

ECB from CYB 3 March 1975

BIRTHPLACE OF SAMUEL, son of Ebenezer

Evans, from whom you apparently copied "Framingham," issued two major compilations:
(1) Circa 1945 -- copies deposited in Mich State Library & Grand Rapids Public Library;
(2) Final, 1950 -- copies at Mich State Library and Salt Lake Gen Soc.

In the first compilation, he showed Ebenezer residence at Haverhill and Framingham. In the final one, he omitted Framingham residence for Ebenezer, but showed sons born at Framingham, as in his earlier compilation. Record in the final compilation, which he followed in material he prepared for you, was as follows:

Evans # 38	John	born	1701	Framingham
39	Moses		1704	"
40	Obadian		1715	"
41	Samuel		1703	"
42	Joseph		1700	"
43	Abiah		1707	No specific birthplace shown

These year-dates of birth were, of course, estimated approximations, but were stated as facts -- in accord with Evans' custom. His only acknowledgement of their true nature was in his first compilation, in which one sentence contained Samuel contained the words "born about 1703."

On Ebenezer and his sons, the sources named by Evans were:

- History of Framingham (sometimes without author's name, sometimes Temple and/or Barry, and once "Roberts" who is unknown to NENGS and NYGBS)
- Virkus
- Essex Antiquarian
- Haverhill "town records" (Evans' term for VR)
- Framingham "
- Gilbert Belnap Family Record (which he usually called "Flora Belnap's records"; the charts prepared by Hyrum Belnap and continued by his daughter Flora -- supplied to Evans by Flora in the 1940s)

Essex Antiquarian has nothing on these birthplaces. . . Haverhill VR have nothing but the gap after record of birth of Ebenezer's daughters. . . Virkus of course is not worth examining.

EVIDENCE ENCLOSED

- A -- Belknap pages from Barry's History of Framingham, pub 1827
- B -- Belknap pages from Temple's " " " pub 1887
- C -- Belknap pages from VR Framingham
- D -- Ebenezer's page from the "Gilbert Belnap family record" as typed by Flora and supplied by her to Evans
- E -- Condensed summary of recorded facts about residence of Ebenezer (including deeds at Woburn, unknown to me until found in Adm Charles' notes, recently)

These enclosures should enable you to make your own decision about the validity of Evans' citations.

This memo completes the answers to the questions you asked.

Ebenezer
Framingham?

7 Feb 1975

Register of Deeds
Middlesex County
Cambridge MASS

Dear Sir:

I should like to get copies of any deeds bearing the name of Ebenezer Belknap (Belnap, Bellknap, Billknap, etc.) as either grantee or grantor in the period of 1700 to 1715 -- date of transaction, not date of recording. He is said to have been at Framingham during some of these years.

A nephew bearing the same name probably appears in Framingham deeds in later years but is not the one whose record I am seeking.

As I don't have access to an index of deeds for your county, I can't be more specific.

I shall be most grateful for your help and of course will gladly pay whatever fee is proper. If the enclosed check for \$3 is not enough, please tell me.

Very truly yours,

© 4. 1975

Mar. 3, 1975

CYB from ECB

Delay in acknowledging receipt of your memos of 29 Jan., 7 Feb., and 27 Feb., (all 1975) has not been deliberate. Have just been so blasted busy and disorganized while our home has been in disarray for some redecorating, carpet replacement and the like. I do thank you for the trouble you have gone to to answer the questions I posed. I also appreciate the copies of the material you have sent from time to time. Was especially interested in your memo to Gladys Gray about the prior owner of the lot held by Jonas. If it bears fruit would surely be interested in the findings.

information re

John Sherman and George May promptly sent me/the libraries and the books for each have been forwarded, with copies of the transmittals to these men. Received a very prompt notice of acknowledgement from the New York Library relating to the copy you sent them but to date have heard nothing from the New England Historical and Genealogical Society at Boston. Maybe they just plan to send along a copy of the announcement of the accession of same and let that serve as an announcement as well as an acknowledgement.

Was interested in the material sent you from Dean Belnap of Utah. Dick Taylor had sent me a promotion sheet on the book back in July of 1974 listing the price as \$25 but when I wrote back to ask if the book were actually off the press or just anticipated he failed to answer my question. I told Dean Belnap that it had cost me just under \$40 per copy to have my 50 copies printed and bound. Maybe that had some bearing on his decision to up the price from 25.00 to the 39.50 figure. They had originally said it would consist of 1000 pages.



Heritage With Honor

compiled by W. Dean Belnap

History and Genealogy of Gilbert Belnap.

"... The Belnap house no longer stands. Yet memories crowd the hill where it once was. Memories that tell the story of our heritage - the honor of the Belnap genealogy - history of our ancestors we proudly can record."

... Gilbert Belnap brought his own memories with him to Utah Valley.

His conversion to the gospel began a new era for his family. As a bodyguard, his experiences with the Prophet Joseph Smith had been of great significance.

While a pioneer in the Weber Valley hardships developed into strength of character. His honesty earned him County Sherriff and positions as public representative. His strong testimony of the gospel makes him a noble patriarch for the 6800 descendents that claim him.

The book we would like to share with you is **A Heritage With Honor Vol. I**. It is the written account of the history and genealogy of Gilbert & Abraham Belnap. It contains something every living descendent of these men can tie to.

This original manuscript is being offered to our family in a limited edition. It is a hard-bound book containing 1,000 pages of history of his descendents, family group sheets, pedigree charts, and all current and updated genealogy. Our cost of publication is \$25.00 and this will be the cost to you.

For your copy of **Heritage With Honor** send \$25.00 to **Gilbert Belnap Family Org.** c/o Della Belnap • 815 32nd St. • Ogden, Utah 84403

☐ I enclose payment (M.O. or check)

☐ Bill me. I will pay postage.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ Date _____

2019 Harwood Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68502. Jan. 23, 1975

CYB from ECB

Re: Uncertainties listed, p 2, your memo 19 Dec. 1974

Now that I have had time to do so I have reviewed our exchange of communications and other data in an attempt to clarify in my own mind the background for my inclusion of the entries listed as uncertainties. Here are my findings for what they may be worth.

Under date of 6 December, 1970, I forwarded to you my sheets as they then stood, on Samuel (1627/8), Ebenezer (1667), Samuel (1703), and Samuel (1731) asking for your review and criticism of same. I thought I had been careful to reflect such data as you subsequently provided but apparently did let certain things stand in my final listing which have resulted in the points of uncertainties cited.

Chart No. 5, p 67, regarding "Mary m Nathaniel Singleterry" which you indicate was possible but not proven and "Samuel m Mary Pease" which you state is unsubstantiated - that Evans got it from an error in Adm. Charles first rough notes, which the Admiral himself refuted in his final compilation. Although I erred in unintentionally failing to correct my listing for the final draft, I do feel that your own personal position is rather well presented in your summary of 12 May 1974 carried in some detail on pages 67, 68 and 69 of my compilation.

In passing, I note that you refer to Charles Belknap as Admiral. Was he an Admiral or Commander?

Samuel, Son of Ebenezer, Chart 24, page 74.
"Wrong birth place" for Samuel. Should have caught this Haverhill listing in your March 12, 1971, "Line of Decent of Jonas Newton Belknap" and listed it instead of Framington listing but didn't. What is your source for Haverhill?

You question the place of marriage for this Samuel, Why?
Where do you think he was married?

"A grant of land', wrong ... land was bought on mortgage and paid for 2 years later." Interesting and significant. Don't seem to find this in any of our previous correspondence. Sorry if it was there and I missed it.

Samuel, son of Samuel, Chart 32 p.77
" ? ? " on Mary and Chloe. I had carried these earlier on my sheet without any question marks but in your memo of September 30, 1969, you challenged this listing by Evans. I observed also that HWB failed to list them on his sheet for this Samuel so added the question marks. Later, under date of May 12, 1970, Geo May sent you a long-hand copy of information he taken from what he termed "Belchertown VR", which listed both Mary and Chloe with their husbands. I should have removed the question marks then and wish now that I had but in a memo to Geo May, July 7, 1970 you remark in paragraph 3:

"If this manuscript is really V.R. for Belchertown ...". which led me to think that there was really some question in your mind about this matter and I let the " ?? " stand and ~~#####~~ failed to later remove them before publication. Can Sno-pake the ?? out on the books not yet distributed.

As to listing "Stephen m Mary" you surely have a right to challenge Evan's listing but, on the other hand, since we have really nothing to disprove the listing, perhaps further searching may prove it right as was the case with Tamar Vinton, Mary and Chloe, and the Evan statement that Jonas died in Kentucky and that his estate was administered by Isaac Newton. In the meantime I admittedly should have accompanied the Mary listing with a question mark.

What is your source for Stephen's marriage to Eleanor Middaugh? Just briefly, you don't need to go into any detail, I've worked with you long enough to know that when you say you have it documented you have it documented. If you have listed it in any of our correspondence it has escaped my attention. Perhaps it would surface if I again reviewed our whole file of correspondence but I have already spent more time than I could rightly spare searching for such details and I must now concentrate on getting material organized on my mother's side of the house, the Moss family lineage. Everytime I review my correspondence with you I'm something like the proverbial old fire horse. I run across things I would like to pursue and if I let myself go I'd continue to spend most of ~~my~~ my free time still following up material on the Belknaps!

Sincere regards
CB

ECB from CYB 29 Jan 1975.

Two points in your letter 23 Jan?

- (1) "Mary Pease" -- Attached sheets "A" and "B" copied from Adm Charles B.

"A" is a page from what appears to be the earliest of his six notebooks, written at a time when he was fumbling around and was greatly confused on identification of various Samuels. This page contains many obvious errors. ~~Thompson's~~ Notations ringed in red were mine. The ? above Pease was his. This is the only place where this "Mary Pease" appears in his notebooks.

(years later)

"B" is page showing his final record on family of first Samuel. Note that "Mary Pease" /has vanished.

- (2) "Grant of land at Mansfield."

"C" -- Adm's record of land transactions by Samuel at Mansfield and Enfield. He did the most thorough job on ~~ME~~ Connecticut land transfers. ~~that~~ HWB found many deeds; I found others. In every instance, what HWB and I found is same as reported by the Adm. So I accept his entry on payment of mortgage in 1924, which I had not found.

On 2nd sheet of "C", note the one instance in which this Samuel got a "grant" of land-- in 1749 -- as was normal practice then in compensating for appropriation of land for a highway. This may be what misled Evans???

To the best of my knowledge, this is the only "free land" obtained by any of our branch until my g grandfather Jesse reached Oregon. As I told you years ago, Evans was dead wrong in saying that this branch of the family kept moving west "in search of free land." Up to Oregon, they paid their way.

Busy now. Will answer your other questions later.

ECB from CYB 27 Feb 1975

his own notes is date of entering
Naval Academy and date of first
commission.

Questions not yet answered -- your memo 23 Jan.

- Charles Belknap. Known as Commodore during most of his genealogical search. Seems to have been promoted Admiral upon retirement -- a frequent practice. I have not yet obtained record from Nat Archives, to verify. Only fact of his career, in
- Marriage of Stephen and Eleanor Middaugh. No documentary proof of marriage, just as almost always in marriages in NY in early 1800's, except when by luck a Bible has been found, or a wedding certificate, or diary of a minister, etc. Abundant proof that Stephen had two children by Eleanor Middaugh -- some of it summarized in memo about Stephen, copy to you some weeks ago. Lacking document of marriage, normal practice is assumption that mother of a man's children was his wife -- as in case of my great grandparents Jesse and Jane, and most other Ontario County marriages, in early 1800s. . . Search for Eleanor's parentage still continuing, but don't yet know which of many NY Middaugh/s she came from. May find record of marriage when we find her father. Or may not -- most likely not.
- Remaining question to answer: Birthplace of Samuel. Will send evidence as soon as NEHGS finally sends me books I haven't looked at in recent years, so I can make copies of essential records. But see no hope of fathoming why Evans went wrong, except that he got all mixed up on lineage in earlier compilation and never got places straightened out when trying to correct his errors, in final compilation on which his work for you was based.

Ebenezer - Framingham?

7 Feb 1975

SEE ATTACHED MEMO FROM YOU,
SOME MONTHS AGO

Carrell Y Belknap

25 Club Road

Riverside CONNECTICUT 06378

Early VR, Framingham, Mass.

Barry: History of Framingham

I'm told there's also another History of Framingham, author not known to me.