

THE HARDING FAMILY

OF ANDOVER

The Harding family, for whom Harding street is named, descends from John(1) Harding , born in Great Marlboro, Buckinghamshire, Eng., in 1769. On Feb. 7, 1792 at St. Andrew's Church, Holburn, England, he married Sarah Houghton. She was a daughter of Thomas Houghton and wife, Elizabeth Taylor, born in Lincolnshire, April 10, 1769.

A family traditions is to the effect that John and his brother, James went to London to find work and that James was impressed by a pressgang and carried away and nothing was ever heard of him again.

Thomas Houghton, father-in-law of John (1) Harding, was a paper-maker. When he came to Andover, John came with him and they established a business here. They built the Stimpson place. I think that Harding lived in the big house at the corner of Harding St., and the Turnpike.

Sarah, wife of John, died Feb.12, 1845. He died, Dec.28, 1827. They were buried in South Yard. Their children were :-

Eliza Jane (2), b. in London, July 18, 1793; m. Ben Hayward, Jan.26, 1813. She went to Savannah with aunt Charlotte on Isaac Abbott's packet boat, before her marriage. Was a gay flirt.  
Thomas Houghton (2), b. in Andover, Feb.13, 1797; m. Eliza Amelia Foster,

April 14, 1824. Went to Conn.

Mary Ann (2), b. in Andover, Dec.25, 1798; m. Shadrach Roberts, int. Apr.27, 1818.

Sarah Hickson (2), b. March 16, 1801 (Town had 1800); d. Nov.10, 1867.

Charlotte S. (2), b. June 20, 1803; (Town had June 16, 1802); m. Edward Lord, May 4, 1825.

John (2), b. June 27, 1805; (Town had 1804) ; m. Josephine T. Colver, 18, on Feb.22, 1828; she d. Dec.19, 1832 in So. Coventry, Conn. He m. 2nd., Hannah Abbott, Nov.1, 1835.

Children of John (1) Harding and wife, Sarah Houghton, ( cont.):-

Catharina (2), b. June 16, 1808; (Town has 1807); d. Sept.11, 1821.

James Friend (2), b. Aug. 12, 1810; He was to have been named for a

dear friend of the family, but the person declared that that

would be unlucky, and asked that the child be called merely,

" Friend". He died in California, Nov.28, 1886.

Sam Houghton (2) b. May 10, 1814; d. May 31, 1814.

John (2) Harding (John(1) and 1st wife, Josephine Colver, had:-

Mary Ann (3), d. in Manchester, Conn., age 5 weeks.

John (3), d. in Fairville, Conn., Dec.18, 1830, age 3 days.

by 2nd wife, Hannah Abbott:-

Hannah (3), b. April 19, 1840 ; in Hamilton, Mass.

( Uncle John got his hand and arm burned at the store under the Baptist Church, Dec.29, 1860, while drawing spirits. He was a liquor agent. John let a Wm. Clark, brother-in-law of old Peter Shattuck, have his horse, to ride to New York. Clark agreed to pay \$ 180.00, if he was not back on a certain date. and to pay for the use of the horse on 80 miles of travel, per day. He left no security and never came back. I think he was the Clark who skipped to Canada.)

Josephine Harding Baldwin, d. July 1909.