RIVERSIDE YACHT CLUB

RIVERSIDE CONNECTICUT 06878

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Mr. C. Y. Belknap 25 Club Road Riversida, Coan. C6878

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his entire file of Belknap material on other matters, so that I could make copies

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Richard O. Eldred Nyack College Nyack, N. Y. 10960





Mr. Carrol York Belkmap 25 Club Road Riverside, Conn. 06878

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Nyack College Nyack, N. Y. 10960 January 25, 1976

Mr. Carroll York Belknap 25 Club Road Riverside, Conn. 06878

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Thank you for your recent letter. I do hope that you will be able to eventually identify Jesse Belknap and his wife Susan (Eldred). I am sending what further information I have on this couple.

- (1) 1800 Cenus of Orange County, New York. This was copied from the January issue, 1932, of the New York Gen. & Biog. Record. You will notice that he has a large family living with him although he was only married two years before in 1798.
- (2) I am also sending a copy of the 1850 Census of Clinton Twp. Wayne County, Pennsylvania which shows Jesse and Susan living with their two sons, James E. Belnap and John Belknap. James was born about 1800 and John about 1803.

I found the marriage date of Jesse and Susan in a printed edition of the Church Records of the Goshen Presbyterian Chruch but as the other sources also give his name as Jesse, I believe that this was his correct name. There are references in the deeds of Wayne County of Nathaniel Eldred (a brother of Susan) deeding land to Jesse Belknap. I have been unable to find any record of the death of Jesse Belknap or Susan Belknap.

This is about all the information that I have on this family. I suspect that he may have had a brother named Horage as a Horace Belknap also moved to Wayne County and named one of his sons Jesse.

Rechard 6. Eldus

Thanks for additional information in your letter 25 Jan.

(1)CENSUS 1800 -- If we regard the figures as showing members of Jesse's own family, we may be able to construct a picture of the man we are trying to identify. One plausible reconstruction goeslike this:

or a little earlier
We are looking for a man who was born about 1760 -- married his
first wife about 1782 -- had faus (possibly five) children born by her
before she died about 1997 -- remarried promptly, 1998, to provide
a mother for an infant son -- had (possibly) a son by the second wife
in 1789 or 1800 -- and would have been at least 80 years old in 1850.
Were

I held no brief for this hypothetical picture. It's just an example of a first step in trying to decide where to look. Perhaps you will suggest other possibilities. I think you will find that any sort of recenstruction willproduce a man who was 80 to 89 years old in 1850, if still living.

The probable birthdate of 1760 or a bit earlier suggests that he was not born in NY unless a descendant of the Newburgh Belknaps. So we search in New England for someone who might have been his father.

(2) The probable age in 1850 casts doubt on the identification of the Jesse shown in 1850 Census Wayne County, Fa. And I have other reasons for questioning that identification, on the basis of my records of Belknaps known to be in that county 1800-1850.

So I have to ask more questions:

- -- Do you have evidence that the Jesse and Susan in Wayne County were the ones who married at Goshen? Or are you relying en similarity of names?
- -- What teridence do you have that the Geshen family had sone James E and John, born about 1800 and about 18037
- -- What is the reference to a Wayne Co deed, Nathaniel Eldred to Jesse Belknap? Have you a copy of this deed? Or an abstract? If not, do you know its date of execution? (Not the date of recording)
- -- What information do you have about the Herace in Wayne County? What is the source of it?

Please forgive persistent questions. I have to ask them.

Mr Richard O Eldred Nyack Cellege Nyack N Y 10960

Dear Mr Eldred:

I regret to say that I have found no trace of the Jesse Belknap who married Susanna Eldred 3 New 1998 at Goshen Presbyterian Church. Neither my records of some 4500 Belknaps nor the records of all other major compilers of Belknap genealegy show this Jesse nor an Eldred marriage.

So for the mement I must add their names to the file of unidentified persons. But in past years I have rescued many names from that file. I can hope that these names, too, will semaday be traved. Perhaps you can help me make a beginning, if you can abswer two questions:

- (1) Do you have any further information on this couple?. . . Names of children: their birthplaces; other descendants; their places of residence -- anything at all that might provide clues that I can follow.
- (2) What is the source of your information about this marriage? Did you get it, yourself, from the church register? Or did it come through some secondary source? That is to say, how good in the record you sent to me?

My reason for asking this second question is my hope that semewhere along the line an error may have been made in copying the name "Jesse Belknap" and that amtuall inspection of the church register might yield a different first name, which I might find in my files.

You see, the name "Jesse" in that locality at that date is a bit puzzling. Any Belknap found in that area in that year is ordinarily assumed -- quite soundly 0-to have been a member of the very large Belknap families at Newburgh and New Wandser. No other Blknaps are known to have been in that part of New York at that time. But none of the Newburgh families are known to have used the name "Jesse" at any time.

On the other hand, the two branches in which the name "Jesse" was used -- between 1739 and 1850 -- were never in Orange Countyper anywhere near it.

Se "Jesse" im Goshen in 1798 is a striking anomaly -- and I hepe it is an error.

Cordially,

DELLE from CYB

canaus.

Another cry for helps

Can you identify??

Coshen Presbyterian Church, Goshen, MY: Jesse Belknap m Susanna Eldred,
1932 m 3 Nov 1798

NYG4B Record, Vol 63, p 85: Federal Census 1800, Orange County MY:

Jesse Belknap M 2-1-1-1-0 F 0-1-1-0-0

This Bublibation on the Record was a correction or addition to the government version of that census. You wen't find this Jesse in the standard Index for that

Evans, his p 57, identified this Jesse as your ancestor, by shirsting under residence. "Orange County, NY, 1800", without regard to the dissimilar list of children and the fact that your Jesse was shown at Rome NY inn that census. Iff my ememory is The request for identification came to me from Richard O Eldred, of Myack, NY. right.

He believes that this couple are the Jesse and Susan Belknap shown in the 1850 census of of Wayne County. Pa.

To me, the marriage looks like a second marriage of a widewer. / Se. query: De you have a record of a Jesse whose wife died about 1797 or a year or se earlier?

Nyack College Nyack, N. Y. 10960 8 January 1976

Mr. Carroll York Belknap 25 Club Road Riverside, Conn. 06878

Dear Mr. Belknap:

I am seraching for inforantion on the family of Jesse Belknap of Orange County, New York. Your name as an expert on the Belknap families was given to me by Mr. E. Clinton Belknap of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Would you have any information on Jesse Belknap who married Susanna Eldred on 3 November 1798 at the Goshen Presbyterian Church. Goshen, New York? She was the daughter of Elisha and Mary (Hulse) Eldred of Minisink, Orange County, New York. I would appreciate any information you might be able to share with me on this family.

I have enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your reply. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours, Richard O. Eldul

Richard O. Eldred

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