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THE BUNNELL/BONNELL NEWSLETTER

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Volume X, No. 1.

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I'm still looking for someone to volunteer to take over as editor and publisher of the Newsletter for 1997 and beyond. Pat Bunnell of Canton, MI, and Spring, TX, mentioned her willingness to help in some way, but we need a commitment from someone to take the responsibility.

* * *

John C. Bonnell, Jr., Clear Brook, VA, writes: "At last the Sylvanus blood line through John C. Bonnel, II will continue. (Sylvanus [Duncan 164]; Calvin Day; John C. I; Ralph A.; John C. II; John C. jr.; Stuart Warren. Of the three males born of Ralph, two males born of John II, and the three of John jr., this is the first grandson. My other grandchildren are wonderful girls. Our first grandson, Kyle Walker Bonnell was born on 10 October 1995 at Portsmouth General Hospital, Portsmouth, VA. "

* * * * *

THE CHILDREN OF DAVID BUNNELL CB310276 (Cont'd)

In the last Newsletter I stated that it would be most helpful if someone could get me photocopies of the actual documents in the probate settlement of David's estate. My hope was that they would help clarify the list of his children.

Mrs. Jane Bailey, Miamisburg, OH, was kind enough to check out the probate settlement. She wrote:

"In response to your last newsletter - pg 51 - on the question of David Bunnell - CB310276, I checked the probate record at Warren County, Ohio courthouse. I couldn't find any information that will help prove the children of David. The estate info is in a packet with various papers showing bills paid, inventory of items, but couldn't find any children mentioned as heirs - just his widow, Elizabeth. I went through each paper and didn't see any reason to photocopy for you. I rather imagine some of the papers have been lost or taken." I really appreciate Mrs. Bailey's help in this matter. Even though the result is negative, it was important that we check it out. What's next? Right now I don't know what to suggest. We need serendipity.

* * * * *

As the October Newsletter went to press I received a letter from Judith L. Osborn giving me the sad news that her aunt, Nina (Osborn) Roberts, died on 10 September. Nina and I had shared family data off and on for 28 years. She was one of my first subscribers to the newsletter, and she kept her subscription in force to the present. When I see the number of my correspondents over the years who refer to the help they received from Nina Roberts, it is clear that her death will be felt as a loss by many besides her family. Here is the obituary that Judy prepared for the Newsletter

“NINA CORA (OSBORN) ROBERTS died in her sleep at her home in Houston, Texas, in the early hours of Sunday morning, September 10th 1995. Nina is the daughter of Leland John Osborn and wife Beth E. BUNNELL (See Vol. IV, No. 1, pg. 3), daughter of Clark BUNNELL (1868-1938) CB340392, and his wife, Etura Josephine Long (1873-1942) (their pictures appeared in Vol. III, No. 1, pg. 6). Nina was a loving mother to her daughter Leslie Denise (Roberts) Doty, to her son Craig Richford Roberts, and doting grandmother of four. She is also survived by brothers Clark Leland Osborn & DeVerle Ross Osborn, 10 blood-related nephews and nieces, and a large number of grandnephews and grandnieces. Nina’s ashes will be interred with those of her husband, “Dick” Robert Richford Roberts, in St. Louis, Missouri. My aunt was not only my companion and first mentor in genealogical research, but a loving friend whose counsel and wisdom I valued beyond measure.

Her father Clark Bunnell’s ancestry was through Abraham Runyan-8, Nathaniel-7, Nathaniel “Peg-Leg”-6, Stephen-5, James-4, Nathaniel-3, Nathaniel-2, William Bunnell-1, the immigrant.”

* * * * *

This obituary from the New Haven Register, was submitted by Ruth Duncan, West Simsbury, CT:

In Branford, May 10, 1995, ELSIE SMITH BUNNELL, wife of the late George Bunnell of 23 Nida Dr., Northford, mother of Beverly Basley and Joyce Parese. Grandmother of Daniel Grasso, Melissa & Ann Marie Basley, Maria, Laura, John Michael, Paul and Matthew Parese. Sister of Barbara Cwirks. Predeceased by 6 brothers & 3 sisters. Her funeral procession will leave the North Haven Funeral Home, 36 Washington Ave., Saturday afternoon at 12:30. A service will be held in the North Haven Congregational Church at 1:00 p.m. with the Rev. Scott Morrow officiating. The visiting hours will be Friday from 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. Should friends desire memorial contributions may be made to the Ct. Hospice Inc., 61 Burban Dr., Branford, Ct. 060405. Internment will be Northford Cemetery.

[Mrs. Bunnell’s husband, George Burdette Bunnell CB341619, was descended from the immigrant William Bunnell through Benjamin, Nathaniel, Jairus, John, Augustus Barnes, Henry and George Louis to George Burdette Bunnell.

* * * * *

I offer my sympathy to two subscribers who report the deaths of their mothers in 1995. Paul J. Bunnell sent me this obituary of his mother which appeared in the Amesbury, MA, News:

LORRAINE M. BUNNELL passed away at her home in Ryderwood on July 6th, 1995, at the age of 70. She was born on May 6, 1925 in Beverly, Mass. to Alfred and Alma Violette. She had lived in Ryderwood, Wash for the past 3 years coming from Florence, Oregon. She was a member of the Catholic Church, and loved animals and to read. Survivors include her husband James Sr. at home, 3 sons James Jr., of Valencia, Calf, Mike of Palmdale, Calf, Paul of Cape Cod, Mass. 2 brothers Michael Violette of Simi Valley, Calf, Frank!e Violette of Ft. Meyers, Fla, 6 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren. Memorial services were held on Tuesday July 11th at the Ryderwood Community Church with Rev. Harry Baird officiating. Services directed by Catteraole Funeral Home, Winlock, WA.

[Mrs. Bunnell's husband, James Henry Bunnell, Sr. CB001147, was descended from the loyalist Benjamin Bonnell CB006839 through Benjamin, Benjamin, James Edward and George Woodbury to James Henry Bunnell, Sr. Readers may recall that I printed an account of their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Vol. V, No. 4. Mrs. Bunnell's son Paul is the author of THUNDER OVER NEW ENGLAND, an account of the life of Benjamin Bonnell, the loyalist. He has also published several books on loyalist and Cape Cod genealogy.]

* * *

Louise B. Nemecek, Richmond, VA, wrote that she lost her mother in October at the age of 92. She died quietly in her sleep, with Louise and her sister at her bedside.

LOUISE TALIAFERRO BUNNELL of Richmond, widow of Fred H. Bunnell died Monday, October 23, 1995. She was the daughter of the late Louise Brander and William Mayo Taliaferro. She was a lifelong member of Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, a member of The Woman's club, a charter member of the Richmond Junior League and a past member of the Board of the American Red Cross. She is survived by three daughters, Elizabeth Bunnell Bauder, Louise Bunnell Nemecek and Ellen-Terry Bunnell; brother and sister-in-law, T. Brander Taliaferro and Anne Hardy Taliaferro; four grandchildren, James Harry Nemecek, Jr., Page Wharton Bauder, Lawrence Bunnell and Elizabeth Taliaferro Nemecek; five great-grandchildren and a niece, Mary Helen Taliaferro, all of Richmond. Funeral services will be held 11; 00 a.m. Wednesday, October 25 in the Chapel of Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Interment private.

[Mrs. Bunnell's husband, Frederick Hartsok Bunnell CB352146 was descended from the immigrant William through Nathaniel Bonnell, Isaac, Abraham, Abraham, John, Jonathan, Samuel, and Franklin Bunnell to Frederick Hartsok Bunnell.]

* * * * *

BENJAMIN BONNELL, Loyalist, of New Jersey and New Brunswick.
Several months ago Paul J. Bunnell, Marstons Mills, MA, in a letter asked me "When are you going to attack the problems with all the New Jersey Benjamins and connecting Thomas Bonnel of Morris co, NJ, to Nathaniel?" Here is my first attempt.

In "Thunder Over England" Paul has written a fictionalized biography of his ancestors, the Loyalist Benjamin Bonnell, making use of what facts are available about Benjamin's life, and combining them with other historical references to Benjamin Bonnell's which might refer to him. Benjamin is a common name in the New Jersey Bonnell family family, and it is difficult to determine the proper identity of many miscellaneous references. To help in this study, Paul sent me copies of many documents he has obtained in his extensive research for Benjamin's ancestry. I have relied on them heavily.

First, in reviewing all the information regarding this Benjamin which has come to my attention so far, I believe that there are only three items which appear conclusively to apply to this man prior to his move to New Brunswick.

1. The muster roll of Captain James Wogan's Company, American Legion [loyalist] at the camp at the Heights of Ireland, 28 August 1781. The roll indicates that Corporal Benjamin Bonnell enlisted in the regiment on 6 August 1781. Brigadier General Benedict Arnold was Colonel of the Regiment.
2. The list of people evacuated from New York City in July 1783 in the ship William, Capt. William Wright, published in "Early Loyalists of Saint John," by D.G. Bell, and reprinted on pages 47 and 48 in Paul Bunnell's book, "Thunder Over New England," First on the list is:
BENJAMIN BONNELL, farmer from N.J., with wife and 2 children.

Paul states that they all arrived safely, as evidenced by a census taken in Saint John in May 1784.

3. From the bulletin of Friends Historical Association, Vol. 36, Spring 1947, p. 26 et seq. An article by Arthur Mekeel, Dean of William Penn College, entitled "Quaker Loyalist Settlers in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia," transcribes the report given by Joseph Morre to the Philadelphia Meeting for Sufferings in March 1787 on a visit which he and several other Friends made in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the summer of 1786 to investigate the conditions of the Friends who had settled there.

Under the headline, "River St. John on page 29, the list includes:

"Benjamin Bonnell Wife &c from Rahway mo. meetg., he disown'd for some conduct of a warlike nature."

Together, these items establish that Benjamin Bonnell was a Loyalist, that he had been a Quaker, and that he was a farmer from New Jersey, somewhere in the vicinity of Rahway, which is in the southernmost township in what was then Essex and is now Union county, New Jersey.

BENJAMIN BONNELL, Loyalist (Cont'd)

An item printed in the City Gazette, Saint John, New Brunswick in April 1828 noted the death of Benjamin Bunnell in Long Reach on 17th Feb., age 84. Therefore, we can say that he was born about 1744.

I see nothing to connect this man with Morris co, NJ. One would expect that a Quaker, if he were resident in Morris co, would have attended the Mendham monthly meeting, rather than that of Rahway, much farther away. I have never had opportunity to search the records of the Philadelphia Meeting of the Society of Friends. However, a thorough review of the records of both monthly meetings, Mendham and Rahway, might throw additional light on this problem.

Now, let's look at it from the other end, and examine what we know about Thomas Bonnell, whom Paul has suggested might be this Benjamin's father. Thomas Bonnell died between 23 January 1788, when he wrote his will, and 28 April 1790, when his estate was appraised. Except for his will, little is known about Thomas Bonnell. It will be useful, therefore, to print a copy of his will:

"In the name of God Amen this twenty third day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven Hundred and Eighty Eight, I Thomas Bunnel, of the Township of Hanover in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, Being in a Very low and lingering State of health, but of Sound Memory (Blessed be God do Make and publish this my last Will and Testament in Manner following (that is to say) first I give to my son Henry Bunnel one Equel half of my land that lyeth on the North or uper side of the Road leading from David Brewins to Daniel Burnets, to be taken of Adjoining Daniel Burnet and John Genung also I give Bequeath to my son Jeams Bunnel one Certain Note I have against him of about Twenty pounds, Also I have already given unto my son Benjamin Bxinnel the House and lot of Land that I Bought of David Ward, also I give lay son Joseph Bunnell all the Remainder of my lands on Both sides of the Road, Including my house and Barn and Medow, and Injoin it upon him to Settle of a Certain Mortgage in the loan office of fifty Seven pounds and all Other Debts, also I give and Bequeath to my three Daughters Hannah Rague, Phebe Bunnel and Affa Bunnel All my Moveable Estate to be Devided Equally Between them, with this Reserve only that the third part of the Moveables given unto Hannah Rague is given to her and her Children only and not to Doctr. John Rague, And do herby Ordain Constitute and Apoint my Son Joseph Bunnel Overseer and Executor of this my last will, to take Care and see the same performed According to the true Meaning and Intent theirof In Witness whereof I the said Thomas Bunnel have to this my last will and Testament set my hand and seal the day and year above Written-

Signed sealed and Delivered by the said
Thomas Bunnel as and for his last Will
and testament,, in the presents of us, who
were present at the Signing and sealing
Thereof -

Aaron Carter
Moses Genung
John Roberts

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas Bunnel", is written over a circular wax seal. The seal is partially broken and shows some internal texture.

BENJAMIN BONNELL, Loyalist (Cont'd)

I suspect that the children are named in the order of their birth, sons and daughters separately. If that is so and Joseph was the youngest son, it is clear that all the sons were adults. Daughter Hannah was married, perhaps Phebe and Affa were younger since they were still single. They were probably over 18, otherwise their bequests would most likely have been delayed until that age. No mention is made of a wife, and presumably she died before the will was written.

The will names him as Thomas of Hanover twp, Morris co. At the time the will was written, and until 1806, Hanover twp included all of the present Chatham twp north of the main road from Chatham Village to Morristown. To try to pinpoint more closely the area in which Thomas lived, I focused on other people he associated with. In addition to those named in the will, Gershom Norris and Benjamin Genung made the inventory of the estate, which included debts due from Matthias Brant and Daniel Brown. In 1766, Thomas was witness to the will of David Burnet of Hanover.

I checked the burials in the Presbyterian churchyards in Whippany and Hanover, since they are both in the present Hanover twp. Not a single person noted was buried in either place. There were a number of Burnets and Wards and a couple of Genungs, but none of the other surnames was represented at all.

However, when I looked into my copy of "Madison New Jersey Presbyterian Church Vital Records, 1747-1900," by Viola Shaw and Barbara S. Parker (a most useful gift from Claude Bunnell), I found all the family names except Rague abundantly represented. All the individuals mentioned were listed in one respect or another, except for Dr. John Rague.

Clearly, Thomas Bonnell resided in the south end of Hanover twp, near Bottle Hill (later renamed Madison). This part of Hanover twp was set off in 1806 as part of the new township of Chatham.

Thomas Bonnell himself has an entry in the Madison Church records on page 26: "Bonnel, Thomas, collector & clerk 1767-72." (I know of no other Thomas Bonnell to whom this can apply.) The authors of the book explain that this does not imply church membership, since many of the officers and supporters of the church never became communicants. We know that Thomas continued to reside in this community, and my guess is that he and his family transferred their allegiance to another denomination when it became available.

To summarize all the references to Thomas I have found so far:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| May 1766 | Thomas Bonnel on poll list in Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Nov 1766 | Thomas Bonnel witnessed will of David Burnet of Hanover. |
| 1767-72 | Thomas Bonnel collector & clerk, Madison Presby. church. |
| 1788 | Thomas Bonnell, Hanover twp, Revolutionary Census of NJ. |
| June 1778 | Tax List... Thomas Bunhill, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Feb 1780 | Tax List—Thomas Bunnell, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Jan 1781 | Marriage of daughter Hannah to John Rague recorded in Hanover Presbyterian Church. |
| July 1781 | Tax List—Thomas Bunnell, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| 25 Aug 1782 | Thomas Bonnel chosen guardian of the person & estate of |

Rodman Holloway of Morristown.

BENJAMIN BONNELL, Loyalist (Cont'd)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| July 1783 | Tax List - Thomas Bunnel, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| July 1785 | Tax List - Thomas Bonnell, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Aug 1786 | Tax List - Thomas Bonnal, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| 1787 | Tax List - Thomas Bonnal, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Jan 1788 | Will of Thomas Bunnel. |
| Aug 1788 | Tax List - Thomas Bunnel, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Aug 1789 | Tax List " Thomas Bonnet, Hanover twp, Morris co. |
| Apr 1790 | Inventory of estate of Thomas Bonnell of Hanover, dec'd. |
| May 1790 | Probate of estate. |

In addition, we have this statement in Snell's "History of Sussex and Warren counties. New Jersey," page 369:

"Hon. Isaac Bonnell, at present one of the oldest inhabitants of Sussex County, was born near Dingman's Ferry, Pike Co., Pa., on the 8th day of April, 1790. His grandfather, Thomas Bonnell, emigrated from England at an early day, and located in Morristown, N.J. His father, James Bonnell, a native of Elizabeth, N.J., served as a captain in the war of the Revolution, in which he achieved no little distinction for his powers of discipline and skill. ..."

And this, from Littell's "Genealogies of the First Settlers of Passaic Valley (And Vicinity), page 340:

"Dr. John Rague was a Frenchman, he married Miss ____ Bonnel, the aunt of Lois, wife of Gabriel Johnson, Esq., and lived in Passaic Valley. They had children:

1. Betsey, who was brought up by her cousin. Lots Johnson, and married _____.
2. Catherine . . .
3. James . . ."

Lois Bonnell was the daughter of Synesy and Puah (Ball) Bonnell, granddaughter of Joseph and Sarah (_____) Bonnell, and great granddaughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Dodd) Bonnell. We know that (Bonnell) Rague was the daughter of Thomas Bonnell his unknown wife. Therefore, she could not have been Lois's aunt. The only possible relationship I can see that would make sense of this statement would be if Sarah, wife of Joseph, was sister to either Hannah's father Thomas Bonnell or to Hannah's mother whose identity remains unknown. Hannah would then have been Lola's first cousin once removed, not her aunt. If that is not the case, Littell's statement must be purely an error. But it is an intriguing thought, when we are grasping so desperately for clues in this case,

(To be continued)

* * * * *

From the Fayetteville, NC Observer-Times, Wednesday, 4 October 1995, this obituary was sent in by Dot Ray, of Fayetteville.

JAMES T. BUNNELL

SANFORD" James Thomas Bunnell, 59, of 4207 Leamon Springs Road died Tuesday in his home.

He was a salesman for the Lee Brick & Tile Company.

The funeral will be conducted at 2 p.m. Thursday in Morningside Presbyterian Church by the Revs, J. J, Maiming, Betty Sherrod and James Garrett. Burial will be in Lee Memory Gardens.

Mr. Bunnell is survived by his wife, Carolyn M. Bunnell of the home; two daughters, Rhonda B. Hart and Karen B. Roybal, both of Sanford; and four grandchildren.

The family will receive friends tonight from 7 to 9 at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

[Sanford is in Lee co, NC. James Thomas Bunnell was probably a descendant of Asa Bunnell CB310131. Asa had at least 4 descendants named James Thomas, born in 1853, 1925, 1954 and 1987. However, I can't place this one, born in 1936, in my records.]

* * * * *

From The Middletown (CT) Press, Monday, 31 July 1995, submitted by Ruth Duncan, West Simsbury, CT:

LEWIS J. BUNNELL, 84, of 3004 Pequon Way, Martinsburg, West Va., formerly of the Northford section of North Branford, died Friday at the Winchester medical Center, Winchester, Va., after a brief illness.

Bunnell was born in New Haven on Sept. 28, 1910, the son of the late George L. and Antonette Brocksieper Bunnell. He was a resident of Northford for most of his life until moving to West Virginia in 1989. He had worked for M & B Manufacturing of New Haven for 25 years and later worked for Restland Fams of Northford for 26 years, until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of the Durham Grange 57 and the Moose Lodge 120 of Martinsburg, West Va. he was a member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

He leaves a son, Robert J. Bunnell of West Virginia; a daughter, Marjorie Ann Csell of Las Vegas, Nev.; a brother, Bert Bunnell of Northford; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a son, Charles L. Bunnell; and two brothers, George and Oliver Bunnell.

The funeral will be Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Northford, with the Rev. Stephens M. Kelsey officiating. Calling hours are Monday from 5 to 8 PM at the North Haven Funeral Home, 36 Washington Ave. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Middletown Ave., Northford 06472. Burial will be in Northford Cemetery.

[Lewis John Bunnell CB341617 was descended from the immigrant William Bunnell through Benjamin, Nathaniel, Jairus, John, Augustus Barnes, Henry and George Louis to Lewis John Bunnell.]

* * * * *

THOMAS JEFFERSON BUNNELL CD330977

In Newsletter Vol, II, No. 2, page 7, I printed information on Thomas Jefferson Bunnell and his descendants as one of the "unattached branches". For over thirty years I have been unsuccessful in finding any clues to his ancestry,

NOW I believe we have the answer, although proof is still required. Eileen Bunnell Findling, Windfall, IN, copied and sent to me several pages from the probate records of Cass co, IN. First is the last will and testament of Elijah Bunnell CB320310 of Cass co, dated 13 January 1868 and probated 19 September 1868. The will mentions his wife, son James to have the farm, daughter Sytha, and son Edward with specific bequests. Then \$1 each to remaining children, sons JEFFERSON, John, Noah, William, and Squire; daughters Eliza Emely, Martha Armstrong, Sarah Cornell, Rebecca Cunninghasi, Mary C. Daggett and Jane Updegraff. Son James appointed executor.

Elijah's son James B. Bunnell never married. He died in Cass co on 14 October 1888. In June 1890 the administrator for his estate filed a petition for an order to sell the farm to settle the estate. Eileen Findling sent a copy of the petition, which says in part:

"That at the time of his death he was intestate and left surviving him the following heirs only to wit; his brothers JEFFERSON Bunnell, John W. Bunnell, Noah Bunnell, William Bunnell, Squire Bunnell, Edward Bunell, and the following sisters, to wit; Mary C. Daggett, Rebecca Pool, Jane Updegraff, Sarah Cornell, Sytha Bunnell and Martha Armstrong and the following nieces and nephews, Martha Green, Hat-tie Rupert and Elijah Emely, children of Eliza Emely, a deceased sister, and Lillie Fuller, his grand niece and the granddaughter of said Eliza Emely, deceased."

These documents clearly establish that Elijah Bunnell had a son Jefferson, previously unknown to me. Our subject, Thomas Jefferson Bunnell, is the only person I know of who fits the bill for time and place. In checxing Claude Bunnell's Database, I find that Claude has concluded that Sarah's son Jefferson and Thosias Jefferson Bunnell were the same person, although nothing in the Database provides any evidence for the .identification other than the proximity of time and place» This, of course, is not proof. Unfortunately the documents cited do not show the place of residence of Jefferson. Thomas Jefferson lived at various times at Waynetown, Montgomery co, IN., Mt. Pleasant, Champaign co, IN., Paxton, Ford co, IL., and Crawfordsville, Moxitgonery co, IN, where his wife died on 28 July 1895 and he died on 6 April 1896. Perhaps if someone could obtain a copy of his obituary from a local newspaper it might contain the evidence we need.

If this assumption of identity is correct, Thomas Jefferson Bunnell's descent from the immigrant ancestor William Bunnell runs through Nathaniel Bonnell, Nathaniel, James, Stephen Bunnell and Jonas to Elijah,

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Clifton C. Cilley, Sr., Colebrook, NH, sends us this obituary from The News & Sentinel, Colebrook, NH, Wednesday, 27 July 1994:

LEONARD BUNNELL

Leonard M. Bunnell, 72, of Kennebunk, Maine, died on Thursday, July 14, 1994 at the Southern Main Medical Center, Biddeford.

Born in Stewartstown on February 13, 1922, he was the son of Melrose and Eva (Forrest) Bunnell.

Mr. Bunnell was a sawyer and planer at the foraer Bunnell Saw Mill in Kennebimk for over 22 years.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army.

Mr- Bunnell was a member of the American Legion in Kennebunk, the Mousam Lodge of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and a 50-year member of the former Arundel Grange.

Family members include Margaret Young of Colebrook, one of several cousins.

Funeral services were held .July 21 at the First Congregational Church/ Kennebunk with the Reverend Robert Howes officiating. Interment was in Colebrook Village Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Maine Kidney Foundation, P. 0, Box 1134, Portland, ME 04104,

Arrangements were under the direction -of the Bibber Memorial Chapel, Kennebunk,

[Leonard M. Bunnell was the son of Melrose A. Bunnell CB008229, son of Ellsworth E., son of Orrin Nelson, son of Horatio Nelson Bunnell. See Newsletter Vol. VII, No. 4, for a suggested ancestry for Horatio.]

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From: The Sunday Oregonian, Portland, OR, 23 July 1995, submitted by Jan Clemmer, Salem, OR:

ROBERT F. BONNELL

A memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6, 1995, in the Eagles Lodge 3604 in Ocean Park, Wash.

Mr. Bonnell died of cancer July 15 at age 68.

He was born April 15, 1927, in Vancouver, Wash. He sieved to Ocean Park in the early 1980s.

He was a carpenter.

Mr, Bonnell carried Kathleen Stuart 1970; she died in 1976.

Survivors are his companion, Edith Cavanaugh of Ocean Park; sons, Rob of Astoria and Rick of Vancouver; daughters, Gayle Olstad of Battle Ground, Wash., and Jaynie Connor of Vancouver; stepsons, Robert and Richard Reagan, both of Vancouver, and James Reagan of Battle Ground; stepdaughters, Yvonne Reagan of Baldwinsville, N.Y., Cynthia York of California and Annette Hangartner of Centralia, Wash.; 21 grandchildren; and former wife, Joan Bonneville of Battle Ground.

Remembrances: Hospice Southwest.

Arrangements: Memorial Gardens Funeral Chapel in Vancouver.

[I do not seem to have any record of this Robert F. Bonnell. Can anyone provide any further information?]

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THE BIBLE OF ANNA MARGARET (BUITER) BONNELL

This Bible was purchased by Anna Margaret Buiter prior to her marriage to William S. Bonnell CB012467. She was born 4 November 1805 in Philadelphia^ PA, daughter of George Buier. with her parents she moved to Tioga co, PA. William S., son of John Bonnell, was born 17 September 1807 at Jersey Shore, Lycoming co, PA. William and Anna Margaret were married about 1831. In 1838 or 1839 they moved from Lycomng co, PA, to Seneca co, OH, where he bought timbered land and cleared it. They appear in the 1860 and 1870 census in Pleasant twp, Seneca co, OH. He was active in public affairs. They had eight children. He died 15 (or 14) April 1885 in Pleasant twp. After his death Anna Margaret: lived with her daughter Margaret and her husband Daniel Callow. She died 14 February 1887 in Pleasant twp.

The Bible was published in Philadelphia, PA, in 1829, Tt is printed in German in Dr. Martin Luther's translation. It is now in the possession of Anna Margaret's great granddaughter, Jean (Bonnell) Seigley, of Tiffin, OH, who sent me a photocopy of the entries. The first page is inscribed "Margeret Biter her Book in the year of our Lord 1830. Bought June 4th 1830." Although a number of the entries appear twice on different pages, only one set is transcribed here:

Anna Margaret Buiter was born November 4the in the year A D 1805.
William S. Bonnell was Bom September 17the in the year A D 1807.
Catharine ann Bonnell was Born Aprile 22the in the year A D 1832.
John Bonnell was born Aprile 10the in the year A.D. 1834.
Mary Elizabeth Bonnell was aborn march 16the in the year A D 1836.
Jacob Bonnell was Born June 22 in the year A D 1837.
Margaret Jane Bonnell was born January 10the in the year A D 1840.
Richard W. Bonnell Was born the 19 day of Aprile A D 1842.
James Bonnell was born the 13 day of January at six o clock P M AD 1847.

Catharine Ann Bonnell was born the 13 day of February A D 1818.
Amanda Bonnell was born the 13 day of March A D 1825.
Mary Bonnell was born the 26 day of November A D 1819.
[The last three were sisters of William S. Bonnell.]

Richard W. Bonnell Died Feb the 5 A D 1863 at Nashville tenessee.

* * * * *

The New Haven Register, submitted by Ruth Duncan, West Simsbury, CT:

In Hamden, Aug. 15, 1995, MARGUERITE BUNNELL BENNETT of 21 Day Spring Ave., wife of the late Leonard R. Bennett Sr., mother of Barbara Vessell of San Angelo, TX, and Robert W. Bennett of Wallingford. Also survived by 9 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by a son Leonard R. Bennett Jr. Funeral service at BEECHER & BENNETT, 2300 Whitney Ave. Hamden on Friday, August 18, at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be in Beaverdale Memorial Park, Hamden.

[Marguerite (Bunnell) Bennett CB350382 was descended from the immigrant William Bunnell through Benjamin, Hezekiah, Deliverance, Jacob, Samuel, Willis Montgomery and Willis Edward to Marguerite M. Bunnell.]

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Recently I received the following letter from Richard B. Bunnell, Riverside, PA. I can't identify the J. H. Bunnell he Mentions, nor have I ever seen any other reference to the J. H. Bunnell Company. Perhaps someone could tell me what the initials J. H. stand for. It would help if I had his first name:

"Dear Bill,

Enclosed is an item from the August 1995 issue of the Magazine "QST". QST is the monthly publication of the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League).

J. H. Bunnell was the White House telegrapher during the civil war. After the war he moved to Brooklyn, N.Y. and opened a factory that produced telegraph keys, sounders and associated hardware. His products were known for their fine quality, hence their current revival.

Shortly after WWII I worked for the Western Electric Co. They had sub-contracted some work to the Bunnell Co. Periodically I would go to the factory on business, but never thought to get any details on the founder, (I was young and had no interest in genealogy).

I pass this along that some one may know more about J. H. Bunnell and his fine line of products.

New Products

BRAND-NEW KEYS, 100 YEARS OLD!

^ Before the turn of the century—and during Amateur Radio's formative years—pioneering telegraphers and CW ops used keys made by J. H. Bunnell Company. Now you can, too. New York City's J. H. Bunnell Company (a division of MNJ Industrials) is once again making and selling

118 UST

precision keys and telegraph sounders!

Responding to what the company calls "overwhelming interest," Bunnell is gearing up for a limited run of its authentic and fully functional "Miniature Telegraph Key and Sounder." These classic instruments, hand assembled from the company's original tooling, feature gold-plated frames and silver contacts. The originals were manufactured more than 100 years ago and are rare and valuable. Each of the 250 "modern classics" has its own serial number, so even if you're not a key collector, you will be after

purchasing one of these "new old keys."

This Bunnell's first reissue, and others will follow, the company welcomes your input on future offerings.

These special keys are expected to sell out rapidly, so if you're interested, don't delay. Advance orders and deposits are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Prices: key alone, \$265; sounder alone, \$280; key and sounder on a common base, \$495; J. H. Bunnell Company, 80 Locust Dr. Kings Park, NY 11754; tel 516-360-1967. fax 516-361-2173. UST

This obituary from The Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, OH, Sunday; 29 October 1995, was submitted by Karen Kiefel of Columbus.

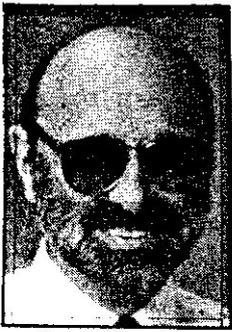
BRENDA JANE (GRACE) BONNELL, age 29, Friday in her residence. Preceded in death by her parents, Eddie and Roberta Grace. Survived by husband Randall "Randy" Bonnell Sr.; children, Nicole, Heidi and Markie Blankenship; step-children, Randall Jr. and David Bonnell; brother, Skip (Milly) Grace; sisters, Kathy (Howard) Daniels, Phyllis (John) Geiger; many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, family and friends. Friends may call at the Egan-Ryan Funeral Home, 403 East Broad Street, Monday 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. where services will be held Tuesday 1 p.m. with Msgr. Francis X. Schweitzer officiating.

[I have no further information about Randall Bonnell, Sr. Can anyone help?]

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This article about the five Bonnell brothers who moved from New Jersey to Fort Madison, Lee co, IA, appeared in the Daily Democrat, Fort Madison, on Thursday, 13 July 1995. For more information on this branch of the family, see Newsletter Vol. V, No. 2, Page 22.

The Bonnells once owned much of the county



**Now
and
Then**

Jerry Sloat

Any tally of the largest landowners in Lee County must certainly include the names of the five Bonnell brothers; John, William, James, Calvin and Sylvanus, who arrived here in 1843.

The Bonnells did not exactly arrive here as poor pioneers struggling to make a new home for themselves. They had already accumulated a small fortune growing apples in Essex County, New Jersey, and had come to Iowa seeking to increase that wealth.

Viewing the eager, restless throngs of settlers streaming across the river here, they had decided on their first business venture even before stepping off the ferry. It was apparent that many pioneers would need to supply themselves before heading into the wilderness to settle a claim. They figured a store located close to the ferry landing was bound to succeed, so they opened one as quickly as they could.

Surprisingly, the store did not live up to their expectations. After a short time they closed it, moved their goods to the settlement of Salem, in Henry County, and opened their second general store. For some reason this second store seemed to do no

better than the first. The brothers then decided it was time to start investing their money in land. It was something they had undoubtedly planned on doing all along. :

Concentrating their efforts on Franklin Township of Lee County, they started buying claims and small farms. Before long they had acquired an unbroken domain of somewhere between 1,500 and 2,000 acres of ground in the Northwestern corner of the township-

Operating jointly, the brothers set about clearing the timber, breaking sod for new fields, and otherwise improving their holdings. Even through all of this they were not giving up on the idea of a store. They closed the one at Salem and moved the stock into yet another store they had built on their ground

The location of this store attracted others to locate there. Before long there were two blacksmiths, a post office, a school house and one or two other small businesses. All though it was never surveyed or platted as a town, the little settlement became known as Dover.

This store at Dover prospered much better than the Bonnell's previous merchandising ventures. After two years they sold it to Louis Walter and concentrated on the business they knew best, farming.

Each of the brothers built sturdy, attractive homes for their families. The one built by James Bonnell. was named Eimwood, and was once considered by many to be the "Handsomest House in the County." They also experimented

with all of the newest practices in farming and animal husbandry.

This profitable joint venture lasted for nearly a dozen years before it began to unravel. perhaps the needs of the growing individual families within the organization prompted a change. Or maybe it was just a desire for independence. Whatever the reason, a decision was made in 1852 to dissolve the combined operations and split the land among the brothers. Each was then free to go their own way.

Unfortunately, it seems to have been a classic example of "United We Stand—Divided We Fall." Soon after this action, the family fortunes began to decline. James and William, holding 880 acres between them, continued to farm together for many more years. John ultimately retired and moved to Fort Madison. The record of what happened to Calvin and Sylvanus is less clear.

Bit by bit the ownership of Bonnell lands passed outside the family. Even their little hamlet of Dover began to wither and die as the upstart community of Donnellson, four miles to the south, sprang up along the railroad from Fort Madison to Farmington. The last trace of the vast Bonnell family holdings disappeared from the county plats when the farm of Harvey Bonnell, the son of James, was sold at auction in 1921.

From the Hartford (CT) Courant, submitted by Ruth Duncan, West Simsbury, CT:

HELEN (BUNNELL) BOYNE, formerly of Bay shore Drive, West Haven, died Friday (Sept. 8, 1995) after a long illness. She was mother of Richard F. Boyne Jr. of West Haven, Paul J. Boyne of North Branford, Mary Lucibello of Florida, and the late Matthew Boyne; sister of Helen Apuzzo of West Haven, and the late Earl Bunnell; survived by 19 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren. The funeral will be Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., froa the Keenan Funeral Home, 238 Elm St., West Haven, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, 10 a.m., at St. Lawrence Church, West Haven. Friends may call Monday, 4-8 p.m.

[Mrs. Boyne CB360413 was descended from the imigrant William Bunnell through Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, Isaac, William, Sheldon, John Maxson, Myron Edward and Roy Irving to Helen Bunnell. However, I am informed by Clement M. Bonnell III that she was born Helen Grubb and that she was adopted by Roy Irving Bunnell, her stepfather.]

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QUERIES

The name and address of the inquirer are included with each query. However, if you are able to provide the inquirer with the information requested, I would appreciate your sending me a copy of your reply.

1. My mother's brother JOHN HOWARD BONNELL CB007823. born 22 October 1882 in New Haven, Allen co, IN, lived in Fort Wayne, Allen co, IN, through schooling, resided in Chicago, IL, in 1913, married ELIZABETH BOONE and had two children: JOSEPH HOWARD BONNELL and MARY BONNELL, both born before 1918. I don't know whether or not they married and had children, but if so I would like to get in touch with them to share my genealogy information, Ellen Dora, 209 41stSt., Manhattan Beach CA 90266.

[In Claude Bunnell's Database I find that John Howard Bonnell appeared in the 1900 census living with his parents in Fort Wayne, and in the 1920 census in Oak Park, Cook co, IL, with his wife Elizabeth F. and children, Joseph H., born 1911, and Mary Ann, born 1915. John Howard Bonnell's occupation in 1920 was listed as office manager for a mail order house. He died 16 April 1940 in Fort Wayne, IN.

It may not be significant, but the Social Security Death Records list a Joseph Bonnell who was born 5 September 1911. He obtained his Social Security card and number in Michigan. He died in September 1984 in Traverse City, Grand Traverse co, MI. - wra.]

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That's all, folks, for this time. Have a Happy New Year!