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OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

*Dunn
Family*

T H E N A M E A N D F A M I L Y

O F

D U N N (E)

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THE NAME AND FAMILY OF DUNN(E)

The name of DUNN or DUNNE is believed by some historians to be derived from the residence of its first bearers at the "dun" or hill, while others assert that it is derived from the dun (dark brown) colored complexion of its first bearers. Certainly, in Ireland the name of Dun was early used as a baptismal name and was anciently written O'Duin, meaning "of the family of Dun". The Irish dun is said to mean "a hill or fortress". In ancient English and Irish and early American records the name is found in the various spellings of O'Duin, O'Doyne, O'Dunn, O'Duinn, O'Duinne, Dune, **Dun**, Duyn, Doyne, Duyne, Downe, Don, Doune, Doun, Down, Donne, Donn, Duin, Duinn, Duinne, Dunne, Dunn, and others. Of these, the two forms last mentioned are those most generally used in America today.

Families bearing this name were resident at early dates in Queen's County, Ireland, and in the British Counties of Essex, Sussex, Somerset, Devon, Derby, Norfolk, Hereford, London, and Lanark. It appears that they were, for the most

part, of the landed gentry and yeomanry of the British Isles.

Dun, from whom the Irish families of the name trace their descent, was a son of Dubhgall, the son of Maolfiona, the son of Riaghan, son of Cineth, who was the representative in the early tenth century of the Clan Dempsey, Chiefs of Clannaliere, Ireland. This Dun was the father of Ficheallach, who was the father of Amhailgadh O'Duinn, whose son, Congalach, had issue of Cubláma, who was the father of Conbhach and Branan. Of these, Conbhach was the father of Dunsleibhe, who was the father of another Conbhach, who had a son named Amhailgadh or Awly. The last was the father of a son named Teige, who was the father of Awly, who had a son of the same name. The younger Awly was the father of Donoch, the father of Roger O'Doyne, who was the father of Leinach or Lynagh, who had a son named Teige O'Duinne. This Teige was the father of another of that name, who married Margaret, daughter of Shane O'Neill, and had issue by her of two sons, Teige and Brian.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, Teige was the father of Teige and Tirlagh O'Doyne or O'Duinne, of whom the first resided at Castlebrack, in Queen's County, Ireland, and was Prince of Oregon and chief of his sect in the year 1593. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Fitz Peirce

Fitz Gerald, of County Kildare, and was the father by her of Teige Oge, Cormock, Barnaby, Cahir or Charles, and Murtagh. Of these, Barnaby died in 1614, leaving issue by his wife, Margaret O'Molloy, of a son named Brien Oge, who died in 1661, leaving issue by his wife, Sybella Pigot, of a son named Charles Duinne. This Charles married Margaret Coghlan and was the father by her of Terence Du(1)nne, of Brittas, in Queen's County, who left issue by his wife, Margaret Byrne, of Daniel, Barnaby, and Edward Dunne.

Tirlogh O'Doyne or O'Duinne, the younger brother of Teige of Castlebrack, was the progenitor of the Dunn or Dunne family of Ards, in Queen's County. His son John was the father of Tirlogh or Terence, who died in 1680, leaving a son named John, who was the father of Terence Dunn(e), of Ards.

Among the earliest records of the name in England are those of Robert de Duyn, Lord of Breadsall, in Derbyshire, about the beginning of the twelfth century, who was the father of Hugh and Sampson, of whom the former had a daughter named Joanna; those of Henry de la Dun, of Devonshire, about 1271; those of Simon le Dun, of Derbyshire, about the last-mentioned date; those of Thomas de la Dune, of the time of King Edward I, about 1272; those of Gilbert de la

Dune or Dunne (also recorded as Gilbert atte Dune), of Essex County, in 1273; those of William le Dunne, of Devonshire, in 1273; those of William and Robert le Dun, of Norfolk County, at slightly later dates; those of Henry de la Dune, of County Sussex, in 1273; and those of Sibil and John atte Doune, of Somersetshire, in 1327. These records are, however, only fragmentary.

Later records of the family in England mention Robert Dun, who was living about the middle of the sixteenth century and married Ann, daughter of John Branch, of London. To this union were born three sons, Sir Daniel, Samuel, and Dr. William Dun or Dunne, of whom the first was Judge of the Admiralty in 1613 and a member of the Virginia Company in 1620. He made his home in the County of Essex, where he left issue by his wife Joanna, daughter of William Aubrey, of sixteen children, among whom were John and Caesar Dun or Dunne. Of these, the latter died in 1634, leaving issue by his wife, Mary Haines, of a son named Daniel.

Although it is probable that all of the Dunne and Dunnes are descended from the before-mentioned lines in the British Isles, the exact connections between them and the first emigrants of the name to America are not in evidence.

Among the first of the name in America were numerous emigrants to Virginia, whose records are not, however, clear. These include Dr. Donne, of Loudon County, Va., in 1622, who married a daughter of Sir George Moore and had a son named George, who was a member of the Virginia Council in 1637; Thomas Dunn, who came in the Temperance in 1620 and settled in James City, Va.; Peter Dunn, of James City, Va., in 1623; and Clement, John, and Henry Dunn, who came over in 1635.

Other early immigrants of the name, who left few records of themselves and their families, were Thomas Dunn, of Weymouth and Rehoboth, Mass., and New Haven, Conn., about 1647, and later of Fairfield, in the latter colony; Robert Dunn and Thomas Dunne, of Northumberland County, Va., in 1650; Joseph Dunn, of the Isle of Wight County, Va., in 1653; Arthur Dunn, of Lancaster County, Va., before 1655; Charles Dunn, of York County, Va., in 1658, who married the Widow Elizabeth Harwood and had a daughter named Mary; Henry Dunn, of Henrico County, Va., in 1677; Samuel Dunn, of Virginia, in 1678; and Pascho Dunn, of York County, Va., in 1682, who married the Widow Hannah Hinde Power.

Later records of the family in York County, Va., include those of Henry Dunn, 1702; those of Abel Dunn, 1709; those of William and Abraham Dunn, 1733; those of James

Dunn, 1735; those of William Dunn, 1737; and those of Nathaniel Dunn, 1744.

Sometime before the year 1655 Richard Dunn or Dunne was living at Newport, R.I., where he had issue by his wife, whose name is not known, of Richard, Samuel, and Nathaniel. Of these, Richard had at least one son (name unknown); Samuel probably had no issue by his wife, Sarah Bailey, whom he married in 1702, but was the father by a second wife, Ann Clarke, whom he married in 1718, of four sons, Clarke, Gideon (died young), Charles, and another Gideon; and Nathaniel married Elizabeth Lawton before 1698 and had issue by her at New Shoreham, R.I., of three sons, Richard, Isaac, and William.

A Thomas Dunn resided in Westmoreland County, Va., before 1666 and was the father there of a son named Thomas, who made his home in Surry County. This Thomas of Surry (later Sussex) County married Elizabeth Gray and had issue by her of Gray, John, Thomas, Drury, Lewis, Henry, Nathaniel, William, and David.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, Gray's records are not known; John was the father of Isabella, Lucy, Drury, and William; Thomas was the father of Gray, Ruth, Lavinia, Allen, Dorothy, and Henry; Drury's records are incomplete; Lewis

may have had a son of the same name; Henry settled in Frederick County, but the names of his progeny, if any, are not known; Nathaniel had issue of a son named Nathaniel; William was the father of Ambrose and Lewis; and David was the father of Ishmael and Elizabeth, of whom the former was the progenitor of the Tennessee and Alabama branches of the family.

William Dunn, who died in Westmoreland County, Va., about the year 1718, may have been of the last-mentioned line, but the exact connection is not in evidence. His sons were Samuel and Charles.

Of the North Carolina branches of the family, one John Dunn was settled there as early as 1713; another John was Clerk of Rowan County, N.C., in 1755; Robert Dunn was living in Bladen County, N.C., in 1754; Bartholomew was resident there in 1768; and the names of William and Simon Dunn appear at slightly later dates.

* A John Dun settled at Barnstable, Mass., about the year 1720. By his wife Experience, he was the father of Dorothy, Mary, Elizabeth, John, Martha, Thomas (died in infancy), and another Thomas.

Nathaniel Dunn (ancestry unknown) was living at Gorham, Me., about the middle of the eighteenth century. He was the father there of a son named Nathaniel, who married Elizabeth Atkinson, of Gorham.

John Dunn, of Westminster, Mass., before 1761, was the father of a son of the same name, who left issue by his wife Polly (probably née Puffer) of Lovet, Vinal, Levinah, John, Lucas, Asa, Polly, Lucy, and Mary.

James Dunn, who was born in County Down, Ireland, married Martha Long and came with her to Virginia about 1762. They settled in Augusta County and left issue there of Samuel, James, Nathaniel, and Jane, of whom the first resided in Rockbridge County.

William Dunn, who settled in Pennsylvania about 1763, was the father of Esther, James, Rebecca, Mary, and Merab. This family founded Dunnstown, Pa., about the year 1786.

Sometime before 1788 Edward Dunn, of Belfast, Ireland, emigrated to America and settled at Shirley, Mass. By his wife Elizabeth, he was the father of Mary, Alexander, Nancy, and Andrew.

The Dunns and Dunnes in America have been characterized, in general, by their generosity, tolerance, and independence. Strong of body, mind, and personality, they have been leaders in many fields of endeavor. Members of the family have been particularly outstanding as soldiers, public officials, lawyers, educators, physicians, and business leaders.

Among those of the name who served as officers in the

War of the Revolution were Lieutenant Abner Martin Dunn, of Pennsylvania; Lieutenant ^xWilliam Dunn, of New York; Captain Peter Dunn, of Virginia; Captain Nathaniel Dunn, of Virginia; Captain John Dunn, of Virginia; Captain James Dunn, of Delaware; Ensign Thomas Dun, of New York; Major Aide-de-Camp Isaac Budd Dunn, of Pennsylvania; Major John Dunn, of New Jersey; Lieutenant Colonel Micajah Dunn, of New Jersey; and Captain Samuel Dunn, of Massachusetts. ✕

There was also a John Dunne, whose name appears in the records of Pennsylvania forces, but this form of the name was seldom used in America during that period.

Robert, Henry, Thomas, William, Charles, Daniel, Joseph, Richard, Nathaniel, and John are some of the masculine Christian names favored by the family for its progeny.

A few of the many bearers of the name who have distinguished themselves in America in more recent times are:

Andrew Hunter Dunn (1839-1915), of England and Canada, bishop.

Edward Fitzsimons Dunne (b. 1853), of Connecticut, political leader.

Jacob Piatt Dunn (1855-1924), of Indiana, journalist and author.

Finley Peter Dunne (b. 1867), of Illinois, journalist and humorist.

Herbert Omar Dunn (b. 1857), of Rhode Island, rear admiral.

Gano Dunn (b. 1870), of New York, electrical engineer.

Samuel Orace Dunn (b. 1877), of Iowa, editor.

* James Edward Dunne (b. 1882), of Rhode Island, mayor of Providence, R.I.

Matthew A. Dunn (b. 1886), of Pennsylvania, Congressman.

Frederick Sherwood Dunn (b. 1893), of New York, and Connecticut, lawyer and educator.

Aubert Culberson Dunn (b. 1896), of Mississippi, lawyer and Congressman.

Halbert Louis Dunn (b. 1896), of Ohio, physician and statistician.

One of the most ancient and probably the best known of the coats of arms of the English family of Dunn, from which the Dunns and Dunnes of America are, in many cases, descended, is described in heraldic terms as follows (Burke, General Armory, 1884):

Arms.--"Quarterly, first and fourth, azure, a wolf saliant or; second and third, sable, three round buckles, tongues downwards or."

Crest.--"Six (sometimes, five) snakes erect, contrary posed, three and three, encircled with a ribbon."

The coat of arms of the Irish family of Dunne, from which many other of the Dunne and Dunn families of America are descended, is given as (Burke, Encyclopaedia of Heraldry, 1844):

Arms.--"Azure, an eagle displayed or."

Crest.--"On a mount an oak tree, in front thereof a newt, all proper."

Motto.--"Mullher a Boo."

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