

BLICKENS DERFER - PLICKENSTALVER - PLICK

Catharine Flick, born 1759, married John Lester, date and place unknown, perhaps in 1775 in Fincastle County, Virginia.

She was the daughter of John Blickensderfer, a German. The name of her mother is unknown.

The name in German was Blickensdörfer or Blickensderfer, and became Plickenstalver in English. It was shortened to Plick, and that is understandable when one sees the various ways the name was spelled - or misspelled - since it seems to have been a difficult name for the early settlers to pronounce and spell. A few of the spellings found in records:

Pleickensdoerffer	Blickingstofer	Plickenstarvor	Pleckenstaker
Blickenstörffer	Bliggennderfer	Pleekenstopher	Plickinstorffer
Blickersterffer	Blickenstaffer	Pleckenstepher	Pleck and Stalver

The earliest known information on the Blickensderfer family in Germany begins on February 12, 1716, when the "Anabaptist" Blickensderfer purchased a Kohlacher estate in the Schifferstadt subdivision of the Electorate of Speyer of the Palatinate or Rheinisch province of the kingdom of Bavaria. According to tradition, the Anabaptist was a disciple of Menno Simons in Switzerland and was expelled because of his religious beliefs. (An Anabaptist was one of a party which rejected infant baptism, held the church to be composed of true Christians baptized on confession of faith, and advocated separation of church and state.) A small hamlet near the city of Zug, Switzerland, called Blickensdorf, and the fact that many Blickensderfers resided in that vicinity lends credence to the tradition.

The given name of the Anabaptist does not appear in the records, nor the date of his birth and death. It is estimated that he was born about 1690, and certain facts seem to show that he died in 1767. At his death he conveyed the Kohlacher estate to the widow of his son (George?) in trust for his grandson John George, the son apparently having died in 1761-62, before the death of his father.

The name of his wife is unknown. They had six sons, five of whom emigrated to America. The six sons were: Christian (1724-1800), John, George?, Jacob, Ulrich, Jost (1735-1826). The order of birth is not known other than that Jost was the youngest and Christian probably the oldest.

Jacob was the first to emigrate to America, landing at Philadelphia on September 16, 1748. Tradition says that soon after his arrival in America he went West and lived among the Indians, nothing being heard from him for some years, when he suddenly appeared among his brothers in eastern Pennsylvania, dressed in full Indian costume. He did not remain in eastern Pennsylvania very