

RFD#1, Lisbon Falls
Maine 04252
6 February 1976

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

Dear Mr. Belknap:

My sincere thanks for your letters of 26 January and 2 February 1976.

Before your first letter came I did not have the name John Page Jr. as the husband of Sarah Singletary, the daughter, so was very pleased with it and your suggestion that I check the date of Page's death in connection with proving whether Sarah, the widow, or Sarah, the daughter married Thomas Frost.

Haverhill Vital Records show John Page Jr. died 7 Mar 1717/18 in his 39th year (gravestone record Pentucket Cemetery). This plus the fact that John and Sarah had children as late as 1718 to me definitely proves that Sarah, the widow, was the one who married John Frost (rather Thomas Frost). I am now looking for a death record for a Sarah Frost with an age at death. This would allow us to fit Sarah Belknap into the right family at the right time. Neither Haverhill nor Framingham shows a death of Sarah or Thomas Frost, so I will check surrounding towns in the hopes such death records will appear. Of course, until I know when Thomas died (and Sarah), there is always a chance that Sarah (Belknap) Singletary Frost could have married a third time, so I shall also be looking for a marriage for a Sarah Frost at a time that it could have been our Sarah, the widow of Nathaniel Singletary. I have a half niece in California who does a lot of genealogical research, and I have her looking for such records for me, too.

Haverhill Vital Records show John Page Jr. as being born 27 Sep 1675 and the death record says he was in his 39th year when he died 7 Mar 1717/18. This doesn't reconcile, but it must be the same person for other references show that John Page Jr., son of Cornelius, married Sarah Singletary, and the death record for John Page Jr. says husband of Sarah Singletary, so -- it isn't my direct line, so I am not too concerned. Perhaps John wanted to be the same age as his wife who was born in 1679 and lied about it, so when he died his wife recorded his age as being in his 39th year.

I thank you for the excerpt from Frost's will, and I certainly agree that the "hard prenuptial bargain" is more the sort to be expected of a middle-aged widow than a younger one. I don't think I have encountered "Singleterre" as the spelling for my Singletary family. The Descendants of John Rugg gives it as Singletary; The Newton Genealogy gives it as Singletary; A History of Framingham (I forget whether it is Temple's or Barry's) says Singletary or Singeltary. I expect the various spellings

can be attributed to the various town clerks and other recorders of data and how they heard the name and thought it should be spelled.

Thanks again for your assistance in proving that Sarah, the widow, was the one that married Thomas Frost. It may lead to a death record which will show her age.

Sincerely,

Jayne E. Bickford
(Mrs. Jayne E. Bickford)

P. S. I can't help but think how pleased Sarah Belknap would be if she knew how hard people have been working to prove the factual aspects of her life.

It is interesting to note that Hoyt's Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury shows that John Page, Jr. was the son of Cornelius and Cornelius the son of a John. I always think of Jr being for a father, but in this case apparently it was for a grandfather. To me this would have not been a junior.

JAYNE HICKFORD from CIB

2 Feb 1976

I can spare you the labor of consulting Haverhill VR.

In a secondary part of my files, I have found a transcript of the births of children of John Page Jr and Sarah Singleterry, daughter of Nathaniel -- from Haverhill VR.
later

It shows three births which indicate that the Sarah who married Thomas Frost Sr was not Nathaniel's daughter:

Hannah b 23 Feb 1711/12

Abiah b 7 Dec 1713

Meldisball 27 May 1718

Page, John Jr
→ Sarah Singletary

Abiah & → Dec 1715

Edmund & Nov 7 1709

Hammer & 23 Feb 1711-12

John & 23 July 1707

Jonelham & 23 Apr 1705

Mahetebell May 27 1718

Nathaniel Feb 15 1700/1

Sarah Mar 24 1702-3

This Sarah
could not
be Sarah Belknap
Singletary

#10 Sarah
d of 1st Sam

M^(L) 22 Dec 1673 Singletary
b. 1644
d 1689

(M) 22 Dec 1712 - 1st Frost
d. ~~after~~ 1717, 13 Dec

Mar 12
Mary, & 14 Oct $\frac{1673}{1656}$
117

will of Frost

If she was Mary

1717
 $\frac{1656}{61}$ yrs old at
time of will

Mrs Carl A Bickford
RFD#1, Lisbon Falls
Maine 04252



Mr. Carroll Y. Belknap
25 Club Road
Riverside, Connecticut 06878

Jayne Bickford from CYB

26 Jan 1976

Thank you for the Singletary entry in Temple. I had not noted it before. Have you also checked in Barry's later and more accurate history of Framingham?

Myhaven't done any research on Sarah and Nathaniel Singletary, beyond the routine of verifying the dates, in the record prepared in the early 1900s by the founder of Belknap genealogy, H W Belknap of Salem. But I think I can comment on the two questions raised by Temple's entry.

(1) Was Sarah a daughter of Abraham Belknap? . . . Certainly not daughter of the first Abraham, as she was not a signer of the deed dated 14 April 1671, as Hannah Belknap was. . . Also not a daughter of that Abraham's son Abraham, who is known only from the fact that he was mentioned in the will of his grandfather in Hertfordshire. As you know, Savage said that this second Abraham signed the oath of allegiance at Haverhill when Samuel did -- and this statement has been widely copied by compilers who accept whatever they find in print -- but everyone who has done any real research on the subject has agreed that the Abraham who took that oath was son of Samuel, 17 years old at the time, and that the Abraham mentioned by Savage must have died young.

(2) Was the Sarah Singletary who married Thomas Frost Sr a daughter of Nathaniel Singletary? . . . There is a slim possibility that Temple was right -- which you can easily test, I think. According to H W Belknap's record, that Sarah, born 23 Oct 1679 at Haverhill, married John Page Jr 21 May 1700 (presumably at Haverhill) and died at Haverhill 3 Jan 1756. Though it may seem unlikely, it's possible that Page died before 1712 and that his widow then joined her mother at Framingham and married Frost in 1712 (his 3rd marriage, according to HWB) -- and returned to Haverhill after his death ~~some~~ in 1724. Sounds far fetched -- but possible. You can test by finding date of death of Page in Haverhill VR. If he died after 1712, the bride of Frost was Nathaniel Singletary's widow, not his daughter.

The mention of Sarah in Frost's will, 13 Dec 1717, does not solve the problem. As noted by HWB it reads "To Sarah my beloved wife $\frac{1}{2}$ lands etc, accdg to articles of agreement made with sd Sarah by the name of Singletary 16 Dec 1712." (a week before the marriage on 22 Dec:CYB) This tells us that the Sarah could have been known by a different surname; but that was true of both Sarahs. . . / To me, it seems more likely that a hard prenuptial bargain of that sort would be driven by a middle-aged widow rather than by a younger one -- but that's just guessing.

All that remains to be said is that HWB set it down as the widow of Nathaniel Singletary.

Clinton tells me that you are interested in the varied spellings of Singletary. Have you also encountered that one set down by HWB for Nathaniel's father"-- Singletarre?

I have no information on date of Sarah's death. I assume you have checked on Framingham VR -- I haven't.

RFD#1, Lisbon Falls
Maine 04252
21 January 1976

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

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Thank you most sincerely for your prompt reply to my letter to you of January 12th and for the material you attached concerning the Belknap family.

In rechecking material available to me locally I have found the following, which in all probability you are aware of:

"SINGLETARY, 1. Richard, of Salem 1637, of Newbury 1638, of Salisbury 1645, of Haverhill 1652; d. Oct. 25, 1687, a. 102. He m. Susanna Cooke. Chil. Jonathan; Eunice, m. Thomas Eaton of Andover; Nathaniel, b. Oct. 28, 1644²; Lydia; Amos; Benjamin.

"2. Nathaniel, s. of Richard 1, 1. Haverhill; k. by the Inds. Aug. 13, 1689. Part of his fam. rem. to Fram. He m. Dec. 22, 1673, Sarah Belknap, dau. of Abraham. Chil. John, b. May 7, 1675³, Jonathan, b. Nov. 18, 1678, d. y.; Sarah, b. Oct. 23, 1679, m. in Fram. Dec. 12, 1712, Thomas Frost, Sen. (or was it her mother who m. T. F.?); . . ." (History of Framingham 1640-1880, by J. H. Temple, Published by the Town of Framingham, 1887)

Where Abraham Belknap (the first one) died in 1643, even if my Sarah had been his last child she would have been 29 or 30 at the time of her marriage to Nathaniel Singletary (22 Dec 1673, per Haverhill Vital Records), so I doubt if this is true.

If Thomas Frost had married the daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Belknap) Singletary, he would have been some 32 years her senior (he having been born about 1647); this is possible, but not probable, so I rather think Nathaniel Singletary's widow (Sarah (Belknap) Singletary is the one who married Thomas Frost. Have you ever pursued this? I shall try to find a death record for Sarah (Belknap) Singletary, Frost. If only I could with an age at death, it would help me place her in the proper family.

I enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope; but if you have no information concerning the Sarah Belknap who married Thomas Frost, please do not feel obligated to answer me, for I do not wish to be a bother to you.

Sincerely,

Jayne E. Bickford
(Mrs. Jayne E. Bickford)

15 January 1976

Mrs Jayne E Bickford
RFD #1, Lisbon Falls, Maine 04253

Dear Mrs Bickford:

(Copy to E Clinton Belknap)

I'm grateful for your letter, as it has directed my attention to an error not previously noted in Clinton Belknap's An Belknap Genealogy.

When I first read your letter, I was amazed to hear that Clinton had said that it was my opinion that the Sarah Belknap who married Nathaniel Singleterry was a daughter of Samuel Belknap and Sarah Jones, for I knew that there was no basis for such a statement. But when I examine his book, I think perhaps I see how he came to say it

of his book

Pages 68-71 purport to reproduce my notes on Samuel, which I sent to him in early 1974. On his page 68, however, a number of changes were made by his typist, without authorization by me. The most serious change was the omission of "?" preceding the name of Sarah in the list of children --, which indicated that the parentage was questionable. Note 3 (as you will see in the enclosed copy of that manuscript) explained in detail the reason for the question-mark.

It seems likely that in writing to you Clinton looked at his miscopied version on his page 68, rather than consulting his copy of my manuscript, and that he also did not look at my Note 3, which appears on page 80 of his book.

I wish it were possible to answer the question you raise. But I have been unsuccessful in searching for an answer, just as all Belknap genealogists have been during the past 100 years. The few documents bearing her name merely call her Sarah, with no indication of her parentage -- as no doubt you already know.

Cordially,

Clinton Belknap

RFD#1, Lisbon Falls
Maine 04252
12 January 1976

Mr. Carroll Y. Belknap
25 Club Road
Riverside, Connecticut 06878

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Recently I have had correspondence with Mr. E. Clinton Belknap of Lincoln, Nebraska. He tells me that it is your opinion that the Sarah Belknap who married Nathaniel Singletary on 22 December 1673 (recorded in Haverhill, Mass. Vital Records) was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah Belknap. Do you have a source document for this opinion and do you have a date of birth for Sarah?

I have for several years tried to find a birth record for my Sarah or some other proof of her parentage. It was my guess that she was the daughter of Samuel, but I have not been able to prove this.

Savage's A Genealogical Dictionary of The First Settlers of New England does not show a Sarah as being a child of Samuel, and the Newton Genealogy refers to Abraham and to Ebenezer but not to Samuel. Nor have I been able to find any reference to who Sarah's parents were.

My line of descent from Sarah Belknap is as follows:

Sarah Belknap	Nathaniel Singletary
Hannah Singletary	Jonathan Rugg
Jonathan Rugg, Jr.	Hannah Walkup
Elizabeth Rugg	Micah Reed
Hannah Reed	Joseph W. Farr
Ivah Newton Farr	Nancy Danforth
John Vernon Farr	Mary Lucinda Watkins
Willis Vernon Farr	Ethel May Rugg
Vina Lucretia Farr	Edgar Clayton Harrington
	Jayne Ethel (Harrington) Bickford

So Sarah was apparently my 7th great grandmother.

Please excuse the paper tearing above where I underscored. My typewriter is cutting up.

Sincerely,

Jayne E. Bickford
(Mrs. Jayne E. Bickford)

19 Jan. 1976

Memo

To; CYB from: ECB

I have had some correspondence with a Jan E Bickford (Mrs. Carl A.), RFD # 1, Lisbon Falls, Maine, 04252, who claims to be a descendant of Sarah, the wife of Nathaniel Singletary (note spelling). She was trying to find documentaion for the parents of Sarah. She had had a copy of my book on loan from NEHGS and seemed to be raising a question as to why Sarah had been listed, even tentatively, among the children of Samuel Belknap and Sarah Jones, if, as had been indicated in your note 3, no clues pointing to any of the possibilities outlined therein had been found. I found myself a bit hazy on this and suggested she might write directly to you for more complete information as to the basis for listing. I gave her your name and address and hope she has followed through and that you didn't mind my action in the matter.

I had noticed the difference in spelling of Singleterry and among other things, asked her where she got the variation in spelling. Her response I have found interesting and think you might care to see it also. I am therefore enclosing a photo copy of same.

You asked me once why I carried both the face sheet material I did in connection with Samuel Belknap and Sarah Jones and also included your complete summary. The answer is that my copy had already been finished for the printer when your summary arrived and rather than leave it out when it seemed to carry so much good information, I just had Mildred complete a copy, and since the pages to my book had not yet been numbered, prevailed upon the printer to insert your summary, believing it better to present both than run the risk of loss of any additional viewpoint from any researcher.

ECB

Mrs. Bickford lists her Belknap line as follows:

Sarah Belknap	Nathaniel Singletary
Hannah Singletary	Jonathan Rugg
Jonathan Rugg Jr.	Hannah Walkup
Elizabeth Rugg	Micah Reed
Hannah Reed	Joseph W. Farr
Ivah Newton Farr	Nancy Danforth
John Vernon Farr	Mary Lucinda Watkins
Willis Vernon Farr	Ethel May Rugg
Vina Lucretia Farr	Edgar Clayton Harrington
Jayne Ethel (Harrington) Bickford	

RFD#1, Lisbon Falls
Maine 04252
1 January 1976

Mr. E. Clinton Belknap
2019 Harwood Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Delighted to receive your letter of 29 December and must say the mail service from Nebraska to Maine is excellent, for the letter was here when I reached home from the office yesterday.

I have in my records more than one spelling for Nathaniel Singletary, and this morning have been trying to reconstruct my references to give you an orderly account of the name as I have found it.

I believe my first knowledge of the Singletary family came from The Descendants of John Rugg by Ellen Rugg (p. 403). There it is stated that Jonathan Rugg m. 1st., Nov. 18, 1702, Sarah Newton, b. Nov. 1679, dau. of John and Elizabeth (Larkin) Newton of Marlboro, Mass. She d. in Framingham, May 7, 1710; he m. 2d, Dec. 11, 1710, Hannah Singletary, b. May 23, 1685, in Haverhill, Mass., dau. of Nathaniel and Sarah (Belknap) Singletary.

The Newton Genealogy by Ermina Newton, footnote p. 96, states:

"RICHARD SINGLETARY was one of the sixty-eight original settlers of Salisbury, Mass.; freeman 1638; at a meeting, and paid rates 1650; wf. SUSANNA, who was 46 in 1662 and he was 63 in 1662. The had Jonathan, 1639; Eunice, 1641; Nathaniel, 1644 . . .

* * *

"I set down the following marriages to keep them in this connection, although I cannot surely place them: Joanna Singletary m. 1710, Jonathan Rugg. . . ."

Joanna is, of course, Hannah. I find these two names used interchangeably in many instances in genealogical research.

The History of Framingham says Singletary or Singeltary.

I have found in the Haverhill, Mass. Vital Records the marriage of Sarah Belknap to Nathaniel 22 Dec 1673 but can't tell from my notes what spelling was used for Nathaniel's last name. As soon as the Christmas recess is over and the Bowdoin College library open again, I will go to Brunswick and check this out.

The Marlborough Vital Records show a Joanna Newton marrying an Ebenezer Singleterry in 1713, and this is the spelling you have.

I expect, as in many cases, the town clerk or minister, or whoever was writing a record, wrote the name as they heard it spoken.

There are also references to the Singletary family in Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury by Hoyt, but again this book is at the Bowdoin College library, so I can't check the spelling. Whenever I find other evidence to substantiate people are one and the same I don't pay too much attention to different spellings of a name, for I find so much variance in spelling.

You didn't say in your letter - does Mr. Carroll York Belknap have a birth record for my Sarah Belknap, daughter of Samuel and ~~Mary~~ ^{Sarah}, or other documentation for proving that Sarah was the daughter of Samuel and ~~Mary~~ ^{Sarah}? As you know from my earlier letter, I have been unable to find such documentation.

I presume you consulted Savage, Vol. I, during the research on the Belknap family, but in case you did not, he says among other things concerning the Belknap family:

" . . . SAMUEL, Salem, joiner, s. of Abraham the first, b. in Eng. by w. Sarah had Mary, b. 17 Aug. 1653, d. young; Mary, again, 14 Oct. 1656; Abraham, 4 June 1660; and Samuel, 1 May 1662; was of Malden 1671, but rem. to Haverhill, there took o. of fidel. 28 Nov. 1677, had Joseph, 25 Mar. 1672; and Patience, 17 Sept. 1675; and perhaps Ebenezer. His w. d. 18 Apr. 1689. . . ."

Just thought you might like to see how none of my sources have turned up proof for my Sarah's parentage.

As late as 1924 when I was born at Burlington, Vermont, my birth was not recorded by the doctor, although my mother did not find this out until I was about 18 and she went to the city clerk's office to procure a birth certificate for me. So probably this happened in many cases in the early days. People were not always near the town clerk's office and did not bother to put themselves out to record the birth of all children.

I am extremely grateful to you concerning the information on how you had your book printed. You write that the method was much more reasonable than a straight print job, and it was my guess that it would be. I am very anxious to put together all I have on my mother's family (and it is a lot) but I am not a wealthy woman and a regular printing job would be a burden for me. I will write to the Lincolnland Printers for specifications, because I don't want to get everything typed, only to find that I have done it wrong for the company that is to reproduce it to use my material.

Again, may I compliment you on the book you prepared. Each of us that prepare and have put in permanent form material concerning our ancestors is doing a great favor to those who come after us. I don't think anyone can prepare a mistake-free genealogical work, for I have found errors in town records - my grandmother Ethel May (Rugg) Farr, with whom I lived as a child, celebrated her birthday on 28 January, and her mother lived until my grandmother was a married woman, so my grandmother must have known the correct date of her birth. However, the Fairfax, Vermont, records show her as being born on 29 January. Also, my grandmother Farr's death record shows her mother as Delphine Fisk, where in reality the name was Delphine Fisk Brown before her marriage to Elbridge Gerry Rugg. I can only guess that when my mother or my uncle gave the information to the town clerk, the town clerk failed to hear the last word "Brown." I have had this record corrected via the Probate Judge and various small monetary charges.

My greatest success so far in puzzle accomplishment as far as town records are concerned has been in connection with the birth record for my great, great grandmother Nancy (Danforth) Farr. A great aunt in her D.A.R. notes said Nancy was born at Templeton, but Templeton, Mass. Vital Records disclosed no such record. Nancy's death certificate said she had been born at Ashburnham, Mass., but Ashburnham had no birth record. After a long time and with many false starts, I found Nancy recorded at Grafton, Vermont. Apparently when her parents moved to Grafton, they had all their children recorded at one time, showing their place of birth. Nancy had been born at Templeton, Mass.

I have Ruggs on both my Grandfather Farr's and Grandmother Farr's side. On grandfather's side I have the line back to John Rugg of Lancaster, Mass., who was married for the first time in 1654 to Martha Prescott and for the second time in 1660 to Martha's sister Hannah. Their son Jonathan married first Sarah Newton and second Hannah Singletary. My line of descent through my grandfather, as I wrote you earlier, was from Jonathan and Hannah Singletary (whose mother was Sarah Belknap).

However, on my grandmother Farr's side, she having been before her marriage Ethel May Rugg, I have a problem. According to Ellen Rugg's The Descendants of John Rugg, she descended from Jonathan Rugg and his first wife Sarah Newton through their son Abraham, b. 27 April 1710, his mother dying 7 May 1710. But a couple of years ago I found in the Framingham Vital Records that this Abraham died 4 May 1710. I have searched and searched but cannot find the birth record for any other Abraham who could be the one who married Abigail Warner 8 Jan 1736 at Harvard, Mass., who was the ancestors of my grandmother Farr. I put a notice in the Register but received no helpful information on this. Perhaps someday.

Please excuse the length of this letter, but I find it pleasant to exchange genealogical information and problems with other people interested in such matters, and I have on several occasions by throwing out information and problems been rewarded with return information which helped a lot, so I hope you will excuse my rambling on.

Best wishes for A Happy New Year, and if I can be of any help genealogically-wise at any time, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jayne E Bickford

HWS 4)

Revised 12 March 1974

2

SAMUEL BELKNAP
 son of Abraham Belknap
 & Mary Stallion
 bpt 16 March 1627/28, at
 North Weald, Essex, England
 d after 11 Nov 1701 (NOTE 2)
 m abt 1652

& SARAH JONES (NOTE 1)
 daughter of Robert Jones & Elizabeth Soane
 of Hingham, Mass.
 b abt 1627, Reading, Berks., England
 d 18 April 1689, Haverhill, Mass.

Occupation: a joiner -- i.e., craftsman who built fixed furnishings of a house, such as settles, cupboards, shelves.

residence: Salem, Malden, Haverhill, Mass. (Possibly, briefly, Southampton, L. I.)

Listed in 1653 as owning two small lots at Southampton, Long Island. Shown in the account book of a Salem merchant, 1657 and 1659. In 1669 list of Salem residents not entitled to privileges of the common, as his house was built before 1660. Shown on town map as owner of large property in Salem, between present Essex St and North River. In deeds 1665 and 1666, sold portions of this land. In 1666 named as creditor of estate of Thomas James of Salem; and as debtor to Thomas, Jere, and James Meschum of Salem. In deed 14 April 1671, Samuel "of Maulden, joiner" and Joseph "of Boston, glover" and their sister Hannah sold "theire thirds" (i.e., hereditary rights) of 3/4 acre in Lynn, part of the "house lott formerly Abraham Belknap's house lott, father unto the said Samuel and Joseph." In 1673 bought 2 1/2 acre lot in Haverhill, which he sold in 1685. Took Oath of Allegiance at Haverhill 28 Nov 1677. Named in will of Robert Jones 20 April 1688. On 21 Nov, ~~deeded~~ deeded land at Haverhill to his son Abraham "of Reading." On 13 Oct 1696 deeded his homestead at Haverhill, "27 acres with buildings," to his youngest son Ebenezer. On 11 Nov 1701 witnessed a deed signed by his son Abraham, then "of Framingham."

1695

CHILDREN:

- 10 Mary, b 17 Aug 1653. d young
- 11 *Sarah, m Nathaniel Singleterry 22 Dec 1673 (NOTE 3)
- 12 Mary, b 14 Oct 1656
- 13 *Abraham, b 4 June 1660, Salem. d abt 1728, Framingham
- 14 *Samuel, b 1 May 1662, Salem. Left Haverhill while young, date not known. About 1690 went from Fairfield, Conn. to Southern New Jersey and was there in 1697.
- 15 *Ebenezer, b Dec 1667, Salem. d Nov 1762, Haverhill
- 16 Joseph, b 25 March 1672, Haverhill. d 28 Aug 1672, Haverhill
- 17 Patience, b 17 Sept 1673, Haverhill. Living, ~~21 Nov 1695~~ 21 Nov. 1695

NOTE 1. Some writers give name as Sarah Hill, possibly indicating she was a widow. No proof of this has been found.

NOTE 2. The long-standing dispute about Samuel's longevity began with H W Belknap's statement in NEHQ Register, 1914, that Samuel was "living in 1731," and G Andrews Moriarty's objection in the Register, 1950, that "the Samuel living in 1731 was evidently Samuel's son Samuel." The only evidence cited by Moriarty was Savage's statement of the birthdate of the son; he gave no evidence to show that the son was living in 1731. H W Belknap's reason for saying that the father Samuel was living in 1731 was stated in the Register, Vol 68, ~~XXXXI~~ 1914, p 196: "Samuel . . . in 1696 conveyed land to his sons Ebenezer and Abraham, one of the deeds being acknowledged by him as late as 31 Aug. 1731." This statement was incorrect. There was no such acknowledgement. The error by HWS was based on the abstract, in his notes, of the deed from Samuel to Abraham -- Exhibit A, attached. This abstract gave the

5 Samuel continued

date of execution as 21 Nov 1696, and showed acknowledgements in 1731 by Samuel Belknap and Joseph Burnap. The recorded copy of the deed -- Exhibit B, attached -- shows that (1) the year of execution was 1695, not 1696, and (2) that there were no acknowledgements by anyone. Instead, there two attestations by men who had witnessed the signing of the deed in 1695: Jeremiah Spick and Joseph Burnap -- an expedient used when the grantor was not available to acknowledge his signature. The obvious probability is that Samuel died before the dates of these attestations. The last known date of record for Samuel is 11 Nov 1701, when he witnessed a deed signed by his son Abraham -- Exhibit C, attached. (There is no visible reason for thinking that the Samuel who witnessed this 1701 deed might have been the son Samuel. This son had gone to Fairfield, Conn., while still a young man, and from there had gone to extreme southern New Jersey about 1690 -- and in 1697 took title to 100 acres there. No indications that he ever returned to Massachusetts have been found.) . . . There is, however, one further point to deal with, lest it be misinterpreted by someone who comes across it. On 7 March 1735/6 Samuel Belknap witnessed the deed by which Ebenezer Belknap transferred his homestead to his youngest son Obadiah. There is good reason for believing that this Samuel was not Ebenezer's father but Ebenezer's son Samuel, who had settled in Somers (a section of Enfield in what was then a part of Massachusetts but was annexed to Connecticut in 1749) in 1726. In mid-January, 1735/36, this Samuel came back to Haverhill to raise money by selling 40 acres of his land in Somers. The sale was achieved by having the title pass first to his brother Obadiah with his father Ebenezer and brother Moses witnessing the deed, thus in effect guaranteeing the title to the ultimate purchasers, Ebenezer Morris and Samuel Porter. It seems sensible to conclude that this Samuel, from Somers, stayed at Haverhill a while and was there on 7 March. The birthdate of his next child, 15 Sept 1736, does not conflict with that conclusion.

NOTE 3: The parentage of the Sarah Belknap who married Nathaniel Sangleterry 22 Dec 1673 has not been established, though she was obviously of the same generation as that of Samuel's known children. There appear to be five possibilities. (1) That she was the Mary, daughter of Samuel, born 14 Oct 1656, for whom only the birthdate has been found. Or (2) that she was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah, born about 1655, for whom no birth record has been found. Or (3) that she was a daughter of Sarah by a first marriage, if it is true that Sarah Jones was a "widow Hill." Or (4) that she was a daughter of Samuel's younger brother John, who is not known to have married but died at some time before Samuel moved from Salem. Or (5) that she was either an adopted child or an illegitimate child of Samuel. No clues pointing to any of these possibilities have yet been found.

From the dates on record, obviously incomplete, a sketchy summary of Samuel's life can be set down in skeletonized form. . . . When his father died in Sept 1643, Samuel was 15½ years old. His mother Mary was 48. His brother Joseph was 10; and John was 8. His sister Hannah was 3 or 4. It can be assumed that the burden of being the man of the family fell naturally on Samuel. The land at Lynn remained in the family -- presumably under ownership by Mary. (Some of it remained in the family for many years afterward.) But little of it was good farm land; so it seems likely that there was pressure on Samuel to find another way of supporting his family. At any rate, by the time of his marriage about 1652 Samuel had learned the trade of a joiner, which he followed for the rest of his active life -- being termed "joyner" in deeds as late as 1696, when he was almost 70. . . . At the time of his marriage or soon thereafter, he went to eastern Long Island with a party of men intending to settle there, and in 1653 owned two small lots at Southampton. Whether he ever lived there is not known. . . . By 20 Oct 1657 he was settled in Salem and by 1660 was in

2

SAMUEL BELKNAP

son of Abraham Belknap

& Mary Stallion

bpt 16 March 1627/28, ~~at~~

North Weald, Essex, England

d after 11 Nov 1701 (NOTE 2)

m abt 1652

& SARAH JONES (NOTE 1)

daughter of Robert Jones & Elizabeth Soane
of Hingham, Mass.

b abt 1627, Reading, Berks., England

d 18 April 1689, Haverhill, Mass.

Occupation: a joiner -- i.e., craftsman who built fixed furnishings of a house, such as settles, cupboards, shelves.

Residence: Salem, Malden, Haverhill, Mass. (Possibly, briefly, Southampton, L. I.)

Listed in 1653 as owning two small lots at Southampton, Long Island. Shown in the account book of a Salem merchant, 1657 and 1659. In 1669 list of Salem residents not entitled to privileges of the common, as his house was built before 1660. Shown on town map as owner of large property in Salem, between present Essex St and North River. In deeds 1665 and 1666, sold portions of this land. In 1666 named as creditor of estate of Thomas James of Salem; and as debtor to Thomas, Jere, and James Meachum of Salem. In deed 14 April 1671, Samuel "of Maulden, joiner" and Joseph "of Boston, glover" and their sister Hannah sold "theire thirds" (i.e., hereditary rights) of 3/4 acre in Lynn, part of the "house lott formerly Abraham Belknap's house lott, father unto the said Samuel and Joseph." In 1673 bought 2 1/2 acre lot in Haverhill, which he sold in 1685. Took Oath of Allegiance at Haverhill 28 Nov 1677. Named in will of Robert Jones 20 April 1688. On 21 Nov. ~~1695~~ deeded land at Haverhill to his son Abraham "of Reading." On 13 Oct 1696 deeded his homestead at Haverhill, "27 acres with buildings," to his youngest son Ebenezer. On 11 Nov 1701 witnessed a deed signed by his son Abraham, then "of Framingham."

CHILDREN:

10 Mary, b 17 Aug 1653. d young

11 ?*Sarah, m Nathaniel Singleterry 22 Dec 1673 (NOTE 3)

12 Mary, b 14 Oct 1656

13 *Abraham, b 4 June 1660, Salem. d abt 1728, Framingham

14 *Samuel, b 1 May 1662, Salem. Left Haverhill while young, date not known. About 1690 went from Fairfield, Conn. to Southern New Jersey and was there in 1697.

15 *Ebenezer, b Dec 1667, Salem. d Nov 1762, Haverhill

16 Joseph, b 25 March 1672, Haverhill. d 28 Aug 1672, Haverhill

17 Patience, b 17 Sept 1673, Haverhill. Living, ~~1695~~ 21 Nov. 1695

NOTE 1. Some writers give name as Sarah Hill, possibly indicating she was a widow. No proof of this has been found.

NOTE 2. The long-standing dispute about Samuel's longevity began with H W Belknap's statement in NEHG Register, 1914, that Samuel was "living in 1731," and G Andrews Moriarty's objection in the Register, 1950, that "the Samuel living in 1731 was evidently Samuel's son Samuel." The only evidence cited by Moriarty was Savage's statement of the birthdate of the son; he gave no evidence to show that the son was living in 1731. H W Belknap's reason for saying that the father Samuel was living in 1731 was stated in the Register, Vol 68, ~~XXXXX~~ 1914, p 196: "Samuel . . . in 1696 conveyed land to his sons Ebenezer and Abraham, one of the deeds being acknowledged by him as late as 31 Aug. 1731." This statement was incorrect. There was no such acknowledgement. The error by HWB was based on the abstract, in his notes, of the deed from Samuel to Abraham -- Exhibit A, attached. This abstract gave the

5 Samuel continued

date of execution as 21 Nov 1696, and showed acknowledgements in 1731 by Samuel Belknap and Joseph Burnap. The recorded copy of the deed -- Exhibit B, attached -- shows that (1) the year of execution was 1695, not 1696, and (2) that there were no acknowledgements by anyone. Instead, there were two attestations by men who had witnessed the signing of the deed in 1695: Jeremiah Spick and Joseph Burnap -- an expedient used when the grantor was not available to acknowledge his signature. The obvious probability is that Samuel died before the dates of these attestations. The last known date of record for Samuel is 11 Nov 1701, when he witnessed a deed signed by his son Abraham -- Exhibit C, attached. (There is no visible reason for thinking that the Samuel who witnessed this 1701 deed might have been the son Samuel. This son had gone to Fairfield, Conn., while still a young man, and from there had gone to extreme southern New Jersey about 1690 -- and in 1697 took title to 100 acres there. No indications that he ever returned to Massachusetts have been found.) . . . There is, however, one further point to deal with, lest it be misinterpreted by someone who comes across it. On 7 March 1735/6, Samuel Belknap witnessed the deed by which Ebenezer Belknap transferred his homestead to his youngest son Obadiah. There is good reason for believing that this Samuel was not Ebenezer's father but Ebenezer's son Samuel, who had settled in Somers (a section of Enfield in what was then a part of Massachusetts but was annexed to Connecticut in 1749) in 1726. In mid-January, 1735/36, this Samuel came back to Haverhill to raise money by selling 40 acres of his land in Somers. The sale was achieved by having the title pass first to his brother Obadiah with his father Ebenezer and brother Moses witnessing the deed, thus in effect guaranteeing the title to the ultimate purchasers, Ebenezer Morris and Samuel Porter. It seems sensible to conclude that this Samuel, from Somers, stayed at Haverhill a while and was there on 7 March. The birthdate of his next child, 15 Sept 1736, does not conflict with that conclusion. ^{at Somers,}

NOTE 3: The parentage of the Sarah Belknap who married Nathaniel Singleterry 22 Dec 1673 has not been established, though she was obviously of the same generation as that of Samuel's known children. There appear to be five possibilities. (1) That she was the Mary, daughter of Samuel, born 14 Oct 1656, for whom only the birthdate has been found. Or (2) that she was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah, born about 1655, for whom no birth record has been found. Or (3) that she was a daughter of Sarah by a first marriage, if it is true that Sarah Jones was a "widow Hill." Or (4) that she was a daughter of Samuel's younger brother John, who is not known to have married but died at some time before Samuel moved from Salem. Or (5) that she was either an adopted child or an illegitimate child of Samuel. No clues pointing to any of these possibilities have yet been found.

From the dates on record, obviously incomplete, a sketchy summary of Samuel's life can be set down in skeletonized form. . . When his father died in Sept 1643, Samuel was 15½ years old. His mother Mary was 48. His brother Joseph was 10; and John was 8. His sister Hannah was 3 or 4. It can be assumed that the burden of being the man of the family fell naturally on Samuel. The land at Lynn remained in the family -- presumably under ownership by Mary. (Some of it remained in the family for many years afterward.) But little of it was good farm land; so it seems likely that there was pressure on Samuel to find another way of supporting his family. At any rate, by the time of his marriage about 1652 Samuel had learned the trade of a joiner, which he followed for the rest of his active life -- being termed "joyner" in deeds as late as 1696, when he was almost 70. . . At the time of his marriage or soon thereafter, he went to eastern Long Island with a party of men intending to settle there, and in 1653 owned two small lots at Southampton. Whether he ever lived there is not known. . . By 20 Oct 1657 he was settled in Salem and by 1660 was in


possession of a large parcel of land in what is now the center of the city. Till 1669, he is on record in Salem. . . In 1670 or 1671 he moved to Malden, nearer Boston, where he and Joseph, with the concurrence of their sister Hannah, sold "theire thirds" of their father's house lot in Lynn -- which suggests that their mother Mary had died and indicates plainly that the brother John was dead by that time -- 14 April 1671. . . . Samuel was not long at Malden. In 1673 he bought a small lot -- 2½ acres -- at Haverhill, which he sold for 80 pounds in 1685, presumably at a handsome profit. Samuel remained at Haverhill for the rest of his life and prospered, for by 1695 he owned land totalling 127 acres -- and had already given his son Ebenezer 20 acres. In 1695 and 1696 he apparently disposed of his land by giving it to two of his sons: Abraham and Ebenezer -- omitting the other son, Samuel. In 1695 he gave half of his 100 acre farm land to Abraham. No record covering the other half of it has been found, but it seems probable that Samuel gave it to Ebenezer, for in later years Ebenezer sold more land than he is known to have acquired. A year later, in 1696, Samuel took the final step -- giving his homestead "27 acres and buildings" to his youngest son Ebenezer, quite possibly with the customary understanding that he would continue to live there, with Ebenezer. Five years later, 11 Nov 1701, he witnessed the deed by which Ebenezer bought some of the farm land that Samuel had given to Abraham. After that date, nothing is known.

Samuel Belknap to Abr.^m Belknap. rec. on Record Dec. 29th 1731. -

To all Christian People before whom this Deed of Gift shall come greeting
Now Know Ye That Samuel Belknap of y^e Town of Haverhill in y^e County of Norfolk in the
Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay in New England (Gyver) For divers Causes & with
good Considerations Moving me therunto. But more Especially for y^e Considera-
tion of y^e Love & good Will that I bear unto my loving & dutifull son Abraham
Belknap of y^e Town of Reading in y^e County of Middlesex in the Province
aboves. (Turner) HAW Given unto my son Abraham Belknap aboves.

50
piece or parcel of Land situate in of Town of Dover above mentioned
a Place that is commonly known by of Name of Hog Hills, It being one Half of a Lot that the
whole is by Estimation One Hundred Acres, And Do by these Presents further Give
grant bargain, Sell, alienate, Set over, enfeoff & confirm unto my Loving Son Abraham
Bellknap above. The one Half of of Lot above. be there so many Acres as it is menti-
oned, for more or less. The whole Hundred Acres being Bounded as followeth viz: South-
therly by of Land of Daniel Eally, Northerly by of Town's Common, and at of Southwest Corner
a Great White Oak Split, with a black Oak at of Northeast Corner, it being split.
with all of Rights of Trees, Timber like, Trees, Wood, underwood, Brush, Grass, Her-
bage standing, lying or growing on of same or that shall Ever grow upon it, with
all other of Rights, Titles, Priviledges, Appurtenances profits & Advantages thereunto
belonging, or in any wise appertaining to of same To Him of of Abraham Bellknap
his Heirs, Exes: Adms: or Assigns for ever. To HAVE & TO Hold of above said
Premises as it above mentioned & bounded with all of Rights of Trees
Timber like, Trees, Wood, Underwood, Brush, Grass, Herbage standing lying or
growing on of same or that shall Ever grow upon it. With all other the
Rights, Titles, Priviledges, Appurtenances, profits & Advantages thereunto belong-
ing, or in any wise appertaining to of same. Furthermore I of of Saml. Bellknap
do Covenant with & Grant unto my Son Abraham Bellknap, That I have good
Right full power & lawfull Authority to make this Conveyance at this Time.
And that my of Son Abraham Bellknap his his Heirs, Exes: Adms: or Assigns
shall or may at all Times & from Time to Time for ever hereafter peaceably &
quietly, Have hold, Enjoy, Occupy & Possess of same in as full and ample
manner as I myself Ever did or might have done without of lawfull Lett
Suit Hindrance Contradiction or Molestation of any Person from by or under
me, or any other Person, laying lawfull Claim to of same Warranting the same
from all former Gifts Grants Sales Leases alienations Mortgages Joyntures,
Dowries, Titles of Dowries, Attachments, Judgments, or Execution or any such like
Trouble or Troubles, had, made or done by me, at any Time or Times, or any
other Person doing the same lawfully. Furthermore I of of Saml. Bellknap
do own myself, my Heirs &c. to be fully Satisfied for Every part & parcel
of the same, And do by these Presents Acquitt Exonerate, & Discharge my well
beloved Son Abraham Bellknap his Heirs &c. for every part & parcel of of

same for Ever. And in Witneſs of the ſame I ſan^d. Bellknapp have
ſet to my Hand & affixed my Seal this Twenty firſt Day of November,
In y^e Year of our Lord One Thouſand Six Hundred Ninety & five, and in the
ſeventh Year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William.

Signed, ſealed & D. in y^e Preſence of us }  Samuell Belknap and a Seal
Jeremiah Spick

^{hand} Bellknapp, Joſeph Burnap } Middl^d. ſ. Concord Auguſt 31. 1734. Before the
^{not} Juſt of General Sessions of the Peace appeared Jeremiah Spick & made Oath, That he
was preſent, & ſaw ſan^d. Bellknapp Execute y^e above Inſtrument, as his Act and Deed
and

And that He together with Joseph Burnap, at y^e same Time set to their Hands
as Witnesses to y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shipp's Cler^y pa^d

Middle^y s. Charlestown Dec^r. 17. 1734. Before His Majesty's Court
of General Sessions of y^e Peace appeared Cap^t Joseph Burnap, and made Oath,
That he was present & saw Sam^l Belknap Executi^g y^e within
Instrument as his C^ont^r & Deed. And that He, together with Jeremiah Spike
& Patience Belknap, at y^e same Time set to their Hands as Witnesses to
y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shipp's Cler^y pa^d

Bellknop To Bellknop returned June 21. 1706.

Know all men by these presents that I Abraham Bellknop of Framingham
in the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England for and
Just Summe of Sixty pounds already in hand paid which is to my
full Satisfaction do hereby give grant sell & confirm unto my brother
Ebenezer Bellknop of Haverhill a Certain tract of land in the bounds
of Haverhill bounded by a steeping white Oak Marked by a
Swamp to an ash Marked Northward by a brook running into of
Fishing river Southward by a Small Walnut Marked by four corner
bounds of said land respectively be it more or less as it is so bounded
being by Estimation Twenty Seven acres with all of buildings former
Wood Wares Orchards whatsoever therein thereon or thereunto be
belonging unto him my forsaide Brother Ebenezer Bellknop to
have & to hold & peaceably to possess and enjoy to him his heirs Executors
admitt^{ts} and assigns for ever & I of said Abraham Bellknop doe
Warrant my self to have been before & unlike of time of this
Conveyance the only legal poss^r & particular proprietor of the
formentioned land & buildings & doe warrant the same to be free from
all former Gifts grants Sales Dower with Debts Mortgages
Judgments or any other legal incumbrance whatsoever in from
by or under me or by my means or procurement or by any
other person by virtue of any former right which may prove
a damage to said Ebenezer or his heirs Executors and doe hereby
bind my self my heirs Executors admitt^{ts} & assigns to defend him
the said Ebenezer Bellknop in & peaceable possession or disposal
of said land be it upland Meadow or Swamp and for the Confirmation
hereof I the said Abraham Bellknop have hereunto set my hand
and Seal this 11. Day of November 1701 in the 11 year of his Reigne
William the third of England

Signe Leada & witnessed
in presence of Peter Brewer
Samuel Bellknop

Abraham Bellknop & a Seal

Haverhill Sept 6. 1705.

Then I Nathl Sewall
Ebenezer Bellknop personally appeared &
sworn that he had signed this Instrument
& did acknowledge it to be his act & deed before
me
Nathl Sewall Justice of Peace
in & County of Essex

CARROLL YORK BELKNAP 25 Club Road Riverside, Connecticut 06878

March
12, 1974

MEMO to E Clinton Belknap

Copies to John Sherman, George May, Della Belnap, Paul Belknap, R B Taylor, J H Belknap

I'm deeply indebted to you for your comment on the sheets on our first Samuel, which I sent to you last May. It has led to a rewriting of those sheets. So I'm now sending you the new version, with its supporting exhibits -- one of which is condensed by omitting the long central portion, which contains nothing bearing on genealogy.

Your comment about the son Samuel who went to southern N J was of course correct. Though it had no part in the writing of the new version, it happened to make me reread all the evidence on which my 1973 version was based. In this rereading, I got the notion that the full deed which was said to have been acknowledged in 1731 might contain information identifying the Samuel who appeared to have acknowledged it in 1731. So I sent for a copy of the deed, to compare with the abstract in H W Belknap's notes.

To my surprise, what I found was that H W Belknap's abstract of the deed, in his notes, was astoundingly erroneous. The conclusion that he (and I) had drawn from that abstract was correct. But his abstract was incredibly false. . . I say "incredibly" because I'm unable to think of a way in which HWB could have made the error when he was so painstaking as to reproduce even the mark by which Patience signed as witness and also the recorder's misspelling of Samuel's signature. But he did make the error, as the accompanying exhibits show.

Please destroy the 1973 version on Samuel. . . One of the penalties of trying to share the fruits of research is the difficulty of stopping further circulation of an error detected in later research.

-A-

Samuel Belknap, contd.

Essex Deeds, Vol. 11, p. 164.

Samuell Belnap of Haverhill, journey unto my naturall son Ebenezer (15) Belknap of ye same place land in bounds of Haverhill, bounded East by a Stooping white Oak marked so by a Swamp to an Ash marked, northward by a Brooke where it runs into ye fishing river, southward by a small Walnut marked being ye corner of ye sd land, 27 acres with buildings etc.

13 Oct. 1696. Witness: Samuell Dalton

Dorothy Dalton. Ackd. 16 Oct. 1696.

Idem: Vol. 59, p. 85. 29 Dec. 1731.

Samuell Belknap of Haverhill, Co. Norfolk (sic) for love & good Will unto loving & dutiful son Abraham Belknap of Reading, Co. Middlesex, a Parcel of land in Haverhill near place known by name of Hog Hill - being 2 of a Lot by estimation 100-acres the whole lot bounded Southerly by Land of Daniel Fally - northerly by Town Common & at ye south west corner a Great White Oak Slipt, with a black Oak at ye northeast corner, it being slipt. 21 Nov. 1696. Samuell Belknap

Witness: Jeremiah Spick Ackd. 31 Aug. 1731, Concord, N.H.
Penance & Belknap " 17 Dec. 1731, Charlestown
Joseph Burnap Capt. Joseph B.

The names of witnesses in Capt. Burnap's attestation are Penance Belknap (17)

Jeremiah Spick,

if Samuel acknowledged the foregoing deed in 1731 as stated he was it would seem 104 years old but the allusion to his son Abraham of Reading (13) appears to establish the fact that it was he and not his son Samuel (14) who was the grantor.

Samuell Belknap two ackers and an halfe and sixteene poole more or less bounded with Robert Bond on the one side and Richard Brookes on the other. East Hampton Town Records, bk. 2, p. 159, Records of the Meadow at Norwest 5 Jul. 1653.

One aker and fferty eight poole be it more or less bounded with Robert Bond on the one side and Richard Brookes on the other.

Ibid: Book 2, p. 161, Records of the Meadow at Accabanoek, 5 Jul. 1653.

Sam Belknap Ibid: Book 2, p. 24, the lot for the Meadow.

Sam Belknap a creditor of est. of Thomas James, of Salem, 20 Sep. 1656.

Salem Quarty. Ct. Recs., v. 111, p. 379.

Samuel Belknap of Haverhill, upon Merrimack River, gave to Fran- ois Waynwright of Ipswich, merchant, 2 acres & half 2d. division meadow in Haverhill beyond a place called Spickett wch I purchased of Daniel Bradley 24 Dec. 1673. (Sarah ry wife) 27 Mar. 1685.

Wit: - Richard Starling

John Starling (his mark)

Ack: - 27 Mar. 1685.

Ipswich Deeds, vol. 8, p. 839/4.

John C. Moore Co. v. Belknap, N. H. History and Public Affairs, vol. 1, p. 100

-A-

Samuel Belknap, contd.

Essex Deeds, Vol. 11, p.184.

Samuell Belnap of Haverhill, joynor unto my naturall son Thomas

(15) Belknap of ye same place land in bounds of Haverhill, bounded East by a Steeping white Oak marked so by a stone to an Ash marked, northward by a brooke where it runs into ye fishing river, southward by a small Walnut marked being ye corner of ye sd land, 27 acres with buildings etc. 18 Oct. 1696. Samuel Belnap

Witness: Samuel Dalton

Dorothy Dalton. Ackd. 16 Oct. 1696.

Idem: Vol. 59, p.85, 29 Dec. 1731.

Samuell Belknap of Haverhill, Co. Norfolk(sic) for love & good Will unto loving & dutiful son Abraham Belknap of Reading, Co. Middlesex, a Parcel of land in Haverhill near place known by name of Hog Hill- being 1 of a lot by estimation 100-acres the whole lot bounded Southerly by Land of Daniel Eally- northerly by Town Common & at ye south west corner a Great White Oak Slipt, with a black Oak at ye northeast corner, it being slipt. 21 Nov. 1696. Samuell Belknap

Witness: Jeremiah Spike Ackd. 31 Aug. 1731, Concord N.H.

Pensance C. Lollknap

17 Dec. 1731, Charlestown

Joseph Burnap

Capt. Joseph F.

The names of witnesses in Capt. Burnap's attestation are
Patience Belknap (17)

Jeremiah Spike,

If Samuel acknowledged the foregoing deed in 1731 as stated he was it would seem 104 years old but the allusion to his son Abraham of Reading (18) appears to establish the fact that it was he and not his son Samuel (14) who was the grantor.

Samuell Belknap two acres and an halfe and sixteene poles more or less bounded with Robert Bond on the one side and Richard Brookes on the other. East Hampton Town Records, bk. 2, p. 159, Records of the Headow at Norwest 5 Jul. 1653.

One acre and fferty eight poles be it more or less bounded with Robert Bond on the one side and Richard Brookes on the other.

Ibid: Book 2, p. 161, Records of the Headow at Accabanoek, 5 Jul. 1653.

Sam Belknap Ibid: Book 2, p. 24, the Lotis for the Headow.

Sam Belknap a creditor of est. of Thomas Janda, of Salem, 20 Sep. 1686.

Salem Quarty. Ct. Recs., v. III, p. 379.

Samuel Belknap of Haverhill, upon Merrimack River, dona. £80 to ffrancis Waynwright of Ipswich, merchant, 2 acres & half 2d. division meadow in Haverhill beyond a place called Spickett wch I purchased of Daniel Bradley 24 Dec. 1673. (Sarah my wife) 27 Jan. 1685.

Wit:- Richard Starling

John: Starling (his marke)

Ack:- 27 Mar. 1685.

Ipswich Deeds, vol. 8, p. 883/4.

-A-

Samuel Bellknap, contd.

Essex Deeds, Vol. 11, p.164.

Samuell Belnap of Haverhill, journey unto my Naturall son Ebenezer (15) Belnap of ye same place land in bounds of Haverhill, bounded East by a Stooping white Oak marked so by a Swamp to an Ash marked, northward by a Brooke where it runs into ye fishing river, southward by a small Walnut marked being ye corner of ye sd land, 27 acres with buildings etc. 13 Oct. 1696. Samuel Belnap

Witness: Samuell Dalton

Dorothy Dalton. Ackd. 16 Oct. 1696.

Ident: Vol. 59, p.85. 29 Dec. 1731.

Samuell Bellknap of Haverhill, Co. Norfolk(sic) for love & good Will unto loving & dutiful son Abraham Bellknap of Reading, Co. Middlesex, a Parcel of land in Haverhill near place known by name of Hog Hill- being 1/2 of a Lot by estimation 100 acres the whole lot bounded Southerly by Land of Daniel Fally- northerly by Town Comon & at ye south west corner a Great White Oak Slipt, with a black Oak at ye northeast corner, it being slipt. 21 Nov. 1696. Samuell Bellknap

Witness: Jeremiah Spike

Ackd. 31 Aug. 1731, Concord by S.

Pensance C. Lellknap

17 Dec. 1731, Charlestown

Joseph Burnap

Capt. Joseph L.

The names of witnesses in Capt. Burnap's attestation are

Patience Bellknap (17)

Jeremiah Spike,

Samuel acknowledged the foregoing deed in 1731 as stated he was 104 years old but the allusion to his son Abraham of Reading (13) appears to establish the fact that it was he and not his son Samuel (14) who was the grantor.

Samuell Belknap two ackers and an halfe and sixteene poole more or there bounded with Robert Bond on the one side and Richard Brookes on the other. East Hampton Town Records, bk. 2, p. 159, Records of the Meadow at Norwest 5 Jul. 1653.

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Ibid: Book 2, p. 161, Records of the Meadow at Accabanoek, 5 Jul. 1653.

Said Belknap Ibid: Book 2, p. 24, the Lotts for the Meadow.

Said Belknap a creditor of est. of Thomas Jands, of Salem, 20 Sep. 1686. Salem Quarterly Ct. Records, v. III, p. 379.

Samuel Bellknap of Haverhill, upon Merrimack River, dona. £80 to ffraunceis Maynwright of Ipswich, merchant, 2 acres & half 2d. division meadow in Haverhill beyond a place called Spickett wch I purchased of Daniel Bradly 24 Dec. 1673. (Sarah my wife) 27 Mar. 1685.

Wit: Richard Starling

John Starling (his mark)

Ack: 27 Mar. 1685.

Ipswich Deeds, vol. 3, p. 383/4.

Samuel Belknap, contd.

Essex Deeds, Vol. 11, p.164.

Samuell Belnap of Haverhill, journey unto my naturall son Ebenezer

(15) Belknap of ye same place land in bounds of Haverhill,
bounded East by a Stooping white Oak marked so by a
to an Ash marked, northward by a brooke where it runs into
ye fishing river, southward by a small Walnut marked
ye corner of ye sd land, 87 acres with buildings etc.
13 Oct. 1696. Samuel Belnap

Witness: Samuell Dalton

Dorothy Dalton. Ackd. 16 Oct. 1696.

Idem: Vol. 59, p.85. 29 Dec. 1731.

Samuell Belknap of Haverhill, Co. Norfolk(sic) for love & good
Will unto loving & dutiful son Abraham Belknap of Read-
ing, Co. Middlesex, a Parcel of land in Haverhill near place
known by name of Hog Hill- being 1 of a lot by estimation
100 acres the whole lot bounded Southerly by Land of Daniel
Fally- northerly by Town Comon & at ye south west corner a
Great White Oak Slipt, with a black Oak at ye northeast cor-
ner, it being slipt. 21 Nov. 1696. Samuell Belknap

Witness: Jeremiah Spick Ackd. 31 Aug. 1731, Concord by S.

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Joseph Burnap Capt. Joseph F.

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One acre and fferty eight poles be it more or less bounded with
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Ibid. Book 2, p. 161, Records of the Hedge at Acobanook, 5 Jul. 1653.

Sam Belknap Ibid: Book 2, p. 24, the lot for the Hedge.
Sam Belknap a creditor of est. of Thomas James, of Salem, 20 Sep. 1666.

Salem Quarterly Ct. Records, v. 111, p. 379.
Samuel Belknap of Haverhill, upon Merrimack River, cons. 280 to Fran-
cis Maynwright of Ipswich, merchant, 2 acres & half 2d. division
meadow in Haverhill beyond a place called Spickett with I purchased
of Daniel Bradley 24 Dec. 1673. (Sarah my wife) 27 Jan. 1685.

Wit: Richard Starling

John Starling (his mark)

Ack: 27 Mar. 1685.

Ipswich Deeds, vol. 3, p. 833/4.

Samuel Belknap to Abr^m Belknap. rec^d on Record Dec^r 29th 1731.

To all Christian People before whom this Deed of Gift shall come greeting
 Now Know Ye That Samuel Belknap of y^e Town of Doverhile in y^e County of Norfolk in the
 Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay in New England (Gyver) For divers Causes & with
 good Considerations Moving me therunto. But more Especially for y^e Considera-
 tion of y^e Love & good Will that I bear unto my loving & dutifull son Abraham
 Belknap of y^e Town of Reading in y^e County of Middlesex in the Province
 above. (Turner) H^h A^h E Given unto my son Abraham Belknap above.

Same for Ever. And in Witnejs of the same I y^e said Samuel Belknap have
 set to my Hand & affixed my Seal this Twenty first Day of November
 y^e 1st Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety & five and in the
 Seventh Year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William
 sealed & D. in y^e Presence of us } Samuel Belknap and a Seal
 Joseph Burnap }
 Middle^x p. Concord August 31. 1731. Before the
 y^e General Sessions of y^e Peace appeared Jeremiah Spick & made Oath That the
 was present & saw said Belknap Execute y^e above Instrument as his Act and Deed
 and

And that He together with Joseph Burnap at y^e same Time set to their Hands
 as Witnesses to y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shippes Cler^{pa}

Middle^x p. Charlestown Dec^r 17. 1731. Before His Majesty's Court
 of General Sessions of y^e Peace appeared Cap^t Joseph Burnap and made Oath
 That he was present & saw said Belknap Execute y^e within
 Instrument as his Act & Deed And that He together with Jeremiah Spick
 & Patience Belknap at y^e same Time set to their Hands as Witnesses to
 y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shippes Cler^{pa}

Samuel Belknap to Abr^m Belknap. rev. on Quon Dec^r 29th 1731.

To all Christian People before whom this Deed of Gift shall come greeting
Now We that Samuel Belknap of Town of Haverhill in County of Norfolk in the
Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England (Giver) For Divers Causes & with
good Considerations Moving me thereunto. But more Especially for & in Considera-
tion of Love & good Will that I bear unto my loving & dutifull son Abraham
Belknap of Town of Reading in County of Middlesex in the Province
aboves. (Turner) HAV Given unto my son Abraham Belknap aboves.

same for Ever. And in Witnefs of the same I & Samuel Belknap have
set to my Hand & affixed my Seal this Twenty first Day of November
In y^e Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety & five and in the
Seventh Year of y^e Reiga of our Sovereign Lord King William
Signed Sealed & D. in y^e Presence of us } Samuel Belknap and a Seal
Jeremiah Spick }
Joseph Burnap } Midd^l S^c Concord August 31. 1731. Before M^{rs}
General Sessions of the Peace appeared Jeremiah Spick & made Oath That
he was present & saw Sam^l Belknap Execute y^e above Instrument as his Act and Deed

And that He together with Joseph Burnap at y^e same Time set to their Hands
as Witnesses to y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shippes Cler^y pa^d
Midd^l S^c Charlestown Dec^r 17. 1731. Before His Majesty's Court
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That he was present & saw Sam^l Belknap Execute y^e within
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& Patience Belknap at y^e same Time set to their Hands as Witnesses to
y^e Execution thereof Attest Sam^l Shippes Cler^y pa^d

• Bellknap to Bellknap returned June 21. 1706. C

Know all men by these presents that I Abraham Bellknap of Framm-
ing Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England Purser for of
Just & Summe of Sixty pounds already on hand paid which is to
full Satisfaction do hereby give grant Sell & Confirm unto my brother
Ebenezer Bellknap of Haverhill a Certain tract of land in the town
of Haverhill bounded East by a steeping white Oak Marked so by
Swamp to an ash Mark Northward by a brook running into of
Fishing river Southward by a small Walnut Mark being four corner
bound of of said land respectively be it more or less as it is so bound
being by Estimation Twenty Seven acres with all of Building former
Wood Wares Orchards whatsoever therein thereon or hereunto be
belonging unto him my forsaide Brother Ebenezer Bellknap to
have & to hold & peacefully to possess and Enjoy to him his heirs Execu-
tors & assigns for ever & I of said Abraham Bellknap doe
Warrant my Self to have been before & unlike of him of this
Conveyance the only Legall possessor & particular proprietor of the
foresaid land & Building & doe warrant the same to be free from
all former Gifts grants Sales Downes will Debt Mortgages
Judgments or any other Legall incumbrance whatsoever in from
by or under me or by my means or procurement or by any
other person by virtue of any former right which may prove
a damage to said Ebenezer or his heirs Executors and do hereby
bind my self my heirs Executors administrators & assigns to defend him
the said Ebenezer Bellknap in & peaceable possession or disposal
of of said land be it upland Meadow or Swamp and for the Conveyance
hereof I the said Abraham Bellknap have hereunto set my hand
and Seal this 11. Day of November 1706.

and Seal This 11. Day of November 1701 in 11 year of his Reign
William the King of England
Leads & Administ
one of Peter Brewer
Abraham Bellnap

Abraham Bellnap & a Seal

Gloucester Sept 6. 1705.

When Abraham Bellnap personally appeared &
swore that he had signed this Instrument
& did acknowledge it to be his act & deed before
me Nathl. Saltonstall Justice of Peace
in & County of Gloucester

CARROLL YORK BELKNAP

25 Club Road

Riverside, Connecticut 06878

March
12 ~~May~~ 1974

MEMO to E Clinton Belknap

Copies to John Sherman, George May, Della Belnap, Paul Belknap, R B Taylor, J H Belknap

I'm deeply indebted to you for your comment on the sheets on our first Samuel, which I sent to you last May. It has led to a rewriting of those sheets. So I'm now sending you the new version, with its supporting exhibits -- one of which is condensed by omitting the long central portion, which contains nothing bearing on genealogy.

Your comment about the son Samuel who went to southern N J was of course correct. Though it had no part in the writing of the new version, it happened to make me reread all the evidence on which my 1973 version was based. In this rereading, I got the notion that the full deed which was said to have been acknowledged in 1731 might contain information identifying the Samuel who appeared to have acknowledged it in 1731. So I sent for a copy of the deed, to compare with the abstract in H W Belknap's notes.

To my surprise, what I found was that H W Belknap's abstract of the deed, in his notes, was astoundingly erroneous. The conclusion that he (and I) had drawn from that abstract was correct. But his abstract was incredibly false. . . I say "incredibly" because I'm unable to think of a way in which HWB could have made the error when he was so painstaking as to reproduce even the mark by which Patience signed as witness and also the recorder's misspelling of Samuel's signature. But he did make the error, as the accompanying exhibits show.

Please destroy the 1973 version on Samuel. . . One of the penalties of trying to share the fruits of research is the difficulty of stopping further circulation of an error detected in later research.

CARROLL YORK BELKNAP 25 Club Road Riverside, Connecticut 06878
March
12 1974

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2

SAMUEL BELKNAP
son of Abraham Belknap
& Mary Stallion
bpt 16 March 1627/28

at North Weald, Essex, England

d after 31 Aug 1731 (NOTE 1) after 11 Nov 1701 (NOTE 2)
m abt 1652

SARAH JONES (widow Hill?) (NOTE 1)
daughter of Robert Jones
& Elizabeth Soane [redacted], Hingham, Mass.
b abt 1627, Reading, Berks., England
d 18 April 1689, Haverhill, Mass.

Occupation: a joiner -- i.e., craftsman who built fixed furnishings of house, such as settles and cupboards and shelves.

Residence: Salem, Malden, Haverhill, Mass. (Possibly briefly, Easthampton, L. I.)

Listed in 1653 as owning two small lots at Easthampton, Long Island. Shown in account book of a Salem merchant, 1657 and 1659. In 1669 list of Salem residents not entitled to privileges of the common, as his house built before 1660. Shown on town map as owner of large property in Salem, between present Essex St and North River. In deeds 1665 and 1666, sold portions of this land. In 1666 named as creditor of estate of Thomas James of Salem; and as debtor to Thomas, Jere, and James Meachum of Salem. In deed 14 April 1671, Samuel of Maulden, joiner, and Joseph of Boston, glover, and their sister Hannah sold "theire thirds" of ~~XXXXX~~ 3/4 of an acre in Lynn, part of a "house lott formerly Abraham Belknap's house lott, father unto sd Samuel and Joseph." In 1673, bought 2 1/2 acre lot in Haverhill, which he sold in 1685. Oath of Allegiance at Haverhill 28 Nov 1677. Named in will of Robert Jones 20 April 1688. On 13 Oct 1696 deeded his homestead at Haverhill -- "27 acres with buildings" -- to his youngest son, Ebenezer. On 21 Nov 1696 deeded ~~some~~ land at Haverhill, 100 acres, to his son Abraham "of Reading." On 31 Aug 1731, at Concord, acknowledged this deed to Abraham -- witnessed by his daughter Patience. (NOTE 1) On 11 Nov 1701 witnessed a deed signed by son Abraham "of Framingham."

CHILDREN:

- (From Fairfield, Conn.)
- 10 Mary, b 17 Aug 1653. d young
 - 11 ? Sarah m Nathaniel Singleterry 22 Dec 1673 (NOTE 3)
 - 12 Mary, b 14 Oct 1656
 - 13 *Abraham, b 4 June 1660, Salem. d abt 1726, Framingham
 - 14 *Samuel, b 1 May 1662, Salem. Went to Southern New Jersey about 1690 and was there in 1697. (NOTE 4)
 - 15 *Ebenezer, b Dec 1667, Salem. d Nov 1762, Haverhill
 - 16 Joseph, b 25 March 1672, Haverhill. d 28 Aug 1672, Haverhill
 - 17 Patience, b 17 Sept 1675, Haverhill. d after 31 Aug 1731 (NOTE 1) after 11 Nov 1701

NOTE 1: In NEHG Register 1950, G. Andrews Moriarty disputed the date of death of Samuel given by H W Belknap -- "after 1731" -- saying that the man acknowledging on 31 Aug 1731 the deed signed in 1696 conveying land to Abraham "of Reading" was Samuel's son Samuel. For two reasons, it is plain that Moriarty was in error. (1) The son Samuel had gone to Fairfield, Conn. sometime before 1690 and from there to Southern New Jersey about 1690, where he remained till 1697, probably longer. He could not have been the man making the acknowledgment in 1731, as he could not have been the grantor of the deed in 1696. (2) The further history of the land given to Abraham in 1696 identifies, as signer and acknowledger, his father Samuel. On 11 Nov 1701, Abraham -- then "of Framingham" -- sold part of this land to his brother Ebenezer, and the deed was witnessed by Samuel Belknap, who could only be his father. (As this deed was recorded in Essex County, it probably was executed at Haverhill.) Later, 17 June 1720, Abraham "of Framingham"

SA
+ B
C

sold 50 acres of that land -- no acknowledgment being made at that time. In 1731 the need of validating Abraham's title to the property that he sold in 1720 seems to have arisen -- requiring that the 1696 deed conveying the land to him be acknowledged by the grantor. This acknowledgment was made by Samuel Belknap on 31 Aug 1731 and witnessed by Patience Belknap, daughter of Samuel. That the grantor and acknowledger was Samuel the father was made plain by the wording of the 1720 deed executed when Abraham sold half of the land: "... $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 100 acres which was laid out to Bartholomew Heath's third division & by him conveyed to Mr Thomas Brackett of Boston, shopkeeper, & from him to my Hon^d father & from him to me." So the statement that Samuel the father died "after 31 Aug 1731" is correct. He was the first Belknap to live past 100 years of age. . . As no later record for his unmarried daughter Patience has been found, the same statement is made for the date of her death.

NOTE 3: The parentage of the Sarah Belknap who married Nathaniel Singletary 22 Dec 1673 has not been established, though she obviously was of the same generation as that of Samuel's children. There appear to be four possibilities: (1) That she was the Mary, born 14 Oct 1656, daughter of Samuel Belknap and Sarah Jones -- in which case she married at age 17. Or (2) that she was a daughter of Samuel and Sarah, born about 1655, for whom no birth record has been found. Or (3) that she was a daughter of Sarah Jones by her first marriage (if it is true that Sarah Jones was "widow Hill") and had adopted the name of her stepfather. Or (4) that she was a daughter of Samuel's brother John who is not known to have married and died before 14 April 1671. *No Aug 3 any*

NOTE 4: From the dates of record (obviously incomplete) a sketchy summary of Samuel's life can be set down in skeletonized form. . . When his father Abraham died in Sept 1643, Samuel was 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ years old. His mother Mary was 48. His brother Joseph was 10; John was 8. His sister Hannah was 3 or 4. It can be surmised that the burden of being the man of the family fell naturally on Samuel. The land at Lynn remained in the family -- presumably under ownership by Mary. But little of it was good farm land. . . By the time of his marriage, about 1652, Samuel had learned the trade of a joiner and continued in it the rest of his active life, being termed "joyner" in deeds as late as 1696, when he was 68. . . At the time of his marriage or soon afterward, he went to eastern Long Island with a party of men intending to settle there; and in 1653 owned two small lots at Easthampton, L. I. Whether he ever actually lived there is unknown. . . By 20 Oct 1657 he was settled in Salem, and by 1660 was in possession of a large lot of land in what is now the center of the city. Till 1669, he is on record in Salem. . . In 1670 or 1671, he moved to Malden, nearer Boston, where he and Joseph and Hannah sold "theire thirds" of their father's house lot -- which suggests that their mother Mary had died, and indicates plainly that the brother John was dead by that date. . . Samuel was not long at Malden. In 1673 he bought a small lot -- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres -- at Haverhill, which he sold for 80 pounds in 1685, probably at a high profit. Samuel remained at Haverhill till at least 1696 and probably at least 1701, and prospered -- for by 1695 he owned land totalling 127 acres. In that year, at age 68, he gave his homestead, "27 acres and buildings," to his youngest son Ebenezer (possibly with the customary understanding that he would continue to live there, with Ebenezer?). A little later that year, he gave his farm land to his son Abraham, who was then at Reading. Five years later, 11 Nov 1701, he witnessed the deed by which Abraham sold ~~of~~ that farm land to Ebenezer. At that time, Samuel was probably living in Haverhill. . . Nothing more is of record till 1731, 30 years later, when he acknowledged, at Concord, the 1696 deed to Abraham. He was then 104 years old, and his daughter Patience may have been living with him. Nothing more is known.

who was
also a
joiner

1796

None

May 2 1973

"turner" Dr 7795