

SAMUEL BARTLETT, ME, Public Service – Sealer of Leather, and Town Committee Member:

Samuel Bartlett, Joshua's fourth son, was born in Amesbury, Massachusetts, in 1748 and moved to Maine by 1769, where he was one of the founders of South Thomaston. When the Revolution began, Samuel served in the local revolutionary government as Sealer of Leather. In those days, leather making was a home industry and the quality varied greatly, depending on the skill of the craftsman. Samuel's job was to certify (by applying a seal) that the leather met quality standards. He also served on a committee to regulate prices to stop inflation, a natural outgrowth of a wartime economy. Samuel died in 1813 and is buried near the shore of Penobscot Bay, just east of the town he helped found.