

ten pounds for the setting of an house, and to be paid in by the first of 11 month next, and that John Kettle shall dwell in it so long as the towns think meet. [Town record.] Mr. T. B. Wyman supposes him to be the John Kettle of Gloucester, 1653, then aged 32, and who d. in Salem, Oct. 12, 1685, leaving wife **EMMA BETH**, and 6 chil. His inventory included 300 acres of land near Nashua.

**MARY KEDALL**, m., Jun. 11, 1654-5, **THOMAS WHITNEY**. [32.]

**BETHIA KEDALL**, m., Nov. 3, 1666, **THEOPHILUS PHILLIPS**. [24.]

**KEYES** (Keys, Keies).—**ROBERT KEYES**, of Wat., by wife **SARAH**, had, 1. **SARAH**, b. May 26, 1633. 2. **REBECCA**, b. Mar. 17, 1637-8. 3. **PURNA**, b. June 17, 1639. 4. **MARY**, b. 1641, d. 1642. 5. **ELIAS**, b. May 29, 1643, settled in Sud. m., Sept. 11, 1665, **SARAH BLANDFORD**, and had several chil. 6. **MARY**, b. in Newbury, June 16, 1645, where the father (Robert) d. July 16, 1647. He was probably the father of Solomon, of Newbury, who m., Oct. 2, 1653, **FRANCES GRANT**, and may have been the father of John, of Springfield, in 1669. [See Ward, 333-47, and Coffin, 307.]

**KIDDER**.—**JOHN KIDDER**, of Waltham, m., Nov. 2, 1775, **ELIZABETH TOWNSEND**, and had, **ELIZABETH**, bap. Oct. 12, 1776. [Townsend, 10.]

**JOHN KIDDER**, of Charlestown, m., Dec. 12, 1780, **RUTH FILLERBORN**, of Waltham.

**ELIZA KIDDER**, d. in Waltham, Dec. 13, 1798, aged 27.

**KIMBALL**.—See Kimball.

**KIMMINGHAM** (Kinecam, Cunningham).

**JOHN KIMMINGHAM**, o. c. June 18, 1639, and had ds. 1. **ERRINA** [See Gale, 63], and 2. **ELIZABETH**, bap. same day. 3. **JOHN**, bap. Nov. 3, 1700. [See Coolidge, 85.]

**KING**.

**THOMAS KING**, aged 15, embarked at Ipswich, Ap., 1634, with John Barnard's family.

At same time embarked **THOMAS KING**, aged 19; probably the Thomas King of Lancaster. See Worcester Mag., pp. 130 and 273.

**THOMAS KING**, of Wat.; by wife **MARY** had, 1. **THOMAS**, b. Mar. 6, 1643-4; buried Dec. 28, 1644. 2. **MARY**, b. Feb. 2, 1642-3; m., Oct. 19, 1659, **JONAS JOHNSON**. One other dr., name not known. He d. Dec. 3, 1644, and his wid. m., Mar. 9, 1644-5, **JAMES CUTLER**. [See Cutler, 1.] Inventory, dated Dec. 24, 1646.

**EBENEZER KING**, m., in Wat., Dec. 17, 1699, **HANNAH MANNING**, of Emerica, and in Wat., had,

1. **EBENEZER**, b. Oct. 11, 1709. 2. **SAMUEL**, b. Ap. 13, 1702.

3. **WILLIAM**, b. Sept. 8, 1703. 4. **HANNAH**, b. Jun. 13, 1704-5.

**RICHARD KING**, by trade a housewright, settled in Wat. as early as 1714 where he kept a shop, and was connected in business with Ebenezer Thomas, being especially engaged in procuring timber for house and ship building. In 1745, he was appointed by Gov. Shirley, a Commissary of the troops, detached for Annapolis Royal. In Oct., 1746, he mortgaged, to **JONAS COOLIDGE** (son-in-law of Mr. Thornton), his shop and lot in Wat., situated on the east side of Charles River, on the east side of the county road leading from Wat. to Boston, for surety in consideration the within named **JONAS** was my surety for money due to the Government, when I went in the service to Annapolis Royal, which mortgage was released, Dec. 6, 1750. In 1746, soon after his return from that expedition, he moved to Scarborough, Me., engaged in trade, and became the wealthiest man in the town. He was one of the largest exporters

Genealogies of the Families  
and Descendants of the  
Early Settlers of  
Mass. Including Waltham  
and Weston

Vol. 1

Boston  
1855

KEYES Family

MARTHA FULLER  
Estate

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Keyes

**CAPTAIN SOLOMON KEYES (1701 - 1755)**  
and his son Danforth Keyes (1740 - 1826)  
by Richard A. Connell

Solomon(3) **KEYES**, third of the name in Massachusetts, was born May 11, 1701, in Chelmsford, son of Solomon and Mary (\_\_\_\_) **KEYES**. He was of the fourth generation of **KEYES** in the Colonies. Solomon must have been a physical stalwart, a brave frontiersman and a real pioneer for he bore arms at least twice in defense of his homeland, the last time at the cost of his life.

In 1725, he was among 34 men recruited by Captain John **LOVEWELL** to put down a Pequawket Indian raiding party of about 85 savages who had been molesting the frontier villages. The two forces met near Fryeberg, Maine. Paugus the Indian chief, was killed, and **LOVEWELL** was also killed along with 19 of his men. Only 14 survived, and nine of these were wounded. After a heated fight, the Indians finally retreated and the frontiersmen won the battle. Solomon **KEYES** was "mortally" wounded (says the story); he sustained three wounds but managed to get away by rolling into a convenient canoe and drifting across the pond. It is said that Solomon took the gold wampum belt from Paugus. [This likely is true. In 1988, Robert **BUCK**, a hardware merchant in Warren, Massachusetts, and also a descendant of Solomon **KEYES**, told me that his mother had that wampum belt in the bank vault in Warren. I did not see it]

Soon after the **LOVEWELL** battle, Solomon married Sarah, the daughter of Jonathan(2) **DANFORTH**, of Billerica, Massachusetts [qv], and they moved to the western part of Brookfield where they were among the founders of Western Massachusetts - in Worcester County - which became an established town in 1742. The name of the town was later changed to "Warren" in 1834. It lies on the north side of the Old Boston Post Road. There is a Keyes Avenue and the homestead that Solomon built there still stands, although it has been considerably added to, over the years. In the front yard stands an enormous old elm tree on the spot where a predecessor huge elm stood in the days of the Revolutionary War. It is said that General George **WASHINGTON** drank from the **KEYES'** well, under that elm, when he passed by on his way to Boston, and stopped here to see his old friend, Colonel Danforth **KEYES**, who commanded the Brookfields Militia Regiment of Minutemen. The house was built in 1740, and Danforth was the first child of Solomon and Sarah (**DANFORTH**) **KEYES** to be born in this house. [Robert **BUCK** showed me a large glass tumbler, called a "toddy", which is said to have been used by George **WASHINGTON**. He also showed me an old photograph of the homestead which I copied and have in my file.]

Between 1727 and 1742, Solomon and Sarah had eight children, apparently all born in Western, Massachusetts. Six of these were married and had numerous children. Solomon(4) **KEYES** was with his father at the Battle at Lake George, New York, in September 1755, as were also his brothers Danforth and David. Solomon(4) was mortally wounded in the battle and he died on October 1 at nearby Fort Edward. Solomon(3) their father, was killed outright in the early morning of September 8, in the opening skirmish of the battle. Both were probably buried in New York, near the place where they died.



## CAPTAIN SOLOMON KEYES - continued

Danforth **KEYES**, at age 16, came through that Battle at Lake George unscathed. He continued to serve in the war against the French and Indians, was in the assault on Fort Ticonderoga in 1758, and was with General **AMHERST**'s troops at the defeat of Montreal. His regiment returned across Vermont in the winter, to Charlestown; most of the men were barefoot by then. The town of Hardwick, Caledonia County, Vermont was granted to Danforth **KEYES** and his companions, and some of his sons settled there after the Revolutionary War. They also were in the Cambridge, LeMoile County, Vermont area. Danforth **KEYES** married Sarah **CUTLER**, daughter of Thomas(2) and Sarah (**FISKE**) **CUTLER**, at Warren, on December 6, 1764, and they had eight children.

At the beginning of hostilities, before the Lexington Alarm, colonial militia (minuteman) forces were formed in anticipation of a coming war with Britain. The men with prior service in the French and Indian War were sought to lead this militia and Danforth **KEYES** was selected as a Lieutenant Colonel of the Worcester County militia regiment. That regiment was assembled as soon as it was notified of the Battles of Lexington and Concord and it marched immediately to the scene of the action. Colonel **KEYES** served with the Massachusetts regiment of Colonel Ebenezer **LEARNED** at Roxbury and at Bunker's Hill. Later, on May 8, 1777, he was commissioned a Colonel of a regiment in the defense of Boston. He served in Rhode Island and then throughout the term of the war.

After the war, Colonel Danforth **KEYES** and his wife Sarah lived in Warren for the rest of their lives. He died in 1826, at the age of 86; she died in 1831, also at age 86. They are buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, in Warren, along side of his mother, Sarah (**DANFORTH**) **KEYES**, and his sister Mary. On Mary's grave, there is a large red memorial tombstone that tells of the death of her father and her brother from the Battle at Lake George, in 1755, and of Mary's death in 1756.

References: Keyes, Solomon(3) and Danforth:

1. Genealogy-Robert **KEYES** . . . and Solomon **KEYES** . . . by Asa **KEYES**, 1881.
2. The Expeditions of Capt. John **LOVEWELL** . . . by Frederick **KIDDER**, 1865.
3. The History of Woburn, MA . . . by Samuel **SEWELL**, 1868, pp. 194-208.
4. Saco Valley Settlements and Families, by G. T. **RIDLON**, 1895, pp 25-31.
5. **NEHGR**, v. 7, #1 (Jan 1853), pp 61-69.
6. Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, v. 6, pp 993-1007.
7. History of Chelmsford, MA, by Rev. Wilson **WATERS**, 1917, pp 154 & 183.
8. Vital Records of Chelmsford and Warren, MA
9. Account of the Battle of Lake George, by Commission on Historical Documents and Lake George Memorial Committee, NY, 1897.
10. Pictorial History of the U.S.A. . . . by R. **THOMAS**, 1848, pp 300-1, 311.
11. Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution
12. Rev. War Military Records of Col. Danforth **KEYES**, National Archives.

## GILBERT BATES KEYES (Cont.)

Gilbert Bates Keyes departed this earth on 28 May 1902 after a lingering illness. He is buried with his wife and many others of his family, including Frank and his wife Laura, in the family plot at Woodland Cemetery in Xenia. Before he died, he stipulated that, in case he passed on, the long-planned wedding of his son, Frank, and Laura Nitchman should not be postponed. They were married on 18 June 1902, just twenty-one days after he died. At the time of his passing, his home was at 218 West Third Street, Xenia. His widow, Elvira, lived on there until 1918, with my grandparents, Frank and Laura, after they were married. My mother, Louise was born there. The house was still standing in 1990. 10. 12

Gilbert B. Keyes was born of devout parents who instilled in him a strong devotion to his Lord that guided him on his adventures around the world, through the prairies of the Southwest, through a devastating war, through good times, hardships, joys and sorrows, and throughout his lifetime. He was a leader of his family and his flock, a true believer and a disciple of his God.

### References:

1. *Genealogy: Robert Keyes of Watertown, Mass., 1633. Solomon Keyes of Newbury and Chelmsford, Mass., 1653, and their Descendants ...* by Asa Keyes, 1880, page 141. [It should be noted here that the author made an error in referring to him as George (sic) B. instead of Gilbert B. Keyes.]
2. Original letter from Frederick W. Foote (schoolmaster) to introduce G. B. Keyes, dated 31 Dec 1846.
3. National Archives: Ship's Records and Crew Lists, *The Flying Cloud*, Sept. 1852.
4. Original marriage certificate of G. B. Keyes and Elvira Julia Granger, at Dayton, Ohio, 31 May 1857.
5. National Archives: Record of Confederate service of Gilbert Bates Keyes (1861-65).
6. Original letter from Henry S. Chubb, Captain, AQM, dated 1 Feb 1866 at San Antonio, Texas.
7. *Historical Collections of Ohio ...* by Henry Howe, 1908, vol. I, page 702.
8. A letter of tribute from the Official Board of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Xenia, Ohio, dated 31 May 1902.
9. *The Holy Bible*, the personal Bible of G. B. Keyes, inscribed by, "His wife, Christmas 1882."
10. Original marriage license of Frank Fay Keyes and Laura Blanche Nitchman, dated 12 June 1902, at Lake County, Indiana.
11. A keepsake, a coin: a Mexican "peso" coin dated 1963, with incised inscription, "LEFT TEXAS, E. J. KEYES, MAY 5, 1866."
12. Original photographs of cemetery and house.

Prepared by Richard Allen Connell,  
Great Grandson of Gilbert Bates Keyes.