

Bridge, Edmund      43c      3 - 4 - 7 - 0 - 0  
Pownalborough Town, Lincoln County

**EDMUND BRIDGE**, b Lexington MA 8 Aug 1739 and bp 12 Aug 1739 son of Samuel & Martha (Bowman) Bridge (*Lexington, Massachusetts: Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths* [1898], hereafter *Lexington MA BM&D*, p. 9; his parents' marriage on 27 Apr 1738 recorded in *ibid.*, p. 101); d Dresden 10 Sep 1826 in his 87th year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 185, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden); m Lexington MA 6 Sep 1764 his cousin PHEBE BOWMAN (*Lexington MA BM&D*, p. 101), b Westborough MA 7 May 1747 dau of James & Thankful (Forbush) Bowman (*Vital Records of Westborough, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [1903], p. 23; her parents' marriage on 16 Mar 1731 recorded in *ibid.*, p. 127), d Dresden 24 Jul 1828 in her 82nd year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 185, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden). Edmund Bridge came from Lexington MA to Pownalborough in 1760 at the age of 21y (James W. North, *The History of Augusta* [1870], hereafter North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 506). He soon became very active in town affairs, acting as a magistrate during the Revolution and as a member of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence (*ibid.*). In 1782 he was appointed sheriff of Lincoln County, an office which he filled for over 30y consecutively, with the exception of a brief time in 1811 (*ibid.*). He was Town Clerk of Pownalborough at the time of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the copy of that document in the Wiscasset records is in his handwriting (Charles Edwin Allen, *History of Dresden, Maine* [1931], p. 232). In 1789 he built the well-known Bridge house in Dresden, a photograph of which appears in Allen's *History of Dresden* on p. 231. In his will dated 12 Jul 1811 and probated 5 Dec 1825, Edmund Bridge of Dresden, Esquire, named his wife Phebe, his eldest son James Bridge to whom he willed his silver tankard "requesting him to give the same to his eldest son after his decease," and his other 8 chn, namely Martha Lithgow, Phebe Bowman, Edmund Bridge Jr., Nathan Bridge, Samuel Bridge, William Bridge, Sarah Williams, and Joseph Bowman Bridge (Lin Co Probate 26:321). The inventory, dated 12 Oct 1825, was valued at \$2,032.29 (Lin Co Probate 26:457).

Children, b Pownalborough (Dresden): births of first 7 in Wiscasset VR [FHL film #12,309], 1:7, 101; births of last 2 in William F. Bridge, *An Account of the Descendants of John Bridge, Cambridge, 1632* [1884], hereafter *John Bridge Descs.*, p. 62; baptisms in "Records of the Rev. Josiah Winship, Woolwich Church," DAR Misc. Recs., 13 [Part 2], pp. 21, 21, 23.

- i James, b 23 Sep 1765: d 25 Jan 1834 ae 69y (*Augusta VR*, 2:246; *Ken Co Inscriptions*, p. 258, citing g.s., Forest Grove cem, Augusta); m Augusta 4 Jul 1797 Hannah North (*Augusta VR*, 1:214), b Pittston 29 Jun 1774 dau of Hon. Joseph & Hannah (Flagg) North (*Hallowell VR*, 1:217; her parents' m ints on 24 May 1764 recorded in *Boston Marriages, 1752-1809*, Boston Record Commissioners' Report, 30[1902]:423; *Hallowell VR*, 4:97, says they m Boston MA 28 Aug 1764), d 8 Apr 1822 ae 47y (*Augusta VR*, 2:246; *Ken Co Inscriptions*, p. 258, bur with her husband). James Bridge graduated from Harvard College in 1787 and afterwards read law in the office of Theophilus Parsons at Newburyport in company with his fellow Harvard classmate, John Quincy Adams (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 507). In 1790 he opened a law office in Hallowell (Augusta) (*ibid.*). He became attorney and agent for the Plymouth proprietors and he represented the town in the legislature in 1799 (*ibid.*, p. 508). In 1800 he was appointed Judge of Probate for Ken Co, which office he held until 1804 (*ibid.*). He was a member of the executive council of MA in 1818, member of the constitutional convention of Maine in 1819, and appointed one of the commissioners under the act of separation in 1820 (*ibid.*). A portrait of him appears in North's *Hist. of Augusta*, opposite p. 507).
- ii Martha/Patty, b 23 Apr 1768: d Charlestown MA 9 Apr 1852 ae 84y (MA VR, 67:74); m int Winslow 4 Sep 1790 Arthur Lithgow (*Winslow VR*, p. 192; marriage in Pownalborough reported in Youngs' *Newspapers*, p. 360, citing *Jenks' Gazette*, issue of 6 Jan 1791), b c1760 (from ae at death) son of Col. William & Sarah (Noble) Lithgow (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 901), d Roxbury MA 14 Aug 1835 ae 76y (*Vital Records of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. [1925-26], 2:576). Arthur and Martha first settled at Winslow where he was engaged in trade (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 225). When Kennebec Co was organized in 1799, Lithgow was appointed sheriff of the county and the family moved to

- Augusta (ibid.). He held the office of sheriff until 1809 (ibid.). They afterwards moved to Boston MA where he was appointed to the office of weigher and measurer in the Custom House, which he held for many years (ibid.).
- iii Phebe, b 6 Mar 1771: d Dresden 27 Feb 1842 in her 72nd year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 185, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden): m [Augusta or Dresden] 1 Jan 1799 William Bowman (*Augusta VR*, 1:215; Youngs' *Newspapers*, p. 66, citing *Jenks' Gazette*, issue of 14 Jan 1799 and *Kennebeck Intelligencer*, issue of 5 Jan 1799), b 2 Oct 1772 son of Judge Jonathan & Mary Emerson (Lowell) Bowman (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 809; *John Bridge Descs.*, p. 61), d Wiscasset 10 Sep 1826 ae abt 55y (VR [FHL film #12,310], deaths, p. 25). William Bowman was a lawyer in Wiscasset (*John Bridge Descs.*, p. 61).
  - iv Edmund, b 26 Mar 1773 and bp with his bro Nathan by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 25 Sep 1776: d unm Wilmington NC 17 Jul 1823 (*John Bridge Descs.*, p. 61). He was a merchant in Wilmington (ibid.).
  - v Nathan, b 23 Sep 1776 and bp with his bro Edmund by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 25 Sep 1776: d unm Gardiner 15 Sep 1827 in his 52nd year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 185, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden). He was a lawyer in Gardiner (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 814).
  - vi Samuel, b 14 Nov 1778 and bp with his bro William by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 23 Jun 1782: d Dresden 12 Dec 1821 in his 43rd year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 186, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden): m 17 Jan 1803 Margaret Paine (*John Bridge Descs.*, p. 69; North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 814), b Boston MA 4 May 1783 and bp New South Church, Boston, 11 May 1783 dau of Nathaniel & Margaret (Morton) Paine (g.s.; *Boston Church Recs CD*; her parents' m ints on 1 Feb 1781 recorded in *Boston Marriages, 1752–1809*, Boston Record Commissioners' Report, 30[1902]: 447), d Boston MA 15 Jun 1836 in her 54th year (MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 186, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden). At age 23, Samuel became junior partner in the firm of Shaw, Barker, and Bridge in Boston MA, which engaged in a large auction and commission business (*John Bridge Descs.*, p. 70). He moved back to Dresden in 1811 where he held town offices of selectman and overseer of the poor (ibid.). Margaret served as the administratrix of Samuel's estate (Lin Co Probate 23:311, 415, 429, 508).
  - vii William, b 14 May 1781 and bp with his bro Samuel by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 23 Jun 1782: d New Orleans LA 22 Feb 1817 where he went reportedly for reasons of health (*John Bridge Descs.*, p. 62). He was described as a merchant, formerly of Augusta (Youngs' *Newspapers*, p. 66, citing *Bangor Weekly Register*, issue of 12 Apr 1817).
  - viii Sarah, b 15 Nov 1782 and bp with her bro Joseph Bowman by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 24 Oct 1790: d Augusta 10 Sep 1834 ae 45y (*Augusta VR*, 2:472; *Ken Co Inscriptions*, p. 590, citing g.s., Riverside cem, Augusta): m int Augusta 30 Apr 1808 Capt. Hartwell Williams of Augusta (*Augusta VR*, 1:215), b Augusta 15 Nov 1781 son of Capt. Seth & Zilpha (Ingraham) Williams (*Augusta VR*, 1:157), d New Orleans LA 13 Oct 1818 (*Augusta VR*, 2:471; Youngs' *Newspapers*, p. 658, citing *Hallowell American Advocate*, issue of 28 Nov 1818). Hartwell Williams was a retired shipmaster who engaged in business in Augusta (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 62).
  - ix Joseph Bowman, b 19 Sep 1790 (g.s.) and bp with his sister Sarah by Rev. Winship of Woolwich 24 Oct 1790: d of pneumonia at Boston MA 4 Jul 1866 ae 76y (Mass VR, 194:67; MOCA, Series 3, Lin Co, p. 185, citing monument in Pine Grove cem, Dresden). Joseph Bowman Bridge worked for 12y in the U.S. Appraiser's office in Boston MA, he was a selectman of Dresden for several years, and a representative in the legislature (North's *Hist. of Augusta*, p. 814).