

The Gilbert Belnap line descended from the fourth son, Samuel. His son, Jesse, lived in Reading, Conn., and was the father of Rosel Belnap.

The Belknaps figured prominently in the Revolutionary period and in the building of the American Commonwealth.

In the History of Newburgh, New York, page 378:

"Miss Elizabeth Belnap is said to have been the partner of General George Washington in the opening set of the ball given at the temple, April, 1783, on the announcement of the exchange of the preliminary articles of peace."

EPISODE I.

GILBERT BELNAP, THE ORPHAN, LEAVES HIS FIRST HOME

Place, Port Hope, Canada.

Time, 1831.

Gilbert Belnap, Byron Belnap.

Thomas Belnap, Joseph Williams.

Narrator:

Gilbert Belnap was born in ^{Port} Hope, New Castle District, Upper Canada, December 22, 1821, the third son of Rosel and Jane Richmond Belnap.

When left an orphan, at the age of ten years, the estate of Gilbert's father, according to the Canadian law, fell into the hands of the oldest brother. Thru some mismanagement, the entire estate was lost, and the children left to the hospitality of friends for protection.

With the inherited spirit of liberty aflame within his bosom, Gilbert Belnap took his tiny brother Thomas, then five years old, and wended his way to the United States, the home of the free. Because of their youth, they suffered many hardships in travelling. Gilbert finally secured employment for the sum of \$5 per month from Martial B. Stone, a preacher and friend of their father. He remained in his employ for two years and paid from this small salary for his little brother's board and education. Thru the influence of Mr. Stone, the younger brother became a member of a Quaker family.

EPISODE II

GILBERT BELNAP, THE SOLDIER

Place, Canada.

Time, 1838-1839.

Gilbert Belnap,

Daniel Comstock,

Calvin Hill.

George Heriman,

Samuel Wood,

Howard Knight Belnap

Gilbert A. Belnap

A. Marion Hammon

Virgil Lowe

Gilbert Lowe

Scene 1-Gilbert Belnap's enlistment.

Narrator:

The spirit of liberty inspired Gilbert to enlist as a soldier in the Patriot Army, a company of light horse rangers. He was soon promoted to the office of sergeant. He suffered the hardships and privations of war and was imprisoned in Toronto, Canada, when his regiment was defeated.