

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Issue 4

15 October, 2011

Volume 8 ©

President's Letter

Dear DSFC Members:

The more we work on the lineage of our ancestors, the more we learn about their lives and the times in which they lived. Our knowledge of all the Dunham families who came to America has grown because all of you have shared some of your own personal information. Thank you all for that.

Our knowledge continues to grow now because more and more Dunhams are participating in DNA analysis. These results are helping to identify the connections and relationships of our huge Dunham families. We are now beginning to get the DNA test results from several men living or born in England. These should be ready for us by the next newsletter.

I have been working to add to the knowledge in my direct line. I have just finished my updated book: *Benjamin Dunham 1681-1715*. It has 448 pages, 5,971 descendants and 15 generations. Benjamin was the son of Jonathan Dunham/alias Singletary. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this book can contact me at daviddunham@att.net

Sincerely,
David Lee Dunham, *President*

Editor's Corner

This issue of the newsletter contains an article about Matthew Dunham who has been a mystery to Dunham researchers for many years. I have worked on this line several times over the past couple decades and each time I have come to the same conclusion. This article is the result of a recent query.

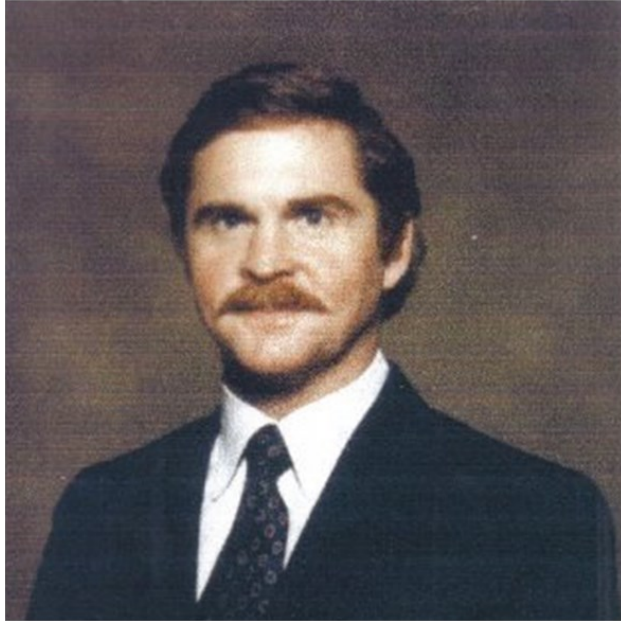
An article in the last newsletter, Vol. 8, Issue 3 for 15 July, 2011 entitled *The Great Divorce Case; Thomas Harrison Dunham vs. Eliza A. Dunham* prompted some further research by Bruce W. Dunham. Bruce has written three articles which will further our knowledge about Thomas Harrison Dunham.

Collaboration between myself and Bruce W. Dunham has resulted in a major addition to the *Dunham Families in America* web site. I have been collecting information about the Dunhams who served in the Revolutionary War for many years and it was included under each man's entry in my data base. Bruce took that information and created a spread sheet which gives all this information in a concise manner. Please see the article *Dunham—Revolutionary War Patriot & Tory Lineage*.

As a compliment to the spread sheet I have reprinted an interesting article about a part of Revolutionary War history that many people are unfamiliar with. *The Almost Battle of Marshfield* is a fascinating story of Dunham involvement in the Plymouth County area.

Gratia Dunham Mahony, *Editor*

Member's Corner



Welcome to new member Bruce William Dunham.

Bruce's participation in DNA analysis has shed some important new light on the study of the Dunham family in America. The results of his DNA test show a match to the Deacon John Dunham line. HOWEVER, genealogical study of his line shows that he is a descendant of Rev. Thomas Dunham through Nathaniel ² Dunham of Wrentham MA and Hebron CT.

Mr. Thomas Dunham, Puritan clergyman died in Bedford, New York 5 August 1689. He left a will naming his children. More detail may be found at the web site

Bruce William Dunham
Dunham Families in America at

URL

<http://dunham2000.ipower.com/Index.html> From Thomas Dunham, Bruce W. Dunham's line continues with Nathaniel ² Jabez ³ Obadiah ⁴ Obadiah ⁵ Alfred ⁶ Dewey ⁷ Herbert Stanley ⁸ Jessie Loomis ⁹ Elmer ¹⁰ and Bruce William ¹¹ Dunham.

There is no evidence to show Mr. Thomas Dunham, Puritan clergyman to be a descendant of Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth. They were more likely contemporaries. Since the DNA of Bruce W. Dunham matches the DNA of descendants of the Deacon John Dunham line, I propose that the connection in these two lines is from an ancestor living in England prior to the immigration of either Rev. Thomas Dunham or Deacon John Dunham to America.

DNA samples of Dunham men currently born in England, or from a documented English Dunham line are now being solicited. There are several DNA tests that should be completed in the near future. Those results will be posted on the *Dunham-Singletary Family Connections* web site <http://www.pcdunham.net/Index.html>

Bruce brings his interest in the military involvement of the Dunham family to DSFC. He has written two articles that are included in this issue of the newsletter. Bruce has also created the spread sheet showing Dunham Revolutionary War Patriot and Tory Lineage which is now available on the *Dunham Families in America* web site. Bruce has written several articles that will be printed in future issues of the DSFC newsletter under the by line "Bruce W. Dunham, Contributor at Large".

Bruce W. Dunham is employed as a Senior Project Manager at ARGO Systems based in Maryland. Bruce has a degree in History from the University of Colorado. For the past twenty-five years he has worked in Civil Engineering and Construction Management. He is currently on sabbatical cruising the Bahamas and Florida Keys.

Who Were the Ancestors of Matthew Dunham, Chairmaker?

by Gratia Dunham Mahony

A genealogical query was recently sent to me to see if I had done any further research on the line of Matthew Dunham of Tyringham, Berkshire Co. MA and Carlton, Orleans Co. NY.

Research was done by me (Gratia Dunham Mahony) in 2002 when the DNA result for Russell Howard Dunham, a descendant of Matthew Dunham, was returned. This result indicated a descent from the line of Deacon John ¹ Dunham. In 2011 I received a query from Fred Dunham, a 6th generation descendant of Matthew Dunham (b. 1758). Matthew Dunham (b. 1758) married in Tyringham, Berkshire Co. MA Ruth Strong. Matthew Dunham (b. 1758) had service in the Revolutionary War and was "from Tyringham".

Since the work I did in 2002 was based on circumstantial evidence I wanted to revisit the line as I had given it. This line can be seen (with references) on the web site <http://www.pcdunham.net/Index.html> under DNA Test Results for Russell Howard Dunham and by clicking on "Reference" in the line above his name.

Another reason for revisiting this issue is that there were a lot of members of the Dunham family living in the area of Litchfield Co. CT and Berkshire Co. MA at the time of the Revolutionary War. Since Matthew Dunham (b. 1758) served from Berkshire Co. MA I wanted to see if I could find a connection to any of these Dunham families. After detailing the lines of all the Dunhams living in the above two areas my conclusion remains the same as the line which I laid out in 2002. It is still based on circumstantial evidence (details given below).

The line begins with John ¹ Jonathan ^{2,3} Hezekiah ⁴ Dunham (also given more fully on web site <http://dunham2000.ipower.com/Index.html>).

The Martha's Vineyard Dunham Family

Hezekiah ⁴ Dunham (Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born in Edgartown say 1693; died in Tisbury, Dukes County Massachusetts between 13 June 1738 and 11 July 1738 the dates on which his will was written and probated. [Ref. *History of Martha's Vineyard*, 3:154] Hezekiah married in Martha's Vineyard, probably in 1718, **Jane Pease** daughter of Matthew and Mary (Green) Pease. [Ref. *History of Martha's Vineyard*, 3:389] She was born 28 November (1699); died before 1738.

Hezekiah, called "Pilot", resided in Edgartown, Chilmark and Tisbury, all in Martha's Vineyard, Dukes County, MA. The will of Hezekiah does not mention his wife who must have died before 1738. His will names "my only daughter Jemima" but does not mention his son or sons. The wording of the will provides a hint that there were two or more sons as it states "to each of my children, my only daughter Jemima excepted..."

Litchfield Co. CT probate file [1:36, dated 3 May 1750] contains a guardianship for son Cornelius; "Jacob Dunham of Salisbury is named guardian of Cornelius, minor son of Hezekiah late of Martha's Vineyard deceased". This Jacob Dunham was Jacob ⁴ son of Daniel ³ Jonathan ² John ¹ Dunham.

From my research I believe that there were six children of Hezekiah and Jane (Pease) Dunham: Please note that this is based on circumstantial evidence (except Jemima and Cornelius) and that should be so stated in any discussion of this line.

Children of Hezekiah ⁴ and Jane (Pease) Dunham (births not recorded, order given is probable):

- i. Samuel ⁵ Dunham b. say 1722/23 [bapt. 3 Feb. 1723]
- ii. Jemima ⁵ Dunham b. say 1724 (named in father's will)
- iii. Jonathan ⁵ Dunham b. say 1726
- iv. Matthew ⁵ Dunham b. say 1729-31
- v. Solomon ⁵ Dunham b. say 1732
- vi. Cornelius ⁵ Dunham b. 1734-35 (probate file above)

While we cannot know for certain, I believe that the children of Hezekiah ⁴ Dunham were placed with other members of the Dunham family after Hezekiah's death in 1738. There is no wife mentioned in Hezekiah's will so she was probably deceased by 1738. There could be guardianship papers for Hezekiah's children but I have not found them to date. The guardianship dated 5 May 1750 for Cornelius Dunham probably indicates that Cornelius (still under age and thus called "minor", but over the age of 14 years) was choosing his own guardian. It was common practice at the time for a child over age 14 to be able to choose his own guardian. Children over the age of 14 sometimes wished to have a person different than their originally appointed guardian.

Dunhams Serving in the French and Indian War

Records from the French and Indian War period list the service of Matthew Dunham from Connecticut. From *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, Vol. 1:14-15, with reference to the Campaign of 1757 during the French and Indian War: Captain Josiah Lee [of Farmington] Captain. "The Colony of Connecticut to Capt. Josiah Lee and the Company under his command raised in the 6th Regiment in said colony for their service in the Alarm for the Relief of Fort William Henry and parts adjacent, Aug 7 to Aug. 24, 1757." The list of privates include Matthew Dunham. It should be noted that this company included men from Middletown, Farmington, Wethersfield and Glastonbury.

It should also be noted that Lieut. Col. Whitney's Company for the same period included James Dunham. This man was James ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born probably in Southington, Hartford County Connecticut say 1720; [Ref. *Southington Genealogies, (Dunham Family)* p. 34-37] died in Canaan, Litchfield County Connecticut. He married **Dinah Candee**, daughter of Zaccheus and Desire (Roberts) Candee. She was baptized in Middletown Connecticut 31 December 1727, died before 1772. He is the James Dunham of Middletown who bought land in Canaan south of Rattle Snake Hill in 1748, and the James Dunham who received a quit claim deed from Cornelius ⁵ Dunham for land in Canaan in 1766.

Captain Eliphalet Wittlesey of Newington, Connecticut was a Captain throughout the French and Indian War. From *The History of Ancient Wethersfield* Vol. 1:404; "A Muster Role of Capt. Eliphalet Whittelsey's Company, Anno Dom. 1758" includes the service of Matthew Dunham from 7 April through October.

Gideon Dunham served as a Private during the French and Indian War as a member of the 1st Regt. 5th Company, commanded by Capt. Patterson. He enlisted 14 April 1755 and was discharged 19 November 1755. He also performed fourteen days service 8-21 August 1757 with Major Talcott's Company, 6th Regt. for the relief of Fort William Henry. This man was Gideon ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹. Follow his line below.

From the above French and Indian War service records we can postulate a probable location for Matthew Dunham. If he was at least age 20-30 during his service in 1757-8 he would have been born 1727-1737. This puts my estimation of a birth date for Matthew (1729-31) within this range. The Connecticut towns from which the privates who served in the above Connecticut Companies were drawn include Middletown, Farmington/Southington, Wethersfield, Glastonbury and Newington.

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Four Dunham Brothers

If we now look to see which Dunham families lived in these Connecticut towns during the period of the French and Indian War we see a predominance of descendants from the line of John¹ Jonathan^{2,3} Gideon⁴ Dunham living in Southington. The family of Gideon⁴ (brother to Hezekiah⁴ Dunham) follows.

Gideon⁴ Dunham (Jonathan^{3,2} John¹) born in Edgartown 6 March 1686/7; died in Southington, Hartford Co. Ct. 27 April 1762. [Ref. *Banks Vol. 3:156*] Gideon married first ca. 1718 **Desire Case**, daughter of John and Desire (Manter) Case. [Ref. *Banks Vol. 3:67-8*] She was born in 1690 and she died before 1728. Gideon married second in 1728 **Mary Lewes/Lewis**, daughter of James and Mary (Sturgis) Lewis of Southington. Mary Lewis was born 16 Aug. 1700 in Southington CT, died 26 Aug. 1762 in Southington CT.

Gideon⁴ Dunham lived in Martha's Vineyard, MA, then moved first to Norwich CT and then to Southington, CT. [Ref. *Banks 3:155*] We do not know exactly when Gideon⁴ moved from Martha's Vineyard to Connecticut, but his first two children were probably born on Martha's Vineyard.

Children of Gideon and Desire (Case) Dunham: [Ref. *Banks Vol. 3:156*]

- i. James⁵ Dunham b. say 1720
- ii. Elizabeth Dunham b. say 1723

Children of Gideon and Mary (Lewis) Dunham:

- iii. Desire Dunham b. 1730, d.y.
- iv. Mary Dunham b. 1732
- v. Sarah Dunham bp. 14 April 1734
- vi. Gideon Dunham bp. 28 December 1735
- vii. Barnabas Dunham b. 1736
- viii. Desire Dunham b. 1738
- ix. Cornelius Dunham b. 1740
- x. Sylvanus Dunham b. 1742
- xi. Salathiel Dunham b. say 1744

If we evaluate the four sons of Jonathan³ (who were Jonathan⁴; Gideon⁴; Hezekiah⁴ and Cornelius⁴) Dunham and follow their migration we find the following.

Jonathan⁴ Dunham moved from Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard to Colchester and then to Sharon, Connecticut where he died 28 February 1744/45.

Gideon⁴ Dunham moved from Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard to Southington, Connecticut.

Hezekiah⁴ Dunham died at Martha's Vineyard in 1738. His wife, Jane Pease, daughter of Matthew Pease, had died by 1738. [Ref. *Banks Vol. 3:389*]

Cornelius⁴ Dunham resided in Edgartown and probably died there. His children remained on Martha's Vineyard.

My evaluation of the above facts indicates that while there is space for Matthew to be an unrecorded son of Gideon ⁴ Dunham, I believe that the evidence is stronger that Matthew was a son of Hezekiah ⁴ and Jane (Pease) Dunham. I believe that he was named for his grandfather Matthew Pease. I believe that when Hezekiah ⁴ Dunham died in 1738 his children were placed with his brother Gideon ⁴ Dunham.

The Children of Gideon ⁴ Dunham

James ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born probably in Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts say 1720; died in Canaan, Litchfield County Connecticut. He married **Dinah Candee**, daughter of Zaccheus and Desire (Roberts) Candee. She was baptized in Middletown Connecticut 31 December 1727, died before 1772.

He is the James Dunham of Middletown who bought land in Canaan south of Rattle Snake Hill in 1748, and the James Dunham who received a quit claim deed from Cornelius ⁵ Dunham for land in Canaan in 1766. Other members of the Candee family went to Canaan, Connecticut.

From Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society Vol. 1:14:
Lieut. Col. (Josiah) Whitney's Company for the Relief of Fort William Henry...Aug. 1757 included James Dunham.

Children of James ⁵ and Dinah (Candee) Dunham:

- i. Elizabeth ⁶ Dunham b. 1 Sept. 1751
- ii. Salathiel ⁶ Dunham b. 22 March 1753
(pension appl. S12828, NY gives birth year as 1757)
- iii. James ⁶ Dunham b. 24 Nov. 1754; d. 11 Dec. 1758
- iv. Desire ⁶ Dunham b. 11 Feb. 1757; d. 9 Dec. 1758
- v. Theophilus ⁶ Dunham b. 28 Nov. 1758; d. 28 Dec. 1758
- vi. Cynthia ⁶ Dunham (twin) b. 28 Mar. 1761
- vii. Pamela ⁶ Dunham (twin) b. 28 Mar. 1761
- viii. Cornelius ⁶ Dunham b. 28 Apr. 1763
- ix. Isaac ⁶ Dunham b. 23 Feb. 1765

It is possible that James ⁵ married a second wife and they were the parents of **Asahel ⁶ Dunham** b.1773; d. 11 April 1829 in Canaan, CT. Asahel Dunham married Martha Fenn who appears to have been a neighbor according to the 1800 and 1810 census data. Isaac ⁶ Dunham and Asahel ⁶ Dunham appear very near each other on the census data of Canaan, CT.

Gideon ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born in Southington Connecticut and baptized there 28 December 1735;¹ died in Batavia, Genesee County New York after the 1810 census was taken, and probably after 13 May 1822. He married **Sarah Candee**, daughter of Zaccheus and Desire (Roberts) Candee. She was baptized 17 December 1738. She was sister of Dinah Candee, the wife of James ⁵ Dunham. Gideon resided in Canaan, Litchfield County Connecticut,^[4] Chittenden County, Vermont and Batavia, Genesee County, New York.

Gideon ⁵ was in Canaan Connecticut by 1766 when he received land from his brother Cornelius ⁵ Dunham located "near Iron Works River". Gideon appears on the 1790 Census of Essex, Chittenden Co. VT, p. 24; 1-0-2. He was probably living in either Essex or Colchester, Chittenden County Vermont by 1788 when his daughter Sarah was married there. Neither Gideon ⁵ or Gideon ⁶ appear on the Vermont Census in 1800 and they were probably both on their way to Genesee County New York where they are later found.

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Gideon served as a Private during the French and Indian War as a member of the 1st Regt. 5th Company, commanded by Capt. Patterson. He enlisted 14 April 1755 and was discharged 19 November 1755. He also performed fourteen days service 8-21 August 1757 with Major Elizur Talcott's Company, 6th Regt. of Connecticut for the relief of Fort William Henry.

Gideon ⁵ Dunham also served in the Revolutionary War. He enlisted in Captain Sloan's Company, Colonel Patterson's Regiment of Massachusetts State Troops. He served from 1 February 1776 until late November 1776 when he was authorized a furlough due to ill health.

According to research done by descendant Marine Dam Velt, Gideon ⁵ had the following children:

- i Gideon ⁶, b. 10 Oct. 1762
- ii Sarah ⁶, b. 1767; d. 30 Nov. 1843

There were probably other children.

Barnabas ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born in 1736; died 1 November 1826. He married in Windham, Connecticut 15 June 1769 **Martha Cowles**. She was daughter of Daniel and Martha (Powell) Cowles of Kensington Connecticut. She was born in Kensington in 1747-8, died there 18 December 1821 age 74 years. Both are buried in the South Kensington Cemetery. Barnabas Dunham is listed in Windham Church Records-*[Records of the Congregational Church in Windham CT. 1700-1851]*.

Barnabas ⁵ Dunham is listed in the French and Indian War Muster Roll of Capt. Preston's Company, Col. Lyman's Regt. on 15 December 1757.

The children of Barnabas and Martha (Cowles) Dunham remained in the Kensington area.

Cornelius ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born about 1740; died 23 February 1819. He married 2 February 1764 **Jemima Andrews**, daughter of Jonathan and Susannah (Richards) Andrews. He served in the Revolutionary War as a Private from Connecticut.

From the book *Southington Sketches* by Timlow, p. 34, "He lived at the upper end of Queen Street, where his son Chauncey now lives (1875). Here he kept a tavern for many years, which had quite a name for generous hospitality. He d. 23 Feb. 1819, and his wife d. 24 May 1818, aged 73."

Cornelius ⁵ may have had an interest in the town of Canaan, Litchfield County Connecticut and later decided not to move there. He sold land located "near Iron Works River" by a quit claim deed dated 10 November 1766 to his brother Gideon ⁵ Dunham. He also sold land in Canaan by quit claim to his brother James ⁵ Dunham who was "of Canaan" in 1766.

The children of Cornelius ⁵ and Jemima (Andrews) Dunham remained in Southington area.

Sylvanus ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born in 1742;¹ died in Shuttle Meadow 1 September 1818. He married first **Rebeckah Woodruff**, daughter of Hezekiah and Sarah (Macon) Woodruff. She died in Farmington Connecticut 28 October 1812 aged 64 years. He married second 15 March 1813 **Abigail (Booth) Webster**, daughter of Nathan Booth, and widow of Joshua Webster.

Sylvanus ⁵ Dunham is on the 1790 Census of Southington, Hartford Co. CT., 4-2-3
Sylvanus ⁵ on 1800 Census, Hartford Co. Ct., p. 402, 01101-00201

He lived on the west side of Shuttle Meadow Lake, where now (1875) his grandson Eli Dunham lives.

[Ref. *Ecclesiastical and other Sketches of Southington, CT* by Rev. Heman R. Timlow, Hartford, 1875, p. 34.]

The children of Sylvanus ⁵ and Rebeckah (Woodruff) Dunham remained in Southington area.

Salathiel ⁵ Dunham (Gideon ⁴ Jonathan ^{3,2} John ¹) born in Southington Connecticut 15 March 1757; died in Herkimer County New York 10 March 1841.¹ He married 21 August 1783 **Lucy Steward/Stewart**.

The Dunham Chairmakers: A Possibility

In looking at the Dunhams who lived in Farmington/Southington, Hartford County, CT and in Canaan, Litchfield County, CT and those who moved northwest into Sandisfield and Tyringham, Berkshire County, MA we have to think about the economy of those areas. Of course there were farmers in these areas, but there was also manufacturing going on. The rivers were supplying power to mills, both saw mills and grist mills. People were beginning to develop industry.

It is possible to speculate that if the Matthew Dunham was a son of Hezekiah ⁴ Dunham of Martha's Vineyard, and if he was placed in the family of his uncle Gideon ⁴ Dunham after Hezekiah ⁴ died in 1738, that the likely thing for Gideon ⁴ to do for young Matthew might be to apprentice him to a trade. Matthew was born between 1729-31, so by the time he was in his early teens, say 1744-45 he might have been apprenticed to a woodworker of some kind. Apprenticeships usually lasted until the young man reached the age of twenty-one years, and Matthew would have become twenty-one about 1752-3. It is likely that Matthew Dunham would have been ready to marry soon after his apprentice was over, and after he had established himself in a trade (probably woodworking if my hypothesis above is correct). So probably he was married by say 1756-7.

We know that Matthew Dunham served in Captain Josiah Lee's company during the French and Indian War. His service was from August 7 to August 24, 1757 and the company was raised for service in the Alarm for the Relief of Fort William Henry. Captain Josiah Lee lived in Farmington and his company was formed from men living in that area.

Matthew Dunham born 1758

We can now turn to known facts. Matthew Dunham was born about 1758 in Connecticut. I believe he was a son of Matthew ⁵ Dunham. Matthew ⁵ Dunham and his three sons were chairmakers. This Matthew Dunham is of record with service in the Revolutionary War. Matthew Dunham was a private in Capt. Ezekiel Herrick's Company, Col. John Ashley's Regt. Brig. Gen. Fellow's (Berkshire Co.) brigade from 22 Sept. to 18 Oct. 1777. The company roll was certified at Tyringham, MA. This company participated in the Battle of Saratoga.

On 11 May 1780 Matthew Dunham married Ruth Strong and the marriage is recorded in the Tyringham, MA. Vital Records.

Matthew Dunham appears on 1790 Census, Tyringham, Berkshire Co. MA. This family consists of 2 males over 16; 3 males under 16; 1 female; plus one other free person.

The entry in the Daughter's of the American Revolution Patriot Index list Matthew Dunham "b. c. 1758, d. aft. 1812, m. Ruth Strong, Pvt. MA."

Data from a manuscript [CS71/M15989/1928] *Capt. James Dunham and Some of His Descendants* by Gertrude Evangeline Dunham Miller, compiled 1947-1957, on file at the New England Historical and Genealogical Society in Boston, dated 1947-1957, and written by Gertrude Evangeline Dunham Miller, of Lake Bluff Illinois gives a line of descent from Matthew Dunham. Gertrude E. Dunham Miller was never able to find the ancestors of the Matthew Dunham born about 1758, but her documentation of the descendants of this Matthew Dunham is very clear.

I have worked with Mrs. Miller's document, and with Bill Burke who has provided much of the census data. There are quite a few descendants of Matthew Dunham, including Russell Howard Dunham who participated in DNA analysis, and Fred Dunham who sent me the query in 2011. I believe the line is Deacon John¹ Dunham; Jonathan^{2,3} Hezekiah⁴ Matthew^{5,6} and the three sons James⁷, Matthew⁷ Jr., and Charles⁷ Dunham.

**Excerpt from *The Pioneer History of Orleans County, NY*
By Arad Thomas, pub. 1871**

"In the summer of 1804, Matthew Dunham and his sons built a dam across Johnson's Creek where the dam now stands at Kuckville, and erected a small building on it with machinery for turning wood. The Dunham family carried on the business of turning wood in a small way in this building several years. They did not find much sale for their goods near home, but sold some chairs and wooden bowls to the new settlers. The most of their work they took across the lake and disposed of in Canada. They continued this commerce until the embargo was declared in 1808, and after that they smuggled their chair stuff over to a considerable extent on a sail boat which they owned.

It is related by some of the first settlers that in this turning shop, the Dunhams fixed an apparatus for pounding corn, by making a tub or box in which corn was placed, and a heavy pestle was made to fall at each turn of the water wheel. Into this box they would put about a bushel of corn, occasionally stirring it up to bring it under the pestle, and thus pound it until it was reduced to meal. It took considerable time to turn a bushel of corn into meal by this process, and it could be afforded to but few families in this way.

Several families coming in to settle in the neighborhood, the want of a saw mill and a gristmill was greatly felt. Three or four years after the Dunhams built their turning shop, the Holland Land Company offered to furnish the irons for a sawmill, and irons and a pair of mill stones for a grist mill if they would erect such mills on their dam. A saw mill and a grist mill were built accordingly. These were the first saw and grist mills built in Carlton. They were small but they were very useful to those living near them. They remained the property of the Dunhams until about 1816, they were purchased by George Kuck and rebuilt on a much larger pattern than the old mills.

Matthew Dunham came from New York, accompanied by his sons, Matthew Jr., James, and Charles, and took an article for Nos. 5,7 and 9; Section 9, of township 16, range 2 of the Holland Purchase. In the early part of 1804 he brought his family into the town and settled not far from the site of the present village of Kuckville. The Dunhams afterwards became well-known as the earliest and most enterprising business men in the town."

Thomas Harrison Dunham (THD)

by Bruce William Dunham

As a follow up to Gratia's Article about Civil War General Thomas Harrison Dunham in the last issue, Wikipedia has an excellent entry for this family member at the following web site: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_H._Dunham

I've had a personal interest in this member of the extended Dunham family ever since I read "The Great Divorce" in 2008.

After reading about his rapid rise in the 11th Massachusetts from Private to Brevet Brigadier General at the age of 24 the question came to mind - who was the youngest General in the Civil War? Many sources cite George Armstrong Custer who was a General at the age of 22 but there were several younger Generals with the youngest Union General being Galusha Pennypacker of Pennsylvania who was promoted to Brigadier General at the age of 20 (the youngest Confederate General was Brig. General William Roberts also at the age of 20).

Further research on Custer led me to several similarities with THD's military career as follows:

Custer - Born 1839, West Point graduate, entered service as a 2nd Lt. in June 1861, fought at 1st Bull Run (Manassas), 1862 Peninsula Campaign under McClellan, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Petersburg among other engagements.

THD - Born 1840, Salesman, entered service as a Private in June 1861, fought at 1st Bull Run (Manassas), 1862 Peninsula Campaign under McClellan, 2nd Bull Run (Manassas), Chancellorsville (seriously wounded and recovering at time of Gettysburg where the 11th Mass. suffered between 35-50% casualties at the Peach Orchard on July 2 before withdrawing to Cemetery Ridge), Wilderness (wounded again), and Petersburg.

Technically, Custer was in the army as of 1857 when he entered West Point and was promoted to Brigadier General in 1863 so it took 6 years to reach General. THD reached the same grade in 4 years so even though he was 2 years older when he was promoted to General he did it 2 years quicker.

The big difference in their lives and careers of course is that even though THD was wounded twice during the war he survived until 1925 while Custer only lived until 1876.

Follow up to “The Great Divorce”

(Anyone interested in an ecopy of The Great Divorce can contact me at bdunham2176@yahoo.com)

For a quick recap on this case, here is the timeline from 1839 – 1843:

- Thomas H Dunham Sr. & Eliza West married – April 11, 1839
- Thomas Jr. born – July 30, 1840
- Eliza and Dr. Bowen are caught in compromising situations on multiple occasions between July-November 1841
- William Bradford born – August 13, 1842
- Eliza files for divorce – August 25, 1842

When I read “The Great Divorce” back in 2008 I came to the last page and the comment that “Chief Justice Shaw stated that he had not come to a decision in the case of Dunham vs. his Wife, but would notify the counsel when he was prepared to pronounce such judgment as he might arrive at it.” That was it! No conclusion to the story. Kind of like reading a good novel and finding out that the last few pages have been torn out.

The next day I contacted a researcher at the Harvard Law Library who referred me to someone who had direct access to the Commonwealth Supreme Court archives. About a week later I received photocopies of the original court records and the final ruling in the case.

Thomas H. Dunham Sr.’s law suit (which sounded very convincing with several witnesses that testified to inappropriate conduct by Mrs. Dunham and Dr. Bowen and comments by Dr. Bowen that the child (Thomas) was as much his as Mr. Dunham’s) was thrown out and Mr. Dunham was ordered to pay Mrs. Dunham \$59.49 in costs.

Mrs. Dunham was granted a divorce and awarded \$5.00 per week in alimony to be paid quarterly.

I later followed up on what happened to Dr. Bowen and found that he apparently died of tuberculosis less than 10 years later.



Thomas Harrison Dunham Sr.



Thomas Harrison Dunham Jr.

Two Thomas H. Dunhams in the Civil War

by Bruce William Dunham,
Contributor at Large

As I was researching the background and history of Thomas Harrison Dunham of the 11th Massachusetts I ran into several references to a Sgt. Thomas H. Dunham who was wounded and held prisoner in Washington, D.C. to be exchanged at Ft. Monroe, Va. for a prisoner of equal rank.

The primary source for this information came from correspondence between the Army Headquarters Adjutant-General's Office and the Commanding General, Army of the Potomac directing the transfer dated February 3, 1862. A second letter dated February 4, 1862 under a flag of truce from the Headquarters Department of Virginia at Fort Monroe to Maj. General B. Huger Confederate Commander at Norfolk, Va. proposes the exchange. ([GOOGLEBOOKS](#): United States Congressional Serial Set pgs. 233 & 236)

This was very confusing at first as I knew that Thomas H. Dunham (THD) of the 11th Massachusetts had received a battlefield promotion to Sergeant at 1st Bull Run in July, 1861 and the regiment was still known to be in the Capital area as of February, 1862. But why would THD be held in a Union prison?

Further research led me to the following website for the 3rd New Jersey Infantry and accounts by commanding officers from both the Union and Confederate sides of a battle at Burke Station, Va. with the Georgia Hussars of the 6th Virginia Cavalry on December 4, 1861 (<http://www.3nj.org/bstation.html> - This site has some excellent civil war period music and re-enactment information):

DECEMBER 4, 1861.—Skirmish near Burke's Station, Va.

Report of Col. George W. Taylor, Third New Jersey Infantry.

FORT WORTH, December 5, 1861.

GENERAL: *I have just returned with the little scouting party of fifty that I took yesterday to intercept the enemy's cavalry patrols. Last night about 1 o'clock I encountered them about two miles this side of Burke's Station, on the old Braddock road. The result was that at the first discharge of our pieces, loaded each with fifteen large buck-shot, nine or ten saddles were emptied, as about that number of horses were seen to go off riderless and plunge into the swamp near the road.*

Four or five of our men being wounded in the melee, our attention was turned exclusively to them, and the night being dark with a dense wood surrounding, we did not wait to look up the enemy's wounded, though there were heard groanings in the swamp when we left. We brought in Orderly Sargt. T. H. Dunham, of Captain Waring's Georgia Hussars. I send his orderly book. His regiment is the Sixth Virginia, Colonel Field's. Adjutant Dunham and Lieutenant Knight and Sergeant Lambson were with me, and I take pleasure in commending their good conduct. Being much fatigued, the party having all performed the trip on foot, I beg to be excused for particulars until this afternoon, when the names of the wounded will be given. Captain Campbell reported to me with two companies by your order, at Edsall's Hill, at a little before day-break, and was ordered back to camp, not requiring them.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, &c.,

I have the honor to be, respectfully, &c.,

GEO. W. TAYLOR,
Colonel Third Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.
Brigadier-General KEARNY,
Headquarters.

P.S. I send the orderly sergeant's papers, some of which you will find interesting, especially a private letter.

Report of Capt. J. Fred. Waring, Sixth Virginia Cavalry.

CAMP LETCHER, December 7, 1861.

*SIR: On the night of the 4th of December I left the picket lines with a detachment of two officers and twenty-one men on a scouting expedition. When about four miles from our hues, on the Braddock road, the advance guard, consisting of two men, found a wire stretched across the road. Owing to that portion of the road being a bog, the main body had caught up to the men in advance. As soon as the latter encountered the obstacles they turned their horses and communicated the fact to me. The words were not out of their mouths before a fire was opened upon us from the front and right, and then taken up by the left. The men, although taken completely by surprise, returned the fire promptly. The fire then opened on both flanks and then in the rear. Seeing the detachment completely surrounded, I gave the order to charge. With a cheer the men dashed forward, and the enemy broke and fled. Halting about fifty yards beyond the line of fire, the wounded and dismounted were picked up. Eight men were missing; out of the sixteen remaining three were wounded, and I saw that it was madness to return. At the first fire four horses went down and were left for dead by their riders. Five other men were dismounted by their horses tumbling over fallen horses. The casualties are: Private Thomas G. Heidt, wounded severely by five buckshot below the knee; Private John McC. McIntosh, wounded slightly in the shoulder by three buckshot; Private L. H. Clemens, wounded slightly in the back; **Orderly Sergt. Thomas H. Dunham, wounded severely and taken prisoner**; Captain Waring, wounded slightly in the face. The dismounted were all more or less bruised by their horses falling on them; four horses are missing. The loss of the enemy was 3 killed, 2 wounded, and 1 taken prisoner the next morning by General Stuart's escort: From the prisoner it was ascertained that Colonel Taylor, of the Third New Jersey Regiment, had prepared the trap by stretching two telegraph wires across the road, and had selected ten men from each company in his regiment to slaughter his unsuspecting foe. That he was not successful was owing to the wild firing of his men. **I cannot close this communication without testifying to the gallantry of Orderly Sergt. Thomas H. Dunham, who was shot from his saddle while in the act of charging the enemy, and to the good conduct of the men under the trying emergency of a surprise at midnight by a force of picked men five times their number and under the immediate eye of their colonel.***

Respectfully,
J. F. WARING,
Captain, Commanding Georgia Hussars, Company F,
Sixth Virginia Cavalry, Colonel Field's.
Lieut. JOHN ALLAN,
Adjutant Sixth Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

As it turned out Sgt. Dunham with the Georgia Hussars was Thomas **Hendricks** Dunham. He was the 4th great grandson of William Dunham who settled in St. Paul's Parish, Colleton County, South Carolina. This line begins with William ¹ Dunham; Jacob ² Dunham who died in January 1745/46 in Colleton County, South Carolina; William ³ Dunham born in Colleton County, South Carolina and died 22 December 1769 in Sunbury, Liberty County, Georgia; John ⁴ Dunham born 1742 in Willtown, Colleton County, South Carolina; died 1816 in McIntosh, Georgia; Jacob Hendricks ⁵ Dunham; Thomas James ⁶ Dunham of Liberty County, Georgia; and Thomas Hendricks ⁷ Dunham the subject of this article. The above William ³ Dunham married first Mary Hendricks and the use of Hendricks as a middle name originated with her.

Sgt. Dunham enlisted in Savannah on September 17, 1861 and served only 2 ½ months before being severely injured. He was exchanged at Ft. Monroe sometime after February 4, 1862 (Feb. 7 or sometime in June depending on the source) and discharged with "epilepsy" from head injuries either May 13 or July 15, again depending on the source. He never fully recovered from his injuries and he died in 1870.

Sources:

http://ranger95.com/civil_war/virginia/cavalry/rosters/6th_cav_rgt_rost_c_e.html
<http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/georgiabooks/pdfs/gb5065.pdf>

A related artifact recently turned up on the internet. An envelope addressed from Sgt. Dunham to his sister in Riceboro, Ga. dated May 25, 1862 was listed for sale. This was about the time that Sgt. Dunham was being discharged. The letter was not included but one has to wonder what it might have said?

RICHMOND / Va./MAY/25/1862 cds with **soldier's DUE 10** on cover endorsed by " ?? Dunham, **Jeff Davis Legion**, Co. ?" to Mrs. H. M. Dunham, Riceboro, Ga." where it was **forwarded with handstamped PAID 5** (value in ms), type I, to "**Johnstons Station Gulf Rail Road Ga.**", bit reduced at left and some file folds which make the light ink hard to translate. This is from Sgt. Thomas Dunham to his sister. Thomas enlisted in the 6th Va. Cav, was wounded in the head at Burk's Station, transferred to the Jeff Davis Cav Legion, Co. F. He survived the war and info can be found on the Dunham genealogy site. <http://www.webuystamps.com/dues.htm>



The Georgia Hussars, commanded by Joseph Frederick Waring who was also shot in the face in the Bog Wallow Ambuscade, became Company F of the Jeff Davis Legion, seeing action in the

Peninsula and Maryland Campaigns, all of the major cavalry battles of the Eastern Theater, including Brandy Station, Gettysburg and Trevilian Station, the Carolina Campaigns against Sherman, including the March 10, 1865 Battle of Monroe's Crossroads, before surrendering at Bennett Place with Gen. Joseph E. Johnston.

Query Section

David Lee Dunham is searching for the parents of the following EPHRAIM DUNHAMS:

1. Ephraim DUNHAM b. 1810 NY; died 1 August 1870 in Bristol, Ontario Co. NY
He married Mary M. WOOD b. 1809 NY; died 28 March 1896 Bristol, NY
David has 10 children for this couple.
2. Ephraim DUNHAM b. 1827 NJ
He married Naomi B. VEIL (or VAIL) who was b. 1830 in NJ
David has 8 children for this couple.
3. Ephraim H. DUNHAM b. ca. 1785 MA; died after June 1850
He married Eunice Betsey COLGROVE who was b. 1798
David has 4 children for this couple.
4. Ephraim DUNHAM b. 1794; died 1870 Brockville, Elizabethtown, Ontario, Canada
He married Jane Anne PARSONS on 12 February 1824.
She was born ca. 1799; d. 1893 in Brockville.
David has 2 children for this couple.
5. Ephraim DUNHAM b. ca. 1778. This Ephraim was the father of John R. DUNHAM
Who was b. 22 November 1800 in NJ; d. 5 March 1834
David has 3 children for John DUNHAM

DUNHAM – REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT & TORY LINEAGE

by Bruce William Dunham and Gratia Dunham Mahony

An exciting new view of the military service record of all the Dunham participants in the Revolutionary War has just been added to the *Dunham Families in America* website. The culmination of years of research, this spread sheet presents a generational view of the dates and places of service. The spread sheet may be viewed at the web site <http://dunham2000.ipower.com/Index.html> On the home page scroll down on the left side to Archives. On the Archives page scroll down to Military Records. On the Military Records page scroll down to the highlighted entry **Dunhams in Revolutionary War**.

The spread sheet is displayed by family, showing the first generation on the left hand column, then the second, third and fourth column correspond to the second, third and fourth generation. There were only a few fourth generation Dunhams who had military service during the Revolutionary War, but the color coded entries will begin at the fourth generation. The lineage may be followed by referring to the names in the first through fourth column, and then by following the color coded entries that follow on the horizontal lines. For further information on all the individuals listed please refer to the genealogical sections of this web site.

The 22 Dunhams who responded to the Lexington or Marshfield alarm are color coded in green. Those who served in Lexington or Marshfield and also at Saratoga are coded in purple. Dunhams who had service in the Saratoga theater alone are coded in pink. Those Dunhams who we know from the DAR Patriot Index, (or from other sources) had Patriotic Service are color coded in blue. The few Dunhams who were Tory sympathizers and helped on the Loyalist side are coded in orange.

Of the 12 Dunhams who participated in the Marshfield action, eleven were descendants of Deacon John Dunham's son Joseph ² Dunham, and one was a descendant of Deacon John Dunham's son Samuel ². These Dunhams lived in the towns of Plympton, Carver and Middleboro, Massachusetts. Please refer to the following article *The Almost Battle of Marshfield* reprinted (with permission) from the web site of Patrick Browne. It is interesting to see the family relationship of these 12 Dunhams by looking at the table below. Those who marched to Marshfield are given in bold type. Their ages in 1776 are given in parenthesis after their name.

John ¹	Joseph ²	Eleazer ³	Israel ⁴	Silvanus ^{5 (62)}	Simeon ^{6 (29)}
					Silas ^{6 (26)}
					Elijah ^{6 (23)}
					Silvanus ^{6 (32)}
John ¹	Joseph ²	Eleazer ³	Israel ⁴	Cornelius ⁵	James ^{6 (18)}
John ¹	Joseph ²	Eleazer ³	Israel ⁴	Ebenezer ⁵	George ^{6 (15)}
John ¹	Joseph ²	Eleazer ³	Josiah ⁴	Amos ⁵	Robert ^{6 (32)}
					Amos ^{6 (25)}
					Josiah ^{6 (19)}
John ¹	Joseph ²	Joseph ³	Stephen ⁴	Solomon ^{5 (36)}	
John ¹	Samuel ²	Samuel ³	Ebenezer ⁴	John ^{5 (50)}	

The Almost-Battle of Marshfield

(Reprinted with permission of Patrick Browne ([www.Historical Digression.com](http://www.HistoricalDigression.com)))

The following article was found by Bruce W. Dunham and is a fitting description of the events that occurred in and about the town of Marshfield, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. Bruce states

“My interest in the many Dunham’s who responded to the Lexington alarm of April 19, 1775 and the many references to Capt. Theophilus Cotton and the Marshfield raid led me to the following website and article. Note that no less than 22 of our ancestors have been specifically identified and documented as having responded to the Lexington alarm with 11 of those participating in the Marshfield raid under either Theophilus Cotton or in the regiments of Col. Warren, Hammett or Wood.”

The text of the article *The Almost-Battle of Marshfield* follows.



An 1885 depiction of the action along "Battle Road," April 19, 1775 from "A Brief History of the United States"

As one researches the provincial militia and minuteman companies that were engaged in the Battles of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775 it is striking just how many communities responded. Men had been preparing and drilling for this day for months, and when the word came, they were ready. Companies engaged that day came from as far as Dracut on the New Hampshire border and Marblehead on the North Shore. And there were companies en route from all over New England that did not arrive in time to see action.

However, only a few Plymouth County companies marched for Lexington that day. On the South Shore of Massachusetts, the minutemen had Redcoats of their own to deal with. This is one of those curious episodes in history that emphasizes how confusing must have been those first days of revolution.

Marshfield, Massachusetts, about 30 miles south of Boston, was a highly unusual community in 1775 in that loyalists were dominant there. The town’s leading men were for the King. Fearing for their safety amidst so many patriots in neighboring towns, the gentlemen of Marshfield actually petitioned General Gage in Boston, requesting a detachment of the King’s troops be stationed in their town.

were for the king. Fearing Gage was only too happy to grant their request, pleased that someone in Massachusetts had, for a change, asked for his help. He sent a detachment of 100 men from the 4th Regiment of Foot under the command of Captain Nesbit Balfour. They brought with them two artillery pieces and 300 muskets to be used by the gentlemen of Marshfield against the rebels.

On January 23, 1775 the redcoats landed at the North River and marched unhindered through town to the estate of Marshfield's leading Tory, merchant Nathaniel Ray Thomas. They set up barracks and prepared for a long stay. Gage wrote the citizens of Marshfield, "I feel great satisfaction in having contributed to the safety and protection of a people so eminent for their Loyalty to their King."

Over the ensuing months, the soldiers made their presence felt in towns surrounding Marshfield. They seem to have kept their marching and drills confined to the safety of that Tory town, however the soldiers and officers, in small groups, visited taverns and homes of loyalists in Duxbury, Kingston, Plymouth and elsewhere.

In the shire town of Plymouth, the presence of British officers raised particular furor. Balfour, during a visit there, was warned by a Plymouth Tory not to bring his men there as the people were in "a great state of excitement and alarm." In one case, a British officer accused of threatening an inhabitant of Plymouth was chased into a Tory's shop by a small mob. He was not allowed to emerge until he had surrendered his sword which was promptly broken into many pieces.

So, with tensions rising, the men of Plymouth County knew what their objective would be whenever violence finally erupted. They would march on Marshfield and deal with Balfour's Redcoats.

The news of shots fired at Lexington and Concord reached Plymouth at some point in the afternoon of April 19. Even if the Plymouth County regiment had marched for Boston that day, they would not have arrived in time to participate in the running fight along the "Battle Road." Instead the various militia and minuteman companies formed up and began to gather in the vicinity of Plymouth. It seems, from vague early sources, that the companies from Plymouth, Kingston and Duxbury were gathered together within a few hours. But they did not march to Marshfield.

The man in charge of the Plymouth County regiment was Colonel Theophilus Cotton of Plymouth. He was an ardent patriot but also, apparently, a cautious man. He allowed the night of April 19 to pass without action. Then, on the morning of April 20, he held a council of war with his subaltern, Lt. Col. Briggs Alden and other officers at Alden's house in Duxbury (still standing and known as the John Alden House). There is no record of their discussion but the result was another day of inaction. One must presume that Cotton was either waiting for reinforcements to arrive or hoping that the British would simply go back to Boston.



Nathaniel Ray Thomas House, Marshfield, aka the Daniel Webster Estate. A 1909 postcard depicting the estate as it appeared in 1859. In 1775 there were no croquet players here, but encamped Redcoats.

Finally on the morning of April 21, around 7 am, Cotton marched his regiment to Marshfield, taking up a position around Anthony Thomas's farm, about a mile from the British garrison. By now, new companies had arrived from Rochester and Plympton. Plus, the crews of many fishing vessels from these seafaring towns, eager for a fight, had followed along. By noon, Cotton had about 500 men to Balfour's 100.

But Cotton did not attack. Around 3 pm, the commander of the Kingston company, Capt. Peleg Wadsworth, grew so impatient with the delay that, without orders, he advanced his company to within firing range of the British position. It finally looked as though something might happen. Unbeknownst to Wadsworth, Capt. Balfour had arranged his escape. Two British vessels had arrived off the shore of Marshfield and Balfour immediately began loading his troops. Balfour later reported that, if he had been attacked, he would have surrendered without firing a shot.

It is a peculiar episode. Blood had been shed in Lexington, Concord, Lincoln, Menotomy and Cambridge. The day for which the patriots planned was at hand. Cotton's objective was self-evident. He could have captured or obliterated the entire British detachment. But, when his moment came, Cotton chose to do nothing. And I don't blame him one bit. I think this episode is indicative of the sense of shock and disbelief generated by the events of April 19, 1775. My guess is that Cotton probably had some trouble grasping the notion that Revolution was finally at hand. And he was probably aware that the small garrison would flee if he gave them enough time.

Balfour was seriously wounded at the Battle of Bunker Hill but eventually went on to become a trusted aide to Gen. Charles Cornwallis, ended his military career at the rank of Major General and became a Member of Parliament. A bright career that might have come to an early end had a less prudent man than Theophilus Cotton been in command on April 19, 1775.

[Sources: Justin Winsor, History of Duxbury (1849), p. 120; Cynthia Krussel, Of Tea and Tories (1976); James Thacher, History of Plymouth (1832), p. 210]

