

Amazeen Register Report

Facts on the Amazeen family, like that of the Yeaton family, had proven to be elusive. Then fellow researcher Carloyn Depp sent along her well-researched GEDCOM of the Amazeen family – not only filling in the line between Jane Amazeen and the patriarch John, but adding considerable well-researched information on all siblings as well as other families which married into the Amazeen clan. She also cites the good work of Charlie Gale and Norma Karram in piecing this family together. As such, here is the corrected research on the Amazeen family.

Note the story of “Lithobolia...” which is related below. What at first seemed to be a notation of an odd, supernatural incident in one of Depp’s sources is actually the tip of the iceberg in a story of land disputes, witchcraft accusations and – it must be admitted – an incredible series of supernatural incidents at the home of John Amazeen’s neighbor George Walton. The tale involves John Amazeen and the Walford family and may have ultimately had some influence in the Salem Witch Hysteria of 1692. It is a remarkable story.

The American Amazeen family appears to be similar to the American Odiorne family in that all Amazeens are descended from one patriarch. Thus, everyone with a New World Amazeen in the family is related. Name variations in the records on the Amazeen name include: Amaseen, Amazeen, Amazeen, Amenseene, Amensene, Amenteene, Amicene, Amosen, Amoseen, Amusseen, Ammazeen & Ammissoone. Perhaps knowing these variations will assist in further research.

First Generation

1. John¹ **AMAZEEN**^[1,2] was born circa 1630/1635, perhaps in Portsmouth, Rockingham co., NH^[1,2,4]. Both sources agree that he was born in Portsmouth, but disagree on the birth year – one saying “about 1630”^[1] and the other definitively stating “1635”^[2]. Yet a third source more correctly speculates that John was probably born around 1620 or even earlier^[76]. One’s choice depends upon whether you believe that John was in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH by 1626, the 1640s or 1657. Proof of his migration or depositions should be able to help solve this mystery. But, until sources are revealed, speculation reigns. John died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 6 February 1703/4; he was 73^[2,4].

If John was born in Portsmouth, then there is another generation one must identify as the emigrant and patriarch of the family. Torrey mentions John’s marriage to Mary Batchelor as the only Amazeen (or variation of the name) entry in his book. Searches of Coldham and Hotten reveal no mention or variation of this unusual name on any extant ship’s manifest. While not currently proven, my sense is that John was not born in Portsmouth, but is the emigrant. Researcher Philip (Amazeen) Giuntini has cited Frederick A. Virkus’ Immigrants to America Before 1750 and discovered that John’s “Permanent Entry Number” is 9969134. He also cites speculative lore stating that John may have been shipwrecked in the New England^[76]. This gibes with “gut instinct” of several other researchers into this family line.

In addition, we are not positive of John’s parent country. While he was commonly called John “The Greek” Amazeen^[6], other sources refer to him as Italian. Charles Brewster adds that “John Amazeen an Italian” was well-known to have been an emigrant from Europe, and settled at Newcastle [*sic*] at an early period. The Walton property adjoins the Amazeen land, which in Brewster’s time (1862) was owned by Capt. John Amazeen “of the 6th generation from John the Italian”^[17,18]. To further confuse issues, he was also known as “John the Portuguese”^[76]. Several family researchers have corresponded on the issue. Mr. Giuntini makes the following apt observation: “If you think of the world as it was at that time, there was very little distinction between Italian and Greek cultures at that time in the southern Mediterranean (Italy was not, in fact, a country yet, consisting only of city-states).” Ms. Depp also has sent some interesting observations: “...[the] locals evidently associated him with “Southern Europe” (Greece, Italy, etc), so he probably had a Mediterranean complexion ... I wonder also if he might have been from somewhere like the Baleric Islands (east of Spain/south of France)? In working on another family’s lineage, I have found evidence that adventurers from Minorca (or the Basque areas of France-Spain) were in the Mississippi valley [Spanish West Florida and

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French Louisiana territory] by mid 1700's, and they have some rather unusual surnames...Canary Island residents also came to early French Louisiana [a 'bit' further south, but it shows that they were an adventurous, wandering bunch]..." Finally, while the Amazeen surname implies Southern European origin, rather than Northern European origin, it has been traced to England in the 1600s. Mr. Giuntini cites that a "James Amazeen" was christened on 25 April 1693 at Saint John's, Hackney, London, Middlesex, England^[76]. Perhaps the family moved to England and John was, in fact, a "Great Migrant" from that country.

Regardless, John was proven in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH by 1659^[19], although a tax roll supposedly exists which lists him as a resident of New Castle "sometime in the 1640s" ^[76]. Mr. Guintini's correspondence with Leitha Trefren (primary researcher for the *Trefethen Round Table*) reveals this statement by Ms. Trefren: "John Amazeen was in Newcastle [*sic*], Rockingham County, NH, US by 1626. There is family speculation that he was from Cornwall and may have changed his surname or the spelling a bit."^[76]

It is known that he built his home (it is speculated with shipwreck lumber) on Main Street at the corner of Cranfield Street^[76]. He received a land grant of 1 acre on Great Island (now New Castle), Rockingham co., NH on 21 May 1667. In 1671, he was listed as a taxpayer of Great Island (now New Castle), Rockingham co., NH and Sandy Beach (now Hampton), Rockingham co., NH. (Great Island was considered a part of Portsmouth, then called "Strawbery Banke", during the early settlement of NH). He remained on the Tax Lists for Great Island from 1683, 25 August 1684, 1685 & 1686. John signed (as "John Amicene") a Petition of the Inhabitants of Great Island to the King asking for a general governor & military supplies on 15 May 1690^[16]. Finally, he was taxed at Great Island in 1699 as "John Amazeen"^[8,19].

John served as the Constable in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1682^[4]. On 20 October 1693, he served at the Inquest into the drowning death of Mr. William Button, Jerseyman, as "John Amosen, Sr.". Five days later, he also served at the Inquest into the drowning death of John Row on 25 October 1693 as "John Amoseen"^[16].

John apparently served in the Militia and saw combat, perhaps in the King Philip's War, as he received a War Disbursement in 1697^[19].

Given that John was a member of the Church, served in the Militia and clearly could vote (since he was able to serve as Constable and on Inquests), I would conclude that he had taken the Oath of Freemanship. I would like to find his date and records of taking the Oath.

John was also on the "Tythingman's List" for Great Island in 3 June 1678^[16], thus indicating Church Membership. In addition, he was a Subscriber for minister's support on 8 March 1665/6 and 17 March 1670/1. Finally, he was a Subscriber to the maintenance of minister at Newcastle on March 1695/6^[20]. The inhabitants of New Castle had put forth a petition to the President & Council sitting at Portsmouth on 3 May 1682 for their own minister and church. Their reasons were many and well-spoken:

1. The great Profaning of the Lords Day By those that stay at home.
2. There being but very few, Scarce one third of the People of this Island yt Goe to meeting Abundance of Children living here that never heard a Sermon or knew what that means. So that by degrees they will soone grow heathenish If there be not a place of worship constituted among us here on this Island.
3. Our poor Servants, espetically those of an handycraft trade that expect to have Some ease on the Lords Day, Complaine of theyr great Labour and toile; rowing Sometimes against the wind and tide. & that day which should bee kept holy, is by that means made a day of Greater pains then other week days.
4. The hazarding of our Selves and Servants and Childrens healths (if not lives;) And also the Great Danger of our houses and goods subject to ffire and Roberyes by our being absent and from the Great Island On the Lords day.
5. His Mj^{ties} ffortification here Lies to the mercy of an open and Secret enemy; Scarce One Suffitient man Staying at home for its Defense & safety These and many other weighty Reasons wee might propose which wee omit humblye Leaveing all to your Honord Selves and your Serioue consideration..."^[73]

Soon thereafter, The Reverend Samuel Moody was settled as the minister of New Castle. Reverend Samuel is the father of Reverend Joseph Moody, otherwise known as "Handkerchief Moody" once he started wearing

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a black handkerchief over his face at all times. Joseph had been content as York, York co., ME's Clerk, then Registrar of Deeds and finally Judge of the County Court. However, his father thought that he should preach and pushed him into ordination and a pulpit at York in 1732. Not long afterwards, the lad started wearing his veil and soon fell into such a depression that he quit the pulpit, parceled out his children and went to live with the family of Deacon Bragdon. On his deathbed, Joseph finally explained that he put the "...veil between [himself] and the world..." after killing his best friend during a hunting accident and not owning up to the crime, which the local populace laid to Indians. Truly a typically odd New England figure^[74].

John was also involved in his fair share of Colonial legal proceedings. In 1662, "John Ammisoone the Greek" sued a Mr. Edward Lynde. John also sued for his wife's "thirds" (or rightful share under English Law) of her first husband's estate in 1665^[6]. Anderson gives a fuller account of this: "on 26 June 1666 "Jno Amenseene" sued Thomas Walford and Mr. Henry Sherborn 'for detaining Mary his wife her 1/3 of house & land given her by her former husband Jer[emiah] Walford"^[75,76].

The "Lithobolia" Stone-Throwing Incident of 1682 : Supernatural Myth vs. A Common Petty Land Squabble.

When I was a child, I used to order books of ghost stories from the ubiquitous Scholastic Books available to us in school and voraciously devoured them. I recall reading a tale of old New England in which stones apparently showered from a clear sky upon the house of a terrified colonial farmer. Thus, I thought it very cool to read the following item in the Amazeen research sent to me by Carolyn Depp:

"...Cotton Mather's account of the incident reads:

"On June 11, 1682, showers of stones were thrown by an invisible hand Upon the house of George WALTON at Portsmouth (now Newcastle)...Walton had been at his fence-gate which was between him and his neighbor, one John AMAZEEN an Italian, to view it..."

Charles Brewster adds that "John AMAZEEN an Italian" was well-known to have been an emigrant from Europe, and settled at Newcastle at an early period. The Walton property adjoins the Amazeen land, which in Brewster's time (1862) was owned by Capt. John AMAZEEN "of the 6th generation from John the Italian" ...^[4]"

I have found the origin of the above story in the pages of Narratives of the New England Witchcraft Cases. Edited by George Lincoln Burr (originally published by Charles Scribner's Son, New York in 1914. Reprinted verbatim by Dover Publications, Inc. of Mineola, NY in 2002) [*hereinafter "Burr"*]. Burr not only tracked down and published verbatim Richard Chamberlain's (not Cotton Mather's) 1698 London-published pamphlet, but also provided an excellent synopsis of the political and personal incidents which led to Chamberlain's account. In very short, it ties together the Walton (*N.B.: not family related*), Amazeen & Walford families. My synopsis of it all is below. I have included the entire title of Chamberlain's pamphlet because it amuses me and also gives a clue as to the sympathies of the author in the whole Walton vs. Walford (and, by extension, Amazeen) debate. Burr notes that the "...booklet is now very rare..." but it was reprinted in 1861 in the *Historical Magazine*, V:321-327. Enjoy!

The incidents in question concern: "*Lithobolia: or, the Stone-Throwing Devil. Being an Exact and True Account (by way of Journal) of the various Actions of Infernal Spirits, or (Devils Incarnate) Witches, or both; and the great Disturbance and Amazement they gave to George Waltons Family, at a place call'd Great Island in the Province of New-Hantshire in New-England, chiefly in Throwing about (by an Invisible hand), Stone, Bricks, and Brick-bats of all Sizes, with several other things, as Hammers, Mauls, Iron-Crows, Spits, and other Domestick Utensils, as came into their Hellish Minds, and this for the space of a Quarter of a Year.*

By R.C. Esq.; who was a Sojourner in the same Family the whole time, and an Ocular Witness of these Diabolick Inventions..."

To understand the players in this, one must understand the political upheavals in the Portsmouth area at the time. John Mason had been granted what is now considered the Seacoast Region of New Hampshire in 1629

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and started its settlement in 1631. He died in 1635 without making legal arrangement for the administration of his grant. In the meantime, colonists other than those brought by Mason for his settlement had been carving out settlements and farms in the area – often with legal titles of their own (conflicting land grants were not wholly uncommon in an area where established settlement was a more important priority in the short run to establishing whose legal claim to a piece of property was true) to the land they had been settling. Mason's widow and infant grandchildren had more pressing concerns of survival and left the settlers to their own devices. The settlers, for their part, were happy to ignore the matter.

Later, the Massachusetts government "...discovered that its own charter could be interpreted to include the territory now settled in New Hampshire..." [Burr, 56] Lands were now granted by the government in Boston or authorities set up by the Boston government in the New Hampshire area. Thus, the widow Mason and her heirs found no legal enforcement or sympathetic ear to their claims. Thus, it remained for years.

In 1660, with the Restoration in England and end of its Civil War, the Mother Country now had the time and energy to enforce treaties, grants and other legal matters in the Colonies. So, by 1680, Mason's grandson Robert "...had not only won from a venal court the rejection of the Massachusetts claim and full recognition of his proprietorship in New Hampshire, but was given a seat in the Council of the royal province in which the colony was now reconstituted and was permitted to nominate its governor and secretary...as its secretary he named Richard Chamberlain..." [Burr, 56]

Mason, with Chamberlain as friend and apparent toady in the matter, soon set out to enforce his claims to the lands. He (and by association, Chamberlain, who the colonists believed to be the instigator of the actions) earned only "fear and hate" from their actions against the existing colonists. The colonists could keep any "improved lands" provided, of course, they paid "a moderate quit-rent". However, Mason claimed right to take "...all wild lands, including their pastures and their woodlands..." [Burr, 57] and he proceeded to grant them at will. To lose one's pasture and woodlands was disaster for any working farm and, except for a few Quakers, the colonists dug in their heels and refused to capitulate to Mason. [N.B.: I now understand where the New Hampshire mindset came from!]

Richard Mason cut his losses and set sail for England to press his case in English courts and left Richard Chamberlain to face the angry colonists alone. Chamberlain lived with George Walton, a Quaker whose home was "under the guns of the fort" on Great Island (now New Castle), Rockingham co., NH.

Walton's land abutted that of John Amazeen and also that of Hannah [Walford] Jones, wife of Andrew Jones and daughter of Thomas & Jane Walford. (see WALFORD). John Amazeen is described by Burr as "...the illiterate constable of Great Island, [and] one of the most stubborn in refusing to pay dues to Mason..." Also, as we know, he had married Jeremiah Walford's (Hannah's only brother) widow and had a legal case of his own pending against Thomas Walford and the other executor of Jeremiah's estate, since they were refusing to pay Mary her "thirds" of the estate.

As for Walton's relations with Hannah Jones: "...On July 4 1682, Hannah Jones begged the 'advice and relief' of the President and Council 'in regard of George Walton's dealing with her, who falsely accuseth her of what she is clear of, and hath so far prevailed that upon that account your humble petitioner is bound in a bond of the peace; since which said Walton's horse breaks into her pasture and doth her damage.'...[Burr, 60-61] Chamberlain's account of this realtes that the stone-throwing incidents "...did arise upon the account of some small quantity of Land in her Field, which she pretended was unjustly taken...and was her Right; she having been often very clamorous about that Affair, and heard to say, with much Bitterness, that her Neighbour...should never quietly enjoy that piece of Ground..." [Burr, 61-2] Chamberlain, in his position as Secretary, placed her under bond in this matter, but was overruled by the Provincial Council. Goodwife Jones was ordered to complain to Captain Sileman 'if she be at any time, during her being bound to the good behavior, injured by the said Geo. Walton.'..." [Burr, 61]

Chamberlain further insinuates that Hannah Jones has been "...suspected and (I think) formerly detected" of witchcraft. This seems to be a case of "guilt by association" with these accusations. Hannah's father Thomas, the first settler in Charlestown, Suffolk co., MA, had gone head-to-head with the Puritan Authorities in the 1630s "for his Anglican tenets" amongst other issues, and finally removed to Portsmouth, Rockingham co., NH. The many tracts of land he acquired and left to his children & grandchildren in his will of 1666 were

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among those Mason claimed lay within his land grant. George Walton was amongst those to whom Mason granted land “reclaimed” from the settlers – another source of friction between Walton & Hannah Jones. In addition, Hannah’s mother, Jane, had fought – and won every case that came to court – accusations of witchcraft for decades. Even after her death, her reputation and that of all five of her daughters was forever linked in the community with witchcraft and was used as a convenient excuse whenever legal or land matters or just neighborly arguing arose.

In short, as is now conjectured about the 1692 Salem Witch Hysteria, these supernatural accusations against Hannah Jones were about land and nothing more.

The arguments and depositions in the case of Jones v. Walton mounted during the summer and fall of 1682. On 31 August 1682, “Elizabeth Clark, aged forty-two, made affidavit to Deputy-President Stileman ‘that she heard George Walton say that he believed in his heart and conscience that Grandma Jones was a witch, and would say so to his dying day.’ Bur Walton, too, had evidence to offer: on September 4 Samuel Clark testified “that he was present when Goody Jones and Geo. Walton were talking together, and he heard the said Goody Jones call the said Walton a wizard, and that she said, if he told her of her mother, she would throw stones at his head, and this was on Friday, the 25th of August, 1682.’...” [Burr, 61]

Thus, the stage is set for conflict between George Walton, who firmly believes that he and his colleagues Mason & Chamberlain are in the legal right and that Hannah Jones and other members of the Walford & Amazeen clans are, in effect, squatting on Mason’s lands. On the other side was Hannah Jones, who, by virtue of her gender, social status and family history, could be perceived as an “easy mark” for a land grab, but who apparently inherited her mother’s grit and tenacity in legal disputes.

According to the Chamberlain, the episodes started on 11 June 1682 with stones falling seemingly out of nowhere “against the top and all sides of the House.” - which is the incident related above and viewed by George Walton from the Fence-Gate to John Amazeen’s house. Chamberlain describes in great detail the projectiles and damage caused by them. Incidents continued on Monday the 12th with household objects disappearing, then suddenly coming down the chimney and more stones thrown about the house and fields. Incidents of all sorts – from tossed stones to holes in Walton’s boat to moving household objects and fences & doors which were ripped from their hinges and thrown into fields with a “Noise like a great Gun”– continued through Wednesday, 9 August 1692 and were witnessed by a great number and variety of people. As the story reads – and it is a fascinating read -- the incidents sound very much like a case of Poltergeist activity. At any rate, the incidents at the time attracted the attention and full investigation of local authorities & churchmen (hence the attribution to Mather, since the account appears in his papers) and people came from as far as Salem, Essex co., MA to view and review the happenings for themselves. One can only imagine the part, if any, this set of incidents played in the Salem Witch Hysteria 10 years later.

We can only infer that Hannah Jones was not brought to court or punished for the Great Island Stone-Throwing of 1682, since Chamberlain remains completely mum on the matter. However, the land dispute had an interesting denouement: “...in December, 1682, John Amazeen, the constable, with his step-son Jeremiah Walford and others, came with a warrant from Captain Stileman and arrested George Walton and his helpers for wood-cutting on the lands granted to him by Mason; and that, though Walton carried it to the courts and offered evidence that some of the wood cut for him had been seen in John Amazeen’s yard, the jury found for the defendants’ cost of court. Walton appealed to the King in Council – Walford and Amazeen, so wrote Secretary Chamberlain, claiming by a town grant of 1658 and ‘the jury being all of them possessed of lands by virtue of town grants’; but, though he gave Edward Randolph power of attorney to prosecute, the appeal was in 1684 dismissed. (Provincial Records, in N.H. Hist. Soc., *Collections*, VIII.118, and *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1681-1685, passim.*) At home, however, John Amazeen saw himself made an example of, his live-stock levied on, and himself thrown into prison for his refusal of dues to Mason. Chamberlain lost his secretaryship with the change of government in 1686, but remained as clerk of the courts until 1689, when, with the collapse of the Andros administration, he seems to have returned to England. (Vaughan’s Journal, in N.H. Hist. Soc., *Collections*, VIII.187; *N.H. Prov. Papers*, I.590,600; Mass. Hist. Soc., *Proceedings*, XVII.227.)...”

His will was written on 13 August 1700 and proved on 6 February 1705/6^[16], and mentions his sons Christopher and John, naming Christopher as joint executor^[5]. It reads as follows:

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"In the Name of god Amen this thirteenth day of August Anno Dom Seventeen hundred I John Amazeen Sen^r of New Castle In the Province of New Hampshire In New Engl^d being Sick and Weak In body; * * *

1st I bequeath My Soul To Almighty god that gave It Trusting To be Redeemed by The Merrits of Jesus Christ --

2 My body to A Decent burial As It shall Please my Executors heerafter mentioned

3 I bequeath All my Estate housing land Cattle goods D^{ts} Mony and whatsoever I now Injoy or Ought to have and Injoy unto My Son Christopher Amazeeh And out of the Same to Pay his Brother John Amazeen forty Pounds Money

Lastly I Apoint my Son Xtopher and Theodore Attkinson to be My Executors of this My last Will and Testament In Wittness whereof I have heerunto sett my hand and seal Att New Castle y^e Day Above Mentioned

In Psents of his

Aaron Moses John X Amazeen [seal]

Noah Parker mark

Theodore Attkinson

[Proved Feb. 6, 1705/6.]

[Theodore Attkinson renounced executorship, Feb. 5, 1705/6.][75]

Probably before 1663 when John was about 33, he married **Mary BATCHELDER** in Portsmouth or New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[6,9,10,14,15]. While they both lived in New Castle, the actual wedding (if it was a church wedding) probably took place in Portsmouth, since there was no meetinghouse yet in New Castle. The actual year of their marriage is an issue of debate: "...most likely between 1661 and 1665..." according to the Genealogical Dictionary of Maine & New Hampshire^[3]. Torrey says "...aft 5 Nov 1660, by 1666, by 1663, by 26 Jun 1666..."^[9].

Mary was the widow of **Jeremiah WALFORD**, and John brought up Mary's children by him^[16].

They had the following children:

- | | | |
|---|------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 | i. | John |
| 3 | ii. | Christopher ² |
| 4 | iii. | [possible, not probable, Ephraim] |

G8 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 1072/1073

Second Generation

Family of Mary BATCHELDER (1) & John AMAZEEN

2. John AMAZEEN^[2,4,21] (*John*¹) was born circa 1663 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4,19] and died in New Hampshire after 1706; he was at least 43 years of age^[4]. John was taxed in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1690^[19].

3. Christopher² **AMAZEEN**^[1,2,4,22] (*John*¹) was born circa 1665 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1752/1756; he was 87^[4].

Christopher was on the Tax List of New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1708 and was also taxed at New Castle, Island Side, in September 1720 as entry 1L, 9sh^[22].

Christopher was named joint executor of his father's estate in February 1705/6^[5]. In 1707, Christopher was joint owner of the Sloop *Adventure* with Joseph Jackson. He was also listed as a "proprietor of Epsom [Merrimack co., NH], living in New Castle" on 6 Nov 1732. Christopher drew Lot #42 at Epsom^[24]. In his will, dated 25 March 1752, Christopher calls himself "Planter"^[19,23].

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Despite this seeming business acumen, Christopher found himself as the Plaintiff at New Castle Court of Common Pleas for Debt no fewer than four times: July 1718 (volume 6, page 225, Box (File) 11-18); April 1724 (volume 7, page 85, Box (File) 21-15); April 1726 (volume 7, page 116, Box (File) 35-14); and April 1738 (volume 11, page 188, Box (File) 73-10)^[25]. I need to look up the particulars and results of these cases and add them to Christopher's information.

Christopher's will was written on 25 March 1752 and proved on 27 April 1756, with his son Joseph "Amaseen" *[sic]* as executor. In it he leaves bequests of his land in New Castle to his grandsons John Amazeen and Ephraim Amazeen, not yet of age. They are listed as the sons of Joseph "Amaseen" *[sic]* of New Castle, planter. Christopher also left bequests of his property in Epsom, Merrimack co., NH to his other two grandsons Joseph Amaseen *[sic]*, Jr. and Christopher Amaseen *[sic]*, sons of aforesaid Joseph Amaseen *[sic]* "when they shall come of age."^[19,23]

Christopher married **Martha MOORE**^[1,2,4,26], daughter of **John MOORE & Martha WALFORD**. Martha was living with Christopher Amazeen by 1720^[26].

They had one child:

5 i. **Joseph**³

G7 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 536/537

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4. [possible, not probable Ephraim] AMAZEEN^[4]. The Genealogical Dictionary of Maine & New Hampshire points out that "Ephraim" might be a misreading of "Christopher" in transcribing the script of the original town records, since there is only the one mention of him on this particular Tax list^[19]. There is no other mention of Ephraim Amazeen anywhere...most notably in vital records and his parents' wills. However, "Ephriam" becomes a family name in every generation from Christopher's grandchildren on down. If there was no Ephriam here, whom are they remembering with this name?

Third Generation

Family of Christopher AMAZEEN (3) & Martha MOORE

5. Joseph³ AMAZEEN^[1,2,4,16,22] (*Christopher², John¹*) was born circa 1710/1713 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH sometime after 27 april 1756; he was at least 46^[1,2,4]. While the date of death is disputed, one source says 1754^[2] and the other says "before Apr 1756"^[1] the cause of death is not. Joseph was alive on 27 April 1756 when, as executor, he proved his father's will in Court^[4]. Also, since we know the cause of his death, he probably was alive through that summer and fall and, so, died no earlier than November 1756 (more likely January or February of 1757 with a snowstorm that great). At any rate it is known that "...Joseph froze to death one stormy night within a few rods of his own door, having worn a path in a circle around a tree in the snow trying to keep warm..."^[6].

Joseph was of New Castle, Rockingham co., NH at time of his marriage^[27] and was listed as "planter" in his father Christopher's will of 25 March 1752^[19,23].

On 27 January 1732 when Joseph was 22, he married **Hannah BROWN**^[1,2,4,28], daughter of **Samuel BROWN & Elizabeth MELOON**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[29,30,31].

They had the following children:

- | | | |
|---|------|--------------------------------|
| 6 | i. | John (1733-1818) |
| 7 | ii. | Ephriam (1733-1804) |
| 8 | iii. | Joseph (1736-1803) |
| 9 | iv. | Christopher⁴ |

Generation: G6 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 268/269

Fourth Generation

Family of Joseph AMAZEEN (5) & Hannah BROWN

6. John⁴ AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born in 1733 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1818; he was 85^[4].

John was left a bequest of land in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH by his grandfather, Christopher Amazeen^[23]. He settled in New Castle and was on the Provincial List for Taxation at New Castle in 1763 as entry #25L, 4sh^[36]. He was apparently a member of the church and was one of the subscribers to the maintenance of a minister at New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in March 1771^[37].

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John's 1790 US Census entry^[33]:

- John AMAZEEN, the free white male over 16 yrs and the head of family
- 1 other free white male over 16 yrs (possibly, his son Joseph who was born in 1762)
- 1 free white male under 16 yrs (identity unknown)
- 3 free white females (his wife Mehitable, daughter Sarah and daughter Marath)

While the possibility of a second marriage for John between 1792 and 1800 has been raised, the possibility is more likely that the female referred to in the 1800 and 1810 census entries for John Amazeen might be a widowed daughter who returned home to live with/care for her father.

John's 1800 Census entry^[34]:

- John AMAZEEN, the free white male over 45 yrs and the head of family
- One free white female age 26-44 (She must have been born between 1756-1774)
- 2 free white males under 10 (born between 1791-1800)

John's 1810 Census entry^[35]:

- John AMAZEEN, the free white male over 45 yrs and the head of family
- One free white female age 26-44 (She must have been born between 1766-1784)
- 1 free white male under 10 (born between 1801 and 1810)

[note that one of the male children has either died, been apprenticed out or otherwise left the household]

John married **Mehitable [surname not known]**^[4], in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[38]. The record reads: "John AMAZEEN, Sr. [born 1733; died 1818, age 85] married Mehitable [born 1736; died 1792, age 56]"^[38]. Mehitable was born in 1736^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1792; she was 56^[4].

They had the following children:

- | | | |
|-----------|------|--------------------|
| 10 | i. | Joseph (1762-1847) |
| 11 | ii. | Sarah |
| 12 | iii. | Marath |

7. Ephriam AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born on 28 January 1733/4 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in at sea on 10 January 1804; he was 70^[4].

Ephriam received a bequest of land in New Castle from his grandfather Christopher^[23]. He settled there, being "of New Castle" at time of marriage^[39] and was on the Provincial Tax Rolls for New Castle in 1763 as entry 32L, 11sh^[40].

Ephriam's 1790 Census Record^[33]:

- Ephriam AMAZEEN, one free white male over 16 and the head of family
- 3 other free white males over 16
- 1 free white male under 16 (his son Ephriam, who was 11 at the time)
- 2 free white females (his wife Abigail, daughter Frances or Dorothea)

[Note that his daughter Frances married in July of 1790, so the second "free white female" was most likely his other daughter Dorothea. A cross check of Frances' husband's name with his 1790 census entry would resolve this.]

On 24 November 1756 when Ephriam was 23, he married **Abigail JONES**^[2,4], in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[39,41,42]. "Jones" may or may not have been her maiden name. The marriage entry in the New Castle Town Records on page 224 lists the bride as being "Mrs. Abigail Jones" while the entry on page 250 only lists her as "Abigail Jones"^[39]. Furthermore, the *New Hampshire Genealogical Register* lists the entry: "Mr. Ephriam AMMAZEEN & Mis *[sic]* Abigail JONES married Novembr *[sic]* ye 24th 1756^[20]". She was born

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on 10 November 1737 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 27 November 1812; she was 75^[4]. She was "of New Castle" at the time of her marriage^[39].

Abigail's 1810 Census entry^[35]:

Abigail AMAZEEN, one free white female over 45 years of age and the head of family (as the widow of Ephriam)

Another free white female over 45 years of age (perhaps her widowed daughter-in-law Abigail, the wife of William)

1 free white male, 16-25 years of age (perhaps a son of William and Abigail, born between 1785 and 1794)

1 free white male, under 10 years of age (perhaps another son of William born between 1801 and 1810)

They had the following children:

- i. Frances
- ii. Dorothea
- iii. William (born before 1774 – over 16 at the time of the 1790 census). He married **Abigail [surname not known]**.
- iv. Ephriam (b. 1779 – aged 11 at the time of the 1790 census)
- v. [unknown son?] (another over 16 year old male in the house at the time of the 1790 census)
- vi. [unknown son?] (another over 16 year old male in the house at the time of the 1790 census)

8. Joseph AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1736 in New Hampshire (probably in Portsmouth or New Castle, Rockingham co., but not yet proven)^[4] and died in 1803; he was 67^[4,43]. It is more likely that he is the Joseph Amazeen who was buried at the South Church in Portsmouth, Rockingham co., NH on 16 June 1824, age 87 yrs^[43].

Joseph received a bequest of property in Epsom, Merrimack co., NH in his grandfather Christopher's will^[23]; but was on the Provincial Tax Rolls for New Castle in 1763 as entry 14L, 12sh^[40].

Joseph married **Dorca [surname not known]**^[2,4].

There are 3 entries for Joseph Amazeen in the 1790 Census, this Joseph is probably the first of the three^[44]:
Joseph AMAZEEN, one free white male over 16 and the head of family

1 other free white male over 16 (most likely a son born before 1774)

1 free white male under 16 (most likely a son born after 1774)

2 free white females (one would have been his wife Dorca, the other is likely a daughter)

Joseph AMAZEEN, "Jr.", one free white male over 16 and the head of family

2 free white males under 16 (most likely sons born after 1774)

1 free white female (most likely his wife)

Joseph AMAZEEN, "3rd", one free white male over 16 and the head of family

1 free white male under 16 (most likely a son born after 1774)

1 free white female (most likely his wife)

9. Christopher⁴ **AMAZEEN**^[1,2,4] (*Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1737 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[1,2,4]. One source says 1737^[2] and another says that he was born "between 1740 and 1741"^[1]. The latter is unlikely, since Christopher was baptized in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 27 April 1737^[2,4].

Christopher received a bequest of land in Epsom, Merrimack co., NH in his grandfather Christopher's will^[23]; but was on the Provincial Tax Rolls for New Castle in 1763 as entry 16L, 12sh^[40].

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Christopher's 1790 Census record^[33]:

Christopher AMAZEEN, one free white male over 16 and the head of family
1 other free white male over 16 (his son Christopher, who was born ca. 1774)
5 free white males under 16 (his sons Joseph, Henry, John, Ephraim & William, all born after 1774)
3 free white females (his wife Mary, daughter Jane, and probably one other daughter – if so, most likely Elizabeth)

Christopher's 1800 Census entry^[45]:

Christopher AMAZEEN, one free white male aged 45 or over and the head of family
One free white male aged 45 or over (his wife, Mary)
One free white male aged 16-25 (Someone born 1775-1784. Probably his son Henry or son John, since Ephraim was already married)
Two free white males aged 10-15 (Those born 1785-1790. Sources claim this is "son William (and John?), but that doesn't reconcile with their birth dates of 1788 and 1777, respectively)

Christopher married **Mary TREDICK**^[1,2,4], daughter of **Henry TREDICK & Elizabeth [surname not known]**. Elizabeth was born circa 1740^[4] and died in New Hampshire before November 1822; she was 82^[2,4]. She may be the "Molly AMAZEEN" who died in 1824 at age 60, per Charlie Gale^[2].

They had the following children:

- | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------------------------|
| 15 | i. | Sarah (1762-1808) |
| 16 | ii. | Mary T. (1764-1824) |
| 17 | iii. | Elizabeth (ca1771-1855) |
| 18 | iv. | Jane ⁵ |
| 19 | v. | Christopher (ca1774-1858) |
| 20 | vi. | Joseph (1775->1812) |
| 21 | vii. | Henry Tredick (1776-1802) |
| 22 | viii. | John (1777-1812) |
| 23 | ix. | Ephraim (1778-<1823) |
| 24 | x. | William (1788-1871) |

Generation: G5 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 134/135

Fifth Generation

Family of John AMAZEEN (6) & Mehitable [surname not known]

10. Joseph AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*John*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1762 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[46] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1847; he was 85^[46].

Joseph married **Mary T. AMAZEEN**, daughter of **Christopher AMAZEEN & Mary TREDICK**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[47]. Mary was born in 1764 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4,46] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 18 March 1824; she was 60^[4,46]. See her entry below.

One source has Joseph AMAZEEN marrying first Mary T. AMAZEEN and second Mary AMAZEEN, but both "Marys" have same birth and death info, so it is probably a typographical error and only one marriage^[2,4]

Family of Christopher AMAZEEN (9) & Mary TREDICK

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15. Sarah AMAZEEN. (*Christopher⁴, Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born on 3 September 1762 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 30 March 1808; she was 45^[4,48].

The New Castle, NH Town Records [Volume 3 (1756-1858), pp. 293-294. FHL #15240] apparently give full details on family of George BELL, Esq. and Sarah AMAZEEN including parents' birth dates and their parentage.

On 8 February 1784 when Sarah was 21, she married **George BELL Esq.**^[4], son of **Meshach BELL**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[49,50]. Their record reads "George BELL, Esq., son of Meshach, and Sarah AMAZEEN, daughter of Christopher, married 8 Feb 1784 by Rev. O. NOBLE." George was born on 4 June 1762 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4,51] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 29 December 1848; he was 86^[4,48].

George's 1790 Census Record^[52]:

George BELL, one free white male aged 16 or over and the head of family
2 free white males under 16 (his sons Benjamin, who was born in 1781, and Meshach, who was born in 1786)
2 free white females (his wife Sarah, and either daughter Elizabeth, born in 1788, or Mary, born in 1789)
OR

George BELL, Jr., one free white male aged 16 or over and the head of family
2 free white males under 16 (his sons Benjamin, who was born in 1781, and Meshach, who was born in 1786)
4 free white females (his wife Sarah, daughter Elizabeth, born in 1788, daughter Mary, born in 1789, and an unknown fourth female – possibly a widowed mother or a neighbor's child the household has taken in)

George's 1810 Census entry^[53]:

George BELL, one free white male aged 16 or over and the head of family
1 free white female, aged 26-44 (his second wife Abigail, who was born in 1767)
2 free white males, aged 16-25 (his sons Meshach, born 1786, and William M., born 1792)
2 free white females, aged 16-25 (his daughters Elizabeth, born 1788, and Mary, born 1789)
2 free white males, aged 10-15 (his sons Joseph W., born in October 1794 and George Jr., who was born in 1797)

George's 1830 Census entry^[54]:

George BELL one male, age 60-69
One female, aged 40-49 (his third wife Hannah who was born in 1789)

On 19 May 1808 George second married **Abigail TARTLTON**, who was born on 3 May 1767 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. He third married **Hannah CURTIS** on 6 July 1829 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. Hannah was born on 7 October 1789 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.

"On the 17th day of February 1817, George BELL, Esq. and Abigail his wife, walked on the Ice 160 yards from the head of his wharfe at New Castle, N.H. and there found the Ice to be 18 inches thick, it being nearly half way of the river, and it continued so for 5 days, the coldest weather that has been experienced for a great while." --A true copy from the Family Bible, by Joseph H. Hart, Town Clerk^[44].

16. Mary T. AMAZEEN. (*Christopher⁴, Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born in 1764 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[4,46] and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 18 March 1824; she was 60^[4,46].

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Mary T. married **Joseph AMAZEEN**^[2,4], son of **John AMAZEEN & Mehitable [surname not known]**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[47]. John was born in 1762 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1847; he was 85^[46]. See his entry above.

17. Elizabeth AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Christopher⁴, Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born circa 1771 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 18 April 1855; she was 84^[4].

On 18 October 1789 when Elizabeth was 18, she married **Philip YEATON**^[4] in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[56]. He was born circa 1755 in Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland co., ME and died in December 1795; he was 40^[4].

18. Jane⁵ AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Christopher⁴, Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born circa 1772 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 11 November 1862; she was 90^[57].

On 9 April 1793 when Jane was 21, she married **Nathaniel Jordan YEATON**^[2,4,58] in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[57,59]. They were married by "Mr. Walton".

They had the following children (*surnamed YEATON*):

- i. **Margaret**
- ii. Edward T^[57] (Twin)
- iii. Nathaniel^[57,60] (Twin)
- iv. Benjamin^[57]

Generation: G4 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 66/67

19. Christopher AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Christopher⁴, Joseph³, Christopher², John¹*) was born circa 1774 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[2,4,60]. One source says that he was born in 1774^[2], and this is backed up by the fact that he is the only son who could have been the "free white male over 16" on his father Christopher's 1790 Census Entry (indicating that Christopher, Jr.'s birthdate had to have been 1774 or earlier; but the U.S. Census of 1800 and 1850 favor 1775 as a birthdate. Christopher died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 14 February 1858; he was 84^[4,42]. He was a Fisherman^[4].

Christopher's 1800 Census entry^[61]:

Christopher AMAZEEN, Jr., a free white male "of 16 & under 26" and as head of the family
One free white female "of 16 & under 26" (his wife Temperance)
2 free white females under 10 (thus born between 1791 & 1800; his daughter Mary and another unknown girl)
1 free white male under 10 (his son Abram was not born until November 1800, thus either the Census was taken late in the year, they had taken in a neighbor's boy or they had another son whose name is currently lost)

Christopher's 1810 Census entry^[62]:

Christopher AMAZEEN, a free white male "of 16 & under 26" and as head of the family
One free white female "of 16 & under 26" (his wife Temperance)
1 free white female, "of 10 & under 16" (his daughter Mary)
1 free white male, "of 10 & under 16" (his son Abram)
1 free white female under 10 (his daughter Sarah)

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Christopher's 1850 Census entry^[63]:

NAME	AGE	GENDER	OCCUPATION	REAL ESTATE	BIRTHPLACE
Christopher AMAZEEN	75	m	Fisherman	\$300.00	NH
Temperance	77	f			NH
Mary	52	f			NH
Anna TREFETHEN	67	f			NH
William AMAZEEN	24	m	Fisherman		NH

[Anna Trefethen was perhaps a married/widowed sister of Christopher or Temperance – most likely Temperance's sister, let me cross check against the Berry Family Information.]

[William Amazeen was probably Christopher's grandson William, the son of Abram.]

On 15 November 1795 when Christopher was 21, he married **Temperance BERRY**^[2], in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH^[64]. Temperance was born circa 1777 in New Hampshire, probably in Portsmouth or New Castle, Rockingham co. – but this is as yet unproven^[4]. One source states that she was a Trefethen^[2], but the New Castle Town Records state that her surname was "Berry" at the time of her marriage^[2,64].

20. Joseph AMAZEEN^[2] (*Christopher*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1775 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died after 1812; he was 37^[4].

On 24 November 1799 when Joseph was 24, he married **Susannah [surname not known]**^[4,66], in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. Their record read: "Joseph AMAZEEN & Mrs. Susanna SHANON were married in Newcastle, NH"^[66,67].

They had the following children:

- i. Christopher (1792-)
- ii. Mary (1796-)
- iii. Benjamin (1804-)
- iv. Dorothy (1800-1843)
- v. Henry T. (1804-)

Joseph possibly had a second wife named "Dolly" or else that was Susannah's nickname (not as likely, since "Dolly" was usually short for "Dorothy"). His 1850 Census entry mentions him (born ca. 1776 in New Hampshire) and wife Dolly (born ca. 1772 in New Hampshire)^[4,60]

21. Henry Tredick AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Christopher*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1776 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1802; he was 26^[4].

Henry Tredick married **Mehitable TREFETHEN**^[2,4], in Kittery, York co., ME by Parson Brigs. An Intention filed on 9 May, but no year is given by the sources^[69]. Mehitable was born circa 1780^[4].

22. John AMAZEEN^[2,4] (*Christopher*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1777 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in 1812; he was 35^[4].

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23. Ephraim AMAZEEN^[2] (*Christopher*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1778 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died before 1823; he was 45^[4].

On 12 January 1799 when Ephraim was 21, he married **Hannah TARLETON**^[2] in Portsmouth, Rockingham co., NH. Their record reads: "Ephraim AMAZEEN, Jr. & Hannah TARLTON were married in Portsmouth, NH."^[42,70,71] Hannah was born on 25 March 1778 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 4 November 1842; she was 64^[4].

24. William AMAZEEN^[2] (*Christopher*⁴, *Joseph*³, *Christopher*², *John*¹) was born in 1788 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH and died in Farmington, Strafford co., NH on 17 May 1871; he was 83^[4].

William first married **Jane JONES**^[2,4]. Jane was born circa 1790^[2,4] and died in Farmington, Strafford co., NH on 24 July 1852; she was 62^[4,72]. The given source which lists the family of William Amazeen and Jane Jones, says Jane died "24 July 1852 at Farmington, NH *age 52*." This is perhaps a mis-read for "age 62" Even with her generally accepted birthdate of ca. 1790, her first known child was born in 1804 when she was only 14 year old – young, but not impossible or even improbable. However, a birthdate of 1800 as reckoned from this death record would have her giving birth to her first known child at age 4. Not bloody likely.

William second married **Fanny Robertson TREFETHEN**^[2]. Fanny was born circa 1796 and died circa 1874; she was 78^[4].

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