

The KNEELAND FAMILY

of ANDOVER

Early mention of a Kneeland is made in Andover in 1657, in the will of Alexander Simpson, who gave to Mary Kneeland, his nurse, a legacy of 4 £.

John Kneeland was a member of the Scotch Charitable Society, 1657.

Sarah Kneelad, who married Samuel Abbott of Andover, was widow of Bartholomew Kneeland of Charlestown or Boston, and came to Andover, according to South Church Manual, in 1791, from the Brattle St., Church in Boston. He d. in 1812, age 80. Sarah died Feb. 12, 1816 at 89.

Sally Kneeland, daughter of widow Sarah, married Timothy Ames of Peterboro, N.H., son of Capt. Ben Ames.

John Kneeland, son of widow Sarah, married 1st, Rebecca Austin, who joined South Church, 1801; she d. 1819. His second wife was Priscilla Abbott, of the George Washington visit fame, daughter of Isaac Abbott, the tavern keeper on Elm street, whom he married on June 6, 1820. She was born on June 1, 1770; died Feb. 17, 1830. John d. 1831.

Abigail Kneeland, a second daughter of widow Sarah, married Caleb Richardson; joined South Church, 1795; d. 1845 at 75. Caleb went to West Parish Church.

John Kneeland had no children by Priscilla. His son, Samuel, probably never married. His daughter married a Mr. Hall, and their daughter, married Dr. Gould of Reading.

John Kneeland took interest in school and public affairs. He was a lawyer in Andover, and was the builder of the so-called "Rose Cottage" at the corner of Chestnut and Central streets, in 1796. It is said that he expected to inherit the estate of Samuel Abbott, but his first marriage displeased his step-father and he donated his money to Andover Seminary.

