

History of Anne Collins

Anne was born in England about 1608. She married Thomas King about 1624. They had six children which were born in Dorset, England. They gave up all they had in England and joined the Puritans coming to New England. Her husband Thomas and son Peter were listed among the first settlers of Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts soon after it began.

Picture these parents on the ship with six children. It probably took most of the money they received from the sale of their property in England to pay fare for eight to New England. When they arrived the hardships they would have to endure until they could get their house built and some land under cultivation. The mother and small children seemed to suffer the most. The English were a clean race of people. It would be a chore to wash clothes by hand, cook for eight and see that the children's hands and faces were kept clean and they had their regular bath while camping out.

At this time they only had one boy, he was about 14 years old. Helping his father build their house was indeed good training for Peter as he later took up the carpenter trade.

The English were hard working people and they would all be anxious to get moved into their house, so no doubt we would find Anne hammering nails and spading and hoeing whenever possible.

Anne and Thomas were privileged to have one more child after arriving in Sudbury, Massachusetts. This was their seventh child and it was a boy. Now they had 2 boys and 5 girls.

But Anne was not privileged to raise her family. She passed away 24 November 1642; just as the cold winter set in.

The baby Thomas was christened 4 December 1642. He lived one more month, then joined his mother on 3 January 1643.