

HITCHINS FAMILY
OF ANDOVER

Capt. Ben Hitchens, probably of Salem and Elizabeth Wilde, daughter of Micah and Mary, were published in ANDOVER, 1813. He is recorded as a mariner. Their children, listed in Andover, were :-

Ben (2), b. Oct. 22, 1813

Elizabeth (2), b. Aug. 14, 1815

Mary Ann (2), b. Dec. 4, 1817

child- twin to Mary Ann; d.y.

George F. (2). bapt. in South Church June 5, 1825

Mother Elizabeth joined the church June 5, 1825, but the fellowship was withdrawn July 6, 1858, apparently because she drank, but as she had tuberculosis, the disease probably caused a craving for liquor.

(I had a letter from him to his wife as he was about to sail for some port and wanted her to either pay or collect some debts. It was in an old bureau Joseph Abbott had in his shop and he gave it to me. Probably written before he came here at all, and I can't find it now.)

Mrs. Hitchens died here a widow, July 25, 1863 aged 78, so born 1785. She was buried at Mt. Auburn.

As the turnpike to Medford went through in 1806, and they were here 1813, I conclude that he built or bought the house soon after it was put up, and left it to her. (Get the deeds of the place from Carrie Blunt and see how far back the Hitchens title goes. See Emily Carter.)

Capt. Micah Wilde died here May 8, 1835 age 78. He was buried in Episcopal Church Yard. Micah is said to have died in the Almshouse, so I conclude Capt. Ben must have been dead before that, or there was something wrong with his father-in-law.