

FAMILY AND ANTECEDENTS OF
BERNARD LOUIS DuPLESSIS, SENIOR
MARGARET BROWNE DuPLESSIS

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Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior
February 11, 1972

FAMILY HISTORY OF
BERNARD LOUIS DuPLESSIS, SENIOR

and

MARGARET BROWNE DuPLESSIS

In the pages following I have set out an informal history of our immediate family and our antecedents.

Preliminary to these family narratives, I have listed below a roster of our children, their spouses and our grandchildren - as follows:

1. Bernard Louis DuPlessis, Junior
Born, October 5, 1933 in Beth Israel Hospital, Newark, New Jersey.
Baptized in St. Charles Barrameo's Church, Newark, New Jersey
Graduate of R. J. Reynolds High School, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
and North Carolina State College, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Married on 9-1-56 to H. Caryl Dixon. Their children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Bernard Louis, 3rd	5-25-57
Ann Elizabeth	4-28-58
James Michael	9-22-59
Thomas Edward	8-22-62
David Bruce	4- 9-65

2. John Joseph DuPlessis
Born, July 16, 1935 in the Baptist Hospital, Winston Salem, North Carolina
Baptized in St. Leo's Church, Winston Salem, North Carolina
Graduate of R. J. Reynolds High School, Winston Salem, North Carolina
and North Carolina State College, Raleigh North Carolina, including
graduate degree.
Married Kitty Sue Berger on 6-27-59. Their children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
John Joseph	6- 4-60
Mary Kathryn	5-20-61
Margaret Evelyn	5-22-64
Samuel Vincent	12- 6-65
James Carme	11-19-69

3. Rosanne Catherine DuPlessis
Born August 24, 1937 in the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Baptized in St. Leo's Church, Winston-Salem. Graduate of St. Gertrudes High School, Richmond, Virginia and Radford College, Radford, Virginia. Graduate degree from Georgia State College, Atlanta, Georgia. Married Robert L. Schenck on 1-3-61. Their children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Peter LeMaster	5-27-62
Mary Devlin	10-29-63
Andrew Evans	6- 8-67

BERNARD LOUIS DuPLESSIS, SENIOR AND HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY:

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Bernard Louis DuPlessis, Senior was born on 1-10-04 in Syracuse, New York. Baptized in St. Joseph's French Church (no longer in existence) Syracuse, New York on 2-21-04 by Father B. C. Thebault (a writer of some note - on religious topics - in his time). Graduated B.C.S. in 1925 from New York University. Employed most of his working life in the Mortgage Loan Department of the Prudential Insurance Company. Retired 2-1-69. Since then, he has worked as a consultant for Mortgage Investment Corporation of Richmond, Virginia. Member of American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and President, year 1969, of the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter #38 of the Institute.

Brothers and Sisters

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
James Arthur	7- 6-1890	4- 6-55
Robert Thomas	3-18-1892	2-21-47
Lea Adelle	5-20-1897	

His Parents

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
James Carme DuPlessis (see pgs. 4-5)	9-18-1868	11-24-36
Anna Fisselbrand (see pgs. 6-7)	11-24-1869	12-19-44

MARGARET BROWNE DuPLESSIS AND HER IMMEDIATE FAMILY:

Margaret Mary Browne born 4-3-06 in Waterford City, Ireland. Baptized at St. John's Church, Waterford on 4-8-06 by the Reverend Henry Galvins C.C. Birth registered with the city on 4-21-06.

Brothers and Sisters

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
John	4-23-07	2-17-08
Arthur	7- 4-08	7- 4-08
Catherine Veronica	12- 4-09	~ 1993
Joseph Arthur	9- 5-11	~ 1975
Mary Theresa	8-31-13	1-26-61
Arthur	8-31-13	8- 8-16
John Thomas	3-19-15	
Augustine Phillip	12-27-16	

Her Parents

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
John Otern Browne (see pg. 9)	1- 3-1875	11-11-56
Roseanna Mary Devlin (see pgs.10-11)	12- 3-1883	

HIS PARENTS

James Carme DuPlessis

Born in Fayetteville, New York. He lived as a boy in Fayetteville, Baldwinsville and Oswego, New York. He learned the printing trade on the Oswego Palladium, still in existence. After serving his apprenticeship, he moved to Syracuse, New York where he worked on several newspapers.

His mother was Irish, born in County Armagh. His father was French-Canadian. His mother died when he was seven or eight; the father remarried, this time to a French-Canadian. He went to a bi-lingual school and spoke French at home. As a result he spoke French fluently all his life.

Anna Fisselbrand

Born in Syracuse, New York. Her mother was Irish - County Cork- and her father German; Bavarian stock, although born in Metz. She was baptized, received her first communion, was confirmed, attended and graduated from the parish parochial school, was married and her first two children were baptized in one parish - the Franciscan parish of the Assumption in Syracuse. This was a German parish - people then were largely polarized by country of origin and the school she attended was bilingual. As a young woman, she spoke reasonably fluent German.

She married James C. DuPlessis on August 29, 1889. In 1907 the family moved to Newark, New Jersey. James C., after a short period of employment with a New York City printing firm, went to work for the Newark Star - now Star Ledger - where he worked as a compositor and proof-reader for the balance of his life.

They are buried - together - in Holy Cross Cemetery, Arlington, N.J.

(Father of Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior)

His Father - Prime (but Oliver in death certificate - probably Oliver Prime.)
 Born 11-16-44 in Yamachiche, Quebec, Canada. (This is the second village
 west of Three Rivers - earlier generations came from Pont du Lac, the first
 village west) Died Oswego, N.Y. 9-18-1892 of cancer.

He was the youngest of 12 children - here are the other children and their
 birth dates.

*Jean Odilon	10-28-1825 Ephren	11-27-1835
Jean Bte	12-29-1826 Cyrias	1-25-1837
Caroline	11-20-1828 Louis	9- 3-1839
Norbert	9- 6-1830 Pierre Oliv Phillipe	8-23-1841
Adele	4-30-1832 Rose - Liliobe	2-23-1843
Carme	9-15-1834	

Prime was a miller by trade. He and his brother Louis married sisters,
 Sarah and Anne Burns. This writer was told that at the time of marriage,
 his grandfather could not speak English and his grandmother could not speak
 French. As Prime's brother Louis could speak English he was the one who
 taught Prime to speak the language - this is not as impossible a situation
 as it might sound.

Prime's father, grandfather, etc., are as follows:

Jean Bte DuPlessis - Born September 2, 1798 - Married on November 9,
 1824 to Christine Placide Denoncourt

Isidore DuPlessis - Youngest child of Jean Bte born February 25, 1763,
 married February 28, 1791 to M. Emilie Rouette. Twelve children.

Jean - Bte DuPlessis - born in 1718, married April 26, 1740 to
 Francoise Vacher-Lacerte.

Louis DuPlessis - Born in 1674 married in the parish of Batiscan on
 January 22, 1710 to Jeanne LeMoine

Nicholas Gatintau DePlessis - Married in 1670 in Quebec to Marie
 Crevier.

This writer's father secured this information from Volumes by F. L. Desaulniers,
 Lawyer and R. Bellemare, Lawyer and secretary of the Montreal Historical
 Society.

*In 1868 as a member of the Lafayette Society, he was a principal factor in
 the purchase of the church which became the French Church, St. Johns, where
 Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior was baptized. (It was originally a Baptist
 Church. As stated elsewhere, the church is no longer in existence.)

(Father of Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior)

His Mother - Sarah Burns - Born in County Arm^Aogh, Ireland - 1843(?) Died
December 17, 1876, in Baldwinsville, New York.

His Mother's Sisters -

Anne - Married Louis DuPlessis. Three children:
Josephine - Married George Austin
Christine - Married Joseph E. Whalen
Sarah - Married Charles A. Whelan
Joseph Whelan and Charles Whelan were brothers.
(Charles was one of the founders of the United
Cigar Stores, a pioneer retail chain.)

Rose - Married Michael Mora. Three children:
Mary - Married Fred Farmer
Sarah - Unmarried
Katherine - Unmarried

Margaret- (Died about 1890) Married James O'Neil, had three sons.
John, Albert, and Frank (a sister died at 18). Frank O'Neil,
had national prominence on several counts. He was an All
American at Williams College at the turn of the century. He
afterwards coached at Williams, at Syracuse (where he grad-
uated from Law School,) at Colgate, and at Columbia. He
ultimately became President of the Royal Indemnity Company,
New York City, from which he retired in 1944. He was elected
to the Football Hall of Fame in 1951. He died April 21, 1958,
in Hamilton, New York.

Katherine- Married to (?) Boylston.

There was another sister, who did not marry, and possibly one or two brothers.

James C. DuPlessis's Sisters

Margaret - born August 1871 - died in the San Francisco area, circa
1915 - 18.

Alice (Hungerford) born August 1873 died circa 1914 in Auburn, New York.

As stated earlier, James C. DuPlessis's father married a second time. As a
result there were several half brothers (whose names I have forgotten) and
a half-sister, Emma. Emma lived in Brooklyn - she was married to a German -
Frank Hoffman - who reputedly had had several brothers in the Kaiser's body
guard. Frank Hoffman was from Dusseldorf. He was a fine looking blond; the
writer of this memoir does not remember him as having any trace of a foreign
accent.

The half brothers (there were three or four and lived in the Rochester area)
and the half sister were very French in their appearance and mannerisms.

(Mother of Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior)

Her Father

(The name Fisselbrand was spelled in several ways "back then.")

John Joseph Fisselbrand. Born March 9, 1834, in Metz, Alsce-Lorraine. Died December 5, 1915 of heart disease in Syracuse, New York.

John Joseph's father was Peter Fisselbrand, born in Baden Baden, Germany; his mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Conrad. Both John Joseph and Peter were masons by trade. (Peter was referred to in the Syracuse, N.Y. City Directory of 1864 as a stone mason.)

John Joseph was baptized in St. George's Church the day he was born and the family emigrated that same day to America, arriving 45 days later. Peter, prior to going to Metz, had traveled through Europe working as a master mason. He apparently amassed considerable property in Syracuse but died relatively poor. I have heard it said, "You can find his name on deeds all up and down Onondaga Creek." A brick home he built in the 1850's, and where his daughters Lize and Kate lived until their deaths, is still standing and in good condition in Syracuse.

Peter was a co-founder of St. Mary's Church, Minoa. Five of his children died in one night of the "black plague" and are buried in the churchyard. (Presumably, it was diptheria.) According to the story, John Joseph's life (the writer's grandfather) was saved by the village priest who sucked the poison out of John Joseph's throat.

John Joseph had only one surviving brother as far as I can ascertain. His name was Matthias. He enlisted on August 31, 1862 in Company B of the 149th Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry. He was paid on enlistment a bounty of \$25.00 and a premium of \$2.00. His regiment was in the reserve at Fredericksburg, took part in the famous "mud march" on January 1963, and fought their first major battle on May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville. Matthias was wounded by artillery, taken prisoner, exchanged, and died in a Union Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. He was buried in Syracuse with a soldier's funeral at 2:00 P.M. on June 9, 1863.

Her Mother

Johanna Lane - born in County Cork, Ireland.

The 1880 Census gives her age as 46, indicating she was born in 1833-1834. I was always told that her birthplace was Lower Scartine. At the Cathedral in Cork City in May 1969 I was told that this was a townland, adjacent to Newmarket. At the sacriston's suggestion, I wrote to the parish priest in Newmarket. The Parish Priest, Father Edward J. O'Riordan, wrote me on June 16, 1969, that his records went back to the early 1800's but were hard to decipher. He said the only Johanna Lane he could locate, covering the years 1828 to 1836, was baptized April 5, 1832, daughter of James Lane and Johanna Shea, New Road, Newmarket - God parents Wm. Hennessey and Leonore Shea. However, from another source, I believe that the mother's maiden name was Cashin, not Shea.

She had at least two sisters who came over with her from Ireland and I believe there were a fair number of neices and nephews. However, I have no data on them. One sister married a Tobin and I believe the other married a Griner. (There are still many Griners in Minoa - This writer's mother visited a farm there often as a young girl.)

ANNA FISSELBRAND DuPLESSIS's BROTHERS AND SISTERS

(Years of birth are accurate within a year; dates of death are reasonably close "guesstimates")

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
Peter	1860	1881 (of TB)
William	1863	1953
*Mary	1868	10-18-61
**Agnes	1872	xx
John	1874	1968

*Mary - the Aunt Mayme of the writer of this memoir - married my father's first cousin, Frank DuPlessis.

**Agnes died relatively young of cancer. Married twice, but this writer has no record of names of spouses. One husband was connected with Manlius Military Academy as a riding instructor.

Additional Notes - Anna's Fisselbrand's Grandfather

Peter Fiselbrand (note spelling) first appeared in the Syracuse City Directory in 1835 and for the last time in 1862 - address 75 Lodi and Butter-nut Streets.

Peter's son John and Peter's two daughters are in the 1864 Directory - Libbie (called Lize) and Catherine (Kate). Libbie's trade is listed as "Tailloress" e.g., she made suits rather than dresses. Kate and Lize lived to a ripe old age.

Anna's mother emigrated from Ireland with her sisters about 1851 - right after the Famine, in an old sailing vessel. The passage was so terrible (this was typical) that Anna's mother vowed if they arrived safely she would never ask to go back. One sister - per family legend - was given up as dead enroute and was about to be buried at sea when one of the surviving sisters screamed, At this, the "corpse" sat up - said corpse, per Dennis Hayes, a nephew, lived to be 90 years of age! (By process of elimination, was this the sister who married a Griner?)

(Wife of Bernard L. DuPlessis, Senior)

Her Parents

John Oteru Browne

Born in Waterford, Ireland on January 3, 1875 and educated at the Christian Brothers School. His father was an accountant. His mother's maiden name was English.

After learning his trade as a carpenter, he went into business for himself as a contractor - per the Waterford News of 10-20-1889 "in a suitable premises in Sargent's Lane." After emigrating to America, he worked as a contractor and as an estimator of property damages for various insurance companies until his death in 1956.

Roseanna Mary Devlin

Born in Brownstown, County Kilkenny, Ireland on December 3, 1883. Brownstown is not on the map. It is therefore probably a "townland," the smallest geographic division in Ireland. Brownstown is just a few miles from the bridge over the River Barrow into New Ross, County Wexford. Her father was a Sergeant in the Irish Constabulary and was stationed in New Ross for much of his active career.

She was baptized in Tullagher, County Kilkenney. As a girl she was raised in the country at Brownstown, with her older brother Peter in Thurles County Tipperary, and at 48 Manor Street in Waterford with her mother, her sister Kitty, her invalid brother Michael and her father. (The father died in 1900.) As a girl she attended the Presentation Convent in Thurles, County Tipperary.

She married John O. Browne at Mount Mellary, a Trappist Abbey in County Waterford, on June 28, 1905. In February 1907, they emigrated to America with their infant daughter, Margaret, and with a housekeeper, Nellie (Ellen Mary Joseph) Buckley, who stayed with the family until her death on July 30, 1944.

The family settled in Newark, N. J. On the first anniversary of their arrival in this country, they were burned out. A drape on the mantle caught fire from a fire in the fireplace. An infant, John, was burned to death, and all their possessions were lost.

JOHN O. BROWNE

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(Father of Margaret Browne DuPlessis)

Brothers and Sisters

- Patrick J. - Born in 1873. Died on December 24, 1948, in St. Francis' Hospital, Charleston, West Virginia. At the time of his death, he was pastor of St. Charles Barromeo's Church in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. He is buried in the church grounds. The church is directly across the road from the Greenbrier, a luxury resort hotel.
- James - He died in Newark or Patterson, N.J. A pharmacist, he never married.
- Richard - He went to the Boer War and was never heard from after.
- William - Died in England. He never married. Helped to develop the Pittman method of shorthand.
- Mary - Was a governess. Unmarried. Died in New York State.

ROSEANNA MARY DEVLIN BROWNE

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(Mother of Margaret Browne DuPlessis)

Her Father -

Arthur Devlin (the name is frequently spelled "Develin.") He was born about 1825 in County Wicklow, Ireland. He died in Waterford City, Ireland in 1900, at 48 Manor Street.

He was a member of the Constabulary and a sergeant at the time of retirement (circa 1890). His station during his last years was in and around New Ross, County Wexford. New Ross is about a dozen miles north of Waterford. We are told that he was liked and respected and that he kept the peace during a difficult period.

Arthur Devlin's father was steward of an estate in County Wicklow.

He had four brothers who emigrated to America shortly before the Civil War. They settled in Providence, Rhode Island, where some of their descendants live today. Their names were:

John Devlin
Hugh Devlin
Peter Devlin
(?) Devlin

It is believed that some or all served in the Union Army.

Her Mother -

Catherine Sweeney. She was born about 1838 in County Wicklow. She was married at 18 and at age 89 died in January 1928 at her daughter Kitty's home.

Her mother died young. Her father had had a store in his birthplace, Ballymitty, County Wexford, and had also farmed in that area. He emigrated to America and was never heard from after. It is interesting that he emigrated at about the same time and from the same general area as the paternal great-grandfather of John, Bobby and Edward Kennedy.

(Mother of Margaret Browne DuPlessis)

Brothers and Sisters

Mother Browne was the youngest of fifteen children, the majority of whom died in infancy or as children. She remembers the following:-

- John - A market gardener in Arklow, County Wexford.
b. 11/15/60
- James - Emigrated to the United States. Had a daughter in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Convent in Philadelphia. James died before 1907.
b ~ 10/62
- Peter - A pharmacist in Thurles, County Tipperary. In the fashion of the times, he practiced as a dentist. *died 1941*
5/1/64 b. 1864
- Joseph - Emigrated to Sydney, Australia in the 1890's and rose to be Chief Inspector of the Police Force there after a distinguished career as a detective. Has four living children (2 boys and 2 girls) now probably in their seventies, living in Sydney, New South Wales. *died 1955*
b. 1868
5/1/68
- Catherine - (Kitty) Born March 9, 1876. Married William Broderick, also a Sergeant of Police in ? (1906), two children - Paddy, a bachelor with whom she lives (1972) in Dublin. Another son, Willie, married but has no children and also lives in Dublin.
b 3/4/76
- Michael - An invalid most of his life (asthma) and finally bedridden. Died circa 1910 in Waterford.
9/3/70