Pound . . . 1 4 5
Weather Cock for the Summer-Hous & Copper Duble Guilt . . 13 6
North Country Slate for Summer Hous 1 5 4
Moss for the Slates 1 8
Stones worked at Leverpoole for the Flower Garden 17 0
Smiths Work: Bolts, &c: for Summer-Hous 15 0
Daile Bords for the Summer Hous 2 10 6
Lock for the Summer Hous Doar 3 6
Painting the Summer Hous . . . . . 17 0"

"I have now finished my Summer Hous & I think I have set down what I have paid to the Workmen & what for Materialls, but Brick & some Timber being my own I have not yet Reconed for it in this Book but at a full Valuation Reconing for my own Work & Meat for Workmen & all other things to the utmost and Furniture I compute it to about £28 19s. 3d.

What I layd out for the Summer-hous not reconing anithing for work done by my Teame nor timber, Brick &c: of my own nor for Meat . . . . . £15 14s. 6d."

[2] See Appendix H.

Father Thomas Eccleston, S.J., was the last of the Lancashire recusant family of Eccleston, of Eccleston, near Prescot His estates were forfeited in 1716, but he had settled them on his cousin, John Gorsuch of Gorsuch Hall, who succeeded in getting possession of them.

went to Hesketh's where young Mr Standish,[1] Mr Harington &c: Bowled; when we went into the Hous Mr Harington & I &c: played at eaven and od.

28 Jackson and I looked over the Apple Trees in the Long Garden to see what sorts they were.

29 I cut the neck with Oats in the Town-Meadow. I drank at Mr Cottoms with him and Parson Wairing &c:. I advised with Mr Plumbe concerning Skiner Davy seting his Wives Teneament without my Consent. Mary Molineux came to be Servant here.

30 Elizabeth Nodby was here to beg somthing towards her Journey to Princen Huff. Margarit Gray was seased this Morning very ill after the same Manner as severall of the Neighbours are & in the Evening she took a Vomit.

31 About a fortnight since I pulled 400 Whit Mogull Plumbs off one Tree becaus there were too many and this day I pulled 150 more off and yet left 150 on the Tree besides severall which were ripe & had ben pulled off. Robert Weedow having this Distemper which is now very common I gave him a Vomit. I began to Lead in my Corne. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodged here.

This has ben a Prodigious Wet Month which together with the Great Winds has don a deale of damage to the Corne.

SEPTEMBER

1 Mr Plumbe dined here. Dr Lancaster and his Wife made a Viset here.

2 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. Mally Strained her Anclew, I sent for Dr Bromfield to her, he Lodg'd here. I went to Bed not very well.

3 My Lady Phillippa Standish, Lady Molineux &c: dined here.

4 I gave directions for a Fomentation for Mallys Ancle which was strained.

5 I Set some Sellary to Blansh & Sowed Cabbage Seed for Winter Plants & some Seed for cuting in Winter.

6 I went not to Prayers after Dinner. Pat: Bromfield came and gave me a Vomet.

7 William Carefoot waiked with me,[2] I took him to task about Riding my Horses.

8 Jane Launsdale from the Lower-Hall came to profer herself to be Servant here. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent us a Present of Damsons.

9 I Fetched home my provision of Geece from Darby.

10 Two Men from Fazakerley came to see if I would take Land Security for part of Mr Fazakerleys Debt to me but I was not willing. Mrs Wilding went to Dutton Lodg.

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[1] The son of Ralph Standish and his wife, Lady Phillipa, daughter of the 6th Duke of Norfolk. Later he was one of the suitors proposed for Mally.

[2] Sat up with him during the night.

11 Dr Lancaster came to see me being I was very ill, he gave me som thing, he Lodg'd here.

12 I sent to Dr Lancaster for Phisick.

13 Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me. Mr Blundell came to see me.

14 Bridget Fidler, by Recommendation of Gregson, came to profer herself to be Servant here but was not accepted. Pat: Gorsuch came to see me.

15 Pat: Hardesty came to see me so did Mrs Parr.

16 Dr Lancaster made me a second Viset. Mr Eckleston sent to see me. I am now so well that Nobody waikes with me in the Night.

17 Mrs Andrews was here but I would not see her. Pothecary Livlesley called to see me.

18 Mr Sheperd came to see me so did Pat: Gorsuch.

19 Parson Wairing came to see me. I got in the last of my Corne. My Wife went to Bed very ill in the Evening.

20 Mr Blundell came to see me. Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me.

21 Mr Cottom called to see me & stay'd awhile. Cozen Gillibrond sent to see me. Dr Lancaster came to see my Wife, he Lodg'd here.

22 Mr Eckleston came to see me, he dined here. Pat: Hardesty came to see my Wife. Thomas Arnold pay'd me Interest for one Hundred Pound.

23 Parson Acton,[1] his Wife and Mrs Byron came to see my Wife & me.

24 Pat: Pinington made me a Viset. Mr Richard Molineux came to see my Wife and me. Dorothy Blundell came to attend my Wife in the Night.

25 I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts & Disbursments for my use.

26 My Wife and I being pritty well we went down & sat in the Back Parlor most of the After noone.

27 My Doughters went to Ince to see Mr Blundell who is ill of a Cold.

28 Dr Lancaster came to see my Wife and me.

29 Mrs Blundell sent us a Present of a Rosting Pigg. William Marrow made choice of what Lives he would have in his Leas. Mr Scarisbrick sent to see my Wife and me.

30 Mrs Parr came to see my Wife.

The seaven first days all Faire except one, the rest of the Month Raine and generally very much; scarce so great a Flood ever known in Sephton Meadows &c: as was this Month, and in some Places the Hattocks[2] of Corne were almost under Water. In these Parts but especially in Bostock and thereabouts it was an extraordinary Sickley time, though not very Mortall.

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[1] Curate at Sefton Church. Thomas Acton was buried there December 2 1727.

[2] A hattock—a shock of standing sheaves.

OCTOBER

1 Mrs Blundell[1] not being well my Wife went to see her. Mrs Molineux of the Grange came to see my Wife so did Mrs Crisp. I have now got most of my Apples.

2 I killed a small Scotch Bullock. I began to set my Tulop Roots, I set the foure Beds in the Knot the best are in the two Hearts. I set the Seedling Bed in the Nursery with Tulops of the last years sowing; the next Bed to it was set, the next end of it with Seedling Tulops of different Aiges, the farther end of it with tollerable good Tulop Roots, & the rest of it with seedling of the last years sowing. I sent to see Mrs Gillibrond of Astley, being I heard she was ill. I sowed some Collyflower and Carrot Seed.

3 I Set all the Tulop Roots which I intend to set in the Kill Garden.

4 John Vose was here, to see when he might come to Work. My Wife went ill to bed after Prayers. Margaret Davy came in the Evening to give her somthing. Mrs Ursula Worthington Lodg'd here.

5 William Atherton sent for two Heffers which I had kept for him this last Summer.

6 Dr Bromfield called here in his way to Ince. I began to slate my Summerhous. My Doughters met Mrs Frances Gorsuch at Ormschurch upon Business.

7 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodged here. I sent Mrs Ursula Worthington to Leverpoole thence she intended to goe to Hooton.

8 I helped to set out the Borders of the Walk which goes to the Summer-Hous.

9 Cozen Gillibrond was Busy with Thomas Syer &c: making a Melius Inquirendum so came not to dinner. Mr Plumbe came hither.

10 Mrs Ann Wilding went hence to Leverpoole, she intends to keep house there with her Sister Mary, she has lived here ever since July the 11th. 1721. Cozen Gillibrond went hence.

11 I sent Mrs Ursula Worthington home to Ormeschurch, she came hither yester night from Hooton.

12 William Fleetwood and his Brother from London made me a Viset. Mr William Plumbe & Mr Cottom came to see me.

13 JohnVose and three others came to finish what Work I had for them to doe at the Summerhous &c:.

14 Mrs Sadlor and Pat: Gorsuch dined here. I pay'd the Land Tax and Window Money.

15 I Finished Slaiting the Summerhous. I began to lay the Steps of the Summerhous.

16 I Began to lay my Apples in Straw for keeping. I Began to make a New Plantation of Strawberry in the Vistow Garden.

17 I Bought two Speanings[2] at Leverpoole.

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[1] Of Ince.

[2] Weaned pigs. "Piggs for Rearing . . . . . 16s. 0d."

18 Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me, I think 'tis the fourth time or oftener which he has sent.

19 Mr Caroll Molineux intended to have dined here, but hearing I was ill he sent to see me. William Carefoot was Married.

20 The Glass windows were fixed in the Summer Hous & the Caesments well hung.

21 Mr Caroll Molineux came in the Morning to see me, Dr Lancaster was here then.

22 Dr Bromfield let Fanny Blood in the Foot.

23 William Atherton payd his Martinemas Rack Rent, he Lodged here. The Steps to the Summer-Hous are Finished & John Vose has now done working here.

24 I Fetched home the Piller for the Midle of my Doughters Garden.

25 I went not to Mass, the rest went late.

26 I Sent a Present of Apples to Mr Sadlor.

27 I Sent a Present of Apples to Parson Wairing.

28 Pat: Pinington pray'd here being we were not well.

29 I Killed a good Hogg. Parson Acton & his Wife came to see us.

30 William Carefoot came home but Doctor Whawley would not come with him.

31 Dr Lancaster came to see me. Mrs Syer & Mrs Wairing made a Viset here.

Very unsetled Weather sometimes 4 or 5 days faire then as many days Raine & so to the End of the Month.

NOVEMBER

1 My Wife and Mally went to Ince to wish Mrs Blundell Joy of her Son Henry, he was borne yesterday.[1]

2 Dr Angier came the first time to see me, he & Mr Cottom Lodg'd here.[2]

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[1] Henry succeeded to the Ince estates on the death of his father in 1773. He distinguished himself as a philanthropist and connoisseur, and was the man who gathered together the well-known collection of Ince-Blundell marble statuary. He was the last of the Blundells of Ince Blundell, the estates passing because of a bitter quarrel with his son, Charles, to the Welds of Lulworth. Thomas Weld assumed the name Blundell, and became Thomas Weld-Blundell of Ince.

[2] Dr. Samuel Angier—a fashionable physician living in Union Street, Liverpool. His visiting list included the names of nearly all the important families in Liverpool.

During the last quarter of 1724, the only payments for doctors and medicine are:—

"Geting Eye bright	2s. 6d.
Blooding Fanny	1s. 0d."

However, in the first quarter 1725, there are large payments for doctors' bills which probably included the fees of Drs Lancaster, Angiers, and Apothecary Livesley:—

	£	s.	d.
"Phisick for the Poore		1	7
Phisick for me	1	1	0
Phisick for my Wife & Mally		10	1
Doctor Phees for me	5	5	0
Dr Phees for my Wife & Mally	1	11	6"

3 Dr Angier went hence in the Morning. Mr Plumbe dined here, he & Mr Cottom went hence together.

4 Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me. Dr Lancaster came to see me. I set a great many good Goosbery Trees in the Vistow Garden.

5 I set some London Wallfrute Trees in my Doughters Flower Garden. A How-do-you sent from Mr Harington and from Culcheth. Dr Angier made me a Viset.

6 Pothacary Livlesley came to see me. Mrs Barnes the Midwife from Ince & Mrs Mary Molineux of Mosburgh made a Viset here. How-do-yous sent from Mr Standley of Hooton, Widdow Eckleston, and the Ladys of the Scowes. Each side of the Walk to the Summer-Hous was set with Striped Hollin.

7 Some more Earth was layed upon the Aspargus in the Vistow Garden.

8 Mr Eckleston sent to see me.

9 Dr Bromfield made a Viset here, Mr Cliftons Servant brought me £20 for the use of Mrs Bagnoll. Jackson Planted a Rasbery-Peach-Tree at the Arch-Summer-Hous.

10 Two Cabbages were set for Seed. A Lavander Hedg set at the End of the Bleaching yord. William Pinington drove the Coach to Ince. Dr Angier & Pothecary Livlesley came to see me.

11 Cozen Molineux of Mosburgh sent to see me.

12 Mr George Gorsuch was here, I pay'd him for Japaning a Table & Gilding a Wether-Cock.

13 Mrs Ann Wilding went to Leverpoole, she has ben here a few days because her Sister Mary was not come to Leverpoole to keep hous with her.

14 I Layed my Milk Beasts in the Hous.[1] I set my Best Tulops in my Doughters Garden.

15 My Wife and Mally went to see Ailes Tickley.

16 Mr Sadlor made a Viset here. I Sent some Money to Parson Wairings Marlors.

17 Mrs Mary Molineux of Mosburgh came from Ince & dined here, my Wife brought her back to Ince in the Coach.

18 Dr Angier & Mr Cottom called to see me as they were going to Charles Howerds.

19 Mr Plumbe came to see me, but his Horse not being well he durst not stay so onely just light and came into the Hous. I set my best Anemonys & Renunculas in my Doughters Garden.

20 I Nailed a Brass Plate upon the Back-Parlor Doar.

21 I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts & Disbursments for my use, he gave me the Ballance of Accounts.

22 My Wife and Mally made a Viset to Ince. Pothecary Livlesley came to see me.

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[1] The cows providing milk for the family were brought into the shippon for the winter.

23 My Thrashers winnowed Oats and began to Thresh Barly.

24 I Began to draw a Plan for a Flowerknot for my Doughters Garden.

25 I Finished the whole designe of the Drought for the Flower Knot in my Doughters Garden but did not draw it fare over in one peece of Paper.

26 I stated Accounts with William Thelwall for what he owes me & for what I ow him for Work, I gave him the Ballance of Accounts.

27 Mr Cottom came to see me being he heard I was much worse.

28 Mrs Mary Molineux of Mosburgh made a Viset here from Ince.

29 Fanny and I sat most part of the After Noone in the Back Parlor.

30 My Wife and Mally went to Mr Crisps & heard Mr Munson preach. Mr Byron and John Rose came to see me so did Parson Wairing & Mr Syer.

Faire till the 10th, from thence unsetled Weather till the 19 then wett till the 27th, the foure last days faire.

DECEMBER

1 Mr Blundell came to see me, so did Parson Acton. I Signed my sixth Will.

2 I Setled an Account with William Weedow of a long Standing.

3 I Opened a Box of Cloths of Mr Pursells which came from London.

4 Fanny and I went to Wigan to be under Dr Francis Worthington, our health being very bad, the Coach was overturned, and when we came neare Wigan it was laid fast the Rode being so deep, so we left it in the Laine all Night, and we went with our Horses to Wigan where we Lodg'd at Kendalls the Leggs of Man.

5 I sent the Horses home but kept the Coach in Wigan. We dined at oure Inn and then Fanny and I went to Dr Francis Worthington. We Suped at Mr Goldings where we are to Bord, Fanny Lodges there and I lodg at Mrs Hesketh's.

6 Fanny took a Vomit after Supper.

7 I took a Purge and kept my Roome.

8 I was somthing Aguish so went to the Doctor to let him see how I was. Robert Weedow came to see us.

9 Mrs Diconson of Wrightington sent a How-do-you to Fanny.

10 Fanny took a Doce of Phisick. Pat: Billing and Busby came to see us.

11 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley, Mr Standish and his Son Howerd came to see us. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh sent to see us. Winny Abbot came to be Servant here, for awhile.

12 It being a Stormy day Fanny and I kept our Lodging. Mr Kendall came & smoaked a Pipe with me.

13 Fanny & I went to Dr Francis Wortons [Worthington] to let him see how we were.

14 I took by mistake two Doces of Pills instead of one, but they onely worked me moderately.

15 Cozen Thomas Gillibrond and his wife came to see me.

16 Mr Ned Molineux came in the Morning to see me. Mr Aldred and Mally came to see us, they lodged in Town.

17 Dr Thomas Worton made me a Viset.

18 Mr Golding and I made Dr Thomas Worton a Viset, Mr Sherlock and Pat: Aldred came to us. Mally went home.

19 I made a Viset to Dr Francis Worton, I found Pat: More there and his Neece the Widdow Harding, I had an Ague upon me when I left them.

20 I Smoaked a Pipe with Doctor Francis Worton; Mr Hollywell & his Son came thither.

21 Mr Culcheth & Pat: Smith came to see me.

22 I Prepaired all things in order to come home but it was so wet & cold I did not.

23 I came home from Wigan, I baited at the four Laine Ends in Bigarstaff.

24 I went to Mr Aldred as usuall as this Night between eight and nine of the Clock.

25 I went not to Prayers at ten of the Clock.

26 Richard West-head payd me some Rack-Rent. Richard Blevins Son payed me Interest for Money due part to me and part to the Poore of this Town

27 I was much out of order all the afternoone.

28 Mrs Williamson and her Doughter Margarit dined here, my Wife discoursed her about being a Servant here. My Wife and Mally dined at the New-Hous with the Famoly of Ince &c:.

29 My Wife went to Wigan to see Fanny, she Lodg'd at Mr Goldings. Sir Francis Anderton & Mr Blundell made me a Viset.

30 Parson Acton & Mr Byron made me a Viset. Mr Wilding and his Friend Lodged here.

31 Elizabeth Swift came home from Wigan.[1] My Wife went from Wigan to Morehall, she Lodged there.

The foure first days wett, the 7 next days Faire except one, then every day wett till the End of the Month which caused a very great Flood, at Wigan there has not ben so great a Flood in the Memory of any Man.

January very Wett and Windy, February, March & Aprill very Wett, May & June unsetled Weather some days very hot others extreamly wett or Windy. July extreamly wett. August extreamly wett & Windy. September extreamly wett, October, November, December very much Raine and Winde.

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[1] As Mrs Blundell was without a maid, she probably took Elizabeth Swift with her.

This yeare has ben remarkable for Wett weather which caused severall great Floods; it was also extreamly Windy, neaver so many Ship-Racks known, scarce a News-paper without mention of a Ship-rack in some part or other of the World; This Year was also remarkable for a lingering sort of a distemper which generally speaking ended in an Irregular Ague of which People were long ere they could get quit and were very weak & sensible of Cold along time; it was in severall parts of England but generally neare the Sea-cost, in Sephton Parish it was not Mortall, though it was in some other parts of Lancashire and in other Countys.

Anno Domini 1725

JANUARY

1 My Wife came home from More-hall.

2 Mr Pursell helped me to cleare and dry severall of my Books which were damnifyed by the wet in my Closet.

3 I helped my Wife to writ some Letters.

4 I sent to fetch my Little Charriot home from Wigan, Mally went with them.

5 They brought me word that Mr Pursall was found drowned in Thornton. Mally came home in the Charriot from Wigan.

6 I Pay'd the Land Tax to John Jackson. My Wife, Mally and I dined at the Grange with the Famoly of Ince.

7 Thomas Beswick was here about the Sack Rent of 02s-08d per Annum.[1] I killed a very Fat Cow.

8 James Cottom fetched Mr Pursalls things from hence, I bought some of his Books. Cozen Gillibrond brought Fanny home from Wiggan where she had ben under Dr Francis Worthingtons Hands about five Weeks.

9 James Marrow helped me to make some Shrub. Cozen Gillibrond made a Viset to Ince.

10 The Famoly of Ince and Sir Francis Anderton dined & Suped here.

11 My Wife, Mally, Cozen Gillibrond & I dined at Ince, we found Dr Bromfield there, Fanny stayed at home and took a Doce of Phisick by Dr Francis Wortons Orders.

12 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. Mr Cottom dined here. I Stated Accounts with James Crofts for Beasts sold to him & for Meat had from him, he pay'd me the Ballance. John Sadlor brought me two White Moles which he had taken at Ince.

13 Dr Lancaster came to advise about Fannys Distemper, he dined here. Dr Bromfield made a Viset here.

14 Parson Acton, his Wife &c: din'd and Sup'd here. Parson Wairing caime in the Evening and Suped here.

15 I took up some young Oaks which were growing up & down in the Gardens & set them in the Plantation.

16 Dr Lancaster came to advise about Fannys going to be under the care of Dr Bromfield.

17 My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole with Fanny, she is to be under the care of Dr Bromfield, she Lodges at Mr Williamsons.

18 John Marser came to see Mrs Andrews, I went with him to her & we discoursed her about Removing. I set Bryor Roots at the back of some of the Elmes in the Moss-hey.

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[1] See April 4 1720 and foot-note.

19 Mr Plumbe made me a Viset. I began to open a Vew from the Summer-Hous towards Ince.

20 William Carefoot set Ginny upon the Bit the first time in Order to Mouth her.

21 Pat: Smith dined here, Mr Williams came with him from Ince.

22 William Carefoot backed Ginny the first time. Dr Lancaster and Dr Bromfield came hither to give us an Account how Fanny doth.

23 My Wife went to see Fanny at Leverpoole, Mrs Blundell met her there.

24 It was so cold I durst not goe to Vespers. Mr Henry Blundell made a Viset here.

25 My Wife, Mally and I dined at Mr Crisps with Mrs Blundell, Mrs Molineux of the Grange &c:. Mrs Ann Wilding Lodged here, she came to assist us, being at present in want of Maides.

26 I fixed up a Grate in the Summer-Hous. I began to draw my Doughters Flower Garden into Beds.

27 I Fixed the Squear of Border Stones in the Midle of my Doughters Flower Garden.

28 John Sadlor went hence, he took since he came three Dozen & eight Moles and two Weesles. Dr Bromfield dined here, I went with him to Ann Davis.

29 I Began to trim the Trees in the Vistow viz: the Firr Trees, Abeiles &c:.

30 I went to Leverpoole to see Fanny, I drank at Mr Cottoms with Dr Dickins.[1]

31 The two Miss Wildings went hence. My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole and fetched Fanny home from Mrs Williamsons.

The four first days wet, five next faire, the seaven next raine and generally pritty much, then generally faire till the 26, the two next days raine, the four last days of this Month faire.

FEBRUARY

1 I Fix'd the Piller in the Midle of the Flower Garden. I told Thomas Davy what I demanded for ading his Life to his Mothers.[2]

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[1] Dr Dickens of Liverpool had recently married a daughter of Richard Houghton, a prominent Liverpool merchant. He was a trustee of the Blue Coat Hospital.

[2] The following was the lease made to Thomas Davy on February 1 1725, who

"Gave for a fine £50; Rent 19 shillings by equall payments at the four usuall Feast-days. Three days with a Team or instead of each 1s. 6d. Three days Reaping or instead of each 6d. Six Hens or instead of each 6d. Must pay 4¾d. at each Fifteen; not only He but all who live upon the premisses must grind at my Mill or pay 2s. 6d. per Busshell. Must not Set or Sell &c: any part of the Tenement without my Licence. Must not destroy any of my Rabbets.

There is a Strong Claws in this Lease to oblige Tho: Davy to pay £5 per annum to his Mother during her life at two equall payments viz: June the 24th & December the 25th.

The Quantity and Valew of this Teneament

Aikers		£ s. d.	Aikers		£ s. d.
02	Little Ease	01 00 00	01	Hill-Hey & yard	03 00 00
03	Moss	02 00 00		Housing & Garden	
04	Ackers Heys	04 00 00		-Spots	01 10 00"

The Lives in this Lease: Thomas Davy, Margaret his Mother (died January 5th 1730/1); and John Sumner or for 99 years."

(Tenants Book DDBl/54/42: page 60, 107, Lancs Record Office).

2 William Atherton pay'd me his Rack-Rent in full for the last year. John Lee brought me some Burch Beesoms.

3 Dr Bromfield dined here, he Cooped Fanny between the Shoulders.[1] Dr Lancaster made a Viset here so did Dr Dickins & Appothecary Livlesley. I Buried 46 Bushells of Haws in the Lime-kill Croft in three Holes.

4 I Rode out with Fanny to take the Aire. I think it was today that I buried one Bushell and a half of Heps.

5 William Marrow pay'd me the first Payment of his Fine, he had the Money from George Rogerson who was present at the Payment of it as was also John Blansherd and Richard Dixon. I went with Thomas Thelwall to some Gound which he designes to inclose & order'd him to doe it after an other Manner, elce it had ben a prejudice to him and consequently a loss to me, then I went to Hesketh's where I drank with Parson Wairing, Parson Harrison &c:.

6 I Sowed about half a Bushell of Haws in the Vistow Wood. I set Roots of Holly-Oak on each side of the Vistow. James Marrow pay'd me part of his Fine.

7 Mr Cottom made a Viset here but my Wife, I and Doughters were gon to Ince.

8 Toping the Parrator was here to beg Corne. Mr Rigmaden payed me some Interest Money.

9 Mr Blundell & his Lady, Mr James Tildesley & his Wife, Pat: Curedon &c: made a Viset here.

10 I had an Ague Fit so kept my Bed till after two of the Clock.

11 Dr Bromfield and Mr Cottom dined here. Mrs Williamson and Mr Amory made a Viset here. I began to set Dwarf Box in different Figures in the Flower Garden. Fanny was so ill I sent in the Night for Dr Dickings, he Lodg'd here.

12 Mrs Cottom came to see Fanny so did Mrs Blundell, Fanny being extreamly ill Mrs Blundell came againe to see her & stay'd till neare Midnight.

13 Fanny was so ill of the Convultion Fits that Mr Aldred gave her the Holy Oyles. Dr Ferniho of Chester[2] met Dr Dickins here, they had a Consult and lodged here.

14 Dr Dickins went hence. Cozen Scarisbrick sent to see Fanny. Mrs Blundell came in the Morning to see Fanny & stay'd till Night. Pothecary Livlesley came this Morning before day, he dres'd some of Fannys Blisters & lay'd on more Blistering Plaisters.

15 Mr Cottom came a coursing to these parts, he sent me a Hare and afterwards came himself. Dr Fernihough went hence. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley came to see Fanny.

16 Mr Plumbe kept my Court at Charles Howerds, Cozen Gillibrond went with him. Mrs Molineux of the Grange came to see Fanny.

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[1] Cupped, *i.e.* let blood.

[2] Dr. Philip Fernihough, described as "in medicin doctor" in the 'Rolls of the Freemen of Chester' for 1724/5.

17 I began to lay the Walk in the back Courts with my Whit Gravell. Cozen Frances Gorsuch came to see Fanny, she dined here. Cozen Gillibrond dined at Ince.

18 Chirurgeon Livlesley dresed Fannys Blisters. Dr. Dickens was here. Mr Blundell & his Lady were here.

19 Pat: Walmesley pray'd here. I had two Keggs of Wine from Leverpoole.

20 Pat: Munson made a Viset here. Cicily Roscold came to profer her Service to be my Wives Maide, she was hier'd afterwards but not now.

21 Mrs Blundell & Parson Pooles Doughter made a Viset here, so did Mr William Walmesley & his Wife.

22 My Thornton Farmers and I signed Artickleys of a New Bargan. Dr Dickings Lodged here.

23 This is my first days Ploughing since Christmas, I ploughed in the Town-Meadow. I planted that End of the Gravell Walk which is in the New-Grounds with my own Layers of Hornebeame on each side of it. Mally dined at Ince. John Barrow Clark to Mr Moss came to correct some Falts which were in William Marrows Leas which I am to Signe.

24 I Set a Parcell of Ground to Richard Westhead & an other Parcell to Robert Fareclough. Mrs Wilding and her Sister Mary went hence to Leverpoole.

25 I Set some Cabbage Plants, I began to Lead Gravell from the Sea-Side for my Doughters Garden.

26 Longworth Layed a Charge to Besses Legg and Ordered somthing for Buck.

27 Fanny took a Vomit by Orders of Doctor Dickens.

28 Mr Cottom & Dr Dickens made a Viset here.

First & second day some Raine then faire till the 16, the four next days some raine, then faire till the End of the Month except one day, it has ben a very fine & Calme Month.

MARCH

1 Thomas Cooper brought me some Burch Water. Mr Sadlor din'd here, I gave him some Plate, for him to Engrave my Coat of Armes on. Secom from Earton came for some Thornes he had twelve Hundred. Mr. Golding sent to see Fanny.

2 I went to Ince & Stated Accounts with Mrs Blundell and gave her two Bills for the Remaining Part of my Money in Mrs Aldreds Hands.

3 Archibold the Coach-maiker of Preston was here to buy my old Charriots, but we could not bargan.

4 Mrs Molineux of the Grange and Pat: Gorsuch made a Viset here. Pothecary Livlesley came and gave Fanny a Vomit, Mr Swetenham came with him. Mr Cottom came to see Fanny, he had ben at the Christoning of Parson Wairings Son Gerard. I tunned the Burch Wine, the Water cost 10s, the Sugar

£01-16s-10d, Rasons 11s-03d, Serop of Leomonds 2s-00d, when it was botled off, there were eight Dozen Bottles. It lay me in 7s-6d per dozine.

5 I Sealed a Leas to William Marrow & he the counter part to me. Part of the Flower Knot in the Stone Garden being new Modaled, I set most of that part with severall sorts of ordinary Flowers.

6 I Wick'd [weeded ?] the Snake-Hedg very well and put fresh Earth to it & set severall very good Sets of Privet in it.

7 Doctor Dickings made a Viset here.

8 I set above eight Score Cornations (they were Seedlings of the last yeare) in the Flower Garden, I layed some Suckers of Horne-beame, & Set severall Slips of Privat in the Snake-hedge. Mr Cottom & his Wife made a Viset here.

9 Mrs Williamson, Mrs Tildesley &c: made a Viset here.

10 I Sent two Cart Load of Potatows to Leverpoole, Sampson Ellots Wife helped to mesure them, they are for her.

11 I Began to digg for Potatows in the Lime-kill Croft. Apothecary Livlesley sent his Brother to see Fanny.

12 Mr Tildesley and Dr Dickings made a Viset here. I began to set Kidney Potatows.

13 Mally and I went to Croxtath, Pat: Jameson shewed us the Gardens & promis'd to give me some Greens &c: when I sent for them.

14 Mr Cottom & Mr Pepper made a Viset here, so did Young Mr Fazakerley & John White.

15 Mrs Wofold dined here. I Stated Accounts with Catty Carefoot in Presence of her Son & William Weedow for Money owing by me to her Deceased Husband for Work, and for Money owing by him to me upon severall Accounts, she pay'd me all she was then able, in part of her Husbands Debt.

16 Old Mr Walmesley of Showley was here but I was gon to Leverpoole, I discoursed Mr Plumbe about William Davy seting his Wives Teneament. I Smoaked a Pipe with Thomas Hurst at his Hous, he gave me some Flower Sets, so did Mr Wharton and Thomas Brownbill.

17 I went to Croxtath, Mr Jamson gave me some Greens in Pots, some Sets of Hornbeame &c: I had my Cart there on purpose & brought them home in it.

18 I set the Jesmine and most of the things which I brought from Croxtath yesterday.

19 I was at the Buriall Hous of Ailes Tickley, there was Mr Shaw of Leverpoole, Mr Byron, Mr Formby, Mr Williamsons Son of Litherland &c:, I did not goe with the Corps to Sephton but turned off and went to William Davys & falted him for seting his Wives Teneament to Thomas Johnson without my Consent, his Answer was he cair'd not one Pin, he would set that & his other Teneament to whom he list & I might doe my Worst.

20 I Sowed some Carot, Beet & Onion Seed, & set some Beanes & severall sorts of Peas.

21 Mrs Blundell &c: came to Solemnise St Benedicts day. Dr Dickings, Doctor

Lancaster & Apothecary Livlesley made a Viset here. Mr Scarisbrick sent to see Fanny.

22 I Began to mend the Gates in the Demesne, severall of them wanting to be better hung & others wanting Hooks or Staples &c:, Pat: Clifton made a Viset here.

23 William Carefoot sold an Old Cow & a young Heffer with their Calves for me.

24 I Cut some Imps off the young Virgin Trees in the New Orcherd, to be Grafted about ten days hence.

25 Dr Lancaster made a Viset here so did Mr Cottom and his Wife. Cozen Gillibrond sent his Servant to see Fanny.

26 I went to Edward Howerds and stay'd there till the Corps of Mary Roson came past.

27 William Carefoot fetched home some Malt from Sephton, he drew his Colt then the first time.

28 Dr Lancaster dined here. Mrs Blundell desir'd I would ues my Endeavour to prevent her Husband being chosen Church Warden.

29 Mrs Blundell came here and took Mally with her to Leverpoole. Mrs Acton came to see Fanny, so did Mrs Parr & Mrs Byron. Parson Wairing came with a Relation of his whos Eyes were bad, I gave him somthing for them. Dr Dickins made a Viset here.

30 Fanny took the Aire in the Charriot, 'tis the first time she has ben out of her Roome of Severall Weeks. I went to Prayers to Mr Crisps & then went to the Parish Meeting where Mr Blundell was design'd to be chosen Church-Warden, but we prevented it. There was at the Meeting Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Byron &c:.

31 Sera Atherton came to see Fanny, I rode out with Fanny in the Charriot to take the Aire, Sera Atherton rode part of the way with us. There was I think eight Men all day diging for a Kennell of Foxes in a great Sand-hill in my Warand, but the Sand falling in upon them in so great a Quantity at once, they could not find the End of the Pipes.

Till the 10th every day faire except one which was a little Snow, the two next days wet, the six next days faire, the rest of the Month Changeable.
'Tis a very fine Spring with very Refreshing Showers & all vegetables are lickley to doe well.

APRILL

1 I Grafted about 28 Imps of Virgin Apples in the Nursery, I think 'twas rather too soone to graft between the Wood and Bark. Mrs Parr & Mrs Crisp sup'd here. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

2 I went to Ince with Pat: Aldred and Cozen Gillibrond but Mr Blundell was not at home.

3 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. I finished my Lenton Seeding.

4 Fanny went to Lodg at More-hall for change of Aire, My Wife & Mally went with her. Mr Sadlor & his Wife made a Viset here.

5 Mr Dugdall came to see what Painting I had for him to doe.

6 I made 8 Bottles of Punsh. My Wife & Mally made Mrs Parr a Viset, they Suped there.

7 I set some London Peas in the Vistow Gardens, they are all for Seed. My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole, they din'd at Mrs Letonbys.

8 I went to Morehall to see Fanny, she was gon out in the Shay to take the Aire, I stay'd till she came back, I found Elizabeth Swift there in her way home from Yorkshire, Dr Lancaster was there.

9 I examain'd John Bridg and Roger Meadow about Skiner Davy Selling Turves to them. I went to old John Lunts & bought of him some of his Sons Books. I began to Smoak my Apple Trees.

10 I met most of my Ditton Tenants at Leverpoole about their Leases. Mr Fazakerley pay'd me £100 Principall & three years Interest. I drank a Glass of Wine at the Talbot with Dr Dickins & Mr Greene and receiv'd a Subpena from London upon Mr Chantrells Account.

11 Mally went to More-Hall to see her Sister. I went to the More-Side & Spoke to Thomas Arnold, then to Hesketh's where I drank with Parson Wairing, Richard Jump &c:.

12 I Lay'd the lowest Round of my Strip'd Hollin [holly] in Order to get Sets from it. John Lunt brought me some Books which I had bought of him, I shewed him my Gardens.

13 I Agreed with William Formby for a Leas of Reversion, for some Land in the New-field. I went to my Hous at Ditton where I Lodged, Robert Burgeas was there, I came upon a New Bargan with Sera Atherton for Ditton Farme.

14 I went to look at Daniall Ecklestons Hous, I came from Ditton to Leverpoole, I made a Viset to Dr Dickens. I discoursed Mr Peters at the Woolpack concerning procecuting of Skiner Davy.[1] Cicilly Roscold came to be my Wives Maid.

15 I went to Ince Mill and examain'd the Miller what he had heard William Davy say against me.

16 I set some Battersey Dwarf Kidney Beanes, some Whit Dwarf Kidney Beanes & some Tall Kidney Beanes.

17 Widdow Roson met me at Leverpoole, we gave Mr Moss Orders to draw a Leas upon a New Bargan which we had made. Sera Atherton and I Signed Writings for her holding Ditton Farme two years. I gave Mr Peters a Glass of Wine at the George and discoursed him concerning Skiner Davy, he got me a Warant for him and some Prosses for Witnesses against him.

18 We went to More-hall to fetch Fanny home but the day proving both wet & cold we took her not but left Mally to stay with her.

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[1] Davy, a local labourer, appears to have been slandering Blundell. See April 24 and May 16 1725. He may also have been suspected of stealing turf. See July 22 1725.

19 I payed the Land Tax & Window Tax to John Jackson and William Harrison. I fetched my Doughters home from More-hall. My Wife met Mrs Blundell at Mrs Sedgwicks, she was lying in of her first Child.

20 I Sowed four sorts of Potherb Seeds on the Terras.

21 John Miller fetched Mrs Andw: from Ailes Oneals, I was there when she went. William Carefoot and I looked at the Ground towards the Coppy which his Father uesed to hold upon a Rack. Weedow took home a Heffer of mine to be kept by him for Hier.

22 Robert Weedow deliver'd some Subpenas against Skiner Davy and did some other Business upon the same Account. William Carefoot sold me 3 Beasts at Ormschurch and bought three there for me.

23 I made Parson Wairing a Viset, Thomas Melling was there, we went to Hesketh's.

24 I try'd Skinner Davy before Mr Goodwin the Maior of Leverpoole for Detracting me and saying severall Scurrelous things of me. Mr Peters was my Atturney, Mr Hulme and Mr Barron were Skinner Davys. I Sealed a Leas to Elizabeth Roson and she the Counterpart to me. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Blundell of Ince and severall others.

25 It being a very Wet day I stired little out.

26 I called at Dr Lancasters in Ormschurch and gave him Account how Fanny did, then I went to Mr Coolings & he went with me to see Mrs Andrews thence I went to Cozen Thomas Gillibronds where I dined, I saw his Slate-Delf &c: and then went to Astley where I Lodged.

27 Cozen Thomas Gillibrond came to Acquaint his Father with Miss Jenys Resolution. Mr Standish & his Son Ralf dined at Astley. Mr Standish made a Proposall to me.[1]

28 I came home thorrow Wigan, I drank at the Leggs of Man with Mr Golding & Young Mr Gerard of Highfield. I called at Pall Windles where I found John Wainwrit the Church-Warden, I Order'd him in presence of Peter Stock to Present William Davy for Practising Phisick without a Licence. Mrs Wofold came to see Fanny.

29 William Carefoot bought me four Heffers at Ormschurch. They came againe as per Mark.

30 Mr Walmesley of Showley made me a Viset so did Mr Cottom, he is lately come from London. William Thelwall and I helped Launders and his Partner to Measure some Wood they had Sawed for me.

Till the 17th unsetled Weather, being frequently very agreeable Showers with fair days after them, from the 17th to the end of this Month generally Raine though not too much.

MAY

1 Dr Lancaster made a Viset here. The young Men of this Town Acted the Commedy Called the Taiming of the Show in my Hall, Mrs Blundell &c: were here, they Suped here.

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[1] See Appendix H.

2 I gave a Sute of Clothes to Robert Weedow. My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Crisp.

3 My Wife & Mally made a Viset to the Grange. Mr Smarleys Servant brought me an Injunction upon Account of Darcy Chantrell. William Formby proposed to take a Lease of Reversion of Thomas Ridings Teneament.

4 I Led Muck with three Carts into the Town Meadow.

5 It being the Opening of Great Crosby Bowling Green I went thither, there was Alderman Tyrer, Mr Cottom, Mr Whittle, &c:.

6 My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole. Pat: Aldred and I went to Jacksons in Crosby & drank with him and Parson Wairing.

7 I went with Pat: Aldred to Leverpoole to Mr Green, we discoursed him concerning Knoctorum Affaire. Mr Cottom drank with us at the Wool-pack.

8 I made a second Seeding of three sorts of Kidney Beanes. I saw a Moasture of a Calf of Thomas Farers. My Miller lent John Tickley Thirty Pound upon Interest in Presence of me.

9 My Wife, Mally and I dined at Ince, Fanny came after dinner, she eat alittle there.

10 I began to delve Turves in William Harrisons Great Hey in the More-Houses, 'tis the first time I delved in that Field & the first days delving of Turves this year. It being a very wet day Robert Weedow & I were very busy most of the afternoone, Rediing & Clensing my Closet.

11 I Bowl'd at Ince Green, there was Mr Chappell, Olton & Standle the Apothecary all of Ormschurch and Mr Smith of Maile [Maghull].

12 Mr Scarisbrick, his Lady & Doughter Ann dined here. I was at the North Heys with William Thelwall whilst he fixed two Bridges in the New Rode to Ince.

13 I went to my three Delvers of Fleas in Fleame Hey.

14 I Fixed a New Seat in the West-Laine. I went to John Mellings, he not being at home I went to Ann Hulmes and drank with Mr Syer & Mr Crisp &c:.

15 I dined at the Wool-pack with Mr Byron, Mr Thomas Whittle, &c:. I gave directions to Thomas Moss to draw three Pair of Indentures or Leases. I finished Barly Seeding.

16 I met Skiner Davy in Sephton Church where he publickly beged my Pardon for talking Scurrilously of me. I drank at Pall Windles with Parson Harrison, John Rose, Robert Bootle &c:.

17 I saw part of the Play called Taiming the Shrow Acted at Robert Blansherds, I drank there with Mr Ned Molineux, Richard Tarlton &c:, the Players came hither first to shew themselves before they went to the Stage. Mr Marsh alias Mayfield made a Viset here.

18 Mr Aldred not being at home most of my Famoly went to Ince to Prayers. I went out in the Coach with Fanny to take the Aire. Pat: Gorsuch came to see if we had any service for him ere he goes to York.

19 Mr Blundell called here, I went with him to Crosby where I Bowled with Mr James Clenton, Mr Cottom &c:, Alderman Cunlive was there, I drank with Mr Everet.

20 Landers & his Partners finished delving Fleas this year in the Fleame Hey, I pay'd them all off and Landers gave me what Money he had receiv'd for Fleas. I weighed a Henns Egg (not a Poot Egg) and it weighed just Six Penny Wight and a half and four Graines, it had both a Yolk & a Whit in it and was full.

21 I went to Ditton & lodged at the Bank, there should have ben a Towns Meeting, but by a Mistake it was not till tomorrow so I went to Farnworth to see if my Pugh wanted Mending, I drank at the George with Parson Hargrave and Appleton the Clark.

22 I Agree'd with Ann Barrows to Leas Parkers late Teneament to her for three Lives. Henry Heys din'd with me at the Bank, I agree'd with him to ad his Sons Life to the Leas of Part of Mathers Teneament. I was at the Ball at the Towns Meeting which was Appointed upon Account of an Order to Pave a New Rode as was suppos'd, there was Mr Bretter, Daniall Eckleston &c:. I came home through Leverpoole. James Marrow was come to see Fanny from my Cozen Gillibrond.

23 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here being she designes tomorrow for Hooton.

24 Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron, Mrs Parr and Mrs Syer made a Viset, they all Suped here.

25 I Set some Beanes on Potatow Ground & onely pointed it over just where the Rows were set, and they did very well. I took up most of my best Tulops except what were in my Doughters Garden.

26 Mr Nelson brought a Letter from Lady Molineux to my Wife in behalf of Ralph Standish. I went to Crosby Green but did neather bet nor Bowl, Mr Moss met me there. John Tickley gave my Miller an Assignment for fourty Pounds. I Agree'd with William Formby to give him a Leas of Reversion of Thomas Ridings late Teneament. I gave Mr Moss Orders to draw that and three other Leases. I drank in the Hous with Parson Egerton, Acton and Wairing.

27 My Wife and Mally dined at Mr Hardestys at Leverpoole, Mr Plumbe was here, we discoursed about Skinner Davys Sute. I made a Viset to Mr Egerton at the Parsonage, I found Parson Wairing & Pat: Aldred there.

28 I went to William Harrisons Great Hey in the High-Town to see how my Feyers for Turves went on but they were not there.

29 I Examain'd my Appothecary Shop & lay'd out severall Gallipots[1] & Bottles &c: which I intend to give to Apothecary Livlesley.

30 Pat: Williams not being at home Mr Henry Blundell came to prayers to Mr Aldreds, he din'd here. Mrs Molineux of the Grange made a Viset here. Mr Cottom & Dr Dickins suped here.

31 I went to Leverpoole, I made Mr Crumpton a Viset. I went to Gabriell Norris'es & took some Memorandums out of Skiner Davys Bargan with Thomas Johnson, I drank at the Woolpack with Mr Golding.

A few dayes at the begining of this Month fair the rest generally extreamly wett and Windy and more lick March than May.

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[1] A small glazed earthenware pot for ointments and medicines.

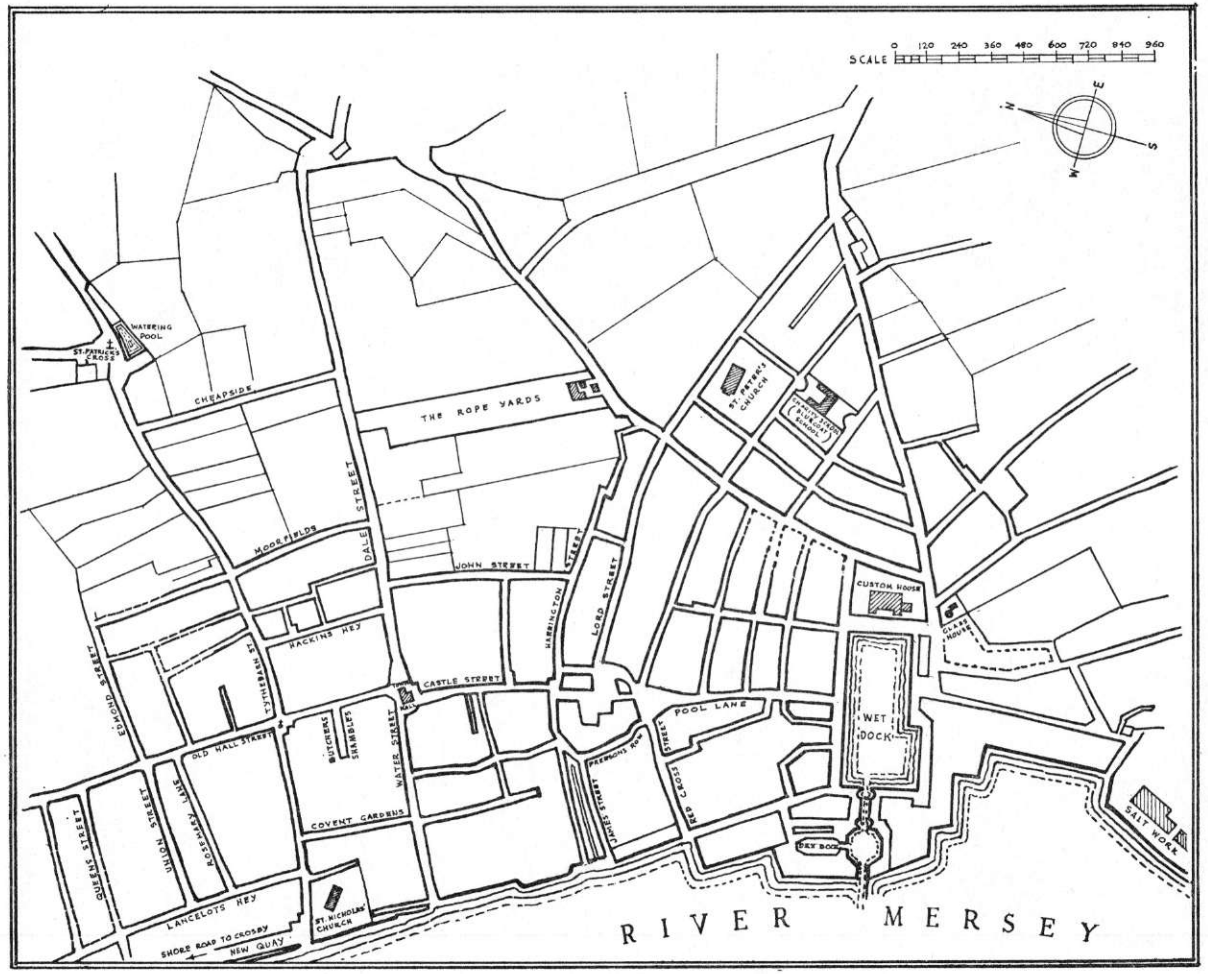


Figure 4
LIVERPOOL
IN 1725.
Based on Chadwick's Map which was published in 1725. Compare Figure 1 in Volume One.

JUNE

1 I Plais'd the Painted Sticks with the Knobs upon the Tops of them in the Flower-Garden. I was a good while with William Thelwall whilst he fix'd up peeces of Wood for Curtans & Vallance for the Summer-Hous & fix'd Leads to the Windows.

2 I Put ingredients together to make Aqua Coelestis. I went to Crosby Green & Bowl'd with Atturney Hulme and Mr Byron; Mr James Tildesley was there. Mr Golding came to the Green, he came home with me & lodg'd here.

3 Mr Golding went hence. Apothocary Livlesley & his Mother Sup'd here.

4 Mr Henry Blundell brought me a Hare he had killed.

5 Cozen Gillibrond sent James with a Letter he had from Lady Phillipa I writ him my Answer to it. My Wives Legg being ill againe Dr Bromfield came & dres'd it.

6 Fanny had one of her Violent Convultion Fits, such as she has not had of severall Weeks, it was Occasion'd by seeing a Mous in her Roome.

7 I whit washed my Summer-Hous, the Ingredients were, the best Stone-Blew 4 ounce, about one Quarter of a Bushell of Lime & twelve Quarts of Water. I mixed Ingredients for Ink.

8 Mally went to Leverpoole, Nurce came from Ince with Mr Blundells Son & Doughter.

9 Dr Bromfield came and dresed my Wives Legg, I went with him and Pat: Hardesty to Crosby, I Bowled four Bowles out of a Hand against Mr Crisps three, Mr Hulme the Atturney Bowled a Match with Parson Harrison, Thomas Fleetwood &c:, Mr Warbrick, Mr Woodard &c: were there. I came directly home without going into the Aile-hous. Mally went to More-hall.

10 I went to William Harrisons great Hey to my Delvers of Turves.

11 The Well in the Stone Garden was emptied and very well Clensed. Dr Bromfields Man came and dress'd my Wives Legg.

12 Pinington Whitwashed the Summer-Hous part of it a second time over with a Mixture of Blew.

13 Mr Williams[1] not being at home Mr Henry Blundell came to Mr Aldreds and dined here, he and I went to Mr Aldreds after dinner where we found Dr Dickins.

14 I dined at Dr Bromfields. I fetched home my Coach which came by the Robert from London. I went on Board the Robert and pay'd Captain Howerd £5 for bringing my Coach, he gave me a Bowl of Punsh, Mr Chadock was there.

15 I Rode out with my Doughters in the Coach, I call'd at Ince Greene and gave Mr Woodcock some Post-Letters, Mr Richard Molineux of the Grange was there, he is lately com out of York-Shire. Mr Formby was upon the Greene.

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[1] Chaplain at Ince Blundell.

16 I went to Crosby Greene and Bowled Hand to fist with Mr Richard Molineux of the Grange; Hulme the Atturney & Mr Byron were there, it was an extraordinary wet day. I Signed two Leases to William Harrison & he the Counterparts to me. Mr Sheperd din'd and Lodged here.

17 I went to Crosby Greene but did not Bowl, I saw Hulme the Atturney and Mr Byron Bowl severall Gaimes hand to fist; from the Green I went to Mr Egertons & invited him & Parson Acton to dine with me on Monday.

18 I fix'd up some Pictures in the Summer-hous & furnished it with Chears & some other Necessarys.

19 I Set severall Slate Traps tn the Chambers to catch Mice, I cought some. Fanny was Baith'd.

20 Richard Jump being ill hurt yesterday his Son came to me for some Irish slate.

21 Parson Egerton, Parson Acton & his Wife, Mr Cottom &c: dined here, After dinner we hansaled the New Summer hous,[1] Parson Wairing came to us.

22 Pat: Gorsuch made a Viset here, it being the first time since he came from York. I went out with Fanny in the Coach, we called at Ailes Mellings & came past Mr Actons home.

23 I went to Crosby Green there was Parson Brooks, Parson Davys &c:. Elizabeth Swift came to Jacksons and was Bloddyed by Dr Bromfield. I Agree'd with Charles Howerd for a Fine, for the Reversion of an Aicker in the New-field belonging Ann Blundell alias Renolds Teneament. Pat: Cuerdon Lodg'd here.

24 My Wife and Doughters went to Jacksons & took a Dish of Coffy.

25 I stated Accounts with most of my Workmen. James Massy acquainted me he was going to Leverpoole upon a Summons for an unjust Debt demanded. Pat: Curedon went hence.

26 I went to Leverpoole and Signed Leases to Henry Hey, Ann Barrows and Ailes Oneale, they signed the Counter parts to me. I drank at the Wool-pack with Parson Harrison, Parson Wairing &c: and at the Talbot with Mr Eckleston of Eckleston. My Wife had an Ague-Fit.

27 I Attended the Corps of Joseph Trustrams Wife part of the way towards the Church.

28 I Writ Letters a good part of the afternoone.

29 Fanny rode behind me to take the Aire, it is the first time she has ben on hors back these severall Weeks.

30 I Planted out some Endive to be Blanshed, Mr Hill brought my Wife a Ban-Box out of Chesshire from his Mistress.

I think not one fair day this Month except the last and generally Speaking very much Raine; by the Midley of the Month there was as great a Flood as generally is seen in Winter; it was an universall wet Season all over Europe and did very great Prejudice.

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[1] To Handsel or hansale—to inaugurate or celebrate the first use or trial of something.

JULY

1 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh dined here, he came to deliver a Message from Pat: Holland.

2 I and all my Jury viz: John Molineux, two John Sumners, George Riding &c: went out to examain Watercourses, Head bolts &c:, we found severall much out of Order. Gabriell Norris met us at William Weedows.

3 Pat: Clifton made a Viset here, he was sent for to Jacksons Wife.

4 I went to Ince to bid Mr Blundell welcome home out of Chesshire.

5 William Thelwall took in peeces my very old Charriot which has stood in the Kill severall yeares. John Rose pay'd me some Interest Money, I shew'd him the Gardens.

6 Pat: Burton made a viset here before dinner but did not stay.

7 Mr Blundell, Pat: Burton &c: called here as they went to Crosby Green, I went with them & Bowled with Parson Brooks, Parson Wairing &c:, Mr James Tildesley was there. Doctor Bromfield blooddied Fanny. Doctor Lancaster made a Viset here.

8 Mrs Tyrer of Leverpoole & Mrs Claytons youngest Doughter made a Viset here.

9 Thomas Newton killed an Adder which was fully 3 Foot & three Inshes long. I Strained off my Ink which has for some days ben standing with the Ingredients in it.

10 Mrs Rumsy sent me a Present of Rum by Elizabeth Swift. Fanny walked out with me more than she has ben able to doe this long time.

11 My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Ince. Mr Blundell made me a Viset.

12 Mrs Wofold sent to invite us to dine with her tomorrow it being Ormschurch Race. I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for Beasts bought & sold by him and for Money received for Turves.

13 My Wife, Doughters and I went to Ormschurch Race, there were three that Ran and the Bolton Mare wan, Mr Plumbe and his Son and Mr Cottom were there. Mr Strickland of Sizargh & Cozen Gillibrond of Astley were there, they came home with me and Lodg'd here.[1]

14 Mr Strickland, Cozen Gillibrond and I went to Crosby Green, I Bowled hand to fist with Mr Thomas; Thomas Whittle &c: were there.

15 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. This Famoly & Ince met at Pat: Aldreds, he gave the Ladys Coffy and we Men had a Bowl of Punsh, Mr Strickland went with me.

16 I went to the Parish meeting at Sephton where we Setled some affairs relating to the Clarks yearly pay for such & such things to be done by him, his former demands being exorbitant, the two Wardens John Blansherd and John Rose were there, so was Robert Bootle, Mr Syer and Peter Stock &c:, John Taylor of Ormeschurch was there, he had Orders to Repaire the Church Clock.

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[1] Strickland was considering asking for Mally's hand. Gelibrond was urging the claims of Ralph Standish.

17 Mr Strickland, Pat: Aldred and I went to Ince, we Suped there.

18 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here and stay'd Supper. I pay'd the Land Tax to Edward Rothwell.

19 Mr Strickland went hence, I went with him to Maile Clent. Mr Green was here, we peruesed my Answer which I was to make to Darcy Chantrells Bill in Chancery. Jackson Inoculated four Pear Stocks with Buds of the Christian Pear and three of the Bell Pear.

20 I Rode out with Fanny, it is the first time she has Rode out single this 8 Months as I think.

21 Pat: Turner & three Sons of Mr Standley of Hooton was here, but I was gon to Crosby Green, there was young crooked Blaise of Leverpoole, Ashton a Draper of Ormschurch &c:.

22 I Rode out with Fanny to see what Order my Grand Cop at the Sniggary was in and to my Delvers of Turves, I order'd Skinner Davy not to medle with the Turves which are delved in his Teneament.

23 I shav'd part of Fanny's Head.

24 Henry Heys dined here, he payd me for adtng a Life in his Leas, I gave him a Lycence to give an Assignment out of it. I Rode with Fanny single to Formby. I order'd Thomas Johnson not to medle with the Turves which are delved in Skinner Davys Ground.

25 My Wife, Doughters and I went in the Coach to the Grange, Mrs Blundell and her two Sisters-in-Law and three Sons of Mr Standleys of Hooton came thither, coming home most of us prayed by the Corps of Mary Molineux.

26 Mrs Wofold came with an Intension to dine here, but being we designed to goe to Leverpoole she went with us. My Wife, I, Doughters, Mrs Wofold and Pat: Aldred din'd at Mrs Wildings. My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Cottom. I drank at Mr Crumptons. The Wool-pack being very full Mr Allonson, Mr Crumpton and some others who were drinking with me there, Adjourned all to Mr Moss'es and sent for Aile to the Wool-pack.

27 Mrs Bravarius [housekeeper at Ince] came to look at my Wives Legg which is in danger to break againe, she Order'd somthing for it. Mrs Sadlor was here.

28 I went to Crosby & Bowled with Parson Kelsey, Parson Harrison &c:, The Maior of Leverpoole Mr Carr, Mr Windsor &c: were there.

29 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Acton. Cozen Gillibrond sent an express with a Letter from Lady Phillipa.

30 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh & his Brother were at Ince, Mr Blundell not being at home I was desired to goe & keep them company, so I did.

31 I made a Small Brew of Aqua Coelestis against Young Mr Standish & Cozen Gillibrond came.

The two first days fair, then every day Raine till the 24th and generally pritty much, from then to the End of the Month very faire. Our Hay Harvest has ben very bad and the Low Meadows drowned all England over.

AUGUST

1 My Wife and Doughter met Mrs Blundell &c: at the Carr Side.

2 William Carefoot brought me home two peeces of Timber which were Reck, James Wignold, Richard Goar and Thomas Newton helped him to Load it, one was a Squaire Balk of Daile eight yards long, and almost a quarter of a yard squaire, the other was a Crooked peece of Oak three yards 3 quarters long and when Squair'd would carry about one quarter of a yard squair but seemed not to be sound at the Heart. I finished Mowing. Pat: Gorsuch was here, we had much discourse concerning his Brother Eckleston & Pat: Aldred.

3 Young Mr Standish and Cozen Gillibrond dined and Lodg'd here.

4 Mrs Blundell, Mr Cottom, Dr Lancaster and his Wife &c: dined here. Mr Standish, Cozen Gillibrond & I went to Crosby Green, we all bowled; there was Atturney Hulme, Young Mr Bootle, Mr William Nelson &c:.

5 Mr Standish & Cozen Gillibrond went hence, I went with them to Ormschurch, we din'd at Lanslets. Dr Lancaster gave us a Bowl of Punsh, I pay'd him all I ought for Phisick.[1]

6 I not being very well I walked to the Mill and Smoaked a Pipe there.

7 I went to Leverpoole & drank most extraordinary good Aile at Mr Whawleys with Mr Plumbe and his Son William and Mr Cottom.

8 My Wife sent to see Mrs Sheperd she being very ill.

9 William Harrison pay'd me part of his Fine. Richard Heaton pay'd me some Money which he had upon Interest pay'd all Interest due.

10 I took a Pipe with Dr Dickins at Apothecary Livlesleys. I told Margarit Brownbill I desir'd to get Turves in her Teneament.

11 Mr Plumbe dined here, I went with him to Crosby, there was Dr Bromfield, James Williamsons Son James & I think both their Wives, Parson

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[1] The accounts for the third quarter of 1725 include:—

	£	s.	d.
"Dr. Bromfield for my Wife	3	3	0
Phisick for Mally		4	4
Phisick for Mrs Wilding		3	0
Scotch Pills, &c:		4	2
Gloves for Mrs Bavarius & in Cash for curing my Wives Legg		12	6

"Being Fanny is but just recovered of her distemper wch seased her about this time Twelve Month and the Apothecary Bill still increasing; I have yet booked none of the expencess Occationed eather by her Sicknes or my own wch began about the same time as hers & lasted me half a year, what next followeth are oure Expences occationed by our Long Sickness but Phisick & Doctors Phees for me are booked long since

	£	s.	d.
Expences by Men and Horses when we went to Wigen, when Servants &c: came to see us & whilst Fanny was at Leverpoole	5	9	5
Meat, drink, Lodging, Fire & Vailes for us two & a Maid	5	3	0
Washing & Candles for us three		11	3
Wine, Biskets, Sugar Candy & some such things for Fanny	2	10	8
Coffy, Tea & Sugar		15	5
Doctor Phees	19	12	6
Phisick for Fanny	13	4	6
Messinger to Fetch Doctor Fenihough from Chester		10	6"

Richmond, Parson Davis, Old William Rollins, Thomas Howerd &c:. I finished Hay Harvest.

12 Appothecary Livlesley came both in the Morning & Evening to give Fanny a Vomit but not being in Order eather time to take it, he stayd here all Night. I set Fourty Roots of Cornation or July Flowers on the Side of the Hasle Walk.

13 Mr Livlesley gave Fanny a Vomit in the Morning, she now begins with Mr Gelders Receipt for the Ague Fits. I Removed severall ordinary Cornation Roots out of the Flower Garden and Removed severall good Cornation Roots in the Flower Garden from one Bed to an other to set them in better Order. I set the four Hearts in the Flower Garden with Roots of my best Tulops & some Chives of good Tulops and set the Breeding Tulops by the Brick-Wall. Though Fanny began to take Mr Gelders Receipt yet she had an ill Fit, but missed her Convultion Fit.

14 I Began to open a Vew to the Terras from the High-way and finish'd a Vew from the Summerhous to the Mill. I sowed some Collyflower Seed & Cabbage Lettice in the Kill Garden.

15 I made a Viset to Ince but Mr Blundell was not at home.

16 My Teame and five others lead Coles for Mr Aldred. Mr Standish made his 2nd Viset to Mally, he Lodg'd here.

17 We heard my Sister Midleton &c: designed soone to come hither so Mr Standish went hence to Wooton, I went with him past Mr Plumbes and called there coming back, and looked at his fine Flowers, then I went to Leverpoole and bought two Small Keggs of Wine of Mr Williamson, John Tickleys Cart brought them home for me. I din'd at Dr Bromfields.

18 Pat: Gower came from Mr Aldreds hither in the Morning to see Fanny. I pay'd Apothecary Livlesley a long Bill off, 'tis chiefly upon Fannys Account.

19 I botled off 8 Dozen of Burch Wine. I weighed ¼ of a Hundred of Raw-Coffy for Mrs Blundell.

20 Dugdall began to paint my Summerhous & Pallizads &c:. This having ben so wet a Summer and the Roades so bad, I onely began today to get home my Coles. I Lofted the Apple-Loft over after a Rough sort of a manner.

21 William Formby called here and told me had made a Bargan with William Taylor for part of his Teneament.

22 Mr Blundell, Pat: Curedon &c: made a Viset here, so did Pat: Munson.

23 I stated Accounts with William Carefoot for Turves sold & he gave me a good deale of Money which he had received for them.

24 Mrs Sadlor brought a Quilted Pettycoat she had made for Fanny.

25 My Wife, Mally and I went to Ormschurch Race where my Lord Molineux his Roan Hors beat Lord Darbys Gray Mare, Mr Standish, his Lady, two Sons and Cozen Gillibrond of Astley came home with us and Lodged here. Mr Plumbe and his Son William were at the Race.

26 Mr Standish and I &c: went to see three of my Lord Molineux Horses sweat upon Crosby Marsh, Lord Molineux and Mr Clifton came before the Horses had don Sweating. Lord Frederick Howerd[1] dined & Lodg'd here.

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[1] Brother to Lady Phillipa, and sixth son of Henry, 6th Duke of Norfolk.

27 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. My Wife, Mally and I went with our Gests to make a Viset to Ince. Mr Blundell din'd here.

28 Lord Frederick and my Standish Gests went hence. Mr Blundell and his Brother Henry din'd here. I sent Mrs Fleetwood Butler to Scarisbrick, she came hither the 25th. Dugdall finish'd painting my Summer-hous &c: I pay'd him for it and in full of all Accounts.

29 My Wife went to Mr Crisps and discours'd Ellin Eastom about her coming to be Servant here.

30 I went to Ormeschurch Horse-Faire. William Carefoot sold my Hors Ruflor, I drank at the Talbot with Mr Sanderson Stewerd to Sir William Gerard, Francis Farer, &c:.

31 I Smoaked one of the Swarmes of Bees in the Granary but did not take it. I brought home three Secks of Salt.

Till the 24 every day pritty much Raine except three days which were faire, from the 24th to the End of the Month some dayes very wett some Faire.

SEPTEMBER

1 Young Mr Standish came hither whilst we were at Dinner, he went to Wooton I went with him as far as Crosby. I drank at Jacksons with John Rose, John Blansherd &c:.

2 My Wife, I and Mally din'd at Wooton with Lord Frederick, Lady Phillippa Standish, &c: we took Fanny with us and left her at Leverpoole, coming back we called at Leverpoole and took Fanny and Mrs Williamson to see the Commody Acted called the Busy Boddy, we came home & left Fanny to Lodg at Mrs Williamsons.[1]

3 I fetched Fanny home from Leverpoole. I pay'd Doctor Bromfield upon my Wives account.

4 Mr Molineux of Mosburgh being at Ince he sent hither a How-do-you.

5 Sir Francis Anderton being at Ince Pat: Aldred and I went thither, we Suped there.

6 Young Mr Standish made his fifth Viset to Mally. I got home some Coles with seaven Boone Carts and two of my own.

7 My Doughters went to Lodg at More-hall.

8 My three Thornton Farmers pay'd me their Rack Rent for the last yeare. Thomas Arnold pay'd me £20 in part of a Bond Debt and all Interest due to the Bond. My Wife went to Leverpoole. I went to Crosby Greene, there was two of Lawyer Bootles Brothers, Mr Cottom &c:, Mr Byron began to make a Collection for somthing towards a Hat for a Foot Race.

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[1] "I, My Wife, &c: at a Play at Leverpoole . . . . . 7s. 10d.' Some entertainment must also have been provided at Crosby Hall for the next entry reads:—

"Musick at Crosby . . . . . 3s. 0d."

9 Mr Scarisbrick being at Ince I made a Viset there & stay'd till he went. I Led Coales with two Boone Carts and two of my own, I have now I think got home my Winters provision of Coles viz: 14 Load, I had not one Load of old Coles by me.

10 My Wife rode to Ince. I had seaven Hands busy Repairing the Gravell Walk, I was with them most of the day.

11 Though I had new lay'd a good part of the Gravell Walk, yet I began to take it up againe it not being to my licking.

12 Mr Blundell, Sir Francis Anderton &c: Suped here. Ellen Eastom came to be Cooke here.

13 My Wife and I din'd at Ince, there was Lady Molineux & her two Doughters &c:. Stewerd the Book-Sellor was selling Books in the Hall.

14 John Gregson was here, I pay'd him in full for Shoes & Cloggs for my Wife, self & Doughters. My Doughters came home from More-hall, young Mr Standish came with them, he Lodg'd here.

15 I was pritty much with my Workmen whilst they were new laying the Gravell Walk.

16 My Lord & Lady Molineux, their Doughters, Mr Thomas Standley, Mr Washbour &c: dined here. Mr Blundell dined and Suped here.

17 I Began to open the Canall by the side of the Terrass. I mesured an Artichock which I let grow for Seed, it was in circumference two foot and eight Inshes.

18 Pat: Gorsuch pray'd here, he came to help Fanny, she designes to make use of him. Mr Standish din'd at Wooton. Margarit Gray left her Service.

19 My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Ince, Mr Standish, Pat: Aldred and I walked to Ince, we found Young Mr Robert Fazakerley there.

20 Mr Standish and I went to Crosby Green to meet Sir Francis Anderton, Mr Henry Blundell &c:. Joseph Syer made & mended me about 8 or 9 Dozen of Pens.

21 Mr Standish and I went to Ince Green & bowl'd with Sir Francis Anderton and Mr Blundell, Mr Molineux of the Grange and his Brother Richard were there. My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Byron.

22 I Botled off one of the two Keggs which I Received yester Night. This being Mallys Birth day Mrs Acton, Mrs Byron &c: dined here. Tatlock played here and we dans'd till Morning, Sir Francis Anderton dans'd with us in the after noone.

23 I Began to Shear this yeare in the Stock-Roots with ten Shearers.

24 I have now lay'd up as many Bottles of Brandy as I intend viz: six dozin.

25 It being Fannys Birth day Tatlock play'd here, we danced both before and after Supper. Mr Henry Blundell Sup'd here, we play'd with him at Chaising the Whistle. A Strowling Fidler play'd here & his Doughter dans'd.

26 Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters-in-Law Mrs Margarit and Mary made a Viset here. Mr Standish went hence.

27 Three Women came from Leverpoole to buy some Potatows of me but we did not bargan. She drank too much Burch Wine. Mr Thomas Butler & his Neece Fleetwood Lodged here in their way to Chester.

28 I Stated Accounts to this day inclusive with most of my Work-Folks.

29 Mr Moss was here, I went with him to Crosby and Bowled with Parson Wairing, Parson Harrison &c:.

30 I help'd to mark out the farther End of the Long Canall by the Terrass and Order'd how far it was to be cut.[1]

The first day, the 5th, 18, 21, & 22nd Faire, the rest of the days Raine and generally pritty much.

OCTOBER

1 I Began in good earnest to gather my Ripest sort of Apples.

2 I was very busy gathering my Virgin Apples. I was with them most of the After-noone. Mr Standish Lodged here.

3 Mrs Knight made a Viset here so did Mrs Molineux of the Grang. Mr Thomas'es two Sisters came hither from Great Crosby to look at my Gardens &c:.

4 I was at the Race on Crosby Marsh where four Horses Ran for a Sadle, Mr Lowders Gray Gelding wann. I also saw the Foot Race, five Lads Ran for a Hat, a Servant of my Lord Molineux'es Keeper wan it; when the Race was over I went to Hesketh's & drank with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Robert Bootle &c:. My Wife and Doughters went in the Coach to Mrs Parrs & were driven by Mr Standish part of the way. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley lodg'd here.

5 One of my Glead Poles being brock I took it up and set a fresh young Ash in its place.

6 I pay'd the Land Tax and Window Money to Edward Rothwell and Charles Howerd. Being Matters are now lickley to goe forwards Cozen Gillibrond and I began to Consider what proposalls were proper to be made to Mr Standish. I went to Crosby, but there being a slender Meeting & it being a wet day, there was little Bowling. I Signed at Jacksons a Lease of Reversion to Charles Howerd of some Ground in the New-field.

7 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. We had a good Dish of fine young Beanes & Bacon. Betty Blundell made a Viset here.

8 I Hung my Glead Net at Night it being the first time this Season.

9 I Began to take up Thornes for Selling, they are the first this Season.

10 My Wife and Doughters went to Mr Crisps, Mr Standish went with them, Mrs Blundell &c was there. Pat: Gorsuch sent me a Kitling 'tis the second I had from him.

11 Mr Houghton of Leverpoole sent two Men for Thornes, I furnished them with fifteene Hundred. I finished gathering my Apples. My Doughters, Mr Standish and I went to the Hall of Formby, Mr Formby was not at home.

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[1] This is now dry and forms a sunken fence to keep cattle away from the gardens and lawns surrounding the house.

12 I Went to my Water-Cours at the Sniggary where I had tenn Hands scouring it but they were all gon off to dinner ere I came, I and my Famoly and the Famoly of Ince din'd at Mr Aldreds.

13 I went to my Work-men who were scouring my Water-Cource at the Sniggary, they finished today; yisterday & today there were in all 23 days work done at it, then I went to Crosby, there was Parson Harrison, Mr Byron, Thomas Ashton &c:, William Formby, Charles Howerd, William Taylor and I gave Instrucksions to Mr Moss to draw some Writings upon severall Bargans which were amongst us. Mr Standish went to Wooton and came back before Supper.

14 I Rode out with Mr Standish to my Grand Water-Cource, so to the Sea-Side and then to the Land Mark by the Grange.

15 I Cut the Neck with Beanes in the Stock-Roots. I got in all my Corne except Peas and Beanes.

16 I went to Leverpoole and Swore to my Answer to Mr Chantrells Bill in Chansery. I drank a Botle of Wine at Mr James Clentons with Mr William Plumbe. Cozen Gillibrond Lodg'd here.

17 I, my Famoly and my Gests dined at Ince, Mr Green, Mr John Culcheth &c: were there.

18 It being Crosby Goosfeast Mr Standish and I dined at Parson Wairings, there was Parson Acton, Parson Harrison, Mr Cottom, &c:.

19 Mr Standish, Cozen Gillibrond and I went to Ormeschurch & took a Glass of Wine at the Queens Head thence I went with Cozen Gillibrond to Astley where I lodg'd, Mr Standish went with us as far as his way lay & then turned off to Standish Hall.

20 Cozen Gillibrond and I din'd at Standish, Mr John Gerard Junior was there: Old Mr Standish, I &c: discoursed of Proposalls for my Doughter Marys Setlement &c:.

21 Cozen Thomas Gillibrond and his Wife din'd with us at Astley, I sent him a Present of a Lead-Tobacco-Box, Pips &c:.

22 I came home, Cozen Gillibrond came with me part of the Way & then went to Standish-Hall, I called at Doctor Lancasters and stay'd awhile.

23 I told James Scarisbrick what I expected if I agreed with him for Rosons late Teneament. Cozen Gillibrond sent an Express with an Account of yesterdays Proceeding at Standish.

24 John Tickley, &c: told me they were lick to be troubled for non Appearance at Farnworth Court.[1]

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[1] The trouble concerned jury service, Blundell wrote this letter on behalf of his tenants:

"To Mr Dod under-Stuard of Farnworth

Octob: the 23d. 1725

Sir

Some of my Tenants have Acquainted me that six of them were summons'd to appear at Farnworth for Jury-Men the last Court, none of them denighs their obligation to appeare there, but would have it as formerly viz: to goe as usuall by Neighbour Row & not any to goe twice together or at least twice in three yeares which makes them think they have ben ill ues'd, especially if they be Fined for Non Appearance being Willing not onely to send one or two out of the Town but also to give a gratuety to the Bayly for what Civility he can shew them in that Affaire, wherefore I beg you will regulate that Matter as far as you can without Infringing upon your own Priviladges by wch you will Oblige

Your Humble Servant

Nicholas Blundell."

(Nicholas Blundell's Letter Book, p. 122.)

25 James Worrall & his Man are come to work here, they are to new Cogg and Rong my Mill and to put up a New-Shaft.

26 I went to my Workmen who were mending the way to my Turfe-Moss with six Carts. I help'd to dress my Wax the first time over. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

27 Cozen Gillibrond and I din'd at the Queens Head in Ormeschurch with Mr Standish, we Consider'd of some Heads to be drawn into Forme in Order for a Marriage between his Son Ralf and my Doughter Mary, coming home we fell into the Company of Parson Acton, Mr Byron &c:. I got in the last of my Corne.

28 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. I kill'd a fat Little Scotch Cow.

29 I Began to lay my Apples in Straw to keep but I feare they have not yet don Sweating, so think 'twill be too soone, 'tis almost three Weeks since the last of them were gather'd. I cut down a Tree at the End of the Canall by the Brick wall for a Mill Shaft.[1]

30 Thomas Ashton came to receive my Commands for London.

31 I made some Punsh against tomorrow. Young Mr Standish Lodged here.

A very unsetled Month but generally pritty much Raine.

NOVEMBER

1 The Famaly of Ince din'd here except Mr Henry. Mr Cottom dined here, he came after we were set down. Robert Weedow fell down over the Battlement of the Servants Chamber Stayers & hurt his Face.

2 Doctor Bromfield was here, he went to see Robert Weedow & Order'd somthing for his Face. Mrs Williamson was here. Being Mr Greene kept Crosby Court at Jacksons, I went thither & Order'd Robert Johnson in Presence of Edward Hatton, John Banister &c: to open me a Bridle Rode thorrow the Bottom of his New Inclosed Field viz: to make me a Rode to ride from the Scab Laine, thorrow his said Field along the Water-cource which runs between it and the Wheat Hey, I claiming a Hors rode that way for my Customers to my Mill; According to my Command Robert Johnson himself & his Tenants Son Joseph Newhous made me a Rode, so I, Young Mr Standish & his Servant James Hill Rode that way home from Great Crosby.

3 John Harefoot brought me some days since part of my Winters provision of Candles and today he brought me the Remainder, I payed him in full. My Wife & Doughters din'd at the Talbot in Leverpoole, Young Mr Standish went with them to the Play, they saw Mary Queen of Scots Acted, Mr Standish had ben today at Wooton. I went to Crosby and Bowled with Parson Acton, Parson Wairing &c:.

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[1] During his time as lord of the manor, Nicholas had to put in a new mill shaft on three occasions: November, 1709; December, 1710; and on this occasion, November, 1725. On each occasion a newly cut down tree was used; one he bought and two came from trees growing on his own demesne. Generally an oak tree about one hundred years old was used as oak at that age was considered to be at its best. The best time for cutting down the tree was October, and, except in an emergency, the tree was prepared the previous spring by stripping the bark. By doing this the sap was practically dried out of the tree when it was cut down in October. See November 17 and 26 1725.

4 I Began in good earnest to get up my Potatows with 8 Hands.

5 I Lay'd up the Body of the Great Charriot in the Kill. Richard Robinson made me a Viset, he came to look about him & see what Alterations I had made.

6 Thomas Swift went with me to Leverpoole, 'twas the first time he has ben there, I payd off Mrs Leconby for Grocaris & in full of all Accounts. I pay'd off Mr Williamson the Wine-Cooper & Mr James Clenton in full for Wine,[1] Mr William Plumbe and I took a Glass of Wine at Mr James Clentons, Sera Atherton pay'd me in full for her half years Rack Rent which will be due at Martinemas next.

7 Mr Standish, I and my Famoly went to the Grange, the Famoly of Ince was there except Mr Henry.

8 I Led Coles with two Carts for the Smith. Mr Plumbe Lodg'd here.

9 Mr Plumbe kept my Court at Charles Howerds, Mr Standish and I were there so was Edmund Trustram, Mr Plumbe came home with me & then went hence.

10 William Carefoot sold me three Beasts at Leverpoole Fair. I took a Purging Posion according to Dr Cawoods Directions. There was a Box came from London with some things in for my Doughters and with Tea, Sugar &c: for the use of the Hous.[2]

11 Robert Whitley pay'd me some Interest Money. I Set some Peas.

12 Pat: Smith the Superior dined here so did Pat: Clifton, Hardesty &c:, We toosed William Roostich in a Blanket.

13 My Wife & Mally went to the Grange to see Mr Molineux who is dangerously ill. I Set two Sorts of Peas & two Sorts of Beanes in the Stone Garden.

14 My Wife, Doughters & I and Mr Standish made a Viset to the Grang.

15 Mr Standish and I went to Ormschurch to meet his Father and Cozen Gillibrond of Astley, we dined at Lancets, Cozen Gillibrond came home with me. I Agreed with Ellen Allerton to goe to London to serve Mr Parks.

16 Parson Acton, Parson Harrison, Mr Byron &c: were here, it was an Appoynted day, I treated them in the Summer-hous. Dr Dickins and Dr Lancaster made a Viset here. Thomas Howerd Lodg'd here.

17 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. I put up an Extraordinary good Mill Shaft.

18 Mr Standish and I rode out to the Sea-Side in Expectation of Meeting Mr Clifton & his Lady in their way home to Lithom they being Married upon the 16.

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[1] Because of the coming and going of visitors in connection with the proposed marriage of Mally the grocery bill and wine bill were heavy. The following was paid to Williamson at this time:—

"Wine	£11 14s. 6d.
Drams	8s. 10d.
Sider	16s. 9d.
Vinegar	5s. 4d.
Lime Juce	13s. 0d."

[2] The amount spent on tea, coffee and chocolate was far more than was usually spent:—
"Coffy, Tea, Joculet & carriage from London . . . . . £27 2s. 4d."

19 Mr Standish, Pat: Curdon and I Rode out to the Sea-Side in Expectation of Meeting Mr Clifton and his Lady in their way home but hearing they did not come today, I sent Robert Weedow to Wooton to wish them Joy and we three went to see Mr Molineux of the Grang who is dangerously ill, I began to cover my Aspargus.

20 Yester Night and this Morning my Wife took a Doce of Pills. Mr Standish went hence, this was his last Viset.[1]

21 I finished a Spirituall book which I have some time ben peruesing. William Massom told me he was in hopes to get a Tenant for his Wives Teneament and desir'd my Consent to set it to him, I granted his Request.

22 Mr Molineux of the Grang being dead, my Doughters and I went thither to pray, I heard three Masses: Mr Blundell & his Lady, Mr Molineux of Mosburgh, Mr Robert Chantrell &c: were there. The Rode has ben so bad & my Turves so wet that I did not begin till today to lead any onely a few for the Kill. I Botled off about 8 Gallons of Whit Port.

23 I was a Bearer at the Funerall of Mr Molineux of the Grange, there was at the Grange Mr Formby, Mr Cottom, Mr Thomas Heskaine, Apothecary Livlesley &c:. I agreed with Edward Rothwell for a Fine for Ading two Lives to his own. Mr William Brooks lodg'd here.

24 Mr Brooks went to Leverpoole. Mr Grimboldston brought some Letters from Standish and some from Cozen Gillibrond. Mr Crumpton the Upholdstaror was here, but I had not time to goe to him. Yesternight & this Morning my Wife took a Doce of Pills, Mally took a Purging Potion. Pat: Clifton was here, I gave him Account of two Guineys which I lent to Jane Starkey.

25 Mr Brooks went hence to Lodg at Ince. Mally discoursed seriously and told me her Mind.

26 The Millwrits went hence having New Cogg'd and Rong'd my Mill and put up an Extraordinary good Shaft.[2] I set six Rows of Slips and Cutings of good Goosberry Trees in the Nursery by the Coat of Arms and one Row of Layers and Cutings of Lime-Trees. Fanny having ben ill two days of the Grips, Appothecary Livlesley came in the Evening and Order'd her a Glister and sent to Leverpoole for some other things.

27 Yesterday and today I layed some Suckers of Lime Trees in order to take Rooting. I set one Row of Seedling Goosberrys of one year old, in the Nursery by the Coat of Armes. Mr Smarleys Clark served me with a Subpena from London upon Mr Chantrells Account.

28 My Wife katched Robert before six this Morning. Mr Blundell &c: came to see Fanny.

29 Pinington began to Rough cast the Summer-hous. I was with Henry Ascroft and Abidant Harrison when they mesured the Water-Cours at the Side of the Wheat-Hey &c: which they had Scour'd for me. I gave Robert

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[1] The sentence "this was his last Viset" has been added later.

[2] "Mill-writs work . . . . . £ 2 4 0
Smith: Iron work for the Mill 14 0
Lead for the Mill Shaft 1 6½
Smith: Iron work for the Mill 1 3
Timber for the Mill . . . . . 12 0"

Weedow warning to leave my Service. Mrs Crisp & Mrs Mary Wilding came to see Fanny.

30 Mr Aldred not being at home Pat: Curedon pray'd there. Robert Sheperd Sent me some Turnops.

Till the 8th unsetled Weather, the next six days Faire, from the 15th to the End of this Month unsetled Weather.

DECEMBER

1 I Sent for Dr Dickins to come to see Fanny. Mally went to Ince to see Mrs Mary Blundell who is very ill of a Cold.

2 Dr Dickens came to see Fanny. I made a Convenience for Ridling Sinders. I killed a Scotch Bullock. I layed my Milk Beasts in the Hous.

3 Mary Fleetwoods Sons mended some Windows & Sawder'd the Leads upon the Hous where it rained in. I put up a good Hogg to feed.

4 The Miller being uneasy upon some things which he heard were said of him told me he would leave my Service unless I would come upon a New Bargan with him.[1]

5 Mr Aldred not being at home I and Mally went to Prayers to Ince & dined there. My Wife went to Prayers to Mr Crisps.

6 I Lent Richard Molineux £30 for which he and John Molineux gave their Bond. I Set some Roots of Anemonys & Renunculas in the Flower Garden, they had ben kept too dry & should have ben set sooner. Mr Green sent an Express with a Letter upon Mr Chantrills Account. My Wife was sent for to Ince becaus Mrs Blundell is in Labour.

7 Mrs Blundell being brought to Bed, my Wife came home about six this Morning & went againe after Dinner and Stood God-Mother to Miss Anna-Maria.

8 Mr Aldred not being at Home Pat: Curedon pray'd in my Chappell and the Congregation came. I Proposed a Price to Thomas Davy for Ading two Lives to his Mothers in the Lease.

9 I Removed two Spruce Firr Trees into the Avenew.

10 Samuall Sadlor went hence, he had taken two Dozen & nine Moles.[2]

11 I Bought three Piggs for keeping. Mally not being very well she took Carduus-Water for a Vomit. I swept severall of my Chimneys.

12 Fanny went to Leverpoole, she Lodg'd at Mrs Leconbys.

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[1] John Rigby, a Formby man, was appointed miller on October 1 1715 at £10 a year. In 1719 this was increased to £11 10s. 0d. paid quarterly as £2 15s. 0d. for wage, and 2s. 6d. for 'Light and Licker.' The miller was always the highest paid servant, receiving more than the salary of the Chaplain, £8 0s. 0d. a year.' See December 29 and 31 1725; January 10 and 11 1726.

[2] "Catching Moles at 18d. per dozen . . . . . 4s. 0d."

13 Fanny dined at Mr Williamsons, she came home. I set 16 young Bay Trees in the Nursery by my Coat of Armes, most of them had Roots.

14 I Began to make a Church of Pallatine Work and almost finished it.[1] Pat: Roydon Lodged here.[2]

15 Pat: Roydon and I made a Viset to Mr Aldred thence I went with him to Ince. Ellen Alerton came to receive my Commands ere she goe to London to Serve Mr Parks.

16 Pat: Roydon went hence, I went with him to Mr Baxters thence towards Sefton, I called to see Antony Fleetwood & John Melling both of them being ill.

17 Pinington mended the Kill about the Chimney and other places where it wanted Pointing &c:

18 I went to Leverpoole and Received my Ditton Rents from Sera Atherton, Henry Heys &c:. I gave Rigby Orders to make me a Looking Glass. I gave Mr Moss Orders to draw a Lease for Ned Rothwell.

19 My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Ince.

20 Edward Rothwell and Partners killed a Cow in my Sloughter-hous. I hung up my Church of Pallatine Work in the Hall.

21 I was at the Funerall of Mr Gorsuch of Gorsuch,[3] I was a Bearer so was Mr Molineux of Mosburgh &c:, he was Buried at Ormschurch. Robert Weedow drove my Doughters in the Coach to Ince. Pat: Curedons old Woman in the Straw Hat.

22 I killed a good Hog. I dressed the dust out of severall sorts of my Seed Pease.

23 Mr Crumptons Man put me up New Green Curtains & Vallance in the back Parlor. I dined at Pat: Aldreds with Mr Green, we Consulted of an Answer to be given to Darcy Chantrells second Bill in Chansery. Mr Smarleys Clark brought me an Injunction to Pat: Aldreds upon Darcy Chantrells Account.

24 I and Mally bought above 63 yards of Flannell, of two Men in the Gate-hous. I made Tickets for the poore of this Parish against the next yeare.

25 I heard two Masses at Mr Aldreds as usuall betimes in the Morning & at ten of the Clock I heard Mr Curedons in my Chappell.

26 My Wife sent a Present to Mrs Acton against the Christoning tomorrow of her Son Thomas. My Wife went to the Hall of Lidiat & spoke to Jane Heys about her coming to be Chaimber-Maide here, but they did not bargan.

27 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Molineux of the Grange to Condole the Death of her Husband.

28 Being Mrs Acton was Lying in my Wife and Doughters went to see her, I went along with them in expectation to find Parson Egerton there, but he was gon. James Marrow came hither I hir'd him to be my Butler.[4]

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[1] See August 20 1709 and foot-note.

[2] Father Royden was intermediary for Strickland of Sizergh, who was still interested in the possibility of marrying Mally.

[3] James Gorsuch, born 1656, son of Edward, the son of James Gorsuch and his wife, Anne Harrington of Huyton. He was succeeded by his son John, who also, through his grandmother, Mary Eccleston, succeeded to the Eccleston estates and took the name of Eccleston.

[4] James Marrow remained only three Quarters; being paid £1 0s. 0d. a quarter.

29 George Cottom came and acquainted me where I might hear of a Millor. My Wife & Doughters went to Leverpoole, they made a Viset to Mrs Bromfield who was lying in.

30 Mr Plumpton came to buy an Old Milstone of me, but we did not then bargan though afterwards he bought it, Mr Holsold of Walton was with him.

31 I Hir'd Richard Prescot to be my Millor, am to give him £11-05s-00d per Annum and he to find Lite and Licker. James Swift came by James Worrols Recommendation to be my Millor but he came too late. Mrs Par, Mrs Crisp and Mrs Knight Suped here.

Till the 12th every day except one very Wett and generally extreamely Windy and much dammage don by Sea, from the 12th to the End of this Month generally very wett, though some times a Faire day, the 27th was the onely day which could properly be called a Fine Faire day this Month.

January Seasonable Weather. February pritty faire. March pritty faire and a hopefull Spring, little or no Frost these 3 last Months. Aprill unsetled but seasonable Weather. May Wet and Windy more like March than May. June & July extreamly Wett and great Floods and much damage done all Europe over by Raine. August, September, October much Raine. November unsetled Weather & for the most part much Raine. December extreamely wet with violent Stormes of Wind and no Frost these three last Months. This yeare may well be saide to be remarkable for Raine. The Rodes being so very bad in Summer people could not get home their provision of Coles, so were fourced to fetch them on Hors-backs when Winter came, which many of my Neighbours did, not onely in this Parish of Sephton, but in Leverpoole and other parts of Lancashire, the like never don before in these parts in the Memory of Man, and a Hors Loade of Coles was sold at Leverpoole for Half a Crown which formerly might have ben bought there for seaven pence; the common price of a Horce-Lode (which was then no more than one Basket & a half) was two Shilling, or within two pence under or some time more.

Anno Domini 1726

JANUARY

1 Ralph Ainesworth came to be my Servant he is to be under William Carefoot in the Stables, to drive the Plough &c:.

2 I went towards Ditton but the Snow being so deep & the Rodes bad I got no farther than Childol where I Lodg'd at Longworths. I made a Viset to Parson Kelsey and eat some Christmas Faire with him, I gave his Doughters some Spaw Rings.

3 I went to the Bank in Ditton where I Lodged, there should have ben a Meeting about the damage done to the Meddowing which is Occationed as supposed by Henry Heys Water-Mill, but no body came. We hunted the Whistle at the Bank after Supper.

4 I came from Ditton to Leverpoole, I drank at the Woolpack with Mr Crumpton. I drank at Mr Cottoms with him. Pat: Aldred came home with me from Leverpoole.

5 Margarit Davy made some Alterations in the Bargan we had made for ading two Lives to her own in her Teneament. James Scarisbrick agreed with me what Money to give & when to pay it for his New Bargan in Rosons late Teneament. Some Young Men of this Town came to trace Rabets and Hares about the Gardens and neare the Hous, they took 2 Rabets.

6 I sent William towards Preston against the Great Saturday to sell my young Bay Guelding Jewell. The old Nurs of Ince came hither to take leave, she being soone to goe Home into Chesshire.

7 Robert Blansherd & William Taylor cleer'd off their Rent and Boones & pay'd part of their Fines.

8 I drew the Contract of a Bargan between William Taylor and Henry Swift.

9 Nathan Howerd the Over-Seeor of the Poore and some others advised with me what to doe with Owen Mackdannell.

10 Nathan Howerd took Owen Mackdannell with him to Leverpoole and help'd to buy Clothes for him & also gave him some Money. James Marrow came to be my Butler in the place of Robert Weedow. Richard Prescot came to be my Millor in the place of John Rigby.[1] I gave New Tickets to the Poore of this Parish. Henry Gray desir'd to know a Fine for his Fathers Teneament. Most of my Servants both New & old went to Ann Davys & met there severall of Ince Servants. William Carefoot came home, he had sold Jewell at Preston Fair.

11 Robert Weedow & John Rigby left theire Service. Mr Moss was here, I gave him directions to draw two Pare of Indentures. I Removed a very large Firr Tree & Planted it at the Nearer End of the Vistow. Mr Cottom & Mrs Parr dined here. Pat: Bartlet dined & Lodg'd here.

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[1] Richard Prescot, of Great Crosby, served as miller until Nicholas Blundell died in April 1737. Throughout this period he was paid quarterly, £2 15s. 0d. plus 1s. 3d. for "lite and licker", which amounted to the annual sum agreed upon, £11 5s. 0d. During the thirty five years Nicholas was lord of the manor the rate of pay of the miller increased from £2 5s. 0d. a quarter to £2 16s. 3d. The rate remained steady at £2 5s. 0d. until the 1715 Jacobite Rebellion.

12 Pat: Bartlet Lanced Mary Molineux in her Gumbs for the Tooth-Aick, & mixed some Powder of Roman Vitriall with her Blood.

13 Dr Bromfield called here in his way to Antony Fleetwoods, he dined here after we had don. I Removed the Apple-Tree *10* in *K* Row in the New Orcherd and planted it in the Place of *1* in *I* Row.

14 I Rid up the Apple Tree *9* in *I* Row in the New Orcherd and set Apple-Tree *10* in its place or very neare the Place.

15 I Remov'd Apple-Tree *10* in *H* Row in the New-Orcherd & planted it in the Place of Apple-Tree *8* in *E* Row.

16 My Wife, I and Doughters made a Viset to Ince. Mr William Poole was there.

17 I Lent Pawl Windle eight Pound upon his Note. Mr William Poole & Mr Blundell made a Viset here.

18 Mr Plumbe sent one to see if I had any Marble Stone as would fit for cuting into Milstones, but I had not. My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Parr.

19 William Davy Skinner came in a submissive Manner & desir'd I would be Friends with him, I made some Proposalls to him in Presence of William Formby & William Weedow, which he consented to, so that I have forgiven him what is past provided he comply to my Demands.[1] I Payed the Land-Tax to William Harrison and Edward Rothwell.

20 Parson Pools Doughter of Chesshire came hither with Mr Blundell &c:.

21 I stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts & Disbursments for some Months past.

22 William Davy the Skiner gave me £10 at Leverpoole for which I engaig'd not to procecute him by Law & promised to forgive him all Misdemainors past which I knew of, I told Mr William Plumbe, William Davy & I had compounded all Matters.

23 Mr Livlesley sent his Brother hither with some Phisick for Mally & me, he fell in Rimrose as he came.[2]

24 Two Men were here who sayd they had ben Transported out of Scotland into Mary-Land & were now returning homwards.

25 Pat: Curedon went with me to the Grand Cop by the Sniggary where I had some Hands Fencing it and Planting Trees & Roots with Stumps. I went to John Roses where we had a Bowl of Punsh, there was Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, Mr Byron &c:, we were seaven in all.

26 Mr Williams the Stay-Maiker of Chester brought a Pare of Stays he had made for my Wife.

27 I Took a Purging Posion according to Dr Cawoods direction. Mrs Molineux of the Grange made a Viset here but it being very wet at Night she lodg'd here.

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[1] See May 16 1725 and foot-note; February 21 1726.

[2] Rimrose Brook—still a drainage ditch or stream in the Crosby-Litherland area.

28 Sera Atherton brought me her Rack Rent for Candlemas next, her Doughter Margarit came with her, they lodg'd here.

29 I Began to rid up the Old Hasley Hedg at the Side of the Walk in the Long-Garden.

30 Roscow went to Ince to shew her lame Arme to Mrs Prevarius [Bavarius].

31 I took a second Purging Posion according to Dr Cawoods Direction. Mr Plumpton fetched away an old Milstone he had bought of me.

The first and second day Snow, the seaven next fine cleare frost, the four next a Cold thaw with some little Snow and Raine, then four days fine Moderat Thaw with very little Raine, from the 18th to the end of this Month unsetled Weather but generally pritty much Raine.

FEBRUARY

1 Mr Moss din'd here, he strain'd on the goods of John Tickley for Arreers of Rent due to me. I Signed Leases at Jacksons in Great-Crosby to James Scarisbrick, Edward Rothwell, Thomas Davy & William Formby and they Sign'd the Counter-part to me. Mr Strickland lodg'd here.

2 Mr Blundell of Ince made a Viset here to Mr Strickland.

3 Mrs Blundell sent us a Present of a Turkey & Oysters.

4 I Rode out with Mr Strickland to see the Land-Mark at the Grange then we went to Formby and stay'd awhile at Lawrence Formbys. Mally and her Maid Ailes went to Leverpoole, Ailes fell off & was ill hurt, Thomas Howerd Bluddied her.

5 I went to Leverpoole and heard Mr Green read over most part of my Answer to Darcy Chantrells Bill amended.

6 My Wife, I, Doughters & Mr Strickland din'd & Suped at Ince.

7 I Pay'd John Arnold Sixty Pound for which he and his Father gave me Bond. I let William Formby have forty Pound upon his own Bond. I went to Leverpoole and gave Mr Green my finall Answer to Darcy Chantrells Bill amended. I dined at Mr Mosses with him, his Mother &c:.

8 Mr Strickland and I met Mr Blundell and his Brother at Pat: Aldreds, he gave us a Bowl of Punsh. I set some Peas & Beanes in the Vistow Garden.

9 Mr Strickland and I din'd and Lodg'd with Mr Blundell and his Brother at the Talbot in Leverpoole, Mr Cottom dined with us.

10 Mr Blundell &c: came home with me from Leverpoole & din'd here.

11 I sent two Cart Load of Barly to Tickleys at Sefton to be Malted.

12 I went to Leverpoole and Swore before Mr Green & Smarley to my Answer to Mr Chantrells Bill in Chancery amended.

13 The Famoly of Ince dined and Suped here and stay'd very late, Mr Cottom dined here.

14 I Began a very large Seeding of Haws in the Vistow Wood.

15 Mr Strickland went hence, Pat: Aldred and I went with him to Ormschurch where we din'd and Lodg'd at Lancets.

16 Mr Plumbe din'd with Mr Strickland and me at Lancets, Mr Strickland went towards Preston & I came home.

17 My Wife, I and Doughters dined at Appothecary Livlesleys in Leverpoole. I was at the Buriall of Mr Robert Fazakerley at Walton, so was Mr Smarley, Mr Cottom, Mr William Plumbe &c:, I was a Bearor so was Mr Standley of Hooton, Old Mr Trafford of Croston &c:.

18 I Recon'd with severall of my Work-folks. Ellen Rigby and her Son Ralph Lodg'd here.

19 Margarit Davy pay'd me part of her Sons Fine.

20 The Millor of Sephton desir'd I would let him have some Tiles for Repairing the Kill.

21 My Wife and Doughters made their first Viset to young Mrs Williamson of Litherland. Skiner Davy & his Wife came & Petistion'd me to Relinquish part of the Bargan I had made with him, but I insisted upon the Whole Agreement or entirely to break the whole Bargan.

22 The Little Boys of this Town rann Blindfold after an other who had a Bell, for a Cock; when that Sport was over, they ran with their Hands ty'd on their Backs after the Cock & took him in their Mouth; I think there were each time seaven; I, William Harrison, William Thelwall & severall others were present.

23 I finished winnowing my last years Barly.

24 James Parker fetched hence thirty Tiles which I have lent for the use of Sefton Kill. William Carefoot sold for me an Incalf Heffer & a Drift Cow at Ormschurch.[1]

25 I was in the Wood most part of the day whilst they were riding up young Scrugey Trees which were not worth growing. James Scarisbrick was here & surrenderd the old Leas for Rosons Teneament & I gave him the New Lease wherein is his own and his Wives Life.

26 William Thelwall cut off some Superflewous Boughs of the Oak & Ash Trees in the Wood, I was with him & gave Directions which to cut off. Mary having taken posestion of the West-Laine Hous I went to Adjust Matters.[2]

27 I Broke open two Doars & Order'd Nat: Howerd to take Charge of Mary.

28 I made my second Seeding of Haws this after Noone in the Vistow wood, I had five Hands a good part of the time.

Till the 12th unsetled Weather, but generally some Raine though not much, the next four days Faire, then every day till the 23rd except one pritty much Raine or Snow, the six last days faire but generally extreamely Misty & Heasy except about four Hours at Mid-day and not the least breath of Wind. The Weather seems now to be setled for Faire.

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[1] Drift cow—a cow not in calf, and which gives little or no milk.

[2] Mary—Mally: presumably she had shut herself in the chapel to think and pray about her future.

MARCH

1 I made my third Seeding of Haws this year in the Vistow Wood. Jackson sowed some Salleting in the Kill Garden, some Peas and Beanes in the Vistow & Stone Garden and Planted a Hornebeame Hedg in the Border at the Side of the Union Walk.

2 I Finished my Great Seeding of Haws in the Vistow Wood, I sowed there about 64 Bushells this yeare, the best time to sow them I think is the begining of January. I set both early & late Cabbage-Plants on the Terras. I sowed about three quarters of a Bushell of Heps[1] in the Vistow Wood. I bought half a dozen small Silver-Hafted Knives and as many Forks, for a Desets of a Rich Pedlor.[2]

3 I set some very fine Goosberry & Curron Trees of good Sorts at the Higher End of the Long Garden & side of the Wall among the Abell-Trees. Nelly Eastom went home to stay 3 or 4 Nights.

4 I sold the Remainder of my Rabet Skins to Richard Wignold. I sold the Large Ash-Tree, which grows in the Corner of the Grove Ditch to William Thelwall.

5 William Thelwall fell the Ash Tree which I sold him yester-day, William Pinington was in the Top of it when it fell & came down with it. Robert Bootle pay'd in some Money which he had upon Bond & pay'd me all Interest due to it. I sent 21 Bushells of Kidney Potatows to Leverpoole[3] and they were all sold. I finish'd seting the Strip'd Hollins at each side of the Walk going to the Summer-Hous; they had ben set there before but were taiken up a day or two since to be set more regularly. I lay in my own Bed which I have not done of above one Week being I anoynted myself.

6 Fanny was ill of an Ague-Fit 'tis the second she has had this time.

7 Dr Dickings came to see Fanny being he heard she had got they Ague Fits, he sent me a Present of Oysters. I went to the Hous of Antony Fleetwood & Richard Buckley deceas'd to see if there was any thing proper for me to buy, when the Saile was, I found Thomas & John Melling & Robert Bootle at Buckleys they had ben praising goods there, I stay'd & smoaked a Pipe at Buckleys. I agree'd with Bryan Lea for a Fine for ading two Lives to his own in his Teneament.

8 I Sowed the six farthest Beds in the Lime-Kill Garden with about three Quarters of a Bushell of Heps.

9 Fanny took a Vomit for the Ague-fits by directions of Doctor Dickins, Pothecary Livlesley came to her ere it had don working, but it came not up freely.

10 I shewed Henry Ascroft what Gorse I would have Rid in Thornton Rough hey & agreed with him to ride some and burne others, I am to have the Gorse & give him 15s. for his Labour & if he got not reasonable waiges by it, I

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[1] Haws—hawthorn berries; heps—rose-hips.

[2] "Knives & Forks with Silver Hafts for the Dezert six Cupple . . £1 3s. 0d.
Silver Tea-tongs . . . . . 7s. 0d.'

[3] He does not mention paying any toll on these potatoes, but he did pay "Toles for Apples sold at Leverpoole . . . . . 1s. 3d."

promis'd to give him half a Crown more. I Planted one side of the Walk in the Long Garden which I ues'd to call the Hasle Walk with Layers of my own Horne-beame.

11 I Planted the other side of the Walk in the Long-Garden which I uesed to call the Hasle-Walk with Layers of my own Hornebeame, so that now the higher end of that Walk is well planted on each side.

12 I Pricked out some Winter Collyflower Plants on my plain Hot-bed 'tis now a proper time. Longworth did somthing to my Mare Ginny but to no effect.

13 My Bay Mare Ginny dyed this Morning. My Wife & Mally met Mrs Blundell &c: at the Grange. Mr Francis Walmesley came to see me he being for going to Sea in a few days, Mr Livlesley came with him & brought some Phisick for Fanny.

14 I saw my Mare Ginny opened. Mrs Golding & Mrs Heskaine Lodged here.

15 I Began to new Gravell the Walk to the Summer-Hous.

16 I sent a Present of Hornbeam and Leomond Thime to Mr Plumbe.

17 I set some Onions for Seed but they did not doe well. This is my first day Ploughing since Christmas.

18 Mrs Golding & Mrs Heskaine went hence. I set a Row of Dambson Plumb Trees in the Long Garden, six of them were pritty large & had ben set in other places in my Garden, I began my Seeding of Potatows in the Crofts, I set about ¾ of a Bushell of Kidneys. Doctor Dickens made a Friendly Viset to Fanny.

19 Mrs Crisp dined here, Mr Crisp came for her in the Evening. Betty Heys lodg'd here, she came to see if my Wife could help her to a Service.

20 My Wife, Mally and I made a Viset to Ince.

21 Pat: Walmesley made a Viset here. James Crofts was here, we stated Accounts and he pay'd me the Ballance.

22 I was at the Buriall of Henry Blundell of Ince that is to say I was at the Buriall Hous but not at the Church onely went part of the way with the Corps, I was entertain'd at Richard Tristrams, there was John Blansherd, Robert Bootle, Mr Rigmaden &c:. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodg'd here.

23 I was a Bearer at the Funerall of Widdow Eckleston, so was Mr John Gerard Junior, Mr Culcheth &c: she was buried at Prescot, there was at Eckleston, Mr Cubbon, Mr Bretton, Thomas Hurst the Ship-Carpinder &c:, when the Funerall was over most of us went into Lawransons.

24 Cozen Gillibrond went to Ince. I went after him & spoke to Mrs Blundell concerning Mr Aldreds Maid who should have gon to Hooton.

25 Cozen Gillibrond went hence, he intended to dine at Scarisbrick. Mrs Blundell came to see Fanny.

26 Mally Rode behind me to Leverpoole, Dr Bromfield drew out her Tooth, I dined at Mr Cottoms. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Crumpton and pay'd him in full of all Accounts. I finished seting Potatows in the Crofts, I set in all ¾ of a Bushell of Kidneys & one Bushell of Red Potatows.

27 I Red most of the after noone in a Spirituall Book.

28 I went to my Waranders[1] who were diging in a Sand-Hill in my Warant for Foxes, they were about 8 or 9 Hands, but having an Ague Fit I did not stay with them, they took the Old Bitch & four very young Cubs; some days since they found four large Pickarells or small Picks[2] about three Foot within the Mouth of the Hole, a few Roods from the Hole they found two other Picks. I Began to make a brew of Aqua-coelestis & put Whine in it.

29 I sowed severall sorts of Peas & some Beans in the Long Garden. Mr Cottom & his Wife made us a Viset. William Harrison & his Famoly removed out of this end of the Town and went to live at his Hous in the More-houses.

30 I had five Hands & sometimes more Pilling Leomonds most part of this after-noone & squeesing them, from 80 Leomonds I had 3 quarts and one Gill of Juce to which I put 6 Quarts & two Gills of Brandy. I infues'd the outward Pill of five Score Leomonds about 3 Hours in six quarts of Brandy.

31 Mally not being well Doctor Lancaster came to see her, he Bluddyed her under the Tong. Crosby Smith brought Buck home, he has had him some time in cuar.

The three first days Heasy & Foggy & not the least breath of Wind, then till the 17th unsetled Weather, the 17th & 18th very fine faire days, the four next days unsetled, the 23rd some sleet & very Cold, the five next days faire, the three last very agreeable Showers for now we begin to wish for Raine.

Tis a Saying that by Observeing ten dayes before the Spring Equinoctiall & ten days after which way the Wind is viz: the twenty first days of this Month, one may give a great Gues whether the Summer following will be wet or drye; for as the Wind was those days, so it is generally the Yeare after; if the Wind be in that Quarter which brings raine, the Summer following will be wett, if in a dry Quarter then the following Summer will be faire. The twenty first days the Wind was generally Northerley or N:W: which Is supposed to be a dry Quarter in these parts, so we may expect a Faire Summer, for the Wind was not above twice Southerly. The Prognostication has proved true for the following Summer has proved faire.

APRILL

1 We Began to make some Wine of 60 Sivell Oringes & 30 Leomons, they cost 06s-08d, four dozen Pound of Lisbon Sugar cost £01-04s-00d, it made six dozen Bottles which comes to 05s-01¼d per dozen.

2 I set 31 Colly-flower Plants on the Terras. I Sow'd Onion, Parsely & Carrot Seed in the Stone Garden. I Remov'd some Pot-herbs to an other part of the Terras.

3 I went to see Jackson the Gardiner he being very ill.

4 Pat: Curedon went with me to my grand Cop by the Sniggary where I had five Hands seting Bryer Roots, Old Gors Roots & the Roots of other Trees,

[1] The two tenants who leased his rabbit warren near the shore.

[2] Pike.

thence I went to see William Harrisons New Habitation in the High-Town. I took up severall Layers of Cornation & set them in the Flower Garden. I Sowed Beanes in the Towne Meadow, 'tis the first Corne I sowed since Christmas.

5 I Dresed up my Aspargus Beds in the Vistow Garden & put good old Cow-dunge upon most of them. Appothecary Livlesley sent a Present of Oysters & Orringes.

6 I set three sorts of Kidney Beanes on the Terras. I Sowed Turnop Seed amongst the Goosberry Trees near the Summer-Hous to kill the weeds and Cooch-Grass.

7 I Viseted the Chappell at the New-Hous and at Ince for the Jubily,[1] coming home I met Mrs Blundell &c: who had ben upon the licke Viset at Mr Aldreds.

8 I went to William Carefoot who was Ploughing for me in Know-Land, I stay'd awhile at Thomas Piningtons & saw his strange Beast with four Feet & a prodigeous Long Taile, thence I went to see Mary Weedow.

9 I Grafted sixteen Imps, of Virgen-Apples, in Crab-Stocks in the Nursery in the Kitchen Garden.

10 The Famoly of Ince made a Viset here except Mr Henry.

11 I sent Horses to Leverpoole to fetch Cozen Richard Butler,[2] he came hither before dinner & Lodg'd here. I sent to Astley to let Cozen Gillibrond know I would not send Fanny thither now.

12 Cozen Butler, I &c; played at Cards.

13 Mr Cottom dined here, he went to Crosby Greene; I stay'd at home being Cozen Butler would not goe his Eye being ill.

14 Mally play'd at Picket with Cozen Butler, I play'd with him at Backgammon.

15 I Sowed four Beds in the Stone-Garden with 4 different Sorts of Potherbes. I made 15 Quarts of Brandy into Shrubb.

16 I Walked with Cozen Butler and shewed him my Mill.

17 Cozen Butler went with my Wife & me to Ince, Jack Chantrell was there.

18 I went with Cozen Butler to Mr Byrons, thence to Lunt Meadows to look at Mr Cottoms Hors. After dinner Cozen Butler went with me to my Feyors of Turves in the Morehouses, they Mesured three of the Pits, then we went to Charles Howerds & had a Bowl of Punsh, Mr Molineux of the Grange & one Ashton of Ormschurch came to us.

19 Pat: Gower & Harper made a Viset here in the Morning. Mr Blundell made a Viset here & took a Snap of Cold Meat with me.

20 Cozen Butler and I went to Crosby Green, there was Parson Brook, Mr Henry Tyrer of Ormschurch, Doctor Bromfield, Mr Cottom &c:.

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[1] "A Jubilee in the Catholic Church is a large indulgence, or the plenary remission of temporal punishment due to sin, to be gained by the performance of prescribed penitential works. A certain number of visits to neighbouring churches are usually enjoined"—T. E. Gibson, *Blundell's Diary*, p. 214.

[2] His first cousin, the second son of Richard, 5th Viscount Mountgarret. See genealogy, Vol. 1.

21 Cozen Butler went with my Wife, Mally and me in the Coach to Leverpoole, we din'd at the Talbot & made a Viset to Mr Cottom, I walked with Cozen Butler to the Dock, the Charrity Schoole &c:.

22 I Set severall sorts of Peas and Beanes which are designed for Seed, they should have ben set above ten days since. I Rode out with Cozen Butler to Crosby Marsh and Shewed him the Race Ground, then we went to the Grange where we had a Bowl of Punsh, Mr Blundell, Mr John Chantrell, Mr Formby &c: were there.

23 I Play'd in the Evening with Cozen Butler at Backgammon.

24 I walked thorrow the Town[1] with Cozen Butler, I shewed him William Marrows pritty Situation.

25 I set three sorts of Kidney Beanes, sowed Red-Beet Seed and Purslain Seed & made a Plaine-Hot-bed for Cowcombers all on the Terras & sowed Cowcomber Seed which had ben steeped six Hours in New-Milk. Dr Lancaster made a Viset to Cozen Butler, he din'd here.

26 Fanny having had a Quotidian Ague ever since the 5th of March without the least Alteration & finding no good by any thing she has taiken, I rode out with her to try if the Aire & Exercise would do her any good. I went with Cozen Butler to Mr Brooks'es the Vicker of Walton, Mr Cottom, Parson Wairing &c: came to us.

27 Pat: Roydon dined here. I went with Cozen Butler to Crosby Green, I Bowled Hand to Fist with Mr Cottom, there was Parson Brooks, Mr Jaimes Tildeslay &c:.

28 I Examain'd my Tulops and marked some of the best of them to be preserved & the worst to be destroyed.

29 Cozen Butler and I went to Parson Wairings, there was Parson Brooks, Mr Thomas Whittle &c:.

30 I Began my Journey towards Astley with Fanny, we Lodg'd at the Queens Head in Ormeschurch, I found Mr Nelson of Fairest there.

The three first days wet, the seaven next faire, from the 10th to the End of this Month unsetled Weather, somtimes fine glorious & warme days, at other times very fine & agreeable Showers but towards the End of this Month we wanted Raine.

MAY

1 From Ormschurch I went with Fanny to Cozen Gillibronds of Astley where she is to stay for some time for change of Aire in hopes to Cure her Ague-Fits. Cozen Thomas Gillibrond, his Wife, & Doughter Jane came to Astley to me.

2 I came from Astley to Ormschurch, I light at Billing'es at his new Hous; when I came home I found Cozen Scarisbrick here, he din'd here, he came to make a Viset to Cozen Butler.

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[1] Little Crosby village.

3 Mr Molineux of the Grange was here, I expected some more Company but they came not.

4 I sowed some Cowcomber & Collyflower Seed in the Stone-Garden.

5 My Mare Muss was Cover'd at Ormschurch by a Black-Hors which came from towards Parbold.

6 I began my Journey towards Ashburne Faire, called at the Bank at Ditton & went into the hous; I found Joseph Bolton & Daniall Eckleston at the Ball on Broad-Heath but I did not light there, so to Runkhorne & then to the Royall Ann in Northwich where I din'd, thence to Hulmes Chappell & so to Congleton where I Lodged at the Black Lyon & Whit Swan.

7 I went with Mr Taylor Steward to Mr Eckleston to the Cock in Leek, it being the Hors-Fair, thence to Ashburne, I light at the Talbot and Lodged at a Privat Hous.

8 I Heard Mr Laybours Mass at Madam Peggs the Hall of Hildersley. I dined at the Ordinary at the Talbot.

9 I Bought a Paising Mare five years old, I call her Pritty Miss. I bought a large Black Gelding for the Coach three years old, I call him Diamond. William Carefoot bought me a Large Black Gelding for the Coach five years old, I call him Jewell. I dined at the Ordinary.[1]

10 I sold old Buck. William Carefoot sold Mouce. Being I could find no more Horses for my Purpose, I began my Journey homewards, we baited at New-Haven a Hous upon a Large Common in Darby-Shire very famous for a Sheep Faire; I observed their Fences in those parts were all Walls from three Foot high to five Foot, built of dry Cobling Stones & layed at such a distance they loock in some places like Lettises and a Child very readily may put his Arme through them, there are few or no Gates into the Fields onely a Gap left in the Wall which they fill up & pull down as they have Occasion; then we went to Buckston where I saw the Warme Spring & some of the Baths, we baited there, then we went to Disley where we Lodged at Swindals the Signe of the Rams-Head, good entertainment & not dear.

11 We went through Stopford to Warington where I din'd at the Red-Lyon with Mr Brannagan, Mr Hambleton of Leverpoole &c: then came home. The Rode I went to Ashburne was part of it Stony Rough way; but the Rode I came back was very good, but the Commons so large 'tis hard to find the way without a Guide.

12 I went to my Workmen at the Grand Cop by the Snigary, they were Bresting it with tall Gors. I let William Taylor have £20 for which he gave me his & his Fathers Bond. Mrs Par & two of her Chester Relations were here. Edward Rothwell pay'd me part of his Fine. Muss had ben Horsed before & was horsed today at Ormschurch twice by the same Hors.

13 Thomas Maiking & his Partner finished delving Fleas for me this year & I have got all which I think proper to get in Fleame Hey, I took Account of

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[1] "Dyamond a Coach-Hors 3 years old . . . . . £ 17 s. 17 d. 0
Jewell a Coach-Hors 5 years old 12 12 0
Pritty Miss, a Paising Gallaway 5 years old. 5 5 0
Total expence for my self and two servants to & from Ashburne when the three above Horses were bought . . . . . 2 13 2'

what they had sold & got and we clear'd off all Accounts. I sold two Geldings viz: Favouret & Patient-Grisell to Cozen Butler. I began my Barly Seeding.

14 I sent to Astley to see Fanny. Cozen Butler & I went to John Plumbes to look at a Black Gelding for my Coach, Mally went with us, Mr Plumbe not being at home we went past Heskaine, then by the Hill-Hous & so to the Carr-Side where we stay'd awhile & so home.

15 My Wife, Cozen Butler, Mally and I dined at Ince.

16 Cozen Butler and I went to Sefton to see Mr Nelson Fish in the River with a Tramell and a Dragg-Net, there was Parson Egerton, Mr Blundell and his Brother, Peter Stock &c:.

17 I Led Dung into the Town Meadow with five Carts

18 Mr Plumbe, of Down-holland brought a Black Gelding for me to look at but I bought him not. Cozen Butler & I went to Crosby Green, we drank Punsh with Parson Egerton, Brooks, Parson Harrison, Mr Cottom &c:.

19 I Prepair'd some Hooks & Lines against tomorrow, being Cozen Butler & I intend to go to Holsold to fish.

20 Cozen Butler & I went to Whit-Otter-Mair [mere] in Holsold afishing where we met Mr Robert Fazakerley, Mr Swettenham &c:, we dined & some of us Lodged at William Rigbys in Holsold.

21 Cozen Butler & I went with Mr Heskaine to his Hous where we dined and then came home.

22 I Examained Mary Marsor concerning what she had said of Mr Aldred Joseph Syer came to take leave of me being he is to begin his Journey to morrow towards London.

23 Jackson the Gardiner being dead young John Lunt came to trim my Trees & supply his Place when I have Occation. Parson Egerton, Brooks & four other Parsons made me a Viset, 'twas an Appointed day by me, they Suped here.

24 James Heys fetched away a Large Red-Bullock he had bought and pay'd me for him & an other.

25 I Bowled at Crosby with Parson Brooks, Parson Harrison, Dr Bromfield. Bess was Horsed at my Hous by a Black Hors which came from toward Parbold.

26 Cozen Butler & I dined at Scarisbrick but went soone home being Mr Strickland was come, but he stayed not long after we came home being he had received a Positive Denighall.[1]

27 Tootall brought me a New Millstone. Elizabeth Swift came from Chester with £34 for Mrs Bagnall. I try'd to draw my Black Horses Jewell & Diamond in the Coach.

28 Cozen Butler & I dined at Mr Cottoms, I took up Materialls for a Sute of Cloths & pay'd Mr Cottom in full of all Accounts. Cozen Butler help'd me to chose some Wine at Mr Williamsons Seller.

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[1] This was the end. Thomas Strickland eventually, in 1728, married Mary Dorothy, the eldest daughter of Simon Scrope, Esquire, of Derby.

29 I sent Ralf to the Post with two Letters.

30 Cozen Butler & I went to Ormschurch, Dr Lancaster gave us a Bowl of Punsh at his Hous, I took leave there of Miss Mary Gillibrond who designes soon to goe to Gaunt, coming home we stay'd at a Barn in Thornton & watched the Country People dance. Cozen Nanny Gorsuch lodged here.

31 Mrs Wofold made a Viset here from Ince with Mrs Blundell &c:. Mr Rigmaden pay'd me one years Interest for £100.

The five first dayes fine fair Weather, the 8 next some Raine & some days pritty much, then five days faire & extreamly hot, from the 18th to the End of this Month unsetled Weather but generally extreamely hot which has Occation'd great want of Raine.

JUNE

1 I went to Astley to fetch home Fanny, I dined there; Cozen Thomas Gillibrond and his Wife came thither to me. I went with Fanny to Wiggan, she Lodged at Mr Goldings and I Lodg'd at the Leggs of Man.

2 I dined at Mr Goldings & in the Evening Fanny & I came to the Queens Head in Ormeschurch where we lodg'd.

3 I came home with Fanny. Bannyon had ben here and drawn out a Tooth of my Cozen Butlers.

4 I Botled off a small Kegg of Whitwine & a Large Kegg of Clarret. Cozen Butler left his Servant William at Leverpoole.

5 Cozen Butler dined at Parson Wairings, I went thither in the Evening, there was Parson Brooks, Egerton & Davys; Mr Heskaine, Cottom &c:. William Carefoot came home from Darby-Faire with 3 Colts each two years old, I call them Buck, Buty & Lovely.[1]

6 I took William Carefoots Accounts for his Receipts & Disbursments for my use. I set some Collyflower Plants.

7 Cozen Butler went to Parson Davys, I was also invited but could not conveniently goe.

8 I pricked out some young Beet Roots where they were to grow & they did very well. I began to get home my Winters Provision of Coles with my own two Teames. Mr Blundell called here, Cozen Butler and I went with him to Crosby Green, I bowled with Parson Wairing &c:, Mr Cragg was there. Dandy brought my New Coat and Waiscot & try'd it on, but it did not fit.

9 I tryed the first time to draw Buck in the Coach & went with four Blacks in

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[1] "Buck a Coach-Hors 2 yrs old . . . . . £ 9 s. 9 d. 0
Buty a Coach-Hors 2 years old 15 0 0
Lovely a Coach Hors 2 years old 13 0 0
Total Expence for two Servants to & from Darby when the three above Colts were bought 1 14 6
Given to Cozen Butlers Servant Richard when he help'd to buy the three above mention'd Colts . . . . . 1 1 0'

the same order which hereafter, for some time they are to goe in. My Wife & Mally went to Leverpoole. Cozen Butler & I went to Croxtath & walked into the Hous & Gardens. Apothecary Livlesley gave Fanny a Vomit, he Lodged here.

10 Cozen Butler & I dined at Thomas Howerds in Crosby with Mr Heskaine & Young Mr Hollywell.

11 I Had a very large Swarme of Bees which went up into the Hole at the End of the Granery over the Stayers. I made my last Seeding of Peas & Beanes in the Gardens.

12 I Rode out with Fanny to take the Aire in the Coach, 'twas the first time I went out with my Blacks.

13 Cozen Butler went in my Coach with my Wife & Mally to Ormschurch Race, I was at it, there Started 4 Horses, but the chief divertion was between Sir Ralf Ashtons & Mr Egertons, the latter wan; I drank in Rigbys Booth with Mr Heskaine, Mr William Poole of Leverpoole &c:, then went to the Wheat Sheaf in Ormschurch where I drank with young Mr Entwisley, Mr Heskaine &c:, Cozen Butler & I Lodg'd at Mr Tyrers.

14 Cozen Butler and I dined at the Wheat Sheafe with my Lord Darby, Sir Edward Standley, Sir Ralph Ashton, Mr Richard Norris &c:, I was at the Race on Oughton Moss, where Lord Darbys Ruflor beat Mr Pilsons Bay. Dr Fernihough came from Chester to see Fanny and then came to Oughton Moss to see the Horce Race, he and Doctor Lancaster came home with me and Lodged here.[1]

15 Dr Lancaster went hence. Mr Heskaine came hither after dinner, he, Dr Fernihough, Mr Blundell &c: went with me to Crosby where I bowl'd with Dr Fernihough &c:, having don bowling we went up Stayers and drank with Cozen Butler, Apothecary Livlesley &c:, Mr Heskaine came back with me and Lodg'd here.

16 I help'd Henry Ascroft to measure the Feying of the Moss-pit in Thomas Marrows Moss, he gave me the Jaw-Bone of a Beast which he had found in the Growing Moss 5 Foot & a half deep; I take it to be the Jaw Bone of a Young Swine. Dr Fernihough & Mr Heskaine went hence.[2]

17 I Began to get in my Hay. I rode out with Fanny to the Winter-Heys where I had some Ditchers.

18 I Trimed & tyed down the Young Hornebeame Hedge at the Higher end of the Gravell Walk. My Orang Wine being Muddy I Racked it off into other Bottles & it prov'd very good after.

19 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley being ill, I sent to see him & he sent to see Fanny. Mr Swettenham came from Ince hither with Mr Blundell, they Suped here.

20 Thomas Arnold pay'd me all the Money he ows me upon Bond & all

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[1] "Lodging at Ormschurch & Spent two Race days . . . . . 14s. 6d.
Lost at Ormeschurch Race . . . . . 2s. 6d."

[2] "Expres to Dr. Fernyhough . . . . . 4s. 7d.
Doctors Phees on Fannys Account . . . . . £5 11s. 0d."

Interest due for it. My Thornton Tenants pay'd me their last years Rack Rent. Her Journey by Bote to Hollywell was prevented.[1]

21 Pat: Hardesty & Mrs Leconby dined here. Cozen Butler and I went to Ince Green. I Bowld with Mr Swettenham &c:, Mr Blundell gave us a Bowl of Punsh. My Teame and 13 others Lead Coles for Mr Aldred. The Glasor workd here.

22 Pat: Clifton deliver'd me some Papers which I am desir'd to take care off for the use of Madam Bagnoll, he also pay'd me some Interest Money &c: upon her Account; I Signed a Deed to Indemnify Mr Thomas Starkey upon Account of the Papers above Mentioned.[2]

23 Cozen Nanny Gorsuch went hence, she has ben here a few days. John Lunt has done working for me in the Gardens at Present.

24 I Pay'd John Carefoot what I ought him for work & agreed with him to work at a Less price.

25 I went to Leverpoole & payed Mrs Leconby £10 in part of what I ow her. I went with Mr Molineux to look at some Lansskips which he has drawn.[3] I drank at the Talbot with Cozen Butler & Mr Fazakerley. Cozen Butler & I came home together.[4]

26 My Wife and I &c: din'd at Eckleston 'tis the first time we have seen Mr Eckleston since he was Marryed; as we went one of the Wheel-Horses sliped off the Plat & fell into the Gutter. We Lodg'd at Prescot, Cozen Butler and I at the Leggs of Man, my Wife & Mally at Mr Cubboms.

27 We Breakfasted at Mr Cubboms and then came home.

28 I Rode out with Fanny, we rode past Ince Greene, they were Bowling. I think I have don Delving Turves for this Season, they going off very slowly.

29 Thomas Howerd let my Cozen Butler Blood. Mr Cottom dined here. Cozen Butler & I went to Crosby but did not Bowl, there was Mr Yates from Ormschurch, Andrew Barton &c:, I drank at Thomas Howerds with Parson Jackson, Egerton, Brooks & Lawyor Radcliff &c:.

30 Cozen Butler & I dined at Knowsley with Mr Scarisbrick, William Brownhill &c: we saw my Lord Darbys Mares and Colts and were in his Summer-

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[1] This is a rather intriguing entry. Always when speaking of his wife he wrote—'My Wife'. Rarely does he refer to her as 'She' and only when there is some coolness or disagreement between them. His monthly weather report does not suggest the journey was prevented by bad weather. And since journeys to Holywell were usually undertaken as pilgrimages, or for religious reasons or for purposes of healing, it must have been for some very good reason that Mr Blundell, if it was Mr Blundell, did not agree with his wife's idea of going to Holywell. There may have been another reason, one of vital importance to him. He still was anxious to have a son and heir. It is possible therefore, that there may have been some belief that she was pregnant. Possibly that was why she wanted to go to Holywell, and why Mr Blundell, aware of the hazards of such a journey, did not want her to go. Later, when her sister, Mrs Middleton, was visiting Crosby Hall, she went with her sister to Holywell on July 21.

[2] See December 13 1716.

[3] Joshua Molineux, a relatively little known artist. Only four of his paintings have been discovered, one of them, painted in 1718, is 'The North Prospect of the Charity Schoole in Leverpoole'. See S. A. Harris: 'The Old Blue Coat Hospital, Liverpool: was it designed by Thomas Ripley': Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancashire & Cheshire, Vol. 109 (1958).

[4] "Spent by me at Leverpoole with Cozen Butler . . . . . 6s. 0d."

hous, from Knowsley Parson Egerton & Brooks went with Cozen Butler and me to Prescot where we Lodg'd at the Leggs of Man.

The first day faire, the four next some raine, then Faire & very hot till the 17th, from the 17th to the End of the Month generally pritty much Raine.

JULY

1 Cozen Butler, I, Parson Brooks &c: dined at Eckleston & then went to Fish in the Great Damb & so came home.

2 I Began to make an Apron Net for my Cozen Butler. I Rode out with Fanny & went to my Ditchers in the Winter-Heys.

3 Mr Fazakerley din'd here. Mr Blundell and Mr Molineux of Grange made a Viset here.

4 Cozen Butler went with Mally to Leverpoole. I think I have got home now my Winters Provision of Coles viz: 195 Baskets or 13 Load.

5 Cozen Butler & I went to Ormschurch to meet my Sister Midleton, she came home with us.

6 Mr Heskaine made a Viset here. I went to Crosby Green & Acquainted Mr Cottom that Mr Pix was not yet to be found, there was upon the Green Parson Brooks, Dr Bromfield &c:.

7 I Payed Robert Webster for two Keggs which he brought me this Morning. Parson Acton & his Wife made a Viset here, they Suped here.

8 I Botled off 8 dozen of Strong Licker & set it in its proper Place.

9 I Payed £150 to Mr Crisp for which he and Richard Blundell gave me their Bond. John Rose pay'd me one Years Interest for sixty Pound.

10 Mrs Blundell & her two Sisters in Law made a Viset here. Cozen Butler and I went to Ince.

11 Sister Midleton went with my Wife & Mally to the Grange, Mrs Blundell met them there.

12 Cozen Butler went towards Preston Hors-Race. Sister Midleton, my Wife, Doughters & I went to Leverpoole, we went on Bord my Lord Droughadays Yatch the old England. We Suped at the Talbot, but Fanny neather went on bord nor Suped.

13 Sister Midleton went with my Wife & Doughters to Parson Actons. I finished my Hay-Harvest.

14 Sister Midleton, my Wife, Doughters & I went to Ormschurch where we dined at the Wheat Sheafe, thence to Wigan to the Cross-Keys where some of us Lodg'd; Cozen Butler came from Preston Race to Wiggan.

15 From Wigan all of us except Fanny went to Hay [Haigh], we saw the Hous and Gardens and then I went to Wiggan & took Fanny with me to Ormschurch where we all din'd at the Wheat-Sheaf, Fanny & I Lodg'd there, the rest of our Company went home to Crosby.

16 I brought Fanny Home. I went to Crosby to see my Millor who was very ill.

17 John Whit brought me a new Perugh. Cozen Butler, Sister Midleton, I &c: dined at Ince, Mr Fazakerley, Mr Heskaine &c: were there.

18 Sister Midleton, my Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Parr. Pat: Bartlet Lodg'd here.

19 I went to the Sniggary where I had five Hands Scouring my Water-cours. Sister Midleton, Cozen Butler, my Wife & Mally went to Knousley, they dined there, Mr Heskaine came home with them, he Lodged here.

20 Cozen Butler & Mr Heskaine went to Leverpoole. Sister Midleton, my Wife and Mally made a Viset to Mrs Crisp. John Lunt sowed some Colly Flower Seed.

21 Sister Midleton, Cozen Butler, my Wife & Mally began theire Journey towards Holly-well.

22 Mr Holton came to invite my Sister Midleton to More-Hall. Pat: Edward Scarisbrick dined here. I went to Mr Aldreds, there was Parson Wairing, Mr Syer, Robert Bootle &c:, we were seaven in all. Mr Sadlor drew out a Patrom [pattern] from Sister Midletons Apron.

23 Cozen Butlers Servant brought a Side of Venison from Rock-savage. Mr Heskaine sent a Present of Venison.

24 Old John Lunt brought some Frute against tomorrow. Sister Midleton, my Wife &c: came home from Hollywell.

25 Shurlicar brought me home two Drought Nets he had mended for me. The Famoly of Ince dined here.

26 Sister Midleton, my Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Morehall. Cozen Butler & I went to Ince but Mr Blundell and Mr Eckleston being gon to the Green we went after them, but they came back with us to the Hall of Ince.

27 I was at the Race which Parson Wairing, Mr Byron & Robert Bootle Ran, for 3 Load of my Turves, Robert Bootle wan them, then we all went to Thomas Howerds where we began a Subscription for a Plate to be Runn for at Crosby, there was Mr Cottom, Mr Thomas, Mr Jackson of Leverpoole &c:.

28 Sister Midleton, Cozen Butler &c: saw me draw the Midle North-Hey Pit, I took two pritty Large Pikes and about 20 Larg Shoulers.

29 Cozen Butler saw me draw the Little old Pit in Thornton Rough-Hey, I took one Small Pike and afew Small Breames. I had a Merry-Night, we Danced in the Dining Roome viz: Mr Fazakerley, Young Mr Hollywell, Mr Heskaine, &c:, The Country People danced in the Hall; my Musick was Anderton and Marsh.

30 We danced after dinner, & at Evening I discharg'd my Musick.

31 My Wife, Sister Midleton &c: made a Viset to the Sister Blundells of Preston, they were at Ince. Cozen Butler, Mr Heskaine, I &c: drank Punsh at Mr Aldreds, Mr Fazakerley went from thence home. Nelly Eastom left her Service & was Suckceeded for a time by Margarit Gray.

Till the 9th Generally very fine & fair weather, from thence to the End of the Month almost every day Raine and for the most part pritty much.

AUGUST

1 Mr Hollywell Junior, & Mr Heskaine went hence, they came hither upon the 29th ultimo to dance. I boared through a very soft white Stone at the Bottom of the Kanall two yards & three Quarters deep & found a Small Spring but it never rose to the Top of the Hole so as to do me any Service.

2 My Wife, Doughters & Sister Midleton made a Viset to Pat: Clifton, he came to Invite them, the Ladys of Ince &c: met them there. Apothecary Livsey & his Brother the Churcheon who is lately come out of France made me a Viset. I Lead Earth out of the New Orchard into the Oat-Croft with two Boone Carts and two or three Carts of my own.

3 Cozen Butler, Sister Midleton, I and the rest of my Famoly dined at More-Hall.

4 Cozen Butler, Sister Midleton, My Wife, Mally and I dined at Mrs Hollywells in Leverpoole & then went to the Assembly, after that to the Talbot where we Suped & so home the next Morning.

5 Pat: Burton was here. Mr Fazakerley came hither in the Evening and got his Collation here.

6 I Fetched home my Winters Provision of Gees,[1] I went to my Grand Cop where I had five hands at work.[2]

7 Mr Blundell and the Famoly of Ince and his four Aunts &c: dined here, we were eighteen who dined in the Dining-Roome.

8 Cozen Butler & Sister Midleton were with me when I drew the Long Brickhill Hole in the Rough Hey, we tooke about 30 very large Breams and some small ones. I gave Olivor Taylor a Licence to Assigne over his Teneament to Ann Davy for security of twenty Pound.

9 I went with Cozen Butler, Sister Midleton &c: to my Lord Molineux his Park, we rode about in it. Mr Walmesley of Showley Junior and Mr Heskaine Lodged here.

10 Mr Walmesley went with me to Crosby Greene, I bowled with Parson Wairing, & Mr Byron. Cozen Butler and Mr Heskaine rode out to see how the Race Ground is set out upon Crosby Marsh, they came to Thomas Howerds & then I went to them & drank Punsh. Mr Heskaine went hence..

11 I went to Bank-Hall with Cozen Butler, Sister Midleton, my Wife and Mally; Mr Heskaine was there, he went with us to my Lords Fountaine & New-Summer-hous. I think Betty Blundell came to day to be Cook.

12 Sister Midleton, my Wife and Mally met the Ladys of Ince &c: at the Carr-Side. Cozen Butler fetched home his Hunter which he had from Mr Heskaine.

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[1] "Poltry . . . . . £1 8s. 8d.
Gees . . . . . £1 0s. 0d.
Piggs for Rosting . . . . . 9s. 0d.
Fresh Fish . . . . . 17s. 4d.
Anchovis & Capers . . . . . £1 7s. 0d.
Salt Peter, &c:. . . . . 5s. 8d."

[2] Ditching the whole length of my Sniggary or Grand Water-Cours being in all 49 Roods at 5d. per Rood . . . . . £1 0s. 5d."

13 Mr Thomas Walmesley went hence. I sent to welcome home my Lord & Lady Molineux out of Chesshire.

14 I, my Famoly & my Gests dined at Ince.

15 Philip Formby being dead, I agreed with Charles Howerd for a Rood Land of Ground formerly belonging to Philip Formby & now is to be aded to Charles Howerds Teneament. Mr Blundell & the Famoly of Ince & his four Aunts dined here.

16 Sister Midleton began her Journey towards Haggerston, I went a few Miles with her, but Cozen Butler, my Wife & Mally will goe much farther with her.

17 Cozen Butler, my Wife & Mally came home, they have brought Sister Midleton as far as Preston.[1] Mr Blundells two Sisters & his Aunt Bridget & Dorothy made a Viset to Fanny.

18 Being Cozen Butler is this day Thirty two years old, he gave a Bowl of Punsh at Thomas Howerds, we were six viz: Parson Wairing, Mr Aldred &c:, Mr Heskaine came home with me, he Lodg'd here.

19 Some days since I began to sink for a Spring, by the Plat in the New-Laine opposite to the Corner of the Bark, 'tis now deep 5 yards-1 Foot-5 Inches all sunck through a soft Rock except about two Foot or more of Feigh and Marle above it; this Morning they found about one Foot of Water in it, & by Boaring almost two yards deeper today, still in the same sort of a Rock they Raised before Night a small Spring. Thomas Martin came to see what Slaiting Work I had for him to do. Pat: Turnor & Pat: Williams dined here.

20 With yesterdays Boaring & today they have boared three yards and a half & one Insh, besides above sixteen Foot which they sunck, there is now a Spring but not likely to Rise high enough to do me any Service.

21 Nelly Eastom not being well I sent her home. Mr Livlesley gave Fanny a Vomit.

22 John Fergison the Tinker Tinned me three Saus-pans.

23 I went with Cozen Butler to Ince Green & Bowled with John Blansherd to my Partnor, there was Mr Ashton and John Billinge both of Ormschurch, Mr Byron, Mr Harper &c:.

24 William Blundell desir'd to Surrender his Leas of his Teneament which he has at half Rack provided I would allow him somthing per Annum during his Life, I promis'd him £8 and he was very well content, and if his Wife out Live him I promis'd her £4 per Annum during her Life.[2] Cozen Butler and I went to Crosby Green, I Bowled with Mr Byron to my Partnor, there was Mr Holsold of Leverpoole, Mr James Tildesley &c:.

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[1] "Spent with Sister Midleton at Leverpoole . . . . . £ s. d. 9 0
At the Assembly with Sister Midleton, &c: 15 8
Journey to Holliwell with Sister Midleton 3 3 4
To Hay with Sister Midleton 1 10 8
To Preston with Sister Midleton 1 5 4
Musick when Sister Midleton was here . . . . . 7 6"

[2] This land had formerly been held by Nicholas (died March 4 1678) and William, the sons of Thomas Blundell, a tenant who died in 1639.

25 Cozen Butler and I met Mr Blundell and Mr Fazakerley at Formby, we went out to Cource but saw not one Hare, we din'd at Henry Norris'es. I fetched home two Load of Slates from Roby Delf.

26 I Borrow'd Mr Blundells Net, he & some of his Famoly & Gests, came & saw me draw the Great Pit in the Farther North-Hey, I took one Large Pike & an other pritty bigg one & some Shoulors. I began to gather my Ripest sorts of Apples.

27 I Began to Reap my Corne viz: Beans in the Town Meadow. Cozen Butler went to Crosby and saw the Horses enter'd to runn for the Plate. Mr Heskaine came home with him & Lodg'd here.

28 I and my Famoly and Gests made a Viset to Ince. Mr Houghton of Leverpools Servant came to Ince to me & desir'd I would let his Master have some Thornes.

29 I went to Crosby Race, there were five start for the Plate, a Mare of Maikins of Prescot wan it; there were also two Formby Lads ran for a Hat; a Son of James Rice wann.

30 I fixed the Hous Bell better than it was & put a New Rope to it.

31 Cozen Butler, my Wife & Doughters dined at Scarisbrick but I being not well did not goe with them. I sent one Pair of Whit Pigeons to John Whit.

Till the 12th unsetled Weather, from then to the End of the Month very little Raine and generally very fine glorious Weather except the two last which were wett.

SEPTEMBER

1 Cozen Butler and I dined at the Leggs of Man in Prescot with Mr Cubbom, Mr Windsor, Alderman Goodin &c:, thence we went to Knowsley Park where we saw three Horses Run, Makings Mare of Prescot wan.[1] I waited of my Lord Darby at his Summer-Hous, I advis'd with his Lordship about my finding part of a Milisia Hors, I also advised upon the same Matter with Sir Edward Standley and with Mr Standley of Cross-Hall.[2] When the Race was over, We went to Mr John Chantrells Standing & drank a Glass of Wine with Mr Hesketh of Rufford, young Mr Trafford &c: then Cozen Butler & I went to my Hous at Ditton where we Lodg'd.

2 Joseph Bolton came to me, I gave him somthing towards a Race to be run for at Ditton. Cozen Butler and I dined at the Leggs of Man in Prescot with Mr Eckleston, thence we went to Knowsley Park where we saw a Gallaway Race, Lord Darbys Munkey wann, there was at the Race, Sir Edward Standley, Lawyor Standle Brother to Sir James Standle &c:. Cozen Butler & I went homewards with Mr Hesketh of Rufford as far as our Way lay together.

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[1] "At two Rases in Knowsley Park . . . . . 14s. 0d."

[2] As Roman Catholic recusants, the Blundells had been compelled to pay half the cost (usually about £15) of a horse for the militia. Nicholas saw no reason why he still should be called upon to pay this tax, and was seeking the advice of friends. But see December 28 1726.

3 Cozen Butler, I and my Famoly met Mr Blundell and his Famoly & Gests at Thomas Howerds, when the Gentle-women were gon we stayed and drank a Bowl of Punsh.

4 The Wind being very high in the Night. I got up towards Morning & went to look at my Mill.

5 Cozen Butler & I went out a Seting with Mr Aldreds Bitch Duce, we found Gaime but took none. Mr Heskaine brought my Hors home which I had lent him. Severall sorts of Salleting &c: sowed in the Close Hedg Garden.

6 Mr Eckleston & his Lady dined here 'tis the first time since they were Married. Pat: Curedon told me he was to live at Sefton & Croxtath.

7 Cozen Butler and I din'd & Lodg'd at Mr Hesketh's of Rufford, Old Mr Standish, Mr Rigby of Harrock & his Son made a Viset there.

8 I Left Cozen Butler at Rufford and came to Pat: Gorsuch to the Hall of Boscol (Burscough]. but being too late I stay'd but a small while & then came thorrow Ormschurch home.

9 I Began to gather my Virgin Apples for keeping. I got a Golden Renot, off one of my Parradice Trees, it weighed just eight Ounces.

10 Cozen Butler came home hither, he was not well.

11 Cozen Butler went to Leverpool to meet Dr Clayton. Roscold went to Warington to see her Friends and to stay some days, her Brother & Sister Lodg'd here.

12 I Shew'd Thomas Johnson part of William Blundells Teneament, we discoursed about a Fine for it but did not Bargan. I went to Mrs Margarit Blundell, she desir'd I would be her Executor and shew'd me her Will and Acquainted me with her Affaires.

13 Dr Clayton, Son to Daine Clayton in Ireland & Lawyor Radcliff dined here. Cozen Gillibrond came from Ince & dined here. I cut the Neck in Knowland with Oates. Pat: Curedon went hence to live at Sefton & to help at Croxtath, he has ben a Gest here, I think neare one Yeare.[1]

14 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to young Mrs Trafford at Ormschurch, Cozen Butler went with them. Pat: Turbervill the Provinsiall made a Viset here.

15 Thomas Martindale came to work for me, 'tis the first time he has ben my Slator. Pat: Turbervill the Provinsiall dined here. Cozen Gillibrond came from Ince, he din'd & Lodg'd here.

16 I set severall Cutings of Alder Trees on a Border in the Vistow.

17 I Advised with Thomas Martindale about Flaging the Great Court & the Arch-Summer-Hous, he has now don what Slaiting work I had for him.

18 I gave James Scarisbrick a sort of a Petission to the Freeholders of Ditton to desire they would allow him to take in a small Fould before his Hous.

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[1] The Catholic mission at Sefton and Croxteth had been served by Benedictines. Father Cuerdon, a Carmelite friar, after being a guest at Crosby Hall, went to serve the mission and remained there until his death in 1742, when once more the Benedictines resumed the mission.

Thomas Brown Servant to Mr Houghton came to see if I would let his Master have two Thousand Thornes. Roscold came home, she had ben to see her Relations at Warington.

19 I was at Crosby Race where Maikings Bay Mare beat Robert Rigby's Black Mare, 'tis the third Race I have seen her winn since the 28 of last Month, when the Race was over I drank with Mr Standley of Cross-Hall, Mr Heskaine, Mr Berry the Atturney &c:, there was at the Race Mr Halsold of Leverpoole, Mr William Plumbe, William Kennion &c:, I spoke to William Kennion about his Opposing James Scarisbricks Inclosing a Court before his Hous. I have now gather'd most of my Apples. The Town Field was turned abroad which I think is much sooner than usuall.

20 Mr Byron, John Rose & Robert Bootle were here abeging with a Breef upon Account of Dammage Sustain'd by Fier. Cozen Butler sent for Mr Heskaines Seting Bitch Moll.

21 Cozen Butler & I went with my Wife and Doughters to Low-Hill where we dined at Widdow Dailes and bought some things of a Scotchman who had a Chaimber there of Rich goods.

22 I Removed some Pictures in some of the Roomes & help'd William Thelwall to hang some Looking Glasses better.[1] This being Mallys Birth-day Cozen Butler gave my Servants somthing to drink her Health with so they went to Thomas Howerds.

23 My Wife went to Mrs Sadlors. I helped William Thelwall to put up Cords in the Dining Roome to hang Linen on.

24 One Robinson was here & demanded a small Debt which he said I ought to Mr Turner for Glass-bottles, but I convinced him I had pay'd it.

25 This being Fannys Birth day Cozen Butler gave my Servants somthing to drink her Health with, so they went to Thomas Howerds.

26 Thomas Culcheth and an other Dauber came to work for me. A Son of Mary Fleetwoods came to mend my Lead Gutters & Windows. I went out a Seting with Cozen Butler with Mr Heskaines Bitch Moll, my Doughter Mary went with us.

27 I went to Leverpoole and pay'd Mr Williamson for Wine.[2] I pay'd Mr William Plumbe in full for Charges of my Sute with William Davy Skiner. I made Mr James Clenton a Viset & drank there with Mr Sherlock &c:.

28 I Lead Dunge with three Carts into the Stock-Roots for Wheat. Cozen Butler met my Lord Molineux a Fox Hunting, they killed one Brace of Foxes in Ince. I sent to see Mrs Wofold & Mrs Scarisbrick being they were both very ill.

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[1] He must also have been making room for some new mirrors:—

	£	s.	d.
"Dressing Glass for my Doughter	3	0	0
Looking Glasses for Chaimbers	3	15	0
Silvering & Fraiming a Larg Looking Glass for my Doughters	1	0	0"

[2]

	£	s.	d.
"Brandy	6	15	0
Wine	10	18	7
Vinegar		1	8
Lime Juce		10	6
Coffy, Tea & Joculet	25	7	10
Hops		19	9"

29 Cozen Butler dined at the Stand with my Lord Molineux. I was in my Hall a good part of the after noone Receiving Rents from some of my Tenants and paying off some of my Workmen. Pat: Roydon Lodg'd here.

30 Cozen Butler & I went a Fox-hunting with Lord-Molineux, there was Surgeon Livsey, Dr Rice &c:. Pat: Roydon went hence. Pat: Munson made a Viset here, 'tis the first time since he came from Flanders. I began my Wheat-Seeding in the Stock-Roots.

There were not above six Faire days this Month, the rest generally very wett, so this may truly be called a very wett Month.

OCTOBER

1 My Daubers finished working here, they had ben Tearing the Roof of the Pigeon-Hous and Pointing the Ridging Stones &c:.

2 James Marrow & some others went towards Leigh to stay in those parts a Night or two. Cozen Butler went to the Stand but my Lord Molineux not being there, he went to the Hall of Ince & thence to the Grange where he found Mr Blundell &c: Mrs Heskaine made a Viset here. I sent to see Mrs Scarisbrick & Mrs Wofold they being ill.

3 Cozen Butler & I met my Lord Molineux a Fox-hunting, there was Mr Heskaine, Mr Syer, &c:, we found noe Fox. We din'd at the Stand with my Lord Molineux, Molineux of Mosburgh, Mr Molineux of the Grange &c:.

4 I went to Mrs Margery Michelsons to shew her what I had drawn by her Orders to be Aded to her Will and she gave me farther Instrucksions.

5 I Bowled Hand to Fist at Crosby with Thomas Fleetwood. I drank there with Parson Wairing, Mr Whitley &c:.

6 I Killed a Small Cow. Cozen Butler & I met Lord Molineux a Fox Hunting, but we found none; we found where a Fox had earthed in a Sand-Hill, they doog a good while for him, but found him not. We din'd at the Stand with my Lord Molineux, Mr Molineux of Mosburgh and his Brother, &c:, Parson Hunt came to us at Night.

7 Arrowsmith came to look at some of my Horses & Order'd somthing for them. Thomas Whawley came to Advise with me concerning Money which Edward Hatton Owes him. Cozen Butler & I went to Thomas Howerds where we found Mr Whitfield, Mr Fellers &c:, Mr Heskaine came home with us & Lodg'd here.

8 Mr Henry Blundell dined here, Mr Heskaine went hence.

9 I Read a good part of the after Noone in a Spirituall Book.

10 I saw my five Black Coach-Horses docked very Short. I began to thin my Young Thornes in the Vistow Wood & Prick'd them out Regularly in the Lime-Kill Garden.

11 I Buried five quarters of a Bushell of Haws & one Quarter of a Bushell of Heps in the Vistow Wood.

12 I Began to lay up my Virgin Apples to keep in Straw, three Hands lay'd up about 20 Bushell.

13 I Payed the Land Tax and Window Tax to Edward Rothwell. Appothecary Livsey din'd here, he gave my Wife and Mally each a Vomit.

14 I went to Leverpoole & drank at the Talbot with Cozen Butler, Henry Tyrer, Mr Heskaine &c:, Cozen Butler & I Lodg'd there. I Bought the Outside for a Quair Coat & for a Riding Coat for myself and Out-side for a Frock for Ralf Ainesworth.

15 Cozen Butler & I came home. I fixed up my Glead-powls and hung my Net the first time this Season.[1]

16 The Ladys of Ince & Mr Henry made a Viset here. I sent to see Mrs Wofold who is very ill & to see Mrs Scarisbrick.

17 Mr Fazakerley & Mr Blundell &c: called here before dinner, they were going a Coursing. I staited Accounts of a long Standing with William Carefoot & almost finished all.

18 John Harefoot brought me my Winters Provision of Candles, I payed him for them. I and severall Hands helped the Millor to fix the Mill-Stone it being got out of his Power to Mannage it.

19 I Sowed on the first Bed of the Nursery in the Vistow Alder Berrys. on the second Bed I Sowed Black Cherrys which had ben Steeped in Brandy. I Brought Mrs Michilsons Will & Privat Instrucsions to her & she Signed them before Mr Harrison &c:.

20 I Sealed a Leas to Bryan Lea of his Teneament & he the Counter part to me & a Bond to pay his Fine.

21 I Sowed Keys of Seccamore-Trees on the 3rd, 4th & 5th Bed of the Nursery in the Vistow.

22 I put some Ash Keys in a Hole in the Vistow to ly there till they are to be Sowed.

23 Mr Blundell & his Brother made a Viset here. I sent to see Mrs Wofold who continews still very ill.

24 I finished Laying my Apples in Straw to keep, I have 50 Bushell of the best Sort, 30 Bushell of a second sort & five Bushell of severall other sorts besides I think near 30 Bushells of a small sort which are for the Servants ues.

25 Cozen Butler went towards Rock-savage to stay there some days. On the 7th Bed of the Nursery in the Vistow, I set six dozen of Slips of my best Goosberrys & cut the Tops off, on the 8th Bed I set the like Number off the same sort of Slips & cut not the Tops off.

26 Yester Night & this Morning I took a Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods directions. Robert Rimmers Wife of the Meales came to discource me about Leasing for William Blundells Teneament.

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[1] See September 22 1722.

27 James Marrow took a Cock in my Glead this Morning, tis the first I have taken this Season. On the 9th Bed of the Nursery in the Vistow, I set 3 dozen Young Goosberry Trees raised from Seed but first took severall Cutings & Slips from them; on the 10th Bed I set a Row up the Midle with Cutings & Slips from Goosberry Trees raised from Seed, and one Row of each Side of the same Bed I set with Goosberry Trees raised from Seed & with Cutings & Slips of the saime sort of Trees. On the 11th Bed I set two dozen fine Suckers of Lime Trees with good Roots, part of the 12th Bed was set with Cutings of Lime-Trees. I suppos I shall remove the Suckers & Cuttings of Lime-Trees becaus they are eat by Hears.

28 I had seaven Lads of this Town beaton at my Gate-Hous with a Sterrop-Leather, some by their Fathers, others by their Masters and some by other Persons for Stealing my Apples & for other Peevish tricks.

29 I dined at Mr Plumbs at Wever-Tree and expected Cozen Butler to meet me there from Rock-Savage but he came not, Mr William Plumbe came to us after dinner.

30 My Wife and Doughters went to the North-End to make a Viset to Mrs Betty Rimmer.

31 Henry Carefoot came to look at William Blundells Teneament in order to Leas for it, but he thought I ask'd too much for it.

Till the 12th unsetled Weather, though some days very Faire; from the 12th to the End every day except one very wett; it has ben a Wett and windy Month.

NOVEMBER

1 Most of my Servants were at the Funerall of Mary Weedow or at least met the Corps.

2 I pay'd John Sumner for Ditching 210 Rood a great deale was at 6d per Rood, and Water-Courses. I put up two Hogs to feed.

3 Yester Night & this Morning I took a doce of Pills by Doctor Cawoods directions.

4 I payed Thomas Pinington & his Son Edward for ditching 251 Rood most of it was the Moss-ditches in & at the Sides of the Winter-Heys. I have Scour'd Water-Courses & old Ditches about this Summer.

5 Cozen Butler sent his Servant from Rock-Savage to me with a Letter.

6 My Wife, I and Doughters made a Viset to Ince.

7 Prescot Post came with a Post-Letter to me which was rong directed. I took up most of my Cabbages and began to set them deep in the Earth to keep the better.

8 I began my first Seeding of Beanes & Peas against Summer in the Stone Garden. I set most of my Best Tulop Roots in the Flower Garden.

9 Finsh a London Chimney-Sweeper swept some of my Chimneys. Mr Molineux of the Grange came hither and pay'd me his Ten-penny Rent.

10 I went to Elizabeth Swifts to see how her Work-men went on with Laying her Floar with Brick.

11 I took my Milk-beasts into the Hous to ly in, in the Nights. Sera Atherton pay'd me her half years Rack-Rent for Ditton, she Lodg'd here.

12 I Finished Levelling the Miding-Stead at the Back of the Shippons which was so much carried away that I think I brought 700 Load of Earth to it before I could bring it to a levell. I set my Anemony & Renunculas Roots in the Flower Garden.

13 Mally dined at Mr Aldreds. After Vespers I stayed at Mr Aldreds & smoaked a Pipe with Mr Henry Blundell. Mary Molineux left her Service.[1]

14 I try'd Buty & Loveley to draw in the Coach, they did extreamely well.

15 I went with Mr Plumbe to Charles Howerds, he kept my Court there. I impanoled a New Jury, Bryan Lea was the Fore-Man, Thomas Syer & Thomas Howerd were there. Mr Plumbe & his Son William din'd here after the Court, they Lodg'd here.

16 Appothecary Livsey made a Viset here. Ellen Roscow came to be the Chaimber-Maid.

17 Cozen Butler sent his Servant from Rock-Savage with a Present of a Doe. My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Ince, Mr Standleys Son William was there.

18 I sent a Side of Doe to Cozen Gillibrond of Astley. My Doughters & I Rode out in the Coach to try my Colt Lovley, I made a Viset to Mr William Standley Junior at Ince and my Doughters returned home in the Coach.

19 I went in my Coach to Thomas Howerds where I found Mr Heskaine, Mr Joseph Poole, Mr Atherton the Wine-Merchant, &c: with whom I drank, when they were gon I drank with Pat: Curedon & Mr Aldred.

20 Mr Blundell and his Famoly & his Nephew William Standley din'd here.

21 I Lay'd good Old Muck and good Earth on my Aspargus Beds in the Vistow Garden & cover'd them over with Long Muck. I Rid up the two Larg Fir-Trees that grew upon the Terras. I went to Thomas Howerd and drank with Mr Heskaine & John Heys.

22 William Thelwall cross-cut the two Fir-trees which I rid up yester day.

23 I made some Droughts [Drawings] for some Brick-work which I designe to make betweene the Hors-poole & my Canall.

24 I Attended the Corps of Thomas Syer of the Ford from his Hous to Sefton Church, there was Parson Brooks, Harrison, & Wairing, Mr Thomas Whitle &c:. Mr Green kept the Court at the Ail-hous by Sefton Church, he went part of the way to meet the Corps.

25 I bought some Baskets of a Man at the Gaits.

26 I din'd at Mr Cottombs with Mr Plumbe, Mr Molineux of the Grange &c:, I pay'd off Mr Cottom in Full of all Accounts. I Lent Mrs Ann Wilding £10 upon her Note. Thomas Syer and I came home together from Leverpoole as far as our Way lay.

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[1] Had served as chamber maid at 10s. 0d. a quarter.

27 My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Syer of the Ford to Condole the death of her Husband. Cozen Butler sent his Servant to fetch his Hors Darcy to Rock-Savage.

28 I sent a Hors-Load of Apples to Mrs Blundell of a Present. I went to Lawrence Barlows at Sefton where Yeomon of the Goar-Houses made up his Accounts for Scouring Alt, he being the Chief Mannager in that Work; there was Mr Byron, John Blansherd, Mr Tyrers Son John, Parson Acton &c:.

29 I Sowed some Tulop Seed on the Tulop Bed in the Close-Hedg-Garden, most of them were from right Breeding Tulops. I Put some Carrots & Red Beets into the Ground to keep for use. Mr Heskaine sent for his Seting Bitch Moll.

30 Arrowsmith came to look at some of my Coach-Horses which were not well. I Pay'd two Church-Leys to John Ainesworth. My Wife went to see Mrs Wofold she having ben very long ill, coming back she Suped at Mr Crisps.

Till the 11th every day some Raine and some days pritty much; then faire till the 20th, from thence to the End of the Month unsetled Weather.

DECEMBER

1 Bryan Leas Son Richard being dead he was carried to Sefton on my Coach Carriage, I Attended the Corps from the Hous into Ince Town.

2 I was at the Saile of goods at the Ford, the Sellors were Mr Whittle & Tatlock the Dyar, there was Mr Williamson of Litherland, Mr Byron &c:. John Vose began my Brickwork betweene the Hors-poole & the Kanall. Cozen Butler came home, he has ben at Rock-Savage. Pat: Munson came to take leave of us, being he is soone for Leaving these Parts.

3 John Vose fixed a small Grate in the Farther Gatehous Chaimber. I bought two Large Piggs for keeping.

4 Jane Withington alias Wairing dined here. Captaine Harry made a Viset here. Mrs Blundell sent us a Present of Hoggs-Pudings & a Chine. I think I began to use one of Coffy.

5 Cozen Butler went to a Ball at Leverpoole which some Gentlemen of the Town gave, he Lodged some Nights at Mr Fazakerleys. Richard Molineux pay'd me some Interest Money. Mr Houghtons Servant fetched one Thousand of Thornes from hence in the Evening. Joseph Rigby brought Barnaby Hargrave to be my Butler but he is too Little, they Lodged here.

6 Joseph Rigby & William Carefoot rode out two of my Coach-Horses (to try how they went) both before and after dinner.

7 Ned Bridg began to work for me by day-waiges. John Ball desir'd to fine for Blundells Teneament. Pat: Gorsuch & Mr Molineux of the Grange dined here, Mr Molineux desir'd to fine with me for a Field or two. Mr Blundell made a Viset here. William Carefoot bought me a good drugg Cart.

8 John Pinington who had ben a Souldior was here. Betty Blundell left her Service. James took the 12th Cock this Season in my Glade.

9 I Killed a Small Hogg. It being a hard Frost I carted upon the Gravell Walk & Lead away the Miding in the Bleaching yord. Cozen Butler came home from Leverpoole.

10 Ailes Chantrell went to the Buriall of her Kinswoman Mrs Betty Rimmer, that is to say she went part of the way with the Corps.

11 Mr Aldred made a Viset here, he Suped here. Fanny was not very well.

12 Mrs Syer & Mrs Wairing made a Viset here. Cozen Butler & I went to Ince, but Mr Blundell not being at home we went to the New-Hous but did not stay.

13 I began to lead the Chappell Chamber Stones from the side of the Terras & lay'd them in the Buriall Place.[1]

14 I met Mr Molineux of the Grange and John Blansherd at Charles Howerds, I Contracted with Mr Molineux for a Fine for two Fields lying neare his Warant & with John Blansherd for the Greatest part of William Blundells Teneament.

15 Pat: Clifton was here, I spoke to him concerning Mrs Bagnalls £75 Bond. Mrs Sadlor was here.

16 I Stated Accounts with Thomas Marser for Work done by him & his Son.

17 Henry Heys, Daniall Eckleston & some other of my Ditton Tenants pay'd me their Rent at Leverpoole, I din'd at Mr Mosses & gave him Instrucksions to draw Leases for Mr Molineux of the Grange & John Blansherd.

18 Mally went to see Mrs Wofold. Cozen Butler & I made a Viset to Mr Blundell, Mr Molineux of the Grange was there.

19 My Wife went to Ince Mrs Blundell being in Labour, she was deliver'd of Robert her second Son.

20 My Wife & Doughters went to see Mrs Blundell. I began in good earnest to fill up what I call Farors Delf neare the Rode-Side. Cozen Butler went to Walton where he din'd with Parson Brooks.

21 I payed my Martine-Mass Dues or Small Tiths to William Weedow.

22 I Killed a good Hogg. Sera Jackson from Charnock brought me some Ball Sope. I made new Tickets for the Poore of Sefton Parish.

23 Thomas Syer was here, I lent him upon his Noate £20.

24 I Began to make a Provision of Punsh of seaven Large Quarts of Brandy. I went to Pat: Aldreds after Collasion as usuall & againe before Morning.

25 Apothecary Livsey call'd here in his way to Ince but did not stay.

26 Stagg & Bull were Bluddied. I Stated Accounts with severall of my Work-folks.

27 Mr Molineux of the Grange and John Blansherd were here, we drank in the Summer-Hous, I read over to John Blansherd a Fowl Draft of his Leas.

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[1] These were stones left over from certain alterations at Crosby Hall. They were found during excavation work at the Harkirk by F. Tyrer in 1951.

28 William Hodges who Rode the Milisia Hors for Mr Hesketh of the Meals & me was here, I pay'd him my proporsionable part of the whole Charges [1] Gervace Cook came to Serve my Cozen Butler. My Wife & Doughters went to the Funerall of Mr Blundells Son Robert.

29 I was at the Town meeting at Ditton, there was Parson Langford of Haile, Atturney Halsold, John Tarbolk &c:, I went back to my Hous the Bank where I Lodg'd, I shewed some tricks of Leger des Maine to Sera Atherton and some of her Neighbours.

30 Mr William Nelson and John Chaddock came to the Bank & discours'd me concerning Dammage done to Meadowing occasion'd by Henry Heys Water Mill. Cozen Butlers Servant Richard brought his Ston'd Hors from Rock-savage to the Bank & then we came home together.

31 Ailes Chantrell went to Leverpoole. William Sumner Millor pay'd me his whole years Rent & for Boones. I stated Accounts with some of my Work-folks.

The three first days Raine and Snow, the five next days a pritty hard Frost, the three next days Frost & Snow, the seaven next days a very cold Thaw with a little Raine & somtimes a little Frost, from the 18th to the end of this Month not above two days faire, the rest generally very wett & cold, so that the latter end of this Month may well be called Wett.

January & February unsetled Weather and pritty much Raine & Cold though no hard Frost. March unsetled Weather till the midle & then fine weather with refreshing Showers. Aprill unsetled weather till towards the end, then fine Weather and we began to want wett. May till the Midle unsetled weather, then very hot and great want of Raine. June till about the midle faire Weather & generally very hot, then till the end of this Month pritty much raine. July very wett. August till the Midle unsetled Weather, then till the End generally Glorius fine weather. September & October extreamely wett. November unsetled & generally very wett. December generally very Cold & wett though some faire days & fine clear Hard Frost.

There were great Winds this yeare and much more dammage don at Sea than usuall and great Dammage done by Thunder & Litoning.

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[1] "My Shaire of the Expence of the Milisia Hors being out . . . . 14s. 1d.
To the Rider of the Milisia Hors . . . . . 1s. 0d."
The amount paid shows that Nicholas was not being called upon in this case to pay the extraordinary tax his recusant ancestors had to pay, but the ordinary tax or release expected from gentry and yeomen who provided a substitute when they did not wish to perform the service themselves. See September 1 1726.

Anno Domini 1727

JANUARY

1 Mr Woodcock brought me some Money for which I am to pay the like Sume at London for his Mistress use. Pat: Curedon Lodg'd here.

2 Roscolds Brother and an other Lodged here.

3 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Ince. Cozen Butler & I went to the Grange where we found Mr Blundell, we had a Bowl of Punsh, Cozen Butler lodged there.

4 Robert Whitle was here and payed me some Money for Interest. James Wignoll & Robert Weedow were here to farme my Warant but we could not bargan.

5 I din'd at the Edg with Parson Acton, Young Williamson of Litherton & their Wives, Widdow Tatlock of the Bank &c:, after diner I drank there with young Pluckington, Parson Harrison &c:.

6 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Parr. Nathaniall Howerd told me his intention to farme the Tith of Little Crosby.

7 I set my Warant & some Land to Charles Howerd, he is to have a Partner. John Cooper brought me some Large Wiskets.

8 I open'd a Box which came from London with Tea, Snuff, Garden Seeds &c.

9 Robert Blansherd pay'd me the Remainder of his Fine. Humphrey Darwin desir'd an Account how I had pay'd £50 which formerly I ought to John Bryanson, which I satisfy'd him in.

10 Thomas Marrows Corps was carried to Sefton Church on my Coach Bottom, James Marrow left my Service.[1] I was at Robert Bootles, there was Parson Acton, Parson Wairing, William Blansherd &c:, we were nine in all.

11 I planted one Side of a New Hasley-Walk in the Long Garden with Hasles of about five foot long & severall much Longer, they were suckers which I had taken some years since, from my Nut Trees of the Large Sort & had ben set for some years in a Nursery to get good Roots.

12 I planted that Side of the New Hasley-Walk next to the Wall with Nut Trees which I had raised by seting great Nuts. I went to Mrs Margery Blundell, she gave me two Guineys to send to Rohan.[2]

13 The Young Oaks, in what I call my New Plantation which I took out of the Flat, being much damnifyed by the Tops being eat off by Beasts & Horses in Thomas Syers time, I began today to cut most of them off very nigh the Ground in order to put out new Shoots. I sowed some Peas & Beanes in the Vistow Garden, 'tis my first Seeding since Christmas. I took down my Glead Cord being I dont intend to hang againe this Season.

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[1] Thomas Marrow was a tailor in Little Crosby. James Marrow had been butler since the beginning of 1726 receiving £1 0s. 0d. per quarter. He had succeeded Robert Weedow who was paid only 10s. 0d. per quarter. His successor, Edward Pinington, was not appointed until the beginning of 1728, at £1 0s. 0d. per quarter.

[2] Rouen, This money would be for the Poor Clare Nuns.

14 I Began to Set some Curron Trees & Lime Trees on that End of the Terras next to the Hors-poole. Vose finished the Brick-work between the Kanall & the Hors-poole. Mr Heskaine was here and pay'd me what I had lent him. I told him of some Storys I have heard of him. Cozen Butler went to Leverpoole.

15 My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Ince. Cozen Butler and I went to Thomas Howerds where we drank Punsh with, Jemmy Singleton, Tom Heskeyne &c:.

16 Cozen Butler dined at the Grange with Mr Robert Fazakerley, Jemmy Singleton, Thomas Heskaine &c:. I began to raise most of the young Oakes in the New Plantation being they stand too wett and Planted them without cuting a Root or disturbing the Earth about their Roots more than what I could help.

17 My Wife went to Francis Farers intending to speak to Mary Wogden about coming to be Cook here, but she saw her not; coming home she called at Doctor Lancasters & stayd awhile.

18 Cozen Butler and I went to Bankhall where we sat awhile with my Lord Darby, Mr Standley of Cross Hall, Mr Wall from towards Preston, Mr Eckleston of Eckleston &c:, and then we went to Lord Darbys Race Ground where a Gray gelding of Mr Gills be[a]t a Bay one of Mr Heskaines, there was upon the Ground Appothecary Lathom, Tom Whitley.

19 I killed a small Red Cow. I payed the Land Tax to Edward Rothwell.

20 I Planted severall pritty young Oaks about 2 or 3 yards long on two Sides of the Oat-Croft, they grew in my New Plantation.

21 I went to Leverpoole and made Major Broadknax a viset, he told me that in March next he will be 108 years of Aige, he has his Memory perfectly well, and talks extreamely strongly & heartally without any seeming decay of his Spirrits.[1] Humphrey Darwin & Bryan Lea had a Debate about their fulfilling their Executorship for John Bryanson in presence of Atturney Orme, Peters & me.

22 Mrs Blundell hereing I was not well sent to see me and to invite me and Famoly to dine at Ince ere long.

23 Cozen Butler and I din'd at Mr Aldreds with Mr Cottom, Mr Pepper and his Brother, Mr Heskaine &c:, we were Nine in all besides Mr Molineux of the Grange & Mr Henry Blundell who came to us. My Wife had severall of our Neighbours who dined with her viz: Mrs Byron, Mrs Syor, Mrs Parr, young Mrs Williamson of Littlerland &c:, there were in all eleven besides my own Famoly & young Mr Williamson of Litherland. Mr Heskaine came home with me and Lodg'd here.

24 Cozen Butler went to Leverpoole to dine with my Lord Drawhada,[2] but was disapointed, his Servant William Cavanaugh went with him and has now left his Service. I hir'd William Pinington to be my Butler, he came hither two days since. I went part of the way with the Corps of Mr Thomas towards Sefton,[3]

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[1] Though known as Major, Broadnax had been lieutenant, and captain of horse and gentleman of the bedchamber of Oliver Cromwell, and lieutenant-colonel under William III. He died in January 1728, aged 109, and was buried in St Nicholas Church, Liverpool.

[2] Probably Drogheda.

[3] Thomas was a customs man living in Great Crosby.

I was entertained upon the Funerall Account at Thomas Syors where there was Parson Wairing, Parson Harrison, Old Mr Williamson late of Litherland, Mr Sharrock of Formby, Mr Byron &c:.

25 Cozen Butler walked with my Wife & Doughters to Thomas Howerds.

26 Cozen Butler, I and my Famoly dined & Sup'd at Ince, there was at Dinner Alderman Tyrer, Mr James Tildesley, Henry Cottom, Mr Heskaine and severall others. Mary Wogden came to be Cook here. I Planted the Lower End of the old Hasley Walk the Border next the ditch with Hasles, that side of the Border next to the Walk was planted with Suckers of Larg Nuts and the other side of the same Border with Hasles which came from Large Nuts sow'd.

27 Bryan Lea & Humphrey Darwin made up their accounts of Executor-ship for John Richardson before me, and I adjusted all Matters between them. Old Shurlicar brought me a Net which he had finished for my Kanall.

28 Vose having finished the Brick work by the Kanall went hence.

29 Mrs Sadlor dined here. I was told Formby intended to send us Ann Blundell [a pauper] as was & her two Children.

30 The Famoly of Ince and Mr Fazakerley din'd & Suped here, Mr Cottom & Heskaine came when we had dined. Mr Molineux of the Grange & Heskaine lodg'd here.

31 Cozen Butler din'd at Scarisbrick and Lodg'd at Ormeschurch. Parson Wairing, Mr Bryon, Robert Bootle &c: were here, I invited them. I sow'd some Collyflower Seed and some Salleting.

Till the 5th generally faire, then every day raine & for the most part pritty much till the 19th, from then to the 27th very faire except a little Raine one day, the four next days very wet, the last faire, this has ben an extraordinary cold Month but not much Frost.

FEBRUARY

1 Edmund Lathom my old Servant was here a beging.

2 Cozen Butler came home from Ormschurch. Roscow got her Tooth pulled out at Leverpoole by Doctor Bromfield. Sera Atherton pay'd me her Rack Rent which was due today . . . I agree'd with John Atherton to ad two Lives to his own in Little Heath Teneament. Sera & John Atherton lodg'd here.

3 John Arnold payed me some Interest Money.

4 Henry Swift went to Major Broadknax with a Swine which he had bought & killed for him. I examained the Holes or places in the Vistow Wood where I set Achhornes in Spring A.D. 1724 and pulled up severall of them, some becaus they grew too thick and others because they were not lickly to be good Trees.

5 Captain Henry was here, he told me of his Intension to goe to advise with Cozen Gillibrond of Astley about his Concernes.

6 Cozen Butler went to Wallosy Race where Sir Richard Graunors Hors bet

a Black Hors of my Lord Molineuxes. My Wife, Doughters and I saw the Play called Loves Contrivance acted at Leverpoole, when the Play was over we Sup'd & Lodg'd at the Talbot with Cozen Butler who was come back from Wallosy Race.

7 We din'd at the Talbot and then made a Viset to Mr Moss. Cozen Butler went to Lodg at Wooton and we all came home.

8 I set young Oaks in severall of the Places in the Vistow Wood where I thought there wanted; they were rais'd from Achhornes sow'd in Spring 1724; I also pulled up severall of the Young Oakes but not quite out of the Ground, but onely rais'd them higher & earthed them up to grow in the same place.

9 I set severall young Oakes of 3 years old at the out Side of the Rows in the New Plantation which was formerly taken out of the Flat. My Wife & Doughters met Mrs Blundell at Pat: Cliftons by Appointment. My Stomack having ben long out of Order Mr Livsey gave me a Vomit after Super, he Suped & Lodg'd here. Cozen Butler came home from Wooton.

10 I Sowed most part of the 12th Bed in the Nursery in the Vistow with Seeds of Privet. I sow'd the 13th & 14th Bed with Seeds of Alder, the Seed of Privet & Alder were gather'd in Autumn last & buried in the Earth till now, but I fear the Privet was damnified by lying too wet. I set Achhornes upon the Insides of the borders of the New Plantation. Mr Moss was here, I signed a Leas to John Blansherd & to Mr Molineux of the Grange & they the Counterparts & Bonds to me.

11 Mr Heskaine was here, I sold him my Bay Gelding Stagg. I went to old John Lunts to get some Cutings of Curron Trees but he refues'd to give me any. I think the Oringe Wine was tunned today.

12 My Wife and Doughters met Mrs Blundell &c: at the Carr-Side. Thomas Syer was here, we discoursed concerning Inclosing Crosby Marsh.

13 Greenwood the Bayly of Darby Hunder'd was here & complain'd my Tenants refus'd to goe upon a Jury at the Assises or Sessions becaus they were not freeholders. My Wife & Doughters met Mrs Blundell at the Edg.

14 Mr Sherlock din'd here, he began to Improve my Doughters in their Dansing.[1] My Wife & Doughters met Mrs Blundell at Mr Aldreds by Appointment. I met Mr Whitle, Parson Wairing, Mr Crisp & Thomas Syer at Thomas Howerds where we discoursed about Inclosing Crosby Marsh. Cozen Butler & Mr Morgan the present Land-Water [land waiter, customs man?] of Great Crosby was there with us.

15 I discoursed Umphrey Darant at James Browns concerning some Money of John Bryansons then I went to the New-hous & stay'd awhile with Mr Clifton.

16 I Began to lay up my Provision of Oat-Meale.

17 Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Crisp and I marked out the Seperation between Grange Warant and mine, Mr Blundell John Blansherd, Charls Howerd &c: were with us, when we had don we went to Charls Howerds and had a Bowl of Punsh.

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[1] "Teaching my Doughters to Dance . . . . . £ 2 0s. 0d.'

18 I went to Leverpoole & din'd at the Wool-pack with Mr Francis &c:. Mr Sheperd pay'd me £12 which I had lent him some Months since. I bought some Curron-Trees of George Smith. I spoke to Mr Peters for Warants and Subpenas upon Account of Night-Walkers & Breakers of Windows.

19 Cozen Butler took Phisick in the Morning & went after dinner to Leverpoole to meet Captain Thomas Vigars, he Lodg'd at Leverpoole.

20 Mr Sharrock & Mr Ned Molineux were here and bought some Thornes of me. I planted the 2nd Bed in the Vistow Nursery with almost six dozin good Slips & Cuttings of Curron Trees, it had ben Sowed in October with Black Cherrys which had ben steeped in Brandy, I suppose most of them had ben destroy'd by Mise or Magpyes. the first & second Bed backwards in the same Nursery I planted with almost 8 dozin Slips of Curron Trees severall of them had pritty good Roots. on the 3rd Bed backwards in the same Nursery I set about 5 dozin & a half of fine Suckers of Abaile.[1]

21 I went to Great Crosby Marsh where severall of that Town were mending the Road towards Leverpoole, they began of that work this day.

22 I went into the Town and made a farther Enquiry Concerning Night-Walkers and breakers of Doars & Windows. Fanny Dogg Jewell being ill Scaulded I sent him to Longworth to be cur'd by him.

23 I Planted pritty Oakes on two Sides of the Oat-Croft afew days since and today I set Roots of Bryers near them to preserve them from being dammag'd by Cattle.

24 I Stated Accounts with Ned Bridge, Thomas Davy & some of my Workfolk.

25 Cozen Butler went part of the way with me towards Leverpoole & then turned off to Bankhall. I try'd John Radcliff before Mr Joseph Poole for Breaking Windows and fourcing open Ailes Davys Doar, he was order'd to be set in the Stocks. Cozen Butler & I took a Glass of Wine at Mr Mos'es & then came home together.

26 Mr Blundell and his Brother Henry made a Viset here.

27 The Young Oakes which I set afew days since on two Sides of the Oat-Croft I set lately some Bryers neare them to preserve them from being dammag'd by Beasts & Horses and today I planted some Thornes amongst the Bryers for the same End. I garded most of the Elme Trees, which are set on two Sides of the little Moss-Hey, by making a good Hedg behind them & seting some Bryer Roots.

28 Mally having a very Bad Finger Dr Bromfield came & open'd it & let her Blood. James Worrall came to turne the Mill Rongs & to do some other Work.

The first & second day faire, then every day Raine and generally pritty much except one till the 25th then two days faire, the two last Wett, this has ben a very wett Month.

MARCH

1 James Fleetwood new Leaded some of my old Glass & made Windows of it for William Blundells Hous at the Four Laine Ends.

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[1] Probably 'Abell' or 'White Poplars'.

2 Cozen Butler went towards Rock-Savage to stay there some Weeks. Fannys Dogg Jewell was fetched home from Dr Longworth.

3 I pay'd Henry Morley for Daubing William Blundells Hous at the four Laine Ends he having finish'd that work today.

4 James Worrall has don working for me at the Present, he has turned the Trundle of my Mill & put in a good New Spurne to the West Side of the Mill.[1]

5 Mr Jackson of Leverpoole brought me a writing to Signe upon Account of John Hunt, but I desir'd time to consider of it. I found two Letters in a Clift stick (in the Great Courts) which I supposed were from W: Roo:.

6 I Had nine Hands fencing and seting young Trees at my Grand Cop by the Snigary, I was with them most of the day. I bought part of a Bay of Hay of James Wignold. Charles Howerd, William Harrison & I Sighned our Bargan for my Warant.

7 Richard Molineux pay'd me in some Money which he had upon Interest. Shurlicar came & put Corks to my Net which is for the Kanall. I went to Leverpoole upon John Hunts Account, I went with him to Mr Gra: & Advised with him about John Hunts Affaire, Hunt gave me a Bowl of Punsh at Jacksons. I bought some Wine of Captain Burch and took a Snap of a Dinner with him.

8 I gave Jane Jump a Bill payable at London for which she gave me Money. I set some Roots of Burrage [borage] & set some Small Potatows at my Grand Cop by the Snigary. I think the Leomond Wine was tunned.

9 On the 4th Bed backwards in the Vistow Nursery I pricked down some pritty Large Trunseons[2] of Abell Trees, most of the midle Row were Scrugs with very poore Roots. the 5th Bed I set with smaller Cutings of Abell. the 6th Bed I strowed over with very small Cutings of Abell & then cover'd them over with Earth.

10 I dined at Astley then went to Preston, I made a Viset to the three Sister Blundells & Lodg'd at the Whit Bull.

11 I made a Viset to my Cozen Eyre, I went and wished Mr William Plumbe & his Wife Joy. I din'd at the Whit Bull with Cozen Gillibrond &c:, MrThomas Starkey not being at home I could doe no Business for Madam Bagnall so came with Cozen Gillibrond to Astley where I Lodg'd.

12 Cozen Thomas Gillibrond and his Wife &c: dined with me at Astley and then I came home.

13 Thomas Cooper brought me some Burch Water.

14 I Sowed my Seed Pease and Beanes. I set 2 dozen pritty Curron Trees on a Border in the New-Orchard to grow there till I have a better place for them.

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[1] The sails of the windmill turned the main-shaft or wind-shaft. This turned the wooden cog-wheel or brake-wheel in the cap of the mill. The teeth of the brake-wheel engaged the wooden rungs of the trundle or wallower at the top of a vertical shaft running down through the mill. Thus power from the sails was transmitted to the mill-stones. The windmill at Little Crosby was a Tripod Post Windmill, in which the whole of the mill was supported by three huge timber baulks or spurnes in the form of a tripod.

[2] Truncheons—cuttings.

The 7th Bed backwards of the Nursery in the Vistow I set with Short thick Trunsions of Popular, the 8th with much smaller Trunsions, the 9th with pritty Swiches of Popular about 3 or 4 Foot long. I put a Paire of Whole- New Saile-Cloths on my Mill, it cost 6½d per yard.

15 The 10th Bed backwards of the Nursery in the Vistow I planted with the Last years Shoots of Popular they were cut below the last years groath about 4 Inshes. The 11th Bed backward I scatter'd with small Cutings of the last years groath, they had the joynt on, I Cover'd them over with Earth & pricked a few of the last years Shoots amongst them. I tun'd my Burch-Wine; the Water cost 12s-8d, The Sugar £2-2s-6d, Rasons 13s.

16 I mesur'd off a Kegg of Wine which Robert Weedow Brought for me from Captain Burch; there had ben some fowl play with it. William Carefoot bought me a White-Hors Jack at Ormschurch for a Thilar.[1]

17 Mr Aldred & I heard Mr Green read over our Answer to Darcy Chantrell[s] Bill amended. Mr Aldred and I dined at Mr Cottoms. I pay'd Captain Burch for a Kegg of Wine. Mr Heskaine gave Mr John Heys & me a Bowl of Punsh at his Hous, he was not very well.

18 I Began to set Potatows in the Crofts. James Scarisbrick sent me by his Wife the remaining part of his Fine. I Signed a Surrender upon John Hunts Account before Parson Wairing & Mr Jackson at Thomas Howerds, I drank there with them and Mr William Griffy a Customhous Offisor.

19 My Wife, I and Doughters made a Viset to Ince, Barton Mr Tyrers Stepson-Son & one Taylor were there.

20 Robert Weedow, Thomas Marrow and Edward Pinington beged my Pardon for a Misdemaynor, I made them pay some Money which was this day distributed to the Poore. John Fletcher one of the Trustees for the Poore of Windle & some of his Neighbours came to ad a Life in Taylors Teneament in Great Crosby, but we did not bargan.

21 I set some Cabbage Plants on the Terrass. I pay'd off Mrs Anns Bill.

22 I sow'd ¾ of a Bushell of Fitches upon some Earth which I had lay'd upon the Oat-Croft and then Harrow'd them. James Crofts was here, we Stated Accounts & he pay'd me the Ballance. I finished seting Potatows.

23 John Lunt whip-Grafted seaven Paradice Stocks with seaven different sorts of Apples in the Close-Hedg-Garden; he layed the Yew-Tree in the Stone-Garden to get Suckers from it. John Arnold pay'd me in some Money which he had upon Interest. Couzen Butler sent me a Present of a good Salmon from Rock-savage. William Carefoot bought me two Pigs at Ormes-Church.

24 Margarit Hewson of Litherland received £60 from me upon Bond, Mr Williamson Senior counted the Money for her, he & John Wainwrite were bound with her; they brought the Bond ready executed & all of them delivered it to me as their Act and deed. I went to Leverpoole and gave Mr Cottom a Bill upon Mr Rodburne.[2] I gave Mr Greene some Money to carry on the Sute

[1] Thiller or Thillur—the shaft-horse or wheeler in a team; sometimes called the thill-horse "Jack, a Whit Hors for a Thilor . . . . . £5 15s. 0d."

[2] Rodbourne was a lawyer or agent from London. He handled the financial arrangements in Nicholas's marriage contract.

against Darcy Chantrell. I bought some Flaxon of Mr Haymor for Mr Parks, I drank with him & Mr Robert Fazakerley at the Wool-Pack.

25 I Order'd John Radcliff to be set in the Stocks in this Town according to Mr Pooles Warant for breaking Windows &c: in the Night.

26 I went to Leverpoole, I took a dish of Coffy with Mrs Newton & then saw Pat: Pinington distribute 256 Palmes & then I went to Rock-savage where I Lodg'd, there was Briggadeer Moncall, Parson Hunt, Mr Ross &c:. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley lodg'd at my Hous.

27 Lord Barrymore went abroad upon Business. Old Silvester Richmond and his Doughter din'd at Rocksavage.

28 Cozen Butler went to Lodg at Oldton & I came from Rock Savage to Leverpoole where I received £50 from Mr Cottom for a Bill which I had lately given him upon Mr Rodbourne, Mr Aldred & I came home together from Leverpoole. Cozen Gillibrond went hence. Lunt set three Rowes of Harty-Chocks, I designe to bring them up with each, onely one Harty-chock.

29 I cut some Imps[1] off most of my Parradice Apple-Trees & layed them by for Grafting. I set some Holly-Oaks on the Terras. Roscows Mother Lodg'd here.

30 Henry Swift killed me a very fat Swine, he then Scaulded it and afterwards Singed it; I never had one so order'd before.

31 Mr Cottom came to see what commands we had to London. I sowed two sorts of Onion Seed in the Stone Garden.

Till the 20th every day faire except two, on which two days it rain'd so little 'twas heardly to be taiken notice of; from thence to the End of the Month almost every day fine agreeable Showers & very warme Weather which promiseth a forward Spring.

APRILL

1 I set some Rose-Trees to the Side of the Wall at the End of the Terras.

2 I Read part of the after Noone in a Spirituall Book and towards Evening I walked out with my Doughters.

3 Mr Rigmaden sent me by his Son Interest for £100. Thomas Martindall came to give me an Account what Flaggs he had provided for me & to know whether I would have any for the Great Courts. I Stated Accounts with some of my Work-folks & discharg'd William Weedow from being my Cow-Man.

4 I was at Sefton before they had read the Wardens Accounts. I din'd at Mr Actons with Parson Egerton, Parson Wairing, Robert Whittle &c:. William Blundell and his Wife came to live at the Four Laine Ends.

5 I sent four Cart Load of Barly to Tickleys to be Malted.

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[1] Small shoots.

6 William Carefoot sold me two Heffers at Ormschurch. I began to lay my whitest Greet[1] upon the Gravell walk. I began to prick out Thornes of one yeare old on the long Border between the Vistow Wood & the Beds of Aspargus & Strawbery & will set the whole length of the Border.

7 I set some suckers of Paradice Trees along the midle of the Paradice Bed, and of each side of the Paradice Bed I set a Row of Cutings of Paradice Trees.

8 Mr Wesby was here & discoursed me concerning his Debt to Madam Bagnall, I sent a Letter by him to Mr Starkey to stop Proseedings against him. Mr Plumbe drue a Judgment upon a Bond of Mr Fazakerleys & Mr Fazakerley sighned it in presence of John Smarley &c:. I bought some Wine of Mr Clenton & drank part of a Bottle with him at his Hous. I pay'd Dr Bromfield what I ought him and took a snap of a dinner with him. I drank with William Abram &c: at the Wool-Pack, his Wife was there, Henry Watkinson came home with me part of the Way.

9 Dorothy Blundell din'd here, she went with my Wife & Doughters to Mr Shepherds where they Suped.

10 I began to Gravell the Walk up to the Summer-Hous and almost finished it.

11 John Lunt grafted four different sorts of Apples in the Kitchen Gardin under the Larder Window and Grafted severall Virgins on the other side of the Garden in their proper Place. Pat: Haddock & Hardesty din'd and Lodg'd here.

12 I Sow'd severall sorts of Flower Seeds on the old Knot in the Stone-Garden. I went to Crosby Greene, there was Parson Brooks, Parson Davys, Bannion of Ormschurch, Mr Haymar, Doctor Bromfield &c:, there were severall Cocks brought from Leverpoole & Ormschurch which fought upon the Green, I saw three or four Battles.

13 I set some Scarlet Kidney beanes in the Stone Garden viz: one Row of the last years groath & three Rows of the yeare before. I began to sow Oats in the Town-Meadow. I Pay'd the Land & Window Tax to Edward Rothwell.

14 Cozen Butler being at Wooton sent hither of a How-do-you.

15 My Mare Muss Fowl'd a Hors Colt, she was cover'd the 12 of last May 'tis her first Colt.

16 Thomas Melling order'd something for a Heffer of mine which was not well.

17 I let William Formby have some Money at Interest, William Harrison & Charles Howerd were bound with him. Dr Lancaster came to see Pat: Aldred he having sent for him, being not well, Dr din'd here. I Bluddied three yearling Calves and removed them to the Winter-Heys.

18 I set year old Thornes on the two Borders of the lower End of the old Hasle Walk in the Long Garden, I cut off the tops of them and trimed them. My Wife and Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Syer who is lying in.

19 I went to Leverpoole and pay'd the Wapantack Rent[2] to William Hayhurst at the Talbot, Thomas Beswick was there. I dined at Mr Mosses. I began

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[1] Greet—a northern dialect word meaning finely pulverized soil, earth, dirt or mould.

[2] "Wapantack Rent for Ditton . . . . . 5s. 6d.
Recept for Wapantack Rent . . . . . 6d.
Writing done by Mr Moss . . . . . 2s. 0d."

to set Thornes at the Lower End of the Vistow of a Year old, I first cut off the Tops of them. Pat: Brockalds lodg'd here.

20 I cut off the Top of the Strip'd Hollin and lay'd some Suckers from the Remaining part. I began to delve Fleas in the Winter-Heys tis the first time I have delved any in that Field.

21 I went to John Blansherd to see what progress he had made towards building a New-Hous, Robert Bootle was there abeging with a Breef, thence I went to Mrs Margerys & gave her a Letter from Madam Cross.[1] I finished seting year old Thornes on the Border which reaches the whole length of the Vistow Wood 'tis set from the one end to the other. I sow'd Cowcomber seed on a plain hot-bed in the Stone-Garden both for eating & pickleing. I set some Seeds of Sun-Flowers on the Terras. Cozen Butler sent hither of a How-do-you and sent a Present of Snuff.

22 Pat: Munson made a Viset here before dinner, but would not stay, he was come out of Staford-Shire. I help'd to Bottle off two dozen & a half of Oring Wine, & put Sugar into the Botles.

23 Pat: Aldred not being well we went to Prayers to Ince.

24 Moss the Bayly of Farnworth was here for my Benevolence. I Botled off some Whit Wine which I had from Mr James Clenton.

25 I cut my Huswiffe-Net[2] less every way & William Pinington began to make it up againe. I was very busy drawing a Patron [pattern] for a Worked Pin-Cushen.

26 I Soded each end of the Terras towards the Passage to the Kanall. I went to Crosby Green, there was Dr Bromfield, Brown the Brewor, Parson Harrison &c:.

27 I Rode out with my Doughters, we called to see Mrs Parr. I Finished pricking out, year old Thornes, I have pricked out in the Gardens above 146000 tis a great deale too far on the year, onely that it has ben a very wet Season with severall warme days not withstanding which the Tops of them seems to be very much slaine. I began to prick out very young Heps of this years groth at the farther end of the Vistow, they seem as if they would grow well. I lay'd my Munkey in the Cart-hous-Pit.

28 I lay'd my Huswife-Net in the Cart-Hous-Pit. Mr Cottome made me a Viset he is lately come from London. I Fixed Seailebones round the Bottom of the Wall-Frute-Trees in the Back-Courts.

29 I Bought some Timber of John Melling for Gate-Stubs, he & William Thelwall met me neare Rimrose, then I went to Leverpoole and din'd at Mr Cottoms with Parson Davys, Mr Byrons Doughter &c:, Mr Cottom got me some London Bills for which I gave him £70. I payed Norton the Sadlor in full of all Accounts.[3] I bought some Wine of Mr James Clinton & pay'd him for it. Thomas

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[1] Mother Superior of the Poor Clare Nuns at Rouen.

[2] The local name, now obsolete, of some kind of fish was 'Housewife'.

[3] "Coach & Harnish bought some time since & payd in part & now in full:

	£	s.	d.
The Totall	82	3	0
Garth Webb		1	3
Hor Collers, &c:		12	1
Mending Sid-Sadle, &c:		2	3
Side Sadle	1	16	0
Coach Whip		4	6"

Lurting brought it home for me. I drank at the Wool-pack, with Mr Woothard & I think Mr Warbrick & was then seas'd with a Fit of Vomiting.

30 Mr Williams not being at home, Captain Henry & his Sister Margarit came to prayers to Mr Aldreds. Mr Livsey came to see what Phisick he was to prepare for Fanny. My Wife fell into the Hors-poole.

This has ben a very unsetled Month, some days very wet & others very warme, but generally very agreeable Showers with warme Weather which has produc'd a very hopefull Spring, the like scarce ever known.

MAY

1 My Wife & Doughters went to Leverpoole. I drew out some droughts for an open Summer-Hous at the End of the Kanall.

2 Mr Houghton sent his Servant for some young Pigeons to Store his Dove-Coat, I gave him almost 3 dozen. I rode out with Fanny to warne Boones to lead Dung on Thursday, I was at the Snigary & gave Thomas Marsor some Direcsions how to mend it, we came home through Great Crosby.

3 I went to Crosby Green but did not Bowl, there was Parson Jackson, Parson Kelsey, Mr Tatlock the Drapor &c:. Mr Cottom gave me my Gold Watch which he has got mended at London.

4 I Led Dung for Barly into the Pike with five Boone Carts & two of my own.

5 Cozen Butler came home, he had ben in Chesshire for some time. I set almost eleaven Quarts of Beanes in the New Orcherd.

6 Bess Fowled this Morning or rather in the Night a Hors Colt 'tis her first. I pricked out some small Collyflower Plants & set some Lettice to Cabbage. I set four Box-Trees in the Flower Garden.

7 I advised with John Vose about building an open Summer-Hous at the End of the Canall & concluded how the Brick were to be Shaip'd.

8 I Botled off a Kegg of Red Port which I had bought of Mr Clinton. I went to Richard West-head & agreed with him to go to the Slate Delf for me instead of doing Cart Boone.

9 I Led Dung into the Pick[1] with three Boone Carts & two of my own. I helped to Cord two Trunks which are to goe to York. Lord Barrymores Servant came with a Letter to Cozen Butler. Mr Sherlock came in the Evening & returned back.

10 Cozen Butler and I went to Crosby Green, I Bowled Hand to Fist with Thomas Fleetwood, there was Mr John Trafford Junior, Dr Bromfield, William Rollins[2] &c:. I began to get Turves this yeare.

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[1] Pike or Pyke—a field in the demesne lands.

[2] Entry number 506 in Nicholas Bl's *Anecdote Book* reads:—"Mr William Rollins of Leverpoole is this year 1727 in the 79th year of his Aaige. I saw him Bowl upon Great Crosby Green and run very nimbly after his Bowles, he then walked as nimbly and as upright as any one upon the Green and was particularly taiken notice of for walking nimbly and upright, he has had 23 Children by one Woman (to say nothing of others) of which sixteen of them went at once with him and his Wife to Church, he can now without any difficulty drink off a Pint of Brandy, and for 4 years together of his Life, he says he is well assur'd he has seldom or neaver failed to drink 3 Gallons & very often 4 Gallons of Wine or stronger Licker to his owne Shaire every day."

11 My Wife & Mally went to Leverpoole. Cozen Butler and I went to Crosby Green. Dr Bromfield took part of a Snaiker of Punsh with us, I pay'd him for four Pound of Tea. I pay'd John Arnold for som Seed Oats.

12 Yester Night & this Morning Cozen Butler took a Doce of Pills. Fanny and I rode out, I took Account of what Fleas Landers had delved for me and then went to see my Colts. I finished Barly Seeding. Cozen Butlers Stond-Hors Stiff-Dick was brought hither from Astley. Mr Molineux of the Grange was here, he told me they were diging for Foxes in my Warand.

13 Pat: Billinge, Aldred & I swore to our Answer in Chansery, I think 'twas to Darcis third Bill; we dined at the Talbot.

14 Gervace Cook left his Service. I went to Thomas Howerds where I drank with Mr Heskaine, Mosely the Gold-Smith &c:, Mr Henry Tyrer came to us, he had ben upon the Coronors Inquest at the Sea-side.

15 William Westhead & Robert Fareclough pay'd me their Rack Rent.

16 I went with Cozen Butler to look at Francis Farors Young Gray Mare. I got home som Timber which I bought of John Melling for Gate-Stubs. I set some Cowcomber Seed in the New Orcherd.

17 I went to John Blansherds Reareing[1] and drove a Pin, there was Mr Molineux of the Grange & I think William Blansherd and Nicholas Plumbe. Cozen Butler and I went to Crosby but it was so wet we went not to the Greene.

18 Bess was Cover'd at Ormschurch by Thurston Heskins Black-Hors Dick, he comes from towards Whitle Hills, she and Muss were cover'd with him the last yeare. Muss was cover'd by a Large Bay Hors call'd Jack which is said to be got by Ruflor & under a Mare of Mr Wins.

19 This is the first day of selling Turves this Yeare I stated Accounts of a long Standing with William Carefoot I Botled off above three dozen of Orring Wine.

20 I went to the Winter-Hey and took an Account of Landers what Fleas he has delved since he last gave me an Account. John Pendleberry came to be hier'd to be Cozen Butlers Servant.

21 My Wife and Mally went to Ince to Welcom home Mrs Blundell from Hooton. Captain Henry Blundell came to invate Cozen Butler & me to com tomorrow to Ince to Solemnise Mr Blundells birth he then being 27 years old. Doctor Bromfield was here.

22 This being Ormschurch Faire William Carefoot bought me some Beasts. Mr Sherlock was here, we danced Country dances.

23 William Pinington left my Service. I stated Accounts with Landers for delving Fleas & pay'd him and he gave me the Money he had receiv'd for Fleas. Widdow Molineux late of the Grange made a viset here, it being very wet she lodg'd here.

24 I Mesur'd one Aspargus which was in Circumference 3 Insh & $\frac{1}{8}$. Pat: Walmesley the Monk din'd here. Ellethan Hunter sent three Men to pill

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[1] The rearing of a building, when the roof and chimney had been erected was an event to be celebrated.

"John Blansherds Rearing . . . . . 2s. 6d."

three Oak Trees which I had fall'n in the Gardens.[1] I went to Leverpoole to Mr Heskaine where I took part of a Bowl of Punsh with Parson Brownhill, Mr Hollywell, Bannion of Ormschurch &c:, coming home I called at Thomas Howerds & drank with Cozen Butler, Parson Brooks & Mr Whittle, it was Parson Wairings Birth day.

25 I Sow'd some Beanes in the New Orcherd. Mr Sheperd & his Wife came hither just when we had dined. They Sup'd here. I mesur'd the Gravell Walk and it is 112 yardes from the Coat of Armes to the farthest Side of the Arch Summer-Hous.

26 I Mesur'd the Walk from the Summer-Hous to the farther End by the Long Garden Gate, it is long 144 yards & two Foot.

27 I took up some Cowcomber-Plants from the Bed in the Stone Garden and set them on a good Bed in the New-Orcherd. I went to Thomas Howerds where I drank with Cozen Butler & Mr Heskaine.

28 Captain Harry Blundell made a Viset here.

29 I let Antony Bolton have some Money upon Interest, Thomas Hesketh counted it for him, they both sighned a Bond to me. Edward Slator came to profer his Servis to be my Butler but we could not bargan.

30 Cozen Butler and I dined at Mosburgh. Fanny had a Box came from London from Mrs Butler. William Carefoot brought me seaven Beas[ts] from Weeton.

31 I Botled off above six dozen of Leomond Wine. Cozen Thomas Gillibrond sent me 3 Joynts of Pump Trees for my Cheane Pump.

The two first dayes faire, the rest wet except three, so that this may well be call'd a very wet Month.

JUNE

1 Parson Brooks din'd here. Mr Heskaine came hither after dinner so did Parson Wairing.

2 I was at a Vestary at Sefton there was the Church-Wardens Edward Rothwell & Hugh Whidby, Mr Whittle, Byron, Young Mr Williamson of Litherland, Tatlock the Dyor &c:, they agreed with John Melling to put the Church Clock into Order.

3 Couzin Butler went to Walton to Parson Brookses I should have gon with him, but was so busy packing up for my York-Shire Journey I could not go.

4 Mr Fazakerley &c: came to wish us a good Journey to York. Betty Blundell and Mrs Dorothy came to take leave of my Doughters, they Sup'd here.

5 My Doughters & I began our Journey towards York, my Wife & Cozen Butler went with us to Wigan where we Dined & Lodg'd at the Eagle and Child.

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[1] To take or peel the bark off, probably for use in tanning.

6 From Wigan we went to Holton Chappell where we called and saw Mary Pendlebury, thence to Bolton where we dined at the Whit-Swan & so to Queen Anns in Heward where we baited & then to the Union Flagg in Rachdaile where we Lodged.

7 I Pay'd for some Windows which John had broke upon the Rode.[1] From Rachdale we went to Ripandale where we baited, then to Yellon where we dined at the Talbot, next to Leeds where we Lodg'd at the Talbat.

8 From Leeds we went to the Whit Hors in Todcastor where we dined, Sister Midleton came to us in a Coach & took my Doughters with her to her Hous in York where we Lodg'd; I left my Horses at the Sighne of the Wind-Mill out of Midle-Gate.

9 We all went to Couzin Selbys to Prayers, he shewed my Doughters & me his fine Collecsion of English Coynes. Mr Maior of Lartington made a Viset here.

10 I left my Doughters with their Aunt Midleton & came from York to Todcaster where I baited at the White Hors, then to Otley where I dined at the Dragoone thence to Scipton where I Lodg'd at the Black Horse.

11 I was at Prayers at Mr Tempests of Broughton, Dr Traps was there, thence I went to Gisburn where I dined at the Cross-Keys then to the Whit Bull in Preston where I Lodg'd.

12 I discours'd Mr William Plumbe about Mr Fazakerleys Bond & Judgment and Mr Thomas Starkey about Mr Wesbys Debt to Madam Bagnall.[2] I Baited at the Spread Agle in Rufford and then came home.

13 I put some of my things which I brought from York into their proper Places.

14 I was at Crosby Green & Bowl'd hand to Fist with Robert Bootle, there was Parson Wairing, Thomas Fleetwood &c:.

15 I went to my Delvers of Turves in Margets Field, thence thorrow the Hightown to Edward Farecloughs but he was not at home. Pat: Turner came to take leave of me, he is going beyond the Seas. Mr Moss brought me a Leas which he had drawn for William Tarlton. I went to Thomas Howerds to Mr Heskaine, he pay'd me for my Hors Stagg, Cozen Butler was there, he came home with me, he has ben abroad 5 or 6 days at Wooton & Ormschurch Raices.

16 Morecroft of Ormschurch croped a Guelding of my Cozen Butlers. I went to William Tarltons Marlors & made them Shout. I made my Last Seeding of Garden Peas & Beanes.

17 I Perues'd Ailes Chaddocks Last Will & gave her Doughter Sera Johnson my Opinion of it. John Rigby Junior was here & told me he intends soon to goe towards St Omers.

18 Mrs Blundell and her Sister Mary made a Viset here, so did Nutty Worthington.

19 John Lunt began to dress my Wall-frute Trees which should have ben don one Month since. I went to Robert Blansherds Rearing of his Brick Barne and gave the Workmen somthing.

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[1] There is no servant with the Christian name 'John' in the wage-lists of this time.

[2] Catholic parents were finding it difficult to honour their agreements with nunneries and colleges abroad that were educating their children. Nicholas wrote many letters about this problem. He put the blame on the double taxation Catholics were paying and the difficulty of arranging for payments outside London. See December 23 1727.

20 Mr Robert Tute made a Viset here to Cozen Butler.

21 Weedow gave me an Account of the Quantity and valew of his Teneament & I let him know what he was indebted to me pritty exactly. I went to Crosby Green but did not bowl, there was Dr Bromfield, he had ben looking at Mr Blundells Foot which was hurt, Ogles the Gaigor, Mr Hamour, Cottom &c:, I was coming home pritty early but met Cozen Butler going towards the Green so turn'd back with him.

22 Cozen Butler went to Rightington to stay 3 or 4 days. I went to see Mr Blundell he having hurt his Foot.

23 I Stated Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts for Turves &c: and for his Disbursments for Beasts &c:.

24 I pay'd off William Thelwall & Thomas Marsor for Work done by them. John Blansherd pay'd me the first payment of his Fine.

25 I made Mr Plumbe a Viset and then went to Lodg at my Hous in Ditton.

26 John Norland & Joseph Bolton went with me to my Cole-Bank & shewed me how the way to it had ben cheained up by John Pickering of Hail-Bank, the Cheane was broke by Joseph Profit a Boat-Man. Mr Write of Cronton shew'd me his Proposall for geting an Act of Parleament for Enclosing the Commons of Ditton; he, John Norland & Joseph Bolton din'd with me at the Bank.

27 I came home through Leverpoole and dined at Mr Cottoms with the two Mr Peppers and Mr Glegg &c:.

28 I put the Leaves of Whit Lillys into two Glass-Bottles, they are to make Oyl on for a Burn or Scald.

29 I Seal'd a Leas to William Tarlton of his Teneament in Great Crosby & he the Counterpart to me, he pay'd me part of his Fine. John Rose payed me some Interest Money.

30 I went to the Dobb-Heys to look at my Colts. I helped Elizabeth Swift to dress & Sort some Tulop Roots.

Till the 10th every day Raine & generally pritty much, then every day faire till the 23rd except one day on which there was a little Raine, then every day to the End of the Month pritty much Raine except the two last days which were faire.

JULY

1 I went to Leverpoole and shewed Mr Norris a Map of Ditton Poole and informed him that the Rode to my Cole bank was Cheaned up; I also discoursed John Pickering and Richard Write concerning their Chaining up Ditton Poole. I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Cumpton &c:. I payed off all I ow to Mr Cottom and John Marsden. Cozen Butler came home, he has ben abroad for above one Week. I fetched the old Hous-Clock from Ince, Cozen Blundell had given it to me.

2 Cozen Butler went hence to stay at Olton. Mrs Ann Wilding and Arthur Brownbills Widdow dined and Suped here. I set a Duck Egg under a Duck which was in circumpherence six inshes & one quarter.

3 William Weedow & I took a Survey of the most part of his Teneament. One of the Sailes of my Mill was brock off. Mrs Byron & her Sister &c: made a Viset here.

4 I Began to lay in my Winters Provision of Coles with my own two Teames. I set some young Withen [willow] Trees at the End of the Canall, some a Little above the Water & others within the Water.

5 I Bowled at Crosby Green with Parson Egerton, Wairing, &c:, it being Prescot Race there was little Company, Parson Balden was there.

6 I drew up the Heads of a Bargan I had made with William Weedow for ading two Lives to his own in his Teneament. My Wife made a Viset to Ince.

7 David Ogleby came to be my Gardinor but we did not bargan.

8 I was busy all day mending my Huswife Net, I have made it much shorter.

9 Cozen Butler sent us a Side of Venison, he came home before dinnar, he has ben about a Week in Chesshire, Dr Bromfield suped here.

10 Cozen Butler went hence to Leverpoole thence to Preston Raices and then to York Races. Carefoot bought me an Aickor of Hay at Harris Carr. I got Home a good deale of it.

11 I sent to Wooton to see Mrs Clifton who was lying in of her first child. Mrs Par made a Viset here. Ellethon Hunter fetched away some Bark he had here of me. I finished Mowing except some Fitches which I threw upon some Meadow Ground which I had Earthed.

12 Mr Crisp pay'd me some Interest Money. I pay'd him a Customary Rent of 4d per Annum due to Lord Molineux.

13 Elizabeth Swift help'd me to lay a Huswife Net & two Apron Nets in the New Marlpit in the Great More hey.

14 Nelly Roscow Botled off two Rundlets of Aile, she help'd me to regulate my Sellor & cleane it.

15 Elizabeth Swift helped me to lay an Apron Net & a Huswife Net in the Long old Pit in the Great-More-Hey and at Night I took two pritty good Tensh which I put into the Canall, they are the first Fish I have put into it.

16 Mrs Dorothy brought my Wife some Norwidg Crape which Mr Sheperd had brought from Preston from Cozen Butler. Mr Rodger Diconson and Apothecary Gerard &c: were at Prayers at Mr Aldreds. Having some reason to think my Nets which lay in the Great-More-Hey Pit were robed I order'd Elizabeth Swift to watch them all Night.

17 I warn'd Boones to goe to the Slate-Delf for me & then went to Crosby Greene where I found Mr Roger Diconson, Parson Acton, Mr Byron &c:. I got in the last of my Hay except some few Fitches which I have to Mow.

18 I made two new places in the More-hey Pits and lay'd an Apron Net & a Huswife Net in them. I got home two Load of Flags for Flaging my Arch-Summer-Hous. My Wife went to Leverpoole.

19 Going to Crosby Green I met Toping the Parritor, I gave him somthing, I Bowl'd with Mr Byron, Robert Bootle &c:, there was Tatlock the Dior,

Young Mr Blase, Pat: Harpor &c:, Parson Acton was beging there for a Lame Son of William Bushells.

20 I got home some Flags and Slates with my own two Carts and twelve Boones. I lent John Blansherd ten Pounds upon his Note.

21 Will Hull pay'd me some Money to be sent to Gravling for his Sister Mary, he also gave half a Guiney for Mrs Bridget Clifton from her Brother Cudbert.

22 I Lay'd three Apron Nets and a Huswife in the Cart-hous pit & took one good Pick. I gave som Flowers to some Young Women of Ince towards flowering their Cross.

23 My Wife went to Darby to see Mrs Chantrell who was lying in & then through Leverpoole home.

24 My Maids went to the Flowering of Ince Cross. I met the Corps of William Weedow in this Town and went part of the way with it towards Sephton.

25 Mrs Blundell came hither & took my Wife with her to Richard Mores to make a Viset to Mrs Molineux late of the Grange.

26 I Pay'd Ralf Ainsworth his Waiges and setled Accounts with him. I went to Leverpoole and drank with Captain Anderton & Peter Wilkinson.

27 I Finished Slutching the Grove Ditch twas about 13 days work, I think it was Slutched about twenty years since or more. I got home the last of Winters provision of Coles with my own two Teames and four Boones. I Botled off six dozen & a half of Burch Wine.

28 Thomas Syor pay'd me some Money which I had lent him. Mr Molineux of Mosburgh being at Ince I went thither where there was Mr Molineux of the Grange, Mr Tyror of Ormschurchs Son Ralf &c:.

29 My Wife took a Vomit. I began in good earnest to shear Wheat in the Stock-Roots, but I made a sort of an entrance yesterday. A servant of Sir Edward Standleys brought me a Letter from him to desire my Interest for his being chosen Knight of the Shire.

30 Mr Cottom made a Viset here so did Mr Blundell & Mr Molineux of the Grange &c:.

31 I finished my Reaping Wheat in the Stock-Roots. My Wife began her Journey towards York to fetch my Doughters home, I went with her to Rufford where we baited at the Spred Agle, thence to Preston where we Lodg'd at the Whit-Bull; Mrs Wilding went with my Wife in the Coach, we made a Viset to Mr George Clifton.

First day faire, the rest unsetled till the 10th and some of the days very wett, then four days very faire, the seaven next days pritty much Raine, the five last days very faire & generally extreamely hot & though there has ben pritty much Rain this Month, yet those faire days we have had, has made amends & hitherto it has ben a good Harvest & a tollerable good Crop.

AUGUST

1 My Wife went on her Journey towards York and I came to Astley but Cozen Gillibrond not being at home I went to Cozen Thomas Gillibronds where I dined and so home.

2 I Order'd some Peas & Beanes and Kidney Beanes so as to be kept in the Swads[1] till Christmas or perhaps longer but it did not answer.

3 I got in about 44 Threave of Wheat being what grew in the Stock-Roots. Cozen Thomas Gillibrond Lodg'd here.

4 Pat: Aldred din'd here, he went with Cozen Thomas Gillibrond to Leverpoole.

5 Cozen Thomas Gillibrond went hence, I went to my Mowers & Hay-Maikers in Weedows Ground, thence to Ince to wate of Mr Standley of Hooton, Mr Blundell drew a Pit or two & took afew Fish, I saw them draw the Pits.

6 I Expected Mr Standley, Mr Blundell &c: here this after Noone but they sent me word they could not com, so I stayd at Home Reading a Spirituall Book.

7 Thomas Martindall began to dress Flaggs for the Great Courts. Mr Molineux of the Grange came to invite me to take a Glass with Mr Blundell, Mr Standley &c: at the Grange but I went not.

8 John Vose came to build my open Summer-Hous at the End of the Canall, he began to lay the Foundasion of it.

9 I went in the Evening to Crosby Green but did not bowl, there was Mr Danvers, Pemerton and Wilcock all from Leverpoole as I suppose.

10 I gave Parson Wairing some Collyflowers &c:, he sent for them. Mrs Ann being ill I took Account of her as well as I could, what she ought & what was owing to her.

11 I began to take up the Pavement in the Great Courts becaus I intend to Flag it. Charles Howerd the Overseeor of the Poore & I took an Account of Mrs Ann of what Money was owing to her, she being in Danger of Death.

12 I Fixed the Flurished Iron in the Top of the Arch which looks into the Canall. I made some Places in the Townfield Pit, Wheat-Hey-Pit & the Pit in the Corner of the Oaklands for laying Nets in.

13 Mr Blundell, Mr Standley of Hooton and his Son William &c: made a Viset here.

14 I Led home Turves with my own two Carts and three Boones.

15 I drank a Bowl of Punsh at Thomas Syors with Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas Whittle & Mr Jackson of Leverpoole, we agreed Matters amongst us as far as we could concerning Inclosing Crosby Marsh.

16 Going to Crosby Green I met Mr Moss & his Wife in Crosby, they were coming hither so I turned back with them. I went pritty late to Crosby Green but did not bowl. I Payed Mr Egerton two Guineys which I had lost to him, he gave a Bowl of Punsh out of it, there was at the drinking of it Parson Wairing, Mr Thomas Whittle, Thomas Syer, Mr Brownsword the Atturney &c:, we were very Merry about Thomas Fleetwoods Wiggs.

17 I Began to Mow my Barly in the Pike. I lay'd Nets in the Town Field Pit but took not one Fish in two entire days.

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[1] Swad—pod or outer shell of pea or bean.

18 I Finished the Brick-work at my Open-Summer-Hous.

19 John Vose helped to Anker the Gable End of the Hous of Offis, he new Tilled my Doughters Chimney, he having don working for me I pay'd him off.[1] I Began to lay the Arch-Summer-Hous with very good Flaggs.

20 Mr Cottom was here, there came a Captaine of a Guinea Ship with him whose Naime I think is Robinson.

21 Marsor began to prepair Side Stones to lay the Flaggs to in the Great Courts.

22 Thomas Martingdall began to Flag the Great-Courts. I began to Lead Barly out of the Pick most of it was Mowed. I went to see Mrs Margery Michellson who is dangerously ill.

23 I was with my Leaders of Barly in the Pick & with my Reapers of Oats in the Town-Meadow. I Sowed 2 Sorts of Cabbage Seed in the Kill Garden viz: Early Dutch and Russia.

24 My Wife came home and left my Doughters at Preston

25 My Doughters and Cozen Butler came home from Preston.

26 Thomas Martingdall having don Working for me I pay'd him off.[2] I set the Cart-hous-Pit a Runing in order to drain it if I can. Nathaniall Buck came to see if I would subscribe to his Proposalls for Publishing the perspective Vews of some old Abbies and Castles &c: in Lancashire, Chesshire and Darby-Shire.

27 Mr Blundell, his Lady & Sister Mary made a Viset here. I sent to see Mr Scarisbrick & Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh they being both ill.

28 William Carefoot sold me two fat Beasts at Ormschurch Faire. Cozen Butler went to Wooton, he Lodg'd there.

29 Henry Gray and I agreed upon a Fine for ading two Lives in his small Teneament, John Poole came with him, but nothing can be concluded till his Father come. Pat: Gorsuch came to welcom-home my Famoly from York, he din'd here. I cut the Neck in the Town-Meadow with Oats. Mary Wogden was taiken very ill.

30 I went to Crosby Green, there was Alderman Goodin, Alderman Tyror,

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[1] "Vose seting Tiles & other work . . . . . £ 3 s. 4 d.
Vose building the Open Summer Hous 17 2
Slates four to cover the Bell of the Clock 2 0
Laying the Slates over the Bell 1 0
Lead for laying on each Corner of the Bell Hovel 6 4
Slates at £1-6s.-0d. per Roode 15 2
Scapoling Slates at 5s. per Rood . . . . . 2 11"

[2] "Flaggs for the Great Courts be 59 yards at 10d. per Yard . . . £ 2 s. 9 d. 2
Dressing and Laying 59 yards of Flaggs in the Great Courts from the Hous to the Gate-hous & to the Steps up to the Gate-hous Chaimber at 6d. per yard besides Meat & Lodging 1 9 6
Diomond Flags for the Arch Summer Hous 14 yards & ½ at 1s. 3d. per yard 18 1
Dresing & Laying the Diomond Flaggs in the Arch-Summer-Hous at 1s. per yard 14 6
Some Flaggs were left unuesed both of the Common Sort & of the Diomonds, for which & for dresing them I gave . . . . . 18 6"

Parson Standley &c:, I Bowled hand to fist with Thomas Syer, when bowling was over I drank in the Hous with Mr Byron, Parson Wairing &c:.

31 Mrs Wofold came to wish my Wife & Doughters welcome home from York, she din'd here. Mary Wogden being extreamely ill Apothecary Livsey came to see her & gave her a Vomit.

Till the 20th every day faire except the 12th & 13 and those days not much Raine, from the 20th to the End of the Month some days very much Raine others very faire. There has not ben so hot an August nor so forward a Harvest known in these parts in the Memory of Man almost all Corne being hous'd before the Midle of September.

SEPTEMBER

1 I layed a Pump-Tree in the Deming between the Long-Garden Ditch and what I call the Stew.

2 I having drained a great deale of Water out of the Cart-hous-Pitt, I drew it with my own Net & took six large Pikes, some Hundreds of small Breames & I think about 20 Large ones. I sent Mr Blundell some Scoars of Breame Fray to stoar his Pits & some Fish to eat. I took a Blistering Plaistar off Mary which I lay'd on yester-night. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent hither of a How-do-you & a Present of Dambsons. Cozen Butler came home, he made me a Present of a Kegg of Brandy.

3 Mr Aldred not being well, we went to Ince to Prayers. Mr Whit an Acquaintance of Cozen Butlers dined here.

4 I Stated Accounts with James Crofts & pay'd off his Bill for Butchers Meat. I put Ingredients into two Bottles of Brandy to make Ratafia. I Botled off a Kegg of Brandy which Couzin Butler had given me.

5 I sent Mr Irelands Hors towards York by Pendlebury. I Sighn'd a Leas to John Atherton and he the Counter-part to me.

6 I fetched home my Winters Provision of Gees. Cozen Butler went towards Preston Race which is to be tomorrow. I drew part of the Cart-hous Pit and took one extraordinary large Ele, two good Pikes & a Carp long two Foot wanting 5 Eights of an Insh. I put it into the Shorter End of the Canall, tis the onely Carp I have there. I took severall small Breames & gave a great many of them to Mr Blundell, he sent for them.

7 Ellen Roscow went to see her Father he being ill, she is to stay 2 or 3 Nights. I got in the last of my Corne.

8 Pat: Aldred not being well my Wife walked to the New-Hous to Prayers, my Doughters & I went to Mr Crisps to prayers. My Wife & Doughters made a Viset to Mrs Acton.

9 I Led away some Rubbage and Brick which were left of my open Summer-Hous.

10 I sent to see Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh. My Wife, I and Doughters made a Viset to Ince.

11 Cozen Butler came home from Preston Raices. I had a Violent Ague Fit.

12 Apothecary Livsey gave me a Vomit, he Lodg'd here last Night.

13 I began to clense the Ditches in the Winter-Heys with Worthing Hooks.[1] Apothecary Livsey came to see me. Goosberry Vinegar was botled off.

14 Pendlebury came back from York, he had brought thither Lady Prestons Harnish & Mr Irelands Hors.

15 I was tollerably well having ben very Aguish for some days past.

16 Lovely being Laime I sent him to Longworth but he being gon out of Town William left my Horse there.

17 This was the first time Mr Aldred pray'd since he was so very ill, Mrs Blundell came thither to prayers and then came to see me, I being not well enough to goe to Mr Aldreds. Dr Lancaster came to see my Wife.

18 My Wife being extreamely ill of the Rash or some such Distemper, I sent againe for Dr Lancaster, he came & gave her a Vomit. Mr Blundell & Natty Floyd made a Viset here. Lord Molineux sent me a Hansh of Venison.

19 Doctor Lancaster came a third time to see my Wife & now aprehends her to have somthing like the Small-Pox. Mr William Walmesley, Pat: Bartlett &c: din'd here. There was a Purs of thirty Pound run for on Crosby Marsh, twas won by Miss Neesom a Bay-Mare of York-Shire, Lord Darbys Roger o Cawverley, Roan and Pall ran against her; my Wife, I and Doughters were none of us there.

20 Three ran on Crosby Marsh for a Plate of £10 Maikings Mare wan it; none of us foure were at the Race. I fetched home som French Wine from Leverpoole which Cozen Butler gave me & some Whit-Wine which I had bought of Mr Clenton.

21 Three ran on Crosby Marsh for a Plate of £5, one Hunts of Darby wan it; my Doughters were at the Race.

22 Doctor Lancaster came to my Wife and order'd her a Purge & to be Bluddied. Mrs Ann being dead, William Harrison and Edward Rothwell advised with me about her Buriall. Cozen Butler saw us draw the Carthous pit, we took but Little.

23 Mrs Wofold sent a how-do-you to my Wife and me & to invite Fanny to com stay with her. Cozen Butler gave us a Snaiker of Rack Punsh 'twas the first I ever taisted.[2]

24 Pendlebury let my Wife blood. Cozen Butler Lodged at Wooton.

25 Bryan Lea acquainted me with his resolution to leave off Hous-keeping. John Lunt worked here, I pay'd him off & have now quite discharg'd him.

26 Henry Hunt was here I pay'd him for his Journey with my Wife to York. Apothecary Livsey came to see us.

27 Thomas White my Gardinor came to me from York. My Doughters rode out with me to take the Aire. I Finished geting my Apples. Cozen Butler

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[1] Dung forks.

[2] 'Snaiker of Rack Punsh—punch made with arrack. 'Arrack' is spirits distilled from the fermented sap of the coco-palm, or from rice and sugar fermented with coconut juice.

came to see us and then went back to the Stand to my Lord Molineux with whom he had Hunted today and killed a Fox.

28 I sent a Present to Mrs Trafford in Ormschurch of a Pigg & three Turkeys. I brought home my Horse Lovely from Longworth, he had ben with him upon Account of his being Gravaled in his Yourk-Shire Journey.

29 They sent a How-do-you from Mosburgh. Robert Whawley & Henry Watkinson pay'd me part of their last years Rack Rent. Cozen Butler came home, he had ben som time with Lord Molineux at Wooton & the Stand.

30 Nelly Roscow went to Warington to the Buriall of her Aunt. Parson Wairing came & invited Cozen Butler & me to dine with him at Crosby Goosfeast.

Every day this Month som Raine & generally pritty much except the 7th & 18 which I think were the onely faire days.

OCTOBER

1 Widdow Molineux late of the Grange sent a How-do-You hither. Captain Henry called here as he was going to the Stand to my Lord Molineux.

2 Being Lord Molineuxs Hounds ran a Fox past here which took over Alt I follow'd them to Formby but not finding eather the Gentlemen or the Hounds I came home again; Lord Molineux, Mr Clifton, Mr Pigeon &c: called here as they were going home from Hunting, they did not light onely took a Glass at the Gates. I began to get up my Potatows.

3 Mrs Wilding went home to Leverpoole, she has ben here awhile attending my Wife in her Sickness.

4 Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent a How-do-you hither. Apothecary Livsey came hither of a How-do-you. My Wife took a Purge by Dr Lancasters Orders.

5 Mrs Blundell came to see my Wife, so did Mrs Par. John Lunt took his Tooles out of the Garden-Hous being I intend not to employ him any more.

6 My Wife took a second Doce of Pills by Doctor Lancasters Orders. Cozen Butler dined at the Stand with Lord Molineux and went with him to Mr Crisps to take a Glass.

7 Mr Davys of Manley & Ned Farnworth called here, they had ben looking for a Fox, they did not lite. I Pricked out som Colly-flower Plants & early Cabbage.

8 Cozen Butler and I din'd at the Stand with Lord Molineux, Mr Davys, Parson Brownhill &c:.

9 I Layed my Carrots in Sand to keep all Winter.

10 John Tickley made me a very good Hacking Stock for cuting Beef on. James Worrall came to mend my Mill one of the Sale Rods being broke.

11 I cut down a Tree at the Side of the Bleaching Yord for the Repaire of the Mill Sailes. Mr Luis made a Viset here.

12 Pendlebury Bluddied Fanny in the Foot. I killed a very good Scotch Runt. I pay'd the Land Tax & Window Tax to Thomas Radcliff.

13 Fanny being ill I sent for Dr Lancaster but he was pre-engaged so could not come.

14 Dr Lancaster came & Order'd somthing for Fanny & Order'd Ailes Chantrell[1] to be Bluddied. I Lay'd som Strip'd Hollins to take Rooting & prick'd down som Cutings.

15 Cozen Butlers Servant John Pendlebury let Mally Blood. Apothecary Livsey came to see how we all did.

16 I wained Besses Hors-Colt which I call Burly and Musses Hors Colt which I call Bucksom. Thomas Weedow of Formby came to desire me that this Town would contribute towards the Mantainance of his Son. Mr Plumbe made me a Viset before Dinner but did not stay. Cozen Butler and I dined at Parson Wairings it being Goosfeast Monday, with Parson Balden, Davis, Acton and their Wives &c:. I Hier'd James Williamson to be my Husbandman, Groome &c:.

17 Mrs Margery Michelson being dead, I went to see if I was left an Executor but I was not, so I came back; there was the three Executors Mr Blundell, John Blansherd & Thomas Lunt.

18 It being Crosby Goosfeast I went to Hesketh's & took a Glass, then to Margaret Lurtings and drank with William Westhead & Robert Darant, next to Thomas Howerds where I drank with Parson Wairing, Crisp &c:.

19 Thomas Marsor fixed the Lead Boylor in the Washhous bettor. Cozen Butler went to Lodg at Wooton. I was at the Buriall of Mrs Margery Michelson & was a Bearor with Mr Blundell, a Son of Ewen Leas &c:.

20 Cicily Roscow having ben ill a great while, went hence to Warington in hopes to be cured. I went part of the way with the Corps of Thomas Bootle, I was Entertain'd at Henry Williamsons with one Molineux who Married a Doughter of Mr Boltons of Eusom, Robert Bootle, Parson Wairing &c:.

21 I clear'd Accounts with Mr Cottom and took a Glass with him at his Hous. I pay'd Mr Clenton in full for Wine and took a Bottle with him at his Hous. I gave Instrucsions to Mr Moss to draw a Leas for Robert Weedow. I took two Mice in a Wier Trap they had pulled a peece of Broad Woosted Taipe which was above two yards & a half long entirely into the Trap.

22 Mrs Wofold of Morehall sent hither to see how we all did. Mrs Blundell & her Sister Mary made a Viset here.

23 Robert Blansherd, George Riding, and I, met Mr Blundell, Woodcock, Robert Darant &c: at the Division Ditch, we Examain'd the Water Courses & found Faults both on Ince side and our own, we took a Glass at Robert Blansherds.

24 I Began to Earth up my Hartichoks for Winter. John Dumbell came to borrow my Cheane Pump which I lent him to draine a Pit with in Croxtath Park. Mr Blundell and Captain Henry din'd at Mr Aldreds, I went thither after dinner.

25 Mr Rigmaiden & I met Mr Blundell and the other Executors of Mrs

[1] Maid to Mally and Fanny.

Margery Michelsons at Lady Green, where Mr Rigmaden and I decided a Case which was in Debate and was the Occasion of our Meeting there.

26 I made my first Seeding of Peas in the Stone Garden, to be early next Summer.

27 I made my first Seeding of what they call Spanish Beans or Hotspurs, to be early next Summer.

28 Mrs Blundell came in her Coach and took my Wife & Doughters in it to Mrs Parrs.

29 Apothecary Livsey came to see us. I sent a How-do-you to Scarisbrick the Famoly most of them being ill.

30 I set my best Tulops in the four Hearts in Flower Garden & in the New Flower-Pots at the Side of the Canall. I began to lay my Apples up in Straw to keep.

31 The Walk in the Back Courts being very dirty and Slabby after Wet and especially in a Thaw, I took off the top Part of it and New lay'd it, to try if it would do better.

Till the 20th every day Raine & generally pritty much except the 2nd which was faire; the three next days faire, then 4 or 5 days extreamly Misty and Heasy, from the 26 to the End very wett except the two last days; the latter End of this Month was extreamly Cold & very Windy.

NOVEMBER

1 This being my Wives Birth-day Mr Aldred dined here. I sent to see Mr Blundell he being not well.

2 I was busy most of the after Noone helping to set Tulops on their Proper Beds in the Stone Garden. My Wife and Mally went to Leverpoole.

3 I put some Achhornes into the Ground to sow in Spring. William Thelwall & John Tickley came to dress my Glead but did not finish it. Mr Blundell not being well, I went to see him. John Ainsworth accepted of one of the Proposalls I had made him & Naimed two Lives to be in his Leas.

4 I set eight Hundred & a half of Tulops on three Beds in the Kill Garden, they were all Seedlings of different Aiges except about 14 or 15. Fanny went to see Pat: Gorsuch being he is not well.

5 Mrs Molineux of Mosburgh not being well I sent to see her.

6 I put 10 Hors-Chesnuts into Earth to sow them in Spring, they are much Wither'd with Lying so long out of the Ground.

7 Pendlebury brought me a Letter for my Cozen Butler his Master. I put up a Hogg to feed.

8 I was with John Tickley most of the after-noone whilst he was triming my Glead.

9 I planted a Hornbeame-Hedg upon the Terras along the Side of the Canall.

Mary Wogden left her Service obruptly & without any Occasion & took no Leave.

10 I set some Elder Trees among a Row of young Oaks in the Vistow-Wood to be Shelter to the Young Oakes. Old Mr Walmesley of Showley lodg'd here.

11 Mr Walmesley & I went to Leverpoole, Sera Atherton met me there and pay'd her half years Rack Rent. I gave Mr Cottom £15 for a London Bill. I drank a Bowl of Punsh with Mr Moss in his Office. John White was with us.

12 My Doughters made a Viset to Ince.

13 Mrs Thornberry dined here. I set Suckers of Lime Trees upon the Terras along the side of the long Canall.

14 William Harrison & John Howerd payd me half a years Rent for my Warant and some Ground.

15 Henry Williamson was here & insisted upon his Son James his coming to be my Servant.

16 I killed a very Fat Little Red Cow.

17 Frances Lidiat was here, my Wife discoursed her about being Cook here. Olivor Taylor was here, I discoursed him about his Debt to me & about selling his Teneament without my Lisence.

18 I fited up a Mole Trap & shewed Thomas how to set it.

19 My Wife, Doughters and I went to see the Sick at Ince.

20 I set some very good Renunculas & Anemonys in the Flower Garden, they came from Warington.

21 I Began to feed two Larg Oxen with Oats.

22 I Began to raise the Miding-Stead at the back of the Stables. Thomas as he was going to set a Mole Trap took a Mole with his Hands in the Runn.

23 I began to sort the Boughs in the Bleaching Yord and cut them into Hedging Wood & what they would shape best into.

24 I put som Ingredients into two Quarts of Goosberry Vinegan in Order to make Ink.

25 I went to Leverpoole & Sighned a Leas at Mr Mosses to John Ainsworth and he the Counter part to me.[1]

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[1] "Nov. 25th A.D. 1727—Ainesworths Teneament being quite loose I Sealed this day a Leas to John Ainesworth the Son of Richard of the whole Teneament for the Life of the said John & of Ralph Ainesworth his Brother for five years certaine & after that terme for 99 years provided the said John or Ralph or eather of them so long Live. Fine Sixty Pounds. Rent and other Covenants as usuall. The Fine was too little a great Deale, but John was an honest endeavouring Man & thô there were severall small children & nothing left to keep them on, yet he mantain'd them without the assistance of the Town wch made me be so Kind to him.

The Teneament consists of:—

Rood		£ s. d.
1½	Yard Wheat Lands	1 07 00
0¾	Clay Field	0 18 00
½	Croft under the Yards	0 12 00
02	Turft Heys	1 08 00
0¾	Woodam	0 15 00
03	Mosses	2 00 00
08½		7 00 00"

26 William Ashtons Wife came to see what I had don for her at Leverpoole yester day about her LandLord William Davy.

27 Thomas Melling brought me some Money from Jane Bootle to be sent to Mrs Cros.

28 Mr Eckleston who was formerly Clark to Mr Green brought me a Letter from him which he had received from Daniall Dandy concerning Chantrells Affairs.

29 Ailes Chantrell went to the Buriall of her Aunt Betty. I set three Guilded Philareas[1] by the Windows of the Great Parlor.

30 Mary Wogden who left her Service three Weeks since, came for her Cloaths, I pay'd her what Waiges was due to her.

Till the 5th very Faire from then to the 23rd very unsetled Weather, from the 23rd to the End of this Month very faire.

DECEMBER

1 I sent two Large Load of Gorse to the Grand Cop by the Sniggary.

2 I attended the Corps of Parson Acton[2] from his Hous to the Church, there was Parson Balding, Harrison, Wairing, Davis & Parson Mount, Mr Moss, Benjamin Branker &c:.

3 Captain Henry made a Viset here. My Wife sent to condole Mrs Acton for the Death of her Husband.

4 Cheetom brought me a Letter from Mr Green with one in it from Mr Dandy concerning Knoctorum affaire. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley Lodged here.

5 Cozen Gillibrond dined at Ince, I went with him part of the way. Dr Bromfield made a Viset here.

6 Cozen Gillibrond went hence. John Craine came to put up a Pair of Mill-Sailes which were begun of by James Worroll but Worrall not being well could not finish his Work.

7 I went to my Workmen who were fencing at my Grand Cop by the Snigary, then went to Carefoots & met Charls Howerd & William Harrison, I shewd them what Housing I was willing to let them have there.

8 Pall Windle brought me some Birme [barm] and payed me two years Interest.

9 John Craine put me up a Saile Rod which was begun by James Worroll who was not able to finish it.

10 I went to see Mr Blundell he being not well.

11 I fetched hom a Swine & a Cow which were part of the goods of Catherine Carefoot deceas'd, I took them in part of an old Debt. Cozen Gillibrond of Astley sent us a Noble Present of Brawn.

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[1] Phillyrea—an ornamental evergreen shrub; also called 'jasmine-box' or 'mock-privet'.

[2] Curate at Sefton Church.

12 I set severall Chives of Tulops upon the Cop at the Side of the Bleaching Yord.

13 I Strain'd som Ink which I made afew days since. Henry Swift and Robert Weedow agreed to break off a Bargan in presence of me which they had formerly made.

14 John Sumner & Richard Goar swept some of my Chimneys. I began to make a larg Huswife-Net.

15 One of John Craines Apprentises cut me a Thorn Tree into Mill Coggs.

16 William Carefoot went with me to his Mothers where he sold som goods to Henry Swift, I shewed Henry Swift & Charls Howerd how I intended to devide that Building between them.

17 It was a bitter day of Snow, but being it thawed in the Evening I shewed Thomas & Ralf how to cleane the Gutters upon the Top of the Hous.

18 My Wife went to Mrs Blundells Labouring, she was deliver'd of her Son Rowland.

19 William Carefoot sold some of the Goods of his Mothers she being dead.

20 I wrote severall Letters which are to goe to the Post. John Harefoot brought me my Provision of Candles.[1]

21 Mr Blundell came a Shooting about this Hous, he came in & took a Hearty Glass with me. I killed a very good Swine.

22 John Whit pay'd me som Interest Money, I went with him to Mr Aldreds where I found Mr Jackson of Leverpoole, he came home with me & took a Glass at my Sellor.

23 I met some of my Ditton Tenants at Leverpoole, they payed me their Rent. I discoused Mr Plumbe about William Ashtons Bargan with Skiner Davy & shewed him the Drought of the Bond which Mr Thomas Wesby must sighn for Payment of his Sisters Porsion, he dined with me at the Talbot.

24 I went to Mr Aldreds as usuall about Nine of the Clock at Night.

25 I heard two Masses as usuall at Mr Aldreds this Morning or rather in the Night & one at tenn of the Clock.

26 My Maides saw som Tricks of Leger de Mesney at Ned Farors.

27 I was very sick whilst at dinner as usually I have ben though somthing wors. Thomas Howerd sent me four Packs of Cards which came from Mrs Thorp.

28 My Wife & Doughters went to see Mrs Blundell who was Lying in. I made up a Misunderstanding which was between John Tickley & his Son Richard, they pay'd me som old Arreers of Rent.

29 I let John Fleetwoods Wife have a Bottle of Dr Cawoods Eye Water. Apothecary Livsey dined here, he brought me a Bill of what I owe him.

30 I made some Proposalls to Henry Swift to take Thomas Carefoots late Hous &c:, I fetched home som goods from Thomas Carefoots which I took in part of his Debt he being dead.

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[1] "Candles above six Dozen . . . . . £1 18s. 9d."

31 Cozen Butlers Servant John Pendlebury was here from his Master. My Maides went at Night to Margarit Marrows to be Merry & eat som Christmas Faire.

This has truly ben a Month of Winterly Weather, not above three days faire, the rest some very wett others Snow or Sleet then afew days Frost which ended in cold Thaw and Raine; it may be called a Cold & Raw Month.

January Seasonable Weather, though very Cold & little Frost; February extreamly Wett; March & Aprill pritty Faire with now & then fine Springing Showers & pritty warme & a very hopefull Spring; May Wett; June pritty much Raine; July pritty much Raine though did no harm to the Harvest, the End of the Month being extreamly hot; August Fine Weather for the Season; September extreamely Wett; October Wet & Windy; November Pritty much Wett; December Frost, Snow, Raine and truly Winterly weather but nothing to excess.

Much dammage don in many parts of England this year by Thunder & Lightoning. Corne generally speaking proved small.[1] Never so sickley a time known in Lancashire as from May till the End of this Year, abundance died but generally those above 50 years old, the Distemper was an uncommon sort of a Fever which eather took them off or ended in a violent Ague which often lasted severall Months & was scarce possible to be cuer'd and most who had these fits had them after different Mannors so that they scarce knew when to expect them, being somtimes Quartan, Tersion &c: and som had an easy Fitt and as soon as that was gon off had a most violent Fitt; in som other parts of England they fair'd not much better and beyond the Seas it was a very sickley time. When the Distemper began to abait the Horses in severall places were ill, being seas'd with a runing at the Nose & a Cough of which som Few died. Vast Quantitys of Hearings were taiken this Winter upon this Coast and at Formby &c:.

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[1] "Anno Domini 1728 and 1729 Corn was very scarce in Lancashire, as well as in other parts of England. For which reason great quantitys of Corne was brought into Leverpoole and I am informed from very good Hands that from June the 24 1728 to May the 6th 1729 there was import into Leverpoole 234562 Bushels of Corne, chiefly Wheat and Barly."
Anecdote Book, Number 516.

Anno Domini 1728

JANUARY

1 Gabriell Norris &c: pay'd me their Rent. I apply'd Plaisters of Venus Tirpentine &c: to William Carefoots Rists against the Ague-Fits.

2 James Williamson came to be my Groome & Husband-man. I hier'd Edward Pinington to be my Butler. I put a Scoprall[1] under the Belly of Buty and Lovely.

3 William Carefoot helped Henry Swift to remove Hous; he brought home with him some few things of his Mothers which were unsold & we took them between us at the Valuasion.

4 James Massy was here and mended one of the Covers for the Salt-Tubs. James Rigby acquainted us with the death of his Wife.

5 I went to Leverpoole with a £15 Bill which was returned unpay'd from London, I got the valew of it in other Bills. Mally went to Mathew Withingtons & hier'd his Doughter Ann to be my Wives Maide & Chaimber Maid but she came not.

6 Wignold & William Carefoot payed me for my Warant [warren]. Edward Rothwell pay'd me the last of his Fine.

7 Edward Pinington came to be my Butler. Ailes Chantrell having ben for some time very ill of an Ague went home to stay awhile.

8 I gave new Tickets to most of the Poore of this Parish. I Staited Accounts with William Carefoot for his Receipts & Disbursements for my use, I pay'd him what Waiges was due and he now leaves my Service.

9 Mr William Nelson brought me a Letter from Mr Thomas Wesby and spoke to me in his Behalf. I gave a Purge to Buty & Buck for Grace in their Heeles.

10 I pay'd the Land Tax to Thomas Radcliff. John Seadon being dead I went and prayed by him.

11 Pat: Clifton made a Viset here, he stay'd & play'd at Cards.

12 My Peas being very forward I cover'd them with Mats & Straw to preserve them from the Frost. Fanny went to Darby to see how Ailes Chantrell did of her Ague-Fits.

13 Henry Swift took a Cow home with him which I had sold to his Sister Elizabeth.

14 Mr Aldred not being at home my Wife, I and Mally went to Mr Crisps and heard Mr Curedon hold forth 'tis the first time any of us heard him. My Wife, Doughters & I made a Viset to Ince; James Williamson drove the Coach 'twas the first time any of us were driven by him.

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[1] A plug put into a seton made in a diseased part of an animal's body. A seton was a thread or tape drawn through a fold of the skin to keep open the affected part and to allow the discharge to escape.

15 Thomas Martindal came to see when I would employ him to work for me.

16 I went to Charles Howerds but did not lite, thence to my Work-men who were Hedging at the side of the Snigary Fleame.

17 I Removed some of my Apples & picked and sourted them and layed them well up in Fresh Straw. Thomas Howerd being to be buried today, I went to his Hous, there was Parson Wairing, Charles Howerd &c: I did not attend the Corps towards Sefton being Mr Trafford & Mr Thomas Wesby were com hither, so I came home to them; Mr Wesby & I agreed Matters between him and Mrs Bagnall and he payed me Money upon that Account.

18 I Layed Chandlors Graves to Butys Hinder Leggs to cure him of the Grace. I sow'd Sallet Seeds on the Border in the Close-Hedg Garden.

19 Mr Standley of Hooton being at Ince, Mr Blundell desir'd my Company, so I went & took a Glass with them.

[**20** The only day on which Blundell failed to make an entry. Ed.]

21 Mr Blundell and Mr Standley made a Viset here.

22 Mr Aldred not being at home my Wife and I went to Formby to Mr Clifton and my Doughters went to Ince.

23 I began to lead away som Earth at the side of the Moss-Hey Ditch where I intend to make a Wall & plant a Hedg.

24 I attended the Corps of Mr Molineux of Mosburgh from thence to Melling, I was a Bearor so was Mr Cubbon, Mr Scarisbrick &c:, as I went I called at Mr Bowers at Aintry there being a Saile there.

25 They brought me home my Cheane Pump which I had lent to draine a Pit with in Croxtath Park.

26 John Craine was here I pay'd for work done at my Mill. I met Charles Howerd at Jacksons, he gave me som Plate in pawn for Money which his Brother Thomas ought me. I made my second Seeding of Peas and Beanes in the Close-Hedg Garden.

27 I let Richard Renold have £10 upon his Note, John Blansherd came along with him.

28 Captain Henry Blundell made me a Viset, he suped here.

29 I was busy most of the after-noone trying how a Huswife Net which I was maiking would fit my Hoops & seeing whether it was well proporsioned.

30 Pall Windle came for som Thornes, I let him have two Hundred. Mr Hamor made a Viset here and told me he had got som Secking made for me.

31 Betty Blundell sent me part of what she owes me by her Sister.

Till the 11th almost every day pritty much Raine, the Five next days unsetled then wett till the 23rd, from that to the End generally very faire & som Frost.

FEBRUARY

1 John Rose payed me som Money which I had lent him.

2 Mr Aldred not being well my Wife, I & Doughters went to Ince to prayers. Henry Morley & I made a sort of a Bargan for Tompsons late Teneament

for a tirme of years. Mr Robert Chantrell dined here, he desir'd me to writ to Mr Green in his Behalf. Sera Atherton pay'd me the last of this years Rent, she Lodg'd here. I sent James Williamson to Garswood to see Sir William Gerard and to Mosburgh to condole Cozen Molineux for the Death of her Husband.

3 I went to Leverpoole and payed Thomas Hurst for two Pump-Trees and an Oak Powl to make a Ladder of. I pay'd Apothecary Livsey in part of what I ought him. I bought som Wine of Mr Clinton and pay'd him for it, I drank at the Wool-pack with Parson Egerton, Parson Brooks and his Brother &c:.

4 Mr Aldred not being well my Wife, I and Doughters walked to Ince to prayers. Dr Lancaster & Bromfield came to see Mr Aldred, they made a Viset here.

5 I went to Leverpoole with Henry Atherton & demanded from Mrs Hargrave £15 upon a Note which her Husband had given to Sera Atherton. I drank at the Mill-Stone with Atturney Smarley &c:, as I went to Leverpoole I met Mr Cottom coming hither. I gave Mr Green Fifteen Pound upon Account of Knoctorum Sute.

6 I sent to Arrowsmith to come to look at som of my Horses which are laime & sent a How-do-you to More-Hall and Scarisbrick.

7 Arrowsmith apply'd melted Swines Grace and Oat-Meale to Butys and Bucks Leggs they being Graised. I began to replant the Snaik-Hedg in the Bleaching yord with Privet having first layed Muck at the Bottom & then good Earth. Thomas Howerds goods being praised today I went thither and spoke to Thomas Syer &c: about his Debt to me and then went & drank with Mr Blundell, Parson Wairing, Robert Bootle &c:.

8 Ailes Chantrell caime home from her Fathers she having ben there som time for want of Health.

9 I plainted one Pair-Tree and tenn or eleven Apple-Trees in the New-Orcherd, Long-Garden & New-Grounds. John Leigh brought me a Provision of Burch Beesoms.

10 I met Sera Atherton at Leverpoole in hopes to receive som Money for her from Mr Jones or Hargrave but could not get any. I pay'd Mr Cottom £10 for a Bill which he gave me, I drank at Mr Cottoms with Parson Brooks and his Brother &c:, I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Hamer, Mr Rigby of Sutton Hall & Apothecary Livsey.

11 Apothecary Livsey made a Viset here. Fanny took Phisick by Orders of Dr Bromfield. My Wife, Mally and I were going to Ince to prayers but hearing Mr Williams was not well we turned back.

12 Doctor Bromfield made Fanny a Viset she being under his Charge for a Laimness in her Thigh. I began to cast down my Wheat-Ridges, it being my firsr days Ploughing since Christmass, The Young Oaks which I replainted in my New-Plantasion in January 1726/7 and cut off pritty neare the Ground, I began to trim up with one Stemm.

13 Nelly Roscow went to see her Mother and to stay one Night or two. My Eyes being ill, I lay upon the Bed till neare Noone & stired not out of the Hous. Widdow Ridgate proposed to put on an other Life in the Leas.

14 Though my Eyes were ill I went into the New-Plantasion & saw them Harrowing old Witherd Grass off a Large Bed of Young Thornes.

15 Mrs Blundell came to see Fanny & me. Dr Bromfield made a Viset to Fanny, she being under his Charge.

16 I sowed Privet Berrys amongst the Privet Trees in the Snake Hedg.

17 I sent 19½ lb. of Fine Flaxon Yorne to Timothy Much to be Woven by him.[1]

18 My Wife & Doughters went to Prayers to Ince and went thither of a Viset after dinner. Mr Blundell and his Brother came to see me, I being ill of my Eyes.

19 I took a Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods Direcsions. Atturney Brownsword and Dr Bromfield called here as they were going to the Grange. Ellias Mellors Son of Darby was here with his Rich Pack.

20 A Millwrit came for som Rongs for Sephton Mill, I let him have som. I sowed Hay-Seeds on that part of the Bleaching Yord where the Snake Hedg is planted.

21 Thomas Martindale came to work for me.

22 I took a second Doce of Pills according to Dr Cawoods Direcsions. Dr Bromfield came to see Fanny and Orderd a Fomentasion for her, he cut a Wart off her Brest.

23 Mr Aldred dyed, I helped to lay him out & took charg of his best things.

24 Pat: Hardesty,[2] prayed for Mr Aldred in his Chappell, there was a pritty large Congregasion. I sent my Cart to Leverpoole for Meat & Drink for Mr Aldreds Funerall and went to his Hous to see part of it carefully taiken care of.

25 Mr Aldred was Buried in the Harkerk,[3] there was at his Buriall or at least in the Hous the Famoly of Ince, Parson Wairing, Mr Cottom, John Rose, Robert Bootle, John Blansherd &c:.

26 Thomas Newton began again to work for me, I think he has not worked here of above half a year, upon account of his ill Health.

27 William Formby pay'd me Interest for £70. I strained off my second sort of Ink.

28 My Colt Burley had like to have ben lost in one of the Moss-pits in the Winter-Heys. Mr Sheperd of Darby made a Viset here.

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[1] "Weaving fine Flaxon at 3½d. per yard . . . . . 8s 5d."

[2] Father John Hardesty, S.J., son of Thomas Tempest, of Broughton Hall, Yorkshire was the Catholic priest serving Liverpool.

[3] In the Harkirk Burial Register, Nicholas wrote:—

"122. Mr Robert Aldred was born at London; he was a Priest of the Society of Jesus; he came to live with me August the 6th A.D. 1707, and continued with me for som years, then lived as my Priest at Edward Howerds in Little Crosby till the West lain Hous was built for him, where he dyed Febr. the 23rd, A.D. 1727–8, and was buried in the Harkirk on the 25; he was a Laborious good Missioner, a Fasatious pleasant Man, and very well beloved by Protestants as well as Catholicks; he lyes next to Mr Lovell on this nearer side of him."

In the wall of the small Memorial Chapel built in 1889 on the site of the Harkirk Burial Ground, three gravestones have been preserved, one of which is from the grave of Father Aldred.

29 I set the three farthest Beds of the Nursery in the Vistow with Seedling Goosberry Trees; they had ben pricked out once before, and were raised from Seeds of severall Sorts of Goos-Berrys which were sowed August the 19, 1724, the 3 next Beds to them were set with Cutings & Slips of Goosberry Trees which had ben pricked out before and taiken good Rooting. Thomas Cooper came to let me know when he would bring som Burch Water. I hir'd Thomas Whit to be my Gardinor till Michalmas.

Till the 8th very faire, from then to the End of the Month very unsetled Weather, but generally pritty much Raine though now and then a fayre day or two.

MARCH

1 I helped Launders to measure the Timber he had sawed for me, I pay'd him for it. Thomas made a Hot-Bed to Rais Cowcombers in, but not to grow in; I shewed James Massy how to make Baskets to sow Cowcomber Seed in, for the first Seedling Hot-Bed.

2 I helped Ned Pinington to set Grinn Traps over the Servants Chaimber to Catch Rats.

3 Mrs Blundell made a Viset here and brought Nutty Worthington with her.

4 James Crofts was here, I pay'd off his Bill for Meat to this day. Thomas set some Baskets with Cowcomber Seeds in, in the Hot-Bed. Apothecary Livsey made me a Viset, he had ben at Great Crosby with the Hunters. Mr Scarisbrick sent to see me being my Eyes were ill. My Wife & Doughters went to make Mrs Acton a Viset and to take leave of her, being she is soon for leaving these parts, but she not being at home they made a Viset to Mrs Crisp.

5 I went with Thomas Marsor to the late Hous of Mrs Ann Rothwell & shewed him what he was to do at it. My Servants went to John Johnsons at Night to turne their Pancaikes and be merry.

6 My Wife and Mally walked to Ince to prayers but Mally not being well she stayed Dinner and I sent for her Home in the Afternoone

7 I cut som Imps of Virgen Trees to keep a few days till they are grafted. I set two Beds of Cutings and slips of Curron Trees & one Bed of Cuting & Slips of Goosberry Trees in the Nursery in the Vistow, they had ben set before and had good Roots. Mr Williams and I looked over some of Mr Aldreds things and put them into a little Order. Mally went to Leverpoole.

8 I began to set more Achhornes in my New Plantasion, they had ben buried in the Ground most of the Winter.

9 I sowed some Crab-Seeds. I transplanted som Peas, by way of an Experiment, which were so tall they had ben twice Earthed up; they did extraordinary well.

10 My Wife went to prayers to Ince. Mr Blundell came to see me upon Account of my Eyes being ill.

11 Mary Fleetwood sent som Men to make me New Glasses for Hot-beds and to work up old Glass for the four Laine-End Hous in which Mrs Ann

formerly lived. Greenhold the Bayly of the Hundred was here for my Benevolence, I gave him 2s-0d.

12 Dr Bromfield was here he let Fanny Blood in the Arme. Cozen Butler sent to see Fanny and me & to let me know when Mr Chistleton[1] would be at Chester. Thomas began to make a Cowcomber Bed to prick out Cowcomber Plants on. My Wife went to Timothy Muches about a Maid but to no purpose.

13 Mr Lockard[2] came to supply in Mr Aldreds place till an other came to stay; he lodged here, I went with him to the West-Lain Hous. I sowed about one Quarter of a Bushell of Heps on 3 Beds in the Vistow being 22 Yords of Ground besides the Reanes. I sowed next to them one Bushell & ¼ of Haws of four Beds being 30 yards; the Heps & Haws had ben kept two Winters in the Earth.

14 I Smoaked som Barrells with Brimstone for Tunning Burch-Wine in. I began to graft. Cozen Butler sent his Servant to let me know Mr Chisleton dos not come to Chester so soone as expected.

15 James Massy began to work againe for me he has not ben able of above half a year to do a good day-work.

16 Thomas Marsor began to pull down part of the End of the Four-Lain-End Hous in Order to rebuild it. Thomas Cooper brought me 55 Gallons of Burch Water. Mr Lockard went hence to live at the West-Lain-Hous. Jane Newhous came to be Cook here or at least to stay till we be better provided.

17 My Wife and Doughters went to Ince. Mr Lockard and I walked to Ince but I came home in the Coach, Fanny went to bed very ill. Crook the Taylor came from Ince hither.

18 I set one Bed in the Vistow with two Rows of fine Suckers of Abell & one Row up the midle of the same Bed with Suckers of Abell cut off close to the Ground.

19 Mr Moss brought me som Leases which he had drawn; we peruesed Robert Weedows and mended it where it was rong. Cozen Butler sent an Express to let me know when Mr Chisleton would be at Chester.

20 Robert Weedow pay'd me part of his Fathers Debt. Crofts pay'd me for two Larg Oxen. Pat: Smith lodged here. I tunned some Burch Wine, there was 55 Gallons of Water cost 19s; Five Score Pound of Lisbon Sugar £2-14s-2d; Fifty Pound of Rasons £0-17s-8d; The Juce of 36 Leomonds £0-04s-6d; the Leomond Juce was not one Pint & half I made it, into Sirop & put it into a nine Gallon Kask but there was so little of it, it gave it no relish, when 'twas Tunned it did not with all the Ingredients make above 37 Gallons.

21 Pat: Smith and I staited Accounts, he pay'd me a good Sume of Money; I went with him to the West-Laine-Hous and gave him Account of what I had charge off, belonging to Mr Aldred, he gave me orders how to dispose of them & gave me som things.

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[1] A doctor.

[2] This was probably Father Thomas Lockhart or Lockhard who was born in Hertfordshire in May 1672. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1693. He was a missioner for some time at Cheame in Surrey, and then at Culcheth Hall in Lancashire. He died at Bryn, near Wigan, Lancashire, on 2 March, 1744. His appointment at Little Crosby was only a temporary one. Towards the end of 1728 Father James Clifton, S.J., a nephew of Father William Clifton, S.J. of the Formby mission, was appointed to Little Crosby. He stayed until his death, September 27 1750.

22 Mally and I dined at the Bank of Ditton, then went over by Runkhorne Bote, so thorrow Rock-Savage Park to the Whit Hart on Frodsom Bridg, where Cozen Butler met us & went with us to the Golden Talbot in Chester[1] where we Lodged.

23 Mr Chisleton, Dr Ferniough &c: came to my Lodging I advised with him about Mallys Eyes and mine & about Fannys Laimnes. Dr Bromfield dined with us. Cozen Butler & I made a Viset to Sir Henry Bunbury,[2] we drank there with Mr Semor Chulmondeley[3] &c:, Cozen Butler & Mally Suped at Sir Henry Bunburys.

24 Mally and I came hom from Chester, we dined at the Red Lyon in Warington; Cozen Butler came part of the way with us.

25 John Sumner pay'd me part of Thomas Davys Fine and I payed him for Work &c:. I stated Accounts with William Blundell for his yearly Allowance.

26 Ellen Roscow left her Service. I payed Mrs Acton and the Sexton the Buriall Dues for Mr Aldred. James Fleetwood was here to mend som Windows and to Sawdor the Leads where it Rained in.

27 I Lead som peeces of Brick to the four-Laine-End Hous to be used there and som Stones from thence to the Cross-Field Wall to mend it with.

28 Mr Blundell sent his Cart for my Cheane Pump, I lent it to him.

29 I sent James to Arrowsmith with Jewell being somthing ailed his Neck.

30 I went to Mr Cottom & payed him what was owing by Mr Aldred, I took up Out-side &c: of Mr Cottom for two Liverys.[4] I drank at the Wool-pack with Mr Moss & Mr Crumpton &c:.

31 Mrs Blundell and Mrs Mary made a Viset here. Nelly Eastom Lodged here.

There were not above eight faire days this Month, the rest generally extreamly wet & cold, so this may truly be called a very Wett & cold Month.

APRILL

1 I Began to uncover my Aspargus and fork over the Beds.

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[1] "Journey with Mally to & from Chester . . . . . £ 2 s. 14 d. 4
Phees at Chester to Doctors 3 3 0
Phisick for myself 14 0
Phisick for my Wife 1 15 3
Phisick for my Doughters 1 3 2
Phisick for Servants 15 5
Phisick for Horses . . . . . 1 4 7"
These are grouped together in the first Quarter, 1728 Accounts.

[2] Sir Henry Bunbury was lord of the manors of Stanney and Bunbury, and from 1700 to 1727 was Member of Parliament for Chester.

"Sir Henry Bunbury, gay, good-humoured and lively, was an intimate friend of Farquhar, the comic writer who drew from him the character of Sir Harry Wildair" (Ormerod: 'Cheshire')

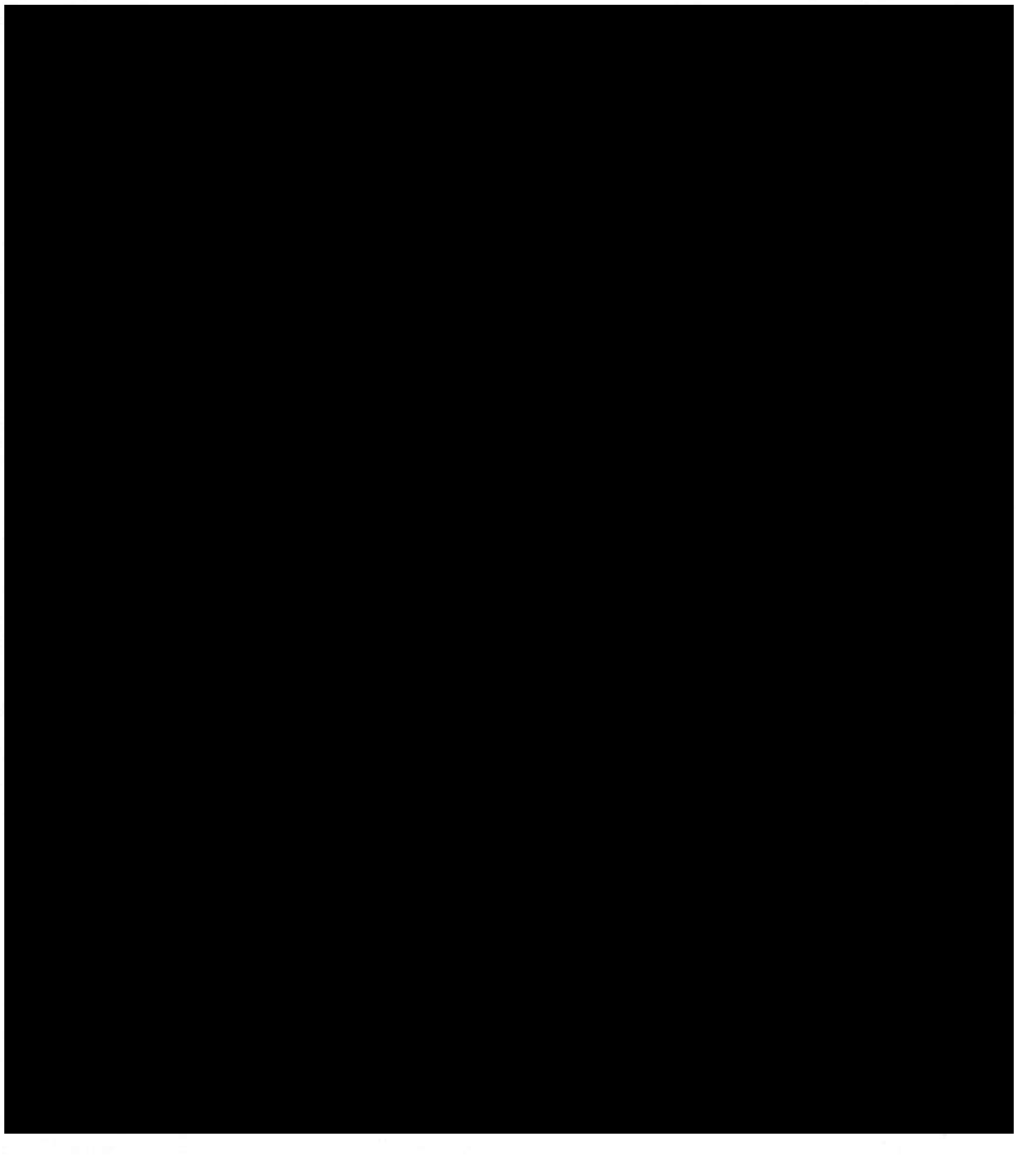
[3] Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, Member of Parliament for the County of Cheshire.

[4] "Outside, &c: for two Liverys . . . . . £6 9s. 9d.
Making two Liverys . . . . . 18s. 0d.
Livery Scarlet Stockings 2 Pair . . . . . 6s. 6d."

2 Mr Moss sent his Servant to know what Mr Fazakerley ought me, I set it down upon the back of a Sub-pena and Sighned it. Mr Sadlor brought me a Silver Tobacco Box on which he had engraived my Crest.

3 Ellen Eastom came to be Maid here.

4 Fanny rode out behind me. I enquired of Richard Renold &c: for Seed Oats. I set som Kidney Beanes in the Hot Bed, in Order to rais them early.



Appendices

APPENDIX A

AN INVENTORY OF THE GOODS, CHATLES, &c., BELONGING TO NICHOLAS BLUNDELL OF LITLE CROSBY, ESQUIRE AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, 21 APRILL 1737, what part thereof disposed according to his Legacees, & value of the rest as sold Or appraized.[1]

	£	s.	d.
To MRS BLUNDELL, he bequeaths £50.–.–. in money; One Table Cloth, best Dyaper; One of the best Huggeback with one Dozen Napkins sutable to each Cloth, 2 Huggeback Table Cloths of a Coarser Soart with two Dozen Napkins sutable to [them], two Finest Towells, 4 of a Coarser Soart, One Pair Holland Sheets, two Pair fine flaxen Sheets, two Pair of Coarser, & 4 Pair of Servants Sheets; All the China bestowed by his Mother & others & all the China he bought when with her at London, also the Silver Coffy Pott, & Diamond Ring which was his Mothers and all other Diamond & other Rings & Trinkets she has and all the Books & other things She can call her owne as her Gold watch, &c.. One pair Gold Beads & Cross supposed to have been Queen Mary of Scots, A Gold enameld Crucifix with the Image of our Lady on the back which crucifix is within a Silver case, A Silver Reliquary which he constantly wore in form of a Heart, and desires at her death may be left to her Daughter, The Lives of Saints in fol:, Any House she pleas to Chuse and not otherwise disposed by his will; with best Side Sadle, best Pillion and furnitures—all which accordingly deliverd as by her rec[t]. 17 June 1737	—	—	—
To the HEIR OF CROSBY to remain, the Hall grate and the two Large Tables & forms in the Hall; The 2 Lead Boylers in the Brewhouse, the Mash Tubb & Cooler, The grate, the Boyler & Table in the Bakehouse; The grate, the Jack, Spitts & Rackens, the Oak Chest & Drawers & Kitchen Table with Drawers, all the Furniture in the Higher Gallery, & the Pixis made of the Silver found in the Harkerk or buriall place; the old Watch made in form of a Cross, for sake of its antiquity; the Cedar Chest of Drawers & Small Oak cabinet in his Closet; all his family Pictures, such as are Relations	—	—	—
To his SON, H[enry] P[eppard]. His Breeding Mares for the Coach, and Colts under five years old	—	—	—
To his DAUGHTER, F[rances] P[eppard]. his Coach, the two wheel horses and Harnis for four horses; The Large pair of Silver Salvers, and all his China ware not before disposed of, and the five hundred pounds he has a right by deed of Setlement to charge on Crosby estate, or such part thereof as will not be wanted to make up what his personall Estate may fall short of his Debts, Legacys, &c., which he first subjects it to	—	—	—
To his BROTHER, JOSEPH. A Gallaway or Servant's horse with Sadle, Bridle & Housing such as his Son Pippard shall think proper, and Ten pounds in money on N[icholas] B[lundell]'s death & Ten Pounds more in a Year after, his best Suit of Clothes & any 6 of his Books, Except Manuscripts. all this perform'd. .	—	—	—
To his SISTER WINIFRID. Ten Guineas in money, is Paid	—	—	—
To his MEN SERVANTS, And some of the Poorest Tenants, &c:, The Most of his wollen Apparell, which is done	—	—	—
To his MAID SERVANTS, his worst Linen Cloths, which is done . . .	—	—	—
To his MILLER & each of his Meniall Servants who have lived with him one year—half a Guinea, is paid	—	—	—
To EACH SERVANT who has lived with him three years and are Servants to him at his decease, One Guinea over & above the said half Guinea, this paid . .	—	—	—

[1] DDBl/54/24—Lancashire Record Office.

	£	s.	d.
To Each of his 4 EXECUTORS, Five Pounds, this Paid	—	—	—
To MR. CLIFTON. One Suit of Mourning, a Wigg, two fine Shirts, two Stocks or Cravats, two Silk handkerchiffs, 2 pair Worsted stockings, two Guineas in money, & 6 Books he shall think most usefull to be kept in West lane house; perform'd	—	—	—
To his SISTER, MIDLETON, four of his Spirituall Books which she'll chuse if worth her acceptance. She'd died before	—	—	—
To his NEPHEW LANGDALE, Parsons Directory neatly bound and Guilt, wch. is sent him	—	—	—
To 4 or 5 of the NEIGHBOURING GENTRY at Dirge, a Guinea each; & each other in Lancashire, 10/–; to Dunkerk, Rohan & Ipres, 2 Guineas each; to Guant, 3 Guineas; to Gravling 5 Pound; to St. Omers 5 Pounds . . . All which is paid.	—	—	—

1737	£	s.	d.
Aprill 21 Money found by Executors in his Closet	59	3	6
June 11 More found per Henry Pippard in drawers	3	17	9
One Cow he hired by N.B. to Richard Goore to Milk by the week, she dyed, but paid		6	8
1 Cow sold James Croft at.	4	3	0
3 Cows sold at Ormskerk	10	0	6
1 Cow & 1 Cush[1] killd for house	5	10	0
9 Milk Cows appraized per J. Blanchard	27	0	0
5 Stirks . . . . . Do.	5	5	0
7 Calves . . . . . Do.	3	12	6
1 Heffer, 3 year old . . . Do.	3	5	0
1 Old Coach horse 'Beauty' (dyed of the Farcen soon after), valued at 50/–. .			
1 —Do.— 'Diamond' exceeding old (dyed), valued at 20/–			
1 old Coach horse, old 'Jack', very poor, sold for 10/–		10	0
1 Mare very old, 'Bess', Dyed in Winter heys.			
1 Poney 'Button', given Mrs Crisp per F.B.,.			
Corn sold & used in house valued	3	11	8
	180	5	7

In'paid not	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
John Rothwell per Bond	5	0	0			
Wm. Johnson —Do—	5	0	0			
John Wignoll bond & note	2	0	0			
John Jackson —Do—	5	0	0			
John Marrow —Do—	9	1	6			
Wm. Tarelton —Do—	9	1	3			
Robert Whaley Rent &c.	15	0	0			
John Howard note	9	5	7			
Wm. Abraham Arrears	28	0	0			
Henry Watkinson —Do—	4	5	0			
John Tootall in his hand	1	10	0			
Parcell Old fleas[2] to Cureden		4	0			
James Kerfoot for 3 Trees.	1	5	0			
Robt. Blanchard Rent	3	18	11			
Wm. Formby 2 Bonds	80	0	0			
—Do.— Interest per 1737	1	3	0			
Severall for Arrears of Lord's Rent, Tenants Turf .	17	2	3			
Thomas Thelwall Bond	9	18	0			
				206	14	6

[1] Cush—a cow without horns.

[2] flea turf.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
sold Two Large & 1 Small Salver wt. 42 oz. 6 p.wt. at 5/4	11 5 7	
—Do— 6 forks & 1 Spoon 18 oz. 5 p.wt. at 5/8	5 3 5	
—Do— 8 Spoons & Ladle 18 oz. 1 p.wt. at 5/3	4 14 9	
—Do— 2 Tumb[ler]s & Salts 18 oz. 1 p.wt. at 4/6	4 1 3	
—Do— Old Silver 10 oz. 4 p.wt. at 4/–	2 1 0	
—Do— Old Lace, Rings, &c.	16 8½	
Sold for	28 2 8½	
Deduct for the two large Salvers which were left to Frances Peppard, 32 oz. at 5/4	8 10 8	
	19 12 0½	
Sold P.P., An Old Tankard 21½ oz. at 5/3	5 12 10½	
2 Silver Cans & a Peper box sold to Cat. Eccleston for	7 0 9½	
Totall sold for	32 5 8½	32 5 8½
Kept for the house & valued & sold		
1 Large Tankard 34 oz. 6 p wt at 5/6	9 8 4	
3 old fashioned Casters 20 oz. 1 p.wt. at 5/6	5 10 3	
1 old Salver included above, 5/4	00 00 00	
1 Cup for beer 7 oz. 5 p.wt. at 5/6	1 19 10½	
4 Salts 4 oz. 14 p.wt. at 5/4	1 5 0	
10 old Spoons 14 oz. 1 p.wt. at 5/4	3 14 8	
an old Milk Jug 4 oz. 16 p.wt. at 5/4	1 5 7	
1 Sweetmeat Spoon 3 oz. 3 p.wt. at 5/6	17 3	
1 Tobacco box 3 oz. 10½ p.wt. at 5/6	19 5	
1 Pair old Spurs to C.P. valued.	15 0	
6 Tea Spoons Gilt 2[1] oz. 16 p.wt. at 6/–	17 6	
6 —Do.— Given Mother Blundell, at 5/9	00 00 00	
1 Gold Cross given to Frances Peppard	00 00 00	26 12 10½
French Plate Tea Ketle & stand, a Coffy Pott & Large Salver, 4 Candlesticks & 1 Small Candle Stick for Smoaking, (being the Silvering worn of) valued about		1 5 0
The Amount of what received & value of whats in hands as appraized		393 3 8
In the ARCHES—a Fether bed, 50 lb. & Boulster 37/6, blanket & rug 5/–, old Bed Stock & Curtings 10/–, 4 Old Chairs 4/–, 2 Old Stools 8d., & old Table 6d.		2 17 8
In the YELLOW ROOM—a Fether bed & boulster 37/6, & Coverlid 2/–, Old Bed Stock & Curtings 10/–, 2 Old Chairs 2/–, 1 Stool 6d., & old Table 1/–.		2 13 0
In the OLD ROOM—a Fether bed & boulster 37/6, & Coverlid 2/–, old bedstock & Curtings 12/–, 4 Old Chairs 4/–, A Stoole 3d., 1 Table 1/–, & Press 3/–, 1 grate		2 19 9
In the BLEW ROOM—a Fether bed, 3 boulsters, 11 Pillows 50/–, 1 Pair Bed Stocks 20/–, 6 Blankets & Coverlid 9/–, 1 Chaf bed 1/–, 4 Chaf Pillows 8d., Old Curtings for Bed, &c. 1/6, 6 Old Chairs 6/–, 1 Stool 4d., 2 Tables 3/– & 2 Stands 1/–, 1 grate 1/6		4 14 0
In the GALLERY—3 old Tea Tables 6/–, 13 Kain Chairs 26/–, A Grate & Tiles 7/6, 1 Chest £5, 1 old Skreen 5/–, & 2 Wind: Curtings 10/–		7 14 6
In the GARDEN CHAMBER—1 Feather bed, boulster & Quilt 56/–, a Pair Bedstocks 10/–, 3 Blankets 26/–, 1 Looking Glass & 2 Sconces 50/–, Bed Curtins Crimson £7, 2 Tables 6/–, 1 Stand, 1 Arm Chair, 2 Stools 10/–, Wind: Curtins Crimson 20/–, Rush Bottom Chairs 10/–, 1 Large & 1 Small		

[1] An alteration makes it difficult to tell if this should read 2 or 4.

	£	s.	d.
Skreen 7/6, Grate & Tiles 17/6, 1 Chest of Drawers 20/–, & 5 Litle Pictures 2/–.	18	16[1]	0
In the KITCHEN CHAMBER—1 Feather bed, boulster, quilt 40/–, Bed Stock & Curtins 20/–, 1 Coverlid 3/–, 3 Blankets 15/–, Grate 2/–, 4 Chairs 4/–, 1 Clock 30/–, 1 Table & Stand 3/–	5	17	0
In the DRESSING ROOM—1 Feather bed, Boulster, & Pillow 37/6, 2 Blankets 10/–, 1 Quilt 3/6, Looking glass 4/6, Old Bedstock &c. 6/–, 2 Chairs 2/–, & an old Chest of drawers 5/–	3	8	6
The MAIDS ROOM—2 Fether Beds, 1 Boulster & 2 Blankets £3.10s.0d., 2 pair Bedstocks 10/–, 1 Looking glass 2/6, 2 old chests & 3 chairs 8/– . .	4	10	6
In the STORE ROOM—2 Oak Chests for flower		10	0
In the BREWHOUSE ROOM—1 Fether bed, Boulster, & 2 Pillows 45/–, Bedstock & Curtins 60/–, 3 Blankets 20/–, 2 Quilts 10/–, 1 Press 5/–, 1 Table 2/6, Window Curtins 10/–, 1 Arm Chair 5/6, 5 small old chairs & 1 stoole 5/6, Grate 2/–, 2 Chests Drawers 5/–, 2 Close Stooles 2/–	8	12	6
In the GREEN ROOM—1 Fether bed, boulster & Pillow 37/6, Pair of old Bed Stocks & Curtins 20/–, 2 Blankets & Coverlid 12/6, 2 Pictures 1/–, 3 Old Chairs 3/–, & old Chest Drawers & grate 4/–	3	18	0
In the PASSAGE—3 Presses 15/–, 5 Chests 7/6, 3 Blankets 12/–, 3 Pillows 3/– .	1	17	6
In the PARLOUR CHAMBER—1 Fether bed, boulster & quilt 40/–, 3 Blankets 20/–, 2 Looking glasses 50/–, 1 Table & Stand 3/–, 1 Skreen 2/–, 7 Chairs 10/6, 2 Arm Chairs 7/6, 2 Stools 2/–, 2 Pictures 1/–, Bedstocks & Curtins £4.4s., 1 Scrutore[2] 50/–, 1 old grate 1/6.	13	11	6
In the DINING ROOM—5 old tables, 2 Chairs, 1 Skreen		15	0
In the HALL—an old Cloths press 3/6, 2 Round Tables 21/–, 3 Oak Chairs 5/–, & 1 Cain Chair 1/–	1	10	6
In the FRONT PARLOUR—1 Peer Glass 60/–, 1 Chim: Glass 40/–, 1 Grate 10/–, 2 Glass Sconces 15/–, 4 Glass branch whole & broke 4/–, 1 Squab[3] 2/6, 1 Card Table 5/–, 1 TeaTable 3/–, 9 Chairs & Cushions 27/–, Wind: Curtins 10/–, 3 Prints 1/6. (The Grate is with Brass &c.)	8	18	0
In the PANTRY—2 Small Tables 6/–, 6 Chairs 9/–, a grate 1/–, a Small Cubbord & press 2/6, a small desk 1/–, a Pair of Tables 1/–, an old Glass case 6d., 2 knife boxes 6d., & 1 bread box 6d., 2 Plate warmers 12/–	1	14	0
In the BACK PARLOUR—1 Looking Glass 50/–, 1 Weather Glass 2/6, 1 Table 10/–, 8 Cain Chairs 16/–, 1 Arm Chair 3/6, 1 Corner Cubbord 5/–, 1 grate 2/6, 1 Pair of Bellows 1/–, (Plate Glass &c. in the Boset put by themselves)	4	17	0
In N.B's CLOSET—A Parcell of Books mostly old, an old Chest of Drawers 2/6, & a Strong oak box 2/–, a Chair 1/–		5	6
In the KITCHEN—One Toasting Iron & Cheese Toaster 1/6, 2 Brass Skimers 1/–, 2 Brass spoons 1/–, 2 Iron spoons 6d., a Copper Ladle & a Brass Ladle 3/6, 4 pair Iron Pothooks 4/–, 1 Iron Egg Spoon & a tin one 6d., a flesh fork 6d., a pair of Tongs, 1/–, 1 pair Griskin Tongs 6d., a Brass Chafing dish 2/6, & 3 Iron ones 3/–, 2 Choping knives 1/–, a Warming pan 10/–, & an old Brass dish 1/–, 1 Cullender 8d., 3 frying Pans 3/6, 1 Grid Iron 1/–, 1 Driping Pan 1/–, 3 Smoothing irons & Cradles for 'em 4/6, 8 Pans 24/–, 3 Stew pans 4/6, 41 Pewter dishes £4. 2s., 8 dozen & 8 Plates £3. 10s., 4 Sauce pans 6/–,			

[1] There seems to be an error here; the total sum of the items amount to £18.15s.0d. This may be due to alterations in the figures and occurs in other places in the Inventory.

[2] escritoire.

[3] a sofa, ottoman or couch.

	£	s.	d.
2 Skellets 4/–, 1 brass Dusting box 3d. 3 Pewter Rings 3/– 2 Small Salvers3/–, 2 Mortars 7/6, 2 Crows 5/–, 1 Gridle 1/6, 3 Coppers for Pyes 3/–, 1 Brass Cake pan 1/6, 1 baster 3d., 5 Treys 2/–, 6 Nogings 6d., 8 Trenchers 8d., 1 Setle form & bench 7/6, 1 Dresser 2/–, 1 fall Table 1/–, 2 Cubbords 2/6, 1 Winter hedge[1] 1/–, 1 Flake[2] for Bacon 2/6, 1 Pair Bellows 2/–, 2 Stools 6d., 1 Large chair 2/6, 1 Leather Chair 1/6, 1 Plate drainer 1/–, 4 Water Pails 3/4	14	7	8
In the LARDERS—2 Dressers 2/6, & 1 small one 1/–, 1 Safe 1/–, 2 Saltings Tubs 3/–, 2 Flower Tubs 2/–, 1 Choping block 6d., 8 Cups 1/–. . . .		11	0
In the PASTRY—3 Copper Coffy Pots 5/–, 1 Chocolet Pot 2/–, 1 Morter 5/–, 6 handboards 5/–, 6 Copper Patty Pans 2/6, & 5 smaller 1/3 . . .	1	0	9
In the WASH HOUSE—one old boyler 10/–, Dresser 1/6, 4 Wash Tubbs 6/–, 1 for Cheese 1/6, & 3 Sives most old 2/6	1	1	6
In the BREWHOUSE—21 Barrells big & litle, £3.3s., 2 old Lead boylers, Cooler & 2 Troughs (Left to the Heir), 5 Tubbs 5/6, 1 Lading Piggen[3] 1/–, 4 Drippers 2/8, 2 Pales & Boull 3/–, 1 Tun-dish 1/–, 1 hop sive 6d., 2 Iron Racks 8/–, 2 Salting Tubbs, 3/–	4	7	8
In the MILKHOUSE—1 Oak Table, 1/–, 1 Dripper 6d., 4 Milking Pales 6/–, 2 Piggins 2/–, 7 Pan mugs 2/6, 2 Churns 16/–, 2 Bowls 1/–, 3 Cheese fats 1/6	1	10	6
In the CELLAR—a Wooden Beam & Scales 2/6, 128 lb. of old weights 16/–, 3 Stillages 3/–, 3 Barrells 12/6, 1 old Table 8d., 9 Dozen of Glas Botles 15/–, 2 Candles box & Cubbord 2/6, 1 Punchbowl Leverpooll ware . . .	2	13	2
In the UPPER GALLARY—the furniture therof is left to the Heir of Crosby vizt: (2 Wind: Curtins, the Alter & Tabernacle, &c., 9 old Candlesticks, 2 Chalices & 1 Pixis, 2 forms, 7 Cusheons, 1 Press, 3 Painted Pictures, 7 Printed Pictures, an old Thurable, 2 Trunks, a White vestment, stole, &c., a Purple —Do.—, a Red —Do.—, a Black —Do.—, a Pair of Reliquaries.)	—	—	—
In the GATEHOUSE—2 old botle Shelves 1/6, 1 Earthen Punch boule 8d., & 19 Empty botles 2/10, 1 Large Clock 40/–, 2 Pair bedstocks 8/–, 1 form 6d., 1 fether Bolster 3/–, 1 Chaffbed 1/–, 2 under beds 2/–, 1 Rugg 1/6, 3 Coverlids 3/–, 2 Tables 2/–, 2 Chairs 1/6, 2 Cushions 4d.	3	7	10
In ROOM OVER STABLES—3 Fether beds £4.4s., 1 Chaf bed 1/–, 4 fether Boulsters 6/–, 4 Blankets 6/–, 1 Chest 2/–, 1 Chair 1/–, 2 Stools 6d. . .	5	0	6
In the OLD ROOM OVER SHIPPINS—old press 1/6, 3 pair of bedstocks 6/–, 1 fether boulster 1/6, and old Chest & old Tubb 1/–		10	0
	527	14	8
GLASSES—8 Large wyne Glasses, 6 Small ones, 6 Ale Glasses, 3 Punch Glasses, 9 Water glasses, 1 Large water Glass, & 1 Pint Decanter.		15	0
KNIVES, &c.—1 Dozen Ivory Knives & forks with Silver Hoops 12/–, 1 Dozen with Ivory hafts 7/–, and 8 old ones with Ivory hafts 2/6, 1 Dozen Silver hafted small Desert Knives & Forks 10/–, 1 Dozen knives with horn hafts 3/–, 1 Carving knife 1/–	1	15	6
SHEETS—18 Pair for Servants 45/–, 4 Pairs, of Market Cloth 10/–, 8 Servants Towells 4/–, & 6 Table Cloths 15/–, 7 Rubbers 3/6, 4 Wallits 2/–, 18 Pair Flaxon Sheets 54/–, 2 Dozen & ½ Hugeback Napkins 30/–, 3 long Huggeback Table Cloths for the Hall 6/–, 2 Dozen & 10 Huggeback Towells 17/–, 1			

[1] Clothes horse. In suitable weather the clothes were dried by hanging the washing on a hedge.

[2] a rack, frame or tray on which baked or cooked foods were layed to cool, or on which fish were dried.

[3] a small pail usually made of wood; 'piggin'.

	£	s.	d.
Dozen & 9 old ones torn 7/–, 9 Diaper Towells 6/–, 8 fine Pillow bears 8/–, 5 Little ones 2/6, 13 Course Pillow bears 6/6, 5 fine Rubbers 3/6, 6 Tweelights 6/–, 3 Dozen & 11 Huggaback Napkins 33/6, 11 Huggaback Table Cloths 33/–, 5 Dozen & 5 finer Dyaper Napkins 65/– & 3 old Table Cloths 7/6, 2 Dozen of Courser Dyaper Napkins 26/– & 1 Table Cloth 3/–, 2 Damask Table Cloths 30/– & 43 Napkins 86/–, 3 Pair Holland Sheets £1.10s.0d., & 2 Pillow bears 2/6, 5 Pair Irish Cloth 27/6 & 9 Pair of Courser Sheets 26/–	30	3	0
CHINA WARE—left to Frances Peppard—6 blew & white Cupps & Sawcers, two Stands, one sugar basson & cover, 4 Saucers with feet, 2 Common Tea Cups, 2 Collourd Tea cups & sawcers, 5 Coffy cups with handles, one Canaster, a Stand for Tea Pott, one Coullourd Slop Basson, 6 Coffy cans & 5 Sawcers, 3 Large Tea dishes, a Boat for spoons, 7 Deep dishes, 2 Collourd Basons, 2 Blew, white & Gold Dishes, one Salver, a large blew & white Dish, Three flower Potts, four small botles, 2 small blew & white Basons & Dishes, 2 Collourd Bassons & 5 small plates, 2 Dozen large plates, 1 Dozen water plates, 6 Delph plates, & 15 Dutch, one Dozen Leverpooll Delph plates, 2 Cornish China bassons, one blew & white Dish, 2 old snipped Collourd dishes, 2 large Jarrs, 5 blew & white Bassons of which 2 Crack'd, 1 blew & white Sugar Dish, 3 blew & white Custard cups, 2 Candlesticks, 2 Chocolet Cups & 2 old ones.	—	—	—
BRASS & IRON—moveable furniture mostly in the Gallery Closet vizt: Iron fenders 9/–, 6 pairs tongs 6/–, 5 fire pokers 2/6, 3 fire shovells 4/6, one Brass faced Grate & fender 25/–.	2	7	0
In the CART HOUSE—2 Carts, 3 Plows & 3 harnishes with Trace Collars &c. much worn out	10	10	0
Deduct per Contra	£573	5	2

	£	s.	d.
Catle, Corn & Money, including Bradshaws.	180	1	6
The Outstanding Debts to be recovered	206	14	6
The whole of the Plate	60	3	7
The House furniture, Carts, etc.	126	5	7
	£573	5	2
Receved by me from the Executors of John White £50 for so much of Braddshaws money lent him, with £8 Interest & Charg . . .	58	0	0
	£631	5	2

APPENDIX B APRILL 4 1720

DISPUTE CONCERNING PAYMENT OF WAPENTAKE RENT

In the 1660s William Blundell the Cavalier, questioned the payment of a Wapentake Rent of 2s. 8d., for land he held in the Manor of Great Crosby which was then in the hands of the king. In 1660 he copied a list of the rents of tenants of his in Great Crosby into the manuscript, the *Great Hodge Podge*, page 63:—

"WAPENTACK RENT, 1660
"Thomas Cawsey Brought me the following note extracted (but not verbatim), from Mr Thomas Bootles rent tally for Great Crosby.

Wapentack rent due to the King 1660

	3s.	4d.	
Aspinwal	2	0	
Arnold	2	0	
Thellwal	2	0	
Edw Hatton	3	4	
Wd. Hatton	1	6	
Atherton	3	4	
Reynold or Fazakerley	1	0	Thus far from Thomas Cawsey.
	16	6	The rest from Mr Samuell Andrews who had it out of Mr Bootles rent tally

Henry Thomson	5s	0d
Tho: Hesketh	0	2
Rich: Johnson	0	6
Rich: Johnson Junior	0	6
Nich: Johnson	0	6
Rich: Gorton	0	4
John Ranold	2	0
Thomas Smallshaw	2	0
	11	0"

In 1661, during a visit to London, he took the opportunity of examining the official Rolls of Wapentake Rents and copied the entry which concerned Great Crosby. The Richard Blundell mentioned was lord of the manor of Little Crosby, 1553–1591. On returning to Little Crosby, William Blundell entered the following note into the *Great Hodge Podge*, page 64:—

> "Anno 1661 I repayred to an Office in furnevalls Inne wher one Mr Palgraive was Deputy Receyver and he shewed me great Rolle of records of Rent consisting of 30 or 40 presses and in the last presse (or sheets) but 5 or 6 I read these words, wch I think I have coppied out truly, notwithstanding many words are abreviated—(towards the topp) *Balliatry wappentayes de west Derbyshire.* (Then lower)—*Et de totale xxvii*^{s} *vi*^{d} *reddit Ric*^{d} *Molyneux milatie Richard Blundell & alys pro tentmoaty jurys in magna Crosby per annum at per computationem de* 24 *Regis: Hen: C*^{n} *solendra Est termino predicto.*
>
> > Now if y^{u} do compute all the small summs before written they do amount just to the rent here mentioned of 27s. 6d so yt the rent of 2s. 8d. wch Mr Bootle requireth of me is over and above all this."

William Blundell must have appealed successfully against paying the 2s. 8d., for in 1670 he added the following note:—

> "The 2s 8d. above said is not now (1670) demanded: for I cleared it, sondry yeares agoe, by an order from the Exchequer."

It was on these entries in the *Great Hodge Podge*, that Nicholas was basing his objection to paying the 2s. 8d. which Lord Barramore claimed on April 4 1720. Nicholas realised, however, that unattested copies, as these entries were, of the Rolls were not enough, and probably would not be accepted as evidence. He therefore decided to employ an attorney, John Culcheth, to obtain for him an official or attested copy of the entries in the Rolls concerning this particular rent. Here is the letter which he sent to Culcheth on April 10 1710:—

> "To Mr John Culcheth
>
> Apri: the 10 1720
>
> Sr
>
> My Lord Baramore sent to me the last Week to demand a Wappantag Rent for severall years past of 2s. 8d. p. Ann. By the Rows or Records in the Office for the Wappantag Rent I am charged (in the last Sheet as I take it but 5 or 6) with the yearly Sume of 16s. 06d. wch is constantly payed when demaned, but the 2s. 8d. which should be as I suppose part of the 16s. 06d. is now demanded over & above that Sume; wherefore my Grand Father made his Appeale & got an Order to stop the payment of the said 2s. 8d. which Order if I mistake not was daited Feb. the 23rd A.D. 1662. I find an Account of this Order but without Name or Seale to it, for I take it to be a Coppy unattested wch can not Sufficiently empower me to withstand the payment of the said 2s. 8d. but I can not find the Originall. What I now begg of you is, that you'l please to goe to the Propper Office & see what I am there charged with & whether there was any Order granted to excuse the payment of the 2s. 08d. or what so ever you can find as will be of advantage to me wch I beg to have a Coppy of Attested by some Offisers of the said Court. I own that about 15 years since I paid this Rent of 02s. 08d. not then knowing any thing to the Conterary. I suppose I shall ere long be called upon for my Finnal Answer (for at present I have waived it) so beg you will assist me herein as speedily as conveniently as can & what charge so ever you shall be at, shall together [ ]r own Fees most thankfully be repayed by
>
> Sr
>
> [Your] Affectionate K[insm]an
>
> [and] Humble Servant
>
> Nicholas Blundell."

The Diary entries for December 21 1720 and for January 15 and 16 1721 show that Nicholas lost his case.

APPENDIX C APRIL 21 1721

THE SHORE ROAD AND BRIDGES BETWEEN LIVERPOOL AND THE FYLDE.

The present road from Liverpool to Preston, the Fylde, and the north runs inland through Maghull and Ormskirk. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and perhaps earlier, there was another road which ran from Liverpool along the shore at Bootle, Crosby, and Formby. That it was a road of some importance is obvious from a study of the documents relating to it and the bridges which carried it across the Farmosspool Gutter at Great Crosby and the River Alt. In these documents it is referred to as a "Highway from Liverpool to Poulton-le-Fylde" and a public way "betwixt the Market Towns of Liverpoole and Poulton-le-Fylde".

That it was a high-way is further evidenced by the following account taken from Nicholas Blundell's 'Anecdote Book'—

> "Mr William Hollywell now of Leverpoole had one day 360 Cart Load of Coles carried from his Pits into the Fild, besides what were carried to other places and I am well assured that one counted 700 Cart Load of Coles or more that went all on one day over the same bridge & consequently towards the same part of the Country besides what went to other parts."

Yates's Map of Lancashire, 1786, shows the road clearly between Litherland, Great Crosby, Little Crosby, Hightown, across the Alt to the Formby road to the Ribble. On Greenwood's Map, 1818 the road is not shown, which suggests that it had been superseded by the present road. The 1846/7 Ordnance Map does show a path going from Hightown across the Morehouses Marsh towards Great Crosby, but to-day there is very little trace of the road.

This road was used extensively by the inhabitants of Little Crosby, Great Crosby, Formby and other townships to get to Liverpool or to the north. It was to be expected then that the users of the road would be concerned as to the state of the two bridges, the one over the Farmosspoole Gutter and the other over the River Alt, and particularly as to who was to be responsible for the maintenance and repair of them or the building of new bridges.

In 1663 there was trouble over building a bridge over the River Alt, when the people of Formby wanted a bridge made, but the people of Altcar objected (QSP/243/46—L.R.O.). Again in 1673–4, there was a dispute over the same bridge. Up to this time Ince Blundell had been made responsible for the repair work, but now they were objecting and demanding that neighbouring townships should share the cost. One of the documents in this case (QSP/554/11—LRO) says that

> "a certayne highway lyinge within the said towne [Ince Blundell] called Newfeild lane neare adjoyneing unto the river Alt and leadinge from a new erected bridge over the said river to the market towne of Liverpoole and other places, since the erectinge of which said bridge the said way is become a very great road, the charge of the repayreing whereof is become very great by reson that uppon every great flood or Inundation of the said river all the earth or sande layd for the amendment thereof is still taken away by which meanes the same lane is from tyme to tyme reduced to as bad or worser condition then before . . ."

In 1682 the whole of the parish of Sefton was made responsible for the repair of "the King's Highway within Ince Blundell within the Parish of Sephton called Nerfeild Lane neare adjoyning to the River Alt and leadeing from a new erected Bridge over the said river to the market Towne of Liverpoole and other places". (QS Roll 76—L.R.O.)

There was another bridge on this road, one that concerned Nicholas more closely. This was over Farmosspool, an open ditch draining the water away from Great Crosby Marsh to the sea. In bad weather this drain was a constant source of trouble to the neighbourhood, a cause of flooding on the road, and of damage to the bridge over the drain.

On December 21 1705 Nicholas discussed the making of a bridge over the Farmosspool, which suggests that formerly there may only have been a stone or wooden 'plat'. However, little or nothing seems to have been done about making a better bridge. At last an agreement was reached:—"An agreement for the opening of a new water-course from Formers Poole to the sea, owing to the flooding of the highway from Liverpoole to Poulton-le-Fylde, was made between Nicholas Blundell, esq, and 23 inhabitants of Great Crosby, with the consent of Viscount Molyneux, who was lord of the manor of Great Crosby at that time. 21st. April, 1712" (DDBl/46/30. L.R.O.)

On May 6 1712 Nicholas Blundell at the Ormskirk Quarter Sessions tried to get a Hundred Bridge over the Farmosspool but failed. However, on August 11 1712, Roby, the surveyor of bridges in the Hundred of West Derby, came to "Vew Formosspoole Gutter where he considered about making a Bridge over it & took his dementions how it was to be maid." It would seem that a bridge was then made, although in his diary entry for April 21 1721, Nicholas still refers to it as a plat. On that date he went with the Mayor of Liverpool to look at this plat, which probably had been damaged in the severe inundation which took place in December

1720. A petition to Quarter Sessions was made (QSP/1175/6, 7, 26—L.R.O.) and since a few days later stones were being got from Little Crosby quarry for making a bridge over the Farmosspool Gutter, it looks as if the petition was successful. On August 5 1721 Nicholas was able to write in his Diary—"I was with the Work-Men as were Building the Bridg over Formosspoole Gutter".

APPENDIX D JULY 17 1721

The particulars of this tenement in Little Crosby leased by Henry Watkinson are taken from two TENANTS BOOKS.

"WATKINSON, HENRIE:

In consideration of sixty pounds to be payed to me on the 24 of January next and fifty pounds more on the 29 of September following I do promiss to Lease unto Henry Watkinson of Thornton Husbandman all that Messuage and Tenement tn Little Crosby lately in the possession of Robert Moorcroft and his assignes for the term of 3 lives to be named by the said Henry on the 2d. of February next at which time I do promiss to put him in possession of the premisses, he the said Henry yealding and paying to me and to my heirs the yearly rent of sixteen shillings at the 4 usuall feast dayes and likewise doing 3 dayes boon with a team and 3 dayes reaping of corn yearly when call'd upon and paying six rent hens upon the 21 of December yearly. Henry is to uphold the yate[1] commonly called Harvyes yate and the ditch & cop adjoyning which said cop and ditch divide the Lordships of Little Crosby and Thornton and likewise mantain a damming which has usually been mantained by the Tenant at the westerly corner of the demised premisses adjoyning to the Great Moor hey. He is to grind all the corn which shall be used upon the premisses at the windy corn miln now standing in Little Crosby and to pay and do all manner of accustomed dutyes to the Kirk, King and Landlord which have formerly been payd and don for the same. Henry is to have one halfe of the crop of wheat which shall be sowed upon the Great hey and may have liberty at any time from this time forwards to repayr the houseing upon the said premisses. Witness hereof my hand this present 21 day of August 1699

W. Blundell.

This above is a copy of what was delivered to Henry Watkinson by my Master, and the said Henry Watkinson assented to the bargain and gave one shilling in earnest thereof in the presence of me Walter Thelwall [steward]."

There follows a note giving the dates and sums of money paid in connection with this lease:—

January 2, 1699	Henry paid	£60
September 12, 1700	paid	£40
June 24, 1701	—	£5
September 29, 1701	—	£5

Nicholas added the following, with additional notes made later tn 1729. Finally details of the tenement were written, and some notes added by successors of Nicholas.

"The three Lives Naimed are Henry, Ailes and Elizabeth Son & Daughter to Hen: Watkinson. Ailes died the midle of January 1728/9 & Henry the Lecy died many years since

The Hous and Out-Housing stands in Little Crosby & all the Tenement; it was formerly More-crofts, Henry Watkinson came a Stranger to it, he was Leasee & for putting in the Lives of Henry his Son, Alice & Eliz: his Daughters he gave Wm Blundell my Father £110 for a Fine. The Lease was dated Feb. the 2d, 1699, Rent 16sh. per Annum at the 4 usuall 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 Furnish'd with Arms (except a Pike) to serve in the Wars when order'd by me or my Heirs. He must mantain & keep in good order the Gate called Harveys Gate which is at the end of the Laine not far from his House & the Ditch & Copp at each end of the Gate wch said Ditch & Copp separates Thornton from Little Crosby as I take it. He must also uphold a Hed-Bolt which is between his Tenement & the Great-moor-hey & keep a good Hedge upon it. He must not let without my Licence.

I take this Tenement to be worth about £15 p. An.
Alice died in the Midle of Jan. 1728/9.

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[1] yate—lane, or a gate to prevent cattle straying.

Aug. the 9th. 1729 I sealed a Freehold Leas to Henry Watkinson of the above Teneament in which there were Remaining in the old Lease his own Life & the Life of his Sister Eliza: Williamson, for ading the Life of John his Son in the new Leas, he pay'd me £24 for a Fine, and gave my Wife & Doughters each of them half a Guinea, his Boone is raised as I have don to others viz: instead of each day with a Teame he must pay 01s. 06d and instead of each day Reaping 6d., must wake at my Mill if requir'd any four Nights between Nov. the 1st. & Febr the 2d yearly when called upon. All Clauses mentioned in the Old Leas ought to be performed now; although this Leas dos not mension his mantaining Harvys Gate & a Head-Bolt neare his Hous yet the old Leas did, & our Bargan was to perform all old Covenants and though this new Leas doth not mention it, I hope custom will oblige him to it. He & all who live on the premisses must grind at my Mill or pay 2s. 6d. per Busshell. Must not kill my Rabets."

Watkinson Teneament consists of

Aikers		£	s.	d.
04	Great Rough Hey and Litle Rough hey	03	00	00
02	Green Hey	02	10	00
01	Hemp Croft & Yard	01	15	00
0½	Barne Croft	00	15	00
02	Lonh Hey	02	10	00
01½	Hems Hey	01	10	00"

"This Tenement as Surveyed by John Eyes, Aprill, 1741 consists of, besides housing:—

	a.	r.	p.
Housing, Yard, Orchard, &c.	–	1	24
Fold	–	–	19
Croft behind the Yard	–	3	8
Rough hey	1	3	20
Pasture hey	1	3	39
The Long field	1	3	24
Ems hey & Orchard	1	2	6
Barn croft	–	2	2
Broad hey	2	2	5
	11	2	27

The houseing consists of
one Dwelling—bays £—
one Barn "
one —

"The Lives are Henry Watkinson dyed 7 Sept. 1763
Eliz: Williamson his sister Dyed ——
John Watkinson his Son died 18th Nov. 1802

	£	s.	d.
Lords Rent		16	0
3 Carts or		4	6
3 Shearg or		1	6
6 Hens or		3	0
	£1	5	0

& to watch at the
Mill 4 Nights."

APPENDIX E JULY 19 1722

LETTER TO FATHER DANIEL AT GHENT CONCERNING MALLY WHO HAD BEEN A PENSIONER AT THE CONVENT OF THE ENGLISH BENEDICTINE NUNS AT GHENT SINCE 1717.

"To Mr Daniell at Gant

July 20th, 1722

Sir,

It was no small satisfaction to receive yours of the 15th instant and as great a surprise when I found the contents. I think I love my dearest child as well as any parent can do, yet am not willing to indulge her in what will be no credit nor advantage to her but on the other side a very great reflection on me, first to say I would go to fetch her, then to say I would defer it one year longer upon her desire and yet after all to have her come all of a sodaine is what I can no wayes consent to. Pray Sir consider what will be

said upon this sodain Motion, for it is now known not only by all my Relations but all my Friends and Acquaintance from North to South that I have let her stay one year longer by her own desire for her inprovement . . . others will say We formerly looked upon Mr Blundell as one whose word might be relied on, but what he means by this Jugling in saying and unsaying we cannot conceive; 'tis well if his daughter has carried herself as well as she ought to doe, that he sends for her home so sodainly, and perhaps when anyone treats with him for a Match with her he may also fly off and on in that affaire too . . . The only way to avoyd the reflections above mentioned is to let it pass (as I writ to Mally May the 22nd.) as if she stayed by her own desire, that will make all sids easy and redound to her credit, for she is much commended for desiring to stay one year longer which she had not done, but on Account of her letter which she says I interpreted rong but 'tis now too late to recall it. . . . She says how glad she would have been to have seen us this summer, she may assure herself it would have been no small satisfaction to us to have seen her, but as we have deprived ourselves of that comfort so long for her good it is her duty now to comply to us, both in obedience and for our credit as well as her own. I would not have her valew herself too much as being an heiris, for if eather of my daughters disoblige me it is in my power to clip their wings, not that I have the least thoughts to doe it and hope I never shall have the least Provocation for none can be more deare to me than my dearest children are, and when I have conveniency I shall not faile to settle them in the world to their satisfaction to the best of my power, but would not have them to think I will settle any of my estate on them as long as I live or at least of several years to come."

With the letter to Father Daniel Nicholas enclosed one for his daughter:—

"To Mally

My dearest dear child,

I am sorry I misunderstood your last letter though hope your stay one year longer will be an advantage to you.

Had we not considered your good more than our own satisfaction, which still we doe, we should never have suffered you to be out of our sight. You are not yet 18 years of aige so cannot think it too long to stay a few months more from this time, and in one month now you may improve more than you did in the first whole yeare. I hope you have still pensioners as will be companions for you, if not you must apply yourself more dilligently to your Improvement, or if it will be any satisfaction to you I shall let you goe eather to Graveling or Dunkerk or Brussels where you were formerly. . . . I would not my dearest child have you harbour too vain thoughts as being an heiris, for I can dispose of my estate as I see good, but none can be more deare to me than my dear children, and I assure you I have the same true love and affection for you as ever I had, and so has your loving Mother and doubt not but you'l still carry yourself so as to deserve it, which is the Hearty and dayly prayer of

Your ever loving and kind father

Nicholas Blundell".

See September 13 1722 and June 23 1723.

APPENDIX F MAY 26 1723
JOURNEY TO FLANDERS, MAY—OCTOBER 1723.

On arriving back home Nicholas entered his accounts for this journey in his Disbursement Book:—

"1723

May the 26 1723 My Wife and I began our Journey from Crosby towards Gravling and Gaunt in order to fetch home our Doughters; Ellen Howerd went along with my Wife as her Maide. What here followeth is the Expence of the Journey from the time I sent to Chester to take Placess in the Stage Coach till the time we brought our Doughters home which was the 5th of October following, and also what Money I payed beyond the Seas upon my Doughters Account & what I layed out for Apparell and other necessarys. When I mention my Expencess from such a place to such an other place my Meaning is the Expence of the Coach or Ship &c: by which we Travelled, the Money spent by me & my Travelling Famoly for Meat, Drink & Lodging & Vailes and for Carriage of our Luggage on the Road & for Porterage in the Townes and Fees &c: in the Custom-houses.

	£	s.	d.
Our Journey to Chester, the Servants back to Crosby, Coach Hier, spent at Chester & on the Road till we got to our Lodging at London	9	15	7
Carriage of Luggage to London, Meat, Drink, Lodging, Vailes	1	4	6
Coaching & Boating till we went on Board from London to Calis	3	17	4
Washing at London		4	6
Passage to Callis, spent there and on the Road till we got to Gaunt.	7	10	0
My Wife, self, two Doughters, Mr Daniell & one Maid; our Journey from Gaunt to Brussells spent there & Back again to Gaunt	6	8	3
My Wife, self, two Doughters and one Maid our Expences at Gaunt, making a Short Stay at Brudges & Dunkerk and thence to Gravling	7	17	1
Journey to & from St Omers	2	11	4
Washing for us beyond the Seas	1	16	0
During our Stay at Gravling making a Viset to Dunkerk, going to Calis, thence to London, clearing our Luggage at the Custom-Hous & all Expences till we got to our Lodgings at Bow Street, London	16	12	1
At London: Meat, Drink, Coffy &c: in the Morning whilst we were at London	14	9	6
Lodging at London, Fire & Candlelight	9	16	7
Washing for my Wife, self, two Doughters & two Maid-Servants	4	5	2
Places in the Coach for us five, geting our Places defered till an other day, Carrying Luggage by the Waggon, and by the Coach above oure Allowance, and spent from the time we left our Lodgings at London till we got home to Crosby	20	16	1
Totall of what may properly be called Travelling Expences	£107	4	3

Money spent in Treats, seeing Places & Shows, going by Coach or Boat, Charity given; to Doctors & for Phisick &c: so that what follows next can not properly be called Travelling Expences or Money waired for Necessarys.

	£	s.	d.
Treating Nunns at severall Monasterys	2	14	6
Given by me to the two Lathoms	1	8	4
Given by me in Cash &c: to my Sister Winny	1	7	10
Given by my Wife to my Sister Winny		10	6
Given by my Wife and Fanny at Gravling	22	2	0
Musick Book &c: given by me to Pat: Burbeck		3	9
Cain strings to be given		1	0
Shoes sent to Mrs Perkins		5	0
Force Pump Sent to Mrs Bagnoll		7	0
Knives sent to Margery Blundell		2	0
Charity to the Poore		17	0
Given to my Doughters	4	4	0
Sizars givin to my Doughters &c:		8	0
When Fanny stood Good-Mother to Mr Parks Son	1	1	0
Phee to Lawyer Culcheth	1	1	0
Chirurgeon & Appothecary Stuff for me after my Overturne		18	2
Doctor Chirurgeon & Appothecary Stuff for my Doughter Frances	7	11	6
Doctors Tanners Bottles		4	0
Post Letters	1	0	8
Geting two Peeces of Silk Damask and some other things salf on Shore & bringing them to my Lodging	3	2	0
Our Journey to Twitnam	1	3	6
To Will Coats &c:		6	0
To Ailes Armetriding		2	8
Coaching in Town, Boating on the Themes, & seeing Playes, Shoes & other Places and Curiossitys	3	6	3
Treating Friends at my Lodging at London, spent in the Tavern &c: and for Shaving me	4	13	6
Totall of the above, most of which may Properly be called Money given or Spent	£39	1	2
Other Peoples Money disposed According to Orders	£88	5	4

	£	s.	d.
Apparell for me N.B.			
Laised Hat		19	0
Full Perrywigg	1	6	0
Naturall Wigg & a Riban		9	6
Materiall for a Broad-Cloth and Making it	7	14	6
Altering my Gray Sute		1	0
Scarlet Roclore	2	2	0
Scouring my Coat		1	6
Silk Handcarchafs		11	0
Gloves and Scouring Gloves		10	6
Shoes two Pair		10	0
Stockings and mending Stockings		8	2
Cloth for Shirts	4	7	4
Night Caps four		4	3
Sword & clensing an old Sword		12	0
Apparell for me	£19	16	9
Things of small vallew for use viz: Books, Snuff, a Kaine, &c:			
Shoeing Horne			3
Powder and Puff		1	1
Brush for Clothes			6
A Caine		4	0
Cheane for my Watch		6	0
Liding a New Snuff Box		18	0
Mending an old Snuff Box		2	0
Snuff for my self & Doughters		12	10
Tobacco Box			4
History Books	1	3	6
Pampflets & Songs		4	3
Paper & Sealing Wax		5	11
Spectacles and Case		1	0
Bath Mettle Tenns 3 Pair		2	6
Trinkets of Glass & things of small vallew Tobacco Stopper, Nutcracks, &c:		4	6
Fiting up a Barbing Box with Rasors, Combes &c:	1	3	6
Totall of the above things of Small valew	£5	10	2
Apparell for my Wife			
Silk Brocade for Mantew & Petty-Coat	18	0	0
Making the Brocade Sute		12	0
Silk for an Apron &c:		17	6
Altering Silk Mantues and Petty Coats & making some of them into Night-Gowns and for Silk & Lining &c: to fit them up with	4	5	5
Blew Riban for triming a Whit Satten Sute		8	8
Scouring & dying Silks &c:		5	0
Muslen & Cambrick for Heads, Ruffles, & Aprons	2	12	6
Edging		6	0
Making Heads & Ruffles and making up old ones	1	1	5
Ribans, Rowls, Wiers, Powder Patches, Pinns &c:		12	11
Bobbin and Silk Lace		1	3½
Thread, Silk and Woosted			7
Busks		1	0
Gloves and Washing Gloves		10	4
Fanns and Mounting Fanns		9	6
Barmoodas Hat & Hat-band		18	6
Mending Cloggs			5
Seting one Paire of Diomond Ear-Rings & for Drops		13	6
Seting a Diomond Ring and for two Sparks	1	3	0
Apparall for my Wife	£32	19	6½

	£	s.	d.
Some things for my Wife which is not Apparell			
Ladys Office with Silver Clasps		19	0
Snuff		6	0
Lady Annuety payed to my Wife	10	0	0
Cash at other times	2	15	0
(Totall)	£14	0	0
Apparell for my Doughters			
Flye Sutes two out-side & all other Materialls & Maiking	35	14	0
Leomond Colourd Damask 23¾ yd, Red Damask 21¼ yd Prime cost at Paris, bringing to Calis & Duty at Calis, in all	18	15	0
The Damask comes to about 8s-4d. per Yard, besids what I gave for Bringing it safe to England which is elce where mentioned and comes to 1s-2d per yard.			
Night Gowns & Petty Coats, Linings with all Materialls and Maiking them	8	14	7
Cherry-Dery outside for Mantew & Petty Coat	1	6	4
Quilted Petty-Coats	3	19	2
Altering Mantews & Pettycots and for Materialls of all sorts to enlarge them or make them up with	2	5	0
Scouring & Dying Silks		7	6
Stays two Pair	4	8	0
Hoop Petty Coats	1	11	0
Riding Habets, Out-side &c: and Making	4	17	0
Riding Hoop Petty-Coats two		17	0
Linnen for Riding in	2	14	6
Whips two		6	6
Silk for Aprons, Making & for Fring	1	4	10
Barmoodes Hats & Hat-bands	1	17	0
Silk and lining the hats		8	3
Fanns	2	4	0
Flanders Lace for Heads & Ruffles	42	15	0
Lace & Edging bought at London	3	17	2
Holland for Shifts and Aprons and Cambrick for Carchaffs	14	8	0
Cambrick, Muslen & Holland for Heads, Ruffles, Aprons & Carchafs and for maiking them	8	19	0
Starching & making up Heads & Ruffles, making new ones and altering some	1	0	7½
Ribans, Girdles, Scullkaps, Wiers, Pinns, Rowls, Powder, &c:	1	6	0
Girdle Buckles		19	0
Black Silk Hoods		10	6
Bobbin, Incle, Silk-Laces		4	0
Diomond Ear-rings, Drops & Gold Eare-Rings	4	9	0
Seting a Pair of Diomond Ear-Rings and for Drops and Gold Eare Rings		18	0
Gloves & for Washing Gloves	3	12	8
Stockings		10	6
Shoes, Cloggs and for mending	2	5	10
Busks of Whealbone		2	8
Apparell for my Doughters	£177	7	7½
For my Doughters use but not Aparell			
Prayer Books		11	0
Snuff Boxes		10	6
Pocket knives		1	8
Thibles Changing		1	6
Bottles of Salts for Fanny		4	0
Optick Glass for Fanny		2	9
(Totall)	£1	11	5

	£	s.	d.
For Mally at Gaunt			
Mally Pention in full till she left Gaunt	15	0	0
Mally learning to Daunce	2	5	0
Layed out for Mallys use at Gaunt for Gold-Thread, a Work-Loome, making her Shirfts &c:	3	18	0
	£21	3	0
For Fanny at Gravling & Doway			
Fannys Pention in full till she left Gravling	15	0	0
Fanny lerning to Dance	1	4	0
Fannys Expences going to Doway & coming back to Gravling, some treats given by her there & Vailes	4	18	0
Doctor & Apothecary at Doway	1	3	4
A Journey to St Omers		8	2
Gold & Silver Thread		19	0
Post Letters		4	6
	£23	17	0
Puture, Brass & other things which were wanting for Furniture & for use			
Tankerd & three Juggs of the best Silver at 6s-11d per oz:	22	15	6
Coffy Pot	1	4	0
Tea Kettle, Lamp & a Scolloped Dish for the Lamp to stand on	5	13	0
Candle-Sticks two Paire	1	13	0
Snuffers & Snuffer Pan		14	0
Small Kandle-Stick		5	0
A Hand Bell		3	0
Engraving my Coat of Arms at 5 sh. per Larg Coat and 9d. per Crest upon the above mentioned Silvered things	1	0	0
Brass Fraime for Plates	1	18	0
Sesterne of Copper	1	15	0
Brass Cock for Botling		3	6
Smoothing Irons two very large & good	1	0	0
New Puter at 1s-3d per Pound	6	17	0
Bells for Cart Horses		9	0
Knives and Forks		9	0
Chinea & a Hand Table	2	1	0
Drinking Glasses		5	0
Coarding & Pack Thread and Nailes for making up my Boxes of Luggage		3	2
Paist-Bord Boxes, Bag & Daile Boxes to Carry my Luggage in	1	2	0
Candles of Tallow and Wax and a Box	1	3	0
Tobacco & a Box	1	7	0
Topings for Coach Horses		11	0
Sallet Basket		1	0
A Fox Taile			7
Cloath for Sheets & Making them	4	6	5
Mops without Steales six		5	0
Virmon-Gelly, Morellows, Trofle Sugar Doble Refined		14	8
Coffy & Tea	5	10	7
Suth-Sea Pictures		6	0
Frute Trees		12	6
Roots of Flowers		7	2
Garden Seeds and some Hemp Seed		5	8
Furniture & other Necessaries	£67	4	11

	£	s.	d.
Travelling Expence	107	4	3
Aparell for me	19	16	9
Ditto my Wife	32	19	6½
Ditto my Doughters	177	7	7
Mally Gaunt	21	3	0
Fanny Gravling	23	17	0
	382	8	2

	£	s.	d.
Furniture &c:	67	4	11
Spent, Given	39	1	2
Others Money	88	5	4
My Trinkets &c:	5	10	0
Ditto my Wives	14	0	0
Ditto my Doughters	1	11	5
	215	13	0

Totall Disbursed by me from the time I left Crosby till I Return'd home with my Doughters . . . . £598–1s–2d.

APPENDIX G NOVEMBER 13 1723

On November 13 1723 Nicholas checked over the accounts of the money received by William Carefoot, his hind and coachman, who had been put in charge while he was away in Flanders. These accounts no longer exist, but we do have William Carefoot's expense account for this period:—

"Disbursed by William Carefoot whilst I was in Flanders till I came home with my Doughters.

	£	s.	d.
Work done by Betty Blansherd for my Wife & for things bought for her use		17	3
Datall Work	8	0	2
Jackson Gardening	2	3	0
Mowing & making Hay	3	14	2½
Reaping Corne		4	6
Ditching in severall Places	3	8	10
Delving Fleas	1	18	4
Feying for Turves	2	0	7
Delving Turves	3	6	8
Wheeling Turves	2	4	3
Dressing Turves		4	7½
Whitwashing, &c.		16	8
Masons Work		4	7
Tayloring at the Mill		2	6
Making Roberts Livery		6	6
Mending Sadleys		10	2
Daubing, Thatching, Serving, Pricks		14	6
Shearing Sheep			6
Massy Lerning to Butcher		2	10
Sweeping Chimneys			6
Smiths Work			
Mending Grates &c: in the Hous		5	11
Gugeons &c: for Gates		2	8
Husbandry ues		2	9
Shoeing Horses		6	0
Black Kattle & spent at the Faires	19	8	4
Sheep one Score	6	10	0
Geece 21		19	0
Cannell two Cart Load		5	3
Coles ten Load	1	3	10
Slate one Load & Scapling them		7	9
Husbandry Geer			10
Cow-tyes			3
Sives		1	8
Mill Stone	4	10	0
Sail Cloth, Hair Cording, Thread	1	5	8
Daile Bords		10	0

	£	s.	d.
Lime and Hear		1	4
Lambs black & Linceed Oyle		5	9
Nailes, Patches & Garden Seeds		3	11
Hors Phisick		2	4
Bee Hive			3
Tiles for two Chimneys		9	2
Muggs			8
Butchers Meat		2	9
A Rosting Pigg		4	0
Chickens		2	6
Bread & Bearme		2	0
Sugar & Tracle		5	7
Currons			5
Sineomond			4
Salt		1	2
Vinegar		1	3
Coffy & Tea		1	11
Fiftenes		14	5
Land Tax	3	12	9½
Post Letters		11	8
Marketing		6	2
Cuting the Neck		1	0
Pitch & Tarr		1	6½
Sope & Starch			3
Jack Corde			7"

APPENDIX H

SOME OF THE MANY LETTERS NICHOLAS BLUNDELL WROTE CONCERNING LIKELY SUITORS FOR HIS DAUGHTERS.

"Mr Busby May the 16, 1724

Sir

When I Received your Lines in my Brothers Letter, I was troubled with a Paine & weaknes in my Eyes otherways had Answered them sooner they are now I hope on the mending hand.

Your saying the Gentleman is Heire to a good Estate and will be a Barronet are not sufficient Motives to enduce me to enter upon a Treaty of Marryage, those things I have already refuesed, I would also have him a Personable Man, one of sence and good parts and good Humoured those are the Qualifications to make a Woman happy, if you'l tell me who the Person is & where he lives I shall enquire after him & shall then give you an Answer according to the Caracture I heare. I am not entirely out of Hopes of having a Son, so shall not setle my Estate, onely Conditionally; but if I have a Son then so much Money certain at my Death besides som thing at Marriage. I hope the Gentleman has already somthing tn Posestion, elce an Equivolent for my Doughters Portion (tho it be sufficient for a Jounture) will but be a small thing for the young Cupple to live on. This I suppose is sufficient till I know more of the Gentleman you may please to direct to me at Crosby neare Leverpoole, Lancashire & twill come safe to

Your Humble Servant

Nicholas Blundell."

"To Mr Roydon Aprill the 6th. 1725

Sir

Am glad to find by yours of 11th Ult: my two got safe to hand and am beholding to my Friends for the good Caracture they are pleased to give my Doughters. I Beg Pardon for not Ansewering yours sooner, but hope this will reach you ere Mr Strickland coms home. I do not find my Doughter any more inclineable to Marry than she was, yet am entirely of Opinion she is not so averce to it but an Accomplished Gentleman wth whom she may be happy may obtaine her Favour, however I thoght it would be rude to let any one come to Court her and then for her to declair she would not Marry, that would look like an Imposition upon the Gentleman & he might really take it as an Affront put upon him, but if Mr Strickland or any other deserving Gentleman think it worth while to try if he can gain her Affections I am not against his coming but should

be glad first to know what Money is expected in hand for I assure you I can not give much, neather do I think much can be expected considering the Faire Prospect of some Hundreds per Annum after my Death. I perceive there has ben an other Gentleman proposed to my Doughter, but she Returned the same Answer, that she was not disposed as yet to Marry. I long since told her I would not compell her to Marry, much less to Marry one she could not Love & so to make her Miserable as long as she Lives, so leave her entirely to pleas herself, all I require is that he be a Gentleman of a Compotent Estate one of a good Caracture and a Catholick. I have never ceriously proposed Mariage to Frances my second Doughter, so can not tell how she stands Affected, but my Opinion is that Mr Strickland would not dislike eather her Person, Parts or Humour but self Prais is no Praise, so excuse me for giving a good Caracture of my own Dear Child, which would seem much better from an other Hand; tho she long ben ill, I hope she will in time Recover, for I can by noe Meanes say she is unhealthfull. As to myself I am God be praised very well, tho had a Relaps since my last to you. I did observe the Jounturs were a great Clog, but at same time was of Opinion that Probably one of them must soone Drop. As to Mr Stricklands Estate tho it is none of the greatest 'tis such as a Carefull Mannager may live Comfortably on, & to setle my Doughters to their own Comfort and Satisfaction is the Chief Aime of

your Humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

"To Mr Strickland May the 21th, 1725

Sir

Yours of the 3d. Instant I Received not till the 15th, for being some Distance from Leverpoole I have not my Letters always in due time, for I do not send to the Post constantly. I writ to Mr Roydon the 30th ultim: in Answer to your Directions to him from London wch he says he has received & has Acquainted you with the Contents thereof, so have little more to ad but to Confirme the saime; that all I am able to give at present is £1000 and at my Death an other £1000 if I have a Son, which I see not the least prospect of, and if no Son then instead of the second £1000 an Estate of £400 per Annum tho with some Charge upon it. If you are willing to treat upon these Termes, I shall be truly glad to see you at Crosby, but hop you'l let me know a Week or more before you designe me the Favour of a Viset. I am as desireous of an Alliance as you can be, and hope you may gaine my Doughters Affection, tho her Modesty at present will not allow her to say she has any thoughts to Marry, wch makes me the more desireous to leave her to please herself and hope she has so much discretion as to make a good choice. I can not say your Demand of £2000 is unreasonable were no more to be Expected, but I think the faire prospect of £400 per Annum will Sufficiently Ballance the Defisciensy of £1000 in Hand; as to coming to Sizargh I take it to be needless, for I depend so much upon Mr Roydons Injenious Information & your own Worth and Honour that I question not the Truth of the Account given & should be glad to know your Answer, who am Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

"To Cozen Gillibrond Nov: the 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 here with 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 Allyed to & must always returne 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.

My Deare Fanny has ben these two days troubled with the Collick and is yet no better, she has a Cold and her Face is much Swelled."

"To Mr Strickland March the 12 1726

Sir

You have not wanted Friends to speak in your Behalf to my Doughter, tho in some Respect there is no Occation for it, for I hope the former aversion she had to your Person is worne off, and as to your Estate I and all other Friends are well convinced 'tis what you say. After you went I thought it proper for some time not to urge her too much for I know she dos not love to be teas'd, however the other day I attacked her with all my Returick & lay'd the Case pritty home to her & told her what the Effect would be, if she would not Marry; she spoke endeed nothing of you but what was very Handsom and becoming, but her Answer still was, she could not think of being Happy in a Married State & that I could not compell her to say the Words of Matrymony.

I Wish I could send you more agreeable news but being I could not I still defer'd answering yours of the 23d Ult:, however you may be assur'd not onely of my Wives endeavours & mine but of severall good Friends to bring Matters about if possible, and I doe really believe (tho you seeme to feare the Conterary) that you have no Enemys at Work to lesson your Estate, Carracture, &c:, that would be mallice onely without prospect of Suckcess, for 'tis impossible to set Mr Standish Treaty on foot again, 'twill meet with more opposition than they are awair of.

My Wife received one from you wch she answered about a Week since, I think now and then a Letter to my Doughter would not be amiss and if I see the least hopes I shall give you the Troble of a Viset; but without Business calls me, I care not to stir from home, however I returne your Thanks for your kind Invitation and do not dispaire of seeing Sizargh ere I die but should be glad of a good Occation to draw me thither, which I would gladly hope time and patience may bring about, for that generall excuse 'I will not Marry' is not often very Lasting, however at present I can give no encouragement for another Viset and am truly sorry you spent so much Money the last time to so little purpose, but this I must tell you, you have universally got the good opinion of all who have seen you and where you had one Friend the first time, I think I may safely say you now have Forty but none more Firme than

Sir

Your faithfull Humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

To Mr Strickland June the 7th. 1726

Sir

I was truly Concern'd at oure last parting and have but too much reason to think I shall never see you againe at Crosby upon the like Occation for my Doughter still continews in her Resolution not to Marry; However has nothing has been don on eather Side dishonourably, I hope we shall always meet Friends, and if it lyes in your way to make a Friendly viset at Crosby I shall make you truly welcom and question not but to find the same at Sizargh where I shall give you the troble of a Viset whensoever my Affaires calls me into your Parts.

My Doughter gave me some days since the Letters Sealed up which she received from you & I doe verely believe she never shewed them to any Body unless the two first wch I read and I really think they Contain'd a great deale of truth, tho I do not now

Remember one expression in them; I must beg your pardon for keeping them so long, I thought they would be too many to send per Post and was unwilling to send them by Tom Long the Carrier, but there is a Hors-race at Ormeschurch upon the 13th & 14th Instant where I think I shall be both the days and if any body ask me for any thing for you, I shall deliver them, but if I heare nothing from you ere the 20th Instant Ile send them by Post. Cozen Butler is yet here. My Doughter Frances is come home but little or no better, the Rest of your Friends and well wishers are well and much your Servants but none more than

Sir

your Sincere & Humble Servant
Nicholas Blundell."

Nothing further is said in the Diary about the courtship or marriage of Mally or Frances. However, two years after the last entry, Mally was once again the object of attention from a young man—John Coppinger. John was the son of Stephen Coppinger, of Balyvalone and Barriscourt, County Cork, Ireland. The Coppingers had suffered as Catholic recusants and by supporting the cause of James II, and had almost been brought to ruin. Stephen Coppinger followed the exiled king into France and there married Joan Goolde, the daughter of another Irish refugee, in 1700. On returning to Ireland Stephen Coppinger set about restoring the family fortunes, but the only hope lay in the marriage of John, the son and heir, to an heiress. For this purpose, John was sent in 1729 to James Barry, 4th Earl of Barrymore, a friend of the family, living at Rock Savage in Cheshire.

Lord Barrymore's second wife, Lady Elizabeth Savage, had inherited the Rock Savage estates from her father, Lord Rivers. On the death of his second wife, Lord Barrymore married Lady Anne Chichester, daughter of the 3rd. Earl of Chichester, and with her he lived at Rock Savage. Nicholas Blundell was well acquainted with Lord Barrymore and his second wife, Lady Savage and her father, Lord Rivers, and most probably through this friendship John Coppinger was introduced to the Blundell of Crosby family and thus met Mally.

Shortly after John arrived at Rock Savage he received a letter from his father telling him not to consider any young lady proposed to him there as he, the father, had heard of a young Irish girl of eleven years of age who had good financial prospects:—

" . . . There is Mr Harrold's daughter he engage if you stay two years longer she'll be about 13 years of age he'll give £6000 and if he dies without more children, as in all likelihood he will, the girl would be worth at least £20,000 in cash besides anything else. And you know father and grandfather and all the world covet nothing more . . . I only say all this that ye may be easy and not so impatient as to go headlong to work. The longer you stay unmarried the better your fortune will be. There is no greater noise in Cork than that my Lord got ye a fortune of £10,000. Several asked me whether I had any account of it. I gave them the ear and said my Lord may do with ye as he pleased . ."[1]

However, the letter arrived too late, for John Coppinger had already met Mally, the elder daughter and heiress of Nicholas Blundell and proceeded with his courtship.

Some attempt seems to have been made by a Father Richard Walmesley, a Benedictine monk, and son of an old Catholic friend of the Blundells of Crosby, to besmirch the character of John Coppinger. It is not known whether this was a deliberate effort to influence Nicholas and cause him to prevent the courtship of Mally going forward, but if it were then it failed completely, and Nicholas wrote to Father Naylor, the Superior of Father Walmesley, the following strongly-worded letter:—

"To Mr Nailor Superior of the Benedictons

January the 27, 1729/30

Sir

Tho I am an entire Stranger to you, yet I presume to make a Complaint of one of yours viz: Mr Richard Walmesley who has given his Tong more liberty than become one of his caracture in villifying Mr Coppinger & reporting severall things wch were entirely falce and Scandalous; I do not tax him with being the Author of them because I can not prove it; but I am apt to believe by his spitfull way of Expressing himself he was (if not the Author of them) at least one who devulged them upon all Occations; which tho true had not becom any good Christian to do, much less one of his Carracture; but what he has said against this Worthy Gentleman being altogether falce & Scandalous I do expect you'll command him not onely to beg Mr Coppingers Pardon under *his own Hand* writing but recall those Lyes & Storys in the severall Companys he reported them in, or elce make what he has said to appeare true; I said I expected he

[1] See W. A. Coppinger: *History of the Coppingers* (1884)

should begg Mr Coppingers Pardon under his *own Hand* writing, becaus I think he will scarce after what he has said against him, have the Impudence to shew his Face in my Hous; I confess I had once a Vallew for Mr Walmesley not onely upon Account of the Carracture he bears, but as being the Son of so Worthy a Man as Mr Walmesley who I am assured would scorn to endeavour to take away any persons Reputation tho of neavour so meane an Extraction much more Mr Coppingers whose Credit and good Caracture is at present most deare & valuable to him being he is now making his Addres to my Eldest Doughter and notwithstanding Mr Walmesleys, Mallys (wch appears too plaine) I hope she will in a short time be more Happy in him, than she could have ben in any other yet propos'd to her; he being of an incomperable good Temper and an unblemished Caracture except what is maliciously reported by those who know him not and com of an Ansient & Worthy good Famoly and is not onely the Heir to a Plentiful Estate but has a kind & Generous Father, who has setled in present upon him, not onely what is extreamly handsom but eaven more than I could forshaime have desir'd which makes me the more to resent what is said against him, wch I take as a reflection upon me. You must give me leave to tell you that if a sufficient Recantation be not made, you must not woonder if Mr Walmesley be ues'd according to his Deserts. I do not look upon the Carracture of a Priest to be a [reason] for him to take away any Mans Reputation, I wish Mr Walmesley may shew good example by submiting himself to be in Falt, he then may hope for Pardon from Mr Coppinger and the Persons he has Scansalised by his Detracting Tongue & also from his Quondam Friend &

Well Wisher

Nicholas Blundell."

From Nicholas Blundell's Letter Book, p. 129

Stephen Coppinger agreed that his son should marry Mally and to match the sum of £400 per annum to be settled on Mally by her father, he made an allowance to his son of £500 per annum. The agreements setting out these terms were entrusted to Thomas Syer to take to Ireland and in the Disbursement Book we read:—

"Syors Journey to & from Barriscort	£10.8s.0d.
Gratuety to Syer for his Care	£1.14s.0d."

New dresses were bought:—

	£	s.	d.
"Sute of Cloths for the Weding	5	14	3
Mallys Weding Cloths	50	0	0
Fannys Cloths for the Weding	10	0	0
My Weding Sute making it		12	0"

As was the custom, both at weddings and funerals, gloves were given to the servants and sometimes to tenants:—

"Gloves given by me at my Doughters Coppingers Marriage besides what my Son & Doughter gave . . . . . £2 5s. 3d.."

Musicians had to be provided for the festivities, and, of course, Mary Seddon, the cook, had to be provided with additional help:—

	£	s.	d.
"Musick at my Doughters Weding		15	0
James Withington for Cooking	1	7	0
Ailes Cross Cooking at the Weding		7	6"

On February 3 1730 Mally was married to John Coppinger. But alas the marriage was to be short-lived, for while on a visit to Crosby, Mally was taken ill. Doctor Worthington was sent for, but to no avail, and on August 6 1734 she died. In his Disbursement Book, Nicholas Blundell records the expenses entailed by this sad event, including the gifts to the Bishop and priest for Masses.

	£	s.	d.
"Lord Bisshop &c; for Doughter	1	17	6
Ditto Father Doodall		5	0
Rosmary for the Buriall		3	9
Melling for coming to bleed Mally		1	0
Spent in sending for Doctor Worthington		3	4½
Making Sutes of Mourning for Servants, 5	1	10	0
Making two Sutes of Cloths for me	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
My Mourning for my Doughter Coppinger	5	3	6
Wives Mourning in part	1	17	6
Hats, Stockings & Buckles for Mourning for Father Clifton, Servants, &c:	1	16	11
Phisick for my Doughter Coppinger		4	4"

Two years after the death of Mally, John Coppinger married the daughter of Michael Moore of Drogheda, and it was the daughter, Mariana, of this marriage who succeeded to the Coppinger estates of Ballyvalone and Barriscourt, since Stephen, the only child of his marriage with Mally, died in 1745.

In the autumn of 1730 Fanny went to Ireland to visit her married sister. While she was there her father wrote to a Mr Fleetwood Butler concerning a Mr Webb who seemed to be a good proposition financially and might make Frances a good husband:—

"To Mr Fleetwood Butler October the 11, 1730

Mr Webb was in Lancashire very lately, I was once in his Company but he neaver in the least mention'd my Doughter, I wish he had; for he seems to be a very sober good temper'd Man, and I could have licked him very well; If I thought it were to any purpose, should be glad it were propos'd to him; I fancy if he had seen my Doughter, he would not have dislick'd her, onely not having a present Fortune would probably have ben a great Objection; However if he be in the Sercomstance as I heare he is & were really tn Love with her that would be no great impediment; for I have reserved for her £100 of Land per Annum which I intend to leave her at my Death and have power to charge the other part of my Estate with £2000 besides what I might be able to leave her when I die; so that I think she may well be said to be worth better than £3000. But I have already said too much upon this Subject unless there were a better Prospect than I know of, however should be glad to know your Sentiment in this affaire, being willing as far as in me lyes to give what I am able to my Doughter to see her well Setled during my own Life."

Nothing further is said about Mr Webb. The following year a Mr Merry became interested in Fanny and whatever prospects went along with her. He wrote to Blundell, but since Fanny refused to have anything to do with him, the following reply was sent by Mrs Blundell:—

"To Mr Merry from my Wife.[1] Aprill the 25, 1731.

Sir

I Receiv'd the Favour of yours. As to my Doughter coming over I know not when it will be, for Mr Blundell dos not go for her of some time & perhaps she may com before; he thinks his telling you that his Doughter could not think of Marrying you, was a Sufficient Reason for you to have no farther Thoughts of it, and she also told her Father that she had given you a Positive Denighall and desir'd you would setle your affections elce where, wch makes me surpris'd you should stay in England if you had any thoughts of going beyond the Seas. I do truly wish you may light of a more deserving Lady wch is the cincere Wish of

Sir

your most humble Servant to Command

Frances Blundell."

The fortunes of Nicholas Blundell had now very much improved, largely due to his good management of the estate. Fanny shared in the greater enjoyments this led to. She received a yearly allowance of £16, and with the enlarged staff of servants, she was given her own maid, Ellen Chantrell, who was paid ten shillings per quarter. Early in 1732 she went with her father to Barriscourt to stay awhile with Mally and her husband. There they must have entertained and been entertained on a grand scale, for now, compared with former times, they were lavish in the gratueties given to servants:—

"Hereafter followeth the Expences of Fannys
Voyage & mine to Ireland & home againe.

	£	s.	d.
Travelling by Sea and Land & Som Vailes at Gentlemens Houses . .	24	4	6
Washing our Linnen	2	11	9
Vailes at Barriscourt by me Ni: Blundell	3	13	0
Ditto by my Doughter	5	2	6"

[1] This is the copy written by Nicholas Blundell in his 'Letter Book'. When Mrs Blundell wrote the letter her daughter, Frances, was still with the Coppingers in Ireland.

Fanny's health still troubled her, and this was probably the reason why she was taken to Buxton, most likely to take the air and drink the waters:—

	£	s.	d.
"Going twice to Buxton & coming back in all the Travelling Expences	7	18	2
Fannys Expences at Buxton in all	11	2	10"

At long last, however, came the man who was to win her for his wife; 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. A few entries in the Disbursement Book give us only scant details of the preparations and cost of the wedding:—

	£	s.	d.
"Phee to Lawyor Whithead for Advice about Fannys Setlement	2	2	0
My Sute of Cloths for my Doughters Weding	5	5	0
Making my Sute of Clothes		12	0
Shoes for me..		17	0
Dressing my Hat			4
Mrs Bulers Bill for Wives Cloths	12	7	8
Mrs Chumleys Bill for Wife	4	7	10
Silk Riband, &c: for my Wife	1	14	8½
Stays for my Wife	2	2	0
Holland from Dunkerk for my Wife	2	7	3
Lace from Dunkerk for my Wife	3	14	3
Lace from Gaunt for my Wife	10	0	0
Carchaff for my Wife		3	0
Tape & Galloon		8	1
Washing Wives Heads		1	8
Dixionary to my Doughter Frances		17	6
Betty Cokshead two Weeks Scullion		6	6
Mrs Eyves & Betty Crofts Assistance as Housekeeper & in the Kitchen for a few days		7	6
Gloves given at Fannys Weding by my orders		5	6
Liverys two	7	11	7
Maiking two Liverys	1	0	0
Livery-Hats, Lace & Stockings	1	18	7
Musick at the Weding		7	6
Bringing Mrs Eyves to & from to help		4	11
Chinea given to Doughter Pippard	1	3	6
Coffipot given to my Doughter Pippard	9	12	0
Hand Bord of Silver to my Doughter Pippard	2	10	0
Chinea to my Doughter Pipperd	1	8	0
Silver Hand Bord for Doughter Pipperd	2	10	0"

For a while Fanny went to live with her husband in Liverpool. On Mally's death she became the sole heiress of Nicholas, and on his death on 21 April 1737, she inherited the Blundell of Crosby estates.

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