Transcription of John Whitman’s Account Book

Excerpt 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sep 24, 1739 | Ann Squaw[[1]](#footnote-1) bought |  |
|  | Korsy[[2]](#footnote-2) one yard quarter |  1–5–0[[3]](#footnote-3) |
|  | Calico[[4]](#footnote-4) 2 yards half |  1–5–0 |
|  | Ribbon 2 yard 5 shillings/yd |  |
|  | Broadcloth[[5]](#footnote-5) red a nail[[6]](#footnote-6) and something more |  |
|  | quality binding 2 yards one shilling |  |
|  | 3 rings 3 shillings |  |
|  |  allspice in an ounce 6 pence |  0–19–6 |
|  |  total |  3–9–6  |
|  | Promised to pay in brooms and Indian corn in 2 months |  |
|  |  |  |
| Sep 4, 1739 | Joseph Woodford |  |
|  |  gunpowder 3 pound |  1–1–0  |
|  |  |  |
| Sep ? | Wampe or his Squaw  |  |
|  | ? and a cup of the Lost? sort and a half pink bottle. | 0–17–6 |
|  |  Lost a pawn? |  0–11–6 |
|  |  Korsy a yard and quarter |  1–0–5 |
|  |  |  |
| Sep 5 | Neemoush Squa |  |
|  | red broadcloth |  0–2–0 |
|  |  2 yard half ribbon |  0–12–6 |
|  |  quality binding 2 yards  |  0–1–0 |
|  | A fan |  0–3–6 |

Excerpt 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Esther Squaw now married to Stephen Quecho |  |
| 1744 November 30 |  Brought from Ledger no.1 - page 104 |  1–17–10 |
|  |  To Sundries[[7]](#footnote-7) |  0–4–0 |
|  |  To Sundries |  0–6–0 |
|  |  To Sundries |  0–5–6 |
|  |  To Ipececuana  | 0–1–6 |
|  | To pill Rudy |  0–1–6 |
|  |  To burgundy pitch |  0–0–6 |
|  | To Philoneum | 0–1–0 |
|  | To Ipececuana | 0–1–0 |
|  | To Sundries | 0–1–6 |
|  | To Sundries | 0–3–6 |
|  | To pill Rudy | 0–2–0 |
|  | To rhubarb  |  0–10–0 |
|  | To Sundries | 0–2–0 |
|  | Carried to Ledger no. 3 page 1 |  3–17–10 |
|  |  |  |

The uses of the herbal medicines listed here include:

* Ipececuana–causes vomiting
* Burgundy Pitch–plaster to help irritated skin
* Philoneum–to control pain
* Rhubarb–cures diarrhea

Excerpt 3

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Farmington |  |
| September 5th, 1739 |  Sarah Squa |  |
|  | For 2 yd of broad cloath @ 6 / yard | 0–6–0  |
|  |  |  |
|  March 4th 1739 / 40 | Adams Squaw |  |
|  |  A platter |  0–3–4 |
| April 1740 |  For 2 kettles  | 0–12–3, 0–4–4 |
|  |  |  |
| September 5th 1739 |  Hannah Squaw |  |
|  |  for 3 yd of chintce @ 17/yard |  2–2–10 |
|  | For a nail of red broad cloath | 0–2–1 |
|  |  |  |
| September 10th, 1739 |  Mottossic Squaw |  |
|  | For 3 yd cloth? |  |
|  | Received 8 Shillings in baskets, another basket 4 shillings, 12 brooms |  |
|  | Mettossoc 3 bottles |  |
|  | Mettossuc a bottel |  |

A nail of cloth = 2 ¼” - a unit of cloth measurement

Excerpt 4

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Cornelius Indian |  |
| 1744 October  | For 2 Doz of pipes | 0–3–0 |
|  |  |  |
| August 1744 |  Wampe an Indian belonging to Farmington debtor |  |
|  |  for a blanket Suckhecon |  2–8–0 |
|  |  for two yards of quality binding |  0–1–4 |
|  September 1744 |  For a blanket small one |  2–0–0 |
|  |  for a bottle |  0–1–0 |
|  |  For 4 pipes |  0–0–4 |
|  | For a blanket Suckhecon | 2–10–0 |
|  | For 2 knifes Suckhecon | 0–5–0 |
|  |  For 1 1/2 dozen of pipes |  0–1–6 |
|  October 1744 | For 4 pipes | 0–0–6 |
|  January 1745 |  for a blanket delivered to Suckhecon |  2–0–0 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  Sarah Robin Squaw |  |
| September 1744 |  for a blanket |  2–10–0 |
|  |  |  |
|  March 17th 44 |  Motaris an Indian |  |
|  |  for a hat |  0–15–0 |
|  |  for a knife |  0–3–0 |
|  |  for 2 dozen of pipes |  0–3–0 |
|  |  for a knife |  0–2–6 |

1. This term, commonly used by English colonists for an Indigenous woman, is now considered racist, sexist, and derogatory. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Korsy is Kersey cloth, which is a coarse, thick, and sturdy woolen cloth mostly made in England [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The prices in this account book are shown in British pounds/shillings/pence. 12 pence = 1 shilling, 20 shillings = 1 pound. In 1739, £ 1 (1 pound) would have about the same value as $267 in 2022. <https://www.uwyo.edu/numimage/currency.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Calico is cotton fabric made in India [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Broadcloth is made of a finer wool than Kersey [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. A nail is a 2 ¼ inch measure for cloth [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Various items. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)