

The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

Medad Rogers (1750-1825)

**His Journal While Serving On A
Privateer**

July 24th to November 5th, 1778

Introduction:

This document is a part of a larger document relating the notes and Journal of Medad Rogers between 1768 and 1783. That document (Accession # 1997-079-002) was transcribed by Gordon S. Miller from the original at Yale's Beinecke Library in 1997. It has been digitized (Accession # 2012-058-001) and is available at each of the North Branford town libraries and on the Totoket Historical Society's computer at The Reynolds-Beers House.

Medad was a student at Yale College when the Revolutionary War broke out. At some point Yale suspended operation during the war. In July of 1778 Medad and three others joined the crew of a Privateer sailing out of New London, Connecticut. The vessel was most probably the armed sloop, Revenge, commanded by Captain Nathan Post, a native of Saybrook.

At the end of this document is an image of a crew agreement probably for the voyage of the Revenge on which Medad Rogers sailed. Also included is a brief description of that unproductive voyage.

Theodore Groom, Ph.D
Chairman, Technology
The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

October 14, 2012

MEDAD ROGERS' NOTES AND JOURNAL
SECTION D - PRIVATEER
1778

33/4 X 5" (pp 1-64)

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P1 Friday July 24 AD 1778

Pleasant I rode to _____ and went home again and got ready to
goe to priveteering I traveled _____ to Branford lodged at Brother Timothy

Saturday July 25

It rains I paid 2 dollars for carrying my pack for New london, 4 of us
traveled by land for New london we dined at Stone's _____ for
3S each and lodged at _____

Sunday July 28

Pleasant. we traveled 4 miles to breakfast 4 Shillings. we dined at
the rope ferry.

3 Shillings. about four o, clock we went on board the Ship.

P2 Monday July 27

pleasant last evening two of us lodged up back of New london town.
Supper and Lodging cost us three Shillings. Each one went to taking in things
and finished by 12 O. Clock and fell off down against the fort Tuseday July 28

good weather _____ we Sailed to Stonington.

Wednesday July 29

fine weather. here we Staid and Capt Post joined us.

Thursday July 30

I went on Shore at Stonington and viewed the town and it is rightly
named Stonington I bought me a galley pot gave 3 & 6 pence _____ we
Sailed from Stonington after a british fleet which was passinq down
Sound but could not

P3 Friday July 31

Foggy we were becalmed in _____ we Saw the british fleet passing up
Sound again we ran up and gave them a gun and pushed off again we
anchored without fishers island

Saturday August. 1. AD 1778

Pleasant. we gave chase to the british fleet again and gave them two
guns, and retired for the fleet drawing together we thought not fit to follow
them: we Sailed down Sound and Spoke with the french fleet which lay
off Rhode Island. we gave Chase to a Small Sloop and came up with in
Shot but the moon Setting we lost Sight of the Sloop.

- P4 Sunday August 2
 good weather. we returned into Rhode Island the East river & anchored by a couple of french frigates.
- Monday August 3
 ___ weather. little or nothing is done to-day time passes on _____. a poor Negro was drowned
- Tuesday August 4
 we went to the hulk of the King fishers and got Some Shot one Cannon and a number of _____. we unloaded two tear of hogsheads next the bulk head and threw out the balast of Stone and put a cannon and ___ in there place and Stowed away the _____ – again
- P5 Wednesday August. ___
 Extremely foggy. Cannon _____ at Rhoad Island what the consequence is we know not we Sailed from Rhoad Island for Sea
- Thursday August 6
 We Sailed a Southern course No wind. a life of privateering is no life for me: When once I get on land again I will betake myself to my Study and leave this unpleasant life.
- Friday August 7
 Hot we came up and Spoke with the privateer Sloop Revenue no news and no Sail _____ appear
- Saturday August 8
 Very hot. a Southern course little wind: board is poor: Sea Sickness prevails: Nothern Latitude 39.
- P6 Sunday August 9
 Very hot, we discovered Schooner about on Southern Course, and pursued it till we came up with him: he Said he was from Martineec bound to Newberry: this day is kept more than I expected Squally
- Monday August 10
 fine weather, our course is pretty much the Same 38.D
- Tuesday August 11
 this morning we discovered four Vessels Standing from us to the Northeast: and we coming down from the westward north which we Spoke: and Said that She was from Carolina bound for france, it rains.
- P7 Wednesday August 12
 Squally: pretty rough. Capt Havens Set off for home with his Crew, who had the Small pox: We gave Chase to a frigate which proved a frenchman bound from Rhode island to france: we keep a Southeast course

Thursday August 13
windy and rough

Friday August. 14
very rough I Scarce eat anything how glad I would be once more with
Some rich prizes to Set my feet on Shore

P8 Saturday August 15
windy a Southern course Lat 37, the wind blows fresh a Sail appears at
the South west We bear down after it and come up with it. it proved a brig
bound from St. Kitts to Cork had on board an hundred and twenty
hogsheads of rum: the American revenue came up and a
part, Capt. Ebenezer Barker gose on board of it with a Number of hands

Sunday August 16
I wrote a letter to Brother Timothy: today we found that the master of
the brig had English papers and Coulers - when we first came up with them
they asked whether we had any American prisoners

P9 (August 16 Cont.d)
the brig Sails for New london this the brig Hazard from Boston came
up with us & is to continue in consort with us a few days

Monday August 17
pleasant weather: a little wind: we hail Eastward and make no
discovery: 36De.25M. North L We careened our Sloop and pan't her over
with tallow: there was a good deal of talk about Shaving but a few words
that which I Said put an end to that.

Tuesday August 18
the wind blows a pretty breese we Spread out but make no discovery:
Such commands on us took place this are enough to make your
blood run cold: _____ is the characteristic of folly

P10 Wednesday August 19
No wind: Exceeding hot. No Sail can we Spy; an idle life is not
agreeable: when I ride by land or Sea: I love to ride

Thursday August 20
fine weather: a North East course holds us on: A Stomach is wanting to
one or proper Victuals are not to be had Lat 35:m40

Friday August 21
Good weather: fine wind. we Sail North west in Lat 36. No Sail are
discovered our water is dealt out to us in Small quantities; Our bread is
hard that a four pound Shot will break it with difficulty.

P11 Saturday August 22
good weather. Our course is North East by East it is Something
Squally: it is Strange that we Should Sail a week and discover not one

Sail of any kind it rains very hard the most part of the night, the latter part of the I did not turn out: on account of the Doctors orders which were that I Should not be out in the wet, as I have a Small touch of the Slow fever.

Sunday August 23

Squally at times. We are in 36L 15m our course is Eastward or Southward Nothing may be Seen at present No Sail hard Sour mouldy bread is hard poir fare, would I were at home however God will give us plenty and return us home again

P12 Monday August 24

Very Squally: this day we parted with the brig hazard and discovered two Sail: one a Schooner or brig and a Ship but it being So near night we were not able to Speak with them. in the night we run by them and Saw them no more the wind blew very fine

Tuesday August 25

Windy and cloudy; I felt unwell I hardly got upon the deck. in direction we hold our course to the Northeast about 37D.30M; we Sail like the wind; what can a man do when he has no Stomach to Eat. bread is hard as a Stone

Wednesday August 26

Calm and cloudy: today Capt Post gave me liberty to draw rice or flower and to cook it. Now I hope I Shall live: I am very unwell today

P13 Thursday August 27

Little or no wind: we gave chase to two brigs: at least, we Sailed to meet them and found that one was the brig hazard and the other an American brig of 20 guns; if there be on Earth a resemblance of hell. we have it on board today: a number of people from the Revennue came on board and grog was dealt out pretty plentifully: the old miller came on board and the mill got on fire: When the water began to fly and continued on a hour or two till not one upon deck escaped without a wetting

Friday August 28

Pleasant Sailing. Soon this morning we made the british fleet bound from the west indies to Cork. We gave chase to the a while and then were chased in our turn by a british frigate for an hour or two at length we out ran her and She gave over the chase

P14 (Friday August 28. Cont' d)

We made after the fleet which consisted of about 54 Sail. there was a terrible thunder Storm which lasted almost all night it is said it lightened 30 times a minute

Saturday August 29

pleasant. We Saw a Sail as the day came on to which we gave chase: and Soon found it to be a british frigate who in her turn gave chase to us, for a little while till She carried away the topmast. this journal from the first line is a mistake: it happened tomorrow: this day we did not make them till afternoon at night we endeavoured to come up with the fleet. that we might run amongst them and pick out Some but did not make out

P15 Sunday August 30

It is blows and is Squally. the first part of yesterdays Journal belongs to this day. We gave over all thoughts of following the fleet any further about noon _____ officer found that our mast was ___ ing at which time we hove too and found that the back Side of the mast was cracked Square in. We taughtened our Shrouds and made but little Sail. We discovered a Ship making a western course to which we gave Small chase but was not able to come up with her this Night: and the wind dying away we lay at the mercy of the Sea I was very unwell: a certain Slow lingering fever hangs about me how discontented is man is his life comfortable he is uneasy, ___ _ _____ hard then he ___

P16 Monday August 31

Calm, not a breath of wind flies over the Surface of the Sea. our Oars are all put forth and the men _____: in this manner they all our men were employed about three hours: this we did to come up with the Ship which had been in Sight all this morning about noon a breeze Sprung at East North East: we bore down after this Ship and might have come up with and Spoke with it: but when we had come within a gun Shot of it, Capt Leeds Says. who was in Company with us, that he would run up under her weather quarter and that we Should run under her lee quarter , Leeds makes an attempt falls back another and and falls off. he Says She is too Strong a breeze Springs up and the ship leaves us

P17 (Monday August 31. Cont'd.)

Undoubtedly we might easily have taken that Ship and made our fortune Leeds must either be a coward or knave: the wind blows and it rains terribly. Thou God preservest us

Tuesday September. 1. 1778

Pleasant. We have a good breeze at East and have a western course this Seems Something encouraging the wind dies away we have entirely lost Sight of the Ship: Just a glance at the Revenue

Wednesday Sep 2

good weather little wind We overhauled the hole and clanked up the mast that it Should not give away the Revenue came in Sight: and

discovers a Sail for which we Stand we come up with it the Revenue receives and returns a broad Side it was a brig it follows us all night

P18 Thursday Sept 3

Squally. Wind Northwest the brig is nigh to us in the morn is in chase of us: we gain of her and hope to leave her Soon: God grant She may Soon leave us: thanks to him She directly disappears almost as Soon as this was written Before this a terrible Squally Strakes us and knocks down the Sloop that the water runs nigh, at a level into the hatches all the Sail that we could Spread were Spread to go before the wind: few of us ever expected that She would right again: but that ever kind providence which always preserves us Now caused her to right with the loss of the wing tail. and a Small boom of the Square Sail. We ran as Some Say 12 or 14 nott an hour.

P 19 Friday Sept 4

Last night Stormed, we hauled agin wind to North west: the weather grows more mild we are not far from Lat 40 great Numbers of fowels are observed to fly from the North it grows Calm. I recover my health fast. May it please God, to Send us a good breeze and Soon return us home which I believe he will Soon do tho I deserve no Such favor: it is very Cold, as Severe as Octoobar or November is in Connecticut. Good men never fail to take notice of a tender kind providence. now Sweet it is to pray and give thanks to him whose Eye is ever open to guard the just a clear Serene night follows but very ___ to _____

P20 Saturday Sept 5

Very cold clear weather no wind. I Supposed we are nigh on Soundings: and computed that we are about 800 miles from New London: our Course is Nigh Northwest, by observation this day we are in Lat 42 . 20 I do nothing of consequence Yesterday they endeavoured to Sound but found none an experiment was made this day by corking a junck bottle tight and tying a piece of canvas over the cork and made it fast to the Sounding line which was Said to contain 90 fathom of line; this bottle was Sunk empty and came up full of Salt water it is a question of how far it Sank before it filled

P21 Sunday Sept 6

Cold cloudy and it rains We Sail five or Six nott It clears off warm no wind I feel not So well today I _____ hard mouldy bread Some of which I carried to the Capt. upon which he ordered the Steward to deal out to Mulford and I good bread this we had with a Small allowance of Sugar: Nothing extraordinary happened: Oh that I could Spend Sunday

to my mind: Would anyone form to himself an idea of hel let him go a privateering. I wish I might be able to keep the next Sunday in Branford

P22 Wednesday Sept 7

Warm and pleasant; little wind; Our Course is North west or there about: a certain disiness is in my head troubles me this day the wind breezes up; Officers live well while the people Starve is there any marrow in the bones or fat on the beef it must be taken off and put into their _____ while the men must Eat the lean and grisly and bread as hard as a Stone and almost as glassy that one may See his face in it. Lat 41 D:50:Long 22 _____ East of New London: to that place I would that I might come. How pleasant are good friends and how welcome Should I be at home

P23 Tuseday Sept 8

Wind North west our course is South west by west: it is Squally We Sail five or Six nots: in Lat 42D: 10M Long East of New London 10D: 20M Good and gracious God Send us a prosperous gail that our native Shores may receive us Safe and Soound and that this hell like life may have an end A Sailors life is a life very unfitting and for me this day all hands have good bread but bad pork I am not so well this day a qualm Sits heavy on my Stomach I would have Obtained Some physick of the Doct but could not

P24 Wednesday Sept 9

the Wind blows at North west We bear near a western course and have run on 100 miles in 24 hours further we Should have run had not our fore Sail Stay given way Six hundred and fifty miles East of New London Lat 42: it is pretty rough: I am not very well. this night was calm good men are curious observers of the works of providence at times Seamen are thrown to the Skies in appearance and again Sink to the Ocean's gaping bottom. yet they are unmindfull of him who Sends his wind and Swells the roaring billows how much more Stupid is man than the beasts or the fishes

P25 Thursday Sept 10

good Calm: about Nine, O, clock the wind Springs up at South west and blows a pretty breeze; We make about a North west course 600 miles East of New London Lat 42 the wind increases and a Storm comes it rains a considerable: We run 7 and 8 notts I recover my health but Slowly: Could I but once get upon Shore then I trust that I Should Soon recover: Great God grant that this may Soon be the case, and return home Safely: A Smart Shower falls between the hours of 4 and 8, then it clears off the wind falls: It may generally be remarked that those

who live poorly at home when they are abroad and in _____ will
_____ those who are not it is not the Character of a man

P26 Friday Sept 11

the Sun rises fair and but Soon clouds in the wind is West, it Shifts one way and the other: I read the history of Dr Faustus this forenoon We make our course as near West as we could in the _____ the Wind Shifts around into the North East this is Such a wind as we have been wishing for these many days We Sail 4-5-6 and 7 Nots it rains but a little: may heaven continue this good wind till we Safe arrive in New London: We Shape our course toward the North west. Poverty makes men Sensible of their wants: and their dependance on a Supreme being, but man without correction is not nor will he remember that God is the giver of all his good things: So prone is he to do evil and So forgetfull is he from whom his mercies flow

P27 Saturday Sept 12

Cloudy it rains the Wind holds. North East a fine breeze which carries us on toward home about Seven Nots; last night and this morning we carry Spare Sail _____ Sail and Jib: No pleasure on board of a privateer here one may See hell let loose and vomiting out hideous oaths _____ and blasphemies that one would be amazed that Such wickedness Should dwell in the hearts of men on this Side of the infernal regions. But here we may See how vile and wicked our hearts are when restraints are taken off and man appears in all his gastly form: would that my heart were clensed and purged and made _____ from this time forward may it be my chief and only delight to love God and his Son and serve him with all my Soul: Just at Sun Set it Stops raining and clear off the wind comes North west a pleasant night I recover my breath by little and little

P28 Sunday Sept 13

The Sun rises fair: we Sail near three Nots: about Eight 0, clock an entire calm ensues which continues to Near Six in the _____ when the wind Springs up at North East; which carries us Six nots. It looks very like for a Storm and it rains a little. We had before this put all the guns but the two long fours off the main deck into the hatch a fine breeze holds us all Night. We Sail 7 and 8 nots, we Sail west North west, how pleasant and how delightsome it is to Serve and praise God in his house on his day and amongst his Saints, Oh, that this may be quickly granted to me that i may always Serve and glorify him and may it always be my greatest glory and ornament, and when life Shall end may I to heaven ascend and be Such as I wish to be

P29 Monday Sept 14

With pleasure and raised expectations we rise to view the rising Sun. Soon we expect to make the land for which we So much long and wish, a fresh breeze favours us from the North We are in Lat 41 D:20M: yesterday and today all things look Smiling: but, alas, in the morning at Sun not more than half an hour high We Spied a large Sail right head bearing down with all her _____ Spread we immediately change our course and down before the wind to the South west ___ and make all the Sail we possibly can the Ship fires a gun to the Leeward and hoists American coulers, we do the Same; She fires another and Still pursues and hoist British Coulers: we make all speed to get away and She to catch us: She calls upon us which obliges us to cut down the Sloops waist in 6 places each Side and throw over five of our guns and Start _____ by and before the mast, all are _____ up to be taken; I do nothing but offer my petitions to my God he hears and Sends deliverance at _____ _____ _____ Sail _____ over our _____ gun which the Ship _____ and

P30 Tuseday Sept 15

After the chase was over last night we hauled our course to the South west; we Sailed when we were chased 8 or Nine Nots - a pleasant morning no Sail to be Seen how pleasant it is to be delivered from our foes; this day was Spent in over hauling the hole in the Sloop: from the mast head a Sail is Seen it proves a Sloop we give chase to it and a little before Sun Set we come So nigh as to give her a few gun which we did three of them, and Show American Coulers, but She Shows none nor heaves too, we prepare to give her a broad Side, but we Soon come up and Speak with her, She was three day out of Nantucket; We put out our boat and two of our Lieutenants went on board of her: Who brought back the bad News that the french had been very much torn with a gail of wind that the Admiral had lost all three of his masts that our people had made an attempt to take Rhode Island but had failed, that the Britons had burned Bedford

P31 Wednesday Sept 16

the Sun rises clear a fine breeze we lie toward the North west and Sail 6 Nots and half: Yesterday we were in Lat 38D:20M. When we think dangers are past we feel happy at the thought Every breath of wind carries us nearer home, but this tranquility and peace is disturbed. about noon we Spy two Sail right a head Now we hall as Nigh the wind as we can lye: the Same do the other two Sail this we do till Night at the going down of the Sun we keep a good look out for those Sail and See what point of compass they have from us and as Soon as it was dark we took our course the Same point of Compass that we Saw the last and the

wind Springing up at South East favoured our design. Now we made all Sail possible and ran all Night before the wind. it Stormed _____
_____ No one knows _____

P32 Thursday Sept 17

Now the Set day is come that I had laid out to put an end to this wearisome life, and an end to this journal; this is the day that I had pointed out 12 or 14 days ago to get on Shore: The night had gathered a thicker veil than usual a thick fog with rain had obstructed the on ___ rays of the rising Sun, at Midnight all hands rejoiced when the word bottom Sounded from Stem to Stern tho at the distance of 45 fathoms in about 4 hours we found the water to decrease to 20 fathoms: Joy might be Seen to rise in every Countenance But amidst all our Joy we fear a heavy gail we take in our flying boom and take down our top Sail _____ but the wind dying we put them in their places: Not far from ten in the _____ We all again rejoice at Sight of land which we had not Seen in Six long weeks It was block island and about _____ we hauld to the Southward _ in the _____ away we pay with _____

P33 Friday Sept 18 AD 1778

Fair in the East but it frowns in the West: Oh how pleasant it is to get on the land it very nigh resembles a good man on Earth who is much afflicted and no one to Solace him nor comfort: he dies and goes to heaven there he Joins Saints and Angels So from privateering a person gets on land he can get free from those oaths and join himself with civilized people and Christians: Whose company may I leave to prizes from the want which I have had of it. Five of us Set out from New London Joel Mulford, Moses Root, Asher Mather Gamabiel Baldwin; we all took a breakfast of bread and milk after we had traveled 2 or 3 miles it was of indian bread and milk which cost us four Shillings Each from thence we traveled and it began to rain. 4d Each for passing the rope from ___ Saybrook ferry, Maltbie & Baldwin _____

P34 (Sept 18. Cont'd.)

_____ die: Mulford Root and I called for a dinner at Dudley's: this we had of the best kind cost four Shillings, and two Shillings Each for wine ordinalre of which among us we had half a pint
4, O Clock we Set out for Killingsworth. Capt Crane came up with us and took a couple of our packs another man carried mine. We Staid at Capt Crane's: bought one bowl of Syllabut 2 Shillings

Saturday Sept 19

Very pleasant we arose before the Sun: I was very Sick and before

we joged I turned up all the dinner I had eaten the day before after this I felt myself much _____ We traveled to East Guilford and took Breakfast at Grave's which with a glass of bitters cost Each of us 4s & 4d we arrived at Guilford town a little before ten when we drank another half pint of Maderia cost 6S Now we Set off for North Branford we got to Deacon Mulfords 40 clock here I tarried all night

P35 Sunday Sept 20

Cool but pleasant about half after Eight I Set off for hime I crossed the great hill and came out between Widow Elwells and Widow Tainters when I came in Sight of the rode I Saw people going to meeting, But as I found peaches plenty I lingered a long that I did not get home much before twelve: How pleasant old home looks once more: I found Edward and Sister Lucy at home they had not heard of my coming: Dada and Mama were much Surprised to find me at home I am Exceedingly tired

Monday Sept 21

Fair, fruit causes me to increase in flesh (HIVES???): Keneth Butler and Elizabeth Farnum were about going to Branford I took up my horse and rode with them I went to Brother Timothys and got him to go with me and dig Some indian hemp to cure me of the itch, which I had very bad; I tarried at Brothers all night.

P36 Tuseday Sept 22

Cloudy and Shines by _____ Brother Timothy went down in Branford River and caught two bushels of Oysters and Some clams We came up again we heard that our horses had got out we went after them and hunted a long while before we could find them all, when we had found them it was Nine or ten, 0, Clock I Eat a dinner of chowdered rock fish at Russels, We Set off and came home; I cut up my indian hemp roots and boiled them Some of hell consists not in Books but hideous Looks, oaths and Swearing, it very much resembles Privateering. Before anyone goes into any Company; let him consider well with himself what and who they are with whom he about to keep Company, or he is lost.

P37 Wednesday Sept 23

the Clouds Vail the Sun, nor can his cheering face be Seen: it begins to rain and no intermission till night I made a mess of Oyster pancakes Sister Sarah came and helped me eat them: Great Author of Nature thou hast made all things in the most Excellent manner Nothing fails which thou hast made of being good: of these good things at times thou deprivest man that he may know from whom they come and that he may the better prize them when they are given. For this be given to whose right it is all praise glory honor Majesty by all who ever Shared of

his bounty and may I always be able in truth to Say Amen, blessing
honor and praise be to him

P38 Thursday Sept 24

the Sun rises clear, a pure air flows thru the Atmosphere I have been
employed in writing the journal which I had neglected for a week back I
go graping in the forenoon at three O, Clock there was a lecture
before Sacrement; I went to meeting the first time for better than Eight
weeks how different it is to go to meeting to what it is to hear ___ curses
and blasphemies Mr Williams had his text in Luke Chap 18V28-29-30 for
Verily I Say unto you whosoever etc: the manifold
which Christ Speaks of is not always given to his Saints in this Worlds goods:
but always in a good and quiet Conscience, We ought not to hold no Earthly
treasure So dear as to be unwilling to part with it at his call

P39 Friday Sept 25

Fine weather no interposing clouds nor mists nor ___ vail the face of the
Sun but he walks forth in his brightnes calling aloud for all nature to rejoice
and Sing the praises of their King. I rode to Aunt Goodshaller to tell Sister
Sarah that Assenath Butler could not go with: as her horse had been tied
head to foot with a Small rope which had worn itself into the leg So that it was
not able to travel one Step I went to North Branford to Samuel fords and got
my Saddle Stuffed and my bridle mended. it cost four Shillings. We begin to
hear Something of our prize which we had taken and were afraid it was lost I
wrote a letter to Send to Brother Butler.

P40 Saturday Sept 26

the Sun's face is hid behind a cloud now can he look through till late in
the afternoon then he looks out with a warm mild benign countenance as oft
done by a fair lady when dropping tears are wiped from her face and She
forgets the causes of her tears. What a trifler I am when I have nothing to put
in my journal I have this day poverty of thought is the most consummate
poverty in the world, and how to avoid it is not the least difficulty that I meet
with; when fair truth employs my pen then will find enough to write nor will I
fear the Sharp _____ of Slander I will employ any thoughts free and
_____ to Some great Subject

P41 Sunday Sept 27

With pleasure we See the Sun rise free from clouds to bless the Earth
with his Smiles warm: this is the first Sunday in 8 or 9 that I have been at
meeting, this is the Second time I have been at Sacrement; Oh how pleasant
it is if performed a right to keep the Commands and institutions of the Dear
Dear Redeemer: It may it be my highest aim honor ambition

glory and that with which my Soul is most delighted.
Mr Williams had his text in Heb: Chap 26, but now once in the
end of the world _____ by the end of the world is not ment, the
destruction of it, but, the end of the ages in which prophycies ___ and
Shadows were to cease and the great Antitypes to which all the former
_____ : appeared this must be the end I have Spoken of

P42 (Sept 27, Cont' d.)

_____, his text was in Philip Chap 3V12. his
discourse was of the resurection that as Christ was rased So also all
Saints Shall be, as he is raised as he fortold So there cannot be the least
foundation for doubt to weakest Christians

Monday Sept 28

Good weather: I went to Branford to carry paes to Brother
Timothy's and Russels and got home to dinner I helped unload two Small
lods of mowing I went up to See Jonathan Maltbie at there were
a number of young people collected at Benjamin Maltbies: they danced
Some and had other Sports, which _____ how fond the youthfull
mind is of Sports and a passing away their time in thoughtless manner;
When man on foolish pleasures _____ prepared his punishment

P43 Tuesday Sept 29

When it is fine to write that I have done nothing will Show that my
disposition is honest though not good: Brother Timothy to Dada's at
night I went to Brother Elihu's and helped him take up bees. this day I
read a little in the _____ History Volume.6. here one may the
Savage State of mankind before they were taught to live in Societies;
When they eat every root and herb that came in their way: and for house
they took any hollow tree or cave or hole in the rocks for a Shelter; one
blessing attended this way of living and only one that was they did not
envy each other what he had, and Consequently did not make war on
one another: for they had nothing to contend for and happy they who
lived without contention and _____

P44 Wednesday Sept 30

Very warm at times a few Showers which are grateful to the Springing
Corn and make that appear inviting I go to Wallingford to mill, get
much later before I get home: Some part of this day was Spent in reading
the Same as I read yesterday: now we see those men emerging from us
the more polished part of the world call it a State of barbarity that is they
are brought by one of their Kings from eating roots and herbs and
dwelling in hollow trees and caverns to feed upon that delicate food
_____ and to build huts to dwell in; this is reconed one great Step
toward the civilization of these people: out of these people we formed

grecian States formed in process of time. See here human nature_ _____brute

P45 Thursday October 1 AD 1778

Find and warm for the Season after mending an old pair of clam tongs which took till nigh Eleven, O.C. I Set off for an oyster voyage in Branford river When I came to Mr. Robbins I found that Brother Timothy had been gone Sometime: I followed on thro the Salt marshes and over the creeke at length I hailed him: he came and took me in with him and we caught about ten bushels of Oysters I pack up a couple of bags full and jog home What pains what cares what fateagues will not greedy undergo for his appetite he is not affraid to plow the Ocean is the darling of his appetite on the other Side: the bottom of the Sea must be raked out that perhaps he might find it there: Nothing too much or too great to be done for all devouring appetite

P46 Friday Oct 2

No Sooner had the faint glimmering rays bent by the atmosphere touched the Earth: than it fell to my lot to rise take a horse and again go after Oysters the clouds threaten with rain but none comes: I made Shift to accomplish but a trifle this day: Oyster _____; I finished washing for the itch.

Saturday Oct 3

hot is the weather and faint is the air: Now See for the palate a fine dish of Oyster pancakes cooked in finest manner thus my time is Spent in fooling and cooking I was very Sick after my good breakfast Now by this learn frugality and temperance, learn not to Set a higher value on the creature than is necessary and to mind the wise man's caution Eat so much as is Sufficient. I Shook the last of the pares from our tree

P47 Sunday Oct 4

Cloudy cold rains a little. but now and then heaven Sends forth his Showering blast We had no minister as Mr Williams had gone to Long meadow to See his father They applied to me to read Deacon Maltbie gave me a Sermon book to read in that had no text in: that is it was torn out: but notwithstanding it gave us good counsel. it told us that in order to our forsaking Sin we must first See the hatful nature of Sin how it Was how dishonorable to God. his law perfections: how destructive to our own peace comfort pleasure and well being: were my heart naked I Should See no goodness then but vile loathsomeness, would that I could get rid of it: Dear Jesus clean it for thou ~

P48 Monday Oct 5

Warm pleasant weather, like Spring or Summer, not Autumn like. I went to New haven under a view to get Some trim for my blue cloath but could not, when I came home I found Solmon Butler at Dada's after Arenath who had been _____ Sometime and detained longer than other She would have been, had her horse not been lame I went with Solmon to the meeting house where they were training.

Tuesday Oct 6

Warm: Solmon and Asenath Set off for home and I for Middletown where I found no Such things as I went after I bought a penknife and gave fifteen Shillings for it a pound of Shot nine Shillings two yards of _____ two Shillings Six Skiens of Silk Six Shillings I bought Capt Maltbie _____
Maltbie

P49 Wednesday Oct 7

Good weather, I read Some in the universal history, Brother Gideon and Wife came to Dada's in a Chaise and went home _____ the Same day. I rode round the Society to get Some tow cloth but could obtain none. I went to Jesse Street's and got my lining that was pressed there. Dada hearing that Brother Josiah's family were sick with disentary rode up this day

Thursday Oct 8

The morn Shone fair, I believe I Spent this day chiefly in reading and writing in and out of the history of the Athenians

Friday Oct 9

Good weather for ought I know it is most likely I did the Same last a business to day as I did yesterday Dada came home from Farmingburg.

P50 Saturday Oct 10

Cloudy rainy weather, I to Wallingford after my old white hat which Brother Gideon had carried home with him to work I let him have for pay for doing it my old blue double breasted jaket, I returned home and got in Some readiness to go with Mr Robbins

Sunday Oct 11

It was excessive rainy, very few people attended meeting Mr Williams had his text I have forgot where, how forgetfull I am, vain amusement long Stick in my mind while alas Serious matters find no place, Oh that the _____ may Soon choose when trifles no longer root out important Subjects

P51 Monday Oct 12

the rain is fallen the clouds are overblown, the Earth wades in water the Streams pass Swiftly away nor does time loiter, but more uncertain than

any of these and Shorter Still if Shorter can be: the life the time of motals.
at break of day I went for Branford and got to Mr Robbins a little after Sun
rise: here I took breakfast and we Set off for Kent. we went thru East
haven, North haven, to Wallingford over bridge to Cheshire at Mr Foote's
we dined: lodged at Mr Levenworths Waterbury. this was an exceeding
cold night: beauties Spring up in almost every Soil, they catch the eye
but do not captivate the mind, for _____ trifles do not Stop but turn
the mind.

P52 Tuseday Oct 13

Very cold cloudy looks likely for rain. We got to Westbury call at Mr
Trumbull's get a mug of flip See miss and jog on, pass thru
Litchfield South farms call at Mr Beckwith's he was not at home. We got a
little bread cheese and butter and push forward We come to Litchfield
pond We found the bridge broken and could not pass, when we were
obliged to turn to the right and go almost into the town before we could
turn to come to mount tom after a long and tedious days rid. We came
lodged at Mr Starrs at Greenwich about ___ left an end was put to this
days journey. So pilgrims rest when the Sun gose down.

P53 Wednesday Oct 14

The clouds are dispersed and it is warm again We ride having added
Mr Starr to our company: to Kent We come Mrs Mills is Sent for to Mr
Boardwells the day is _____ upon and I am _____ upon as
Messinger to call his Children together: I go back with Mr Starr to
Greenwich My horse was taken very lame

Thursday Oct 15

In the morn the clouds conceal the Sun, but they are Soon dispersed:
I ride on Mr _____ to call ___ wedding ___ to Doct
Gould I came at Canaan and dined at Mr Robbin's of Norfolk I lodgoed

Friday Oct 16

Very pleasant I rode to Sheffield overtook Major Frisbie. bought a
brass ink Stand 8 Shillings diner and lodged at Mr Keep's

P54 Saturday Oct 17

Frost covers the ground. the Sun overcame it with his heat and it is
warm when I had dined: I Sett off for Norfolk where I came at Sun
Set and found the Tutor Mr Abraham _____ and Mr Abraham Camp.

Sunday Oct 18

Very cool; Mr Robbins this this morning to North Canaan to preach Mr
Camp after much persuasion consented to preach he had his text in Acts
Chap _ V ___ times of this ignorance God winked at but now
commandeth all men every where to repent, Repentance was his Subject
and object which he Set up in very clear light Mr Baldwin had his text

in Solomon's Songs Chap _ V ___ he is my beloved ___ he is my friend

P55 Monday Oct 19

fair good weather I went to Frisbie's Shop bought two Silk twist two dollars with Mr and Mrs Robbins we Set off for Canaan, lodged at doctor Gould's

Tuesday Oct 20

Canaan we Set off having added Mrs Gould to our company We got to Mr Starr at Greenwich at two or three, O, Clock here we lodged

Wednesday Oct 21

Exceeding fair weather we rode to Kent dined at Mrs Mill's where we collected and collecting about Sun Set Mr Philemon Robbins was married to Mrs Mills in which ceremony we joined as brothers Eight priests he having four and She four, Seven of these are Settled Mr A _____ Robbins made the first prayer Mr Goodwell joined. Mr Samuel _____ made the last prayer

P56 Thursday Oct 22

Fine weather Mr Robbins was in his Seventieth year at this time age must wed: the, time has passed his Sentence: Some of the weddiners go home we dine at Mr _____

Friday Oct 23

No rain or clouds make it uncomfortable _____ eats up ones mind: Edmond and I are employed in putting up crockery

Saturday Oct 24

Cloudy and looks like rain We are fixing for a remove Mr Edmond Mills and I went over to the Ablong he went to preaching and I went to hear We lodged at Capt Chamberlain's

Sunday Oct 25

It remains cloudy: I went to meeting at the Ablong Mr Mills preached: I have forgot his text: here I Saw Jeams habits _____ _____ dined with him, Supper at Capt _____ and rode-home, Mills had _____ dollars for this day

P57 Monday Oct 26

Cloudy Mr Robbins with his Lady Mr Mills, Mrs Boardwell and myself Set off from Kent for Branford dined at Mr Day's new preston and lodged at Mr Prinsmades at Judea

Tuesday Oct 27

Cloudy. We Set off pretty early and pass old Woodbury about eleven O.C. and made a Short Stop at Mr Wildmans Southbury: then ride to Oxford Mr Brunson to dinner where we fared well, pursued our journey

and came to Amity put up at Capt Osbourn's Eat a little milk for
Supper: I bought four Sermons upon asses of an old pedlar three
Shillings and Six pence they cost. bread and milk at three and Six
pence the meal

P58 Wednesday Oct 28

Very pleasant the Sun Shone bright at Sun rise. we are ready to ride our
Eating horse keeping lodging last night about thirty eight Shillings we rode to
New haven to Mr Dickermans to breakfast I went to College to See Maltbie at
twelve O.C. we reach Mr Robbins here he welcomes his new wife, not long
before we are invited to another wedding. Mr Robbins Mills & I go to it Mr
Camp is married to L_____ Barker thus I finish a
wedding with a wedding See _____ a person is born marries dies. So
passes away all the human race. till time put death to death and time
have no end

P59 Thursday Oct 29

Cloudy It rains a little I carried my blue cloath to Mulford to make up: after
this I Set off for home with Brother Timothy and helped him bring his
cow in We went to Mr Aaron Cooks: and returned home again

Friday Oct 30

Good and pleasant weather. I did but little Brother Timothy blooded
me in the foot but it did now bleed much, then he blooded me in the arm, I
wrote a little of this journal

Saturday Oct 31

Cloudy rainy unpleasant: I had to go after Doct Foot for Brother
Ebenezer's wife and coming back I fetched from Ephraim Munson's
Eleven ounces of worsted I am at last likes to get up with my journal
which I have not done in 3 or 4 weeks

P60 Sunday Nov 1, 1778

Cloudy cold rainy uncomfortable: Mr Williams had his text in John Chap
17V3, And this is Eternal life to know thee, the only true God and Jesus
Christ whom thou hast Sent. from these words he had taken occasion to
Speak before: he was about to consider in the beginning of this days
discourse that there were three relations between God and the Creature, that
is, rational: God is Creator; & Christ died only for offenders if infants are not
offenders then Christ died not for those; but He Saith bring little Children to
me and forbid them not for of Such is the kingdom of heaven: if of Such the
kingdom of heaven consists then Christ for and redeemed them if he died for
and redeem them then they were enslaved or else the very word

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P61 (Sunday Nov 1, 1778, cont' d.)

redemption has no Signification. Were Children born holy as Some would have it, they would be Subject to no pain nor death for the wages of Sin in death: and as children die as well as grown people and with as great distress and agony it _____ Ergo that Children have Something for which they Suffer as Soon as they are born, now if this not be Sin or what we mean by it ___ offense; then must we conclude that they are punished without a cause: but will not the Judge of all Earth do right he will he can do no other way: his nature is Such that he can do no evil, but there is iniquity Some where or else punishment will be without a foundation and punishment without a cause is madness in the highest degree: Now is it not better to own that the creature is criminal: than harbour the least thought that Creator is unjust for must-unjust to inflict without offence Let God be just but every man a _____

P62 Monday Nov, 2

Cloudy and rained a little: I rode down to Ebn and Capt Foots after a girl for Brother Ebenezer but could get none; Some of the Children, while I was at Capt Foots, discovered an extraordinary rainbow: the Sun was about an hour high in the afternoon; and the rainbow was directly between us and the Sun, about as near as I could guess Seventy degrees from the horizon: with the middle of the rainbow bent directly toward the Sun: this bow had the red rays on the outside: the bow was different from any that I had ever Seen: as all others appear on a different Side from that of the Sun, but this upon the Same Side

P63 (Monday Nov 2, Cont'd)

A circle of the Sun may appear above on the Same Side with the Sun but the bend is from the Sun: I can assign no other reason for this uncommon bow but that there was a bright cloud in the North East and East that the rays of the Sun were reflected by that upon the falling drops of rain in the west; where I was the Sun was So clouded all the while the bow lasted that it could not be Sun: only could I See where it was: after I Saw it it continued the Span of Six of Eight minutes

Tuesday Nov 3

Pleasant this morning but before night cold and blustering: I went to Farmingburg and dined at Brother Josiahs and tarried all night I ramble and _____ the world about: it is a life as uncomfortable as it unprofitable Well I Shall Soon be done with this _____ world, So I will be patient

P64 Wednesday Nov 4

Windy and for the most part clear I went with Mr Gillet to See his house after viewing it and Staying on a while I took my horse and rode to

Brother Edwards with them I dined, agreed that they Should weave
Some for me which they had Spun I rode home at Doct Bulls:
Wallingford I bought for Brother Ebenezer: Some of Elixer Salvitas cost
Seven Shillings this he paid as well as for Some Shot he had had of me

Thursday No 5

Extremely windy all day: Some little Scuddles; I emptied my chest and
made a tray to carry it on to Branford, I went up to old Mr Streets the _____
maker after a Medicine ____ for Brother Timothy but did not get it Now I
come to the end of this _____ of my journal; and to contents are an
insignificant heap of Nonsense

A R T I C L E S

OF AGREEMENT, made and concluded on in *New-London*, between the Owners, Captain, Officers and Mariners of the armed Sloop called the *REVENGE*, bound on a six Weeks Cruize against the Enemies of the United States of *America*.

WE, Owners of the said Sloop do covenant to fit for Sea the said Vessel, in a warlike Manner; and provide her with Cannon, Swivels, Small-Arms, Cutlasses, sufficient Ammunition, and Provisions, with a Box of Medicines, and every other Necessary at our own Expence, for a six Weeks Cruize against the Enemies of the Thirteen United States of *AMERICA*; and that the said Owners shall be entitled to receive the one Half of all Prizes, Effects and Things that shall be taken during the said Cruize; the other Half to be divided amongst the Sloop's Company, in the following Proportions—Captain, eight Shares; First and Second Lieutenants, Master and Doctor, four Shares each; two Masters Mates, Boatwain, Gunner and Quarter-Masters, Officer Marines and Carpenter, two Shares each; Prize-Masters, three Shares each; all lesser Officers, not more than one and half Share; Privates, one Share; and Boys, Half a Share.

All Enterprizes at Sea or on Shore, shall be solely directed by the Captain. There shall be five dead Shares to be given to the most deserving Men, to be adjudged by the Committee.

If any one shall loose a Leg or an Arm, in Time of Action, he shall receive Three Hundred Dollars, out of the whole Effects taken. If any Person shall mutiny, or raise any Disturbance on Board, game, steal, or embezzle on, or of any Prize, whether at Sea or in Port; disobey his Officer, prove a Coward, desert his Quarters, absent himself without the Leave of his superior Officer for the Term of twelve Hours, exercise any Cruelty or Inhumanity in cold Blood, he shall forfeit his whole Share or Shares to the Company, and be liable to such corporal Punishment as the Committee shall think fit to inflict. The Committee shall consist of the chief Commanding Officer, first and second Lieutenant and Master. The Captain shall have full Power to displace any Officers as he shall think proper.

LASTLY, The said Commander, Officers and Men, hereby enter our selves on the Cruize for the Term of six Weeks, if the Cruize shall last so long, or unless sooner discharged.

Dated at *New-London June 27th 1778*

Revenge was, presumptively, back from her cruise by early July 1778. An advertisement appeared in the New London newspaper on 24 July 1778, dated at Groton on 20 July, notifying the crew of the *Revenge* that the distribution of prize goods was ready to be made.³⁶ On 4 December 1778, a similar advertisement notified the crew that the distribution of prize money from the *Lovely Lass* was ready.³⁷ *Revenge* was re-commissioned on 23 July 1778 under Commander Nathan Post of Saybrook, with her battery increased to twelve guns and her crew remaining at eighty men. The new bond, for \$10,000, was executed by Post, Shaw and John Hulbert of East Haddam, Connecticut.³⁸ *Revenge* was back at sea, under Post, not too long after. The cruise was not productive. *Revenge* encountered a British cruiser which gave her such a hard chase that Post had to throw some of his guns overboard in order to elude the pursuit. *Revenge* returned to port in New London on 17 September 1778, in need of a refit.³⁹