

Onesiphorous Flanders (1749-1827) Patriot # P-159190

Patriotic Service, Signer of Association Test

Samuel Flanders (1709-1758) was wed to Mary Page (1713-1781) in Salisbury, Essex County, Massachusetts January 24, 1734. The families of both were old of Massachusetts and they started their family there. Samuel, being a cordwainer, lived in town and supported a large family that grew to include Rhoda, Mehitable, Mary, Abigail, Samuel, and known patriot Onesiphorous. Samuel was one of the original grantors of land for the town of Warner, New Hampshire and he settled his family there.

Patriot Onesiphorous Flanders was born September 2, 1749 near South Hampton, Rockingham County, New Hampshire. In life, he followed in his father's footsteps as a cordwainer. He made new shoes from new materials unlike a cobbler who in those days would only repair footwear. It is not known if he took over his father's business or set out to make his own fortune. The trade would have required an apprenticeship and his skills were most likely learned at the feet of his father.

By the time that the Revolution had fully commenced, Onesiphorous and his wife Elizabeth "Betsey" Danforth had started their own family. Their children would include Anna, Stephen, Betsey, Samuel, Shepard, and Sally. With responsibilities growing at home, and a business that provided materials necessary to the war effort, Onesiphorous did not choose to leave home and take up arms. Instead, he signed the Association Test declaring his loyalty to the patriot cause.

In 1827, Onesiphorous Flanders passed on to his reward in Eaton, Carroll County, New Hampshire. His wife Elizabeth died nearly a dozen years later in 1839. It is thought that they were laid to rest in or near Eaton.

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