

Dickerman Ancestry, Additum for Thomas (\_\_\_\_-1657)

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**Abstract**

The "Dickerman Ancestry", an excellent genealogical work published in 1897, chronicled many of the descendants of Thomas Dickerman (\_\_\_\_-1657), emigrant to Dorchester, Massachusetts from England about 1635. Recently discovered archives add substantially to the birth, marriage and family record of Thomas.

This additum to the Dickerman Ancestry indicates two wives taken by Thomas in England prior to his known wife and emigrant companion Ellen (1601-1676) variously Elenor (Whittington). We find his first child, daughter Hannah (1622-1665), born of his first wife Elizabeth Sims (abt 1597-bef1623). We confirm his first son, Thomas Jr. (1623-1685), was born of his second wife, Marie Eustaire (abt 1600-bef 1631). The last three sons, Abraham (abt 1634-1711), Isaac (1637-\_\_\_\_) and John (1644-d.young), are then seen to be born of Elenor (1601-1711). Hannah, not mentioned in the Dickerman Ancestry, is found first at New Haven, CT, married 1st to Captain William Ives and 2nd to Dr. William Bassett. These revelations begin to untangle a multitude of improper notations in the greater genealogical database with respect to Thomas Dickerman and his family.

Further evidence is put forward that while Thomas Dickerman was "of St. Georges Parish, Southwark, Surrey" (stated by Banks), he was married 1st (1613) at St. Georges, married 2nd (1622) and son Thomas christened (1623) at Saint Clement Danes, London (across London Bridge from St. Georges), and married 3<sup>rd</sup> at Little Missendon (1631), Buckinghamshire. He is likely the son of George Dickerman (\_\_\_\_-abt 1615) "of Marston Morteyne, Bedfordshire", and may have had a younger "brother" Abraham living in St. Georges, Southwark about 1620. Also, Thomas Dickerman may have been christened at the Mears Shelby School, Norwich, Norfolkshire, in 1605.

### Accepted Genealogical Information

The Dickerman Ancestry<sup>1</sup> of 1897 is the earliest and best-known assemblage of genealogical information on Thomas Dickerman (\_\_\_\_-1657). The authors, E. D. and G. S. Dickerman, neither knew nor speculated on Thomas's birth or early life, and stated they had ".....diligently searched , both in this country and in England, but without success." <sup>2</sup> They did opine on the origin of the surname Dickerman, suggesting it to be "German"<sup>3</sup>, but offered no proof.

The earliest fact found and recorded<sup>4</sup> by E. D. and G. S. Dickerman was dated<sup>5</sup> January 1637, wherein Thomas is shown to be at Dorchester (MA), one of one hundred and four names listed for apportioned lands. On the "Seaventh day of the Twelfth month in the yeare 1641" Thomas Dickerman's signature was entered among seventy-one signers conveying land to the town of Dorchester. It is interesting to note the replicated signature<sup>6</sup> and the author's remark on its clarity and large size; this signature will later prove nearly the same as those which were found in England signed documents with earlier dates.

At the time of the Families of Dickerman Ancestry Descendants of Thomas Dickerman publication, 1897/Supl.1922, hard genealogical data for Thomas was slim<sup>7</sup>. The time and place of Thomas's marriage was unknown, as was his parentage and that of his (as it turns out - 3<sup>rd</sup>) wife, Ellen. No prior wives were known. No daughter (his first child) was known. For his early named children, their birth, marriage and spousal information was lacking. Only upon the death of Thomas, was his wife mentioned at some length - Ellen remarried John Bullard in 1657 and moved to Meadfield.

E. D. and G. S. Dickerman struggled most with Thomas (Jr.)<sup>8</sup> son of Thomas Dickerman. They could find no direct link to Thomas and noted that Thomas (Jr.) was consistently identified with Malden, Massachusetts in the materials available to them. They do note, however, that the name of Dickerman is "too unusual, not only in the colonies, but in England, to think of.....different families." They did find one deposition of 1658 which lists Thomas (Jr.) as "aged about 35"<sup>9</sup>. This would suggest Thomas (Jr.) was born about 1623. As we will further see below, this corresponds well with a record of

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<sup>1</sup> (1) Dickerman, Edward Dwight and Dickerman, George Sherwood, FAMILIES OF DICKERMAN ANCESTRY Descendants of THOMAS DICKERMAN an early settler of Dorchester, Massachusetts, Hardcover, 650 pages, published New Haven, The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Press, 1897 And (2) Supplement of same author and title, Papercover, 47 pages + charts, published New Haven, The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Press, 1922.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 4.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 4, para 2.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 5, para 4.

<sup>5</sup> All dates are presented as recorded in the original, referenced document. No correction is made even when apparent.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 6, para 6.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 17, para 1.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 13, para 2.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid Dickerman, page 13, para 3.

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Thomas (Jr.)'s christening on 27 Apr 1623 at St. Clement Danes, Westminster with Thomas recorded as his father, and a mother different from Ellen.

Research by Col. Charles Edward Banks in the 1930's is of interest; Thomas Dickerman is cited in his table of 2885 emigrants<sup>10</sup> along with some limited information. The listing contains only the name, Thomas Dickerman, the parish from which he emigrated - St. Georges, Southwark, the year in which he emigrated - 1620, and his destination - New York. The year and destination is of great speculative interest in that 1620 is early for Dorchester. Banks note prompted my search in and around London for Thomas Dickerman, and lead to a number of findings detailed below. Sources for Bank's entries are not disclosed in the summary. I have yet to review his manuscripts and notes<sup>11</sup> which may point to more interesting original documents, possibly fleshing out the early life of Thomas.

From the Topographical Dictionary of 2885 English Emigrants, Banks, Charles Edward, a reprint by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1957; the complete entry is:

From: SURREY  
Passenger Name: Thomas DICKERMAN  
Ships Name: none  
English Parish Name: Southwark (S.George)  
New England Town: Dorchester  
Various Ref: Charles E. Banks Mss. in Library of Congress

### **Thomas Dickerman (abt 1597 - 1657) - Marriages and Children**

While Thomas is reasonably common as a given name in England in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries, the surname Dickerman is quite unusual. Only a small, scattered reference to Dickerman can be found in all of the transcribed or digitized records finding their way into circulation or stored in various archives in and around London. Manual and electronic search is exacerbated by the hand-writing of this period, which varies wildly in quality and readability. But I did have some success in England during the Fall of 1996 and later with respect to Thomas Dickerman.

I knew only that Banks had identified his "parish - St. Georges, Southwark" which at the time was large in area extending into the farmland along the south bank of the Thames River opposite London. Today the Parish of St. Georges is centered at St Georges cathedral, not far south of London Bridge.

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<sup>10</sup> Banks, Charles Edward, TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY of 2885 ENGLISH EMIGRANTS, Baltimore Genealogical Publishing Co., 1957, pg. 168; original publication much earlier

<sup>11</sup> notes and manuscripts are held by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

### First Marriage of Thomas Dickerman - to Elizabeth Sims

Work at the Public Records Office (PRO) Kew, Northrup Road near the Euston Tube Station, yielded only one gem. There were few records found dated prior to 1602. In searching the collected annual marriage, birth, baptismal and burial records from 1602 to 1635, only one Dickerman was found:

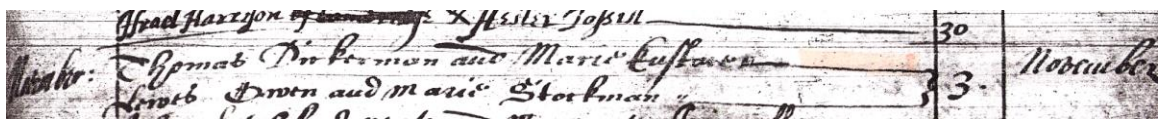
Juno 14, 1613, Thomas Dickerman m. Elizabeth Sims.

The name "Sims" appeared to be written "Gimb", but comparing letter formation of other names on the same page, the spelling is seen to be "Sims". I was not able to get a Photostat of the page. In the records of Christening, there was no "Dickerman" entry. The records of Burials yielded only one possibility: "Thomas son of Thomas Dickerson 1606". The "s" may be legitimate, could not be correlated with any other information and was discarded.

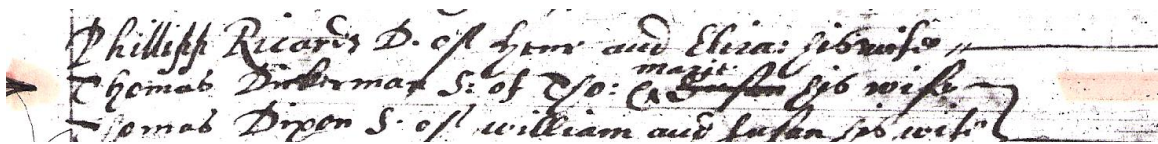
Several indirect records have been found to suggest Thomas Dickerman had a daughter Hannah, identified as having married 1st Captain William Ives and 2nd Dr. William Bassett of New Haven, CT. See below for information developed by others on **Hannah Dickerman (1622 - 1665)**.

### Second Marriage of Thomas Dickerman - to Marie Eustace

Working at the City of Westminster Archives, 10 St Ann's Street, St James Park, I found Parrish Records of St Clements Danes showing the following entries:



Marriage - Thomas Dickerman & Marie Eustace (sp?) 3 Nov 1622



Baptism - Thomas Dickerman s:of Tho: Marie eus (sp?) his wife 27 Apr 1623

No other entries were found under the name Dickerman.

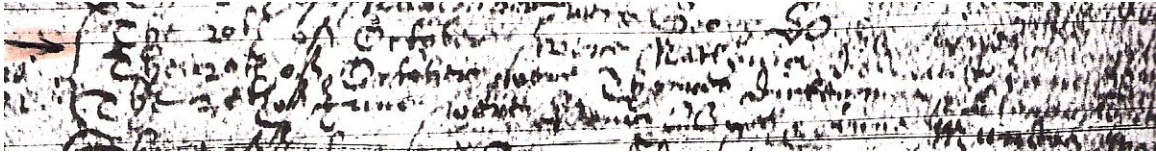
### Third Marriage of Thomas Dickerman - to Elenor Whittington

In the 1990's there appeared on the genealogical web a number of indications (but no proof) that the emigrant wife of Thomas Dickerman was an Ellen or Elenor, who after the death of Thomas in 1657, remarried John Bullard of Meadfield, MA. A few of the entries suggested her birthplace as Little Missendon, Bucks, some distance to the northwest of London. On a visit to Aylesbury, County Seat to Buckinghamshire, 15 November 1996, I found some records of interest:

Buckingham Parish Registers, Vol. 7, Marriages (150 printed), by P. W. Phillimore & Thos Gurney 1911, page 104 Little Missendon - 3 line entries for Anno 1631:

20 Oct Nathaniel Dell + Jane Britnel [could be  
20 Oct Thos. Dickerman + Elenor Whiteington a double wedding]  
25 Jun Hy. Burch + Anne Munday

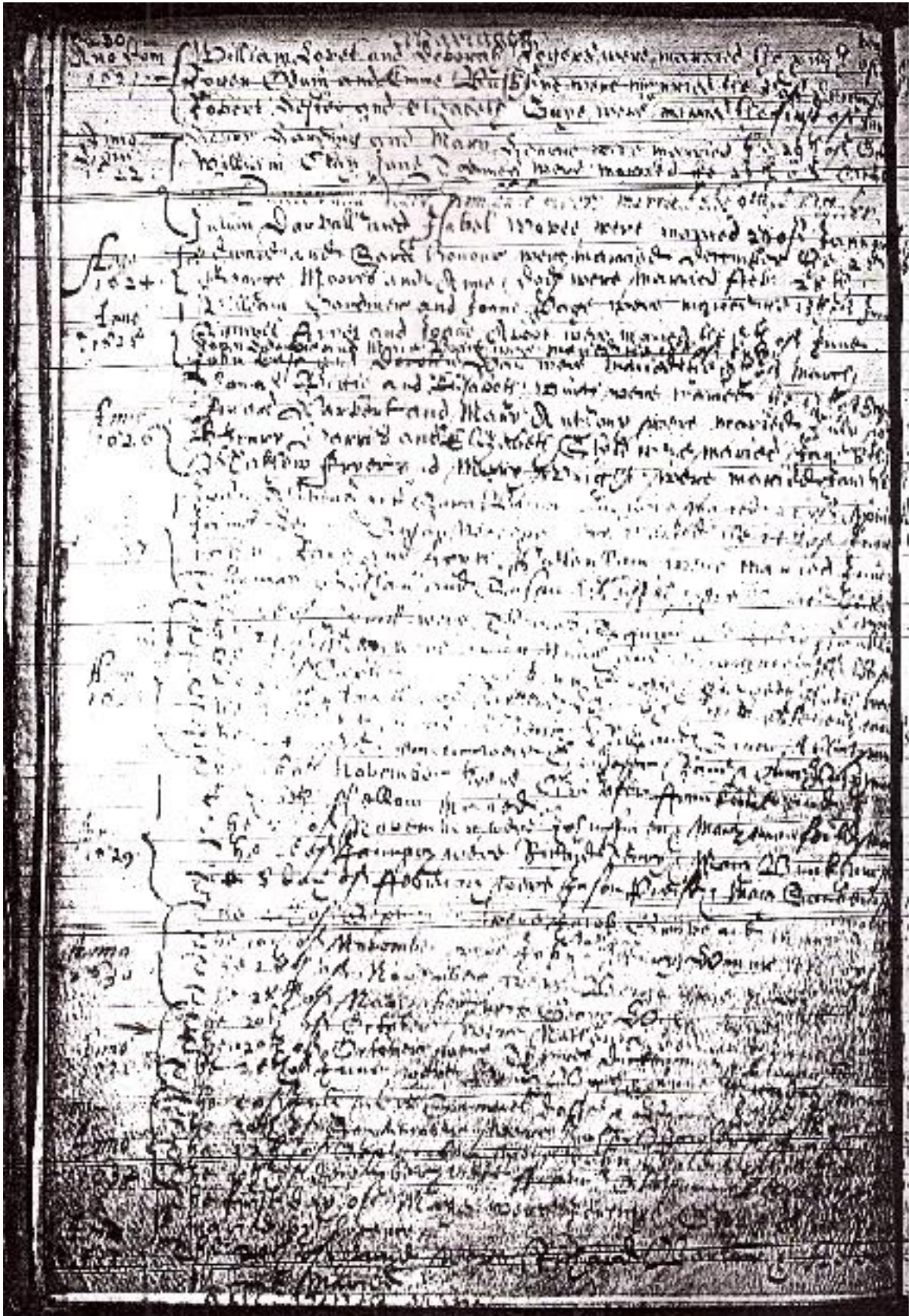
Then to my surprise and delight, the original hand-written Little Missendon Parish register on vellum which I was allowed to handle and Photostat, a portion of which is reproduced here:



Looking at the entry carefully, Ellen's name is definitely given as Elenor Whittington or Wittington. And only the three marriages (left bracket) in 1631.

The first page of Marriages, Page 25 (1550-1570) and Page 30 (1621-1633) of the Little Missendon Parrish Register were Xeroxed and are reproduced below

<h1>MARRIAGES</h1>	
1559	The 21 day of January was Edward Dorkin and Catharine Batta
1560	The 4 day of August was Thomas Stanier & Em Snelly man
1561	The 7 day of August was Thomas Stanier & Alice Lee man
1562	The 22 September was John King and Ephe wife man
1563	The 20 of October was Thuynton Manfice & Alice Mellor man
1564	The 27 of October was Hughson Drist & Jane Golen man
1565	The 8 day of July was John Jamin and Deborah Bruns man
1566	The 14 day of July was Thomas Jamin & Sibbe Goble man
1567	The 2 day of October was John Lobbis & Alice Gunt man
1568	The 15 of November was Thomas Gunt & Anne Brown man
1569	The 23 of November was John Jamin & Anne Brown man
1570	The 11 day of October was Edward Biddall & Alice Goble man
1571	The 14 day of November was John Gunt & Jane Brown man
1572	The 17 day of October was Thomas Brown & Anne Brown man
1573	The 20 day of October was William Brown & Jane Brown man
1574	The 23 day of October was Thomas Brown & Anne Brown man
1575	The 26 day of November was Thomas Brown & Anne Brown man
1576	The 29 day of November was Thomas Brown & Anne Brown man
1577	The 1 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1578	The 4 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1579	The 7 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1580	The 10 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1581	The 13 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1582	The 16 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1583	The 19 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1584	The 22 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1585	The 25 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1586	The 28 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man
1587	The 31 day of January was John Brown & Jane Brown man



**George Dickerman (\_\_\_\_ - c1615)**

An early notation in the LDS database showed a George Dickerman died abt 1615 at Marston Morteyn, Bedfordshire, England leaving a widow Alice (Saunders) Dickerman with one son Thomas Dickerman born 1597. No attributions.

I revisited in 2003 the County Archives in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire and was able to verify a 1619 pleading made by the widow Alice and her son Thomas. This event was reported in Ancestry of Elizabeth Barrett Gillespie, by Paul W. Prindle, New York, New York, New York Public Library 1976, from which this quote is taken:

"George Dickerman, of Marston Morteyne, Bedfordshire, England, died about 1615, leaving a widow named Alice.. George Dickerman was called "deceased, cook" in a 1619 pleading by his widow and Thomas Dickerman, their "natural son". At that time the term "natural son" was used in the sense of "by nature or blood" as opposed to "adopted son" (Public Records Office, Court of Requests, James I, XXXII, Part 2). George and Alice Dickerman had two known children:

- i. Thomas Dickerman, eldest son.
- ii. Abraham Dickerman. In 1620 he was living in a section known as "Streetside west from the Axe Gate" in the parish of St. George, Southwark, Surrey (Public Records Office, Lay Subsidy, 186/407)."

**Hannah Dickerman (1622 - 1665).**

From records of the Ives family:

- An indication that William Ives wife Hannah's maiden name was Dickerman first came from handed down family records of the aunt of (present day) William Ives now living on Prince Edward Is., Canada

- In searching for other confirmation that Hannah's maiden name was Dickerman we find evidence in the reference of her daughter Hannah Bassett's marriage to John Parker:

" Ancestry and Descendants of William Curtis of Marcellus, NY, Also Some Allied Families, Sperry, Matteson, Worden, Beardsley, Blakely or Blakesley, Clapp, Dyer, Hinckley, Parker, Templeton and Wilcox, by Mrs. Lorissa E. Steele, 1912; a closed stack book at Onondaga County Library, Syracuse, NY, pg 38, under Parker -  
"John Parker (Edward1), b Oct 8, 1648, d. 1711; m. Nov 8, 1670, New Haven, Hannah Bassett, b. New Haven Sept. 13, 1650, d. June 7, 1726 Wallingford, Ct.; dau. of William Bassett and his wife Hannah (Dickerman) Ives, widow of William Ives."



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Other information from this book: " Ives family shows 2 members in 1639 census, New Haven, CT. " If Hannah were one of the members, married and living with William she would have been aged about 18. (birth of dau Phebe was later - in 1642)  
Hannah is "listed as member #149 of Center Church, New Haven, CT in 1646 and seated w/ Sister Bassett"

A book titled The Ives Family, Arthur Coon Ives, published 1937:

1. WILLIAM IVES was born in England about 1605 and died in New Haven, Connecticut about 1648. He married in New Haven, 4 June 1639, HANNAH DICKERMAN (New Haven VRs) who was born about 1621. She is thought to be the daughter of Thomas Dickerman and Eleanor Whitington (incorrect - wife at the time was Elizabeth Sims). William arrived in Boston, November 1635 on the Truelove (Coldham) and moved to Quinnipac (now New Haven) about 1638, where he was one of the original settlers. His will was made in New Haven 3 April 1648. It shows he had two sons , John and Joseph and at least two daughters, Phoebe and Martha, all minors at the time of his death; his wife was made executor and responsible for the bringing up of the children. She married a second time William Bassett about six months after the death of William Ives.

Children of William and Hannah, all born in New Haven:

- 2 i. PHOEBE IVES, bap. 2 Oct, 1642.
  - ii. JOHN IVES, bap. 29 Dec, 1644; d. 1682; m. 12 Nov. 1668 HANNAH MERRIMAN, children: John, Hannah, Joseph, Nathaniel, and Gideon.
  - iii. MARTHA IVES, b. ca. 1646; m. AZARIAH BEACH.
  - iv. JOSEPH IVES, b. ca. 1647; m. MARY YALE.
2. PHOEBE (William I) IVES was baptized in New Haven, Connecticut 2 October 1642 and married there, about 1669, JOSEPH POTTER