

From "The Pearson Family Tree," <http://www.wam.umd.edu/~jpearson/pearsontree.html>

74. **Augustus BURNHAM**, (Asahel-5, Augustus-4, David-3, Samuel-2, Thomas-1), son of Asahel and Luania (Eaton) Burnham, was born 22 Aug 1835 and married 4 Feb 1857 to Sarah Ann Scott. Sarah was born 23 Oct 1833 to Lucy (Dibble) and William Scott, Jr. Sarah Ann died 25 Jun 1927 at the age of 93. Augustus died 11 Jul 1908 at 3 a.m. Both are buried at Burnham Hollow Cemetery, Arkwright, NY.

Augustus and Sarah Ann lived on a farm in the Town of Charlotte, part of which was bequest from her father, William Scott, Jr. [See Appendix for more on the Scott Family].

The 1860 Census for the Town of Charlotte show Augustus Burnham age 27 male carpenter with real estate valued at 2000 and personal property valued at 7; Sarah A age 27 female, Chester A. age 1 male.

The 1880 Census for Charlotte, Chautauqua Co Ny show Augustus Burnham age 46, Sara A. age 46, Chester age 22, Emma age 20, Lucy age 18, Walter S. age 10.

#### **DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES:**

The following is taken from Registers and Sketches of Organizations, pp 3790-3791. The 154 Regiment of Infantry Colonel Addison G. Rice, succeeded, September 25, 1862, by Col. Patrick M. Jones, received, August 19, 1862, authority to recruit this regiment in the then 33rd Senatorial District of the State. It was organized at Jamestown, and there mustered in the service of the United States for three years September 24, 25, and 26, 1862. June 9, 1865, the men not to be mustered out with the regiment were transferred to the 102d Infantry.

The companies were recruited principally: A at Ellicottsville, Carlton, Cold Spring, Humphrey, Randolph, Great Valley, Carrolton, Little Valley, Conewango, South Valley, Salamanca and Napoli; B at new Albion, Otto, Dayton, Perrysburg, Leon, Mansfield, and Persia; C at Portville, Hinsdale, Ischua, Allegany, Humphrey and Olean; D at Machias, Yorkshire, Freedom, Franklinville, Ashford and Lyndon; E at Portland, Westfield, Ripley and Chautauqua; F at Charlotte, Arkwright, Gerry, French Creek and Freedom; G at Ashford, Ellicottsville, East Otto, Allegany, Mansfield, Olean, Jamestown and Carrolton, South Valley, Cold Spring and Farmington; I at Olean, Hinsdale, Salamanca, Allegany, Great Valley, Humphrey, New Albion, Portville, Machias and Yorkshire; and K at Conewango, Perrysburg, Dayton, Persia, Leon and New Albion.

The regiment left the State September 30, 1862; it served in the 1st Brigade, 2d Division, 11th Corps, from October, 1862; in the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 20th Corps, from April, 1864; and, commanded by Col. Lewis D. Warner, it was honorably discharged and mustered out June 11, 1864, near Bladensburg, Md.

During its service the regiment lost by death, killed in action, 1 officer, 54 enlisted men; of wounds received in action, 1 officer, 30 enlisted men; of disease and other causes, 1 officers, 193 enlisted men; total, 4 officers, 277 enlisted men; aggregate, 281; of who 1 officer, 90 enlisted

men, died in the hands of the enemy; and it took part in the following engagements, etc.: In 1863: Chancellorsville, VA May 1-2, Gettysburg, PA July 1-3, Wauhatchie, TN Oct 28-29, Chattanooga and Rossville Campaign, TN Nov 23-17, Missionary Ridge, TN Nov 25. In 1864: Atlanta Campaign, GA May 3- Sept 2, Rocky Faced Ridge May 8-10, Resaca May 14-15, Dallas May 25- June 4, Kenesaw mountain June 9 - July 2, Pine Mountain June 14-15, Golgotha June 16-17, Culp's Farm June 22, The Assault June 27, Peach Tree Creek July 20, Atlanta July 23-Aug 26, Gen. Sherman's Savannah Campaign, GA Nov 15-Dec 21, March to the Sea Nov. 15 - Dec 10, Savannah Dec 10-21, Monteith Swamp Dec 9. In 1865: Campaign of the Carolinas Jan 26-Mar 20, North and South Edisto River, SC Feb 12-13, Snow Hill, SC Mar 27, Bennett House, NC April 26.

The following is taken from Muster Rolls: Muster-In Roll of Captain Thomas Donnelly's Company (F), in the 154th Regiment of NYS Volunteers, commanded by Colonel A. G. Rice, called into the service of the United States by the President, from the 35th day of September, 1862 (Date of this muster), for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged. Burnham, Augustus, rank 7th Corp., age 30, Joined for duty and enrolled on Aug 30 in Charlotte, by Thos. Donnelley for a period of 3 yrs.

On the Special Schedule of Surviving Soldiers, Sailors and Marines and widows, etc. for Charlotte Township, Augustus Burnham name appears as in home No. 317 family no. 328, rank Prv. Co. F 154 NY Inf date of enlist 28 Aug 1862 date discharged 30 May 1864 length of service 2 Yrs, 9 Mo, 28 Days.

#### LETTERS WRITTEN BY AUGUSTUS DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

The original letters of the following three letters written by Augustus during the War Between the States are in the possession of Jackie Johnson of Jamestown, NY. She sent copies to Sue Pearson June 1993 to be included in her collection of information on the Burnham Family.

Fairfax October 16th 62

I received your letter of the 8 last night at dark I read it with much pleasure for I had not heard from you since I left. I am glad to hear that you are well and the rest of the folks for I was afraid that your cough would run you down. I am sorry to hear that Emmy has got the runner complaint and hope that the next letter I get to hear she is well I am glad that Chester is contented and hope that you will be so to for it is not best to borrow trouble for it will come fast enough without. I am glad to hear that Julia is agetting better and hope that she will keep on improving. I got Stedman's letter with yours and was glad that you sent it to me. It is pleasant to hear from home more so than anyone kows of. I was glad that you sent that one to me and I want you to send me one every week if you do not hear form me for it will happen that I cant write as often as I should like to the letters will come strate through if you direct all of them as you did. It one of the 9th they will follow the Regt where ever they go (until I direct otherwise). I have nothing new to write to day except that the enemy is at Centerville fifty thousan strong and we are at Fairfax only six or seven miles off and we are not at all alarmed either for if we dont get any nearer ther is no danger any how. I slep just as well as I should if they were a hundred miles off you can look with envid and see how it is situated for yourself but don't take any unearyngs for I dont think there is any danger. I am glad that your Grandfather is well and if this letter reaches you before he goes

home that I am well and put him in mind of what he said to me he would rather hear the Devil talk than a Democrat. I have not changed my principles but I am willing to sustain my country but look at the Aboblion they want to destroy it and if they wanto sustain it let them come and stand shoulder tot shoulder with a democrat but they rather shield their sons at home with arvelve. J.B. is one and a coward one to. i must close that letter that you got I did not direct it it was one of our smart men that directed it. write as soon as you get this writ all the news. Tell your father I thank him for the interest but he should not have done it he is adoing to much now. So good by untill I write again. Your truly Augustus Burnham

LETTER 2:

On the side of Blue Ridge Mountain

Va Nov - 10th 1862

Dear Wife

I take it for granted that it is a good oppportunity for me to write a few lines to you I am on picket to day and are in charge of three men. Wm Scott, [Art] Waggoner and Lewis Jones. we are way up on the side of blue ridge mountains. my desk is one of the best quality it is a flat piece of a rock layed up on a stick and stone so it makes the best place to write that I have had since I came to the war when I wrote to you before we had just march from Fairfax to within three miles of thoroughfare gap we stayed there three days and on the seventh aftor we started to go to Warrington and it stormed so hard that we did not march there we went to within five miles of there it was a snow storm. we stopped in one of the pleasantsest wood that I ever saw it seemed some like the woods around fredonia there was lots of black and sweet walnuts in the woods and the boys had a good time in cracking them it snowed all that day and a little while in the evenning and it was cold all night and next day but the snow went off the next morning and it hasant stormed anny since but rather cold Sunday morning we had marching orders and the question was where are we agoing some said back to the gap some said we was going on to Warrington but we went back to the gap but not the same place that we was in before we are now rite at the gap rite in front of it where we are in hopes that Jackson and his followers will come through to go to Richmond if he doe try to come through there it will be utter destruction to his whole army or thy will be taken prisnors for we have a strong force here and lots of artilery the artilery is so fixed that it will sweep rite the whole length of the gap we dont live in anny fear probibly not as much as you do but you need not fear if you could hear as much heavy firing as we do you would not fear it it is as common here as house words be at home we have been down in this country just about a week and there has been heavy fiering every day and some in the night awe think that we have got Stonewall in a tight place but he is a slippery fellow his may slip out but we shall try to keep him if we can.

I have just been to the top of the mountain to see what I could I could look of in to the valley and a nicer looking place I never saw Oh it was beautiful every thing look lovely as far as your eye can see we could see fields that had been plowed this fall it looks some like home there is a range of hills that we can see and on the tallest one there is a fort whethe it is one of the enemy forts or ours I dont now but I think it is one of ours right over that fort is where we hear the fiering I should think that the fort is about thre miles off and the fiering some eight or ten miles off it is

said by some of our officers that we are neare Richmond than the rebbles are and Mac is sur to bag the whole or the Rebble army I hop it is so I dont think that they can ever get back to Richmond there is a desperate effort on our part to hinder them and if all the gaps are as strongly fortified as this one is I now that they can nevvver get there. The sid of the mountain that I looked over it wes one complete ledge of rocks and it was a great curiority to see them one day out over the after no person can get over those rocks it is dark so god night int he morning I will about the picket.

LETTER 3:

Camp near Stafford Court House Va

Feb 25th 1863

Dear friend Ashbel

As I am not very busy to day I thought I would write a few lines to you I am well and the rest of us and try to enjoy ourselves but that is the hardest kind of work for us when we think of the tools they make of us not only tools but slaves I will give you a little history of it since we left home if when we left james town the boys felt welvile we had good pasingers cars to Elmira and then we was shipped on freight or a hog train just which you or a mind to call it and rode to Washington and was drove out like cattle and lay around all day (it was morning when we got there) and just at dark they marched us through the citty and across long brige and up to Arlingtons heights to a camp called camp Seward it was nearly ten when we got there and not a thing there to sleep on nor a mouthful to eat nor to drink nor we could not get anny so we had to be contented with nothing so we spread our fr blankets and lay down for the night and slept like a log (for we had had no sleep for two or three nights) in the morning our blankets was almost wet through with the dew well we supposed that we should have something to eat in the morning and supposed so for three successive mornings and the third night we got some by going about three miles and carring it up on our backs so you see how that worked it worked so for three or four days and then they got some teams to draw our provision with and when we got it it was of the hardest kind of food it was wormy hardtacs horse beef and magity bacon that is the way we lived all the time that we stayed on Arlington hights and in sight of the capitol of this great empire we marched from there to fairfax we stayed there three or four week and then marched from there to a little place called haymarket and crossed the bulls runn battle field on our way (I wont say anny thing about the battle field for it is to horrible to mention) we marched from haymarket to within five miles of warrington it snowed all the way this was the first snow that we had to speak of we layed there three days and then marched to thoroughfare gap we stayed there one week and then marched back to Fairfax and stayed there until the 10th day of Dec and then marched to Falmouth it took us to the 17th to get there the roads was so bad we marched five or six days with only two days rations and it would have been longer if we had not found some cattle on the road we had no salt so you must judge how it went but it tasted good to us as it was there was some nine days that we did not have but two days rations of bread but we lived through it and at last got to our destined place we stayed there just one month we went out once in the time to make roach some eight miles up the rivver was gone two days stayed in camp two days and and then broke camp and marched to the same place where we made the roads and cleared a little more and then went from there to guard a pontoon train and the worst time I ever saw it rained all

the time we was out two days and nights in it one night without anny sleep and not much the next the next morning we marched back to within a half of a mile of our old camp and camped and stayed there from ther 22th of Jan to the fifth of Feb and then marched to this place our marches all have been of the hardest king through rain and snow and much and water we have not seen one march since we lef Fairfax but what it was one or the other but when we are in camp it is rather easy I supposed when I left home to help put down the rebellion and to sustain a constutution which our four fathers gave us but since I came here I cant help but but think that that this war is for speculation and for niggers the biggest part for the nigger but there is not so many neggar men as in our regiment as there was lots of the boys say that they want nevver vote annother republican ticket I tell them that is right and if they and their party had thought so long before this was would not have been I see that there has been some change in politics since last September I see that york state has once more come to her sense of duty by electing a good sound man for govonor and some of the other states have done the same I cant help but think that the conservitive element are at work and will soon put down the rabbed abolition and we will then soon end this war but if you dont put that franatical element down the rebelion can nevver be put down but just as quick as the damnable abolitionist is out of sight this union can be restored and not until then and annother thing I did not come down here to fight for the negroes and if there is anny one the that wanto leave their friends their homes their wives and their children to free the black devvles I should like to see them tell them that I will go into the smoke as far as they will and fight as long but they are cowards and stay at home and bark and hallow go ahed boys I an with you until they get us fast and get out of it themselves tell such men to keep dark when we get home no more for this time write to me and oblige

Your friend Augustus Burnham

(in the margin is written: "Wm and Dillon are well")

### CHILDREN

of Augustus and Sarah Ann (Scott) BURNHAM:

0138.	Chester Augustus Burnham	b. 12 Jun 1858
0139.	Emma Maritta Burnham	b. 15 Jun 1860
0140.	Lucy Luania Burnham	b. 25 Jul 1867
0141.	Walter Scott Burnham	b. 12 Sep 1870