

No Memorial

Samuel DUNSFORD
Elizabeth DUNSFORD

buried 24 May 1802
buried 14 January 1800

Given that Samuel Dunsford was 70 years old when he died in 1802, it can be assumed that he was born in circa 1731/32. His parents were Thomas Dunsford (a Cutler) and Rebecca Jackson who resided in Tiverton. They were married in St Peter's (Exeter Cathedral) on 10th March 1724.¹ According to Thomas Dunsford's last Will and Testament, written in 1752 and proved in 1754, Samuel was the fourth of ten children. He was the youngest of the children to have attained the age of twenty-one years by 1752. His siblings were Martin, Thomas, James, Abraham, Clement, John, Jabez, Elizabeth and William.²

Samuel was a Fuller by trade. A Fuller was a person who thickened and cleansed woolen cloth by beating it in water. He was apprenticed to Joseph Allen in Exeter³ and, later, as a Master Fuller, took on apprentices himself.⁴ He married Elizabeth Meadland on 9th September 1760 at St Thomas the Apostle Church, St Thomas, Exeter. Elizabeth was 'of the parish of St Mary Major'. Witnesses to the marriage were Katherine and James Dunsford.⁵

There is no mention of Samuel's wife, Elizabeth in his last Will and Testament which was made on 13th May 1802 and so it can be assumed that she was already deceased.⁶ There is a record, in the Exeter Dissenters' Graveyard Burial Register that, on 14th January 1800, *Mrs. E Dunsford, the wife of Mr S Dunsford was buried.*

It seems, according to Samuel's Will, that he and Elizabeth had only one child. She was named Elizabeth. Her date of birth cannot be confirmed. She married Christopher Flood at Holy Trinity Exeter on 11th October 1790. They had two children – Elizabeth Margaret and Christopher Samuel.⁶

Elizabeth Margaret married Henry Erskine Head on 15th December 1823 at Honiton on Otter.¹

Christopher Samuel became an Attorney at his Majesty's Court of King's Bench, Westminster.⁷

References

1. England, Select Marriages 1538-1973 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
2. The last Will and Testament of Thomas Dunsford (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)
3. UK, Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices Indentures 1719-1811 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
4. Britain, Country Apprentices 1710-1808 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
5. Devon Marriages and Banns (www.findmypast.co.uk)
6. The last Will and Testament of Samuel Dunsford (www.nationalarchives.co.uk)
7. UK, Articles of Clerkship 1756-1874 (www.ancestry.co.uk)