

Reprint

Typed by Marjorie Gibbs

## THE BUNNELL/BONNELL NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, No. 4  
October 1987

1

Published by  
William R. Austin  
P. O. Box 62  
Laceyville, PA 18623  
(717) 869-2325

### MISCELLANEOUS

Once again your contributions have paid for this issue of the Newsletter. They are much appreciated, not only for the financial help, but also for the inspiration that comes from the knowledge that so many people are genuinely interested in their ancestral history.

\*

Although I don't solicit contributions of money for this project, I do strongly encourage all of you to participate by sending in material for publication. In this issue you will find the first of a series of extracts from Bunnell/Bonnell family Bibles which have been sent to me. If you have access to others, please submit them for publication in future issues. The number of queries has increased for this quarter, and I hope that positive responses will be forthcoming. So far, at least, I have not learned of any replies to the queries in the first three Newsletters.

\*

Several of you have sent me names and addresses copied from your local telephone books. They are useful as a form of current census of the family and I would like to have more of them. However, my experiments so far in using them to increase the Newsletter mailing list have been disappointing. If any of you would like to do so, it would help me if you could call the Bunnells and Bonnells in your local calling area, find out if they are interested in receiving the Newsletter, and, if so, get an accurate mailing address. Phone book addresses and mailing addresses are frequently different, and Post Offices in many places have become unreasonably sticky about them.

\*

Marilyn Lynch, 512 N. 2nd St., Sayre, OK 73662, asked me to tell you that she is compiling the first seven generations of the descendants of William Bunil/Bonnel/Bunnell of New Haven, including female lines as well as male. She would especially like to hear from those not included in Ruth Duncan's book, "William Bunnell and his Descendants." She will publish her work to make it available to others.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Who Were the Parents of Jacob Bonnell?

JACOB BONNELL married MARY SCHOOLEY, daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH (DELL) SCHOOLEY, on 27 November 1769 at Mendham, Morris Co., NJ. They were Quakers. Their son HENRY BONNELL settled in what is now Waterloo, Seneca co, NY, and had numerous descendants in that area.

Considerable confusion exists as to the parents of JACOB BONNELL. Ruth Duncan, in her book, "William Bunnell and his Descendants," identifies him with the JACOB, born 1735 at Kingwood, Hunterdon co, NJ, son of ABRAHAM and MARY (SHINN) BONNELL. Paula Sacco, in material she sent to me, made the same identification, although no reference source was cited.

On the other hand, Carolyn Syron Valentine, in her 1925 manuscript, "Syron, Searing Wills, Deeds and Ways", cited by Duncan as "History of the Bonnell Family," claimed that JACOB was the son of BENJAMIN BONNELL (1723-1798) and an unknown first wife, who is supposed to have died at JACOB's birth. BENJAMIN married in 1744 RACHEL VAN WINKLE. If this was in fact a second marriage, it was pretty quick work, since BENJAMIN was then only 21 years old. Valentine based her information on a story of a letter from a Richard Brotherton found in an old desk. My readers are aware of how little faith I place in the work of Carolyn Valentine.

However, two items have come to my attention which tend to confirm Valentine's version. Viola Kuhni, of Midway, UT, sent me a series of Family Group Sheets compiled by Waterloo descendants of JACOB and his son HENRY. Here it is stated that JACOB BONNELL, son of BENJAMIN and a first wife (unknown), was born in 1743 at Mendham, Morris co, NJ.

Then, among the Biles Letters, I found one which seems to confirm Valentine's story. On 3 February 1921 Mrs. Addie W. Crawford, of Canton, Bradford co, PA sent to John A. Biles a letter she had recently received in response to a query she had placed in the "Boston Transcript." I have a Xerox copy of the original letter, and extract of which follows, complete with the lady's underlining:

"210 High St.  
Fremont, Ohio, 1-19-21

A. W. C. P. Jan. 17 1921, in ans. to #8372-1,  
G. R. F. O., Sept. 15 1920

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for your information and query. There is so much to say on the subject I can't confine it to allowable room in the Transcript. I don't wonder you ask about the first marriage of Benj. Bonnell. It is a very peculiar fact that no record can be found. Much hunting has been done for record but even those devoting their entire time to original records have failed to find it for me. Jacob's son Henry settled in the neighborhood in which was born. In the desk of Charles (my mother's mother's father) grandson of Jacob was found a

letter from Richard Brotherton, a well known Quaker of Dover, N. J. (Dover histories have his pictures and much praise of him.) Richard Brotherton was a cousin of Charles or his father, at least a second cousin of Charles – he addresses him "Cousin Charles." This letter seems to have been in answer to a query from "Charles" as to Jacob's father's family. The letter says very definitely that Jacob was son of Benj. by a first wife and mentions the children by second wife which Richard Brotherton tally with those records give as children of Benj. & Rachel Van Winkle. Richard Brotherton knew them personally so we treasure this letter as the only known evidence of such a marriage. Many of Richard Brotherton's people settled in the same section above mentioned. Had it not been for the love of family history fostered by the husband of the granddaughter to whom the desk descended by her acquiring the old home, this letter would have been thrown out with other papers and it was not until I was well started "leading no where" that a second cousin of mine living in Washington, D. C., who for years lived in New Jersey, found we were both climbing the same tree and told me how she had heard of this letter. I went there, copied it and took it to a notary for him to acknowledge as a copy of original.

...

To go back to Benj., a younger son – a half brother of Jacob, (Jacob was his mother's only child. She probably died at his birth.), whose age was more like Jacob's son Henry, took up land across the road from Henry and that land is now in our line possession. In fact I at one time owned some of it but it now belongs to a grandson of Charles. Descendants from this son of Benj. come about sixty miles to our Reunion. I would guess you live in Pennsylvania. Possibly you might be able to attend the Reunion the coming year. I believe my sister will entertain this coming year the latter part of August, at Waterloo, N. Y.

...

Cordially yours  
Grace Gridley Roscoe  
(Mrs. L. W.)"

I sure would love to find the original Brotherton letter or the notarized copy made by Mrs. Roscoe. Unfortunately, I don't believe there are any descendants of this branch of the family included on the Newsletter mailing list. Can anyone help? Or can anyone tell me where to find evidence supporting the statement that JACOB's father was ABRAHAM BONNELL?

\*\*\*\*\*

On the following page is a picture taken at the fifth annual reunion of the Wyoming co, PA, Bunnells, descendants of Benjamin and Catherine (Barry) Bunnell. It was sent to me by Barbara Lee Lewis, of Hayward, CA, who found it among the papers of her mother Doris (Bunnelle) Thomas. It was taken 27 August 1909 about five miles from here at Pebble Beach, across the Susquehanna River from Meshoppen, PA. My wife's great-great-grandfather, Rev. Gilbert Chamberlain is seated

at far left in the front row. An old newspaper account of the reunion says he gave the invocation that day. I can also find Henry and John Bacon and John's wife, Leila (Winans) Bacon. Can anyone identify any of the others?



\* \* \* \* \*

Marilyn Lynch, Sayre, OK, wrote: "I think a nice thing for the newsletter would be reviews and availability of books concerning Bonnells. If old, if the person who has it would be willing to copy it for others or what library it is in; if new, where it can be purchased. I know from experience that pieces of lines are included in other family books, and those can often be a wonderful help in tracing our surname." To start it off she submitted the following review:

A VILLAGE AT WAR, Chatham New Jersey, and the American Revolution, by Donald Wallace White, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press – For those researching Bonnells and related families in New Jersey, this account of life during the Revolutionary War is better than any historical novel. You finish it knowing exactly how our ancestors survived and participated in the war for independence. I now have a sense of the look and feel of the land, the hardship endured, the interconnecting families. I became acquainted with their schools and churches, their admiration for Gen. Washington and part he played at Chatham. White's easy-to-read style is packed with detailed information. The book can be rented from Texas Tech University Library, Lubbock, TX for \$5. It is also available in the LDS library at Salt Lake.

\* \* \* \* \*

I just received from Ruthelle H. Finnerty, Odessa, BX, a list of Bunnells and Bonnells copied from the International Genealogical Index (IGI) at the LDS Branch Genealogy Library. She plans to send additional listings state by state, and will start on Europe and England when USA and Canada are finished. These listings will appear in the Newsletter starting in January. Many thanks, Ruth, from all of us.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ruth Duncan suggested that the Newsletter would be an appropriate medium in which to print the genealogies of Bunnell and Bonnell families which we have collected, but have not yet been able to attach to the main family tree. Accordingly, here is the first one from my files. Except for a single reference noted below, the only source I have for this is a letter written to John A. Biles from John Minor Bunnell of Grampian, PA, on 21 October 1906. If anyone can add anything to this record, I would be delighted to receive it.

FF – 1. WILLIAM BUNNELL was born 28 February 1816 I Sinking Valley, Huntingdon co, PA. He served 218 months in the 105th Regt, P. V. I. in 1861 and 1862. He was married to ELIZABETH FISHER. He died 29 March 1902 at Sanborn, Clearfield co, PA

Children:

- \*1. John E.
2. Elizabeth, m. George Rowles.
3. Mary, m. (first) Andrew Rowles; m. (second) David Downey; m. (third) Otto Buck; d. 6 Jan. 1901.
4. Susan, m. Jonathan Carson; 3 children.
5. Annie, m. Edward Goss

Children (Surname Goss):

1. William
2. Oscar.
6. Peter, went west into Indian Territory in 1875 or 1876 to take up Government lands. He was hanged by the Indians there.
7. Amos (?), was shot and instantly killed by Adam Walker near Houtzdale, Clearfield co, PA, about 1866.
8. Daniel, died about 1867 of typhoid fever.
- \*9. William, b. 13 Nov. 1855.
10. son.

FF – 1 – 1 JOHN E. BUNNELL, son of William, served in the 110 Regt., P. V. I. from 1861 to 1864. His wife was JANE ROWLES. In 1906 they lived at Farrandsville, Clinton co, PA six miles from Lock Haven.

Children:

1. John.
2. Elizabeth
3. Mary.
- nine others.

FF – 1 – 9. WILLIAM BUNNELL, son of William, was born 13 November 1855. On 29 September 1876 he married SARAH ANN McKEE, of Madera Clearfield co, PA.

Children:

- \*1. John Minor, b 27 Aug. 1877
2. Amanda Elizabeth, b. 8 July 1879; m. Henry Donahue.  
Children (surname Donahue):
  1. Carlisle.
3. David, b. 2 April 1881; d. 14 April 1883.
4. Joseph T., b. 31 July 1883.
5. Harry, b. 13 Sept. 1885
6. Clarence, b. 11 Oct. 1889
7. Elmer, b. 14 Jan. 1892
- \*8. Dewey, b. 26 Apr. 1898
9. Clark, b. 15 Nov. 1900
10. supposedly another, but I don't know where it fits.

FF – 1 – 9 – 1. JOHN MINOR BUNNELL, son of William, was born 27 August 1877 in Pennsylvania. He enlisted as a private in Company L of the Fifth Regt., P. V. I., on 14 July 1898 to serve in the Spanish American War. He was mustered out with his company on 7 Nov. 1898. His residence was given as Grampian, Clearfield co, PA. In 1906 he was engaged in the restaurant business at Grampian.

Ref: Record of PA Volunteers in the Spanish-American War,  
Page 218.

FF – 1 – 9 – 4. JOSEPH T. BUNNELL, son of William, was born 31 July 1883. His wife was GRACE SMITH. In 1906 they lived at Curwensville, Clearfield co, PA.

Children:

1. Carroll.
2. Harry.

FF – 1 – 9 – 8. DEWEY BUNNELL, son of William, was born 26 April 1898 in Pennsylvania. (Note: The only other DEWEY I ever heard of in the Bunnell family was the DEWEY BUNNELL who sang with the rock group, "America." All that I know about him is that he was born about 1952; in 1968 he was attending Central High School in Watford, a suburb of north London, England. Central High was a school for the dependents of American Air Force personnel. In 1969, with Dan Peek and Gerry Beckley, he formed the group which became "America" and achieved considerable success on both sides of the Atlantic. Not being an aficionado of rock music, I don't know what their standing is today. Could these two Deweys be related, possibly grandfather and grandson?)

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Bunnell/Bonnell Bible Records

Bob Gruman, Port Charlotte, FL. sent photocopies of two pages of a Family Record, as follows:

"John C. Collins, Married to Elisabeth B. Bunell July 3, 1844.  
John C. Collins, Born Nov. 14 1818.  
Elisabeth B. Bunell, born March 22, 1828.

Children Marriages

Marey Elisabeth Collins, June 13 1866  
Harriet Lurvisa Collins, Married February 1, 1871."

He also sent a photocopy of the marriage certificate of John and Elizabeth (Bunnell) Collins. It reads as follows:

"This is to Certify that Mr. John C. Collins of the Town of Westport in the State of Connecticut, and Miss Elizabeth B. Bunnell of the Town of Westport in the State of Connecticut were joined together in HOLY MATRIMONY on the Third day of July in the

Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Four. By me, Z. Davenport,  
Minister of the Gospel, In Presence of Willm. F. Crofut, Anna D. Crofut."

\*

The following data was copied from the Bible of Amos Bunnell (1803 – 1899 by Rev. George O. Beers, who married Amos' youngest daughter Clarissa M. Bunnell in 1912. It was given to me by a relative of Rev. Beers almost thirty years ago. Amos and his family lived in the neighborhood of Rush and Birchardville, Susquehanna co, PA.

"Amos Bunnell BORN Dec. 11 1803.  
Amelia Ann Williams born Nov. 29 1812, married 1827.

1. James Monroe Bunnell, born Dec. 12 1829.
2. Infant, born Mar. 15 1832; died June 3, 18332.
3. Laura E. Bunnell, born May 21, 1834.
4. Francis H. Bunnell, born May 26, 1837
5. David Lorenzo Bunnell, born June 28 1839.
6. Mary Evaline Bunnell, born Jan. 1 1842.
7. Adaline C. Bunnell, born Dec. 31, 1844.
8. Sarah A. Bunnell, born Aug. 11 1846.
9. Silena E. Bunnell, born May 16, 1849.
10. Clarissa M. Bunnell, born May 24, 1852."

\* \* \* \* \*

Last quarter I asked for information about Barry Bonnell. Replies from Ruth Duncan, Wet Simsbury, CT, and Clement M. Bonnell III, Milford, NJ, combined with the records from my files show that Barry's line is Barry Bonnell<sup>12</sup>, Robert J.<sup>11</sup>, Walter Roy<sup>10</sup>, Edwin Reeder<sup>9</sup>, Jonathan<sup>8</sup>, Lewis<sup>7</sup>, Samuel<sup>6</sup>, Benjamin<sup>5</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>4</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>.

Clement Bonnell was able to furnish me the present mailing address for both Barry and his father, Robert J. Bonnell, and I am looking forward to obtaining additional information about their family history from them.

\* \* \* \* \*

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. BENJAMIN BUNNELL (1742 – 1814), son of SOLOMON and MARY (HOLDREN) BUNNELL, married CATHERINE BERRY, daughter of JAMES and HESTER (BRYANT) BERRY. Has anyone done any further research on the background and ancestry of Catherine Berry? Charlotte C. Smith, 2791 Walker Lee Dr., Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

NOTE: I believe this name was BARRY instead of BERRY wra.

2. ABIGAIL BONNELL, b. 1724 (or 1735 – wra), daughter of NATHANIEL and HANNAH (MILLER) BONNELL, married (first) AARON ALLEN, and (second) THOMAS GARDNER, Sr. She had a daughter, ABIGAIL ALLEN, by her first marriage, who married THOMAS GARDNER, Jr. Who were the children of ABIGAIL ALLEN and THOMAS GARDNER, Jr. Char Nelson, 109 Benton, Boone, IA 50036.?

3. Need names of parents and ancestry of SAMUEL MAXWELL FRAZEE, b. 1790 NJ, d. 1855 Butler co, OH, m. LYDIA J. BONNELL, daughter of SAMUEL and ELIZABETH (CRANE) BONNELL. John E. Wolverton, 2815 North Maplewood Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.

4. Need ancestry and parents of MARY (POLLY) COOK, b. 19 Jan. 1783 in CT, m. (date?) TITUS JEFFERSON BUNNELL, b. 19 July 1769 in Farmington, CT. The removed to Montgomery co, NC and then to Hancock co, ILI, about 1845 with their son LEWIS HART BUNNELL, b. 12 June 1822 in NC. MARY (COOK) BUNNELL d. 19 Feb. 1851, and TITUS J. BUNNELL d. 19 Aug. 1856. Both are buried in Round Prairie Cemetery, Schuyler co, IL. Would also appreciate info on TITUS JEFFERSON BUNNELL's family. Mrs. Dale Hammarlund, Route 1, Box 76, St. Marys, KS 66536.

5. I am interested in corresponding with descendants of RAPHAEL BUNNELL, b. 20 Feb. 1787 Hartford, CT. Mrs. B. Sorensen, 1042 Whitfield Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062.

6. What are the vital statistics and what is the ancestry of MARY HOLDREN who married SOLOMON BUNNELL, b. 27 Oct. 1705, New Haven, CT, and d. 1799 Middle Smithfield twp, now Monroe co, PA? John A. Larsen, 1294 Hull, Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

7. Wish to correspond with any BUNNELL descendants who are also connected with COWLE or McDUFFEE lines of New Hampshire, Vermont, Wisconsin or Kansas. Doris M. Denton, 1812 Ardith Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

8. FRANKLIN PIERCE BONNELL, b. 1852 Clarkson, NY, d. Jan. 1931 Brockport, NY, son of ALLEN BONNELL and his first wife (name?). Mother died about 1860 and ALLEN remarried (to whom?). I've been told ALLEN was French and spoke English brokenly. Any info about this family would be welcome. Jewett B. Butler, 13156 Stillwater Road, Waterport, NY 14571.

9. Who were the parents of JANE JENKINS, 1745-1819 NJ, wife of ABRAHAM BUNNEL (BONNEL)? Who were the parents of SARAH BROADWELL, d. 1794 Elizabethtown, NJ, wife of JAMES BUNNEL (BONNEL)? Connie Wilson, 7002 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Note: My records show that Sarah, wife of James Bonnell, died 4 March 1701, and was buried in the Baptist cemetery at Scotch Plains, NJ. What evidence does anyone have to show that her maiden name was BROADWELL? – wra.