

Index nears completion

Hooraay!

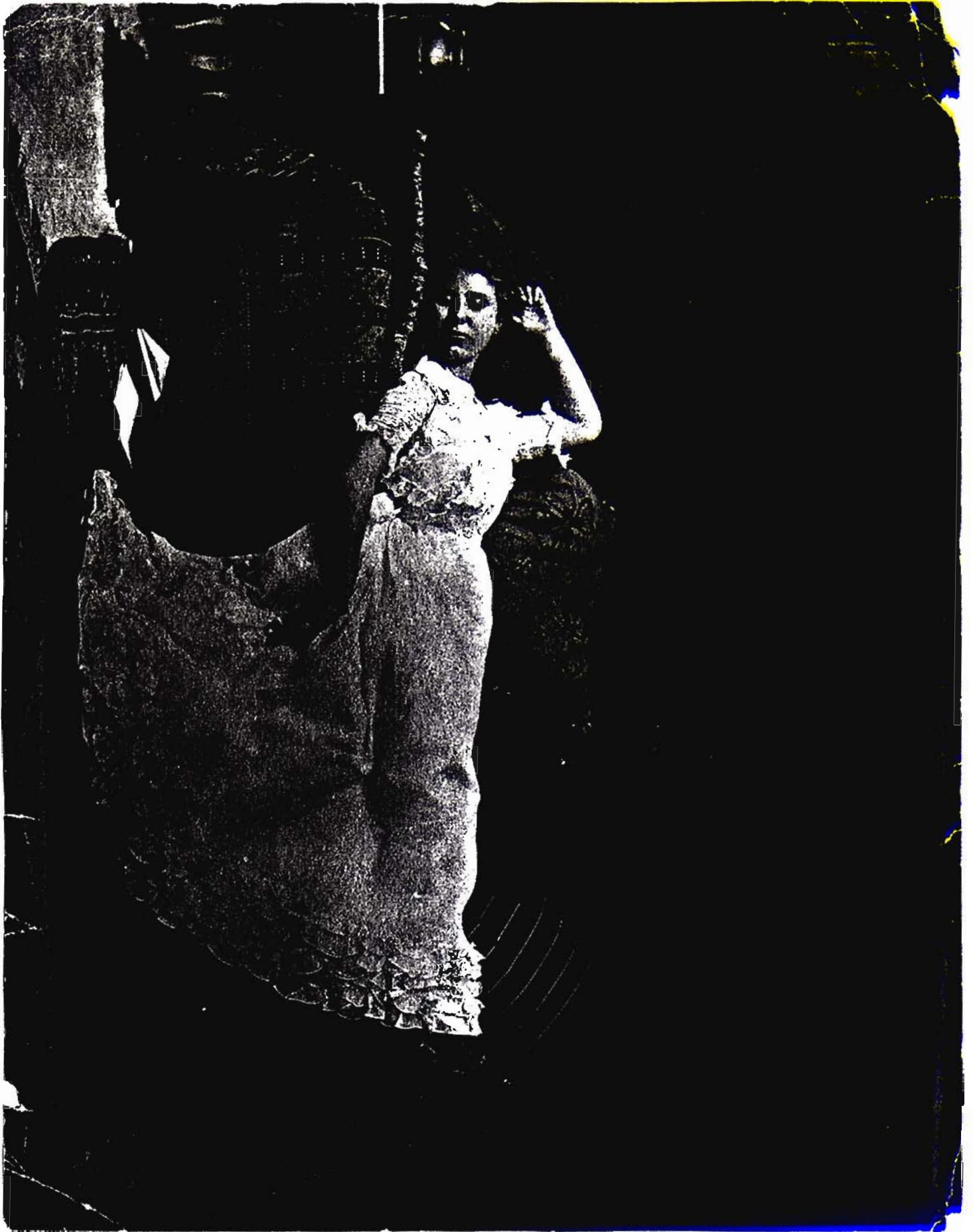
It fills up 8 shoe boxes. It used up \$62.00 worth of index cards, which is a LOT of index cards. It took 2 months of concentrated effort. Now the first phase of the job is done. We're gloating about the DUNHAM INDEX, which is a compilation including material from the Isaac W. Dunham genealogy, the Sophie Dunham Moore

genealogy, & information that has been received more recently from sundry helpful Dunham kin. The IWD book represents the bulk of the work, of course, & a new index for that has been long & sorely needed, since IWD only indexed the names of the heads of families as of 1907 or before. Thus those who constituted the younger generations at the time of inclusion didn't get into the index. Now the cards are all made, & Scribe Phyllis Kitson is euphoric (& a little bit tired). Next step is the alphabetizing of the cards. This is also a big job, but it won't take nearly as long as the first step did. It better not, because the dining room table at 711 is unavailable for meals until this phase is completed! It is our hope that this index will prove to be a considerable help to many Dunham researchers. So be sure to remind us of any individual names you are interested in -- Dunhams or allied lines -- & we'll be happy to check them through for you.

THINGS FOUND BY ACCIDENT

In the HISTORY OF MACON COUNTY, ILLINOIS (1880), purchased for other reasons, we find a few mentions of members of a DUNHAM family. In a report on the muster roll of the 8th Illinois Infantry, a Pvt. J. W. Dunham, enlisted Aug. 5, 1862, was discharged because of a wound he received at Donelson. In the muster roll of the 116th Illinois Infantry (Company E), Pvt. L. H. Dunham enlisted Aug. 13, 1862 & on May 1, 1864 was transferred to "V.R.C." Then in a sketch of Robert Perry of Decatur (born 1826 in Oneida Co., NY), a railroad man, it states that Perry's 3rd wife, whom he married June 24, 1873, was Henrietta Dunham of Decatur. The sketch doesn't mention any Perry offspring from any of his 3 marriages.

ABOUT PAGE 2: "June 1901" is the date on the back of this unusual portrait, & Rosa Dunham (later Sims)(1881-1952)(10)(Deacon John 1, John 2, John 3, Ebenezer 4, Ebenezer 5, Jonathan 6, Ralph 7, Francis 8, Samuel 9) is the subject. The name of the photographer doesn't appear on the picture, but the story of its making is known. A young amateur photographer (though a darn good one) in Chicago was in love with Rosa & took a good many pictures of her. He posed her in ways that were designed to tell a story; this one illustrated the story of a young woman who had just received a letter telling her of the death of her sweetheart in battle. Hence, "the Swoon."



WRAPPED IN A MYSTERY



This quite fascinating photograph sent in by P. C. Alger, Derry, NH, was taken in a train station ca. 1916/17. There are 8 people in the picture & 8 names written on the back of the original, so identification of the individuals should be no problem, right? WRONG! Here's the list of the names inscribed, in order: Will & May, Grandpa Dunham, Aunt Mary & Elsie, Grandma Dunham, Aunt Melvina, Charles Messler. The problem

may be with the ORDER of the names; it doesn't seem to line up with a left-to-right posing of the people. Here's what is known, & guessed. "Grandpa Dunham" is Jesse L. Dunham (b. 1842), the son of Richardson Dunham, Jr. & grandson of Richardson, Sr. (further ancestry unknown). This man would have been 75 years old in 1917, & none of the men seen here looks to be anywhere near that old. (So maybe we've got the date wrong, but Charles Messler at the far right, was Jesse's grandson, son of Clara Dunham Messler, & born in 1900. He HAS to be in his teens here!) Possibly we should read from right to left on this: Charles Messler on the right; next to him, in the squarish, small-brimmed hat, "Aunt Melvina," who was Jesse L. Dunham's sister; next to her, holding the suitcase, "Grandma Dunham," who was Emelian Caroline Ely Dunham; next to her (dark hat, light clothing, dark gloves) "Aunt Mary." Aunt Mary hasn't been positively identified, as most of the Marys in this branch were called MAY. From the ages, we'd guess that Aunt Mary was Jesse L. Dunham's daughter Mary (b. 1868). It is our understanding that Mary was married & had some children, though their names aren't recalled. A guess would be that "Elsie" is the little girl in the photo & that she was Aunt Mary's daughter. She must have been a child who was born ca. 1907. This R-to-L theory of the identifications makes the man in the dark suit & the fadora hat "Grandpa Dunham" -- & this man looks FAR too young to have been Jesse. It leaves the couple at the left to be "Will & May" -- who present an even more difficult identification problem. Both Jesse's sister Mary (b. 1838) & his daughter Mary (b. 1868) were called MAY. Their husband's names aren't known. (Either or both could have been Will.) Perhaps the only way to discover who these people were would be to FIND Elsie (if that's who the little girl was) & ASK her. A first step might be to check marriage records for Mary A. (May) Dunham, b. 1868, wherever they lived, to Mr. SOMEBODY, & then try to trace the family forward. Maybe as a bonus, these people would know Richardson Dunham's ancestry! Whoever this picture represents, it is an interesting vintage photo & an intriguing puzzle, AND an object lesson about identifying individuals in a group photo VERY CAREFULLY.

AT RIGHT:

The June issue of DD included material from Susan Bidwell-Williams regarding Mary Dunham (nee May) (ca. 1840-1915). This month we have the photo of Mary's daughter, Mary Ellen (Dunham) Lippincott.



Mary Ellen (DUNHAM) Lippincott

Born	17 Aug 1858	Delaware Co, OH
Died	May 1946	Allen Co, OH
Married	Daniel Mullison LIPPINCOTT	
	20 April 1875	Delaware Co, OH

She was the daughter of Zenas & Mary (MAY) DUNHAM.*
(Zenas¹, Silas², Jonathan³, Daniel⁴, Jonathan⁵ John⁶).

Mary Ellen¹ & Daniel LIPPINCOTT had the following children²:

Charles Zenas	1876-1941	
Louisa May	1882-1945	m. Rawley James BIDWELL
Blanch Ethel	1885-1917	m. Lloyd OROHOOD
Nellie A	1889- > 1945	m. Fred SHELLNBARGER
Edith Imogene	1892- > 1945	m. Coe CRAMER
Cora Ruth	1898- c 1970	m. Rex NOBLE

*After the death of Zenas in an 1863 Civil War battle, Mary (MAY) DUNHAM married 2nd on 1 March 1864, Delaware Co, OH to Oscar DUNHAM (see photo of Mary)

Submitted by her great granddaughter, Susan L Bidwell Williams², (John¹, Louisa May², Mary Ellen³) 1325 W. Coral Reef Drive Gilbert, AZ 85234-3779.

MARILYN ROTH, 1300 Palmer Place, Mitchell, SD 57301-3137: Does anyone know who the WILLIAM ALEXANDER DUNHAM was who was in the will of ASA DUNHAM, Hemlock T., Northumberland County, PA, dated 9 Jul 1812 & probated 22 Dec. 1825 (Book AA 1:210-211)? ASA was in Isaac W. Dunham's book, p. 271, # 388, son of Nehemiah, # 377. WILLIAM ALEXANDER was under 21 & living with David FRAZIER, Esq. In his will, ASA also named wife Elizabeth, brothers James & John, sisters Sarah (wife of Adam HOPE) & Johanna DUNHAM. Friend Reuben GUILD was co-executor with Elizabeth & James DUNHAM. Witnesses were Peter & Philip APPELMAN & Reuben & Joseph GUILD. It's strange that Asa didn't state his relationship to William Alexander DUNHAM. IWD doesn't list him among the nephews of Asa.

HAVE YOU EVER COME ACROSS ANY MEMOIRS WRITTEN BY DUNHAMS OR DUNHAM DESCENDANTS? If so, it would be great to have a copy for the DISPATCH. (Can run serially.) Also needed: Copies of family portraits (any era) & photos of the youngest generations of Dunham descendants.

Numbers, Description and Prices, OF THE DUNHAM PIANO-FORTE.

No. 1-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Large front round corners, moulding on plinth, octagon legs, carved lyre, scroll desk.	\$550
No. 2-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Large front round corners, carved legs and lyre, scroll desk.	575
No. 3-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Large front round corners, serpentine and fancy moulding on plinth, Gothic legs, carved lyre, scroll desk, beveled top.	600
No. 4-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Large front round corners, serpentine and fancy moulding on plinth, carved legs and lyre, scroll desk, beveled top.	625
No. 5-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Four round corners, pearl and serpentine mouldings on plinth, carved legs and lyre, scroll desk, beveled top.	650
No. 6-7½	Octave.—Rosewood. Large front round corners, serpentine and fancy mouldings on plinth, carved legs, and lyre, scroll desk, beveled top.	725
No. 7-7½	Octave.—Rosewood. Four large round corners, pearl and serpentine mouldings on plinth, richly carved legs and lyre, etc.	750
No. 8-7½	Octave.—Rosewood. Four large round corners, heavy mouldings on rim and plinth, rich serpentine moulding on plinth, rich carved legs and lyre, scroll desk, beveled top.	800
No. 9-7½	Octave.—Rosewood. Same style of case as No. 8, with agraffe arrangements throughout.	900
No. 10-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Upright or Boudoir Piano.	560
No. 11-7	Octave.—Rosewood. Large Grand Piano, French repeating action, richly carved legs, lyre, etc.	1200
No. 12-7½	Octave.—Rosewood. Same style of case as No. 11.	1500

TO THE PUBLIC.

The great combination of improvements attained in the Dunham Piano-Fortes in regard to tone, touch, power, equality, durability and workmanship, has built for it a reputation which, to-day, stands unrivalled in every section of the country, and has also elicited from the most eminent professors, critics, connoisseurs, and the most energetic of our competitors, the unanimous opinion that the Dunham Piano can not be excelled.

Being confident that the production of a good article is the best and surest road to success, we have always aimed for perfection in our manufactures, regardless of cost. The patronage which such a course of business has gained for us, without the meretricious aid of Medals or Foreign Decorations, has proven satisfactory to us beyond our most sanguine expectations, and placed us in the highest position of the Piano-Forte trade.

While claiming as we do, without the fear of contradiction, for our house, the honor of first introducing to the American public this last great era of Piano-Forte improvement, which has given to American Pianos the highest honors, and whose perfections have astonished the world, we would state that the First Grand Square Piano made by us some fifteen years since, served as the model for the great improvement in American Piano Fortes.

We also own the patent, now expired, for the cross or Over-Strings, which is now in general use—so popular has it become, and so peculiarly satisfactory has it proved to us, that we freely gave it to the world.

The Agraffe arrangement we have used in Pianos for a period of thirty years.

MERITS OF THE DUNHAM PIANO-FORTE.

Its Durability has become a proverb.

Thousands of them can be found in use, which have required no repairs, other than tuning, during a period of thirty years.

In Workmanship, It cannot be surpassed if equaled.

The best materials and the most accomplished workmen, only are employed in its construction.

In Power, Solidity, Purity, and Equality of Tone, it has no competitor.

It is pronounced by the elite of the musical profession, and the dilettanti, the most perfect Piano made.

As a Safe Investment, it is the best.

Dealers throughout the country, who have sold thousands of them during our business career, have never had one returned for being defective; nor have they, during a period of nearly twenty years, been called on to pay five dollars for repairs on the whole number sold.

It can be sold after years of use, for nearly, if not quite, its original cost.

We have orders for any quantity of them, at an advance of 33% per cent over any other make of half its age.

It is warranted in the most satisfactory manner.

The commercial standing of our house is sufficient guarantee that any claim will meet with instant liquidation.

The Juries of the Universal Exposition of Paris, admit that American Pianos are the best, therefore Americans must be the best judges. Convinced that such is the fact, we have always striven to meet their critical requirements, and their approbation and patronage has been our reward; and we shall continue to manufacture such Instruments as will command the **HIGHEST POSITION IN THE ART.** regardless of Foreign Medals or Royal Decorations.

DUNHAM & SONS.

ANN ELDRED, Verona, NY, shares this quaint advertisement from the 1869 Oneida County, NY business directory. A further page of the same ad states: "We are sometimes asked why the Dunham Piano Forte has not been more prominently before the public for the last 8 years. We give the reason. At the commencement of the late war, the Dunham, Sr. concluded to decrease the very large manufacturing done by himself so long as public attention should be so completely absorbed in the stirring events then transpiring. Consequently he diminished his force employed & sent during the war the greater portion of his pianos to the Canadian provinces (where the demand for Dunham pianos call for more than 500 instruments every year). At the conclusion of the war he associated with him 2 sons as partners, built a new factory, & the firm of JOHN B. DUNHAM & SONS are now manufacturing very largely. The high opinion of their pianos entertained by Piano Dealers is evinced by the great desire of the principal houses to secure the Dunham agency."