



*With Appreciation  
Dexter Dixon*

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The DIXON Story

A Family History

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by

Dexter Dixon

THE  
DIXON  
STORY  
A FAMILY HISTORY

Containing a partical account of a family that has been in  
America since early colonial days.

Dexter Dixon

## FAMILY ORIGIN AND COAT OF ARMS

Motto: "Fortes fortuna juvat"  
(Fortune assists the brave)

Arms: Argent on a cross between four lozenges an eagle displayed of the field.

Crest: A dexter hand proper holding a sword bend sinister ways argent.

## DIXON

"The general Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales" by Sir Bernard Burke has long been regarded one of the finest reference books on genealogy.

Their records indicate that although some of the settlers bearing the name Dixon were originally from Holland, many bearing this name actually originated from Scotland. Richard Keith, son of the great Marshall, Harvey de Keith, is believed to be the founder of the clan.

Many persons bearing this old family name have contributed in the development of the new nation and history has paid tribute to their many accomplishments.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It would be impossible to acknowledge all the people who have assisted in collecting this family data, it has been a pleasure working with you, many of you I have never met, but it is great to know that you are a relative and interested in our ancestors, I hope what we have all done will be a help to the generations following us.

This information came from Family Group forms you filled out and returned, also marriage records, birth records, wills, deed books, tax lists, service discharge records and many other sources.

There will be mistakes, hope you will forgive us.

For additional copies send \$35.00

to

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HUMBLY DEDICATED TO  
JUDGE ARTHUR DIXON,  
PEARL B. DIXON  
AND  
EDGAR DIXON

Judge Dixon had gathered information on the Dixons and their descendants for many years and had hoped to get it compiled and a book published, but life being uncertain he wasn't permitted to reach his goal, so I have taken his material and material I had gathered and completed the job Judge Dixon started.

This second edition was made possible by the untiring efforts of Edgar Dixon, Pearl B. Dixon and his daughter Berniece who worked many long hours and traveled many miles gathering new information for this edition.

I would like to make a special mention of the late R.B. Caudill, (1877-1961), he is the first individual to start compiling information on our ancestors and during his lifetime he had accumulated information that is impossible to get today, after his death no one seems to know what happened to this material.

## PREFACE

The following was taken from a letter written by Henry C. Dixon, (1869-1954), to Erie (Dixon) Van Hoose, Frankfort, Ky., dated Oct. 15, 1947.

"There were three Dickson brothers; John, Henry and James, came from North Carolina and settled in Kentucky in 1805 or 1806. John settled in what is now Letcher County, Ky., James settled on Cumberland river in Harlan County, Ky., Henry settled at Paintsville, Johnson County, Ky., our great, great grandfather was Thomas Dickson of Maryland, who was a Revolutionary War soldier, he died with smallpox in the army."

Dr. Wilgus Bach, Jackson, Breathitt County, Ky., probably did more genealogy research in the 1920's and early 1930's than any other individual in the mountains of Kentucky and he does not show James as being a brother to John and Henry.

Genealogist that are working on the Dixons of Harlan County, claim that Alexander, Elder John and James Dixon were brothers, James spelled his name Dixon and John and Henry spelled their name Dickson, all Harlan County Dixons spelled their name Dixon, all the older Dicksons of Letcher County and Johnson County spelled their name Dickson.

We have no definite proof as to who the father of John and Henry was, the Dicksons left very few records.

Henry Dickson first settled in Clay County according to the 1810 Federal Census, he then moved on into Floyd County (what is now Johnson County, Ky.), settled where the town of Paintsville is now located.

John settled at the mouth of Elk Creek in what was then Floyd County, became Perry County in 1821 and then Letcher County in 1842, Elk Creek empties into the North Fork of Kentucky river near Blackey, Letcher County, Kentucky, John lived there until his death in 1847, John and his wife are buried at the mouth of Elk Creek near Kentucky Highway #7.

Records in the County Court Clerks office of Floyd County, Ky. Floyd County, Kentucky, Order Book 1 - 1808 - 1813. November Term - 1809.

Motion of Spencer Adams that Henry Conley, Thomas Foulson (tolson), John Dickson, mark road from Benjamin Ellis to county line. (This is proof that John was in Kentucky prior to 1809).

Henry Conley lived a mile or two up the North Fork of the Kentucky river from the mouth of Rockhouse Creek at what was known as Indian Bottom, he later moved to Johnson County, Ky.

Records in the County Court Clerks office of Perry County, Kentucky.

In the year 1822, John Dickson was issued two land grants for 50 acres each located on North Fork of Kentucky river.

1824, John Dickson purchased 30 acres of land from William Stacy located on Elk Creek.

John Dickson was one of the members that was in the organization of the Indian Bottom Church in 1810.

John Dickson was a delegate from the Indian Bottom Church to the New Salem Association in the following years, 1827, 1828, 1830, 1833 and 1836.

The following was taken from the New Salem Association Minutes: 1828- Picked to attend Red Bird Association, John Dickson to bear the letter.

1830 - John Dickson appointed to attend Washington Association.

1833 - John Dickson appointed to attend the Red Bird Association.

1836 - John Dickson appointed to attend Washington Association.

We haven't located a marriage record for John, back in those days many marriages were performed but never turned in to the Clerk's office.

Some time after 1880 many of the Dicksons began spelling the name Dixon, the 1880 census of Letcher County showed all were spelling their name Dickson at that time, my great grandfather Elder James Dickson spelled it Dickson until his death in 1914.

Emigrants coming from Scotland spelled the name Dickson and those coming from England spelled it Dixon.

The motto of the Dicksons of Scotland was "Fortes Fortuna juvat", (Fortune favors the bold).

Dicksons or Dixons are not very clanish as you will find a few in almost every city and town in the United States.

## POST OFFICES

A brief history of Post Offices that were used by the early Dixons and their descendants, the earliest Post Office we have any record of was established in 1829.

The following information was furnished by the United States Postal Service, taken from the Post Office Department in the National Archives.

A post office was first established at Brashersville, Perry County, on February 2, 1829. It was discontinued on October 3, 1834; re-established on February 11, 1837; discontinued on October 2, 1838; re-established on March 21, 1840; discontinued on June 23, 1842; re-established on March 5, 1855, as of now we don't have a record as to where the mail went during these periods when discontinued.

In 1829, Robert S. Brashear became the first postmaster of Brashearsville (now Cornettsville); the second post office established in the county, and served in that capacity for a number of years. Incidentally, proof that his position of postmaster was not very rewarding one is contained in an old Postal record which shows that his compensation for the entire year of 1841 was only two dollars and eighty-seven cents. This fact emphasizes the sparseness of the population of the area, and the citizens lack of ability and desire to write letters.

The second post office used by these families was established at Indian Bottom on June 10, 1856. Stephen Hogg was appointed postmaster on that date.

The post office at Blackey, Letcher County, Kentucky, was established on September 10, 1908, with James H. Brown appointed its only postmaster. The post office was discontinued on Feb. 28, 1913, and its mail was thereafter sent to Indian Bottom.

The Indian Bottom post office name was changed to Blackey on November 12, 1919, R.B. Caudill, a local merchant was appointed postmaster, Jim Brown, Postmaster 1908-1913 named the post office for his brother whose nickname was "Blackey".

The post office at Gourd was established on November 1, 1897. The name of the office was changed to Ulvah on March 27, 1914. Dora Bell Ison, who was appointed postmaster on July 6, 1912, was the last postmaster to serve there while the office was still known as Gourd.



## THIS RECORD IS COMPILED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1st. Generation--John Dickson and wife Tamar
- 2nd. Generation-- Children of John and Tamar  
Thomas Dickson  
Sally Dickson
- 3rd. Generation--Children of Thomas and Susan (Profitt) Dickson.
- 3rd. Generation will be shown by numbers, 1, 2, 3, and etc.
- 4th. Generation--Children of the 3rd. generation and will be shown by Roman numerals, I, II, III and etc.
- 5th. Generation-- Children of the 4th. generation and will be shown as follows - capital letters, A, B, C, and etc.
- 6th. Generation-- Children of the 5th. generation and will be shown as follows - Numbers in ( ) (1)., (2)., (3). and etc.
- 7th. Generation--Children of the 6th. generation and will be shown as follows - letters in ( ). (a)., (b)., (c). and etc.
- 8th. Generation--Children of the 7th. generation and will be shown as follows - ( )\_(1-a)., (2-b)., (3-c) and etc.
- 9th. Generation--Children of the 8th generation and will be shown as follows - ( ).- (a-a), (b-b). and (c-c). etc.
- 10th. Generation--Children of the 9th. generation and will be shown as follows: ( )., (1-1), (2-2), (3-3), etc.

NOTE

This record will be divided into SECTIONS and each section will be for one of Thomas and Susan (Profitt) Dixon's children and each SECTION will have all the decendants of that child that we have a record of.

## PAGES

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John Dickson, b. d. Apr. 14, 1847, Letcher Co., Ky.  
 Married: Tamar (last name unknown) b. d. Nov. 22, 1847 " " "

## ISSUE:

Thomas Dickson  
 Sallie Dickson

Thomas Dickson, b. 1795  
 d. Jun 12, 1877, Letcher Co., Ky.

Married: Susan Profitt, b.

d. 1847

Date married: Feb. 6, 1821, Floyd Co., Ky., by Daniel Duff.  
 Susan is the dau of Sylvester and Nancy (Tomkins) Profitt.  
 The 1850 Letcher Co. census shows Thomas being born in Virginia,  
 the 1860 Letcher Co. census shows Thomas being born in N.C.

## ISSUE:

1. John Dickson, b. Apr. 26, 1821 d. Apr. 27, 1888
2. Sally Dickson, b. Mar. 8, 1823 d. 1907
3. James Dickson, b. Dec. 11, 1824 d. Feb. 15, 1914
4. Jeremiah Dickson, b. July 1, 1827 d. Apr. 18, 1874
5. Nancy Dickson, b. Apr. 19, 1830 d. Dec. 31, 1899
6. Isaac Dickson, b. 1831 d.

Thomas Dickson was a large land owner in the Elk Creek area of what is now Letcher County, Kentucky.

It has been related to me by some of the older Dicksons that Thomas Dickson had Rheumatism so bad that his spine was drawn until he had to use crutches that were only three feet long, he had a special harness made for him and he would go into the forest and get wood and pull it to his home for cooking and heat.

When he died his crutches were placed against the head stone of his grave and remained until they decayed.

Following from Floyd County, Kentucky Records:

Bond dated 29, Jan. 1821 by Thomas Dickson and Josua Ripper for a marriage shortly to be had between Thomas Dickson and Susana Profit.

This is to Sartyfi you that this from under my hand.

(S) Susana Profit (S) Thomas Dickson  
 (S) Silvester Profit and Nancy (X) profit

Thomas Dickson and Susana Profitt were married - Feb. 6, 1821.

Taken from the Perry County Court Records:

June Term - 1824:

Ordered that Thomas Dickson be and is exempted from paying county levy for the further.

Oct. Term - 1825:

Ordered that \$20.00 be allowed Thomas Dickson for the year 1826.

Thomas Dickson left a will that was executed September 3, 1877, and is recorded in Will Book No. 1 in the Letcher County Court Clerk's office. A copy of the Will is on the following page.

Thomas Dickson and his wife are buried at the mouth of Elk Creek on the North Fork of the Kentucky river, near Blackey, Kentucky, beside Kentucky Highway No. 7, Letcher County, Kentucky.

Some information on Susan Profitt's family:

1787 - Wilkes County, N.C., census-

Sylvester Profitt

1 - male 21 yrs. to 60

3 - females all ages

Sylvester Profitt

Married: Nancy Tomkins

Date married: Aug. 26, 1782, Wilkes Co., N.C.

Wilkes Co., N.C. Deeds:

Oct. 31, 1799 - between Sylvester Profitt and John Lipps - 80 lb.  
104 $\frac{1}{2}$  ac. - S. Fork, Lewis Fork

James Tompkins

William Clawson

Jonathan Lipps

Sylvester Profitt

The Federal Census of 1810 doesn't show Sylvester Profitt in Kentucky, the Federal Census of 1820 shows Sylvester Profitt living in Floyd County, Kentucky, therefore he must have come to Kentucky between 1810 and 1820.

Sallie Dickson

Married:            Tolson

Dr. Wilgus Bach's records shows Sallie Dickson married a Tolson, he doesn't show anyother information about Sallie.

The Floyd County marriage records shows Warren Toulson, married June 1817, by Electius Howe, but dosen't show the bride's name, we believe this is Sallie's husband.

The following taken from the Perry County Court Records:

Nov. Term - 1830

Ordered that John Dixson be allowed \$30.00 for keeping Sary Tolson.

Sallie's husband had died or either they had seperated and she was living with her father.

Perry County, Ky. - Tax List - 1822

Dickson, Thomas

Dickson, John - N. Fk.

## WILL

Letcher County Kentucky 3

I Thomas Dickson being of sound mind and meditating upon the uncertainty of life do make this my last will and testament, my will is that all my just debts be paid out of my personal property if so much can be, if not then out of real estate, my will is that my son John Dickson have all the land owned by me beginning at the Wild Cat Pen running down to the mouth of the Still House branch then up Elk Creek to the mouth of the Old Mill branch including all the land owned by me in said boundary on said creek, my will is that James Dickson have the land from the mouth of the Still House branch to the mouth of Elk Creek to rent or tend to maintain my daughter Sally Dickson an so long as she lives then said land to belong to Isaac Dickson after the death of said Sally Dickson, also one pot, one oven, one bed and stid and four blankets and Cubburt, two plates and dishes all to be in care of James Dickson for said Sally Dickson as long as she lives then to belong to said James Dickson, I will to James Dickson fifty dollars in gold or silver to assist him in maintaining said Sally Dickson and my will is that the balance of my money after paying Sally Dickson and Nancy Caudill my daughter one dollar a peace the remainder be divided between John Dickson, James Dickson and Isaac Dickson and Jeremiah Dickson, deceased, his three heirs, Susana Dickson, Stephen Dickson and Henry Dickson, eually apeace including said heirs as one, but that said John Dickson, James Dickson and Isaac Dickson hold said heirs part of money in their hand until said heirs comes age, then pay over to said heirs, my will is that James Dickson my son have all the land from the mouth of Old Mill branch up Elk Creek belonging to me, my will is that Susana Dickson Stephen Dickson and Henry Dickson the heirs of Jeremiah Dixon, deceased, have all the land from the upper end of the medder on the other side of the river from the Mill down the river that belongs to me but said land is to be held by John Dickson, James Dickson and Isaac Dickson and them to rent or tend the same and apply the rent to maintain said heirs til they come of age, my will is that Nancy Caudill my daughter have the farm that she lives on on Christian branch if she pays James Dickson twenty dollars in gold and ten dollars in green back, John Dickson is hereby appointed by me to collect said money and pay to James Dickson and then to make a deed to said Nancy Caudill to said land, my will is that Isaac Dickson my son have all the land owned by me from the upper end of the meadow on the other side the river from the mill up the river to Kelly Hogg line owned by me to the above named lines on both sides of the river, my will is that my personal property be equally divided among all my heirs, but Nancy Caudill, my hogs and one cow and yearling them to ~~be~~ James Dickson's at my death, my will is that the part of my personal property that goes to Susana Dickson, Stephen Dickson and Henry Dickson be paid to them by John Dickson, James Dickson and Isaac Dickson when they come of age, table and five dogs to belong to Isaac Dickson, I will two hides to John C. Dickson and Columbus Dickson, I hereby appoint John Dickson and Isaac Dickson executors, done and signed by me this 22 of April, 1876.

Thomas Dickson

ATTEST:  
S.A. Whitaker  
W.R. Stamper

Letcher County Kentucky, May the 10th, 1877

I Thomas Dickson this day do make this dispose of a certain portion of my personal property, one mule known as the Kelly Hogg mule, I give to my son James Dickson to maintain Sally Dickson my daughter and or assist him in so doing, also I divide my meat that I have on hand between Isaac Dickson and Sally Dickson according to their family, also three bacon hogs I give to Sally Dickson and two barkan hogs to Isaac Dickson and the rest of my hogs I give to James Dickson except one gilt I give to Thomas Dickson, James Dickson's son, I also give to Isaac Dickson my son my mule and big pot, fire shovel and cloke to pay him for waiting on me and lifting me, also I give all my tools to Isaac Dickson and James Dickson to be divided without any sale between parties, the above gifts not to enterfer with my former will, them that I have divided the above property and given as I want it done is my will, done and signed this the 10 of May 1877.

his

Thomas X Dickson  
mark

ATTEST:

S.A. Whitaker  
J.D. Caudill

State of Kentucky) SS  
County of Letcher)

I Ezekiel Brashear Clerk of the County Court for the County Court for the County aforesaid do certify the foregoing will of Thomas Dickson, together with the Codicil which is thereto attached was this day produced in the Letcher County Court and duly proven by the subscribing witnesses thereto to be the last Will and testament of Thomas Dickson whereupon said will & Codicil together with this certificate has been this day duly attached to record in my office.

Given under my hand as Clerk of said court this 3rd day of Sept. 1877.

Ezekiel Brashear, C.L.C.C.

The above Will is recorded in Will Book #1 in the Letcher County Court Clerk's Office, Whitesburg, Ky.

Some of the spelling has been corrected, so it could help in understanding the meaning better.

This Will is hand written.

NOTE: The name in this will is spelled DICKSON.



Old water grist mill just below  
mouth Elk Creek, built between  
1815 - 1820 by first Dixon that  
settled here. John and son Tom  
Dixon. John died - 1848

## I. JOHN DICKSON

- I. John Dickson, b. Dec. 26, 1821 d. Apr. 12, 1888  
Married: Nellie (Adams) Whitaker, b. Apr. 11, 1814  
d. July 27, 1888

Date married: Nov. 10, 1850

Nellie is the dau of Steve and Nellie (Bunton) Adams.

Nellie Bunton came from England when 15 years old.

Nellie Adams was first married to Isaac "Little Ide"  
Whitaker and he died.

John and Nellie are both buried in the Dixon Cemetery,  
Blackey, Letcher County, Ky., opposite the mouth of Rock-  
house Creek.

## ISSUE:

- I. Jason Dickson, b. June 11, 1853  
d. Oct. 30, 1854
- II. Spencer Dickson, b. Apr. 26, 1855  
d. May 15, 1892
- III. William Van Dickson, b. Jan. 9, 1857  
d. Jan. 7, 1927
- IV. John Dickson, Jr., b. 1859  
d. before 1870