

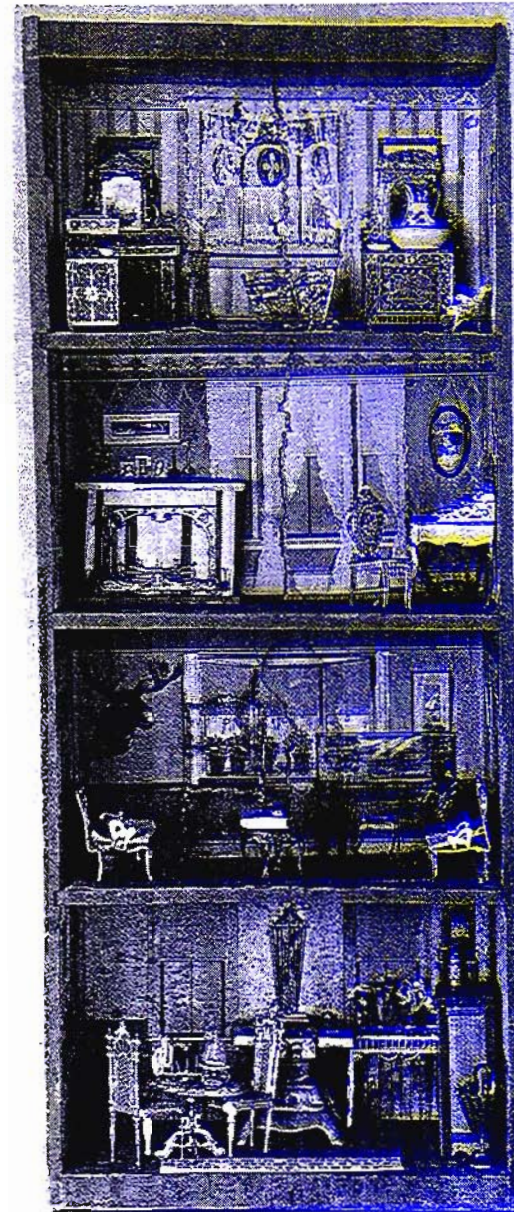
Chance Find Identified

Teacher, Grocer, Postmaster, Farmer

Like so many other finds, this sketch from the HISTORY OF BAY COUNTY (Michigan) jumped out of the book while we were looking for something else entirely. It tells about Frederick William Dunham (b. 1832)(9)(Deacon John 1, John 2, Samuel 3, Wm 4, Wm 5, Jonathan 6, Hazael 7, Alpha 8). This man is called "William Frederick" in the IWD book; which name is correct perhaps doesn't matter. He does have the honor of being the first person to be identified through the useful new Dunham Index. "FREDERICK WILLIAM DUNHAM, whose post office address is West Bay City, is a prominent & prosperous farmer living in Section 21, Monitor Twp. He was born in Madison Co., NY, Oct. 18, 1832 & is a son of Alpha & Freelove (Mathewson) Dunham. His education was obtained mostly in the district schools of the Empire State & in an academy at Hamilton, NY. He then engaged in teaching for a short time near Adrian, Mich. From Adrian he went to Higginsport, Ohio as instructor in the High School, of which he later became principal, which post he held for 4 years. In the winter of 1858-59 he was in New Orleans & in flatboats traded in produce along the bayous of the lower Miss. River. In 1860 Mr. Dunham visited his early home in NY, where he remained until 1861, when he came to Bay City to take charge of the public schools as superintendent. There was then but 1 public school building in Bay City; it had 3 departments. Two years later he resigned this position & opened a grocery on Water St. under the name of Phillips & Dunham. On account of ill health he sold his interest to Mr. Phillips 4 years later & engaged in farming in Barry Co., Mich. In connection with his brother-in-law he bought 200 acres of land. This was but partly cleared, & they built a house & barn; on this property Mr. Dunham lived 3 years. At the request of his former business partner, Mr Phillips, who was then postmaster (Cont'd p. 2)

From Ann Eldred, DD has this picture from a catalogue of dollhouses, # 75 being the unusual Dunham's Coconut Doll's House.

Dolls, of course, are all good at flying, so they don't really need stairways to get from the 1st floor to the 4th. What Dunham first developed this dollhouse? What little Dunham girl first played with one? And why is it called a "coconut"?



■75. Rare Dunham's Coconut Doll's House, c. 1890's

The four-story structure of wood construction. Interior overlaid with elaborate paper lithographed walls depicting windows, shelves, textiles, and furniture. Decorated with rare and antique miniature furniture, and with antique metal furnishings.

29" h., 12" w., 7 1/4" d.

FREDERICK W. DUNHAM (cont'd from p. 1) under Pres. Grant, Mr. Dunham returned to Bay City to act as assistant postmaster. In this capacity he served 8 years. Under the Hayes administration he was appointed postmaster of Bay City, & continued thus for 1 term. He then located on a farm of 320 acres, which he had purchased in connection with Herschel H. Hatch, now an attorney of Detroit. They cleared, fenced & drained most of this land. On it they built 2 houses & what was considered in those days a very large barn, its dimensions being 80 by 80 feet. Mr. Dunham has been married twice, his first wife being Mary E. Haughton, of Madison Co., NY. His 2nd wife was Emma A. Haughton, of the same county. They were sisters, both being daughters of Augustus Haughton. Mr. & Mrs. Dunham had a son, Eugene, who died when 13 years old; & 2 daughters, Mrs. James ((Helen)) Wilcox of Monitor Twp., & Florence, who lives with her parents. The subject of this sketch gives considerable attention to dairy farming, the production & sale of milk being the main feature of his farm. He is the possessor of a good library & spends a great deal of time with his books. In politics Mr. Dunham is a staunch Republican, & voted for Gen. John C. Fremont, the 1st presidential candidate of that party, in 1856. In local political matters, he acts independently. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry & is a past master of Subordinate Grange # 1036." ---This sketch does push our information a bit further forward, as his daughter Helen's married name is new data. Too, we note that Frederick William is a grandson of Hazael Dunham (1776-1859) of Dunham's Island. (DD 4-93)

NEWSLETTER BUSINESS

It is wonderful, the number of readers who have responded by sending in their own Dunham ancestral lines. This is exactly what is needed to bring the Isaac W. Dunham genealogy up to date -- which is the primary goal of all our Dunham efforts. Now we are wondering if all these Dunham ancestors were always too busy accomplishing things to take the time to record their deeds or to describe the roses (or thorns) that they encountered along the way. It has been our good fortune to discover quite a few such accounts written by ancestors in other lines, but never by a Dunham, so perhaps this is the case. Sometimes of course something of the flavor of their lives can be recaptured from documents such as old letters & printed obituaries, & we urge all readers to send in any of these types of written materials for inclusion in DD -- & we'd LOVE to be proven wrong in our assumption & receive some Dunham memoirs or reminiscences. Another type of material that the newsletter still has urgent need for: PHOTOGRAPHS. Old ones are marvelous, more evocative of their period than the contemporary subjects & photographers could ever have realized. But please don't discount new photographs as a source of interest in DD. If your name is Dunham or if you have any Dunham blood, DD wants your picture. So please don't think to yourself that you have nothing you could send. To keep the newsletter going, these things are needed. As for more mundane matters, special thanks to those who have sent checks. The cost of copying & the cost of postage make these greatly appreciated! But please don't send checks made out to the newsletter. DD is not a business (it's a labor of love), & there is no bank account in its name. Therefore, checks written to it cannot be cashed. The only checks that can be cashed here are those made out to its editor, Phyllis Kitson, who is a REAL entity.

MORE 1992 REUNION SHOTS

Bill Wood (11)(Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Nathaniel 3, Isaac 4, Calvin 5, Alpheus 6, Alpheus 7, George W. 8, Henry A. 9, Alice M. Dunham Wood 10) shared these snapshots of the 1992 Dunham Reunion held on the shore of Lake Oneida in New York. Only those people in the photo at top right are identified. They are: (clockwise



*Jane Dunham
of Phoenix,
N.Y.*

from left) Charlene Dunham Pearson, Yonne & Lolah Dunham (all from Mlliken, MI), Mary & Bill Wood. If you spot anyone else whose name you know, please tell DD about it.



WILLIAM G. H. DUNHAM

From Mrs. Arthur A. Dunham, Gainesville, FL, DD has a quantity of interesting materials, which, unfortunately, we cannot tie in at the present time. Among these materials is this March 14, 1892 obituary from the MANCHESTER (N.H.) UNION:

"WILLIAM G. H. DUNHAM PASSES AWAY AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS. He was 48 years, 2 months & 20 days old & died at his home at 108 Riddle St. of a "complication of diseases." He'd been sick for 2 years, but had been able to work until quite recently, & his death surprised many of his friends. A native of Morrisville, VT, he was the son of John E. & Eliza C. (Clark) Dunham. He'd been living in Manchester for the past 25 years, more or less, & employed first by Barr & Clapp, grocers, & then by Allen M. Clapp, for whom he was the highly respected business manager. He was a Republican & the member of 4 local Masonic bodies: Washington Lodge # 61, Trinity Commandery, Knights Templar, Mt. Horeb Royal Arch Chapter # 11 & Adironam Council # 3, Royal & Select Masters. Also of the Louis Bell Post of the G. A. R. He came home from the war wearing the stripes of captain. His survivors were his widow & 2 brothers, Guy B. Dunham of Manchester & Edward Dunham of Morrisville, VT. His funeral was held from the South Main Union Congregational Church, & he was buried in the Piscataquog Yard directly behind the church."



AMANDA LYDIA DUNHAM CHENEY (1822-1909) (7) (Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Nathaniel 3, Isaac 4, Calvin 5, Alpheus 6) probably posed for this photo in the early years of this century. She was the wife of Daniel Cheney. Photo, courtesy of Ann Eldred.

MRS. VINCENT S. MADISON

In the June 1993 DD we published 2 Petersburg, MI newspaper clippings which were submitted by Karen Hill, Half Moon Bay, CA., concerning the 1911 marriage of Arvilla Dunham (1890-1913)(9)(Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Eleazer 3, Israel 4, Ebenezer 5, Sylvanus 6, Dr. Nelson 7, Norman Curtis 8) to Roy S. Swinton, & then of her death so shortly afterward in the Philippines. Karen also shared this clipping from the ALPENA (MI) NEWS, the obituary of Arvilla's only child: "Monday, June 23, 1975. Mrs. Vincent S. Madison, 62, of 1925 Somerset, Troy, died at 6 a.m. Sunday, June 22, at Alpena Hospital, after an extended illness. Born Mary J. Swinton on May 12, 1913, in Manilla, Philippine Islands, she graduated from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti & had been an elementary school teacher in the Warren School system until her retirement. Her husband, Vincent, preceded her in death. Mrs. Madison is survived by 4 children: Mrs. Paul Warning (Gayle) of Ojai, CA; Mrs. John D. Fitzgerald, Jr. (Nancy) of Alpena; Stanley V. of Grand Rapids; & Gary S. of Pontiac; 5 grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Barbara Moody of Ann Arbor; & one brother, Stanley Swinton of New York City. Mrs. Madison's body is at the Wachterhauser Funeral Home, where friends may call. A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the 1st Congregational Church, Rev. John D. Fitzgerald officiating. Burial in Charlevoix Cemetery."