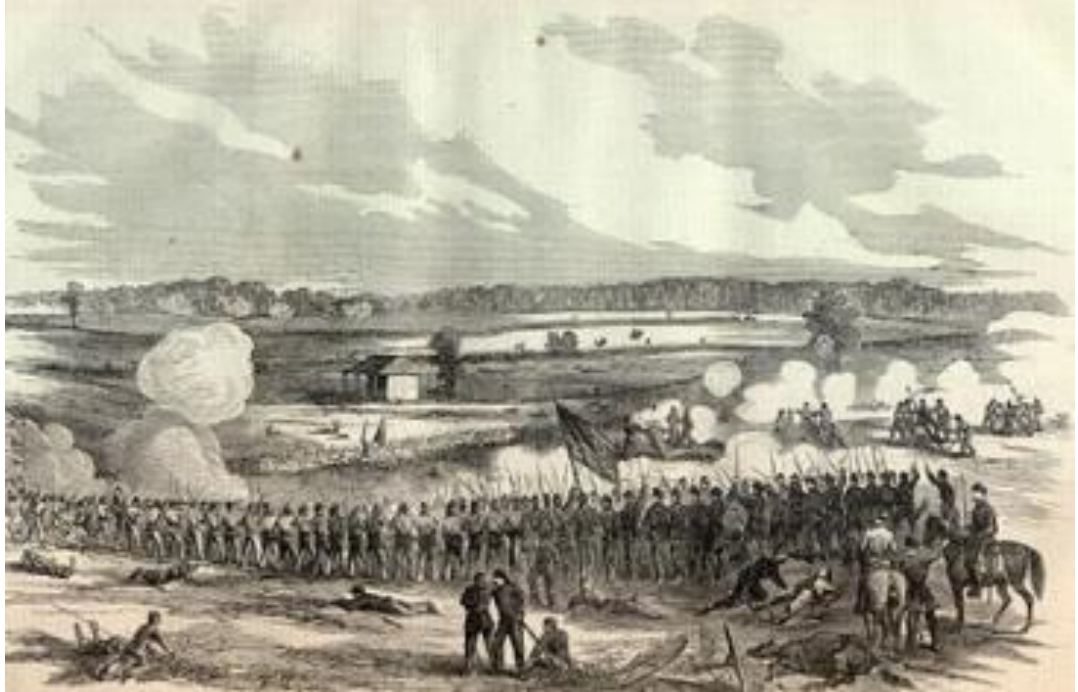


James Henry Cockerham (1822-1904), Ancestor 44
By his great great great granddaughter, Linda R. Horton, 13 December 2021¹

James Henry Cockerham was in the fortieth year of his life when, on 11 April 1861, Confederate General P.G. Beauregard bombarded the United States' South Carolina stronghold known as Fort Sumter, and the Civil War began. James Henry was not a combatant in the war—in fact, none of our ancestors served on either side of the struggle—but we know that his life was affected by the war that has been called “the central event in America’s historical consciousness.”¹



Two and a half years later, and soon after President Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg address on 19 November 1863, James Henry registered for the U.S. Army. He never was drafted, possibly due to his age. Two of James Henry’s younger brothers had already enlisted in the Confederate Army, lured by the Confederate recruiters who visited Appalachia seeking southern sympathizers during the first half of the four-year war. Both brothers became deserters, were captured, and died in Union prisoner-of-war camps. Both left widows with young children.

Of the 21 Civil War battles fought in Kentucky, many occurred within a day’s horseback ride of James Henry’s eastern Kentucky home. The Confederates made a big push, first in 1861 and again in 1862, to wrest Kentucky from the Union. Both efforts were unsuccessful, but James’ life would have been affected by proximity to the fighting. Armies on both sides, and especially Confederate General John Hunt Morgan, were known for “provisioning” food and horses from local farmers, a practice that was particularly vexing when yields were low due to droughts such as the one experienced in 1862 when the key Battle of Perryville, depicted in the above drawing,² was fought just 100 miles west of James Henry’s home. The Union victory there helped ensure that strategically located Kentucky was not taken from the Union by the Confederacy.

President Lincoln is reported to have said, early in the war, that, “I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky.”³ Lincoln was not being sentimental about the state of his birth but

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was being unflinchingly realistic about the importance of the border states—Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri—in which Kentucky’s location gave it key importance.

James Henry Cockerham: Overview

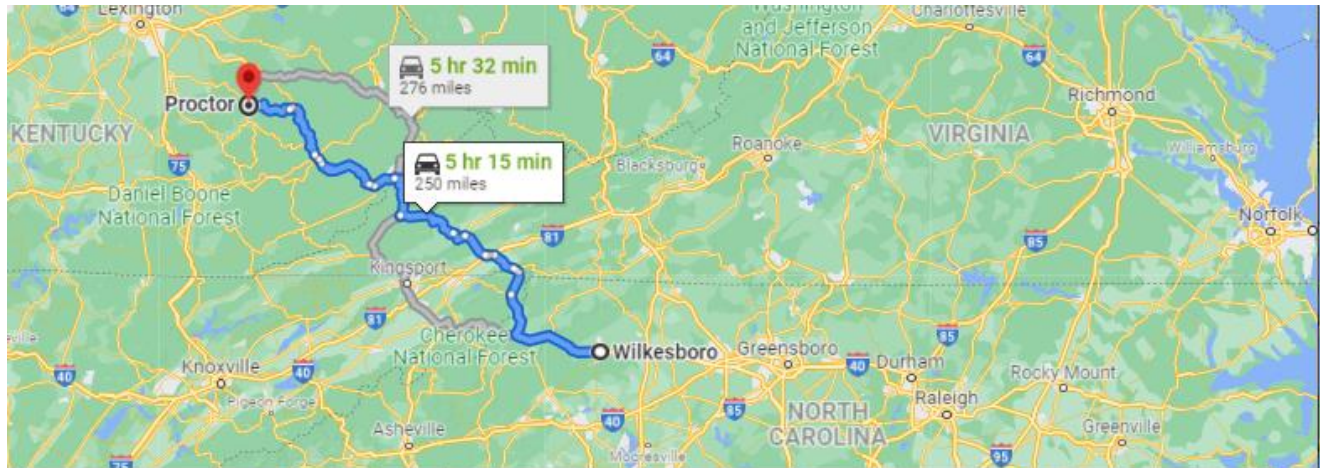
James Henry Cockerham was born 2 January 1822, in Wilkes County, North Carolina, when his father, William John, or John William, Cockerham (c1794-1852), was about 27 and his mother, Elizabeth Hill (1796-1881) was about 25. James Henry was the eldest of their six known sons. He married Emily Stamper (1826-1900) on 9 June 1842. She was the daughter of Joel Stamper II (1781-1851) and Mary “Polly” Deaton (1785-1850), who had migrated to Kentucky from North Carolina before 1820. Emily, one of their younger children, was born in Estill County, Kentucky in 1826.

James Henry and Emily had nine children in 23 years. She died in Lee County, Kentucky, at age 74 on 5 November 1900. John Henry died on 16 August 1904 at age 82. Emily and James both were buried in the Big Stamper Cemetery in Lee County.

Early Years

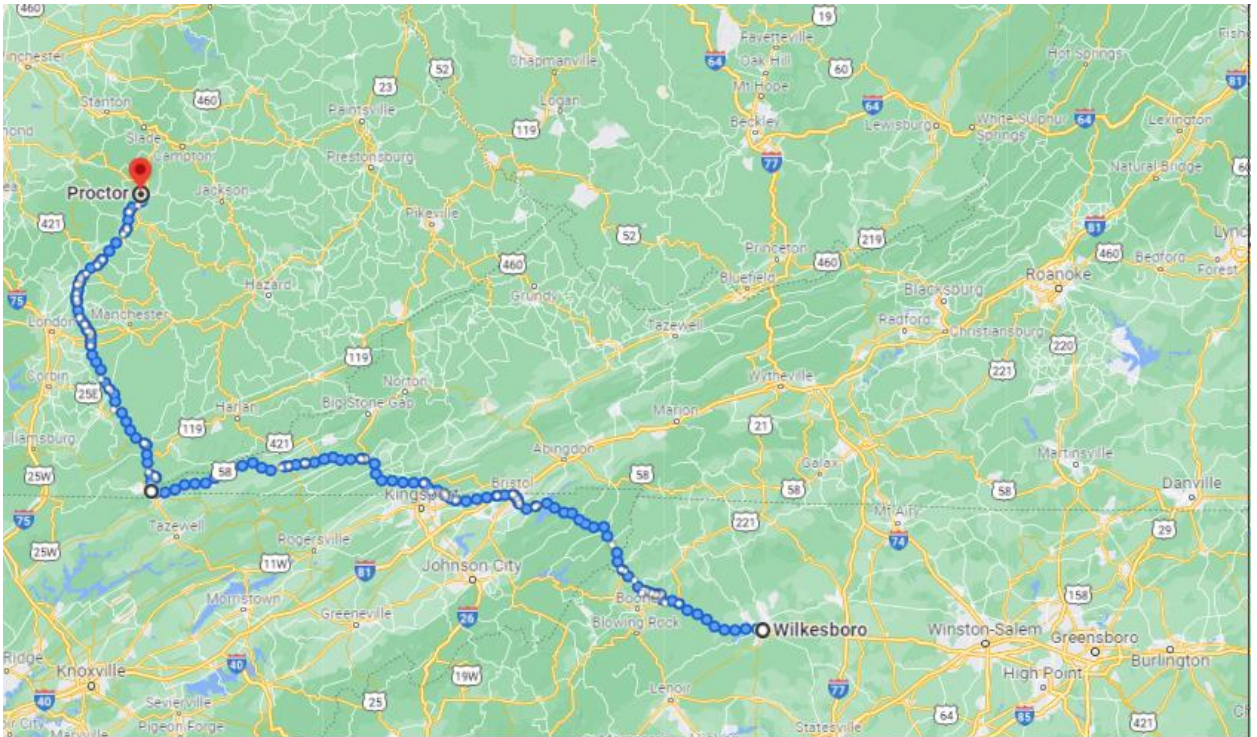
James Henry was about five years old when his family packed up and left North Carolina and relocated to Kentucky. The date of the move, 1827, is estimated from later census data. James Henry had five known siblings, all male: William 1827-; Martin 1830-; John Miles 1833-1924; Elijah David 1835-1863; Daniel Duff 1838-1963. The biography of their parents, Elizabeth Hill and William John Cockerham, includes brief biographical sketches of James’ brothers.

If you were to drive today from James’ birthplace near Wilkesboro, North Carolina to where he died in Lee County, Kentucky, the 252-mile trip would take more than five hours, following a direct “as the crow flies” route:



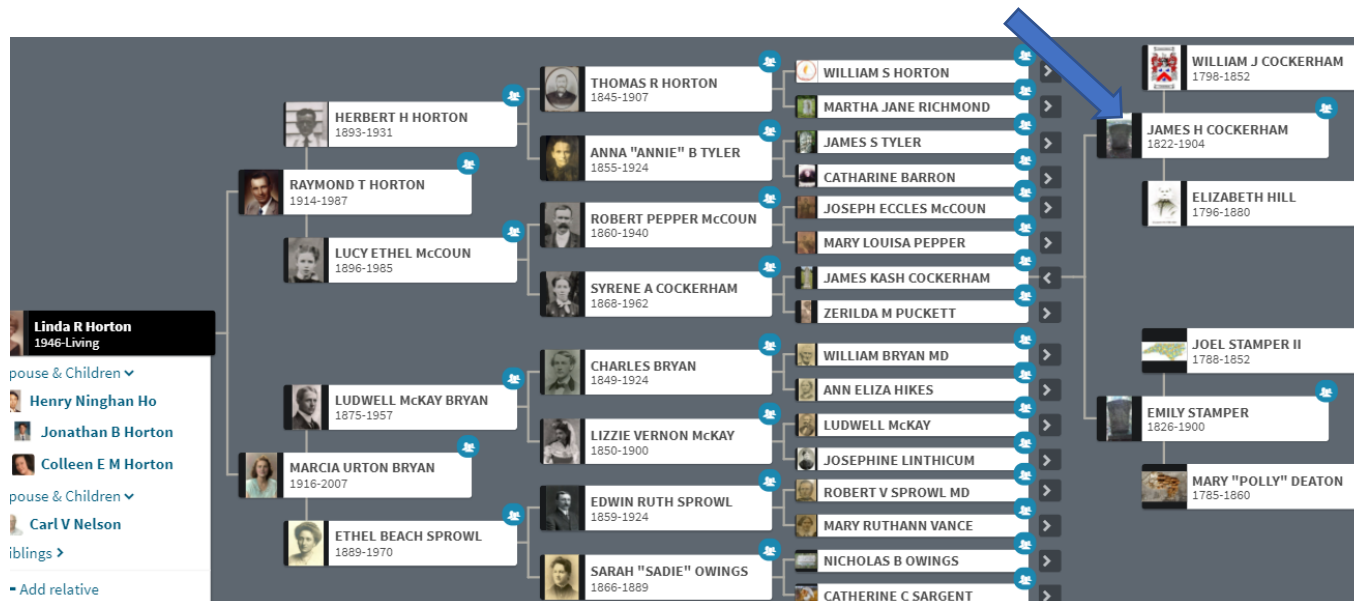
But back in the 1800s, when settlers migrated from western Virginia or North Carolina to eastern Kentucky, they typically would travel first to the Cumberland Gap, which offered an easier crossing of the mountains. Today’s modern roads did not exist. The map on the next page shows the walking route from Wilkes County to Lee County via the Cumberland Gap, a 272-mile traipse that would require 91 hours, which translates into 12 days, walking eight hours each day. Of course, the Cockerham family party crossing the mountains in the 1820s did not consist of

hikers, but rather an extended family with children, horses, cows, and wagons loaded with the clothing, household items, tools, seeds, and whatever else they would need to start a new life on the Kentucky frontier. The trip would require many weeks, on rutted dirt roads and paths.



Placing James Henry Cockerham in the Family Tree

The arrow marks James Henry Cockerham's spot on the family tree. Our great great great grandfather, he was the seventh generation of Cockerhams in America. James was the grandfather of our grandmother, Ethel McCoun Horton Shuck. Because in his last years he lived near Campton, her family would have visited him, so she knew him.



Marriage of James Henry Cockerham and Emily Stamper

On 9 June 1842, James Henry Cockerham married Emily Stamper, the daughter of Joel Stamper and Mary Deaton. Emily had 10 known siblings: Joel III, 1804-1891; Spencer, 1806-1870; John A, 1808-1869; Nancy Matilda, 1810-1906; Larkin, 1813-1875; Sanken, 1813-1900; Sarah, 1819-1900; James, 1821-1919; Elizabeth, 1823-1916; and William, born 1831.

During the long marriage of James Henry and Emily Stamper Cockerham, they had nine known children: 1) John F, 1843-1925; 2) James Kash, 1844-1916 (our ancestor); 3) William, 1848-1880; 4) Mary Jane, 1852-; 5) Zachary Taylor, 1854-1940; 6) Gilly Ann, 1857-; 7) Melissa, 1860-1922; 8) Caroline, 1864-; and 9) Lou Ellen, 1867-1916. Brief biographical sketches of the children are appended to the biography of Emily Stamper Cockerham.

After their marriage, James Henry and Emily lived near other family members.⁴ In the 1850 Census for Owsley County, Kentucky, counted on 27 August 1850, they resided at #191 and two of James' brothers, William and Martin, lived with them. James Henry's parents, John William, age 56, and Elizabeth Hill Cockerham resided at #192 along with James Henry's brothers John Miles, Elijah, and Daniel. (17, 15, and 12, respectively). Joel and Polly Stamper, Emily's parents, lived at #185.

What lucky children—all four grandparents were alive and living nearby.

The image shows a handwritten census record from 1850. The entries are as follows:

Name	Age	Occupation	Value	Other
James Cockerham	28	Farmer	\$700	
Emily Cockerham	24			
John	7			
James	4			
William	2			
William	21	Laborer		/
Martin	21	Laborer	75	/

As shown above, at the time of the 1850 census, James Henry's family consisted of:

- James, age 28, farmer, with real property worth \$700. He gave North Carolina as his birthplace.
- Emily, age 24. Her birthplace was incorrectly given as North Carolina; her parents were born there but had moved to Kentucky, where Emily was born. The correct birthplace was given in later census reports and on her death certificate.
- Children: John, seven; James, four; William two.
- James' brothers William, 21, and Martin, 21, both laborers.

The 1860 census was carried out in Owsley County on 15 August, where James Henry and Emily were still living, with seven children:

- James Cockrum age 38, was still a farmer with real property worth \$700.
- Emily was 34; her birthplace was again described incorrectly as North Carolina.
- The children: John, 17, farmer; James, 14; William 12; Mary A., eight; Z.T. [Zachary Taylor], five; Gilly Ann, four; Malissa, five months.

Living next door were Mary Deaton Stamper, Emily's widowed mother, and her widowed younger sister, Elizabeth Stamper White. Both women were described as farmers.

The U.S. Civil War

The pivotal event in U.S. history—the Civil War—took place during James Henry’s and Emily’s lives. Like most people in eastern Kentucky, including all our Kentucky Appalachian ancestors, the Cockerham and Stamper families were not slave owners. Crops grown in the mountains were not the ones, such as cotton, sugar, and rice, commonly associated with slavery. Farms were small and, because the old principle of primogeniture in which the eldest son inherited the father’s estate was not observed, over time farms would be carved up, becoming ever smaller. The generally large families residing on these small farms consumed most of what they produced. Farmers tried to pace production so that they always had several, surplus products, such as milk, eggs, or a pig, that could be sold for cash or bartered at the store to obtain products they were unable to produce themselves. When an Appalachian farmer needed help beyond that of his family members, he could hire one or two laborers, generally young sons of kin or neighboring families, who would accept room and board as much of their compensation.⁵

Yet even in the mountains of Kentucky, well-to-do families owned slaves. For example, the 1840 census report for Breathitt County counted 318 enslaved persons in a population totaling 3,882 persons, i.e., eight percent of the population. Slavery in Kentucky was most prevalent in the Bluegrass Region,⁶ where farming more closely approximated the Southern plantation system and enslaved persons often outnumbered whites.

The timeline that is included in this biography of James Henry Cockerham highlights key developments related to the Civil War, including his enlistment on the Union side, along with his brother Martin, as well as two brothers’ enlistment in the Confederacy:

The James Cockerham Family After the War

By 18 July 1870, when the census was counted, the Civil War had been over for five years. The 1870 census found the family of James Henry and Emily Stamper Cockerham in Lee County, Kentucky, rather than Owsley—but that doesn’t mean they had moved. The formation of Lee County on 29 January 1870 changed county boundary lines, with the Cockerham farm in the new county. Lee County was formed from parts of Breathitt, Estill, Owsley, and Wolfe Counties on 29 January 1870. Behind the creation of Lee County was a handful of wealthy individuals who sought to profit from their ability to control decisions in the new county in a way that had eluded them after they had Owsley County created.⁷ The legacy today from the avarice of yesteryear is an array of small and impoverished Kentucky Appalachian counties.

Lee County??

At a time when the United States is reckoning with statues and placenames that sought to keep memories alive of the pro-slavery “Lost Cause” that was the Confederacy, Lee County, Kentucky continues to bear the name of the failed Confederate General, Robert E. Lee. Six other U.S. states have a county named for the man who turned down the chance to lead the Union Army and instead led the army of the rebels who split the country.¹ But the other six states with a Lee County were part of the Confederacy, and their unfortunately named county is just one of many needed steps to get past the unfortunate Civil War era and the Jim Crow era that followed. Kentucky remained faithful to the Union and never seceded. It is my opinion that the state should rename Lee County or, for efficiency, annex it to a neighboring county. Linda Horton, 13 December 2021.



Timeline: The Life and Times of James Henry Cockerham

This timeline of the life of James Henry Cockerham notes key events in the Civil War, recognizing the centrality of that struggle in U.S. history. The timeline also includes as milestones the election of U.S. presidents. To some degree, eras in U.S. history are defined by who was president at a given time. In this regard, in preparing the timeline, I observed that (1) the electoral college—the Constitutional apparatus for electing presidents—has malfunctioned for most of U.S. history, not merely in the last 25 years; and (2) during James Henry's lifetime,

seven of the ten worst presidents in history occupied the White House, according to rankings prepared by the U.S. News and World Reports:¹⁰ James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Franklin Pierce, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Zachary Taylor. There have been 45 presidents in the history of the United States. If we consider the 20 worst-ranked presidents, 12 of them served during the lifetime of James Henry Cockerham: the list already provided would be joined by Benjamin Harrison, Chester A. Arthur, Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, and Martin Van Buren would join the presidents of James' era from the "worst ten" list. The era was marked by partisan chaos, as the Whig Party died, new parties contended for votes, and today's two-party system was born. We can see in the schism that led to the Civil War and the troubled era that followed—Reconstruction then enactment of "Jim Crow" discriminatory laws—a foreshadowing of the divisions that plague our nation today.

Much of the turmoil of the era, other than the Civil War, may have escaped the attention of James and Emily, eking out a living on their family farm.

1822, 2 January. James Henry Cockerham was born in Wilkes County, North Carolina.

1824, 26 October-1 December. John Quincy Adams became President despite receiving fewer electoral college votes and fewer popular votes than his closest rival, Andrew Jackson. Electoral college: Adams, 84 votes; Jackson, 99 votes; Henry Clay, 37 votes; William Crawford, 41 votes. Popular vote percentages: Adams, 31%; Jackson, 41%; Henry Clay, 13%; William Crawford, 11%. Jackson carried Kentucky.¹¹

1826. Emily Stamper was born in Owsley County, Kentucky.

1828, 31 October-2 December. Democratic candidate Andrew Jackson became president, defeating President Adams' in his bid for re-election. Jackson again carried Kentucky.

1832, 2 November-5 December. President Jackson was re-elected, defeating Whig Henry Clay of Kentucky. This time, Clay carried his native state.

1836, 3 November-7 December. Democrat Martin Van Buren defeated Whig William Henry Harrison. Harrison carried Kentucky.

1840, before 20 October. When the census was enumerated in Breathitt County, Kentucky, James Henry was living with his parents and siblings as follows: the one male between 40 and under 50 was his father, John William, and the one female in her forties was his mother, Elizabeth Hill Cockerham. The one male under age 5 was Daniel Duff; two males between five and under 10 were John Miles and Elijah David; two males between 10 and 14 were William and Martin; two males between 15 and 19 were James Henry and an unknown male child. There was one female between 15 and under 20 whose identity is unknown.

1840, 30 October-2 December. Whig William Henry Harrison defeated Democrat Martin Van Buren. Harrison again carried Kentucky. Harrison died in office after serving only 31 days and was succeeded by his Vice President, John Tyler.

1842, 9 June. James Henry and Emily married in Kentucky. (The 1900 census reported that they had been married 57 years.)

1843, 25 August. John F Cockerham was born, eldest child of James Henry and Emily.

1844, 1 November- 4 December. Democrat James Polk defeated Whig Henry Clay in an extremely close race. Clay won Kentucky.

1846, 25 June. James Kash Cockerham was born, second child of James Henry and Emily.

1848, 15 July. William C Cockerham was born, the third child of James Henry and Emily.

1848, 7 November (the first presidential election held on a single day, the first Tuesday in November, as fixed by statute). Whig Zachary Taylor defeated Democrat Lewis Cass, carrying Kentucky. After Taylor died in office in 1850, he was succeeded by his vice president, Millard Fillmore. Fillmore was the last Whig to serve as President.

1850, 27 August. The U.S. census was enumerated in Owsley County. See page four of this biography for family information.

1852, 15 April. Mary Jane Cockerham was born, the fourth child of James Henry and Emily.

1852, 2 November. Democrat Franklin Pierce defeated Whig Winfield Scott. Scott won Kentucky.

1854, 15 December. Zachary Taylor Cockerham was born, the fifth child of James Henry and Emily.

1856, 4 November. Democrat James Buchanan defeated John C. Fremont, the candidate of the newly formed Republican Party, and Millard Fillmore, candidate of the Know Nothing Party. Buchanan carried Kentucky.

1857, 7 March 1857. Gilly Ann Cockerham was born in Owsley County, the sixth child of James Henry and Emily Cockerham.

1860, 9 January. Malissa Cockerham was born, the seventh child of James Henry and Emily Cockerham.

1860, 5 March. Wolfe County, Kentucky was formed from portions of Breathitt, Morgan, Owsley, and Powell Counties.

1860, 15 August. The census was enumerated in Owsley County, Spruce Grove post office. See page four of this biography for family information.

1860, 6 November. Abraham Lincoln, a former Whig who had joined the new Republican party, was elected President with a majority of the electoral college and a plurality of the popular vote in a complex four-way race, as shown below.¹²

The only Kentucky-born U.S. president, Lincoln came in fourth place in the state of his birth, winning less than 1% of the popular vote.¹³ Kentucky's electoral college votes went to John Bell of Tennessee, a member of the Constitutional Union Party, who received 45% of the popular vote. In second place was the Southern Democratic candidate, Vice President John Breckinridge,

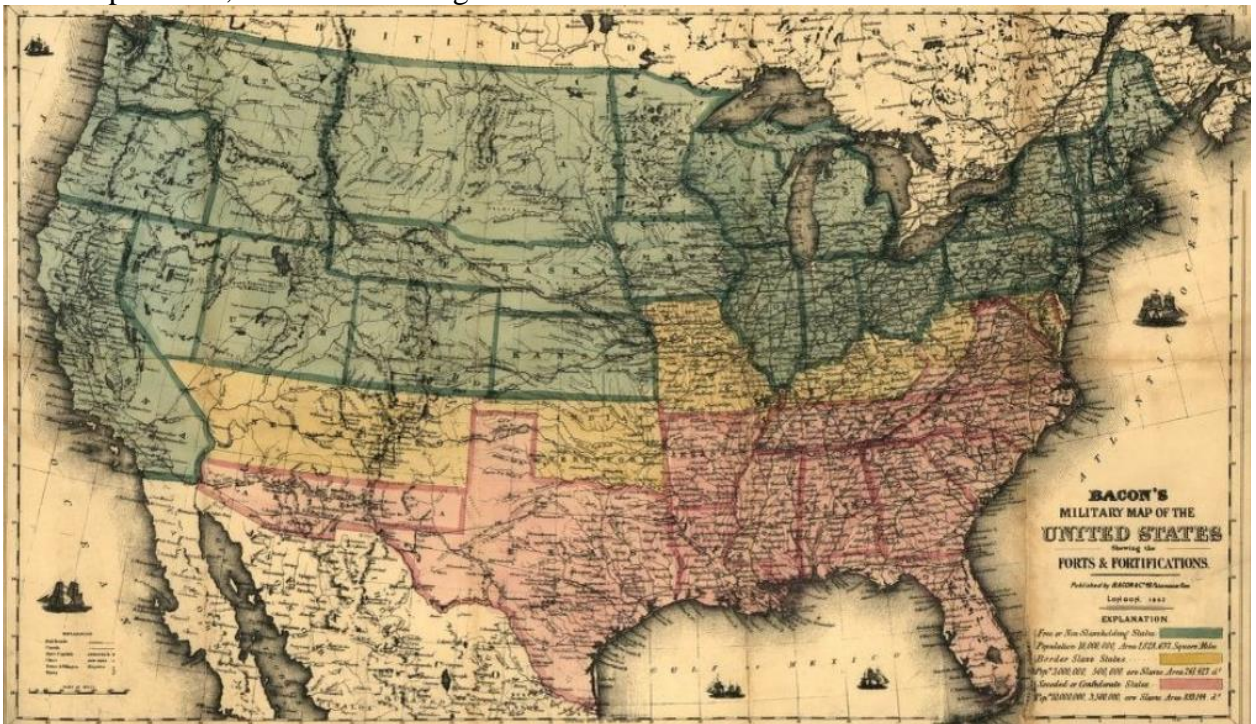
also a Kentuckian, with 36% of the vote. Stephen Douglas, the Democratic candidate whose debates with Lincoln made history, was third with 18% of the vote.

American presidential election, 1860

presidential candidate	political party	electoral votes	popular votes
Abraham Lincoln	Republican	180	1,866,452
John C. Breckinridge	Southern Democratic	72	847,953
Stephen A. Douglas	Democratic	12	1,380,202
John Bell	Constitutional Union	39	590,901

Sources: Electoral and popular vote totals based on data from the United States Office of the Federal Register and Congressional Quarterly's Guide to U.S. Elections, 4th ed. (2001).

1860-61 Eleven southern states seceded and formed the Confederate States of America,¹⁴ shown in pink in the map below. With the Confederate attack on U.S. Fort Sumter, South Carolina, on 12-14 April 1861, the Civil War began.



Kentucky never seceded. Slave ownership continued to be allowed in Kentucky and other border states, shown in yellow in the above map, until abolition legislation at state level became effective or until the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

On 16 May 1861, Kentucky declared its neutrality. But after the persistent Confederate invasions as part of an effort to take Kentucky for the Confederacy, especially the all-out campaign in September 1861 by General Leonidas Polk to take the state by force, the Kentucky General Assembly petitioned the Union Army for assistance. From early 1862 the state was largely under Union control.¹⁵

1861, 25 March. Caroline Cockerham was born, the eighth child of James Henry and Emily.

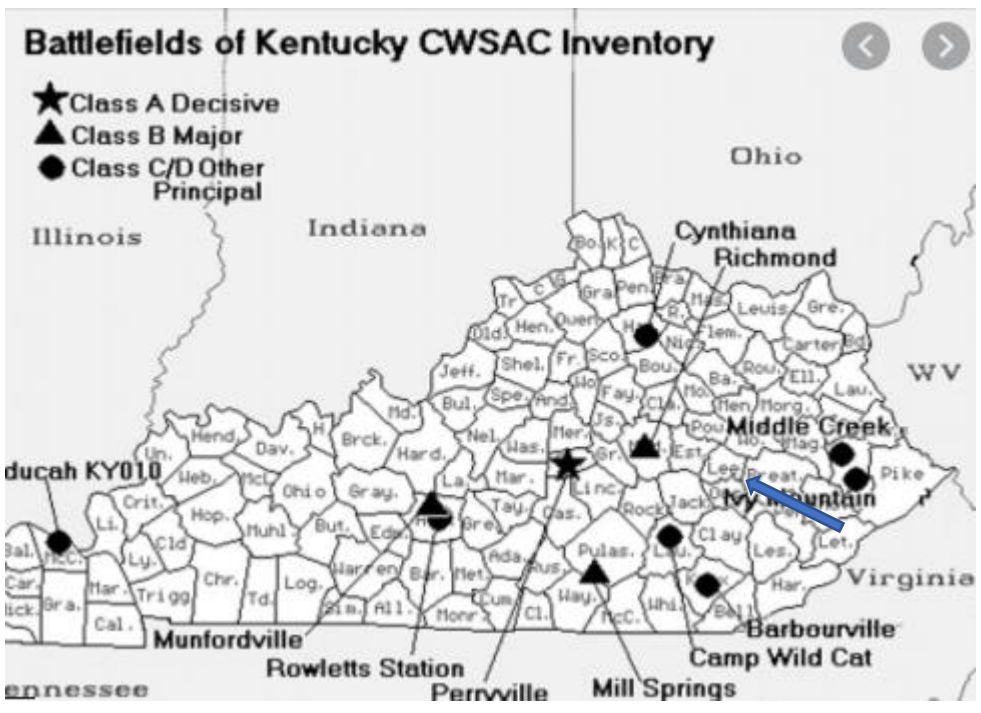
1861, 25 October. James Henry's brother, Daniel "Duff" Cochran, enlisted in the Civil War for three years of service to the Confederacy.

1862, 10 January. Daniel Cockerham deserted on Jan 10, 1862, at the Battle of Middle Creek in Floyd County, Kentucky.¹⁶ Middle Creek is shown on the map below.

1862, 10 September, Elijah Cockerham, James' brother, enlisted in the Confederate Army.

1862, 17 September. The bloodiest battle of the War was fought in Antietam, Maryland.

During the Civil War, 21 battles were fought in Kentucky, some of them shown on the map below in which an arrow points to the place where the family of James Henry Cockerham lived.



1862, 8 October. The Union Army prevailed in the Battle of Perryville, sometimes called the Battle for Kentucky. With over 7,000 casualties and more than 1400 deaths, it was one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War and the most important of the battles in Kentucky. It was part of a second effort by the rebels to add Kentucky to the Confederacy, an effort that was unsuccessful due to Union victories in Perryville and elsewhere.

1863, 1 January. Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation under his war powers authority in the U.S. Constitution. Under this authority, slavery could be abolished only in the rebellious states and therefore this abolition did not apply in Kentucky. The Proclamation allowed black men to serve in the Union Army. Because the Proclamation framed the Union cause as a human rights issue, countries such as Britain and France that previously had inconsidered intervening on the Confederate side, to protect their commercial interests, found it inexpedient to do so.

1863, 10 January. Daniel Duff Cockerham deserted at the Battle of Middle Creek.

1863, 9 June. Daniel Duff was captured and taken to Johnson Island, the Union prison camp.¹⁷

1863, 1-3 July. After invading the North, Confederate forces under Robert E. Lee met Union forces at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. After the battle, considered a turning point in the war, Lee withdrew his troops and was forced to fight a defensive campaign the rest of the war.

1863, 4 July. General Ulysses S. Grant gained Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy, after a two-month siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

1863, 12 September. Daniel Duff Cockerham died on Johnson's Island.

1863, 19 November. President Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg Address¹⁸ at the dedication ceremony of a cemetery at the battlefield:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth

1863, 3 December. Elijah Cockerham was arrested for desertion at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee.¹⁹

1863, 21 December. Elijah died at Camp Chase, a Union prison camp near Columbus, Ohio.²⁰

1863, December. James Henry Cockerham of Wolfe County, age 41, and his brother Martin were included in a consolidated list of men registered for potential military service, prepared for the U.S. Government.²¹ In other words, they registered on the Union side. *Had James read or heard about the Gettysburg Address, delivered a few weeks earlier and widely publicized in newspapers across the nation? Had he been moved by the President's eloquence?*

1864, 2 September. Union General Sherman captured Atlanta.

1864, 8 November. Abraham Lincoln was re-elected. In Kentucky, the Democratic candidate George McClellan won Kentucky's electoral college votes, with 70% of the popular vote, while Abraham Lincoln won 30%.

1865, 9 April. General Lee, surrounded by Grant's forces, surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

1865, 14 April. President Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC by a Confederate sympathizer, actor John Wilkes Booth. The President died on 15 April. Vice President Andrew Johnson became President.

1866. The second-oldest child of James Henry Cockerham and Emily Stamper Cockerham, James Kash Cockerham, married Manervia Puckett in Wolfe County, Kentucky (our great great grandparents).

1867, 2 April. Lou Ellen, the ninth and last child of James Henry Cockerham and Emily Stamper Cockerham, was born.

1868, 3 November. Republican Ulysses S. Grant defeated Democrat Horatio Seymour, who carried Kentucky.

1870. 29 January. Lee County, Kentucky was formed.

1870, 18 July. The census was taken for the Thomas Precinct of Lee County, Post Office Beattyville. See page six of this biography for family information.

1872, 5 November. President Ulysses S. Grant was re-elected, defeating Horace Greeley in the election, but Greeley died on 29 November 1872 before the electoral college cast its votes. Electors previously committed to Greeley cast their votes for four candidates for president and eight candidates for vice president. Kentucky's votes for Greeley went to Thomas Hendricks.

1876, 7 November. In this highly contested Presidential election, Democrat Samuel Tilden outpolled Republican Rutherford B. Hayes in the popular vote, and, after the first count of electoral college votes, Tilden likewise had more electoral college votes than Hayes. Twenty votes from four states were unresolved. The Compromise of 1877 awarded these 20 votes to Hayes. In return for the Democrats conceding to Hayes' election, the Republicans agreed to withdraw federal troops from the south, ending Reconstruction. Kentucky went for Tilden.

1877, 31 March. Reconstruction ended due to a political compromise described above.

1880, 4 June. The Census for Lee County, District 59 (Proctor). See page seven of this biography for family information.

1880, 2 November. Republican James Garfield defeated Democrat Winfield S. Hancock, who carried Kentucky.

1881, 19 September. President Garfield died after being shot by an assassin two months earlier. Vice President Chester A. Arthur became President.

1884, 4 November. Democrat Grover Cleveland defeated Republican James G. Blaine. Kentucky went for Cleveland.

1888, 6 November. In this close election, Republican Benjamin Harrison defeated Democrat Grover Cleveland, whom Kentucky continued to support.

1892, 8 November. In this rematch, Democrat Grover Cleveland won the election over President Harrison and carried Kentucky a third time.

1896, 3 November. Republican William McKinley defeated William Jennings Bryan. McKinley won all but one of Kentucky's electoral college votes.

1900, 5 June. The census was enumerated for Thomas Precinct No. 3, Lee County. See page seven of this biography and below for family information.

46	46	Estherham, James F. Head	21 M Jan 1822 78 M 57	North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina	Farmer
47	47	Estherham, Emily Wife	21 F Jan 1824 94 M 69 9 8	Kentucky	North Carolina	North Carolina	
		Estherham, Ray W. Wife	21 M Dec 1851 45 M 25	Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky	Farmer
		Marion Wife	21 F Mar 1862 37 M 21 9 7	Kentucky	Kentucky	Virginia	
		Chester Daughter	21 F Mar 1871 19 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
		Dorsey Son	21 M Dec 1881 16 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Farmer
		Courtesy Son	21 M Mar 1886 14 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Farmer
		Johnnie Son	21 M July 1892 7 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
		Emma Daughter	21 F Feb 1894 6 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
		Carrie Daughter	21 F Feb 1897 3 M	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	

James, age 78, still a farmer, reported he had been married for 57 years. Emily age 74 said she had had nine live births, of which eight were still living. The only child residing with them was Taylor, age 45, his 37-year-old wife of 21 years, Margaret, and their six children ranging in age from two to 19. James could read and write while Emily could not. Taylor, Margaret, and their four oldest children could read and write.

1900, 6 November. Emily Stamper Cockerham died in Lee County and was buried in the Big Stamper Cemetery in Vada, an address in Lee County.

1904, 16 August. James Henry Cockerham died in Lee County and, like his wife, was buried in the Big Stamper Cemetery.

Emily's biography includes maps showing the location of the Big Stamper Cemetery.

¹ McPherson, James, American Battlefield Trust, A Brief Overview of the American Civil War, updated 16 April 2021. <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/brief-overview-american-civil-war>

² The image originally appeared in Harper's Weekly and was reprinted in Wikipedia, Battle of Perryville https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Perryville

³ Gienapp, William E., Abraham Lincoln and the Border States, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, Vol. 13, Issue 1, 1992, pp. 13-46. <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.2629860.0013.104>
<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/j/jala/2629860.0013.104/--abraham-lincoln-and-the-border-states?rgn=main;view=fulltext>

⁴ I am grateful to our cousin, Bella Gulden Gerstang, for her research and writing about the Cockerham family. The discussion of how James Henry and Emily lived in close proximity to their parents was drawn from her account.

⁵ Shaler, N.S. *Kentucky: A Pioneer Commonwealth*, Houghton Mifflin and Company, Boston: 1885. The author was alive during the Civil War and offered insightful analyses of Kentuckians' views of the struggle.

⁶ Bluegrass ancestors who owned slaves included our McCoun, Pepper, and Perry paternal ancestors as well as our Bryan, McKay, Linthicum, and Melone maternal ancestors.

⁷ Burch, John Russell, 19th-Century Politics in the Formation of Appalachian Kentucky Counties: The McGuires and the Creation of Owsley and Lee Counties. *Journal of Appalachian Studies* Vol. 11, No. ½ (Spring/Fall 2005), pp. 226-242. Published by the University of Illinois Press on behalf of the Appalachian Studies Association, Inc. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41446664>

⁸ Id.

⁹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/114147306/j-h-cockerham> Photograph taken by Colleen Horton on 5 November 2021. She and the author visited the Big Stamper Cemetery in Lee County that day, hoping that the headstone of James Henry Cockerham would resolve the question of his date of death. on 5 November 2021. It did. James died on 6 August 1904. Some family history researchers had placed on their Ancestry.com trees a later date in 1918 as a date of death for James Henry Cockerham. The image at the FindaGrave site at the link above was uploaded to that site by the author after the 5 November 2021 visit to the cemetery.

¹⁰ The U.S. News and World Reports, 6 July 2021. <https://www.usnews.com/news/special-reports/the-worst-presidents/slideshows/the-10-worst-presidents> In case you are wondering, the 10 presidents rated as best were Washington, Lincoln, F. Roosevelt, T. Roosevelt, Jefferson, Eisenhower, Truman, Reagan, Kennedy and—tied for tenth—Madison, Wilson, and Obama. The 10 rated as worst were Buchanan, Trump, Johnson, Pierce, Harrison, Harding, Fillmore/ Tyler (tie), Hoover, and Taylor.

¹¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1824_United_States_presidential_election

¹² <https://www.britannica.com/event/United-States-presidential-election-of-1860>

¹³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1860_United_States_presidential_election_in_Kentucky

¹⁴ Civil War events in the timeline were derived from Britannica's website. <https://www.britannica.com/summary/Key-Facts-of-the-American-Civil-War>

¹⁵ Wikipedia, Kentucky in the American Civil War, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kentucky_in_the_American_Civil_War

¹⁶ Source for desertion was Fold3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Middle_Creek

¹⁷ https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Johnson%27s_Island

¹⁸ <https://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/gettysburg-address> On the day following Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address, newspapers all over the country reprinted Lincoln's speech along with Everett's. Opinion was generally divided along political lines, with

Republican journalists praising the speech as a heartfelt, classic piece of oratory and Democratic ones deriding it as inadequate and inappropriate for the momentous occasion.

In the years to come, the Gettysburg Address would endure as arguably the most-quoted, most-memorized piece of oratory in American history. After [Lincoln's assassination](#) in April 1865, Senator [Charles Sumner](#) of [Massachusetts](#) wrote of the address, "That speech, uttered at the field of Gettysburg...and now sanctified by the martyrdom of its author, is a monumental act. In the modesty of his nature he said, 'the world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here.' He was mistaken. The world at once noted what he said and will never cease to remember it."

¹⁹ Source for desertion was Fold3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Middle_Creek

²⁰ https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Johnson%27s_Island

²¹ Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865. NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War). Ancestry.com
<http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=consolidatedlistsofcivilwarreg&h=1929975&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt>