

LETTER PROVIDES AM. REV. INFORMATION Might Have Been More!

In Editor Phyllis Kitson's quite vast collection of old family letters is one written to her great grandfather by his cousin Sylvester C. Dunham 91846-1915)(9)(John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralph 7, Jonathan L. 8). The letter is written to Samuel E. Dunham, Chicago, Ills., on the stationery of the Travelers Insurance Co. (of which Sylvester became president) & is datelined Hartford, Conn., June 3, 1892.

"My dear Cousin: I send memoranda which I hope may be sufficient to enable you & Frank ((Samuel's brother, Rev. Frank B. Dunham, also of Chicago)) to state your claims to membership in the Illinois Society of the Sons of the Revolution. It is brought down to the names of your father & mine, from which time you have better records than I have. I have never looked up the birth, death & marriage dates of our Dunham ancestors. I mean to do so some time when I am in Mansfield ((CT)). And the only copy of Walworth I know of is in the Watkinson Library, which is locked up for some weeks during rebuilding. But for that, I might have obtained dates for the Hyde ancestors. But you have here the names of the authorities which show Revolutionary service. Yours sincerely, SYLVESTER C. DUNHAM."

Sylvester's enclosure reads: "Elijah Hyde of Lebanon, Conn. was a major of Cavalry in the War of the Revolution & was an intimate friend & advisor to Gov. Jonathan Trumbull (Washington's 'Brother Jonathan'). See Chancellor Walworth's HYDE GENEALOGY, where Maj. Hyde is recorded as # 413. He married Mary Clark. His son, Elijah Clark Hyde (Walworth's # 739) was a private in the Revolution & married Sarah Taylor. Their daughter, Melinda Hyde (Walworth's # 2865), married Ralph Dunham, the son of Jonathan, & had sons: Francis Sylvester Dunham, Jonathan Lyman Dunham, Edwin Hyde Dunham, & Ralph Clark Dunham. Nathaniel Dunham of Mansfield, Conn. had sons: JONATHAN, James, Stephen & Samuel. (All were privates in the War of the Revolution as appears in the published RECORD OF CONN. MEN IN THE REVOLUTION, pp. 150-508-658.) JONATHAN DUNHAM married Sally ((Other records give her name as BETTY)) Babcock & had sons: Nathaniel, Eben, Ephraim & RALPH. Ralph Dunham married Melinda Hyde & had sons: Francis Sylvester, Jonathan Lyman, Edward Hyde & Ralph Clark."

We can all appreciate the frustrations of things such as libraries being closed for renovations. What genealogist hasn't encountered similar roadblocks to a successful search?

WINDING DOWN

P. S. Kitson

DUNHAM DISPATCH now embarks on its final phase. The expectation is that there will be a few more issues, but our exact calendar is uncertain. Readers need to understand why DD is phasing out at this time. After quite a few years of regular publication (monthly since 1992), the DD mailing list has grown to such proportions that it cannot continue to exist as a free monthly newsletter. Despite occasional voluntary contributions (& special thanks to those who have sent them!), I just can't afford to keep it up on my own. The National Dunham Family Association's newsletter will be funded by members' dues; mine is not. Among some the feeling seems to be that I "want to retire" DD. This is not the case. I do not WANT to end it; I simply MUST, from a financial standpoint. Also, it would be a sort of "overkill" for there to be 2 Dunham newsletters. They would be in competition with each other for materials, & that could result in a "lose-lose" situation. My plan is to continue publishing DD until such time as the (cont'd p. 2)

WINDING DOWN (from p. 1) National Dunham Family Association newsletter becomes a reality. I will miss doing DD, & I will miss the regular contact with so many wonderful cousins who have shared so much great family history.

We note that Jeff Dunham, the ventriloquist, & his old man dummy have landed a job making a television commercial for Hertz. (They NEEDED a new spokesperson, didn't they??) It was exciting to see this commercial. Be on the watch for it!



MARILYN GREEN ROTH (12)(John 1, John 2, John 3, Elisha 4, Mary Dunham Freeman 5, Tryphena Freeman Stark 6, Jeduthan F. Stark 7, Ethan A. Stark 8, Lemuel Stark 9, Amanda Stark Green 10, Vyrion Green 11) has long been a frequent & valued contributor to DD's pages. Now it is a pleasure to have this picture of her, taken with her husband, Wilbert Roth.

DEPARTMENT STORE IN A BOX

P. S. K.

While I don't recall many of the much more expensive Christmas presents I received as a child, I do remember one special gift I got from my grandmother, Miriam Dunham Ferriss (1874-1940)(10)(John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralph 7, Francis S. 8, Samuel E. 9) when I was 8 or 9 years old. That was the heart of the Depression, & Grandma didn't have much money to spend. All the same, she devised a very memorable gift for only grandchild: It was a department store in a box. The box itself was a big gray coat box, & inside was a mind-boggling array of stuff, all

laid out in separate compartments (the compartments created by strips of heavy cardboard separating one type of "merchandise" from another.) Tiny rolls of various types of fabric; "notions" such as snappers & hooks & eyes; bits of lace; small combs; small samples of cosmetics (once you could send for these, free). I can't recall all of the items this store carried, but it seemed that most everything a dry goods store would carry was available in that box. It was wondrous! My dolls all shopped there for a very long time.

A SHORT HISTORY OF A DUNHAM FAMILY (Cont'd from Feb.) 2nd Part of article regarding Cornelius Dunham, Sr. (6)(John 1, Jonathan 2, Jonathan 3, Cornelius 4, Shubael 5) shared by P. C. Alger.

"Through the Preemption Act, Swamp Land Act, & the Mexican Soldier's Act, Cornelius Dunham secured some 3300 acres of land at \$1.25 per acre & less.

"The Chicago Northwestern Railroad had its western terminal at Marshalltown, IA about 1863. C. Dunham had a number of beef cattle & hogs ready to market about November. Rounding them up, & with covered conveyance, with some feed & camping equipment, he started out to drive some 40 steers & 200 hogs the 180 miles to Marshalltown. The country was sparsely settled, with some intervals without houses for 40 miles, but no interruptions were had by automobiles, & all was clear sailing, making some 15 miles per day. They met with one snowstorm & were halted somewhat, but succeeded to the railroad & over the railroad reached the Chicago Stockyards safely & found a good market. The cattle had been fitted for the market without grain & sold around the top market price.

"Cornelius Dunham had told the salesmen how they had been fed only on native Iowa blue stem grass & had no grain, but they did not believe him, so the commission men called him to be the guest of a banquet & asked him to give an account. He, being a jolly, wide awake man, made the following reply: "Gentlemen, the secret is that the cattle had access to beautiful, open, wild, native country, with native blue stem grass growing luxuriantly among the hills & valleys of Western Iowa, & at the time of killing frost we place green goggles over their eyes, & they continued to eat the grass just the same." On the following Valentine's Day he received a picture of an ox wearing green goggles. For 2 years following he marketed his cattle at the western terminal of the C & NW Railroad.

"On Oct. 5, 1865, Cornelius Dunham died at the age of 68 years, leaving a clean record behind for uprightness & integrity. He had never sought political honor, but was a staunch Abolitionist. He had been a member of the Methodist Church & a consistent reader of the Bible.

"Cornelius Dunham, Sr. had left his father's house at the age of 15 years & had wandered through the Southern States & never returned to his first home. His home with his first family was in Wisconsin. He had lost mainly his father's later history. After his death 2 of his nephews were found, one in Vermont, & one (John A. Dunham) at Rome, NY. He visited the Dunham home in Iowa, having a farm in Illinois.

"Margretta Scott Dunham died Sept. 24, 1876, leaving 2 brothers: Nathan Scott at Polo, IL, & Jasper Scott at Tareor, IN; & a sister, Mrs. Morgan, all, like herself, active members of the Methodist Church.

"S. S. Dunham, the oldest son of Cornelius Dunham, Sr. by his 2nd marriage, visited his cousin at Rome, NY & the cousin in Vermont.

"The Dunham & Miller families have scattered widely, & some are living in Colorado, California, Washington, South Dakota, Texas, Idaho, Nevada & Mexico. Z. T. Dunham, the last of the sons of Cornelius Dunham, Sr., is living in Dunlap, IA, & is approaching his 94th birthday.

"Thus ends the short history of 2 eventful lives, Cornelius & Margretta Scott Dunham, the first permanent settlers of Crawford County, IA, in 1850."

NOTE: The 3/96 DD carried an article about Z. T. Dunham (1849-1945). This helps to date the writing of this article at ca. 1943. -----

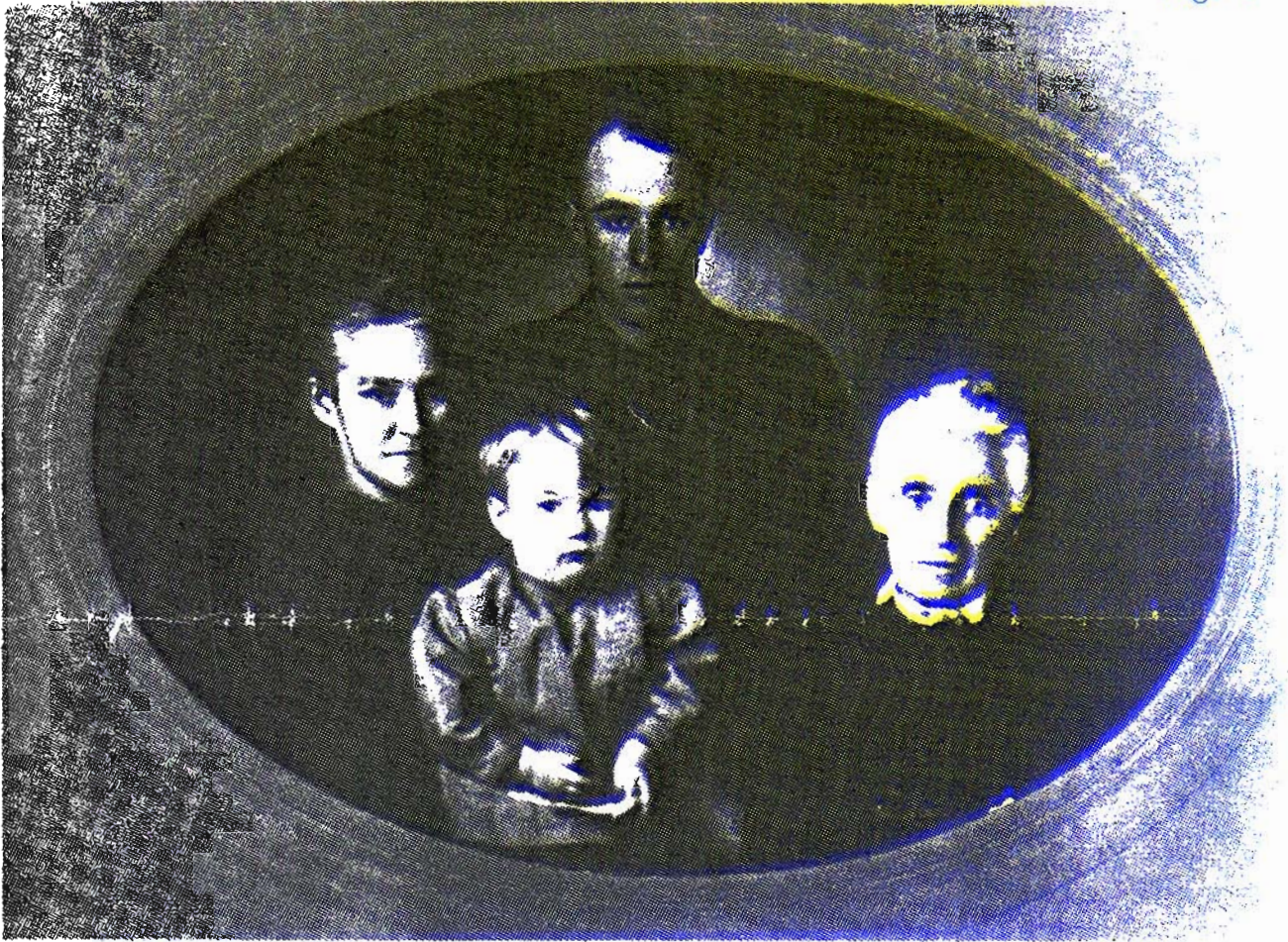
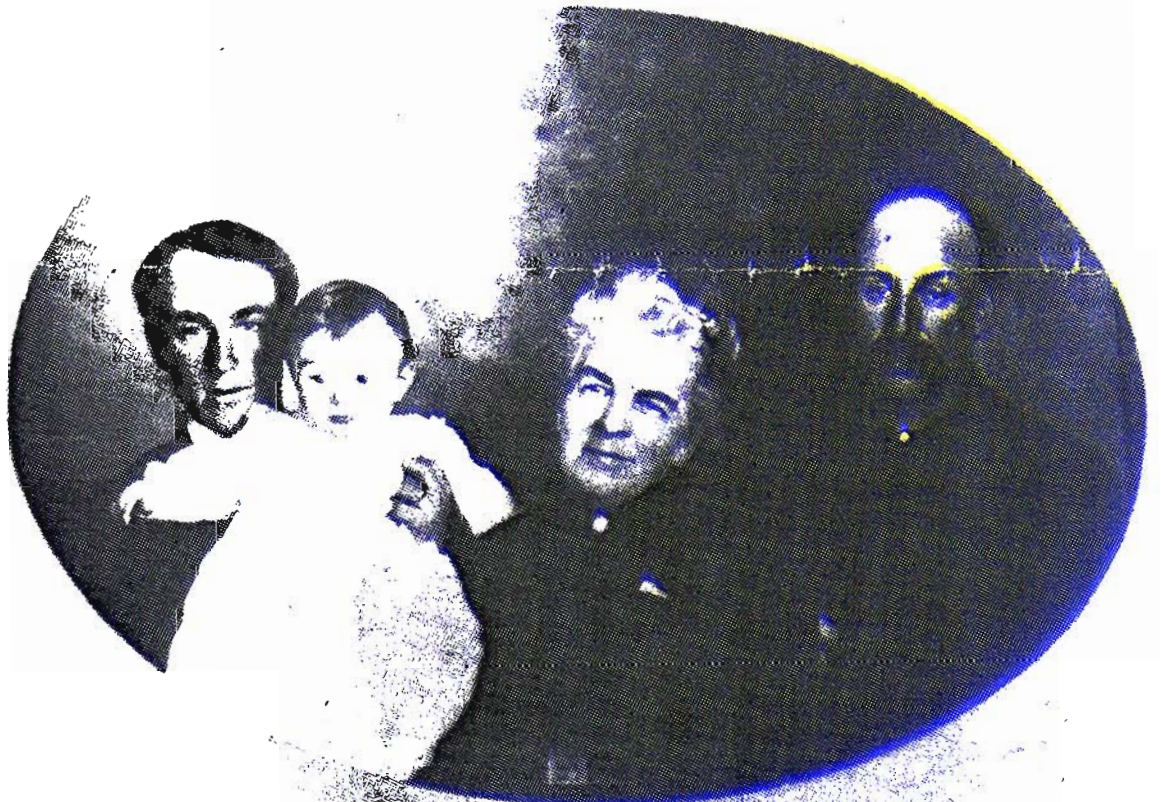


Photo c. 1910. Far right: Ruthette Bowen Dunham (m. Harvey, b. 1837). Far left: Emma Dunham Jackson, b. 1860. Center rear: Allard Earl Jackson, b. 1882. Center front: Lynn Jackson, b. 1908.



Left to right: Allard Earl Jackson, b. 1882; Lynn Jackson b. 1908; Sarah Jane Shores Jackson, b. 1840; George Washington Jackson, b. 1882.

ABOUT PAGE 4:

These vintage family photographs come to DD from Jane C. Edmundson, of Darien, CT. Ruthette Bowen Dunham (1839-1914) was the wife of Harvey E. Dunham (1837-1891) & the daughter-in-law of VanRenssalaer Dunham (b. 1807). VanRenssalaer was born in New York, where he lived, at the time of his marriage, in Orleans Co., & migrated to Burns, WI, where he died some time after 1874. Harvey & Ruthette's daughter, Emma Annette Dunham (1860-1950) & George Washington Jackson were the grandparents of Jane, who reports that Emma, while out riding with her father, happened to meet George, & she fell in love with him at first sight. Any information regarding the ancestry of VanRenssalaer Dunham would be much appreciated.

MORE DUNHAM DATA:

The following is a list of Dunham entries from William H. Tuttle's SKETCHES OF THE PIONEERS OF MADISON COUNTY, NY, which comes to DD thanks to P. C. Alger. P. C. notes that while the information has proven basically correct, it does include quite a few errors.

DUNHAM, ALBERT. Chittenango grocer 1831. On Coroner's jury 1832.
 DUNHAM, ALPHA. Aug. 7, 1800-July 2, 1893. Buried at Hamilton Center.
 DUNHAM, ALPHEUS. Minister at Peterboro about 1808. Wife Arapillis Ovirt from Conn. Son Alphues born at Peterboro July 15, 1810. Alpheus Sr. died at Stanwix, N.Y. 1870. He was born in 1793. Had brothers Ezekial and William.
 DUNHAM, AUGUSTUS. Died Sept. 8, 1827 aged 24. Buried at old Bridgeport Cemetery.
 DUNHAM, ELIAS JR. On Hamilton census 1800. On jail limits for debt 1817.
 DUNHAM, ELIAS. Lived in Hamilton 1816.

DUNHAM, D.N. Wife Lourane died Sept. 20, 1867 aged 54. Buried at Wampsville.
 DUNHAM, DAVID. M.E. Circuit Preacher. Lived at Westmoreland and later Stockbridge. Died 1852 aged 77. Daughter Mary wife of William Nelson of Bennett's Corners.
 DUNHAM, DAVID. Lived in Hamilton. Ensign in Militia 1809. Lieut. 1810. Lived in Cazenovia 1812. Married Sally Crain Oct. 27, 1808 in Nelson. Son James H.
 DUNHAM, DAVID SR. Born Aug. 12, 1813. Settled at Bridgeport in 1822. Was a Physician. Began practice 1838. Son David Jr. was also a physician.
 DUNHAM, DR. See WHITMAN, GILES.
 DUNHAM, EDWARD. Lived in Nelson 1808.
 DUNHAM, ELIZABETH. See TOBY, CHARLES P.
 DUNHAM, GOWIN F. Died March 10, 1850. Buried at Morrisville.
 DUNHAM, HARRIET. Wife of Julius died Oct. 15, 1855 aged 60.

DUNHAM, IRENE. See BUELL, THOMAS
 DUNHAM, ISAAC. Ensign in 143rd Reg. Militia 1817. Veteran War of 1812.
 DUNHAM, JEROME. Lived in Lenox 1840. Born 1819. Wife Elizabeth Archer. Son Elbridge born Nov. 12, 1862.
 DUNHAM, JONATHAN. Settled in Hamilton 1802. Town Clerk 1807-1809.
 DUNHAM, JULIUS. Eaton Dem.-Rep. 1829.
 DUNHAM, Moses E. Lived in Brookfield. Student at Cazenovia Seminary 1843.
 DUNHAM, LAURA. See KINNEY, MYRON.
 DUNHAM, LOIS. See PIERSON, SHELDON.
 DUNHAM, LYDIA. See CLARK, IRA SR.
 DUNHAM, MOZEL. On Hamilton 1800 census.
 DUNHAM, NATHANIEL. Died Aug. 21, 1832 aged 67. Buried in old Bridgeport Cemetery.
 DUNHAM, RICHARD. Wife Polly Green died Aug. 30, 1859 aged 86. Buried at Welsh Church in Nelson.
 DUNHAM, RICHARD. Early settler in Lenox. Son Jerome B. born 1819 married Elizabeth Archer. Jerome died 1888. They had son E.E. born 1862 who married Etta Folland.
 DUNHAM, RUFUS. See BUELL, THOMAS
 DUNHAM, SMITH. Nelson tavern keeper 1807. Bought 20 acres in Clockville 1827. Deeded off site to Baptist Church in 1828. Was second merchant in Erieville. Lenox juror 1828. Cazenovia juror 1805 and Nelson juror 1819.
 DUNHAM, SYLVESTER. Died in Madison 1815. Wife Urusla. Came from Plympton, Mass. Veteran Rev. War. Served in Col. Warren's Reg. of Mass. Militia.
 DUNHAM, SYLVANUS. Lived in Cazenovia in 1814.