Inventory of the Dummer Family Collection
(Collection #9)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
July 28, 1982

Table of Contents:

Physical Description
Box and Folder Breakdown
Reference Resources
Genealogy

Physical Description:

A collection of documents, dating from about 1772-1886, and books pertaining to members of the Dummer family of Hallowell, Maine, particularly Jeremiah Dummer, who was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1823, and his son Charles (1793-1872). Charles was Deputy Collector of Customs in New York in 1855-57, and a “paper clerk” with the Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. (from which position he resigned in 1864). He was Representative to the Maine Legislature in 1864. In 1867, Secretary of the Treasury, Adam McCulloch, sent Dummer to London to study the “policy and practice of the British Excise Service.”

The collection includes papers concerning the Cleaves family of Saco.

It is stored in two half boxes and 1 full box, with oversize documents in Folder #4, Miscellaneous Box (0) #4.
Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:

   Folder 1: Documents (5) of Jeremiah Dummer, Justice of the Peace, Hallowell, 1808-1823. Deeds, etc., as well as Dummer’s appointment as Justice by Governor Albion Parris, 1823.

   Folder 2: Deeds (approximately 50) of Jeremiah Dummer, Hallowell, 1784-1831. (Grouped generally by years. Not unfolded as in very fragile condition.)

   Folder 3: Papers of Thomas Hinkley, Hallowell, mostly land transactions, 1772-1796.

   Folder 4: Papers (4) from Hallowell and Augusta Bank, 1804-1814, including 1804 appraisal of estate of Benjamin White of Hallowell.

   Folder 5: Receipts #7 of Jeremiah Dummer, Hallowell, 1806-1833.

Box 2:

   Folder 1: Papers concerning Dummer family genealogy. Related families are: Jacobs, Dudley, Cleaves, Moody, Fairfield.

   Folder 2: Papers concerning the removal of the remains of Daniel Cleaves of Biddeford from a family tomb in that city to Saco for re-burial, 1866.

   Folder 3: Papers concerning the estates of Nathan Lord, Daniel Cleaves, Mary Cleaves, and Almira Cleaves Dummer. Includes copy of will of Almira C. Dummer. Acq. #1139 and #1250.

   Folder 4: Certificates (2) authenticating piece of the American Cable. Dated 1858. Acq. #877-78. See Objects in collection #875-76.

   Folder 5: Oration, manuscript copy, delivered at Bowdoin College, 1819 Acq. # 1132.

   Folder 6: Documents and clippings concerning Lancaster Hodges, black servant of the Cleaves family of Biddeford. He later became a resident of Brownville and lived to a very old age.

   Folder 7: Conveyance of an interest in a patent form Benjamin Hinkley of Fayette (Maine) to Charles Dummer of Portland, and Lewis and Solomen Crockett of Portland, 1835 and ’36.
Folder 8: Documents concerning the employment and appointments of Charles Dummer, including, letters of application to Secretary of the Treasury for appointment, 1836; Dummer’s certificates of appointment as Deputy Collector of Customs, District of the City of New York, 1855 and 57; Dummer’s resignation as Paper Clerk, Treasury Department, 1864; his certificate of election to Maine State Legislature Representative, 1864.

Folder 9: Letters written by Charles Dummer, 1853-64.

Folder 10: Letters written to Charles Dummer, 1790-1868 (One is to Mr. J. Dummer). Letter dated January 18, 1862, includes a certificate for the New York City and Kennebunkport Granite Company. (Approximately 34 letters)

Folder 11: Documents pertaining to Charles Dummer’s trip to England, 1867-68. Includes letter of introduction from U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Hugh McCulloch. Also letter from him to Dummer advising, “It would be useful to us to know something of the policy and practice of the British Excise Service.”

Folder 12: Miscellaneous papers (3)

Folder 13: Treasury Minutes (printed), British Treasury Department, 1859-1860.

Folder 14: Receipts of Charles Dummer, 1830-1886. Includes receipts from various Maine hotels (Preble House, Portland, Bangor House etc.)

Folder 15: Miscellaneous envelopes, etc.

Box 3:

Bible. Inscribed on flyleaf “Chas. Dummer”


Charles Dummer’s Account Book, 1827-29.

A.C. Dummer Scrapbook. Mostly steel engravings but includes three pencil and watercolor drawings of S.C. L.—Sarah Cleaves Lord. Front cover off.

See also Miscellaneous Box (0) #4, Folder #4.

Passports (2) for Charles Dummer with his wife, and Mary Cleaves, dated February 18, 1867.
Reference Resources:

*Old Hallowell on the Kennebec*, Emma Huntington Nason, 1909.

*History of Augusta*, James W. North, 1870.

*The Fairfield Cleaves and Lord Families of Maine*, manuscript copies, Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum.
The Dummer Family of Hallowell, Maine

Richard Dummer- emigrated from England to America, 1633.

I. Richard married Judith Greenleaf, Newburyport.

CHILDREN

II. HON. JUDGE NATHANIEL (B. March 9, 1755, Byfield, Newbury, Mass.)

(D. Sept. 15, 1815, Hallowell, Maine.)

(M. Mrs. Mary Own Kilton, Providence, R.I. Aug. 1, 1799)- Had one daughter Sarah (Mrs. John O. Page)

Educated at Dummer Academy, engaged in Revolutionary War, came to Hallowell, 1789, Postmaster, merchant, and Justice of the Peace in 1784, one of three selectmen and Assessors in 1798.

CHILDREN

III. Joseph Owen (twin)  (B. March 5, 1780)

(M. JUDITH GREENLEAF DUMMER- Dec. 21, 1815)

daugher of Richard and Hannah Dummer

CHILDREN

IV.  NATHANIEL (B. Dec. 30, 1816)

RICHARD GORHAM (B. April 12, 1819)

HANNAH ELIZABETH (B. Dec. 2, 1826)

III.  JUDITH GREENLEAF (twin)  (B. March 5, 1780)

(D. March 19, 1783)

III.  GORHAM (B. Sept. 27, 1782)

(M. SARAH ABBOT of Concord)

CHILDREN

IV.  LUCY GORHAM  (B. Aug. 20, 1802, Hallowell)

(D. Aug. 14, 1875)

(M. HON. JUDGE SAMUEL K. GILMAN- April 24, 1821)

(Son of Samuel and Martha Gilman)

(D. Dec. 26, 1882)

Lived in Dummer-Gilman house, built by Judge Nathaniel Dummer for his son, Gorham Dummer

CHILDREN

V.  GORHAM DUMMER  (B. May 29, 1822)

(M. Lizzie A. Field- Oct. 5, 1864)

SARAH MARIA

(B. 1826)

(D. Sept. 24. 1827)

LUCY DUMMER

(B. Aug. “, 1828)

(D. July 10, 1839)

ELLEN LOUISA DUMMER (B. May 21, 1831)

(M. AUSTIN ABBOTT, of New York- Nov.2, 1854)

SARAH FRANCES

(B. Jan. 15, 1835)

(D. Nov. 26, 1878)

JOHN ABBOTT

(B. June 24, 1837)
III. MARIA (B. Aug. 7, 1787, Providence, R.I.)
(M. SQUIRE JEREMIAH PERLEY, ESQ. of Hallowell- Sept. 8, 1811)
(Son of Jacob and Dolly Perley)

CHILDREN

IV. Mary (M. WILLIAM LANE)
Louia (M. JOHN DUMONT)

II. MARY (B. Byfield, Newbury)
(D. Jan. 7, 1838)
(M. SQUIRE NATHANIEL PERLEY- Nov., 1795)
(B. 1770- Boxford, Mass.)
(D. 1824)
(Son of Nathaniel and Mehitable Perley)
(Graduated from Dartmouth College, came to Hallowell, 1795)

II. JEREMIAH M. MEHITABLE MOODY, Newbury- April, 1792
(Daughter of Paul and Mary Moody of Byfield)
One of five School Committee No.2, 1798, one of three Tythingmen)

CHILDREN

*III. Charles, ESQ (B. Sept. 3, 1793)
(D. 1872)
(M. 1st Mary Caroline Cobb, of Portland- May, 1822)
(Daughter of Hon. Matthew Cobb)
(M. 2nd ALMIRA CLEAVES, of Biddeford – May, 1827)
(Daughter of Daniel and Sarah Fairfield Cleaves)
For many years a highly esteemed citizen of Hallowell, wrote a
discriminating estimate of Mr. Nathaniel Perley’s professional career.

III. MARY MOODY (B. Dec. 15, 1795)
HARRIET (B. April 17, 1798)
(M. JAMES J. BOND, of Portland- Nov. 17, 1825)

DEBORAH ELIZABETH (B. July 21, 1800)
RICHARD WILLIAM (B. Sept. 17, 1802)
JEREMIAH (B. March 6, 1805)
HENRY ENOCH (B. April 9, 1808)
One of the brothers became a Judge and one a Doctor and both went out west.

II. RICHARD (B. May 19, 1759, Byfield, Newbury)
(M. HANNAH NORTHEND- June, 1785)
(Daughter of Samuel and Susanna Northend of Rowley)

CHILDREN

III. SOPHIA (B. Oct. 2, 1788, Byfield)
JUDITH GREENLEAF (B. March 16, 1792, Byfield)
ELIZABETH (B. March 4, 1794, Byfield)
SUSANNA NORTHEND (B. Feb. 6, 1796, Byfield)
(M. DAVID VASS- Jan.24, 1820)

II. JOSEPH (M. BETSEY Winslow (Nov. 27, 1796)
One of the Surveyors of Lumber, 1798.
CHILDREN

III. ELIZA (Bapt. June 17, 1806- Congregational Church)
MARY (" " " " ")
MARTHA JANE (Bapt. June 17, 1806- Congregational Church)
ABIGAIL (" " 4, 1808-)
(Son of Samuel Carr)
JOSEPH (Bapt. Oct. 31, 1811- Congregational Church)
SHUBAEL (" Nov. 7, 1813- " - )
Joseph Dummer married Mrs. Sarah Haines of Augusta- Dec. 25, 1825.

*CHARLES DUMMER BARRY was named for his great uncle CHARLES DUMMER.
The Dummer Family of Hallowell, Maine

Mr. Charles Dummer was a descendant of Jeremiah Dummer who came to Hallowell with early settlers. Charles Dummer married, first, Miss Cobb, of Portland, and, second, Miss Almira Cleaves of Saco. Mr. and Mrs. Dummer were both interested in all that pertained to the welfare of Hallowell, and especially in its educational institutions. Mrs. Dummer was, for many years, an invalid, but never lost her interest in the vital affairs of life. She was the moving spirit in her own home; and neither sickness nor pain prevented her from joining the household in the pleasant social intercourse which she constantly maintained. Her private and public charities were numerous; and her gift of the Dummer estate, on Winthrop Street, to the Girls’ Industrial School remains a perfect benefaction. The residence of the Dummers was the handsome house built for the first Mrs. Dummer by her father. Its location is one of the finest in the town and its style of architecture is suggestive of the elegance and repose of Colonial life.

An interesting story of Mrs. Dummer’s girlhood is related by Josiah Quincy in his FIGURES OF THE PAST. The author describes a journey which he made with Judge Story and several others interesting passengers, in an old-fashioned stage coach, in 1826. Among those to Washington were the Misses Cleaves, two young ladies about to make their DEBUT in Washington. The journey from Boston to New York occupied four days; and the passengers congratulated themselves upon living in an age of rapid communication. They looked upon their journey as a pleasure trip and each one contributed of his best to the entertainment of his fellow-passengers. “People who never talked anywhere else,” writes Quincy, “were driven to talk in those old stage coaches.” “Judge Story was one of the great talkers at a period when conversation was considered sort of a second profession;” and before the close of the first day’s journey he was favoring his fellow-travelers with brilliant stories, selections of poetry, a discussion of Scott’s novels, of Miss Burney’s EVELINA, and of the “conversations of Maria Edgeworth.” We can therefore imagine the keen delight with which the two young heiresses from Maine listened to the conversation of this famous talker with his fellow passengers.

“The early hours of Sunday,” continued Mr. Quincy, “I spent in visiting the churches in attendance upon the Misses Cleaves, who, being fresh from boarding-school were somewhat romantic. May it chance that either of them survives to read this narrative of our journey with the Judge? Were they also keeping journals? It is just possible that the publication of this paper may bring me some news of their lives during the fifty-four years since we parted company.

The publication of the above sketch resulted in a correspondence between the author and Mrs. Almira Dummer. “Little did I think,” wrote this lady, “that, when taking the journey alluded to, which was the first great event of my life, ‘being fresh from boarding-school and somewhat romantic,’ I should be reminded of it, after a period of fifty years, by one of the party who enjoyed privilege of the friendly intercourse, the pleasure, and instruction derived form the unlimited fund of conversation and knowledge possessed by Judge Story. During the long course of years since the each member of that stage-coach party has been held in pleasant remembrance.”

An interesting description of some of the prominent members of the Old South congregation has been given to us by the Rev. J. H. Ingraham in his LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF THE PAST: “There used to be a great deal of wealth and fashion and aristocracy at the Old South. We can remember there old Dr. Vaughan, with his venerable John-Quincy-Adams like figure, in his respectable suit of black and ruffles, and his powdered queue. Judge Drummer also, a portly and noble-looking gentleman, in ruffs and queue and powder, usually dressed in a black coat with broad skirts and buff breeches, with white top boots. In another part of the church, was “old Squire Perley” with his straight queue which was rather carelessly

---

Dummer Family Collection - Collection #9

Brick Store Museum     117 Main Street     Kennebunk, ME  04043       207-985-4802      www.brickstoremuseum.org
tied, and his collar besprinkled with powder. He was a prominent member of the bar, a man of great intellect, and distinguished for his wit and peculiarities. And there were Dummers, etc. and a score of others all worthy of special mention.

Among the early settlers of the Hook, there were not a few families like the Dummers, etc., that brought with them a very excellent collection of goodly books. In 1887, the Hallowell Library received, by the will of Mrs. Almira C. Dummer, a bequest of $500, together with the large number of books.

Hallowell in the early years of the nineteenth century, though small in population was a remarkable village. No town in Maine could boast of a more select and charming circle. Many fine families related to each other had emigrated there. There were the Dummers and other families of kindred and ancient descent from the settlers of New England.

In the “Boarding and Day School” of Mrs. Boardman, on the corner of Winthrop and 2nd Streets, about 1814, there were, among the children, Mary Perley, daughter of Squire Perley (Mrs. William Lane), Louisa Perley (Mrs. John Dumont), and Lucy Dummer (Mrs. Samuel K. Kilman).

Among the notable men who received their early education at the Hallowell Academy was Charles Dummer, esq.

During the Temperance movement in Hallowell, speeches were made by many prominent citizens, among which were Charles Dummer, esq.

--From OLD HALLOWELL ON THE KENNEBEC by Emma Huntington Nason, 1900.

#  #  #