

JESSE BELKNAP born Aug 3., 1739-----

Jesse Belnap served in the Revolution according to Capt. Samuel Robinsons Roll recorded in Hillards Halls History of Remington, Vt. Hist. Mag. 1-158. Was in the battle of Bennington Aug 16, 1777.

He was enrolled on a pay roll for Capt. Ephriam Buell's Company in Col. Warren's regiment of the Militia for their services done in the year 1779 in scouting for the security of the frontiers, commencing May 10, 1779 and ending Dec 3, 1779, the money being from the State of Vermont.

The Dorset Convention of July 24, 1776

The following call of the convention and Journal of its proceedings is from the manuscript copy of the Hon. James H. Phelps. That portion of the journal which relates to and includes the association for defence against the British Fleets and armies was published in the Connecticut Current of Feb 17, 1777 and is found in Forces American Archives Vol. 102 the fifth series pages 565. Neither the call of the convention nor the residue of the journal is believed to have ever been printed.

This convention was held at the dwelling house of Cephar Kent in Dorset Wed. July 24, 1776. Jesse Belnap was a member of the convention. This convention agreed upon and did send a declaration in order to join the common defence of the United States against the hostilities of the British Fleet and remain with them until the unhappy controversy between the two countries be settled. Forty eight signed this agreement, one of them being Jesse Belnap. The above is taken from Governor and Council Vol. I page 15. this was also taken from the manuscript copy of the Hon. James H. Phelps as published in the Vermont Historical Society Collections Vol. I.

Governor and Council Vol. I, page 267. State of Vermont in council Bennington June 13, 1778. Sir, Please deliver the bearer, Mr. Jesse Belnap, ten pounds of powder for the use of the Militia in Castleton. Signed by Thomas Chriddenden and written to Mr. Wm. Sherman commissary, Bennington.

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In a list of the Justices of the Peace chosen and authorized by virtue of an act of assembly at Bennington June 17, 1778. Jesse Belnap was one of the Justices of the Peace of Castleton. Also that Jesse Belnap was paid by Vt. for riding express from Fort Warren to Allington.

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Childs Rutland County directory. 1881-2

Caslteton Town, Vt. was organized March 1777 with Jesse Belnap as first town Clerk.

History of Rutland Co. Vt. by J. P. Smith and W. S. Rann page 519 is the following. "In 1771 Jesse Belnap settled about one and one half miles west of the Village, on the farm now owned by Fred E. Prouty, in 1886 and occupied, by his father Luther S. Prouty. He was the first Justice of the peace and was a member from Castleton of the Convention which adopted the State Constitution.

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Hemenway Vol 3 page 506

Jesse Belnap settled in Castleton, Vt. 1771, one mile and a half east of the Village. On the farm where Clark Stevens lived recently. He was the first Justice of the Peace. His son Jesse lived near him, on the Merlin Clark place. Mr. Belnap appears to have been active and enterprising. He was a member of the convention from Castleton when the Constitution of the State was adopted. His name appears often among the offices of the Town.

First Ministers in Castleton.

The first town meeting at which action was taken to secure preaching. So far as appears from the records, was held Jan. 1, 1781, at which Benjamin Hitchcock, Johathan Gilmore, Brewster Higley, Jesse Belknap and Percy Sturtvent were appointed a committee to employ the Rev. Everett to preach and labor among them as a gospel minister. Most of the settlers of Castleton were from Conn.

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In 1784 Jesse Belknap joined the Congratonal Church at Castleton. In 1786 the first church house was built or started to be built and in 1790 was completed. This year the Legislature held its sessions in it. Hemenway Vol. 3- p 526

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Jesse Belknap's name appears in the 7th Co. of Capt. Noah Grant of Windsor, Conn. Apr. 9 to Dec. 9, 1756. In 1st Co. of Col Phenis Lymon of Suffield, pay roll Mar. 15 to Dec. 2, 1757. Their names appear on pay roll for 3 days on their return from Canada. page 170, Vol 9.

First Regiment Col. P. Lymon, Jesse Belknap Apr. 1 to Nov. 6, 1758. French and Indian War rolls. Vol. 11, p, 7. Jesse Belknap enlisted Apr. 14 to Sept. 2 and Sept 3 enlisted as Sergeant to Dec. 14 in the 5th Co. Edward Barnard. Vol. 2, pages 114-295, 296.

Jesse Belknap was appointed Serj and Major Mar. 15 to Sept. 14, 1762.

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History of Enfield Conn. Vol 3 page 2182  
Jesse Belknap son of Sam. and Mary Belknap was baptized Arpil 15, 1739 at Somers, Conn.

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Rolland Co. Conn. Somers Congregational Church ( Call # 2076) Gen. Soc. Samuel and Mary Belknap

Children

Simeon Belknap	Bapt at Somers	Aug 10, 1729
Job Belknap	" " "	Aug 10, 1729
Samuel Belknap	" " "	July 24, 1731
Ebenezer Belknap	" " "	June 30, 1734
Abel Belknap	" " "	Oct 30, 1736
Jesse Belknap	" " "	Apr 15, 1739

( It appears the first two children were baptised after they arrived in in Somers and the first child born there would be Samuel. The family

Jan. 4, 1818 Jesse Belknap deeded his farm to Augustine Belknap.  
Land is on the Main road between Castleton and Rutland.

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The following is taken from the town clerks record of Castleton, Vt.

Aug 22, 1790 Simon Hathway deeded his property to the children of his daughter, Deborah Belknap. Old records of Castleton page 76,

Same book page 147; Augustus or Augustine Belknap deeded his farm that was given the children of Deborah Belknap to Abit Moulton on Jan. 25, 1809.

Augustine Belknap of Middlebury in the county of Genesee, State of New York do deed to Abil Morton land in Castleton, Vt. Feb 18, 1816. This shows where he moved after leaving Castleton, Vt. Jesse Belknap is, however, still in Castleton on Jan. 4, 1818 shown from the deeds sold to the above son.

Jesse Belknap Jr. of Castleton sold to Seth Gridby his part of the estate of his grandfather Hathway Feb 14, 1818 and in the deed stated that this is the place where he and his father Jesse were then living.

Olive Belknap of Middlebury, Genesee, N.Y. where her brother Augustine lived, deeded to Clark administrator all of her right and title and interest in the Simion Hathway Estate to the children of Deborah Belknap, the second wife of Jesse Belknap.

The old farm of Jesse Belknap was deeded from Augustine Belknap to Seth Gridley.

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Miss Margaret Adam had the record of the Congregational Church. Later they were turned over to Rev. Frank L. Garfield of Castleton, Vt. These contain little record of Jesse Belknap, none that gives any dates of births or deaths.