

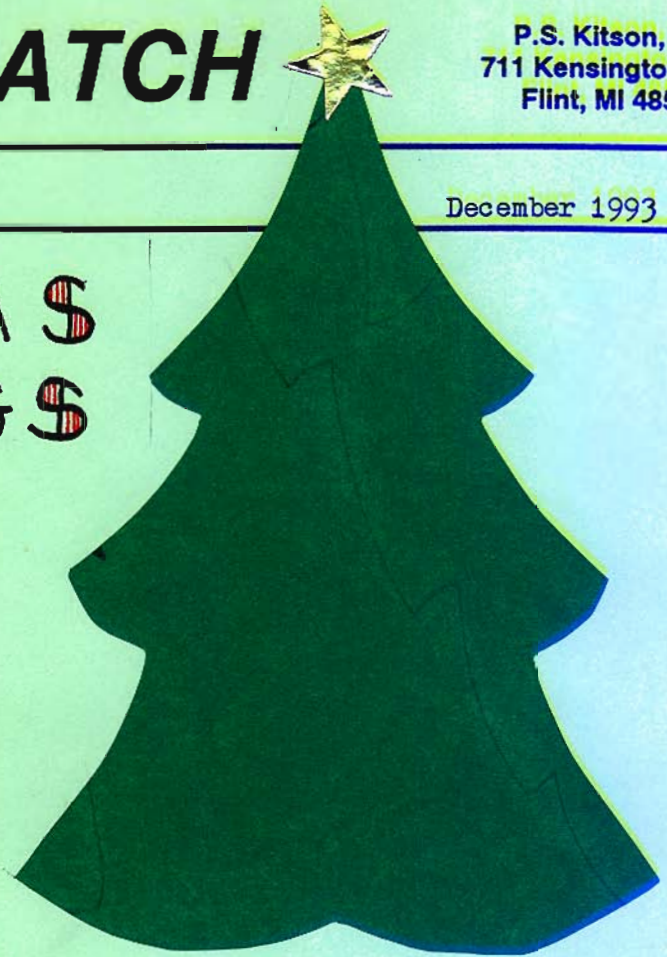
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

A MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS DINNER

P. S. K.

My great aunt, Rosa Dunham Sims (1881-1952)(10) (Deacon John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralaph 7, Francis S. 8, Samuel E. 9) & her husband, Great Uncle Billy, always invited our small branch of the family for Christmas dinner. It wasns't a big group: her brother & his wife; her sister & her husband, their daughter & her husband, & their daughter (Phyllis). To this, add Billy & Rosa's son, Edward, a young man in his 20's -- 10

in all. Aunt Rosa's house was large & beautiful, white with a wrap-around porch & all sorts of interesting nooks & crannies (though I'm not certain there were actually any crannies) throughout the house. Aunt Rosa had a full-time maid, Joan, to serve the always-delicious Christmas feast. For a child these gatherings were not very interesting, I must admit. There was never anyone my own age to talk to, & often I would have preferred to stay at home with my new toys on the holiday. However, there was one Christmas dinner there that was interesting enough to remember, even after all these years. Say it was 1935, because it probably was. 1934, at the earliest. Christmas dinner included a large turkey, of course, which Joan brought in from the big kitchen when Aunt Rosa rang for it. (There was a small button on the flor beneath her chair at the dining room table. It was imbedded in the soft green carpet, & when Aunt Rosa stepped on it, it rang a bell in the kitchen which couldn't be heard in the dining room.) Joan set the platter in front of Uncle Bill, & after grace was said, he proceeded to carve the bird. Being hungry, the whole group was watching, watching as he made a rather inept attempt to carve it, & then a more determined attempt. Then we all watched in horror as the turkey skidded off the platter & landed on the floor. Uncle Bill was mightily embarrassed, his face reddening a to grape-like color, but Aunt Rosa was imperturbable. She rang the little bell, & when Joan appeared Aunt Rosa said to her, "We've had a little accident. Please pick up the turkey & take it to the kitchen, & bring in the OTHER turkey." Joan understood perfectly. There was only a small delay before we all had dinner.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Dunham to Reside in St. Louis, Mo.



DUNHAM-DELANEY WEDDING PARTY

Photo by Harold Gray, Watertown

Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Dunham are on a wedding trip in the Ozark mountains following their marriage here on September 3, at St. Joseph's chapel. Mrs. Dunham was formerly

Miss Mary Delaney, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Delaney. Mr. Dunham is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dunham of Sioux Falls. The young couple will make their

home at 1138 Louisville Avenue, St. Louis, Mo., after October 1.

Members of the bridal party were Richard Porter, Aberdeen, Tony Moe, Sioux City, Ia.; John Dunham, Sioux

Falls; Robert Delaney and William Delaney, Mitchell; Miss Betty Frei, Wagner; Miss Patricia Delaney, Miss Faith Bauman, Onida; Miss Nannette Delaney and Miss Betty Beckwith and Shelia Delaney, Mitchell.

MARILYN ROTH SENDS this clipping from the Mitchell, SD DAILY REPUBLICAN about a Dunham wedding. She doesn't know the ancestry of Frederick Dunham, father of the groom, nor the date of the photograph. She speculates that it dates from the 1930's, a theory which she supports with the dates of death of the bride's parents, 1955 & 1966.

ADVENTURES IN EARLY IDAHO PART II. When morning came the group breakfasted, & Dunham rode off to rejoin his family, his partners, & his employees. The meeting with the strangers had been such a pleasant one that he told his friends about it, but their reaction wasn't quite what he had expected. When he described his chance friends, everyone's eyes grew round; their jaws dropped. "Do you know who those men WERE?" they wanted to know. It seems they were a famous band of outlaws -- the Yandell brothers? Yancey brothers? Something like that. (Samuel's great granddaughter never did get the name straight!) They had just committed a big robbery & had eluded the posse that pursued them. Dunham could hardly believe it. "They were the nicest bunch of fellows you could ever want to meet!" he insisted. The question arises as to why it was that Samuel Dunham was allowed to leave (cont'd p. 3)

EARLY IDAHO (from p. 2) that campsite with all his money. His companions knew he had it; he had TOLD them. He was a small man, & they could so easily have killed him, with no one the wiser. (They had killed before!) The answer must be that they liked him. He was a very genuine kind of man, natural & honest & open. Perhaps the outlaws respected the trust he had put in them. Regardless of the reason, it may be that Samuel Dunham's life was in greater danger on another occasion when he arrived at a work-camp in the middle of the night in a Thanksgiving day snowstorm. On that night his son-in-law supposed that a bear was trying to get in their tent, & he was all set to shoot it until the "bear," standing on its hindlegs, inquired, "Is that you, Bud?" The time spent in Idaho was a kind of magical idyll to Dunham's children, & like most such periods, it was brief. The Cottonwood Packing Co. was sold, & eventually became the Cudahay Packing Co. The Chicagoans returned to Chicago, with their souvenirs & their memories that always lit up their eyes whenever they talked about their days "out west."



A VIEW OF THE TOWN OF COTTONWOOD, ID, in its building stages. Edna, Miriam & Rosa Dunham are #s 2, 3 & 4. Bud Ferriss, Miriam's husband, is # 5. Photo taken in June, 1895. Shown are the power house, the cool house, the granary, & the ice house. You'd wonder where they found the lumber to build these structures, when the surrounding countryside seems to be totally barren of forests.



"SCHOOL PICTURES" have changed a lot, haven't they? Dating from at least as far back as the early years of the century, this one includes the whole population of some school, & all of the students are momentarily anonymous. The photo comes to the DISPATCH from Heled Hoyt, W. Monroe, NY & Summerfield, FL, & was displayed at the 1993 Dunham Reunion in West Monroe. Since it is in black & white (& is so cute), we want to share it with our readers. (We've just about given up on publishing colored photographs; they print so very poorly!) Are there Dunhams in this group? If so, who & where?

UP-DATE: The JOHN E. DUNHAM (1811-1897) whose obituary appeared in the November DISPATCH has been identified. Pat Dunham, Fortuna, CA, wrote to explain exactly where his records could be found. John belonged to the 8th generation in America, with ancestry as follows: Deacon John 1, Rev. Jonathan 2, Jonathan 3, Cornelius 4, Shubael 5, Cornelius 6, Samuel 7. I. W. D. had included this line, but in such a way that we found it VERY confusing. Rather than record it incorrectly, we left this whole group out -- temporarily. Now we're getting the descendants of Cornelius (4) into our records where they belong, thanks to Pat.

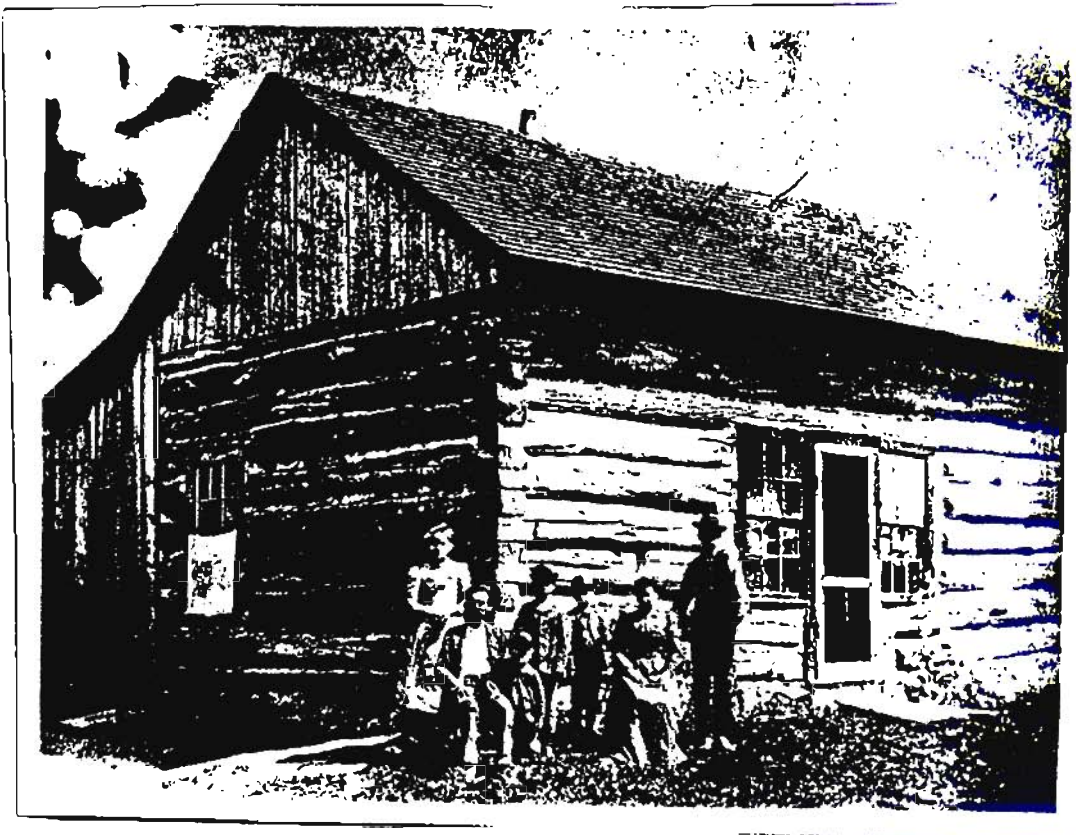
Obituary.

Died at her home in Rome, Thursday evening, Jan. 12, Mrs. Martha A. Dunham, wife of John E. Dunham.

The funeral was held at her late residence, about three miles north of Rome, on Sunday. Mrs. D. was born in Cheshire, Berkshire county, Mass., June 8, 1825. She was a graduate of Maplewood Seminary, Pittsfield, Mass., and so high did she stand both in her social influence and in her scholarship that she was urgently asked to remain in the school as a teacher. She was the daughter of the late Samuel Smith, of Lee. She was a refined, intelligent, Christian woman of high culture, and the well qualified head of a family which she had reared and taught in the true principles of life. To her husband she was a constant adviser and counsellor. To her children she was at once a cherished mother and a pleasant companion, entering into all their joys and sorrows with a heart one with theirs. To all the memory of her life will still be left, and its quiet influence for good at home and upon those near friends who were associated with her, can never die. The energy of her influence was of that quiet and loving kind which blessed its recipient without his knowing that any pressure was being brought to bear upon him. Her illness was short, but severe. She was, seemingly, in perfect health up to Saturday morning, Jan. 7; at that time taken suddenly ill, she gradually grew worse, all that medical skill could do failing to relieve her, until death ended her suffering on Thursday evening, Jan. 12, at 8 o'clock. Her illness was

marked throughout with the greatest patience and resignation, and when death came, her calmness was alone disturbed with care for those left behind. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. H. H. Peabody, of the Baptist Church, of which church she was a member. Mr. P. spoke of the quiet strength, motherly character, and Christian consistency of the one who sleeps, and of the domestic and neighborly graces which endeared her to the hearts of many friends. Her remains were laid to rest in Lee Centre, in a brick sarcophagus. Evergreens were strewn over the upturned earth, and the grave was beautifully lined with the same. This last duty, like all, was done by loving hands, prompted by still more loving hearts.

Since we ran the obituary of John E. Dunham (1811-1897) (8) (Deacon John 1, Jonathan 2, Jonathan 3, Cornelius 4, Shubael 5, Cornelius 6, Samuel 7) in the Nov. DD, it seems appropriate to run that of his wife, Martha A. (Smith) Dunham, this month. Mrs. Dunham died in Rome, NY in 1880. For this clipping thanks go to Ann Eldred, Verona, NY.



THE CABIN OF JOHN M. DUNHAM (1823-1897) (7) (Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Micaiah 3, Micaiah 4, David 5, Aaron 6) was built ca. 1857 in Ionia County, Michigan. After 1888, when the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad came through, it became necessary to move John's cabin, evidently to nearby Eaton County. The family pictured in front of the cabin is that of John's son, James W. Dunham. The parents appear to be on the right: James W. Dunham (b. 1846) & his wife, Laura Ann (b. 1856). On the left are their children: Lula Ann (b. 1879); Nathan (b. 1875), seated; Waid (b. 1883); Burr (b. 1880); & Dallas C. (b. 1889). This photograph may now be just about 100 years old. Our thanks go to Pat Dunham, Fortuna, CA, who sent this vintage picture.



Printed in the once-popular postcard format (a fashion we wish would come back into vogue), this picture shows Samuel E. Dunham (1850-1915), protagonist of the "Adventures in Early Idaho" article, with his grandson, Edward Sims (1913-1982), who is mentioned in the "Memorable Christmas Dinner" article on page 1. The photo was made in Chicago in 1914.