EARLY RECORDS
OF THE
AMES FAMILY
OF ANDOVER

COMPILED BY
CHARLOTTE HELEN ABBOTT
THE AMES FAMILY
of ANDOVER

The name is spelled in Essex County records as AIMES, EAMES, EAMS, EMES, EMES and EMS.

ROBERT (1) AMES, ancestor of our Andover line, was a husbandman of Boxford, whose homestead was 1/8 mile west of the present residence of John T. Wood, in the West Parish of Boxford. Robert (1) married in 1661, Rebecca Blake, daughter of George Blake of Gloucester, and his wife, Dorothy. Rebecca's parents moved to Boxford about 1669 and her father d. there Feb. 17, 1698; her mother d. Dec. 12, 1702. According to a deposition, Rebecca had lived as a servant in the home of Wm. Cogswell, in Ipswich, in 1656, when she was 15 years old. On Sept. 17, 1692 she was condemned to death as a witch, but was included in the general reprieve, July 22, 1693. She d. May 8, 1721; Robert d. in Boxford, 1693.

The estate was adm. by his sons, John and Robert, in 1694. He left a homestead, which joined that of James Frye.

Robert (1) Ames and wife, Rebecca Blake, had:-

Hannah (2), b. in Boxford, Dec. 15, 1661; m. Ephraim Foster of ANDOVER about 1678; she was living in 1694.

Daniel (2), b. April 7, 1663; m. Lydia Wheeler in ANDOVER, April 15, 1683. She was probably dau. of Jethro Wheeler.

Robert (2), b. Feb. 28, 1667-8; husbandman of Boxford; m. April 20, 1693, Bethia Gatchel of Seconet—the western part of "ehobeth; had 3 ch.

b. in Boston:—Sam, Benj. and Nathan; also a son, Robert.

John (2) b. Oct. 11, 1670; farmer in Boxford until 1717 when he went to Groton; m. Priscilla Kimball of Bradford, dau. of Thos. and Mary (Smith) Kimball, about 1692. Mary had been taken captive by Indians at the time her father was killed. John (2) was killed by Indians at Groton, at his garrison, July 24, 1726. She escaped.
Children of Robert (1) Ames and wife, Rebecca Blake, (cont.):

Dorothy (2), b. Dec. 20, 1674; m. Samuel Swan of Haverhill, Mar. 8, 1693-4; lived in Haverhill.

Jacob (2), b. July 20, 1677; lived in Boston, a mariner, in 1700.

Nathan (2), b. Nov. 19, 1685; he m. before 1707, Mary Kimball, dau. of Richard (3) Kimball - (Thos. (2) Kimball (1). He d. Jan. 11, 1765; she d. July 17, 1765, aged 78.

Joseph (2), b. Oct. 9, 1681; a farmer in Boxford; m. before 1711, Jemima - he d. Dec. 27, 1753; she was living in Boxford, 1758.

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Jan. 1, 1701. Robert (2) Ames, Francis Peabody, John Hovey, Jr. Peabody, "Mr. Peabody bought of Mary Sewell of Salem, 1600 acres of upland and meadow and swamp - and several parcels "that lie on other men's estates," commonly called the Nelson Farm. In 1710, Robert (2) Ames, Jonathan Bixby, Hanna Peabody, John Hovey and Timothy Foster divided this land. Nathan (3) Ames, as son of Robert, and John Peabody, have 1/4 part of Maple Meadow and 1/4 of Long Meadow, as their rightful share. The other heirs sell their portions to Nathan (3) and Peabody.

Daniel (2) Ames (Robert (1) and wife, Lydia Wheeler, had:

Rebecca (3), b. in Boxford, Jan. 24, 1684; a twin.

Lydia (3), b. " " " " " "; " " of Ipswich, 1706; pub. to John Kelly, Mar. 15, 1711; he was off Newbury and she then of Bradford.

Solomon (3), b. in Boxford, Nov. 23, 1686.

Daniel (3), b. March 5, 1688.

David (3), b. Dec. 21, 1690.

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Children of Daniel (2) Ames and wife, Lydia Wheeler, (cont.)

Hannah (3), b. March 25, 1693; m. Nov. 8, 1716, Samuel Ruggs of Lancaster. (See Newbury records.)

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Robert (2) Ames (Robert (1) and wife, Bethia Gatchel, had:

Samuel (3), b. Feb. 6, 1695; pub. May 17, 1718, Abigail Spofford of Rowley Village; he was taxed in Boxford, 1719; his 2nd wife was Hannah Stevens, whom he m. Jan. 13, 1723; she was dau. of Nath (3) Stevens and w. Elizabeth Abbott; lived on Stevens estate in No. Andover for a time without paying taxes but was taxed in South Parish in 1739 after selling the Stevens' place near John Marston's 2 houses, a joiner shop, barn and land, to Israel Adams. He owned property near the Wilmington line in 1741; he is said to have gone to Groton with his son, Nathan (4) about 1758, leaving sons Ben and Samuel in Andover. He is sd. to have died in N.H. about 1785.

Nathan (3), b. ---; was he the soldier of Vol. 73; page 36-8 Archives who was taken prisoner Aug. 20, 1746 when Fort Massachusetts surrendered? He d. in Canada, Nov. 17, 1746; left a widow.

Robert (3), b. in Boston, it is sd. Not placed yet.

Ben (3) sd. to be recorded in Boston.

Mehitabel (3), ; m. Joseph Robinson, 1733; had:

John (4);

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John (2) Ames (Robert (1) and wife, Priscilla Kimball, had, (in Boxford):

John (3), b. Aug. 11, 1693; lived in Groton, Mass.; m. Elizabeth ---; had 10 children; d. July 30, 1743.

Hannah (3), b. Feb. 2, 1695; did she m. 1718, Samuel Parker of Groton?.

Joanna (3) (?) was she the child b. March 25, 1698; did SHE m. Sam Parker.

Jacob (3), b. March 20, 17---; bapt. Nov. 21, 1703; of Groton; m. Ruth Shattuck, Nov. 14, 1727.
Children of John (2) Ames and wife, Priscilla Kimball (cont.):

Bethia (3), b. April 20, 17--; bapt. May 27, 1707.


Stephen (3), b. Sept. 1, 1712; lived in Groton; m. Jane Robbins, April 14, 1731; he was 20 in 1733 when his bro. John was guardian.

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Joseph (2) Ames (Robert (1) and wife, Jemima, had:— (in Boxford)

Abner (3), b. Feb. 2, 1711; lived in Boxford and Bradford; a farmer; died June 28, 1745.

Jonathan (3), b. Sept. 12, 1712; a farmer; lived in West Parish of Boxford on west side of road from Wood's corner to the Peg Factory; the cellar being in a field on the edge of the woods. He m. Elizabeth Blunt of Andover, April 20, 1738. Elizabeth was accused and tried for the murder of her daughter-in-law, Ruth [Perle] Ames, in 1769; she was acquitted. John Adams, afterward Pres. of the U.S. was her counsel. They sold their farm in the spring of 1770 and moved to Londonderry, N.H.

Joseph (3), b. Jan. 20, 1714; housewright of Boxford; recorded as of Bradford, at death of father; 1758; m. Miriam Clement in Haverhill, Nov. 29, 1739; went to Haverhill and lived near the Bradford ferry; he d. 1741.

Nathan (3), b. Oct. 29, 1716; was a blacksmith and farmer of Bradford; m. Mary Burpee of Rowley, May 6, 1735; he d. 1766. She m. 2nd., Deacon Timothy Hardy, May 22, 1775.

Jacob (3), b. July 17, 1717; yeoman; moved to Sutton about 1748; m. Anna Wallis of Salem, pub. Jan. 6, 1744. Were in Sutton, 1762.

Moses (3), b. Feb. 8, 1719; husbandman of Boxford; m. Rebecca Johnson of Andover, June 11, 1752; he was a cordwainer; d. in Boxford, Mar. 9, 1754. Probably had no children.
The AMES FAMILY

Children of Joseph (2) Ames and wife, Jemima, (cont.):

Mary (3), b. Sept. 25, 1720; d. unm. June 24, 1749.


Hannah (3), b. Sept. 30, 1728; m. Jacob Buck of Haverhill, May 7, 1752; lived in Haverhill and Chester, N.H.; she d. March 18, 1809.

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Nathan (2) Ames (Robert (1) and wife, Mary Kimball, had:

Jeremiah (3), bap. in Bradford Church, May 2, 1731; lived in Bradford; m. April 2, 1734, Sarah Kimball of Bradford; he d. in Boxford, July 5, 1744 at 37. She m. 2nd., Sept. 3, 1745, Joseph Spofford. Sarah was daughter of Thos. (4) Kimball.

Lehitabel (3), bap. when adult, with brother and parents, in Bradford Church, May 2, 1731; m. Joseph Robinson of Andover, July 25, 1733. She was b. about 1710.

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Samuel (3) Ames (Robert (2-1) and 1st wife, Abigail Spofford, had:

Samuel (4), b. before 1721; m. Elizabeth (6) Stevens, in Andover, July 11, 1744; he was a cordwainer.

by 2nd wife, Hannah Stevens:

Abigail (4), b. about 1723; m. Nathan (4) Abbott, 1745; he was son of Jonathan Abbott and w. Zerviah Holt, bap. in No. Church, 1722.

Ben (4), b. June 5, 1724; b. at Lexington; m. 1st, Hephzibah Chandler, Dec. 4, 1746; she d. 1768; he m. 2nd., about 1770, Dorcas Lovejoy, dau. of Joshua Lovejoy and w. Lydia Abbott; she d. 1843, from a fall. Ben d. 1809 at 85 years.
Children of Samuel (3) Ames and 2nd wife, Hannah Stevens, (cont.):-

Ben (4), (cont.) he was one of the leading military spirits of the Revolution, and prior to that, was active in the French and Indian wars, from the start. Bailey's "Sketches of Andover", gives most of his public record. By his first marriage he came into possession of a valuable farm, as Hephzibah Chandler was an heiress. The Chandler Book gives a full account of their children. His 2nd wife, Dorcas, was an ardent church worker, while the Ames family, as a rule, were not devoted to church affairs.

The children of the Chandler mother lacked the business ability of the Lovejoy line, but had more backbone physically, so the two stocks kept along, about even in social position.

Ben was a Captain; at Bunker Hill, commanded a company which lost three men. His home was in West Parish on the Chandler estate, where he owned a negro servant, George, worth £66. (The Antiquarian gives Lexington as his birthplace, and it is possible that Sam(3) lived there before coming into possession of the Stevens property which his wife, Hannah, inherited.)

Robert (4), bapt. in North Church, Nov. 28, 1756; m. Dec. 2, 1762, Sarah Woods of Groton.

Nathan (4), b. 1732; taxed here 1753; joined church here in 1750 and was dismissed in 1762 to Groton; pub. to Phebe Robinson, Feb. 27, 1765.

Simeon (4), b. June 23, 1741; d. in Groton, 1760. age 19 yrs. 5m. 6d., of small pox.

Jonathan (3) Ames (Joseph (2) Robert (1) and wife, Elizabeth Blunt, had:-

Sarah (4), b. Oct. 28, 1739; m. Wm. Foster, June 9, 1763.

Jonathan (4), b. Sept. 4, 1743; m. Ruth Perley of Ipswich, Dec. 19, 1768; she was dau. of widow Ruth Perley, of Linebrook Parish; b. 1747, she d. June 5, 1769, sd. to have been poisoned by her mother-in-law. (See next page for account of trial.)
Children of Jonathan (3) Ames and wife, Elizabeth Blunt, (cont.):

Jonathan (4) and wife, Ruth Perley.

(From "The Essex Antiquarian", Jan. 1898, Vol.II; No.1.)

THE AMES MURDER, by Sidney Perley.

One of the most interesting cases in criminal proceedings that ever occurred in Essex County is that of the Ames murder in the West Parish of Boxford in the year 1769. The story of the murder and trial of the accused is as follows: (in part)...

"On a knoll on the east side of a little brook running past the barn of Mr. A.S. Howe in Linebrook parish, Ipswich, and on the northerly side of the highway, are the remains of an ancient cellar. The house that stood there was probably gone before this century opened. A part of the cellar wall remains, and there yet survive some shrubs that grew in the yard. Here lived widow Ruth Perley with her family, late in the year 1768. Her eldest child, Samuel, was then pastor of the church at Seabrook, N.H., and the rest of the six children were at home. Ruth, the elder daughter was twenty-one, Oct. 29th. The family had lived there for many years.

"Ruth was pretty and refined; and though her home was in the extreme western portion of the town of Ipswich, and in a sparsely settled region, she was early sought in marriage by Jonathan Ames of Boxford, a young man of affluent parents. They were married Dec. 19, 1768, by her brother, Rev. Samuel Perley.

"Mr. Ames took his bride to the house of his parents in West Boxford, and lived there. The Ames house stood on the westerly side of the road running from 'Capt. Wood's corner' to the 'peg factory', on a knoll by the edge of the present woods.

"As has been the case in some instances since that early time, the mother-in-law was not in full sympathy with the young bride dwelling under her roof....

"Spring had hardly come when Mrs. Ames, senior, began to speak of Ruth as her son's housekeeper. Eventually, about the latter part of May, a child was born to the newly-wedded couple.

"On the morning of June 5, one of the neighbors, Mrs. Kimball, called to see the young mother. She was met at the door by Mrs. Ames, senior, who, in reply to the request of Mrs. Kimball to see Ruth, objected, intimating that she was very ill, and had vomited and sweated so much that it was disagreeable to enter the chamber. Notwithstanding, Mrs. Kimball entered the house and went into the sick chamber.

"She found that the room was clean and agreeable and there appeared no signs of vomiting or purging. But Ruth was in deathly agony, with froth or phlegm exuding from her mouth. She was taken sick in that manner at about seven o'clock in the morning and died between eleven and twelve o'clock before noon.

"Mrs. Ames said she knew that Ruth would die, as it was the same disorder that a certain Mrs. Chandler died with, some years before and that it was as mortal as the plague; and that there would be another death soon, having reference to the baby. On laying out the body, livid spots, indicating poison, appeared on one of the arms of the deceased.
Children of Jonathan (3) Ames and wife, Elizabeth Blunt, (cont.):

Jonathan (4) and wife, Ruth Perley. (The Ames Murder--(cont.))

"The writer was informed by an aged lady who knew many of the people who figured in the events that followed, that the funeral occurred soon after Ruth's death, that none of the neighbors were invited to it and that a clergyman from a neighboring town performed the burial service, instead of Rev. John Cushing, pastor of the church, who was their nearest neighbor. The burial was in the old village cemetery...

"Mrs. Kimball was suspicious that Ruth had been poisoned to death. She repeatedly told of her experience at the Ames house and in the sick room. The peculiar attitude which Mrs. Ames assumed toward the deceased seemed to confirm the suspicion of poisoning, and that Mrs. Ames was at least cognizant of the crime. The matter of an accusation was not at once conceived but about a month afterward, the feeling against Mrs. Ames became so strong that a complaint signed by 28 men, and consented to by the relatives of the deceased, was preferred to Henry Ingalls, Moses Dole and Abraham Choate, three coroners, for an inquisition upon the body, which had lain in the ground all that length of time.

"The coroners summoned a jury of 28, with Joseph Osgood the foreman. Thirteen were physicians and four other physicians were engaged to perform the autopsy... The inquest opened on Monday, July 10, when there assembled a promiscuous multitude of people! The court was held in the meeting-house, which stood on the easterly side of the Sandy Road in the pasture in the rear of the old cemetery, a road, which can still be traced running from the meeting house up the present wooded declivity to the cemetery, and from thence as it now exists to the parsonage on the ancient Andover road.

"Rarely, if ever, has such a mass of people been seen in the parish, the meeting house being, according to the Essex Gazette, July 11-18, 1769, "much thronged".

"The court opened with a prayer. The coroners then gave their solemn charge. Then the jury and spectators proceeded, 'with decency and good order' over the winding roadway up the hill to the old burying ground where for five weeks had lain the body of the murdered girl. The body was exhumed and carried back to the meeting-house. An autopsy was made by the physicians; the jury heard their report and other testimony, and two days later the coroners and jury made report of their inquisition:

"Essex Ss. An Inquisition: Indented & taken at Boxford within the sd. County of Essex, the Twelfth Day of July, in the Ninth year of our Sovereign Lord George, the third, by ye Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of ye Faith, &c., before Henry Ingalls, Moses Dole, & Abraham Choate, Gentlemen, Coroners for our sd. Lord the King, within the County of Essex aforesaid upon the View of the Body of Ruth Ames, Wife of John Ames, in the said meeting house, then and there being dead by the Oaths of...

Good and Lawful Men of the County of Essex aforesaid, who being Charged and Sworn to enquire for our Lord the King, when, by what means, and how, the sd. Ruth Ames came to her Death, upon their Oaths do say, the sd. Ruth Ames on the fifth Day of June last in the morning died of Felony (that is to say by Poison) given to her by /a/ Person or Persons to us unknown, which murder is against the Peace of our sd. Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity. In Witness whereof we, the sd. Coroners, as well as the sd. Jurors to this Inquisition, have interchangeably put our Hands and Seals the Day and year above said.

Joseph Osgood; Nehemiah Abbott; Amos Putnam;
Enoch Sawyer; Micajah Sawyer; James Brickett; William Hale; Silas Merriam; Thos. Kittredge; Wallis Ruft; Symonds Baker; Benja. Muzzy; Ephraim Davis; Ephm. Wales; Peter Osgood; Daniel Spafford; Asa Perley; Benja. Berry; Nathan Wood; Jn. Hale; Moody Bridges; Eph. Fuller; Nath. Ferley; Oliver Peabody; Rich. Peabody;
Children of Jonathan (3) Ames and wife, Elizabeth Blunt, (cont.)

Jonathan (4) and wife, Ruth Ferley. "The Ames Murder" ... (cont.)

"Then it was found that no sufficient evidence could be adduced to connect either the husband of the murdered girl or his mother, with the murder, then was demanded an exhibition of that almost forgotten ' ordeal of touch ' which has rarely been known in England in modern centuries, and, as the writer believes, never in New England, except in this instance. 

The body being laid upon a table with a sheet over it, Jonathan and his "mother were invited to prove their innocence by this gruesome test. The ancient practice was similar. The body was laid at length, covered only with a sheet of the purest white, in the dim and weird church, and the suspected party was invited to touch the neck of the deceased with the index-finger of the left hand, the superstition being that when the guilty hand touched the remains, blood would issue, the whiteness of the sheet making it plainly visible, ' pleading trumpet-tongued against the deep-damnation of her taking of.'

"These scenes were always awful, being rendered more so by the environment and the nervous tension of every one of the multitude that gazed with strained eyes and breathless upon the accused as he dared to either advance toward or retreat from the remains, either direction tending to confirm his guilt in the minds of the spectators until he finally passed the ordeal, which but few persons ever did.

"In this instance from fear, probably, not that they believed in the superstition, but were afraid that by some chance, blood might flow, both refused.

"The 'examination' gave great occasion to conclude that they were concerned in the poisoning! And on Tuesday, July 18, they were arrested and taken to Salem jail, where they were confined in the ancient cells where the persons accused of witchcraft were imprisoned many years before.

"When the Grand Jury sat, Mrs. Ames was indicted as the principal and Jonathan as accessory in the crime. Mrs. Ames was accused of knowingly mixing a great quantity of white arsenic in a quantity of spermaceti, and ' with force and arms feloniously willfully and of her malice aforethought, did offer and give to her, the said Ruth Ames, to take, eat and swallow down .... and that Elizabeth Ames, did poison kill and murder the said Ruth Ames against the peace of the said Lord the King his crown and dignity."

"While lodged in jail, Mrs. Ames was heard to mutter in her sleep, 'Don't tell on me, Jonathan; if you do, I shall be hanged.'

"Jonathan's sister, Elizabeth was arrested as an accessory to the murder, by Amos Mullikin, deputy sheriff, on November 9th, and lodged in jail at Salem, the same day.

"The court convened on Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the old courthouse that stood in the middle of "ashington street, opposite the Tabernacle Church. The judges were Benjamin Lynde, John Cushing, Peter Oliver, and Edmund Trowbridge. They boarded with Mr. Goodhue during the session. The counsel for the king was Jonathan Sewall of Boston. The counsel for the accused was JOHN ADAMS, afterward PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES. He was, at this time, 34 years of age.

"The witnesses were summoned to present themselves at 8 o'clock in the morning and there was host of them. From ANDOVER, went:-- Elizabeth, wife of Richard Kimball; Dr. Moses Barker; Solomon Cole, yeoman; Daniel Long, yeoman; Dr. Nehemiah Abbott; Dr. Ward Noyce; MARY Mary Blunt, wife of Isaac Blunt and John Barker.

"Jonathan turned King's evidence against his mother.
Children of Jonathan (3) Ames and wife, Elizabeth Blunt (cont.):

Jonathan (4) and wife, Ruth Ferey. "The Ames Murder" (cont.):

"By his testimony, it appeared, that five or six days before his wife died, his mother told him, she would deprive him of his housekeeper if she did it by a portion of ratsbane; and the night before her death, he saw his mother give his wife a piece of bread and butter, with ratsbane on it, as near as he could tell; and said that since he has heard the doctors tell what ratsbane is, he is certain that it was that; and that he cautioned his wife again't taking it."

The trial continued throughout the short November day, and the dusk of evening found the court in session. Candles were lighted, and dimly dispelled the darkness of the ancient court room. Gloom must have settled on the prisoners, who knew not what result of the trial might be, and the jury, too, could not have escaped from the feeling of awe that their duty that night must give or take a human life.

"The trial wore on. The midnight hour approached and passed before the lawyers began their arguments to the jury."

"John Adams spoke first... He urged the jury to release the prisoner. He said that by the evidence, it did not appear that Mrs. Ames had been guilty of any ill behaviour toward the deceased during their residence in the same house; that it was the opinion of physicians that it was improbable, if not impossible, that arsenic should lie so long in the body, that is, from some time in the evening until 7 o'clock in the morning, before it operated; that the body, when taken up, was not putrified in such a manner as it would have been had the deceased been poisoned; and that the evidence of the prisoner's son, Jonathan Ames, was not to be relied on, as he had sworn before the coroner, at the time the body was exhumed, that he had no knowledge of any one's poisoning his wife; and now, in order to clear himself, was so base as to give testimony, which not only rendered him guilty of perjury, but had a direct tendency to take away the life of his own mother."

"In reply Jonathan Sewall said, in substance, that the deceased, on the day she ate the bread and butter, dined on a fish called shad; and in the evening ate a hearty supper of the same kind of fish, which, with the butter on the bread, with which it was said the arsenic was mixed, and some spermaceti which she took soon after, might delay the action of the arsenic. Or that she may have given the victual salt on the bread and butter and told Jonathan it was ratsbane; when in fact, she gave the poison the next morning; and that the body's preservation was due to the fact that so large a quantity of arsenic might cause violent convulsions and rigging on death before the poison had mixed with the blood, and a speedy putrefaction might not take place. Also that Jonathan would not go into court and swear to that which was false, convinced that his evidence would take away the life of her who bore him."

"Three of the judges had a 'violent presumption' that the prisoner was guilty. The other judge said that a doubt might rise from the judgment of physicians in her favor. The case was committed to the jury and court adjourned at 2 o'clock in the morning, until 9 the same day. Then, the jury pronounced the prisoners not guilty. 'It is therefore considered by the court that the said Elizabeth Ames go without day,' said the record. It closes with 'Upon the motion of John Adams, Esq., attorney to Jonathan Ames, junr. and Elizabeth Ames, junr., who stand committed to his majesty's Goal in this county, viz The said Jonathan for the murder, and the said Elizabeth as being accessory to the murder of one Ruth Earns, be discharged the King's attorney not objecting. Salem Nov. 15, 1769. The court is adjourned without day.'"
Children of Jonathan (3) Ames and wife, Elizabeth Blunt, (cont.):

Elizabeth (4) bapt. April 14, 1751;

In the spring of 1770, following the murder trial, Jonathan (3) sold the farm and the family moved to Londonderry, N.H.

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Joseph (3) Ames (Joseph (2) Robert (1) and wife, Miriam Clement, had:

Moses (4), b. in Haverhill, Sept. 18, 1740; was living in 1755.

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Joseph (3) Ames (Joseph (2) Robert (1) and wife, Mary Burpee, had:

Frances (4), b. April 2, 1736; m. Timothy Hardy Jr., a step-brother, Feb. 14, 1765.

Jeremiah (4), b. Aug. 24, 1739; m. Joanna Tenney, March 5, 1761; went to Hollis, N.H.
Joseph (4), b. between 1739 and 1745 in Bradford; a yeoman; lived in Newbury; went to Hampstead, N.H. in 1770; m. Elizabeth Noyes of Newbury, March 5, 1765; she d. Before 1780; he d. about 1780, as the children all had guardians.


Nathan (4), b. May 6, 1750; yeoman of Bradford; went to New Boston, N.H.;
m. Sarah Richardson of Newbury, April 19, 1775; returned to New Boston, 1780.

Abigail (4), b. Oct. 8, 1755.
Martha (4), b. ; m. Joseph Rollins, Nov. 5, 1778.

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Jacob (3) Ames (Joseph (2) Robert (1) and wife, Anna Wallis, had:


(See Sutton records for rest.)
The AMES FAMILY

Jeremiah (3) Ames (Nathan 2) Robert (1) and wife, Sarah Kimball, had:

Jeremiah (4), b. May 6, 1735; was a Capt., a prominent and able man on the northern frontiers during the Revolution; moved from Boxford to Northumberland, N.H., 1772; m. Susannah Peabody, March 31, 1762.

Thomas (4) b. Nov. 22, 1736; m. Lucy Tyler of Rowley, April 14, 1761; went to Rindge, N.H., 1780.

Nathan (4), b. Sept. 16, 1738; went to Fryeburg, Me., 1782.

Phineas (4), b. May 21, 1740; m. Mary Colton; lived in Haverhill.


Samuel (5), b. Sept. 19, 1746; m. Abigail Stevens, July 10, 1770.


Elizabeth (5), b. about 1750; m. Wm. Holt of Pembroke, Nov. 21, 1769.

Spofford (5), b. March 23, 1752; m. Mary White, April 18, 1780; was in the Revolution, 1777, under Col. Johnson.

Solomon (5), b. April 4, 1754; was in Revolution.

Phineas (5), b. Sept. 7, 1764.

Lydia (5), b. Sept. 7, 1767;

Benjamin (5), b. March 9, 1749; (Nov. 9, by Chandler Book); m. April 30, 1772,

Phebe Chandler, dau. of Nathan Chandler and w. Phebe Abbott; she was b. Oct. 18, 1754; d. June 19, 1796; buried in South Yard. Ben built the ELM HOUSE, called Ames' Tavern, about 1800. It stood nearly 100 years before replaced by a brick block. He lived on Major Lowe's estate. He d. suddenly April 23, 1813. He left a house on High street to his daughter.
Children of Ben (4) Ames and wife, Hephzibah Chandler, (cont.):

Ben (5) and wife, Phebe Chandler (cont.) On stone in South Yard:
"In Memory of
Mrs. Phebe Ames,
the wife of
Mr. Benjamin Ames Jr
who died 19th June
1798; age 44 years &
8 months.

While o'er this grave you walk or weep,
Remember here all flesh must sleep;
Slender's the thread whence life depends
Begins this hour, the next it ends."

Hannah (5), b. 1751; m. Thomas Boynton - pub. May 23, 1771 or 2; he was a house painter. Had:-
David (6), b. 1784; m. 1815, Elizabeth Ames, dau. Ben and Phebe
Richard (5), b. Sept. 16, 1754; d.y.
Hephzibah (5), b. 1755; m. Bixby Abbott, Jan. 9, 1772; she m. 2nd., a Chandler; went to Greenfield; d. May 20, 1796 at 41.
Elizabeth (5), b. Nov. 1, 1760.
Bethia (5), b. ---; d.y.
Timothy (5) bapt. Aug. 29, 1765; m. March 21, 1789, Sally Kneeland, dau. of Bartholomew Kneeland and wife, Barah, at Boston; in Sept 1793 he sold to his brother Simeon, the farm he lived on, formerly owned by Ezekiah Stiles - 70 acres and buildings and 7 a. of wood lot, and presumably moved to Peterboro, N.H. Had:-
Sally Ann (6), b. Feb. 21, 1788 (?); m. George Henry; he was b. in Charlestown, N.H., Aug. 6, 1790; he drowned in Merridith, N.H. May 12, 1825; he was son of Robert Henry and W. Sally Bellows; she died ---; their son:-
John Ames (7) Henry, came to Andover and lived here in 1860. He m. a cousin of my mother's, Hannah D. Trow, Nov. 4, 1847; dau. of an & Hanna (Luscomb).
He was a shoemaker.

(Other children of Timothy and Sally were recorded in Peterboro)

(Timothy (5) 's farm, later held by Simeon, was 1 mile from West Parish Church, on Ferry Road toward Lawrence.)
The Ames Family

Ben(4) Ames (Sam(3) Robert(2-l) and wife, (2nd) Dorcas Lovejoy had: - she d. Oct. 1853-61.


Dorcas (5) 2nd., b. July 31, 1776; b. on the Geo. Goldsmith place; pub. to Isaac Phelps, Sept. 12, 1799; he was son of Thomas Phelps; Dorcas (6) Phelps; unm.

Abigail (5), b. Oct. 4, 1779; m. David Johnson, Dec. 15, 1796; he was of son of Jacob Johnson and an Osgood mother-/Bradford; a brother of Osgood Johnson; they had:-

David(6) Hannah (6) (Family went to Coos County, prob. Newbury, Vt.

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Hannah (5) Ames (dau. of Ben(4) and Hephzibah Chandler), wife of Thos. Boynton, believed in witchcraft. Once when her old round table that tipped up, toppled over with a lot of crockery on it, she swore it was bewitched. Often the milk would curdle, and in order to drive the witches away, she would throw the milk in a hot oven- and if they had noses like us humans the smell would certainly keep them off. One day when she did this stunt, a terrible scar appeared on an old lady living in North Andover, which caused much comment... But Hannah was a courageous dame, in spite of her beliefs. During Revolutionary days, when her husband would borrow her father's colt and go to the mill, leaving her alone, she would fasten the windows and fire small shot at any prowlers, who attempted to enter the inn.

Nathan(4) Ames (Sam(3) Robert(2-l) and wife, Phebe Robinson, had: -

Nathan (5), b. ; of Groton; a lawyer.

Deborah (5), b. ; m. Henry Gray Baker. pub. Feb. 27, 1786; she lived with Eunice Russe, the Indian daughter of a white woman, who was so dainty and correct that Deborah, who shared her room and work, held her an example. Eunice was a daughter of Priscilla Farnum; relative of the Nathan on the Nathan Abbott side. Both girls lived in the Nathan Abbott home, with Deborah's aunt Abigail, wife of Nathan.

Lydia (5), b. ; m. Abbott Walker, 1796; lived in Andover; 2 daughters lived and died here; one- Mrs. Church; the other unm.

Moses (5), b. ; resided in Boston.

Asa (5) b. ; of Providence, R.I.

Samuel (5), b. ; of Providence, R.I.
Jeremiah (4) Ames (Nathan (3) Joseph (2) Robert (1) and wife, Joan Termy, had:

Alice (5), b. Oct. 8, 1762.


Joseph (4) Ames (Joseph (3-2) Robert (1) and wife, Elizabeth Noyes, had:

Nathan (5), b. May 30, 1767; a yeoman; m. Susanne Bailey, Jan. 21, 1793.

Noyes (5), b. April 14, 1769; lived in Bradford and Londonderry; m. Rebecca Kimball in Bradford, June 14, 1789.

Robert (4) Ames (Sam (3) Robert (2-1) and wife, Sarah Woods, of Groton, had:

Robert (5), b. 1763.

Sarah (5), b. 1765.

Prudence (5), b. 1767.

Bethia (5), b. 1770.

Molly (5), b. 1772; d. y.

Abel (5), b. 1773.

Samuel (5), b. 1781.

Molly (5) 2nd., b. 1786.

Jeremiah (4) Ames (Jere (3) Nathan (2) Robert (1) and Susann Peabody, had:


Thomas (5), b. Sept. 20, 1765.

Susanne (5), b. in N.H.

Seth (5), b. " "

Nancy (5), b. " "

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The AMES FAMILY

Thomas (4) Ames (Jeremiah (3) Nathan (2) Robert (1) and wife, Lucy Tyler, had:

Molly (5), b. Nov. 29, 1761.
Priscilla (5), bpt. 1763.
Sarah (5), bpt. Dec. 8, 1765; b. in Andover.
Thomas (5), b. in Andover; bpt. Oct. 13, 1776 in Boxford.
Hannah (5)
Charlotte (5).

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Phineas (4) Ames (Jeremiah (3) Nathan (2) Robert (1) and wife, Mary Colton, had:

Mary (5), b. Feb. 17, 1765.
Sarah (5), b. Sept. 18, 1766.
Martha (5), b. Nov. 29, 1768.

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Sam (5) Ames (Sam (4-3) Robert (2-1) and wife, Abigail Stevens, had:

Parker (6), b. 1792; m. Phebe Lull, daughter of Simon Lull and Tabitha Parker; he d. 1831.

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Spofford (5) Ames (Sam (4-3) Robert (2-1) and wife, Mary White, had:


Nathan White (6), b. Feb. 11, 1785; m. Lydia Jones, 1813.
Stephen (6), b. April 14, 1787.
Daniel (6), b. April 29, 1789.
John (6), b. April 8, 1792; m. Mary ---, 1826.
Samuel (6), b. Nov. 4, 1798.
Fred (6), b. Aug. 12, 1800.
Benj. (5) Ames (Ben (4) Sam (3) Robert (2-1) and wife, Phebe Chandler, had:


Phebe (6), b. April 8, 1775; m. 1st a Searles who deserted her and left her with a daughter who m. Richard Kent; she m. 2nd., Samuel Stevens; lived on High street.

Hephziba (6), b. Jan. 20, 1777; m. Nathaniel Stimpson of Cambridge, Nov. 17, 1793; she d. in Montreal, Jan. 28, 1802; had 2 children; her grandchildren lived here awhile near Shawshin Bridge and went to High street school.

Ben (6) 2nd., b. Oct. 30, 1778; m. 1st, Mary Boynton of Westford, Sept. 28, 1809; she was dau. of Col. Abel; she d. Nov. 3, 1810; his 2nd wife was Sally Boynton, sister of the 1st, whom he married May 11, 1812. He was a graduate of Harvard, 1803. His mother, Hephziba (Chandler) left a will in which she insisted that he be "brot up to learning". He read law with Nathan (5) Ames of Groton and went to Bath, Me., 1806. He was County Attorney; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; Speaker of the House of Rep.; Pres. of the Senate; Deputy Gov. Had an office in Cinn. Ohio, 1827-1829. He came east to get family and was stricken with paralysis at Providence, R. L. He d. in Hollis, Maine, 1835, age 57.

He put an end to political horrors and wound up, a victim of intrigue and corruption. Had 3 children by Sally:

George (7), b. was educated at West Point; a lawyer.

Hannah (6), b. July 19, 1781; m. Major Daniel Cummings of Andover, 1801; he was the builder of the "mansion House and kept a tavern there; his sister, "aria, was author of "The Lamplighter". He was b. Sept. 2, 1778; d. Dec. 26, 1827, a farmer in Maidstone, Vt.; she m. 2nd., Hon. Leonard White of Haverhill; she was a widow in Bangor, with a daughter, Mary E. Paine.
The Ames Family

Children of Benj. (5) Ames and his wife, Phebe Chandler, (cont.):

Molly (6), b. July 3, 1783; Chandler Book said she m. Joseph Wilson of Charlestown and had 3 children who d.y.

Ezra (6) Chandler, b. June 1, 1785; of Haverhill, later; was brought up in the Ames' Tavern; m. Abigail Eams, Nov. 9, 1811; she was dau. of Daniel; she d. Oct. 6, 1820, leaving 4 children; he m. 2nd., Nancy Porter, dau. of Dudley; she d. May 11, 1840; he m. 3rd., April 26, 1842, Elizabeth Marsh of Haverhill. He was a merchant and Deacon; he d. 1868.

Nathan (6), b. May 7, 1787; was Deputy Sheriff of Lindon Co., Maine, where he helped his brother, Ben; m. Lydia Clark of Bath, Nov. 24, 1811.

Elizabeth (6), b. Jan. 19, 1789; m. David Boynton, Nov. 29, 1810; he was b. Nov. 25, 1786; d. 1826; he was her cousin, son of Thos. Boynton and Hannah Ames. She d. 1867; buried in South Yard.


Isaac (6), b. Nov. 13, 1794; d. Nov. 5, 1798.

Isaac (6) 2nd., b. Nov. 13, 1798; unm.; lived in Richmond, Va.; merchant.

Simeon (5) Ames (Ben 4) Sam 3 Robert 2-1 and wife, Sarah Bailey, had:

Sarah (6), b. Aug. 14, 1790; m. Francis Smilie of Peterboro, N.H., Feb. 4, 1810; he was b. Sept. 9, 1787.

Phebe (6), bap. 1792; -

Elizabeth Abbott (6), b. Jan. 3, 1793; m. at 17, John Tuck, 1811; he was b. 1791.

Hannah (6), b. Nov. 4, 1796; unm.

Simeon (6) b. Dec. 23, 1799; m. Dorcas Poor, 1823; she was dau. of Theodore Poor, b. 1802; he d. 1831.

Rhoda (6), b. 1814; (Poor said Nov. 6, 1815); m. Wm. Bailey, 1832; son of Wm. Bailey of West Andover; he was b. 1808.
John (6) Ames (Spofford (5) Sam (4-3) Robt. (2-1) and wife, Mary—, had:

Jane (7), b. 1826.
Nancy (7), b. 1827.

Simeon (6) Ames (Simeon (5) Ben (4) Sam (3) Robt. (2-1) and wife, Dorcas Poor:

Mehitabel (7), b. 1824; m. March 13, 1845, Eben Woodbury of Pelham, N.H.; he was b. July 15, 1824, son of Eben Woodbury and w. Hannah Young. They lived on North Broadway, Lawrence, where they both died.

Moses (7), Bailey, b. 1826; m. Lydia Jane Caldwell; lived at 511 Lowell St., Lawrence; he got all the Boxford records for me.

Gayton Osgood (7), b. Oct. 27, 1827; m. Rebecca Inglis Abbott; she was dau. of Nehemiah Abbott and w. Rebecca Shattuck, b. Nov. 4, 1835. He d. in Lawrence, Sept. 19, 1876.

Mary Poor (7), b. March 18, 1829; m. Carlton Payson, a trader of Lawrence, on June 13, 1847; he was son of G. Payson and Rebecca (Wheelock); was b. in Annapolis, N.S., 1822.

Ben (7), b. 1830; m. Amanda Dale; lived in Lawrence. (Simeon (6) and Dorcas lived on the old Chandler Ames place of Ben/4

Moses Bailey (7) Ames (Simeon (6-5) Ben (4) Sam (3) Robt. (2-1) and Lydia, had:

Moses Howard (8), b. in Lowell.

Gayton Osgood (7) Ames (Simeon (6-5) Ben (4) Sam (3) Robt. (2-1) and Rebecca, had:

Ella Myra (8), b. June 6, 1854; m. Albra Francis Holt, Oct. 24, 1876; he was b. May 3, 1845, son of Josia Holt and w. Pamela Frye; lived at 73 Cross Street, Lawrence.

Mary P. (9), b. 1856; d. 1856.
Laura Abbott (8) b. Aug. 2, 1857; m. Oct. 27, 1880, Jos. A. Leighton of Charles town; a druggist; son of Wm. Blake Leighton, b. Dec. 15, 1856. (His mother was Caroline (Rand) Leighton.)
The AMES FAMILY

Ben(7) Ames (Simeon(6) Ben(5) Sam(4-3) Rbt.(2-1) and Amanda Dale, had:

Ida Etta(8), b. Aug. 1847.

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Nathan(5) Ames (Joseph (4-3-2) Robert(1) and Susanne Bailey, had:

Joseph (6), b. ; m. Elizabeth Noyes; had:

Susanne (7)

Bailey (7) of Bradford

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Prince Ames was the servant of old Capt. Ben Ames. Though some called him an adopted son, he was a mulatto and dark complexioned. He served in the Revolution. His certificate reads:

"This may certify that Prince Ames late a soldier in the Continental Army belonged to the Town of Andover and served in the Army for said Town until lawfully discharged. Andover, June 21, 1790.

Ben Stevens, Jr. (Selectmen
Ben Farnum
Ephraim Abbott
Timothy Abbott (of Andover.)"

He married Eunice Russe, Nov. 24, 1784; he d. April 21, 1816; she d. in Jamaica Plains, Feb. 24, 1864. Their children were:

Peter, b. April 22, 1785
Peter (2nd.) bpt. April 19, 1799.
Anna b. Feb. 28, 1787.
Phillip, b. Feb. 27, 1791.
Alexander, b. Feb. 2, 1796.
James, b. July 14, 1798.
Eunice, bpt. May 17, 1801.
Lavina, b. April 18, 1803.
Sampson, b. Sept. 20, 1805; d. March 18, 1830.
Essex County Ct. Records:


31:45..1716. John Ames conveys above land to John Osgood.

67:140..1711. John Ames of Boxford, for 10 £ from Andrew Allen, sells 1/2 Common Rights in Andover, in Rail Swamp.


1739... Sam(3) Ames and Hanna, sell to Israel Adams of Andover, for 500 £, 2 tracts and buildings in Andover, with joiner shop and homestead, near Jn. Barston's, on Ipswich Rd. and Noah Marble's cowpath and land he bought of Dan'l Faulkner and Jeams Bridges, etc., and land he bought of Sam Barker that joined on Ipswich Road; all except the Clay.

97:118..1746. Moody Bridges, malster, sells to Israel Adams, cordwainer, for 525 £, 18 acres near Noah Marble, Mr. Martin, Jos. Faulkner, Christopher Carlton; Ipswich Road on So. side.

112:265..1753. Isaac Stevens sells to Ben Ames, for 12 £, 2 3/4 acres in Andover, NW corner ss-- on land of Ben-- E line 27 p to s-s-- S line 11 p to s-s-- W line 28 p to s-s-- N line 23 p -- by Ben's labd, to lst bds. (West Parish)

Jo Shattuck; Eben Barker, witnesses.

102:34..1754. May 22... Ben Ames of Dover, from John Barnard, of Andover, a meadow and upland near Tim Chandler's brook. (David and Abigail Chandler.)

1755... Nathan Ames, brother of Ben, came on the Tax List at the Center. Sam Ames was on the list on the West Parish side of Town. Nathan paid a small tax but went off to Groton 1758, in which year he was taxed as non-resident, having property on both sides of the river, which would indicate that he had the care of his father's estate.

1762... Sam Ames was off the Tax List also.

1763... Ben Ames, the Capt. Ben Ames -- is on the List. He had owned land for 10 years but possibly was taxed on his father-in-law, Chandler's estate, in West Parish.

1775... Ben Ames paid the only tax paid by an Ames in town.

122:225..1759. Joshua Chandler of West Parish, for 73 £ paid by Ben Ames, sells land on South side the way from Zebadiah Chandler's to Samuel Abbott s-- near Pond Brook, 13 acres; joins Nathan Chandler's; Sam Phelps-- West side of Road. (I think was on the Beacon street road that now goes by Simeon Ames' place, which was rented by Moses and heirs, to Fuller.)

Nathan Ames; Joseph Shattuck, witnesses.
Essex Ct. Records, (cont.):

132;155.1773... James Parker, jr., of Andover, husbandman, for 50 £, sells to Ben Ames and Joshua Lovejoy, Jr., yeomen, the whole of my lot called the Ballard Lot, lying on Great Road, called Boston Road, between South Meeting House and Abbott's tavern on E side road before Capt. Joseph Sibson's house, on S side joins on John Wardwell and John Patten's land - they lived in the Newman house and some little house stood near - where Swift's building now stands - on which Deacon Dan Poor had a dicker - on East and North sides were widow Dinah Parker's thirds - W bds. by the Road, all within a fence - 10 acres in all. (This was the whole Centre of Andover)

(Carlton Parker; Nath'1 Holt.)

139:5.1781... Peter Johnson, blacksmith of West Parish, for 400 £ from Ben Ames, Jr., sells real estate given by his father, Obadiah Johnson, dec., homestead he lived in, except 10 acres of sheep pasture deeded to Wm. Chandler, Jr., since his father's death - 1 3/4 acres set off; W corner of pasture joins Lt. Wm. Clark-deeded to Clark since father's death.

(Edward Durant; Ruth Lovejoy, witness.)

143;128.1782... Ben Ames with James Parker, Jr., sells to Joseph Stevens, for 18 £, land on Boston Road - E side Road; joins Jn. Wardwell's homestead - 1/2 acre, 20 p - SW corner ss on Road - N on Road 9 p - tp s.s. by Apple Tree - then SW on Wardwell's land as fence stands - 10 p to s.s. - then West 8 p. to lst.

(Jonathan Wardwell then lived in what was afterward Jonathan Swift's property - the old Newman place.)

(Isaac Ingalls; Moses Abbott, witnesses.)

146;269.1783... Ben Ames, for 5 £ sells to Jonathan Wardwell, 27 p on East side Boston Road. NW corner on Road; E by land of Jos. Stevens, Jr., - 8 p - then SW by Wardwell's land 4 p - W 3 p - then N on Rd 4 p to lst bds. (This may have been for a roadway to the tannery, now near the Newman house.)

153;95.1783... For 150 £ from Ben Ames, Hezekiah Stiles Jr., and Phebe, sell land in West Parish deeded to Jr., by his father, Hez., buildings - land, joining Stephen Stiles and Isaac Shattuck - part of a house that is divided through the middle, near Dr. Thos. Kittredge's; the 2nd lot near Jn. Poor; the 3rd, a meadow - all in West Parish.

(Isaac Shattuck; Ben Ames, Jr. witness.)

152;250.1784... James Parker, for 500 £ from Ben Ames, Jr., yeoman, sells 3 pcs. of land and all buildings on the 1st - 45 acres and buildings - SE corner s.s. - (on High street) - by land formerly owned by Capt. Jos. Sibson (sold to Pierson) - and by the Road leading by Joshua Lovejoy's house (High St.) - W. on land formerly sd. Sibson's, now widow Barker's - NOW Barnard's -- and on the road leading to the mill formerly called Ballard's - to the Shawshin River (Pierson st.) - then down sd. River to land of Sam' Phillips, Jr., to s.s. (the old paper mill) - then E on Phillips' land and land of Josh Lovejoy up 'arding st.' - as fence stands to s.s. - by Road aforesaid leading by Lovejoy's then S on road sd. to first bds. . . . .
Essex Ct. Deeds.

152;250 .1784 ( cont.).. the 2nd piece, 15 acres, NW corner at s.s.-, then SE on land of Capt. Ben Ames as fence stands (probably the Ballard lot bought 1773) - then to s.s.- by Capt. Henry Abbott's - then E on Abbott fence- to "alnut tree; then N by Abbott's land on jence to s.s- by Road leading from the Meeting House to Isaac Abbott's , then S along the Road to the 1st bds.- a pastu- ure. (This was from the Abbott tavern lot( Locke place on Elm St.) to the Whittier place and must have gone back to Park St. if not farther.)

The 3rd piece was woodland, 25 acres- N bds. on Capt. Asa Foster's land of Peter Cago d,Jr.,Sam 'arlton, Joshua Lovejoy- S and E on Road from Simon Stevens around Isaac Ingalls and Jas. Barnard's- which was once all Capt, James Parker's, late of Andover, dec.; Mary, wife of Jas. Parker,Jr/, signs. ( This woodlot was over Carmel way.)

Wm. Dane; Nath'l Lovejoy, witnesses.

167;9.1784.... Ben Ames, gentleman, conveys to Ben Ames, jr., for 94 $, the land he bought of James Parker, called Ballard's Lot- lying on Boston Road between South Meeting House and Abbott's Tavern- 9 acres; S bds. Capt. Henry Abbott's land and Jn. Wardwell's, on fence- SW on land of Joseph Stevens as fence stands- E side on land allowed to widow Parker (Dinah), set off to her 3rd- as fence now stands.

March 31, 1784. (Thos. Phelps; Josh Chandler.)

173;39.1784.... Ben Ames, jr., to John Phillips, for $1100, the Parker est-ate"deed to me"- 1st piece near Ames house- NE corner s.s.- line S on Ames'land along fence- N by Abbott to s.s- on Road from French's Meeting house to Haverhill- then SW on Road to 1st bds, 15 acres. The 2nd pc. near Ames' house- SE cor.s.s- by land of Dr. Abiel Pierson to New Road, so called- then N on Rd. to West corner of Pierson land; E on Pierson land and land of Abiel Faulkner to Road that leads by Josh Lovejoy's house; S by sd. Road to 1st bds, 10 acres.... Also piece of woodland formerly owned by James Parker's estate. ('Ben is to pay up in 1 year.)

Ben Ames ,Sr., to Ben, Jr., for $107.13, a pasture 80 rds. south of his home in West Andover- bds. on Sam Flint's land.

145;269.1786... Hincher Parker, for 150 $ from Ben Ames,Jr., sells 7/8 of 3 pcs. of land in Andover ( West Parsh) with house ; 1st pc. had house on it- 22 acres, begins NE corner at s.s- runs W- joins Jn. Dison or(Dishon)'s land, for 80 p- to a poplar tree- then S on land now possessed by Parker, 40 p. t- an apple tree- than E on land improved by Parker-8- p to s.s- by Road- N on Rd 8 p. to 1st bds.... the 2nd pc. was West of 1st- 6 acres- running N on land improved by Parker-5- p to apply tree- then W by Parker, 35 p. to White Oak; S by land of Moses Ailey 30 p. to s.s- E by land of Josh Phelps 35 p. to 1st bds.... The 3rd parcel- Rough Meadow, so called - 23 acres pasture, SE cor. at Black Oak- N on Abiel Chandler 70 p.; W on C andler and Sam Phelps as fence lies, 65 p. to White Oak; S on Phelps 12 p. to White Oak-E by Common Strip and Road to 1st bds.

(Jas. Parker; Nath Lovejoy).
Essex Ct. Deeds (cont.) :-

149;267.1786. Wm. Dane and Phebe, for 154 ½ from "Nehemiah Abbott and Ben Ames, Jr., sell land and buildings, 50 acres; SE bds. on Nehemiah- SW bds. by his land or "Nehemiah, Jr.'s. NW and NE by Wm. Dane- all fenced, "whole of my homestead."
(Josh Holt; Lydia Dane.)

149;266.1789. 
Mortgage of West Parish property to Jonathan Abbott.

152;266.1789. "Nehemiah Abbott and Ben Ames, Jr., for 246 from Wm. Lovejoy, sell 80 acres, land and buildings; Bixby Abbott and Nehemiah Abbott on bds. Lydia Abbott and Phebe Ames, sign.
(Sam Phillips; Jos. Foster.)

2nd parcel begins at s.s- on W side Road leading from Josh Chandler's to Richardson's Ferry- N by land of Capt. Ben Ames and SW to Red Oak- S to White Oak on road from Richardson's Ferry to Ab Chandler- SE by land of Capt. Bailey and Jn. Noyes to land of Josh Chandler- E and NE by Chandler to s.s- by 1st Road then N to bds. The 3rd pc was also up in West Parish and must have been the Simeon Ames estate, since it belonged to Ben's heirs later. He had evidently mortgaged it to buy land in town.

161:47.1794. James Parker and Ben Ames, Jr., for 6 from Jn. Wardwell, Jr., cordwainer, sell land on Road from Theoph Frye's to Andover Bridge, in Frye Village. (The turnpike was not then built.)

161;180.1795. Ben Ames, Jr., for 20 sh. from Tim Clark, sells a small bit in West Parish near land he sold Clark-
162;126. for 110 ½ - part of homestead where he lately dwelt, to Tim Clark- 10 acres and buildings near Tim Clark's. Dorcas signs.

170;229.1797. Ben Ames, Jr., for $133.33 from Wm. Phelps, widow of Thomas Phelps, some land near Thos. Clark's.
(Joshua and Chloe Holt, witness.)

1800. Ben Ames to Dr. Thos. Kittredge, for $2000. land bt. of Ben Ames, Sr., called Ballard Lot, begins on Boston Road that runs between So. Meeting House and Capt. Henry Abbott's then SE as fence stands on Abbott land about 70 rds. along fence to Jona. Swift's- 50 rds, then W-joins land of Swift, lane of Stevens' to Boston Road; NE bds. on Road to 1st bds. and all buildings thereon and privileges and appurtenances (Samuel "e Baron; Ebenezer Poor.) (Henry Abbott's was the Whittier place.)
Essex Ct. Deeds,(cont.):-

169;191..Dec.15,1801.. Ben Ames, Jr., of Andover, yeoman, for $600 paid by John Flint, Jr., of Andover, conveys 2 pieces of land, part of the estate James Parker formerly owned and deeded to sd. Ames; 1st pc. near Ames House ("tavern")- bds. begin at NW corner with s.s-- then S or SE on Ben Ames' land as fence goes to s.s- by Capt. Henry Abbott's land as fence stands, to a Walnut Tree- E line on Hy. Abbott- line turns N bds. by Hy. Abbott to s.s- by Road from Mr.French's Meeting-House to Haverhill- then SW by sd. Road to 1st bds, 18 acres. (Seems to be the land behind the Elm House or the whole pasture.). The 2nd piece was near the Ames' House- begins SE corner bt s.s- then N by land of Dr. Abiel Pierson, to "the New Road, so called-- then N by sd. Road to W corner of Pierson's land- E by Pierson's land to land of Abiel Faulkner to Road leading from Josh Lovejoy's house- S by sd. Road to 1st bds., 10 acres (This would be Hight St. lot including the Gleason place.) If he pays $600 in one year it is free. Zeb Holt; Theoph. Frye, witnesses.

This was paid up on Feb.1, 1804.

174;176..1803... Ben Ames, for $10 from Abiel Faulkner, joiner, sells a pc. of pasture which joins Dr. Abiel Pierson's- begins NE corner off sd. pasture ,runs S 6 p. as road runs, to s.s-- thm W to s.s-- 3p. then N 6 p. to line between Ben Ames and Dr. Abiel Pierson's- then E 3 p. to 1st bds. ( Rd. was Pierson street. Jas. Barnard, Jr; Bza C. Kim, witnesses.

193;56..1811... Ben Ames, yeoman, transfers to Wm. Foster, schoolmaster, part of Albany, Me., Oxford County land. Thos. Kittredge, Phillip Frye and Margaret, wife of Rich. Manning, lend $800, in 1811. Jeduthan Abbott and Amos, for $10, release Ben's est.; 1st tract is NW corner on section of Boston Road and Turnpike- runs NE by Boston Road 36 rds. to s.s- in Willard Lane'; bounds - NE corner on Lane- along fence 33 rds to corner of wall, then 65 rds. to s.s- on bds of Capt. Henry Abbott's heirs- then SW on the lands along fence, 32 p. to s.s- by Turnpike- then NW on Turnpike 15 p. to 1st bds.-- bldgs., etc. the 2nd lot was in West Parish near Simeon Ames- 11 acres.

194;166..1810-11.. David Abbott, for $2000, buys of Ben Ames, Plot begins st E side Haverhill Road Post Road- 1 3/4 rds. from NE end "of my woodhouse"- runs S 44 d. - E for 13 rds. to s.s-- S 44 1/2 degrees W for 17 1/2 rds., to s.s- by Essex Turnpike- then SE- bds. on Turnpike 10 1/2 rds. to s.s- by land of heirs of Capt. enry Abbott- then NE along Abbott fence 32 rds. to s.s- then NW along fence 65 rds. to s.s- in wall corner- W and N on Willard Lane's land as fenced- about 25 rds. to Post Road then SW on Road to 1st bds. (This is a new description of the lot and seems to leave a square out for the space between the Boston Road and the house, if it is the lot Ben lives on. This, I suppose, is to secure David for the 1810-1811 notes, for $2000.

194;33..1811... Nathan Ames, yeoman, and David Abbott are sureties for Ben Ames, innholder, to Jeduthan and Amos Abbott- for $5000. Ben is to pay debt to Jeduthan. (Amos Durant; Nath' Lovejoy)
Essex Court Deeds (cont.):

Sept. 5, 1810... A deposition of Sam Farrar, John Poor, Nath'1 Lovejoy, testifying to Ben Ames' loose way of keeping his papers. Capt. Jeduthan Abbott, then dec., had claimed that he had a warranty deed of Ben's tavern and some lands, for security for $1900 or $2000. Ben had nothing to show for what the deed was given. Poor said this was not right, as Ames should have some paper. Abbott protested that he didn't want to take any advantage and he would reconvey the lands when Ben paid up. But Ben didn't know how much Jeduthan had paid out for him.

Dr. Thos. Kittredge called Ben careless and in attentive and on comparing notes with Capt. Jed., discovered that each had a deed of the same property, and Ames had no security from either, etc.

195; 87, 1811... Ben Ames, for $4000 from Ben Ames of Bath, sells the lot South side the County Road from Haverhill to Boston-s.s-on South line of Road 16 1/2 ft. from NE corner of the woodhouse- then runs South 45 degrees, 40 m. East, for 33 rds.; 19 links to s.s.- near Wall; then South 69 and 4 m. West, for 24 3/4 rds. to s.s.- on E line of Essex Turnpike; a SW cor. then on Turnpike and line runs back N to County Road again, the NE on sd. Road to 1st bounds; - and all buildings thereon; also 1 piece S side Boston Road- begins at s.s.- on S line and North corner of widow Sara Stevens' land- runs S on her land to Turnpike(between Central street and bank) then N on W side turnpike to County Road- then across SW to 1st bds.

200; 183, 1813... Ben Ames of Andover, for $3820 from Daniel Cummings, Andover, and Ben Ames of Bath, gives the West Parish estate and 1st-4 and 5 parcels on E side Turnpike, bds. N and S by land of Abiel Pierson-E by Town Road(High St.)-W by Turnpike- 11 acres; 6th- Parker lot W side Turnpike-begins at s.s.- E on Turnpike, down to Eph Abbott's mills- then NW on R. ad to middle of Shawshin River- then E down River in midstream to land owned and improved by Sam Phillips- then E to Pierson's land and Turnpike- and S on Turnpike to 1st bds.- 30 acres. 7th- a meadow S side Haverhill Road to Boston, bounds between river and Ben Ames of Bath- E of woodland and improved by Nath'l Lovejoy, on road to land formerly Willard Lane's- the SE and North to Road- E on Road to Capt. Henry Abbott's owned now by his widow- the SW to Turnpike- N on Turnpike to Ben Ames of Bath's land- 20 acres. (Eliza Stimpson; Hanna Morse.)

201, 118, July 3, 1813... Ben Ames of Bath, for $2000 from Wm. Foster, school-master, sells 1/2 pt. of the purchase described above, as Tavern property- bds. are fenced along Haverhill Rd. 12 rds., SE boundary- and all buildings thereon. Ben and Sara give up rights. (Lydia Ames; John Kershaw.)
The Ames Family

Essex Ct. Deeds, (cont.):

204;192.1814. Ben Ames of Bath, for $400 from David Holt and Isaac Osgood, Jr., land on W side Turnpike on SE side of street from Foster's Tavern to Meeting-house (Central St.) - South cor. on Sara Stevens' (the old Jo. Stevens' house) - West side on Turnpike - runs North on Turnpike 16 rds. to S.S. - then S 26 deg. p 1/10 m. - then S again to Sara Stevens 1st bds. - Reserving for use of the Public as a highway the same as is now improved a piece measuring 1 1/2 rds. on Essex Turnpike South from the North corner of said tract and running to a point at the West corner near bounds.

203;216.1813. Dan Cummings of Andover and Ben Ames of Bath, sell to Abiel Jones, land in West Parish.

264;203. The same sell to Stephen Abbott and Stephen Russell, land on North side Meeting-house Road to Abbott's Mills - So. cor. on Road as it runs - W through line on Road to Abram Marland's - N and W on Marland's line to Shawsheen River - down River in middle till you cross E over meadow - 2 1/2 rds. near head of old ditch - then S on Ben Kimball's bds. to 1st bds. - 4 acres; house of David Holt reserved for life with privileges to move it at decease, unless Abbott and Russell choose to buy it - Peter C. Brooks retains right to keep flash-boards on his mill dam 14-16 in. high at all seasons and passageway from Brooks' meadow into road through gates or bars. Daniel & Hanna Cummings; Ben Ames and Sara.

(Seems to describe a section taken out along Thomas C. Foster's front, on which Mitchell had a blacksmith shop.)

201;170. Oct. 14, 1815. Wm. Foster, for $3500 sells the lot he bought with Ames' tavern on it - a mortgage swap - to Thomas C. Foster, innholder.

213;275. Thomas C. Foster, for $1136.35 from Ben Ames of Bath and Dan Cummings, sells 12 acres 106 rds. NE cor. of land owned by me bought of Wm. Foster on S side Haverhill Road - South bds. on land I bt. of Wm. and land of sd. Ames - along on fence to Abbott heirs - to County Road as wall stands - then W on sd. Road to land formerly owned and occupied by one Mitchell, blacksmith - the SW and N on Mitchell's land to County Road - then W on sd. Road to 1st bds. - land divided by partition walls. (Seems to describe a section taken out along Thomas C. Foster's front, on which Mitchell had a blacksmith shop.)

As to above: 191;311, 1812. Willard Lane, blacksmith, for $400 from Jn. Mitchell of Lynn, sold out shop on Haverhill Road. Also, in 1812 Willard Lane sold to Jn. Mitchell of Lynn, for $1000, all lands and buildings on Road to Boston, as described in 191;311 - sold to me by Ben Ames - May 8, 1804.

(Mitchell sold above to John Marston and he in turn sold to Nath'l Whittier.)
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<td>Abbott, Bixby          13</td>
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<td>&quot; , Rebecca Ingalls    19</td>
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<td>Cummings, Dan'l (Maj.) 17</td>
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<td>Elm House( Ames' Tavern)</td>
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<td>Rams , Abigail         18</td>
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<td>Marsh, Elizabeth</td>
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