

ABOUT THE CLIPPING BELOW

DD's thanks go to Mrs. A. S. Andersen, Los Angeles, Cal., who sent [the clipping that appears below] & was originally printed in a New Albany, Ind. newspaper between 1891 & 1895, & which recaps the career of her grandfather, Rev. F.B. Dunham, a former rector of the Episcopal church in New Albany.

The Rev. Francis B. Dunham, the 16th Rector

Francis B. Dunham, the sixteenth rector of the parish, was born on Sept. 7, 1814 at Berlin, Worcester county, Maryland. His father was Francis S. Dunham, of Coventry, Connecticut, and his mother was Leah A. Hartly, of Washington, D.C. Mr. Dunham was educated at Buckingham Academy, in Berlin, a school of local reputation, and of which his father was the principal for many years. He entered Trinity College, at Hartford, Conn., in 1862, remaining there until the end of the junior year, when the hardships engendered by the war compelled him to leave college in order that he might assist in the support of his widowed mother and younger brothers. He accepted a clerkship in the Baltimore post office, meanwhile studying for the church, and remaining there until May, 1869. He then became a candidate for holy orders and continued his studies under the Rev. Dr. Rankin, of St. Luke's church, Baltimore. He was ordained deacon in 1869, by Bishop Whittingham and raised to the priesthood by the same bishop in 1871. He assisted the Rev. Dr. Rankin until March, 1875, when he accepted the rectory of St. John's church, at Mt. Morris, N.Y. In 1878 he came West, and after spending a short time in Indianapolis he became our rector, remaining with us three years, closing his rectorate on the 28th day of February, 1881, removing to South Bend, where he became the rector of St. James church. In consequence of a very severe attack of pneumonia and the development of bronchial trouble, he was ordered by his physician to go South, and in November, 1884, accepted the rectory of Holy Trinity church, Gainesville, Fla. In 1888, sickness compelled him to leave a new rectory and a flourishing parish. He went to the Gulf coast and acted as the co-superior of the rectory of Christ church, Pensacola, Fla. A severe illness there proved conclusively that the South was not for him the land of health, and immediately upon his recovery he removed to Chicago, where he became the rector of the Church of the Redeemer, at the corner of Washington avenue and Fifty-sixth streets, where he still lives, sufficiently well to be the rector of a growing and prosperous parish. While in New Albany he married a daughter of the late John P. Cromie. As a rector here, he worked faithfully and efficiently for the good of the parish, and it is worthy of lasting record in our history that it was by his exertions and in accord with his wise counsel that the Mile Missionary society was established. This chapter may be fully closed by his own words, lately addressed to me:—"Long may the Mile Missionary society stand. If I had nothing else to look back with pleasure in my New Albany pastorate, the memory of having been one of the instruments in the founding of that society would be sufficient."

Decendant of the Month

This month the DISPATCH is pleased to be able to present a photograph of Mrs. James (Priscilla Dunham) Messingale, of Baytown, Tx. Priscilla is the daughter of Donald Dunham, Jr. & a great great granddaughter of Ralph & Melinda Hyde Dunham. (The line as you know, goes much further back than Ralph & Melinda, but we use them as a reference point because everyone who receives DD is a descendant of theirs.) The Messingales have five sons: Donald, James, Robert, Tom and Tim. They keep busy with 2 1/2 acres of land, but also find time to serve as leaders in the 4-4.

Tree Needs Branches

In order to represent the Dunham family tree accurately, DD needs to have information on more than just one or two branches. While we have a bit of material on some family members, we have nothing at all on others. That is why we need your help. Please send in an old photo or a new one, of a grandparent or a grandchild (photos duplicated & returned promptly unless they are extra copies). If you run across an old letter or clipping, send DD a copy of it. Here are just a few of the items we would be particularly grateful to have: 1/ photo of Mary H. Seymour MacCormack, wife of Daniel MacCormack, head of Immigration & Naturalization Services under Pres. F. S. Roosevelt; 2/ Address and photo of Dorothy Dunham Curtis; 3/ photo of John Handy Dunham, Jr.; 4/ photo of Barry Strinson; 5/ photos of the children of Dr. F. S. Hulse; 6/ photo of Mary Frances Teague; 7/ photo of Sylvia Dunham Rigg; 8/ Photo of Frank C. Dunham, Jr.; 9/ Photos of any very young members of the family; 10/ Melinda Hyde Dunham lived until 1855. It seems very likely that she would have been photographed at some time. Did anyone ever see a real old Daguerrotype that might be of her??

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