

CLINTON from CYB

March 10 1973

For goodness' sake, don't go to all that trouble on Lafayette. I hesitated to ask you to help, for I knew you had been hoping to end your work on genealogy. But I really didn't know why -- till now. . . He's not important enough to warrant working on him when it's difficult for you. So, please, forget I mentioned him.

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JESSE & JANE, marriage date. . . . You asked the wrong question. You wrote: "Is your source of date without question as to veracity?" I'd be justified in answering with a laconic Yankee "Yaas" and stopping right there.

But I'm going to assume you had asked the right question. Knowing what you know about Evans, you should have asked: "Is there any support for the date stated by Evans?"

On this question, I owe it to you to give a full answer. So here goes.

First, some history. . . Early in this century, Franklin Belknap of Chicago Lawn, Illinois (address most often named) was busily collecting a heterogeneous and unorganized mass of genealogical notes, mostly Belknap. He recorded them in four notebooks -- totally unorganized, but full of helpful stuff, usually correct. H.W. had access to some of those notebooks, not all -- just the first two, I think. Hiram Belnap of the Mormon branch of the family got hold of all four notebooks and had them ~~transcribed~~ typed, around 1920. Hiram's daughter Flora, who took over on genealogy after his death, had micro copies made and lent one of them to Evans -- who quoted it substantially in some of his work. From other things issued by Evans, I know that this was his source for the alleged obit you sent to me. . . After Flora died, her sister Della sent me one of the sets, which I still have.

Long ago, when I saw that thing in the job Evans did for you, I marked it with big red X's -- meaning N G -- and dismissed it from ~~my mind~~ my mind. I had other copies of it, including the clipping from the Seattle newspaper that printed Paul Starr's piece. So, at a glance, I knew how wrong ~~was~~ the Evans version was.

To help you see how wrong he was, I'm enclosing (1) a copy of the piece that he miscopied, from the source where he read it, and (2) my red-inked annotation of what Evans wrote. They bear a faint resemblance. What matters is the differences.

#### COMMENTS ON RED INK ANNOTATIONS:

Some merely indicate errors. But most of them indicate falsifications of the original document.

- "In Otsego CO." -- Inserted by Evans.
- Year of Jesse's birth omitted, in typical Evans carelessness.
- "House" -- Changed from "home" by Evans. "Home" was correct. Jesse owned no house at time of his death. Had made his home, for some years, with his son Ransom.
- "Was" -- changed from "had been" by Evans -- God knows why.

- "Western, NY." -- Apparently Evans had learned that there was a Town of Western in NY (Oneida County), so took it on himself to alter "Western New York" to "Western comma NY" -- both for Jesse and for Jane, neither of whom ~~were ever~~ <sup>was</sup> in Oneida County. The Belknaps at Lee in the Town of Western were from another distant branch of the family. ("Town" with a capital T, in New York, means an area not a settlement. E.g., Town of Arcadia -- only settlement in it is named Newark. E.g. the 1790 census shows Jonas's uncle Abel in Town of Canajoharie, but he was living in village of Cherry Valley in the area of that Town at that time, not in the village of Canajoharie.)
- "Feb. 10" -- just a typical Evans bit of miscopying. Forgivable.
- "She was....." A longish insertion by Evans, partly based on obit for Jane, which followed Jesse's obit in Franklin's notebook. But Evans played tricks with it.
- "At Belknap Springs, in Benton County, Oregon." Pure inventive imagination by Evans. Neither Jesse nor Jane nor any other member of my tribe was ever at Belknap Springs, which was not in Benton County, and was founded and named by another Belknap only distantly related as all Belknaps are.
- Next paragraph. Amazing. No changes by Evans.
- "truthfully" -- Apparently Evans liked this word better than Paul Starr's "truly." God-fearing Paul would never have used "truthfully," which implies doubt of acceptance of his words. . . A Freudian substitution by Evans?
- Big omissions in that paragraph. I can't guess why.
- Other tinkering -- capital "F" for "faith" -- ungrammatical comma after "ministry."
- "Carrington" -- Evans just showing off, instead of copying "C.G." as written by Paul. . . and misspelling the name, as he often did with many names.
- The omissions and alterations, plus insertion of a final sentence derived from Evans' knowledge, not from what he was purporting to copy.

Am I being needlessly critical. Not by a damn sight. I cannot forgive the crime of falsifying a document.

I've learned to accept nothing that Evans says unless I have or can find substantiation for it. I use his work merely for possible hints on where to search -- but usually come up empty-handed when I follow that trail. Sometimes I come out with something worse, amounting to something close to fraud -- forcing a presumed parentage without evidence, just to earn a fee. I have some six instances of this type. I've wasted trillions of hours, or so it seems, on such cases.

2019 Harwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
March 16, 1973

To: CYB  
From: ECB

Sorry I rattled the wrong cage with the wrong question in relation to the alleged copy of an obituary for Jesse Belknap by P. M. Starr

The most direct response, of course, would have been the provision of a photo copy of the clipping itself from your files. This, however, would probably not have been as effective as your detailed analysis of Evans' alleged copy has been in really showing him up as one so totally unreliable.

even at this late date  
I had been gullible enough to assume that ~~that~~ when he said that this was a copy of said obituary from A Seattle paper that it was in reality a true copy. I think I'm cured this time for good! Thank you for your patience.

As you must be well aware, my question was not intended to question your integrity but rather as an attempt to make sure of what was correct-- to eliminate any possible error in copying -- and reconcile the data. If I were to come upon another such variance I would likely again go for clarification, although, after this, would likely phrase my question in a somewhat different fashion.

CB.

2019 Harwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
March 17, 1973

To:CYB  
From;ECB

Thanks for another fascinating episode  
in genealogical sluething. And thanks  
also for calling my attention to my previous  
oversight in not correcting the date of  
death entry for Samuel on Abraham's family  
group sheet. I had made the change on  
Samuel's own family group sheet and will  
now enter "after 31 Aug. 1731" on both sheets.

CB.



2019 Harwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
March 6, 1973

To CYB  
From ECB

I have your note about LaFayette (Lafayette).

Yes, the census records are easily available in our State Historical Library, here in Lincoln. A large portion of the 1880 US Census was destroyed by fire in Washington, we were told, but Nebraska did conduct a special census in 1885 with the aid of the US government which covered almost all of the state with the exception of a very few sparsely populated counties, which didn't get their reports in.

I am not at all sure that I am going to be of much help to you in researching these census records however, prior to my retirement at the end of this year. My gradually failing eyesight on close range work, makes it necessary for me to use a reading glass in any research work and this tends to slow things down considerably and besides, until retirement my free time is very limited.

My wife and I spent most of Saturday at the State Library reviewing census records but didn't strike any pay dirt. She is most helpful on things like this but she likewise has so many commitments that she has very little time she can give to this at this time surely. We checked Burt, Dodge, Madison, Red Willow, Polk, Lincoln, Harlan and part of Custer Counties Saturday. Checked Harlan especially because of an entry I had run across recently. See copy enclosed. But found no Belknap ~~XX~~ or Belnap in that county for 1885.

My thinking in approaching the matter from the 1880 or 1885 census was that we could locate the name in that census and then work backward to get to the family group, including the children.

You may be sure I will do what I can when I can but just thought you should know that it may be a tardy production in case you should want to go through some other avenue on the matter.

CB.

File ECD

April 19, 1972

MEMORANDUM

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, 25 Club Road, Riverside, Conn., 06878  
From: E. Clinton Belknap, 2019 Harwood Street, Lincoln, Nebr., 68502

Regarding your memo of April 7, no, I can't identify William Garlinghouse, born in Ohio, who married Mary Ann Coyle. Sorry.

In keeping with your memo of April 1, I have changed the 1300 to 1400 as indicated in your first paragraph. This in turn changes the last portion of the last sentence of the 3rd paragraph under "The Name, Belknap" to read "a century or more..." instead of "two centuries or more," I believe.

At one point in your memo you refer to "When I come to start writing, . . ." which brings me to a comment which may be entirely out of place but will make it any way. As I think I have mentioned before, I find myself increasingly concerned because you haven't already started your writing. God only knows when another member of the family will emerge with the skill, integrity, capability and interest you have demonstrated. Others can dig for information hidden in the US Census, church records, historical documents, letters and the like but few have your talent for the total grasp and mental recall of the factual complexities or the ability to tie them together into a meaningful, intelligible composite. And, if time permits, you can always return to further pursue the details and hidden corners after the basic writing has been accomplished. I know from just my own limited experience that one finding leads to another and another and yet another and that there never comes an end to such developments. While the longevity and rugged constitution of the average Belknap has been rather well established, the years do have a way of making inroads on the vigor of ones drive and staying power. So, why tempt the Gods? Why not do it now. I know, of course, that you have already formulated into preliminary draft many of the segments that will be welded together when, as you say, you start to write. It is that welding of facts you have so carefully assembled and documented that seems to me to be so very important at this juncture. Please forgive my presumption in making such comment.

ECB.



June 22, 1972

Memorandum

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, 25 Club Road, Riverside, Conn., 06878  
From: E. Clinton Belknap, 2019 Harwood, Lincoln, Nebr. 68502

Guess I have never thanked you for that most valued memorandum of April 21, 1972, except by telephone. Anyway I read it with great interest and can find no basis for disagreeing with you on your conclusions and belief. Thank you for going to all that trouble to provide me with such a complete analysis.

I am enclosing a copy of my final draft of the intended introduction to my compilation and trust you will find it acceptable.

I am now trying to complete as best I can Family Group sheets on Orin, son of Jonas and his son, Orin Jr. Am enclosing my work sheet on each and am wondering if you may have additional facts on either of them and their families that you can share with me by just inserting same on the work sheet and returning them to me. Am Also trying to prepare a Family Group sheet for you and your family. My work sheet in this instance is enclosed also with the thought that you may care to provide the names of your wife's parents and any other data you might care to have included.

With the completion of these three groups I am bringing my compilation to a close. Have prepared index cards for all family heads, spouses, children and their spouses in so far as I have the data at hand. As soon as these work sheets have been returned by you we will draw up ~~an~~ final typewritten draft of said index and then start out to find the most expedient and most reasonable way to have some copies of the entire compilation produced. Have some 1000 names indexed.

Could go on indefinitely adding to and refining what I already have but I have some other projects to pursue and I'd like to get this one buttoned up while I can.

Our grandchildren will be with us much of next month while Rowan and Karen spend about four weeks in Europe. Three weeks of the trip will be business for Rowan but We're sure they will find much to do during the evenings and week-ends even during the three weeks and Karen will make good use of her days I'm sure. They will be in England and Italy and hope to spend some of the last week in Switzerland, the ancestral home of my wife, Mildred. We are looking forward to having the children. Their other grandparents live here in Lincoln too so between the two households we should have an enjoyable time!

Our best to you and yours!

CB-

April 18, 1972  
MEMORANDUM

To: Carroll Y. Belknap  
From: E. Clinton Belknap

At the risk of being charged with a bit of Belknap stubbornness, would you object to my insertion of the attached two paragraphs immediately following the next to last paragraph on the page headed "Belknaps in America" of the most recent revision sent you ?

CPB.



the  
Because of/misinterpretation of a Henry Wyckoff Belknap foot  
note to his 1914 article on "The Ancestry of American Belknaps"  
in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, some  
amateurs have erroneously concluded that there was an alternative  
use of the names Bealknap (Belknap) and Beltoft in early England.  
We are informed, however, by those who have closely studied HWB's  
notations and correspondence on the subject that he meant just  
the opposite - that the names were not used interchangeably.  
The foot note did touch upon the possible similarity of generic  
meaning between the two names calling attention to one meaning  
of the "toft" segment in Beltoft as "a low hill" while "a small  
hill" was one meaning of the "knap" segment in Belknap.

The determination that the names had not been used interchangeably  
would, of course, not necessarily rule out the possibility that  
Beltoft (for one reason or another) might have been initially  
used by the Sawbridgeworth family as an alias for Belknap. Here  
again, however, the pursuit of any such possibility must, of necessity,  
be left to research scholars better qualified than this compiler  
to follow through.

May 1972

E. CLINTON BELKNAP  
GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE

This is a compilation of the paternal ancestral lineage of the author, E. Clinton Belknap, of Lincoln, Nebraska. It extends back over a period of some ten generations in America, beginning with the immigrant, Abraham Belknap, whose origin was in Sawbridgeworth, Hertford County, England, and who settled in Lynn, Massachusetts by, or possibly slightly before, 1637. It is the culmination of a project begun as a hobby more than twenty-five years ago - a project which has required an increasing amount of time, correspondence, and research in more recent years.

Literally scores of individuals have graciously assisted in the endeavor - some only after considerable urging - while others have readily gone out of their way to be of help. Our inquiries have frequently prompted members of the family to take time to assemble and record accurate data concerning their own segment of the family history which might otherwise have been neglected and eventually perhaps lost to posterity. Thus, they have served themselves as well as this compiler.

Among those to whom we are most deeply indebted, other than the compiler's father, the late Elmer Curtis "Ed" Belknap No 74, and brothers Glen Noble Belknap No 82, Hay Springs, Nebraska, and Ernest Lee Belknap No 81, Greeley, Colorado, are: Mrs. Jane E. (M.R.) Belknap, Des Moines, Iowa; the late Anna McCormack Belknap No 70, of Cedar Vale, Kansas; Sophia Belknap Eudy No 66-6, of Cisco, Texas, and Mr. Carroll York Belknap (CYB) of Riverside, Connecticut, upon whom we have leaned most heavily. We have also drawn rather generously upon the writings and records of the well known Belknap genealogist, the late Henry Wyckoff Belknap (HWB).

Carroll Belknap, a retired market analyst and sales consultant, has exhibited great interest in the Belknap family history and has in recent years devoted almost full time to the compilation of an accurate record of all branches of the family in America. He is a direct descendant of Jesse Belknap 1792-1881, who was a brother of the compiler's great grandfather, Elijah Belknap No 47. Both Jesse and Elijah were sons of the Revolutionary War soldier, Jonas N. Belknap No 40, and grandsons of Samuel Belknap No 32, also a Revolutionary War soldier, who died at Cambridge, Massachusetts, 18 June 1775, in the service of his country. Henry Wyckoff Belknap, unmarried, devoted much time to recording the ancestral lineage of the American Belknaps. Among other endeavors, he served as Secretary of Essex Institute in Boston and Curator of its museum from 1918 to 1931.

Very sincere credit must also go to the compiler's patient and many talented wife, Mildred B. Belknap (See Family Group No 80) for her help in researching U.S. Census microfilm records as well as other documents and for typing the Family History summaries included in this compilation.

# A BELKNAP GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE

Generation 1st in America	BENNET BELTOFT alias BELKNAPPE m GRACE ADAMS Sawbridgeworth, Herts, Eng.		THOMAS STALLION m MARY DALTON Latton, Essex, Eng.
	No 1	ABRAHAM BELKNAP formerly BELTOFT 1589/90 - 1643	MARY STALLION 1595 - m 1617
2nd	No 5	SAMUEL BELKNAP 1627/8 - Post 1696	SARAH JONES 1635 1689 m 1652
3rd	No 15	EBENEZER BELKNAP 1667 - 1762	HANNAH AYER 1672/3 - 1779 m 1690
4th	No 24	SAMUEL BELKNAP ca 1702 - 1757	MARY DICKINSON 1703 - m 1723
5th	No 32	SAMUEL BELKNAP 1731 - 1775	MARY NEWTON 1737 - m 1754
6th	No 40	JONAS NEWTON BELKNAP 1759 - 1824	ESTHER PARKER 1761 - 1809 m 1783
7th	No 47	ELIJAH BELKNAP 1785 - 1874	CATHARINE GARLINGHOUSE 1783 - 1872 m 1806
8th	No 62	JOSEPH GILLETT BELKNAP 1826 - 1915	OLIVE BROCK 1844 - 1913 m 1864
9th	No 74	ELMER CURTIS "Ed" BELKNAP 1873 - 1963	KITTIE LUELLA MOSS 1884 - 1970 m 1903
10th	No 80	E. CLINTON BELKNAP 1905 -	MILDRED PEARL BRENIMAN 1908 - m 1932
11th	No 83	ROWAN CURTIS BELKNAP 1936 m 1958 KAREN HERMANSON 1937	No 84 DEAN EDWARD BELKNAP 1939 m 1971 MARGIE HOLIDAY 1930
12th	Children:		
	No 85	LUCINDA ANN 1960	
	No 86	BARBARA LYNN 1963	
	No 87	DANIEL CURTIS 1965	
	No 88	KATHRYN LEE 1970	



## NUMBERING SYSTEM USED IS ASSIGNING INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATIONS

More complete data on individuals in the direct ancestral line shown on the preceding page will be found in the following pages under Family Group and Family History record numbers indicated. Beginning with the Jonas N. Belknap, No 40, family, some auxiliary records of other than direct line members are included with a rather complete compilation of the descendants of Elijah Belknap No 47, through the ninth, and even later generations of this particular line of Belknaps in America.

In assigning numbers for individual and family group record purposes, full numbers without prefix or suffix, have been provided for those in the direct line outlined and for each member of their own immediate families, such as Jonas N. Belknap No 40, and his children, Samuel No 46, through Orin No 53; Joseph Gillett Belknap No 62, and his many children beginning with Ahijah "Jack" Belknap No 64, oldest child by his first wife, to and including Daisy Belknap Wood No 79, youngest child by his second marriage.

Branches from the direct line shown have been given the full number assigned to the head of this branch, plus a suffix number, usually in chronological order but not necessarily so when some additional units have come to light after other auxiliary units have already been identified and assigned their numbers. Thus, the descendants of Elisha No 49, brother of Elijah No 47, are assigned 49-1, 49-2, 49-3, etc. The suffix numbers continue to grow as the auxiliary family record increases, but the prime whole number ahead of the suffix will always indicate from which direct line member the family or individual sprang.

Reference numbers at the top of each Family Group sheet list the lineal ancestry identification of this particular family back to Abraham No 1, the original founder of the Belknap family in America. Sources of information are identified in connection with each Family Group sheet. By noting and pursuing the identification number (listed in the far left hand margin) for the respective children listed on any given Family Group sheet, one can follow generations subsequent to the family record shown. For example, listed in the far left margin of the Clinton Belknap No 80 Family Group, will be found the assigned individual numbers of this family's two children, Rowan Curtis Belknap No 83, and Dean Edward Belknap No 84, whose subsequent Family Groups will be listed under these son's respective numbers.

Since this is a Belknap genealogical compilation, the listing of descendants has been confined to those family groups carrying the name of Belknap first, as the head of the family; second, as the maiden name of the wife in the immediate family; or third, as the parent of one or the other of these two.

With the original purpose of this compiler being to pass on to his children a more complete record of family lineage and history than had previously been available, numerous individual notations may sometimes follow a certain entry on the Family History sheets. This is done to more specifically identify sources or background and thus give an even broader base for subsequent research, if and as desired, by those who follow.

April, 1972

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

by  
E. Clinton Belknap

### Belknaps In Early England

Persons bearing the name of Bealknap or de Bealknap (later Belknap) were residents at an early date in at least the three English counties of Warwick, Kent and Sussex. Whether their line went back to ancestors who related to the Naorman Invasion, back even farther to the Anglo-Saxon era, or before is not entirely clear.

The only early English Belknap family, historically speaking, of which this compiler has found documentation is that of Sir Robert de Bealknap, sometimes referred to as "the Knightly Family," and, in more modern times as "the Judge's Family."

Born about 1337, Robert de Bealknap had by 1375, become owner and master of the manor of Hempstead in Kent County. The son of parents whose first names were John and Alice, there is an assumption that he may have been the son of the attorney Bealknap who was practicing law in London in 1346-7. Associated with the Court of both King Edward III and King Richard II, Sir Robert had a most interesting and eventful career - a career however, which was to have a most unhappy conclusion.

In his younger days he served as a page in the Court of King Edward III at the same time as Geoffery Chaucer who was later to become a member of Parliament as well as an English poet of renown. By 1374 Robert had become a Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and some eleven years later would be knighted by King Richard II. Along the way to the high office of Chief Justice he had received a variety of appointments and assignments.

In 1365, and again in 1369, he was named a commissioner to survey the coast of the Isle of Thanet (the northeastern part of Kent, which was then largely separated from the mainland by rivers) and to find a way to effectively protect the homes in the area from the sea. In 1366 he was appointed King's Sergeant. This was an appointment for young men who were training to become judges as distinct from those who would become lawyers. As such a trainee, Robert would participate in hearing minor civil and criminal cases coming before the various courts in the area.

In 1372 Robert became a member of the commission designated to provide for the defence of the coast of Kent against invaders. In 1374 he was one of seven sent overseas to confer with representatives of the Roman Papal Court in an attempt to bring about an acceptable settlement of matters pertaining to the Church as it related to the King and the realm of England. Reflected in this venture were the basic difficulties

of long standing between the Roman Catholic Church in Rome, and the Crown of England -- difficulties which would, more than 100 years hence, in 1532, result in the establishment of the Church of England and a complete break with the papal authority at Rome.

In 1381, after the outbreak of "The Great Revolt" in England, triggered by the recently imposed poll tax, Robert was sent into Essex with an entourage of clerks and jurors, all set to seize defiant rebels and render predetermined verdicts of guilt and punishment upon those who were apprehended. But, characteristic of the defiant attitude across the realm at the time, the resentment and rebellion of the people of Essex were of such violent magnitude that Robert's forces were far too small to accomplish the job he had been sent to do. The men in fishing villages north of London beheaded some of his clerks and jurors and made Robert go down on his knees and vow never again to undertake a punitive mission such as this. The Chief Justice, thus confronted, was glad to escape with his life!

A few years later followed the episode that was to result in a tragic and disastrous experience for Sir Robert and his family. In 1386 Parliament had impeached Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, for corruption and waste of tax monies. This action was, in turn, followed by a transfer of administrative authority (formerly vested in the Earl by authority delegated by the King) to a Council of Nobles, responsible directly to Parliament. The inference of this act of transfer of authority from an Earl of the kingdom to Parliament was, of course, most disturbing to the King, and he called a meeting of the justices in Nottingham to consider the matter. Sir Robert Belknap, one of two Chief Justices attending the session, although objecting strongly within the group to such counter actions, was compelled, under threat of death by the Duke of Ireland, Robert de Vere, and the recalcitrant Earl of Suffolk, to join in expression favorable to the Crown.

Caught in this crossfire between the King and what Will Durant refers to in The Reformation as the "Merciless Parliament", Sir Robert, along with the other justices attending the session at Nottingham (except Tressilian, Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, who had already been executed), were summarily impeached by Parliament on charges of treason; divested of their citizenship and all rights to hold property, and were condemned to die. Only through intercession of the Bishops and the Queen were their lives spared. Sir Robert's sentence was commuted to banishment to Ireland, where he was to be confined within a three mile radius of the town of Drogheda, situated at the mouth of the Boyne River on the eastern coast. All other terms of the sentence remained as in the original decree.



When Richard II regained control of Parliament in 1397, Sir Robert and the other attainted judges were recalled to England and restored to their full rights. However, only two years later, with the dethronement of King Richard II by his adversary, Henry Bolingbroke (who became King Henry IV) the restoration was nullified. In that same year, 1399, it is reported that the Commons asked Parliament to restore Sir Robert's estate. Since he is reported not to have joined with the two other justices in 1401 for the removal of the attainder, it is assumed that he had died before that time. English historians list 1400 as the probable date of death.

During the long period of Sir Robert's banishment and disgrace, his wife, Juliana, daughter of John Darset of Essex, had, in her own right, sued for recovery of her husband's vast estate for the support of herself and family. So unusual was it for a woman to independently pursue such matters in the English courts at the time that she was ridiculed by at least one judge. But she apparently stood her ground and absorbed the ridicule along with the other harassment visited upon the family during those trying years. Although it was not until sometime after her death, in 1414 or 15, that Parliament officially removed the attainder and restored the estate to Sir Robert's only known grandson, Hamon, the Judge's wife had nevertheless been permitted to retain possession of her husband's holdings during the period of her life!

By the time of King Henry V, beginning in 1413, "the Judge's family" had come back into royal favor and remained so from then on. Joan Belknap, a granddaughter of Sir Robert, served as maid of honor to Katherine, queen of Henry V. Sir Robert, through his son John's descendants, was also an ancestor of Queen Elizabeth II (see Time Magazine, August 6, 1951, p. 34) and was progenitor, through his daughter, Joan Belknap, of Mary Arden, mother of William Shakespeare, (Time Magazine, above cited, and Patrick W. Montague-Smith, Editor of Debrett's Peerage, Surrey, England, in a letter dated 20 January, 1968, to Mr. Carroll Y. Belknap, Riverside, Conn.).

In compiling the above summary, we have drawn heavily upon the (English) Dictionary of National Biography, Vol. 2, p. 9-10, and Vol. 21, p. 962-972; information provided by Mr. Carroll Y. Belknap, Riverside, Connecticut; the writings of Henry Wyckoff Belknap in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 68, April, 1914, and Vol. 85, July, 1931; and Will Durant's The Reformation, published by Simon and Schuster, New York, 1957.

### Belknaps In America

It is of interest to note that so far as can be determined, the lineage of every Belknap/Belnap in America, if pursued, goes back to the common ancestor, Abraham Belknap, whose origin was in the Hertford County village of Sawbridgeworth, England, and who, as indicated earlier, settled in Lynn, Massachusetts by 1637.

One might be prompted to reason that "with all the Belknaps recorded in early English history, and with the large migration of Englishmen to America, surely some others by the name of Belknap must have found their way to this country in addition to this particular man known as Abraham Belknap". To be sure, an erroneous entry carried in the commercially generated Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy has stated that Abraham Belknap was accompanied to America by two brothers. However, this allegation has been conclusively shown to be without factual foundation. This matter was treated in an article by the late Henry Wyckoff Belknap, genealogist, in the April issue, 1914, Volume 62, of the highly respected New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

The reason the migration of Belknaps to America was limited to that of Abraham, his wife and children, we are told, is that the Sawbridgeworth Belknaps constituted the only family then bearing the name of Belknap in all England, and none of the others of that family seemed interested in following Abraham's example.

All known male members of the Belknap family previously known to have existed in England, so far as is now known, are believed to have died out with the death of Sir Edward Belknap, descendant of Sir Robert Belknap in about 1521. Many years of research, states one Belknap family genealogist, have failed to reveal a record of anyone in England bearing the surname of Belknap between that time and the beginning of the emergence of the Sawbridgeworth village Belknap family about 1600.

On 28 January, 1599/1600, one Josias, uncle of our American progenitor, Abraham, and member of a village family which had gone by the name of Beltoft, signed his will with the surname of Belknappe -- a name which more than one has contended, was known by the family to have been their real name all along. While we have no quarrel with the merits of this contention, we shall leave it to others, better grounded in historical probabilities than is this compiler, to pursue and comment more fully upon such conjecture.

Henry Wyckoff Belknap, in a footnote to his 1914 article on "English Ancestry of American Belknaps" in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, commented as follows:

"Alternative surnames are said to have been somewhat uncommon in England, although much used in the Channel Islands. It is interesting to find in Wright's Dictionary of Dialect that the termination '-toft' signifies, among other meanings, 'a low hill', while '-knap' has 'a small hill' as one of its meanings."

This footnote has often been interpreted as meaning that members of the Sawbridgeworth family used both surnames, Beltoft and Belknap, alternatively and concurrently. However, current recorded facts available for review indicate that this was not the case. Until they changed to Belknap, they called themselves Beltoft, and after the change to Belknap was completed, they consistently called themselves Belknap.

The footnote cited above does call attention to an alleged similarity in generic meaning between the two surnames, Beltoft and Belknap, and such similarity could, of course, be significant. The determination that the two names had not been used interchangeably in a concurrent manner need not necessarily rule out the possibility that Beltoft (for one reason or another) might have been initially adopted at some earlier given point in history as an alias for Belknap - a name to which the family had more recently returned. Here again, the pursuit of any such conjecture or theory must, of necessity, be left to those research scholars better qualified than is this compiler to follow through.

Bennet Beltoft, father of our American Abraham Belknap, was listed by Bennet's brother, Josias, in his previously mentioned will as "Bennet Belknappe". On 6 February, 1599/1600, two days following the burial of Josias, Bennet, as executor, probated the will of his deceased brother and attested under oath that his own name was Benedict Belknappe.

Although Bennet reverted to the use of the name Beltoft subsequent to the probation of the will of Josias, he was buried by his wife and family as Benedictus Belknap. As indicated above, the family members were regularly known as Belknap thereafter, including, of course, our common American ancestor, Abraham Belknap. For more details concerning the transitional sequence of this change from Beltoft to Belknap, see Family History sheet, page 2, following Family Group No. 1 listing in this compilation.



### The Name Belknap

In reviewing records extending over the years, it is found that the Belknap name has been spelled in many ways at various times and in various locations, depending, apparently, on how the name sounded to the one who did the recording, and whether the "k" carried the hard sound, or was softened, or left completely silent as it is today. Among the spellings in early English history and/or here in America have been: de Bealknap, de Bealknp, Beltknap, Beltrap, Belknappe, Belcknapp, Beltknape, Belknape, Bellknapp, Belknopp, Belknope, Bealeknappe, Bealknappe, Belnap, and, as most commonly used today, Belknap.

Mr. Carroll York Belknap points to the fact that during the Middle Ages, prior to 1300, there were segments of a Beltoft family in Lincolnshire, England, numerous enough to have five different coats of arms and two different crests. In the old records, he reports, the name appears variously as "Beltoft", "de Beltofte" and "de Belle Tofte". But, he further comments that this family is not known to have come south of Lincolnshire in England, and their coats of arms and crests had no resemblance whatever to those of the Belknaps subsequent to this very early period.

Henry Wyckoff Belknap, with the assistance of the English Record Agent, Charles Bernau, whom he had employed, traced that early Beltoft family and found that it had died out completely in England by 1400. Carroll Belknap reports that Henry Wyckoff Belknap and Charles Bernau found no reason to think there was any connection between this ancient Beltoft family and the Beltoft/Belknap family which emerged subsequently. Carroll also agreed with their interpretation of the evidence accumulated and with their conclusion that there was no known link between the old Lincolnshire Beltoft and the Beltoft family found in the village of Sawbridgeworth in Herts about 1500 -- a century or more after the death of the last known Lincolnshire Beltoft.

The American Belknap's English village ancestors, calling themselves Beltoft, were traced by Henry Wyckoff Belknap, with the help of the previously mentioned Charles Bernau, to one, Richard Beltoft, who died in Sawbridgeworth sometime during the ten year period of 1500 to 1510. The first in the line of descent from Richard is believed to have been a Beltoft carrying the first name of Lawrence, followed by a second Richard. The Bennet Beltoft, listed in the will of his brother, Josias, as Bennet Belknappe, was a son of the second Richard, and in turn, the father of the Lynn, Massachusetts settler,

Abraham Belknap. For summaries of the studies made by Henry Wyckoff Belknap in regard to the English ancestry of Abraham Belknap, see the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 68, April 1914, p. 190-198; Vol. 85, July, 1931, p. 265-288, and Vol. 104, October, 1950, p. 316-317.

### Family Builds Heritage In America

Regardless of whether their ancestral heritage may have gone back to that of the famous Sir Robert Belknap's early English family, or was confined to a village family in Sawbridgeworth, the Belknaps have proceeded to establish themselves in their own right in America. The same basic courage that brought Abraham and his family from the Old World to the New, placed descendants of this early family in the vanguard of pioneer settlers in the New England area and on out across the frontier from Massachusetts to Ontario County, New York, to Kentucky, Ohio, Iowa, Nebraska, and on to Utah and Oregon. Others established themselves at points along the way, or migrated to still additional sections of the nation, including perhaps most notably, Michigan, Illinois, Kansas, Texas, and California.

Like a great majority of the early pioneers in America, many of the earliest Belknaps had their roots in the soil, with farming and other agricultural pursuits commanding the largest following. Even the early religious leaders in the family tilled the soil for their sustenance. Among the Agri-associated occupations recorded among the early Belknap settlers, other than farming itself were: tanner, carpenter, joiner, weaver, tailor, blacksmith, and cooper (barrel maker).

Members of the American Belknaps have made their presence known at the battle front in every war in which this nation has been engaged, with many serving with distinction in the various branches of the service. Commander Charles Belknap, Vice Admiral Reginald Rowan Belknap, and Brig. General William Goldsmith Belknap, (in whose honor Fort Belknap in Young County, Texas, was named), have been among those who served. Others have distinguished themselves in the field of education and religion. Joseph Belknap, a son of the original Lynn, Massachusetts immigrant, Abraham Belknap, was a co-founder of the now famous Old South Church of Boston.

Numerous other members of this early American family have made themselves known in the professions of law, nursing, medicine and social service; in the fields of science, industry, insurance, market research and sales counseling, business, manufacturing, banking, politics, arts, crafts, literature

and journalism, while the list continues to grow with each succeeding generation, as it has with practically all other established American families in a land that has presented ever expanding horizons of opportunity and needs for service and leadership.



FAMILY GROUP No. 1		Husband's Full Name ABRAHAM BELKNAP (Formerly BELTOFT)							
This Information Obtained From:		Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Carroll York Belknap, 25 Club Road, Riverside, Conn., 06878; New England Historical & Genealogical Register, 1914, '31, '50;		Birth				Sawbridgeworth, Co. Hertford, Eng.			Lived Netteswell and No. Weald, Essex. Migrated from Epping, Essex, England.
Henry Wyckoff Belknap-Barnau Letters; Banks' Topographical Dictionary; Salt Lake Genealogical Society, and former Medina Research Bureau, Washington, D. C.		Chr'd	15	3	1589/90	(as Beltoft)			
		Mar.	28	10	1617	Latton, Essex, England			
		Death	Early Sept.		1643	Lynn, Massachusetts			
		Burial							
Compiler Clinton Belknap		Places of Residence	Settled Lynn, Mass., 1637						
Address 2019 Harwood City, Lincoln, Nebr.		Occupation	Farmer in Mass.						
Date April 16, 1971		Church Affiliation	None						
		Mother's Maiden Name	Grace Adam						
		Wife's Full Maiden Name	Mary Stallion						
Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)		Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
1 ABRAHAM		Birth				Latton		England	
2 ABRAHAM		Chr'd	24	12	1595				
3 DAVID		Death				Presumably at Lynn, Mass.			
4 SAMUEL		Burial							
5 SARAH JONES		Places of Residence							
6 DORCAS		Occupation if other than Housewife	Church Affiliation						
7 JOSEPH		Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
8 HANNAH		Her Father	Thomas Stallion						
9 CHRISTOPHER OSGOOD		Mother's Maiden Name	Mary Dalton						
10									

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	2nd Gen	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
M	1 ABRAHAM		Birth							
M	2 ABRAHAM		Mar.							
M	3 DAVID		Death			1620				
M	4 SAMUEL		Burial	6	12	1620	Netteswell, Essex, Eng., as Beltoft			
M	5 SARAH JONES		Birth			ca 1622				
M	6 DORCAS		Mar.							
M	7 JOSEPH		Death				Died young. Mentioned in gr. fa. Bennet's will 14 Apr. 1623			
M	8 HANNAH		Burial							
F	9 CHRISTOPHER OSGOOD		Birth				Probably born after 14 April 1623 as not mentioned in grandfather's will.			
F	10		Mar.							
F	11		Death							
F	12		Burial	2	3	1624/25	No. Weald, Essex, England			
F	13		Birth	Bpt.	16	Mar.	1627/8	No. Weald, Essex, Eng.		
F	14		Mar.				as "Immanuel"			
F	15		Death			1676				
F	16		Burial							
F	17		Birth	Bpt.	7	Feb.	1629/30	No. Weald, Essex, Eng.		
F	18		Mar.							
F	19		Death				Died young			
F	20		Burial							
F	21		Birth	Bpt.	12	May	1633	No. Weald, Essex, Eng.		
F	22		Mar.				3rd. Mar., Hannah Meakins			
F	23		Death	14	11	1712	Boston	Mass.		
F	24		Burial							
F	25		Birth	Bpt.	10	May	1635	No. Weald, Essex, Eng.		
F	26		Mar.							
F	27		Death	After 27	Mar.	1655 & before 14	Apr. 1671			
F	28		Burial							
F	29		Birth	ca	1639/40		Presumably at Lynn, Mass.			
F	30		Mar.	6	12	1663				
F	31		Death	21	11	1679				
F	32		Burial							
F	33		Birth				C.Y.B. memo Nov. 24, 1969			
F	34		Mar.				discredits any alleged			
F	35		Death				existence of a 9th child			
F	36		Burial				named Roger.			
F	37		Birth							
F	38		Mar.							
F	39		Death							
F	40		Burial							
F	41		Birth							
F	42		Mar.							
F	43		Death							
F	44		Burial							
F	45		Birth							
F	46		Mar.							
F	47		Death							
F	48		Burial							
F	49		Birth							
F	50		Mar.							
F	51		Death							
F	52		Burial							
F	53		Birth							
F	54		Mar.							
F	55		Death							
F	56		Burial							
F	57		Birth							
F	58		Mar.							
F	59		Death							
F	60		Burial							
F	61		Birth							
F	62		Mar.							
F	63		Death							
F	64		Burial							
F	65		Birth							
F	66		Mar.							
F	67		Death							
F	68		Burial							
F	69		Birth							
F	70		Mar.							
F	71		Death							
F	72		Burial							
F	73		Birth							
F	74		Mar.							
F	75		Death							
F	76		Burial							
F	77		Birth							
F	78		Mar.							
F	79		Death							
F	80		Burial							
F	81		Birth							
F	82		Mar.							
F	83		Death							
F	84		Burial							
F	85		Birth							
F	86		Mar.							
F	87		Death							
F	88		Burial							
F	89		Birth							
F	90		Mar.							
F	91		Death							
F	92		Burial							
F	93		Birth							
F	94		Mar.							
F	95		Death							
F	96		Burial							
F	97		Birth							
F	98		Mar.							
F	99		Death							
F	100		Burial							

Recorded in North Weald church register as "Beltrap".

1950

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## FAMILY HISTORY

Family Group No. 1

Husband -- Abraham Belknap (ex-Beltoft) 1589/90-1643

Wife -- Mary Stallion 1595-

For the information carried on the Family Group No. 1 immediately preceding this page and in the following summary, we are deeply indebted to Carroll York Belknap, (grandson of Jesse, and great-grandson of Revolutionary War soldier, Jonas N. Belknap), who has listed among his references, New England Historical and Genealogical Register for 1914, 1931, and 1950; Henry Wyckoff Belknap-Bernau Letters; Banks' Topographical Dictionary, and Salt Lake Genealogical Society. The section entitled, "Sequence of Change in Name, as Recorded", is quoted in full from a communication received from C.Y.B. under date of March 7, 1972.

### SUMMARY

Abraham, son of Bennet Beltoft, (alias Belknap) and Grace Adam, Sawbridgeworth, County Hertford, England.

Baptized Sawbridgeworth, 15 March, 1589/90 as Beltoft (1589 Old Style; 1590 New Style).

Married 28 Oct., 1617, Latton, Essex, England, as Beltoft.

Lived at Netteswell, Essex, and North Weald, Essex.

Emigrated from Epping, Essex -- settled Lynn, Mass., by 1637.

Began use of name Belknap at some time between 6 Dec., 1620 and 2 March 1624/5.

Church register North Weald spells name "Beltrap" -- a frequent misspelling of Belknap at that time. Same spelling occurs once in church register at Sawbridgeworth. Deposition he signed by mark "A" at North Weald Bassett, Essex, in 1626 shows his name as Abraham Belknapp.

His occupation in England is unknown. He was call<sup>d</sup> a "Yoeman" in a deposition made 31 Jan., 1626/27.

Alloted 40 acres at Lynn, Mass., 1637.

A farmer at Lynn.

Died Sept. 1643, at Lynn. Net value of estate, 47 pounds.

When emigrating from England, Abraham was accompanied only by wife, Mary, and sons Samuel, Joseph, and John. Contrary to some tradition, none of his brothers came with him. (Identification of Thomas Burnap as a Belknap, by Banks, was based on an early error by Henry Wyckoff Belknap -- which HWB later retracted. No later Belknap immigrant was ever found.)

### "SEQUENCE OF CHANGE OF NAME, AS RECORDED

28 Jan 1599/1600 Josias made his will as Josias Belknappe, naming his brother as Bennet Belknappe. J signed the will in full, not by mark. (The numerous legatees must have known him

Family Group No. 1  
Husband -- Abraham Belknap  
Wife -- Mary Stallion

as Belknappe; otherwise the will would have been meaningless. So he must have begun calling himself Belknappe at some time before the date of the will.)

4 Feb 1599/1600 Josias was buried as a Belknap at Saint Saviour's, Southwark. Entry in church register: "Josias Belknap, a man being a stranger and no parishioner." (HWB's note based on letter from Bernau 9/5/30 shows spelling "Belknap" but does not indicate explicitly that this was the spelling in the church register.)

6 Feb 1599/1600 Bennet probated J's will, swearing he was Benedict Belknappe.

(But 14 Apr 1623 Bennet made his will as Bennet Beltoft, naming all his children and his grandson Abraham as Beltoft.)

21 May 1624 Bennet was buried as Bennet Belknap.

15 June 1624 his executors, wife Grace and son Josias, probated his will as that of Benedictus Belknapp, though it was signed Beltoft.

19 Oct 1624 Bennet's daughter Frances married as Belknap.

24 March 1624/25 Abraham's son David buried at North Weald as Belknap (Beltrap).

31 January 1626/7 Abraham made deposition at North Weald Basset as Abraham Belknapp.

10 July 1630 Grace, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Belknop) was baptized. (Presumably John, son of Bennet, was married as Belknap about 1628 or 1629, at the home of his bride in some other town.)

20 Oct 1630 Bennet's wife Grace was buried as Belknap (Belkap).

2 May 1631 Bennet's son Josias married as Belknap (Belkap).

After the date of probate of Bennet's will, no use of Beltoft appears in records till 1663, when two children of Henry Belknap (grandson of Bennet) were buried as Beltoft; and again in 1683 when this Henry's last child Mary was buried as "daughter of Henry and Mary Belknap als Beltoft." These are the only recorded instances of reversion to Beltoft by those who made entries in church records or other records. They may indicate only that an aging pastor or warden remembered that the family name had formerly been Beltoft. This Henry, like all of the children of Bennet's sons, was christened Belknap -- and married as Belknap, twice.



Family Group No. 1  
Husband -- Abraham Belknap  
Wife -- Mary Stallion

(The spelling Belnap first appears at Sawbridgeworth in the will of that Henry, 10 Apr 1686. It had appeared earlier, in 1658, in register entry of burial of Daniel Belnap at Netteswell. These are the first recorded indications of a silent "k". Earlier spellings such as "Belkap" and "Beltknap" seem to indicate presence of a hard consonantal sound in the middle of the name -- as also in "Beltrap". As all spellings except that of Josias in signature of his will, 1599/1600, were set down by persons who were trying to write what they thought they heard, it may be assumed that the hard "k" was sounded in the first half of the century and became silent in the second half -- as in the consistent spelling "Bellnap" in records of Essex members of the family in that period."

ECB from CYB

4/21/72

It is kind and courteous of you to make so much effort to conform to my judgment in what you say about that footnote of HWB's. But I think I must somehow have misled you, for one sentence in the version you mailed on the 18th is just all wrong:

"We are informed, however . . . that he meant just the opposite -- that the names were not used interchangeably."

What I think I tried to say, in writing about this, was that Charles A. Bernau (the source of what HWB said in that footnote) meant that he did not believe that the Sawbridgeworth family used the two names "alternatively" as HWB thought. As to HWB, there is no evidence that he ever abandoned his notion -- except that after 1920 he quit talking about it.

I think I shouldn't stop right here, and let you decide what to do on the basis of this abrupt denial. I owe it to you, I think, to tell you all that I know -- including what seems to me to be a very slight possibility that I am wrong in my interpretation of the available evidence. So bear with me -- for I can't be mercifully brief.

The starting point in my thinking came long ago, when all I had seen of HWB's work was what he had published in The Register. I was impressed by what looked like his belief that the Sawbridgeworth family had used the two names more or less as they happened to choose at the moment. But as I studied all the documents he reprinted or cited I found that up to moment of Bennet's death the name was consistently Beltoft -- except for the will of his brother Josias, 1599/00. For 100 years, just Beltoft -- never Belknap. Then, immediately after Bennet's death, just the opposite -- from then on, just Belknap, with the exceptions about the children of Bennet's grandson Henry, in the church register, long after Bennet's death. But this Henry was married as Belknap, twice, and made his will as Belknap. There was no record that he himself ever used Beltoft.

So I came to the conclusion that -- in contradiction to everything I had read -- the change in surname was sudden and dramatic. This dramatic suddenness, I felt, would have to be the central fact in any consideration of the change in name.

Later, when I got hold of HWB's notes and correspondence, I searched every pertinent page for any indications that I might be wrong. I did not find any. Instead, I found repeated evidence of HWB's adherence to a view opposite to mine. For example, in a number of letters to correspondents he said (of the Sawbridgeworth family) "They sometimes called themselves Belknap and sometimes Beltoft." (Statements of this kind appear in letters around 1914 and the next few years; but do not appear after 1920. After 1920, however, he never explicitly reversed this view; he just stopped talking about it.)

Meanwhile, as the result of what he published in 1914 and what he said in his letters, the idea of concurrent use of the two surnames became widely adopted by amateurs and led to all manner of extravagant confusions, as you know. The greatest harm was done by the first sentence in that footnote:

"Alternative surnames are said to have been somewhat uncommon in England, although much used in the Channel Islands."

The underlining is mine, to highlight the way HWB altered the original he was citing, a letter from Bernau. Bernau's exact words were "The use of two surnames is very rare in England but common in the Channel Islands." He obviously meant to express disagreement with HWB, not agreement.



I am not suggesting or implying that HWB deliberately altered the wording. He was not capable of even the slightest falsification. I think he merely wrote that footnote from memory, without re-examining Bernau's actual wording, which was entered in a place in his records that he would not have been likely to consult when he was drafting his 1914 piece; and relying on memory, remembered not what Bernau had said but what he himself believed. Memory often plays this trick on us.

Why did HWB have this belief in concurrent use of "alternate surnames"? The only apparent clue is in a brief passage on the first page of his 1914 piece. After telling how the records in the Sawbridgeworth register and in the wills of Bennet's descendants had been found, he went on to speak of the first work done by Bernau. "Mr Bernau began his search with the Lay Subsidy Rolls . . . and there discovered that the name of the Sawbridgeworth branch of the Belknap family was sometimes Beltoft or Beltofts."

I said that this was an "apparent" clue -- for neither in what HWB published nor in his surviving notes and correspondence is there any proof of what he said Bernau had found in the Lay Subsidy Rolls. The only tax records in either published or unpublished HWB material are a mention of a lay subsidy payment by Bennet Beltoft and a mention of ship money paid in 1636/7 by Daniel Belknap of Netteswell (Bennet's son).

in 1605/6

This lack of detail puzzles me, for it is completely at variance with HWB's consistent practice of transcribing into his notes on each individual person every scrap of information he obtained, no matter how slight. If Bernau had given him data on Lay Subsidy payments by the Sawbridgeworth people after they began using the name Belknap, why would these data not be in his detailed notes on each of Bennet's children and grandchildren? I have no answer to this troubling question. I can only ask another question: What did Bernau actually say on this subject?

Again, I can't answer. Among the documents destroyed in the fire that burnt down HWB's home in 1914, there must have been the letter or memorandum in which Bernau reported his search of the Lay Subsidy Rolls. The only evidence of its existence is that one brief statement on the first page of HWB's 1914 piece.

Perhaps the lack of data on the subject, in HWB's records, indicates that Bernau had made merely a general statement without supporting detail. Perhaps -- but this was not the way Bernau normally worked. In all of his notes and letters that survived the 1914 fire, he meticulously copied word for word what he found in old documents. So I am left with the visible fact that Bernau's normal practice was not, in this instance, reflected by HWB's normal practice -- and I find it hard to believe that Bernau readily supplied detailed data from his search of the Lay Subsidy Rolls.

So I have to turn to another question: Does it matter, whether he did or didn't?

What's at issue, of course, is whether HWB was right in believing that Bennet's descendants "sometimes called themselves Belknaps and sometimes Beltofts" -- or whether I am right in believing that the change in surname was abrupt and final.

Suppose that the Lay Subsidy Rolls, after Bennet's death, showed both names. Does this mean that his children and grandchildren used both names? I don't think so. What seems much more likely is that the old name lingered in the minds of their neighbors, including the tax collectors. The outstanding fact, to my mind, is that whenever Bennet's descendants had personal control of the name that was entered in the church registers or affixed to wills, they used only Belknap -- never Beltoft.



Or, to put the case another way -- the only person who is on record as having used both surnames of his own volition was Bennet, who swore he was Belknap in probating his brother's will but signed Beltoft at the end of his own will, years later.  
(by mark)

So I come out with a belief that HWB should have worded his belief quite differently in his letters. Instead of writing that the Sawbridgworth people "sometimes called themselves Belknap and sometimes Beltoft", he should -- I believe -- have written "they sometimes were called Belknap and sometimes Beltoft, after they themselves had ceased to use their former surname."

I hope you haven't been annoyed by this long discussion of the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ evidence -- you're the only person with whom I can talk in this fashion and, also, the only person who knows enough to show me that I'm wrong, if you disagree.

\*\*\*\*\*

I suppose you're entitled to ask, now, how I would word that footnote of yours.

Something like this:

recorded

HWB's

I'd begin by quoting ~~the~~ footnote fully. Then I'd add: "This footnote has often been interpreted as meaning that the members of the Sawbridgworth family used both surnames alternatively and concurrently. The facts show that they never did this. Until they ~~changed~~ changed to Belknap, they always called themselves Beltoft. After they changed to Belknap, they never called themselves Beltoft."

And then I might add, as you do, the comment on the possibility that Beltoft had been an alias for Belknap.

But it's your manuscript, not mine. I've no right to tell you what you should say.

And you may think this is much ado about little. To me it isn't. When I come to set down, as I must, my necessary speculation about the meaning of the change of name, what I say will depend directly on whether I think the change was gradual or abrupt.

So if you see flaws in my reasoning, I'll be grateful if you'll expose them.

To

Carroll G. Belknap  
25 Clark Road  
Riverside, Conn 06878

File - Clinton

SUBJECT

REFER TO

Beltoft

DATE

3/9/71

MESSAGE

I thought you'd be interested in the  
attached copy of a letter from  
Charlie Beltoft, 1687 Andrea Place,  
Santa Clara, Calif., 95051.

SIGNED

ECB

REPLY

TO

DATE

SIGNED

SENDER: SEND WHITE AND PINK COPIES WITH CARBON INTACT

RECIPIENT: REPLY ON WHITE COPY - RETAIN PINK COPY



March 4, 1971

Dear Sir:

My sister, Ruby Huffman, who lives in Beaver Crossing sent me a copy of your letter. No doubt she has given you the information regarding the Biltotts who settled in Nebraska. To the best of my knowledge my Grandfather and his brothers were the only Biltotts who came to America from Schleswig - Holstein. She would have more information and more accurate than anything I could write so I won't write anything about the Nebraska Biltotts.

I will let Sis fill you in on the Nebraska folks. I did meet a family in Australia named Biltott. There was a Mrs. Biltott who owned a hotel in Ipswich, Queensland Australia. I visited them several times, but was not able to learn too much. As I recall she was a widow with one or two sons in the Australian Army, one daughter married, one living at home and a teen age son named Mark. Mrs Biltott's husband had been lost at sea some time before 1942. I believe it was a fishing party that failed to return. She did not know much about the history of the family. Her husband's father had gone to Australia from Schleswig - Holstein; There were so many families on the ship named Johnson that five families changed their name from Johnson to Biltott. So there are no doubt quite a few Biltotts in Australia and a letter to Ipswich, Queensland, Australia might put you in touch with some of the family that might know a lot more about the Biltott branch there. They might be able to shed some light on the family name back in Denmark.

My wife Jan is interested in genealogy and plans to do some work on the Biltott name so I will keep your address and send you the results in a year or so when she gets part of it together.

Sincerely

Charlie  
Charlie Biltott



C. Billoft  
1687 Andrea Place  
Santa Clara, Calif.  
95051



Mr. Clinton Belknap  
2019 Harwood St.  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
68500

*File*

Memorandum

To- Carroll Y. Belknap  
From- E. Clinton Belknap

Have only recently returned from a jaunt into Texas to visit relatives, including Sophia Belknap Eudy in Cisco. I had corresponded with her for a long time and she has helped me greatly in gathering material on the Belknap descendants of Elijah Belknap but I had never before met her in person. She is now 74 and had suffered a heart attack a few weeks ago and I was most anxious to meet her in person while yet living. Found her apparently well along the road to recovery and feeling quite well. She is a grand daughter of my Grand father, Joseph Gillett Belknap, by his first wife, Elizabeth Van Cleave.

We also visited Fort Belknap located in Young County in Northern Texas, about 12 to 15 miles south and east of Olney. Actually the mailing address is Newcastle, Texas, 76372.

According to a bronze plate anchored on the right side of the entry way as one enters the ground, the old fort, now reconstructed, was founded in ~~1851~~ 1851 by Brevet Brigadier General William Goldsmith Belknap ~~in 1851~~ and served to 1867 for the protection of early settlers and travelers and was reported to have been one of the most important in Texas at the time.

I found in one ~~####~~ <sup>article</sup> bit of literature regarding the fort a copy of a newspaper dealing with the fort and the trouble the Centennial Committee had had in securing a copy of General Belknap's ~~#####~~ picture. You will note that the article refers to his parents as Samuel Jr. and (his mother as) Mary Goldsmith both of the Newburg, New York community. The article shows the date of the General's birth as Sept. 7, 1794 and lists his wife as Ann Clark of Newburg. It also indicates that he was the father of William Worth Belknap who served in the Civil War and later became Secretary of War in General Grant's Administration. It is indicated that General William Goldsmith Belknap ~~#####~~ apparently died ~~#####~~ November 10, 1951. Another piece of literature entitled A Guide to Fort Belknap by Barbara Neal Ledbetter, states on page 1 that General Goldsmith Belknap "now lies buried in Keokuk, Iowa." Do you identify this man in your records? *Who was Samuel Jr's father?*

You have asked whether I would desire records on descendants of Jonas Newton Belknap other than my own line through Elijah. I would surely like to have such records in so far as it would not be a burden for you to provide. I do have some information on Elisha and I have limited information on Susannah and Esther through the 8th generation in America. I am lacking information on Samuel, Jonas, your Jesse, Cynthia and Orin.

5-25-71  
Memo.  
To- CYB  
From- ECB

Page 2

As I have mentioned earlier, I hope that my oldest son, Rowan C., will be able to take a more active interest in Belknap genealogy as time goes on. He has only recently been named Manager of 3M's International Production, Magnetic Products. In this position he will be associated with plants ## in Italy, Wales and Japan. As time goes on I am sure he will want to visit the old ancestral home area of the Belknap-Beltofts in England. At present he will, of course be much too occupied with his new responsibilities to be doing anything on the side.

In your listing of the place of origin, or rather the place of birth for our ancestral line of Belknap, you refer to Essex, Herts, England. I have difficulty in locating an Essex in modern Hertsford County in England and am wondering if your listing means Essex County and Hertsford County were at some previous time all in one county. I would like to be able to direct Rowan to the proper place in England to locate ## the old ancestral home area. A copy of the announcement of Rowan's promotion in March of this year is enclosed.

E.C.B.



THE  
FORT BELKNAP  
OF  
YESTERDAY  
AND  
TODAY  
1851-1963

compiled by  
barbara neal ledbetter

copyright 1963

Barbara Neal Ledbetter  
Box 8  
Newcastle, Texas



**FOUNDER OF FORT BELKNAP**—This is a copy of an oil painting of Gen. William G. Belknap, founder of Fort Belknap. The portrait was copied in Newburgh, N. Y., and sent to Ben G. Oneal of Wichita Falls. The picture will be placed in the museum housed in restored buildings of the military post in Young County.



## 1 PORTRAIT OF FORT BELKNAP'S FOUNDER LOCATED

"A fourteen year search for a picture of General William Goldsmith Belknap, founder of Fort Belknap in Young County, has finally ended successfully for Ben G. Oneal, Wichita Falls, Texas attorney and former state senator.

A framed picture of Belknap, hero of the Mexican War and of engagements with the Indians, has been received by Senator Oneal from Mayor Herbert A. Warden of Newburgh, N.Y., birthplace of the general.

Oneal said the picture will be hung in one of the restored buildings at old Fort Belknap when a museum containing papers, pictures and articles of that era has been established.

It was as a member of the state senate that Oneal became interested in a movement aimed at restoration of some of the buildings at the early-day government forts in Texas, established for the protection of those sturdy souls who gradually advanced the nation's frontier westward.

Oneal was instrumental in having an amendment attached to Texas Centennial commission legislation in 1936 providing for the restoration of the forts as a part of the centennial's program.

He became particularly interested in Fort Belknap and this interest led him into an exhaustive study of the fort's history. Through the years he has garnered many facts relative to the establishment of Fort Belknap.

Oneal continued gathering these facts as six of Fort Belknap's buildings were restored, the arsenal, corn house, commissary, kitchen and two barracks. With restoration of the structures, Oneal's fact-seeking campaign gradually unfolded virtually a complete history of the post.

But as the year neared for Fort Belknap's centennial--it was officially founded Nov. 3, 1851--Oneal realized he was missing what he considered a very important item, a picture of General Belknap.

A search of war department records in Washington failed to uncover any pictures of the man who fought in the War of 1812, the Mexican War and who battled the Seminole Indians in Florida. It appeared as if General Belknap's military prowess was recognized in many official reports but for some unexplained reason his likeness never found its way into the war department's archives.

Finally, almost as a last resort, Oneal sent a letter to the mayor of Newburgh, N.Y., asking his aid in tracking down the elusive picture.

Mayor Warden called in Rev. A. Elwood Corning, Newburgh historian, who reported that a faded oil painting of Belknap hangs in Gen. George Washington's headquarters, a Revolutionary War museum maintained by the state of New York, in Newburgh. Corning said he believes this is the only picture of the general in existence.

Warden informed Oneal of his discovery and arranged to have the painting copied. Through the co-operation of the museum's board of trustees, the portrait was moved to the offices of the Newburgh News where photographers copied it. The mayor then had the photograph framed and sent to Oneal.

In a letter accompanying the picture, Mayor Warden said:

---

1  
Wichita Daily Times, Wichita Falls, Texas, Sept. 14, 1950. From files of Gaspard Neal, Newcastle, Texas.

"On behalf of the people of Newburgh, I convey to the citizens of Texas our best wishes and appreciation for the honors they have bestowed upon one of our own. It is indeed fitting that the memory of this heroic soldier be carried forth in the manner selected by our friends in Texas."

A study of old records in General Belknap's native city revealed that Newburgh itself paid honor to him in 1846. He was then a colonel, just home from the Mexican War. Citizens of Newburgh thought so much of the general that they raised \$350 by public subscription and had a beautiful sword wrought as a gift for him.

Assisting in obtaining facts at Newburgh on General Belknap's career was Douglas V. Clarke, member of the editorial staff of the Newburgh News.

Location of General Belknaps's picture followed discovery by Oneal of pictures of three other military leaders of that day who, he considers instrumental in aiding Belknap to locate the fort that bears his name.

They are:

Bvt. Maj. Gen. Parsifor Frazier, commander of the eighth military district, which included Belknap at that time. He was Belknaps superior officer and apparently was instrumental in laying plans for early day forts in Texas.

Capt. Randolph Marcy, who was detailed to guide General Belknap when he started his trip westward in search of a good site for a fort. Marcy was well acquainted with the western country and became an outstanding military man of his day.

Capt. Carter Littlepage Stevenson, who was assigned the task of digging a well that would furnish water for the Belknap garrison. Apparently his trials and tribulations were many, judging from his official dispatches to Washington. In one report he bemoaned his lack of candles needed to provide light in order to continue the project.

Finally, however, the well was dug in a spot where water was located and today this well can still be seen at Fort Belknap, its original rock wall, laid without mortar, still virtually as good as the day it was completed.

General Belknap was born in Newburgh Sept. 7, 1794, the son of Samuel Belknap Jr. and Mary Goldsmith Belknap. His family were prominent members of the Newburgh community, and some of them had fought in the Revolutionary War.

The general and his wife, the former Ann Clark of Newburgh, had four children. One of his sons, William Worth Belknap, became secretary of war during General Grant's administration. The son, too, was a famous soldier and a hero of the Civil War.

Historians say that General Belknap was a sick man while undertaking the Texas assignment and shortly after Fort Belknap was officially established he left for Fort Washita in the then Indian country north of Red River. He died before reaching Fort Washita. Apparently the date was November 10, 1851.

Visitors to the historic spot in the future will be able to view a likeness of the fort's founder---thanks to Oneal's untiring efforts to locate the picture.

ECB from CYB

7 Jan 1973

Here are your sheets for Orin Sr and Orin Jr and Jonas Jr -- with some additions and alterations. Also a sheet stating what I know or think I know about the movements of Orin Sr.

Perhaps I should add a bit to that memo..... The Licking County land on which the members of our tribe settled had been in a so-called "military tract" -- that is, an area used for bonus land given to Rev War veterans. The farms that Jonas N B's sons and sons-in-law bought, in that tract, were closely neighboring and even contiguous in most cases -- much like the Belknap Settlement that Jesse and his children and Jonas Jr and his children founded in Oregon. But this Ohio grouping was not very permanent. Between 1832 and 1838, Elijah and Jonas and Jesse and Orin left Licking Co. Orin (as noted earlier) returned in 1856 -- rejoining Elisha and Esther (wife of Gamaliel Garlinghouse). Cynthia (wife of Isaac Newton) had died before 1838.\* Susannah's location unknown -- I have traced her no farther than a South-East corner of Ohio shortly after her marriage.

\* Note this "before 1838" as a revision on my sheet for Jonas N B.  
It is based on:

- (1) My belief that Cynthia married Isaac Newton, though I have only circumstantial evidence to support Evans on this point. I wish I had a note of Evans' source.
- (2) The fact that when Orin Sr and Isaac Newton sold their jointly owned land in 1838 the wife of Isaac was named Rachel -- ~~NAME~~ which I interpret as a second marriage, meaning that Cynthia was dead.

Why the break-up of the Licking County settlement? Only clue I have found is the record of the great cholera plague that swept down the Ohio in 1832 and killed many people along or near that river in 1832 and the next few years. Jesse apparently left Licking County in 1834. I have no dates for Elijah and Jonas Jr. at this point.

1834.



File

Clinton Belknap from GYB

July 19 1971

It's good to hear from you. And I'm sending a note to my son Jack about the possibility of meeting Rowan. But it may prove to be as complicated as bringing Nixon and Chou En Lai together -- for Jack, too, travels a lot on business for FORTUNE. This week, he's in Dallas etc. Maybe Rowan can give Jack a bit of advance notice of a possible date in NYC. Jack's address is: John H Belknap, Marketing Director, Fortune Magazine, Time-Life Building, NYC.

Yes, I'll be most grateful if you can look up Isaac Newton in census Licking County Ohio -- 1830, 1840, 1850. I know he was there in the 30's. Doubt that he and Cynthia went on to Iowa. Might have gone to Allen Co., Ohio, when Jesse and Jonas Jr did, in early 30's -- but would not be in census there before 1840. I hope you can find one of the later census records which give names of children, for I have just a blank on this score. Franklin Cp, Ohio? Maybe -- I don't know.

Nuel Belnap -- two of them. Nuel Sr is a retired lawyer in Chicago. Nuel Jr, who was in Sawbridgeworth in 1970, appears to be a teacher at U of Pittsburgh. Descendants of the Jesse Belknap who was at Rome NY in 1790 and died years later at Erie Pa. The Mormon descendants of that Jesse dropped the "k." So -- a bit erratically -- did some of his descendants in Michigan.

Nuel Jr has sent me a large map of Sawbridgeworth, dated 1839, showing names of fields (some identifiable as owned by Belknaps in 17th century). It's a yard square. I've asked him if he can supply copies to people like you -- and at what cost.

He also sent me a most interesting booklet -- The Story of Sawbridgeworth -- a history of the town, fascinating to me. Published by Workers' Educational Association, Sawbridgeworth, Herts. Price 5 shillings. Probably obtainable BY MAIL -- adding a shilling for postage. Well worth reading before visiting the town. Identifies the Chauncy's and Leventhorpes who are named in the long records of the lawsuit over Nidelles (HWB in Register 1931).

P S LATER Have just received, after months of effort, copies of War 1812 records of some of the Belknaps whose names you listed for me many long months ago. Am enclosing the one for Elijah. This pay record appears to be all that still survives.

July 14, 1971

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, Riverside Conn.  
From: E. Clinton Belknap, Lincoln, Nebraska

Have some catching up to do with correspondence after a delightful, extended visit by our grandchildren.

First of all, thank you for your most complimentary letter of May 29, 1971. And let me ~~hasen~~ add that I seem to have been very much mistaken in saying that you had referred to the birthplace of our ancestral line as "Essex, Herts, England." When I received your letter I was so very sure I could go to the source of that statement, but I've done a pretty good job of reviewing your communications, and I just can't come up with the evidence. Guess I must have dreamed it! Anyway, it is very much impressed in my mind now that it was Sawbridgeworth, Hertford County. I'm sorry for the goof.

I'm afraid I never thanked you for your February 28, 1971, memo relating to "Borough English". All such background information surely helps one to better comprehend the record. I do appreciate it.

No, I really don't have anything on Cynthia and Isaac Newton beyond that which you have furnished. I shall be glad to check the 1840 census for Licking County, Ohio, and for Wapello County, Iowa--1850 census, to see if I can come up with any identity of children of the couple. I suppose, too, that they could have been in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1840. Do you have any hunch as to any Iowa county other than Wapello where they might have been living in 1850?

Was interested in the Sawbridgeworth data, as corrected by you, in the Nuel Belnap summary which you sent. Who is Nuel D. Belnap?

Appreciate the completion of the family line for William Goldsmith Belknap which you provided.

You wondered concerning the source of our son Rowan's name. It was only a happenstance that it turned out to be the same as the Admiral's. We hadn't yet heard of the Admiral when we named Rowan. We picked up the name in reading of Lt. Rowan who delivered "The Message to Garcia", liked it, and gave it to our older son when he came along.

We were pleased to learn that your son, John, is Marketing Director for Fortune Magazine. Rowan said he would surely look him up if and when he gets into New York. As it now stands, his European flights originate in Minneapolis, with a landing enroute at Boston. He did indicate recently, when I visited with him, that he might plan to start a day early on one of his trips and stop off in New York. He would like to meet your son, John, and also accept Dick Cavett's invitation to stop by to renew an earlier friendship that began when Rowan and Dick entered Kindergarten in Grand Island, Nebraska, and continued on through high school here in Lincoln. Dick's parents moved to Lincoln from Grand Island the same year we moved, 1944. Dick's mother, Era Cavett, a very accomplished and popular Junior High English teacher, and my wife, Mildred, were very dear friends until Era's death from cancer when Dick was about ten years of age.

*CB*



July 19 1971

Dear Jack:

I'm sending this note to your office, because that's where you may need it some day, maybe -- if and when you receive a phone call from Rowan Belknap of Minneapolis.

As Belknap cousinships go, he's a relatively close cousin of yours. His father -- E. Clinton Belknap -- is a great grandson of the Elijah who was a brother of my great grandfather Jesse. In past years, Clinton and I have become rather close friends by mail, in our pursuit of family records. Clinton is a semi-retired official in Nebraska with a long and highly distinguished record as an administrator in social service work.

he

Some while ago, he sent me a copy of a bulletin about the recent promotion of his son Rowan. (I'm enclosing a copy, for your files.) As Clinton said the new job would make Rowan do a lot of travelling to Europe, I told him I hoped that you and Rowan might meet in NYC some day.

Yesterday I got another memo from Clinton -- copy enclosed. Only the last paragraph will be of any interest to you.

I hope that you and Rowan manage to meet. If he's anything like his father, he's well worth knowing.

Yours,

Ed



copy



# MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES • P.O. BOX 3800 • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, U.S.A. 55101 • TELEPHONE: 733-1110

## International Division

CABLE ADDRESS: TRIMINCO

March 19, 1971

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective April 1, 1971, Mr. Rowan C. Belknap is promoted to the position of Manager, International Production, Magnetic Products. In this capacity he will be responsible for providing production and technical leadership to foreign subsidiaries in Magnetic Products.

Mr. Belknap joined 3M in 1960 after receiving his Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Nebraska. After experience with the Film and Allied Products Division, closely related to Magnetic Products in both development and manufacturing, he transferred to the Hutchinson, Minnesota, Magnetic Products Plant in 1967. He has since held the positions of Engineering Specialist, Production Supervisor, and most recently, Process and Industrial Engineering Manager.

We are grateful to the Domestic Magnetic Products Division for releasing Mr. Belknap for this important assignment. He will locate in Building 236-1. Messrs. R. F. Granlund and F. J. Watson will report to Mr. Belknap.

*C. W. Pipal*

C. W. Pipal  
Manufacturing Director,  
P.S. Tape, Film, Medical,  
Electrical & Magnetic  
International Group

Five

May 29 1971

Dear Clinton:

My congratulations to you, on the fine promotion of your son Rowan.

In cases of this sort, I always feel that congratulations are not due to the man who gets the promotion, for he has earned it. Rather, I think, they are due to the company that is smart enough to recognize his merit and to the parents who are justified in being proud of it.

I'm curious about the source of his name, Rowan. The only other instance of this name among Belknaps, as far as I've found, was the late Admiral Reginald Rowan Belknap.

I hope he finds an opportunity to visit Sawbridgeworth, which is something that I've not done -- though I've been within a few miles of it. Perhaps you and he would like to know something about the name of this village. It has nothing to do with a saw or a bridge or the value of anything -- and till recently, perhaps still now, the local pronunciation is said to have been "Sapsearch." But maybe that's like the old pronunciation of Cirencester -- which was "Sissister" -- but when you get there nowadays you find the locals calling it ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "Syrencaster" or just "Syren." . . . In the old documents of lawsuits, it was spelled in at least six different ways -- Sabbisford, Sebrigeworth, etc etc etc -- even four different ways in just one document. . . Originally, it is said, an old Anglo-Saxon name translatable as "Sebrig's worth," meaning "Sebrig's enclosure" at a time when it was most unusual for any English land to be enclosed -- but I don't have too much ~~XXXXXX~~ faith in the accuracy of books purporting to show derivations of proper names, for most of them are full of mere conjecture.

are

I suppose what I'm trying to say is that if the old pronunciation still persists, anyone who asks how to get to ~~XXXX~~ Saw-bridge-worth may find that no one knows what he's talking about. I can remember asking about it, once, and being told that there wasn't any such town.

it

I hope that Rowan's travels may take him through New York and thus make possible for him to meet my son John, who is Marketing Director of Fortune Magazine. I'd like to have them know each other, if Rowan is anything like his father.

Thanks for copy of booklet about old Fort Belknap in Texas. I didn't know it ~~Newburgh~~ had been restored. General William Goldsmith Belknap was of the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ family -- the largest known bunch of Belknaps, with 84 Belknaps in 14 households in 1790. His son was the General William Worth Belknap who was Secretary of War under Grant and resigned to avoid impeachment by Congress for participation in ~~XXXXXXX~~ land frauds. Present day historians agree that he was guilty of nothing but ignorance of what his wife was doing behind his back. Which of his three wives? I've never tried to find out. . . Ma Goldsmith's father was a Samuel B. Mother, Mary Goldsmith. This family ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ founded by a Belknap from Woburn, Mass. One member, Capt (or Major?) Isaac, served under Gen Israel Putnam and was the original of Capt Townsend of Townsend's Rangers, in Fenimore Cooper's The Spy. Descended from Abraham's son, ~~IXX~~ Joseph. The Newburgh family is the best known, in genealogy, because some sound work on its genealogy was done in the 1850's by a son-in-law.

From your query about a confusion of Hertfordshire and Essex in what I've written, I suppose my erring fingers tricked me, sometime or other. If you know where, please tell me, so that I can correct my error. . . Sawbridgeworth, of course, is in Hertfordshire (no "s" in the middle; the "s" is only in the abbreviation "Herts" as in Bucks and Berks, ~~XXXXXXXX~~for "shire."). . . . Latton, where Abraham married Mary Stallion, is a few miles south on the creek called River Stort, and in Essex -- as are all the places where A is known to have lived after marriage -- ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Notteswell, North Weald, and Epping where it is said he signed up to come to Massachusetts ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Bay Colony.

I'll begin sending you copies of sheets on descendants of Jonas N B in a day or so. I'm turning them out when I find time. Have several of them completed. Many more to go.

Am getting more and more on descendants of Orin,

Must ask what you have on descendants of Susannah. All I have is record I put together for Fern Martin. Can't remember if I sent you a copy. Maybe you have more than I do.

Just now have noted that I failed to answer your question about ancestry of Wm Goldsmith. You asked for father of his father Samuel. The line was:

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Abraham & Mary  
Joseph and Hannah Meakins (3rd wife)  
Samuel and Mary Josepha Lydia Stearns  
Samuel and Abigail Brooks  
Samuel and Mary Goldsmith.

*Man*  
What you called Samuel Jr was actually Samuel III but not so called..

*2001*



CLINTON

Dec 7 1971

**JOSIAS'S SPELLING OF THE NAME**

A genealogist indulges in speculation at great risk. But a historian must infer and interpret -- else he can't write history.

Everyone to whom I've submitted the facts that I gave you to consider has made the same answer -- that Josias must have been in possession of a document that said that the true name of his family was Belknappe -- and that the fact that the church register at Sawbridgeworth spelled it phonetically as pronounced in 1600, Belknap, whereas Josias had used the spelling often used when the name had a different pronunciation, means that the document could not have been less than 150 or 200 years old. No one has proposed any other solution.

When I come to write the story of the family, I see no way of avoiding the subject of what the spelling used by Josias means.

11-30-1971

Memorandum

To: Carroll Y. Belknap

From: E. Clinton Belknap

Have your additional notations regarding the Belknappe spelling used by Josias, son of Richard Beltoft. I seem somehow to keep missing the point or the key which you have apparently come upon as to how it would be that Josias, seemingly the only literate member of the family would have known how to spell the name "Belknappe" when he wrote his will unless it should be that he had had advanced schooling and had been able to research the matter as a result or that he had traced his land abstract back to a deed showing the switch from ##### Belknappe to Beltoft to hide the family ##### true identity at a time when Sir Robert's wife was under constant harrassment. It could have happened during the speeoximately two year period when Sir Robert had come back into ownership and before King Henry IV unseated Richard ## II. *possibly*

\* \* \* \*

In your memo of 11-23-71, p. 1, next to last paragraph, you comment that the group traveled at an average rate of six miles per day (except for Sundays). According to my rough calculations, the distance from Van Buren County in Iowa to Willamette, Oregon, would likely be well over 1800 miles and allowing 25 travel days per month for a total of 150 days they would have traveled only about 900 miles. A man can walk three miles per hour and undoubtedly they would drive more than 6 miles per day especially on the prairie. When the going got rougher in the mountainous area they may not have made even that much but I do feel that the average must have been closer to 12 miles per day.

E.C.B.

August 22, 1971

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, Riverside, Conn.

From: E. Clinton Belknap, Lincoln, Nebraska

Thanks for your communication of July 19, 1971, and the enclosure note regarding Elijah's service in the War of 1812. This agrees with data already secured from the Federal Archives in previous times. I agree that this may be all that remains of the pay record but I was able to get considerable other information from Elijah's service files in the National Archives such as copy of Petition for Pension, including name of wife, date and place of marriage, Bounty Land Claims, names of officers under whom he served, etc..

I have sent a copy of your letter to Rowan so he will have the information about John. The last I heard from Rowan he is scheduled for two rather extensive trips to Japan yet this year and will likely not be returning to Europe before early 1972. Haven't heard from him since the new Nixon moves. These actions could conceivably alter some plans for foreign activities and modify some <sup>travel</sup> plans.

Have reviewed the 1840 US Census records for Licking County, Ohio, as well as the 1850 US Census records for Licking County, Ohio, and Wapello County, Iowa, and did some review of the 1850 Van Buren County record for Iowa but have been unable to find the Isaac Newton we seek. I note that you suggested a review of the 1830 US Census for Licking County but if you are sure they were in Licking County at that time I wonder what this would give us that we don't already know. Those early Census records are so skimpy as to information and it is really only after one gets up into the 1850s and beyond that they really begin to provide more helpful data such as names and definite age of those listed. If you feel the review of the 1830 records could be of help I shall be glad to secure the microfilm from the El Paso South East Genealogical Library and ~~####~~ check it out.

Am enclosing some of the gleanings we picked up from our review of the records already mentioned. These may or may not be of interest but again may have some bearing on records already assembled by you. We recorded all the Newtons we found listed.

*We'll try to check out Allen Co.  
Illinois for 1840 and 1850 if  
we can get the records.*

*CB  
Did John Sherman finally get his ancestral  
line traced back beyond John Sr?*



Copied from Micro-Film records by E. Clinton Belknap and wife, Mildred

1850 US Census, Van Buren County, Iowa

Dwelling 99, Family 101

David Newton M age 34 Druggist

b. Ohio

Anna F 32

b. Ohio

Alanza F 12

b. Ohio

Jasper M 6

b. Iowa

George M 4

b. Iowa

Louisa Herrin F 2

b. Iowa

1850 us census, Wapello County, Iowa

Dwelling 1194, Family 1194

John Newton M 55 Blacksmith REValue 1000 b. N. # Y.

\* F 36 b. N. Y.

Henry M 10 b. Iowa

Sarah M 9 b. Iowa

Mary F 7 b. Iowa

Isaac M 5 b. Iowa

Jasper M 1 b. Iowa

\* no name carried here, Conwasser had written "Henry" in space, by error, crossed that name out but failed to show replacement.

1840 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Township, Ohio

Elisha Belknap

1 male 20 under 30

1 Femal 20 under 30

1 Female Under 5

Family total 3; 1 in Agri.

1840 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Twsp., Ohio

p. 62

Gamaliel Garlinghouse

1 Male under 5 2 # Females 15 under 20

1 Male 10 under 15 1 Female 20 under 30

1 Male # 20 under 30 1 Female 40 under 50

1 Male 40 under 50

Total in Family - 8; 3 in Agri.

1840 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Twsp, Ohio

p. 70

Lacy Belknap

2 Males under 5

1 Male 5 under 10

1 Male 30 under 40

1 Female 20 under 30

Copied from Micro-Film records, by E. Clinton Belknap and wife, Mildred

1840 US Census, Licking County, Jersey Township, Ohio

p. 73

Gamaliel Belknap

1 Male 20 under 30

2 Females Under 5

1 Female 20 under 30

2 in Agri

1840 US Census, Licking County, Jersey Township, Ohio

p. 74

Fores Belknap

1 Male under 5

1 Female 5 under 10

1 Male 5 under 10

2 Females 15 under 20

1 Male 10 under 15

1 Female 40 under 50

1 Male 20 under 30

1 Male 50 under 60

Total in Family 9; 2 in Agri.

1850 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Township, Ohio

Elisha Belknap M age 38 Farmer RE Value 3662 b. N. Y.

Rosina F 37 b. Vermont

Lucy Ann F 16 b. Ohio

Mariah F 7 b. Ohio

Mary F 3 b. Ohio

Charles M 1 b. Ohio

~~1850 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Township, Ohio~~

~~# 175~~

Ebenezer Newton M 43 farmer b. Vermont

Phebe ### F 50 b. Vermont

C. H. M 15 b. Vermont

1850 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Township, Ohio

Josiah Eastman M 72 Farmer b. Vermont

Abigail F 66 b. N. J.

Frederick M 20 Laborer b. Vermont

1850 US Census, Licking County, St. Albans Township, Ohio

Gamaliel Garlinghouse M 58 Farmer RE value 2200 b. N. Y.

Esther F 53 b. N. Y.

Orrin M 20 School teacher b. Ohio

Riley M 11 b. Ohio

Copied from Micro-Film records by E. Clinton Belknap and wife, Mildred

1850 US Census, Licking County, Jersey Township, Ohio

#635

E. B. Belknap M 31 Farmer  
Mary F 24  
Augustus M 2  
Edwin M 1/12

b. N. Y.  
b. Ohio  
b. Ohio  
b. Ohio

1850 US Census Licking County, Jersey Township, Ohio

Family number would be somewhere between 635 and 749

Date census taken was shown as 12 August 1850

Lacy Belknap M 39 Farmer

b. N. Y.

Deliza (or Eliza) F 35

b. N. Y.

William M 16 Tailor

b. N. Y.

Wilson (Some question

re spelling of name) M 14

b. N. Y.

Westley M 11

b. N. Y.

Cynthia F 9

b. N. Y.

Warren M 2

b. N. Y.

1850 US Census, Licking County, Jersey Township, Ohio

# 749

Forres Belknap M 62 RE value 1000

b. Mass

Sarah F 55

b. N. Y.

John M 20

b. Ohio

Joseph M 17

b. Ohio

Amy F 14

b. Ohio

Eli S M 12

b. Ohio



Note 8/27/71

To Carroll y Belknap  
From E Clinton Belknap

In retrospect I think I  
noted at the bottom of  
my memo of 8/22/71  
that we would check out  
the U.S. censuses for Allen  
County, Illinois, for Isaac  
Newton. This was, of course,  
in error. Should have  
said Allen Co., Ohio.

CB.

September 19, 1971

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, 25 Club Road, Riverside, Conn.  
From : E. Clinton Belknap, 2019 Harwood, Lincoln, Nebr.

Just a note to let you know that we secured micro film rolls covering the Allen County, Ohio, US Census for both 1840 and 1850. We carefully reviewed both films this afternoon at the city library but found no Isaac Newton. As a matter of fact we found only one Newton. That was in the 1840 census in Shawnee Township where a Abrather Newton, age 30 - 40, was carried with a family of six vchildren and his wife, age 30 - 40. The ages of the children were: Males: 1 under 5, 1.5 under 10, and 1.10 under 15. His three daughters fell in the same age breakdown as the males.


We found no Belknaps in either census record.

Sorry I couldn't be more fruitful in this Isaac Newton search.

Have been reviewing some of our correspondence and especially your memo of August 6, 1968, in which you advance a theory that perhaps the name Beltoft was changed to Belknappe, and Josias knew how to spell it as it had been spelled at an earlier time because the family name had in fact been Belknappe at a prior time in the family history.

On the last two sheets of that communication you stated that you had written a postscript the day before and had then decided to present the fact you had at hand and then repeat the question "In what possible way could ~~this~~ this villagers, Josias, have known how to spell Belknap (Belknappe) in 1600?"

I somehow got the impression that there was some hidden mystery here for which I had to dig. Thus my memo of August 24, 1970. But all the time your very plausible conjecture as to the answer was there as plain as could be. A fellow really has to work at it to be as stupid as I've been in this insatnace! Do think your suggested theory makes a tremendous amount of sense. It has always been difficult for me to believe that the surname would have been changed to Belknap from Beltoft without family historical justification. Do you have ~~any~~ any reasn to believe your theory <sup>now</sup> now than in 1968?



CLINTON:

11/21/71

Have you considered the fact that of all the <sup>later</sup> Sawbridgeworth Beltofts the only one who was literate enough to sign his name was Josias, son of Bennet?

His father, Richard, signed by mark.

So did his brother, Bennet.

So did all of Bennet's sons, including Abraham.

As to the earlier men in the family at Sawbridgeworth (Richard and his sons John and Laurence) the records that have survived tell us nothing on this point, for none of these documents required a signature. Lacking direct evidence, all that can be said is that the odds were heavily against their being literate.

I'm not sure I mentioned this subject in what I wrote to you long ago.

\*\*\*\*\*

It may be helpful to add a few additional facts to the record, for your consideration.

(1) The last occurrence of Belknappe <sup>in</sup> that has been found is in a document written in Latin in the reign of Henry VIII -- by which time the name had become Belknap. In that document, naming descendants of Hamon (grandson of the Judge) the name of Hamonis given as "Hamo de Belknappe." -- and the spelling Belknap is used for his descendants. Date of that document, circa 1520. *or a little later*

(2) I can think of no way in which Josias could have seen that court document or any other old document in which the spelling Belknappe occurred. It was buried in the files of the Visitations of Heralds.

(3) The only place where a similar spelling might have been seen in the time of Josias was on the tomb of Nicholas Wotton, in Canterbury Cathedral, as the long Latin inscription on it names his mother as "Anna Belknappa" though all English records of the time call her Anne Belknap. I'm not sure of the date when that tomb was built; doubt it was before Josias died, but it might have been. Even so, not a likely source for the spelling Josias used. *possibly*

(4) In probating the will of Bennet, his wife Grace and son Josias gave his name as Benediot Belknappe, and it was so spelled by the clerk in noting the probate. But *granddaughter of Hamon* his wife and children had already buried Bennet as "Belknap" and no recurrence of "Belknappe" appears in any later record of the Sawbridgeworth family or its descendants in Essex and London.

Reading what I wrote in paragraphs 1 and 2, I see that I failed to mention that Bernau (HMB's record agent in England) found that there was one instance in which the spelling "Belknappe" was used for a living Belknap in the reign of Henry VIII. In the period 1504 to 1515, the plaintiff in a suit about land in Faulkbourn, Essex, was named as "Edward Belknappe, esquire." This man (Sir Edward Belknap, grandson of Sir Hamon and brother of Anne) was a contemporary of the first Richard Beltoft and was the last surviving male descendant of the Judge -- died 1529/21, without issue -- a soldier in Henry VIII's senseless wars in France, resident of Warwickshire, custodian of Warwick Castle. Always named "Belknap" in other contemporary documents. It's safe to assume that the spelling "Belknappe" in this instance was that of a lawyer's clerk. No way in which Josias could have seen this lawsuit record in 1600; it would long since have been tied up in a bundle and stored out of sight.



2019 Harwood St  
Lincoln, Neb.  
10-20-71

Dear Carroll:

Can you please give  
me the date of Henry Wyckoff  
Becknap's death? Found  
the date of his birth in Who  
was Who but his date of  
death was not given.

Clint

18 May  
1860

ECB from CYB

11/8/71

Please forgive delay. I was sidelined for a while by a minor accident.

I can't give you a full answer on date of death of HWB. Somewhere among hundreds of fragments not yet entered in my record file, there's a note on that date; but I don't know where to look for it. Till I run across it, when as and if, all I can say is that I recall the year as 1946. . . Just another example of my failure to keep pace with the collection of new data. I hunt for it, find it, then switch to the next most urgent puzzle == without taking time to make systematic entries.

Some day, I must stop the search and concentrate entirely on what I have found to date -- leaving hundreds of problems unsolved, alas.

\*\*\*\*\*

I'm interested by your cryptic comment about my question on how come Josias knew how to spell Belknappe and spelled it in a way that had been unused for many years. You say "the answer was plain as could be" but you don't say what you think it was. (You memo Sept 19)

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks for all the Census data (memo Aug 22). It all helps -- even when negative.

Can't recall whether or not I told you we found census record of Elisha in 1820, before he left NY State for Ohio -- near Lockport.

\*\*\*\*\*

You ask about John Sherman -- "did he trace his line beyond John Sr?" That wasn't the problem. The task was identification of a John, Eli, and Timothy in Oneida County NY early 1800's, and their relation to (a) John Sr of Holland Mass and (b) Forris of Licking Co. Ohio. Pretty well solved -- including finding present-day descendants of Eli and Timothy, who were brothers of Forris. Not wholly solved on identity of the John Belknap in Oneida County -- whether he was John Jr or John III -- but proved that he could not have been John Sr -- and along the way proof of error on marriages in this branch in published VR and local histories. Very complicated and time consuming. Gap still remaining, what became of John Jr between 1793 and 1803? Have exhausted all sources I can think of. . . Don't yet know where and when John Jr died. Probably never will -- except by mere chance. . . One result of this task: transferred one large batch of entries from this branch to a totally different branch, in correcting a major error by HWB. . . As I said, very time consuming.

CLINTON from CYB

March 21 1972

"James Garlinghouse married Elanor (sic) Hunt, a sister to Aaron." Walbridge, p 56.

I recently received a batch of material from a Garlinghouse descendant, dealing primarily with descendants of the other two Garlinghouses in Ontario County: John and Benjamin. It also showed children of James and Eleanor just as I have it.

Part of proof of accuracy of that list is full identification of children of John and Benjamin -- by Gladys Grey and others.

I enclose copy of something that shows father of Sir Robert as John Belknap -- excerpt from Visitations of Heralds (changed with verifying or disproving pedigrees) in time of Henry VIII. . . It's accurate on genealogy, slipshod on history. . . . The consistent spelling "Belknap" had become standard by that time, regardless of spelling used in earlier documents -- just as "Butler" had supplanted the earlier "Boteler" (which was a court office meaning just what it seems to mean).



March 14, 1972

Memorandum

To: C. Y. Belknap

From: E. C. Belknap

This will acknowledge with thanks yours of March 6, 7 and 10, 1972. Will get back to you later on the first two but at the moment am anxious to pursue your listing of James Garlinghouse as the father of Jane the wife of your Jesse. ~~XX~~ I am able to follow the elimination of "Elijah" Garlinghouse from consideration and, given the maiden name of the mother of Jane as Eleanor Hunt can tie this in with James Garlinghouse but where did you get the information that Jane's mother's maiden name was Eleanor Hunt? ~~XX~~ I am interested because documentation of this information would give me rather firm ground for assuming that Elijah's wife Catharine was probably also the daughter of James Garlinghouse and Eleanor Hunt, since it seems to have been fairly well established that Catharine and Jane were sisters.

*CB.*

# SPEED MEMO

<b>To</b>	Carroll Y. Belknap 25 Club Road, Riverside, Conn ., 06878	
<b>From</b>	E. Clinton Belknap 2019 Harwood Street, Lincoln, Nebraska	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	68502	<b>REFER TO</b>  <b>DATE</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">22 Feb. 1972</div>

## MESSAGE

Have sent a follow-up note to Nancy Halbert, Halberts Inc., Bath, Ohio regarding my letter to her under date of 2 January, 1972, a copy of which I sent you at the time.

Was visiting with a Hermanson family Sunday night and they had received a similar come on and follow up report from this same concern. Sounds like it is purely a money making venture and I doubt that we ever hear from them in response to the special inquiry.

Please refer to the enclosed chart and tell me if by any chance you may now have any of the death dates missing as indicated by the check marks at the right of the chart.

SIGNED

C.B.

**REPLY**

TO

DATE

SIGNED

ECB from CYB

Feb 28 1972

Not surprised that you get no reply from Halberts. Neither did I, when I offered to give them -- free -- accurate information to replace their stuff. Have referred to Bureau of Census their statement on census figures.

About dates on your lineage sheet:

Death of Abraham -- 1643, not 1641.

Date of death, Mary Stallinn -- no record known. Presumed dead by date when Joseph, Samuel, Hannah sold "their thirds" of land formerly owned by Abraham. But may have died before son Samuel (presumably her main support after Abraham's death) got married and left Lynn.

Death, Mary Dickinson -- no record known. Last known date for her in June 8, 1759 -- judgement in her favor, as executrix of Samuel's will.

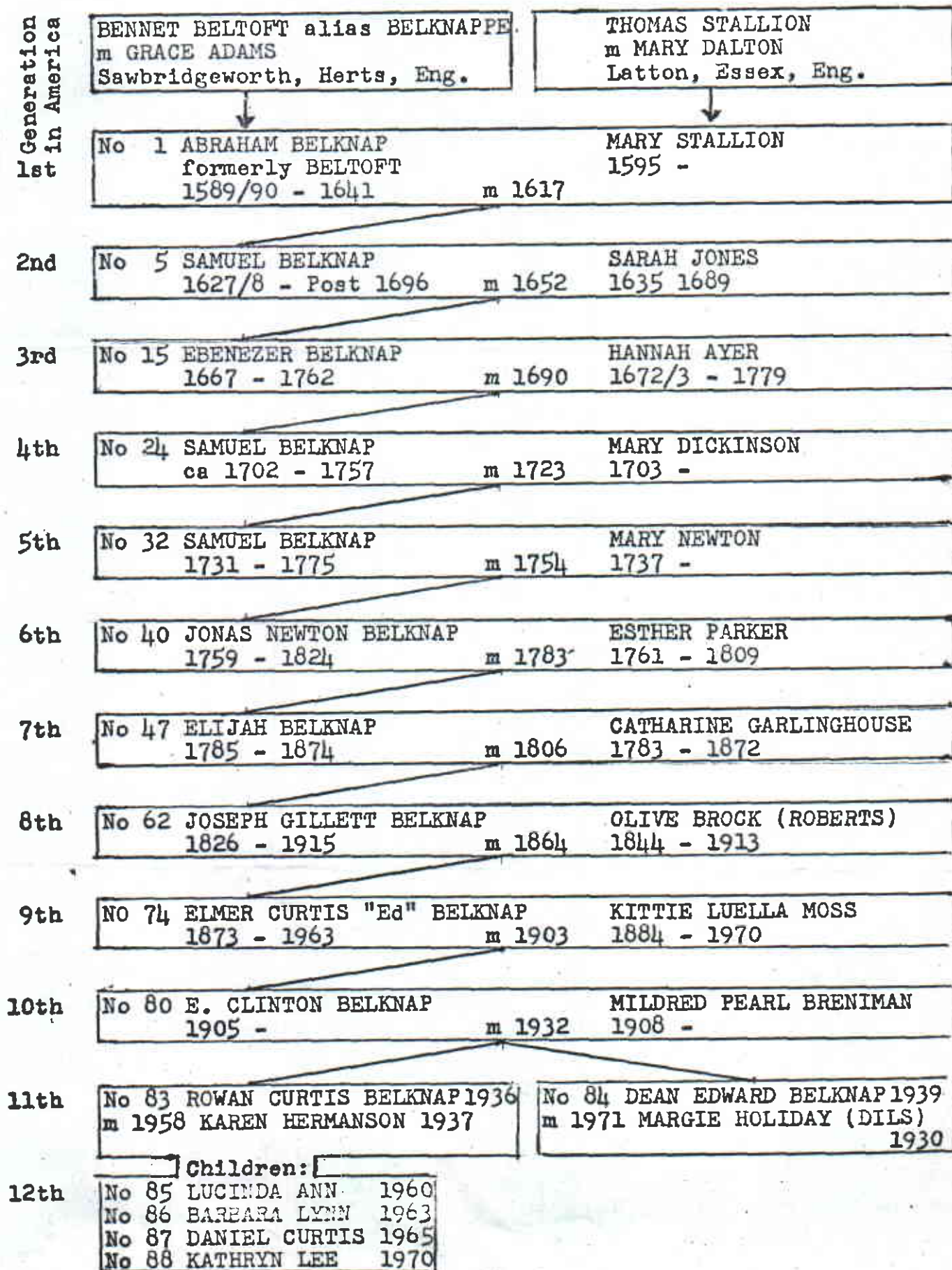
Death, Mary Newton -- nothing known after dismissed from church at Belchertown, after husband's death. But George May's surmise that she may have been the Mrs Elijah Parker who died at Gorham might be right. Descendants of Stiles Parker said Elijah Sr married a "Miss Belknap" after death of his first wife Martha Stiles about 1792 or earlier -- and I know of no Miss Belknap with whom he could have been in contact. And the land at Gorham that Jonas sold after the death of that Mrs Elijah might well have come to him on her death. And age given for her, at time of death, was same as correct age for Mary on that date. No proof -- just interesting "coincidences," which warrant searching for real evidence of Elijah's second marriage -- but I've found nothing yet.

her  
QUERY: "Olive Brook (Roberts). Which was ~~MMK~~ maiden name?

Same query: "Margie Holiday (Dils).  
C4A



# A BELKNAP GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE



# A BELKNAP GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE

Generation  
1st  
in America

BENNET BELTOFT alias BELKNAPPE  
m GRACE ADAMS  
Sawbridgeworth, Herts, Eng.

THOMAS STALLION  
m MARY DALTON  
Latton, Essex, Eng.

No 1 ABRAHAM BELKNAP  
formerly BELTOFT  
1589/90 - ~~1611~~

MARY STALLION  
1595 -

m 1617

2nd

No 5 SAMUEL BELKNAP  
1627/8 - Post 1696

SARAH JONES  
1635 1689

m 1652

3rd

No 15 EBENEZER BELKNAP  
1667 - 1762

HANNAH AYER  
1672/3 - 1779

m 1690

4th

No 24 SAMUEL BELKNAP  
ca 1702 - 1757

MARY DICKINSON  
1703 -

m 1723

5th

No 32 SAMUEL BELKNAP  
1731 - 1775

MARY NEWTON  
1737 -

m 1754

6th

No 40 JONAS NEWTON BELKNAP  
1759 - 1824

ESTHER PARKER  
1761 - 1809

m 1783

7th

No 47 ELIJAH BELKNAP  
1785 - 1874

CATHARINE GARLINGHOUSE  
1783 - 1872

m 1806

8th

No 62 JOSEPH GILLETT BELKNAP  
1826 - 1915

OLIVE BROCK (ROBERTS)  
1844 - 1913

m 1864

9th

No 74 ELMER CURTIS "Ed" BELKNAP  
1873 - 1963

KITTIE LUELLA MOSS  
1884 - 1970

m 1903

10th

No 80 E. CLINTON BELKNAP  
1905 -

MILDRED PEARL BRENIMAN  
1908 -

m 1932

11th

No 83 ROWAN CURTIS BELKNAP 1936  
m 1958 KAREN HERMANSON 1937

No 84 DEAN EDWARD BELKNAP 1939  
m 1971 MARGIE HOLIDAY (DILS)  
1930

12th

Children:

No 85 LUCINDA ANN 1960  
No 86 BARBARA ANN 1963  
No 87 DANIEL CURTIS 1965  
No 88 KATHRYN LEE 1970

CLINTON:

Bless you for sending me your draft on family history. It led me to discover an error in my work -- as shown in enclosures herewith.

*Bill*



CLINTON

3/7/72

Oh well, I said it was hard to state a fact correctly, didn't I?

This morning, re-reading what I sent to you yesterday, I saw something that drove me back to original documents -- copies of HWB material.

My point (32) on Benedict and Benedictus -- all wrong, I find, as result of an error in copying that I made long ago.

FACTS: Will of Josias named him "Bennet Belknappe" and "Bennett Belknappe" and bears notation that probate was granted to "Benedict Belknap." I enclose copy of HWB's typed copy of this will.

FACTS: The spelling "Benedictus" was used <sup>(only)</sup> when Bennet's wife and son probated his will -- ("They then giving his surname as Belknapp though the will they brought with them to prove reads Beltoft." Letter from Bernau to HWB, May 1912: copy enclosed.)

So I now make a correction in my sheet headed Sequence of Change of Name. Corrected copy is enclosed. Also a corrected copy of my sheet on Abraham.

+++++

NOTE ON WILL OF JOSIAS:

As printed in NEHGS Register 1914, the signatures are run together so as to make it appear that Josias was a witness to his own will. . . The enclosed copy of the will as typed by HWB's secretary shows signature of Josias at the right, as normal for testator, with a separated "X" indicating that Hadswells signed by mark. But this ~~typing~~ typing did not follow exactly the typing I saw in Bernau's typed copy of the will. In that copy there was a much greater separation for the signature of Josias. This may sound petty -- but it isn't. The fact that Josias signed in full, not by mark, is something that has to be taken into consideration in thinking about his change of name.

The full copy of the will includes the customary religious introduction -- which was omitted in the NEHGS Register version, as is normal in such publication. The presence of this introduction can be taken as a clear indication that Josias dictated his will. A dying man would not write this hackneyed conventional thing. It would be written only by someone who was accustomed to drafting wills. The colloquial wording of the rest of the will is quite different -- even to the point of sounding broken and uneven. It sounds like notes jotted down from dictation -- quite unlike wording of other wills in the records. And it can be surmised that the writer, from dictation, was the John Lawlye who signed as witness?

CLINTON:

3/6/72

You have asked me to comment on your "Historical Background."

Long ago, when I was trying to learn English history, the professor who wrote the textbook ~~MAKES~~ looked up from his notes one day and said: "Gentleman, the hardest thing on earth is to state a simple fact correctly."

Sadly, from my own experience, I know how right he was. Yet I'm going to try to do what you asked. In doing this, I'll differ at some points with the piece in the DNB -- which was written sometime back in the 19th century and cannot be trusted except when confirmed by other and later sources. (For instance, it accepts the mythical tradition about the Roll of Battle Abbey -- long since demolished by 20th Century research.)

Here goes:

(1) ~~Same~~ Warwickshire is not in SE England . . . I have found no record of any member of the old Belknap family living in Hertfordshire, though I have hopefully sought for it. If you have found it, please tell me where. . . There was then no county of London -- and isn't really one today; the "administrative county of London," today, isn't a true geographical entity like the real counties and shires.

(2) The term "nobility" means peers with at least baronages. The Judge and his male descendants were mere knights -- title not hereditary. It's OK to call them "the knightly line" as some people do -- but not "noble."

(3) Not "the best known" but "the only known."

(4) Not "lord" of the manor -- just its owner.

(4½) I have found no record of the first name of the lawyer who may have been Robert's father.

(5) Only reference to him is in year-book for 1346-7, as far as I know -- not 1343.

(6) Robert served under both Edward III and Richard II. He was already CJ of Common Pleas when Richard II (10 yrs old) was crowned in 1377. He was knighted by Richard later, 1385.

(48) (7) Service as a page was not "training for later knighthood." It was merely the means by which middle-class father/s (like Chaucer's wine merchant father and Robert's presumed lawyer father) sought ~~to~~ ~~to~~ obtain hope of future advancement for their sons. If it is true that Robert was a page "along with Chaucer" as is said in Worthies of England, then Robert was a page in the household of Prince Lionel -- then heir apparent to the throne, who died before his father did.

(9) In 1374, Robert was not yet a knight -- and wouldn't be for 11 years more.

(10) The term "the Judge" is present-day usage -- not "came to be."

(11) You have said "coast of Thanet," as the DNB does. But this won't be clear to your lay readers. Better, I think, to use and explain the terminology of Robert's time: "the coast of the Isle of Thanet, the northeastern part of Kent which was then ~~separated~~ separated from the mainland by rivers."

(12) Better explain for lay readers the meaning of "King's Sergeant," I think. This was an appointment for young men who were to be trained to become judges -- as distinct from those who would become lawyers. I wish we had it in this country today. . . . As



this sort of trainee, Robert would participate in minor assizes.

(13) Not "already" but "long since" -- beginning with Henry II and Thomas a Becket. The dispute with Rome was centuries old in 1374.

(14) In 1381, Robert (not yet "Sir") was sent into lower Essex after the back of the rebellion of the peasants (often called "Wat Tyler's Rebellion" but more accurately termed "the Rising," as peasants in 26 counties took part) had ~~hardly~~ been broken. His assignment was not to stop the rebellion but to punish those who had rebelled. He took with him his own clerks and jurors, all set to render predetermined verdicts on those who might be apprehended. But he didn't have a big enough force to do the job. The men in fishing villages north of London beheaded ~~some~~ some of his clerks and jurors and made Robert go down on his knees and vow never again to undertake a punitive mission like this. Not one of his best moments. . . . The other Chief Justice -- Tressilian, CJ of the King's Bench -- was meanwhile murdering hundreds of ex-rebels quite judicially. (Much fuller accounts than the one in DNB can be found in any good English history book.)

(15) Not "as Chief Justice" -- but "as one of the two Chief Justices" -- a point not always made clear by modern historians.

(16) The Nottingham meeting was not a "council." It was an ad hoc gathering called by Richard to do his will. Also, I think you should give the name of the Duke of Ireland -- Robert de ~~Barre~~ Vere -- as that's what lay readers will be more likely to recognize.

(17) Where do you get the adjective "embarrassed"? He wasn't.

(18) "along with the other Justices attending the session at Nottingham" -- should add: "except Tressilian, C J of the Court of King's Bench, who had already been executed."

(19) I think it important to say "intercession by the Bishops and the Queen ("Good Queen Anne")" She had great influence -- more than the Bishops did, at that moment.

(20) The fortunes of Sir Robert and his descendants depended greatly on who was in power. After "In 1397" you might well add, I think, some such phrase as "when Richard II regained control over Parliament."

(21) Not Bo/llingham -- but Bolingbroke.

(22) Do you have authority for saying "and the justices returned to exile"? To the best of my knowledge all that happened in 1399 was that Parliament repealed the act that had restored the judges' property to them. No more exile, I believe.

(23) I know of no authority for "or.... to go his way alone." Maybe you've found something I haven't seen.

(24) "Oldest son Hamon." Very misleading. Hamon was the only known son of the John who was the only known son of the Judge. DNB makes him look like a son of the Judge, by misnaming later men. But he was grandson. . . I stress "only known" ~~because there are two contemporary men whom I have not yet identified: Symon Belknap of "Knole" in Kent (at Sevenoaks, what is now called "Knole Park") -- and a John Belknap at Marsham in Norfolk, date not known. Either or both might be sons or grandson of the Judge.~~

(25) More reason for saying "only known." The Joan Belknap who was maid of honor to Katherine of Valois was undoubtedly of the same generation as Hamon i.e., was



a granddaughter of the Judge (not the daughter Joan who was ancestress of Shakespeare) but her parentage has not yet been found. May have been Hamon's sister-- or his niece? Nobody knows. Instead of "descendant: I'd call her "a granddaughter."

Incidentally -- "had come back into favor" might well read "and remained so from then on: Hamon became treasurer of Normandy under Henry V and married a sister of the treasurer of England -- and so on and on -- a long record of prominence of the Judge's descendants for centuries. (But doubtless you don't want all the list.)

(27) The words I crossed out seem to be confusing.

(28) "Shortly after " is not correct. Sentence should be reworded to show that Sir Edward was the last male bearer of the Judge's name, as far as is now known.

(29) "Shortly before 1600" is in error. The first known use of the Belknap name by the Sawbridgeworth family was in the will of Josias on 28 Feb 1599 Old Style 1600 New Style. ~~xx~~ And there was no "emergence" as Belknap till after death of Bennet in 1630. *Jan.*

(30) I suggest delete "dropped the Beltoft name and." All we know is that he used the name Belknappe on that date. We do not know when he began using that name. But it is obvious that his legatees (especially his brother in law) must have known him as Belknappe, else the will would be meaningless.

(31) Misleading. I think, to call Bennet a "Belknap (Beltoft)." He was simply a Beltoft who once -- and once only -- was forced to call himself "Belknappe."

(32) When ~~Josias~~ ~~will~~ dictated his will, he named Bennet "Benedict" -- ~~no "us."~~ When the will was probated, Bennet swore that he was "Benedictus" -- ~~with "us."~~

(33) Bennet did not attest that his "real name" was Belknappe. The probate record merely says he swore he was Benedictus Belknappe. There is nowhere in existence any known record that says or implies greater authenticity for Belknap, nor any explicit or implicit disavowal of Beltoft.

at Sawbridgeworth

(34) "Belknappe" appears only twice -- in will of Josias -- in probate of that will. Church register shows Bennet buried as Belknap.

(35) The will of Josias made no mention of an "Abraham Belknappe." Our Abraham was named in will of Bennet -- and as Abraham Beltoft.

(36) The record shows plainly that Beltoft and Belknap were never "used interchangeably" by the Sawbridgeworth people

(37) On all such attempts to arrive at a "meaning" by pseudo-philology, I have to agree with the editor of NEHG Register. In rejecting a manuscript by Dick Taylor, he said that the Register doesn't publish "such twaddle."

(38) There was only one Lawrence -- ~~Richard Lawrence~~ died when his son Richard (father of Abraham) was about 5. Read lawsuits on "Curreants" and "Nidallies." Bernau was wrong. Moriarty (greatest American authority on English ancestry) agreed with H&B on this point.

(37) I wish I could dissuade you from attempting to talk about the "meaning" of the name. When you complete your job, I'd like to see you put copies of it in such genealogical institutions as NEMGS and Essex Institute, etc., as I intend to do with my comparable piece on my branch of the family. Accurate work is much needed, there, to offset the mass of erroneous stuff -- for the guidance of future searchers. Unfortunately -- or really fortunately in most instances -- this sort of thing discredits a whole document in the eyes of experienced workers, unless the origin of the name can be traced directly to a known source that is beyond question. Speculation about "possible meanings" is regarded as the mark of the uninformed amateur.

(Believe me, I'm being tactful. The words that professionals use in commenting on such efforts are really insulting.)

(38) There was only one Lawrence. Perhaps you have been influenced by HWB's footnote about Bernau's opinion that the second Richard was probably a grandson rather than a son. HWB rejected that view but cited it in a courteous footnote. G. Andrews Moriarty, the foremost American authority on English genealogy -- he was really great -- reviewed all of HWB's documents and agreed with him on this point. Unfortunately, I don't now have the letters in HWB's files, on this subject, as I returned all HWB material to Essex, after making copies of what I needed." But I recall the facts very clearly.

2-29-72  
MEMORANDUM

To: Carroll Y. Belknap, Riverside, Conn.  
From: E. Clinton Belknap, Lincoln, Nebraska

Have prepared the attached as a preface to the  
compilation of my particular lineage.

If and as you may have time I will appreciate it  
if you will glance it over and offer any criticism  
you may have.

CB.



E. CLINTON BELKNAP  
GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE

This is a compilation of the paternal ancestral lineage of the author, E. Clinton Belknap, of Lincoln, Nebraska. It extends back over a period of some ten generations in America, beginning with the immigrant, Abraham Belknap, whose origin was in Sawbridgeworth, Hertford County, England, and who settled in Lynn, Massachusetts by, or possibly slightly before, 1637. It is the culmination of a project begun as a hobby more than twenty-five years ago - a project which has required an increasing amount of time, correspondence, and research in more recent years.

Literally scores of individuals have graciously assisted in the endeavor - some only after considerable urging - while others have readily gone out of their way to be of help. Our inquiries have frequently prompted members of the family to take time to assemble and record accurate data concerning their own segment of the family history which might otherwise have been neglected and eventually perhaps lost to posterity. Thus, they have served themselves as well as this compiler.

Among those to whom we are most deeply indebted, other than the compiler's father, the late Elmer Curtis "Ed" Belknap No 74, and brothers Glen Noble Belknap No 82, Hay Springs, Nebraska, and Ernest Lee Belknap No 81, Greeley, Colorado, are: Mrs. Jane E. (M.R.) Belknap, Des Moines, Iowa; the late Anna McCormack Belknap No 70, of Cedar Vale, Kansas; Sophia Belknap Eudy No 66-6, of Cisco, Texas, and Mr. Carroll York Belknap (CYB) of Riverside, Connecticut, upon whom we have leaned most heavily. We have also drawn rather generously upon the writings and records of the well known Belknap genealogist, the late Henry Wyckoff Belknap (HWB).

Carroll Belknap, a retired market analyst and sales consultant, has exhibited great interest in the Belknap family history and has in recent years devoted almost full time to the compilation of an accurate record of all branches of the family in America. He is a direct descendant of Jesse Belknap 1792-1881, who was a brother of the compiler's great grandfather, Elijah Belknap No 47. Both Jesse and Elijah were sons of the Revolutionary War soldier, Jonas N. Belknap No 40, and grandsons of Samuel Belknap No 32, also a Revolutionary War soldier, who died at Cambridge, Massachusetts, 18 June 1775, in the service of his country. Henry Wyckoff Belknap, unmarried, devoted much time to recording the ancestral lineage of the American Belknaps. Among other endeavors, he served as Secretary of Essex Institute in Boston and Curator of its museum from 1918 to 1931.

Very sincere credit must also go to the compiler's patient and many talented wife, Mildred B. Belknap (See Family Group No 80) for her help in researching U.S. Census microfilm records as well as other documents and for typing the Family History summaries included in this compilation.

# A BELKNAP GENEALOGICAL LINEAGE

Generation 1st in America	BENNET BELTOFT alias BELKNAPPE. m GRACE ADAMS Sawbridgeworth, Herts, Eng.		THOMAS STALLION m MARY DALTON Latton, Essex, Eng.	
	No 1 ABRAHAM BELKNAP formerly BELTOFT 1589/90 - 1641	m 1617	MARY STALLION 1595 -	
	No 5 SAMUEL BELKNAP 1627/8 - Post 1696	m 1652	SARAH JONES 1635 1689	
	No 15 EBENEZER BELKNAP 1667 - 1762	m 1690	HANNAH AYER 1672/3 - 1779	
	No 24 SAMUEL BELKNAP ca 1702 - 1757	m 1723	MARY DICKINSON 1703 -	
	No 32 SAMUEL BELKNAP 1731 - 1775	m 1754	MARY NEWTON 1737 -	
	No 40 JONAS NEWTON BELKNAP 1759 - 1824	m 1783	ESTHER PARKER 1761 - 1809	
	No 47 ELIJAH BELKNAP 1785 - 1874	m 1806	CATHARINE GARLINGHOUSE 1783 - 1872	
	No 62 JOSEPH GILLETT BELKNAP 1826 - 1915	m 1864	OLIVE BROCK (ROBERTS) 1844 - 1913	
	No 74 ELMER CURTIS "Ed" BELKNAP 1873 - 1963	m 1903	KITTIE LUELLA MOSS 1884 - 1970	
	No 80 E. CLINTON BELKNAP 1905 -	m 1932	MILDRED PEARL BRENIMAN 1908 -	
	No 83 ROWAN CURTIS BELKNAP 1936 m 1958 KAREN HERMANSON 1937	No 84 DEAN EDWARD BELKNAP 1939 m 1971 MARGIE HOLIDAY (DILS) 1930		
Children:				
No 85 LUCINDA ANN	1960			
No 86 BARBARA LYNN	1963			
No 87 DANIEL CURTIS	1965			
No 88 KATHRYN LEE	1970			

## NUMBERING SYSTEM USED IS ASSIGNING INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATIONS

More complete data on individuals in the direct ancestral line shown on the preceding page will be found in the following pages under Family Group and Family History record numbers indicated. Beginning with the Jonas N. Belknap, No 40, family, some auxiliary records of other than direct line members are included with a rather complete compilation of the descendants of Elijah Belknap No 47, through the ninth, and even later generations of this particular line of Belknaps in America.

In assigning numbers for individual and family group record purposes, full numbers without prefix or suffix, have been provided for those in the direct line outlined and for each member of their own immediate families, such as Jonas N. Belknap No 40, and his children, Samuel No 46, through Orin No 53; Joseph Gillett Belknap No 62, and his many children beginning with Ahijah "Jack" Belknap No 64, oldest child by his first wife, to and including Daisy Belknap Wood No 79, youngest child by his second marriage.

Branches from the direct line shown have been given the full number assigned to the head of this branch, plus a suffix number, usually in chronological order but not necessarily so when some additional units have come to light after other auxiliary units have already been identified and assigned their numbers. Thus, the descendants of Elisha No 49, brother of Elijah No 47, are assigned 49-1, 49-2, 49-3, etc. The suffix numbers continue to grow as the auxiliary family record increases, but the prime whole number ahead of the suffix will always indicate from which direct line member the family or individual sprang.

Reference numbers at the top of each Family Group sheet list the lineal ancestry identification of this particular family back to Abraham No 1, the original founder of the Belknap family in America. Sources of information are identified in connection with each Family Group sheet. By noting and pursuing the identification number (listed in the far left hand margin) for the respective children listed on any given Family Group sheet, one can follow generations subsequent to the family record shown. For example, listed in the far left margin of the Clinton Belknap No 80 Family Group, will be found the assigned individual numbers of this family's two children, Rowan Curtis Belknap No 83, and Dean Edward Belknap No 84, whose subsequent Family Groups will be listed under these son's respective numbers.

Since this is a Belknap genealogical compilation, the listing of descendants has been confined to those family groups carrying the name of Belknap first, as the head of the family; second, as the maiden name of the wife in the immediate family; or third, as the parent of one or the other of these two.

With the original purpose of this compiler being to pass on to his children a more complete record of family lineage and history than had previously been available, numerous individual notations may sometimes follow a certain entry on the Family History sheets. This is done to more specifically identify sources or background and thus give an even broader base for subsequent research, if and as desired, by those who follow.



March 28, 1972

To: CYB  
From: ECB

Have your memo regarding the search for documentation that Jonas' daughter Cynthia married Isaac Newton. Am afraid I'm of no help. We have checked census after census trying to locate Isaac after he was in Kentucky but with no success.

I'm sure you are right about Ohio not having goo early records because I ran into this trying to get information on Elijah. There is one thing that was done ~~in~~ Iowa under WPA (Works Progress Administration) back in the 30s which just might have been done in Ohio also and if so they might have information in the State Historical Library concerning dates from tombstones or other death or cemetery records. Iowa made a census of the graves in the various cemeteries across the state, from both large and small burial spots and catalogued the data in the State Historical Library. Might just be possible that Ohio did some such thing also. <sup>Would</sup> at least be worth an inquiry.

Sorry I can't be of more help on the subject

Here is some random material we have picked up from census records on families by the name of Newton:

1850 Licking County, Ohio, US Census, family # 175  
Ebinizer Newton, male, 43, farmer, showed birth place as Vermont ~~as~~ did his wife, Phebe ~~age~~ 50, and a son C. H. (sic).

1850 Wapello County, Iowa, US Census, listed a John Newton, 55, born in "N. Y.". He was a blacksmith. His wife, 36, had also been born in "N. Y.". He had five children, Henry 10, Sarah 9, Mary 7, Isaac 5 and Jasper 1. All the children had been born in Iowa.

1850 Van Buren County, Iowa, US Census, Dwelling 99  
David Newton, male 34, druggist born in Ohio  
Anna, female, 32, born in Ohio  
Alanza, Female 12, born in Ohio  
Jasper, male, 6, born in Iowa  
George, male 4, born in Iowa  
Louisa Herrin, female 2, born in Iowa

X 1840 Allen County, Ohio  
Abrather Newton, age ~~XX~~ 30 - 40  
Female age 30 - 40  
Males: 1 under 5; 1, 5 under 10; 1, 10 under 15  
Females: 1 under 5; 1, 5 under 10; 1, 10 under 15

CB

March 27, 1972

CYB FROM ECB

Thank you for the information in your memo of March 21, 1972 confirming the parentage of Catharine, Mary, Jane and Gamaliel Garlinghouse (all of whom married children of Jonas N. Belknap) as James Garlinghouse and Eleanor Hunt. That helps to fill in another vacant spot in my records.

✓ Does the new information you now have on the Garlinghouses provide the name of the parents of Josiah Garlinghouse, the husband of Elijah's oldest daughter, Amanda?

Thanks too, for the sheet ( copy) from Miscellaneous Genealogica Et Heraldica, showing father of Sir Robert as John Belknap.

CB

April 7 1972

Several memos from you, to be answered. Here goes.

3/27: James Garlinghouse & Eleanor Hunt. I should have reminded you of the proof shown in my memo 12/9/69, which I've ~~noticed~~ noticed just now -- titled THE GARLINGHOUSE GIRLS -- paragraph numbered (1).

Josiah G. who married Amanda. Nothing in my files on him.

3/28: Isaac Newton & Cynthia. No luck yet. . . Wonder why you did not find him in Licking Co census 1830. Record of land purchases shows that he, Jesse, Jonas Jr, and Orin all bought land in same Section -- which implies that they arrived at same time -- and there is evidence that Jesse arrived that county 1824. . . Waite (presumably on information supplied by Mrs Avery) said Cynthia died in Ohio; and as he was accurate on places of death of others I assume he was right about Cynthia. . . Isaac sold his properties in Licking Co in 1837 and 1838 and then one final transaction 1843; best guess, left the county in 1838, returned briefly to complete that last sale, so would not expect to find him in 1840 census that county but might find him in some not-too-distant part of Ohio. 1830 census not important for my purpose, as would not show name of wife. Will keep trying.

Various Newtons mentioned by you: Only one known to me is one shown as "Abrather." He was husband of Rachel, sister of Catherine and Jane. No two people have deciphered his signature the same. Most likely, name was "Abiather" or "Abiatha." Was in Belknap Settlement, Oregon, 1849. Rachel was the "Mrs Newton" mentioned by Aunt Kit.

3/31" <sup>ruler of the</sup> "Talitha Cumi" -- I wish I could get the story behind this name. It comes from the story of the daughter of the synagogue, in Mark 6:41 if I remember the location correctly -- "which being interpreted means 'Maiden, arise.'"

THEY LAUGHED TOO. Of great interest to descendants of Jesse. Don't know how interesting to you. First issued, 100 typed copies, then printed to meet demand. Accurate on history, ~~was~~ inaccurate on genealogy. Only way to get it, now, is from the author, who has the remainder of the printed ~~edition~~ edition; price \$6.95 plus 50¢ postage. Mrs Edna Mintonye, Route 1, Box 204, Monroe, Oregon, 97456

"Cobers Kiln." I still doubt this. My reading of spelling in 1820 document is "Collier Hill." But that was the writing of the erratic Haycraft. . The 1818 document was written by Stephen Phelps, who had been an officer in same regt as Jonas. So perhaps he knew the ~~name~~ name and wrote it from his own knowledge. ???

On Garlinghouses: Can you identify William Garlinghouse, born Ohio, married Mary Ann Coyle, arrived Belknap Settlement Oregon 1862? Wife was probably Widow Coyle; buried at Alpine Oregon (on land owned by Jesse, before the town was named) as "Mary Ann Garlinghouse" -- just to give us three women with that name.



MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1972

To: Carroll Y. Belknap

From: E. Clinton Belknap

Hallelujah! At last I've come up with vital data on Elijah and Catharine Belknap as well as some other information regarding dates and places of burial for Samuel and Amy and their children. Am enclosing copies of the correspondence that provided the payoff.

*17 December 1874*  
Elijah (Son of Jonas N. Belknap) was born 14 March 1785. he died ~~15 October 1877~~ and was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana. Veteran, War of 1812.

Elijah's wife, Catharine (Garlinghouse) was born 16 December, 1783, and she died 24 January 1872. She was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Samuel, son of Elijah, was born 13 May 1811 and died 15 October 1877. He was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana.

Samuel's wife, Amy, born 3 August 1808 in Penn., died 25 February 1902 in Frankfort, Indiana. She was buried in the Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana.

Leonidas Hamlin Belknap, second son of Samuel and Amy Belknap, was born 15 August 1840 and died 21 May 1892. He was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana. Veteran, Civil War.

Leander Chatman Belknap, third son of Samuel and Amy Belknap, was born 22 December 1845 and died 9 July 1867. He was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana.

Ralph Emerson Belknap, son of Samuel's oldest son, Myron and wife Honor, was born 24 March 1865 and died 17 April 1876. He was likewise buried in the Kilmore, Indiana Cemetery.

Owen Township School Records of May 1896 and 1897, Clinton County, Indiana, shows children of Myron H and Honor Belknap as follows:

Garth born 1878  
Chester, born 1884  
Rosco, born 1886

This family lived in Dist. No. 5 of Congressional township 22, Range 1W, Clinton County, Indiana.

Data provided by Mrs. M. E. Primmer, Clinton County, Indiana, Board of Health, Frankfort, Indiana, January 31, 1972. The key that provided the lead for the information was the death certificate for Amy Belknap, located in the files of the Clinton County Board of Health, Frankfort, Indiana.

*E. Clinton Belknap*  
*2/3/78*

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
PHONE 659-1328 FRANKFORT, INDIANA  
46041

VIA AIR MAIL



Clinton Belknap  
2019 Marwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
COURT HOUSE  
FRANKFORT, INDIANA 46041

Phone 659-1328 if no answer, 654-4506

*Hope you are pleased with this  
information - I even drove out  
to Kilmore to the cemetery to check -*

*Thank you  
Mrs. Belknap*

*[Signature]*

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

COURT HOUSE

FRANKFORT, INDIANA 46041

Phone 659-1328 If no answer, 654-4506

Samuel Belknap Died Oct. 15-1877 at the age of 66years 5months 2days  
burial in Kilmore cemetery, Kilmore, Indiana Owen Township,  
Clinton Co., Indiana ~~Frankfort, Indiana~~

Catharine Belknap: Died Jan. 24-1872 at the age of 88years 1month 8days  
burial in Kilmore cemetery, Kilmore, Indiana Owen Township,  
Clinton Co., Indiana. Wife of Elijah Belknap

Elijah Belknap: Died Dec. 12-1874 at the age of 89years 8 months 29days,  
burial in Kilmore cemetery, Kilmore, Indiana Owen Township,  
Clinton Co., Indiana. Veteran of the War of 1812.

Leander Belknap son of Samuel and Amy Belknap: Died July 9-1867 at the age of  
21 years 6 months 18 days. Buried at Kilmore cemetery. Kilmore.

Leonidas H. Belknap: Died May 21-1892 at the age of 51 years 9 months 6 days  
Buried at Kilmore, Indiana in Kilmore cemetery. Was a Civil  
War Veteran.

Ralph Emerson Belknap: son of Myron and Honor Belknap Died April 17-1876 at  
the age of 11 years 23 days, Buried in Kilmore cemetery, Kilmore,  
Indiana

Owen Township school records of May 1-1896 and 1897 Clinton Co., Indiana shows

Children of M.H. and Honor Belknap were as follows:

Garth age 19 in 1897  
Chester age 13 in 1897  
Rosco age 11 in 1897

This family lived in Dis. # 5, of Congressional Township 22

Range Congressional Township 1 W.

I got the information about the soldiers from the 1942 newspaper.



LOCAL  
RECORD OF DEATH

Clinton County Department of Health

Clinton Co. Court House, Frankfort, Indiana

Address

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that our records show

Amy B. Belknap born 8/3/1808 in Pa. died

2 25 1902 at Not stated 253 Gentry St.  
Month Day Year Hour of Death Street, Hospital or Rural  
93yrs. 7mos. 23days Sex Female Color White Widowed  
Age at death Years Write Whether Married or Single

Primary cause of death given was Senile debility

Father listed as Thomas Reed born in England mothers name not given

Signed by G.W. Brown M.D.  
Physician or Coroner

Clinton Co., Ind.  
Address

Place of burial or removal Kilmore  
Name of Cemetery

Kilmore, Indiana  
Address

Date of burial 2-27-1902

Goodwin & Miller  
Funeral Director

Frankfort, Indiana  
Address

Information given by Myron Belknap, Frankfort, Ind.

SEAL

Signed Bruce A. Webb M.D. Secy.  
Frankfort, Indiana

1-24-1972  
Date

CH 5 & 81  
H 20 6  
Recorded locally in book No. Page No.

Local# --

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

COURT HOUSE

FRANKFORT, INDIANA 46041

Phone 659-1328 If no answer, 654-4506

1-24-1972

Dear Mr. Belnap:

In regards to your letter this office received today. I think I have found the information you need for some of the Belnaps and the location of the cemetery the family is buried in - I contacted several people and have searched several records and can give you several dates.

Our fee for this search will be \$4.00 and \$1.00 fee for Amy Belnap death certificate. Do you want me to go ahead - May I hear from you -

Yes, please  
proceed. Check for  
\$5.00 enclosed. Thank you  
A Belnap  
1/29/72

Sincerely

Mrs M. E. Primmes

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
PHONE 659-1328 FRANKFORT, INDIANA

2019 Harwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
January 21 , 1972

Mrs. M. E. Primmer  
Clinton County Board of Health  
Court House  
Frankfort, Indiana

Re: Amy B. Belknap

Dear Mrs. Primmer:

In December I received a very gracious note from you in response to a letter I had directed earlier to the secretary of the Frankfort Chamber of Commerce in search of information to help verify, if possible, the place of death and burial of my great grandfather, Elijah Belknap and his wife, Catharine Garlinghouse, in about 1874. You stated that the only Belknap appearing in your early records was that of Amy B. Belknap who was 93 at the time of her death. You also commented that you would gladly help me with information about her should I desire.

I would surely be more than grateful to you for any information you might be able to provide regarding Amy B. Belknap. She was the wife of Samuel Belknap, the third child of my great grandfather, Elijah. Her maiden name was Amy Reed, the daughter of Robert Reed, allegedly of England, and Amy Bland. I do not have the date of either her birth or death and would be most interested in these dates as well as the place of her birth, if recorded, and any other data available. Family tradition has it that both my great grandfather Elijah Belknap and my great grandmother, Catharine spent their last days with Samuel and Amy and died in their home in 1874, and were buried at Frankfort..

Someone had told me some years back that there was a committee which had been organized to make a complete compilation of all the old graves in Clinton County and I kept hoping that such a project, if carried through, would result in the location of their graves as well as that of the son, Samuel. I don't know when he may have died.

I am most grateful for your willingness to furnish such information as you may have regarding Amy B. Belknap. A stamped envelope is enclosed for your convenience in making reply.

Sincerely,

  
Clinton Belknap



2019 Harwood Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
December 26, 1970

Secretary  
Chamber of Commerce  
Frankfort, Indiana

Dear Sir:

My great grandfather, Elijah Belknap, veteran of the War of 1812 and son of Jonas N. Belknap, is reported to have been buried in Frankfort, Clinton County, Indiana, on or about December 1874 or January, 1875. I have been trying to confirm this report for a number of years.

I have corresponded with your Frankfort City Librarian two or three times over the past ten years in an attempt to determine if there is an organized, compiled listing of the graves in Clinton County that would help me verify his place of burial but with no success. On one occasion the Acting Librarian said a list was being developed by a committee of women and when I asked for the name of some one on the committee I was directed to The Gem City Genealogical Shoppe, 602 Ricker Drive, Frankfort, Indiana, 46041. Two letters directed to that address since then, one in July 1970, and another in September, 1970, although not returned by the post office, have been ignored.

Can you give me any help in this matter or direct me to some one who can be helpful?

Thank you!

Sincerely,



E. Clinton Belknap

12-2-1971

Mr. Belknap:

The Chamber of Commerce mailed us your letter this week - Sorry you are having so much delay - I again have checked our files and do not have this death recorded - The only Belknap we have it in files is Amy B. who was 93<sup>at the time</sup> at time of death - Will gladly help

you or Amy if you need it.

Sincerely  
Mrs. M. E. Pummer

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
PHONE 659-1328 FRANKFORT, INDIANA

Court House 46041

## Coat of Arms

## Historiography

The Belknap Coat of Arms illustrated left was drawn by an heraldic artist from information officially recorded in ancient heraldic archives. Documentation for the Belknap Coat of Arms design can be found in *Rietstap Armorial General*. Heraldic artists of old developed their own unique language to describe an individual Coat of Arms. In their language, the Arms (shield) is as follows:

"D'azur a trois aigles d'arg., posees en bande entre deux cotices du meme."

When translated the Arms description is:

"Blue; three silver eagles between two silver diagonal bands."

Family mottos are believed to have originated as battle cries in medieval times. A Motto was not recorded with the Belknap Coat of Arms.

Individual surnames originated for the purpose of more specific identification. The four primary sources for second names were: occupation, location, father's name and personal characteristics. The surname Belknap appears to be locational in origin, and is believed to be associated with the Pole's, meaning, "dweller at, or near a boundry post." The supplementary sheet included with this report is designed to give you more information to further your understanding of the origin of names. Different spellings of the same original surname are a common occurrence. Dictionaries of surnames indicate probable spelling variations. The most prominent variations of Belknap are Bekka, Belknap, Beklknep, Belnap and Bekknep.

Census records available disclose the fact there are approximately 875 heads of households in the United States with the old and distinguished Belknap name. The United States Census Bureau estimates there are approximately 3.2 persons per household in America today which yields an approximate total of 2800 people in the United States carrying the Belknap name. Although the figure seems relatively low, it does not signify the many important contributions that individuals bearing the Belknap name have made to history.

No genealogical representation is intended or implied by this report and it does not represent individual lineage or your family tree.

## Belknap

*a bit restrictive in calculations - don't you*

*LB 12/27/17*





ECB from CYB

Dec 28 1971

Do me a favor?

Write, as a customer, to the Halberts who sent you that sheet on Belknap and ask these two questions:

- I. In the paragraph about derivation of the surname Belknap, what is the authority for the statement that the name Belknap "is believed to be associated with the Pole's"? And what do those quoted words mean?
- II. Do you have the names and addresses of the 875 heads of households mentioned as now having the Belknap name? If you do, will you make it available for other use? And at what charge?

\*\*\*\*\*

No. I, to me, is a puzzler. Possibly meaningless. But there's always the possibility that these people have found something that I haven't seen.

Writing from memory, but certain of the facts, I'm guessing that these people must be talking about Michael de la Pole, who was made Earl of Suffolk by Richard II and was chancellor of the exchequer at the time when Robert de Bealknap was Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. The only connection that I know about, between these men, was that at his trial by Parliament the Judge testified that he had signed the document supporting Richard against Parliament only because the Duke of Dublin ~~Robert de Vere~~ (Robert de Vere) and the Earl of Suffolk threatened to kill him if he didn't sign.

\*\*\*\*\*

The coat of arms shown on the sheet indicates that the artist didn't know the meaning of the word "cotice" (cotisse in English, usually). . . I've never found the same heraldic wording of the description in any two books on heraldry. Sometimes it's "cotisses", sometimes "bendlets" (which aren't the same thing. Sometimes it's "eagles," sometimes "eaglets." Sometimes the birds are described as "displayed" (wings widespread). sometimes not. Sometimes the birds stand straight up, sometimes slantwise as in the drawing on this sheet. But the description of the crest (not mentioned on this sheet) is always much the same. . . / So what?

This reminds me that I've neglected answering your memo Nov 22 -- finding a listing for Beltoft in (if I understand what you wrote) County Kilkenny. That's a long way from Antrim, where the Judge was confined when in exile. Can you give me the exact wording of what you found? . . . It's not surprising that you found, in one book, identical arms for two other families -- Bradford and Bradisford. There are many instances of this sort, in compilations of heraldry, either errors by compilers -- or simply similarity of arms of different families, in loosely worded descriptions found by the compilers. Not significant, I think.

November 22, 1971

Memorandum

To: Carroll Y. Belknap

From: E. Clinton Belknap

Was browsing through some material in the library the other night and found the Beltoft name listed under the general Longrishe family of Knocktopher County, Kilkenny. Also found in Glover's Ordinary Arms a listing of the same identical coat of arms for Belknap, Bradford or Bradisford. These facts and their implications are not new to you, I ## feel sure but were to me so far as the facts are concerned. I am still uncertain as to their implications. Wish our genealogical source material were not so limited in our local library.

I have the list of Belknap deaths in California but am afraid I'm not going to be of much help as to identifications. Some of the Texas Belknaps have lived in California I understand and perhaps Sopha Eudy of Cisco can identify some of those listed. I shall send her a copy and find out.

ECB.



2019 Harwood St.  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
January 2, 1972

Nancy L. Halbert  
Halbert's Inc.  
3687 Ira Road  
Bath, Ohio 44210

Dear Madam:

May I prevail upon you for answers to the following  
two questions?

1. In the Historiography concerning the Belknap  
family, recently purchased from you, what is the  
authority for the statement that the name Belknap  
"is believed to be associated with the Pole's . . ."?  
And what do these quoted words mean?

2. Do you have the names and addresses of the 875  
heads of households mentioned as now having the  
Belknap name? If so will you make the list available  
for other use? And at what price?

Thank you. An early response will be appreciated.

Sincerely

  
E. Clinton Belknap

Return stamped envelope enclosed.



MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1972

To: Carroll Y. Belknap

From: E. Clinton Belknap

*Carroll:  
Correction!  
Sorry for the goof.  
E.C.B.*

Hallelujah! At last I've come up with vital data on Elijah and Catharine Belknap as well as some other information regarding dates and places of burial for Samuel and Amy and their children. Am enclosing copies of the correspondence that provided the payoff.

~~12 December 1874~~  
Elijah (Son of Jonas N. Belknap) was born 14 March 1785. he died ~~25 October 1877~~ and was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana. Veteran, War of 1812.

Elijah's wife, Catharine (Garlinghouse) was born 16 December, 1783, and she died 24 January 1872. She was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana. ~~Veteran, War of 1812~~

Samuel, son of Elijah, was born 13 May 1811 and died 15 October 1877. He was buried in Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana.

Samuel's wife, Amy, born 3 August 1808 in Penn., died 25 February 1902 in Frankfort, Indiana. She was buried in the Kilmore Cemetery, Kilmore, Clinton County, Indiana.

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Owen Township School Records of May 1896 and 1897, Clinton County, Indiana, shows children of Myron H and Honor Belknap as follows: Garth born 1878  
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*E. Clinton Belknap  
2/3/72*