

MISS GLADYS E GRAY
156 CHERRY ST
GENEVA NY 14456



Mr. Carroll Belknap

25 Club Road

Riverside, Connecticut

06878

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
U.S. POSTAGE



NATIONAL
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ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE

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January 26, 1962

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Mr. & Mrs. Dick Taylor
721 Lacy Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada

My dears:

I seem to get more and more behind in answering personal correspondence, so I am answering Charlene's nice note on office stationery, in office hours, too. I hope you don't mind this breach of etiquette.

The Belknap Family Tree has never arrived, and since it was sent to the Major Alley address, by now you may have gotten it back. I still own the Major Alley house in Palm Beach, but rented it for a year, unfurnished, and moved myself and my belongings into an apartment next door and upstairs from this office. Hence the address: 2429 Beach Court is my personal address; 2441 Beach Court is the office address; either one will reach me.

I am scheduled, tentatively, to address an assembly in Pasadena, California, May 9th, 1962, during Professional Writers' Week, Pasadena City College; title of my address: ARE EDITORS HUMAN?. Since there is more than one school of thought as to this, it may prove quite interesting.

Ask
Please feel free to ask me any questions about the Belknap family. . if I can't supply the answers, some of the rest of the family can. I turned over a lot of family letters and daguerrotypes to the New York Historical Society after Maitland's death. . they were interesting, but I felt they should be in a place where scholars could have access to them.

Best,

Lisa Belknap
LISA BELKNAP
EDITOR

I know you will love this school girl poem composed by your dear mother, Hetta. The original was among Bessie's effects.

She Always Was Tired

There was an old woman
Who always was tired,
She lived in a house
Where no help was hired.

Her last words on earth were:
"Dear friends, I am going
Where sweeping ain't done,
Nor churning nor serving;
And everything will be just to my wishes,
For where they don't eat there's no washing of dishes;

And, though there the anthems are constantly ringing,
I, having no voice, will get rid of the singing.
Don't mourn for me now, and don't mourn for me ever,
For I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever."

12/4/67

Dear Mrs. Miner:

I'd be grateful for any help you can give me.

Carroll Balknaps

1871

Mrs. Helen L. Papp
Clapp Memorial Library
Belchertown, Mass. 01007

25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878

Dear Mrs. Papp:

The information in your letter of Nov. 28 is of great value to me and I'm deeply grateful to you and to Mr. Tremaine. I'm writing to him today, to say "Thank you."

What delayed my reply has been a memory of a mention of Doolittle's Sketches somewhere in the thousands of pages of the correspondence of Henry Wyckoff Belknap. I finally found it, in some letters written in 1916.

The title of the book, in those letters, was given as Doolittle's Sketches of Belchertown, Mass.

And what troubles me is that some of the old quotations from it, back in 1916, are not entirely in agreement with the wording of the notes written by Mr. Tremaine. I don't want to pester him with questions. So I hope I'll be able to get access to the book itself.

Do you have it in your library? And, if so, would it be possible for our Greenwich Public Library to arrange for an Interlibrary Loan as they are doing for me in other instances?

Gratefully,

Carroll Belknap

CARROLL BELKNAP & ASSOCIATES

Sales Research

~~11 EAST PUTNAM AVENUE~~
~~GREENWICH~~
CONNECTICUT

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878
U. S. A.

April 4, 1968

The Pastor
Church of England
Burton Dassett
Warwickshire
ENGLAND

Dear Sir:

May a faraway stranger ask a great favor?

On a page written years ago by a genealogist whose every word is suspect and sometimes visibly fraudulent, there occurs a brief passage that seems to demand attention, on the off chance that it might be even partially true:

"In the Burton Dassett church in Warwickshire is an ancient painting depicting a (fire basket) beacon, and from a cross arm attached to the pole is suspended a panel showing the arms of the Beltofte-Belknap family."

(Then follows a correct description of the arms of Sir Edward Belknap, custodian of Warwick Castle under Henry VIII, ending with the sentence below.)

"The motto is: 'Prudentia et animis, Deo juvento.'"

The original source of this information or misinformation is unknown to me. But it interests me as it is the only known linking of the names Beltofte and Belknap, and I should not take it for granted that this linkage is mere forgery.

I shall be most grateful if you will take the trouble to tell me what truth, if any, there may be in the passages I have quoted.

What can I offer in return for this kindness? Nothing, I fear, but grateful payment of whatever fee may be proper or whatever contribution to the church funds you may feel I should make.

Sincerely yours,

C. Y. Belknap:

C. Y. Belknap

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside, Conn.
Nov. 5, 1967

The Librarian
Belchertown Public Library
Belchertown, Mass.

Dear Sir:

May a distant stranger ask for aid?

I need to ask if there is a book titled Belchertown History — and, if so, whether arrangements might be made to make it accessible to me for a few days.

The reason for this request is that through the great courtesy of Essex Institute I am now engaged in editing and expanding the many thousands of sheets of Belknap family records assembled from 1900 to 1946 by Henry Wyckoff Belknap, one-time curator of the Institute. The papers have been lent to the Greenwich Historical Society, of which I am a member, so that I may have access to them.

At a number of points, Mr. Belknap noted as the source of his data a "Belchertown History" — without giving page numbers. As some of these notations seem questionable, I need to verify them or correct them. I had thought I should find this book at the Institute on my latest visit to Salem; but the book listed there under that heading is merely a history of Western Massachusetts containing a brief chapter on Belchertown, which has no information bearing on his notations.

I shall be grateful for any assistance you can give me.

Very truly yours,

Carroll York Belknap:

Mrs. Thomas Barry
29 Lee St.
Marblehead, Mass.

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside, Conn
Jan. 9, 1968

Dear Mrs. Barry:

Some months ago, Mr. Proper of Essex Institute gave me your name, saying that you are a niece of Henry Wyckoff Belknap.

Through the great courtesy of the Institute, I'm working at the task of expanding the Belknap family record that Henry left behind. I'm trying to be the "someone" he had in mind when he wrote that he'd never complete the job and "someone else will have to carry on." And I'm trying to do it as I think he wished it to be done.

Certainly one of the things he would have wanted me to do is to bring up to date the record of his own immediate family. So I hope you will help me do this.

And so I'm enclosing copies of the last entries he made for his brother -- your father. I hope you'll complete it.

The only other thing in his files about his brother's family is an undated clipping about the marriage of his niece Elizabeth. Whether you are that Elizabeth or Priscilla, of course I don't know. I enclose a copy of that clipping.

What I need, of course, is dates of marriages, names of husbands, and names and dates of children.

I'll be grateful for your aid.

Cordially yours,

Carroll Belknap:

TO MARRY THIS AFTERNOON

St. Michael's Church, Marblehead, Scene of Wedding of Miss Elizabeth Wyckoff Belknap of That Town and Freeman Kingsbury McKown of Wellesley

St. Michael's Church at Marblehead will be the scene late this afternoon of the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Wyckoff Belknap, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wyckoff Belknap (Florence Alden) of Nashua street, Marblehead, and Freeman Kingsbury McKown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman H. McKown of Wellesley. Rev. Albert R. Parker, rector of St. Michael's Church, will perform the ceremony.

Mr. Belknap will give his daughter in marriage. She will wear her mother's wedding gown, which is of ivory satin, trimmed with rose point lace from her great-grandmother's, grandmother's and mother's wedding gowns. Her veil will be of tulle with a rose point lace crown, from the bridal costume of the bride's mother. The bridal bouquet will include lilies of the valley and roses.

Miss Priscilla Alden Belknap of Marblehead will be her sister's only attendant. As maid of honor she will wear a period gown of blue taffeta with a hat of the same material, of three shades of pink. She will carry a shower bouquet of pink roses.

Richard E. McKown of Wellesley will act as best man and the corps of ushers will include Hector C. Mitchell of Hartford, Conn.; Henry H. Battin of West Newton; Ralph Kilday of Malden, and Stanley E. Cliff of Boston.

The church has been attractively decorated with palms, Columbia roses and greenery. Alexander E. Cleary will play a program of nuptial music and the

ed choir of St. Michael's will sing the "Bridal Chorus" from "Lohengrin," by Wagner.

Following the ceremony, a reception will be held at the home of the bride's parents. The bridal couple will reside at 22 Orkney road, Brookline, where they will be "at home" after Jan. 1.

The bride, on her paternal side is descended from the early Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, the Brinckerhoffs, Suydams and Wyckoffs, and on the maternal side from John Alden and Priscilla Mullens, being the ninth in direct descent. Her great-grandmother Alden's family was of Revolutionary fame, through an uncle, Seth Warner, who was an officer at the Battle of Bennington, Vt.

The Ward Mansion, Ward's Point, Staten Island, N. Y., was the home of the bride's maternal great-grandfather, and was presented to him by King George III. and the deed of gift is in the possession of the family. The mansion is now in the care of the New York Historical Society.

Miss Belknap is a graduate of Miss

Hammond's School at Salem and of the New England Conservatory of Music. Mr. McKown is a Hebron Academy man. The engagement was announced in August, this year.

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ESSEX INSTITUTE
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
01970

DEAN A. FALES, JR., Director

January 31, 1967

Mr. Carroll Belknap
25 Club Road
Riverside, Conn.

Dear Mr. Belknap,

With regard to your question on the papers and manuscripts of Henry Wyckoff Belknap, the Essex Institute does hold many of the notes and research materials of Mr. Belknap. This is a collection dealing in large part with his historical researches, and also his genealogical work, but it forms a part of our manuscript collection which has never been fully described, and I am unable at this time to be sure just what families are represented.

Currently the Essex Institute is involved with major building construction and these papers are unavailable. It is our hope that with more room that we can move these and other papers to areas in which further work may be carried out with them. At present, however, we are unable to affirm the contents.

I suggest that you contact Mrs. Charles A. Potter, our reference and manuscript librarian who is on vacation just now, and ask for his assistance. We cannot offer research assistance nor can we undertake projects into individual family history, but when these papers have been placed it may be possible for individuals to work with them for you. Mrs. Ralph L. Thresher of 13 Strathmore Road, Wakefield, Mass., has frequently taken on projects of this nature and knows our collections fairly well. Perhaps at a later date with Mrs. Potter's cooperation Mrs. Thresher could "dig" into this material.

Mr. Belknap died Sept. 19, 1946 but I cannot locate when his manuscripts came to us. We have recognized the need for work with this material, but to date have had neither space nor staff for all of the work necessary. Then too, collections of genealogical material are often difficult to fully evaluate and require more attention than we have been able to devote, unfortunately.

Mrs. Thomas Barry of 29 Lee St., Marblehead, Mass., is a niece of the late Mr. Belknap, the only relative we know of in this area. If you keep in touch, perhaps later we can be of more help to you.

Yours very truly,
David R. Proper
David R. Proper, Librarian

Stanford Library¹

M^c Kinty

Irish widow Belknap

My Index 3

MS. A. 9.2

Wm Richardson

JONAS BELKNAP

Jonas Belknap enlisted in the U.S. Service in the Spring of 1775 for 8 months, in the State of Massachusetts. In January of 1776 he enlisted for 1 year and, before his service expired, he enlisted in the Continental Service in the State of New York and served until June 1783. He served in the Company commanded by Captain Luke Day in the 7th Massachusetts Regiment, commanded by Colonel Alden -- afterwards by Col. John Brooks at Albany, New York. He received an honorable discharge, in 1783, from the Service at Newburgh, in the State of New York, by General George Washington. He served in the following battles: Bunker Hill, Bemis Heights, Taking of Burgoyne, Taking of Cornwallis at Yorktown, and at Colier Hill where he received a wound of consequence for which he received a pension from the government of \$20.00 per annum. His rank was Sergeant.

On the 11th of December 1820 he was residing in Harden County, Kentucky, and his family consisted of his wife, Fanny -- age 54, and his daughter, Diantha -- age 9. His occupation was engineering.

From -- General Services Administration
Washington 25, D.C.

"National Archives."

(Copied by Claudia Marshall, 1961)

P.S. Jonas Belknap's father was ~~Samuel~~ Belknap. The latter was killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

Samuel
/B

JONAS BELKNAP

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From -- General Services Administration
Washington 25, D.C.

"National Archives."

(Copied by Claudia Marshall, 1961)

P.S. Jonas Belknap's father was Elisha Belknap. The latter was killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

Samuel
CB



156 Cherry Street
Geneva, New York
February 6, 1968

Dear 'Cousin' Carroll,

I couldn't resist this brief note of familiar greeting in view of the last sentence in your recent letter. For, if your Priscilla is a blood cousin rather than one by marriage, we are most distant cousins. I also am descendant of John and Priscilla. The chart for our mutual relationship would undoubtedly be an intriguing one to puzzle out some drear winter evening.

Seriously, I do congratulate you on finding the lost generation. I have one in my own family - the Asa Leach family, and a couple of individual families lost in my historical research on Mary Artemisia Lathbury. I am glad my varied items of information were of some help.

Just for fun I am inclosing my genealogy back to John and Priscilla. I am sure your Priscilla and I would have to go way back to them.

Sincerely,

"Cousin?" Gladys

(Gladys E. Gray - one line of descent)

2/6/68

1. GRAY, Glenn W. - JONES, Grace Anne
2. GRAY, Edward F. - LEACH, Ellen Louise
3. LEACH, Dewitt Clinton - MUNN, Maria Delphia
4. LEACH, Winslow - - SOUTHWORTH, Esther
5. LEACH, Asa - RICH, Sarah
6. LEACH, Benanuel - ALLEN, Mehitable
7. ALLEN, Benjamin - CARY, Mehitable
8. ALLEN, Samuel - ALDEN, Mary
9. ALDEN, Joseph - SIMMONS, Mary
10. ALDEN, John - MULLINS, Priscilla

25 Club Road
Riverside
Conn. 06878
Feb. 7, 1968

Mr. Gerald G. Tremaine
Maple Street
Belchertown, Mass. 01007

Dear Mr. Tremaine:

In December, when you kindly helped Miss Papp answer a query of mine, I recalled a blind end in the old papers with which I'm working -- a Tremaine marriage with no other information.

I

XX enclose a copy of that note, written fifty years ago by Henry Wyckoff Belknap, ~~XX~~ curator of Essex Institute at that time.

I wonder if you can help me on it.

The Lavinia Belknap who married William H. Tremaine was a daughter of Chester Belknap of Scantic, in north central Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Carroll York Belknap:

Ask about
Tremaine marriage?

25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878
Dec. 6, 1967

Mr. Gerald G. Tremaine
Maple Street
Belchertown, Mass. 01007

Dear Mr. Tremaine:

I'm deeply grateful for the information that you dug up for Mrs. Papp to send to me. It clears up several points on which I had been in error.

One of the nice things about the sort of work I'm trying to do is the great kindness of people with similar interests. I'm often amazed by the effort they put into trying to help me. And so I often wish I could find some way of repaying their courtesy by giving them information of value to them -- from the records of my own family, which has been related by marriage to almost all (it sometimes seems) the chief New England families.

If there any names you'd like me to watch for, in our family records, please say so.

Sincerely yours,

Carroll Belknap:

Not Sent

Mr. W. D. P. Jarvis
"Bonshaw Gate"
King, Ontario

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878
Feb. 15, 1968

Dear Mr. Jarvis:

Today I received from Dick Taylor of Las Vegas a copy of the letter you wrote to him on 26 January. Knowing that I am engaged in trying to correlate all known collections of Belknap family records, he passed your letter along to me with some questions of his own.

As the copy I received today seems to lack one page (the second page, I think) I can't cover all the points you raise, till Dick sends me a copy of that page. Meanwhile, however, I'll do what I can -- in the hope that you and John Belknap and Merrick Belknap will respond by sending me additional information that I lack.

Your page 1: I enclose skeletonized drafts of the apparent lines of descent of your friend John Belknap and Merrick Belknap. These drafts are based on the records assembled by Henry Wyckoff Belknap, curator of Essex Institute in Salem, Massachusetts, before he died in 1946. Through the courtesy of the Institute, his papers are now in my hands. Though they contain errors that I am trying to remedy, they are obviously the most dependable records of our family.

As you will note, the two pedigrees are incomplete. So I hope that John and Merrick Belknap will help me by bringing them up to date -- and also, of course, by directing my attention to any errors they may find.

Your page #3 (beginning "on the chart?") I'll not try to answer this page till I have the preceding page -- except to say that the quotation "Ebenezer, Mitchell and Andrew Belknap (brothers) came to America sometime between 1620 and 1630" is, alas, just another version of the old "three brothers" legend, which in one form is still being printed. The truth is that only Abraham came, about 1635 or 1636 (the exact year being uncertain, as the name of his ship has not been found). All of his brothers stayed in England and raised their children and grandchildren there. And Abraham was not "a Pilgrim." He was a villager recruited and shipped to Massachusetts Bay by the Massachusetts Bay Company -- along with his wife and three young children, Samuel, Joseph, John. John died young; and all Belknaps in Canada and the U. S. A. are descended from Samuel and Joseph.

Your page 4: Henry Wyckoff Belknap was in business in New York City for some years before deciding to devote his life to what he wanted to do -- the profession of genealogy, in which he became a top man. To do this, he joined the staff of Essex Institute, one of the chief centers of genealogical study in this country; and eventually became its Curator. The files of his correspondence in the years during which he worked on Belknap genealogy are fascinating reading, and he left thousands of pages of detailed notes.

The letters you mention, written by Henry Wyckoff Belknap, were probably written in 1913 or 1914, just before he published his first article on the Belknap family, in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1914. Seventeen years later, in 1931, he published a longer article in the same journal -- correcting errors made in the 1914 piece.

He hoped to bring his work to the point at which he could publish it in book form. But in 1927, when he was 67, he wrote to a friend: "I no longer have the strength and time to ~~complete~~ it. Someone else will have to carry on."
complete

I -- heaven help me -- am trying to be that "someone else." At least as far as proves practicable without delaying in a fruitless search for impossible perfection.

Your page 4: As I've just said, the "book" was never completed. He did, however, publish some books on the genealogy of other families -- Waterhouse, and Burnap.

In order of birth, the list of Bennet's sons (Abraham and his brothers) goes like this:

Abraham	There were no brothers named "Thomas"
John	and "Joseph". These names were invented by
Daniel	early American genealogists -- they didn't exist.
Josias	When you see them in print, don't believe what you see.

All four brothers, and their sister Frances, were christened Beltoft. Upon the death of their father in 1630, all of them abandoned that name and called themselves Belknaps. (Abraham, like his uncle Josias, had ~~abandoned~~ to Belknap some years before his father's death.)
changed

Your page 3: I see I omitted a point in a letter of Henry Wyckoff's that you quoted: the mention of the Burnap name. In the earlier years of his research in England, he thought that Burnap was a variant of Belknap. But this proved not so; with the result that he published a genealogy of the Burnap family -- with proof that Burnap was a variant of Burnett -- with ~~XXX~~ American Burnaps and Burnetts tracing back to a common ancestor in England.

Your page 5: I think I've already dealt with the questions you ask on this page.

Forgive me for being long-winded. You did raise a lot of questions, didn't you?

Most sincerely,

Carroll Y. Belknap:

Professor Robert L. Belknap
Columbia University
New York, N. Y.

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878
Feb. 3, 1968

Dear Mr. Belknap:

May I ask for aid in solving a problem in family history?

In ~~know~~ the process of editing and extending the Belknap family papers left by Henry Wyckoff Belknap after his death in 1946, I find myself trying to interpret, in present-day terms, the rather remarkable will of Josias Belknappe -- uncle of the Abraham from whom the American Belknaps are descended.

What I need is a statement of the present-day equivalent value of an English pound of the year 1600.

It has become obvious that I don't know where to look for the information I want.

Perhaps, I hope, you or one of your colleagues at Columbia may be able to guide me. If so, I'll be grateful.

Very truly yours,

Carroll Y. Belknap:

HOME ADDRESS
25 Club Road
Riverside
Connecticut 06878
Feb. 3, 1968

The Alumni Office
Willamette University
Salem, Oregon

Gentlemen:

May I ask your aid in my present task of compiling a history of my family?

An obituary notice on Rev. Corrington Gavitt Belknap (copy enclosed) says that he attended your university in its early days, when it was known as Oregon Institute --- presumably about 1850 or 1852.

Unfortunately, the date given for his birth, in that clipping, is not certain. And the ~~actual~~ facts of his career are not known except in general terms.

Whatever information you can give me will be most welcome.

Very truly yours,

C. Y. Belknap:

W.D.P. Jarvis

"Bonshaw Gate",
King, Ontario,
Canada.

Friday, 26.I.68

My Dear Mr. Taylor;-

Your extremely comprehensive genealogical chart arrived safely here, a little before Christmas. My friend John Belknap has decided to keep it, so herewith enclosed, please find his cheque in the amount of eleven dollars, Canadian, which should nett you ten American.

Unfortunately it does not shew his earliest known ancestor, Daniel Belknap who would have been born circa(1744)1740, probably around the Massachusetts - Vermont - New Hampshire border. You do record five different Daniels but they are all deceased before 1700, and you have not projected any of them down. However the mere fact that the name was used in the family is heartening. The path of his descendants is northwards up the Connecticut River . . . Brattleboro(where his son Daniel was born) . . . Dummerston (where Daniel II lived and raised his family) . . . Windsor(where Daniel II's son lived) and finally up across the border into Quebec. Now . . .

A couple of years ago, I made contact with a Merrick Belknap (address: Rock Island, Quebec) who lives right on the Quebec - Vermont border. He claims his G.G.G. Grandfather was Obadiah Belknap (see History of Haverhill, Mass.) who married Sarah Mitchell in 1742. This puts Obie's birth date circa 1720. He married secondly Mary Marble in 1756 (see Haverhill Vital Records). Obie's son, William was born in 1743 in Plaistow, N.H. (see Vital Records), married circa 1762, settled in Lisbon, N.H., had a son John born there in 1777 who pushed on north over the border into Quebec at Stanstead. Daniel's descendant wound up at Knowlton, just a few miles from Stanstead, as is Rock Island also. Now . . . I notice that you on your chart under the heading of References: show as Reference #5 the Haverhill, Mass. Vital Records. I am

CRS
Can you help?

1777
I need
connecting
link
to put
on
chart
□
1777

2
on the chart?

In another letter he quotes from the Orange County(Vt.) Gazetteer of 1888 . . . "Simeon & Moses Belknap, brothers, came from Connecticut to Randolph, Vt. in 1779 or 1780. Simeon was taken captive during an Indian Raid on Royalton, Vt. on Oct. 17, 1780. Moses located on a farm, now occupied by Geo. F. Brigham (1888), he reared 3 sons & 7 daughters, two of the latter are still living (1888). Sophronia, widow of Walter Perrin of Hardwick, Vt., now 95, and Susan B., widow of John Miles, now 88, and living on a part of the old Belknap homestead at East Randolph, Vt. I must say it was a great thrill to locate these two brothers on your chart, and to note that the Indians didn't 'de-man' ~~hi~~ poor Simeon. However, you show only one offspring from Moses, viz: Moses Jr. obviously from the above there were more. After all why did Moses Jr. name his son Walter Perrin, if his sister wasn't married to Mr. Walter Perrin?

In yet again another letter, this time to John Belknap here in King, he states "From some facts I have, Ebenezer, Mitchell and Andrew Belknap (brothers) came from England to America with the Pilgrims sometime between 1620 and 1630." I find these facts a little unlikely. For one thing, the name 'Mitchell' was certainly not a Christian name of those times. I wonder if there could be a little confusion over his G.G.G. Grandfather's wife's maiden name? She was Sarah MITCHELL who would have been born circa 1724, which is just 10 years before the Ebenezer that you show on your chart (1734). Andrew doesn't appear on your chart at all.

To return to Merrick Belknap's Great Grandfather for a moment, John who was born in Lisbon, Vt. in 1777. He had a younger sister named Phoebe, born in the same place circa 1781. She married a Joseph G. Lynde. Let's say about 1800. Now, on your chart, you show an enterprising character by the name of Chauncey Belknap who, obviously, likes to keep things in the family, and, the family, in the 'family way', by marrying two Belknap lasses (Sarah and Mercy) and siring 14 little Belknaps. I will here assume that Chauncey married Mercy circa 1800, the same year that Phoebe (above) married Joe Lynde. In 1817, Mercy bears a son,

and that son is christened 'LYNDE', a most unusual name for^a babe when that name is not an old family name. The explanation seems to me to lie in the fact that Chauncey Belknap, and his wife Mercy Belknap were related in some way with Phoebe Belknap, and through her met, and came to know her husband, Joe Lynde: came to think so much of him that they named a son after him. Coincidence perhaps but, an interesting conjecture. No?

Tell me, in your research, have you come across a Henry Wyckoff Belknap? As the good D.A.R. girls, on their plaque in Newburgh, N.Y., say of the Belknaps: "Patriots All", well, this Henry character must be, has to be, the most patriotic of the 'All'. He is, without a doubt, the ALL-most. Why, he almost had a Belknap Genealogy published! Anyway, this joker figured that the area around where Old Abraham hit the beaches way back in the 1630's, was such hallowed ground, that he still lives - or lived - only five miles away, in Salem. This boy never got off the ground. But to explain why I asked you. My John Belknap here in King has put at my disposal a few archives that came down to him from his father, and amongst them is a typed letter from the above Henry to John's father. The top of the letter is missing so I can't tell you the date but, it must be prior to the First World War, as he states; " . . . however, better late than never and you are still in time to get into the book.

X I have been over fifteen years at it and at present the chief delay is caused by work in England where I finally located the ancestors of Abraham our first in this country during the past year.

Much valuable and interesting material is already in hand and more can be had if means to pay for it are forthcoming. Within a few days a new source of delay has developed through the discovery that in all probability the Burnap family of which some members came to these parts about the same time as Abraham Belknap, is the same as Belknap. This will necessitate going all over the ground already traversed and following up all of that name and from the start I have made it is going to be quite a piece of work.

I am very glad indeed to have finally reached you and enclose a blank

"to be filled out which will save you some writing and give you the facts needed. I also enclose copies of circular letters sent out about the English work in which I trust you will feel an interest. The material collected in England is to be published in a few months in the New England Genealogical & Historical Register, the quarterly of the New England Genealogical Society so that this part will be available before the regular book is printed.

Yours truly

Henry Wyckoff Belknap."

* * *

There is also the top portion of the above mentioned circular letter.

"BELKNAP GENEALOGY

31 Warren St., Salem, Mass.
May, 1912

Dear Sir or Madam:

After fifteen years of search and personal expense of several hundred dollars I have finally located definitely and beyond question the family of our emigrant ancestor, Abraham Belknap, in the County of Herts, Parish of Sawbridgeworth, England."

* * *

So, it appears that friend Henry Wyckoff was responsible for the data in Vol. 68 of the N.E. Gen. & Hist. Reg. printed, I believe, in 1914 but, none of the N.E. Hist. Societies that I have contacted are aware of any printed book by him. We also have a piece of note paper on which is penned:

"A painting in Burton Dassett Church, Warwickshire, shews the Arms of the Belknap Family." This checks out with a blurb you have in the top right section of your chart.

You state at the far left of your chart that Abraham was accompanied by two brothers. Which two? In that generation we have:

- 1) John Beltoft
- 2) Joseph Belknap
- 3) Abraham Belknap
- 4) Thomas Belknap
- 5) Josias Beltoft
- 6) Daniel Beltoft

It would appear that nos. 2, 3 & 4, beginning a new life, in a new country, made a clean sweep of things, and took on a new spelling of their names. I repeat, it only appears to me that these three were the emigrants from England. The argument is strengthened for me by the fact that you have not projected Joseph or Thomas by reason of their charts being equally comprehensive, and anyway your wife descends from neither of these two but, from Abraham. I further assume that the meager projections of John, Josias, and Daniel, were all that was available from Vol. 68 in the N.E. Gen. & Hist. Reg. Do you feel that Abraham's chart is complete, other than for the odd name of a wife here and there? If this be so, then it seems my John Belknap is descended from one of the other brothers. Take your pick. My guess is that he comes down from either Josias or Daniel. These two are the only two to make use of the name 'Daniel' in their families, and we know that my John had two antecedents with this name. It therefore appears that my John's immigrant ancestor arrived in New England anywhere up to 100 years after your Abraham, which indicates a lengthy search of the Shipping Lists. Could be that Merrick Belknap, in his search for Obadiah's ancestry, is in, or will find it on, the same boat. These two latter day immigrants, in all probability, emulated their New England cousins, and changed the spelling of their names from Beltoft to Belknap.

What thinkest thou of my theory? If you have a moment to spare from the ticker-tape, drop me a line. I should like to have your comments.

I remain, Sir

Most Respectfully Yours


(W.D.P. Jarvis)