

**Dan Kegley** (Part 3) 1979 **Stark, Ky.** (92 years old) Neighbor of **Jim Porter** (son of **Andrew J. Porter**)  
Interview with **JC Porter** at **Dan Kegley's** home.

JC: Do you remember any thing else about **Steve Porter** preaching, and all that?

Dan: Steve was a preacher. **Alick Porter** wasn't, was he?

JC: No.

Dan: **Steve** and **John (Porter)**. Well **Steve** and **John** and **Alick**, was all brothers. Was **Levi** a brother to em?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: Well where did **Levi** live at?

JC: I'm not sure, he lived in **Carter County**, I think. Someplace over there, close by.

Dan: Well you see you didn't have to go very far to be in **Carter**, down **Porter Creek**.

JC: He lived over there someplace, but I'm not sure exactly where it was.

Dan: I don't believe I ever met him. If I have I forgot.

JC: He was the oldest one of them.

Dan: He was?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: I know'd **Alick** and **John** and **Steve**.

JC: Did you ever hear **Steve** preach any?

Dan: Yeah, when I was a boy, but a boy didn't pay no attention (laughing). I heard **John** preach too. Let's see, didn't **Steve** sell out and leave here or not?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: Where did he go to?

JC: **Wisconsin**.

Dan: Well that's what I, and there was a **John Porter** that lived across the creek over here at \_\_\_\_\_ (1:17).

JC: Was he a **John C. Porter**?

Dan: I don't know about **John C.** but it was **John. Henry Porter** lived over here on what we call the **Mullins Fort** over here on top of the cliff at that time. He had a long beard. It was his son. Old man **Henry** sold out and went to **Texas** in his old days, and **John** his son sold out and bought **Steve** out out here.

JC: Huh. Well you know three of that **John's** daughter married three of **Alick's** sons.

Dan: They did?

JC: Yeah. And they weren't related.

Dan: That **John** I was speaking about over here.

JC: Yeah.

Dan: No I don't think they was. But he is the one now that bought Steve out. And 3 of Steve's boys married 3 of his girls? [Three of **Alick Porter's** sons married three of **John W. Porter's** daughters]

JC: Yeah, three of his girls.

Dan: Are they all a living?

JC: No, they are all dead I think, except for Uncle **Everett (Porter)**, he is still living. **Alick's** boy.

Dan: Where does he live at?

JC: **Enterprise**.

Dan: All of these people back my age is dead and gone like **Ed Porter** and **Andy** and **James Skeens** and **Lewis Flannery**.

JC: I've got a picture of **Ed** and **Andy** sitting on horses.

Dan: You have?

JC: Yeah. -----

Dan: Uncle **Jake Kegley**, **Jim Porter** owned 50 acres up there. You know where this road after you leave the church house up here where you go around there and go around a long hill?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: Well after you get up there, there is a 50-acre field laid on this side of the branch. Uncle **Jake** tended one holler, **Jim Porter** tended one holler, **Jim Cox** tended the upper end of it and a big steep hill with more in it. I worked up there, and when we would quit working, **Ed** and **Andy** was a plowing, and plow them horses there all day. Boy when they would get on them horses to go home you could hear their feet, they run them horses as hard as you could run before they turned down to the house, after working them all day.

One of **Harlan (Porter's)** boys used to ride them in that rodeo.

JC: Yeah, that is what I heard.

Dan: He quit that didn't he?

JC: Yeah. I guess.

Dan: My God almighty. Up there with one hand holding the \_\_\_\_\_. I wouldn't want to rest both hands, would you, and them a bucking? My God have mercy.

JC: Remember any of the other **Porters**?

Dan: I don't remember any more. Well now who was their father, did you ever find out?

JC: His name was **Andrew Porter**. He came from **Virginia**. He brought the whole family in 1866 right after the Civil War. He is buried at Porter Creek, the **Old Fairview Cemetery**.

Dan: Now my people, old **Henry Kegley** and **Joel Kegley**, they come here. **John Thompson** told me he thought they come in here in (18)56. I let em all die off before I could ask em a lot of stuff, but you know a young feller never thinks about it. I have a lot of things I'd like to ask em about.

JC: Did they come from **Virginia**?

Dan: Yeah, they come from **Virginia, Wythe County**.

JC: **Wythe County**. Well, that is where **Andrew Porter** was born, **Wythe County**.

Dan: Well, I bet you they all come from the same place.

JC: Yeah.

Dan: **Grandma Kegley** and **Grandpap Kegley** was newly married. He married old **Jake Kinster's** girl. (4:44) Old **Jake Kinster** lived across up here. Before you get out to the church house, the road turns off that a way. Now he bought a farm over there. I was up there today. My half brother **Lige** bought it and he is dead. \_\_\_\_ lives there on it. (5:03)

JC: I think **John Porter's** wife she was **Nancy Catron**, and I think her mom was a **Kegley** wasn't she?

Dan: Who?

JC: **John Porter**. Let me see here. I don't have it written down, but I think...

Dan: **John Porter's** wife, that preacher, he married a **Catron**.

JC: Yeah. Wasn't her mother a **Kegley**?

Dan: Some way, I just don't know.

JC: Yeah, they are related to you.

Dan: That's right, but I can't tell you how it is. Well now another thing, right up here where **John Thompson** owns the farm now, old **Miss Leedy** lived there and **Sam Leedy** come from **Virginia** here, and **Bud Leedy** and **John Leedy** and **Herb Lamblin** (5:52) and **Sarah Thompson**. They all, they was old man **Sam Leedy's** first children. His wife died and then he married a **Pennington**. Then she had **Sam** and **Charlie** and **Bob** and **Frank** and **Allie** and **Pearlie** and **Becky**. And they lived up there. I would cry to go up there. I wasn't 4-year-old. That was before my mother and **Joe Skaggs** married, and Ma would say, "Aw they don't want you." Old **Miss Leedy** would say, "Oh, let him come." We played all over that barn field out there from that house. They called me their cousin. Ma said, "Aw they ain't your cousin." Says now **Willie Kegley** and **Gordon** and **Nancy** and **Mary Liz**, they were older than me. They was my dad's first children. You understand?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: Well he married a **Pennington** the first time. And old man **Sam Leedy** married a **Pennington** the last time. You know, I didn't know no better. When I grew up and getting up to a man working here and yonder I was working for **Jim McFarland**. **Jim's** wife was old **Bill Rose's** daughter, and old **Bill Rose** married one of **Sam Leedy's** girls. Well **Sarah McFarland** called me her cousin. **Charlie Rose**, he was a sister to **Sarah**, and he was telling me about us being a kin. He couldn't tell how it was but he said Ma could.

You got a register, have you?

JC: Yeah, you want to hear yourself? Here, I'll show you. ----- Yeah, they're not too expensive. You can get them as cheap as \$20.00 and they go on up from there. Just a tape recorder, see there is the microphone, and there is the speaker where it comes out. See it is just in a case. It has batteries in it. It uses one of those tapes, see. You just put the tape in. -----

Dan: Oldest one of them?

JC: Yeah, **Levi (Porter)** was the oldest.

Dan: Well now my people come from **Wythe County** they claim. **Herbert Kegley** got up a record of a lot of the **Kegleys**. Aw he gave me a handful of papers, where they scattered everywhere. He come through **Wythe County** there. He stopped and asked some people about em. They told him go on out the road there and they could tell him all about em. He went out there and he got no satisfaction at all. I told him they thought he was the Revenue Man. He said next time he went through he would put on an old rig. I said then they will fire you one.

JC: Yeah, I've been to **Wythe County**.

Dan: You have?

JC: Yeah.

Dan: I've been wanting to go out there. I've been in part of **Virginia**, right close to it.

JC: It is a pretty place. It is beautiful.

Dan: Well there was a feller told me part of **Virginia** is just a Blue Grass country. But I was never out there, where I was at was pretty rough, nothing like here.

JC: Well this **Wythe County** and **Grayson County** is just sort of rolling farm land. It is really pretty. It's nice.

Dan: I went through part of **Wythe County**. I got in there close. Now **Ause Kinster** (9:26) was a brother to my **Grandma Kegley**, he never did come here to live. He stayed out there.

JC: Oh yeah?

Dan: He come out here twice on a visit. I asked him, what he done. His wife was dead and he had a son **Bob Kinster** that was a brick layer. He made his home. **Bob** made his home with him, him and his wife. He had an apple orchard, peach orchard, and a grape arbor. He peddled that stuff in **Tazewell** he said. He had pole cat den, 100 poles cats. He raised pole cats. Killed to eat and sold their hides. He was old when he came out here. (10:12)

