

Richard John Keele (Dwelling #672)

Richard John was born on November 7, 1786 in Henry County, Virginia. His parents were John and Lydia Richmond Keele.

Richard married Nancy Eleanor “Ellen” McCullough on September 8, 1808 in Bedford, Bedford County, Tennessee. Nancy was born April 14, 1790 in Rockingham, Richmond County, North Carolina. Most of their children were born in Bedford County—Mary, Jacob, Elizabeth, Samuel, John, Sarah, Alexander, Richard, and Dabney Uel. The last two children, Thomas Henry and Susan, were born in Greene County, Illinois.

Richard and Ella and some of their children moved to Nauvoo and owned property. When they were driven out of Nauvoo, they settled in Big Pigeon with their daughter Sarah and son-in-law Jeremiah Bingham.

The 1850 U. S. Census listed Richard, age 63 (the writing almost made it look like Beel which was transcribed); Ellen, age 62; Thomas, age 21; and Susan, age 18. Richard’s place of birth was listed as Virginia, Ellen as North Carolina, and Thomas and Susan as Illinois. The family, except for Thomas, was listed in the 1851 Iowa State Census.

Richard and Ellen left with the Henry Bryant Manning Jolley Company which departed for the Valley on June 15, 1852. They traveled with their sons Thomas Henry, Dabney, and Samuel and their families.

The Keele’s settled in Payson, Utah County, Utah. Ellen died on November 11, 1856. The 1870 U. S. Census placed Richard in Harmony, Kane County, Utah Territory. Thomas was living there. Richard died on November 17, 1877 in Mount Carmel, Kane County, Utah.