

### History of Joseph Bartlett

Joseph Bartlett was born about 1630 in England. He married on 27 October 1668, Mary Waite, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Waite. They resided in that part of Cambridge, Massachusetts, that later was known as Newton, Massachusetts. This is where their six children were born.

It is interesting to note that the early settlers were good to help one another. Here was Joseph Bartlett, a young married man trying to get a start in life. He had bought four acres of land from Widow Smith of Watertown, lying within the Cambridge bounds, bounded upon Hugh Clarke east, Noah Wiswall south, the highway west, and Hugh Clarke, aforesaid, north. But he had no money to buy material to build a house. So the good people from the church took up a collection and raised enough money for him to build.

In the published Cambridge Town Records the following appears under date of 3 March 1673:

"the Information given by those heere under written of the pore and low Condition of Joseph bartlit"

"thease are to Certifie our honered Captaine and the Rest of the selectmen of Cambrigd that according to your order wee have bine with Joseph bartlit and doe finde him in very poore Condition having noe house and very bad in Respect to foode and Rayment and therefor if you would be pleased to Allow five pounds It may be a Comfortable supply to helpe to build him A house and A helpe to to supply his present wants.

"March th 3, 1673

thomas prentis

Clarke brought Noah Wiswall and Goodman Elexander and did ful warne them of coming upon the land or for medling up anything upon it; for sayd John Clarke if you set up a house I will pull it downe and sed Goodman elseandre fech away the timber if he had wood of it; or wheather you have wood of it or no fech it away; and further sayeth not."

Sworne 1.2.73

Tho. Danforth R.

Another document in the case is as follows:

"We whose name are hearunto Subscribed being desired to Judge: what damage Joseph Bartlet of Cambridge; Sustained by haveing his frame pulled downe; and his barke caried away; together with his being put oute of his busines, and haveing his prsent troubel; as also being disapoynted about his barke in paieing ye shoemaker; and runung up and downe in August last For to get warrants and ye like for ye receiving his right which he suposed was shaken by this Disturbance; and by his transporting his hay being two load; upon ye same acount as allso lost in ye title; which he had; all being considered we doe adjudge ye damage to amount to ye value of ten pounds; and have subscribed this first of April 1673."

Sworn in Court

1.2.3

be all ye subscribrs

Tho. Danforth

thomas prentis

John ffuller

John Spring

Job hide

A decision of the court is recorded as follows:

At a County Court held at Cambr

Aprill 1st 1673.

"Joseph Bartlett plt agt Jno Clark deft In an actoon of the case of pulling downe a frame of his, taking away the timber thereof and Carying away about a load of barques all Done upon the land of the said Bartlett, lying within Cambr bounds, bounded upon Hugh Clarke East, Noal Wiswall South, and the highway west, and Hugh Clarke aforesaid North, and for damages thereby Susteyned to the vallue of sixteen pounds, according to Attachment Dat. 25.1.1673 both prtyes appeared and Joyned issue in the Case, and after full hearing of their pleas & evidences as they were by them prsented in Court, the Jury brought in their verdict finding for the pt Damages nine pounds, & costs of Court, one pound fourteen shillings & two pents.

"The defendt Appealed to ye next Court of Assists & put in Security to execute ye same as followeth

"John Clarke as Principal & Hugh Clarke as Surety do acknowledge themselves to stand bound Joynth & Severally to the Clerk of ye Court, in ten pounds pd by them to be forfeited & pd

"The Condition of this Recognizance is that the said John Clarke shall execute this appeale."

What appears to be the final disposition of the case appears in the Ct of Assistants Second Book, begun 3 Mar. 1673, as follows:

"John Clarke plaintiff agt Joseph Bartlet defendant in an action of Appeale from Judgement of the County Court in Cambridg in october last &

"Hugh Clarke plaintiff agt Joseph Bartlet deffendant in an action

of appeal from the Judgment of the County Clerk in Cambridge in October last declaring his bond to be forfeited & - 1673:

"The Attachments Courts Judgments Reasons of Appeals & Ansr wth the evidences in the cases produced being read & heard in these 4 actions both plaintiffs & deffendant Agred & Consented in open Court one wth another that the merrit of the whole Case that should have binn heard & tryed at the last Cour of assistants in September should now be heard & as it fell so the costs & Damages should be and so the Case was Comitted to the jury who brought in their verdict they found for the plaintiffs on the whole merrit of the Case reversion of the former Judgement & Costs of Courts five pounds fowerteen shillings & eight pence - 1st Jr."

Jan. 1, 1700, the Selectmen and Inhabitants "Voted that the schoolhouse be set in the highway near to Joseph Bartlett's and that it be finished by the first of October, and agreed with John Staples to keep school one month, four days a week for 1 pd 4 s."

In 1678, Joseph signed a petition for the separation of Cambridge Village from Cambridge. There were 65 Freemen there when the petition was granted in 1679.

In 1691, the name of the town was changed from Cambridge Village to New Town, or Newton.

Mary Waite died 21 December 1721. Joseph Bartlett died 26 December 1702 or 3.

The following appears in the Probate Court files under date of 8 January 1702 or 3. It is a letter of administration granted to "Joseph Bartlett eldest son of Joseph Bartlett, late of Newton."

"An Inventory of the Housing Lands and Estate of Joseph Bartlet late of Newton in the County of Middlesex Deed as it was taken and apprizd by us whose Names are under written:

|  |    |    |   |
|--|----|----|---|
| Imprimus Housings & Lands                          | 15 | 0  | 0 |
| One bed and Wearing apparel                        | 1  | 0  | 0 |
| One Gun  | 0  | 10 | 0 |
| One Iron Pot, one quart pot &<br>one candlestick   | 0  | 14 | 0 |
| In Iron tools 4/one chest &<br>one wooden plates 3 | 0  | 7  | 0 |
| In Old Iron  | 0  | 0  | 6 |
| Total  | 17 | 11 | 6 |
| In Debts and funeral Charges                       | 2  | 1  | 8 |

John Staples

Samuel Hidges

Thomas Wiswell"