

was a shoemaker, David and Azariah were carpenters. The younger sons, Ardon and Alpheus, enjoying, perhaps, better educational advantages than the elder brothers, were for several years school-teachers. Later in life they engaged successfully in mercantile pursuits, while Heman became a cattle dealer and drover.

Amos Thomas, the Patriarch, formed a connecting-link between the early history of this country and the present time. With one hand he could grasp, as it were, the early pioneers of our country and with the other reach down to those of the present time. Many of his grandchildren still living remember him distinctly, and from him have heard the interesting and exciting story of events leading to the war of the Revolution, while he at the same time could repeat to them, as related to him by his father and grandfather, the events of the French and Indian Wars.

The marvelous development of our country since 1746, the increase of population from probably less than 1,000,000 to over 60,000,000 at the present time, the wonderful accomplishments of steam and electricity, with the almost endless discoveries and inventions calculated to benefit and improve the condition of mankind, are scarcely less astonishing to us than they would have been to Amos, the Patriarch, could the veil have been lifted and he been permitted to view the condition of things at the present time.

Amos Thomas was manifestly a man of strong will and indomitable purpose, persistent in his opinions on all questions of right and wrong, and not easily diverted by the views of either individuals or church from what he may have considered the right,—traits of character more or less conspicuous in many of his numerous descendants.

Amos Thomas d. at the house of his daughter, Eunice