

No. 14 In A Series

Strictly Kentucky Genealogy

Various Materials To Aid In Family History Research.

Kidwell

The following was sent to us by Carol Kidwell Gay, 6396 Jamesfield Court, Fairfield, OH 45014; 851/829-2372; ccgay@aol.com.

Leonard Kidwell, born 1787 in North Carolina, came to Madison County, Kentucky, in 1807. Here he married Lydia Wood on December 12, 1811. In 1826 they had migrated to Owen County, Kentucky, where their son, Jephtha D., was born. They appeared in the Grant County, Kentucky, tax lists in 1827, with 140 acres in the Eagle Creek watershed on the west side of the county. In 1829 he was taxed on 50 acres on Crooked Creek near the Pendleton County line. Like many others, he bought, sold, and traded various tracts of land over a period of time. In 1836 he had 100 acres on Eagle Creek. In 1850 and 1860 Leonard lived near Cordova. His wife, Lydia, age 60 in 1850; Jane E. Kidwell, age 57; and Sarah A. J. Jones, age eight, were residing in the same household. Neither Lydia or Jane E. is listed in the 1860 census. The children of Leonard and Lydia Kidwell are:

1. Jephtha D. Kidwell, born 1826 in Owen County. He married, on January 29, 1846, Saphronia Dunn, born 1830. They were living, in 1850, near Cordova with a daughter, Martha L., born 1847. Saphronia and Martha L. might have died in an epidemic in 1857, as there is no record of them thereafter. The Civil War period was a time of trial and tribulation for Jephtha

D. Kidwell, as it was for so many others. Jephtha D. enlisted as a private in Company B, Sixth Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry, USA, mustered in on December 24, 1861, for three years.

A record of the Adjutant General of Kentucky reported Jephtha D. as enlisting as a private on September 16, 1862, in Williamstown under Captain Roberts in Company A, Fifth Regiment Kentucky

Infantry, CSA. He was carried on the company rolls as a deserter on and after October 11, 1862.

It was not unusual for a man of military age in a border state to be pushed, cajoled, or even threatened by one set of friends or relatives to join one side, and at the same time urged by another set of friends or relatives to enlist in the other side. He returned to Union service, but was reported as having deserted on December 20, 1862. He returned and was accepted in Union service again on March 2, 1864. Here he died on July 10, 1864, while on active duty in Alpine, Georgia.

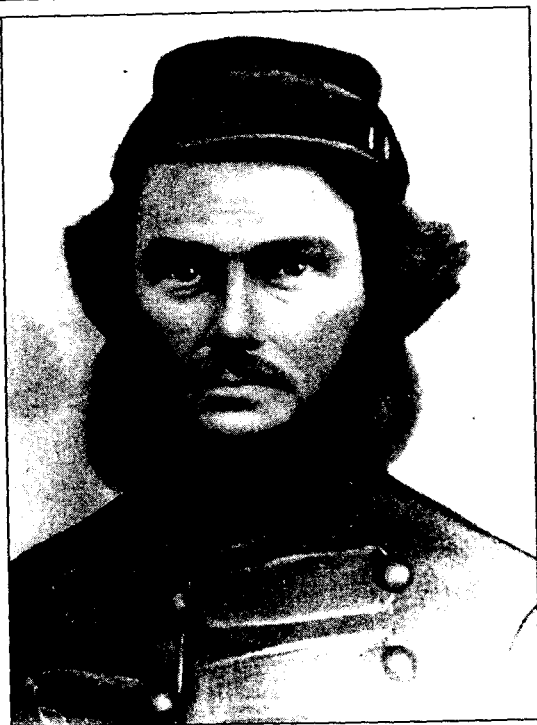
Jephtha D. had married a second time, December 24, 1857, to Elizabeth Dunn, a younger sister of Saphronia, his first wife. Elizabeth was born in 1843, and she died

January 21, 1915. Four children were born: John W., born December 25, 1858; Ronald M., born December 24 1859; Mary J., born March 11, 1861; and Thomas Alex, born February 19, 1863. These children were named in a U. S. pension application filed September 15, 1865.

2. Eliza Ann, born 1812, married, November 30, 1833, Verdamin Jones in Grant County. There is no further record of this family, other than Sarah A. J. Jones, born 1842, residing with the Leonard Kidwell family in the 1850 census.

3. Pamela A., born 1818, married, in Grant County, March 6, 1838, Charles T. Anness, born 1798. In 1850 their children were: John L., born 1840; Lydia A., born 1843; James N., born 1844; Winfield T., born 1847; and Nancy E., born 1850. In 1860 John L. was no longer living at home, neither is Nancy E., who might have died. There were two more children born after 1850: Evaline S., born 1853; and Charles J., born 1859.

4. Harriet M., born 1833, married in Grant County, October 19, 1848, to George Million, born 1827. In 1850, with a new



Carol Kidwell Gay, 6396 Jamesfield Court, Fairfield, OH 45014, shares this photo of Jephtha D. Kidwell taken ca. 1861, possibly in Owen County, Kentucky. See the "Strictly Genealogy" at left.

daughter, George Ann, the family resided near Cordova. (In 1860 the wife's name is listed as Nancy, born 1831; George Ann is listed as age nine; a son, Robert, as age seven; and a daughter, Alamedia, as age five.)

Of the four children of Jephtha D. and Elizabeth Dunn Kidwell: the oldest, John W. Kidwell, born December 25, 1858, married first, April 25, 1875, Lilly Dunn, born 1855, died 1892; married second, Mary Louise McKenny. The children by Elizabeth were: Jephtha D. Kidwell, born November 1875, married Ellen Jones; Elizabeth Kidwell, born 1887; Ronald E. Kidwell, born September 6, 1878, Harrison County, married August 11, 1902, Mary Elizabeth Morris, born Scott County, June 10, 1884, died December 11, 1976; Emma Kidwell, married first, Frank Havisus; married second, William Walker; John Shelton Kidwell, born October 9, 1885, died February 14, 1956, married Emma, born 1891, died 1962; Relda Kidwell, born March 31, 1888, married William Navarre; Mary Kidwell, born May 3, 1890, died January 4, 1970, married first, Leonard Cook; married second, Benny Walker, 1889-1970; and Bertha Kidwell, born 1892, married Charlie Bradley. By John W.'s second wife, Mary Louise, he had the following children: Pollard, born 1899, died January 25, 1941; Lilly Belle; Edith; and Jesse.

The second child of Jephtha D. and Elizabeth Dunn Kidwell was: Ronald M. Kidwell, born December 24, 1859, died December 15, 1936, married first, Eliza Perkins, 1860-1906; married second, Hattie (last name unknown). Ronald and Eliza's children were: Thomas J. Kidwell, born 1882, married Rosa Willoughby; Jephtha Kidwell, born August 1884, married Grace Winkler; John William Kidwell, born July 1886, died September 13, 1956, married Susan Hannah Dennis; Martha, born February 1882; Lucy Kidwell, born August 1888; and Mary E. Kidwell, born January 1890, married James Morris. By his second wife, Hattie, he had the following children: Erby Kidwell, born February 1895, married Jessie Glass; Orby Kidwell, born August 1899, died July 4, 1968, married 1921, Almeda Moreland, 1905-March 25, 1981; and Otis Kidwell, born November 22, 1902, died December 29, 1980, married Katie Goebel Wise, born June 10, 1900, died July 19, 1995, at Georgetown, Kentucky.

The third child of Jephtha D. and Elizabeth Dunn Kidwell: Mary Jephtha Kidwell,



Glenda Crawford Cooper, 248 Union Ridge Road, Wartrace, TN 37183, 931/389-6872, shares this photo of (l-r) her father, Vollie Crawford; Shirley Evans, and Liberty Crawford. The photo was taken in August 1964, in Breathitt County, Kentucky, at the Hugh Bryant Graveyard. These men are all natives of Athol, Kentucky (on the Breathitt and Lee County line).

born March 11, 1861, married Jim Perkins. Their children were: Thomas Perkins and James Perkins.

The fourth child of Jephtha D. and Elizabeth Dunn Kidwell: Thomas A. Kidwell, born February 19, 1863, died October 19, 1940, married first, Henrietta Morgan; married second, Wavie Conrad. His children were: Charles M. Kidwell, born 1885, married Sadie Dunn, 1890-1955; Susan Kidwell, born December 31, 1886, died April 30, 1944, married Noah McKenny; Ephrom Kidwell, born 1889, died March 26, 1961; and Gasham Kidwell, born 1892, died March 28, 1966, married Maude Swinford.

Among the grandchildren of Jephtha D. and Elizabeth Dunn Kidwell and of the children of John W. and Lilly Dunn Kidwell listed above, the second is Ronald E. Kidwell, born September 6, 1878, Harrison County, who married, August 11, 1902, Mary Elizabeth Morris, born in Scott County.

Ronald E. Kidwell died January 18, 1965, in Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mary Elizabeth died December 11, 1976, in Nashville, Tennessee. Their children included: Paul E. Kidwell, born August 25, 1915, married January 11, 1936, Josephine Travis, born January 16, 1917. Paul E. Kidwell died November 13, 1983, at Cincinnati, Ohio; and Josephine died January 15, 1996, at Hamilton, Ohio. Their children include: Pauline, born December 2, 1936, Cincinnati, died December 29,

1936; Goldie Mae, born February 19, 1938, Lexington, married May 7, 1958, Paul Lincoln Lay at Blanchester, Ohio; Carol Ann (the author of this article), born December 2, 1939, Cincinnati, married November 23, 1957, Charles Gay of Blue Diamond, Kentucky, at Lawrenceburg, Indiana; Ronald, born July 25, 1941, Cincinnati, married first, August 22, 1959, Parrot Irene Campbell at Blanchester, Ohio; married second, July 11, 1981, Jennifer Lynn Ford at Dayton, Ohio; George (twin of Ronald), born July 25, 1941, Cincinnati, Ohio, married, September 30, 1967, Sandra Thompson at Evendale, Cincinnati; Kenneth Paul, born November 5, 1942, Cincinnati, married, June 4, 1965, Elizabeth Thompson at Evendale, Cincinnati; Paula Jo, born September 5, 1947, Cincinnati, married, September 16, 1967, Clyde Wilson, Evendale, Cincinnati; and Rose Mary, born January 24, 1960, Wilmington, Ohio, married, December 18, 1982, Howard Glen Hatfield at Fairfield, Ohio.

The mother of the above-named children, Josephine Travis, who married January 11, 1936, Paul E. Kidwell, is a sister of Hannah Travis, who married September 10, 1943, Kenneth P. Kidwell; a second cousin to Paul E. Kidwell. Kenneth P. Kidwell is a son of John W. Kidwell, who married, 1913, Susan Hannah Dennis, and a grandson of Ronald M. Kidwell, brother of John W. Kidwell, grandfather of Paul E. Kidwell.