

DIXON, TOM (FAMILY)

SHELBY DAILY STAR

MEMBERS OF FAMOUS DIXON FAMILY



Sitting on pedestal to the left is Tom Dixon, author and playwright, now living in Raleigh. Second in back row is Rev. A. C. Dixon, third Frank Dixon, lecturer and father of Governor Frank Dixon of Alabama. The two ladies sitting are Mrs. Addie Dixon Thacker and Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll. All are dead except Tom Dixon and Mrs. Thacker.

CLEVELAND COUNTY CENTENNIAL

**DIXON FAMILY IS FAMOUS
FOR ACTIVITIES IN MANY
FIELDS OF ACHIEVEMENT**

Members Of Noted Cleveland County Family Es-
tablished Places In Ministry, Literature,
Oratory; Known Throughout Nation

(BY W. E. WHITE)

Among the famous American families is the Dixon family of Cleveland county. For mental enjoyment and achievement this family will compare favorably with the Lee family of Virginia or the Roosevelt family of New York.

The five members of the Dixon family who reached adulthood were all considerably above the average in intellect, and none of them dissipated their energies or wasted their talents. They were not only highly intelligent, but they were also industrious and ambitious to achieve big things in life.

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"Dixon Family is Famous..."

The members of the family were Clarence, one of the world's most outstanding ministers of the Gospel for three decades; Tom, noted author and orator; Frank, a brilliant lecturer and preacher; Mrs. Ernest Thacker (Addie), a prominent woman in the Southern Presbyterian church, and Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll who wielded a big influence in social and political movements in North Carolina. All have passed to their reward except Tom, Jr., who lives in Raleigh where he is clerk of the eastern division of Federal court.

Col. Hambricht Descendants

The Dixon family is descended from illustrious forebears. Their father, Rev. Thomas Dixon, was a grandson of Colonel Frederic Hambricht of Revolutionary fame. Colonel Hambricht distinguished himself as a partisan leader in the heroic struggle for American independence. In the battle at Kings Mountain he refused to leave the field after being wounded, because he feared it would dishearten his men when they were on the verge of winning a victory. This dauntless courage of Colonel Hambricht was transmitted to his descendants.

His youngest daughter, Suzannah, married David Dixon, a prosperous farmer, and this couple became the parents of Rev. Thomas Dixon, the father of one of the most gifted families in America.

Rev. Thomas Dixon himself was an unusual man in some respects. He was born in the early part of the 19th century, I think in 1819, when our state had no public school system and as a consequence his educational training was limited. But despite this handicap he was licensed to preach by the Baptist denomination. For more than three-score years he was a zealous laborer in the

vineyard of the Lord and fruitful were his labors.

Baptised 6,000 Converts

To quote from another:

"When his life work was complete he had organized some 20 Baptist churches and led in the building of as many church houses, baptising not less than 6,000 converts." As an evidence of his popularity, he served for 55 years as pastor of New Prospect church and in like capacity for 40 years for Buffalo church. In his later years he was affectionately called "Father Dixon", and at the age of about 88 he was "gathered unto his fathers."

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