

Aug. 8—James Knap took my father, aged 80, for a rate made when Black Rock was joined to old Fairfield & myself was also taken & paid 7/6d.

N.B. Black Rock district was joined to the middle district without notice & against their will to get our money to build their schoolhouse!

Nov. 15—Tide ran into our spring.

1805

Feb. 27—Died widow Christiania Silliman.

May 2—Moved to Black Rock David Penfield.

About this time the town ware (fish-weir) which had been gone for years was new stuck by Danl. Lacy, Jr. of this place.

May 18—Upwards of 70 Methodists embark at Black Rock for a camp meeting at Hempstead Plains, L. I.

June 29—Died of the Yellow Fever in the W. Indies, Barnabas Bartram of Fairfield.

July 20—Drowned Terence Riley of this place— His store, Vessel, &c were attached soon after the news came.

Aug. 19—Died Wolcott Chauncey of this place of a violent relax—a disease thought to originate in the heat of this summer which has continued longer & with less interruptions than for many years.

Sept. 5—Near this time a boy 10 years of Age of Danl Wilson's going in a swimming, contrary to his father's command, was drowned in the whirlpool near the mouth of Ashhouse creek.

Sept. 6—Died Rev. Andrew Eliot of Fairfield.

Feb. 27—Christiania, daughter of Richard Hubbell and widow of Capt. Joseph Silliman.

May 2—David Penfield, son of James and Ellen (Burr) Penfield. He bought the house at the head of the Middle Wharf from Barlow Sturges and eventually purchased from Barlow, Benjamin and Gershom Sturges their shares in the Middle Wharf which he managed until his death.

May 18—This camp meeting is mentioned in the Journal of Lorenzo Dow who crossed the Sound and landed at Black Rock after its conclusion.

June 29—Barnabas (1773-1805), son of Ebenezer and Mary (Burr) Bartram.

Aug. 19—Wolcott (1732-1805), son of Robert and Hannah (Wheeler) Chauncey.

Sept. 5—David Jennings Wilson (1794-1805).

1806

- March 10**—Died of a relax, Mary Bartram, aged 73.
Nancy Annabel cut her throat from ear to ear with a razor—
a Physician being called, fainted away at the sight.
- April 13**—News of Robert Wetmore putting a period to his
existence at New York. He had been a large merchant
at Bridgeport.
- May 10**—Died David Wheeler, aged about 79.
- June 16**—Total eclipse of the sun. Very clear. Two stars
were seen.
- July 1**—About this time came 2 letters from Mr. Francis
Forgue, now on board of a man of war in the English
channel—he had not been heard of in 15 years.
- July 13**—One of Green's cooper's broke his arm scuffling.
- Sept. 14**—At 7 in the morning died my father. . . . His constant
temperance until his last moments is a strong satire on
the drunkenness of the present day.
- Sept. 19**—Lightning continued some hours.
- Nov. 25**—Died, aged 69, of a fever, Rebeckah Wheeler.

1807

- March 21**—J. Maltbie & 6 men besides go in a boat to Nor-
walk Islands to dig off a Vessel—they got her off.
- March 24**—Died of a Consumption, Huldah Gould, wife of
Jo. Gould.
- April 16**—Heman Humphreys ordained.
- May 10**—Nat. Sherwood aged 20 & Nicols Lacy a Boy, fish-
ing at Burr's ware, by some means unknown, the batteau
upset & both were drowned; they were not found till

March 10—Mary (1732-1806), daughter of John and Catherine (Wakeman) Burr and
widow of Ebenezer Bartram.

May 10—Capt. David (1726-1806), son of David and Esther (Nichols) Wheeler.

Sept. 14—Capt. Ichabod (1725-1806), son of John and Lydia (Porter) Wheeler.

Nov. 25—Rebeckah (1737-1806), daughter of John and Abigail Whitear and widow of
Abel Wheeler.

April 16—Dr. Humphreys succeeded Rev. Andrew Eliot as pastor in Fairfield.

Tuesday morning, lying on the mud near the mouth of the ware— They were both good swimmers.

Aug. 13—Died at Bridgeport, Nehemiah Strong, for a long time noted for an Almanac Maker, philosopher, etc.

Sept. 20—Onesimus Hubbell related to me (a man of honesty and veracity) that he was fishing at Burr's ware about a week after those two Youths were drowned mentioned before, from one-o'clock in the night until daylight about three hours & heard the whole time a little below the mouth of the ware a noise like a person struggling under the bottom of a boat to get out—he was so frightened he durst not stir nor speak—it was no fish—it was a star-light night.

Nov. 20—A Sloop from this harbor going to Long Island, Charles Wakeman (a black) holding the Anchor by a rope, it fell overboard & dragged him overboard—

Two immediately went after him in the boat. He was about 50—had been very stout. Grief & Care he was unacquainted with. A Voice— I have heard him, when near Round Hill, in Black Rock. Drowned.

Dec. 6—Died John Turney aged 90. Though rich he went very meanly dressed. He was very religious. He seemed to have a perfect Contempt for the dress & fashions of this world and to live like a Citizen of another. He had the Bible at his tongue's end.

I must describe his dress— An old hat, tyed with a bowstring under his chin, a coat without any seam or buttons, tyed around his waist, a blanket over his shoulders, a pair of wornout breeches, the legs unlike, without knee-buckles, his stockings drawn over his knees, old shoes tyed together with rags on to his feet—

A beard like a Jew—long and white—

I have not dwelt upon his dress out of ridicule (God in every age has raised up such characters in opposition to the extravagant fashions of the times—Heb. 11: 37, 38)

Dec. 14—Pieces like ore fell out of the Sky—one weighed 36 lb. Several pieces fell in Weston—one near the house of Mr. Prince went three feet into the earth.

A ball of Fire was seen in the North with a sound that lasted a minute—like several Cannon— Seen also in Virginia.

1808

May 13—Died of the Apoplexy Mrs. Fippeny

Aug. 8—Lighthouse raised.

August 14—Three of G. Osborn's sick with bilious colic—
arose from drinking cider that ran through a lead cock.

Nov. 13—I have had 4 severe boils on me now—with one that is on my shin I could not walk for a month—I had the jaundice for a fortnight & ever since the first of this month a very bad cough, want of appetite & weakness. William has the hooping Cough

Nov. 26—Died my wife Rhoda at 1/2 past 4 afternoon. She was gaining strength when the hooping Cough (as I suppose) seized her violently and a fever setting in, put a period to her existence. She was extremely distressed for breath three days before she died.

She said many times that her hopes were good that she was going to a blessed Eternity, that the Lord Jesus was close by, hoped she would meet her family in heaven. She expired at last without the least struggle. She was kind, honest, industrious, prudent, and a person of few words.

1809

Jan. 8—Died at the Lighthouse (of which he had the care) John Maltbie, sick of the Cramp about 30 hours. By fomentations & bathing his feet in warm water, the Cramp was driven from his side a few minutes before he died, & suppose to have struck his heart, when he groaned but once and spoke no more.

Feb. 1—Died, aged 63, Nehemiah Fippeny—about 5 weeks before a boat bruised him on the lower part of his belly.

Nov. 26—Rhoda, daughter of Abraham and Ruhama Parret (Parrit or Parrott).

Jan. 8—John (1769-1809), son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Allen) Maltbie, first keeper of Black Rock lighthouse. He married 8 Sept., 1803, Rachel, daughter of Salathiel and Huldah (Wheeler) Mason.

He walked about, troubled for breath, when he attempted to work, but was not sick much till about a fortnight before his decease— A very goodnatured, honest man.

March 13—Embargo expired—at an extra session of our Assembly it was determined to oppose Congress—

The Embargo had continued a year. Our shipping mostly laid up & Business paralysed. Now importation act to England & France begins.

March 28—About this time the house of Wm. Silliman caught fire from hot ashes in a box and was burnt, furniture saved.

Sept. 17—Sailed from this harbor for Albany and from thence destined for Westmoreland, Brother John Wheeler and his 7 children.

Oct. 1—Very hot & dry—no frost yet— 4 Bears are seen by the narrow Creek, an old one & 3 young.

Oct. 5—Died at Stratfield, Zach. Sherwood of the Yellow Fever, caught unloading a Vessel from the W. Indies which had one hand that died on board of her.

Oct. 7—Finished my Well (10 feet depth) 2 days' digging ston'd in.

Oct. 29—Many hives of Bees destroyed by worms—they are a white worm with millers among them, they eat up all the honey—I took up one this day that had hundreds.

Dec. 5—Died Nabby Jennings in her 90th year.

1810

Feb. 10—James Mitchel (one of Green's coopers) died after a week's sickness with Pleurisy.

May 5—Moved to Herkimer, Capt. Brewster & family.

Sept. 14—Died William Pitt Beers.

Sept. 21—Died of a rupture, William Dimon.

More apples than was ever known.

Dec. 5—Abigail, daughter of Joseph Jennings, Jr. (?).

Sept. 14—W. P. Beers (1766-1810), "Late of Albany in the State of New York."

Sept. 21—William Dimon (1739-1810), son of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon. Elsewhere Wm. Wheeler writes of him "He was peculiarly facetious & very odd. He always called me his namesake—he said that everything was God."

1811

Jan. 3—Married Frederic Girond of New York to Miss Eunice Sayre of Black Rock.

About this time died Ezekiel Leathers, a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

March 7—Died Levi Jennings of Fairfield Woods.

Oct. 31—The highest tide for 20 years,—it ran into the old pasture swamp.

Dec. 16—Earthquake.

Dec. 18—Died of the pleurisy (sick one week) Michael Jennings, also a son of Joseph Hays, about 20 years of age.

Dec. 24—A more violent gale was not felt here since 1780. 18 vessels went ashore betwixt here and New York, several bilged—3 from Black Rock. 4 men from a ship that drove ashore, swam 4 rods in the snowstorm and did live. People were blown down as they walked the roads.

Cold Christmas.

1812

Jan. 21—Died David Allen, Esq.

March 18—Died Widow Lydea Squire, aged 76.

June 2—Left this place for Westmoreland, Sister Squire & family in Hoyt's packet.

June 24—This week arrived a Proclamation for War with England by Madison, President of Congress.

June 14—Funeral of Capt. Smedley & Capt. Waring's child.

Jan. 3—Eunice, daughter of Rev. James and Sarah (Dennie) Sayre.

March 7—Levi (1735-1811), son of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.

Dec. 18—Michael (1778-1811), son of Matthew and Rebecca (Morehouse) Jennings.

Joseph (1789-1811), son of Joseph and Sarah Hayes (?).

Jan. 21—David (1743-1812), son of David and Sarah (Gold) Allen.

March 18—Lydea (1737-1812), daughter of Noah Taylor of Norwalk. She married (1) Isaac Jarvis of Norwalk and (2) Capt. John Squire of Black Rock, as his third wife.

June 2—Mary (Wheeler) Squire, widow of Ebenezer.

June 14—Capt. Samuel (1753-1812), son of James and Mary (Burr) Dimon Smedley. He was for many years collector of customs in Fairfield. Wm. Wheeler states that "In the beginning of the war he was chased into Black Rock by the Kingfisher." This does not do justice to his service, for he commanded two privateers, the *Hibernia* and the *Defence*, and was twice captured by the British, the second time being com-

Aug. 14—4 vessels nearly 100 tone each lie nose by nose in Brewster's Cove & four more at the wharves, useless by reason of the war.

Oct. 28—Died of the dropsey, Josiah Lacy, Esq. of Bridgeport, aged 66

This foolish & unnecessary war goes much against us—Gen. William Hull taken & 2500 men & this week news of 400 killed & 800 wounded on Lake Erie by the British & Indians.

Corn & Rye a dollar per Bushel, Wheat flour 12½.

Just before this, Capt. Keeler of this port taken, coming from Boston & plundered of \$1,000.00

Dec. 30—This Day 3 Commissioners lay out a new road from the stage road beyond Read's to the horse tavern to accommodate Black Rock.

Within a week a man has his leg broken in town, Stephen Perry has his collar bone broke—and another has his leg broke, in the distance of 2 miles—

1813

Jan. 23—News from the encampment at Platsburgh that James Squire, Peter his son, a boy, Joel Macrea, Wicks & Wheeler Patchin, all of Fairfield were dead with the Typhus Fever. 10 or 12 died in a day.

March 26—Died Deacon Moses Jennings.

March 8—Died Albert Burr, aged 9 years.

May 3—Aunt Gold had a shock of the palsy.

mitted to Old Mill prison in Plymouth, England, whence he escaped to Holland and returned to America in 1782. Concerning his father, James Smedley, William Wheeler tells the following story: "He was wounded under Abercrombie in the old French war. When carrying him off some one asked why they stopped to carry him off,—He cried out 'I am a Colonel! I am a Colonel!'"

Samuel Darling, aged ten months, son of James and Betsy Waring.

Dec. 30—Straightening and extending what is now the Post Road or Fairfield Avenue (see Roads).

Jan. 23—James (1772-1812), son of Capt. John and Lydea (Taylor) Jarvis Squire.

March 26—Moses (1733-1812), son of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.

March 8—Albert (1804-1813), son of Thaddeus and Rhoda (Meeker) Burr.

May 3—Elizabeth (Burr) Gold, widow of Col. Abraham Gold.

- Feb. 8—People cross the harbor on ice—
 Feb. 11—Moses Judah and Mehetable Squire married
 Feb. 12—Died Gershom Sturges child
 Feb. 14—Extreme cold— The harbor froze as far as you
 can see—ice on fresh water $1\frac{1}{2}$ foot thick— coldest
 winter since 1805 Corn 2 doll per bushel Rye $1\frac{1}{2}$
 In North Carolina the snow was 6 inches deep on a level—
 at Raleigh ten inches Thermometer at 6— and at
 Charlestown (S.C.)
 Feb. 7—a fall of Snow and very severe weather— At Phila-
 delphia Feb. 15 was 2 below 0— The cold weather has
 prevailed through the U. States—
 March 1—Harbor froze over—good sleighing
 James Monroe Pres. of U. S. and Governor Tomkins
 vice-president
 March 10—Thunder and Rain
 Com. Bainbridge at Black Rock
 Cast away the *Columbia* on the Ocean, owned by Anthony.
 April 1—very warm and pleasant
 April 5—Sam Sherwood moved
 April 25—died Mrs. Betsey Sturges—
 Corn 3 dol per bushel and very scarce—
 May 12—Mr. Read begun school.
 Married Capt. Thorp.
 May 15—died Tom (John?) Silliman—Consumption
 May 21—Raised Bradley Perry's house—
 May 22—1305 shad caught at one haul—Stratford
 May 29—Jabez Hubbell died of Fairfield
 June 1—A Frost
 June 12—Died of Cancer Mrs. Sherwood
 June 20—Passed on James Monroe—
 July 5—died Father Parrit

Feb. 11—Mehitable, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Eliot) Squire.

Feb. 12—Jonathan Sturges, and Mary Ann who died in July, were children of Captain Gershom and Elizabeth (Lewis) Sturges.

April 25—Elizabeth (Lewis) Sturges, wife of Gershom and daughter of Lothrop and Ellen Lewis.

May 15—*Jonathan* Silliman died May 14th (tombstone).

July 5—Abraham, son of John and Sarah Parrott, b. 1753.

- July 12—died Charles Woolsey a black cut his throat left 8 children & wife.
- July 18—they have begun a Conference
- July 26—died Mary Ann Sturges with Dropsy in her Head
- Aug. 25—About this time U. Bulkley store broke open—robbed of 100— Bradley Perry horse stolen
- Thad. Fields says he has 500,000 in specie &c &c given him by will
- Sept. 6—Went out for the first time Sloop *Eagle*
- Sept. 8—Married Wakeman Thorp to Marietta Osborn
- Sept. 9—Died George Thorp in North Carolina
- Oct. 11—died of Southern fever Truman Beardslee aged 19
- Oct. 14—Sailed from Providence three formerly belonging to this place—for Ohio.
- Oct. 28—Job Bartram & Stephen Morehouse fishing off the Bar were both drowned—the Boat was found bottom up
- Nov. 13—Stephen Morehouse was found drifted on Shore on the flat near the money beach in the night—5 or 6 went out with lanthorns for the purpose—his eyes ears and nose and hair was gone—
- Nov. 14—Amos a black was hung at Danbury for a Rape—15,000 people present—
- Nov. 18—the Body of Job Bartram found on Norwalk Island—buried in Fairfield.
- Raised Black Rock Academy 30 by 20
- Nov. 17—Married Bradley Perry to Julia Thorp
- Dec. 3—died Wilson Knap's child—croup
- A new Market Boat (*Mary*) sails from here
- Dec. 26—Mr. Huet preacht ye probationary sermon at Fairfield

1818

- Jan. 4—The lowest Tide— $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre of middle ground bare.
- Jan. 15—Nathaniel Huet was installed
- Jan. 31—Snow storm and very cold weather has commenced today—Season very moderate till this time—Winter never dies in debt.

- Feb. 10**—Harbour froze to the Point hard enough to bear a Man extreme cold
- Feb. 24**—Harbor froze over till this day
- March 3**—Capt. Sheffield moved to five mile river
About this time Joseph Lacy aged 22 had a fit and fell in the fire, burned him that he died in a week's time—
- March 5**—there was 87 smacks in this harbor
- April 7**—Moved to Black Rock Major Saml Burr
- April 30**—This month has been generally cold & wet not more than one week pleasant weather.
- May 12**—Very backward spring—but 3 or 4 days of clear weather in a month.
- May 14**—About this time from the W. I. arrived Capt. G. Sturges with fruit, molasses & spirits he was gone about 13 weeks
- May 16**—About this time found a dead body drove on Fairfield Beach—supposed to have been drowned from a Smack off this harbor last March
- Mr. Dutton has begun teaching School at Black Rock
(**May 20**)—Married Mr. Jessup Banks to Miss Laura Sherwood).
- May 27**—Went away from our house Capt. Anthony & family for New York—embarked on board of Capt. Thorp's packet.
- June 2**—Arrived here from Albany Mrs. Anna Anderson
- June 6**—Two Ladies & a Gentleman passing by the house in a Waggon, some of the harness broke & the waggon upset—One of the women was bruised a little but no material injury suffered—
- Aug. 4**—A more growing Summer has not been for 7 years, which is more remarkable as several preceding were cold and backward. Large crops of Grapes Wheat & Oats—some very hot weather—very healthy
- Aug. 8**—About this time a dry spell of weather—scarcely any water for Cattle to drink, but there has been a little rain today.
- Aug. 20**—Some rain and foggy unhealthy weather, some people sick with fever.



1800—The Gershom Sturges-Benjamin Penfield homestead (9)

(Photographed 1897)

About this time in Trumbull there was a girl killed by Lightning who was aged 13

Sept. 4—Ebenezer Bartram & Family started from Black Rock for Westmoreland by water, a journey of 260 miles.

About this time John Beardsley was sick with the southern fever for about 4 weeks, he was brought very low everyone despaired of his life he discharged black matter and began to grow cold, but life returning he gets better fast.

Sept. 18—The line storm A heavy wind as ever blew.

Sept. 24—Walter Thorp aged 5 years son of Walter Thorp of this place fell off the wharf—he was found in the evening lying across the painter of a Boat and drowned—

Sept. 30—Moved from our house to Mill River Tuttle Wheeler wife & daughter

Oct. 5—Meeting to ratify State Constitution

Oct. 12—About this time G. Sturges brought his new wife from N. York.

Oct. 21—Constitution of this State established

A more warm fall has not happened in ten years—5 have had the typhus fever this fall in Black Rock—3 market boats—(*William, Mary & Trimmer*) sail from hence

Oct. 31—I saw at Bridgeport, a Camel between 7 & 8 feet high with the Arabian saddle on his back

An African Lion tame, the keeper put his hand in his mouth—The Lama from Peru of a brownish white he had very fine wool—The Marmoset and Two Monkeys who danced to the music of the Cymbal & bass drum, walked the slack rope, &c—

Dec. 13—As moderate Season as perhaps ever known till this day when snow falls 2 inches depth

Dec. 23—Married Mr. Jesse Studley to Miss Selina Beers both of this place

Dec. 25—Green Christmas

Two sick with typhus Fever in Black Rock

Dec. 31—There has died of Mr. Huit's Congregation this year 11

Oct. 12—Captain Gershom Sturges' "new wife" was Elizabeth Rowland, whom he had married in New York September 21st.

1819

- Jan. 3**—Snow comes this day $\frac{1}{2}$ foot depth
- Jan. 7**—Died Mr. Isaac Jennings—
- Jan. 28**—Sailed from this place for the Southward, the *Abeionia*, owned by Thos. Bartram, laden with oats, Grain, &c.—
- Jan. 29**—The weather has been as warm as Spring for about 3 weeks until today when there comes some snow.
- Feb. 5**—Died Julia Burr, only daughter of Col. David Burr of Fairfield with the typhus fever after a fortnight's illness. In Richmond County (N.C.) Died Mr. Thomas Hatchcock, aged 126 years he left a numerous family of children, one son aged 93 another 87 and another 16—
- Feb. 13**—there has been as warm weather as ever was known for winter from January 12 until this day when there comes a driving snow storm banks 2 or 3 feet depth very high tides, high wind to the North East—
- March 19**—died Hezekiah Nichols
- March 20**—Six snow storms, very violent this month and Snow drifts as high as the fences with some good slaying the like has not been seen in a spring month I believe for twenty years past—harbor froze over
- About this time died Lyman Godfrey
- Six coasters sailed from Black Rock this spring all owned here.—
- Married about this time Wm. Herbert to Eliza Wager—
- 28 inhabitants of Black Rock are gone as sailors, one half of which are captains.—
- March 28**—A heavy storm from the S. much sharp lightning and one loud clap of thunder.
- A tree struck.—
- A little before the *Belle* (a Boston coaster) drove off 7 days—got into Old Town.
- April 18**—Heavy Thunder Showrs all the afternoon Wind

March 19—Captain Hezekiah, son of Ephraim and Rebecca (Gold) Nichols, b. 25 Jan. 1744.

NE Some Hail. Struck Stratfield Meeting House lightning followed,—The Rod within two feet of the Ground broke one window.

May 12—Lewis Ufford (Capt) of the *Intrepid* a Market Boat that sails from here to New York fell overboard and was Drowned off against Oyster Bay Aged 22 Years

May 15—Storm, North East Wind for nearly three weeks All the ponds filled with water.—

June 20—Lewis Ufford was found floating off Smithtown (L.I.) Harbor and was taken up and interred in the Burying Ground. None of his natural looks remained.—

July 31—It has been very dry and warm, scarce any rain but a few small showers this month. wells and ponds of water dried like stuble

Aug. 2—Heavy Thunder and Sharp Lightning in many places and a hard shower of rain—

Sept. 29—Died Mr. Ebenezer Sherman aged 66

Oct. 6—Died Mrs. Burr with Old Age aged 79

Oct. 7—Died Mary Perry Daughter of Seth Perry

Oct. 9—A heavy storm from the South East.

Oct. 20—Innumerable number of small Mackarel—the harbour seems to be alive with them—very few have been seen for forty years past—then there was a like number and they were larger—their food goes with them being very small fish, and of a shining appearance in infinite numbers—2500 mackarel were caught in the seine at a haul this day and as many more ran through it—fifty might be caught by a hook & line in a tide by a single person.—They had been taken in the Sound about a week before—warm and pleasant weather—More sickness than has been known for many years—Dysentery & Typhus Fever—Healthy at this place.—

Oct. 25—died with the Dysentery Mrs. Morehouse wife of John Morehouse

Oct. 28—Ellen Morehouse died of the same sickness aged 17 also Susan Morehouse died of the same aged 2 years—

Oct. 6—Sarah (Osborn) Burr, widow of Nehemiah (?).

about this time Ward Bulkley aged 16 and Saml Wheeler of the Typhus Fever

Nov. 23—Died Miss Hannah Burr aged 50 Years with the Typhus Fever

Nov. 24—Married Daniel Wilson and Maria Keeler, both of this place—

Dec. 19—The first hard N.E. storm since last spring—What little rain we had came from the S.W.—A great drought all the last Summer & fall—no water in the valleys, scarcely any in any wells—in some places they go a mile for water—we have 2 feet water in our spring

Roads entirely hard & dry for many months warm & pleasant for the most part—cattle feeding on grass which is green for the season.

Dec. 30—Violent N.E. wind, much snow very cold—harbor froze over in one night—the weather has been unusually pleasant—green earth no mud—very dry—A Sloop dragging her anchor—they cut her mast away between the Light & Bar—One Sloop drifted on the Beach.

1820

Jan. 15—Sailed from this Port for W. Indies the *Chauncey*—

Jan. 17—two days after change & one after Perigee and a violent East wind happened the highest tide remembered in this country by more than 6 inches, perpendicular—it ran across the Ship yard near a foot deep—

one wharf & one store were thrown down and other damage at this port—Large cakes of ice were thrown up 6 feet high—The *Intrepid* (market boat of this place) was carried up into a cornfield at wreckers Island—Two large stars were seen nigh the moon at that time—

1819—Deaths at this time in the Bulkley and Morehouse families: Ward, d. 30 October; David, d. 5 November, aged 12; Cornelius, d. 5 December, aged 6 months; children of Isaac and Mehitabel Bulkley. Susanna, d. 18 October, aged 2; Eleanor, d. 30 October, 1819, aged 18; children of John and Hannah (Gold) Morehouse: Hannah (Gold) Morehouse, d. 25 October, aged 42.

Nov. 24—Daniel, son of Daniel and Anne (Jennings) Wilson. Maria, daughter of David and Esther (Bradley) Keeler.

Feb.—Snow fills the road from side to side in some places—
very pleasant—fine sleighing—

April 6—Snow melts as it falls.—

May 3—died at Bridgeport Tuttle Wheeler—

June 11—Died in Fairfield Andrew E. Burr, son of Col. Ger-
shom Burr.

July 4—Allen Larry [Perry?] of Bridgeport in attempting to
fire a cracker had his hand shattered.

July 27—The *Chauncey* arrived from the W.I. with 61 hogs-
heads of Rum.—

Wheat and Rye good—Fruit in abundance. Very healthy—
Showers almost every day.

July 29—Died George third King of England aged eighty
two years—

Aug. 31—Launched in Black Rock the Schooner *Leader* owned
by Thos. Bartram more than 300 people present

Sept. 3—Died Aunt Burr, Wife of Uncle Ozias Burr in the
82 Year of her age.

Sept. 6—Died Mr. William Hoyt of Greenfield formerly of
Black Rock with the prevailing Fever.

Sept. 17—Married in Fairfield the Revd Andrew Eliot to
Miss Sophia Wasson.—

Sept. 25—Died of the Dysentery Thos. Elwood formerly a
lieutenant in the revolutionary war.

Sept. 29—died Jabez Jennings.

Oct. 5—Married in Bridgeport Mr. James Clifford to Miss
Emily Burroughs—

Oct. 29—Married Eliad Rockwell to Hester Woolsey (?)

Nov. 9—Obadiah Jones to Elizabeth Rowland—Fairfield

Nov. 12—Driving storm—Snow if level 2 inches deep—the
first snow—good sleighing.

Nov. 30—Married George Hawley of Kaatskill to Marietta
Burr.

Dec. 11—Married George Osborn (?) to Sarah Morehouse.

Dec. 28—Harbor froze to the Point— No snow. This day,

Sept. 6—William, son of William and Mary (Weed) Hoyt of Stamford, who had
occupied the John Wheeler house (15)

Widow Baker of Old Mill was burnt in a house which was consumed

Dec. 31—From Joel 1.3. Mr. Waterman (Bridgeport) preached an anniversary historical discourse on the first landing of our forefathers 200 years since at Plymouth, giving a concise account of the Church from Luther to the first located Church in this State at Pequonnoc (Stratfield) with the peculiar sufferings of our ancestors.

1821

Jan. 8—Good sleighing—

Jan. 10—Died at Mill River Julia Perry aged 23 daughter of Miah Perry

Jan. 13—Died Ephraim W. Sherman of Bridgeport.

Jan. 18—Extreme cold. Fine sleighing. Harbor froze half a foot depth. **About this time News came of the death of (Nathl S. Hubbell son of Aaron Hubbell who died in the Western Country—[crossed out])** also of the Death of Col. Bradley of Ridgefield.

Feb. 25—Married—Elijah Bibbins to Eunice Eliot, daughter of Revd. Andrew Eliot.—

March 6—Extreme cold. Harbor froze over—much snow remains

March 18—harbor is froze over in one night it was warm three days before like Spring weather—

March 18—Married Mr. Samuel Sherwood to Miss Phebe Jennings, daughter of Isaac Jennings.

April 8—Died Widow Sarah Perry of Black Rock aged 73 years

April 17—Violent snow storm. Good sleighing high wind and Cold. about this time a revival of religion at Old Milford.

June 4—Mr. Moffet preached at Bridgeport, said to be the most popular preacher ever seen at that place, compared to Whitefield, 50 desired him to pray for them.

April 8—Sarah (Bradley) Perry, widow of Peter, and mother of Seth and Bradley Perry of Black Rock. According to her tombstone, she died April 6th.

A little before this time old Stratford was set off from Bridgeport contrary to the will of the latter—by act of the legislature.

June 19—A heavy thunder shower seven claps of hard thunder.

June 16—An unfortunate recountre took place at Weston: (says the Bridgeport paper) On the evening of the day first mentioned a young man by the name of James Squire a native of New Fairfield and W. . . . N. . . . of Greenfield; who were assisting Mr. Lewis Wakeman in raising a barn in Weston, between them it appeared that an animosity had been cherished for some time, and on this occasion a wrangle had commenced when N. . . . gave Squire a violent blow in the head which lay him prostrate and then sprang with both knees on his breast and bowels; in consequence of which inhuman treatment he languished about three days and died—there was no note taken of it by the law.

June 28—Died Widow Wheeler of Bridgeport with the Typhus Fever. Also a child of Capt. John Hatches of the former place.

July 4—Died Saml Parrot (Capt. of the State Prison guard, New York) in consequence of a descending rocket which burst in his face as he was standing on the walls and he stepping backward fell off the walls and hurt him so that he died, instantly. Also a short time before this died his wife and child with the Consumption.

Aug. 30—Preached at the old meeting house (Stratfield) N. Moffit a methodist preacher said to be the best, full of motions.—three desired his prayers.—

Aug. 8—Morris Osborn fell from a poplar tree front of Hoyt's store, much bruised, and put his hip out of joint.

Aug. 22—Died Capt. Andrew Wakeman & Joseph Smith both aged people.

Sept. 3—A tremendous gale of Wind E & SE from 6 to 11 in the evening passed over this place—tore down many

July 4—Samuel, son of Abraham and Ruamah (Patchen) Parrott, brother-in-law of William Wheeler.

apple trees—9 in one orchard—with poplars & willows—all the fruit is blown off—every vessel went ashore in this harbour—A sloop dismasted in the sound and the Lighthouse laid flat. The hardest gale ever remembered. The leaves of the trees as in 1788 are turned brown also every bush and weed are of the same melancholy dun. grass only is green, there were many nests of bag worms on the trees which were blown away, small limbs of trees blew thirty rods there was a continual roaring like thunder; one barn, outhouses and 5 or 6 chimneys were blown down. eight poplars together were blown down in Fairfield—

It happened on the Apogee, first quarter.

The next day was nearly calm. The afternoon preceding we had a moderate gale from the E. and the clouds were very swift from the SE I saw a large oak tree its roots with soil a foot thick thirty feet in length torn up—eleven chestnut trees a foot diameter blown up in the distance of two rods, and their roots reaching 15 feet in the air and as much horizontally—

One vessel with 6 men in her went down in the Sound and could not be got up—all on board perished—it extended to S. Island and W. to N. York and S. on the ocean.

One man lost 55 apple trees.—the trees afterwards put forth green leaves like spring, the dead leaves blowing off.

Steeple at Milford blown down—Steeple at Bridgeport blown off above the bell—It killed nearly all the large peach trees with some cherry trees.

Oct. 5—A great revival of Religion (Bridgeport) 28 ladies propounded for the church & 23 gentlemen.

Lighthouse at Black Rock Harbor blown down (!!)

Nov. 9—Another gale not much inferior to the above mentioned the wind continued to blow for nearly three days and the rain fell in incessant torrents and a very high tide succeeded.

Dec. 30—Haines, having entered a house by the chimney was adjudged to pay 200 doll & cost—an officer and took the owner for debt.—the debt was 40 doll.

1822

- Jan. 20**—Married A. Cogswell to J. Helon (?)
- Feb. 3**—Preached at Bridgeport Mr. Moffit it was said that there was betwixt two and three thousand assembled to hear him Text Micah 6th 3
- Feb. 4**—First Snow and sleighing this year.
- April 5**—two young men of Bridgeport in a thunderstorm in a boat in the Sound: perished, found in the boat.
- March 11**—Married in Bridgeport Henry Peet to Abby Summer.
- May 14**—Danll Wilson Senr. died of a consumption aged 82
- June 1**—About this time a black aged 25 sentenced to death; his sentencing by order of the assembly was changed to imprisonment in Newgate for life, there were some doubts whether he committed the Rape or not.—
- June 14**—Died Israel Bibbins, Esq. Aged —
- June 24**—About this time Abram Morehouse fell overboard in James River and was drowned.
- July 17**—Married William Nichols to Mary Bartram, both of this place.
- July 26**—Found in the fields supposed to be killed by lightning Capt. David Beardsley of Trumbull.
- Aug. 19**—Capt. Wilson Knap died with the Southern Fever. Mr. Moffit preached in Lockwoods grove in Bridgeport. a numerous congregation assembled.
- Aug. 16**—Heavy Thunder and Lightning struck a sloop & tree in Bridgeport.
- Aug. 18**—Moffit preached on the corner stone of the meeting-house shortly to be erected in Bridgeport.
- Died, Mr. William Benson of Fairfield with consumption.
- Sept. 12**—About this time died Capt. Thos. Holburton aged 83 after living a life of activity and usefulness he descended to the grave like a shock fully ripe

May 14—Daniel, son of Daniel and Sarah (Squire) Wilson.

June 14—Israel Bibbins died June 15th (date on tombstone).

July 17—William Hanford Nichols, son of William and Huldah (Downs) Nichols, and Mary Burr Bartram, daughter of Job and Ruth (Holberton) Bartram.

Aug. 19—Wilson, son of Ebenezer and Mary (Wilson) Knap.

The Yellow Fever some say it resembles the plague rages in New York this season to a high degree, many families have moved out into the country to avoid it, several cases in the country; many streets fenced up in the city and entirely deserted, of their inhabitants.

Melinda Wood a native of Saugatuck with this fever on Saturday 'twas thought to be a slight illness till about one o'clock Saturday when she called her mother & saw she was dying. she died in a short time and was buried that night at 10 o'clock.

Sept. 6—About this time Married Charles Foote to Ann Burr both of Bridgeport.

Oct. 28—Died John Parsons—suddenly.

A very high tide nearly as high as that of 1820—brought up an immense quantity of seaweed—just before full & perigee—violent ne wind.

Nov. 2—died of Typhus fever a daughter of N. Burr.

Nov. 20—died of Typhus fever Eliud Rockwell (Bridgeport)

4 very sick with Typhus fever in Black Rock—a very offensive smell (more so than ever I experienced) in the air so strong that people held their noses—it resembled a carrion at ten rods distance, and was very offensive in the house if the door was opened for half a minute where it would remain as impression as at first for half an hour.— The corrupted air lasted one hour—Perigee & full moon Wind E. Some rain.—The wind veered to the S.E. when the atmosphere was restored to its primitive purity. I calculate that all the effluvia from Stratford point to this place was held suspended. Scallops were plenty. Many perished.

Dec. 2—No Snow and the most moderate that I ever saw—good pasture—now some snow.

Dec. 6—died John Ives (Typhus fever)

Dec. 12—Died George Knap—Fever

Dec. 14—Died Henry Burr—Fever—Bridgeport

Died (Bridgeport) the past year 27 of 300 communicants 2—

1823

- Jan. 4**—12 o'clock very dark, wind N.E. heavy sea, dead lights open—a New Bedford Sloop 80 tons ran on point rock (Black Rock) sea broke the windows, filling the cabin—Capt. & Mate lashed to the quarter rail endured till daylight Capt.'s feet much bruised—the mate encouraged the Capt. almost despairing to hold out—when the tide rose she capsized and floted across the harbor and was discovered by the people of a Schooner who took them off—Six others perished—The Capt. of an E. Indianman going to his wife in N. York—The agent of oil on board—one more white man and three blacks—Three more than ever remembered to have been drowned in this harbor. One of the blacks was a boy of 10 or 12—Two vessels and 20 men lifted the wreck in to Penfield's wharf in one day—each of the men were paid a doll per day for 5 or 6 days—The vessels about 16 doll. each.—
- Jan. 12**—Married Andrew Trube & Sally Turney—
- Jan. 13**—Harbor froze to the point—very little snow
- Jan. 18**—Died at Bridgeport Mrs. Seley wife of Ebenr Seley Esq.
- Feb. 5**—Died of a Consumption Jesse Turney.
- Feb. 19**—Floted up near the mouth of the Creek the body of Fuller one of those drowned the 4th of Jan. the flesh of his face & hands was gone, smell very offensive—inter'd next day at 11 o'clock.
- March 9**—Married in Fairfield Jo. Mott to Griswold Burr also Mr. Russ of Poughkeepsie to Basilla Sturges
- March 12(?)**—Married Mr. William Burr to Miss Marjoram (?) Hubbell
- March 26**—Another snowstorm 4 inches deep.
- March 28**—Found near Battery point, Capt. Smith drowned Jan. 4th. The flesh & skin from his head & neck was gone—the flesh on the rest of his body was sound as also on his hands, little smell, not offensive, his boots and clothing were on, A watch & about 2 doll. were found with him.

- March 30**—heavy gale—Snow 8 in thick. Brewster's roof blew off & Caleb's barn roof.
- March 31**—The bodies of two blacks drowned also Jan. 4 were found this day near where the rest were found.
- May 5**—About this time burned to death while the family were upstairs a child of Sheriff Dimon's.
- June 1**—About this time the *Abeone*, Nichols, was cast away on the Jersey shore, vessel & cargo lost, being night they thought themselves 2 miles from land.
- June 11**—Preached from the pulpit of the old meetinghouse, a female preacher—text Isaiah 9, 6. Discourse very good, accompanied with appropriate gestures, voice full & pleasant with some tone—of the sect called Christians.
- June 14**—early in the morning the lightning struck the bell-fry of the Academy at this place passed through the open scuttle and then through the wall on to the stove pipe which it followed to the chimney.
- July 11**—Two cows belonging to Capt. Brewster killed by lightning near the house of Isaac Bibbins.
- Aug. 28**—In the afternoon the vane of the Lighthouse struck by lightning—it followed the rod to the earth—
More heavy thunder this summer than in one for twenty years Rain almost every day—a very growing season—every newspaper brings accounts of damage by Lightning.
- Sept.**—Methodist Quarterly Meeting at Bridgeport.
- Sept. 20**—About this time married in Fairfield Rufus DeForest to Eunice Turney. Eliza Joy to Dutton, Jonathan Sturges to Sally Hull.—
- Oct.**—Died Nathaniel Jennings of Fairfield.
- Oct. 13**—Wind w. Lightning every minute—a stack of O.S. (?) burnt & a tree struck by lightning. Same evening a stack & barn were struck at N. London no lives lost.

Sept. 20—Rufus Deforest of New Canaan. Eunice, dr. John and Eunice (Penfield) Turney.

Elizabeth Elliot, daughter Capt. Melzar and Ann (Eliot) Joy. Henry, son of Thomas and Thankful (Punderson) Dutton.

- Oct. 22—Of consumption died Joseph Nichols.
 Oct. 25—Hard rain—hail covers the ground—Wind NE-NW
 Thunder heavy at a distance.
 Nov. 13—Died Wheeler Judson—Colic—several sick with
 Typhus at Bridgeport.
 Nov. 27—Married Alanson Allen to Nancy Olmstead—
 Dec. 7—Married John Worden of Bedford (N.Y.) to Harriet
 Olmstead of Black Rock.
 Dec. 15—Died Danl Beers Osborne of ye Typhus.
 Dec. 18—Died a black woman (20) her child by a white
 boy (17) was found in a drain, dead in Fairfield.
 Dec. 25—Married Rev. Elijah Waterman to Mrs. Talcot.
 Dec. 30—Died of the Palsy Ansel Trube.

1824

- Feb. 1—Married Simeon Wheeler to Betsy A. Brown
 Feb. 2—Little Snow—Harbor froze—The season has been the
 most mild known for many years—Rains, but very little
 snow A Comet which had been visible about two
 months disappeared.
 March 18—A snowstorm 2 days—5 inches deep. The most
 moderate season for 20 years—
 April 2—John Johnson was executed in New York for the
 murder of James Murray.
 April 14—Died Mrs. Holberton, widow of Thomas Holburton.
 June 4—Died Mrs. Allen, wife of Capt. G. Allen—
 July 11—Edward Thorp broke out with Small Pox—a hospi-
 tal at the house for those exposed—10 in number—
 Aug. 21—Gen. LaFayette passed through, Fairfield on his
 way to Boston, multitudes assembled to see him.
 Aug. 28—Mr. Beardsley's vessel launched.
 Sept. 13—Died in Stratfield Onesimus Hubbell after two days

Nov. 27—Alanson, son of Benjamin and Deborah (Disbrow) Allen of Westport, and
 Nancy, daughter of Hezekiah and Hannah (Smith) Olmstead.

Feb. 1—Simeon, son of Chauncy and Caroline Matilda (Beers) Wheeler.

April 14—Bathsheba (Peet) Holberton.

Sept. 13—Onesimus, son of Daniel Hubbell of Stratfield, bapt. 16 Nov. 1755.

- illness aged sixty-nine—** Also died the same day a child of Mr. Johnson of Black Rock—
 Married in Bridgeport Joseph Wooly to Fanny Burroughs—
 Alexander Gordon to Betsey Cannon
Oct. 17—LaFayette visited the tomb of Washington
Nov. 14—Married in Fairfield Charles Thorp to Almira Beers
 Paul Maclane to Sally Staples
Nov. 21—Mr. Lewis to Mary Betts.
Nov. 30—An At. on B-s estate by me.
Dec. 24—The most moderate season ever known until this day. Died at Bridgeport of the Typhus fever Elmer Wordin aged 26 also Mrs. Tisdall wife of Dr. T. of Bridgeport, of the cramp in 48 hours— of old age Mrs. Blake— at Fresh Pond Mrs. Seeley
 Corn 44 a bush. Oats 25 Hay 10.

1825

- Jan. 1—**Heavy NE wind driving snow.
 Henry Burroughs coming into the Sound dragged both anchors, cut away mast, rode out, almost to L. Island.
Jan. 5—Cutter, A butcher of Fairfield—failed for 5 thousand dollrs owing a number of people, involved his partner, G.— A.— and f-rg-d a note on Norwalk bank and ran off.
Jan. 6—Died at Bridgeport Betty Hawley wife of Capt. A. H. daughter of Stiles Nichols.
Jan. 29—Died at Bridgeport, Chauncey Boughton, about to shave he upset a small cup of hot water, scalded a small small spot, afterwards wet his foot, took cold and it mortified.
Feb. 2—Season mildest in the memory of man—only one small snow— Now harbour froze to the point & sleighs go.
Feb. 15—died at Bridgeport in one month—
Feb. 17—Died Col. David Burr, found dead in his bed.
Feb. 22—Died Sam Staples in a fit
Feb. 26—Died Rev. Philo Shelton (Stratfield) aged 70
March 4—P. Shelton buried under the church at Fairfield.

April 6—William left us for Westmoreland.

April 26—Married in Black Rock Mr. Cogswell to Eliza Rowland.

May—In Monroe George Cogswell to Sally O'Brien.

In Fairfield, Ebenr Burr to Hannah Osborn

In Bridgeport Tuttle Wheeler to Martha Green

In Fairfield Woods, Mr. Turney to Emily Wilson.

May—Died in Bridgeport Mrs. Summers.

May 25—A tremendous whirlwind in Ohio—the wind was nearly a mile in width its length is not known 17 persons killed, many wounded. Houses trees were entirely leveled with the ground—A large new cart was carried into the air and the axle-tree twisted in two and the wheels dashed in pieces on the ground. total desolation—trees flying in the air.

June 4—A tremendous NE wind from Maine to Georgia 100 vessels supposed to be lost—a perfect hurricane to the southward—heavy rain—

July 10, 11, 12, 13—Thermometer ranged from 90 to 98 40 died in Boston and 14 in N. Y. from heat.

In a pond of 3 acres water 2 feet deep (R.I.) several hundred perch &c were suffocated & died.

Plenty of rain—fine crops—hay 5 doll per ton.

Aug. 9—Died George Hoyt—cashier of Bridgeport Bank.

Aug. 17—Died Harriet Hoyt (cholera morbus) aged 15—very dry, roads parched up. Camp meeting at Compo—A plentiful rain.

Aug. 24—Died Elizabeth Sturges aged 15—

It is thought there never was a more long and extreme heat than in the past Summer— to those who labored in the Sun, half the usual quantity of food and drink was best— Intemperance received a severe lesson— In the City—the Earth seemed feverish, the Sky looked angry day after day & night after night, was the same & often the reports of people dropping dead.—

Aug. 17—Harriet, daughter of William and Harriet (Hubbell) Hoyt.

Aug. 24—Elizabeth, daughter of Gershom and Elizabeth (Lewis) Sturges.

- Died at Bridgeport Mag Gregory with Fever
 At the same place Stephen Wells (Fever)
 Sept. 20—About this time died Catherine Hopkins.
 Oct. 2—Died in Fairfield Philo Staples with the Consumption.
 Oct. 16—Byron cast away.
 Died Rev. Elijah Waterman of Bridgeport—Typhus fever.
 Died Saml Burr (Bridgeport)
 Nov. 11—Died Wm Burr (Typhus) aged 41
 Very dry—very sickly at Bridgeport—a white low fog in the
 morning often hangs over that place.
 Nov. 15—Died Abraham Parritt (Typhus) also Mrs. Burrus,
 wife of Stephen Burrus—
 Nov. 26—Died Joseph Squire
 Dec. 11—Died Ashbel Olmstead (Typhus) of Bridgeport
 Dec. 12—Extreme cold no snow—an uncommon warm fall—
 very dry—many wells dry—no mud anywhere.
 65 died in Bridgeport the past year on an average of 20 yrs
 18 only

1826

- Jan. 2—Drowned in this harbour—a man belonging to New
 Bedford, he fell overboard, was taken in, and died just
 as the physician arrived from Fairfield.—
 Died in Fairfield, Mrs. Hubbell.
 Jan. 15—Amos a black drowned himself, walked off town
 beach in a fit.
 Jan. 20—Died Mrs. Judson of a consumption—
 Jan. 21—Died Mrs. Ely, wife of David Ely—
 Feb. 14—The majority of the Country have colds, confined to
 their beds.
 Feb. 22—died Isaac Odle (57) a cold all over him lived 5 days
 Moderate winter—no snow—mild as May.

Nov. 15—Abraham, son of Abraham Parrott of Black Rock.

Nov. 26—Joseph, son of Joseph and Mehitable (Burr) Squire. He was a "captain of marines in Boston Bay" according to William Wheeler.

Feb. 22—This name is usually spelled Odel or Odell.

Died at Utica Nathl Hoyt with the scarlet fever, formerly an inhabitant of Black Rock.

March 15—Died Saml Wakeman disease unknown

March 22—Died a black woman—Influenza turned to Consumption.

April 7—Died Mrs. Green, wife of Joshua Green—Typhus fever. Mrs. Minot of the Consumption (Bridgeport) and Pierpont Edwards.

May 22—A very dry warm spring (latterly) now a shower.

June 3—Said to be the driest May in 60 years—Grass very much shortened—Corn planted early, grows, and watered Gardens, peaches fall off, very warm. A refreshing Shower—very healthy.

June 19—A great drought—watering place dry ever sine June 10th—this day comes a heavy NE storm—plenty of rain.

June 26—Midnight, heavy squall, constant flashing, hail broke 40 squares for Mr. Judson, split all the leaves of corn, tore & broke 10 apple trees for one man.

July 8—died Henry Parrit (13) Typhus fever)

July 20—died Walter Buddington 85

Aug. 5—Died Bradford Davis (from Maine) at Black Rock. Bilious fever—

Aug. 12—NE Storm—Abundance of rain, thunder, lightning.

Oct. 4—Ordination at Bridgeport Mr. Vail.

Oct. 10—Married Rufus Keeler of N. Y. to Jane Sturges of Black Rock. Very sickly with dysentery at Millplain, Trumbull & Old Mill. Prodigious storms of rain all this fall—about this time died Ethan Sherwood, Richard Hall, Delia Hall, a son of Abram Wilson, all in the same neighborhood and all with Typhus fever. Many more in the surrounding towns very sick with fever.

Nov. 6—died James Burr—

Nathaniel, son of Samuel and Mary (Hoyt) Hoyt, born in Stamford, 6 April 1788. He had moved from Black Rock to Manlius, N. Y., where he died 23 Feb. 1826.

July 8—Henry, son of Abraham 3d and Lucy (Wells) Parrott.

Oct. 10—Jane Lewis Sturges, b. 19 Aug. 1808, d. 7 Jan. 1829, was the daughter of Captain Gershom and Elizabeth (Lewis) Sturges.

Oct. 10—Richard Hall died 23 Sept. 1826, ae 47; his daughter Delia died 16 Aug.; Summers Wilson died 21 Sept. 1826, ae 22.

- Nov. 7**—a small sloop from Massachusetts (two only on board drunk & fighting) ran on Fairfield beach—one was wounded, the other was put in jail—released.
- Nov. 23**—warm pleasant, plenty of grass even in the roads, not a flake of snow till this day. Now snow comes 5 inches deep on a level
- Nov. 26**—Snow all goes off by rain— Two Perrys brothers (Bridgeport) die within 3 weeks of typhus.
- Dec. 30**—very cold driving snow storm.

1827

- Jan. 5**—Thomas Roche, a foreigner driving a waggon, the horse started, on the stage road & upset the waggon near T. Burr's in Black Rock, when the driver was instantly killed, he was about 30.
- Jan. 12**—George Mills (20) died—inflammation of the head.
- Jan. 17**—Skating on the harbour—constant extreme cold.
- Jan. 19**—Thought to be the coldest day in 20 years—A neighbour in a Sleigh going to New Fairfield froze one side of her face. Thermometer at Hartford 19 degrees below 0 About this time died Wm Thorp aged 96 years—
- Jan. 27**—warm & pleasant yet good sleighing—
Died Uriah Morehouse (87)
- Feb. 1**—Elopement of D. with J. B.—
- Feb. 13**—Died Capt. Caleb Brewster an officer in the revolutionary war in the 80th year of his Age.
- Feb. 21**—Died Gershom Osborne—Inflammation of the head.
- March 12**—Died at New Milford Mr. Wasson.—
About this time several children are very sick with the influenza and 2 die in Black Rock—
Near this time died at Bridgeport Jedidiah Wells 75
- April 15**—Not any thunder since August 12th—very remarkable. A very early spring as has been in 10 years.

Feb. 1—After earnest search through the local Bartram, Brewster, Burr, and Bulkley families, it has proved impossible to identify the elopers..

March 12—Jedidiah Wells was father of Lucy Parrott, wife of Abraham 3d.

Wm. Hubbell (17) having about a week before crushed his leg, it was amputated by Dr. Smith (N. H.)

News of 2 schooners from Mill River lost.

May 7—Died Hannah Hobart with the Cancer, it was cut out some years before.

June 24—Revival 27 entered Bridgeport church, presbyterian.

July 28—Dropt from a horse and instantly expires John Robertson a native of L. I. sometime a resident in this place. Same day on his passage from the south, of the yellow fever, died Peter Burr of this place. Died Levi (black) Y. Fever.

Aug. 7—Extreme heat—thermometer 98½ at Bridgeport, next day was very pleasant—

Sept. 11—died (Bridgeport) Mrs. Wells

Sept. 18—Equinoctial blow—violent gale from SE to NE fruit blown off—trees torn up

Sept. 25—A bright northern light nearly over the whole hemisphere no such light in 20 years or more—several smaller ones seen this autumn. Abundance of rain—warm.

Oct. 22—Violent gale from NE A Schooner & sloop went ashore on Battery point—Sloop had a hole in her bottom.

Oct. 27—Died of the Typhus Rebecca Hobart (21)

Nov. 30—For a year there has been more rain than ever I knew—and this fall is remarkable for five or six tremendous gales of wind in which poor sailors of all parts suffer much. An unknown schooner her masts just above water lies s. of the Light 7 miles, all must have perished—this day the earth is inundated with a rain unprecedented—it ran 6 inches deep across the road by my barn—more healthy than for a number of years past.

Dec. 27—The first snow—No Lightning since August. Rain in abundance.

May 7—Hannah, daughter of Justin and Hannah (Penfield) Hobart of Fairfield.

July 28—Peter, son of Thaddeus and Rhoda (Meeker) Burr.

Oct. 27—Rebecca, daughter of Justin, Jr. and Desire (Burr) Hobart of Fairfield.

1828

- Jan. 10**—Died Widow Allen— Consumption
- Jan. 16**—A remarkable warm winter—no snow on ye Earth
- Jan. 22**—Harbor froze to the point—
Early morn, the cry of fire was heard, a Schooner belonging to D. Wilson afire—in two hours it was got under by about 40 men, Cabin consumed inside, mainsail on the boom burnt up, we brought water from the harbour nearby, she lay aground—Engine came from Bridgeport—
- Feb. 5**—The Academy, which was raised 7 feet on beams, slid off and was broken, & entirely destroyed.—
- Feb. 12**—Died (Consumption) Peter Turney.—
- March 15**—After the warmest winter ever remembered it rains half the time—this day Snow comes 6 inches deep—was off in 4 or 5 days.—
A very great revival at Milford
- March 20**—Died at N. Y. Gen. Gershom Burr formerly of Fairfield
- March 26**—Great Fire (Bridgeport) 3 oclock A.M. burnt up 11 buildings—I went over—Carried water an hour
- April 13**—Died Wm. Brothwell
- April 14**—Thick Snow Storm—
- May 6**—The hardest thunderstorm at 9 in the night that ever I knew—12 or 15 hard claps in quick succession—very warm—next day was very cool.—
The lightning struck at Stratford point and twice at Mill Plain.
- May 11**—Married Thos. Ransom to Catharine Bartram—moved to New York next day—
- May 17**—frequent heavy thunder over the Sound
- May 25**—Married Monson Gray to Catherine Kennedy
Mrs. Kellogg broke her leg.
Revival of religion at Black Rock and Fairfield
- Aug. 22**—died at Millplain, Davd Ogden—cut his knee with a scythe—it mortified—
- Aug. 24**—died in Ozias Burr's barn a vagrant female.

May 11—Catharine, daughter of Job and Ruth (Holberton) Bartram.

- Aug. 25**—Launch Sloop *Advance*—owners Sturges & Gray 70 tons
 Thermometer at 93
- Sept. 3**—died a Creole (16) at Wm. Nichols of southern fever.
- Oct. 1**—More fall worms than was ever known; since harvest—they are done—some trees have not a single leaf left—didnot injure the fruit.
- Oct. 5**—Died at Westmoreland of an apoplectic fit my Sister Squire in the 73d year of her age—She was remarkably friendly, sociable, & industrious
- Nov. 24**—In Stratfield, died David Meeker of the Typhus fever
- Dec. 30**—The warmest season for many years, good roads, good pasture, no snow—pretty healthy— Mr. Hunter begins as Minister of Fairfield to preach.

1829

- Jan. 2**—first snow storm—Extreme cold—harbor froze over
- Feb. 20**—hard driving snowstorm—Roads blocked up—Port froze over
- March 20**—Died Morehouse Bulkley
- April 24**—William left here for Westmoreland
- May 9**—Died Revd. Andrew Eliot new Milford with inflammation of the brain.
- G. Sturges & M. Gray dissolved partnership
- May 24**—Died (Millriver) Widow Robinson, 41, consumption.
- May 29**—Five hard claps of thunder (forenoon) one struck B. Perry's Store, set it on fire—soon extinguished—it struck twice in town and once in Bibbins' Lot.
- July 27**—Died Mrs. Ann Chauncey—at the Navy Yard—N. York—aged 87—long a resident in Black Rock
- Aug. 25**—night—Store of T. Ransom broke open & robbed of 4 pieces of cotton

July 27—Ann (Browne) Chauncey, widow of Wolcott Chauncey.

- Sept. 2—Married Joseph Bartram to Elizabeth Carpenter of Rye.—
 Sept. 10—I found in a mow in my barn 90 yds. Cotton, stolen
 Sept. 25—Recd. a doll. reward
 Oct. 25—Married Lewis Burr to Eliza Olmsted—
 Oct. 31—In a heavy N.E. storm—the Beacon was thrown down.—

1830

- Jan. 30—Season very mild till this day. harbor soon froze over
 Feb. 28—Saw Donald MacDonald 108 years of age the oldest man in New England, very merry, strong voice, walked 10 miles that forenoon.—
 March 1—Married Hiram Lewis to Elizabeth Miller—
 March 7—Seven hard claps of thunder—Wind N.E.
 March 16—Died of a consumption the wife of Noah Burr, 45
 March 25—Died John Bulkley
 March 26—In a hard N.E. storm, rain & snow, an innumerable flight of Pigeons such as had not been seen in many years—every gun put in requisition—large flocks of robins also.
 June 19—Died Saml Sherwood of Millplain
 July 7—Died Capt. Andrew Bulkley
 July 24—a week of extreme heat—many people hurt by drinking cold water—
 Sept. 1—A great drought for 6 weeks—3 people very sick in Black Rock with Typhus fever—
 Sept. 4—A drought for 2 months—a fine shower
 Off Blackwell's Island the N. Haven steam boat burst her boiler, 7 were scalded & died, 2 jumped overboard & were drowned—Martin Wells of Bridgeport, was among those scalded, he died next Tuesday—

Sept. 2—Joseph, son of Thomas and Sarah (Burr) Bartram.

Oct. 25—Lewis, son of Thaddeus and Rhoda (Meeker) Burr and Eliza, daughter of Hezekiah and Hannah (Smith) Olmstead.

March 16—Anna (Jennings) Burr, b. 22 July, 1785, daughter of Isaac and Abigail (Gold) Jennings.



1789—The Joseph Bartram homestead (15)
(Photographed 1870)

- Oct. 10**—Died Bradley Perry of the bilious fever Age 45
Oct. 13—Frequent flashes of lightning, several hard claps of thunder—some hail
Nov. 25—died a child of Alanson Allen—
 Abundance of rain
Dec. 1—The first flake of snow—Extra mild season—
Dec. 31—In a violent gale from South, Wm. Kelly in the *Reaper*, midway from Eaton's Neck to Norwalk Islands fell overboard—the boat was turned, but before it reached him he sunk—the sea ran so high, two in the boat could not get in but were towed & one steered the vessel till they got to Norwalk Islands— He was a very active & experienced mariner—polite & cheerful—
 Frequent Northern Lights flashing this season

1831

- Jan. 4**—As wet & warm a season as has been known for several years.—
Jan. 15—A most violent driving snow storm
Jan. 18—Harbor walked upon—
Feb. 1—A great driving snow—harbor opens
Feb. 12—A great eclipse of the Sun—whole duration 3 hours 4 min. Venus seen by the naked eye.—
Feb. 17—Black Rock votes 300 dol. for a Schoolhouse & 40 dolls for ground to set the same on.—
 Edward Thorp died at Providence.
March 30—About this time died at N. Y. Walter Perry of Millriver of the pleurisy.
April 16—A violent gale from S., many shipwrecks, it extended from Maine to Virginia & northward to Albany—a Schooner was wrecked on s. side of Block Island, every soul perished, 8 were seen on deck Saturday morning, the sea broke over her 100 ft. high, she parted, the goods came out, the bow held on—4 were seen alive just before sun-set—most of the bodies came ashore—

Oct. 10—Bradley, son of Peter and Sarah (Bradley) Perry.

Nov. 2—Jane, the first of four to die in childhood in the Allen household.

- April 25**—4 taken off to New Gate—3 belonged to a gang of 20 who lay in cedars near Mill Plain.—4 or 5 females who attracted the lascivious from all the country round to their bed—a thing unknown in our State.
- May 10**—Died Capt. David Minot
- May 22**—John Moffit preached at Bridgeport—
- June 20**—A great revival of religion at Fairfield & Bridgeport 42 entered the church at Fairfield at one time. 100 entered the Methodist Church—50 entered ye Episcopal. Goold Mallory died
- July 26**—two heavy thundershowers in a dark forenoon, it seemed to strike 6 or 7 times in the last shower.—
- Sept. 8**—Died Lucy Ann Kennedy 30
- Sept. 29**—Mackarell—the harbour seems to be full, feeding on the smelts which crowd the shore in infinite numbers, over which hover a prodigious flock of mackarell gulls—A young lady caught 40 mackarell one morning with a hook—two men with a short seine extending from wharf to wharf took near a barrel one morning. To see 3 seines going at once, a bushel caught by a firm at a time—60 people in two vessels (like pigeons on a stage) fishing with hooks—a boy 6 years old catch 2 fish in a minute with his hook—was truly a novel sight— Penfield took 5 bushels at one haul—they lasted only 3 days.
- Nov. 7**—Nat Huet returned from England—preached at Bridgeport on the state of Religion in foreign lands. . . . 100,000 converts in U. S. last year.
- Nov. 11**—Carman alias Barber of Black Rock (indistinct)
- Died Johnson Tuttle of Influenza.
Great part of the people have Colds—

1832

- Jan. 5**—Married John P. Brittin to Lavinia Wilson
- Jan. 13**—Died Mrs. Hull, wife of Dr. David Hull—
-
- Jan. 5**—Lavinia, daughter of Daniel and Anne (Jennings) Wilson.

Jan. 20—After a very warm time for 20 days, snow in one night comes 7 inches deep on a level, snow covered every twig from 2 to 4 inches, a spectacle that had not been seen in 10 years.

Jan. 27—Died Mrs. Joseph Squire 73

Feb.—Word from A. Bibbins 100 days at sea arrived in the West Indies.

Feb. 15—Died a child of T. Ransom—

Feb. 20—Great changes of weather from heat to cold—thirteen sick in Black Rock, to have a physician, catarrh, scarlet fever— More sick than ever was known. 67 had the measles in Black Rock— 4 children died— Rheumatism, Fever, & Ague.

April 1—Married Rufus Hoyt to Widow Perry—

April 5—have the scarlet fever or ulcerous sore throat.—

April 16—Heavy Thunder at Derby— A man an Ox and a cat struck at that place.

April 7—Died Jane Wilson aged 9

May 17—Died Louisa Lockwood She is the eleventh that has died in 5 Months in this Place—all under twelve years—

June 5—Penfield caught 14,000 blackbellies (fish) at one haul—The weather is remarkable cold & wet almost every day—continually cloudy—Corn & Beans yellow—

June 20—D. P. [probably David Penfield] caught 45,000 fish this day.

A little before this the Cholera appears in Quebec & Montreal brought in a ship by emigrants from Ireland—

June 25—about this time the Cholera appears in New York, brought, it is supposed, from Montreal—a new disease in our country, but known for some years in India and afterwards in Europe, confined to N. Y. at present

Jan. 27—Anne (Wetmore) Squire died February 9th.

April 1—Rufus, son of Samuel and Mary (Hoyt) Hoyt of Stamford, and Julia (Thorp) Perry, widow of Bradley Perry.

April 7—Ann Jane, daughter of Daniel and Maria (Keeler) Wilson, died May 8th, according to the family record.

May 17—Louise, daughter of Joseph and Eunice (Barlow) Lockwood. Her twin sister, Lucretia, married David Whitney.

- July 19—Fast recommended on account of the Cholera.
- Aug. 1—Died Major Saml Beers—Cholera
600 die in N. Y. in a week for several weeks by the cholera
- Aug. 20—Died at Bridgeport Sterling Sherman cholera (sick 8 hours only)
- Aug. 26—died in Black Rock, Peter J. Kennedy (Cholera) it turned to a fever—he was sick a week—buried in the night—His wife that attended him died of the same disease the next day, She was taken at 2 o'clock in the night and lived 14 hours.—
- Deaths by Cholera in New York from its commencement to Sept. 1st, 3000
- Sept. 21—A whale 20 feet in length & 13 feet circumference was found ashore on the Bar and taken—3 gall of oil only from him—1 in 8 die of Cholera in York.
- Oct. 2—50 died of Cholera in N. Y. the past week—
- Oct. 7—Married Ann Mills Judson to Geo. Gibbs.
- Oct. 9—Married Benjamin Penfield to Henrietta Allen—
- Oct. 17—First Peace address delivered by Mr. Yale 12 thousand million doll. expended in 22 years war in Europe—5 Million slain in Bonaparte's wars.
- First peace society in N. York 1815, the second in London 1816

1833

- Jan. 31—The most moderate Winter for many years—no snow no ice until this day when a violent snowstorm commenced
- Feb. 13—The Schooner *Planter*, Capt. Doane, of the Southern line, in a heavy N. E. storm (night) drifted near the mills Black Rock, ashore after much exertion was towed off by the *Debby Ann* market boat, George W. Bartram, and brought up to the wharf—

Aug. 26—The Kennedy family lived near the upper wharf.

Oct. 9—Benjamin, son and David and Elizabeth (Bulkley) Penfield, and Henrietta, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah (Disbrow) Allen.

Feb. 13—George Wakeman Bartram, son of Job and Ruth (Holberton) Bartram. The traditional linking of the name of the ship with that of the captain is meticulously observed by the diarist.

Black Rock people made about 200 doll. by the job among 25—
all in labour—

Feb. 28—Died M. Godfrey

March 2—Driving snow—very cold—Water froze to the
Cows—Skating on the harbour—

April 28—Mrs. Brewster broke her arm, being very fleshy it
could not be set— She recovered to be able to walk.

May 15—One Seine in Black Rock harbor this day caught
35,000 fish 20,000 at one haul—blackbellies

May 27—52,000 fish caught in Black Rock harbour— A very
rainy season

May 30—36,000 fish caught at one haul—

June 15—Andrew Jackson, President of the U. S. arrived at
Bridgeport—went off at noon.

June 22—Fell in the fire (supposed in a fit) and was burnt to
death, the widow of Jabez Hubbell—76

Aug. 4—The lightning struck a buttonwood tree E. side of
Bridgeport harbour—also a barn in Old [road?] filled to
the roof with hay and grain which was burnt.—

Aug. 13—Fair at Fairfield for town poor (Children) 250 dolls
collected

Aug. 16—Died of Cholera morbus Sarah Golden (Fairfield)
It was thought she poisoned herself by mistake with
Arsenic.

Sept. 16—Government surveying the Coast. Very dry, wells
fail.

Sept. 18—Hard rain from S. much wanted.—

Oct. 14—E. saw at Bridgeport—A Lion & lioness, Elephant,
Tiger, Leopard, Rhinoceros, Panther, Polar bear, Zebra,
Shetland pony, Cougar, Hyena, Porcupine, Jaguar, & 17
Monkeys and a Camel

Oct. 28—Sailed a Ship for Whales (the first from Bridgeport)

Nov. 3—Cut his throat with a razor in a fit of insanity—Mr.
Whitney of Stratfield

Aug. 16—Sarah, daughter of Daniel and Charlotte (Travis) Golding.

Sept. 16—The result of this survey is an interesting map of Black Rock, showing con-
tours and cultivation, but not checking accurately with the land records as to the
location of houses.

- Nov. 12**—Hundreds of Meteors (falling stars) seen in all directions, all over the horizon, falling as fast as you would count—some of them large, some of them leaving a trail like a stream of lightning, they fell for several hours.
- Nov. 16**—Died in Fairfield Aaron Turney aged 82—
- Nov. 21**—Great fire in Bridgeport—10 Dwellinghouses burnt & 18 families turned out who lost most of their furniture, commenced at 6 in the evening—Wind fresh at S.E.— The Ladies were busy at passing the buckets while some of the men stood with their hands in their pockets— 15 buildings burnt, great & small, considerable money lost— Little insurance.
- Dec. 17**—Near the Quarter of the moon violent N.E. wind— highest tide since 1820— Green's footbridge floted— wharves cleared — stores deluged — Schooner went ashore—Incalculable damage at N. Y. and to the South
- Dec. 18**—Died David Hull (67)

1834

- Jan. 14**—Harbor froze over—Little snow
- Feb. 27**—Married Ephraim Penfield to Mary Ann Clarke— The warmest February known for many years—People ploughing.
- March 4**—Murder at Bridgeport— An Irishman a labourer, boarded at Bassets who kept a bad house—all intoxicated together—the Irishman beat out B. brains & he died in a few hours—the fellow lay concealed in the swamp (it is supposed) for several days—
- March 15**—Roads settled, grass growing, birds singing, comes Snow 5 inches depth on a level.—
- April 12**—H. Osborn left this place for Westmoreland—
- April 13**—Died Robert Knap—
- May 7**—25,000 fish caught in one haul

Dec. 18—Dr. David Hull, classmate of William Wheeler at Yale, and brother of Gen. William Hull.

Feb. 27—Ephraim, son of David and Elizabeth (Bulkley) Penfield. Mary Ann Clarke was his first wife.

- May 26**—53,000 fish at one haul! 100,000 in a day by two firms.
June 2—67,000 fish at one haul—
June 30—a wet & cold season—several people sick with the lung fever at this place.—
July 10—Extreme heat for 3 days—one neighbour had his back blistered through his shirt—
July 17—In a heavy shower (afternoon) a tree was struck with two streams of lightning about 6 rods distant from me—the report was similar to several pistols in quick succession—
Aug. 10—The Cholera appears in New York.
Aug. 27—Died Mrs. T. Burr of the Dropsy
Aug. 30—Mrs. Brewster, taken late in Ye afternoon died next night—thought to be the Cholera. Aged 74
Sept. 23—Raisd Mrs. Brewster's house
Oct. 30—Burnt both houses of Parliament—England.
Nov. 1—John Wheeler came to our house from Westmoreland. Cholera has ceasd at New York.
 Loss of Houses of Parliament estimated at 500,000 pounds.
Nov. 25—first snow that covers the earth—2 inches depth.

1835

- Jan. 1**—Port froze to the Point—sleighing fine
Jan. 5—Extreme cold—Clear—16 degrees below zero, colder by $5\frac{1}{2}$ than had been for 13 years—a Man burnt to death in his house at Bridgeport.
Jan. 12—Drew a deed (quitclaim) for William Wheeler of Westmoreland.
Jan. 14—Quite warm & pleasant.
Feb. 10—Died Saml Wilson—(Fairfield Woods)
Feb. 27—Mrs. Carman robbed of 104 dolls—no one at the house at that time—at Black Rock.
March 17—Died of a fever, Capt. Gershom Sturges

Aug. 27—Rhoda (Meeker) Burr, wife of Thaddeus.

Aug. 30—Anne (Lewis) Brewster, widow of Caleb.

March 17—Gershom, son of Seth and Mary (Burr) Sturges, b. 1 June, 1773.

- April 11**—A man lost his hand, another his eye at Bridgeport, firing a cannon.
- April 13**—A great Animal show at Bridgeport
- April 16**—Snow—level 3 inches deep—
- April 28**—In the night during a most violent gale N.E. packet *Paragon*, H. Wills went ashore on the beach Black Rock & was lost.
- April 29**—Hoyt's house raised 38 by 27
- May 3**—Sunday betwixt meetings James Knap's house (Fairfield) burnt.
- June 12**—heavy thundershower barn struck in Fairfield & a house in Bridgeport—it went on the lightning rod to the garret where it was attracted by an iron fender then went down by a post—none hurt.—Beacon building.
- About this time the Palmer worms appear in infinite numbers on the apple, Quince & oak trees—
- They went off in three weeks, destroyed all the apples.
- July 5**—Corner Stone of African church laid Bridgeport
- July 17**—Died Alanson Allen's child.
- Aug. 20**—About this period—The Baptists bought Bridgeport church for 3500 dolls.
- Sept. 19**—U. S. Schooner went off—had been here 3 weeks, surveying the place & harbour
- About this time died N. and J. Morehouse (father & son) at Fairfield Woods.
- Oct. 28**—Finished the Beacon—Expense 8,000 dolls, By Danl Wilson & two Downs. [brothers].
- Nov. 11**—very heavy S.E. Storm—the season thus far has been very warm & calm—delightful
- Nov. 23**—The mildest season perhaps in the memory of man no frost—good roads till this day a rousing snowstorm—Good sleighing—hay 17 dolls.
- Dec. 16**—Harbor froze to the point before evening—A great fire in New York—the fire was plainly seen at Black Rock—lighting up against the sky—About 600 buildings in the richest part of the city were destroyed—loss estimated at fifteen or 20 millions—burnt 15 hours—the

flames driven by a strong wind—extreme cold—water froze in the engine—firemen exhausted by fire the night previous—Militia & a troop of horse to greet the thieves—Buildings blown up in advance of the fire tended to arrest the conflagration—it was thought a million of dolls was saved by four hogsheads of wine vinegar put in engine.—no such fire since 1776 when 490 buildings were burnt in N. Y. 24 degrees Montreal Cold—12 degrees below Zero.

1836

Jan. 7—Fine sleighing.

Feb. 3—Sound covered with ice—Steamboat cannot pass—came in

Feb. 4—Widow Godfrey (Millplain) frozen to death
Cold—10 degrees below zero.

Feb. 8—Hard rain follows a driving snow, so the seasons change—

Feb. 20—Mrs. Woodhull burnt by clothes taking fire alone—supposed in a fit—died next night—

March 4—Burnt—the house of Eben. Osborn—Mill plain—

March 16—Market vessels just begin to go—the coldest February ever remembered—Ice 8 inches thick now on the harbour—

March 18—House of Alanson Allen (neighbor) caught fire from beam under the hearth—extinguished—

March 23—Snow level 4 inches

April 1—Snow drifts (rather a compound of hail & snow frozen last winter) remains one foot deep.

April 29—Died Thomas Bulkley.

June 8—Storm of 20 days continuance—Wind brisk N.E. the whole time.

Feb. 20—Eunice (Sturges) Woodhull, son of Seth and Mary (Burr) Sturges, b. 4 Aug. 1765, widow of Captain Woodhull. She had at one time lived in Black Rock, but died in Fairfield where she taught school for many years, after the death of her husband.

April 29—Thomas Bulkley, son of Jonathan and Hannah (Hoyt) Bulkley, had been a classmate of William Wheeler at Yale.

- June 9**—37,000 fish caught at one haul in this port—warm & pleasant.
- July 4**—Misty warm, growing season.
- July 26**—Two children of E. Hendrick die—scarlet fever—four more have been sick—
- July 27**—A. Jennings firing a cannon had one arm blown off (Bridgeport)
- Aug. 13**—W. B. Thomas married to Betsey Moore
- Sept. 6**—Died Uncle Ozias Burr aged 97 years 3 months
- Oct. 13**—About this time Capt. Brittin's house raised—3 people fell—sleeper broke—one man broke his rib.
- Oct. 28**—Died Lewis Brewster—Nigh neighbor
- Dec. 11**—Married Mr. Rufus Fancher to Mrs. Caroline Callon
Assembly (extra session) passed a law for each town to take their share of the Surplus Revenue.

1837

- Jan. 1**—Married Mr. Ward Taylor to Eliza Wells—
- Jan. 3**—Harbour froze over—
- Jan. 22**—Earth covered with snow—hardly before this winter—Roads excellent for Wheels the whole season—now most excellent for sleighs—
- Feb. 10**—A wolf killed at Pequonnock by Moses Bulkley—75 lb.
- March 4**—Great firing & rejoicing for the Accession of Van Buren. President Jackson sent out farewell Address to the U. S.—he cautions all against any division of the Union—
- March 21**—I gave Anne Wakeman, wife of Willis Wakeman two deeds of 53 rods of land more or less on Wheelers road for 124 dolls.
- March 23**—Davd Lockwood deed of land— Great flood—

Oct. 28—(Jonathan) Lewis Brewster, son of Caleb and Anne (Lewis) Brewster, b. 5 Nov. 1786.

Dec. 11—Caroline (Wheeler) Callon, daughter of Chauncy and Caroline Matilda (Beers) Wheeler.

Jan. 1—Eliza, daughter of Roswell and Marietta (Gould) Wells. Her husband's name appears elsewhere as Thomas W. Taylor.

March 23—David, son of Joseph and Eunice (Barlow) Lockwood of Westport.



1807—The Nichols homestead (13)
(Photographed on the original site, 1870)

- Pequonnock river burst its dams one after another—swept away 60 feet of a factory with various shops & barns—the new mill at Berkshire was carried erect 80 rods down the streen— Great damage in various parts.
- April 8**—Morn—Hail storm—preceded by darkness—hail-stones 2 inches in length irregular—thunder
- May 6**—Great pressure in the money market
- May 8**—Whale Ship arrives at Bridgeport with 2200 bbls oil.
- May 10**—Great panic— All the banks stopt payment—failures every place—
- July 10**—Mad dog pursued from Newtown on horseback—killed within 4 miles of Bridgeport—
- July 11**—An Irishman drowned near Green's Mill in a deep hole whilst bathing—could not swim—
- Sept. 20**—Died Samuel Rowland Esq.
- Oct. 20**—Died Walter Thorp Esq. of this place—
- Oct. 27**—Died James Knap (69) of Fairfield.
- Nov. 1**—Beach & Webb Downs finished the lighthouse fence—
- Nov. 14**—Snow Storm—4 inches deep on a level 6 o'clock in evening cloud red like fire—giving light like the moon at her full—only a few minutes—Snow went off entirely in 4 days—quite warm—
- Nov. 25**—Deep, driving snow.
- Dec. 30**—Five snow storms—all melted and left the earth green & dry—very fine roads—no mud—nor frost in the ground.

1838

- Jan. 26**—very fine roads—no snow—mild—fogs—now comes a southeast storm—rain.
- Died Capt. Wm. Nichols, after a severe sickness of 2 days, his age was 39—
- Dr. Nash broke his leg.
- March 26**—Married in Fairfield by the Rev. Mr. Atwater, Elihu Sanford to Cornelia Turney—

Oct. 20—Captain Walter, son of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp, b. 1770.

- March 28**—Snow level 3 inches depth
March 31—Swelling extracted from E. [Eliza?]
April 4—Died Capt. Thos. Bartram—67—
April 14—Snow storm
May 1—Died Wife of Thaddeus Hubbell—
June 18—Finished the shingling of my house. George
 Ensly & wife departed for N. Haven
 Arrived Barque *Harvest* from whaling with 8,000 doll. 4,800
 lb whale-bone and 150 barrels sperm oil.
Oct. 20—Died Mrs. Shelton, wife of Parson Shelton. Died
 also Middlebrooks, dropt dead from his waggon he
 worked much in poisonous paints.
Nov. 21—Married at Bridgeport Charles May of that place to
 Sarah Jane Callon of Black Rock
Nov. 25—Died Maria Wilson, wife of Daniel Wilson.

1839

- Jan. 1**—No snow—fine roads.
Jan. 22—Sold John P. Brittin length 234 feet, Breadth 119 feet
 4 inches—North of David Lockwood's Land on Wheeler
 Street about 100 rods of Ground at 200 per Acre, took a
 note for 125 dolls.
 Few of the Wheelers were Scholars (Book taught) at Weston
 there was Nathan Wheeler, Judge of the County Court
 and Stephen Wheeler Representative (Conn.) Whether
 from dependence on their strong natural powers or want
 of pecuniary aid—they died poor.
 John Wheeler (Isle of Wight) is mentioned in L. Richmond's
 diary as a boon religious man.
 I have a brother John Wheeler now (1839) 74 years of age
 will travel with ease twenty miles in a day his whole
 study is Religion—he exhorts wherever he goes—is

April 4—Thomas, son of Ebenezer and Mary (Burr) Bartram, b. 22 Feb. 1764.

Nov. 25—Maria (Keeler) Wilson, daughter of David and Esther (Bradley) Keeler,
 b. 1797.

now in Allegheny Co. N. Y. he has no property—he has 9 children by 2 wives.

Feb. 18—No snow—pleasant roads—Light Boat in harbour—hole made in her by ice— Revival of Religion in Bridgeport—protracted meetings—14 days) Baptists & Methodist.

March 15—Died (Fairfield) Sally Bulkley 70—for 18 years this maiden, recluse by day continued in her chamber, coming down at night to eat—her life was prolonged to old age without fire—she inherited a considerable fortune from her Ancestors—was daughter of Nathan Bulkley, Town Clerk—

April 11—Arrived at Bridgeport Ship *Atlantic* with 1900 bbls oil & 17,000 lb. bone, absent 21 months.

April 21—Raised Thos. Ransom's house at Black Rock

May 22—3 Persons very Sick—Chronic Rheumatism

June 15—10 A.M. died of a fever in the 36th year of her Age Eliza H. Wheeler—Sick about 14 days. She was superior in most qualities that adorn the female mind

In hospitality affection & kindness inferior to none—

As a Poetess good (her works testify)

A great lover of Books

Beloved & respected by her numerous acquaintances

Habitually cheerful—quick at her needle—

Very industrious & economical—

Very smooth in her temper—and conciliatory in her manner

Unrivalled in a firm attachment to her father Wm. Wheeler

Well skilled in vocal Music—Laus Deo.

Add to all these she had a Courage that never gave way to difficulties though ever so formidable

Very few were her complaints in her last sickness.

Dec. 15—The Season was never finer— Grass growing fences building Scallops hundreds of bushels caught— fine roads— but now Snow 18 inches depth.

Launched Schooner 200 tons—Danl Wilson & Co.

Dec. 22—Another N.E. Snow Storm. Fine sleighing.

Dec. 28—Four A.M. the highest tide for many years 7 inches depth in T. Ransom's store, he lost from the wharf a hogshead of molasses—violent gale from N.E.—Beacon blown down 200 doll. damage in Black Rock

1840

Jan. 13—Steamboat *Lexington* about 111 crew & passengers took fire 7 evening—sunk off Bridgeport—3 only saved—18,000 dolls specie on board, 10,000 of the same in Gold in an iron trunk. One person saved (tis said) was 48 hours exposed—3 were saved by a vessel that went for the purpose from Southport next day. Later Accounts 120 lives lost.

(Royal George sunk 1752 with 1200 on board 400 women, blown by powder under water—London paper.)

Feb. 12—Cars on Railroad (from New Milford to Bridgeport) by some mismanagement did not stop—3 men had each a leg broken

March 16—Died in Weston Widow Sarah Treadwell aged 86 (daughter of Jabez Wheeler) had two husbands soldiers of Revolution,—Daniel Treadwell & Danll Hoyt— She was a professor of religion 60 years— She was sick 7 weeks.

April 20—Night—The Stores of T. Ransom & B. Penfield broke open—from the latter some Cents from the former a number of articles was taken—Next night a horse & gig were Stolen—Gig found in N. York.

June 6—40,000 fish caught in this harbour—

June 10—52,000 fish—

June 11—50,000 with the large seine—

Oct. 20—Very mild season—hundreds of Lightning bugs in the grass of low places— Great Crops of Corn, Grass, Potatoes &c

Oct. 31—bush. of Winter Apples from my Tree.

June 6—Fish was used by local farmers to spread on their fields for fertilizer.

- Nov. 14—W. Wheeler's house raised.
 Nov. 18—Saml Penfield died
 Nov. 19—Snow 4 inches depth
 Dec. 13—W. Wheeler lawsuit with N. Wakeman cost 5 doll.

1841

- Jan.—Mrs. Bartram falling on the ice received a sprain in both her wrists—recovered the use of them by applying a solution for 2 days of vinegar & salt warm as could be endured, then Cider brandy, then liniment.
 Feb. 1—News of Isaac Burr murdered at [blank] where Capt. Benson of Fairfield had landed.
 Feb. 26—paid Dr. Ten Broeck 2 dolls for bleeding me/at Joseph Wakeman's when wild—
 March 3—died Deacon David Judson—aged 83 years & 5 months, very persevering, industrious, economical
 April 3—Died William Harrison President of U. S. A. with the Lung Fever.
 Many have the measles in Black Rock not so many since February 1832 when 67 had it.
 During the last War between England & France were slain 2,100,000 men. Cost to England 1,058,000,000 pounds sterling most of which is now unpaid.—
 "To do one thing at a time"—the most difficult—and the most useful
 "In England 157 drunkards die daily—
 May 29—Arrived at Bridgeport Ship *Hamilton* with 2,300 bbls oil and 400 pounds (bone?)
 June 14—16,000 fish caught
 June 15—20,000
 Sept. 23—Brought into Black Rock a Corpse, drowned betwixt

Nov. 14—This is the house standing (1930) at the end of Hackley Street, built for William Wheeler, Jr.

Nov. 15—Samuel, son of David and Elizabeth (Bulkley) Penfield, b. 26 March, 1819. The date on the tombstone is Nov. 18th.

Feb. 1.—Isaac, son of Noah and Anna (Jennings) Burr. He was nineteen.

here & N. Y. unsafe to proceed on account of putrefaction—Buried in Fairfield

About this period died Elijah Burrit—the Oldest person in the County also Mun. Darrow (Bridgeport)

Sept. 27—died the wife of Jesup Banks— Very fine September— Less fruit than many years past— Cider 2½ dolls Scallops innumerable.

Oct. 3—Thunder & snow.

Oct. 15—New Schoolhouse building (Black Rock)

Nov. 18—The last of Canal boat sold (designed for Canal—unfit) Owner lost by her 10,000 dolls.

1842

March 10—The past Winter has been the mildest in the memory of man—little Snow—good roads the whole Season

About this time died Sarah Chat

March 15—Married in Fairfield Dr. Denison to Esther Judson Goodsell

March 25—The house of Mrs. Aymar (Bridgeport) struck by Lightning

April 1—Died (In Stratfield) Philo Shelton.

April 14—Died Capt. Thomas Brothwell aged 75

“It is the combined light of all truth scientific as well as religious which is to render so perfect and glorious the Millennial day”—Perkins.

May 7—Southport withdrew their petition to be made a Town—

May 31—About this time Arrived Barque *Harvest* with 2300 bbls oil.

June 2—12,000 fish caught in B. Rock harbour

June 18—died Lothrop Lewis (Fairfield)

July 4—Arrived Ship *Hamilton* 2,500 bbls oil

About this time frequent bankruptcies occur— Rain every day Hay much damaged

Sept. 27—Laura (Sherwood) Banks.

- July 30—Drowned at pine creek (Fairfield) Saml Benedict of Ridgefield while bathing. Two others nearly drowned endeavoring to save him.
- Aug. 5—A hard N.E. August storm
- Aug. 11—A house struck by lightning at Bridgeport—Johnson's Mills also
- Sept. 28—Died Wm. Penfield of a bilious fever caught in the south
- Oct. 12—Cattle Show for Fairfield Co. at Bridgeport
- Oct. 23—Died Bennet Revolutionary pensionary in his 94th year
- A Schooner 70 tons—Wind S.E.—from Madison loaded with potatoes ran on Grovers Hill point—wrecked
- Nov. 4—Animal magnetizer at Fairfield
- Nov. 17—Thanksgiving—heavy rain.
- Nov. 18—Died Eliza Taylor daughter of Roswell Wells of Black Rock.
- Dec. 11—Died James Penfield of Apoplexy (83)
- Dec. 16—Died Robt. Turney
- Dec. 25—Drowned at Bridgeport Aaron Downs
- Dec. 30—Oration by Hodge—35 join Temperance

1843

- Feb. 10—Died at Southport Eli Bulkley aged 80
- Very mild season—great revival of religion—101 joined Temperance Society in all at Black Rock 14 immersed at one time—Baptists— Methodist Church building at Fairfield—Good sleighing—
- May—Married Gregory to Fanny Banks
- July 3—very hot—Influenza everywhere—many confined to their bed
- Drowned in Bridgeport harbor—sailboat capsized—Norman of Bpt.

Sept. 28—William, son of David and Elizabeth (Bulkley) Penfield, b. 3 June, 1813.

Dec. 11—James, son of James and Ellen (Burr) Penfield, born 24 Feb. 1761. He lived on Holland Heights in the Silliman House.

July 3—Charles C. Norman. His widow, Phebe Burton (Tuttle), married (2) David Lockwood of Black Rock.

- July 11—Found floating in the Sound by Dan Wilson ——
Norman.
- July 25—Filled my barn with hay both sides, floorway up to
crossbar. Labour'd every day myself (per favour)
- Aug. 8—Struck by lightning 4 oxen near Polly Burr's and
killed—owned by Amos & Fred Burr.
- Died Danl Barr 71
- Aug. 15—Died at Black Rock Mrs. Jennings—Cholera mor-
bus—Taken Saturday died Tuesday
- Aug. 16—David Penfield broke his shoulder falling from a
waggon
- Sept. 1—Campmeeting at Stepney on railroad—Methodist
first then Millerite—broke up this day in a heavy thun-
der & rain all day.
- Sept. 4—Died Deacon Judson's widow aged 81
- Sept. 10—Preached at Fairfield John Noyes (My old School-
master)
- Sept. 28—First frost—fine weather— **Died Capt. Wm. Hub-
bell (35) found dead in bed N. Y.**
- Nov. 7—First snow.

1844

- Bankrupts in Connecticut 1837—of which 1537 voluntary—
Indebtedness—whole amount 11,000,500
- In 161 cases debts amount to more than 10,000 doll. High-
est debt William H. Jessup of Westport 1,043,000 The
next highest Maurice Wakeman of Fairfield 577,706
- Jan. 10—died— Annsbury (34) of a deep Consumption
- March 18—died of Lung Fever Mills (34)
- March 24—died of a long Consumption Mrs. Laura Bouton
wife (38) of [William] Bouton
- March 25—Died a child of Albert Burr
- April 22—died Mrs. Thorp, relict of Walter Thorp (68)

Aug. 15—Rosannah, first wife of Captain William A. Jennings. She was born in the
West Indies and there married.

Sept. 4—Esther, widow of David Judson, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Bulkley. Her
father also had been deacon.

March 24—Laura (Jennings) Bouton, daughter of William Sr. and Mary Jennings.

May 11—Night—The hardest thunderstorm that has been for many years

May 29—Died Mrs. Bradley wife of Hull Bradley Esq.

June 1—Dropt down dead Capt. Nathan Holdredge (57)

June 6—Died Helen Ellsworth daughter of Mr. Ellsworth

June 30—Cool & pleasant— Hay good—

Oct. 4—Great revival of Religion From 14 Ichabod [?] John Elwood is rejoice [?] Died Henry Penfield—Consumption—

The stream of salvation to which the Missouri is but a rill flows through my very inmost Core—Conjunction of Venus and the Moon—No strait jacket now— O God forgive you there—Amen— Go marry—none wretched or hen peckt now—profile Hark forward hurra tallyhoo!— Vice fiddle hung up— Eliza come back— Compete with the Wheeler none. I William saw a mighty strong Angel bind 1000

Down on your knees and kiss whom you please—

Kiss'd her cold forehead—turnd is Wheeler gone?

Extra Ma. 1.

[In different handwriting]

Dec. 7—Died Squire Parrott aged 75 years

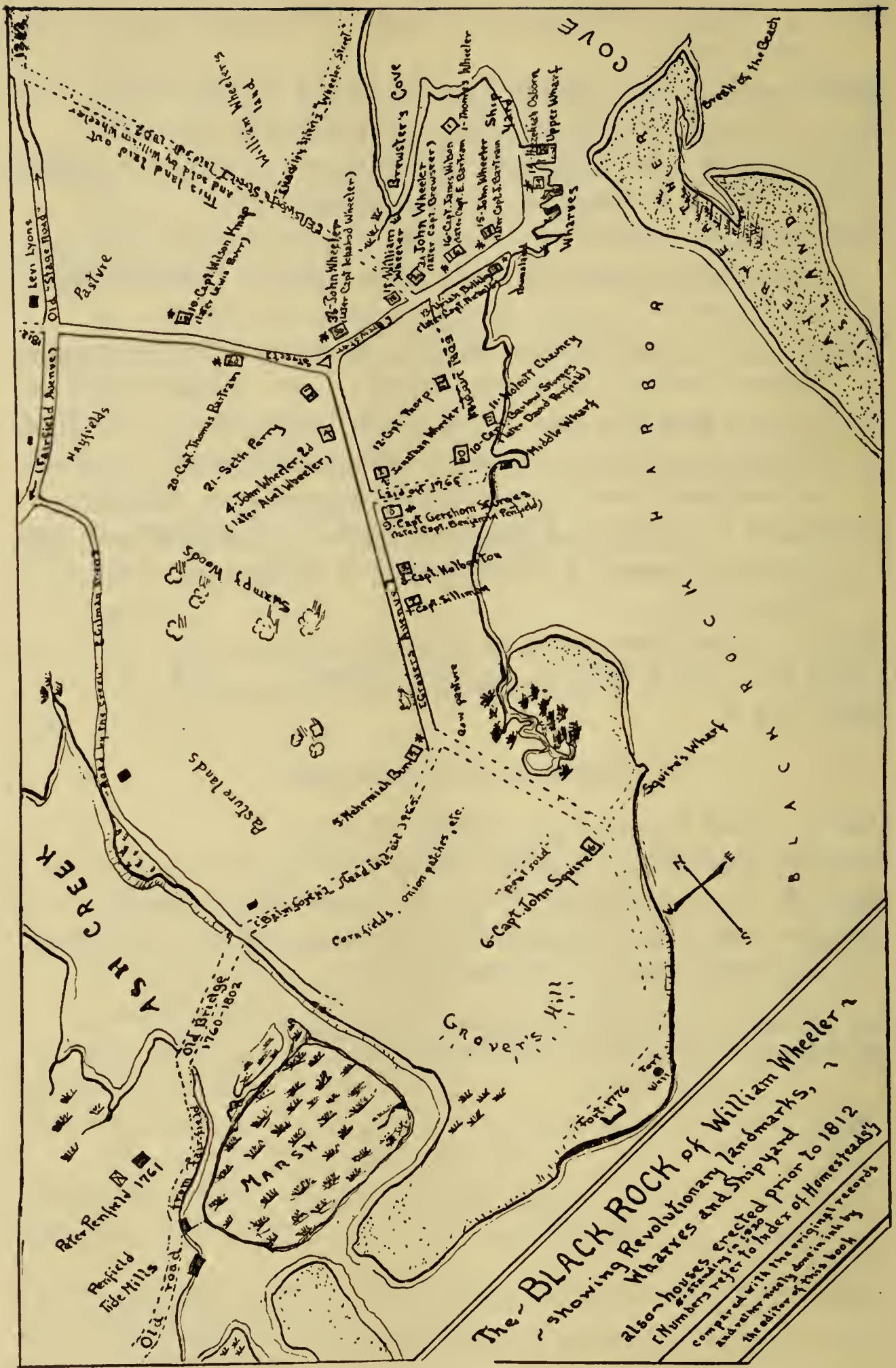
Dec. 28—Died Stiles Nichols Printer 83 years

Dec. 30—Died Roger M. Sherman, Judge (71 years)

1845 Jan. 28—Died William Wheeler the author of this book aged 82 years six months 15 days.

June 6—Verdine and Jane Agnes Ellsworth lost five children in youth.

Oct. 4—Henry, son of David and Elizabeth (Bulkley) Penfield, born 2 Feb. 1816.



The BLACK ROCK of William Wheeler
 ~ showing Revolutionary landmarks,
 Wharves and Shipyard
 also houses erected prior to 1812
 (Numbers refer to Index of Homesteads)
 compared with the original records
 and other maps. Done in ink by
 the editor of this book