

DUNHAM DISPATCH

P.S. Kitson, Ed.
711 Kensington Ave.
Flint, MI 48503

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To all People to Whom these Presents shall come
Greeting I know ye that I Barnabas Dunham of
Hewington in the County of Hartford and State of Connecticut
for the Consideration of Sixty Dollars Lawfull money Received
to my full Satisfaction of Elisha Curtis Esq of New Windsor
in the State of Vermont Do Give Grant Bargain Sell & Con-
firm unto the said Elisha Curtis and to his Heirs and assigns for-
ever one hundred acres Latt of Land in said Township being
the tenth Lot in the tenth Range of one hundred acres Latt of which
I had of Colo Nathaniel Stone Battered & Bounded on a Map made of
the Subdivision of said Township Be the same more or less

To have & to hold the above Granted & Bargained Premises
with the appurtenances thereof unto him the said Elisha Curtis
Esq his Heirs & assigns forever to him & their own proper life and
Behoof and also of the said Barnabas Dunham Do for myself
my Heirs & assigns Covenant with the said Elisha Curtis Esq
his Heirs & assigns that at and until the Enjoining of these
Presents I am well Seised of the Premises as a good Indefe-
nite Estate in fee Simple & have a good Right to Bargain
and Sell the same in manner & form as is above written
& that the same is free of all Incumbrances whatsoever &
Furthermore I the said Barnabas Dunham Do by these
Presents Bind myself & Heirs to warrant & Defend the above
Granted & Bargained Premises to him the said Elisha Curtis Esq and
his Heirs & assigns against all Claims and Demands whatsoever
In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the
18th Day of April 1783

Hartford County
Signed sealed & Delivered
in Presence of
Roger Miller
Richard North

Barnabas Dunham
Middletown April 18th 1783 Personally
appeared Barnabas Dunham the Signer & Sealer
of the foregoing Instrument and acknowledged the
same to be his free act & Deed before me
John C. ...

Explanation of Page One

Because of space considerations the July '99 DD has a very peculiar appearance: No headline! It just didn't seem like a good idea to cut this over-200-year-old document in half to present part of it on page 1 & part on page 2.

The April 18, 1783 deed comes from Allen Curtis, Williamsburg, VA. The principals are Barnabus Dunham of Kensington, Hartford, CT, & Ebenezer Curtis, who was the 4 greats grand-father of Allen, whose Dunham line is through John 1, Samuel 2, Samuel 3, Ebenezer 4, Abigail Dunham Weston 5, Huldah Weston Curtis 6, Pliny Curtis 7. (We regret that we are not able to bring this line all the way forward.)

The identity of Barnabus Dunham is also in question. It is possible that he was the one who was the son of Ebenezer Dunham (4)(John 1, Samuel 2, Samuel 3) & Abigail Smith. This would make the 2 participants in the deed pretty close relations. That particular Barnabus Dunham was born in the 1730's, but the exact date is not given.

1843 Wedding Nears

In the correspondence between Miss Leah Ann Handy of Washington, DC & schoolmaster Francis S. Dunham (1812-1856)(8)(John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralph 7) only HIS letters to HER have been preserved (Evidently he was not a letter saver), but as the summer of 1843 progressed, the plans for their wedding were taking shape:

"Berlin, Md. July 20, 1843. My dear Ann: And so you thought I intended to criticize! What an idea! That a man in writing to his lady love should criticize her style of grammar! Why, my dear, it is quite preposterous to suppose that he should observe anything about style or even the words, provided they mean what he wishes. The truth is I simply meant to repudiate the charge of being sick or ugly--nothing more. ((Leah Ann must have indicated that she herself was sick or ugly.)) But as you profess to be satisfied on those points, why, if you please, we will say no more about it. As to exciting my curiosity, I am afraid you will fail, for whenever I perceive an obvious intention of doing so, I am one of the most obstinately incurious animals you ever met with. Notwithstanding your silence, I was aware of the state of your health. I hope you are prudent. If so, we must leave the rest to Providence, in whose hands are the issues of life & death.

"The arrangements that you have made on my behalf I am perfectly satisfied with & greatly obliged for. It is perhaps rather out of order that I should have given you any trouble on this score, but it was rather unavoidable. I have acquaintances here who would no doubt willingly accompany me on the excursion, but if I understand you rightly it would be quite as agreeable to you as it is; & none of my acquaintances is all of that intimate nature as to make their presence indispensable. Hereafter, my dear, you will be the only intimate friend I shall have, nor shall I now have any trouble in breaking of old connexions, as I have been little disposed to intimacies. The only absorbing connexions I now have are with books & tobacco. The one I can leave upon emergency, & the other I know you will not quarrel with.

"The gentlemen you have mentioned ((probably potential groomsmen)), being both resident of Washington, I can call upon them immediately upon my arrival, or, if you think (cont'd p. 3)

1843 LETTER (from p. 2) necessary, I could write them previously, provided I knew their address. In regard to time, I believe it will be necessary for me to be here again by the middle of September. My vacation commences on the 15th of August. Your cousin, the Rev. Mr. Wilson, is to officiate on that occasion. ((Was this man speaking at the commencement at the Berlin school? Was he also to perform the marriage ceremony?)) He will be at leisure either before or after that date. The precise date you will of course indicate in your next.

"I should like to know all the particulars--the minutia--whether you prefer the morning or the eve, whether you would prefer remaining in the city or making an excursion, etc., etc. I wish the time were present, for I hate the interval, short as it is. We shall not have occasion to use this medium of communication much longer, & I confess I am truly glad. When we come to compare notes we shall have rare entertainment. The lecture you spoke of shall be ready for your inspection if it will be any entertainment. I will write off a score of them, dedicated to My Love. I hope you will not think of paying me in kind, at least for some time to come, my dear. I am neither eloquent nor witty tonight, as you will undoubtedly perceive, but as I am so far distant from your source of inspiration, I hope you will admit it is a legitimate excuse.

"I had the pleasure of gallanting your Cousin Ellen on an equestrian excursion; & let me tell you, she is a very brave girl. She performed one of the most admirable feats of horsemanship I ever saw or heard of! I'll tell you the story when I see you. She is much like yourself; don't you think so? Please give her COUSIN FRANK'S kind regards.

"My best love to your family, individually, & my whole heart to yourself.

"FRANCIS S, DUNHAM"



ALICE E. DUNHAM (1875-1916) (10)(John 1, Joseph 2, Eleazer 3, Josiah 4, Amos 5, Ann Dunham Dunham 6--wife of Capt. George Dunham-- George, Jr. 7, Rufus A. 8, Lt. George 9) is seen here in a portrait which is now almost 100 years old. Alice married William Henry Emerson of Cambridge, MA. This photo appears thanks to the generosity of Dr. William H. King, Gulfport, MS.



Cordelia Dunham Pratt



Peter Pratt

CORDELIA/DELIA DUNHAM PRATT(1825-1906)(8)(John 1, John 2, John 3, Elisha 4, Elisha 5, Elijah 6, Solomon 7) & her husband, Peter Pratt (1823-1905), are shown here in photographs which come to DD from Harold Leeman, Lansing, MI. Cordelia was an older sister of Mark W. Dunham, builder of the Dunham Castle in Wayne, IL. The Pratts had 5 children, 4 of whom lived to grow up: 1/ George, who became a resident of Washington state; 2/ Jessie May (1857-1919), who married Thomas J. Julian & lived in Fergus Falls, MN; 3/ Frank (1862-1938); & 4/ Emma Mary (1859-1937), who married Charles R. Coleman.

CIVIL WAR MILITARY MEN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

P. C. Alger, Derry, NH, has favored DD with Dunham entries from *Soldiers & Sailors of the War of the Rebellion (1861-1865), NH*. We'll present a few of them here & others as space permits.

DUNHAM

2nd Reg't NH Vol. Inf.

Edson J. Co.C substitute b. Canada age 18 res. Grafton, NY
cred. Drummer enl. Oct. '64 must. in as Priv. drowned Feb. '65 in
the "field", Va.

5th Reg't

Thomas Unas'd substitute b. NJ age 20 cred. Mason enl. sept. '64
must in as Priv. rec'd Sept. '64 at draft rendezvous, Concord, NH
NFRAGO

7th Reg't

Levi Co.I b.NY age 18 res. Altona, NY cred. Whitefield enl.
dec.'63 must in as Priv. wd. June'64 Ware Bottom Church, Va.
Must out July '65

Dunham Births in New York

compiled by Bill Burke

	year	name	date	location	County	Cer. No.
388	1918		10/31	Amboy	Onondaga	?
389	1921	Helen C.	7/8	Amboy	Onondaga	61649
390	1897	Nettie	3/4	Brewerton	Onondaga	10034
391	1902	Lilliam L.	5/27	Cicero	Onondaga	20258
392	1916	Alice E.	12/3	Cicero	Onondaga	104339
393	1922	Lynn O.	2/3	Cicero	Onondaga	14706
394	1884	Walter M.	7/5	Clay	Onondaga	15741
395	1889	F	10/25	Clay	Onondaga	40362
396	1899	F	9/4	Clay	Onondaga	33523
397	1906	F	10/26	Eastwood	Onondaga	60166
398	1921	Milford J.	10/10	Elbridge	Onondaga	88069
399	1914	Ambelle F.	7/17	Geddes	Onondaga	54216
400	1896	M	11/13	Little Utica	Onondaga	49947
401	1898	M	6/14	Liverpool	Onondaga	23614
402	1922	Russell E.	11/19	Liverpool	Onondaga	94676
403	1886	Lottie M.	8/20	Lysander	Onondaga	27469
404	1892	M	7/29	Lysander	Onondaga	30326
405	1892	Harold C.	12/25	Lysander	Onondaga	51330
406	1896	F	10/6	Lysander	Onondaga	44060
407	1916	Donald	7/23	Lysander	Onondaga	59883
408	1918	Emma M.	11/26	Lysander	Onondaga	?
409	1920	June A.	8/4	Lysander	Onondaga	69815
410	1894	Ruth	5/21	N. Syr.	Onondaga	20146
411	1897	Edythe J.	6/6	N. Syr.	Onondaga	24453
412	1899	Dorothy	11/12	Plainville	Onondaga	42296
413	1900	Norton	12/15	Plainville	Onondaga	47954
414	1917	Ellen M.	3/8	Ska.	Onondaga	25817
415	1896	F	4/27	Syr	Onondaga	17843
416	1895	Robert E.	12/14	Syr.	Onondaga	52531
417	1897	Herbert	12/9	Syr.	Onondaga	53531
418	1900	F	1/13	Syr.	Onondaga	1734
419	1906	M	7/1	Syr.	Onondaga	29673
420	1907	Arthur A.	12/21	Syr.	Onondaga	63565
421	1907	Lee A.	12/21	Syr.	Onondaga	60591
422	1907	Robert L.	11/11	Syr.	Onondaga	54311
423	1909	M	2/6	Syr.	Onondaga	5272
424	1909	Bertrand	6/7	Syr.	Onondaga	26055
425	1909	Eva A.	11/9	Syr.	Onondaga	52776
426	1910	Harry E.	10/28	Syr.	Onondaga	64484
427	1911	Alice	9/21	Syr.	Onondaga	52944
428	1911	James M.	10/20	Syr.	Onondaga	58904
429	1911	LeRoy E.	3/20	Syr.	Onondaga	14937
430	1915	Dorothy	11/11	Syr.	Onondaga	94084

TO BE CONTINUED