

DIXON FAMILY

NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Various spellings of names are recorded as written at the time.

William Basil DIXON was born circa 1870 (*not in the Falkland Islands*).

William, third officer on the *Knight Commander*, arrived 1 June 1891.

William, age 24, was married to **Helen REIVE** 29 November 1893 in the Tabernacle.

Helen arrived 4 October 1894 from West Point on the *Fair Rosamond*. She gave birth to a stillborn son in Stanley 1 November 1894.

William arrived 1 December 1894 on board the *Hadassah* from West Point. William and Helen departed 5 December 1894 on board the *Hadassah* bound for Hill Cove. They arrived back in Stanley with their son 5 July 1896 on board the *Fair Rosamond* from West Point.

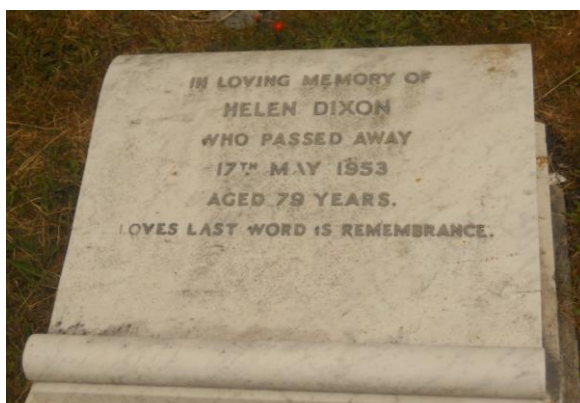
William and his family departed 11 February 1900 on the *Fair Rosamond* bound for Chartres.

When William was a crewman on board the *Samson*, which was towing a vessel, the hawser jerked and struck him in the shoulder knocking him down very heavily. After being laid up for some time he resumed work but always complained of weakness and pain in his right arm. Eventually he couldn't do heavy manual labour so was placed in charge of the *Plym*. After a year or two he seemed to almost lose the use of his right arm and the pain increased from getting wet. As he was quite an intelligent man and fairly educated having been the third officer of the *Knight Commander* he was employed in the Falkland Islands Company Ltd's store. Frederick Cobb, the Colonial Manager, sent him up to Buenos Aires on board the *Oropesa* in June 1910. He was also allowed half pay in his absence as his wife and family had nothing to live on. [FIC/D11; pg 900, par 10; pg 930, par 3]

William was sent to Buenos Aires for medical treatment and departed 15 June 1910 on board the *Oropesa*. He returned 28 June 1910 on board the *Orcoma* but it was reported that there did not seem much chance of curing him as the x-rays showed that he had a contracted rib which caused pressure on the lower lobe of the lung causing considerable pain and the inability to do manual labour. William stated that he felt better in the warmer weather. The Falkland Islands Company Ltd employed William as night watchman on ships when one was required and at other times for tallying cargo. The rest of the time he was employed in the Store. The Colonial Manager noted that if William had been sent for an x-ray at the time of the accident he may have been cured. [FIC/D11; pg 8, par 14; pg 50, par 4]

William, age 52 and a British labourer, died 17 January 1923 from uraemia and nephritis and was buried 21 January 1923 in Grave E 880 (*in the right hand part of Section L*).

On 9 June 1941 Ernest, Frederick and Winifred, as beneficiaries under William's will agreed to sell his property in James Street to their brother Percy for £400. [BUG-REG-11; 288]



Helen, age 79 and a widow, died 17 May 1953 and was buried 18 May 1953 in Grave L 1511.

FIRST GENERATION:

Children of William and Helen DIXON:

1. **Boy DIXON** born 1 November 1894 at Stanley. Stillborn.
2. **Ernest Vine DIXON** born 6 January 1896 at Dunbar and baptised 1 April 1896 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Ernest was educated at the Government School, Stanley. Ernest was taken on as a member of the crew of the ss *Potosi* and travelled to the UK in 1919. Ernest, a labourer, was married to **Mary KIDDLE** 19 June 1925 at Christ Church Cathedral by Special Licence by J Stanley Smith, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were John F Summers and Isabella Summers. Ernest's father was recorded as William Basil Dixon, deceased, and Mary's father was recorded as Albert Kiddle, shepherd. Ernest was appointed gunner on probation on the HMCS *Afterglow* 11 December 1925 and held the position until 31 December 1927. Ernest was appointed storekeeper in the Public Works Department 1 July 1928. Ernest, age 41 and a civil servant, was sent to the UK to undergo three months training in the mechanics and driving of a power boat. He departed 28 February 1937 on board the *Lafonia*, returning 30 July 1937. Ernest, age 51 and a clerk, and Mary, age 44, went on holiday to the UK and Norway in 1947. Ernest retired on pension 19 July 1958. Ernest, age 63 and a retired civil servant, died 26 February 1959 in Stanley and was buried 1 March 1959 in Grave S 1627. Mary died in the UK.



Ernest in 1919 and in 1937

3. **Frederick Basil DIXON** born 3 February 1897 in Stanley and baptised 9 May 1897 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as seaman. Frederick was educated at the Government School, Stanley. Frederick departed 12 June 1919 for Punta Arenas on board the *Antartico*. He returned 9 November 1922 on board the *Ortega* from Liverpool. Frederick, a painter, was married to **Dorothy Maud RICHES**, school teacher, 31 May 1930 at Christ Church Cathedral by Banns by F S Vaughan, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were Ernest V Dixon and V Riches. Frederick's father was recorded as William Basil Dixon, deceased, and Dorothy's father was recorded as Sidney Herbert Riches, customs officer. Frederick departed 17 September

1935 on board the *Lafonia* bound for Port Stephens with the Cape Meredith light. He arrived from Kitt's Creek 29 September 1935. Frederick was appointed temporary constable and handyman at South Georgia 1 February 1943 and he, his wife and child, departed for South Georgia on the ss *Fitzroy* early 1943. His wife and child departed South Georgia for the UK on board the *Harpon* in 1945. Frederick's service terminated 27 April 1946.



Frederick in 1919

4. **Winnifred Beatrice DIXON** born 7 December 1902 in Stanley and baptised 8 March 1903 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as mariner. Winifred was appointed a junior clerk in the Post Office in 1923. She was granted a leave of absence in 1926. Winifred arrived 3 November 1926 on board the *Orepesa* from the UK. Winifred was married to **Alexander MERCER**, wireless operator, 11 October 1930 at Christ Church Cathedral by Banns by F S Vaughan, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were J Mercer and M Mercer. Alexander's father was recorded as Alexander Mercer, carpenter, and Winifred's father was recorded as William Basil Dixon, mariner. Winnifred and Alexander went to the UK in 1960.



Winifred in 1926

5. **Percy Stanley DIXON** born 17 December 1913 in Stanley and baptised **Percival Stanley DIXON** 10 February 1914 by the Tabernacle. His father's occupation was recorded as mariner. Percy was baptised 19 May 1934 by Christ Church Cathedral. Percy started with the Falkland Islands Co Ltd as an apprentice carpenter 1 January 1929 and completed his apprenticeship 31 December 1934. By June 1948 he had been employed continuously and was recorded as being sober, industrious and an excellent craftsman. [FIC/EF/] Percy, a carpenter, was married to **Georgina Elizabeth MIDDLETON** 15 April 1942 at Christ Church Cathedral by Special Licence by Gerald K Lowe, Senior Chaplain. The witnesses were J D Middleton and A D Scott. Percy's father was recorded as William Basil Dixon, deceased, and Georgina's father was recorded as James Middleton, foreman. Georgina, Percy and their children travelled to the UK in 1948. In 1952 Percy was working as foreman carpenter for the Falkland Islands Co Ltd. On 31 August 1953 Percy signed a five year contract with the Falkland Islands Company Ltd as a foreman carpenter and superintendent. [FIC/IC1#7] Georgina, Percy and their children emigrated to New Zealand in 1957. Percy died in New Zealand in 2001. In 2007 Georgina was living in Auckland, New Zealand. Georgina, age 95, died September 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand. [PN 2 Oct 2015]



Percy in 1939