

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFER

**Buyer:** Shadrack Hapgood  
**Seller:** Nathaniel Hapgood  
**Address:** 350 acres on Pill Hill Brook  
**Date:** June, 1725  
**Price:** life-time care



## Towne Calendar

### Thursday, June 29

Official incorporation of the town of Harvard as signaled by a bill signed this day by His Excellency the Governor Jonathan Belcher.

### Friday, June 30

Celebration of incorporation at the house of publick worship, at four o'clock.

Celebration of incorporation at the public house, at ten o'clock.

### Saturday, July 1

Meeting of Epistolary Excellence Committee to write Josiah Willard, secretary to the province of Massachusetts Bay, to thank him for choosing the name of his prestigious university for the town. At the tavern, after sundown.

### Sunday, July 2

Prayer service at the church, dawn to dusk.

Quilting at Goody Pollard's, after supper.

### Monday, July 3

Willard farm open all day: early lettuce.

### Tuesday, July 4

Meeting of committee to draft petition to Lancaster proprietors, asking for land around meetinghouse for burying ground, training field, and other publick uses. At Ezekiel Goodwillie's house by the lone oak, at sundown.

### Wednesday, July 5

Exhibition of petty thieves and lazy farmhands on the Common, all day.

### Thursday, July 6

Instruction for children, good Dame Atherton's, Still River, by the blacksmith's shop, at sunrise.

### Friday, July 7

Town meeting for the election of hogreeves, field-drivers, and selectmen at the house of publick worship, five o'clock.



## Constable's Corner

**Monday.** Jedediah Witherspoon reported that two pigs and an oxcart were missing from his Bare Hill farm. Constable Edward Norway recovered



the pigs after observing that the gate to Witherspoon's barn had been left open, allowing the animals to wander into a neighbor's yard. Norway found the oxcart after following the cart's tracks down an incline. Upon careful investigation, he determined that the brake had not been set.

**Tuesday.** A resident of Littleton Road alerted the constable's office about a suspicious-looking buggy. Simon Stone's son, Benjamin, 15, and Ephraim Farnsworth's son, John, 14, turned over Simon's carriage when they missed the turn onto Makamacheckamuck's Hill. The horse was not hurt; the carriage lost a wheel, and the two boys were fine, though worried about the punishment their fathers would mete out when they returned home.

**Wednesday.** Deputy Barnhard Fife went to the farm of Hebediah and Margaret Wilkins last week to investigate reports of Margaret's death. Upon examination, he determined that she had suffered a whipping. Hebediah was placed in the stocks pending investigation. Hebediah's mother, Felicity Wilkins, told police that Margaret was frequently disobedient.

**Thursday.** A deer collided with a wagon driven by Eleazer Davis on

Bear Hill, and although Eleazer's horse, Blaze, was frightened, none but the deer suffered injury. The deer "came out of nowhere," said Eleazer. Constable Norway took John Daby, 29, to the lockup for being drunk in a public place and left him there over night to sober up.

**Friday.** Constable Norway took Franklyn Weathersby of Weathersby Meadworks into custody after an Oak Hill Road resident complained that he was driving his buggy recklessly. Weathersby explained that none of his mead-tasters had reported for work that day, leaving only him to do the tasting. "It was tough work," he slurred, "but someone had to do it."

**Saturday.** Deputy Fife arrested two teenagers after a Lover's Lane resident reported them for canoodling in pub-



lic. An Ayer Road woman was placed in the stocks pending investigation of witchcraft.

**Sunday.** Joseph Whitney of Lancaster County Road fell asleep in church. After the final hymn, he was taken to the constable's office. Whitney's wife and children enjoyed coffee hour without him. Mary Webster of Depot Road reported that her husband, Silas, did not attend church. Deputy Fife went to the home to arrest him.

## Harvard Lads Win Oxen Pull

by Phineas Davis

The sons of Cornet Sawyer, Luke and Permilly, drove their father's team to success in a match that pitted boys from Lancaster against Harvard's own. In a best-of-three contest, Sawyer's team of oxen, Belle and Miranda, lost the first match, but pulled it out in the second and third matches.

Luke drove the team and Permilly handled the hitching and the pole and managed to keep the team straight in the final pull.

A sled piled with rocks weighing

3,000 pounds had to be pulled a distance of six feet in one continuous motion and Belle and Miranda made it look easy—after one false start when Belle stepped over the chain and the judge, John Nichols of Stow, disqualified them from that match. The Lancaster team, Ezra and Thomas Buttrick with their oxen Thunder and Lightning, won the first match, though Nichols's decision was loudly questioned by an obviously partisan crowd.

All's well that ends well, though, and the Sawyers took home the blue ribbon.



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