



*Samuel Dickey*

*Eliza Dickey*

SAMUEL DICKEY, whose portrait and that of his excellent wife appears on this page, as also a view of his mills and residence, is the oldest son of Adam Dickey, who was one of the first settlers in the Miami Valley. Adam Dickey at the age of sixteen years came over from Ireland to the United States immediately after the war for independence. He settled in Pennsylvania, and a few years after became acquainted with and married a Virginia lady. In 1801 he emigrated to the city of Cincinnati, where he engaged in farming and brick-making for four years. He made the first brick ever laid in a house in the city of Cincinnati. He then moved to Butler County, Ohio, and settled on about four hundred and sixty acres of land in Lemon Township, where he resided until his death, in 1828, aged sixty-two years. There were ten children in the family, seven sons and three daughters, of these there are still living, Mrs. Elizabeth Bonnell, of Middletown; William and Robert Dickey, of Dayton; and Samuel, the subject of this sketch, all people of wealth and consideration. Samuel enjoyed the usual limited advantages of the common schools of those early days until he was sixteen years old, after which time he was engaged in assisting his father who had erected mills and a distillery which he carried on, and thus disposed of the immense crops of corn raised by himself and the neighboring farmers. Samuel remained with his father

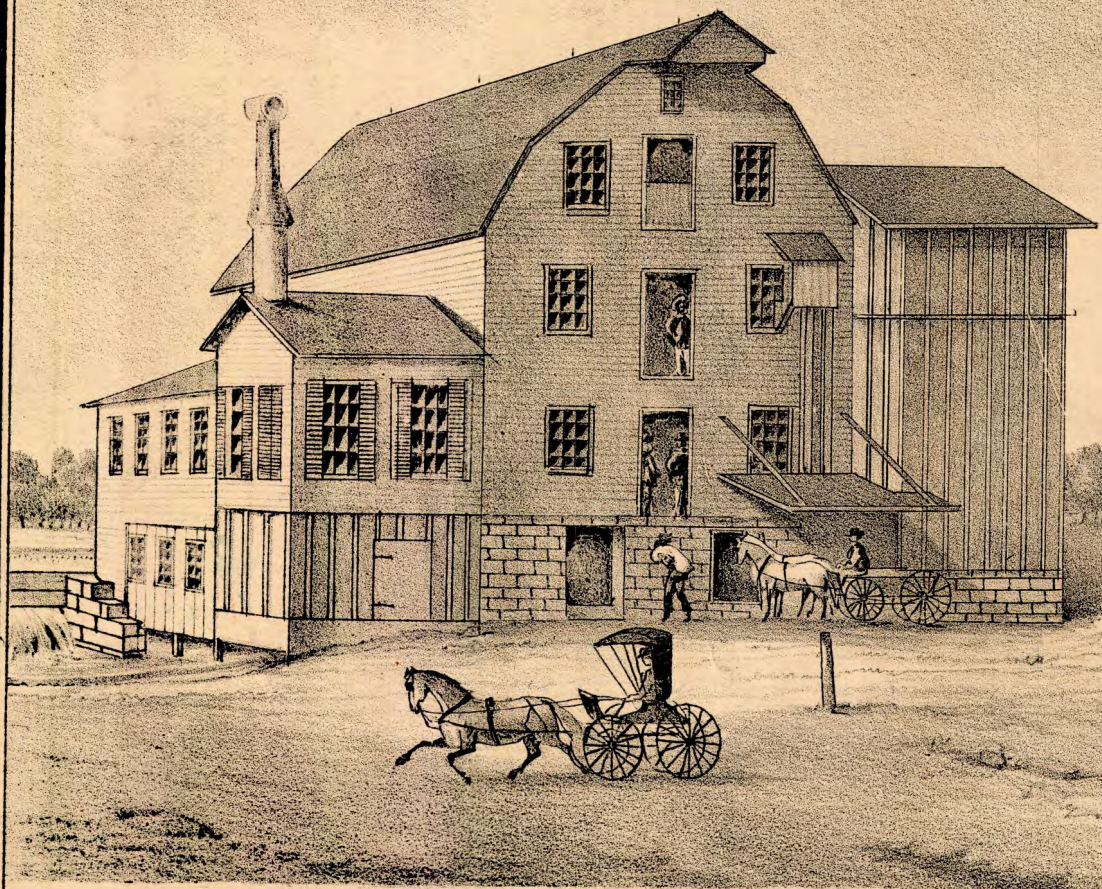
until 1821; he was then twenty-eight years of age, at which time he united in marriage with Miss Jane Greer. This union was dissolved by the death of his wife in 1828; by this marriage he had three children, two of whom died in infancy, the other, a daughter, is married and lives in the State of Illinois. In 1831 he married Miss Kerren H. Heath. At the end of twenty years he was again a widower, having lost his second wife; she died in 1851, leaving four children, three of whom are living: Adam, who is married and lives in Amanda; Sallie E. and Ida C., who are living at home with their father. In 1864, he then being seventy years old, he contracted a third marriage; the bride was Mrs. Eliza Kinder, his present companion, a worthy widow lady of fifty eight years of age, a native of Warren County, Ohio. This marriage is a very proper and happy one, cemented as it is by mutual esteem and affection. This old couple enjoy life, company, and conversation with all the relish of more youthful years, and they seem to be moving down the stream of time with scarce a ripple to disturb the quiet of their voyage.

Mr. Dickey has been engaged all his life in milling, and is one of the oldest as well as the best millers in the State of Ohio. He still owns the Amanda Mills, managed by his son Adam. Mrs. Dickey has in her possession the identical carving knife and fork used to carve the turkey for

the dinner of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, at Philadelphia, July 4, 1776, which has descended to her as the third possession since that great event.

In 1818 Samuel Dickey loaded a flat-boat with flour and whisky, which he floated all the way down the Miami, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, where he sold out boat and cargo, returning all the way through the wilderness on horseback. He made several trips afterwards, returning up the river by steamer.

Mr. Dickey has never been a speculator, but has attended to his legitimate business which has always provided him a fine income. In politics he is a Democrat, as was his father before him. In religious sentiment he is protestant, but has never been a member of any church organization, although he regularly attends the Presbyterian church service with his wife, who is a member of that church. Mr. Dickey although eighty-one years of age, is in possession of all his faculties, and employs his time in doing the lighter work about his comfortable home, and in reading and conversation about the news of the time in which he takes much interest. Loved and honored by his friends, respected and esteemed by all, he stands to-day a living example of a well-spent life, an honor to Butler County, of which he has been a resident sixty-nine years.



SAMUEL DICKEY'S MILL. LEMON TP. BUTLER CO. O.



RES. OF ADAM & SAMUEL DICKEY. LEMON TP. BUTLER CO. O.