

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Issue 2

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President's Letter

There is something about spring that renews my spirit and gives me hope for the world. Family is part of this—a time of birthdays and reunions, reminding me of those who came before us and the lives they led. Their happiness and health, their achievements and dreams, have all been passed down to us. How are we building on their legacy? What exactly was their legacy?

Take a few minutes this month to savor the history Gratia has compiled for us in this newsletter. Get out the old family photo album or videos and remember the good times. Browse through an old diary and scrapbook.

Then, if you will, jot down a few notes to share about your history and legacy—what about your family rejuvenates and brings a smile to your face. Make a note of these events so you won't forget, and so your descendants won't either.

I hope your spirit and family are rejuvenated this month.

Trudy Dunham,
President

Editor's Corner

The Sesquicentennial of the Civil War is nearly upon us. One hundred and fifty years ago this nation was in the throws of the agonizing decisions which led to the Civil War. Please note the brief timeline of some of the major events of that period between 1861-1865 and see where your ancestors fit into these events. Please help make this newsletter a forum for telling about the Civil War service of your relatives.

Another article in this issue describes life in Middlesex County, New Jersey from the perspective of a young man, Joseph Stennett Martin. Described in his diary are his life as a school teacher, his achievement of becoming a Medical Doctor, his courtship, and events in the life of his family. Please note the mention of various Dunhams which have been bolded in the text to draw your attention.

The new web site now contains the first three generations of the descendants of the Deacon John Dunham line, the Dunham-Singletary line, and the line of Nathaniel of Wrentham. More will be forthcoming soon. Please visit <http://dunham2000.ipower.com/Index.html>

Gratia Dunham Mahony, Editor

Member's Corner

DSFC member Larry Dunham of Norman, Oklahoma submits the following query. "I am searching for information on the death of my gggrandfather, John Ellison Dunham, b. 26 January 1800 in Woodbridge, NJ. His ancestral line is as follows:

Richard ¹ Singletary

Jonathan ² Dunham alias Singletary

David ³ Dunham

Joseph ⁴ Dunham

Elisha ⁵ Dunham

Henry Dayton ⁶ Dunham

John Ellison ⁷ Dunham who married Vashti Willets

In February of 1871 Vashti Dunham, John Ellison's wife, wrote to a family member that she had received a letter from John Ellison that was written the 31st of January 1871. He was in the Fort Craig, New Mexico area working a silver mine. This is the last record I can find of John Ellison Dunham. His wife, Vashti, died in 1873 and is buried in Charlton County, Missouri where she was living with her son, Peyton Randolph Dunham, when the letter was written.

David Lee Dunham's *Descendants of Richard Singletary* has John Ellison's death as 1873 in Santa Fe, New Mexico but we do not know who supplied the information. Please contact me if you have any information related to the death of John Ellison Dunham.

Larry Dunham LGD1857@aol.com

A New Fan Page on FaceBook

Family: The newsletter arrives in your mailbox each quarter, chock full of historical detail. Do the articles raise new questions about your ancestors? Bring to mind a story about a family member you would like to share? Encourage you to connect with other family members?

We've started a Fan Page on FaceBook to give you an opportunity to share with each other, talk back to us, and in general just celebrate being a Dunham.

Go to: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dunham-Singletary-Family-Connections/151134759503> and write on our wall!

Trudy Dunham

Civil War Sesquicentennial

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

One year from now this nation will begin to commemorate the Civil War. This great conflict began 12 April 1861 with attack on Fort Sumpter in Charleston, South Carolina. Our sesquicentennial will be the focus of many celebrations to acknowledge the great battles between the North and the South.

There were a good many Dunham men who fought in those battles from both North and South. Some of them gave the “last full measure of devotion” to their cause. During the four years, 2011 to 2015, as the nation acknowledges the service given by the dedicated men during 1861 to 1865, I plan to include articles about some of these Dunham men.

Some of the members of DSFC have knowledge of the Civil War Service of their Dunham ancestors. I solicit contributions about these Dunham ancestors to use in the DSFC newsletter. These contributions can be articles, stories, letters, diaries, or memories written by their families or descendants. It would be most interesting to include photos if they are available.

To help our members refresh their knowledge of the time line of the Civil War I have written a brief list of the major battles. There is much more information in published literature and on the web. I would like to have the articles in DSFC correspond to the progression of the war. That is, if a diary was written in 1862, then I'd like to use that in 2012 (or 150 years after the diary was actually written.) I do not intend to make this a hard and fast rule. This is only a general intent to use material in some order. Also, if your female Dunham relative was the wife of a man with a different surname, I would like to have articles about that person as well. It would be especially interesting to have articles or letters written from the viewpoint of these Dunham women.

In the July issue of DSFC I will include a list of the Dunhams who applied for a pension for service in the Civil War. I will also include a list of Dunham men whose burial plot is marked with a GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) marker. These lists may help to learn more about the service these men gave to their cause.

Civil War Timeline—1861

February 9, 1861—Jefferson Davis becomes President of the Confederate State of America. These states include South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas.

March 4, 1861—Abraham Lincoln sworn in as President of the United States of America.

12 April, 1861—Confederates under Gen. Beauregard open fire on Fort Sumpter. The Civil War begins.

17 April, 1861—Virginia secedes from the Union followed within five weeks by Arkansas, Tennessee and North Carolina. This makes a total of eleven states in the Confederacy.

20 June, 1861—Residents of the western counties of Virginia did not wish to secede with the rest of the state. This section of Virginia was admitted into the Union as the state of West Virginia on 20 June 1863.

June, 1861—Despite their acceptance of slavery, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland and Missouri did not join the Confederacy.

21 July, 1861—First Battle of Bull Run (also called Manassas.)

July to November, 1861—By July improvements had been made to Union vessels and an effective blockade of the South had begun. The South responded by building small, fast ships that could outmaneuver Union vessels and get cotton shipments out to European markets.

Civil War Timeline—1862

9 March, 1862—Battle between the “Monitor” and the “Merrimac”.

6 April, 1862—Confederate forces attacked Union forces at Shiloh, Tennessee.

16 April, 1862—Confederates enact conscription.

May, 1862—”Stonewall” Jackson defeats Union Forces in the Shenandoah Valley.

31 May, 1862—Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks).

29-30 August, 1862—Second battle of Bull Run.

15 September, 1862—Battle of Harper’s Ferry.

17 September, 1862—Antietam, near Sharpsburg, Maryland. The bloodiest day of the war but there was no clear winner. This battle convinced the British and French, who were still contemplating official recognition of the Confederacy, to reserve this recognition.

22 September, 1862—President Lincoln announces his Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation which would free all slaves in areas rebelling against the United States, effective 1 January 1863.

December, 1862—Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

31 December, 1862—Union Brig. Gen. J. C. Sullivan, with the brigades of **Col. Cyrus L. Dunham** and Col. J. W. Fuller fought the Confederates at Parker’s Cross Roads, Tennessee.

Civil War Timeline—1863

1 January, 1863—The Emancipation Proclamation became effective, declaring that all slaves in areas still in rebellion were, in the eyes of the federal government, free.

March, 1863—First Conscription Act in the North. All men between the ages of 20 and 45 were liable to be called for military service. Service could be avoided by paying a fee or finding a substitute.

May, 1863—Battle of Chancellorsville. This was a victory for the South, but it was the Confederates' most costly victory in terms of casualties.

May, 1863—Vicksburg, Mississippi Campaign. After a siege of six weeks Confederate General John Pemberton surrendered to General Grant. Shortly thereafter the Union captured Port Hudson, Louisiana which placed the entire Mississippi River in Union hands. The Confederacy was split in two.

20 June, 1863—The state of West Virginia admitted to the Union.

1 July to 3 July, 1863—The Battle of Gettysburg.

19 September, 1863—The Battle of Chickamauga. Union and Confederate forces met at Chickamauga Creek in Tennessee.

19 November, 1863—President Lincoln delivers the “Gettysburg Address”.

Civil War Timeline—1864

May, 1864—The Wilderness Campaign. General Grant promoted to commander of the Union armies. North and South met and fought in an inconclusive three day battle in the Wilderness. General Grant continued to attack General Lee. At Spotsylvania Court House, he fought for five days.

June, 1864—The Battle of Cold Harbor. Grant again attacked Confederate forces at Cold Harbor, losing over 7,000 men in twenty minutes. This was Lee's last clear victory of the war.

August, 1864—General Sherman's Atlanta Campaign. Atlanta, Georgia surrendered on 1 September, 1864.

November, 1864—Sherman's March to the Sea.

November, 1864—Abraham Lincoln re-elected President of the United States.

Civil War Timeline—1865

January, 1865—The Fall of the Confederacy. Transportation problems and successful blockades caused severe shortages of food and supplies in the South. Starving soldiers began to desert Lee's forces, and although President Jefferson Davis approved the arming of slaves as a means of augmenting the shrinking army, the measure was never put into effect.

2 April, 1865—Fallen Richmond. Lee evacuated Richmond, the Confederate capital, and headed west to join with other forces.

9 April, 1865—Surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. General Lee's troops were soon surrounded, and on April 7, Grant called upon Lee to surrender. The two commanders met at Appomattox Courthouse and agreed on the terms of surrender. Lee's men were sent home on parole—soldiers with their horses, and officers with their side arms. All other equipment was surrendered.

14 April, 1865—The Assassination of President Lincoln. As President Lincoln was watching a performance at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC, he was shot by John Wilkes Booth. Lincoln died the next morning. Booth escaped to Virginia. Eleven days later, cornered in a burning barn, Booth was fatally shot by a Union soldier. Nine other people were involved in the assassination; four were hanged, four imprisoned, and one acquitted.

The Gettysburg Address

Following is the text of President Lincoln's famous address presented 19 November 1863 at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate...we can not consecrate...we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

A Metuchen, New Jersey Diary: Life in the 1850s

Transcribed and Submitted by Nicholas Mundy Sanborn

Did you ever wonder what your Dunham/Martin/Mundy ancestors did for amusement in the early 1850s? Have you ever wondered what folks thought about each other? Did you think that people stayed at home and did not travel much; or if they did travel how did they get from place to place?

An interesting diary kept by Joseph Stennett Martin who was born in Metuchen, New Jersey 16 April 1829 has been transcribed by his descendant Nick Sanborn and submitted it to me for use in this newsletter. It is a fascinating picture of the life of a young man whose ancestors include the group of Piscataway, New Jersey people who formed the Seventh Day Baptist Church in that area. Some of these ancestors were Edmund ³ Dunham (Benajah ², Deacon John ¹ Dunham); John Martin who came from Dover, Maine to Piscataway; and Nicholas Mundy whose wife, Hopestill Hull, was the daughter of Hopewell Hull also from Dover, Maine.

The Dunham line from which Joseph Stennett Martin descends is Deacon John ¹ Dunham, Benajah ² Dunham, Edmund ³ and Mary Bonham, Elizabeth ⁴ Dunham who married Samuel Mundy, Joshua ⁵ Mundy who married Phebe Ayers, Lovicy ⁶ Mundy who married Ezekiel Mundy and settled in Metuchen, Harriet ⁷ Mundy who married Dr. Jacob Martin, Joseph Stennett ⁸ Martin, author of the diary. The sister of Joseph Stennett Martin was Virtue Martin whose line was discussed in an article in the DSFC newsletter Vol. 6, Issue 2 for 15 April, 2009.

Preface to the Diary

By Joseph Stennett Martin

In keeping this Diary it is not my intention to write a book that the whole world shall peruse but merely to state some occurrences as I pass along through life...yet it may be that when I am dead this shall be thought worth reading by some one...

In the old Family Bible, now in the possession of my Great Uncle Wm. Cotheal is a very ancient record on my father's side going back to the MacDonalds. My father, Dr. Jacob Martin, is descended from the Scotch through the MacDonalds, Cotheals, Dunhams & Martins.

In the old grave yard at Metuchen lies Capt. Wm. MacDonald whose name has been thought worthy of being recorded in the history of the French Canadian wars. He was under the noble Wolfe...Capt. MacDonald was my great, great, grandfather, and the only one of my fathers family of whom any exploits are related except it be my great grandfather Capt. Jacob Martin who led the American troops through these swamps around us in a number of

engagements with the British in the struggle of the Revolution, fought at Brandywine, was wounded at Springfield, etc. On my mother's side I am descended from a Welch family named Mundy who came to this country in the 17th century. I am proud to have it to say that not one drop of ignoble blood has stained the reputation of my ancestry.

Here is my picture as near as I can represent it. I am 20 years old, 5 feet 9 inches in height, and 158 pounds in weight. I am as my father before me, very straight, measure 29 inches around the chest and 30 round the waist. My eyes are a deep blue, my hair which is slightly curly and usually worn long, is light, my beard which is of a chestnut color is full and uncropped. My complexion is very fair, and my features are entirely regular, and though they carry a resolute expression, they have not escaped a respectable share of flattery. My teeth are regular and free from decay, and my constitution beyond doubt is remarkable sound and well balanced, and up to the present I have never had occasion to lie down with the words in my mouth, "I am unwell."

A few words in regard to my education and former pursuits and I have done with this preface. In boyhood I received some academic advantages, but principally the little knowledge I possess may be referred to my father's instructions, and under which I had become at the age of 17 something of a classical scholar. When I had arrived to this age, New Jersey had just enacted laws requiring that teachers of public schools should be examined and licensed by a board of county school officers appointed for the purpose. I attended the first examination held in this county and received a license, and since which time I have engaged mostly in teaching.

Having been always regarded as rather a manly boy, I have most commonly been admitted as a companion of those older than myself, and I regret to say that many of the associates I have had were persons but little calculated to impress the mind of a headlong as well as long headed boy, with sentiments of moderation and morality...

Editor's note: Some of the descendants in the Dunham line of Edmund³ Dunham exhibit a rather long shaped face and head.

The Diary—1849

April 16th, 1849—Metuchen: I am 20 years old today, and making it a kind of holiday have been down to Rahway—got weighed, bought pr. Goat skin boots, \$3.00.

April 19th. As I have been teaching the school at New Durham the past winter and up to last week, I went up today and got my books etc. from the school house which I left. Gus Blackford keeps the tavern & store at New Durham, and Gus & I are great cronies, so we had a great time drinking hard cider. Spent the evening from home.

Editor's note: Joseph S. Martin had resolved to study medicine thus leaving the teaching profession.

April 21st. Seventh day. Went to church at New Market, it is communion there today. I am reading the bible through this year and this afternoon I read 14 chapters. Went from home in the evening.

April 22. Went to Plainfield to see Dr. Stillman as he sent word that if I wished to study medicine he would like to make an arrangement with me whereby I might pay expenses by tending a small drug store attached (to his office). I find him however supplied with a clerk and he proposes that I shall take a situation in the Public School of the place.

April 24. Spent the day at the Dr's. and very agreeable as he has a piano on which he plays. We went over to the school house and staid some time. The school house is a handsome building and cost \$3000. In the evening the Trustees met again and employed me as assistant to the principal. Made an arrangement to study with the Dr., have the use of his books, apparatus, etc.

May 6. Rainy. Went this morning down to **Sam Dunham's** and while there Dr. Stillman's carriage came down to take me to Plainfield as school commences tomorrow.

Editor's note: The Dunham line of Sam Dunham follows. Several of his sons are mentioned later on in the diary.

Samuel⁷ **Dunham** (Jonathan S.⁶ and Elizabeth (Ayers) Dunham; Samuel⁵ and Mary (Lucas) Dunham; Jonathan⁴ and Jane (Pyatt) Dunham; Edmund³; Benajah²; John¹) born 2 November 1806,^[1] died in Jersey City, New Jersey 20 December 1878.^[2] He married first 20 November 1828 **Julia Ann Miller**,^[3] daughter of David and Eunice (--) Miller. She was born 28 September 1809, died 13 April 1839. He married second 18 June 1840 **Hannah Woodruff**,^[4] daughter of Enos and Sarah (--) Woodruff. She was born 11 April 1811; died in Jersey City, New Jersey 23 December 1880. Both Samuel and Hannah are buried at the Seventh Day Baptist Church Cemetery in New Market, New Jersey.

Children of Samuel and Julia Ann (Miller) Dunham:

- i. David Miller⁸ Dunham, b. 9 January 1830
- ii. Edmond⁸ Dunham, b. 1 January 1832
- iii. Lewis Ellis⁸ Dunham, b. 2 March 1835
- iii. Julia Amanda⁸ Dunham, b. 11 May 1837

Children of Samuel and Hannah (Woodruff) Dunham:

- iv. Sarah Stratten⁸ Dunham, b. 17 Dec. 1842
- v. Augusta⁸ Dunham, b. 28 February 1844

May 24. A great & sudden change in the weather from warm & pleasant, to cold & rainy. The Asiatic Cholera has been making its voyage again round the world and has been looked for now some months in this country, it is reported that it has made its appearance in the City of New York.

May 30. Rained. Have raised the very nick to-day, broke school clock, sprained finger at playing a game of ball called cricket, and spent the evening at **A. M. Dunham's**.

June 1. The Cholera mortality increasing in the cities...Came down to Metuchen this afternoon, had an oil lamp overset on a coat I had on...**Ed Dunham** was the careless devil who did it.

June 18. An Indian lectured at Laing's Hall this evening & I have attended. He represents the condition of the Indians as very hard to endure...He is a chief from beyond the Rocky Mountains, & I conclude a very noble specimen of the race.

June 23, Plainfield. Last evening after meeting Elston Dunn & I went up to Lewis Force's bath house which is about a mile out of town, took a bath and purchased a ticket for the year. Went to church this morning, and home to Metuchen in the afternoon.

July 2, Plainfield. After calling school, a consultation of the teachers took place & the conclusion was that we felt more like holding 4th of July than like keeping school, and finding it to be the case with the children, I set off to see the trustees to get their consent. Calling on 2 or 3 they readily complied but when I went to see Tachey Webster, a stiff old Quaker, he said, "Well, well, I don't know, 4th of July, eh. What do you want to dismiss school on the 4th of July for, eh?" On my answering that the boys were likely to set fire to the building as they were all supplied with "Crackers, rockets, snakes & grasshoppers", he said, "Oh!, how foolish this keeping 4th of July...go ask the rest, I don't care."

July 4, Plainfield. As I was up in a cherry tree in front of the office I saw that the roof of Mr. Prudence's store was on fire, went immediately over and got upon the roof and took kind of command of the arrangements for putting it out, for some time I was the only one who stood on the roof to throw the water upon the fire as it was handed up by the pails...Injured my hand some by a nail catching in it as I slipped my footing & fell upon the roof. Went in the afternoon to the Fair held at Laing's Hall, & in the evening to the fireworks.

July 8, Plainfield. Played chess all day with the Dr. & did nothing else, except we were interrupted a short time to cut the tonsils out of **Sam Dunham's** daughter's throat (Amanda). (*sic. Should probably be Augusta Dunham*)

Sept. 27, Metuchen. Went with Father to New York. Visited the Croton Reservoir & saw the great Canadian foot runner Gildersleeve practicing for the race which is to come off at Hoboken. Saw on the Jersey City ferry boat 2 Mexicans.

Dec. 19. Commenced day school at Metuchen. Went to party in the evening.

The Diary—1850

January 1, 1850. Have been through the week visiting at different places, went to Mount Pleasant to singing school. This evening attended a party. School commences again tomorrow.

Jan. 30. Lewis C. Dunn was married this evening to Miss Ann Coddington, I attended the wedding at Jon. B. Randolph's, plenty of guests, plenty of music & dancing, & plenty of drink.

Feb. 1. Attended last evening Lew Dunn's Homebringing at Dea. Dunn's, though very

religious they made no objections to the dancing etc. Dancing has been held formerly as irreligious, but the sentiment is dying.

Feb. 27. The house & lot of Mordecai Marsh was sold today at Vendue & bought by Jno. Hampton, Jr. for **Sam. Dunham** at \$1600, a roaring price.

May 2. Ogden Mundy's house was burned down. The fire came by some sparks falling from the stove pipe among the fire wood that had been put behind the fire board. The house was 30 ft. by 50 ft. with 3 stacks of chimney, and one of the finest specimens of the architecture of this country in the last century.

June 9. Went in the evening with several fellows out, Lew. Dunham & I went up to N. Clarkson's, but may be we did not have an awful time to get home, darkness, rain, lightning, running off the bridges, etc.

June 16, Metuchen. I am 21.

July 11. Evening before last Gen. Z. Taylor, the President of the U. S. died at 11 o'clock. His indisposition began on the 4th of July in the form of Cholera Morgus and continued unchecked till the 8th when fever of the Typhoid type set in, and on the evening of the 9th the soul of the hero & conqueror departed in search of the land of rest.

Sept. 1. Father came up to town today, & we examined some other specimens with the microscope.

Sept. 3, Plainfield. Occupied most of the day in preparing medicines, had a call from Dr. Ludlow, and we had some conversation relative to what Medical School I should attend, he wishes me to attend the University of Pennsylvania.

Sept. 11, Plainfield. William J. Stillman came to the Dr. today. He has spent the last year in London & Paris. Returning he came in the same steamer with Jenny Lind.

Oct. 4. Went to New Brunswick for **Sam. Dunham**, got him a load of coal, some dry goods for store, & \$130 out of the bank. Bought coat, neckerchief etc. for self.

Nov. 5, Metuchen. Election, I served as clerk for the Democratic Party & voted for the first time, voted a split ticket, & used what influence I had against David Dunn.

Nov. 30. Dr. L. took much pains today to show me some fine & interesting chemical experiments. Went down to Brooklyn with **H. V. Dunham**. (*prob. Henry Van Deveer*⁸ *Dunham*)

Dec. 2. Virtue (*his sister*) has been quite unwell since the 24, having had much fever & sore throat. The muscles on one side of her neck have been contracted, but she is now getting well. Gabriel Mundy was taken ill yesterday in church, father attends him.

The Diary—1851

January 1, 1851, Metuchen. Have recorded nothing since 2 December. During the holidays I have been invited to 3 turkey eats but have been to but one, which was at Uncle Ambrose's on Christmas.

January 7. Started for Plainfield this afternoon, went up with **Dave Dunham** to J. Randolphs & wrote for Dave 40 invitation notes for a party to come off the 26th.

January 12. Attended **D. Dunham's** party in evening, got home in morning 4 1/2 o'clock & woke father up just time enough to go to the cars, as he was going to Trenton.

March 2. Went up to see **Edmund Dunham** who is sick. Ed & Chs. Campbell have been raising the devil for 2 or 3 years, & now Charley has gone to Cuba to get rid of the consumption, & Ed is too Rheumatic to get anywhere besides having a chronic inflammation of the lungs....**Dave M. Dunham** after raising the devil from 16 to 19 years of age, & after that till now has been spitting blood every 2 or 3 months.

June 10. Have been three days posting books for **S. Dunham**.

June 18. Jas. F. Dunn having brought an action of debt against **Dave Dunham** before Judge Ward, I went up with Dave to Samptown to the trial this afternoon

July 14. Went to Plainfield with **D. M. Dunham** to assist him in regard to his Jim Dunn trial which came off last Wednesday, the jury giving a verdict in favor of Dunn, & from which **Dave** appeals, giving bonds to Ward for his appearance at next court in the sum of \$20. J.B. Randolph security, I witness.

September 21. Went to Plainfield with **D. M. Dunham** & just as we were coming out our wagon wheel broke down so I hired a wagon for .50 & we came on.

October 5, Metuchen. Uncle Jim has a brother John out in Ohio who is entitled to some Government land for serving in the late war. But John forgetting the year he was out, the regiment, the Generals, Colonels, & Captains names has written on to James to make enquiry of John Perry or **Lewis Dunham** of the same. Perry is dead, so I went this evening to see Lewis & round out all the particulars, viz. General Colfax, Colonel Seward, Captain Webb, & afterwards Captain MacKay, year 1814, enlisted September 6th.

Editor's note: I haven't identified this Lewis Dunham, but he appears on the 1850 census of New Market/Piscataway, New Jersey with a birth year of about 1792; a wife Rachel, and 5 children. He is not the Lewis Dunham who married Catherine Campfield because that Lewis Dunham died 2 April 1859. This Lewis and Rachel Dunham appear on the 1860 census.

October 11, Metuchin. Went over to New Brunswick with father & Uncle Jim after bidding mother and Virtue good bye, as I do not return previous to my going to Philadelphia to take lectures.

October 13. I took the stage for Trenton & arrived there 7 o'clock. Walked about the city till 1/2 past 10 & then took the train for Philadelphia where I arrived at 12 o'clock. Engaged board at the first place I could find. Took a walk in the evening with a student by the name of Davis who is to be my room mate.

October 15. Removed to No. 381 Market Street to board where I have better accommodations...Attended the Clinic & saw Dr. Horner perform several bloody operations.

The Diary—1852

January 2, 1852, Philadelphia. The Holy days are now over & lectures have recommenced. During the vacation I have spent most of the time in the dissecting room.

March 1, University of Pennsylvania. The lectures are becoming every day more & more interesting, and Dr. Gibson became so much taken up with his lecture today that in one of his gestures he knocked a large show case off the table & broke it all to flinders.

April 16, 1852. I am 23 years old today.

April 24. I have spoken a number of times of Kate B. Murray, but have said nothing of who she is. Well, she is a daughter of my landlady, and a girl that is not to be sneezed at every day for her literary attainments. She was educated at Dublin (her father John Murray being one of the Royal Engineer Corps for her majesty in that city), and there made astonishing advancement in her studies...In fact she has long been my resort in all cases of difficulty & I have nearly adopted her as my guardian, patron, tutor, & when I can my sole companion.

May 11. Kate & I had our daguerreotypes taken & exchanged them. As I am tomorrow morning to leave Philadelphia for the present I have given invitation to my friends to call at my boarding place and see me this evening.

July 4. Went this afternoon up the Schuykill to meet Kate Murray at Manayunk, met Kate & some other girls up on the beach, so we all took a little walk and then I took the boat for Philadelphia and Oh well, did we have a pleasant afternoon.

July 7. All hands of us went this morning to Delaware Bay in the steam boat on an excursion, stopped an hour at Salem where we had fine accommodations at the hotel.

July 8. We went today to Germantown, & there called on some acquaintances, visited gardens, had good cheer, fine company etc. I said at the time & say so now that it is over that it was the happiest day I ever spent.

July 10. Entered into certain engagements with Kate, and in the evening saw her on board the cars for Manayunk to return tomorrow evening.

September 9. Attending last evening a Democratic meeting at New Market held for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the approaching convention for forming the Democratic Electoral county & district ticket, I served as Secretary and by urgent request made a short speech.

Ercuruus B. Dunham some time since called upon father & others whose authority was necessary to get permission to widen the roads in New Market...

Editor's note: Ercuruus/Ercurius Dunham is also unproven by me, but may be son of Hezekiah⁵ and Elizabeth (Drake) Dunham (Benajah⁴ Edmund³ Benajah² John¹)

The Diary—1853

January 1, 1853. While at Henry Lambert's today helping to dispose of a remarkably fine turkey, Ned Murray came in & informed me that father was down to the house, so going down after him he helped us to dispose of our entertainment & spent the afternoon and evening with us there. I walked out to see the wonders of the city. I am pretty proud that father has come on for he is a gentleman and worth being proud of.

January 2. Today father & I spent mostly in visiting the museums etc. at the University... & I had the pleasure of introducing father to Dr. Rogers, Professor of Chemistry and they had a fine conversation.

March 13. Today I went before Dr. Gibson to be examined on surgery. At the close of some 10 or 15 minutes he remarked "Mr. Martin, you answer so well there is no need of examining you any farther on surgery..."

March 18. Received letter from father containing graduation fee, etc. Went before Dr. Carson this evening for an examination of Medicine.

March 20. Wrote home stating my opinions in reference to settling in Metuchen. If I can be furnished with a respectable outfit, I am willing to make a determined & persevering push for being the first medical man in that vicinity.

April 2. This is the day I've been looking to & preparing for during 4 years. Today I received a diploma declaring me Doctor of Medicine. Miss Murray went to the commencement with me, & I obtained for her an excellent seat although the house was much crowded.

August 24. **Dave Dunham** is about these parts just now & I saw him a day or two since. The history that might be made of Dave's life (with sufficient exaggeration of items) would be quite an affair of "extraordinary adventures". At 18 he went with John Randolph as apprentice to blacksmithing, & staid a year, then going to Conn., he served nearly another year.

Being rather handsome & much welcomed in female company, several of his love affairs were somewhat extensive. At the age of 20 he married Emeline Randolph, who 4 months after their marriage gave birth to a daughter. Dave set up business at Metuchen on a large scale, employing a great number of hands, drove an \$800 team, dressed in full mode, etc. At the end of 2 years Ben Voorhees, one of the hands in the shop became so intimate with Em that in Dave's absence she used to take him for her bed fellow. About this time Dave broke, sticking his father for \$2500., and others to a less amount, & forged notes on some of his friends & drew money on them at the State Bank New Brunswick, but these his friends took up rather than have him shut up. Now came the flare up with his wife, whose intimacy with Ben became public, Dave sued for a divorce & obtained it. Em went home & Dave to the south. He was when I saw him the other day under great motion dressed to the tip of fashion, looks as young as ever, tells great stories about raising the devil with the girls of the south, and by what I learn from his brother who has been south with him, he is in a fair way to marry a rich young widow. If I had time I would speak of some of his trotting horses, singular speculations, etc. If he ever gets rich we can imagine the way in which he gets so, or if he is hung, I know enough of his character to allay my surprise at the event.

September 13. Went to New York to meet Kate. We went in afternoon to the World's Fair at the Crystal Palace & staid a while in the evening.

The Diary—1854

April 18, Metuchen. I was 25 years old on the 16th.

Editor's note: very little of interest was reported in the diary over this year.

The Diary—1855

July 1. Virtue (*his sister*) is becoming quite literary as she reads all the works I have...She is a girl of fine genius, & if she lives may make a smart woman. There is much daring in her character, as may easily be judged when I state that I let her have my pocket pistol at her pleasure, which she loads, fires & reloads at discretion, she handles it with much care & skill, and makes very good shots with it. Some may disapprove of teaching girls such arts, but I know no propriety in the objection, whereas I know there are advantages. If the house should be assailed by ill disposed persons, I'll pledge my word that Virtue McDonald Martin would not surrender it as long as she could have fire arms & ammunition at her disposal.

August 23. My dear Mother is dead. She died this morning at 8 1/2 o'clock. For some weeks past, she had been failing in strength.

August 25, Seventh Day. The funeral took place today at 10 o'clock AM. Reverend Halsey Baker, Rev. Ezra Mundy & Rev. Mr. Findley were present. The Seventh Day Baptist Congregation from New Market was also in attendance as the church service had been adjourned there in consequence of the funeral. My mother had requested that if there were a sermon preached, the 10 first verses of the last chapter of Galatians should be read & a text taken there from.

November 1, 1855. New York, No. 385 Greenwich Street. Had a visit from father and after dinner I got my friend Dr. Buchani to stay in the store while I went out with father. Dr. Buchani & myself are in the habit of going on Sundays over to Brooklyn to hear the celebrated Henry Ward Beecher preach...he is a splendid orator.

The Diary—1856

April 16, 1856, Metuchen. It is a very long time since I have thought of recording any thing in my book, but remembering that today I am 27 years old, I thought it best to make a note of it.

The Diary—1857

May 1, 1857, Metuchen. This spring I have made arrangements to locate here, and am now practicing my profession with good success. In February last I purchased a colt of D. M. Drake, which is likely to prove a rather fine animal. I gave \$155 for her in a wild state four years old, but am now driving her in a well broken condition. The property I occupy belongs to my father & is situated on the Amboy turnpike one mile west of the town of Metuchen.

June 7. Was married this evening to Miss Clara Mary, daughter of Captain George A. Lane, by the Reverend John Rogers, New Brunswick, NJ.

The Diary—1859

April 16, 1859. I am 30 years old today. Clara was taken in labor this evening after spending the evening at my father's.

April 18, 1859. Clara was delivered this evening by artificial means of a large still born daughter weighing about 9 pounds. We named it after its grandmother's, Harriet Susan. It seemed to be a remarkably well developed child, with black eyes, and brown hair.

April 19, 1859. We buried the little child, its grandfathers going with me to the yard, between its infant uncle Joseph S. Martin, and its infant cousin Adeliza Mundy. Inside of the lid of the coffin I sealed a paper with the words: "Harriet Susan, daughter of Dr. Joseph S. and Clara M. Martin, (still born) on the evening of April 18th, 1859. Long tedious pains the mother bore, And hope inspired the father's breast, But lifeless beauty we deplore, The womb its all of life possessed."

June 2, 1859. Clara first went out yesterday, and took dinner and tea at her father's and today we have done the same at my father's.

The Diary—1860

July 27, 1860. My wife gave birth to a little son this morning at 1 o'clock.

The Diary—1861

January 1, 1861, Methchen. Since this day last year, my family has considerably increased, then myself & wife comprised the whole, now we have a fine little boy who though only 5 months old is a great deal of company. My sister lived with us attending Professor Hopkins school, and a young woman as hired help by the name of Celesta I. Maison. Things have gone prosperously with us, and the year has been full of blessings. Today we are enjoying at home turkey and various other good things known by the name of nick nacks incidental to the holiday season.

The Diary—1862

August 17, 1862. During the long period in which I have recorded nothing, many incidents have occurred which ought to receive a place here, but family duties have increased with increase of family, and the practice of my profession has progressively demanded more of my time, so I shall only notice a few things that are immediately connected with my family & self.

The great war which is now existing between the two sections of our country is likely to affect my future among the hundreds of thousands of others who have become partisans. From its commencement I espoused the Union cause, and have now volunteered as Assistant Surgeon to the 14th Regiment New Jersey Volunteers. And although not yet commissioned I go tomorrow morning to the "Old Monmouth Battle Ground" to take charge of the Regiment there encamped.

It has pleased God to add to my family another little boy, we call him Arthur Jacob. He is nearly four months old, and is the best and most interesting child I ever knew. Our other little boy, George Joseph, is two years old, and has always had excellent health, and has grown very strong. I leave them with regret but they are in the care of an intelligent, affectionate, religious mother whose goodness and virtues during our five years of matrimonial life have endeared her to me so closely that I almost wonder at myself that any obligations, however urgent, can induce me to leave home, but our mutual opinion is, that duty demands it.

We live on the homestead which I have bought of my father, but who will stay with Clara and the children.

My only sister is doing well keeping school, and came home yesterday to bid me goodbye. God bless.

Editor's note: Dr. Martin was discharged June 21, 1865. Unfortunately there are no further entries in his diary, and no record of his service during the Civil War.

Dr. Joseph S. Martin died 28 December 1877 at Elizabeth, NY. His wife, Clara Mary (Lane) Martin died 6 May 1909. Both are buried in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Metuchen, New Jersey.