



Iowa Society DAR

PATRIOT STORIES

Zadock (or Zadok) Stebbins, Massachusetts, A109510

Zadock from Wilbraham, Massachusetts (located near Springfield), was born Aug. 12, 1741 and died April 20, 1832. He served as a Private, then Corporal, with Captains Munn, Shaw, and Browning.

Additional information: the name Stebbins is a shortening of the word Stebbing coming from the Saxon word “Stybo”, meaning stump in a field or meadow. The combined word, meaning a stumpy meadow, evidently means cleared land with stumps still standing. In William the Conqueror’s Domesday Book, compiled in A.D. 1080, the Villa of Stebbing is first recorded. Stebbing Parish, in the year A.D. 1086, was held by Henry de Fetters, Rolph Peverell and Count Eustace and by favor of the King for service in William the Conqueror’s conquest in England. Stebbin Parish is about 40 miles northwest of London and five miles northwest of Braintree. It is 26 miles in circumference and contains 4383 acres. Porters Hall, an ancient building with a moat, is still standing and came into the possession of John de Stebbing in 1199. The church St. Mary the Virgin was built in 1327 and restored in 1884. The tower has five bells dating back to 1772-1779. The windows are stained with the Coat of Arms of Edmund Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster; Bohun Vernon, Earl of Surrey and Lovain, Duke of Exeter.

In 1764, the Church records were moved to London. Another church belonging to the Stebbin’s estates was built in Suffolk County, in Kettleburgh and built in 1080. Its list of rectors is complete back to 1304.

Catherine Stebbins was the great-grandmother of John Adams and great-great-grandmother of John Q. Adams the second and sixth presidents of the United States, respectively. Grover Cleveland, 22nd President was the great-grandson of Ruth Stebbins, who was the second generation in America.

Corporal Stebbins’ ancestors have been traced to Bocking, England, where Rowland Stebbins (born 1592 of Stebbing Parish; died 1671 North Hampton, MA;) married Sarah Whiting (died Oct 1649) on 30 Nov 1618 in England. On 30 Apr 1634, he shipped out on the Francis of Ipswich bound for New England.

Sources:

- Massachusetts Sols & Sails Revolutionary War Vol XLV, page 898; Vol 15, p 2
- McCarty, Shirley A. and Halpin, Barbara A. Editors; Some Ancestors of Active Members Iowa Society Daughters of the American Revolution 2006-2008, page 107.



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