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)