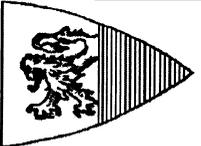
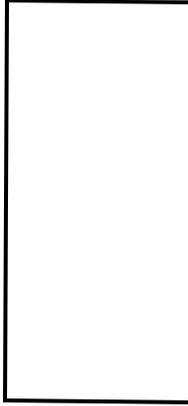


THE
DENBOW DIASPORA



Vol. 6, No. 2 — December 1999
Internet Genealogy

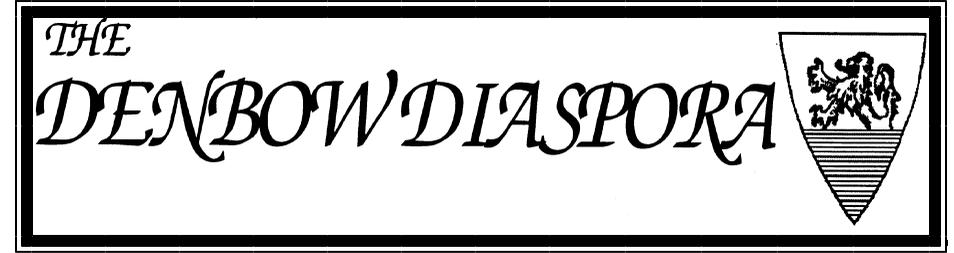


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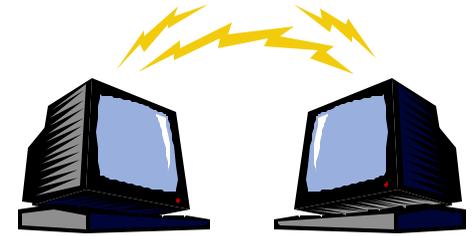
December 1999 "An International newsletter for Denbows" Vol. 6, No. 2

Internet Genealogy Denbow-L — Your Source for Family History Online

A few months ago *The Denbow Diaspora*, through the good offices of the website rootsweb.com, launched a computer listserv called DENBOW-L. A listserv is a way to link people with common interests together so that they can share information — not just person-to-person but to all list subscribers.

At this point the more than 20 subscribers to DENBOW-L have had some lively discussions on a number of topics including: the Denbo(w)s of Denbo, Pa; relationships between the Indiana Denbos and the Iowa Denbows; Denbows in the War of 1812; racial attitudes in Indiana and Ohio in the 1800s; the first North American Denbows; and many others.

If you have a computer and online access, we'd love to have you join our merry throng. Here's how: Send a message to DENBOW-L-request@rootsweb.com that contains



the word "subscribe" (no quote marks) and nothing else. To unsubscribe, send the command "unsubscribe" to the same address.

When you join you can post messages for the list by addressing them to DENBOW-L@rootsweb.com. In fact, the first thing you should do is post a message announcing your presence and telling the list members a little about yourself and what you know, or don't know, about your personal family history.

On the next few pages you will see some examples of the discussion "threads" on DENBOW-L. Enjoy!

DENBOW-L: Varied Topics, Lively Discussion, Friendly Exchange of Ideas

An interesting exchange between Tom Denbo, of Pasadena, Calif., and Joesph Kendall, of Newark, Ohio.

Here is another selection from *Centre to Center*, pp 61-62: [*Centre to Center* is a history of the California area in western Pennsylvania.]

VETERANS OF DUNMORE'S WAR

Some of the veterans of Dunmore's War, begun in April, 1774, who resided in present Centerville Borough were: Joseph Woodfill, Daniel Woodfill, James Robert Denbo (whose family was massacred during this war — See Denbo Massacre), Jacob Harmell, John Harmell and Henry Harmell, all of the Low Hill and Denbo area.

Dunmore's War was a local Indian War that took place in what is now Southwestern Pennsylvania, Northern West Virginia, and Southeastern Ohio. It began in April 1774 when Daniel Great-house murdered ten members of the Shawnee Chiefs (Chief Logan) family at Bakers Bottom near the mouth of Yellow Creek along the Ohio River. The Indians organized, retaliated, and threw the frontier into an immediate panic. Many families in what is now southwestern Pennsylvania were murdered by the

Shawnee in the Spring of 1774. Chief Logan sent his war parties to ravish the Upper Monongahela and the Ten Mile country. The frontier people began leaving the area in great numbers. It is said that more than one thousand people crossed the Monongahela, from the west side to the east, in one day at three ferries that were not one mile apart. One ferry was at Brownsville and possibly the other two were at Woodfill's crossing at Vesta Seven and the ferry landing at Vesta Six. The country west of the Monongahela was completely evacuated in a short time.

The situation had grown into a full-scale war. On May 13, 1774, the House of Burgess, governing body of Virginia, gave Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia, power to [wage] war against the Shawnee. Volunteers were recruited. There were to be fifty men per company and the rate of pay for a private was set at one and one-half shillings per day.

Jacob Hormel, John Hormel, and James Robert Denbo served 153 days and received 11 pounds, 9 shillings, 6 pence as pay. Daniel Woodfill served 73 days and received 5 pounds, 9 shillings, 6 pence. Joseph Woodfill served 153 days as an officer and received 19 pounds, 2 shillings, 6 pence.

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land. More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters, but here is the family tree that Mr. Barton sent us for your review. The very last couple listed appear to be the parents of Martha Sharp Denbow (1798-1855).

1 Thomas SHARP b: March 1727/28 in Ireland d: April 1802 in Harford Co., MD
+Susannah WILSON b: Abt. 1735 in Balt/Harford Co., MD d: Bef. 1802 in Harford Co., MD

... 2 John SHARP b: February 25, 1754 in Harford Co., MD d: May 14, 1840 in Fredericktown, Knox Co., OH

..... +Elizabeth KENNARD
..... 3 Thomas SHARP b: February 20, 1796 d: in Muscatine, Iowa

..... 4 Townsend SHARP
..... +Martha QUEEN
..... 4 Addison SHARP
..... +Mira SCRIBNER
..... 4 Elizabeth SHARP
..... +L. L. BENSON
..... 4 Lucy SHARP
..... +Charles TABOR
..... 3 Elizabeth SHARP b: October 10, 1797

..... **3 John SHARP, Jr. b: June 15, 1801 d: in Cardington, Monroe Co., OH**

..... +Hannah BESON
..... 4 Elizabeth SHARP b: July 25, 1833 d: July 21, 1859
..... 4 Levi Benson SHARP b: May 29, 1835
..... 4 Joseph Walton SHARP b: August 14, 1838 d: in Mansfield, OH

..... +Elizabeth A. KELLY
..... 4 Oliver SHARP b: July 1, 1841
..... 4 Mary Esther SHARP b: February 2, 1849
..... +?_ JEFFREYS
..... 4 Kenard SHARP b: November 3, 1845 d: February 5, 1850

... 2 William SHARP b: July 8, 1757 in Baltimore Co., MD d: Bef. March 1804 in Unknown
..... +Mary HEATON d: Bef. March 1804 in Unknown

..... 3 John SHARP
..... 3 William SHARP
..... 3 Elizabeth SHARP
..... 3 Susanna SHARP

... 2 Thomas SHARP b: June 6, 1759
..... +Charlotte POCOCK

... 2 Susannah SHARP b: July 4, 1768 in Harford Co., MD d: Aft. 1802 in Harford Co., MD

..... +William Hitchcock BARTON b: February 22, 1748/49 in Balt/Harford Co., MD d: Aft. March 7, 1804 in Harford Co., MD

..... 3 Thomas Sharp BARTON, 1st b: March 27, 1801 in Harford Co., MD d: March 1, 1855 in near York, York Co., PA

..... +Hannah LOWE b: July 28, 1815 in near New Park, Harford Co., MD d: July 14, 1895 in near Delta, York Co., PA

..... 4 Alice Ann Elizabeth BARTON b: February 24, 1836 in

Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA
..... +Benjamin WILSON
..... 4 James Harvey BARTON b: October 12, 1837 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: November 10, 1917 in York Co., PA

..... +Ann Jane HENNINGS b: December 21, 1852 in IL d: April 1, 1932 in York, York Co., PA

..... 4 William Thomas BARTON b: April 5, 1840 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: February 27, 1845 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA

..... 4 Augustine Rutledge BARTON b: December 23, 1841 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: March 8, 1883 in York Co., PA

..... +?_ TAYLOR
..... 4 Aquila Elijah BARTON b: August 11, 1845 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: January 2, 1846 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA

..... 4 Thomas Sharp BARTON, 2nd b: May 20, 1846 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: August 31, 1922 in Hutchinson, Reno Co., KS

..... +Angie Elizabeth WINTERS b: December 28, 1854 in Indiana d: December 7, 1889 in Monmouth, Warren Co., IL

..... *2nd Wife of Thomas Sharp BARTON, 2nd:
..... +Cora Mae Miller DANIELSON b: January 15, 1874 in Warren Co. IL d: March 6, 1957 in Hutchinson, Reno Co., KS

..... 4 Francis Cloman BARTON b: June 3, 1849 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: May 29, 1903 in UNK

..... 4 Hannah Margret BARTON b: March 6, 1851 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., MD d: May 30, 1923 in Harford Co., MD

..... +Hugh Thomas HEAPS b: 1830 in Harford Co., MD d: 1915 in Harford Co., MD

..... 4 Robert Fisher BARTON b: August 11, 1853 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: October 29, 1922 in Lincoln, NE

..... +Ava SAGE b: October 23, 1859 in Milan, IN d: March 9, 1962 in Lincoln, NE

..... 4 Susanna Elmira BARTON b: November 11, 1855 in Chanceford Twp., York Co., PA d: August 19, 1930 in Stewartstown, York Co., PA

..... +William Nelson ZEIGLER b: March 5, 1843 in Stewartstown, York Co., PA d: March 7, 1915 in Stewartstown, York Co., PA

..... 3 Susanna BARTON b: Abt. 1794 in Maryland
..... +John HEATON b: Abt. 1792 in near Bel Air, Maryland

..... 4 William Fesler HEATON b: Abt. 1829 in Harford County, Maryland d: Abt. 1896 in probably Stewartstown, Pennsylvania

..... +Cyrena Catherine ALMONY b: 1840 in Maryland d: 1925 in Maryland

..... 4 Elizabeth HEATON b: Abt. 1832
..... +? McClUNG

..... 4 John HEATON b: Abt. 1835
..... +Sarah ?

... **2 James SHARP b: April 24, 1771**
..... +Sarah WARE

[Editor's note: Martha's father, James Sharp, was also sometimes listed with the first name of Elias; his tombstone in Vinton County says James Sharp.]

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ran for the office of state senator (representing Monroe and one or two adjacent counties) on the Democrats' ticket but was defeated in the Republican landslide for Theodore Roosevelt of that election. [Editor's Note: TR was elected in 1904.] He ran for county prosecutor of Monroe County on the Democrat ticket in 1906 and again in 1908 and was elected both times. He and his family moved to Columbus, Ohio, in 1912. Their first home there was more or less in the country near the hamlet of Flint, just north of Worthington. This land had sufficient acreage for a small-size commercial fruit orchard. Alonzo's law offices were in the old Huntington Bank building on High Street, across from the State Capitol, in Columbus. Later, the family moved to 229 West 11th Ave., along the southern limit of Ohio State University.

Probably because of his father's excessive use of alcohol, Alonzo became a total abstainer. Moreover, he did not

approve of anyone else using alcohol and did not associate with anyone who did. This feeling led to serious disagreements with his father whom he rarely mentioned. He seems to have had an affection for his mother, however. He, of course, was a staunch "dry" in politics.

Alonzo died August 3, 1933 in Columbus of intestinal cancer. Both he and his wife, Ida Matilda, are buried side-by-side in Union Cemetery in Columbus in unmarked graves. Ida Matilda died of stomach cancer Feb. 2, 1937.

Kay Denbow Petro
Chillicothe, Ohio
1979

Addendum: Alonzo was a special favorite of his daughter-in-law Maudean Baxter Denbow. She had great respect for his desire for education, his intelligence, and his ambition to succeed despite his humble beginnings and the unsatisfactory family life of his parents.

Martha Sharp's Probable Family Researcher Discovers Irish Roots, Quaker Monthly Meeting Membership

Rob Barton, a Sharp researcher, has discovered a family in Harford County, Md., that appears to include the parents of Martha, the matriarch of most of the Ohio clan. This Sharp clan is from Ireland (which is consistent with Denbow family records), has

a Monroe County, Ohio, linkage, and has a couple with the right first names and ages to be Martha's mother and father. Interestingly, Mr. Barton has discovered the names of several family members on the rolls of the Quaker Deer Creek Monthly Meeting in Mary-

Actual fighting came to an end when the Southern Division of the local army battled an equal force of Shawnee and defeated them at what is now Point Pleasant, W.Va.

[Editor's Note: the DAR considers this the first battle of the American Revolution, for details see http://wwwweb.com/www/travel_recreation/state_parks/point_pleasant/point_pleasant.html]

+-----+
| Tom Denbo tdenbo@jps.net |
| Pasadena, CA USA (Tom` on IRC) |
+-----+

REPLY

Thanks Tom, I had copies of this but did not know where it came from. Like you I found them fascinating. They bring up more questions though. Was James Robert Denbo (and how did they know that) the same as the Robert Denbo that signed and witnessed deeds in 1774-6? Was there another Denbo family living there? Remember that my Robert was born before the massacre and in this account (though a second account says there were two survivors) it says that only a daughter survived. Also Solomon was clearly born before the massacre as well as the Robert that appears on the muster list with him and Joseph Woodfill in 1782.

Is it possible that no one was killed? Is it possible that there was a party of Indians that came to call and got violent. That many of the family

were hurt, a daughter carried off, the cabin burnt and within a few years the family had left for Kentucky? Could the incident have been told to a Woodfill relative too young to remember the original event by his Denbo cousin, the Indian captive? That she believed that the family was killed?

This would certainly reconcile the different accounts and evidence. It could explain the widow Ann (Nancy) Denbo in Woodford county, Ky. It could explain the name Woodfield turning up in the family of Joseph Denbo of Indiana. I don't really think the available evidence supports that Joseph C. Denbo married a Woodfield woman first. I used to correspond with one of Joseph's descendents in Harrison county. I don't remember if it was Jane Bye or someone else. Anyway she believed that the Nancy Woodfield marriage was put in there to explain the Woodfill Denbos. I freely admit I could be wrong.

I also have evidence, if I can find it, that my Robert Denbo was really named Thomas Robert Denbo. It is a tax list with Joseph in Kentucky.

There is also some biographical material in a book on Methodism in Kentucky and Indiana. Apparently Dan W. was a famous Methodist minister, just as in the account Tom gave us. Dan settled in Jefferson county Indiana. There must have been con-

(Continued on page 5)

Denbow Trivia: Did you know that . . .

From *The Denbow Family Book*, by W. A. Roberts

The island of Antigua was settled by the English in 1635. After territorial disputes with France there was a later deliberate infusion of English settlers. The settlers prospered exceedingly. The basis of their wealth was sugar-cane and the sugar, molasses and rum made from it. Their industry had a generous supply of negro slave labour. Their prosperity withered after the abolition of slavery in 1834.

In 1888, Vere Langford Oliver compiled the story of his family, which had been interwoven with much of the island story. He supported his theme by analysing the story of principal families with which his own had been associated. His three-volume work [is] entitled *The History of Antigua*.

The patriarch of the Denbows in Antigua was Richard. He died in 1730. The birth-dates of his wife and of his children suggest that he was born about 1660 or 1670. He is shown as a

distiller of rum in a substantial way of business, with ships, a quay, a factory, houses, slaves, and distributed property. From Richard and from his nine children, and notably from William who married four times, came the substantial descent which is illustrated. The names of his children and grandchildren are very much in the south Devon Denbow tradition : William, Sarah, Ann, Eleanor, Susannah, Mary, Elizabeth, Jane, Grace, John, George and Thomas.

There is no indication of where Richard had originally come from in England. The topic has not, at this point, been pursued.



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This newsletter is published two or three times a year by the co-editors, who are proud to claim that it is the only newsletter in the world "For Denbows by Denbows."

Alonzo Carleton Denbow: A Teetotaling Lawyer

By Mary Katheryn Denbow Petro

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of Denbow biographies written circa 1975 by Mrs. Petro. She is a descendant of "Uncle George" [featured in the last issue] and "A.C." Denbow, whose story is told herein. Her "warts and all" accounts of her direct ancestors show a love of fact and objectivity that the editors of this newsletter strive to follow. —CJD

Alonzo Carleton Denbow was born October 1, 1867 on a farm in Summit Township, Monroe County, Ohio. His father was George Washington Denbow, son of John Denbow and Martha Sharp(e), and his mother was Sarah Jane Rucker, daughter of Ephraim Rucker and Margaret Lockridge.

Upon completion of the required education, during which he was an avid student, Alonzo went to a normal school — name not known but was located at Stratford [Stafford?], Monroe County — where he received a certificate to teach grade school. This he did for ten years or near Beallsville, Ohio, situated in the northeastern part of Monroe County. While teaching school, Alonzo lived and boarded with the Thomas Wilson family on their farm in Switzerland Township. While living there, he fell in love with their daughter, Ida Matilda, whom he married September 28, 1892. Their children were:

- Carl Kendrick Denbow (5/2/1892 - 11/11/1952) m. Maudean R. Baxter (9/22/1914 - 2/17/1982)

- Chauncey Merrill Denbow (3/12/1894 - ??) m. (three wives)
- Elsie Mabel, (1/24/1897 - 3/16/1984) m. Garrett A. Reiley
- Clarence Eugene (1904 - 3/30/1966) m. Mabel

Alonzo was known as Lon by his family and friends and as "A.C." by his close business associates. He was an intelligent and ambitious young man, and his main goal seems to have been striving to become a politician. He entered the Ohio State University School of Law in Columbus September 13, 1897 but attended only three terms. Probably the reason he did not return to law school and graduate was because of inadequate finances. However, he received a State of Ohio license to practice law by diligent study and by passing the state bar exam in 1898. He practiced law, first in Beallsville, and later in Woodfield (both in Monroe County). In November 1903, he

2000 Denbow Reunion Ashland, Ohio Last Weekend in July

Mark it on your calendar now. Details will be forthcoming in the next issue of the newsletter. We will probably have a three-day event as we have in the past, which would mean a Diaspora Dinner on Friday night along with a presentation on some aspect of Denbow family history, a picnic meal and social gathering on Saturday, and a "field trip" to some spot with historical significance for the Denbow clan on Sunday.

Here's the schedule so far:

Friday night, July 28, Denbow Diaspora Dinner — Details TBA

Saturday, July 29, Picnic Get-together — 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at Brookside Park. We will be right beside three playground areas, one of which is for toddlers, and the olympic-sized pool is just another 100 ft. away, adjacent to the playgrounds.

Sunday, July 30, Field Trip — Details, TBA

(Continued from page 3)

tact with the Denbos and their Woodfield cousins. I say this because Lucinda Denbo Kendall named her first son William Danial Kendall (William for the father's father). It also seems that many, if not all of the middle names of that family came from the Denbos. There is also some evidence that one of her sons had the Woodfield name as his middle name. Danial, it must be pointed out is not a Kendall name. Of that I am certain. Nor is [it] a name that occurs in any of the female lines, except the Denbo family.

I wonder if there is anything written about Queen Aliquippa or by her. What happened to the daughter?

I mention in passing that the settlement about Ft. Brown was founded by Adam Brown who recruited families from Virginia. In fact, some of my Kendall relatives were part of this settlement. There were some Marylander families as well. A second Kendall family being one of them. Also the Swans (there were others, neighbors that I can't recall off hand,) from Prince George county, Md. I have often suspected that the Kendalls first met the Denbos in Pennsylvania as they are on the same tax list/township.

Thanks Tom

Joe

• • • • •
Then there's the interesting story of the "fake" Elijah that Florence Waters has told us about before.

• • • • •
Read with interest your comments concerning Elijah Denbo. That reminded me of the "Great Elijah Denbo" debate in my own family.

Seems that a few, older, members of the family got into the DAR on Elijah's record. There is even a headstone in Crawford county, Ind., with his name on it. This was accepted for years. Then a few of the more investigatively inclined, looked into it, when a discrepancy crept up.

The investigation showed that Elijah was never in Indiana, and that the whole thing was, almost certainly, a forgery. This caused a BIG rift in the family. He who dares to upset a DAR application.....

I bring this up in case we get some newbys in here that find the DAR records, the headstone (admittedly a good piece of evidence, we still don't know who, if anyone, is buried there) and come to the wrong conclusion.

By the way the forgery seems to have been perpetrated by an illegitimate Denbo who was writing a history of the family (and who shall remain nameless, I like my house), and not by the DAR applicants; who simply took the author's evidence.

Joe Kendall

REPLY

As a new member of this list, I was delighted to see so much excellent research here. I'll add some of my finds to the "Great Elijah Denbow Debate." Here is a portion of my letter to an aunt in July 1992 . . .

Here's an amazing story in the search on the Denbo side. I've found differing accounts on the children of one ancestor, Elijah Denbo. Some accounts show one son (Joseph) and other accounts have many children.

I got copies of some of the letters (from Sissy) that Aunt Katheryn had from the 1950's when she did her DAR research. From these I learned of a Dr. Francis J. D'Enbeau of Terra Haute, Ind. He published a Denbo genealogy in the late 1930's, a copy of which is in the Indiana State University Library. His research provided an SAR membership.

I also read letters from a Mack Tucker, who was researching the Tucker line. His letters told of a disagreement between Tucker and D'Enbeau. Tucker's evidence showed that this same Joseph Denbo married Elizabeth Tucker but D'Enbeau disagreed.

Later, when I talked to the editor of the "Denbo Cousins" newsletter (done in 1978-79), I got the following story:

Just before Mack Tucker died

about 10 years ago, he asked the editor to his nursing home to make a tape record of the story because Tucker didn't want it to be lost.

Tucker was puzzled by D'Enbeau's differing claims and investigated further. He found that D'Enbeau had faked a will linking Joseph to Elijah as his only son. Elijah was descendant from a Revolutionary War veteran. He also had a fake tombstone made and placed in the Denbo Cemetery in English, Ind. If that wasn't enough, he turned out to be the illegitimate son of a Denbo female. He had also confused the records to appear that his father was the Denbo and changed his name to a French spelling. Truth is definitely stranger than fiction! I noticed that Aunt Katheryn had not used Elijah on her DAR application. She traced her line through Joseph's son's wife. I suspect that she was smart enough to avoid the Dr. D'Enbeau problem. This sort of thing is a genealogists nightmare!

I happen to have one of the most common of Denbo names: Robert Thomas Denbo Jr. I'm from the Indiana group.

+-----+
| Tom Denbo tdenbo@jps.net |
| Pasadena, CA USA (Tom` on IRC) |
+-----+

would appear to be Harriet and Robert. There are a couple of inconsistencies such as Harriet's birth in 1850 and the obit saying that Drusilla and John were not married until 1852. With a bit more research I believe that these uncertainties can be clarified.

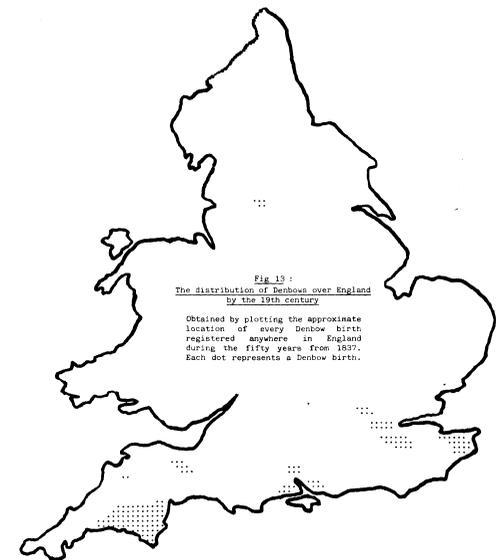
The information I found in Grandma's scrapbook adds another piece to the Denbow genealogical mosaic. Best of all I got it from a source that my grandmother cared enough about that she maintained it for sixty years. John Denbow Jr. was a real person and important to my grandmother and not just another name on the family tree. Even though I was born long after John died, I have a real connection to him through my grandmother who was real important

to me.

As I sit here at my computer I have realized that technology is not the answer to genealogical research — only a tool. Genealogy is a "labor of love." No computer will ever give you the thrill of actually holding an artifact from your family history. No Internet will give you a connection like the one you get from seeing the picture of a son, so proud in his Navy uniform just before he ships off to war and imagining how fearful his mother must have been. No matter how simple and efficient genealogy may become through technology, it will never approximate the bond you feel when you can touch a real source of information that had been held by an ancestor.

Denbow Distribution in UK in 19th Century

The map on the right, from *The Denbow Family Book*, by W. A. Roberts, illustrates the distribution of Denbows in the UK in the 1800s. It shows most Denbow births in South Devon, with small colonies in "the north country, in southeast London, in Kent, and around Southampton." Mr. Roberts hypothesizes that these colonies came about when rural Devonians fled the Devon region to avoid the severe agricultural depression of the 1880s.



With so many Denbow researchers out there, I had no hope of coming up with something new. I had discovered a few “odd” Denbows here and there (Note: Some might say “odd” could be attributed to all Denbows, but we’ll let that pass as a family joke.). I never found any more information on my one-time-mentioned Denbows and was resigned to just updating my computer files.

Recently, my mother, Geraldine Keylor Henthorn Morton Piatt (a whole family tree unto herself), gave me a scrapbook that belonged to my maternal grandmother, Clara Drum Keylor, who was married to Frederick Clemence Keylor, the son of Franklin Pierce Keylor and Mary Lenore Denbow. Mary was the daughter of John Denbow Jr. and Sarah Paith and, of course, John Jr. was the son of John Denbow Sr. and Martha Sharp. Now that I have established the “begats,” I’ll get on with it.

Grandma Keylor kept this scrapbook from before the time she was married in 1906 until her death in 1962. In this scrapbook was a collection of family pictures and newspaper clippings. I have to mention that Grandma Keylor was the sweetest grandmother and revered by her family for her good nature. Part of the study of genealogy is remembering, and I felt it appropriate to mention that about Grandma. Anyway, in the scrapbook were all kinds of newspaper clippings of evangelists coming to town, stories of friends and family, and obituaries. One

obituary, in particular, caught my attention. This obit was for John Denbow Jr., my great-great-grandfather. It was common in the small town papers of the period to list surviving family and those who attended the funeral.

The obituary referenced that John had been married to a Drusilla Brownfield and they had one child, a son Robert R. Denbow. When I come across published references to individuals I always check them against my database. I had a suspicion that this was “new” information. I would have remembered a name like Drusilla Brownfield. The obit stated, “In 1852 he (John Denbow) was married to Drusilla Brownfield. To this union one child was born.”

Prior to this information of a previous marriage, it was believed that John and Sarah Paith Denbow had seven children. My database validation processor kept telling me that two children, Robert and Harriet, were born prior to their parents’ marriage in 1856. As anyone who does genealogy knows, sometimes it is difficult to clear up some of these inconsistencies. It is all too easy to chalk it up to inaccurate records.

Based on the birth dates of Harriet and Robert, I believe that they were the children of John and Drusilla, not Sarah. In Grandma’s scrapbook was also the obituary for Belle Denbow Bender, the daughter of John and Sarah Paith Denbow. This obituary references “one half-brother and one half-sister,” who

REPLY

I think it is pretty certain that an Elijah Denbow from New Hampshire did not die in Indiana, and that some people were making such claims in order to further their own genealogical or other interests. But let me put a cat among the pigeons here. It also seems to be the case that, like the many Joseph Denbows in Kentucky and Indiana at the turn of the 19th century, there are at least two Elijah Denbows, born a few years apart, in New Hampshire.

One of these Elijahs was born in 1740, the son of Richard Denbow and Mary (Bunker) Denbow. This Elijah married Sarah Emmerson in 1761 and had the following children: 1) Elijah Jr. b. 1763; 2) Steven; 3) Solomon, b. 1769; 4) John; 5) Thomas b. 1774; and 6) Lydia b. 1769. Elijah Jr. married Lydia Pimlett; Steven married Mchiable Fry.

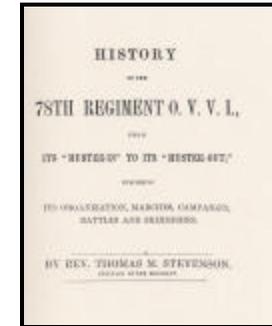
What I have always found interesting is that this is the only other Solomon Denbow I have found reference to. While I have always been tempted to link him as the same person as the elder Solomon of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, I have been told that this Solomon never left New Hampshire and is supposedly buried in the Intervale cemetery in Conway, N.H.. If he

was indeed born in 1769, he would also appear to be too young to be a sergeant in the Pennsylvania militia in 1782!

Another Elijah Denbow appears to have been the son of Salathiel Denbow III and Mary Drisco. He was born in Durham, N.H. in 1738. He married Sarah Willey (b. 1742). This Elijah was a Revolutionary war captain who recruited troops for Washington and it is to this Elijah that the fake documents produced by D'enbeau apparently refer.

Jim Denbow

More Regimental Histories Available!



Send \$40.00 to the *Diaspora* editorial offices and a copy will be shipped to you via USPS Priority Mail.

Internet is just a tool for the genealogist

Real Genealogy Requires “Touch” Not Technology

By Tim Morton, Bay City, Md.

Several years ago I took over the responsibilities of family chronicler from my Aunt Carrie Nichols Keylor. She had visited the court houses, dug through the records, and talked with all the family members. Aunt Carrie did an excellent job of researching and recording the Keylor family history found in both family and public documents.

When I took over the job, I knew I had the answer to genealogy. Technology would transfer these boxes of notes and photocopies into a polished document. I knew the Internet would enable me to contact more people and access more records without leaving my home office. I would make strides that Aunt Carrie couldn't imagine. Through the Internet I first met Carl Denbow when I received an e-mail from him with the title, “Hi Cousin.”

Since I've started this genealogy hobby I have had contact with numerous other cousins and gathered quite a bit of second-hand research. All of the records have been gone over by numerous researchers and nearly all has been accounted for on the “Net.” I

felt that there was nothing to be gained by looking at the old documents. Technology has made genealogy simpler and record keeping more effective. I was under the false opinion that all I needed was a computer and a modem to whip this genealogy project into shape.

I grew up in Monroe County, Ohio, and have lived in Maryland for the last eight years. It's been only in the last year or so that I have taken advantage of the genealogical resources found in this area. What better place to do family research on the Denbow family? I have had the opportunity to visit Harford County where the first Denbow settled in the country in the 17th century. I have held the original Oath of Allegiance signed by John Denbo in 1783 declaring his loyalty to this new nation. I have seen the court documents and wills that gave insights to what was valuable to a pioneering family. “Ribbons and cloth” and “Poudre and Schott” were so important in Colonial life that they had to be accounted for in the estate of the deceased. I

have even come across “lost” Denbows such as Philip who was sued in Baltimore County in the late 1700s.

Maybe all the information concerning the family records hadn't been discovered and recorded on some com-

puter. Whether it was already “discovered” information or not, I do have to admit a certain thrill holding a two-hundred year old document from an ancestor who lived through the most magnificent of times in American history.

And, the Winner is . . .



Sandy Denbow Jameyson was the first to correctly identify this picture of “The Denbow and The Prince.” The gentleman to the right of bonnie prince Charles, is none other than James Denbow, of Round Rock, Texas, the co-conspirator (aka co-editor) of this newsletter. Sandy's prize is an autographed copy of the photo — autographed by the non-royal, that is!