

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Issue 3

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President's Letter

Dunhams, Dunhams everywhere!

I recently got around to researching my son's wife's ancestry and hit the mother lode of American genealogy! My son's wife is a descendant of a Mayflower passenger—a Mayflower Descendant! Furthermore, she is a double Mayflower descendant, one line from her mother's side and one line from her father's side.

One would think this has to be very rare. However, as we have seen in previous articles in the DSFC newsletter, and on the Dunham-Singletary web sites, there were actually quite a few marriages of Mayflower descendants with members of the Deacon John Dunham family.

And so my two granddaughters: Kara Renee Dunham and Kisten Ann Dunham are also double Mayflower descendants. Linking all the families is the reason one needs to research one's in-laws ancestry. My granddaughter Kara Renee Dunham has just married William Blair McGee in Dallas, Texas. So now I will have another family line to research. I hope all our members have researched their collateral lines.

David Lee Dunham, President

Editor's Corner

The 150th Anniversary of the Civil War seems to be an occasion for folks to research their Civil War ancestor. This is illustrated in this edition of the DSFC newsletter.

The first article about the Civil War Service of Marshall Almiron Dunham is the result of a query from Elaine (Dunham) Moriarty who was looking for information about her mysterious great-grandfather.

The second article was also prompted by a query about Thomas Harrison Dunham, Jr. who served in the Civil War. His parents were the subjects of a scandal that occurred in Boston in 1843 and reported as "The Great Divorce Case".

These queries bring to mind the fact that a query column might be a good addition to this newsletter. I have one such query in hand. The question on this query is the names of the parents of Bartimus Dunham who was born 14 May 1786 in Hebron, Oxford Co. ME; died 1866. He married Matilda Briggs, daughter of Abiathar and Matilda (Hayford) Briggs. I believe the parents were James and Mary (Ransom) Dunham, but have no proof of this. Any help would be appreciated.

Gratia Dunham Mahony, Editor

Member's Corner

DSFC is saddened to learn of the death of one of this family association's original members. Robert W. Dunham was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on January 8, 1923 to Rex James and Dorothy Eleanor (Neuenfeldt) Dunham. He died on May 6, 2011 as a result of cancer of the esophagus and liver.

Bob entered the US Army Air Corps on January 23, 1941, almost a year prior to Pearl Harbor. He was a clerk with the Air Corps Radio school at Scott AFB, Illinois where he met his wife-to-be, Esther Irene Dearborn of nearby Centralia, Illinois. They were married on May 6, 1943 in Chicago while he was stationed at the Radio School then located at the Stevens Hotel (now the Hilton Towers). He then was at Ripon College, Wisconsin hoping for a commission. Unfortunately, that program was terminated, and his unit was transferred to the Signal Corps base at Neosho, Missouri. He graduated from cryptographic school in 1944 and went overseas. He saw service at Biak Island, Hollandia, New Guinea, Manila, Philippines, and near the end of WW II, was transferred back to the Army Air Force, and into the 68th AACS Group, with the help of his brother, 2d Lt. Philip N. Dunham. At war's end, the unit was stationed on occupation duty in Tokyo, Japan.

Bob returned to the US in December 1945. Among bases he was stationed at were Langley AFB, Virginia; Scott AFB, Illinois; then back overseas in 1948 to Guam. In 1949 he went to Tachikawa Air Base west of Tokyo where he became Base Sgt. Major.

When the Korean War started, he was appointed First Sgt. of the 6th Troop Carrier Sq. 374th Troop Carrier Wing. His family joined him there in 1949 and his daughter was born there. Upon returning to the US, he was selected to be an instructor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; then became Base Personnel Sgt. Major at Truax AFB, Wisconsin and then Wing Personnel Sgt. Major of the SAGE Air Div. His final station from late 1959 to January 1961 was as First Sgt. at the 664th ACW station in Bellefontaine, Ohio.

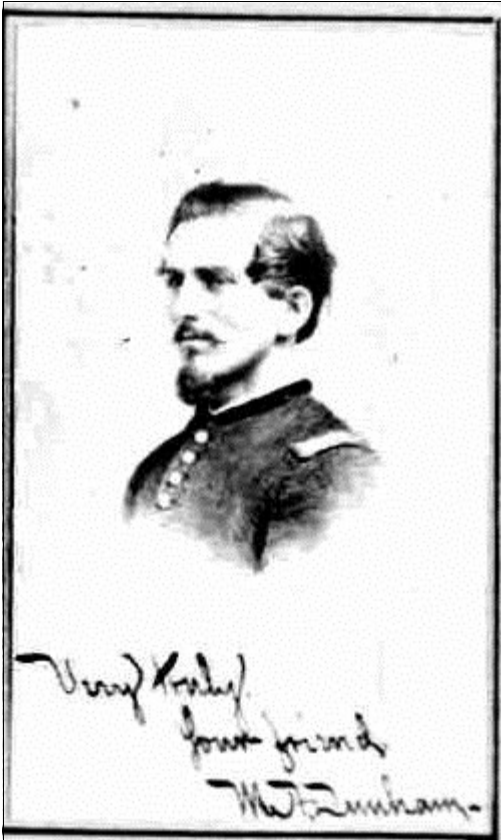
In 1960 he graduated from the Credit Union School, jointly run by the University of Wisconsin and Credit Union National Association. He organized three Credit Unions at military bases, one each year. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1964 with a degree in Risk Management, and installed the first computer system that year in Certco. He worked in computer departments of a number of other companies.

Bob owned the *Old Post Office*, a stamp and coin store in Middleton, Wisconsin for several years. He helped found the South Central Wisconsin Division of the National Model Railroad Association, and was their second Superintendent. He build many models professionally for various architects.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife Esther who died 30 June, 2010. He is survived by children Kenneth Robert (Jean) Dunham of Victoria, TX; David Michael (Janis) Dunham of West Covina, CA; Diana Rae Dunham of Sun Prairie, WI; and James Eugene (Nancy) Dunham of Madison, WI. There are also five grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren and one great grandchild.

CIVIL WAR SERVICE OF MARSHALL ALMIRON DUNHAM

*by Gratia Dunham Mahony
with information from
M. Elaine (Dunham) Moriarty*



This picture of Marshall Almiron Dunham was found by Elaine Dunham in the U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles on the Ancestry.com web site.

Elaine is the great grand daughter of Marshall A. Dunham and she did not know his ancestral line back. She contacted me in early June and together we traced his line back to Deacon John Dunham. That line follows: Deacon John ¹, Joseph ², Nathaniel ^{3,4,5}, Job ⁶, Bradish ⁷, Bradish Philander ⁸, Marshall Almiron ⁹ (born 1839-40) in Savoy, Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

In doing research on this line it turns out that Marshall had a younger brother, Marcus N. Dunham. Marcus Dunham also served in the Civil War and died as a result of an injury which necessitated amputation of his leg. A little background on the ancestry of these two brothers will help complete a picture of this Dunham family.

Photo courtesy of Massachusetts Commandery of MOLLUS, and Ancestry.com web site

THE DUNHAM BROTHERS FROM SAVOY, MASSACHUSETTS

Two brothers who served in the Civil War were sons of Bradish Philander ⁷ Dunham (Bradish ⁶, Job ⁵ Nathaniel ⁴ Joseph ^{3,2} John ¹). Their names were Marshall Almiron Dunham, born in September 1839, and Marcus N. Dunham born about 1841.

Job ⁵ Dunham came from Mansfield, Bristol County, Massachusetts to Savoy, Berkshire Co. Massachusetts with his wife, Elizabeth (Williams) Dunham and family and settled on some rugged and hilly land which is now part of the Savoy State Forest. Job ⁵ Dunham and his wife are buried in Brier Cemetery, Savoy, Massachusetts.

Bradish⁶ Dunham was born in Mansfield, Massachusetts 19 January 1795 and died in Savoy on 28 March 1862. Bradish⁶ Dunham married 9 November 1815 Candace Cornell. Both are buried in the Dunham Burying Ground, Savoy, Massachusetts. The son of Bradish⁶, Bradish Philander⁷ Dunham also resided in Savoy until about 1841 when he moved to New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York.

Bradish Philander⁷ Dunham was born in Savoy 2 August 1816 and died in West Lebanon, Oneida County, New York in November 1895. He married first about 1838-9 Huldah Marietta Cain. She died and he married second in 1856 Clarinda Axtell. The children of Bradish Philander⁷ and Huldah Marietta (Cain) Dunham, as found on the 1850 census of New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York were:

- i. Marshall Dunham, age 10, born in MA
- ii. Marcus Dunham, age 9, born in NY
- iii. Eunice Dunham, age 6, born in NY
- iv. Mary R. Dunham, age 3, born in NY
- v. Emma M. Dunham, age 5 mos., born in NY

MARSHALL ALMIRON⁸ DUNHAM

The older brother, Marshall Almiron⁸ Dunham was born in Savoy, Massachusetts and he enlisted at New Lebanon, New York 17 September 1862 to serve three years. He was mustered in as a Private, Co. A. 159th NY Regiment. He was promoted to Sergeant-major 19 June 1863 and discharged on 19 March 1864 for promotion as Second Lieutenant, Seventy-seventh Infantry, US Colored Troops. United States Colored Troop (USCT) regiments were led by white officers and advancement was limited for black soldiers. Marshall A. Dunham was transferred to company L, USCT 10th Heavy Artillery Regiment on 1 October 1865, and he was mustered out on 15 May 1866.

MARCUS N.⁸ DUNHAM

Marcus N.⁸ Dunham was born in New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York about 1841. His mother died when he was still a young boy and in 1856 his father remarried Clarinda Axtell who became the mother of the young children of Bradish Philander⁷ Dunham.

Marcus N. Dunham enlisted in Co. K, 8th Infantry Regiment 2 September 1861 at Jackson County, New York. He again served in the army and was mustered in on 23 September 1861 at Pleasant Valley, Maryland on 24 October 1862.

From the Committee on Pensions dated June 25, 1898 Re: Marcus N. Dunham, late private, Company D, US Engineers, US Army. "Soldier served from Oct. 25 1862 to June 18 1864 when he died in the service from pysemia following amputation of thigh, necessitated by an incised wound of ankle received by accident." Bradish P. Dunham, the father of the soldier filed and established a claim under the general law and was pensioned as a dependent father from June 19 1864 to Dec. 12 1895 when he died.

United States Colored Troops

The formation of Colored Troops did not begin until about the middle of the Civil War. Congress passed a militia act in July 1862 that empowered the President to use freed slaves in any capacity in the army. Recruitment of colored regiments began following the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1863. On 22 May, 1863 The War Department issued General Order Number 143 establishing a “Bureau of Colored Troops” to facilitate the recruitment of colored soldiers to fight for the Union Army. Regiments including infantry, cavalry, engineers, light and heavy artillery units were known as the United States Colored Troops (USCT).

Service Record of Marshall A. Dunham

Marshall A. Dunham enlisted in Company A, New York 159th Infantry Regiment on 1 November 1862. He was promoted to Full Sergeant Major on 19 June 1863, and next promoted to 1st Lieutenant on 21 March 1864. He was mustered out on 19 March 1864 and commissioned an officer in Company G. US Colored Troops 77th Infantry Regiment on 21 March 1864. On 1 October 1865 he was transferred to Company L, U. S. colored Troops 10th Heavy Artillery Regiment. He was mustered out of service on 15 May 1866.

Marshall A. Dunham saw service with the 159th Infantry Regiment. On 4 December 1862 over 1200 men were crowded aboard a ship and left New York for New Orleans, Louisiana. On 14 April, 1863 the regiment was involved at Irish Bend where they fought a battle against a Confederate line. The regiment sustained a loss of 177 killed, wounded and missing including Lieut. Col. Draper and 4 other officers. The 159th Infantry Regiment was also engaged in the long siege of Port Hudson, LA from the first assault on 27 May until the surrender of Port Hudson on 9 July, 1863.

The 77th Infantry Regiment of US Colored Troop was attached to the defenses of New Orleans on 4 April 1864. On 1 October 1865 this regiment was consolidated with the 10th US Colored Heavy Artillery. Marshall A. Dunham served as a Lieutenant with this regiment until 15 May 1866.

Marriage to Sara Elizabeth Lockwood

About 1880 Marshall Dunham married Sarah Elizabeth (Lockwood) Barnes. She had two daughters by her previous marriage, Lydia Barnes and Ida Barnes. There was one child born to Marshall and Sarah (Lockwood) (Barnes) Dunham who was Walter Dix Dunham born in 1882 in Glens Falls, NY. The family moved to Los Angeles, CA about 1890.

A “Double Dunham Line”

Elaine (Dunham) Moriarty has recently been researching her maternal line and she was surprised to find that her mother’s line also goes back to Deacon John Dunham. The Dunham connection in that line goes back to Persis² Dunham (1635-1701) who married Benajah Pratt (1631-1682).

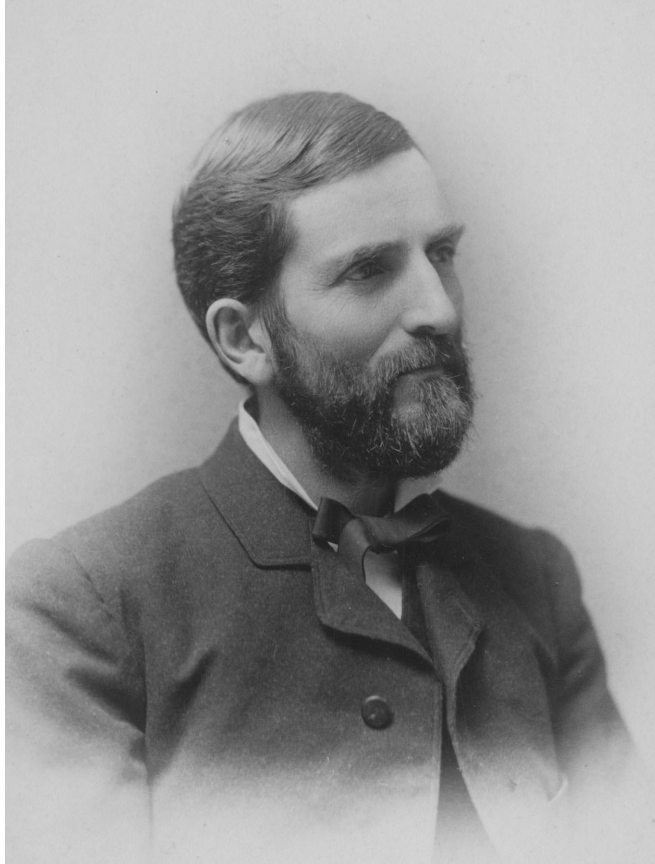


Photo of Marshall A. Dunham taken about 1882 in Glens Falls, New York



Walter Dix Dunham, son of Marshall A. and Sarah E. (Lockwood) (Barnes) Dunham
Photo taken about 1884-5

The Great Divorce Case

Thomas Harrison Dunham vs. Eliza A. Dunham

*Citation Information for the complete write up of this case: <http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HLS.Libr:998121> Dunham, Thomas H., *A full report of the great divorce case, Thomas H. Dunham vs. Eliza A. Dunham, in the Supreme court.* Boston, [J. L. Homer] 1843.*

I (Gratia Dunham Mahony) have excerpted material from the full report of this case to present in this edition of the DSFC newsletter. The complete case, and a drawing of Eliza Ann (West) Dunham may be seen at the citation given above. There were actually two cases. The first brought by Mrs. Eliza A. Dunham against her husband. The second by Thomas H. Dunham against his wife.

First Case

25 August 1842—Mrs. Eliza A. Dunham, defendant, brought suit in the Supreme Court against her husband Thomas H. Dunham, trader, for divorce of account of ill treatment. She sued for a separate maintenance.

Eliza stated that she was married to Thomas H. Dunham in 1839 and lived happily with him for some time. For the past three months she has lived apart from him and charges him with neglect and cruelty. Specifically she stated that:

He did not inquire sufficiently after her condition when she was sick

On one occasion he boxed her ears

He put her out of his store by force

He forbade her aunt from visiting his house and ordered her (the aunt) out of it

This case was heard before Judge Wilde but no decision was given by the court.

Second Case

Petition for Divorce

Thomas H. Dunham, trader, of South Boston vs. Eliza A. Dunham his wife

On 25 November, 1842 the trial for adultery was heard in a crowded court room attended by numerous friends of both parties. Chief Justice Shaw was on the bench.

The marriage of Thomas H. Dunham to Eliza West took place 11 April 1839 at Boston. Thomas H. Dunham stated that they had two sons. He further stated that on 12 August 1841 Eliza committed adultery with Marcellas Bowen of Boston, Physician.

The first witness called for Mr. Dunham was Miss Bell. She stated that she had lived with the parties and that she went there 4 July 1841 and stayed till the middle of October that same year. Miss Bell stated that Dr. Bowen was at the house during the absence of Mr. Dunham on a trip in August 1841. Mrs. Dunham kept the store while Mr. Dunham was away and Dr. Bowen came the first night and helped shut up the store. Then they both came in the house together and went

into the parlor.

Mrs. Dunham had a child called Thomas who was about 15 months old. Miss Bell gave lengthy testimony detailing Dr. Bowen's visit and the hours he spent in the house with Mrs. Dunham. Dr. Bowen visited every evening and stayed quite late. Miss Bell described the sounds she overheard from the parlor and the several times she saw Mrs. Dunham and Dr. Bowen on the sofa together.

After about a week Mrs. Dunham was taken sick. Dr. Bowen came to the house several times during the day and twice in the evening. Mrs. Dunham was ill for several days but was up on Monday.

The next witness called was Mrs. Sarah Jane Batchelder. Her testimony corroborated much of Miss Bell's testimony.

The third witness was Mrs. Mary Ann Page who lived in South Boston. Mr. Dunham had arranged for her to keep the store while he was on a ten day journey to Vermont. Mrs. Dunham had told Mrs. Page not to bother to come but after Mr. Dunham had been gone about a week Mrs. Dunham sent for her to come saying that she was sick.

Case for the Defence

Mr. Sumner, attorney for Mrs. Dunham, gave a brief statement saying that he expected to prove the charges brought against his client were false.

Dr. Marcellus Bowen was called to the stand. Dr. Bowen stated that he had not gone into the house until he was called there as a physician. He stated that Mrs. Dunham complained of symptoms which led him to advise her to leave the store and go to her bed room. He prescribed medication which was to stop her bleeding. She did not quit the store until Friday when she was so much worse. Her symptoms indicated pains which precede abortion. Dr. Bowen testified that she was about three months advanced in her pregnancy and that the abortion happened.

Several witnesses were called who had seen Mrs. Dunham in the store or had used Dr. Bowen's medical services during the period in question.

(end of testimony for the first day of the trial)

The second day of the trial was Saturday, November 26th, 1842. Several witnesses were called to give testimony. Their testimony seemed to discount the reliability of that given by Miss Abby Bell. The testimony was also an attempt to discover if Miss Bell had been paid (by Mr. Dunham) to give her testimony.

The continuation of the case was put off for several reasons until the hearing was resumed on Monday 15 May, 1843. A summary of the trial was published in the local newspapers. A physical description was given of Mrs. Dunham by one of the newspapers. "Her appearance was neat and tasteful in point of dress, she being arrayed in a brown silk dress, black mantilla and veil, and a straw bonnet with ribbons of deep colors, and flowers to match. Her face is of

the Grecian cast, with her dark hair arranged placidly on the cheek. The dress of Mrs. Dunham indicated a command of ample means for her present maintenance and support.”

Evidence for libellee (Mrs. Dunham)

Mrs. Brainard was called to testify. She stated that she had used the services of Dr. Bowen several times the week of August 7th for her child. On Thursday of the following week Mrs. Brainard had visited Mrs. Dunham and Mrs. Dunham told her that she had a miscarriage on the Friday previous, and had not been well since.

Mrs. Brainard stated that she lived two doors from Mrs. Dunham on the Boston side. Dr. Bowen would have to pass her house on the way to Mrs. Dunhams.

Several other witnesses were called and stated that they knew Mrs. Dunham and had seen her at the store in August.

Mrs. Hannah Goodwin testified that she had talked with Miss Abigail Bell and asked about Mrs. Dunham. Mrs. Goodwin asked Miss Bell if she saw anything improper between Mrs. Dunham and Dr. Bowen. Miss Bell replied that she had not but that she thought Dr. Bowen visited Mrs. Dunham too often and that she thought Mrs. Dunham was not as sick as she pretended.

Wednesday, May 17, 1843. The case continued and an article in the Times reported: “The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity...The curiosity of the public though not especially honorable to poor human nature—seeking, as it does, food on the secret relations of private and domestic life, and gloating over the most indelicate scenes-...”

The attorneys for Mrs. Dunham gave several hours of forceful argument stating that a decision unfavorable to their client would have such an horrible influence upon her happiness and standing. The court adjourned at 5:30 PM when the Chief Justice said that on Thursday morning he should be able to deliver his opinion.

Thursday, May 18, 1843. Chief Justice Shaw stated that he had not come to a decision in the case of Dunham vs. his wife. He would notify counsel when he was prepared to pronounce judgement. It might be a week or a fortnight, or even a month.

This ends the information transcribed by J. L. Homer.

However, we know that a divorce was granted because Thomas H. Dunham married second 1 April 1846 Alsa R. Burgess and had children by her. Eliza Ann (West) Dunham got custody of their son Thomas H. Dunham, Jr. as appears on the 1850 census of Boston, Ward 11, where her son Thomas, age 10, is living with her. This son, Thomas Harrison Dunham, Junior went on to have a very distinguished military career.

(please see the article on the following page)

US Civil War Soldier Thomas Harrison Dunham, Jr.



Thomas Harrison ⁸ Dunham, Jr. was born 30 July 1840 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts. He was the son of Thomas Harrison ⁷ and Eliza Ann (West) Dunham, Sr. His Dunham line begins with Deacon John ¹, Joseph ², Benajah ^{3,4}, Jesse ⁵, Josiah ⁶ Dunham.

At age 21 Thomas H. Dunham, Jr. enlisted in company F, Massachusetts 11th Infantry Regiment on 13 June 1861. He received several promotions during his military career and was mustered out on 14 July 1865 as a Full Colonel.

The 11th Infantry was organized at Fort Independence, Boston Harbor, Massachusetts as a regimental headquarters. Company F was one of six companies assigned to the 1st Battalion and ordered to Perryville, Maryland.

Photo from U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles on the ancestry.com web site.

Company F was on duty there from October 1861 to March 1862. From September 1863 to November 1864 the company was part of the 5th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. Later it was part of the 8th Army Corps until January 1865.

The 11th Infantry saw service in many of the major battles of the Civil War. Some of these were the Siege of Yorktown, Second Battle of Bull Run, and the Battle of Gettysburg. Thomas was wounded twice. The first time was in the Battle of Chancellorsville on May 3, 1863. The second wound occurred during the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864.

Marriage and Family

Thomas Harrison Dunham married Helen Maria Griffin, daughter of William Porter and Susan (Emerson) Griffin. They lived in Old Harbor, South Boston where they appear on the 1870 census. They had three children by 1870, Edith E., Benjamin W. and Herbert William. By 1880 the family had moved to Beverly, Massachusetts where Thomas Dunham was an inspector at the Customs House. There were two more children, Larkin, b. Sept. 1873, and Otis Emerson Dunham b. October 1876. By 1900 the family had moved west to Greenwich, Hampshire County, Massachusetts and the census shows one more son, Asa P. C. Dunham born May 1883.

Thomas and Helen (Griffin) Dunham were back in Beverly, Massachusetts by 1920. Thomas Harrison Dunham, Jr. died in Beverly 1 October 1925. He is buried in the North Beverly Cemetery.